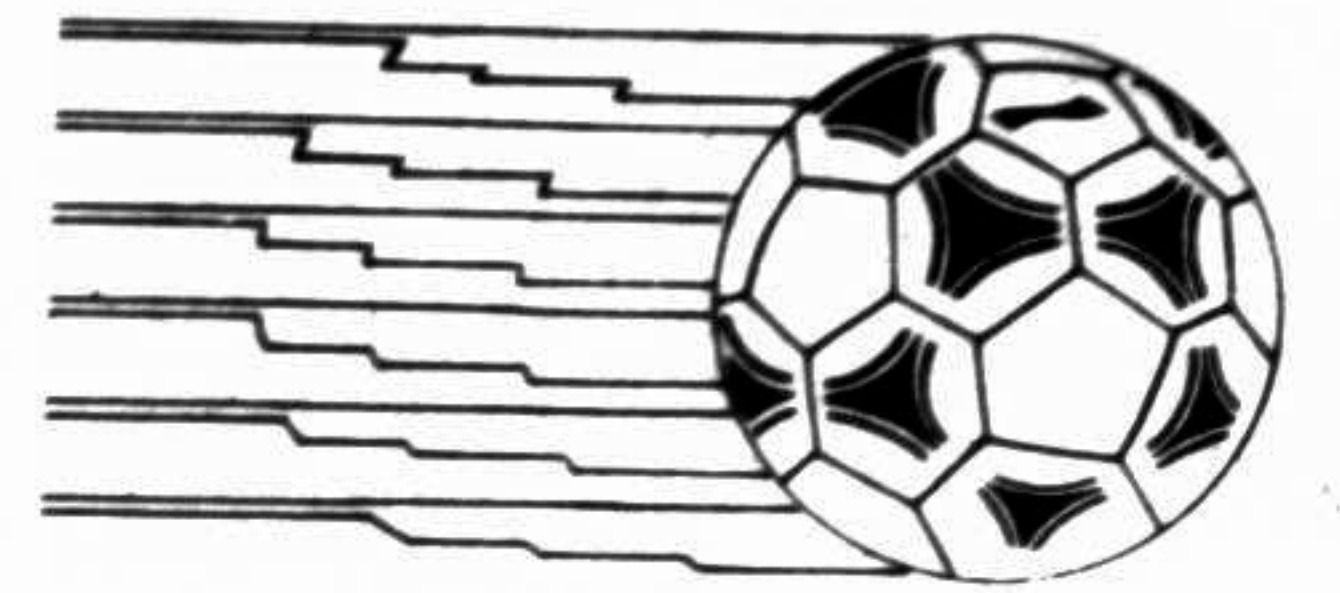




10TH ASIAN CLUB CUP FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP, DHAKA



6 The Daily star

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Participants

Dhaka Mohammedan

Syed Hasan Kanan, Ekramul Bashar Tuhin, Barun Bikash Dewan, Kaiser Hamid, Imtiaz Sultan Johnny, Jewel Rana, Md Siahuddin, Abul Hossain (Abul), Md Zakir Hossain, Syed Rumman bin-Wali Shabbir, Imtiaz Ahmed Naqub, Mamoon Hossain Joarder, Mahbub Hossain Roxy, Saiful Bari Tito, Gholam Ghaouse, Mustaqim Wajed, Mizanur Rahman, Samrat Hossain Emly, Ayaz Khan, Ghiyasuddin and Ahsunullah Montu.

April 25 (DPR Korea)

Kim Chung, Kim Yong-Ho, Ryu Gwang-Chol, Sung Chol-U, Chong Jong-Jin, Kim Sang-Oil, Li Ryong-Chol, Yun Owan-Ju, Kong Mun-Chol, An Jae-Hyok, Kang Jong-Chol, Pak Myong-Hon, Chot Won-Nam, Kim Yun-Chol (captain), Li Chang-Gyu, Li Won-Chil, Choi Chol-So.

