

More artifacts discovered in Mahasthangarh

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU,
Bogra

Archaeologists discovered an earthen wall and different objects of the Maurya, Gupta and Pal dynasties in Mahasthangarh archaeological site of Bogra district last week.

The five-member team of Department of Archaeology Bangladesh began excavating the site on January 20.

The wall, believed to be of the Maurya dynasty (321-185 BC), was at the southern part of Mahasthangarh, an ancient fortified city, said the department's former director general, Dr Shafiqul Alam.

On the western end, terracotta plaques, potsherds and an engraved stone pole, usually used to bar doors, all of the Northern Black Polished Ware culture (700-200 BC), and decorated bricks and mud cells of the three periods were unearthed, he added.

Khaleda may go to Thailand Feb 29 for treatment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia may go to Thailand for medical treatment on February 29.

She, however, will not stay more than two or three days as she herself will monitor party's preparations for March 12 rally scheduled to be held in the capital, sources in her offices said.

Sources said she has been suffering from acute knee problem for long. Her condition deteriorated when she led a mass procession in the city on January 30. As local doctors suggested her taking better treatment without further delay, she has decided to go to the country.



The site where archaeologists discovered an earthen wall and different objects of the Maurya, Gupta and Pal dynasties in Mahasthangarh of Bogra district last week.

PHOTO: STAR

5 killed in road crashes

METRO DESK

Five people were killed and five others injured in separate road accidents in Chittagong, Sylhet, Gaibandha and Dinajpur early Thursday and yesterday.

Our Correspondent from Chittagong reports: Monirul Islam, 13, son of Abul Kalam, was critically injured when a bus ran over him at cement crossing intersection in the port city at around 9:00am yesterday.

He died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) on arrival.

In another accident, Noitik Debnath, 3, died and five others were injured when a bus rammed a CNG-run auto-rickshaw at Shantir Haat in Patiya upazila at around 8:00am yesterday.

Injured Ruma Devi, 26, Shah Jamal, 35, Alok Devnath, 40, Faruk, 25, and Babul Nath, 22, were rushed to CMCH.

Staff correspondent from Sylhet says:

Schoolgirl Tahmina Akhtar, 10, daughter of Jamal Miah, hailing from Hossainpur in Sunamganj, was injured as a tempo hit her in Sheikhghat area in the city at about 10:00am yesterday.

She was rushed to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

Agitating people put up barricades on Rikabi Bazar-Sheikhghat-Taltala road in the city to protest the accident.

In Gaibandha, bicyclist Sabur Hossain, 28, was crushed under the wheels of a bus on Gobindaganj-Mohimaganj road at Taragona in Gobindaganj upazila on Thursday night.

In Dinajpur, Asia Begum 60, wife of Bilayet Hossain of Birganj upazila, was killed instantly as a bus hit her while crossing the Panchagarh-Dinajpur road in Katabiri area of the upazila at around 9:00am yesterday.

Following the accident, locals blocked the road for an hour.

3 Rab men injured in attack, pistol snatched

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gaibandha

Three Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) personnel were injured while a pistol of theirs was snatched and their car vandalised in an attack allegedly by Jubo League activists in Hakimpur upazila of Dinajpur on Thursday night.

Three men on a motorcycle broke the rearview mirror of the car carrying the injured M Alamgir Hossain, Rangpur camp commander, and constables Tanvir Ahmed and Subeder Ali at Kaiyaganj around 8:00pm, said police.

The three riders stopped in Kamarpara on Gobindaganj-Ghoraghat road and an altercation ensued with the Rab personnel.

Soon around 10 other men, claiming to be Jubo League activists, appeared, attacked the Rab personnel with sticks and knives and snatched a Chinese manufactured pistol of theirs, said police.

At one point, the Rab personnel fired four shots in the air and the attackers fled. A case was filed with Gobindaganj Police Station in this connection yesterday.

6 eateries, 6 motorcycle riders fined in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two mobile courts on Thursday fined six eateries and six motorcycle riders in Chittagong and Cox's Bazar Tk 52,700 on different charges.

