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Violent politics leaves them in pain, despair

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eleven-year-old Shanto Islam, who was severely wounded by rubber bullets on Friday, has not spoken a word since he regained consciousness.

"He opened his eyes around 8:00 in the morning [yesterday]. Since then he is just staring into space," said his grandmother Rokhsana Begum.

The boy has been in shock, said Pijush Kanti Mitra, examining his health at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

He was peppered with rubber bullets when police fired on a group demonstrating against the execution of war crimes convict Abdul Quader Mollah and unleash violence in the capital's Fakirapool.

Shanto has 73 rubber pellets embedded in the upper portion of his body, his family members said, quoting doctors.

The pellets mainly lodged in the muscle. They are very small with diameter of less than half a millimeter and so it is impossible to extract them through surgery, Pijush said. Shanto has to carry them his whole life and that will be

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Faruque, a small trader of Chittagong, demonstrates alone with a banner requesting the country's two top leaders to stop the ongoing political violence and end the stalemate. The banner reads: "Please stop now! Hasina and Khaleda. Not any more. Enough is enough. Decide fast. Mother, we are suffering. Save the country from sick politics."

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

India told US to play positive role on Bangladesh

Reports Anandabazar

STAR REPORT

India has weighed pressure on the US to play a positive role in light of the volatile political situation in Bangladesh, reports an Indian newspaper on its website.

The Anandabazar, through its source, reports that the South Block is disappointed about the White House's stance on

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Transport leader shot dead in Kushtia

UNB, Kushtia

Unidentified assailants gunned down a leader of local transport owners' association in the town's housing area last night.

The dead is M Nur Hossain, 45, general secretary of Kushtia Bus Minibus Owners' Association.

Locals said Nur Hossain came under attack while

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APPEALS IN SAYEED'S CASE SC proceedings may end next month

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Supreme Court proceedings in the war crimes case against Delawar Hossain Sayeede are likely to end next month.

The court has already heard his appeal for 18 days. The convicted Jamaat-e-Islami leader filed the appeal challenging his death sentence given by International Crimes Tribunal-2.

The hearing may take another 18 to

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Ban politics of Jamaat Demand some eminent citizens

DU CORRESPONDENT

Some eminent citizens of the country have demanded a ban on the politics of Jamaat-e-Islami and the quick execution of all war crimes convicts.

They came up with the demand in response to the widespread violence

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MOLLAH EXECUTION It's painful, says Pak minister

STAR REPORT

While Pakistan government appeared hesitant to comment on the execution of Quader Mollah on Friday, its Federal Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan issued a statement of his own saying the hanging was "most regrettable and painful".



Nisar Ali

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Don't you think that the government should ensure security for all involved in the prosecution of war crimes trial?

Yes (65%)

No (35%)

TOTAL VOTES: 358

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think leaders of ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP will be able to reach consensus to end the ongoing political crisis over the 10th parliamentary polls?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING December 15

Fajr 5:20 5:55

Zohr 12:45 1:15

Asr 3:45 4:00

Maghrib 5:22 5:25

Esha 7:00 7:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Mandela's 'long walk' nears its end at Qunu

Burial today at ancestral home

THE GUARDINA ONLINE

The aircraft carrying Nelson Mandela's body has landed in Eastern Cape province as his coffin is transported to his ancestral home village ahead of the state funeral for South Africa's first black president today.

The South African air force plane landed at Mthata airport yesterday afternoon. Earlier, during a solemn ceremony at Waterkloof air base in Pretoria that was broadcast live on South African television, President Jacob Zuma praised Mandela for bringing discipline and vision to the long and difficult struggle against apartheid.

"Go well tata, you have played your part," Zuma said in his eulogy, using the Xhosa word for father. "We will always remember you."

The homage was the most overtly politi-



cal event of the mourning period since Mandela's death on 5 December at the age of 95. ANC leaders and allied trade unions hailed Mandela as a determined "soldier" and revolutionary. Zuma led the assembled mourners, who included Mandela's widow Graça Machel and his former wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, in revolutionary song after his speech.

Mandela's coffin, draped in the South African flag, was accompanied by a military honour guard as it was transferred onto a military plane for transport to the village of Qunu.

The state funeral will combine military pomp and the traditional rites of Mandela's Thembu clan. It will be attended by family members, national leaders and foreign

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

CANCER DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE BETWEEN PEOPLE. WHY SHOULD TECHNOLOGY?

GE's PET/CT scanners are making world-class cancer diagnostics more accessible in Bangladesh. By helping doctors with accurate information to stage, they are giving more and more people the hope of recovery.



BASIC

বেসিক ব্যাংকের ৬৭তম 'জোরারগঞ্জ শাখার' শুভ উদ্বোধন

সম্পূর্ণ অনলাইন সিস্টেমে পরিচালিত শতভাগ রাষ্ট্র মালিকানাধীন বেসিক ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর সেবার পরিধি আরো সম্প্রসারিত করতে চট্টগ্রামের জোরারগঞ্জে ৬৭তম শাখার শুভ উদ্বোধন করা হয়েছে। গতকাল শনিবার প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে নতুন শাখাটির উদ্বোধন করেন বেসিক ব্যাংক পরিচালনা পর্ষদের মাননীয় চেয়ারম্যান জনাব শেখ আব্দুল হাই বাচ্চু।

অনুষ্ঠানে সভাপতিত্ব করেন বেসিক ব্যাংকের ভারপ্রাপ্ত ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব ফজলুস সোবহান। অনুষ্ঠানে অন্যান্যের মধ্যে উপস্থিত ছিলেন বেসিক ব্যাংকের উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকবৃন্দ, মহাব্যবস্থাপকবৃন্দ। এছাড়া অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত ছিলেন ব্যাংকের ঊর্ধ্বতন কর্মকর্তাবৃন্দ, বিভিন্ন রাজনৈতিক দলের নেতৃবৃন্দ, ব্যবসায়ীবৃন্দ, অত্র এলাকার গণ্যমান্য ব্যক্তিবর্গ ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীরা। অনুষ্ঠানটি সার্বিকভাবে পরিচালনা করেন বেসিক ব্যাংকের মহাব্যবস্থাপক জনাব মোঃ রুহুল আলম।

প্রধান অতিথি বক্তব্যে ব্যাংকের মাননীয় চেয়ারম্যান জনাব শেখ আব্দুল হাই বাচ্চু বলেন, বেসিক ব্যাংক শতভাগ রাষ্ট্র মালিকানাধীন ব্যাংক হওয়ায় এখানে আমানত রাখা সম্পূর্ণ নিরাপদ। এছাড়া দেশের সার্বিক ব্যবসায়িক অগ্রগতি সাধনে সব ধরনের নিয়ম-কানুন মেনেই এই ব্যাংক থেকে সহজ শর্তে ঋণ প্রদান করা হয়।

সভাপতির বক্তব্যে ব্যাংকের ভারপ্রাপ্ত ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব ফজলুস সোবহান বলেন, ব্যাংকটি রাষ্ট্র মালিকানাধীন হওয়ায়, এই ব্যাংকের প্রতি গ্রাহকের দৃঢ় আস্থা রয়েছে। ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম পরিচালনার ক্ষেত্রে গ্রাহক সেবাকে আমরা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার দিয়ে থাকি।

BASIC

বেসিক ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

শতভাগ রাষ্ট্র মালিকানাধীন ব্যাংক