ment by the union of NGOs

of the Islamic world con-

demning the death penalty

of Delawar Hossain

Sayedee; etc. All of its con-

FROM PAGE 1

from the computer of the law secretary and that it was actually written by the law ministry. Talking to the media,

Law Secretary Abu Saleh Sheikh Zahirul Haque outright denied the allegations. "Verdicts are given from respective courts. They are not written and stored at the ministry," he State Minister for Law

Quamrul Islam told The Daily Star, "The allegation that the verdict was found at the law ministry is completely false.

"It must have had leaked be affected." from the ICT [International Crimes Tribunal]." This statement, however, came without having any investigation done.

The ICT has also decided to probe the matter. Tribunal Registrar AKM Nasiruddin Mahmud said, "We have decided to find out if the verdict was leaked

from the tribunal and if so, Nasim had to resign after how that happened. We will come up with details tomorrow [today]." MK Rahman, chief coor-

dinator of the prosecution team dealing with the war crimes cases, said, "In this era of technology, many can do this [leak]. We may appeal to the tribunal, seeking an order for investigation." He added that the docu-

ment, which the websites

said was part of the 172page judgment, did not contain the orders of the judges and "therefore the original judgment will not Without ruling out the claim of leak, investigators

of an intelligence agency say the perpetrators might have bribed the court staff and stole part of the verdict from a computer.

It was an unprecedented incident, they added.

Last year, ICT-1 chief

the leak of his Skype conversations with Ahmed Ziauddin, a legal expert based in Brussels. THE LEAK

City

At least two anonymously operated websites -justiceconcern.org and www.tribunalleaks.be -first posted the document, which was then picked up by various blogs and Facebook pages early yesterday. It appeared structurally and linguistically identical

to that in the war crimes case against Jamaat leader the part dealing with the accused and various depositions.

structures.

Justice Nizamul Hoque Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury was found Ahmed) and ix) Charge No.

Chowdhury was prepared in the Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs. "A copy of the verdict

that is to be delivered today by the International Crimes Tribunal-1 was recovered from a computer in the office of the Secretary-in-Charge of the Ministry of Law of Parliamentary Affairs, Abu Saleh Sheikh Zahirul Haque. What is more surprising is that the verdict was being drafted from 23 May, 2013, when the prosecution was still examining its witnesses.

"A total of 23 charges Ghulam Azam, except for were framed against Chowdhury in relation to offences committed during All other ICT verdicts the liberation war of 1971. were written in different The prosecution produced

guilty of 9 of the charges 18 (abduction and torture and acquitted of 8 of of Saleh Uddin).

duced in relation to 6 of the Drive of a computer located 23 charges and as such at the 6th floor of the Salahuddin Quader Secretariat Building of the Chowdhury was also Ministry of Law and acquitted of all 6 of these Parliamentary Affairs. charges. on which Salahuddin

Quader Chowdhury was guilty are i) Charge No.2 (Maddhaya Gohira genocide), ii) Charge No.3 (Murtitled 'War Crimes Tribunal'. der of Nutun Chandra Singha), iii) Charge No.4 (Genocide a t Jogotmollopara) iv) War Tribunal'. This Salahuddin Quader Charge No.5 (Murder of subfolder contained a file Nepal Chandra and three others), v) Charge No.6 (Genocide a t Unsuttarpara), vi) Charge witnesses in relation to 17 No.7 (Killing of Satish Both websites posted an of the charges. From the Chandra Palit, vii) Charge identical note: "It has now copy of the verdict No.8 (Killing of Mozaffar transpired that the verdict obtained from the Ministry and his son, viii) Charge to 'ICT BD Case NO. 02 of to be delivered by the of Law, it appears that No. 17 (abduction and 2011 (Delivery of Judgment) Tribunal against Salahuddin Quader torture of Nizamuddin (Final)'."

"The file containing the

"No witness was pro- verdict was found in the D "In this drive there was a

"The 9 of the 17 charges folder entitled 'Alam' within which there was a subfolder 'Different Courts n Post Creation' within which there was another subfolder "In this subfolder there

was yet another subfolder titled 'Chief Prosecutor -titled 'saka final-1' which contained the draft verdict against Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury. When the verdict was finalised the name of the file was changed from 'saka final-1'

"The folder titled 'Alam'

belongs to a computer operator (by the same name) of the Secretary in Charge of the Ministry of Law."

