

Dhaka Day by Day

An Evening with Shamisen, Flutes, Drums and Cymbals

Fayza Haq

The "You" folk music ensemble, which performed at the Osmani Memorial Hall, highlighted the shamisen solo instrumental performing tradition, whose performing techniques have come down from generations. The shamisen is a demanding instrument, which requires 12 years of training before a player can give an adequate public performance. With its complicated technique and varied possibilities, this instrument speaks the musical language of the Japanese. It has its own mysterious appeal: its sound has an impact on people with little ac-

quaintance with the folk music of Japan. The "You" folk music group comprises graduates of the Minyukai who are skilled not only in the performance on the Shamisen but also in singing. They work as folk music instructors and play a vital part in regional cultural activities. They have all been recipients of major awards in provincial folk music competitions. The "You" folk music consisted of musicians who have established careers as soloists. The first part of the programme was a more subtle and stylised one. It had the "Naka Bushi" which is one of the most celebrated Japanese folksongs and is well known to everyone in Japan. There was the "Kuroishi Yossare" which was a song originally from southern Japan and appeared to have been carried by sailors across the Sea of Japan. The melody was to distinctly southern rhythm. Akita Nikata was a composition handed down by blind travelling musicians. The music has grown in complexity and resulted in a piece with a beautiful melody requiring considerable technical dexterity to perform. There was then "The World of the Suzuki Nichiro" in which, despite the simple structure, the shakuhachi, an instrument with expressive capacity, ranged from strong sounds to delicate nuances in the upper tones. There was too the "World of Kuchi Masami" in which the attractions of the traditional Japanese musical instruments were the outcome of the life and skill of their performers. The main charm lay in the way in which the character of the instruments appeared to change with every performance. In "Yossare" there was an expansion of arrangement of the shamisen. The somewhat monotonous rhythm acquired an unusual spirit and energy gradually. The second half of the performance had the players changed from their black and grey garbs to brightly coloured short coats with black leggings. They used many more instruments such as drums and cymbals and delighted the audience to a greater degree. The tempo was much quicker and there was more action on stage. The performers were hopping, skipping, and intermittently singing with the beat of the music. The audience preferred the second part as it was not so sombre and stylised.

The folk songs that were presented symbolised local habits and customs. These were handed down from the distant past from generation of ordinary people. The second half had the "Tsugaru Jitku", in which the features of the Tsugaru region was incorporated. This is usually performed to accompany dancing at festivals. There was then the "Sinoyma Kobiki" which was a work song used when felling trees deep in the hills. Oyama-Hayashi was a piece that was conventionally performed at the climax of festivals, with drums playing a major role. There was then the "Donan-Kudok" which was a song popularised by musicians to represent the hustle and bustle of a port. There was finally the "Akita Umakata-Bushi" and "Tsugaru Aiya". The former was a travelling work song performed as the singer draws his packhorse along the road. The performers included Kuchi Masami who began studying the shamisen at the age of 22, and was awarded the Prime Minister's Prize at the National Spring Folk Music Contest in '88. He has performed in Central and Southern America. There was Kimura Yoshie, who was born in '50, and in '78 was awarded a prize at the Ibaraki Folk Music Competition. In '83 and '90, he won two more awards. There was Katagiri Yoko, who began studying the shamisen at the age of 16. She was awarded two prizes, once in '87 and again in '90. She has performed in S. America and in Spain. Shibama Miko, who began studying the shamisen at the age of ten three awards in '89, '90 and '92. Ota Miho, born in '70, was awarded a first prize in '89. Suzuki Nichiro was also among the players.



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Travel agents brought out a procession in the city demanding withdrawal of VAT yesterday. — Star photo

'AIDS preventable through creating public awareness'

Deputy Leader of the House in parliament Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury Tuesday called upon the doctors and concerned officials to create public awareness to stop the spreading of the dreaded disease AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) in the country, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating a week long programme of awareness campaign on AIDS at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Japanese envoy calls on Chief Whip

Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Takeo Khudki called on Chief Whip Khondkar Delwar Hossain at his office chamber yesterday morning, reports BSS.

He was accompanied by Minoru Nakano, First Secretary of Japan Embassy. They stayed with the Chief Whip for some time and discussed matters related to bilateral and mutual interest.

