

## ROHINGYA GENOCIDE 6 nations team up to join ICJ case against Myanmar

REUTERS, Paris

Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Britain have teamed up to join the genocide case over Myanmar's treatment of the Rohingya minority before the UN's top court in The Hague, the court said yesterday evening.

The countries filed a joint declaration of intervention with the court, formally known as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), citing their "common interest in the accomplishment of the high purposes of the Convention", referring to the 1948 convention on the prevention and punishment of genocide.

"We are focusing in particular on violence against women and children", German foreign affairs official Tanja von Usler said in a post on X, formerly Twitter.

A UN fact-finding mission concluded that a 2017 military campaign by Myanmar that drove 730,000 Rohingya into neighbouring Bangladesh had included "genocidal acts".

Myanmar has denied genocide, rejecting the UN findings as "biased and flawed". It says its crackdown was aimed at Rohingya rebels.

The World Court rejected Myanmar's objections to the genocide proceedings in July last year, paving the way for the case to be heard in full.

The Maldives also joined the intervening countries in the case, the court said yesterday.

## Foreign secy to visit India next week

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen is likely to visit India on November 23 or 24 to hold the Foreign Office Consultation (FOC), a regular bilateral meeting with his Indian counterpart Vinay Kwatra.

"This is a regular meeting that was prescheduled. The two sides will discuss aspects of our bilateral relations," a diplomatic source in Delhi told The Daily Star last night.

This is the second foreign secretary-level meeting between the two countries this year, with the first one held in February in Dhaka.

Asked if the meeting has any political significance, sources in Dhaka and Delhi said the meeting of such level discusses purely bilateral diplomatic issues.

Bangladesh and India relations have improved to a great extent over the last one and a half decades in terms of connectivity, energy cooperation, trade, etc. The most-discussed Teesta water-sharing treaty has yet to be signed.

"All these issues will be discussed in the meeting," a foreign ministry official said.

## Zimbabwe's capital declares emergency over cholera

AFP, Harare

Zimbabwe has declared a state of emergency in the capital, Harare, over a cholera outbreak that has claimed dozens of lives across the country, the city's mayor said yesterday.

Harare, a city of 1.5 million people, has been badly hit by an outbreak of the disease that has affected all provinces of the southern African nation.

"We have declared a state of emergency because the situation is now very bad," Harare Mayor Ian Makone told AFP. "The disease is spreading across the city."

## Not enough time

FROM PAGE 1  
prerequisite for holding any such dialogue," it said.

It further said currently the BNP and its like-minded parties, like Jamaat-e-Islami, are holding political programmes like blockades, demanding the resignation of the government, and using arson attacks to enforce the blockades.

Even if the AL agreed to sit with the BNP and others, amidst the ongoing blockades, the BNP's conditions simply do not allow the holding of any meaningful dialogue, it added.

The letter also mentioned that the AL values its partnership with all international friends and hopes that they will offer all cooperation in presenting to the people of Bangladesh a free and fair election in a peaceful environment.

On behalf of AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader, the party's Central Executive Committee member Mohammad A Arafat yesterday handed over the response letter to Arturo Hines, acting deputy chief of mission at the US embassy.

