

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Evening of Fun

by S Bari



It was light and entertaining: Dalia and Azaad on stage.

First we had Jagjit and Chitra. A few weeks ago, we had Bhupinder and Mitalce fly in from Bombay. Now we have Dhaka's home-grown Dalia Nausheen and Azaad Hafeez, a husband-and-wife (now why is it never called wife-and-husband?) duo who sing everything ranging from Rabindrasangeet to old Bengali film songs with great gusto.

Their programme at the National Museum auditorium, organized by Sarmala, began fashionably late: by half-an-hour. This is now generally recognized by veteran Dhaka audiences as essential gossip time. Let me elucidate (for those lucky enough not to have experienced it): this is 30 minutes of Oh my goodness what a lovely saree. How is the little one. Your latest book was just too good, and the perennial, it's so hard to find nice boys these days. Upon completion of this ritual, the lights were dimmed and we all leaned back with the air of people who have accomplished their good deed of the day.

Dalia and Azaad excel at different kinds of singing: Dalia is at her best in raga-based Nazrul or modern songs, while Azaad's talent lies in old Bengali songs and romantic ditties of the SD Burman type. This is why Dalia's *Aadho raate jodi ghore* was enchanting, as well as her *Mor ghuno ghore elo natobari*, in which her command of the intricacies of the notes came out very well. It was a pleasure to hear such effortless climbing to the highest notes and such easy play on tunes. In spite of excellent instrumental accompanists, there was one faux pas: santoor player Muhammad Nurul Huq misled Dalia into starting several octaves too high, for her *Ke dilo khopate*. It is proof of the flexibility of the singer's voice that she somehow managed to sing through the high parts with a minimum of screeching or tonelessness. She was obviously uncomfortable, but enough of a performer to realise that the show must go on.

Where Dalia falters is not in her voice or its exquisite melodiousness. The trite would label it 'lack of soul'. This reviewer hesitates to use such labels, but gropes in vain for a definition of what is missing in her singing. The duo began their evening with Dwijendranath's *Chahit atripto nayone tor mukhopaane*. The tune was perfect, the voices rose and fell just right (though Azaad did seem a bit hesitant), but the song requires that it be sung with faith. Dalia's *kirton*, *Mor Madhob-shunyo*, had that same requirement, also unfulfilled. The hearer is left feeling incomplete, as if some message in the song has escaped the singer, and therefore failed to reach the audience. In Bengali, one

would call it *bhakti*: and neither Dalia nor Azaad has achieved it.

But their lighter songs were a delight. Anyone who has seen them sing in private knows how well they co-ordinate their lines and the pleasure they take in singing together. Azaad's *Mono dilo na bandhu* brought tears to the eyes of many in the audience. Few male singers in Dhaka have the depth of romanticism in their voices that Azaad has maintained. And though a romantic voice is often his handicap when he tries heavier stuff, there is no doubt that he is made for songs like *Amaye proshno kare neel dhruvotaara* and *Dakaita banshi*. During these songs the audience hummed and generally drowned itself in the music with an abandon that should warm any performer's heart.

Their duets, especially *Amaar et gaane* and *Shedin aar kato dure*, were well-matched. The latter was the ideal show-closer, an interesting tune from Salil Chowdhury. Rare in Dhaka is a well-laid out show, in which song follows naturally upon song. Dalia and Azaad planned their programme well: the flow from *Amaaro paraano jaha chaye* (the only Rabindrasangeet, and sang surprisingly well by Azaad) to Bengali film songs and raga-based Nazrulgeet seemed effortless. The couple should look into their lyrics, though. The last stanza of Atulprasad's *Jabo na jabo na* reads *Hanshe nabo bidhu*, and not *nabo bandhu*, as was sung that night. Singers who do not know whether it is the moon that is smiling or the beloved have some thinking to do about devotional songs and such poem-centric songs as those of Tagore.

A refreshing bit of backdrop to Dalia and Azaad's lovely voices was the original instrumental accompaniment. Milon Battacharya on the tabla, Sunil Kumar Das on the violin, Muhammad Nurul Huq on the santoor and Yusuf Khan on the sarod brought a festive ring to the whole programme. The accompanying music was well-composed and innovative. In Azaad's *Aami cheye cheye*, the interludes were a musical piece worth mention.

Though veteran Kalim Sharaifi was invited to lend the evening an air of seriousness, luckily it was anything but serious. Dalia and Azaad would do well to steer clear of songs that ask for depth of interpretation and heavy philosophical understanding: their programme was at its shining best when they enjoyed what they sang. It was light, it was fun, and it was a delight to listen to their old songs and their Nazrulgeet, enhanced by a fine set of instrumentalists. At least one of us in the audience looks forward to more of the same.