The function was presided over by the Principal of the college, Zahurul Moula Chowdhury. The Director of medical education and national focal point on AIDS Prof A K M Shamsuddin Siddique, professor of virology of P O Hospital Nazrul Islam, Dr Anwarul Haq of Dhaka Medical College Hospital also spoke at the function.

The key-note speaker was Dr Mostafa Kamal, national programme manager of AIDS. Prof B Chowdhury said AIDS is transmitted through sexual contact with an HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infected persons, transfusion of contaminated blood, sharing contaminated syringe, needles, infected pregnant mother to her child.

He said no vaccine and curative treatment has yet been discovered against the AIDS virus and the fate of the victim is cent percent mortality. Though AIDS is preventable through creating public awareness and taking some measures like using condoms, having sex only with legal partner and use of disposable syringes.

Forge unity to resist evil forces: Jamaat

The leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami Tuesday called upon the people of all sections to forge unity to resist the evil forces involved in unholy activities against the sovereignty of the country, reports BSS.

They were addressing a public meeting at the Purana Paltan crossing here to protest against the killing of Jamaat worker Maulana Abdul Mattin.

Presided over by Dhaka city Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami A T M Azharul Islam the meeting was addressed by Jamaat leaders Mohammad Quamruzzaman, Zasiuddin Sarkar and Saiful Alam Khan Milon.

Quamruzzaman said being afraid of the rapid advancement of Jamaat, the 'Anti Muslim' forces have adopted the path of killing and terrorism. The evil forces, backed by international vested quarters, are trying to foil the Islamic movement, he added.

Quamruzzaman said Jamaat does not believe in the politics of terrorism and killing and with the active support of the people the party would soon prove its political strength overcoming all odds.

Mosque opened in Canada

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, the 4th Khalifa of the International Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat opened in a simple ceremony the 'Baitul Islam' the largest mosque in North America constructed by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat, Canada on October 17 at Maple, Toronto in Canada, says a press release.

The ministers of Canadian Govt including many high gov officials and dignitaries attended this opening ceremony. Al-Hajj Ahmed Taufiq Chowdhury, the Naib-e-National Ameer of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat, Bangladesh also attended the ceremony as an invited guest.

Need to include video in varsity curriculum stressed

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Maniruzzaman Miah yesterday stressed the necessity to include film and video in the university curriculum. The VC Professor Miah was speaking in the certificate distribution ceremony of a video production workshop held in June at the Goethe Institute, Dhaka which was conducted by Professor Wayne Levy, of Deakin University, Australia. The workshop was arranged jointly by the Asian Mass Communication and Information Centre (AMIC), Singapore and Pratishabha Alternative Communication Centre (PACC), Dhaka. The certificate distribution ceremony held at the Goethe institute yesterday afternoon also attended by Abdullah Al Mamun, Director General, National Institute of Mass Communication, Professor Tahmidul Anwar of Dhaka University, representative of AMIC in Bangladesh.

Wanted

A well-groomed young lady with pleasant personality to work for an English daily newspaper on attractive retainer-commission basis. Minimum qualification: 'O' level or equivalent. Must be fluent in English & Bangla. Apply with complete Bio-Data and a recent passport size photograph to: The Advertiser, GPO Box No: 3257, Dhaka, by 31 October, 1992. Envelopes must be marked "Collection Executive". D-562

'দি ডেইলী স্টার' পত্রিকার সম্মানিত এজেন্টদের প্রতি আবেদন

আমরা অত্যন্ত দুঃখের সঙ্গে লক্ষ্য করছি যে, উপস্থিত তাপলা দেয়ার পরও আমাদের কোন কোন সম্মানিত এজেন্ট অদ্যাবধি বকেয়া বিল পরিশোধ করেননি। এমতাবস্থায় পুনরায় তাদের সকলকে আগামী ৩১ শে অক্টোবর, '৯২ তারিখ পর্যন্ত বকেয়া বিল পরিশোধের শেষ সুযোগ দেখা হচ্ছে। অন্যথায় ১শা নভেম্বর, '৯২ হতে সেইসব এজেন্টের পত্রিকা সরবরাহ করতে কর্তৃপক্ষ বাধ্য নয়। এক্ষেত্রে আপনারদের সকলের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা আমাদের একান্ত কাম্য।

— কর্তৃপক্ষ
দি ডেইলী স্টার

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IUBAT seminar Oct 24

Dr Kazi Firoz Alam, visiting Faculty of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) from Massey University, New Zealand will deliver a lecture on Business Ethics organized by IUBAT. The seminar will take place at the conference room of IUBAT at House -135, Road, No 9-A (old-19) Dhanmandi Residential Area, Dhaka on October 24 at 5:00 pm. Invitation is extended to all interested researchers, practitioners and academics.

