# **Exotic Foods: Mental** Approach Matters

EATING CYCLE

by Farah Ghuznavi

FISH EATS

MOSQUITO

Reading a book on travel literature recently. was struck by the description of a journey to the jungles of Borneo, the preparation for which included learning recipes for cooking rats and peeling cockroaches. The idea of this seemed, needless to say, utterly repulsive to me. Nonetheless, it got me thinking about how much of our food habits are conditioned by

EXOTIC

EATS

FISH

what we are used to, and how much really depends on how good things actually taste. I mean. coming from a nation of people, many of whom swear by the tastiness of karolla, I am not really in a position to talk about discerning palates. Though there are, of course, those who would argue that only a truly discerning palate could appreciate karolla. By that criterion, I alas am not the possessor of one!

Besides, the eati ng of rats etc is a well-established practice in certain parts of the world. so how bad can they

really taste? Nor is such a practice confined to obscure tribes. When supposedly "civilised" people really need to. they seem to be able to adopt these habits without too much trouble. Take for example, the Canadian man who was marooned in the mountains for three months as a result of his light plane coming down there. He survived by eating primarily rats for that entire period. I'm sure that he would have appreciated having the aforementioned rat recipe-book with him on that particular trip!

In certain parts of Africa, fried locusts are consumed regularly and with great enjoyment by the local population. Are cockroaches really that different from locust? Or perhaps (dare ) suggest it?) even that far removed from certain types of shrimp? Besides, the papers have occasionally reported conferences of insect-consumers in the US, including the man who was reprimanded for eating his wife's chocolate covered ant, as well as his own, and who defended himself by claiming that it was just too delicious to resist!

I think that with the exception of people who have extremely experimental tastes, it comes down to what we are used to eating, rather than what is objectively delicious. Perhaps even those two words "objectively delicious" are a contradiction in terms, since subjective feelings will inevitably creep in. If you look at it, something like sheep's brain, considered a delieacy in the subcontinent,

would be rejected with horror by most westerners. Yet, many of them would accept the eating of cow's tongue or pig's entrails without balking in horror at the idea!

Finally, a personal experience of mine illustrates how such cultural habits can be further demonised by existing misconceptions. A friend of mine. Philip, was visiting from the US

a few years ago, and when we visited someone's office, we were, not surprisingly, offered some refreshment. When the gentleman briefly went out of his office to make the necessary arrangements, I just had time to tell Philip, "Make sure you eat whatever he offers us." To my surprise, he went pale. As the gentleman returned to the room at this point, I had no opportunity to dig deeper into the matter.

In due course, rived, three "mishtis" (sweetmeat) for each of us, and since Phil has an ex tremely sweet tooth,

he ate all six. When I was asking him later what had happened in the office, he confessed that when I had said that he should eat whatever they brought, he had had visions of being presented with the steaming brain of a newly killed monkey! I couldn't stop laughing for quite some time after hearing this. Obviously this stemmed partly from his ignorance of what we do eat in Bangladesh. We agreed, however, that he had also been influenced (perhaps subliminally) by the Spielberg movie. "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" which had clearly been inadequately researched, leaving the viewer with the firm conviction that all people from India (and by extension, the rest of the subcontinent), were in the habit of consuming newly-killed monkeys' brains!

Philip was extremely embarrassed by the whole incident; but Bangladesh wasn't finished with him yet. He was subsequently briefly outraged, and then amused, by a story told to him by someone else he met here. This man told him that the first time he had travelled abroad on work, he ordered steak, thinking that it was the safest bet on the menu. To his utter horror, his steak arrived "covered in blood" i.e. cooked rare, and he was completely unable to eat it! Phil later protested to me, "But rare steak is delicious! Why didn't he eat it?" said wryly, "So, no doubt, is raw monkey's brains, to those who are eating it. They consider it a delicacy!"



Visitors at an exhibition by photojournalist Mufti Munir which began at the Alliance Francaise in the city yesterday. - Star photo

## Launches lack adequate life-saving equipment

Most passenger launches plying between the capital and different southern routes operate without adequate life-saving equipments that may cost many lives in accidents any time, particularly in the current storm-prone season, reports UNB.

Concerned officials said every launch should carry adequate life-buoy and be equipped with other life-saving devices to help the passengers to survive in case of any acci-

But, according to the passengers, most of the launches were plying frequently, even during stormy nights, without adequate life-saving equip-

A launch that left Jhalakati town Thursday evening for Dhaka carrying nearly 3,000 passengers eager to join their duties after enjoying the Eid at home was found with a very small number of life-buoys.

According to a passenger of Sagar 4, the overloaded vessel having only some two dozen life-buoys dashed two other motor launches while leaving

Arms factory

unearthed

special team of the Criminal

Investigation Department

(CID) here unearthed an arms

manufacturing unit at a work-

shop at Madarbari under Doub-

lemooring thana here this

evening, CID sources told BSS.

tion, the team raided an engi-

neering workshop and found

various arms manufacturing

pipe guns and a good number

of ammunition from the pos-

and Abdur Nur, have been ar-

Hanif visits fire

damaged market

mmad Hanif yesterday visited

the Mohammadia market at

Mirpur damaged by fire on

Thursday evening, reports

the leaders of the market and

assured them of all possible

help from the city corporation

Commissioner of Ward No 5.

Ali Haider, Commissioner of

Ward No 3 and Mir Samir.

Commissioner of Ward No 70

Mohammad Hanif expressed

his deep grief at the death of

Amena Begum, mother of

former information minister

Another report say.

Mostafa.

to overcome the situation.

Golam

were present.

The Mayor discussed with

Mayor of Dhaka City Moha-

sessions of two persons.

rested in this connection.

Doublemooring thana.

The team recovered four

Mohammad Abdul Karim

A case was filed with

equipments.

Acting on secret informa-

CHITTAGONG, May 19: A

Barisal terminal. "We could not said for last

two days for lack of adequate safety equipments on board the vessel," said an employee of Sagar 4 on Thursday night referring to the cyclone and tidal surge that hit some coastal and southern districts.

"The launches are plying on the southern routes risking the passengers' life," said another passenger, who was compelled to board the vessel finding no other alternative to reach the capital in time to rejoin his duties.

Many other passengers added that the same was the picture for almost all the motor launches.

Worse even, according to one, a very small number of the launches carry emergency medicines.

Medicine for fever and headache or ever antiseptic Savlon and Dettol are hardly available in the launches. On many occasions, passengers have to bear their sufferings until the vessels reach a ter-

#### Environmental lawyers' meet Bangladesh Environmental

Lawyers Association (BELA) will hold a seminar on "Role of Law in Environment Protection" at the auditorium of Planning Commission at 4:30 pm on Monday, reports UNB.

Environment and Forest Minister Akbar Hossain will attend the seminar as chief guest while Justice Mustafa Kamal and State Minister for Establishment Aminul Haque as special guests.

Leading Indian environmental lawyer M C Mehta will present the key note speech at the seminar with BELA Chairman Prof K A A Quamruddin in the chair.

### Cameroonian leaders greeted

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has felicitated President Paul Biya of the Republic of Cameroon on the occasion of the National Day of his country. being celebrated today, reports

In a message President Biswas wished good health happiness and long life of Paul Biya and continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Cameroon.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in a separate message to Achidi Simon Achu. Prime Minister of Cameroon. extended her greetings and wished him good health, happiness and long life. She also prayed for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the people of Cameroon.