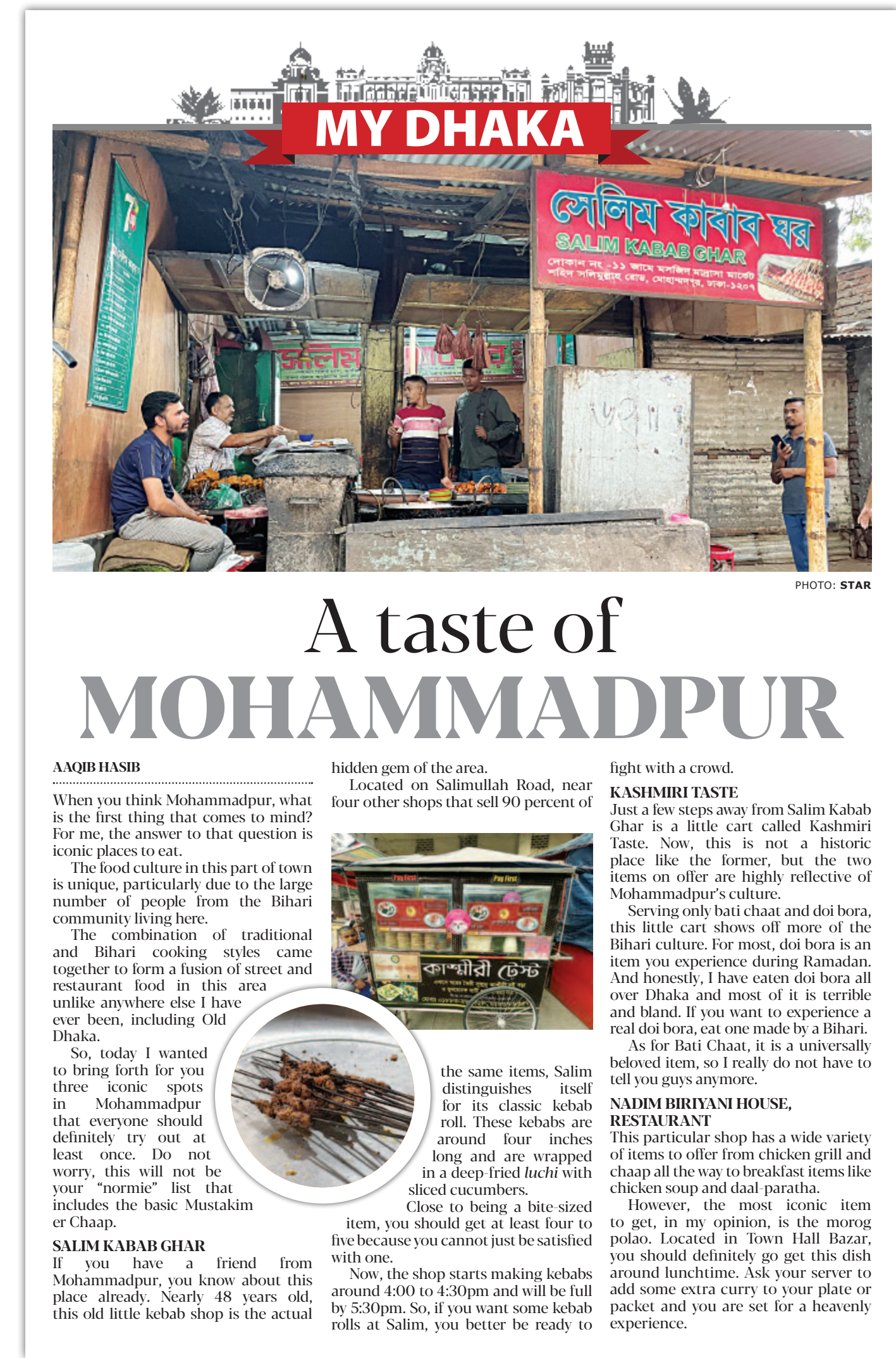


PHOTO: STAR

# A taste of MOHAMMADPUR

AAQIB HASIB

When you think Mohammadpur, what is the first thing that comes to mind? For me, the answer to that question is iconic places to eat.

The food culture in this part of town is unique, particularly due to the large number of people from the Bihari community living here.

The combination of traditional and Bihari cooking styles came together to form a fusion of street and restaurant food in this area unlike anywhere else I have ever been, including Old Dhaka.

So, today I wanted to bring forth for you three iconic spots in Mohammadpur that everyone should definitely try out at least once. Do not worry, this will not be your "normie" list that includes the basic Mustakim er Chaap.

**SALIM KABAB GHAR**  
If you have a friend from Mohammadpur, you know about this place already. Nearly 48 years old, this old little kebab shop is the actual

hidden gem of the area.

Located on Salimullah Road, near four other shops that sell 90 percent of



the same items, Salim distinguishes itself for its classic kebab roll. These kebabs are around four inches long and are wrapped in a deep-fried *luchi* with sliced cucumbers.

Close to being a bite-sized item, you should get at least four to five because you cannot just be satisfied with one.

Now, the shop starts making kebabs around 4:00 to 4:30pm and will be full by 5:30pm. So, if you want some kebab rolls at Salim, you better be ready to

fight with a crowd.

**KASHMIRI TASTE**

Just a few steps away from Salim Kabab Ghar is a little cart called Kashmiri Taste. Now, this is not a historic place like the former, but the two items on offer are highly reflective of Mohammadpur's culture.

Serving only bati chaat and doi bora, this little cart shows off more of the Bihari culture. For most, doi bora is an item you experience during Ramadan. And honestly, I have eaten doi bora all over Dhaka and most of it is terrible and bland. If you want to experience a real doi bora, eat one made by a Bihari.

As for Bati Chaat, it is a universally beloved item, so I really do not have to tell you guys anymore.

**NADIM BIRIYANI HOUSE, RESTAURANT**

This particular shop has a wide variety of items to offer from chicken grill and chaap all the way to breakfast items like chicken soup and daal-paratha.

However, the most iconic item to get, in my opinion, is the morog polao. Located in Town Hall Bazar, you should definitely go get this dish around lunchtime. Ask your server to add some extra curry to your plate or packet and you are set for a heavenly experience.

## AL shifts to polls gear

FROM PAGE 1

"Our goal has always been to ensure people's right to vote. The new government will be elected by the people's votes, not by the use of arms, and not in the dark of the night."

The BNP and its allies will not be able to stop the election, she said, adding that arsonists will not be forgiven.

A press release said nomination aspirants themselves or their representatives can collect and submit by 4:00pm November 21 the applications in person.

It can also be done online at: nomination.albd.org or a mobile app named Smart Nomination App.

## US will hold anti-labour rights people accountable

FROM PAGE 1

Globally" on Thursday.

He said when the US uses its voice and advocacy around the world, it can make a concrete difference in making sure that those who are trying to advance labour rights are protected and defended.

"We will strengthen the federal government's capacity to advance worker rights abroad by prioritising greater job opportunities for employees with labour expertise, training our personnel to know about worker rights, to look for and prevent abuses," Blinken said.

He said they will work with governments and multilateral institutions like the United Nations, with the G20, to promote labour rights and standards.

"This will be part of the work that we do in these international organisations, where so many of the rules are set. It happens in windowless rooms around the world, but it is important -- the standards, the norms, the rights that are established. These have a profound effect around

## Five killed as Cyclone

FROM PAGE 1

village in Sandwip upazila in Chattogram around 6:00pm.

The victim is Abdul Ohab, 65, said Shahidul Islam, officer-in-charge of Sandwip Police Station.

In Patuakhali, the agriculture department fears a damage to the Aman crop. At least 5 percent of the total Aman crop is in ripe and another 20 percent in semi-ripe condition.

Patuakhali Agricultural Extension Department (DAE) fears a fourth of the rest 75 percent crop will be damaged badly, as heavy rains caused by the cyclone left many crops lying on the ground.

Some vegetable crops have also been damaged. However, it will take

some time to assess the extent of the damage, said Nazrul Islam, deputy director of Patuakhali DAE.

In Barishal, heavy rainfall caused by Madhili, meaning a huge tree, flooded low-lying areas of the city.

Most of the city roads, including Battala Road and Sadar Road, got inundated following heavy rains since Thursday afternoon.

Earlier, the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority suspended operation of all the launches on different routes including Dhaka-Barishal due to the cyclone.

The Chattogram port authorities had also halted loading and unloading activities.

## Political crisis nearing its climax

FROM PAGE 1

country's civil society, the international community, and foreign diplomats.

"When the CEC announced the schedule, he should have also mentioned the time of voting, whether it will be at night, or during the daytime, or early morning."

The BNP leader said the government has established a regime where those who demand free and fair elections are being attacked.

He said their ongoing movement to restore the power and rights of the people will be a warning for all the autocrats.

Rizvi said the BNP leaders and activists are being arrested indiscriminately. "If they [law enforcers] can't detain them, they are arresting their fathers, fathers-in-law, younger brothers, and even women in the house."

He said law enforcers arrested more than 12,900 leaders and activists in 289 cases across the country since October 28.

## EC to police violations

FROM PAGE 1

Debnath told The Daily Star.

In this regard, the EC wrote to the secretary of the Law and Justice Division, and the Registrar General, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, on Thursday.

"We are planning to have an electoral enquiry committee for each constituency, aiming to enforce the electoral code of conduct strictly on the ground," said Election Commissioner Brig Gen (ret'd) Ahsan Habib Khan.

"We want to upgrade the magisterial management of the upcoming parliamentary election to prevent any kind of polls-related irregularities, if any," he said while talking to this correspondent yesterday.

The committees will discharge their duties until the publication of gazette notification of election results.

The EC on Wednesday announced the schedule of the election, which would be held on January 7. And the electoral code of conduct came into force from that day.

No one will be able to begin their election campaigns before December 18 as the EC will allocate the electoral symbol on that day. Candidates can

campaign until 8:00am on January 5.

According to The Representation of the People Order, 1972, an enquiry committee, shall, on the basis of information received by it, or complaints made to it, or on its own initiative can enquire pre-polls irregularities.

The irregularities include any situation or matter which, in its opinion, may involve, by any person whatsoever, as act or omission constituting intimidation, obstruction, coercion, or the publication of false information, or any other act or omission intended to or actually resulting in the obstruction or frustration of the preparation for, or the conduct of, free and fair election.

After conducting an enquiry, the committee shall inform the EC within three days of the enquiry and may make recommendations.

The commission may impose a fine not exceeding Tk 1 lakh but not less than Tk 20,000 upon the person or registered political party concerned, and by a notification published in the official gazette, cancel the candidature of the candidate, the electoral law said.

## Resurgent Australia

FROM PAGE 1

Jasprit Bumrah has stifled batters both with the new ball and in the death overs while Mohammed Shami has emerged as the tournament's leading wicket-taker despite warming the bench in India's first four matches.

The left-arm duo of Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja have shared the spin duties with considerable success on their quest for a third 50-overs World Cup trophy.

Expectation in the cricket-mad country is particularly high since the last three editions of the tournament have been won by the host nation.

Australia, however, are banking on their ability to lift themselves in big moments to gatecrash the Indian

party and earn a sixth World Cup title.

Captain Pat Cummins and his men made heavy weather of a small target in Thursday's semi-final against South Africa, but India would underestimate Australia at their own peril.

In Adam Zampa they have a potent leg-spinner with 22 wickets in the tournament and a three-pronged pace attack finally firing on all cylinders after a stellar show against South Africa.

Glenn Maxwell can bat any team out of contention, as he did with his outrageous double century against Afghanistan and 40 ball 100 against the Netherlands.

## US does not favour one party over other

Reiterates state department  
spokesperson

UNB, Dhaka

The US urged all parties to exercise restraint, avoid violence, and work together to create the conditions for free and fair elections in Bangladesh.

"So we have been consistent in our message regarding the upcoming elections, and that message remains the same now that the polling day has been announced," state department spokesperson Mathew Miller told reporters at a briefing on Thursday.

Bangladeshi people also want free and fair elections conducted in a peaceful manner.

"We do not support one political party in Bangladesh; we don't favour one political party over the other," Miller said.

Responding to a question, he said the safety and security of US diplomats overseas is, of course, a top priority.

"We take any threats against them very seriously. Violence or threats of violence directed at our diplomatic personnel is unacceptable."

The US has repeatedly raised its concerns about the "threatening rhetoric" directed at Ambassador Peter Haas with the Bangladesh government.

## 2-yr-old drowns in pond

UNB, Magura

A two-year-old child drowned in a pond in Bararia village under the Balidia union of Magura's Mohammadpur upazila.

The deceased was identified as Meherima, daughter of Md. Abdullah Sardar of Bararia West Para.

She drowned in a ditch at his aunt's house in Shyamnagar village of the upazila on Thursday afternoon.

Mohammadpur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Raihanul Islam confirmed the news yesterday.

Mehrima, along with her grandmother, went to visit her uncle Mahdi Hasan's house in Shyamnagar village on Thursday morning.

Later in the afternoon, Mehrima drowned in a pond near the house without anyone noticing.

A case has been registered in this regard at Mohammadpur Police Station.

## Vessel sinks with 800 tonnes of coal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A coal-laden lighter vessel "MV Prince of Ghashiakhali-1" sank in the Pashur Channel of Mongla Port in Bagerhat yesterday.

The ship had hit a sandbar causing a breach in its hull near the Kananagar area around 9:30am.

However, all 12 crew members managed to swim ashore safely.

The vessel, loaded with 800 tonnes of coal, was on its way to Nawapara in Jashore, said Mainul Hossain Mintu, vice president of Bangladesh Lighter Workers Association.

It was carrying goods from a foreign commercial ship stationed in the Harbaria area, he added.

Whenever coal-laden vessels sink, toxic particles mix with the water, which has the potential to endanger aquatic life.