around the mall to breathe.

The two victims -- both employees of the market -- were taking treatment at a private hospital.

Rescue teams evacuated all the people from the building within a few hours, and there was no immediate report of casualties.

Talking to journalists, Jasim Uddin, head of marketing of the shopping mall, said seven to eight shops at C Block of level-6 were completely burnt. But they were yet to determine the full extent of the dam-

But MA Hannan Azad, president of Bashundhara Shop Owners Association, told The Daily Star some 100 stores were affected.

Soon after the blaze started, firemen rushed to the spot and tried to tame the flame using cranes and skylifts, but without much success.

nated from a shop at Block C of level-6 of the complex, which houses about 2,300 shops in addition to food courts, Cineplex and gymnasiums. As many as 29 fire engines were

Fire officials suspect the fire origi-

used in the operation, said Maj AKM Shakil Nawaz, director (operations and maintenance) of Fire Service and Civil Defence.

"The blaze could be controlled partially by dousing water," he told reporters in the evening.

case. Dhaka Metropolitan Police seeks

cooperation from the city dwellers in

If anyone has any information on

the suspects, he or she has been

requested to contact the DMP through

its Facebook page or Hello CT mobile

Mashruqure Rahman Khaled, dep-

uty commissioner of Detective Branch

(south division) of the DMP, yesterday

told The Daily Star," We have detected

six suspects after analysing CCTV foot-

age. The clips show that the killers took

position at the book fair gate before

a police shootout. We are trying to

collect information about the others,"

Contacted, Avijit's father, Prof Ajoy

Roy, said, "Sometimes, police say three

of the killers [of Avijit] fled the country.

Again, sometimes they say the killers

fallen on top of me, I would have died,"

"The bride and groom's happiest day

Another resident in Gaziantep told

Dogan news agency he saw many dead

bodies and body parts including a "head,

The bride and groom -- Besna and

Nurettin Akdogan -- were rushed to

hospital but were not seriously

According to the state-run Anadolu

news agency, the bride was released

from hospital, saying as she left: "They

turned our wedding into a bloodbath."

CNN-Turk showed rows of coffins

covered in white sheets.

Meanwhile, images on broadcaster

Crowds of mourners gathered to pray

and chants of Allahu Akbar ("God is

arm, hand scattered on the ground".

are under their watch."

"One of them [Sharif] was killed in

arresting them."

the murder.

he said.

she said.

wounded.

was poisoned."

Eleven people, trapped on the rooftop, were rescued unharmed in the afternoon, said Deputy Director Mizanur Rahman of the fire service.

Mizanur, who led the rescue operation, said eight persons were rescued earlier from inside the complex around noon. Seven to eight people were seen on

the rooftop seeking help around 2:00pm. Firefighters could not rescue them immediately due to smoke, said Shakil. Firemen controlled the blaze dents of fire and take action.

around 9:00pm yesterday but it again broke out within an hour. Some 19 units of firefighters were still working to douse the fire around 1:30am today.

Rafiqul Islam, a shop employee on the ground floor, said most of the shops were open by 11:00am. Soon afterwards he heard screaming from upstairs, saying: "Fire, fire."

"I stayed about 15 minutes inside the market to understand the situation. Later I came out with others," he added.

Tajul Islam, who works at a mobile shop on level-6, said the fire broke out at a luggage shop. He and three others were about to open the shop, when he heard people shouting.