Esteghlal Club (Iran)

Hamad Reza Abezadeh, Abbas Sarkhab, Shahin Bayani Ashtiani (captain), Shahroukh Bayani Ashtiani, Abdul Ali Changiz, Jafar Mokhtartar, Iran Alemi, Abdul Samad Marfavi, Gholam Reza Nalchesar, Aroashir Ghalehoct, Mirshad Majedi, Khosrow Parsa Barough, Rasool Aboasi, Seyyed Amir Mosavi Nia, Majid Namjoo Motlagh, Amir Dolat Abadi, Hamdullah Aghbadzadeh, Mehdi Foulonatzadeh, Sadeq Varmazyar, Farshad Falahatzadeh, Hasou Ghafourihaye Asi, Reza Hassanzadeh.

Al-Nasr Club (Oman)

Haroon Amor Hemad, Said Basheer Saleh, Faraj Fraish, Salim Rajab Nasib, Mohamed Rishard, Ahmed Faraj Al Bakhti, Omar Bashir Rashed, Sameer Bashir Raber, Abdul Nabi Arafat, Omer Mohamed, Akram Mohamed, Sallah Said, Mohamed Said, Fazl Raham, Mahfooz Zahir, Bader Amer, Mohamed Ali, Salim Zaman (Captain).

Pelita Jaya (Indonesia)

Jantra, Donny Latuperissa, Listyanto Raharjo, Mustafa Umarella, Bonggo Pribadi, Herry Setiawan, Alexander Saumunu, Hambali, Noach Marlem, Bambang Nurdiansyah, Ely Idris, Maman Suryaman, Nanda Novelan, Harry Susanto, Rully Nere, Kamaluddin, I Made Pasek Wijaya, Tias Tono Taufik/Dandan, Kunardi, Darmansyah/Powan Ngadi.

Liaoning FC (China)

Zhao FA Qing, Li Zheng, Dong Li Qiang, Li Qiang, Gao Xu, Xu Tao, Ma Lin, Fu Yu Biq, Sun Wei, Tang Yao Bong, Fu Bo, Huang Chong, Tang Le Pu, Lu Dong, Sun Ming Yun, Liu Ming Hui, Wang Jong, Xu Hui.

Bangkok Bank Sports Club

Somkiat Pansaenjanit, Siripong Sirirat, Praphan Khankokgruad, Chotchai Suwannang, Danchaj Vichaidit, Nnatapricha Kamhaeng, Apirak Sriaroon, Sumet Akrapong, Anan Pansang (Captain), Wirote Kitkure, Navapung Buathong, Bonserm Supasarb, Prakasit Pimyoung, Ittiphol Pimvong, Amarit Eakvong, Boonpob Praprak, Rattana Uppara, Prawat Wongindum, Nakorn Supakgul.

Football feast begins today

Atzal H.Khan with S.M.Mamoon

The final round of the 10th Asian Club Cup football championship kicks off at five this afternoon with local hopes Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting taking on Bangkok Bank Club in the meet opener.

Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman, who is also the chairman of the tournament organising committee, will formally inaugurate the seven-nation, eleven-day tourney.

In the other opening day fixture, the champion Iranian side Esteghlal Club will meet the April 25 Club of North Korea. That match starts at 7.00 pm.

Seven national champions of Asia — PS Pelita Jaya of Indonesia, Liaoning FC of China and Al-Nasr Club of Oman being the other teams in the fray — will be vying for the honour of being dubbed the champion club of the largest continent. They are split into two equal groups with the top two finishers in each cluster qualifying for the semifinals, scheduled for 26 and 27 July. The final is billed for 7.00 pm on 29 July, with the third-place deciding play-off preceding it in the afternoon.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will give away the trophies as chief guest after the final.

LATE WITHDRAWAL

The original field of eight teams was reduced to seven at the very last minute with the late withdrawal of Al-Ramatha Club, the Jordanian champions.

Al-Ramatha, who had earned their place in the championship finals only after the Iraqi champions Al-Rashid were debarred from participating following Iraq's suspension by FIFA in the wake of the Gulf

crisis, informed BFF through a telex Wednesday night of their non-participation. Al-Ramatha had finished second behind Al-Rashid in the zonal qualifiers.

