



This photograph taken on Saturday shows Bangladeshi theatre group "Drama Therapy" performing for Rohingya refugee children at Kutupalong camp in Ukhia.

PHOTO: AFP

# Clowns bring laughter to traumatised Rohingya kids

AFP, Kutupalong

The Rohingya boys and girls shrieked with delight as the clowns juggled hoops and somersaulted, their red-nosed antics provoking a sound rarely heard in the world's largest refugee camp -- children's laughter.

The clowns have been providing much-needed levity in the crowded camps, where hundreds of thousands of traumatised Rohingya children spend long days in difficult conditions.

Mohammad Noor lives with his mother and three siblings in a makeshift shanty in the teeming Kutupalong camp, where a lack of food and water means a constant struggle to survive.

The 10-year-old fled Myanmar last month after his father was killed in brutal violence by the army that the United Nations has likened to ethnic cleansing.

The impromptu circus in a dusty clearing is a welcome distraction from the horror at home.

"It is hilarious. I have never seen anything like it. My friends and I were just laughing and laughing," he told AFP, as a quartet of painted clowns performed skits before a huge gathered crowd.

Theatre groups in Bangladesh have a record of using "drama therapy" to lift spirits in the most depressing of circumstances.

One troupe performed for the survivors of a factory collapse in 2013 that killed 1100 garment workers, while another hosted shows in a small village in Bangladesh's south that lost nearly 50 children in a tragic road accident.

"Our sole aim is to bring laughter to the Rohingya," said Rina Akter Putul, a veteran acrobat and the lone female member of the group.

"Making people laugh is a tough job, especially for those who lost their parents in the conflict."

But it's not just the children who benefit from the visiting performers.

"We hardly have any fun," said Nesar Ahmed, 38. Even during major Islamic festivals and weddings, there is little in the way of entertainment, he added.

"Life in Arakan [Rakhine] is grim," Khairul Amin, a 63-year-old grandfather, told AFP as a boisterous crowd, young and old, jostled to meet the visiting clowns.

"There is no television and no cinema or theatre. And there is this constant fear you'll be killed or arrested by the military."

Seated for the show with her youngest child on her lap, Rehana smiled, saying: "Never in my life have I had such fun."

# Suspect placed

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investigation, they found that Aziza might have been killed because she came to know about the extra-marital affair of her aunt Beauty Begum, also an accused in the case.

Earlier, sub-inspector Rafiqul Islam of Shibpur Police Station, investigation officer of the case, produced Tamaza before the court seeking a five-day remand.

Confirming the remand, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police (Shibpur circle) Rezwan Ahmed said police will nab all the suspects in the shortest possible time and unearth the real reason behind the murder.

Syeduzzaman, officer-in-charge of Shibpur Police Station, said Tamaza, an accused in the FIR, during primary investigation admitted Beauty's illicit

relationship was the reason behind Aziza's killing.

Tamaza, Beauty's father-in-law's sister, said one Rubel, another accused named in the FIR, was having a relationship with Beauty.

She also admitted that Beauty and her relatives were involved in the killing, said the OC.

Beauty went into hiding after the incident took place in Shibpur upazila of Narsingdi on Friday night.

Family members allege that four men tied Aziza, 14, to a tree about half a kilometer away from her house in Khoinkuti under Joshor union of the upazila, doused her with petrol and set her alight.

With some 96 per cent of her body burned, she succumbed to her injuries while in Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Saturday morning, hospi-

tal sources said.

Her father Abdus Sattar, a worker at a local poultry farm, filed a murder case on Saturday night accusing seven people, including Beauty, Tamaza and Rubel, who brought her from her home. He also mentioned suspicion of cell phone theft as the reason behind the killing.

Beauty, whose husband is Sattar's brother, lost her cell phone about 10 days before the incident. She suspected that Aziza and one of her sisters took the phone, said Sattar.

Sattar added that at the time of the theft, Aziza was working at their poultry farm, which is some 250 yards from their home. He also outright denied the accusation against his daughter.

Tamaza was arrested from her house on Sunday afternoon.

# Ex-Trump aide charged

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charges against the two, the first against any close former Trump aides arising from a federal probe into possible collusion in Russia's effort to tilt the US presidential election in Trump's favour.

