

'Gun-free' Japan stunned by Abe killing

REUTERS, Tokyo

Japan struggled with shock and sadness yesterday, trying to come to terms with the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in a nation where firearms are strictly regulated and political violence extremely rare.

From politicians to ordinary people, there was an outpouring of grief.

Japan's gun-ownership restrictions do not allow private citizens to have handguns, and licensed hunters may own only rifles. Gun owners must attend classes, pass a written test and undergo a mental health evaluation and a background check.

Shootings, when they occur, typically involve "yakuza" gangsters using illegal weapons.

Japan has had mass killings, but they usually have not involved guns.

Attacks on politicians, though, are unusual. There have been only a handful in the last half century, most notably in 2007 when the mayor of Nagasaki was shot and killed by a gangster - an incident that resulted in still further tightening of gun regulations.

"I can't stop shaking. This is the end of peaceful Japan," wrote Twitter user Nonochi.

"There's plenty of politicians I'd like to see disappear, but assassination is inconceivable. It's the beginning of the end of democracy."



This image received from the Asahi Shimbun newspaper shows a man (centre right) suspected of shooting former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe being tackled to the ground by police at Yamato Saidaiji Station in the city of Nara, Japan, yesterday. Inset, A woman reacts in front of a makeshift memorial at the scene where Abe was shot.

PHOTO: AFP

Leave means leave

UK PM Boris Johnson faces calls to go now

AFP, London

Britain's main opposition Labour party yesterday threatened to call a no-confidence vote in Prime Minister Boris Johnson to get him to quit immediately, after he was forced to resign by a cabinet revolt.

Johnson quit as leader of the ruling Conservative party on Thursday, after a frenzy of nearly 60 resignations in less than 48 hours in opposition to his scandal-hit leadership.

But the 58-year-old premier, whose three-year premiership has been defined by Britain's departure from the European Union and Covid, said he would stay on until his successor is found.

As candidates readied for a battle to replace Johnson, he faced calls to leave straight away and for an acting leader to be appointed to head the world's fifth-

largest economy in the interim.

Labour's deputy leader Angela Rayner yesterday said they aimed to trigger a vote of no-confidence in parliament if the Tories do not get rid of him immediately.

"He's a proven liar who's engulfed in sleaze and we can't have another couple of months of this," she told BBC radio.

"If they don't, we will call a no-confidence vote because it's pretty clear he hasn't got the confidence of the House (of Commons) or the British public."

To do so, they would need the support of dozens of Conservative MPs. But the strategy is fraught as it could trigger a general election, which could see Tories lose their seats if Johnson is defeated.

James Cleverly, newly installed as education minister, insisted that Johnson would stay in charge for the next few months.

"It's right that he has stood down and

it's right that he has put a team in place to continue governing whilst the selection procedure flows for his successor," he told Sky News. "And we should do that I think pretty quickly."

A timetable for the Tory leadership contest is expected to be announced on Monday, with the winner installed in time for the party's annual conference in early October. Defence minister Ben Wallace and Rishi Sunak - whose resignation as finance minister on Tuesday set off the chain of exits - were among the early frontrunners to take over, a YouGov survey of Tory members suggested.

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, another potential contender, cut short a trip to Indonesia for a G20 meeting to fly back.

So far, Conservative MP Tom Tugendhat and Attorney General Suella Braverman have both officially announced their candidature.

GEORGE FLOYD MURDER Ex-cop sentenced to over 20 years

AFP, Saint Paul

Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer convicted of the murder of George Floyd, was sentenced to more than 20 years in prison on Thursday on federal charges. Chauvin, who is white, pleaded guilty in December 2021 to violating the civil rights of Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man, during his May 2020 arrest for allegedly using a counterfeit \$20 bill to buy a pack of cigarettes. Chauvin is already serving a 22 and-a-half-year sentence after being convicted of state murder charges for Floyd's death, which sparked protests against racial injustice and police brutality across the United States. The state and federal sentences are to run concurrently. Chauvin, a 19-year veteran of the Minneapolis police force, was captured in a video that went viral kneeling on Floyd's neck for nearly 10 minutes, until he passed out and died. Chauvin and three other police officers who were on the scene during Floyd's fatal arrest - Tou Thao, Alexander Kueng and Thomas Lane - were charged with violating his constitutional rights and failing to respond to his medical needs.

