

BSRM Building a safer nation  
www.bsrn.com  
Saluting the Nation on 10 Years of XTREME PERFORMANCE  
BSRM Xtreme

PROUD CONSTRUCTION PARTNER OF PADMA BRIDGE  
SHAH CEMENT

HC ORDER  
Police record murder case against son of minister

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Following a High Court order, police have finally recorded the case against a minister's son and others over the killing of Jubo League leader Sajjad Alam Sheikh Azad.

The case was accepted on Friday night, a month after Azad's family lodged it with Mymensingh Kotwali Police Station.

Azad, 35, a member of the town convening committee of the AL youth wing, was shot and hacked to death in Akua area on July 31.

His family filed the case against 25 named and 10 unnamed people on August 2.

Mohit-ur-Rahman Shanto, son of Religious Affairs Minister Principal Matiuur Rahman, is the prime accused. Shanto is also secretary of the ruling party's Mymensingh city unit.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Scourged by quacks

People in villages fall prey to fake doctors, put themselves in harm's way

BISHAKHA DEVNATH

Mohafez Rahman from Kurigram had to have both of his legs amputated from below the knee recently at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

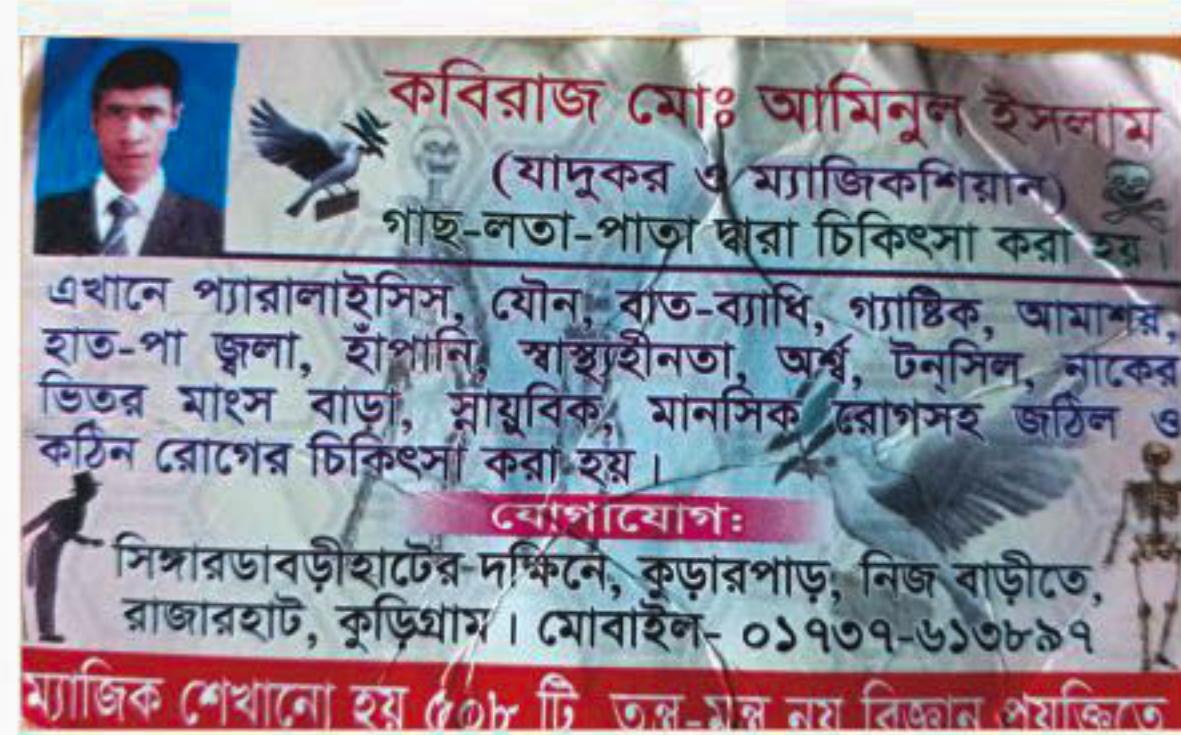
However, the drastic measure could have been avoided if the 30-year-old had only paid heed to medical practitioners about a month ago, instead of relying on so-called ayurvedic specialists or kabiraj.

