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Mugabe 'ousted' in coup d'état

Army takes power, says president 'safe', under house arrest; world urges calm

REUTERS, Harare

Zimbabwe's military seized power yesterday saying it was holding President Robert Mugabe and his family safe while targeting "criminals" in the entourage of the only ruler the country has known in its 37 years of independence.

Soldiers seized the state broadcaster and a general appeared on television to announce the takeover. Armoured vehicles blocked roads to the main government offices, parliament and the courts in central Harare, while taxis ferried commuters to work nearby. The atmosphere in the capital remained calm.

In his first contact with the outside world since the takeover, Mugabe spoke by telephone to the president of South Africa, Jacob Zuma, and told him he was confined to his home but fine, the South African presidency said in a statement.

It was not clear whether the apparent military coup would bring a formal end to the 93-year-old Mugabe's rule; the main goal of the generals appeared to be preventing Mugabe's wife Grace, 41 years his junior, from succeeding him.

But whether or not he remains in office, it is likely to mark the end of the total dominance of the country by Mugabe, the last of Africa's generation of anti-colonial state founders still in power and one of the continent's most polarising figures.



SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



An armoured personnel carrier stations at an intersection as Zimbabwean soldiers regulate traffic in Harare yesterday. Zimbabwe's military appeared to be in control of the country as generals denied staging a coup but used state television to vow to target "criminals" close to President Mugabe.

PHOTO: AFP

RANGPUR MAYHEM Titu placed on remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinajpur

A Rangpur court yesterday granted four-day remand for Titu Chandra Roy in connection with a case over demeaning Islam through a Facebook post.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court passed the order after police had produced the 40-year-old before it, seeking 10-day remand, said ABM Zakir Hossain, additional SP of the Special Branch in the district.

No lawyer appeared for Titu, said Rangpur Court

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Planet found nearby could support life

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists have found a close, "comfy" planet that's one of our closest neighbours – and could support life.

The new exoplanet, known as Ross 128 b, is the size of our own Earth and has a surface temperature that might be close to our own. That and the qualities

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Man killed for trying to stop a stalker

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A man was killed and his son injured on Tuesday for trying to stop a stalker who was hounding a housewife over phone in Faridpur's Bhanga, police said yesterday.

The victims are Abdur Rob Mollah, a 52-year-old farmer, and his son Sohel Mollah, 18, of Bivilora village.

Police and locals said Rakib Mridha, 22, son of Babu Mridha of the same village, had been stalking a 35-year-old mother of two daughters and a son over phone for a couple of months. He somehow collected the number of the woman while working as a carpenter at her house in the same village.

As Sohel, a neighbour of the woman, came to know about the incident on Monday, he went straight to Rakib and asked him to stop teasing her, leading to an altercation. At one point, Sohel slapped Rakib and left.

After this incident Sohel's father Abdur Rob visited Rakib's house and apologised for what his son did. He also requested Rakib to stop teasing the woman.

However, Rakib and his seven to eight cohorts swooped on Sohel with sticks and beat him indiscriminately when he was coming to his home after Magrib prayers

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

BANANI MURDER

Business rivalry likely behind it

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Investigators primarily suspect a rivalry over manpower recruitment business led to the killing of the owner of a recruiting agency in the capital's Banani on Tuesday night.

"We are primarily suspecting that the killing took place over a business rivalry. However, we are also analysing family and local conflicts involving the victim," Shaikh Nazmul Alam, deputy commissioner of the DMP's Detective Branch, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Four criminals, aged between 25 and 30, entered the office of Munshi Overseas on the ground floor of a four-storey building on Road-4 of Banani around 7:50pm Tuesday.

They shot Siddik Hossen Munshi, 50, the owner of the agency, and his staff members Mostak Hossain, 39, Mokhlesur Rahman Muslehuddin, 35, and Miraz Parvez, 30, before leaving the office.

The injured were rushed to United Hospital, where doctors pronounced Siddik dead.

A top police official, requesting anonymity, said they learnt that the victim had a conflict with another manpower businessman in the capital's Paltan. The businessman reportedly had demanded Tk 20 lakh from the victim. "We are now analysing the clue," he said.

The businessman also threatened to kill Siddik and a general diary was filed with Uttara East Police Station over the incident just one and a half months back, the official added.

Meanwhile, victim's wife Josna Begum filed a murder case with Banani Police Station yesterday, accusing four unidentified people, said Abdul



Siddik Hossen Munshi

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4

Second time unlucky

Man fakes papers to land job, gets caught embezzling Tk 9 crore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A small crime may become a gateway for bigger ones. The case of Siddikur Rahman illustrates this possibility.

On January 1, 2009, Siddikur applied for the data processing post at the National Credit and Commerce Bank (NCC) in 2009.

