

Death anniv of Nurjahan Murshid today

DU CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 21st death anniversary of Nurjahan Murshid, a women's rights activist, renowned politician and organisers of the 1971 Liberation War, said a press release.

Marking the day, wreaths will be placed at her grave around 11:00am at Mirpur Intellectuals' Graveyard in the capital today. Besides, food items will be distributed among the destitute.

Her family members, Nurjahan Murshid Sangskritik Kendra and Broti sought prayers from the country's people for her eternal peace.

In 1954, Nurjahan Murshid won as a member of the Provincial Council as a candidate of the Juktfront. She played an active role in the six-point movement in 1966 and the mass movement of 1968-69. She won the 1970 election as a candidate of Awami League.

In independent Bangladesh, she was appointed in 1972 as state minister for health and social welfare.

Nurjahan died in Dhaka on September 1, 2003.

She played a significant role in different democratic movements. She was amongst a very small number of Muslim women who entered higher education and obtained her Master's degree in History from Calcutta University in the mid 1940s.



MINORITY COMMUNITIES 49 teachers forced to resign since Aug 5

STAR REPORT

At least 49 teachers belonging to the minority communities were forced to resign across the country after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government amid a student-led peoples' uprising on August 5, a minority organisation said yesterday.

Sajib Sarkar, coordinator of the organisation, said following the fall of the Hasina-led government religious and ethnic minorities have faced attacks, looting, assault on women, vandalism of temples, arson attacks on homes and businesses, and killings.

In addition, minority teachers across the country have been physically assaulted and at least 49 of them were forced to resign till August 30.

However, 19 of them have been reinstated later, he said. Dipankar Chandra Shil and Mithun Bhattacharya, leaders of the organisation, also spoke at the press conference.

Reform constitution

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Akram Hussain, a Dhaka University student and member of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement's liaison committee, proposed that a political party or alliance should only form a government if it secures at least 51 percent of the vote.

Mehedi Sajib, a co-coordinator of the quota reform movement from Rajshahi University, suggested that the constitution should be made more accessible to help people understand their rights and powers.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, underscored the need for both political and constitutional reforms.

He said one of the major reasons for the downfall of Sheikh Hasina is her arrogance.

He thanked students

who were involved in the mass uprising, and said, "You have brought about a great revolution. Let there be no arrogance among you. Humility should be embedded in your character. The nation will always salute you for your contribution."

The discussion, conducted by The Daily Star journalist Imran Mahfuz, also featured contributions from Jahangirnagar University's Prof Shamima Sultana, Prof Mohammad Golam Rabbani, student Maliha Mannan, and academics and students from various institutions including Jagannath University, Prime Asia University, Dhaka College, Rajshahi Medical College, Darun Najat Madrasa, Independent University, United International University, BRAC University, and North South University.

1.94 lakh sued in 268

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organisations, carried out barbaric attacks on students to suppress the movement.

As the number of casualties continued to increase, government vehicles and property were vandalised and set on fire, to divert attention from the deaths, the rights body said, adding that the victims were accused for such arson and attacks.

The MSF said after the arrest of an accused, it is the responsibility of the members of the law enforcement agencies to protect them, but they are failing to do their responsibility.

Mentioning the attacks on Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik, former law minister Anisul Huq and some other accused in the courts, the MSF said such behaviour is undesirable in the courtroom.

In August, at least 204 people were victims of 23 incidents of political violence. Nine of them were killed and 195 were injured. Of the 23 incidents of violence, 12 were due to infighting in BNP, 9 between AL and BNP, one

in AL infighting, and one between Jamaat and BNP. Among the dead, five were BNP and three were AL activists.

The rights body said at least eight cases including three with murder charges were filed against journalists after August 5.

Of the accused, former head of news of Ekattor Television Shakil Ahmed and its principal correspondent Farzana Rupa have been arrested so far.

Mozammel Haque Babu, managing director and editor-in-chief of Ekattor TV; Syed Ishtiaque Reza, former chief news editor (CNE) of Ekattor TV; Ahmed Jobaer, a director of Somoy TV; Munni Saha, former CNE of AIN News; and Nayeemul Islam Khan, the former PM's press secretary, are among the other accused. MSF said the way journalists are being prevented from performing their professional duties is not only undesirable but also an attack on transparency, democracy, freedom of speech, and media freedom, as well as suppressing the voice of objective and honest journalism.

