

FLYING HIGH IN THE BLUE SKY

With the month of *poush* in Bangla calendar farmers all over the country start celebrating the beginning of harvest season. City dwellers, especially in the old part of the metropolis too, have something to be cheerful about. On Friday men, women and particularly children all over the old part of Dhaka celebrated *poush sankranti* or the festival of kites. Almost every rooftop witnessed the presence of young boys and men flying colourful kites on razor sharp threads. The sky resembled a well-lit blue hue with colourful kites. The relentless competition to cut off one kite from its thread with the sharpened thread of another continued from morning till after sun set. Young *tokais* with bamboo poles equipped with a dry branch of a tree, ran in various directions of the streets to grab the drifting kites just been cut off. Mothers cooked traditional food of *tehari* at home and served it to visitors. For hundreds of years people of old Dhaka have celebrated *poush sankranti* in the same manner every year.

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