A Photographic Journey through A Japanese 'Nature'

Hidden Japan, a photography exhibition, by Kijuro Yahagi is being held at the Zainul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts

By Ziaul Karim

S one enters the circular-A shaped Zainul Gallery Lone is greeted with photographs of nature that one can immediately identify as Japanese. In fact that was the quest of the photographer Kijuro Yahagi to discover the Japanese nature, if there is any, through his lens.

A selection of the photographs, eighty to be precise. constructs the body of the pho-



Sacred straw festoon in Izumotaisha shrine.

tography exhibition entitled 'Hidden Japan' now being held at the Zinul Gallery of the Institute of the Fine Arts, Shahbag.

Kijuro took a photographic journey back in 1992 to discover Japan as candidly as possible. During the course of the journey he traversed the Japanese map from the extreme north to the extreme south covering an astounding twenty thousand kilometers. It took him to eighty-five different places and he captured the nature of those places which are

quintessentially Japanese. The journey, for Kijuro Ya-



Snow Shelter, Hokkaido 1992

hagi, was not only a photographic one it was for him looking for an answer of a philosophical inquiry about which he precisely wrote in the folder of the show, " A question gradually formed within me as I actually observed nature with my own eyes and photographed it: when we speak of 'nature', what do we think the word encompasses? For instance, when people think of Switzerland they no doubt picture in their



Rejective wall of Izumotaisha shrine, Shemane Prefecture 1992

mind a scene of cows grazing in a green pasture. I never gave the matter much thought before I started taking these photographs, but I eventually realized that the scenes which we most readily picture in our minds are merely man-made scenes. With that realization, I was struck by the almost Zen like question of whether real nature actually exists. After pondering this question for a while, I came up with the idea of putting the word 'nature' in quotes as a way of freeing myself from the concept of real nature."

The philosophical and photographic journey of Kijuro yielded a fascinating bevy of photographs that were later published in a collection entitled Hidden Japan.

The most interesting aspect of the show is that Kijuro successfully transmits his emotions and amazement that drove him to take the journey through Japan with the photographs that are on show.

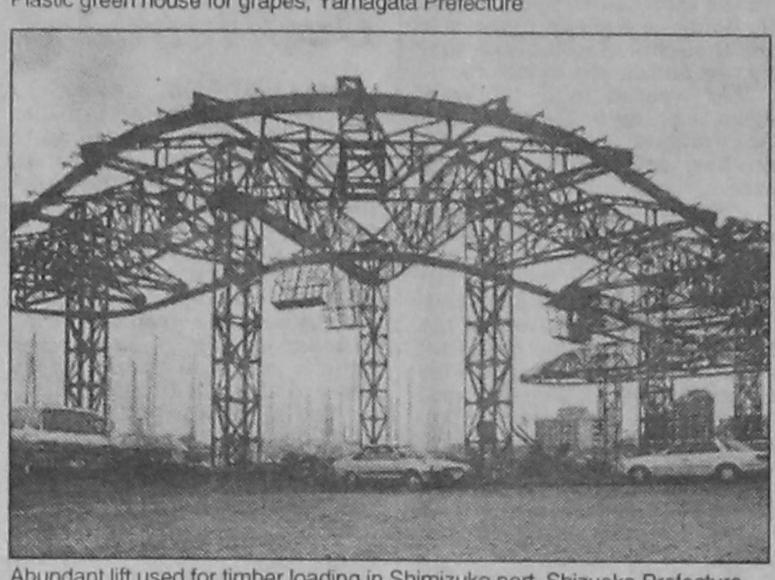
The photo that captioned 'Roots of trees in Kuramayama' depicts a mountain path leading from Kuramadera Temple to Kibune shrine, to the north of Kyoto. The huge roots crawling and covering the entire path inflict in the viewers an almost Zen-Buddhist awakening.

The photo that features a straw rope is captioned 'Sacred straw festoon in Izumotaisha shrine.' It is said that this sacred straw symbolises the copulation of male and female snakes.

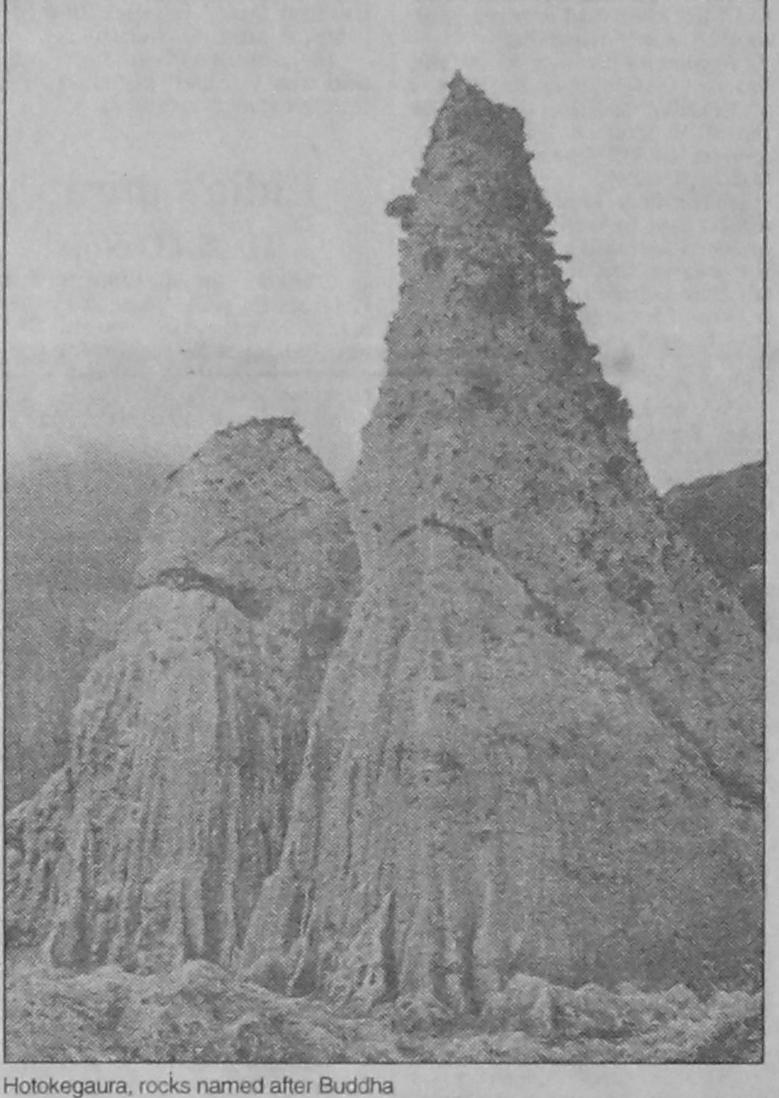
What one would discover looking at the photographs is that Kijuro brings out a Japan that is essentially Kijuro's and the show points at the intense adoration of nature the Japanese people have.



Plastic green house for grapes, Yamagata Prefecture



Abundant lift used for timber loading in Shimizuko port, Shizuoka Prefecture



The Popular Serials on The Star Plus

By Cultural Correspondent

satellite to-

EBRUARY is a month of Hilarious comedies, serious drama series and thrillers on Star Plus. Here are some highlights of the must watch

Saans on January 31 Priya is crestfallen when Akul decides to go away with Gautam. She packs his bag and he leaves with Gautam. Both Gautam and Manisha try and look after Akul very well. Everyone at Nani's house feel low because of Akul's sudden shifting. Akul is very happy when he finally gets the admission in the engineering college. He wants to come back but Priya refuses. Later at night Mithi is surprised to see a visitor at their house.

Kora Kagaz on February 1

I.P is upset that Pooja is not signing the papers. Meanwhile there is a lot of drama in the family regarding the partnership deed. Shobha hides the papers, but Pooja realizes her intentions and this embarrasses I.P. Meanwhile Anand's parents are completely bewildered.

Hera Phen at 9.00pm

Hera Pheri.

Hera Pheri on

February 1

up with their respective

mother-in-laws and the two

desperate son-in-laws want to

terminate their mother in laws.

Will they, wont they, watch the

Antaral on February 1

ing husband continues in the

alien city of Mumbai. The basis

of the search, the few leads gathered from Singh's recount of his meeting with Sudhir in Mumbai. After an abortive search Aarti ultimately suc-

ceeds in locating the flat of Bhanushali as referred to by Singh, but while the building board reads flat 202

Bhanushali, the name plate on the flat door reads "Shekhar Kumar* a name completely unfamiliar to her. As also the stranger who opens the door to

her- Shree V. The later apprehending danger in the shape of Aarti the wife come in search of

Sudir, feigns complete igno-

rance about anyone called Sudhir Sharma and cleverly misdirects her. Shree V then shuts the

door on the dejected Aarti. Shree V threatened by Aarti's presence in Mumbai, manipu-

action on this weeks episode of

Aarti's search for the miss-

Ajay and Batterywala are fed



Dhund at 8.30pm

residence. Shekhar, unaware of Aarti's arrival in Mumbai, expresses to Shree V his desire to get in touch with the family back home. An insecure Shree V forestalls the plan by brainwashing the naïve Shekhar in to believing that he ought to first find his footing in life before entertaining thoughts of getting back to the family.

films were " of the people, about the people". The heroes of his films are always ordinary people like Govind. In fact Govind identifies himself so strongly with these heroes that he believes that Ganesh Sen makes films about him!

