

TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Jahangir and his frames

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

The Art of Framing

I met Md. Jahangir Husain two years ago when I needed to frame my photographs. I had been searching fruitlessly for a good framemaker when a friend referred him. I walked into Jahangir Frame Ghor and found myself surrounded by stacks of photographs being matted, mounted and framed. Hanging on the walls were photos in sample frames. He did my job well and I have been a regular customer since.

A good frame can add to the viewing experience while a bad frame can undo the artist's efforts. Thus, a framemaker is in many ways the unsung hero of art and photo exhibitions.

Finding myself in the neighbourhood, I stopped by for a talk with Jahangir. His shop in Gausul Azam market (near Katabon) has expanded. He started making frames in 1989 with his uncle and set up his own shop in 1993. Now he employs six workers and frames many exhibitions in Dhaka and Chittagong.

I ask him how a frame relates to the work of art inside it.

He thinks about this. "A frame around art is like makeup on a woman's face - it enhances the beauty. Also, a frame brings longevity to a work of art."

Then he cautions. "The frame must never overpower the art or compete with it. Too much makeup on a face can destroy its beauty."

Jahangir started his business when his father passed away in 1993 and he accepted additional family responsibilities. His first break came when the photographer Chanchal Mahmud assigned him to frame an

exhibition for Bangladesh Photographic Society.

For photographs, Jahangir invented his own frame design involving a PVC backing board. It creates a handsome, lightweight frame without the need for glass or metal. This frame was used in Sidr-related exhibitions in Paris and London.

I ask about memorable moments. He pauses then smiles. "There was a memorably risky moment. During [famed Indian photographer] Raghu Rai's exhibition, I had to sign a paper accepting a large liability in case I damaged his photos while framing them," he says. But the exhibition was successful and Rai complimented him on his framing.

At a corner, I notice a large, 3'x5' portrait of Tagore made from tiles. It will be framed in wood, he says. This leads me to ask about the largest work he has ever framed.

"I once framed a 26'x26' photo of a head for a billboard. It was for an exhibition at the National Museum. Since it did not fit any truck, I had to hire labourers to hand carry it."

When needed, Jahangir works night and day to meet customer deadlines. But lack of skilled people hampers the growth of his business. "The key to become a framemaker is talent. Education helps, perhaps to SSC level. You earn enough to get by, and you get respect and recognition. It is hard to find people with the talent."

You also need a keen aesthetic sense, a rare commodity that Jahangir possesses.

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

FACTIONAL CONFLICT Bomb attack on Jubo Dal office Three leaders hacked

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Three leaders of the district unit Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were injured in an attack by the supporters of the rival group yesterday over formation of new convening committee of Jubo Dal.

The injured--Abu Sayeed al Mamun, joint convener of the new convening committee; Mahbulul Alam Tipu, a member of the committee, and Kutubuddin Rana, joint secretary of JCD--were admitted to Magura sadar hospital.

Police said a group of rival Jubo Dal men equipped with lethal weapons and locally-made bombs attacked on the Jubo Dal office at Shaheed Minto around 12:30pm, when Abu Sayeed al Mamun and some other party men were sitting there.

The attackers exploded at least eight bombs, vandalised the office, and hacked the three leaders.

Insiders said that on May 29, the Jubo Dal central committee approved the new convening committee with advocate Washikur Rahman Kallol as convener and Abu Sayeed al Mamun, Amirul Islam, Shahidul Islam Rupak and Uzzal Hossain as joint conveners.

It aggravated the rival faction led by former convener Alamgir Hossain and Ashrafuzzaman Shamim.

Schoolboy killed after abduction

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Criminals abducted a schoolboy and strangled at Halsia village in Sadar upazila on Thursday midnight.

The victim is Anonto Cakraborti, 11, son of Ashok Cakraborti of the village and a student of class six of Halsia High School.

Ashok Cakraborti said criminals in a microbus kidnapped Anonto at about 6:30pm on Thursday and later over cell phone they demanded Tk5 lakh from him as ransom within 8:00pm.

Ashok lodged a complaint with Natore Police Station at that night. As he did not pay the ransom, the kidnappers strangled Anonto, he said.

Based on mobile phone call lists, a joint team of Rab 5 and police arrested three--Asraf Ali, Sajahan Ali, and Abdullah AL Mamun--from Halsia.

Following their confessional statement, the law enforcers later recovered Anonto's body from a betel leaf garden at the village around 12:00 midnight, said the OC of Natore police.

NEWS IN brief

Man dies from bee bites

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A man died after being bitten by a swarm of bees at Bagdanga village in Monirampur upazila yesterday. The deceased, Md Razzak Biswash, 40, of the village, came under the attack of bees when he climbed up a mango tree and unconsciously hit a beehive. The victim managed to climb down the tree, but

1,600 Yaba tablets seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion men here yesterday seized 1,600 pieces of Yaba tablets worth Tk 6.40 lakh and arrested one person in this connection.

