

Dhaka Day by Day

Close to Nature

by Fayza Haq



Kanak Champa Chakma's soft, idyllic creations of the beauty of the tribal people of Chittagong were apparent once again in her recent exhibition at the Divine Arts gallery.

"The Hilly Girl," an impressionistic creation, depicts a tribal girl going to the forest and waiting for her friend. This oil and pencil work had mountains depicted in brown and red and blue. The girl in white has a delicate skin and the details of her features have been done with dexterity.

"Weaving" shows the backstrap loom done at home of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The colours surrounding the girl, green, brown, orange and red are the ones common in Chittagong loom. It is a romantic and ethereal composition like the rest of the entries.

"Waiting" shows a woman drenched with the colours of the evening, dressed in a red top and a green 'lungi', waiting for her husband's return. The dried fish in front of the house are done with delicate brown, red and other colours. Soft washes of ochre and grey completed the emotionally charged piece.

Murus, one of the 14 tribes of Chittagong Hill Tracts, who live deep in the hills are portrayed in "Muru Couple". The hill is a white form combined with green leaves. With pencil the artist has brought in hedges and bushes. The man's loin cloth and the girl's red simple dress are all delineated in details. The strength of the man and the beauty of the woman are well represented.

"My Dream" depicts the houses on bamboo, with bamboo steps leading to them. It has a green mountain at the back. The peace of the place is something that still fascinates the artist, now that she lives in a congested metropolis. Colours like ultramarine and vermilion

are combined with other scintillating colours, along with the basic white of the canvas.

Even without the three women shown talking and contemplating in "Gossiping" the background forms a beautiful abstraction of lines and colours — all of them soft, with a few highlights of red, green and blue. "Nature and Winter" has again combined a delicately done figure of a woman with an abstraction depicting a forest with shades of green, blue and grey.

"Lonely" is done with opaque water colour showing a tribal girl resting in a forest, in a thoughtful mood. There is ample use of grey and black and yet the painting is picturesque and optimistic. The artist has completed her work with an eye for details.

"I was born and brought up in the Hill Tracts so I wish to portray the happy moments of my childhood there. I am fascinated with the lakes and mountains which stretch to infinity or so they seem. The closeness of the Hill Tracts people to Nature is another major factor which I wish to portray. I also want to depict the heavy and decorative jewellery, along with the bright flowers that they sport. The use of the basic colours and designs of the clothes that the Hill Tracts people wear are also something which I have tried to bring in my work," Kanak Champa commented about her work.

"I feel that Bangladeshis should come forward as patrons so that the artists should not have to depend on foreign buyers. However, the financial situation of the young artists is much better, for instance, I myself have connection with six states in USA along with Toronto and Paris," she added.

Kanak Champa who has a masters in fine Arts, has had nine solo exhibitions and has won eight awards including the 1994 Mid-America Alliance award. Collections of her paintings are there in the USA, Europe, Canada, India and Bhutan.

Rajshahi Agri College classes to start Jan next

RAJSHAHI, July 7: Rajshahi Agriculture College, fourth of its kind in the country, is being set up on fifteen acres land at Narikelbaria under Paba thana of the district at a cost of Taka fifty lakh, reports BSS.

Meanwhile construction of college building has been completed at a cost of Taka twenty five lakh.

The classes of first academic session of the college will start from January next.

Initially Rajshahi Agriculture College will have an agriculture faculty and ten departments. The departments will be agronomy, agriculture extension, soil science, crop botany, entomology, plant pathology, horticulture, genetics and plant breeding, chemistry and mathematics.

Bangladesh Agriculture University authority has already consented to accord academic affiliation to the college, the Chairman of the college committee and Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi Md Saifuzzaman told BSS today.

A college hostel for the students will be constructed at a cost of Taka one crore and a farm house building at a cost of Taka eight lakh, he said.

Rajshahi Agriculture College

is being established as a non-government education institution. An eight-member committee with Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation Mizanur Rahman Minu as chief patron has been formed for overall development of the college.

Tk 150 cr plan to resolve water-logging problem in city

LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder told parliament yesterday that a Tk 150 crore project was underway to resolve the water-logging problem of the city, reports UNB.

Replying to a question from Shahjahan Khan (AL), the said the area of Dhaka City Corporation is now 132.54 square miles. The area of the corporation was 25.81 square miles before the liberation.

The corporation cannot afford to use chemicals to remove the stinking smell at the waste dumping area at Jatrabari, but was taking steps to protect the environment, he said replying to a supplementary.

JS body on public accounts meet held

A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Accounts was held yesterday at the Sangsad Bhaban with committee chairman Siddiqui, MP (BNP) in the chair, a parliament secretary press release said, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed the audit objections raised by the Auditor and Comptroller General on the 1984-85 accounts of various foreign-aid assisted projects under Road Division of the Communications Ministry. The discussions were held mainly on Dhaka-Chittagong highway (Feni by-pass) and Comilla-Chandina by-pass.

Committee members Mesbahuddin Khan and Mohammod Asaduzzaman of Awami League, Rashed Khan Menon of Workers Party, Dr T I M Fazle Rabbi of Jatya Party and Maulana Mohammad Shakhawat Hossain of Jamaat attended the meeting.