Dhaka submits

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"The instrument has been deposited on a very special day, on August 30, which is observed globally as the International Day for Victims of Enforced Disappearance. Our action today manifests our solidarity to the countless victims who have been subjected to such heinous crimes and their families," added Ambassador Muhiut while handing over the

instrument to the UN.

With the handover of the Instrument of Accession, Bangladesh has now completed all procedures for becoming the 76th party to ICPPED.

According to the provision of the convention, it will enter into force for Bangladesh on September 29, on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit of the instrument of accession.

Three teams emerge

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sustainable agriculture by automating tasks such as sowing seeds, planting, spraying fertilisers, and weeding, while also gathering crucial data on pH levels, temperature, sunlight, and more.

Team Unanimous was recognised for addressing severe waterlogging issues with concrete pavements that allow water to pass through, while Team Swaccha was awarded for proposing a biodegradable toothbrush aimed at reducing plastic use and pollution. The winning teams received crests and cheques of Tk 50,000, while the other finalists received certifications.

Each team pitched their ideas to a jury panel that included Anowarul Amin, director of public affairs, communications, and sustainability at Coca-Cola Bangladesh Beverages; Cezanne Mujibul Hasan, country director of Swisscontact Bangladesh; Galib Bin Mohammad, CMO and senior executive director at Walton; Jahrat Adib Chowdhury, chief legal officer and company secretary at Banglalink Digital Communications Ltd; and Nazmul Ahsan, manager of young people

at ActionAid Bangladesh. Ibrahim Al-Zayad, chair of the executive board at ActionAid International Bangladesh Society, announced plans to develop a "museum of ideas" where the 147 unimplemented concepts could be revisited and advanced by others.

Farah Kabir, country director of ActionAid Bangladesh, emphasised in her welcome speech that while many new and innovative ideas emerge from youth competitions each year, they often fade due to a lack of proper funding and promotion. She urged the corporate sector and media to provide the necessary support to sustain and promote these ideas.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, congratulated all participating teams, emphasising on the large number of entries.

He criticised the government's negligence on climate change, warning that once tipping points are reached, there's no turning back.

"These innovative ideas can bring change, and we will work to bring them more into the public eye," he said of the solutions provided by the 156 participating teams.

Grabbers erase last

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Contacted, Waheed denied the allegations, claiming the structures collapsed due to recent heavy rains. He stated that he had informed Jitu Mia, a local union parishad member, about the incident.

However, Jitu Mia contradicted Waheed's

claim, saying although the structures were old, they were not on the verge of collapse.

Prabhangshu Shom Mohan, the acting deputy commissioner and district magistrate of Habiganj, assured that legal action will be taken regarding the matter.



The participants with guests at a programme marking the 17th Scholarship Awarding Ceremony of the Education Support Programme initiated by Prime Bank Foundation, at Golf Garden, Army Golf Club in Dhaka yesterday. Azam J Chowdhury, chairman of Prime Bank Foundation, was present as the chief guest and Rasheda K Chowdhury, member, advisory committee, Education Support Programme, was the special guest. Among others, Tanjil Chowdhury, chairman of Prime Bank PLC; Hassan O Rashid, CEO of Prime Bank PLC; and Maj Gen (retd) Dr Md Nayeem Ashfaq Chowdhury, CEO of Prime Bank Foundation, attended the event.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Address discrimination

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to various positions within departments or directorates of other cadres.

The council also proposed that events at the upazila, district, and divisional levels should be presided over by representatives from the organising institution to improve the focus

on development and monitoring activities.

They also called for granting cadres the authority to conduct mobile courts within their jurisdictions and for the reorganisation of administrative positions to address current inefficiencies.

The council also urged the interim government

to take appropriate measures to address these disparities and promote a more people-friendly and efficient governance system.

Among others, Mohammad Omar Faruque Dewan, a senior information officer, and ASM Zahid, additional director general (news) of Bangladesh Betar, were present at the programme.

