

Dhaka Day by Day

Translating Dream into Reality

By Asiuzzaman

Unreal dreams always turn into a nightmare. But there are people who always cherish a realistic dream. Their dreams come true in course of time through their perseverance and dedication. Professor M R Khan is one of such a rare breed, who dedicated his life for the welfare and medicare of the children.

"Not a single child should die untreated," this is the dream of the paediatrician. To achieve this goal Dr. Khan founded the Child Health Foundation in 1983. The foundation now has 11 branches and is serving some 100,000 underprivileged mother and children in remote village areas. But the programme failed to satiate his desire. He has long been planning for an institute which can provide all sorts of medical help for the children. Dr. Khan marked the closing day of the year 1993 by laying the foundation stone of his long-cherished institute, the Institute of Child Health. The nearly two-crore-taka project will be completed in three phases by 1998. The institute will have facilities for treatment of 54,000 outdoor patients and 1,825 indoor patients, training for 20 post-graduate doctors, 20 intern doctors, 60 nurses and 450 paramedics.

Dr Khan has plans to set up similar institutes in other parts of the country to serve the poor and underprivileged mother and children. The institute will be the first of its kind in the country in the private sector.

Born in August 1928 at Satkhira, Mohammad Rafiq Khan did his Matriculation from the Satkhira Pran Nath High School in 1943. He completed his L.Sc from the Presidency College, Calcutta and got himself admitted to Calcutta Medical College. He did his MBBS in 1952 and went to England where he completed his DTM & H, DCH and MRCP in Edinburgh School of Medicine, School of Medicine, London, and Royal College of Physicians between

1957 and 1962. In 1974 he obtained the FCPS degree from Bangladesh College of Physician and Surgeons, then got the FRGP from the Royal College of Physicians in 1978. He participated in a number of training courses in the U.K and Calcutta.

He returned to the country in 1963 and joined Dhaka Medical College as an Associate Professor. On the following year he was sent to the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital where he organised the Paediatrics Department. During his illustrious medical career, Prof. Khan organised and developed the post Graduate Medical Education at the IPGM & R and Dhaka Shishu Hospital where he was the director during 1978-79. He retired from Government service in 1988.

Besides his pre-occupation with daily medical counselling at his residence and child clinic 'Nibedita', Dr. Khan worked as a visiting professor and Honorary Consultant with IPGM & R, ICDDR, B and IRDEM.

Prof. Khan founded a Children Hospital in his home town of Satkhira and a secondary school at Raulpur and the Central Hospital in Dhaka. He is also the founder of the country's first female medical college at Uttara, Dhaka.

He was awarded President's Gold Medal in 1986 for his contribution in the field of Child Health. His name was published in the International

WHO's Who of Intellectuals in 1987. In 1992 he was awarded the World Astrology Society Gold Medals and Sher-e-Bangla National Gold Medal for social welfare and contribution to medical science. He was given the poet Nazrul National award in 1992.

Prof. Khan travelled in the United States, Canada, Japan, Nepal, Thailand, the Philippines, China, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and Saudi Arabia and studied the medical infrastructure of those countries. He has made good use of the well of experiences.



M R Khan knows how to realize his dream.



Inside view of a room of the Dhaka University Registrar Building — the officers of the varsity went on strike from yesterday. — Star photo

Classical music conference begins today

By Staff Correspondent

A week-long classical music conference to welcome the 15th century of the Bangla calendar and to bid farewell to the past century begins today at the Shilpakala Academy.

Prof. Jahanara Begum, State Minister for Cultural Affairs will inaugurate the conference as chief guest at 6 pm while State Minister for Establishment Barrister Aminul Huq will be present as special guest.

The country's leading classical singers, Sitar and sarod players will perform during the conference.

The conference has been organised by the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Art, painting competition held

State Minister for Women's Affairs Sarwari Rahman yesterday said, children of our country were earning name and fame by participating at the international art and painting competitions every year, reports BSS.

She was inaugurating a children's art and painting competition at the premises of Bangladesh Shishu Academy in the capital.

Zia Shishu Kishore Sangathan of Dhaka Metropolitan City Unit, has organised the competition on the occasion of 58th birth anniversary of late President Ziaur Rahman.

The state minister said, President Ziaur Rahman established the Shishu Academy for flourishing children's latent talents.

Adviser of Zia Shishu Kishore Sangathan Dr Shahida Rafiq, President of the central unit of the sangathan Sirajul Islam Selim and president of the Dhaka metropolitan city unit of the organisation were present, among others, on the occasion.

About two hundred children took part in the competition.



Zia Shishu Kishore Sangathan Dhaka Metropolitan city unit organised a children painting and art competition at the Shishu Academy premises yesterday on the occasion of late Ziaur Rahman's 58th birthday. Begum Sarwari Rahman, State Minister for Women Affairs, inaugurated the competition. — Star photo

Fazlul Huq laid to rest

Late Flight Sergeant (Retd) Fazlul Huq was laid to eternal rest at the Mirpur Freedom Fighters' graveyard yesterday, reports BSS.

Sergeant Huq, one of the accused of the so-called Agartala Conspiracy Case and an Awami League leader, breathed his last Sunday.

Earlier, his Namaz-e-Janaza was held at the Baitul Mukarram Mosque after Zohr prayers. The Janaza was attended by a large number of people including senior party leaders — Tofael Ahmed, MP, Barrister KS Nabi, Fazlul Huq, Mirza Sultan Raza, Rashed Musharraf, MP, Co (Retd) Sawkat Ali, MP, and Obaidul Kader.

Leaders of other political parties including Dr. Kamal Hussain, Rashed Khan Menon, MP, Kazi Aref Ahmed, AFM Mahbulul Huq and Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury and Khondaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed also attended.

Happy Birthday

TO NATASHA



NANA, JETHU, DADDY, MUMMY, ANU, MONU, AUNTIES & COUSINS

Completion of rural development project by June likely

Implementation of 133 schemes costing about Taka 3 crore 25 lakh including a foreign exchange component of Taka 2 crore 56 lakh under the Rural Development Project-IV is going on in full swing in Rajbari District, reports BSS.

Work of the projects are likely to be completed by June this year.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs prof Jahanara Begum Sunday inaugurated the construction work of the Arabaria Water Resource Project costing about 32 lakh taka under the project. A 1.52 X 1.83 meter water regulator and a sluice pipe of 1.22 meter diameter would be commissioned and an eleven hundred meter link canal would be re-excavated.

The state minister was informed that after completion of this water resource project about two thousand acres of cultivable land would come under irrigation facilities. As a result of an additional amount of 31 lakh taka's food grains would be produced annually at Ramkantapur and Baniboha unions of Rajbari Sadar Thana. Apart from this employment opportunity would be created for a large number of jobless

people. She also inaugurated some projects including a school building which have already been completed.

Addressing a public meeting on the occasion Prof Jahanara Begum said that the present government believes in the politics of production in the politics of hollow slogans. She said that 19-point programme of late president Ziaur Rahman was the key to economic emancipation of country's common man. She called upon all to lead their cooperation for building a happy and prosperous Bangladesh.

Office-bearers of Dip agriculturist Parishad

CHITTAGONG, Jan 17: Jadunath Datta and S M Abul Malek have been elected unopposed president and general secretary respectively of the Chittagong District chapter of Bangladesh Diploma agriculturist Parishad for the year 1994-95, reports BSS. The election was held at its Dewanhat district election office on Friday last.

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Candidates gear up campaign

RAJSHAHI, Jan 17: Candidates further geared up election campaign in the city today with the objective to motivate the voters in their favour, reports BSS.

Mayor and ward commissioner candidates continued to

seek blessings of the voters so that they could win the city corporation elections to be held on January 30.

Political analysts said this time voters will be divided into three categories — political consciousness and relations.

BNP nominee Mizanur Rahman Minu today visited Kalabagan, Lichubagan, Rajshahi Medical College and attended a function organised by Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal at Hetankhan.

Advocate Abdul Hai, president Rajshahi district BNP and Rizvi Ahmed, former vice-president, RUCSU, were among others, spoke on the occasion.

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Weather

Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

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

The Met Office forecasts, night temperature is likely to fall by 2 to 3 degrees Celsius or more at places over the country.

Mild, or moderate cold-wave is likely to sweep over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and the regions of Sylhet and Comilla during the next two days.

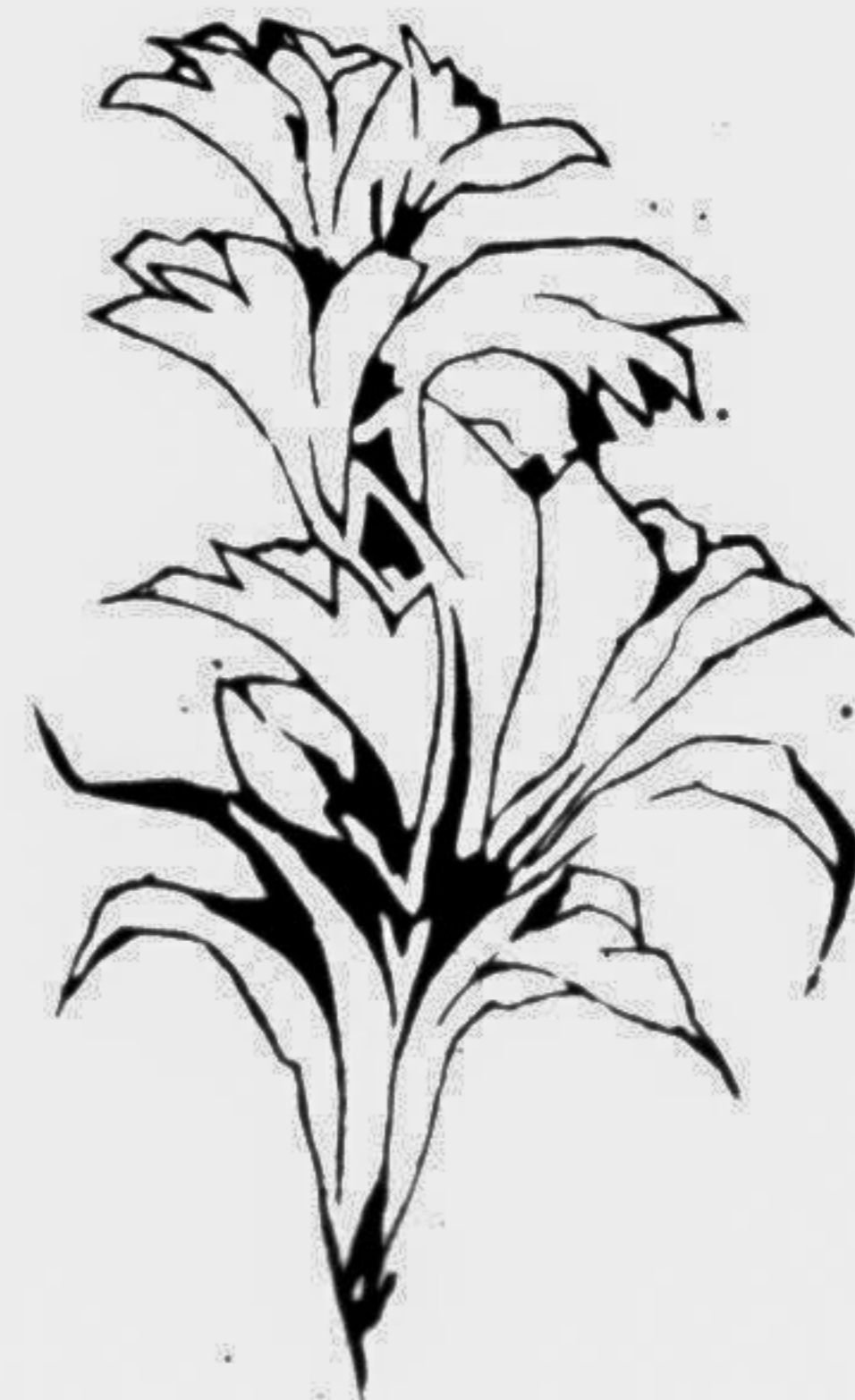
The country's highest temperature of 28.0 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and the lowest 10.0 degrees in Chuadanga.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 5:35 pm and rises at 6:43 am tomorrow (Wednesday).

The maximum and the minimum temperatures and relative humidity recorded in some of the 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	22.2	12.2	81	54
Chittagong	24.7	17.0	77	58
Rajshahi	21.3	11.2	88	77
Khulna	22.2	11.5	71	64
Bansal	22.8	12.6	76	56
Cox's Bazar	27.1	19.5	73	60
Sylhet	22.6	13.6	95	62
Dinajpur	20.6	11.5	88	89

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