

Dhaka Day by Day

A Fresh Unfettered Vision of a Child

by Fayza Haq

Bulbon Osman, who is known as a creative writer, and is a lecturer in Sociology at the Institut of Fine Art has had a riveting exhibition of his pastels at the Goethe Institut. His colourful creations were a wonderful escape from the agonising problems of everyday life in Bangladesh. Each of his pieces was a poetic idyll. He saw everything with the fresh vision of a child and filled the world with happiness, music and warmth.

"As soon as you open a newspaper you are confronted with horrors. I don't want to hold up a mirror to this realism for the people to be depressed with. Life in Dhaka is surrounded with pain and suffering...

economic, political and social. There is no point in enhancing it. My paintings are an admitted escape from the problems and chaos in life," Osman commented.

The only piece of creation in his exhibition which had an element of discontent or disharmony was "Anger", in which he portrayed how the entire population of Bangladesh had been angry last winter against the then existing rule.

"Anger is something which is both good and bad. When you despise something evil it is recommendable but when you are angry with something good it is destructive. Take the case of Hamlet. His anger at the death of his father led to the useless killing of so many people. At the end of the scene the stage is littered with dead bodies," the artist commented.

"Composition C" was a joyful combination of vibrant blues, throbbing yellows and soothing carmine, along with dramatic indigo blue. They represented the dancing forms of the trees swaying with the breeze, of the paddy in the field moving with the wind. It was abstract but the inspiration was from reality. The artist is mostly inspired by Kandinsky.

"The Sailor's Ladder" had been a simplified creation. "Our Bangladeshis are not restricted to their homes, as you might sometimes imagine. The people from Chittagong, Barisal and Noakhali have travelled considerably to the Far Eastern countries like Singapore," Osman explained about his work. The piece was bursting with a joyous riot of colours. "There was an overwhelming use of green which tends to get reduced as you move away from Bangladesh to Bihar and Pakistan, for instance. Often the artists are shy to use green as it is a sharp colour but I enjoy it." The creation was imaginative and full of energy. The technique, seen in everyone of his work, was simple but effective.



The Anger. By Bulbon Osman

The image of a boat had been used in "Moyur Pankhi" Impressed by the myth of Chand Soudagor and Behula, and also keeping the Greek story of the Odysseus in the background, Osman created this picture with dancing lines. "The overall tendency of the Bangladeshi artist is to economise. Why shouldn't I explore colours — the world is full of colours. If God plays with colours and man is the representative of God, why should I hesitate to experiment with bold lines, swirls and vivid hues?" the artist asked without hesitation.

A mass of colours and forms was found in "Composition -D". This represented the good moods in man's life. The reds, yellows, and carmines showed the feelings of a person when

he receives a friendly, happy letter, or a good friend takes the trouble to come and visit him, Osman explained. "Your mood is just the opposite when you go visiting a friend and find a big padlock on his front door," the artist elaborated.

"Creep" brought in the French beans and morning glory to mind. "There was no tremendous philosophy behind it. I used simple colours as I wanted to use the theme of simplicity and I had also run out of colours," Osman commented.

In the coloured motif of "The Fish" the teacher cum painter used once again a child-like approach to the subject. "Every age has an approach. If I use realism it will be taking a step to the back. Folk, primitive and child art today have tremendous impact in the art world. Academically the grammar spoils the spontaneity of the artist. However, you cannot ignore grammar if you happen to be a career," he commented, summing up his work.

One remarked at how there was no sense of confusion in the surrealistic and Cubistic atmosphere of the artist. You did not get confused with his forms and figures and the message he wanted to convey. The square shapes, that often appeared in his works represented windows of our lives, with ladders and vines to suggest the theme of activity.

Osman enjoys giving his viewers a jolt with his colours and lines. Using pastel has given him the advantage that the shapes are sharply contoured, showing up the charm of each portion, without destroying the brilliance of another section. The artist remained preoccupied with the beauty and richness that life has to offer.

Osman, who is revered as a teacher, faces quite a few problems at his task. "When we teach the slides are limited. The projector is outdated. There is no proper projection room, to compound the lack of facilities. There are not enough books to go round for the students. Even current art magazines are limited," he claimed.

Body to probe criminal activities in JU formed

JU Correspondent

A 4-member Investigation Committee has been formed in Jahangirnagar University to trace out the reason of the criminal activities occurred on November 15, said a university press release.

Headed by the Provost of the Al-Beruni Hall the committee has been asked to find out the reasons of injuries Arshed Ali, received an Honours examinee of Physics Department.

Arshed Ali was assaulted by a group of students in the Al-Beruni Hall premises and was admitted in Bangladesh Paralysis Hospital with his left leg cut on Nov 15.

Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed formed the committee after discussion with the student leaders on Nov 23.

