

CASE AGAINST QUADER MOLLAH, GHULAM AZAM Charge hearing adjourned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal yesterday adjourned the charge hearing against Jamaat-e-Islami leader Abdul Quader Mollah till today as the prosecutor dealing with the case appeared to be unprepared to place his arguments.

Prosecutor Mohammad Ali, who was supposed to present his arguments in support of the formal charges against the Jamaat leader, was so perplexed in his submission that at one point the judges had to brief him on how he should proceed.

Eventually, the three-member tribunal asked the prosecutor to take some more time for preparation and granted him one more day.

Abdul Quader Mollah is facing seven charges of crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War of 1971. He was not produced before the court as per the tribunal's decision.

Shortly after Mohammad Ali began the proceedings against the Jamaat leader, tribunal member Justice ATM Fazle Kabir interrupted him and pointed out that the formal charges identified Mollah as an Al Badr leader.

"But do you have any document that mentions him as an Al Badr leader?"

Mohammad Ali then referred to a document on the seizure list and cited a page number. He then proceeded to reading out the document that turned out to be a 2007 newspaper report.

The report outlined the incidents of late March, 1971 that the prosecutor had read out before the tribunal from the formal charges.

Before he could go further, Justice Kabir interrupted him and said, "But this is not what I was looking for".

The judges reminded the prosecutor that the tribunal wanted to know if there was any evidence or document showing that Quader Mollah had been an Al Badr leader.

Prosecutor Ali then began rummaging through the documents in front of him trying to locate what he was asked for.

The prosecutor then said he would answer the query later. He went on to read another part of the formal charge.

The tribunal interrupted him once again saying that he had already read the formal charge once.

Later the prosecutor told the tribunal that he did not have any witnesses for the first four charges against Quader Mollah.

His colleagues, however, reminded him from the bench that there were indeed witnesses for those charges.

The prosecutor stuck to his position and said, "No".

At this point, the tribunal chairman Justice Md Nizamul Huq proceeded to provide the prosecutor with some tips.

He said the prosecutor should make a list of evidence in support of the charges. "There are only seven charges. It should not take very long". Given the confusion all around, the tribunal suggested that the prosecutor take some more time for preparation, and adjourned the proceedings till today.

CHARGE HEARING AGAINST GHULAM AZAM ADJOURNED

The tribunal yesterday adjourned the charge hearing against former Jamaat-e-Islami chief Ghulam Azam till Match 19 as his chief counsel Barrister Abdur Razzaq is out of the city for a professional matter.

The adjournment came after Tajul Islam, a defence counsel of Azam, appealed to the court for some time, as the chief counsel's presence is vital in the court proceedings.

CHARGES AGAINST NIZAMI
Prosecutor Altaf Uddin Ahmed yesterday began reading out the formal charges against Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami.

He finished reading 23 pages out of the 73-page formal charges. He will continue to read out the charges today.

Abdul Quader Mollah, Ghulam Azam and Motiur Rahman Nizami are three of six Jamaat and two BNP leaders who are facing charges of crimes against humanity at the tribunal.



Resident students of Rokeya Hall besiege the provost's office at Rajshahi University, as some 30 students fell sick after taking food at the dining hall in the last two days.

PHOTO: STAR

17 shops gutted in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Seventeen shops and six residential houses were gutted in a fire at Steel Mill Bazar in the port city yesterday.

Fire service sources said the fire originated from an electric short circuit in a shop at Steel Mill Bazar around 5:30am and soon spread to the adjoining shops and houses.

Four fire-fighting units managed to douse the fire after two hours.

Speaker rejects 76 notices of BNP lawmakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Abdul Hamid yesterday rejected all 76 notices submitted by several BNP lawmakers demanding discussion in parliament on various issues including deterioration in law and order, share market crash, price hike of essentials and border killings.

The Speaker said he has examined the contents of the notices and found that the government has already taken action to address many issues. "I hope the government will take more steps to resolve these issues."

He however mentioned that had the MPs

were present in the House, it could have been possible to hold a discussion on one of the notices.

BNP lawmakers Jafrul Islam Chowdhury, Abul Khair Bhuiyan, AM Mahub Uddin Khokon, Nazimuddin Ahmed, Rehana Akhtar Ranu and Nilufar Chowdhury Moni submitted the notices demanding adjournment of the scheduled business of the House and discussion on the issues.

The opposition MPs have been boycotting the parliament proceedings since June last year.

India gets names of six Bangabandhu killers

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India has received a list of six killers of Bangladesh's independence architect

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Lok Sabha, lower House of Indian Parliament, was told yesterday.

As per information available, the Interpol wing of India's Central Bureau of Investigation has received a list of six wanted criminals who are killers of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Junior Home Minister Jitendra Singh said in a written reply to a question.

He said appropriate action, including issuing Look-Out Circulars against these six persons, had been taken.

During her talks with her Indian counterpart P Chidambaram in Delhi recently, Home Minister Shahara Khatun raised the issue of India's handing over of two persons, including riasaldar Mosleuddin, for trying them on the charge of assassinating Bangabandhu. Chidambaram had told Shahara that both the wanted persons were believed to be in West Bengal state, and the security agencies of that were trying to locate them.

He had said that if located, there would be no legal hassle in the handover of the two persons to Bangladesh to stand trial.

ভাষা: বাংলা

আয়োজক: সর্বশক্তিমান

ভাষা: বঙ্গবন্ধু

যুদ্ধাপরাধীদের বিচার বানচালের ষড়যন্ত্র প্রতিহত এবং গণতন্ত্র, শান্তি ও উন্নয়নের ধারা রক্ষায় জাতীয় জাগরণের লক্ষ্যে কেন্দ্রীয় ১৪ দলের উদ্যোগে

সমাবেশ

১৪ মার্চ-বুধবার, বিকেল ৩টা, বায়তুল মোকাররম দক্ষিণ গেইট

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বক্তব্য রাখবেন: ১৪ দলের কেন্দ্রীয় নেতৃবৃন্দ

40 injured in DU-Dhaka College students clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 40 people were injured in a clash between the students of Dhaka University (DU) and Dhaka College last night.

The injured, mostly DU students, were admitted to DU medical centre and Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Around 10:30pm, two resident students of Sir AF Rahman Hall of DU went to a restaurant in Nilkhet where some Dhaka College students were having food.

An altercation began between the students of the two institutions over sitting arrangements. At one stage, the Dhaka College students, who were larger in number, beat up the DU students and chased them to the dormitory.

Immediately afterwards, more students of AF Rahman Hall, accompanied by their fellows from other dormitories, chased the college students.

Later, a larger crowd of Dhaka College students equipped with firearms, sharp weapons, and sticks, gathered near New Market and fired several shots. They also exploded a couple of crackers.

Shihabuzzaman Shihab, convener of Dhaka College unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League, and Al Mahmud Sarkar Tareq, joint secretary of BCL central unit, led the attack on the DU students.

DU Proctor Amzad Hossain said the attack with firearms and sharp weapons was condemnable. He called upon the Dhaka College authorities to bring those responsible for the attack to book.

Nurul Islam, assistant deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said they deployed five platoons of police to bring the situation under control.

The clash ended around 12:30am.

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