When Mohafez began having difficulty walking, he went to a local doctor in his Dharanibari village. The doctor found it to be case of gangrene, a potentially life-threatening situation, and advised Mohafez to amputate one of his legs from below the ankle.

Frightened by the diagnosis, Mohafez decided to visit Aminul Islam, a self-proclaimed ayurvedic doctor and magician, in Rajarhat of Kurigram.

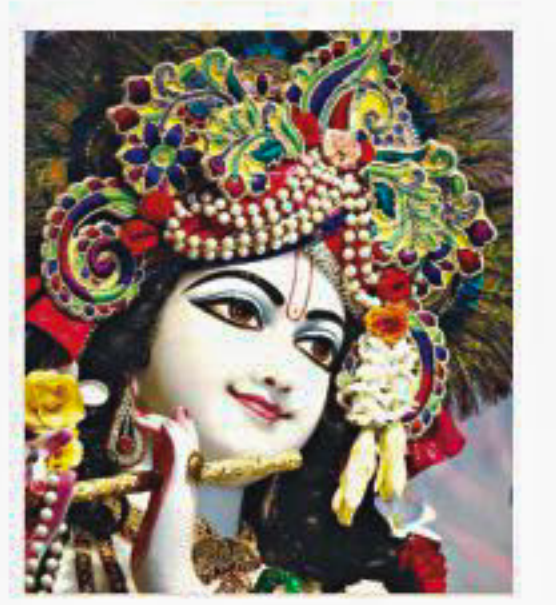
The "kabiraj" assured him that he could cure his foot and then began a month-long

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



Mohafez at a Rangpur hospital after both his legs were amputated. He went to a quack first to treat an infection. The quack's business card says he can cure paralysis, STDs, rheumatism, and an array of other diseases.

PHOTO: STAR



Janmashtami today

BSS, Dhaka

Janmashtami, the birth celebration of Sri Krishna and one of the major festivals of the Hindu community, will be observed today across the country with due religious fervour.

According to Hindu mythology, Sri Krishna (Lord) was born on the eighth tithi of Shukla Pakkha (fortnight of the new moon) in the Bangla month of Bhadra. He takes birth in ages to safeguard the good and pious people from the hands of bad persons by establishing truth, justice and beauty in the society.

Different religious, cultural and social organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to observe the day.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

PLOT TO KILL THERESA MAY  
British man of Bangladesh origin gets life

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A Bangladesh origin UK man who plotted to bomb Downing Street and behead Theresa May has been jailed for life after unwittingly revealing his bloody intentions to spies.

Naa'imur Zakariyah Rahman was walking down a London road with what he believed was a pressure cooker bomb and a suicide vest when he was arrested in November.

Sentencing the 21-year-old to a minimum term of 30 years, Justice Haddon-Cave on Friday said that although the devices were fakes provided by the security services, he planned to carry out a "major terror attack".

The judge said Rahman hoped to kill as many police officers, bystanders and tourists as possible by detonating a bomb at the gates of Downing Street before storming the building to murder the prime

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



DIGGING CANAL  
KSA plans to turn Qatar into island

AFP, Riyadh

A Saudi official hinted Friday the kingdom was moving forward with a plan to dig a canal that would turn the neighbouring Qatari peninsula into an island, amid a diplomatic feud between the Gulf nations.

"I am impatiently waiting for details on the implementation of the Salwa island project, a great, historic project that will change the geography of the region," Saud al-Qatani, a senior adviser to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, said on Twitter.

The plan, which would physically separate the Qatari peninsula from the Saudi mainland, is the latest stress point in a highly fractious 14-month long dispute between the two states.

