

Dhaka Day by Day

Tale of Roadside Tailors

by ASM Nurunnabi

A group of non-descript tailors on part of the pavement in the Nilkhet-Babupura area have not much of a conspicuous existence. They present an incongruous sight in the midst of a crowded assembly of photo-copy machine operators and their clients, mostly students from the adjacent educational institutions. The area offers some idea of the magnitude of the keenness of the students in getting their reading materials photocopied on a vast scale.

In such a gathering, this group of roadside tailors unobtrusively carry on their trade. They attract a class of people mainly of small means who seek to have some tailoring work of minor nature at economy rates. Such work is not normally entertained at regular tailoring establishments. Even if they do, the rates charged by them for such work appear prohibitive to the small clients. This mainly explains the attraction of these roadside tailors for people of small means. The work of these tailors, by and large, relates to stitching of lunghis, repairs/alteration of various types of garments. Making of new garments of any kind rarely comes within the ambit of their work. On the other hand, the alteration element comprises a big share of their work in view of the situation that the people who buy second-hand old clothes come to these

father suddenly died, leaving the burden of his family on him. Thereafter, with the help of an uncle, he came over to Dhaka and with the proceeds from sale of a small part of the small family land, he could manage to buy a second-hand sewing machine and with it he got a foothold in his present business on the footpath.

His present occupation yields a daily income of Tk 50 to Tk 70 on an average. This somehow helps him to keep his body and soul together, besides the compulsion to make some saving to help other members of the family back home in the village.

Azim's case is typical of the class of roadside tailors in that area. They are all engaged in the bitter struggle for existence in the hard realities of city life. Though their daily average income is low on account of competition from similarly placed tailors, their business has a steady character, because the number of people of small means has been growing by leaps and bounds and they constitute the bulk of their customers.

Though they seem to carry on as a sort of flotsam and jetsam entity in the city life, they don't seem to be deficient in a sense of pride on account of their being self-employed and independent. The vagaries of nature take



tailors for suitable alteration to ensure proper fitting.

One such tailor working in this area, Azim by name, provided a glimpse of their typical life. Hailing from a village in Mymensingh district, he was deprived of any schooling in his boyhood on account of poverty. From the age of ten, he served as a helping hand in a tailoring shop at his village bazaar. From that early age, he began to learn the rudiments of tailoring. At that time he had a secret ambition that one day he would be able to set up his own tailoring shop at some important place. This dream could not be fulfilled as his

their vengeance on them. In summer they set up protective cover with sheets of cloth to shelter them from the burning rays of the sun. But during the rainy season, their distress is heightened because there is no protection for them in the open. Their business also suffers because of decreased number of customers affected by the inclement weather.

They all dream of a day when they may be provided with a permanent place for doing their trade which will eliminate their sense of insecurity and improve their lot.



A sequence from *Chiro Amlan*, a musical play performed at the auditorium of the Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday. — Star photo

A PROBE into War of '71

PROBE News agency will launch a programme titled 'The Bangladesh War File' commemorating the Victory Day today, says a press release.

The programme aims at upholding the ideals and spirit of the Liberation War.

Under this project various reports, untold stories, stray incidents, documents and other matters relating to the War of Liberation will be prepared in both Bengali and English for the media.

The reports and features of the War File will be simultaneously sent to all national and district-level newspapers as well as the foreign press at free of cost throughout the year.

PROBE welcomes any interesting report, valuable documents or evidence concerning the war. PROBE will duly extend remuneration for any material accepted.

New student body floated in Rangamati

A new student organisation, comprising members from both tribal and non-tribals, has been floated in Rangamati with a vision to restore communal harmony in the educational institutions in the hill districts, reports UNB.

All students in the hill region, irrespective of their caste, creed and religions, are eligible to become members of the Hill Student Front.

Hill Student Front, according to its constitution, is not the wing on any political party.

The newly formed organisation neither counters nor opposes any organisation," said Manzur Ahmed Minar, General Secretary of the organisation.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Prevailing dry weather is likely to continue across the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says, night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

Country's lowest temperature 09.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Ishurdi and the highest 28.2 degrees at Teknaf.

