

Dhaka Day by Day

A Kafkaesque Vision with Crows and Rickshaws

by Fayza Haq

The Dhaka art lovers have already witnessed Jeremy Iles's expertise as a photographer at an earlier exhibition at the Alliance Francaise, where he won a gold prize. Now, at La Galerie they see him as a painter with comments and observations to make, in his solo exhibition entitled "Aparn Desh Kothay".

"When I first came to Bangladesh I had the images of the flat lands around me. I have presented them in my 'First Impressions' where bright yellows and oranges have been used," the artist explained about his first painting. It was a semi-abstract. So were "Landscape-1" and "Landscape-3", the first with its orange, beige, and green squares and oblong bits which represented a field pattern. In the next piece everything was portrayed as if in a state of fluidity. "I tried to capture the liquid nature of the monsoon," Jeremy said. The growing paddy was a vivid green, while the gathering clouds were depicted as swirls of grey.

"In Bangladesh I saw a lot of paintings at the back of rickshaws. This is street culture and I see it evolving all the time. There are film stars, war heroes, and idealised scenes with no people," the artist commented. Thus in his next paintings he brought in ducks, vultures, chicken, kites and dogs in raw reds and blues in a highly stylised form.

Explaining about his surrealistic work Jeremy said, "You feel the different groups of people in the city. There is the minority educated middle class. There is then the rich or 'boro lok' who are always on the look out for opportunities to improve their own life style. The crows represent the opportunism. They were monstrous, frightening and sinister. Mosques, streets and crammed housing were brought into the scene."

About "Foreign Aid" the artist commented, "Foreign aid is coming into the country and the notes are raining from the sky. The crows and the cars represent the people—both foreigners and Bangladeshis—who misuse the money, taking the money as it is not meant to be." There again the artist had used a lot of dark colours: blacks, reds and ochre. In the forefront were hundreds of brown and black heads, which stood for the poor people who did not benefit. The car was shown as recklessly driving over the head of the crowd.

"Baksheesh" represented institutionalised bureaucracy. "You can't get anything done unless you give Tk 20. As you go up the hierarchy the amount of 'baksheesh' is expected to increase. For foreigners this is intolerable," Jeremy explained this piece. The crows looked weird and

apalling with the garish yellows and browns mingling with the black of the feathers. The boss was depicted in a suit and smoking a hundred dollar bill. "It is not as if the higher ups don't know what is going on," Jeremy added. The unfathomable bureaucracy was Kafkaesque with the dark colours used. All the paintings with the crows were symbolic, as many of his other works.

"Untitled" was about the way men and women interact in Bangladesh. While the men dominated, the women were suppressed. The women were shown as hiding in "burqas" while the men looked self-satisfied and arrogant.

"Baksheesh Nabo" was inspired by a scene near Raibazar, with children with their hands outstretched begging for money. "It is a bit annoying that you can't go outside without being pestered for small cash," the artist commented.

"River Launches" was done from memories of a trip from Bhola. The river was so wide that you can't see the edges. The sky was huge and overpowering. Different lights made the river look like yellow silk. The big boats moves fast and competed with each other. This is no social comment but just an observation," the artist said.

"Killer Truck" had the driver going too fast, with no brakes, while it was overloaded. At the side of the road, the people walking and going by rickshaw, were depicted as being resigned to it. Meanwhile "Rickshaw" depicted movement, dynamism and the hard work of the "rickshawalla", who is treated like dirt by the rest of the people in the traffic. There were surrealistic and humorous pieces called "Aparn Desh Kothay", "Chele Meye Ache" and "Aparn Kothay Jabon". The artist had combined the effect of the graffiti on the walls in these pieces.

The artist had also worked with abstract ideas like "Anger", "Frustration" and "Suspicion" in which he used a lot of red and black and used items like pots and pans and images of angry faces, that he had seen in Bangladesh.

