Nature's Compensation for Heat

By Aasha Mehreen Amin

When the barometer announces another sweltering day at 42 °c, what can the poor Dhakaite do but to sigh wearily and fantasize about a cool hill station tucked away in some snowy mountain. The brief bouts of rain are not enough to quench the thirst of a parched Dhaka leverishly waiting for the monsoon. For its citizens, life could not be more tiresome. what with the choking traffic, suffocating, pollution, sky rocketing inflation and of course days of enervating heat

Yet the Dhakaite should not forget that invariably nature makes up for whatever cruelty she inflicts on her vulnerable children. While the heat and dust make life so difficult for us, there are other things that Spring time has to offer to sooth our boiling heads and irritable moods. This includes the beautiful new green leaves of spring, so perfect fresh and pure and among them the even more perfect flowers of resplendent colours. There are the rows of lovely Acacia trees with their drooping yellow flowers like golden grapes on some enchanted vine. There is the elusive Jarul flowers in incredible shades of purple mauve, lilac etc decorating some of Dhaka's streets for a brief interlude before disappearing completely with no trace of its purplish splendour. There is of course the fiery orange Krishnachura, blatantly exuberant, arrogantly beautiful.

low but toned down by a little brownness. Then there is the luxuriant Bougenvillea in majenta. dark pink or creamy white adorning the walls of many houses giving character to otherwise unimpressive architecture. Along with this are the fruity smelling oleander and the promise of an orchestra of ethereally white flowers - juin (jasmine), beli and chameli, so delicate and sensually fragrant.

But this only serves seues to soothe the eye. What about the seemingly unquenchable thirst of the Dhakaite that the weather brings. Here again nature has been too kind. This is the time for cool, creamy beler sharbat half moons of juicy water melons, peachcoloured papaya, bland bagi in sweet syrup and the beginning of hiscious, pungent. Jackfruits. For the sweet and sour buff, there is plenty of kacha aam (greenmango), tok tok mishti (sour-sweet) falling with every little or big kal boishakhi and also bet phal (betul) concoctions with a dash of mustard oil, salt and a pinch of turmeric. These fruits are in abundance even in a city like Dhaka and are very effective for cooling off after a hot and bothering day.

Thus when the sticky heat brings the energy level to zero or below, the Dhakaite should not lose heart. For there is always something new to look forward to a new leaf a new flower. a new fruit or the song of a new



Exuberant krishnachura - eye soother in the sweltering heat. - Taken by Noazish Ahmed and Naibuddin Ahmed. - Courtesy Bangladesh

Govt urged to free radio, TV

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion yesterday called upon the goverument either to open separate private channel to ensure people's rights to information or give up control over the electronic media.

The former information minister Nazmul Huda. said unless radio and television personnel became neutral. withdrawal of control could not make these independent

and neutral. The Coordination Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB) organised the discussion on "Democracy, Human Rights and Mass Media" to mark the World Press Freedom Day at the Jatiya

Press Club. Gupta chaired the discussion. while Dr Golam Rahman of Mass Communication and Journalism Department, Dhaka University, presented a key

Taking part in the discussion Editor of the weekly Holiday: Enayet Ullah Khan said radio and television must be freed to ensure free flow of

"If government could sell time to BBC or CNN why not to formation were pre-requisiother. he said.

Mahfuz Anam said in a democratic country, democracy and free press were inseparable. One can not go without the other, he added and called for independent growth of the mass media.

For the growth of mass media, the radio and television Noted journalist Santosh must be taken away from the control of the government The way these are being controlled is deplorable, he added.

Anam also called for more professional training for journalists so that they could rise above petty

interest and project an event objectively to help readers reach a fair conclusion.

In his keynote paper. Dr Golam Rahman said right to information and access to intes for a democratic society. Editor of The Daily Star Side by side, journalists would have to be committed to their profession and society, he

> Santosh Gupta said in some cases, newspaper itself created obstacle to free flow of information by giving confusing news. He stressed the need for practicing norms of democ-

racy for the freedom of press. CCHRB chairman Brother Jarlath D'Souza also spoke on the occasion.

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Candidates who do not fulfil the above requirements need not apply. Selected candidates will be called for an initial interview within two weeks from the date of closing of application.

Theatre workshop concludes

By Staff Correspondent

An eight-day theatre workshop conducted by a visiting theatre expert from Sweden concluded Monday at the Theatre Centre in the city.

