

Dhaka Day by Day

Of Wood, Wire and Sand

by Fayza Haq



The group of sculptors

One had the opportunity to fine specimens of contemporary sculpture at a recent show at Alliance Francaise in which a number of sculptors took part. Aesthetic expressions were seen in the form of carving, casting, and cement media.

Shamim Shikdar, who is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sculpture in the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, and has done a course at Sir John Cass School of Art in London, had demons with huge eyes and tongues sticking out with elongated sculpted faces in a piece called "Horror". In "Evil Instinct" one saw what looked like an African sculptor. It had enormous moustaches, dragon eyes and from the chin emerged a twisted lip. "Evil Instinct II" in wood, with its grotesque face had the semblance of a dog with its thick lips. Once again, the sculptor stressed on the evil emotions within man. "Black Beauty" also recalled African sculptor.

Shamim complained that she found the materials expensive and that she did not have a suitable workplace. She said that had it not been for her salary in the university, things would have gone difficult for her.

Abdur Razzak, who had studied at USA under a Fulbright Scholarship programme, had a research assistantship in Fine Art at the SUI, USA, and had been the Principal of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka from '83 to '85 now a professor at the department of sculpture, Institute of Fine Arts, had quite a collection of modern creations. He had used iron sheets in upright form — some of them grey and some black. He had played around with the contrast of forms and textures. His work was abstract and dealt with convex and concave forms.

Alauddin Ahmed Bulbul, who has had seven major exhibits, had pieces of tubes put together heightened by touches of gold and one of the pieces symbolised the poverty of the masses. There was a depiction of a man lying down with his hands folded. His style remained cubistic and he obviously followed Henry Moore. Bulbul considered "Sadness" as his best work. He had two other pieces,

"Sleeping I" and "Sleeping II". Bulbul, who won the Best Sculpture Awarded in '91 in the annual exhibition, Institute of Fine Arts is a student.

Shahiduzzaman Shilp, who has had 15 group exhibitions, and a solo art exhibit, showed bloated figures, in which he had used metal bits and steel wires of different techniques in his piece "After Cyclone". An entry was dedicated to the death of democracy, in which the sculptor portrayed dead bodies in white, carried on a metal basin, while the mourning people were symbolised, with poles of different heights and breadth. He had another creation with metal wires, sticks, copper and silver wired sheets. There was a sunflower which he had made entirely out of metal nails of different sizes, width and colour — some of them rusty and some shining. The flower itself was of copper while the leaves were of a silvery hue. This was a purely decorative piece.

With wood and nail Shahiduzzaman had created another interesting piece representing a cactus. It looked quite realistic, with the wood painted green, while all around there were stones of green, grey and beige. It was kept in a shell-like container, which had sawdust in it.

Rezauzzaman Reza, who has participated in 12 major exhibitions between '80 and '93, and who has won three awards, as a student, simplified the eyes and nose of cows and put a splash of red in the centre of the creation. His "Farmer" was done with metal pieces and sand paper. He had another composition, showing five fingers of a hand. In another piece there were four oblong pieces with crosses in them. It had abstract figures in plaster of Paris in white. In another creation he had used shells, wires, and boxes of sand. It was both modern and symbolic.

Sculpture has been a means of communication for ages in our country. The exhibit showed development and imaginative creations keeping present progress of civilization in mind. The sculptors had been daring and experimental.

More research on science underscored

Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia visited the International Centre of Science, Technology and Environment for densely Populated Region (women's wing) at Dhanmondi Sunday evening, reports BSS.

During the visit Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar was present.

Addressing a gathering there Barrister Rafique stressed the need for more research on science and technology for the socio-economic development in a developing country like Bangladesh.

Remove illegal houses on canals: Abbas

Mayor of Dhaka city Mirza Abbas yesterday called for removal of illegal construction of houses on canals and beels for the solution of water logging problem and maintenance of normal water flows, reports BSS.

