

Student Politics: The Problem of Stakes

by Chandra Shekhar Das

THE memory of a reasonably healthy atmosphere in the educational campuses has become quite hoary now for the sheer length of the reign of factionalism, terrorism, and violence.

In the conquest of Troy, these male militias entered the college campus in burnouses to provide the decisive element in the battle of political supremacy in another educational institution.

The trouble at Eden College is the unfolding of a nastier shade of the unflatteringly vitiated milieu of our educational institutions. The dormitories of Dhaka University have long been the dens of the armed activists of student fronts of political parties.

key. The process of extending the acres of new allegiance is going on unabated making a mockery of the government vow to stamp out power politics from universities.



Eden College: The old style of female bellicosity.

what happened on Thursday leading to Eden College's dubious distinction as the newest addition in the list of academies closed since die in a spate of shut-downs owing to escalating tension recently, was simply frightening.

organisation of the now out of power BNP and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) the student front of the ruling Awami League. Although JCD has had its undisputed sway in keeping the control of the halls of residence of almost all the institutions including Dhaka University, the return of Awami League to the heart of the executive power of state after 21 years heralded an automatic reinvigoration of its student front Chhatra League.

been unable to make the most of party's gain in the June 12 elections is waging a campaign of subversion to take revenge of the loss of personal cause. Unless these elements are dealt with severely, the calls of crusade against violence on campus will largely remain as sound and fury signifying nothing.

Yes, No, May be Pakistan Considers the Test Ban Options

Shakil Shaikh from Islamabad

The Pakistan government is treading a difficult line in international negotiations to thrash out a treaty banning nuclear tests. It does not want to be seen as spoiling the party, but it cannot afford to be seen as losing out to India in the regional arms race.

WHILE the Pakistan Government stays its hand over whether or not to sign the international nuclear test ban treaty, opposition leaders and retired military officers have been pressing for an unequivocal 'No'.

More awkwardly for Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Government, so, too, has the father of the country's nuclear programme, Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan.

We neutralised India's overwhelming conventional superiority and the nuclear threat by achieving nuclear capability but it would all have been futile if we were to now sign CTBT unilaterally.

His words on matters nuclear are considered definitive by many Pakistanis. Islamabad's traditional position is that it would never sign the treaty unless and until India did. In the current round of CTBT negotiations in Geneva, India has been refusing to sign.

Despite New Delhi's position, the Pakistan Government, keen to avoid the opprobrium of the United States and other major powers, has not issued an outright rejection.

We will have to see the shape and form the treaty finally takes. We have some concerns which must be removed. Ambassador Munir Akram told the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

other places, at the quarters of the low ranking government employees at areas like Azimpur. Of late even the dorms for girls have been used as the unlikely hiding places for weapons. People familiar with the arms cycle in the university would even suggest the involvement of intelligence personnel in the past to enhance the prospect of a particular party. Compared to this, the traditional softness of the law-enforcing agency towards the student front of the party in power pales out in insignificance.

However it is not the comparative hugeness of monstrosity which is at the core of the problem in the educational institutions. The fact is our politicians have too many stakes in student politics. If they are at all serious about what they say or, for that matter, if the country's people and future is of any consequence to them, they should pull these stakes immediately and place them in the welfare of people.

Higher and Tertiary Education in Australia

by Hedayat Ahmed

STUDENT mobility is the driving force to the globalisation of education. It is estimated that by the year 2000 there would be 2.8 billion students around the world studying outside their countries — more than half of them from Asia.

Presently, USA is the greatest provider of higher and tertiary education in the world. The situation is likely to change if the Simson Bill which went before the Congress some six months back is eventually passed by the legislature. The bill seeks to enforce restrictions on use of federal, state or local funds for the benefit of non-immigrant foreign students and limiting the duration of stay of foreign students in USA.

This restriction will be partially offset by liberal enrolment policy for overseas students in Australia. At present, there are about 80,000 full fee paying overseas students in Australian secondary and posts secondary institutions, of

whom about 46,000 are in universities. This number is unlikely to reach more than 100,000 in the next 15 years with the largest number coming from India and China.

This is because Australian institutions are recognised and respected members of the international academic community. Australian education system is of a very high standard and its degrees, diplomas and other awards receive worldwide recognition. Australia offers a safe, secure and multi-cultural environment renowned for making overseas students feel at home.

