

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Of Women's Pain and Poignancy

by Fayza Haq

Ranjit Das, who has had thirty-six group exhibitions and four solo ventures displayed his skill and talent once again at "La Galerie". About his work the famous French art critic Gerard Xuriguera has said "It has a message of fear and anguish, Ranjit's method reveal space, sadness, powerlessness and signs of disappointment." Xuriguera saw Ranjit's work as allegoric and beautifully mysterious.

In order to create interesting textures and bold images, the artist has used spray, roller, spatula, collage, lines and bold brush strokes. One saw the face of mankind tired with the struggle of life in "The Rest of Life".

The face was distorted with greens and greys. "In my paintings," elaborated the artist, "I want to depict what is happening in my surrounding. The paintings can also be seen in a wider sense when I want to reflect the social, economic and political sides of life. I am basically concerned with the way man has struggled with life."

In "Story of '71" there was a large facial representation of a freedom fighter. He had the look of satisfaction and peace. He was surrounded by symbolic and expressionist images of collaborators and ruined women. In the midst of the devastation were the wings of butterflies symbolising hope and a bright future.

In "Reflection 11" there is the face of a pleasant and beautiful woman. In the reflection, however, we realise that there is a lot of complication and ugliness beneath the obviously delightful. The artist conveys the feeling that human beings are more complicated than they first appear to be.

"Dream" had a woman almost locked up in one third of the canvas. She was shown as dreaming of escaping and drifting into the life beyond the confines of the home. The dreaming was depicted in blue and white. Geometrical motifs held the picture together.

"Message" in green, grey and blue had the same theme. One saw the frustrated, talented and inspired women, dragging through life without a tangible piece of work to their taste, and who were pining away because they cannot go to work. Here the artist was influenced by the fate of his own wife who was educated

abroad but could find no job in Dhaka, had to stay home and mind the children to pass her time, and was consequently filled with bitterness. The subject was depicted as speeding out to get away from the confines of the domestic life.

"High and Low" depicted how in the same society there were women who were very liberated, westernised, and moved about freely, while there were others still in the "burqa". The artist felt that the older tradition was on which he really cared for. At the same time, Ranjit was not against progress or change in a vehement manner.



'Women and the moon.'

"The Wheel of Life" was a symbolic piece. The image of the boy had an overwhelming cross sign before him. Life was shown as painful. Yet there was a poised restful hand on top, symbolising the hope in the future.

"Homage to Sattajit Roy" was inspired when the famous film maker who had been hospitalised. The artist who is a keen enthusiast of art films, was greatly concerned when he heard of the ill health of the maestro. Lines of brown stood for the film celluloid. The yellow bar was used to depict the flame of respect. The bar was also used to bring in a stylised pattern.

Talking about his life, Sanjit remarked "When I go to paint, I must have a balanced economic life. But this is not always possible in Bangladesh or anywhere else. Art materials are not easily available. Again, the prices are constantly soaring and if you use cheap brands like 'Camel' or 'Flying Eagle' or 'Students Colour' you don't get the same luminous effect. Similarly pottery, wood carving and stone carving are difficult mediums to handle in Bangladesh."

### Pahari Chhatra Parishad denies involvement with Shanti Bahini

Pahari Chhatra Parishad (Hill Students' Council) Tuesday denied its involvement with outlawed Shanti Bahini as reported in a section of the press, reports UNB.

In a joint statement Proshit Bikash Khisha, President and Korunamoy Chakma, General Secretary of the Parishad termed the accusation as baseless, fabricated, motivated and aimed at defaming their organisation.

Bengali Kriak Sramik Parishad, Pratyagata Shanti Bahini Kalyan Trust, Bangladesh Mukti Joddha Sangsad and Khagrachhari District Unit Joutha Arto Manab Kalyan Parishad in a joint statement recently said Pahari Chhatra Parishad has been acting as sub-unit of Shanti Bahini.

### 'Eradicate all sorts of evil activities'

State Minister for Textiles Abdul Mannan yesterday said the education was the prerequisite to overall development of the country, reports BSS.

He called upon the students to receive proper education to make a self-reliant Bangladesh. He was speaking as the chief guest at the 2nd founding ceremony of Bangladesh-Kuwait Friendship Hall of Dhaka Varsity.

Stressing the need to maintain proper education atmosphere in all the educational institutions and students halls, the state minister advised the students to come forward to eradicate all sorts of evil activities from the society.

He also advised the students to receive the vocational education

### Biswas, Khaleida greet President of Cameroon

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday (Tuesday) facilitated President Paul Biya, on the occasion of national day of Cameroon, reports BSS.

In a message to President Biya, President Biswas wished him good health, happiness and long life and the people of Cameroon well-being and prosperity.

#### Khaleida

Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia greeted President Paul Biya on the occasion of her national day of Cameroon.

In a message to President Biya, Begum Zia wished him good health, happiness and long life and the people of Cameroon peace, progress and prosperity.



A procession of Jatiya Party demanding release of former President Ershad and other leaders of the party in the city Tuesday. —Star photo

### New President of Lioness Club

Lioness Mahmuda Haq has been elected the President of Lioness Clubs International, District — 315-A.

She joined the Dhaka East Lioness Club as Director in 1979. She is also associated with a number of social organisations, says a press release.

### Harun concurrently made envoy to Mozambique

Government has decided to concurrently accredit Major General Harun Ahmed Chowdhury, at present High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, as Ambassador to the Republic of Mozambique with residence in Harare, said a PID handout.

### JS Law, Justice body meet held

The sixth meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Ministry was held Tuesday with Mirza Oolam Hafiz, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs in the chair at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban here, reports BSS.

Members of the committee attended the meeting are: Abdus Salam, Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives, Barrister Nazmul Huda, Minister for Information, Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Minister for Home Affairs, Jubed Ali MP and Sheikh Ansar Ali MP.

Additional Secretary in-charge of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs was present at the meeting.

### TV Wednesday

5.00	Opening announcement
5.10	Al-Quran programme summary
5.20	News in Bengali
5.30	Recitation from the Gesta
5.40	Tarunya
6.00	Sports programme: Gillet world sports special
6.30	Moder Garab Moder
7.05	Aasha
8.00	Palab
8.30	News in Bengali
9.00	Nritter Tale Tale (Dance programme)
9.10	Film: MacGyver
10.00	News in English
10.30	Drama
11.30	Khabar/The news
11.40	Thursday's programme summary
11.45	Closing

### Hasina demands release of Latif Mirza

Bangladesh Awami League Chief and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh Hasina Tuesday condemned the arrest of Awami League leader and former MP Abdul Latif Mirza, reports BSS.

In a statement in Dhaka she said the government in connivance with the anti-liberation fundamentalist forces has been acting against the pro-liberation forces and this has caused great concern among the people.

Sheikh Hasina demanded immediate release of Latif Mirza and withdrawal of the complaints against him.

In another statement, the Awami League chief protested the arrest of Serajganj Thana Mukti Joddha Sangsad Unit Commander Abdul Bari and demanded his immediate release and withdrawal of cases against him.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the preparatory committee for the biennial council session of the Awami League will be held at the central office of the party at Bangabandhu Avenue on May 21 at 10 am.

Chairman of the Preparatory Council Sheikh Hasina will preside, a party press release said.

Meeting of the Sub-Committee on constitution and declaration for the council session will be held on the same day at 4 pm and that of the Finance Sub-Committee at 6 pm at the central office.

### Allout help sought for violence-free campuses

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain called upon the students, teachers and guardians to extend their allout cooperation to keep the educational institutions free from violence and terrorism, reports BSS.

He was addressing a student rally at Gouripur Government College premise in Comilla. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain also spoke on the occasion.

