

Dhaka Day by Day

Of Birds and Buxom Women

by Fayza Haq

Hashim Khan, in his solo exhibition at the Shilpakala Academy, had delineated birds in various forms, symbolising man in chains and the liberated individual. In the expressions of the birds he depicted tension in everyday life of mankind. While he brought in oppression, agony and dire need in some of sketches, he also showed outright the story of the toiling man, in his paintings with the rickshaws and baby-taxis.

The first entree was a delectable figure of a woman in pristine white, with her anatomy displayed with dexterity. There were white birds in a same-cubistic manner in the backdrop. Figures of women and men were included in black, green and white. Trees with russet leaves were in the forefront. There was scintillating scarlet above the women's figure to add to the charm and harmony of the composition.

In the second piece there was the cubistic image of a man holding up a disc, representing his dire poverty. The world he lived in was shown with bold, dramatic strokes at the side. The green of Bangladesh was brought in with mystical maroon. Although semi-abstract, using dark strokes, yet the creation was pleasing to the eye and remained decorative.

There was a conglomeration of figures in the third entree, and they could have symbolised anything ranging from the marching in the streets to our problem of overpopulation. While the feet were massive, the hands were lean. The eyes carried the impact of Qamrul Hassan. There were more figures in idyllic blue and white at the top to represent the need of peace and harmony in the world.

Figures of bicycles and scooters were found in graceful harmony in another painting rainbow colours were brought in. In the forefront, almost mingling with the backdrop was the seductive figure of a woman carrying a jar of water. Her face, bosom and hips were delineated in a delectable manner. Even in a theme of pain and toil, the careful book illustrator's vision was clear.

Flowers, birds and figures of women were combined in the fifth piece and they were combined in exotic harmony. The blue and green were combined with brilliant yellow to depict the simple joys of life.

Birds were shown in the eleventh piece, done in pink, with flecks of yellow, touched up with brown in the eleventh piece. The subtle strokes showed the vigour of the birds and the excitement of their love making. The addition

of the black and brown played up the ping-pong. The impressionistic work was done with quick and bold lines.

One found delineation of birds once again in the 12th, 13th and 14th entrees. The foliage was brought in too. There were more application of colours such as blue, green, pink and many more vibrant dark strokes were included. The vitality in the lines and the combination of the colours, although done in quickly, created a picture of harmony. There was more of the green and details in the plumage and the foliage in the 12th and 14th entrees. Apart from telling a simple story of the everyday existence and the turmoil to feed and shelter the young ones, there was harmony in the story of constant struggle.

Birds were seen yet again in the 15th piece. Here vibrant and scintillating cobalt blue, yellow and orange had been used. It was commendable indeed how the same theme had been repeated and yet no monotony had crept in the presentation.

There were more exotic birds in cages, some fluttering their plumage, others sitting somewhat calmly. Varied scintillating

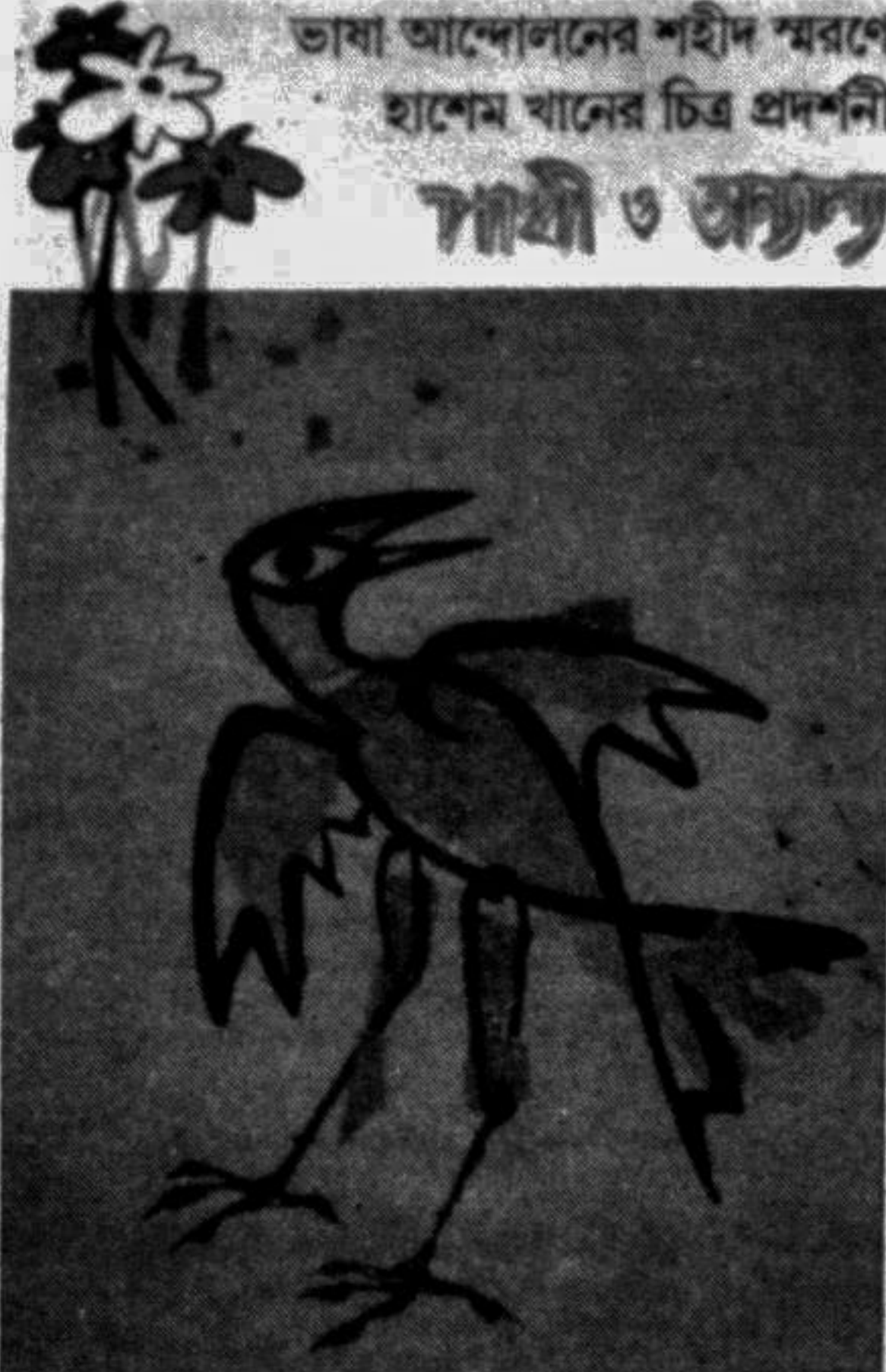
colours had been employed and yet it was more than exotic. It was throbbing with life even if one ignored that the birds symbolised mankind in pain.

