

Dhaka Day by Day

Kadam's Special Appeal

by A S M Nurunnabi

The botanical name for Kadam Phool doesn't matter much as a liking for the flower is perhaps ingrained in Bengalee psyche, which finds eloquent expression particularly in the rainy season. The refrain of the Tagore song 'Badal din pratham Kadam Phool' (the first Kadam Phool of the rainy season) enjoys immense popularity among those who like Tagore songs. The onset of the monsoon reminds those of us who harbour romantic feelings of the lush blooming of Kadam Phool.

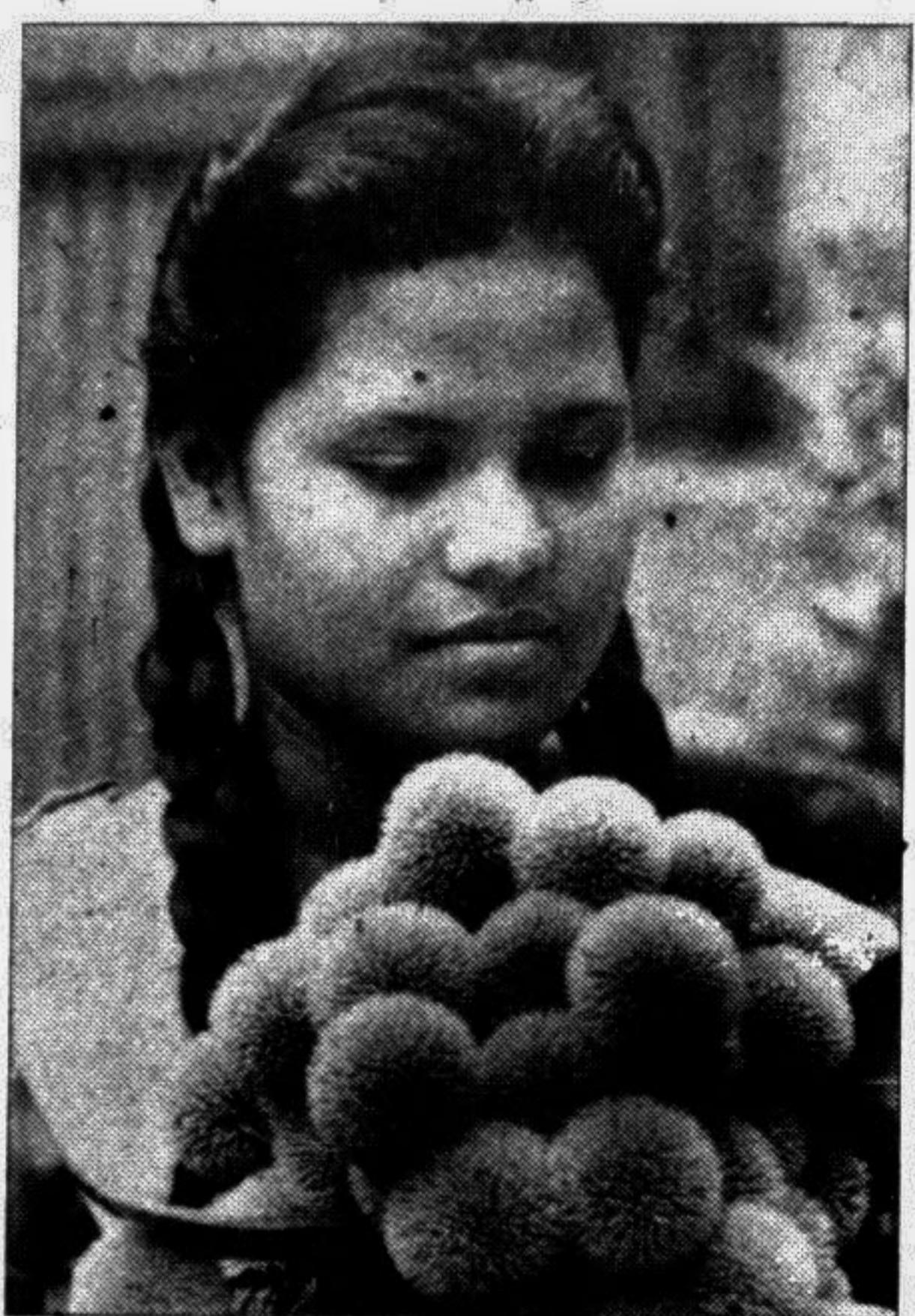
The reason for the scarcity of Kadam trees in Dhaka city is understandable. Yet quite a few of them are here and there to provide our eyes and minds with a feast of colour and beauty. There may be isolated existence of some of them at the Baldah Gardens, Mirpur Botanical garden and the Rajendrapur Botanical garden. But it seems to be a matter for concern that Kadam tree seems to have been caught up in the process of extinction as a botanical species in our country where it enjoys universal popularity.

Kadam's mythical association dates back to the days of lord Krishna. Radha and Krishna had in most part their leela (romance on a higher plane) enacted under Kadam trees. Not surprisingly both Tagore and Nazrul suggest to hang a jhulana (traditional swing) from a Kadam tree. But only a fool will swing from the softest of trees. In our city life, we now notice a growing interest in flowers for various occasions. That is why we see a proliferation of flower shops all over the city. Even on footpaths and road crossings, we find a host of flower vendors. But it strikes me that among the many kinds of flowers sold, mainly *rajangi*, there is a conspicuous absence of Kadam Phools. The reason seems to be obvious: there isn't enough supply of that kind of flowers and perhaps the new generation who are

the largest customers of these flowers are oblivious of the charm of Kadam Phool. The Kadam Phool has a charm of its own, with a light yellow outer cover with a thick layer of soft and short bristles, white in colour. Its round shape with such colour combination imparts to it a kind of exotic beauty, adding to the tremendous variety of attractive native flowers.

A friend once commended that roses have their distinct place in the world of flowers, but how many of us can really appreciate the beauty of a Kadam Phool. In the cycle of seasons, there will be rainy seasons but the way Kadam trees are getting lost in the denudation process all over the country, a time may come when a Kadam Phool will be an object of preservation in some select areas. One reason why, as some suggested, the tree is losing popularity as a source of income is that its wood structure is so brittle that it is incapable of being used for purposes of furniture, except for purposes of fuel and match stick making in factories.

The lyric of the Tagore song will remain and with it our acquaintance with this kind of flower during the rainy season. The romantic among us will continue to seek it as a memento of love and respect for the adorable. But there is no doubt that the tropical flower stands for an aspect of our own culture untrammelled by any foreign influence. It is not known if there is Kadam Phool in similar tropical environment elsewhere and whether it enjoys the same kind of liking as felt by our people. Our love for it as expressed in the popular Tagore song will be a source of eternal joy, irrespective of whether the Kadam tree will become an extinct botanical species in the days to come.



The charm of Kadam is irresistible. — Star photo



A colourful rally was brought out by students and teachers of the Dhaka Medical College on the inaugural day of the golden jubilee celebrations of the college in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Golden jubilee celebrations

Role of DMC in advancing medicare lauded

Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf yesterday lauded the role of Dhaka Medical College (DMC) teachers and students in advancing the standard of medicare and health services in the country, reports BSS.

Addressing the inaugural function of golden jubilee celebrations of the Dhaka Medical College as the chief guest, the minister said the role of the students of this institution in the 1952 language movement, in the 1962 mass upsurge, during the War of Liberation, in the mass movement of 1990 and in the recent movement for restoration of voting rights, would always be remembered by the nation. He also paid tribute to Dr Rabbi and Dr Ali of the medical college, among others, who had embraced martyrdom during the Liberation War in 1971.

Presided over by DMC principal Prof M A Hadi, the function was addressed, among others, by Brigadier Zahiruddin, Director, DMC Hospital, Prof Nazmunnahar, secretary-general of the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee. Dr Kazi Shahidul Alam, secretary general of BMA, Tawhidul Islam, vice president of the DMC Students' Union and Col Borhanuddin Ahmed, a former DMC principal, as the special guest. Hundreds of DMC students and teachers, past and present also attended the function.

