



## BANK CHIEF EXECUTIVES

They can't be removed or suspended without prior approval from BB

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## FOR YOUNG PAINTERS

The award ceremony of 19th Berger competition is held at Gallery Chitrak

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## JOE COCKER PASSES AWAY

Legendary rock and soul singer loses battle with cancer at 70

PAGE 8



Policemen escorting war crimes convict Syed Mohammad Qaisar out of the court yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## THE VERDICT

DEATH PENALTY on **7** charges

JAIL UNTIL DEATH on **4** charges

JAIL FOR 5-10 YEARS on **3** charges

ACQUITTED on **2** charges

# DEATH for small town's big devil

Qaisar found guilty on 14 of 16 war crimes charges

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY, WASIM BIN HABIB and MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

He had earned great notoriety in his locality of Madhabpur and nearby areas in Habiganj and Brahmanbaria in 1971. He had formed and led a killing force that teamed up with the Pakistan army to massacre 108 people, mostly Hindus, in 22 villages in a single day. That was only one of the many heinous crimes Syed

Mohammad Qaisar had committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

He and his force "Qaisar Bahini" looted and torched houses, tortured pro-liberation people and killed many of them.

One of his crimes would indeed "outrage the civility." He had handed over a newly married woman to Pak army for rape. Qaisar, now 74, also accompanied the Pak army to the

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## Qaisar, why?

Mother with war baby still asks for answer

WASIM BIN HABIB and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

She grew up in her grandparents' house. While a child, she struggled to figure out why she could not go to her parents.

As she came of age, she got the answers to the questions that had been crowding her mind all these

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## Salute them for their sacrifice

War tribunal calls for honouring the victims of rape during Liberation War

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Describing the rape of women in 1971 as "the rape of the entire pro-liberation community", a court yesterday said time has come to recognise and honour the *Biranganas* or the "war heroines", ostracised by the society for decades.

"Mass rape is graver than murder ... The effects of rape as a weapon of war do not cease once the rape is over, or once the physical wounds are healed. The wounds of rape never heal, and they leave permanent scar on victims, their families, communities, nations and even the humanity too," observed the International Crimes Tribunal-2 in its judgment in the war crimes case against Syed Mohammad Qaisar.

Qaisar was sentenced to death on seven charges of killing and mass rape during the country's Liberation War in 1971.

For the first time in the history of Bangladesh, the special tribunal handed down capital punishment to a war criminal for involvement in "genocidal rape". In previous instances, the two war crimes tribunals awarded jail terms to those convicted of wartime rape.

"We cannot shut our eyes any more. The nation, the society must come forward to recognise and salute their sacrifices, to heal their wound, to

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## Bus plunge kills 9 in Jhalakathi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, JHALAKATHI

At least nine people, including two women and a child, were killed and 35 others injured in a road accident in Rajapur upazila yesterday.

Police fear the death toll may rise as some of the injured are in critical condition.

According to witnesses, the Barisal-bound bus of Rupam Paribahan from Khulna was vying with another bus to reach the next stop to get more passenger.

"A tyre of the bus hit something and punctured near Bekutia Ferry Ghat but the driver drove on ignoring our requests," Babita Mandal, who survived the accident, told this correspondent.

When it reached near Bishwasbari bridge, the bus lost control and plunged into a canal by Khulna-Barisal highway

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## HAVE YOUR SAY

Based on the pledges the AL made during the 2008 election, The Daily Star made a wish list on Jan 6, 2012. Three years down the line, how much has the govt delivered? Visit [ow.ly/GkZT9](http://ow.ly/GkZT9) to leave your comments and let us publish your thoughts.

## Dhaka entry may not be free!

Pay Commission proposes ways to cover salary hike of govt employees

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The Pay and Service Commission has recommended several steps, including imposition of toll at all entry points of the capital, to collect the additional money needed to pay the increased salary of public servants.

"The government may collect revenue by introducing arrival toll through automated machines at all entry points of Dhaka metropolitan city," said the commission report.

But experts criticised the idea and termed it unrealistic. They said it would increase travel time and push up inflation.

Led by former central bank governor Mohammad Farashuddin, the commission submitted its report to the finance minister on Sunday. The committee proposed a 100 percent pay raise on average for government employees of all grades.

The report gave a detailed estimate of the money required to pay the hiked salaries and allowances of 12.66 lakh government employees, 4.53 lakh pensioners and 3.44 lakh teachers of MPO-listed non-government schools and colleges.

If the commission's recommendations are fully implemented, the government expenditure on salary and allowance in the next fiscal year would go up by 63.7 percent or Tk 22,953 crore.

Of this, Tk 17,464 crore would be needed for government employees, 3,790 crore for pensioners, 1,688 crore for teachers of MPO-listed school and college and Tk 10 crore for employees of autonomous organisations.

The report, obtained by The Daily Star, does not include allocation for defence sector development project staff.

The commission also recommended that the government strictly cut expenditure in unproductive sectors for the next two to three years.

AB Mirza Azizul Islam, former adviser to a caretaker government, said

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- MOHAMMADPUR
- RAJARBAGH
- MOGHBAZAR
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- BANGLAMOTOR
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- KALLAYNPUR
- DHOLAIKHAL
- SHAHJADPUR

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মাননীয় মন্ত্রী, গৃহায়ন ও গণপূর্ত মন্ত্রণালয়  
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