

Dhaka Day by Day

The Unrecognized Luxury

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

If there is anyone women of this city like to see as much as their husbands or paramours it is their tailors. Any female, young or old, who has the slightest interest in her wardrobe has her own favourite tailor. This person has in his hands, and invariably it is a 'he', the power to

create the most wonderful, exotic and fashionable of IS SUPERB dresses from a mere sheet of cloth. It is this incredible talent that makes the tailor an indispensable person in whom ladies from all walks of life have such great trust. For isn't it all a matter of faith where the customer risks the very shirt (or in this case blouse) on her back in the hands of a total stranger?

From the customer's side, going to the tailor is a game of chance. Chances are that the expert hands of the master tailor known as 'Master Shahab' will create the dress of her dreams. Chances are that the same dress, in the hands of an amateur, who has forgotten that he is one, will turn it into a tortuous straight jacket. Luck, therefore, is very much a deciding factor in this business.

The best part of this essential service is that it allows one to discover one's own creativity. Many fashion designers and exclusive boutiques have been born out of an individual's experiment with designs and ideas for her own clothes. Women who have a fondness for clothes, and there are plenty of them, often prefer to make their own clothes by a tailor, rather than buying ready made ones. 'Ready made clothes are so limiting and most of them are either too gaudy or too boring,' comments a fastidious lady who has all her clothes tailor-made.

But boredom is not the only reason why tailored clothes are preferred to ready made ones. Often it is pure economy that works in the minds of these women. Even an average priced shalwar-kameez, for example, will cost no less than 1,000 taka, an amount that many people just cannot afford. Yet the same garment tailor made will cost about 500 taka or less, including the price of the cloth and tailoring charge. Tailoring, therefore, is much more reasonable and has the added charm of producing something that the customer specifically wants. If she is lucky that is.

Tailoring charges vary according to the location of the tailor shop and its popularity. Tailors in Gulshan or Banani invariably have higher rates than other less snooty areas. Shalwar-kameez for instance, may be charged from Taka 120 going upwards, 'according to the design' — a very vague phrase that



An interesting feature of the tailoring business in this country is that it is male-dominated. One wonders why in a tradition where women are the ones who are supposed to cook and sew, when it comes to professional cooks and tailors, they are almost always men. Perhaps it is lack of opportunities and financial or social constraints that have prevented a woman from using her domestic skills to make money.

Like any artist that is overburdened by orders, the tailor too has his eccentricities. For one thing, he will never have your clothes made at the date written on the pink or yellow slip with the little bits of cloth. You may travel a hundred miles to get to your tailor's, only to find out that he has not even cut the cloth. Patience and self control, in this case, are the only virtues that can save you from committing a criminal offence. Last, but not the least is the tailors' incurable tendency to make your clothes either too tight or too loose so that at least a few more trips across town are necessary.

In spite of the little irritations, however, tailoring is a luxury that many of us take for granted. The convenience of having your clothes made according to your own design and choice and at a fairly reasonable rate, is something that should be appreciated. Some tailors can transform an old torn sari into a dramatic evening dress or a gorgeous party outfit from bits of cloth and embroidery from a discarded piece clothing, our hats off to them. They are no less than magicians.

Eid reunion at Dhaka Medical College

By DMCH Correspondent

The number of anaesthetists has remained static at 11 at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for the past 23 years although the actual need of anaesthetists in the country can only be met in the next 150 years.

This observation was made by Prof Shahjahan Nurus Samad at the Eid reunion and celebration of the Independence Day organised by the DMC Teachers' Association at the college gallery. It was attended by Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Iqbal Yousuf as a special guest with Prof M Alauddin in the chair.

Prof Shahjahan, who is on the edge of retirement, urged the Health Minister to streamline the medical system, which he said had become stagnant in the post-Liberation period.

"Forty doctors were given diploma degrees to carry on the anaesthesia programmes," he informed.

