DHAKA THURSDAY OCTOBER 12, 2006



The Baily Star

Eid gifts A boost to rural artisans





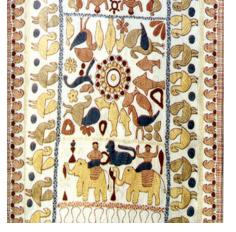


NDURING gifts in the market today are a wide variety of apparel, handicrafts and household goods. Visiting shops such as Aarong, Kumudini, Banglar Mela and Karupalli, the shopper will see a resurgence of the craft of Nakshi Kantha, block prints and embroidered salwar-kameez. saris, kurtas, cushion covers, table cloths, bedcovers and mats, among others,

Eid is round the corner once more and it's time for looking into what's available in the market. Most shops report a brisk sales of Nakshi Kantha apparel and decorative items. With their fine work and bold colours, Nakshi Kantha is the medium of choice for many shoppers. Says Taposh Dutta, stock in charge, Kumudini, "A popular draw for customers is hand stitched and Kantha kurtas. Besides we sell hand-stitched jamdani, muslin and Tangail saris as well as cotton and half silk block printed saris. Also we have scarves, optical cases, jewellery boxes and wooden picture frames.

As Ripon, management trainee at Aarong, points out, "With Nakshi Kantha it is back to the roots for many Bangladeshis. We showcase this craft and embellish it with rural motifs which attract the eye."

Meanwhile at Karupalli, a governmentowned organisation, Eid sales are picking up. Among the artistic works that catch the eye are a colourful appliqué bedcover, muslin







Gift items available at different stores in the city

table cloths and cotton and jamdani saris. "Quality is our forte," says Abu Yousuf, manager at Banglar Mela. "We use indigenous materials such as handloom," he adds. And the shopper not only picks up gifts for Eid but also promotes the art and craft of

Bangladesh. These retail outlets seek to uplift the socio-economic condition of financially straitened artisan families through training, design and marketing support. In the process, the traditional works live on. Kumudini reports the revival of handloom. Kantha and natural



dyes. Likewise Aarong outlets provide and create jobs to the poor and marginal income groups. Aarong currently provides services to over 30,000 artisans, 85 percent of whom are women.

In an increasingly competitive market, shops such as these have resorted to advertising to promote their colourful and artistic wares. In addition they have to keep ahead of their competitors. Farheen Khurrum, marketing manager, Aarong, points out that the organisation has a team of 30 designers who turn out eye-catching works. In her words, "Aarong is a team effort and we try to keep abreast of international trends when it comes to colours, embellishments and desian.

A relatively new development in the market for traditional crafts and other gifts is the advent of online shopping. Yes with a click of a button the buyer can order an array of gifts such as handicrafts and apparel, CDs, VCDs, books, cakes, sweets, chocolates, greeting cards, flowers and fruits. Among the leading names in this sphere are: www.bang ladeshigift. com, www.gifts4bd.com, www.upoharbd.com and www.giftmela.com. So what's stopping the shopper? Here's a

whole lot of products that make great presents. And in the process buyers give a much needed boost to artisans who struggle to keep alive our rich cultural heritage.

The festive hue of henna

FAYZA HAQ

Henna had decked women in the royal courts of ancient Egypt and Assyria, and was accompanied by perfume and incense. It had also been an integral part of women's toiletry in ancient Arabia and Maheniodaro. In the subcontinent. henna has been a part and parcel of women's grooming during the festival of Eid and weddings. Even before the Mughals, the sultans of India used this herb to mark festive occasions.

