

The Daily Star

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WHAT is Eid actually? Is it just a congregation of devotees? Dress parade of the children and adults' culinary competition? Or the flood of beggars at your door? Or what? Do we really stop for a moment and ponder?

After 30 days of abstinence what does Eid really convey to us? Is it only a festival without any implication? Does Eid usher a season of merry making and joy? Eating choice dishes and entertaining selected guests and so on?

The answer is a big 'no'. Eid is not for the hedonist or the eat drink and make merry set. Though Eid is for all, but specially it is for the humanist or lover of mankind — who feels for his fellow beings, offers all possible help and service to others. The real implication of Eid lies on this social aspect. The uniqueness of the human race lies on the gregariousness of mankind. Gregariousness is not just for the sake of it. It binds each and every one in the society with the link of safety, security and provision to keep alive. But this kind of needs cannot keep the human race in one fold. The inner needs like love affection, sympathy, appreciation and other traits of mental world are the cementing alloys that keep human society intact. Festivals proclaim the message of union and friendship among members of the society ignoring all barriers. Festivals also teach us the greatness of the creator in a different way by separating others days from Eid day by making it a day of blessing and

Eid and Society

Universal Message of Peace

By Dr. Halima Khatun

benediction.

Throughout the whole year we remain busy with our own job or business and thousand other preoccupations. The society outside, the relatives outside our orbit, the needy in the far away galaxy do not exist to us. Work, duty or whatever it may be called, keeps us chained so to say. "We have no time to stand and stare" sort of days we pass and surrender to the pressure of every day life. Only on the Eid day that trap is open to be with others — the almost unknown neighbours, the forgotten relatives, the drifted friends and of course, the poor, the have not's, the down trodden wealthless millions. We exchange gifts, we exchange good wishes and greetings, we offer our best to our esteemed guests. But for the second grade or third and lower i.e. those who are in the lowest rail of the social ladder we become close fist and shrink away to show our best. Even the most devout among ourselves fails to see the pity of it. What is religion after all? Religion is for humanity. Religion moulds a person to fit in a society by purification and regimentation. This regimen-

tion is for the betterment of the person, his security and for the security of the society at the same time. The basic principles of all the religions are similar. Religion stands for mankind for the society, the country, the family and the world. Whatever may be the trademark of a religion it teaches its followers the great lesson of love, sympathy and fellow feeling for all. Remembering this universal aspect of religion on the Eid one should forget past bitterness with others, (if there be any) and try to drive away all ill feelings against any.

Difference brings or begets hatred and malice which is bound to cause disturbance of severe nature. Religious festivals specially Eid proclaims the message of union, forgiveness, and broadness of mind. If this rare and precious gift could be kept intact and imperishable we shall be able to make our mind a diamond mine and the society we live in will be its proud recipient.

Mankind has achieved a lot and has conquered the forces of nature. It is a tragedy that man has not been able to conquer the beast dwelling inside

human nature. Venom of malice and greed, rivalry and struggle for supremacy have become the story of the day. The whole planet is at the grip of racial clash political subjugation and ultimately heinous butchering of the helpless multitude. The globe is strewn with hatred and murder, which has rendered the abode of mankind into a 'waste land' as depicted by T.S. Elliot. The peace dove is being devoured by the hawks and vultures, the war mangers, the producers of war weapons.

Nothing is safe, nothing is secure now a days. Not even the drinking water or the air

we breathe. Tagore lamented long ago that the world is mad with jealousy, cruel clash is rampant. The cry was sounded long ago before the advent of star war. Now when the Middle East is ablaze, peace is a fugitive, religion can show right path. The real need of a person is very limited, every body should realize this fact and do accordingly. They also must realize that corruption, sabotage and aggression are the most abominable devil tearing open the heart of goodness. On Eid the sincerest prayer is — let there be peace in the world, in the country, in the society and in the family.



Last Prayer

—Rafiq Azad

It is not for me
It is for the trees I love rain,
What else can I ask myself at this age?
I want for my children
A cottage covered with dense trees;
I no longer need heavy rain for myself —
Under the tinshed
My children will sleep — by the side of husband or wife —
But then let it rain incessantly.

For myself what is the use of flavoured fine rice?
The indignity scorched life is somehow passing by with coarse rice!
Let my children feel no pebble grain under their teeth —
These are the little things I want — what more
Can I ask from this society?

In real sense there is not much
I can ask for myself anew —
Once even this wretched poor had wishes and fondness
For so many things — had the wish
Of sleeping in a lovely bed —
Would dream of things famous and rare
In my dream there was an uninterrupted stretch of Tundra or
Prairie,
Had the queen of Egypt in it, lost continent, the Andies
mountain range —
Yamuna and Amazon along with all the rivers of the world;
That I could come down on virgin soil like Vasco Da Gama,
Would cross the track of silky grass or arid grey desert
In moonlit night mounted on a sturdy horse, alone —
Mounted on a horse with my eyes filled with wonder and awe
Would I come face to face with the sea —
After the oceanic-copulation is over with my feet on the
stirrup
Would plunge into the womb of the potbellied sea ...

