

49 killed in Christchurch MOSQUE MASSACRE

Bangladesh cricket team touring New Zealand escape terrorist attack on two mosques; white supremacist gunman livestreams video while shooting

AGENCIES

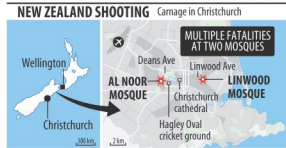
A "right-wing extremist" and white supremacist armed with semi-automatic weapons rampaged through two mosques in the quiet New Zealand city of Christchurch during Friday prayers, killing 49 worshippers and wounding dozens more.

The attack, thought to be the deadliest against Muslims in the West in modern times, was immediately dubbed as terrorism by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, as she led a shocked nation on one of its "darkest days."

Bangladesh's cricketers were just a few minutes from being caught up in the massacre when they arrived at Masjid Al Noor mosque for Friday prayers as the shooting began, a team spokesman said. However, all members are safe now, team sources said.

The attacker live-streamed footage of himself going

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Witnesses report seeing people being shot after a "right-wing extremist" armed with semi-automatic weapons rampaged through two mosques in the quiet New Zealand city of Christchurch yesterday, killing 49 worshippers and wounding dozens more.

Al Noor Mosque
'Can't imagine something like this'
Survivors recall horror of attack
NEW ZEALAND HERALD ONLINE

A survivor of the Masjid Al Noor Mosque shooting has described how he ran for his life as the bullets flew.
Noor Hamzah, 54, said when the shooting began he ran outside with scores of others. They hid behind cars in the rear car park at the Deans Ave mosque. He said the shooting felt like it lasted for at least 15 minutes.
Armed police later stormed the building, and Hamzah could see dead bodies lying at the front entrance. He looked in the mosque windows and saw "piles of bodies".
Hamzah came to New Zealand from Malaysia to study in the early 80s, before settling here.

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The longest 10 minutes of my life

MAZHAR UDDIN
from Christchurch

My hands are still shaking. It is only upon my third attempt that I have been able to sit in front of my laptop and try my best to put to words the most horrific incident I have witnessed in my entire life.

There was no protocol today barring me, a journalist, from sitting inside the hotel room of Bangladesh captain Mahmudulhasan Riyad alongside Tamim Iqbal, Mominul Haque and Taijul Islam as

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3 Bangladeshis among dead

Says top Bangladesh consulate official in Auckland; 4 more injured, several 'missing'

MAZHAR UDDIN from Christchurch with MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

Lying on a bed in Christchurch Hospital, Mohtasim Billah said he did not know how he survived yesterday's terror attack that left at least 49 people dead.

"I heard a sound and thought it was from a short circuit. But the sound kept coming back. All of a sudden, I saw people running out of the mosque," he told The Daily Star last night, while narrating how horror unfolded at Al Noor Mosque.

"The gate of the mosque is small and not many people can go past it at a time. I was crammed into the door with others when a bullet hit my thigh. I fell on the floor," mumbled Mohtasim, a member of the small Bangladeshi diaspora in the New Zealand city.

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SICKENING ACT OF VIOLENCE - PAGE 8
FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE - SPORT

President, PM 'Our lands will never be theirs'

terror attacks
STAR REPORT

President Abdul Hamid yesterday condemned the shooting at two mosques in New Zealand and reiterated Bangladesh's steadfast commitment against terrorism.

In a message, he said, "We are deeply shocked to learn the shooting incidents at two mosques in Christchurch of New Zealand. We strongly condemn this heinous act of terrorism," reports BSS.

The head of the state expressed his heartfelt condolence at the loss of lives and prayed for early

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Shooter reveals why he attacked in vile 74-page manifesto

AGENCIES

A gunman who opened fire at two Christchurch mosques killing at least 49 people said the attack was in protest of mass immigration to European lands.

The man, who identified himself on Twitter as "Breton Tarrant" from Australia, livestreamed his deadly rampage and turned the camera on himself before carrying out the attack.

