



PHOTO: COLLECTED

## 'May peace come back to my golden land at any cost'

Says Rahul Ananda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Even a week ago, the 140-year-old house in Dhanmondi, named "Bhangabari," was surrounded by greenery and innocuous paraphernalia. There, you could hear birds sing at will.

Lanterns with wicks, hurricane lamps, old letterboxes, plants, and various artworks hung on the long veranda.

In another corner of the veranda of the single-story house, there were various artistic items made of brass and wood.



A dotara also hung there. All of this is now history.

Rahul Ananda, the frontman of the popular folk band Joler Gaan, had been the tenant of this house for many years, which, until the morning of August 5, was a haven for his wife, son Tota, and his bandmates.

Rahul's house was torched by mobs on the afternoon of August



5. Around three thousand musical instruments in his home were reduced to ashes.

Actor Farhana Hamid, who is also the business partner of Rahul Ananda's wife Urmila Shukla's "Khut", posted regarding the incident yesterday. The post was also shared on Joler Gaan's verified Facebook page.

According to her, "The fire was not set with the intent to harm Rahul Ananda's home, nor was there any looting or vandalism directed at it. The fire was set at a location within the Dhanmondi 32 area, specifically targeting the Bangabandhu Museum and its future expansion plans."

She also said, "The fire at Rahul da's house had nothing to do with his religion, ethnicity, caste, or culture. Therefore, I urge everyone not to spread such rumours. In the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

## Former JU VC Prof Anwar attacked

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, Prof



M Anwar Hossain was attacked on August 5 near Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, the day Sheikh Hasina resigned from her position as prime minister amid student protests.

Prof Anwar was the vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University from 2012-2014.

In a press release issued yesterday, Ayesha Hossain, the ex-VC's wife, demanded protection from the interim government, saying that the attack was carried out by right-wing religious activists around 4:00pm.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

## Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah no more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Engineer Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah, who led the movement to protect the country's oil, gas, and mineral resources, is no more.



He died in cardiac arrest in Texas, US, at Bangladesh time 7:15 am yesterday at his son's residence, said his elder son Shamim Mahmood. He was 93.

Shahidullah led the movement to ensure the use of Bangladesh's gas, minerals, and other resources for industrialisation and to the benefit of the nation.

He was the convener of the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power & Ports, backed by left-leaning political parties and organisations.

A follower of Maulana Bhasani, Shahidullah led several long marches in Bangladesh to create

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

PRAYER TIMING					
AUGUST 10					
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN	4-25	12-45	4-45	6-41	8-00
JAMAAT	5-00	1-15	5-00	6-44	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Some relief in kitchen markets

Aside from onion, prices of essentials drop due to supply increase

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MD ABBAS

Prices of daily essentials, aside from onions, have started falling in the capital's kitchen markets over the last three days due to an increase in supply.

The prices of rice, pulses, potatoes, oil, flour, and other goods that need to be imported remain unchanged.

However, consumers hope that the current government will break all the syndicates in this sector and bring the prices of all daily essentials to a tolerable level for low, middle, and fixed-income people.



Ifran Hossain, a private service holder, while speaking to this newspaper at Ibrahimpur Kitchen Market, said the main failure of the Sheikh Hasina-led government was that they could not control the prices of daily essentials.

"We expect that the current government will do everything, including waiving the taxes for imports of essential goods, to bring down the prices of daily essentials, considering the low, middle, and fixed-income people," he said.

Additionally, prices for all types of vegetables, fish, chicken, and eggs have gone down in the capital's kitchen markets.

This was the picture this newspaper saw when visiting the Shewrapara, Kazipara, Ibrahimpur, and Karwan Bazar kitchen markets yesterday.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



ড. মুহাম্মদ ইউনুস-এর নেতৃত্বাধীন  
অন্তর্বর্তীকালীন সরকারকে

অভিনন্দন  
ও  
শুভকামনা

আপনাদের নেতৃত্বে  
শান্তি-সমৃদ্ধি-সমতার পথে  
এগিয়ে যাক নতুন বাংলাদেশ

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