Rotary team to visit Australia

A five-member all female Rotary Group Study Exchange team will go to Australia in February 1993. Intending candidates between the ages of 25 and 35 having two years professional experience in their respective fields should come directly with bio-data to 23, Green Road, Dhaka, on Friday October 23, 1992 at 2-45 pm for interview and preliminary selection.

Govt firm to provide better medicare: Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Tuesday called upon all concerned to make concerted efforts for the success of the programme of 'Health for all by the year 2000' initiated by the government, reports BSS.

The President was talking to an 11-member delegation of the Bangladesh Diploma Health Technologists Association led by its president Mohammad Farid Ahmed, at Bangabhaban in the morning.

President Biswas said the present government is determined to provide better medicare to the people and to meet their basic demands.

He said the success of medicare system depends on the cooperation and concerted action of all related with health services and by attaining better professional skill and dedication.

He urged the health technologists to serve humanity to free the society from diseases and poverty and thus help build a sound nation and expedite the development activities of the country.

Earlier, the delegation submitted a memorandum to the President regarding their promotion, higher education, training and employment abroad. The President assured to look into their problems.

Dr Aziz Al-Turki in city

Deputy Managing Director of Saudi Fund for Development Dr Abdul Aziz M Al-Turki arrived here Tuesday on a week-long visit to Bangladesh in connection with the second joint meeting of Saudi-Bangladesh committee, reports UNB.

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Zakera Ali, wife of late Ali Ahmed Khan, senior police officer and mother of Akhter Ahmed Khan, Joint Secretary of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) will be held today after Asr prayers at her 35, Rajar Dewary (behind the Judge Court) residence, reports BSS.

Obituary

Abdul Khaleq Chaudhury, a retired Govt officer and a jute expert died October 19 at Samarita Hospital in the city. He was 83, says a press release. He left behind 5 sons, a daughter and a host of relatives.

Aysha Khatun wife of late Mohammad Husain Chowdhury, a Zamindar and Philanthropist of Mirsarai, Chittagong died of old age ailments on Thursday last at her village home. She was 76. She left behind two sons, a daughter and a host of grand children. Her eldest son Humayun Kabir Chowdhury is a noted lawyer, journalist and educationist, says a press release.

What's on today . . .

Film Session of Tarkovsky
Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen "Nostalgia" directed by Andrey Tarkovsky, today (Wednesday) at 6 pm at the auditorium of the German Cultural Centre in Dhaka.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North West
The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held today (Wednesday) at Hotel Sonargaon at 5-30 pm.

BPRA Executive Committee meet
A meeting of the Executive Committee of Bangladesh Public Relations Association (BPRA) will be held today (Wednesday) at the office of the association at 50 Purana Paltan, Dhaka at 5 pm. All the members of the executive committee of the association have been requested to attend the meeting.

. . . and tomorrow

Painting Exhibition on Environment
In observance of the United Nations Day a three-day painting exhibition on environment will begin at the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) here tomorrow (Thursday). Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda will inaugurate the exhibition and distribute prizes among the winners. Organised by the United Nations Organisations in Bangladesh, the competition divided into two groups, was open to all high school students of Dhaka city.

Weather

No change in day temperature

By Staff Correspondent
Light or moderate rain or showers accompanied by gusty wind may occur at many places over Khulna division, at a few places over Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over Rajshahi division during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Wednesday). The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country. The Met office adds, weather may deteriorate within two days.

The chief amounts of rainfall recorded in 12 hours from 6am to 6pm yesterday (Tuesday) were:

Patuakhali	46 mm	Bhola	30 mm	Teknaf	25 mm	Faizpur	23 mm	Majdee Court	13 mm	Bartisal	12 mm	Cox's Bazar	10 mm	Dhaka	4 mm
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The maximum temperature of 32.4 degree Celsius was reported from Bogra yesterday and the minimum of 21.1 degree was reported from Feni.

