

Dhaka Day by Day

Physical Approach to Plays

by Raffat Binte Rashid



Two lovers were seen and reported by a 'bad man' to the village Moulana. He in his power (real or not) took the 'case' in his hands and brought it to the salish (village court), where the jury found one of the defendants (female by natural choice) guilty of the crime 'love'. She was marked on the forehead by a burning, red hot coin; and the story continues so on and so forth.

Obviously, this is a script of a drama but with a difference. Here the entire play was shot or done with only five scenes and no dialogues. Strange to many but not to Dan Chumley, Director and Joan Holden, Playwright, San Francisco Mime Troupe.

Chumley and Holden arrived in Dhaka on November 28 and are expected to stay up to December 4, 1994 with the 20 member Asian Peoples Theater group which performed a multi-national production 'Big Wind'. In addition, they conducted a two-day workshop (Nov. 30 and Dec. 1) on 'Collaborative Playwriting and Popular Theater Performance' for playwrights and actors. The American Cultural Centre has arranged the workshop in cooperation with Aranyak Natya Dal, which is the local host of the Asian People's Theater in Dhaka.

It was in this workshop that a group of participants took pains to recreate the village court scene and only through body expressions. We try to help actors to be more physical by creating characters through body language, explains Chumley. The eye reads every gesture we make and the idea here is to make actors contact and spin a story through body language. We are following the Commedia dell'arte technique; the game is to make plays through pictures with a physical approach, explains both Chumley and Holden. In this body-based acting everything becomes a different character; the comic rhythm and every action talk and have a direct effect on the whole play.

Twentyone participants from different group theaters in Dhaka are taking part in this workshop. Three groups with seven participants each, has to prepare a 10-minute show using the techniques learned. These boys and girls are very enthusiastic and imaginative. In fact they are going to make plays on fundamentalism and women, environment, basically the dams and water problems and the recent political crisis in parliament, says Holden.

Each of these plays had their skeletons ready in the first day. For drinking water they would have to apply for visas, to collect it. Too sarcastic but true. Such is the severe water crisis in some regions of the country. Then the political stalemate, the scene opens with two powers locked in an arm wrestling contest and an onlooker rather the negotiator (or referee in the game, to be precise) is confused and is waiting with loads of funds (IMF/World Bank) for the tug-of-war to end, so that the funds can be properly distributed.

All serious concerns and problems of recent days but such ideas were (almost) clearly shown, through the participants' mock performance with only a few minutes' rehearsal. On the first day of the workshop their basic ideas were conveyed, altered by the instructors and for the next day the assignment was to work on characters, write a script and try to find a song, which can be turned into a parody for the next day's show.

"You see they are like a palate of colours all waiting to be rightly used and shown. The older actors already know a lot. It is always easier to work and teach the young ones some new techniques," says Chumley.

"You see 'Big Wind' whether it was a success or not is not the point. It has had a rhythm of movement. We are making street comedies where body gestures are like dialogues."

On the first day of the workshop, at least this point was proved, that in the small 10-minute shows, that the participants were directing collectively, were almost understood without a simple word and only by facial and body expressions.

Dhaka for uniform edn policy in C'wealth states

Bangladesh has suggested that there should be uniform curriculum in the schools, colleges and universities of the Commonwealth countries so that degree of a country is recognised by each state of the Commonwealth.

This was stated by Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar on his return from Pakistan after attending the 12th conference of education ministers of the Commonwealth.

The five-member Bangladesh delegation to the conference led by Sircar included Matlur Rahman Shah, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education and Q A M A Rahim, Bangladesh High Commissioner to Islamabad.

Sircar told BSS that he had also suggested that tuition fees for the foreign students in developed countries should be made equal to that of home students. The number of scholarships and stipends should be increased, he said.

Sircar gave an overview of education system and reform in the curriculum being carried out in Bangladesh by the government.

BSEHR confce opens

Justice M H Rahman, a senior judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, yesterday urged the human rights activists to launch a greater campaign for establishing rule of law and human rights in every sphere of national life, reports UNB.

He was inaugurating the fourth national conference of the Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) at the auditorium of the Manoshik Protibandhi Shiksha Samity here.

Presided over by Gazi Shamsur Rahman the inaugural session was also addressed by Justice Kemaluddin Hosain, Charge d'Affaires of Denmark K K Nielsen and Swedish Ambassador Bjorn Sternby and BSEHR Secretary General Sigma Huda.

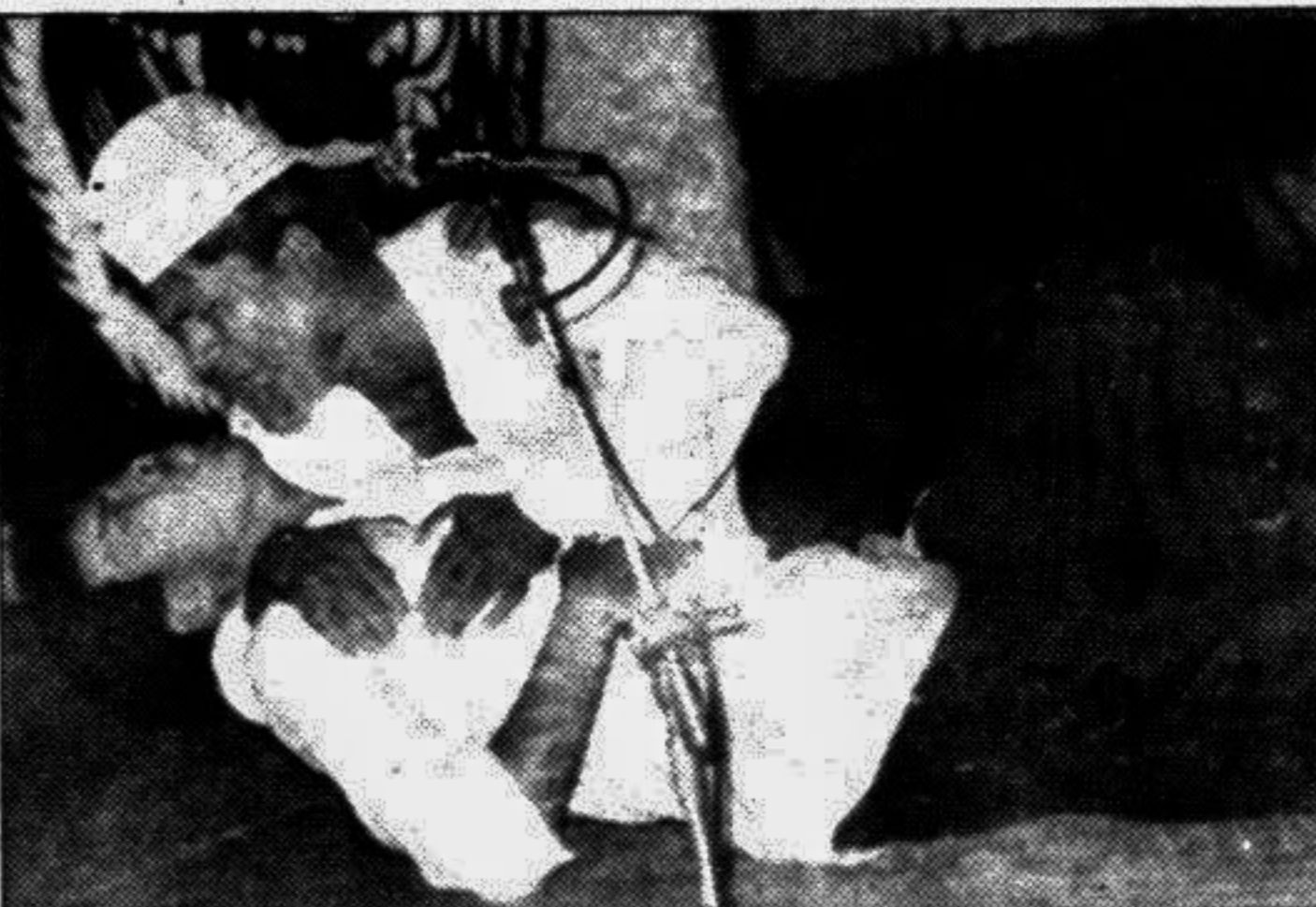
Garments workers' ultimatum

Garments workers staged a demonstration in the city yesterday to press for various demands, including implementation of minimum wages announced by the government, reports UNB.

The National Garments Workers' Federation organised a rally in front of National Press Club in the afternoon and brought out a procession from there.

Addressing the rally, federation leader Amirul Haq Amin said, the garments workers would be forced to go for a greater movement if their demands were not fulfilled by December 30.

Later, the garments workers paraded different city streets with black flags and chanted slogans in support of their demands.



A scene from the play Swadhinatar Sangram (struggle for freedom) staged by the Nandikar, a Chittagong-based theatre troupe, at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday to mark the ongoing street drama festival. — Star photo

Seminar on public health

A one-day workshop to introduce the modules of 'management tools' for public health managers was held in the city Thursday under the aegis of the Agha Khan Foundation, reports BSS.

Evolved by the foundation, the modules of the management advancement programme, already tested in 13 countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, are designed of help strengthen the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of population-based health programme.

The materials developed consist of a set of 21 booklets and three computer diskettes series.

Foreign participants in the just concluded fifth congress of the Mother and Child International (MCI), numbering 37 from 16 countries including Bangladesh attended the workshop.

UNICEF, Bangladesh in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Agha Khan Community Health Programme has produced a revised version of these modules.

One killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent

At least one person was killed and 20 others injured when a Sylhet-bound bus skidded off into a ditch at Borta under Rugganj police station at about 1:30 am yesterday.

The victim Mohammad Obaidul Haque, 21, died on the spot while the injured were sent to various hospitals and clinics at Dhaka and Narayanganj.

Police seized the bus (Dhaka Ja 04-0570) but its driver managed to escape.

Police sent the body to the Narayanganj General Hospital morgue.

A case was filed with Rugganj Police Station.

Tk 13.8 cr Swiss grant for ICDDR, B

The Swiss Development Co-operation (SDC) will provide Tk 13.8 crore to ICDDR,B for research in water and sanitation and community-based studies under a three-year agreement, reports UNB.

The agreement between the SDC and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, was signed in the city Thursday said an ICDDR, B release.

The SDC made a special contribution of Tk 12 crore to the ICDDR,B Hospital Endowment Fund, which has been established to provide long-term financing for the centre's hospitals, the release added.

JU first year classes begin today

By JU Correspondent

First year honours classes of 1993-94 session of the Jahangirnagar University begins today. Some 600 students have been enrolled for the course this year.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Dry weather is likely to prevail across the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met office says slight fall in night temperature is expected over the country.

In its outlook for tomorrow the Met office predicted little change. Giving extended outlook for another four days weathermen say dry weather is likely to continue.

Country's highest temperature 28.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 12.4 degrees at Dinajpur.

The sun sets today at 5:11 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 6:27 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage			
	max	min	morning	evening	
Dhaka	27.8	15.0	81	78	
Chittagong	27.3	16.5	88	74	
Rajshahi	25.8	13.8	94	87	
Khulna	27.4	16.6	92	82	
Barisal	27.1	15.5	96	87	
Sylhet	26.5	14.5	79	66	
Cox's Bazar	28.8	17.5	77	61	

DIRECTORATE GENERAL DEFENCE PURCHASE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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TENDER NOTICE

1. Sealed tenders in local and foreign currency are invited from bonafide Manufacturers/Suppliers/Dealers/Indentors (Not necessarily enlisted with DGDP) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Air Force:-

Sl No	Description of Items	Selling Date	Opening Date	Currency
a	Spares of VHF R/T, Qty-19 L/I	07.12.94 to 17.12.94	18.12.94	Foreign
b	Electrosensitive Paper Qty-120 Roll	..	..	..
c	Micro Barograph, Qty-4+4 EA/LI	..	..	..
d	Decade Pesistor, Decade Capacitor & Reference Inductor Qty-1+1+1=03 Ea	..	22.12.94	..
e	Recording Stylus Pin Qty-5,000 Ea	..	18.12.94	..
f	AC Calibrator & DC Calibrator Qty-1+1=02 Ea	..	22.12.94	..
g	Spares of VHF R/T Tait Miniphone Qty-24 L/I	..	..	..
h	Spares of LOS Microwave System Qty-122 L/I	..	..	..

2. Tender schedules with detail specifications will be available on payment in respective value (Non-refundable) on any working day between 0800 hrs to 1200 hrs. The tenders will be opened on the specified date at 1000 hrs in presence of the bidders (if present).

