

## Metropolitan

## Dhaka Day by Day

## Happy Co-residential Living

by Nilratan Halder



With more and more people landing in this capital city, looking for opportunities, the metropolis is not only expanding horizontally but vertically as well. The upward growth may not compare to the skyline of cities like New York or even Bombay. But at least people have started to demonstrate a changed attitude — no matter how much willingly or being forced by necessity — to their residences. Specious gardens with well-trimmed lawns no more adorn the residential houses, fronts and backyards, except of course the exclusive few in the posh areas.

For the middle class and lower middle class it is an unavoidable and unshakable fate to huddle in flats shared by inmates of all kinds of habits, with different backgrounds — educational and other. Not many are expected to be quite familiar with the ways of city life, urban practices and civic consideration for others. But after all everyone has his — even more important her — hubris. Let us leave courteous behaviour alone.

What about the 'thak-thak' sound late in the night or in the small hours? Someone has found to his (this time it is invariably he) convenient the late hours quite suitable for sticking a nail in the wall for hanging a calendar he has managed to procure. Or he or she (here it may be she too) has decided that the mosquitoes are pestering more than their usual share and so the sudden need for holding the mosquito net from the far corners. What more appropriate a time than this can one think of for the purpose? So now the walls are assaulted with a nail and a hammer and in its absence a pestle will do. Who cares if the co-residents on other floors have just fell asleep after a days arduous long journey or someone sick is terribly disturbed to the point of aggravating his illness.

## 2 killed in Khulna bus plunge

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Apr 25: Two persons were killed and forty others injured when a Khulna-bound minibus plunged into the river Bhadra breaking the guard-rail of a bridge under Dumuria thana of the district Sunday afternoon.

According to police and eyewitnesses, one Sharali, 60, died on the spot while another

unidentified person, aged about 35, succumbed to his injuries on way to the Khulna hospital.

About five persons were admitted to the Khulna General Hospital while others received first aid there. The driver and the helper of the bus have reportedly escaped.

## 63 arrested

Police rounded up 63 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, reports UNB.

Of the arrested, eight were wanted criminals, three were held under the Anti-Terrorism Law, another three under Arms Law, two for robbery, six on charge of stealing and three for women repression.

In three separate incidents, two people were killed and another five people were injured in the city yesterday.

Four-year-old Russel were smashed under a speeding truck at Jurain last evening while he was crossing the road.

In another incident, a woman who could not be identified was knocked down by an auto-tempo, a three wheeler, and died on the way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) around 7 in

A seriously blast injured girl — Shilpi, 8, — was admitted to the DMCH. She was injured while the clashing groups chased each other blasting crackers around 6:30 pm.

Dr Ashraf Siddiqui, leader of language movement Kazi Golam Mahbub, former minister AK Fazul Huq, Principal Malika Khatoon, Dr Muhammad Maniruzzaman and poet M Abdul Khaled will take part in the discussion.

Justice Ruhul Islam will preside.

Later in the evening, another discussion on 'the contribution of Sher-e-Bangla to the establishment of Democracy' will be held at the mazar premises.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad will attend the discussion as chief guest while Justice Kamaluddin Hossain will preside.

Advocate Shamsul Huq Chowdhury and Awami League leader Begum Juhera Tajuddin will be present as special guests.

## President greets Malaysian king

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday felicitated the King of Malaysia Tuanku Ja'afar Ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Abdul Rahman, to mark the anniversary of his assumption of the monarchy, reports BSS.

In his message of felicitation the President said, on the happy occasion of your assumption of the highest office of the supreme sovereign of Malaysia, on behalf of the government and the people of Bangladesh I would like to convey my heartfelt congratulations.

It said may Almighty Allah continue to bestow upon your Majesty the sagacity to guide the brotherly people of Malaysia towards more peace, progress and prosperity.

The President wished the King good health, happiness, and long life.

## Mahila Parishad team calls on Jahanara

A women delegation led by Aysha Khanam, general secretary of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, called on State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum at her office in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Among others, vice presidents of the Mahila Parishad Bela Nabi and Chitra Bhattacharya and organising secretary Khaleda Mahbub were present.

