

## Dhaka Day by Day

## 'Nakshi Kanthas' With Refreshing Patterns

by S Bari



There was a time when nakshi kantha was a woman's pastime, a way to recycle and decorate old clothing. Now the ubiquitous nakshi stitch haunts every handicraft shop in sight. Inevitably, a lot of it is sloppy and unoriginal.

That's why the collection currently on display at the Goethe Institute in Dhanmondi is refreshing. Based mainly on saris and some shawl kameez, the exhibition is presented by an organization with the somewhat cryptic name of Henry's Heritage. The craftsmanship is nearly flawless, and the designs have flair and originality.

A lot of traditional motifs are flung about, especially the fish, the kaka, and leafy designs, but the colour combinations are urbane and modern. Most of the nakshi work is done by women in Sherpur, under the guidance of Razia Samad, a designer. She organizes the women, many of whom had the skills previously but lacked the funds and marketing knowledge to make their work financially profitable.

At the exhibition, designer Sharuk Shahid explains the curious name and its origins: "Henry is our sponsor and financier's name," he says with a smile. "Since we would like to eventually export, we felt this name would be easier for foreigners to pronounce." The rest of this sponsor's name is Musa Mohammed Hasnain Rahman.

Henry's Heritage collects designs from all over the country. Though small, such

enterprises keep alive the art of nakshi kantha. Quilts and more traditional objects sell less than clothing, which is why handicrafts businesses have branched into saris and shawl kameez. This particular collection has the distinction of presenting unique pieces: no two items are exactly the same in stitching or in colouring.

Nakshi stitching on shawl kameez, cushions and bedspreads has a much larger appeal than on saris, where the stitch tends to look a bit out of place. But as more and more buyers wear nakshi kantha saris, this might well become a new trend, a break from traditional jamdani. If handicraft entrepreneurs develop a large enough network to export saris to neighbouring countries, the market potential is enormous, judging from the number of tourists who load their suitcases with kantha stitch saris.

The collection is not exclusively of nakshi kantha — some exquisite pottery is on sale as well. Hand made by Q A Tahmina, the plates and vases range from brightly coloured ethnic to subdued sophisticated. Many of the lamps are converted vases with handpainted shades.

Dhurries and woolen rugs, made with Bangladesh wool, are also available as part of Henry's Heritage. The show continues for Friday and Saturday, at the Goethe Institute on Road Two in Dhanmondi.

## Comprehensive book policy soon

The government will announce a comprehensive book policy soon. The national committee which was constituted for formulating the policy will submit its report by this month, reports BSS.

This was disclosed at the 10th meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on Cultural Affairs. Ministry held yesterday at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan-Ara Begum in the chair.

The meeting was informed that during the inaugural function of the 13th national book fair, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia gave a commitment regarding formulation of a national book policy. In the light of this commitment, a national committee and seven

sub-committees were constituted comprising eminent personalities of concerned institutions. They have reviewed various aspects of the policy.

Prof Jahan-Ara Begum said the present government attached top-most priority to human resources development. Books can play a positive role in this regard, she added.

The State Minister assured that individual rights of people involved in the production of books and development of their professional skills would be ensured in the policy.

She said special priority would be given to publishing suitable books for children and handicapped people. She further said books would also be published for the illiterates to make the mass literacy programme a success.

## What's on today . . .

## Children's painting exhibition

Lions Club of Dhaka Oriental has organised a children's painting exhibition and a poster painting competition on "an environment for peace" to be held today (Friday) at 9:30 am at Gandaria Kishalay Kanchikanchar Mela premises (15, Dinnath Sen Road), Gandaria to mark the Victory Day.

## Discussion on 'Muslim Ummah'

A discussion meeting on "Muslim Ummah in Grip of Aggression" will be held at the Dhaka district Sports Association auditorium today (Friday).

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. Emajuddin Ahmed will inaugurate the discussion meeting while Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury will attend as chief guest.

Principal Dewan Md Azfar will preside while and columnist Mobaidur Rahman will present the key note paper.

## Seminar on Development Activities

A seminar on "Development Activities in Bangladesh" will be held today (Friday) at 9 am at the auditorium of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) on the occasion of the annual conference of its Dhaka Centre.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sirar will attend the function as Chief Guest while noted economist Prof Mozaffar Ahmed will present the keynote paper at the seminar.

Former President of IEB S M Al Hossaini will preside over the seminar and Dr Fasihuddin Mahtab, Barrister Moimul Hossain and Dr Mohammad Yunus will participate in the discussion.

## Birth anniversary of Mohanambra.

A discussion meeting on the occasion of the 89th birth anniversary of Dr. Mohanambra Bramhachari Moharaj will be held today (Friday) at 5 pm at Jagatbandhu Mohaprakash Mith at Tikatuli.

## . . . and tomorrow

## Workers' Party

Bangladesh Workers' Party city unit will hold a workers meeting tomorrow (Saturday) at 4 pm at the Central office of the party.



## Friday

## Morning Session

- 8.00 Announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
- 8.10 News in Bangla
- 8.15 Alor Dishari
- 8.40 Cartoon Film
- 9.00 Khelag Jagat
- 9.30 Film Show: Candid Camera
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.05 Sangshaptak
- 11.15 Drama Series: The Girl From Tomorrow
- 11.45 Avinandan

## Evening Session

- 3.00 Announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
- 3.15 Cartoon Film
- 3.40 Movie of the Week
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.30 Sports programme
- 7.05 Sangeeta
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Comedy Series
- 9.00 Kichhukkhann
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Programme on X-mas Day
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Tomorrow's Programme Summary
- 11.45 Closing.

## Weather

## No change in night temperature

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with fair sky is likely to prevail over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Friday).

The Met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country except over Chittagong and Noakhali regions where slight rise in night temperature is expected.

The minimum temperature of 7.8 degree Celsius was reported from Dinajpur yesterday (Thursday) and the maximum of 28.5 degree was from Bogra.

The sun sets today at 5.19 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.38 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	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	27.0	10.2	74	69
Chittagong	25.6	13.3	89	67
Rajshahi	26.2	9.8	76	76
Khulna	26.8	11.0	84	75
Cox's Bazar	27.0	14.0	76	77
Sylhet	26.5	11.5	75	60
Dinajpur	26.2	7.8	78	75
Barisal	26.8	11.0	84	80

Happy Birthday  
to  
**MUSHFIQUE**  
From  
Faffat, Naim, Sabina

Happy Birthday  
to  
**SHAON**  
Abbu, Ammu and  
Shovon Bhaia

**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES**  
The containerised cargo ex. M.V. MONT BLANC MARU V. 12062 from Nagoya, Yokohama, Hongkong have been relayed to M. V. NGS RANGER V 4192 Import Rotation No. 968/92 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 26-12-1992 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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AS AGENTS: MITSUI O.S.K. LINES LTD. TOKYO  
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Fax : 880-2-813324

**NGSHIP Management Pte Ltd**  
**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES / SHIPPERS**

M. V. NGS RANGER V4192 IMP. ROT NO. 968/92 WILL TAKE BERTH CHITTAGONG PORT ON OR ABOUT 26TH DECEMBER 1992 WITH IMPORT CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE EX-SENTOSA JAYA V0688, EX-ORIENTAL KNIGHT V7326W AND ALSO CONTAINERS EX-SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE DELIVERY OF GOODS IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISCHARGE SURVEY APPLICATION MUST BE PRESENTED TO US WITHIN 3 DAYS OF DISCHARGE NO CLAIM WILL BE ENTERTAINED NOR ANY LIABILITIES ACCEPTED IN RESPECT OF DAMAGE TO AND OR SHORT LANDINGS OF CONSIGNMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM STORAGE SHED. IN EVENT OF CONSIGNEES TAKING DIRECT DELIVERY SURVEY TO BE HELD AT SHIP'S SIDE ONLY.

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.

THE VESSEL WILL LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO. 951/92 FOR SINGAPORE AND ALSO FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO EAST/WEST COAST OF U.S. CANADA, UK/CONTINENT, MEDIT. FAR-EAST/JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND PORTS.

**FOR BOOKING AND OTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT GENERAL AGENTS:**

**BDSHP Bangladesh Shipping Lines Ltd.**  
(A BDC COMPANY)

**CHITTAGONG**  
G/F Jiban Bima Bhaban,  
1953 St. Multa Rd. Agrabad  
Tel : 504313, 502123-500798  
Tlx : 633027 BDSHP BJ  
Telefax : 225625

**KHULNA**  
T. Mukherjee Road  
(PTI Moor)  
Tel : 21175  
Tlx : 633302 BDSHP BJ  
Telegram : BDSHIP

**DHAKA**  
12/E Sana Kalyan Bhaban,  
195 Motiheel Com. Area  
Tel : 864546, 864547  
Tlx : 632105 BDSHP BJ  
Telefax : 863734

## President asks engineers to attain technical expertise

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday called upon the engineers, scientists and other professionals to help overcome poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, population explosion and industrial back-

wardness, reports BSS. Lauding the role of engineers during the hours of national crisis, President Biswas asked them to attain necessary technical expertise to take the country to its desired goal of

prosperity.

The President was inaugurating the annual conference of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh Dhaka centre here at the IEB auditorium. Chaired by Muhammad Abul Hayat, President of the centre, the inaugural function of the two-day long conference was also addressed by Kazi Aminur Rahman, Vice President of IEB, SM Khabiruzzaman, Secretary of the centre and Mahbulul Haq, Convenor of conference preparatory committee.

President Biswas said the present government was determined to ensure accountability and transparency in all its activities. People of all strata including engineers, scientists and other professional groups have to come forward to help attain progress and productivity, he added.

Referring to the phenomenal growth of some south east Asian countries like Thailand, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, the President said we had to find out the reasons for our backwardness. Present Bangladesh was very near to these countries some two and a half decades ago, the President pointed out.

**ইংলিশ ডিপার্টমেন্ট এ্যালুমাইনাই সোসাইটি**  
**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ALUMNI SOCIETY**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, DHAKA UNIVERSITY, DHAKA-1000, BANGLADESH  
PHONE: 503021 PABX: 505190-89 EXT. 252

## Get-Together Today

The English Department Alumni Society holds its ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER TODAY, December 25, Friday, in the Institute of Fine Arts (Shahbagh) premises at 3.30 pm.

All ex-students of the Department are cordially invited to attend.

Convener

English Department Alumni Society  
Dhaka University

**হাউজিং এন্ড বিল্ডিং রিসার্চ ইনস্টিটিউট**  
**HOUSING AND BUILDING RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

## Application for Participation in Development and Marketing of Innovative Building Materials

Applications are hereby invited from interested Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) for participation with Housing and Building Research Institute, Dhaka, in development and marketing of innovative building materials throughout Bangladesh. Prerequisite of the NGO for application is to have at least one Graduate Architect and one Graduate Civil Engineer in their main Executive Committee, having experience in Low Cost housing and innovative building materials' development.

Interested NGOs may apply to the Director, Housing and Building Research Institute by 14th January, '93 with a list of their present activities and Bio-data of the technically qualified members of the executive committee who will be officially responsible to Housing and Building Research Institute, Mirpur, Dhaka.

The authority reserves the right to select or reject any NGO as their partner without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFF (G) 21919-19/12  
G-1666

**AKM Khorshed Alam**  
Director  
Phone: 801382

## BOL Bangladesh Oxygen Limited Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka, on Sunday 31 January 1993 at 9:30 AM to transact the following business:

- To receive and adopt the Accounts for the year ended 30 September 1992 and the Reports of the Auditors and Directors thereon.
- To declare a final dividend for the year ended 30 September 1992.
- To consider and if thought fit pass the following resolution as a Special Resolution:  
"Resolved that, pursuant to the Special Resolutions taken in this regard at the 6th Annual General Meeting of 18.1.79, the Extraordinary General Meeting of 4.10.83 and the 18th Annual General Meeting of 6 February 1991, the first sentence of Clause 5 of the Memorandum of Association of the Company be substituted to read "The authorised capital of the Company is Taka 20,00,00,000/- divided into 2,00,00,000 shares of Taka 10 each."
- To consider and if thought fit pass the following resolution as a Special Resolution:  
"Resolved that, pursuant to the Special Resolutions taken in this regard at the 6th Annual General Meeting of 18.1.79, the Extraordinary General Meeting of 4.10.83 and the 18th Annual General Meeting of 6 February 1991, Article 3 of the Articles of Association of the Company be substituted to read "The authorised capital of the Company is Taka 20,00,00,000/-divided into 2,00,00,000 shares of Taka 10 each."
- To consider and if thought fit pass the following resolution as a Special Resolution:  
"Resolved that Article 24 of the Articles of Association of the Company be deleted."
- To consider and if thought fit pass the following resolution as a Special Resolution:  
"Resolved that Article 27 of the Articles of Association of the Company be deleted and the following be substituted in its place:-  
"If the Directors refuse to register a transfer of any share, they shall, within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company, send to the transferee and the transferor notice of refusal, as required by section 34(4) of the Act."
- To consider amending Article 55 of the Articles of Association of the Company to conform to the Companies Act 1913 and if thought fit to pass the following resolution as a Special Resolution:  
"Resolved that the word "two" appearing in the fourth line and the word "one-twentieth" appearing in the sixth line of Article 55 of the Articles of Association of the Company be substituted by the words "five" and "one-tenth" respectively."
- To elect Directors.
- To appoint Auditors and to fix their remuneration.

By Order of the Board.

**Akhter Matin Chaudhury**  
Company Secretary  
25 December, 1992

Registered Office  
4, Mohakhali C/A  
Dhaka 1212

## NOTES

- The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 2.1.93 to 31.1.93 (both days inclusive) and transfers received in order at the Registered Office up to close of business on 31.12.92 (1.1.93 being a Friday) will qualify for dividend to the transferees.
- A member eligible to attend the General Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his behalf. No person shall act as proxy unless he is entitled to be present and vote in his own right.
- Forms of proxy, duly completed, must be deposited at the Company's Registered Office at least 72 hours before the time appointed for the Meeting and in default will not be treated as valid.