

8th Annual Bonsai Exhibition begins

MOON MOON SULTANA

The 8th Annual Bonsai Exhibition began at the Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday with a view to popularising bonsai among people in the country.

The exhibition created much enthusiasm and vigour among the nature lovers who came to the exhibition ignoring heavy rainfalls.

Around 250 bonsai works on Kath Beli, Kamini, Tomal, Tamarind, Hizal, Krishnachura, Rangan, Shet Chandan, Cherry, Karamcha, Ghurni Bichi, Boichi, Gandharaj and different species of Banyans of various shapes and sizes were presented in tiny pots in the exhibition.

Some exotic species of bonsai including Bangkok Bogenvila and China Banyan also attracted the viewers.

In addition to a miniature forest in a single pot, there were also some works on forests and landscapes along with the chirping of birds (music), which created a magnificent ambience of wildlife.

Bangladesh Bonsai Society (BBS) organised the exhibition in association with GrameenPhone.

Yonexo Fukada, counselor - deputy chief of the Embassy of Japan, inaugurated the exhibition as the chief guest.

Yonexo said, bonsai is a blending of art, science and nature.

Termining bonsai as 'a global sub-culture', he appreciated the practice of nurturing bonsai in the country as

an emblem of Japan-Bangladesh friendship.

'Bonsai is the architecture of soul integrating fantasy and reality in a single form' said BBS President Dr Shafique Ahmed Khan.

He asked for marketing of bonsai in the country and suggested for more education and training on bonsai with the slogan 'Bonsai is a living gift for all occasion'.

Talking to The Daily Star, SM Tauhid Tutul, BBS executive mem-

ber, said that though Bangladesh has a potential for flourishing bonsai, lack of adequate instruments and awareness among people are the major obstacles.

'A bonsai can be made alive over 100 years providing sufficient water and sunlight and changing the soil of the pot every two years,' said Tutul who is involved in the art for around 20 years.

The exhibition will remain open from 10:00am to 6:00pm till August 3

and there is no entry fee.

The price of the bonsai works in the exhibition ranges from Tk 1,000 to Tk 50,000.

But the highest priced bonsai of the exhibition is that of a Banyan tree that has a tag of Tk 5.75 lakh.

Ireen Parvin, BBS public relation in-charge, justified the price tag saying, 'The Banyan has got a history'. However, she preferred to keep it a mystery and did not disclose it.



PHOTO: STAR

Visitors admire bonsai works at the 8th Annual Bonsai Exhibition that began at the Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday.

BUSINESSMAN ANWAR MURDER CASE All accused acquitted

COURT CORRESPONDENT

All the six accused in businessman Mosharaf Hossain Anwar murder case were acquitted yesterday as the prosecution failed to prove the allegations against them.

The family members of the victim, who was the proprietor of Tarin Traders of Nawabganj, rejected the verdict. They are now worried about their security in the locality as the accused threatened the family members soon after the judgment.

They said they would appeal to the higher court against the verdict. Judge AR Masud of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 pronounced the verdict in presence of five accused - Raihanur Rahman Palash, Faruque, Mintu, Fazar Ali and Jonny.

The other accused, Humayun Kabir, went into hiding after being released on bail.

Earlier, the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 15 prosecution witnesses.

According to the prosecution, a group of miscreants led by Raihanur Rahman Palash, hit the victim with hammer and left him in an unconscious state beside the Shibbari canal adjacent to Nawabganj College sometime between 6:00pm and 6:30pm on January 11 last year as he protested the teasing of his daughter. He died after he was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The victim's wife Momena Mosharaf filed a murder case against Palash and four others the next day. The investigation officer pressed charges against them along with another person on July 6 the same year.

Victim's 60-year-old mother Habiba Khatun, wife Momena Anwar and three daughters expressed dissatisfaction over the verdict.

They told reporters that they

now feel insecure as all the accused were acquitted.

Special Public Prosecutor Aminul Islam told The Daily Star that he was unhappy over the judgment. He will go through the verdict and decide whether the appeal will be filed, he said.

No headway in customs officer murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

No headway has been made in the investigation of Chittagong customs officer murder case.

None was arrested so far for the killing of Akbar Saeed Chowdhury.

Police, however, claimed to have obtained some clues and are now proceeding ahead with those clues

to bring the killers to justice.

Investigation Officer (IO) Atiqur Rahman yesterday told the journalists that he was hopeful of making a headway in the case soon.

Mainuddin Saeed Chowdhury (Russel), younger brother of the slain customs officer, has filed a murder case with Panchlala Police Station.

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US mission closed on Sept 3

UNB, Dhaka

US Embassy offices, including The American Centre, Archer K Blood American Centre Library and the student counselling service, will remain closed on September 3 in observance of Labour Day, a national holiday of the United States.

Italian Food Festival @ SUBLIME

Hotel couture comes to Dhaka. Experience the culinary talents of celebrity Executive Chef Steve Szabo and his team from the world's only 6 star Palazzo Versace Hotel direct from Australia's Gold Coast. Launched on 7-8 September '06 with a 3 course degustation set menu inclusive of beverages. A La Carte dining will also be available from 9-16 September '06.

*Reservations are highly recommended.

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