



JAMAAT'S ATTACK ON MINORITY COMMUNITIES



1) The ruins of the Hindu neighbourhood of Dhopapara in Banskhal, Chittagong after the belligerent activists and supporters of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir torched all houses and a temple there on Thursday. 2) A man offering prayers in the burnt down temple of Dhopapara. 3) A man trying to salvage whatever he can in the wreckage of Banskhal Upazila Parishad, which also came under the Jamaat-Shibir arson attack on Thursday. 4) A shattered idol of a Hindu goddess in a temple at Dumuria in Morelganj upazila, Bagerhat following an attack of zealots early yesterday. 5) The remains of an early Friday attack on the Pinglakathi Hindu temple in Gournadi, Barisal. 6) Two Hindu girls in sullen silence look through their damaged books on the ruins of their house in Rajganj union of Noakhali's Begumganj upazila where religious fanatics ravaged through several Hindu neighbourhoods on Thursday. 7) Another destroyed Hindu neighbourhood in the union. 8) An elderly woman has a vacant look on her face and tears roll down her cheeks after her home was destroyed by the fanatics in Rajganj.

PHOTO: STAR, FOCUS BANGLA



Three youths killed in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two youths were stabbed to death and another died after falling from the roof of a building in separate incidents in the capital on Friday night and yesterday.

At Mirpur Senpara, unidentified miscreants stabbed an unknown youth early yesterday.

Mirpur police Sub-inspector Ismail Hossain said they recovered the body bearing injury marks in the head and throat from an alley in the area.

In Uttarkhan area, police recovered the body of an auto-rickshaw driver from beside a road at Uttarkhan Munda on Friday night.

The deceased was Tajirul Islam, 27.

The body bore a stab wound in the throat, said police.

Meanwhile, a security guard of an under-construction building died as he fell from the roof of the six-storey building at Merul Badda yesterday noon.

He was identified as Shahin Hawlader, 30. Shahin was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Badda police said they were investigating the incident.

Jamaat-Shibir violence condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of 21 eminent personalities yesterday condemned "the recent killings of civilians and law enforcers and attacks on minorities by a quarter, which is leading the country towards conflict in the name of protesting the death sentence of Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee".

They expressed serious concern over the tension prevailing in the country.

Several rights and political organisations, in separate statements, also condemned the Jamaat-Shibir attacks and asked the authorities concerned to bring the perpetrators to book immediately.

At least 47 people, including several policemen, were killed and scores injured in waves of violence around the country in the last three days as Jamaat-Shibir activists clashed with law enforcers to protest the death penalty handed down by the International Crimes Tribunal to Sayedee.

In a statement, the eminent personalities said the tribunal was formed upon the last 42 years' mass demand for trial of those who opposed the birth of Bangladesh and helped Pakistani army kill Bangalees.

Opposing the tribunal's verdict amounts to opposing the Liberation War newly, they said. "Their activities are tantamount to denying the country's independence."

The eminent citizens also condemned the attacks on worship centres and houses of minorities and urged the authorities concerned to investigate all the incidents and bring the perpetrators to book.

"We also hope that the government and all political parties, including the main opposition, will show tolerance and responsibility in their talks and behaviours."

Prof Serajul Islam Chowdhury, Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Kamal Lohani, Sultana Kamal, Khushi Kabir, Sara Hossain, Prof Abul Barkat, Prof Sadeka Halim, Subrata Chowdhury, Dr Iftekharuzzaman, Sanjeeb Drong, and Kajal Debnath signed the statement among others.

In a separate release, Sammilita Sangskritik Jote urged BNP chief Khaleda Zia to take responsibility of the situation created after her comments that "genocide is taking place in the country again".

Ain o Salish Kendra and Bangladesh Shamajtanktrik Dal also issued statements of condemnation.

Jasas leader beaten for sexual harassment

RU CORRESPONDENT

A leader of Rajshahi University unit Jatiyatabadi Samaj Sangskriti Sangstha (Jasas) was beaten up by students of the drama and music department for sexually harassing a female student of the department on the campus yesterday.

The leader was Vaskor Sarker, acting convener of RU unit of Jasas.

Students of the department beat Vaskor up as he made lewd comments to the female student in front of Syed Ismail Hossain Shirajee building around 1:30am, witnesses said.

Her classmates said Vaskor often used to harass her by making phone calls and sending messages with lewd remarks.

Vaskor, however, denied the allegation saying that he was the victim of a conspiracy.

Activists of RU unit Bangladesh Chhatra League beat him up to harass him politically, he claimed.

Classmates of the female student submitted a written complaint to the chairman of the department. They also filed a general diary against Vaskor with Motihar Police station.

FORMALIN IMPORT Strict control urged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Discussants at a roundtable yesterday stressed the need for strictly controlling formalin import and its use where food items were sourced to reduce food adulteration.

The draft formalin control act should have penalty provisions of 10 years' rigorous imprisonment and Tk 1 lakh fine for those who adulterate food, they added.

The roundtable, "Widespread presence of poisonous food: Proposed formalin control and food safety law", was organised by Save the Environment Movement in the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

Food adulteration with poisonous chemicals like formalin is widespread, said the speakers.

Formalin is regularly applied on fish, fruit, meat, milk and other food items, leading to different diseases like cancers, asthma, liver cirrhosis and skin diseases and causing kidney damage.

Controlling the use of formalin in foods only through building awareness is not possible, said the movement Secretary Abdus Sobhan.

The government must ensure safe foods through necessary institutions and properly implementing time befitting laws, he said.

As per research of National Food Safety Laboratory of Institute of Public Health (IPH), 40 to 54 percent of fish, meat, milk, fruits, rice, pulse, oil, spice and salt are adulterated, said Sobhan.

As per IPH's February 13 reports, these foods contain different kinds of pesticides like aldrin, DDT, heptachlor, ethion and methoxychlor and heavy metals like lead and arsenic, he said.

Sobhan said IPH found 2,990 out of 5,759 food samples adulterated during tests conducted in 2010 and 187 out of 377 samples adulterated in tests conducted in 2013.

Manzill Murshid, president of Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh, said the draft act has a provision allowing penalised persons to get a licence to import formalin after five years.

"They should be banned for life from getting the licence," he said.

Save the Environment Movement Chairman Abu Naser Khan, Bangladesh Law Commission acting chairman Dr M Shah Alam and Health and Hope Hospital Director Dr Lelin Chowdhury spoke at the programme.

Bangladesh possible tourism destination Says an Australian travel writer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh, with its various positive aspects including cultural uniqueness and indigenous traditions, has the potential to thrive as a tourism destination, said an Australian travel writer at his photographic book launching.

Titled "Positive Light", the book features 100 selected photographs from 750 offered by around 150 photographers, mostly Bangladeshi, on the country's history, tradition and cultural heritage.

The book was published by Crowdsourc Travel, a social enterprise of the writer, Mikey Leung, with the local photography school Drik. The book celebrates the beauty and potential of Bangladesh and its people, said Greg Wilcock, Australian high commissioner to Dhaka, while hosting the launching at his residence in the capital Friday evening.

Collaboration among the government, private tourism industries and travel media can help promote Bangladesh's potentials abroad, said Mikey, also director of travel media Storyteller and author of Bradt Travel Guide to Bangladesh. Positive Light's future is very much tied to that of Bangladesh's, he said.

Piles, Constipation, Dysentery, Cancer

To know about most modern treatment of diseases involving Colon, Rectum and Anus like, Piles (bleeding in toilet), Longo operation (Piles opn. without cutting anus), Cause of failure of operation around anus, pain after passing stool (Fissure), Swelling, Discharge around anus (Fistula), Constipation, Chronic dysentery (IBS), Blood dysentery (Ulcerative colitis), Colonoscopy, Bowel (Colon & Rectum) Cancer, most modern stapling rectum cancer operation without artificial stool collecting bag (Colostomy), Childrens bleeding in toilet (Polyp), you may read the book written by:

Pioneer Colorectal Surgeon of Bangladesh & the Sub-Continent
Prof. Dr. AKM Fazlul Haque
International Scholar (USA); Fellow, Colorectal Surgery (Singapore)
Founder Chairman (Retd.), Dept. of Colorectal Surgery
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Dhaka

JAPAN-BANGLADESH FRIENDSHIP HOSPITAL
55, Satmasjid Road, (Zigatola Bus Station), Dhanmondi
Mo: 01715-087661, 0172-6703116
web: www.profdrakmfazlulhaque.com