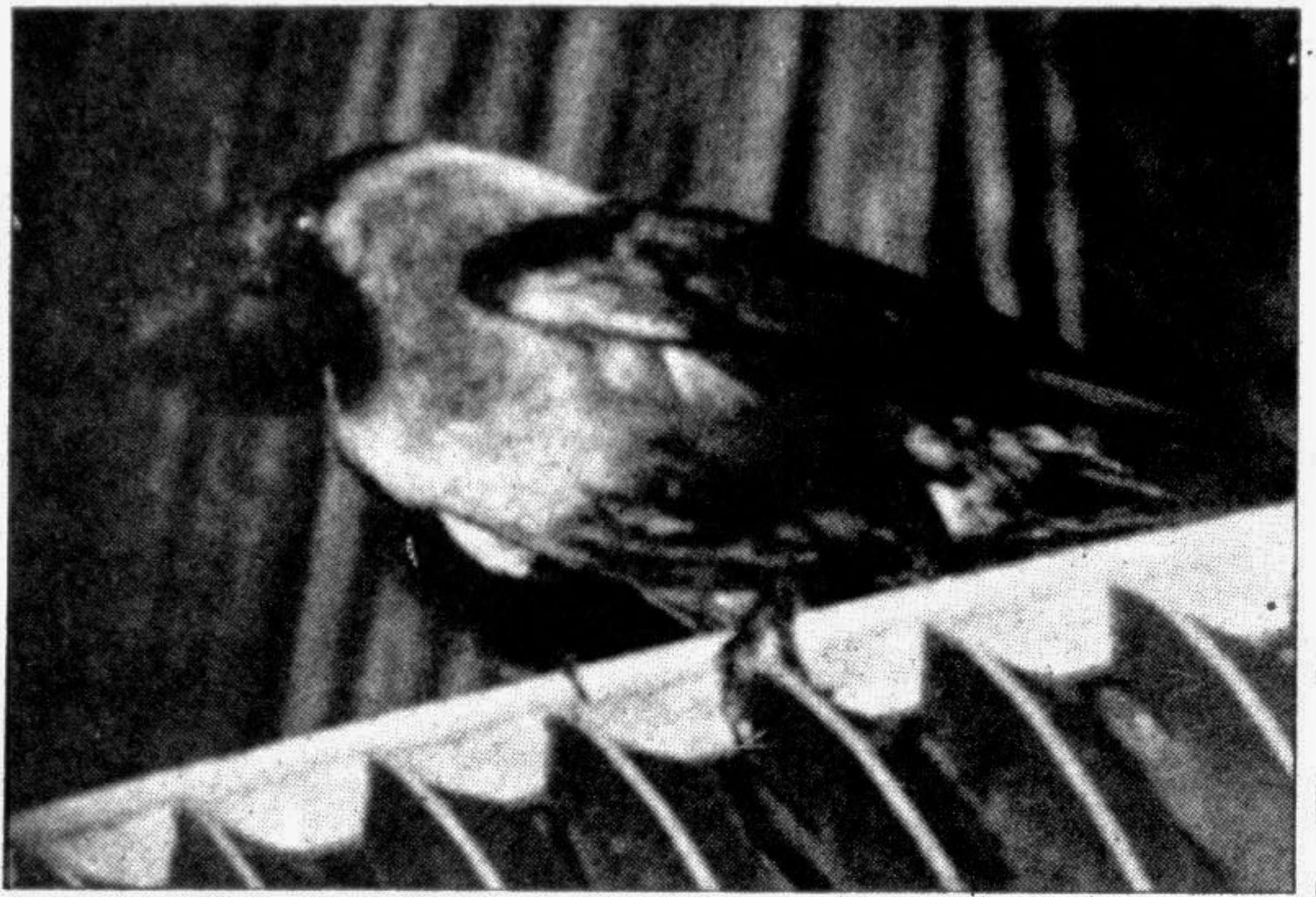


Dhaka Day by Day

Mourning Bird

by Neil Ray



Famously notorious, the crow is not a loyed bird. The question of taking it as a pet is rather outlandish. However much "Avonya's" Mobarak may extoll the virtue of this cunning bird, none in his right senses will be tempted to follow him in taming this omnivorous bird. Although known for their guile and cunningness, the crows are awfully foolish too in two ways do they demonstrate their lack of intelligence. Adept as they are in stealing food, they give a miserable account of themselves at the time of hiding the reminder of their stolen delicacy. They would keep their eyes shut while preserving the crumb for the future, thinking if they did not look others would not also notice. Then of course, there is their legendary incapacity to detect the offsprings of cuckoos who might not take the trouble of rearing their own young kind and instead lay eggs in a crow's nest replacing the ones of the nest's owner.

Considering all that it is capable of, a crow is cleverer and more courageous than other birds in the vicinity of human habitation. A crow is clever than its bigger cousin, the raven of jay, and those live in towns and cities seem to be gifted with some special qualities that prove handy to their advantage. Watching them to prepare their nests can be really fascinating, but rearing their young ones can be even more exciting. If it fortunately so happens that the tree on which the nest is being built can be seen from your balcony or office room, all the better for the

purpose. The crow is not particularly a good carpenter at making its nest. The haphazard way of arranging the dead branches, wires and all the small and odd bits of things it collects says a lot about the crow's nature.

However, as parents crows put to stake even

their dear lives to protect their offsprings. Like

parents of other animal and bird species they are

equally caring in bringing up the young ones.

The way they teach the kids how to fly is a good

lesson for others. They too suffer immensely

when one of their children hurts itself or is

maimed somehow. In one such incident, both

parents were found to be morose and vainly trying

to help the injured one to get to its feet. For

days they made every attempt to help the limping

offspring. They could leave the nest long be-

fore because the other one had by this time mas-

tered enough skill to fend for itself.

Then came the fateful day when gusty wind

accompanied with heavy rain blew the next away

and along with the weakling. In the morning it

was a clamorous cawings that awoke everyone of

the neighbourhood of that particular residential

area. The crows had assembled to mourn the

death of one of their kind. The sympathy and

solidarity expressed so vociferously may differ

from the silence observed by human beings but

in grief both their kinds are brought closer to

each other. Thus we can receive a rare insight

into the crow's nature or perhaps character.

SOUTH ASIA AT THE CROSSROADS: CONFLICT AND COOPERATION

BISS 6-8 FEBRUARY 1994



I K Gujral, former minister for external affairs of India (second from R) seen presiding over the concluding session of a seminar on South Asia at Crossroads: Conflict and Cooperation at the BISS auditorium yesterday. Seen seated (from right to left) Dr. Kanti Vajpayee, Abdul Quayum, and Peter Leon. — Star photo

Symposium on Gender Issue Awareness

The speakers at a symposium yesterday suggested equal treatment of men and women in every sphere of life in all societies without discriminating on gender bias, reports BSS.

Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare M Sirajul Hoque inaugurated the day-long symposium on Gender Issue Awareness organised jointly by the Health and Family Welfare Ministry and the World Health Organisation (WHO) at Hotel Purbani.

Presided over by the social

Welfare Secretary Dr K M Fariduddin the inaugural session was addressed by World Bank Mission Chief in Bangladesh Christopher Willoughby. WHO Representative Dr A N A Abeysekere, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare M Azizur Rahman and Director General of Health Services Prof M Nurun Nabi.

The deputy minister said before ensuring equal right some special privileges and advantages might be provided

to women and we have to prepare ourselves mentally to accept that."

Dr Abeysekere said the objective of WHO was to look after women health equally within the framework of WHO. He said special care should be taken about the health and environment of working women and specially to those working in the industries.

Dr Fariduddin said girl child was discriminated in education, family care, health and nutrition.

Associate Professor of Paediatrics Dr Shameen Ahmed in her paper on Women, Health and Development in Bangladesh presented at the symposium suggested change in the prevailing value system to remove discrimination of women.

Nasreen Huq in her paper on The Impact of Gender Bias on Women's Health said in all societies around the globe, women occupy a position subordinate to men.

Managing Director, TSP Complex Ltd, Patenga, Chittagong invites sealed quotations from genuine Supplier/Stockist for supply of different types of Stainless Steel Ball Valve against tender enquiry No. TSP/PUR/HARD/75/93-94/4247 dated 24-1-94. Tender documents will be available from (i) BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/Area, Dhaka, (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/Area, Chittagong and (iii) TSP Complex Ltd, Patenga, Chittagong on payment of Tk. 25/- (Taka twenty five) only (Non-refundable) per set. Tender will be received up to 12-30 PM on 20-2-94 at BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/Area, Chittagong and TSP Complex Ltd, Patenga, Chittagong simultaneously and opened immediately thereafter. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders either in part or in full without assigning any reason.

BCIC-111-31/1

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G-220

Metropolitan

New Indonesian envoy meets PM

The newly appointed Ambassador of Indonesia to Bangladesh, Hadi Wayarabi Alhadar yesterday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the Prime Minister's office, reports BSS.

During the courtesy call on Alhadar said, the Indonesian people notice that the present government under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had laid down the foundation of democracy in Bangladesh.

The two countries, the new ambassador said, had common cultural heritage, religious faith and attitude towards world affairs.

Alhadar observed that Bangladesh was now playing a very important role in various international forum.

He said, before he came Dhaka, President Suharto told him to work for strengthening the relationship between Bangladesh and Indonesia in various fields.

Begum Zia welcomed the newly appointed Indonesian Ambassador to Bangladesh and assured him of every co-operation.

The Prime Minister told him that the two friendly countries had identical views on various international issues and stressed the need for expanding the trade and economic ties between Bangladesh and Indonesia for mutual benefits.

Begum Zia also appreciated the leadership of President Suharto in attaining economic prosperity of Indonesia.

Seminar on peptic ulcer held

Deputy Leader of Parliament Prof. A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday stressed the need for more research on gastroenterological disease to ensure better treatment to the patients, reports BSS.

The Deputy Leader said this while inaugurating a seminar on management of the difficult peptic ulcer at a hotel in the capital.

Jointly organised by Bangladesh Gastroenterology Society and ACI Pharmaceuticals, the seminar was also addressed, among others, by Bangladesh Gastroenterology Society president Prof. A K Azad Khan, General Secretary Prof. Mahmud Hasan and Director of ACI Limited M Mosaddek Hossain.

Christopher J Hawkey, Professor of Gastroenterology department, University of Nottingham, UK presented the key note paper at the seminar.

Prof Chowdhury said it had been observed that cases of peptic ulcer patients are becoming more difficult day by day and accurate diagnosis is needed to detect the disease.

The Deputy Leader urged the physicians to diagnose the disease timely and correctly.

He said, 12 percent population of our country are suffering from the disease of peptic ulcer and the diagnosis should be easy and cheaper for providing better service to the patients.

During his hour-long lecture Prof Ziring Dwelt at length talked on the causes of some of the major international conflicts in the post Cold War era. He favoured peaceful solutions to the outstanding issues standing on way to restoration of normalcy in relations among nations.

Professor A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, Deputy Leader of the House speaking at a scientific seminar on 'Management of the Difficult Peptic Ulcer' at the Hotel Sonargaon yesterday.

— Star photo

No change in temperature

By Staff Correspondent

Cloudy sky with light rain or drizzle is likely over the regions of Rangpur, Dinajpur while dry weather with a partly cloudy sky is likely to prevail elsewhere over the country.

The Met Office forecasts night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country in the next 24 hours commencing from 6 am today (Wednesday).

The Country's highest temperature of 31.6 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and the lowest of 11 degrees Celsius was recorded in Srimongol yesterday.

The sun sets today at 5.50 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 6.35 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	Max 28.2 Min 13.5	70 49
Chittagong	28.7 15.0	76 45
Rajshahi	28.3 13.0	80 57
Khulna	29.0 12.4	79 69
Burial	29.2 12.2	75 67
Cox's Bazar	31.0 17.7	59 47
Sylhet	29.0 14.5	72 53
Rangpur	26.5 13.0	75 63



The newly appointed Ambassador of Indonesia to Bangladesh Hadi Wayarabi Alhadar called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

— PID photo

Myanmar minister for Rail meets President

A four member delegation led by U Win Sein, Minister for Rail Transportation of Myanmar, called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Exchanging views with the Myanmar minister, President Biswas expressed satisfaction over the existing cordial and friendly relations between the two neighbouring countries. His visit, the President hoped, would further strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

President Biswas mentioned that the outstanding issues like Rohingya refugee problem should be resolved within the shortest possible time in the interest of both the countries.

KHURSHI BANSHI BIDYA PEETH PRESENTS SOLO FLUTE RECITAL by PERWEZ SHAHED

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SHAHBAGH, DHAKA.

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• Tk. 950/- per person

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• Buffet Dinner and Dance

• Exciting door prizes

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Book a table of 10 persons and pay for 9 only.

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Bangladesh Railway Project Management Organisation International Tender Notice

- Sealed tenders are invited from suppliers/manufacturers for supply of the following equipment for Bangladesh Railway being financed in part by a loan from the SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT.
 - i) MG Air Conditioned Passenger Carriage ... 18 Nos.
 - ii) MG Composite Power Car ... 8 Nos.
- Bidding will follow a TWO STAGE BIDDING procedure. In the first stage bidder will submit an unpriced technical proposal, which will be followed by technical discussions with the bidders to agree on an acceptable technical standard for all bids. The bidders will then submit commercial proposal on a notified date and time.
- Tender documents can be obtained between 9.00 AM to 12.30 PM on all working days with effect from 10-2-94 from the office of the Controller of Stores/Project, Bangladesh Railway, Chittagong as well as from the office of the Executive Engineer/Project/Track, Bangladesh Railway, Kamalapur, Dhaka and Engineer-in-Chief/West, Bangladesh Railway, Rajshahi on cash payment of Tk 3000.00 (Taka three thousand) only (non-refundable). The tender documents may be sent to out-stations on request for which postal charges of Tk. 30.00 (Taka thirty) only along with aforesaid amount is