

Will the Missing Freedom Fighters Remain Untraced?

In this month of "BJOY" let the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina take the right step in finding those missing. She also has lost her family and she knows the pain, and may help families of these martyrs to share this joy and festivities.

BAKANGLADESH has plunged into festivities to commemorate its 25th Victory Day with participants of the war reminiscing their deeds, with some references to their lost comrades, in our great War of Independence in 1971.

December 4, 1996, on compensation for the POWs. He added that "It is not the money but the act of saying sorry that remains most important" and urged Japan to "remove the strain of dishonour" from its reputation.

Hope Prime Minister Sheikh Sangsha (BSS) — news agency, among its Victory Day celebrations has included a programme to track down and identify the graves of freedom fighters, in other words, it includes those missing. That is a positive decision, but one would like to know it is being implemented properly as well as the final findings.

But those picked up by the Pakistani army is matter of diplomacy without fear, but with pride. Besides, why Indian jails only and not Pakistani ones? There have been unconfirmed information to the family of this officer that some were taken to Pakistan.

IN FOOL'S PARADISE?

by Nadeem Qadir

speaking in line with their political beliefs, which really does not honour the martyrs who never dreamed a divided nation and that too after 25 years of independence.

Letter Reference: L-2414 "Dear Madam, Referring to your tracing request of 24.6.74 concerning your husband... We are quoting the reply received from the National Information Bureau of Pakistan Red Crescent Society. According to the ministry of defence, Pakistan, the above officer... has been declared missing believed killed. We very much regret to have forward you this sad news."

Besides India and Pakistan are members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). If we can cooperate in trade and other fields, why not in bringing some news to the families of these unsung heroes?

The United States of America continues to trace its personnel in Vietnam, while Great Britain presses on Japan to compensate its prisoners-of-war (POWs) held during World War II. But successive governments in Dhaka have not even spoken about those missing during the war despite pursuing "war ties" with Pakistan.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad has told the Parliament that the government was alert to the matter of setting the issue of assets and liability with Pakistan. But none of the MPs asked and he did not say what the government was thinking about the missing martyrs or a trial of the perpetrators of the genocide.

A second letter in 1977 from Maj. (ret'd) Ali Hasan Qureshi, the then secretary general of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society said: "We would like to inform you that we have kept this case in our 'Missing Card Index' and let you know that through the Bangladesh Government an investigation is going on in the jails of India for the missing Bangladeshi nationals."

In this month of "BJOY" let the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina take the right step in finding those missing. She also has lost her family and she knows the pain, and may help families of these martyrs to share this joy and festivities.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Clearing Rots before Ensuring Rights

At a time when Bangladesh, for various reasons, is placed in the frontline of the world's pauper countries, "human rights" is a 'popular' thought-provoking subject here. It perhaps requires scores of scholars to define what the people's, and of the country's, rights are, let alone ensuring all the accessible rights at all levels. Surely a layperson's impression on human rights would differ from many others both at individual and global levels.

Exercising human rights at individual level is never possible until social discriminations are reined down to a diminishing position, writes Ekram Kabir

But in 1945 the Allies chose a different path from the one they had trodden in 1919. Instead of imposing 'peace treaties' on the vanquished, they sought to establish a new international 'legal' order, founded on the three main principles declared in Article 1 of the UN Charter — the peaceful settlement of international disputes 'in conformity with the principles of justice and international law', and accordingly, the outlawing of aggressive wars; friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal and self-determination of peoples; and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

But in a variety of relationships within this unified-ness, questions loom large — what has been the impact of this global system on nations or communities, especially those who are less powerful and less prosperous? And what has been its impact on human beings and their inherent rights everywhere?

One example is consumption levels: the North, with about one-fourth of the world population, consumes, according to available information, 70 per cent of the world's energy, 75 per cent of its metals, 85 per cent of its wood and 60 per cent of its food. Now, contrast this situation in the South — over one billion people are mired in absolute poverty, one-and-a-half billion are deprived of primary healthcare, and about a billion adults are illiterate. What this reveals is that a huge portion of the population in the South do not enjoy the most basic economic and social rights.

Now in the context of Bangladesh — which may also include most of Asia — a holistic, integrated approach would demand an urgent and equal attention to the economic and social rights of the people, for the majority here stagger under the poverty line. In spite of some economic and social progresses achieved in various sectors, over time, a significant segment of the country's population yet does not enjoy some of the most basic economic and social rights, including the rights to adequate food, clothing and housing, work, fair wages, healthcare and education.

By the time of the adoption of the UN Charter, however, it had not proved possible to define in detail what these 'human rights and fundamental freedoms' were. Then in order to repair this omission, the UN proceeded to draft the famous Universal Declaration of Human Rights which they adopted on 10 December 1948.

When human dignity and social justice become subjected to harassment and intimidation, it also leads, along with the other rights-related issues, to moral and environmental degradation which in turn affects adversely the economic and social rights of the present and future generations.

Now, after coming a long way, the post-Cold War UN is seeking to create a single, uni-



Human Rights Day Marks UN Universal Declaration Adoption

by David Pitts

HUMAN Rights Day marks the anniversary of the adoption, in 1948, of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is an occasion for reflecting on the importance of the Universal Declaration and how much progress has been made in making it a reality.

US President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. She was appointed to the UN Commission on Human Rights in 1946 by her husband's successor, President Harry Truman. The delegates unanimously elected her chairperson of the commission.

democracy held by Western nations and their allies and the Soviet Union and its Communist satellites. Roosevelt argued there was no 'true individual freedom in the Soviet Union because the rights of the individual were subservient to the state.' This fundamental philosophical and ideological distinction framed all of the commissions' debates as the drafting of the Declaration proceeded.

the epoch-making value of the Declaration.

The Declaration may well become the international Magna Carta of all men everywhere. We hope its proclamation by the General Assembly will be an event comparable to the proclamation of the Rights of Man by the French people in 1789, the adoption of the Bill of Rights by the people of the United States, and the adoption of comparable declarations at different times in other countries.

Almost every country in the world now subscribes to the Universal Declaration in principle, though not always in practice. But it is important to recall that there was much disagreement in the early years after World War II about its precise content.

At the time the Universal Declaration was drafted, there were marked differences among member states concerning the rights of women, religious liberty, the point at which human life began, the extent of freedom of speech and the right to dissent, and the role of economic and social rights. However, adds.

Roosevelt achieved her goal. The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948. Of 58 members represented at the session, 48 voted in favour, none voted against, eight abstained, and two were absent. The Soviet Union and its satellites constituted the majority of the abstentions. The representative of Saudi Arabia also abstained because, in his opinion, the Declaration represented too Western a view of human rights.

Article 1 of the Universal Declaration set the tone for a broad range of political, social and economic rights that are offered as a common standard of achievement for all nations. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and human rights.

The Declaration inspired a number of regional human rights conventions in Europe, Latin America and Africa, and influenced the drafting of many of the constitutions of the new independent states that emerged onto the world stage as colonialism receded during the 1950s and 1960s.

According to historians, a key figure in the evolution of the Universal Declaration was Eleanor Roosevelt, the wife of

But the most serious disagreements concerning the definition of human rights derived from the entirely different conceptions of freedom and

In the wake of the most barbarous war in history, the world had finally adopted a set of principles, which it was hoped, would set humanity on a new course — to hold all nations to account for their actions, both internally and externally.

On Human Rights Day, each year, world takes note not only of the work of international institutions like the commission, that were set up to help make the Universal Declaration a reality, but also of the countless numbers of individuals and organisations around the world that also strive for its full realisation for all mankind.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Tuesday 10th December (All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programmes.)

Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC Newsdesk 6:00pm BBC World News 6:15 World Focus The Money Programme 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC NewsHour Asia & Pacific 8:30 Time Out Earth Report 9:00 BBC World News 9:15 World Focus Panorama 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out Top Gear 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 Time Out Film 96 12:00am The World Today 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus Panorama 2:45 The Panel 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out The Clothes Show 4:00 BBC World Report inc World Business Report/24 Hours 5:00 BBC World Report inc World Business Report/24 Hours

Beach Kuala Lumpur 3:00 Asia Sport Show 3:30 Dubai Rugby Sevens 4:30 1996 Omega Tour The Royal Classic Day 1 6:30 Sports India 20:00 Squash Super Series World Open 8:00 Live 1996 Asian Cup Champs UAE vs Indonesia 9:00 LIVE 1996 Asian Cup Championships 3:00 Kuwait vs A4 Korea Republic 10:00 LIVE 1996 Asian Cup Championships 3:00 Kuwait vs A4 Korea Republic 10:00 Million Dollar Goal Final Day Highlights From Sun City, South Africa 1:00 The Kickboxing Highlights 2:00 (ITU) Triathlon World Cup 3:00 The Asian Football Show 4:00 Squash Super Series World Open 5:00 Pro Beach Kuala Lumpur

Anjane 7:30 The Hindi News 7:45 Raahat 8:15 Jalak 8:30 Hum Paanch 9:00 Salaab 9:30 Tara 10:00 Hasraten 10:30 The News 11:00 Jai 11:30 Dastaan 12:00 Daaar 12:30 TVS Sa Re Ga Ma 1:30 Raahat 2:00 Love Stories 2:30 TMM 4:00 Surtaal 4:30 Hum Zameen 5:00 Jagran

12:30 Atco Ru-Ba-Ru 1:00 Snowchem Kai Bhi Aaj Bhi 1:30 Fat Or Fit 2:00 Rajesh Khanna Special 3:00 Karz 3:30 Yeh Duniya Gazab Ki 4:00 Syaram Kamaal Kombination 4:30 Uppahay 5:00 Kinetic It's My Choice 5:30 Jeevan Ke Rang 6:30 Khushiyon 7:00 D'Signer Quartz Peoples Club 7:30 Number One 8:00 Film Chaat 8:10 Kinetic Pride Hasen Pal 8:30 Yumkeenz Mast Must Show 9:00 Hit Hi Hit Hi 9:30 Purnushketha 10:30 Stand-by 10:40 Talash 11:00 Moov Usha Uthup Show 11:30 Chalo Cinema 12:00 Kinetic Pride Hasen Pal 12:40 Akanksha

Hamd/laal 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabran 8:45 Beauty Care 8:50 Fun Kadha 9:10 Dhanak & Health Tips 10:05 Har Taan Heli Deepak 10:30 English Film

Home Improvement 10:55 Milli Naagma 11:00 Khabran 11:10 Anita (Serial) 12:00 Sports Hour 12:55pm Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 The Science Show 2:03 Yeh Jahan (Music video) 2:25 Animated Classics 3:15 Geography & Sammar School Labbaik 5:25 Qabhi Mein Soochta Hoon (Drama Serial) 6:25 Aaj Courses 7:00 Dhanak 7:45 English News 8:15 UN Quiz 8:45 Jab (Drama Serial) 9:00 Break for Headline News 10:00 Khabarnama 11:20 VCD Top Ten Pakistani Video

Countdown! 12:30 Dr. Quin, Medicine Women (Jean Saylor) 1:35 Khas Khas Khabran/Close down

BTv

3:00 Opening Announcement Al-Quran Programme Summary 7:19 News in Bangla 3:15 Patriotic songs 3:20 Recitation from the Quran 3:25 The Album Show 3:50 Cartoon film 4:15 Umesh 4:50 Coach 5:05 News in Bangla 5:22 Sangeeta 6:00pm National Television Debate Competition 6:50 Open University 7:00 The News 7:25 Silver Jubilee of Freedom Fighter-A Documentary 8:00 News in Bangla 8:25 Silver Jubilee of Freedom Fighting-Muhammad Govt 9:00 Drama Serial: 10:00 The News 10:25 Those days of Freedom Fighting 10:30 sur Lahane 11:35 Wednesday's programme summary 11:40 Close down

EL TV

00:30 Murtaz Special 01:30 Dil Dekh Dekh 2:30 Heen Special 03:30 Dhanendra Special 04:30 Jeelendra Special 5:30 Murtaz Special 6:30 Dil Dekh Dekh 7:30 Heen Special 8:30 Dhanendra Special 9:30 Jeelendra Special 10:30 Moov Usha Uthup Show 11:30 Zardo, Bam Dandee Mania 11:30 Newsline 12:00 Men Marz

PTV

8:00 am Tiawat Aur Tarjuma

DD 7

SONY ET

Channel V

6:30am The Ticket 7:00 Rewind VJ Sopyha 8:00 Frame by Frame 9:00 Jump Start VJ Alessandra 10:30 Frame by Frame 11:00 The Vibe VJ Luke 12:00 Rewind VJ Sopyha 1:00 By Demand VJ Trey 2:00 Frame by Frame 2:30 First Day First Show 3:00 The Indian Top 10 4:00 Planet Ruby 4:30 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 5:30 Rewind VJ Sopyha 7:00 By Demand VJ Trey 8:00 Planet Ruby 9:00 The Vibe 10:00 First

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Western Django 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Adventure Capricorn 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Film Club A Tale Of Two Cities 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Family The Care Bears G (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Musical Star! PG (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Documentary The Directors Robert Wise 7:30 Comedy Made for Each Other PG (Hindi Subtitles) 9:30 Hollywood 1 On 1 9:30 Action Eye Of The Eagle II 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Comedy Folks 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Film Club The Terminator 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 3:30 After Dark Backstreet Justice 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 Western Borderline 15 (Arabic Subtitles)

STAR PLUS

6:00am Home and Away 6:30 The Sullivans 7:00 Aerobics Cz Style 7:30 Star News 8:00 Sky News 8:30 Star News 8:00 Sky News 9:30 Aerobics Cz Style 10:00 Yan Can Cook 10:30 For Your Entertainment 11:00 Kate & Allie 11:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:30 The Files 1:29 Santa Barbara 2:00 The Bold & The Beautiful 3:00 Khandoom 3:30 Intihan 4:00 Home and Away 4:30 Lost In Space 5:30 Adventures Of Black Beauty 6:00pm Kate & Allie 6:30 Yan

STAR SPORTS

6:00am ITTF Pro Tour Yugoslav Open Doubles Final 7:00 1996 Omega Tour Tugu Pratama PGA Champ H/Ls 8:00 1996 Asian Cup Championships C1 Japan Vs C3 Uzbekistan Venue Al-An 10:00 1996 Asian Cup Championships C4 Syria vs C2 China Venue Al-An 12:00 Million Dollar Golf Day 3 Highlights From Sun City, South Africa 2:00 Pro



The Ride, guest Alexis Morissette on Channel V

ZEE TV

5:30 Suno Bhai Sadho 6:00 The News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 ZED 8:30 Hum Honge Kaamyaab 9:00 Insight 9:30 Gaane Anjane 10:00 17 Shirley Road/Jaanboaz 10:30 Grazier Ki Urnaad 11:00 Close Up Antakshi 11:30 Nirma Aaha 12:00 Commander 12:30 Mr Minno 1:00 ZED 1:30 Asian Sky Show 2:00 Tara 2:30 Raahat 3:30 Dhara Zake Ka Sela 4:00 Haathi Cement Aashish 4:30 Aar Ek Minute 5:00 ZED 5:30 Cartoons 6:00 Positive Health Show 6:30 Through The Gears 7:00 Gaane

JAN FLEMING'S James Bond



DEATHMASK



TOM AND JERRY



DRAWN BY JOHN McLUSKY