Jeremy, the Country representative for VSO Bangladesh since '91, commented about his work, "The pictures show a mixture of images ranging from beauty of colour to vitality of the people to their anger and frustration. There are the happy moments and the unhappy ones. I value the time I spent on the work and don't mind the money spent. The works represent a personal response to living and working in Bangladesh as an expatriate, bombarded as I have been by a complete range of physical and emotional stimuli".



Cassettes of Holy Quran presented to Biswas

Editor of the monthly Madina and a member of the Rabita al Alam al Islam, Bangladesh Maulana Mohiuddin Khan presented a set of cassette of the Holy Quran to President Abdur Rahman Biswas when he called on him at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Maulana Mohiuddin also presented a copy of the Holy Quran, and several publications of his own on Islamic thoughts to the President. The cassette of the Holy Quran was prepared by the Rabita.

President Biswas highly appreciated the task of Rabita in preparing the cassette and translation of the Holy Quran in English.

Pro-JSD (Rab) BCL central body announced

Pro-JSD (Rab) Chhatra League (Sunday) announced a 61-member central committee for the year 1992-93, reports ONB.

The committee was formed at the concluding ceremony of a two-day council of the organisation.

The newly elected office-bearers are: President Ishrajur Rahman Shamim, General Secretary Khandaker Mohammad Emran and Organising Secretary Jahangir Alam Babu.

Anniversary of Khaled Mosharraf's death observed

A discussion was held here Saturday on the occasion of the 17th death anniversary of Major General Khaled Mosharraf, reports BSS.

Major General (Retd) KM Shafuliah was the chief guest and Begum Salma Khaled special guest at the discussion, organised by Khaled Mosharraf Smriti Parishad.

Presided over by the President of Smriti Parishad Brig (Retd) M A Matin the discussion was addressed, among others, by Rashed Mosharraf, MP, Col (Retd) Shaikat Ali MP, Major General (Retd) C R Datta, former president of Supreme Court Bar Association Advocate Shamsul Huq Chowdhury, Major (Retd) Rafiqul Islam, former student leader Abdul Qudus Makhani, and former chairman of Muktiyoddah Sangsad Abdul Matin Chowdhury and Mahmud Hasan.



Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikkyo (GCO) brought out a procession in the city during yesterday's hartal hours.

Full fledged TV station to be set up in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Nov 8: Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda has said that a full-fledged television station will be set up at Kazihata along the riverside Padma and initial work of the project has already started, reports BSS.

Addressing a huge public meeting at Shaheb Bazar square yesterday, he called upon the people to resist those who were doing "TV politics" here after the announcement of the government decision to set up a television station at Rajshahi.

Presided over by Khaleque Hossain, President of Rajshahi city BNP, the meeting was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Aminul Huq, Lutfunnesa Hossain MP, Mayor of Rajshahi Mizanur Rahman Minu and RUCSU VP Rizvi Ahmed.

The Information Minister called for thwarting the intrigues of those opposition political parties who were engaged in creating indiscipline in the society.

He said the people had voted the BNP to power for implementing the people-oriented development programmes and giving democracy a permanent shape which was restored after the nine-year struggle against autocratic Ershad regime.

Information Minister posed a question as to why the BNP government should repeal the Indemnity Ordinance Bill as it was Awami League which had promulgated the Ordinance when they were in power in 1975.

The Awami League never raised the demand of repealing the Ordinance during Ershad regime, but now they were

Pressing the BNP government to repeal it, he added.

He went on saying that even no Awami League leader had filed any case within one month and ten days after the killing of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Information Minister said Awami League and Jatiya Party had joined hands and both the parties were now hatching conspiracy with an ulterior motive of disrupting the ongoing development programmes of BNP government.

Huda also criticised Awami League and Jatiya Party for parliament boycott and said it was designed to achieve their selfish ends. He said the Anti-terrorism Bill was passed only to try the terrorists for maintaining law and order in the country so that people could live in peace.

The Information Minister visited the office of society for the enforcement of human rights this morning and exchanged views with the lawyers and said a law commission would be set up soon.

Pry teachers urged to cooperate with govt

State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan Saturday said that primary education is the foundation of the total education system of the country and primary teachers are entrusted with the responsibility of educating our future generation, reports BSS.

The State Minister was addressing a conference of delegates of the Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association (BPTA) here.

Yunus said the present government had given importance on primary education a separate division for primary education and mass education has been established which is functioning under the control of Prime Minister's office to ensure best performance.

He urged them to cooperate with the democratic government so that it could materialise the hopes and aspiration of the people.

The function was presided by the President of BPTA Md Fazlur Rahman.

487 held on various charges

Police arrested 487 people from different parts of the city in the last 48 hours on various charges, reports UNB.

A DMP press release said Sunday 10 of those arrested were wanted, five were taken into custody on charges of murder and dacoity, two on charge of killing, another two were accused in arms case, 12 for stealing and two for robbery.

All the arrested people were produced before court.

Meanwhile, police arrested two youngmen and recovered a revolver with three bullets from their possession during a snatching attempt in Mohammadpur area Saturday afternoon.

They were identified as Nasruddin and Nazrul Islam.

Happy Birthday to



Jaimie (8th November)

From: Mummy & Papa

Qulkhwan

Begum A Karim, wife of Late Khan Shaheb Abdul Karim expired on Friday says a press release.

She was buried the same day in the family graveyard in Gohra, Chittagong.

Her qulkhwan will be held (Monday) at her residence in Dhanmondi, Road 10A, House No. 27, after Asar Prayer. Friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the qulkhwan.

She leaves behind five daughters, four sons, grandchildren and host of relatives to mourn her death.

Solidarity Day observed in Riyadh

Bangladesh Embassy in Riyadh Saturday observed National Solidarity Day with due solemnity, according to a message received in Dhaka, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Abdul Momen Choudhury ceremonially hosted the national flag at the Chancery premises. Prayers were offered for peace and progress of the country.

Members of the mission and Bangladeshi expatriates attended the function.

কাস্টমস একসাইজ ও ড্যাট কালেক্টরেট, ঢাকা

বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়: মিস্টার ডাক্তার ও হোটেল-রেস্তোরা থেকে সেবা গ্রহণের সময় ক্যাশ মেমো সংগ্রহ প্রসঙ্গে।

আপনারা নিত্যই অবগত আছেন যে, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার ১লা জুলাই, ১৯৯১ থেকে চাইনিজ রেস্তোরা ও মিষ্টি ডাক্তার কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সেবার উপর ১৫% হারে মূল্য সংযোজন কর (ভ্যাট) আরোপ করেছেন। এ সময় প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ তাদের প্রদত্ত সেবার মূল্যের সঙ্গে কেতা সাধারণের কাছ থেকে মূল্য সংযোজন কর আদায় করেছেন। কিন্তু এ ধরনের অনেক ব্যবসায়ী প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রচলিত আইনের বিধান লঙ্ঘন করে সলুইভ মূল্য সংযোজন কর সরকারী কোষাগারে জমা না দিয়ে নিজেসই আত্মসাৎ করেছেন। ফলে, সরকার বিপুল অঙ্কের রাজস্ব থেকে বঞ্চিত হচ্ছেন এবং দেশের উন্নয়ন কার্যক্রমে আপনাদের মূল্যবান অবদান/ আত্মত্যাগের ফল মুষ্টিমেয় করতরকন হোটেল-রেস্তোরা ও মিস্টার ডাক্তারের মালিকগণ ভোগ করছেন। দেশ ও দেশের বার্ষিক এই অব্যাহিত পরিষ্কার নিরসন হলো একান্তই জরুরী।

উল্লিখিত পরিষ্কারিত চাইনিজ রেস্তোরাসহ সকল হোটেল-রেস্তোরা এক মিস্টার ডাক্তারের কাছ থেকে সেবা গ্রহণ ও পণ্য ক্রয়ের সময় মূল্য সংযোজন কর কর্তৃক কৃত্তক প্রত্যায়িত চালান (ক্যাশ মেমো) গ্রহণ করার জন্য সম্মানিত কেতা সাধারণকে বিশেষভাবে অনুপ্রোথ করা যাচ্ছে। উল্লেখ্য, মূল্য সংযোজন কর কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত প্রত্যায়িত চালান (ক্যাশ মেমো) গ্রহণ করা হলে সলুইভ কর সরকারী কোষাগারে জমা হবে। যদি কোন মিস্টার ডাক্তার ও হোটেল-রেস্তোরা ব্যবস্থাপনা/মালিক শুধু (ভ্যাট) কর্তৃক কৃত্তক প্রত্যায়িত বিলা/চালান দিতে অস্বীকার করেন তবে তা নিম্নাবলম্বককারী নিকট জানাতে সম্মানিত জনসাধারণকে বিনীত অনুপ্রোথ করা হলো।

মেজর (অবঃ) রউফুল আলম
কাস্টমস, একসাইজ ও ড্যাট
কালেক্টরেট, ঢাকা
ফোনঃ ৪০৪৪৩০

DFP (G) 19216-3/11
G-1416

Solution to problems must be sought in Sangsad: Oli

CHITTAGONG, Nov 8: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed has said that discipline was the prime warrant of parliamentary democracy and all must be vocal to place the interest of the nation above all party interests, reports BSS.

The Minister was addressing a public meeting at Anwara thana sadar yesterday on the occasion of National Revolution and Solidarity Day. Syed Wahidul Alam MP, Mohammad Shahjahan MP, Barkatullah Bhulu MP and Advocate Abu Sale Chowdhury also addressed the meeting.

Ahmed said, difference of opinion was natural in parliamentary democracy, but that

should not be manifested through nurturing untoward incidents, creating blockade and barricade on roads, disrupting production in mills and factories or sticking bills and slogans at will to way-side walls. Solution to all problems should be sought and made out in the parliament, he added.

The Minister said that, if that too could not satisfy any quarter, they could go for legal action permissible under the law of the land or wait to have the people verdict in their favour. He said, most of us had the opportunity this year to have a very close look at US presidential polls through TV.

'Govt firm to ensure basic needs of people'

RAJSHAHI Nov 8: State Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Aminul Haque said the BNP government is relentlessly endeavouring to ensure basic needs of the people and develop communication network in the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing a gathering at Talond Lolit Mohan Degree College premises under Tanore thana of the district on Friday.

The State Minister said the government attached top priority to education and comprehensive programme had been taken to renovate educational institutions in phases. He said Compulsory Primary Education and Mass Literacy Programmes had been launched for spreading education in the country.

Haq called upon all including teachers, students and guardians to help maintain congenial atmosphere in the educational institutions.

The state minister laid the foundation stone of a mosque at Tanore AK Degree College and planted saplings there. He also visited Hatishal School and assured that necessary assistance for renovation of the school would be given.



5.00	Opening announcement Al-Quran
	Programme summary
5.20	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Geeta
5.25	Sports Programme: Tennis
6.30	Open University
7.05	Debate
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Aparn Shasthya (Programme on health)
9.00	Shantana
10.00	News in English
10.30	Hill Street Blues
11.30	Khabar/The News
11.40	Tuesday's Programme Summary
11.45	Closing

DUJ photography competition begins today

A two-day photography competition and exhibition of photo-journalists under the auspices of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) will be inaugurated this morning at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium here, reports BSS.

Dedicated to the memory of photo-journalist Khairul Alam Khair who died recently in a tragic rail accident while on duty, the programme will be inaugurated by Professor Innas Ali, President, Science Academy.

Senior-most photo-journalist and chief photographer of The Bangladesh Observer Mozammel Hossain will be the chief guest at the concluding day function while Begum Mokaddes Ali, wife of late photo-journalist of the Observer Mokaddes Ali will distribute prizes among the winners at a function tomorrow (Tuesday) morning at the same venue.

DUJ President Shahjahan Miah will be in the chair on both the occasions.

Annual dinner of Federal Insurance held

Federal Insurance Company Limited held its annual dinner yesterday evening at a local hotel, reports BSS.

