

Dhaka Day by Day

Paralysed but Painting Like a Dream

by Fayza Haq

Madhab Chandra Bantik is paralysed from head downwards since he was 14 but he paints like a dream. I saw some of his paintings hung up in the house of one of his friends and well wishers, Julian Francis.

The waterily in pink was gentle, soothing and subtle. It could easily have been the work of an able-bodied artist. The blue and brown in the backdrop fitted in subtly with the colour of the flower and foliage.

There was a romantic scene in blue, black, with touches of white. A couple was seen under a tree with the backdrop of a sunset. Another couple looking for shells under the moonlight was seen in a third painting. The clouds and moon had been done in an idyllic manner, while the waves were captured well. So were the palmleaves on the right. The figures looked very real. The effect was that of tranquillity and harmony.

There was a delineation of a poor family. They did not have a job and could not buy anything. The figures were in black and the things they would like to buy were shown in symbolic strokes of pink and orange. The figures — men, women and children — were in black. Their

works easily.

He has read some art books and acquaints himself with all the knowledge that he can in the art world from the British Council. He is very fond of the works of Qamrul Hassan who he feels "delineates life well and is easy to comprehend. He also likes Nanda Lal Basu from India. He enjoys water colours which he feels easy to handle only after much practice. He says he does not have the physical strength for oil which requires pressure of the hand. He has also made cards for the Vso.

He loves playing chess, listening to cricket commentaries, and reading novels and newspapers like "Ajker Kagoj".

Madhab, who has completed his school, and is now 32, works for the handicapped at the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped in Savar. "When we get a patient after an accident life is totally changed physically. Automatically the social life is also changed. An individual who might have been working perfectly and serenely is completely at a loss. His family also suffers. When he comes to the hospital he has no idea how much he can improve. He feels pessimistic



simple life was brought in by the straw hut on the right with surrounding trees. This was something peaceful with nothing to jolt you.

The sunset in the fishing village had a lot of dark strokes with a gorgeous round of the sun in vermilion. The sky and water were shown with careful and dexterous strokes in shades of black.

Madhab fell from the roof when he went to collect a ball at the age of 14. He fell 6 feet and he broke his neck, hands and feet. In both hands he has some shoulder movements but he has no sensation or strength in his fingers. He joined the Suhrawardy Hospital in the Paraplegic Ward which is now the Pongu Hospital. There was no proper treatment in 76 and no physiotherapy. Then Dr. Ghast who had been brought in to treat the Mukti Joddhas began treating him.

"It was a big shock for me when Miss Vacery Taylor, who was in charge, told me that my hand and feet would never work. It was not easy for me to accept it. However, Miss Taylor counseled me and I felt I could achieve something despite my handicaps. I started using colour pencils, then poster colours and next graduated to water colours. I then began with enamel. I am even trying oil at present. I had an exhibition of my paintings in '90 at the British Council and collected a few thousand takas. I enjoy doing realistic and symbolic works. I do not feel satisfied with abstractions. People in Bangladesh can understand realistic

that he will not be able to do much in the future. In fact he feels gloomy about what the next days hold for him."

"We do not give any real psychological help to the people who come but try to counsel them about what they can do in the future. We arrange for recreation. Twice a month we go out for visits. There is an annual music party. There are picnics, film shows, sight-seeing visits. I manage the library with its 400 books. This consists mostly of Bangla novels drama and poems of Rabindranath, Nazrul Islam, Sharat Chandra, Nihar Ranjan Gupta, Bankim Chandra and the works of Humayun Ahmed, and Imdadul Huq Milon. We have books on the Liberation Movement too," Madhab said.

"I am also responsible for adult classes and general patients. The educated patients here act as teachers twice a day for two hours in the morning and one and a half at night," he informed me.

He is also in charge of the vocational training which includes shop-keeping, photo framing, weaving, making of fishing nets and paper bags, black printing, carpentry and painting. In his job he gets Tk 2600, which pays for his house rent, gas, water, electricity and food. He has a little saving from the sale of his paintings. He owns a block of land in Savar of which he is rather proud. He has been to Calcutta, Madras and Orissa to participate in workshops for the disabled.

Special trains timings changed

Special trains scheduled to operate on April one and two in connection with the coming Eid-ul-Fitr will now run on April two and three following change in government holiday for Sab-e-Qadar on April 2, says a railway press release in Dhaka Monday, reports BSS.

Besides, two pairs of additional inter-city Upakul Express will operate between Dhaka and Noakhali on April 2, 3 and 4.

'Procure visa before leaving for Thailand'

Bangladesh nationals, intending to visit Thailand, will have to procure visa from the Thai embassy in Dhaka, an official handout said on Monday, reports BSS.

Travellers without proper visas will not be allowed to land at Bangkok and other airports of the country.

JS body reviews CGA reports

The number one sub-committee of the Jatiya Sangsad Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Monday reviewed the report of the Comptroller General of Audit (CGA) and the Ministry of Finance on the accounts of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, reports BSS.

Another meeting held on Sunday, the sub-committee examined the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on the accounts of the Foreign Ministry for the fiscal year 1984-85.

Presided over by Mesbauddin Khan, the meeting was attended by Syed Manjur Hossain, Principal M M Nazrul Islam, Moulana Sakhawat Hossain, Dr T I M Fazley Rabbi Chowdhury, Abdul Gani, Anwarul Hossain Khan Chowdhury and Shajahan Omar.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh Khondaker Moazzem Hossain was also present at the meeting.



Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan distributing prizes among the members of Mujibnagar Karmachari Kallyan Sangsad (Mujibnagar Employees Welfare Association) at a function in observance of Independence and National Day at a city hotel Monday evening.

HERE and THERE

CPB

CPB General Secretary Nurul Islam Nahid in a statement Monday protested government decision to close down the Fenchuganj Fertiliser Factory saying that there could be no reason behind the shut down.

The leader demanded immediate withdrawal of the decision.

Jana Parishad

Bangladesh Jana Parishad Mirpur thana unit at a meeting Monday urged the government to take effective measures to make an end to the deterioration of law and order situation in the country.

The meeting found that killing, hijacking were increasing alarmingly in the country in recent days.

The meeting presided over by Rezaul Huq was attended by Alhaj Moitul Islam, President of the Central Committee and chief guest and by Minhajul Islam as the special guest. Anul Islam, MA Gafur Mia and KM Mohiuddin Chowdhury addressed the meeting.

Nagarik Sanghati

Jatiya Nagarik Sanghati Chairman Khalilur Rahman Majumdar and Secretary General Shahjahan Chowdhury Monday protested the arrest of JSD leader and freedom fighter Strajul Alam Khan saying that the government move unveiled their anti-independence character.

The Sanghati demanded his immediate unconditional release.

Khetmajur Samity

Bangladesh Khetmajur Samity in a statement Monday strongly protested and condemned the recent attack on the 'Sangbad', the 'Dainik Al-Amin' and the 'Dainik Bhor' offices.

The statement served by Nurur Rahman and Abul Kalam Azad, President and General Secretary respectively of the Samity also termed the attack on the newspapers as cowardice.

Hossain Ali Smriti Sangsad

Hossain Ali Smriti Sangsad organised a discussion meeting Monday at 4pm at a hotel in the city, on the occasion of the Independence Day.

The meeting presided over by Syed Anwar Hossain was addressed among others by Abdur Rauf Ahmad, Muslehuddin, Kasfuddin Ahmed, Md Shahidullah, Mohammad Ibrahim and Afjal Hossain Chowdhury.

Geeta Sangha

A new 21-member executive body of the Sree Sree Geeta Sangha was formed Monday with Badal Kanti Bhattacharya and Sreedam Banik as the President and General Secretary respectively.

The body was formed at a general meeting held Monday at Bhola Guru Ashram.

Janata Party

Jatiya Janata Party at a meeting Monday demanded ban on the politics of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front.

The meeting presided over by Sheikh Asad also demanded trial of the Jamaat men for violating the constitutional provision by electing a foreign national (Goleam Azam) to the post of Ameer.

The Janata Party chief also called upon all pro-Liberation forces to form an alliance to resist the anti-Liberation elements.

'Make independence meaningful'

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said here Monday that the present democratic government was committed to uphold the spirit of the Liberation War and called upon all to make the hard earned independence meaningful, reports BSS.

Addressing as the chief guest a discussion, organised by the Mujibnagar Karmachari Kallyan Sangsad at a city hotel here Monday afternoon, Bhuiyan, also a freedom fighter, said the nation would always pay respect to those who had contributed to the process of the liberation of the country.

He said independence alone was not sufficient without reaching the people its fruits. He called upon all sections of society, including those who took part in the Mujibnagar Government to work hard for the betterment of the country.

Presided over by S M Jahangir Alam, General Secretary of the Sangsad, the function was addressed, among others, by former minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Akbar Hussain, MP, H T Imam, Cabinet Secretary of the Mujibnagar Government, Nurul Kader Khan, Establishment Secretary of the Mujibnagar Government, Abdul Khaleque and MR Akhtar Mukul. DUCSU General Secretary Khairul Kabir Khokon also spoke.

Referring to the demands of the Sangsad, the Labour and

Manpower Minister said the present government would give a sympathetic consideration to their problems.

Lt. Col (Retd) Akbar Hussain, said after the achievement of the independence through a war, all sections of society should now put in their hard labour for economic progress of the nation.

He said the contributions of the employees of the Mujibnagar Government would be remembered in the history of the nation.

Hussain also said the main motto should now be to build a happy and prosperous nation. The discussion was followed by Iftar.

Happy Birthday

to
Dearest, darling Durdana and Rana
31.3.92
From: Humayun, Nanni, Kaiser, Erum,
Wasu, Fizza, Farisa and Faizan.
7/A, New Bailey Road, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

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

Arrest warrants against 'public trial' organisers condemned

By Staff Correspondent

The organisers of the public trial of the Jamaat Chief Goleam Azam at a joint meeting with several political organisations and 14 student bodies condemned the warrant of arrest against 24 organisers and demanded "immediate withdrawal of the false cases."

The meeting held Sunday evening was presided over by Jahanara Imam, Convenor of the National Coordination Committee for Realisation of the Ideals of the Liberation War and Resistance to the Killers and Collaborators.

Kazi Aref Ahmed, Abdur Razzak MP, Nurul Islam Nahid, Naim Jahangir, Nirmal Sen, Sharif Nurul Ambia, Lutfar Rahman, Bimal Biswas, Abdullah Sarkar, Tipu Biswas, Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Shariar Kabir, Principal Ahad Chowdhury and Nasiruddin Yusuf attended the meeting.

The joint meeting demanded "stern measures" against Jamaat-e-Islami party for electing Goleam Azam by violating Section 38 of the Constitution.

It also decided to form units at the union, upazila and the district levels.

The Dhaka city unit members of the committee for the resistance to the killers of the 1971 Sunday evening brought out a procession in the capital to protest the arrest order against 24 of their leaders and to press the government to implement the verdict of the March 26 trial.

The procession paraded different thoroughfares of Dhaka and ended at the Jatiya Press Club premises. Meanwhile, a statement of the committee issued to press

Sunday condemned the arrest order against 24 leaders of the committee including its Convenor Jahanara Imam and demanded immediate withdrawal of the warrants.

It said that the case filed by the government aimed at curbing the fundamental rights of the people.

The cases filed against the organisers of the public trial was also a reflection of the government's autocratic attitude, it added.

Leaders of the Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) in a joint statement resented the government action against the organisers and said that the warrant, of arrest had stunned the nation.

President and General Secretary of "Amra Muktijoddhar Santan" (We are the children of freedom fighters) Ehsanul Amin and Abu Sayed Al Mahmud in a similar joint statement also condemned the arrest warrants against 24 personalities of the country.

Communist Party President Saifuddin Ahmed Manik and General Secretary Nurul Islam Nahid in a joint statement vehemently protested the warrant of arrest and said it not only undermined the verdict of the people's court but also worked as an axe to the public opinion.

The Bangladesh Khetmajur Samity (BKS) leaders strongly condemned the warrants against 24 persons of 'Gono Adalat' including Jahanara Imam and urged the people to make a movement for withdrawal of the warrants.

Bangladesh Islamic Revolutionary Movement at a meeting Monday also supported the public trial of

Goleam Azam and said the government should implement the verdict to try the war criminals.

The founder chairman of the organisation, Maulana Shamsul Haque Jehadi addressing the meeting condemned the government and said the consequence of such government actions would not be beneficial to the nation.

Sammilito Sangskritik Jote leaders said that the verdict had urged the government for arranging justice while the government had dishonoured the public opinion by issuing arrest order against the trial organisers.

TV Tuesday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Recitation from the Gecra
- 5.30 Documentary: Wild Life on One
- 5.50 Mahey Ramzan
- 6.30 Shikshangon: Programme on education
- 7.05 Nazrul Songs
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.40 Drama series: Baro Rakam Manush
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Film: Sword of Honour
- 11.15 Khabar/The News
- 11.25 Wednesday's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing

Weather

Dry weather to prevail

By Staff Correspondent

Met office Monday forecast weather is likely to remain dry over the country except for the regions of Sylhet where rain or thundershowers is likely to occur till 6 pm today (Tuesday).

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country today (Tuesday) forecast Met office. The maximum temperature of the country 39.5 degree Celsius was recorded in Rajshahi while the minimum 19 degree Celsius was reported from Bogra Monday.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 6:15 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5:51 am.

The temperature and the percentage of humidity recorded in some major cities/towns Monday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature		Humidity	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	36.6	23.8	67	66
Chittagong	31.7	24		80
Rajshahi	39.5	21.2	45	84
Khulna	36.5	22.5	70	58
Sylhet	33.5	21.2	82	63
Bogra	36	19	47	59
Cox's Bazar	32	23.8	72	77
Mymensingh	36.5	19.7	69	53

রং শিল্পে মেট্রিক পদ্ধতি

সরকার ঘোষিত সর্বস্তরে মেট্রিক পদ্ধতি প্রবর্তনের লক্ষে আমরা আমাদের সকল কর্মকাণ্ডে এই পদ্ধতি আগেই চালু করিয়াছি। সম্মানিত ক্রেতা সাধারণের সুবিধার্থে আমাদের সকল পণ্য (রং ও রং জাতীয় দ্রব্যাদি) ১লা এপ্রিল '৯২ হইতে গ্যালন প্যাক-এর পরিবর্তে লিটার প্যাক এ বাজারজাত করা হইবে। এই পদ্ধতিতে ক্রেতা সাধারণের বাড়তি সুবিধা নিম্নে বর্ণিত হইল:

পণ্যের নাম	পুরাতন প্যাক সাইজ	মূল্য টাকা	নতুন প্যাক সাইজ	নতুন প্যাক অনুসারে লিটার প্যাক-এর মূল্য টাকা	বর্তমান মূল্য টাকা	বাড়তি সুবিধা টাকা
রবিয়ালাক সিঙ্গেটিক এনামেল	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৫৬০.০০	৪ লিটার	৬১৫.৩৪	৬০০.০০	১৫.৩৪
রবিয়ালাক সিঙ্গেটিক এনামেল	১/৪ গ্যালন = ০.৯১ লিটার	১৪৮.০০	লিটার	১৬২.৬৪	১৫৮.০০	৪.৬৪
রবিয়ালাক সিঙ্গেটিক এনামেল	১/৮ গ্যালন = ০.৪৫৫ লিটার	৮০.০০	৫০০ মিঃ লিঃ	৮৭.৯১	৮৫.০০	২.৯১
এস, পি, ডি	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৩২০.০০	৪ লিটার	৩৫১.৬৫	৩৩০.০০	২১.৬৫
গ্রেড অস্কাইড প্রাইমার	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৪৬০.০০	৪ লিটার	৫০৫.৫০	৫০০.০০	৫.৫০
একি ক্রোসিস গ্রেড	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৩৬০.০০	৪ লিটার	৩৯৫.৬০	৩৭৫.০০	২০.৬০
গ্যালুমিনিয়াম	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৫৯০.০০	৪ লিটার	৬৪৮.৩৫	৬২০.০০	২৮.৩৫
প্রাস্ট্রন সীলার	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৫৮০.০০	৪ লিটার	৬৩৭.৩৬	৬২০.০০	১৭.৩৬
সিনথেটিক ক্রীয়ার ডার্লিশ	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৪৪০.০০	৪ লিটার	৪৮৩.৫২	৪৮০.০০	৩.৫২
খিনার টি - ৩	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৪০০.০০	৪ লিটার	৪৩৯.৫৬	৪২০.০০	১৯.৫৬
খিনার টি - ৬	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	১৭০.০০	৪ লিটার	১৯২.৩০	১৭৫.০০	১৭.৩০
সিনথেটিক আধারকোট	১ গ্যালন = ৩.৬৪ লিটার	৫০০.০০	৪ লিটার	৫৪৯.৪৫	৫৪০.০০	৯.৪৫

সম্মানিত ক্রেতা সাধারণকে লিটার প্যাক এ দেয়া দামের সুবিধা গ্রহণ করে মেট্রিক পদ্ধতি প্রবর্তনে আমাদের উদ্যোগকে সহায়তা করার জন্য অনুরোধ জানাইতেছি।

বার্জার পেইন্টস বাংলাদেশ লিঃ