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MANAGEMENT-STAFF CONFLICT 250 orphans made to suffer

SUSHMITA S PREETHA and RAFIUL ISLAM

Around 250 orphans of the country's oldest orphanage are leading a miserable life due to a conflict between its management committee and its staff over handing over of orphanage land to a developer.

The committee of Sir Salimullah Muslim Orphanage at Azimpur has stopped providing financial assistance to the orphanage since April 16, 2013. As a result, students can barely get their meals and books; and stationery and other support have become lesser priorities, claimed the orphanage staff and students.

They said the committee members were not signing their cheques. They desperately need money to run the orphanage and were feeding the children through depending largely on donations.

Meanwhile, committee members claimed that the staff of the orphanage had kept the cheque book at the orphanage office on purpose, rendering them unable to pay for orphanage expenses. They claimed that some corrupt staff and overage students were conspiring against them.

Established in 1909, the orphanage is and has been home to hundreds of students.

But trouble began in 2003 when the committee handed

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Employees at work in a garment factory of Ashulia yesterday. The garment factories in the area reopened after three days of closure announced by BGMEA in the face of labour unrest.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

No test for admission in colleges
Forms available from today
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The admission process for class XI in colleges across the country will begin today with distribution of admission forms.

Like the previous years, no admission test will be held for the admission under the 2013-14 academic session. The distribution of forms will continue till June 6.

Students who passed the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and equivalent exams in 2011, 2012 and 2013 would get admission on the basis of

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Apparel factory disasters worry US

Obama admin 'may strip Bangladesh of import breaks'

THE WASHINGTON POST

The Obama administration may strip Bangladesh of import breaks following deadly accidents in the country's textile industry, another sign of the pressure building on the southeast Asian nation to improve labour conditions.

The move was prompted partly by a fire late last year that killed 112 people and gained momentum after the recent factory collapse that claimed more than 1,100 lives.

Business, labour and advocacy groups are all struggling over how to respond to the April 24 incident — the worst-ever in the textile industry but an event that could produce meaningful change in a nation on its way to becoming the world's largest garment exporter.

A group of mostly European nations has signed on to a binding inspection programme. US firms such as Wal-Mart have declined, but political backlash may be building. On Thursday, a group of senators wrote to major US retailers urging them to reconsider, and the Obama administration is also debating how to get American firms more constructively engaged.

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Ashulia RMG units reopen after 3 days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following government assurance of security, production at readymade garment factories at the Ashulia industrial belt in Savar resumed after three days yesterday.

On Tuesday, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association declared closure of more than 200 factories in Ashulia for an indefinite period following labour unrest.

Yesterday after the factories reopened, no untoward incident was reported and the workers joined work peacefully, said Atiqul Islam, president of BGMEA, the garment makers' platform.

At a meeting at the Secretariat on Thursday, Labour and Employment Minister Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju and Home Minister MK Alamgir assured

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Cop held for hijacking car

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A police and his accomplice were caught red-handed when a gang of thugs tried to kidnap a man after hijacking his car at Savar on the outskirts of the capital early yesterday.

The arrestees are Hemayet Uddin, 40, a nayek of Detective Branch of police and his cohort Kabir Hossain, 36.

Around 1:00am, a police patrol noticed a microbus intercept a private car in front of Laloni CNG Station at Barari, said Sub-inspector Zillur Rahman of Savar Police Station.

Alighting from the microbus, the thugs pulled car owner Aminur Rahman from the wheel. One of the thugs took the wheel, while uniformed nayek Hemayet and his two cohorts took Aminur to the microbus and sped away.

Suspecting something wrong, police started chasing the two vehicles. At one stage, law enforcers managed to stop the microbus in Baliapur area of Savar, around five kilometres from the spot.

Police rescued Aminur and arrested the duo, said Zillur. However, another member of the gang escaped the scene by the car.

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RMG WORKERS
BGMEA to make database in 3 months

Bss, Dhaka

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) will prepare a database containing service records of all workers in 3,200 registered garment factories.

"At first, we will create a database of workers at factories in Dhaka and it would gradually be

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PRAYER TIMING		May 18
Azan	Jamaat	
Fajr	4-10	4-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-36	6-40
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

RISKY DWELLING

Houses on a hill slope at Matijhorna area in Chittagong. Mostly low-income people live here despite the risk of landslides.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



80-year-old youth Japanese man starts Everest ascent

AP, Tokyo

An 80-year-old Japanese mountaineer has begun his ascent of Mount Everest, his website said, in a bid to become the oldest man to reach the roof of the world.

In a voice message recorded on his website, Yuichiro Miura said the expedition was setting off Thursday for a climb that was expected to take a little over a week.

"We plan to stand on the summit on May 24... We are all doing well, getting in position to tackle the mountain."

Miura is trying to get back a Guinness World Record that he first held in 2003 when he became the oldest man to climb Everest.

That record was beaten in 2007 by a



Japanese man who reached the summit at 71 years old.

The title is currently held by Nepal's Min Bahadur Sherchan, who set foot on the 8,848-metre (29,028-foot) summit in May 2008 when he was 76.

Veteran adventurer Miura came to worldwide attention in 1970 when he became the first person to ski down Everest. His parachute-aided descent was documented in the 1975 film "The Man Who Skied Down Everest" which won the Academy Award for Best Documentary.

High-octane endeavours are in his blood -- his father Keizo skied down Mont Blanc at age 99.

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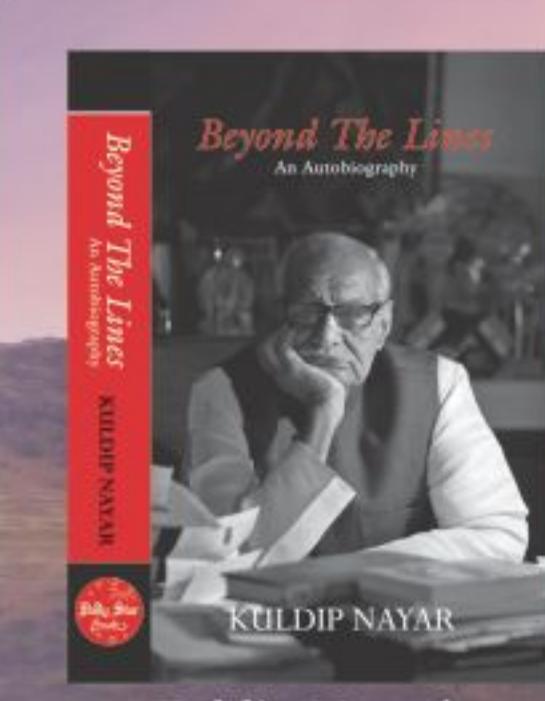
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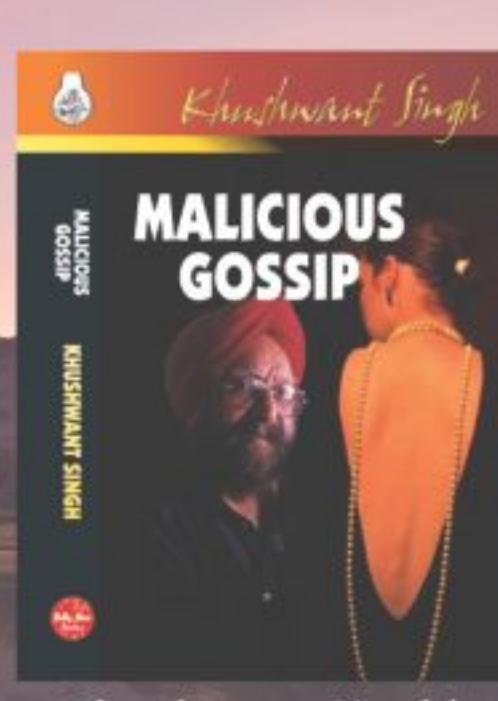


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