

Abu Sayeed
Chowdhury's
birth anniv

CITY DESK

Today is the 104th birth anniversary of late Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, former president of Bangladesh.



To mark the occasion, a memorial meeting has been arranged at Nagbari Hasina Chowdhury High School in Tangail, said a press release.

Chowdhury was born in a respectable Muslim family at Nagbari on January 31, 1921. He was the only son of former speaker of erstwhile provincial assembly late Abdul Hamid Chowdhury.

He resigned from the post of VC of Dhaka University on March 15, 1971, protesting murders of two students by Pakistani occupation forces.

He played a significant role in mobilising the world opinion for the cause of Bangladesh. He also played a leading role in anti-autocracy movement in the eighties.

Five killed
as truck hits
auto-rickshaw

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Jamalpur

Five people were killed and another was critically injured as a truck hit a CNG-run auto-rickshaw in Jamalpur's Sarishabari upazila yesterday.

The deceased are Abdur Razak, 40, Mohammad Nur Jahangir Alam, 60, Amjad Fokir, 60, and Karim Salal, 40, and Ariful Islam, 40.

Eyewitnesses said an auto rickshaw carrying five passengers was heading towards Madhupur from Jamalpur. When it reached Karogram around 7:00pm, it was hit by a truck.

Confirming the deaths, Chad Miah, officer-in-charge of Sarishabari Police Station, said a police team reached the spot and recovered the bodies.

'Casino Brothers' Enamul, Rupon

FROM PAGE 3

The seven other convicts include Enu's three brothers -- Shahidul Haque Bhuiyan, Rashidul Haque Bhuiyan and Merajul Haque Bhuiyan; Joy Gopal Sarkar, general secretary of Wanders Club in Motijheel; and their accomplices Tuhin Munshi, Nabir Hossain Sikder and Saiful Islam.

Enu, Rupon, their three brothers, and Nabir, now in jail, and Joy Gopal, Saiful and Tuhin, now on bail, were produced before the

court yesterday.

In the judgment, the judge said the prosecution was able to prove the charges against the accused undoubtedly and were given the punishment for committing such offences.

This was the third time that Enu and Rupon were convicted in a money laundering case.

During the investigation, Tuhin, Saiful and Nabir gave confessional statements involving Enu and Rupon over the laundering money.

According to the prosecution, Enu and Rupon admitted that the money seized from their residence was earned through casino games and gambling.

During the trial, the court recorded statements of 11 prosecution witnesses, including complainant of the case.

Enamul and Rupon went into hiding after law enforcers launched a crackdown on illegal casinos, bars, spas and graft in September 2019.

Why must we suffer

FROM PAGE 3

The protest stemmed from demands by students under the banner "Titumir Oikyo," who are calling for the college's transformation into a university.

Five students began an indefinite hunger strike on Wednesday afternoon, pressing a seven-point demand, including the establishment of a university administration, admissions for 2024-25, 100 percent residential facilities, internationally recognised subjects, recruitment of PhD-qualified faculty, limited

student intake, and the creation of a research lab.

The agitation followed months of protests by students. On Monday night, the "Titumir Oikyo" group set a 48-hour ultimatum for the government to announce the university's transformation. When no response came, they escalated their protest.

The college's students had already shut down classes and exams since Tuesday under the programme "Shutdown Titumir".

A similar blockade on November 18 had caused

significant disruption, during which several train carriages at Mohakhali Crossing were vandalised.

While the students remain steadfast in their demands, commuters are frustrated at the cost. "We understand their plight, but this is not the way to make their voices heard. Innocent people are suffering," said an agitated commuter near Gulshan 1. As of last night, the blockade continued, with authorities yet to respond to the demands or provide a resolution to the public suffering.

School event

FROM PAGE 5

The headteacher speculated that the attack was made as no local political figure was invited to the programme.

Contacted, Md Solaiman Hossain, secondary education officer in Sujanagar upazila, said steps will be taken in this regard if the school authorities inform the matter officially.

