

Dhaka Day by Day

Road to Democracy

by Fayza Haq

Shahidul Alam's collection in "Struggle for Democracy" which was awarded the Mother Jones International Award for documentary photography, given for "work capable of initiating significant social change" was recently on display at the Jojon art gallery.

The 1st photograph brought in the winter of '87. At that time the opposition parties had united in an attempt to oust General Ershad. The siege of Dhaka city was planned, people were to come from all over the country and paralyse the capital. On the day itself Sec. 144 was announced. The people gathered that winter morning in twos and threes. The photograph depicted the police and the people, children and groups, with one or two rickshaws plying on the Motijheel streets.

The second photograph showed the police in action with riot shields with the people breaking, burning and running all around. A police van could be seen speeding on to the scene. Section 144 could not contain the people. Later there was direct confrontation with the people. Nur Hussain was killed that day in the firing," the photographer elaborated.

The third picture showed a mural of Nur Hussain on a wall of one of the buildings in Jahangirnagar University. Nur Hussain had painted on his back "Let Democracy be freed", and has since become a legend.

The next picture showed a biscuit maker. "There was a lull in the movement for the working people, like the biscuit factory worker in Rayarbar, who had borne the brunt of Ershad's despotism. Life went on while questions had been asked," Shahidul Alam commented.

In September '88 the worst floods rocked the nation and thousands became homeless. A picture depicted a woman wading through water. The sky was dark and full of clouds. People were seen moving about in small boats in the street.

In another picture an old woman in Jiljira was shown sitting on a corrugated tin roof, cooking for the family on a clay stove. Mats and torn clothes were littered around. Ruin and devastation could be seen all around. Clouds were seen gathering in the sky.

The next photograph showed the people in Mymensingh who had not eaten for three days. Drenched in the rain, a number of sparsely clad children with utensils and some adults could be seen, wondering if the relief wheat would run out. They had sunken eyes and cheek bones.

Before the flood waters had receded, when homeless people were starving, while people were dying of cholera, a powerful minister's daughter was being wedded. A photograph showed the Abahani Stadium, Dhaka, with people in opulent clothes. "Flowers had been flown in from Bangkok to be strewn on the streets. A wall of the stadium was broken to make way for Ershad's red carpet," the photographer elaborated.

Another picture showed a woman mourning the dead on Ekushey February, with a child at her breast, at Shahid Minar, the focal point of many anti establishment protests.

"In winter '89 the movement again gathered momentum," the photographer commented. Meanwhile, a photograph of the period showed a woman breaking stones for a petty reward while her husband, the rickshawwalla, struggled outside. At the same time, in some areas of the country, Shadiul Alam explained, arable land had been sieged for shrimp cultivation by the well-to-do. A depiction of the forlorn family was there in the collection. There was a photograph too of their cows searching for grass on arid pasture.

Fundamentalism was depicted in an "Ijtema" scene. The artist added, "Bangladesh was declared an Islamic state which was against the principles of secularism. Militant groups terrorised many places in the universities."

While one photograph depicted the official version of tranquility and harmony in the homes in the Hill Tracts, another showed aggressive military operation in the same area in Chittagong.

The photographer recounted, "In the winter of 1990, the movement reached its peak. All newspapers went on strike against state censorship. Lawyers of the Supreme Court declared Ershad a traitor to the nation. Bureaucrats boycotted offices. On the night of 4th December Ershad announced that he was going to step down. A photograph depicted a Mirpur Road scene on that night, with people rejoicing on top of trucks.

In February '91 under the caretaker government an unprecedented fair and free election was held. There was a photograph of a woman in a polling booth in Lalmatia, casting her vote.

The work is currently being shown at FNAC, Montparnasse, in Paris, North Carolina, USA, and Bristol, UK. This will tour Malaysia in December '93.



Visiting Vice-Premier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Chang Chol called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday. — PID photo

Campaign begins tomorrow 2 lakh tonnes of rice procurement targeted

The 20th meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Food was held yesterday at Sangsad Bhaban with Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali in the chair, reports BSS.

It was informed at the meeting that food production during the current year (1993-94) will be 205 lakh metric tons (MT) in the country.

Target has been fixed to procure two lakh metric tons of rice this year. Price fixed for rice is Tk 310 per maund and Tk 200 for per maund of paddy. Procurement campaign will be started tomorrow.

Members of the committee discussed the present food situation, production, distribution and existing market price of rice in the country.

Joint Secretary in charge of the Ministry of Food informed the meeting that six private exporters had already exported 136.6 MT of Chinigura, Kalijira, Katarivog and other varieties of rice to the United States, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia.

Members of the committee Abdul Main of BNP and Mirza Azam of Awami League, and high officials of the Ministry of Food and Directorate of Food were present in the meeting.

Clash with BDR over Indian cows: 26 injured

KHULNA, Nov 13: At least 26 villagers were injured, two of them seriously, in a clash between local people and Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) men at village Satari in Fulbaria thana of the district (Friday), reports UNB.

Seriously injured Mojhar Ali, 30, and Shaful Alam, 35, were admitted to a Khulna 250-bed hospital.

According to police, the clash began when the BDR jawans were resisted from taking away 20 Indian cows, allegedly smuggled in, after raiding different houses in the village around 6 am.

The BDR personnel took the local UP chairman Abdus Salam to their camp for interrogation.

'Uphold values of Liberation War'

By Staff Correspondent

Poet Begum Sufia Kamal urged all irrespective of caste, creed and religion to unite to protect the basic rights, and emphasised on upholding the values and the spirit of the Liberation War.

She was speaking as the chief guest at a 'bjaya' conference organised by the Mahanagar Sarbajanin Puja Committee in the capital Friday.

The conference chaired by president of the City Committee Anil Chandra Roy, was addressed, among others, by Prof Khan Sarwar Murshed of the Nagarik Committee, CPB leader Morshed Ali, Ganotantri Party leader Mahmudur Rahman Babu, Gano Forum leader Begum Nurjahan Murshed and president of Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Committee K B Roy Chowdhury.

254 arrested in city

Police rounded up 254 people, including 171 'tokais' (street urchins), from different parts of the city in last 24 hours, a DMP press release said yesterday, reports UNB.

Others included 11 wanted criminals, two under the Arms Act and six for stealing.



A visitor admiring a bird at the Talking Bird and Aquarium competition held at the Parjatan Corporation's Airport Road premises in the capital yesterday. The BPC organised the contest as part of the current Tourism Month '93. — Star photo

Talking bird competition

A talking bird and aquarium competition was held yesterday at Parjatan head office rent-a-car premises on the occasion of Tourism Month '93, reports UNB.

Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia inaugurated the competition and went round different stalls.

In all 17 talking birds and 15 aquarium owners displayed their birds and aquarium. A large number of visitors enjoyed the colourful display.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan, parliament members M A Jinnah and Begum Selina Rahman, Secretary of the Ministry Afzalur Rahman, Chairman of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation Bazal Ghanil Patwary, high officials of the ministry and Parjatan Corporation were also present.

Later, the Works Minister distributed prizes among the winners.



Sunday

5.00	Opening announcement
	AL-Quran
	Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.25	Cartoon: Tom and Jerry Kids Show
5.35	Sports programme
6.30	Myeder Jannya
7.00	Open University
7.25	Tagore songs
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Probaho
9.00	Film: The Sword of Tipu Sultan
10.00	News in English
10.30	Chayachanda
11.30	Khabar/The News
11.40	Tomorrow's programme summary
11.45	Closing

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

The sky is likely to remain partly cloudy over Rajshahi division and the regions of Kushtia, Tangail and Mymensingh, while dry weather is likely to prevail over the country.

The Met office forecasts night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Country's highest temperature of 32 degrees Celsius was recorded in Khulna and lowest of 18.1 degrees Celsius was recorded in Satkhira yesterday.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 5.13 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 6.13 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	30.2	18.8	78	78
Chittagong	29.0	19.1	79	67
Rajshahi	29.5	18.6	77	85
Khulna	32.0	19.8	79	99
Barisal	31.2	19.0	86	92
Sylhet	29.8	19.9	84	76
Cox's Bazar	31.2	20.0	73	70
Dinajpur	29.5	18.5	81	77

DPRK Vice-Premier visits National Museum

The visiting Vice-Premier of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Chang Chol visited the National Museum yesterday, reports UNB.

On arrival at the museum the Vice-Premier was received by Director General of the National Museum Sheikh Akram Ali.

Chang went round different galleries of the museum and showed keen interest in the exhibits.

Handicrafts fair opens in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Nov 13: A three-day handicrafts fair organised by the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) in observance of the Tourism Month '93 began here today in Rajshahi Parjatan Motel premises, reports BSS.

Mayor of Rajshahi city Mizanur Rahman Minu formally inaugurated the fair.

Speaking on the occasion the mayor said our country has ample scope of attracting tourists.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The containerised cargo ex M.V. HENRY HUDSON BRIDGE V-0069B from Long Beach ex M.V. BUNGA BIDARA V-0242N from Melbourne ex M.V. DRESDEN EXPRESS V-13343 from Hongkong have been relayed to M.V. NGS RANGER V-6093 Imp. Rot. No. 908/93 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 14-11-1993 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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CHINESE FABRIC WITH QUOTA FOR WEST EUROPE MARKET

OUR CHINESE SUPPLIER HAS QUOTA FOR WEST EUROPE MARKET FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

QUOTA NO.	37
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COLOUR	GREY, WHITE, PRINT.
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INTERESTED PARTIES / PERSONS ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT IMMEDIATELY.

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Action against 5 govt employees

The government has taken a number of drastic actions against five employees of Road and Highways (R & H) Department for creating traffic jam at the Daudkandi Ferryghat, reports UNB.

Attention of government has been drawn to a news item appeared in a section of press regarding creation of traffic jam at Daudkandi Ferryghat.

Anniversary of Altaf Hussain's death observed

By Staff Correspondent

The Ganotantri Party Friday observed the first death anniversary of its founder-president Syed Altaf Hussain. Party members visited the grave of Altaf Hussain, offered feteiha and placed wreaths.

A milad mahfil was also organised at the residence of Ramkrishna Mission Road.

Trader beaten up

By DMCH Correspondent

Organisers of a religious gathering beat up a trader at Bangshal reportedly for not meeting their toll demands yesterday morning.

The victim Madhu Mia, now under treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), alleged that he was assaulted by a group of youngmen when he refused to pay money for a 'waaz mahfil'.

"উন্নয়নের চাবিকাঠি বিদ্যুৎ"

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date : 27.10.93
Credit No. : 2129-BD
Bid package No. : 2

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) in various currencies towards the cost of the Third Rural Electrification Project, and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this Credit will be applied, through the Rural Electrification Board, to eligible payments under the Contract for supply & installation of 2 nos elevators for the 10-storied Rural Electrification Board's (REB) Head office Building at Joarshahara, Dhaka.
- The Superintending Engineer, Dhaka Zone, Rural Electrification Board now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the "supply and installation of 2 nos elevators" which includes supply, installation, testing, commissioning, test run and maintenance of these elevators.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of the Superintending Engineer, Dhaka Zone, Rural Electrification Board, House No. 51, Road No. 10/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh.
- A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased by any interested eligible Bidder on being determined qualified for the purchase on submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk 2000/- (Taka two thousand) or US\$ 55 (United States Dollar fifty five). For each set of Bidding Documents purchased, only one Bidder is eligible to bid.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than two point five zero percent (2.50%) of Bid Amount and must be delivered to the above office on or before 12-00 hours on 16.01.1994.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12-30 hours on 16.01.1994 at the office of the Superintending Engineer, Dhaka Zone, Rural Electrification Board, House No. 51, Road No. 10/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh.

পরি/জন (১০) ৯৩-৯৪

Superintending Engineer
Dhaka Zone
Rural Electrification Board

পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BOARD

DEF/BA/10087-6/11

Sonali Bank
Islampur Road Branch, Dhaka.

Dated: 6.11.93

Re-Auction Notice

Sealed quotation are invited by Sonali Bank, Islampur Road Branch, Dhaka for auction sale of the under noted goods "as it is where it is" basis from the intending buyers under the following terms and conditions:

Sl No.	Category & nature of loan	Name and address of the borrower	Description of goods	Quantity approximate	Place where the goods are stored
1.	Cash Credit (pledge)	M/S. Minhaj Corporation Prop. Md. Abdul Jabbar 12/18, Ahsanullah Road, Febrix Plaza (1st floor), Dhaka.	Shirting	6875 Yds	12/18 Ahsanullah Road, Febrix Plaza (1st floor), Dhaka.
2.	-do-	-do-	Penting	1400 Yds	-do-

- Each quotation shall be accompanied by 5% earnest money of the price quoted in the quotations in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any branches of Sonali Bank, in favour of Sonali Bank, Islampur Road Branch, Dhaka, otherwise quotations will not be accepted.
- Sealed quotation will have to be deposited in the tender box at Islampur Road Branch, Dhaka 1.00 P.M. on or before 21-11-93 and will be opened on the same day in presence of quotationers (if anybody present there) at 3 P.M.
- The goods may be examined by the intending buyer through the Manager, concerned branch during office hour.
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit the entire balance of the quoted amount and take delivery of the goods within 7 (seven) days from the date of acceptance of the quotation failing which earnest money will be forfeited.
- Earnest money of the unsuccessful quotationers will be returned back in due course.
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the quotations without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Mir Nurul Islam
Manager, Sonali Bank
Islampur Road Branch, Dhaka.
Phone-256555

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