

Student dies three months after being shot in mass uprising

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A student who suffered bullet wounds during the anti-discrimination student movement on August 5 died at Combined Military Hospital, Dhaka yesterday morning.

Abdullah, a fourth-year student of political sciences department at Government Shahid Suhrawardy College, breathed his last around 7:00am, more than three months after he suffered bullet wounds in the head, his father Abdul Jabbar told The Daily Star.

The body was sent to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Jabbar said his son was shot in the Tantibazar area during the movement on August 5. He was first given treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital and then shifted to CMH.

The body was taken to his village home in Jashore after a namaz-e-janaza at Central Shaheed Minar.



Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus returned home yesterday evening wrapping up his Baku tour to attend the global climate meet Conference of Parties-29 (COP29). A flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines carrying the chief adviser and his entourage reached the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka around 8:00pm.

PHOTO: CHIEF ADVISER'S PRESS WING

Woman held over murder of businessman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanangani

Police yesterday arrested a woman in connection with the murder of Joshimuhammad Masum, a prominent businessman.

The arrestee was identified as Ruma, 28, Joshim's alleged girlfriend.

"The businessman was in an extra-marital affair with Ruma, who killed him at her flat in Dhaka's Shewrapara out of anger, and dismembered his body into pieces," Pratyush Kumar Majumder, superintendent of police in Narayanangani, told reporters at a briefing hours after Ruma's arrest from her flat yesterday.

Police also seized a machete, a hacksaw blade and the suit and shoes of the deceased from another flat in Dhaka's Banani area.

Joshim had promised to marry Ruma but was dillydallying about it, while he was also maintaining relationships with other women. All this had irked Ruma,

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Reinstate caretaker govt, repeal Article 70

Experts place suggestions to constitution reform body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Constitutional Reform Commission yesterday received a series of recommendations, including the restoration of the caretaker government system -- which established the caretaker government system -- and the repeal of the 15th amendment, which removed it.

In addition, experts called for amendment or repeal to Article 70 of the constitution, which currently allows a party to vacate the seat of an MP who votes against their party in parliament, and proposed ensuring fundamental rights remain unconditional.

These suggestions emerged during consultations involving constitutional experts and representatives from various professional organisations, marking the commission's fourth such meeting.

The session was held in the cabinet room

of the national parliament.

In the afternoon, Justice Md Abdul Matin, Advocate Hasnat Quaiyum, Prof K Shamsuddin Mahmud, and Legal Commission Adviser AK Mohammad Hossain shared their perspectives on the need for reforms.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Justice Matin underscored the need to reinstate the 13th amendment and repeal the 15th amendment to restore the caretaker system, while recommending changes to Article 70 to allow MPs more freedom to vote independently.

Justice Matin suggested returning Article 116 to its original 1972 form, while retaining certain other unaltered articles of the constitution.

Supreme Court lawyer Hasnat Quaiyum advocated for the removal of conditions attached to fundamental rights, proposing

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Dengue claims 5 more lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five dengue patients died and 1,107 were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), the total number of deaths rose to 384 and the total number of cases stood at 77,128.

Currently, 4,149 dengue patients are undergoing treatment, of which 2,308 are from outside Dhaka.

A total of 72,595 patients have been released till yesterday, 43,227 of which are from outside Dhaka.



15TH AMENDMENT
It was passed thru parliamentary fraud: lawyers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The constitution was violated through "parliamentary fraud" by passing the 15th amendment without a referendum, BNP's lawyer Md Ruhul Quddus Kazal told the High Court yesterday.

He said the amendment, which abolished the caretaker government system, was introduced to allow the Awami League government to "remain in power indefinitely," compromising the constitution's foundational structure.

He made the remarks before the HC bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Debasish Roy Chowdhury on the sixth day of hearings questioning the legitimacy of the 15th amendment.

After the day's proceedings, the court adjourned the hearing until next Wednesday.

The 15th amendment, enacted in 2011, repealed the 13th Amendment, which had established the non-partisan caretaker government system in 1996 to oversee elections.

During the same hearing, Jamaat-e-Islami lawyer Mohammad Shishir Manir argued in court that the 15th Amendment undermined the

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BNP delegation meets US embassy chargé d'affaires

UNB, Dhaka

A three-member BNP delegation, led by the party's Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, met Megan Bouldin, the US Embassy chargé d'affaires in Dhaka, at her Gulshan residence yesterday morning.

The meeting, which lasted for about an hour, commenced at 10:00am, according to Sayrul Kabir Khan, a member of the BNP media cell.

Fakhru was accompanied by BNP standing committee member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and Organising Secretary Shama Obaid.

The delegation visited the US envoy's residence at her invitation, Sayrul said.

The discussions reportedly covered various issues of mutual interest between Bangladesh and the US, Sayrul added, without elaborating on specific topics.



Students of seven colleges affiliated with Dhaka University have been demanding scrapping of DU affiliation and merger of their colleges into a new independent public university.

FILE PHOTO

DU AFFILIATED 7 COLLEGES
A rocky relationship heading for separation

SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

The seven colleges' journey with Dhaka University may soon come to an end, with both parties aiming for a fresh start -- separately.

The affiliation was intended to improve education quality and ease session jams.

But this "union" has proved far from harmonious. Forged in 2017, the relationship now appears to be heading for a formal split, as students from both sides have called for an end to the affiliation.

When the government first shifted the colleges from the National University to DU, the plan was to raise academic standards and streamline administrative processes.

However, this transfer lacked a solid operational plan, leading to multiple setbacks for the students. With exams frequently delayed and results often caught in administrative backlogs,

the intended benefits never materialised.

The colleges in question are Dhaka College, Eden Mohila College, Begum Badrunnesa Government Mohila College, Government Titumir College, Kabi Nazrul Government College, Mirpur Government Bangla College, and Government Shaheed Suhrawardy College.

For the students here, the "DU affiliation" has come to mean session jams, uncertainty, and mounting frustration.

Meanwhile, DU students have often blamed the affiliation for stretching university resources and straining academic schedules.

Many DU students have even labelled the colleges as a "burden" on the institution, calling for their separation.

Following prolonged student protests, the government is now considering a "divorce" of sorts --

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DU would welcome the decision
Says pro-VC Mamun Ahmed

SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

Dhaka University would support the government's decision to remove the seven colleges from DU's affiliation, said pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) Dr Mamun Ahmed in a recent interview with The Daily Star.

"If the government decides to remove these colleges from our affiliation, we would be happy," Mamun said.

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