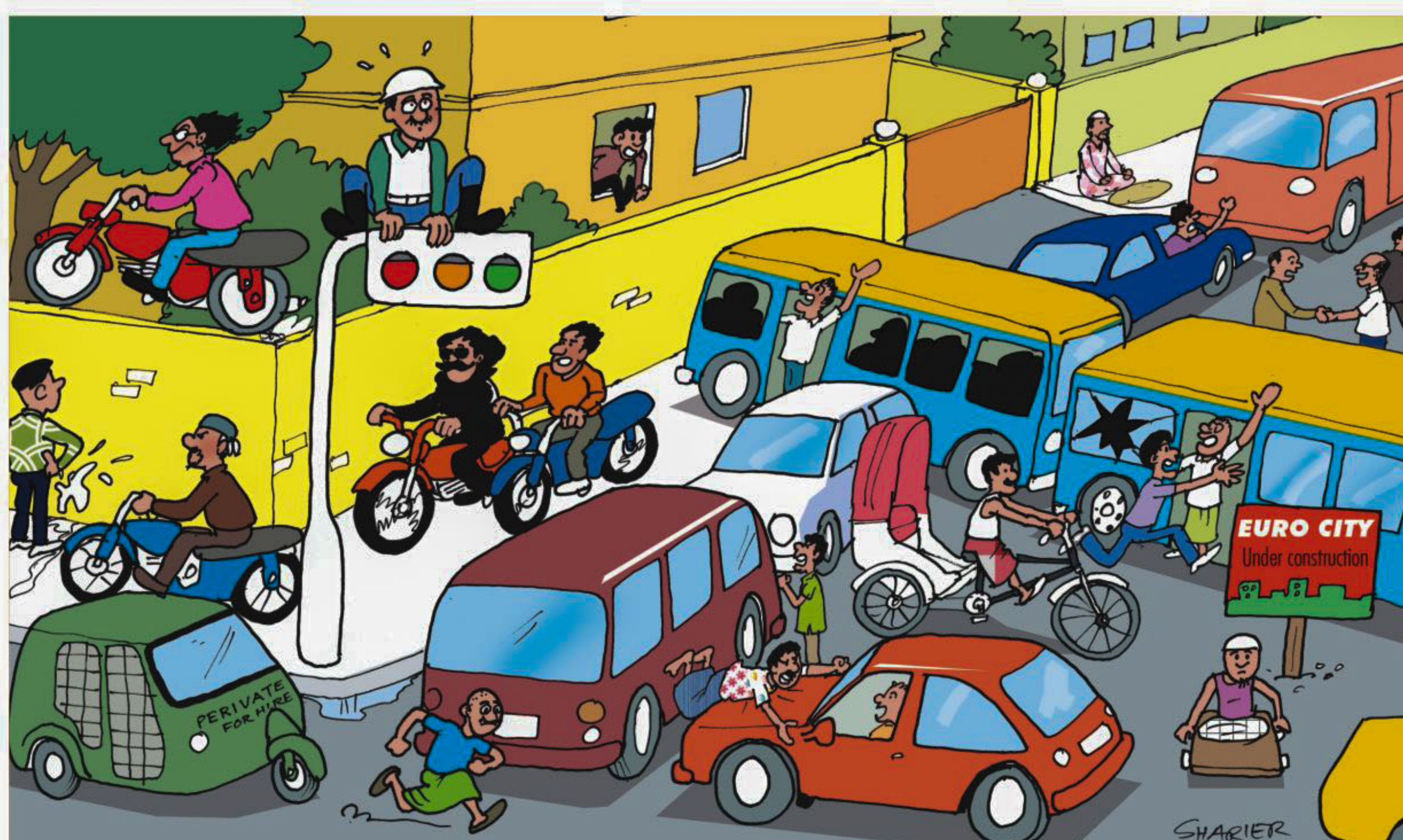


# RED MEANS GO, GREEN MEANS STOP

An incomplete guide for new drivers on Dhaka's streets



SHARIER KHAN

If you are learning to drive in Dhaka, do not waste time reading about traffic rules. Dhaka has its own unique unspoken rules for its streets. Learning written rules or driving properly will not save you from getting hit by someone else or hitting something while driving. Here are some incomplete rules:

First, red means go, green means stop. Orange means nothing. Please do not follow the signal lights to risk your dear life. To understand when to cross an intersection, the safest way is to follow any bus. Buses and minibuses set the rule.

Second, use the footpaths if you are riding a bike (optionally car). Using the footpaths for just walking is a sheer waste of space, so feel free. If you are a pedestrian, please use the road to walk at any direction you like. If you are lucky, some bus will hit you and send you to your destination faster than light.

