

Shaptahik 2000, Anandadhara celebrate 14th anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shaptahik 2000, a weekly news magazine, and Anandadhara, a fortnightly entertainment magazine, yesterday celebrated their 14th anniversary amid much festivity.

Celebrities and noted personalities, including writers, filmmakers, actors, singers, TV anchors as well as readers and well wishers, attended the daylong celebrations at The Daily Star Centre in the capital, which began with the ceremonial cutting of a cake at 12:30pm.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, also publisher of Shaptahik 2000 and Anandadhara, and Moinul Ahsan Saber, editor of the magazines, cut the cake.

Media personality Abdun Nur Tusher moderated the inaugural ceremony.

Deputy Speaker Shawkat Ali, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader, Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prime Minister's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad and APS Saifuzzaman Shikhor, veteran journalist ABM Musa, lawmaker Amir Hossain Amu, Awami League leader Mamudur Rahman Manna, BNP Chairperson's Press Secretary Maruf Hossain Kamal, BNP Chairperson's Chief Coordinator on Defence and Security Issues Maj Gen (retd) Fazle Elahi Akbar, Boishakhi TV CEO Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, actress Rozina, actor-reciter Jayanta Chattopadhyay and popular singer Fahmida Nabi, among many others, attended the programme to offer their greetings.

Cultural functions were also held on the occasion.

Deputy Speaker Shawkat Ali, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader, Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prime Minister's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad and APS Saifuzzaman Shikhor, veteran journalist ABM Musa, lawmaker Amir Hossain Amu, Awami League leader Mamudur Rahman Manna, BNP Chairperson's Press Secretary Maruf Hossain Kamal, BNP Chairperson's Chief Coordinator on Defence and Security Issues Maj Gen (retd) Fazle Elahi Akbar, Boishakhi TV CEO Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, actress Rozina, actor-reciter Jayanta Chattopadhyay and popular singer Fahmida Nabi, among many others, attended the programme to offer their greetings.

Hand grenade found on city road

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An active hand grenade was found in an abandoned state at Niketon in the capital's Gulshan area yesterday.

A patrol team of Gulshan police found the hand grenade on the road near the bridge between Aarong and Shooting Club around 11:30am, said Rafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Gulshan Police Station.

They immediately called the bomb disposal unit of detective branch (DB), who took the grenade into their custody, he said, adding that police are investigating the matter.

Bomb expert Sanwar Hossain, senior assistant commissioner of DB, said the grenade had the capacity of causing casualties within 20 yards, Sanwar said.

"Although the pin was open, the grenade did not explode. Perhaps, there was a technical fault," he said, adding that they were trying to identify the country where it was made.



Deputy Speaker Shawkat Ali cuts a cake on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of Shaptahik 2000, a weekly magazine, and Anandadhara, a fortnightly entertainment magazine, at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

PM urges India for speedy implementation of accords

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged India to speedily implement the decisions and agreements made during her visit to India and Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh's visit to Bangladesh.

She made the call when Indian Minister for Law, Justice and Minority Affairs Salman Khurshid met her at her official Gono Bhaban residence in the evening.

Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Sheikh Md Wahid Uz Zaman, three Indian parliament members Bhola Singh, CM Chang and Mohammad Adeeb and Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pankaj Saran were present.

Deputy Press Secretary to the Prime Minister Bijan Lal Deb briefed reporters after the meeting.

The premier underscored the need for early ratification of the Land Boundary Agreement 1974 and its protocol signed during the visit of Dr Manmohan Singh for a satisfactory

resolution of the land boundary dispute.

In this regard, Salman said India was committed to early ratification of the land boundary agreement.

Stressing the need for regional cooperation, Hasina said, "We should work together for the benefits of the region, because our main goal is to ensure welfare of our people."

Mentioning that her government is working relentlessly to strengthen democracy in the country, she said some 5,175 elections at different levels had so far been held in a free, fair and peaceful manner when even the ruling party-nominated candidates lost in some cases.

Expressing her stern stance against terrorism, she said, "We understand that there is no boundary for terrorism and there is a need to work unitedly to combat terrorism."

In this regard, the Indian minister appreciated the government's efforts on anti-terrorist activities.

Salman said, "We see the high future of Bangladesh and greater commitment of the government to its

people."

Hasina said Bangladesh attached highest importance to its relations with India and since the exchange of visits between her and the premier of India, there had been a significant forward movement in the initiatives undertaken by both the countries to further deepen and widen the existing excellent bilateral relations.

She also recalled with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the year-long joint celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore and 113th birth anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam.

Hasina mentioned various high level visits from India to Bangladesh, including that of the home minister, commerce minister, vice-president, UPA chairperson, culminating in the successful visit of Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh to Dhaka in September 2011.

She further said the two sides were able to have very fruitful discussions on all issues of mutual interests and resolve a number of long outstanding issues, including the land boundary issue.

Steel mill fined for polluting air

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) fined Provati Steel Mills Ltd Tk 9.2 lakh on charge of polluting air in Demra area in the capital on Thursday.

DoE Director (enforcement) Mohammed Munir Chowdhury, in the drive, fined Khalilur Rahman, managing director of the factory, and gave him two months time to install adequate fume extraction system to control air pollution, said a press release.

