

A celebration with verve

Bengal Baishakhi Utsav 1413

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To provide a venue for Baishakhi celebrations for Dhakaites living in Gulshan, Banani, Baridhara, Jowar Sahara, Rampura, Badda and other North Dhaka neighbourhoods, Bengal Foundation has been holding Baishakhi Utsav from last year at the sports ground behind Wonderland, Gulshan.

The three-day celebration started with Barsho Bidaye (the last day of the year) on April 13. Attractions of the day were kite flying, energetic performances by dhulis (dhol players) and lathikhela. Besides a cultural programme, a fair was also held at the premises.

This year, around 80 stalls by different organisations featured handicrafts and other locally made items. About 100 musical instruments including some that are on the verge of extinction were on display at the stall of Nabab and Co. The stall of Gram Bhati featured

fabric woven by the indigenous people of Mymensingh and Chittagong Hill Tracts.

On Pahela Baishakh the cultural programme started with songs. Theatre troupe Aranyak staged the play *Shangkranti*. Artists including Rezwana Chowdhury Banyu, Subir Nandi, Bulbul Islam and Arnab performed at the event. Poetry recitation by Bhashwar Bandyopadhyay, Sylheti folk songs by Ramkanai Das and *Ghazir Gaan* by Mujib Bayati and his troupe entertained the audience.

Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad began the programme with choral renditions of Tagore songs on the last day of the celebration. Students of Sunnydale presented the dance-drama *Kaalnirgoya*. Other attractions of the day were *Lalon* songs by Rab Fakir and his group from Kushtia, a performance by the popular band Bangla and poetry recitation.



Artistes perform a folk song at the Baishakhi celebration

Artistes honoured by Shilpakala Academy



PHOTO: STAR

(L-R) Artistes Abdur Rahman Bayati, Mafizul Islam, Jogesh Chandra Das and M Shona Miah at the reception

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Music and Dance of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) honoured seven eminent artistes for their contribution to music and dance recently. This year's awardees are M Shona Miah (*Shana*), Jogesh Chandra Das (dance), Mafizul Islam (Nazrul songs), Abdur Rahman Bayati (folk songs), Fawzia Khan (modern Bangla songs), Mihir Lala (classical songs) and Anup Bhattacharya

(Tagore songs). M Shona Miah's career began with the advent of radio in our country. Moreover, he plays wind instruments such as clarinet, saxophone, bansi and cornet. A recipient of several awards, dance-dramas choreographed by Jogesh Chandra Das such as *Mahua*, *Nakshikanthar Math*, *Chitrangada*, *Chandalika* and others, have won appreciation.

A professor of Music College, Mafizul Islam has published several books on *Nazrulgeeti*. Folk singer

Abdur Rahman Bayati was awarded for his contribution to folk music that spans 550 solo albums and six remix albums.

Alongside Anup Bhattacharya's involvement in the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra during our Liberation War, he has emerged as a music composer.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Begum Selima Rahman was the chief guest while DG of BSA Ahmed Nazir was the special guest.

djuice turns one

Spirited performance by drockstars

KHALID-BIN- HABIB

On April 15, djuice (Grameen phone's brand for youngsters) celebrated its first anniversary with well-attended performances by the rock artistes of the country.

The major attractions of the programme were 10 promising artistes who shot to fame with the *drockstars* talent hunt show. Besides them, popular bands LRB and Warfaze entranced the audience with their performance; added attraction was a display of fire-spinning.

The show began with Samrat's rendering of popular number *Sharthopor*. Susmita, Sangeeta, Opu and Niloy performed after Samrat respectively with some

popular numbers. *drockstars* finalist Amin, who won the *drockstars* critics award received a warm welcome from the audience. Amin performed a rock number *Turni jeno bedona jagao money* with his melodious voice and original compositions. Masud performed next, singing the popular rock song *Madhobi* by LRB. The audience swayed and rocked to the music.