These films always portray the hero fighting the system. the establishment, the boss. In his life Govind who is meek and submissive fights with no one. He fights, only in his imagination! Sen's films have become Govind's life support system.

Meanwhile, Ganesh Sen tired of making these critically acclaimed films which flop, decides to make a commercial film. Govind is shocked. How can the man he worship become ordinary? He calls Ganesh Sen and pleads him not to make the film. He begs him not to change his image of an ordinary man, and image Govind worships. Ganesh Sen shirks him off as a mere irritant.

Govind decides to keep his God (Ganesh Sen) aliveby killing him.

Dhund on February 2 Sammer tell Kesar that he is contemplating writing the story of Amar and Anjali and urges her continue with her story. Anjali and Siddharth get marred. Siddharth makes her a promise that they would never lie to one another and promises to make her very happy. The next morning, Anjali tells Keasar that she is very happy to have married Siddharth. There is some happiness in her life af-

ter a long time. Sameer and

Ganesh Sen's films. Ganesh Sen has been mak-

His sources of inspiration being

Star Bestsellers:

Govind Aur Ganesh on

February 2

a clerk and lives a lonely

colourless life. He is misfit in

his office as he works diligently

while his colleagues think that

work is against the union rules.

Govind faces life with courage

Gobvind a bachelor works as



lates Shudir/Shekhar's shift of Pal Chhin at 9.30pm

to preview.

Roots of trees in Kuramayama'

Bhaban Bilash on Channel i

many more.

old man who owned a piece of the real state companies could precious land at the heart of the not buy the house and the land city. He got this huge land and from him. At this time a re-Looking after his sick wife and and Snighda comes to live with stars azizul Hakim, Sweety, rel starts.

A drama serial Bhaban and lives abroad. Real-state Bilash. Written and directed by companies are always offering Abul Hayat. The drama stars him attractive prices for his Hasan Imam, Sharmili Ahmed, precious land. But he was not Towkir Ahmed. Bipasha Hayat, willing to sell it because accord-Najmul Huda Bacchu, Afzal ing to him, somewhere in this Sharif, Abdur Rahman and large house lies the birthplace of his forefathers. It's a kind of house that gave him mental sat-Synopsis: Rashid was a poor isfaction. So the high prices of

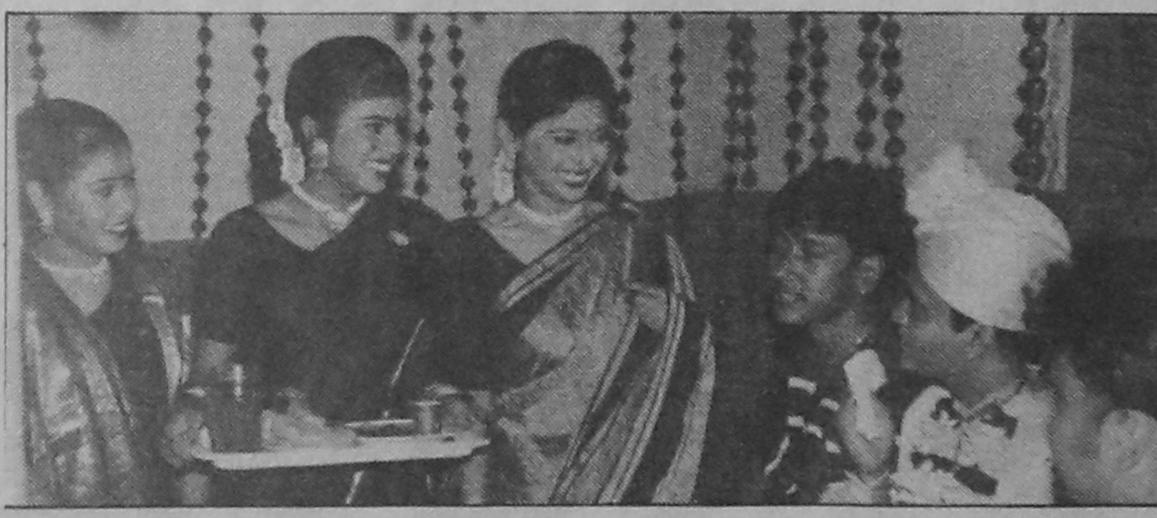
ONIGHT at 9.15pm nephew was hard for him. His them as paying guests. With Channel i will air the only son married a foreigner their arrival the old couple regains their lost happiness. They find a new meaning for living. At this time Rashid's wife becomes severely sick. A fortune is needed for her treatment.