According to Peter Velappan, the AFC Secretary who arrived yesterday to attend the opening ceremony.

Nasr Club, will necessitate a revision of the tournament fixture and cause considerable financial loss for the organisers.

BFF will not only lose gate money for the lessening of the fixture by three matches, it will also lose royalty from TV

semifinals.

The tournament is being hosted by the Bangladesh Football Federation who were granted the championship by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) after original hosts Malaysia backed out last April.

year, were delayed because of the Gulf crisis.

DELAY AND CONFUSION

Meanwhile, although the BFF officials are confident of their ability to successfully conduct the tournament, many questions remained unanswered till late last night. For one thing, the tickets which are supposed to go on sale at the Stadium counters and from the branches of Agrani Bank from today, had still not arrived from the printers. The press and duty passes will be issued sometime today.

The press box, the radio and TV commentary boxes were still not ready.

Although the BFF managed to rope in a sponsor at the very last minute with Tabani Beverage Company, a unit of the Muktijoddha Kalyan Trust agreeing to pay Taka 10 lakh, the deal ran into a snag with the sponsors insisting that the trophy be called the Coca Cola Cup, a proposition the AFC is not too keen to accept. As if this were not enough, further problems were created when Coca Cola Incorporated, USA, insisted that the sponsorship money should be shared by all its licensed bottlers in the country, and not just by Tabani Beverages alone. More than one company holds franchise rights in Bangladesh. In the end, in all probability, the nomenclature of the championship and the trophy will remain the Asian Club Cup Championship.

BUDGET

Before Al-Ramatha's withdrawal, the organisers had drawn up a budget of nearly 44 lakh taka. The BFF hoped to earn almost double that



Goalkeepers of Iranian champions Esteghlal Club after their practice at Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon. — Star photo

The Jordanian club's action will be reviewed at the next executive committee meeting of the AFC in Kuala Lumpur. According to Velappan, both Al-Ramatha and the Jordanian Football Association could face punitive measures for the late decision not to participate.

Needless to say, the pull out by Al-Ramatha, who were placed in Group A along with Liaoning FC, Pelita Jaya and Al-

coverage to the tune of Taka 1.5 lakh and another stable sum in foreign exchange because the Omani Television had been interested in taking live coverage of all their matches, including one against Al-Ramatha.

Also, the BFF may be forced to revise the rates of tickets, which have been fixed keeping in mind a double match programme daily, except the

The AFC has nominated all the key personnel for a smooth conduct of the meet, including the chairman of the disciplinary committee, the referees in-charge, and a panel of six international referees who all hold FIFA badges.

A team of local referees will be involved as linesmen and time-keepers.

The present finals, which should have been held last

COMPETITION FIXTURE

Following is the fixture of the championship, finalised by the Bangladesh Football Federation:

Date	Group	Teams	Time
19.7.91	B	Mohammedan SC vs Bangkok Bank Club	5.00
		Esteghlal Club vs April 25	7.00
20.7.91	A	Al-Nasr Club vs PS Pelita Jaya	5.00
21.7.91	B	Bangkok Bank vs Esteghlal Club	5.00
		April 25 vs Mohammedan SC	7.00
22.7.91	A	Liaoning Club vs Al-Nasr	5.00
23.7.91	B	Bangkok Bank vs April 25	5.00
		Mohammedan SC vs Esteghlal Club	7.00
24.7.91	A	PS Pelita Jaya vs Liaoning Club	5.00
25.7.91		Rest day	
26.7.91		First semi-final	6.00
27.7.91		Second semi-final	6.00
28.7.91		Rest day	
29.7.91		Third-fourth place deciding match	5.00
		Final	7.00

