

Dhaka Day by Day

An Exotic Display of Oriental Art

by Fayza Haq



"Poet and his Beloved" — a water-colour by Kumrun Nahar.

Thirty-seven pieces of batik and water-colour by Kamrun Nahar, which were displayed at "La Galeric", established the fact that the artist had an undoubted mastery in the range of Oriental Art.

Kamrun's "Rendezvous", a batik depicted two delectable women, with buxom figures, one with flowers to adorn her hair and the other carrying a clay vessel. There was a third figure in the background, with long black tresses, with sharp features, and decked in brilliant orange "sari". Amidst the trees, flowers and grass, sat a piping shepherd, with doe eyes. The work had been done so carefully that it appeared like some water-colour, outlined with browns and blacks.

In another batik, in which Kamrun clearly surpassed many other artists in Bangladesh, called "Midnight Music", one found the same balance of colour in the Oriental style. This delineated a delightful woman with enviable vital statistics, draped in the Moghul style, adorned with armlets, pendants, bangles, and "tickli". She was depicted as playing a "sitar" and the figure was seated on a tiled brick floor. The subject was highlighted by the backdrop of the dark night, seen through an arch. A delicate chandelier, and intricate filigree work of the veranda at the background, along with the marble arches completed the composition. The lady, with eyes like lode stars and Cupid lips, was presented to the last detail of the eye-lashes and finger nails. Once again, one marvelled at the neat and intricate work. The batik piece was so incisive and detailed, that one was bound to appreciate the revival of the art that harked back to the Moghuls of India, the Turks and Persians of an earlier era, as this had been transformed with perfection to the batik technique, which comes from the Far-East.

"Bride in a Palanquin", another batik, showed the artist's penchant for the countryside, which was clearly comprehended by the average on-looker. The bride in her gorgeous gold and red, with her shy, taciturn glance, could be seen through the entrance of the palanquin. The palanquin itself, was decorated with flowers and leaves. The bearers, with their orange and red garbs and headband, were portrayed as grace-

fully carrying their load, crossing a path of grass, which had been depicted in verdian green and black. The rest of the countryside remained a yellow and black batik, which depicted the afternoon heat of the summer days of Bangladesh. Each shade of colour and the use of interlacing back spoke of a famine-vision.

The water colour "At Rest", was a meticulously composed creation, depicting the women of the Bangladeshi countryside. It had carefully composed figures of seated women, bedecked in colourful "saris" with vibrant borders. A seated near-nude child was depicted as gazing into the horizon with his large calf-like, innocent eyes. The blue and orange of the clothes of one of the women, contrasted well with the ink-blue and other accoutrements and jewelry of the other. Meanwhile, the countryside with its large trees, and innumerable leaves, plus the grass and foliage, were painted with Kamrun's eye for details, established earlier in the batiks mentioned before. The brown and greens of the trees were subtly combined with the soft pink and blue shades of the sky. The composition was a well-balanced one, and had been presented gracefully, as is always done in oriental art, in which the artist clearly excelled.

Kamrun's expertise was seen once again in the water-colour on silk "Poet and his Beloved". Here the subject was depicted in oriental clothes, with a paisley pattern on his shoulder, and a flowing yellow turban. Meanwhile, the dainty woman, who obviously inspired the poet, was depicted with yard-long, flowing tresses, and seductive clothes covering her ample bosom, and her limbs, well below her hips. A dotted blue "dupatta", bordered with fine gold, along with heavy jewelry, ranging from the ones on the forehead to the wrist, completed the female image. Soft pink rose bush in the backdrop, and the conventional flask of wine and the book of Omar Khayyam's verses. The pale green and the darker shade of the same hue in the foreground, completed the exotic creation.

The display proved how the women artist were not lagging behind their male counterparts, in depicting the people and scenes of the country, with a decisive impact.



(1) Central Five Party (2) Projanma '71 (3) Shishu Academy (4) Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad and (5) Japanese Embassy placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar Sunday.

Amar Ekushey observed

CHITTAGONG, Feb 22: Ekushey February was observed here and elsewhere in the district yesterday in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

People from all walks of life placed wreaths at Shaheed Minar here to pay homage to the martyrs of the Language Movement.

Different political parties, socio-cultural organisations, educational institutions, professional and trade unions observed the day through different programmes, which included discussions, seminar, art competitions, cultural functions and special prayers at places of worship.

The organisations which observed the day included Bangladesh Nationalist Party, Awami League, Jamaat-e-Islami of Bangladesh, Jatiya Party, Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal, Bangla Academy and Shishu Academy, Bangladesh Medical Association, Group Theatre Samonnoy Parishad and student organisations.

Newspapers have brought out special supplements, while Radio Bangladesh Chittagong broadcast special programmes on the occasion.

RAJSHAHI, Feb 22: Historic Shaheed Day was observed here yesterday in a befitting manner.

National flag was hoisted at half mast atop public and private buildings. On the occasion various socio-cultural, educational, political, district administration and other organisations of the city placed floral wreaths at Shaheed Minar. Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur-Rahman Minu placed wreaths at Rajshahi Government College Shaheed Minar while Rajshahi University officials and Rajshahi University Teachers Association (RUTA) at the University Shaheed Minar on the occasion. The other highlights of the day's programme included prayer, discussion, cul-

tural function, children's art competition and special prayer at mosques for the salvation of martyrs' souls.

KHULNA, Feb 22: The Martyrs Day was observed in Khulna city with due solemnity and a call to fulfil the ideals of those valiant sons of the soil who had laid down lives for Bengali language.

The day began one minute past midnight when streams of people started arriving at Khulna Central Shaheed Minar to pay homage. Floral wreaths were placed by different political, socio-cultural, students and labour organisations at the Shaheed Minar.

Day-long programmes including discussion meetings and cultural functions were organised by various organisations in the city. Colonel (retd) Oli Ahmed, Communications Minister who was here on a visit to Khulna and Mongla was the chief guest at a discussion meeting held here under auspices of Khulna city BNP.

CPB EC meet Feb 26

By Staff Correspondent

A meeting of the executive committee of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) will begin on February 26 at its central office at Purana Paltan.

Obituary

Syeda Yeakutunnessa, wife of late Abdul Hakim Choudhury of Khairpur, Astagram, in the Kishoreganj district and mother of Shaheed Dr Abdul Alim Choudhury, died of old age complications at her Dhanmondi residence in the early hours of Sunday. She was 93, reports BSS.

She left behind two sons, one daughter and host of grandchildren and relatives to mourn her death.

Her namaz-e-janaza was held at Eidgah Mosque at Dhanmondi after Asr prayers and laid to rest at Azimpur new graveyard.

Mugging attempt on Mirpur Road

By Staff Correspondent

Pedestrians on the Mirpur Road near Dhanmondi in broad day light yesterday witnessed a mugging attempt made by three young men riding a baby tuad.

While the muggers made the attempt at 12.25 pm near Dhanmondi Road No 6 on a couple travelling by a rickshaw, a police man was seen only 20 feet away turning his face to the busy traffic on the other end of the road.

Closure of hotels, cinema halls during Ramadan demanded

By Staff Correspondent

Apasangkriti Protirodh Committee Bangladesh (committee for resisting obscene culture) brought out an "Islamic procession" Monday demanding closure of hotels and cinema halls during day time in the month of Ramadan.

In a follow up rally presided over by the convener Moulana Mufti Fazlul Haq Amiri, the committee also demanded ban on "all types of obscenity and anti-Islamic activities."

The rally held in front of the National Press Club yesterday was addressed, among others, by Moulana Nurul Islam, A K M Hemayetuddin, Junaid Al Habb, Zakaria, Md Tofayh.



Tuesday

5-00	Opening Announcement	Al-Quran Programme Summary
5-10	News in Bangla	Eso Para Sikhi
5-25	Health Programme	Open University
6-30	Nazrul Songs	News in Bangla
6-30	Drama	News in English
10-00	Parliament round-up	Film: ENG
10-35	Khobar/The News	Closing
11-45		

Weather

Shower likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at one or two places over Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday).

Met office forecasts night temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The minimum temperature of the country of 10.6 degree Celsius was reported from Dinajpur yesterday (Monday) and the maximum of 27.0 degree was reported from Rajshahi.

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	24.1	15.7	66	48
Chittagong	25.2	16.7	71	81

HERE and THERE

BCSIR
A discussion meeting on Amar Ekushey was held yesterday at the auditorium of Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) here. Organised by BCSIR, the discussion meeting was attended by Dr M Waliuzzaman, Chairman, BCSIR as chief guest while Dr M A Rahman, Director IFST, BCSIR presided.

Bangladesh Short Film Forum
A new 15-member executive body of Bangladesh Short Film Forum was formed on February 19 with Morshedul Islam as President and Aminul Islam Khokon as general secretary. The body was formed at its 7th annual general meeting held recently at the auditorium of the German Cultural Centre.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES
The containerised cargo ex. M.V. HANSA CARRIER V-04165 from Busan, Kobe, Yokohama, Keelung, ex. M.V. SUCCESS HOPE V-19070 from Kobe, Nagoya, Yokohama, Hongkong, have been relayed to M. V. OPTIMA V-832, Imp. Rot. No. 107/93, is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 21-2-93 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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103 AGRABAD COMMERCIAL AREA, CHITTAGONG.
AS AGENTS: MITSUI O.S.K. LINES LTD. TOKYO.
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Person drawing salary of less than Tk 15,000.00 need not apply. Please apply in strictest confidence enclosing a detailed CV to the Chairman of the Association at the address given below by 4th March 1993.

BANGLADESHIYO CHA SANGSAD
Dar-e-Shahidi, 69 Agrabad Commercial Area, P O Box No 287, Chittagong.
D-130

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Second Bholia Irrigation Project
7/18, Lalmatia, Block-B, Dhaka-1207

Tender Notice for International Shopping

For The Supply of 3 (Three Nos 5-7 Ton Three Wheeled Road Rollers Under ADB Loan No 1159 BAN (SF))

Memo No : LGED/PD/BIP-2/T-11/93/161 Dated : 13th February, 1993
Tender No 93001

- The government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a Loan No 1159 BAN (SF) from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in various currencies towards the cost of Second Bholia Irrigation Project. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit will be applied to eligible payments for procurement of Project equipment.
- Project Director, Second Bholia Irrigation Project, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), now wishes to invite sealed bids from eligible bidders from member countries of ADB for the supply and delivery of the above referenced equipment.
- Bid documents with detailed specifications, terms and conditions and other papers may be purchased by the interested eligible bidders on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Taka 2,000.00 (Taka two thousand) only at the offices of: (i) Chief Engineer, LGED, 5/7 Lalmatia, Block B, Dhaka 1207 (ii) Project Director, Second Bholia Irrigation Project, 7/18 Lalmatia, Block B, Dhaka-1207 on all working days during normal office hours up to 27th March, 1993.
- All bids, accompanied by a security of 2.50% (two point five percent) of the total bid price, must be delivered either via mail or in person to the above offices on or before 12:00 hours (local time) on 30th March, 1993. No bid will be considered for receipt or acceptance following expiry of the aforementioned date and time. The bids will be publicly opened at 12:30 hours on the same day in the presence of those representatives of the bidders who like to attend.
- The authority will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by the bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.
- The authority reserves the right to accept any tender, or to accept any part of the tender, or to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof and in such case no compensation will be entertained.

Md. Maniruzzaman
Project Director
Second Bholia Irrigation Project
LGED (G) 2487-16/2
7/18 Lalmatia, Block B, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh
G-245

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Age below 55 years with strong health. Min. age 40 years. Candidate should be well connected with concerned agencies and should be able to provide one reference from a top Government official and one reference from a reputable businessman.

Please apply in strict confidence to G.P.O. Box No. 2816, Dhaka-1000 before 2/3/93. Please enclose pps-photograph and full details of work experience including names and telephone numbers of min. 20 sub-agents. Also Contact Tel. No.