Minister gives accounts of Pakistani atrocities

Over one lakh killed in Khulna alone

Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Bangladesh Minister for Agriculture, said in Dacca on Thursday that over one lakh people were killed by the Pakistan Army and their collaborators in different places in Khulna town alone.

The main spot in Khulna town where Bengalees were slaughtered are located at Galiari, near radio station, Khalipur, Customs Ghat, Forest Ghat, Dalalpur, Ful-tala, Goalpara and Khulna Railway godown, the minister added.

The Minister who has recently returned to Dacca after a tour of Khulna town, village area of the district and parts of Jessore told a Press conference at Bangladesh Secretariat that he had suggested to preserve the areas used for slaughtering Bengalees as “protected areas.” If the “slaughter houses” are protected, evidence of killings can be preserved for international tourists who may be eager to see the evidence of ghastly murders by the Pakistan Army, the minister pointed out. In this connection, he said that during his visit to Khulna and parts of Jessore, he found heaps of human skeletons in those “slaughter houses” and in ditches and canals.

Details of massacres

Sheikh Abdul Aziz gave a detailed account of massacres by the barbarous Pakistan Army in different parts of Khulna and Jessore which he visited recently. Some of the information about massacres which he disclosed are as follows:

In May last year the workers of Khulna Newsprint Factory were called to receive their salaries. Thousands of workers entered the mill. The gates were closed. About 7,000 persons were killed by machine gun. The last searches were conducted in the non-Bengali pockets in Khalipur including Railway Colony, Khalipur Ferry Ghat, and Sheikhpara for the recovery of arms from those places.

Five thousand persons were killed in one day at Crescent Jute Mills at Khalipur Industrial town in the later part of April by the Pakistan Army. On January 39 last searches were conducted in the non-Bengali pockets in Khalipur including Railway Colony, Khalipur Ferry Ghat, and Sheikhpara for the recovery of arms from those places.

A huge quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered from Khalipur in a day and thousands of human skeletons were found at different places. The Pakistan Army and the non-Bengalis eliminated the Bengalees from those places.

Human skeletons

The erstwhile District Judge of Khulna, died of heart failure because he could not bear the ghastly shock of murders carried out by the Pak Army at Customs Ghat behind his residence. Skeletons can even now (Continued on page 4 Col. 5)
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be found in drums and ditches in the southern zone of the populated industrial area now severely stricken.

In Shadabkandi a village adjacent to Khulna, the Army killed 218 persons. In all, 24 people were killed in that village alone.

The Army also killed 73 people in Daulatpur, a village on the outskirts of Khulna. The Army claimed that these deaths were due to "crossfire." However, local residents said that the Army opened fire first. Another 100 people were reportedly killed in Shatnagar, a village near the town.

The total number of killed in Khulna district alone is said to be at least 500. The Army has not yet released an official count.

In Jamuna, the district headquarters, at least 50 people were killed in street battles between the Army and locals. The Army claimed that these deaths were due to "crossfire." However, local residents said that the Army opened fire first. Another 100 people were reportedly killed in Jamuna.

The total number of killed in Khulna district alone is said to be at least 500. The Army has not yet released an official count.

3000 Killed in a day

At village Chaklai near the Bangladeshi-Pakistani border, 3000 people were killed by the Army in a day. The Army claimed that these deaths were due to "crossfire." However, local residents said that the Army opened fire first. Another 100 people were reportedly killed in Chaklai.

An army unit which came from Pilibhar in Bara submitted the list of killed persons. These included 250 soldiers, 250 police, and 250 civilians. The Army claimed that these deaths were due to "crossfire." However, local residents said that the Army opened fire first. Another 100 people were reportedly killed in Pilibhar.

The Minister mentioned some other names of the victims who were killed in the same manner. The list included Abdul Latif Khan, a local councilor; Sajjad Ali, a local councilor; and Yusuf Ali, a local councilor.

The Minister also mentioned that the Army has been using "chemical weapons" to force the people to surrender.

40,000 killed in Kushtia

With the death toll of about 40,000 people, the situation in Kushtia district has become very critical. The police and the Army have been using "chemical weapons" to force the people to surrender.

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Al-Badar gangster

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