



Tamim Iqbal, who Mushfiqur Rahim had beaten to the punch to become the first Bangladeshi batter to reach the landmark of 5000 Test runs, was amongst the ones to applaud the cricketer as he walked back to the pavilion following the end of second session's play on Day 4 of Bangladesh's first Test against Sri Lanka at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED /BCB



Complexion transformed late in the day

SPORTS REPORTER, from Chattogram

Tajjul Islam got one to land pretty far outside the off stump and then turn sharply inwards that went through the gap between Lasith Embuldenya's bat and pad before casting the left-hander. That turned out to be the last delivery of the day as the players went off but not before that delivery had turned the complexion of the game itself as Sri Lanka now look to save the Test match on the final day of the match today.

The wicket had neither shown sharp turn nor had much in the way for the faster bowlers, in terms of seam movement over four days. Sri Lanka's 397 in the first innings was followed by Bangladesh's 465. Angelo Mathews's 199, Tamim Iqbal's 133, Mushfiqur Rahim's 105 and Liton Das's 88 all vouch to a great batting track for the last four days but things may have slightly tilted in the Tigers' favour in that last session yesterday as Lankans lost two wickets. Tajjul was also the instigator for Bangladesh bagging the wicket of Osahada Fernando, run out after a sharp direct hit.

Tajjul's sharp turners, Shakib Al Hasan's wily variations and Nayeem Hasan's reading of the batters may go a long way into Bangladesh having

a say in this game on the final day by bowling Lankans out and getting the required runs quickly. Sri Lanka are still 29 runs behind but they appear confident despite being 39 for 2.



we can survive," pacer Kasun Rajitha, who bagged four for 60 runs, said about his side's chances of drawing the match.

Lankans, however, will be wary of the turn. "Wicket is really good for the batsmen. Little bit turn now on the fourth day and I think good turn tomorrow [today] as well," Rajitha said.

That turn can go a long way into defining what will happen today. How much Sri Lanka can progress and if they will be able to pressure Bangladesh late in the day, will depend upon what happens in the first session. Bangladesh's lead was small in the end but the spinners may be able to force a result.

SCORES IN BRIEF Bangladesh V Sri Lanka (Day 4)

SRI LANKA: First Innings – 397 all out and Second Innings – 39 for 2 in 17.1 overs (Karunaratne 18 not out, Fernando 19; Tajjul 1-0, Shakib 0-12)

BANGLADESH: First Innings – 465 all out in 170.1 overs (Tamim Iqbal 133 retired hurt, Mushfiqur 105, Liton 88; Rajitha 4-60, Asitha 3-72)

‘Very happy with my achievement’

Mushfiqur Rahim, having become the first Bangladesh batter to reach the magical mark of 5000 runs in Test cricket during his ton against Sri Lanka yesterday, arrived at the press conference yesterday and appeared as both content and light-hearted but had a sense of grievance against the unjustified treatment he received from the media. Here are the excerpts of that press conference:

Feelings after becoming first Bangladeshi to score 5000 Test runs?

Mushfiqur Rahim (MR): It's a great feeling ... but I'm sure I won't be the last one. There'll be a lot of capable players among our seniors and juniors who can reach 8,000 or 10,000 runs.

Could you tell us about the journey?

(MR): My goal [in my debut Test] was to play the second Test (laughs). Being a keeper-batter. I always gave priority to Tests. You are judged by how many big hundreds you get in the format. There's no end to success, but I'm very happy with my achievement.

Is Sri Lanka your favourite opponent?

(MR): To be honest, it's not easy to score runs against them. The way they set the field, it's not over attacking like England or Australia, who want you to make mistakes when you attack. They are different to play with your patience and this challenge against them motivates me extra.

MOST RUNS IN TESTS FOR BANGLADESH

Player	Matches	Runs	HS	Avg
Mushfiqur Rahim	81*	5037	219*	36.76
Tamim Iqbal	66*	4981	206	40.16
Shakib Al Hasan	60*	4055	217	39.36
Mominul Haque	52*	3516	181	39.06
Habibul Bashar	50	3026	113	30.87

Your thoughts on not playing any reverse sweep today?

