

Dhaka Day by Day

Nostalgic Coffee House

by ASM Nurunnabi

In the area of Bengalee cultural heritage, the concept of coffee house left a laudable impact in the past. The name 'coffee house' had a specific cultural ring. The Bengalees have always been fond of 'adda', roughly meaning group gossiping. It has always been part of our cultural ethos. An interesting part of this phenomenon has been that wherever a group of Bengalees, however small it may be, find some measure of free time and leisure, 'adda' becomes their favourite recreational activity, irrespective of the nature of Venue of their assemblage. Of course, the convenient spot for such purposes may be one's drawing room, but when necessity requires, such 'addas' may take place in parks, roof tops or any open space.

The coffee house as a meeting place for some select individuals has a cultural background with a long past, as already noted. In this context, the Coffee House in Calcutta located in the College Street area acquired quite a name in the cultural arena starting in the 50's. It was the grazing ground for many cultural activists of diverse fields. For such people, the rendezvous gained an importance unmatched in any other meeting place in any other area during those bygone days. What was important was the assemblage of some active minds in a variety of cultural fields who used to lock themselves in interesting and lively discussions on every subject under the sun. The Coffee House in those days was also the breeding ground for many intellectuals who later became famous in the fields of literature, arts, music, etc. The contribution of the Coffee House in those days in the nurturing of cultural activities has been popularised in a famous song by Manna Dey, the well-known

singer of West Bengal.

It has been an unfortunate aspect of our cultural life that no such rendezvous on the model of the Calcutta Coffee House grew up in the Dhaka city. In the pre-independence days, there were some meeting places for young cultural and political activists where they were prone to raise storms over their tea cups on every conceivable subject. For examples, there were such popular meeting places in such establishments known as Beauty Boarding and the Rex Restaurant. One was located in old part of Dhaka and the other near the Gulistan Cinema Hall. At a later date, a restaurant named Coffee House came into existence on the New Elephant Road in Dhaka. But this place lacked the cultural environment noticed in some of the earlier establishments. In fact, there has been no place in the Dhaka city which bears any trace of the tradition of the old Coffee House.

Perhaps these are the ways of the world with the emergence of new generations. A sort of cultural isolation may be one of the factors for such development. Still there may be groups of new enthusiasts in the cultural field, but it seems there is no well-known meeting place for the young energetic spirits. The development of theatre movement has been an encouraging phenomenon in this context. We also find proliferation of fast food shops in different areas of the city as popular haunts of young people. The subjects of discussion are found to range mainly from sports, games to pop music. Evidently, the cultural ethos of the young people of the new generation has been taking uncharted directions, where the element of 'adda' is expected to be always present.



124 arrested on various charges

Police rounded up 124 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, a DMP press release said yesterday, reports UNB.

Of the arrested, 17 were wanted criminals and 41 were held on charge of murder, dacoity, snatching, toll extortion and terrorist activities.

All the arrested people were produced before court.

FBCCI hosts luncheon in honour of Basu

A luncheon meeting in honour of the visiting Chief Minister of West Bengal Jyoti Basu and members of his delegation with the members of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) was held at a local hotel yesterday, says a press release.

Canadian envoy meets Nasim

Canadian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Nicholas HR Etheridge called on Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim at his secretariat office yesterday, reports UNB.

They discussed matters of mutual interest particularly the telecommunications development of Bangladesh.



Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf led a rally in observance of the World AIDS Day in the city yesterday. US Ambassador David N Merrill, UNAIDS chairperson David E Lockwood also joined the rally. — PID photo

What's on today . . .

- Drama festival:** A five-day drama festival, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy as part of its month-long programme celebrating the silver jubilee of Independence, will begin. Chief guest: Shawkat Osman. Venue: Academy auditorium. Time: 6 pm.
- Ritwik Film Society:** 'Stop Genocide,' a documentary, and 'Abar Tora Manush Ho,' a feature film, will be screened on the second day of a session titled 'Films on our War of Liberation,' organised by the Society in cooperation with Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Dhaka. Venue: ICC auditorium, Rd: 2 Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.
- Art exhibition:** Adity Chakravarti's solo exhibition, 'Rediscovering papier mache,' will begin. Venue: La Galerie, Banani. Time: 9 am-6pm. Till Dec 7.
- Theatre festival:** 'Maghnadbadh Kabya' will be staged. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 6:30 pm.
- Publication ceremony:** A post publication ceremony of the book, 'The World of Muslim Women in Colonial Bengal: 1873-1939' by Dr Sonia Nishat Amin, will be held. Venue: Goethe Institut, House: 10, Rd: 9, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.
- Documentary film:** 'Ajana Ghatak (The Unknown Predator), a documentary directed by Nargis Akter in cooperation with Fem Com, will be screened. Venue: Goethe Institut. Time: 10 am.
- Ratory Club of Dhaka North:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Guest speaker: IB Buday, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of the Republic of Hungary. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka Central:** The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30 pm.
- Publication ceremony:** The publication ceremony of a religious monthly 'Mashik Madrasa' will be held. Chief guest: State Minister for Public Works Afsar Uddin Ahmed Khan. Venue: Jatiya Press Club VIP lounge. Time: 3 pm.
- Sky observation camp:** Bangladesh Astronomical Association has arranged a sky observation camp. Venue: Dhanmondi playground, Road 8, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Time: From evening to 9 pm.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka Central:** The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Time: 1:30 pm. Venue: Dhaka Club Ltd.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka North:** The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Time: 5:30 pm. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel.

