

Dhaka Day by Day

Rediscovering Terra-Cotta

by Raffat Binte Rashid

Terra-cotta, a sculptural form that reminds us of an ancient world, a lost culture, an era where all things were beautiful, is simple and serene. An integral part of our own heritage, figures of terra-cotta are almost as old as time. Figures and structural forms, in colour, ranging from dull ochre to red, always drew attention, a sort of unknown attraction. Even today when we look at terra-cotta works a nostalgic feeling of the past engulfs us.

Unfortunately this medium, the clay, is not in much use nowadays, whereas it was once found in abundance here in Bangladesh. People actually forgot in their haste for drifting into modernization that terra-cotta art is not at all inferior to any works of modern medium. Terra-cotta literally means baked or burnt or tempered earth or any kind of fired clay. In general usage, a kind of object, vessel, figure or structural forms made from fairly coarse, porous clay that when fired assures on beautiful red colour and is usually left glazed. Terra-cotta has its utilitarian value because of its easy availability, low price, versatility and durability.

Throughout the ancient world one of the most common uses of terra-cotta was for building-brick, roof tiles and sarcophagi, the last often decorated with paintings. Small terra figures dates back as early as 3000 BC from the early bronze age and larger objects Early Renaissance terra cottas "Madonna and Child." The modern revival of terra-cotta dates from the 20th century, when both potters and architects again became interested in the aesthetic properties of the material. In fact, in Kautonagar in Dinajpur the temple of Kauthuji is itself a world of wonder. On its walls are depicted stories of the Ramayana, Mahabharata, even tales from Akbar's era to the East India company period, and all these done in terra-cotta.

Potters of those times of yore shaped up with great care and love, household utensils, sculptures, engravings, ornaments and such other things.

Recently a slight trace of its re-emergence is being marked specially in the fashion world. These clay ornaments are now very much in vogue. SM Zayedur Rahman Zayed, a final year student of Fine Arts Institute, Department of

Ceramics, DU, and Bishwajit, an ornament designer of Narigrantha Probarbona, can be regarded as pioneers in this area.

Zayed, whose speciality is actually ceramic, is very keen and enthusiastic about this medium. He has on his own designed ornaments using terra-cotta. He designed dices of various shapes and motifs, out of plaster of paris, by hand. His ornaments have a touch of our culture and heritage which is wedded to the taste of modern time. Necklaces, bracelets, earrings, bangles are all being experimented and their results or rather acceptance by society is amazing.

In fact, the terra-cotta ornaments are the latest craze among the fashion concerned teenagers and even adults. These age-old materials are now in the markets in a completely modern shape. But terra-cotta works, no matter to what modern shapes they are transformed, will always have that effect of wistful longing of the past.

Zayed has various designs — like the shikha, folk dolls, pithas, alpina, even Egyptian faces of mummies and pharaohs where as Bishwajit has totally different designs to offer. Bishwajit's designs have a touch of simplicity, his basic shape is like beads and designs are drawn on them.

These clay is brought from Rairbazar, a maund costs only Tk 120. The blocks with the clay are fired and around 1200°C in gas or electric furnaces till they are tempered. They are found in different shades as red to total black, very little or no artificial dye or colours is used for these ornaments.

Zayed's ornaments were displayed in the fashion show organised by Sheraton Hotel during the observance of the tourism month. The ornaments have already gained quite a popularity among the models as well as the audience. A single earring costs Tk 20 to 40 and a set with necklace, bracelet and earring costs about Tk 100.

"This has created a market also among the foreigners," said Zayed. Maybe along with this ongoing tourism month this terra-cotta culture can again be revived.



Early Renaissance terra cottas "Madonna and Child."



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is seen with the recipients of Sixth Asian Art Biennale '93 award winners yesterday. Three painters received Tk 50,000 each. They are Lee Yeul of South Korea, Mansoor-ul-Karim of Bangladesh and Kazunori Sadahio of Japan. Eight other painters, including one from the host country, received honorary awards. — Star photo

Tk 1632cr plan for new phone connections

Post and Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam said in the capital yesterday we have to cope with the changing world situation in order to achieve our desired national development, reports BSS.

The minister was speaking at a meeting at the Bangladesh T and T Bhaban with the members of Bangladesh Telegojog Srani Karmachari Parisad (BATESKOP).

Post and Telecommunications Secretary Dr A M M Shawkat Ali and Chairman of BTB Fazlur Rahman were present.

BATESKOP president Syed Kutubur Rahman and secretary general Rafiqul Islam and other members of the parisad discussed various problems of BTB particularly the improvement of the subscribers' service.

The minister said, the government has approved a plan of Tk 1632 crore which includes installation of one lakh 40 thousand new telephone connections in different district headquarters, modernisation of

micro-wave link and rehabilitation of cable network. He said the development in the telecom sector would be doubled during next five years, which he observed is more than what was achieved during the last 40 years.

The minister said, the government is determined to continue the expansion work of telecommunication network side by side with encouraging private investment in the sector. In this connection the minister said, the government would install 60 thousand and 30 thousand digital telephones in Dhaka and Chittagong respectively and one lakh 30 thousand more digital phones in Sylhet, Khulna, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Narayanganj including Dhaka city at a cost of Tk 2190 crore.

Besides, 18 thousand 5 hundred digital connections would be given in Dhaka city, within March '94 to meet the growing demand of telephone.

Thai's Dhaka-Dubai flights from today

By Staff Correspondent

Thai Airways International inaugurates its flights to Dubai via Dhaka from today.

The airlines will operate two flights every week — Wednesdays and Fridays — originating from Bangkok. The Bangladesh authorities have permitted them to operate on this new route for the October-March winter schedule.

Thai, however, has reduced its Bangkok-Dhaka-Bangkok flights from six to four every week in its winter schedule, with effect from yesterday.

House Wanted

Wanted to hire an independent house preferable between Road No 3 to 6 at Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka. Contact : Delta Medical Centre Ltd, House - 20, Road-4, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka. 8-392

Happy Birthday



From: Mama, Dadu, Didima

Plea for nat'l unity to realise share of water

Speakers at a discussion Monday termed the Farakka problem a "life and death" question and called for a national unity to realise Bangladesh's due share of the Ganges water, reports UNB.

They thanked the Prime Minister for raising the issue at the United Nations, and said the move had earned a lot of international sympathy in favour of the Bangladesh's stand on the problem.

The Prime Minister has set the ball in motion and now it is up to India to respond to Dhaka's call for a "just and equitable" sharing of the Ganges water, it was observed at the discussion.

The discussion was held under the auspices of the Dhaka University International Relations Department Alumni Association on the occasion of award giving ceremony of the department at the Officers' Club in the city Monday.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar was present as chief guest while State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan was a special guest.

Presided over by the IRAA president and former Food Secretary A T M Shamsul Haque, it was also addressed, among others by Justice Maksumul Hakim, general secretary Quazi Refaul Huq, Chairman of the IR Department Associate Prof Ramjul Huq, and alumnus Emdadul Huq.

Barrister Salam Talukdar observed, "The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have become stronger than the United Nations, and established firm grip on the affairs of smaller countries like ours."

The LGRD Minister emphasised the need for forging cooperation among the developing countries against the dictates of the dominant power and, in this context, he called for resolving

outstanding problems of Bangladesh, including the Farakka issue with India, on the basis of sovereign equality.

Principal Yunus Khan remarked that some bigger countries often violate the international norms.

"We have been deprived of our due share of the Ganges water", he said, adding India is not amenable to the international norms in this respect.

Refaul Huq said the Farakka barrage has created adverse effects on the socio-economic life of Bangladesh.

He observed that if India does not respond to the Prime Minister's call at the UN to resolve the Farakka issue, then Bangladesh would have no other alternatives but to pursue the issue at the world body.

Later, Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar gave away awards among five students of the department for their outstanding academic results.



Wednesday

- 9:05 Opening announcement Al-Quaran-Programme summary
9:15 Live telecast of the first of two exhibition one-day international cricket match between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe
5:25 Khejar Jagat
5:55 Hozle Tamal
6:40 Open University
7:10 Tagore songs
8:00 News in Bangla
8:30 Nretayer Talee Talce
9:05 Film: The A-Team
10:00 News in English
10:30 A special programme on the meeting of Health Ministers of the WHO South East Asia Region
10:55 Magazine: Ujibon
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary
11:45 Closing

Badruddoza visits Nurunnahar

Professor AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Deputy Leader of the House, visited Nurunnahar, wife of Abdus Samad Azad, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament at Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital in the city yesterday evening. PID handout.

Dago Shering calls on Matin

The visiting Bhutanese Home and Cultural Affairs Minister Dago Shering called on Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury at his office yesterday, reports UNB. During the discussion the two ministers exchanged views on mutual interest.

Jamaat move against Kagoj motivated: Nirmul

By Staff Correspondent

The Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samannoy Committee at a meeting yesterday called upon all to strengthen the movement against the 'fascist' communal forces to ensure punishment for the war criminals.

The meeting, presided over by Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, was addressed, among others, by Abdur Razzak, MP, Kazi Aref Ahmed, Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Syed Hasan Imam, Nurul Islam Nahid And Shahrier Kabir.

Speakers at the meeting alleged that Jamaat-e-Islami and its student wing filed 16 cases against the daily Ajker Kagoj, since the paper upheld the ideals of the Liberation War.

They termed the move against the paper 'motivated' and 'conspiratory' and said that the government had created the ground for the Jamaat-Shibir clique to hatch conspiracy against the pro-liberation forces.

Fakir Mannan's Qul today

The Quikhwani of former minister Fakir Abdul Mannan who died on October 31 will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence here at 84, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Farmgate, reports BSS.

Doa will be held after Jumma prayers on Friday at his village home at Ghagutia in Kapasia thana.

Youth rally held

A colourful rally was organised under the auspices of Youth Development Directorate in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

They rally organised as a part of observance of National Youth Day, carrying different banners, placards and festoons of various sizes, colours and designs started from the National Museum Bhaban and ended at the Zero Point near GPO.

Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman and State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain led the rally while Abdul Khaleque Chantoo MP, Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Sports M Azizul Huq and DG of Youth Directorate AM Zainul Abedin were present.

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Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Kushtia
Notice Inviting Sealed Quotation of Kushtia Road Division
1. Quotation Notice No: Kushtia 3 of 1993-94 Eng.
2. Name of work: Supplying different apparatus, chemical articles furniture and repairing the apparatus for field quality central rotary, Jessore under Jessore Road Circle during 1993-94.
3. Security Earnest Money: 10% Security (E/M) based on quoted rate.
4. Time allowed for completion of work: 30 (thirty) days.
5. Category of contractor: "A" to "D" class under general category enlisted contractor of RHD, Deptt./Bonafied equipment suppliers.
6. Name of offices of availability of quotations documents: Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Kushtia/Jessore/Jhenedah/Planning, Roads & Bridges Divn., Sharak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Boyra, Khulna and all Sub-Divisional Engineer under Road Divn, Kushtia.
7. Name of officer by whom quotation will be received: Addl. Chief Engineer, RHD, Khulna Zone, Boyra, Khulna/Supervising Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Jessore/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sharak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Kushtia/Jhenedah/Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Divn. Chuadanga.
8. Last date & time of receiving quotation: Up to 12:30 PM on 9.11.93 Eng/25.7.1400 Beng
9. Date and time of opening quotation: At 12:45 PM on 9.11.93 Eng/25.7.1400 Beng
Md Aminul Haque
Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Kushtia.
DFF (G)-17763-30/10 G-1496

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

The weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country during the next 12 hours commencing at 6:00 am today. Night temperature is likely to fall by 1-2 degrees Celsius over the country.