The arrestee is Tofayel Ahmed, 20, son of Shamsul Islam of Rashida Para under Lohagara Police Station.

Being informed, Rab men, led by Lt Colonel Commander Md Nuruzzaman, conducted the drive in front of Duch Bangla Bank at Amirabad at about 2:30pm

Indian cloths, drugs seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel seized Indian medicines, fabrics and clothes worth around Tk 20 lakh at Atroshia village in Shibganj upazila early hours of yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off, a BGB team of Monakasha border observation post challenged some suspected smugglers at the village at around 2:30am and recovered the Indian items, including Viagra and cattle flattening tablets, said operation officer of 9 BGB battalion, Major Abu Nayem.

The suspects, however, managed to flee.

Housewife electrocuted in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A housewife was electrocuted at her residence at Bandar in the port city yesterday.

The deceased, Laila Akter, 35, hailed from Mymensingh, was living with her husband Chan Miah at Didar Colony in Cement Crossing area.

Laila was electrocuted around 11:30pm on Thursday when she touched the iron grills of a window in her house that came in contact with a live electric wire, said her neighbour Sarkar Razib.

She was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead around 12:30am.

Razib said an electric short circuit spread to all the 24 pacca houses adjoining Chan Miah's house



Communist Party of Bangladesh holds a rally before the Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday placing 11-point demand, including speedy trial of war criminals as well as stopping water, gas and power crisis.

PHOTO: STAR

Brac now in Philippines

METRO DESK

Brac launched its operation in the Philippines yesterday setting a lofty goal of bringing the light of education in the troubled region of Muslim Mindanao, said a press release.

At a ceremony held in the capital yesterday, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed launched the programme in the presence of senior representatives from the government of Bangladesh and Philippines, development partner AusAid and Brac.

Sir Fazle said, "What Brac brings to the Philippines is not just an education delivery system but a vision of a just and fair society which is based on educating our children."

Brac will operate at least 1,600 pre-primary and primary schools through its education programme in Muslim Mindanao.

Four Jamaat leaders held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Four upazila unit senior leaders of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, including mayor of Birganj municipality, were arrested from its office in the upazila headquarters yesterday.

They are Mohammad Hanif, the mayor and Birganj unit Jamaat Amir, AKM Kawsar, former UP chairman and its secretary, Shahidul Islam Khokon, its joint secretary and Azizul Islam Kari, its organising secretary.

Police said they raided the office around 11:30am and arrested the Jamaat leaders and seized various documents and books.

Nurul Islam Shiddique, OC of Birganj Police Station, said they raided the office after being informed that the top leaders were holding a meeting to carry out a subversive act in the upazila.

Councillors of the municipality along with locals were besieging the police station from 12:00noon to 4:00pm demanding release of the Jamaat leaders.

MEETING WITH SINGAPORE MINISTER Dipu talks on security issues

Dipu talks on security issues

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni now in Singapore to attend the 11th IISS Asia Security Summit known as the Shangri-La Dialogue yesterday held bilateral talk with Singapore Defence Minister Dr Ng Eng Hen.

Expressing satisfaction over the current state of defence cooperation, both the ministers stressed the increased exchange of experts in different fields for the benefit of the two countries.

The two ministers called for increasing cooperation in the field of security and counter-terrorism and emphasised on the incremental engagement to catch the untapped potentials.

They also discussed wider security issues regarding situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan as well as democratic reforms taking place in Myanmar, according to a release of the foreign ministry.

Describing Singapore as a role model of economic development for all the developing countries, Dipu Moni sought increased cooperation in the field of trade, commerce, investment and human resources development.

She thanked the Singapore government for sharing development experiences under the auspices of the Singapore Cooperation Programme Training Awards.

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WEATHER TODAY

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions of the country in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Day and night temperature may fall 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The expected highest maximum temperature will be 37-38 degree Celsius and lowest minimum temperature will be 22-23 degree Celsius at the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:46 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11am.

Country's highest temperature 39.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 24.4 degrees at Chittagong.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.6	28.0	80	81
Chittagong	28.0	24.4	97	88
Rajshahi	39.5	28.5	77	61
Rangpur	36.0	26.6	76	72
Khulna	31.7	28.0	95	93
Barisal	29.8	27.4	92	78

BREAKING: BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul and 28 opposition leaders charged with blasting bomb at secretariat during April 29 hartal.
thedailystar.net

BREAKING: 10 members of a family die when a microbus carrying them collides with a bus on Dhaka-Mawa highway in South Keraniganj at 5:45am.
thedailystar.net

BREAKING: After Mollah, Nizami was indicted for 16 war crimes charges including genocide, murder, conspiracy, planning, incitement, complicity.
thedailystar.net

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