

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

How Does Your Garden Grow?

by Fayza Haq

The theme of growing a rare flower in the novel 'Black Tulip' provided us with considerable romance and adventure. The prospect of growing a blood red tulip in the tropical climate of Dhaka stirs up the imagination too.

Yet who spends time, money and labour over the delicate budding of a wispy foreign blossom? Lily Rahman, after many unsuccessful attempts has managed to get tulips from bulbs flown in from Amstradam.

This is the fifth time I'm attempting it. The buds have appeared but have never blossomed before. The climate here is not suitable. It is too warm. Our winters are not cold enough. You cannot have bulbs flown in at the correct time of ten enough. It is also expensive to have bulbs brought in.

Lily Rahman confides. Lily is truly a flower enthusiast. She was dressed in a mauve floral printed sari when I met her. Flower patterns were woven into her white lace curtains. She had beautiful embroidered flowers done in the Japanese style as framed decoration pieces in her living room walls. These she had done herself. The Iranian style vases and lamp stands had floral motifs. So had the brass hangings and metal table-tops of her parlour. As one may guess, the carpets of the floor contained the theme of flowers too.

Lily has had success after five attempts. She let the bulbs germinate in the refrigerator for two weeks. The shoots had come out when she took the bulbs from the cold. The leaves came out within a week. In seven days more the flower buds appeared.

Tulips need special manure and medicines to protect them from fungus. The climate of Bangladesh too is different from that of Holland. Lily says, 'I hope to store the bulbs that have proved successful, if they are not hybrid, and use them next year or wait till someone brings me some bulbs from abroad again.'

"In Amstradam there are miles of different coloured fields of tulips," Lily chats about her experiences with flowers overseas. "It seemed such a pity to see some of them being chopped down by tractors just because they could not be exported," she adds.

Just as she has not kept servants for bringing up her children so she does the tending of her plants herself in her house in Dhanmondi. After her morning prayers her first thought has been the garden.

In her garden Lily grows ferns from Nepal, gladiolus from India, orchids from Bangkok and Sri Lanka, rare lilies from Manila, guavas and mangostenes from Bangkok and passion fruit from Sri Lanka. To this international collection of plants and trees, she now adds the deep scarlet tulip.

Walking through Lily's garden I found salvias, dahlias, marigolds, chrysanthemums, cacti flowers, honeysuckle creepers, tube roses, bottlebrush, startlingly exotic orchids and at least fifteen variety of roses.

Back in her orchard Lily had mango, 'chikoo' and 'boroi' trees. She also grew mangostene and jack-fruit. Custard apple, banana and the Sri Lankan variety of papayas grew there too in the midst of 'teetar' and 70 odd chickens.

Her vegetable patch at the back boasted of gourds, spinach, white aubergine and 'kakrol'.

What does Lily do to make her plants healthy and bright? "I put crushed bones and tea leaves for my roses. I mix manure and 'khol' (mustard husks) with the rest of my plant roots. I also rot leaves in a compost heap and use this as well," she informs.

Lily is a great fan of flower shows and the nurseries mushrooming in the cities. "Now we have flowers for the sick, and for the happy occasions too. Simply to see fresh flowers is so heartening," she comments.



The coveted tulip grown in Lily Rahman's garden. -Photo Enamul Haque

False propaganda against Zia resented

By Staff Correspondent
Zia Prochar Dal Convener Dr Tareq M R Chowdhury in a party meeting on Wednesday urged all parties to refrain from false propaganda against different personalities, says a Press release.

He also resented the accusations made against late President Ziaur Rahman and termed those as false.

The meeting presided over by Hazi Azzur Rahman, was addressed by Hazi Sharif Hossain, Hazi Shahid, Md Khalak, Md Gasuddin, Md Tutul and Shamim, the release added.

Privatisation policy to go: Menon

By Staff Correspondent
Central Five-Party leader and General Secretary of Workers' Party Mr Rashed Khan Menon on Wednesday urged people to vote for his party for honest leadership, says a Press release.

Addressing public meetings at different places on Wednesday, he said his party would initiate local programmes for development of rural people. He also stated that his party would stand the economic policy of foreign aid dependency.

Meanwhile, Mr Abdul Hasher, President of Workers Party said the five-party would show privatisation policy. He said his party would fix salary of workers to the equivalent of five maunds of rice, add the release.

'Mou-Ranir Shangsar' staged

Darpan Natya Gosthi staged the 'Mou-Ranir Shangsar' at the Guide House auditorium under the direction of Sarker Mamta Uddin while Aminul Hoq Amin was the co-director, says a press release.

Azzul Hoq Babul was commentator of the drama while Abul Hossain, Mizan, Amin, Akbar, Hafez, Samad, Shohel, Saiful, Lovely, Sufia, Mita, Mamta acted in different roles of the play.

Chakmas refuse to return home Shanti Bahini men put pressure on refugees

Chakma refugees living in camps in the South Tripura district have refused to return home until the original demands of the Jano Sanghati Samity are fully met, reports UNHCR.

A BBC report from Agartala said militant Shanti Bahini men were believed to have put pressure on the refugee leaders to raise new demands and forestall a possible liquidation of the refugee problem.

Chakma refugees not only rejected the proposal to return home before the February 27 parliamentary election, but also stayed away from the Bangladesh-India official level meeting held for the purpose at Rangpur on Monday. The leading members representing the refugees had earlier been named for taking part at the meeting.

The refugee representatives were reported to have asked the authorities in both Bangladesh and India to negotiate with the Shanti Bahini, the armed wing of the Jano Sanghati Samity all the demands including repatriation.

At the meeting, the Bangladesh side led by the Deputy Commissioner of Khagrachhari district put forward the government decision to take back all refugees and enlist as voters the eligible Chakmas who would return by February 20.

The Indian side led by the district magistrate of South Tripura told the Bangladesh officials that they would try their best to persuade the refugees to accept the offer.

The meeting was arranged to finalise modalities for repatriation of the Chakma refugees once for all but the BBC report said it did not seem to have achieved any positive result.

The Bangladesh officials told the Indians that it might not be possible for the present caretaker government to negotiate on the six point demands of the tribals.



Padatik Natya Gosthi staged play 'Champabati' at National Press Club auditorium on Wednesday in connection with the annual general meeting of the Dhaka Union of Journalists. -Star photo

Dhaka Sheraton Hotel has chalked out a special programme to observe Valentine's Day on February 14. To mark the occasion, a special 'romance dinner' will be arranged at the Vintage Room and at the Bithika Restaurant. Fresh rose will be given to each lady, according to a press release.

The day is observed worldwide to show our appreciation and love, we have for our friends and near ones.

Baden Powell Day Feb 22

Baden Powell Day will be observed throughout the country by the Bangladesh Scouts on February 22. The day is observed each year throughout the World to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of the World Wide Scout Movement, Lord Baden Powell. On that day, Scout organisations in different Regions, Districts and Upazilas will hold organisational and cultural programmes including route march.

Details of the programme for their rehabilitation were also explained, the report said.

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JU hall named after Bhashani

Jahangirnagar University authorities have decided to name its new residential hall after Maulana Bhashani, reports UNB.

A meeting of JU Syndicate, presided over by Vice Chancellor Prof. Kazim Saleh Ahmed, on February 11 took the decision to name the under construction hall after the late politician, a press release on Wednesday said.

Urs

RAJSHAHI, Feb 13: A two-day long annual urs of Hazrat Shah Mukhdum Ruposh (R.A.) and Hazrat Shah Noor (R.A.) ended today at Rajshahi Shah Mukhdum Darga Mosque premises, reports BSS.

PROGRAMME Valentine's Day dinner

Dhaka Sheraton Hotel has chalked out a special programme to observe Valentine's Day on February 14.

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Rotary Club meet

The 2nd regular, weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Uttara will be held to-day (Thursday) at 5.30 p.m. at Blue Diamond Restaurant, Uttara.

Guest speaker RTN, PDG Iqbal Ansari Khan will speak on 'World Understanding and Peace', says a press release.

Reception

A reception will be accorded to all the Past District Governors of Lions Clubs International, District-315 by the Lions of District 315-B today at 6.30 p.m. at Lions Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. All the Lions of District 315-B have been requested to attend the function, says a press release.

Plan to form body to protest aggression

Speakers at a discussion in Dhaka on Tuesday strongly condemned 'imperialist aggression of US and Allied Forces on Iraq', reports UNB.

Criticising the government policy on the Gulf, they called upon the caretaker government to bring back Bangladesh troops from Saudi Arabia and not to continue the policy of deposed President Ershad's regime.

The discussion, organised by a group of 18 teachers of the Dhaka University, was presided over by Prof. K.A.M. Saaduddin.

Those who took part in the discussion included Sardar Fazlul Karim, Badruddin Umar, Rangalal Sen, Mohammad Selim, Shahadat Ali, Zaman Khan, Mahmud Hossain, Syed Ahmed, Ferdous Hossain, Mujtaba Choudhury and Azzur Rahman.

The speakers expressed their sympathy and support for the cause of Iraq and its leader Saddam Hossain. They also

called for immediate withdrawal of Allied troops from the Gulf.