Referring to the claim of the websites, Quamrul Islam said, "There is no computer operator named

Alam in the law ministry." He had asked the Bangladesh Telecom Regulatory Commission (BTRC) to probe the leak,

the state minister added.

THE WEBSITES

The Daily Star visited the justiceconcern.org and found no identity or contact. It has posted the document on Monday under the headline: Ministry Prepared Judgment for the Tribunal.

The other recent posts on the website are: a May 16 article titled "India: Protect Bangladesh War Crimes Trial Witness", taken from the Human Rights Watch website; two statements posted on April 13 regarding detention of Mahmudur Rahman; a March 25 state-

tents are against the war crimes tribunals. It could not be known who runs tribunalleaks.be. In a statement, it said those opposed the government and who raised questions about the tribunal process were attacked, often vio-

lently. "Mindful of this, we remain anonymous and wish to protect our sources." The website earlier had leaked the Skype conversa-

"We will not offer any comment on the rights and

wrongs of 1971, that issue is far too polarised," it also These websites were

inaccessible later at night but one can visit them through international proxy servers. BTRC replied in the negative when asked if it had blocked the sites.

It's dictated

FROM PAGE 1 "political vendetta", Farhat said the verdict the judges read out and the one she had downloaded were the

website, the copy of the verdict was found in a computer of the law ministry," she said, posing a question how the judges could read out a document prepared by the law ministry. "The judges could have

investigated the matter. But they continued reading out the verdict instead," she claimed. "Though we knew that we would not get justice, we wanted to show the people of the country and the world that what was going on here. That's why, we followed the whole trial process, and we'll follow it till the end."

Salauddin's elder son Fazlul Quader Chowdhury also said they had found the copy of the judgment on internet since 10:00pm on Monday. He claimed that his father

was studying at Panjab University in Pakistan during the Liberation War in 1971. He urged the reporters to ask Justice Shamim Hasnain, who studied with his father during that period, to get the real information about his

Defence lawyer Fakhrul Islam told the journalists: 'It is a dictated judgment." He said the judges should resign from their posts as the verdict was leaked

Fakhrul added that they would go to the appellate division and urge for "According to the On the other side, the

prosecution expressed satisfaction over the verdict, and said the verdict had established the rule of law in the country. "All people of

Chittagong know what happened there in 1971 The verdict will give a quantum of solace to the people of Chittagong and the country as well," prosecutor Rana Dasgupta told the reporters.

This was the result of a good teamwork, he added. Turin Afroz, another

prosecutor, said: "The case of Salauddin was difficult and challenging for the prosecution as we could not place many witnesses before the court because there is no law for the protection of the witnesses."

The verdict proves that he committed genocide in Raozan and Chittagong, and also attacked the Hindu minority there, Turin added

When asked about the claim of the defence that the verdict was available on the internet, she said it was not possible to say anything before getting the tribunal's copy of the ver-

Goods Hill

FROM PAGE 16

Muslim League used to beat civilians and detainees with sticks and stands of mosquito nets, according to the testimonies of witnesses. During the trial proceed

ings, a number of witnesses

said the pro-liberation people

and freedom fighters were tortured brutally at the Goods Hill in 1971. In their testimonies, they said victims at first were taken to the drawing room of Goods

On getting green signal from the father and son, their cohorts used to beat the inno-

The witnesses said they saw Pakistan army guard the Goods Hill. Mohammad Salimullah, a

prosecution witness, was abducted on September 21 1971, confined to Goods Hill and tortured. In his deposition, he said

Goods Hill was the "main office" of auxiliary forces Razakars, Al-Shams and Al Badr in Chittagong during the war. Another prosecution witness, Prof Md Saleh Uddin,

also a former vice-chancellor of Shahjalal University o Science and Technology told the court that he was brutally tortured at Goods Hill by Pakistani army and local collaborators.

Saleh said he was taken to a garage next to the house. There was a wooden staircase to go to a room over the garage, which was surrounded by fence.

The room was about 16 feet long and 10 feet wide and stuffed with sticks and stands of mosquito nets.

Like father like son

FROM PAGE 16

force of the Pakistani army in 1971. Several prosecution witnesses said his son had led the infamous force during different operations in Chittagong and executed his father's orders.

