discriminate

Dhaka Day by Day

Raising Funds for Khwaja Baba

by Sharier Khan



slum in Mirpur, section two, invest on baking after a long time. and selling pithas in winter as an extra source of income. But Haris hates small profit-generating schemes. He has better plans.

So early one December morning he contacts Babul, a small trader and a former muscle-man of the area.

"Let's raise some money to celebrate urash (a religious programme) of Khwaja Baba," Haris told Babul, "we will feed the poor too on the urash day."

Babul took the message between the lines. He liked it. "Okay, let's start!"

The next morning they selected a site at a residential zone of Mirpur. They framed-up a small room half-open from all sides with bamboos and lal shaloo (red cloth), hung four bulbs from the room's ceiling and decorated the place with gaudy paper flowers.

Now comes the point of interest: the big pot . Now one might wonder how much would be - capable enough to retain at least one lakh

They placed the pot in the middle of the

Lighting up the bulbs posed a problem. But not to Haris. He set an electric cable with a metal hook at its top on a bamboo and then hooked that with the road side electric cable.

Now there was constant electric supply, and Babul provided a tape recorder and some cassettes containing devotional songs on Khwaza Baba.

The stage was set.

Nobody could voice a word against it; no matter how wrong it was, for it had a sacred cause - raising funds for Khwaza Baba.

They started playing the cassette player. A tremendous stream of noise was unleashed. Slum kids were attracted like locusts swarming around a fire. Late slumbers were shaken

Many of Haris's comrades living in the same out of bed. Deaf persons started hearing things

Some religiously sensitive persons while passing by started donating. It really worked. Others, mostly cynics, said, "Haris Mia with this fund will go to Paris!"

"Nobody asked me to do this pious job," he would tell the cynics.

"I did not claim to have spiritual power," he would add, "then again, many people like me organise such fund raising project!"

Indeed, in every winter, such projects grow up in the city like mushrooms. From Mirpur to Gulistan, there are at least 20 such rooms. Inside the residential areas, the number is sure to be multiplied.

"Using the public electricity line is not wrong," Haris would defend his 'doing wrongs', but would ultimately say, "maybe it is, but the purpose of it is noble!"

collected in the pot each day. "Not much!" Haris would grunt, "although I

have not counted the money inside the pot, I think in three days we were able to raise taka

But from a reliable source (Haris's 10-yearold son), the cynics gather the information that at least 2000 taka were donated by heaven-seekers in three days.

But nobody can confirm it since Haris won't open the pot before December 25, after which he would 'throw' the urash 'party'.

The urash party will consist of songs by a boyatt (Bard), zikir, and, finally, a banquet in the name of Khwaja Baba.

Haris and Babul might have real religious motives, or purely financial ones. In any case, Allah is not going reward them with heaven for illegal use of electricity, noise pollution and public nuisance.



Five Party alliance brought out a procession yesterday demanding trial of the persons -Star photo involved in attack on the JSD office.

Release of city BNP leader demanded

Hazaribagh Anti-terrorism Committee at a meeting here yesterday demanded immediate release of local BNP leader and a member of the committee KG Karim, reports UNB.

Karim, who was the chief coordinator of Begum Khaleda Zia's election campaign in word number 17 in the last parliamentary polls, was arrested Saturday, said a press release of the committee.

Agreement signed to support Grameen Bank project

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), GOB and the Royal Netherlands Government have recently signed an agreement to support Grameen Bank (Grameen Krishi Foundation) to manage Deep Tubewells assets and to sell water inputs and provide extension and other agricultural services to farmers in Rangpur and Dinajpur area, says a press release.

The project at a total cost of US\$ 21,199, 300 will raise the productive potential of the 650 DTW's now under GKF's management and assist crop diversification efforts of farmers within these DTW command areas.

Chittagong Dateline

Old Circuit House to be made Zia Memorial Museum

CHITTAGONG, Dec 9: The work on turning the Chittagong old Circuit House into Zia Memorial Museum at a cost of Taka 1.47 crore will start next month, an official source said, reports BSS.

The 82-year-old Circuit House, where President Ziaur Rahman was assassinated on May 30, 1981, will be handed over to the National Museum Authority soon for starting the renovation. The Museum will be ready before the next death anniversary of late President Ziaur Rahman.

According to renovation programme the room of the Circuit House where President Zia was assassinated would be kept intact while other rooms would be renovated and adjusted according to the needs befitting a museum. There will be a library room, while chairs, tables and other articles used by the late President at the Circuit House will be preserved. Besides, valuable antiques will be placed in the museum to increase its attrac-

tion to the visitors. Late President Zia's life sketch, the microphone, he used at the Kalurghat transmission station while proclaiming independence and valuable documents of Liberation War will also be pre-

served in the museum.

Meanwhile, the construction works of a new Circuit House at Chittagong at a cost of Taka 2.88 crore has been progressing satisfactorily.

Being built within the old Circuit House area the new Circuit House with all modern amenities will be ready by July next year.

