

# **CULTURAL FEAST**

### **Exhibition**

Title: A Dew Drop Artist: Nasima Khanam Queenie Venue: Shilpangan Gallery



Title: A look through the crow's eyes Organiser: Bengal Foundation Venue: Gallery of Word's n Pages, Café Imsomnia, 125, Gulshan Avenue Gulshan-2 Date: December 25, 2005- January

#### **Theatre**

27, 2006

Play: Behular Bhashan Troupe: Theatre and Music Department, Dhaka University Venu: Natmondal Auditorium, DU Date: January 1-4, 2006 at 6:30 pm

### **Group Photography Exhibition**

Title: Nature's Fury Organiser: Drik Gallery Library Venue: Drik Gallery Time: December 26- January 8, from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm



## **Photography Exhibition**

Time: 12-06pm

Title: Photographs on Shilpacharva Zainul Abedin Organiser: The Fine Arts institute Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Bangladesh National Museum and Bengal Foundation Venue: Zainul Gallery Date: December 29, 2005- January 18, 2006

# Recap of theatre activities in 2005

ERSHAD KAMOL

N comparison with 2004, there have been fewer theatre festivals in Dhaka. However the number of new productions in 2005 is satisfactory. More than 10 stage plays, premiered in 2005, have attained popularity among theatre

Jatio Patha Natok Utshob 2005, arranged by the Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) in association with Bengal Foundation, began from February 2 and was the first theatre festival of the year. Many popular theatre troupes such as Aranyak, Dhaka Padatik, Padatik Natya Sangsad, Prachyanat and others staged their plays in two venues -- Shaheed Minar premises and Rabindra Sarobar near Dhanmondi Lake.

Two more theatre festivals were held in February -- one arranged by Nagorik Natyangan and the other arranged by Udichi Central Drama

In the weeklong drama festival (from February 6-12) arranged by Nagorik Natyangan, at the National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy, Nagorik Natyangan, Centre for Asian Theatre and Abhash, a theatrical group from India, participated.

Udichi Central Drama Branch arranged a six-day long drama festival at Mahila Samity Stage, which began from mid-February Udichi Drama Branch, Aranyak Natyadal, Prachyanat and Padatik Natyashongshod were the participants in the festival.

Some of the prominent theatre troupes premiered their latest productions in February. Nagorik Natya Sampradaya staged a trilogy-- Gandharir Abedon, Karna-Kunti Shangbad and Biday Obhishap from Rabindranath Tagore's *Sanchoita*. All the excerpts of the trilogy have been drawn from the Mahabharata, but Tagore had his own interpretation -- all the central characters in the play express different aspects of human rationality. Moreover, the trilogy has an anti-war tone. Ataur Rahman directed the plays.

Dhaka Theatre presented the premiere show of Binodini Dasi's autobiography-based narrative Binodini, in February at the Mahila amity Stage. It was a solo perfor-

nance by Shimul Yousuff. Nasiruddin Yousuff is the director of

Bangla Theatre staged the preiere show of *Che'r Cycle*, based on the revolution led by Che Guavara in the Latin America. Mamunur Rashid is the playwright while Faiz Zahir is the director of *Che'r Cycle*.

In March, Center for Asian Theatre staged the experimental bilingual play-- Metamorphosis--adapted by Anisur Rahman from Franz Kafka's surrealistic fiction The Metamorphosis. The play shows the existential imprisonment of a character by social and economical demands. Kamaluddin Nilu is the director of the play.

 $another\,new\,the atre\,troupe, staged$ their first production Kamola Shundori, a story from Mymenshingho Geetika. Prangone Mor staged its two productions --Shyama Prem and Swadesi in 2005.

Palakar's latest production Mangula was also a well-received stage play in 2005. Dramatist Golam Shafiq depicted the struggle for survival of an indigenous community against in this play. Aminur Rahman Mukul is the director of Mangula. Other acclaimed productions of the year were -- Katha '71, Sonai Bibir Pala, Ohe Tanchak, Samayer Proyojone and

Dhaka Padatik's latest produc-

the central characters' affair, the playwright has dealt with a very contemporary issue -- the conflict between religion and humanism. Sonai Bibir Pala, directed by Kamaluddin Nilu, is the latest production of Centre for Asian

Theatre (Natok Sarani) premiered their latest production --Ohe Tanchak, a play by Professor Momotazuddin Ahmed -- in 2005. Ohe Tanchak is a satire on the current spurt of the religious fanatics who misuse peoples' faith for their personal benefits. Momotazuddin Ahmed is the director of the play.