Mirza Abbas was speaking at a meeting of a cross section of people at Dholairpar after visiting low-lying areas of Alambag, Muradpur and Pubail of the city.

Organised by BNP, Jubo Dal and Chhatra Dal, the meeting was also addressed by General Secretary of city BNP Salauddin Ahmad MP and other BNP leaders.

Mirza Abbas said construction of houses in an unplanned manner and illegal occupation of canals and beels were the causes of water logging in the areas.

The Mayor said Dhaka City Corporation, WASA, RAJUK and Water Development Board would take joint action in this regard.

He urged all concerned to cooperate with the initiative of the Corporation in building the city as a beautiful one by bringing all areas under development programmes.

Commemorative stamps on primary edn

Bangladesh Postal Department will issue tomorrow a set of two commemorative stamps of Tk 2 denomination each on the compulsory primary education programme, reports UNB.

A first day cover of Tk 5 will also be issued and a special canceller used on the occasion.

The stamps and the cover will be available in all the principal post offices, including 4 GPOs of the country.

The stamps will be sold from all the post offices, including thana-level and non-divisional post offices later, said a source yesterday.

Govt sympathetic to legitimate demands of Rly workers: Oli

CHITTAGONG, May 24: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed has said railway could be a profitable organisation had there been utmost devotion, unblemished sincerity and the willingness to go forward in the minds of railway-men irrespective of position strata, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating the divisional rally of Jatiyatabadi Railway Sramik Dal here yesterday.

Oli Ahmed said, no government before the present government of Begum Khaleda Zia was so positively responsive to the legitimate claims and demands of the railway workers. On the other hand, it is national expectation from the government that the railway workers will join hands to make the ongoing development programmes a success.

Weather

No change in temperature likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) says, rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur over the regions of Mymensingh and Sylhet and weather will remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country.

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

The country's highest temperature 36.6 degree Celsius was reported from Satkhira yesterday (Monday) and the lowest 24.8 degree was from Faridpur and Srirangal both.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 6.39 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5.12 am.

The maximum and 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	34.0	26.6	73	64
Chittagong	33.0	26.5	75	69
Rajshahi	36.3	25.9	72	60
Khulna	35.7	26.4	79	-
Barisal	34.0	25.5	82	79
Cox's Bazar	33.0	26.5	78	67
Dinajpur	35.0	26.0	59	72



Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha arranged a cultural function at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium yesterday in observance of the 94th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

'Disaster management should cope with upward natural calamities'

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday stressed the need for disaster management to cope with increasing natural calamities in the country, reports BSS.

Inaugurating a two-week long training of trainers on disaster management at a function at the Bangladesh Meteorological Department at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, the minister said the government had a commitment to take necessary measures to face disasters in the country with necessary preparation and sincerity.

He expressed the hope that the training of trainers programme would contribute to emergency performance capabilities of the participants by providing advance knowledge and training for responding to disasters.

Presided over by President of IUBAT Prof Alimullah Mia, the function was also addressed by RL Southern from Australia, Dr MS Khan and Dr MA Mannan, both from IUBAT.

A total of 25 participants from government organisations, educational institutions, NGOs and other organisations are attending the training programme. The function was sponsored by South Asian Disaster Management Centre (SADMC) of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT).

Speakers at seminar on mechanized boats

Credit scheme for boatmen suggested

A seminar on "Mechanization of country boats A road to newer technology" organised by the technical activities, seminar and conference committee for mechanical engineering was held yesterday at the Institution of Engineers here, reports BSS.

State Minister for Shipping Harun-al-Rashid was present as chief guest while Professor Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, Chairman of Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), presided over the seminar.

Engineer Abdur Rahim and Engineer Golam Mohiuddin jointly presented the key note paper. Among others, Shipping Secretary Waitul Islam and Engineer MAK Azad took part in the discussion.

