

Photograph

Child marriage: A denial of childhood

A photography exhibition on the theme Child Marriages in Bangladesh held at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy Art Gallery

TAWFIQUE ALI

THOUGH marriage is a mark of bondage between man and woman, it can turn to a sheer curse when performed untimely or before coming of age. Like many other developing countries of the world, such curse is a frequent phenomenon in Bangladesh. Child marriages take place mainly due to poverty, ignorance and superstitions usually in rural areas where people lacking in proper knowledge and awareness. According to the UN Charter on Child Rights a boy or girl below 18-year is considered a child. It is child marriage when it takes place in this age. In most cases, in our country, girl children fall prey to this curse much more than boy children do. Again, girls are the worst sufferers in the ruthless reality of a poor society making them subject to pitious deprivation of their legitimate rights of childhood.

The result is endless miseries in a life without a meaningful end to bear with.

Department of Women's Affairs, in association with Unicef Bangladesh, organised a photography show on this issue of social illness by Mahmud, a MAP photographer, during November 9 to 10.

The show offered a composition of glimpses of untold woes and miseries incurred, in the lives of countless innocent girls, by fruitless marriage before their coming of age.

Through his lens, Mahmud has captured sporadic tales of misery and deprivation, from some remotest island and areas of North-Western districts, which together make up a tale of woes under-privileged girl children undergo in our country.

One picture, taken in 1997, on display tells the story of Dulali, a 13-year-old girl from Kushtia. She was married off to



Being threatened, Hasina's mother gives her (Hasina) hand to her suitor

her cousin brother six months back. It was a Housher Bia (fancy marriage). No teenage bride is allowed to attend school or go outside after marriage. Dulali's husband was to raise a grocery shop in the haat with the help Dulali's father. Such disguised dowry is what allures prospective grooms to marry while parents want to get rid of their underaged daughters, who are considered as family burdens, at any means.

Dipali recounts her episode of misery to the photographers saying, "I turned twelve just a few month ago. I used to go to school and was a second grade student when a marriage proposal came for me. Now I have been married for almost two months. Today I have just come on a Nior (a visit to parental house after marriage)."

Dipali was captured in Mahmud's camera in 1995 from Rishipara of Jessore. At



Tulshi, a minor girl as bride, is on her Nior (visit to parental house)

Rishipara there live about one twenty-five families who earn their livelihood as cobblers, small traders and barbers.

Kushum was married off to Ashrafal to satisfy her mother's desire who thought she might die. Her last wish was to see Kushum married. Now Kushum begs in the streets of Dhaka.

Hasina was snapped through his camera from Ulipur, Kurigram 1999. Her tale is rather typically common one. A young suitor of Hasina threatened her mother demanding her daughter's hand in marriage. Otherwise, he would abduct Hasina and marry. Fearing dreadful consequences and social disgrace her mother complied to the wish of the hooligan.

Another incident recorded from Kurigram in 1997, about which Begum said, "I want to go school! I want to learn. I want to be a teacher! Begum ran away on her wedding day to her uncle's house, seeking refuge from an unwanted marriage. The would-be groom had to return empty handed. Still the

incident left an unersable scare on her family's reputation.

Ambia was a class III student before her marriage. When her father died leaving six children, her mother remarried. Ambia's grand mother and uncle married her off to a twenty-seven year old man.

In the island of Bachamara under Manikganj district parents consider their daughters as burden and want to marry them off as soon as possible. In Kamarjani, Gaibandha where Mahmud went photograph's in 1998, parents consider late marriage to be a sin, and an unmarried daughter is a burden.

When Mahmud encountered Tulshi in Rangpur, she had been married for six months. She was on a visit to her parents and her pet for the first time after her marriage. A daughter of fisherman Tulshi never had an opportunity to attend school. Her husband was a rickshawpuller in Rangpur town. He wanted to start a teashop which his father-in-law had promised to finance with.

