

NATION PAYS HOMAGE TO BANGABANDHU



Floral wreaths covered the memorials of Bangabandhu across the country on National Mourning Day. People from all around, from locals to high-officials, went to the sites to pay their respects towards the Father of the Nation. The memorial at the capital's Dhanmondi-32 was flooded with innumerable wreaths, as people paid glowing tributes to the architect of independent Bangladesh. Like elsewhere in the country, Sylhet, Barishal, Chattogram and Khulna divisional and district administrations observed the day in a befitting manner.

PHOTO: STAR, COLLECTED

Must resist corrupters

Chief justice urges all

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique yesterday urged all to resist and reject corrupters and black marketers to establish justice in the society.

"Bangabandhu in his speeches had labelled the corrupt, black marketers and hoarders as the enemy of the country and nation. Please come forward, resist and reject such people to establish justice and ensure that people can get justice in a short time at minimum cost," he said.

The chief justice said this while speaking as chief guest at a discussion at the Supreme Court auditorium in Dhaka on the occasion of National Mourning Day.

He also said the Liberation War started through chanting the slogan "Joy Bangla", and the country has been independent through this slogan.

"Those, who feel shame to chant 'Joy Bangla' as slogan now, I feel, are the followers of those - 1 to 2 percent - who had opposed Joy Bangla slogan during the Liberation War of the country in 1971", he added.

Justice Obaidul Hassan, Justice Borhanuddin and Justice M Enayetur Rahim from the Appellate Division of the SC; Justice Md Abu Zafar Siddique; Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim, Justice Md Habibul Gani

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7 gold bars seized from passenger at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials detained a man with seven gold bars - weighing around 1.216kg - at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka yesterday.

Detainee Md Shah Alam, from Feni, arrived at Dhaka airport from UAE, Custom House Deputy Commissioner Md Riazul Islam told The Daily Star.

On information, the customs officials challenged Shah Alam when he was crossing the green channel.

Later they searched his bag and found seven gold bars and some gold ornaments. The estimated price of the gold is Tk 89 lakh.

The process of filing a case against him is underway.

A befitting tribute

National Mourning Day observed across country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Mourning Day was observed across the country yesterday, with a fresh vow to build "Sonar Bangla", as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and a resolve to bring his killers to book.

Leaders and activists of different socio-cultural and political organisations, including Awami League, as well as people from all backgrounds marked the day in a befitting manner.

This year's National Mourning Day marks the 47th martyrdom anniversary of Bangabandhu.

Discussions and film screenings on the life and works of Bangabandhu were arranged at different institutions, including schools, colleges and madrasas. Special prayers were held at religious institutions.

Besides, competitions centring painting, essay writing, hamd and poem recitation were arranged at educational institutions.

Special food was served to inmates of hospitals, jails, and shelters in different districts.

In the capital, people were seen gathered in front of Bangabandhu Bhaban since morning to pay homage to his memories. They flooded the street in front of Bangabandhu Museum at the capital's Dhanmondi.

National Mourning Day programmes began by paying tributes at the portrait of the Father of the Nation yesterday morning. After Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid her respects,

people, including youngsters, gathered at Dhanmondi-32 around 6:00am, wearing black badges on their chest and carrying black banners in their hands.

All the people recalled Bangabandhu by placing floral wreaths at his portrait.

Bangabandhu Museum was kept open for all after the prime minister left the place.

Organisations including Bangla Academy, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), Bangladesh National Museum, Dhaka University were scheduled

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to hold multiple events, paying rich tributes to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

As part of its events, BSA hosted a special art camp for children in five areas of the capital from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

The camp took place at BSA's National Art Gallery, the VIP lounge of Kamalapur Railway Station, Zahir Raihan Cultural Centre in Gendaria, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed Park in Gulshan 2, and BSA's venue in Uttara Sector-7.

Khulna city and district units of Awami League and its front-Bangla Academy inaugurated

a 10-day discussion on the significance of Bangabandhu's autobiography, "The Unfinished Memoirs" at its AKSB auditorium.

Dhaka University Film Society arranged a special film screening session on TSC premises under their yearly event "Bangabandhu in Celluloid" at 7:00pm.

