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29 dead in 2 US mass shootings

52 hurt; cops probe possible hate crime in Texas after shooter arrested; Ohio gunman shot dead

AGENCIES

Two mass shootings in the United States have left 29 people dead within 24 hours, the latest such attacks in a nation torn over how to tackle gun violence.

A gunman armed with an assault rifle killed 20 people Saturday when he opened fire on shoppers at a packed Walmart store in El Paso, Texas.

Less than 13 hours later, a lone shooter killed nine people in Dayton, Ohio early yesterday before being shot dead by responding police officers.

The attacker opened fire around 1:00am on a street in the popular bar and nightlife district called Oregon, leaving nine dead and 26 wounded.

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley said the shooter was wearing body armour and had high-capacity magazines and extra magazines.

"In less than one minute Dayton first responders neutralised the shooter," she said.

"I am amazed by the quick response of Dayton police that saved literally hundreds of lives," Whaley said, adding that it was "the 250th mass shooting in America."

Actually, it was the 251st, according to the Gun Violence Archive, an NGO. It defines mass shooting as an incident

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A woman prays at the conclusion of a vigil at St Pius X Church following a mass shooting which left at least 20 people dead in El Paso, Texas on Sunday. Inset, people hug at the church after the vigil.

PHOTO: AFP



Boy stabbed to death in madrasa

Schoolmate held, sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A Jamalpur court yesterday sent a man to jail on charge of killing an eight-year-old madrasa student in the district's Sadar upazila on Saturday.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Waheduzzaman passed the order after police placed the accused -- Abu Raihan, 18, student of Hafejia Madrasa -- before it.

The victim's father filed a murder case with Jamalpur Sadar Police Station against Raihan yesterday morning.

According to the case statement, Raihan indiscriminately stabbed his madrasa mate Saad with a machete following a feud around 6:30pm Saturday.

Sustaining severe injuries, Saad died on the spot, said Salemuazzaman, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, quoting witnesses.

On information, police went to the spot and sent the body to Jamalpur

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Traffic fines can be paid on spot from now on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

From now on, city dwellers will be able to pay fine for traffic rule with their debit or credit cards on the spot.

"The new system of collecting fine will save valuable time of the city dwellers. Besides, there will be no risk of damage or loss of the seized documents," Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia said while introducing the system for the first time in the country.

The fine can also be paid through various mobile financial services, including Ucash, bKash and Rocket on the spot, police said.

The commissioner also said the charge for pulling a vehicle wrecker would no more be collected in cash.

Earlier, police used to file cases for violating traffic rules and handed the individual over a token to pay the fine at a bank.

Showing the paid receipt, the individual had to recover his or her documents from the Traffic Office concerned.

The whole process was very troublesome and time-consuming, the commissioner said.

But now, there will be no need for seizing the documents, the DMP commissioner also said.

Study finds ways to save Halda dolphins



MOSTAFA YOUSUF, Ctg

Regular patrolling and reducing the number of self-powered vessels plying the Halda river could help recuperate the endangered dolphin population in the river, according to a study.

The river is possibly the lone breeding ground of natural carp in South Asia and the species was enlisted endangered by International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) during a 2013-2016 survey.

In 2018 alone, 18 dolphins were found dead in the Halda, raising concerns on the declining population of the mammal, locally known as a 'Shushuk'.

However, a study conducted by the forest department, in cooperation with United Nation Development Project and Global Environment Facility, found that it is possible to recuperate the dolphin population.

The four-month study that concluded in February was led by M Monirul H Khan, eminent wildlife biologist and professor of zoology department of Jahangirnagar University. It was done as a part of the 'Expanding

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SUDIPTO MURDER Ctg AL leader arrested over alleged links

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police last night arrested Chattogram Awami League leader Didarul Alam Masum in a case filed over the murder of Bangladesh Chhatra League leader Sudipto Biswas.

Masum, general secretary of Lalkhan Bazar ward AL, was held from the capital around 10:00pm, said Santosh Kumar Chakma, an inspector of Police Bureau of Investigation in the port city.

Santosh told The Daily Star that police arrested Masum based on statements of some of Sudipto murder suspects and followers of Masum, who are already in jail.

Sudipto, 28, who was the assistant general secretary of Chattogram city unit BCL, a pro-AL student body, was beaten to death near his house in

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Man crosses Channel on hoverboard



CNN ONLINE

French inventor Franky Zapata has successfully crossed the Channel on a jet-powered hoverboard for the first time, after a failed attempt last month.

Zapata took off from Sangatte, northern France early yesterday morning and landed in St. Margarets Bay, near Dover in England. The journey took just over 20 minutes.

"I had the chance to land in an extraordinary place. It's beautiful. My first thought was to my family. It was huge. Thanks to my wife who always supports me in crazy projects. We worked very hard," he told CNN affiliate BFMTV.

The inventor said that he tried to "take pleasure in not thinking about the pain," even though "his thighs were burning."

Zapata, a former jet ski racing champion, took to the skies in July on his Flyboard Air vehicle but missed a platform mounted on a boat as he tried

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Three held over rape allegation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Police yesterday detained three men in Noakhali Subarnachar upazila over allegation of rape.

The three detainees, residents of Mohammadpur union in the upazila, allegedly raped a 23-year-old widowed woman, said Sahed Uddin, officer-in-charge of Charjabbar Police Station.

The detainees, neighbours of the victim, intruded into her house Saturday night and gang-raped her at gunpoint, the OC said.

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PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 5

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-20 12-45 5-00 6-47 8-15
JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-45

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