

HOLEY ARTISAN ATTACKERS



Nibras Islam Rohan Imtiaz Mubasheer Khairul Islam Payel Uzzal

KALAYANPUR MILLITANTS



Shazad Jubayer Rashik



Atiquzzaman Abdullah Nayeem Motiar

Families not taking bodies

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an end to the siege in the morning, killing the five.
Bodies of the nine Kalyanpur militants killed on July 26 are preserved at the Dhaka Medical College morgue.
Verifying their fingerprints with those in the Election Commission's database, police identified eight of them as Abdullah, Abu Hakim Nayeem, Taj-ul-Haque Rashik,

Atiquzzaman Khan, Shazad Rouf Arko, Md Motiar Rahman, Md Jubayer Hossain, Raihan Kabir.
Except for Shazad's father, Tawhid Rouf, and his two relatives, no one visited the DMC morgue to identify the bodies kept there after autopsies.
However, Tawhid could not confirm his son's body, saying they are confused, doctors said.

Sohel Mahmud, assistant professor of forensic medicine department of DMC, said no decision has yet been made on what to do with the bodies and that the authorities concerned would make the decision.
A top DMP official said the bodies would be handed over to their relatives, if they claim those, after DNA matching.

PKK militants try to storm Turkey military base

Eight troops, 35 intruders killed

REUTERS, Diyarbakir
Turkey's army killed 35 Kurdish militants after they attempted to storm a base in the southeastern Hakkari province early yesterday, military officials said.
The overnight attack came hours after clashes in Hakkari's Cukurca district between soldiers and militants from the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) that left eight soldiers dead, the officials said.

The militants attempted to take the base in three different groups, but were spotted by aerial reconnaissance. An air operation was launched, killing 23 of them, the officials said.

Four more were then killed in a ground operation, they said. The remaining eight were killed in clashes in Hakkari's Cukurca district.

Friday's clashes in Cukurca also left 25 soldiers wounded, the officials said.
Turkey's military - NATO's second-largest - is grappling with the insurgency in the mainly Kurdish south-east as its senior ranks undergo a major shake-up in following a July 15-16 coup attempt.

On Thursday, Turkey announced an overhaul of the armed forces, with 99 colonels promoted to the rank of general or admiral and nearly 1,700 military personnel given dishonourable discharges over their alleged roles in the coup.

About 40 percent of all generals and admirals in the military have been dismissed since the coup.

In the southeast, the military has frequently carried out air strikes after a 2 1/2-year ceasefire and peace process between the government and the PKK broke down last summer.

150 organisations

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parents' surveillance on their children and public awareness on militancy are very crucial to fight the curse.

The enquiry commission's member Shyamoli Nasrin Chowdhury called for government's effective steps to cut all financial support to Jamaat and its like-minded organisations.

The enquiry commission chairman Justice Syed Amirul Islam chaired the programme, while several members of the commission and Ekattorer Ghatk Dalal Ghatk Nirmul Committee members, among others, spoke.

The "white paper" also placed its 19 recommendations to combat terrorism in Bangladesh.

The recommendations include banning all activities of Jamaat-e-Islam and ensuring the organisation's trial for crimes against humanity committed in 1971, formation of national minority commission to protect minorities' rights, stopping hate speeches against any religion, stopping political activities in all madrasas, and recruitment of at least 1 lakh more police members.

France church attackers 'smiled' during attack

AFP, Rennes
One of the jihadists who murdered an elderly French priest smiled as he carried out the attack, and nuns who witnessed the grisly murder said the killers spoke about the Koran.
The two nuns who were in the church when Father Jacques Hamel was killed, his throat slit on the altar, said the men appeared aggressive and nervous during the attack at the Eglise Saint-Etienne in Normandy on July 26.
Then, one of the attackers seemed pleased.
"I got a smile from the second (man). Not a smile of triumph, but a soft smile, that of someone who is

happy," nun Sister Huguette Peron told Catholic newspaper La Vie on Friday.
Abdel Malik Petitjean and Adel Kermiche, both 19, had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group and both were killed by police in the shock attack.
The men stormed the 17th-century stone church during mass in the town of Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, taking several hostages before killing the priest and seriously wounding another captive.
One nun fled the scene and alerted the police, leaving Sister Huguette and Sister Helene Decaux, both in their 80s, in the church with the jihadists.

Fresh areas inundated

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Kurigram, Nilphamari, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Sunamganj, Jamalpur, Faridpur, Rajbari, Tangail, Madaripur, Shariatpur, Manikganj and Rajshahi, the ministry sources said.
Addressing a press briefing at the Department of Disaster Management yesterday, Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya said the government had taken early precautionary measures apprehending that 18 to 21 districts are likely to be affected by floods, reports BSS.

The government has already released Tk 5.50 crore, 13,000 tonnes of rice, 13,000 packets of dry food for the flood-affected, he said.

Our correspondent reported that flood situation worsened in different districts including Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Manikganj and Munshiganj.

Jahurul Islam, station master of Jamalpur Railway Station, said rail communications on Jamalpur-Dewanganj route will remain suspended until the authorities declare the tracks fit for train operation.

Two landing stations at Daulatdia ferry terminal got washed away due to the Padma erosion, said Shaful Islam, manager (commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC), at Daulatdia office.

The erosion disrupted ferry movement on Paturia-Daulatdia route and caused tailbacks on both sides of the river. Several hundred vehicles including goods-laden trucks were seen lined up yesterday noon, reports our Manikganj correspondent.

Two other terminals have become vulnerable to erosion.
Strong currents forced ferries to take twice the usual time to make a trip on Shimulia-Kaorakandi route, said BIWTC officials.

Over 30 primary schools in Faridpur have been inundated in flood water with regular activities in the schools disrupted.

Shivapada Dey, district primary education officer, said 17 of the schools are in Sadarpur upazila, 11 in

Charvadrashon and four in Faridpur Sadar upazila.

In Gaibandha, seven-month-old Ujjal Mia, son of Wazed Ali of Purba Khatiamari village of Fulchhari, drowned in flood water after falling from bed on Thursday night, reports our correspondent quoting locals.

Vast areas of five unions in Fulchhari and Gaibandha Sadar were inundated afresh on Friday night after a breach in the 300-metre flood control dyke along the river Jamuna at Singria in Fulchhari.

A bridge at Hajirhat on Ratanpur-Badiakhali road collapsed due to onrush of water through the breach of the dyke at Singria. Roads got submerged, communication disrupted.

"I could not save anything from erosion. I just fled home with my children," said Sakhina Begum, a housewife at a cluster village in Chandaneswar of Fulchhari.

In Kurigram, Shathi, aged 12, daughter of Mojibur Rahman of Chhatrapur village under Sadar upazila, died on Friday.

Khadiza, 17, daughter of Solaiman Ali of Hasnabad union under Nageswari upazila died yesterday.

Their bodies were found in floodwater near their houses, our Kurigram correspondent reports quoting locals.

In Lalmonirhat, at least 20 thousand farmer families have been affected badly as their Aman paddy and vegetables got damaged in about 25 thousand-bigha land in 120 villages under five upazilas of the district.

Osimuddin, 58, a farmer at Shiberkuti village in Lalmonirhat Sadar, said he cultivated Aman paddy on eight-bigha land, near the river Dharla. Paddy plants on these lands were damaged fully.

In Tangail, over one lakh people at six upazilas have been affected as water levels of the Jamuna and Dhaleshwari rivers increased.

Reports on flood affecting people also came from Chandpur, Sunamganj, Munshiganj, Kurigram and Sirajganj.

AKHAURA-AGARTALA RAIL TRACK Foundation stone to be laid today

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA from New Delhi

The foundation stone for Akhaura-Agartala rail track between Bangladesh and India will be laid today.

Bangladesh Railway Minister Mujibul Haque and his Indian counterpart Suresh Prabhu will jointly lay the foundation stone at a ceremony at Agartala railway station at around 12:30pm (Indian time), an official of India's North Frontier Railway told The Daily Star yesterday.

In January 2010, during Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi, the two neighbouring countries had agreed to lay the 15.54 km-long railway link between Akhaura of Bangladesh and Agartala of India.

The laying of the railway tracks are estimated to be completed by 2017.

A stretch of 10.54 kilometres of the track will be on the Bangladesh side while the rest will be on the Indian side of the border.

Manik Sarkar, Chief Minister of Tripura, Rajen Gohain, state minister for Indian railways and Harshavardhan Sringla, Indian High Commissioner to Dhaka, will also attend the programme.

Acquisition of land for the rail link has already started as funds have been released by federal government of India, said Harpal Singh, chief engineer (construction) of Northeast frontier (NF), Indian Railway.

The Agartala-Akhaura railway route will connect Indian Railways with Bangladesh Railway to improve connectivity and boost trade between the two countries.

Afghan Taliban delegation visits China to discuss unrest: sources

REUTERS, Peshawar

A delegation from the Taliban visited China earlier this month to discuss the situation in Afghanistan, where the insurgent movement is fighting the Western-backed government in Kabul, sources in the Taliban said.

A delegation led by Abbas Stanakzai, head of the Taliban's political office in Qatar, visited Beijing on July 18-22 at the invitation of the Chinese government, a senior member of the Taliban said.

"We have good terms with different countries of the world and China is one among them," said the Taliban official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We informed Chinese officials about the occupation by invading forces and their atrocities on Afghan people," he said. "We wanted the Chinese leadership to help us raise these issues on world forums and help us get freedom from occupying forces."

Missing

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Muhammad Nurul Islam, registrar of the IIUC, said, "He is no more our student."

He remained unregistered for two semesters, the registrar said, adding, if any student remains unregistered for two consecutive semesters, their studentship gets cancelled automatically.

Prof Dr Muhammed Saiful Islam of the department said Sabbirul completed his first two semesters but has been absent since third semester.

In the first two semesters, his average result was CGPA 3.242, he added.

BGMEA unveils

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Roadmap: Targeting US\$ 50 Billion Export by 2021" jointly prepared by the RMIT University of Australia and BGMEA was unveiled in Melbourne, said a BGMEA release yesterday.

Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Home Affairs Tipu Munsif, BGMEA President Siddiqur Rahman, Bangladesh High Commissioner to Australia Kazi Imtiaz Hossain, FBCCI First Vice President Safiul Islam Mahiduddin, Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor of RMIT University Professor Geoff Stokes, BGMEA Senior Vice-President Faruk Hasan, Vice-President Nasir Uddin and RMIT Professor and BGMEA International Affairs Advisor Sharif As-Saber were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the BGMEA president said the roadmap would give important directives towards attaining the Vision-2021.

2 bauls

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Unidentified criminals killed a baul fair organiser in the same district in December last year and attacked an akhra in Meherpur in August 2014.

The baul community in the region has been alleging that police inaction encouraged assailants to carry out attacks one after another.

Two sisters shot dead in Pakistan 'honour' killings

AFP, Lahore

A man killed his two sisters on the eve of their weddings in Pakistan's central Punjab province, police said yesterday, in the latest case of so-called "honour" killings in the country.

Kosar and Gulzar Bibi, aged 22 and 28, were shot dead by 35-year-old brother Nasir Hussain on Friday as they prepared to marry men they had chosen themselves, senior police officer Mehar Riaz told AFP.

Hussain objected to the love matches and had wanted the women to marry someone within the extended family, he added.

"The brother shot dead both the sisters yesterday and fled the site," the officer said, adding that a search was underway.

"It is a simple case of killing for honour," he said.

Father of the family Atta Mohammad told reporters that Hussain had "destroyed everything".

"He ruined my family, he destroyed us, he destroyed everything" Mohammad said.

The murders came days after social media starlet Qandeel Baloch was strangled to death by her brother who said he was "not embarrassed" to have killed her, reigniting calls for action against the crime.

Hundreds of women are murdered by relatives in the conservative Muslim nation each year on the pretext of defending what is seen as family honour.

Pakistan's law minister this month announced that bills aimed at tackling "honour killings" and boosting rape convictions would soon be voted on by parliament, after mounting pressure to tackle a pattern of crime that claims around 1,000 lives a year.

The perpetrators of so-called honour killings -- in which the victim, normally a woman, is killed by a relative -- often walk free because they can seek forgiveness for the crime from another family member.

'I'm taking the gloves off'

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The 68-year-old Democrat portrays Trump as a threat to democracy, and is seeking to both woo moderate Republicans repelled by the former reality TV star and shore up a coalition with progressives on the left of her party.

"Donald Trump painted a picture, a negative, dark, divisive picture of a country in decline," she said.

"I'm not telling you that everything is peachy keen -- I'm telling you we've made progress, but we have work to do."

She promises to focus on parts of the country that have been "left out and left behind" -- constituencies where declining living standards, fears about safety and lost jobs have fueled support for Trump.

Trump, who has never previously held office, portrays himself as the law and order candidate -- the outsider who will shake up an out-of-touch Washington, restore jobs, cut the deficit and end illegal immigration.

"This country, if they choose her, this country will not be in good shape," Trump told ABC News on Friday.

"She doesn't know how to win, she's not a winner," he said in an excerpt of the interview set to air today.

In Colorado, Trump goaded Clinton on her failure to hold a news conference since December and accused her of lying to the FBI over its investigation of her email scandal as secretary of state.

"We're going to stop the Syrian migrants from coming into the United States," he said referring to the killing

of a French priest, whose attackers proclaimed allegiance to the Islamic State extremist group.

Clinton needs to win over some of the disgruntled working class voters that form the backbone of Trump's base. She has blasted Trump for making so many of his products overseas, and for alienating women, Hispanics and Muslims.

Clinton -- accompanied by her husband Bill, and her running mate Virginia Senator Tim Kaine and his wife Anne Holton -- is on a campaign tour of so-called Rust Belt states, vital parts of almost any strategy to garner the 270 electoral college votes needed to win the presidency.

The candidate and her team were moving in Pennsylvania in a convoy of more than two dozen vehicles, including two large buses with the campaign slogan "Stronger Together" emblazoned on the side in giant letters.

Experts predict that "negative partisanship" -- voting against a candidate -- will play a major role in deciding who makes it to the White House.

Clinton's unpopularity is second only to Trump's, with a disapproval rating of 55 percent compared to his 57 percent, according to recent averages.

Ratings from Nielsen showed that 2.2 million more people had tuned into watch Trump's acceptance speech last week than Clinton's on Thursday.

When it comes to voter intentions, Trump and Clinton are in a statistical dead heat, according to the most recent poll average from RealClearPolitics.

'Mind your own business'

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Twenty-one journalists had appeared before a judge in hearings lasting until midnight on Friday. Four were then freed but 17 were placed under pre-trial arrest, charged with "membership of a terror group", the state-run Anadolu news agency said.

Those held include the veteran journalist Nazli Ilıcak as well as the former correspondent for the pro-Gulen Zaman daily Hanim Busra Erdal.

Among those freed was prominent commentator Bulent Mumay who was given a rapturous welcome by supporters.

"I could never have imagined being accused of such a thing. It was a madness. It's not right to arrest journalists -- this country should not make the same mistakes again," he said, quoted by the Dogan news agency.

Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu defended the detention of reporters, saying it was necessary to distinguish between coup plotters and those "who are engaged in real journalism".

The president also announced that as a gesture of goodwill after the coup he was dropping hundreds of lawsuits against individuals accused of insulting him.

"I am going to withdraw all the cases regarding the disrespectful insults made against me," said Erdogan.

Earlier this year, officials had said more than 2,000 people were being prosecuted on charges of insulting the president.

Thousands of those detained after the coup have now been released, with an Istanbul court releasing 758 soldiers late on Friday, adding to another 3,500 former suspects already set free.

But with concern growing about the sheer numbers rounded-up, EU enlargement commissioner Johannes Hahn said he needed to see "black-and-white facts about how these people are treated".

"And if there is even the slightest doubt that the (treatment) is improper, then the consequences will be inevitable," he told German daily Sueddeutsche Zeitung.

In a speech at his presidential palace late Friday remembering those killed during the failed coup, Erdogan angrily denounced the criticism and accused the West of deserting Turkey in its hour of need.

"Some people give us advice. They say they are worried. Mind your own business! Look at your own deeds," Erdogan said.

"Not a single person has come to give condolences either from the European Union... or from the West," said Erdogan.

"Those countries or leaders who are not worried about Turkey's democracy, the lives of our people, its future -- while being so worried about the fate of the putschists -- cannot be our friends," he growled.

Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said Turkey has succeeded in eradicating all elements linked to Gulen from the military after sacking nearly half of its generals following the failed coup.

Turkey implemented a shake-up of the military on Thursday after nearly half of its 358 generals were sacked for complicity in the coup.

Erdogan had earlier also lashed out at a top US general who had expressed concerns about military relations after the putsch.

Quoted by US media, US Central Command chief General Joseph Votel said Thursday that the coup bid and subsequent round-up of dozens of generals could affect American cooperation with Turkey.

"You are taking the side of coup plotters instead of thanking this state for defeating the coup attempt," Erdogan said at a military centre in Golbasi outside Ankara, where air strikes left dozens dead during the coup.

Votel swiftly denied any link to the coup however.

BGB detains

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Lt Col Abujar Al Jahid, commander of BGB battalion-2 at Teknaf, said after a tip off that a secret meeting was being held at a house in Shaplapur village, the BGB led by Jahid Iqbal, assistant commissioner (land) of Teknaf, conducted the raid and detained the four individuals.

The detainees were holding the meeting for disbursing funds among inhabitants of an unregistered Rohingya shelter in Teknaf without approval from local administration, the BGB commander added saying that all the suspects are currently being interrogated and they will be handed over to Teknaf Police Station for prosecution.

Previously, on July 4, the BGB arrested seven people including five Chinese nationals on charge of unauthorised distribution of funds among the residents of an unregistered Rohingya shelter in the Leda area of the same upazila.