

RECOMMENDATIONS

Art and Sculpture Show

November 14-23

A 10-day-long art and sculpture exhibition of six contemporary artists, titled *Appointment*, is going on at the Shipangan Gallery. The show is open for all from 10 am to 9 pm every day.

Exhibition

November 18-December 15

A photography exhibition titled 'Man Without Qualities' by Matthias Wanhner in the exhibition hall of the Goethe Institut will be inaugurated on November 18 at 6:00 pm.

Drama Lane

Bangladesh Mahila Samity

4 Natok Soroni, New Baily Rd.

(Evening show at 7:00 pm

Morning show at 11:00 am)

Group	Plays	Date
Theatre (Arambag)	<i>Balad</i>	18
Muktamancha Theatre	<i>Shurjomukho</i>	19
Theatre (Baily Road)	<i>Meraj</i>	20
Natyalad	<i>Fakir Ma Bakkal</i>	21
Drishyapot	<i>Narak Guljar</i>	21
Abayab Natyalad	<i>Kamakatha</i>	22

French-German Film Festival

Goethe Institut and Alliance Francaise are holding a joint French-German film festival from November 16 in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the French-German Treaty of Friendship. The festival endeavours to project the spirit of this treaty, namely a lasting friendship and closeness between the two cultural nations. The schedules are as follows:

Warrior	Goethe Institut (G)	Nov. 20 at 3 pm
Black Box Germany	GI	Nov. 18 at 3 pm
I Am In	GI	Nov. 20 at 7 pm
	GI	Nov. 18 at 7 pm
	AF	Nov. 19 at 10:30 am
The Perfect Guy	GI	Nov. 18 at 3 pm



PHOTO: REUTERS

Academy Award winning actress Nicole Kidman smiles at the American Cinematheque Awards in Beverly Hills, California, where she was honored by American Cinematheque with its 18th annual award for being an extraordinary artist in the entertainment industry.

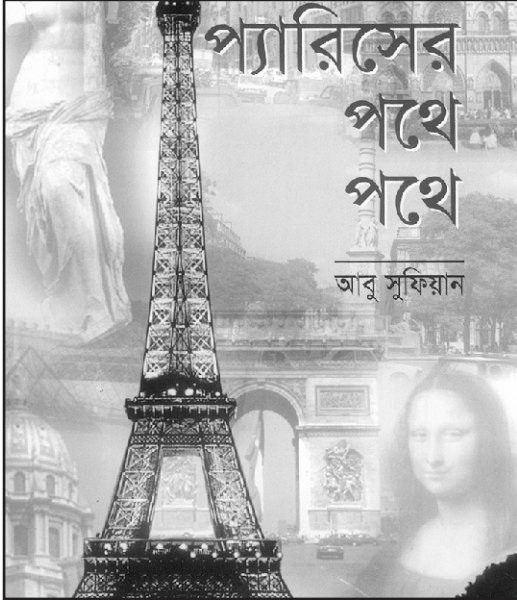
Book launching

"Under the bridges of Paris with you"

Abu Sufian's "Pariser Pothey Pothey" launched at Alliance Francaise

FAYZA HAQ

At the recent launching of Abu Sufian's book "Pariser Pothey Pothey" at Alliance Francaise, Ataus Samad, editor of the weekly 'Ekhon' said that he had tried to compare Abu Sufian's novels with his columns in different newspapers. Samad said that Abu Sufian had done injustice to himself. He said that he had got the writer's reflections but not quite the image of Paris which a reader might look for in the book. Samad added, "Abu Sufian should have taken more time over the writing. Compared to 'Deshey Bideshey' written by Syed Mujtaba Ali, the book suffers. In the first 40 pages that I've read there are



gross typographical errors so that 'Mona Lisa' has become 'Meno Lisa'; this book will surely go to many hands including that of even children: what will be their first impression of Paris? However, the prose is good but I hope the writer doesn't turn into a 'smart' writer."

Dr.Syed Manzoorul Islam, well-known writer and professor of English, DU, commenting on the book,said, "This is basically a travelogue of someone who has gone to Paris, and wanders about on the road to Paris, and on the streets of Paris, both terms having symbols: one being the approach to the whole big city, the metropolis which is the cultural centre of the west, and secondly that it's an outsider's view of the city in which the writer sometimes gets lost. The interesting part is that the entire travel takes part in winter, which is not a travel-friendly season. In addition to wearing the warm clothes, which keeps him from the cold, he hugs a huge suitcase with him. Abu Sufian's big luggage is a fun thing; that is the cultural statement that he makes that when one comes from Bangladesh, how much you carry of your own culture, and how much one cannot understand of another

culture unless one actually goes abroad.

"Abu Sufian begins his story by a description of how someone came to his house in Dhaka and gave him some tips about Paris: these tips really don't work in the end because no amount of tipping can prepare you for an experience like this. He goes away with an open mind, and that's very interesting; he goes there on a learning mission; he knows he'll have problems and the book is a series of faux pas that he commits and he laughs at his own expense. It's sometimes at his wife's expense; the kind of dialogue between the husband and wife when they are lost and find themselves in the wrong place and the wrong time, the wife sometimes says, 'Why did you bring me here?' and there ensues the typical husband-wife conversation that ensues, trying to blame each other but in jest. At the end, it's not that they blame each other but rather they share the whole funny experience."

Dr Islam added, "The author writes in a very lucid language and is definitely articulate; he has a sense of cutting wit and humour (wit being an intelligent understanding of

fun, while humour is the ability to laugh at and things and people: it involves rough-and tumble). He has the ability of making fun of himself and makes statements which shows that he is understanding the problems and at the same time he is aware that he has a lot to learn. This element runs throughout the book; Abu Sufian sometimes invites the reader to get lost with him and to have the pleasure of discovering the same place again and again."

Dr Islam continued to say, "Another thing that he does is that he makes a comparative studies of culture of Bangladesh and France, but not in a systematic manner: it has a tongue-in-cheek approach using the flashback technique at times. He makes comparison in terms of the lifestyle of the people: food habits, clothes living patterns etc. Sometimes he realizes that he is making a sociological observation that is never given as a theory but just an observation that he laughs out. Thus the element of laughter is important in this book. He wants his readers to laugh: he wants to laugh at himself: his wife and he laugh at each other and at the end you don't get bored in any way."



Abu Sufian

Philippe Nicaise, Director of Alliance Francaise, and the chief guest on the occasion, said, "Along the Streets of Paris' talks about the city where I live in. Paris is not the 'City of lights' but it's also a city that is constantly changing and evolving. There is not only one Paris, but there are tens and hundreds of them. Everyone can choose and discover the one he or she prefers."

Nicaise added, "The fact that it's written by a journalist is quite important because he can provide us with a specific view on the subject. As I have said before, there is not only one single Paris but many of them. That leads us to the fact that there are different views regarding this amazing city."

Thirty-two-year old Abu Sufian, speaking for himself, said "Pariser Pothey Pothey", is based on my three-week trip to Paris with my wife. We were supposed to be in Paris for a week but stayed on there longer, abandoning other destinations, as we were so fascinated by the French capital. I didn't face financial problems, as such, as I'd planned to stay in Europe for 47 days. I'd taken leave from my newspaper office, 'Prothom Alo', and, incidentally, had the misfortune to be attacked by muggers with weapons repeatedly. I made my wife put some of her luggage under her clothes, so that she appeared pregnant; and eventually we got the sympathies of all passersby. The French excursion was an unforgettable one indeed and I hope my narrative will bring pleasure to my readers."

Taleya Rehman of "Democracywatch" and wife of Sahfiq Rehman, editor of 'Jaijaideen', had high praises for the book, published by Saeed Bari. Most guests at the function made a great dash for the book, as its price was Tk 100; moreover, most people welcome a comic vein of writing, being blasé with the relatively humdrum existence of Dhaka.

Heart to heart

To define grace...

Munmun Ahmed up-close

ELITA KARIM

She would probably give grace and poise a different meaning all together. With her simple beauty, artistic mind and polished charm, she enhances the culture of this country through her work and actions. 'I hope to create dancers of the top most class, who will eventually shine in our country.' Her confidence glows within and reflects her surroundings as well.

Munmun Ahmed is an established dancer, having achieved this position after years of learning, hard work and perseverance. She began to show an interest in this art form at a very early age. In 1978, Munmun began to take *Kathak* lessons from Syed Abul Kalam. 'I left for India in 1987, right after my High School exams,' she recounts. 'I studied at the Ram Bharatya Kala Kendra under Ram Mohan Maharaj and Raj Kumar Sharma. Finally in Delhi Kathak Kendra, I was guided by Pandit Birju Maharaj in the year 1989.'

After providing an account of her dance masters and guides, she also speaks a little about her daughter Aparajita, who keeps roaming about her mother with a bunch of questions regarding her English homework. 'Aparajita had done a solo performance at the age of seven', she beams with pride, while she helps with the homework. Would she want her daughter to follow her mother's footsteps? 'I wouldn't want to force anything on her now. She is still very young, and I teach her the art just as I teach many other children her age and older than her.' She says.

Going back to her learning days in India, she says that she had participated in a number of festivals there. 'I had performed at the Youth Festival in Delhi, Trivandrum Festival in Trivandrum, Kalka Brindabin festival at Kolkata and the Sachya Ganga Utsav in Benaras. Actually our final exams consisted of various kinds of performances, and reporters and several

artistes came to watch the exam. Later on, they would recommend us for these festivals.'

Munmun Ahmed had also played the lead in the tele-film *Woh din Asmaani* and has been the subject of a Yoga film serial in India, not to mention her performances in various dance dramas.

Does she like to stay decked up even when she is not in public? 'What should I say to that?' she laughs. 'Well, I like to spruce up a bit whenever I am going out somewhere.'

Munmun Ahmed has represented Bangladesh in many international cultural conferences. 'I have thoroughly enjoyed my trips overseas. I had gone to Pakistan on one such occasion and surprisingly got a scope to experiment with my art forms once again. It was a four day programme, and I performed four different dance forms for an hour each day,' she says with a smile.

'It's really otherwise in our country. You wouldn't believe the number of professional and dedicated artistes in our country, who don't get a chance to experiment with or portray their art properly. Instead, a lot is spent to bring dance artistes from the neighbouring countries, which is nothing but promotional hype.' She says firmly. 'In fact, the attitude towards dance has to develop more amongst the people here. It is surprising when 'TV-ad' models with pretty faces are given more preference than young dancers themselves, when it comes to any big-time cultural programme in Bangladesh. How can you expect someone to convey the intricate expressions, by someone who has never had any training?' she remarks.

Does she have any plans for Eid? 'Well nothing extensive for sure. Surprisingly, I haven't received any kind of offer to any Eid special programmes, which is a normal trend around this time of the year.' She quips in. 'But, other than that, I have begun my shopping for my family and myself. Everything is so



Munmun's dramatic posture during a dance

expensive now.'

How does Munmun keep up with so many things happening around her? 'Well, I begin my day with my morning walk at Shangshad Bhaban, after which I come back home and get my daughter ready for school and give break fast to the family. I normally practice for two hours every day. After that I cook for the day and get set to go to the two schools where I teach. Nowadays, many schools of the English medium have made it a point to have compulsory dance classes for children. I really appreciate this thought, since this will keep the kids fit both physically and mentally.' She grins.

Eid special

Drama: Prima Tomakey

CULTURE DESK

Drama *Prima Tomakey* is written by Tazin Halim and directed by Afzal Hossain and will be telecast on the second day of Eid at 3:30 pm on Channel i. Starring Afzal Hossain, Mou, Nobel and Deepa Khondokar, the drama shows Ashique and Prima as a happy couple. Prima wants to shift to a better house. But Ashique is too busy with his job to

manage time for the shifting. Prima gets annoyed and Ashique tells her to take Shishir's help. Handsome and smart Shishir works at Ashique's office. Prima and Shishir look for a new house together. Gradually Shishir falls for Prima. His sister Shaali comes to know about it and says in amazement, 'How is it possible? She is a happily married woman...'

Film



Kareena Kapoor (L), Esha Deol (C) and Raneek Mukherjee (R) smile during the release of the soundtrack of the movie "Line Of Control" in Bombay. The 1999 Kargil conflict between India and Pakistan which claimed 1,000 lives, is a big-budget movie starring some of the most famous names in Bollywood.



Afzal and Mou as they appear in Prima Tomakey



British actor Hugh Grant poses with German actress Heike Makatsch (L) and Laura Linney (R) in Munich during the German Premiere of the movie "Love Actually" by British director Richard Curtis. The comedy will be seen on German screens from 20 November.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTv

News Headlines(Bangla) at 9:40 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 p.m 3:10 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm.

News(Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm.

News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm.

Late Night News(Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i

Breakfast News 07:15 am. 9:00am

News(Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.

Telecast of BTV news(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News(Bangla) at 8:00 am. 12:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV News(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News(Bangla) at 09 a.m.10:00 a.m, 11:00 am.1pm. 2:00 pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm.and 8:00 pm.

n tv

News Headlines(Bangla) at 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm.

News (Bangla) 7:30 pm.11:00 pm.

TARA BANGLA

NewsHeadline(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm.

Tara News(Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangladesh(Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC World

Every hour on the hour

ATN BANGLA

10:15 Annodristee

10:50 Katha Mala

12:40 Bengali Feature Film: Kabin

3:45 Samosamoyek

4:20 Mobarak Ho Mahya Ramadan

5:00 Gram Banglar Sangbad

5:30 Mahya Ramadanar Sawgat

6:25 Islamee Sawal O Jawab

7:40 Drama Serial: Sabuj Gram Samol Chaya

8:15 Drama Serial: Dakhen Duwar Khula

8:50 Drama Serial : Bhular Galpo

9:25 Magazine Prog. Ek Day Teen

10:35 Fashion Based prog.

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Sangbad Patrey Bangladesh

09:45 Trinita Matra

11:00 Chitini Pelam

11:30 Ebong Cinemar Gan

12:00 Drama Serial: Ala Bhola

12:30 Eid Shopping

01:00 Drama Serial: Pantha Hey

01:30 Sangbad Patrey Bangladesh

02:00 Bangla Film : Nirdoy (Rozina, Jasim)

05:35 Janapader Khabar

05:40 Kalam O Kolom

06:10 Music Plus

06:45 Ananda Bichitra

07:50 Close-Up Juke Box

08:25 Drama Serial: Sharey Tin Tala

10:00 Drama: Shadharon Loker Kahini

ntv

04:06 Ithihaser Ei Dine

04:13 Patrikar Khabar

04:30 Ridaye Ramjan

05:30 Apnar Jigyasha

06:32 Shuvo Sandha

06:52 Gallery

08:00 Drama Serial: Ebong Ami

08:35 Career Show

09:10 Drama Serial :Shangshay

09:47 Drama Serial: Amakeo Shangey Nio

10:50 Ithihaser Ei Dine

11:30 Din Darpan

12:00 Neel Paharer Gaan

ALPHA TV BANGLA

2:00pm. Pratibimba

2:35 Kobe Je Kothay

3:00 Bengali Feature Film: Bhalobasa

5:30 Gaan Unltd.

6:00 Alpha Khabar

6:30 Ek Palake

7:00 Kobe Je Kothay

8:00 Pratibimba

8:30 Ek Akasher Nichey

9:00 Aananya

10:00 Spandan

11:00 Jodi Prem Dile Na Prane

11:30 Raaf Jakhan Egarota

HBO

9:30 Girl Interrupted

12:00 Slappy and the Stinkers

1:30 Ted Bundy

3:30 Problem Child 3

5:15 Innocent Moves

7:30 Blue Streak

9:30 The Replacements

11:45 Driven

STAR MOVIES

10:30 Mvp 2: Most Vertical

12:00 Primeate

12:00 Out Cold

1:30 Selenia

3:45 Good Advice

5:15 Hidden Agenda

7:00 Rat

8:45 Tootsie

10:45 Freddy Got Fingered

1:15 The Ticket

AXN TV

2:30pm. Movie: Agent of Influence

4:30 Rescue

5:30 Pacific Blue

6:30 Andromeda: Lava and Rockets

7:30 Rollerjam

8:30 Relic Hunter: Fire in the Sky

9:30 Worst-Case Scenario

10:30 Alias: Salvation

11:30 Wild On

12:30 Worst-Case Scenario

MGM

9:00pm. Bird Gage

11:00 Code of Silence

2:00 Matilda

4:30 Jacknife

7:00 Theodore Rex

9:30 MGM Select : ZMS 3

11:30 Moonlight and Valentino (Whoopi Goldberg, Elbeth Perks)

ZEE CINEMA

10:30 Aag Hi Aag (Jackie Shroff, Mithun,

PICK OF THE DAY

STAR WORLD

1:00pm. Becker

1:30 The Pretender

2:30 Oprah Winfrey

3:30 Bold And Beautiful

4:30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch

5:00 2 Guys A Girl & A Pizza Place

5:30 Knight Rider

6:30 The Simpsons

7:00 Home Improvement

7:30 Friends

8:00 Just Shoot Me

8:30 The Drew Carey Show

9:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway?

9:30 Monk

10:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.

11:30 Baywatch

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

2:00pm. Chasing Time

2:30 \$100 Taxi Ride

3:00 5 Weddings Couple Of Funeral

3:30 Rome: The Model Empire

4:30 A Peking Duck's Tale

5:30 Animal Edens

6:00 Sea Stories

6:30 Dogs With Jobs S3

7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife S3

7:30 Bringing Home The Bears

8:30 People Out There

9:00 Chasing Time

9:30 \$100 Taxi Ride

10:00 5 Weddings Couple Of Funeral

10:30 Salamander's Secret

11:30 Chasing Time

DISCOVERY

1:30pm. Living Pulse

2:00 Kitchen Chemistry

2:30 New Detectives to Kill Again

3:30 Wild Discovery Fast Food

4:30 Mega Movie Magic

6:30 Survivor Wildfire

7:30 Wild Discovery Turtles

8:30 Science Frontiers

9:30 Hostile: The Deep

9:30 Science Mysteries

10:30 Extraterrestrial Life

10:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows

11:30 Speed Greatest Motorcycles.

ANIMAL PLANETE

2:30pm. Wild Encounters A Nose for Crime

3:30 Emergency Vets

4:00 Animal Doctor

4:30 Wild Rescue

5:00 Breed all about it

5:30 Whippet

5:30 Vets in Practice Stormy Weather

6:00 Monkey Business

6:30 Planet's Funniest

7:00 Amazing Animal Videos

7:30 Wild Encounters A Nose for Crime

8:30 Fame

9:30 Fame Cheetahs

10:30 Asian Encounters Stunt Great Cats of India

11:30 Lifesense

STAR SPORTS

9:00 Cricket Classics India

9:30 Gymnastics Grand Prix

9:30 Gymnastics 03/04

9:30 Glasgow Scotland (T)

12:30 Snooker Masters

12:30 Challenge 2003 Euro-Asia Snooker Masters

12:30 Challenge Day 2 1st Leg(T)

12:30 International

2:30 Motorsports News

2:30 International

3:30 Motorsports News 2003

4:00 Golf Programming The Golf Club 2003 (R)

6:00 Entertainment Nbc's Battle Of The Network Stars 2003 (R)

7:00 Rugby World Cup

7:00 Rugby Hq Asia - Rwc Week Semifinals Review(T)

7:00 Tennis Masters Series

7:00 Tennis Masters Cup

8:00 Houston 2003 Houston Tx Usa Highlights(T)

8:00 Sportsline (L)

8:30 Skins Game Tiger Skins

8:30 Golf 2002 Singapore

10:30 Singapore Highlights(R)

10:30 Sportsline (R)

11:00 Cricket Classics India

11:30 Super Centuries (R)

12:00 Tri Series in India Final

12:00 India VS Australia Highlights

ESPN

8:00 NFL Football (I) San Francisco Ca Usa

8:00 Pittsburgh Steelers Vs San Francisco 49ers (L)

12:30 Western Union Football (R)

3:30 Cricket Goal (R)

6:30 Football Focus (L)

7:30 The ESPN Cricket Show (R)

8:30 Sportscenter

8:30 Sportscenter India (L)

9:00 Super Centuries (T)

9:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04

9:30 Liverpool England

11:30 Liverpool Vs Manchester United (R)

11:30 Sportscenter India (R)

12:00 Legends: Jayasuriya

12:30 Super Bouts

12:30 World Football News

12:30 England Tour of SL 1st OD(Live)

TEN SPORTS

9:30am. Fitness Beach

10:30 Legends: Jayasuriya

11:30 Super Bouts

11:30 World Football News

2:30 England Tour of SL 1st OD(Live)