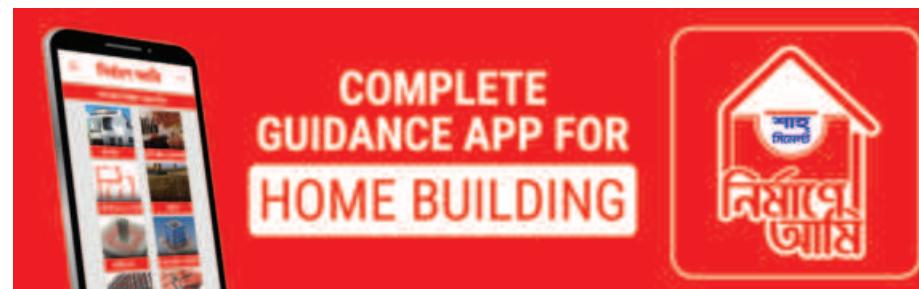




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## Press on for justice over Hadi murder

His brother urges at doa mahfil

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sharif Omar Bin Hadi, elder brother of Inqilab Moncho spokesperson Sharif Osman Bin Hadi, has expressed doubts over justice for his brother's killing and urged the people to continue the movement.

He said if the people truly loved his brother, sought justice for his murder and wanted Shahbagh to be established free from fascism and Indian hegemony, they must carry on with the movement.

He made the remarks yesterday at a doa mahfil organised by Jamaat-e-Islami at the Al-Falah auditorium in the capital's Moghbazar, marking the martyrdom of Osman Hadi, an aspirant for Dhaka-8.

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Blankets and other warm clothes dominate this weekly open market on Salimullah Road in Mohammadpur as the capital woke to the season's first cold spell yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## Nomination forms collected for Khaleda, Tarique in Bogura

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Bogura district BNP leaders yesterday collected nomination papers for Bogura-6 (Sadar) and Bogura-7 (Gabtali) and Shajahanpur upazila constituencies for acting chairman Tarique Rahman and Chairperson Khaleda Zia respectively.

Rezaul Karim Badsha, president of Bogura district unit BNP, collected the nomination form on behalf of Tarique from Taufiqur Rahman, deputy commissioner and returning officer, at his office around 12:30pm.

Khaleda's nomination form was collected from the district election office around 2:00pm.

Helaluzzaman Talukdar, adviser to the BNP chairperson and a former member of parliament, along with other BNP leaders, collected the nomination form from Senior District Election Officer Md Fazlul Karim.

Tarique Rahman will participate in the upcoming national election from the Bogura Sadar constituency. It is a matter of great pride for us that he has chosen this seat," Badsha told journalists.

Helaluzzaman said, "We will submit her [Khaleda's] nomination paper in due time after discussing with the party and the acting chairman."



## 'Serious act of int'l piracy'

Caracas condemns as US seizes second oil tanker off Venezuela's coast

REUTERS

The United States has intercepted an oil tanker off the coast of Venezuela in international waters, US Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem confirmed Saturday, a move that comes just days after US President Donald Trump announced a "blockade" of all sanctioned oil tankers entering and leaving Venezuela.

The Venezuelan government called the tanker interception a "serious act of international piracy."

Venezuela "denounces and rejects the theft and hijacking of a new private vessel transporting oil, as well as the forced disappearance of its crew, committed by military personnel of the United States of America in international waters," the statement said.

Caracas said the actions will be reported to the United Nations Security Council, other multilateral organizations and governments.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Saturday said that an "armed intervention in Venezuela would be a humanitarian catastrophe" in the face of escalating actions from the United States toward regional neighbor Venezuela.

It's the second time in recent weeks

that the United States has gone after a tanker near Venezuela amid a large US military build-up in the region. Noem confirmed the Coast Guard intercepted a tanker that was last docked in Venezuela.

"The United States will continue to pursue the illicit movement of sanctioned oil that is used to fund narco terrorism in the region," she said in a statement posted to social media. "We will find you, and we will stop you."

Three US officials earlier Saturday had told Reuters that the vessel had been intercepted. The Coast Guard and Pentagon referred questions to the White House.

White House spokeswoman Anna Kelly said the tanker contained sanctioned oil.

"It was a falsely flagged vessel operating as part of the Venezuelan shadow fleet to traffic stolen oil and fund the narco-terrorist Maduro regime," she wrote on X.

British maritime risk management company Vanguard said the vessel was believed to be the Panama flagged Centuries, which was intercepted east of Barbados in the Caribbean Sea.

Jeremy Paner, a partner at Washington, DC, law firm Hughes

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## Tough times ahead, stay united: Tarique

UNB, Bogura

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman yesterday called for unity in the face of challenging times, asserting that the party has historically saved the country from the brink of destruction and will do so again.

Speaking virtually at the inauguration of a digital memorial honouring the martyrs of the July uprising at Shaheed Titu auditorium in Bogura, Tarique remembered Sharif Osman Bin Hadi as a fearless soldier of democracy.

