

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Death Does not Deter Them

By Shamsad Mortuza

... And die as fast as they see others grow/And nothing 'gainst Time's scythe can make defence.  
(Shakespeare, Sonnet 12)

For an instant Syeed reminded me of Prince Hamlet of Denmark. After all he has his father killed by his mother with the help of his uncle — supposedly, to pave the way for a re-marriage. But then the contrast is so great that the comparison looked to be ludicrous.

Syeed escapes from Sylhet, his home, and starts begging at Gullistan area until he finds shelter at Azampur graveyard. Now with a scythe in his hand he roams about the burial ground and asks the visitors if their near and dear ones' graves needed to be trimmed. "We found him begging and later asked him to join us," said Badrul another young grave cleaner, adding "Many of my kins work here, so we don't have any trouble with the authority."



"Just a few minutes ago, the guard took away the scythe from some grass-cutters ... but not from us," said Badrul, putting up a brave face. His crooked blade chopped off the weeds on the grave, while another boy, Soleman came.

There was an exchange of signs which led Soleman to say softly, "I am just helping you ... I won't charge money for that." "I work here only on Friday, when my school is closed," said the new comer, "And I will give my earning to my mother." "You see, his father is mad, all day long he scribbles and talks rubbish," Badrul remarked about his neighbour Soleman.

Both of them live in Kamrangirchar on the outskirts of the city. Soleman is a student of class III of Suravi school, while Badrul has been forced to quit school because of poverty.

The other day one Shahib gave Syeed 70 taka for planting a tree on his child's grave ... he

took pity on Syeed," Badrul recalled. Syeed, hardly spoke a word all the while.

"Usually, we earn Tk 40 to Tk 50 a day ... but it varies," said Badrul. "Often, we have some generous clients."

Asked if they will smoke away their earnings, all of them protested instantly. "Cigarette causes cancer, it makes holes in your liver," said Soleman wisely. "Zafar Iqbal (film artiste) died in his way ... we will never smoke. "All three of them seemed to understand the evil effect of smoking."

What about cinema? "Never ever we went to the halls," said Badrul and Soleman. Syeed, on the other hand, after a brief silence said, "I went to watch video once." "There are some big boys who smoke and go to the cinema, but not we," Badrul was almost through with the cleaning of the grave. "You know, these rowdy boys often steal fish from new Market, and Syeed often gets a share of it," Soleman informed. When the fish traders are engaged in a bargain with their customers, these boys simply pick a fish or two unnoticed and put their spoils in their pockets. "This often earns them a severe beating," all three broke into grins adding, "They have big sticks."

These three boys are growing on the graveyard where the dead come to have a perpetual rest. Full of life, these children present sharp contrast to the morbid surroundings. Although reticent, Syeed, however, has little time to be preoccupied with death like Hamlet; Badrul and Soleman are very much concerned with money. So with scythes in hands they search life among the dead.

## Turkish investors asked to invest in Bangladesh

The Ambassador of Turkey in Bangladesh, Kutlu Ozgnven, called on Industries Minister, Shamsul Islam Khan, at the latter's office here yesterday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of mutual interest in particular the economic and industrial relations of the two countries.

The Industries Minister said that the Bangladesh government had ensured various incentives for the foreign investors in its free market oriented liberal industrial policy.

He hoped that Turkish investors would take the opportunity and invest in Bangladesh. He emphasised the need to plan a specific programme to develop the present economic and industrial relation of the two countries.

Mentioning the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed earlier between the two countries, federation of chambers, the Turkish ambassador emphasised the need to plan a special programme to achieve its goal.

The envoy also showed keen interest in taking steps to diversify the present economic and industrial relations of the two countries.

Additional Secretary Ministry of Industries Ataul Karim was present during the discussion.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday paid a surprise visit to Azampur Govt Primary School situated on the outskirts of the capital to see for herself the atmosphere of education and the condition of the school. A student seen reading out from his text book. —PID photo

## Students team meets Biswas

A delegation of Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Students' Union called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Led by Nasiruddin Mollah, General Secretary of the students' union, apprised the President of certain problems of the Sher-e-Bangla Medical College which included proper accommodation, transport facilities, modern medical equipment and an ambulance.

