



# Experience in 5th Asia Pacific Children's Convention

**W**E went to attend the 5th Asia Pacific Children's Convention '93 in Fukuoka, Japan from Bangladesh. We had 9 members in our team. We were eight children and one team-leader. I was one of them. I am an eleven years old girl and a student of Class-VIII in University Laboratory School.

I am a painter. I received many national and international awards for painting. For these awards I could represent our country in the convention.

First we went from Bangladesh to Bangkok on 25th of July. We stayed one night in Bangkok. On the next day we left for Fukuoka at 8.30 am. When we reached Fukuoka airport it was 5.00 pm. We were received at the airport by the members of the executive committee of the convention. After completing the airport formalities we went to the Marine Camp by bus.

The Marine Camp was very big and beautiful. It was near the sea. In the camp there were almost 200 children of different countries. I had many friends

there. We stayed 2 days in the Marine Camp. During our stay at the Marine Camp, the Bhutanese children were our room-mate. The things I enjoyed the most was the camp fire, dance and the beauty of the Marine Camp. At the Marine Camp we talked and exchanged ideas of our countries to each other.

I give 6 of my paintings to the Marine Camp Museum. At the Marine Camp we had a class where we were taught how to make paper toys and I attended these classes with great interest.

On the 8th morning I was handed over to the members of my host family. My host father and host sister came to take me. They took me to the Lumino-nakamichi Marine World. It was a interesting place to visit, there were many water species. I saw the games played by dolphin, a friendly animal. From there I went to the house of my host family. The members of my host family received me with a friendly smile. I had a beautiful host family of 6 members. My father's name was Yutaka Hirotsu, and my

mother's Mrs. Tomoko, brother Shiro, sister Rie and loving grandma and grandpa. My father works with the Fukuoka City Bank. When I went to their house I saw one of my mother's sister and her two sons. They came to visit my host family.

The next day we went to the amusement park. I liked it very much, it was full of fun. The thing I liked most there was the ghost house, though it was a bit scary.

The next day I was taken to see few old architectural structures. This included temples, and a museum. The names were Kushida Shrine, Hakata Historical Museum, Soluku Temple.

Next day I went to another place by a train named Shinkansen. It is the fastest train of the world. We went to Hakata City and Tenjin city by this train. My host father showed me his office and Hakata, few famous buildings, and the biggest shopping centre. On our way home I visited the work

place of my father. The following day we went to Otori Park to see Hamabi. It seemed very beautiful by night and I was attracted by it. From there I went to see my host grandfather (paternal). They all were very warm and hospitable.

Next day again we went out for a trip. We went to Fukuoka city science museum, Fukuoka Tower, and the Fukuoka sea beach.

Again next day we went to visit the Dazailu Tenmanggu-shrine I had my friend Molly with me. After that we went to another amusement park. That afternoon I and the rest of my team went to a place where we had a picnic and the host family mothers prepared dishes for us. We performed dances and songs.

The date of departure soon came near and I felt very sad to leave my host family behind. 2nd August was the main programme date of the 5th Asia Pacific Children's Convention '93. This programme was held at the Fukuoka dome where we all entered by parade. We were 200 children from 43 destinations. We were divided into different colour groups such as Red, Green, Pink, Purple, Orange, Navy blue and Skyblue. We the children from Bangladesh were in the Navyblue group.

The programme began with an inaugural song composed by the Fukuoka School children and we headed towards our dais where we had to perform our programme. We all wore tea

shirts of different colours divided according to our groups. We had at least one family members from our host families mostly being brothers and sisters. They also wore same tea shirts like us. This was given to us by the Executive Committee members of the convention. We said hallow to Mr Donald Duck. The function was graced by many honourable guests of Fukuoka city. Citizens of Fukuoka city gave us all our national flags drawn in a piece of paper and presented a fire protection dance which was

After the oath taking ceremony we performed our function and it was a very successful one and appreciated by all. We also gave interviews regarding the function performed by us. There were many songs in the ceremony performed by us as well as the Fukuoka ladies and last of all the programme ended with a melodious song, sung by a Japanese lady. The music and the lyric of that song I still bear in my heart and the words were as follows: 'See you again, smile again?'

With this song the roof of the dome opened wide and we all could see the bright sky above, with all its wideness and unity. We all returned to our host family and made preparations for the next morning.