The sun sets today (Wednesday) at 5.27 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5.59 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity of some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	29.2	25.0	84	80
Chittagong	28.0	24.0	95	86
Rajshahi	31.7	22.7	85	77
Khulna	28.5	23.5	97	91
Bartisal	27.0	22.5	90	97
Cox's Bazar	25.0	23.5	100	100
Sylhet	29.0	23.1	81	84
Dinajpur	30.8	22.0	84	75

Colleagues Wanted

A. Persons interested in writing research and organization activity reports can apply to join our team of workers in UBINIG. Must have a command over English language and analytical capacity in writing the reports based on information collected from field.

Interested persons must submit their bio-data by 2nd November and bring along few research reports on the day of interview on 9th November, 1992. Minimum salary Tk. 8,000 per month.

B. Persons interested in ecological agriculture in Tangail and Badarkhali, Chakaria area can apply to join our team of workers in UBINIG. Must have Masters in Agriculture Science and experience in farm management. Should also be to conduct research and write reports in English.

Interested persons must submit their bio-data by 31st October and appear for interview on 7th November, 1992. Minimum salary Tk.6,000 per month.

UBINIG
5/3 Barabo Mahanpur, Ring Road, Shaymoli
Dhaka - 1207, Phone : 329620

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক

প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা
৮৩-৮৫ মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা
প্রকৌশল বিভাগ

টেডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিম্নোক্ত কাজের জন্য সরকারী/আধা-সরকারী/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্ত ১ম/২য় শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদার যাহারা একটি একক টেন্ডারে অনুন ৫পাঁচ লক্ষ টাকার নির্মাণ কাজ সাফল্যের সহিত সম্পাদন করিয়াছেন, তাহাদের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহর কৃত টেন্ডার আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।

কাজের নাম	প্রাকল্পিত ব্যয় (টাকা)	আনেষ্ট ম্যানি (টাকা)	টেডার দলিলের মূল্য (অফেরত যোগ্য)
১। বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক, ১,৬৫,৮৭৩/=	৫,০০০/=	২০০/=	
২। ২৯, দিলকুশাছ			

রাজস্ববন্দের ৭ম তলায় পরিকল্পনা
ডিভিশনের ৩(তিন) জন উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক
এবং ৩(তিন) জন সহকারী মহাব্যবস্থাপকের
বসার চেয়ার নির্মাণ কাজ।

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের অনুকূলে যেকোন সিভিল ব্যাংক হইতে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে নিধারিত আনেষ্টম্যানি টেন্ডারের সহিত জমা দিতে হইবে। আনেষ্টম্যানি ব্যতিত টেন্ডার সরাসরি বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।

৩১-১০-৯২ ইং পর্যন্ত সকল কর্মদিবসে প্রকৌশল বিভাগ, বিকেবি, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ৮৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা ঢাকা হইতে টেন্ডার সিভিল ক্রয় করা যাইবে।

টেডার সিভিল ক্রয় করার পূর্বে নিম্নোক্ত কাগজ পত্রের মূল কপি অবশ্যই প্রদর্শন পূর্বক অনুমতি গ্রহণ করিতে হইবে।

- (১) ৫পাঁচ লক্ষ টাকার কার্যাদেশের মূল কপি এবং
- (২) উক্ত কাজ সম্পাদনের সার্টিফিকেট
- (৩) তালিকাভুক্তির দলিল পত্র।
- (৪) মূল্য সংযোজন কর আইনের ১৫ ধারা অনুযায়ী নিবন্ধন পত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে। ১-১১-৯২ ইং তারিখ বেলা ১১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত শুধু মাত্র প্রকৌশল বিভাগ, বিকেবি, প্রধান কার্যালয় ৮৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা ঢাকা কর্তৃক সকল টেন্ডার গৃহীত হইবে এবং ঐ দিনই বেলা ১১.৩০ মিঃ টেন্ডার দাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) টেন্ডার খোলা হইবে।

কোন কারণ প্রদর্শন ব্যতিরেকে বিকেবি সর্বনিম্ন টেন্ডার গ্রহণ না করার অথবা যে কোন বা সকল টেন্ডার প্রত্যাখান করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে।

(কে, এম, আহিনুল হক)
প্রধান প্রকৌশলী