

Dhaka Day by Day

A Legacy of Pride and Honour

by Iftikhar A Chowdhury

December, February and March are the months on the English calendar when Bangladesh usually become imbued with their patriotic feelings. But throughout the rest of the year our patriotic zeal flows at its lowest ebb and remains steeped in utter forgetfulness. This may be one of the many reasons why we have so far miserably failed in paying our long-standing debts to the martyrs of our liberation. Was it not a collective task of our people to carry their unfinished dreams a little further? Was it not the responsibility of the whole nation to nurture their memories and make it easier for their bereaved families to bear the pain and live a dignified life in an independent Bangladesh? — Mimi Rahman, the daughter of Atiqur Rahman, a doctor who made his supreme sacrifice in the war of our liberation more than two decades ago, poses the questions to the collective consciousness of the Bangalee people.

Dr Atiqur Rahman was a private practitioner whose chamber 'Jahanara Pharmacy' was situated on 58, Tipu Sultan Road, Dhaka. Like any other day, his family members eagerly awaited his return on September 26, 1971. Hours passed by, the evening sun when down and the darkness of the night thickened, all waited with anxiety. But he never returned, not that night, not the following night, never. What was later known was that Dr Atiqur Rahman was captured and forcibly handed over to the Pakistan Army by their 'willful slaves' — the Razakars. He had to lay down his life because he treated two wounded freedom-fighters at his chamber and from time to time gave them financial assistance. The family searched for him in vain, because till then, they didn't even know who took him away. But in October '71, news came that Dr Atiqur's dead body was found in Dholaikhal and that he was taken to Mitford Hospital for post-mortem. Then a girl of only seven, Mimi Rahman is still haunted by the memory of that night like a horror in a dream.

An executive member of Projoondo Ektator, Mimi Rahman believes that pro-Bangladesh and pro-independence people should immediately be

united to fight the Razakars, who have become politically active and are posing a threat to everything that independent Bangladesh stands for. 'I still believe that numerically the pro-independence people are greater, we are the majority; but we are not yet united, the anti-liberation people are the minority, but they are united. That's why they are getting stronger day by day. So we must unite and strategically fight these oppressors, now camouflaged as religious and fundamentalist leaders.'

Mimi argues that no government had the right to excuse these war criminals. It was a decision which should have been taken by those directly affected by the war and no one else. 'As long as even one of these 'dogs of war' lives, we will not be able to pay our due tribute to the millions of martyrs of the war. They are like cancers eating into the very fabrics of our society', she says.

When Dr Atiqur Rahman died he had only 80 Taka in the bank. So the family had to fall back on the deepest of their reserves to survive. As members of 'Shaheed' family, they received a paltry sum of Tk 4,000 in two installments in the form of government grant during the Mujib government. Mimi grew up at her maternal grand parent's house and for her, the process has always been difficult. The close or near-close relatives who received any help at anytime from her father were now nowhere to be found, when the family most needed them. But for Mimi and her family, somehow life went on. Because by then their grief and anguish had steered into strength — a force that overcomes sorrows and hardships of any kind.

Mimi Rahman was married in 1985, to a like-minded gentleman Kazi Saifuddin Ahmed, a private bank executive who strongly supports her causes all the time. She was blessed with the only child Sayeed, who is still too tender to understand anything. But someday he will grow up and come to know about the birth of a nation for which many heroes selflessly sacrificed their lives. Naturally, he will also know that he has a legacy of pride and honour.



Mimi Rahman



Susan Bissell-McQuay of UNICEF, James F Cole of the US Embassy in Dhaka, BGMEA Vice-President M A Taher, Warner K Blank of ILO and M Mossarrif Hossain of Rapport Bangladesh Limited are seen at a seminar on child labour held yesterday at Hotel Sonargaon. — Star photo

Prize-giving ceremony of juvenile painting competition

State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan yesterday called for proper evaluation of the country's War of Liberation, reports BSS.

He was addressing a prize giving ceremony of juvenile painting competition, jointly organised by Chittagong Zila Museum, Sylhet Osmani Museum

and Mymensingh Zainul Abedin Art School as the chief guest at the National Museum here. Dr Khan stressed the need for teaching our children the history of War of Independence in true perspective. He said the present government was determined to uphold the spirit of War of Independence.

The state minister referred to steps already taken by the government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to give recognition to the sacrifices of freedom fighters. He said the award of medals to Bir Shrestha, Bir Ustam and Bir Pratik was one such example.

Presided over by Director General, National Museum Sheikh Akram Ali, the function was also addressed by Secretary to the Prime Minister freedom fighter Dr Kamal Uddin Siddique as the special guest.

Dr Khan congratulated the participants of the competition. In all 2500 children participated in the competition.



Rokaiya Islam performing song at a cultural programme organised by the Chhayanta at Fuller Road in the Dhaka University area in observance of the Victory Day yesterday. — Star photo

পিডব্লিউডি টেঞ্জার নোটিশ

এতদ্বারা নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজটি সম্পাদনের জন্য গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তরের তালিকাভুক্ত ১ম শ্রেণীর বৈদ্যুতিক টিকাদার যাহাদের এ বি সি সি বৈদ্যুতিক তদারকি লাইসেন্স আছে এবং গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তর ঢাকা জোন-এর ২য় শ্রেণীর তালিকাভুক্ত বৈদ্যুতিক টিকাদার যাহাদের বি সি বৈদ্যুতিক তদারকি লাইসেন্স আছে তাহাদের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ২৯১১ নং ফরমে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

১। কাজের নাম : জামালপুর জেলার জঙ্গ কোর্টে রেকর্ড ক্রমের জন্য ৭৩০০ ঘনফুট ক্ষমতাসম্পন্ন আদাতা নিরোধক যন্ত্র (ডিহিমিডিকফার) ও অগ্নিনিরোধক যন্ত্র সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনের কাজ।

২। প্রাকলিত ব্যয় : টাকা ১,০৪,৬২৮/-

৩। জামানতের টাকা : টাকা ২৬৬৩০/-

৪। কার্যদেশ জারী হওয়ার পর হইতে কাজ শেষ করার সময়সীমা : ২০ (বিশ) দিন।

৫। টেন্ডার ফরম এবং আইটেমের পিডিউল শর্তাবলী ইত্যাদি আপামী ২৭-১২-৯৩ই/১০-৯-১৪০০ বাৎ তাৎ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নিম্নবর্ণিত কার্যালয় অফিস এবং ময়মনসিংহ গণপূর্ত সার্কেলাধীন সকল নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় হইতে দেখা ও পাওয়া যাইবে। টেন্ডারসমূহ নিম্নবর্ণিত কার্যালয় কর্তৃক এবং ময়মনসিংহ গণপূর্ত সার্কেলাধীন সকল নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় কর্তৃক আপামী ২৮-১২-৯৩ই/১৪-৯-১৪০০ বাৎ তাৎ পর্যন্ত দুপুর ১২-০০ টা পর্যন্ত গৃহীত হইবে।

মোঃ মিজানুল করিম
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী,
জামালপুর গণপূর্ত বিভাগ,
জামালপুর। ফোন ৩৬৬৬

DFP(G) 2044/712
G-1727



Artists from Santal tribe performing dance at the Textiles Fair organised by the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation at Bijoy Sarani yesterday. — Star photo

Victory Day programmes in Ctg, Rajshahi

CHITTAGONG, Dec 15: Victory Day will be observed here tomorrow with much enthusiasm, reports BSS.

Political parties, trade unions, student organisations and socio-cultural associations have planned an elaborate programme befitting the occasion.

Chittagong City and district units of BNP, Awami League, Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, Jatiya Sramik League, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Bangladesh Chhatra League and many other socio-cultural organisations will hold discussions and cultural functions on the day.

The day-long district administration programmes include 21-gun salute at one minute past midnight tonight with simultaneous playing of whistle and siren from ships and rail engines.

Floral wreaths will be placed at the Central Shaheed Minar at KC Dey Road here.

National flag will be hoisted atop all public and private buildings at 6-25 am.

March past by police, ansar, VDPs, fire service, scouts and girl guides and school boys will be held at Chittagong stadium at 8.30 am where Divisional Commissioner will take salute.

Documentary films will be exhibited at cinema halls.

Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong will meet members of shaheed families and crippled freedom fighters at Zila Parishad Hall.

Children's drawing competition will be held at Shishu Academy while improved diets will be served in hospitals and orphanages.

Special prayers will be offered at mosques, temples and mandirs for peace, prosperity and happiness of Bangladesh.

A discussion will be held at Shilpakala Academy here on the

significance of the Victory Day. A cultural function will be held at the same venue in the evening.

Rajshahi

Victory Day will be observed Rajshahi in a befitting manner today.

Various socio-cultural, political and other organisations of the city planned separate programmes to observe the day.

The day will be heralded with the booming of 21 gun salute at one minute past midnight.

National flag will be hoisted atop all private and public buildings on the occasion.

Special prayers will be offered at mosques and other places of worship for peace and progress of the country.

Improved diets will be served in jails, hospitals and orphanages on the day.

Reception will be accorded to muktyoddhas and shaheed muktyoddha families on the occasion at Rajshahi College.



Kamrun's batik show from Saturday

By Staff Correspondent

A ten-day long solo exhibition of batik paintings by Kamrun Nahar begins in the capital Saturday.

Ahmad Fujl Haji Abdul Razak, the High Commissioner of Malaysia in Bangladesh will inaugurate the show at 5 pm at Gallery Tone, 29/B, R/A, Road-1.

In all, 40 pieces of Kamrun's recent oriental works in batik will be on display. The show, sponsored by Gold Leaf of the Bangladesh Tobacco Company (BTC), will remain open from 10 am to 8 pm everyday till December 27.

Kamrun's first solo exhibition of watercolour and batik works which was widely acclaimed was held at La Galerie, Dhaka in February this year.

Recently, all three of her entries in watercolour have been selected by the Miniature Art Society of Florida, USA for its 19th annual international exhibition, due to open there from January 9, 1994.

Kamrun Nahar received her BFA from the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, in 1980. She is at present working as a senior designer for ADCOMM, a leading advertising house in the city.

Her husband is a journalist. She is the mother of a daughter and a son.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with fair sky is likely to prevail over the country. Met Office forecasts slight fall in night temperature is expected over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 27.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and lowest of 10.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rajshahi yesterday.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6:34 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5:14 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperatures in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	25.5	12.8	80	75
Chittagong	25.8	14.6	85	62
Rajshahi	25.0	10.5	84	75
Khulna	26.2	12.7	78	76
Barisal	26.2	13.0	82	77
Cox's Bazar	27.4	16.0	77	66
Sylhet	26.0	14.3	84	69
Dinajpur	25.5	11.5	81	73

Leader of Refaee Tariqah meets Biswas

The visiting former Kuwaiti State Minister Syed Yousuf Sayed Hashem Al Refaee called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Refaee, who is also the leader of 'Refaee Tariqah', said the relations between the two countries are strong as the two peoples adhere to Islamic teachings and bounded by love and trust for each other.

Khaleda greets Prime Minister of Kazakhstan

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday greeted Sergei Alexandrovich Tereshchenko, Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the occasion of its independence day today, reports BSS.

In a message Begum Zia expressed her confidence that the existing close ties and bonds of friendship between the two countries would be further strengthened and consolidated in the years ahead.

S.J.O.B.A. MEENA BAZAR

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL GROUND, MOHAMMADPUR, DHAKA.
17th DECEMBER, 10 A.M.- 4 P.M.
A day of fun and games for Josephites, Their families and friends
Entry cards are available with all committee members and at school on 17th December.

Arts and Handicraft Exhibition

Date : 6, 7 & 8 January, 1994
Place : BAF Shaheen College Tejgaon, Dhaka.
For allotment of Stalls please contact :
Tele : 607021-29/4550, 4290, 4291, 507651, 882730.

LORETO Play group to 'O' Level ADMISSION TEST

An Admission test will be held on Wednesday 22nd December 1993, at 10:30 hrs. For further information please contact school office.
House No-8, Road No-9, Dhanmondi, Tel No-314242

ENGINEERING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Gonoshasthaya Kendra (GK) will implement a EEC funded project to develop and manufacture an extruding machine in Bangladesh to compress rice husks. It will also conduct field trial of this machine and trials of kerosene stoves and improved stoves for burning compressed rice husks.

Senior Project Engineer.

GK is seeking the services of a well-qualified engineer preferably with a good academic background and/or considerable experience relevant to the above project. The applicant should preferably have overseas experience in an English speaking country or relevant overseas qualifications. However, engineers who do not have overseas experience but have good skills in machinery development and field engineering, will also be considered. Selected candidate must be willing to travel extensively within Bangladesh. Salary negotiable.

Project Engineer

Well-qualified Mechanical or Electrical Engineers who possess good technical skills and capable of utilizing computers are encouraged to apply for this position. The selection criteria will be based on skills and ability rather than experience. This is a junior position available to an ambitious engineer who is dynamic and capable of rapidly developing to work independently in a senior position. Salary negotiable. Selected person will be based in Cox's Bazar. Suitable candidates including women are encouraged to apply for these positions. Applicants should send their CV and two recent photographs by the 26 December, 1993

Cox's Bazar Gonoshasthaya Kendra
Dhaka office : House # 14E, Road # 6, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205
Smoker need not apply

MH MENG HORNG SHIPPING PTE LTD

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES/SHIPPERS

M.V. FONG SHIN V-9335 IMP. ROT NO. 1008/93 WILL TAKE BERTH CHITTAGONG PORT ON OR ABOUT 17TH DECEMBER 1993 WITH IMPORT CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE FROM VARIOUS PORTS AND ALSO CONTAINERS EX-SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE DELIVERY OF GOODS IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISCHARGE. SURVEY APPLICATION MUST BE PRESENTED TO US WITHIN 3 DAYS OF DISCHARGE. NO CLAIM WILL BE ENTERTAINED NOR ANY LIABILITIES ACCEPTED IN RESPECT OF DAMAGE TO AND OR SHORT LANDINGS OF CONSIGNMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM STORAGE SHED, IN EVENT OF CONSIGNEES TAKING DIRECT DELIVERY SURVEY TO BE HELD AT SHIP'S SIDE ONLY.

CONSIGNMENTS NOT CLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF UNLOADING EX THE SHIP ARE LIABLE TO BE CONFISCATED AND AUCTIONED AS PER SEC.167(8) AND SEC. 82 RESPECTIVELY OF THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE/REFERENCE.

THE VESSEL WILL LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO.965/93 FOR SINGAPORE AND ALSO FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO EAST/WEST COAST OF U.S., CANADA, U.K., CONTINENT, MEDITERRANEAN/JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND PORTS.

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