

Dhaka Day by Day

Snacks on Wheels

by Parveen Anam



The Dhakaite loves variety. And firmly believes in 'variety is the spice of life'. He easily tires of routine and is often out looking for change and a chance to stimulate his fertile imagination. And his taste buds. For who can deny that the Dhakaite does not love his food? The one industry which will never be out of business in Dhaka, is the food industry. For the Bangalee loves to eat. In fact, if there is one thing he loves more than politics and making speeches, it's food.

A walk down the most unlikely street in Dhaka, will present a spectacle, the Dhakaite delights in. When and if one has the time, to indulge in a little sight-seeing down any road or by-lane, dotting this city, he will be in for a most pleasant surprise.

The little man, bending over a road side fire, with a big 'wok' sitting on it, frying away the eternal 'singhara' is of course one of the commonest sights of the city. That and the cup of tea and gossip accompanying it are of course the delight and privilege none can deny the 'Dhakaite'. Then, as the walk continues, you come across the man, pushing along his 'snack' on a makeshift trolley. This includes the delicious 'chatpati' or the chick-peas boiled till tender and mixed with spices and lemon juice and tamarind water, enough to make your mouth water at the very mention. The antecedents of the water and the spices are best left unquestioned. The liberal smattering of dust from the passing vehicles and the occasional fly alighting on the 'foodstuff' is better ignored. The delicacy of the 'snack' compen-

sates for the odd 'unhygienic' condition. Marvellous how it never occurs to the 'authorities' at times of epidemics of diarrhoea, to check on the conditions of 'hygiene' of these 'snacks'. But then, that would take away the pleasure of half of these 'fast foods', the Dhakaite will protest vehemently.

The other 'mobile snack' the irrepressible Dhakaite loves is the 'phuchka', the crisp little rice balls stored in big plastic packets to maintain the crispness and served with tamarind water. In fact, when the customer asks for the 'phuchka', the vendor will take some out from the packet, make a hole in the middle and fill it with the most delicious, mouth-watering concoction of a thick, tangy, tamarind water solution. As he hands it to his customer, he is supposed to eat it quickly and wait for the next one. These cannot wait once they are filled with the delicious watery 'filling' as they would turn soggy and it's a delight to eat them as fast as the vendor can hand them to you!

It's a common sight in a summer evening, to see the younger Dhakaite, especially, crowding around the little 'phuchka man' to savour his delicious ware. Many a budding Romeo, with limited financial resources, has been seen treating their Julietts to this most innocent of treats. Julietts do not complain, for hard is the heart which would not fall in love with this delicious snack!

The Dhakaite is innovative and creative and perhaps that is what makes him so lovable. Who knows?

Efficient management can combat disasters: Noman

CHITTAGONG, June 28: Minister for Environment and Forest, Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman has said that natural disasters like flood, drought, cyclone and tidal bore have become regular phenomena in the country as a result of climatic changes, caused by global environmental pollution, reports BSS.

"So, we have to live along with the disasters and under these circumstances efficient management is the best way to combat those," he told a certificate awarding ceremony of a training course on "disaster management in agriculture" here Sunday.

He distributed certificates among the participants of the training course at a function organised at the University of Science and Technology.

The minister said ours is an agricultural country and every year is badly affected by the natural disasters. He said efficient management in post-disaster rehabilitation activities including pre-disaster warning can play important role in minimising the loss of life and property.

Referring to the need of modern technology in the efficient management of natural disasters, Noman said "in the backdrop of our resource constraints to use modern technology, we can go a long way with the trained manpower in combating with the disaster".

He called upon the participants of the training course to use their knowledge and skill for the cause of humanity with utmost sincerity and honesty.

Naval Academy certificate award ceremony held

CHITTAGONG, June 28: The graduation certificate award ceremony to the midshipmen class of A-91 of the Bangladesh Naval Academy was held at the Academy auditorium at Patenga here this evening, says a press release.

Abdullah Al-Noman, Minister for Environment, Forests, Fisheries and Livestock attended the function as the chief guest and formally handed over the certificates to the midshipmen.

The certificates have been conferred by the University of Chittagong upon the midshipmen, who attended Bachelor of Science Degree curricula conducted by the Academy side by side with military training.



JCD brought out a procession on DU campus yesterday demanding a violence free campus. — Star photo

BIWTC arrears stand at Tk 7cr

The accumulated arrears of the Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) from 1972 to April 93 stands at Tk 7.44 crore, reports UNB.

This was disclosed yesterday in a meeting of the first sub-committee of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Shipping Ministry held at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

The meeting discussed on the activities of BIWTC including the system of recovery of its arrears from the vessel employees of the corporation.

It emphasised the need for proper monitoring on monthly basis of earnings of the vessels. Introduction of a definite system for fixation of accountability in every voyage of tankers and cargo vessels, fixation of standard of oil consumption for vessels in order to make the corporation economically viable.

The meeting was presided over by convener of the sub-committee and Deputy Minister for Shipping A B M Zahidul Haque.

The meeting was attended by the sub-committee members Mesbah Uddin (AL) and Alamgir Haider Khan (BNP), Shipping Secretary Waliul Islam and high officials of BIWTC.

JCD firm to make DU campus free of trouble

Leaders of the Jatiyatibadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at a rally yesterday said they would not tolerate any trouble on Dhaka University campus that would disturb normal academic atmosphere, reports UNB.

The JCD leaders expressed their strong determination to free the campus of armed violence and sought cooperation of all concerned in maintaining peace.

JCD organised a rally in front of Madhu's Canteen on the campus, which was addressed by its President Fazlul Haq Milon and General Secretary Nazmuddin Alam.

Addressing the rally, they alleged that the Awami League-backed Chhatra League was providing shelter to the terrorists who cause violence on the campus.

The leaders further alleged that the Chhatra League had turned Jagannath Hall into a fortress where a large number of terrorists and outsiders were being given shelter for a long time.

The JCD leaders demanded the authorities concerned to take effective measures against the trouble mongers and purge the campus of these dangerous elements.

Earlier, leaders and workers of JCD brought out a procession on the campus and chanted slogans against terrorism.

DU Correspondent adds: The Jatiyatibadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of the BNP, also announced a 71-member convening committee of its Dhaka University unit. Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie has been made the convener of the committee.

Two stabbed in N'ganj

By DMCH Correspondent
Two college students were stabbed by a group of young men at Narayanganj Monday night.

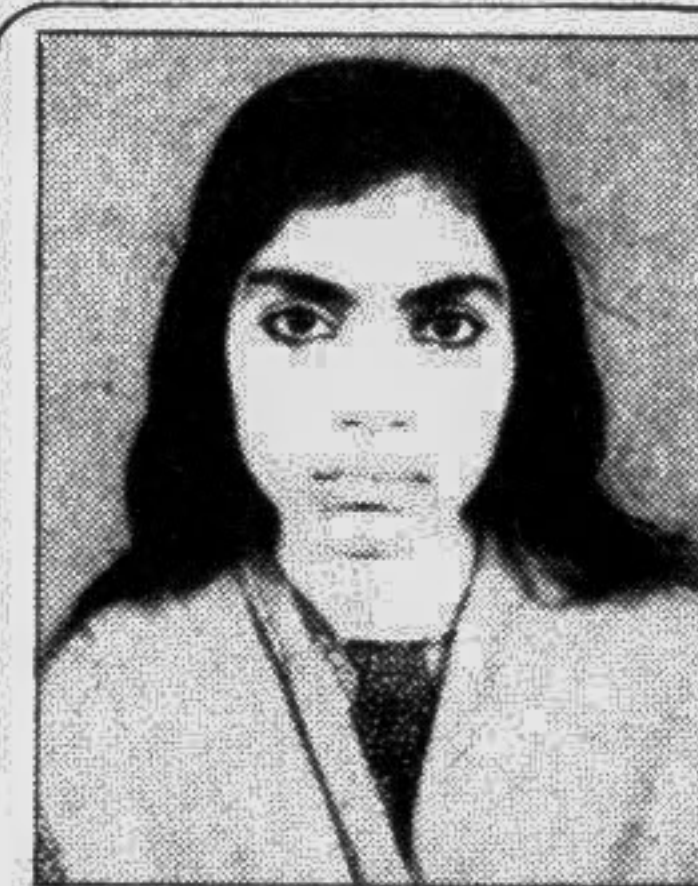
The victims Borhan, 20, and Shayan, 20 — first year student of the Tolaram College — were waylaid by a group of young men reportedly led by Kabir at Lalpur, Fatullah at about 9 pm.

The miscreants stabbed them and fled the scene.

Borhan received injuries in his abdomen and Shayan received on his head. They were rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).



CPB President Saifuddin Ahmed Manik addressing a public meeting at Purana Paltan in the city yesterday. — Star photo



Rotary Club of Buriganga saves another life

By Staff Correspondent

The humanitarian effort of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga has saved the life of a teenage heart patient.

The club recently funded a valve replacement operation upon Ruksana Parveen Mukti. Mukti had undergone a similar operation earlier. Dhaka Buriganga had also extended their financial assistance to Mukti for her first operation.

This was the second project of open heart surgery undertaken by the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga.

The club back in 1991 helped repair the heart of one Mahfuza Khanam.

The Daily Star published a story on the young patient and about the generosity of the club on September 26, 1991.

After the operation of Mahfuza Khanam, the heart valves and some accessories supplied by the club remained unused since her surgeon Professor Nabi Alam Khan decided to repair the heart.

Sufia Khatun, mother of Ruksana Parveen Mukti, approached rotarian Aminul Islam for donation of the valves and the accessories for her 17-year-old daughter who was counting her days at the Suhrawardy Hospital.

The club decided to donate valves and, in addition, agreed to pay Taka 20,000 to meet the operation costs.

The operation was performed on November 1991 and her heart was repaired then replaced by the valves.

The surplus valves, as requested by Prof Khan, was given to the hospital for some other poor patient.

Mukti began recovering fast and left the hospital for her home in Natore.

In September, 1992, she began having problems again.

In December, she was in a bad shape and was left alone in Dhaka without any place to stay.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga, upon receiving the information, arranged accommodation for the distraught girl and later admitted her to the Suhrawardy Hospital.

The club again financed the operation on Mukti in which her heart valves were replaced.

She left the hospital on June 16 this year and her condition was reportedly improving gradually.

Tk 83 cr KCC budget announced

KHULNA, June 28: A Tk 83.40 crore budget of Khulna City Corporation (KCC) for the next fiscal year was announced today at a press conference in the Zia Public Hall Auditorium, reports UNB.

Presenting the budget, KCC Mayor Sheikh Tayebur Rahman said of the total budgetary amount, Tk 56 crore would come from government grants and Tk 20.51 crore from its own resources, including Tk 6 crore from local taxes, Tk 2.5 crore from water taxes and Tk 5.33 crore from other tax heads. Tk 5 crore will come as a special government grant and about Tk 1.5 crore as ADB assistance.

Tk 15 crore has been allocated for construction and reconstruction of roads, drains and culverts and market and park development. The budget provides Tk 5 crore for construction of roads and repairs.

Sports has been given im-

portance in the budget with Tk 14 crore earmarked for goldcup football and cricket tournament.

The mayor also announced that a mosque and a park would be constructed outside the budget allocations. The mosque will be constructed with a Saudi grant of Tk 78 lakh.

JS adopts report on privileges

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday adopted unanimously the eighth report of the Standing Committee on Special Privileges moved by Chief Whip Khondkar Delwar Hossain on behalf of the committee, reports BSS.

The report was introduced in the house on June 16.

Discussion on poet Modhusudan held

By Staff Correspondent

Anuprash, an organisation of poets, held a discussion yesterday on the occasion of 120th death anniversary of poet Michael Madhusudan Dutt.

