Too young to know she is gone

Mother falls ill caring for measles-hit children, dies on the way home

MONG SING HAI MARMA, *Bandarban*

Kainwai Mro, 2, and elder sister Dongwai Mro, 4, lie side by side on a narrow bed in the isolation ward of Bandarban Sadar Hospital, both undergoing treatment for measles.

Weakened by fever and exhaustion, they clutch their uncle's hand or look towards the ward entrance, as if waiting for someone.

But the person they are waiting for will never return.

Just days ago, their mother, Lengrung Mro, 26, spent sleepless nights in the same ward caring for her two ailing children. While nursing them, she



Dongwai Mro, 4, and Kainwai Mro, 2, lie in the isolation ward of Bandarban Sadar Hospital, unaware that their mother has died, as their uncle Krongtong Mro looks after them while their father remains bedridden at home. PHOTO: STAR

fell ill herself and later died on the way home from the hospital.

During a visit to the hospital on Friday, this correspondent found Dongwai and Kainwai still receiving treatment, unaware that the mother who had cared for them until she fell ill was no more.

Their uncle, Krongtong Mro, 19, was looking after them.

Dr Towhidul Anowar, residential medical officer at the hospital, confirmed that the children were being treated for measles in the isolation ward.

He said 24 measles patients were currently

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Information Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon visits a photo exhibition titled "Fifteen Years of Fascism: 2024 Mass Uprising" at the Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka yesterday. The three-day exhibition, organised by the Bangladesh Photo Journalists Association and Amra BNP Poribar, was inaugurated by Liberation War Affairs Minister Ahmed Azam Khan. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

A life rooted in language and humanism

At Star Itihas Adda, speakers call for preserving and promoting Prof Mufazzal Haider Chaudhury's writings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A century after his birth, martyred intellectual Prof Mufazzal Haider Chaudhury's writings and humanist philosophy remain vital to understanding the Liberation War and the values on which Bangladesh was founded, speakers said at an event yesterday.

They called for bringing his work closer to younger generations, saying his objective record of his time, commitment to Bangalee nationalism and vision of an inclusive society still offer enduring lessons.

Prof Chaudhury was killed by Pakistani forces at the age of 45. A humanist and thinker who refused



to see divisions between people, he believed in collective harmony -- a vision that remains relevant today, they added.

The remarks came at "Jonmo Shotoborshe Shwaron: Shaheed Buddijibi Mufazzal Haider Chaudhury", the 24th episode of The Daily Star Itihas Adda, held at The Daily Star Centre to mark his birth centenary.

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LOOKING BACK AT JULY

August 2, 2024: Thousands join 'Droho Jatra'



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Who do we go to when the police murders?" -- read a placard at a march of defiance titled 'Droho Jatra' that unfolded in Dhaka and was joined by thousands, including teachers, cultural workers, members of civil society, and leaders and activists from left-leaning political parties.

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Dhaka joins global AI body WAICO as observer

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has decided to join the World Artificial Intelligence Cooperation Organization (WAICO), initially as an observer, said the foreign ministry in a statement yesterday.

Headquartered in Shanghai, WAICO is an intergovernmental organisation formed on July 16, 2026.

Its stated goals include deepening international cooperation on innovation, promoting inclusive development by reducing the global digital divide, and supporting an open, fair and non-discriminatory environment for global AI development.

WAICO also seeks to advance AI regulations aimed at ensuring that the new and evolving technology remains beneficial and safe for humans.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres attended the signing ceremony alongside representatives of participating countries and international organisations, reports BSS. According to the founding agreement, WAICO will uphold the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, promote extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, and adopt a people-centred approach in advancing global AI cooperation.

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