

Dhaka Day by Day

Creating a Musical Trap

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



Quicksand members give a good account of themselves.

The audience awaited with mixed feelings. It was past 9 o'clock and the seats were only half-full at the Cafe at Alliance Francaise, the venue of the show. The somewhat tepid enthusiasm could perhaps be attributed to the fact that nobody really knew anything about 'Quicksand' the band that was to perform that night. After all, hadn't we seen enough of half-baked, mediocre rock groups whose names one forgot as easily as their poor music? The audience have become weary of singers with no voice or sense of tune and of bands that had far too many instruments than they knew what to do with. They were waiting for something new.

As the last few late comers took their seats, the sound of a few notes from the electric guitar told us that something was about to happen. With a bang the first song 'No Son of Mine' from Genesis, started with Sharier Khan on the vocals. Although the drums were a little too loud drowning the other instruments, the song was sung with enough passion to wake up the audience.

The second song, a Bangla number called 'Nishpap Smriti' (Innocent Memory) was even better with its melodious tune sung by lead vocalist Mamun Khan whose voice has the rare quality of being both powerful and sweet at the same time. In fact the lyrics, tune and music of this song were just perfect to dispel any misgivings the audience might have had about the talents of this band.

The choice of songs, one had to admit, was excellent. It included popular hits like Sting's 'Every Breath You Take', 'Paradise' (Phil Collins), 'With or Without You' (U2), 'Fight Fire with Fire' (Kansas), 'That's All' (Genesis) and 'Lady of Dreams', a song composed by Kitaro, a Japanese musician and John Anderson (a former YES member). All the English songs were sung by husky voiced Sharier Khan while the alternating Bangla lyrics were sung by Mamun Khan. Other members of the band were Zahed Parvez on the key board, Riaz Seda base guitarist and Miraz Seda on the drums.

If there was a flaw in the show, it was the music system which was a little too loud and grating for comfort. The vocalists, however, managed to keep their voices high enough to keep the lyrics distinct. The music, well organized and unflinching was predictable, yet pleasing.

But the real novelty of this band was that it exuded a refreshing intelligence that has become very rare, if not extinct, in the upcoming bands nowadays. There were no inane phrases, no superficiality. What came out of the

show was pure and clean music. The Bangla songs with their sharp lyrics and unique tunes displayed this quiet intelligence. Composed entirely by vocalist Sharier, each song had its own message. 'Nishpap Smriti', for example, with its soulful tune is about a long lost love that cannot be forgotten:
*You were so near to me
 Mixed with my breath
 An innocent memory turned into a nightmare.*

Where are you now, lost forever
 The dream remains.
 Rebelling but keeping me alive.
 'Kuasha' (mist) depicting the distance between estranged lovers and 'Sporsho' (Touch), a delightful number about the explosive feelings of love and desire associated with one's first love, are both part of a quartet of love songs. 'Jhorer Protikha' (Waiting for a Storm) is another fiery number with powerful lyrics:
*Let there be a storm
 To blow away the ship of lies
 Concrete hearts, hatred and jealousy
 Giving birth to unbounded love.*

'The Storm' in this case means a dramatic change that will do away with the corruption and stagnancy of old establishment and old ideas. To explain the song better, its composer, Sharier, comments, "When you are down, frustrated with the world, you want something like a storm to come and destroy everything so that everything can begin again with a fresh start."

Another political song was 'Shapne Bidroho' (revolt in a dream) an anti-fundamentalism song about a religious zealot, waking up from the slumber of blindness with the realization of his mistake.

As with all new bands, Quicksand faces many problems. Exploitation at the production level and limited recording facilities are some of them. In spite of this, Quicksand members are determined to stay free from the rat race of cheap popularity and maintain the quality of their music.

For a band formed only a year ago, Quicksand is a band with enough enthusiasm and depth to appeal to young people. The name 'Quicksand' was given to symbolize something that appears innocuous yet once you step into it you are pulled deep inside never to come out. With its provocative lyrics and seriousness this band intends to bring everyone into its musical trap.



Returnees from Kuwait and Iraq held a rally demanding immediate payment of compensation money in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. — Star photo

669 licenced drug cos in country, JS told

There are 669 licenced drug manufacturing companies in the country at the moment, Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Kazi Abdur Rashid (AL), the minister said of the total licenced drug companies, 208 are allopathic, 225 unani, 170 ayurvedic and 66 homoeopathic.

One family welfare centre in each Union

The government has a plan to establish one family welfare centre in each union of the country, Deputy Minister for Health Dr. Sirajul Huq told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Replying to a question from Abdul Awal Mia of Awami League he said a total of 2823 family welfare centres had already been established at the union level while the remaining others would be set up in phases.

Tk 18.99 cr spent for dredging

Shipping Minister M K Anwar yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government had spent Tk 18.99 crore to dredge out sediments from 11 rivers since July 1, 1991.

Replying to a question from Mohammad Rahmat Ali (AL), the shipping minister said that the rivers were Padma, Jamuna, Meghna, Naya Bhagnae, Hurasagar, Kritankhola, Dhaleshwari, Sitalakhya, Buri-ganga, Titas, Ishamati, and

Kushira.

He said that eight dredging units of the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) were engaged to lift 48 lakh cubic feet of mud from different parts of the rivers.

Tk 1.3 cr grant for mosques

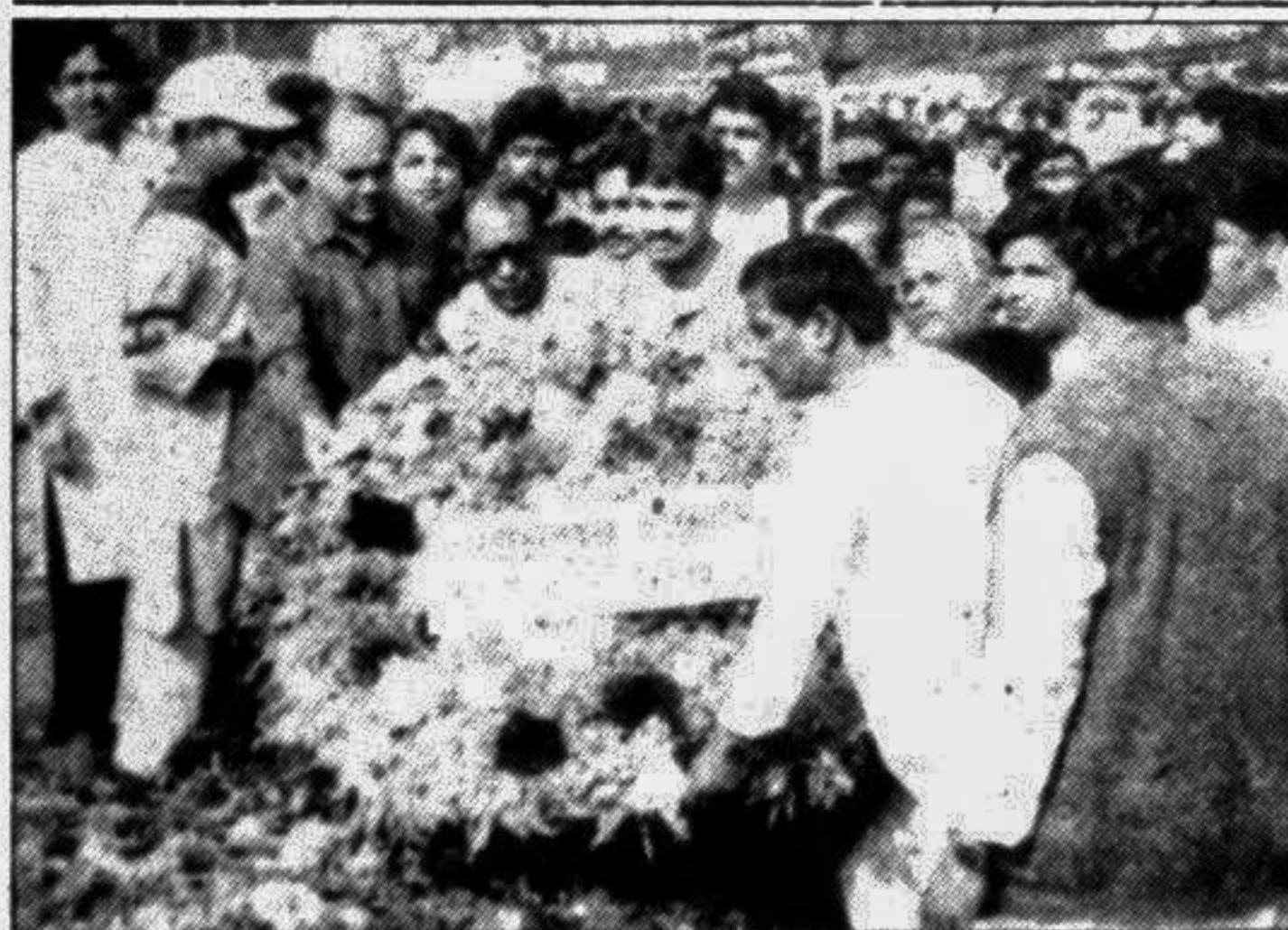
The government has provided a total grant of over Tk 1.30 crore to mosques in 64 districts of the country during the period between November last and till date of the fiscal 1993-94. Religious Affairs Minister M Keramat Ali told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Replying to a question from Mirza Azam of Awami League, the minister gave a district-wise break up of the grant which showed Patuakhali to receive the highest grant of over Tk 11 lakh while Rangamati being the lowest with Tk 2000.