Members of the Desh Natok, who participated in the workshop conducted by Jan Bergstrand, presented three 'experimental theatre pieces at the concluding session.

The first piece was a sort of modern 'dance,' with the actors breathing as the only source of 'music.

It was followed by a short skit on day-dreaming, where the actors visualised their 'characters' come to life.

The last item was a 'theatre game' called 'Freeze'. The game involved improvising a new act of a drama by taking cue from the last movement or gesture of the previous act.

Aarong's branch in Khulna

Aarong, the biggest handicraft chain of Bangladesh. opened its branch in Khulna yesterday, located at Al-Masah Complex in the third largest city of the country.

It is the sixth branch of Aarong in the country. The others are: three in Dhaka and one each in Chittagong and Sylhet. It has also shops in London and Vancouver, Canada. Aarong has earned International Grand Prize for Export '89 of Spain and best award at the Gift Items Exhibition held in Canada early this

F H Abed, Executive Director of BRAC attended the opening ceremony.

দরখান্ত আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে

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পি পার্সোনেল বিভাগ

্ অফিসাব

(বাংলাদেশ। কর্তক প্রদত্ত ক্লাস-টু (ডেক

(৬ হইতে ৯ মাস) নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট হইতে

What's on today

Expressionist film session: The film Metropolis directed by Fritz Lang will be screened as part of the ongoing German expressionist film session. Venue: German Cultural Centre. Time: 5.30 pm. Chalachitram Film Society is sponsoring the programme.

Triennial confce: The three-day third triennial national conference of the Bangladesh Hindu-Bouddha-Christian Oikya Parishad will begin. Venue: Ramna Green and Engineers' Instt auditorium. Time: 10 am. Chief guest: Prof Khan Sarwar Murshid.

Discussion on May Day: Solidarity has organised a discussion on the historic May Day. Venue: 39/1, Tejkunipara, Tejgaon. Time: 5 pm.

Satyajit retrospective: Two films - Samapti and Pikoo - and the documentary, The Music of Satyajit Ray, will be screened as part of the ongoing film session. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium. Time: 6 pm. Zahir Raihan Film Society has organised the commemorative film show to mark the 75th birth anniversary of Satyajit Ray.

Honours course opens: A function will be held on the occasion of opening of honours course in the Management and Accountancy departments of the Dhaka Commerce College. Venue: College premises, Section 3, Mirpur Zoo Road. Time: 11.30 am. The function will be followed by a seminar.

Launching ceremony: The launching of the book 'Sangvidhan and Tattyabadhayak Sarkar Bitarka' by journalist-turned writer Mizanur Rahman Khan will be held. Venue: Jatiya Press Club auditorium. Time: 4:30

Workshop on poverty alleviation: A three-day seminar-cum-workshop on "Poverty Alleviation, Selfemployment and Development of Rural Women" will begin. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium. Time: 10 am. Jatiya Mohila Sangstha has organised the seminar.

(What's on tomorrow. . .

JICA Alumni Assoc: The annual general meeting of JICA Alumni Association will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 3:30 pm.

Children's cultural competition

By Staff Correspondent

A three-day children-juvenile cultural competition begins today at Russian Cultural Centre in the city under the aegis of the Cultural Department of Russian Embassy.

The competition is being organised in observance of the 50th anniversary of victory over fascism.

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IN MEMORIAM

On the occasion of the Seventh death anniversary of Syed Tanweer Murshed son of the Late Syed Manzoor Murshed and the Late Begum Hasina Murshed, relatives and friends are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Yasmeen Maher and Madiha Murshed

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Tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 under sealed cover are reinvited from manufacturer firms having past experience for supply of the undermentioned goods as per official instruction and terms & conditions for GOB-3 project during 1994-95 financial year. Detailed terms & conditions of tender specification, bill of quantities, Bangladesh Form No 2908 & other necessary documents can be purchased at prescribed price (non-refundable) from the office of the undersigned; Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering, Stores Division, Dhaka/Chittagong/Natore up to 7-5-95 during office hours. Tenders will be received simultaneously in the tender boxes kept at the offices of the undersigned; Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering, Stores Division, Dhaka/Chittagong/Natore up to 12-00 Noon of 08-05-95 and the tenders will be opened on 15-5-95 at 10-00 am at the office of the Superintending Engineer. Public Health Engineering, Stores Circle, 190, Arambag, Dhaka before the tenderers or their nominated representatives (if any) present.

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