Salauddin used to bring detained freedom fighters and pro-liberation people at his father's Goods Hill residence, which was turned into a torture centre, and persecute them in presence of his father, victims and witnesses said.

Several prosecution witnesses also testified that the war criminal had inherited aversion to the Hindus from his father.

Following the path of Salauddin, his brother Giasuddin Quader Chowdhury also allegedly committed crimes against humanity which are being investigated by a special probe agency designated to investigate war crimes.

Soon after independence, their father Fazlul Quader was caught by freedom fighters and the allied force while escaping to Myanmar with 60 kilograms of gold and Tk 7 lakh in cash.

He died in jail in 1974.

Salauddin was lucky enough. Six cases were filed against him with Rauzan police, but none of those had seen any headway after community from his father.

The incumbent lawmaker

only eight years after the Liberation War and even became a minister. Finally, around 40 years after committing the heinous

crimes, Salauddin, who acted

independent Bangladesh

as a "self-proclaimed brigadier" according to the prosecution, was arrested in 2010 After a long proceeding, he was convicted and given the capital punishment

yesterday. Born on March 13, 1949, Salauddin passed the Higher Secondary School certificate examination from a Dhaka college. He graduated from Punjab University though the war crimes convict did not submit any documents

in support of his academic

qualifications. He was involved in killing around 200 civilians, collaborating with the Pakistani occupation army to kill and torture unarmed people, looting valuables and torching houses and other property, persecuting people on religious and political grounds, and committing genocide.

There was a commonality between Salauddin and his father. Fazlul Quader despised the Hindus because of his defeat in the 1970's general elections. Several prosecution witnesses said Salauddin had inherited this aversion to the Hindu

Massacre and killings were committed in the got involved in politics in Hindu majority areas of the first defence witness in Mujibur Rahman on August 2010.

Chittagong including the case, prosecutor Zead Al ogot mollopara, Kundeshwari, Shakpura and Modhya Gohira Hindu Para. Alternatively, according to the charges, negotiations were made with the Muslims during the war. list under the heading "De-A common pattern in tails of politicians accused of every incident was found

testimony. Salauddin was either accompanying the army or issuing instructions or was present on the spot. Several witnesses told the tribunal about the drawing room of the Goods Hill residence where Salauddin was seen either sitting on a

according to the witnesses'

Salauddin left the country on September 20, 1971 after being injured in a grenade attack launched by the freedom fighters.

couch or standing behind

his father during torture of

The Press Trust of India reported the incident following information given by Fazlul Quader. The then daily Dainik Pakistan, which was renamed as Dainik Bangla right after the liberation, also published a news item based on the PTI's report on September 29,

According to two defence documents submitted by Salauddin's lawyers to the tribunal, both the father and the son were listed war crim-

examination of Salauddin as Bangabandhu Sheikh

Malum showed a book "Juddhaporadhider Talika O Bichar Prosongo" [list of war criminals and the context of trial] by MA Hasan published in 2009. On page 163 there was a

said the list had contained 106 names and Salauddin and his father Fazlul Quader Chowdhury were 98th and 95th on the list respectively. "Yes," replied Salauddin but claimed it was the personal observation of the

war crimes, crimes against

humanity and the crime of

genocide". The prosecutor

Salauddin's father met Lt Gen Tikka Khan, erstwhile governor general of East Pakistan, on April 19, 1971 and supported the Operation Search Light launched against the

author.

Bangalees on March 25. The news was published by the Dainik Pakistan the following day.

Defence witnesses including Salauddin himself tried heart and soul to establish that he was not in Bangladesh from April 1971 to April 1974.

According to the prosecution, after his departure in September in 1971, Salauddin returned to Bangladesh in 1974 and kept hiding himself. He had During cross-assassination of

He was an elected member of parliament as a

joined Jatiya Party and became a minister of military dictator Ershad-led government. He defected again and formed National Democratic Party (NDP) in 1988. He was elected in the 1991 national elections. Salauddin dissolved NDP and contested the 1996 national polls as a candidate of Bangladesh Nationalist

Muslim League leader in

Rangunia in 1979-1984. He

the parliamentary elections of 2001 and 2008 respec-He was sacked from BNP after making derogatory comment about Khaleda Zia in 1998. But he was later

Party (BNP). He won in

Rangunia and Fatikchhari in

reinstated in the party. During the tenure of the BNP-led four-party government in 2001-2006, Salauddin was the parliamentary affairs adviser of the then prime minister

