

Basanto Utrav

Of marigolds, dahlias and abundance of life

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN in basanti (a shade of mustard) attires, abundance of flowers such as marigolds, dahlias, polash and shimul, a soothing breeze -- the eternal elements of Basanta (Spring) are all here.

Basanto, the king of all seasons is considered to be a time for love, colour and the abundance of life. It is a symbol of rejuvenation, romanticism and pristine life.

On Pahela Falgun nature takes a festive look. The young girls wear yellow saris with marigolds in their hair. Different cultural organisations chalk out elaborate programmes to celebrate the day with music, dance, recitation and more.



Young girls decked in Marigolds

Shammilito Shangkritik Jote will hold a cultural programme at the Bakultala premises of the Institute of Fine Arts, which begins early morning today. The programme will be telecast live on channel.

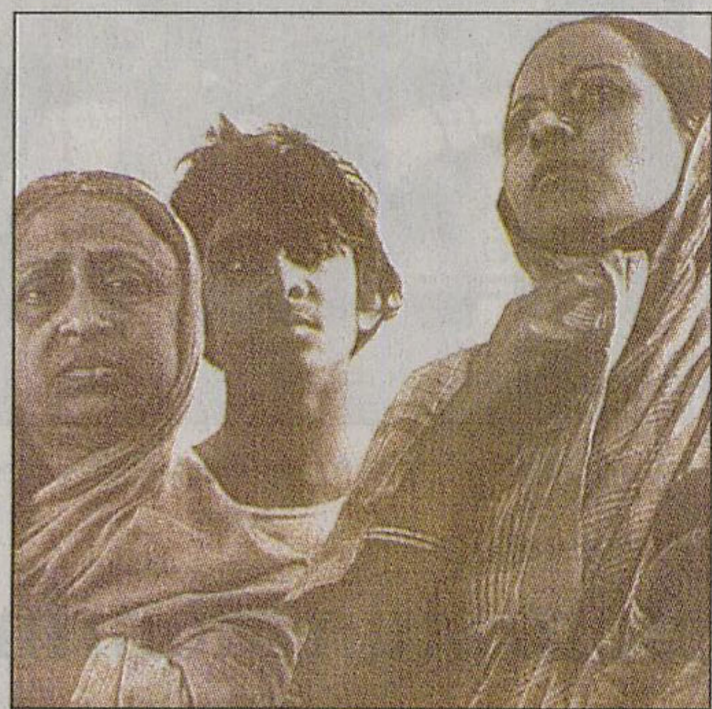
Golden jubilee celebration of Bangladeshi filmndom

Four movies screened on the first day

ERSHAD KAMOL

The TSC compound of Dhaka University campus is now in a festive mood, complete with banners and festoons. Besides Ekushey Book Fair and cultural programmes arranged by Shammilito Sanskritik Jote, Dhaka University Chalachitra Sangsad has arranged the golden jubilee celebration of Bangladeshi filmndom.

The celebration was titled Shushtha Chalachitra Shushtha Darshak. It began with the screening of Masiuddin Shakir's major cinematic work, Surja Dighal Bari on February 11 at the TSC Auditorium. Three other films, Durtia, Kittonkhola and Jibon Theke Neyra were screened on the opening day, which was inaugurated by Professor SMA Faiz, the vice chancellor of Dhaka University.



(L-R)Rowshan Jamil, co-artiste and Dolly Anwar in a scene from the film Surjo Dighal Bari

nine-day film festival were Amzad Hossain, Chashi Nazrul Islam and Masiuddin Shakir.

The president of Dhaka University Teacher's Union who is also the moderator of Dhaka University Chalachitra Sangsad, Professor AAMS Arifin Siddiqui delivered the welcome speech in the discussion session.

Supported by the Information Ministry, the film society is screening 36 most popular movies in 36 mm format in the TSC Auditorium. Besides screening movies, a round table of two seminars 'History of 50 years in Bangladeshi cinema' and 'Current scenario of Bangladeshi cinema' are included in the golden jubilee celebration.

Hafizur Rahman Tito, the president of Dhaka University Chalachitra Sangsad said, 'The history of Bangladeshi cinema began when Abdul Jabbar Khan made his ground breaking movie Mukh O Mukhosh in 1956. We are celebrating the golden jubilee in February, as the month has a great historical significance for our country.'

CULTURAL FEAST

Photography Exhibition

Title: Salyajit Ray Script to Screen Organisers: National gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi, Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the High Commission of India in Bangladesh Date: February 8- 14 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya

Group Exhibition

Title: Appointment- 2006 Venue: Shilpangan, Road 5 House 25 Dhanmondi Date: February 11- March 3 Venue: National Museum

Discover Japan

Exhibition 2006 Organiser: Dhaka Japanese Language Institute Alumni Association Programme: Photography Exhibition, Movie screening Venue: National Museum Date: February 13- 14

Musical Soiree

Title: Bhalobashar Gaan Organiser: Rabirag, Venue: WVA Auditorium, House# 20, Road # 16 Dhanmondi Date: February 14 at 6:30 pm

Wrishiz honours eminent personalities



Artistes perform on the 29th anniversary of Wrishiz Shilpi Goshti

KHALID-BIN-HABIB

On its 29th anniversary on February 11, Wrishiz Shilpi Goshti (WSG) declared the Wrishiz Awards for literature, culture, film and journalism. On the occasion, a programme was held at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium. Poet Mahub-Ul-Alam Chowdhury, eminent journalist Rahat Khan, popular actress Kabori Sarwar, poet and journalist Tofazzal Hossain were given a warm reception and awards for their remarkable contribution to the respective fields.