Salahuddin Yusuf called upon the students and the teachers to further upgrade their services. He said the present government seeks every support from all quarters to render medicare services to the doorsteps of the people. In this context, he said, the concept of 'health for all' was first conceived by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Brigadier Zahiruddin said that the college, which began its journey in 1946 with only three doctors and 40 staff, now has 500 doctors and 6000 employees including nurses. He said a total of two thousand patients are being treated every day in the hospital.

After the inaugural function, a colourful rally was brought out from the DMC campus. Students and teachers participated in the rally, which terminated at the Jatiya Press Club.



Mir Shawkat Ali, city unit chief of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal (BNP) leaving the CMM court in the city yesterday after being granted extension of bail in the Shahabuddin murder case. Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia is on his right. — Star photo

Weather

Moderate rainfall likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says day temperature may remain nearly unchanged across the country.

In its outlook for subsequent two days weathermen predicted little change. Giving extended outlook for another five days Met Office forecast increase in rainfall activities.

Meantime, Sylhet experienced the highest 50 mm rain in the last 12 hours till 6 am yesterday. Rangpur had 21 mm shower during the period.

Country's highest temperature 34.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Khulna yesterday and the lowest 22.7 degrees at Kutubdia.

The sun sets today at 6.49 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.19 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	32.6	27.5
Chittagong	33.3	26.7
Rajshahi	32.8	25.8
Khulna	34.0	26.0
Barisal	33.2	26.0
Sylhet	28.0	24.4
Cox's Bazar	32.0	25.5
		78
		79
		69
		81
		98
		72

DU 'Gha' unit test results published

The 'Gha' unit results for admission to 1st year honours (1995-96 session) of Dhaka University were published yesterday, reports UNB.

The interviews of arts, commerce and science candidates will be held at the time and venue given below as per merit order:

1-200 (Arts)	July 15 from 9.00 am
1-200 (Commerce)	July 15 from 3.00 pm
1-300 (Science)	July 16 from 9.00 am
301-400 (do)	July 16 from 3.00 pm
401-600 (do)	July 17 from 9.00 am
601-800 (do)	July 17 from 3.00 pm

The candidates have been asked to bring their original copies of SSC and HSC mark-sheets, admit cards of the admission test, and two copies of photographs for the interview, said a Dhaka University press release.

Meanwhile, the university authorities have rescheduled the admission test programme for Bachelor of Education of IER (1996 session) due to unavoidable circumstances.

According to the fresh schedule, the admission test will be held at 10.00 am on July 26 instead of July 19, the press release said.

The APSU will also stage a sit-in in front of the Vice Chancellor's (VC) office July 15 to press home the demand.

The 26 ICS activists were arrested from campus July 1 following an abortive ICS bid to capture one of the dormitories of the university.

Meanwhile, the authorities have served showcase notices to all the 26 students, now in Dhaka Central Jail, asking for reply by July 21.

'Govt to initiate liberal policies to attract FDI'

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman said in the city yesterday that the government would initiate more liberal and realistic steps to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the country.

The local government minister said Bangladesh had an ideal environment for investment among the countries of the South Asian region.

Zillur Rahman made these remarks while talking to the South Korean ambassador to Bangladesh Jong Kyon Byun who called on him at his office.

He said the cooperation between Bangladesh and South Korea could be expanded through enhanced Korean investment in different productive sectors, specially in energy and export-oriented industries as well as expansion of trade and commerce.

The Korean ambassador underlined the importance of increase economic ties between the two countries and said Korean investment in Bangladesh will increase with the setting up of different industries in Savar and Chittagong export processing zones by the investors of his country.

D-722

AHSANULLAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

20, West Testuri Bazar Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.

NOTICE FOR TENDER

The University will procure 23 pentium computer (BRAND) with printer, UPS cum voltage stabiliser and accessories. Sealed offers with Photo Copy of original paper regarding dealership/sole agent/reseller etc. are invited by the University and will be received up to 12:00 noon of 25th July, 1996. It will be opened on the same day at 12:30 pm. in front of the tenderers present.

Schedule with specification and terms and conditions will be available in the office of the University during working hours at a cost of Tk. 200/- from 16th July, 1996.

Dr. M. H. Khan
Vice Chancellor

Job Opportunity

A Dhaka-based reputed research organisation invites application for the following positions:

PROGRAMME OFFICER — The candidate should have research experience including a master's in Social science. Computer literacy (including word processing) would be an added advantage. The candidate should be able to work in a multi-disciplinary environment, should possess excellent presentation skills, including clear and concise writing abilities, and a pleasant personality. The candidate is expected to work under deadline and the position has growth potential. Women are encouraged to apply.

COMPUTER OPERATOR — Graduate and good working knowledge of word processing and desk top publishing. Salary commensurate with experience. Women are encouraged to apply.

Please apply to Executive Director, C/o: The Daily Star, Box # D-708, Dhaka with 1 recent photograph and a CV including two references by July 15, 1996.

Rajshahi University
Wanted

Advertisement No-25/96

Dated: 6-7-96

Applications are invited from Bangladesh nationals for filling up 1 (One) permanent post for Assistant Professor/Lecturer and 2 (two) temporary Assistant Professor/Lecturer (Leave Vacancy) in the Department of Finance & Banking.

Scale of Pay:

Assistant	Tk. 4800-175-7250/-	Plus usual allowance
Professor	Tk. 2850-125-3725-EB-130-5755/-	
Lecturer		

Forms and particulars regarding qualification requirements may be obtained from the office of the Registrar by sending a self-addressed envelope with requisite postage of Tk. 4/-.

9 (nine) copies of application forms duly filled in along with attested copies of certificate of all examinations passed together with application fee of Tk. 80/- in Bank Draft (non-refundable) in favour of the Registrar, Rajshahi University must reach the undersigned on or before 6-8-96.

Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel. Incomplete application will be rejected without any reference.

Registrar-In-Charge
Rajshahi University

EVERGREEN

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES/SHIPPERS

FEEDER VESSEL M. V. FONG LEE VOY 9615 IMP. ROT NO. 608/96 IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE CHITTAGONG OUTER ANCHORAGE ON OR ABOUT 11.07.1996 WITH EVERGREEN CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE EX FOLLOWING VESSELS:

VESSEL	PORT	VESSEL	PORT
AKA BHUM	PORT KELANG	LAMPHUN NAVEE	LEAM CHABANG
6611		0754-015	
B. SHIKHA	LEAM CHABANG	NUOVA TRIESTE	KAOHSIUNG
0753-052		0113-015W	
BUNGA MAS EMPAT	PORT KELANG	UNI-ONWARD	BELAWAN
6347		0404-020B	
UNI-FORWARD	PASIR GUDANG	PANCON 3	JOHOR
0500BS-090		3185NA	
E. GATHER	HAKATA	E. REPUTE	CHARLESTON
0114-067W	KAOHSIUNG	0680RW-004	HONG KONG
	NAGOYA		KAOHSIUNG
	QINGDAO		MOJI
	VANCOUVER		OSAKA
			PUSAN
			SHANGHAI

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO CLEAR THEIR CARGOES IMMEDIATELY ON DISCHARGE. CARGOES UNCLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE ARRIVAL DATE OF THE VESSEL WILL BE DISPOSED WITHOUT ANY REFERENCE TO THE CONSIGNEES, AS PER CUSTOM RULES.

M. V. FONG LEE VOY 9616 WILL ALSO LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO. 594/96 FOR SINGAPORE FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO U. S. A. EAST & WEST COASTS, EUROPEAN, U. K. & MEDITERRANEAN PORTS.

PLEASE CONTACT OUR BANGLADESH AGENTS:
BSLL Baridhi Shipping Lines Limited

(A HRC COMPANY)

DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	KHULNA

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