



Cloaked in a Bangladesh flag and wearing a headband emblazoned with "Independence Day", Nurul Islam, a double amputee, travels in his wheeled flat-board on the thoroughfare of Dhaka city yesterday. The photo was taken in Motijheel.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# May no nation experience genocide

President Abdul Hamid hopes for a world of peace as he recalls Pakistani atrocities in 1971

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh hopes that no part of the world would experience genocide like Bangladesh did during the Liberation War of 1971, President Abdul Hamid said yesterday.

"We do not want see any genocide or collapse of humanity in the world. We want global peace, freedom and humanity," he said while addressing a tree plantation programme at Bangabhaban, his official residence.

Anti-war crimes campaign group Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee organised the planation, marking Genocide Day yesterday.

While inaugurating the programme Hamid recalled the martyrs and genocide victims of Bangladesh and the world.

The Nirmul Committee will plant 30 lakh saplings across the world, including Bangladesh, in memory of as many martyrs of Bangladesh's Liberation War. As part of the programme, 25 saplings were planted

on the premises of Bangabhaban.

The president said this programme would not only recall the brutalities of the Pakistani forces, but also help spread the message across the globe about the genocide they committed.

He hoped that the "Shaheed Smrity Tree Plantation" would discourage such mass killings both at home and abroad by creating awareness among people all around the world.

About the importance of tree plantation, the president said global climate was changing due to aggressive industrial and energy policy taken by many developed countries, contributing sea-level rise.

Referring to predictions of environmentalists, he said if sea level rise was not checked, one third of Bangladesh, many islands and localities would go under seawater in the next 30-40 years, hoping that the international community will play a more responsible role in checking global warming.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

# US citizens, Australians cautioned

UNB, Dhaka

The US Embassy has advised US citizens living here to take appropriate steps to enhance their personal security.

"Be vigilant and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security," the Embassy said in a security advisory for US citizens posted on its website.

A man was killed when a bomb attached to his waist exploded near a police box close to Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on Friday evening.

"Please review your personal security plans, remain aware of your surroundings, including local events, and monitor local news stations for updates," the message reads.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

# Babla Bon mass grave slips into oblivion

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

The place sees a facelift only before special days like the Independence Day and the Victory Day. Then, as usual, it sinks into oblivion.

Babla Bon mass grave in Sreerampur area of Rajshahi city, bearing horrifying memories of the killing of at least 17 Bangalees by the Pakistan occupation forces in 1971, lies uncared for due to indifference of the authorities concerned.

Though a memorial was built there by Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) in 1995 to commemorate the fallen heroes of the nation, it mostly goes unnoticed.

In the meantime, an illegal slum has developed behind the memorial, thanks

to the negligence of the authorities concerned. One of the slum dwellers on condition of anonymity said she cleans the memorial when the authorities ask them to do so before the special days.

"Most of the time, it [memorial] remains without care," she said.

Every day, hundreds of people from the city and elsewhere visit the Sreerampur T-groyne area -- a tourist attraction near the mass grave -- to enjoy the beauty of the Padma river. But the memorial hardly attracts any of those visitors as it is left in a neglected state.

A young visitor recently walked over the memorial stone -- oblivious to the presence of the mass grave.

"I didn't know it was a mass grave. I

walked over it on previous occasions too," said the student of Rajshahi Government College, requesting anonymity.

Water Development Board has set up a barbed wire fence to protect a road to the T-groyne, but people have cut the fence adjacent to the memorial to be able to enter the T-groyne area.

The slum dwellers also dry their clothes on the fence, blocking the view of the memorial.

Moreover, a drain carrying raw waste from the slum flows by the memorial and pollutes the air with an overpowering stench -- enough to distract people from paying any attention to the memorial.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF BANGLADESH



স্বাধীনতার চেতনা  
আমাদের উন্নতির অনুপ্রেরণা  
স্বনির্ভরতার লক্ষ্য  
আমাদের এগিয়ে যাওয়ার প্রণোদনা

আইসিএবি-এর পক্ষ থেকে সবাইকে  
মহান স্বাধীনতা দিবসের শুভেচ্ছা।



www.icab.org.bd



TURKISH AIRLINES

CELEBRATING  
INDEPENDENCE DAY  
IN BANGLADESH

FLY FROM DHAKA WITH TURKISH AIRLINES

FROM	FROM	FROM	FROM	FROM
\$199*	\$239*	\$299*	\$349*	\$559*
NEW YORK LONDON ROME MANCHESTER LOS ANGELES	MILANO PARIS VENICE FRANKFURT BIRMINGHAM BOLOGNA CHICAGO	WASHINGTON HOUSTON ATLANTA MIAMI ZURICH	AMSTERDAM BOSTON MADRID COPENHAGEN BRUSSELS GENEVA VIENNA SAN FRANCISCO BARCELONA	TORONTO
				FROM \$449*
				MONTREAL

Ticketing: 26 - 31 March 2017 Flight: 15 April - 30 November 2017

\*Tax not included

CELEBRATING 46<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE IN BANGLADESH

TURKISHAIRLINES.COM

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER