

## RETAILERS IN RUSH

They are opening new stores on the occasion of Eid

PAGE B1

## THWARTING GOVT SPYING

Snowden proposes developing easy-to-use technologies

PAGE 8

## SHAKIB OFFERS APOLOGY

The all-rounder appeals for curtailing his penalty

PAGE 14

## Hurdles to sweet home

SHAMIM ASHRAF and ANISUR RAHMAN

"The journey home is never too long  
Your heart arrives before the train..."

No matter whether or not they have been inspired by this song, hearts of many of the city dwellers have already reached where they grew up or their dear ones still live -- their homes.

The biggest Muslim festival, Eid-ul-Fitr, is knocking at the door.

And with train tickets up for sale in advance yesterday, hundreds of people queued up at Kamalapur Railway Station much before the scheduled time. While distribution of tickets for July 24 was set to begin at 9:00am yesterday, some 1,000 people had

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2  
MORE ON PAGE -- 3



In an awkward position, a man sleeps on a ticket counter at Kamalapur Railway Station in the wee hours of yesterday to keep his first place in line for advance tickets for Eid. He had been waiting there since 5:00pm Saturday. He got the tickets around 9:00am yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Death, horror in Gaza

Thousands flee Israeli bombardment, death toll crosses 400

AGENCIES

The fiercest fighting of the 13-day war in Gaza erupted yesterday as Israel dramatically widened its ground offensive, sending tanks and troops into urban areas and causing thousands of panicked civilians to flee.

The Palestinian government has described the attack on Gaza's Shejaiya neighbourhood, in which at least 60 people were killed, as a "war crime" which required immediate international intervention.

"The Palestinian consensus government condemned in the strongest

terms the heinous massacre committed by the Israeli occupation forces against innocent Palestinian civilians in the neighbourhood of Shejaiya," a statement said.

The office of Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas issued a similar statement condemning the "massacre".

The death toll in Gaza has hit at least 425 since the July 8 start of Israel's military offensive there, with 87 killed yesterday alone, Palestinian health officials said.

The vast majority of yesterday's dead were in the Shejaiya neighbour-

hood between Gaza City and the Israeli border, with at least 62 people killed there in a blistering bombardment which began overnight, emergency services spokesman Ashraf al-Qudra said.

At least 250 were wounded in Shejaiya, he said.

Following an urgent appeal from the International Committee of the Red Cross, both sides agreed to temporarily halt fire in the neighbourhood, ending at 1730 GMT.

As the ceasefire got under way, a convoy of ambulances entered

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



PHOTO: AFP

Injured Palestinians arrive at al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City yesterday, as Israel's army expands its ground offensive.

## Enforce safe food law in 2 months

HC asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the government to enforce the law on safe food in two months to ensure public health and safety.

The law secretary has to take steps to make the Safe Food Act 2013 effective after finalising the relevant rules, and issue a gazette notification in this regard within the stipulated period, it said.

The HC ruling comes at a time when concerns are growing over excessive use of toxic pesticides and preservatives in food items, including vegetables, fruits, fish, milk and processed food.

A recent government study has also found chickens and eggs contain high level of antibiotics and chromium.

Intake of such contaminated food can cause respiratory, kidney and liver problems, skin diseases and even cancer. Expecting mothers and children are particularly vulnerable to chemically treated food.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



## SUJAN MURDER

## Wife sues Mirpur cops

Court orders judicial probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered a judicial enquiry into the custodial death of garment-waste trader Mahbubur Rahman Sujan after his wife filed a murder case against Sub-Inspector Jahid and OC Salahuddin of Mirpur Police Station.

Momtaz Sultana Lucy said soon after bringing Sujan, herself and their five-year-old son Rabbi to Mirpur Police Station in the early hours

of July 13, SI Jahid called someone on his wireless set addressing the person as "sir".

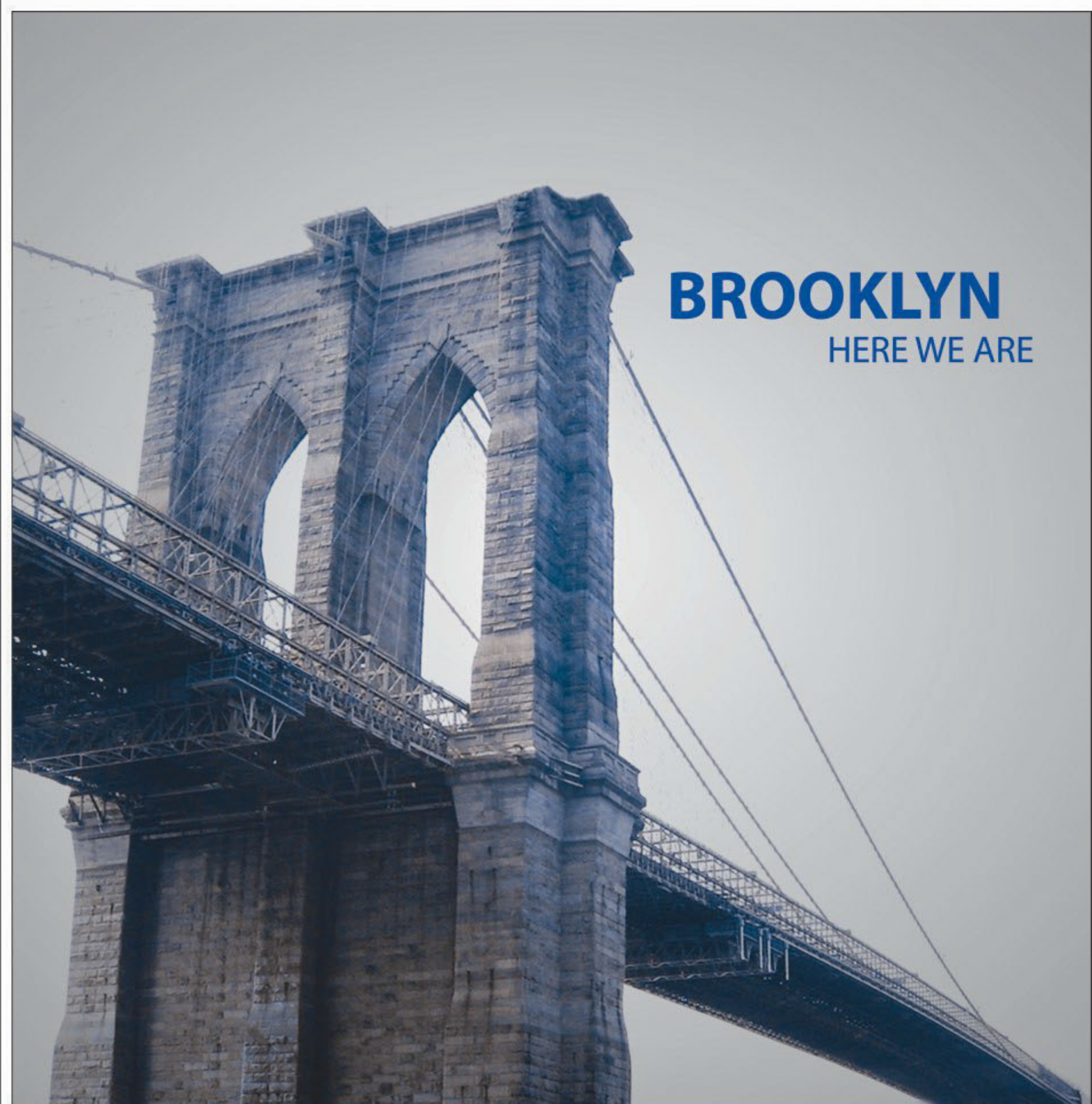
"I have taken the traitor... beating him. What should I do now, Sir?" Lucy quoted Jahid as saying on the wireless. "Either close [him] or make it final," was the response from the other end.

Lucy filed the case with the Court of Metropolitan Sessions Judge in Dhaka yesterday accusing SI Jahidur Rahman Khan and nine

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



SI Jahid



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