

UNDER AFRICAN MOON

Writer visits Congo with Bangladeshi troops engaged in peacekeeping

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DYLAN SUED FOR 'RACISM'

Croatian organisation files complaint relating to the singer's 2012 interview

PAGE 8

ATTACKS ON PEOPLE AL's criminals responsible

Says 'shocked' Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday urged leaders and activists of the opposition alliance to see to it that no innocent people were attacked and their properties damaged during the ongoing movement.

Referring to the incidents of violence, she said, "I'm shocked, speechless, outraged and saddened. I strongly condemn and protest these barbaric and brutal killings."

In a statement issued last night, the BNP chief also said "unidentified

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Door shut yet open for BNP

Nomination paper submission time over; EC willing to change election schedule

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The door for the opposition to join the January 5 polls has apparently closed with the time to submit nomination papers expiring yesterday.

However, Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad has said everything would be possible if the two major alliances reached a consensus over the election-time government.

Talking to reporters yesterday, he urged the political parties to find an amicable solution to the stalemate. "Rigid stances will not help, and both sides will have to make some

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JAPAN FOR TALKS -- PAGE 2

Blockaders set fire to the home of Kansat movement leader Golam Rabbani in Pukhuria village of Shibganj upazila, Chapainawabganj, yesterday afternoon. Rabbani has obtained the Awami League ticket to contest the 10th parliamentary polls from Chapainawabganj-2. More photos on page 2.

PHOTO: STAR

Outraged business leaders demand security

Hit hard by violence, garment exporters call for dialogue, submit memorandums to PM, opposition leader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Garment exporters yesterday, in a rare move, brought out an impromptu procession on the capital's busy roads in a desperate attempt to secure sufficient security for their industry increasingly being targeted by vested quarters.

The move came as a spontaneous response to the impassioned pressure the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) members put on the association's leaders to take a

tough stance against the damaging external factors bringing the sector to its knees, during a view exchange meeting in the evening.

About 500 members of BGMEA led by its President Atiqul Islam then set off from the BGMEA headquarters to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's official residence. They chanted slogans "Save garment sector, save the country" as they marched through the streets.

The march, however, came to a halt as on-duty

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Children suffer in silence

WASIM BIN HABIB

If doing psychological damage to children is the goal of the ongoing violent politics, then the politicians seem to have succeeded.

Take the case of Dhrubo, a four-and-a-half-year-old boy from Goran. He started howling simply because his mother was a little late to phone him after leaving home on Saturday.

She had started for Shahjalal airport on a CNG-run auto-rickshaw to catch a flight to India.

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Blockaders torch AL leader's house

3 more killed in violence; blockade extended till Thursday

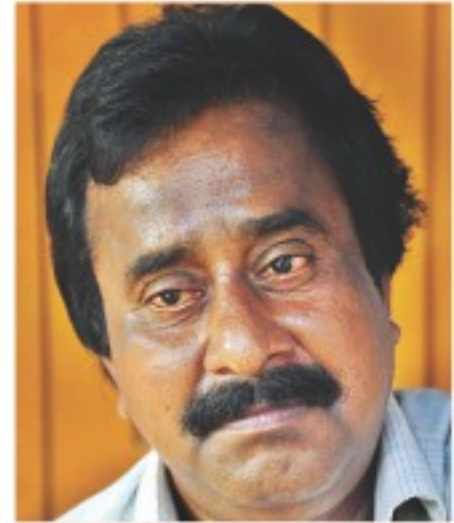
STAR REPORT

A youth was killed in a clash as blockaders set fire to the house of Kansat movement leader Golam Rabbani in Chapainawabganj yesterday.

A gunfight in Natore left a Chhatra Dal leader killed and an auto-rickshaw driver in Chittagong died in an accident while fleeing from pickets as the opposition's 72-hour blockade continued.

Already neck-deep in trouble, people brace for further sufferings with BNP Joint Secretary General Salahuddin Ahmed through a

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Golam Rabbani



Apparel industry leaders yesterday submitted a memorandum to the prime minister at Gono Bhavan demanding security for the sector, and protesting ongoing industrial and political violence.

PHOTO: STAR

ATMs empty

Bank stop refilling over insecurity

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

The ongoing blockade has prevented banks from loading cash into automated teller machines (ATMs), making cardholders unable to withdraw money from them.

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Rickshaw-puller hit by crude bomb

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A rickshaw-puller suffered severe eye injuries when a crude bomb hurled by pro-blockade pickets hit him in the capital's Kaptanbazar yesterday, the third day of the opposition's 131-hour countrywide blockade.

The victim, Abdul Halim, 30, fell from his

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CONGRATULATIONS

Engineer Mr. M A Taher, Director of Popular Life Insurance Company Limited is elected as Chairman of "Bangladesh Finished Leather, Leathergoods and Footwear Exporters' Association". Board of Directors, Managing Director, all employees of Popular Life congratulate him.

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