**PRAYER
TIMING**
JANUARY 31
Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:35 12:30 4:15 5:46 7:15
JAMAT 6:10 1:15 4:30 5:50 7:45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Ensure reforms

FROM PAGE 3

"Even in the ICT Tribunal, a member of the ABParty was made the chief prosecutor. These decisions raise questions. Two parties have their share in everything -- Jamaat is receiving more, while BNP is receiving slightly less. Naturally, BNP is somewhat disappointed," he added.

He called for a shift in mindset, noting that political appointments have long been the norm in Bangladesh.

He also stressed the need for a National Minority Commission.

BNP leader Zahir Uddin Swapan questioned whether the interim government could implement democratic reconstruction.

"Without a clear framework and stakeholder consensus, discussions may not yield concrete results," he added.

Badiul Alam Majumdar, chief of the election reform commission, proposed reserving 100 parliamentary seats for women to reduce discrimination.

"A flawed appointment system has weakened constitutional institutions. The Election Commission should be independent but follows executive directives," he said.

To ensure democratic reconstruction, he stressed the need for transparent appointments, legal updates, and accountability for past wrongdoings.

Former NBR chairman Mohammad Abdul Mazid stressed transparency

Remove policies hindering

FROM PAGE 3

"Crimes against women should be treated seriously as any other crime," she said.

She called for implementing a uniform family code and removing reservations on CEDAW to advance women's rights.

She also urged recognition for women's contributions to fisheries and requested gender-segregated data on landlessness to address inequalities.

Chief guest Shireen

Parveen Huq, head of the Women's Affairs Commission, said the commission is working to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.

tea workers, and women with disabilities.

He also called for a shift in society's dismissive attitude toward crimes against women.

"We are identifying women's positions in policies and recommending special provisions in line with the constitution and CEDAW guidelines," she said.

ALR Executive Director

Shamsul Huda emphasised

addressing the rights of

indigenous women, female

Appeal
for help

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinajpur

Shuvendu Kumar Deb, 53, known as Apu in Dinajpur's Chhotto Gurgaon, is suffering from blood cancer and requires a bone marrow transplant.

However, the procedure is expensive, and Apu's family has already exhausted all their savings as well as funds raised through local donations.

As such, Apu, father of a seventh grader, is now in need of financial support.

He runs a small grocery shop in Barabandar.

After a diagnosis last year, Apu and his wife, Anjana Karmaker, went to India for treatment, where doctors advised for an urgent bone marrow transplant.

The family has sought aid from the well-off.

Alidcan besent to Anjana, A/C 012320900004809, United Commercial Bank, Malda Potti Branch, Dinajpur; bKash-01854166201.

Justice Nuruddin resigns

FROM PAGE 3

mass protests on the SC premises on October 16, where hundreds of demonstrators, mostly students, demanded the removal of "pro-Awami League fascist judges."

The judges barred from judicial duty are Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan, Justice Naima Haider, Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif, Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar, Justice Ashish Ranjan Das, Justice Khizir Hayat, Justice SM Maniruzzaman, Justice Khandaker Diliruzzaman, Justice Md

Akhtaruzzaman, Justice Shahed Nuruddin, Justice Md Aminul Islam, and Justice SM Masud Hossain Dolon.

Among them, Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan and Justice Ashish Ranjan Das have already retired upon reaching the mandatory retirement age of 67.

Nuruddin, while he was the judge of Speedy Trial Tribunal 1 of Dhaka, on October 10, 2018 had delivered verdict in the cases filed for grenade attack on an Awami League rally at Bangabandhu Avenue in

Dhaka on August 21, 2004.

In the verdict, the tribunal sentenced former BNP state minister Lutfozzaman Babar and 18 others to death and BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman and 18 others to life imprisonment, saying that the incident of August 21 grenade attack was a well-orchestrated plan, executed through abuse of state power.

However, the HC on December 1, last year, in its verdict acquitted all the accused from the charges of the cases.

MOURNFUL

Mimi Chowdhury Sakhawat left for heavenly abode on 23 January 2025. She had a massive heart attack. Her shocking passing away left us devastated. Our loving Mimi will be missed every day. The sound of her laughter, her presence, her voice, her hug. She will always be in our prayer and heart. And may we all reunite in heaven with her. We humbly request all her friends and family to keep her in their prayers.

Husband : Abed Sakhawat
Son : Ashek Sakhawat
Daughter : Arrshia Sakhawat



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