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*‘I’ll never again tell anyone to send their kids to schools’*

**Says father as his bullet-hit son being treated in cop custody**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sense of fear among the medical professionals in the capital’s Holy Family Hospital is palpable. No one would speak on the record, and those that would speak off the record would only do so in a hushed voice. It is as if someone is always watching them even when there is no one around.

At cabin number 207/A, an injured student is being treated in police custody, and the hospital staff has strict orders not to share any information about him with anyone.

Mehedi Hasan Zumman, 23, was admitted to the hospital at 9:50pm on Friday with gunshot wounds. Doctors call the nature of his injuries as broken “tibia-fibula,” a fracture in the lower leg that

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



Workers drying polythene bags in the sun on the bank of the Buriganga in the capital’s Lalbagh so that they could be recycled. The bags, which had been used for packing chemicals, are washed in river, polluting its waters. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

**DEATHS DURING DEMO**

**74 eminent citizens call for probe under UN supervision**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seventy-four eminent citizens, including human rights activists, lawyers, and academicians yesterday called for an independent UN-led investigation into all incidents of deaths, injuries, and torture of students and peaceful citizens caused by the excesses of police, Rab and other forces.

Their call included a five-point demand, emphasising the need for justice, transparency, and accountability. The investigation, they insisted, should be conducted transparently and impartially under the supervision of a high-level UN team of experts, they said at a press conference.

The citizens also urged the UN to initiate this process and ensure that all those responsible, regardless of rank or political affiliation, face legal consequences.

They also called on the government for immediate action to ensure the safety of students, protection of their future, and

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

**VIOLENCE CENTRING QUOTA PROTESTS**

**More than 10,000 arrested in 12 days**

**At least 473 more detained in police raids from Sunday morning to yesterday evening**

STAR REPORT

At least 473 more people were arrested in the capital and elsewhere in 36 hours till 6:00pm yesterday as the nationwide crackdown on alleged saboteurs as well as protesters and opposition parties continues.

Of them 58 were arrested in the capital, and 386 in 39 districts by police.

Besides, Rab yesterday arrested 29 people across the country.

According to the latest count, at least 10,134 people, including students, BNP and Jamaat Shibir leaders and activists, have been arrested in 872 cases filed in the capital and 51 districts over the last 12 days since July 18.

So far, the Dhaka Metropolitan Police have arrested 2,822 people in 243 cases, which include 14 fresh ones filed yesterday.

The Daily Star has so far acquired documents related to 178 cases filed since July 17. The number of accused in those cases is 2,13,834. Of them, only 1,310 were named.

Besides, police have so far arrested 6,978 people in 51 districts in 629 cases filed against some 2,849 named individuals and

**Excluding the capital, police have so far arrested 6,978 people in 51 districts in 629 cases filed in connection with the recent violence.**

over 80,000 unnamed others.

The cases were filed, mostly by police, with different police stations over violence, vandalism, and arson, said DMP sources.

In the cases, police brought charges of gathering illegally, rioting, assaulting law enforcers, and damaging properties.

The country witnessed violence on an unprecedented scale after the peaceful demonstrations for quota reform turned deadly on July 15 when Chhatra League attacked the protesting students on different university campuses.

In the following days, violence escalated in Dhaka and elsewhere, leaving at least 162 dead, as per The Daily Star data. The death toll from the violence between agitators, law enforcers, Border Guard Bangladesh members, and ruling party activists, could be much higher as this newspaper could not reach many hospitals, where dozens of critically injured patients were taken.

Meanwhile, the DMP stopped providing official data on arrests and cases from yesterday. Seeking anonymity, a DMP official claimed since they won’t conduct

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

**QUOTA PROTEST**

**Another dies from bullet wounds**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One more person, who suffered bullet wounds during the recent clashes centring the quota protests, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Sunday night.

Babul Hawlader, 48, a painter from Munshiganj, suffered bullet wounds in the Rampura area on July 19. He passed away around 11:00pm at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), according to the hospital’s death register and family members.

