

# Dhaka Day by Day

## A Private World of Flowers and Faces

by Fayza Haq

For someone who has no formal training in painting or sketching and who has decided to sail into the art world only two years ago Iffat Ara Khan has not done badly for herself. She had an art exhibition at the Goethe Institut with the display hall all to herself.

"I have presented whatever is beautiful to the eye. Some of the studies are purely imaginative. Whenever I saw crayons I had an urge to draw. I have taught myself from art books. Flowers are my favourite subjects. I enjoy still life and portraits too," Iffat said.

"I don't know much about contemporary painters but I admire Zairul Abedin, Qamrul Hassan and Kibria.

Among the European artists Van Gogh is my favourite. This show is only a beginning. I expect to continue. I admit some of my paintings have a naive presentation but I have done this on purpose," she continued.

Iffat, who has three cassettes and a disc to her credit and is a well-known Rabindra sangit singer remarked, "When I compare the art work with singing I find that there is a lot of freedom in the art world. In singing you have to stick to a certain grammar. But I can draw anything I want in any manner that pleases me."

In one of her flower studies she presented white flowers with thick fleshy leaves in a tall grey bottle. It was done in a somewhat impressionistic manner. In another one she had a yellow flower with a grey backdrop. It was simply presented with a few strokes, as in most of her other works. Iffat was quite aware that the presentation was naive. Yet she wanted her work to be purposely simple and uncomplicated.

Pink and orange blossoms with their pale green leaves were arranged in a grey jug. The piece looked as if it would do very well as a decoration piece in a children's classroom. The flower study with ferns, orange and yellow flowers in a white jug was a neat picturesque piece. It had a soft mauve backdrop and was quite soothing to the eye.

Iffat's creation with the large white fleshy flower with its encircling leaves and surrounding sprays of mauve flowers in a glass was a soothing feminine creation. The backdrop was

a soft dove grey. In another piece Iffat had white flowers in a white jug. This attempted a pristine effect. There were leaves to relieve the monotony. Pink, orange and yellow blossoms swarmed out of a turquoise blue vase. This entree was vibrating with colours if nothing else.

The still life with the ornate jug and the bowl of fruit was wrapped in warm orange and yellow colours. Here it was apparent that Iffat was greatly influenced by the French impressionists.

Her landscape with the trees with white barks and the scarlet foliage was another simple and soothing creation. The leaves of the trees contrasted well with the flat pale greenish yellow of the surrounding meadow.

One of the face studies presented a portrait with short hair and high necked dress. It had a fairly sophisticated finish. Another had a man with wildy floating hair, done in yellow, dull green and heavily outlined with black. The woman's portrait in beige, orange and brown was interesting. The face study with the pink and black swirls with green smudges was a highly simplistic venture. So were all the bird studies including the turquoise blue one with the red breast and red beak.

It is not often that someone who is strong in one form of art attempts to do something dramatic in another form. Undoubtedly Iffat has yet to acquire maturity, and must practise, as she admits herself. She is lucky that she can afford the expensive framing, brochure and the imported medium — wax crayons and pastels. She has also the fortune to have the contacts that gave her the introduction to the Goethe Institut. Reportedly on the opening day, the elite at Dhaka gathered at the Dhanmondi cultural centre, out of friendship and curiosity. What did the common viewers feel — those who were not necessarily the starry-eyed admirers of her singing? They admitted that she was bold to venture out in the uninhibited manner that she did where even experienced and trained artists take care to tread.



Still life



The President of Bangladesh Samajtrantik Dal, A F M Mahbul Haq addressing a public meeting in the city Wednesday demanding execution of the verdict of 'people's court' against Golan Azam. — Star photo

## 40 pc foundries closed for lack of raw materials

Several hundred foundries are facing closure for shortage of pig iron, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Foundry Owners' association sources said more than 40 per cent foundries had already been shut down owing to dearth of raw material, leaving hundreds of workers jobless.

They said pig iron (foundry grade), the lion's share of which is imported by the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) for distribution among the foundry owners, went out of supply as there had

been no import of the industrial raw material for a long time.

The country has about 400 big, medium and small-scale foundries with an estimated 20,000 workers.

TCB imported 10,000 tons of pig iron from Brazil in 1990 at about 2.11 million US dollar (at the rate of 210.57 dollar), and the stock exhausted in December 1991 leading to scarcity of the raw material in the local market.

Their products include irrigation pumps, tubewells, rice holler parts, spare parts of var-

ious mills and factories and sanitary pipes and fittings.

Closure of the industries will seriously affect irrigation in the drought-prone areas while the people will suffer for want of pure drinking water.

Foundry experts said the government should take immediate steps to make the raw material available in the market to save the indigenous industry.

Otherwise, they said, scarcity of raw material will encourage smuggling of pig iron from a neighbouring country.

## Sino-Bangladesh ties entering into a new phase: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia hoped that the time tested friendship between Bangladesh and China will strengthen the bilateral economic ties between the two countries, reports UNB.

In an interview with Radio Beijing Bengali service she said there was enough scope of utilising Chinese experience for developing physical, technological and industrial infrastructure in Bangladesh.

Begum Zia was interviewed by a 3-member team of Radio Beijing headed by Shi Zing Wu, Chief of the Bengali service during its recent visit to Dhaka. The interview was broadcast on May 11.

The team visited Bangladesh at the invitation of Bangladesh Radio Beijing Listeners Club.

When asked about the possibility of the expansion of Sino-Bangladesh relationship particularly after her visit to

China last year, the Prime Minister said the relationship was entering into a new phase of improvement.

In this context, she mentioned about the Chinese help in the field of communication, energy and cottage industries.

Referring to the goals of her leadership she said her government is pledge bound to bring about overall welfare for the nation.

"The focal point of our development strategy is poverty alleviation and we are making utmost efforts in this regard", she said.

Besides, she continued, we are working to give a strong foundation to the newly established democracy in the country.

The Prime Minister also said people's authority and participation have also been ensured in state affairs through the introduction of parliamentary system.

## UN compensation form distribution date extended

The date for distribution of the United Nations Compensation Forms among the returnees from Kuwait and Iraq and their submission have been extended to May 20 and May 27 respectively, an official handout said in Dhaka Wednesday night, reports BSS.

According to earlier announcement the dates were April 22 and May 7 respectively.

The Manpower Bureau is receiving specified ABC forms of the United Nations Commission for Compensation through its 21 district offices for consideration in giving compensation to the Bangladesh returnees from Kuwait and Iraq due to the Gulf War from August 2, 1990 to March 2, 1991.

The government has decided to extend the dates for the convenience of the returnees.

## Nazrul Jayanti observance meet held

A meeting was held in Dhaka Wednesday to finalise the programme in connection with national level celebration of the birth anniversary of Rebel Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, reports BSS.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahannara Begum presided over it.

The meeting had elaborate discussions on the programme for the three-day celebrations beginning May 28 (Jaistha 11). The sub-committees, formed earlier in this connection, submitted their reports at the meetings.

The meeting also paid tribute to the memory of Prof Shachindra Mohan Roy who died of a heart attack at the discussion meeting held at Shaikhah in celebration of Tagore's birth anniversary.

Among others parliament members Amanullah Chowdhury, Kamruddin Yahya Khan Majlis, MA Khaleq, Rabya Chowdhury

## New organisation floated

A new organisation named 'Deshiya Bastra Shilpa Raksha Parishad' was floated at a meeting of different organisations connected with the textile industry in Dhaka on Wednesday, reports BSS.

According to a press release, the new organisation was formed to protect the indigenous textile industries.

## Corrigendum

There was an inadvertent mistake in the story titled 'BCI MD arrested sent to jail' published in the Daily Star on May 13.

