

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Of Rickshaw Chains and Spoons

by Ekramul Kabir & Fayza Haq

A solo painting exhibition of Mrinal Haq was held at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Speaking to 'The Daily Star' he expressed his feelings about art, his techniques, and revealed the various problems of the artists in Bangladesh. The eye-catching aspects of Mrinal's works were his unusual materials as automobile spares, clay and metals.

Except for one or two experimental works, he tried to portray Bangladesh. In these pieces he chastised the greedy individuals, autocrats, and the 'Razakars', who were against our War of Independence. In this context, he was asked about a figure of 'Suk-kum Ali'. Mrinal explained it to be the emblem of 'Razakars'. With symbolism he portrayed the mass killing of women, artists, intellectuals and litterateurs during the March nights of 1971.

There was the depiction of hunger-stricken Bangladesh, the hardship and struggle of slimy rickshaw-pullers and trolley workers in the pieces like 'Crucifixion of Steel City'. 'Life in Iron City' was also praise-worthy in which he used worn-out automobile parts, welded and rusted chains.

There were experimental pieces also. Spoons and forks were used in a girl's portrait. This using of spoons as a media here was unusual. In 'My Table' where he illustrated his memories of student life, the piece was made of clay.

When he was asked to explain his intention to use clay in a painting, he said enthusiastically that he tried to show how many things can be done with that particular media. He also depicted the natural way of life. Of the common people, placing a farmer and his wife in the backdrop of the village in another piece. In 'Silent Beauty' and 'Hair Dressing', Mrinal tried to express the beauty of common Bangladeshi girls and their life-style.

The artist's craving for democracy was noticed in 'Leave Us Alone'. While giving his point of view about autocracy, he brought in historical contexts. He revealed the nature of oppression in the context of Pakistan and Bangladesh. The darker sides of life were

shown in 'Extravagant Life', 'Prosecution of Women' and 'Unquiet Family'. In these, he ridiculed the society for belittling women. His focus was upon the problems of everyday family affairs and the frivolous money-spending. He worked with Plaster of Paris and actual scythes.

At one point, Mrinal spoke of his involvement in politics. He had started politics when he was in school and that was the reason why he had given up his aim to be an engineer. He became an active politician after his entrance at the College of Arts.

When he was asked if he had completed the course at the College of Arts, he replied that he graduated but did not complete his M.A. In this regard, he added that he was a free-lance artist. This exhibition was his fourth one. His first display was held in 1985 at Dhaka Art College.

Speaking about his favourite artists, he named Michelangelo, Zainul Abedin and Hassan - an Indian artist.

While sorting out the problems of an artist, he mentioned the scarcity of galleries and financial solvency. He thought one could produce good works if one had enough money. He did not consider material problem as a real barrier because he could work with anything, and could find the materials easily.

He even worked with a bark of a tree. Mrinal did plenty of mural works at various places in the city for instance, at the entrance of the airport, in the VIP lounge, in the BDR campus and at Motijheel.

Speaking to 'The Daily Star' he said that he had high hopes about the young artists. But he was suspicious that the senior artists were not evaluating the younger ones correctly. In this context he mentioned the competition on the Liberation War Movement at the Rajshahi University where the young artists had been rejected.

Mrinal is a promising artist who works with inspiration and gets the onlooker's attention with his optimistic insight.



A painting by Mrinal Haq

### BCS Information Assoc polls held

Fariduddin Ahmed and Abul Hashem Muhammad Abdullah were elected President and General Secretary respectively of the Executive Committee of BCS Information Association, reports BSS.

Jalibur Rahman and Kamalur Rahman Bhuiyan were elected Vice-Presidents while Helaluddin Ahmed and Bijon Lal Debe were elected Joint-General Secretaries.

The other office-bearers are: Muhammad Abdul Mannan-Treasurer, Mahammad Abu Abdullah-Organising and Inter Service Secretary, Hosne Ara Akhter-Office Secretary, Mustafizur Rahman-Publicity, Publication and Training Secretary and Muhammad Akhtaruzzaman and Cultural Secretary.

### Contribution of Mozammel Montu recalled

Participants in a discussion on the life and works of acting news editor of the Sangbad Mozammel Hossain Montu on Tuesday demanded of the government to arrest and give appropriate punishment to the driver of the truck which had crushed the noted journalist, reports BSS.

Organised by the Munshiganj district unit of Sam-milita Sanskriti Jote, the discussion, marking the second death anniversary of Montu was held at Harandralal Public Library premises in Munshiganj.

Presided over by the chairman of Munshiganj Pourashaba Mr Khalequzzaman Khoka, the discussion was addressed, among others, by chairman of the now defunct Munshiganj Sadar upazila.

