

# Dhaka Day by Day

## The Worth of a Compliment

by Parveen Anam

Life is a struggle: a struggle to pay your bills at the end of the month, a struggle to keep the smile cheerful, a struggle to be kind, a struggle to beat the traffic and get to work. In short, a constant struggle.

Perhaps it is in this constant struggle against the odds, that the average Dhakaitte has forgotten the good things. He has forgotten, most times anyways, to enjoy the meaningful things in life. He has forgotten in the mad rush to sit by himself on a quiet evening by the window, mosquitoes permitting of course, with a good book and a cup of tea. Or hum a song to himself or listen to music: is it not music that washes away the dirt of the soul?

But then life might be too complicated to indulge in such niceties. And that might be the reason the Dhakaitte has at last managed to let the graver things of life get on top of him. And forgotten the art of giving, by giving I certainly do not mean the material things of life. I mean the things which cost nothing to give. Things which are easy to part with and yet mean a lot to the person its given to. And compliments head the list of these 'easy to give' things. Why cannot the average person learn to give a compliment without conditions? The Dhakaitte takes the cake for a little 'condition' attached to the end of a compliment. He will happily come up to you with a smile and say how nice you look — 'but'; how well you have cooked — 'yet'; it was a wonderful evening at your place last night — 'still'. By the time he has finished paying you a backhanded compliment, he might as well not have bothered at all.

A compliment must surely be given for what its worth, without strings attached. Why, oh why must the Bengali ruin it by setting condi-

tions to his most innocent of all gifts? It is such a wonderful idea, to just give a compliment, on the spur of the moment. No strings attached, no hidden meanings. Then there are those amongst us, who will give a compliment, seemingly, but all the while have a spiteful aside; that for them is the icing on the cake.

It is only perhaps the little children, who give wholehearted compliments. They have not yet learned the mean things of life and innuendos and asides do not mean very much to them. Their appreciation is genuine and sincere. Why can't we take a lesson from them? Of all the things which are difficult for us to give without holding back something, compliments seem the hardest.

Is it not time for us to sit back and reflect on it? We might still find some remote corner in our parched hearts which will still be able to come up with a genuine appreciation of our colleagues talents or our friends cooking.

Also we can try and remember that at the end of the day it is those amongst us who give the compliment with an honest smile and good wishes, who are the winners. They are the ones who can still find it in themselves to enjoy the good things in life; and to enjoy the good in others. How easy it is to forget we all have our little idiosyncracies. How wonderful to think we are so perfect. Maybe that is why we have forgotten the art of paying a simple compliment? Amongst our New Year resolutions, we should definitely have included the paying of compliments as a top priority. But then again, is it not too easy to break the resolutions? The Dhakaitte perhaps includes breaking of resolutions amongst his top priorities. Who knows?



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## JU announces 1st yr hons admission schedule

By JU Correspondent

Admission forms for the first year honours classes of 1992-93 academic year of Jahangirnagar University will be available at some branches of the Agrani Bank from March 10 to April 3.

The branches are: New Market, Green Road, Farmgate, Kawran Bazar (WASA), Bangabandhu Avenue (WAPDA), Jagannath University College in the city and Jahangirnagar University, Savar.

Applicants for the 20 departments under four different units may submit their application forms during the office hours by April 5. Dates of admission test will be announced later.

## Hamid presents credentials to Scalfaro

Ambassador Khurshid Hamid presented his letters of credence to President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro of Italy at Quirinale Presidential Palace on Wednesday in a short and simple ceremony, according to a message received here yesterday, reports BSS.

President Scalfaro conveyed his greetings and good wishes to the President and the Prime Minister and the people of Bangladesh. He also assured the Ambassador of his full cooperation in the fulfilment of his mission in Rome and wished him all success.

Ambassador Hamid conveyed the felicitations from the President and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh to President Scalfaro and the people of Italy.



Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda, flanked by Zahiduzzaman Faruq (left) and Farid Hossain (right), President and General Secretary respectively of Overseas Correspondents Association of Bangladesh (OCAB), at the Iftar party hosted by the association at the National Press Club yesterday.

## Chinese ballet team to arrive soon

A Chinese team of experts in ballet will arrive here soon to train Bangladeshi children, reports UNB.

The government of China has assured its continued support to Bangladesh for promoting cultural pursuits, the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador, Zhang Xu-Jiang, said when he called on State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum at her office yesterday.

Cultural Affairs Secretary I U Malik and senior officials of the Chinese Embassy here were present in the meeting. The meeting noted that exchange of cultural programmes between the two countries had increased considerably in recent years.

## Huda hails OCAB for objective reporting

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda yesterday said the present government believes in free flow of information for institutionalising democracy in the country, reports UNB.

This government is a product of a free and fair election and it has nothing to hide, he told the members of the Overseas Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (OCAB) at the National Press Club yesterday afternoon.

Barrister Huda praised the correspondents of foreign media for their objective and courageous reporting of the events during the nine years of anti-autocracy movement. This, he said, has helped enhance democratic image of Bangladesh abroad.