President Biswas gave them a patient hearing and assured to look into some of their problems, says an official handout.

Khandaker Mahubul Sohail Reza, Assistant General Secretary, Niaz Mohammad Chowdhury, Literary Secretary, Alauddin Jahangir Jiban, Outdoor Sports Secretary and Mizanur Rahman, Shamim Ahsan, Bashir Ahmed, Aminul Islam Shahin and Asif Anwar, members of the students union were present.

## Formation of NEC lauded

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) in a statement Saturday lauded the formation of the National Export Council (NEC) headed by the Prime Minister.

BGMEA President Redwan Ahmed, MP, in the statement, termed the move as a timely step in the overall interest of the country.

Noting that it was a long-standing demand of BGMEA, he added "Such a high-powered committee will urgently solve the problems of the export industries and would play a very vital role in the economy of the country."

He hoped that formation of the Council would "immensely benefit" the BGMEA and other export-oriented industries in the country. "This timely step of the present government of Bangladesh will surely help remove the bottlenecks of the export industries and will substantially consolidate the growth of the export sector," he said.

## BDRCS tree plantation drive begins

RAJSHAHI, Aug 7: The week-long tree plantation programme of Rajshahi city unit of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) is underway in the city, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the programme at Collegiate School here today Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu said necessary steps were being taken to turn Rajshahi city into a 'green city'.

Pointing to economic aspects of tree plantation, the Mayor said, are could earn Taka over 35 thousand after 20 years of planting a sapling. He called upon the people to plant trees in all fallow lands to create a healthy environment.

Later a colourful procession led by City Mayor was brought out from the Collegiate School. After parading the city streets the procession ended at the Eidgah maidan.

**Zesrina**  
Get well quickly  
Colleagues in  
The Daily Star

**Happy Birthday**  
LAMIA

**Hisham, Aazia, Ammu & Abbu**

## Half a lakh die of cancer untreated each year

Deputy Leader of the House Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday said more than 55 thousand cancer patients die every year without any treatment in the country, reports UNB.

The disclosure by Prof Chowdhury, came at a three-day workshop on "National Cancer Control Programme" at the College of Physicians and Surgeons here.

The workshop is jointly sponsored by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and organised by the Cancer Institute and Research Hospital.

Addressing the inaugural session as chief guest, Prof Chowdhury said cancer cases were mounting in the world as well as in Bangladesh.

Though cancer is a deadly disease, it is easy to prevent and control by creating awareness about its causes and its first symptoms," he said. Bangladesh government is firmly determined to eliminate the disease from the country, he told the function, adding "it's our political commitment to free people from the killer disease."

International help and experience are necessary to control cancer in Bangladesh, he said and called upon the social workers and NGO activists to come forward to create awareness among the people about cancer.

Presided over by Prof Mohammed Nurun Nabi, Director General of Health, the inaugural session was also addressed, among others, by Deputy Minister for Health Strajul Huq, Dr Jan Stjernawad, WHO representative in Geneva, Prof M Abdul Hye, Director of Cancer Institute, and Prof SK Sharma.

The speakers expressed deep concern over the increase of

**Tender Notice**  
Tenders are hereby invited from bonafide manufacturers for supply of 500 M Tons of MS Deformed Bars conforming to JIS G 3112 (1987), SD 295 A for construction of MECHNA GUMTI BRIDGE PROJECT under ROADS AND HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT. The materials will be procured against payment in Foreign Currency. Please submit Tender Offer on or before 11.8.93 to:  
**OBYAYASHI CORPORATION**  
HR BHABAN (3RD FLOOR)  
26/1, Kakrail, Dhaka  
S-241

## 'Defamatory activities become part of day to day life'

By Staff Correspondent

Prominent jurists, lawyers and educationists at a lecture-cum-workshop said that negligence and defamatory activities had become part of everyday life of the citizens and urged the people to be conscious of their rights.

The speakers said the people were shy of going to courts to fight defamation suits and the courts were "conservative" as well regarding dealing with such cases.

At the Second Dr Z I Chowdhury Memorial Law Lecture organised by Law Review, a university students' centre for legal research yesterday, the speakers said that the judiciary had an important role to encourage people to file law suits against defamation and negligence.

