



SYRIAN CONFLICT

Rebels capture parts of army base in the country's north

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FIRE TRAINING

BGMEA launches a six-month programme for 3,400 factories

PAGE B1

KING OF GOALS

Messi scores 86 goals in a calendar year to overhaul Mueller's record

PAGE 16

Fakhrul arrested

21 vehicles burnt on hartal eve; exams postponed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A day after filing a case against him in connection with Sunday's violence, police yesterday arrested BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, when he was leaving the party's Nayapaltan office in the evening.

Police yesterday also arrested 30 BNP activists from in front of the party office in the capital. Following Sunday's violence, a huge number of police and Rab personnel were deployed in front of BNP office yesterday.

The arrests were made at a time when the BNP-led 18-party opposition alliance is set to observe countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal today. The strike was called Sunday night in protest of the cases filed against and the arrests of opposition leaders and activists.

At least 38 cases have been filed with different police stations in the capital alone in connection with arson, vandalism and rampage during Sunday's road blockade



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PHOTO ON PAGE 20

Save economy

Businesses urge parties to end violent politics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's leading business chambers and associations yesterday urged the ruling and opposition parties to avoid confrontational politics -- to keep up the favourable growth momentum the country is going through at present.

The call followed the recent spate of hartals and road-blocks enforced by different interest groups, obstructing business activities.

Hartals would cause the economy to slow down, says a statement issued by the International Chamber of

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Rejoinder, our reply

In a rejoinder to The Daily Star report headlined "Findings in Short" published on Monday, former state minister for foreign affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury has denied lobbying for Lavalin or anyone else in the Padma bridge project.

"During this whole period I visited the [former] communications

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Protect people

Rights chief spurs govt, reacts at murder of Bishwajit on int'l HR day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Mizanur Rahman yesterday demanded that the government arrests and takes punitive measures against the persons responsible for the killing of Bishwajit Das.

"When we are observing International Human Rights Day, we remember Bishwajit with profound sorrow and sympathy. It is the responsibility of the state to protect people's life, and when it [state] fails, the failures leave us utterly disgraced," he said.

Bishwajit was killed on Sunday in an attack allegedly

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Iajuddin passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Former president Iajuddin Ahmed died yesterday at a Bangkok hospital, leaving behind a glaring example of how an outspoken educationist loved by many was

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NEWS ANALYSIS

AL'S REBEL PROPOSAL

Sorry, it's no democracy

INAM AHMED and SHAKHAWAT LITON

If democracy means the right to choice and the right to express then the Awami League's latest proposal to the Election Commission to disqualify rebel candidates from contesting elections for two terms can best be termed autocratic and smacks of authoritarianism.

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GOOD JOB NOT GOOD ENOUGH! Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal plays a cover drive during the lone T20I against the West Indies at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday. The dashing left-hander's unbeaten 88 off 61 balls took Bangladesh towards the victory target of 198, but in the end fell short by 18 runs.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

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PHOTO: STAR

Bishwajit Das being beaten up by BCL activists in Old Dhaka during an opposition blockade on Sunday. See page 19 for photos showing the sequence of actions that killed Bishwajit, who had nothing to do with the blockade.

EU privileges utilised best by Bangladesh

EU delegation tells Star, stresses consensus among political parties, points out poor safety at RMG units

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has emerged as a huge success story and benefited most as a least developed country from preferential market access to Europe, William Hanna, ambassador and head of

delegation of EU to Dhaka, said yesterday.

The country gained from WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy's theory: Make no trade barriers for the least developed countries, Hanna said during a



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RAFIQUL

A second-year student of Islamic History, Rafiqul Islam is one of the main culprits who swooped on Bishwajit. Video and still photos

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NOORE ALAM

A fourth-year student of political science, Meer Md Noore Alam repeatedly struck Bishwajit with iron rods when the victim was running down the stairs from

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MAHFUZUR

A masters' final-year student of Bangla, Mahfuzur Rahman is known as a notorious Chhakra League activist. Press photos show him beating Bishwajit with

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OBHIDUL

A fourth-year student of psychology, Obhidul Quader is one of the key hitters. He is known as a cadre of the university's BCL faction led by Sirajul Islam, general secretary of Emdadul belongs to the

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EMDADUL

A masters' final-year student of philosophy, Emdadul Haque hit Bishwajit indiscriminately all over even as the victim begged for his life. Emdadul belongs to the

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OF THE MURDERERS

RASHIDUL HASAN

Thirteen-year-old Saiful Islam could not keep his eyes open when Chhakra League armed cadres were striking Bishwajit Das with machetes and iron rods inside a clinic, Intensive Dental Care. The attackers would not care how pitifully their victim would

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