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# Saying no to ugly politics

Losing father in arson attack, BNP activist decides to quit

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Matin's father Abdul Malek, 55, was a farmer. A pious man all his life, he could not make it back home after attending the Biswa Ijtema, the second biggest religious congregation of the Muslims, held on the Turag in Tongi.

Malek was fatally burnt on his way as the truck carrying him and other devotees came under an arson attack by pro-blockaders on January 21. He died last week at the Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Abdul Matin, 30, is president of Laxmichap union unit of Jatiyatabadi Matsyajibi Dal, a BNP-backed organisation. His father's death, however, has turned his life upside down, laying bare the true nature of our politics.

The atrocity that his party men have been inflicting on innocent people has made him turn around and retire from this politics of killing.

"I am attached to the politics of BNP but my father was killed by a petrol bomb hurled to make the party's ongoing blockade a success," said Matin in choked voice during the Qulkhwani of his father.

"But I shall no more be involved with it or with any other party for that matter, as most of them promote politics of



Abdul Matin

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Family members of those killed in the Styrofoam factory blaze in Mirpur wait and endure hassles for the bodies at the Dhaka Medical College morgue yesterday. Almost all the bodies were charred beyond recognition in Saturday's fire that claimed 13 lives. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# MIRPUR FACTORY FIRE Son mourns mother he could not save

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Russell Mia and his mother Rashida Begum had joined the Styrofoam package factory on the same day five years ago.

They left their home and went to their workplace together on Saturday. But little did they know about the tragedy that was to befall them.

Thirteen people, including Rashida, were burnt to death as a devastating fire swept through the factory at Mirpur-1 in the capital that evening.

Nineteen-year-old Russell received the charred body of his mother at Dhaka Medical College morgue and started for Nalchity of Jhalakathi around 4:00am yesterday.

He said they were working on different floors when the fire broke out.

"I managed to get out [of the factory] as I was working on the ground floor. My mother was on the first floor," Russell told this correspondent at the morgue.

"I knew my mother was there, but I was totally helpless. I tried several times but failed to go upstairs because of the flames," he said.

"My life now will never be the same," he added.

After the incident, firefighters pulled out the bodies from the factory. Those were taken to the hospital later.

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# India courts China for 'Asian Century'

Sushma unveils six-point ambitious plan; Modi to visit Beijing in May

AGENCIES

India has unveiled an ambitious agenda to elevate its ties with China, with External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj announcing a six-point proposal to jointly realise with Beijing, the dream of an "Asian Century".

In her first engagement of the morning in the Chinese capital, Swaraj said at the inaugural of the Second India-China Media

Forum that a six-point template can enrich the civilizations of India and China in the modern era, resulting in the realisation of an "Asian Century".

Listing out the proposals in alphabetical order A-F, Swaraj stressed that New Delhi-Beijing ties can reach the next level if both sides enforce an "action-oriented approach and a broad-based bilateral engagement".

She asserted that the two countries need

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# Rizvi on 3-day remand in arson case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed BNP Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed on a three-day remand in an arson case.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Alamgir Kabir Raj passed the order after Badda Police Station Sub-inspector Mosharrif Hossain, also investigation officer of the case, produced the BNP leader before the court with a 10-day remand prayer.

Following the remand

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

# Who is 'Mr WH'?

Puzzle 'solved' after centuries

MAIL ONLINE

The identity of the man Shakespeare's book of sonnets was dedicated to - an enigma that has puzzled scholars for centuries - may now finally have been established.

The first edition of Shakespeare's sonnets, published in 1609, were dedicated to a 'Mr WH', whose identity has never been proven - leading to claims it could have been a male lover.

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# Newborn dies a day after declared dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prematurely born baby declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on Saturday, breathed his last yesterday and was buried at Azimpur graveyard shortly afterwards.

The DMCH doctors had declared him dead for the second time barely 24 hours after he was put on assisted ventilation -- a facility the baby needed soon after his birth but was not provided with at first.

"If he had received proper treatment right after his birth, he might have survived," the dead baby's uncle Mohammad Masud said.

The boy born at DMCH Friday midnight was not given any ICU support for

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



The charred wreckages of intercity buses inside a depot near Modhumita Cinema in the capital yesterday. Law enforcers and the fire service could not confirm if it was a case of arson. PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

# 16 Shibir men held with explosives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested 16 activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir along with explosives, bomb-making materials and jihadi books in Rajshahi and Feni yesterday.

Iftakhar Alam, assistant commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police, said acting on a tip-off a team of DB police raided a house at the city's Bhatapara around 2:00pm and arrested four Shibir activists.

The arrestees are members of Shibir's bomb manufacturing unit, police said but did not disclose their names.

The law enforcers recovered 10 crude bombs, bomb-making materials and nearly 100 jihadi books from the house.

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# SECOND JAPANESE HOSTAGE ISIS uploads video of execution

AFP, Tokyo

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe yesterday denounced as "heinous and despicable" the apparent beheading of a second Japanese hostage by the Islamic State group, as global leaders denounced the jihadists.

ISIS claimed in a video released online Saturday that it had killed 47-year-old Kenji Goto -- the second purported beheading of a Japanese hostage in a week -- but made no mention of a Jordanian pilot it had also threatened to kill.

Jordan's King Abdullah II said in a statement in Amman that every effort was being

made "to seek the release of the hero pilot Maaz Kassasbeh", captured after his F-16 plane crashed in Syria in December.

The king, who spoke by telephone with Abe, denounced Goto's murder as a "cowardly, criminal act" and offered condolences to his family.

Goto, a respected war correspondent, is seen in an orange outfit -- similar to those worn by Guantanamo Bay inmates -- kneeling next to a standing masked man dressed head-to-toe in black with his face covered.

The man, who speaks with a British accent, appears to be the same ISIS militant

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**জাতীয় সঞ্চয় অধিদপ্তর**  
অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়

১০০ টাকা মূল্যমান  
বাংলাদেশ প্রাইজ বন্ডের  
৭৮ তম 'ড্র' এর ফলাফল

১৯ মাঘ, ১৪২১/০১ ফেব্রুয়ারী, ২০১৫ তারিখে ১০০/- টাকা মূল্যমান  
বাংলাদেশ প্রাইজবন্ডের ৭৮ তম "ড্র" অনুষ্ঠিত হয়

প্রথম পুরস্কার	টঃ ৬,০০,০০০	০৬০৮৯৫১
দ্বিতীয় পুরস্কার	টঃ ৩,২৫,০০০	০২৪৮৭৪৭
তৃতীয় পুরস্কার প্রতিটি ১,০০,০০০ টাকার মোট ২টি পুরস্কার		০২৬৪০৯৪ ০৫০০৮২৯
চতুর্থ পুরস্কার প্রতিটি ৫০,০০০ টাকার মোট ২টি পুরস্কার		০০৪৭০৮০ ০৩৮৩০৯৫
পঞ্চম পুরস্কার প্রতিটি ১০,০০০ টাকার মোট ৪০ টি পুরস্কার		০০৩৬১২৩ ০২৯৪৪৬১ ০৫৫৪৯৪৭ ০৭৬৯৬৮৬ ০৮৬১৮৬২ ০০৫৯২৫০ ০৩১৫৯৯২ ০৬৩৬৩৪৪ ০৭৭৫২০২ ০৮৬৬৯৫০ ০১২২২০৯ ০৩৩১৮৪১ ০৬৭৪৪৮২ ০৭৮৭০২৭ ০৮৭৪০৮০ ০১২৫২১৫ ০৩৪৭৬৬৯ ০৬৯১৯৭৩ ০৭৯৮১০৪ ০৮৮৬৬৯৩ ০১৫৮০৬৩ ০৩৫৬৯২৩ ০৬৯৭৫২৭ ০৮০৯২৬৫ ০৯০৩৮০৬ ০১৭৫৮৮৫ ০৩৭২১৫৪ ০৭১৬৬৬২ ০৮২১৬৩৯ ০৯৫৩৮২৭ ০২৩৬৫০৩ ০৪৪৭৯৫৭ ০৭২০৭২৯ ০৮৩৩৪৭১ ০৯৯৩২৯১ ০২৭৬২৪৮ ০৪৭৪২০২ ০৭৬৮৩৯৫ ০৮৫১৪০৯ ০৯৯৮২০৭

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