

Dhaka Day by Day

On the Death of a Teacher

by Samia Islam

On 16th December the nation celebrated its 25th year of independence. The following day a Dhaka University teacher was mercilessly beaten up by a criminal goon or goons in the Sangsad Bhaban area (no less). Left for dead he was found by some policemen who brought him to the DMCH. After putting up a heroic fight for his life he finally succumbed to his injuries on the December 26.

This story of mindless brutality is more than a 3.5-inch long news column for me and many others like me for the man concerned was our teacher. We have been his students since he joined as a lecturer at DU about two years ago. New at his prestigious job as teacher at the famed DU he was so enthusiastic and eager that at

inclination of constantly trying to make things right could prove fatal.

I don't really know the identity of the murdering devils or why they butchered him like that or simply because it does not matter any more. Not with the present system and situation of the country. Not unless justice is served by trying them for murder if and when they are caught. We once fought for freedom from colonial forces and oppressors. Now we are shadow-boxing. We should instead fight for a way out of the bottomless abyss of hatred and destruction that we are plunging into.

Why should a person have to lick boots all the time to stay alive? Why does standing up for truth and doing the right thing get you killed? We are none of us naive enough not



Colleagues mourn Nuban's death

times we strained under the work load. But he would tell us that it was for our own good in the long run and that at the end of the day we would thank him for his scrupulous teaching methods. Always on time, he made it a point not to miss any of his classes. He gave us no respite unlike other teachers who come to DU only when it does not get in the way of their supplementing day jobs. He was out to change the world. Look what the world gave in return!

He did miss a few classes two years ago this December when he took a week off to get married and that was it. This does seem unlike conventional teaching practices, doesn't it? Exactly this quirk in his nature rubbed people the wrong way. He stepped on people's toes in his ever-renewed efforts to do the right thing. Even when he was in the ICU, his life hanging in the balance, we were trying to figure out which particular incident caused this repercussion. In this day and age, in this city under siege the

to know the answers. But once in every while we get fed up with these unwritten rules. A pair of bangles or a pair of ear rings can be whisked off you in a jiffy and your well wishers and even the police rebuke you for wearing jewelry in the first place. You are not supposed to venture along certain roads in the city, you are to avoid the stadium area like the plague on days they have football matches there, you should always be prepared to see a bonfire made of your car and you don't speak out against injustice of any kind, be it for your own sake or for others. If you dare not play by the book, you face dire consequences.

My teacher's family and friends found out what this could mean. The only consolation is that he is with his Maker now and at peace since he has washed his hands off of this vile, impure world. As for condolences to the bereaved, I don't have the words except for offering sincerest apologies on behalf of the entire nation.



Prof. M A Naser, ex-Vice-Chancellor, BUET, presenting medals to the meritorious students as chief guest at the 15 reunion and biennial general meeting of 61-Club at the BUET auditorium Friday. BUET VC Professor Dr M Shahjahan was also present.

— BUET photo

Obituary

Eminent educationist Dr MR Chowdhury died of prolonged illness in the city yesterday. He was 84, reports UNB.

Chowdhury left behind two sons, one daughter and many grand children.

He was the former director of Standard Institute of the then East Pakistan and former head of the department of chemistry of Karachi University.

Dr Chowdhury pioneered the use of metric system in Pakistan and Bangladesh. He has also many publications on the subject.

He was buried at Banani graveyard. His Qul Khwani will be held on Tuesday after Asar Prayer at SE (D) 4, Road-137 Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

Monajatuddin's death condoled

Prof Jahan Ara Begum, State Minister for Cultural Affairs, yesterday condoled the tragic death of eminent journalist Monajatuddin, reports BSS.

In a message, Prof Jahan Ara said with his death, the country has lost a bright star in the field of journalism. He will be ever remembered for objective journalism, she said.

PR Assoc

Bangladesh Public Relations Association has expressed its deep sorrow at the sad demise of Monajatuddin.

Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Assoc

Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Association in a statement yesterday condoled the sad demise of noted journalist Monajatuddin. It also conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family. It urged the government to provide grant to the family of the deceased, says a press release.

GSS

The Gonoshahajya Sangstha (GSS) has condoled the death of Monajatuddin, says a press release.

Jatiyo League to participate in polls

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Jatiyo League (BJL) will contest the upcoming general election if a congenial atmosphere prevails in the socio-political arena in the country, said a press release of the BJL yesterday.

However, it said, 'it will not be possible to contest the election, if the law and order situation is not under control.'

At a party meeting on Wednesday, held with its convenor Iqbal Ansari Khan in the chair, BJL appealed to the political parties to uphold the value of democracy and fundamental rights of the people.

BPC photo contest results

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation yesterday announced the result of the photographic competition organised in observance of the Tourism Month '95, reports UNB.

