



"The final military defeat can be delayed at the cost of the lives of thousands of additional reservists, but... inevitable."

Russia's jailed opposition politician Navalny on Moscow's invasion of Ukraine

The Daily Star

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

SECOND EDITION

"The frequency of using the Pacific as our firing range depends upon the US forces' action character."

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's sister, Kim Yo Jong



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PHOTO: PTI

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stand in solemn silence after placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar as the clock struck 12:01 today to show respect to the memories of the language heroes.

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES IN THE NORTH

Left to die out

Lack of revival initiatives, practice to blame

KONGKON KARMAKER

Santhali, Kurukh, Sadri, Mundali -- these are just some of the many languages spoken by the indigenous communities of the flatlands in Rangpur and Rajshahi divisions.

However, despite their vast range, most of these languages are vanishing fast not only due to a lack of government initiatives to revive them -- but also for the reluctance among the communities themselves to speak their native tongues.

A part of the country's cultural heritage, these languages have their own alphabets and intonations. But most of the ethnic flatland communities now seem more comfortable speaking Bangla. Haimanti Sarkar, chief executive officer of the People's Union of the Marginalised Development Organisation (Pumdo), an NGO working for indigenous people, and a member of the Malo community, said, "Every ethnic community has the right to speak its own language for communication and also to increase the knowledge regarding its own cultures."



The Santhali alphabet

"But the ethnic people are gradually forgetting their languages, which means they are also forgetting their own culture and heritage."

According to the United Nations, at present, 96 percent of the world's approximately 6,700 languages are spoken by only three percent of the world's population. Although indigenous peoples make up less than six percent of the global population, they speak more than 4,000 of the world's languages.

Many of those languages are now marked as "endangered", with most of them having the possibility of becoming extinct by the year 2100.

According to a UN estimate, at least one language of the world dies out every two weeks.

The indigenous languages of Bangladesh are no less threatened, with most of them on the brink of extinction or well into endangerment.

According to a recent census by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, there are over 50 ethnic minority groups

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GULSHAN FIRE

Why we need proper fire safety plan for each building

NIZAMUDDIN AHMED

Grenfel Tower in London was entrapped in the myth that a single staircase under mechanically-induced positive air pressure was safe for a 24-storey block of apartments. That single-track scientific theory ignored other scientific factors and inevitable human errors, resulting in 72 deaths when a burst fridge on the third floor caused a fire that devastatingly spread throughout the building, inside and out.

The Grenfel tragedy of June 2017 occurred in the UK, which has some of the stringent fire codes, in theory and in practice, cemented further by a public that is aware and proactively cooperative.

Ever since, my thoughts have been concerned with

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Phulpori

was abused physically, verbally

One of 2 accused BCL activists tells probe body

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

One of the two female Chhatra League activists, accused of torturing a female student in Kushtia's Islamic University, yesterday admitted that they abused the girl physically and verbally.

Sanjida Chowdhury, a vice-president of the university unit Chhatra League, made the admission while speaking to a probe committee formed by the university administration.

"She [Sanjida] said she slapped the girl, hurled abuse and threatened to kill her," said a member of the probe body, seeking anonymity.

Talking to journalists later, Sanjida, however, said they did not torture the girl, Phulpori Khatun. "Not at all ... Nothing like torture happened there."

Sanjida said she will get justice when the probe report comes out.

Another accused Tabassum Islam, a BCL activist, refused to talk to

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TORTURE OF IU STUDENT

Ensure security so students can pursue dreams

Phulpori to univ authorities

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

"The cruelty broke my heart but not my dreams," said Phulpori Khatun, the Islamic University student who was tortured allegedly by two BCL leaders on February 12.

In an interview with The Daily Star yesterday, she said she intends to attend every class and won't give up her education.

On February 14, Phulpori filed a complaint with the IU authorities accusing BCL leaders Sanjida and Tabassum of torturing and humiliating her for hours on the night of February 12 for staying at a student dormitory without informing them.

"I was scared and saddened, and I don't want it to happen to any other student," said the first-year student of the finance and banking department.

Fearing further torture, she returned to her village home in Shibpur under Pabna's Atgharia upazila after the incident. "That was the most shocking day of my life. I will never forget this," she said.

Around 12:30pm yesterday, Phulpori left for the university to appear before a committee, which was formed to investigate the complaint.

Her proud van-puller father Ataur Rahman, who was accompanying her to Kushtia, said, "I never imagined my daughter would face such inhuman torture. After the incident, we are worried about her safety."

Ataur said he devoted his life to educating his four children, adding that his first child completed



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DUA MAHFIL

In honor of our Founder and beloved Chairman, Mr. Abdur Rouf Chowdhury, a Dua Mahfil will take place today (21st February) at the Gulshan Central Mosque (Azad Masjid) following the Asr prayers.

We cordially invite all friends, colleagues, well-wishers, and community members to attend this Dua Mahfil, seeking eternal peace for his departed soul.

Abdur Rouf Chowdhury
22 September, 1937 - 18 February, 2023

RANCON RANGS SEA RESOURCES GROUP

KDS

আমার বাংলা

বাংলা ভাষার গতি ছড়িয়ে যাক সারা বিশ্বের সীমানায়।

From the house of KDS

APPAREL TRIMS & PACKAGING STEEL TEXTILE INLAND CONTAINER DEPOT & LOGISTICS INSURANCE SECURITIES BANKING ENERGY & MINERALS

Four Hundred Marginal Farmers get Krishi Loan via Smart Card from AB Bank at Gopalganj Stadium



AB Bank Limited disbursed Krishi (Agricultural) Loans under own supervision to small and marginal farmers through smart cards at Gopalganj.

The program was organized at Sheikh Fazlul Haque Mani outer Stadium, Gopalganj. Mr. Kazi Mahbubul Alam,

Commissioner (DC), Gopalganj was present as chief guest. Mr. Mahabub Ali Khan, President of Gopalganj District Awami League and Mr. Abdul Kader

Sarder, Deputy Director, Department of Agricultural Extension, Gopalganj were present as special guests with Mr. Tarique Afzal, President and

Managing Director of AB Bank Limited presiding. Senior officials of AB Bank and local dignitaries also attended the program.

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