A warm and mellow depiction of a woman with seductive bosoms, attractive derriere and sensuous arms as well as an idyllic North Indian type face was shown in the 18th entree. Swirls of black tresses and white lilies in the hand completed the delightful portrayal. The green in the backdrop and the soft mauve in the forefront completed the creation.

Hashim Khan has represented children's book illustrators in Tokyo and has taken part in another such occasion at Czechoslovakia. He has conducted two workshops on book illustrations.

He has won the award for the best book cover illustration by the National Book Centre of Bangladesh 12 times. He got a prize in Leipzig for his illustration and was awarded a gold medal from the Chandpur Foundation in '88.

A collection of his paintings are there at the Shilpakala Academy, as well as abroad. Born in '41 in Chandpur, Hashim Khan is the Head of the Department of Oriental Art Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. He has participated in 20 national and group exhibitions.



Passing out parade of BAF held

The passing out parade of a batch of MODC recruits of Bangladesh Air Force was held at BAF Base Bashur in Dhaka Thursday morning, reports BSS.

Air officer commanding of BAF Base Bashur Air Commodore Rashid Ahmed was present on the occasion as the chief guest.

He reviewed the smartly turned out parade and took salute at the impressive march past. He also distributed trophies and certificates among the outstanding MODC recruits.

Addressing the newly passed out MODC personnel Air Commodore Rashid asked them to discharge their duties with utmost sincerity, honesty and discipline.

Among the new recruits M Zainal Abedin was adjudged the best all-round while Md Abdul Quddus and Md Ebadul Haque were awarded for their feat in military training and academic performance respectively.

JS body discusses environmental problems

The second meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Environment and Forests was held at Sangsad Bhaban Thursday, reports UNB.

Minister for Environment, Forests, Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman presided over the meeting.

The meeting discussed at length various environmental problems facing the country and different measures taken up by the government to combat environmental degradation.

Members of the parliament Dipankar Talukder, Begum Bani Ashraf, Shaik Haroon Rashid Mia, Maksud ibne Aziz, Satish Chandra Roy and Additional Secretary in Charge of the Ministry of Environment and Forests Abdur Rashid and heads of different departments were present in the meeting.

The country's role in highlighting the environmental problems of the developing countries at different regional and international fora also came up in the discussion.

The meeting also discussed the preparatory measures of Bangladesh to attend the earth summit on environment scheduled to be held in Brazil in next June.

Bank dacoity in Khulna

KHULNA, Feb 27: A gang of 20 dacoits stormed the Janata Bank, Shalua Bazar branch, 20 kms from here and looted two double barrel guns, Tk 1200 prize bonds and Tk 400 cash Wednesday night, reports UNB.

According to police, the dacoits tied the unarmed bank guard Zakir, threw him outside the bank premises, broke the strong room and decamped with the booty including 24 cartridges.

DU Geography Deptt Alumni AGM Mar 1

The annual general meeting of Dhaka University Geography Department Alumni Association will be held on March 1, reports BSS.

All intending members of the association have been requested to contact either Prof Nazrul Islam or Borhanuddin of Geography Department on or before February 29.