Outlooks for subsequent two days: Little change. Extended outlook for another five days: No marked changes. Temperature and humidity of some cities yesterday:

Table with 3 columns: Cities/Towns, Temperature in degree Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (9 am, 6 pm). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Cox's Bazar.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES
The containerised cargo ex. M.V. GREAT RIZAL V-34440 from Barcelona, ex. M.V. HERKATA V-9335F from Yokohama, ex. M.V. HOECHST EXPRESS V-11341 from Hongkong, have been relayed to M.V. FONG SHIN V-9329 Imp. Rot. No. 871/93 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 4-11-93 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.
BIRDS BANGLADESH AGENCIES LTD.
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Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
Extension of Time for International Bids
With reference to the Invitation for International Bids for repair and rehabilitation of damaged floating crane of Salvage Unit RUSTOM published in the Bangladesh Times on 26-9-93 and in the Daily Star and Bangladesh Observer on 27-9-93 the deadline for submission of bids is hereby extended up to 11:00 hrs on 1st December 1993. Other terms and conditions of the bids shall remain unchanged.
M A Chowdhury
Chief Engineer (Marine)

International Tender Notice
Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Telecommunication, Bangladesh, Dhaka invites the following international tender: Tender No.S-219/93/94/1976 Betar dated. 27.10.93
Equipment:Spare parts for HF/VHF/UHF Wireless Equipments. Price per tender schedule form: Tk. 750.00 (seven hundred fifty) (non-refundable). Terms of delivery: C & F Dhaka by Air.
Tender will be received till 12.00 hours on 09-12-1993. Tender schedule form is available for sale on cash payment at the office of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Telecommunication, Bangladesh, Dhaka (Rajbargh Police Lines) during office hours. No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.
Tenders will be opened at 12.30 hours on the same day i.e. on 09-12/1993 in presence of tenderers (if any present).
The authority reserves the right to accept any tender and reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
Md. Abdus Sattar
A.I.G of Police (Telecom)
Bangladesh, Dhaka.
Phone-402395
DFF(G) 17725-30/10 G-1497

The City Bank Limited
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10, DILKUSHA COMM. AREA, DHAKA.
TENDER FOR CAR/JEEP SALE
Sealed quotations are invited from the bonafide purchasers for sale of Bank's following Cars/Jeeps. The quotation must accompany 10% earnest money (refundable) on the quoted value and reach this office on or before at 12.00 noon of 9th November '93
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Tender schedule with terms & conditions can be obtained from the Establishment Deptt. The City Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka; 10, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka on any working days from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at a cost of Tk.100/- (One hundred) only (Non-refundable).
ANWARUL AZIM VICE PRESIDENT

KAFCO
PROJECT MANAGER — HOUSING COLONY
Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited (KAFCO), a multinational joint venture company, is executing the construction of an approximately Tk 30 crore integrated Housing Colony Complex at Rangadia, Chittagong in order to provide housing for its employees and their families.
With the implementation of the Housing Colony project about to commence, KAFCO is seeking to recruit a Senior Project/Construction Manager, who will have the responsibility of overseeing the contractor's execution of the turnkey lumpsum design and construction of the Housing Colony.
A Civil Engineer of high calibre with at least 15-20 years of construction supervision experience with a thorough knowledge of on-site construction management would be ideal. Job responsibilities include enforcing quality control and strict compliance with specifications, assisting the contractor in adhering to the schedule of completion and certifying progress payments. Besides being given an attractive compensation package, the successful applicant will have the exciting and challenging opportunity of overseeing the implementation of a cutting-edge construction project. The position demands utmost integrity, strong interpersonal ability and excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
Applicants are requested to send applications with their curriculum vitae and a recent photograph, preferably by courier, to the Manager HRD and Personnel, KAFCO, 90/91 Motijheel C/A (15th Floor), Dhaka-1000 by November 10, 1993. D-795