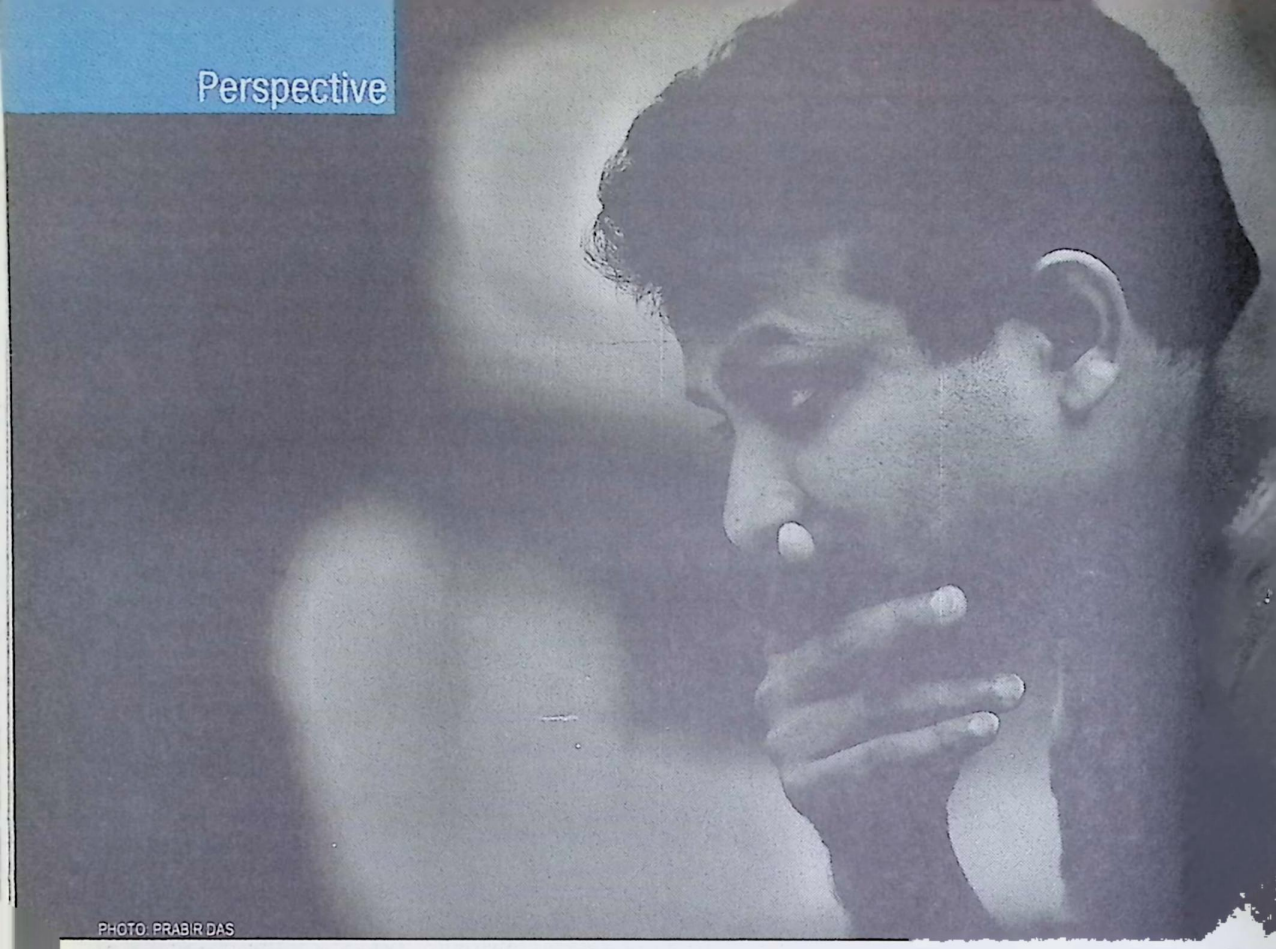


PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Wake Up

Love is a temple but begging and crawling to enter is a bad idea

AMITAVA KAR

You long to be loved by her but she does not love you. It is a constant anguish. You know she is soon going to be a sun in someone else's sky. "Why can't it be mine?" you ask. Then comes the most obvious one: "What am I to do?"

Relax. We will make it easier on you. It's alright; we all want to be loved.

But why?

It's a complex question. Why do you want to be loved? And why does it become anguish if you are not? What is the cause, the motive or the root of wanting to be loved?

Is it because you are lonely? Is it that you feel if you are not loved you have no reason there to live? Is it that if you are loved, you feel you can sing, roll, be happy and all that? Is it that in yourself you are nothing and when she loves you, you become something?

Do you follow? It's your life that's being talked about here.

So please listen.

There is a cause which makes you say: I want her love. There is a cause, there is a motive, and there is a background which says you must have that. One of those causes is you are desperately lonely. I bet you are, especially if you are married. Is it Chekhov who said, "If you are afraid of loneliness, do not marry."

Married, unmarried, in a crowd or in isolation, you, through your self-centred activities, bring about loneliness.

So now that you understand the cause, can you be free of that cause?

See where you are being led to?

Easier said than done. "Much like other animals, human beings too have the gregarious instinct," quips Dr Abdul Matin, professor emeritus, Department of Philosophy at University of Dhaka. "Unless we become some other kind of beings, we cannot be free from this longing."