(MR): I thought this would be the first question (laughs). It depends on how the wicket plays. There's no question of playing such shots [like reverse sweep] when you can play down the line.

This is a batting-friendly wicket where you can back your strength to play your shots with the straight bat. I want to mention that I played three or four reverse sweeps in two of my double-centuries. Check out the video of that knock. Definitely, it's one of my high-risk shots, but I'm not afraid to play it in the near future as well.

In the recent past, a lot has been said about you and your form. Reactions?

(MR): It [what is being said] is not desirable for

a player. Only in Bangladesh, I have seen people compare me to Bradman when I score a century. But then when I don't score runs, I feel like digging a hole for myself.

But this is becoming a culture. If I have to spend so much time tackling these things off the field, our on-field duties get affected. I think there's no value for experience in Bangladesh.

Your contest with Tamim in getting to 5000 Test runs first?

(MR): He [Tamim] knows all these things [records] and he was close. He told me, I couldn't get there, you did. He congratulated me.

I always think that it's a better feeling when your brother, teammate or friend achieves something. I was so happy when Tamim broke my highest individual score. He then told me that within the next two or three years, I'll end up breaking his record again. It is a healthy competition, and this is how we as teammates help each other.

Do you feel lucky to have reached this far?

(MR): I don't think it is luck. When I go to practice, most of you are sleeping in the morning.

Do you plan to quit the shortest format?

(MR): I don't have any such plan [of quitting format] and want to play as long as possible across formats if there is an opportunity through my performance and fitness.

Swiatek heavy favourite for second title

AFP, PARIS

Riding a 28-match unbeaten run into Roland Garros and a winner of her past five tournaments, Iga Swiatek is the undeniable favourite for a second French Open title in three years.

Since the shock retirement of world number one Ashleigh Barty, the 20-year-old Swiatek has swept aside all-comers and transformed herself into the player to beat in women's tennis.

The Pole hasn't lost since falling to another former Roland Garros champion, Jelena Ostapenko, in Dubai in



February. Her winning streak is the longest on the WTA tour since Serena Williams won 34 matches in a row in 2013.

Williams, who turns 41 in September, has not played since retiring in the first round at Wimbledon last year, and her long-time coach Patrick Mouratoglou is now working with two-time Grand Slam champion Simona Halep, who won her first major in Paris in 2018.



FRENCH OPEN Djokovic braced for Alcaraz and Nadal challenge

AFP, Paris

Novak Djokovic admits he will be fired up by the fiasco of his high-profile deportation from Australia when he targets a record-equalling 21st major on his Grand Slam return at the French Open.

World number one Djokovic captured a second Roland Garros title in 2021 followed by a sixth Wimbledon to move to 20 majors alongside Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

However, his unseemly exit from Melbourne following his refusal to be vaccinated opened the door for Nadal to claim a

second Australian Open and 21st Grand Slam crown.

"It's something that I never faced before," said Djokovic, who turns 35 on Sunday, the opening day of the French Open.

Djokovic has played only five tournaments in 2022 but arrives in Paris buoyed by a sixth Italian Open title, becoming just the fifth man to win 1,000 career matches in the process.

It was his 38th Masters triumph, two more than Nadal at the top of the all-time list.

Carlos Alcaraz, just 19, has rocketed to six in the world on the

back of four titles – three on clay – in 2022.

He won a second Masters title in Madrid, sweeping Nadal, Djokovic and third-ranked Alexander Zverev on the way.

"He definitely is special," admitted Djokovic of Alcaraz who also claimed the prestigious Miami Masters earlier in the year.

Nadal comes into Paris with major question marks over his ability to lift a 14th title. A rib injury in March was followed by the re-emergence in Rome of his chronic foot injury where he limped to defeat in the last-16.