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A S Mahmud, Managing Director of Mediaworld Limited and Chairman of Transcom Electronics Limited hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Labour MP from UK Keith Vaz last night at Hotel Sheraton. Picture shows a few of the guests present on the occasion. (From L to R) Ian Marsh, First Secretary of the British High Commission, Dhaka, Amin Ali, A S Mahmud, Keith Vaz, Atiqul Alam, Editor of the Morning Sun, Enayetullah Khan, Chief Editor of the United News of Bangladesh.

— Star photo

## Govt urged to instil dynamism in admn

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of the Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council have urged the government to take steps for increasing administrative efficiency and abandon its policy of appeasing a handful of bureaucrats.

Modernisation and updating of different training academies and increasing facilities were the primary responsibilities of the government in order to increase efficiency of the administration, observed a meeting of the Prokrichi in Dhaka Sunday.

Presided over by Action Council Convenor Dr MA Majed, the meeting was also attended by Dr Ayubur Rahman, engineer ANH Akhtar Hossain, MA Hena, M Ibrahim Mia, Javed Iqbal, Gazi Abdul Huq, M Ruhul Matin, Moshtaq

Hossain, MAK Azad, Md Mainul Islam.

Reacting to a recent press report on foreign training of 500 bureaucrats at a cost of Tk 112 crore, the meeting questioned the rationale of such training for a handful of officials.

It observed that the need for training of some 12 lakh government officials would not be met by organising training to only 500 bureaucrats.

Hundreds of bureaucrats earlier trained abroad had failed to bring about the desired increase in efficiency of the administration, it noted.

Quoting a UNDP report, the meeting pointed out that a section of officials, depriving others, had taken foreign training more than once.