ISPR/Misc/94/2619
DFP-11509-28/1
G-1903

Flight Lieutenant
for Director General

BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অর্থগতির প্রতীক

Tender Notice for Export/Sale of Finished Cow Hides & Goatskins Produced by Dhaka Leather Complex, Nayarhat, Savar, Dhaka

Senior General Manager (Export), Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation, BCIC Bhaban (18th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area Dhaka hereby invites sealed quotation in Letter Head Pad from interested Buyers/Buyer's Agents for export/sale of Finished Leather produced by Dhaka Leather Complex, Nayarhat, Savar, Dhaka during Trial Run/Guarantee Test. The quotations will be received up to 12-00 Noon on 19-12-94 in the tender box kept in the Export Division of BCIC and will be opened immediately thereafter in presence of tenderers or their representatives (if any). Description & quantity of finished leather presently available and other terms & conditions are outlined below:

Item	Quantity
1. Cow Hides	a) Crust 55,708 Sft (More or less) b) Finished 17,420
2. Goat Skins	a) Crust 66,312 b) Finished 27,908

NB:

- a) Interested buyer in their own interest may inspect the goods in the factory godown during office hour from 10-00 AM to 4-00 PM on all working days, excepting Thursday.
- b) Available crust leather may be converted into finished leather as per requirement of the buyers. As such, price will have to be quoted separately for crust and finished leather.

Packing: International standard export packing.

Payment: In case of export, payment should be made through irrevocable Letter of Credit opened in favour of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation, Dhaka. Leather Complex with provision of 100% payment at sight on presentation of documents, in case of local sale, delivery will be made after receipt of payment. The offer shall be kept valid for consideration for a period of minimum 30 (thirty) days from the date of bid opening.

Offer validity: The tenderers should quote their price for total stock on lot basis. Under no circumstances offer for selected quantity will be entertained.

Basis of offer: At the time of evaluation of offers, export rate will be compared with local rate taking in to consideration the duty draw back to be received against export.

Evaluation of offer: The offers should be supported with 1% of the total quoted value as Bid Bond/Earnest Money in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft/Bank Guarantee. The successful bidder will have to submit 2.50% of the total financial involvement as performance guarantee within 7 (seven) days of issuance of Letter of Intent in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft, Bank Guarantee. Formal contract will be concluded within 4 (four) days of receipt of performance guarantee. Delivery will have to be taken within next 30 (thirty) days after opening L/C making full payment.

The authority reserves the right to accept or to reject any offer without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

BCIC 1241-26/11
DFP-11509-28/11
G-1898

Sr General Manager (Export)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This has reference to our Letter of Offer dated 28 November 1994 to shareholders offering Rights Shares at a premium and Public Notice appearing in some Dailies.

As the Dhaka Stock Exchange has since asked us to give Notice of Book Closure for the Rights Issue, we hereby withdraw the Letter of Offer which was done without closing the Books.

We also give notice that the Share Register of the Company will remain closed from 22 December to 24 December, 1994, both days inclusive, for the issue of Rights Shares of Tk 10 each at a premium of Tk 120 (i.e. each share @ Tk 130) in proportion of 2 for 5 shares held as on 22 December 1994.

Shareholders are being sent notice individually by post.

Sd/- Sheema Huq
Company Secretary

Dated, 1 December 1994

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Facilities Department, Ministry of Education
Noakhali Zone, Noakhali

Tender Notice No. 20/FURNITURE/REVENUE/FD/NZ/94-95 Dated: 22/11/94

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2908 are hereby invited from the Enlisted A-1 (one) Contractors of this Department and also from the bonafide furniture manufacturers for supply of furniture to the selected Non-Govt High Schools under the Project "Selected Non Govt Secondary High School Development and Reconstruction (Govt & Non-Govt) Project".

Particulars of the works are shown as below:

Sl No	Group No	Location	Price of Tender Document (Non-refundable) Taka
1	1	District - Noakhali	400/00
2	2	District - Feni	400/00
3	3	District - Laxmipur	400/00

Tender documents may be obtained from the office of the undersigned and also from the office of the Zonal Executive Engineer, under Chittagong circle and concerned district Assistant Engineer's office on all working days during office hours upto 20.12.94.

Tender will be received in the above mentioned offices on 22.12.94 upto 12.00 Noon and will be opened on the same date at 12.15 hours in presence of the tenderer/tenderers, if any.

Time for completion of work is 90 (Ninety) days from the date of work order.

Earnest money @ 2% (two per cent) of quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh will have to be submitted with the tender in favour of the "Executive Engineer, Facilities Department Noakhali Zone."

Instruction:

For the contractors, other than enlisted contractors of this Department Tender documents may be obtained on producing the following documents:

1. Uptodate Trade licence of the firm
2. Uptodate income tax payment certificate
3. Val Registration Certificate
4. Work Order and completion certificate (attested by an officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer) for supplying of furniture amounting to Tk 3.00 (Three) lakh in a single work order under any Government/Semi-Government Department.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender/Tenders assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md Mohiuddin
Executive Engineer
Facilities Department
Noakhali Zone, Noakhali

DFP-11562 28/11
G-1896