



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

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DEATH TOLL 344

Found yesterday: 32 alive, 29 dead

Not over yet

Frantic rescue goes on 4 days into collapse

TAWFIQUE ALI and M ABUL KALAM AZAD

As frantic efforts continue to rescue more survivors trapped inside the collapsed building in Savar, unnumbered decomposed corpses remain sandwiched between concrete slabs and strewn in the inaccessible corners of bottom floors.

The rescuers comprising firefighters, untrained local volunteers, army men and others are preparing to remove massive piles of rubble with heavy machinery once they decide there is no single survivor left.

Strong stench of those ill-fated garment workers has made the air unbearably foul all around the disaster site at Savar.

Rana Plaza, the nine-storey building housing half a dozen readymade garment factories on its top floors, caved in on Wednesday after factory owners forced several thousand workers to come to work despite the cracks developed in its pillars the previous day.

The relentless rescuers, mostly untrained civil people, pulled out another 32 survivors and 29 bodies from the wreckage till 2:00am today, dangerously venturing into the second, third and fourth floors boring a vertical tunnel

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For four days, Poppy has been waiting with a photo of her mother Sonali Begum who worked in one of the garment factories in Rana Plaza. At Adhar Chandra High School, she runs towards ambulances every time they bring in a body. Her mother-in-law died in the building collapse and everyone with her has gone to Dinajpur for the funeral but Poppy in tears waits for her mother.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Garment workers remain restive

STAR REPORT

RMG workers yesterday went on the rampage at four different places across the country following the deaths of fellow workers in Savar building collapse.

The angry protesters clashed with police, torched and vandalised vehicles, and put blockades on roads in Savar, Dhaka, Gazipur and Chittagong.

They also damaged various factories and shops, demanding punishment to the owner of Rana Plaza and the owners of RMG units housed in that ill-fated building

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Survived at a price

Their limbs amputated, future blurred out



PAKHI LOST 2 LEGS



SHAPLA LOST AN ARM



SUJAN MAY LOSE A LEG



DEEPU

SHAMIM ASHRAF and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Shapla stared at her left hand in disbelief. Her arm below the elbow was gone. Everything looked blurry, including her future.

"I have destroyed my only son's future," the 22-year-old moaned in fear of the gloomy days ahead, as she thought of the future looking at her amputated hand.

As she lay on a bed at the Orthopaedic Hospital, the hapless garment worker blamed herself for not heeding her husband and neighbours' advice not to go to work on Wednesday.

"The purpose of my whole life was only to work and save enough money to provide a good education for my son."

Shapla and her husband, Mehedi Hasan, were both machine operators on the second floor of the nine-storey Rana Plaza. They were separated when the building started to collapse.

"I ran near the stairs to get out of the building, and a pillar fell on me," she told The Daily Star. Her left hand was crushed and pinned under the pillar as she lay there bleeding with a big fracture in her skull.

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18-party, lefts call hartal for May 2

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led 18-party alliance last night called a countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal for May 2 to protest the "killings in Savar building collapse and the government failure to act against those responsible".

The announcement followed back-to-back

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Getting ready for death

Harrowing 66 hours recounted after rescue of 8

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and SUSHMITA S PREETHA

All the time, she lived in a cycle of fear, hope and despair, and when that seemed an eternity, she waited for death.