Nagorik Natya Sampradaya pre



A scene from the play Che'r Cycle

The silver jubilee celebration of Dhaka Padatik is another major event in 2005. The eight-day festival, at the National Theatre Stage, also showcased theatre produc-tions from local and Kolkata

Sixty-five groups participated at the 14-day Children Theatre Festi-val, organised by the People's Theatre Association at the Public Library Auditorium from March 10.

A few theatre troupes, formed in 2005, staged their premiere shows. Newly formed troupe, Janmasutra staged Ahorkandal directed by

tion Katha '71, by Kumar Pridip Baul, is set against the backdrop of the massacre by the Pakistani military regime on the Bangalees in 1971. Debashish Ghosh directs the

Zahir Raihan's popular short story based play, Samayer Proyojone, a Theatre Art Unit production, is also a drama based on our freedom movement. M Bari is the adaptor and director of the

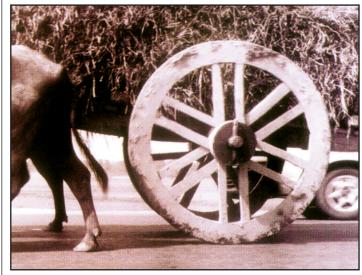
Young playwright Raihan Aktar's play Sonai Bibir Pala is an adaptation of a love story of Purba Banga

miered another production at the end of this year. Chhayanaut, Utpal Dutt's play, depicts the transience of starism' in media. Aly Zaker is the director of Chhayanaut.

At the end of 2005, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGRF) arranged a 10-day theatre festival. The title of the festival was "For the welfare of Mujibur Rahman Dilu and other theatre activists". The festival took place at the Experi $mental\,The atre\,Stage\,of\,Bangladesh$ Shilpakala Academy.

# Portraying reality through the lens

Photo exhibit: A look through the crow's eyes



FAYZA HAQ

Iftekhar Wahid Iftee's solo photo exhibit, being held at Café Insomnia, is a collection of 15 promising pictures, in startling black-andwhite. The display, "A look through the crow's eyes", is being organised by Words 'N Pages, a local book outlet. One knows the modern penchant for the dramatic and symbolic use of black- and -white in photography. It is a fact too that critics the world over consider this choice more imaginative, poetic and symbolic

Ziaul Huq, the organiser from Words 'N Pages, says that this is the 17-year-old photographer's third successful attempt. He feels this is the prelude to a successful cultural exchange of expatriates and locals who come to this bookshop. He says that he found Iftekhar promising and hopes that the display will bring in viewers and connoisseurs of photography. The exhibit is on till January 27.

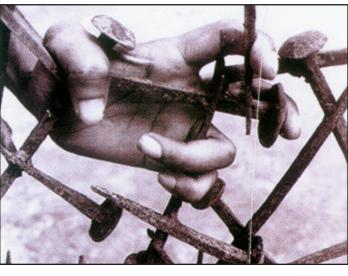
The framing of the pictures, in glass and narrow black frame, plus the careful juxtaposition in the café is surely admirable. The gallery lighting and placing have always been vital. It is high time that not only in the West, but also in Bangladesh, we realise that photography is an art form, that is available at a much cheaper price than parallel paintings of portraits -- still-life or landscapes.

part of the bust till the chest, as in many official portraits. Bangla calligraphy in black, done as a witty footnote completes the thought provoking composition.

In another picture, an amazing black-and-white scene from the countryside, one sees the wheels of a buffalo cart, reminiscent of Morshedul Islam's famous repetitive scenes from his film Chaka. Whizzing at the back is a speeding white and gray modern automobile as a contrast. Among other pictures is the portrait of an exotic Kathak dancer, with her jhumar, and the rest of her flamboyant accouterment, including her dazzling jewellery. The depiction of the sensuous dance recalls the many scenes on stage and films from the subcontinent.

A photograph that depicts a man's profile, staring at the apparently giant-sized bulb in the darkness, while people in the floor above peep in at him is another intriguing

Another thought provoking picture is that of a hanging wooden statue, in the shape of an eagle spread, suspended from metal chains, seen atop a wooden coffin, covered by white fabric. The meditating old man with the long stringy beard, sitting on a bed -- in the midst of a yellow blossom-covered field -recalls the Bangladesh mustard fields, praised so often in poetry, paintings and prints.



Imaginative photographs by Iftekhar Wahid

The first picture shows an

elderly person with sharp features,

resting his forehead on his fist. We

get a silhouette of this against a

stark white background. This is

fairly moving, when one cares to

pause and contemplate over it. We

then move on two a two-coloured

collage of postcard sized photo-

graphs in which Iftekhar has taken

snaps of Rafiqun Nabi, seen juxta-

posed with his famous cartoon

character, "Tokai". It has a white

background. The picture placed on

top has the artist facing the camera

while the other has his profile and a

# Impress Limited and Banglalink join hands in a film venture



Faridur Reza Sagar and Shahed Zubaer at the press conference

CHLTHRAL CORRESPONDENT

Banglalink, a mobile phone operator, will sponsor 12 films to be produced this year by Impress Tele-film Limited (ITL)

An agreement to this effect, was signed between managing director of the Impress Limited Faridur Reza Sagar and Shahed Zubaer of Banglalink in the city at a press conference recently.

Sagar, managing director of Channel-i, Senior Manager (Public Relation and Communication) and film director Amjad Hossain

addressed the press conference.

Sagar said that Impress Tele film Ltd has been involved in positive film production for a ong time and it wants to revive the positive image of films. He added that Banglalink is interested in producing social films, which will reflect the hopes and aspirations of the masses.

Amjad Hossain said that a sponsor is essential to produce a positive film and film directors should try to be discriminating in their choice of sub-

# A treat of Tagore songs in Bengal Shilpalaya

**CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT** 

On December 31, 2005 culture aficionados congregated for a titled Amader Shantiniketon. The organiser was the Bengal Foundation and the venue was the Bengal Shilpalaya. The musical programme featured Shoshthika Mukhopadhyay, Mohua Chattopaddhyay and Sandeep Sen, well-known Indian artistes of Tagore and yesteryear's songs. They are all from Shantiniketan.

On the heels of the inauguration, a musical session began with a chorus of Tagore songs. The songs were as follows Aye amader Angoney, Firey cholo matir taney, Noyoney gogoney miloner chondey,

11:30

12:30

01:30

02:30

03:30

05:00

05:30

Aguner parashmoni choyao praney and Jodi tarey nai chinigo sheiki among others.

The setting at Bengal Shilpalaya, with Egyptian paintings of Adil hung on the wall and artistes accompanied by other musicians on the tannura, tabla, keyboard and harmonium was effective. The sounds and melodies that eventually followed were soothing for the frazzled city dweller

Shoshthika's voice was captivating and had a distinctive quality and clarity. Her sustained notes were amazing. The music, emotional at times, transported the audience to a higher reality.

# Another feather in the cap for *Black*

Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Black has been selected by Time magazine's influential critic Richard Corliss as one of the ten best films of 2005.

This is along with Werner Herzog's The White Diamond & Grizzly Man, Ingmar Bergman's Saraband, Fernando Meirelles The Constant Gardener, and Rob Marshall's Memoirs Of A Geisha.

Citing reasons for his Indian pick. Corliss writes. "This is an unusual film for India, the ultimate Bollywood love story.

The film stars Rani Mukherjee, as a deaf mute girl who conquers all odds to excel in college guided by her mentor played by Amitabh Bachchan.

Source: Internet

# TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY

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

# News Bulletin

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm.

pm.8:00 pm. News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm. Late Night News (Bangla and English)

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

# CHANNEL-i

2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

#### **ATN BANGLA** News (Bangla) at 7:00 am.10:00am.

2:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11pm. News (English) 8:20am,7:00pm Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m,10:00 am. 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am. 12:00 am. 6:15 pm. 9:30 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 am. 2:00 pm. 5:00 pm.7:30 pm.10:30 pm. Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

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

# Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30

**BBC WORLD** Every hour on the hour

10:30 01: 05 Muktangor Satellite Programme 02:35 Shasthya Tatthya

04:00 Nitol Tata National Football League 2005 Live Broadcast Apon Bhumi 06:35 Nrityer Taley Taley Programme on Liberation War 08:45 Drama Serial: Enechhi

Shurjer Hashi

Drama Serial: Atopai

Anu Paromanu

#### Nurl Huda 10:35 Shindhu Hillol

10:00

02:15

03:05

**CHANNEL** i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am, Tritiyo Matra Uchchya Shikkhaye Desh Bidesh (live) 12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakothon 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaar 01:25 Public Reaction 01:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh

> 03:00 Chena Mukh Ochena Chobi Amar Channel-i Darshok Forum Bashundhara Amadei

04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:30 Banijyo O Orthonity 06:00 Music Plus 06:20 Star Get SG-1 07:50 Drama Serial: Hatya Drama Serial: Shiman 09:35 Shampurna Rangin **TARA BANGLA** 10:00 Drama Serial: Pothe News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm.

Jete Jete ntv 09:30 Agraj Grammen Phone 10:00 Shironam 10:05 Zoo Adventure

Dhakar Cinema

04:25 05:20 Apnar Jiggyasha 06:20 Shubho Shondhva 06:50 Khoborer Shondhane 07:20 Ntv Dekhe Bolun 08:25

#### 11:25 **ATN BANGLA** 10:30

11:05

Drama Serial: Ek 02:30 Drama Serial: Ghun Poka 03:15 Chokkhu Nai Musical Programme Chhotoder Prithibi Ispahani Pure Snax Quiz Time

05:10 Shonali Din 05:45 Islami Sawaal O Jobab 06:20 **BSB** Education Zone 08:00 Drama Serial: Shukhnagar Apartment Drama Serial: Flat No. 08:30

10:35 12:20 Adibashi Janopad **RTV** 07:30 Hridoye Shur Ashe 07:45 Shukhi Thakun Deho Mone

Music Programme Drama serial: Labonya

# Dindarpan Annodrishti

Drama Serial: O Amar

09:00 ATN Taroka (Music)

08:30 Ai Potrikav 03:30 Islamic Programme Foreign Adventure 05:00 Aiker Bangladesh 06:00 Nazrul Sangeet Drama Serial

Rhinna Swader Khohor

# 09:10 Bari Ghar Thik Thak

Labonya Probha On ntv at 8:25 pm Genre: Drama Serial

Agontuk 08:15 R- Ranna Drama Serial: Rate 10:40 Rtv Exclusive 10:45 Drama Serial :Bhorer Shopno

**STAR MOVIES** 08:15 Far From Heaven Haunted Mansion The 10:10 11:40 Class Action 01:40

All The Pretty Horses 03:35 In-Laws The Jeepers Creepers 2 07:00 Control Rats The (A.K.A. The 08:45 Colony) Children Of The Corn Ii 10:15 11:45 Jeepers Creepers 2

Cast: Joya Ahsan, Bijori, Aupee Karim **STAR PLUS** 08:00 Taaza Hits

> Hit Filmein Hit 08:05 Sangeet- 20 M 08:30 Akkad Bakkad Bambey Taaza Hits 09:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet- 20 M 09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa

Bandhan 10:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet- 20 M 10:30 Meri Saheli 11:00 Shagun 11:30 Shanti 12:00 12:25 Film Topper 12:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet- 20 M Shukhnagar Apartment On ATN Bangla at 8:00pm Genre: Drama Serial

06:30

07:00

07:25

07:30

House Of Mouse

Kumkum - Pyara Sa

Hercules

Film Topper

Cast: Shuborna Mustafa, Tazin, Tomalika 12:55

Taaza Hits Bandhan 01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kav 07:55 Film Topper Kumkum - Pyara Sa Akkad Bakkad Bambey 01:30 08:00 02:00 Bhabhi 08:30 Mum Tum Aur Hum 02:30 Kesar Kasautii Zindagii Kay 09:00 Millee 03:00 Saarrthi 09:30 Kvunki Saas Bhi Kabhi 03:30 10:00 Kavyanjali Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 10:30 04:00 Kahiin To Hoga 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi 04:30 K.Street Pali Hill Bahu Thi 05:00 Shagun 11:30 Kahiin To Hoga 5:25 Film Topper 12:00 K.Street Pali Hill Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet-05:30 **STAR WORLD** 05:55 Taaza Hits 08:00 Hollywood Squares Maan 06:00 08:30 Whose Line Is It

09:30

10:30

Monk

08:00 08:30

07:30 The Drew Carey Show 08:00 Oprah Winfrey Show

06:30 The Simpsons The King Of Queens 07:30 Friends 08:00 08:30 Married To The Kellys 09:00 **Everybody Loves** Raymond 09:30 King Of Queens 10:30 The Office 11:00 Coupling 11:30 Seinfeld 12:00 Friends **NATIONAL** 

Michael Jacksons

Oprah Winfrey Show

Bold And Beautiful

Whose Line Is It

Hollywood Squares

**Number Ones** 

Parkinson

Angel

The A Team

### **GEOGRAPHIC Telebrands** Mosquito Hell

The True Face Of 09:30 Seconds From Disaster 11:30 Mosquito Hell 12:30 Last Chance Journeys 01:30 \$100 Taxi Ride 02:00 \$100 Taxi Ride 02:30 Seconds From 03:30 National Geographic Special 04:30 **Backyard Science** 04:45 Doc Eureka Serious: Arctic 05:30 Snake Wranglers The 06:00 Totally Wild 06:30 Storm Stories 07:00 Storm Stories On Assignment

On Assignment

Interpol Investigates

Is It Real?

10:30 Seconds From Disaster Mission Udaan 12:00 Mission Udaan **ESPN** 10:30 Motorsport Asia (R) 11:00 **English Premier** Football League English

Premier Football

League 2005/06 Charlton Uk Charlton Athl Etic Vs West Ham United (R) Indian Premier Hockey League Premier Hockey League Hyderabad Ap India Bangalore Hi Fliers Vs Marat Ha Warriors Tier I(R) Indian Premier Hockey League Premier Hockey League Hyderabad Ap India Hyderabad

Sultans Vs Sher E Jalandhar Tier I(R) **English Premier League** Highlights (T X-Games Pre-06:00 view/Recap Winter X Games Nine -06:30 **Enalish Premier** 

Aspen Co Usa (R) Football League 06:40 **English Premier** Football League English Premier Football League 2005/06 Lond England West Ham U Nited Vs Chelsea 11:00 Sportscenter Sportscenter India

11:30 SPORTSCENTER SPORTSCENTER ASIA **STAR SPORTS** 

South Africa Tour Of Australia 3 Mobile Test Series Sydney Australia

Africa 3r D Test Day 1 2nd & 3rd Session(L 12:30 International Motorsports News International Motorsport News 2006 01:30 Dakar Rally 2006

Euromilhoes Dakar Day

3 Highlights(S Football Asia The Golf Club The Ubs Golf Club (R 03:00 Gillette World Sports Special Gillette World Sports 2005 (R 03:30 Fifa World Cup Programming German Giants - The 1954 Fifa World Cup Official Film

Chennai Open (L Sportscenter India Sportscenter Update (L 10:32 South Africa Tour Of Australia 3 Mobile Test Series Sydney Australia Australia Vs South Africa D Test Day 1 Highlights(S 12:00 Sportscenter India

#### Sportscenter Update TEN SPORTS 09:30 WWE Specials

Legends: Heights of 11:30 The Unforgettables 12:00 Gamer TV Transworld Sports: Ep 52 01:00 Gillette World Sport Legends: Heights of **WWE Specials** :Armageddon

:Armageddon

03:30 07:30 WWE Raw

Gillette World Sport Sahara Hockey Champ Trophy: Pakistan v India 10:00 Chevrolet Cricket Show