

Dhaka Day by Day

A Message of Love Through Gestures

by Fayza Haq

Jean Claude Mourlevat, who performed at the Shilpakala Academy and the Alliance Francaise, turned to his career as a clown as he liked the theatre but was neither a musician nor a dancer. "In Europe many comics express themselves beautifully. I wanted to create something without words. Something that, involves a lot of emotion. A dumb person can explain a lot without words."

Jean Claude explained, "I am a clown. I don't speak but I use a lot of accessories like three wooden boxes which are converted into a boat, plane, train and bed. I use background music too and different kinds of light."

Said the professional clown, "Many people think that a clown is for children only, but adults enjoy the lighter side of life too. I was myself inspired by Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. Kafka's writing influenced me too. I create the themes myself. I take the ideas from literature, movies, contemporary music and everyday life. In Europe to-day the circus is diminishing. In the entertainment world in France I believe that many of the actors speak too much. They get easy laughter from the audience in that manner."

Does he have an easy living as a clown? "Many actors in France have no demand. They must wait at home for a telephone call from their agents. 80% of them lead undependable lives and few have a steady income. Many people think that being a clown is only a side job. To find ideas to make people laugh is not easy at all. At 36, I have been a clown for eight years. Before that I taught German for eight years in Normandy. I was bored with the routine as a teacher when I



Jean Claude Mourlevat—the clown that brings new hope

took up my career as a clown."

"In normal life I'm not what you call a jovial person. But I want to create a situation to make people laugh. It is like writing a story. I invent situations. But I do not believe that I am the best person for performing it. Yet I'm confident of the sequences that I create. My objective is not that people should only laugh. I want to express some deep emotion and create something aesthetically beautiful. I try to explain what a human being is — his fragilities. In normal life we want to hide our weakness. We present ourselves as tough. As a clown I express the weakness in man's characters. This causes amusement and I enjoy the entertainment that ensues. Yet I want to give the audience more than a spell of laughter. I wish to convey a deeper message about the realities of life."

The clown La Guedouille, in "Parlez-mot d'Amour" that he portrays in his performance, is alone. One day he receives a love letter from somewhere, and makes the most desperate efforts to meet this lady. He goes on foot, by car, train, plane and even by a horse. After an exhausting search he returns home without finding her. He then receives a second letter requesting him to go in search of her again. This performance lasts for 70 minutes. The sound and light is very important for effective performance. For this his colleague, Pascal Essertel is responsible.

Jean Claude, who travelled through Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and Germany performing with the sponsorship of Alliance Francaise. He found the audience in Bangladesh even more receptive and eager than in Europe. "In Chittagong 80% of the audience were Bangladeshis and they were an excellent audience. I found

the children at Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, very patient and quiet. In France they tend to be rowdy and restless. My impression of the Bangladeshis audience was very positive. They were eager to learn and know. They have not seen anything like this before. It was something new and enjoyable for them. I myself felt elated to be able to present something unusual and fresh. In Europe the audience is far more critical and intellectual. The Bangladeshis were eager to please." The clown's face glowed with contentment.

"My philosophy of life is that hope keeps us alive despite disappointments. We continue to struggle in spite of failures and oppositions. The clown is sure that tomorrow will be another day, and he will face it with fresh hopes," elaborated Jean Claude.

Talking about his general impression of Bangladesh the artist said, "I found the traffic incredible — like out of some dream. I found the rickshaws overwhelming with their flamboyant colours. People didn't respect any rules — everybody drove wildly and I found this fascinating. He has his support of his family, although at the beginning they resented that he had left the teaching job that he had left, as it was secure and respected. He lives in St. Etienne, near Lyon and prefers it to Paris which he finds too big and gaudy. He loves the countryside of his home. He remarked 'I have a car, and hope to have a house soon. I get enough to eat and drink. I have a girl friend, Rachel, who is an English teacher. What more could I want out of life?'"