Third, do not stop your motorcycle or car below the window of any bus or mini-

bus. If you are compelled to stop by a bus, say at a traffic signal, keep an umbrella handy. Invariably, there will be a few bus passengers who'd like to throw up their delicacies through the window and drench you/your vehicle.

In case you are a medical student in such a situation: you can challenge yourself to

**...if you are a bus driver -- you are the ultimate Guru; the king of kings and your bus is the lord of the ring. You set the rule.**

determine when the food was taken before being thrown up by judging how much of it had been digested and what he/she had eaten.

Fourth, watch out for minibuses and motorcycles. The minibuses are out to kill you and the motorcycles are dying to get smashed by your car.

Fifth, you can always put the motorcyclists at fault when you have an accident with them. Even when you are at fault, you will find bigger faults with them like: his cellphone is sticking out of his helmet by his ear, meaning he was talking while riding; he came from the wrong direction through a red light; half of his bike is still on the footpath over which he was taking a shortcut; the bike rider is not a human being; his bike has no brakes, lights, fuel or even an engine etc.

Sixth, if you are a motorcyclist, you are the biggest winner next to a minibus driver in this city. No law, natural or manmade, is applicable for you. As long as you are driving a motorbike, you can defy gravity, you can fly and you can even date Marilyn Monroe by reviving her from the grave. But watch out for those minibuses.

Seventh, if you are a bus driver -- you are the ultimate Guru; the king of kings and your bus is the lord of the ring. You set the rule. You decide where to stop your bus to pick or drop a passenger. You decide who lives or who dies on the streets

of Dhaka. You can stop one million other vehicles behind you when you wish to stop your vehicle sideways. Don't be afraid of the traffic police, because Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan will personally protect you.

Finally, watch out for jaywalkers. Unlike other city streets of the world where young punks indulge in street racing using sports cars, Dhaka hosts cross-street racing using jaywalkers (punks of all ages and genders). They race just below foot bridges or underpasses and if you, stuck by a flood of jaywalkers at a crossing where you waited for a signal for 10 minutes, honk at them, they will snap back at you threateningly waving whatever they are carrying with them.

Please be sympathetic towards the traffic police. I once asked a traffic police why he did not say anything to a driver who had just disobeyed his signal and gone in the wrong way, his reply was, "I am afraid! You never know who he is."

Yes, the final word is -- in Dhaka, everyone except you, is someone above the law.

## NEWS IN brief

### Rab seeks fresh remand for Barrister Shakila

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg  
Rapid Action Battalion sought a four-day fresh remand for Barrister Shakila Farzana, arrested allegedly for her involvement in financing a militant outfit, Shaheed Hamja Brigade, but the Chittagong court did not give any order after hearing the petition.

After hearing the petition, the court sent Farzana to jail, said Chittagong district public prosecutor Abul Hashem.

Court Inspector AHM Moshir Rahman said the court could not finish the hearing on the remand prayer as the

### Another prisoner flees from custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg  
A prisoner escaped from police custody in Chittagong Court Building area yesterday.

The fugitive Mir Hossain alias Sujan, 21, of Mirsarai upazila, was produced before the court in connection with a robbery case.

Sujan fled away when police unclipped his handcuffs to put him into a prison van, said court Inspector AHM Moshir Rahman.

Police were conducting drives at Chittagong court building and its adjacent areas to arrest him, the court inspector added.


### Man who escaped police custody arrested in Habiganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar  
A fugitive was arrested in Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj early yesterday, a day after he escaped from police custody at MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital in Sylhet city.

Samad Rabbani, 26, an accused in a case filed under women and children repression prevention act, escaped through the ventilation point of a bathroom two days after he underwent an appendectomy surgery.

Process to bring back Samad to Sylhet central jail from Madhabpur police custody is underway, said Sagir Mia, superintendent of Sylhet Central Jail.

### Obituary


STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
  
Md Ashrafal Haque, project director for Ghorashal Power Plant Unit-6, died of a cardiac arrest on Sunday night. He was 56.

He left behind his wife and three daughters, said a press release.

He was buried in the capital's Azimpur graveyard following his namaz-e-janaza at WAPDA Bhaban after Zohr prayers.


Bangladesh Power Development Board Chairman KM Hasan has condoled the death.

### Death anniversary of Justice Ibrahim

CITY DESK  
  
Today is the 49th death anniversary of Justice Mohammed Ibrahim.

On this occasion, a milad mahfil will be held in the morning, food will be distributed among the destitute and wreaths will be placed at his grave in Azimpur.

### Death anniversary of Mukundalal

CITY DESK  
  
Today is the 36th death anniversary of Mukundalal Sarker, a prominent leader of anti-British movement and a freedom fighter.

Special prayers will be offered and a discussion will be held in the evening at the residence of his second son columnist Manindra Nath Sarker in Dhanmondi (Flat 5/C, House 71, Road 15/A, Dhaka). All well-wishers have been requested to attend the events.

