

# Dhaka Day by Day

## When a Club Departs from its Usual Course

by Raffat Binte Rashid

"Journalists are not exactly family men."  
"No daughter of mine is getting married to a journalist."

"I am not renting my house to any of those poor journalists."  
How pathetic? But these are, exactly the mind-set allegations, the general people have, against journalists. Actually journalism is a profession for the adventurers, with a knack for getting into the truth. It's the job of the reporters and the photo journalists to draw the line between the truth and the fake; the angry mob or the police they face fearlessly, for the real story. They work relentlessly from 9 am in the morning to 2 a.m. the following morning, and so practically their being family men can be questioned.

The Jatiyo Press Club, a private club for selected journalists only, has now for the last four years been trying to make these unsocial dare devils, a bit family-oriented. It has included programmes for family members of journalists in the usual anniversary celebration agenda. "This inclusion has really made a difference in the family circle, even though it's only once a year but the response is always euphoric," said Shaikat Mahmood, the General Secretary of the Jatiyo Press Club.

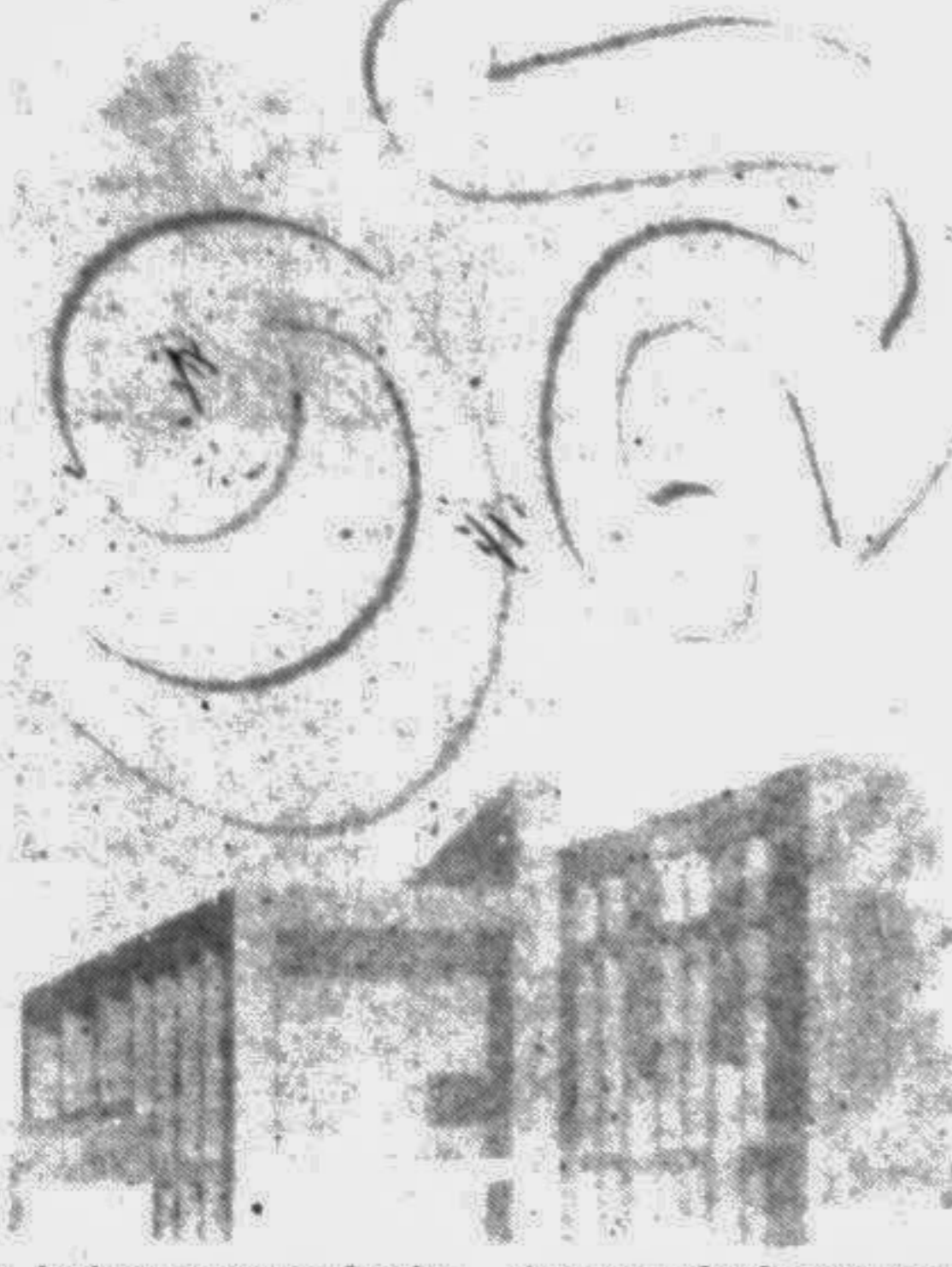
Children's cultural programmes, painting competitions, Ludo competition for the women, pillow passing, magic shows, mini marathon, dinners, raffle draws and many other entertaining programmes are also included in the anniversary celebrations. In the children's day, the entire look of the club is altered instead of the usual hubbub, it becomes a sort of disciplined chaos. Children running everywhere as if, this otherwise important place, is their playground; and with their fathers around, the fun is no less compared to any Eid day. "I see my son growing sideways, I mean horizontally because when I come back from work he is sleeping and when he goes to school I am sleeping." This is something

a journalist is always complaining about so far him too, this day is full of fun and pleasure.  
The Jatiyo Press Club, an essential meeting point, is also the second home to its nearly 650 members. It has about 507 permanent members and 139 associate members and many life members. This institution, unique in South Asian region, combines professional excellence with social responsibility. It acts as a forum to put forward issues with national priority. In 1990 Jatiyo Press Club was catapulted into the vortex of pro-democracy movement and it played a significant role in the ouster of the last autocratic regime.

The birth of the then East Pakistan Press Club was not painless. A resolution for setting up of a Press Club was taken at a meeting at Curzon Hall in December, 1952, but for obvious reasons opposition was also there. Finally the building at 18, Tophkhana Road was allotted to the Press Club. East Pakistan Press Club came into being — first of its kind in the South Asia. Subsequently on 5th March, 1972 the name of the club was changed into Jatiyo Press Club.

The club's future plans include the expansion of this present building into a three storied one. The 2nd floor to be made into a dormitory for foreign journalists and dignitaries or local journalists from mufassal towns. The present library will be turned into a computerized data bank. "Now if you go for any report say for example you want a specific '91 economic report of some news paper, I am sure you'll not be very successful in the search, so we are planning to file in all the yearly reports on all subjects; all you have to do is press the button for it," said Mahmood.

The club at the present has 65 employees and their total salary expenditure is about taka one and a half lakh, informed Mahmood. The club's main income is from the conference room rented for various seminars and symposiums and every-day house.



Namaz-e-Janaza of the Editor of The Daily Star S M Ali at the Baitul Mukarram Mosque (top), at the Jatiyo Press Club (middle) and munajat by the journalists and employees of The Daily Star at the office premises yesterday (bottom). (Story on page one).

# Killings at CMCH condemned

By DU Correspondent

The pro-Awami League Chhatra League (M-I) yesterday condemned the killing at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) Monday last. The BCL (M-I) leaders demanded arrest and trial of the persons involved in the incident.

A group of gunmen killed three persons including doctor and injured 30 others during a raid on the doctors' cafeteria at the CMCH in the afternoon.

The BCL president Motu-uddin Hasan Chowdhury and General Secretary Iqbalur Rahim in a joint statement alleged that the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) was trying to make their organisation responsible for the killing.

The leaders demanded withdrawal of 'false' cases filed against some leaders and activists of BCL.

The BCL leaders resented the decision of dissolution of the elected committee of the college students' union.

