

Dhaka Day by Day

A New Culture in Observing Birthday

by ASM Nurunnabi

Observance of birthday is a time-honoured practice. Every person harbours some soft sentiment about it. Hence, irrespective of one's station in life, observance of this annual practice retains a perennial significance in one's life.

The practice has its beginning from early childhood when one's parents observe it punctiliously. With the passage of time, as the child matures into adulthood, the rite turns into an annual ritual which many people love to observe. The observance of the rite has many ramifications depending on the financial and social standing of the person concerned. In many cases observance of the occasion is attended with festivities on a large scale. Invitation cards are sent to friends and relatives who join the festive occasion with gifts. Following the western practice, a birthday cake forms part of the celebration. The cake ornamented with candles, is carved by the person concerned with expression of gaiety and merriment by the participants. There are also some people who observe the occasion with a sombre and religious spirit by holding milad and inviting some close friends and relatives.

Observance of birthday is largely an urban phenomenon. In the rural areas, few persons care to remember their dates of birth or feel the need to celebrate the day as a special occasion. However, in some cases, we detect signs of infiltration of urban influence in rural setting in this respect.

Lately a new trend of practice in observing birthday is noticeable among certain sections of students in the Dhaka University campus. This is said to usher in a new culture, according to which no conventional formalities are followed. The ceremony is held on the soft turf of an open field. The guests take their seats in a

wide circle, at the centre of which are placed various items of gifts brought by the invitees. These gifts are not expensive. They, however, bear the stamp of sincere good wishes. On the whole, this introduces a new pattern in the observance of an important event in the life of a

student.

Other venues of such functions are normally the open spaces in front of TSC, IBA, Madhu's canteen, DUCSU cafeteria. But mostly such functions are held in any open space in the afternoon. Although such functions are mostly marked with informality, the sponsors print invitation cards for the occasion. These invitation cards bear some characteristics. They are printed on white pieces of paper with indication of the date, time and place of the function and carrying some humorous message.

In the opinion of the students who follow the new culture, it provides new elements of entertainment in the otherwise colourless and dreary life of a student. It is observed that this new culture of observance of birthday is getting increasingly popular on the university campus.

Most of the student come from villages where, as already indicated, birthday is rarely observed. When such students come to the city, they get acquainted with the new culture in this respect. One day their life in the university will come to an end.

They will then cherish with pleasant nostalgia their days of excitement with its simple joy and merriment in observance of birthdays of their peers. It will constitute a fond piece of memory at the end of their career as a student, and perhaps also help to set a simple style in the observance of such functions in their later life.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KALLU AT 5



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KALLU AT 25



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KALLU AT 45



Shafiq Rehman (2nd R), editor of the weekly Jay Jay Din, launching the maiden effort of the King of Oval Zenith band by switching on a cassette recorder at a local hotel yesterday. — Star photo

Tk 10 cr dev programme of Islamic Foundation

Islamic Foundation will spend about Tk 10.36 crore during the current financial year (FY) against its development projects, reports UNB.

This was stated at the meeting of the Board of Governors held yesterday at the conference room of the Foundation with Minister for Religious Affairs Muhammad Keramat Ali in the chair.

The minister urged all concerned to work with sincerity and efficiency to quicken implementation process of all the projects under the Foundation in the greater interest of the nation.

The projects include setting up of mosque-based library, training of Imams, Islamic cultural centres, publication, translation and research project, library development, mosque-based mass literacy programme, publication of Islamic encyclopedia and construction of Islamic Foundation Complex.

Board members Athaj Nizam Uddin Khan, Moulana Ataur Rahman, Secretary Ministry of Religious Affairs Anwarul Islam and other members of the board of governors were present in the meeting.

IIT crest for Muazzem Ali

Dr A M Patwary, Director General of the Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), has presented a crest of this subsidiary organisation of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to Bangladesh Ambassador-designate to Iran Syed Muazzem Ali in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The crest was given to Ali, at present Director General in the Foreign Ministry (International Organisation) for his contribution to the growth and development of the IIT.

114 held in city

Police rounded up 114 people from different parts of the city on various charges in the last 24 hours, reports UNB.

The arrested, who included nine wanted criminals, one held on charge of murder and 13 for stealing, were produced before court.

Introduction of letter service to T&T subscribers suggested

Post and Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam called upon the T & T officers to achieve the revenue earning target by introducing letter service to the subscribers, reports UNB.

He was addressing officers of the T & T at the Board conference room yesterday.

The minister expressing his dissatisfaction over the present deteriorating state of the customer service said, subscribers' complain have been increasing day by day.

To improve the situation field levels officers must increase their supervisory and monitoring activities. He said improved services can only enhance the image of the T&T Board.

Chairman of BTB M H Chowdhury, senior officers of the ministry were present.

Special canceller

The Bangladesh Post Office will release a special canceller on April 21 to mark the Charter Presentation ceremony of the Rotary Club of Dilkusha, says a press release.

The special canceller can be obtained from the Philatelic Bureau of Dhaka GPO on that day from 10:00 am to 12:30 noon and at the venue of the Charter Presentation ceremony at Hotel Purbani in the evening.

The Rotary Club of Dilkusha has brought out a special cover to mark the occasion. Nobel laureate Mother Teresa is expected to attend the function.

Obituary

Hubert Francis Sarkar, a regular contributor to The Daily Star died in the city on Saturday, says a press release.

He left behind his father, two brothers, a sister and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

Francis did his graduation in civil engineering from BUET.

A Gregorian, Francis passed his SSC and HSC examinations with distinction.

Expatriates asked to invest at home

The Minister for Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Mirza Golam Haliz on Tuesday praised the contribution of expatriate Bangladeshis to the economy and nation-building efforts of the country, reports BSS.

He was speaking at a reception given in his honour by the Bangladesh community in Qatar.

The minister is in Doha leading the Bangladesh delegation to the Afro-Asian Consultative Committee Session, a message from Doha said.

The minister explained the rapid progress being achieved in Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

He said Bangladesh was be-

ing transformed into a modern, market-friendly liberalised economy. At the same time, he said, development in the social sectors was also being emphasised particularly in education and poverty alleviation.

He invited the expatriate Bangladesh community to invest in Bangladesh in an organised manner.



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Qualifications : Graduate/ BBA/Master with 8 points. Preference will be given to the 1st Class holders in Bachelor/Master Degree. None having 3rd Class/Division should apply. Age should not exceed 30 years on 30-04-95.

The candidates will be required to appear in written test to be held in Dhaka followed by Viva-Voce test. The candidates who will be finally selected will have to undergo a probationary period of one year during which the Officers will get a consolidated pay of Tk. 5,000 per month and the Assistant Officers Tk. 3,000 per month.

No fee is required to be paid by the candidates while submitting application.

The application with attested copies of all certificates and testimonials with 2(two) passport size photographs should reach the undersigned latest by 15th May, 1995.

Secretary

Expressions



Rabbi's maiden painting-show opens tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

First solo show of paintings by Abubakar Fezlay Rabbi opens tomorrow at the main gallery of Alliance Francaise.

Noted painter Abu Taher will inaugurate the exhibition at 6:00 pm Friday. Jerome Laurentin, Deputy Cultural Attache of the French Embassy, will be present as special guest.

The nine-day long exposition will run until April 30 from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm barring Saturdays.

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Blood donation programme held

A blood donation programme jointly organised by Voice of America Fan Clubs of Dhaka and Lions Club of Dhaka Buriganga was held at the Club's blood bank in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Food Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiya attended the programme as chief guest while Lions District Governor J L Bhoomik and Sayeed Asaduzzaman, Information Adviser of UNIS, Dhaka, were special guests.

Speaking on the occasion the minister said "Blood donation is such a noble act which saves the lives of others without endangering ones own."

Food Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan (R) attended as chief guest a blood donation programme organised jointly by the Dhaka District VOA Fans' Club and Lions Club of Dhaka Buriganga in the city yesterday.

এম-আর টেনিং এন্ড সার্ভিসেস প্রোগ্রাম (এম-আর-টি-এস-পি)

১২৬, ব্রক-ক, মোহাম্মদপুর হাউজিং পিসিকালচার এন্ড ফার্মিং কো-অপারেটিভ সোসাইটি লিঃ শ্যামলী, ঢাকা।

কোটেশন আহবান

এম-আর টেনিং এন্ড সার্ভিসেস প্রোগ্রাম কর্তৃক নিম্নলিখিত উপকরণাদি ক্রয় করার জন্য প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারীদের কাছ থেকে কোটেশন আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

উপকরণ	নমুনা	সংখ্যা
১। কার (রিকভিশন) জাপানের তৈরী	৪ টয়োটা করোলা-DX মডেল : ১৯৯০/৯১ ১০০০ সিএসিঃ পেট্রোল চালিত, এসি, রেডিও ক্যাসেট ও অন্যান্য সুবিধাসহ।	১ টি
২। অটোক্রোট	১.৫ এম-এম/১৬ পেজী পুঙ্ক বিদ্যুৎ চালিত ১৫"X ১২" দুই ডাম বিশিষ্ট মাপের (পূর্ণ স্পেসিফিকেশন উপরোক্ত টিকানাঃ এম-আর-টি-এস-পি'র কেন্দ্রীয় কার্যালয় থেকে জানা যেতে পারে।	১৪ টি
৩। পিএবিএক্স সিস্টেম	৮ সেট বিশিষ্ট জাপানে তৈরী। ভোটেজ স্টাবিলাইজার, আনুষ্ঠানিক অন্যান্য সুবিধাদি ও স্থাপনসহ।	১ সেট
৪। ফ্যান্স মেশিন	৪ জাপানের তৈরী	১ টি
৫। এয়ারকন্ডিশনার	১.৫ টন ক্ষমতাসম্পন্ন, ন্যাশনাল ব্র্যান্ড, জাপানের তৈরী।	১ টি

উল্লেখ্য, কোটেশনের মেয়াদ কোটেশন গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ থেকে অন্তত ৩ মাস বলবৎ থাকবে। কোটেশন গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ২৭-০৪-৯৫। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রয়োজনবোধে যে কোন কোটেশন বা সকল কোটেশন বাতিল করতে পারবেন।

নির্বাহী পরিচালক
এম-আর-টি-এস-পি
ডি-৩৬৭