"I saw huge smoke and blaze from a shop," said Tajul, adding he wanted to join in the rescue team but security personnel drove him out of the market for safety.

unless the real killers are brought to

book," he said. "We demand nothing

year, two unidentified assailants

hacked to death Avijit and badly

wounded his wife Rafida Ahmed

Bonya when they were walking

through a footpath along the

Suhrawardy Udyan in the city. They

mises, captured the six suspects. Those,

however, did not cover the murder

At the first of the seven CCTV footage,

three youths, who according to police

One of them, who had been

described as Sharif by police in the

past, is apparently seen following

Avijit and Bonya on the footpath along

the Suhrawardy Udyan. Later, two

other suspects -- one with a bag and the

been uprooted due to the flare-up in

Party (HDP) said its members had been

present at the wedding, also attended by

sow division between Turkey's differ-

ent groups including Arabs, Kurds and

Turkmen and to "spread incitement

their main enemies, with Kurdish

militias playing a significant role in the

A defiant Erdogan said there was "no

fight against IS on the ground in Syria.

difference" between the group of US-

based preacher Fethullah Gulen --

whom he blames for the failed coup

bid -- the outlawed Kurdistan Workers

Party (PKK) "and Daesh (IS), the likely

"Our country and our nation have again

Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said

Gaziantep would show the same spirit

Many jihadists see Kurds as one of

along ethnic and religious lines".

The pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic

Erdogan said such attacks aimed to

violence with Kurdish militants.

many women and children.

are suspects, are seen encircled in red.

CCTVs, installed on the fair pre-

had just come out of the book fair.

On the night of February 26 last

Cops release video of six suspects

but justice."

CCTV CLIPS

51 die as suicide blast rips thru'

In March 2009, seven people were killed and 20 others injured in a fire that broke out on a top floor of the 20-storey building adjacent to the

shopping complex. A government probe body could not identify the cause of the fire but mentioned of gross negligence of the authorities.

Although the other incidents were smaller, shop owners raised concern, saying the authorities should thoroughly investigate the repeated inci-

After visiting the spot yesterday, Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Annisul Huq said they would investigate why the building caught fire again and again.

Shafiqul, a fireman of the shopping complex and one of the two who fell sick because of suffocation, said he received a message on walky-talky about the fire when he was working on level-7. "I rushed to the spot with an extin-

guisher and tried to douse the flame,'

said Shafiqul, adding that the shop-

ping complex had 40 firemen of its Around noon, firefighters broke several glass walls from each side of the building to clear the smoke.

A five-member committee was formed to investigate the cause of the fire. It has been asked to report within five days, said a fire service official.

together with the first suspect.

ous three youths, follow them.

ently waits for someone else.

premises.

In the second footage, the couple is

The third footage shows a youth in

Panjabi roaming near the gate of the

fair venue at Suhrawardy Udyan. He

also sits on a chair there and appar-

on a bicycle entering the fair premises

moments before a youth, apparently

seen in the third footage, arrives at the

white shirt is seen encircled in red. He

is also seen walking out of the fair

of the fair premises in the sixth footage.

ently who was waiting at the entrance

to the fair, is seen going inside the fair

French forces in Turkey's

Independence War which led to the

word Gazi (war hero) being added to

along with two other suspects.

its original name of Antep.

In the fifth footage, a man wearing a

The bike rider was seen coming out

In the last footage, a youth, appar-

The fourth footage shows a youth

seen coming out of the fair premises

and three youths, apparently the previ-

"Peace will not return to our family other wearing glasses -- start to walk

Huji men used as mercenaries

more than 100 people.

The August 21 attack was an outcome of collaboration between Huji and influential leaders of the BNP and Jamaat and some officials of the then home ministry, police, Directorate General of Forces Intelligence, National Security Intelligence and the Prime Minister's office, according to the case charge sheet.

Those who had engaged the militants for the killing mission were true to their promises. They had started delivering on their assurance to protect Huji leader Mufti Abdul Hannan and other militants from any legal action. They had cooked up a story of Joj Mia, a petty criminal who was implicated as the attacker.

Meanwhile, Hannan stayed safe in Dhaka for a year.

His idyll was short-lived. After the banned Islamist outfit JMB carried out countrywide serial bomb blast on August 17, 2005, the government came under pressure to crack down on militants.

The law enforcers finally arrested Hannan in early October, 2005. A few days into his capture, the BNP-led government also banned Huji-B, branding it as a "self-proclaimed terrorist organisation". An indignant Hannan, in a statement

his arrest, claimed the law enforcers were not supposed to arrest him since some influential ministers of the BNP-led government had assured him that he would be exempted from the August 21 grenade attack case. He had enjoyed the BNP government's blessing for around four years

to the press and the court a few days after

from 2001. Proceedings in some cases including Ramna Batamul blast against him were stalled as the BNP government was reluctant to bring the case to

Hannan, who according to police, had undergone training in a Huji camp in Peshawar of Pakistan, is now in jail facing several cases including that of the August 21 grenade attack. END OF THE DAYS?

When Awami League came to power in January 2009, almost all the top leaders of all three Huji factions were arrested. It looked like the government's efforts have become successful to bring an end to Huji that had emerged as the first generation militant organisation in the country.

Some Huji men tried to resume their activities but they could not really make a comeback because of vigilant police

under a unified command," Monirul Islam, Chief of Counter Terrorism unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police told The Daily Star on Thursday.

also said, "Dividing into some small groups, Huji members tried to reemerge

On October 25 of 2014, four Huji-B men were arrested and placed on remand to squeeze information out from them.

the banned outfits were receiving special military training from Pakistani militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) as it was closely linked to LeT, one of the most dangerous and well-resourced militancy groups in the world over the last two decades.

Some followers of the imprisoned Huji leader Maulana Abu Sayeed alias Abu Jafar tried to make a comeback under a new name but were caught by police in

ABT later took the name of Ansar al Islam which is said to be the Bangladesh chapter of al-Qaeda in the Indian subcontinent.

"There is no significant activity of Huji-B in last few years. This indicates the militant outfit has become dysfunctional," a senior investigation officer in police department told The Daily Star on Wednesday.

The Police Headquarters recently made a database of militants that shows 260 people belong to Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami, Bangladesh (Huji-B). However, most of its top leaders are now behind bars.

REIGN OF TERROR

With a mission to introduce Sharia laws, Huji-B has so far carried out 13 bomb and grenade attacks in six years since 1999 to annihilate what they said "enemy of Islam." At least 109 people were killed and more than 700 were injured, according to media reports. Its first attack came with the bomb

blast at an Udichi programme in Jessore on 6 March 1999. At least 10 people were

bomb at the Ahmediya mosque in

bomb blasts at the Ramna Park in Dhaka on April 14, 2001. In 2004, Huji emerged with terrible

High Commissioner Anwar Chowdhury at the Hazrat Shahjalal shrine in Sylhet The biggest and most destructive attack carried out by Huji was on August

It was their second attempt to assassinate Hasina. Earlier, Huji in 2000 planted a 76kg bomb at a rally venue of Hasina at Kotalipara of Gopalganj.

Huji in Pakistan.

major militant outfits which were behind most of the terrorist attacks carried out in Pakistan, mainly between 2002 and 2006. These attacks included assassination attempts on President Gen Parvez Musharraf and his government's Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz. BORN IN AFGHAN WAR FIELD

The origin of Huji can be traced back to

considered one of the founders of jihad in Pakistan, was among the first batch of Pakistani mujahideen who went to fight against the Soviets in Afghanistan. During the war, Saifullah along with some of his associates formed Harkatul-Jihad-al-Islam (Huji) sometime in

A group of Bangladeshi Mujahid also crossed the border to join the war against Soviet forces.

Jessore's Manirampur was one of them.

with other Bangladeshi Mujahids established Huji-B when they were still in the battlefield in 1989. Faruki died the same year while defusing a mine in Khost, Afghanistan.

The Afghan war ended.

ous terrorist group. It kept carrying out subversive activities in the soil of Pakistan.

the Afghan Taliban. He left Pakistan and became an advisor of Taliban chief Mullah Omar-led cabinet in Afghanistan and escaped Afghanistan with Omar after the US-led Allied Forces invaded Afghanistan in October 2001.

cially launched on April 30, 1992 at a press conference in Dhaka at the National Press Club. They jubilantly celebrated the Afghan Mujahideen's capture of power in Kabul in April after overthrowing President Najibullah.

Most of the Afghan returnee Mujahids joined the organisation. They demanded that Bangladesh government acknowledge their fallen Mujahideen compatriots as shaheeds (martyrs). The next day, they brought out a huge procession.

Among the founding fathers of the Huji-B were Shaikhul Hadith, Allama Azizul Haq, who is also associated with Islami Oikyo Jote (IOJ), a member of the former ruling coalition headed by Khaleda Zia, Muhammad Habibur Rahman of Sylhet, Ataur Rahman Khan of Kishoreganj, Sultan Jaok of Chittagong, Abdul Mannan of Faridpur and Habibullah of Noakhali. All of them were members of different Islamic organisations and

and 1998. During this period, two armed groups of Rohingyas-- Rohingya Solidarity Organisation (RSO) and the Arakan Rohingya National Organisation (ARNO)-were organised and active around the Myanmar border. Huji-B and the Rohingya rebels worked hand in hand.

caches of arms and ammunition from Naikhangchhari jungles in 2003, 2004 and 2005. It is assumed these were of the Rohingya militant groups.

Inner conflict over funds and other issues broke out within the Arakan-based organisations around 1998. Huji then moved away from Arakan and upped its activities within Bangladesh. Huge funds came through NGOs from the Middle East in the name of aid for Rohingya refugees, according to reports published in media in different

"The disease of 'Islamist terrorism' was

incubated in Karachi and Khost and then passed on to Dhaka," commented Daily Times of Lahore in an editorial on February 27, 2005.

founding fathers have met leaders of Huji in Pakistan. In an interview a few years back,

Habibur Rahman, one of the founders of Huji-B, disclosed the names of those he had travelled with to Afghanistan and Pakistan in 1988, visited some Taliban militant camps and also met al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.

Al Islami made it possible for me to make the fortunate trip to Afghanistan..," said Habibur in his interview published in an

Hadith, Ataur Rahman Khan, Sultan Jaok, Abdul Mannan, Habibullah,

In Pakistan, he said, leaders of the local chapter of Huji greeted the nine members of the Bangladeshi team and

took them to the Huji's Karachi office. On their way to Afghanistan from

visited a special Mujahideen training camp and met about a dozen Bangladeshi young Mujahideens. That night they met Osama bin Laden, who later emerged as the chief of al Qaeda, global terror out-

Taliban ideology can change the lot of

He later joined Hefajat-e-Islam and was one of the key organisers of Hefajat-e Islam's Dhaka long march and the subsequent rally in May 2013. Habibur was a speaker at the rally of Hefajat.

Ashkona Hajj Office Director Abu

Saleh Mostafa who were "incompetent

corruption, Abdul Jalil, acting secre-

tary of religious affairs ministry, said

some dishonest agents have created

pilgrims; rather the agents were not

sending them, he said, adding that

was why Biman had cancelled flights.

hajj agents. Some of them are now

trying to make money illegally," he

names in the registration system, he

some Haab leaders were making such

comments against him to hide their

said there were no fake names.

own mismanagement.

the problem to get illegal benefits.

Denying his involvement in any

There was no crisis of visas for the

"There are some groups among the

Asked about the inclusion of fake

Abu Saleh Mostafa claimed that

Lambasting Mostafa, Zakir

back perpendicular and at a 90-degree angle similar to how you sleep in bed at night, she explained. This patented solution provides the solution to amazing sleep while traveling by recreating how you sleep on a bed, but in an upright position.

ground. Over 2,000 people have already helped propel their goal of \$20,000 to almost \$80,000 with 21 days left in the fundraising. For Blankenship, it's a lifelong

life... and at 53 it feels good to finally do something and see it through with a patent. This time, I just said, you know .. 'I'm going to make this happen.'"

Suicide bomber kills 3 in north Cameroon

Three civilians were killed and around 20 others wounded on Sunday in a suicide attack in northern Cameroon, officials and a vigilante group said.

how can they claim that a ticket syndicate exists?" Ibrahim told The Daily Star. He alleged that some agents were bringing the allegations against the

religious affairs' secretary and

and corrupt".

observed.

FROM PAGE 16

"Now, the fate of 40,000 hajjis is uncertain. The Haab leaders, in exchange for money, have allowed only some selected agents to send hajjis to [Saudi Arabia]," claimed Golam Faruk, managing director of Haque Travels. At least 10,000 fake names of hajjis

have been registered, alleged Rejaul Karim Uzzal, managing director of Bright Travels. The parishad yesterday issued a 24-

hour ultimatum for the removal of Haab committee and ensuring visas for 20,000 new pilgrims. Otherwise, they would start an agitation programme. However, Ibrahim Bahar and

Sheikh Abdullah, president and secretary general of Haab, denied the allegations of taking bribes and being involved in any syndicate.

Hossain, managing director of Air Times International, said, "Abul Saleh Mostafa is out-and-out a corrupt person." "I went to Mostafa's office seven times to get a document signed on

replacement orders of 10 hajjis. He dillydallied," said Zakir, also founder secretary general of Bangladesh Tariqat Federation, a component of the ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance.

Asked, Mostafa said hajj agencies

ি নিমান বালাদেশ এফার্লাইন্স্ লি: Biman bangladesh airlines Ltd.

Procurement & Logistic Support Directorate

Sealed tender is invited for supplying the following equipment to Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd:

Tender No. DACPF/INT'L TENDER/005/ 2016-2017,

Cost of schedule Description COMPRESSOR

BDT. 3,500.00 **EQUIVALENT**

around 4:00am, when they Detective Branch. sprayed bullets at the law enforcers, he said, adding that the two assailants sustained bullet injuries as the law enforcers also returned fire at them.

dead after they were taken to added. Madhupur Upazila Health

bullets, a used bullet case, two set, hand-written scripts on upazila of the district.

World leaders quickly condemned the attack, with President Francois Hollande denouncing the "vile" incident and pledging that France "stands with all who fight against the scourge

of terrorism." US ambassador to Turkey John Bass condemned the "barbaric attack on innocent civilians", adding that Washington would "continue to work closely together to defeat the common

threat of terrorism." The pope called on faithful to pray for the victims while Chancellor Angela Merkel condemned the "cowardly and underhand" attack "in the

strongest terms." A major city just 60 kilometres north of the Syrian border, Gaziantep has become a hub for Syrians fleeing the civil war in their country. But as well as refugees and opposition activists, there have long been fears it was home to a significant jihadist pres-

2 'militants' killed

during the fight with the and printouts of jihadi pro-"militants", Mahbub Alam, superintendent of police (SP) in Tangail, told The Daily Star. said. The gunfight took place at a

check post, on Tangail-Mymensingh Road, set up by a joint team of police and special task group, on information that a church of Christian community in Telki area might be attacked by criminals, the SP

Complex. After the gunfight a bag alias Jemmy, 18, Sajida Akter,

procedures for making bombs paganda materials were found inside the bag, the SP "We suspect the deceased youths were members of a

militant group. The scripts found from the bag on the spot are similar to the scripts the law enforcers had recovered from the possession of three female JMB members arrested from Jokarchar under Kalihati Two youths, aged between upazila in Tangail on July 5," 25 and 30 years, on a motorbike said Ashok Kumar Singha, an were stopped at the check post at inspector of Tangail police The bodies of the two

Tangail Medical College Hospital for autopsy and investigation is underway to The injured were declared determine their identity, he Earlier, on July 5, three female members -- Jannati

was recovered from the pos- 22, and Rozina Begum, 30 -- of session of the attackers and a outlawed Jama'atul revolver, three rounds of Mujahideen Bangladesh were arrested from a rented house machetes, a cell phone hand- in Jokarchar area in Kalihati

FROM PAGE 16

NodPod is currently looking for Kickstarter support to get off the

dream realized. "This has been my passion on my

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a security official told AFP the

attack took place in Mora, a town in Cameroon's far north near the Nigerian border -- an area which has suffered repeatedly from attacks by

"Huji is almost dismantled. It is not

The DMP additional commissioner but we have foiled their efforts."

Police then claimed that members of

October and November last year.

According to police, Huji-B was not in discussion for carrying out any terror attack in recent years. The JMB, banned in 2005, emerged as Neo JMB. This group, along with some other militant outfits including Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT), are carrying out militant activities.

Finally

youths have been sent to AFP, Yaoundé

killed and over a hundred injured. On October 8, 1999, it blasted a

Khulna, killing eight people. It was Huji-B men who were behind

determination. On May 21, 2004, it carried out a grenade attack on the British

21, 2004 on Hasina's rally.

Huji-B is considered as an affiliate to In Pakistan Huji was one of the two

the Soviet-Afghan war. Qari Saifullah Akhtar, who is now

Maulana Abdur Rahman Faruki of

Inspired by Pakistanis, Faruki along

Huji became a Pakistan-based notori-

Saifullah maintained close link with

In Bangladesh, HuJi-B was later offi-

Monopoly on air tickets

whose fate hangs in the balance. At a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, some agents under the banner of "Haab Samonnoy Parishad" alleged that Haab leaders were involved in a syndicate and they were not doing any work without taking extra money from other agents.

"When Biman has cancelled its flights for not getting available hajjis,

Haab committee to protect the acting

Huji-B grew in strength between 1992

The BDR and the RAB recovered huge

PAKISTANI CONNECTION

Huji had always maintained close link to HuJi in Pakistan and LeT. Huji-B's

"An invitation from Harkat-ul Jihad

Islamic journal called "Islami Biplob" on August 20, 1998. "Those of us who visited the Afghan war-fields during that trip are Shaikhul

myself and three others," he said.

Pakistan, he said, the Bangladesh team

Habibur, also the convener of Sahaba Sainik Parishad and founding principal of Jameya Madania Islamia, a madrasa at Kazir Bazar, Sylhet, in his interview said: "Only the establishment of a Khilafat (pan-Islamic movement)-based state following the

the nation.'

it had shown in 1921, when it defeated further to the east and had themselves

REF: DACPF/INT'L RE TENDER/005/2016-2017 Date: 21-08-2016

DTD. 21-08-2016

Tender schedule with detailed specifications Terms & Conditions will be available at cash price of BDT. 3500.00 (BDT three thousand five hundred only) or equivalent USD

Accounts, Cash & Banking, Balaka, Head Office, Kurmitola, Dhaka and Biman's outstation in Singapore, Dubai, London, Kuala Lumpur & New York on all working days up to 21-09-2016. A formal application in bidder's letterhead pad mentioning Tender Number and date shall be required for purchasing the tender schedule(s). Tender schedule and other related information may also be viewed at Biman's website www.biman-airlines.com. The last date of submission of tender is on 22-09-2016 at

1100 hrs (LT). GD-1681 Dy. General Manager (Procurement) Actg.

perpetrator of the attack in greatest") could be heard. Gaziantep". Erdogan told reporters the death toll was now 51 with 94 hurt in the attack. only one message to those who attack us -A total of 69 people remained in -you will not succeed!" he said. hospital, with 17 in critical condition.

The bride and groom were reportedly

from the mainly Kurdish region of Siirt

International Re-Tender Notice

per set (non-refundable) at the Office of Manager

were submitting fake documents with their letters on replacement hajjis and that he needed time to verify those.