

Dhaka Day by Day

A Recycling Edge We Enjoy

by Raffat Binte Rashid

Recycling, though a recent craze in the West, is really nothing new here. Perhaps this is the only trend in which we took the lead.

Whether this was done unknowingly or out of dire straits is not known but the people, to improve their living conditions, started this recycle business, which ultimately became an environment-friendly affair too.

Maybe, many of us are not actually aware of the process, but tokals and their parents play a major role in this recycling of 'our' throw-away products. Tyres, glass, clothes, garments, tin, iron, polythene, these are no end to this list.

Akkhaya sandals (indestructible slippers) might sound silly but these sandals are made from tyres. The making of akkhaya sandals started as early in the British era by some cobblers who used car tyres as their only working medium, reports a cobbler who hails from Tangail and is also making such sandals in Mohakhali now.

Tyres are bought from Dholai Khal area in Old Dhaka in bulk. Their price ranges from Tk. 25 to Tk. 50, depending on their conditions. "One cobbler can make 20 sandal frames from a single tyre. The tubes which are used to make the sandal strips, are sold for Tk. 15 to Tk. 20," says the cobbler.

These sandals are found in Dhaka mainly in Gulistan, Mohakhali or Old Dhaka areas. A pair of such sandals costs about Tk. 25 or even less if you can bargain enough.

Only one of your throw-away tyres bring work, food and happiness to so many of them. Now with garments industries operating in full swing, the throw-away small pieces of clothes are a plenty. These are supplied to Urdu Road and are used as lining, pillow cover, children clothes. Even those colourful patch-work items like bed cover, cotis (sleeveless jackets) are made from these clothes. These pieces of clothes are sold for Tk. 10 to Tk. 15 per maund.

But among all these recycled products, paper is an age-old item. Making pulp again from paper for cardboards is nothing new. The famous 'thosh' (packet) from throw-away paper,

are regularly used in the bazaar shops.

In fact the man, who buys your stack of paper every month, cleans your entire basement or your store room. Starting from oil cans, coke cans, rusted iron or stainless steel taps, to garments, to bottles, even your shampoo or perfume bottles he takes everything out. The last two items are his favourite.

These are then recycled into amazing products like akkhaya sandals. Glass bottles are a favourite item too. Those whiskey, wine bottles even juice bottles, or plastic bottles are resold

and at quite a dear price. These bottles are found in the foot paths of New Market too. At times drinking glasses are also made from these bottles too.

