

Defeated fascist forces

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"backward forces that opposed our independence and tried to block our progress".

"Democracy means tolerance of differing opinions. I may not believe what you say, I may not agree with your opinion, but I will protect your freedom of expression with my last drop of blood — that is democracy," he said.

The Liberation War of 1971 cannot be forgotten. "This country, where we now live, became independent through the Liberation War. Will we stand by that, or by those who wanted to destroy it?" he asked.

"This question is coming up today because that force has once again raised its head. Today, that force is again misleading people in the name of religion. They tried to mislead people in the name of religion in 1971 as well," he said.

Fakhrul said fascist rule was ousted and democracy restored through the July uprising, but warned against replacing one fascist force with another.

"We will not bring any force that wants to take the country backwards," he said.

At another programme organised by the BNP at the same venue, Fakhrul said the force that opposed

the Pakistan movement in 1947 and Bangladesh's independence in 1971 is now claiming it alone can build a new Bangladesh.

"But the people of Bangladesh cannot believe this," he said.

Fakhrul said immediately after the announcement of the election schedule, there was an attack on Osman Hadi, who had stood up against fascist forces.

"There will be conspiracies and plots from all sides. Even then, we believe BNP will emerge victorious. BNP is a liberal democratic party and believes in democracy," he added.

Fakhrul said BNP knows which political forces were responsible for killing intellectuals in 1971 and who are now conspiring to derail the election.

BNP is on the right path and will continue to work to establish democracy through a liberal democratic course, he said.

BNP Standing Committee members Nazrul Islam Khan, Mirza Abbas, and Salahuddin Ahmed, among others, spoke at the programme.

BNP observed Martyred Intellectuals Day across the country yesterday, paying tribute to the fallen intellectuals.

Clashes displace 150 Bombs or gravel?

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Ronju, from Mymensingh district in Bangladesh, said they walked for miles through forested areas to reach a nearby town. At one point, they found buses and hired them to continue their journey.

On the way, immigration police stopped and detained all of them, although they said they had valid visas and work permits, except for a few. "We were divided into two groups — one group detained in a camp and the other in a temple," he said.

After checking their passports, about 50 of them were released, while the rest remain detained as of yesterday, Ronju told this correspondent.

"The immigration police have asked us to bring 800 dollars in two days from home for sending us back. We don't want to go home," he said.

Another migrant worker, Jobaer Ahmed, alleged that immigration police took away their mobile phones

and passports. "We were even slapped and humiliated by them," he said.

Jobaer said he had travelled to Cambodia a year ago after spending Tk 5 lakh, and returning at this point was not feasible.

Anisur Rahman Khan, executive director of migrant rights body IMA Research Foundation, wrote to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) offices in Dhaka and Thailand on Saturday, seeking support for the migrants.

Bangladesh does not have a diplomatic mission in Cambodia, but its mission in Thailand oversees the country.

Contacted, Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand Faiyaz Murshid Kazi told this correspondent yesterday that he had already written to the Cambodian foreign ministry seeking safe shelter for the Bangladeshi migrants.

"I think they can stay there until the situation stabilises," he said.

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Seeking their discharge, he argued the charges lacked specificity, noting that dates and times were described as "approximate", which, he said, is insufficient under the law.

The seven officers, who previously served in Rab, are among the 17 accused in the case, which also names former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and Hasina's former military adviser Tarique Ahmed Siddique. Ten army officers are currently in custody.

The case concerns the alleged enforced disappearance, secret detention and torture of 14 individuals between 2016 and 2024 at the TFI cell operated under Rab.

Tabarak also argued that only army officers were named as accused, despite DIG-rank police officers allegedly overseeing the centre at times when four Rab additional directors general (operations) — now

accused — were either on leave or abroad during the alleged incidents. He sought three months to review more than 1,600 pages of case documents.

Opposing the plea, Prosecutor Gazi Monawar Hossain Tamim said there was prima facie evidence linking the accused to abduction, confinement, torture and enforced disappearance, and urged the tribunal to frame charges.

Defence counsels for three other detained army officers are scheduled to present discharge arguments on December 21.

Lawyers for Sheikh Hasina and other absconding accused also sought discharge, with Hasina's lawyer Amir Hossain saying the prosecution failed to produce any written or audio-visual evidence of her directives.

After hearing both sides, the three-member tribunal led by Justice Md Golam Mortuza Mozumder set December 21 for its order on charge framing.

MBBS, BDS entry tests 2025-26 results published

BSS, Dhaka

The results of the admission tests for public and private medical and dental colleges for the 2025-26 academic year were published yesterday.

A total of 81,642 candidates had passed the admission test this year. The total pass rate is 66.57 percent.

Professor Dr Nazmul Hossain, director general of the Directorate General of Medical Education, told BSS that students can check the results from the websites of the Directorate of Medical Education (www.dgme.gov.bd), and the Directorate General of Health Services (www.dghs.gov.bd and https://result.dghs.gov.bd).

A Directorate General of Medical Education press release said 5,645 candidates were initially selected based on merit and preference, calculated from admission test scores combined with Secondary School Certificate (SSC)/equivalent and Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC)/equivalent GPAs.

According to the results, 1,20,440 candidates registered to take part in the exam, which is 98.21 percent of the total number of candidates. A total of 2,192 candidates were absent from the examination. In addition, two candidates were expelled due to irregularities at the exam centre.

Rise above politics

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He said this moral deviation by judges, along with failures in other state institutions, became one of the key factors that forced people to take to the streets during the July uprising.