To mobilise opinion against the war and atrocities on Iraq, the meeting decided to form a 'committee to protest imperialist aggression against Iraq', and hold a mass signature campaign rallies and processions.

Sardar Fazlul Karim in his speech termed United States as a 'democratic fascist power' and said it is destined to lose both the 'battle and the war'.

Badruddin Umar warned that the war, if continued for two months, would bring dire consequences for Bangladesh's economy and called upon all to begin a countrywide anti-imperialist campaign.

Rangalal Sen called upon the government to strictly follow the non-aligned foreign policy on the Gulf issue.

Saaduddin said Iraq President Saddam Hussein personified the anti-imperialist spirit.

Ekushey programme discussed

The programmes for the observance of Amar Ekushey were discussed at a meeting between Adviser for Cultural Affairs Prof. Iajuddin Ahmed and Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. Manruzzaman Mia, held at the Cultural Ministry on Wednesday, reports BSS.

The cultural activities among the students of Dhaka University also came up for discussion in the meeting.

The Cultural Adviser reiterated his all possible cooperation in the successful observance of the Ekushey programmes and promotion of cultural pursuits on the Dhaka University campus.

Songs of Lalon Shah discussed

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangla Academy on Wednesday held discussion on books 'Songs of Lalon Shah' translated by Abu Rashid and 'Literature Theory of 20th Century' written by Afjalul Bashar as part of its Ekushey programme series at the Academy premises.

Dr. Khalekuzzaman Iltas and Abul Ahsan Chowdhury discussed Lalon Shah Songs while Prof. Jahangir Tarek and Prof. Sayed Manzurul Islam discussed the literature theory.

In the evening Snigdha Roy recited poems and Dil Afroz Reba and Ali Akbar presented Lalon Songs.

Meanwhile, Sammilita Sanskritie Jote yesterday recited poems, staged dramas and presented mass-songs in cooperation with various groups from different parts of the country at the Central Shaheed Minar.

Tug of war over blood bank: the poor at bay

By Inam Ahmed

A tug of war between the Blood Transfusion Department of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and its Director has put the blood bank in a severe fund crisis.

The Director has been refusing to sign the check book since March of last year. As a result, free blood supply to the poor patients, purchase of medicine, operation of the lone ambulance of the bank and other facilities have been hampered.

Patients, unable to pay, can no longer get free blood from the bank. Each patient has now to pay Taka one hundred for a bag of blood.

Sources said this is seriously hampering treatment of the poor.

Presently, the blood bank can not even determine the RH factor of blood due to unavailability of RH serum. It can only determine the group blood. Sources said this puts the life of the patients at stake. A wrong RH blood transfusion can kill a patient. The risk is even greater for pregnant women.

Sources said that DMCH blood bank has neither facilities for blood screening. This results in the transfusion of blood from donors infected with venereal disease and jaundice.

Supply of empty blood bag to the DMCH blood bank is also inadequate. Sources said the bank needs about 85 bags each day. But even after repeated request to the authority, only 40 bags are supplied to the bank. Out of these 40 bags, four to five bags turn out to be faulty, sources said.

The Blood Transfusion Department on last September sent one letter to the Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Ministry to sort out the problem of free blood distribution and other problems. After nearly four months, the Ministry wrote to the Director General of Health Directorate to look after the matter.

But no action has been taken since then, sources stated.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Chop
- 4 Take as one's own
- 9 Rear of ship
- 12 Devoured
- 13 Commemorative disk
- 14 Caving
- 15 Capuchin monkey
- 16 Book of Old Testament
- 17 Golf cry
- 18 Barber's instrument
- 20 Three-toed sloth
- 21 Roosevelt ID
- 23 Dry, as wine
- 24 "Never on"
- 28 "Midnight"
- 30 Wood-worker's tool
- 32 Wine cups

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PEG	TEEM	LAST
ERA	HARE	INCA
ANTLER	RED	AM
HAM	OIL	PRE
MEED	ORT	AU
ERR	SPA	DINER
LI	SET	LES
DEPOT	ION	WON
IN	TOT	MINT
WIT	NUN	BET
IO	OUT	FATHER
STAR	ORAL	ETA
HATE	RETE	REP

