

বিশ্ব বলেছিলো- পদ্মা সেতু 'সম্ভব না' একজন প্রধানমন্ত্রী আর ১৬ কোটি বাঙালি বলেছিলো- 'কেন না!'

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# EXTREMISM AMONG UNIV STUDENTS It's evident in their conduct

Finds study by 3 DU professors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Frustration, loneliness, drug addiction, a lack of proper vision and guidance and, at times, affluence have been found as major drivers of violent extremism among university students.

And this influence of extremism on them is clearly evident in the way they talk, dress and observe various national and cultural days, according to a study by three eminent Dhaka University professors.

The study also identified mal-governance, corruption, absence of rule of law, the global politics of labelling and a lack of proper understanding of religion among the youth as major causes of extremism among university students.

Conducted by Prof Imtiaz Ahmed, Prof Amena Mohsin and Prof Delwar Hossain, the study was presented on December 14 at the 2nd international conference on "genocide and mass violence".

With support from the DU and the cultural affairs ministry, the Centre for Genocide Studies organised the two-day event at Dhaka University, which ended on Friday.

Scholars and researchers from home and abroad presented papers on different issues including genocide, war crimes, sexual violence, and the 1971 massacre of intellectuals in Bangladesh.

The study was based on interviews with students of Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University, Khulna University of Engineering and Technology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, North South

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Vehicles stuck in a jam at Elenga of Tangail yesterday. Largely due to road expansion work and poor road surface, the queues stretched for 40km on the highway that connects Dhaka to northern districts.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Dhaka-Tangail highway sees 40km tailback

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

There was a 40km-long tailback on Dhaka-Tangail highway yesterday due to ongoing road expansion work, traffic bottlenecks, poor road condition, and high number of vehicles during the weekend.

Thousands of passengers suffered for hours in standstill traffic since early yesterday. The tailback stretched from the east end of the Bangabandhu Bridge to Natiapara, said passengers and transport workers.

Saiful Islam, passenger of a bus heading for Bogra, said his bus took three hours to cover 5km from Rabna bypass to Elenga. "It is not today only, we have been enduring regular traffic congestion on this highway," he added.

Trucker Dulal Hossain said his vehicle was stuck at Rasulpur for two hours. "Big potholes on the road as well as work on the road expansion are the reasons behind the regular traffic jam on this highway," he said.

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## Rahul takes helm of troubled Congress

Extends family grip on India's oldest party, says Modi taking country backwards

AFP, New Delhi

India's Rahul Gandhi yesterday took over as president of the main opposition Congress, becoming the sixth member of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty to head the party that has ruled the country for much of its independent history.

Fireworks erupted over the party headquarters in New Delhi drowning out the voice of his mother Sonia Gandhi as she handed over the reins of power to her 47-year-old son, who now faces the tough task of ousting the right-wing government of premier Narendra Modi.

Rahul, wearing a long flowing white kurta, smiled and waved from the dais adorned with posters of his late grandmother and father, former prime ministers Indira and Rajiv Gandhi.

"I accept this position with the deepest humility, with the knowledge that I will always be walking in the shadow of giants," Gandhi said in his acceptance speech which quickly became an attack on Modi and the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

"The Congress party took us into the 21st century but the prime minister today is taking us backwards to the medieval times where people are butchered for who they are, beaten for what they believe and killed for what they eat," he said.

The Modi government has been under fire in the past several months for

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## Sayedul Hoque passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Muhammed Sayedul Hoque, who was a close aide of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and an organiser of freedom fighters in 1971, died yesterday morning at a hospital in the capital.

He was 75.

The veteran politician had been admitted at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University hospital since September 17 with multiple age related complications. He was put on life support on Wednesday.

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## ATROCITIES AGAINST ROHINGYAS US mulls sanctions against culprits

1 person identified, Tillerson tells UN

REUTERS, Washington/Yangon

The United States has identified one person it might impose sanctions on over the brutal crackdown in Myanmar against minority Rohingya Muslims and is examining others, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said on Friday.

Tillerson, who last month declared the violence against the Rohingya to be "ethnic cleansing," has said Washington was considering "targeted sanctions" against those deemed responsible.

More than 600,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled to

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## Teenage girl raped and mutilated

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

She left her studies and moved to the capital to get away from her stalker.

But when the 16-year-old went to her family in Ishwarganj upazila for a visit after four months, her stalker Shohag Mia, a college student, had allegedly raped her and mutilated her genitals with a blade early Friday.

"I was forced to send my

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## 'Youthquake'

Oxford Dictionary names its word of 2017

AFP, London

"Youthquake" was crowned Friday as Oxford Dictionaries' word of the year 2017, following a five-fold increase in usage.

The word is defined as "a significant cultural, political, or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people".

It first rose during Britain's June general election, which saw an upsurge in youth turnout, then had an even bigger spike in

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Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-20 12-45 3-45 5-22 7-00  
JAMAAT 5-55 1-15 4-00 5-25 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



This wild elephant was found dead in Eidghar reserve forest area in Ramu of Cox's Bazar early yesterday. Veterinary surgeons of Bangabandhu Safari Park said she might have died of old age related complications.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## UPDF man shot dead in Rangamati

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Criminals shot dead a United Peoples Democratic Front (UPDF) member early yesterday in Dhameichara area of Bandhuk Vanga in Rangamati.

The deceased was identified as Anal Bikash Chakma, 40, organiser of UPDF Bandhuk Vanga union unit.

Officer-in-Charge Sattyajit Barua of Kotwali Police Station said police recovered the body from the spot and sent it for an autopsy.

A press release signed by Sentu Chakma, member secretary for Nobbo Mukosh Bahini Pratirodh Committee, called for a half-day blockade of roads and waterways in Rangamati on December 19 protesting the killing. It said the newly formed breakaway faction of UPDF, which calls itself "United Peoples Democratic Front (Democratic)" was behind the killing.

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দেশকে ভালোবাসবে তুমি  
দেশ যে সবার মা  
মাকে ভালোবাসব সবাই  
অন্য কিছুই না।

- মঈন মুরসালিন

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