



A final farewell at Jashore jail gate

Wife, infant of jailed BCL leader found dead; family cites despair over denied bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bagerhat*

As evening fell yesterday, an ambulance stopped at the gate of Jashore Central Jail, carrying the bodies of a young woman and her nine-month-old child.

There, their husband and father – jailed Bagerhat Sadar Chhatra League President Jewel Hasan Saddam – came to see them for one last time.

Earlier, Saddam's family had applied for his release on parole but then had to arrange for the bodies to be taken to the jail gate.

The jail authorities said six family members were allowed in the jail gate area with the ambulance.

Around 7:30pm, Saddam went to see his wife, Kaniz Suborna Swarnali, 22, and his only child Nazim.

Earlier in the day, police recovered the bodies of the mother and child. Swarnali was found hanging, while the child was lying lifeless on the floor at a house in Sabekdanga village of Bagerhat Sadar upazila around noon.

After post-mortem at Bagerhat 250-bed District Hospital, the bodies were handed over to the family.

Speaking to reporters, Swarnali's brother, Shubho, said his sister had married Saddam around five years ago. Saddam was arrested in Gopalganj following the fall of the Awami League regime on August 5, 2024, and had been charged in several cases.

"My sister had been mentally distressed since her husband's imprisonment. She tried in many ways to secure his release... This caused severe mental stress and depression. Out of frustration, she drowned her nine-month-old child in a

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PHOTO: REUTERS

A person on a balcony watches the scuffles between federal agents and community members, amid tear gas clouds, at the scene of a shooting involving federal immigration agents in Minneapolis, Minnesota, US, yesterday. A man was shot dead by federal agents in Minneapolis yesterday, the second fatal shooting involving federal agents this month. The man, who has not been identified, was armed with a handgun and two magazines, the Department of Homeland Security said in a statement.

Russian attack aims at derailing talks

Says Ukraine as second day of US-backed talks in Abu Dhabi conclude; Zelensky opposes territorial concessions to Moscow

AFP, *Abu Dhabi*

Ukraine yesterday accused Russia of undermining negotiations to end their almost four-year war by launching fresh deadly strikes, as officials from both countries and the United States met for a second day of direct talks in Abu Dhabi.

Bombardments killed one person and injured 27 in Kyiv and the northeastern city of Kharkiv overnight, authorities said, as Ukrainian and Russian

negotiators were set for a second day of talks on the latest US-brokered proposals.

"Peace efforts? Trilateral meeting in the UAE? Diplomacy? For Ukrainians, this was another night of Russian terror," Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga said.

He said Russia's President Vladimir Putin "ordered a brutal massive missile strike against Ukraine right while delegations are meeting in Abu Dhabi to

advance the America-led peace process. His missiles hit not only our people, but also the negotiation table."

The first known direct contact between Ukrainian and Russian officials on the proposal began on Friday.

Ukraine's chief negotiator Rustem Umerov said the discussions focused "on the parameters for ending Russia's war and the further logic of the negotiation process".

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'Play a more effective role'

Shujan slams EC for allowing loan defaulters, dual citizens to run

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) yesterday urged the Election Commission to play a more effective role in ensuring free and fair polls, as allegations of violations of the electoral code of conduct by various candidates continue to emerge.

The civic platform said there were already allegations that the EC had given concessions to loan defaulters and dual-citizen candidates, and that fresh allegations were now surfacing against many candidates over breaches of the code.

"This is badly affecting the election environment. It is unexpected for the people," Shujan Chief Coordinator Dilip Kumar Sarkar said at a press conference in the capital.

The event, titled "The Role of Stakeholders in Ensuring Free and Fair Elections," was held at the Sagor-Rumi Auditorium of Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Shujan Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar described the

Some candidates are being attacked with eggs and dirty water. ... If these incidents are not halted immediately, the situation could spiral out of control.

Badiul Alam Majumdar, secretary of Shujan

EC's stance on allowing loan defaulters and dual citizens to contest the February 12 polls as "disgraceful".

"Some candidates are being attacked with eggs and dirty water. The Election Commission and the government must take strong measures to stop this. If these incidents are not halted immediately, the situation could spiral out of control," he said.

He also urged the EC to take active steps to prevent the spread of misinformation during the election.

Highlighting the necessity of elections for a functioning democratic system, Majumdar said, "Democracy means equal treatment and equal opportunity for all.

