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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়



A SILHOUETTE IN STILLNESS. Against the fiery canvas of sunset, a lone fisherman rows gently through the golden waters of a haor, his dinghy gliding over reflections of fading light. The photo was taken recently in Kochuakhola area of Bajitpur, Kishoreganj.

PHOTO: TAFSILUL AZIZ

Only literature can safeguard humanity

Says Professor Serajul Islam Choudhury; Kali O Kalam awards 5 emerging literary voices



PHOTO: COLLECTED

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The quality of Bangla literature is declining. The language is being distorted, and its standard is falling. Young writers must raise the standard of both the language and literature to a higher level.

Dhaka University Emeritus Professor Serajul Islam Choudhury made the remarks at a ceremony yesterday.

With an aim to inspire and accelerate literary practices among the country's youth, reputed literary magazine Kali O Kalam recognised five young wordsmiths with the "Young Poet and Writer Award 2024".

The winners are Ostrick Rishi (in the poetry category) for the book Shatitalay, Shazed Ul Hoq Abir for

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3 more die of dengue, 331 get hospitalised

UNB, Dhaka

Three more people died of dengue in the 24 hours till yesterday morning, raising this year's official death toll from the mosquito-borne disease to 73, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The latest fatalities were reported from areas under the Chattogram division (outside city corporation) and Dhaka South City Corporation.

During this period, 331 new dengue patients were hospitalised across the country, taking the total number of cases to 19,120 so far this year.

In comparison, last year saw a much higher toll, with 575 dengue-related deaths. The total number of cases reached 1,01,214, while 1,00,040 patients recovered, according to DGHS data.

At least 31 dengue patients have died in the first 26 days of July, including 11 in last six days, highlighting the alarming trajectory of this year's dengue outbreak.

According to data from DGHS, dengue-related deaths stood at 19 in June, 3 in May, 7 in April, 3 in February, and 10 in January.

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This road in East Mothertek of the capital's Basabo area has been in disrepair for months. Recent monsoon rains have worsened the condition, filling large potholes with water and turning the road muddy and nearly impassable. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

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Without reforms, future govts may become autocratic

Say speakers at SHUJAN event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Without fundamental reforms, any future government in Bangladesh risks becoming autocratic, said Badiul Alam Majumdar, a member of the National Consensus Commission, yesterday.

"Although Sheikh Hasina has fled, she left behind an autocratic system. Without reforming this system, there is a chance that any party forming the government in the future might also become autocratic," he added.

He was speaking at a forum titled "Citizens' Thoughts on the Proposed National Charter," organised by SHUJAN (Citizens for Good Governance) at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh in the capital.

The event brought together a cross-section of political and civil society figures to discuss the future of the nation's governance.

"We have categorised reforms into two parts,"

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3

RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish checks and balances on PM's power

Ensure transparent appointments

Prioritise local govt polls

Address discrimination against women

Move beyond partisan politics

Institutional reforms a must to ensure rights

Law adviser tells conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law adviser Prof Asif Nazrul yesterday said protecting human rights in Bangladesh is not possible without reforming the state's three foundational institutions – the executive, legislature, and judiciary.

He said simply passing laws does not ensure human rights, which require honest and capable institutions and a willingness to change ourselves.

"We need to cultivate a culture that upholds

When a party no longer fears losing power, it turns into a monster -- something we have seen during the past Awami League regime.

Prof Asif Nazrul

human dignity," he said while attending the 11th Human Rights Conference organised by the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) at Dhaka University.

The adviser said after strengthening the three foundational institutions, others like the Human Rights Commission and the Information Commission should function more effectively.

He also said fair elections matter, noting that the elections from 1991 to 2012 had set the country on a progressive path.

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New univ teachers' platform launched

DU CORRESPONDENT

A new teacher's platform was launched at Dhaka University yesterday with the aim of bringing together university teachers from diverse ideological backgrounds.

The platform, named University Teachers Link (UTL), draws inspiration from the spirit of the July uprising, and was formally introduced during an event at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) cafeteria yesterday.

Abdur Rahman, father of martyr Osman who was killed during last year's July uprising, inaugurated the event and formally announced the name of the platform.

Md Ataur Rahman Biswas, chairman of the Islamic History and Culture Department at DU, has been named the convener of UTL.

A 53-member convening committee was also announced at the event. The committee includes seven joint conveners, five joint member secretaries, and 38 members.

Mohammad Bilal Hossain of the history department at Jagannath University has been announced as the member secretary, while Md Mosharraf Hossain of the Finance Department at Dhaka University will serve as treasurer.