

# India's first Eden moment

## Kumble kills Pakistan

AFP, Kolkata



Wily leg-spinner Anil Kumble trapped Pakistan on a slow turning track to script India's 195-run victory with a seven-wicket haul in the second Test at the Eden Gardens here on Sunday.

Kumble wrecked Pakistan's middle order with his shrewd variations to finish with 7-63 as the tourists were bowled out for 226 on the fifth and final day chasing a huge 422-run target to concede a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

The 34-year-old spinner ensured there would not be a repeat of Mohali where Pakistan had drawn the opening Test from a losing position.

Kumble, who took all 10 wickets in a Test innings against Pakistan at Delhi in 1999, revived unhappy memories for the tourists as he struck with his first ball before completing his 29th haul of five or more scalps in an innings.

This was the seventh time he had taken 10 or more wickets in a Test, having captured three in the first innings.

Pakistan's chances of chasing the massive target receded sharply when they lost three big wickets in the space of 20 runs in the first hour after resuming at 95-1, with Kumble grabbing two and paceman Laxmipathy Balaji one.

Only three teams—the West Indies (2003), India (1976) and Australia (1948)—have so far scored more than 400 in the fourth innings to win a Test in the history of the game.

The stage was set for an exciting day's play when Pakistan resumed batting this morning needing 327 more runs in 90 overs, but the tourists failed to rise to the occasion.

Pakistan needed a couple of big

knocks to boost their hopes on a pitch which was good for batting despite offering slow turn, but only Asim Kamal offered stiff resistance with a solid 50 for his sixth half-century.

Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh (2-51) completed India's first win over Pakistan in six Tests at this venue when he bowled Danish Kaneria in the final session in front of nearly 40,000 spectators to spark celebrations in the stands.

Pakistan had no option but to bat for a draw after losing first-innings century-maker Younis Khan (nought), in-form skipper Inzamamul Haq (13) and Taufeeq Umar (35) in the morning.

Kumble began the slide when he had Younis stumped by Dinesh Karthik with the first ball of the day and then removed Inzamam, who played the delivery on to his stumps.



KUMBLE... 7-63

Karthik played a key role in the first dismissal as he smartly gathered a Kumble delivery going down the leg-side to remove the bats, with Younis out of the crease after missing an attempted on-drive.

Umar was caught by Virender Sehwag at second slip off Balaji to leave his team wobbling at 115-4.

Pressure became the name of the game as Kumble never allowed the batsmen to settle down, bowling with as many as four fielders close to the bat.

Pakistan eventually failed to cope with the pressure and were left chasing a mirage when they lost reliable middle-order batsman Yousof Youhana (22), Abdul Razzaq and Kamran Akmal in the post-lunch session.

Youhana was caught by Gautam Gambhir at short-leg to become Kumble's fourth victim while Razzaq (six) and Akmal (seven), Pakistan's saviour in the first Test, could not repeat their performance.

Razzaq was bowled by Kumble and Akmal by Harbhajan to leave Pakistan closer to defeat which came 22 minutes after tea.

### SCOREBOARD

Complete scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the second Test between India and Pakistan at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Sunday:

**INDIA:** First innings 407 (Dravid 110, Sehwag 81, Tendulkar 52; Razzaq 3-62, Afridi 3-80, Kaneria 3-136)

**PAKISTAN:** First innings 393 (Younis 147, Youhana 104; Kumble 3-98)

**INDIA:** Second innings 407-9 declared (Dravid 135, Karthik 93, Tendulkar 52; Razzaq 3-80, Sami 3-82, Kaneria 3-123)

**PAKISTAN:** Second innings (over-night 95-1)

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AND THE PARTY BEGINS: The jubilant Indian cricketers surround off-spinner Harbhajan Singh (C) after he had dismissed the last Pakistan batsman on the fifth and final day of the second Test at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata yesterday.

## Shastri shocks Bangladeshis

SPORTS REPORTER

During the keenly watched last day's play of the second Test between India and Pakistan in Kolkata yesterday, some remarks of former Indian cricketer Ravi Shastri, who was commenting for TEN Sports, infuriated Bangladeshi cricket fans who were watching the proceedings on TV.

A number of incensed callers rang The Daily Star's office to express their dismay at Shastri's apparent lack of commonsense and decency after he first mistook a Bangladesh flag for a Pakistani one. Although he instantly corrected his slip, the experienced commentator then made a brash remark about a couple of Bangladeshi fans who were watching the game from the stands of the Eden Gardens.

The episode unfolded during the post-lunch session when the television camera zoomed in on two Bangladeshis holding their red and green colours. Shastri's immediate reaction was: "Look, two spectators holding a Pakistani flag. I beg your pardon, it is a Bangladesh flag."

"What the hell are they doing out there? Maybe (they are) supporting Pakistan."

The Bangladeshi and Pakistani flags are so different that Shastri's 'mistake' can only be interpreted as sheer indifference that borders on arrogance, which is unbecoming of a TV personality like him. His observation about the possible allegiance of the Bangladeshi fans was also devoid of minimum sensitivity and respect towards a sovereign nation.

Shastri's words have sparked heated reaction in the local media, the sports community and among the general public.

"How could he guess that those two spectators were supporting Pakistan? Does he think Bangladesh is still a part of Pakistan? I think he has deliberately insulted Bangla-desh," said Captain Helal a former Bangladesh Navy officer.

Many others like him have condemned Shastri's comments and demanded a public apology from him.



## Did U Know?

Stephen Fleming is leading New Zealand for the 52nd consecutive Test, equalling former England captain Mike Atherton's feat. Only Australia's Allan Border (93) has led in more consecutive Tests than Fleming.

## What to WATCH

**ESPN**  
Sportscentre  
Live at 8.30 pm  
New Zealand v Australia  
Second Test, Day Four  
Highlights at 9.30 pm  
Primera Liga  
Deportivo v Barcelona  
Same day delayed at 3.30 pm  
Toyota Football Up Close  
Taped version at 11 pm  
New Zealand v Australia  
Second Test, Day Five  
Live at 4.30 am (Tuesday)  
**STAR Sports**  
Primera Liga  
Real Madrid v Malaga  
Repeated at 10.30 am  
Sportsline  
Live at 8 pm  
ATP Indian Wells Masters Series Final  
Same Day Delay at 8.30 pm

## DAY'S EVENT

**Ispahani Sixth Nat'l Cricket League**  
(Four-Dayer, Day Two)  
Dhaka vs Rajshahi  
Venue: FCS  
Sylhet vs Barisal  
Venue: Sylhet Stadium  
Khulna vs Chittagong  
Venue: KDVS  
**Independence Day Gold Cup**  
Farashganj v Fakirerpool (3:00 pm)  
Abahani v Brothers (5:00 pm)  
Venue: BNS

## Ms sizzle on Day One



SPORTS REPORTER

Fresh from their one-day victories, Khulna and Sylhet were well placed but Rajshahi stumbled in the four-day version of the Ispahani Sixth National Cricket League that began at different venues yesterday.

National all-rounder Manzarul Islam Rana slammed a maiden first-class century (151) as Khulna posted a mammoth 330-6 against an injury-hit Chittagong in their sixth round match at the Khulna Divisional Stadium.

Hosts Sylhet enjoyed a good opening day against Barisal finishing on 226-3 at stumps thanks to yet another century by national discard Moniruzzaman.

However, at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium it was the Dhaka bowlers who called the shots as Mohammad Ashraf (5-58) and Talha Jubair (4-36) combined to bowl Rajshahi out below 300.

### KHULNA-CHITTAGONG

Batting first, Khulna recovered from three for 43 after Manzarul and opener Shafiq Alam produced 116 runs for the fourth wicket. Before Shafiq was run out for 62 he clobbered 12 fours in his 154-ball knock.

Left-handed Manzarul slammed 22 fours and four sixes after facing 202 deliveries but was eventually trapped lbw by paceman Gazi



MONIRUZZAMAN... back-to-back tons

Alamgir who finished with two wickets.

Khulna wicketkeeper Sahgir Hossain (54 off 106 balls) and Abdur Razzak Raj (30 off 25 balls) joined the party adding 44 runs for the seventh wicket stand.

Spinner Anshanullah Hasan also picked up two wickets.

**DHAKA-RAJSHAH**  
Farhad Reza hit 86 and Anisur Rahman scored 56 but it was not good enough for Rajshahi to amass a big first innings total.

They were blown away by a lethal combination of leg-spin and pace from Ashraf and Talha. They shared nine wickets to dismiss Rajshahi for 217 in 67.1 overs.

Ashraf bagged five for 58 in 20.1 overs while his partner Talha grabbed 4-36 in 15 overs. Anwar Hossain Munir claimed one for 48 in 13 overs.

At the close, Dhaka were 52-1 and had only lost opener Javed Omar (30). Anwar Hossain was batting on 13 and Mehrab Junior 7 respectively.

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## Same India for Bangalore Test

AFP, Kolkata

India on Sunday retained their 14-member squad for the third and final Test against Pakistan to be held in Bangalore on Thursday.

India scored a comfortable 195-run win in the second Test here to go 1-0 up in the series.

Pakistan, playing their first Test series in India in six years, are also

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## NSU in last 8

SPORTS REPORTER

North South University (NSU) moved into the quarterfinals of the AIUB Fourth Private Inter-university cricket tournament with a two-wicket victory over State University of Bangladesh at BKSP yesterday.

Batting first, State University were bundled out for 128. North South reached the target losing eight wickets.

Peoples University of Bangladesh face South East University and Stamford meet with IBAIS in today's matches.

## Sourav sings Anil song

### Inzamam blames first innings collapse

REUTERS, Kolkata



India captain Sourav Ganguly was full of praise for leg-spinner Anil Kumble after he helped bowl

India to a comprehensive 195-run victory over Pakistan in the second Test on Sunday.

Kumble captured seven for 63 in the Pakistan second innings, taking all his wickets in the space of 99 balls conceding 38 runs.

"I don't think he needs anyone's comments," said a delighted Ganguly. "He is nearing 500 and will probably get 600."

Kumble is the fifth most successful Test bowler behind Shane Warne, Muttiah Muralitharan of Sri Lanka, West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh and Australian paceman Glenn McGrath.

Ganguly was pleased to lead his side to victory in what was Pakistan's first defeat in six matches at the Eden Gardens.

The teams have drawn four Tests with Pakistan winning their previous meeting, by 46 runs in an Asian Test Championship game.

"Pakistan has always played well at Eden Gardens," he said. "We knew we had a good chance once we got Shahid Afridi yesterday and picked up a wicket with the first ball today."

Man-of-the-match Rahul Dravid struck hundreds in both innings, 110 and 135, to set up India's victory.

Kumble thanked Dravid and his fellow batsmen for giving him the chance to wrap up the match.

"There was a little bit of assistance from the pitch, but it was on the slower side," he said.

He praised off-spinner Harbhajan Singh, who picked up two wickets in each innings to play the supportive role.

"When two spinners bowl, batsmen don't get any breather. All the bowlers kept up the pressure," he said.

Harbhajan, 24, was playing in his first Test since December after

being left out of the drawn first Test in Mohali.

He had to correct his action after being reported for chucking while bowling the doosra, the delivery which spins away from right-handers.

Meanwhile, Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq blamed his batsmen's collapse in the first innings for his team's defeat.

"Not taking the first innings lead was the turning point," a disappointed Inzamam told reporters. "Had we done that, the result might have been different."

"If the batsmen had shown more responsibility we could have drawn the Test. It was difficult scoring 300-350 runs on this pitch."

Pakistan were coasting on 273 for two replying to India's first innings 407 all out after Day Two but they lost the last eight wickets for 112 runs to be dismissed for 393 on the third day.

It was Pakistan's seventh defeat in 10 matches, including a 3-0 rout

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## MSC, Muktis in semis

### Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan Sporting Club and Muktiyoddha Sangsad reached the semifinals of the Independence Day Gold Cup Football Tournament from Group A with hard-fought wins at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

A gifted penalty in the injury time helped Muktiyoddha snatch a 2-1 victory over Arambagh Krira Sangha in the day's first match while two-goal Nakib paved Mohammedan's 4-3 passage against a spirited Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra.

With two consecutive victories under their belt both Mohammedan and Muktiyoddha will lock horns in the final group league match tomorrow.

### MUKTIJODDHA-ARAMBAGH

The Reds, fresh from a 3-1 win against Sheikh Russel in their opening match, came alive after five minutes when striker Kanchan nodded home a left-side freekick by fullback Titu.

But the lead was shortlived as Milon strikes back for Arambagh with a first-time volley from inside

the box four minutes later.

Arambagh, better known as a boggy team of local big guns, pushed hard but were kept at bay by rival captain and goalkeeper Aminul, who pulled off two superb saves against Milon and Ritu.

Muktiyoddha sealed three points in the third minute of the injury time when they were awarded a penalty. Substitute Rintu, who came on five minutes earlier, unnecessarily handled a harmless ball in the box and Muktiyoddha's Nigerian forward Paul Nwachukwu converted the 12-yarder with ease.

### MOHAMMEDAN-SHEIKH RUSSEL

In a high-scoring thriller under lights, a smart move by Nakib put Mohammedan ahead after five minutes. The veteran striker, who struck twice in the Black and Whites' 4-0 drubbing of Arambagh in the previous match, snatched the ball from rival defender Aminul and quickly put the ball past an advancing keeper Apel.

The lead was cancelled out within a couple of minutes when Russel's Moroccan midfielder Egrir Mohammed drilled a low left-footer into Biplab's left hand post from 20 yards.

Mohammedan looked very unimpressive in the midfield where

they were outnumbered and custodian Biplab had to leave his post twice to deny Tanvir and Yusuf's threatening runs.

A spectacular strike by Alfaz from 40 yards put Mohammedan ahead again in the 37th minute when the captain thundered the ball into the top corner of the net, giving Apel no chance.

Russel hit back four minutes later when Moroccan forward Rashid received a long ball and beat national number two custodian Biplab with a powerful volley.

Mohammedan squandered a golden chance to restore the lead just four minutes into the second half when Nakib drove a penalty straight at Russel substitute keeper Biplab.

Referee Ram Krishna Gosh pointed at the dreaded spot after Pradip tripped Mohammedan's Korean striker Kim Zeu in the forbidden zone.

Russel took a 3-2 lead in the 58th minute when Rashid scored his second goal on his Dhaka debut, placing the ball into an empty net after intercepting a clearance by Mohammedan keeper Biplab.

However, Mohammedan drew level on the hour mark when Matiu Munnha headed home a corner by Kim Zeu before Nakib slammed the match winner ten minutes from time from another flag kick.



Muktiyoddha's Saiful Islam (L) is under pressure from Arambagh defender Ramzan during their Independence Day Gold Cup Tournament match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR