

Dhaka Day by Day

A Painter with a Perceptive Insight

by Fayza Haq



What is reality?

Ilse Hilpert, a German, working in Bangladesh, held an interesting and perceptive display of her paintings at the Bangladesh National Museum. Her works represented well the life in Bangladesh. She appeared to have a clear perception of the social, economical and political situation in Dhaka in her "Through The Eyes of a Stranger".

"Bangladesh-2" had the symbol of Bangladesh in the centre in the form of a red circle taken from the Bangladesh national flag. This was decorated with a motif of a bull about to be sacrificed for Idul-ul-Fitre. A crescent yellow stood for Islam, which is the pre-dominant religion of the country.

In the central rectangle of the painting she had brought in images of death and sorrow, in case of both youth and old age. In the left corner there were multi-coloured balloons which were signs of joy. There was a clenched fist and a hand in brown, which represented demonstrations in Dhaka. On the right was another hand greedily grabbing out for food. This symbolised poverty.

All around the central rectangle were beggars, handicapped and old women. The society was shown as separated, where sex was concerned, with the women on the left and the men on the right. The women were garment factory workers and day labourers. On the top of the central rectangle were the elite of Bangladesh, and in the right corner were musicians. "The rich need the musicians and intellectuals litterateurs to survive," Ilse commented.

She had used a lot of black and grey for the outlines of the bright colours that she had used. "When you come from Europe you are struck with the loud buoyant colours of the east. The place is so crowded that you need the strong colours," the artist explained.

"Bangladesh-4 Born as a woman" had brick breakers in the centre, with more crowded figures in the background. In the centre was a woman in a green 'sari', depicted as learning, as she was illiterate. She was seated on an "alpana" work. "I have put her in the centre as I believe women play a very important role in Bangladesh society," Ilse said.

There was embroidery delineation in the corner of the rectangle which one can see in any of the shops of Dhaka, and which the women excel in the villages of Bangladesh," the artist elaborated. There was a grey tubewell and a melange of beggars and workers.

All around the large rectangle, one could see all types of women — both educated and uneducated. One could see the religious women in the 'buga' too. There is the delineation of a murdered woman as well, as one reads about women who have committed suicide and have been beaten to death so often in the papers. There were sweetresses protesting for their pay scale too. "The Bangla newspapers are replete with information about them", the artist commented. Letterings were done carefully and accurately even though Ilse is a foreigner.

"Bangladesh 5: born as Man" had portraits of the male sex of Bangladesh. In the centre were the agitators, because nearly every other day that artist had seen some rally in the streets, of some form or the other. There was the body of a man being killed in a political clash. At the lower end were religious people praying. One saw men in white sitting very accurately in rows, "as seen in Jumma prayers," as the artist elaborated. There was also a depiction of a rowdy demonstration. There was an impressionistic depiction of Rabindranath Tagore "as in Bangladesh one is always using the music, poetry, and quotations from his books," Ilse explained.

On the left top of the same painting was a brilliantly painted rickshaw in vermilion, green and many colours. There were people depicted as arguing and fighting because that is what the artists often found in the city. There was a "peshiamam" that the artist often sees as incidentally, she lives besides a mosque and sees the individual everyday. There were also the day labourers showed as the toiling masses.

In "Bangladesh 1: First Impression" there was a brilliant and yellow child's mask. In the centre was a red circle from the Bangladesh flag, once again. The first painter that the artist had come to know in the city was S.M. Sultan, whom she depicted in black outlines against a green and brown background. She had brought in the muscular images of Sultan in another part of the painting. There were brightly painted rickshaws too, decorated with bright colours.

The 33 encrees in water colour, tempera and poster colour on cotton costing Tk 25 a yard presented a vivid depiction of the life in Bangladesh and was remarkable for its dramatic presentation and intellectual insight.

Health training programme for SAARC people begins this yr

By Staff Correspondent

A new Post Graduate training programme in health policy and management, specifically designed for professionals in the health and population fields in the SAARC region, is being launched this year.

The programme, Executive Programme for South Asia (EPSA), is being developed as a collaborative activity of the Indian Institute of Health Management Research at Jaipur and the University of North Carolina.

Briefing newsmen at a local hotel yesterday, Professor Sagar C. Jain, Director of the programme, said that the programme is designed specifically to prepare mid-career health professionals for major leadership positions in health-care systems and will lead to Post-Graduate degrees in health policy and administration.

The development of the programme, "Tailor Made" for the South Asian countries, is guided by an inter-country advisory council which consists of senior officials of each of the seven SAARC nations, Indian Institute of Health Management Research, University of North Carolina, and a number of international organisations, he added.

A two-day meeting of the council begins here tomorrow to finalise the programme, with the courses scheduled to start from August this year.

The most important aspect

of the programme is that it is designed for South Asia, and therefore deals with issues and problems faced by people and governments of countries in this region, Professor Jain said.

Programmes overseas focus their primary attention on the concerns of their own countries, he explained, and recent research indicates that a significant portion of the educational programmes from overseas are found to be inapplicable by students from a foreign country.

"The executive programme for South Asia holds great promise and should meet an important need, further strengthening national capabilities," commented Dr. U. K. Ko, regional director of the World Health Organisation office for South-East Asia, in a brochure of the programme. "We will do everything we can to support it."

