

**Anti-dowry rally**

An anti-dowry rally organised by Bangladesh Joutuk Durikaran Sangstha (Association for abolition of dowry) at Baltul Mokarram on Monday afternoon demanded passing of necessary legislation for abolishing dowry system in the country, reports BSS.

Mr Mostafa, Advocate, Mrs Nazma Rahman, Mrs. Momtaz Iqbal, Mrs. Ayesha Sattar, Advocate A.B. Siddiqui and Mr. Abul Kalam Azad addressed the rally and high lighted the different harmful effects of dowry system on our social and private life.

The Sangstha launched a week-long anti-dowry programme on May 2 and on its 6th day they brought out a procession from Jalya Press Club which paraded different thoroughfares of the city. Besides, men of different social strata about 500 women from various walks of life of Dacca and Narayanganj cities participated in this procession and later assembled at the Baltul Mokarram rally.

Advocate Aminul Haq, President of Association, Mr. Shamsul Huda, principal Tolaram College, Narayanganj, Begum Hosne Ara Choudhury, Vice-President Narayanganj Womens College and Begum Sabera Ahmed, Secretary, Dhammondi Mothers Club, led the procession.

The association will hold a seminar on abolition of dowry system today (Tuesday) at 3.30 at Narayanganj Public Library auditorium. Mrs. Ameena Rahman Minister for Women Affairs is expected to attend the seminar as chief guest.



On the 6th day of their weeklong programme, the anti-dowry organisation brought out a procession in the city to organise militant public opinion against one of the social vices known as dowry system. "Down with the dowry", said one of the placards carried by the women of Dacca and Narayanganj. During the week-long programme the organisation discussion meetings distributed leaflets, met individually those planning to marry and obtained signatures

from about 10,000 eligible youngmen that they would not demand dowry or allow their parents to demand it when they enter into wedlock. "We are getting response", said one of the organisers to newsmen. They are demanding legal measures against dowry system. Like the Family Law Ordinance, Government could enact necessary laws to make acceptance of dowry punishable. Social awariness will just be a step forward, said one of the ladies. — Times.