The majority of international students in Australia are paying full-fee. Living and tuition cost compare favourably with other developed countries having a similar standard of education. There are 38 universities in Australia — all but two are publicly — funded. The enrolment varies between 3 and 30 thousand students and annual tuition fees for undergraduate courses between US\$5500 and US\$ 23,000. Likewise, the cost of living in Australia can be variable, based on choice of city or town ranging between US\$ 7500 and US\$ 9000. All these universities maintain uniform academic standard closely monitored by the state.

Apart from formal university education, Australia has developed a unique system for those who missed out the university education or want to study something that is not offered at a university. This alternative system popularly known as TAFE - Technical and Further Education — offers an opportunity to those who could not get the opportunity of formal education earlier or want to pursue life-long learning in spare time to improve skill or acquire new knowledge. There are about 200 TAFE colleges in Australia which makes alternative education appealing and much more accessible. These colleges offer qualifications, among other things in hotel management, travel and tourism, business studies, civil engineering, architecture, information technology, aviation, photography, advertising, public relations and marketing, food technology, fashion design and many more. Many tend to specialise in certain areas offering intensive training in a particular profession.

TAFE colleges offer associate diploma and diploma in major fields and certificates in minor fields. Depending on the preferred field of studies, a TAFE qualification can lead to university entrance and points earned in TAFE course can be awarded towards university degrees, thus making this field of education a stepping stone in the quest for higher academic qualification.

Australia has become a key player in international education in the last 10 years. With 80,000 international students, Australia's universities have become internationalised. This process of internationalisation has occurred across programme areas of International Student Programmes, Internationalisation of Teaching, Offshore and Distance Education, Technical Assistance and Training, International Research Links and International Student Support Services.

As a consequence of this dynamic policy all the Australian universities have entered into collaboration programme with such areas as students and staff

exchange, academic/research collaboration etc. Many universities of USA, UK and Europe, China, Japan and East Asia, ASEAN countries, Pacific Island countries, Latin America and India have joined in this net work. The total number of such formal links currently stand at 2215 with USA topping the list at 344, China 241, Japan 146, Indonesia 110 and Thailand 105. No university from Bangladesh has yet benefited from such association.

The University of Asia Pacific (UAP) a newly-established private university has recently finalised an academic collaboration programme with the University of New England, Armidale, NSW. Under the umbrella of this programme, UAP will award in Bangladesh UNE's bachelor degree in business administration following UNE's courses and curriculum. UNE will also offer placement to UAP students in the final year of the Degree programme at their campus at Armidale. It is expected that similar collaboration in other fields of study will follow in future.

The University of Asia Pacific is also planning to set up an English language training centre in association with the Australian Centre for Language of Sydney, one of the finest English language training establishments in Australia. The Bangladesh centre due to start functioning in 1997 will offer internationally-recognised English language courses for students, business executive, professionals, English language teachers and other target groups using most modern and up-to-date interactive teaching methods.

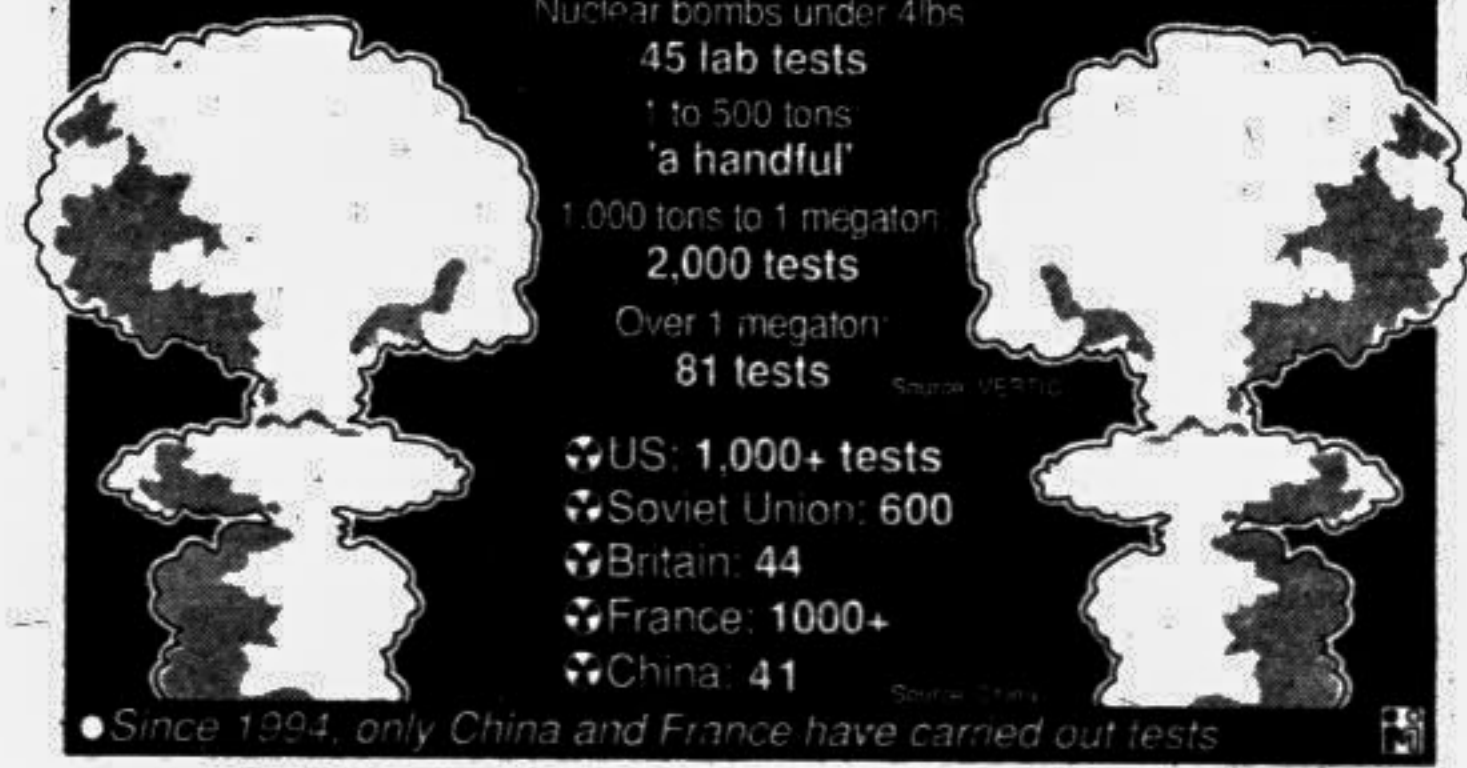
All of the Australia's universities are established under State or Territorial legislation. However, the Federal Government has complete financial responsibility for funding the public institutions. Since 1992, Australian universities have undergone an annual assessment of their quality assurance procedures. On the basis of these assessments, Federal Government funding worth \$ 210 million has been awarded to universities to focus on further quality assurance programmes.

The Australian Vice-chancellor's Committee is the apex organisation representing Australian higher education nationally and internationally. Its aim is to serve the best interests of universities and, through them, higher education, both nationally and globally. The AVCC carries out a coordinating role for the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) scheme, a programme intended to encourage students and staff exchange within the region.

Our perception of Australian education system is pitifully limited. While many countries' specially from Asia have benefited from this forward-looking education system of Australia, Bangladesh has fallen behind. The country should take advantage of this opportunity and initiate steps to improve its human potential through close linkage with Australia.

The writer, president of the University of Asia Pacific, recently visited Australia to promote academic collaboration between UAP and Australian universities. He is a former Secretary, Ministry of Education and a former Director of UNESCO Bangkok.

A testing time for the world



ments do not find many echoes at home.

The entire nation is united and unanimous that Pakistan should not ink the treaty," said Opposition leader and former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Sharif listed his four major conditions for signing as the meeting of all national security requirements and resolution of all security concerns; resolution of the Kashmir issue according to UN resolutions; settlement of all disputes with India; and the signing of a no-war pact between Pakistan and India.

Fourteen parties issued a joint communiqué at the end of July rejecting a unilateral signing of the treaty by Pakistan. The Opposition has alleged that Islamabad and Washington have a secret understanding that Pakistan will finally acquiesce.

Opposition politicians are also demanding a thorough parliamentary debate on the issue. Their stand increased pressure on Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who said, Pakistan would not like to become another Bosnia by adopting a unilateral stance on the nuclear and missile control issues, as Pakistan is a victim of four Indian aggressions in the past.

It is hard to believe that any responsible government would acquiesce... and agree to waive the condition of making India a signatory too," stated the Islamabad-based English daily The Nation.

Dr. Mubashir Hassan, a former Finance Minister and a close aide of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, counselled against signing the treaty. "I'm opposed to an explosion."

A former chief of the country's powerful Inter-Services Intelligence agency, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Hamid Gul, demanded that the President should stop the government from making a "suicidal shift" and signing the pact.

But following a meeting in Islamabad with the visiting US Ambassador to India, Frank Wisner, Foreign Minister Asf Ali Khan said that Pakistan would not block the finalisation of the treaty.

Some opinion formers are trying to use the possibility of Pakistani adherence to the treaty to obtain political benefits on other fronts.

"Pakistan's primary concern is its security, which is directly linked to the dispute with India on Kashmir," said The Nation. "If the world can find a way of resolving that, Pakistan may even consider living in the shadow of a nuclear power, that India is aiming to become, and sign the CTBT."

The US may not be able to see it now but it will perhaps find out that with the Kashmir problem out of the way, it will be far easier to persuade even India to sign the CTBT. — GEMINI NEWS

SHAKIL SHAIKH is senior correspondent with The News in Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Saturday 7th September (All programmes are in local time. We recommend programmes printed in bold. There may be changes in the programmes).

BTV 3:00pm Opening Announcement Al-Quran 3:10 Reflection from the Tripitak 3:15 Movie of the Week 4:00 News in Bangla 5:00 News in Bangla 5:25 Ban-shori: Folk Songs 6:00 News in Bangla 6:05 Angkar 6:30 Manar Mituara 7:00 News in English 8:00 News in Bangla 8:30 Mati-o-Manusit: Programme Based on Agricultural Development 9:00 Abhimat 10:00 News in English 10:30 Shasthakkatha : Health Programme 10:35 Drama Series: Dynasty 11:30 News in Bangla 11:35 Tomorrow's programme summary 11:40 Close down



Sirens On Star Plus Tonight at 9:30 PM

Sights 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Correspondent 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out: Airport 11:00 BBC World News 11:20 This Week 12:00am BBC World News 12:20 Whicker's World : A Taste of Spain 1:00 BBC World Headlines 1:05 Horizon 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld 3:00 BBC World News 3:25 Window On Europe 4:00 BBC World News 4:25 This Week 5:00 BBC World News 5:20 Whicker's World : A Taste of Spain

CHANNEL V 6:00am Frame by Frame 7:00 Rewind VJ Sophia 8:30 Frame by Frame 8:30 Asian Top 20 VJ Nonie 10:30 Big Bang Week-end VJ Alessandra 12:30 Bill Board US Countdown 2:30 The Ride VJ Trey 3:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 4:30 House Of Noise VJ Luke 5:30 [V] 1's 6:00pm Classic Rock 6:30 Classic Rock Cont 7:00 Top of the Pops 8:00 BPL Oyer 9:00 The Ticket 9:30 Palmolive Extra

Chipmunk Adventure PG (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Western: Cattle Empire 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Adventure: The Eagle Has Landed 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 2:30 Family: Who Has Seen The Wind? 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Comedy: Porridge 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Adventure: Slipstream (Hindi Subtitles) 9:00 Bol Bollywood 9:30 Globetrotting New Zealand: The Piano (Hindi Subtitles) 11:30 Action: Dominion 18 (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Fright Night: The Hidden II 18 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Comedy: Johnny Be Good 18 (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Thriller: Farewell My Lovely 18 (Hindi Subtitles)

ZEE TV 5:30 Surtal 6:00 The News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 ZED 8:30 All Out For No Loss 9:00 Bourvita Quiz Contest 9:30 Suno Bhai Sadhu 10:00 Ad Mad Show 10:30 Gaane Anjaane 11:00 Nafrat 11:30 Captain Cook Shahi Dawat 12:00 Phuff Top Ten 1:00 Tol Mai Ke Bol 1:30 Asian Sky Shop 2:30 Nitroka: Ashiana 3:00 Keya Scene Hai 3:30 Manas 4:00 TVS Sarangam 5:00 Aap Ki Pasand 5:30 Galaxee 6:00 Bee! Ke PG 6:30 Tumhara Lye 7:00 Zaika Ka Safar 7:30 Sur Taa! 8:00 Helpline 8:30 Maa 9:00 No Problem 9:30 Paribarant 10:00 Guldasta 10:30 The News 11:00 Ghoosia Aaina 11:30 HFF: Pran Jaayee Par Vachan Na Jaaye 1:30 Colgate Gel Yoodle 2:30 TMM 4:00 Gharonda 4:30 Through the Gears 5:00 Jagran