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

YEAR	VENUE	CHAMPIONS	RUNNERS-UP
1967	Bangkok, Thailand	Hapoel Tel Aviv (Israel)	Selangor (Malaysia)
1968	Bangkok, Thailand	Macabi (Israel)	Yan Zee (Korea Republic)
1970	Teheran, Iran	Taj Club (Iran)	Hapoel Tel Aviv (Israel)
1971	Bangkok, Thailand	Macabi (Israel)	Iraq Police Team (Iraq)
1985	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	Darwo Royals FC (Korea Republic)	Al-Ahli Club (Saudi Arabia)
1986	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	Furukawa FC (Japan)	Al-Hilal FC (Saudi Arabia)
1987	By default	Yomurti FC (Japan)	Al-Hilal FC (Saudi Arabia)
1988	Home and Away	Al-Baad SC (Qatar)	Al-Rasheed SC (Iraq)
1989	Home and Away	Liaoning FC (China PR)	Nissan FC (Japan)
1990			
1991			

Asian Club Cup Championship Groupings

Group A

Liaoning Provincial team (China), PS Pelita Jaya (Indonesia), Al-Nasr Club (Oman)

Group B

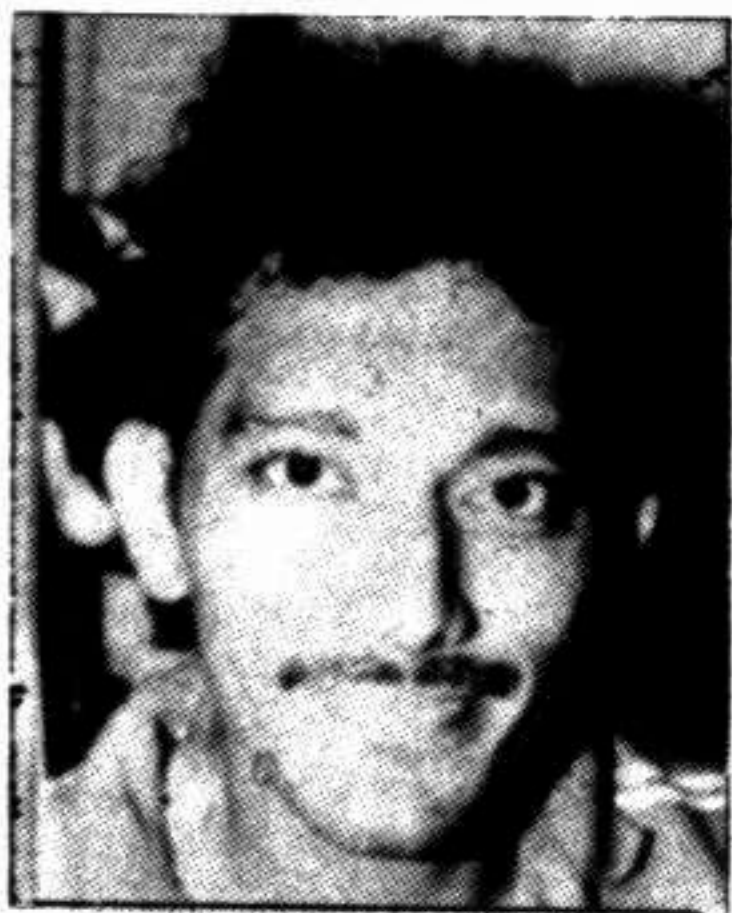
Dhaka Mohammedan SC (Bangladesh), Esteghlal Club (Iran), April 25 (DPR Korea), Bangkok Bank SC (Thailand)

The crowd pullers

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club, a legendary name in the country's sporting arena, is flying the Bangladesh banner in the seven-team Asian Club Cup football championship.

One of the Titans of local football, along with Abahani Krira Chakra and, to a lesser degree, Brothers Union, Dhaka Mohammedans earned their right to represent Bangladesh in the meet by virtue of having won the Federation Cup tournament.



KAISER HAMID

Mohammedans' road to the final round took them past the champion Maldivian side, Lagoon Club, whom they drubbed 5-0, and the Indian Federation Cup champions Salgaocar Club of Goa whom they beat 2-1 in Dhaka last year in the zonal qualifying rounds.

Mohammedans go into this tournament with a team that possesses a fine blend of experience and youth. Made up entirely of local talent, Mohammedans have an experienced defence manned by national stars Syed Hassan Kanan in goal, central defender Kaiser Hamid, the captain, Imtiaz Sultan Johnny and Abul Hossain who remain effective despite the years.

