



EASTER SUNDAY TODAY

A day of faith, joy and rejoicing

SILVERINE SHRIKANTHAN

"I am the resurrection and the life!" Words that were heard at service almost every day, during the Lenten season, the period in which Christians commemorate the agony, the passion and crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ.

The Lenten period begins from Ash Wednesday and goes on till Good Friday, the day Christians remind themselves of the death of Jesus Christ.

But what comes after that is most fascinating, Easter, the resurrection three days after Jesus was crucified. This is what gives all Christians hope for life after death.

Bangladeshis celebrate Easter in grandeur. Main celebrations start a week before Easter Sunday, the Sunday called Passion Sunday, where Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem is celebrated with waving palm branches, which are blessed and distributed among the congregation.

It is, after all these palm leaves, a year later are handed over to the church, so that they are burnt, blessed and on Ash Wednesday applied on the forehead of each member of the congregation. Ash Wednesday is the day, which reminds human beings that man is dust and unto dust he will return.

"We are here to spread the message of love Jesus showed us by becoming man like us, for our sakes, according to the Will of God," said Monsignor (Msgr.) Joseph Arshad, of the Embassy of the Holy See in Dhaka.

"In spreading the message of love we

spread the message of peace," he said. Msgr Arshad also quoted from the lines of Mother Teresa, which goes as follows:

"The Fruit of silence is prayer

The fruit of prayer is faith

The fruit of faith is love

The fruit of love is service

The fruit of service is peace"

"And peace," said Msgr. Arshad "is what the world desperately needs



today."

"Easter Sunday is a day of faith, of joy and rejoicing," said Father Anton Rex of De Mazenod Church, Naya Nagar. "The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith and the most extraordinary happening in human history."

"Many have died for love of their people, but no greater love has any man shown as Jesus did by laying down his life for us. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead affirms that death is not

the end of us," continued Fr. Rex.

"I simply love preparing the choir for the services on Easter Sunday," said June. June is the leader of the choir at the National Major Seminary Chapel in Banani. "There is no day to compare with Easter," she added.

"Easter is the answer to all the tears that we shed at the graves of our loved ones. It reminds us that we have a future greater than we dare believe in, provided we open our hearts to the grace that Jesus won for us," said Brother Maxwell, who is preparing to be ordained a priest very soon.

Apart from the religious celebrations, others like the Easter Bunny and Egg are a part of Easter. The bunny is not a modern invention. The symbol originated with the pagan festival of Easte. The Anglo-Saxons worshipped the goddess, Easte, through her earthly symbol, the rabbit.

As the Easter Bunny and the holiday itself, the Easter Egg predates the Christian holiday of Easter. The exchange of eggs in the springtime is a custom that was centuries old when Christians first celebrated Easter and from the early times, the egg was a symbol of rebirth in most cultures.

Many families in Bangladesh still continue to use these symbols in keeping with traditions and celebrations of early days.

But for Christians Easter symbolises pain, despair and misery pushed into second place as a whole new future, full of the hope and happiness of eternal life is opened for us beyond the grave.

All that glitters are not quality cosmetics

SABRINA KARIM MURSHED

Consumers are feared deceived, as no authoritative body exists to control the quality of cosmetics produced in Bangladesh.

A recent survey done by the Consumers' Association of Bangladesh (CAB) on 36 brand items of 19 cosmetic producers revealed that at least 91.67 percent of the products do not carry information like ingredients and their ratios.

The report says 94.45 percent of the products do not have dates of production on the labels while the date of expiry in 97.23 percent of the products is not available. Almost 80.56 percent of products like creams or petroleum jelly do not have instructions for use and a 100 percent of them lack preservation instructions on labels or packets.

"It is harmful to health if consumers use cosmetics that have already expired. Burns, rashes and skin irritation can break out," said Quazi Faruque, CAB general secretary.

Health experts and skin specialists commented that low-quality cosmetics create health hazards. Cosmetics are sometimes bought and used for namesake, unaware of the ingredients used to produce them. Various raw materials used in production contain metallic substances like arsenic, sulphur and lead.

"Although a fraction of these metals are required in production, local producers don't treat them as specified. The treating process is expensive," said a quality controller of a cosmetics company, requesting anonymity.

He commented that some manufacturers do not have a laboratory of their own, adding locally produced fairness creams mostly contain 'hydroquinine' or 'Velarate-17' as its main ingredient harmful to human skin if not used proportionately.

Dermatologists said they treat patients with skin disorders caused by fairness or spot creams.

"Fairness creams create a layer on the skin that prevents sunrays from affecting it directly. As a reason the user's skin looks fair



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

for sometime but does not last long. A person may lose his/her own skin tone when the use of such fairness creams stops. Fairness creams may cause skin cancer," said Dr Kabir, dermatologist of a renowned clinic.

Some city dwellers commented that manufacturers are cashing in on the non-existence of a controlling body on cosmetics production. "They do whatever they wish as they are not accountable to anyone," said Afsana Imam, a Dhaka University student. However, Fatema Amin, director of Amin Manufacturing Company Limited, said they maintain quality of their products.

"We have designated quality controllers and chemists to look after our products," she said. Asked about fairness cream, the director said the company uses ingredients as much as it was necessary. "Even then it may not suit every type of skin."

Sources in Bangladesh Standard and

Testing Institution (BSTI) said cosmetics are not included in its list of products that must have licences from BSTI before manufacture or marketing.

