

Dhaka Day by Day

From sign-painting to delectable oils

by Fayza Haq

Anisur Rahman Pannu, 27 years of age, has collected all his savings to venture into the world of oil painting, and has done this with success. This is despite the fact that he is self-taught and has no one to rely on, except himself.

In "Attack", he had depicted the subservient condition of Bangladeshis, who he believes are in the grips of foreign powers. A "baul" had been depicted with an "ek-tara", as the subject. This figure was in obvious agony, as was depicted by the blood on his cheeks, and more spots on his "ek-tara".

The "baul" symbolised the culture of our country, while the hawk, delineate in the same oil work, represented USA, the Allied Forces during the Gulf War, and the present offensive forces against Iraq. The artist explained about this particular work, "I am absolutely sure that we are being adversely affected by foreign powers."

The main figure had been carefully delineated, while the sense of power and terror had been well signified by the red and sharp claws, and the vicious beaks of the frenzied yellow eagle attacking the subject from the top of the composition. The backdrop of brown and the touches of black and white balanced the painting.

In another piece, entitled "The Sons of Fire", the freedom fighters of Bangladesh, during '71, were shown. In this painting, one of the subjects was portrayed as holding a rifle and dragging his mortally wounded comrade. The figures had been done in black, white, and brown, while turquoise and olive-green "lungis" completed the accoutrements. The oil work had powerful and mature strokes. Red was found on the head of the bandages, and naturally, in the wound of the fallen friend. The grey in the background symbolised turmoil, horror and holocaust, found in an average war or battle. The theme of guerilla warfare fighters had been done with incisively.

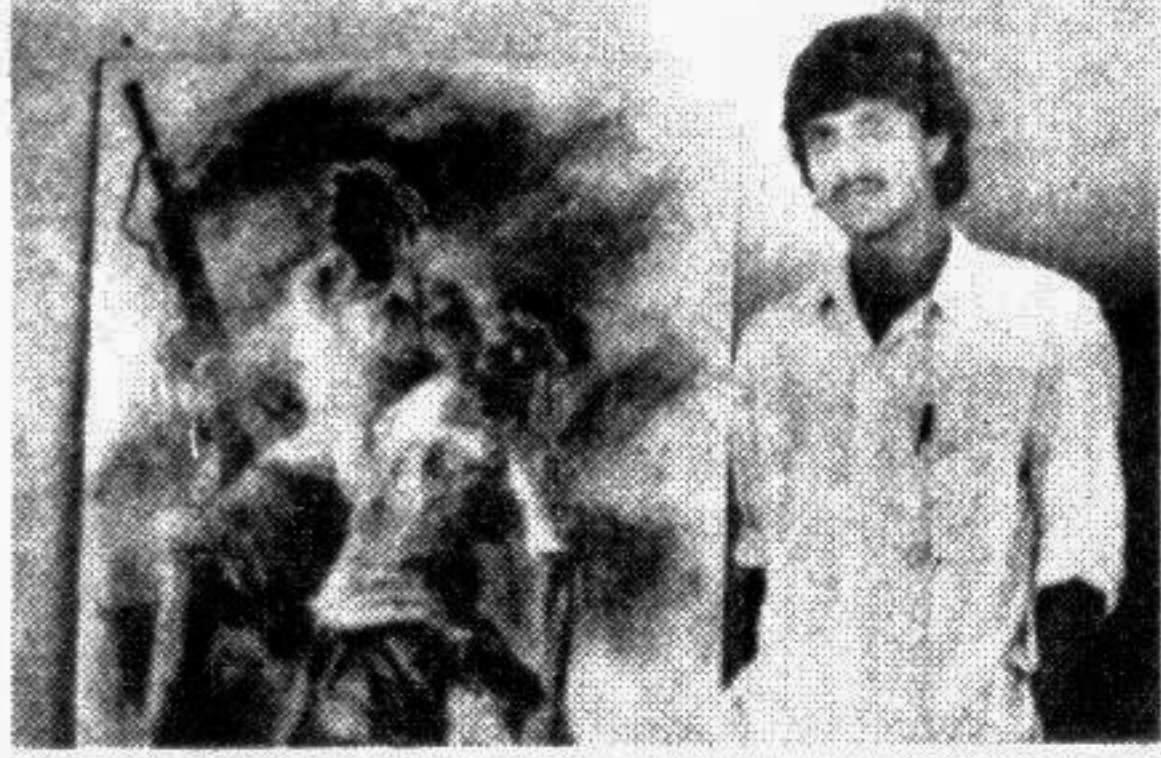
In "Beggar Woman", a starved and poverty-stricken old beggar woman had been portrayed with deft and subtle strokes. One of her emaciated and drooping breasts was uncovered, while the other remained barely exposed. The

subject's body, face, limbs, along with the ribcage — sticking out, the deep hollowed eyes, apart from the rag of a "sari", worn askew, drove home the point that the subject was in dire distress — and with no hope in the horizon. The woman was delineated as walling like some abandoned coyote. "That is what has been done to our human beings," Pannu commented. The composition was completed with a grey background, with white in the left corner, at the front, and natural shadows of the figure.

In "The village beauty," the artist had shown a widow carrying a clay vessel for water. Her tresses from over her temples, reached up to her shoulder, in front, and this, the artist explained, depicted her anxieties. Fear was apparent in her large, lost eyes. Her intrinsically aquiline nose, dove eyes and cupid lips had been greatly affected by economic and social factors, as was apparent and obvious. The blue, white and grey in the backdrop held up the subject, by the artist, who certainly had an eye for details. The insecure life of the single and widowed women in our country, had been well represented.

The artist's vision was not necessarily a pessimistic one. When he delineated the countryside in his "Ruposhi Bangla", the artist had brought in an impressionistic image of the Bangladeshi countryside. The composition depicted two men getting ready to swim in a pond. Stacks of hay in brown and white, thatched huts and a house with a corrugated iron sheet, were included in the composition. The clear blue sky, with touches of pristine white, banana, "krishnachura" and other trees brought in nature. So did the expanse of vivid green, with accurate shades which were placed at a lower level, in a parallel formation. The trees and the figures, had, furthermore been shaded with black and brown, to make them stand out from the rest of the scene.

Pannu had certainly come a long way, with the sweat of his brows. It was remarkable how a sign-board painter, coming originally from a small city in Pabna, had achieved what many trained artists from Dhaka had managed to do.



Pannu seen with his oil painting "Attack". — Photo: T A Khan



Begum Sufia Kamal addressing the inaugural session of seventh National Poetry Festival organised by Jatiya Kabita Parishad at the TSC yesterday. — Star photo

Number of pry schools half of madrashas, maktabas'

By Staff Correspondent

The goal of 'Education for All' would remain beyond the reach unless a radical change in the balance of power in Bangladesh takes place as well as the under privileged section should be brought into the mainstream of economic development.

According to Professor of the Dhaka University Dr Zaheda Ahmed, Bangladesh has been unable to utilize its human resources due to lack of right education planning, poverty and the absence of right social infrastructure for education.

In a session on education Monday at a week-long seminar on "Bangladesh: Past two decades and the current decade" organised by Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP) she said misplaced attention is being given by the government in different types of educational institutions.

The session held at the Planning and Development Academy was presided over by Professor AF Salahuddin Ahmed and introduced by Professor Nurunnahar Fayzun-

nessa focussing on the drawbacks of the country's education system was told that there were 45,930 primary schools whereas there were over 70,000 religion-based educational centres (madrashas and maktabas) in the country.

Dr Ahmad citing a Planning Commission statistics on madrasa said that there were 16,000 Ibtedayees, 4,000 Dakhils, 752 Alims, 707 Fazils, and 45 Kamils having over 18 lakhs students in the country. She said there were also over 58,000 Madrasas and Maktabas uncongregated.

While a large number of these madrasas and maktabas received government subsidies, their teachings were totally out of tune with modern general education.

Termining the growth of madrasas "prolific" she observed that the late 70's and the whole of 80's witnessed the emergence of 'ill-educated but clever, dishonest agents with petro-dollar connections who gradually replaced the local itinerant alms collectors as source of funds for these up-coming Maktabas and Madrasas.'

She observed that while a majority of students can not continue their studies due to poverty, the government spends Tk 40,300 for each cadet college students per year.

Dr Ahmad said the government spent Tk 532 for per government primary school children, Tk 4,273 for a government Madrasa student, Tk 18,084 for an engineering college student and Tk 15,917 for a medical student per year.

One of the other evils of the education system was inefficiency, she observed, which gave rise to extreme commer-

cialism. As a result, thousands of kindergartens, coaching and tuition centres had grown up on which the government had a small control.

To make the school education economically and socially relevant, she suggested that the curriculum should be flexible enough to incorporate courses suitable for the various needs of the pupils coming from different strata of life. She also suggested that there should be a core component of basic compulsory subjects including the English as a second language and Mathematics.

Blast in Madartek sub-station causes power failure

By Staff Correspondent

A major blast in the Madartek 33/11 kv electric sub-station caused power failure in the vast areas of Shajahanpur, Khilgaon, Sipoy-bag, Goran, South Bashabo and Mugdagara areas since 3 pm Monday.

Four switch gears of the sub-station were damaged due to the blast believed to be occurred from a fault caused by the rain, an official of the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) said.

The supply was expected to be restored by Tuesday evening as the DESA workers started repairing immediately after the blast, he added.

He said that some parts of the affected areas were already hooked up with alternative lines but supplies in the major areas remained suspended.

The DESA official said that because of unseasonal rain, a major fault originated in the auto-strip system of the substation.

Residents of the area said that panic gripped the areas following the blast with loud bangs and electric flashes.

Kamrul Hasan's death anniversary today

Shilpakala Academy has chalked out elaborate programmes to observe the 5th death anniversary of artist Kamrul Hasan today, reports UNB.

The programme will begin with placing of wreath at the mazar of the artist at Dhaka University in the morning.

A discussion meeting on "Kamrul Hasan and his painting" will be held at the academy auditorium at 4 pm.

Artist Kaiyum Chowdhury, Sadek Khan, Emdad Hossain, Prof Nazrul Islam, Hasem Khan and Prof Bulbul Osman will address the meeting.



Tuesday

- 5:00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:25 Esho Para Shikhi
- 5:50 Special Programme on National Population Day
- 6:30 Open University
- 7:05 Nazrul Songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Drama series: Bhagnangsha (Last Episode)
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Parliament roundup
- 10:35 Film show: ENG
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11:45 Closing

Weather

Night temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or shower may occur at one or two places over Rajshahi division and the regions of Tangail, Mymensingh, Dhaka and Sylhet and weather will remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday).

The met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to fall by two to three degree Celsius over the country.

The met office adds, weather is likely to improve and night temperature may fall after two days.

The minimum temperature of 12.6 degree Celsius was reported from Dinajpur yesterday (Monday) and the maximum of 29.2 degree was reported from Rajshahi.

The sun sets today at 5.46 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.39 am.

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

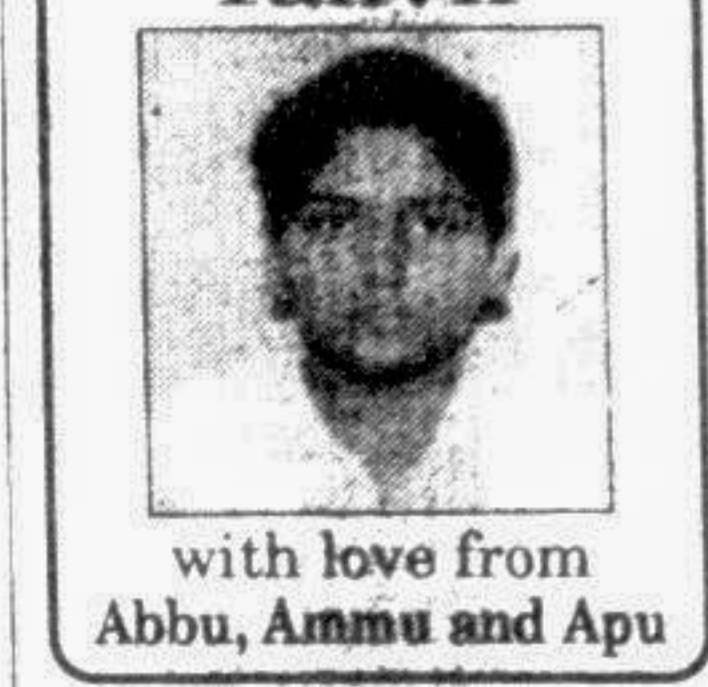
Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	26.2	16.4	83	73
Chittagong	27.0	16.2	85	78
Rajshahi	29.2	15.0	80	73
Khulna	26.6	15.0	68	59
Barisal	26.6	15.0	96	74
Cox's Bazar	27.0	17.5	77	79
Sylhet	25.5	14.8	67	52
Dinajpur	25.0	12.6	74	66

Make BJMC more dynamic, Hannan urges employees

Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah yesterday called upon the BJMC employees to work sincerely to make the organisation more dynamic, reports UNB.