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MUSABBIR MURDER

Probe points to feud over extortion: DMP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A dispute over extortion in the capital's Karwan Bazar area led to the killing of Swetchhasebak Dal leader Azizur Rahman Musabbir, allegedly on the instructions of underworld criminal Dilip alias Binash, police said yesterday.

Shafiqul Islam, additional commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police and chief of the Detective Branch (DB), disclosed the findings at a press conference at the DMP Media Centre.

Eight to nine extortion syndicates operate in Karwan Bazar, both openly and covertly, and Musabbir's growing influence in the area brought him into conflict with Dilip, who later hired assailants to carry out the murder, Shafiqul said.

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Indonesian rescue members carry a body bag containing the remains of a victim from the site of a landslide at West Java's Pasirlangu village in Indonesia yesterday. Seven people have died and 82 are missing in the landslide.

PHOTO: REUTERS

A death out of nowhere

Man dies after rod falls on his head; family sues for negligence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A regular afternoon turned into a family's worst nightmare, as a man died after a piece of iron rod fell from above and hit him on the head in Gulshan on Thursday.

Ashfaquzzaman Chowdhury, 45, a logistics manager at GE Healthcare Technologies, was standing on the footpath, chatting with a colleague after lunch when the tragedy struck.

He was rushed to the United Hospital but was declared dead on arrival.

The family has filed a lawsuit against three top officials of Concord Group, including its chairman and managing director, accusing them of gross negligence.

Meanwhile, Concord Group yesterday issued a statement regarding the death and claimed that the incident did not occur near its building but in front of another structure.

Ashfaq's father-in-law, Sirajul Islam Talukder, filed the case with Gulshan Police Station on Thursday, naming Concord Group Managing Director Shahriar Kamal, Chairman SM Kamal Uddin, project in-charge Al Amin, and 10 to 12 unnamed individuals as accused, Sub-Inspector Aziz Mahmud, the investigation officer of the case, told The Daily Star.



Ashfaquzzaman

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
National Legal Aid Services Organization
Law and Justice Division
Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
www.nlaso.gov.bd

Memo No.: 10.07.0000.002.28.038.16-235 Date: 8th Magh 1432
22nd January 2026

Public Notification

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Legal Aid Services (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (Ordinance No. XXXV of 2025) and in pursuant to Notification No. S.R.O-25/2026 dated 19 January 2026, the Government has fixed the **25th day of January, 2026**, as the date on which the provisions of section 21kha of the Legal Aid Services Act, 2000 (Act No. VI of 2000) will come into operation in the districts of Munshiganj, Chapainawabganj, Joypurhat, Kurigram, Narsingdi, Jhenaidah, Magura, Lakshmipur.

According to the Schedule of the amended law, **it is mandatory to go through mediation process at the Legal Aid Office before filing a case** arising under the following 7 (seven) categories of cases:

1. Matters under Section 5 of Family Courts Act, 2023;
2. Disputes under Premises Rent Control Act, 1991;
3. Disputes relating to partition under the jurisdiction of the Civil Judge's Court;
4. Pre-emption disputes under section 96 of State Acquisition & Tenancy Act;
5. Pre-emption disputes under section 24 of Non-Agricultural Tenancy Act, 1949;
6. Disputes relating to maintenance of parents under Section 8 of The Maintenance of Parents Act, 2013;
7. Complaints regarding dowry under section 3 and 4 of Dowry Prohibition Act, 2018.

For further information, please visit: www.nlaso.gov.bd or during office hours, contact Legal Aid **toll-free helpline: 16699**.

Executive Director
National Legal Aid Services Organization
Law and Justice Division
Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs

কিছু মানুষ সময়ের উর্ধ্বে উঠে যান
ঐরাবীড়ি, সত্য ও দায়বদ্ধতার
অজ্ঞান আদর্শ হয়ে প্রজন্মকে পথ দেখান।

মোস্তফা গোলাম কুদ্দুস
(৪ মার্চ, ১৯৪৯-২০ জানুয়ারী, ২০২০)
স্বাধীনতা, প্রতিষ্ঠা ও প্রগতির চেয়ারম্যান, মোস্তাফী লাইফ ইন্স্যুরেন্স প্রাইভেট লিমিটেড
প্রাক্তন চেয়ারম্যান, ক্রমশী ইন্স্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
প্রতিষ্ঠাতা ও ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, ড্রাগন গ্রুপ

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