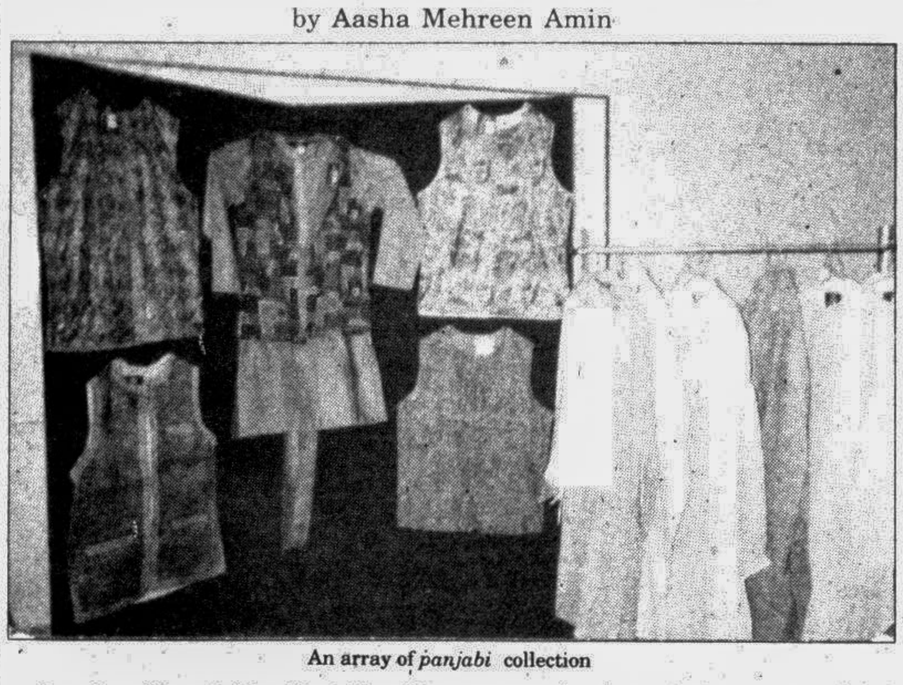
Dhaka Day by Day

Promoting Designer Panjabis

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



An array of *panjabi* collection

Bengalis call it *panjabi* and Panjabis call it *Bangali kurta* nobody seems to want to claim this garment as his own. Yet the *panjabi* or *kurta*, whatever you want to call it, has been the most common male clothing in the sub continent. Whether it is a Bangali Babu over his *dhuti*, the Maulana Sahib over his *pajamas* or your next door neighbour over his jeans, the panjabi is regarded as an anytime wear. The *panjabi* of old used to be confined to light sombre colours — stark white, off white or beige at the most. Nowadays panjabis come in a wide range of colours and designs reflecting the more bold and fashionable male of the nineties.

The two-day *panjabi* exhibition held at the Alliance Francaise on November 11th and 12th reflected this new trend. With colourful, intricate patterns on soft luxuriant fabrics the 'panjabis' defied the old image of being the outfit of the unimaginative, conservative male. The exhibition organized by Blue Eyes and Pride Textiles was geared to promote the latest concept of designer *panjabis*. Each piece was different from the other and had unique designs.

Amongst this remarkable collection was an off-white *khaddar* creation with a complicated wooden bead work that was ornate enough to be worn on formal occasions such as weddings or dinners. Then there was the beige raw silk *kurta* with golden *zari* and bead work — dressy even for a woman. In fact, explained Ifteqar Khalid, advisor to Blue Eyes, most of the *panjabis* were unisex and were equally popular with the women. For occasions such as 'milads' or more casual ones like lunches, there were the cream, or beige *panjabis* in soft cotton or *khaddar* with beautiful chocolate or mustard embroidery for the classic mughal look. Although not on display, these *panjabis* were available in a variety of colours — mauve, maroon, sky blue and even magenta. For the white lover, there were milky white cotton *kurtas* with white polka dots, stripes or checks embossed on them and white embroidery on the collar. Costs ranged between Tk 900 to 1800.

But it was the collection of flamboyant coaties or *sadris* that took the show. It included multi coloured waist-coats in cream raw silk with patches of magenta, olive green, saffron and navy blue topped off with outlining *zari* work. If this seemed a little too decorative for the suave male taste, Khalid assured that it was not: "many men wear this kind of thing nowadays, it is ideal for festive occasions".

Other versions of this design included an off white piece with beaded work against a backdrop of sea green, light mauve and off-white and a cotton coatie with *zari* work over mustard, salmon and olive green silk. For a more dramatic look were the handpainted waistcoats in pastel green and olive green or mauve. For the environmental buff was an interesting looking *sadri* in beige and off-white with black patterns — made of pure jute.

The fabrics which included mainly pure cotton, *khadder* raw silk and silk mixed, were from Norshingdi, Tangail and Narayanganj.

The idea introducing designer *panjabis* came out in November 91 when four young men in their thirties decided to do business together. At that time these coming entrepreneurs were either studying or involved in small business ventures. Kazi Jainul Islam Bappi the owner of Blue Eyes decided that it was time to start a business of designer clothes made locally. Although Blue Eyes has its own collection of shirts, dresses and other garments, it is the *panjabis* that have become really popular. During Eid festivals a big display is arranged to attract the crowds. This is why the exhibition took place in the 'off season' for *panjabis*; to attract the Eid market. Blue Eyes has its own designers who get ideas from Pakistan and India, modifies them into their own designs and then instruct the tailors. The result is a unique collection of *panjabis* and *sadris* with designs that can't be seen in any other boutique.

The exhibition with its wide collection of designs reflected the varying tastes in men's wear. From simple, understated patterns to dramatic, flamboyant styles the show had something for everyone. It also promoted the *panjabi* as the latest in designer wear.

Tk 70cr Establishment Ministry projects completed

Establishment Ministry has so far completed six major development projects at a cost of Tk about 70 crore since independence of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The projects including the construction of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) at Savar.

The other projects are construction of four regional PATC at Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna, establishment of personal management information system and management services wing at Bangladesh Secretariat, construction of Central Transport Pool Complex, BMRE of BG Press, and installation of equipment at the three government presses.

This was informed at the 16th meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Establishment Ministry at Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Deputy Leader of the House Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder, Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah, Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar, Awami League MP Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Jatiya Party MP Dr TM Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury and Md Shamsuddoha MP (CPB) participated in the meeting while it was chaired by State Minister for Establishment Barrister Md Aminul Hoque.

Establishment Secretary Habibur Rahman, BPATC Rector Kazi Mohammad Manzoor-e-Mowla, Director-General of BCS (Admn) Academy Dr Fazlul Hasan Yusuf and concerned officials were present.

The meeting was informed that due to the non-availability of fund, a few development projects of this ministry have not yet been implemented. However some development projects are being implemented under normal ADP.

The meeting underscored the need for improving and time-befitting the training to public servants to establish an effective, efficient and transparent administration. The meeting asked the BPATC and BCS (Admn) Academy authorities to submit a report before the committee with recommendation for increasing the effectiveness of the training. The members of the committee also asked the authorities to submit another report on the assessment scores of the trainers and their subsequent placement and improvement in their working fields.

The members of the committee also gave directives to the authorities to take measures to ensure full participation of the officials in the training courses.

Visiting Swedish Minister for International Development, Cooperation and Human Rights Issues Alf Svensson called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday. — PID photo

Remedial measures to prevent revenue losses suggested

National Telephone Subscribers and Electricity Consumers Welfare Association in a memorandum to President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday alleged certain problems caused to its members through faulty and overbilling, reports UNB.

A 30-member delegation led by Barrister MA Mottaleb, a former judge of the Bangladesh Supreme Court and President of the Association, called on the President at Bangabhaban and apprised him of the problems facing the subscribers.

They also suggested certain remedial measures to prevent the revenue losses of the government in the two sectors.

Exchanging views with them, President Biswas said satisfactory service to the subscribers and the consumers are the aim of the present government.

The present day world is highly competitive and the service oriented organisations like telephone and electricity are to survive through good services to their clients, he said. The government has introduced free market economy, and we are to survive in competition through our quality of goods and services."

Biswas said the government had been extending the facilities of telephone to the people of far-flung corners of the country and also power-supply to them through the rural electrification programme.

He said the government had been trying to fulfil the basic needs of the people and improve their socio-economic condition through alleviation of poverty, creating employment opportunities and spreading mass education.

The President assured to advise the relevant ministries for looking into the problems mentioned in the memorandum.

Swedish Minister lauds women's edn programmes

Visiting Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation and Human Rights Issues Alf Svensson yesterday lauded the government's socio-economic development programmes especially the programmes on education and women development, reports BSS.

The minister said this when he called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office in the afternoon.

Svensson apprised the Prime Minister that he visited a primary school in the city's Mirpur area.

MIDTOWN SCHOOL

HOUSE 21, RD-08, DHANMONDI, R/A (OPPOSITE: MAGDONAL'S, MIRPUR RD, DHAKA.
ADMISSION GOING ON IN PLAY GROUP, NURSERY, K.G. AND GRADE I. (THROUGH SUCCESSIVE YEARS THE SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE FOR UP TO O'LEVEL). S-424

'Master plan for Matamuhuri Irrigation Project a must'

CHITTAGONG, Nov 20: Member of Jatiya Sangsad M R Enamul Huq today called upon the government to take necessary steps to explore and exploit vast natural resources of Chakaria thana in Cox's Bazar, reports BSS.

Addressing a press conference at a hotel here, he said, utilisation of the sweet water from the river Matamuhuri for irrigation, increased shrimp and salt production as well as development of forest resources and internal communications system of Chakaria will facilitate increased revenue income from the area.

He said that a master plan for the Matamuhuri River Irrigation Project should be drawn up immediately.

He said, construction of water control structures at four places of the river will facilitate irrigation of over 60,000 acres of land during the dry season which will enable the farmers to produce more than two lakh tons of rice, worth over Tk 150 crore per annum.

Enamul Huq said, there are 20 thousand acres of land under shrimp cultivation projects in Chakaria thana and by introducing semi-intensive shrimp culture, shrimp worth Tk 150 crore can be produced annually. Electrification of shrimp projects is necessary to obtain this end, he added.

He further added, production of salt on 8,000 acres in Chakaria thana can be doubled by applying modern methods of salt production and advancing loans to salt producers.

Waz mahfil held

Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah yesterday called for following the Islamic ideals in all spheres of national life for peace and progress in the society, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the annual waz mahfil at the Siddiknagar madrasha premises under the district, he called upon all to expand Islamic education and utilise it in personal life to check erosion of values in the society.

Kamal off to Kathmandu

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf left here for Kathmandu yesterday to attend a SAARC ministerial conference, reports UNB.

The three-day conference on "Women and Family Health" begins in the Nepalese capital today.

Loan distributed among distressed

CHITTAGONG, Nov 20: Islami Mahila Patchakra (IMP) distributed Taka 3,000 interest free loan among ten distressed women of village Dhalai under Hathazari police station here today, reports BSS.

The association has taken responsibility of marketing the house-hold articles to be produced by the women.

WANTED

University of Dhaka: Applications in prescribed form, obtainable from the Office of the Registrar, are invited for appointment of two temporary Lecturers against permanent posts in the Department of Physics in the scale of Tk 2850-125-3725-B.B.-180-5155/-.

Qualifications: Candidate must have 1st class either in Honours or in Master's degree in Physics with at least second divisions in S.S.C. and H.S.C. examinations. If candidates with above qualifications are not available the conditions may be relaxed. Other qualifications being equal preference will be given to those who have M. Phil degree.

8 (eight) copies of application together with attested copies of certificates, testimonials and marksheets along with a Pay Order/Bank Draft of the value of Tk 30/- only payable to the Registrar should reach him on or before 5-12-1993. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel. D-840

House hiring team off to Makkah

A four-member team for hiring houses in advance at the Makkah for Haj pilgrims-94 left Friday night, reports BSS.

The members of he team are Dr Jouarder Abdur Rashid, Joint Secretary Ministry of Religious Affairs (leader), Maoulana Aminul Islam, Khatib of Lalbagh Mosque, Mufti Fazlul Haque Amini, President Ulema Committee, and Dr Mustafizur Rahman, Professor, Arabic Department of Dhaka University.

One killed in road mishap

A truck helper was killed and four others were injured, two of them seriously when the truck fell into a roadside ditch on Nabinagar-Kaliakoir road early yesterday, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said that Abdul Jalil (35) died on the spot when the truck carrying sand fell into a roadside ditch and turned turtle after the driver lost control at Ganakbari at 5 am.

The two seriously injured labourers were also admitted to the DMCH.

Police seized the truck but its driver fled away.

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda addressing as chief guest at the inaugural function of the three-day Korean Film Festival '93 yesterday. — PID photo

Korean Film Festival opens

A three-day long Korean Film Festival '93 marking the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Bangladesh and Korea was formally inaugurated yesterday by the Minister for Information Barrister Nazmul Huda at the Bangladesh National Museum auditorium in the city, says a press release.

The inaugural ceremony, jointly organised by Bangladesh Film Archive and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Dhaka was also attended, among others, by the Information Secretary Nooruddin A Almasood and the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Bangladesh Sung Oh Shin.

Speaking on the occasion as chief guest Barrister Nazmul Huda said that this event would further strengthen the bonds of mutual understanding existing between Bangladesh and the Republic of Korea and go long towards bringing the two peoples closer. Information Secretary Nooruddin A Almasood presided over the inaugural function which was also addressed by the Ambassador.

The Korean Ambassador in his remarks said that this film festival was a memorable occasion since it marked the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Korea and Bangladesh.

Four noted Korean feature films in addition to two documentary ones will be screened at the National Museum.

বাংলাদেশ টেলিভিশন BTV

Sunday

5:00	Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.25	Sports programme: Italian Soccer Sampdooria vs Inter
6.30	Amar Desh
7.00	Open University
7.25	Tagore songs
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	A special programme on the Armed Forces Day Tomar Apon Pataka
10.00	News in English
10.30	Drama series: The Sword of Tipu Sultan
11.30	Khabar/The News
11.40	Tomorrow's programme summary
11.45	Closing

Natyakarmi Padak shared by two

Loko Natyadal, a front ranking theatre group of the country, has announced this year's *Natyakarmi Padak* '93, award for theatre personality, initiated by the group.

Two persons will share this year's Padak. They are essayist-critic-translater Prof Kabir Chowdhury and noted actor-director Ataur Rahman for their contribution to the field of theatre.

The Padak will be given formally on December 28 at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium, says a press release.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

The sky will remain partly cloudy over the country during the next 12 hours commencing 6 pm today (Sunday), Met Office forecasts.

The weather will remain mainly dry over the country during the same period, it adds.

No appreciable change in night temperature is expected over the country.

The highest temperature of the country yesterday 32.0 degrees Celsius was recorded at Satkhira and Chuadanga and the lowest 16.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Dinajpur.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 5:11pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 6:19 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and the maximum and minimum relative humidity recorded at important cities and towns yesterday are as follows:

Cities/ towns	Temperature Max	Temperature Min	Humidity 9 am	Humidity 6 pm
Dhaka	29.4	20.0	86	78
Chittagong	29.6	19.2	86	80
Rajshahi	30.7	18.0	88	88
Khulna	31.5	19.3	88	77
Barisal	30.8	18.6	85	88
Cox's Bazar	31.0	20.0	77	83
Sylhet	28.3	19.2	82	82
Dinajpur	28.5	16.8	85	89

R&H Tender Invitation Notice

1.	Tender No	13/EE/1993-94.
2.	Name of work	'A'-Group = Supply of 180 gallons capacity tarboiler under (R&H) Equipment Control Division, Dhaka for use of (R&H) Sirajganj Road Division during 1993-94 financial year. 'B'-Group = Supply of 90 gallons capacity tarboiler under (R&H) Equipment Control Division, Dhaka for use of (R&H) Sirajganj Road Division during 1993-94 financial year.
3.	Estimated cost	'A' Group = Tk 2,00,000/- and 'B'-Group = Tk 2,80,000/-
4.	Earnest money	2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost To be deposited through BD/TC/Sanchayapatra/CC from any scheduled bank approved by Bangladesh Bank in favour of Executive Engineer (R&H), Equipment Control Division, Dhaka
5.	Time for completion of work	20 (twenty) days from the date of issuing work order.
6.	Eligibility of contractor	As per qualification & rules — R&H Directorate enlisted 'A' to 'E' class contractors.
7.	Offices where tender & schedule will be available	Can be purchased at Tk 20/- (non-refundable) per set including Bangladesh Form No 2908 from Executive Engineer (R&H), Equipment Control Division, Tejgaon/Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka & Planning Division (Road & Bridge), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka up to the day before reciving the tender.
8.	Officers & offices to receive the tender & schedule	Superintending Engineer (R&H), Equipment Control & Procurement Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/ Executive Engineer (RHD), Equipment Control Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka.
9.	Last date of recsiving the sealed tender	28.11.93 up to 12.00 Noon.
10.	Last date of opening the sealed tender	28.11.93 at 12.30 pm.

Md Azizur Rahman
Executive Engineer (R&H)
Equipment Control Division,
Tejgaon, Dhaka.

DFP(G) 18609 — 11/11
G-1592

সশস্ত্র বাহিনী দিবস উপলক্ষে আমাদের আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন

- পানির অপচয় রোধে কাজ শেষে কলের মুখ বন্ধ করুন, সার্ভিস লাইনের লিকেজ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে মেরামত করুন এবং আপনার বাড়ীর ছাদে রক্ষিত জলাধারে বলকক লাগান।
- পানির দুষণ রোধে আপনার বাড়ীর জলাধারসমূহ স্বাস্থ্যসম্মতভাবে ব্লিচিং পাউডার দিয়ে নিয়মিত পরিষ্কার করুন এবং জলাধারে ঢাকনা ব্যবহার করুন।
- সুষ্ঠু পয়ঃনিষ্কাশনের স্বার্থে ঢাকা ওয়াসার পয়ঃম্যানহোলের সাথে সায়ফেস ড্রেন বা নর্দমার সংযোগ স্থাপন এবং ম্যানহোলের ভেতর গৃহস্থালীর বর্জ্য পদার্থ, আবর্জনা নিক্ষেপ করবেন না।
- বাইপাস বা অবৈধ পানি সংযোগ নেয়া দন্ডনীয় অপরাধ। এ ধরণের সংযোগ অবিলম্বে বিচ্ছিন্ন করুন। পানির লাইনে বিদ্যুৎ বা হস্তচালিত পাম্প সংযোজন করে পানি সংগ্রহ করবেন না।
- বকেয়ার কারণে খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন করা, পি, ডি, আর, এ্যাক্টের অধীনে তাঁদের বিরুদ্ধে ঢাকা ওয়াসার ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের আদালতে সার্টিফিকেট মামলা রুজু করা এবং স্থাবর-অস্থাবর সম্পত্তি ক্রোক করার কাজ অব্যাহত আছে।
- সংযোগ বিচ্যুতি ও অন্যান্য আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা এড়াবার জন্য আজই বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃবিল পরিশোধ করুন।
- বিল সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে অভিযোগের ব্যাপারে প্রয়োজনে সংশ্লিষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিসের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

ওয়াসা ঢাকা ওয়াসা

ওয়াসা-জঃতঃ প্রদর্শনী-৮৭/৯৩