

Man 'kills' his child over family feud

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man allegedly killed his two-and-a-half-month-old son following a family feud in Kaliakoir of Gazipur yesterday.

Khadiza Begum, mother of the victim Arafat Hossain alias Sunny, filed a murder case against her husband Jahangir Alam, 28. The couple lived in a rented house in Sakaswar area of Kaliakoir.

Police said Jahangir of Mymensingh had been having a feud with his wife Khadiza for quite some time.

On Saturday night, Kadiza fell asleep after feeding her child. The next morning she found her son dead, said police.

On suspicion, locals detained Khadiza and Jahangir and handed them over to police. Police said Jahangir confessed to the killing.



Family, friends and well wishers attend the qulkhwani of Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain at his Gulshan residence after Asr prayers yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Qulkhwani of Faraaz held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain, one of the 22 victims killed in the Gulshan terrorist attack, represented values that made his family and relatives proud, his grandfather and Transcom Group Chairman Latifur Rahman said yesterday.



"He represented the true narrative of Islam. So we are extremely proud of him. He also elevated the dignity of Bangladesh," he told the qulkhwani of Faraaz at his residence in Gulshan after Asr prayers.

Faraaz, 20, along with his friends -- Indian national Tarishi Jain, a student of the University of California, Berkeley, and Abinta Kabir, a Bangladeshi American -- was in the Holy Artisan Bakery on July 1 evening when armed militants stormed the restaurant and held people hostages.

Abinta, daughter of Ruba Ahmed, chairman of Elegant Group, and Faraaz were students at Emory University in Atlanta, and had come to Bangladesh during their summer holiday.

During the attack, militants had let Faraaz go, but not Abinta and Tarishi, but Faraaz refused to leave his friends behind and was eventually killed along with his friends and nine Italian and seven Japanese citizens inside the restaurant.

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All parties need to sit together: Ershad

UNB, Rangpur



Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad yesterday urged the government to take an initiative for forging national unity to eliminate militancy, terrorism and extremism from the country.

Talking to journalists at his Palli Nibas residence in Rangpur, he said it was the government's responsibility to take up the initiative and blamed the failure of intelligence agencies for the July 1 terrorist attack at Gulshan's Holy Artisan Bakery.

"All parties need to sit together. It will send out a message to the global community that the country's political parties are united over the militancy issue," he said.

Accusing the government of failing to suppress extremism, he said youths were getting involved in militancy for a lack of job opportunities.

Ershad urged the prime minister to remove members of the intelligence agencies who were negligent in carrying out their duties. He said the government must work out effective ways to fight militants and urged taking proper steps for ensuring security for foreigners.

The former military ruler feared that the Gulshan attack may affect the country's economy as foreigners "lost confidence in the country's security measures".

He also called upon the guardians to remain aware of

SHUJAN denounces terror attacks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing deep condolences and anger over the brutal murder of foreigners, Bangladeshis and law enforcement agencies' members in the recent militant attacks at Gulshan and Sholakia, civil society platform Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (SHUJAN) has called for a national unity against the threat of militancy in the country.

"The attacks at Gulshan and Sholakia, among the militant attacks and deaths across the country, have pushed Bangladesh into a new chapter of militancy," it said in a written statement.

"The expansion of this radicalism and militancy is not any isolated incident rather these are politically motivated, well planned

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BNP calls for unity again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Accusing the government of failing to take visible and appropriate steps towards eliminating extremism, BNP yesterday alleged that the administration was busy implementing "its old plan" to annihilate political opponents.

The government's activities demonstrate it was deliberately trying to keep alive the evil forces of militants to cling on to power and establish a one-party rule, said BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed.

Expressing frustration at a press briefing at BNP's Nayapaltna central office in the capital, he said Bangladesh seems to have turned into a "breeding farm" of terrorism as killings, bloodbaths and violence were occurring all over the country.

He reiterated BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's call for national unity to tackle militancy. "Extremists will raise their heads by any means if the culture of annihilation, destruction, division and conflict continues in politics," he said.

He also accused police of killing a BNP leader of Sathkira, Waliullah, after arresting him from a bus at Debhata Parulia on Saturday.

Unite against militancy

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad urges all

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Women's rights activists yesterday said the nation should take lesson from young Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain who had sacrificed his life for friends during the militant attacks at Gulshan's Holy Artisan Bakery on July 1.

"Not just to save ourselves, at the time of necessity we should remain prepared to sacrifice our lives to save friendship, democracy and the interest of state. He [Faraaz] taught us that public interest and country's interest come above all," said Ayesha Khanam, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP).

She said this while paying condolences to the bereaved family members of the victims' of the recent militant attacks at the Gulshan café and Kishoreganj.

Khanam was addressing a protest rally organised by BMP at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

She called for the leaders of different platforms to be united in fighting militancy. "We're shocked but not frightened," she added.

"On behalf of the women community of Bangladesh we want to say that along with parents, teachers too have duties to oversee how youths are growing up and what kind of education are being given to them," she stressed.

