

Metropolitan

**Dhaka Day by Day**

**Giving Jamdani a Chance**

by S M S Joya

Jamdani is a unique form of art in the cottage industry of Bangladesh. Revolutionising from the legendary Muslim era way back in the time of the Mughals, the artistry of Jamdani is one majestic continuation of our culture that is well recognised around the globe today.

According to historians of this magnificent artistry was used even two thousand years ago. Some believe that it was practised even before that. However, the craft was at its peak during the period of the great Mughals.

During that time, the industry developed around the outskirts of Dhaka city — at Nayapara, Demra, Tarabo, Rupganj, Shiddhirganj and Sonargaon. Despite the subsequent decline of the industry at different times, the tradition has survived.

Bangladesh Tant Board recently organised a Jamdani exhibition at Shilpakala Academy.

Starting from December 24, 1995, the week-long exhibition displayed a variety of Jamdani sarrees with vivid floral designs in traditional geometric forms known as 'Jamdani Kaj'.

The 14 participants to take part in this gala exhibition are Arannya Crafts, Aarong, Kanishko, Karika, Tangail Saree Kutir, and Reshmi, Nipun, Pallob, Probertona, Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, Jamdani Saree Kutir, Bonoj Bornaal, Bhushan and Sarafa. The efforts of these organisations have always contributed greatly to developing the craftsmanship of the workers. However, the decline in the artistic quality of Jamdani was greatly felt by Bangladesh Tant Board who sponsored the show.

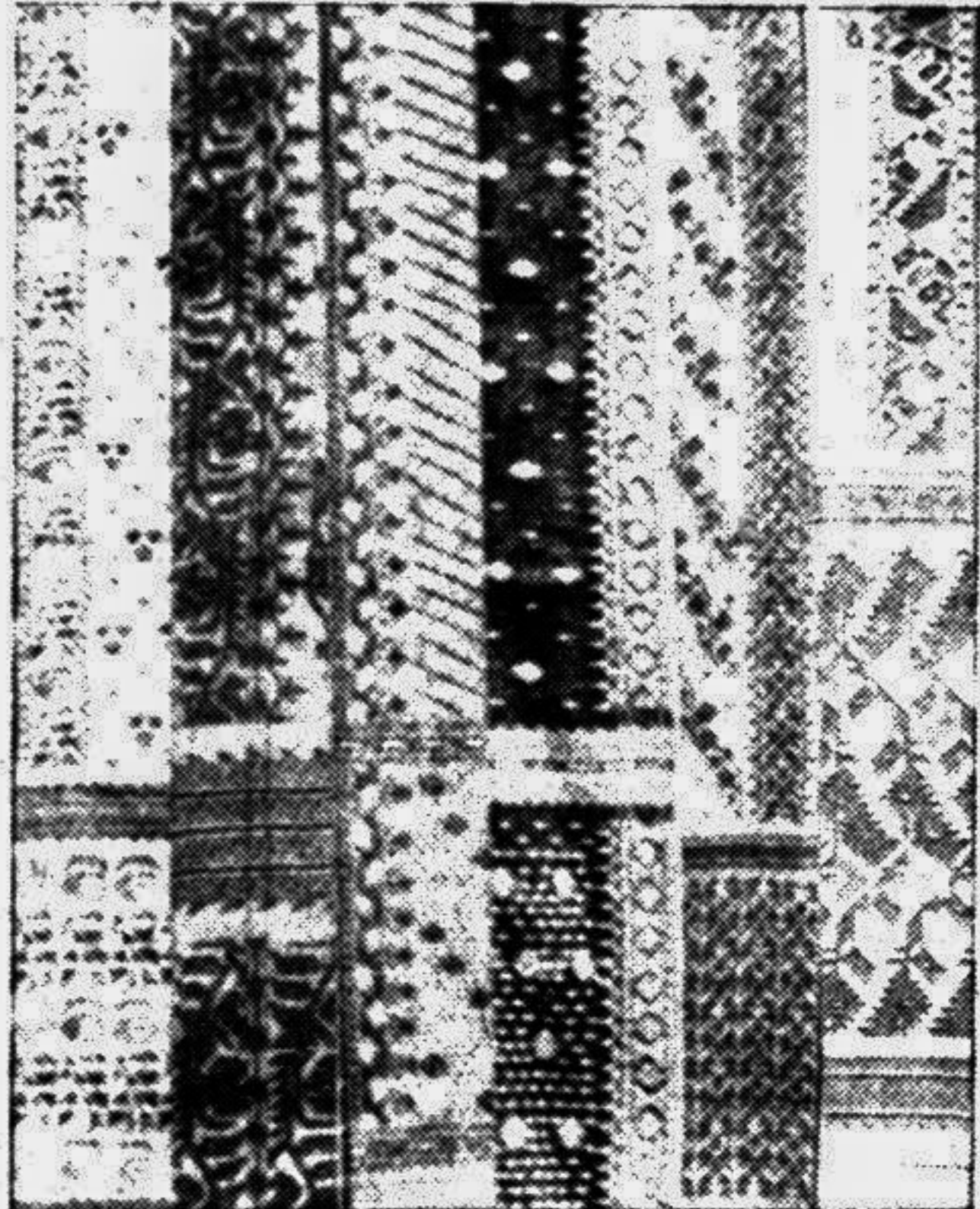
A study brought out by Bangladesh Tant Board shows that there are 3,000 units in the country where 14,000 weavers work on 5,000 looms only. The annual production cost being 50 crore is too much to bear for the local weavers.

Since the quality of local raw materials is poor, the weavers, as the available study suggests have to depend upon imported ones. As a result, the price, including the custom duties and vats borne by importers, of the products turn out to be too high. The price of a product also depends on the total time taken to produce the material. Two people usually have to work together on each saree. It may take 7 days to 3 months to make a single saree. The longer is the period the higher the price. The price-range varies between Tk 700 to Tk 2,000.

The interesting thing is that this remarkable work is done entirely by people who have no professional training or technical orientation. They acquire the knowledge from their ancestors. It is an uncompromising heritage that now lacks proper training and adequate support.

Given the right kind of support from the government as well as individual institutions, the industry can flourish and earn a sizeable amount of foreign currency.

Although, Jamdani is mainly believed to be a different type of saree, the traditional material is greatly used in men's and women's wares as well as in decorations such as wall mats. The aristocracy of Jamdani always was and always will be a never-say-no trend in the fashion world of Bangladesh. In this regard, it is our responsibility to nurture this grandeur accordingly.



**What's on today . . .**

**BUET workshop:** The workshop on 'Coastal Engineering and Coastal Zone Management' will be jointly organised by the Dept of Water Resources Engineering, BUET and BUET-DUT University Linkage Project. Venue: Seminar room, Civil Engineering Building, BUET. Time: 9 am. Chief guest: Prof M Shahjahan, Vice Chancellor, BUET.

**Rotary Club of Dhanmondi:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Shanghai Chinese Restaurant. Time: 2pm.

**Film Show:** The movie, "Muktir Gan", based on documentaries on the War of Liberation, will be screened. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 12:30 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

**SAIC seminar:** Agricultural secretary M Akhtar Ali will inaugurate the seminar. Venue: BARC conference room.

**. . . . . and tomorrow**

**Surer Dhara:** The body will present the musical drama 'Kal Mrigaya' by Rabindranath Tagore. Venue: Shilpakala Academy auditorium. Time : 6:30 pm.

**Remembering comrade Haq**

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a condolence meeting yesterday stressed the need for the evaluation of the life and ideology of veteran communist leader Abdul Haq.

The meeting organised by the funeral committee of Abdul Haq was held at the TSC road island with MA Karim in the chair. It was addressed by Abdul Matin Khan, Dr T Ali, Prof Ahmed Sharif, Prof Badruddin Umar, Prof Hamida Rahman, Prof Abul Kasem Fazul Haq.

Comrade Abdul Haq, 75, died on December 22 after a prolonged illness.

The meeting began with the communist anthem and recitation of a poem dedicated to Haq.

Dr Ahmed Sharif said over the last few years when the leftists became ideological deserters, Abdul Haq stood by his commitment to the ideals he believed in.

Prof Badruddin Umar said the veteran leader was uncompromising.

Prof Abul Kasem Fazul Haq said that before he went into hiding comrade Haq enjoyed political freedom for only four or five years.

**New books**

The Muktohdara publishing house has published two new books on the fourth day of Dhaka Book Fair '96, says a press release.

The books are *Apnar Kushol* (Your Weal) by Dr Shubhagato Chowdhury and *Biponno valobasa* (Love in Peril) by Subir Saha.

**Happy Birthday**



to  
**Mahreen Samar**  
(date-7-1-96)  
with best wishes  
from  
**Abbu, Ammu,  
Apu, Bhaiu**

**CU exams rescheduled**

Chittagong University (CU) authorities have partially rescheduled some examinations of different departments of the university due to unavoidable circumstances, reports UNB.

The MSS 2nd paper preliminary examination of Political Science (1993) will be held on January 14 instead of January 9.

The MSc 4th paper examination of Mathematics preliminary (1993) has been shifted from January 9 to January 11 while the B.Com honours viva-voce (1993) of Management Department will be held on January 13 to 16 from 10 am to 5 pm every day.

The third year degree honours examinations of 1993 of Economics 8th paper, Accounting 9th paper, Mathematics (ADC) 9th paper, Botany 9th paper, Philosophy 9th paper and Chemistry 11th paper will be held on January 27. The examination of Physics (307 course) will be held on January 31.

The 3rd paper MA final year examination of 1992 of Philosophy department has been sifted from January 8 to January 10 while 3rd paper MA preliminary examination of 1993 of the same department will be held on January 11 instead of January 9.

The examination of external examinees of M Com final year of 1992 and M Com preliminary course of 1993 of 5th paper Finance have also been shifted to January 10 from January 8.

If the examinations, cannot be held on the rescheduled date for any unavoidable reason, then it will be held on January 11.

Arabic (KA and KHA) 1st paper preliminary examinations of 1993 of Arabic and Islamic Studies Departments will be held on January 11 instead of January 9.

**Obituary**



Fr Charles Gillespie, Professor of History at Notre Dame College, died of a heart attack at a city clinic yesterday. He was 72, says a press release.

The body of the deceased will be kept at the Holy Cross Church in Laksmi Bazar today in the morning. His funeral will take place at the Holy Rosary Church in Tejgaon on the same day at 3:30 pm.

**Death condoled**

By Staff Correspondent

Police officials in a meeting at the police head quarters in the city Wednesday condoled the death of Binoy Bhushan Dhaly, the commanding officer of Fourth Armed Police battalion in Chittagong.

Dhaly died at the Chittagong Medical College Hospital on December 28. He was 49. He left behind his mother, wife and two daughters.

**WANTED**  
A short-term Site Supervisor to be appointed immediately by an International Organization for its new office work. A diploma civil engineer with at least 5 years experience in site supervision. Experience of interior work supervision, especially office interiors, preferred. Exposure to site work with extensive electrical installations would be useful. Must have knowledge of layout checking and concrete/mortar quality control required. Please contact Telephone No. 504175 (between 0900 to 1700 hours) on 6 & 7 January 1996. D-27

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Office of registrar may be contacted for admission-processing.  
Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan, Vice-Chancellor, (IUBAT)  
House-135, Road-9A, (Old 19), Dhanmondi Residential Area, GPO Box-2857, Dhaka-1000, Tel: 816064, 816074, Fax: 880-2-810494.

**দি সিটি ব্যাংক লিমিটেড**  
জনসন রোড শাখা, আজিজ সেন্টার, ৩১, জনসন রোড, ঢাকা-১১০০  
**নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি**  
'বেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে' ভিত্তিতে ব্যাংকের অর্থ শাখায় নিয়ে বর্ণিত মালামাল বিক্রয়ের জন্য আর্থিক ক্রেতাদের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। মালামাল পরিদর্শন ও বিস্তারিত বিবরণের জন্য নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী বা শাখার সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বিভাগের সাথে অফিস চলাকালীন সময় যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে। দি সিটি ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর অনুকূলে দরপত্রে উল্লিখিত মূল্যের ৫% আর্নেস্টম্যানি সহ (অকৃতকার্যতার কেবলমুদ্রা) যে কোন তফসিলী ব্যাংকের ডিডি/পিও এর মাধ্যমে ১৫/০১/৯৬ তারিখে ১২-০০ ঘটিকার ভিতর দরপত্র শাখায় পৌছাতে হবে। ঐ দিনই বেলা ৩-০০ টার সময় দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ থাকে) খোলা হবে। যে কোন দরপত্র আংশিক বা সম্পূর্ণ গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা কোন কারণে প্রদর্শন ব্যতিরেকেই ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে। দরপত্র অনুমোদনের তারিখ থেকে ১৫ (পনের) দিনের মধ্যে কৃতকার্য দরপত্র দাতাকে অবশ্যই ৯৫% টাকা জমা করে মালামাল জেলিভারী নিতে হবে অন্যথায় জামানতের টাকা বাজেয়াপ্ত হয়ে যাবে।

|   |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
| দাতকের নাম ও ঠিকানা   | মালামালের বিবরণ, সংখ্যা, প্রকৃতির নাম                            | মালামালের অবস্থান   |
| সিএন-২০/৯৪<br>সেন্টার বিইপেপ ইন্টারন্যাশনাল<br>মাসিক : জুনাব মাহবুব রহমান<br>৯, এইচ, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা। | বাইবেলিক্যাল মাইক্রোসকোপ ৩ টি<br>মডেল/এম, বিএম/ ২০০০<br>জার্মানি | ৩১, জনসন রোড, ঢাকা। |

স্বাক্ষর : আবু তাবেক খান  
এসিএসটিআই জাইস প্রেসিডেন্ট

**RECKITT COLMAN**  
BANGLADESH  
**CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS**  
This is to draw the attention of all concerned that all our analogue telephones have been converted to digital ones. Changes are as shown below:

|                     |             |             |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                     | New Numbers | Old Numbers |
| PABX Number Office- | 681404      | 210962      |
| -do-                | 681405      | 211395      |
| -do-                | 681406      | 212136      |
| -do-                | 681407      | 210447      |

58/59, Nasirabad Industrial Area  
Chittagong-4209, Bangladesh.

**Biswas' solo expo tomorrow**  
The two-day first solo exhibition of Md. Jalal Uddin Biswas will begin in the city tomorrow, says a press release.  
Noted artist Hashem Khan will inaugurate the exhibition, held at 60/B, Narinda Road at 4 pm.  
The show will remain open from 4pm to 8 pm everyday.  
**165 held**  
Police rounded up 165 people on various charges from different parts of the city in the last 24 hours till 6 pm yesterday, reports UNB.

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