Friday Morning Session

- 8.00 Opening announcement
- 8.05 Al-Quran
- 8.10 Programme summary
- 8.15 News in Bangla
- 8.15 Amra Natun
- 8.45 Cartoon Film: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle
- 9.10 Asher Pasher Manush: Documentary
- 9.30 Film: The Spectacular World of Guinness Records
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.15 Moner Mukurey
- 11.15 Popular film programme
- 12.05 Closing

Evening Session

- 3.00 Opening announcement
- 3.15 Al-Quran
- 3.15 Programme summary
- 3.15 Recitation from the Tripitak
- 3.20 Alore Dishary: Religious programme
- 3.40 Movie of the week
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.30 Sports programme
- 6.45 Shikshangon: Educational programme
- 7.05 Maloncha: Songs programme
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.40 Drama of the week
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Film: L A Law
- 11.30 Khabar/ The News
- 11.40 Saturday's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing

Civil Defence, Fire Service Week ends

Students to be acquainted with mode of modern fire service

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury Thursday called for nationwide launching of training on fire service and civil defence to the students of educational institutions to promote voluntary social service among the masses, reports BSS.

He was speaking at the concluding function of the Fire Service and Civil Defence week at Narayanganj at Gymkhana playground.

Home Secretary Lutfullah Majid, Director General Fire Service and Civil Defence Brigadier Nurul Islam Lashkar, Abul Kalam MP, Rezaul Karim

MP, Habibur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner, were among those present on the occasion.

A strong contingent of one hundred fire brigade personnel and civil defence wardens demonstrated various feats, including the fire extinguishing training, sheltering on the ground during bombing in times of war, rescuing trapped persons from multistoried buildings, saving lives and properties during natural calamities, etc.

Modern fire fighting equipment were demonstrated and received huge ovation

from over fifty thousand spectators.

"Our people in general and the students in particular must be well acquainted with the mode of modern fire service and civil defence to save their lives in times of danger", the minister said.

Chowdhury urged the civil defence wardens to spread over the country to impart training to serve the society for the good of the nation.

Earlier, the minister took the salute of the parade of the fire brigade and civil defence wardens.

Iranian Red Crescent gives Tk 10 lakh to BDRCS

The President of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr Wahid Dastjerdi, Thursday donated Taka 10 lakh to the refugee relief fund of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), reports BSS.

A cheque worth the amount was handed over by Dr Wahid Dastjerdi to the Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Syed Shahidul Haq Jamal, at a function in the Iranian Embassy premises.

In a brief speech Dr Dastjerdi, who visited the Myanmar Muslim refugee camps in Cox's Bazar Wednesday, assured the BDRCS of further assistance for

the relief operation of the BDRCS.

The Chairman of the BDRCS thanked his Iranian counterpart for his generous attitude towards the distressed Muslim brethren of Myanmar, a BDRCS source said.

The source said that the chief of the Asia Pacific region of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Jerry Talbot Thursday called on the Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf. They discussed the health and hygienic problems in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts.

'Govt officials custodians of public fund'

Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Tariqul Islam called upon officials of social services to work with firm determination for ensuring a habitable homeland for the posterity, reports BSS.

He was addressing conference of Bangladesh Social Services Officers' Association in the capital Thursday. Director-General of the Social Services Department MA Bari, and President of the Association Mohammad Afazuddin Khan also spoke on the occasion.

The minister stressed that field-level officials should perform their duties with a humanitarian spirit. He said, orphans, physically and mentally

retarded children, destitute and less-fortunate people have been getting benefits from the Social Services Department.

Describing the government officials as custodians of the public fund, exemplary punishment would be given to those who misuse public money.

He also urged the field officials to acquire positive mentality while working at any station for the greater interest of the public.

Islam assured that the present government will consider the genuine problems of the public servants within resource constraints of the country.

Khaleda opens seminar on regional cooperation today

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate an international seminar on 'New Imperatives for Regional Cooperation in South Asia' today.

Organised by Bangladesh Peace Council in association with the World Peace Council, Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina and president of World Peace Council Romesh Chandra will also attend the inaugural session as special guests.

The inaugural session of the three-day seminar will be held at the National Museum auditorium beginning at 5pm.

Delegates from the South Asian region will attend the seminar.

Eminent personalities from abroad to attend the seminar include R Stewart and Shadan Mukherjee of the World Peace Council, Professor Vijay Gupta, Professor KN Varshney.

Happy Birthday



From: Totto, Maa, Baba, Daddamoni, Naan.



QUL KHWANI

Qul Khwani of Late Syed Shamsul Huda former Managing Director, Eastern Refinery & Former President, Bangladesh Cricket Control Board will be held after Asar prayer on Friday, the 28th of February, 1992 at his residence 15/A, Bakshi Bazar Road. All his friends, relatives & well wishers are requested to attend & pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Mrs. S. S. Huda Son & daughters.

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PDF rally condemns govt silence on Golam Azam issue

By Staff Correspondent

Various political parties continued their demonstrations till Thursday demanding expulsion of Golam Azam, Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami from the country.

Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) at a rally Thursday at the Purana Paltan crossing strongly condemned the silence of the government on the Golam Azam issue.

The rally alleged that the government of Bangladesh were sheltering Golam Azam since 1978 to serve their unholy political interests. The situation might not be allowed

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