### DUTA concerned over reported move to appoint new VC

The Dhaka University Teachers Association in a meeting Sunday expressed concern over the reported move to appoint a new Vice Chancellor for the varsity, reports UNB.

Presided over by its President Prof S MA Fayez, the meeting noted such an attempt would violate the university autonomy and also tarnish the image of the democratically elected government.

It will also prop up conspiratorial practice instead of democratic norms and values, the meeting said.

An elected VC should be allowed to serve his full term like an elected government, the meeting said and urged all concerned to consider such a matter with all seriousness.

VC Prof M Maniruzzaman Mia is now in Singapore. National University Hospital for heart ailment treatment.

### Rabitat donation for Madrasa

Makkah-based Rabitat Al Alam Al Islami has donated Tk 49,400 for the development of Jamea Arabia Daarul Uloom, Khulna, a Saudi Embassy press release said in Dhaka Sunday, reports BSS.

Ali Ahmed Abdul Wahab, Charge d' Affaires, Saudi Embassy handed over the cheque

## IMF lauds internal resource mobilisation

The visiting six-member International Monetary Fund (IMF) team led by the Division Chief of Central Asia Department Ichiro Otani Sunday called on Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman at the latter's secretariat office in city, reports BSS.

The delegation discussed matters of mutual interests with the Minister. The Finance Minister gave the team a resume of the government plans and programmes relating to reforms in financial sectors, capital market development, and legal reforms for expeditious reso-

lution of commercial disputes. He said, these are essential elements for making the economy of the country vibrant and dynamic. He sought World Bank and IMF help in implementing these reform measures.

Saifur Rahman also said that the government would bring change in banking laws empowering the central bank for better supervision and guard against irregularities in the financial sector.

The IMF team lauded the government's measures and successes in internal resource mobilisation paving the way for attaining self-reliance.

## Audio-visual centres in medical colleges soon

Deputy leader in Parliament Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury Sunday said government will soon set up audio-visual centres in each medical college of the country, reports UNB.

He was addressing a seminar on "Clinical Case Presentation" at Sir Salimullah Medical college auditorium this morning.

Chaired by SSMC Medicine Club President AKM Fazul Bari, the seminar was also addressed by SSMC Principal K Kasimuddin and its director M A Satter.

Chowdhury said curriculum related lectures by renowned professionals will be shown in all medical colleges through the audio-visual medium for the benefit of the students.

He also inaugurated a blood bank at the college. Some clinical cases like tuber culosis,

sarcidosis, hypothyroidism and leprosy were presented at the seminar.

### SCF slates killing of AL activists

By Staff Correspondent

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front President Belal Chowdhury and its General Secretary Rajekumar Ratan in a statement Saturday strongly condemned the killings of three Chhatra League activists by the terrorists belonging to the Jamaat-Shibir at Fatikchhari of Chittagong district recently.

The Chhatra Front leaders also condemned the role of the police and the local administration during the occurrences. They demanded of the Home Ministry of probe into the killings and try the killers.

### Nepalese envoy meets Hasina

Nepalese Charge d'Affaires Mana Bahadur Bhat Sunday made a courtesy call on Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Minto Road official residence, reports UNB.

### Ranjit's painting show begins May 15

A solo painting exhibition of Ranjit Das will begin May 15 at La Galerie in the city, reports UNB.

French ambassador Serge Degallaix will inaugurate the 10-day exhibition.

Thirty two oil paintings and six drawings of Ranjit, who won a number of national and international awards, will be put on display in the exhibition.

### DU M.Sc final exam July 8

Final part M.Sc Physics examination under traditional system of the year 1988 will begin July 8, reports UNB.

Detailed examination schedule will be known to concerned department, halls and colleges, says a university press release.

Examination of International Law course of LLB final will be held May 17 instead of May 16 due to Boudhho Purnima.

The other part of the examination schedule announced earlier will remain unchanged.

Meanwhile, admission test results of 'KA' unit 1991-92 announced Sunday. The result details were put on display in the Dean's office of biological science and science faculty as well as the Registrar building.

### NOTICE OF CONSIGNEES

The Containerised cargo ex. M.V. Ocean Sincerity V-44B from Karachi ex. M.V. Torbay V-74137 & M.V. Oceanus Tokyo V-23366 from Keelung, ex. M.V. Nanta Bhum V-86 from Bangkok, ex. M.V. Pacific Arrow V-23027 & M.V. Success Hope V-05028 from Nagoya have been relayed to M.V. PONG SHIN V- 9213 Imp. Rot. No. 325/92 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 12-5-92 from Singapore. Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from PCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing and if cargo not cleared within 45 days will be guided by Customs Act.

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## VDP, Ansar urged to boost production

A rally of the Ansars and Village Defence Party (VDP) of the Gazipur district was held at the auditorium of the Agricultural Research Institute Sunday, reports BSS.

Director General of Ansars and VDP Maj. Gen Syed

Badruzzaman attended the function as the chief guest.

Addressing the rally, Maj. Gen Badruzzaman asked the Ansars and VDP members to contribute to boosting agricultural productions, setting up small and cottage industries, and poultry and thereby help attain the nation self-reliance apart from performing their duty of maintaining law and order.

He also asked Ansars and VDP to involve themselves with the campaign for population control and the mass education programme.

Presided over by the Deputy Commissioner of Gazipur, the rally was participated by about 600 members of the Ansars and VDP.



### বইপত্র ও সাময়িকী সরবরাহের দরপত্র আহবানের নোটিশ

শাহজালাল বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, সিলেট এর গ্রন্থাগারের জন্য নির্বাচিত দেশী ও বিদেশী বই, সাময়িকী ও অন্যান্য মুদ্রিত সামগ্রী খরিদ করার উদ্দেশ্যে পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন বই ও সাময়িকী ইত্যাদি আমদানিকারক/ সরবরাহকারীদের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

দরপত্রের শর্ত সম্বলিত বিস্তারিত বিবরণ সিডিউল ২৫ ই মে, ১৯৯২ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে উপ-পরিচালক, পরিকল্পনা ও উন্নয়ন-এর দপ্তরে পাওয়া যাইবে। সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র ৩১ ই মে, ১৯৯২ তারিখ বেলা ৪.০০টা পর্যন্ত কোষাধ্যক্ষের দপ্তরে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তবে জমা দিতে হইবে।

যে সকল সরবরাহকারীগণ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় লাইব্রেরী সমূহে বই ও সাময়িকী সন্তোষজনকভাবে সরবরাহ করিয়াছেন বলিয়া প্রত্যয়নপত্র দাখিল করিতে সক্ষম হইবেন, কেবল তাহাদিগকে সিডিউল খরিদ করার অনুমতি দেওয়া হইবে।

সিডিউলের মূল্য বাবদ ২০০/- টাকার ব্যাংক ডাফট রেজিস্টার, শাহজালাল বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, সিলেট-এর বরাবরে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

উপ-পরিচালক

পরিকল্পনা ও উন্নয়ন

D-262

## Loan distribution policy for weavers discussed

The 7th Parliamentary Standing Committee meeting of the Ministry of Textiles was held Sunday at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with State Minister for Textiles Abdul Mannan in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed in detail the various problems of textiles sector and ways to make textile mills under BTMC profitable.

Abdur Rauf, MP, submitted

a report stating the cause of losses and probable solution of two textile mills — Sharmin Textile Mills and Chittaranjan Cotton Mills. The report was prepared by a sub-committee of the standing committee.

The meeting also discussed the problems of Bangladesh Handloom Board and its solution and discussed loan distribution policy to the weavers for purchasing yarn at fair price and marketing facilities.

## Weather

### Day temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Rain of shower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over the regions of Bogra, Pabna, Dhaka, Mymensingh, Tangail, Comilla and Sylhet during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Sunday. Met office forecast.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country. Day temperature is likely to rise by 1-2 degree Celsius during the period over the country.

Only 21 mm of rain was recorded in Sylhet Sunday. The sun sets in Dhaka today (Monday) at 6-33 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5-17 am.

Rajshahi experienced the highest temperature Sunday. Temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns on Sunday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	34.8	24.5	77	70
Chittagong	33.6	26.0	78	78
Rajshahi	39.4	27.4	72	44
Khulna	33.5	-	-	72
Barisal	34.2	26.5	75	78
Cox's Bazar	33.8	26.0	69	78
Sylhet	33.5	19.5	61	57
Dinajpur	33.7	22.5	72	58



### Monday

- 5.00 Opening Announcement Al-Quaran, Programme Summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Recitation from the Gorta
- 5.30 Cartoon Film : The Great Space Coaster
- 6.00 Sports Programme
- 6.30 TV debate
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Aponar Sasitha (Your health)
- 9.00 Drama series : Bhara Nadir Banke
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Film show : Highway to heaven
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Tuesday's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing announcement

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