



ALL THE ENAMUL'S MEN
AL leaders publicly slam the Rajshahi MP for harbouring militants, outlawed parties
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SUPPORT, BUT NOT TROOPS
No Indian boots on the ground in Afghanistan, says defence minister
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REMEMBERING A GIANT
Top stars talk about the wordsmith on his first death anniversary
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No safety in custody

1,900 killed extra-judicially in 13 years; of them, 800 victims of custodial death

RAFIUL ISLAM
It is human nature to learn from past experiences. But when it comes to deaths in so-called crossfire, law enforcement agencies seem to have learned nothing of the sort.
Rights activists say almost every time a detainee is taken out for a "raid", he gets killed. So by now, law enforcers should know that they may "come under attack" by criminals, as they claim. Then why don't they protect the detainee?
"Such incidents [deaths in the so-called attack by criminals] may happen once, twice or thrice. It is a big question why law enforcement agencies do not take appropriate security measures, such as providing them with bulletproof vests," said Sheeba Hafiza, executive director of Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK).
Law enforcers and rights bodies have no record or memory of shootouts in the country before 2004, when Rapid Action Battalion was formed. On August 6 that year, top listed criminal "Pichchi" Hannan was killed in crossfire during a drive while in custody of the elite force.
In the last 13 years since, more than 1,900 people have been killed in such incidents involving police, Rab and joint forces. At least 350 met such a fate in 2005, the highest in a single year, according to rights body Ain o Salish Kendra.

AL activist killed in 'gunfight'
Family claims he was in police custody
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia
An Awami League activist was killed in a so-called "gunfight" between police and his cohorts in an isolated char area in Kushtia early hours yesterday.
Family members said victim Miraz Hasan Teny, 26, had been arrested on



A Rohingya child carries a bag of relief supplies to his makeshift home at Balukhali in Ukhia upazila of Cox's Bazar yesterday. In the background, refugees queue for aid. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



SAVAGERY in cold blood

Teenage boy beaten to death on suspicion of theft

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Myingmingshi
Tied to a concrete pole and surrounded by a group of villagers, Sagor Mia looked totally hapless and exhausted. But every time he tried to close his eyes, a man hit him violently with a piece of wood. Some other men, standing nearby, kept hurling abuse at the teenage boy.
Sagor repeatedly screamed for help, cried for water and begged for his life. But the group showed no mercy. The torture continued.
And at one point, he collapsed and died of his injuries later.
The 18-year-old's only "fault" was he allegedly tried to steal a water pump at a hatchery in Char Steerampur village of Myingmingshi's Gautipur. And for this, he had to die this cruel death allegedly at the hands of the hatchery owner, Akkas Ali, and some of his employees.
Apparently, one of the onlookers filmed the torture on a mobile phone and shared it on social media. The video went viral.
The incident, which harks back to the

UNSC stepping up response

Holds closed-door meet; secretary-general to brief during its public session tomorrow; seven UN experts ask Suu Kyi to visit Rohingyas

STAR REPORT
The UN Security Council met behind closed doors yesterday to discuss the violence in Myanmar, moving to step up its response to the exodus of 4,80,000 Rohingyas in what has been condemned as "ethnic cleansing."
The meeting will set the stage for a public session of the top UN body tomorrow, during which UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is set to brief on the crisis and China, along with other council members, will deliver remarks.
International alarm is growing over the fate of the Rohingyas who have been fleeing an army campaign in Rakhine that the United Nations says has included killings, rape and the torching of villages.
The military operation followed attacks on August 25 by militants on police posts.

ROHINGYA INFLUX
4,80,000
AND COUNTING

British Deputy UN Ambassador Jonathan Allen said the council must "send a clear message to the authorities of Myanmar that the violence needs to stop."
Humanitarian aid must be allowed in Rakhine and the status of the Rohingyas, who are stateless in Myanmar, must be addressed, he said.
French Ambassador Francois Delattre said he was pushing for a "strong and united response" from the council to pile pressure on authorities in Myanmar, reports AFP.

Orphans to get separate shelter, smartcards

UNB, Dhaka
The government plans to provide separate shelters and smartcards to Rohingya orphans who have entered Bangladesh since violence erupted in Rakhine State of Myanmar last month.
It will take steps to make special arrangements for accommodation, food and other relief items for all the orphans aged up to 18, State Minister for Social Welfare Nuruzzaman Ahmed said yesterday.
"An initiative has been taken to get 400 acres of land – 200 acres each in Ukhia and Teknaf – from Cox's Bazar district administration for that purpose, he added.
"Noting that some 6,000 Rohingya orphans might have entered Bangladesh, Nuruzzaman said they would get "standard meal".
"As per the prime minister's directives, measures are being taken to provide every Rohingya orphan with a smartcard," the state minister told a press briefing at the secretariat.
"Details of some 2,000 orphans have already been added to a database through Google forms. And all the preparation for the database will be complete within a week. The smartcards will be issued after that."

Tied to a concrete pole, this boy can barely stand on his feet after being brutally tortured allegedly by a hatchery owner and his employees on Monday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Myingmingshi
Sabina Yasmin, a ninth grader of Kalshindur Govt. School and College, and a footballer of the national women's under-15 team, died of fever in Dhobaura, Myingmingshi in the early hours yesterday.
The promising footballer was suffering from fever for the last three days. After her condition worsened yesterday afternoon, she was rushed to the Dhobaura Health Complex where doctors pronounced her dead.
Dr Watz Uddin Faraji, health and family welfare officer of the health complex, said Sabina had already died on the way to the hospital.
It has been learnt that her family members gave her paracetamol tablets to ease the fever, but she did not complain about anything other than the illness.
Mahdi Hasan, upazila



THROWING AWAY PUBLIC MONEY ... Workers digging a trench in the pavement of Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the city's Farmgate to build a footbridge. The Dhaka North City Corporation made the move barely a couple of months after it had built the concrete pavement under a Tk 8 crore project. Sources at the DNCC blamed lack of coordination between the corporation's civil engineering wing and the traffic circle for the misuse of public money. The photo was taken on Monday. PHOTO: ANSUR RAHAMAN

A promising life cut short

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Myingmingshi
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It's crimes against humanity: HRW

UNSC sanction, arms embargo against Myanmar sought

REUTERS, Yangon
Myanmar is committing crimes against humanity in its campaign against Muslim insurgents in Rakhine, Human Rights Watch said yesterday, calling for the UN Security Council to impose sanctions and an arms embargo.
The UN refugee agency called for a redoubling of international aid for the 4,80,000 refugees – 60 percent of them children – who have fled to Bangladesh since August 25 to escape the violence.
"A Myanmar government spokesman rejected the accusation of crimes against humanity, saying there was no evidence.
Myanmar has also rejected UN accusations that its forces are engaged in ethnic cleansing against Rohingyas in response to coordinated attacks by Rohingyas insurgents on the security forces on August 25.
"Refugees arriving in Bangladesh have accused the army and Buddhist vigilantes of trying to drive Rohingyas out of Buddhist-majority Myanmar.
"The Burmese military is brutally expelling the Rohingyas from northern Rakhine state," said James Ross, legal and policy director at New York-based Human Rights Watch.
"The massacres of villagers and mass arson driving people from their homes are all crimes against humanity."
Myanmar, also known as Burma, says its forces are fighting terrorists responsible for attacking the police and the army, killing civilians and torching villages.