

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Fancy for Weird Fashion

by Raffat Binte Rashid

Tattered jeans and crushed shirt, sneakers with dirty untied laces, earrings and chains, cap on his head, turned neatly at a 45° angle. He is walking — rather moonwalking along a footwalk. No, he is not any of those Black Americans or punks from those Hollywood or Bollywood movies but a Bangladeshi teenager on a Dhaka street. Mimicking them — their heroes and idols.

"Hey! Did you hear Axl's latest, he is cool man," is what you'll hear him say to his friends and that too in an accent that'll make you wonder "where am I and who are these kids?"

Kids whom you have seen playing with dolls and smiling sunshine in their innocence are now the same ones smoking cigarettes, wearing their hair in spikes and everything that

all guess work now — a good way to deceive eavesdroppers though.

"I saw a couple walking in front of Shahbagh the other day, in fact my rickshaw-puller drew my attention to them, saying 'Apa look, they look the same, who's the man,' laughing hilariously", says a twenty-six-year old lady.

"I cannot understand what's with these kids today, they are over sensitive, too emotional and frustrated. As a result they disguise, this way to hide from the real world," she continues. "My father was and still is very fashionable. He looked or maybe dressed to look, like President Kennedy, his idol, he still is very attractive. But my brother is no Clinton or Ershad now, rather he walks Guns N' Roses,



make them look like Martians rather than humans. Brothers whom you taught to ride bicycles, repair a watch or a broken cassette are now wearing earrings, nose pins, their hair waist length in buns or ponytails.

"In fact, I sometimes ask my brother for a matching dupatta (the chiffon cloth worn with the dress, shalwar kameez). Believe me I get it," explains a sister of a today's fashion-conscious younger brother. "Wearing a chundri dupatta (with colours and prints) around the wrist like 'Jackie Shroff' in 'Tridev' or on the head as a turban or so, like 'Akshay' in 'Mohra' is 'cool' he says," the sister continues. If this is a fact, then without any hesitation you'll get earrings, chains, chokers, bangles from them too. And in a short while lipstick and eye shades as well.

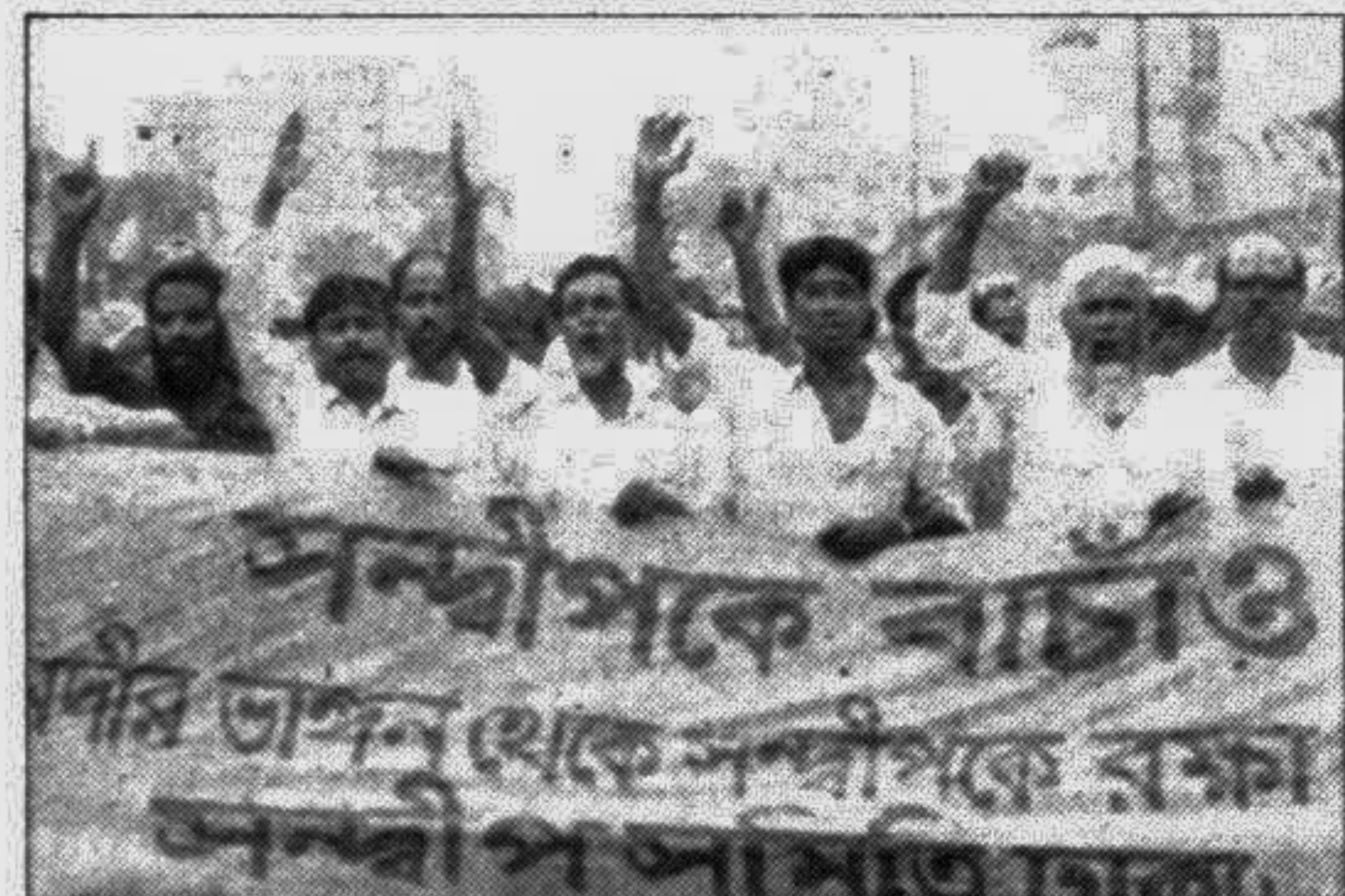
This weird sense of fashion or dressing-up in girls too but less conspicuous because after all accessories are made for them. When these teens walk by you, you cannot detect their sex, just by looking at them any more. It's

talks, 1,2,3 kid, the wrestler and dresses like Apache Indian," she says.

"What a combination, these kids are now! Their trying to act 'cool' or smart or fashionable is somewhat derailing them from reality — don't you agree? They are making their own world, own separate society where we are misfits. This world of theirs is basically a cocktail of all cultures — the bad part more than the good," she says frustratingly.

But whose fault is it anyway? Are these kids to be questioned, only or their parents be held responsible also? When a 14-year old girl tries to run away from home, drug addicted and her parents following her in a car, trying to bring her back, who do we ask or blame for the situation?

Their parents are also acting "cool" and still in the hippie or fancy mood, of which they didn't grow out of as yet. Home is the first school a child attends. Let it be a healthy and a stable one for the sake of the future.



The Dhaka-based Swandip Samity brought out a procession in the city yesterday with banner reading: Save Swandip from river erosion. — Star photo

### Border trade with Myanmar fails to take off

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 12: Bangladesh-Myanmar border trade has failed to take off even two and a half months after the signing of an agreement between the two neighbouring countries.

Cross-border trade between Bangladesh and Myanmar was scheduled to begin on June 15 as per the agreement signed in Dhaka by their commerce ministers on May 18 in order to bolster bilateral economic cooperation.

Administration sources say that Myanmar is yet to finalise its banking system needed for border trade operations.

Besides, some other practical problems including selection of a particular border post for carrying on the trade have still remained unsettled, administration sources added.

Bangladesh has, however, authorised the Sonali Bank to conduct the trade transactions.

### Workshop on blood transfusion ends

The concluding ceremony of the national workshop on "the safety of blood transfusion" was held at BIRDEM auditorium in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Speaking as chief guest Environment and Forest Minister Akbar Hossain stressed the need for ensuring safety measures in blood transfusion and urged the doctors to take utmost care in proper screening of blood before transfusion for preventing AIDS.

Organised by Sandhani, Sir Salimullah Medical College unit, the function was also addressed by Anwara Habib, MP.

The minister called upon the doctors to be more sincere and honest in discharging their duties.

Akbar Hossain appreciated "Sandhani" for its activities for the distressed humanity.

### 4 die in Pabna road accidents

PABNA, Aug 12: At least four people were killed and 35 others injured, four seriously, in two road accidents in the district today, police said, reports UNB.

The deceased are: Mayarani, 40, Karim, 35, and Bannaya, 7, and an unidentified youth.

A passenger bus collided head-on with a truck coming from opposite direction on the Pabna-Ishurdi road this evening, leaving two dead on the spot. Two others succumbed to their injuries on way to the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Among the injured, 14 were admitted to the Ishurdi Health Complex and eight to the Sadar Hospital.

Meanwhile, in another accident today, 10 passengers were wounded on the same road at Gati, 8 mile off the town, when a passenger bus turned turtle. The injured were admitted to Ishurdi and Sadar Hospital.



Saturday

4:30 Opening announcement  
Al-Quran  
Programme summary  
Children's programme:  
Mona Katha  
5:10 News in Bangla  
5:25 Musical programme: Kid songs  
6:00 Youngmen's magazine programme: Shikdhanggan  
Programme based on population control: Shamsarhar  
6:30 Banashari: Folk songs  
7:25 Comedy series: Major D  
8:00 News in Bangla  
8:30 Matti O Manush:  
Agricultural programme  
Programme on contemporary events:  
Abhimat  
10:00 News in English  
10:30 Drama series: Dynasty  
11:30 Khabar/The News  
11:45 Closing

M A Moqtadir  
Executive Engineer  
Munshiganj PWD Division  
Munshiganj

DFP-1419-6/8  
G-1280

### Computerised system opens at Dhaka Customs

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman inaugurated a computerised system modernising the collection of revenue and processing of trade statistics at the Dhaka Customs House at the Zia International Airport on Thursday, reports BSS.

Underlining the important role of the customs officials in increasing government's revenue, the Finance Minister said: "The supreme duty of customs officials is to enforce law indiscriminately in the society."

He said that government had already liberalised its customs rules and trade policies. But liberalisation does not mean free style, rather it imposed self-regulations, he added.

Appreciating the National Board of Revenue (NBR) for installing the computerised system for customs clearance at the Dhaka Customs House, the Finance Minister suggested for taking up a comprehensive project bringing all areas of operation and activities of the Customs and the NBR under a master computerised programme, in the country within five years.

The Finance Minister pointed out that the government had undertaken many reform programmes in the financial and revenue collection sectors in fulfillment of the aspirations of the taxpayers.

The inaugural ceremony was also addressed by NBR Chairman, Dr Akbar Ali Khan.

### Samoy's founding anniversary

By Staff Correspondent

The Weekly Samoy yesterday held a discussion at its Dhanmohi office to mark one year of publication.

Contributors, patrons and well-wishers of the magazine attended the function.

Professor Hasna Begum, Prof Humayun Azad, Qazi Khulquzzaman Ahmad, Syed Abul Maqsood, Prof Syed-ur-Rahman, Sohrab Hossain, Chowdhury Mufad Ahmed, Altaf Parvej, Subal Banik and Y H Ashraf were present, among others.

Welcoming the guests, Dr Zaheda Ahmad, Editor of the Magazine, shared her experiences of publication of the weekly.

Prof Serajul Islam Choudhury, chairman of the Board of Editors, emphasised alternative journalism which he said was the prime need of the country in the context of the present day frustration cropping up from global changeover.

### Foundation of Sadekul Ulum Madrassah laid

State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Harun-ur-Rashid laid the foundation of Tanki Sadekul Ulum Dakhillah Madrassah Bhaban in Akhaura Thursday, reports BSS.

The bhaban will cost about Taka nine lakh fifty thousand. Later, he addressed a public meeting at Dheli-Pataisar High School ground at Kasba thana of the district.

Speaking on the occasion the state minister said, there is no alternative to BNP to keep up the independence and sovereignty of the country.

BNP has been running the government with the spirit of the Liberation War for fulfilling the hopes and aspiration of the common people, he added.

Presided over by union parishad chairman Fakaruddin Ahmed Khan, the function was also addressed by Mia Abdul Wazed, MP, district BNP secretary Hamidul Haque Tukku and other local BNP leaders.

The state minister called upon all to cooperate the government to continue the development process.

### Create awareness about dental care: Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday urged the dental surgeons and scientists to put in their best efforts to create awareness about the importance of dental care for better living with sound health, reports BSS.

"Mouth is the gateway to human body. So proper care of teeth is important to save ourselves from all kinds of diseases," he said.

President Biswas said this at an international dental seminar organised by the Bangladesh Dental Association of North America (BDANA) in collaboration with the Bangladesh Dental Society, Bangladesh Private Dental Surgeons' Association and the Dhaka Dental College Teachers' Association.

Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Serajul Haque attended the function as the special guest while Dr Chad P Gehni of Flushing Hospital Medical Centre of USA, president of Bangladesh Dental Society Prof Anwarul Alam, Principal of the Dhaka Dental College Prof Mohammad Ashraf Hussain, president of Bangladesh Dental Surgeons' Association Dr Mohammad Amirul Islam, president of BDANA Dr Moinul Islam Mia, Dr Abdur Razzaque, Dr Wadud Bhuiyan and Dr Mian Z Maniky, spoke on the occasion.

He said the dream of the nation was to achieve a qualitative change in the field on health sector and importance had been laid down on inter-

grated health facilities for the common men. He advised the doctors to contribute towards modernising the treatment facilities for overall development in the fields of health and medicare in the country.

President Biswas said that for preventing dental diseases effectively the number of dental surgeons should be increased from the present number of about eight hundred in the country. He also lauded the theme of this year's World Health Day to keep teeth and mouth clean for sound health.

The President mentioned that about 600 million US dollars are being spent by the government with the support of the World Bank in implementing the fourth health and family planning programmes in the country. He also said that infrastructural facilities are being improved and beds increased in the thana and district hospitals.

Speaking on the occasion Serajul Haque said measures are being taken to fulfil the shortage of dental surgeons in the government hospitals through arranging special BCS Examination. He appreciated particularly the BDANA for arranging the seminar.

Later, the President distributed awards among the eminent dental surgeons working both in the country and the USA, including the pioneers of dentistry in Bangladesh Prof Abu Haidar Sazedur Rahman and Prof Syed Manjurul Haq.

### Puja Committee biennial confce

The biennial conference of Mahanagar Sarbojonin Puja Committee will be held on August 18 and 19 instead of August 19 and 20, reports UNB.

According to the changed schedule, the inaugural session of the two-day conference will be held on August 18.

### 112 held in city

Police rounded up 112 people of various charges from different parts of the city in last 24 hours, ending yesterday, reports UNB.

The arrested, including 12 wanted criminals, two charged under the special powers act and six accused of stealing, were produced before court.



Playwright Mamtajuuddin Ahmed speaking at a memorial meet on Jahanara Imam at the Bangla Academy auditorium in the city yesterday. — Star photo

### Weather

#### Thundershower likely

Moderately heavy falls are likely at places over the regions of Chittagong, Noakhali, Barisal, Patuakhali, Khulna and Sylhet till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office says occasional light to moderate rain or thundershower may occur at most places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions and at many places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions.

Day temperature is likely to fall by 1 degree Celsius during the period across the country.

Meantime, Bogra experienced the highest 31 mm rain yesterday.

Tangail had 20 mm shower, Majdicourt 15, Sylhet, Comilla and Dhaka 10 each, Khulna 9, Bhola 8, and Rangamati and Ishurdi each had 7 mm rain during the period.

Country's highest temperature 33.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Dinajpur and the lowest 24.0 degrees at Rangamati.

Sun sets today at 6:34 pm and rises day tomorrow (Sunday) at 5:33 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities/towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	29.3	25.5
Chittagong	31.5	25.0
Rajshahi	31.2	26.2
Khulna	30	25.2
Barisal	29.6	24.5
		9 am 6 pm
		93 83
		92 82
		89 93
		79 92
		100 85

Just 21 and  
Already an  
International  
Sensation

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elegant

SO  
classy

SO  
charming

SO  
exciting

SO  
versatile

but  
affordable



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