



(From left) 'Mysterious Migration of Hercules' (Acrylic on board) and 'The Act of Formal Brutality' (Acrylic on board) on display at the event.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Jayanta Mondal's 'Rotation of Time' portrays evolution of time and society

RASHEEK TABASSUM MONDIRA

Jayanta Mondal's first solo exhibition, *Rotation of Time*, is underway at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka. Noted artists Shishir Bhattacharjee and Rafiqun Nabi among others inaugurated the exhibition on February 23.

Born in Satkhira, Jayanta Mondal completed his BFA and MFA from the Department of Drawing and Painting at Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka. He created the paintings based on recent

contemporary issues. The universe is evolving constantly and human civilisations have gone through significant changes over time. The artist believes that our society is turning more and more brutal everyday and that is no different from the barbaric era. "I tried to express my points of view about the evolution of time and society, and how every step towards the future is dragging us more into the past. Subsequently, I have named the exhibition, 'Rotation of Time,'" says Jayanta.

He portrays different societal issues

through his paintings. One of the paintings in the series, *Recreation of femina bellator*, showcases Nusrat, who was a victim of rape, in the form of Goddess Durga, awaiting justice. This series portrays the growing injustice in our society, where thousands of 'Nusrats', are facing the same cruel reality.

Another painting, *Mysterious Migration of Hercules*, tells the story of Hercules from Greek and Roman mythology, a great warrior who is half human and half God. The artist portrays the resemblance between

the mythical Hercules and Bangladesh's 'unknown Hercules', who punished several rapists in the country recently.

The Story of Border Line, The Act of Formal Brutality, Nervous Narrowness and The result of superstition are among other paintings showcased in the exhibition. "As an artist, I tried to portray the helplessness of people in this dialectical time. I feel that it is my social responsibility to talk about the ethical rise and fall of humans and I choose to talk through my art," shares the artist.

The exhibition concludes tomorrow.

WHAT'S ON

Group Exhibition
Title: Parampara
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, Dhanmondi
Date: February 15 - 29
Time: 10 am - 8 pm

Solo Exhibition
Title: Parables of the Womb
Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: February 4 - March 28
Time: 2 pm - 8 pm (Except Sundays)

Book Fair
Title: Amar Ekushey Boi Mela
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy Premises
Date: Feb 2 - 29
Time: 3 pm - 8 pm; 11 am - 9 pm on weekends

Art Exhibition
Title: In (and out of) the stones of our minds
Venue: Dwip Gallery
Date: February 19 - 29
Time: 3pm to 9 pm (February 19 from 6pm to 9pm)

Cartoon Exhibition
Title: Shojonghati Rekha
Venue: Kala Kendra
Date: February 21 - March 17
Time: 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Book Fair
Title: Daily Star Books at Gulshan Society Boi Mela
Venue: Gulshan Lake Park
Date: February 28 at 8am and February 29 at 7pm

EKUSHEY SPOTLIGHT

'Tungipara Theke Dhanmondi 32' Shah Alam Shazu's tribute to the Father of the Nation

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

"The greatness of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman cannot be captured in one or two books," says Shah Alam Shazu, a popular writer-journalist who has authored 45 published books. His latest book, *Tungipara Theke Dhanmondi 32*, portrays the storied political career of Bangabandhu in over 90 short stories, all coming together to form a beautiful vignette of the rise of the man who carved independence for the nation. Renowned artist Dhruba Esh has designed the book's cover.



PHOTO: COURTESY

The book does a wonderful job of presenting Bangabandhu's initial years of political activism, alongside lesser-known stories that are bound to inspire its readers. "It is challenging to write about a figure who is revered around the world - a lot of research had to go into it," says Shazu, who has idolised Bangabandhu since he was a young boy. "There is so much to talk about when you are addressing the great man."

The stories that are present in the book are fascinating, ranging from the times Bangabandhu was active in mitigating the communal violence that took place in Calcutta in 1946, to the time that he decided that the National Anthem will be *Amar Shonar Bangla* on a flight alongside Dr Kamal Hossain and Shashanka S Banerjee. *Tungipara Theke Dhanmondi 32* is a fitting read for anyone who wants to know about the struggles and triumphs of Bangabandhu in depth.

The book, published by Somoy Prokashoni, is available at their stall (pavilion 27) in the Ekushey Boi Mela for BDT 460.

The legacy of Salman Shah

SHARMIN JOVA

Salman Shah is the name that is relevant till date in the film industry. Had he been alive, the fraternity would likely be in a stronger position today. His unanticipated death on September 6, 1996, did not just disrupt his family, but also broke the hearts of millions of his fans. Even though a lot of conspiracy theories surfaced after he passed away, the recent PBI report confirmed that his death was, indeed a case of suicide. However, today, we shall look back at the legacy of the trailblazer known as Salman Shah.

The iconic actor made his debut alongside Moushumi in *Keyamat Theke Keyamat*, at the age of 22. The Sohanur Rahman Sohan directorial was a huge hit in 1993. The duo was featured in only three subsequent movies -- *Ontore Ontore* and *Sneho* in the year 1994, and *Den Mohor* in 1995. Later, Shabnur and Salman made one of the most recognisable pairs in the history of the Bangladeshi film industry, with films like *Tumi Amar* (1994), *Shopner Thikana* (1995), *Tomake Chai* (1996), *Shopner Prithibi* (1996), *Jibon Shongshar* (1996) and *Anondo Asru* (1997). The pair starred in a total of 14 films.

Other than Moushumi and Shabnur, Salman Shah also worked with Shabnaz, Lima, Shilpi, Brishti and Shama. His other biggest hits include *Den Morhor* (1995), *Mayer Odhikar* (1996), and *Shutter Mrittu Nei* (1996).

Even after so many years, Salman Shah is still a big name. He made a huge impact in the short time that he was in the industry. *Shutter Mrittu Nei* was Salman's last completed film, released a week after he passed away. On the other hand, *Jibon Shongshar* and



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Mayer Odhikar, were mostly complete.

Buker Bhetor Agun, *Shopner Nayok*, *Shudhu Tumi*, *Prem Piyashi*, and *Anondo Asru* were the movies that the actor could not complete. However, all of the films were released. Ferdous replaced Salman Shah in *Buker Bhetor Agun*, while Amin Khan replaced him in *Shopner Nayok*. These films were also hits, due to the craze surrounding Salman Shah, even after his death.

Salman Shah was supposed to make his singing

debut in his unfinished movie *Rinshodh*. However, the song was recorded and later used in that film renamed as *Ali Keno Golam*. The film featured Amit Hassan and Shahnaz in the lead roles. He had also acted in telefilms *Pathor Shomoy* and *Etikothea* in 1993, *Doyel* (1994), *Sob Pakhi Ghore Fere* and *Noyon* in 1995.

Salman Shah, an iconic talent of the Bangladesh film industry, still lives in the hearts of his fans and co-stars.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Studio round of 'Magic Bauliana' kicks off

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The studio round of popular folk music reality show *Magic Bauliana*'s third season have opened to a splendid response from the audience. More than 42,000 contestants registered for this season. After the auditions and selection process, the top 26 contestants are competing in the studio round. The auditions took place in Dhaka, Chattogram, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Kushtia and Mymensingh.

Shofi Mondol, Dr Nashid Kamal and Chandana Majumdar are the judges this season. The three winners of the show

will perform along with popular local and international folk artists at the upcoming Dhaka International Folk Fest.

The contest is initiated by Sun Foundation and sponsored by Square Toiletries Limited. Mediacom Limited is the creative partner of the event, while Radio Din Raat is the radio partner and Bishwo Rang is the wardrobe partner. The media partner of the show is Kalerkantha and the online media partner is BanglaNews24.

Magic Bauliana airs on Maasranga Television every Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm. Episodes of the show are available on their official YouTube channel as well.

'Ekattore Ek Bindu Shishir': Bir Protik Mizanur Rahman Khan revisits the dark days of 1971

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

During the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, Sector Commander Cornel Taher was injured to the point of nearly dying. Mizanur Rahman Khan, who played a pivotal role in the Pakistani Army's surrender from the Komolapur war zone, rescued him at the time. Khan, a valiant hero of 1971, was honoured with the title of 'Bir Protik' in 1973, for his courage and role in the Liberation War. Reminiscing his experiences of the genocide that took the lives of 30 million people, he has written the book, *Ekattore Ek Bindu Shishir*, for the youth of today. He wanted to revisit the spine-chilling circumstances everyone faced during the war. Published by Mashfiq Tonmoy from Borshadpur and supported by Shariful Islam Khan from TPNL, the book is edited by Anik Khan. Prominent cartoonist Morshed Mithu has designed the cover of the book, which is available at stalls 236-238 for BDT 220 (upon discount), at the Ekushey Boi Mela 2020.

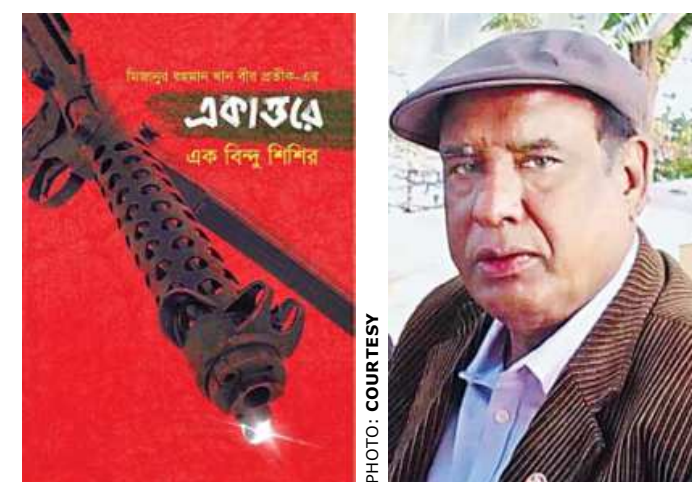


PHOTO: COURTESY

