



DHAKA THURSDAY APRIL 21, 2022

REGD. No. DA 781

VOL. XXXII No. 96

BAISHAKH 8, 1429 BS

www.thedailystar.net

RAMADAN 19, 1443 HJRI

16 PAGES PLUS SHOUT : Tk 12.00

## Not an inch of his body spared

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and PALASH KHAN

It was when they unclothed Nahid Hossain's dead body for post mortem examination that the morgue staff realised how horrifyingly he had been beaten to death by the sparring Dhaka College students and the New Market shopkeepers.

So numerous were the bruises that they created a criss-cross hatch pattern all over his body, from head to toe.

There was not an unscathed inch left; it would have taken several hours just to count the welts, according to morgue officials present.

And his fault: he happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Hearing the news of the heated altercation between the two parties, his family had asked him not to go to work that day.

They live in Kamrangirchar, and Nahid's workplace is on Elephant Road: to reach his office, he must cross the battlefield that the New Market area had turned into on Tuesday.

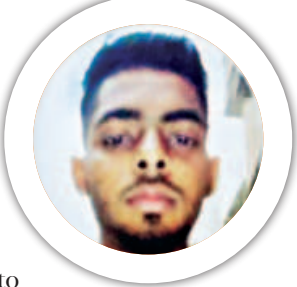
His family had told him that he cannot reach Elephant Road but Nahid was adamant. He said he was being called by his office in Elephant Road and he must go.

As a daily-rated deliveryman by profession, a missed day's work means a day's pay lost for Nahid Hossain, something he could ill afford.

"He had missed many days of work during the pandemic and did not want to skip work," said Dolly, his wife of six months.

The two were compelled to get married after family members caught wind of their romance.

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Nahid



Dolly weeps as she waits to receive her husband Nahid Hossain's body in front of the Dhaka Medical College morgue yesterday morning. Nahid, a 19-year-old courier service employee, died on Tuesday night after being brutally beaten during the clash between shopkeepers and Dhaka College students in the capital's New Market area.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

### NEW MARKET VIOLENCE

## Police actions were too little, too late

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A day after the capital's New Market area became the scene of furious battles between shopkeepers and Dhaka College students, law enforcement's apparent inability to bring a swift end to the violence drew criticism yesterday.

The fighting, which started on Monday night over a disagreement at a fast food shop and spilled over

into daylong clashes on Tuesday, claimed the life of a teenaged courier service employee. At least 50 others suffered injuries and five shops were gutted in fires.

Both shopkeepers and students alleged that a lack of prompt action by police allowed the violence to continue for hours.

When the clashes were going on, even cabinet members and top police bosses talked with

journalists, but there was lack of fruitful action to stop the clash.

Eminent citizens said if police were active since Tuesday morning, the situation would not devolved to such an extent.

Dhaka University Professor Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury said, "Quick police intervention could have stopped the clashes that continued for over 16 hours."

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## ZILA PARISHAD Govt urges EC to hold polls soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has urged the Election Commission to take necessary steps to hold Zila Parishad elections as soon as possible.

In a letter to the EC on Monday, the LGRD ministry's Local Government Division said tenure of the district councils expired. As per the Zila Parishad Act, 2000, amended in 2022, the next elections should be held at the earliest, it said.

The letter was sent after the division in a circular announced the dissolution of Zila Parishad councils of 61 districts on Sunday night.

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A cyclist's journey on the Dhaka University campus is blocked by a fallen tree after a nor'wester lashed the capital in the morning yesterday. Strong winds had knocked down trees inside the campus, temporarily disrupting traffic movement.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Nor'westers leave 5 dead

STAR REPORT

Nor'westers lashed many parts of the country, including the capital and its adjacent districts, early yesterday, killing at least five people.

The storms, locally known as Kalbaishakhi, accompanied by rain and gusty wind, hit the country around 6:00am.

According to reports from our correspondents, standing boro crop was damaged in large areas of different districts.

However, mango farmers in Rajshahi region were happy about the rain as they were struggling with drought this season, said Md Alim Uddin, principal scientific officer at the Fruit Research Station in the district.

"Although parts of Rajshahi witnessed nor'westers, many areas around the district experienced a much awaited rain which is likely to help famers have a good mango yield," he said.

Among the five dead is 12-year-old Anika. She died after a speedboat carrying 20 passengers on Sandwip-Kumira route capsized in the Bay of Bengal in Sandwip

during the storm.

Her twin sisters Adiba and Arifa and 10-year-old Saikat remained missing till 4:00pm, according to River Police in Chattogram.

Anwar Hossain, in-charge of boat operations at Guptachara Ghat, said the speedboat capsized due to strong wind and rough sea.

Passengers, however, alleged that despite several directives by the authorities to ensure safety, speedboat owners and staffers hardly think about it.

**The storm flattened half-ripe boro paddy on a vast swathe of land in Bogura.**

In Cumilla, an auto-rickshaw passenger was killed and four others were injured after a tree fell on the vehicle on Muradnagar-Ramchandapur road during the storm.

The dead, Shishu Mia, 60, was a resident of Khoshgram village in Muradnagar upazila.

In Chattogram's Fatikchhari, a

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স্বাস্থ্য দেবার অতি বড়

বিআরবি হাসপাতালের প্রতিষ্ঠাবার্ষিকী উপলক্ষে  
সকল সেবা গ্রহীতা এবং শুভানুধ্যায়ীগণ সহ সকলকে  
আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন

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(২৯ - ২৭ এপ্রিল, ২০২২ পর্যন্ত)

৫০%  
ডিসকাউন্ট  
প্যাথলজিতে (ব্লাড, ইউরিন, স্টিল টেস্ট সহ  
সকল ধরনের প্যাথলজি টেস্ট)

২৫%  
ডিসকাউন্ট  
রেডিওলজিতে (এক্সআরআই, সিটি স্ক্যান,  
এমআর, মেরোগ্রাফি, আল্ট্রাসোনোগ্রাফি ইত্যাদি)



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