The sun sets today at 5:14 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:35 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday are:

City/Town	Temperatures in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	max	min	morning	evening
Dhaka	26.3	11.3	64	78
Chittagong	27.2	15.4	85	67

সম্মানিত গ্রাহক

ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের মহান বিজয় দিবসে আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা



জনতা ব্যাংক

Nishu

লাকি ড্র

টেলিফোন ডিরেক্টরী ও ইয়োলো পেজ-এর বিজ্ঞাপনদাতাদের জন্যে

বিভিন্ন তারিখের জন্যে যোগাযোগ করুন:

ফোন: (৮৮০-২) ৬০৮৭০৫ ক্যান্স (৮৮০-২) ৮৭০২৫৭, (৮৮০-৩) ৬১০০১১

Free eye camp

Rotary Club of Dhaka Central invites applications from poor patients who need cataract operation and lens implant. The eye camp is scheduled to be held during the third week of January, 96, says press release.

The application, in plain paper with name, age, profession, annual income, mailing address and diagnosis report should reach

Rashed Chowdhury, Sham-suddin Towels Ltd, ABC House (3rd floor), 8, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Dhaka-1213 by December 31, 95.

The eye camp is jointly organised and sponsored by the Rotary Club of Paisley, UK

AL Italy unit council held

By Staff Correspondent

A 55-member committee of the Bangladesh Awami League Italy unit was formed in a council session recently, according to a message received in Dhaka yesterday.

Freedom fighter Mahtab Hossain and Md Moniruzzaman Monir have been elected president and general secretary respectively of the unit.

Chairman of the Mukti-joddah Sanghati Parishad and former Awami League MP Col (ret'd) Shawkot Ali was the chief guest while M R Akhter Mukul and Kabari Sarwar were special guests in the council session.

Happy Birthday to Rushnan Adil



Jmtiaz

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সোয়েম সিমেন্ট পেইট ব্যবহারে শ্যাওলাপড়া ও বিভিন্ন এর ডাম্প থেকে রক্ষা করে এবং বিভিন্ন এর গুণমানের হারমিড বাড়ায়।

সোয়েম সিমেন্ট পেইট এর হারমিড বেশী বাহার ফলে রোদ বা বৃষ্টিতে কোন ক্ষতি হয় না।

নতুন দাম্পানের ক্ষেত্রেও প্রাথমিক অবস্থায় সোয়েম সিমেন্ট পেইট ব্যবহার করা যায়।

ধবধবে সাদা মोजাইক ফ্লোর যা মনকে সতেজ করে।

বেঙ্গল এজেন্সীজ

১৪, পরিবাণ, সোনারগাঁ রোড, হাতিরপুল, ঢাকা.
ফোন: ৫০৭৪৫৮, ৫০৮৪৫৬, ৫০৭৭১২

আন্তর্জাতিক ভাবে সমাদৃত

বেঙ্গলে পাচ্ছেন বিশ্বখ্যাত এপ্লিক্যান্ট ব্র্যান্ড সাদা সিমেন্ট, মার্বেল চিপস এবং বিভিন্ন ডিজাইনের ফ্লোর ও ওয়াল টাইলস

শামসু মার্বেল
৩৮, হি ফুস স্ট্রিট, সোনারগাঁ রোড, ঢাকা। ফোন: ৮৬৬৫২১

২০৩, সেনা পাড়া
পূর্বতা প্রাজা
মিরপুর, ঢাকা

১২০, নূর আহমদ রোড
কাপীক দেউড়া, চট্টগ্রাম
ফোন: ২২১০১৮, ৩১৮৮৪৫

NEW!

Sunlit

LEMON FLAVOURED

Here comes Sunlit to drive out all the dirt from the clothes however stubborn they may be. Lemon perfumed Sunlit's extra strong foam enters deep into the fabric and removes all the dirt at ease. Sunlit with its unbeatable quick and spotlessly clean wash makes white clothes their whitest white and the coloured ones their brightest bright.

Sunlit

Whiter Clothes - Brighter Colour

বিজয়ের ২৫ বছর পূর্তি

সোনালী ব্যাংক

লাকি ড্র

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বাসেল হাউজ, ১০১-সি, রোড নং ১৩ এ, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১৩
আজিজ চেম্বার (৪র্থ তলা), ৬ জুবিলী রোড, চট্টগ্রাম।