His credentials were impressive. Attested copies of his educational documents



PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 16

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrab Esha

AZAN 5:00 12:45 3:45 5:22 7:00

JAMAAT 5:35 1:15 4:00 5:25 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



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২০১৮ সনে সমানিত হজেগমনেচ্ছ ব্যক্তিগতের জন্য জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০১৮ সনের সমানিত হজেগমনেচ্ছ ব্যক্তিগতের জন্যানো যাচ্ছে যে, সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় হজের প্রাক-নির্বন্ধন কার্যক্রম চলছে যা আগস্ট মাসে ৩১ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৭-এ পর্যন্ত বহাল থাকবে। শুধুমাত্র সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় ২০১৮ সনের হজের প্রাক-নির্বন্ধন করার সুযোগ রয়েছে। বেসরকারি এজেন্সীর মাধ্যমে প্রাক-নির্বন্ধনের কোটা ইতোমধ্যেই পূর্ণ হয়েছে।

০২। সরকারি ব্যবস্থাপনায় সমানিত হজযাতীনের নিম্নলিপি এবং বিমান টিকেট প্রতিক্রিয়া নিম্নলিপি হচ্ছে:

- (ক) যথাসময়ে ভিত্তি এবং বিমান টিকেট প্রতিক্রিয়া নিম্নলিপি হচ্ছে:
- (খ) নির্ধারিত সময়ে বাংলাদেশে থেকে সৌন্দর্য আরবে গমন, সৌন্দর্য আরবে থেকে বাংলাদেশে প্রত্যক্ষে এবং মদিনা শরিফে ৮০ (চালিশ) ওয়াক্ত নামাজ আদায়ের ব্যবস্থাসহ যথাসময়ে মদিনা আল মোনাওয়ারা গমন;
- (গ) মিনায় জামার পথের নিকেপের স্থান এবং আরাফায় মসজিদে নামায়ের অতি নিকেপ স্থানে তাঁবতে অবস্থান;
- (ঘ) মেট্রোলো/ড্রাইভারের বাসে মিনা, আরাফা, মুজদালিফায় যাতায়াতসহ প্রশিক্ষিত গাইত্রে অধীনে হজ পালনে সহায়তা প্রদান;
- (ঙ) এ-প্যাকেজের সমানিত হাজীদের হারাম শরীফ হতে ৫০০ থেকে ১০০০ মিটারের মধ্যে, বি-প্যাকেজের হাজীদের ১০০০ থেকে ২০০০ মিটারের মধ্যে এবং মদিনা শরীফে মসজিদে নবৰীর নিকটবর্তী উত্তমানের হোটেল/বাড়িতে অবস্থানের ব্যবস্থা;
- (চ) মক্কা আল মোকারম এবং মদিনা আল মোনাওয়ারায় একই হোটেল/বাড়িতে অবস্থানের সুযোগ;
- (ছ) অভিযান ভাস্তুর, নাস, ফার্মাসিট এবং এ্যামুলেস সুবিধা সম্পর্কিত স্বাস্থ্যক্রিয়ের মাধ্যমে মক্কা, মদিনা, জেদায় চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদান;
- (জ) হজের পুস্তিকা, গাইত্র, নির্দেশিকা, লিফলেট ও অন্যান্য সামগ্রী বিনামূল্যে বিতরণ।

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৫. বিস্তারিত জানতে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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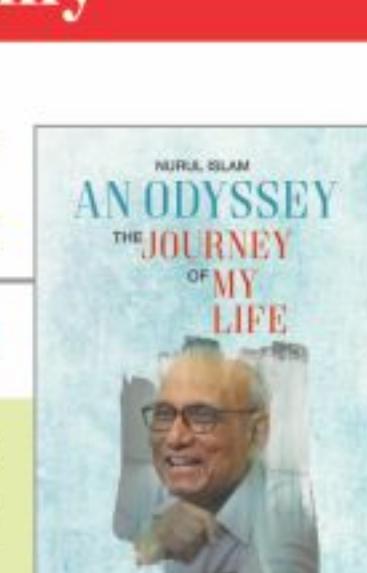
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Mr. Salahuddin Alamgir

Chairman, Labib Group



Mrs. Sultana Jahan

Vice-Chairman, Labib Group

In recognition of a special contribution to the Export and Trade Sector of Bangladesh, Mr. Salahuddin Alamgir, Chairman, Labib Group and Mrs. Sultana Jahan, Vice-Chairman, Labib Group have been awarded with 'Commercially Important Person (CIP)' statuses again by the Government of Bangladesh. We are elated and proud for it. At the same time, we convey our heartiest felicitations to Mr. Salahuddin Alamgir & Mrs. Sultana Jahan.

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