Donors pledge to finance 115 cyclone shelters in coastal areas

Foreign donors have made firm commitment to finance construction of 115 cyclone shelters in the coastal areas under the Disaster Preparedness Programme (DPP) of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), reports BSS.

The donors, according to a BDRCS source, are Red Cross Societies of Norway, the UK, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Japan and a German Bank KfW (kreditanstalt für wiedereaufbau) and the committed amount is Taka thirty six crore and eighty lakh.

The commitment was made at the just concluded donors meeting first of its kind to be sponsored by the International Federation of Red Cross and

Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Bangladesh. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Red Cross Societies of the USA, Austria, The UK, Canada, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, European Commission Liaison Bureau, (Brussels) IFRC Secretariat, IFRC delegation in Bangladesh, and the host society BDRCS.

The BDRCS team was led by its Chairman Syed Shaheedul Haq Jamal MP.

The source said that each of the shelters would cost Taka thirty two lakh, the construction would begin in November next and be completed in six months.

The red cross society of

Norway would provide fund for four cyclone shelters, The UK — six shelters, Italy — ten shelters, Netherlands — ten shelters, Sweden — six shelters, Switzerland — ten shelters, Germany — thirty five shelters, Austria — one shelter and Japan — five shelters. The KfW will provide fund for twenty eight shelters.

These are in addition to forty such shelters now under construction in the coastal areas of the country. Thus the total number of cyclone shelters of the BDRCS now comes to two hundred and seven including the sixty-two shelters now in operation.



Friday

Morning Session

8:00 am	Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
8:10 am	News in Bangla
8:15 am	Chena Kahinca
8:45 am	Cartoon Film: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
9:30 am	Film: "The Spectacular World of Guinness Records"
10:00 am	News in English
10:15 am	Maner Mukure : Drama series
11:15	Documentary programme
12:05	Evening session's programme summary

Evening Session

3:00	Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
3:15	Alor Disharee : Religious programme
3:40	Movie of the Week
5:30	Sports programme
6:45	Anu-Paramanu
7:05	Shangceta : Song programme
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Comedy series : The Cosby Show
9:00	Itiyadi : Magazine programme
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



Students of DMCH organised a Meena Bazar on the college campus Thursday. — Star photo

Lack of knowledge of health causes child blindness : Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Thursday called upon the ophthalmologists and social workers to come forward in ensuring medicare and disseminating knowledge about primary eye care in the rural areas, reports UNB.

"It is imperative in a country where many children are getting blind due to the lack of knowledge of general health and nutrition", he said speaking as chief guest at the closing ceremony of ORBIS, a flying eye hospital, in Dhaka Thursday afternoon.

ORBIS, the world's only fully equipped flying hospital and a globally mobile university facility dedicated to combating blindness, ended its three-week mission in Bangladesh Thursday.

Biswas said the government

wants to provide health and medicare facilities to every people with limited resources and urged the physicians to be more sincere in attaining this objective.

He thanked the staff of the project ORBIS for their service

to the humanity saying "nothing could be more noble than providing eyesight to the blind".

The function was addressed, among others, by ORBIS project Director Dr Shetty, Prof Mostafizur Rahman, Prof Abdul Matin and Syed Ahmed.

Dr. Shetty stressed the need for setting up of an eye bank to preserve cornea. Only 150 cornea grafting take place in Bangladesh every year, he said adding that it should be more than 2,000.

He said 42 million people in the world are blind while in two-thirds cases blindness could have been prevented or cured with proper treatment.

Project ORBIS during its third mission in Bangladesh conducted intensive educational programme on board the ORBIS DC-8 aircraft at Zia International Airport for 190 ophthalmologists of the country, provided training to nurses and other technicians.

On board the aircraft, over 50 surgical procedures were

demonstrated as sight was restored to patients selected for the purpose of teaching.

Visiting professors from England and the United States also gave lectures and demonstrated surgical operation.

The project also donated medical supplies to the Ophthalmological Society of Bangladesh.

