

KITE FESTIVAL 2008

'Uphold Dhaka's heritage'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The skyline over Dhaka University (DU) campus yesterday changed its colour with the glitter of colourful kites.

Hundreds of kites of various colours, sizes and shapes were flying in the sky over university playground in the afternoon.

These kites had also interesting names like Prajapati, Pankhiraj, Chumki, Churidar, Lalpahar and Kalapahar.

Amid great fanfare and enthusiasm, the kite players took part in the 'Maggi Kite Festival-2008' organised jointly by Dhakabasi, a socio-cultural organisation of Old Dhaka, and Dhaka Mohanagar Charshata Bachhar Uddjan Committee (Committee to observe 400 years of Dhaka City). Nestlé Bangladesh Limited sponsored the event.

To mark the occasion, a kite flying competition was also held.

Bangladesh Ghuri (Kite) Federation of Hazaribagh and Kayethuli Ghuri Club took part in the competition.

Kites of different colours, sizes and shapes like fish, bird, snake and national flag were flying in the sky enthralling the spectators.

They also enjoyed different cultural programmes including songs of Old Dhaka's famous Kalachand Band Party, bugle playing of Abdul Kader and riding in horse-driven carts.

Earlier, Cultural Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury inaugurated the festival which was attended by Dhakabasi President Shukur Saleq, Canadian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Barbara Richardson, Malaysian High Commissioner Abdul Maleque Bin Abdul Aziz, DU Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof AFM



Cultural Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury inaugurates the Kite Festival-2008 on the Dhaka University playground yesterday. Dhakabasi, a socio-cultural organisation, and the Committee to Observe 400 Years of Dhaka City organised the event.

Yusuf Haider, Nestlé Bangladesh Ltd Senior Manager (Trade Marketing) Khan Saleh Mahmud and Dhakabasi life-member Nadim Ahmed.

Speaking as chief guest, Rasheda said, "We have our thousand-year-old culture and heritage which is disappearing day by day. However, some private organisations are still trying to preserve those age-old traditions."

Kite flying is a game of youths

and the young generation should be given the opportunity to play the game frequently, she said, adding, "We have to arrange these kinds of traditional games to uphold our culture and heritage."

The adviser urged the private sectors to come forward to promote national culture and heritage and hoped that these kinds of festivals will be celebrated at national level.

Prof Yusuf Haider said

Bangladesh is a country of festivals, and 400-year-old Dhaka city is famous for its rich culture and heritage.

The traditional Nawab families of Dhaka was the patron of kite flying which is one of the traditional games of our country, he said urging all to work together to uphold the old heritage of Dhaka.

An art competition for school students was also held on this occasion.

Drive against use of cellphone while driving in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Traffic department of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) starts drive to check use of cellphone while driving in the port city from today.

A five-member mobile team will patrol the city streets to detect such drivers alongside checking other traffic violations.

CMP sources said the initiative has been taken following a gazette publication putting restriction on the use of cellphone while driving motor vehicles.

Use of cellphone is increasing the risk of road accidents causing losses of lives and properties while it is also helping a syndicate of three-wheeler drivers to keep link with criminals and carry out different criminal activities.

The five-member team will comprise a sergeant, a havildar and three constables equipped with two hand mikes and a digital camera.

The team will take snaps of anyone who would be seen talking over cellphone while driving and take immediate actions including financial and legal punishments under section 149 of Motor Vehicle Ordinance of 1983, said the sources.

BBC Bangladesh Sanglap today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BBC World Service will hold topic-based special editions of BBC Bangladesh Sanglap this month.

The first edition of the special series titled 'Environment and Development' will be held at the Media Centre of Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre Dhaka today.

Prof Dr Nizamuddin Ahmed of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology will moderate the programme.

Chief Adviser's Special Assistant Raja Devashish Roy, Prof Dr Atiur Rahman, Director of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association (BELA) Syeda Rizwana Hasan and President of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) Hossain Khaled will take part in the programme as panelists.

The recorded programme will be aired on BBC Bangla radio at 8:00pm tomorrow and on Channel 1 at 8:00pm on Monday.



Language Movement veteran Fazlul Kader inaugurates the ninth reunion of the History Department Alumni Association of Dhaka University by cutting a ribbon at Teacher-Student Centre yesterday. (Story on Page 16)



Singers perform at a programme titled 'Bangla songs of 100 years' at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday. HSBC organised the event.

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Prof Saifuddin made KU VC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Prof Dr Mohammad Saifuddin Shah of Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology Discipline of Khulna University (KU) has been appointed vice chancellor of the university.

Prof Saifuddin took over the charge from Acting VC Shaikh Abdul Hasib on Thursday soon after receiving the appointment letter from the education ministry.

He is the first teacher of the university to be appointed vice chancellor.

The post fell vacant after the 5th Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Mahbubur Rahman resigned on February 10 in the wake of allegations of corruption and irregularities against him.

Int'l scientific cancer confce on Mar 21

BSS, Dhaka

A four-day International Socio-Scientific Cancer Conference will begin in the city on March 21.

Oncology Club and Federation of Anti-Cancer Activists of Bangladesh (FACAB) will jointly organise the conference at Radisson Water Garden Hotel.

The conference will highlight socio-economic aspects of cancer in developing countries with particular reference on Bangladesh and Saarc region and multi-modal management of cancer patients.

It will be followed by a number of practical workshops on surgical oncology, medical oncology, radiation oncology and physics and paediatric oncology to update the knowledge of local physicians. Oncologists from Bangladesh and other Saarc countries as well as different institutions of USA and Europe will conduct the workshops. Health professionals and students who are interested to attend the conference have been requested to register their names with the organisers by March 10.

CORPORATE BOOKING

Water Kingdom will be reserved on 1st March '08 for the banglalink family day.

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