

Dhaka Day by Day

The Lure of Sugary Tea

by Parveen Anam



There was a time, when the members of the Raj patted themselves on the back and congratulated each other on how they had successfully taught the 'native' to drink the sophisticated tea. They quite forgot in their euphoria, that it was perhaps the other way round — it was the 'native' who had taught the Raj to drink tea. The 'native' grew it, remember? The gentle slopes of the tea garden were — and still are — a matter of great pride to the native.

No Bangalee living in urban society would dream of turning away a guest, friend, anyone, without offering him a refreshing cup of tea. The Dhakaitte is, of course, no exception. Visit him at his home, office, business establishment, and the magical cup of tea will show up within minutes, to be delightfully sipped with loud 'shurps'. Tea, the average Dhakaitte is convinced, tastes infinitely better, if it is accompanied by appropriate sound effects. And the 'singhara' would inevitably accompany the tea. The host would never dream of offering tea without three teaspoons of sugar in it.

The diabetic hospital would do well to remind tea drinkers that the countless cups of tea are harmless, it is the sugar in them which will be the 'waterloo' of the irrepressible Bangalee. The taste is in the sugar, the average Bangalee will loftily inform you. The sweeter the tea, the better it tastes, is the distinct im-

pression you get. As you sit in an office or meeting, drinking your umpteenth cup of the most sugary, sweet tea, you thank your luck for coming across.

It is presumed by the little tea boy that you love sugar. Hence it is his privilege, to add sugar to his taste. Not yours. You are the guest and must be treated right. Sugary tea is therefore right.

It is said that the Chinese used tea for medicinal purposes, centuries and centuries ago. They would probably stop using it totally, if they realised that the same tea was being used as a bait to lure the good Bangalee into developing diabetes. Try telling the older generation that sugar is bad for them, and hence they should refrain from using too much of it in the tea. The look and 'humpf' will make your heart heavier for days, for taking away his joy in life. So you will probably have a hang dog expression for days afterwards, while trying to work out where you went wrong. The medicinal qualities of tea simply vanish in the process.

Yet that is the way, your tea will be served in this land. And again, the sugary tea and 'singhara' are perhaps the lure of the land? We certainly miss it greatly, along with the accompanying gossip, which is just as important as the tea, when we are away from the beloved shores, for a while.

Foundation of Dr Milon memorial sculpture laid

The foundation of a sculpture portraying slain medical teacher Dr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon was laid yesterday (Saturday) on the Dhaka University campus, reports UNB.

Vice-chancellor Prof M Maniruzzaman Miah laid the foundation stone of the sculpture on the spot where Milon was gunned down on November 27 in 1990.

Dr Milon, Joint Secretary of the Bangladesh Medical Association, was shot dead behind the DU Central Library at the fag-end of the anti-autocracy movement allegedly by hired goons of the Ershad regime.

The statue complex, funded by BMA, will cost an estimated Tk 4 lakh. The construction firm, 'Vitti Architect', will build it by November 27, the second anniversary of Milon's death.

The 12-foot high sculpture made of cement, rods and GI pipes, will be erected on a marble altar.

The function was chaired by BMA President Dr MA Majed and addressed, among others, by its Secretary General Gazi Abdul Haq, Abu Hena, Chairman of BCS Coordinating Committee.

Selina Akhter, the mother of the martyr, was also present on the occasion.

Addressing the function, Prof Maniruzzaman Miah said the supreme sacrifice of Dr Milon would be meaningful if democracy in true sense of the term could be established in the country.

BUET first year classes begin today

The classes of first year students of the 1990-91 session of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) begin today (Sunday).

A total of 560 students have got admission to five faculties of the university including 50 of the Architecture Faculty.

The university authorities, through separate letters, asked all the new comers to attend the classes on time.

DU English Dept graduation ceremony Oct 2

The graduation ceremony for the honours graduates of the Department of English of Dhaka University will be held on October 2 (Friday) at 4 pm at the Teacher-Student Centre, reports UNB.

Vice-Chancellor of the varsity Prof M Maniruzzaman Miah will give away the graduation certificates to the students of 1986-89 session, says a press release.

Prof KM Mohsin, Dean of the Arts Faculty, will preside over the function.



Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda at a discussion on 'Role of young writers in creating a society out of terrorism' at National Press Club yesterday. —Star photo

Huda slates intellectuals for branding new ordn

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda yesterday called for creating greater public opinion against terrorism and urged the opposition politicians to become sincere in their words and deeds so that the social menace was curbed effectively in the greater national interest, reports BSS.

Unless the political parties refrain from taking terrorism as one of their political programmes to achieve political goal, it will be impossible to stop it, Barrister Huda told a discussion on the 'Role of young writers in creating a society out of terrorism' at the National Press Club last afternoon.

Barrister Huda criticised the opposition leaders as well as the intellectuals for branding the recently promulgated anti-terrorism ordinance as a black law and against fundamental rights of the people. He said the anti-terrorism ordinance was promulgated in the backdrop of sustained propaganda by opposition politicians and other sections of society demanding stern administrative measures against terrorism.

The Information Minister regretted that a section of

politicians were using terrorism as one of their political means, but giving public statements condemning terrorism. This hypocrisy and double standard must be removed, otherwise the politicians cannot claim themselves as real public servants, he added.

Organised by 'Young Writers Association' the discussion was presided over by the organisation's President Shafiqur Rahman Shafiq and addressed by DUCSU Vice President Amanullah Aman, MP, Editors' Council General Secretary AQM Zainul Abedin and Shahidur Rahman Shahid.

About unauthorised arms in the hands of young people, Barrister Huda said for historical reasons the young generation might have procured some arms to fight Ershad's intolerable autocracy. He called upon the young people holding arms to surrender their arms and help clean the society of terrorists.

The Information Minister also criticised a section of the newspapers for causing panic in society by displaying the crime news prominently to gain political objectives.

Rab demands Azam's trial by special tribunal

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) Secretary General ASM Abdur Rob Saturday expressed grave concern at the Indian 'push back' operation on the Bangladesh border, reports BSS.

Addressing a joint workers meeting of JSD and Jatiya Sramik Jote here, the JSD leader also demanded immediate trial of Prof Goolam Azam by a 'special tribunal'.

Rob said the Awami League was an ineffective power in the present context after 20 years of independence for flourishing Bengalee nationalism and implementing the spirit of the Liberation War.

He called for raising an effective power with an alliance of progressive democratic political parties and social powers for flourishing the Bengalee nationalism and implementing the spirit of the Liberation War.

The meeting presided over by JSD President Noor Alam Jiku was also addressed by party leaders Humayun Kabir Hiru, Safar Sajjad and Mosharraf Hossain.

Happy Birthday
to
NAJMA SAIF
(RINA)
Saif, Muna & Rony

Happy Birthday

MELLISA
Abbu, Ammu, Bhaiya

In remembrance of the day you joined us

ALIN
Abbu, Ammu, Rimon & Alis Bhaiya

Immunization week opens Success in health sector to be achieved in 4 years

The first National Immunization Week (NIW) 1992 was inaugurated here yesterday with the stress on increased motivational drive for reaching the message of government's EPI programme to the poor and illiterate people making them aware of its importance, reports BSS.

Minister for Health and Family Welfare Chowdhury Kamal Uddin Yusuf, who inaugurated the week at a function at

Shishu Academy auditorium said the immunization programme was a continuing process and the government was fully committed to achieve all successes in the health sector within the next four years.

The inaugural function was also addressed by Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Md. Serajul Haq, Secretary of the Ministry Sayed Ahmad, representatives of WHO, UNICEF, USAID,

World Bank, EPI director, Dr. AKM Lutfar Rahman Talukder and ministry's Joint Secretary Dr. Md Khalilullah.

The Health Minister said a massive success had been achieved in the EPI programme due to the coordinated efforts of the persons behind it. 'The success in EPI programme deserves appreciation despite limited resources because it's a bright example in the developing countries including South Asia,' he said.

Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Md. Serajul Haq called for ensuring active participation of all sections of the people in the process of eradicating child diseases from the country within the 90s.

Health Secretary Sayed Ahmad, who read out a message of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the function, said the Prime Minister had felt it our national responsibility to rear up the children properly.

The EPI Director Dr. AKM Lutfar Rahman Talukder in his speech said the international committee comprising representatives of WHO UNICEF, USAID, World Bank and high officials of the concerned ministry had conducted a survey on the progress of EPI in Bangladesh in 1991 and 1992.

In the 1992 survey, it was seen that 89 per cent infants were vaccinated at least once before completion of their one year age, 65 per cent of them were fully vaccinated against six diseases and 78 per cent mothers gave safe delivery with full vaccination during their pregnancy.



Programme to observe Ustad Gul Mohammad's death anniversary

A musical soiree will be held in honour of Ustad Gul Mohammad Khan on the occasion of his 13th death anniversary on September 29 at 7 pm at 'Bishwa Sahitya Kendra' in city, says a press release.

