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Dr. Damal dead

By A Sports Reporter

Dr Mazharul Islam popularly known as Damal Bhai a veteran cricketer and a sports organiser died of heart failure on Thursday evening. He was 45.

Dr Damal came from a cricketing family. He was Vice President of Bangladesh Cricket Control Board. Dr Damal suffered a severe stroke around 11 p.m. on Thursday and was rushed to the P G Hospital by fellow physicians, relatives and friends.

Two of Dr Damal's brothers Mr Hafizul Islam Managing Director Uttara Bank and Mr Nehal and his nephew captain Mujibur Rahman (Caesar) made a reputed cricketing foursome and played for Gymkhana in the mid fifties.

Late Dr Damal's namaz e Janaza was held at Baitul Mukarram and was laid to rest at Banani Graveyard.

Dr Islam a renowned Cricketer of his time represented Pakistan and toured Burma. In Pre-Partitioned days he played for Calcutta Mohd. Sporting Club and represented the then East Pakistan on a number of occasion. He represented Bangladesh in the last I. C. C meeting held at London. He was also Chairman of the Selection Committee and Umpires Board. Besides being a renowned Cricketer he was also an



accomplished table tennis player. He was a Physician and Head of Radio Isotope Department of Dacca Medical College Hospital.

The news of his death cast a pall of gloom in sports circle in general and among his numerous friends, relatives and admirers who rushed to his residence in thousands to pay their last homage.

As a mark of respect the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board suspended all its activities for the day and put off the fixture of the opening day of the first ever BCCB Summer Cricket Tournament after observing two minutes silence.

Glowing tribute were paid by Mr S S Huda, President BCCB Kazi Bahauddin Ahmed Vice President BCCB and Mr Raisuddin Ahmed General Secretary BCCB to Late Dr. Islam. They recalled his valuable services and contribution to the cause of Cricket at the closing ceremony of the 3rd Youth Cricket Coaching Camp and expressed their heartfelt sympathy with the members of the bereaved family.

BCCB will hold a condolence meeting to be followed by a Milad Mawlid at 4.30 P.M. on Monday.

The Bangladesh Rowing Federation in a meeting on Friday condoled the death of Dr Damal. Mohamnedan Sporting Club in a Press release also expressed their deep condolences at the sudden death of Dr Damal. The club in a meeting recalled Dr. Damal's contribution to the game of cricket both as a player and organiser.