Poverty acts as a major



Begum, a school going minor girl, escaped an unwanted wedding

determining factor behind child marriage. In a poverty ridden family, as mostly are in this country, parents seek for a relief by marrying off their daughter who is economically considered as a burden. Parents often don't worry about their daughter's marriage with a man much older than the bride. Superstitions and question of safety, among others, are two most vital factors responsible for child marriage. Thinking marriage would

ensure security of their daughters, in social and economic sense, parents resort to marriage of under aged girls.

Child marriage puts an end to childhood of a boy or a girl and deprive them of their rights for health, education, security and normal growth.



Kushum and Ashrafal got wedded to meet desire of Kushum's mother



Dipali, wedded at the age of twelve or so, is on her visit to father's house

RECOMMENDATIONS

Crafts and fashion works show

A Crafts and Fashion Works Exhibition is now being held at the Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Shahbagh, Dhaka. The show will run till November 30.

Alfred Hitchcock Retrospective

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in collaboration with Indian High Commission in Dhaka, has organised a fortnight long Alfred Hitchcock Retrospective. North by Northwest, starring Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint will be screened today at Indian High Commission Auditorium at 6 in the evening.

Anjan's collection

Anjan's Eid collection capturing the mood of the Eid festival is going on at Kamal/Ataturk Avenue, Banani.

Fashion

A colourful apparel show by Altamira, a fashion gallery, is now being held at House # 1, Road # 2, Dhanmondi. The show, open from 10 a.m to 10 p.m. everyday, runs till December 14.



Kay Kraft

Kay Kraft, a well acclaimed fashion house, has its outlet open at . . . at House # C 138, Road # 4, Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Gulshan.

TV GUIDE

BTv

- Morning Session
12:00 Live telecast of the parliamentary sessions from the 8th National Parliament
Evening Session
3:10 News Headlines
3:20 Open University
3:45 Shukhi Poribar
4:00 Khabar
4:05 Pushitlathya
4:20 Cartoon: Godzilla
4:50 Mahe Ramadan
5:00 News Headlines
5:25 Shobar Jorno Shiksha
5:35 Drama Series: Sea Is Green
6:00 Khabar
6:10 Sangeeta
6:35 Programme from Chittagong station
7:00 News Headlines (English)
7:05 Pran Taranga
8:00 News in Bengali
8:30 Special on Arms Forces Day
9:00 News Headlines
9:25 Drama Series: Proshonno Pashan
10:00 News in English
10:25 Shur Lohori
11:15 Khabar / The News
11:30 Closing
EKUSHEY TV
12:00 Ekushey Midday
12:30 Charidike
1:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
1:30 Documentary Programmed: Japan Video Tropic
1:50 Classic Cartoons
2:10 Surer Prodeep
2:40 Drishit
3:00 Ekushey Headlines
3:05 Drama Serial
3:30 Amader Kotla
4:00 Surer Prodeep
4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
5:00 Islamic Program: Oshisee
5:30 Drishit
5:50 Akjer Potrikay
6:00 Ekushey Headlines
6:05 Classic Cartoons
6:30 Charidike
6:55 Ekushey Headlines
7:00 Deho Tore
7:30 Ekushey News
7:58 Ek Minute
8:00 Drama: Abong Beaya
8:30 Drama: Khan Bahadur Tin Chihalay
9:00 Ekushey News (English)
9:30 News : Simulcast from BTv
10:00 Anchor Amader Prithibee
11:00 Ekushey Late Night News
11:30 Ekushey Business
12:00 Ekushey Headlines
ATN BANGLA
8:00 ATN Bangla News
8:25 Drama serial : Uttarar
8:55 Drama serial : Uttarar
9:00 Napathee
9:35 Magazine prog: Agamir Taroka
10:10 Priyo Shilpi Priyo Gaan
10:35 Drama serial : Bondon
11:20 Bengali film : Muktir Songram
12:00 ATN Bangla News
4:30 Itar Prog: Mobarak Ho Mahey Ramadan
6:07 Musical prog : ATN Music
6:45 Dance prog : Dance Dance
7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
7:55 Drama serial : Uttarar
8:10 Film Magazine : Cine Music
8:45 Drama: Ekjo Katha Rakthene
10:00 ATN Bangla News
10:35 Drama serial : Bondon
11:15 Bengali Film : Abar Bonobashe Ruban
11:30 ATN Bangla News