The factory's clearance from DoE expired more than two years ago. If it does not comply with the order within the time, the DoE will file a case against the factory and also disconnect its electricity and gas connection, the release added.

Earlier on Wednesday, owner of Premier Steel Factory in Narayanganj was fined Tk 16 lakh on the same charge.

An outspoken campaigner, a guide lost

Say speakers recollecting memories of Prof Muzaffer Ahmad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around lunch hours, Prof Muzaffer Ahmad would never keep himself buried in any work, for it was time he would feed his mother with his own hands. And it was also for her that he returned home, sacrificing a foreign job.

The words came from friends, colleagues, and students, who were reminiscing about their moments and memories with the recently deceased economist. Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA) organised the commemorative meeting in the capital yesterday.

Dr Atiur Rahman, governor of Bangladesh Bank, said, "Professor Ahmad, above all, was a good human being, the most outspoken person we have ever known".

"His role as an environmentalist was tremendously important. We have few people left after him to lead us", he added.

Prof Muzaffer Ahmad breathed his last in the capital on May 23.

Describing the professor as a colleague, comrade and friend for 55 years, Prof Rehman Sobhan, another noted economist and chairman of the think tank Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), shared his experiences on Muzaffer Ahmad.

"When Ahmad came back home in 1965 after his PhD to join Dhaka University, the political situation was tumultuous. The university was not a place where one could devote himself to serious academic work. But he went through all of that and continued to teach throughout his life", he said.

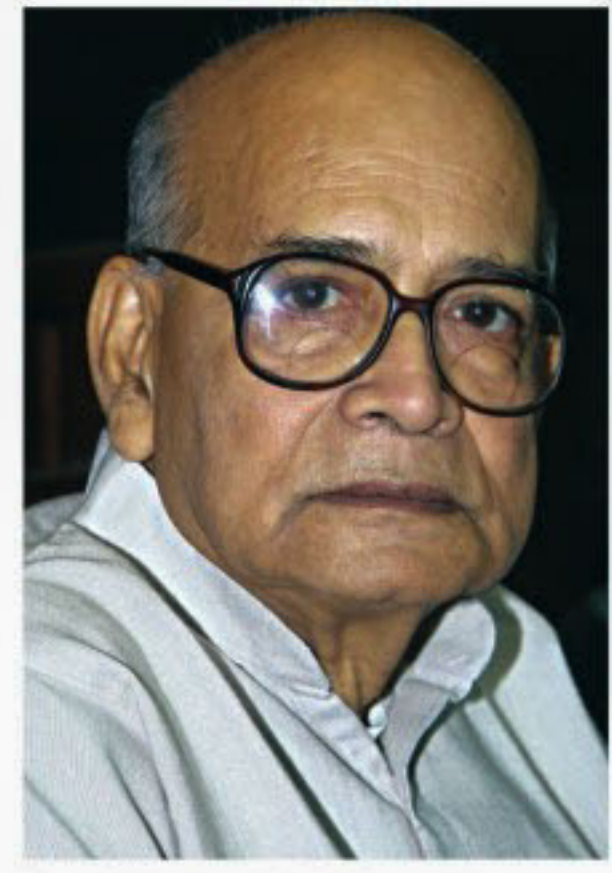
The speakers also highlighted his voices for good governance and economic development.

"His role in the campaign against corruption was unprecedented", commented Rashed Khan Menon, president of the Workers' Party.

Dr ATM Nurul Amin, a dean of North South University, said, "He would always speak reasonably and work rationally. He would listen to others, but never had compromised his stand, without proving others wrong".

An instance of his uncompromising manner also came from Dr Saleh Uddin, vice chancellor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. "He was extremely popular as a teacher. He never skipped or compromised his classes for anything".

Dr Ali Ashraf, an economics professor at Chittagong University, also spoke at the memorial meeting.



Prof Muzaffer Ahmad



Indian Minister for Law, Justice and Minority Affairs Salman Khurshid calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official Gono Bhaban residence in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

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প্লট সীমিত, আগে আসলে আগে পাবেন ভিত্তিতে বরাদ্দ দেওয়া হবে।

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এছাড়াও রয়েছে দীর্ঘমেয়াদী কিস্তির সুবিধা।

নতুন শকল বিক্রয় উদ্বোধন উপলক্ষ্যে মেলা চলবে ১৫ জুন, ২০১২ পর্যন্ত মেলায় বুকিং এর ক্ষেত্রে রয়েছে বিশেষ ছাড়!

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০১৭১৩-০০৯২১৭, ০১৭৩-০৩২৭৮১৪
০১৭৩-০৩২৭৮১৬, ০১৭৩-০৩২৭৮১৭

মতিঝিল অফিস: ২৯ রাজউক এডিনিউ, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা।
০১৭১৩-০৬৪৩৫০, ০১৭১৩-৩০২৪০২
০১৭১৩-০৬৪৩৫৩, ০১৭৩০-৩২৭৮২২

উত্তরা অফিস: বাড়ী-১৭, রোড-৭, সেক্টর-৪, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।
০১৭৫৫-৫৮২২৫৯, ০১৭৫৫-৫৮২২৬০
০১৭৫৫-৫৮২২৫৮, ০১৭৫৫-৫৮২২৫৭

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আমিন মোহাম্মদ গ্রুপ

পদ্ম পের আবাসিক নতুন ঠিকানা