



Tawfiq Aziz Khan's death anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 16th death anniversary of Tawfiq Aziz Khan, former executive editor of The Daily Star, sports writer and commentator.

One of the leading journalists in the country, Tawfiq joined the then Pakistan Observer as a staff reporter in 1958 while he was a student at Dhaka University.

He worked at the erstwhile East Pakistan

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KFC opens new outlet in Uttara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

KFC Bangladesh, run by Transcom Foods Limited (TFL), yesterday opened its 20th outlet on the ground floor of Ahmed Plaza at Jasim Uddin intersection in the capital's Uttara.

Now, TFL has 18 KFC outlets in Dhaka city, Kazi Md Zafrullah, deputy general manager (accounts & finances) of TFL, told The Daily Star. The two other outlets are in Sylhet and Cox's Bazar.

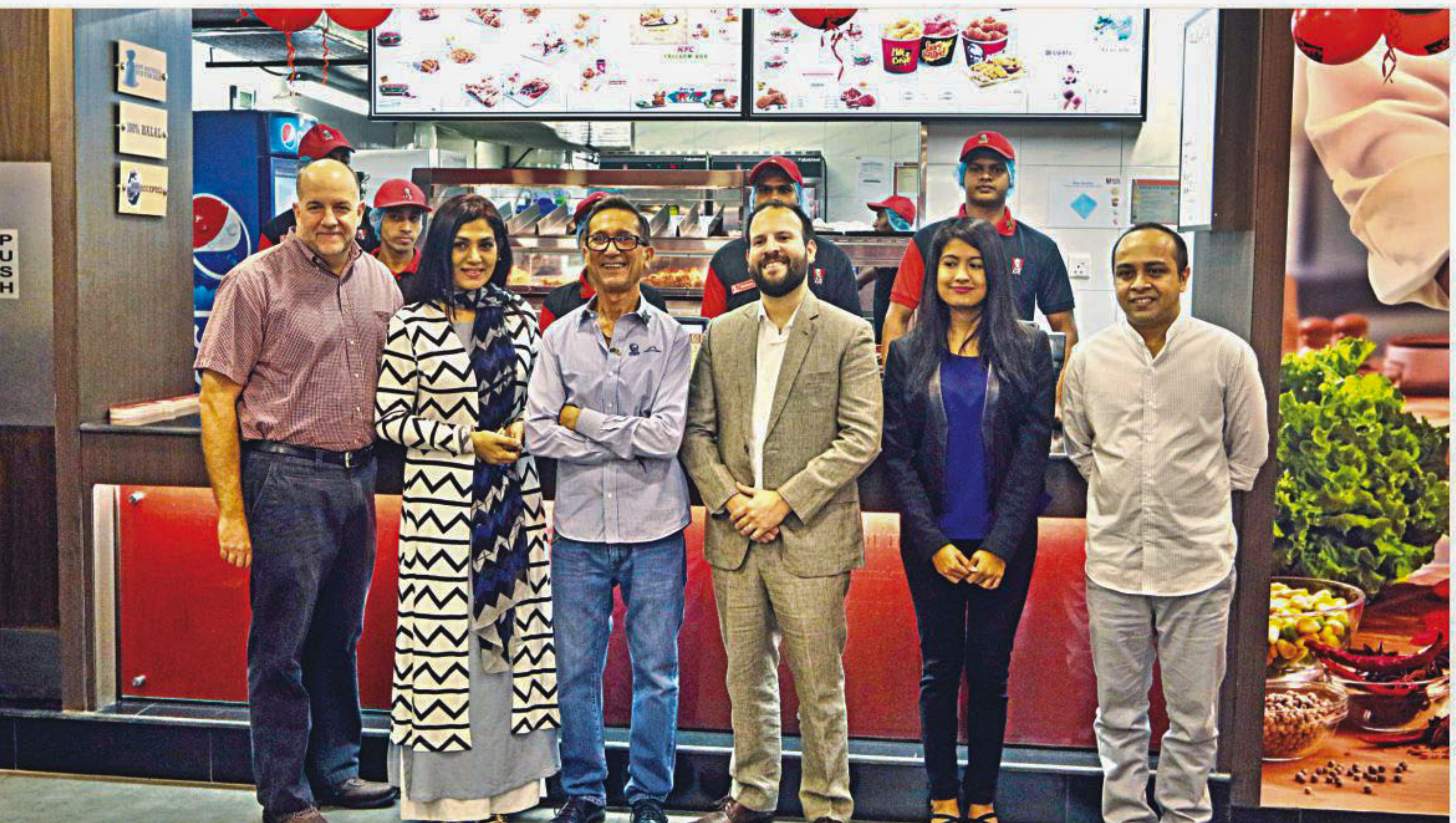
"It's been 10 years already. Not only we've all aged but also as a nation moved forward. The country's socio-economic evolution is seen by the growth of KFC in Bangladesh," said Akku Chowdhury, managing director of TFL, while addressing the opening programme.

