

Dhaka Day by Day

A Shack's Special Dish

by Lubna Qureshi

Have you ever overlooked a dinner just because you would not bother to get dressed up, go through hours of makeup or perhaps you were afraid of bumping into someone you know? Well then, there is a solution. How about a dinner in a three-walled shack under the starry sky and the moonlit night. It would then surely solve all your problems.

"Kallu Miah's Chop-er-Dokan", an out of the way restaurant in Dhalepar, deep in the heart of Mirpur is one such venue. Coming from the city, take a sharp right turn opposite to the Mirpur central mosque and follow the road along different colourful shops of lungi, mosquito nets, electronic gadgets, hardware, embroidery shops and ask for Kallu Miah's shop and you will be taken to the exotic eating place.

"The whole of Bangladesh knows my shop. I do not need any publicity," says Kallu Miah, a big man with moustache and not a hair out of place when he was asked what he thought of this coverage. The shop established in 1972 was handed from one generation to the next and was founded by his father Mohammad Sukur. When asked what was so special about this shop, Kallu Miah's version went like this: "Just have it and you will understand". Indeed there is nothing to explain but to experience.

Succulent, sizzling beef and mutton and juicy chicken fries are his speciality added with a special *parata* and *chamt*. The meat stays marinated until the frying time. And if you have any doubt about its hygiene then set them aside as they are done in a huge "tawa" under the blazing fire.

Kallu Miah spends about five to six thousand taka each day on these items bought fresh from

the Mirpur market. His items include twenty chicken and six kilograms of beef and mutton per day which are all taken up readily by his customers by closing time. The shop keeps open for dinner from 5.30 to 11.00 PM. Even though he earns only four hundred taka per day, he would not compromise his quality for a greater profit.

The shop is run by six helping staff. Lattu Bhai is an important member of the team. This white haired man with his arrogant manner gives the impression of being the master of the shack when actually Kallu Miah is the "Mahajan". Business is really good on Fridays and in winter.

A different assortment of crowds ranging from the ordinary local inhabitants to the high society elites, executives, servicemen, defence personnel ties with their high-strung walkie talkies are seen hanging out here.

The comment of a first time customer was, "The meat is definitely tasty and tender but spicy". Another housewife said, "The food is better if eaten hot". It is true you do not have to worry about your appearance to dine here, but you have to make do with a black street dog, some tom cats, muddy grounds, used-up benches, a "Thelagari" (pushcart) and not to mention some "paner dokan" (betel leaf shop) for a panoramic view. It is a small sacrifice to make for a finely prepared meal.

"So if you think you are tired of dining out in posh restaurants and need a break, why not have a bite of Kallu Miah's special chicken chop or chicken fry or 'charlie chicken' as known by some. Surely, it is a shack with a difference."



Chaka adjudged best film in France festival

An exceptional and experimental film maker Morshedul Islam has brought international honour for Bangladesh when his production "Chaka" (The Wheel) was adjudged the "best film" in the eighth Dunkerque International Film Festival held in France from October 12 to 16, a press release of the Bangladesh Short Film Forum said Monday, reports BSS.

The film maker Islam received 1,22,000 franc equivalent to Taka 900,000.

Morshed's "The Wheel" also received "international critic award" and "inter-film award" at the 42nd Manhymen International Film Festival held in November last year.

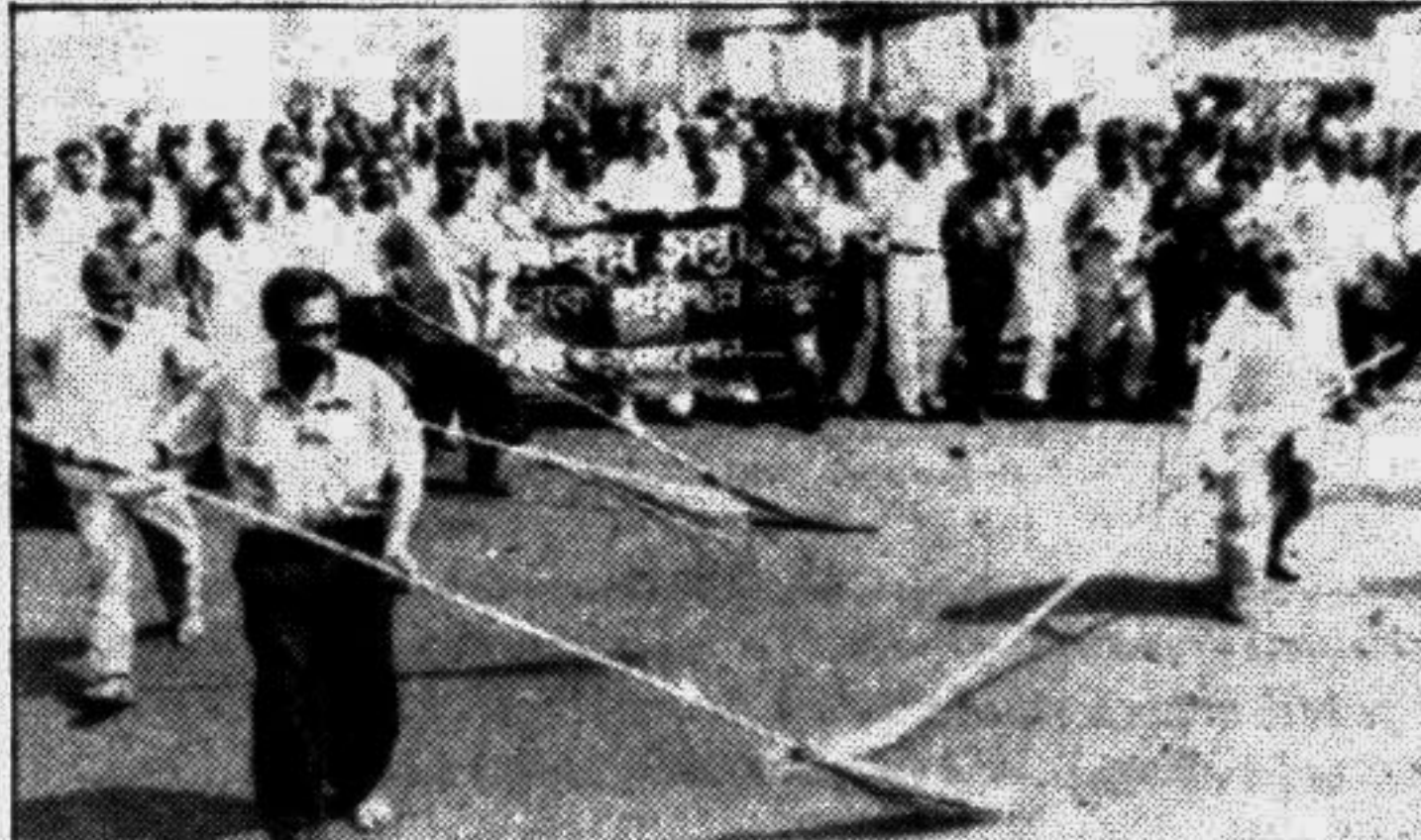
"The Wheel" was also selected as one of the nine best films to be screened at the international film festival from October 20-27 at San-Juan of Puerto Rico.

Another short film of Morshed "Agami" (The Future) was also awarded "Silver Peacock" in the 16th international film festival held in New Delhi in 1985.

Jahanara Begum returns home

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan Ara Begum returned home Monday night after an official visit to China, reports UNB.

She led a 5-member delegation to China. The delegation had meetings with high officials of Chinese Education and Cultural ministry.



Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mohammad Hanif leading a procession in the city yesterday to mark the National Sanitation Week, which began yesterday. — Star photo

Weather Temperature may fall

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over Khulna and Barisal divisions and the regions of Chittagong, Noakhali, Dhaka and Faridpur during the next 12 hours till 6:00 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met Office forecasts day temperature may fall by 1 degree Celsius over Khulna and Barisal divisions and the regions Chittagong, Noakhali, Dhaka and Faridpur and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere across the country.

In its outlook for subsequent two days the Met Office predicted little change while giving extended outlook for another five days there would be no considerable change.

Country's highest temperature 33.5 degrees Celsius was recorded at Dhaka and Jessore while the lowest 18.4 degrees at Dinajpur.

The sun sets today at 5:29 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:58 am.

The Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns today are:

City/Town	Temperatures		Humidity in percentage	
	in degrees Celsius			
Dhaka	Max	Min	6 am	6 pm
	33.5	20.5	60	63
Chittagong	32.0	25.2	80	80
	32.2	19.0	61	80
Khulna	32.6	23.5	61	73
	32.8	22.7	73	78