BNP's 46th founding anniv today

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will observe the day with traditional activities, including hoisting the party flag at the Nayapaltan central office and all BNP offices nationwide this morning. The observance will also feature offering Fatcha and placing wreaths at the grave of the party's founder, Ziaur Rahman, in the capital today.

BNP leaders and activists, led by the party's Secretary General, Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, will place wreaths and offer munajat (special prayers) at Ziaur Rahman's grave at 11:00am.

In addition, the BNP

will hold a doa mahfil at its Nayapaltan central office this afternoon. The programme will seek divine blessings for those affected by the floods, for those killed and injured in the recent student-led mass movement, and for the swift recovery of Khaleda Zia, the widow of Ziaur Rahman.

At a recent meeting, the BNP's standing committee cancelled the five-day programmes and allocated the funds intended for these events to the party's relief fund, which will be used to assist flood victims.

BNP's associate bodies and all their units across the

country will mark the day with due respect by holding doa mahfils, discussions, and distributing relief in flood-hit areas.

In its 45-year journey, the BNP has held power several times and served on the opposition bench twice. However, the party has been out of power for nearly 18 years since the 1/11 political changeover. BNP acting Chairman Tarique Rahman and Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, in separate messages, congratulated the people of the country, as well as the party's leaders, activists, and well-wishers, on this occasion.

Hatirjheel lake, scenic spot

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year handed over the responsibility of Hatirjheel's security to Ansar forces.

Apart from the law enforcement agencies, 118 Ansar members will monitor the area, taking over from a private security agency.

On January 8, 2022, the body of Abdul Bari, a senior production executive at DBC News, was found in the lake with stab wounds to the chest and throat. After a six-month investigation, the detective branch of the police concluded that Bari had taken his own life, using the lake's secluded environment to do so.

The Hatirjheel lake and its surroundings fall under the jurisdictions of Hatirjheel, Gulshan, and Badda police stations,

with the majority under Hatirjheel Police Station.

Former officer-in-charge of Hatirjheel Police Station Shah Md Awlad Hossain said his station alone recovered 27 bodies from the lake in the last five years. Of these, one was confirmed as a murder, another initially suspected to be a suicide was later reclassified as a murder, and the remaining 25 were determined to be suicides.

In the past seven to eight months, police have rescued four to five individuals attempting suicide in the area.

Despite these interventions, the lake remains a hotspot for crime, including mugging, drug peddling, and sexual harassment, largely due to inadequate security measures, alleged locals.

"I avoid traveling through the Hatirjheel lake while going to Karwan Bazar from Modhubagh at night due to fear of being mugged," said Shafiqul Islam, an employee at the wholesale kitchen market in Karwan Bazar.

Law enforcement agencies have set up round-the-clock patrols, but the open area allows criminals to escape easily.

The existing CCTV cameras are positioned too high to capture clear footage, making it difficult to control the rising crime rate.

Police official Awlad Hossain said they have increased vigilance and regularly arrest criminals. The issues with the cameras have been reported to Rajuk, who plan to reposition them soo, he added.

Staff accuse govt high-ups

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training has been provided to the children for over three years.

Additionally, there is no effort to reunite the children with their families, essentially keeping them detained unlawfully.

"We have two students who completed their 8th grade this year, but the authorities did not enroll them in school," said Rima Khatun, a teacher providing non-formal education at the Kamlapur centre. "What's the point of educating them if they have to drop out after class 8?" she asked.

Concerns have also been raised about the insufficient provision of essential hygiene supplies.

The accountant reportedly pressures workers to distribute fewer supplies than needed, compromising the children's health and hygiene, the letter mentioned.

"For example, last month, when the toothpaste ran out, the children used sand from the broken floor to brush their teeth, leading to infections. There was also no water supply for almost a month in July, and the children had to use towels to clean bodily waste,"

Rima added.

Furthermore, the rehabilitation centres and outreach schools, which require urgent repairs and maintenance, are reportedly being neglected by the authorities.

"Most of the bathrooms don't even have doors. The fans are not functioning, forcing the children to endure unbearable heat," said Rima.

There are also allegations of severe financial mismanagement, including the embezzlement of funds meant for employee salaries and the manipulation of purchases through a syndicate.