An official of the Public Works Department (PWD) told BSS that so far 40 per cent of the total works of the new Circuit House had been completed. He said there will be two VVIP rooms, eight general rooms and a conference hall in the new Circuit House.

Chittagong City Corporation Mayor Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin said that the corporation would build a children park under the name Zia Shishu Park in front of the Zia Memorial Museum.

Obituary

Nasim Sadek Rizvi, son of Ataur Rahman Chowdhury, counsellor, Bangladesh embassy in Riyadh died of prolonged illness at a city hospital Tuesday, reports BSS.

He was buried at Azimpur Graveyard. His Qul Khawani will be

held after Asr prayer tomorrow (Friday) at his father's postal officers' quarters residence (D-2/13) Azimpur.

21 JU teachers demand withdrawal of cases against Nirmul body men

By JU Correspondent A total of 21 Jahangirnagar University teachers Monday demanded the withdrawal of false cases against the Nirmul committee activists and leaders filed by the Jamaat-Shibir

In a joint statement issued by the teachers criticised the false murder charges against freedom fighter and Senate member of Rajshahi University Advocate Firoz Ahmed, ABM Nurul Alam, Commander Mottbur Rahman and student leader AKM Beduin.

The teachers alleged that Nirmul body leaders and activists throughout the country were being harassed by the false charges filed by the conspiring Jamaat forces.

Md Rafiq, Nurul Islam Manzur, Sharif Hossain Khan, Anu Muhammad are among others, the signatories to the statement.

10 get Kamaluddin Awards

Ten students of the Life Science Department of the Jahangirnagar University were awarded Kamaluddin prizes Tuesday for their outstanding academic achievement.

Chaired by the Director of the Life Science Institute Prof Abdul Ghani, Vice Chancellor of the University Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed distributed prizes and certificates among the students.



Anniversary of Sirajuddin Hossain's death today

By Staff Correspondent

The 21st death anniversary of Shaheed Sirajuddin Hossain will be observed today at his residence "Purbanchal", 3/11 Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur. A milad mahfil will be held after Magreb prayer.

Sirajuddin was the Executive and News Editor of the Dainik Ittefaque.

He was killed during the War of Liberation by Pakistani forces in collaboration with Al-Badr, Rajakar and Al-Shams men who were backed by Jamaat-Shibir and Muslim

The journalist is well remembered for his activities during the war.

Sirajuddin was awarded posthumous "Ekushey Padak" in 1980 for his contribution to the nation.

Anniversary of Nazmul Huq's death tomorrow

The 21st death anniversary of Shaheed intellectualjournalist Nazmul Hug will be observed on tomorrow with due solemnity, reports UNB.

On December 10 of 1971, two famous journalists Syed Nazmul Huq and Sirajuddin Hossain were picked up by Albadar Bahini and brutally killed at Rayer Bazar after being tortured.

Nazmul Huq was the chief reporter of the then Pakistan Press International and Resident Representative of CBS (Colombia Broadcasting Service) in Dhaka.

Syed Nazmul Huq Smriti Sangsad has chalked out elaborate programmes to mark the day, says a press release.

The programmes include Quran khwani at 10 am, feeding the destitutes at 1 pm and milad mahfil at 4 pm at 5, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka.



City wing of Awami League brought out a peace procession in the city yesterday.

Speakers at a meeting here

yesterday protested the demo-

lition of the ancient Babri

mosque in India and called

upon all to upheld the com-

Corporation Mayor Sheikh

Tayubur Rahman the gathering

was held at the Shipping

spective of political affiliation

to come forward to protect the

communal harmony in the

others by President, Lawyers

Association Advocate Yunus

Ahmed, BNP City unit

President M Nurul Islam, for-

mer chairman of Khulna

pourashava and a leader of the

Gonotantric Front Advocate

Enayet Ali, Divisional

Commissioner Abdul Moktadir

Chowdhury, Divisional Inspe

ctor Ashraful Huda and Police

Commissioner Osman Ali Khan. Bangladesh Private Medical

Practitioners Association

(BPMPA) in its statement ex-

pressed deep concern and in-

dignation at the destruction of

Babri Mosque by communal

activists and their supporters

in India.
The BPMPA appealed to the

people of Bangladesh to show

restraint to maintain commu-

a statement also said the situa-

tion arising out of Babri-

Mosque-Mandir in the subcon-

in Bangladesh was in no way

responsible for the incident in

Parishad (Central Committee)

and Mahanagar Sarbajanin Puja

Committee in a joint statement

today strongly condemned the

demolition of Babri Mosque by

fanatic Hindu fundamentalists

tinent was "not acceptable".

Bangladesh Hindu League in

It said the Hindu population

Leaders of Bangladesh Puja

nal harmony.

in Ayodhya.

It was addressed among

The speakers urged all irre-

Corporation auditorium.

Presided over by City

munal harmony in the region.

