

# Dhaka Day by Day

## City's Vanishing Professional Classes

by A S M Nurunnabi

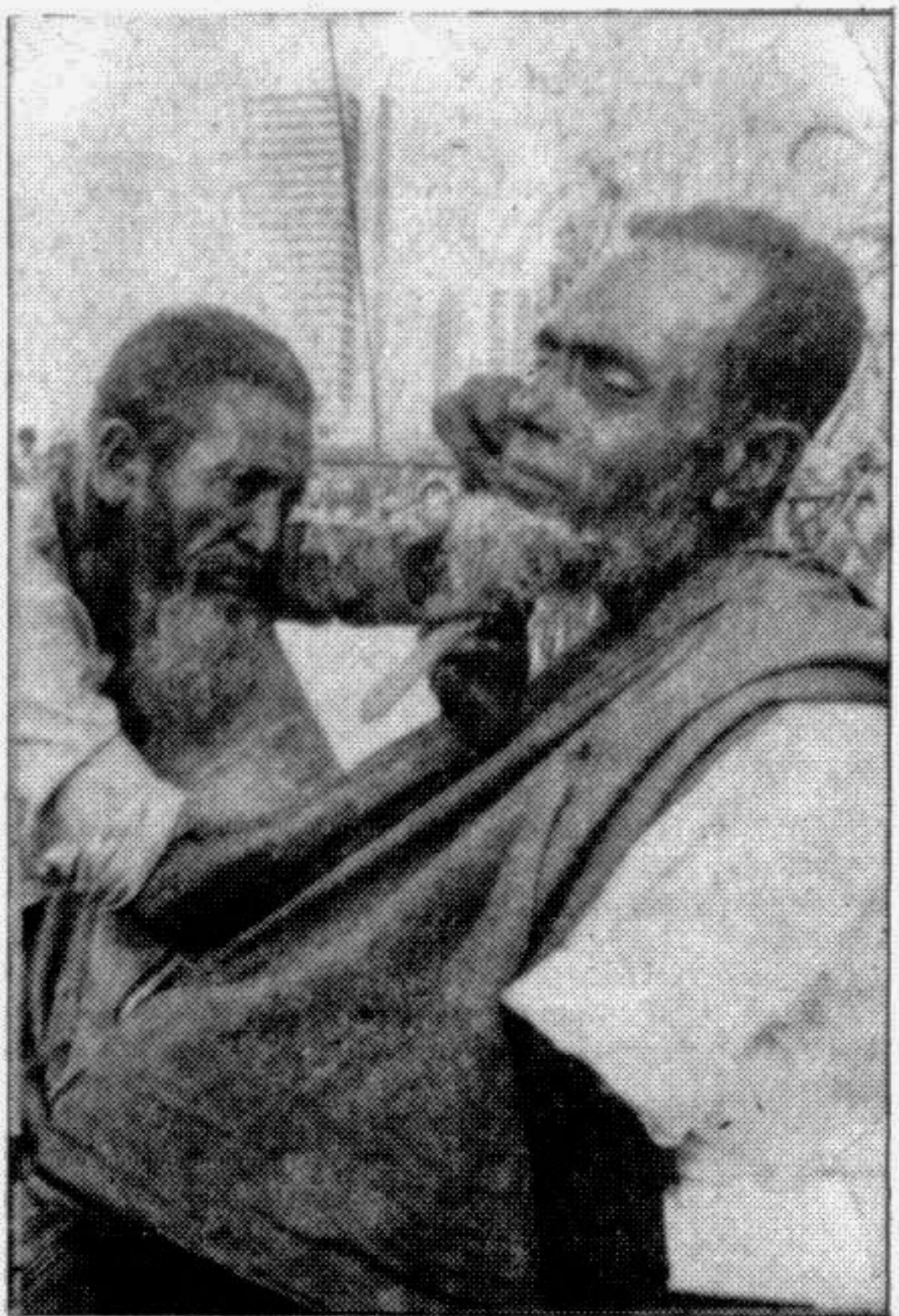
He has a profession to practice. But he is rarely seen in action in the mosaic pattern of the city's division of labour these days, particularly in the new part of the city.

This refers to the class of street barbers. It appears that with urbanisation, he becomes a specimen of a decaying professional species.