CHANNEL-i

- 6:20 Drama: Joar Vata
7:00 Roving Eye
7:35 Aber Fire Dhekha
8:00 Din Protidin
8:15 Ek Jaloke Channel i
9:00 Bangla Khawali
9:40 Music Plus
10:45 Drama Joar Vata
11:15 Roving Eye
12:00 Aber Fire Dhekha
12:35 Ek Jaloke Channel i...
1:15 Bangla Khawali
2:00 Bengala cinema: Samadhan
4:50 Mahe Ramadan
5:25 Hamd Nat
5:35 Monhor Iftar
5:45 Islam & Biggan
6:10 Music Plus
7:15 Channel i Sangbad
7:25 Drama: Joar Vata
8:00 Bha Ki Darun Drisha
8:30 I Tele Quiz
8:35 Drama: Simana
9:00 Channel i Sangbad
9:20 Sangbad Patra Bangladesh
9:30 I Tele Quiz
9:35 Drama: Kaier Kata
10:00 Quiz: 60 Sec.
10:30 Channel i Sangbad
11:00 Bangla Cinema: Atim Kingdom
BBC WORLD
6:00 BBC News
6:30 World Business Report
7:00 BBC News
7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
8:00 BBC News
8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
9:00 BBC News
9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
10:00 BBC News
10:30 Holiday
11:00 BBC News
11:30 Correspondent
12:00 BBC News
12:30 Hardtalk
1:00 BBC News
1:30 QED
2:00 BBC News
2:30 Earth Report
3:00 BBC News
3:30 Hardtalk
4:00 BBC News
4:30 Click Online
5:00 BBC News
5:30 Earth Report
6:00 BBC News
6:30 Hardtalk
7:00 BBC News
7:15 World Business Report
7:30 Holiday
8:00 BBC News
8:30 Earth Report
9:00 BBC News
9:30 Asia Today

HBO

- 6:45 Dream for An Innocent
8:30 Midway
11:15 Mission Impossible
1:30 Ordinary People
A Test Of Love
6:00 Blankman
8:00 Baseketball
10:00 The Godfather Part III
1:30 Clockers
3:35 Midway
STAR GOLD
10:30 Amul Bollywood News
11:00 Geet Bahar
11:30 Ek Mutthi Aasmaan (Vijay Arora, Radha Saluja)
3:00 Amul Bollywood News
3:30 Dilsey Miley Dil (Bhisham, Shymalee)
7:00 Geet Bahar
7:30 Mangal Masti-Manchali (Sanjeev Kumar, Leena Chandavarkar)
11:00 Amul Bollywood News
11:30 Sasural (Rajendra Kumar, B Saroja Devi)
12:30 Sasural (Contd)
3:00 Geet Bahar
3:30 Dilsey Miley Dil (Bhisham, Shymalee)
7:00 Manchali (Sanjeev Kumar, Leena Chandavarkar)
STAR WORLD
6:00 Happy Days
6:30 3\* Rock From The Sun
7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Water Rats
9:00 That 70's Show
9:30 Dharma & Greg
10:30 Chicago Hope
11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
12:00 Everybody Loves Raymond
12:30 Frasier