Ustad Gul Mohammad Khan was born in 1870 and died on September 29, 1979. An exponent of Dagar Gharana of Indian classical music, the late Ustad joined radio in 1939 and continued to perform till 1979.

BTV
Sunday
5.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran, Programme Summary
5.10 News in Bangla
5.20 Recitation from the Bible
5.25 Cartoon: Bartha
6.00 Sports programme Chena Jana
7.05 Tagore songs
8.00 News in Bangla
8.30 Probaha
9.00 Drama series: Oshin
10.00 News in English
10.30 Nibedan
11.30 Khabar/The News
11.40 Monday's programme summary
11.45 Closing

'Govt pursuing liberal industrial policy to allure entrepreneurs'

KHULNA, Sept 26: Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah called upon the jute mills workers to strive for increasing production, checking wastage and minimising production cost for turning jute sector into a profit making sector, reports BSS.

He was addressing a jute mills workers rally at Star Jute Mills premises here today.

Hannan Shah said that the prime objective of the present government was to ameliorate the socio-economic condition of the common people which could be achieved only through increasing production in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

Referring to the measures taken by the government for smooth running of the mills by eradicating mismanagement, the minister called for active cooperation of the workers to maintain congenial atmosphere in the mills and

factories. The jute minister further said that the government had been pursuing liberal industrial policy in the country to allure the entrepreneurs for setting up more industries which could be effective for generating job opportunities for unemployed people.

Earlier the Jute Minister visited Purbachal Jute Mills, Carpeting Jute Mills, Jessore Jute Industries, Eastern Jute Mills, Ajax Jute Mills, Peoples Jute Mills, Star Jute Mills and Daulatpur Jute Mills of Jessore and Khulna areas.

Sharif Khashruzzaman, MP and member of the parliamentary committee of Jute Ministry and Moniruddin Ahmed, Chairman, BJMC were accompanied by the minister.

Later, the minister addressed union leaders of jute mills and officials of the jute mills under BJMC at two separate meetings.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Light or moderate rain or shower may occur at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi division with moderately heavy falls during the next 24 hours commencing 6am today (Sunday).

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

It also forecasts, rainfall activities may increase slightly within a week.

Most of the places of the country yesterday (Saturday) experienced rainfall. The major amounts of rainfall recorded in 12 hours from 6 am to 6pm yesterday are: Bogra 174mm, Feni 59mm, Iswardi 40mm, Dhaka 24mm, Comilla 27mm, Sylhet 28mm and Sandwip 21 mm.

The maximum and the minimum temperature were both reported from Sylhet. They were: 32.2 degree and 21.9 degree Celsius respectively.

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Degree Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6 pm
Dhaka	30.6	25.6	76	91
Chittagong	31.6	25.6	83	85
Khulna	30.0	25.6	82	94
Rajshahi	28.4	25.2	95	80
Dinajpur	30.0	24.2	90	93
Cox's Bazar	30.0	24.5	82	84
Sylhet	32.2	21.9	89	98
Barisal	29.4	25.0	89	87

Mahalaya celebrated

Mahalaya, the invocation to goddess Durga, was celebrated yesterday in the city as elsewhere in the country in a befitting manner and with religious fervour, reports BSS.

Mahalaya, marking the beginning of the fortnight programme of sharadiya Durga Puja with agamani barta, will culminate into the puja celebrations for five days from the sixth day of the fortnight.

The five-day Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the Bengalee Hindu community, will begin on October 2.

In the city, the programme of Mahalaya organised by Mahanagar Sarbajanin Puja Committee was celebrated in the morning at Dhakeswari Mandir Melangan premises here.

A large number of devotees thronged the melangan of Dhakeswari to attend the function.

Sea Guides rally ends

The annual rally of the Bangladesh Sea Guides concluded at BNS Titumir in Khulna on Friday, says a press release.

About 200 sea guides from Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Mongla and Kaptai sea guide regions took part in the rally organised under the auspices of the Bangladesh Navy Family Welfare Association.

Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Mohamud Mohamimul Islam attended the rally as the chief guest and took salute at the impressive march past. He also witnessed individual and team skills of the participating teams, PT display, cultural show performed by the sea guide members and later distributed prizes among the outstanding sea guides.

The host, Khulna Sea Guide team clinched the championship trophy while the Dhaka Sea Guide team bagged the runners-up prize. In the individual group Maqsooda Ara Banu and Mousum Aziz both of the Dhaka Sea Guide team took the champion and runner-up prizes respectively.

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