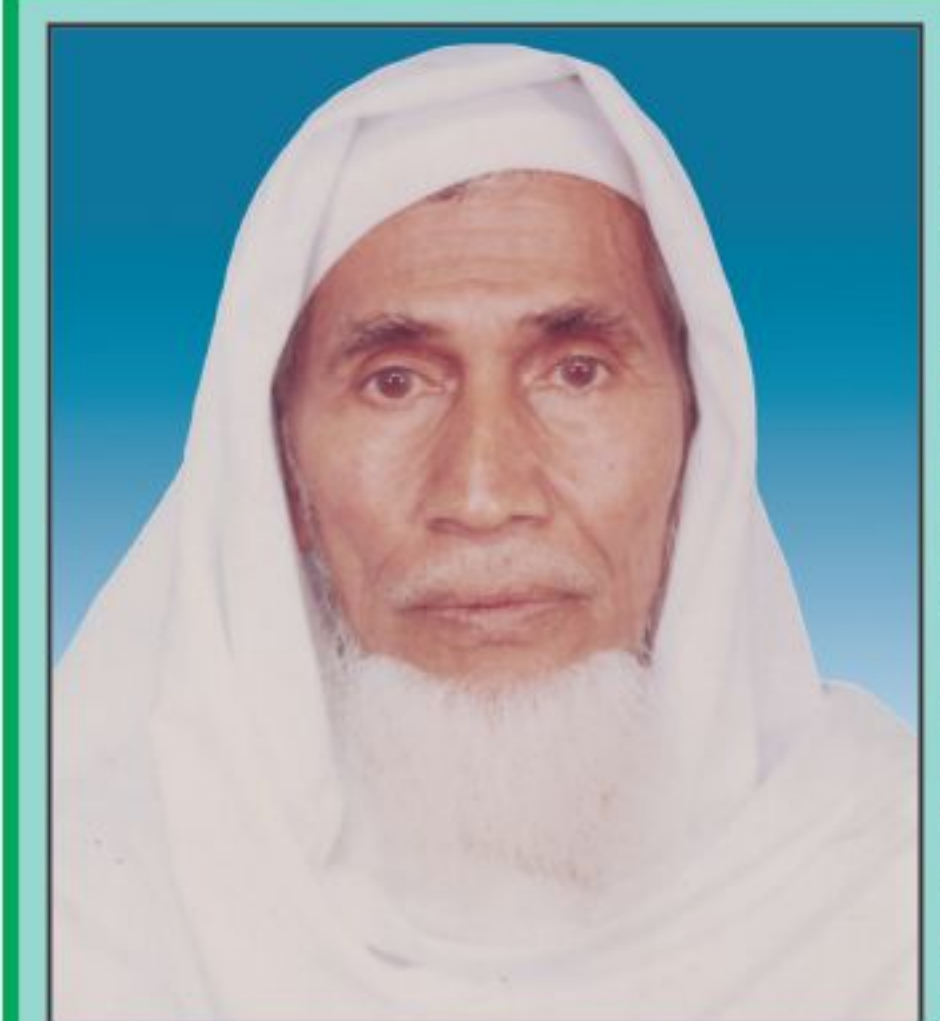
Nineteen-year-old Merina Khatun says she passed out several times in 66 hours at the mangled wreckage of Rana Plaza in Savar and cannot recall how she was finally rescued.

Discovering herself in an ambulance, she looked around, bewildered at how she had come into that state. Later, she felt a bit relaxed meeting her sister in the hospital. Both Merina and her sister Shirina Begum used to work at Phantom Apparels Ltd on the third floor of the building.

"We are lucky to be back from the jaws of death," Merina says.

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Condolence Message



Our respected father **Alhaj Moulvi Rashid Ahmed** (illustrious teacher and socio-religious personality) has died due to old age ailments on Saturday, the 13th April, 2013 at Eden Multi-Care Hospital, Dhaka (Inna Lillahe wa Inna Ilaihe Rajeun). He was 95. He was buried in the family graveyard at the village Gazipura under Mirjagonj upazila of Patuakhali district.

He was engaged in the teaching profession for a long time. He devoted himself to multiple socio-religious activities during his glorious life.

Beyond his relatives he left behind innumerable well wishers and admirers to mourn his death. He was known as a virtuous person amongst the people of Mirjagonj upazila and neighboring region of Patuakhali and Barguna districts. The people remember him with honour due to his active participation in various welfare activities.

We request you to pray to The Most Merciful Allah for salvation of the departed soul. We convey our sincere gratitude to them who have expressed sympathy and cordial feeling to our family after his death.

- **Professor Mohammad Abdul Mannan** Principal (Rtd.), Patuakhali Govt. College.
- **Professor Dr. AKM Fazlul Haque** Founder Chairman (Rtd.), Department of Colorectal Surgery, BSMMU. Director, Japan Bangladesh Friendship Hospital, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Director, Sylhet Women's Medical College, Sylhet.
- **AKM Mozammel Haque** Chairman, Kakrabunia Union Council, Mirjagonj.
- **Saira Aziz, Jobaida Mannan, Jahanara Latif, Mahfuza Ansar.**



'Raids' fail to arrest Rana

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

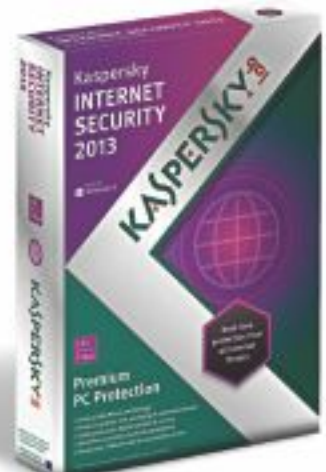
The role of the government and its law enforcement agencies is under question as Jubo League leader Sohel Rana still remains at large, four days after his nine-storey Rana Plaza caved in at Savar leading to huge casualties.

However, police arrested two engineers of Savar Municipality around 4:30am yesterday, hours after they rounded up two owners of a garment factory that used to be in the high rise.

Later, a Dhaka court placed the four on

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