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## 2m Muslims in Makkah for hajj

Two million Muslims from across the globe are converging on Makkah in Saudi Arabia for the hajj pilgrimage, a religious duty and for some pilgrims the journey of a lifetime. This year sees the return of pilgrims from Shia Iran, regional rival to Sunni powerhouse Saudi Arabia, and comes with the Gulf mired in political crisis and Islamic State group

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## Kid's emotional appeal to PM

6-yr-old seeks Hasina's intervention to return her father before Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Sheikh Hasina, aunty, please return my papa before Eid. "Since papa went missing, ammu doesn't buy me any dress for Eid. I want to go for Eid shopping with my papa. I want to celebrate Eid with my papa." As Adiba Islam Hridi, six, made this direct, emotional appeal to the prime minister, it was difficult for everyone present in the Jatiya Press Club to hold their tears. Her father Parvez Hossain, a Chhatra Dal leader from Bangshal in the capital, went missing on December 2, 2013, from Shahbagh. Hridi was only two at the time. Her mother Farzana Hossain was then expecting her brother, Araf Hossain, who never got to see his father. Family members of 25 such victims who disappeared since 2013 called upon the government yesterday to set up an independent investigation commission to find out the fate of their loved ones and to punish those involved in their "forced" disappearance.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Ayesha Ali, mother of Abdul Quader Masum, a Chhatra Dal leader and a victim of enforced disappearance, cannot hold back her tears as she speaks about her son at a programme at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. The event was organised marking the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. Quader has been missing since 2013 when he was allegedly picked up by law enforcers.

PHOTO: STAR

## NHRC worried over enforced disappearances

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Human Rights Commission yesterday expressed concern over the recent incidents of enforced disappearance and abduction and asked the government to find the victims and return them to their families immediately.

It also urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps in this regard so that repetition of such incidents could be prevented, said a press release of the NHRC.

The rights body yesterday held a discussion on some incidents of reported enforced disappearance and abduction.

It asked the authorities concerned to submit a report after investigating the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

## Woman killed after 'gang-rape' on bus

5 staffers of bus arrested, 3 of them confess crime

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Madhupur police arrested five staffers of an inter-district bus on charges of killing and gang-raping a law student on a moving bus Friday night.

A team of police raided Madhupur bus station early yesterday and arrested Habib, 40, Gendu, 35, Shamim, 30, Akram, 30, and

Jahangir, 20, and seized the bus.

Bus helpers Shamim, Akram, and Jahangir have already made confessional statements before senior judicial magistrates, court officials said. Police were interrogating the two others.

Being informed by a bus passenger, police recovered the body of Rupa Khatun

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

## 'Abducted' bank official returns home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

IFIC Bank official Shamim Ahmed, who was allegedly kidnapped from the capital's Paltan last week, has returned home.

The kidnapers blindfolded him and left him near Motijheel on Monday night, his wife Shilpi Ahmed told The Daily Star

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

## EID RUSH Minor hurdles on roads

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the Eid-ul-Azha only three days away, thousands of holidaymakers left the capital without facing much hassle at the exit points yesterday but were caught in traffic snarl-ups at different highways.

The bus and launch terminals and railway stations in the capital have already started witnessing crowds of home-goers. The rush of holidaymakers is expected to gain momentum in next two days.

Although the government has assured of taking adequate measures, transport opera-

tors fear the traffic on the highways may go haywire if it rains and the authorities fail to control vehicular movement at key points when traffic pressures intensify.

The exit points of the capital and its outskirts have always been a matter of concern for the holidaymakers before Eid as these points witness traffic chaos due to excessive flow of vehicles, haphazard parking and stoppage, and cattle markets close to the road.

However, the traffic movement was quite smooth as of yesterday.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 30

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-25 12-45 4-45 6-38 8-00

JAMAAT 5-00 1-15 5-00 6-41 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



## Seabirds smell their way home

MAIL ONLINE

Seabirds' sense of smell is a key factor in how they navigate thousands of miles across oceans, scientists at Oxford University have found.