The other members of the committee are, the Warden of Al-Beruni Hall Swapan Kumar Dhar and House Tutors, Dr Elias Mollah and Dr Mir Md Akramujjaman.

Home Economics College classes resume today

Classes of the Class Eleven of Home Economics College will commence today (Monday), reports BSS.

A function was arranged Sunday to welcome the new students at the college auditorium. Principal of the college Siddiqi Khatun was present on the occasion.



Residents of Dholaikhal brought out a procession in city on Sunday in protest against the requisition of land and buildings and gheraoed the Dhaka City Corporation office.— Star photo

Biswas urges Saudi Arabia to invest more in Bangladesh

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Sunday urged the government and the brotherly people of Saudi Arabia to invest capital in setting up new industries in Bangladesh paving a new chapter of cooperation between the two countries, reports BSS.

The President said Bangladesh needed international help and assistance to achieve its goal of economic emancipation, employ its huge unemployed manpower and set up new industries.

Addressing as the Chief

guest a formal launching of a journal "eternal bonds of brotherhood", a publication of Bangladesh Saudi Arabia Brotherhood Society at a hotel in Dhaka on Sunday evening, the President said at the present democratic government was engaged in bringing about economic emancipation of the people and with that aim in view the country needed rapid industrialisation.

Terming Saudi Arabia as a "tested friend", the President said the people of Saudi Arabia had always captured a special

place in the hearts of Bangladesh people and the relations between the two countries would be ever lasting.

He referred to the generous help and assistance of the Saudi Arabia during natural calamities of Bangladesh and said the people of Bangladesh always remember these assistances with gratitude.

President Biswas mentioned that the friendship between the two countries had been strengthened after the recent visit of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In this context, he referred to the visit of the high-powered delegation of the Rabeta Alame-Islami and hoped that this visit would further strengthen our ties.

Presided over by Advocate Mujibur Rahman, President of the society, the function was addressed, among others, by the Saudi Ambassador in Dhaka Abdul Latif Al-Maimance, former Assistant Secretary General of the OIC Arshaduzzaman, Educationist Dr AKM Ayub Ali and Editor of the journal BH Haroon.

What's on today . . .

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will hold a press conference at its office, 10/B, Segun Bagicha, at 4 PM today (Monday). The leaders of the parishad will speak on "formation of Jatiya Mahila Sangstha" which will be attended by Begum Sufia Kamal, President of the organisation.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North

The 1098th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held today (Monday) at 5:30 PM at Sonargaon Hotel.

Today's programme is "know thy fellow Rotarians."

Rotary Club of Dhaka Central

The 382nd weekly regular general meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel at 1:30 PM today (Monday).

. . . and tomorrow

BARC confce

A two-day conference on "production and use of multinutrient fertilizers in Bangladesh" will begin at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) auditorium tomorrow (Monday).

The conference has been organized by BARC in collaboration with Bangladesh Agricultural Ministry, International Fertilizer Development Centre, USA, United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

About 250 delegates, experts and agricultural scientists from different national research institutes, Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation, non-government agencies, commercial banks, universities and IFDC will take part in the conference.

Weather

Dry weather to prevail

By Staff Correspondent

Met office forecast on Sunday that dry weather will prevail over the country during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Sunday.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period. The Sun sets in Dhaka on today (Monday) at 5:11 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 6:21 am.

Country's lowest 11.4 degree Celsius temperature was recorded on Sunday at Srimangal.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns were on Sunday:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	26.8	16.0	59	59
Chittagong	26.5	15.7	80	-
Rajshahi	27.5	15.0	63	92
Khulna	27.8	15.0	81	80
Barisal	27.5	14.2	81	78
Cox's Bazar	27.2	18.6	74	73
Srimangal	27.5	11.4	83	80
Mymensingh	-	14.6	78	-
Dinajpur	27.6	13.0	80	74



Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed inaugurating a three-day mela on the campus.

HERE and THERE

Jatiya Party

The Organising Secretary of Jatiya Party, Shah Md Abu Zafar in a statement on Sunday said the foodstock allocated for the Food for Works Programme is being misappropriated in the Madhukhali, Boalmari and Alifdanga upazilas.

He said only a small portion of the food is used for the real projects. He urged the government to investigate the pilferage and take actions.

BKSM

The President of Bangladesh Krishak Samik Mukti Andolon, Md Sadek and General Secretary, Advocate Fayez Ahmed in a statement on Sunday said the disinvestment of the mills and factories would render thousands of workers jobless.

They said the earlier divested mills also could not be kept operative. They demanded the withdrawal of the disinvestment decision. They also supported the blockade programme of the jute workers.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front on Sunday held a rally in front of Home Ministry demanding arrest of the terrorists on the

Monday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al Quran Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Reading from the Geeta
- 5.30 Cartoon: The Yearling
- 5.55 Reception in honour of the meritorious students of the Jessore Board
- 7.05 TV debate contest
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Programme on health
- 9.00 Buletin
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Film show: Hot Pursuit
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.45 Close down

ECNEC okays nine projects

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) Sunday approved nine projects, reports BSS.

This approval was given at the ECNEC meeting held in Dhaka with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman in the chair, according to an official hand-out.

The approved projects are: Dutch-Swedish Assisted Early Implementation Project (4th phase), North Ruppargj Water Preservation Project, Development of Parbatipur Fish Seed Production Hatchery and other fish seed farm of Dinajpur, Rural Development Project-10, Rural Housing Project, Transformation of Government Shishu Sadan to Shishu Paribar, Development of Solimpur Residential Area, North-South Gas Pipeline and Development and Evaluation of Gas Fields.

LORD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondoker Mosharaf Hossain Khan, Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan, among others, attended the meeting.

Dhaka Assoc in Norway to set up cyclone shelters

By Staff Correspondent Bangladesh Association in Bergen in Norway and Bergen Red Cross have jointly taken up a project to set up cyclone shelters in the cyclone-prone area of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Association has also handed over a cheque for one lakh kroner to Bergen Red Cross to create a fund for the purpose recently.

Five shelter centres will be set up under cyclone shelter project in five years which will accommodate 4000 people. It will also have water purification plants.

Dhaka University campus and recovery of illegal arms

The rally was addressed, among others, by Sunil Das, Rokonzaman and Ziaul Haq. The speakers regretted that the government could not take any action against the persons responsible for the recent killing on the campus.

Seminar on 'Education for All'

Speakers at a seminar on "Education for All" organised by National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh held at UNIC stressed the need for an increase in basic literacy through overall development of the country.

The seminar was addressed by Gias Kamal Chowdhury, Journalist, A M Zahiruddin Khan, Planning Minister, M Mustafizur Rahman, Education Secretary, Abdus Selim, Secretary of Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO and Mahubuddin Chowdhury, Secretary General of the Association.

Dholaikhal residents

The residents of Dholaikhal area on Sunday organised a rally in front of Gandaria Community Centre in protest against the acquisition of land and buildings in the area.

After the rally, the residents brought out a procession and handed over a memorandum to the Mayor of the Dhaka City Corporation, Mirza Abbas. The Mayor assured them of all possible help.

DU Degree exams date shifted

The Degree Pass and Subsidiary examinations of 1991 of the Dhaka University will now be held from January 30, 1992 instead of December 4, 1991, reports BSS.

According to a university press release detailed timetable of the examinations will be announced in due course.

GOOD NEWS FOR WEIGHT WATCHERS



CANDERE!

— a low calorie sweetener

TO STAY IN GOOD SHAPE, YOU PROBABLY STAY AWAY FROM HIGH-CALORIE FOOD. BUT WITHOUT REALISING IT YOU COULD BE SPOILING IT ALL WITH THE SUGAR IN YOUR TEA, COFFEE AND OTHER SWEET DISHES.

WITH CANDERE!, YOU CAN CUT OUT SUGAR... WITHOUT CUTTING OUT THE TASTE.

FOR EXAMPLE IF YOU DRINK FIVE CUPS OF TEA OR COFFEE A DAY, EACH WITH TWO TEASPOONFUL OF SUGAR, YOU ARE CONSUMING MORE THAN 1800 CALORIES A WEEK ON SUGAR ALONE.

CANDERE! IS A LOW CALORIE SUGAR SUBSTITUTE USED BY WEIGHT WATCHERS AND HEALTH CONSCIOUS PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

IT CAN BE ADDED TO TEA, COFFEE, CEREAL, DRINKS & DESSERTS TO GIVE YOU THE REAL SUGAR TASTE MINUS THE CALORIES.

Saccharin free



A healthy part of modern living

It's new just for you

The Daily Star is pleased to introduce a new column where individuals and organisations can publish Birthday and Anniversary Greetings, Congratulatory and Condolence Messages, Get-Well/Good-Luck Wishes, Birth/Death Announcements, In Memoriam, etc. at nominal charges.

For booking details, please contact: Advertisement Manager Phone: 246023-4, 863035

Reliance is not just a Name. You can come and see for yourself.



Reliance has proved that it is not just another Insurance Company. Reliance is here to meet the needs of a changing world. Our strong back-up of human resources, in-depth market know-how and wealth of experience give us the strength to provide the security for all your general insurance needs.



EXPERIENCE * STRENGTH * SECURITY

RELIANCE INSURANCE LIMITED

BSB BUILDING, 8 RAJUK AVENUE DHAKA-1000, BANGLADESH Phone: PABX - 240105-8, 235080 Telex: 671186 RL BJ