

**BDR CARNAGE CASE
Witness identifies
Maj Mamun's killers**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prosecution witness Sepoy Keramot Ali identified Nayek Subedar Islam Uddin and Lance Nayek Mozammel Hossain as the killers of Maj Mamun.

While giving his deposition before a makeshift court in the capital, Keramot also identified five soldiers and a civilian who beat up Mamun before he was killed.

They took Maj Mamun to the northwest corner of soldiers' mess of 24 Rifles Battalion where Islam Uddin and Mozammel Hossain were waiting with firearms.

"Then they killed Mamun sir," said Keramot, who was a member of 24 rifles battalion of the then Bangladesh Rifles.

Keramot got frightened following the incident and hid himself in a garden, the witness said before the court trying the accused of Pilkhana carnage case.

Later, the defence counsel cross-examined Keramot. The 20th witness Maj Kamrul was testifying before the court at 2:15pm when the report was filed.

Earlier on Monday, another prosecution witness Nayek Motalab Mia of 24 Rifles Battalion, while giving deposition, mentioned the names of four soldiers who beat and dragged Major Mamun a few moments before killing him.

A total 74 people, including 57 army officers, were killed during the two-day carnage at Pilkhana headquarters in 2009.



Construction of a seating arrangement for visitors going on at Suhrawardy Udyan in the city in the absence of a comprehensive development plan for the grounds. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

**People to try
Khaleda**

Says Hanif

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has earned the tag of war criminal by favouring war criminals and Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami that opposed the country's Liberation War in 1971, said Awami League acting General Secretary Mahubul Alam Hanif yesterday.

For this, people would try Khaleda one day, he said at a rally at the city's Bangabandhu Avenue.

The AL leader called on all pro-liberation war forces and freedom fighters of the main opposition BNP to leave the party and join the ruling Awami League-led grand alliance.

"Khaleda has mocked at freedom fighters by according a reception to them and at the same time demanding release of the war criminals," said Hanif, also a special assistant to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Awami Jubo League organised the rally as part of a four-day protest programme against what it said was the anarchy created by BNP-Jamaat on Sunday to foil war crimes trial.

"We have remained silent in the last three years. But we will not spare them [BNP-Jamaat] anymore as they have resorted to violence taking the advantage of our patience," Hanif said.

AL Organising Secretary Jahangir Kabir Nanak said Khaleda Zia had secretly held a meeting with Jamaat leaders before Sunday's chaos. "At that meeting, it was decided that 50 dead bodies including police personnel were needed. To implement the plan, Tk 1 crore was spent," he added.

Acting chairman of Jubo League Omar Faruk Chowdhury and general secretary Mirza Azam also spoke at the rally.

**Five arrested for
cheating in city**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police on Tuesday arrested five persons from Mipur of the city on allegation of deceiving and mugging people in the guise of detective police.

The arrestees used to run a marriage media and cheat clients, said DB officials.

The arrestees are Tanvir Hossain Khan alias Kiron, 34, Abul Kalam, 30, Moahammad Abdul Kader, 27, Mohammad Ripon, 20, and Jebin Sultana Kanta, 38.

They were busted from a potential bride's house at Kalyanpur where Tanvir impersonated a bridegroom and introduced himself as an assistant commissioner of DB.

The family members doubted Tanvir's identity and informed the DB police. The police arrested them around 12:10am, said Kazi Moniruzzaman, senior assistant commissioner of DB.

He also said the gang had gone there in a bid to commit robbery.

The arrestees told the police that the house owner, from whose house they were arrested, contacted their marriage media to find a bridegroom for his daughter.

**Tea vendor
hacked to
death in city**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A tea vendor was hacked to death in Chankharpool area in the city yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Syed Miah, 45, of Habiganj.

He lived in Nazimuddin Road area.

Unidentified criminals hacked him to death at around 6:30am in front of a government primary school at Chankharpool, police said.

Hearing the victim's scream, locals rushed to the spot and found the miscreants running away.

Later, police recovered the body and sent it to Sir Salimullah Medical College morgue.

Police suspected that Syed was killed due to previous enmity.

**Sunday's attack linked to 17
Aug bomb blasts: Politicians**

BSS, Dhaka

Leaders of different political parties linked Sunday's "secret attacks and destructions" to the nationwide serial blasts on August 17 in 2005, saying that Jamaat carried out such "nefarious acts" under the umbrella of BNP to protect the perpetrators of crimes against humanity and thwart the ongoing trial of war criminals.

Talking to the news agency, they said although the militant group carried out the serial blasts in around 500 spots across the country on August 17, 2005 with different attempts, the Sunday's attacks in the city and other parts of the country were launched with an attempt to create a chaotic situation in the country.

On Sunday, secret attacks were unleashed in the capital and elsewhere in the country that left two persons dead and hundred others injured. The attack-

ers clashed with law enforcers, damaged and set ablaze motor vehicles.

Voicing serious concerns over such destructive activities, the leaders urged all pro-liberation forces to build a united resistance against the evil groups that are hatching conspiracy against the country's independence.

They urged the government to deal such activities with a strong hand.

"It was a pre-planned attacks and Jamaat-Shibir is involved in these destructive activities under the umbrella of its political ally BNP," said Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon.

Comparing Sunday's vandalism with the countrywide bomb blasts on August 17, 2005, Menon said all pro-liberation forces must be united to resist Jamaat-Shibir.

"It is their desperate attempts to save war criminals. . . and Jamaat is carrying out such atrocities taking the cover of

BNP," said general secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Muzahidul Islam Selim.

He said the attacks were carried out with an attempt to resist the trial of war criminals. "The government should arrest Ghulam Azam. Religion-based politics must be banned," Selim added.

Expressing concerns over the attacks and vandalism, presidium member of Jatiya Party (JP) Ziauddin Bablu said such secret attacks were launched with an attempt to create a chaotic situation in the country and weaken the democratic institutions.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President Hasanul Haq Inu termed the attacks a showdown by those who are desperate to save war criminals. He said trial of war criminals would not be stopped through blasting bombs and cocktails.

**IUBAT THIRD CONVOCATION HELD
Don't make education
a commodity**

Hasan Mahmud urges universities



(From left) Vice Chancellor of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan, Environment and Forest Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud and President of Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences Prof Dr Gerald Reisinger at IUBAT's convocation on its campus in the city's Uttara yesterday.

BSS, Dhaka

Environment and Forest Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud yesterday urged all universities, both public and private, to impart quality education and advised them not to make education a "commodity" in the greater interest of the nation.

Speaking at the third convocation of the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) at Uttara, he urged the universities to include practical education in their curricula as compulsory subject so that students acquire knowledge of reality alongside book-based learning.

The minister said the country needs skilled, hard working, patriotic citizens imbued with human values to fulfill the goal of independence, which is yet to be fully achieved after 40 years.

Prof Dr Gerald Reisinger, president of University of Applied Sciences, Austria, addressed the function with IUBAT Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan in the chair.

Members of the diplomatic corps, educationists, graduating students and their parents and the local elite were present.

The minister urged the students to be

aware of the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century, saying that the advancement of Information and Communication Technology has brought enormous opportunities in the field of knowledge and work-place.

"I believe, with your intellect, talent, creativity, determination, honesty and patriotism, you will implement the government's Vision-2021 to build an information technology-based prosperous Bangladesh and take our country to a much higher place among the nations of the world," he observed.

South Asian Disaster Management Centre of IUBAT is regarded as a centre of excellence for work related to disaster, environment and climate change, he said.

Since the formation of its Centre for Policy Research, Dr Hasan said, the centre is conducting advanced research works and seven research monographs have been published concerning policy issues pertinent to Bangladesh.

He said IUBAT students are required to have exposure in general education involving languages, computer skill, physical and social sciences as well as humanities so that they can develop as complete human beings and flourish in their own fields.

**BSTI DRIVE
Two shops
fined**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) yesterday fined the managers of two departmental stores in the city's Gulshan and Banani Tk 75,000 for selling adulterated food and cosmetics.

The court led by Executive Magistrate Mohammad Al Amin fined the manager of Almas Super Shop in Gulshan Syed Mohammad Aziz Tk 50,000 for selling date expired eye shadow, face powder, shampoo, lipstick and child food without the BSTI seal.

The manager of Best Food Limited in Banani, Tarun Kumar, was fined Tk 25,000 for selling adulterated bread and biscuit which too had no expiry date.

**Call to ensure
rights of sex
workers**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a meeting yesterday urged all including law enforcement agencies and different professional bodies to ensure the human rights of sex workers.

Through ensuring their rights and legal assistance, it is possible to bring change in the lives of sex workers, they said.

Durjay Nari Shangha and Bangladesh Women Health Coalition with Save the Children's assistance jointly organised the event, says a press release.

Sex workers and their children face severe discrimination in society which violates every aspect of human rights, speakers said.

Representatives of Sex Workers Networks of Bangladesh, STI Networks of Bangladesh, Blast, Dhaka Metropolitan Police and journalists attended the meeting.



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