### ing for AFP since 1986. The pictures at this first-ever solo

yesterday.

show have appeared in the press both at home and abroad, including in the International Herald Tribune and Liberation. The exhibition also provides

Mufty's photo

show opens

By Staff Correspondent

lected photographs by the AFP

photojournalist Mufty Munir

opened at the Alliance

Francaise gallery in the city

The twenty-seven pho-

tographs on display - some

features - reflect our country

and society. They are mostly

images of people - of their

sufferings and joy - captured

on Mufty's camera with skill,

senior photographer with the

Daily Sangbad, has been work-

Mufty, who is currently a

audacity and compassion.

historic ones and some simple

A unique exhibition of se-

a window on Agence France Presse (AFP), the oldest news agency in the world, with some exclusive photos from around the globe which are on display alongside Mufty's oeu-

The show was inaugurated by French Ambassador Jean-Michel Lacombe.

Speaking on the occasion, the ambassador praised Munir for his contribution to photojournalism and for projecting Bangladesh in the international media through his works. He termed photography as a new field of cooperation between France and Bangladesh.

The AFP bureau chief in Dhaka. Golam Tahaboor, also addressed the inaugural function, attended by scores of photo enthusiasts.

The exhibition will remain open every day (except Saturday) from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm till May 30.0

#### Medical equipment for BIRDEM

The Inner Wheel Club of Metropolitan Dhaka has donated some medical equipment for the Zurian branch of Bangladesh Diabetic Association, reports UNB.

Dr A K Azad of BIRDEM thanked the club after receiving the equipment worth Tk 67,000 from the club president Najma Khan, a press release said yesterday.

The Inner Wheel Club of Metropolitan Dhaka runs a number of health projects in Shishu Hospital. Mitford Hospital and BIRDEM Hospital.

#### Noman off to UAE

Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman left Dhaka last night for the United Arab Emirates on a

three-day visit, reports BSS. During his stay in UAE Noman will call on Emirates Labour and Agriculture Minister and attend a rally of supporters of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman in Dubai.

He will also exchange views with Bangladeshi professionals and businessmen in UAE.

#### Norwegian Minister due tomorrow

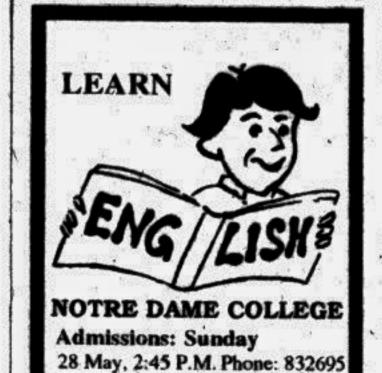
Cury Nordheim Larsen, Development Cooperation Minister of Norway arrives in the city tomorrow on a fourday visit, reports BSS.

She will lead a 10-member team which includes officials and journalists.

## Drama workshop

A 10-day drama workshop titled "Theatre for Mass Awareness and Development" begins today at the Bangla-German Sampreeti (BGS) Cultural Centre in the city, reports UNB.

The workshop, organised by BGS in cooperation with Bangladesh Institute of Theatre and Arts (BITA) will conclude on May 30.



GOOD NEWS! FOR THE HEALTH CONCIOUS NOW AVAILABLE AT YOUR FAVOURITE GELATERIA LOW FAT FROZEN YOGURT ICE CREAM **ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR INTEREST:** 

**DOLCE VITA GELATO BANANI & DHANMONDI** Lychee Ice Cream is here again Avail it while season lasts

#### PRODUCT BUY BACK JOINT VENTURE PROJECT WITH JAPAN

JAPANESE INVESTOR FOR A JOINT VENTURE PROJECT IN THE FIELD OF CONDOM MANUFACTURING WITH 30000 GROSS PER MONTH CAPACITY AND BUY BACK GUARANTEE TERMS IS NOW IN BANGLADESH. PROJECT COST AROUND 11 MILLION US DOLLAR.