Welcoming the meeting between Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina at an Iftar party at 29, Minto Road yesterday (Friday), he said, "it's a good start for democracy."

Such mutual exchanges and interactions between the government and the opposition

will improve the democratic environment, he said adding this event has proved that 'democracy has a very glorious future in Bangladesh.'

Referring to various problems being faced by the members of OCAB, the Information Minister assured that his ministry will extend all cooperation with the correspondents in covering news and their transmission abroad.

There will be free access to sources and problems relating to the transmission of news will be solved, he assured.

The minister also mentioned the government's plan to set up an information cell at the Press Information Department.

Earlier, the OCAB president Zahiduzzaman Faruq welcomed the minister and general secretary Farid Hossain raised some professional problems being faced by the OCAB members.

The meeting was followed by an Iftar party, attended among others by Principal Information Officer Abdur Rahim and other officials of the PID.

## Anti-mosquito programme opens in Rajshahi

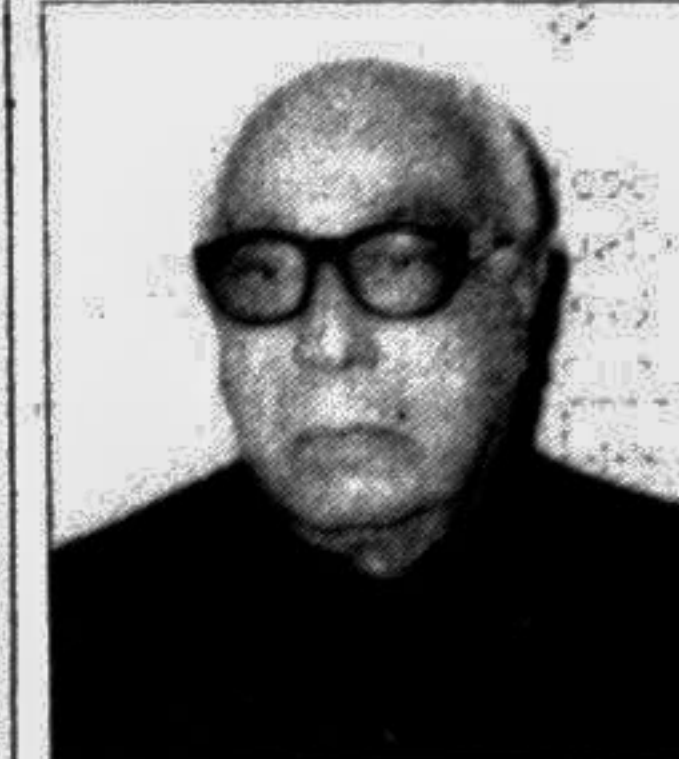
RAJSHAHI, Mar 6: An extensive anti-mosquito programme in Rajshahi City Corporation started from today, reports BSS.

The programme includes cleaning of kutchas, septic tanks, pucca drains, derelict ponds and spraying of mosquito killer insecticides in mosquito growing places of the city.

Mosquito killing medicine is also being sprayed in the dwelling houses in 30 wards to combat the menace of mosquito.

City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu opened the programme spraying medicine in a city drain.

While visiting different city areas to see for himself the on going programme, the Mayor directed the concerned officials to discharge their duties with sincerity to make the programme a success.



## Ataur Rahman Khan's birth anniversary observed

By Staff Correspondent

The 88th birth anniversary of eminent politician Ataur Rahman Khan was observed yesterday with due solemnity.

Ataur Rahman Jatya Smriti Sangsad organised Quran Khwari at his grave yard. Wreaths were also placed there.

A milad mahfil and an Iftar party were held at the residence of the late leader.

Besides, feeding of destitutes was also held to mark the occasion.

## What's on today . . .

### Training course on 'fish disease'

The concluding session of the weeklong training course on 'fish disease', organised jointly by the Department of Zoology of Dhaka University, Department of Fisheries and the Bangladesh Aquaculture and Fisheries Resource Unit of the University of Sterling, UK, will be held today (Sunday) at the Zoology Department at 11 am.

Vice Chancellor of the university Professor Emajuddin Ahmed will be the chief guest on the occasion.

### Leo Club of Dhaka Paradise

Leo Club of Dhaka Paradise and Lions Club of Dhaka Paradise will hold a 'joint meeting and Iftar party' at Cargo Lift Bangladesh Ltd., 84/8 Nayapattan, Dhaka at 4.30 pm today (Sunday).

### Naibeddy meet

The first executive committee meeting of Naibeddy, a cultural and recital organisation will be held today (Sunday) at the TSC, Dhaka University at 4 pm. All concerned have been requested to attend.

## Weather

### Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur over the region of Sylhet. Weather may remain dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Sunday).