"Manafort and Gates generated tens of millions of dollars in income as a result of their Ukraine work," the indictment states.

"In order to hide Ukraine payments from United States authorities, from approximately 2006 to at least 2016, Manafort and Gates laundered the money through scores of United States and foreign corporations, partnerships and bank accounts," it added.

In all, Manafort and Gates were hit with 12 charges of conspiracy against the United States, conspiracy to launder money, failing to register as a foreign agent, making false statements and failure to report offshore bank accounts.

Manafort and an unidentified man were caught by television cameras walking into the FBI's Washington field

office around 8:15 am to surrender.

On Sunday, Trump took to Twitter as speculation mounted charges were about to drop, calling the investigation a "witch hunt" and repeating denials that his White House campaign coluded with Russia.

**FOCUS ON UKRAINE**  
Manafort was among the participants of a June 9, 2016 meeting at Trump Tower with a Kremlin-linked lawyer that raised suspicions of collusion between the campaign and Moscow.

The meeting was arranged by Trump's eldest son, Donald Jr, in hopes of receiving damaging information on Hillary Clinton, the Democratic candidate.

The indictment made no mention of Russian involvement in the US campaign, however, focusing instead on Manafort's earlier Ukrainian ties.

A long-time political operative and consultant, Manafort was recruited in March 2016 to round up pro-Trump delegates to the Republican Party

convention.

Then in June Trump named him campaign chairman, replacing fired Corey Lewandowski.

But in August he resigned as Ukraine corruption investigators released files showing large payments to Manafort companies and it became clear he was under investigation in the United States in relation to that.

Federal law enforcement officials were reportedly aware of wire transfers linked to Manafort as far back as 2012, when they began investigating whether he committed tax fraud or helped the Ukrainian regime -- at the time close to Russian leader Vladimir Putin -- launder money.

**ATTACKS ON DEMOCRATS**  
With the Mueller investigation entering a dramatic new phase, Republican officials and conservative media have stepped up attacks on Democrats -- especially Clinton -- though opponents are dismissing the accusations as blatant attempts to divert attention.

# Trial of Turkey alleged coup ringleaders resumes

AFP, Ankara

A mass trial resumed in Turkey yesterday of more than 220 suspects, including former generals, accused of being among the ringleaders of last year's coup bid to unseat President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The suspects face life sentences if convicted of charges ranging from using violence to try to overthrow the government and parliament, to killing nearly 250 people.

Turkey blames the July 2016 coup attempt on Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, a claim he strongly denies.

Gulen, who lives in self-imposed exile in the United States, is among several of the 221 suspects named in the indictment who are on the run.

The rest are due to appear in court in Sincan near the capital Ankara at a facility that was purpose-built to hear coup-related trials.

The attempted coup on July 15, 2016, left 249 people dead, not counting 24 plotters.

Also among the suspects in one of Turkey's highest-profile prosecutions are several high-ranking military officers including ex-air force commander Akin Ozturk.

Several are accused of leading the so-called "Peace At Home Council", the name the plotters are said to have given themselves the night of the failed overthrow.

# Local BCL men

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Chhatra Dal leaders, who were deprived of posts [in their organisation's committees], launched the attack ..."

Asked about the footage, he said they were doctored.

Echoing a similar view, Javed Haider, general secretary of Feni unit of BCL, said the photograph that was shown in the media was not of Osman.

"By carrying out the attack, BNP activists are trying to instigate journalists against the Awami League and Chhatra League," he told our Feni correspondent.

Feni police have been scrutinising the footage to identify the culprits involved in the attack.

Rashed Khan Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Feni Sadar Police Station, told The Daily Star that they were yet to identify anyone from the footage.

Khaleda's motorcade came under attack at Mohammad Ali Bazar of Feni on Saturday afternoon. The BNP and its archrival Awami League have been pointing fingers at each other since. Several media vehicles were vandalised in the attack.

Soon after the incident, local BNP leaders told the party's Secretary General Mirza Fakhruddin Islam Alamgir that the attack was led by Sharshadi Union Parishad Chairman Jane Alam, also a Jubo League leader.

# Deadman made fugitive

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It also asked the authorities concerned to send the copy of the order to the inspector general of police "with the expectation of providing necessary guidelines to the officials concerned engaged in executing the warrant of arrest issued by the tribunal."

