

Dhaka Day by Day

A Flashback of Historical Moments

by Sharier Khan

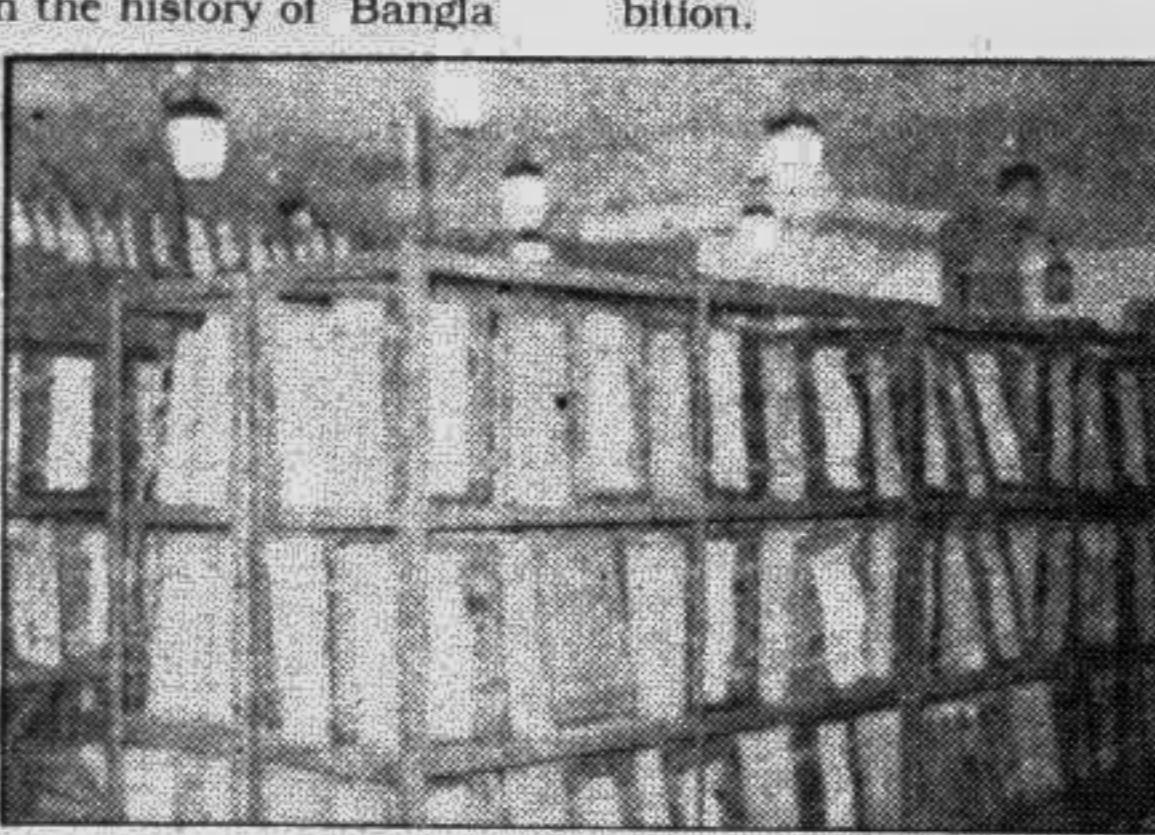
Robert Clive came, saw and signed an agreement of cooperation on behalf of the East India Company of Great Britain with the Nawab of Bengal Siraj-ud-Dowla on February 12, 1757. The Nawab could hardly guess that it was only the beginning of the saga of the 200-year rule of the British Raj in the whole sub-continent. It must have been unknown to the Nawab that Clive had simultaneously signed an agreement of cooperation with his Commander-in-Chief Mir Zafar Ali Khan at the same time. The result: the pathetic war of Plassey between the Nawab and East India Company and the killing of Siraj by Mir Zafar from behind.

For the first time in the history of Bangladesh, Bangladesh National Archives at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar has opened up the opportunity for the public to see with their own eyes the documents of such historic agreements. The National Archives has organised a fortnight long exhibition at its premises from July 21. This has given the people the chance to see hand written and printed documents dating back as far as the mid eighteenth century up to the War of Independence in 1971.

The exhibition, inaugurated on July 21 contains over 100 important documents. The National Archives selected these documents with the help of its council member Dr Muntasir Mamun and painter Hasahim Khan out of over 5 lakh documents preserved in its stock. The archive being grossly understaffed, the whole process took about a whole year.

The documents, kept behind glass in the exhibition room reveal interesting facts of the past. In 1791, for Tk 0.80 you could buy a maund of rice. In 1887, for one taka, you could get almost half a maund rice. Even in 1934, one taka could buy you 11 seer (10 kgs) of rice. For one taka nowadays, you could purchase one tenth or one fifteen of a kg of rice.

Similarly, a maund of salt would have cost you around Tk 4.70 in 1791, edible oil Tk 3.30 and sugar Tk 6.95. And how much did the people earn at that time? A document of the Dhaka District Collectorate and Dhaka Zilla Court Office of 1790 reveals that the lowest salary of that office was drawn by peons, molas and brahmins. Their salary was around Tk 5 per month.



Archives: Capturing historical moments.



Professor Amirul Islam, the newly-appointed Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, speaking at a reception accorded to him by the University School and College. Pro-VC Prof Abul Hossain and Treasurer Prof Ataur Rahman were also feted.

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Awami League MP Syed Abul Hossain addressing a seminar on 'Reflections on Ensuring Free and Fair Elections in Bangladesh' organised by the Study and Research Group of the Manabik Sahajya Sangstha in the city yesterday. From left are Prof M. Mufazzal Huq, Salauddin Yusuf, MP, Tariqul Gani and Feroz Hassan.

'AL will never compromise with anti-liberation forces'

Awami League leader Tofael Ahmed MP yesterday asked the student community to uphold the spirit of the Liberation War and strengthen the agitation to resist the communal elements in the country, reports UNB.

"Whatever may be the consequences, the Awami League will never compromise with the anti-liberation forces," he told a conference of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) city unit (North) at the Dhaka University Teacher Student Centre (TSC).

In his speech as chief guest, Tofael cautioned the students that rights of the people were again threatened. The people's

rights were restored after 16 years of struggle by his party following the changeover of 1975, he said.

Presided over by BCL Dhaka city unit (North) President Manjurul Islam Ashru, the conference was also addressed by Awami League leader Abdul Jalil, BCL President Mainuddin Hasan Chowdhury and General Secretary Iqbalur Rahim.

Mainuddin Hasan Chowdhury urged the students, particularly the members of his student organisation, to resist communalism at any cost.

Earlier, an anti-communal procession was brought out on the campus by the BCL activists.

World Breastfeeding Day today

The World Breastfeeding Week begins with the observance of World Breastfeeding Day today. This year's theme is: 'Protect Breastfeeding — Making the Code Work', reports UNB.

Various government and non-government organisations, including the Campaign for the Protection and Promotion of Breastfeeding, have arranged elaborate programmes on the occasion.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf will inaugurate the day's programme at the Public Library auditorium at 10 am today.

Earlier, the Deputy Health Minister Sirajul Haq will lead a rally from the Shishu Park at 7:30 am.

Radio and TV will air special programmes and newspapers publish supplements to mark the day. Seminars, art and essay competitions will also be arranged.

Five seminars covering all aspects of breastfeeding management will be held from August 2 to August 7. Similar programmes will be held in all 64 districts during the week.

On the eve of the day/week, the Campaign for the Protection and Promotion of Breastfeeding arranged a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday where the organisation's Chairman Dr MQM Talukdar demanded that breastfeeding be promoted for the sake of millions of children.

BSS adds: President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday underscored the importance of breastfeeding for physical and mental nourishment of children and their all round growth.

Kamrun's solo painting show begins today



By Staff Correspondent
The third solo exhibition of Kamrun Nahar begins today at La Galerie, 54 Kemal Ataturk Avenue at Banani.

Jon J Scott, High Commissioner of Canada in Bangladesh, will open the week-long show at 5 pm.

Forty five recent works of Kamrun in water colour, miniature oil and batik will be on display.

The exhibition will remain open everyday from 9 am to 8 pm till August 7.

BTV
Monday
4:30 Opening announcement
Al-Quran
Programme summary
Cartoon Film: Captain Planet and the Planeteers
9:10 News in Bangla
5:25 Sports programme: Football
6:30 Chhandaabitya: Programme based on Recitation
SAARC audiovisual exchange: Archery: National Sports of Bhutan
Nazrul songs
8:00 News in English
8:30 Population programme: Janamat
9:00 Bolan Dekhi Quiz programme
10:00 News in English
10:30 Comedy series: Murphy Brown
11:10 Musical programme: Disco Rally
Khabar/The News
11:30 Closing

CA exams results

The council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh yesterday announced the results of the CA Final and Intermediate examinations of the institute held in May 1994, reports BSS.

Candidates who have passed the CA Final Examination are: Roll nos. 1133, 1136, 1146, 1148, 1157.

Candidates who have passed Group I only of the CA Final Examination are: Roll nos. 1023, 1046, 1086, 1103, 1115.

The candidate who has passed group 'A' and 'B' of the CA Intermediate Examination has Roll no. 266.