The midfield and attack is made up almost totally of

promising youngsters, led by the effervescent Rumman bin-Wali Shabbir, the slim fleet-footed winger, and the prolific Imtiaz Ahmed Naqub who has not only scored freely in the recent Asian Group D Olympic qualifiers in Seoul and Kuala Lumpur but also become a more confident and polished finisher.

Given the home ground advantage and the benefit of full-throated support of a vocal, partisan crowd, there is every possibility that the side will



NASSER HEGAZI

perform at an encouraging level. According to one senior club official, Mohammedans hope to make the semifinals.

For the first time in their long, long history, the traditional black-and-whites will don jerseys of a different colour during the course of this meet. According to the FIFA rules, every team must get two sets of jerseys approved by the tournament committee. Mohammedans have chosen a combination of green shirts-white shorts-green socks in addition to their trademark white shirts-black shorts-white socks outfit.

The arrival of Iranian coach Nasser Hegazi on the eve of the tourney, club officials hope, will inspire the team to give of their best.

Third-timers in Dhaka

Sports Reporter

Established nearly thirty years ago, Bangkok Bank Club is one of the leading teams of Thailand. A club with rich resources, Bangkok Bank has won the Thai national championship no less than eight times and are currently placed third in this year's league.

This is their third trip to Dhaka, having earlier participated in the Aga Khan Gold Cup in 1977 and in 1980 when they won the Aga Khan Gold Cup as joint champions along with Brothers' Union.

The 22-member squad which arrived last Tuesday, comprises 18 players and four officials. Panthong Smudraprabbhut is the team leader while Chatchai Phaholphaet is the coach.

There are seven promising youngsters in the squad who represented their country in the Asian Group D Barcelona Olympic qualifiers in Seoul and Kuala Lumpur over the last two months. In the two-leg qualifiers, the Thais beat Bangladesh 3-2 in Seoul and 4-0 in Kuala Lumpur. The average age of the team is between 22 and 23 years, which should augur well for the future. There are also two national players in the squad.

Speaking at a press briefing yesterday morning, team leader Panthong Smudraprabbhut, who is a vice president of the Bangkok Bank as well as the Thai Football Federation, said his team had very little notice to prepare for the Asian Club Cup tournament. He said despite the fact that a majority of his players are tired after the Olympic qualifiers, in which Thailand finished second behind South Korea, they had agreed to take part in the Dhaka meet in order to prepare for the forthcoming Queen's Cup tournament, scheduled to start in Bangkok August 15.

April blossom from Korea

Sports Reporter

Although established on June 26, 1972 the premier football club from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea, in common parlance) prefers to call itself by the more definitive name of April 25.

The rather unconventional name commemorates that historic date in 1932 when a band of patriotic Koreans (united, then) had formed a national resistance against the

Japanese occupation. Since its founding, April 25 has won the national championship 16 times in 18 years, virtually enjoying a monopoly by shutting out its rivals.

The 21-member squad which arrived Wednesday includes seven players who represented their country in the Asian Games in Beijing last year. Besides, eight other players who play for the club, could not make the present

trip because of their involvement with the national team.

In 1988, April 25 had lost by a solitary goal to Dhaka Mohammedans in the Asian Club Cup second round qualifiers held in Pahang, Malaysia. Once again the sides find themselves in the same group.

Kim Yun Chol is the captain of the side while another Kim (there are half a dozen of them in the squad) — Kim Jong Min — is the head coach.



কোকা কোলা

প্রতিদিন কমপক্ষে
৫৬,১০,০০,০০০
জনের তৃষ্ণা মেটায়।

বাংলাদেশে এটাই
এক নম্বর তৃপ্তিকর
কোমল পানীয়।



তাবানী বেভারেজ কোম্পানী লিঃ
(বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কল্যাণ ট্রাস্টের একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)
৪১৪ বিজিবাজার রোড, মিলবার, ঢাকা, ফোন: ৩৬৩০০১-২

কোকা কোলা, কোকা কোলা কোম্পানীর রেজিস্টার্ড ট্রেডমার্ক