



KNOWLEDGE CORNER



LIFESCIENCE

We have physics, chemistry and several other fields of science to explain objects and forces existing around us. But what is that area where we must deal with ourselves and other living beings. Let us assume what kind of field of science this is. Yes, it is what we call life science.

Life science is the study of living beings. It deals with any type of life form whether it is acellular or cellular. The age of the earth is 4.5 million years. But life evolved on earth around 3.8 million years ago. Then life underwent crucial change.

Animals of different varieties are grouped in broad regional units. Each unit shows faunal similarities but also contains endemic beings (animals that are found only in that particular region). For example, Australia is rich in marsupials. The earth has various types of life forms according to geographical characteristics and climate. For instance, a mountain has different living beings in comparison to a desert. Such factors are appreciable in the case of desert life and marine life. The desert having warm and sandy climate bears such types of creatures which can adapt to it. Deserts cover about one-fifth of the earth's surface. Influenced by bizarre climate, a desert plants develop tough skins and have reduced foliage to prevent evaporation and to withstand scorching heat. Camels can endure in deserts without having water for several days. Gazelles, Rainbow Lizard, Chameleon, Vulture, Horned viper, Locust and many other creatures exist in the desert. Various types of plants also exist here, enduring its harsh climate, such as palm tree, cactus, etc.

Underwater variety of life is also very significant. Starting from sessile sponge, underwater life-science is blessed with killer fishes like the piranha, helping hands like dolphins, giants like whales, hunters like sharks and so on.

At the end one thing must be remembered that life science is not a science to be studied only. It is to be researched and experienced.

WAR

As the novel "All Quiet on the Western Front" by Erich Maria Remarque reminds us people don't kill other people, they kill their ideology. Most people are manipulated by their leaders. Apart from that, war has often occurred over sovereignty, territory, resources, religious ideology, even for love or the one who is loved.

From west to east several civilizations evolved which were involved in great wars like the Kalinga war (between the Maurya empire under Ashoka and state of Kalinga), battle of Thermopylae (between Persian empire of Xerxes 1 and Spartan king Leonidas 1), invasion of Alexander the Great, Punic wars between Carthaginians and Romans, Peloponnesian wars (sometimes it is considered as the first true world war, which was fought among the Greek city states). Then in the Middle Ages several great wars took place, like the Crusades, Mongol invasions, Napoleonic wars like the Battle of Waterloo (1815), American independent war (1776-1783), Indo-China opium war (1839-1842). We have witnessed the horror of two world wars between 1914 and 1945. They were the most destructive and blood spilling wars ever in human history. We came across more wars, like the Arab-Israeli wars from 1948 to 1973, Korean war (1950-1953), Vietnam war, Liberation War of Bangladesh, Iran-Iraq war; and now, in the name of war against terror, Americans are fighting the Afghan Taliban forces in Afghanistan (from 2001 onwards) and have also fought against Iraq and occupied it.

Around the world nowadays the number of ongoing major military conflicts is about eight, including the Afghan civil war, Iraq war, war in north-west Pakistan. Besides, other major conflicts are the Somali civil war, Mexican drug war and Sudanese nomadic conflicts. Other smaller scale armed conflicts are the Korean conflict, Arab-Israel conflict, and insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir, Kurdistan conflict, insurgency in Chechnya and many insurgencies in the African continent.

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Initiative of The Daily Star & teamcreative

\$300m needed for safer Dhaka: JS body report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government and the city dwellers should work together to save the remaining 20 percent of the wetland and water bodies in Dhaka City Corporation, suggests a parliamentary standing committee report.

According to the report, a safer Dhaka is possible in the next 10 years at a cost of \$300 million.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the environment and forest ministry prepared the report analysing the satellite images of the capital with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The House body released three reports at a press conference at the parliament yesterday.

At present, there are 61.31 square kilometre water bodies in the capital, said one of the reports titled Identifying Sustainable Strategies to Restore the Rivers and other Associated Wetlands in and around Dhaka city.

Most of water bodies including rivers, canals and other wetlands within 360 square kilometre of DCC are in the eastern side of the city.

They should be immediately declared ecologically critical area to conserve at least 40 percent of the remaining 166 square kilometre open space, the report says.

The two other reports are: Pollution Abatement Strategies for Rivers and Wetlands in and Around Dhaka city and Bangladesh Environment and Climate Resilient Sustainable Development Vision.

The pollution abatement report recommends making a 14-km long alternative sewerage channel to drain out the industrial waste of Hazaribagh tannery to the Pagla lagoon.

