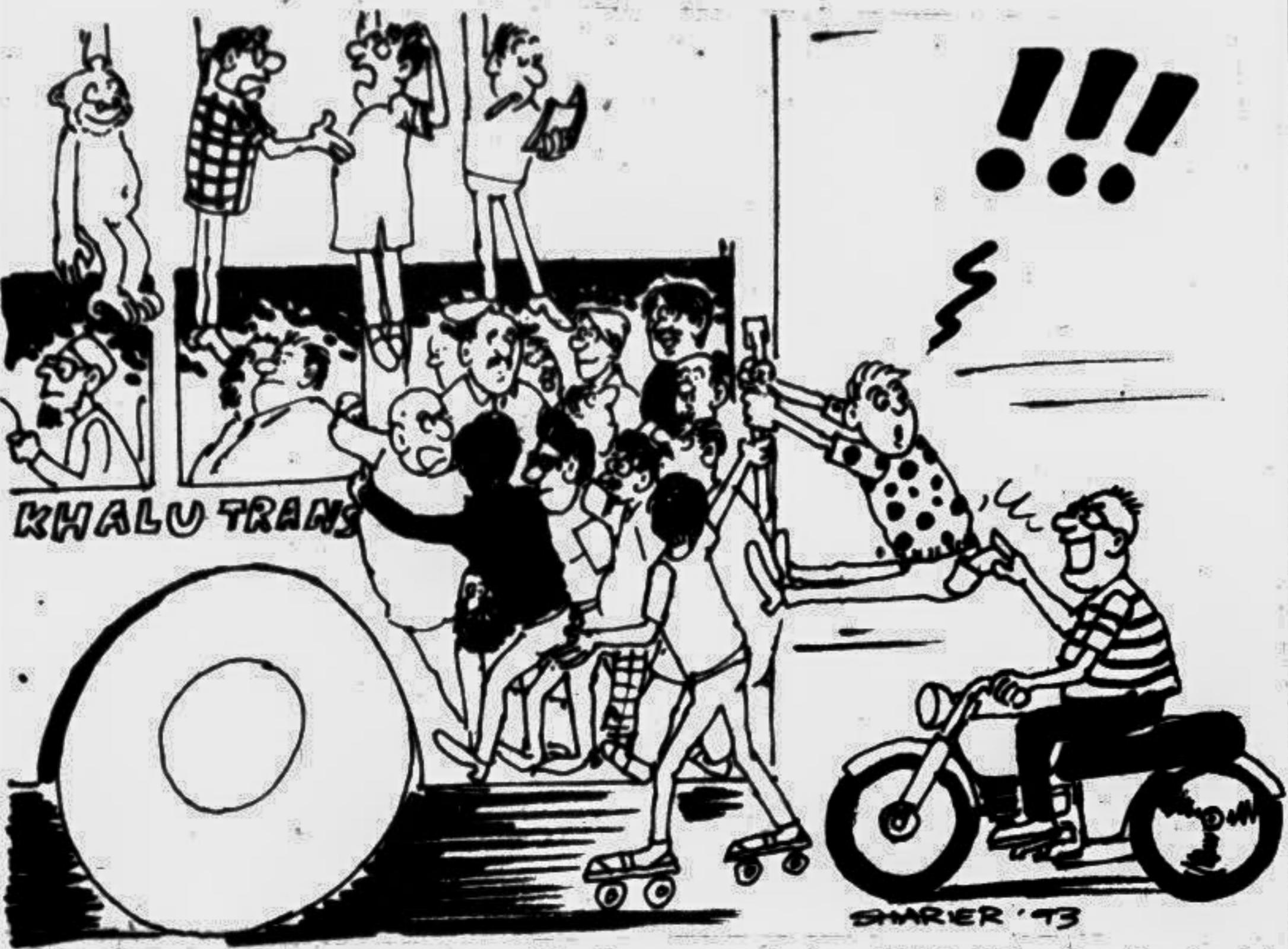


Dhaka Day by Day

The Lumbering Behemoth

by Shamsad Mortuza



A group of youngmen wait in the middle of a road on an island, apparently engrossed in the bioscope relayed live from the busy city streets. A first glance can brand them as a gang of street Romeoos — at least from their dresses and their particular interest in the hooded rickshaws.

However much interested they seem in the street affairs, these youngmen never forget — even now and then — to stretch their eyes to the extreme right from where they expect a double-decker. They know the largest behemoth on the city roads will have to slow down here to take a turn; slow enough to get easy ride.

Easy ride, indeed! All one has to do is to have a ride from the middle of the road is to concentrate on the waist of one of the passengers, on the footboard and then run and jump for it. Never mind if you step on someone's foot because sooner or later you will be avenged. And by the time, the real bus-stop appears, from where you were theoretically supposed to get on, there will be hardly any room left for another passenger. Don't even think someone will dare penetrate the human shield at the gate to get down. Some come on board — on a double, double-decker BRTC bus.

Only a couple of months back 25 double-decker buses joined the government fleet of buses to meet the transport crisis. With a discreet height of standing comfortably on board and with a slower pace to get on and off in a convenient place — the double-decker buses duly deserve the extra fare the government charges. Even for the students these buses do not have the 50 per cent concession. Well, of course a bulky student can always have the right to pay less!

If you think 'bully' as a strong word you are at your liberty to invent an ingenuous excuse to escape the fare which is higher than the wheeled boxes better known as the minibuses. Why don't you yell back to the conductor from the footboard, "Can't you see my hands are engaged in grabbing other's waists or inserting in other's pocket?" Or, "I left my third hand at home!" Or pedantically advise, "Why don't you arrange some holding roads at the gate."

Surely, the manufacturers never thought of so many people hanging on the footboard. Thereby the entrance of the bus is just a sloping steel floor board which opens at the stair case to climb up to the top floor. "Only the sight-steers and long route passengers take the trouble of climbing up," said one conductor, adding, "the rest, however, prefer to flock at the gate. As for the seated passengers, they usually get up from the main terminals."

"Some debut rider also prefer to have the front seat at the top floor," the conductor added. He went on saying how the other day a passenger simply rushed down from the top floor of the bus. "He was afraid to see none driving the moving bus," the conductor grinned. Well, fear is another feeling associated, albeit unnecessarily, with a double-decker. One rickshaw passenger said, "It's really terrifying when the gigantic vehicle stands beside you, groaning and roaring". "I always have the feeling (God forbid) that the thing will fall down," said another.

Interestingly, no accident of the double-decker buses has so far been reported. Well, that's because a double-decker driver cannot be too daring to show off. Besides, being a part of the government transport system, these buses do not care to compete madly. With so many plus points, one may assume, the government should increase the number of the double-decker buses.

Noorjahan Award for journalists

Delta Life Insurance Com-

pany has introduced "Noorjahan Memorial Award" for journalists in memory of a village wench who fell victim to social evil, reports UNB.

The award will be given for investigative reports and features, published on national dailies and weeklies, on repression, killing, trafficking and establishment of legal rights of women and already given an impact on society, administra-

tion and the state.

This was announced by Managing Director of the Insurance Company Safat Ahmed Chowdhury at a press conference yesterday at the Jatiya Press Club.

The award carries Tk 25,000 in cash, one crest and a certificate. Reports and features published from January 1 to December 31 will be eligible for the competition for that year. The award will be announced

on the first day of each Bangla year.

Noorjahan, a young woman of Chhatakchhara village in Sylhet, committed suicide on January 10 last year as "social evil forces pelted 101 stones to her in the name of justice, insulting and violating the womanhood."

Adviser of the company Kazi Fazlur Rahman was present at the press conference.

Metropolitan

Tk 500cr Hamdard Foundation project

Hamdard Foundation of Pakistan will undertake a project at a cost of Tk 500 crore in Bangladesh for research on unani and herbal medicines which had popularity in many South-East Asian countries, reports UNB.

Visiting Governor of the Pakistan province of Sindh, Hakim Mohammad Said, also President of the Foundation, called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday and apprised him of the project and his organisation's activities in development of unani and herbal medicines.

He also discussed matters of mutual interests, including involvement of his foundation in promotion of education for the poor and orphans by setting up schools and colleges in Bangladesh.

He conveyed warm greetings to President from the President of Pakistan.

President Biswas stressed the need for more research on unani and herbal medicines which had popularity in many South-East Asian countries.

He also mentioned the contribution of Hamdard Foundation in providing medicare facilities for the needy and appreciated its plan to set up a research-oriented project on Herbal Medicine in the country.

He assured all cooperation to the foundation in this regard and hoped with this venture the rural population of the country, largely dependent on traditional medicines, would be benefited.

He conveyed his best wishes to the President of Pakistan.

Secretary to the President Ataul Haq, High Commissioner of Pakistan in Bangladesh Anwar Kemal and Prof Nurul Islam were present in the meeting.

Weather

Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with a fair sky is likely to prevail over the country in next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Monday).

Met Office forecasts, slight fall in night temperature is likely over Bangladesh.

The country's highest temperature of 28 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and Dinajpur and the lowest of 9.4 degrees Celsius was recorded in Srimongol yesterday.

The sun sets today (Monday) at 5:29 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 6:44 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Max	Min	9 am 6 pm
Dhaka	26.0	11.2 77 77
Chittagong	25.8	13.0 84 64
Rajshahi	26.2	11.0 92 70
Khulna	27.3	11.8 79 66
Barisal	26.6	11.2 80 72
Sylhet	26.5	13.5 89 69
Dinajpur	28.0	11.8 94 77
Cox's Bazar	27.6	15.0 65

Governor of Sindh meets Keramat

The visiting Governor of Sindh Province of Pakistan and the Founder-President of Hapaid (Waqf) Pakistan Hakim Mohammad Syeed called on the Minister for Religious Affairs Mohammad Keramat Ali at the latter's Secretariat office yesterday morning, reports BSS.

The governor stayed with the minister for some time and discussed matters of bilateral interest.



Campaign fever for the upcoming mayor election of the Dhaka City Corporation and ward commissioners has already gripped the city. A campaigner, dressed as a clown, trying to attract support for his candidate.

— Star photo

বাংলাদেশ
টেলিভিশন
BTV

Monday

4:30	Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
4:35	News in Bangla
4:45	Educational programme: Can You Do It?
5:25	Sports programme: Football Italian Soccer Milan vs Rome
6:20	Moder Garab Modar Asha
6:45	Open University
7:25	Nazrul songs
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Population programme: Shukher Thikana
9:00	Special programme on Tagore songs: Geet Bitan
10:00	News in English
10:30	Comedy series: Murphy Brown
10:55	Musical programme: Disco Rally
11:30	Khabar/The News
11:40	Tomorrow's programme summary

Obituary

Kuntal Krishna Majumdar, an advocate of Lalmonirhat, died of cardiac arrest on January 5 at Baruipur, West Bengal. He was 91, says a press release. He left behind two sons — Ranendu Majumdar, a noted theatre personality, Ramendu Majumdar and two daughters — Dipali Sinha Ray and Ratna Ray and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.



কুন্তল কৃষ্ণ মজুমদার
বালুপুর জন কান্ত প্রবন্ধ নিয়ন্ত্রণ
বিষয় আয়ু ৯১



Chhatra League (B-K) observes its founding day

By DU Correspondent
The JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League (B-K) yesterday held a discussion meeting at the Dhaka University campus in observance of its 46th founding anniversary.

The meeting was participated, among others, by Kazi Aref Ahmed, Hasanul Huq Inu, Sharif Nurul Ambia, Abdullaheen Quayeum and Rokonuzzaman Rokon with BCL (B-K) president Ruhul Quddus Babu in the chair.

Addressing the meeting held in front of the Arts Faculty building at the DU, Aref Ahmed said that a section of people was conspiring to distort the history of the Liberation War.

He, however, added that the students should launch greater movement to establish the spirit of Liberation War.

Hasanul Huq Inu demanded trial of Golam Azam and a ban on politics based on fundamentalism.

মুক্তিযুদ্ধের গান ও ব্যাণ্ড শো

'৭১ — এর যাত্রী আয়োজিত

পরিবেশনায়: দেশের জনপ্রিয় ব্যাণ্ড — রেনেসো

আরো গান গাইবেন : রথীন্দ্র নাথ রায়, শাকিল জাফর,

তপন চৌধুরী, রবসামান আনোয়ার

বিপাশা হায়াত

স্থান : শিল্পকলা একাডেমী মিলনায়তন

সময় : সকা঳ ৬টা

তারিখ : শনিবার, ১৫ জানুয়ারী, ১৯৯৪

প্রবেশপত্রের প্রার্থনাঃ

সাগরপাবলিশার্স, বেলী রোড দুর্গ পিকচার লাইব্রেরী, ধানমন্ডি

ডলচে টিটো জেলাটো, বনানী অলিয়াস ফ্লাসেজ, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা।

মহান মুক্তিযুদ্ধের স্মরণে স্বাধীন তাত্ত্ব ডিভিগ গানের অনুষ্ঠান ও ব্যাণ্ড শো

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১৫,০০,০০০

প্রথম লটারীর সফল ড্র-এর পর

ক্রীড়া উন্নয়ন তহবিল

২য় লটারী

প্রথম পুরস্কার

পনের লক্ষ টাকা

দু'টি দ্বিতীয় পুরস্কার

১টি করে মারতি গাড়ী (৮০০ সিসি)

সর্বমোট ৩৭৫টি আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার

সকল বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক ও বিজ্ঞ কেন্দ্রে

২য় লটারীর টিকিট পাওয়া যাচ্ছে।

ঝঃ ৭ই জানুয়ারীর পরিবর্তে ২০শে জানুয়ারী ১৯৯৪

প্রতিজ্ঞা স্বীকৃত
বালুপুর সরকার
অন্তর্বিত

আজই আপনার টিকিট সংগ্রহ করুন

ক্রীড়া উন্নয়নে অবদান রাখুন

অস