Meanwhile, the JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League (B-K) president Ruhul Quddus Babu and General secretary Abdullahi Quyeum in a joint statement yesterday also condemned the killing in Chittagong and demanded trial of the persons involved.

## BDRCS team leaves for Birmingham

A three-member Bangladesh delegation led by the Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), Syed Shahidul Haque Jamal MP left here last night to attend the night assembly of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Birmingham.

The assembly of the IFRC begins in Birmingham on October 24.

The Acting Secretary General of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, A. Matin is one of the members of the delegation.

### NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The containerised cargo ex M.V. ARABIAN SENATOR V. EM335 from La Spezia, Fos, ex M.V. HAMBURG SENATOR V. WF340 & 344 from Oakland, Yokohama, Busan, Hongkong have been relayed to M.V. FONG SHIN V.9227, Imp. Rot. No. 828/93 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 19-10-1993 from Singapore. Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from FCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing and if cargo not cleared within 45 days will be guided by Customs Act.

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## Dhaka WASA Tender Notice

Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class supply contractors/bonafide suppliers for printing & supply of booklet containing rules of taking water connection. Tender will be received up to 12-00 noon on 26-10-93 and opened on the same day at 12-30 pm in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their representatives.

Tender schedule will be available up to 25-10-93 at the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka & all MODS Zone offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed descriptions will be available at the office of the undersigned.

Address: WASA Bhaban  
98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka  
WASA - P.I.-467/93  
DFP(G) 16648-14/10  
G-1406

Md. Abul Kasem  
Asstt Secretary (CS)  
Dhaka WASA

### Science fair begins

A three-day district level science fair to observe 17th National Science Week '93 began at the Kabi Nazrul Govt College here yesterday, says a press release.

The State Minister for Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan, inaugurated the fair as the chief guest while Mirza Abdul Zaili, Secretary for Science and Technology and Dr Shamsur Rahman, Director of Science Museum were present as special guests.

The young rising scientists of different schools, colleges and science clubs of the Dhaka district have been participating with more than 150 projects.

Syeda Halima Rahman, Principal of the college, and Rabeya Khanam, Head of the Deptt of Botany, addressed welcome and thanks-giving speech respectively.

### Bangladeshi food festival in Ctg

An attractive Bangladeshi food festival and tribal cultural night was organised yesterday at Motel Shaikat of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation at Chittagong, in observance of the ongoing Tourism Month, reports BSS.

### Iran to recruit more skilled Bangladeshis

Iranian Labour and Social Welfare Minister Hossein Kamali - Monday said Iran will recruit more skilled manpower from Bangladesh and the process to legalise the Bangladeshi workers living in Iran is on progress, reports UNB.

The assurance came when the Iranian Minister called on Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman at his office to discuss the ways and means to further boost the relations between the two countries.

During the discussion the Foreign Minister sought further support of OIC member countries to the Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR) in Tongji to enhance the number of skilled manpower in the Muslim countries.

Kamali assured larger cooperation of his country with Bangladesh and expressed his government's firm commitment to strengthen the capability of this vital organ of the OIC.

He also conveyed his government's sincere thanks to Bangladesh government for active support extended to Iranian membership to the governing body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

# More condolences on S M Ali's death

By Staff Correspondent

Messages condoling the sudden demise of S M Ali, the founder Editor and publisher of The Daily Star, continued to pour in The Daily Star office yesterday.

The messages by individuals and organisations expressed profound shock at the death of the journalist of international repute. Besides, noted personalities and people of different walks of life visited the office to offer their condolences and sign the condolence register opened to mourn the passing away of S M Ali who breathed his last at a Bangkok hospital Sunday morning.

Those who condoled the sad demise of the eminent journalist yesterday included diplomats, politicians, academics, social workers and readers of the paper.

Those who signed the condolence register included the Pakistani High Commissioner in Dhaka Anwar Kemal, Indian High Commissioner K Raghunath, Ambassador of Netherlands Henricas Gajentaan, the High Commissioner of Australia, the WHO representative Dr Abeyesandere and the ADP representative Geert Van Dar Linder.