The correct version is that Mustafizur Rahman, Managing Director of Bangladesh Commerce and Investment (BCI) joined the National Bank Limited in 1983 as Assistant Vice President instead of reported Vice-President. He was promoted to Vice President of the bank in 1986. Before joining this bank he was the Manager of Janata Bank, Dhaka Medical College Hospital branch.

In 1986, he resigned from the service of National Bank Limited. Mustafiz was never the Director of the NBL.

## 148 cases filed for violation of traffic rules

A total of 148 cases were filed Wednesday against the owners or drivers of different vehicles for violation of traffic rules, a police press release said, reports BSS.

Meanwhile, Dhaka Metropolitan Police arrested

136 people from the city during the last 24 hours on charges of different crimes.

The arrested persons, 10 of them warrantee, were sent to court, the press release added.

## 5th Annual Convention of Lions District 315-A on May 15th & 16th

Lions District 315-A, Bangladesh is going to celebrate the 5th Annual District Convention on May 15th and 16th in a befitting manner. This year we are also commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Lionism. The highlights of the Convention Programme are as follows:

### Friday, May 15th, 1992

At 9:30 AM  
At 3:00 PM

Lions 4th Cabinet Meeting of the District.  
5th Lioness Annual District Convention '92  
Chief Guest — Major General Majid-ul-Huq, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Development & Flood Control.

### Saturday, May 16th, 1992

At 9:00 AM  
At 11:00 AM  
At 3:00 PM

First Plenary Session.  
Lions Delegate Session.  
Inaugural Session.  
Chief Guest — Begum Khaleda Zia, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.  
Banquet Session.  
Chief Guest — Mr Abdur Rahman Biswas, Hon'ble President, People's Republic of Bangladesh.

All Lions and Lionesses are requested to attend the Convention. In a message on the occasion Lt. Humayun Zahir, District Governor invite each and every Lions and Lioness to use the opportunity like this 5th Annual Convention to renew our commitment to serve the distressed humanity better.

## 'Population to be checked to attain autarky in food'

FULTALA (Khulna), May 13 Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Shaikh Razzak Ali today said that national existence would be at stake if we could not attain self-sufficiency in food and check population boom in time, reports BSS.

He underscored the need for making the canal digging programme on voluntary basis a grand success to achieve this end.

The speaker was addressing a huge gathering of people at

village Damodar under Fultala upazila of Khulna district while formally opening the just re-excavated Katakhal canal there.

Presided over by Deputy Commissioner, Khulna, the inaugural function was also addressed, among others, by Jatiya Sangsad Whip Ashraf Hossain.

Stressing on the significance of gaining self-reliance in all sectors, Shaikh Razzak Ali said no nation could march

ahead depending on others for a long time. He said we had no alternative but to preserve water in canals and rivers and use it for irrigation in dry season with the ultimate aim of dou-

bling food production by cultivating land in all seasons and lessening import of food-grains.

Later, the Speaker planted saplings on the sides of the canal and released fish fries there.

## Body recovered

Police today recovered a body of a woman at village Charrahitpur in Keraniganj thana, reports UNB.

Nurjahan Begum (35) wife of Jamil Ali of the same village allegedly committed suicide by taking insecticides.

Family sources said Nurjahan had quarrelled with her husband in the morning.

The body was sent to the Dhaka Mitford hospital for post mortem.

In another incident in Tegharia village of the same thana, a young person was stabbed when he went to collect his debt.

The incident occurred this noon when Momin Miah (20) went to Billal Miah's house in the same village to collect his money given long ago for supplying water for irrigation.

It has been alleged that Billal's two sons Amzad Hossain and Delwar Hossain attacked Momin near the house and at one stage stabbed him in the lower abdomen.

He was rushed to Mitford Medical hospital in a critical condition.

## Thursday

5.00	Opening Announcement
	Al-Quaran, Programme Summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Gecia
5.25	Chena Kahini (Children's programme)
6.00	Cartoon Show : The New Three Stooges
6.30	Jibaner Alo (Religious programme)
7.05	School/Debate
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Drama of the week
10.00	News in English
10.30	Drama Series : Twin /Peaks
11.30	Khobar/The News
11.40	Friday's programme summary

## Weather

### Dry Weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

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

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period.