The next artiste to take the stage was the first *drockstar* of the country, Shuvo. He received rounds of applause as he performed *Jibonar jakotha kichhu noy hotahsa*.

Warfaze and LRB rendered their favourite numbers -- with non-stop performances, skillful drumming, good guitar works and melodious vocals.



A drockstar finalist performing at the programme

Bidrohi Padma

The eternal conflict between haves and have-nots

KARIM WAHEED

Bidrohi Padma, ntv's maiden feature film, was released recently. Widely publicised, the movie directed by Badol Khandokar is claimed to be a quality production.

Based on a literary work by Askar Ibne Shaikh, the film, set in the Pakistan-era (1950's), delineates the perpetual conflict between the haves and have-nots, fragile harmony between communities of different faiths and the perilous lives of people living by the (once mighty) river Padma.

The lead characters in the film are diverse: A nefarious *zamindar* constantly devising "brilliant" plans to crush the locals, a reformed *lathial* and his wife, a *gayen* (folk singer), a teacher and a widow.

Though the British Raj is over, the *zamindar* still feels that he owns everything in the vicinity, including

after his only child dies he comes to the conclusion that it was his bad karma that is to blame. He decides to straighten up and help the villagers whom he once tortured while doing the *zamindar's* bidding. Raju Boyati sings melancholic tunes and seeks to avenge his father's death at the hands of the *zamindar*. The local school teacher motivates the community to unite and take a stance against the injustice and then there is Shudha, the young widow who believes she is destined to be alone in this lifetime.

Led by Rahmat, the villagers are ready to harvest the product of their sweat and blood but as usual, the *zamindar* undercuts it all for himself. The film follows the outcome of the clash between the united weak and the lone mighty.

Unfortunately for the sophisticated audience who has exposure to global cinema, the film falls short

Costumes of certain characters are not as per the era the film depicts. Too many flashbacks and misplaced songs test the patience of the audience. The impression can best be described through the dialogue delivered by one of the characters, "If only our memories didn't haunt us constantly!... We'd be much better off."

Ilias Kanchan as Rahmat does what he was required to do. Champa's brilliance was under-utilised in an almost insignificant character. Riaz cannot seem to shrug off the tendency of method acting prevalent in mainstream movies. Popy in the deglamorised role of a Hindu widow is refreshing and her silent expressions are poignant; lack of effective dialogues however does not back her character.

Songs written by Gazi Mazharul Anwar and composed by Alauddin



Riaz and Popy in a scene from the film

the women folk. A new *char* (island) has surfaced on the river. The impoverished villagers, who had lost all their cultivable lands when the river changed its course, feel that they have a right on the *char*.

Rahmat used to be the *zamindar's* chief henchman but

of meeting expectations. Featuring an impressive cast, the film at its very best becomes an ultimate compilation of clichés, over-dramatisation and amateurish direction. Khandokar should have seen *Padma Nadir Majhi* and taken pointers before making the film.

Ali, the *kirtan* in particular, are easy on the ear, thanks to seasoned crooners Sabina Yasmin and Andrew Kishore.

The film is currently running nationwide.

Event

Close up 1 stars on the move

The *Close Up 1* team staged a successful concert in Rangpur recently. With the unstinting support of Unilever, Market Access Providers Limited and ntv, government

high ups and important personalities of the town attended the concert, says a press release.

There was a huge turnout despite the scorching Baishakhi heat. After

Rangpur, the upbeat team of emerging singers hopes for a similar response in other places where they are set to perform in the course of their nationwide tour.



