

Most visitors are buyers at book fair before end

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Almost every visitor at the Amar Ekushey Granthamela-2015 yesterday was seen carrying packages of books they bought at the fair.

A physician, Nazmul Alam, was carrying four such packages as he left the fair. "But, I have not bought all the books on my list so I will have to come back," he said.

Many book lovers were seen carrying lists as they flitted from stall to stall.

Johirul Abedin Jewel of Ittadi Granthopokash remarked that most visitors were from the city.

"Customers from outside Dhaka did not make it to the fair this year," he said.

Manseng Chambugong brought 15 students from the school run by their NGO Good Neighbours Bangladesh.

The students belonging to class IV, V and VI bought books of their choice.

"I bought Bagh Mamar Biye," said



Lisa, a student of class IV, holding her colourful prize proudly.

"We started this programme of bringing children to the fair in 1996," said her teacher Chambugong.

Ahmed Publishing House yesterday distributed its children's books among 40 street children.

"Since they cannot afford to buy books, we have decided to hold this programme every year at the book fair," said Mesbahuddin Ahmed, publisher of the house.

Yesterday, 83 books arrived at the fair and five books were launched at Bangla Academy's Nazrul Mancha.

Among the five was 'Ekattorer Juddhashishu-Obidito Itihas',

already available at the Academic Press and Publication Library's stall in the Suhrawardy Udyan portion of the fair.

The author of the book Mustafa Chowdhury, a freelance researcher and former employee of public service of Canada, told The Daily Star that he came to know about the war babies while working with adoption in Canada.

After working for about 20 years, Chowdhury located and communicated with 14 of the 15 war babies of the Liberation War who were adopted by Canadian parents in 1972.

"The book has challenges and conflicts they faced growing up and their thoughts as well as interviews of the parents," he said, adding that he also included many rare documents from foreign archives in the book.

Another book that was launched was 'Agartalar Mamlar Onuchcharito

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Most visitors

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Itihas o Shaheed Sergeant Zahurul Haq". It was published by Journeyman Books.

The book was co-authored by Prof Abu

Md Delwar Hossain of Dhaka University and Naznin Hoque Mimi, niece of martyred flight sergeant Zahurul Haque, who was shot by Pakistani military in 1969.