

# Dhaka Day by Day

## A True Human Predicament

by Rashida Ahmad

It was the end of the first day of the 48-hour hartal. It had been somewhat of a relaxing day. Some further relaxation was taking place in the shape of reading, watching television, digesting the evening meal — and being only half-aware that there was some sort of commotion going on in the stairwell of the apartment block.

Then the door-bell rang. The domestic help, managing to wrench herself away from Star Plus for a few minutes, went to answer the door. And very soon came running back, exclaiming, "He just collapsed! The old man. I opened the door, and he just had a fit and fell down." "A stampede to the door ensued.

Several people from neighbouring flats crowded round the frail figure in lungi and vest, lying in the hallway in front of the front-door. They were all chattering excitedly.

"Who is he?"  
"It was climbing all those stairs that did it."  
"Water, somebody get him some water."  
"Beharal!"

"What happened? Who is he?"  
The questions were finally heeded. It turned out that he was a rickshaw-driver, this tiny old man. He had entered the apartment block to search out the man who owed him a hefty fare. But the man had disappeared.

It appears that some people have nothing better to do in a hartal than ride around all day in a rickshaw. Apparently, Mystery Man (MM) had hired the old rickshaw-driver for the entire day, and then proceeded to galavant round all of Dhaka. At the end of this little jaunt, they stopped outside the block of flats and MM entered, saying he would be back with the (not so insignificant) fare. He then promptly vanished. The old man waited, and waited. But MM did not return.

So, the old rickshaw-wallah really had no option but to follow where MM had gone. He

started on the ground floor, knocking on doors and asking where his fare was. By the time he reached the third floor he was considerably agitated, wailing and moaning, crying for his fare. But it was the last flight of stairs that finished him off — old, distressed, exhausted after a long tiring haul, and probably weak with hunger, it being so late in the day. He made it to the final door, rang the last door-bell, and fainted.

By now he was recovering, tearfully. There was, of course, no sign of MM, who, it now came to light, had even borrowed Tk 30 from the old man for cigarettes, presumably pleading that he had no small change. He was perhaps hiding under a bed in one of the flats. But nobody present could seriously contemplate that someone among them, or any of their neighbours, was the culprit. So more probably he had entered the building through the main door and left through the back.

Well, the final outcome of the whole episode was that the old man was handsomely remunerated for his torment. Few could resist the pathos of his plight. Twenty taka here, thirty taka there, it soon added up to a fair amount. A glow of justice and benevolence seemed to light up the gloomy stairwell. He was helped down the stairs to his waiting rickshaw, and watched smilingly by all as he slowly pedalled off into the night. With a pocketful of money.

There were, inevitably, one or two who voiced their doubts — had they just witnessed an incredibly successful hoax? Or were they so hardened by previous experiences of swindles and rip-offs that they could no longer discern a true human predicament when faced with it?

In the final judgement, does it really matter whether it was a hoax or not? Perhaps for our own sake, sometimes we need to give others the benefit of the doubt.



### 100 arrested on various charges

Police rounded up 100 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, a DMP press release said yesterday, reports UNB.

Of the arrested, 11 were wanted criminals, two were held under the Arms Act, four on charge of repression on women and six for stealing. All the arrested people were produced before court.

### Children's art competition begins today

By Staff Correspondent

An art competition for children under-11 will be held at the premises of Fine Arts Institute, Dhaka University today at 3 pm under the joint aegis of Nobadiganta (Japan) and The Hunger Project, Bangladesh, says a press release.

### Chehlum

Chehlum of Halima Khatun, wife of Dr MZ Alam, ex-chief entomologist, will be held at her residence (132, Monipurpara, Tejgaon) tomorrow after Asr prayers, says a press release.

### Quikhwani

The quikhwani of Abdul Hakim, 85, a retired cooperative officer, will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence at 295/B, Khilgaon, Taluqa, in the city, says a press release.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
PWD Division, Natore

## Notice Inviting Tenders

No. 15(E/M) of 1994-95

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from Class I, Class II & Class III approved (E/M) contractors of PWD 2nd class approved (E/M) contractors of Rajshahi PWD Zone for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned and as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division No. III Rajshahi/Pabna/Naoagan up to 12-00 Noon on 28-03-95 Eng. in the tender box kept for the purpose in the room of the undersigned as well as Executive Engineer, PWD Division, No. III Rajshahi/Pabna and Naoagan and will be opened by them in their respective offices on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present.

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Class of contractor entitled to submit tender
1.	Providing EI & Fans including service connection in the 800 sft, nurses quarters (3-Units), attached to 100-bed modernised sadar hospital at Natore, during the year 1994-95. For Group No. I (One).	Tk 1,83,486/-	Tk 3,670/-	Class I and Class II, PWD (E/M) approved contractors having valid ABC/BC contractor and supervisory licence
2.	Providing E.I. & Fans including service connection in the 600 sft, staff quarters (6-Units), attached to 100-bed modernised sadar hospital at Natore during the year 1994-95. For Group No. II (Two).	Tk 2,15,097/-	Tk 4,302/-	
3.	Providing E.I. & Fans including service connection in the 500 sft, staff quarters (6-Units), attached to modernised sadar hospital at Natore, during the year 1994-95. For Group No. III (Three).	Tk 1,96,428/-	Tk 3,929/-	

Contract documents consisting of Bangladesh Form No. 2911, schedule of items of work, additional terms and conditions can be seen and purchased from the office of the undersigned Executive Engineer, PWD Division No. III/Rajshahi/Pabna/Naoagan on payment of usual charges (Non-refundable). The tender form may be purchased by the contractor himself or his representative on production of authorisation letter bearing the signature of the representative duly attested by the contractor along with the registration book in any day during office hours up to 27-03-95 Eng. No tender form and schedule of items of work etc. will be sold after 5-00 PM on 27-03-95 Eng.

Executive Engineer  
PWD Division, Natore  
Phone-873



Awami League leader Abdus Samad Azad addressing a discussion on Consumers' Rights and Awareness at the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday.

## Call to protect consumers' rights

Speakers at a meeting yesterday called for creating public awareness regarding consumers' rights and launching a vigorous campaign against indiscriminate sale of sub-standard goods, reports UNB.

The discussion meeting, organized by the Consumers' Association of Bangladesh (CAB) to mark World Consumer's Rights Day 1995, stressed proper application of existing laws and necessary reforms to end the cheating of the consumers by the traders.

Chief guest Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni blamed the complexities of legal procedure and the snail's pace in cases of legal matters for the apathy among the people in taking refuge of the law.

Dr Anwar Hossain of the Dhaka University's Institute of Business Administration, presenting the key-note paper, said private as well as state-owned consumer goods manufacturing organisations were exploiting the customers.

Citing examples of some developed countries, Dr Hossain pointed out at the lack of laws to protect the interest of consumers in Bangladesh and said, the laws formulated during the Pakistan period had become obsolete.

Awami League leader Abdus Samad Azad said consumers were being deprived of their rights and there should be an end to this.

Dr Qamruzzaman, MP, pointing out at the ignorance of the people about the rights for consumer protection, called for changing the attitude of the sellers.

Awami League's Matia Chowdhury held inefficiency and corruption in the public sector and lack of accountability in the private sector responsible for the sufferings of the consumers.

Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam, in his brief speech, called for shouldering respective responsibilities in order to enforce the rights of the consumers. "We have to in-

crease mass awareness regarding the rights of the taxpayers and the rights of the consumers," he observed.

Admitting that Bangladesh is a sellers market, Anam said, obstacles on way to intensifying consumers' movement should be identified to strengthen the campaign.

Chief Editor of The Financial Express and President of the National Press Club Reza-uddin Ahmed lamented that Bangladesh is a sellers market where buyers have no choice.

Commerce Secretary Mofazzal Karim, admitted that the "free market" policy created a "free-for-all market" in the country.

## BPC to assess Ittefaq situation

The Bangladesh Press Council (BPC) has decided to make an on-the-spot assessment of situation in the Daily Ittefaq in response to a written complaint by Mainul Hossain, chairman, board of editors of the Ittefaq and executive director (I) of Ittefaq Group of Publications, reports BSS.

A meeting of the council yesterday was presided over by Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, chairman, Bangladesh Press Council, reviewed a letter by Mainul Hossain and formed a five-member committee to make on-the-spot inquiry.

The members are: LK Siddique, MP Abu Yusuf Mohammed Khalilur Rahman MP, Professor Mohammad Harun-or-Rashid, Professor KAA Kamruddin and Ahmed Ali.

The committee will submit its report, containing their views, to the council as soon as possible.



## City Editor of Morning Sun dead

By Staff Correspondent

Enayet Chowdhury, City Editor and Diplomatic correspondent of The Morning Sun, died of heart attack in Calcutta yesterday. He was 35.

Chowdhury was also the Dhaka correspondent of the Dubai-based Gulf News and Jeddah-based Arab News.

Enayet went to Calcutta last Saturday for a medical check-up after local doctors identified that he had cardiac problems. He complained of chest pain in the morning and expired on his wife's lap.

His body is expected to be flown to the city this morning.

A promising journalist, Enayet was known among his colleagues as an easy-going and humorous person.

He started his career as a reporter in the weekly Herald and served as a Senior Reporter in the Daily News and Assistant Editor of the weekly Dialogue. He also served as Public Relations Officer in the Bhutanese Embassy in Dhaka.

## Symposium on Islamic faith

By Staff Correspondent

A symposium on "Islam Among the Faiths in the United States" was held yesterday at the USIS auditorium at Jiban Bima Bhaban in the city.

Bangladeshi and American scholars presented papers, and members of the public also participated in the discussion that followed.

The symposium also included a video screening of interviews with those practising Islamic faith in the United States, a poster show and distribution of printed articles on religion in the United States.

## The Star Entertainment Guide

Thursday 16th March

3:00 Opening announcement 3:10 Revue from the Geeta 3:15 Movie of the week: *Wishes and Models*, Cast: Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis 5:10 News in Bangla 5:25 National school-level TV Debate competition 6:30 Mass Education programme: Esho Para Shikhi 7:00 Religious programme: Jibon-e-Alo 7:25 Nazrul songs 8:00 News in Bangla 8:40 Drama of the week: *Suryer Adhiker* 10:00 News in English 10:30 Development programme: *Jannabulhum* 10:35 Film show: *The Embroider* 11:40 *Khabar/The News* 11:45

9:00am BBC World News 9:25 World Business Report 10:00 BBC World News 10:25 Time Out: A Question of Sport 11:00 BBC Newsday 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 Cracking The Code 3:00 BBC World News 3:25 The Late Show 4:00 BBC World News 4:25 Time Out: Top Gear 5:00 BBC Newsdesk 7:00 BBC World Headlines 7:05 BBC World News 9:10 World Business Report 9:25 Time Out: Raymond's Blanc Mange 10:00 BBC World Headlines 10:05 Developing Stories 11:00 BBC World News 11:25 Time Out: A Question of Sport 12:00am The World Today 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 Correspondent 3:00 BBC World News 3:25 Time Out: Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC World News 4:25 World News 5:25 World Business Report 6:00 The World Today 7:00 BBC World News 7:25 World Business Report 8:00

6:00am International Flights 7:00 Sigaw Manila 8:00 Rewind 9:00 The Vibe 10:00 The Vibe 10:30 VJ Ruby 11:00 The Vibe 11:30 VJ Ruby 12:00am The Ride 12:30 VJ Ruby 2:00 Frame by Frame 2:30 VJ Alessandra 3:00 Big Bang VJ Petrina 4:00 The Vibe 4:30 VJ Ruby 5:00 Over the Edge VJ Sophiya 5:30 Music Update Tokyo 6:00 Sigaw Manila 7:00 The Vibe VJ Angela 7:30 First Day First Show 8:00 The Vibe 8:00 Videoclan Flashback 9:30 Palmolive Ek Ka Teen 10:00 Partyline Rhythm & Raag 10:30 Rewind 11:30 1st Day 1st Show 12:00 The Vibe 12:30 By Demand VJ Angela 1:00 The Ride 1:30 VJ Ruby 3:00 Frame by Frame 3:30 VJ Alessandra 4:00 By Demand 4:30 VJ Angela 5:00 Jump Start 5:30 VJ Ruby Farley

6:30am Spiderman 5:00 7:00 Kidstreet Plus 7:30 G1 Joe 8:00 Jem 8:30 *Archie* Oz Style 9:00 The Wind in the Willows 9:30 Playabout 10:00 The Sullivans 10:30 Graham Kerrs Kitchen 11:00 EI Features: Pulp Fiction 11:30 Donahue: My Spouse Is Spending Millions Trying To Win Millions And It's Driving Me Crazy 12:30 Santa Barbara 1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 2:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show: When Should Your Family Come First 3:00 Riviera 3:30 Graham Kerrs Kitchen 4:00 Aerobics Oz Style 4:30 The Sullivans 5:00 Small Wonder 5:30 Robotech 6:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 6:30 Batman 7:00 Home and Away 7:30 Neighbours 8:00 MASH 8:30 Crystal Maze 9:30 The Bill 10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara 12:00am Special: In-

7:30am Martin Sheen Double Bill: Choices of the Heart (Hindi Subtitles) STAR 9:30 Oscar Winner: *Lavender Hill Mob* (Hindi Subtitles) 11:30 Comedy: *Off And Running* (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Film Club: *The Elephant Man* (Hindi Subtitles) 4:00 Classic: *From Hell to Texas* (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Family: *All Hands On Deck* (Hindi Subtitles) 7:00 *The Movie Show* 7:30 Martin Sheen Double Bill: *Choices of the Heart* (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Martin Sheen Double Bill: *Oscar Winner: Lavender Hill Mob* (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Action: *Black Cobra* (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Comedy: *Off And Running* (Arabic Subtitles) 3:30 Classic: *From Hell to Texas* (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 Friday Fury (Arabic Subtitles) 7:30 Zee Education 2:30 Shakti 3:00 Rasna Song Teri Naam Se 3:30 Ek Duj Ke Lye 4:00 Hum Honge Kamyab 4:30 Baap Re Baap 5:00 Zee Education 5:30 Udan Choo 6:00 Teer Kamaan 6:30 Chitra Tarangini 7:00 Jawab Nei 7:30 Dour 8:00 Gaane Anjaane 8:30 Film Chakkar 9:00 Lux Ky Scene Hai 9:30 Parivartan 10:00 Shayed 10:30 Dream Merchants 11:00 Bazaar Buzz 11:10 Do Se Bhale Teen 11:40 Tara 12:10 Parampara 12:40 T Wa Iias (Arabic) 1:10 Infotainment 3:40 Close Down. 8:00 am Tilawat Aur Mera Mera (Rpt) 8:30am Geet Gata Chai (Rpt) 9:30 Suspense Film 'Sau Saal Baad' 8:30 Hindi Film Hit Songs 7:15 Teri Mere Geet 7:45 Geet Gata Chai 8:15 Gungun 8:45 Saugat 9:15 Gulista. 9:30 Social Film 'Gourj'

### জাতীয় কারুপনা প্রদর্শনী '৯৫ সচিবালয়

রত্নানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরো  
১২২-১২৪, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা

### দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আগামী ২২-২৪ মে, ১৯৯৫ হোটেল সোনারগাঁও, ঢাকায় অনুষ্ঠিতব্য জাতীয় কারুপনা প্রদর্শনী '৯৫ এর সুসজ্জিত স্ব-অর্থায়নের (Self Financing) ও ৪টি বিশিষ্ট দৈনিক পরিকার স্পনসর (Sponsor) সত্বরে মাধ্যমে বিশেষ কোডপত্র প্রকাশ করার লক্ষ্যে স্বতন্ত্রভাবে বিজ্ঞাপনী সংস্থা/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্র আগামী ২১শে মার্চ '৯৫ তারিখ বেলা ১২টা পর্যন্ত রত্নানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোতে বিকৃত তৈয়ারি বাস্তব করা হবে এবং প্রদর্শনী বেলা ১২.১৫ মিনিটে উপস্থিত (যদি কেউ থাকেন) দরপত্রদাতাদের সম্মুখে খোলা হবে। দরপত্রের সিডিউল ২০শে মার্চ '৯৫ পর্যন্ত প্রতিদিন অফিস চলাকালীন সময় ব্যুরোর হিসাব শাখা হতে নগদ টা ২০০/- (দুইশত) মূল্যে সত্ত্বাহ করা যাবে।

২। এ সফলত যে কোন তথ্যের জন্য নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর সাথে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।

৩। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীতকৈ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

মেসার (অবঃ) এ. কে. এম. নিজামুল আলম  
পরিচালক (তথ্য), রত্নানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরো ও  
আহবায়ক  
প্রচার ও বসিয়ার উপ-কমিটি  
জাতীয় কারুপনা প্রদর্শনী '৯৫

D-278

### বাংলাদেশ ট্যারিফ কমিশন

১ম ১২-তলা সরকারী অফিস ভবন (১০ম) তলা  
সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।

ফোন পিবিএস নং ৮৩৬০৯৬, ৮৩৬০৬৭, ৮৩৬০৪৪, ৮৩৬১০৪

### গণশুনানী

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, নিম্নবর্ণিত শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রতিরক্ষণের বিষয়ে শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের বিপরীতে উল্লিখিত সময়সূচী অনুযায়ী অত্র কমিশনের সভাকক্ষে গণশুনানী অনুষ্ঠিত হবেঃ

ক্রমিক নং	বিষয়	তারিখ	সময়
১।	বৈদ্যুতিক সরঞ্জামাদি টাঙ্কার সূইচ, টুপি, পিপিএন গ্রাফ ও সকেট, ফিউজ, টিউব লাইট স্টার্টার, ব্রাস ব্র্যাকট, হোমার, সিলিং রোজ টেবিল ল্যাম্প, মটর স্টার্টার।	২১-০৩-৯৫ইং	সকাল ১০ ঘটিকা
২।	বৈদ্যুতিক ব্যালিস্ট শিফ		
৩।	টিউব লাইট		
৪।	বৈদ্যুতিক আয়রণ ও বৈদ্যুতিক হিটার		
৫।	মেইন সূইচ		
৬।	ইলেকট্রিক শিল্পের কম্পো-নেটস/স্বাক্স	২১-০৩-৯৫ইং	মধ্যাহ্ন ১২টা
৭।	ডেকোরেশনে বৈদ্যুতিক ফিটসে (লাইট শেড, সিকিউরিটি লাইট শেড, আডভান্স, টিউব লাইট ফিটসে ইত্যাদি)	২২-০৩-৯৫ইং	সকাল ১০ ঘটিকা
৮।	বৈদ্যুতিক ল্যাম্প		
৯।	বৈদ্যুতিক মিটার	২২-০৩-৯৫ইং	১১:৩০টা
১০।	ইলেকট্রিক্যাল সূইচ গিয়ার		
১১।	ইলেকট্রিক ক্যাবল ও ওয়ার স্পার এনামেলড কপার ওয়ার এবং কপার ওয়ার এড রড।	২২-০৩-৯৫ইং	মধ্যাহ্ন ১২.৩০ মিঃ
১২।	প্রিন্টিং ও পারলিটিং	২৫-০৩-৯৫ইং	সকাল ১০টা
১৩।	চকলেট তৈরী শিফ	২৫-০৩-৯৫ইং	মধ্যাহ্ন ১২টা

উক্ত গণশুনানীতে কমিশনের চেয়ারম্যান মহোদয়ের সভাপতিত্ব করবেন। এতে সংশ্লিষ্ট মন্ত্রণালয়, বিভাগ, সংস্থা, উপসমন্বয়কারী শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠান, রত্নানিকারক, আমদানিকারক, ব্যবসায়ী, ডোক্তা ও বিভিন্ন বণিক সমিতির প্রতিনিধিদের উপস্থিত হতে নিষিদ্ধ ও মৌখিকভাবে স্ব-বক্তব্য পেশ করার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

নূরুল ইসলাম  
সচিব

### Eating

### YANGTZE CHINESE CUISINE

Share Some of Your Happy Moments With Us.  
149, Airport Road, Tejgaon, Tel: 814962

If you are the owner of a Restaurant you can also join the Club. Tel: 500091

### LEUNG HING

LEUNG HING has everything new now. Good and tastier Thai, Chinese and South Indian Cuisine in the fitting decor and style under new Management. Come one, Come all, be a participant of the Talk of Town Restaurant.

### New Management

Rob Bhaban  
3, Gulshan North C/A  
Gulshan-2, Dhaka  
Phone: 600563

### OASIS RESTAURANT

AN EXCLUSIVE PLACE FOR AUTHENTIC NORTH, SOUTH INDIAN & CHINESE FOOD.

BUFFET LUNCH Tk 195 ONLY (INDIAN STYLE)  
FROM SATURDAY TO WEDNESDAY

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### Sajna An Exclusive Restaurant

Serving full range of Indian dishes. Also available outside catering \* Take away \* Party facilities.

House-10, South Avenue, Gulshan, Phone: 603507. Fax: 880-2-888802

### Aangan

Offers the eye-opening collection of Indian Dishes and Ifter Box. Its expansive facilities include special arrangement for parties, a wooden dance floor, conference venue, take away and outside catering. PH: 870448.