

Spirit of Ekushey Lives On



Dhaka Day by Day

Ekushey Book Fair Wearing a Festive Look

by Raffat Binte Rashid

Amar Ekushey Granthamela '93 began with a distinct difference this season. The month long book fair, which began on the first of February, is the country's largest literary festival. Men and women, young and old, are all eager to visit the fair. Their festive and joyous enthusiasm is like a fever which affects everyone. The fair is a place where they can all quench their thirsty minds.

A total of 338 publishing houses and socio-cultural and literary organisations are participating this year. This in fact is a record number, compared to the previous year's 272.

The entire adjoining road from TSC to Doyel Square has a convivial look. The pavements are used for stalls selling handicrafts, potteries, old foreign books, magazines, cassettes and of course food stalls, with peculiar names as 'Kha bi na kano, kha?' (Why won't you eat? Eat!)

The Bangla Academy premises are devoted exclusively to the fair. The academy has built a permanent stall this year. A spacious red brick stall with steel cabinets and coloured fibre glass, chairs and tables, really make one feel like setting down with a book to read.

There is a total number of 480 stalls in and around the academy compound, which hit the record again. Last year there was a total of 375 stalls. A marked change in this year's 'Granthamela' is the electronic display board atop the academy building. This will provide the latest information about all the new books introduced in the fair and also focussing on raffle coupons for buyers of Bangla Academy books worth Tk. 100.

There was an amazing public response on the inauguration day," said a stall owner, selling coloured, black and white photographs of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and other national leaders.

While talking to The Daily Star one of the customers said, "I feel a change in the trend of this fair. It has now become the country's largest festival. Everyone, from the writers, to the publishers, to the readers, all sit and wait for

February. Everyone is eager to visit the fair, some for fun, and others for the sake of reading. Whatever their reason the fair is a hit from the start.

The most sought after attractions are definitely the new books and editions that are being published like BRAC's classics series.

BRAC is publishing 19 Bangla classic novels in a series, this year. "14 books of this series are published and five of them are yet to come out. These classics will be available to all for only Tk. 30 per book. We are only charging for the printing," said the manager of the BRAC stall.

Among others one of the most talked about books was 'Unnayan Giggasha' (questions about development) by Dr Anisur Rahman.

Another big publishing house UPL, University Press Ltd. is publishing four to five books this year. It's one of the largest publishers.

All the stalls are attractively decorated. The entire setting looks colourful especially stalls like Bidyapokash, Batirony and Prerona for their artistic decorations. Sananda, a small stall constructed with bamboos and wooden logs is done with skill and good taste.

"Amar Bhatiyar Rakte Ragano Ekushey February, Ani Ki Bhulite Par?" No, it's just not Ekushey, the month of February is simply unforgettable, because of its memories, sacrifices, and of its gift.

This is most probably the largest Bengali language book fair in the world. It is not the only attraction February holds. There are other competitions, poetry festival, children's painting exhibitions, dramas, introduction to new entries in the literary field and many others. All these differentiate February as a busy and interesting month.

Salutes to martyrs of the language movement, for them we enjoy such entertainment. And obviously thanks to Bangla Academy and Pustak Prokashak O Bikreta Samity for bringing together the great works of Bengali literature once a year.



Sammilito Sangskritik Jote organised a poetry recitation programme at Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Report on EPI programme likely this month

A joint government, multi-donor and multi-disciplinary international review of Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) was inaugurated Sunday at the auditorium of National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM) at Mohakhali here, reports BSS.

The review will be made by an independent team consisting of local and foreign experts who are not directly involved in the EPI programme.

The team will submit its report to the Ministry of

Health and Family Welfare at the end of this month.

Presided over by Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare ABM Siddique, the inaugural function was also addressed by Director General Health Services Prof Kazi Mashtur Rahman, Director General of Family Planning Rafiquzzaman, World Bank Representative Dr Philip Gowers, USAID Representative David Piet, UNICEF Representative Rolf C Carriere, WHO Representative ANA Abey Sundere and EPI Director Dr N Nepisha Begum.

DU admission form receiving date extended

The date of distributing and receiving application forms of first year honours classes for 1992-93 session in Dhaka University has been extended up to February 13, reports UNB.

The office will remain open on February 12 (Friday) to receive the application forms.

The admission test of 'Gha Unii' of the same session will be held on March 6 instead of February 25.

The date of admission test of all other units will remain as before, a press release of Dhaka University said yesterday.

BCS viva at 2:30 pm tomorrow

The viva voce of BCS candidates who were qualified in the written test of 14th BCS (Special) examination, 1992 will be held at 2:30 pm tomorrow, reports UNB.

The viva examination was scheduled to be held at 9 am on the day, but the timing was changed due to some unavoidable circumstances, said an official press release.

Keramat visits Cable Shilpa Ltd in Khulna

KHULNA, Feb 8: Post and Telecommunications Minister Muhammad Keramat Ali today visited Bangladesh Cable Shilpa Ltd (BCSL) of Shromoni Industrial belt here, reports BSS.

Weather

Night temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Light rain or thundershower is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi division and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia, Dhaka, Tangail, Mymensingh and Sylhet and weather will remain dry elsewhere over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday).

The Met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to rise by one degree Celsius over the country.

The minimum temperature of 10.8 degree Celsius was reported from Rangmati yesterday (Monday) and the maximum of 30.2 degree was from Jessore.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 5.50 am and rises tomorrow Wednesday at 6.35 pm. 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	29.5	13.4	73	57
Chittagong	29.2	14.6	80	64
Rajshahi	30.0	12.5	73	63
Khulna	29.8	14.2	83	71
Barisal	29.8	13.4	90	68
Sylhet	29.0	14.0	77	50
Dinajpur	28.2	12.8	89	71
Cox's Bazar	29.6	16.0	58	71

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice Corrigendum

In the notice published under WASA-PI-50/93 DFP (G) 1698-1/2 in this paper on 7-2-93, the date & time of receiving tender for the work "3 Printing & Supply of various journals & registers" will be 17-2-93 instead of "Do-". All other descriptions remain unchanged.

WASA-PI-50/93 DFP (G) 1698-1/2 G - 181

Md. Abul Kashem Deputy Secretary (C. S) Dhaka WASA

In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the most Beneficent

Admission

Our object is to make bright stars for our country. Though the medium of instruction is English, we give equal importance to Bengali.

Tuition Fees :-
 Play group to KG II Tk. 200.00 per month.
 Class I to Class III Tk. 400.00 per month.
 Class IV to Class VI Tk. 500.00 per month.

Principal
 Bright Star International School,
 28/1, Green Corner, Green Road,
 Dhaka — 1205.

S - 46

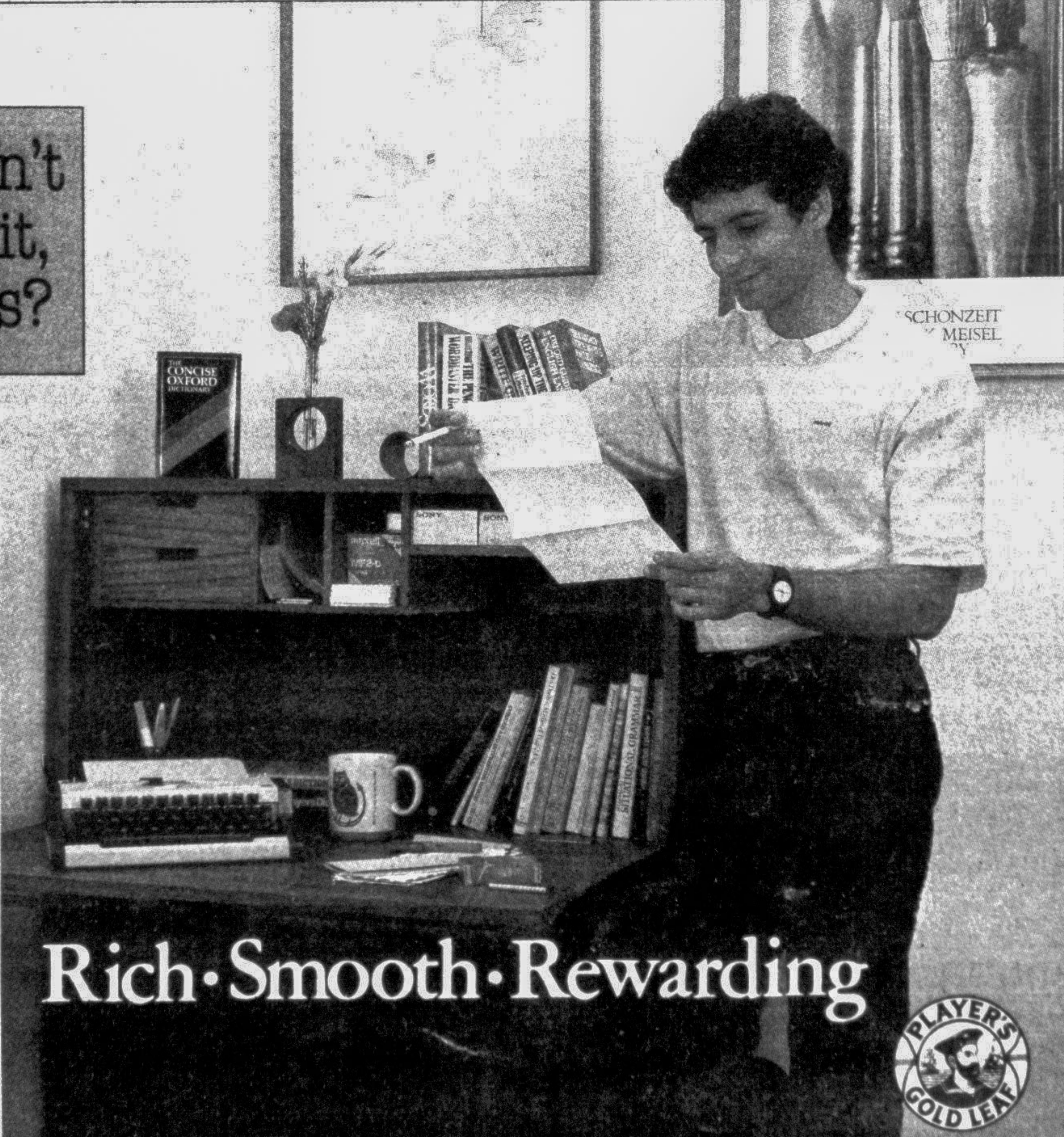
Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Ltd. International Tender Notice

Managing Director, Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Ltd., 349-350, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka invites sealed quotation in double envelope system against tender enquiry No. PD-IX/KCC/20/4564/92-93 dated 7.2.93 for supply of 2000m tons RBD palm stearin in bulk in tanker on C+F (C) International tank terminal jetty, Chittagong on charter or liner terms basis under sem/any suitable source of fund so as to reach his office by 10:00 AM on 2.3.93 which shall be opened at 10.15 AM on the same day. Tender documents shall be available on payment of Tk. 750.00 per set (non-refundable) from (A) Controller of Accounts, BCIC Bhaban (2nd floor), 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka (B) General Manager, BCIC branch office, 6, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong and (C) General Manager (A+F), Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Ltd., 349-350, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka - 1208. The prospective bidders who purchased tender schedule No. PD-IX/KCC/19/4564/191/92-93 dtd 29.11.92 need not require to buy this schedule. They are requested to collect tender schedule from us showing their money receipt free of cost. Earnest Money is 1% (one per cent) of the total quoted value. No tender documents shall be sold on the date of opening. Offers received late shall not be accepted and shall be returned unopened.

D-99

If you don't deserve it, who does?

The next step was to send out applications for the research fellowship. And believe me it took some doing. Hunting for addresses. Electric-typing each application. Photocopying all the certificates. And stamps, stamps, stamps. Posted each envelope personally. Settled down to a long wait. The postman became Man of the Year. But every evening found an empty mailbox. Until a moment ago. "It's Harvard, no less!" I think I deserve a Gold Leaf now.



Rich · Smooth · Rewarding



সর্ববিধ সতর্কীকরণ: ধূমপান স্বাস্থ্যের জন্য ক্ষতিকর