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BANGLADESH'S NO.1 CEMENT BRAND

Tales of 10 female martyrs killed in July uprising



"Amma, if I die in the protests, what will you tell people?" Without waiting for a response, she answered her own question: "Tell them that she became a martyr. My daughter became a martyr."

NAIMA SULTANA

SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ STORY ONLINE



The construction of a dirt road over the canal has eliminated the only waterway that locals used to travel between Brahmanbaria town and Bijoyagar upazila. Recently, residents of Char Islampur built the road to their village. The canal water is also essential for irrigation.

PHOTO: MASUK HRIDYOY

5 girls raped in 4 districts

2 others survive rape attempts

STAR REPORT

Allegations that five girls were raped in separate incidents emerged on International Women's Day yesterday amid a cry for justice for a wave of recent sexual assaults.

Meanwhile, two schoolgirls survived rape attempts as the nation was still in shock over the alleged rape and attempted murder of an eight-year-old girl in Magura.

In Gazipur's Sreepur, police detained two people yesterday for allegedly raping two children in separate incidents. They are Arman Mia, 27, from Gafargaon upazila of Mymensingh, and Md A Malek, 22, from Kalmakanda upazila of Netrakona.

Arman took an eight-year-old third grader to a forest of Dargachala village in Barmi union and

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BDR PROBE COMMISSION Hasina, 14 others asked to testify

BSS, Dhaka

The National Independent Investigation Commission on the 2009 BDR carnage has issued a public notice urging 15 individuals, including ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina, to testify as part of its inquiry.

In a notice issued yesterday it said due to time constraint, the commission hopes to complete the process of recording the testimony of the 15 individuals by March 31.

Former army chiefs General Moeen U Ahmed and Aziz Ahmed; Maj Gen (ret'd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique, former prime minister's security adviser; Fazle Noor Taposh, former mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation; Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, former member of parliament from Gopalganj 2; Jahangir

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Bangladeshi shot dead by BSF

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Indian Border Security Force shot dead a Bangladeshi man near the border in the Bhitorgarh area of Panchagarh early yesterday, Border Guard Bangladesh officers said.

Al Amin, 36, was a resident of Haribhabha Jinnatpara village in Panchagarh Sadar.

BGB Commanding Officer Sheikh Bodruddoza told this correspondent that Indian border security personnel had informed that they opened fire on a group of men who were trying to smuggle some cattle into Bangladesh from India around 3:00am.

Al Amin died on the spot, while the others managed to escape unhurt.

Upon receiving the news, Lt Col Bodruddoza contacted BSF and a flag meeting was held between the two border forces around 10:50am.

During the meeting, the BGB strongly protested

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36 members of Hizb ut-Tahrir held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police have launched a nationwide search for members of the banned militant outfit Hizb ut-Tahrir (HT), leading to the arrest of 36 individuals since Friday.

The arrests followed a rally of the banned outfit outside the Baitul Mukarram Mosque in Dhaka on Friday, said the chief adviser's press wing in a statement yesterday.

"We are analysing the video footage of the rally. We have identified many members of HT, and they will be arrested for joining a political programme of a banned organisation," said Baharul Alam, inspector general of police.

Among those arrested is Saiful Islam, a key organiser of the group, which was outlawed in 2009 for anti-state activities.

Police have filed several cases under the anti-

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 'Do not make us lose restraint' NCP says govt failing to ensure safety

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is failing to ensure women's safety, said National Citizen Party leaders at a rally marking the International Women's Day yesterday.

"Do not make us lose restraint. Safety must be ensured through the rule of law, not through questionable laws," said Samanta Shermeen, senior joint convener of the party.

"Women's safety is directly tied to citizens' security. In the last 53 years, no real effort has been made to ensure the citizens' dignity and safety," she added at the event held in front of the National Museum.

Women played a significant role at every stage of the uprising. But their contributions are being downplayed, she said.

Sarjis Alam, chief organiser (northern region), said the government was failing to ensure the safety of "our mothers and sisters".

"During the mass uprising, we saw women leading every procession. A hundred women standing at the front gave us more courage than the thousands of men standing behind them," he said.

He urged people not to assume that women can be used when needed and defamed when not needed.

"When our sisters took to the streets [in July], everyone supported them. But now, as they enter politics, they are being subjected to slander. Our party wants to see the women at the forefront of policy making, just like the way they led the anti-fascist movement."

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Putin has 'no interest in peace'

Says EU foreign policy chief as Russian strikes kill 14 in Ukraine; Zelensky seeks more sanctions on Moscow



AFP, Brussels

Russian leader Vladimir Putin "has no interest in peace", the European Union's foreign policy chief said yesterday, after overnight strikes by Moscow's troops killed 14 people in Ukraine.

"Russian missiles keep relentlessly falling on Ukraine, bringing more death and more destruction. Once again, Putin shows he has no interest in peace. We must step up our military support - otherwise, even more Ukrainian civilians will pay the highest price," Kaja Kallas said on X.

Russia yesterday said its troops had retaken three villages seized by Ukraine in its Kursk border region in a fresh setback for Kyiv as the prospect of peace negotiations appeared to be increasing.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday called for more sanctions against Russia after the deadly strikes that wounded dozens more.

The war is at a critical juncture, days ahead of talks between US and Ukrainian negotiators aimed at securing a truce in the three-year-long war.

Washington has suspended crucial US military aid and access to satellite imagery and intelligence sharing after President Donald Trump and Zelensky had a public falling-out in the Oval Office last week.

Ukraine still controls some 400 square kilometres (150 square miles) in the Kursk region after launching a cross-border offensive last August and Zelensky sees this as a possible bargaining chip in peace talks.

But Ukraine's troops in Kursk have seen their position worsen in recent weeks with Russia's army encroaching.

Russia's defence ministry on Saturday announced the recapture of three more villages: Viktorovka, Nikolayevka and Staraya Sorochina.

According to DeepState, an online military tracker linked to the Ukrainian army, the Russian move followed a "breach" in Ukrainian defence lines near the town of Sudzha, which is under Kyiv's control.

Russia appears to have cut off the logistics route needed by Ukraine to supply its troops in the town.

Ex-MP's house occupied, turned into asylum

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A woman, identifying herself as a representative of the Students Against Discrimination (SAD), has set up a shelter for mentally challenged individuals by occupying the house of a former Awami League lawmaker in Tangail district town.

According to locals, Mariam Mukaddas Miste, founder and chairman of the non-profit AlMukaddas Foundation, and her associates broke into the house in Akur Takur Para yesterday morning. They then brought in 20 mentally challenged individuals to reside there.

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Mob justice is not justice

P8

Prime Bank

PRAYER TIMING MARCH 9

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:58	12:45	4:30	6:06	7:30
JAMAAT 5:08	1:15	4:45	6:21	8:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN	MARCH	SEHRI	IFTAR
8	9		6:06
9	10	4:56	6:06
10	11	4:55	6:06

সংস্কৃতিক অপ্রাধিকার নবতরঙ্গ

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(সকাল ১১:০০ টা - বিসিটিআই ক্যাম্পাস)

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BGMEA Election 2025-2027

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Election Notice

This is to inform all members of BGMEA that the upcoming BGMEA Election 2025-2027 will be held as per the following schedule:

Last date for payment of subscription	: 29 March 2025
Last date for submission of voter nomination	: 06 April 2025
Last date for submission of nomination of candidature	: 24 April 2025
Last date for withdrawal of candidature	: 06 May 2025
Date of election	: 28 May 2025

Secretary, Election Board
Email: electionboard@bgmea.com.bd