Mukundalal was very close to Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq, Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani and Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He established several colleges, high schools and primary schools in Gopalganj and Khulna.



A man riding on a van with a woman and her child smokes unrepentantly despite the child repeatedly asking him not to, making her and other passengers victims of passive smoking. The photo was taken at Moghbazar in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

### 'GRABBING OF JATRABARI CANAL' HC summons 2 DSCC ward councillors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The High Court yesterday summoned two ward councillors of Dhaka South City Corporation on charges of constructing their offices by grabbing the land of Deb Dholai canal in Jatrabari.

Kazi Habibur Rahman and Delwar Hossain of ward no-50 and 51 respectively must appear on November 1 with explanation. The court issued the order after hearing a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Manzill Murshid on behalf of Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh. It asked the authorities concerned to stop the encroachment immediately and to submit a compliance report in two weeks, and also issued a rule upon them to explain in four weeks why their inaction should not be declared illegal.

### Pro-AL teachers sweep JU senate

JU CORRESPONDENT  
Pro-Awami League Bangabandhu Adarsha o Muktiyuddhar Chatonai Biswasi Progotisil Shikhhok Somaj Panel swept the teachers' representative election of Jahangirnagar University senate on Sunday, bagging 25 out of 33 posts.

Pro-BNP Sommillito Shikhhok Somaj panel, and a faction of another pro-AL panel got the rest.

Prof AA Mamun of Sommillito Shikhhok Somaj panel secured the highest number of votes (281) while Prof Rasheda Akhter of the other panel got 265 votes.

JU students have also long been demanding for Jucsu polls, which was last held in 1992, election of registered graduates to senate, which was last held in 1997.

### Moyna wanted

FROM PAGE 3  
against Rajon is completely false. In fact, one of the 13 accused, security guard Moyna Mia wanted to "rape" Rajon but failing to fulfill his desire, Moyna started beating Rajon.

Yesterday, four more witnesses were testified before a Sylhet court.

### Persecution

FROM PAGE 4  
study, the living standard and salary of the majority of journalists in Bangladesh are very poor. Their ethical standard is very poor too, he mentioned.

The ICT law is necessary for protecting privacy and preventing abuse of women and children but it too has loopholes which need to be addressed.

The department's Chairperson Prof Shafiul Alam Bhuiyan said at press-journalism in Bangladesh is mainly dealing with three issues -- contempt of court, section 57 of ICT Law (Amended) and vibrant social media and these sectors need to be addressed properly for the safety of journalists and freedom of expression.

Prof Tazul Islam, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science of AIUB, also spoke.

### 7 charges framed

FROM PAGE 3  
ing of Fazlur Rahman of Atkapara on August 23; killing of Pares Chandra Sarkar of Ramnagar on September 7; torture and killing of Abu Bakar Siddique and Rapali Miah on August 25; and arson and vandalism in Atkapara on September 15.

Meanwhile, the tribunal granted a prosecution's petition allowing the investigators to interrogate five war crimes accused from Patuakhali at its Dhanmondi safe home.

Prosecutor Rezia Sultana Chaman said each person needs to be interrogated for one day separately. The accused are Esaahq Shikder, Abdul Goni Hawlader, Md Awal alias Awal Moulavi, Abdus Sattar Pyada and Solaiman Mridha of Patuakhali sadar upazila. The tribunal showed them arrested in the war crimes case on October 1. They were arrested earlier in another criminal case.

### Agitators brave rain

FROM PAGE 3  
behalf of the agitators, announced they would hold a sit-in at the Shaheed Minar in the morning today and then bring out a procession to Jatiya Press Club where they would form a human chain.

"A three member team of the demonstrators held a meeting with some high officials including lawmakers and former ministers,

but failed to reach a conclusion," said one Ashraf Kamal, claiming to be a representative of the parents. He refused disclosing with whom and where the meeting was held.

A group of students joined the demo at the Bhasorjo demanding withdrawal of the decision of Dhaka University's Institute of Business Administration from this year to allow each student to sit for the admission test only once.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY WITH

## The Daily Star

The Daily Star, the leading English Daily Newspaper in the country is seeking qualified individual for the following position:

### Sub-Editor (Online)

**Job responsibilities:**  
The incumbent will work as a member of the Online team and basic duties of the job profile include the following:  

- Editing copies to correct spelling mistakes and grammatical errors;
- Rewriting copies for better readability;
- Checking facts to ensure that they are accurate and not libellous;
- Writing headlines and standfirsts that capture the essence of the stories

**Education:**  
University degree preferably in Journalism/English.

**Skills:**  

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- Linguistic accuracy
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Email application to:  
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N.B: The position must be clearly mentioned on the email subject line.

**Application Deadline: October 22, 2015**