Amidst fun and glitz, Baishakhi celebrations were held at the theme park Fantasy Kingdom last Friday. A cultural programme including a performance by LRB, a pitha (rice cakes) festival and other interesting events followed

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 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 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

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.
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, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv

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 BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 7:30pm.
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

CHANNEL-i

09:30 *Shongbad Potrey* Bangladesh
09:50 *Triloyomatra*
11:05 Education Programme (Live)
12:30 *Aaaj Dupurey*
01:10 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:45 *Public Reaction*
02:40 *Drama*
04:05 *Bashundhara Amader Gaan*
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 *Banijjo O Orthonti*
06:00 *Music Plus*
06:20 *Star Gate SG One*
07:50 *Drama Serial: Nil Jochonai*
08:20 *Drama Serial: Shimana*
09:35 *Drama Serial: Sampurna Rangin*
10:00 *Drama Serial: Pothe Jetej Jetej*

ntv

09:30 *Apon aloy Grammen Phone*
10:00 *Shironam*
10:05 *Zoo Adventure*
10:30 *Dhakar Cinema*
01:05 *Muktangon*
02:35 *Drama Serial: Ramizer Aaina*
03:50 *Shada Rater Manush*
04:25 *Bhinnya Swader Knobor*
04:50 *Snaphots Of Change*
05:20 *Apar Jigyasha*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
07:20 *Tele Quiz*
08:25 *Drama serial: Labonya Prokha*
09:10 *Music Express*
09:50 *Drama Serial: Shada Rater Manush*
11:25 *Dindarpan*

ATN BANGLA

10:30 *Annodristhi*
11:05 *Drama: Ek Jonome*
12:20 *Drama: Jar Sathe Jar*
01:25 *Cholochitr Golpo*
02:30 *Drama serial: Nirob Koshto*
03:10 *Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai*
03:45 *Shustho Thakun*
04:45 *Ispahani Pure Snax Quiz Time*
05:10 *Matir Subash*
05:45 *Islami Sawaal O Jobab (live)*
06:20 *BSB Education Zone*
08:00 *Drama Serial: Shukhnagar Apartment*
08:30 *Drama Serial: Flat No. 40*
09:00 *ATN Taroka (Music)*
10:35 *Kothamala*

Rtv

09:00 *Human nature*
09:30 *Drishti*
10:00 *Cartoon film*
11:30 *Bridhasram*
12:05 *Prithibir Pathe Pathe*
01:00 *Agantuk*
02:30 *Islami Programme*
03:30 *Human Nature*
04:00 *Tagore Song*
05:05 *Air Combat*
05:30 *Cartoon*
06:00 *Ajker Bangladesh*
06:35 *Apon Simanay*
08:00 *Drama Serial: Agantuk*
08:50 *Drama Serial: Rater Galpo*
10:50 *Shure Shure Patho Chola*

BANGLAVISIO

10:00 *Ki Jadu Bangla Gaane*



Agantuk
On Rtv at 8:00 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Zahid Hassan, Tania



Mission Impossible
On HBO at 9:30 pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Tom Cruise, Jon Voight

PICK OF THE DAY

10:30 *Shahar Shesher Bari*
11:00 *Apar Agami*
11:30 *Drama Serial: Album*
12:00 *Shal Sadai*
01:00 *Expressions*
02:30 *Drama Serial: Album Gaane*
03:00 *Shahar Shesher Bari*
04:00 *Apar Agami*
04:30 *Cartoon*
05:00 *Amar Ami*
05:30 *Shudhu Gaan*
06:40 *Diner Sheshe*
08:05 *Drama Serial: Album*
08:40 *Jibon Dhara*
09:15 *Shohor Shesher Bari*
09:50 *Amader Atithi*
11:00 *Sports round-up*

08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*
10:00 *Cartoon*
10:30 *Bangla Film*
03:00 *Expressions*
03:30 *Society*
04:00 *Tebhaga*
05:00 *Musical Programme*
05:30 *Zila Bulletin*
06:00 *Ae din Sei khoney*
06:30 *Top News*
07:00 *Shuktara*
08:30 *Drama: Nokol Poshak*
09:00 *Drama: Roday Jabo*
09:30 *Bioscope*
11:00 *Panch Diner Golpo*

HBO

09:30 *Blade*
12:00 *Kull the conqueror*

02:00 *Highway*
04:00 *Thoughtcrimes*
05:45 *Uncle Buck*
07:45 *Jason X*
09:30 *Mission Impossible*
11:45 *Rome 09: Ulta*
01:00 *Shakespeare in Love*
10:10 *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*
12:35 *Octopussy*
02:45 *Living Daylights*
05:00 *Tomorrow Never Dies*
07:00 *Seabiscuit*
09:20 *Chupacabra: Dark Seas*
11:00 *Target Of Opportunity*
12:30 *Tripping Wire*

STAR PLUS

10:00 *V Trailers - Star Plus*
10:30 *Hatim*
11:30 *Karma*
12:30 *V Trailers - Star Plus*
12:55 *V First Day First Show-Startup*
01:00 *Kasauti Zindagi Kay Bhabhi*
02:00 *Kesar*
03:00 *Saarthi*
04:00 *Kahin To Hoga*
04:30 *K Street Pali Hill*
05:25 *V First Day First Show-Startup*
05:30 *Shaka Laka Boom Boom*
06:25 *Bolly V - Star Plus*
06:30 *Lilo & Stitch*
07:00 *The Little Mermaid*
07:30 *Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan*

DISCOVERY

09:30 *Discovery's Biggest Shows*
11:30 *Deadiest Season In The World*
12:30 *Power Women*
01:30 *Wild Discovery*
02:30 *Detective Stories*
03:30 *Mystery Hunters*
04:00 *Physical Science In Action*
04:30 *Wild Discovery*
05:30 *Science Of Star Wars*
06:30 *Extreme Machines*
07:30 *Wild Discovery*
08:30 *Days That Shook The World*
09:30 *Seven Wonders Of The Industrial World*
10:30 *Greatest Ever*
11:30 *FBI Files*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

10:30 *Air Crash Investigation SS*
11:30 *Rough Trades*
12:30 *Extreme Latitude*
01:30 *\$100 Taxi Ride*
02:30 *Air Crash Investigation SS*
03:30 *The Living Edens*
04:30 *Backyard Science*
04:45 *Doc Eureka*
05:00 *Croc Chronicles*
05:30 *Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures*
06:00 *Snake Wranglers The Storm Stories*
06:30 *Be The Creature*
07:30 *Hunter Hunted*
08:30 *Going To More Extremes*
10:30 *Interpol Investigates*
11:30 *Built For The Kill*

ESPN

08:30 *Asian X Games*
09:30 *New Zealand Tour Of South Africa Vs New Zealand 1st Test Day 2 Highlights*
11:00 *English Premier Football League*
12:30 *New Zealand Tour Of South Africa High-lights(R)*
01:58 *South Africa Vs New Zealand 1st Test Day 3 (L)*
09:30 *Classic Boxing*
10:30 *Sportscenter India*
11:00 *Sportscenter Asia*
11:30 *Cricket Classics*
01:58 *South Africa Vs New Zealand 1st Test Day 3 (L)*
09:30 *Classic Boxing*
10:30 *Sportscenter India*
11:00 *Sportscenter Asia*
11:30 *Cricket Classics*
01:58 *South Africa Vs New Zealand 1st Test Day 3 (L)*
09:30 *Classic Boxing*
10:30 *Sportscenter India*
11:00 *Sportscenter Asia*
11:30 *Cricket Classics*

TEN SPORTS

09:00 *WWE: Heat*
09:30 *Total Rugby*
10:00 *World of Athletics*
10:30 *Gillette World Cup Football Preview*
11:00 *Great Centuries*
03:00 *WWE:Specials: WrestleMania 22*
03:30 *Cricket: India in West Indies*
05:30 *Barca TV*
07:30 *WWE: Raw*
08:00 *XYLUS : Ep 1*
10:00 *Portuguese League: Boavista v Benfica*
11:00 *Italian League Highlights*