This international brand, originated from the US, has its franchise in over 118 countries with over 18,000 restaurants, he added. Akku Chowdhury, also a freedom fighter, said KFC Bangladesh is maintaining high standard of food safety and hygiene. "We are committed to a global conscience of making life a little better," he mentioned.

Miguel Eduardo, economic and commercial officer of the US embassy in Dhaka, and David Tulloch, the embassy's political and economic counselor, praised TFL for introducing KFC in Bangladesh.

"KFC is an example of a small roadside chicken restaurant growing into a worldwide enterprise. It's also an example of the ties between Bangladesh and USA, creating jobs in both the countries," Eduardo said. KFC Bangladesh brand

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From left, David Tulloch, political and economic counselor of the US embassy in Dhaka; Sharmin Lucky, television personality; Akku Chowdhury, managing director of Transcom Foods Limited; Miguel Eduardo, the US embassy's economic and commercial officer; Mahira Sirat and singer Topu at the launch of KFC's new outlet at Uttara in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

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BSK awards 1,316 students for book reading

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Bishwa Sahitya Kendra (BSK) yesterday handed over awards to 1,316 school students who participated in a book reading programme organised by it.

Abdullah Abu Sayeed, founder chairman of BSK, inaugurated the ceremony at Baptist Mission Girls' School in the city.

Highest priority for building a progressive nation should be given on education through reading books, he said.

Some 3,000 students from 31 schools of the city participated in the book reading programme this year.

Media personality Ali Imam; Mohammad Gaus, divisional commissioner; Dr Gazi Md Saifuzzaman, deputy commissioner of Barisal; and Ahsan Habib, regional head of Grameenphone, among others, spoke at the event, which was sponsored by Grameenphone.

Dedicated to children

MAHDI AL MUHTASIM

Wearing similar outfits, Fairuz and Faiza were shuffling through the piles of colourful books. The twins have immense interest in books. But they cannot read.

Four-year-old Faiza picked up "Chhorar Mela" (poetry carnival) at the stall of Ankur Prokashani and started imploring her father to buy the storybook for her.

Fairuz already got hers. "I bought Lal Pori Nil Pori (Blue and red fairies)," she said with a smile. It is not words, but colourful pictures that attract them, said their father, Faizul Rahman, who works at an IT firm. "They can identify images. They love books a lot."

To satisfy the curiosity and need of the young readers, the Amar Ekushey book fair dedicated Shishu Prohor, two hours for children, every Fridays and Saturdays, when they can have fun learning new things and meeting popular TV characters like those of Sisimpur.

The Shishu Chattar, set up around a banyan tree, is surrounded by stalls of children's literature including books of stories, rhymes, fairy tales, comics, drawing and also general knowledge.

The fair ground saw a large crowd on the weekend, with queue extending up to TSC from the entrance to Suhrawardy Udyan

premises. It got crowder in the afternoon.

While children were playing around, parents were seen taking videos and photos of the joyful moments.

GRAPHIC NOVEL ON BANGABANDHU Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was brought alive in the graphic novel series, first comic book published by the Centre for Research and Information (CRI).

"While most of our superheroes wander around the world of imagination and fiction, this graphic series on Bangabandhu portrays how a boy with ordinary upbringing ended up being the father of a nation," said a fourth grader Simu, holding the graphic series.

"I've been so hooked after reading the first episode that I can identify with the life of school-going Mujib. So, I bought the second episode," said Uzzal of Motijheel Ideal School.

The entire autobiographical book by Bangabandhu, "The Unfinished Memoirs", would be presented in 12 volumes in the series, said Sabbir Bin Shams, executive director of CRI, adding they would bring the third episode in this fair.

The fair also became a rendezvous for foreigners as well. Sujin Hong, an NGO worker from South Korea, bought

1,000km health awareness run from Feb 15

DU CORRESPONDENT

A 1,000km health awareness run from Teknaf to Tentulia will be launched from Teknaf on February 15.

The run, with a theme titled "The Great Bangladesh: Run for healthy Bangladesh", will be held to promote good health and wellbeing for all ages.

AAMS Arefin Siddique, vice chancellor of Dhaka University, inaugurated the event yesterday.

Shamsuzzaman Arafat, an alumnus of Dhaka University and the solo runner of the event, will make an attempt to run the entire distance between Dokkhinpara village of Teknaf and Zero Point of Banglabanda in Panchagarh.

Several other relay runners will take turn every 100km to accompany Arafat. The run is sponsored by NRB Commercial Bank Ltd.

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