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt cut diplomatic and trade ties with Qatar in June 2017, accusing it of supporting terrorism and being too close to Riyadh's archrival, Iran -- charges Doha denies.

In April, the pro-government Sabq news website reported government plans to build a channel -- 60 kilometres (38 miles) long and 200 metres wide -- stretching across the kingdom's border with Qatar.

Part of the canal, which would cost up to 2.8 billion riyals (\$750 million), would be reserved for a planned nuclear waste facility, it said.

Five unnamed companies that specialise in digging canals had been invited to bid for the project and the winner will be announced in September, Makkah newspaper reported in June.

Saudi authorities did not respond to requests for comment and there was no immediate reaction on the plan from Qatar.

After the dispute erupted last year, Qatar -- a small peninsula nation -- found its only land border closed, its state-owned airline barred from using

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Neutral govt a must for credible polls

Says B Chy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Formation of a neutral government dissolving the current parliament before the national polls is a must for a free, fair and credible election, AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said yesterday.

For a peaceful voting, the president of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh demanded deployment of army with magistracy power at least for 40 days before and after the election.

He also demanded an impartial role from the Election Commission (EC) in the polls, saying the government had no other alternative to ensuring this if it wanted to hold a fair election.

Badruddoza, also the chairman of Juktofront, placed the demands at a roundtable on democracy

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Woman who earns a living by hugging



ODDITY CENTRAL ONLINE

As human beings, one of the things we often overlook in our daily lives is physical touch; without it, we can fall into depression and a number of other mental health problems. To fulfill this need, a mother of 3 from Australia's Gold Coast has become a "cuddle therapist", and currently makes around \$58,000 a year hugging people.

Jessica O'Neill claims that her hugs can help those who are suffering from loneliness, depression, or low self confidence. She didn't get into this strange career overnight. Originally, Jessica was a massage therapist and counselor, quite ordinary professions. She noticed that when she hugged her clients during sessions, they dropped their guards and opened up to her more.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Flowers for following traffic rules

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two newly appointed magistrates of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) in Chittagong presented drivers and vehicle owners with flowers and chocolates yesterday, on the second day of their mobile court drive, for keeping their updated documents with them.

The drive was conducted at WASA intersection and

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4  
PHOTO ON PAGE 5



SIBL Social Islami Bank Limited  
PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 2  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-30 6-20 7-45  
JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 4-45 6-25 8-15  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Women sorting plastic bottles for sending those to recycling facilities in Chittagong. The picture was taken recently in Bakolia area where bottles collected from across the city are gathered and transparent and coloured ones are separated.

PHOTO: RAJIB RATHAN

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Man set on fire by rivals dies at DMCH

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A businessman, allegedly set on fire by people who owed him money in Fatullah in Narayanganj, died from burn injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital's Burn Unit yesterday.

Before his death, Suman Miah, 37, was able to disclose the names of the four people who set him on fire in a recorded video statement.

The incident occurred in the house of one Badsha Miah at Paschim Masdar area of Fatullah on Friday night. Critically injured Suman was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries yesterday morning.

Suman Miah, the son of Abdul Jalil of Paschim Masdar area, was a garments jhut trader. His wife Shimu Akter is five months' pregnant and they have an eight year old son named Samrat.

Bloom and grow, forever

Gaibandha man plants tree for every newborn



KM REZAUL HOQUE with ANDREW EAGLE

In and around Matherpara village, in Gaibandha's Shaghata upazila, it's become usual for every newborn child to be welcomed into the world with the planting of a tree. The tradition began three years ago by 28-year-old visual artist Gopal Chandra Barmon, as an extension of a tree-planting hobby carried from boyhood.

"A baby and a sapling have something in common," Gopal says. "Both are free from wrongdoing. I hope that each baby, like each tree, will keep that same reputation as they grow. I want the trees to inspire the children to become enlightened adults."

"At first I planted trees at people's homes in my village,"

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1