The rights activists also lit candles as a symbol of dispelling all kinds of

Machete-wielding youths 'attempt to kill' Hindu woman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Machete-wielding attackers allegedly attempted to kill a Hindu woman in Padma residential area of Rajshahi city yesterday morning.

A woman was waylaid by two muggers who ran away after locals raised alarm, said Iftekhar Alam, assistant commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.

Talking to The Daily Star, the 60-year-old, also a retired general manager of a bank, said two miscreants on a motorbike, one wearing a yellow panjabi and the other in a t-shirt intercepted her while she was out for a morning walk with three other women of the area.

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NIKO GRAFT CASE Hearing of Khaleda's plea on July 31

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



The Supreme Court yesterday fixed July 31 for hearing a leave-to-appeal petition filed by

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia seeking a stay on the trial proceedings of Niko corruption case against her.

Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division of the SC Justice Hasan Foez Siddique fixed the date for hearing the petition at the full bench of the apex court.

Khaleda filed the petition last year challenging a High Court verdict that had cleared the way for running the trial proceedings of Niko graft case, SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Newborn rescued from dustbin awaits a lap



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A newborn, rescued from a dustbin near the capital's Badda Post Office yesterday morning, is still waiting for a home at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Hearing screams, locals found the infant, wrapped in polythene, inside the dustbin around 10:30am and informed police, said Abdul Jalil, officer-in-charge of Badda Police Station.

Cops, with the help of a local woman, rescued the newborn and hospitalised the baby at the neonatal unit of DMCH around 1:30pm, he added. "We are trying to identify the parents," the OC said.

DMCH Deputy Director Khawaja Abdul Gafur told The Daily Star that the hospital authorities are providing treatment to the infant who is two-three days old and weighs around 2.8kg. "With some infections of jaundice, the infant is undergoing treatment. But the baby is now out of danger," he said.

BIHARI CAMP EVICTION DRIVE SC orders halt for four weeks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to maintain status quo for four weeks on the possession of lands used for 70 Bihari camps across the country, where stranded Urdu-speaking Pakistanis live.

The apex court also ordered to maintain status quo on the supply of electricity at the camps for the same period.

Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division of the SC Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order following two separate petitions filed by the Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee.

Sayed Ahmed Raza, a lawyer for the petitioners, told The Daily Star that SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Holding lit candles as a symbol of dispelling all kinds of ignorance, misbelieve and fanaticism, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad forms a human chain before Jatiya Press Club yesterday. PHOTO: STAR



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receives annual reports of different departments under Prime Minister's Office (PMO) at her office in the capital yesterday. PHOTO: PID

Humiliated N'ganj teacher joins school

Welcomed by colleagues

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Returning to work yesterday under police escort following nearly two months of sick leave, a Narayanganj school's headmaster who was humiliated in public in presence of an MP expressed his happiness on being welcomed by colleagues, saying forces of good triumphed over that of evil.

On May 13, Shyamal Kanti Bhakta was physically assaulted by a mob over allegations that he made derogatory comments about religion while beating a student in Piyyar Sattar Latif High School in Bandar area.

Salim Osman, Jatiya Party lawmaker from Narayanganj-5, was then seen making Shyamal hold his ears and do squats in public, sparking outrage across the country.

The High Court on May 18 issued a rule seeking to know what steps have been taken against the perpetrators. On May 29, it expressed dissatisfaction over the district administration and police's reports and ordered submission of fresh ones.

A probe committee of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education found no basis of the allegations against Shyamal. The headmaster was reinstated and the school managing committee dissolved. Shyamal who was undergoing treatment in Dhaka returned to his house at Khanpur on Saturday.

Indian citizen arrested for overstaying

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police in Chittagong city yesterday afternoon arrested an Indian citizen near Laldighi petrol pump for illegally staying in the country.

The arrestee Ranadir Das Gupta, 54, of West Bengal came to Bangladesh in 1995 on a tourist visa but did not return, said police.

Ranadir, a resident of South Kunjari area, was an accused in a case filed over a clash with his cousin, a Bangladeshi resident, said Mostak Ahmed, sub-inspector of Boalkhali Police Station.

Process of filing a case was underway, he added.

MITU MURDER 'Arms supplier, aide' remanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday granted a three-day remand each for the two accused in a case filed over possessing arms used in the murder of Mahmuda Khanam Mitu, wife of Superintendent of Police Babul Akter.

They are Ehteshamul Haque, alias Haniful Haque alias Bhola, 41, of the city and Monir Hossain alias Manir, 28, of Comilla.

Police said following confessional statement of Bhola who was arrested on June 27, they arrested Monir who hid Bhola's weapons. Later, police recovered one pistol, one revolver and six bullets from Monir's house, said Detective Branch's Assistant Commissioner Kamruzzaman, also the investigation officer of the murder case. An arms case was lodged against the duo, he said, adding that Bhola was also shown arrested in Mitu murder case as he supplied arms for the killing.

"Bhola is an enlisted arms supplier and Monir is his associate. We need to interrogate them to know whether they had kept more arms in their possessions. So we sought a ten-day remand," said Sub-inspector Mohimuddin, the IO of the arms case. On June 5, assailants stabbed and shot Mitu dead in the port city.