In a vile 74-page manifesto entitled "The Great Replacement" posted online before the attack, he described himself as "just a regular white man".

The title of the document has the same name as a



Breton Tarrant

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NZ gun laws face scrutiny

Unlike UK, Australia there's no ban on semi-automatic military-style weapons

CNN ONLINE

The Christchurch massacre, which has left at least 49 people dead, has highlighted flaws in New Zealand's gun control laws. Until yesterday, the biggest massacre in the country's history happened 30 years ago, when a man named David Gray went on a shooting rampage, killing 13 people.

Following that attack, the nation's gun laws - which were first passed in 1983 - came under scrutiny. The ensuing debate led to a 1993 amendment on the regulation of military-style semi-automatic firearms.

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Lutfar Rahman teaching underprivileged children at his home in Baguria village of Gaibandha.

Meet the 'ek takar master'

Gaibandha man began tutoring poor kids for Tk 1 when he was just 29, and has never raised his fees

MOSTAFA SHABUI, back from Gaibandha

Four decades ago, a 29-year-old man who had studied up to SSC level started teaching children at his village in Gaibandha for Tk 1 a day.

Today, children of hard-up families at Baguria village are still getting the service from Lutfar Rahman for the same charge.

Lutfar has dedicated his life to teaching because he wants to spread the light of education among underprivileged children. "I had started teaching to tackle financial distress but I gradually started to enjoy it. I found joy seeing children study," said Lutfar, fondly called "ek takar master" in his locality.

This correspondent met the teacher on January 28. Lutfar returned home on a bicycle after imparting lessons in adjacent villages - Madanara, Pulbandi, Chandi, and Dhulipara.

Lutfar starts his day at six in the morning and goes to different villages on a bicycle after imparting lessons in adjacent villages. In the evening, around 45 students come to his home for lessons. Most of his students are primary school children.

Besides school-goers, children of low-income families who cannot afford formal education also go to him, according to Lutfar's family.

Asked why he did not hike his fees in the last 40 years,

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Two 'drug peddlers' killed in 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two alleged drug peddlers were killed in what police claimed was an infighting of drug peddlers in Cox's Bazar's Ukhiya upazila early yesterday.

The victims were Mustaq Mia, 35, and Mokler Mia, 32, of Balukhali area in Ukhiya upazila. They were siblings.

Nurul Islam, inspector (investigation) of Ukhiya Police Station, said police went to Patuati Tek area near Teknaf marine drive road around 3:00am, on information that some drug peddlers were exchanging bullets.

Sensing the law enforcers' presence, members of the gang fled the spot.

Police found Mustaq and Mokler with bullet injuries, he said.

They were taken to Ukhiya Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared them dead, said Nurul, claiming that police recovered two locally made guns, four cartridges and 9,600 yaba pills from the spot.

Mustaq and Mokler were involved in drug trade, and the "gunfight" took place over sharing profits from sale of yaba pills.

Abul Khaver, officer-in-charge of Ukhiya Police

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DEMAND FOR DUCSU RE-ELECTION

Protesters end hunger strike

It comes as authorities assure them of listening to their complaints; VP-elect Nur, all other Ducus leaders likely to meet PM today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protesting Dhaka University students ended their "hunger strike until death" last night after the authorities assured them of listening to their complaints and making the Ducus electoral process more transparent.

The development came after a group of DU teachers, including Prof VG Prof Muhammad Samad and Proctor AKM Golam Rabbani, met the students near the Raju Sculpture around 11:30pm. The teachers fed them water and lassi.

"If you want, we will sit with you and listen to your complaints. In future, we will take measures to make the electoral process more transparent," Prof Maksud Kamal, president of Dhaka University Teachers' Association, told the hunger strikers.

Newly-elected Ducus VP Nural Haq Nur, GS Golam Rabbani, and AGS Md Saddam Hussain were present there.

Four students, who ran in the March 11 Ducus and hall union polls as independent candidates, had begun the hunger strike

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A procession of DU students demanding re-election to Dhaka University Central Students' Union yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN