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Defended only by his son

Ghulam Azam's case faces lot of hurdles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 began dealing with Ghulam Azam's case in December, 2011, but returned the charges to the prosecution as there were a number of flaws in the submitted charges.

The prosecution in the first week of January, 2012, submitted again 62 charges against him before Tribunal-1.

After submission of the charges, arresting Ghulam Azam turned out to be a big challenge for the government and law enforcers because there were widespread speculations of retaliation by Jamaat-e-Islami and Shibir cadres.

Ending all speculations, Ghulam Azam was sent to prison on a tribunal order when his lawyers brought him before the court on January 11, 2012, for his appearance.

Though the prosecution submitted 62 charges on January 5, 2012, the tribunal on May 13, 2012, indicted him on five charges of crimes against humanity based on 61 criminal incidents.

His crimes include murder and torture of unarmed people, conspiracy, planning, incitement and complicity to commit genocide and crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War.

As many as 16 prosecution witnesses including seven "seizure-list" witnesses and the investigation officer testified against Ghulam Azam, while only the convict's son defended his father.

The first prosecution witness was produced before the tribunal on July 1, 2012. The investigation officer, also the

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Buses set alight by pickets on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Naryanganj during the hartal enforced by Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

PROGRESS REPORT

ABUL KALAM AZAD (BACHCHU RAZAKAR)
Expelled Jamaat member
Judgment: Death penalty
Date of judgment: Jan 21, 2013
Status: absconding
Appeal deadline: Feb 21



ABDUL QUADER MOLLAH
Jamaat assistant secretary general
Judgment: Life sentence
Date of judgment: Feb 5, 2013
Status: Proceedings at Appellate Division



DELAWAR HOSSAIN SAYEED
Jamaat nayeb-e-ameer
Judgment: Death sentence
Date of judgment: Feb 28, 2013
Status: Appeal proceedings yet to start



MUHAMMAD KAMARUZZAMAN
Jamaat assistant secretary general
Judgment: Death sentence
Date of judgment: May 9, 2013
Status: Appeal proceedings yet to start



GHULAM AZAM
Former Jamaat ameer
Judgment: 90 years prison
Date of judgment: July 15, 2013
Status: 30 days to file appeal by both govt & defence



Mueen Uddin, Ashraf 'abducted Prof Gias'

Victim's niece testifies at war tribunal about Dec 14, 1971 incident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Martyred intellectual Prof Giasuddin Ahmed's niece yesterday testified that Chowdhury Mueen Uddin and Ashrafuzzaman Khan had abducted her maternal uncle from Dhaka University campus on December 14, 1971 and he never returned.

Masuda Banu Ratna told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 that she had identified Mueen Uddin and Ashrafuzzaman when the duo had gone to Giasuddin's house that day.

Masuda, also the first prosecution witness in the case against Mueen Uddin and

Ashrafuzzaman, said some other Dhaka University teachers were also abducted that day who also never returned.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan with members Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and Judge Md Shahinur Islam recorded Masuda's testimony and cross-examination before adjourning the proceeding until today when she would face further cross-examination.

Earlier in the day, Sahidur Rahman, conducting prosecutor, placed the opening statement of the case.

The "absconding Al-Badr leaders" were indicted on 11 charges of involvement in the

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Tribunal justifies trial after 40yrs

Responds to debates, defence arguments

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

In the verdict against Ghulam Azam, the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday set out its views on some debates and arguments over trying war criminals after more than four decades of the country's independence.

The arguments presented by the defence in the ICT-1 have been used in the political arena to oppose the war crimes trial.

Defence counsels Abdur Razzaq, Mizanul Islam and Imran Siddiq had told the ICT-1 that the unexplained delay of 40 years in bringing the prosecution (against Ghulam Azam) had made the case highly doubtful.

About this argument, the tribunal said from the point of morality and sound legal dogma, a time bar should not

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JUDGMENT Delay due to poor logistics

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Many in the courtroom were surprised when the International Crimes Tribunal-1 chairman said the court had to share a 15-volume book on Liberation War documents with the other tribunal.

