

Dhaka Day by Day

Need the Only Child be an Adulated One?

by Fayza Haq

It is the general conception in our Bangladeshi homes in the city, that an only child tends to get pampered and eventually spoilt. Yet one has known of many cases where the only daughter or son has much more consideration for others, and has more politeness than someone, for example, who has grown up with four other siblings.

One knows of a young banker in Motijheel, who is correct, charming, composed, and is always patient when the clients or casual friends drop in for their quick chat or the vital transactions. Yasmine has a ready shoulder for one to weep on, when one tells her that one's account has gone 'kaput' for lack of funds. One can rush in pell-mell and haram-scurum, and babble out what comes to one's mind about visiting distant cousins, or the strict authoritative father, or even the neglectful finance. One can tell her that one's pet kitten is dead or lost, and she will tranquillise one with smiles and encouraging words, as is always the case in each of one's problems. It has been said by one of her ex-boys that one day 'someone will wipe that smile from her face', but one can hardly believe in that optimistic comment.

Yasmine works, not only at the office but also regularly at home. When she reaches her house, she helps with the cooking, cleaning, dusting, gardening

and can make six chocolate cakes at a go on her own. She has tremendous patience with visiting relatives and friends; and one has always known her to have special care for her family, her mother and uncles, as well as her colleagues. Yasmine is known to always shower her friends with gifts, and to be the first one to lend money, when one is short of it. She shares her lunch with more people than one can keep track of. How can one analyse such an individual to be selfish or inconsiderate?

Mehreen is a teen-aged student that one knows of, who remembers her relatives in Dhaka, all the way from Rajshahi, and has constant kind words for them—recalling incidents that even one's immediate family, seldom bother to condescend to note. Her parents buy her the best of clothes, shoes and other accoutre-

ments, and attend to her studies, often abandoning their own work, when necessary. Mehreen is gentle perceptive; without any hauteur; and is a wonderful company on occasion—such as the numerous weddings and receptions at Dhaka. She will talk to one—not chatter like some babbling brook—but includes relevant and important jokes and observations to liven up the situation.

Tina is a child of six, residing at Lake Circus. While her father handles two jobs, her mother runs the household, and does one course of computer study after another. Tina tops in her class quite often, and does well in various subjects. Despite the affection of the entire extended family, she has no materialistic hang-ups, and shares her toys with not only visiting cousins and children of the family friends, but also has great concern for even the housemaid.

In a city like Dhaka, you get almost anything if you have the money—or so they say. Tina is showered with gifts, when her aunts or uncles go abroad. An outsider, viewing the situation from a distance, may have qualms about this spate of gifts, and the steady stream of love and affection from her family. She is always seen smartly dressed and composed and has the speech of a teenager at times. Despite the inevitable mollycoddling, Tina remains a perfectly loveable child with more in-

nocence and care for others than many of her counterparts, as one notes.

One can go on with a list of men, women and children seen at Dhaka, who are the only child of their parents. While it is sometimes conjectured, such individuals do not make good wives or reliable bread winners in future, or are selfish or arrogant, the premonition would not be entirely true. One goes by cases studied in other places too like Mohammedpur, Tikatully, Malibagh, Kala Bagan, and what have you, in the city. One can seldom rush to the conclusion that an only child is difficult to handle or get along with. And did not Adam and Eve have only Cain to go by, and is the world a hateful place to stay in with the ultimate descendants of their progeny?

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Khelaghar held a rally in front of the National Press Club yesterday in observance of World Child Day. —Star photo.

Laws to be enacted to protect children's rights: Hafiz

Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Gholam Hafiz yesterday said necessary laws would be enacted soon to protect the rights and privileges of the children as laid down in the United Nations convention on the rights of children, reports BSS.

He said although the protection of the rights of children in an unequal society was very difficult, the present government was actively considering to frame 'legal code' for flourishing the latent talents of the under-privileged children of the country.

The Law Minister said the existing laws were insufficient to cope with various complex violation of rights of the children in our society.

He was addressing as the chief guest at the inaugural session of a seminar entitled 'Convention on the Rights of Children: Planning and Implementation' jointly organised by Ministry of Social Welfare and the UNICEF at the

National Scout Bhaban here. State Minister for Law Barrister Aminul Haq, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Social Welfare Jalaluddin Ahmed, UNICEF representative in Bangladesh Rolf C Carriere and Director General of Social Services M A Bari also addressed the inaugural function while Secretary, Social Welfare Prof K M Fariduddin presided.

Mirza Hafiz said protection of rights of children 'is a hard national task which we all should face unitedly and courageously.' Describing children as the 'future hope of the nation' he said necessary facilities might have to be provided for the development of the children of the country.

Referring to the allocation of Taka 400 crore for the development of the children, Mirza Hafiz said the present government was committed to improving facilities and providing opportunities including basic universal education

for the ultimate national uplift. In this connection Mirza Hafiz urged upon the concerned authorities to ensure best utilisation of resources and allocated money so that the nation could attain the desired goal.

Barrister Aminul Haq said there should be an integrated national thrust for the development of mental and physical facilities of the children who are the future hope of the nation. 'We will be held responsible to our posterity unless we can ensure education, shelter and other basic rights of the children,' he added.

The government of Begum Khaleida Zia is quite aware of the problems of the children and has already taken up a number of measures including introduction of compulsory primary education (CPE), mass literacy programme and other pragmatic steps for the uplift of the children, the minister added.

Rolf C Carriere depicted a painful picture of the children in Bangladesh and said there was one child worker for every seven labourers in the country and 12 per cent families of working children were totally dependent on children since the parents did not work and 48 per cent of the children earned more than Taka only 500 a month. Besides, he said 63 per cent of the working children were below 12 years of age, 72 per cent were not in school and 50 per cent of them worked more than eight hours a day.

Steps to ensure UN declared compensation for ME returnees urged

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh nationals repatriated from Iraq and Kuwait after the start of Gulf war of 1990 have demanded of the authorities to take steps to ensure United Nations declared compensation for them.

The demand was made at a joint press conference of two associations of Iraq and Kuwait repatriated Bangladeshis at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday afternoon.

Leaders of both the associations alleged that no progress has been made since the returnees had filled up the prescribed forms for getting the compensation.

Quoting reliable sources, the Association leaders claimed that foreign aid amounting Taka 113 crore reached Bangladesh for the repatriated Bangladeshis and demanded that the money should be utilised for their well-being.

They also demanded of government initiatives to facilitate the repatriated persons to go to different Middle East countries and the countries like Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Malaysia.

The associations' demand also included rehabilitation of the returnees in Bangladesh since, what they alleged, they were leading inhuman lives in the country. It was announced at the joint press conference that

both the associations would carry forward the movement to press home the common demands of the repatriated Bangladeshis unitedly.

Mohammad Jastimuddin Sarkar, President of the Iraq Repatriated Bangladeshis Association, and Ali Ashraf Khan, President of the Kuwait Repatriated Bangladeshis Association, addressed the press conference while other leaders of the associations were also present.

Smuggled goods worth Tk 1.16 cr seized in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Oct 4 : Bangladesh Rifles personnel of 20 rifle battalion seized of smuggled goods worth about Taka one crore 16 lakh during the month of September, reports BSS.

The seized smuggled goods included cattleheads, heroine, gold, rice, pulse, sugar, salt, fruits, spices, leather, wrist watch, nylon knightware, bicycle, tyre, tube, imitation ornaments etc.

The recovered goods, have been deposited with the customs office and department of narcotics control.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Light to moderate rain or shower is likely at one or two places over Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and the region of Khulna, Barisal and Patuakhali during the next 36 hours commencing 6:00 pm Sunday.

Meteorological office forecast that weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country.

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period.

Out look for subsequent two days: little change. Extended out look for another five days: rainfall activity may increase.

Rainfall recorded on Sunday was 41 mm in Faridpur, 17 mm in Tangail, 11 mm in Kutubdia, 4 mm in Cox's Bazar, 2 mm in Chittagong and 1 mm in Sitakunda.

The sun sets today (Monday) at 5:42 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5:52 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Degree Celsius	Humidity in Percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	30.6	26.1
Chittagong	29.5	25.2
Rajshahi	35.0	25.7
Khulna	34.0	26.3
Barisal	33.0	25.0
Cox's Bazar	27.0	24.5
Mymensingh	32.3	24.9
Dinajpur	32.0	23.6

BJMC earns Tk 2.35 cr exporting carpets

CHITTAGONG, Oct 4: Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) has earned Taka 2.35 crore by exporting 70 thousand square metres of jute carpet during the first three months of the current financial year, reports BSS.

The amount is 37 per cent more than the earnings of the same period of the last fiscal. The production capacity of the carpet mills have also increased by 33 per cent this year in comparison with the last fiscal.

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah said this while visiting the Baghdad-Dhaka carpet mill here Saturday. BJMC had earned Taka 6.83 crore in foreign exchange by exporting carpets in the last fiscal year.

The minister said with the development of the production efficiency the quality of the country made jute carpets had also improved.

Hannan called upon the workers and officials of the mill to produce new varieties of jute products considering

the competitive market price. The Jute Minister along with the Whip also visited Forat-Karnaphuli Carpet Factory and Karnaphuli Jute Mills.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

It is notified that all Chittagong Cargo ex. ACX-LILY Voy 28 from HONGKONG is expected to arrive at Chittagong on 3-10-92 per the Feeder Vessel M.V. EVERCHEER Voy 9219 Rotation No. 743/92 on account of our Principals P & O Containers Ltd., London/Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Tokyo, Japan. Consignees are requested to arrange clearance of their Cargo consignments not cleared within 45 days from the date of arrival of the vessel are liable to be sold in auction by Customs authority under Section 82 of Customs Act without any reference to the consignees. All FCL consignments must be cleared/unstuffed by consignees within free time for containers i.e. five calendar days from the day after discharge.

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'1cr people shelterless'

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Sunday called for coordinated efforts for providing shelter to the shelterless poor multitude floating in urban and rural areas, reports UNB.

"About one crore people across the world don't have any shelter to live in, it's a human responsibility of all to build safe and permanent habitats for them," he said in a message on the eve of World Habitat Day, being observed

today (Monday). The main theme of this year's Habitat Day is "habitat for sustainable development."

President Biswas underscored the need for creating mass awareness for building clean and hygienic habitat.

The President hoped that determination and inspiration would generate in people's mind through observance of the day for materialising the dream for habitat. "We have to be more sincere toward achieving that goal and take housing programmes for the shelterless."

It is possible, Biswas said, to meet one of the basic needs of human life through providing shelter, essential for building a fair, sound and developed human society.

"It's indispensable to take concerted efforts to improve the inhuman condition of the rootless and poor people of our urban and rural areas," he said.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The containerised cargo ex. M. V. "Choyang Victor" V-EE239 from Bremen, Antwerp, ex. M.V. "Celine M V-45/92 from Mersin have been reloaded to M. V. EVER CHEER V-9219, Import Rotation No. 743/92, is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 5-10-92 from Singapore.

Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from FCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing and if cargo not cleared within 45 days will be guided by Customs Act.

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Quotation Notice

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA: Sealed quotations are hereby invited from the bonafide parties for selling of the undermentioned materials "as it is where it is basis" and will be received by the undersigned up to 12 Noon on 14th October 1992 and will be opened on the same day in presence of the parties who may remain present. The parties will have to deposit as Earnest Money @25% of their quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft or Pay-Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of the undersigned along with the quotation. Schedule of items, terms and conditions may be had from the office of the undersigned on all working days except on the date fixed for submitting the quotation. The parties must quote the rates both in figures and in words clearly. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any quotations or part of the quotation without assigning any reason. The parties are liable to abide by the decision of the authority. Materials may be seen on all working days before submitting the quotations.

<p>1. Selling of old iron grills, old door and windows shutters and Chowkats, old bricks and broken bricks etc within the compound of JN Hall, DU</p> <p>2. Selling of unused MS Rod within the compound of Administrative Building, DU (Approx 92.51375 tons).</p>	<p>Cost of Schedule Tk 50/-</p> <p>Opening date of quotation 14th Oct '92</p> <p>Cost of Schedule Tk 250/-</p> <p>Opening date of quotation 14th Oct '92</p>
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Muklesur Rahman
Executive Engineer (3)
University of Dhaka

Power suspension

Power supply will remain partially suspended for six days in two phases during the current month in greater Chittagong, Comilla and Noakhali districts to facilitate connection of high voltage transmission lines, reports BSS.

Power Development Board sources said yesterday that supply of electricity would remain partially suspended from the early hours of October 6 to mid-day of October 9 in the first phase. The second phase of suspension will start also from the early hours of October 16 and continue till 5 pm on the following day (October 17).



Monday

5.00	Opening announcement
	Al-Quran
	Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Geeta
5.25	Programme on World Child Day
6.30	Cartoon: Tom the Nasty Cat
7.05	TV debate
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Janamat
9.00	Barrali
10.00	News in English
10.30	Programme on World Habitat Day
10.50	Film: Hill Street Blues
11.30	Khabar/The News
11.40	Tuesday's programme summary
11.45	Closing