



HOMAGE TO MARTYRS

People from all strata of life celebrated the 44th anniversary of the country's liberation through an array of programmes yesterday. The National Memorial at Savar, outside the capital, was one of the main hubs, where the general public exulted (1), while President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stood in silence honouring the martyrs (2). Leader of the Opposition Raushan Ershad (3) and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia (4) paid floral tributes. At the National Parade Ground, a host of events were arranged including marches by the military, paramilitary and non-military forces (5). Suhrawardy Udyan was another hub where Sector Commanders Forum re-enacted the moments of the Pakistani army's surrender on the historic ground (6), and handed over the national flag to youths in a symbolic transfer of their responsibilities towards the sovereign country (8). The ground drew a huge, variegated crowd (10) including people with disabilities (7) and foreigners (9). In Chittagong city, youths turn into living statues depicting the Liberation War (11).



Photo: Star, Bss



2-day int'l lit conference on World Wars at DU tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The English department of Dhaka University has organised a two-day international literature conference on World War I and II on the campus tomorrow. The conference "The Great War and English Studies", which will end on Friday, will feature papers presented by academics and historians of Bangladesh, India, Nepal and the UK, said a press release.

British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert W Gibson is scheduled to

War heroes hand over nat'l flag to youths

FROM PAGE 3

execute the verdicts, with the eventual goal of eliminating anti-liberation and communal forces in the country. The day was celebrated by people of all strata of life through paying homage to the martyrs at the war memorials and through organising an array of cultural programmes.

Receiving the flag at SCF's programme, Ishrat Jerin Tisha, a higher secondary student, said, "Our forefathers gifted us an independent country. Similarly, we want to gift a prosperous country to our descendants."

"We, the youths, must remain alert and ready to make maximum sacrifices like the freedom fighters did in 1971," said Abu Bakar Siddique, a law student of Dhaka University.

Freedom fighter M Hamid said, "We want that our next generation grows up in the spirit of Liberation War so that they can uphold the dignity of our national flag."

"If we can't inject that spirit in

them, militancy and fundamentalism may rise in our country," he said.

SCF Acting Secretary General Harun Habib said the next generation must be inspired to free the country from poverty, illiteracy, corruption and militancy.

In his speech, SCF Chairman KM Shafiullah demanded acceleration of the war crimes trial and immediate execution of the convicts.

The programme also featured patriotic songs, poems, and dramas.

AL PROCESSION

The Dhaka city unit of AL brought out a huge procession from Shikha Chiranton near the Institution of Engineers, which paraded through Shahbagh, Elephant Road, Science Laboratory, Mirpur Road, Kalabagan, and Russell Square before reaching the party chief's Dhanmondi office.

The march was joined by thousands of activists from the party's associated bodies including Jubo

League, Mohila League, Mohila Jubo League, Sramik League, Svecchhasebak League, and inflicted immense sufferings on commuters because of the traffic chaos it created.

The participants carried national flags, replicas of tanks, guns, fighter planes and boats, placards and banners, and demanded banning of Jamaat-e-Islami and elimination of Razakars.

Huge posters and banners in favour of many aspiring candidates in the Dhaka City Corporations elections, which might take place in a few months, were also seen.

MARTYRS RECALLED

Different government and non-government, social and cultural organisations celebrated the day through elaborate programmes including discussions, rallies, processions, plays, photo exhibitions, and painting competitions.

Border Guard Bangladesh held a

doa mahfil, and placed wreaths at "Shimanto Gaurab" in Pilkhana.

Alluding to Jamaat, Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, which is holding a six-day programme on December 13-18, demanded punishment for the political party involved in war crimes.

Alongside other organisations and individuals, Amra Muktijoddhar Sontan placed a wreath at the National Memorial in Savar, outside Dhaka, and demanded banning of Jamaat.

The Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies of Dhaka University arranged a poster exhibition and cultural programme, and called for the quick execution of Jamaat leader Kamaruzzaman, who was sentenced to die for war crimes.

Maulana Bhasani Science and Technology University, Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote, Bangabandhu Gobeshona Parishad, and Zaker Party held different programmes to mark the day.

Winter Fair 2014
17-21 December

Luxury Apartments
@ Bailey Road

Innovative ZARA Tower

Venue : 133/1, New Bailey Road (Natok Sharoni), Dhaka
Time : 10 am to 8 pm

Flat Size: 1911 sft.- 2192 sft.

Hotline: 01962 780 087

Head Office: MK Centre (5th Floor)
Plot 27, Road 14, Block G, Niketon, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212
Phone: (880-2) 988 4769, 882 9532, 985 6557 Fax: (880-2) 989 1084