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MARTYRED INTELLECTUALS DAY



A LOSS not entirely personal

A daughter recounts family tragedy of 1971

“We do not have our father’s grave but it feels like his grave is all over Bangladesh. Is not the entire country a graveyard of martyrs?”

WASIM BIN HABIB

The entire Lalmonirhat was reeling from shock and horror after a brutal massacre on April 5, 1971.

Bangalees living in the small district town bounded on the north by India were scurrying to remote villages along the border after the Pakistan occupational army with the help of a section of Urdu-speaking Biharis killed several hundred people near the railway station.

Alarmed and worried, Mostofa Hasan Ahmed, a teacher revered in the locality and known as Hasan Sir, was still hesitant to leave his home in a neighbourhood called Saptana.

His wife, Selima Ahmed, was in her last month of pregnancy, which made it difficult to move. She gave birth to a baby girl just six days after the mass killing.

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Mostofa Hasan Ahmed



From Tukur Bazar ghat in Sylhet Sadar upazila, local growers take freshly-harvested pumpkin flowers and winter vegetables to a nearby market for sale yesterday morning. Traders buy the edible flower -- used in salads and other food items -- and the vegetables from the market and sell them elsewhere in the district.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

It’s unhealthy, should not be entertained

Says Rajshahi court on case-sprees, dismissing DSA case against Murad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Filing multiple cases in different districts against the same people regarding the same issue is a misuse of the legal system, a judge hearing a case filed against disgraced former state minister Murad Hassan said yesterday.

Judge Md Ziaur Rahman of Rajshahi Cyber Tribunal made the observations while dismissing the case against former state minister for information and broadcasting Murad and digital media host Mohiuddin Helal Nahid under the Digital Security Act (DSA), said Public Prosecutor Ismat Ara.

On Sunday, pro-BNP lawyer AKM Saiful Islam filed the case against Murad and Nahid for making derogatory comments about BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and her family members during a Facebook Live.

The judge had recorded the statements of the complainant, studied a video clip and other case documents provided before

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Make guideline for booster dose

Asks PM, warns of Omicron threat; third jabs rollout may start this month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has directed the authorities concerned to work on a precise guideline on the booster dose of Covid-19 vaccine amid the threat of Omicron variant and asked all to remain very careful about Omicron.

She was speaking at the cabinet meeting where she joined virtually from the Gono Bhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Other ministers and officials concerned joined from the Bangladesh Secretariat.

“The Omicron issue dominated today’s [yesterday] discussion. The prime minister repeatedly directed that we’ve to be very careful,” said

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US sanctions on Benazir, 6 others shocking

Says BPSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sanctions imposed by the United States on seven officers, including the Inspector General of Police Benazir Ahmed, are undesirable and unexpected.

Bangladesh Police Service Association (BPSA) came up with the statement yesterday.

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Human rights key to functioning democracy

Say European envoys at MJF event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Human rights is fundamental to a functioning democracy, three European envoys said at an event yesterday.

“This is not an easy time for human rights -- it is under pressure,” British High Commissioner in Dhaka Robert Chatterton Dickson said at the programme at the capital’s Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) organised the event marking the International Human Rights Day.

“Human rights will continue being a big part of our

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