### 'Killers of Mujib out to undo independence'

Veteran freedom fighter Kader Siddiqui said the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were moving freely and making conspiracy to undo the hard earned independence of the country, reports BSS.

He urged the government of Begum Khaleda Zia to repeal the Indemnity Ordinance to pave the way for the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He also urged the government to write authentic history on the War of Liberation for the guidance of the generation of tomorrow.

The future generation would be confused and misinformed unless a true history is written based on facts on the War of Independence, he added.

He was speaking at a reception accorded to him by Kader Siddiqui reception committee at DIT Market BB Road in Narayanganj on Friday.

Presided over by Abdul Kader, convenor of the reception committee, the function was addressed, among others, by Nazimuddin Mahmud, former chairman, Narayanganj Pourashaba, Ofizul Islam, President Narayanganj city unit of Bangladesh Awami League, Ashrafuddin Ahmed Chunnun, former national footballer, and Rehan Uddin Rehan, President Adamjee CRA.

Mr Siddiqui recalled his struggle during the days of the War of Liberation and said he felt sad for losing many of his co-freedom fighters in those days.

He paid tributes to Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman for his glorious contribution in the Liberation War and said the nation will remember his contributions for ever.

### Noujansramik strike postponed

Bangladesh Noujansramik Federation has postponed its proposed country-wide strike scheduled for today, according to a press release signed by secretary general of the federation Protapuddin Ahmed here on Friday, reports BSS.

The decision of the postponement of the strike was unanimously taken at a meeting of the delegates of the federation from Dhaka, Narayanganj, Barisal, Khulna, Mongla, Ashuganj and Chittagong, the press release added.

### Bhasani Award for Nasreen Noyeem

Nasreen Noyeem, a prominent poet, has got Maulana Bhasani Gold Award of 1990 for poetry, reports BSS.

The award was handed over to her by Bangladesh Krishi Sangsad at a function at the Soviet Cultural Centre in Dhaka yesterday evening.

Nasreen, who is a senior teacher in Viharunnessa Noon School, also got Parabar Shahitya Purushkar and Bikash Shahitya Purushkar earlier for poetry.

### Press Appellate Board constituted

The government has constituted the Press Appellate Board with Press Council Chairman Justice Ruhul Islam as the Chairman, according to Bangladesh Gazettee published on December 5, reports BSS.

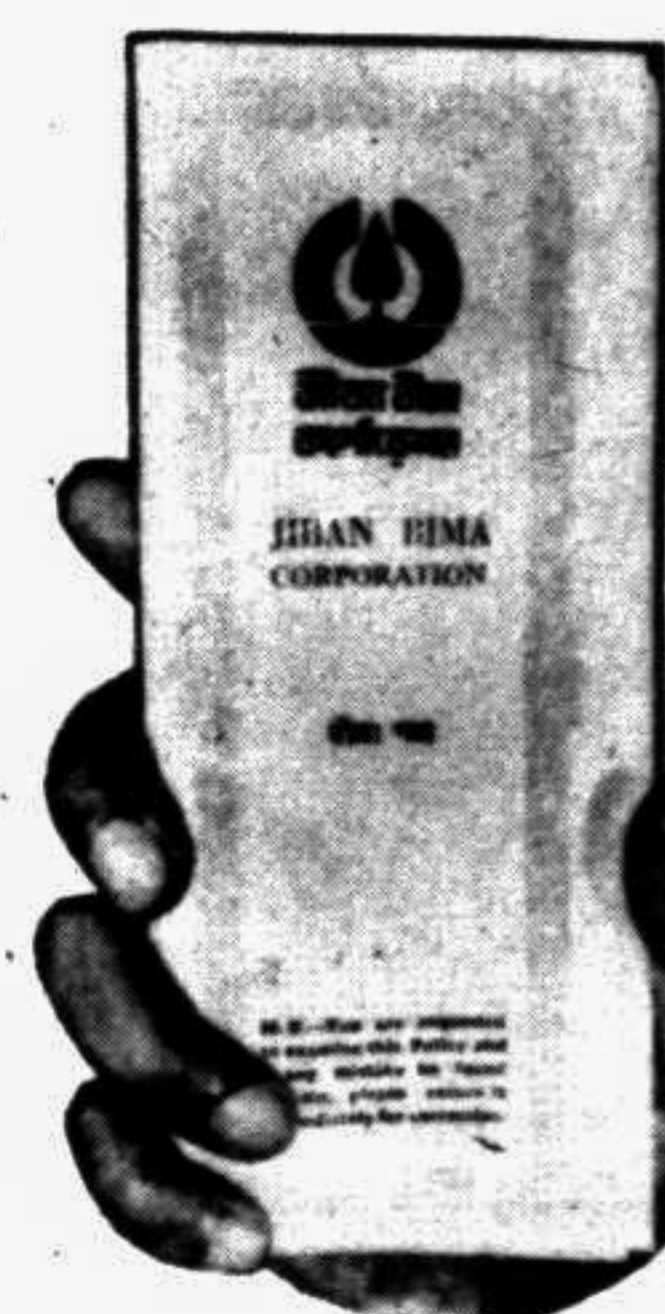
### For Sale

Prime land in main Kakrail Road (Approx 2 Bigha) with house for sale. Good commercial prospects. Please phone 607720 strictly between 10-12 AM and 6-8 PM.

### 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



### আজই একটি জীবন বীমা পলিসি নিন

আপনার পলিসি তামাদি হয়ে গেলে তা আবার চালু করার সুযোগ নিন।

আপনার পলিসির কোন সমস্যা থাকলে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।



### জীবন বীমা কোম্পানি

একমাত্র রাষ্ট্রীয় জীবন বীমা প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধান কার্যালয় ২৪, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা।

DFP (BA) 10014-10/12

## 'Privileged secrecy' obstructs legislative reporting

By Staff Correspondent

The difficulty of access to more information against the privileged secrecy of the government is one of the major challenges for the South Asian journalists in bringing the parliament closer to the people.

This was identified at a workshop on legislative reporting of a group of South Asian pressmen, that concluded in Dhaka on Wednesday.

The five-day workshop in its deliberations also found a number of challenges for the newsmen in the print media. These include difficulty in conveying points with clarity by the new breed of parliamentarians, which put the reporters in trouble to bring in the real essence of the parliamentarians' words to the readers and to make legislative reporting interesting and meaningful.

The constraints, as found in the workshop, were: news on committee reports and proceedings were not given to the press, translators and scribes

are either non-existent or insufficient in parliaments of the South Asian countries and politicians shift their positions frequently etc.

The workshop was organised jointly by the Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre, Singapore and the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Dhaka University, at the Hotel Purbani International.

In its recommendations, the workshop viewed that the proceedings of the parliament should be broadcast live, a gist of recommendations should be made available to the press in the public interest before placing the committee reports in the house, the 'selected leak' of the committee deliberations should be avoided, the functioning of the parliamentary committees should be democratized and copies of the rules and proceedings should be made available to the press, the committee deliberations should be open not only to the print media but

also to the electronic media, the parliament secretariat should be provided full power to issue accreditation to the press the speaker or the chairman should set up an accreditation committee, comprising the media people to decide matters related to accreditation and the consultative committees of MPs attached to particular ministry should give officials briefings to the newsmen to help the readers, viewers and listeners identify the source.

The workshop also considered three areas of legislative reporting for the South Asian countries' journalists to be of importance needing immediate attention in the interest of raising levels of development towards attaining a democratic system. The areas were: (1) opportunities, challenges and constraints of legislative reporting, (2) interest groups and extra-legislative bodies in legislative process and (3) state of access to more information against privileged secrecy.

### Noman leaves for Delhi

Livestock and Environment, Forest Abdullah Al-Noman left Dhaka yesterday for New Delhi to attend AI India Environment Congress at the invitation of the Indian Institute of Ecology and Environment, reports BSS.

The two-day environment congress will start today at the India International Centre in New Delhi. The theme of the congress this year is one earth one future: Own changing global environment.

India is our nearest neighbouring country and there are common causes of environmental pollution in both the countries. On the other hand both the countries can also undertake joint effort to preserve environmental balance in this region.

In the backdrop of the world environment conference to be held next year in Brazil, New Delhi Environment Congress is very significant to highlight the problems of this region in that conference.

### Training course on development concludes

An 18-day training course for socio-economic development in Ansar VDP development village ended at Shafipur under Gazipur, Thursday, reports UNB.

The course was designed to provide the indigents of the village with the scientific knowledge of poultry rearing, animal husbandry, fish cultivation, tree plantation, family planning, mass education and maintaining law and order in the society.

Addressing the concluding session of the course as chief guest, Deputy Director of Ansar and VDP Ruhul Amin urged the trainees to apply their newly acquired knowledge in their personal life to attain self-sufficiency.

They invested Tk 19,200 as capital to run their cooperative society by saving from their daily allowance of Tk 300. This capital was disbursed among 10 co-operators to run small-scale trade.

### TV Saturday Morning session

- 8.45 Opening announcement, Al Quran, Programme summary
- 9.00 Live telecast of inaugural programme of 6th SAARC summit from Colombo
- 1.30 Closing
- Evening session
- 4.15 Opening announcement, Al Quran, Programme summary
- 4.30 Live telecast of 6th SAARC summit concluding programme from Colombo
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.35 Sports World
- 6.00 Documentary programme
- 6.30 Life and Technology
- 7.05 Barashari (Folk songs)
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 9.00 Ujjiban
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama series: Dallas
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Sunday's programme
- 11.45 Closing.

