

The Daily Star

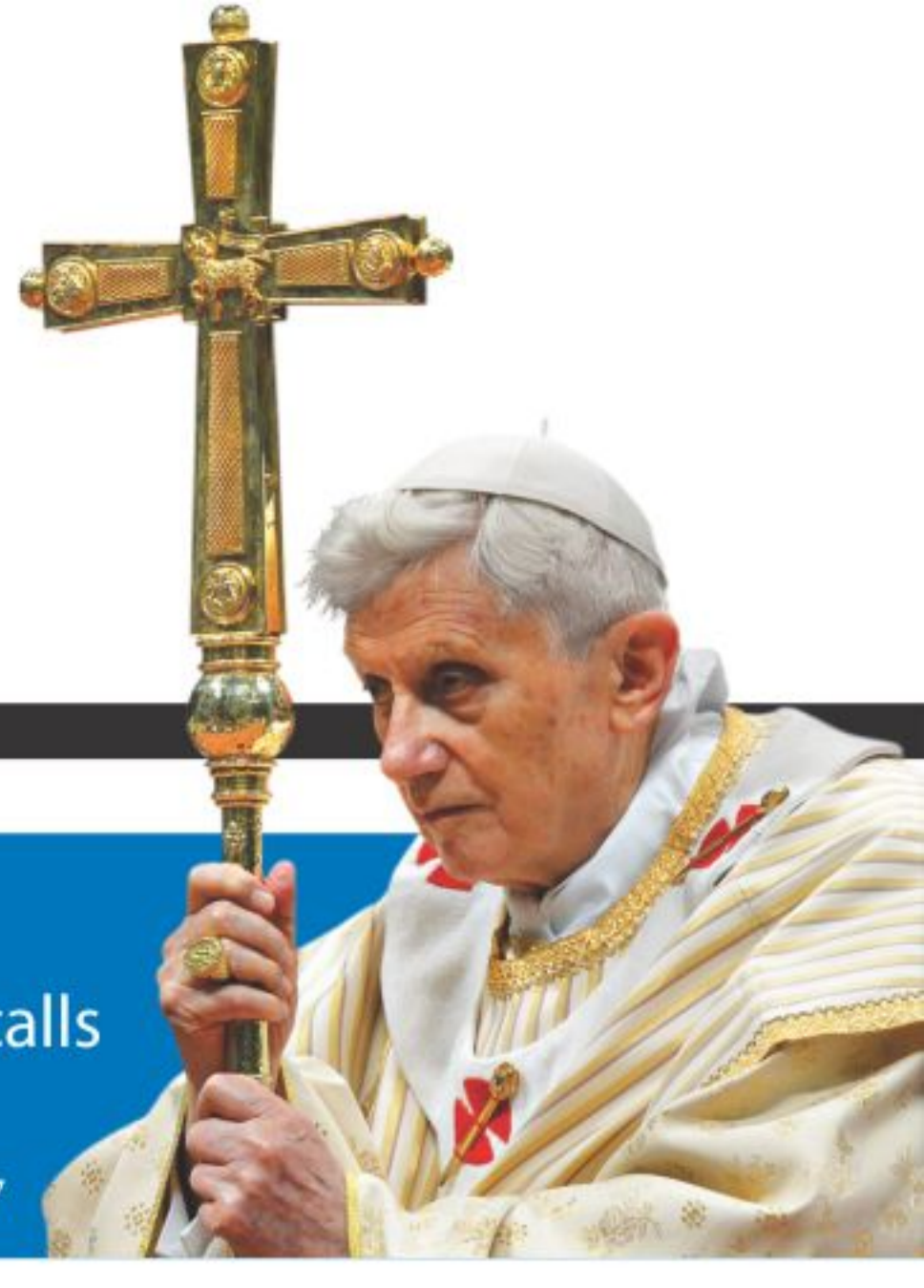
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Military rules have always favoured certain elitist groups in society
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Sanjoy Kumar's exhibition points out political nonsense and hypocrisy
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'THERE IS HOPE'
In Christmas message, the pope calls for an end to Syria bloodshed
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BISHWAJIT MURDER

Another BCL man nabbed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Detectives nabbed yesterday another Bangladesh Chhatra League cadre, Emdadul Haque, identified as one of the killers of Bishwajit. This raised to 11 the number of arrestees in the gruesome murder in the capital during the December 9 opposition-enforced blockade. Emdadul was held from a rest house in



Emdadul Haque

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Test of brutes

Bishwajit murderers wanted to prove they were fit to be on

RASHIDUL HASAN
A group of BCL activists from Jagannath University had launched a brutal attack on a defenceless Bishwajit during an opposition blockade to show off strength to their leaders, organisation insiders say. The rogues also had wanted to prove that they could tackle any "subversive activities". They swooped on Biswajit, a tailor boy who was on his way to work, near Bahadur Shah Park in Old Dhaka, taking him for a pro-blockade activist involved in a cocktail blast. Critically injured, he died at Mitford Hospital. "I actually told them [the activists] to slap Bishwajit and beat him

a little," JnU BCL President FM Shariful Islam told The Daily Star two days after the blockade. "But they lost their sense of proportion." He admitted asking the BCL followers to "teach the Shibir man a lesson", pointing at Biswajit, who was a Hindu by religion. There was hardly any possibility of his involvement with an Islamist organisation like Islami Chhatra Shibir, the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islam. Wishing anonymity, another leader of the unit said, "We could not imagine they [the attackers] would beat him so hard." The central committee of Bangladesh Chhatra League, a pro-Awami League student body,

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Be responsible

PM asks media

BSS, Dhaka
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the media to play a more responsible role in disseminating news and programmes, saying there should be more responsibility alongside freedom. The newspapers, private televi-

sion and radio channels have been enjoying maximum freedom, and through this, the people are getting scope for expressing their opinion, she said. "But sometimes we witness lack of responsibility from some

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PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

The fury of the Padma has died in the winter and continuous dredging is required to keep the important Paturia-Doulatdia ferry service afloat. The ferry service is key to keep districts of the southwest connected to the capital. The photo was taken last month.

Traffic may go into tailspin

BNP apologises in advance for public sufferings today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Raising fears of traffic chaos in the capital, opposition leaders and activists march on rally venues in Dhaka today as part of a mass contact programme to press their demands, including the restoration of the caretaker government system. The main opposition BNP expressed regret about the sufferings the day-long programme would cause to city residents. "We are sorry for the inconvenience [to be caused due to the rallies], but I

believe city residents will cooperate with us," Abdus Salam, member secretary of Dhaka city unit BNP, said at a press briefing yesterday. Abdullah Al Mahmud, joint commissioner (traffic), said the opposition's programme might disrupt traffic movement in the capital, but necessary measures have been taken to ease sufferings of commuters. "Rallies will be held on streets, and they will affect traffic movement in the

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ROUTE MAP OF OPPOSITION RALLIES
DHAKA, DEC 26, 2012

RALLY VENUE 1: GABTOLI - 10:00AM
Kalyanpur, Agargaon, Farmgate, FDC, Moghbazar, Kakrail, Gulistan, Doyaganj

RALLY VENUE 2: KARWAN BAZAR

RALLY VENUE 3: DHOLAIKHAL
(Khaleda to exchange greetings with party men here)

RALLY VENUE 4: JATRABARI

RALLY VENUE 5: SABUJBAGH
Manik Nagar, Mughda, Sayedabad

RALLY VENUE 6: BADDA - 2:30PM
Rampura, Khilgaon, Basabo



Loneliness equal to smoking?

THE SUN ONLINE
Experts have equated the effect of loneliness on health to that of obesity or smoking 15 cigarettes a day. The sad, solitary state of many older people is not just a state of mind, it can hasten dementia and increase the risk of heart disease and high blood pressure. Estimates suggest more than half a million elderly people will be on their own this Christmas in UK. Many will feel bereft and lost following the death of a long-term partner. Some will have children but may not live

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UTTARA BRIDGE PROJECT Bid documents snatched

Victim points at minister's relative; denial follows; Rajuk to decide on re-tender today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Rajuk authorities will decide today on whether to re-tender the Tk25-crore Uttara bridge project, as a gang of thugs snatched the bidding documents from one of the prospective bidders on Monday. Backed allegedly by Abdus Salam Khan, proprietor of a bidder firm Padma Traders, the thugs snatched the bidding documents of Abdul Monem Ltd. Salam is a relative of Abdul Mannan Khan, state minister for public works. The bridge will be built in Uttara 3rd phase, a residential area under development by Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk). The deadline for bidding passed on Monday. Md Nurul Huda, chairman of Rajuk, said he would consider the overall situation before deciding on the issue today. There is no legal bar to go ahead with the tender process if at least two bids are received, he mentioned. The Rajuk chief claimed that the incident occurred outside of Rajuk premises and neither the victim nor any of his (victim's) officials had informed him about the incident until 2:30pm on Monday, when he left the office. Later he learnt of the incident from newsmen. Adequate police and Rab personnel were deployed at Rajuk office to ensure no untoward incident occurs,

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TURKISH TEAM Law minister questions intention

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday questioned the intention of some Turkish politicians, who recently visited Dhaka and the international crimes tribunal. "It seems they came here being influenced by someone," Shafique told BBC Bangla Service. The 14-member Turkish team visited and observed the proceedings of an ongoing trial at a tribunal Monday. They also discussed with different quarters about the trial proceedings being held for crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War, reported the BBC Bangla Service. The Turkish team stayed in Dhaka for five days and had meetings with the law minister, an adviser to the prime minister and a top leader of

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For optimum performance your engine needs perfect protection

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