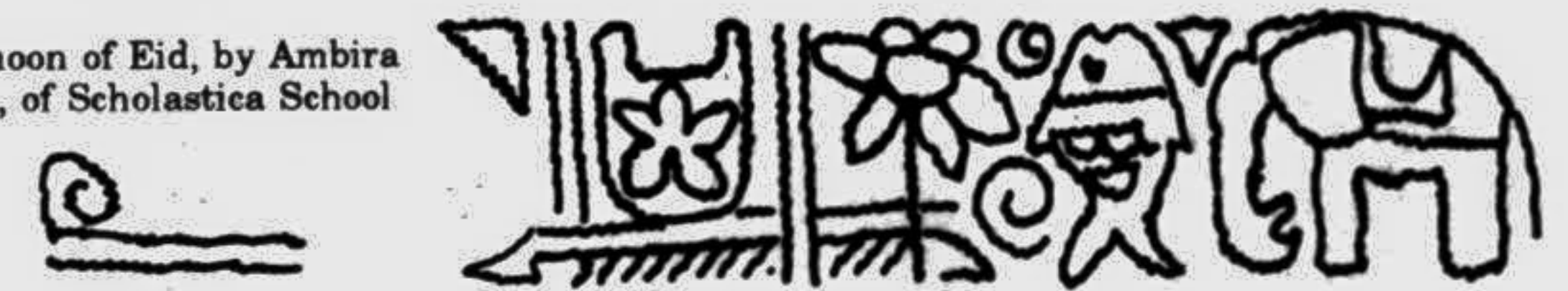
Now I myself is an amnesiac Buddhist ruin!
All my dreams are buried in memories; just like
The ruins of ambition, in mental Mahasthangarh!

It is not for myself, affection wells up today
For the trees —
Ordinary plantain leaves — even they draw me close —
affection
wells up
I long to hold close to my heart the drenched verdant plantain
leaves
I long to see the trees free from dust refreshingly drenched
I long to immerse my two eyes all the time in the greenery of
the trees
The trees mistakenly look like the faces of my children —
I no longer have any ambition — this is the last prayer;
Let my children grow up holding the hands of the trees.

Translated by : Syed Maqsood Jamil



New moon of Eid, by Ambira Rahim, of Scholastica School



বাংলাদেশের সকল লুব গ্রাহকের কাছে মেঘনার পণ্য জনপ্রিয়তার শীর্ষে—

তার কারণ :-

- বিশ্ব বিখ্যাত ব্রিটিশ পেটোলিয়াম এর ফর্মুলেশনে প্রস্তুতকৃত আন্তর্জাতিক মান সম্পন্ন লুব্রিক্যান্টস বাজারজাতকরণের অধিকার একমাত্র মেঘনারই রয়েছে।
- গ্রাহকদের উন্নতমানের পণ্য সরবরাহের পাশাপাশি বিক্রয়োত্তর সেবার নিশ্চয়তা মেঘনা পেটোলিয়াম দিয়ে থাকে।
- সুদক্ষ বক্টন ব্যবস্থা সমৃদ্ধ মেঘনায় রয়েছে সারাদেশব্যাপী ডিপো, বিশ্বস্ত এজেন্ট, ডিলার ও ফিলিং স্টেশন নিয়ে বিস্তৃত নেটওয়ার্ক।
- মেঘনা গ্রাহকদের প্রয়োজনানুযায়ী সঠিক গ্রেডের লুব্রিক্যান্টস সহ সঠিক ব্যবহার পদ্ধতির উপর কারিগরী পরামর্শ ছাড়াও বিভিন্ন শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানে সেবামূলক 'লুব্রিক্যাশন সার্ভিস' করে থাকে।
- মেঘনা গ্রাহকদের যন্ত্রপাতির কর্মক্ষমতা তথা উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধির সহযোগিতাকরে অতীব উন্নতমানের লুব্রিক্যান্টস বাজারজাত করে থাকে।

আর তাই,

মেঘনা পণ্য ব্যবহার করুন

ও

নিজে লাভবান হউন

আর দেশদ্রোয়নে সহায়তা করুন।

মেঘনা পেটোলিয়াম লিমিটেড



বাংলাদেশ পেটোলিয়াম কর্পোরেশনের একটি সার্বস্বত্বকারী

৫৮, আগ্রাবাদ বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা

পোষ্ট বক্স নং-১০৮, চট্টগ্রাম



ঈদ যোবারক

আমাদের সম্মানিত পরিবেশক, উপ-পরিবেশক,
পাইকারী ও খুচরা বিক্রেতা, ক্রেতা,
পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভাকাঙ্খীদের জানাই
পবিত্র ঈদের শুভেচ্ছা



বেঙ্গল কারবাইড লিমিটেড

আমিন কোর্ট (৭ম তলা) মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০