

Dhaka Day by Day

Medley of Promising Miniatures

by Fayza Haq

There was a promising display of miniatures recently at Gallery Tone which included many styles and themes.

The best award winning entry was that of Zamirul Islam which depicts an old man resting on a couch, in front of a window, with a table lamp beside him, reading a book. The dark blue, brown and red used in the background offsets the pale colours used for the main subject.

Mohammed Eunus's oil on plastic which got an honourable mention, is an abstract with symbols of horns and arrow shooting target representing civilization. The semi-abstraction is mainly in green and orange, with purple and black to add depth. Depiction of a human face and houses are included in the broken lines and squiggles which are included in the composition.

Another honourable mention went to Jamal

Ahmed's "Model with Artist" in acrylic. This depicts an artist mixing his paints on his palette, standing before a canvas. His voluptuous model can be seen in the background, reposing on a bed covered with a white sheet. On the grey wall hangs a red and grey painting. The impressionistic piece is abounding in shades of grey and black.

Rafi Haque's piece, which again won an honourable mention, is another abstract creation. In this one can see a sketched nude woman in the foreground. A burnt portion of a newspaper covers a major portion of the piece. The outline of a human head dominates the burnt and charred newspaper. A pencil, books and houses are included in the composition. It is in shades of grey and black with a touch of orange in the front, centre and back.

Anisuzzaman's woodcut also won an honourable mention. This depicts a large crumbling mansion with its ornate and arched gates and windows. The surrounding green trees and bushes and the green and brown sky add grace to the picture. Rubble and grass mounds are included in the composition.

Syed Khandokar's mixed media show crows in a dump heap in a slum area. The birds are done with deft and dramatic strokes, while the hut appears pleasant-enough, despite the tattered and shabby caved in roof and walls. Pink,



Best award : Zamirul Islam

been done with swift sweeps of the brush and conveys a message of poverty co-existing with luxury. Red, yellow and black dominate the picture.

A modern creation is found in Shalehin Akhand's mixed media "Composition -2". In this, one sees a dice jutting out of a fragment of a checkerboard with a piece from a Coco -cola tin label, a fragment of a wooden ruler and a peg with wires. Red and blue-grey dominate the piece.

A highly decorative piece is Mohammed Muslim Mia's "Singing Bird". Here a bird with multicoloured feathers and an orange beak is seen perched on a flute and a "sharinada". The painting is pulsating with colours and motifs.

Nowadays, with smaller houses and limited budgets the miniature paintings are the best answer to the dilemma of how to decorate the home and work place. The display at Gallery Tone gave a wide range for buyers and lovers of miniature paintings.

Metropolitan

Effective merchant navy vital for growth of economy: Saifur

CHITTAGONG, Jan 11: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman today said an effective merchant navy is vitally important for the steady growth of export-import trade as well as for the economy of a nation, reported BSS.

The finance minister was addressing as the chief guest the passing out parade of the 28th batch cadets of the Marine Academy here. Port and Shipping Minister M K Anwar, Sirajul Islam MP and Rosy Kabil MP were present in the occasion.

The finance minister said steps were being taken to increase the number of commercial vessels in both the public and private sectors.

He stressed the need for improving the efficiency and skill of the officers and employees concerned as well as streamlining the management of the merchant navy.

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grammes and policies for the cadets keeping in mind the greater national interest. Such programmes and policies would enable us to establish an effective and self-reliant merchant navy.

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