Dr Hossain said that students were the future leaders of the nation and they should acquire knowledge with sincerity, honesty, and tolerance. Referring to the role of the political parties in a demo-



Chhatra League (M-I) held a protest rally in front of Aparajeyo Bangla on the DU campus Tuesday. —Star photo

### Three railwaymen suspended

Three employees of Bangladesh Railway, Western Zone have been placed under temporary suspension for alleged pilferage of diesel from train engine and realisation of excess fare from the passengers, says a press release.

A special squad of Railway Nirapatta Bahini arrested two persons on May 14 when they were pilfering diesel from a passenger train at Bilachandi railway station near Parbatipur. Driver and assistant driver of the engine Shamaul Huq, and Ashrafur Islam were put under suspension for their alleged collaboration.

### Illiteracy hinders building healthy democratic system, says Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Tuesday called for concerted efforts by all sections of society to free the nation from the curse of illiteracy, reports BSS.

He said illiteracy was the root cause of economic backwardness and an impediment toward building a healthy democratic system.

Addressing as chief guest the prize giving ceremony on the concluding day of the National Education Week-1992 at Shilpakala Academy, President Biswas said the rate of literacy had not increased even after the independence. He pointed out that the present rate of literacy was only 24.8 percent, lowest in the region.

Stressing the need for spreading education in all spheres of national life, the President said the state and the affluent sections should take the responsibility for imparting education to the unprivileged sections of the society.

The function was addressed by Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar. State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan and Education Secretary Shaiful Alam.

The President said the present government had already taken up various effective measures to spread education. He said the compulsory primary education system had been introduced and the female edu-

cation up to class eight had been made free.

President Biswas also emphasised the need for maintaining congenial academic atmosphere and laid stress on effective cooperation among the students, teachers and guardians. He said there should be a national consensus irrespective of political opinions for ensuring academic atmosphere and containing campus terrorism.

He hoped that the observance of Education Week this year would yield positive results in the education sector. He particularly mentioned female education, saying that the present government was giving due importance to female education because society's progress could not be ensured keeping half of the population uneducated.

### BAU admission test Aug 27

The written admission test for he candidates-seeking admission into the bachelor level Part-I classes under various faculties of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) for the session 1991-92 will be held on August 27, says a press release.

Application form and guide book will be available from the office of the Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science from June 1 to 9 and June 20 to 30.

### Death rate declining

Bangladesh will have higher number of old people in the year 2025 as death rate in the country has been declining in the recent years, reports UNB.

According to projection by the World Development Report 1992, population of 15-64 year age group will rise by about 15 per cent from its present standing of 54 per cent.

On the other hand, number of teen-age group will decline and stand at 25.7 per cent in 2025 from its present figure of 42.9 per cent.

The country's present birth rate is about 35 per 1,000 population and death rate is 14 per 1,000 population.

In 1965, the birth rate was 47 and death rate was 21 per 1,000 population.

The report projected Bangladesh's total population to be 128 million in the year 2000 and about 176 million in 2025.

### BCD demands trial of war criminals

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra Dal (BCD) Tuesday in a protest rally demanded of the government to try all war criminals including Golan Azam by publishing a list. Otherwise the government would pay for its consequences, the leaders said.

Addressing the rally in front of National Press Club, BCD leaders said the government was responsible for attacks on people by Juba Command on the hartal day Monday. They urged all pro-liberation forces to stand unitedly against Jamaat-Shibir and terrorism.

The rally was addressed by Mozaffar Hossain Zakir, MA Hasem Razu, Mostafizur Rahman Mostafa, ASM Elias, Gazi Natum, Jahangir Alam Ripon and others.

### Book reading competition

Sandhani Shahitya Kendra has organised a book reading competition for the SSC 1992 examinees.

The competition will begin from May 25. The interested are requested to contact Sandhani at 46, Kaliahagan (1st lane) by May 24, says a press release.

### What's on today . . .

#### Rotary Club of Dhaka Midtown

The regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Midtown will be held today (Wednesday) at 5.30 pm at Nightingale Chinese Restaurant. Today's programme includes reception to past presidents and Eid reunion.

#### Photo exhibition

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in collaboration with the Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO is putting on show the 15th travelling photographic exhibition organised by the Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO in Tokyo from 22 Asia and the Pacific countries entitled 'education for all' at the Shilpakala Academy Gallery at 5 pm today (Wednesday).

#### Lions Club of Dhaka Oriental

The regular meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Oriental will be held today (Wednesday) at 6 pm at the Officer's Club, Bafy Road.

#### Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga

The regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga will be held today (Wednesday) at 5.30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel.

The guest speaker for this week is Barrister Moinul Hossain. He will speak on 'Thoughts on national development'.

#### Arganta Film Society

A fortnightly international film show has been arranged on the occasion of the 16th founding anniversary of Arganta International Film Society beginning from today (Wednesday) at the Goethe Institute at 6.00 pm.

The programmes are dedicated to legendary film maker Satyajit Ray. Arganta will also publish a commemorative book on Satyajit. Today's films: Rabindranath (India) and the Red Stocking (Germany).

#### Open subject seminar

Narigantha Prabartana will hold an open subject seminar in which different women professionals will participate at the National Press Club at 3.30 pm today (Wednesday).

### Weather

#### Day temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Light to moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Chittagong division and at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Tuesday.

Day temperature may fall by two to three degree Celsius over Chittagong division and one to two degree Celsius elsewhere over the country.

Only 3 mm of rain was recorded in Sylhet. The sun sets in Dhaka today (Wednesday) at 6.37 pm and rises at 5.14 am tomorrow (Thursday).

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	32.2	26.2	76	52
Chittagong	33.7	24.7	62	75
Khulna	35.7	24.7	75	67
Rajshahi	38.2	26.8	75	75
Dinajpur	34.0	23.0	75	72
Sylhet	32.0	19.4	70	68
Cox's Bazar	33.0	26.0	64	75
Barisal	34.2	24.6	77	79

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Facilities Department, Ministry of Education  
Mymensingh Zone, Mymensingh

### Tender Notice

Tender Notice No: XEN(M)/FD-01/91-92/19/MZ

Dated: 14/05/1992

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited considering the following terms and conditions:

PROJECT: REPAIR AND RENOVATION WORK UNDER 137-REVENUE BUDGET

S1. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Taka)	Cost of tender documents (Non-refundable)	Earnest Money (Taka)	Category of Contractor	Time allowed for completion of work
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of boundary wall at Nandina M.H.K Pilot High School, Jamalpur.	43,903/02	400/00	880/00	A2	1(one) month
2.	Completion of incomplete work guard shade at Kumudini Govt. Mohila College, Tangail.	19,905/00	400/00	400/00	A2	1(one) month
3.	Construction of garage at Anandamohan Govt. University College, Mymensingh.	1,01,429/00	400/00	2040/00	A2	1(one) month
4.	Dismantling damaged RCC Roof slab and converted to C.I. sheet roofing, hostel (193' x38') and other portion (137'x29'). Repair Renovation work of MM Ali Govt. College art building, Tangail.	6,72,730/00	400/00	13460/00	A1	3(three) months

a) Eligibility of Contractor/Firm

: Contractor of Facilities Department, those who have deposited their renewal fees for the year 1991-92 (at the time of purchasing tender original copy of treasury challan in support of deposition of renewal fee must be produced) and attested copy of the same shall also have to be attached along with the tender otherwise tender will be cancelled.

b) Availability of tender documents

: Office of the Zonal Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Mymensingh, Dhaka, Faridpur Zone and Assistant Engineer, Facilities Department, Jamalpur and Tangail District.

c) Last date and time for selling of tender documents

: 24/05/92 (Office hours).

d) Date for receiving and opening of tender document

: In the above offices mentioned in Item No. B tender will be received on 26/05/92 up to 12.30 Noon. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh for above mentioned amount as Earnest Money in favour of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Mymensingh Zone. Tender will be opened the same date 1.00 PM in presence of tenderer (if there be any).

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without showing any reason whatsoever.

DFP (G) 9679-17/5  
G-602

Mustafa Kamal  
Executive Engineer.