



# 'A manifestation of intolerance'

## Abrar murder sparks countrywide protests

STAR REPORT

The brutal killing of Buet student Abrar Fahad has sparked protests by students across the country, demanding justice and that educational institutions be cleansed of dirty politics.

"No educational institution in the country has an environment conducive to learning," said Abu Talha Abdullah, convener of Bangladesh Sadharan Chhatra Odhakar Songrokkhon Parishad's Narayanganj district unit, at a demonstration in front of Narayanganj Shaheed Minar.

Whenever any such incident happens, it is somehow linked to Jamaat-Shibir, he said, referring to the questioning of Abrar by leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League's Buet unit, hours before he was found dead at a university dormitory.

Talking to reporters earlier, Buet BCL leaders said Abrar had been called in for "questioning" over his alleged involvement with Shibir, student front of Jamaat-e-Islami.

"We can see and hear but we cannot say anything. What kind of a country we are living in? What kind of nation are we?" Abdullah said yesterday.

Law enforcers suspected that the 22-year-old student of Buet's electrical and electronic engineering department had been attacked in response to his recent Facebook posts -- critical of some recent deals that the government signed with India.

In Rajshahi, several hundred students protested for the second consecutive day, starting 11am.

The agitators took position in front of Rajshahi University's main entrance and blocked the Dhaka-Rajshahi highway for an hour.

They demanded punishment of the killers, a ban on BCL's political activities, removal of university officials involved in corruption and security of general students on university campus.

Students of Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University in Dinajpur and Begum Rokeya University in Rangpur also held demonstrations protesting the murder of Abrar.

Protests will continue until killers of Abrar are punished, students said.

Meanwhile, a press release was issued by Dhaka



Clockwise from top, students of educational institutions in Tangail, Rajshahi, Bogura and Sylhet brought out rallies, human chains and candlelight vigils yesterday, protesting the killing of Buet student Abrar Fahad on Sunday night.

PHOTO: STAR

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

# Newlywed held in Ctg over death of wife

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man was arrested on Monday night from Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH), on charges of killing his wife Sharmin Akhter Mitu, 22.

The arrestee is Md Solaiman Liton, said police.

Inspector (investigation) Shahadat Hossain of Panchlaish Police Station said Liton brought his wife to CMCH on Monday night in an unconscious condition, where doctors pronounced her dead.

Shahadat said on information from the CMCH police outpost, they rushed to the hospital and detained Liton.

"We found an injury mark on the victim's face, and a mark of asphyxiation on her neck," said the inspector.

Victim's mother Cheman Ara Khatun said Mitu

and Liton got married just two months ago. The bride's family gave Tk 50,000 cash along with furniture as per groom's "family's demand", on the wedding day. "After marriage, she was often tortured by her husband, and we had several meetings to resolve the issue," she said in a choked voice at CMCH yesterday, claiming that Liton killed her daughter over dowry.

"I talked to her at around 8pm over the phone, and at 10:30pm I got my daughter's death news," she said.

A maternal uncle of Mitu said he was called from the hospital by a doctor with the death news. He said he told the doctor to detain the husband, who brought her to the hospital.

"The victim's mother filed a case accusing Liton and his parents with Panchlaish Police Station in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

# 2 former DU BCL leaders held with yaba, firearm

DU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested two former Bangladesh Chhatra League leaders with yaba, a pistol and other sharp weapons from Mohsin Hall of Dhaka University.

They are former deputy sports secretary of DU unit and student of IER Hasibur Rahman Tushar, and former deputy secretary of the same unit and Islamic History and Culture student Abu Bakar Alif.

They were detained from the dorm, hours after they threatened Mohsin Hall BCL unit's student affairs secretary Riaz Farazi -- putting a gun to his head over hall politics.

A DU team raided their room and held the duo, said Proctor AKM Golam Rabbani. They were later handed over to Shahbagh Police Station.

# Misconception spreading over gas export

Foreign minister says

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen yesterday said that misconception about gas export to India is spreading but the deal is to export processed gas, that is imported from abroad.

"We are not about to export our natural gas. We will be exporting processed gas that is imported as Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from other countries. Many countries are doing the same, and we will be benefited by the deal," he said while talking to journalists after an inspection tour to the development work of the outer stadium of Sylhet International Cricket Stadium.

He also said, "Some are also misleading

people about the contract of permitting India to withdraw water from Feni River for drinking. We allowed some water to be withdrawn from the river on humanitarian grounds."