STAR PLUS 6:30am Voltron 7:00 Kids Movie Daniel Boone 8:00 Around the World in 80 Days 8:30 Count Duckula 9:00 Sabar Rider & The Star Sheriff 9:30 ZooLife With Jack Hanna 10:00 Katts & Dog 10:30 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea 11:30 The Wild Wild West 12:30noon Movie: The Night Has Eyes 2:30 E TV 3:00 The Wonder Years 3:30 Civil Wars 4:30 Hardcastle And McCormick 5:30 Fantasy Island 6:30pm Charlie's Angels 7:30 The Addams Family 8:00 The Simpsons 8:30 Baywatch 9:30 Sirens 10:30 L.A. Law 11:30 Code 3 12:00am COPS 12:30 Mystery Movies: B.L. Stryker 2:30 Movie: Chinese Cipher 4:30 Movie TV: 5:00 The Sullivan 5:30 Wild Wild West

STAR MOVIES 7:30am Thriller: When the Bough Breaks 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Family: The

che Man Ke 07:30 Ched Chad 08:30 Devotional 09:30 Tarane 10:30 Dear EL 11:00 Oriem Hit Thi Hi Hai 11:30 Karz 12:00 Teen Do Paanch 12:30 Fauji 1:00 Hit Pairs 2:00 Rajesh Khanna Special 3:00 V3 3:30 Ajnabi 4:30 Nulkad 5:00 Ka-nashi Combination 05:30 Mean Nasha Mein Hoye 6:00 Sharmi Kapoor Special 7:30 Upanyas 8:00 Mari Marzi 8:20 Haseen Pal 8:30 It's My Choice 9:00 Kam 9:30 Kal Bhi Aag Bhi 10:00 People's Club 10:30 Stand By 10:40 Liberty Public Demand 11:30 Teri Bhi Chup 12:00 Hee Hee Ha Ha



TOM and JERRY GO ON FELL-AS. I'M TOO SICK TO CHASE YOU. DIST. BY ASIA FEATURES

PTV 8:00am Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/Hamd/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Visitors Book 9:10 Phool Khushboo 9:25 Dastarkhwan 9:40 Mehman 10:05 Aap Ki Anwar Maqsood 10:30 English Film: Tarzan 10:55 Milli Naghma 11:00 Khabrain 11:10 Meri Pasand 11:35 Janun 12:55 Quran-E-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Grid 2:05 Lazwal Ep-42 2:55 Husool-e-Insaf & Sports Coaching 3:20 TV Encyclopedia 3:40 Sports Time 4:05



JAMES BOND I SHOULD'VE FINISHED YOU OFF BEFORE! FOR A SPLIT SECOND BOND AND SCARAMANGA GLIMPSE EACH OTHER ACROSS THEIR GUNSIGHTS. DRAWING BY MORAK

Daastakar 5:05 Medicine 5:25 Computers 6:20 Aou Courses 7:00 English News 7:20 PTV Music Library 7:30 Virsa Pakistan 7:55 Ghazal Uss Naye Saree 8:25 Dentionic World Of Sports 8:45 Anita 9:00 Break For Headlines News 10:00 Khabrainama & Commercial News 10:35 TBA 11:55 The Flash Point 1:05 Urdu Feature Film Khas Khabrain-Close Down



SONY ET 8:30am Kuch Dil Ne Kaha 9:00 Closed

DD 7 10:30 Janmadin 10:35 Movie Club Film : 1:00 Nirjan Dupes Premier Gaan Magazine 1:30 Nijer Sange Dekha 2:00 Prati-hingaha 2:30 Bandhu Chlie Bhalo 3:00 Kemon Aachen 3:30 Comedy Quiz 4:35 Movie Club Film : 5:00 Jishu 5:30 Nijer Sange Dekha 6:00 Nirjan Dupes Premier Gaan 6:30 Prathingaha 7:30 Nandanik 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Dhitang Dhitang Bole 8:30 UJALA-Surer Asar 9:00 TBA 9:25 Classical Music 10:00 Drama 10:30 News and Bengali Sambad