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The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net



REGD. NO. DA 781 | Vol. XXIII No. 30 | FALGUN 1, 1419 BS | RABHUS SANI 2, 1434 HIJRI | Your Right to Know | 28 PAGES PRICE: Tk 10.00

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Zannatul Ferdous becomes the country's first female paratrooper
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History has a way of striking back
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SHOOTING OSAMA
Navy SEAL recounts the night he killed Osama bin Laden
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Solidarity in silence

Bangladesh stops 3 minutes for justice in war crimes trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At 4:00pm, the country took a pause. Cars and buses stopped in their paths. People in thousands streamed into the streets and stood in silence. A silence that was more overpowering than the strongest of slogans, a silence stronger than the high-tempered steel. A silence that cried in the loudest of voices: We want justice for the war criminals. We want justice for the genocide committed 42 years ago. It was a scene, a transformation of the nation never witnessed before. People held hands to form human chains. Passengers in buses left their seats and stood in silence. They all showed solidarity with the Shahbagh protesters who, for the last eight days, are holding non-stop protests for justice for the crimes committed against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War. For three minutes from 4:00pm, the afternoon was no longer an afternoon. It became a part of history.

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People of all walks of life throng Shahbagh in the capital yesterday and stand in silence raising three fingers for three minutes from 4:00pm demanding capital punishment for all war criminals of the Liberation War. The three-minute protest was observed across the country.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Shibir unleashes quick terror

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In an apparent bid to create panic among the people united on the demand for death penalty to war criminals, Jamaat-e-Islam and Islami Chhatra Shibir rampaged through different parts of the capital yesterday. The party and its student wing resorted to violence at a time when people from all walks of life kept joining the Shahbagh movement that began on February 5, rejecting the life term given to Jamaat leader Quader Mollah. The Jamaat-Shibir cadres carried out hit-and-run assault, exploded cocktails and fired at police, leaving at least 30 injured. Assistant Commissioner Afroz Tutul of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (Tejgaon), Officer-in-Charge Apurba Hasan of Tejgaon Police Station

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CLASHES IN DISTRICTS 14 policemen among 65 hurt

STAR REPORT

At least 65 people including 14 policemen were injured in clashes between Jamaat-Shibir activists and the law enforcers in Satkhira, Noakhali and Khulna yesterday. In Satkhira, seven policemen were wounded in two attacks by the Jamaat-Shibir men. The injured cops are Kaliganj Police Station OC Ali Ahmed Masud, SIs Yasin Alam Chowdhury and Belal Hossain.

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Crowds keep swelling at Shahbagh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protesters at Shahbagh yesterday vowed to continue their movement and said that Jamaat-Shibir would no way be able to stop the people's movement, not even by exploding bombs or carrying out attacks. Minutes after the Jamaat-Shibir men attacked law enforcers at different points in the capital, the protest venue reverberated with slogans like "Threats cannot stop the movement" and "Bomb attacks cannot stop the movement". The people of Bangladesh have already put up a strong resistance against Jamaat-Shibir and the anarchy created by the anti-liberation forces, the protesters said. The demonstrators also declared a two-day programme -- rendering of protest songs at Shahbagh at 3:00pm today and a countrywide candlelight vigil at 7:00pm tomorrow in the memory of the martyrs killed by Jamaat and its student wing during and after the Liberation War. Yesterday, the eighth day of the non-stop movement, protesters in their tens of thousands poured into the Shahbagh

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Nurul Amin irritated by Nazimuddin

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Pakistan's first prime minister Liaquat Ali Khan was assassinated while addressing a public meeting in Rawalpindi on October 16, 1951. His assassin was swiftly pounced upon by a mob

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Rally losing neutrality

Says BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday hailed the youth movement at the capital's Shahbagh, but said repeated chanting of a particular slogan from the podium at the venue had created confusion in the public mind about neutrality of the movement. Without mentioning the slogan "Joy Bangla", the main opposition party said, "Questions and serious confusion have arisen about neutrality of the [Shahbagh] gathering due to chanting of a slogan that was used during the Liberation War but lost its general acceptability for being made too much partisan in the post-independence years."

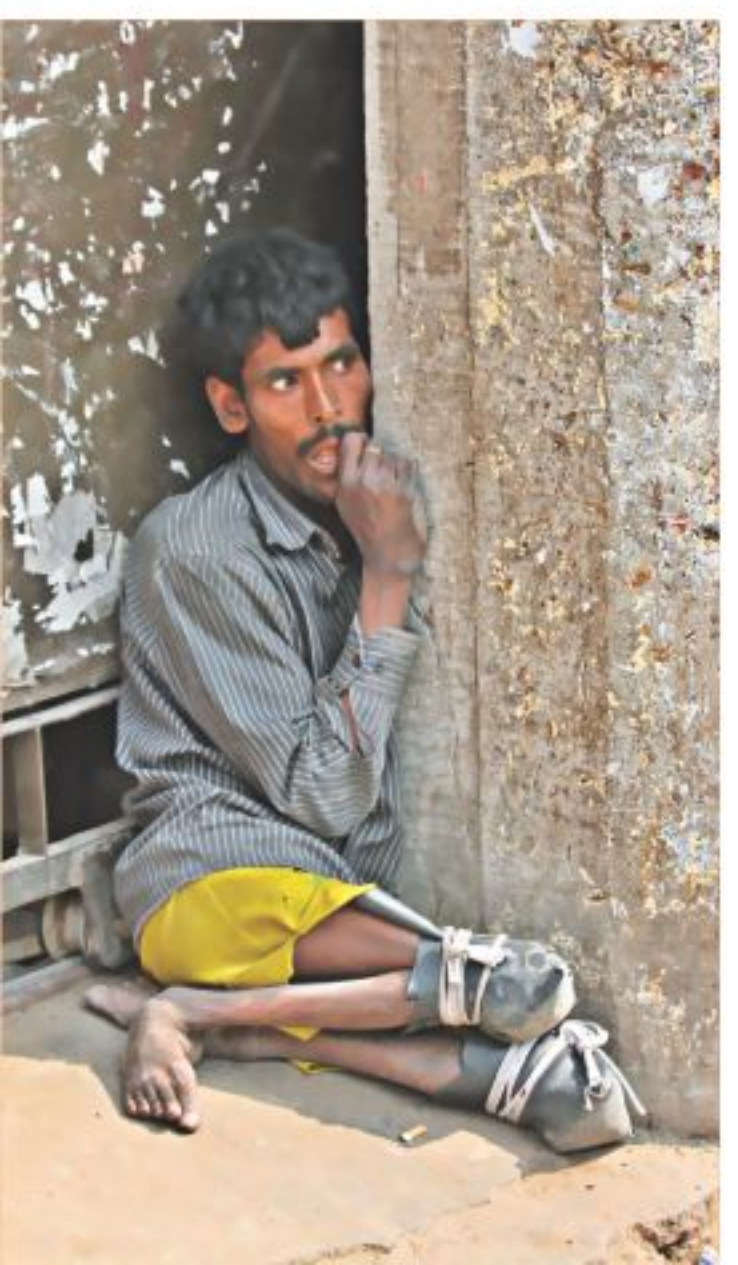
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Spring in the air, spring in our steps

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

There is a spring in our steps this morning, a subtle and yet profound feeling of joy in the way we look out at the world around us. The joy stems from the spring which today has come to our dooryard, to inform us that Pahela Falgun is here. In the leaves of the trees, through the

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TERROR SHIBIR STYLE
Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir men terrorise people near Karwan Bazar Jame Masjid on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue yesterday by vandalising vehicles. They launched similar flash attacks in Panthapath, Kalabagan and Motijheel areas in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

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SHIBIR RAMPAGE Prothom Alo editor hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prothom Alo Editor Matiur Rahman sustained injuries in his left hand during a clash between Jamaat-Shibir activists and police at Karwan Bazar in the capital yesterday. Activists of the Jamaat-e-Islami, a key ally of the 18-party opposition, and its student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir around 1:30pm launched a flash attack on police and vandalised vehicles.

Vandalism on JU campus

VC house attacked by 'Shibir activists' after death of a student

JU CORRESPONDENT

Residences of the vice-chancellor, treasurer and some teachers of Jahangirnagar University came under attack last night, allegedly by Islami Chhatra Shibir activists. The attack followed the death of a student, but JU teachers and students said they could not connect the two incidents. Alleged activists of Shibir, the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, also swooped on six houses of JU teachers and Bhashani Hall provost, and university medical centre. They also vandalised several vehicles on the campus, sources said.

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