**Ambassador of Russia**  
Eduard S Shevchenko, the Russian Ambassador in Dhaka, in a message of condolence said they were deeply shocked at the sad demise of eminent journalist and Editor of The Daily Star.

"He was known to us personally as an outstanding journalist of international repute and an intellectual of highest calibre who served his profession with boldness and honesty," read the message.

Shevchenko also conveyed his very personal profound condolence and sympathy to the bereaved family.

**Royal Thai Embassy**  
The ambassador, his wife and all staff members of the Royal Thai Embassy in Bangladesh in their condolence message said they were deeply shocked to learn the tragic news of the passing away of Bangladesh's best known journalist.

The message, signed by the ambassador Vichai Vannasin, addressed to Mrs S M Ali termed Ali's death the greatest loss for his widow and the colleagues in The Daily Star.

**Indonesian Embassy**  
The Second Secretary of the

would inspire journalists of today.

### UNAB

The secretary general of the United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) Syed Ahmad Hossain described Ali the most learned and dedicated journalist who never compromised with his ideals and principles and vigorously worked for the noble cause of freedom of the press and for human rights and democracy as a whole.

### Bangla Academy

The Bangla Academy Director General Prof Harun-ur-Rashid noted S M Ali was a glittering star in the media world of South and South-East Asia and also earned fame globally.

The void caused by his sad demise would not be filled up easily, he said.

### IFIC Bank Ltd

The International Finance, Investment and Commerce (IFIC) Bank Limited said Ali's untiring efforts and dynamic leadership made it possible for The Daily Star to be one of the most popular and leading English dailies of the country.

"We really feel proud to have a humble relationship with The Daily Star..." the bank said.

### Barisal Press Club

S M Iqbal and Ismail Hossain Negaban president and general secretary respectively of Barisal Press Club in a joint statement condoled the death of S M Ali — founding Editor of The Daily Star.

They said, Ali was a bright star in the galaxy of South-East Asian journalism.

"We are deeply shocked at the sudden demise of Ali and we express our profound sympathy to the bereaved family," said the president and the general secretary.

### Moulvibazar

Different organisations and personalities of Moulvibazar condoled the death of S M Ali said the Moulvibazar district had lost the light of Ali with his death.

Chairman of Moulvibazar Poursabha Press Club Syed Mohidin Ali, Azzur Rahman MP, Khalea Rabbani MP, Gunijaan Sambardhana Parishad, Weekly Monu Barta, The Daily Moulvibazar Barta, English fortnightly The Syhlet Today, the Teachers Council of Rajnagar College and others conveyed their heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

### English Department, DU

The Department of English, Dhaka University, of which S M Ali was a student in the early 50s said his sincerity, zeal for objective reporting, unbiased search for truth, understanding of the demands of his profession and above all his humanity made Ali a distinguished personality who commanded universal respect.

The condolence message signed by the Chairman felt the vacuum Ali left behind could not be filled up and hoped the ideals he fought for and to which he dedicated himself

## BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিলারনে জাতীয় অগ্রাধিকার প্রতীক

Tenders are invited by the Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, B'baria vide Memo No. ZFCO/Admin/Colony/2/084 for mowing of grass; rowing & caring of plants; sweeping stairs, roads etc. & offices; cleaning toilet, drain, inspection pit, gully pit, dustbin, safety tank etc. & spraying insecticide for 1 year. Taka 25000/- (twenty-five thousand) should be deposited as earnest money with the tender. Tenders will be received at Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, B'baria, MPIC Division (17th floor) BCIC Bhavan, 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area & BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong up to 11.00 am on 27.10.93 and opened at 11.15 am at the same places. Tender documents can be purchased subject to payment of Taka 150/- (one hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) from Zia Fertilizer Co. Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria, BCIC Accounts Department, BCIC Bhavan (2nd floor) 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka, BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong. No tender schedule will be sold on the date of opening of tender.

BCIC — 996-14/10\*  
DFP (BA) 9302-14/10  
G-1403

Alauddin Ahmed  
General Manager (Admin)