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The maximum temperature of 33.1 degree Celsius was reported from Jessore yesterday (Saturday) and the minimum of 11.4 degree was from Srimangal.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 6.04 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 6.15 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	30.3	16.0	60	33
Chittagong	30.0	16.6	61	41
Rajshahi	31.5	12.6	40	28
Khulna	31.2	15.5	68	54
Barsal	31.2	16.0	68	55
Cox's Bazar	32.4	18.3	61	58
Sylhet	29.2	16.2	58	47
Dinajpur	29.4	13.3	16	34



Former Chief Justice Kemaluddin Hussain addressing a discussion at the Biswa Sahitya Kendra yesterday on the significance of historic March 7 speech. — Star photo

## Plea to air historic March 7 speech of Bangabandhu

Participants at a discussion on the significance of the historic speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 7, 1971 called for depicting the history of nation's glorious War of Liberation truthfully, reports BSS.

They also appealed to the government to air the 7th March historic speech of Bangabandhu by the radio and television to show proper honour to the history of the nation.

Organised by the 'Sonar Bangla Juba Parishad', the discussion was participated as the chief guest by former Chief Justice Kemal Uddin Hussain and addressed by AL leader Zillur Rahman, former Vice President of DUCSU Akhtaruzzaman, Awami League leader Mostafa Sarwar and former diplomat AKM Nizamur Rahman. It was presided over by Ismat Kadir Gama, a former

student leader.

Justice Kemal Uddin termed the speech as a unique historical document which mobilised the wishes of 75 million people against 'exploitation and military rule by Pakistani junta' and said the contribution of Bangabandhu should be recalled to educate the younger generation with the true history of the nation.

Terming the seventh March as a historic day for the Bengali nation, Awami League Secretary General Zillur Rahman said that the utterances of Bangabandhu on that day greatly inspired the people to fight back the occupation army.

Akhtaruzzaman said that Sheikh Mujib as a leader never compromised with the Pakistanis, who kept on conspiring against the Bengali nation during the 24 years of undivided Pakistan.

## Note books on sale at Savar despite ban

Note books are being sold with impunity in all the book stalls of Savar and Dhamrai thana areas despite government ban, reports UNB.

The government prohibited publishing and selling of note-books up to class eight to discourage the dependence of the students on the prepared answers.

Sources said, some businessmen are publishing sub standard note-books full of errors and distortion of facts.

## Chinese envoy calls on Shamsul

Chinese ambassador in Bangladesh Zhang Xugiang called on Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan at the latter's residence here yesterday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of mutual interest.



## Sunday

- 5:00 Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:20 Recitation from The Tripitak
- 5:25 Cartoon: Tom the Nasty Cat
- 5:55 Mahe Ramzan
- 6:15 Haand and Nath
- 6:35 Open University
- 7:05 Tagore songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Pmbaha
- 9:00 The Wizard
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Parliament round up
- 10:40 Sur Lahari
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:45 Closing

## Obituary

Azal Hossain, former chief feature writer of Press Information Department, Government of Bangladesh, died here Friday, a PID press release said. He was 67, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, two sons and three daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

The qulkhwan of the deceased will be held tomorrow (Monday) at his residence, 12/19 Sir Syed Road, Mohammadpur, after Asr prayers.

## BSC reviews progress in feeder service

The Board of Directors of Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) yesterday reviewed the progress of the feeder service of the corporation, reports BSS.

Chaired by the State Minister for Shipping and Chairman of BSC Harun al-Rashid the meeting held at the BSC office here approved the agreement of understanding between Bangladesh Shipping Corporation and the Malaysian International Shipping Corporation.

## Tender Invitation Notice

### Tender Notice No. 3 (three) Executive Engineer (R&H) Habiganj 1992-93

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from valid enlisted "A" to "D" general class contractors of Roads & Highways Department :

Name of Work & Site	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time allotted	Eligibility of Contractor
Installation of Bailey Bridge on Khoai river Chunarughat and approach earth work on either side of the bridge on emergency basis under Habiganj Road Division during 1992-93	Taka 5,19,312/00	Taka 10,386/00	45 (forty five) days from the date of issuing Work Order	"A" to "D" general class contractors

### Special execution Earnest Money :

The contractor quoting more than 10% (ten per cent) below the rate given in the schedule, has to deposit special Earnest Money equivalent to 10% (ten per cent) of estimated cost in the form of scheduled BD/TC/Sanchayapatra in favour of Executive Engineer (R&H) Habiganj Road Division, Habiganj, with the formal tender, prior to issuing of Work Order. Otherwise tender will be treated as rejected outright. Those having permanent earnest money deposit also have to deposit the special execution earnest money. Tenders of such contractors as quoting rates more than 15% (fifteen per cent) below the schedule rate, will be treated as cancelled outright.

Schedule of tender, specification, terms & conditions, special terms & conditions etc. can be seen and purchased from the offices of Executive Engineer (R&H) Road Division, Habiganj/Moulavi Bazar/Sylhet/Sunamganj/Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H) Road Sub-Division, Habiganj/Shaistaganj up to 13-03-93 (29-11-99BS). Tenders will be received at the offices of Superintending Engineer (R&H) Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet & the undersigned up to 12-30 PM on 14-03-93 (30-11-99 BS) & opened on the same day at 12-45 PM.

DFP (G) 3092-1/3  
G-309

Md. Mosharraf Hossain  
Executive Engineer (R&H)  
(Current Responsibility)  
Road Division, Habiganj