

BAULS SEEK PEACE AND HARMONY



BAULS (itinerant folk singers) have roamed this part of the horizon for thousands of years. A lifestyle matched with that of the nature, bauls move from village to village soul searching through meditation and singing. You may find a single baul in simple traditional robe walking down

the earthen rural road playing an ektara (one-string instrument). He is not bothered about his survival for he knows someone somewhere in the villages will give him a shelter and the meager allocations for the day. Or sometimes you may find quite a few of them gathering somewhere and puffing their time out on ganja and music. Nowadays bauls are not often found roaming the rural roads. They tend to live in a community for their own survival. For instance, by



the tomb of the Lalon Shai in Kushtia a large community of bauls lives in harmony. Sometimes groups of baul travel to Dhaka where they have specific addresses to stay and sing.



Photographs: Syed Zakir Hossain