উচ্চশিক্ষার পথে

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আল-আরাফাহ্ ইসলামী ব্যাংক শিক্ষা বৃত্তি আছে সাথে

দেশজুড়ে শরীয়াহভিত্তিক ব্যাংকিং-এর আলো ছড়িয়ে অসংখ্য পরিবারে উচ্চশিক্ষা পৌঁছে দিতে আবারও এগিয়ে এসেছে আল-আরাফাহ্ ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড। ২০২০ সালে উচ্চমাধ্যমিক ও সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ মেধাবী শিক্ষার্থীরা আল-আরাফাহ্ ইসলামী ব্যাংক শিক্ষাবৃত্তি এর সহায়তায় উচ্চশিক্ষা গ্রহণের মাধ্যমে গড়ে তুলুন সম্ভাবনাময় আগামী।

বৃত্তির জন্য আবেদনের যোগ্যতা		
বিভাগ	বিভাগীয় শহর/সিটি কর্পোরেশন এলাকার শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান-এর ক্ষেত্রে	সিটি কর্পোরেশন এলাকার বাইরের শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান-এর ক্ষেত্রে
বিজ্ঞান বিভাগ	জিপিএ-৫.০০	জিপিএ-৪.৮০
অন্যান্য বিভাগ	জিপিএ-৪.৮০	জিপিএ-৪.৫০

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শিক্ষার স্তর	সময়কাল	মাসিক বৃত্তি (টাকা)
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		৮,০০০/-

বৃত্তির জন্য আবেদনের নিয়মাবলি

- যে সকল শিক্ষার্থী সরকারি বৃত্তি এবং সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান ব্যতীত অন্য কোনো উৎস থেকে বৃত্তি পাচ্ছেন, তারা আল-আরাফাহ্ ইসলামী ব্যাংকের শিক্ষা বৃত্তির জন্য বিবেচিত হবেন না।
- গ্রামীণ/অন্যদের, আদিবাসী এলাকায় অবস্থিত শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে উত্তীর্ণ শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য বৃত্তির শর্তকরা ৭০ ভাগ নির্ধারিত থাকবে।
- প্রতিবছরী শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য শর্তকরা ৫ ভাগ বৃত্তি সের্বিক্ত থাকবে।
- যে সকল আবেদনকারীর পিতা-মাতা/অভিত্যাবকের বার্ষিক আয় (মাসিক ২০,০০০/-টাকা হিসাবে বার্ষিক) ২,৪০,০০০/- (দুই লক্ষ চল্লিশ হাজার) টাকার উপরে তাদের আবেদনপত্র গৃহীত হবে না।
- ২০২০ সালের এইচ.এস./সি/সমমান পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ ২০২০-২০২১ শিক্ষাবর্ষে কলেজ/বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে অধ্যয়নরত অগ্রহী ও উপরোক্ত যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন শিক্ষার্থীদের অনলাইনে <https://www.al-arafahbank.com/scholarship>-এই ঠিকানায় আবেদনের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।
- বার্ষিক যোগ্যতা এবং শর্তাবলির কোনো একটি অসম্পূর্ণ থাকলে আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।
- সরাসরি/ডাকযোগ্য/কুরিয়ারযোগ্য কোনো আবেদন গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।
- আগামী ২ জুন ২০২২ এর মধ্যে অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে হবে।
- যে সকল শিক্ষার্থী আল-আরাফাহ্ ইসলামী ব্যাংকের শিক্ষা বৃত্তির জন্য চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্বাচিত হবেন, বৃত্তির অর্থ গ্রহণের পূর্বে তাদেরকে অবশ্যই ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষের কাছে ২০২০-২১ শিক্ষাবর্ষে সরকার অনুমোদিত শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্নাতক/সমমান পর্যায়ে ভর্তির প্রমাণপত্র উপস্থাপন করতে হবে।

সিনিয়র ভাইস প্রেসিডেন্ট
পাবলিক রিলেশনস ডিভিশন

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