Speakers at the seminar emphasized the need for a continuous process of improvement in mechanization of country boats to ensure its development and growth.

They said, mechanization of country boats is a must for better safety, increasing fuel efficiency and minimising the cost. They observed that there should be arrangements for institutional credit scheme for the boatmen.

Speaking on the occasion, State Minister for Shipping Harun-al-Rashid said, present government is committed to do everything possible for development of science and technology. He said, government is giving due emphasis on bringing mechanized country boats into a discipline introducing registration system.

Rashid said, about 33 per cent internal cargo of the country is being carried by water ways since it is the cheapest mode of transportation.

The state minister said water transportation sector plays a vital role in socio-economic development of the country.

Sociology 3rd part exam (BA) June 8

By DU Correspondent

The third part final examination of the Degree (Pass and Subsidiary) of Sociology for the session 1992 under the Dhaka University will be held on June 8, 1993.

Earlier, the examination was scheduled on May 6. But the examination could not be held on that date because of the government holiday for Buddha Purnima.

The date was later shifted to May 17. But the DU authorities had again to postpone the examination scheduled on May 17.

Varsity teachers apprise Sircar of their problems

The leaders of Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association had a meeting with Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar at his office here yesterday, reports BSS.

The leaders of the federation apprised the education minister of different problems of the university teachers.

The Education Minister gave a patient hearing to them and assured them of solving their problems in phases.

Academic Feat



Mr. A. S. M. Amanullah (Ferdous) secured First class from Thesis group in the M. S. S. final examination of 1989 (held in 1992) under Dhaka University. He stood First Class First in B.S.S. (Hons) examination of 1987-88 held in 1990 from the Department of Sociology.

Mr. Amanullah hails from Habiganj district and son of renowned lawyer and political leader Mohammad Atiqueullah. S-178

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The tenders will be received in the Tender Box kept in the office of the undersigned up to 11-00 A.M. on 10.6.93 and will be opened on the same day at 11.30 A.M. in presence of the tenderers who wish to be present.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Deputy General Manager (E/E)

PRD/113/93
DFP (BA) 4410-19/5

G-990

Nazrul struggled against injustice

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged all to follow the ideals of the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam for establishing an exploitation-free society, reports UNB.

Addressing as the chief guest on the occasion of 94th anniversary of birth of the Kazi Nazrul, Principal Dewan Mohammad Azraf said the poet

had struggled against injustice and upheld the cause of the exploited, oppressed, deprived and the poor masses.

Highlighting the literary works of Nazrul and Tagore, he said both of them reflected our national culture and heritage. But Nazrul in particular always raised his voice against injus-

lice, falsehood, repression and slavery.

Terming the poet as a classic writer, he said Nazrul was a poet of liberty and a vanguard of Muslim renaissance. He had a profound faith in truth and was devoted to the welfare of humanity. Equality and fraternity got priority in his writings.

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From the heart of Bangladesh

EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOUR PAINTINGS BY BANGLADESHI ARTISTS

Sonargaon Hotel and Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, will collect a huge number of original water colour paintings by Bangladeshi artists. This has been initiated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism with a view to patronize local arts and cultures.

Sonargaon Hotel will collect the paintings in collaboration with the Institute of Fine Arts, while Dhaka Sheraton Hotel will collect from the free lance artists. An Exhibition of the collections will be held between 9-11 June 1993 at Sonargaon Hotel.

Sheraton Hotel will hold similar Exhibition on 1-3 July 1993

An Exhibition of this kind will be exceptionally acclaimed, in that, the works will be extracted from the heart of Bangladesh Last day of entry is 5 June, 1993 at Sonargaon Hotel and 19 June 1993 at Sheraton Hotel. For further details please contact:

Dhaka Sheraton HOTEL
Public Relations Deptt.
Dhaka Sheraton Hotel
Tel : 863391, 861191

Public Relations Deptt.
Sonargaon Hotel
Tel : 811005, 812011