Besides, different organisations and general people paid their respects at Bangabandhu's mausoleum in Tungipara.

In Rangpur, the divisional and district administrations, Rangpur City Corporation, government departments, educational institutions, sociocultural, professional and other organisations observed the day through day-long programmes.

The observance began by hoisting the national flag at half-mast atop all government, semi-government, autonomous and private buildings as well as educational institutions after sunrise.

Wearing black badges, officials; political leaders; freedom fighters; heads of different organisations, institutions and departments; and general people placed wreaths at the mural of Bangabandhu in the morning.

In Khulna, various government, semi-government and autonomous bodies; socio-cultural and voluntary organisations; and educational institutions observed National Mourning Day in a befitting manner.

Khulna city and district units of Awami League and its front-

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'Allow UN rights chief to visit CHT'

Urge hill orgs, claiming Michelle Bachelet was barred from visiting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of different hill organisations yesterday called for allowing the visiting United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet to visit Chattogram Hill Tracts (CHT) region to collect evidence of rights violations.

They formed a human chain in Rangamati Sadar upazila where they claimed that the ruling class has so far denied Michelle to visit the region, according to a press release.

However, this newspaper could not independently verify the claim.

Contacted, at least two officials of the foreign ministry last evening told this correspondent that Michelle, who came to Bangladesh on Sunday, has not been scheduled to visit the CHT region.

At the human chain, Rinisha Chakma, president of Parbatya Chattogram Nari Sangha's (PCNS) Rangamati branch, claimed that as per sources reliable to them, Michelle wants to visit the CHT region but she has not been given permission.

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96 hospitalised with dengue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 96 dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

With the new cases, the total number of dengue patients rose to 3,855.

Among the patients, 397 are still undergoing treatment. A total of 3,855 patients have been released from hospitals, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Warning the city corporations of a major outbreak of dengue virus this year compared to the last couple of years, experts suggested the corporations to take extensive measures immediately to control the Aedes mosquitoes.

Dhaka is at risk of a major dengue outbreak this year compared to the last couple of years, as clear, stagnant water, the breeding ground for Aedes mosquitoes, at under-construction buildings is abundant this time around. The scenario came to light after the DGHS conducted a pre-monsoon survey between March 23 and April 4.

13 fishers rescued in Bay of Bengal

UNB, Dhaka

Mongla Coastguards rescued 13 fishermen yesterday, who were floating in the Bay of Bengal for two days after the engine of their fishing trawler broke down.

The fishermen were rescued around 8:00am from the estuary of Bay of Bengal near Shylar Char in Bagerhat with their trawler after getting a call in the national emergency number - 999, said Lieutenant Commander M Mamunur Rahman, detective officer of Coast Guard.

On August 12, the fishermen went into the Bay with the trawler from Bhandaria upazila in Pirojpur and the engine broke down around 9:00am the next day, he said.

"All of them are doing well. They will be handed over to their families today," Mamunur.

BNP a by-product of Bangabandhu killing

Says Hasan Mahmud

BSS, Dhaka

Information Minister Hasan Mahmud yesterday said Ziaur Rahman and his family were the biggest beneficiaries of Bangabandhu's killing, and BNP is a by-product of the incident.

It is regrettable that BNP's founder Ziaur Rahman was one of the main kingpins of the brutal killing, he said.

The minister told this to reporters after paying rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreaths at his portrait at the capital's Dhanmondi-32 along with leaders of Awami League, marking National Mourning Day.

Hasan said Bangabandhu was killed brutally along with most of his family members in 1975. The killers were tried, except the main kingpins, including Ziaur Rahman, he added.

Now the hope of the nation is to bring the masterminds of Bangabandhu killing under trial through forming a commission, he said.

The government is working to bring back the fugitive, said Hasan, also AL joint general secretary.

Later, the minister joined a discussion organised by Muktijuddher Chetonar Sangbadik Forum at Jatiya Press Club.



As part of development works, the authorities have dug up a side of the busy Kazi Nazrul Avenue near Karwan Bazar and kept it that way for a while. As work progresses slowly, the biggest sufferers are the commuters, who have to push through gridlock every day while traveling on the road. This photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS