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Kantaji gets back its shine

Tk 100cr renovation done on the centuries-old temple in Dinajpur

KONGKON KARMAKER with ANDREW EAGLE

Iconic Kantaji temple in Dinajpur's Kaharol upazila is shining. Following renovation and site development works worth Tk 100 crore, financed by the Asian Development Bank under the World Heritage of South Asian Tourist Infrastructure Development Project, the temple is set to consolidate its position as a tourism magnet, showing off its beauty anew.

With renovations supervised by archaeology department officials begun in August 2015, Tk 25 crore has been spent on cleaning the temple, which is now free of mosses and lichens. The remaining budget of Tk 75 crore was dedicated to infrastructure improvement.

"The temple looks really fantastic," says tourist Rehana Begum of Chittagong, while visiting the site recently, her second visit since 2009. "It's brighter and cleaner than before." The surrounding infrastructure has also been developed well, she adds.

"We cleaned every terracotta plaque and treated them with chemicals to prevent moss re-growth and better preserve them," says Shafiqul Alam, a former archaeology department director and the site manager. "Experts hired from Sri Lanka were involved."

Only some damaged terracotta portions could not be fixed, he adds.

Drainage pipes meanwhile have been installed along the temple edifices, while pavements and seating arrangements surrounding the temple, as well as a toilet block, have been set up for the convenience of visitors and devotees. New lighting offers a new charm to the temple at night.

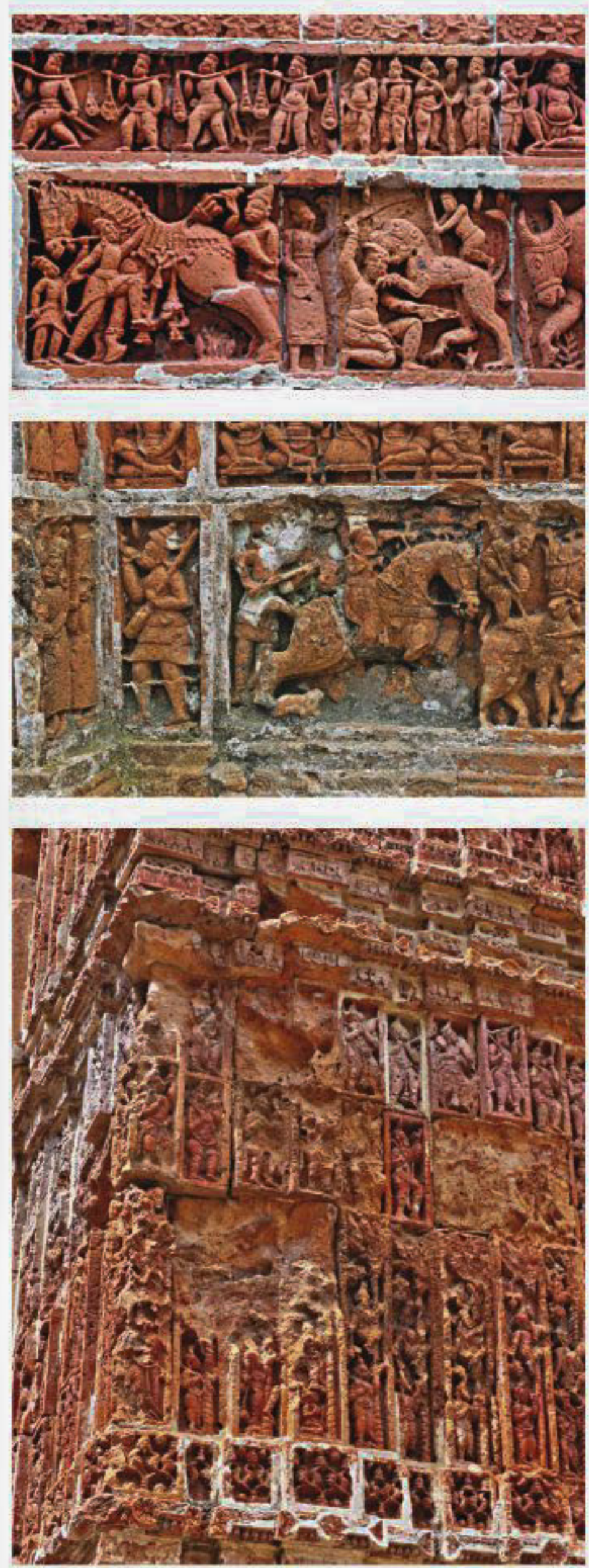
Visitors are suitably impressed. "The temple looks as

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The stunning Kantaji temple in Dinajpur after renovation. Restored terracotta carvings on top right, and worn-out terracotta works, middle and bottom, before the restoration and site development began in August last year.

PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER/ANISUR RAHMAN



TORTURE OF BOY Madaripur man sent to prison

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

The man who chained and tortured a juvenile in Shibchar of Madaripur was arrested Sunday evening and sent to jail by a court yesterday.

Shibchar police arrested Kamrul Bepari in connection with torturing Mehedi Hasan, 17. Mehedi's father Monwar Khan filed a case against four people, including Kamrul, with Shibchar Police Station under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act on Sunday night.

Mehedi was getting treatment at Shibchar Upazila Health Complex under police guard as his family still fears for his safety.

Doctors said he was out of danger but recommended better treatment elsewhere. Mehedi, who works for a cable TV operator, had installed a connection in Kamrul's home before Eid. Later, Kamrul allegedly discovered two mobile phones had gone missing from his home.

He called Mehedi to his home over phone around Saturday noon saying that there was something wrong with his connection. When Mehedi went there, Kamrul accused Mehedi of stealing the phones and started torturing him.

Kamrul chained Mehedi's hands, legs, and neck and confined him to a room.

Shibchar police rescued Mehedi Sunday evening and admitted him to the hospital.

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KINGLY FAREWELLS Ministry to take action against the DC

STAR REPORT

The public administration ministry will take departmental action against the outgoing deputy commissioner of Mymensingh over some lavish farewells accorded to him.

The DC, Mustakim Billah Faruqui, was given around 30 such farewells before his transfer to the civil aviation and tourism ministry as a deputy secretary.

"As the matter drew our attention, we already started investigating it. We will take proper action against him," Senior Secretary Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury of the public administration ministry told The Daily Star yesterday.

Under the Government Servants (Conduct) Rules 1979, officials cannot accept receptions at workplace, ministry officials said.

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Outgoing Mymensingh Deputy Commissioner Mustakim Billah Faruqui and his wife at one of the 30 farewell parties arranged for him.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

TORTURING WIFE Shariatpur ASP in jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

An assistant superintendent of police was sent to jail by a Pabna court on Sunday in a case filed over torturing his wife for dowry.

Abdur Razzak Miah from Manikganj's Saturaia upazila is the ASP in Shariatpur, court sources said.

Pabna police informed the police headquarters and the Shariatpur district police administration about him being sent to jail yesterday and recommended departmental action against Razzak.

"Razzak appeared before the senior judicial magistrate court-2 Sunday afternoon seeking bail in a case for torturing his wife for dowry. Senior Judicial Magistrate Md Abu Based rejected his bail prayer and sent him to jail," said Shamsul Islam, inspector of Pabna court.

In May, the ASP's wife, Shafia Naznin, filed a case against him under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act

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World's youngest plane captain



MAIL ONLINE

Just a decade after taking to the skies as a teenage air cadet, Kate McWilliams has proved she is a real high flier - by becoming the world's youngest commercial pilot at the age of 26.

The 26-year-old, a rising star of budget airline easyJet's crew, has been promoted from first officer to captain, a feat usually achieved by much older pilots.

And a spokesman said they believe Kate McWilliams is the youngest commercial airline captain in the world.

After taking up flying in the air cadets aged 13, McWilliams made her first solo flight aged 16 and went on to train as a pilot on her 19th birthday.

She said she gets quizzed about her age by cabin crew and passengers almost every day and most are 'impressed' to learn she has fast-tracked her way to the cockpit.

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Schoolboy gets PM's letter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's letter to Shirshendu Biswas, the Patuakhali fourth-grader who had written to her requesting for a bridge over the Payra river in Mirzaganj upazila of the district, was formally handed over to him yesterday.

