

# THE DAILY Star ON FRIDAY

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## KATHAK MAESTRO IN DHAKA

Living legend Birju Maharaj conducts workshop at Shilpakala Academy

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## TIGERS' FIRST WIN

Bangladesh win their first match in Zimbabwe T20 tri-series

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## STAGE SET FOR SANGMA

Finally, BJP picks somebody for Indian presidential race

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I'm innocent: Mojaheed claims in written statement at tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed yesterday claimed before the International Crimes Tribunal-2 that he had dedicated himself to serving Bangladesh since December 16, 1971.

After the framing of seven charges of crimes against humanity against him at the court yesterday, Mojaheed pleaded "100 percent innocent" and delivered a statement with the tribunal's permission. In the statement

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## Mojaheed indicted

Faces trial for 7 war crimes charges including killing of intellectuals

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Jamaat leader Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed is the second war crimes accused facing trial over the planned killing of intellectuals just before Bangladesh's liberation on December 16, 1971.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday indicted Jamaat-e-Islami leader Mojaheed, 64, with seven charges, including murder, torture, and imprisonment of people, genocide, and hatching a conspiracy to kill intellectuals during the Liberation War.



Two charges related specifically to Mojaheed's involvement in the much-talked-about killings of eminent journalist Serajuddin Hossain and Shafi Imam Rumi, son of Shaheed Janani Jahanara Imam, who became a symbolic mother of all martyrs for her sacrifice and role during the war and afterwards.

Earlier, International Crimes Tribunal-1 indicted Jamaat's Ameer (chief) Motiur Rahman Nizami with 16 charges of crimes against humanity, one of which was in connection with killing intellectuals en masse.

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Garment workers swarm to their factories at Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital yesterday as the units resume production. Owners had shut about 300 RMG factories there since Sunday in the wake of the recent labour unrest. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Principal ruthless

Students caned for not attending coaching; 14 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, KUSHITIA

At least 14 students at Kushtia Police Lines School and College were injured yesterday when they were ruthlessly caned by its principal for declining to attend the coaching classes run by the school authorities.

Of the students, three had to be admitted to a local hospital. The rest were given first-aid treatment at different clinics.

According to sources, the authorities have made it mandatory for the students



of classes eight, nine and ten to take the coaching classes, monthly fees for which range between Tk 700 and Tk 1,500.

Since fees were burdensome for their parents, some students had declined to attend the coaching classes. When they came to school yesterday, Principal Abu Dadra Md Arif Billah ordered them to go to the classes for coaching.

But as they refused to comply, the principal started hitting them with a cane

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## PAK POWER VACUUM PM nominee faces arrest warrant

AGENCIES

Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari's bid to fill the power vacuum caused by his prime minister's departure faced further hiccups yesterday when the Anti Narcotics Force issued an arrest warrant for his preferred candidate.

Makhdoom Shahabuddin's arrest warrant is linked to imports of an illegal drug while he was health minister.

He is a senior figure in the ruling Pakistan People's Party who served in the cabinet of Benazir Bhutto and



Makhdoom Shahabuddin

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## Ashulia back to life

Apparel factories resume production after 4-day shutdown due to labour unrest

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Production resumed in garment factories at Ashulia yesterday after a four-day shutdown, but the presence of workers was thin.

Factory owners say many workers have gone to their village homes or are in search of jobs elsewhere following the shutdown of about 300 units in the wake of labour unrest over pay hikes.

On the first day at work after the shutdown, many workers did not return to the factories of the leading manufacturer, Ha-Meem Group, that employs 14,000 workers for its Ashulia operations, company

officials said.

The group's seven units there make an annual turnover of \$200 million, according to officials.

"However, normalcy is returning to our factories," AK Azad, managing director of the group, told The Daily Star.

After a weeklong spate of street violence by the workers in the area demanding a pay raise, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) on Saturday announced a shutdown that

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*The beauties will now dance their way to glamour*

Watch the Top 6 beauties perform in "Dance Beautiful" challenge  
Tonight at 9:30 pm only on Channel i

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