The order came following a prosecution's plea to take legal action against the police officials for showing Abdul Majid Master of Maheshkhali, a war crimes accused, fugitive even after two months of his death.

Majid, one of the 17 accused of a case, had been on the run since a war crimes tribunal issued an arrest warrant for him more than two years ago.

Police on several occasions submitted reports to the tribunal, identifying him as a fugitive. In the latest report submitted on February 13, Zahirul Haque said he had visited Majid's house but did not find him.

In reality, Majid died on December 22 last year of old-age complications at the age of 85 at his village home. He was buried there.

Neither the tribunal nor the prosecution as well as the investigation agency was aware of his death until May 25 when the defence raised it in the court.

By then, the court heard the case, in which Majid was named as a fugitive twice.

The tribunal yesterday said the latest report and the prosecution's submission transpired that SI Zahirul Haque is "chiefly responsible for providing misleading information, in other words terming a dead accused alive..."

"The blatant inattention found on part of the law-enforcement agency had made space to go on with the proceeding against a dead person. It is frustrating indeed," reads the order.

"The superintendent of police, Cox's Bazar also cannot absolve the responsibility of due execution of warrant of arrest. He should have concentrated due attention on the matter," it adds.

On May 21, 2015, the ICT-2, now inoperative, issued arrest warrants for 16 war crimes accused of Maheshkhali including Majid. Police arrested three of them.

On October 8 that year, the investigation agency completed its probe and found involvement of Majid and 18 others in the killing of at least 94 people and other offences committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

The prosecution pressed 12 charges against them on March 15 last year and the tribunal, taking the charges into cognisance, asked the police to give reports on the fugitives.

On February 13, SI Zahirul reported to the court that he had visited Majid's house but did not find him.

When the tribunal was set to hear on charge framing in the case on May 25, defence counsel Abdus Sobhan Tarafder said he had heard of Majid's death.

The chief prosecutor's office wrote to the investigation agency to verify the information. Nurul Islam, investigation officer of the case, wrote to the officer-in-charge of Maheshkhali police on June 11 to that end.

On July 5, SI Imam Hossain wrote to the investigation agency confirming Majid's death. He also attached his death certificate.

The prosecution received the report on July 11.

Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta on July 13 told the tribunal that police had shown "gross neglect" in discharging their duties and sought punitive actions against the persons responsible.

The tribunal later fixed yesterday to pass an order in this regard.

A similar incident had occurred earlier.

Wazuddin of Mymensingh's Phulbaria upazila died of old-age complications on May 7, 2016.

But police did not inform the tribunal of his death until January 12 this year when a media report brought the matter to the fore.

The "unusual delay and neglect" in informing the tribunal of the death of the war crimes accused led to the charge framing against him in absentia on December 11, 2016 since the prosecution based on an earlier police report pressed formal charges identifying him as a fugitive.

Later, the tribunal asked the IGP and the SP of Mymensingh to explain police's "blatant inefficiency and neglect" in despatching the information.

It exonerated Mymensingh SP Syed Nurul Islam as he offered an unconditional apology and accepted the IGP's proposal to keep the tribunal informed about the status of the fugitives on a regular basis.

# Lost art

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spiritual heart of that culture -- the world's largest concentration of Taino art, located on a tiny and remote uninhabited island called Mona, midway between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

So far, literally thousands of previously unknown Taino drawings and paintings have been found in 30 caves on the island. More than 100 caves have yet to be explored -- and it's likely that many more artworks will be discovered.

On-going scientific tests suggest that most of the drawings and paintings probably date from the 14th and 15th centuries. They portray a bewildering variety of often hybrid animal and human faces, co-mingled and intertwined with seemingly abstract geometric and curvilinear patterns.

The research -- by archaeologists from Leicester and Cambridge universities, the British Museum and from the Centre for Advanced Studies of Puerto Rico -- is also revealing the techniques used to make the artworks. The paintings were made with bat excrement which had over many decades absorbed naturally-occurring yellow, brown and red minerals from the cave floors. Sometimes plant resin was added to help the bat excrement (guano) paint adhere to the walls of the caves. Other images were created merely through the use of charcoal crayons.