Initially, two degrees will be offered: A Master of Public Health degree with a duration of 12 months and a Master of Health Care Administration degree with a duration of 15 months.

Consisting of five terms, Professor Jain informed, students will spend two terms at the Indian Institute of Health Management Research at Jaipur, one term at the University of North Carolina and two terms in their own countries.

Both these degrees will be awarded by the University of

North Carolina and therefore students will have to meet the admission requirements of the university," he said.

The programme will be open for health and population professionals from both the public and private sectors and the minimum requirements include an undergraduate degree, three years experience in the health and population fields and the student also has to be a full-time employee.

Admission for the programme is already underway. The total expenses for the programme is 25,000 US dollars. Since the fees are to be paid in US dollars, Professor Jain pointed out, interested applicants should contact USAID, WHO, UNFPA, World Bank and other international organisations as well as the appropriate officials in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for sponsorship and for obtaining admission related materials.

Also present at the press briefing were Mary Sue Coleman, Vice Chancellor of the University of North Carolina, Henry H. Dearman, Dean of Graduate School of the University, Dr. BD Chataut, Regional Director, Directorate of Health Services of Nepal, Dr. UHS de Silva, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Health of Sri Lanka and Ashok Agarwal, Trustee-Secretary of the Indian Institute of Health Management Research.

HERE and THERE

Sports Photo Journalists Assoc

Bangladesh Sports Photo Journalists Association has been formed with Quamrur-zaman as its convener and A K M Mohsin and Mohammad Salahuddin, the joint convenors, said a press release.

Lions Club of Dhaka Supreme

Lions Club of Dhaka Supreme members, led by its president Lioness Ratna Rahmatullah, distributed 5,000 pieces of saris, shirts, lungis and blankets among the destitute and poor people in different parts of the capital city Saturday night.

Situation Vacant

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প্রথম পুরস্কার ১টি ১০ লক্ষ টাকা
দ্বিতীয় পুরস্কার ১টি ২ লক্ষ টাকা
তৃতীয় পুরস্কার ১টি ১ লক্ষ টাকা
এছাড়া রয়েছে আরও ২০২টি পুরস্কার

দুঃস্থ ও আর্তমানবতার সেবায় এগিয়ে আসুন

বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতির ৫ (পাঁচ) টাকা মূল্যের লটারী টিকিট কিনে এক বা একাধিক মূল্যবান পুরস্কার লাভ করুন।



বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতি
কিনুনো সেরাই যাদের মর্শ্ব ও লক্ষ

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Justice Murshed's birth anniversary today

The 82nd birth anniversary of late Chief Justice S M Murshed, an eminent independent jurist and one of the greatest constitutional lawyers of the sub-continent, will be observed today (Monday), reports UNB.

Quran khwani and Fateha khwani will be held at the late justice Murshed's mazar at Banani and the Syed Mahbub Murshed Memorial Committee will lay floral wreaths.

Various cultural organisations including the S M M Memorial Committee has organised discussion meetings today.



The Governor of Bangladesh Bank Khorshed Alam inaugurated the Apparel Fair (Pvt) Ltd (readymade garments industries) in the city yesterday.



Monday

- 3-30 Opening announcement Al Quran Programme summary
- 4-00 Live telecast of President Gold Cup football: Malaysia vs Polonia Warszawa (Poland)
- 6-00 2nd match: Bangladesh (Red) vs Russia
- 8-00 News in Bangla
- 8-30 Aponar Dactar
- 9-00 Ghare Baire
- 10-00 News in English
- 10-30 Drama Serial: Oshin
- 11-30 Khabar / The News
- 11-40 Tuesday's programme summary
- 11-45 Closing

MASS REVOLUTION FOR DEMOCRACY
A SHORT FILM,
HABIBUL ISLAM HABIB'S
BIJOY NABBOI
(VICTORY '90)
DATE : 13, 14, 16, 17, 18 & 20 JAN. '93
VANUE : BISHAW SHAHITTAY KANDRA (BANGLA MOTOR)
SHOW TIME : 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 P.M.
ADVANCE TICKET : BAISHAKHI SHAARI
KUTTIER BAILY RODD, MALANCHHA PUSHPOO
KANDRA SHAHBAG, DUS DHAKA UNIVERSITY
SINGER SALES CENTRE, LALBAG,
AND
BEFORE SHOW : FROM COUNTER, BISHAW
SHATTAY KANDRA.
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Weather
Night temperature may fall
By Staff Correspondent
Rain or drizzle is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi division and the regions of Mymensingh, Tangail, Dhaka and Sylhet during the next 36 hours commencing 6:00 pm Sunday.
Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Meteorological office forecasts.
Night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius during the period over the country.
Outlook for subsequent two days: Weather may improve. The sun sets today (Monday) in Dhaka at 5:30 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 6:44 am.
Temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns on Sunday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	22.8	17.2	85	73
Chittagong	26.7	16.3	90	82
Rajshahi	23.3	11.5	97	75
Khulna	22.0	17.3	84	83
Bartol	23.0	16.0	94	88
Cox's Bazar	27.5	16.4	82	82
Sylhet	23.3	16.7	100	89
Dinajpur	18.2	11.4	100	89

DHAKA

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