



GENOCIDE 1971 Govt moves to get UN recognition



INAM AHMED and SHAKHAWAT LITON

At the end of his ruthless massacre and war against an unarmed people, General Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi who led the Pakistan army in the killings, described the genocide of Bangalis in his book "Betrayal of East Pakistan" as "a display of stark cruelty more merciless than the massacres at Bukhara and Baghdad by Chengis Khan and Halaku Khan or Jallianwala Bagh by the British General Dyer."

The world hardly paid heed to the ruthless killings going on in Bangladesh in those long nine months. The tales of the

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Rickshaw-van puller Iqbal transports LPG cylinders on his improvised fuel-supply van against the traffic near Mohakhali Bus Terminal in the capital recently. He used to deliver kerosene. Now hardly anyone uses the fuel. Iqbal had to switch his business to delivering LPG cylinders. He was unaware of any safety precautions for this hazardous job.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Mosque founder stabbed during prayers in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The founder of a mosque and a madrasa was stabbed from behind while he was offering Maghrib prayers at a mosque in Chittagong's Fatikchhari upazila yesterday evening.

The victim, Hafez Moulana Mohammad Shah Alam Noimi, 57, is the founder of Imam Abu Hanifa Rahmania Jame Mosque and Moinia Sunniya Madrasa in Paindong union of the upazila.

He was receiving treatment at Chittagong Medical College Hospital, police said, adding that he was out of danger.

The attacker, Mohammad Salauddin, aged around 20, is in police custody.

Quoting locals, Abu Yusuf Mia, officer-in-charge of Fatikchhari Police Station, told The Daily Star that Salauddin stabbed Shah Alam from behind while he was offering Maghrib prayers at Imam Abu Hanifa Rahmania Jame Mosque.

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TOP QUOTE

"Bangladeshi people like to talk with natural smile in their faces which tourists love to see and visit."

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN BANGLADESH
BENOIT-PIERRE LARAMÉE
AT A DISCUSSION ON TOURISM AT ROSE GARDEN YESTERDAY

9 deals on defence during PM's visit

Dhaka, Delhi expected to sign more than 40 agreements, MoUs in different areas

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and REAZ AHMAD

Two agreements and seven memorandums of understanding on defence cooperation would figure prominently among more than 40 deals expected to be signed between Bangladesh and India during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Delhi visit next month.

India is likely to commit a new line of credit of around \$4 billion for 20 projects in Bangladesh, say sources at the ministries concerned.

Hasina is all set to embark on a four-day visit from April 7. Delhi's readiness to sign a defence pact with Dhaka remains the centrepiece of all discussions in the run-up to her first state visit to India in seven years.

The two agreements and seven MoUs that are on the cards fall under the defence ministry. They include a "Defence Cooperation Agreement", a technical agreement between the Bangladesh Navy and the Indian Navy, and seven MoUs on issues ranging from enhancing cooperation in the field of "National Security and Strategic Studies" to research.

Though there has been no official disclosure yet on the defence pact, it is being widely reported that India is eager for a comprehensive deal with Bangladesh on defence, while the latter is preferring a MoU to an agreement.

In the field of science and technology, two agreements, one MoU and an



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HAPPINESS INDEX Bangladesh ranked 110th, 4th in S Asia

STAR REPORT

Bangladeshis are happier than Indians and Sri Lankans, according to World Happiness Report 2017 released yesterday coinciding with the United Nations' International Day of Happiness.

Bangladesh ranked 110th among 155 countries surveyed for the report while Sri Lanka and India came in at 120 and 122. Pakistan ranked 80th, Bhutan 97th and Nepal 99th.

Norway is the happiest place on earth, says the report prepared by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), a global initiative launched by the United Nations in 2012.

Bangladesh was in the same position among 157 countries in last year's report, which had Denmark at the top.

This year, Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, Finland, Netherlands, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and

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Please find my only son

Says mother of missing man 'picked up'; Victim Sohel's friend Hanif died in Rab custody after being detained near Ashkona 'suicide blast' scene

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sohel Hossain Montu, who according to his family was picked up along with Hanif Mridha from Narayanganj's Siddhirganj late last month, was still missing till last night.

Hanif, aged around 40, died in the custody of Rapid Action Battalion hours after Friday's suicide blast at the capital's Ashkona. Rab

claimed he had complained of chest pain after being detained near the blast scene.

Hanif's family also claimed he had been missing since he was "picked up".

Talking to The Daily Star, Sohel's mother Momtaz Begum said they were searching for her son in vain. Even yesterday, they went to the Rab-1 office in Uttara looking for him.

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A fitting end



PHOTO: BCB

With the Test leg of Bangladesh's tour of Sri Lanka ending on a high after that magnificent four-wicket win on Sunday, the Tigers shift their focus to the ODI series. Here the ODI and T20I captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza shares his thoughts with bowling coach Courtney Walsh at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

SAKEB SUBHAN from Colombo

It was hard not to be left wanting more as Bangladesh's Test season drew to a close in the best possible fashion - a four-wicket win over Sri Lanka in the country's hundredth Test match at the P Sara Oval in Colombo on Sunday. While there has been much talk about Bangladesh's glut of Tests this season, when taking a wider view seven Tests starting with the two-Test series against England in October 2016 and ending with the two Test series in Sri Lanka can hardly be called a glut, especially as the national team endured a 15-month gap between Tests before October 2016.

But more than a thirst for the longer form, it was Bangladesh's performance in their 100th Test that makes one think that a few more Tests in this vein would have been instructive. All the four away Tests before Sunday's historic triumph in Colombo had one common feature - Bangladesh competing for large parts of Test matches in New Zealand, India and Sri Lanka before the fifth day would see the players washing it all down the drain. That

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