

NEWS IN *brief*

Sardar Fazlul Karim's 86th birthday today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Country's eminent scholar of Dhaka University (DU) Prof Sardar Fazlul Karim steps into his 86th year today.

Journalist Shafiuddin Ahmed Foundation is organising a friendly gathering to celebrate the birthday of one of best professors of DU at RC Majumder auditorium of DU at 4:00pm.

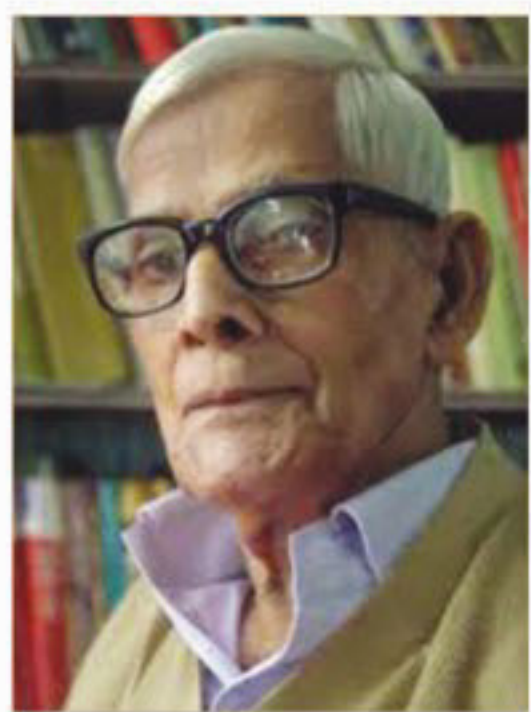
Born in a lower middle class family of Barisal in 1925, Prof Karim, an outstanding student and teacher, has been a simple, humble and wise person all his life.

Prof Karim stood second at HSC examination but topped the first class in both his BA Honours and MA examinations in philosophy from DU. He became a lecturer in 1946 at the age of 21.

Involved in progressive politics as a student, he was an "enemy" of the then Pakistan government and in four phases spent almost the full twenty-four years of Pakistani rule in jail. Ayub Khan and Monem Khan ensured that he could never return to his teaching job during the Pakistan period.

Prof Karim participated in the 58-day hunger strike of political prisoners demanding humane treatment. He was elected a member of Constituent Assembly of Pakistan while in prison.

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Prof Abdur Razzak brought him back to DU immediately after independence.



Khaleda's May Day rally at Gazipur today

UNB, Dhaka

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will address a workers' meeting at Konabari in Gazipur today on the occasion of historic May Day.

The rally will be held at Konabari College ground at 3:00pm to be organised by district Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal.

2 drug peddlers arrested

UNB, Keraniganj

Two alleged drug peddlers were arrested along with 10kgs of hemp at Kadamtoli in South Keraniganj on Friday evening.

The arrestees were identified as Dulal, 22, son of Ismail and Sayeed Miah, 27, son of Idris Miah of Nolguria village in Bijoyanagar upazila of Brahmanbaria district.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-10) conducted a drive in the area around 6:00pm and caught the two drug peddlers along with the contraband drugs.

A case was filed against them under Narcotics Control Act.

Ban Ki-moon condoles death of Abdus Salam

BSS, Dhaka

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon expressed profound shock at the death of Bangladesh Army Senior Warrant Officer Md Abdus Salam who was serving in the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Ivory Coast.

In a condolence message, he conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family members and praised the contribution of Abdus Salam to establish peace in Ivory Coast.

The UN secretary general expressed his deep gratitude to Bangladesh for playing its important role in peacekeeping missions and continued contributions to the UN.

Obituary

METRO DESK



M Nurul Islam, former additional managing director of Mercantile

Bank Limited, passed away at his residence at Paribagh in the city at the age of 72, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, two sons and one daughter.

He also worked at United Bank Limited, Janata Bank, National Bank and Al-Arafa Islami Bank.

Abdul Aziz Molla

BSS, Dhaka

Alhaj Abdul Aziz Molla, a retired agriculture officer and father of Sahidul Islam, sports editor of The New Nation, passed away at National Institute of Kidney Diseases and Urology in Dhaka on Thursday night at the age of 70, family sources said.

He had been suffering from kidney diseases for a long time.

Molla left behind his wife, five sons, two daughters, relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.

He was buried at his family graveyard on Friday.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Tomorrow is the 11th death anniversary of Maj Gen (ret) Abdul Mannan Siddique, a former home and public works minister, says a press release.

He was the founder chairman of phoenix insurance company.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his residence on May 6 after the Asr prayers.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the programme.

Abdur Rashid

METRO DESK



Today is the seventh death anniversary of Abdur Rashid, former

senior assistant police commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, says a press release.

He played vital role in forming Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Zunayed Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tomorrow is the third death anniversary of Zunayed Rahman Pial, a student of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology, says a press release.

On the occasion, Pial Foundation will organise doa mahfil and destitute feeding programmes in Dhaka and Lalmonirhat.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Rokeya Hamid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the seventh death anniversary of Begum Rokeya Hamid, a social worker and wife of former mayor of Tangail pourasabha Md Hamidur Rahman, says a press release.

On the occasion, qurankhwani and doa mahfil will be held at her residence at Akur Takur Para in Tangail today.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the program and pray for salvation of the departed soul.



TI Chairperson Huguette Labelle speaks at a seminar titled "Global Climate Change: Governance and Corruption Risks and Options" at the Brac Centre Inn in the city yesterday. Sitting from left are Quazi Kholikuzzaman Ahmad, Golam Rahman, Hasan Mahmud, Sultana Kamal, Saber Hossain Chowdhury and Atiq Rahman. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

Ensure universal edn system

Duta president tells discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) President Prof Anwar Hossain yesterday said the recently adopted national education policy failed to ensure a universal education system in the country.