Dr Rashidunnabi got the first prize, Shafigul Alam Kiron second and M Jamaluddin Chowdhury became third in the competition held here on December 26-27, said a press release.

Besides, five other photographs were awarded special prize. The winners are — Syed Zakir Hossain, Shafigul Alam Kiron, Ibrahim Mohammad Iqbal, Dr Rashidunnabi and Abir Abdullah.

Radio station to be set up at Trade Fair

Radio Bangladesh is setting up a temporary FM broadcasting station at the Dhaka International Trade Fair beginning tomorrow, reports UNB.

A mobile FM transmitter, procured recently from abroad, will put out special entertainment musical programmes from the fair ground every day between 5 pm and 9 pm from January 2. It can be heard on FM band 107.9 megahearts over 60 km around Dhaka.



Jatiya Party activists enforced a sit-in on the Mohakhali main thoroughfare during the opposition-called road-rail barricade programme yesterday.

— Star photo

What's on today....

Dhaka Sarak drama weeks: The drama group Dhaka Sarak has arranged a five-day drama festival marking the 200 years of Bengal drama. The inaugural rally will be held today. Venue: DU TSC.

Titas Apparels Workers Union: A press conference of the union will be held. Venue: 22/A, Topkhana Road. Time: 5 pm.

UNAB: The United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) has arranged a function on the concluding day of its year-long festival. Venue: Furbani Hotel. Time: 5:30pm.

BMSPP press conference: Bangladesh Manobadhikar Samonny Parishad has arranged a press conference on law and order situation and human rights condition of the country. Venue: BMSPP office, Lahmatia. Time: 11 am.

47th Int'l Film Festival '95: Three films will be screened today on the concluding day of the festival, organised by the Rainbow Film Society. The Korean film 'Smile of Love' at 9:30 am, Bangladesh film 'Jesus 71' at 11:30 am, French film 'For Clemence' at 2 pm and the closing ceremony at 5 pm. Venue: Public Library auditorium.

GCC award ceremony: A special cultural programme and prize giving ceremony have been arranged to bid farewell to 1995. Venue: German Cultural Centre (open to invitees only).

ADAB press confce: The Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) has arranged a press conference on the eve of a rally for destitutes. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time: 5 am.

Ctg Samity : The installation ceremony of newly elected executive council of the Chittagong Samity will be held. Venue: Chattagram Bhaban 32, Topkhana Road. Time: 4 pm.

Screening of 'Mukrir Gaan': The feature film 'Mukrir Gaan' will be screened. Venue: Engineers' Institution auditorium. Time: 12:30, 3, 5 and 7 pm.

Cultural function: Cultural Department of Embassy of the Russian Federation jointly with Gorky Theatre, Sergei Bondarchuk Film Club and Serov Academy of Fine Arts has arranged a cultural programme to celebrate the New Year-1996. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre. Time 5:30 pm.



Numerous stalls being created at the 2nd International Trade Fair, beginning in the city Tuesday.

Weather

Light rain at Rajshahi likely

Light rain or drizzle is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi division and the regions of Kushtia, Tangail and Mymensingh in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country with partly cloudy sky over the regions of Jessore, Faridpur, Dhaka, Comilla and Sylhet.

Night temperature is likely to rise by 1-2 degrees Celsius across the country.

In its outlook for subsequent two days Met Office forecast marked fall in night temperature. Giving extended outlook for another five days weathermen predicted little change.

Country's lowest temperature 10.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Srimangal and Dinajpur while the highest 27.2 degrees at Chittagong.

The sun sets today at 5:22 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:41 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	27.0	21.8	77	71
Chittagong	27.2	14.0	80	73
Rajshahi	25.5	14.0	85	73
Khulna	26.0	12.4	92	-

Uttara Ladies Club executives

Jahanara Islam has been elected uncontested as president of the 12-member executive committee of Uttara Ladies Club for 1996-97, reports UNB.

The election to the new EC was held at the Club in the city Friday.

Other members of the committee are: Tahera Rashid, Rasheda Ahsan, Isme Ara Hanif, Rokhsana Alam, Afroza Sobhan, Itrat Ara, Nurunnahar Kader, Nurjahan Kader, Suraiya Huq, Rokeya

Labour Court Bar Assoc executives

A fifteen-member executive committee of the Labour Court Bar Association, Dhaka, has been elected recently for the year 1996, reports BSS.

Advocate Md. Khalilur Rahman and Advocate SA Haq were elected president and general secretary respectively of the association.

Happy Birthday (31-12-95)

to **ABBU**



SHAH DIDARUL ALAM from Tanim, Tanji, Taman, Ammu, Uncles, Aunts, Cousins & Obviciously All Guitar Lovers

PLAYERS GOLD LEAF

A TASTE APART.

GOLD LEAF