Besides, Auditor and Comptroller General of Bangladesh K M Hossain, Secretary, Road Division of the Communications Ministry Syed Rezaul Hayat and other concerned high officials were present.



The only connecting road between Kamalapur and Mughdha lying in dilapidated condition for a long time causing miseries to thousands of people everyday. — Star photo

Metropolitan Eastern Refinery in Chittagong Secondary conversion plant to be commissioned in Dec

The secondary conversion plant at the Eastern Refinery in Chittagong will be commissioned by December this year, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain said here yesterday, reports BSS.

The plant being set up with World Bank assistance at a cost of Taka 250 crore, will produce an additional quantity of 1,40,000 tonnes of diesel per annum. The present refining capacity of the refinery is 15 lakh tonnes per annum.

Speaking at a high level meeting on planning and execution of current and future projects in the ministry, Dr Hossain said a total of Taka 1900.43 crore had been allotted in the Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the implementation of 75 ongoing and five new projects of the

ministry. Besides arrangements have been made for Taka 100 crore from the revenue budget for rural electrification programmes, an official handout said.

The Energy Minister said work on the Barapukuria Coal Mine in Dinajpur and Haridock at Moddhyapara in Rangpur would start from the current year.

He said rehabilitation of 100 megawatt power plant at Haripur near Dhaka is the lone new project in the power sector where a total of Taka 1279.30 crore including a foreign exchange component of Taka 645.12 crore has been allocated in current year's ADP. Of the 48 projects in this sector, all but one are ongoing projects.

The minister said Saldanadi Exploratory Well Drilling Project, Gas and Oil Development Project at Kailashtila,

Sylhet, Limestone Mining Project at Bangalebazar in Sylhet and construction of multistoried residential building for employees of Petrobangla at Banani are the four new projects taken for the development of mineral resources sector. A total of Taka 621.13 crore has been allocated in this sector for implementation of 29 projects including 25 ongoing projects, he added.

The meeting which reviewed in detail the progress of the ministry for the outgoing year informed the minister that about 90 per cent of the fund allocated to the ministry in the revised budget was spent. The minister asked all concerned to chalk out appropriate planning and procedure from the beginning of the financial year to achieve the set target.

PDB Ctg zone collects Tk 281.23 cr revenue

CHITTAGONG, July 7: Chittagong zone of Power Development Board (PDB) collected Taka 281.23 crore as revenue during the last financial year (1992-93), as against the previous year's Taka 168 crore, reports BSS.

Of the total revenue collection during the year under review Taka 161.53 crore was collected from Chittagong metropolitan area alone.

Chittagong zone of PDB comprises four distribution circles namely — Chittagong metropolitan city area, Chittagong north, Chittagong south and Comilla.

The revenue collection from Chittagong north distribution circle was Taka 26.10 crore, from Chittagong south circle Taka 25.75 crore and Comilla circle Taka 67.76 crore during the year. Taka 30.33 crore was

the highest revenue collection by Chittagong zone in June last. In Chittagong metropolitan area power connections of 12,563 consumers were snapped out of a total of 28,000 defaulters during the year. An amount of Taka 14.39 crore remained unrealised from the defaulters during the year.

Hijacker caught red-handed

CHITTAGONG, July 7: An alleged hijacker Md Hanif was caught red-handed by police with Taka 20,000 at Muradpur crossing here today, reports BSS.

Police recovered a pistol and several rounds of ammunition from his possession.

Two commit suicide in city

Two persons including a young girl reportedly committed suicide in the city during last two days.

A young girl reportedly committed suicide at her residence in the city Wednesday morning.

The victim identified as Parvin (16), killed herself by taking poison at her Rayerbazar residence at about 7.45 am yesterday.

She was seriously injured and sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where she succumbed to her injuries at about 12.15 pm the same day.

Meanwhile, Mohammed Rashid (42) also reportedly committed suicide by hanging himself at his Uttara residence in the city on Tuesday.

Arms recovered, 3 held in city

Police recovered sizeable quantity of arms and ammunition and arrested three persons in a raid at Demra yesterday. The arrested persons are Monir Hossain, Zahurul Haque and Kamrul Hossain.

In the operation, police raided Wasim Sarder's house at West Jatrabari and recovered a revolver, a pipe gun, a sword, three daggers and five rounds of bullets. Meanwhile on Tuesday night police recovered a pipe gun from the possession of Kamrul Hossain.

Two separate cases have been filed with the Demra police station.