But the great majority of the artworks were made simply by the artists dragging their fingers across the soft surface of the cave walls. By doing so, they removed the darker-coloured 2-3 millimetre thick surface layer of naturally corroded calcite (known to cave specialists as 'moon milk'), thereby exposing the caves lighter-coloured solid rock.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunal, House No-87 & 93, Road No-11/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209

### Invitation for Tender (Microbus & Jeep)

1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Home Affairs.						
2	Agency	Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunals.						
3	Procuring entity name	Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunals.						
4	Procuring entity code	6807						
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.						
6	Invitation for	Tender for procurement of Vehicles (Microbus & Jeep).						
7	Invitation Ref No.	ICT/IA/ADMN/CAR PURCHASE/31-2017/01(2017-2018)						
8	Date	29/10/2017						
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (National).						
10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget of 2017-2018, (GOB).						
11	Project/program code (if applicable)							
12	Tender package No.	(1) Purchase of Government Vehicles (Microbus & Jeep), Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunals for the People's Republic of Bangladesh.						
13	Tender package name	(1) Tender for procurement of Vehicles (Microbus & Jeep).						
14	Tender last selling date	26/11/2017, 17:00pm.						
15	Last tender submission date and time	27/11/2017, 12:00 noon.						
16	Tender opening date and time	27/11/2017, 12:30pm.						
17	Name & address of the office	Admin Section, Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunals, House No-87, Road No-11/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209.						
	- Selling tender document	Do						
	- Receiving tender document	Do						
	- Opening tender document	Do						
18	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Office of the Co-Coordinator (IGP), 19/11/2017 at 11.30am.						
19	Eligibility of tenderer	As per condition of STD.						
20	Brief description of goods or works	As per schedule.						
21	Identification	Location of delivery	Price of tender document (Tk)	Package No.	Group	Lot	Tender security amount	Completion time in weeks/days /months
		Dhaka	1000.00 for each lot	-	Vehicle (Microbus 2 Nos. & Jeep 2 Nos.)	Lot by lot	2.5%	60 days
22	Special instructions (if any)	Nil.						
23	Name of official inviting tender	Co-Coordinator (IGP), Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunals.						
24	Designation of official inviting tender	Co-Coordinator (IGP), Investigation Agency, International Crimes Tribunals.						
25	Address of official inviting tender	House No-87, Road No-11/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209.						
26	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel- 9126898   Fax- 9127058						
***	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.							

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
 Bangladesh Television  
 Headquarters Building  
 Rampura, Dhaka-1219  
[www.btv.gov.bd](http://www.btv.gov.bd)

**e-Tender Notice**

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>), for more details, please contact support desk contact numbers.  
 e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Chief Engineer, Bangladesh Television for the procurement of:

1	2	3	4
Tender ID No./ Package No.	Name of goods	Last date & time for tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1	2	3	4
Tender/Proposal ID: 131887	"Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Redundant SAN Shared Storage Server, Play-out Server, Ingest Computers and related ancillary equipment for News of Bangladesh Television on Turn-Key Basis."	06-Dec-2017 12:00	06-Dec-2017 14:45

Invitation Reference No. :  
 btv.engineering.news  
 server.143.17

Package No.: BTV-ENG-GD2

e-Tender details can be downloaded from 31-Oct-2017 23:30 to 05-Dec-2017 12:10 of e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursue.  
 e-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list, accepted tenders will be opened online immediately as stated in above list.

**Kazi Solaiman**  
 Chief Engineer  
 e-mail: [ce@btv.gov.bd](mailto:ce@btv.gov.bd)  
 Phone: 9334759 (Office)

GD-2319

**Catalan**  
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 Catalonia's regional government at the start of the month on the basis that it is illegal under Spanish law.  
 After the Catalan regional parliament voted to declare independence on Friday, the Spanish government said it would revoke the region's autonomy and rule it directly from Madrid.  
 Belgian asylum minister Francken hails from the Flemish nationalist party New Flemish Alliance, which has close ties to the Catalan separatist movement.  
 "Catalan people who feel politically threatened can ask for asylum in Belgium. That includes President Puigdemont.  
 This is 100 percent legal," Francken told Belgian public broadcaster VRT at the weekend.