Candidates who have passed group 'A' only of the CA Intermediate Examination: Roll nos. 15, 24, 53, 56, 59, 70, 87, 96, 109, 117, 146, 174, 183, 201, 233, 242, 249, 264, 286 and 390.

Candidates who have passed group 'B' only of the CA Intermediate Examination: Roll nos. 7, 65, 85, 91, 103, 131, 158, 162, 178, 180, 189, 191, 216, 262, 292, 308, 316, 332, 344, 384, 395, 456, 459, 1011, 1021, 1101, 1116, 1122, 1129, 1174, 1175, 1178, 1179 and 1183.

In another raid on a shop at Bhasani Market at Station Road late Saturday night and seized 140 bags of spurious cement and 6 tons of raw material of cement.

Anwar Hossain and Jamaluddin were arrested from the spot.

Two cases have been failed with Sadar thana.

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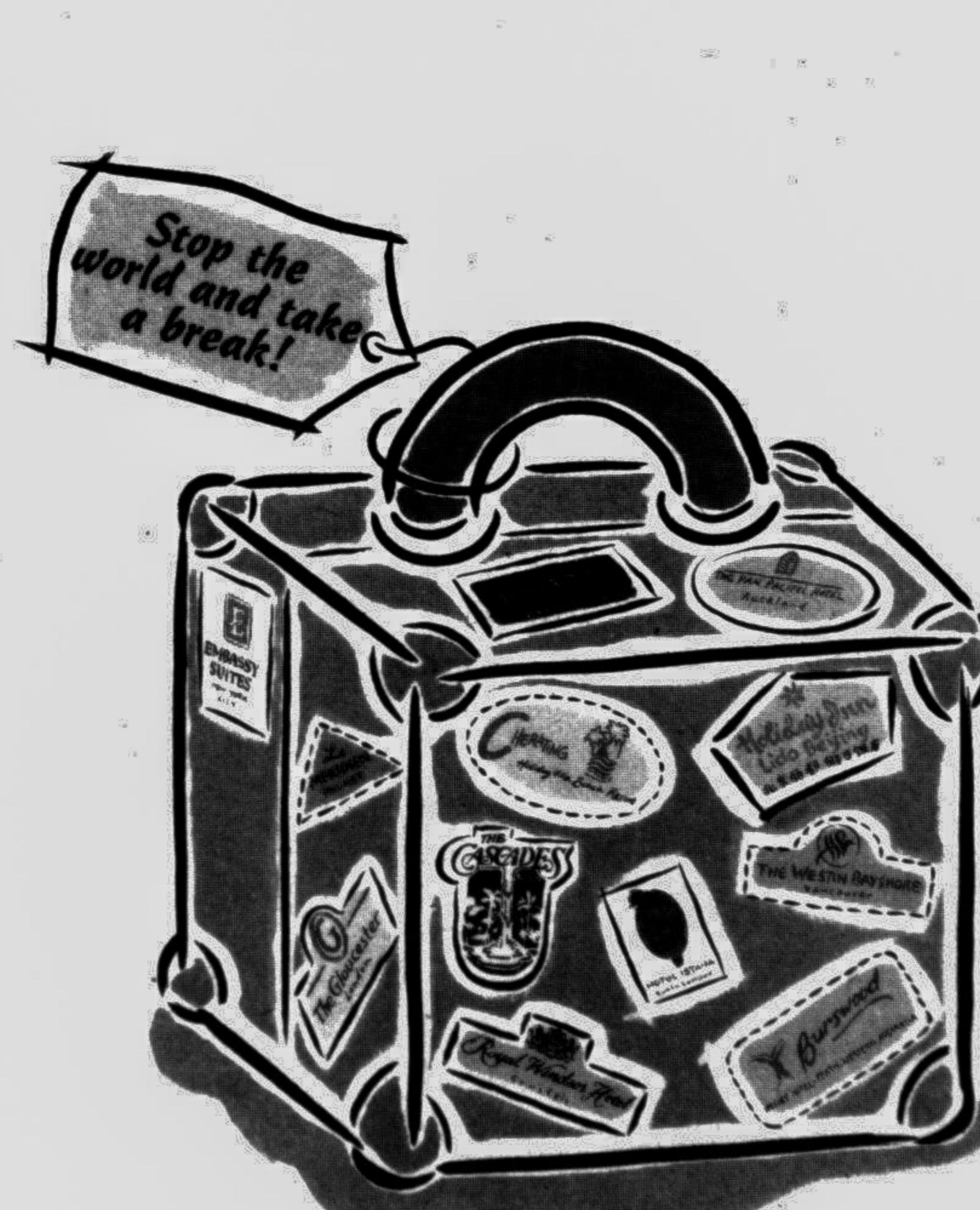
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