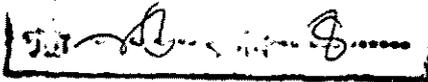


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Book fair from Jan 1

The ninth Dhaka Book Fair will begin on January 1 next at the National Parade Ground at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, says BSS.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the 15-day book fair. The slogan of the book fair-2003 is 'book for prosperity'.

Director of Jatiya Grantha Kendra Poet Mahmud Shafique said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, during the opening of the eighth book fair announced the year 2002 as 'National Book Year' which generated enthusiasm among writers and publishers across the country.

He said any publisher with 40 books can apply for stalls in the fair. Publisher who has printed 10 books this year or 20 books in the last five years can also apply for stall.

Government, semi-government, autonomous and non-government organizations, foreign embassies in Dhaka or foreign publishers in Dhaka can also apply for stalls for display or selling their books.