The main causative factor for his gradual decay is the proliferation of hair dressing saloons or shops all over the city. Previously people of lower classes, particularly day labourers, hawkers, petty shopkeepers and other manual workers used to patronise the street barbers. The situation has now changed. Even people of lower social strata seem to prefer the hair dressing shops which are of a varied character ranging from the fashionable to the ordinary. The later category has won away most of the customers of the street barbers.

A rare specimen of this professional is 'Moti Mia' hailing from Mymensingh. He has set up his trade at a corner of a road junction dividing the old Dhaka from its new part. A big tree provides him protection from sun and rain. With its trunk he has fixed a wooden plank on which he arranges the tools of his trade, such as soap, shaving brush, razor, blade, scissors etc. He has an old rickety chair which seats his customer. When there are customers awaiting, he keeps for them a small bench. When the day's business is over, he keeps the chair and the bench chained to the trunk of the tree. To protect the customer from the fall-out of clipped hair, a piece of red cloth is used to wrap around the upper part of the customer's body when the hair dressing is in progress.

In Bangla, there is an euphemistic word for a barber: he is called 'Narasundar' one who makes a man beautiful. Indeed it is his profession to make a man presentable by cutting away his excess hair. Few among us realise the import of this euphemistic term.



Moti Mia has been practising his profession for the last 25 years. His age is somewhere between 51 to 60. He lives in a slum across the Buriganga. He comes to his place of occupation in the morning and continues his work till late hours in the afternoon. He claims himself to be a barber of the poor, as the people who are financially better off want to go to the hair dressing shops for their hair cut.

Similarly disappearing is another class of professionals in the city, namely, 'dhobis' or washermen. There was a time when laundry establishments in the city were few. There was a class of washermen in some select neighbourhoods. The members of this class had their customers mostly in the neighbouring areas. They used to visit the houses of their customers on a particular day each week and collect the clothes to be washed and pressed. There were agreed rates for their services and they used to deliver the laundered clothes to the customers houses after a week or so. They used to collect their dues from the customers at the end of each month. That arrangement used to work smoothly.

In the changed situation, there are more than one laundry establishment in every neighbourhood. You go to the convenient one with the load of clothes to be washed and visit it again to collect the washed clothes on a specified date. The class of washermen, however, in reduced numbers, are still there but they do not visit the individual customers in their homes. Now their dealings are with the laundry shops. As newcomers are entering the profession with their mechanical devices for washing, the old class of washermen are gradually disappearing. This is perhaps one of the aspects of wide-ranging changes affecting us as a result of new ideas influencing our life style in many spheres.



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina presenting a crest to a child artist at a function in the city yesterday. The city Awami League, unit 36, arranged the ceremony to distribute prizes among the winners of a children's art competition to commemorate the 20th death anniversary of Bangabandhu. — Star photo

### Seminar on traffic jam

A seminar on the traffic jam was held at the Scouts Bhaban auditorium in the city yesterday, says a press release.

The Rotary and Rotaract Club of Ramna jointly organised the seminar.

The seminar was co-chaired by Rotary president Maqboolul Islam and Rotaract president G M Musaddeak Ringku.

Mahfuz Anam, Editor of The Daily Star attended it as chief guest.

Azharul Islam, S M Ibrahim Hussain Ujjal, Moslemuddin and Akhteruddin also spoke on the occasion.

### Stamp show begins in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Aug 23: Minister for Post and Telecommunications Tariqul Islam open the three-day Rajshahi region postal stamps exhibition known as 'Rajshahi-pex '95' here at General Post Office (GPO) premises. Postal stamps of over one hundred countries are on display at the exhibition.

Presided over by M Badiuzzaman, director general, Bangladesh Post Office, the function was also addressed by Lutfunnessa Hossain, MP, M Hafizuddin Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Post and Telecommunication.

### Quayum's death condoled

Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan yesterday said that Bangladesh envoy to Morocco late Ambassador Abdul Quayum was a dedicated worker, who gave priority to achieving professional excellence, reports BSS.

He was addressing a meeting held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to condole the death of Ambassador Quayum, who died in the city of a massive cardiac arrest Tuesday.

The condolence meeting was addressed by former Foreign Secretary A K H Morshed.



A prohibition on truck movement was imposed on the road near the Kamalapur Railway Station to ease traffic jam. As an additional measure a high iron bar has been placed across the road to make sure that the ban was followed. — Star photo

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### Computer science course at JU

The Jahangirnagar University has opened a new under graduate course in Electronics and Computer Science, said an official announcement on Sunday, reports UNB.

The JU Syndicate recently has approved the four-year B Sc course with a view to expanding job opportunities for students in technical field.

Appreciating the authorities for approving the course, Prof H S Faruque, head of the department, hoped that the prevailing discrimination between technical and general education in the country would now go.

### What's on today....

**Reception for Dr Innas:** The Department of Physics of the Dhaka University will accord a reception to Professor Innas Alj. Special guests: State Minister for Planning Abdul Moyeen Khan, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Emajuddin Ahmed. Venue: TSC auditorium. Time: 3:00 pm.

**Workshop on Pompei:** A two-day workshop for children on fine arts in remembrance of the destruction of Pompei, an Italian city destroyed in 79 AD will be held. Venue: Shilpacharya Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Lions Club of Dhaka Aristocrat:** The board meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Modern Mansion, 10th floor, 53, Motijheel.

**Shilpangan talk:** Visiting US painter and sculptor Karen Laub-Novak will deliver a talk, supported by a slide show on her work. Venue: Shilpangan, House 15, Road 4, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.

**Leo Club of Dhaka Golden:** The club will conduct an eyesight and hearing test. Venue: Jigatola Govt Primary School. Time 8:30 pm.

**Rotary Club of Jahangirnagar Dhaka:** The regular weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Officers' Club. Time: 5:15 pm.

### ..... and tomorrow

**DU founding day programme:** The Dhaka University Alumni Association has planned elaborate programme to mark the 75th founding anniversary of the university. A rally will be brought out from Curzon Hall at 8 am, followed by a get-together at TSC.

### ফেনী সরকারী বাণিজ্যিক মহাবিদ্যালয়

মহিপাল, ফেনী।  
ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ফেনী সরকারী বাণিজ্যিক মহাবিদ্যালয়ে ১৯৯৫-৯৬ ইং শিক্ষা বর্ষে দুই বছর মেয়াদী (এইচএসসি-কমার্স সমমানের) ডিপ্লোমা-ইন-কমার্স কোর্সে ১ম বর্ষ ১ম পর্বে হিসাব বিজ্ঞান ও সচিব বিজ্ঞান বিভাগের ২৪০ (দুইশত চল্লিশ) টি আসনে ছাত্র/ছাত্রী ভর্তি করা নির্ধারিত ক্রমে আবেদনকারী ১৫-৮-৯৫ ইং তারিখ হইতে ১৪-৯-৯৫ ইং পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ করা হইবে। আগামী ১৭-৯-৯৫ ইং তারিখ সকাল ১০টা হইতে লিখিত পরীক্ষা এবং ১৯-৯-৯৫ ইং তারিখ সকাল ৯টা হইতে মৌখিক পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হইবে। ভর্তি পরীক্ষার ফলাফল ২১-৯-৯৫ ইং তারিখ সকাল ১০টা পর্যন্ত প্রকাশ করা হইবে এবং ২৩-৯-৯৫ ইং তারিখ সকাল ১০টা হইতে ভর্তি আরম্ভ হইবে।


আবেদনের নিকম শিক্ষাপত্র যোগ্যতা দেশের যে কোন বোর্ড হইতে ১৯৯৫ ইং সালে দ্বিতীয় বিভাগে এসএসসি/মালিম পাস। ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি, আবেদন ফর্ম, প্রসঙ্গেক্টাস ও অন্যান্য তথ্যের জন্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময় শিক্ষা-স্বাক্ষরকারীর সাথে যোগাযোগ করা যাইতে পারে।

স্বাঃ আবদুল মাদান  
অধ্যক্ষ,  
ফেনী সরকারী বাণিজ্যিক মহাবিদ্যালয়  
মহিপাল, ফেনী।  
ফোনঃ ৪০৭৬