The tribunal yesterday expressed discontent over the lack of logistics support while explaining its delay in preparing the judgment in the Ghulam Azam case.

About the prosecution's submission of supporting documents, Tribunal Chairman Justice ATM Fazle Kabir said, "Had they submitted more books, it would have been better for us."

The tribunal could not even collect a

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Myanmar disbands Nasaka

REUTERS, Yangon

Myanmar's president has disbanded a security force accused of rights violations against Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State in the west of the country, scene of deadly violence between Muslims and majority Buddhists in the past year.

"It is hereby announced that Border Area Immigration Control Headquarters has been abolished," President Thein Sein said in a one-line statement dated July 12 but posted on his website on Sunday.

The border security force, known as Nasaka, from the initials of its Burmese-language name, consists of officers from the police, military, customs and immigration.

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SHORT OF JUSTICE

As shocked as they are frustrated, eminent citizens see the verdict against former Jamaat kingpin Ghulam Azam as a travesty of justice. This judgment is simply not up to the people's expectations, they told The Daily Star's Tamanna Khan and Prabir Barua Chowdhury.



Muntassir Mamoon

Prof Muntassir Mamoon, a witness in the case, said he was disappointed as the tribunal did not hand Ghulam Azam the capital punishment.

Nevertheless, the verdict has proved that Ghulam Azam and his party Jamaat-e-Islami helped the Pakistan Army lead a massive genocide

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Nasiruddin Yousuff Bachchu

Nasiruddin Yousuff Bachchu, a noted cultural activist and freedom fighter, said the verdict had let down the mass people, freedom fighters and victims of the war crimes.

He urged the government to appeal against the verdict to ensure

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Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal

Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, eminent writer and son of martyr Faizur Rahman, said the punishment given to Ghulam Azam was not up to his expectation.

"He should be hanged more than once for the crimes he committed," he said, adding that he

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Prof Anwar Hossain

Prof Anwar Hossain, vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, said he was very upset as the verdict was not up to the people's expectations.

He added Ghulam Azam deserved capital punishment because he had been accused of exercising "command responsibility" in 1971.

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Youths return to Shahbagh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Minutes after the verdict against Ghulam Azam was announced, the Gonojagoron Mancha packed the capital's Shahbagh intersection and erupted into protests, shouting that they wanted the war criminal to be hanged.

Their slogans brought back memories of February 5, when the youths sought death sentence for Jamaat leader Abdul Quader Mollah soon after a war crimes tribunal awarded him life imprisonment.

The Gonojagoron Mancha youths marched in

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you think scrapping the quota provision in preliminary BCS exams is enough to resolve the current situation?

Yes (32%)
No (68%)

TOTAL VOTES: 185

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the latest amendment to the labour law will help Bangladesh regain the GSP facility from the US?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

Pen points out spelling mistakes

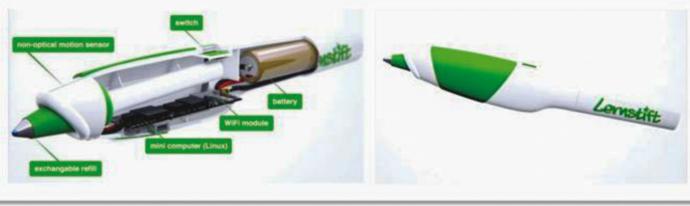
NYDAILYNEWS.COM

The Lernstift digital pen points out spelling errors with a subtle vibration to help kids acquire better writing skills.

Instead of a slap on the wrist, bad spellers can soon get a good shaking up.

The German inventors of Lernstift claim their digital pen can spell check words

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BRB

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMINGS

Ramadan	July	Sehri	Iftar
6	16		6-52
7	17	3-50	6-52
8	18	3-51	6-52

PRAYER TIMING July 16

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 3-50	3-55
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 5-00	5-15
Maghrib 6-52	7-02
Esha 8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

জাতীয় পরিবেশ নীতি-২০১৩ (খসড়া) এর উপর মতামত আহ্বান

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ফিফি-২০১৩