

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Latin American flags are dominating Bangladeshi buildings.

head and tattooed the Brazilian flag on it. He says, "If Brazil wins the World Cup, I will continue this haircut and tattoo for my whole life."

Probably the new generations of Bangladeshis have inherited the unwavering loyalty for Brazil and Argentina from their parents whose enthusiasm for these countries started with Pele and Diego Maradona, two icons of World Cup football in the 70s and 80s. Touhidul Haque, a secretary to the Ban-



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Legends like Maradona, Pele and now Messi turned football into a passion of common Bangladeshis.

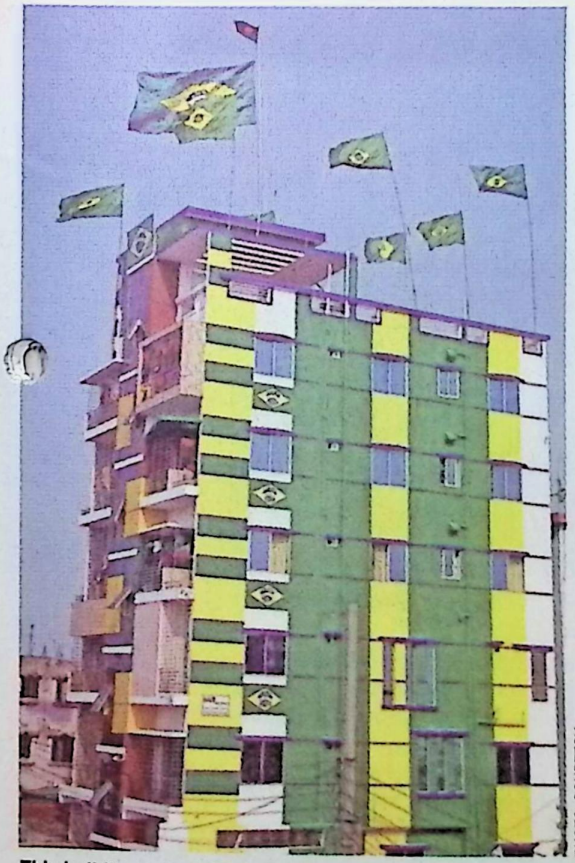


PHOTO: COURTESY

This building tells well about the favourite team of residents.



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Football fever is for all, though the game is not.

gladesh government says, "In our university we had a look alike of Maradona among us. In 1986 when that curly haired magician made that famous "hand of the god goal" we dressed our look-alike friend in an Argentina jersey, put him on our shoulders and had a rally celebrating Argentina's victory. It fell as if we had Maradona right with us." This no doubt explains how we have inherited our frenzied support for football playing countries like Argentina and Brazil, countries that are half a world away from ours.

Football fever has reached crazier levels at the Dhaka University (DU)campus. Students of all the residential halls have been divided into two groups: