

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

**DHAKA**  
H 31.2 | L 22.4

**CHITTAGONG**  
H 31.5 | L 22.8

**SYLHET**  
H 31.2 | L 20.6

**RAJSHAHI**  
H 32.8 | L 21.5

**KHULNA**  
H 32.5 | L 22.3

**BARISAL**  
H 31.1 | L 21.2

**RANGPUR**  
H 30.4 | L 20.0

**COX'S BAZAR**  
H 32.4 | L 24.0

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:17pm and rises tomorrow at 6:08am. Country's highest temperature 32.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 18.4 in Syedpur.

**GRAFT CASE**  
**Statements of 2 more recorded in Khaleda's absence**  
COURT CORRESPONDENT



A Dhaka court yesterday recorded statements of two more prosecution witnesses in Zia Charitable Trust graft case in the absence of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia. The witnesses are AFM Jahangir Hussain, managing director of Metro Makers Ltd, and Mainul Imran Chowdhury, deputy managing director of the same company. Judge Abu Ahmed Jomadar of the Special Judge Court-3 recorded statements of the witnesses, and later the court fixed November 12 for next hearing of the case.

Earlier in the day, Abdur Rezak Khan, one of the counsels for Khaleda, completed cross-examination of prosecution witness Mesbahul Haque, former official of Sonali Bank's Prime Minister Office branch.

A total of 18 prosecution witnesses, including complainant of the case, have so far testified before the makeshift court at Bakshibazar in the capital.

Prior to that, another lawyer, Sanaullah Miah, filed two petitions, saying that the BNP chief went to London for treatment and that they wanted to cross-examine the witnesses in her presence on the next scheduled date. He filed two more petitions over Khaleda's non-appearance.

According to the charge sheet in the Zia Charitable Trust case, Khaleda and three others abused power to collect Tk 6.19 crore for the trust during the BNP-led government's tenure between 1991 and 1996.



Garbage dumped by locals slowly choke and turn this canal into a sewer by the sluice gate at Rayer Bazar in the capital, which helps to drain out water from Jigatola, Mohammadpur and Hazaribagh areas. The photo was taken on Wednesday noon.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

**RMG official stabbed to death, worker arrested**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A management staff of a garment factory was stabbed to death in Gazipur's Tongi on Wednesday night.

The victim, Saiful Islam, 40, of Pagar Jhinu Market area, was assistant production manager of Jaber and Jobaer Spinning Mills Ltd in Tongi.

Police arrested Biplob, 28, a worker of the factory, in this connection.

Police said several workers, including Biplob, of the factory, were terminated three days ago with the recommendation of Saiful. The sacked workers might have killed him while he was returning home from office, said police.

**DIPAN MURDER**

**Coffin procession seeks home boss' resignation**  
*Gonojagoron Mancha will stage rally today*

DU CORRESPONDENT

A faction of Gonojagoron Mancha yesterday demanded resignation of Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal over his failure to arrest the killers of freethinker bloggers, writers and a publisher, including Dipan.

Activists of the mancha led by Imran H Sarker made the demand while moving towards the home ministry with six symbolic coffins covered with national flags.

They also demanded a ban on religion-based politics in the country.

Five of the coffins symbolised Avijit Roy, Oyasiquir Rahman Babu, Ananta Bijoy Das, Niladri Chattapadhyay and Dipan while the remaining one symbolised another freethinker for whom they are ready to bring out another procession.

Their way, however, was barred by police near Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Later, five people, including Imran, on behalf of the platform, met the minister in his office and submitted a memorandum demanding arrest of the perpetrators.

After the meeting, Imran told journalists that such killings proved that the "government is patronising militants".

Replying to a query, he said the home minister assured them of arresting the attackers but could not give any deadline.

Earlier in the morning, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal formed a human chain in front of the National Museum at Shabbagh in protest against the murders.

Gonojagoron Mancha will stage a solidarity rally of freethinkers at 3:00pm today at Shabbagh.

Jagriti Prakashani publisher Faisal Arefin Dipan was stabbed to death at Shabbagh's

**Extremism may rise in country with no democracy**

Says BNP STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Extremism may rise in the country in the absence of democracy and rule of law, said BNP yesterday.

BNP Spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon was speaking at a doa mahfil organised at the BNP's central office in the capital for Faisal Arefin Dipan, publisher and owner of Jagriti and a vice president of Zia Memorial Library.

Ripon, also an international affairs secretary of BNP, called upon the government to work with all political parties to tackle the present crisis.

In another programme at Jatiya Press Club, BNP Vice Chairman Abdulla Al Noman said family members of Dipan and Avijit do

**Root out zealots for secularism**

Urge eminent citizens at convention STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent citizens yesterday called upon community-based organisations around the country to gather strength to establish secularism and communal harmony by wiping out religious fanatics.

"Those attacking people from behind are a bunch of cowards. We will take them head-on," said Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled, a former Bangladesh Bank deputy governor. The citizens were addressing a "motivational session" of a two-day National Convention of Community Based Organisations arranged by Oxfam and its associate organisations in the capital's Krishibid Institution Bangladesh.

Over 500 people, mostly women, participated in the convention aiming for the development of poor and marginalised people.

Khondkar opined that the issue of giving due value to the labour put in by women should be addressed and urged people to stand beside their neighbours to give them confidence.

Ain o Salish Kendra Executive Director Sultana Kamal appreciated the activities of community-based organisations. Pointing at the recent killings and attacks, she said, "Some people want to loot Bangladesh. We are 16 crore

**Field-level officials urged to post positive aspects of govt on Facebook**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet division has advised field-level public servants to share on Facebook items on invention and showcasing positive aspects of the government instead of irrelevant and personal matters.

In a circular to all divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, and upazila nirbahi officers on October 28, the cabinet division observed that some field-level officials have been sharing personal matters on Facebook, which are not relevant to their work.

It also observed that those posts do not go with the image of the administration.

A coordination meeting with field-level officials last month, the cabinet division

**KIBRIA KILLING**  
**Two more testify**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar



Two more witnesses testified before a Sylhet court yesterday in the Kibria murder case.

Judge Makbul Ahsan of Sylhet Speedy Trial Tribunal recorded the statements of Abdur Rouf and Irfan Ali, of Habiganj, for the third day, said Kishore Kumar Kar, public prosecutor of the tribunal.

On October 21, three people, Abdul Motin, Abdul Kayum and Iman Ali gave their testimonies.

Habiganj district Awami League general secretary Abdul Majid Khan MP testified on September 30, SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

**Four die in road accidents**

CITY DESK

Four people were killed and five others injured in road accidents in three districts yesterday and on Wednesday.

In Mymensingh Sadar, Kutub Uddin, 60, a freedom fighter hailing from Kishoreganj, was killed and four people were injured when a truck collided head-on with a CNG-run auto-rickshaw at Char Puliamari on Mymensingh-Kishoreganj road yesterday.

Protesting the incident, locals put a barricade on the road disrupting vehicular movement for an hour.

In Chittagong, a covered-van driver Tofail Ahmed, 45, of Noakhali was killed and his helper injured in a head-on collision between the van and another vehicle on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Mirsharai upazila yesterday.

In Sitakunda upazila, Sumon, 23, of Noakhali was killed when a bus skidded off the highway and plunged into a road-side ditch as the driver lost control over the vehicle yesterday.

In Dinajpur, Badal Hossain, 40, of Noldighi village was killed when a pick-up van hit his bicycle on Biral-Bochaganj road in Biral upazila on Wednesday night. SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

**2 students held over cheating in CU entry test**

CU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested two university students in Chittagong University area and the district's Hathazari upazila in connection with cheating in a CU admission test.

They are Md Kamrul Islam, a student of the Institute of Education and Research of Dhaka University, and Md Imran Hossain, a first year student of the anthropology department of CU, said police.

Imran was caught red-handed in CU area while he was supplying answers to some admission seekers from a mobile phone via SMS during yesterday's admission test of the law faculty, said Naimul Hasan, additional superintendent of police (Special Branch) SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Chunks of concrete have fallen off this foot bridge in front of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh while in some parts left hanging, revealing metal frames inside and posing a risk to those using it or passing underneath while the city corporation apparently remains oblivious. The photo was taken yesterday noon.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



A boat race on the river Modhumoti at Elangkhal Ghat in Mohammadpur upazila of Magura yesterday. Around 12 boats from five districts participated in the competition organised by District Sports Council.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

**KISHOREGANJ WAR CRIMES TRIAL**  
**5 'Razakars' linked to 9 murders**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The third and fourth prosecution witnesses, like the first two, in a war crimes case yesterday linked the five alleged Razakars of Kishoreganj to the killings of at least nine people during synchronised attacks on four villages under the then sub-division on November 12 and 13 during the Liberation War in 1971.

Golam Mostafa and Mohammad

Akkas, like Mehedi-ul Alam, a freedom fighter, and Adam Ali, son of a victim, gave similar descriptions to International Crimes Tribunal-1.

Meanwhile, the tribunal rejected a bail petition sought on grounds of poor health by Shamsuddin Ahmed, 60, an alleged Razakar, and asked the jail authorities to ensure his proper treatment.

The remaining accused -- Gazi Abdul

Mannan, 88, the alleged commander of Karimganj Razakar camp, and alleged Razakar members Nasiruddin Ahmed, 62, Hafiz Uddin, 66, and Azharul Islam, 60--are on the run.

Mostafa said Karimganj Razakar Bahini was formed under the leadership of Gazi and the rest joined it after the Pakistani occupation army entered Kishoreganj on April 19 and Karimganj the next day.

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