Getting Into Grips With French

by Fayza Haq

DICTIONNAIRE FRANÇAIS-BANGLA

ফরাশি-বাংলা অভিধান

Alliance Française de Chittagong

আলিয়স ফ্রাসেজ চট্টগ্রাম

The French to Bangla dictionary by Gurupada Chakrabarty of Chittagong, launched this month, contains 3,500 words, scientifically sclected, with coherent lexicographical approach. This is certainly a definite intellectual achievement.

There are dictionaries from French to English and English to French available at bookshops in places like New Market, Sobahanbagh and the Alliance Francaise, but this

one is specially suited more proficient in the Benglai medium. those who wish more than just the text and to use the Allia nce Francaise library fully would want to read magazines, books, and news papers with the help of dictionaries. ft is not always that the teacher is at hand to help with the diffi phrases, and you cannot limit vourself to the

Since the first trading post was set up at Chandannagar in 1690-22, Indian studies was more on comm erce and defe nce and terri torial matters rather than cultural ones. August Aussant mavbe said to have compiled the first French Bangla dictio-

text alone.

nary of a sort with 12,000 French words, and 30,000 Bengali synonyms. The work, never published, is at the National Library at Paris.

Manuel da Affumpeam compiled the first Bengali to Portuguese dictionary in 1743 on which Aussant's work was based. The first Bengali dictionary to use Bengali characters was done in 1793 and was known as Upjohn's dictionary. "It is very useful to use to teach the locals English and to assist the beginners in learning Bangla" was said about it. William Carrey too made remarkable contribution with his Bengali to English dictionary in 1815.

In the Middle Ages, in Europe, after Latin the Church language, French was the second international language. In England it was the official language from the Norman conquest-till the fifteenth century. The use of French was so common in Europe that Marco Polo wrote his accounts of his travels in French in 1298.

It was also in French that Gibbon , the historian of 'The decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" published his first work in 1761.In the years leading to the French Revolution in 1789 Europe's high society of the educated, fashionable and elegant all spoke French,

Fredrick 11 of Prussia and Catherine the Great of Russia made it a point to speak French as

did the royalty in Germany and Italy. The French language also made great progress as French settlers and explorers went to the corners of the globe. A first phase of expansion began in the sixteenth century, when the French settled in Canada and other parts of North America, in Africa and the Indian Subcontinent.

> The eigh teenth century wars led to the loss of French possessions, ex cept overseas territories. However, the nineteenth century saw a new and unparalleled wave of colonial expansion, Frence gradually became the heart of the huge African and Asian region; in this manner schools were established in various far-flung arcas to teach French.

In 1919, the Treaty of Versaille which put an end to World War 1, was written both in French and English. In 1945 the French language acquired the same position as English in the United Nations.

French and Bengali belong to the same group of languages,

the Indo-European group. The most ancient indo-European language which can be studied is Sanskrit and, even if the idioms diverged as centuries elapsed, significant cores of words with same root exist. The figures are a good example of this shared ancestors.

Deux = dui Six = chhoyScpt = shat Neul = nov Dix = dosh

When I asked a student of the Alliance Francaise Dhaka about his opinion of the dictionary, he replied that he was happy enough with his English to French version but was pleased to know that some progress had been made for his colleagues who have had Bangla as their medium of instruction. Another student of French that I came across was delighted to have this book because his comprehension of Bangla was far superior to that of his understanding of English

Thanks to the first edition of the French Bengali dictionary 300 million people have now a lexical bridge between them. However a considerable distance exists for the bridge to be a much used passage.

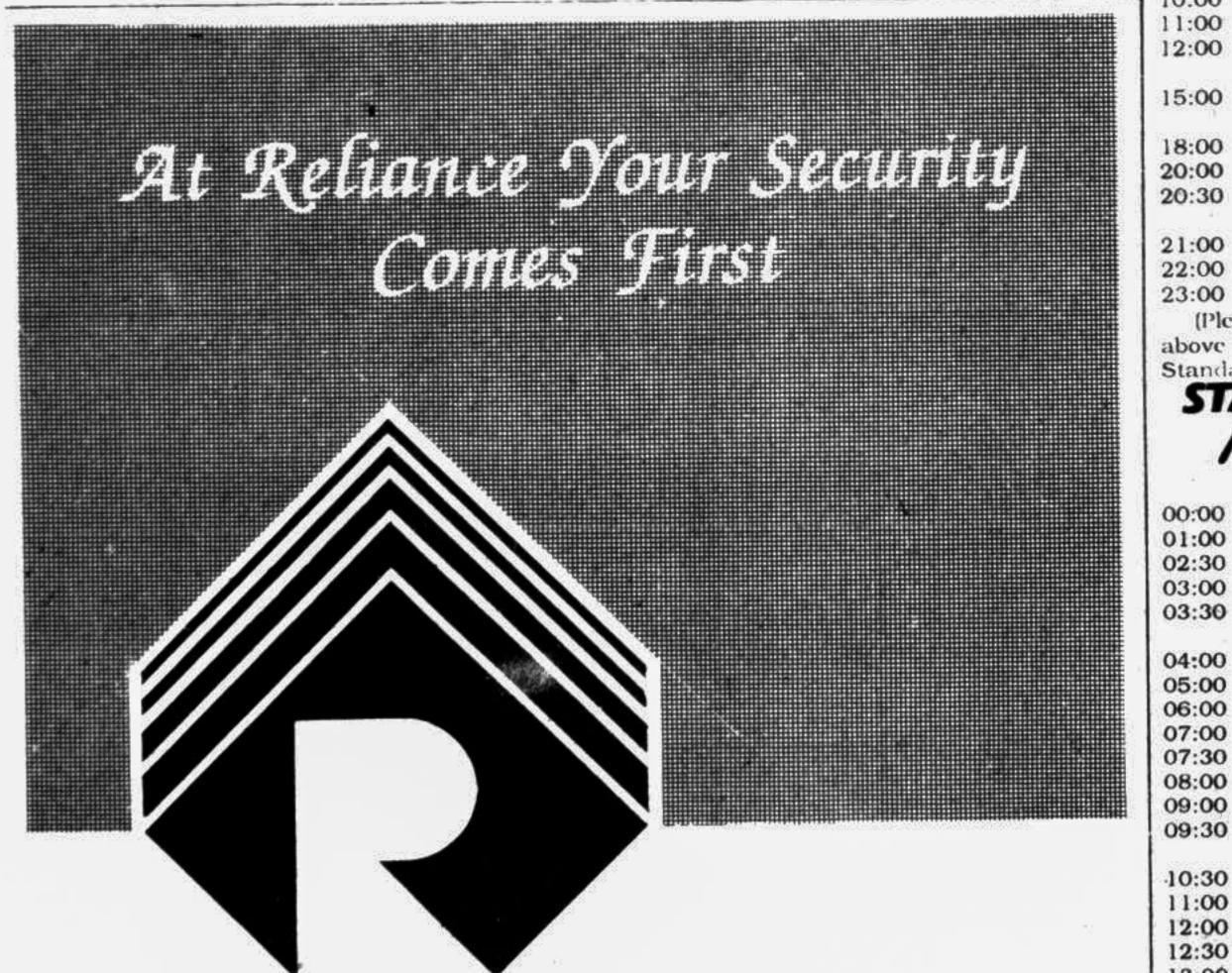
Biswas presents bus for students of BM College

President Abdur Rahman Biswas presented a bus for the students of Barisal Government BM University-College at a function held at Bangabhaban Tuesday, reports BSS.

The key of the 50-seater bus was received from the President by the Principal of the college, Professor Mohammad Hanif.

The handing over of the bus at a cost of about Taka 19 lakh would fulfil the commitment of the President as per demand

of the students of the college.