ONLY FINANCIALLY SOLVENT PARTIES MAY KINDLY CONTACT:

MR. K. ISHIHARA

TEL: 602358, FAX: 880-2-883214

# छ कि तिश्व लक्षा कर्वन

ময়মনসিংহ শহর থেকে ১৪ কিলোমিটার দূরে কলতাপাড়ায় ময়মনসিংহ-কিশোরগঞ্জ হাইওয়ের পার্শ্বে অবস্থিত ডেলটা মিলার্স লিমিটেড -এর জন্য একজন সার্বক্ষনিক ডাক্তার প্রয়োজন। মানুষের সেবায় আগহী, कमशक्त এम.वि.वि. এস. (वित्निष क्या निथिनयागा), डाङातगर्वत निक्र থেকে এই উদ্দেশ্যে দরখান্ত আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। সফল প্রার্থী মিলে পরিবারসহ বসবাসের জন্য ফি বাসস্থান, মিল থেকে ময়মনসিংহ শহরের স্কুলে বাচ্চাদের আনা নেওয়ার জন্য মিলের গাড়ীর সুবিধা ইত্যাদি পাবেন। আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণকে ছবি, জীবন-বুত্তান্ত, কাংখিত বেতন ভাতা ইত্যাদিসই আগামী >ना जुरनत मर्था निम्म ठिकानात्र जारतपन कतात्र জন্য অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক



ডিসিসিআই বিভিং (৮ম তলা), ৬৫-৬৬, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা।

# CONTRACT STATEMENT OF ALCOHOLOGICAL র ব্যবহার বিভাগ করা বিশ্বতা এবং দ্যান্ত্রের ভারতার বিভাগ করাবার বিভাগ CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE OF THE A procession was brought out in the city yesterday - Star photo

#### protesting the burning down of a Muslim shrine in Kashmir.

#### Relief for the tide-affected Oxfam has sent emergency

roofing equipment as relief materials to the people of the coastal areas of the country, says a press release. The roofing materials will

provide immediate shelter to about one thousand families affected by the recent tidal

The Oxfam relief teams also have with them around fifteen thousand packets of ORS for immediate use.

#### New governor of Lions Dist 1315 A-2

By Staff Correspondent

A R Latif and Alhaj Rafiq Uddin Bhuiyan have been elected governor and vice-governor of Lions Club International. District 315A-2 respectively, say press releases.

local hotel vesterday.

They were elected at the 8th annual district convention of the organisation, held at t a

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

Economic Relations Division (ERD) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will begin in the city today to discuss the conclusions and recommenda tions of the Bangladesh coun try portfolio evaluation report on IFAD financed projects, reports BSS.

ERD, IFAD confce

today

ference organised by the

A two-day round-table con

Agriculture Minister M Majidul Hug will be the chief guest in the inaugural session of the conference.

The objective of the round table conference is to provide a forum for exchange of experience and ideas on ways and means to approach rural poverty issues based on actual experience.

The representatives of the concerned ministries, divisions, agencies: donors, financial and academic institutions in addition to the project personnel and beneficiaries of IFAD financed projects will participate in the conference.

Bangladesh is one of the major recipients of IFAD's concessional funds.

#### Nazmul Huda. কর আপীল অঞ্চল-৩, ঢাকা

কর কমিশনার (আপীল)-এর কার্যালয় ২য় ১২তলা সরকারী ভবন (৫ম তলা) সেগুন বাগিচা, ঢাকা

নখি নং - নাজির শাখা-৩/১৪-১৫

क्रिवक्ति->२००२->०/४

9-990

# পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কর কমিশনার (আপীল), কর আপীল অঞ্চল-৩, ঢাকা এর অফিসে ব্যবহারের জন্য নৃতন ও সর্বশেষ মড়েলের নিয়োভ ১।এক। টি যেটির সাইকেল ক্রয় করার নিমিত্তে সরবরাহকারী/আমদানীকারক প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে লরপত্র আগামী ২৫-৫-৯৫ ইং তারিখ সকাল ১২.০০ **ঘটিকার মধ্যে নিয়স্বাক্ষরকারী**র অঞ্চিস কক্ষে রক্ষিত টেভার বারে জমা দিতে হইবে এবং ঐ দিনই বেলা ১.০০ ঘটিকায় সময় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতাদের সমূখে যেদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন। দরপত্র খোলা

ক্রামক নং	যানবাহনের নাম	লেসিফিকেশন -	প্রস্তুকারী দেশ ও রাজের নাম	সংখ্যা
21	মোটর সাইকেল	১০০ সিপ্রসিপ্ন	জাপান ইয়ামাহা/সভকী/ত্যাভা	্র ।এক। টি

দরপত্রের সহিত উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ২<sup>4</sup>% হারে আর্নেষ্টমানি যে কোন রাষ্ট্রায়ত বাণিজ্ঞাক বাংক হইতে ফেরতযোগ্য। বাংক ভাকট/পে-অর্ডার নিম্নশাক্ষরকারীর অনুক্সে ভ্রমা দিতে হইবে প্রয়োজনীয় ট্রুস, ট্রুসবক্সসহ মেটির সাইকেল এর সাথে সরবরাহ করিতে হইবে। দরপত্রদাতাগণকে টেড লাইসেল ও আয়কর "টিন' সার্টিফিকেট এর ফটোকলি দরপত্রের সহিত দাখিল করিতে হইবে

গাড়ী সরবরাহ করার পর তিন প্রস্থ বিল অত কার্যালয়ে দাখিল করার পর চেকের মাধ্যমে মূল্য পরিলোধ করা হউবে। অসম্পূর্ণ দরপত গ্রহণযোগ্য হইবে না। কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্তির ৫ পৌচঃ দিনের মধ্যে রেজিঐশনসহ মোটর সাইকেল সরবরাহ করিতে হইবে জনাথায় কার্যাদেশ ব্যতিক

কর্তপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরৈকে যে কোন দরপত্র বাতিল অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন আরও জানার জন্য প্রয়োজনে নিম্নস্থাক্ষরকারীর সহিত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে যোগাযোগ করা যাইতে পারে। মোঃ নুকল ভুদা সহকারী কর কমিশনার

দরপত্রের সহিত যানবাহনের ক্যাটালগ দাখিল করিতে হইবে

বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে এবং আর্ণেষ্টমানি বাজেয়ার হইবে।

সদর নর্ব (প্রশাসন) কর আপীল অঞ্চল-৩, চাকা। কোনঃ ৪০৩৮৮৯ (অফিস)

# Weather

over the country

# No change till May 24

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Chittagong division and the regions of Mymensingh for 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says the weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere across the country. Day temperatures are likely to rise by 1-2 degrees Celsius

In its outlook for today and tomorrow the Met Office says that there would be no appreciable change. Giving an extended outlook for another five days the weathermen predicted little change.

The country's highest temperature yesterday was 38.0 degrees Celsius recorded at Ishurdi. The lowest was 23.0 degrees at Patuakhali and Khepupara. The sun sets today at 6:36 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:13

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns of the country yesterday were: Humidity in City/Town Temperature in degrees Celsius percentage

morning evening min 34.5 26.9 Dhaka 27.5 32.5 Chittagong 25.3 Raishahi 37.3 25.0 Khulna 82 75 25.0 33.0 Barisal 26.5 Sylhet 34.0 27.4 Cox's Bazar 32.0

# BANQUE INDOSUEZ

ORDER TO PROVIDE MORE CONVENIENT SERVICES TO OUR CUSTOMERS WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE SHIFTING OF OUR GULSHAN BOOTH TO NEW PREMISES SPECIALLY DECORATED AND DESIGNED FOR BANKING OPERATIONS.

**OLD ADDRESS** 43, ADAM MARKET NORTH GULSHAN , CIBCLE-II DHAKA

**NEW ADDRESS** 

HOUSE NO. 73 PLOT NO. 11A **GULSHAN AVENUE** DHAKA

THE BOOTH WILL START FUNCTIONING AT THE NEW ADDRESS EFFECTIVE TODAY THE 20TH MAY 1995