CYBER LIBEL CONVICTION Ressa loses appeal

AFP, Manila

Philippine Nobel Peace Prize winner Maria Ressa lost her appeal against a conviction for cyber libel, her news website Rappler said yesterday, in the latest blow for the veteran journalist. Ressa, 58, and her former colleague Rey Santos

Jr face lengthy jail sentences, but the company said they will "avail of all legal remedies available to them", including taking the case to the Supreme Court. The ruling comes less than two weeks after Philippine authorities ordered Rappler to shut down ahead of former president Rodrigo Duterte's last day in office. Rappler yesterday described the decision to uphold the

2020 conviction as "unfortunate", saying it "weakens the ability of journalists to hold power to account". "What is ultimately at stake is our democracy whose strength rests on a media that is not threatened by the state nor intimidated by forces out to silence critical voices," Rappler said. Ressa, who is also a US citizen, is fighting at least seven court cases.

Adieu, music maestro

FROM PAGE 1

The unparalleled talent behind the song, eminent composer and music director Alam Khan, passed away yesterday at 11:32am at a hospital in the capital.

His son, Arman Khan, confirmed the news to The Daily Star. The artist's namaz-e-janaza took place at the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC) after Asr prayers.

Khan was a titan in Bangladesh's music industry. His body of work solidifies his legacy, but it is also the person behind the music that we remember.

Khan, who went on to

win seven national film awards as music director, started his musical career at a very early age. At only the age of 10, the maestro had made the music and provided vocals for the song "Niribili Sondhaye Dekha Hole Dujonaye", which was written by his friend Maksudur Rahman. While the song was never released, it marked the entry of the artistes into the world of music.

Fans and music lovers will remember him as the mind behind "Orey Neel Doriya", "Hayre Manush Rongin Fanush", "Ami Rojonigondha Phuler Moto Gondho", "Daak Diyachhen

Doyal Amare", "Ki Jaadu Korila Piriti Shikhaila", "Tumi Jekthane Ami Shekhane" and "Shobai to Bhalobasha Chay". The first two songs in particular were the ones that pushed him to superstardom.

"Orey Neel Doriya" from the 1978 movie "Sareng Bou" was composed and produced by Alam Khan, with Mukul Chowdhury penning the lyrics and Abdul Jabbar providing his voice. The song was a pop-culture phenomenon then and continues to be so.

Even today, the song is remade and covered due to its popularity. A survey by RTV on the song

recognised it as one of the best songs of the golden age of Bangladeshi music.

What solidifies Khan's legacy in the Bangladeshi music industry, is his role in pushing artistes such as Ferdous Wahid, Andrew Kishore and Sheikh Ishtiaq as playback singers - with all three making their playback debuts under him.

Even though Khan will no longer be with us, the legacy he leaves behind has ensured that we will never forget him. His music will forever be tied to the culture of our country, the history of our film music, and in our hearts and minds.

Sri Lanka on alert ahead of anti-govt rally

AFP, Colombo

Thousands of heavily armed troops were deployed in Sri Lanka's capital yesterday ahead of a planned rally demanding the ouster of embattled President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

The island nation is suffering through an unprecedented financial crisis, and its 22 million people have endured runaway inflation, prolonged blackouts, and shortages of fuel and other essential goods since the start of the year.

Foresters

FROM PAGE 2

cultivate crops on the land, it is the government-gazetted reserved forest land which has been earmarked for the lake.

"On humanitarian grounds, the Tangail deputy commissioner has already pledged to give Tk 5 lakh to the locals who cultivate there. The upazila administration has promised to provide another Tk 5 lakh."

He said the locals were even assured of earnings from renting out boats on the lake, but they still did not agree. "What can we do? As government employees, we have to carry out our duties as per directives."

Politician who tried

FROM PAGE 1

Those three words would come to define Abe's unique and unparalleled legacy on Japan's politics, both at home and abroad, where he did more than any other Japanese leader to raise Japan's standing on the world's stage.

The lawmaker first became Japan's youngest premier since World War Two in 2006, lasting just a year before returning for a rare second stint in 2012. Abe became Japan's longest-serving premier in November 2019, but by summer 2020, support had been eroded by his handling of the Covid-19 outbreak as well as a series of scandals including the arrest of his former justice minister.

He resigned in September of that year citing ill health without achieving his long-held goal of revising the US-drafted constitution.

But he remained a dominant presence over the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), controlling one of its major factions.

Abe hailed from a wealthy political family that included a foreign minister father and a great-uncle who served as premier. But when it came to policies, his grandfather,

the late prime minister Nobusuke Kishi, seems to have mattered most.

Kishi was a wartime cabinet minister imprisoned but never tried as a war criminal after World War Two. He served as prime minister from 1957 to 1960, resigning due to public furore over a renegotiated US-Japan security pact.

Five years old at the time, Abe famously heard the sound of clashes between police and leftist crowds protesting the pact outside parliament as he played on his grandfather's lap.

Kishi tried unsuccessfully to revise Japan's US-drafted 1947 constitution to become an equal security partner with the United States and adopt a more assertive diplomacy - issues central to Abe's own agenda.

Abe boosted defence spending and reached out to other Asian nations to counter an increasingly assertive China. He pushed through laws to let Japan exercise the right of "collective self-defence", or militarily aiding an ally under attack.

Revising the pacifist constitution remained a top priority for Abe, a contentious goal since many Japanese see the

charter as responsible for the country's post-war record of peace.

Abe's underlying agenda was to escape what he called the post-war regime, a legacy of US occupation that conservatives argue deprived Japan of national pride. Reforming the education system to restore traditional mores was another of his goals.

He also adopted a less apologetic stance towards Japan's World War Two actions, saying future generations should not have to keep apologising for past mistakes.

First elected to parliament in 1993 after his father's death, Abe rose to national fame by adopting a tough stance toward unpredictable neighbour North Korea in a feud over Japanese citizens kidnapped by Pyongyang decades ago.

Though Abe also sought to improve ties with China and South Korea, where bitter wartime memories run deep, he riled both neighbours in 2013 by visiting Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine, seen by Beijing and Seoul as a symbol of Japan's past militarism.

In later years, he refrained from visiting in person and instead sent ritual offerings.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Project Director Establishment of Sheikh Rasel Textile Engineering College, Sylhet. Department of Textiles, BTMC Bhabon (11 th Floor) 7-9, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.				
Invitation for Tender (Goods)				
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Textiles & Jute		
2	Agency	Department of Textiles		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Project Director		
4	Invitation for	Supply of Books & Journals for College.		
5	Invitation Ref No	T-2/ Books & Journals/ 2022-23		
Key Information				
6	Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (National)		
Funding Information				
7	Budget and Source of Funds	2022-23 and GOB		
8	Development Partners (if applicable)	N/A		
Particular Information				
9	Project / Programme Code (if applicable)	224115606		
10	Project / Programme Name (if applicable)	Establishment of Sheikh Rasel Textile Engineering College, Sylhet.		
11	Tender Package No.	GD-13		
12	Tender Package Name	Supply of Books & Journals for institute.		
13	Tender Publication Date	Date	Time	
14	Tender Last Selling Date	08-07-2022	On or before	
15	Tender Closing Date and Time	28-07-2022	During office time	
16	Tender Opening Date and Time	31-07-2022	12.00 Noon	
17	Name & Address of the office(s)	31-07-2022	2.00 PM	
Selling Tender Document		Address		
Receiving Tender Document		1) Office of the Director General, Department of Textiles, BTMC Bhabon (9 th floor), 7-9 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. 2) Office of the Project Director, Establishment of Sheikh Rasel Textile Engineering College, Sylhet, BTMC Bhabon (11 th floor), 7-9 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215		
Opening Tender Document		1) Office of the Director General, Department of Textiles, BTMC Bhabon (9 th floor), 7-9 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Telephone No: 02-55011972. e-mail: srtec2021@gmail.com 2) Office of the Project Director, Establishment of Sheikh Rasel Textile Engineering College, Sylhet, BTMC Bhabon (11 th floor), 7-9 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215		
Information for Tenderer				
18	Eligibility of Tenderer	(i) Having up-to-date Trade License (ii) Having Valid e-Tin/TIN and VAT Registration Certificate. (iii) Having Income Tax Clearance Certificate (Tax Year 2020-21) (iv) Having minimum period of general experience of 5 (five) years in supplying books & Journals. (v) Having experience of successful completion of Books & Journals supply work in a single agreement within 5 years amounting not less than Tk.40 Lac (vi) Having minimum Liquid Asset Tk.40 Lac (vii) Meeting all other terms and conditions as specified in Tender Data Sheet(TDS)		
19	Brief Description of Goods	Supply of Books & Journals for institute.		
20	Price of Tender Document (Tk.):	1000.00 (One Thousand) only		
21	Package No.	Identification of Package(s)	Location	Tender Security Amount
	GD-13	Supply of Books & Journals for College.	Sheikh Rasel Textile Engineering College, Sylhet project area	1,20,000.00 (One lac twenty thousand)
Completion Time in Months				
04 (Four) Months				
Procuring Entity Details				
22	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Niranjana Kumar Debnath		
23	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director		
24	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Establishment of Sheikh Rasel Textile Engineering College, Sylhet, BTMC Bhabon (11 th floor), 7-9, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.		
25	Contract details of Official Inviting Tender	Tel: 02-55011972 e-mail: srtec2021@gmail.com		
26	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason there of.			

GD-1368

09/07/2022
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