

Dhaka Day by Day

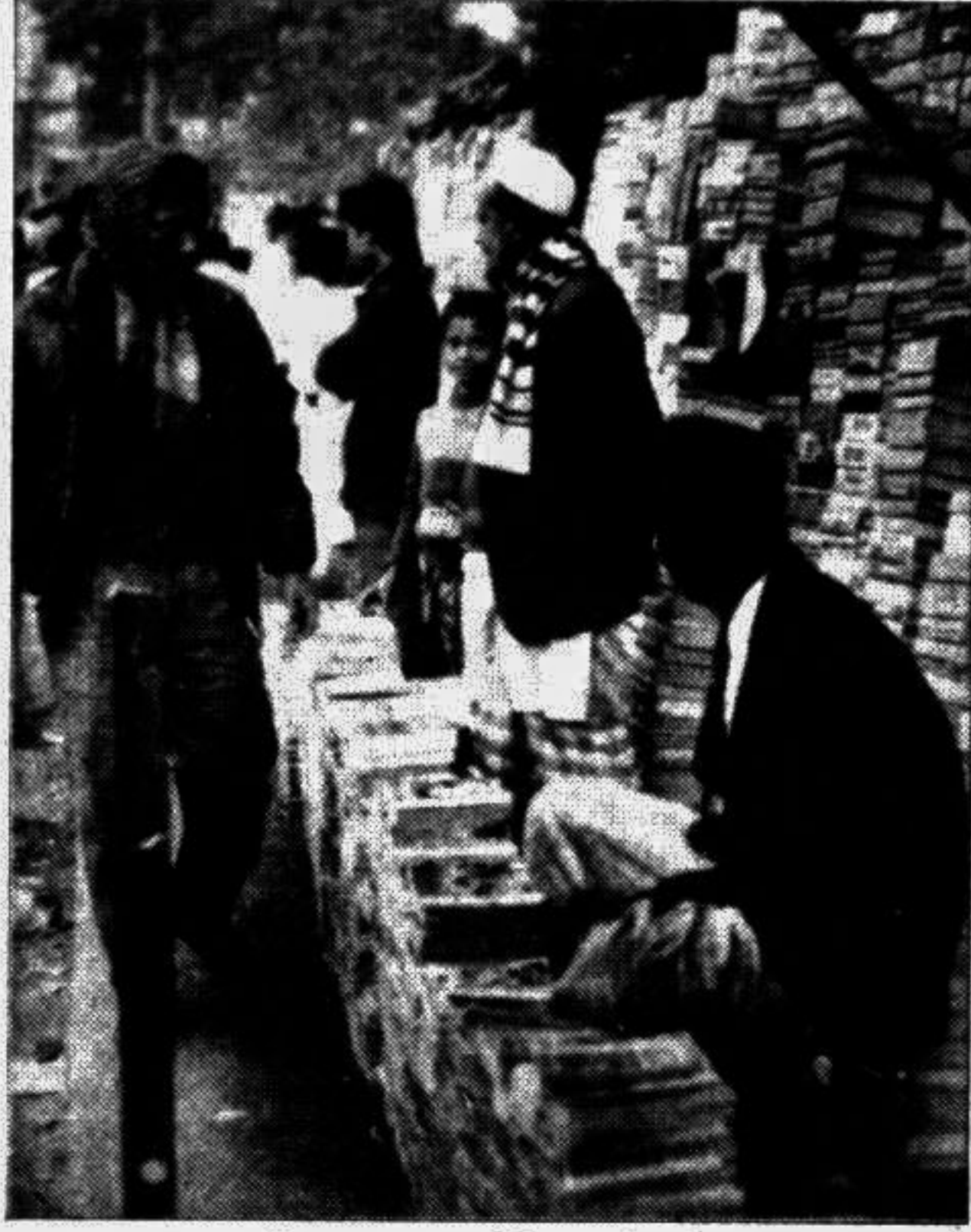
The Pavement Bazaar

by A K Nur-ud-Deen Ahmed

The pavement bazaar represents the age old characteristic phenomenon of an eastern market place. It is really a good rendezvous for sellers and buyers. The crowd, the hustle bustle and the cacophony are spices of life.

In this bazaar none is stranger. A passer-by can feel at home, though he is not a buyer. He can enjoy seeing merchandise and eventually can turn himself into a buyer.

The bazaar buzzes with life and laughter throughout the year, but winter is actually the best time for both buyers and sellers. In winter mornings, the market greets buyers with golden sunshine and ushers in the evening with warm sun rays. The monsoon is the worst time for the traders. With the hide and seek of rain and sun in the June and July sky, the bazaar on the pavement keeps pace by opening and noosing the bags of merchandise. But while the policeman pulls the invisible string the hawkers become dancing puppets, a cruel joke. But this is the reality. The pavement bazaar welcomes all with outstretched hands. No door, no bar, no screen. Everything is open here. Come here with an open mind — select, bargain and buy. You can buy almost everything here, from agri-



From vegetables to books

cultural products to a variety of industrial goods.

There are no hawkers in hawkers' market. The pavement market is the real hawkers' market. The hawkers' market is by name only. The so-called hawkers' market is owned by the rich business class. Incredible and misleading at the same time, yet it is the fact. No hawkers ever owned a shop in the much publicised hawkers' market.

Dhaka's pavement bazaars have grown up mainly around Gulistan, Bangabandhu Avenue, Nawabpur, Sadarghat, Motijheel Commercial area and New Market. The bazaar comprises traders of all sorts and even the services of so-called physicians, quacks and witch doctors are available here. Some vendors on balms, ointments and similar other patent medicine. Some has panacea that helps grow hair on arid bald head. The old and secondhand books and magazine shop sometime turns out to be gold mine to avid readers and con-

noisseurs. Since long we have been used to this bazaar. To some, it is a necessity and to some other it is a menace. But we can hardly do without it.

What's on today...

Seminar on climate change

A seminar on "climate change and global partnership" will be held at the Institution of Engineers in the city today (Thursday) at 4.30 pm. Jointly organised by the Centre for Environmental Studies and Research (CESR) and the IEB, the seminar will be attended by Abdullah Al Noman, State Minister for Environment and Forest. Prof M Shahjahan, Vice-Chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) will be the special guest on the occasion. Chief advisor of the CESR M Munir-uz-Zaman will chair.

Seminar on socialism

Bangladesher Sanyabadi Dal starts a two-day seminar on "socialism is the only way to emancipate the people of Bangladesh" at the Engineers Institution auditorium in the city today (Thursday). The seminar will be held everyday at 4 pm. The key-note paper on the topic will be presented on behalf of the Sanyabadi Dal. The discussants of the first day include: Amal Sen, Badruddin Omar, Ajoy Roy, Pankaj Bhattacharjee, Haider Akbar Khan Rono, Khalequzzaman Bhuiyan, Mojahidul Islam Selim, Prof Musa Ansari and Dr Serajul Islam Choudhury. The second day's discussants on the topic are Abdul Matin, Ali Abbas, Nuh Alam Lenin, Shafiqur Rahman Majumder, Protapuddin, Manjurul Ahsan Khan, Mamunur Rashid, Pijush Bandopadhyay.

Seminar on 'man and nature'

A seminar on "man and nature" will be held at the conference room of the National Sports Council, Purana Palton, in the city today (Thursday) at 5 pm. Organised by Kathak Academy, a socio-cultural organisation, the seminar will be followed by a cultural function. State Minister for Relief Lutfar Rahman Khan will attend the function as chief guest. Zhu Luchang, charge de Affairs of the Embassy of China in Bangladesh and Maj Gen Mahubur Rahman PSC, Chairman of the National Sports Council, will be the special guests on the occasion. Dr Anowar Hossain, ex-chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, will be in the chair.

Filmshow at the Goethe-institute

"The Cook the Thief His Wife and Her Lover" will be screened at the Goethe-Institute auditorium (23 Dhanmondi, Road No. 2) in the city today (Thursday) at 5.30 pm. Screening of the film takes place on the second day of a three-day film-festival organised by the Rainbow Film Society. Tomorrow's film on the same venue at the same time is "Soye Nadia Jage Pant" directed by Khan Ataur Rahman.

Nazrul's death anniversary

Nazrul Academy, the oldest academy for research on Nazrul in the country's private sector, starts today (Thursday) a two-day programme at the Shilpakala Academy in observance of the 15th death anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. On the first day today (at 5 pm) Dr Rafiqul Islam and Prof Abu Rashed will speak on the late rebel poet while Lutfar Rahman Sarker will be in the chair.

Rapport workshop on VAT system

Rapport Bangladesh Limited holds a senior and mis-management workshop on "Value Added Tax (VAT) system" at the Sonargaon Hotel today (Thursday) at 10 am. Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman will attend the inaugural session of the workshop as the chief guest. Nurul Husain Khan, Secretary, Internal Resource Division and Chairman, National Board of Revenue, will be the political guest on the occasion. Bangladesh Shilpa Bank Director AKA Firoz Noon will chair the inaugural session while chairman of the VAT cell of the NBR Shah Abdul Hannan will present the key-note paper on the topic. Rapport Managing Director M Mosharraf Hossain will also be present on the occasion.

Theatre's new drama

The opening show of theatre's new drama 'Dasher Manosh' will be held at the Guide House Auditorium at Baily Road in the city today (Thursday) at 7 in the evening. 'Dasher Manosh' (people of the country), directed by Abdullah Al Mamun, is the 24th production of the theatre, one of the leading group theatre of the country.

Lions Club meeting

The second regular monthly meeting for the month of August of Lions Club of Dhaka Golden will be held today (Thursday) at 6.30 pm at the Sundarban Hotel in the city. Members of the club have been requested to attend the meeting in time.

Samajbadi Dal founding anniversary

The 22nd founding anniversary of Sramik Krishak Samajbadi Dal will be held today (Thursday). On this occasion, party flag will be hoisted atop the party office in the city. A discussion meeting in celebration of day will be held at Narsingdi Town Hall in the afternoon.

IEB council meeting

The 27th meeting of Council of the Institute of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) will be held today (Thursday) at 5 pm at the council room of the IEB headquarters in the city. All members of the council have been requested to attend the meeting.

Rotarct Club of Dhaka North

The regular meeting of the Rotarct Club of Dhaka North will be held at the Hotel de Palace (5, Circular Road) today (Thursday) at 4.30 pm. Compiled by RA.

Weather

Thundershower likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain/thundershower with temporary gusty wind likely to occur at one or two places over Khulna and Chittagong Divisions and at many places over Rajshahi and Dhaka Divisions. Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country, according to Met office on Wednesday.

The sun sets on Thursday at 6.20 pm and rises on Friday at 5.39 am. The highest temperature of 34.4 degree Celsius was recorded at Sylhet and Srimangal and the lowest of 22.5 degree at Mymensingh.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Little change. Extended outlook for another five days: No appreciable change. The temperature and humidity of some cities and towns on Wednesday were:

Table with columns: Town/City, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (9 am, 6 pm). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Rangpur, Barisal, Srimangal, Jessore.



Ugandan High Commissioner in Bangladesh James Juuko paid a farewell call on Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at President's Secretariat on Wednesday.

'Communal amity depicted in Nazrul's writings'

Eminent educationist and litterateur Dr Ashraf Siddiqui said in Dhaka that there was no place of communalism in the works of Nazrul, reports BSS.

Tk 333.49 cr projects okayed

The Executive Committee of National Economic Council Wednesday approved four projects involving Tk 333.49 crore with a foreign exchange component of Tk 74.45 crore, reports UNB.

The approval was given at a meeting of the ECNEC held at the NEC Bhobon with Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman in the chair, said an official handout.

The approved projects include Gumti Project (Phase-II), Madhumati-Nabaganga Project (revised), additional facilities for Dhaka Zoological Garden and revised Technical Education Project. Besides, ECNEC extended upto June 1992 the implementation period of Population Development and Evaluation Unit.

Japanese economic team due tomorrow

A high level Japanese economic mission will visit Bangladesh from August 30 to September 3, reports BSS.

According to a press release of the Embassy of Japan, the purpose of the visit is to identify measures for further strengthening and improving trade and investment relations between Bangladesh and Japan.

The mission will be led by Kikuo Ikeda, former President and Counsellor of Nippon Koei Co. Ltd. and Masao Sawaki, Advisor to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry will be the deputy leader. The mission consists of 47 members including six government officials and 34 businessmen. Members of the mission will attend a conference of Bangladesh-Japan Economic Forum to be opened by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Monday (September 2). Prior to their departure Kikuo Ikeda, leader and Masao Sawaki, deputy leader of the mission are likely to hold a press conference September 3, at 10:00 am.

Rotary Club of Uttara

The 29th regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Uttara will be held today (Thursday) at 5.15 at 'Chilling Restaurant' at Uttara in the city.

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Table with columns: Location, Address, Contact Info. Rows include DHAKA, CHITTAGONG, KHULNA.