



A VANISHING CRAFT

PHOTOS: PRABIR DAS

TEXT: MD SHAHNAWAZ KHAN CHANDAN

For hundreds of years, conch shells are carved into bangles of intricate designs, in tiny shops at Shankhari Bazaar. The bangles called Shankha, are an indispensable part of the Hindu culture. Every married Hindu woman wears shankha with a belief that it will bring fortune for their beloved husbands. They break the bangles when their husbands die. Because of the import of commercially produced Indian shankha, this ancient craft is now on the verge of extinction in Bangladesh.

