

Dhaka Day by Day

The Rhythmic Flow of Visual Narration

by Fayza Haq

With his dark hypnotic eyes and his egret white beard, Wayne Levy, the teacher in computer film making from the Deaken University, Melbourne, was capable of dinnning sense into the head of the worst of dullards — if necessary. He held a workshop of short film making with film enthusiasts of various sectors of society in the city at the Goethe Institute.

My expertise has been script writing and production planning in this workshop and I made it a point of doing the correct film treatment. I've been dealing with handing the writing and treatment of the concept of video and the treatment of putting it into the story board to make it into a shooting script," he explained about the work that he had been conducting.

Wayne said that to make a good video production it has to be well planned. "It is not

worth having a fantastic idea, putting the camera on your shoulder and running off to shoot. We've talked about the language of films: camera movement, camera angles, the language of film like close-ups, medium shots, and long-shots. These shots should be planned in detail," he stressed.

What was his impression of the short film makers that he dealt with? The video expert who has written ten books on films, video and radio — apart from children's books — and who began his career at 23 as a primary teacher, said, "The Bangladeshis are very creative and stimulating. If your Satyajit Ray can sketch for 'Pather Panchaly' I feel the young producers should do the same. For three days I watched videos and had workshops. People write their scripts. On one day the five different groups went out to shoot. On the fifth day was the editing which was followed by the seventh day of showing of the documentary films." Wayne also informed me that the financial backing had been done by the Asian Mass Communication Research.

The video-making teacher told me that had made a film on a) Rickshaws of the Dhaka city b) Lalbagh Fort c) Dhaka at Dawn d) Shamsur Rahman and finally e) polythene.

When I asked him why he did not make feature films, he replied without hesitation and with conviction, "I am a teacher and a trainer and my life is educational. I don't want to be a feature film maker. In Bangladesh the film makers will be making corporate videos or informational documentary videos. I dealt with

forty people during the course. They came from various walks of life — among others two were from the Airforce, two came from a social marketing company, two from Eamfaans du Monde, one from ICDDR, one from World Vision and another from the Bangla Academy."

The video expert added, "I am using video as a communicating tool. You can communicate with people with limited education with visual effect."

What was his opinion of the Australian films via the US and European ones, specially the ones from France and Germany? And what was his impression of our local video film makers? "Australia has just had its boom in the eighties and the nineties. Australian film makers of now got into the world feature film market and we make some very good instructional

films. What I find about Asian films is that they are slow. In the workshop I tried to discuss the rhythmic flow of editing to keep the audience interested in the visual message. The Bangladeshis people are artistic in using their cameras." He added that they were as good as any in Sri Lanka, Malaysia or even Australia. "We are lucky in Australia that they have the best of equipment. In Bangladesh they do not have the best but do quite well despite that," he stressed.

Wayne continued, "The Australian, US and European films are all slick and technically very good. As for the Bangladeshis films, — the ideas and artistic shots can stand up to foreign production. Our Australian children have been Americanised. You should be careful that your kids are not affected too much by the outside influences in the same manner."

Does he sincerely have a good opinion of the local documentary film makers? Wayne replied instantly "the Bangladeshis film makers can stand equal to other documentary film makers around the world by careful planning of their video productions together with a simple story or message to be told artistically in their own Bangladeshis culture."

As a young man in the Australian society he was interested in the "Apu" trilogy and was excited that Satyajit Ray mixed drawing with writings and the making of his moving pictures. "To be a good film maker you have to have a broad knowledge and a deep interest in the land and people about you," Wayne insisted.



Wayne Levy instructing his students during the workshop he held in the city.

PM plants 'Golmohar' sapling

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday planted a blue 'Golmohar' sapling in her office premises as part of the countrywide tree plantation campaign, reports, UNB.

The Prime Minister inaugurated the week-long programme on July 1, aimed at motivating people to plant more trees to check environmental degradation.

Staff members of her office also participated in the programme planting different saplings in the open terrace inside the Prime Minister's office.

Naval Headquarters

BSS adds: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday took part in the on going tree plantation programme of Bangladesh Navy by planting a sapling of Christmas tree at the Naval Headquarters premises at Banani here.

On her arrival at the Naval Headquarters the Prime Minister was received by the Navy chief Rear Admiral Mohammad Mohaiminul Islam.

Forest and Environment Minister Abdullah Al Noman, Defence Secretary Anisur Rahman, Principal Staff officers of the Naval Headquarters and a large number of sailors were present.

The Forest and Environment Minister and the naval chief also planted trees.

Bangladesh Navy has launched the intensive tree plantation campaign on July 1 at all the shore establishments at Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna and Mongla.

'A' grade pourashabas get Taka 18 lakh

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that each of the 29 'A' grade pourashabas was given Taka 18 lakh as sanction toward their development head during the 1991-92 fiscal year, reports BSS.

Each of the 30 'B' grade pourashabas was given sanction of Taka 15 lakh and that of 40 'C' grade pourashabas Taka 12 lakh, he said in reply to a question of Maulana Mohammad Sakawat Hossain (Jamaat-Jessore).

The minister said in the preceding year, each of the 19 'A' grade pourashabas was given Taka 12 lakh and each of the six new 'A' grade pourashabas Taka 8 lakh.

34,245 rural police in UPs

The total number of rural police in all the union parshads of the country stands at 34,245, the Parliament was informed yesterday, reports UNB.

Replying to a question of Khalidur Rahman Chowdhury MP, LGRD Minister Barrister Abdus Samad Talukdar said of the total, 6,665 are dadafars and 27,580 are mahalladars.

The monthly salary of dadafars was fixed at Tk 700 and of mahalladars at Tk 500, the Minister said. The government has no plan to enhance their existing salary, he added.

BOI brought under PM Secretariat to encourage investment

LGRD Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar yesterday told the Parliament that the Board of Investment (BOI) has been brought under Prime Minister's Secretariat to encourage and consolidate investment in the country, reports UNB.

Replying to a question, he said that the Prime Minister has also been made the Chairperson of BOI.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia planting a sapling at Naval Headquarters here yesterday. — PID photo

Imams can play vital role in educating people in health care

Commerce Minister M K Anwar has called for building a healthy and educated society through creating awareness among the people about the values and ideals of Islam, reports UNB.

He was addressing a certificate distribution ceremony on conclusion of a 15-day 'Imam-Teachers Training Course' organised by Islamic Medical Mission in Dhaka yesterday.

Chaired by President of the mission Ferdous Khan the function was also addressed by Religious Affairs Secretary Abdul Awal, National Professor Dr Nurul Islam and Director of the Bangladesh Tran Sangstha Dr Sheikh Suraiki, said a PID hand out.

The Minister said as the local leaders, imams and teachers of the country can play a great role in educating the people in primary health care and motivating them to partic-

ipate in nation building activities.

Anwar said the democratically elected government is determined to fulfill the hopes and aspiration of the people through establishment of religious values in the society.

He said the present government has given much emphasis on mass education programme initiated by late president Ziaur Rahman. To ensure the successful implementation of the family planning programme, agriculture and other development activities the training of the imams have been given much priority, he added.

An amount of Tk 6 crore has been allocated in the Fourth Five Year Plan (FYV) to train the imams in 6 training centres of the country. About 30,000 imams have already participated in the training programme since 1979 at a

cost of Tk 25 crore.

He said under the mass education programme 75,000 people will be given training through 2600 mosques while Tk 11 crore has been allocated to implement the mosque-based mass education and primary education programme.

Govt, semi-govt bodies owe Tk 2 Cr to Ctg WASA

Different government and semi-government organisations and private subscribers owe about Taka 2 crore to Chittagong WASA on account of water bill, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

Replying to a question of Awami League Member Col. (ret'd) Shawkat Ali (Sariatpur), the minister said the dues of the government and non-government organisations were about Taka 1.90 crore and those of the private subscribers Taka 9.44 lakh.

The major defaulters included government housing colonies, Chittagong, over Taka one crore ten lakh seventy nine thousand, Durga Prokoushili, Taka 16 lakh 34 thousand, and District administration, Chittagong five lakh 99 thousand.