The Minister, on a surprise visit to the BJMC Headquarters yesterday today, inspected different divisions of the corporation and urged the officials and employees to work with more dedication and discipline.

Happy Birthday to Tanvir



with love from Abbu, Ammu and Apu

Attention Mel Gibson! Get Well Soon From Bo Derek

GUL KHWANI

GUL KHWANI OF ALHAJ AZIZ SATTAR, WHO BREATHED HIS LAST ON SUNDAY THE 31ST JANUARY 1993 WILL BE HELD TODAY (TUESDAY) AFTER ASR-PRAYER AT HIS RESIDENCE AT 8, KEMAL ATATURK AVENUE, GULSHAN, DHAKA.

FRIENDS AND WELL-WISHERS ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND AND TO PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF THE DEPARTED SOUL.

Situation Vacant

Foreign Bank in Dhaka is seeking an Executive Secretary/Personnel Assistant.

- The successful applicant will possess
- well developed secretarial skills
- fluency in English, both spoken and written
- proficiency in word processing, spread sheet data base and other PC applications
- the ability to work under minimal supervision
- previous experience in a Personnel function

The position will be of interest to an experienced secretary with international awareness who is interested in broadening his or her skills outside of a purely secretarial function.

Please apply Box No. D-82, C/o The Daily Star, House No-11, Road No-3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205.

Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Ltd Press Tender Notice

Sealed quotations in two envelope system are hereby invited by the Managing Director, Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited, 349-350, Tejaon Industrial Area, Dhaka for supply of 1500 Kgs. Sodium Hydrosulphite Conc (Vanol) on site delivery basis against Press Tender Enquiry No. PD-II/KCC/356/272 (L) dated 28-1-93. Tender documents available at Tk. 25.00 (Non-refundable) per set from (1) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka (2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong and (3) Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Ltd, 349-350, Tejaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208. Tender will be received up to 11.00 A.M. on 10-2-93 and opened immediately thereafter. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening of Tender. Earnest money minimum 1%.

বিজ্ঞপ্তি
জিলা-ঢাকা, মোকাম সাব জজ ও ৪ নং অর্ডার আদালত, ঢাকা।
সেওয়ানী মোকদ্দমা নং-১০/৯২
পুরানী ব্যাংক লিঃ, সোলাক অফিস
২৬, দিলকুশা বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা।

- ১। মোঃ আকব্বারুল হকমান, পিতা কৃষ্ণ-কল্পনুল হকমান শিকারী
১০ সড়িক এজিন্ডি, ললপান মডেল টাউন, বাবা-ললপান, জিলা-ঢাকা।
- ২। মোঃ শাহীফ,
- ৩। আবু সইদ, উচ্চ পিতামৃত-কল্পনুল হকমান,
- ৪। ইকব্বার হোসান, পিতামৃত- শরীফ উল্লাহ
সর্ব সাং-১৮, হাট ইন্ডার চন্দ্র শীল, বাহাদুর ট্রাট, লালবাগ,
বাবা-লালবাগ, জিলা-ঢাকা।

সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, উপরোক্ত মোকদ্দমায় বাস্তব আবেদনের ক্ষেত্রে বিবাদীদের নিম্ন তফসিল ক্রমিক ক্রমক্রমে মোকদ্দমা নিষ্পত্তি সাপেক্ষে অধিক কোকোবাক করা হইয়াছে।

তফসিল সম্পর্কিত পরিচয়
জিলা-ঢাকা, বাবা-তেজগাঁও অফিস ২৫৪ নং জেজিডক পরবে শিবপুর শায়রুল অর্ডার মৌজা-৩৩৬ নং আইনবহরবিহিত ৩৯ নং বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে নির্দিষ্ট নাক্তা সন্মুখে ১-

নাম নং	উত্তর সীমানা	পরিচয়
৩০	হাফা	৩৯ নং অর্ডার
৩৬	হাফা	৭৩ নং অর্ডার
৩৭	হাফা	৫৩ নং অর্ডার

এর ক্রমে ১০৩ (এক একর ক্রম অর্ডার) ছয় হাফা ঢাকা সদর দপ্তর-জেজিডক অফিসে ২৪/১/১৯৯৩ ইং তারিখে রেজিস্ট্রিকৃত ৯৩৩৭ নং সাক কবানো দলিলের সন্মতি হয় বটে।

জায়েগর-
মোঃ খোরশেদ আলম মীর
সেপেরাদার



American Express Bank stall at the US Trade Show '93 at Sheraton Hotel. — Star photo

Thana health complex gets Tk 2.5 lakh annually

Each of the country's 397 thana health complexes gets annual sanction of Taka 2.5 lakh for purchasing medicines and necessary equipment. Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Mohammad Rahmat Ali (AL-Gazipur), the minister said that 136 health complexes had been provided with X-ray machines.

Mortality rate 5.7 per thousand

The mortality rate is 5.7 per thousand of the country's population.

This was stated in parliament yesterday by Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf in reply to a question from Mohammad Abu Bakr of Jannat-e-Islami, reports UNB.

The government plans to reduce the mortality rate to 4.5 per thousand by 1995, the minister informed parliament.

Obituary

Advocate Abdul Matin Mollah, a former president of Madaripur district unit of BNP, died of heart ailment on January 30, reports BSS.

Dr Ronald Garst arrives today

Renowned American orthopaedic surgeon Professor Dr Ronald Garst will arrive here today on a three week stay in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

Dr Garst established Pongu Hospital in Dhaka in 1972 for the treatment of freedom fighters. He stayed in Dhaka for 9 years to run the hospital and for post-graduate study and training of the doctors.

At present he is working in Ethiopia.

Dr. Garst will be accompanied by a team of six surgeons who would study the possibility of establishing a "spinal surgery unit," first of its kind in Bangladesh.

He is also bringing another team of six surgeons under the leadership of Prof. Dr Dye for assessing the establishment of a "hand and reconstructive surgical unit" in Bangladesh.

Tk 1.75 cr given to 2,223 artistes as grant

About Taka 1.75 crore was given as grant to 2,223 distressed artistes during 1988-89 to 1991-92 financial years, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahanara Begum said in the Jatiya Sangsad in reply to a question from Treasury bench Sardar Sakawat Hossain Bakul yesterday, reports BSS.

She said that Taka 43.59 lakh was given to 555 distressed artistes in 1988-89. Taka 43.60 lakh to 554 artistes in 1989-90. Taka 43.62 lakh to 556 artistes in 1990-91 and Taka 43.68 lakh to 558 artistes in 1991-92.

US trade show a success, say participants

Star Report

The second US Trade Show ended yesterday with a high note as participants all spoke of success in terms of visitors, contracts, direct sales, market information and client development.

In all, 32 US companies, firms or their local agents and distributors displayed their goods and services offered by them in the three-day exhibition at the Sheraton Hotel on American business in Bangladesh that was formally opened by Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman Saturday.

The American Bangladesh Economic Forum (ABEF) and the US Embassy in Dhaka jointly sponsored the show designed to generate interests in US products and attack more American investment in Bangladesh.

The direct US investment in Bangladesh is estimated to be approximately 30 million dollars in book value, according to Ambassador William B Milam. This includes the assets of a life insurance company, two banks, several service and manufacturing firms.

"It was a highly successful show... we sold goods worth more than 20 lakh although we didn't come to sell here... but more importantly we have been benefitted greatly in terms of market information, interaction with consumers and client development," said a sales executive at the BEXIMCO stall at the end of the show. The company represented five US firms — IBM, Monsanto, Dupond, Upjohn and Scott & Scott.

This year, people were generally more enthusiastic, participants displayed more than last year's said an official of the Pfizer Laboratories (Bangladesh) Ltd that took part in the show.

According to the organisers, more than 16 thousand visited this year's show, several thousand higher than last April's.

Senior executives present at the time closing all said that the show should be made an annual event, a target organisers want to attain.

"We didn't expect there would be so much enthusiasm this year... the show has helped us explain to so many people what MIDAS is all about," said Fazul H Khan, the Chief Programme Officer of the USAID assisted enterprise development project.

MIDAS, a private non-profit organisation set up in 1982, funds to develop and promote small enterprises to generate employment on a self-sustainable basis.