Tarique said Hadi believed in the politics of votes and became a candidate to serve the people.

"We must work together to build the country and preserve the honour of the martyrs of the July movement and the Liberation War of 1971."

Tarique emphasised that the country is now free from tyranny, but to make independence meaningful, it must be rebuilt from the rubble.

The event drew a large crowd of current and former BNP leaders. As part of the digital memorial, free Wi-Fi has been introduced in 20 key locations across Bogura, including Satmatha and Government Azizul Haque College, with plans to expand to 40 more locations in phases.

District BNP leaders said the initiative aims to keep the sacrifices of martyrs alive for younger generations, allowing citizens to learn about them while contributing to the vision of a digital Bangladesh.



Friends and relatives mourn over the body of Ahmad Zyoud during his funeral in Silat al-Harithiya, a village near the northern West Bank city of Jenin, yesterday. Israel's military killed two Palestinians on Saturday evening.

PHOTO: AFP

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## OSMAN HADI KILLING

## Cops yet to trace prime suspects

Inqilab Moncho rejects police remarks, calls for march at Shahbagh today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers are yet to determine whether the prime suspects in the murder of Sharif Osman Hadi -- Faisal Karim Masud and Alamgir Sheikh -- have fled the country.

"If we had known his last location, we would not have needed to brief you like this. At this moment, we do not have any specific information about his last whereabouts. Our investigating officers and intelligence agencies are making efforts in various ways," said Khondker Rafiqul Islam, additional inspector general at Police Headquarters.

Police have not yet been able to confirm whether the prime suspect has left the country.

"Often, criminals spread misleading information to conceal their location and this could be one such attempt," he said at a joint press briefing at the home ministry at the Secretariat yesterday.

Keeping both possibilities in mind -- whether the suspects are inside the country or abroad -- the law



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## LAKSHMIPUR ARSON

## Slain girl's father points finger at rival

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The arson attack on a house in Lakshmpur that killed a seven-year-old girl and left three others injured was carried out over a land-related feud, alleged the victim's family yesterday.

The child's father, Belal Hossain, a businessman and assistant organising secretary of Bhabaniganj union BNP under Lakshmpur Sadar upazila, said he has had a longstanding rivalry with Abul Hashem of a neighbouring village.

Belal, who sustained severe burn injuries, is currently receiving treatment at Lakshmpur Sadar Hospital.

"A rivalry between me and Abul Hashem has been going on since 2018. Land worth crores of taka has become a curse for me and my family," Belal said from his hospital bed yesterday, adding that a lawsuit over the ownership of four decimals of land in the Sutorgupta Bazar area remains pending.

"Only Abul Hashem could cause such severe harm to me and my family. He is at the top of my list of suspects," he said.

Fighting back tears, Belal said, "My beloved youngest daughter Ayesha turned into charcoal before my eyes. I couldn't save her."

Belal said his house in West Char Mansa village, built with corrugated tin and wood on a concrete base, was set ablaze between 12:30am and 1:00am on Saturday. He alleged that miscreants locked both doors from the outside and poured petrol before

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## Ducusu blocks VC office over renaming dorms

Demands removal of Sheikh family names, action against officials who opposed uprising

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Central Students' Union yesterday blocked the vice chancellor's office in protest, demanding the renaming of five university establishments currently named after members of the Sheikh family.

They are Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall, Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall, Sultana Kamal Hostel, and two residential buildings for university staffers -- Sheikh Russel Tower and Bangabandhu Tower.

According to the protesters, students have reached a consensus to rename Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall as Shaheed Osman Hadi Hall and Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall as Bir Protik Sitara Begum Hall.

However, they noted that when Ducusu earlier proposed renaming Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall as Felani Khatun Hall, the resident students opposed the move.

Around 2:45pm, Ducusu leaders were seen surrounding the VC office and chanting slogans such as "Break down the icons of fascism," "There is no place for fascism on this soil," and "All forms of fascism must be uprooted."

Its Vice President Abu Shadik Kayem said they had two key demands.

"Our first demand is the immediate renaming of all university establishments named after icons of fascism.

"The proposal to rename Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall as Shaheed Osman Hadi Hall came from students, recognising our July comrade who continued his struggle against domination. Similarly, students proposed renaming Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall as Bir Protik Captain

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## WORKER'S MURDER

## Police informed 3 hours after unrest began

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The RMG factory took three hours to inform law enforcers after unrest began that resulted in a garment worker being beaten to death in Mymensingh's Bhaluka upazila over allegations of "hurting religious sentiments".

The victim, Dipu Chandra Das, 27, worked at Pioneer Knitwears (BD) Ltd, a sweater factory in the upazila's Jamirdia area, confirmed Abdullah Al Mamun, additional superintendent of police (admin and finance) in Mymensingh.

Factory authorities said tensions began around 5:00pm on Thursday but police were not informed until nearly three hours later.

According to senior manager Sakib Mahmud,

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