The function presided over by President of Law Review Dr Mizanur Rahman was addressed, among others, by Chairman of Bangladesh Press Council Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, Supreme Court Judge A M Mahmudur Hassan Arif, Deputy Attorney General Hassan Arif, Supreme Court Judge Kazi Ebadul Haque, Barrister Salma Sobhan, Dr Ershadul Bari and Nazrul Islam.

Justice Mahmudur Rahman said that local authority such as the DCC could be sued for keeping the covers of manholes open, or not cleaning garbage properly. He added, the police and drug administration, road transport authority or even the university could be sued for their every day negligence of duties and harassments.

Hassan Arif said that there were law of torts and defamation suits to protect citizen's constitutional rights and one could sue the law enforcing agencies in case of wrongful detention.

He suggested that the law enforcing agencies should not be empowered to arrest a tax paying citizen without a warrant of arrest.

The Deputy Attorney General also suggested that hard traffic rules provide scope for wholesale corruption. "I found out most of the traffic cases were usually filed against private cars."

Discussing on freedom of expression and law of defamation he pointed out that in the fields of journalism and politics in the country, defamatory activities were very much evident but no body normally come up against the journalists or politicians.



A two-day Dr Z I Chowdhury Memorial Law Lecture cum Workshop organised by Law Review began at National Museum auditorium yesterday. Deputy Attorney General Hassan Arif addressing. —Star photo

## Plea to set up Hiroshima Museum in Chittagong

Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin Friday called on Deputy Mayor and Director General of Hiroshima city Yasunaro Yoshinaka at Hiroshima International Centre, according to a message received here yesterday, reports BSS.

During the meeting Nasiruddin reaffirmed Bangladesh's commitment to the establishment of a world of peace for the future generation. He said Bangladesh would also work with Japan for the abolition of nuclear weapon.

He also put forward a proposal for the installation of a miniature Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum in the port city of Chittagong to inspire the people to work against nuclear weapons.

The Hiroshima Deputy Mayor agreed to start a photo exhibition in Chittagong city, reflecting the incidence and remnants of the destruction of the atomic bomb, dropped on August 6 and 8, 1945 at Hiroshima and Nagashaki.

## Installation of Rotary Club of Khulna Mid-Town

The 10th installation ceremony of the Rotary Club of Khulna Mid-Town was held recently at Royal Hotel, Khulna with due enthusiasm.

The function was attended by Khulna city Mayor Tyebr Rahman as chief guest and Rotary District Governor Magfur Uddin as guest of honour.

Rin Ruhul Abedin, the outgoing President handed over the charge to new President Ferdous Ali through his parting address.

## Rice output in country 19m tons at present

By Staff Correspondent

The scientists of the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) at Joydebpur, Gazipur are very happy over their role in helping the country attain self-sufficiency in rice production.

They are confident that in future they would be able to breed more new kinds of rice and rice growing technology for the poverty-stricken country.

The huge whirlpool of mixed research activities at the BRRI over the past 23 years have developed 25 High yielding varieties of rice, a number of easy-to-buy and repair farm machinery including a hover craft-like hydro tiller, indigenous pest control materials and modern farming techniques.

Ninety per cent of the total rice currently produced during the boro season now come from the modern variety rice seeds developed at the BRRI.

The Institute has germplasm of some 5000 different kinds of rice plants in its gene bank for preservation and research.

Located about 33 kilometres off the capital, the BRRI was established in October 1, 1970 with an aim of conducting research on all aspects of rice.

**শাখা স্থানান্তর**  
আজ ২৪শে শ্রাবণ ১৪০০ সাল বাংলা (৮ই আগস্ট '৯৩) রোজ রবিবার নগণী জেলাধীন সোনালী ব্যাংক সাপাহার শাখাটি পুরাতন অবস্থান হতে প্রায় ২০/২৫ গজ দূরে স্থানান্তর করা হবে এবং আজই নতুন ভবনে ব্যাংকের সকল দাঙরিক কার্যক্রম শুরু করা হবে।  
বর্তমান ভবনের ঠিকানা: দাগ নং-৮৯, খতিয়ান নং-১০২, মৌজা-সাপাহার, থানা-সাপাহার, জেলা-নগণী।  
প্রস্তাবিত ভবনের ঠিকানা: দাগ নং-এস, এ-১১৪ ও ১১৭, আর এস-২৬১, ২৭৪, খতিয়ান নং-এস, এ, ১৩৪, আর, এস-১৩৯, জে, এল নং-১৩৪, মৌজা-সাপাহার, থানা-সাপাহার, জেলা-নগণী।  
সমানিত গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের আজ থেকে পুরানো ঠিকানার পরিবর্তে নতুন ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ ও ব্যাংকিং লেনদেন করার জন্য সবিশেষ অনুপ্রোহ রইল।