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- 10:30 p.m. Anchor Aamader Prithibi. Convened by the UN, over 120 countries across the world have been observing Universal Children Day on November 20 every year since 1953. On this day we show our love, attention and solidarity to the children. Today's programme features this ady.
8:00 p.m. Ebong Biey. 7th episode of this serial features occupation of Shamsu's house. Naimuddin's gang becomes anxious when Sajal leaves.
5:30 & 9:00 p.m. Friends. Joey gets in trouble for giving female customers free food at Central Perk. A sick Monica desperately tries to convince Chandler that she's not sick. After her father cuts her off, Rachel's sister Jill comes to town. Rachel talks Jill into asking Ross out.
1:00 Media TV
1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
2:00 Mork & Mindy
2:30 Happy Days
3:00 Baywatch
4:00 The Simpsons
4:30 3\* Rock From The Sun
5:00 Star News Asia
5:30 Friends
6:00 JAG
6:55 Star News Asia
7:00 The Pretender
8:00 Law & Order
9:00 Friends
10:00 JAG
11:30 Law & Order
12:30 JAG
2:00 The Pretender
2:30 3\* Rock From The Sun
3:00 Creflo Dollar Daily
3:30 Kenneth Copeland Ministries
4:00 Life in the Word With Joyce Meyer
4:30 World News
5:00 Things People Do
5:30 Mork & Mindy
STAR PLUS
6:00 Sanskruti
6:30 Star Geetmala
7:30 Hum Saath Aath Hain
8:00 Aatma
9:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
9:30 Fox Kids-Daily
10:30 Small Wonder
11:00 Pal Chhin
11:30 Saahil
12:00 Sansar
12:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
1:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain
1:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kia

PICK OF THE DAY

- The Godfather Part III
On HBO at 10:00 pm.
In the third installment of Mario Puzo's best-selling work of slick mafia mayhem family, the Corleone's, the father who invented stylistic mob violence, and killing with class now wants peace. But what is he willing to do to get it? Al Pacino reprises his role as a now aging Michael, who is looking for spiritual redemption.
1:00 Judgment Day
9:30 Insider, The
12:15 No Looking Back
2:00 Extreme Ads Of Superdave
3:45 Sandimony
5:15 Here On Earth
7:00 Amy And Isabelle
8:45 Chain Of Command
12:30 Judgment Day
12:30 Ground Control
2:30 Soft Kill
4:30 What Rats Wont Do
CHANNEL [V]
7:30 [V] So Long Gone
8:30 [V] Jumpstart
10:30 [V] Hit Machine
12:30 [V] Jungli Jukebox

SPORTS

- 6:30 Sportscenter Hindi
7:00 Motoworld
7:30 English Premier League Highlights English Premier League Highlights 2001/02
8:30 South Africa Cricket India Tour Of South Africa Port Elizabeth, South Africa 2\* Test, Day 4, Highlights
9:30 English Premier League Highlights English Premier League Highlights 2001/02 Charlton, UK West Ham United @ Charlton Athletic
11:30 Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour Professional Women's Bowling Association Pittsburgh, PA USA
12:30 Nhl Power Week!
1:00 Sportscenter Bristol, CT USA
2:00 South Africa Cricket India Tour Of South Africa Port Elizabeth, South Africa 2\* Test, Day 5, 1\* Session
3:30 South Africa Cricket India Tour Of South Africa Port Elizabeth, South Africa 2\* Test, Day 5, 3\* Session
3:00 National Sports Report Yachting World Yachting Series 2001: Kings Cup Macau Grand Prix 2001
4:00 Macau Grand Prix 2001
7:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02
8:00 Sportsline Tonight
9:30 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Cup Sydney 2001 Sydney, Australia Highlights
10:30 The Straits Cup 2001 Straits Cup Gullin, China Day Three Highlights
12:30 Sportsline Today
1:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02
3:00 International Motorsports News International Motorsport News 2001
2:30 Watersports Tonight
3:30 Sportsline Tonight
4:00 Trans World Sports
5:00 Sportsline Tonight
5:30 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02
8:30 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League
10:30 Sportsline Tonight
11:00 Australian Domestic Cricket Brisbane, Australia New Zealand @ Queensland Bulls Day 2 Highlights
12:00 Sportsline Tonight
12:30 Judo Judo Grand Prix Finals 2001 Moscow, Russia Finals
1:30 International Motorsports News
2:30 Watersports Tonight
3:30 Sportsline Tonight
4:00 Trans World Sports
5:00 Sportsline Tonight
5:30 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02
8:00 Sportsline Tonight

ESPn

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3:00 National Sports Report Yachting World Yachting Series 2001: Kings Cup Macau Grand Prix 2001
4:00 Macau Grand Prix 2001
7:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02
8:00 Sportsline Tonight

ZEE TV

- 6:00 Yaadon Ke Pal
6:30 Aalaap
7:00 Yoga For Life
7:30 Jagran
7:50 Zee Gym & Eat Healthy
8:20 News
8:30 Ardhangani
8:45 Yaadein Radio Ceylon Ki
9:00 Nickelodeon
9:30 Nickelodeon
10:00 Guldasta
10:30 Sarhadain
11:00 Ek Tukda Chand Ka
11:30 Ek Nazar
12:00 Woh Haseen Pal
1:00 Manzlein Apni Apni
1:25 Jhalak
1:30 Koi Apna Sa
2:00 Choti Maa Ek Anokha Bandhan
2:30 Gharana
3:00 Feature Film
6:00 Ek Nazar
6:30 Nickelodeon On Zee
7:00 Nickelodeon
7:30 Ek Nazar
8:00 Deewane To Deewane Hai
8:30 Ek Tukda Chand Ka

ZEE CINEMA

- 6:00 Feature Film
9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme
9:15 Top of the Tops
9:45 Movie Fare
10:00 Feature Film
1:00 Cine News
1:15 Madhyantar
1:30 Feature Film
5:00 Darpan
5:15 Weekend Cinema
5:45 Film Time
6:00 Feature Film
9:15 Chatpatti Chat
9:30 Tara Rum
10:00 Feature Film
1:45 Tara Rum
2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme
2:30 Feature Film
5:30 Chehrein
ZEE MUSIC
6:00 Music Plus
7:00 Aalaap
7:30 Tara Rum
8:30 Hit Pe Hit
10:25 Star Style
11:00 Cool Age
11:30 Music Box
12:00 Music Plus
1:00 Hit Pe Hit
2:00 Jharokha
2:35 Artist Of The Fortnight
3:05 Tara Rum
4:00 Hit Pe Hit
5:00 Music Box
5:30 Hit Mix
6:00 Compact Disc
6:30 Music Plus
7:30 Hit Pe Hit
8:30 Just Jammin
9:00 Dil Se
9:30 Music Box
10:00 Sizzlers
10:30 Jharokha
11:05 Fillers
11:35 Phoren Maal
12:35 Shabab
1:05 Music Box
1:30 Jharokha
2:00 Hit Pe Hit
2:30 Artist Of The Fortnight
3:30 Tara Rum

ALPHA TV BANGLA

- 6:00 Sheshprashna
6:30 Goenda Paribar
7:00 Ekushe Paa
7:30 News
8:00 Surer Ei Dharana Dharay
8:30 Sur Taal
9:00 News
9:05 Bharat Bhraman
9:30 Kichu Smriti Kichu Gaan
10:00 Saregama
11:00 Sheshprashna
11:30 Grohon
12:00 Phiren Elam
12:30 Samayer Sur
1:00 Ingit
1:30 Ek Akasher Niche
2:00 Nayantara
2:30 Rajadrohi Durga Puja Special
5:00 Surer Ei Jharna Dharay
5:30 Manabi
6:00 News
6:30 Grohon
7:00 Shesh Prashna
7:30 Purobi
8:00 Nayantara
9:45 Ingeet
10:15 Football
10:45 Ek Palake
10:50 News
10:55 Ek Palake
11:00 Aat Pake Bandha
11:30 News
11:55 Ek Palake
12:00 Shesh Prashna
12:55 Ek Palake
12:30 Bangla Feature Film
3:00 Monnye
3:30 Bharat Bhraman
4:00 Nayantara
4:30 Ek Akasher Niche
5:00 Chena Mukher Shari
5:30 Football
HALLMARK
12:00 Frankie & Hazel
2:00 Katts and Dog
3:00 Frankie & Hazel
5:00 Sesame Street
6:00 Child's Cry
8:00 Steve Martin's The Lodge
10:00 Lonesome Dove: The Series
11:00 A Season Of Hope
1:00 Sliders Season IV
2:00 Sesame Street
3:00 Clifford
3:30 Calliou
4:00 Lonesome Dove: The Series
5:00 Star Trek : Voyager
6:00 Sliders Season IV
7:00 Lavyrie Spencher's Home Song
9:00 Star Trek : Voyager