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SHAH CEMENT

Beads of prosperity

Jamalpur woman starts her own business from scratch after husband leaves her; employs 50 in her handicraft trade

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A defiant woman, neglected and devoid of her rights by her husband, has economically empowered herself by building a small business of handicrafts in Jamalpur's Sadar upazila. Jannatul Mawa Sheuly, of Darihamidpur village, was married to Arif Hossain Masud of the neighbouring village Jamira in 1996. Like any other individual, she harboured hopes of a happily married life. But her aspirations began to fade when her husband went to Kuwait in 1999 for a job, leaving Sheuly and their nine-day-old son home. Masud soon stopped providing any sort of support to his wife and their newborn. He even stopped contacting her. Sheuly tried to find a way to reach him but she could not. Left with no alternative, Sheuly returned to her parents' house at Darihamidpur with her child, she said. When Masud finally returned in 2005, he avoided Sheuly and their child but she left no stone unturned to reconcile with him. Masud then married a girl a year later and this proved to be the final straw for Sheuly. She divorced him in 2010 and started contemplating her next steps. With a child to raise, Sheuly was determined to do something to turn her fortune around.

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With a little training, these women make handicrafts out of beads of varied colours and sizes. With deft flicks of their hands, they turn these beads into show pieces, purses, flower cases, tissue boxes, soap cases and what not. Inset, some of the finished items, ready for sale in local markets as well as in Dhaka and other cities.

PHOTO: STAR

COALMINE GRAFT CASE SC clears way for trying Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday cleared the way for a lower court to continue trying BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in the Barapukuria coalmine corruption case. A four-member Appellate Division bench headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha dismissed Khaleda's leave to appeal petition, which challenged a High Court verdict giving the go ahead to the trial proceedings. Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) lawyer Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star that there was no legal bar on the lower court following the SC order. The HC, on September 17 last year, rejected Khaleda's petition challenging the legality of the proceedings against her. Khaleda later filed the leave to appeal petition, which the SC heard and on May 22 fixed yesterday's date to pass an order on.

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Hefajat unhappy with relocation of Lady Justice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A court yesterday granted bail to four people arrested during protests against the removal of statue of Lady Justice from the Supreme Court premises on Friday. They had been arrested in connection with "attempt to kill police and obstructing them from performing their duties". Those who got bail are Bangladesh Chhatra Union General Secretary Liton Nandi, Dhaka College unit President Morshed Ali, Lalbagh thana unit Organising Secretary Al Amin Hossain Joy and Udichi Shilpigosthi leader Arif Noor. Law enforcers on Friday filed a case with Shahbagh Police Station against 140-150 protesters, including the four, claiming that equipped with lethal weapons, they had attempted to kill policemen while demonstrating in front of the High Court shrine gate on Friday afternoon. The four accused were sent to jail on Saturday after Sub-Inspector of Shahbagh police Mirza Badrul Hasan, also investigation officer of the case, produced them before the Court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate AKM Moinuddin Siddique.

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Defiant Trump in combat mood

Slams 'fake news' as probe pierces his inner circle

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump yesterday said that many of the leaks from the White House were "fake news," following reports his son-in-law tried to set up a secret channel of communications with Moscow before Trump took office. Trump returned to the White House after a nine-day trip to the Middle East and Europe that ended on Saturday to face more questions about alleged communications between his son-in-law Jared Kushner and Russia's ambassador to Washington. "It is my opinion that many of the leaks coming out of the White House are fabricated lies made up by the #FakeNews media," Trump wrote in a series of Twitter posts on Sunday. Kushner, who is married to Trump's daughter Ivanka, had contacts with Moscow in December about opening a secret back channel of communications, according to news reports published while Trump was away on his trip. Kushner had at least three previously undisclosed contacts with the Russian ambassador to the United States during and after the 2016 presidential campaign, seven current and former US officials told Reuters. "Whenever you see the words 'sources say' in the fake news media, and they don't mention names ... it is very possible that those sources don't exist but are made up by fake news writers. #FakeNews is the enemy!" Trump wrote. The latest furor was stirred up after The Washington Post reported late Friday that Kushner -- arguably Trump's closest White House aide, and husband to the president's eldest daughter Ivanka -- made a

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Five die in lightning strikes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Five people were killed and another five injured after lightning struck two spots in Manikganj yesterday. The victims are Abdul Berek, 45, Taher Alam, 46, and Aslam Hossain, 50, of Baira Katakali village under Singair upazila and Nital Sarker, 15, and Joyanta Sarker, 13, of Hargaj village in Saturaia upazila. Aslam had employed Berek, Taher and the five injured to harvest paddy with him on his land, Singair Police Station Officer-in-Charge Ali Imam told The Daily Star. They were sitting by the cropland taking a break due to rains when they were struck by lightning around 1:30pm, he said, adding that Berek and Taher died on the spot.

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App that offers free meals



CNN ONLINE

American households throw food worth \$165 billion in the trash each year. Now they can share it with their neighbors instead, thanks to a new app. Olio was launched at the end of 2015 by Tessa Cook, a farmer's daughter from England, and Saasha Celestial-One, a daughter of hippies from Iowa. It connects local communities, businesses and food stores. Users upload a photo and description of the food they no longer want or need, and a time and pickup location for others to come collect it. For many users, it's about getting to know their community, says Cook. For others it's an opportunity to waste as little as possible. It's also a useful tool for cafes and bakeries, which can upload unsold food at the end of the day.

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SEHRI, IFTAR TIMINGS

Ramadan	May	Sehri	Iftar
2	29	6-44	
3	30	3-40	6-45
4	31	3-39	6-45

PRAYER TIMING MAY 29

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 3-46 12-45 5-00 6-44 8-05

JAMAAT 3-56 1-15 5-15 6-54 8-35

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

People picking out iftar items on the first day of Ramadan yesterday in Old Dhaka's Chawkbazar, long famous for a variety of delicious iftar items.

CHILD IN CHARGE SHEET Suspended cop says sorry

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Sub-Inspector Maruful Islam, who pressed charges of theft and vandalism against an 11-month-old child and a dead man in the capital's Mirpur, apologised before a Dhaka court yesterday. The police officer, now suspended from service, appeared before a metropolitan magistrate and submitted a statement saying that he made an inadvertent mistake. Maruful Islam, who was investigating a theft case, pressed charges on February 27 implicating the toddler and the dead man. The SI of Mirpur Model Police Station was suspended by police headquarters on May 14. In his statement, he mentioned that after the case was filed, police visited the scene, recorded witnesses' accounts, and interrogated neighbours.

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Hamdard

Drink at Iftar and Sehri, remain fit & healthy

Rook Afza