German Envoy calls on Speaker

The German Ambassador, Dr KH Scholtyssek, called on Speaker Shaikh Razaque Ali at his office in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban on Sunday, reports BSS.

Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni was present.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The containerised cargo ex. M. V. "Vega" V-36B from Karachi, M. V. Srisamut V-SRS223 & V-SRS221 from Bangkok, M. V. Kaga V-24325 from Busan, Hongkong have been relayed to M. V. SEA GLORY V-SGY26N Imp. Rot. No. 52692, is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 7-7-92 from Singapore.

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Sherestha next envoy of Nepal to Bangladesh

The government of Bangladesh has accorded agreement to the appointment of Lok Bahadur Sherestha as the next Ambassador of Nepal to Bangladesh, reports BSS.

Lok Bahadur Sherestha was born in Kathmandu on September 2, 1934. He obtained MA Degree in Economics from the University of Lucknow in 1954 and received training from Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi and University of York, England. He served as lecturer at Padma Kanya College during 1957-65.

Reduce system loss at an acceptable level: Mosharraf

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr. Khan-daker Mosharraf Hossain Sunday called upon the electricity workers to work with sincerity and dedication for reducing system loss at an acceptable level and realising electricity bills timely so that the power sector could survive and get back its image, reports BSS.

He made the call while visiting Siddhirganj power station. Local MP Ruzual Karim, Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary Mohammad Ali, Chairman of Power Development Board M Faizur Razzak and CBA leader Zafrul Hasan were also present on the

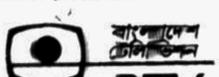
occasion. The minister said that electricity was the main part of our socio-economic development. He said the government was determined to keep the power sector uninterrupted and make it also viable.

Referring to the concern of the donor agencies over the slow progress of reducing system loss and realising arrears bills, he said, "We have to make concerted effort to get back the image and credibility in power sector."

Dr Mosharraf Hossain said, the government had taken effective measures to repair the idle power stations to ensure constant power supply in the country. In this connection, he said that the government would also provide infrastructural facilities in these power plants. Later, the minister visited the Haripur 100 megawatt gas turbine power plant near Siddhirganj, an official handout said.

The minister also planted some saplings at Haripur and Siddhirganj power plants.

He called upon these officers and workers of these power house to plant saplings on road-side and their housing areas to keep the environment free from pollution.



Monday
5:00 Opening Arrangements
Al-Quran
Programme Summary
5:10 News in Bangla
5:20 Recitation from The Gesta
5:30 Cartoon Film: Yenu Jaat Wat
6:00 Sports Programme
6:30 Shikhyangan
7:05 TV Debate
8:00 News in Bangla
Aprar Shaasthya (Health programme)
8:30 Bharu Nadir Barake
News in English
10:25 Parliament Round up
10:35 Film Show: Hill Street Blues
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:45 Closing

Weather

No change in day temperature

By Staff Correspondent
Light or moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at a few places over Chittagong division and at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours commencing from 6 am today (Monday).

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country, according to Met office.

The country yesterday (Sunday) experienced rainfall at few places. In 12 hours from 6 am to 6 pm, the highest of 79 mm rainfall was recorded in Sylhet, while Cox's Bazar 40 mm and Feni recorded 30 mm rainfall in 6 hours from 6 am to 12 pm. The maximum temperature of 35.3 degree Celsius was reported from Jessore yesterday and the minimum of 19.3 degree was reported from Sylhet.

The sun sets today (Monday) at 6.51 am and the sun rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.17 pm.

The maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	32.5	25.4
Chittagong	32.5	26.3
Khulna	34.7	26.7
Rajshahi	34.2	23.5
Rangpur	32.9	25.4
Sylhet	24.5	19.3
Cox's Bazar	31.2	25.5
Jessore	35.3	24.2



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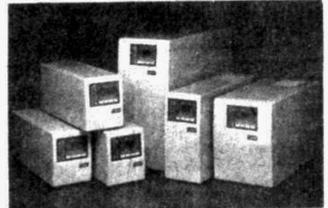
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