

# Life in Dhaka Keep it Covered!

by A Husnain

The traffic jams are just the effect of a cause: too many users of some limited space, and lack of control to regulate the flow. The drains and the roads are designed for similar purposes: to keep the flow flowing. There is no static system in life, municipal or otherwise.

DHAKA is living up to its name. Dhaka in Bangla means covered. A lot of activities in Dhaka are kept covered. Cable TV fans are familiar with the hit song *parda maye dhane do, parda no outa-oh; pardit utne say raaz khul jae-ge*, which means do not lift the curtain, otherwise many secrets would be out. In Bengali the short expression is *dhaka thaak* (keep covered). Let us indulge in some benevolent spying, in public interest.

In your home street, did you ever bother to notice whether the road has any drain by the side, or on both sides of the road? The question is like asking you whether you are aware you are breathing. It is simply presumed that such facilities exist, because it is part of the standard design after the planning stage.

because no outlets have been designed into the social and municipal systems of our society (say, the provision of a drain by the road-side, and garbage bins which over-fill too quickly, and clearance which is always too late).

of the World War which ended in 1945, the Japanese usually preferred the top brand names of foreign goods, such as Zeiss cameras and Parker pens.

# Bane of the Andes

by Philip O Coffin

AMONG the most tragic consequences of the drug war in South America is the destruction of the Andean jungle. A recent move to use a granular herbicide, called tebutiuron or "Spike", to put an end to coca cultivation has ignited a degree of opposition from environmental groups. US activists point out that tebutiuron is normally used to clear vegetation from the sides of highways and industrial facilities.

Under normal circumstances, a coca bush will produce harvests for as long as 35 years. Yet, after just a few years, two-thirds of this land was deserted by farmers and denuded by eradication forces.

By increasing cultivation. The UN reports that 50 per cent (25,000 ha) of coca in Colombia was eradicated in 1995 and Colombia reports eradicating 40-47,000 ha in 1996, yet cultivation increased by at least 10,000 ha each year.

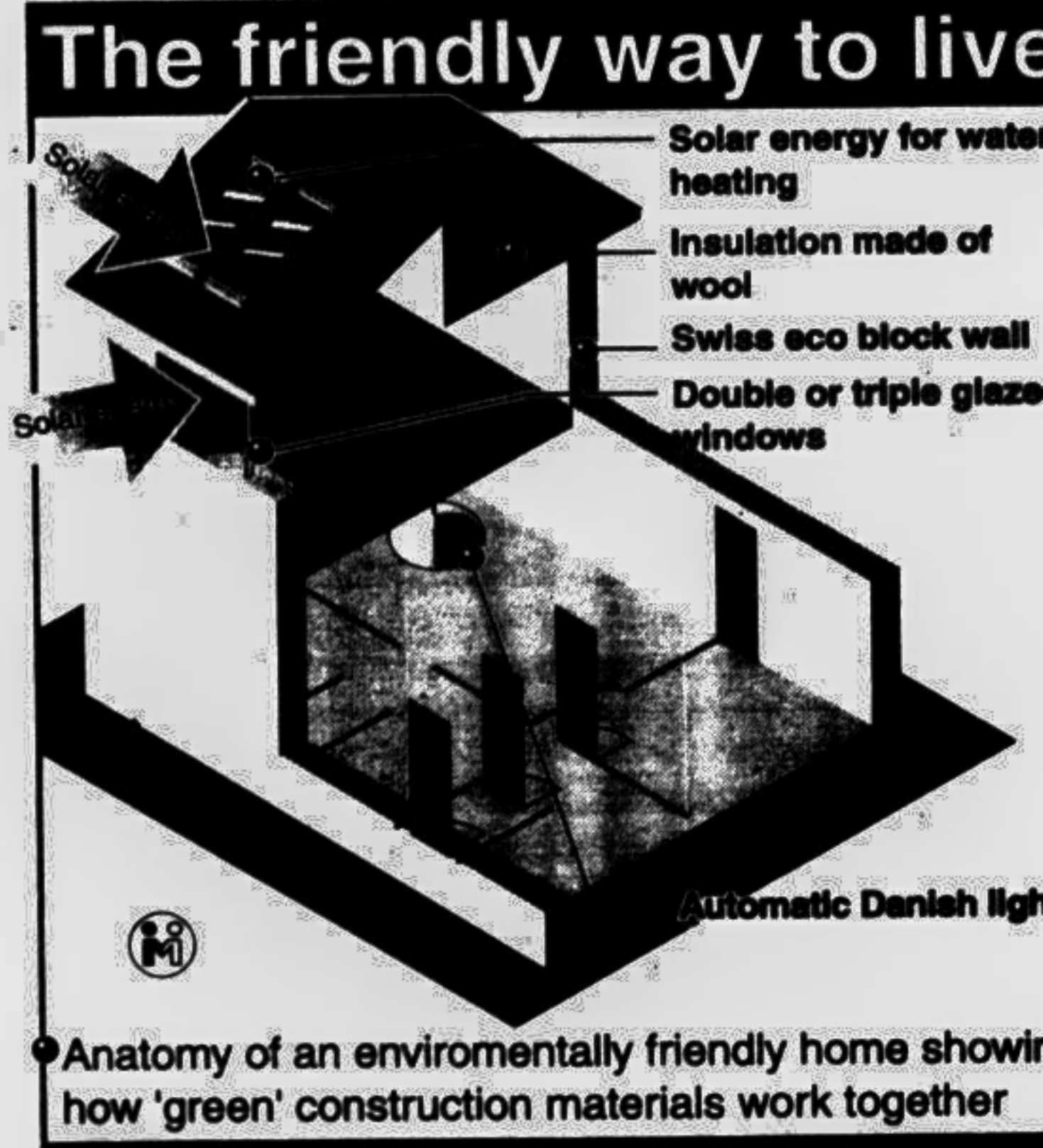
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# Mr Handyside Makes a New Greenhouse

YOUR toilet may soon have a closer relationship with your home's rain gutter by using collected rainwater to flush, in an effort to become more environmentally friendly.

"Green" and "environmentally friendly" have become buzz-words in the last decade, as marketers use them to cash-in on a more conscientious public. As Gemini News Service report, a new company wants to bring this environmental awareness to the British construction industry. Dan Palmer writes from London

to go the long haul. For instance, contractors or members of the public can sign-up for a one-day seminar for £20 that explain the benefits of a home water collection system, which funnels rain water from roof gutters into a holding tank.



Anatomy of an environmentally friendly home showing how 'green' construction materials work together

For instance, the roof of one of these environmentally friendly homes would resemble the solar panels of a satellite. The panels would be used to generate hot water by storing the energy cylinders used to heat the water.

and engineers who are product specialists at Construction Resources. They can tell consumers everything about natural points to insulations.

# Garfield

by Jim Davis

Garfield comic strip panels. Panel 1: Merry Christmas. Panel 2: Merry Christmas. Panel 3: Merry Christmas. Panel 4: Merry Christmas. Panel 5: Merry Christmas. Panel 6: Merry Christmas. Panel 7: Merry Christmas. Panel 8: Merry Christmas. Panel 9: Merry Christmas. Panel 10: Merry Christmas. Panel 11: Merry Christmas. Panel 12: Merry Christmas. Panel 13: Merry Christmas. Panel 14: Merry Christmas. Panel 15: Merry Christmas. Panel 16: Merry Christmas. Panel 17: Merry Christmas. Panel 18: Merry Christmas. Panel 19: Merry Christmas. Panel 20: Merry Christmas. Panel 21: Merry Christmas. Panel 22: Merry Christmas. Panel 23: Merry Christmas. Panel 24: Merry Christmas. Panel 25: Merry Christmas. Panel 26: Merry Christmas. Panel 27: Merry Christmas. Panel 28: Merry Christmas. Panel 29: Merry Christmas. Panel 30: Merry Christmas. Panel 31: Merry Christmas. Panel 32: Merry Christmas. Panel 33: Merry Christmas. Panel 34: Merry Christmas. Panel 35: Merry Christmas. Panel 36: Merry Christmas. Panel 37: Merry Christmas. Panel 38: Merry Christmas. Panel 39: Merry Christmas. Panel 40: Merry Christmas. Panel 41: Merry Christmas. Panel 42: Merry Christmas. Panel 43: Merry Christmas. Panel 44: Merry Christmas. Panel 45: Merry Christmas. Panel 46: Merry Christmas. Panel 47: Merry Christmas. Panel 48: Merry Christmas. Panel 49: Merry Christmas. Panel 50: Merry Christmas. Panel 51: Merry Christmas. Panel 52: Merry Christmas. Panel 53: Merry Christmas. Panel 54: Merry Christmas. Panel 55: Merry Christmas. Panel 56: Merry Christmas. Panel 57: Merry Christmas. Panel 58: Merry Christmas. Panel 59: Merry Christmas. Panel 60: Merry Christmas. Panel 61: Merry Christmas. Panel 62: Merry Christmas. Panel 63: Merry Christmas. Panel 64: Merry Christmas. Panel 65: Merry Christmas. Panel 66: Merry Christmas. Panel 67: Merry Christmas. Panel 68: Merry Christmas. Panel 69: Merry Christmas. Panel 70: Merry Christmas. Panel 71: Merry Christmas. Panel 72: Merry Christmas. Panel 73: Merry Christmas. Panel 74: Merry Christmas. Panel 75: Merry Christmas. Panel 76: Merry Christmas. Panel 77: Merry Christmas. Panel 78: Merry Christmas. Panel 79: Merry Christmas. Panel 80: Merry Christmas. Panel 81: Merry Christmas. Panel 82: Merry Christmas. Panel 83: Merry Christmas. Panel 84: Merry Christmas. Panel 85: Merry Christmas. Panel 86: Merry Christmas. Panel 87: Merry Christmas. Panel 88: Merry Christmas. Panel 89: Merry Christmas. Panel 90: Merry Christmas. Panel 91: Merry Christmas. Panel 92: Merry Christmas. Panel 93: Merry Christmas. Panel 94: Merry Christmas. Panel 95: Merry Christmas. Panel 96: Merry Christmas. Panel 97: Merry Christmas. Panel 98: Merry Christmas. Panel 99: Merry Christmas. Panel 100: Merry Christmas.

# First Indians Came from Africa 85,000 Years Ago?

by Jayanta Sarkar

About 100,000 years ago, modern humans began moving out of Africa — where, many anthropologists feel, they first appeared — perhaps following a major demographic expansion, and looked for new habitats. According to evidence, one stream of those modern humans came to India about 85,000 years ago, while another went to south China.

WHERE did the first human inhabitants in India come from? Africa, suggest DNA studies taken up in the last couple of years in the country.

What forced the people from Africa to move out many millennia ago was increasing pressure on available resources.

Indian kings and emperors sending their cultural emissaries as well military teams to many other countries in south-east Asia.

# American Air Strikes Seen to India's Advantage

Mahesh Uniyal writes from New Delhi

THE American air strikes on alleged terrorist bases in Afghanistan are seen as a vindication of India's position on the existence of a "terror network" in the region and gives a new twist to the region's conflict whose ramifications are felt here.

to "active support, collaboration and actual involvement of foreign forces" in Afghanistan, but without naming Pakistan.

India's diplomatic task must now be to ensure that Afghanistan remains an autonomous actor in world politics," he said, advising New Delhi to "step up its diplomatic activism over Afghanistan."

The US, backed by Pakistan, is, however, said to be engaged in trying to beat arch-foe Iran in the Central Asian energy sweepstakes by developing the shorter route through Afghanistan to South Asia and the Indian Ocean.