

Dhaka Day by Day

Struggle with a Difference

by Nikesh Das

Harun-or-Rashid is not the legendary caliph of Baghdad. The great caliph's namesake is a rickshawpuller who lives in one of the slums of Rayerbazar of the city.

A student of class XII, commerce, this young fellow full of vigour has been plying rickshaw in the streets of Dhaka since he was a student of class X. Harun shoulders a family of five members by his meager income as a rickshawpuller. His widow mother of 35, adds some additional financial fuel to the family as a maid-servant. His father had been suffering from asthma for a long period before he died in February, 1993.

Like most of the children of slums in Bangladesh Harun's struggle for life started when he was only eight years old. He started chipping bricks to assist his mother. At about the same time worked for a period of about three years as a bearer for 'East Bengal Sporting Club.' His duty was to serve tea and carry out club members' orders. He had to work there till dead of night.

In 1991 when his family demanded more money, he quit the job and decided to ply rickshaw. From then on, he has been continuing this strenuous job for supporting his family. Harun and his family live in a tiny (9X9 sq feet) shack. He pays Tk 450 (US\$11.25) for the shelter without gas and running water. They share one kitchen and latrine with seven other families.

In his struggle for study and survival the World Vision, an international voluntary humanitarian organisation, has helped him. The World Vision's sponsorship programme has been providing Harun with tuition fees, exami-

nation fees, books, exercise books uniforms etc since he was a student of class eight.

Harun plies rickshaw in the morning shift. At first he easily got tired. But now he can endure longer than before. His experience as a rickshawpuller is not a happy one. Some passengers are famous for rough behaviours with the likes of him. Some refuse to pay the right fares; rather rickshawpullers have to digest blows from the passengers.

In reply to the question: 'How, does he feel when he gets student passengers of his same age group?' erst- fallen Harun replies with apparent reluctance, 'I feel very very depressed. Then I simply don't wish to carry on with the job any more,' he added. But very quickly he controls his emotion. He knows most of them are born with a silver spoon in their mouths, so it is unwise to compare himself with them.

However most of the time Harun do not bother about the behaviour or age of his passengers. Currently, he has no other alternative than to plying rickshaw to support his family. On the other hand, he has learnt to attach value to his work keeping in mind the dignity of labour. He considers his job more prestigious than indulging in thievery or any other corrupt livelihood.

Harun, however, cherishes the hope to change his present plight. After passing the Higher Secondary School Certificate Examination, he wishes to pursue the Bachelor of Commerce degree. And then, hopefully try for a good job. Harun's is a struggle with a difference and there is no reason why he will not emerge victorious in the struggle and reach his cherished goal.



Harun plying rickshaw — Photo: Ajit Baroi

Brunei envoy makes farewell call on Biswas

The outgoing High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam, Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Joya Bin Pengiran Haji Rajid, made a farewell call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

During the discussion President Biswas appreciated the contribution of the High Commissioner towards strengthening the bilateral relations between the two brotherly Muslim countries.

President Biswas said that a large number of Bangladeshi doctors, engineers, teachers and skilled workers had been working in Brunei with utmost sincerity and hoped that Brunei government would recruit more Bangladeshis in future. He conveyed his good wishes for health and happiness of Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkhia and continued peace, progress and prosperity of the people of the Brunei Darussalam.

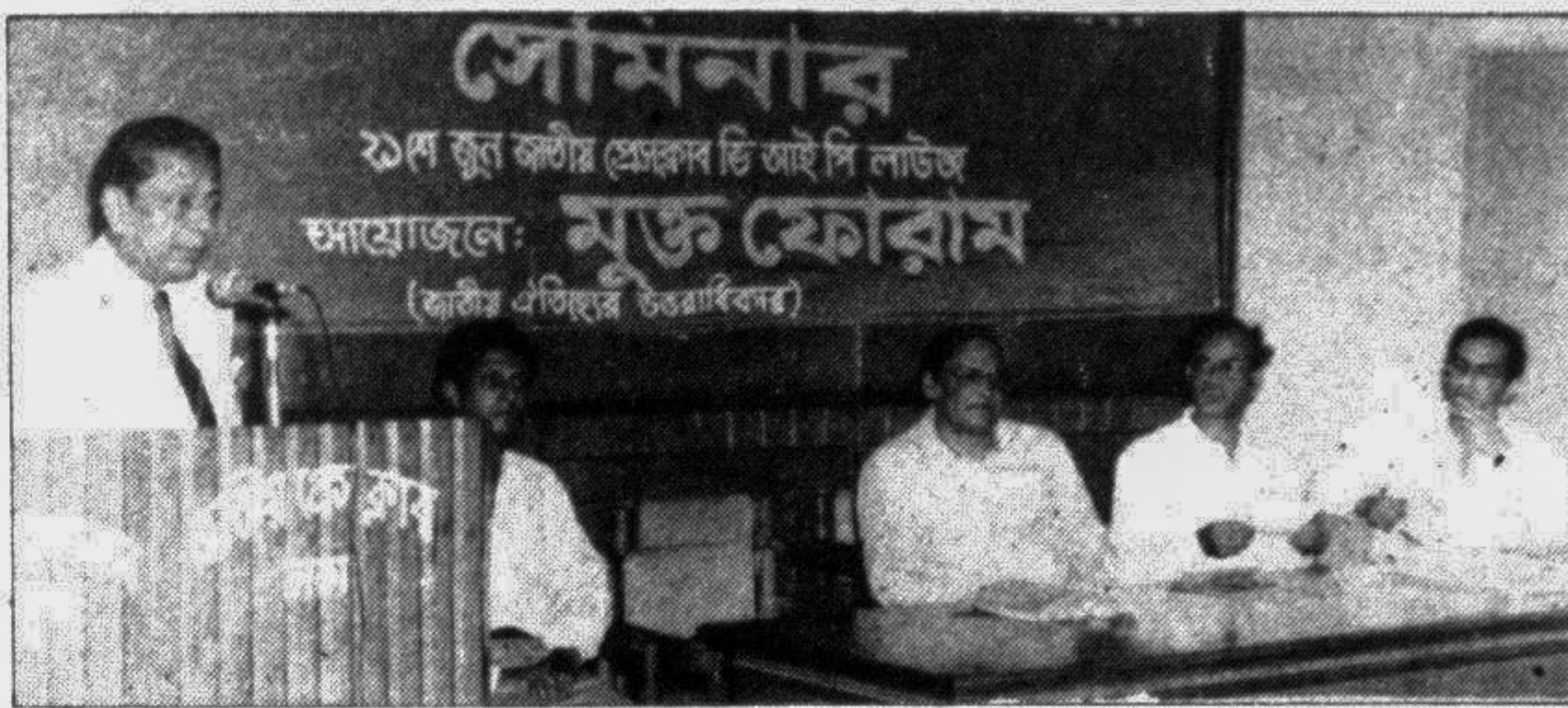
DU Club executives

By Staff Correspondent

Professor M Mostafa Chowdhury of the Political Sciences Department and Dr M Strajul Islam of the department of Management were elected the President and General Secretary respectively of the Dhaka University (DU) Club for 1993-94.

Election to the executive committee of the club was held Sunday, said a press release.

The other office-bearers of the executive committee are: Vice Presidents — Prof M Shahiduzzaman and M Selim, Treasurer — A K M Ruhul Amin Akand, Joint Secretaries — Sharif Akhteruzzaman and Subrata Kumar Aditya, and Members — Dr M Mozammel Huq, Dr A K M Serajul Islam Khan, Dr M Hossain Mansur, Momtaz Uddin Ahmed, Syed Abul Kalam Azad, Dr M Shahjahan Mia, A K M Mahbubul Alam, A N M Sayedul Huq Khan, Prof Syed Abdul Ahad and Borhan Uddin.



Eminent lawyer and founder-convenor of the Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum Justice T H Khan speaking at a seminar on "Rights of Parliament and Freedom of the Press" organised by Mukto Forum at the National Press Club yesterday. (Sitting from right): Mozammel Huq, Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, Towhidul Anwar, DG, PIB and Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, VC, Dhaka University. — Star photo

MPs urged to be aware of responsibilities

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged the members of parliament to lay more importance on their responsibilities than their privileges or rights to help consolidate democratic institutions, reports BSS.

They were addressing a seminar on "rights of parliament and freedom of the press," organised by Mukto Forum at the Jatiya Press Club.

Presided over by Prof Emazuddin Ahmed, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, the seminar was addressed among others by Justice T H Khan, convenor of Jatiyatabadi Aynjibi Forum, Mr Mozammel Huq, Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, Prof Tauhidul Anwar, Director General Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB), Sajjad Kadir and Maruf Kamal

Khan, journalists, and advocate Mohammad Shahjahan.

Prof Emazuddin Ahmed said we were more concerned about our rights or privileges than responsibilities. He said the matter of rights or privileges would not get more prominence than responsibility if the parliamentary culture was practised.

Justice T H Khan said there were no specific privileges and rights of parliament members.

Mozammel Huq said parliament might turn autocratic if freedom of the press and fundamental rights were not guaranteed.

In an oblique reference to the 1974 parliament said democracy might be jeopardised if freedom of the press and fundamental rights were not ensured.

This day four years ago we lost you



MUNAWAR MUJIB

In fond remembrance The bereaved family and friends

Lt Col Karim's family to get \$20,000 from UN

The United Nations will give 20,000 US dollar as compensation to the family of Lt Col Mohammad Fazzul Karim of Bangladesh Army killed during UN peacekeeping efforts in Namibia on April 3, 1989, reports UNB.

This was stated by Communications Minister Col (ret'd) Oh Ahmed, who is also in-charge of the Defence Ministry in parliament, replying to Abdul Awal Mia of Awami League yesterday.

Lt Col Karim's family will also receive a lumpsum grant of Tk 3 lakh from the Defence Family Security Project, Tk 17,500 from Sena Kalyan Fund, Tk 41,350 from DSOP Fund, Tk 40,800 as earned leave and a monthly allowance of Tk 5,362.

SOS Children's Village Day '93 observed

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shaikh Razaque Ali said that the blood donation programme is a noble and exceptional social service since blood is directly necessary for saving human life, reports BSS.

He was speaking as chief guest at a ceremony in observance of International SOS Children's Village Day-93 yesterday at Shamoli SOS Children's Village here. The function was organised by SOS Children Village in collaboration with Bangladesh Red Crescent Society. Shaikh Neamat Ali Director of SOS Children's Village also spoke on the occasion.

Speaker Razaque Ali said that the government alone cannot solve all the multifari-

ous problems of the country. He urged the private organisations to help in solving the various problems of the society.

Highlighting the role of various social organisations he said that the programmes of social organisations like SOS should be disseminated in rural areas.

Puja samity formed in NY

A 71-member Bangladesh Puja Samity has been formed in New York with Nabendu Bikaash Dutta and Bidyut Chandra Das as president and general secretary, according to a message received here yesterday, reports BSS.