"To keep good relations with neighbouring country, it is customary to sign internal contracts eventually. Prime minister will be talking about all the contracts in a press conference soon," he said.

During the visit, the foreign minister inaugurated tourist bus services initiated by Sylhet Tours and Travels at Zindabazar area in the city.

During the inaugural programme, he

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

# A new breathing space for port city residents

Bayezid Sabuj Udyan opens

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Ctg

With 3,000 trees of 41 different species, Bayezid Sabuj Udyan in the port city was inaugurated yesterday to provide a new green space to city dwellers.

Engineer Mosharraf Hossain, member of parliament and also chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on ministry of housing and public works, inaugurated the park at 11:55am.

The park has been built on 1.94 acres of land, owned by Public Works Department (PWD). The land was previously occupied by grabbers, who had set up shanties and rented those out.

After the project was approved in August 2017, PWD authorities evicted the illegal occupants from the place, said Jahedun Nabi Chowdhury, sub-divisional engineer of the department.

People can enter the park through two separate entrances to take a stroll on the 4,000 feet walkway. With a 3,000 square feet pool at the centre, two open galleries

have been built around it. There are 46 benches throughout the park. To keep the park clean, 20 trash cans have been installed at several points.

Two public toilets and a maintenance office have been built inside the park while children can play on seesaw and swing.

A master drain was excavated inside the park to keep rainwater from accumulating. To ensure security, the whole area has been brought under CCTV camera monitoring.

To give a dazzling view at night, 108 compound lights, 16 garden lights, and 55 fountain lights have been installed.

"Initial budget for this project was estimated at Tk 12 crore. But we managed to finish the work with Tk 8 crore and returned the surplus to the department," said Nabi.

MP Mosharraf said this kind of green public spaces is truly necessary in all the cities, so that weary city dwellers have a place to walk, rest and recuperate.

Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin was chief guest at the event.



Chattogram city's new park, Bayezid Sabuj Udyan, shines bright under the night sky with over 100 lights.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



A group of women indulge in a playful 'Sindoor Khela' at the Jagannath temple in Sylhet yesterday morning, ahead of the immersion of Durga idols.

PHOTO: SHEKH NASIR

# MAYORS SUMMIT DNCC mayor off to Denmark

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) Mayor Md Atiqul Islam yesterday left Dhaka for Denmark to attend the C40 Mayors Summit 2019.

The Mayors Summit starts today in Copenhagen, the capital city of Denmark. The event will end on October 12 (Saturday).

The programme is organised every three years, bringing together the mayors and leaders of the 96 member cities of the C40 network from across the globe.

The Copenhagen summit will celebrate and share the most effective climate solutions being delivered in cities worldwide.

Mayors, CEOs, philanthropists, investors, scientists, and citizens will attend the event.

# 5-year-old dies after truck hits her

Four killed, 15 injured in other accidents

STAR REPORT

A five-year-old was killed after a truck hit her at Moynar Mour area in Mymensingh city yesterday evening.

The deceased was identified as Israt Jahan.

The accident occurred around 5:30pm while Israt was crossing a road.

She died on the spot, said Khandoker Shaker Ahmed, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Kotwali Police Station, quoting locals.

On information, police recovered her body and handed it over to her family.

The truck driver fled the scene with the vehicle. A case was lodged in this connection with

the police station, the OC added. Meanwhile, at least four people were killed and 15 injured in other accidents in two districts during the last two days, our correspondents and news agencies report.

In Cumilla, Abdul Khalek, 70, was killed after a bus ran him over in Syedpur area of Burichang upazila yesterday, said police, quoting locals.

The bus of Royal Coach was driving on the wrong side of a road and ran Khalek over in front of Noor Mahal Hotel, they added.

Police recovered Khalek's body and handed it over to his family. They also detained the bus driver.

In Faridpur, three people were killed and 15 injured after the bus they were on hit a roadside tree in Nagardia area of Nagarkanda upazila around 11pm on Monday, said law enforcers.

Two of the deceased are Firoza Begum, 36, and Liton Sheikh, 35. Identity of the other could not be known immediately.

The bus of Golden Line Paribahan hit the tree after its driver lost control over the vehicle, killing Firoza and Liton dead on the spot and injuring other passengers, they added.

The injured were taken to a nearby hospital where one of them died. Police are looking into the matter.