Presided over by H M Zubair Mithu, the discussion was addressed by poets Sheikh Shamsul Haque, Shahjahan Kabir and Kabir Hossain.

Speakers at the discussion recalled the lasting contribution of poet Madhusudan Dutt to the Bengali literature.

Poet Madhusudan has moulded the culture and enriched our literary heritage they said.

The discussion was followed by a poetry recital session in which Monayem Hossain, Lily Huq, A B M Mesbahuddin, Zuhra Haque, M A Aziz and Dr Shahinur Rahman took part.

Hannan visits ailing BNP leader

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah yesterday visited Ahmed Hossain Manik, a former vice-chairman of the Dhaka city unit of BNP, now undergoing treatment at the Chest Diseases Hospital at Mahakhali here, reports BSS.

He spent some time with the ailing leader and enquired about his health.

The minister asked the attending doctor to ensure his proper treatment.

1424 bottles of phensidyl recovered

A huge quantity of banned hallucinogenic drugs were hauled by police in different raids carried out in the city Monday.

At Gabtali bus terminal building, police and narcotics control officials broke open four locked rooms and recovered 1419 bottles of contraband phensidyl and arrested 14 drug addicts at 7:30 am.

Meanwhile, five bottles of phensidyls and 56 cannabis sticks and 17 hashish sticks were seized from the possessions of four young men Sunday afternoon.

Separate cases have been lodged with Mirpur and Demra police.

102 held in city

Police arrested 102 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, reports UNB.

The arrested include one wanted criminal, seven charged under the Arms Act, one under the Anti-Terrorism Act, five charged with robbery, two accused of burglary and five of stealing.

All the arrested people were produced before court.

Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bd) Limited
Short Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are hereby invited by the Managing Director, Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bd) Ltd, Tejgaon Ind. Area, Dhaka from the genuine Manufacturers for supply of (a) 12,00,000 pcs. Empty Glass Bottle for Snow/Cold Cream, (b) 67,000 pcs. Empty Glass Bottle for Medicated Hair Oil (Std), (c) 9,000 pcs. Empty Glass Bottle for Medicated Hair Oil (Family) (d) 25,000 pcs. Empty Glass Bottle for Medicated Hair Oil (Large) and (e) 1,35,000 pcs. Empty Glass Bottle for Bathgate Hair Oil against Short Tender Enquiry No. PD-III/KCC/36 dt. 28-6-93. Tender documents available at Tk 200.00 (Non-refundable) per set from (1) Kohinoor Chemical Co. (Bd) Ltd, 349-350, Tejgaon Ind. Area, Dhaka, (2) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha, Dhaka and (3) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong. Tender will be received upto 11:00 AM on 10-7-93 and opened immediately thereafter. No Tender document will be sold on the date of opening.

D-440

Weather
Thundershower likely

By Staff Correspondent
Light or moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Chittagong division and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Barisal and Khulna divisions during the next 24 hours commencing from 6 pm Monday. Met office forecasts.

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry during the period over Dhaka division, it adds.

Day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius across the country during the same period.

The highest temperature of the country Monday 35.3 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest 25.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Rangamati.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 6:50 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5:14 am.

The maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns yesterday are as follows:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	34.0	27.6	78	74
Chittagong	31.7	25.0	79	80
Rajshahi	31.8	27.2	89	81
Khulna	35.0	27.5	-	72
Barisal	33.6	27.4	82	81
Cox's Bazar	32.0	26.0	88	80
Rangpur	30.0	27.3	81	86
Sylhet	33.5	26.0	85	89
Jessore	35.3	27.0	80	80
Rangamati	31.7	25.0	75	90

BTV
Tuesday

- 5:00 Opening announcement Al Quran
- Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:15 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5:20 Eho Para Shikht: Mass education programme
- TV debate competition
- 6:30 Open University
- 7:05 Sangeeta : Modern Songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Drama serial Kothao Keu Ney
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Film : ENG
- 11:30 News in Bangla/English
- 11:45 Closing

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