## Artistes' role in War of Liberation lauded

The LGRD and Cooperative Minister, Abdus Salam Talukder Friday said the nation would always preserve the memory of the contributions made by our patriotic artists and intellectuals in the historic War of Liberation, reports BSS.

He was speaking at a prize giving ceremony organised on the occasion of the Victory Day '91, by Rupashi Bangla Sangeet Academy in Dhaka.

A reception was also accorded to the artistes of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra on the occasion.

Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mirza Abbas also spoke on the occasion.

Salam Talukder said the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra played a very significant role in generating a patriotic fervour among the freedom fighters and the freedom-loving people during the War of Independence.

He said the messages the Betar Kendra disseminated during the War of Liberation greatly inspired the people to resist the occupation force.

The Minister said the role played by our patriotic artists during the Liberation War would always be regarded as one of the most glorious parts

of our history.

Later, the minister distributed prizes among the winners of the cultural competition and handed over trophies to the artistes of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra.

### Sawab Mahfil

An elaborate programme has been chalked out for holding the 26th Isaleq Sawab Mahfil on the occasion of the 26th death anniversary of Hazrat Maulana Sayed Mohammad Taher Ahmed Jabri Almadani (IRA), reports BSS.

The three-day Mahfil will begin on December 26 at Haiderganj Eidgah Maidan under Raipur thana of Lakkhipur district, a press release of the Isaleq Sawab Mahfil Committee said is Dhaka yesterday. National and international Islamic thinkers, Mufassser-e-Quran and other religious leaders are expected to address the Mahfil.

The programme includes Quran Khwani, Khatme Khajegan, hamd and Na'at competition, Waz, Zikr, Munajat, Darsul Quran and Akheri Munajat on the concluding day.

### One killed in road mishap

One person was killed when a speeding minibus hit him from behind at Bhavanipur bazar bus stand near Joydebpur on Friday, reports UNB.

The victim, Rafiqul Islam, 30, was knocked down by a Dhaka bound minibus from Mymensingh when he was standing at the local bus stand Friday afternoon.

He was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Rafiqul, a farmer, hailed from Bhavanipur village of Gazipur district.

His body was sent to morgue for autopsy.

### Body recovered

By Staff Correspondent

Police Friday recovered body of an unidentified old man from a passengers' shed near Ananda Cinema Hall at Farmgate in the city.

Police said some people informed them about the body. Later they recovered the body at about 4 pm. The man was about 70.

Several hawkers told police that they saw the man coming under the shed to take repose in the morning.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

An unnatural death (UD) case has been registered with Tejgaon police.

### Weather

### Night temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Rajshahi experienced the season's lowest 9 degree Celsius temperature on Friday, Meteorological source said.

Met office forecast dry weather across the country during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Friday.

Night temperature may fall by one to two degree Celsius during the period.

Sunset at Dhaka on Saturday at 5-16 pm and sunrise Sunday at 6-38 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	26.5	13.5	85	60
Chittagong	27.2	15.1	85	62
Khulna	26.7	11.6	94	68
Rajshahi	25.6	9.0	82	79
Barisal	26.5	11.0	94	85
Srimangal	25.6	9.6	85	77
Cox's Bazar	28.2	15.8	73	61
Mymensingh	26.8	13.4	79	69
Dinajpur	25.6	11.0	85	74

### NYK LINE

### NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

This is to advise that M.V. 'OCEAN BRAVE' VOY-6A is expected to arrive at Chittagong on or about 01-01-92 carrying cargoes with Vehicles from Japanese Ports.

Consignees are requested to arrange clearance of their consignments as soon as possible after discharge. It is advised that Consignments not cleared within 45 days from the date of arrival of the vessel are liable to be sold in auction by Customs Authority without any reference to the Consignees.

For: JAMES FINLAY P.L.C.

AS AGENTS.

NYK LINE, TOKYO, JAPAN

FINLAY HOUSE 15, BRISTOL GARDENS P.O. BOX 118 CHITTAGONG TEL: 60001-46, 60000-1 TELEX: 60011 FAX: (001) 22007	15, BRISTOL GARDENS P.O. BOX 118 CHITTAGONG TEL: 60001-46, 60000-1 TELEX: 60011 FAX: (001) 22007	15, BRISTOL GARDENS P.O. BOX 118 CHITTAGONG TEL: 60001-46, 60000-1 TELEX: 60011 FAX: (001) 22007
---	---	---