Today, in Bangladesh, women apply henna on their palms, finger nails, wrists and hands. They also put it on the upper part of their feet. These take floral shapes and motifs with lines, dots and circles. After plucking the leaves, they combine it with tea leaves, coffee grains and sugar along with lemon juice so that the registered colour is a strong one. Henna is applied to women's hair as a routine basis to add lustre and to camouflage the grav hair. Grandmothers with orange flowing hair also look sophisticated. Along with music, dancing and feasting, applying of henna during our weddings is a complete ritual on its own. One school of thought has it that the darker the



A young woman getting henna deigns on her palm (top)

registration of the colour of henna, the greater are the expectations of happiness in the marriage

At Bashundhara City, Panthopath, a five day-long Elite Ranga Eid Festival is being held. This has been attended by personalities like filmstars Purnima and Nadia, child actor Dighi and TV actress Romana. While trained young women apply henna from paper cones, actress

Doel says that she has always looked forward to applying mehdi during Eid. The young women applying the henna are not educated at any art college, like the selection of women applying mehdi last year. but are artistically inclined. Model Tumpa says that henna suits her choice of attire like salwar - kameez and sari and it also adds a touch of the orient.

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition Title: Doors Organiser: Alliance Française de Dacca Venue: la Gallery, Alliance Française de Dacca Date: October 12-25

Time: 9 am to 12 pm and 5 pm to 9 pm Photography

Exhibition Title: A Portrait of South India Organiser: North South University Photography Club Venue: BTA 100, BTA Tower, North South University Date: October 8-12 Time: 10 am to 6 pm

Art Fair Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, Road 3

BSCIC's Sharat Mela ends today

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) began its five-day Sharat Mela inaugurated the fair while chief

(autumn fair and handicrafts exhibition) at the BSCIC Bhaban in Motijheel from October 8. BSCIC chairperson SR Osmani

designer Kamaluddin Ahmed was present as special quest.

The chairman later distributed certificates among 121 trainees, who earlier attended 11 courses at the BSCIC design centre. The courses included block and

batik prints, leather work, bamboo work, pottery, carpentry, iron work, iute products. handlooms, screen printing, packaging and weaving. As total of 71 stalls have been set

up to display their products. The products are honey, various kinds of pickles, jam-jelly, wooden products, varieties of cane and bamboo handicrafts, embroidery products, attractive clothes, jamdani sarees and dolls

Streisand's outburst at NYC concert

It was an evening that elicited tears, standing ovations, raucous laughter and shouts of joy from the audience -and that was just in the first few minutes.

Barbra Streisand's return to touring after a 12-year absence was the extravaganza that it promised to be. Monday night's show at Madison Square Garden was the third stop of a 20-city jaunt across the nation -- a virtual lovefest between the ultimate diva and an adoring, sold-out, celebrity-dotted crowd.

Streisand effortlessly crooned through a select repertoire of her four decades of hits. But night's most riveting moment came during what was perhaps the only unscripted and truly uncomfortable episode in the three-hour show.

There was Streisand, enduring a smattering of loud jeers as she and "George Bush" -- a celebrity impersonator muddled through a skit that portrayed the president as a bumbling idiot.

Though most of the crowd offered polite applause during the slightly humorous routine, it had gone on a bit too long, especially for those who just wanted to hear Streisand sing like she had been doing for the past hour. 'Come on, be polite!" the well-known liberal implored during the sketch as she and "Bush" exchanged zingers. But one heckler wouldn't let up. And finally, Streisand let him have it. "Shut the (expletive) up!" Streisand bellowed, drawing wild applause. "Shut up if you can't take a joke!" With that one word, the jeers ended. And the message was delivered -- no one gets away with trying to upstage Barbra Streisand, especially not in her hometown

launching into a serenely beautiful rendition of Somewhere." That put the focus back on what the audience came for -- her voice, one of the greatest female instruments of her generation.

Source: Internet



House 13/A, Dhanmond Date: October 13-22 Time: 10 am to 1 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm

Printmaking Exhibition

Title: Knock. Artist: Tariq Julfiker Venue: Alliance Française de Dacca, 26 Mirour Road, Dhanmondi Date: October 13-26 Time: 9 am to 12 pm and 5 pm to 9 pm



A fair-goer checking out the collection, a handmade doll (R)

The objective of the exhibition is to create a market for handicrafts. said the organisers.

With the forthcoming Eid festival, the fair attracted a huge crowd. Rashed, a customer seemed happy with his purchase of a Punjabi. He said, "I found what I was looking for - attractive attire at a reasonable price.'

The biggest crowd was around the stalls of children's clothing. The stalls featured a huge variety of

TV GUIDE

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Meanwhile, the organisers had reasons to be elated. "We've received a huge response from the public. However, it would have been better if the fair was extended for another day or two," said an organ-

The exhibition ends today

Once the outburst (which Streisand later apologised for) was over, Streisand noted that "the artist's role is to disturb." and delivered a message of tolerance before

Barbra Streisand performs in New York's Madison Square Garden on October 9

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

BTV

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BANGLA

* 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 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.

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) at5:30pm.7:30pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30

BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL i Satellite Broadcast 09:30 Shanghbad Potre

Salenne Divaucasi	09.30	Shanyibau Polie
Tommy Miahr		Bangladesh
Kinchen	09:45	Public Reaction
Sangbad Potrer	09:50	Grameen Phone
Pata Theke		Tritiyomatra
Maa O Shisur	12:30	Aaj Dupurey O
Kotha		Citicell
Shukhi Poribhar		Tarokakothon
Children's Drama	01:05	Ebong Cinemar
Matri Bhasha		Gaan
Mahe Ramjan	01:30	Shanghbadpotre
Aparupa Bangla-		Bangladesh
desh	01:45	Public Reaction
Shomoyer	02:40	Tritiyo Matray
Shonglap		Apni
Protidin Bangla-	03:05	Hridoye Mati O
desh		Manusher
Weekly Drama		Daak
Teknaf Thekey	04:05	Amader Gaan
Tetulia	04:25	Sa Re Ga Ma
Apnar Shawsthyo	05:44	Monohar Iftar
(Live)	06:00	Sroshtar Shakhor
	06:35	Amar Chhobi
	07:50	RC Travel on
IGLA	08:20	Concert
Drama Serial:	09:35	Drama Serial:
Tushar Rohoshyo		Bishudho
Anyodrishti		Onuprobesh
Bangla Feature	10:00	Drama Serial:
Film		Ebong Shomachar
Islamic Programme	12:00	Grammenphone
Mobarak Ho Mahe		Ajker
Ramjan		Shangbadpotro
Prapok	ntv	
Drama Serial:	08:35	Ajker Shokal
Hortoner Bibi	09:00	Siddiqua Kabir's
Drama Serial:		Recipe
Ferari Siren	10:05	Chalochchitro
Drama Serial: Koto		Kotha
Chena Koto Achena	10.30	Dhakar Cinema

10:30

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Dhakar Cinema

Muktangan

Drama Serial:



RC Travel On On Channel i at 7:50pm Travel Show Host: Shahriar Shakil

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Labonyoprobha	Ν	
Mega Serial: Ranger Manush Smritir Janalay	09:30	Drama Ser Gaurochan
Hridoye Ramjan Dindarpan	10:00	Drama Ser Hasuli Begu Upokotha
Al Quran Jibon Gorar Ashor Shubho Shondhya Shishuder Shomoy	10:30 11:30 03:00	Agamir Ka Desher Pa Amader Ra
Drama Serial: Megh Bolechhe	03:30	Ebong Cla Bairey
Jabo Jabo Glamour World	04:00 04:30 05:00	Raat Bi Ra Icchey Ghu Ajaan
Drama Serial: Kuhak Dindarpan	06:25 06:40	Diner Shes Amader Ra
NGLAVISIO	08:10 09:20	Danakanta Article Thir



Sons & Daughters On Star World at 10:30pm Genre: Sitcom Cast: Fred Goss, Jerry Lambert

ONY Telebrands Tele Shopping Chartbusters Music Music Mantra Music Music Beats Music	02:00 02:30 03:00	Rishton Ki Dor Drama Aisa Des Hai Mera Drama Matinee Movie - Masoom Movie
 Music Deals music Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa - Result 5 Dance Contd. Contd. Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Drama 	05:30 06:00 06:30 07:00 07:30 08:00	Contd. Movie Current Bollywood Movie Music Beats Music Music Mantra Music Chartbusters Music Thodi Khushi Thode
 :30 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si Drama :00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama :30 Kabhie To Nazar Milao Drama 	08:30	Gham Drama Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Drama Ek Ladki Anjaani Si

		Drama	11:30	Kahiin To Hoga	09:30	The Office
	09:30	Aisa Des Hai Mera	12:00	Paraya Dhan	10:00	Two And A Half Men
		Drama	HB	0	10:30	Sons & Daughters
	10:00	Thodi Khushi Thode	10:00	L Know What You Did	11:00	Growing Up Gotti
		Gham Drama	10:00	Last Summer	11:30	Seinfeld
	10:30	Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa	12:00	Love Don't Cost a	12:00	Friends
		Gala 6 Dance	12.00	Thing	NAT	IONAL
	12:00	Kaajjal - Sabbki	02:00	The Big Preview:	CEC	
		Ankhon Mein Basi		World Trade Centre		DPGRAHIC
		Drama	02:30	Shadowlands	09:30	Nat Geo Junior
	STA	R PLUS	05:15	Cerberus	10:00	Nat Geo Wild
	09:30	Kumkum - Pyara Sa	07:15	Assault on Precinct	10:30 11:30	Spider Power Seconds From
		Bandhan		13	11:30	Disaster
	10:00	V Trailers - Star Plus	09:30	The Mask of Zorro	01:00	Mummy Road Show
	10:30	Shaka Laka Boom	12:15	Connie and Carla	01:30	World Culture
		Boom	02:15	To Gillian on Her 37th	02:00	Chasing Time With
	11:30	Karm Apna Apna		Birthday		Hutch
	12:00	V Trailers - Star Plus	ST/	AR MOVIES	02:30	The Living Edens
	12:30	Resham Dankh	09:30	Avp: Alien Vs. Predator	03:00	Ecstasy
	01:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	11:15	Raging Bull	04:00	Unwind
	01:30	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	10:30	Mad Love	04:30	Big Bang - S 7
	02:00	Bhabhi	03:15	Big	05:00	Snakes
	02:00	Kesar		Mighty Joe Young	05:30	Nat Geo Junior
	03:00	Saarrthi	07:00	Death To The	06:00	Wildlife Diary
	03:30	Kyunki Saas Bhi		Supermodels	06:30	Ecstasy
		Kabhi Bahu Thi	08:30	Lot Like Love	07:00	Unwind
	04:00	Kahiin To Hoga	ST/	AR WORLD	07:30	Panda Nursery
	04:30	Karm Apna Apna	09:30	The Oprah Winfrey	08:30	MegaStructures
	05:00	Hum Saath Aath		Show	09:30	Frontline Of Con-
		Hain	11:30	Boston Legal	10:30	struction Unwind
	05:30	V Trailers - Star Plus	12:30	J.A.G.	11:30	Polar Bear Alcatraz
	06:00	Mum Tum Aur Hum	01:30	Knight Rider		
	06:30	Buzz on Maggie	02:30	Oprah Winfrey Show	DIS	COVERY
	07:00	Timon and Pumbaa	03:30	The Bold And The	CHA	NNEL
С	07:30	Hatim		Beautiful	08:30	Wild Discovery
0	08:30	Antariksh	04:30	General Hospital	09:30	Deadliest Catch
е	09:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	05:30	Monk	10:30	Anatomy of A For-
	09:30 10:00	Viraasat Karm Anna Anna	06:30	The Simpsons	10.00	mula One Team
	10:00	Karm Apna Apna Kahaani Ghar Ghar	07:00 07:30	Cheers Friends	11:30	Junkyard Wars
	10.50	Kanaani Ghar Ghar Kii	07:30	Seinfeld	12:30	Yummy Mummy
i	11:00	Kvunki Saas Bhi	08:00	Hope & Faith	01:00	Runway Moms
1	11.00	Kabhi Bahu Thi	08:30	According To Jim	01:30	Shark Week
	-		05.00	According to still	-	