One court led by Chittagong District Administration Executive Magistrate Jannatul Ferdous fined four eateries for selling food in dirty and unhygienic environments.

Sabuj Hotel and Restaurant and Hotel Zaman at Chawkbazar were fined Tk 5,000 each and Kentucky Mini Chinese Restaurant

and Hotel Moslem before Chittagong Medical College were fined Tk 10,000 and Tk 5,000 respectively.

In Cox's Bazar, another court led by Cox's Bazar District Administration Executive Magistrate Nayeem Ahmed fined Faisal Traders at Kolatoli Tk 20,000 for selling date-expired soft drinks and Gharoa Restaurant at Borobazar Tk 5,000 for selling unhygienic food.

The court also fined six motorcycle riders Tk 2,700 for failing to show valid documents and for not using helmets.



Commerce Minister Ghulam Muhammed Quader releases balloons to inaugurate the international trade fair in Railway Polo Ground in Chittagong city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Rickshaw-van puller jailed for stalking

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gaibandha

A mobile court gave 15 days imprisonment to a rickshaw-van puller for stalking two schoolgirls in the district's Sunderganj upazila.

Police said the two minor girls were returning home at Bochagari village from their coaching center at Panchpeer bazar on the rickshaw-van of Nawshad Ali at 9:00pm on Tuesday.

At a spot on the way, Nawshad tried to molest the girls, said police.

Hearing the girls cry for help, locals rushed to the spot and rescued them and handed over Nawshad to police.

Father of one of the girls filed a case with Sunderganj Police Station in this regard.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer Delwer Hossain, mobile court judge, gave the judgment on Thursday and sent Nawshad to jail.

Automation services at dist, UZ offices from June

BSS, Kushtia

The 16,000 government offices at district and upazila levels of the country will go for automation services from June to ensure public services to people's doorsteps.

Md Nazrul Islam Khan, national project director of Access to Information (A2I) Programme of the Prime Minister's Office, announced this at an orientation programme on "Digital Bangladesh" at deputy commissioner's office in Kushtia yesterday.

Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) organised the workshop.

All district and upazila level government offices will have links with the Union Information Service Centres (UISCs) so that rural people can get necessary services at the quickest time without any hassle, Nazrul said.

Through automation of these offices, opportunities would be created to introduce e-service, which in turn would ensure quick, cost effective and hassle-free government services to rural folks, he said.

He also said e-services in the government offices will ensure transparency and accountability in providing services and, thus, will help to cut corruption significantly.

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Each district and upazila office will have separate web-portals to accumulate all information of the respective offices, he added.


Nazrul said UISCs have been set up in 4,501 Union Parishads across the country to bring the rural people under the information technology network for developing their lives and livelihood.

He also called upon the journalists to highlight the different programmes under the Digital Bangladesh initiative undertaken by the incumbent government to reach public services to peoples' doorsteps.

Ajit Kumar Sarkar, city editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), said journalists should project successes related to the information communication technology programmes taken up by the government that will help in building a digital Bangladesh by 2021.

BSS Managing Director and Chief Editor Ihsanul Karim presided over the programme while Deputy Commissioner Bonomali Bhowmik attended among others.

Journalists from different print and electronic media from Kushtia, Meherpur, Jhenaidah, Chuadanga and Rajbari also attended the programme.



In Pursuit of Golfing Excellence...


When I was eight years old, fate snatched the simple joys that my tender heart yearned for and thrust upon me the responsibility of supporting the livelihood of a starving family.

That day saw the birth of me, Mohammad Sobhan. In another twist of fate I was drawn to the lush green fairways of Kurmitola Golf Club, and started my new life as a ball boy.

Golf mesmerized me and it defined the whole essence of my being. I started dreaming of one day becoming a professional golfer. I worked as a caddy and worked tirelessly to improve my game. And now, after sixteen long years since I arrived at Kurmitola Golf Club, I am hoping to win laurels for Bangladesh as a member of the National Team.

I know that this is just the start of another challenging journey of my life, but I have the belief in myself to succeed. And with such strong support and encouragement from my sponsor bti, my confidence becomes ever higher.

Mohammad Sobhan
Golfer
Bangladesh National Team



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