COVERSTORY



Indigenous people display their crafts outside the entrance of Shailapropat.



The Guide Tours Ltd. provides all types of transportation, but they must be informed well in advance to ensure availability.

from The Guide Tours, one can easily avail a boat for a fare of Tk 150 to Tk 250, including tips, which is subject to bargain. It would be best if a guide was available to do the haggling beforehand to avoid misunderstandings later on. The boat ride lasts for about 40 minutes and it is one of the most memorable ones ever. We passed several fisher villages and the scene was something out of a postcard. There were children playing by the beach, women washing pots and pans, men washing themselves and it seemed that all the indigenous people were out in full force. I even witnessed a soccer game, or rather 20 young boys in shorts and lungis chasing a ragged ball. One can swim in the river or stroll along the sandy river beach, visit the hanging bridge, the waterfalls and lookout points. One could even make a pit stop visiting the homes of the locals, the tea-stalls or simply check out the bazaar.

The boat dropped us off at Nobhi *ghata* and we walked along shops of all kinds reaching Traffic Morr, a considerably busy cross road. It's here that one can avail transportation back to the resort, or one could have transportation waiting here beforehand. On this return trip, if one rides an auto-rickshaw, the rider must mention Miloncchori as the destination as most of the locals are unaware of what The Guide Tours resort might be. The cost of a trip from Traffic *morr* to Miloncchori is about Tk 100. These auto-rickshaws can accommodate six persons including the driver. Luck for us, we had a Mahindra Pickup as our mode of transportation. It accommodates about five people on the inside and about eight more people in the rear. Most of us chose to ride in the back.

In the evening it was showering as we took shelter in our resort. The scene had now changed from one of serene beauty to one of wild terror. There was lightening illuminating the evening sky as we looked on from the balcony. There was beauty in that ferocity too.

Code of Ethics and Conduct

While visiting any indigenous villagers or their homes, it is strongly suggested that one goes by the following rules:

- a. Do not take photographs of the adivasis without asking for their permission.
- Try to send a copy of the photograph to the person.
- Respect the local people and their cultural tradition.
- d. Carrying some small gift items (chocolates, pencils, pens, etc) for the children is a nice gesture and will help in building a good relationship.
- e. Don't litter near their homes.
- f. In case of any accidents taking place during these trips, everybody at Miloncchori shall extend their full co-operation. But in no way 'The Guide Tours Ltd.' should be held responsible for that.



Food at Restora Riggre Khyang is simple and cheap. People are discouraged from eating in their cottages so as not to attract insects and animals.