Answering a supplementary to the discrepancies in the sanctioning of the grant, Keramat Ali said the grant was considered according to the applications received.

When a number of opposition members alleged that the minister had sanctioned maximum amount for the mosques in his own constituency in Patuakhali Keramat Ali said the cases of grant were considered on the basis of applications.

He, however, said Patuakhali is a backward place and had been victimised many a time by natural calamities like cyclone and tidal surge.



Bangladesh Krishibid Institute leaders placed wreath at the Central Shaheed Minar.

4 fake policemen arrested

By Staff Correspondent

The Detective Branch (DB) of police Tuesday evening rounded up four fake policemen from the city's Motijheel area.

The arrested persons — Shawkat Ali, Mohammad Habib, Abdul Kalam and Abdul Khaleq — were sent to the Dhaka magistracy yesterday.

They said that the four men identified themselves as policemen of DB, CID and SB on different occasions and extorted money from people.

Garmets show opens

Shipping Minister M K Anwar yesterday stressed the need for popularising the local garments at home and abroad by marketing clothes with new designs, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating as the chief guest a three-day exhibition of ready-made garments at the Alliance Francaise auditorium.

The exhibition is being organised by Karuj, a local garments manufacturer organisation.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with fair sky is likely to prevail over the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today. Met office forecasts, night temperature may fall by one to two degree Celsius over the country.

Country's highest temperature of 31.3 degree Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and lowest of 12 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangpur yesterday.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 5:59 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 6:25 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	25.6	16.0	96	48
Chittagong	28.8	18.8	73	51
Rajshahi	24.8	12.8	83	50
Khulna	27.2	15.4	55	
Barisal	28.2	16.4	79	47
Cox's Bazar	30.5	20.6	80	57
Sylhet	24.6	14.0	100	52
Dinajpur	24.0	13.2	63	34

116 held in city

Police arrested an absconding convict and 48 wanted criminals from different parts of the city on the 10th day of the ongoing special drive, reports UNB.

Besides, police arrested 67 other people from different parts of the city yesterday on various charges.

Death condoled

Education Minister Barrister Jamruddin Sircar expressed deep shock at the death of Gazi Mansurul Hoq, ex-senior Information Officer of the Press Information Department, reports UNB.

In a message, the minister recalled the contribution of Mansurul Hoq.

Chief Operating Officer



BANGLADESH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GROUP LIMITED (BITGL) a newly formed computer software company consisting of 23 IT computer companies in Bangladesh and promoted by ITC/EPB envisages to train and develop software professionals in Bangladesh with a view to secure international software export market by using their expertise.

BITGL is now looking for a **Chief Operating Officer**, to be based in Dhaka, who will be directly responsible to the Board of Directors. He/she will be responsible to build BITGL to an internationally respectable software house and procure and conduct software exports.

Interested candidates are requested to forward detailed CV with photographs latest by **1st March** to:

Mr. Saif Shahid
 Managing Director, BITGL
 C/O National Computers Limited
 69, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi
 Dhaka 1209



NGSHIP Management Pte Ltd

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES/SHIPPERS

M. V. NGS RANGER V-6794 IMP. ROT NO. 133/94 WILL TAKE BERTH AT CHITTAGONG PORT ON OR ABOUT 24TH FEBRUARY 1994 WITH IMPORT CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE FROM VARIOUS DESTINATIONS 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(B) AND SEC. 82 RESPECTIVELY OF THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE/REFERENCE.

THE VESSEL WILL LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO. 134/94 FOR SINGAPORE AND ALSO FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO EAST/WEST COAST OF U.S., CANADA, UK/CONTINENT, MEDT, FAR-EAST/JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND PORTS.