"I sense the influence of your grandfather, a valiant freedom fighter, on you," the PM told the young boy in her reply mail, assuring

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 27

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-15 6-00 7-30
JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 4-30 6-05 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানাচ্ছি যে, ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালে অনলাইনে আপীল দায়েরের ব্যবস্থা বিগত এপ্রিল/২০১৬ হতে প্রবর্তন করা হয়েছে।

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০৩। ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালকে আরো ডিজিটলাইজড তথা করদাতা বান্ধব করার জন্য চলতি বছরে বেশ কিছু উদ্যোগ নেয়া হচ্ছে। তন্মধ্যে মামলার Cause list ও মামলা নিষ্পত্তির হালনাগাদ অবস্থা প্রতিদিন ওয়েবসাইটে প্রদর্শন এবং নিষ্পত্তিকৃত মামলার রায় স্টেকহোল্ডারদের নিকট অনলাইনে প্রেরণ ইত্যাদি রয়েছে।

এমতাবস্থায়, সম্মানিত করদাতা এবং অন্যান্য স্টেকহোল্ডারদের অনলাইনে আপীল দায়ের করে ডিজিটাল বাংলাদেশ বিনির্মাণে অংশ নেয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

যোগাযোগঃ ০১৭১১১৪৯৮৯
০১৬৭৫৭৫৩২১৯

প্রেসিডেন্ট

ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল

ফোনঃ ০২-৯৩৫২৭৩৬

জিডি-১৮৬৪

Shortages worsen as warplanes keep pounding Aleppo

AFP, Aleppo

Residents of Syria's Aleppo faced worsening food and medical shortages yesterday as warplanes again bombed the city after Western powers at the UN accused Russia of war crimes.

A fresh wave of intensive air strikes hit the city's opposition-controlled east from dawn yesterday, an AFP correspondent in the city said, on the morning after Moscow and Damascus faced fierce criticism at the UN Security Council.

Moscow hit back at the accusations yesterday, with Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov denouncing "the overall unacceptable tone and rhetoric of the representatives of the United Kingdom and the United States, which can damage and harm our relations".

The worst violence to hit the divided city in years continued, with residents warning that stores of food and vital medical supplies were dwindling to nothing.

Yesterday's air strikes were particularly heavy on two rebel-held districts, Al-Mashhad and Sayf al-Dawla, and sparked large fires, the AFP correspondent said.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based monitor, said "dozens of raids" had hit districts of east Aleppo after midnight on Sunday, with many wounded and at least two civilians killed.

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সম্মানিত আয়করদাতাদের সুবিধার্থে সরকার ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনালের নতুন একটি দ্বৈত বেঞ্চ রংপুরে স্থাপন করেছেন, যা ইতোমধ্যে কার্যক্রম শুরু করেছে। নবগঠিত বেঞ্চের বিবরণ নিম্নরূপঃ

বেঞ্চের নাম : ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল, দ্বৈত বেঞ্চ-রংপুর।

অস্থায়ী কার্যালয়ের ঠিকানা : কর ভবন (নীচ তলা), কাচারী বাজার, রংপুর।

অধিক্ষেত্র : কর অঞ্চল-রংপুর, কর অঞ্চল-রাজশাহী ও কর অঞ্চল-বগুড়া এর সকল করদাতা।

যোগাযোগ : ০১৭১১৪৯৯৪৪ (সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার, দ্বৈত বেঞ্চ-রংপুর)।

উল্লেখ্য যে, উক্ত অধিক্ষেত্রের করদাতাদের এতদিন দ্বৈত বেঞ্চ, খুলনা ট্রাইবুনালে আপীল দায়ের করতে হত। আরো উল্লেখ্য যে, কর অঞ্চল-রাজশাহীর করদাতাদের সুবিধার্থে প্রয়োজনবোধে সার্কিট বেঞ্চ গঠনের মাধ্যমে তাদের মামলাসমূহ রাজশাহীতেই নিষ্পত্তির পরিকল্পনা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে। এমতাবস্থায়, সংশ্লিষ্ট অধিক্ষেত্রের সম্মানিত করদাতা, কর আইনজীবী এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট কর কমিশনারগণের জ্ঞাতার্থে বিষয়টি অবহিত করানো হলো।

প্রেসিডেন্ট

ট্যাকসেস আপীলাত ট্রাইবুনাল

ফোনঃ ০২-৯৩৫২৭৩৬

জিডি-১৮৬৫