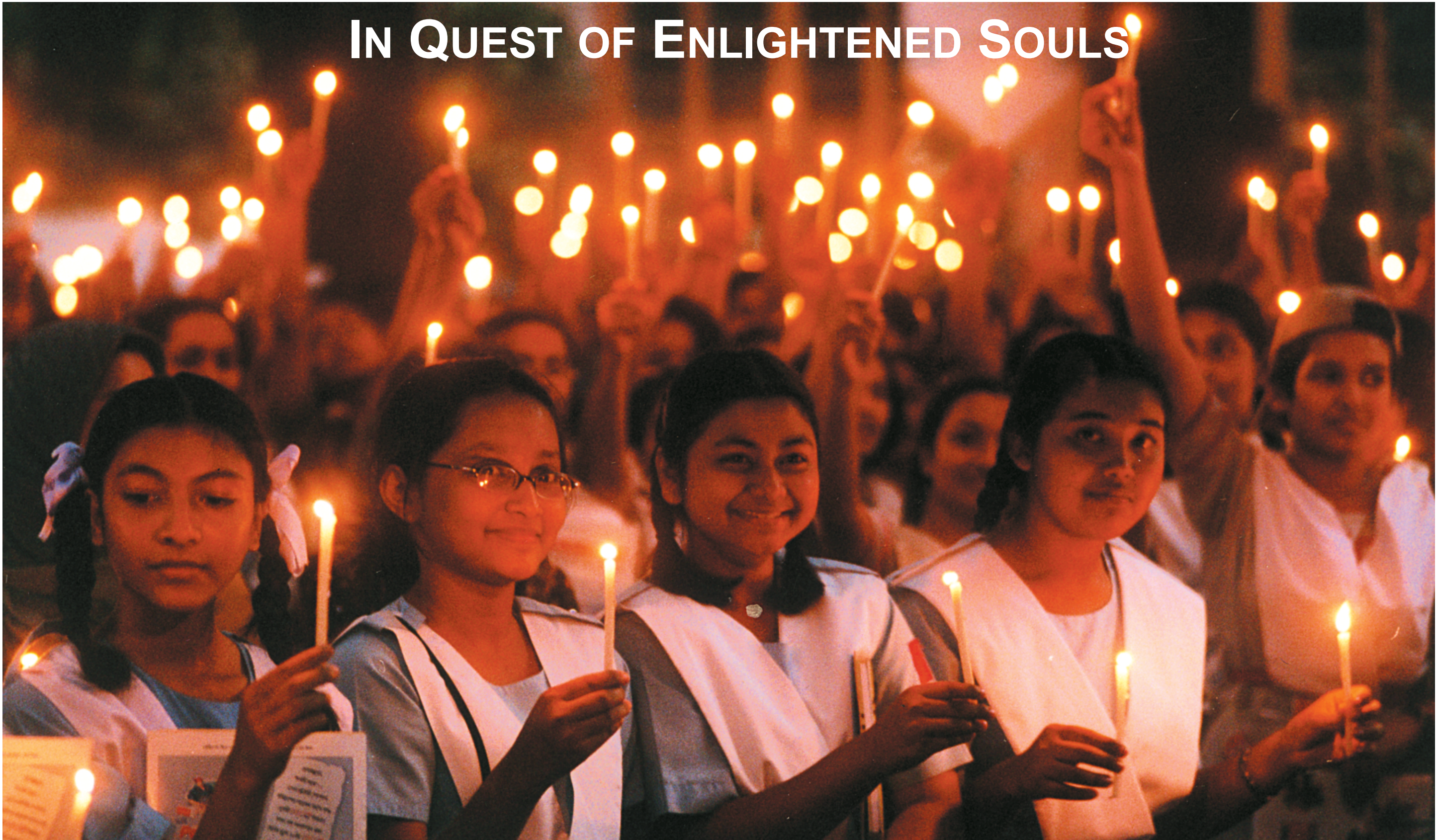


IN QUEST OF ENLIGHTENED SOULS



TO develop the reading habit and enlightening the future generations with knowledge, Biswasahitya Kendra has been organising a book reading campaign across the country for the last twenty years. Besides its several other campaigns, Biswasahitya helps grow reading habits of students of schools and colleges. About 24,000 students of 100 schools in the city took part in the book reading campaign in 2003. To encourage reading, Biswasahitya introduced prizes (which are books) for the students who passed a test. This year the prize giving ceremony is taking place at Bakultala of the Fine Arts Institute in association with the Prothom Alo and Phillips Audio. Among the students who took part in the campaign 4,553 will get awards at the three-day ceremony. Intellectuals of the country came on the opening day to encourage students to cultivate their reading habit. A candlelit procession by students was also held to reflect the heavenly joys of enlightenment -- a symbolic message from the children for free thinking, tolerance and an open society. The award giving ceremony will conclude today.

Photo: SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

