

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Songs of and for Life

by Parveen Anam

It was a rain-driven evening, typical of Bai-shakh. An evening when most Dhakaites like to stay indoors, safe behind closed doors, watching the rains and the winds blow.

Yet, they came in their hundreds. The rains could not keep them away. They braved the wind and the storm. They came because they cared. Cared enough to leave whatever they were doing, came in spite of the weather, to show they cared. They came because it was their humble expression of their loved and their deep commitment to the values, which somehow still makes the world go round. At the end of the day, when one is about to give up in despair and disappointment, it is these little gestures, which suddenly make everything worthwhile.

Two little girls, from a humble background, needed surgery to repair damage to their hearts. They are sisters and the Dhakaites present at the Engineers Institute that night did not know them. Had never seen them. Yet, when Saadi Mohammad, a popular artist of Tagore songs, offered to raise funds for the girls by staging a charity performance, everybody pitched in. Saadi does not have the wealth to offer to the father cash; his wealth is his voice and richness of heart. And his invincible faith in his people. He knew he would succeed. He never had reason to think otherwise.

That stormy evening, as the hall was filled with music, flowing from the being of the singer, his heart was singing along with his voice. For did he not look out at the faces of all those people, who had contributed so generously to a



Saadi Mohammad does it for humanitarian cause.

cause which meant so much to the parents as they sat with their sick child? The little girls were supposed to come to the auditorium to thank everybody, but were too ill to make it. And were his hopes not fulfilled? Not once did he doubt that the Dhakaites would not respond.

And respond they did. With generosity and love. Proving yet again, that in spite of all the hardships he faces everyday, in spite of the difficulties of life, he has not yet lost the zest for living. If his little contribution could make it possible for two young girls to get a chance of life, he was not going to grudge them that. He would help in whatever way it was possible for him to.

The songs were a combination of Tagore, modern, 'ha-rano dinner gaan' and many others besides. He sang to requests, at times the audience sang along with him. He enjoyed what he was doing and the audience joined him. Their support and participation were wholehearted. It was life renewing itself. Renewing itself through the Dhakaites' humble contribution to a cause which suddenly was very important.

It was important because two small children were getting a new lease of life. But it was more important because it revived the faith of the Dhakaites in himself. In the endless wonder of his selflessness and his ability to overcome his bias and prejudice. As he came away from that evening of song and love, some must have said to themselves, in humility and in pride, in the words of Tagore "All humanity's greatest is mine". And who could grudge him his fleeting moment of pride in himself, in his fellow Dhakaites?

### Shahidullah's death condoled

Bangladesh Government College Teachers' Association yesterday expressed deep condolence at the sudden demise of Principal AKM Sha-hidullah, reports UNB.

In a statement, President and Secretary General of the Association Shamsul Huq and M A Qudus Sarkar respectively conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

In another statement, Jatiya University also condoled the death of the educationist, expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

### What's on today . . .

#### Chhayanat

Chhayanat will stage Rabindranath Tagore's 'Sarabitaner Aaramba' at the Institution of Engineers today (Wednesday) at 7 pm in observance of Tagore's 132nd birth anniversary.

#### Unmesh Film Society

Unmesh Film Society has organised a two-day long special screening of Mahabharat by Peter Brook. The show will be held at the German Cultural Centre today (Wednesday) at 5 pm.

#### Rotary Club of Dhaka Northwest meet

A joint board meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Northwest for 1992-93 and 93-94 will be held today (Wednesday) at Hotel Sonargaon at 5 pm. The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held at the same premises at 6 pm after the board meeting.



Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding solution to their problems. — Star photo

### Construction work of Zia Memorial Museum on

The construction work of "Zia Memorial Museum" at Chittagong is going on in full swing, an official source said here yesterday, reports BSS.

This was disclosed at an interministerial meeting on "Transformation of Chittagong Old Circuit House into Zia Memorial Museum" held at the conference room of the Cultural Ministry yesterday.

Presided over by State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahana-Ara-Begum, the meeting was attended by Cultural Secretary I U Malik and Senior officials of the Ministries of Information, Establishment, Home, Foreign Affairs and Works.

It was informed at the meeting that ten galleries would be commissioned on the upstairs of the two storied Chittagong Old Circuit House building.

Galleries would be divided into two parts. In the first part, relics on Independence War and freedom fighters and personal life of Shaheed Zia would be displayed while on the other part exhibits on "politician Zia" would be displayed.

A library and an auditorium would be commissioned at the ground floor. Books related to the life of Shaheed Zia would be kept in the library.

Besides, documentary films of Shaheed Zia's life would be shown at the auditorium.

### Govt team leaves for Cambodia to conduct polls

Twenty-five government officials left here yesterday for Bangkok enroute to Cambodia to conduct the general election there as polling officers under the United Nations, reports UNB.

The election will be held from May 23-28 under the supervision of the United Nations.

### Bodies of 2 fishermen recovered

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, May 11: Police recovered bodies of two fishermen who had been missing along with three others from the Meghna Bridge area since Sunday night's storm.

The victims were identified as Gopal Chandra Barman (70) and Harkumar Barman (60). The five fishermen were missing along with their boat since Sunday night. Two of them were able to swim ashore while the rest three had been missing.

The Sonargaon police recovered the two bodies from the river at Islampur but failed to trace body of the other, Shapan (12).

### Dr Mannan wins literary award

Eminent educationist, researcher and litterateur Dr. Kazi Abdul Mannan has won the "Saadat Ali Akhand Award for Literature" for the year 1993, reports BSS.

The Bangla Academy is conducting this award, which has been given for the fourth time.

The award — cash and certificate will be given any day during the current month at a function at the Bangla Academy, a press release said.

### Obituary

Eminent educationist and ex-Registrar of Rajshahi University Abdur Rahim Joarder died of heart failure here at BIRDEM early yesterday morning. He was 78, reports BSS.

Joarder served as Registrar of Rajshahi University from 1960 to 1980. He was born at Chuadanga in 1915. He left behind his wife, a son, four daughters and host of friends and relatives to mourn his death. He was laid to rest at Banani graveyard.



Wednesday

- 5:20 Opening announcement
- 5:25 Al-Quran
- 5:30 Programme summary
- 5:35 Sports programme
- 5:40 Hijaal Tomal: Programme on folk songs
- 5:45 Tagore's songs
- 5:50 News in Bangla
- 5:55 Bangladesh Parikrama
- 6:00 Film show: The Fall Guy
- 6:05 News in English
- 6:10 Kathamala
- 6:15 Khabar/The News
- 6:20 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 6:25 Closing



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia visiting the stalls of an exhibition organised by the Employees Association of Bangladesh Technical Education Directorate at the Dhaka Polytechnic Institute auditorium yesterday. Story on page 1. — PID photo

### Eid-ul-Azha programmes

The government has planned an elaborate programme to celebrate the holy Eid-ul-Azha with due solemnity and religious fervour, reports BSS.

The President and the Prime Minister will give messages to the nation to mark the holy occasion.

A high level inter-ministerial meeting chaired by State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan yesterday decided that the main Eid congregation would be held at the national Eidgah at the Supreme Court premises at 7-30 am. In case of inclement weather, the main congregation would be held at the Baitul Mokarram National Mosque at 7-30 am. Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs Abdul Awal including high officials of different ministries, departments and organisations were also present in the meeting.

On the day, national flag will be hoisted atop all public and private buildings.

### Dhaka earns Tk 278 cr thru' export to Hungary

The new Hungarian Ambassador to Bangladesh Laszlo Varkonyi yesterday called on Commerce Minister M K Anwar at his secretariat office, reports BSS.

They discussed matters relating to bilateral issues with particular emphasis on strengthening the trade link between the two countries.

The trade links between Bangladesh and Hungary, established after signing a general trade agreement on April 5, 1972, stipulated both barter trade and trade in convertible currencies.

Bangladesh imported items worth about Taka 297 crore and 30 lakh from Hungary since 1980-81 fiscal year to the first half of the current fiscal year while it exported items worth about Taka 278 crore and 62 lakh to Hungary during the same period.

The balance of trade between the two countries was in favour of Hungary to the tune of nearly Taka 18 crore and 68 lakh.

The principal items of export from Bangladesh to Hungary are jute and jute goods, carpets, hides and skins, leather and leather goods, tea, paper and paper products, hosiery and textile products,

handicraft, oil cakes and crushed bones.

The principal items of import from Hungary are railway coaches, wagons, locomotives and spares, electrical equipment and spare parts, aluminium ingots, cold rolled black sheet, hot rolled strips, drugs, medicines and pharmaceutical raw materials.

Senior officials of the Ministry of Commerce and the Hungarian embassy were present.

### 3 DU teachers obtain Ph.D

Three researchers from different disciplines have been conferred with Ph.D degree by the Dhaka University authorities, according to a Dhaka University press release yesterday, reports BSS.

The researchers include Shafiuddin Ahmed under Bengali Department, Dilara Choudhury under Political Science Department and Sirajul Islam under Food and Nutrition Department of the university.

The authorities also awarded M Phil degree to Masud Ahmed Hakim for his research under the Department of Physics.

### Weather Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Wednesday) says rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind may occur at many places over Dhaka, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions.

The Met office forecasts day temperature is likely to fall by one to two degree Celsius over the country.

The maximum temperature of the country recorded yesterday (Tuesday) of 37.9 degree Celsius was reported from Rajshahi and the minimum of 19.6 degree was reported from Bogra and Sylhet.

The chief amounts of rainfall recorded across the country in-12 hours from 6 am to 6 pm yesterday are: Sitakund 84mm, Comilla 49mm, Feni 47mm, Cox's Bazar and Chittagong 37mm each, Rangamati 33mm, Kutubdia and Sandwip 32 mm each, Srimangal 22mm, Bhola 21mm, Teknaf 18mm, Barisal 16mm and Dhaka 15mm.

The sun sets today (Wednesday) at 6.33 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5.17 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in 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	26.5	22.5	91	77
Chittagong	29.5	25.8	90	94
Rajshahi	37.9	25.6	63	60
Khulna	30.4	22.0	94	77
Barisal	30.8	26.6	86	90
Cox's Bazar	32.0	26.6	87	87
Sylhet	25.0	19.6	97	84
Dinajpur	33.0	23.0	77	82

## Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology

Dhaka

### Tender Notice

No. P&D/L.P-1 (292)/92-93/D-3526(2) Dated: 11.5.93

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide suppliers for supply of Line Printer Computer Forms.

Intending tenderers shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender papers etc. on application to the undersigned. Application must accompany G.I.R certificate, Trade licence and certificate of experience about works/supplies etc. from reputed organisations. Tender papers and other terms & conditions will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 150/- (non-refundable) to the Sonali Bank, B.U.E.T. branch, Dhaka. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft or Pay Order from Nationalised Bank amounting to 5% of the quoted amount as earnest money deposited in favour of the Comptroller of this University without which no tender will be considered. Tenders must be put into the Tender Box kept for this purpose in this office up to 2-30 PM of 24.5.93 and will be opened on the same day at 2-35 PM before the tenderers present.

The University Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders or one or more items of any tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.

No tender papers will be sold on the opening day of the tender.

**Deputy Director**  
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