The programme began on a solemn note: homage for the recently departed cultural, social and political personalities. One-

minute silence was observed to pay honour to eminent music director Subal Das, Babul Akhter, football player Monem Munna, journalist Shahadat Choudhury, drama personality Zia Ansari, guitarist Azad Pallab, educationist and social worker Dr Sitara Parveen. Presided over by the chairperson of the WSG and Gono Sangeet artiste Fakir Alamgir, the programme was attended by renowned Language Movement veteran, Abdul Matin as the chief guest and Shamsuzzaman Khan as the special guest.

The programme ended with a cultural show. Wrishiz, Uddichi, Kranti, Biborton and other cultural activists participated in the function.

Miles celebrates silver jubilee

New Album Protiddhoni released

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

One of the leading bands, Miles is celebrating its 25 years in our music arena this year. A part of the celebration is the launch of their new album, titled Protiddhoni.

On February 11 the album, sponsored by Sangeeta, was launched at a restaurant in Dhaka. This is Miles' fifth album in Bangla. The band's tradition of christening their albums with titles that start with 'pro' (Protisruti, Protasha, Protroy and Proyash) has been maintained this time as well.

On the occasion Hamin Ahmed said, 'Melody has always been an unmistakable feature in Miles' songs. The songs of this album are no different. However, we realise that over the years the trend and popular taste in music has somewhat changed and we are in touch with our fans and music enthusiasts. Hence, we've experimented with our sound in this album.'

Iqbal Asif Jewel said, 'About our 'new sound', to be precise we've experimented with vocal effects and drums. It's more of a 'new Rock sound'. We've tried to demonstrate our versatility and skills in the songs. The songs have been mixed at Miles' personal studio.'

Shafin Ahmed said, 'Between our last Bangla album and this latest one, there has been a gap



Turjo, Jewel and Shafin Ahmed at the album launch

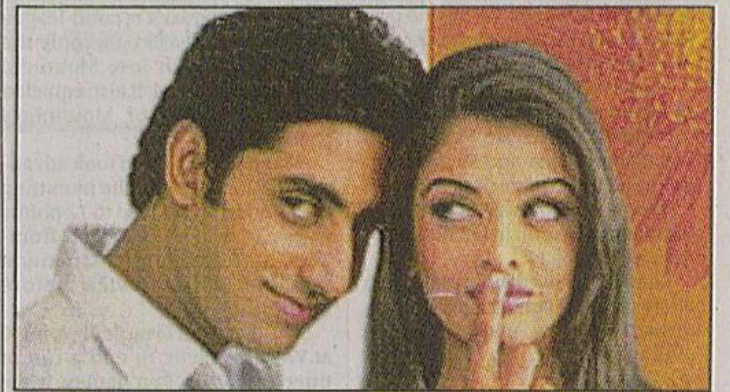
of a few years. We've faced the question why we were taking so long to cut out an album. Our answer is: We never want to compromise with quality. Achieving a certain level of quality is an extensive and time-consuming process. During the last few years we've worked on 17 songs and usually 12 songs are included in an album. Protiddhoni features 13 songs. The 'extra' track is a gift to our fans; a way to say 'thanks' to everyone who eagerly waited for our new album.'

Shafin added, 'Miles has been

around in the Bangladeshi music scene for 25 years. It's a colossal achievement for any band. Not many bands in this sub-continent have been able to achieve this feat. I hope our fans will like our new sound.'

Songs featured in the album are: Protikkha, Jaye din jaye, Jatiyo shongeeer duitiyo line, Mon chai, Bishonno jochhna, Ashohaye, Roopkothar rajotuo, Shaat diner tumi, Dupur belar, Pathik, Jalrong, Kenpey uthey mon and Antorjami.

Aishwarya, Abhishek to tie the knot



AFP, New Delhi

Bollywood stars Aishwarya Rai and Abhishek Bachchan, son of the legendary actor Amliabh Bachchan, are planning to wed and astrologers say they are a perfect match, media reports said yesterday.

A member of the Bachchan household had sent the horoscopes

of the two stars to a leading astrologer, who advised that the couple should marry at the earliest.

Both the families have remained tight-lipped about the reports, including claims the stars began dating three months ago during the shooting of their upcoming film Umrao Jaan.



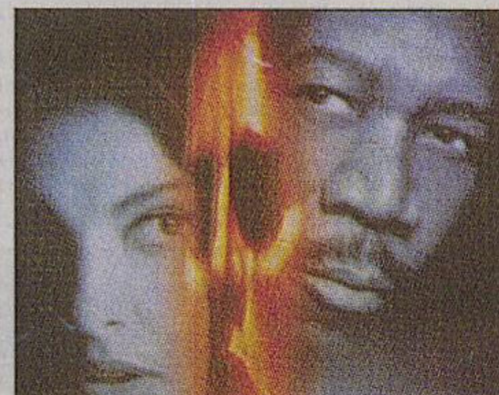
Music lovers are in for a treat on Valentine's Day. Arshee will present a duet album by Bappa Majumder and Fahmida Nabi, titled Ekmuho Gaan. With music composed by Bappa, the album contains 11 romantic numbers

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



India vs Pakistan cricket match On BTV at 12 pm 3rd one day match of the ongoing India's tour of Pakistan



Kiss the girls On HBO at 9:30 pm Genre: Suspense/Thriller Cast: Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd

Table with TV schedules for BTV, News Bulletin, CHANNEL-1, ATN BANGLA, TARA BANGLA, and BBC WORLD.

Table with TV schedules for SHIRANAM, ATN BANGLA, and other channels.

Table with TV schedules for RTV, HBO, and STAR MOVIES.

Table with TV schedules for STAR WORLD, DISCOVERY, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, and STAR SPORTS.

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