



FESTIVAL OF COLOURS

Holi is celebrated with enthusiasm and gaiety on the last full moon day of Phalgun, coinciding mid-March. A Hindu ritual in origin, Holi, the festival of colours signifies the blossoms of the season and the triumph of "good over evil" as well as "joy over sorrow".

Much of the excitement of the festival lies in targeting friends with coloured powder and water. Children take special joy in spraying coloured water on one another with their *Pichkaris*. People, who do not want to get themselves drenched or their dresses stained, often take it as an offence if revellers throw colours at them. But a sight like a Hindu man applying tilak on the forehead of a Muslim woman in Burqa surely washes away their disgust.

The residents of Shakhari Bazar in Old Dhaka celebrated Holi with fun and frolic on March 20. These photos were taken from the locality.

Photo: RASHED SHUMON