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Al Quran Programme summary News in Bangla Recitation from the Geeta Campus

programme

Gillette world sports

special Samachar Hijal-tamal News in Bangla Sangbad Parikrama 9.00 McGyver 10.00 News in English 10.25 Sangsad round up

Sports

10.35 Shilpa O Shahitya 11.30 Khabar/The News 11.40 Thursday's programme 11.45 Closing. STAR

BBC WORLD SERVICE Wednesday

World News

00:00

00:25 World Business Rep World News News from London 02:00 World News 02:15 Panorama 03:00 News Headlines Documentary 03:05 World News 04:00 04:25 News from London 05:00 World News 05:25 Network East 06:00 World News

Newsnight 07:00 World News World Business Re-08:00 World News 08:25 Newsnight World News 09:15 40 Minutes World News 10:00

10:25 Wogan 11:00 World Headlines 11:05 Inside Story 12:00 World News Open Space World News 13:00 **Business Morning** World News 14:00

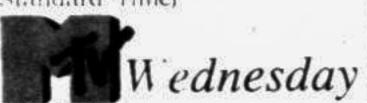
14:25 Kilroy World Headlines Inside Story 15:05 16:00 World News World News 18:00 18:25 Wogan 19:00 World News

19:25 Open Space World News 20:00 News from London World News 21:00 40 Minutes World Headlines Inside Story World News 23:00

Wogan

23:25

(Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Timel



120 Minutes Music Videos 03:00 The Day in Rock 05:00 Rockumentary: John Mellancamp Awake on the Wild MTV Power Pack 09:00 MTV's Most Wanted Classic MTV Awake on the Wild 12:00 Side Music Videos - VJ

Danny McGill Music Videos The Day in Rock Rockumentary: John Mellancamp MTV Power Pack MTV's Most Wanted

Classic MTV (Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)

Wednesday

Movie: Night Elevator

The Bold & The

Beyond Tomorrow

St Elsewhere

Newhart

03:30

Beautiful Donahue 04:00 Santa Barbara 05:00 Attitudes **Everyday Workout** Smoggies **Animated Classics** Terrahawks Return to Treasure Island Jupiter Moon Attitudes 11:00 Parent Survival Guide Mother's Day Santa Barbara 13:00 Donahue 14:00 Eye on Asia 15:00 Madeleine Cooks 16:00 Mac & Mutley 16:30 Adventures on 17:00 Kythera Cartoon Classics Jupiter Moon 18:00 Beyond Tomorrow 18:30 Whose Line is it 19:00 Anyway?

Big City Metro 19:30 St Elsewhere 20:00 Hollywood Stars 20:50 Movie: Love All 21:00 Summer Newhart 22:30 The Bold & the 23:00 Beautiful Fame Fortune &

Romance-[Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)

23:00

CCC completes Chaktai Reexcavation Project

waters during the rainy

the CCC also spent over Taka

one crore for reconstruction of

549 drains, culverts and

brigades in the low lying areas

to help pass canal water during

waters can pass easily.

He appealed to all sections

Mayor Nasir Uddin said that

CHITTAGONG, May 23: Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) has completed Taka 3.5 crore Chaktai Re-Excavation Project and with this vast areas of the city will be saved from frequent inundation by rains waters during the rainy season, reports BSS.

City Corporation Mayor Mir Muhammad Nasir Uddin today told newsmen that successful completion of the Chaktai Reexcavation Project was possible because of the whole-hearted cooperation of the people. members of the City Development Committee comprising leaders of different shades of opinion and the engineers and employees of the corporation.

The Mayor expressed his deep gratitude to all concerned saying people's cooperation for implementing any development programme is indispensable.

Mayor Nasir Uddin said that more than ten lakh city dwellers of Muradpur, Bibirhat, Chaktai, Khatunganj, Agrabad Nastrabad and some other areas would now be save from frequent inundation by rain

Biswas, Khaleda greet Duke, PM of Luxembourg

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has greeted Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg on the occasion of his country's national day, reports BSS.