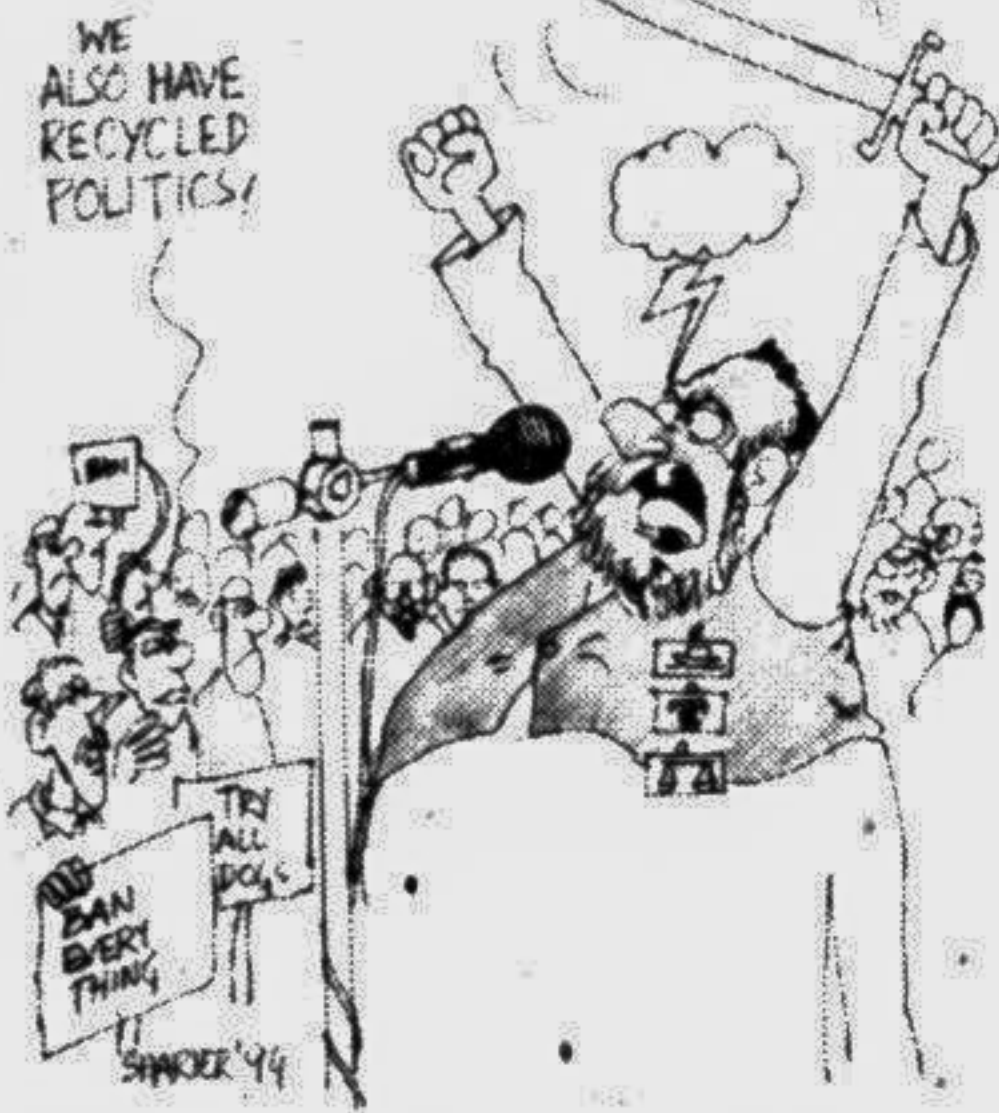
Metal junks, unlike these are again melted to make something else or are repaired and sold at lower prices. Polythene which is somewhat like akkhaya sandals, i.e. not destroyed under any circumstances, is used again for other reasons.

These poor people, who actually help this process by collecting such items from the city garbages, use polythene for many reasons. Like birds roaming

around looking for the right twig or straw to build their nest, these poor people who cannot afford a roof gather polythene to make shelter. Their children make balloons, even kites with it. A torn and tattered tyre is these kids' favourite toy. With a stick, they spin the tyre and run after it.

Besides all these work — promoting and job-oriented recycling plus points, there is also a minute disadvantage — one that can however be solved. Those shampoo, perfume, body spray bottles are also reused. They are re-filled with locally made cosmetic products and sold again. So the next time you make a small leak somewhere before selling it.

Recycling is now followed in the West as well and recycled goods are sought-after products there. In Bangladesh, where this started quite early, the recycled items should be more popularised. Their crude look should be improved and made attractive to expand their market.



13.5m affected by Iodine Deficiency Disorders

Some 18.5 million people of Bangladesh's 119.3 million population are affected by Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) which causes goitre, reports UNB.

Only 20 per cent of households in the country use iodised salt, a safeguard against goitre — the swelling of the thyroid gland, says a UNICEF report released here yesterday.

Some 600 million people across the world have been affected by goitre. Of them, 60 per cent affected are living only in 12 countries. Over one billion people are at risk.

The report says that the effect of IDD on children is particularly severe — causing physical and developmental problems and reducing IQs by as much as 10-15 points.

Because of its impact on human development, iodine deficiency also has implications for social and economic progress, says the second issue of the report titled "The Progress on Nations."

The problem can be prevented relatively easily and cheaply by the iodisation of all salt supplies.

In last five years, over half a billion people in 12 of the most seriously affected countries have begun using iodised salt.

Bangladesh has made major efforts to fortify salt with iodine and fixed a target to iodise most of food-grade salt by the next year.



Thursdays BTV

4:30 Opening announcement
4:45 Children's programme
5:10 News in Bangla
5:20 National Television School
Debate Competition
Children's programme:
Esho Gaan Shikhi
Jiboner Alo
6:45 Nazrul song
7:15 News in Bangla
8:00 Drama of the week
8:30 News in English
10:00 Mini series
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:40 Tomorrow's programme
Live telecast of World Cup
Football: Italy vs Norway
2:00 Korea vs Bolivia
5:30

Weather

Moderate showers likely

Moderately heavy falls are likely at places over the country during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office says temporary moderate rain or thundershowers is likely at many places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions.

Temporary light to moderate rain or thundershowers may occur at a few places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions.

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged. Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded at Chuadanga while the lowest 25 degrees at Kutubdia, Cox's Bazar and Feni.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6:49 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5:12 am.

The maximum and minimum temperature and humidity of some major cities/towns recorded yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	32.2	27.2	81	72
Chittagong	32.4	25.5	86	78
Rajshahi	32.2	27	86	78
Khulna	32.3	26.8	81	86
Barisal	31.4	25.8	86	85
Sylhet	32.8	26.0	85	86
Dinajpur	32.7	26.0	81	78

What's on today . . .

Drama Festival: Organised by Artonad Theatre to mark its 12th founding anniversary. The festival will continue till July 4. Today Artonad will stage drama 'Edara'. Venue: Mahila Samity. Time: 5:30 pm.

Mahila Parishad: Will accord a reception to renowned poet Sufia Kamal on her 84th birthday. Venue: TSC Dhaka University. Time: 4 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka South: Regular weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Women's Voluntary Association auditorium, Road 27 (old) Dhanmondi. Time: 7:30 pm.

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This opportunity is available only in the following places:

- Candy Floss, 62 Mid Town Hotel Shopping Arcade, Gulshan No 1, Dhaka.
- S.T.D. Video, 74 Siddheswar Road, Dhaka
- Cooper's-1, 2 Kalabagan, Dhaka
- Mangolia, 1 Chandni Chowk Market, Dhaka
- Coke Corner, Zia International Airport, Dhaka
- Karabi Corner, Zia International Airport, Dhaka
- Hotel Concord, Zia International Airport, Dhaka
- Drinks Corner, Parjatan Corporation, Zia International Airport, Dhaka
- Water Front, Parjatan Corporation
- New La-Bamba Enterprise, Raj-Laxmi Complex, Uttara
- Bangladesh-German Foods, 32, Gulshan-2
- Cooper's-2, Gulshan-2
- Ananda Bakery, BAFWA Complex, Shaheen School Annex
- Tandoori, BAFWA Complex, Shaheen School Annex
- Cheers, Putal House, Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Gulshan-2
- Pizza Houdi Pastry Shop, Old Airport
- Swiss Bakery, New Bailey Road
- Swiss Plus, New Bailey Road
- Mr. Burger-1, New Bailey Road
- Capital Confectionery, New Bailey Road
- Cranchi 61/A, Siddheswar
- Pizza Land, Inner Circular Road
- Cafe Jheel, 1/B, DIT Avenue
- Uman Snacks, 1 National Stadium Gate (East)
- Pizza Centre, 58, Purana Paltan
- Tulip Fast Food, 1 Outer Circular Road, Magbazar
- Nahar Garden, Nahar Plaza, Sonargaon Road (Hatirpool)
- Mr. Burger-2, Sonargaon Road, (Hatirpool)
- Pizza Palace, Sonargaon Road (Hatirpool)
- Pizza Hut, New Elephant Road
- Patisserie, New Elephant Road
- Furpo's, New Elephant Road
- Delicatessen's Old Elephant Road
- Latini Foods, 32/2, Mirpur Road (East of Dhaka College)
- Levitana, 322 Govt. New Market, Dhaka
- Summer Salt, Fatema Arcade, Mirpur Road
- Omni, Dhanmondi Plaza, Mirpur Road
- Seven Eleven, Shukrabad
- Sumis Hot Cake, Sobhanbag Masjid Market
- Pizza Lake, 119, Lake Circus, Kalabagan
- Pizza Inn, Jhikatala, Satmasjid Road
- New La-Bamba, New Elephant Road, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi
- Item's, 27, Sir Syed Ahmed Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka
- Pizza-5, Shyamoli Shishu Mela, Dhaka
- Sonargaon Hotel-1, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
- Sonargaon Hotel-2, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
- Joy Restaurant, National Monument, Savar, Dhaka

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দেখে শান্তি শুনেও শান্তি নিস্পন্ন নিস্পন্ন

সাদা কালো	বৈশিষ্ট্য	রঙিন
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