"Only coconut oil and lipstick are included in our list of 142 products," said a higher official of BSTI. However, he said some manufacturers opt to get a license of unlisted items from BSTI as they think it will help popularise their products. "If we find it proper, we license them," the official said.

CAB report says at least 97.23 percent of products do have weight and retail price on labels. But some retailers said manufacturers increase the prices of cosmetics in winter as the demand increases then.

Some local cosmetics bear a label that says it was made on a foreign formula. The report also says that most manufacturing companies subtly avoided their addresses.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE CLUTCH



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

A poor rickshawpuller strives to free the front wheel of his vehicle from the clutch of the front wheel of a bus at Bijoy Nagar in the city yesterday.

healthouting,taxicab&traintiming

HEALTH

Hospitals

Heart

National Institute of Cardio Vascular Diseases (NICVD),
- 9130800, 9122560-59

Burn

Dhaka Medical College Hospital
Burn Unit-8626812-6

Cancer

National Cancer Institute-8014914,
8826561-65
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib
Medical University-8612550-4,
861455-9

Diabetes

Diabetic Research Hospital
(BIRDEM)- 9661551-5,
8616641-50

Mother & Child Care

Shishu Hospital- 9119119,
8116061-62
Azimpur Mother & Child Health

Training Institute- 8624827, 8624980

Eye

Islamia Eye Hospital-9110794,
9119315
National Eye Hospital- 8117202,
8114807

Dental

Dental College -9002035

Orthopaedics

National Orthopaedics (Pangu)
Hospital- 9114075, 9112150

General

Dhaka Medical College Hospital-
8626812-6
Rushmono General Hospital-
8317819
Holy Family Hospital-
8311731-25
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib
Medical University Hospital-
8612550-4, 8614545-9
Bangladesh Medical College &
Hospital- 8115443, 9118202,

Shamarita Hospital- 9131901

Suhrawardy Hospital -- 9130800,

9122560-69

Salimullah Medical Collage

Hospital -- 7310061-4, 7319002-6

Cholera Research Hospital

(ICDDR)- 8811751-60

Monowra Hospital 8319802, 8318135

Blood Bank

Red Crescent Centre- 9116563

Sandhani (DMCH)- 8624040

Sandhani (SMCH)- 7310061,

7310061,7319022

Dhaka Medical Collage Hospital-

8626812-9

Eye Bank

Sandhani International Eye Bank-

8614040

Ambulances For

Dead Body

Anzuman Mafidul Islam (Kakrail

9336611, Gandaria 7319808,

7318166,

Al-Markajul Islam 9127867,

MARKET CLOSED

Gulshan 1, 2 markets-Friday

Elephant Road-Friday

Bishal Center-Friday

Baitual Mukarram Market-Friday

Poelwell Market-Friday

BCS Computer City-Friday

Isha Khan Shopping Complex-Friday.

Rajlaxmi Complex-Friday

Stadium Market-Friday

Bangabazar Market-Friday

National Museum-Thursday

Ahsan Manzil--Thursday.

New Market-Tuesday

Gausia Market-Tuesday

Mouchak Market-Sunday

Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday

Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday

Eastern Plaza-Sunday

Farmview Super Market-Sunday

Muktijuddha Jadughar-Sunday

Dhaka Zoo-Sunday

Shishu Jadughar-Sunday

TAXI CAB

Yellow Cab

Navana 9558065

Salida 9344477, 0171620881

Cosmo 9112959 and 8127191

Cab One 7113282-3

Nihon 8624741-2

Orion 9347277

Anudip 8125285 and 8127611

Capital 9352847

Union 8130485

Kool 0171826731

Black Cab

Cab Ex 9358401

Cabline 8321162

JBS Cab 019364575

Sajan 018126036

Anudip -- 8125285 and 8127611

Cab One 7113282-3

TRAIN TIMING

Subarna Express

Mahanagar Prabhati

Mahanagar Godhuli

Turna

Parabat Express

Joyantika Express

Upaban Express

Tista Express

Ekata Express

Upakul Express

Padma Express

Leaves Dhaka at 4:00 pm

Leaves Dhaka at 7:30 am

Leaves Dhaka at 3:05 pm

Leaves Dhaka at 11:00 pm

Leaves Dhaka at 6:30 am

Leaves Dhaka at 12:30 pm

Leaves Dhaka at 9:30 pm

Leaves Dhaka at 7:00 am

Leaves Dhaka at 5:00 pm

Leaves Dhaka at 6:00 am

Leaves Dhaka at 9:20 pm

Palki 0171052500

Cab I 7113282

Jatri 0171540074

Nipun 9572277

R-Cab 8914782

Star Cab 9571919

Shihab 018202477 & 018228675

KGN 8620011

LIBRARY & INFO-

Libraries, Cultural and Information Centers

Central Public Library- 8626001-4,

Shishu Academy- 9564128

Shilpakala Academy- 8614673

Bangla Academy- 8619550

Islamic Foundation- 9550280,

9556407

Nazrul Institute- 9114602

Ford Foundation- 8116133

Alliance Francaise- 8611557

British Council- 8618867-8,

8618905-7

Community Development Library-

8113769, 8113604

Goethe Institute Int'l- Dhaka-

9126525-6

Indian Information Centre &

Cultural Library- 8615096

The Russian Cultural Centre-

9116314, 9118531, 9118314

Drik Photo Gallery- 9120125,

8112954, 8123412