**Rose Valley's**  
**4TH BRANCH AT MIRPUR STADIUM**  
WE DEAL IN:-  
VIDEO CASSETTE RENTAL  
PRE RECORDED CASSETTES  
BLANK CASSETTES  
VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDING/MASS DUPLICATING FACILITIES  
NATIONAL REFRIGERATOR SALES AND SERVICING  
N.T.S.C. TO PAL - PAL TO N.T.S.C. CONVERTING  
TV, VCR, VCP, SATELLITE RECEIVER SALES AND SERVICING.  
VIDEO AD MAKING AND ANY SORT OF VIDEO RECORDING (PROFESSIONAL INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SHOOTING FACILITIES WITH EDITING, SPECIAL EFFECTS AND ANIMATION).  
PLEASE CONTACT:-  
HEAD OFFICE: H-79, BLOCK-B, 9/1, NEW AIRPORT ROAD, CHAIRMANBAR, BANANI, DHAKA. TEL: 603065, 608265, 608266.  
NATIONAL STADIUM: SHOP NO. 1, AND SHOP NO. 16/A, DHAKA. TEL: 232275, 865137.  
MIRPUR STADIUM: SHOP NO. 22, MIRPUR, DHAKA. TEL: 864012.

## Weather

### Moderate rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6:00 am today (Sunday) says, light to moderate rain or thundershowers is likely to occur at a few places over Chittagong, Barisal and Rajshahi divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna divisions.

The Met office says, day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius over the country. The country's highest temperature of 35.4 degree Celsius was recorded in Satkhira and the lowest 22.0 degree Celsius, was recorded in Rangamat.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 6:37 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 5:31 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	33.2	25.8	81	77
Chittagong	30.2	24.5	95	81
Rajshahi	32.0	27.0	85	78
Khulna	33.4	27.2	79	70
Barisal	33.0	26.5	87	82
Sylhet	32.0	26.4	86	88
Cox's Bazar	30.5	26.0	92	88
Dinajpur	32.0	25.4	93	74

**Piano recital enthral music lovers**  
Amy Briggs Dissanayake enthralled a select gathering of music lovers by her delightful one-hour-long piano recital last night at the Gullistan residence of the American ambassador, reports BSS.  
A classical pianist now working with the Chicago Symphony of USA, she presented seven numbers which included Schumann, Beethoven and a few other maestros.  
Dissanayake is now on visit to Bangladesh as part of an extensive overseas tour to Africa and South Asia under the 'Artistic ambassador programme' of the USA.

**JEXCA medical team sent to Maulvibazar**  
Jhenidah Ex-Cadets Association (JEXCA) under its emergency medical assistance programme yesterday sent a medical team to Rajnagar thana of Maulvibazar district, says a press release.  
**Obituary**  
Basubhuti Mutsuddi, a well-known Buddhist social worker and a leader of Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha died here yesterday at a local clinic. He was 87, reports BSS.  
He left behind his wife, two daughters and a number of grandchildren.

**Sunday BTV**  
5:00 Opening announcement  
Al Quran  
Programme summary  
5:10 News in Bangla  
Recitation from the Bible  
5:25 Educational programme:  
Let's Watch  
5:35 Sports programme:  
Cricket - Australia vs West Indies  
6:30 Jiboner Janyo: Health programme  
Open University  
7:00 Tagore songs  
7:25 News in Bangla  
8:00 Shaurovey Gourobey  
An interview with the students of Govt Laboratory School, Dhaka securing positions SSC examination this year.  
9:05 Film: Raven  
10:00 News in English  
10:30 Chaya Chando: Film songs  
Khabar /The News  
11:30 Closing  
11:45