

Dhaka Day by Day

Kumudini Caters Country Cuisine

by Schrezad Joya Monami Latif

If you enjoy eating out and have a liking for typical Bengali cuisine in authentic Begali earthenware, but are on a shoe-string budget, then Kumudini's Coffee shop is the answer for you. Kumudini's is known to many as simply a store where one can buy sarees, shalwar kameezes, jewellery, katha-stitch cushion covers and other Bangladeshi handicrafts. But what many don't know is that it is a great place to get a very mouth-watering and authentic Bengali lunch of *luchi*, *alor dom* (potato curry) *bhaji* (vegetables fry) and *booter daal* (lentil) with *narke* (coconut) served in a terracotta *thaja* (dish) with the *daal* and *alor* served in small earthenware bowls.

It's as tasty as any grandma's hand-made *luchi* and curry and the best thing about it all is that it'll cost you only Tk 25. A meal on the roadside will cost you Tk 25, which makes a lunch at Kumudini's all the more a novelty. The atmosphere here is also something pleasantly different. One sits on an earthenware *mora* (cushion) under the shade of a terracotta thatched roof of an open hut surrounded by greenery. And all this in the middle of Dhaka's endless madness of rickshaw and car traffic.

on Gulshan Avenue, (between circle 1 and circle 2).

Also on the menu are deep fried yummys of *pakora* (Tk one each), *samosa* (Tk 6 for a plate of two), and *shingara* (Tk 4 for a plate of two). If you are there at tea time and not in the mood for greasy delights then stop by for a cup of coffee or a cup of tea and two biscuits or even, just a cold 7-up. The cost will not exceed Tk 12.00.

The service is a little slow because they will fry you the *luchi*, *shingara* or *samosa* on the spot, but it is compensated for by the amiable cook behind the food and of course, the food itself which is superb. It is all self-serve, so you might have to walk up to the counter a few times and hurry the cook.

A lot of people tend to ignore the little terracotta huts in front of the Kumudini shop, perhaps because they are semi shaded by the greenery. But next time you are out shopping or just even in the mood for a great meal, try the delights in store for you for a bargain at the coffee shop at Kumudini's. You won't be disappointed.



Ctg Mass Killing Day observed

CHITTAGONG, Jan 24: Different organisations today observed the Chittagong Mass Killing Day today by paying tributes to those who were martyred during the anti-autocracy movement, reports BSS.

Twenty four people were killed and a number of people injured when police opened fire on a procession led by Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina near Lalidighi Maidan in 1988.

Today's programmes included placing of wreaths at the shaheed memorial in front of the Bangladesh Bank, holding of silent procession, wearing of black badges, hoisting of the black flags and discussions. The Awami League, Peshajibi Sangram Parishad, Bam Ganatantrik Front, Gono Forum and the Bangladesh Chhatra League placed wreaths at the altar. The Awami League hold a discussion meeting at the

Lalidighi Maidan with city chapter president M A Mannan in the chair.

The meeting was addressed by Chittagong city Mayor Alhaj A B M Mahiuddin Chowdhury. Awami League leaders Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser, Prof Pulin Dey, press club president Mohammad Idris, general secretary of the Chittagong district Bar Association Serazul Islam and other professional leaders.



Promising photographer Md Jamaluddin Chowdhury (inset) gets the Asahi Shimbun award for his photograph titled 'Battle of Life' in 55th International photographic Salon Exhibition held in major Japanese cities from April through December last year.



Fauzia Quamrun Tinki, individual champion in the BTVA's juvenile competition Natun Kunri (junior group), presenting a bouquet to Indian film celebrity Dilip Kumar at a reception accorded to him at the Sheraton Hotel in the city yesterday. Popular TV compere Anisul Haque is also seen.

What's on today...

Drama: A two-day annual staging of drama of the central Sports and Cultural Council of Civil Aviation Authority will begin on the opening day the drama *Kuasha Kanna* will be staged. Venue: CATC hostel ground, Kurmitola. Time: 8:30 pm.

Zahir Raihan Film Society: French film *The Butcher* will be screened. The Zahir Raihan Film Society in collaboration with the Alliance Francaise has arranged the show. Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka auditorium. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North West: The regular weekly board meeting, and club assembly of the club will be held. Venue: 23, Green Road. Time: 6 pm.

Radio-TV Shilpi Sangsad: The sangsad will accord a reception to Dilip Kumar, a celebrated actor of the Indian filmdom, and his wife Saira Banu. The sangsad will also honour noted classical music singer of the sub-continent Barin Majumder. Venue: Osmany Memorial Auditorium. Time: 6 pm. Special guest: State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahanara Begum.

Over Tk 90 cr remitted in six months

Bangladeshi nationals living abroad remitted Tk 90,38,84,685 through Bangladesh Post Office during the July-December period of the current financial year, reports BSS.

The remittances were made through 1,02,011 money orders consisting of 39,49,276 pound sterling and 1,64,91,645 US dollars.

During the month of December, 1994 the total amount of remittance from abroad was Tk 13,93,16,000 having exchange value of 5,71,750 pound sterling and 26,03,000 US dollars.

First class first

Iqbal Ahmed Syed secured first class first in MSS (Economics) final examination of the Dhaka University held in 1994. He is the son of Dr Syed Abdus Sattar and Latifa Ahmed, says a press release.

Farzana, Ruahi secured first class in MSS (Economics) final examination of the Dhaka University held in 1994. She is the daughter of Advocate Mohammad Abdul Ghaflar and Farida Ghaflar, says a press release.

Runa Laila to sign autographs today

Popular singer Runa Laila will today sign autographs for her fans buying tickets for her live concert tomorrow, said a Sheraton Hotel press release yesterday.

The concert, organised by the hotel, will be held at the hotel's Winter Garden.

This evening Runa Laila will be available at the hotel lobby between 7:00, and 9:00 to oblige her fans who buy tickets.

The two-and-a-half-hour concert will feature some of her most popular songs. The show will begin at 7:00 pm and continue till 10:00 pm with a 30-minute break.

Cross World Limited are the sponsors of the concert while Biman Bangladesh Airlines will be offering free air tickets for lucky winners of the raffle.

Tickets are available at the Sheraton lobby from 12:00 noon till 8:00 pm.

Weather

Dry spell likely

Weather is likely to remain dry throughout the country during the next 12 hours till six pm, today, reports UNB. The Met Office forecasts a slight rise in night temperature is expected over Rajshahi division and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere across the country.

Yesterday's maximum temperature in Dhaka was 24.7 degrees Celsius and the minimum 8.4 degrees while the country's highest temperature was recorded 29.3 degrees Celsius in Maiddee Court, Noakhali and the lowest 4.2 degrees in Dinajpur.

Percentage of humidity was 48 in the morning and 32 in the evening.

The sun sets today at 5:40 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:42 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded yesterday were:

| City/ Town | Temperatures in degrees Celsius | | Humidity in percentage | |
|------------|---------------------------------|------|------------------------|------|
| | Max | Min | 6 am | 6 pm |
| Chittagong | 24.0 | 9.6 | 62 | 54 |
| Rajshahi | 22.8 | 7.8 | 61 | 57 |
| Khulna | 24.5 | 10.2 | 52 | 63 |
| Bairsal | 24.4 | 8.2 | 76 | 63 |
| Sylhet | 23.6 | 10.2 | 82 | 62 |

Postponed

A meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga scheduled to be held today has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, says a press release of the club yesterday.

Reception accorded to Dilip Kumar

Living legend, film actor Dilip Kumar, said in the city yesterday that the hospitality and love he received in Dhaka is the best reward of his life, reports UNB.

Speaking at a charity show in a local hotel last night the best actor of South Asian region said, "Morning, noon and evening in the beautiful city of Dhaka present one by one chapter."

He gave a brief resume of the way he built his career as a hero in the filmdom.

The legend king, who is Dilip Kumar in the silver screen but Yusuf Khan in the real, expressed gratitude to Almighty Allah Who blessed him with talents and merits.

Responding to the audience's queries relating to various aspects of his colourful career, Dilip said, "On many occasions I had to act against facts." In this connection he recalled a memorable moment with his father who, after watching a film, once wanted to know his (Dilip's) relationship with his co-actress, noted heroine Nargis.

Asked how he maintains such a decent health at this stage of his life, Dilip answered: "There is no prescription for it. Simple life and faith in god gives everything."

"I love food," said the superstar when he was asked what is the best thing he loves.

153 held
Police rounded up 153 people, including 15 wanted criminals, on various charges from different parts of the city yesterday, UNB reports quoting a DMP press release.
Of the accused, two were arrested under the Arms Act, three for hijacking, nine for robbery and two for stealing.
Some 103 street-urchins were also picked up during the period.

Shawkat returns
Labour and Manpower Minister Mir Shawkat Ali returned home yesterday after attending a labour ministers' conference of the non-aligned and other developing countries in New Delhi, reports UNB.
The five-day conference from January 19 was aimed at exploring new path of cooperation, creating job opportunities and development of human resources.

Bangladesh Sugar and Food Ind. Corporation
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D-98
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