Babul’s son, Parvez Hawlader, said his father was not involved in the protest. He suffered bullets as he was returning to their Ulan road house after Jumma prayers that day.

With this death, at least 163 lives have been lost since July 16, when six people were killed in clashes between agitators and law enforcers, and ruling party activists

Thirty people died on July 18, 66 on July 19, 25 on July 20, 14 on July 21, six on July 22, three on July 23, four on July 24, two on July 25, four on July 26, and two on July 27.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

**DEADLY GOLAN STRIKE**

**Lebanon on alert as Israel vows ‘severe’ response**

AGENCIES

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday vowed a “severe” response to a deadly strike that killed youths in the annexed Golan Heights, as diplomats raced to contain escalation between Israel and Hezbollah.

On a visit to the site of the rocket strike which killed 12 children in the town of Majdal Shams, Netanyahu said: “The State of Israel will not, and cannot, let this pass. Our response will come and it will be severe.”

He was greeted by protests during his visit, which came after mourners gathered in the Druze Arab town for the burial of the last victim, 11-year-old Guevara Ibrahim.

Israel and the United States have blamed the strike on Lebanon’s Iran-backed Hezbollah, which has traded near-daily fire with Israeli forces since the start of the Gaza war in early October.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Abdallah Bou Habib said a flurry of diplomatic activity has sought to contain the anticipated Israeli response.

“Israel will escalate in a limited way and Hezbollah will respond in a limited way... These are the assurances we’ve received,” Bou Habib said in an interview with local broadcaster Al-Jadeed.

The United States, France and others were trying to contain the escalation, he added, while Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati said that “talks are ongoing with international, European and Arab sides to protect Lebanon and ward off dangers”.

Yesterday, White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said he was “confident” a broader war can be avoided.

- IDF drone strike kills two in south Lebanon
- Flights to and from Beirut airport cancelled or delayed
- Death toll in Gaza rises to 39,363

**Djokovic eases past Nadal**

AFP, Paris

Novak Djokovic crushed Rafael Nadal 6-1, 6-4 in their blockbuster Olympics clash on Monday as the two titans met for the 60th and possibly final time.

The showdown between the two most successful men’s tennis players in history appeared to be fizzling out before a late fightback from Nadal enabled him to avoid his heaviest-ever defeat by Djokovic.

“I’m very relieved,” said Djokovic. “Everything was going my way, I was 6-1, 4-0 up but I played a sloppy service game and gave him chances.”

It was 24-time Grand Slam champion Djokovic’s 31st win in a rivalry that began on the same Roland Garros clay courts in 2006.

The Serb added: “I never thought back in 2006 that we’d still be playing each other almost 20 years later.”

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Serbia’s Novak Djokovic (R) shakes hands with Rafael Nadal after beating the Spaniard in straight sets in their second round match of Paris Olympics at Court Philippe-Chatrier in Paris yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

**Stop arrest, abduction of students**

**Over 100 univ teachers urge govt**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over a hundred university teachers yesterday demanded that harassment of students by abduction and mass arrest be stopped, and they be released immediately.

Expressing solidarity with the protesting students’ demands, they also called upon the authorities concerned to reopen all universities right away.

They observed a one-minute silence in remembrance of those killed in what they termed “July massacre”.

University Teachers Network, a platform of public and private university teachers, made the demands from a “Anti-Repression Teachers’ Rally” at the foot of Aparajeyo Bangla at Dhaka University.

Prof Saeed Ferdous, of Jahangirnagar University’s anthropology department, who presided over the rally, said the government is showing its two faces.

During the day, they are expressing grief over the deaths and offering compensation to the victims’ families to get sympathy, but at night they abduct people and force people to issue statements to the media.

The government should stop this, he said, calling for an end to the abductions and killings.

He said the government is considering students their opponents, but they took to the streets to overhaul the country.

Students are making history by challenging the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4