The other attending doctors paid glorious tributes to the physicians for their contribution to the Liberation War.

"At least 161 doctors were killed during the war," the Health Minister informed. He ensured the doctors that his government would take necessary steps to preserve the memories of the martyred doctors.

A proud address
JIBAN BIMA TOWER

at 10, Dilkusha C.A., Dhaka centrally air-conditioned: an ideal place for your office accommodation.

A few floors still vacant for letting out

Please contact:

Asst. General Manager
Engineering & Estate Division

JIBAN BIMA CORPORATION

Head Office

24, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.

Phones: PBX 259052-54

DPP (G) 2624-283

Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution Co. Ltd, Dhaka
(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

Phones: 232200, 232172, 258462.

PABX: 812135-42

Addendum No. 01 Dated 2nd April, 1994

To

International Tender Document

No. PD. 2312/363-REG. Dated 03-03-94 for
Procurement of Gas Pressure Regulators
& Relief Valves

This is for general information for all concerned that the above Tender Document has been amended as follows:

1. Descriptions & specifications of goods shown in the 'Price Bid Schedule' of the tender document are amended to read as follows:

ITEM NO. 1 & 2:
Unchanged.

ITEM NO. 3:

— Maximum Working Pressure : 125 Psig.
— Connection Size : 2"X2" Flanged, Dimension according to ANSI Class-125.

ITEM NO. 4:

— Maximum Working Pressure : 150 Psig.
— Connection Size: 2"X2" Flanged, Dimension according to ANSI Class-125.

ITEM NO. 5:

— Connection Size: 2"X2" Flanged, Dimension according to ANSI Class-125.

All other descriptions & specifications of the items shall remain unchanged.

Bid closing date of the above tender is now to be read: "11TH APRIL, 1994" instead of "15TH APRIL, 1994". Opening time 11:15 AM remains unchanged. Sale of this tender document shall now continue up to 10th April, 1994.

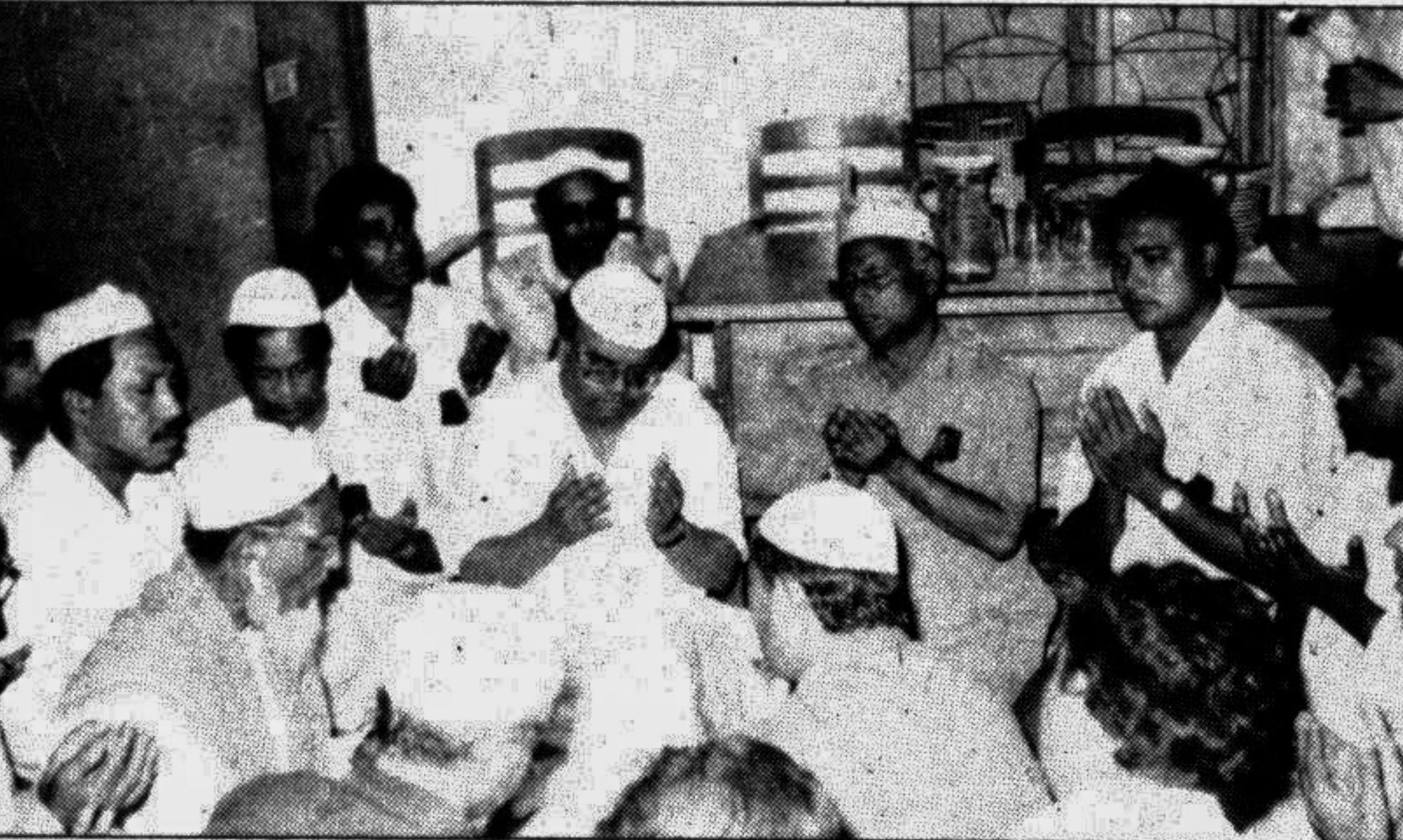
All other terms & conditions of the above Tender Document shall remain unchanged.