DFP-20121-19/8  
G-1249

### DEAR JANI,

THE WRONG NUMBER  
ACCIDENT WAS FATAL.  
I AM DYING TO MEET  
YOU.  
— R. P. S-417



## জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি জাদুঘর

আগারগাঁও, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা

**জনপ্রিয় বিজ্ঞান বিষয়ক বক্তৃতামালা**  
স্থান : বিজ্ঞান জাদুঘর মিলনায়তন

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**মাধ্যমিক বয়স ও সৌর জগত**  
বক্তা : ডঃ জামাল নজরুল ইসলাম  
২৬ আগস্ট, ১৯৯৫, শনিবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**প্রকৃতির ভাষা গণিত**  
বক্তা : ডঃ প্রফেসর শমশের আলী  
৬ সেপ্টেম্বর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**শ্রীণ হাউস প্রতিক্রিয়া ও আবহাওয়া পরিবর্তন**  
বক্তা : ডঃ আবদুল্লাহ আল-মুতী শরফুদ্দীন  
১৩ সেপ্টেম্বর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**প্রাণিজগৎ : মহস্যের শেষ নেই**  
বক্তা : অধ্যাপক কাজী মোঃ জাকির হোসেন  
২০ সেপ্টেম্বর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**ছায়াপথ ও নিহারীকা**  
বক্তা : ডঃ জামাল নজরুল ইসলাম  
২৭ সেপ্টেম্বর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**বাংলাদেশের বন্যা সমস্যা ও তার প্রতিকার**  
বক্তা : ডঃ আইয়ুব মিশাত  
৪ অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**বহু সম্পর্কে আধুনিক গবেষণা**  
বক্তা : প্রফেসর আলী আলগর  
১১ অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**কম্পিউটার নেটওয়ার্ক**  
বক্তা : ডঃ মোঃ লুৎফর রহমান  
১৮ অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

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**মহাবিশ্বের সৃষ্টি ও বিবর্তন**  
বক্তা : ডঃ জামাল নজরুল ইসলাম  
২৫ অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৫, বুধবার, বিকাল ৪-০০ ঘটিকা

### আগ্রহী সবাই আমন্ত্রিত

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| Post       | Salary   | Minimum Qualifications   |
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| Programmer | Tk. 12,000/= to 14,000/= per month (Consolidated) Salary will be fixed depending on experience and on the job performance. | Masters degree in Computer Science/Electrical Engineering/ Physics/Mathematics/Statistic or Economics with 1 year professional experience in database management and software development.<br>or<br>Bachelors degree in Computer Science/Electrical Engineering/ Physics/ Mathematics/Statics or Economics with 2 years professional experience in database management and software development. |

Departmental candidates meeting the above academic qualification requirements will be preferred, and the experience requirement may be relaxed in their case. Candidates with experience in application development under UNIX environment will also be preferred.

A full CV, hand-written application, describing the candidates qualifications for the position, two copies of attested passport size photographs, contact telephone number and copies of all relevant certificates should be sent by 2nd September, 1995. Candidates must be willing to work anywhere in Bangladesh.


Eligible candidates are requested to follow the following schedule positively:

| Sl. No. | Event   | Date     | Time     | Venue  |
|---------|---|----------|----------|--|
| 1.      | Publication of the list of eligible candidates & delivery of admit card | 07.09.95 | 11:00 AM | Room # 301, NBR                                |
| 2.      | Test  | 12.09.95 | 3:00 PM  | Information will be provided in the admit card |
| 3.      | Publication of result   | 16.09.95 | 11:00 AM | Room # 301, NBR                                |
| 4.      | Application test (Only for qualified candidates)                        | 19.09.95 | 3:00 PM  | Venue will be declared on 16.09.95             |
| 5.      | Publication of result of the application test                           | 23.09.95 | 11:00 AM | Room # 301, NBR                                |
| 6.      | Viva-voce   | 25.09.95 | 3:00 PM  | Room # 301, NBR                                |
| 7.      | Publication of the list of qualified candidates                         | 27.09.95 | 11:00 AM | Room # 301, NBR                                |

N.B: Applications must be addressed to the **First Secretary (Taxes-4)** National Board of Revenue, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

**Second Secretary (Taxes-14)**  
National Board of Revenue  
Dhaka.

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