

Dhaka Day by Day

Manners and The Dhakaite!

by Parveen Anam

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As children, we were taught, 'Manners make the man'. The emphasis on manners could not be overemphasized, actually, but as we grew more sophisticated and caught up with the rest of the world, i.e. we grew older, manners were left behind in the race. Way behind. At least for the average Dhakaite, it certainly did. Manners lost their meaning and other more important things took over.

In days of old, it was always the done thing to immediately get to one's feet when the elders came into the room. Not so now. Not only are 'they' not on 'their' feet, 'their' feet are outstretched, on the nearest chair, while the poor 'elder' looks the other way, his sensibilities offended. Offering 'their' chair again is an idea, as old as the hills, apparently. Smoking was taboo, in days gone by, unthinkable in the presence of the elders. And yet, it's obviously the done thing these days, not only to consider it perfectly okay to smoke in the presence of the elders, but also to blow smoke in their faces.

Swear words are as common as the common cold, when in the ancient days, a harmless word such as 'stupid' would guarantee a sharp rap on the knuckles, and banishment to the bedroom, for at least three days. Now, if you do not use a swear word at the beginning and end of every sentence, you are considered a fossil. Of course, the television and the videos contribute very positively towards this end. Almost consider it their pious duty, in fact.

Perhaps in earlier times the absence of the television led to the greater interaction between the generations which in turn led to the learning of respect for morals and a sense of duty. Duty? The very word rings forlorn. Duty to whom, to what? seems to be the obvious question. How about duty to the sense of duty? Sounds complicated, I am sure. And yet, it is this lack of sense of duty which has led to the degeneration of morals and manners. Perhaps both are interrelated. Teachers were considered the epitome of everything that was to be respected. And yet, these days, teachers are as dispensable as education itself, it seems. Waste of time to spend even a moment's thought on either, is the distinct impression of the aver-

age Dhakaite. Hence the state of affairs in the education front.

The old fogys considered respect for their womenfolk, topmost in their list of priorities. It was unthinkable not to stand up when a lady would walk into the room. And hands in one's pockets, when being introduced to anyone, was unforgivable. These days, getting to one's feet for the lady and bothering to take the hands out of the pocket, to be introduced, is obsolete.

More often than not, the average Dhakaite is in a mad race to outdo each other, in trying to prove who can be the most ruthless, in kidnapping, hijacking, etc. the poor lady, or better still trying to do away with her totally, as is obvious, at one glance, at the morning papers. The ladies can consider themselves lucky, if they reach home in one piece, at the end of the day. Getting to one's feet indeed sounds more like a joke, and a pretty poor one at that, to the harassed woman in Dhaka today. Where did we go wrong? And the hands in pockets is considered the 'in' thing, in case one is puzzled, as to why it is so important, to keep it there. The Dhakaite will take it out, shake with it, and promptly put it back into his pocket! If it was not so impolite, it would actually be quite funny. Perhaps he does not know what to do with his hands. And the less said about table manners, the better. At least for those with weak stomachs. Nowhere is it more evident than at one of those countless, endless, round of meaningless weddings, where picking one's teeth, gargling straight into your face and belching loud enough to be heard three tables away, are the privileges which can never be denied the proud Dhakaite.

What of course never fails to astonish the more slightly 'manners conscious' citizen is, perhaps, that in spite of such a mushroom growth of schools, how come it has never occurred to anybody to open a school of etiquette, where even if the Dhakaite is not taught to drink tea like Eliza Doolittle, in the immortal 'My Fair Lady', with the little finger at the proper angle as tea is sipped elegantly, at least the Dhakaite can be taught not to bang the door in one's face.



People of Gendarya and Faridabad areas brought out a protest rally demanding trial of the killers of Rafiqul Islam Babu, a JCD leader of Sutrapur unit. — Star photo

BTV Thursday

| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| 5.00 | Opening announcement |
| 5.10 | Al Quran |
| 5.20 | Programme summary |
| 5.30 | News in Bangla |
| 5.40 | Recitation from Geeta |
| 5.50 | Sabar Sath |
| 6.00 | The New Three Stooges |
| 6.30 | Jiboner Alo |
| 7.05 | School debate |
| 8.00 | News in Bangla |
| 8.40 | Drama of the week |
| 10.00 | News in English |
| 10.25 | Parliament round up |
| 10.35 | Drama series: Twin Peaks |
| 11.30 | Khabar/ The news |
| 11.40 | Friday's programme summary |
| 11.45 | Closing |



STAR TV Thursday

| | |
|-------|-----------------------|
| 00:00 | World News |
| 00:25 | World Business Report |
| 01:00 | World News |
| 01:25 | News from London |
| 02:00 | World News |
| 02:15 | 40 Minutes |
| 03:00 | World Headlines |
| 03:05 | Inside Story |
| 04:00 | World News |
| 04:25 | News from London |
| 05:00 | World News |
| 05:25 | Kilory |
| 06:00 | World News |
| 06:25 | Newsnight |
| 07:00 | World News |
| 07:25 | World Business Report |
| 08:00 | World News |
| 08:25 | Newsnight |
| 09:00 | World News |
| 09:25 | UN Report |
| 10:00 | World News |
| 10:25 | The Human Element |
| 11:00 | World Headlines |
| 11:05 | Horizon |
| 12:00 | World News |
| 12:25 | Spain on a Plate |
| 13:00 | World News |
| 13:30 | Business Morning |
| 14:00 | World News |
| 14:25 | The Racing Game |
| 15:00 | World Headlines |
| 15:05 | Horizon |
| 16:00 | World News |
| 18:00 | World News |
| 18:25 | Human Element |
| 19:00 | World News |
| 19:25 | Spain on a Plate |
| 20:00 | World News |
| 20:25 | News from London |
| 21:00 | World News |
| 21:25 | UN Report |
| 22:00 | World Headlines |
| 22:05 | Horizon |
| 23:00 | World News |
| 23:25 | Human Element |



