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HERITAGE IN SANDSTONE

Unique temple needs care

SUZIT KUMAR DAS with ANDREW EAGLE

Collective memory in Kharshuti village says that in the first decade of the twentieth century, there came a day when sandstone slabs were loaded aboard a ship in Kolkata, bound for Faridpur. Available in various corners of the subcontinent, the precise origin of the sandstone is unsure. If the slabs did indeed arrive by ship rather than from some nearer source, none can say if the sea-and-river journey was smooth or wracked by storm. To imagine slabs being laboriously shifted from a Faridpur river port by ox-cart is only to speculate. Not much is known. What is certain is this: the sandstone was used to build the Kharshuti Shiva temple.

Located in Moyna union of Boailmari upazila and 37 kilometres from Faridpur town, the roughly ninety-square-metre temple is to be found in the grounds of Kharshuti Chandra Kishor High School. "The temple had a black stone shiva linga," recalls freedom fighter Rofiuddin Mollah, 70, who was a teacher at the school. "There was the figure of an ox in white marble and a trident on the apex of the roof. At some time in the 1960s these items were stolen."

The temple was constructed by Ishan Chandra Ghosh, a local who at one stage worked as headmaster

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Call of duty

Bangladeshi man saves woman from being 'gang-raped' in Italy

UNB, Dhaka

Hossein Alamgir, a flower seller from Bangladesh, has rescued an Italian woman



Alamgir

after she was allegedly about to be gang-raped by 25 drunk Italian men in Florence, Italy on Thursday.

The victim, Gaia Guarnotta, 25, a photographer from Livorno, made the disclosure on her Facebook wall, reports the Daily Mail Online.

"Thank You to this world for there are people like Hossein, who help without wanting anything in return. This is a face I will never forget," said Guarnotta.

She added that she wanted to share her story to show that there was still a

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16TH AMENDMENT

Body formed to file verdict review plea

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A committee led by Attorney General Mahubey Alam has been formed for filing a review petition against the Supreme Court verdict in the 16th amendment case.

The SC's Appellate Division upheld a High Court verdict that scrapped the 16th amendment to the constitution. The amendment had empowered parliament to remove SC judges for incapacity or misconduct.

Sources at the AG's office said the recently-formed 11-member committee was examining the SC verdict and the relevant policies of the constitution and laws for preparing the review petition.

The other members of the committee are Murad Reza and Momtaz Uddin Fakir, additional attorney generals; Motahar Hossain Saju, Bishwajit Debnath, Ekramul Huq Tutul, Masud Hasan Chowdhury Parag,

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'IS capital' Raqqa liberated

'Caliphate' in disarray as US-led forces hail victory, say region will be part of decentralised Syria



CNN, Reuters

US-backed militias yesterday declared the "total liberation" of the Syrian city of Raqqa, which for more than three years was the de facto capital of IS.

Speaking at a ceremony held to celebrate the capture of Raqqa, Syrian Democratic Forces spokesman Talal Silo claimed a "historic victory" over IS and said the extremist group had suffered a "brutal" defeat.

He paid tribute to all those killed and injured in the struggle, as well as all the Syrian factions that battled for 130 days to force IS from its key Syrian stronghold and their international backers.

Silo said control of the city would be handed over to civilian leaders once clearing operations were completed and that the SDF would guarantee the protection of the city and its province.

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N Korea close to nuke that could hit US

Says CIA chief

AFP, Washington

The United States should assume Kim Jong-Un's regime is "on the cusp" of getting a nuclear missile capable of striking US targets and work to prevent this, the head of the CIA said Thursday.

CIA director Mike Pompeo said President Donald Trump is determined to prevent North Korea from making the breakthrough "whether it happens on Tuesday or a month from Tuesday."

Both Pompeo and US National Security Adviser HR McMaster said Trump would still prefer to use sanctions and diplomacy to force Kim to come to the table to discuss disarmament.

But, speaking to a Washington policy forum, both also warned that the use of US military force remains an option to prevent Pyongyang from

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Living next to forest boosts brain power



MAIL ONLINE

German researchers have uncovered the first physical proof that living on the edge of a forest boosts brain power.

Living near an abundance of trees makes adults less stressed by strengthening an area of the brain that controls emotional processing, they found.

The amygdala, an area of grey matter vital for processing anxiety, was more robust in the people involved in the study.

The same correlation did not exist when they looked at living close to open green areas, wasteland or rivers in urban areas.

Scientists have long suggested living near forests is good for you, but the findings are the first to provide physical evidence.

City dwellers are at greater risk of psychiatric illnesses such as depression, anxiety disorders and schizophrenia than those who reside in the country.

Noise, pollution and the high number of people

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'Drug dealer' killed in 'gunfight'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An alleged drug dealer was killed in a "gunfight" between his cohorts and Rab in Chittagong city's Ice Factory Road area early yesterday.

The dead is Mohammad Faruk, 42, from Chittagong's Patiya upazila, said Lt Commander Ashiqur Rahman, deputy director of Rab-7, adding that Faruk stood accused in 18 cases filed with different police stations in Chittagong.

The Rab official said a team raided Ice Factory Road area around 2:30am,

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 21

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-50 12-45 4-00 5-36 7-15

JAMAAT 5-25 1-15 4-15 5-39 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



The erosion of Pungli riverbank in Kalihati upazila of Tangail has taken a serious turn and now threatens a nearby rail bridge and an under-construction bridge on Dhaka-Tangail highway. The photos were taken last week.

PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

EROSION IN PUNGLI RIVER

Tangail rail bridge under threat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

With water level dropping, erosion of the Pungli river in Kalihati has taken a serious turn at Hinnaipara Fatikjani, threatening Pungli Railway Bridge and the nearby under construction bridge on Dhaka-Tangail highway.

Pungli, a tributary of the Jamuna, already devoured about 150 metre areas at Hinnaipara Fatikjani, which is around 50 feet away from the railway bridge, said Elenga Municipality Mayor Shafi Khan.

A century-old graveyard went into the river

within a few hours after the erosion began on October 14, he said while talking to this correspondent yesterday after visiting the spot.

Unplanned dredging and indiscriminate sand lifting in the area might be the reasons behind the erosion, he added.

If necessary steps were not taken immediately, the erosion might harm the bridges, the mayor said.

He informed Water Development Board (WDB), the local administration and the local lawmaker of the matter.

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বাংলাদেশ সার্ভিসেস লিমিটেড
(ইন্টারকন্টিনেন্টাল ঢাকা-এর স্বত্বাধিকারী)
১ মিন্ট রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০।

চিত্রকর্ম (Art Work) ক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে শিল্পীদের প্রাক-যোগ্যতার জন্য আবেদন দাখিলের সময়সীমা বর্ধিত করণ

গত ০৪/১০/২০১৭ তারিখে দৈনিক প্রথম আলো ও The Daily Star পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বাংলাদেশ সার্ভিসেস লিমিটেড (বিএসএল) কর্তৃক চিত্রকর্ম (Art Work) ক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে শিল্পীদের প্রাক-যোগ্যতার জন্য আবেদন দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ১৯/১০/২০১৭ হতে ২৬/১০/২০১৭ পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হলো। বিজ্ঞাপন, আবেদনকারীর যোগ্যতা ও প্রাক-যোগ্যতার শর্তাবলী বিএসএল-এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.bsl.gov.bd) দেওয়া আছে।

(মোঃ আবুল মনসুর)
সচিব (যোগাযোগ)
বাংলাদেশ সার্ভিসেস লিমিটেড