We should not women from men, says DU VC By DU Correspondent The Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Emazuddin Ahmed said that we should not discriminate women from men in the contribution to the society for national progress. He was speaking as the chief guest in an annual function organised by Rokeya Memorial Foundation at the Rokeya Hall auditorium of the university in observance of Begum Rokeya Day yesterday The hall provost ZN

tended the function as the special guest. Congratulations Pupu & Hitu

Tahmina presided over the

function while Professor Razia

Khan Amin of the English de-

partment of the university pre-

- nted the key note paper on

'Socio-Economic Position of

speech said that united effort

of men and women was the

only way of social development.

Professor Wakil Ahmed also at-

Professor Razia in her

Vice Chancellor

on 20 years of matrimonial harmony

-Sagheer & Jeehan

Demolition of Babri Mosque condemned

Call to maintain communal harmony continues UNB adds from Khulna:

Several organisations and teachers of the Dhaka University yesterday strongly condemned the demolition of historic Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India and urged the people to refrain from any provocation on the pretext of the incident, reports BSS. In a joint statement, 52

teachers of the Dhaka University expressed concern at the destruction of Babri Mosque and urged the Indian government and people to rebuild the mosque immediately. They appealed to the peo-

ple of Bangladesh to maintain communal harmony. Fanatical emotion is always a threat to democracy and humanity, the teachers added. The signatories to the

statement include Dr Mohammad Masud Chowdhury, Prof Azad Chowdhury, Prof Sultana Shafi, Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir, Dr Anwar Hossain, Prof Q A I M Nuruddin, Prof Ahsanul Huq, M Aminul Islam, Dr Saroj Kumar Saha, Dr Azizun Nahar, Dr Abul Bashar, Dr Sakhawat Ali Khan, Dr Nurur Rahman Khan and Dr Anisur Rahman.

Condemning the demolition of Babri Mosque, Zia Academy demanded reconstruction of the sacred mosque.

It appealed to the people of Bangladesh to remain vigilant so that no interested quarters could indulge in anarchy centering the Ayodhya incident.

World Muslim Congress in a statement also urged the countrymen to demonstrate utmost patience and tolerance to maintain peace and order in the country.

Another BSS report says: Aminul Islam Bedu and Zakaria Shirazi, Executive Vice-President and General Secretary of Bangladesh Humanist Society, condemned the demolition of the Babri Mosque in India by the communal Hindu fanatics.

In a joint statement they called upon the people to maintain peace and communal harmony and to resist the communal forces at all cost.

They also condemned the burning of CPB office and Indian High Commission Library at Motifheel.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather will remain mainly dry over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Thursday). The Met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The minimum temperature of 9.6 degree Celsius was reported from Dinajpur and Isurdi yesterday (Wednesday) and the maximum of 28.0 degree was reported from Satkhira. The sun sets today at 5.12 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.31

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

6pm 9am 67 Dhaka 83 15.2 Chittagong 9.6 26.0 Rajshahi 79 12.4 27.0 Khulna 15.0 26.5 Cox's Bazar 74 9.4 25.4 Dinajpur 71 71 13.5 25.8 Sylhet 80 12.4 26.8 Barisal



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Re-Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are invited for the following project as estimated cost mentioned against from the gas pipeline contractors under category 1.3 enlisted with the Company for the year 1991-92.

Project

Estimated construction cost (Tk)

Gas pipeline construction at Manikganj BSCIC Industrial Estate 2,15,618.00 only

Tender documents will be sold at a non-refundable cost of Tk 400.00 (Taka four hundred) only per set from Company's Accounts & Finance Department on all working days from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm from 10-12-92 to 14-12-92 and shall have to be dropped in the tender box located at Pipeline Construction Department at Company's Head Office latest by 11:00 hours on 15-12-92 with Tk. 5000.00 (Taka five thousand) only as earnest money in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh and documentary evidence of contractors VAT registration as per clause 15 of VAT Act, 1991 (if the firm's turnover is more than 5 (five) lac annually)/where the VAT registration is not required a certificate in this regard from the concerned authority & other necessary documents. Tenders shall be opened on the same day at 11:30 hours in presence of the tenderer (s) if any. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening of tender.

The contractors who have not completed 75% of running Pipeline/Riser construction projects (up to 31st October, 1992) and the contractors who will be determined as successful bidder for previously tendered Pipeline/Riser construction projects before last date of submission of this tender are not eligible to participate in the Tender. All other information enclosed within the Tender schedule.

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

> "গাছ লাগান; গাছের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাঁচান " - প্রধানমন্ত্রী

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Manager

Pipeline Construction Department



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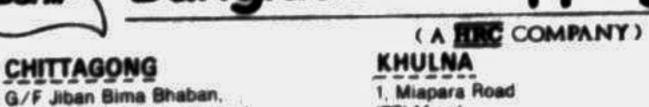
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CONSIGNMENTS NOT CLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF UNLOADING EX THE SHIP ARE LIABLE TO BE CONFISCATED AND AUCTIONED AS PER SEC. 167(8) AND SEC. 82 RESPECTIVELY OF THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE/REFERENCE.

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