No marked change in weather would be noticed in subsequent two days, Met office also forecast.

Only 6 mm of rain was recorded in Rangpur in 24 hours till 6 pm Wednesday.

The sun sets in Dhaka Thursday at 6:34 pm and rises on Friday at 5:16 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns Wednesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Degree Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	35.9	26.8	72	53
Chittagong	34.0	27.0	79	72
Rajshahi	40.2	26.4	67	35
Khulna	36.0	25.2	78	67
Burinal	35.5	26.0	81	67
Cox's Bazar	34.0	27.5	72	72
Sylhet	34.1	24.7	78	73
Dinajpur	34.7	24.2	71	63

**Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology**  
Dhaka

**Tender Notice**

No. D-2501(2) dt. 13.5.92

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited by the undersigned in the prescribed form from the actual reputed Electric High Tension Switch Gear Manufacturers/Suppliers who are enlisted with DESA/PDB/REB/Govt/Semi-Govt./Autonomous bodies for Supply and installation of 4 (four) numbers 11KV 500 KVA High Tension Switch Gears in the Sub-Stations of BUET. The firms which procure switch gear components/elements for fabrication and sales in the market must have a certificate from their original reputed manufacturer in this regard that they are the agent and must have also a certificate from the recognised buyers that their switch gear performance is good after its supply and installation, are also entitle to submit papers for purchase of the Tender Documents.

Applications for purchase of Tender papers will be received up to 23-5-92 and Tender papers will be sold from 24-5-92. Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to 11-30 AM on 26-5-92 and will be opened on the same day. No tender papers will be sold on the opening day. For further detail information regarding purchase and dropping the tender, the office of the undersigned may be contacted or the Contractor may see the notice board of the office.

D-268 University Engineer

Opening 14 May  
4:30 pm

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**জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, জনাব সামসুদোহা, পিতা-মোঃ আবদুল জব্বার মোস্তা, গ্রাম-সোনাকান্দা, পোঃ-কিটকা, উপজেলা- হরিরামপুর, জেলা-মানিকগঞ্জ (বর্তমানে শিকান্দারী অফিসার, জনতা ব্যাংক, আবুল হাসনাত রোড শাখা, ঢাকা) গত ১৮-১২-৮৯ ইং তারিখ হইতে অননুমোদিত ভাবে কর্মস্থলে অনুপস্থিত রহিয়াছেন। তাহার অননুমোদিত অনুপস্থিতির কারণে যাবতীয় প্রশাসনিক ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ পূর্বক তাহার প্রদত্ত সিউরিটি বন্ড অনুযায়ী ব্যাংকের প্রাপ্য-২৫,৪৪৯-৭২ (পঁচিশ হাজার চারশত উনপঞ্চাশ টাকা বাহাস্তর পয়সা মাত্র) টাকা ১ (এক) মাসের মধ্যে ফেরৎ প্রদানের জন্য তাহাকে ৯-৩-৯২ ইং তারিখে চূড়ান্ত নোটিশ প্রদান করা হয় কিম্বা তিনি উক্ত চূড়ান্ত নোটিশের কোন জবাব প্রদান করেন নাই।

এমতাবস্থায়, আগামী ৩ (তিন) মাসের মধ্যে নিয়োগ পত্রের শর্তানুযায়ী তাহাকে ব্যাংকের পাওনা ২৫,৪৪৯-৭২ টাকা অদা করার নির্দেশ দেওয়া যাইতেছে। অন্যথায় তাহার বিরুদ্ধে ব্যাংকের পাওনা টাকা আদায়ের জন্য আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণসহ চাকুরী হইতে বরখাস্ত করা হইবে।

(এম, আলতাফ হোসেন)  
উপ-সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক

ডি.এক্সি. (ক) ৪২৯৪-২২/৫