It also suggests setting up a central effluent treatment plant (ETP) at the end of the Dhaka Narayanganj Demra (DND) canal that can treat up to 5,00,000 cubic metre of liquid waste before falling in the Shitalakkhya river.

Setting up a bio-fertiliser plant at the Dasherbandi village of Trimohini and making a separate sewerage channel at Begunbari-Hatirjheel for discharging the industrial and household waste to the bio-fertilizer plant at Dasherbandi are among other recommendations.



Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather will remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during midnight till morning, Met Office said.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:53pm and rises tomorrow at 6:32am.

Country's highest temperature 30.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Mongla and lowest 09.6 degrees at Srimongal.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka 2	9.0	15.5	46	52
Chittagong	28.0	14.5	65	60
Rajshahi	29.3	10.9	83	64
Rangpur	27.0	12.8	87	64
Khulna	29.7	15.0	86	57
Barisal	29.1	13.5	98	69

Biraj wins WPP award

METRO DESK

Andrew Biraj, the photojournalist for Reuters in Bangladesh, has won the most prestigious World Press Photo Award 2011.

A 19-member of jury declared Andrew Biraj the recipient of 3rd Prize in Daily life category as World Press Photo Foundation in Amsterdam, the Netherlands on Saturday, said a press release. Biraj will receive the award at a ceremony in Amsterdam on May 7.

Chinese visa office closed tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Visa Office of the Chinese Embassy will remain closed tomorrow, said a press release.

ARE YOU READY TO PROCLAIM

The Daily Star

S E E T O M O R R O W

Mufti Izhar on fresh remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Mufti Izharul Islam Chowdhury, president of a faction of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), on a one-day fresh remand in a case filed for abducting homeopathic physician Azizur Rahman in September 2003.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mostafa Shahriar granted the remand when Fazlul Kabir, CID's assistant superintendent of police, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, produced him before it with a seven-day remand prayer.

Fazlul Kabir said the information derived from Mufti Izhar during interrogation on his four-day remand was being verified. So he needs to be remanded again, the IO said.

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Rashedul Hasan, an SSC examinee scheduled to appear this year, is fighting for life as both of his kidneys are damaged and needs immediate transplantation.

Hasan has been undergoing treatment under noted physician Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid of Kidney Foundation.

Hasan's mother Rabeya Begum will donate one of her kidneys but she cannot afford the cost of dialysis and kidney transplantation.

Rabeya appeals to the affluent and generous people in society to come forward and save Hasan's life. One can contact by 01734-522903 or can donate to Rabeya's savings account no 1781500000521, The City Bank Ltd, Islami Banking Branch, Motijheel, Dhaka-1000.

NEWS IN brief

ACC deputy director suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A deputy director of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was suspended, and a decision to suspend two more officials was taken yesterday, said a press release. Among 20 officials of the ACC against whom the commission has decided to take action, three have been asked to submit a list of their assets immediately.

Twenty one cases with the department and three cases with the police were filed against a number of ACC officials.

Women for Women condemns Hena's death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Women for Women: A Research and Study Group yesterday condemned the death of Hena, who became a victim of fatwa (religious edict).

In a statement signed by the organisation's President Barrister Rabeya Bhuiyan, it demanded proper investigation against the perpetrators of such a criminal act.

Sports items donated to students

METRO DESK

YKK Bangladesh Pte Ltd distributed books and sports items among the poor students of Anowara Hashem Memorial High School at Kalihati of Tangail Yesterday, said a press release.

CEO of the company Hiroaki Nakamura distributed the books.

FoH organises eye camps

METRO DESK

Foundation of Hope (FoH), a London-based charity geared to developing social services in Bangladesh, has organised two eye camps at the community level recently to reduce the incidence of preventable blindness in the country.

The eye camps have been conducted in Keraniganj of Dhaka and village Noagaon of Araihaazar Upazila under Narayanganj, says a press release.

Altogether 36 patients, out of 173, were selected for potential cataract surgery which was conducted at Lions Eye Hospital in Dhaka. Syeda Zakia Ahsan, trustee of the foundation and Syed Nazrul Ahsan, coordinator of the camps, among others were present during the selection.

ভক্তুর ভক্তুর

Valentine's Day - তে আমরা আসছি তোমার শহরে বিভিন্ন স্পট-এ হবে অনেক Fun n' Games সারাদিন চলবে Masti আর জিতে নাও love prizes!

Njoy কর Molo Valentine এর সাথে

Happy Molo Valentine

Share your Molo with your loved one!