"গাছ লাগান পাছের পরিচর্যা করুন
এবং পরিবেশ বীচান" — প্রধানমন্ত্রী

Titas/PR-162/93-94

D-206

Manager (Purchase)



Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda offering munajat at a milad mahfil arranged yesterday in memory of the martyrs killed brutally by the occupation forces in 1971 at Keraniganj thana in Dhaka.

— PID photo

Left parties urged to narrow differences

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of different left wing political parties Thursday observed that a revolutionary transformation of the present socio-economic system was a must to establish the fundamental rights of the common

people to use this service. the way of flourishing left-wing politics in the society," Hasnat observed.

He, however, called upon the leftist forces to initiate a sound and healthy ideological struggle among themselves with a view to removing differences of opinions on certain vital issues and thus paving the way for getting the leftists united on a single platform.

CPB leader Mujahidul Islam Selim said the ideological struggle among the progressive forces was important. "But it must go on simultaneously with practical political activities among the poor," Selim felt.

They were addressing a seminar on "the problems and prospects of the communist movement in Bangladesh," at the auditorium of Teachers' and Students' Centre(TSC), Dhaka University.

Hasnat Kayum of the Gonomukt Andolok presented the keynote paper while Khalequzzaman of the Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Mujahidul Islam Selim of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Saiful Huq of the Workers' Party and others spoke at the seminar.

Hasnat, while analysing the people's attitude towards the existing socio-economic order said the common people were disillusioned with the present system. "But the communist leaders, despite their sacrifices, have failed to present before the people an outline of the progressive socio-economic order," Hasnat observed.

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Harun Rashid, a teacher of Dhaka University's philosophy department, presided over the seminar while Sarder Faruque of the Gonomukt Andolok conducted the seminar.

WP campaigns for Apr 6 meet

By Staff Correspondent

The Workers' Party (WP) continued campaigning for the second consecutive day yesterday for its April 6 planned public meeting in the capital. The party is scheduled to announce fresh action programmes at the meeting.

This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the leftist parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

an important issue."

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also