DOWN

- 1 Possesses
- 2 Greek letter
- 3 Fish trap
- 4 Astonished
- 5 Republicans' opponents
- 6 Aroma
- 7 Dance step
- 8 Louise ID
- 9 Fuss
- 10 Animal's coat
- 11 Golf mound
- 17 Europeans
- 18 Equally
- 20 Diving bird
- 21 Pamphlet
- 22 Report
- 24 Fish from the sea
- 25 Expires
- 26 Later
- 27 Long for
- 29 Title
- 31 Mature
- 33 Extra
- 37 Shoshonean Indian
- 38 All - Day
- 42 Rooney ID
- 45 Mine entrance
- 46 Otherwise
- 47 Chart
- 48 Rubber tree
- 49 Limb
- 50 Anglo-Saxon money
- 52 New Deal agency
- 53 Long, slender fish
- 55 Gallium symbol

TV Thursday

5.00	Opening announcement	Al Quran
5.15	Geeta Path	Rajshahi
5.20	News (Bengali)	Khulna
5.30	Khelar Jagat	Jessore
5.55	Comedy series	Barisal
6.20	Parichay	Dinajpur
7.20	Jiboner Alo	Srimangal
7.50	Today's programme	Cox's Bazar
8.00	News (Bengali)	Mymensingh
8.40	Weekly drama	Comilla
9.50	Tomorrow's programme	Rangamati
10.00	News (English)	
10.30	Mini series	
11.30	News (Bengali)	
11.40	Friday's programme	
	Al Quran	
	closing announcement	
11.45	National flag and anthem	
	Close down.	

Weather Dry weather all over

By Staff Correspondent

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry all over the country during the next 36 hours ending Friday morning night temperature may fall by 2-4 degree Celsius at places, according to Met office.

Light rain thundershower occurred at Sylhet region and weather remained dry elsewhere over the country. Night temperature rose by 1-3 degree Celsius at many places. These were above normal by 2-7 degree Celsius.

The maximum temperature recorded at Dhaka on Wednesday was 30.3 degree Celsius and minimum 20.4 degree. The highest maximum temperature of the country on Wednesday was 31.8 at Jessore and lowest minimum 10.7 at Dinajpur.

Tuesday's complex westerly low over Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal moved away eastward and became less marked another feeble westerly low lies over Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar plain Seasonal low lies over South Bay.

Outlook for subsequent two days: little change. Extended outlook for another five days: no marked change. Sun sets today (Thursday) at Dhaka at 5.53 p.m. and sun rises tomorrow (Friday) at 6.32 a.m.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities, and towns are:

Cities and towns	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	9 a.m.	6 p.m.
Dhaka	30.3	20.4	91	63
Chittagong	28.3	19.2	68	78
Rajshahi	31.2	16.0	61	37
Khulna	31.1	19.5	95	57
Jessore	31.8	18.6		
Barisal	30.0	20.5	95	70
Dinajpur	29.2	10.7	63	37
Srimangal	29.4	17.8	79	74
Cox's Bazar	30.0	17.5	69	83
Mymensingh	29.5	15.8	100	45
Comilla	29.5	21.0	94	80
Rangamati	30.6	18.0	76	70

Lowest temperature recorded on Wednesday in the major cities of the region were:

Calcutta	21 Degree Celsius
Karachi	15 Degree Celsius
Bangkok	26 Degree Celsius
Hong Kong	17 Degree Celsius

GOETHE INSTITUT DHAKA and Dhaka Sheraton proudly present

An evening of breathtaking Gipsy Jazz Music

Monday, 18th February 1991

The best known jazz trio combination HANS'CHE WEISS ENSEMBLE to perform for the first time in Bangladesh.

Performers: HANS'CHE WEISS - Guitar
MARTIN WEISS - Violin
VALI MAYER - Double Bass

■ Venue: GRAND BALLROOM OF DHAKA SHERATON
■ Time: 7 p.m. sharp. Door opens 6-30 p.m.
■ Tickets: Tk. 150/- per person (non-refundable).

Available at Sheraton Lobby and VIDEO CONNECTION, Gulshan from Feb. 13, 1991
For reservations: 863391, 861191
Ext: 36/8646

BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY DHAKA

WANTED

Applications are invited from the bonafide citizens of Bangladesh to fill up the following posts for Computer Science & Engineering Department of this University.

A) 2 (Two) temporary (Leave vacancy) posts of Assistant Professor in the scale of Tk. 2800 - 4425/- and

B) 1 (One) temporary (Leave vacancy) post of Lecturer in the scale of Tk. 1650 - 3020/-.

Details of prescribed qualification and terms and conditions for submission of application may be obtained from the office of the Registrar of this University personally or by sending duly stamped self addressed envelope.

15 (Fifteen) complete sets of applications are to be submitted to the Registrar of this University along with a crossed Postal Order / Pay Order / Bank Draft of Tk. 10/- in favour of the Comptroller of this University. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel.

Last date for submission of application: 5th March, 1991.
20th Falgoun, 1397.

D-04 Registrar