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Biswas sworn in as President



Mr Abdur Rahman Biswas taking oath of President's Office at a colourful ceremony at Darbar Hall of Bangabhaban on Wednesday. Acting Chief Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman administered the oath of office.

By A Staff Reporter

Mr Abdur Rahman Biswas was sworn in as the President of Bangladesh Wednesday afternoon at a simple but impressive function held at the Durbar Hall of Bangabhaban.

Acting Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr Justice Habibur Rahman administered the oath of office to the newly-elected President who will be a titular Head of State, under the present parliamentary system of government.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, former Presidents Mr Justice A.M. Sayem, Mr Justice Ahsanuddin and Mr Mohammadullah, Ministers, Judges, Members of Parliament, Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Naval Staff, and Chief of Air Staff, leaders of different political parties including Abbas Ali Khan and Maulana Matiur Rahman Nizami MP of Jamaat-e-Islami, Mr Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury MP of NDP, Mr Rashed Khan Menon MP of Workers Party, Mr Shahjahan Siraj MP of JSD (Siraj) and Mr Hasanul Huq Inu of JSD (Inu), diplomats and high civil and military officials were present.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia greeted President Biswas soon after his swearing-in. The President also exchanged greetings with dignitaries present after the brief ceremony.

Former Acting President Mr Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed was not seen at the function.

None from Awami League, Jatiya Party and CPB were present. Awami League and Jatiya Party also did not attend the swear-in ceremony of the cabinet led by Begum Khaleda Zia.

Immediately after the swear-in ceremony, President Abdur Rahman Biswas was given a Guard of Honour.

Contd. on page 8 col. 1

Biswas sworn in

Contd from page 1

Honour by a smartly turned out contingent of President's Guard Regiment.

MEETS SHAHABUDDIN

BSS adds: President Abdur Rahman Biswas met the former Acting President, Mr Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, at the latter's residence in Dhaka on Wednesday evening.

The President stayed with Justice Shahabuddin for some time.

VISITS SHAHEED MINAR

President Abdur Rahman Biswas on Wednesday visited the Central Shaheed Minar to pay homage to the martyrs of the Language Movement.

Soon after his swearing-in at Bangabhaban, the President drove straight to the Central Shaheed Minar and placed wreaths at the altar of the monument.

After placing wreaths, Presi-

dent Biswas stood in solemn silence for a while as a mark of respect to the martyrs of the Language Movement.

The President then went to the Mazar of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman. He placed wreaths at the Mazar and offered Fatcha there.