In a message to Duke Jean, President Biswas wished him good health, happiness and long life and the people of Luxembourg continued peace, progress and prosperity.

In another message Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has felicitated Jacques Santer, Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on the occasion of national day of that country

Dr Matin's death anniversary today



The 11th death anniversary of Dr. Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Bose Professor of Physics, former Vice-Chancellor of the Unive rsity of Dhaka

Be

and founder Chairman of Bangbadhu Parishad will be observed today (Wednesday) says a press release. On this occasion a Milad

Mahfil will be held at 5-30 P.M at the residence of Razia Matin Chaudhury, House No. 66-B. Road No. 18 Banant, Dhaka.



Obituary

Liselong teacher and educationist Kazi Nizamuddin Omar of Salar, Murshidabad, passed away on June 19 in Dhaka, a press release says.

Late Omar was former teacher of St. Gregory's High School and later he joined the Shaheen School, Dhaka from where he retired as Vice Principal in 1980. The deceased left behind his wife and three sons and two daughters.

Omar's Qulkhani was held on Monday at the residence of his eldest son Prof. K Ikhtyar Omar of BUET.

Philips award for Bangla year 1398

Philips Bangladesh Limited has announced the Philips award for literature and journalism for the Bangla year 1398, reports BSS.

Showkat Ali has been awarded for his novel "Uttarer Khep" Khairul Anower of Dainik Bangla for his investigative report "Chadabazder Douratta.

of the people to help keep Chaktai canal clean so that rain The award is worth Tk 50,000 each plus a trophy.



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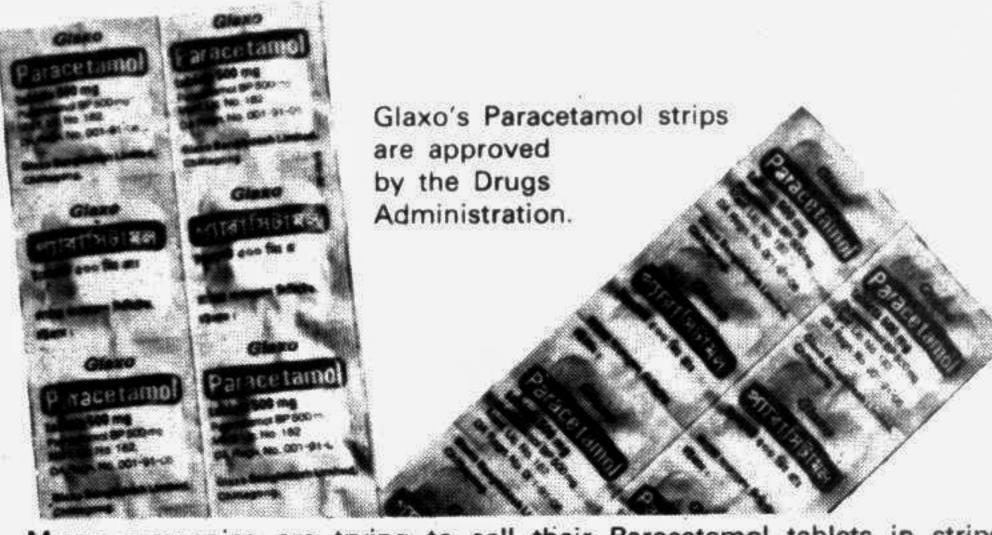
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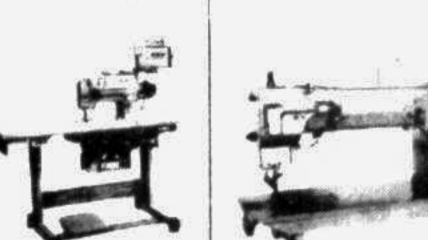
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