"At a moment of extreme crisis, I took oath as the 25th chief justice on August 11, 2024. The responsibility of the judiciary was entrusted to me at that time," he added.

Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed, who is set to retire on December 27, made the remarks in his farewell address to district judges, metropolitan sessions judges, chief judicial magistrates, and chief metropolitan magistrates at the Supreme Court auditorium yesterday.

The chief justice said strict action must be taken against dishonest and

corrupt judges. "From now on, blaming others for injustices committed by judges must stop," he said.

He stressed that a separate judicial secretariat and full judicial independence must be ensured to protect constitutional rights.

He also called for full accountability to deliver justice within a reasonable time and warned against political appeasement in postings.

"Although law is part of broader politics, judges must rise above politics. If the judiciary only serves the interests of the ruling elite, there is no need for a separate judicial institution, as the executive and police could perform that role," he said, urging judges to act with integrity and prudence.

Prioritise

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rising child labour, high dropout rates among girls, and the disproportionate impact of climate change on women and children through displacement, water scarcity, and increased risks of exploitation.

It called for education spending to be increased to at least 4 percent of GDP, stronger enforcement of child protection laws, expanded mental health and nutrition services, climate-resilient WASH investments, and inclusive policies addressing disability, ethnicity, and geographic vulnerability.

The position paper was formally handed over to political party representatives, urging them to adopt rights-based, people-centred manifestos to build a fairer and more resilient Bangladesh.

PRAYER TIMING
DECEMBER 15
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:20 12:45 3:45 5:22 7:00
JAMAAT 5:55 1:15 4:00 5:25 7:30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়				
সভার, ঢাকা-১৩৪২				
২০২৫-২০২৬ শিক্ষাবর্ষে প্রথম বর্ষ মাতক (সম্মান) শ্রেণিতে				
ভর্তি পরীক্ষার সময়সূচি ও নির্দেশিকা				
তারিখ/বার	ইউনিট/অনুষদ	শিফট	ভর্তি পরীক্ষার রোল নম্বর (E=English, B=Bangla)	পরীক্ষার সময়
২১-১২-২০২৫ রবিবার	C Unit কলা ও মানবিকী অনুষদ, আইন অনুষদ এবং তুলনামূলক সাহিত্য ও সংস্কৃতি ইনস্টিটিউট	১ম (ছাত্রী)	3200001 (E) - 3200442 (E) 3210001 (B) - 3218591 (B)	সকাল ০৯:০০ থেকে ১০:০০
		২য় (ছাত্রী)	3218592 (B) - 3227624 (B)	সকাল ১০:২৫ থেকে ১১:২৫
		৩য় (ছাত্রী)	3227625 (B) - 3236656 (B)	সকাল ১১:৫০ থেকে ১২:৫০
		৪র্থ (ছাত্র)	3100001 (E) - 3100336 (E) 3110001 (B) - 3116464 (B)	বেলা ০২:৫০ থেকে ০২:৫০
		৫ম (ছাত্র)	3116465 (B) - 3123264 (B)	বেলা ০৩:১৫ থেকে ০৪:১৫
		৬ষ্ঠ (ছাত্র)	3123265 (B) - 3130064 (B)	বেলা ০৪:৪০ থেকে ০৫:৪০
২২-১২-২০২৫ সোমবার	B Unit সমাজবিজ্ঞান অনুষদ	১ম (ছাত্রী)	2200001 (E) - 2200231 (E) 2210001 (B) - 2215661 (B)	সকাল ০৯:০০ থেকে ১০:০০
		২য় (ছাত্রী)	2215662 (B) - 2221553 (B)	সকাল ১০:২৫ থেকে ১১:২৫
		৩য় (ছাত্র)	2100001 (E) - 2100213 (E) 2110001 (B) - 2118588 (B)	সকাল ১১:৫০ থেকে ১২:৫০
		৪র্থ (ছাত্রী)	5230001 [Business] (E) - 5230177 [Business] (E)	বেলা ০২:৫০ থেকে ০২:৫০
			5240001 [Non-Business] (E) - 5240117 [Non-Business] (E)	
			5210001 (B) - 5214240 (B)	
৫ম (ছাত্র)	5130001 [Business] (E) - 5130176 [Business] (E)	বেলা ০৩:১৫ থেকে ০৪:১৫		
	5140001 [Non-Business] (E) - 5140202 [Non-Business] (E)			
২৩-১২-২০২৫ মঙ্গলবার	C1 Unit কলা ও মানবিকী অনুষদ (নাটক ও নাট্যতত্ত্ব বিভাগ এবং চারুকলা বিভাগ)	১ম (ছাত্রী ও ছাত্র)	7200001 (E) - 7200032 (E) 7210001 (B) - 7212124 (B) 7100001 (E) - 7100032 (E) 7110001 (B) - 7111537 (B)	সকাল ০৯:০০ থেকে ১০:০০
		২য় (ছাত্র)	4100001 (E) - 4100545 (E)	সকাল ১০:২৫ থেকে ১১:২৫
			4110001 (B) - 4116813 (B)	
			4124171 (B) - 4131527 (B)	
			4131528 (B) - 4138884 (B)	
			4200001 (E) - 4200940 (E)	
২য় (ছাত্রী)	4217220 (B) - 4225378 (B)	সকাল ১০:২৫ থেকে ১১:২৫		
	4225379 (B) - 423536 (B)			
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