M Thursday

| | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 00:00 | Headbanger's Ball |
| 03:00 | Music Videos |
| 05:00 | The Day in Rock |
| 05:30 | Kevin Seal: Sporting Fool |
| 06:00 | Awake on the Wild Side |
| 09:00 | MTV Power Pack |
| 10:00 | MTV's Most Wanted |
| 11:00 | Classic MTV |
| 12:00 | Awake on the Wild Side |
| 15:00 | Music Videos — VJ Danny McGill |
| 18:00 | Music Videos |
| 20:00 | The Day in Rock |
| 20:30 | Kevin Seal: Sporting Fool |
| 21:00 | MTV Power Pack |
| 22:00 | MTV's Most Wanted |
| 23:00 | Classic MTV |

Mixed reactions over budget

By Staff Correspondent

Various trade associations continued to express their reaction to the proposed national budget for the 1992-93 fiscal year till Wednesday both criticizing and appreciating the measures taken.

Bangladesh Jute Mills Association (BJMA) in its reaction said that the budget apparently had made no mention of the serious financial crisis being faced by the jute industries in the country, except a cursory reference that it is inefficient and heavily losing sector like power and railway.

It was unfortunate that while the neighbouring countries had offered a liberal incentive package for marketing their jute goods abroad, the subsidies and other assistance enjoyed by the local industries had been withdrawn from the important sector of the country, the BJMA said.

It also criticized the imposition of one per cent tax on the export and said it would worsen the situation further.

Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry in its reaction hailed the budget for its measures in the field of education, Jamuna levy, tax reform and export of oriented market economy.

However, the chamber felt that there should have been full rebate on income tax of the export earnings and there should have been more incentives for the industrialists.

Local Textile Industry Protection Council in a statement said the imposition of excise duty at the rate of 2.5 per cent on the import of yarn would make raw materials for the industry costly.

The council observed that abolition of all duties from raw materials for the industry is a must for the survival of local textile industries.

Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society in its reaction said the

import duty for the medicines and pharmaceutical raw materials should have been nil.

The society also condemned the government's existing duty of 7.5 and 15 per cent on raw materials and the fresh duty of 7.5 per cent on the imported medicines. The society said this was in contradiction to the government's contention to lower the cost of treatment to the general public.

Bangladesh Cargo Vessel

Owners Association in its reaction said that reduction of fuel price by Taka .30 per liter did not reflect the demand of the cargo vessel owners and this would have an adverse reaction on the cargo operation.

Bangladesh Soap Manufacturing Association in a statement condemned the imposition of VAT on the industry in the proposed budget.

It said this measure would put the industry at stake.

House for Sale

Building on 3.03 katha land at 2/1, Eskaton Garden (Road opposite Ladies Club) Dhaka, is for sale. Interested parties may visit the premises and leave their name, address and telephone number with the security guard. You will be contacted thereafter. 5-158



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Directorate of Fisheries
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Appointment Notice

Memo No. PI/370-89/780 Dated: 17-6-92

Applications are invited from Bangladesh nationals for appointment to the post of Sectoral Planning Expert under the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation/United Nations Development Programme Projects in Bangladesh. Application with detailed bio-data, attested true copies of educational qualification certificates and other testimonials and two copies passport size recent photographs should reach the office of the undersigned on or before 7th July, '92. Persons below 33 (thirtythree) years of age and not having minimum 10 (ten) years practical experience in the relevant field, need not. Candidate should have Post-Graduate degree in Economics; however, preference will be given to candidate having PhD. Detailed job description and other necessary informations may be collected from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Pay, allowance and terms & conditions of service:
To be decided as per the latest rules and regulations of Bangladesh Government and UNDP. Candidate in service should apply through proper authority channel.

A K Aatur Rahman
Director
Directorate of Fisheries,
Bangladesh, Dhaka.

DFP (G) 12723-17/6
G-792

Biswas presents bus for DU students

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Wednesday presented a 52-seater bus to the students of the Dhaka University at a function held at Bangabhaban, reports BSS.

Professor Moniruzzaman Miah, Vice-Chancellor of the University received the key of the bus from the President.

Among others, Education Secretary Safiul Alam, Secretary to the President Ataul Huq, Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof Wakil Ahmed, DUCSU VP Amanullah Aman MP, General Secretary Khairul Kabir Khowkan, AGS, Nazimuddin Alam, Transport Secretary Khondaker Jahangir Alam, Secretary General of Jatayatatabadi Chhatra Dal Ilias Ali, Organising Secretary Abdul Malek Ratan and other DUCSU and Chhatra Dal leaders were present on the occasion.

Obituary

Md Mofizuddin Ahmed, father of Waseq al Azad Chairman of Bangladesh Sugar & Food Industries Corporation, (BSFIC) died of heart attack Wednesday. He was 88, says a press release.

Mafiz, former Had Master of Aswini Kumar Institution at Batajar, Gournadi Barisal left behind four sons and three daughters.

Notice of Tender
Military Engineer Services

1. Applications are invited by AHQ, QMG's Branch, DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt for issue of tender documents for the following works by 27th June, '92 :-

a. Provision of external electric and water connection for Infantry Battalion at Momenshahi Cantt.

2. MES approved contractor may apply quoting their Class and Index No.

ISPR-37(Army)/830
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G-795

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