British Air Chief visits BAF Academy

The visiting British Royal Air Force chief of staff Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Harding visited BAF basic Mater Rahman and the BAF Academy in Jessore Thursday, says an ISI/R press release.

On arrival at the base, the BAF Chief was received by Base Commander and Commandant of the academy Group Capt Fakhrul Azam. A smart contingent of Bangladesh Air Force also presented him a guard of honour. He inspected the guard and took salute.

He visited the Base and the academy complex where he was apprised of the curricula and training facilities being provided to the cadets.

Earlier, Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Harding called on the Defence Secretary Anisur Rahman at the Defence Ministry. They discussed matters of bilateral interests.

British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Colin Henro Inray was also present on the occasion.

What's on today . . .

Diabetic Association

The draw of the 1991 lottery of Bangladesh Diabetic Association will be held today (Friday) at 9 am at the office of Diabetic Centre (122 Kazi Nazrul Islam road, Dhaka).

Women's Day

International Women's Day Celebration Committee will organize a procession at 9-30 am today (Friday) from Dhanmondi play ground at Mirpur Road. A rally will be held at the Sangsad Bhaban square after the procession.

Communist Party

The Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) will organize a discussion meeting at 4-30 pm today (Friday) at its central office (21/1 Purana Paltan, Dhaka) to observe its 44th founding anniversary.

Peace For All

The regular weekly meeting of the Peace For All will be held today (Friday) at 3 pm at the organisation's office.

Seminar on Land Reform

Dakshin Bangla Juba Kalyan Samity will hold a seminar on land reform today (Friday) at Jatiya Grantha Kendra Auditorium at 4 pm.

Bangla Theatre

Bangla Theatre will present 'Manush', a Bengali play at La Gallery (54 Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Banani) today (Friday) at 7-30 pm.

Minority Welfare Society

Bangladesh Minority Welfare Society will hold a press conference on the problems of the Hindus living in Bangladesh today (Friday) at 3 pm at Krishna and Kalyan Sangsod Auditorium, 162 Shantinagar.

Jubilation Procession

Committee to observe International Women's Day will hold a Jubilation procession today (Friday) starting from Dhanmondi field and ending at Sangsod Bhaban.

. . . and tomorrow

Aleem Al Razee Smrity Sangsod

A meeting of the members of the newly constituted Dr. Aleem Al Razee Smrity Sangsod will be held tomorrow (Saturday) at 10 am at its Malibag Cosmos Centre office. Besides holding discussion on constitution of the Sangsod, the meeting will discuss programmes to observe the 7th death anniversary of Dr. Razee and award of Dr. Aleem Al Razee gold medal.

Weather

Day temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry across the country the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Thursday, Meteorological office forecast.

Day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius during the period. The highest temperature on Thursday was recorded in Rajshahi and the lowest was in Dinajpur.

Sun sets in Dhaka on Friday at 6:04 pm and rises Saturday at 6:15 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns in the country on Thursday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	31.4	18.4	62	39
Chittagong	27.5	19.5	82	82
Rajshahi	33.1	14.0	44	49
Khulna	32.1	17.0	75	54
Barisal	32.1	19.6	82	51
Cox's Bazar	28.5	19.8	80	45
Srinagar	30.6	17.4	75	43
Jessore	32.4	15.6	-	-
Mynenstingh	29.6	15.1	70	55
Dinajpur	28.4	13.6	72	42

Lawyers urged to extend cooperation to establish rule of law

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz Thursday said the present government was making all out efforts to establish the rule of law in the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing as the chief guest a seminar on "Rule of Law" organized by Bangladesh Human Rights Society at a city hotel.

ECNEC approves seven projects

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) Thursday approved seven development projects involving a total outlay of Taka 321.87 crore with a foreign exchange component of Taka 234.57 crore, reports BSS.

The approval was given at the ECNEC meeting chaired by its Alternate Chairman Finance Minister M Salfur Rahman held at the Secretariat Cabinet room in the city.