Notice of RHD Inviting Quotation

Group No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time allowed from the date of issue of W/O	Eligibility of contractors
1.	Quotation Notice No. 06/MWD/1994-95				
2.	Name of work	As per group list mentioned below.			
'Ka'	Supply of spare parts for Bailly Bridges on different roads of Road Division Kurigram, under workshop Sub-division Mymensingh during the year 1994-95.	To be quoted	2% on quoted amount	20 (Twenty) days	Enlisted general category contractors of RHD as per financial capacity.
'Kha'	Supply of spare parts for Bailly Bridges on different roads of Road three roads Division under workshop Sub-Division Mymensingh during the year 1994-95.	To be quoted	2% on quoted amount	20 (Twenty) days	
3.	Name of offices availability of quotation documents	Executive Engineer (RHD), Workshop Division, Mymensingh/Dhaka Executive Engineer (RHD), Planning & Programming Division (Road & Bridge) Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Workshop Sub-Division, Mymensingh.			
4.	Name of officers to receive quotation	Superintending Engineer (RHD) Workshop Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (P & D) Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/Executive Engineer (RHD) Workshop Division, Mymensingh/Dhaka. 23-10-94 (During office hour).			
5.	Last date of selling of quotation				
6.	Date of receipt of quotation	24-10-94 up to 12:30 PM			
7.	Date & time of opening quotation	24-10-94 at 12:45 PM			

Arun Kumar Chakrabarti
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Workshop Division
Mymensingh



Projonmo 71, an organisation of children of the Liberation War martyrs, brought out a procession in the city yesterday. It submitted a memorandum to the Commonwealth envoy, Sir Ninian demanding exclusion of the war criminals from the dialogue. — Star photo

Consideration of Harkin Bill deferred until January

Consideration of the much-talked Harkin Bill, formally known as Child Labour Deterrence Act 1994, has been deferred until next session of the US Congress beginning in January, reports UNB.

Due to some pressing matters, including healthcare reform and ratification of the GATT agreement, Congress would not be able to consider the Bill before that time, Senator Harkin, the sponsor of the Bill, stated while taking testimony from an official of the Asian-American Free Labour Institute working in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Country Director for AFLFI Terry Collingsworth and a researcher and educator for the organisation, Nazma Akhter, recently visited the United States and met with the Senator, says an AFLFI press release.

Nazma Akhter and child workers from Brazil, Honduras and the United States gave testimony at a hearing before the Senator about the child labour in their respective countries.

In her testimony, Nazma stated that child labour had been ignored until the Harkin Bill was introduced although child labour has been illegal under Bangladesh law for over 30 years. "Linking child labour to economic penalties has finally got attention of the factory owners and garment buyers," she added.

Nazma, however, categorically told the American lawmaker that without some strong incentives for the factory owners and the government to provide educational programmes for the child workers, who will be terminated, the likely result of the Harkin Bill will be that many of the poor children will simply

be put out of work.

She urged the Senator to consider reward to the industries for contributing to schools or to assist financially in creating the schools to solve the problem.

She also sought reasonable period following passage of the law to ensure that the educational programmes are in place before the children lose job under the impact of the proposed law, which prohibits import of commodities manufactured with child labour.

Bangladesh exported ready-made garments worth some 1.2 billion US dollar last year, and about half of the exports went to the United States.

Nazma also called for allowing older children (ages 13 and 14) to work part-time if they are in an educational programme, which is consistent with the ILO Convention 138.

UCEP to get Tk 3.75 British donation

Underprivileged Children's Educational Programme (UCEP)-Bangladesh will receive about Taka 3.75 crore (5,90,000 pound sterling) from Overseas Development Administration (ODA) of the British government under an agreement signed yesterday, reports BSS.

The ODA fund is being extended to support UCEP's non-formal education, vocational training employment promotion of the urban poor and also the institutional management of UCEP for two years (1994-96).

Seminar on role of mass media

Information Minister Nazmul Huda yesterday said role of mass media would be further expanded for creating extensive public awareness throughout the country in maintaining and caring of child health, reports BSS.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on "role of mass media in maintaining child health" at Dhaka Shishu Hospital auditorium.

Organised by Dhaka Shishu Hospital Doctors' Council, the main paper was presented by Dr Sirajul Islam. Among others, the discussion was participated by chairman of the management board of Dhaka Shishu Hospital Justice Maksam-ul-Hakim, head of surgery department A F M Masud, Prof of Neurology Department Mohammad Hanif, Prof of Cardiology Department Manzur Hossain, President of Doctors Council Dr Md Selimuzzaman and general secretary Dr Khandaker Rokun Uddin.

Reports on plague in West Bengal 'baseless'

By DU Correspondent
The Bangladeshi students studying in the Indian state of West Bengal Monday termed the reports on the spread of plague there as rumour.

The Bangladeshi Shikharthy Parishad (BSP), and organisation of Bangladeshi students in West Bengal at a press conference in the city Monday said the situation in Calcutta is now normal.

The leaders of the organisation also urged the parents not to be worried about their children.

The BSP raised a seven-point demand to solve their problems. The students urged the government to accept the demands for the welfare of the Bangladeshi students studying in West Bengal and other parts of India.

Prof. Ahmadulqah Mia, Director of UCEP and P J Fowler, the British High Commissioner in Bangladesh, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective sides.

UCEP's programmes fit into the priority sectors that ODA has identified for its aid in Bangladesh.

Before signing the agreement, British High Commissioner had a discussion with the UCEP director on the ongoing programmes and their possible expansion. The High Commissioners later visited a UCEP technical school.



Physician honoured

Dr M A Alamgir, consultant physician and chief cardiologist of the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital, Dhaka has been selected by the American Biographical Institute and Research Organisation in North Carolina, USA for biographical inclusion in a reference crown volume of "500 Leaders of Influence" says a press release. He is one of 500 noted personalities selected from all over the world.

The biographical inclusion will be on display at the US Library of Congress in Washington DC.

He will also be receiving a special 20th Century Achievement Award in recognition of his career achievements and social contributions. Dr Alamgir, a Gregorian, graduated from the Dhaka Medical College in 1975. In 1978 he left for specialist postgraduate training and study in the Federal Republic of Germany.

He obtained the postgraduate specialist degree in Internal Medicine from Germany.



Wednesday

4:30	Opening announcement
4:45	Sports programme
5:10	News in Bangla
5:25	Agami
6:00	Banofa
7:00	Open University
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Writer Taale Taale
9:00	Mini series: Mysteries of the Dark Jungle
10:00	News in English
10:30	Protashar Alo
11:30	Khabar/The news
11:40	Tomorrow's programme
11:45	Close down

Malaysian envoy makes farewell call to Biswas

Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Ahmad Fuzi Bin Haji Abdul Razak made a farewell call on President Abitur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Talking to the high commissioner, President Biswas said Bangladesh considers Malaysia as a very close friend and attaches much importance to the growing cooperation and understanding in all fields.

He said the recent visit of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia unfurled the scope of investment and further cooperation in economic fields and understanding in various international fora including strengthening the Muslim Ummah.

He hoped that Malaysian government will take more initiatives to narrow the trade imbalance between the two countries.

Film Censor Appeal Committee reconstituted

The Bangladesh Film Censor Appeal Committee has been reconstituted with the Principal Secretary of the Prime Minister's secretariat as its chairman, reports BSS.

An official notification was issued yesterday in this regard superseding an earlier order of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs dated February 28, 1991.

The members of the committee are: Shajahan Siraj MP, Begum K G Hamida Khanam MP, Group Captain (ret'd) Saiful Azam MP, Nuruddin Al Masud, Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Dr Towhidul Anwar, Director General of the Press Institute of Bangladesh, Principal Information Officer of the Press Information Department, Mahbub Anam, Editor of the Bangladesh Times and a deputy secretary of the Ministry of Information, who will act as the member-secretary of the committee.

Corrigendum

The Mitsubishi Lancer ad of Rangs Limited published yesterday on Page 3 of this paper inadvertently contained the line "With our Good Wishes.... Independence Day of Pakistan" on top. The mistake is regretted.

SITUATION VACANT

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নিজের ক্ষেতের টাটকা শাক-সব্জীর স্বাদই আলাদা

উন্নত দেশের জন্য চাই সুস্থ সবল মানব। আর তার জন্য প্রয়োজন পুষ্টি, যা রয়েছে শাক-সব্জীতে। এছাড়া শাক-সব্জীতে রয়েছে প্রচুর ভিটামিন-এ, যা অস্বস্থ প্রতিরোধ করে।

আপনার আশে পাশে জমি যতটুকু থাক, ফেলে রাখবেন না। শাক-সব্জী লাগান। তাতে আপনার সর্বস্বের যেমন সাফল্য হবে, তেমনি টাটকা শাক-সব্জী আপনার স্বাস্থ্যের নিশ্চয়তা দেবে। আপনার চাহিদার অতিরিক্ত শাক-সব্জী আপনার আত্মীয়-স্বজন, বন্ধু বাসকে পাঠাতে পারেন এবং তাদেরকে এ ব্যাপারে উৎসাহিত করতে পারেন।

আজ্ঞার দরগা, মেহেন্দপুর, বিনাইবহ, চৈত্রা, মালিকগঞ্জ এবং রাণুনিয়ার আমরা নানা জাতের চারা উৎপাদন, ও আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি ও প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বিনামূল্যে সরবরাহ করে থাকি।

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