FOR BOOKING AND OTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT GENERAL AGENTS:



Bangladesh Shipping Lines Ltd.

(A **ABC** COMPANY)

DHAKA 19/F SENA KALYAN BHABAN 196 MOTIJHEEL COM. AREA TEL: 864548-9 TLX: 632105 BDSHP BJ, 632656 HRC BJ	CHITTAGONG G/F JIBAN BIMA BHABAN 1053 BK. MUEB RD., AGRABAD TEL: 804313, 802123, 500783 TLX: 633027 BDSHP BJ, 633126 HRC BJ	KHULNA 1 MIAPARA ROAD (PTI NICOR) TEL: 25255 TLX: 633302 HRC BJ
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TELEFAX: 880-2-863734

BEXIMCO SYNTHETICS LTD

17 DHANMONDI R/A, ROAD NO. 2, DHAKA - 1205

NOTICE OF THE THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the **THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the Shareholders of BEXIMCO SYNTHETICS LTD. will be held on **Monday the 28th March 1994** at 11:00 A.M. in the Ball Room of Sonargaon Hotel, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka to transact the following business:

AGENDA

- To confirm the proceedings of the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Company held on 25.4.93 and 19.7.93.
- To confirm the proceedings of the Second Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 4th March, 1993.
- To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Accounts for the year 1992-93 and for the six months ended on 31st December, 1993 together with reports of the Auditors and the Directors thereon.
- To elect Directors.
- To appoint Auditors for the year 1994 and to fix their remuneration.
- To transact any other business of the Company with the permission of the Chair.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Sd/-
B. K. NATH
 Company Secretary

Dated: February 24, 1994

NOTES:

- The Register of the Members and the Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Sunday the 20th March 1994 to Monday the 28th March 1994 (both days inclusive). During that period no share transfer will be effected.
- A member entitled to attend and vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his/her stead. Such proxy shall be a member of the Company. The proxy form must be affixed with revenue stamp of Tk. 5.00 and should be deposited at the Registered Office of the Company not later than 72 hours before the time fixed for the meeting.
- Members are requested to notify change of address, if any, to the Company in writing.

WANTED

A Personal Secretary for the Chairman of a group of Industries. The applicant must have good command over English, training in secretarial course and skill in Computer Operation.

Excellent Salary for bright candidates. Please apply in own hand writing with Bio-data and one copy of recent photograph on or before 3rd March, 1994 to G. P. O. Box No. 3483, Dhaka-1000.

Biswas, Khaleda greet President PM of Estonia

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has felicitated President of the Republic of Estonia Lenart Meri on the occasion of its national day, reports UNB.

In a message the President said, "It gives me great pleasure to convey to your excellency our sincere greetings and felicitations on the happy occasion of the national day of the Republic of Estonia."

Biswas wished for his good health, happiness and long life and the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Estonia.

In another message, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has greeted Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia Mart Laar on the occasion of its independence day.

Begum Zia said, "On behalf of the government and the people of Bangladesh and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in extending to your excellency and through you to the government and the people of the Republic of Estonia our warmest greetings and felicitations on the occasion of the independence of the Republic of Estonia."



Thursday

4-30	Opening announcement
	Al-Quran
	Programme summary
4-45	Rumjhum
5-10	News in Bangla
5-25	National Television School Debate Competition
5-45	Mahe Ramadan
6-30	Esho Para Shikhi
7-00	Jiboner Alo
7-25	Nazrul Sangeet
8-00	News in Bangla
8-30	Drama of the week
10-00	News in English
10-30	Mini series Women of Substance
11-15	Khobar/The News
11-25	Tomorrow's programme summary
11-30	Closing of session

Sadharan Bima Corporation
 Establishment Department
 Head Office
 33-Dilkusha, C/A Dhaka.

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the manufacturers/suppliers for supply of Shoes, Socks and Umbrellas for employees of Sadharan Bima Corporation. Tender Schedule will be available from the office of the undersigned during office hours up to 01-03-94 depositing Tk. 200/- (Taka Two hundred) only (Non refundable).

Tenders may be submitted in the tender Box kept in the department up to 12.00 Noon on 02/03/94 and will be opened on the same day at 12-10 P.M. in presence of tenderers, if any.

Sadharan Bima Corporation reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/
Kazi Sirajul Islam
 Manager
 Establishment Department

SBC/PR/Tender/01/94