The projects are : Two Dutch-Swiss electricity implementation project phase-11 and phase-111 (Group-2) under the Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control.

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: 245063
PABX: 245061-2 & 246023-4. Ext: 20

CONCERT
by
JAZZ - PIANIST
HOLGER MANTAY

on Wednesday, March 11, 1992 at 8 pm
at
GERMAN CULTURAL CENTRE
GOETHE-INSTITUT DHAKA
23, Rd. No. 2, Dhanmondi, Ph. 501879

Tickets Taka 50, — available at the reception from March 8 to March 11, 1992 9 am. - 5 pm.
- limited seats -

LEGAL NOTICE

This is for general information of all concerned that my client Begum Shekera Banu, Wife of Late Khon Bahadur Majbur Rahman, of House No. CEN (H) 13, Road No. 109, Gulshan, Dhaka is the sole owner of the property mentioned in the schedule below by purchase since 1952 from the actual owner of the same and she has not transferred any portion of the schedule land to anybody at any material time. If anybody other than my client transfers the schedule mentioned land and if anybody purchases the same from anybody else who has got no right, title, interest whatsoever therein, that will be most illegal, void, inoperative in law and a mere paper transaction.

SCHEDULE

District Dhaka, P.S. Formerly Tejgaon, now Ramna, Mouza-Bara-Magbazar GL No. 280		
Khatian No.	Plot No.	Area.
C.S. 158	C.S. 256	20 Acres

Butted and bounded by:

- North : Tongi Diversion Road.
- South : Mr. Samsuddin.
- East : Tongi Diversion Road.
- West : Fazlul Haque.

Sd/—
Jagadish Chandra Sarker
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
32, Hemendra Kumar Das Road
Dhaka-1100

Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited
(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

Phones : 232200, 232172, 258462, 812135-42

Tender Notice for Electrical Works

- Description of work : (A) Supply and Installation of Security Lights at Tangail Regional Distribution Office area.
(B) Electrical works at the cathodic protection Buildings at Ashulia, (Savar), Khilgaon Model College, Mothertek (Dhaka city), Madhobdi (Narsingdi), Shatirnan (Narsingdi) and Fatulla (N Ganj) areas.
- Completion time : 45 (Forty five) days.
- Estimated value : (A) Tk 2,58,215/-, (B) Tk 1,72,385/- only.
- Cost of tender document : (A) Tk 400/- and (B) Tk 400/- only (Non-refundable)
- Earnest money : (A) Tk 6,500/- (B) Tk 4,500/- only in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any Scheduled Commercial Bank of Bangladesh in favour of TGTDC Ltd.
- Date time and place of tender selling : From the TGT&DC's Accounts and Finance Department from 01-3-92 to 07-3-92 within 0900 hrs to 1300 hrs on application on letter head pad to Manager (A&F), TGTDC Ltd. (in all office days).
- Date and time of tender closing : 08-03-1992 up to 10.00 hrs.
- Places of tender dropping : (i) For (A) and (B) Civil Engineering Deptt, Titas Gas, 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka, or
(ii) For (A) only at Brahmaputra Basin Gas Project Office, 50, Shyamoli, Dhaka.
- Date, time and place of tender opening : 8th March, 1992 at 10.30 hrs and at 10.45 hrs for (A) and (B) respectively in the Chamber of Manager, Civil Engg. Department, TGTDC.
- Eligibility of the bidders : 1st Class contractors of Govt, Semi-Govt, Autonomous or Semi-Autonomous Corporations (Prime bidder) having 'B' and 'C' Class Electrical Licence in the name of their own firms or in the name of their respective Electrical Associate firms. For 1 (A) the bidders must have previous experience of supply & installation of low pressure 90 w sodium lights on the streets.

All other detailed informations are enclosed in the tender document

আপনার ও দেশের স্বার্থে পরিবার ছোট রাখুন

DPP(BA)-1719-1/3
G-242

Manager
Civil Engineering Department