Dhaka Day by Day

An Elevating Evening with Kanthashilon

by Neil Ray

Of the varieties of performing art, poetry recitation sessions are a somewhat late introduction in the country. Finding its origin in the late 70's, it has by the time undergone an early flourish unmatched by most other forms of art and recreation. The proliferation of reciting societies and individual or group performances together with the release of cassettes give the impression that a new breed of poetry lovers is going to take society by the storm. Well, some of the enthusiasm is likely to be misdirected and misplaced.

There are, however, quite a few organisations genuinely devoted to the promotion of poetry and development of the art of reading poetry. Kanthashilon is one such organisation that began its journey with the aim of cultivating the skill of flawless pronunciation. Gradually that organisation has ventured to try its artistic touch at carrying literature through sound to the audience. Drama in poetry (kabya natok), vocal drama (shruti natok), conventional drama mention one and look it has left its distinctive mark almost everywhere. What is special about the organisation is that it never ceases to go for experiment and innovation.

Last week Kanthashilon arranged a recitation session where the cultural group once again gave a demonstration of its power and artistic skill. Altogether five artistes - two female and three male - performed at the British Council auditorium. It was an absorbing and elevating evening for all who attended there. All the performers recited five to six poems by poets ranging from the most familiar - such as Rabindranath and Jibanananda — to unfamiliar and less familiar names - one or two coming through translation. Some of the poems were a

revelation and the recitation punctuated by selected prose reading shows how thoughtful they all have been in their selection.

After a brief introduction by Waheedul Huq in which he particularly mentioned the rise of poetry and a generation of adorers against a background of degenerated youth culture sponsored by a political bankruptcy of the time i. e. starting in the late 70's and the insoluble controversy whether poetry is for lone or group recitation - the recitation began with Naila Tarannum Chowdhury Kakali performing first. If recitation's main purpose is to give expression to the words of a poem, Naila had the acting forte in her favour. So had Golam Sarwar, the last of the performers. In between them Ezazuddin Ahmed Shanto, Nafisa Kamal and Md Nasiruddin did them nothing particularly discrediting. Just one slip of a word which was retrieved immediately, for Shanto and some pronunciation problem with 'tomar' - soft't' sounded as strong 't' - and 'thos' (blame) pronounced as 'dos' for Nasiruddin in a session of about two hours are just the only blemishes.

On the plus side, all of them have scored heavily. Everyone of them had moments of excellence. But it was Nafisa whose recitation of a Sunil Gangopadhya poem rose to a level where the heart melts in tears and undergoes a spiritual baptism beyond religion. Each poem is a treasure trove awaiting a magical touch of an artist to divulge the hidden meaning in its true light - and perhaps shade. The performers of Kanthashilon did them justice not only by getting so many poems - some of them quite longish - by rote but also through an enviable expressive rendering.



Naila Ohowdhury in her performing mood.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Third Fisheries Project

Department of Fisheries, Matshya Bhaban Park Avenue, Ramna, Dhaka Memo No: TFP(Pro) 6597 Dated: 29 September, 1996

Reinvitation for International Bids

Lot No. 2F: Computers

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) in various currencies towards the cost of the Third Fisheries Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit will be applied to eligible payments under the contract (s) for which this Invitation for Bids is issued.

Sealed Bids are hereby invited from eligible Bidders from IDA member countries for the supply and delivery of eight (8) computers, eight (8) printers, two (2) scanner, three (3 fax/modem, fifteen (15) LAN card, one (1) set LAN accessories, eight (8) UPS systems, twelve (12) different type of software's and eight (8) sets of associated cables at Matshya Bhaban, Park Avenue, Ramna, Dhaka, also for installation at Dhaka, Faridpur, Khulna and Rajshahi and for training in Dhaka.

Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information in detail from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the Project Director, Third Fisheries Project, Room 605, Matshya

Bhaban, Dhaka, Bangladesh A complete set of Bidding Documents can be obtained by any

interested eligible Bidder on the submission of a written application to the undersigned for a non-refundable cash payment of Tk 2000/- (Tk two thousand) only from Room No. 605, Matshya Bhaban, Dhaka during normal office hours up to 20 October, 1996

Complete Bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2% (two per cent) of Total Bid Price in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/ Bank Guarantee and must be delivered to the above office on or before 12.00 Noon on 21 October, 1996

The bidder should have 5 (five) years experience in the field of supply, installation and maintenance of computer.

The local agent of any foreign bidder shall submit their

agentship certificate. The bidder shall submit work experience certificates from their employer(s) that they have experience of supply

computer and its accessories to the Govt or Semi-Govt organization at least 3 (Three) contracts of minimum value Tk 5 (Five) lakh each during last five years. The bidder shall submit original document(s) of agentship certificate and all the above experience certificates to

Department of Fisheries at least 5 (Five) days before the date on which they want to purchase the tender documents. Bids sent by post or other means must reach within the date and time stated above and postal or other delay for whatever reason shall not be considered.

Received Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for closing in the presence of Bidders representatives who choose to attend the office of the Project Director.

11. The Department of Fisheries does not bind itself to accepting the lowest Bid or to accept any Bid submitted in response to the Invitation for Bids.

Md S I Khan DFP-22077-1/10 Project Director G-1153 Third Fisheries Project

Biased distribution of load-shedding in city alleged

By Staff Correspondent Unplanned and disproportionate distribution of loadshedding in some parts of the city has aggravated miseries of

people in the recent weeks. The city experience around 30 MW power shortage during peak hours everyday.

The timing of load-shedding remains unpredictable in Dhanmondi, Elephant Road, Paltan. Malibag. Maghbazar. Mohammadpur and some other areas, according to residents of

The pattern of load-shedding is also disproportionate, the residents alleged. A resident of Elephant Road area pointed out that load-shedding always took place from Kataban Market to Bata Crossing but not in other part of the area

Similar complaints were also made by residents of Pal tan and Tallabag

If complaints are lodged with the local power sub-sta tions, they advise contacting higher authorities, some resi dents said

An official of the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA), when contacted said "there is supposed to be no bias in distribution of load shedding. It is supposed to be equally distributed in all areas of the

He further said that load shedding was not totally unplanned as the Power Development Board regularly informed the DESA about the power shortage one day ahead.

Kanchi Kanchar Mela anniversary

Kendriya Kanchi Kanchar Mela, a children's organisation. celebrates its 40th founding anniversary today, says a press

The programme is scheduled to be inaugurated this after noon by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium.

The programme includes a discussion session at 3:30 pm to be followed by a children's cultural function at 4:15 pm. the release added

Assistance and Training Services will hold a symposium on "Universal declaration on child rights and role of Bangladesh". Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10 am. It will be followed by a cultural function by Kranti Shilpi Gosthi. Painting exhibition: The first solo painting exhibition

yesterday.

Time: 3:30 pm.

by Mohammad Fokhrul Islam will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Begum Zainul Abedin. Venue: Zainul Gallery, Fine Arts Institute, DU. Time: 5 pm. The show will remain open 12 noon to 8 pm till Oct 10.

Visitors at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel 'autumn mela'

which opened at the hotel premises in the city

Law Review seminar: Law Review, in cooperation

with PRIP Trust, has arranged a seminar on "Ombudsman for Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects". Chief guest: Abdul Matin

Khasru, State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary

Affairs. Venue: British Council auditorium. 5 Fuller Road.

Children's art competition: Bangladesh Shishu

Adhikar Forum has organised an art competition for

disadvantaged children in observance of Child Rights Week '96.

Symposium on child rights: Centre for Child Labour Elimination, Education and Rehabilitation, and Rural

Venue: TSC, Dhaka University, Time: 9 am-11 am.

Old Victorians reception: Old Victorians will accord a reception to freedom fighters. MPs and ministers who are former students of Comilla Victoria College. Venue: Engineers Institute auditorium. Time: 10 am.

Hanif tells students

Take part in politics during free time only

Mayor of Dhaka city Mohammad Hanif yesterday said the prime objective of students should be to acquire knowledge reports BSS.

The mayor said students should take part in politics only during their free time. without disturbing their educa-

tional life. Mohammad Hanif was speaking as the chief guest at a freshers' reception, organised by Bangladesh Chhatra League (S-P) Dhaka College Unit, held vesterday at the Dhaka College auditorium

State Minister for Youth. Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Qader addressed the function as a special guest

Presided over by Chhatra League Dhaka College Unit president Alok Banik, the func tion was also addressed by for mer VP of Dhaka College Syed Kamrul Ahsan, ex-student leaders Ashraful Islam Maruf, Man jurul Islam, Chhatra League president Enamul Haque Shamim and general secretary Ishaque Ali Khan Panna.

Development of tourism in Ctg stressed

CHITTAGONG, Oct 3: Chittagong City Corporation Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury today called for building up infrastructures for developing tourism industry in greater Chittagong, reports BSS

Natural beauty and other facilities offer good, prospect for developing tourism in this region of the country, he said. Inaugurating a seminar on

tourism at a local hotel, Mayor Mohiuddin also stressed the need for developing communications system and providing security and better amenities for tourists.

Betar programmes on Silver Jubilee of Independence

- Star photo

Bangladesh Betar has drawn up a three-month long elaborate programme to mark the Silver Jubilee of the country's Independence, reports UNB.

The programme will focus on socio-political and cultural changes that took place over thousands of years, victorious tales of various historical changes, struggle for self-independence. War of Liberation and the achievement of libera-

Discussions, interviews, documentaries, songs and dramas will be broadcast during the period, said a Bangladesh Betar press release

DU final exam dates shifted

The final examinations of

some courses under three departments of Dhaka University have been shifted due to delay in publishing the results of previous batches, reports UNB. University sources said the Masters degree examinations of 1994 and that of the Honours 1995 of various departments of Arts and Social Science facul ties, scheduled for October 6.

have been rearranged. According to the new exami nation schedules. Masters examinations of Public Adminis tration and Sociology departments will start from Novem-

The Honours final examina tions of Sociology, English and Public Administration departments will begin from October 17, 27 and 29 respectively.

Results of the final examina tions of Masters degree 1993 and Honours 1994 of Public Administration and Sociology departments, and Honours final examinations of English department are yet to be pub-

The examinations were held about nine months ago, but the results have not been published mainly due to delay in examining the answer scripts, department sources said



Islami Chhatra Shibir staged a rally at North Gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque yesterday protesting recent attacks on its activists at Islamic University. - Star photo

Speaker opens Sheraton autumn fair

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury yesterday inaugurated the traditional autumn fair at Hotel Sheraton, organised in observance of the on-going National Tourism Month 96, reports UNB.

A total of 12 reputed handicraft and rural craft organisations have set up stalls in the 12-day fair at the hotel's main entrance.

The Speaker went round different stalls and showed keen interest in home-made goods including handloom products. wooden, brass, clay and earthen ware pots, and jute and leather articles.

The fair will continue till November 15 and will remain open between 10 am to 10 pm.

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The British Council

Bank of England Fellowships 1996/1997

The Trustees of the Bank of England have offered two fellowships, tenable by young Bangladeshi professional bankers for one year post graduate courses in the field of banking and financial administration. Following an open competition, the fellowships were awarded to Ms. Anita Mosharraf of the American Express Bank and Mr. A K Azad of the Bangladesh Bank. Ms. Mosharraf, who was working as the Marketing Manager, is now doing her MA in Banking and Finance at the University College of Wales, Bangor and Mr. Azad, an Assistant Director, International Banking, will shortly join the MPhil. course in International Finance at the University of Glasgow. The interviews were conducted by the British Council, Dhaka, which is also managing the fellowships on behalf of the Bank of England.

Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendra

V1-Ga, Section-2, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216

Bangladesh

Situation Vacant

Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendra a leading National Non-Governmental Organization engaged for alleviating poverty through generating employment and income opportunities, structural amendments and developments wishes to recruit a young, smart, innovative and energetic B.Sc. Engineer (Civil) at its Central Office based in Dhaka.

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Age: 30 years

Additional eligibility: The incumbent should be experienced in structural design in relation to specially low cost housing and sanitation works. He/She must be fluent in speaking and writing English.

Preference will be given and age will be relaxed who are experienced in ferrocement and MCR technology, working experience with the LGED, PHE, NGOs etc.

Application indudes a detail C.V two passport size photographs, photocopies of all academic and experience certificates, a non-refundable Tk-300/- (Three hundred) bank draft/pay order from any branch of Rupali Bank. The Bank draft/pay order must be send to "Proshika Manobik Unnanyan Kendra, Rupali Bank Malibag Choudhury Para Branch". The date and number of bank draft/pay order must be mentioned on the application.

The closing date of application is 20, October, 1996. The application should be addressed to the Principal Coordinator (HRD) Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendra.

Female candidates are encouraged to apply

Ref : HCL/96/107