

NEWS IN *brief*

**Trader mugged Tk 16 lakh**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A transport businessman was mugged Tk 16 lakh yesterday from the city's Gulistan area. The victim was identified as Al-Amin Khondokar, 45, owner of Khawaza Paribahan which plies Dhaka-Dohar route. Locals recovered him with an unconscious state at around 6:30pm in front of Golap Shah Mazar and sent him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Al-Amin said the reporters last night at DMCH that he was set to go to Bogra with the amount. Manager of Khawaza Paribahan, Ridoy Rahman Maruf, told this correspondent Al Amin was going to Kalyanpur bus station from his Gulistan office to get a bus of his destination at about 2:00pm for business purpose.

**Bank Asia scholarships for 26**

METRO DESK

Bank Asia provided higher studies scholarships to 26 meritorious students of Ashulia and Savar in Dhaka district and Konabari in Gazipur district yesterday. Aminul Islam, deputy managing director and chief operating officer of the bank, handed over the scholarship money to the students at a function at Ashulia Branch. Anwar Hossain Bhuiyan, deputy general manager of Ashulia Palli Bidyut Samity and Dewan Moinuddin Biplob, chairman of Yearpur Union Council and executives of the bank were present, said a press release. A large number of people including students, teachers, journalists, businessmen and local elite attended the function. A total of 134 students have been selected for the scholarship in the current year.

**Citycell pavilion launched**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A pavilion of Citycell, a leading mobile phone operator company, was launched at the Chittagong International Trade Fair (CIFT) 2012 yesterday. Chittagong Press Club (CPC) President Abu Sufian inaugurated the pavilion titled 'Zoom Ultra Pavilion' at a simple ceremony at Pologround. On the occasion, Citycell Regional Commercial Head Mohammad Fahim, National Sales Manager Zahiruddin Md Nadib and other officials were present, says a press release.

**'Upgrade CMCH into university'**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a rally yesterday demanded the government to upgrade Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) and Chittagong General Hospital into a medical university and college respectively. The rally preceded a human chain organised by Brihattara Chattagram Unnayan Sangram Committee, a local development organisation, before Chittagong Press Club in Chittagong city. Both hospitals do not have adequate equipment to face the huge influx of patients from across the region. Making the upgrades would help more patients get better services, they said.

**DHAKA TODAY**

- Dialogue**  
Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad and Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development will hold a dialogue; Venue: PKSF Bhaban; Time: 5:00pm.
- Convocation**  
Daffodil International University will organise its convocation; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 10:30am.
- Conference**  
National Anti Tuberculosis Association of Bangladesh will arrange a conference; Venue: LGED Auditorium, Agargaon; Time: 10:00am.
- AGM**  
Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) will arrange its annual general meeting (AGM); Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.
- Rally**  
Bangladesh Launchghat Hawkers Kalyan Samity will organise a rally; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

**WEATHER TODAY**

**No change in temperature**

UNB, Dhaka  
Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during late night till morning, Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:00pm today and rises at 6:23am tomorrow. Country's highest temperature 35.3 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khepupara and lowest 12.4 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

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

City/Town	Temperature Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.2	18.7	44	38
Chittagong	32.4	18.0	72	48
Rajshahi	32.8	13.5	66	43
Rangpur	30.0	16.2	72	32
Khulna	33.5	18.0	71	48
Barisal	33.7	16.6	65	52
Sylhet	32.6	16.7	58	86
Cox's Bazar	34.0	19.0	66	40



A section of 'Bhasha Andolan Jadughar' (Language Movement museum) on the first floor of the historic Burdwan House inside Bangla Academy in the city yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

**Cop stabbed**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A sub-inspector of Special Branch of police was stabbed by some criminals in the city's Jatrabari area on Friday night. Victim Shiblee Sadik, 35, son of Rafiqul Islam, was working at immigration department of Shahjalal International Airport. Sadik received stab injuries in his hands and right leg, said Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) sources. The SI later was shifted to Rajarbagh Police Lines Hospital. Police suspect Sadik might have come under attack by one of two groups of fighting people at city's Mir Hazirbag at 10:00pm. The victim's father said his son found two groups of people were quarrelling in the area on his way home. "As he stopped and tried to settle the problem, people of one of the feuding groups attacked him considering him a member of their rival group," he added.

**BHASHA ANDOLAN JADUGHAR**

**A flash into Language Movement**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A class VI student was staring wide-eyed at a picture on the Language Movement of 1952 fixed to the wall of "Bhasha Andolan Jadughar" (Language Movement museum) inside Bangla Academy yesterday. "These pictures are outstanding. I got a very detailed idea of the 1952 Language Movement after going through this place," said the student, Sraboni, who came visiting the museum with her mother. The museum showcases an array of rare pictures, documents, articles and photos on the Language Movement, drawing the attention of a huge number of visitors every day. "I read about the museum in the

newspaper and did not want to miss the opportunity of bringing my daughter here," said Sraboni's mother, Tania, who also bought a number of new books for her daughter from Amar Ekushey Boi Mela. "I had little knowledge on the background of the Language Movement. After watching these photos, my respect for the Language Movement veterans now knows no bounds," said one visitor, Delwar Hossain. "This museum has brought something additional for the visitors flocking to the fair every day. Many come and give their positive thoughts on the collection," said Bangla Academy Deputy Director

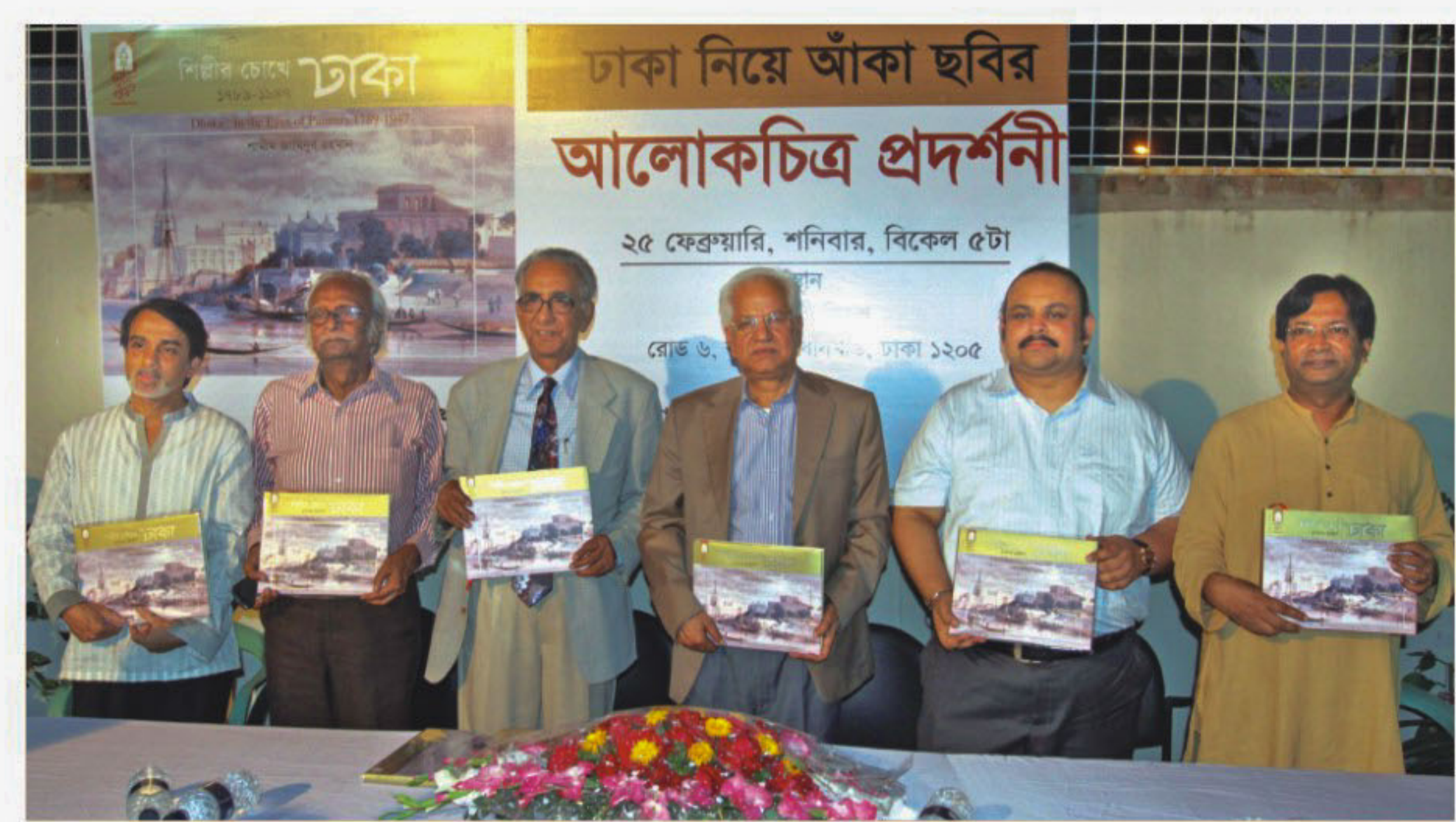
Murshidul Anwar. The Bangla Academy authorities opened the museum on the first floor of the historic Burdwan House, home of the East Bengal chief minister in the 1950s, currently housing the Bangla Academy, right after the book fair's inauguration on February 1, 2010. Some visitors said the museum was a big inspiration and that its space should be enlarged to house more collections. Meanwhile, the book fair witnessed a huge rush last evening as it was the last weekend before the fair closes this month. A total of 121 new titles hit the fair yesterday.



**Fourth death anniversary of Bazlur Rahman today**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the fourth death anniversary of Bazlur Rahman, one of the country's most eminent journalists, freedom fighter, and editor of the daily Sangbad. On the occasion, different organisations have taken up various programmes. His family, the daily Sangbad, Bazlur Rahman Foundation, and other organisations will place wreaths at his grave at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard at 9:30am. Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury, wife of Bazlur Rahman, will hand over a cheque for Tk 1 lakh to the authorities of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP). Bazlur Rahman died in 2008 at the age of 67. He graduated in economics from Dhaka University and earned acclaim for writing articles on economy and different issues. Bazlur Rahman was born to Abdur Rahman and Raisunnesa in Char Niamat village of Fulpur upazila, Mymensingh on August 3, 1941. He spent a significant period of time working for Bangla newspaper Ekota. He actively participated in the six-point programme, the 1969 mass uprising, the 1971 War of Liberation, movement against the military regime after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and the autocratic regime of HM Ershad.



(From left) Shamim Aminur Rahman, artist Qayyum Chowdhury, Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, historian Sirajul Islam, Kazi Monirul Kabir of Grameenphone and Prothom Alo Managing Editor Sajjad Sharif at the unveiling of a book, 'Dhaka: In the eyes of painters 1789-1947' at Gallery Chitrak in the city yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

**Exhibition takes viewers to British era Dhaka**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A five-day exhibition, with more than 50 art works projecting British era Dhaka, began at Gallery Chitrak in the city's Dhanmondi yesterday. Prothoma Prokashan in association with Grameen Phone organised the exhibition, "Dhaka: In the eyes of painters 1789-1947", following the publication of a book of the same title. The book contains over 100 art works of around 15 known and unknown artists from 1789 to 1947. It appeared in the Amar Ekushey Boi Mela this year. Shamim Aminur Rahman authored the book and collected the art works from different sources. The chief guest at the inaugural function, Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman said the lifestyles of the people of Mughal era and afterwards could be known through these art works. The lifestyle of the people of Mughal era was yet unknown, as during the period only the administrators and labourers had been residing in Dhaka, said Prof Serajul Islam. Artist Qayyum Chowdhury said these art works reflecting the scenarios of the East India Company era would be useful in research works in future. The exhibition will continue till February 29.

**Political will to encourage science education stressed**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An international meet of scientists ended yesterday, underscoring the need for political will to encourage science education and introduce sustainable technologies towards improving livelihoods and socio-economic condition of the country's people. The symposium called upon policymakers to allocate more funds for the expansion of science education and research so that new technologies can be introduced to provide solutions of issues like food security and climate change. Bangladesh Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Alumni Association (BJSPSAA) organised the two-day symposium, "Science for society", marking the 40th anniversary of Bangladesh-Japan diplomatic relations. Nearly 150 scientists from home and abroad attended the symposium at

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council in the city. The symposium was divided into five sessions where scientists focused on issues like biotechnology and nanotechnology, environmental management and food security due to climate change and natural disasters, eradication of poverty and development of an e-society. It also discussed on issues such as renewable energy, biomass and biotechnology to build sustainable rural communities and focused on generating sustainable technologies in agriculture, health and engineering. "Livelihood and socio-economic condition of people can be improved through better technologies. Policymakers must have the political will to promote scientific knowledge and education," said Prof SM Imamul Huq, vice-president of BJSPSAA. Sustainable technologies like

renewable energy should be introduced and adopted in areas most prone to climate change, he said. Imamul also underscored the need for joint research among scientists of Bangladesh and Japan to develop better technologies and contribute to society. "We scientists have to remember that we have to discover technologies that are sustainable for the society," said Prof Md Ruhul Amin, chair of a session on sustainable technologies in agriculture, health and engineering. Technologies should be developed in ways so that those would be economically viable while people can readily accept and use those, he added. Yasuo Igarashi of University of Tokyo and Prof Al-Nakib Chowdhury of Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology also spoke at the programme.

**MOU WITH SWITZERLAND Move to further strengthen ties**

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and Switzerland have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for establishing a political dialogue between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland. The MoU was signed to continue to strengthen bilateral cooperation between the two countries. Foreign Minister Dipu Moni and her Swiss counterpart Didier Burkhalter signed the MoU in Berne, Switzerland on Friday, said a press release of Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh yesterday. Dipu Moni is on an official visit to Switzerland from February 22-25 and will also be attending a session on "Climate Change and Human Rights" at the Human Rights Council in Geneva. With the signing of the MoU, Bangladesh and Switzerland will now hold Annual Foreign Office consultations to discuss bilateral issues and expedite implementation of decisions to be taken by the two countries. During the meeting, the two foreign ministers reviewed bilateral relations between the two countries and discussed various international issues, including the political and economic situation in Asia and climate change and signed a MoU on political consultation. This year, Switzerland and Bangladesh are celebrating the 40th anniversary of bilateral relations through various programmes.