Khaleda Zia and enjoyed the status of a minister. He is still a member of BNP's standing committee, the highest policymaking

authority of the main opposition party. Detained on December come out of hiding after the his war crimes following a

16. 2010 in another case, Salauddin was shown arrested in connection with warrant of arrest issued by a tribunal on December 19,

60 foreign friends honoured

FROM PAGE 16 of award -- "Bangladesh Liberation War Honour"

and "Friends of Liberation War Honour" -- were conferred on the foreign nationals at the function. President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over the award to the foreign friends

at the capital's

Bangabandhu

International Conference Centre. Of the award recipients, 44 were from India, four each from Pakistan and the USA, two each from the UK, Japan and Egypt, and one each from Sri Lanka and

The "Bangladesh Liberation War Honour" was conferred on former Indian president Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and former Indian prime minis-

ter Gulzarilal Nanda. The 58 others were honoured with "Friends of Liberation War Honour".

Speaking at the function, both the president and the eign friends, the nation was Wing Commander Vidyasekera, one Turkish prime minister expressed their deep gratitude to the foreign nationals.

In his speech, the president thanked the foreign friends for receiving the honour.

been able to confer honour to many of our friends who had sacrificed a lot for the independence of Bangladesh," Hamid said.

"There are many whose names we don't know. But

added.

The premier sought support from the foreign friends to accomplish the war crimes trial, which has been going on in the country after 42 years' of the Liberation War. She told the guests that

her government was determined to complete the trial of war criminals in a fair, neutral and transparent manner to bring an end to the culture of impunity. In a written speech, she

said, "We are confident that the process would help us to close an unpleasant chapter in our history and allow us to proceed with greater clarity on our respective roles and respon-

stood by the people of Bangladesh and organised moral and material support of the world for the just cause of Bangalees, Hasina

The foreign friends

actually reaffirming its faith in the principles it stood for, she said. She also said her government amended the consti-

of the Liberation War and "We know, we have not ensure that none could play with the fate of people. Hasina, also president of the ruling Awami League,

tution to establish the spirit

said Bangladesh has progressed a lot economically amidst global recession. "The country is now they silently stood beside being conferred awards in

us during the war," he the world," she said, add- Engineer Snehangshu Kanta ing that these achievements ment of the country.

> behalf of the award recipidepressed after the killing of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975 because they thought the values of the Liberation

Indian intellectual and

social worker, spoke on

"Now we are happy again to see that the country got its values of the Liberation War back," he

War had gone.

who received "Friends of Liberation War Honour" included Dr Zainal Abedin, Bhattacharjee, Mrinmoyee By honouring the for- Gouri Ghosh, Partho Gosh, one Sri Lankan EA Swaroop Krishna Kaul, Maj Cetin Ozbayrak, one Gen Lachhman Singh Lehl, Dr Shyama Prasad Mandal, Pranabranjan Ray, Waheeda Rehman, Shukharanjan Sengupta, Binay Roy, Prof Sourindranath Bhattacharya, Shalil Ghosh, Dr Aniruddha Ray, Shakti Chattapadhaya, Prof Gautam Chattapadhaya, Rabindranath Chowdhury, Dr Nalinakkho Chowdhury,

Pannalal Dasgupta,

Shaheed Capt Manmohan

Acharyya, Somnath Hore, and the spirit of the Maulana Syed Asad Madni, Liberation War must be VK Krisna Meon, Suchitra upheld for the advance- Mitra, NB Mukherjee, Rabindro Mohan Pranab Ranjan Ray, an Chowdhury, Abul Fazal Golam Osmani, Kulwant Singh Pannu, Kishore Parekh, Ashok Ray, Subhash Mukhopadhaya, Samar Pranab said they felt Ranjan Sen, Samar Sen, Shaheed Subedar Mailkiat Singh, Sukhdev Singh Sanhu, Tapishwar Narain

> The nationals of Pakistan are Dr Tariq Rahman, Master Khan Gul, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, and Khan Abdul Ghaffar

> > The four USA nationals

are Dr Richard A Cash,

The Indian nationals Daniel C Dunham, Mary Francis Dunhum and Dr Alfred Sommer. The two UK nationals Swapan Kumar are Ellen Connet and Dr Paul Connet, two Japanese Bose, Biswajit R Chatterjee, are General Iwaichi Shyamol Chowdhury, Fujiwara and Ken Arimitsu,

Egyptian Prof Rifaat Mohamed El Said and the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO) of Egypt. Cabinet Secretary M

Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan read out the citations of the award recipients while Foreign Minister Dipu Moni and State Minister for Liberation War Affairs AB Tajul Islam, among others, spoke on the Sagor Duggal, Dr Asghar Ali, occasion.

He executed father's order FROM PAGE 1 Chowdhury, who was a leader of (Convention) Muslim League, believed

1970. According to prosecution witnesses, Fazlul Quader was cross with Nutan also because he had given shelter to the families of 27 Chittagong University teachers, including that of Prof Anisuzzaman, in

Kundeshwari Girls' School

when Bangladesh's War of

the Hindus of Raozan were

responsible for his defeat in

the general elections of

Liberation began. Nutan came to Chittagong in 1942. He flee, saying, "If I must set up medicine (Kundeshwari Oushadhalaya) and soap factories in Chittagong and Kolkata. He settled in Chittagong permanently after the passport system had been introduced in that day, Pakistani sol-1952.

Kundeshwari Girls School in the realisation that earlier in life he had not been able to provide his daughter with an education. The school was later upgraded to a college. Yesterday,

International Crimes Tribunal-1 sentenced BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury to came back 10 minutes death for the murder of Nutan Chandra. later and that he (Gopal)

again hid on the first floor of The punishment was handed down based on the Kundeshwari Complex.

the testimonies of two eyewitnesses and four hearsay witnesses, besides documentary evidence.

Gopal Chandra Das,

former principal of

Kundeshwari Girls'

College, witnessed the kill-

ing of Nutan Chandra from a window on the first floor of Kundeshwari Complex. He had come to the complex on the morning of April 13, 1971 from his sister-in-law's house at Jagotmollopara. On his way, he had heard gunshots. He informed

to leave the place. But Nutan refused to die, I will die on the soil of my country. I will not leave Kundeshwari. But if you want [Gopal and others], you can go." Sometime between

Nutan of that and urged him

9:00am and 10:00am diers came to the In 1960, he founded Kundeshwari premises. Gopal at that time hid on the first floor of the com-"I saw an army offi-

cer, one or two soldiers and several Bangalees talking with Nutan. A few minutes later they left in their vehicles. I heard the sound of the engines," said Gopal in his testimony. He said the vehicles

to rigging by Fazlul Quader, Salauddin's father. Prafulla also told the court what Fazlul had said when he went to Nutan's house while elec-

This time Salauddin general elections. According to the Quader was there with the soldiers. They dragged witness, Fazlul had Nutan out of the temple said, "As usual you will despite seeing that the man vote for me. Therefore, if you was praying. "Nutan was keep from going to the screaming at that time,"

very moment told his cohorts that he had orders from his father to kill Nutan. The Pakistani soldiers then opened fire on Nutan. He was groaning in pain, said Gopal, adding, "I saw Salauddin

recalled Gopal.

times. He left the place making sure that Nutan was dead. Nutan's body lay where it had fallen for three days.

Nutan's son Prafulla Ranjan Singha, another prosecution witness, had fled to India a few days before the killing. Through his deposition he revealed why Salauddin's father had been mad at the Hindu community of Raozan.

He said the religious minorities of Raozan could not cast votes due Fazlul Quader Chowdhury

tioneering for the 1970 prison in 1974.

polling booth, I will understand I have got your vote." Prafulla said, "If

According to the witness, Salauddin that anyone [of the minority community] cast his vote ignoring his [Fazlul's] directive, he would be persecuted. Many people of Noapara area were tortured and their belongings were looted by the goons of the Muslim League."

Repression on the Quader wielding a pistol or religious minority in revolver and shot Nutan Raozan began after Chandra two to three Fazlul lost the election. Prafulla also regretted the fact that he

> could not be at his father's funeral. "I am so unfortunate that I could not put the flames on the funeral pyre of my father," he said. Prafulla's elder brother Satya Ranjan

Singha filed a case with Raozan Police Station in January 1972 in connection with Nutan's killing. "All the accused were charge-sheeted," said Prafulla, adding that

had been sent to jail as an accused but the case did not see light after 1974. Fazlul Quader died of cardiac arrest in