



A father and son fish together while the mother rows their boat in the Mongla area of the Pashur river in Khulna yesterday. Like this family, many living along the river depend on catching fish for their livelihood. They earn between Tk 700 and Tk 1,200 per day from selling fish.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Two cousins drown in pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Two children drowned in a pond while visiting their grandparents' home in Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria yesterday.

The victims are Md Takrim, 3, son of Akhtar Hossain of Kuttapara village, and Md Adnan, 5, son of Md Arafat Mia of Uchaliyapara village in the upazila. The two were cousins, said police.

The incident took place at Uttar Para in Kuttapara village in the afternoon.

According to locals, Adnan had come to his maternal grandparents' house a few days ago. On Saturday morning, he was playing near a pond with his cousin Takrim. At one point, both slipped and fell into the water.

Later, locals spotted the two floating in the pond and took them to Sarail Upazila Health Complex, where doctors declared them dead on arrival.

Sarail Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mursheedul Alam Chowdhury said police visited the spot and were looking into the matter.

Judiciary

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"Institutions must serve people. Authority without legitimacy is empty," he added.

The chief justice also said the judiciary, like any other institution, must reform to stay relevant. "It cannot survive only on tradition," he said.

He mentioned that the Supreme Court has been strengthening its global ties by building partnerships with countries such as Brazil, South Africa, Egypt, Palestine, and Thailand to share ideas and experiences.

The event was chaired by Prof Md Ataur Rahman Biswas, head of the department.

Faculty members Dr Md Siddiqu Rahman Khan, Dr Md Abdur Rahim, Dr Abdul Bashir, and Dr Abu Khaled Mohammad Khademul Haque also attended, along with former and current students.

Govt's role

FROM PAGE 3
to remain vigilant, suggesting that just as some opposition members once used "covert strategies" to survive under fascist rule, the defeated fascist forces might now be using similar secret tactics to obstruct the country's path to democracy.

He said BNP, therefore, remains committed to cooperation with the interim government and its partners in the anti-fascism movement.

Matua Bahujan Samaj Oikya Jote, a Hindu religious sect founded by Harichand Thakur, organised the programme at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh.

MEDICERAM IN MALAYSIA

152 Bangladeshi workers protest forced repatriation

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

At least 152 Bangladeshi migrant workers in Malaysia yesterday wrote an open letter protesting forced repatriation and urging the Bangladeshi mission in Kuala Lumpur, international organisations, and civil society groups to intervene in their termination case against their employer, Mediceram.

About 180 Bangladeshi workers were handed termination letters on October 31 after they protested the non-renewal of visas for more than 90 fellow workers.

On November 4, Malaysian authorities deported 10 of them after executives of the glove company forcibly took them to the airport in Kuala Lumpur.

They said they do not want to be forcibly sent back to Bangladesh.

They urged all parties concerned, including the Malaysian authorities, the Bangladesh High Commission, international organisations, and civil society groups, to take immediate notice of their situation and intervene to protect their fundamental rights as migrant workers.

"Despite continuous threats,

intimidation, and the forced repatriation of our democratically elected worker representatives, we have collectively decided that we will not go back to work under the same management and conditions that violated our dignity, rights, and safety," said the letter.

They sought an immediate transfer to a law-abiding and responsible employer in Malaysia. "We respectfully call upon the governments of Bangladesh and Malaysia, as well as all relevant authorities, to support this transfer process urgently and ensure our continued lawful employment in Malaysia."

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Meanwhile, the group of 152 workers, who are living in fear and under intimidation in Selangor district, have appointed Louis Liaw Chambers to provide legal support for their case.

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