Minister for Commerce MK Anwar, Minister for Planning Zahruddin Khan and Minister for Forest and Environment Abdullah Al Noman attended the dinner as guests of honour.

Foodgrains merchant to be provided with loans

Government has decided to facilitate private sector food-grain merchants with loans from Nationalised Commercial Banks (NCBs), reports BSS.

This commensurates with the recent withdrawal of restrictions by Bangladesh Bank on providing such loans to food-grain merchants from NCBs.

Interested merchants may apply for such loan to their concerned branches of the NCBs.

What's on today . . .

Discussion on Health Policy

An open discussion on formulating the future outline of the national Health Policy, under the sponsorship of Public Health Association of Bangladesh will be held at the Nipsom auditorium today (Monday) at 3 pm.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf will attend the discussion as the chief guest while the Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Strajul Huq and Chairman of the Board of Editors of the Ittefaq and the New Nation Barrister Mainul Husein as the special guests.

Rotary Club Dhaka Central

The 429th regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held today (Monday) at 1 pm at family lounge at Dhaka Club.

Visiting Rotarians team from Australia headed by Rtn PDG Ross Arvin will visit the club.

. . . and tomorrow

Discussion on computer software development

An open discussion on computer software development for export market-requirement of technical manpower will be held tomorrow (Tuesday) at 10 am at the Department of Computer Science of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

Seminar on Bosnia

Iranian Embassy in Dhaka will hold a seminar in support of the oppressed people of Bosnia-Harzegovina tomorrow (Tuesday) at the auditorium of the cultural centre of the embassy at 4 pm.

Weather

Weather to remain dry

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid till 6 pm on Monday says it will remain dry over the country. Night temperature may fall by one to two degree Celsius over the country.

Meanwhile, the weather remained dry on Sunday and night temperature dropped by one to four degree Celsius in most of the places.

The lowest temperature of 14.2 degree Celsius was reported from Rajshahi.

The outlook for subsequent two days: Little change. Extended outlook for another five days: No marked change. The temperature and humidity of some cities on Sunday were:

City	temperature		humidity	
	max	min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	29.8	18	61	69
Chittagong	29.8	20.9	80	70
Rajshahi	30	14.2	70	78
Khulna	30.2	18.2	76	X
Sylhet	30.4	18.8	72	72
Rangpur	29.8	17	80	85
Comilla	30	19	98	80

BANGLADESH PARJATAN CORPORATION

Urgent Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from 1st class contractors/firms enlisted with any Govt/Semi-Govt Organisations for exterior painting, repair and renovation of Toilets, Canteen etc at Head Office Complex of the Corporation. The estimated cost of the work is Tk 5,51,000/- only.

Each tender document along with terms and conditions may be obtained from the Accounts Division, Dhaka of the Corporation on payment of Taka one thousand only (Non-refundable) during 10-12 hours on all working days except on the day of opening of the tenders.

Each tender must accompany the Earnest Money at the rate of 5% of the total quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation.

Each tender must also accompany attested photostat copies of the documents regarding (i) Enlistment as class-I contractor for the year 1990-91. (ii) Completion certificate of similar nature of work worth more than Tk 6 lac in a single work order under any Govt/Semi-Govt Organisation from the respective Executive Engineer which the contractor completed not before 1988 together with work order. (iii) List of technical personnel and equipment presently employed and owned by the firm which is to be duly certified by an Executive Engineer issued not before July 1992. (iv) Income Tax clearance certificate for the year 1989-90. (v) Financial solvency certificate from a scheduled bank of Bangladesh issued not before July 1992. The tender without Earnest Money, without above mentioned documents and without the documents mentioned in the schedule will be rejected.

Tender is to be dropped in the Tender Box kept in the Works Division of the Corporation up to 11.00 am on 10-11-92 and will be opened on the same day at 11-15 am by the committee in presence of tenderer, if any.

The above mentioned work will have to be completed within 21 days from the day of issue of the work order. No running bill will be paid for this work.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept any or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP (BA) 10666-3/11
G-1417

Abul Kashem
Manager/Works