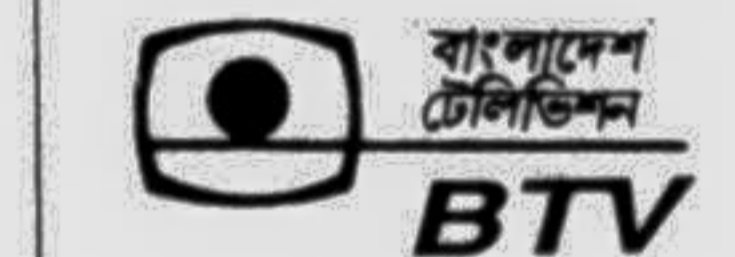


Table with 2 columns: Time and Program Name. Thursday 5:00 Opening announcement Al Quran, 5:10 Programme summary, 5:15 News in Bangla, 5:20 Recitation from the Geeta, 5:25 School debate, 6:10 Esho Para Shikhi: Mass education programme, 6:35 Jiboner Alo: Religious programme, 7:15 Nazrul songs, 8:00 News in Bangla, 8:40 Drama of the week: Upajukta.....Chhat, 10:00 News in English, 10:30 Film: China Beach, 11:30 Khabor/The News, 11:45 Closing.

Jeweller electrocuted in city

A jeweller was electrocuted at his shop in the city Wednesday afternoon.

The victim identified as Prodit (25) was killed at his shop, 14, New Paltan near BDR Gate at about 4.30 pm yesterday.

He died on the spot. The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy.

Weather Light rain likely

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

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country while heavy rainfall may occur over Bangladesh within two days.

The country's highest 34.4 degree Celsius temperature and the lowest 23.3 degree Celsius was both recorded in Srimangal yesterday.

Major amounts of rainfall recorded yesterday across the country were: Patuakhali 15 mm, Ishwardi 8 mm, Madaripur 7 mm and Dhaka 3 mm.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6.50 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5.18 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday are:

Table with 4 columns: Cities/Towns, Temperature in degree Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (9am, 6pm). Dhaka: 31.7/24.0, 88/86; Chittagong: 31.7/25.9, 82/81; Rajshahi: 32.8/25.4, 85/82; Khulna: 32.3/26.4, 89/-; Barisal: 31.5/25.6, 88/92; Cox's Bazar: 32.0/26.0, 78/77; Sylhet: 34.0/24.5, 68/70; Dinajpur: 33.4/25.0, 88/72.

Fowler new British envoy to Bangladesh

Peter J Fowler, CMG has been appointed British High Commissioner to Bangladesh. He will succeed Colin Imray KBE, says a press release.

Prior to his new assignment Fowler was British Deputy High Commissioner in New Delhi. He will take over as the High Commissioner in September.

Fowler was awarded the rank of Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1990. Fowler is married and has one son and three daughters.

Magazine banned

Government has banned sale, distribution and preservation of the 9th issue, 3rd year of monthly "Bichatro Jouna Chiketsha Barta" under the Article 99-A of Criminal Procedure for printing obscene and objectionable story, reports UNB.

105 bottles of Phensidyl recovered

Detective branch of the Police recovered 105 bottles of Phensidyl, drug and arrested four persons in this connection from the Roy Shaheb Bazar market under Kotwali Thana Tuesday.

The DB police acting on a tip recovered the banned drugs and arrested Jahangir Hossain, 28, Aminur Hasan, 25, Hafizur Rahman, 27, and Masud Akhter, 29 from the second floor of the market.

The police also found 45 empty bottles of phensidyl in the raid. A case has been filed with the Kotwali police station in this connection. Meanwhile, the DB police also recovered a 100cc Honda motor bike from Shempara under Mirpur thana Tuesday.



A sequence of the drama 'Kunjush' staged Tuesday at the Guide House auditorium to mark Lok Nattiyada's completion of 12-year. — Star photo

One gets 7 years IDB Vice-president due today

CHITTAGONG, July 7: Anti-Terrorism Tribunal Judge Abu Bakar Siddique today awarded seven years rigorous imprisonment (R.I) to one person and fined him Taka two thousand, in default to suffer one more year of R.I on charge of snatching money, reports BSS.

The accused was M.Sarwar Kamal, S/O Ejhar Ahmed of Chakarti thana under Cox's Bazar district.

The prosecution in brief is that Kamal snatched Taka ten thousand from Shamsuddin on April 3, 1993 while the latter was proceeding towards Bahaddarhat for making some purchases. Shamsuddin cried for help and some people and a police squad came and caught him.

The judge examined several witnesses in the case and found the accused guilty. Public prosecutor Kafiluddin Chowdhury appeared on behalf of the state while advocate. Gopal Chandra defended the accused.

Happy Birthday TO TITO From CLOSE CANCERAINS

Uttara Bank Limited Branch Shifting

Uttara Bank Limited Rajbari Branch has been shifted to Municipal Holding no. 553, Jalil Khan Super Market, Main Road, Rajbari from Municipal Holding no. 31, Pourashava Rajbari today (8th July '93).

Our valued clients and well-wishers are requested to contact and transact at the new premises.

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন অফিস-৫ আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজসমূহের জন্য ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের তালিকাভুক্ত সকল শ্রেণীর টিকাদায়কদের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ক্রম নং ২৯১১তে সীলমোহরিত হয়ে টেন্ডার আহ্বান করা যাইবে।

Table with 5 columns: ক্রমিক নং, কাজের নাম, প্রাক্কলিত টাকা, বাণ্যের টাকা, সম্মুখীয়া. It lists various works like road works, drainage, etc. with their estimated and actual costs and bid amounts.