

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Time and Tide

by Tulip Ibrahim

The arrival of the month of Ramadan also reminds us of Eid-ul-Fitr simultaneously. In fact to be more truthful the expectations of a happy Eid dominate our thoughts as we advance along the month of Ramadan. For children, certainly Eid is the joyous occasion for new clothes, visiting friends and relatives like coloured butterflies and eating delicious 'semai' 'korma' and 'polao'.

During this month of fasting different offices weather the squalls of 'fasters' and 'non-fasters'. Those who are fasting regard non-fasting Muslims with disapproval. 'Non fasters' have many excuses for not fasting. But within their heart they may be making mental preparations to start fasting in the near future. After all an ardent Muslim is expected to fast in the holy month of Ramadan. Between both groups, however, one shared topic is, the Eid shopping and the budget set aside for it. Here they share an attitude of ambivalence.

At home it is difficult to decide which ladies are genuine fasters and which are not. Some

children and wives who are bubbling with happiness because of the new clothes and shoes. The father meanwhile stares vacantly far away. Savings of the past few months have been spent in a single day.

But what about the less fortunate people? Their abilities may be limited but their hearts like their better off brothers seek the joys of Eid. They venture for the second-hand clothes. To them new clothes for Eid are clothes which 'look new'. While they choose through the old clothes they may be saving a little for the luxury of having a chicken on Eid. And for the very poor, they scrape up enough money to buy coarse soap to wash their old possessions. Sometimes the savings are spent on thread and needles to mend the clothes. Even if all else fails at least they may dream of begging a plateful of good food at the doors of the wealthy on the happy Eid day.

Amidst the buyers and sellers there are groups of idle men who stroll about the market place watching people, especially women to



Busy, shopping for Eid!

intelligent ladies are calculative enough to kill two birds with one stone. By fasting they perform an essential pillar of Islam while at the same time can go for a magical weight loss. There are some steadfast fasters who stand before the mirror and wistfully think "Will that new kamiz fit around my waist by Eid?" And you may hear ladies praising each other, "Oh how slim and beautiful you have become through fasting!" To the younger generation, Ramadan is the month for procuring the best of adornments, both in quality and quantity. Teenaged daughters will be dreaming, "What will he think when he sees me in this ravishing white dress? New hairdos are also the subject of speculation and anticipation "do not forget, though, all these people are counting the days of Ramadan for it is Eid, that they really look forward to.

The city's shopping areas are flowing high with the din and bustle of Eid shoppers. In this month of abstinence, rich fashionable ladies under heavy makeup wearing sleeveless dresses and sporting off strong perfumes dominate the shopping spree. Middle class families suffer under the strains of long lists and strained pockets. At the market you may catch occasional glimpses of families returning from shopping. They may be accompanied by

snatch the unwary shoppers' purses. Those who are only interested in watching women watch contently the colourful females around. Some of those men deliberately shove and push through the long queues of women shoppers. And for the pick pockets and hijackers? Watch out, the men behind you may be following not you, but your purse!

With all the thoughts on Eid-ul-Fitr we also have some moral reflections. Eid-ul-Fitr is not for you or me only. It is for all the Muslim brethren. It is the day of reunion. If God has blessed us with more than the others, our duty is to help the less fortunate. We are not to be dazzled by sights of wealth, title or deeds. Love for humanity will reign supreme to the last day of our life. Indeed God has given us the freedom to choose life and goodness, meanings and blessings. We are sustained by love, work, beauty, yes even the sufferings, of our lot. Ramadan reminds us of abstinence, takes us nearer to the poor. But the spirit of helping the poor must be codified within our everyday life. We, the world of traditions and ideals that nurture the spirit and intellect, shall persist all our days, in gladly fulfilling the tasks and responsibilities that are fresh every hour and every moment, each a new commencement.

### More aid for Rohingyas

## UNHCR donates 2000 rolls of tarpaulin

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is airlifting 2000 rolls of shelter tarpaulin for the Rohingyas refugees in Bangladesh as part of its assistance to the government, reports BSS.

A plane landed in Chittagong Saturday afternoon carrying the tarpaulin and 188 bales of blankets.

By the end of March the UNHCR will fly in 10 units of rubhalls, which are heavy-duty warehouse tents.

**\$50,000 ROK aid**  
Another report adds: South Korea has decided to donate

US dollar 50,000 in cash for the Rohingyas refugees, the South Korean embassy said in the city Saturday.

The decision was taken by the Korean government considering Bangladesh's request to provide assistance for the Rohingyas issue.

The South Korean donation was also in response and in consideration to the UNHCR's appeal for the worldwide assistance for the refugees.

This donation will be given to the Bangladesh through the UNHCR, the embassy said in a press release.

### Professional groups in Ctg condemn attack on newspapers

CHITTAGONG, Mar 28: A protest rally of Sammilita Peshajibi Sangram Parishad today condemned attacks on different newspaper offices in Chittagong and Dhaka including Chittagong Press Club immediately after the announcement of 'Ganoadalat verdict', reports BSS.

Held at the Chittagong University Club auditorium, the rally was presided over by Convener of the parishad, Abdul Mannan and addressed, among others, by parishad leaders Advocate Ibrahim Hossain Babul, Advocate Abul Kalam Azad, Kurshedul Alam Chowdhury, Dr Iftekaruddin Chowdhury, M Asirul Haq and Dr Nurul Islam.

They said the attack on newspaper among to attack on democracy.

In a resolution the rally prayed for the early recovery of ailing teacher A T M Rafiqul Anwar Siddiqui and local journalist Swapan Kumar Mahajan and urged the government to send them abroad for their treatment.

### TV Sunday

5.00	Opening announcement, Al-Quran, Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Bible
5.30	Makey Niye
5.50	Mahey Ramzan
6.30	Sports programme
7.05	Tagore songs
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Probaha: Documentary
9.00	Film: Oshin
10.00	News in English
10.30	Rag Rang: Classical music
11.15	Khabar/The News
11.25	Monday's programme summary
11.30	Closing

### More heads of states greet Biswas

More heads of state and government have felicitated President Abdur Rahman Biswas on the occasion of the Independence and National Day of the country, reports BSS.

Those who have sent messages of felicitations on the occasion include President Soeharto of Indonesia, President Yang Shangkun of the People's Republic of China, King Baudouin of Belgium, President Ranasinghe Premadasa of Sri Lanka, President Muammer El Gaddafi of Libya, Governor General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas Sir Clifford Darling, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia, Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, King Sultan Azlan Shah of Malaysia and Governor General of Canada Ramon John Hinatshyn.

### Bangla Academy introduces award on science

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangla Academy has introduced a biennial science award from the Bengali year 1397-98 named 'Halima Sharfuddin Biggan Purashkar'.

The award will be conferred to writer of a best popular book on science and technology. Awarded writer will get 20 thousand Taka and a certificate.

The award funded by Dr Abdullah al Muli Sharfuddin aims at encouraging young science workers to work in Bengali and to preserve the memories of Principal Shaikh Sharfuddin and Halima Begum.

Writers are asked to submit three copies of their popular books published in the year of 1397-98 (Bengali) to the Secretary of Bangla Academy within the month of Joishta, 1399 (Bengali).

### Mannan to receive Zakat money April 1

State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof MA Mannan will directly receive Zakat money on behalf of the Zakat Board at the Islamic Foundation Auditorium on April 1 after Asr prayers, reports BSS.

The Zakat Board has already started implementing various programmes to rehabilitate destitute people in different places of the country and taken up more such programmes.

The rich and well-to-do section of people, for whom it is compulsory to pay Zakat, have been requested to donate their Zakat money to the Zakat Fund.

### Progress of uplift programme under LGRD ministry discussed

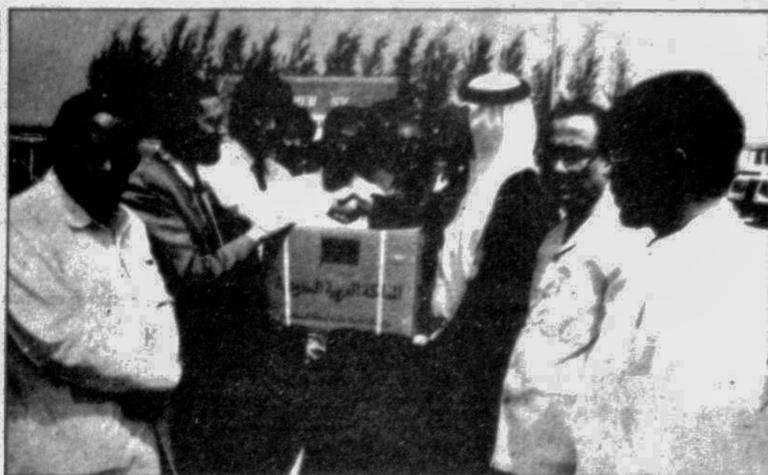
The fourth meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on LGRD and Cooperative Ministry was held in the Parliament House Saturday with LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder in the chair, reports BSS.

Different development programmes under the Local Government Division and their progress so far were elaborately reviewed in the meeting.

The meeting was informed that Local Government Division has already taken up as many as 41 projects for the fiscal year 1991-92 and 490 crore Taka out of which 360 crore is foreign aid, has been allocated for the projects.

It was mentioned that 49 per cent progress of the work has been achieved till now and 85 per cent progress is expected to be achieved within the present fiscal year.

Among the members of the Committee Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Md Abdul Hye, Abdur Razzak, Md, Haji Rashid Mosharrif MP and Abdul Wahab MP attended the meeting.



State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman receiving relief materials for the Rohingya refugees from the Saudi representative at the ZIA Saturday.

## 'Azam can be tried under International Crimes Act'

A prominent parliamentarian Suranjit Sengupta said Saturday the government should immediately start proceedings against Golan Azam for his war crimes, showing respect to the verdict of the 'People's Court'.

Talking to UNB, Sengupta termed the verdict in the public trial of the controversial Jamaat leader as "an expression of people's will". It is now imperative of the democratic government to give legal cover to the people's verdict and execute it, he added.

There is no legal bar to starting proceedings, he said adding that although the Collaborators' Act was repealed, Golan Azam could be prosecuted under the International Crimes (Tribunal Act), 1973.

This international law, Sengupta said, provides for detention, prosecution and punishment of persons accused of committing genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other crimes.

Under the Act, the government can set up a tribunal with a chairman and two members. The judgement of the tribunal, he said, would be fair as it has got all facilities of a free and fair trial under the criminal procedure law and evidence act.

Such a tribunal, under Section 20, is empowered to pass a judgement and award death sentence or such other sentences proportionate to the gravity of the crimes as appears to the tribunal to be just and proper.

Section 21 of this Act also

provides right of appeal to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

Sengupta said Golan Azam should be detained and tried under the International Crimes (Tribunal Act).

Golan Azam, stripped of citizenship after the liberation war for collaboration with the Pakistani occupation force, was arrested last Tuesday under the Foreigners' Act and placed under detention in Dhaka Central Jail.

A people's court Thursday returned an overwhelming verdict that Golan Azam is punishable to death on charges of raising civilian corps against the independence war and of killings, rape, loot and arson.

The open trial court asked the government to execute the verdict within a month.

### Shishu Park to remain open on Eidday

The Central Shishu Park will remain open to the public as usual from 10 am to 9 pm on the day of Eid-ul-Fitr and two more days following the Eid day, reports BSS.

### Khaleda condoles BNP leader's death

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Saturday condoled the death of MA Sukkur Chowdhury, Vice President of Dhaka City BNP and President of Mirpur Thana BNP, reports BSS.

### 1,659 pieces of sarees seized

By Staff Correspondent

Customs Detective Branch seized 1,659 pieces of contraband cotton sarees at Chankharpole in the city around midnight Friday.

A press release of Customs Department said, the law enforcing personnel recovered the sarees worth about Taka 5,80,650 from a truck bearing number Dhaka Bha-3125 at Chankharpole.

The sarees were smuggled from the neighbouring country, India, the press release added.

### 'Bangladesh Education in Statistics '91' published

The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics had published "Bangladesh Education in Statistics, 1991." Comprehensive and reliable statistics on education from primary to university level has been provided in this publication, says a PID handout.

Besides, some information relates on education has also been incorporated in the publication.

### Special trains for Eid

RAJSHAHI, Mar 28: Bangladesh Railway West Zone has made special arrangements for the coming Eid-ul-Fitr to clear Eid rush. Extra coaches will be attached with inter-city Mail and Express Trains, according to an official handout, reports BSS.

There will be no "off day" for inter-city trains from March 28 to April 4 and from April 7 to April 10. No inter-city, Mail and Express Trains will run on Eid-day except Rajshahi Express, Uttar Banga Mail and Bogra Express.

Mahananda Express will run up to Ishurdi from Chapainawabganj on Eid-day.

The next day after Eid-day the following trains will not run over west zone: - Tista Express, Rupsha Express, Padma Express, Jamuna Express, Kapotaksha Express, Barendra Express, Titumir Express, Paddarag Express, Nakshikatha Express, Chithati Express, Prantik Express and Banani Express.

Mahananda Express will run from Ishurdi to Chapainawabganj on the day following Eid-day.

One special train will run from Dhaka to Dinajpur leaving Dhaka on April 2 at 9:30 pm.

### Renovation work of Sonargaon Museum to start soon

The renovation work of the museum building of Sonargaon Folk and Crafts Foundation would be started soon, reports BSS.

This was disclosed at the trustee board meeting of the foundation held at the conference room of Cultural Affairs Ministry with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahanaara Begum in the chair. Professor Rezaul Karim MP, Islam Uddin Malik, Cultural Secretary, ASM Soisman, an eminent person of Sonargaon and members of the board were present.

The meeting has decided to make the newly constructed cafeteria building as a public library and approved the plan to shift the cafeteria in other place.

The meeting reviewed the progress of preparation of the folk festival and Baisakhi fair, which is going to be held from 1st Baisakh at the foundation complex.

The State Minister for Cultural Affairs hoped that during the present democratic atmosphere a large number of viewers would be present on the occasion. She sought cooperation from all concerned for smooth holding of the programmes.

### Obituary

Alhaj Faridul Alam Chowdhury, General Manager (Planning) of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) died of heart attack in Suhrawardi Hospital at 11.30 pm Friday. He left behind his wife, one son, one daughter, relatives and admirers. He was 55, says a press release.

A condolence meeting will be held today at 1.30 pm in the conference room of BSCIC.

## What's on today . . .

### Asiatic Society

The second monthly general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh for 1992 and 1993 will be held today (Sunday) at 4.30 pm in the seminar room of the society at 5 Old Secretariate Road, Nimitlal.

### Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikkyo

A documentary video show depicting the recent brutal activities of Jamaat-Shibir block on the Rajshahi University campus will be shown at Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikkyo at 4 pm today (Sunday) at the Taher Auditorium (JSD office). The Oikkyo has invited all to attend the video show.

### Rotary Club of Dhanmondi

The 290th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhanmondi will be held today (Sunday) at 5.30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel.

Executive President of Islamic Bank of Bangladesh Ltd Azizul Huq will speak on "Islamic banking system" as guest speaker.

### Lions Club of Dhaka Oriental

Board of Directors and regular meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Oriental will be held today (Sunday) at 3.30 pm at Janata Insurance Co Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch.

### Pratichchabi

Pratichchabi, a progressive drama organisation will hold a discussion meeting and introduce the organisation's young artists at 4 pm at Habibullah Bahar College Auditorium today (Sunday).

### Publication ceremony

Hatimanti Group of Publications (Pvt) will hold a publication ceremony of Sapihik Trityya Dhara, a weekly magazine, at 4 pm today (Sunday) at the National Press Club Auditorium. The programme will be attended by Law Minister Mirza Golan Hafiz as chief guest and Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad as special guest.

### Sree Sree Gita Sangha

The annual general meeting of the Sree Sree Gita Sangha will be held today (Sunday) at 4 pm at on its central office at 12 KM Das Lane.

## Weather

### Dry weather to prevail

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over the region of Sylhet during the next 36 hours commencing Saturday at 6 pm. Meteorological office forecasts.

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry elsewhere across the country.

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged during the period. The weather may, however, deteriorate in the subsequent two days.

Saturday's highest temperature of the country 37.2 degree Celsius was recorded in Rajshahi and the lowest temperature, 19.2 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangpur.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 6:14 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 5:53 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns on Saturday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree		Celsius Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	35.4	23.4	67	36
Chittagong	31.0	14.3	83	80
Rajshahi	37.2	21.0	48	41
Khulna	36.0	23.4		
Cox's Bazar	32.0	23.2	74	85
Sylhet	31.6	20.6	64	
Rangpur	31.5	19.2	61	54
Dinajpur	33.4	19.5	60	59

# মাহুতি জিপসি

১০০০ সিসি  
4WD

সুবিধাগুলো হচ্ছেঃ

- কম রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ খরচ
- কম অপারেশন খরচ
- কম প্রাথমিক খরচ

ডিক্রিবিউটার : **উত্তরা মোটর্স লিমিটেড**

ঢাকা ফোন: ২৪০৩৯০, ২৪৩৭২৪ ২৫৭৬২৩, ২৪৩৯৯৬ চট্টগ্রাম ফোন: ৫০৪৪০২, ৫০৪৭৮৬, ৫০৪৯৭৭  
যশোর ফোন: ৪০৮৭ স্বত্তা ফোন: ৬৬৬০ রিলেট ফোন: ৭২৮-২ বুজনা ফোন: ২৪৯৪২