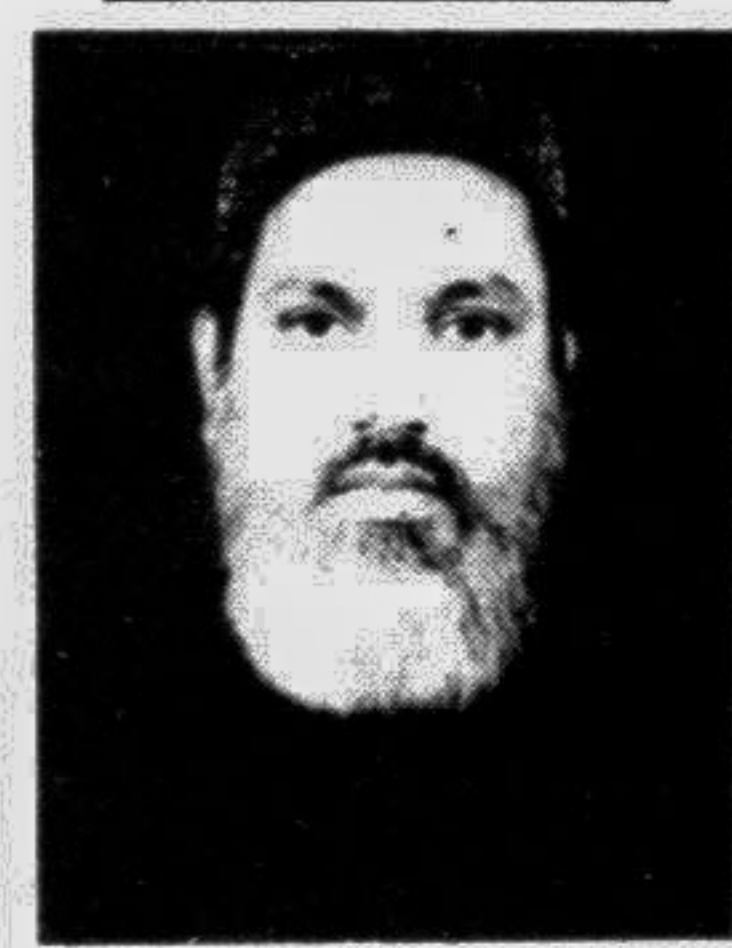


Ghatak-Dalal Nirmul Committee procession in the city yesterday demanding execution of the verdict of 'People's Court' on Golam Azam. — Star photo



Tuesday

- 5:00 Opening Announcement Al-Quran
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:20 Recitation from the Gecita
- 5:25 Eao Para Sikh: Mass Education TV Debate
- 5:50 Open University
- 7:25 Sangeeta: Modern Songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Drama Serial: Janm-abhumi (1st part)
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Film: ENG
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:45 Closing



Salahuddin gets PM's Best Teacher Medal

Alhaj Moulana Md Salahuddin, Professor, Madrasa-e-Allia, has been awarded Prime Minister's Best Teacher Gold Medal in a ceremony June 9, says a press release.

He is a First class First Kamil from the Madrasah Board and First class First from Dhaka University and Medina University.

Md Salahuddin is the son of Hajj Abdul Mohit of Bandar, Narayanganj.

What's on today . . .

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh

The seventeenth monthly general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh for '92-'93 will be held today (Tuesday) at 4:30 pm in the seminar room of the society at 5, Old Secretariat Road, Nirmal, Dhaka.

Marketing Management through Games

A special programme on Marketing Management through Games will be held today (Tuesday) at 9:30 am for the Marketing Executives of the PARTEX Group of Industries at their own premises, Sena Kalyan Bhaban, Aziz Al Kaiser, Deputy Managing Director, PARTEX Group will inaugurate the programme.

Shilpakala Academy Council meet

The 49th meeting of the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Council will be held today (Tuesday) at 11 am at the academy conference room.

The meeting will discuss the issues relating to the stoppage of the construction work of the modern auditorium and the revised budget of the academy.

Weather

Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) says rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions.

The met office forecasts day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius over the country. The country's highest temperature of 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded in Bogra and the lowest of 24 degree was recorded in Rangamati yesterday.

The rainfall recorded during day-time yesterday were: Cox's Bazar 60mm; Teknaf 26 mm, Bogra 19mm, Satkhira 15mm, Chittagong 13mm and Majdicourt 10mm.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 6.49 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5.12 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 Celsius Degree		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	32.5	27.0	83	74
Chittagong	28.0	25.3	90	78
Rajshahi	33.0	24.5	90	78
Khulna	32.6	26.6	85	85
Barisal	30.4	27.0	89	92
Cox's Bazar	26.6	25.0	98	72
Sylhet	33.5			
Dinajpur	33.0	26.0	100	74

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিক্তে টিকা দিন

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন ১৯৯০-৯১ সালের জন্য টিডি ও রেডিওতে এই সংস্থার বিজ্ঞাপন প্রচারের ক্ষেত্রে বিভিন্ন বিজ্ঞাপনী সংস্থার নিকট থেকে তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য ফর্মের নিজস্ব প্যাডে দরপত্র আহবান করছে। নিম্নলিখিত শর্তাবলী পূরণসাপেক্ষে আগামী ৩০মে জুন '৯৩ এর মধ্যে নিম্নবাক্যকারীরা দরপত্র অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে আবেদনপত্র জমা দানের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে:

শর্তাবলী:

- (১) বি এস পি/টিডি/রেডিওতে বিজ্ঞাপনী সংস্থা হিসেবে তালিকাভুক্তির সনদপত্র।
- (২) ট্রেড লাইসেন্সের কপি।
- (৩) জি আর/টি আর নং।
- (৪) ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট।

সিটি করপোরেশন কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ ব্যতিরেকেই আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল অথবা তালিকাভুক্তি বাতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।

স্বাঃ আবদুর রহমান
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