Presenting a lecture on "Expectation and achievement in the education system of Bangladesh", Prof Anwar said the education policy, approved by the national parliament, compromised many sectors.

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh organised the monthly lecture at its auditorium in the city where a number of audiences expressed their views about the condition of country's education system.

Though he appreciated the government for formulation of the policy, Prof Anwar expressed apprehension over the policy's proper implementation and said steps are not being properly

taken in this regard.

Of the 13 committees formulated with secretaries of different ministries as the chiefs to implement the policy, only the curriculum committee met once while others failed to organise any, Prof Anwar said.

He urged the government to reform the committees with relevant experts.

He said it was expected that Bangladesh's education system would be humanitarian, secular and science-based. But in contrary, the education system now is divided into "different categories", which is really dangerous.

Instead of progress, the education system went back 40 years. It has neither been possible to enrich the mother language nor teach English, Prof Anwar said, identifying this as a big reason behind poor condition of education.

Prof Anwar stressed on increasing fund allocation in education sector,

mentioning that a number of neighbouring countries are getting benefit after allocating proper funds.

Asiatic Society President Prof Sirajul Islam said once many students from neighbouring countries including Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand and Middle East came to Bangladesh to study in Dhaka University (DU), Buet and Medical Colleges.

There is a residential dormitory at DU for them. But, now the numbers in that hall is very low while those countries have gone on to improve their education system, he said.

The society honoured National Professor Nurul Islam with its fellowship for his contribution in medical education and science.

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh General Secretary Mahfuza Khanam also spoke.

Two bodies found in Buriganga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered decomposed bodies of unidentified two youths from the river Buriganga last night.

The youths aged about 30 to 35 years were wearing jeans pants and T-shirts. Their hands, legs and throats were tied with rope and towels.

Police suspected the youths were strangled after their hands and legs were roped. They were killed few days ago, police added.

Md Asaduzzaman, officer-in-charge (OC) of Keraniganj Police Station, said locals informed police around 6:00pm and they recovered the bodies from the river Buriganga in the Jhauchar area.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates construction of the 21-kilometre Dhaka Elevated Expressway at a groundbreaking ceremony at Army Stadium in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: PID

BCL leader held for violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday morning arrested Dhanmondi Thana unit president of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) for beating up two employees of a CNG filling station at the capital's Paribagh and looting Tk 1 lakh from its cashbox on Thursday.

Rezaul Karim, officer-in-charge of Shahbagh Police Station, said they arrested Nazimuddin Babu from his Kathalbagan residence around 9:00am after Aminul Haq Chowdhury, one of the employees of Shahjalal Enterprise, filed the case on Friday night.

Police said Babu and his gang members beat up the employees and forced to shut the station following a quarrel between his wife and the employees when his wife violated serial of filling up gas for her car.

Police said Babu denied the allegation during preliminary interrogation.

Babu claimed that he had gone to the filling station to know about the incident between his wife and the employees.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh CNG Filling Station and Conversion Workshop Owners Association in a statement condemned the alleged attack by the BCL men and demanded their punishment.

Khulna journalist assaulted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A journalist was severely injured after being allegedly kidnapped and beaten by a group of miscreants in Paikgacha upazila of Khulna on Friday night.

The injured FMA Razzak is editor of Ganomichil, a fortnightly published from the upazila, and also president of Asian Human Rights Commission of Paikgacha unit.

Police said unidentified men kidnapped Razzak at gunpoint from Paikgacha Bus Stand and took him to Natunhat area under the same upazila where they beat him mercilessly, fracturing his right leg and right hand.

The miscreants also damaged his eyes using a hammer, added police.

Sub-Inspector Idris Ali of Paikgacha Police Station rescued Razzak from Natunhat and admitted him to Paikgacha Upazila Health Complex. Razzak was later shifted to Trauma Centre at city's Shayamoli early yesterday as his condition deteriorated.

Police said Razzak recently locked in a quarrel with some relatives and in-laws over possession of land in Paikgacha.

Razzak's wife Rahima Sultana named a major of Bangladesh Army, her distant relative, of masterminding the attack over land dispute.

40 years of Kalyanpur mass killing observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Gosthi, a cultural organisation, yesterday arranged a cultural function at Kalyanpur Shaheed Minar marking the 40 years of Kalyanpur mass killing.

Kalyanpur unit of Udichi and Kalyanpur Onushilon Sangsad also organised discussion, and recitation on Kalyanpur Shaheed Minar premises at Kalyanpur in the city, says a press release.

Sammilito Sangskritik Jote President Nasiruddin Yusuf Bachchu inaugurated the programme while Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirml Committee Vice President Prof Muntasir Mamun was present as the special guest.

President of Kalyanpur unit of Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Gosthi Ali Akbar Tabi presided over the discussion.

A book on Kalyanpur mass killing was launched at the programme.



Speaker of the National Assembly of Bhutan Lyonpo Jigme Tshulthim calls on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Gulshan office in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: BNP

Glaxose WEATHER TODAY
100% GLUCOSE

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Barisal, Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and at one or two places over Khulna, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:27pm today and rises at 5:24am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 36.4 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 22.3 degrees Celsius at Sandwip.

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	34.3	25.0	67	61
Chittagong	31.8	23.5	63	74
Rajshahi	34.8	24.5	78	81
Rangpur	34.5	24.5	74	60
Khulna	35.0	25.0	71	61
Barisal	33.2	24.0	76	71

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