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AMINBAZAR KILLING Death reference reaches HC



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The documents of the sensational Aminbazar six-student murder case reached the High Court as death reference in order to examine the trial court verdict that sentenced 13 accused to death in the case.

A Dhaka court on December 2 sentenced 13 people to death and 19 others to life imprisonment for killing six students in Aminbazar, on the outskirts of the capital, more than 10 years ago, an incident that shook the nation.

Twenty-five others were acquitted as their involvement in the killings was not proven.

In the early hours of Shab-e-Barat on July 18, 2011, a mob of villagers killed the six youths near Aminbazar bridge and took their bodies more than half a kilometre away to Keblarchar on the instructions of police.

They then called other villagers and said they caught robbers.

Later, Al Amin -- the only survivor among the students -- was cleared of charges after police found that the victims were not robbers.

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Clouds of smoke billowing from a warehouse of jhut (garment waste) in Chattogram city's Aturar depot area and firefighters spray water to douse the fire. Four other such warehouses were also burnt. The fire, which broke out around 5:00am yesterday, was extinguished around four hours later. The origin of the fire could not be known immediately.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

HC commutes jail sentence of BNP MP Harun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday dismissed an appeal filed by BNP lawmaker Harunur Rashid that challenged a lower court verdict sentencing him five years' imprisonment for evading tax while importing a luxury car.

The court, however, commuted the jail sentence of Harunur, MP of Chapainawabganj-3, from five years to the period that he has already served -- 16 months -- in connection with the case.

The full text of the HC verdict is yet to be released.

"A person shall be disqualified for election as, or for being, a member of Parliament who has been, on conviction for a criminal offence involving moral turpitude, sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years, unless a period of five years has elapsed since his release," according to the article 66 (2) of the constitution.

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Last respects paid to Rawat

Black box recovered

AGENCIES

The bodies of India's defence chief and 12 others who died in a helicopter crash laid draped in the Indian flag at a defence cantonment yesterday, before being flown to New Delhi, where the general will be laid to rest with full military honours.



General Bipin Rawat, his wife and 12 defence personnel were en route to a military staff college in southern India when the air force helicopter they were travelling in came down near the town of Coonoor in Tamil Nadu on Wednesday.

In a brief statement in parliament yesterday, India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the remains of all the deceased would be brought to New Delhi and Rawat would be cremated with full military honours.

He also announced that a tri-service enquiry had been ordered by the Indian Air Force (IAF).

Defence officials yesterday retrieved the 'Black Box' of the ill-fated IAF helicopter, reports our New Delhi correspondent.

The black box could provide crucial

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ROAD TO FREEDOM
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Mitro Bahini closing in on Dhaka

DECEMBER 10, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

KISSINGER'S MESSAGE TO FARLAND

In a backchannel message, Henry Kissinger, the US president's Assistant for national security affairs, informed US Ambassador to Pakistan Joseph Farland, "We are making strongest demarche to Soviets today which proposes that they join with us in supporting provisos : (a) India and Pakistan should agree to an immediate ceasefire with the separate armed forces "standing fast"; and that the United Nations or other international organization provide observers to see that the ceasefire is effective; (b) that India and Pakistan "at any effective level" immediately open negotiations aimed at a settlement of the war and troop withdrawal; and coincident therewith negotiations be started looking towards the political satisfaction of Bengali aspirations; i.e., a political settlement."

Kissinger asked Farland to discuss the provisos with Pakistan President Yahya Khan and added, "You should emphasize that the president [Nixon] has made the strongest demarche to the Soviets and included warning to them that we have obligations towards Pakistan which will not permit aggression against West Pakistan. The president added that should Indian offensive be launched in the West, with Soviet acquiescence, a US/Soviet confrontation would ensue."

Later, on the same day, after having a discussion with Yahya, Farland informed Kissinger that the Pakistan president "bought" the original proposal as delivered. He, however, added that Yahya

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Booster doses likely from next month

People aged 60 and above to be eligible initially

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Work to start administering booster doses of Covid-19 vaccines to people aged 60 years and above is in full swing, with the rollout expected by early January.

The ICT division is now updating the "Surokkha" database with the list of individuals eligible for booster doses so that they can register for the job, said Health Minister Zahid Maleque yesterday at the unveiling of the "Nationwide Blindness Survey 2020".

The development comes as calls for the coronavirus vaccine booster job have grown louder, sparked by fears that waning immunity induced by earlier rounds of vaccination will not be enough to stave off a potential wave of infections from the highly transmissible Omicron variant.

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REMBRANDT'S PAINTING Restorers discover hidden sketch



AFP, The Hague

A sketch that has lain hidden for centuries under the thick layers of paint Rembrandt applied to create "The Night Watch" offers new insight into the Dutch master's creative process, museum officials said Wednesday.

Hailing a "breakthrough" in the understanding of Rembrandt's most famous work, Rijksmuseum director Taco Dibbits told reporters: "We always suspected Rembrandt must have made a sketch on the canvas before embarking on this incredibly complex composition, but we didn't have the evidence."

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PM's comment on Khaleda's treatment unexpected

Says BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP has said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's comment that the government has already shown great generosity to party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is "unexpected" as she is fighting for life.

"Khaleda Zia is seriously ill and she is now fighting for life. The treatment she needs is not possible in the country. She needs to be sent to an advanced medical centre abroad without any further delay," BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said yesterday.

Addressing a discussion organised by Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf Smiriti Parishad at the Jatiya Press Club, Fakhrul said, "This is unfortunate to hear the person who is running the country capturing power saying that she has shown

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4 students 'abducted by Rohingyas'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two Rohingya men have abducted four schoolboys in Cox's Bazar after promising to take them to St Martin's Island, said the families of the victims.

The four -- Mohammad Kayser, Mizanur Rahman, Jahedul Islam and Mijanul Islam -- are students of Sonarpara High School in Ukha upazila. Jahedul is a student of class 10 while the three others are students of class 8.

According to their families, Jahangir and Ibrahim along with other criminals abducted the four on Tuesday telling them they would be taken to the island.

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PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 10

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:15 12:30 3:45 5:19 7:00
JAMAAT 5:50 1:15 4:00 5:22 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A common hoopoe is in action before swallowing an insect. Hoopoes are colourful birds found across Africa, Asia, and Europe, notable for their distinctive "crown" of feathers. This photo was taken from Gazipur's Sreepur recently.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MOSABBER HOSSAIN RIBON

Star HEALTHLINE

Dental Care SHOULD YOU FLOSS?

STAR HEALTH DESK

A lot have been said about flossing your teeth. Some say it is as important for your oral health as brushing, whereas others say it is even more crucial.

In a 2016 investigation by The Associated Press, it was found that the available studies which recommend flossing teeth are scientifically inadequate.

However, there was also no proof that flossing is useless or harmful.

So, as absence of proof isn't proof of absence, dentists around the world



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