Researchers believe an experiment in the Mediterranean solves long-held arguments over whether these birds rely on the Earth's magnetic field or their sense of smell when flying long distances over featureless water.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

## COUNTERTERRORISM US official commends Dhaka's role

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A visiting senior official of the US Department of State has commended Bangladesh's "tremendous" role in counterterrorism initiatives and said that the US will continue to cooperate in this area.

Terming the bilateral relationship "extraordinary", Alice G Wells, acting assistant secretary of state for south and central Asian affairs, has said the US attaches great value to its relationship with Bangladesh.

Wells, who arrived in Dhaka yesterday morning

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



People watch a television news screen showing file footage of a North Korean missile launch at a railway station in Seoul yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## North Korea now fires missile over Japan

Abe sees it as unprecedented, serious threat

AFP, Seoul

Nuclear-armed North Korea fired a ballistic missile over Japan yesterday in a major escalation that triggered global alarm and a furious response from the government in Tokyo.

A visibly unsettled Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said it was an "unprecedented, serious and grave threat", while the UN Security Council called an emergency meeting at Tokyo and Washington's request.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকার নোটের প্রধান ৪টি নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য

জাতির জনক বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান এর প্রতিকৃতি সম্বলিত ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকার নোট লেনদেনের সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত ৪টি নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য খেয়াল করলে আমরা সহজেই আসল নোট চিনতে পারব :

- ০১। নিরাপত্তা সূত্রঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের নিরাপত্তা সূত্রে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের লোগো এবং নোটের মূল্যমান মুদ্রিত আছে যা নোট কাঁচ করে ধরে নড়াচড়া করলে দেখা যাবে। ২০১৭ সালের জুন মাস হতে মুদ্রিত ১০০ ও ৫০০ টাকার নোটে চুলের বেনী আকারে মুদ্রিত নিরাপত্তা সূত্রের একটি অংশ নোটের নড়াচড়ায় লাল হতে সবুজ রংয়ে পরিবর্তন হবে এবং বাংলায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান দেখা যাবে।
- ০২। রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালিঃ ১০০ ও ১০০০ টাকার নোট চিত করে ধরে নড়াচড়া করলে রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালিতে মুদ্রিত অংশ সোনালী হতে সবুজ এবং ৫০০ টাকার নোটে এটি লালচে হতে সবুজ হবে। তাছাড়া, ১০০০ টাকার নোটের পিছনে বামদিকে হালকা নীল রংয়ের BANGLADESH BANK লেখাটি নোট নড়াচড়া করলে দেখা যাবে।
- ০৩। অসমতল ছাপাঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের প্রত্যেক প্রকার নোটের সম্মুখ ও পশ্চাৎ পৃষ্ঠের ডিজাইন, মধ্যভাগের লেখা, ইংরেজী ও বাংলা সংখ্যায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান, ৭টি সমান্তরাল সরলরেখা এবং এর ঠিক নিচে অবস্থিত ছোট ছোট বৃত্তাকার ছাপ খসখসে অনুভূত হবে।
- ০৪। অতি সূক্ষ্ম আকারের লেখাঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের নোটের পেছনের পিছের বৃত্তাকার অংশে অতি সূক্ষ্ম আকারে BANGLADESH BANK লেখাগুলো আতশী কাঁচ ছাড়াও স্মার্ট ফোনের ক্যামেরা প্রয়োজন মতো জুম করে নিচে প্রদর্শিত অংশের ছবি তুলে তা পুনরায় জুম করে দেখা যাবে।

ব্যাংকনোটের ব্যবহার সম্পর্কে সচেতন হোন

নোট জালকারীচক্রের প্রতারণা থেকে নিজেকে রক্ষা করুন এবং এসকল নোট জালকারীকে ধরিয়ে দিন। আসল নোটের নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য সম্পর্কে নিজে জানুন এবং অপরকে জানতে সহায়তা করুন ॥

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