



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

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24 PAGES PLUS SHOUT PRICE : Tk 12.00

TIGERS PEG BACK KIWIS

Three late New Zealand wickets restored parity at the end of the first day of the first Test

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TOTAL CHARGES : 17	CHARGES 1. Genocide (killing of 370 Hindus) in Joypurhat Sadar	2. Genocide (killing of 10 Hindus) at Khetlal	3. Killing of 26 freedom fighters in Joypurhat Sadar	4. Killing of three freedom fighters in Joypurhat Sadar	5. Killing of nine people in Akkelpur	6. Killing of four people in Panchbibi	7. Killing of 15 youths in Joypurhat Sadar	8. Killing of AL leader Abul Kashem	9. Looting and arson in AL leader's house
GUILTY : 9	VERDICT Guilty (Imprisonment until death)				Guilty (20 years jail)				Guilty (10 years jail)
ACQUITTAL : 8									

CRIMES CALL FOR DEATH

Alim to die in jail

War tribunal hands down lenient sentence over his poor health

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY, WASIM BIN HABIB and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Former BNP minister Abdul Alim deserved the gallows for committing crimes against humanity and genocide during the 1971 Liberation War, but a special tribunal yesterday sentenced him to imprisonment till death, considering his poor health.

The court found Alim, 83, an influential leader of Joypurhat Peace Committee in 1971, guilty of genocide, killing of 58 unarmed civilians, looting, arson and forcing many out of the country.

"The letters of law cannot be unkind in awarding sentence, ignoring his perceptible physical impairment. No physically and mentally unfit person should face the gallows," said Justice Obaidul Hassan, chairman of the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

The court, however, observed that setting him free would undermine the human civilisation and humanity.

"Being confined in within the fences till remaining part of life may let the convict to sense what extreme deliberate criminal acts

FULL VERDICT, CHARGES -- SEE ONLINE

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Terminator of Hindus

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

For Abdul Alim, the 1971 Liberation War was something more than just a battle between the Bangalee freedom fighters and the Pakistan army and their local collaborators. To him it was a special mission, a mission to wipe out a particular community: the Hindus.

During the nine-month war, Alim, then 41, incited his followers with fiery speeches to loot properties of the Hindus in Joypurhat. But he did not stop there. He also showed the Pakistan army the Hindu-inhabited villages so the enemy forces could destroy those. And it worked well.

Around 400 Hindus were killed in two attacks by the occupation army and Alim's men while several hundred Hindus were forced to leave the country.

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Alim made inciting speech that the Hindus would not be forgiven and also encouraged [his men] to loot whatever they [Hindus] had.

Death in desperate fight against fire

7, not 9, killed in garment factory blaze

SOHEL PARVEZ, SHAHEEN MOLLAH, and RAFIUL ISLAM

Now, all that is left of him is the metal buckle of the belt he had on that fateful night, which glistened amid the soot and char, as if to draw attention to the burnt remains of its owner.

It was found on the second floor of Aswad Composite Mills in Gazipur, where a devastating fire killed seven people on Tuesday night. Bones and flesh, fans, shards of glass,

teacups and charred knitting machines littered the floor of the two-storey building.

Police yesterday revised down the death toll to seven from nine earlier, in a factory tragedy that struck the nation's \$20 billion garment industry for the second time in about six months.

The tragedy put new pressure on the sector as Bangladesh is struggling to rebuild its image as the second

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Sumi Akhter breaks down in tears in front of Aswad Composite Mills in Gazipur yesterday as her husband is missing in a blaze at the RMG factory. Her baby girl is also crying.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

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