## 2 killed, 5 hurt in separate incidents

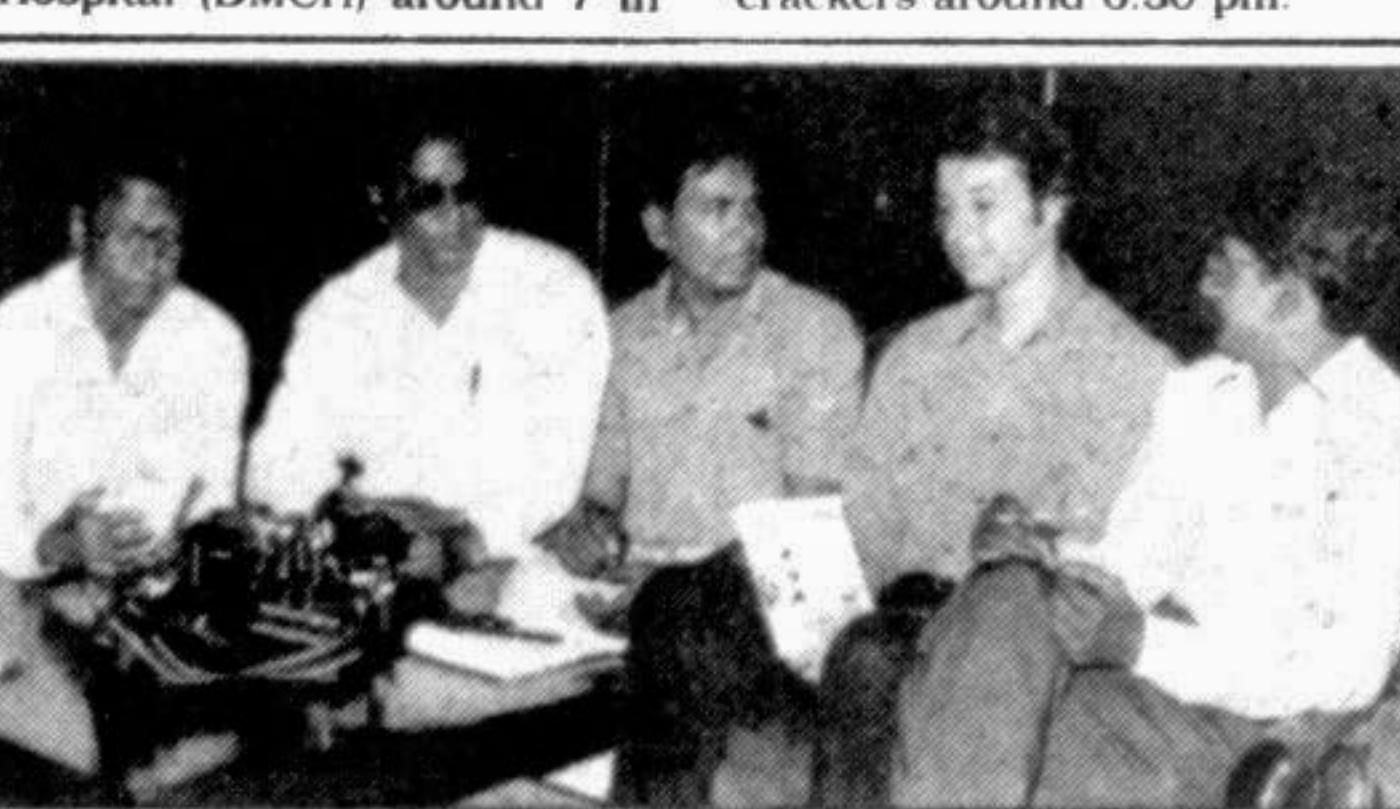
By DMCH Correspondent

In three separate incidents, two people were killed and another five people were injured in the city yesterday.

Both the bodies were sent to the DMCH morgue for the autopsy, police said.

Two groups of armed men clashed at Golapbagh railway area leaving at least five people injured yesterday in the evening.

A seriously blast injured girl — Shilpi, 8, — was admitted to the DMCH. She was injured while the clashing groups chased each other blasting crackers around 6:30 pm.



Gil Gonzalez-Foerster (2nd R), a French journalist with the Reporters Sans Frontiers, met the leaders of the Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Association in the city yesterday.

## Anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla's death tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

The 32nd death anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazul Haque will be observed tomorrow.

Different socio-cultural and political organisations have planned elaborate programmes to mark the anniversary.

Sher-e-Bangla Jatiya Smriti Sangsad, Bangladesh Human Rights Organisation and Bangladesh Sahitya-Sangskriti Sangsad will jointly hold a discussion, a day-long Quran-khawan at 8:30 am by mazar premises. Besides, wreaths will be placed on mazar of Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazul Haque.

National Professor M Shamsul Huq will attend the function as chief guest while Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, Chairman of UNB Amanullah Khan and former student leader Nur Alam Ziku will be present as special guests.

Dr Ashraf Siddiqui, leader of language movement Kazi Golam Mahbub, former minister AK Fazul Huq, Principal Malika Khatoon, Dr Muhammad Maniruzzaman and poet M Abdul Khaled will take part in the discussion.

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Advocate Shamsul Huq Chowdhury and Awami League leader Begum Juhera Tajuddin will be present as special guests.

26th April, 1994

10th Death Anniversary

of Firdaus Alam

"By love, he is remembered.....

And he lives eternally

In caring hearts,

In lives he touched,

In the glow of memory."

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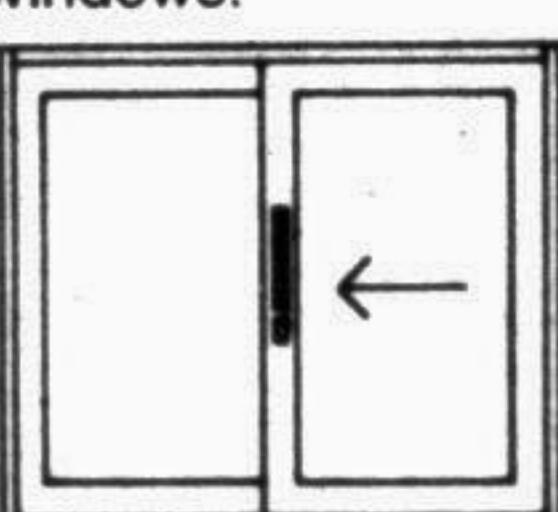
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