According to the employees, bills processed are subjected to arbitrary surcharges under the pretext of VAT/tax, and the accountant refuses to explain these deductions.

They also alleged nepotism, particularly concerning the appointment of Afroza Akhtar as the manager of the Karwan Bazar Rehabilitation Centre.

"She lacks relevant experience and qualifications but was appointed due to her connections with the former project director Rezaul Kabir," said Ratna. The letter also included

employees facing verbal abuse and threats of dismissal if they protest against these irregularities.

"At least 16 staff members have signed the letter, and as a result, we have been threatened with violence by the quota reform coordinators for raising our concerns," claimed Rima.

The employees called for adequate medical and educational services, proper maintenance of facilities, transparency in fund allocation, an end to all forms of financial irregularities and corruption, and the elimination of nepotism.

They also demanded the prompt removal of the accountant and other individuals involved in corrupt practices.

Md Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiyan, the project director, said he has already met with the employees to address their concerns.

He mentioned that he took charge on July 15 and will now focus on budget utilisation and necessary arrangements.

On the treatment issue, he explained that due to a lack of funds, employees must initially cover treatment costs themselves and submit bills for reimbursement.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Local Government Engineering Department
Khaliajuri, Netrakona
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.7238.000.99.99.24.253
Date: 29/08/2024

Invitation for Tender (Works)
e-Tender Notice: 01/2024-25 (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of following works, details are given below.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Tender publication date & time	Last selling date & time	Closing and opening date & time
01	770309	e-Tender/PEDP4/NET/KHA/2022-2023/W14-01778	Construction of Boundary Wall including Gate of Ichhapur Govt. Primary School, Khaliajuri, Netrakona	29-08-2024 1.00pm	23-09-2024 17:00pm	24-09-2024 14:00pm
02	929894	e-Tender/PEDP4/NET/KHA/2022-2023/W17-01365	Major maintenance of Mrittonjoy Permoda, Krishnapor Com Pry & Khaliajuri Model GPS under PEDP4	29-08-2024 1.00pm	23-09-2024 17:00pm	24-09-2024 14:00pm
03	929895	e-Tender/PEDP4/NET/KHA/2022-2023/W2-05296	Construction of additional classroom Najipur GPS under PEDP4	29-08-2024 1.00pm	23-09-2024 17:00pm	24-09-2024 14:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to 24-September-2024, 13:00pm.

MD. Aulad Hossain
Upazila Engineer
Khaliajuri, Netrakona
Phone: 09526-56032
Email: uc.khaliajuri@lged.gov.bd

GD- 302

UTTARA BANK PLC.
PURCHASE & PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT,
HEAD OFFICE, DHAKA

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Quotations are hereby invited from bonafied & experienced firms for **Consultancy, Implementation and Recertification of Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) for Card Operation of Uttara Bank PLC. for next 3 (Three) years.** Please visit www.uttarabank-bd.com/home/tender for details.

General Manager

Eastern Bank PLC.
HEAD OFFICE, 100 GULSHAN AVENUE, DHAKA-1212

TENDER NOTICE

Eastern Bank PLC. (EBL) invites sealed bids from bona fide/eligible suppliers for the following services/items:
Lot 1: Laptop and Desktop Computers
Lot 2: MS SQL Database Server Licenses
Lot 3: Enterprise Agreement renewal/equivalent subscription-based Microsoft Licenses
Lot 4: Microsoft Product Licenses (MS Office, Windows Server CAL, Exchange Server CAL)

Interested bidders are requested to collect the RFP document electronically by sending an email from their official email address to bidit@ebi-bd.com mentioning lot & item names, name of the company and the authorized contact person, mailing address, telephone & mobile phone numbers on or before Thursday, 5 September 2024. Queries to be mailed by Tuesday, 10 September 2024.

Bids prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the RFP document must be submitted in two separate envelopes, clearly marking 'Technical' and 'Financial' offers on the envelopes to the Office of the Chairman, Purchase Committee, Head Office, Eastern Bank PLC., 100 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212 on or before Thursday, 12 September 2024.

Tenderers are allowed to bid for all lots or any lot separately. Any bid not submitted separately against each lot will be rejected. However, common documents need not to be submitted for multiple lots, submission with one lot is enough.