Podokkep-64 formed

A new socio-cultural development organisation called 'Podokkep-64' was formed recently in a meeting held at the seminar room of the East West University. 'Podokkep-64' comprises those who had passed Masters from the University of Dhaka in 1964, reports BSS.

Podokkep-64 conference was chaired by Dr. Mohammed Farashuddin, Vice-Chancellor of East West University and a sixtyfourian himself. Abdur Razzak MP (Water Resources Minister), Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf MP (former Minister), Prof. Sahadat Ali (University of Dhaka), Barrister Rabiya Bhuiyan MP (former minister), Rashed Khan Menon (former MP), principal Rawshan Akhter Hanif (Badrnassa College), Mahub Alam Tara (former Whip), Dr ATM Shamsul Huda (Water Secretary), Dr AMM Shawkat Ali (Agriculture Secretary), Syed Alamgir Faruk Choudhury (Commerce Secretary), Shah Hussain Imam (The Daily Star), Nilufar Sarker (MD Ornob), Principal Fazlul Quadir Chowdhury (Govt. Biggan College), Professor Ayesha Sultana (University of Dhaka), NM Harun (the Independent), Haider Akbar Khan, Mrs Mahmuda Huq Chowdhury (ambassador), AKM Jalaluddin, ABM A Shekoo (Religion Secretary), Ataurrahman (Nagorik), Professor Inamul Huq (BUET), Nargis Mannan (Social Investment Bank), Harunur Rashid (Commissioner of Taxes), Munira Kashem, Nurul Amin Khan, Prof. Nilufar Sultana, Wahabuzaman Ahmed, Golam Kibria, Muhibur Rahman, Zakia Chowdhury, Nilufar Huda, Khurshid Jahan, Farida Haq and more than one hundred sixtyfourians attended the meeting.

It was unanimously decided to run the organisation as a non-political, non-communal and socio-cultural entity devoted to the development of the country.



Textile and industrial workers brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding immediate reopening of closed mills and realisation of their 10-point demand. — Star photo

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director
Forest Resources Management Project
Banobhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

Memo No 2D-33/96/1139 Dated: 30 November, 1996

Appointment of Cartographic Technician and Cartographic Draftsmen

Applications for appointment under contractual arrangement are invited for hiring the services of 4 (Four) "Cartographic Technicians" and 5 (Five) "Cartographic Draftsmen" under Forest Resources Management Project (IDA Credit No 2397-BD) of the Forest Department.

- Qualification, Experience and Duties:**
- Cartographic Technicians:**
 - Bachelor degree with Cartography, GIS and Remote Sensing Program from any university in Bangladesh.
 - Experience in the use and interpretation of aerial photography.
 - Will and ability for quality Cartographic work. Good knowledge of MS-DOS.
 - Cartographic Draftsmen:**
 - Diploma from any Polytechnic Institute in Bangladesh, preferable in Civil Engg./Architecture.
 - Experience in Map Drawing.
 - Will and ability for exact Cartographic work.
- Duties:**
- Transfer of photo interpretation results from aerial photos (scale 1:15000) to Forest cover maps (scale 1:10,000) for Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Sundarban Forest Divisions.
 - Preparation of transferred results for digitizing and GIS data editing.
 - Other related activities as required.

The personnel will be based in Dhaka. The working hours is flexible (starts from 0700 hrs) from Saturday to Thursday and also on Friday if necessary. Initial contract will be for three months and extendable up to six months (if necessary). The selected person(s) will work under the supervision of GIS and cartographic consultant and also of the counterpart officials of the Forest Department.

Interested candidates are required to contact Deputy Conservator of Forest, RIMS, Banobhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 along with their application with CV, relevant certificates and two copies of recent passport size photograph for a short test followed by interview by the selection committee on 11-12-96 at 0900 hrs. The applicant must indicate the expected monthly remuneration in their application.

None need apply without having adequate experience of the job.

A K M Fazlul Huq
Project Director.

Weather

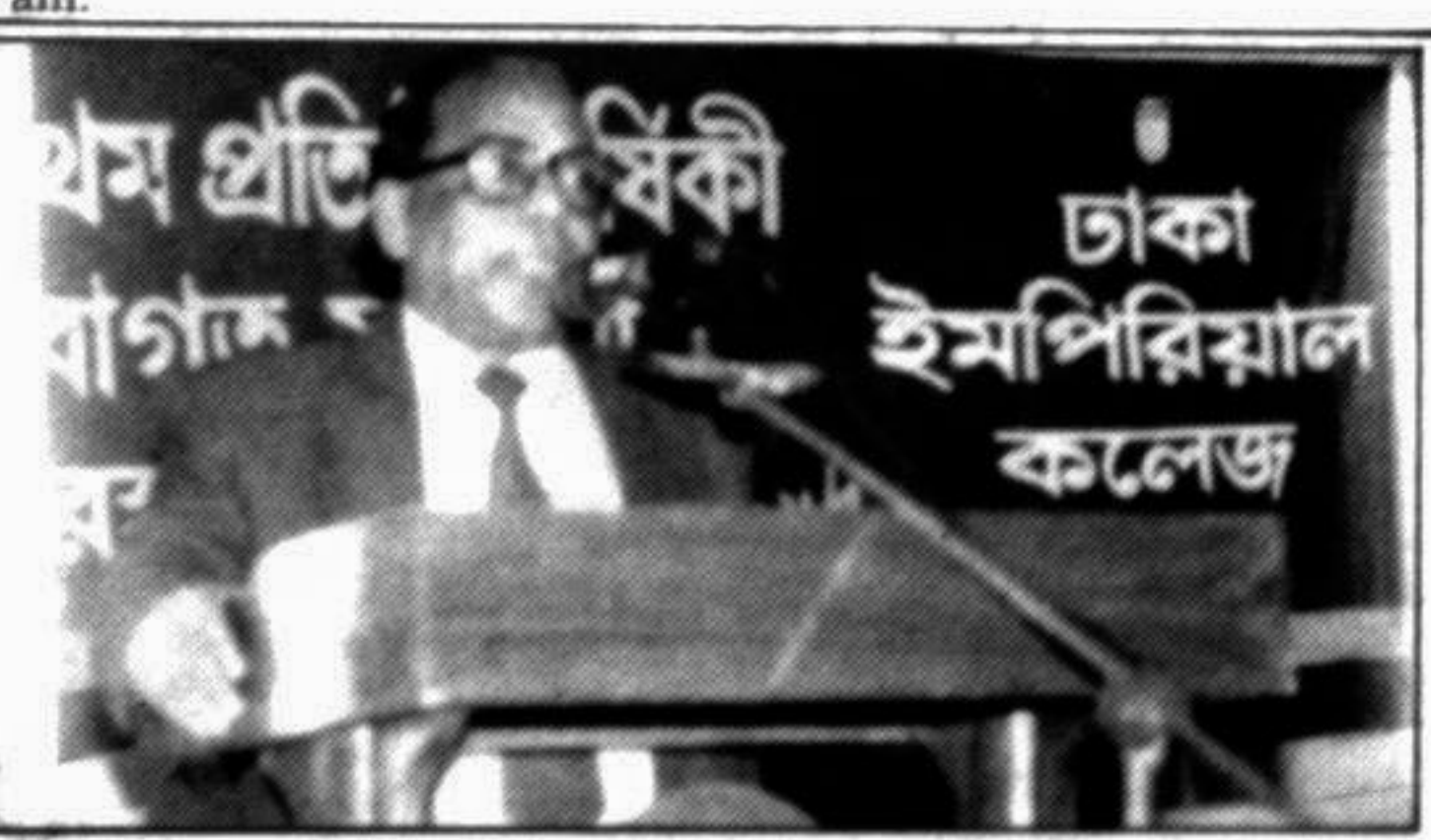
Light rain likely

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

Met Office says weather may remain mainly dry with cloudy sky elsewhere across the country.

Slight rise in night temperature is expected during the period throughout the country.

Country's highest temperature 31.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Chittagong and the lowest 11.6 degrees at Ishurdi. The Sun sets today at 05:11 pm and rises tomorrow at 06:27 am.



Prof Moez Uddin Ahmed, Chairman, Dhaka Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board addressing the freshers reception and annual prize-giving ceremony of the Dhaka Imperial College in the city recently.

CORRIGENDUM

Telephone Shilpa Sangstha Limited
Tongi, Gazipur, Bangladesh

CABLE : TICON DHAKA
TELEX : 632245 TSS BJ
TELEFAX : 880-02-891177

International Tender for supply, installation & maintenance of 50 (fifty) Nos. Single/Dual Channel Radio Links for connecting Card Phones with exchanges through Anti-Fraud Devices (No. International Tender No. FP/IT/96-97/2162 dt. 28-11-96) published in 'The Daily Star and The Bangladesh Observer' on 29-11-96 and 30-11-96 respectively may kindly be read as follows:-

International Tender for Supply, Installation & Maintenance of 50 (fifty) Nos. Radio Links (10 Nos. Dual Channel and 40 Nos. Single Channel) for connecting Card phones with Exchanges through Anti-Fraud Devices".

All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

Dy. General Manager (F&C)
Phone: 892334.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Our client, a large group of companies based in Malaysia, having interest in textile and garment sectors seek immediate appointments in the following positions:

Position	Qualifications
Secretary	Incumbent must be a University graduate with good command over the English language and have working experience in typing and word processing. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.
Sales Officer	Should have some previous experience of working in the garment sector. Candidates below 30 years of age are encouraged to apply.

Progressive compensation will be offered to deserving candidates. Interested persons are requested to apply with full curriculum vitae and credentials within December 12, 1996 to:

The Office Manager
Rahman Rahman Huq
52 Motijheel C/A (Second Floor)
Dhaka 1000.

DARUL IHSAN UNIVERSITY

(Govt. Approved)
DEPARTMENT OF English Language & Literature

ADMISSION

Applications are invited for admission to the following courses:

- B.A. (Hons.) in English Language and Literature
- Post-Graduate Diploma in English Language Teaching (ELT) ELT

For B. A. (Hons.): At least two second division in S.S.C and H.S.C or equivalent Examination.

For Post-Graduate Diploma:

- At Least Second Division in B.A.
- Teaching Experience preferred.

Last date for Application Extended till December 20 1996

Classes will start from January 1, 1997

Teaching will be conducted by eminent Foreign trained professors including Professor Ashraf the present Vice-Chancellor and some of his Colleagues from the University of Cambridge

Application must be made in the prescribed form obtainable from the admission office on payment of Tk 200/= each.

For details please contact:
Saturday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Admission Office:

Head Office : Department :
House No. 21 House No. 25
Road No. 9/A (New)Dhanmondi R/A
Dhaka-1209, Phone : 324309

নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কিশোরগঞ্জের সাবেক জজ ও অর্থক্ষণ ২য় আদালত।
মোঃ ও/৯৬ সন অর্থক্ষণ ডিক্রিকারী।

ডিক্রিদার : আরব বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক লিঃ, ভৈরব বাজার শাখা, ৩৩ (ডব্লিউ) মুক্তি পলিঃ, ভৈরব বাজার শাখা, ধানা-ভৈরব, জিলা-কিশোরগঞ্জ।

বনাম

দায়ক : ১। জিল্লুর রহমান, পিতা মৃত সুকজ মিয়া, স্বত্বাধিকারী - মেসার্স মোবান ট্রায় (বোথপলি) ভৈরব বাজার বর্তমানে গ্রাম লক্ষীপুর (ভাতার কাশি), ডাকঘর-জগন্নাথপুর, ধানা-ভৈরব, জিলা-কিশোরগঞ্জ।

২। মোঃ আঃ আউহাল ৩। হালিম আহমদ ৪। হালিম আহমদ, সর্ব পিতা - মৃত সুকজ মিয়া, গ্রাম-লক্ষীপুর (ভাতারকাশি), ডাকঘর-জগন্নাথপুর, ধানা-ভৈরব, জিলা-কিশোরগঞ্জ।

ইত্যাহার দাবী : টাকা ৪,৫৪,৮৫৪/১২

নিলামের তারিখ : ইং ১২/০১/৯৭ তারিখ দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকার সময় জেলা জজ আদালত নেজারত বিভাগ কিশোরগঞ্জ নিলাম ডাক অনুষ্ঠিত হইবে। ইচ্ছুক ক্রেতাদেয় যথাসময়ে আদালতে উপস্থিত হইয়া বিধি মোতাবেক নিয়মতাবধি বর্ণিত সম্পত্তি নিলাম বরিন করিয়া নিতে পারিবেন।

তপসীল সম্পত্তি

জিলা-কিশোরগঞ্জ, ধানা-ভৈরব, মৌজা-লক্ষীপুর, হাল ৯ং নং-২৯২, দাগ নং-৬৪৭৯, পরিমাণ-১৩ পতাহং জুমি এবং তথ্যিত নির্দিষ্ট দালান কোঠা বাহা বিদ্যমান আছে এবং ভবিষ্যতে যা নির্দিষ্ট হইবে।

আদেশক্রমে
হস্তাকৃত স্বাক্ষর

সেক্রেটারী সাব জজ ও অর্থ ক্ষণ ২য় আদালত, কিশোরগঞ্জ।