Finally the fun days was over. I was very sad to leave my host family behind. Without them he days, wouldn't have been so nice and enjoyable. One thing I must mention that they were all very kind and warm, they remind me of the Japanese hospitality. Specially, I felt very gloomy for my host mother who had tears in her eyes at the time of departure at the airport. The tears made me realise once more the truth that 'A mother's love is universal irrespective of race, colour and boundaries.'

When I see the gifts, presented to me by them, it makes me feel the warmth of a family so dear to me in an unknown city like Fukuoka.

I hope that we can cherish in our minds the friendship and unity, and the oath to preserve and protect our planet, because it is the only one we have.

# Physics Phobia

**by Zinnia Ahmed**

**J**UST the mention of Physics And I used to tremble like a leaf. It was a bad omen to me: it was a jinx But now, that it's over, I can give a sigh of relief.

Those laws, principles and theories Used to make my head spin. Finally I can sleep in peace And put all thoughts of Physics into the bin.

Electricity, Heat and Mechanics Were all a terrible fright. Whew! I'm done with Physics No more worries and anxieties during the night.

Newton's Laws of Motion And The Archimedes Principle Made me cry, made me moan. Oh, don't ever remind me of them, please.

The Gas Laws were a headache. All the same there I did study Just for Abbot's sake. But those I don't again want to see.

It was electro-magnetic induction Which used to make me shudder Coz they were worse than refraction. Oh! Was there anything ever any harder?

Waves are longitudinal. Waves are transverse. To me such stuff were hardly intelligible. And sure did they shake up my nerves.

You may think I was mad You may think I had a mania But the terrible truth is: I had Physics Phobia.



**Compiled by Adeeb Z Mahmud**

**Hey, Guys, check out these new quiz questions. To make the quiz club more interesting, we've divided it into four different categories — science, literature, entertainment and sports. Test your general knowledge and see how many you can answer without cheating of course!**

**Due to unavoidable reasons our regular quiz club could not be published. We sincerely regret the inconvenience and hope to print it regularly again. Answers on 4.2.94.**

- ### Question
1. What kind of animal is a Merino?
  2. What's the common term for acoustic energy?
  3. What planet is our solar system's longest volcano on — Jupiter, Earth or Mars?
  4. What kind of crafts made up World War II's 'wolfpacks'?
  5. Which normally fly better — cocks or hens?
  6. What romantic Shakespeare title character is banished after he kills Tybalt?
  7. What's the English title of the Tolstoy novel 'Voyna i Mir'?
  8. What fictional detective fell to his death at the Reichenbach Falls?
  9. What horse's hassles start when a drunken rider makes him gallop over stones with one's shoe lost?
  10. How many men are there on a dead man's chest, according to 'Treasure Island'?
  11. Who were the first two singing siblings to boast a No. 1 LP and a No. 1 single each?
  12. What hit 1985 movie contains the line, 'who the hell is John F Kennedy'?
  13. What member of the 'A-team' is the best mechanic?
  14. How many women became meals for the hungry shark in 'Jaws'?
  15. What pop group had a hit singing about Rasputin?
  16. What kind of hobbyist counts perforations and studies watermarks?
  17. What country beat India in 1960 to keep it from winning its 7th consecutive Olympic gold medal in hockey?
  18. How many meters can an Olympic Swimmer Swim without turning?
  19. What point is it when a tennis player is within one point of winning a match?
  20. How old was tennis whiz Steffi Graf when she turned pro?

# "Nature's fault"

**by Samia R Islam**

**S**OMETIMES dream seem so real that people can't even decide whether they were true or not. I, like those people, have had a realistic dream.

It all happened when we went to America to visit my aunt. One night my parents left me and my cousin and went to a party. At about 10.15 pm my cousin went to the toilet and I was alone in her bedroom.

When suddenly, I saw a glowing door appear! The intensity of the light almost blinded me. I don't know what made me, but, I started to walk towards the door! I entered the door and saw, to my great surprise, a beautiful garden! It had countless of flowers, beautiful trees and a little pond in which many swans were swimming!

I turned around when I saw a person (or something) wearing a white cloak. I, at once, felt a stone in the pit of my stomach. It lowered its head and bowed. I was so stunned, that I didn't even realize that many such people, by this time were crowding around me. They were also dressed in the same manner! The person who was still bowing, finally, said, 'welcome to 'Ghostland'! I am the king of this place and I am called King Dostp. I know it's hard to pronounce. You are the second human to come here. Most people are scared of ghosts. I am glad you did not faint after seeing us. It is a pleasure.'

I experienced a tremendous jerk! But what's this? I was right in my cousin's bed! It couldn't have been a dream!

It seemed so real! When my cousin came back, after listening to me, she laughed and laughed. And then a sudden thought came to me, — 'Was it really nature's fault? or Have I been dreaming?'



# Murder on "Queen Elizabeth"

**by Rabeth Khan**

**T**HE big que in the pictorious harbour of Alexandria looked like an army of ants waiting to seek its prey. People of different nationalities crowded from all over the world to participate in a fifteen day long cruise in the river Nile aboard "Queen Elizabeth" which could accommodate more than three hundred people at a time.

Out of the lot, the most conspicuous were Mr and Mrs Twit. They were a talkative couple. Among others were Mr James, with an eccentric look, Bob Dyles a clean-shaven affluent businessman and an old lady Mrs Clavit.

What ever type the passengers were, the cruise was entertaining. The lost bell rang signalling the departure of "Queen Elizabeth." The passengers rumbled up the stairs till the anchor of the ship was withdrawn. The deck was full of people waving to their dear ones.

"Queen Elizabeth" is a cruiser owned by an oil-Sheikh of Qatar, Ali Hamadi. The ship had about one-fifty rooms and more than fifty rooms for V I

Ps. It had its own casino, a magnificent bar, a modern gymnasium and two swimming pools. Aboard the cruiser Mr and Mrs Twit were boasting about their riches to others: Mr James passed a suspicious glance to every one he saw; Mrs Clavit was surrounded by two rough looking men and Bob Dyles was flirting around with the high-heeled ladies.

A loud and clear mascalumie voice announced over the speaker requesting all the guest to assemble in the auditorium. So accordingly the guests went to the auditorium and waited anxiously.

The captain of the ship entered the big, crowded hall full of people with another man dressed in a leather jacket and torn jeans. The latter informed the guests that, he was Galib Al Nasser the leader of terrorist group and he with his group of twelve men have put the ship under his command. But he assured that no one will be harmed if they obey his commands. He also produced a photograph of a young man, whom he brandished as an

# Heart

**by Md Ziaul Haque**

**O**NCE long ago I had a lively heart. Where the blood of love and tears of sorrow were flowing. Then my heart often asked me, "How are you?" As newer times came; My heart became tiny. My heart turned bloodless. Only the bulk of rudeness remained there. And long after I realized that my heart had left me, Alone! But alive! I realized that no blood will ever come out of it! Hey, heart where are you?

# "The Deserted House"

**by Gazala Yasmin Hoque (Urmi)**

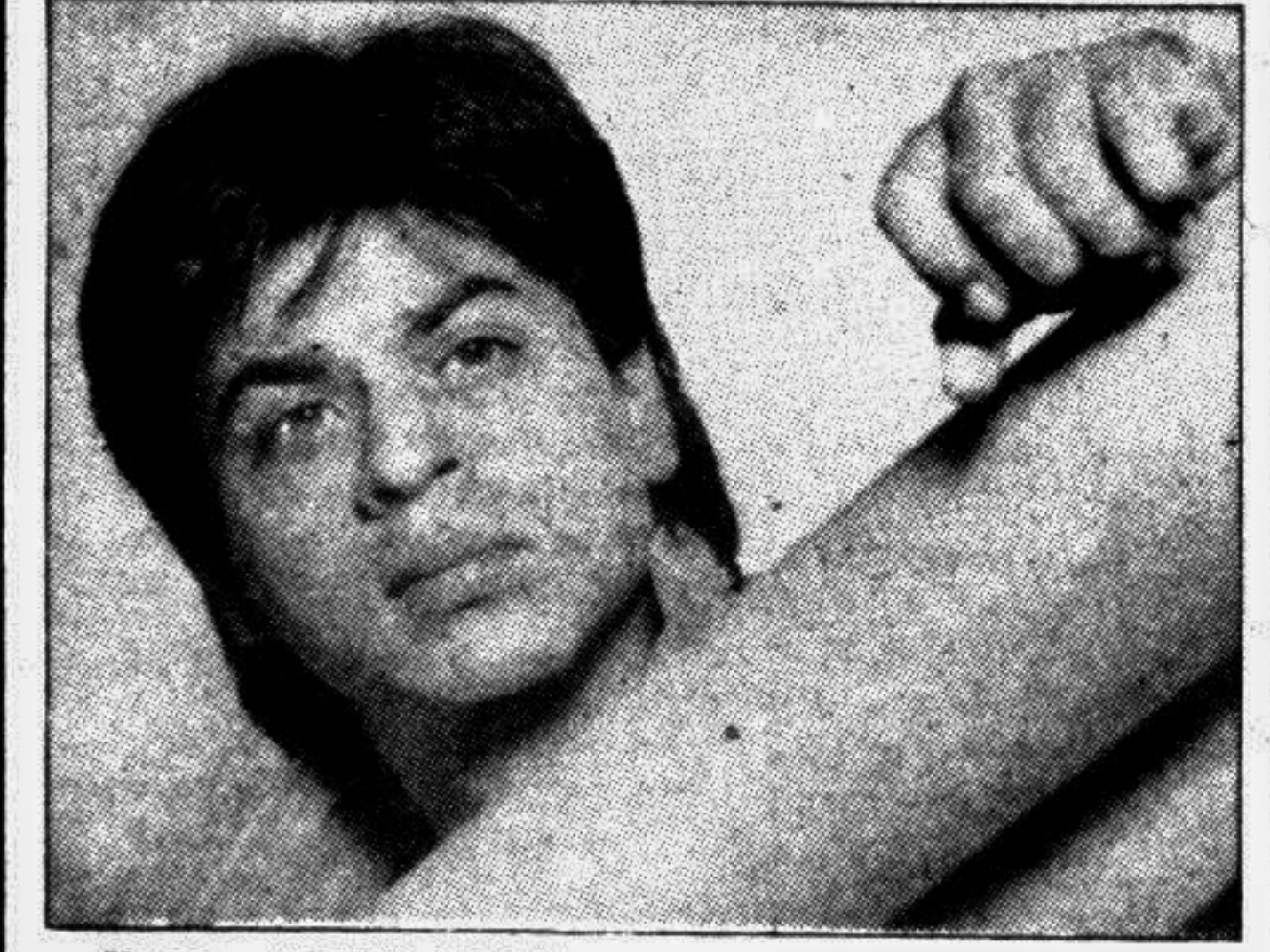
staring at a picture in the newspaper. It was the same lonely house I saw that afternoon. The newspaper's headlines were "The truth about this deserted house."

The story was that, it was called "Khan House" after the family called Khan. The Khan family had come from Pakistan and settled in Dhaka. They had two sons and a daughter. One night when they were all sound asleep there was this strange sound as if someone was hurt. Everybody woke up instantly. Nazia, as was the name of the daughter, ran down the stairs to see what was the matter. As she was running down fast she did not watch her step and fell down rolling and rolling. Then she saw a figure in white with large red eyes or rather bulging-out eyes and the figure was still. She could not bear seeing this ugly figure and she screamed. As soon as her parents and brothers heard her, they came down but also stopped when they saw the huge white figure. The white figure picked Nazia up with its hands and was about to take her away when her father shot him with a rifle.

They were surprised when they saw him still standing there and Nazia trying her best to free herself of its grip. Suddenly they found out that they were surrounded by another five of the white figures. The mother screamed and they all ran, except Nazia. She tore herself free and was about to follow the others upstairs when a voice like a human being spoke up, saying that they meant no harm to her or to her family. But that they should clear out of the house as soon as possible. She could not believe a word she had heard! The next morning she told her parents what those strange crea-



# STAR PROFILE



**Name — Shah Rukh Khan**  
**Age — 28**  
**Marital status — Married**  
**Did you know that:**  
He enjoys watching the films of Amitabh Bachchan and Madhuri Dixit.  
He wants to be a director in future but won't act and direct simultaneously.  
Shah Rukh wishes that his first child be a daughter.  
His wife is more impressed by the films of Sanjay Dutt and Amir Khan than his ones, and this opinion of his wife inspired him to do well.  
He never envied his opponents and on the contrary is pleased that more actors of his age group is coming up.  
Shah Rukh prefers to be with his family in the spare moments than at wild parties.  
He loves football.

# Bet You Didn't Know!

- When the volcano Krakatoa erupted in 1883, the sound was heard in Texas, USA.
- When you blush, your stomach-lining also becomes redder.
- During the chariot scene in Ben Hur, a small red car can be seen driving in the distance.
- Only male canaries can sing.
- The population of the world could fit on to the Isle of Wight, though there would be standing room only.
- Oracles cannot cough.
- The inspiration for Defoe's Robinson Crusoe was a sailor called Alexander Selkirk who spent four years alone on a desert island.
- A solar eclipse cannot last longer than seven minutes and fifty-eight seconds.
- Scientists have found that the number of UFO sightings increase when Mars is nearest the Earth.