Shubho Bibaha

The second episode of the drama serial Shubho Bibaha will be aired tonight on Channel i at 7.15pm. Written by Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury

Chandni, Shirin Bakul, Mu-Jibur Rahman Dilu, Eliza Chishti, Pantha Reja, Khalekuzzaman, Faisal Mahmud, Shaon Ashraf and many more.

Synopsis: After the Groom's side arrives at the Bride's house they end up in a quarrel. The seniors help to solve the matter. The marriage ceremony begins in a joyful environment. At that time the Bride's people caught a guy from the Groom's side while he was trying to pip the drama is edited and directed at the Bride's room. Then they the house from his ancestors. cently married couple Mukul by Najrul Koreshi. The drama colour his face. Again the quar-



A scene from the drama serial Shubho Bibaha

Esheche February A special prograame Es-

heche February will be aired on Channel i tonight at 8.00pm. The programme contains highlights from the special dramas. which was created for Ekushe February.

The programme also contains a poem by Sayed Shamsul Haq, the song Apon Mone Jole Otho Tumi Bornomala by singer Rafiqul Alam and the instrumental version of the song 'Salam Salam Hajar Salam'. The programme is hosted by Luthfun Nahar Baby and is directed by Hedayet Hossein Tuhin. (Compiled by Nafid Imran Ahmed)

Monday 31st January (All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

6:00 BBC World News 6:30 World Focus: Reporters 7:00 BBC News / Asia Today Inc. World Business Report /24 Hours 7:45 Reporters 8:00 BBC News/Asia Today Inc. World Business Report 8:45 Reporters 9:00 BBC News Inc. World Business Report/Usa Direct/ Asia Today /24 Hours 9:30 Asia Today 9:45 Reporters 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Correspondent- Belarus Ghana 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Living Counterblast 12:00 BBC

Business Reports 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 HARDtalk 2:00 World News 2:30 Correspondent- Belarus / Ghana 3:00 World News 3:30 HARDtalk 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living : Top Gear 5:00 BBC The World Today 6:30 Correspondent- Belarus / Ghana 7:00 BBC World New 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC The World Today 8:30 World Living : Counterblas 9:00 World News 9:30 HARDtalk 10:00 World News 10:30 World Living: Mastermind India 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 Earth Report-Piosonous Snakes And Ladders 12:00 The World Today 12:30 BBC News

World News 12:30 India

World News 3:30 Holiday 4:00 World News 4:30 Europe Direct 5:00 BBC World News Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours

6:00 Travel Asia 6:30 Ninaad 7:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Tvc Shoping 10:00 Good Morning India 12:00 Star Talk 12:30 Tvc Shoping 1:00 Hit Ya Fit 1:30 Sansar 2:00 Zara Hatke Zara Bachke 2:30 Swabhiman 3:00 Zindagi 3:30 Gumrah 4:00 Kuccha Pappad Pukka Pappad 4:30 Power Rangers 5:00 Wwf Wrestling- The Shotgun Challange 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Maal Hai To Taal Hai 7:00 Hit Ya Fit 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Srimati Sharma Na 1:30 Hard Talk : 2:00 Kehti Thi 8:30 Tu Tu BBC News 2:30 World Fo- Main Main 9:00 Saans

10:00 Main 10:30 Sajid No.One 11:00 Aaj Ki Baat 11:30 Kabhie Kabhie 12:00 Star News (Eng.) Let Night Edition 12:30 Swabhiman 1:00 Sansar 1:30 Aaj Ki Baat 2:00 Maal Hai To Taal Hai 2:30 Saboot 3:30 Main 4:00 Sajid No.One 4:30 Kabhie Kabhie 5:00 Ni naad 6:00 Srimati Sharma Na Kehti Thi

6:00 Aerobics Oz Style 6.30 Hollywood Squares 7:00 Martin Short Show 8:00 Home Improvment 8:30 Happy Days 9:00 World's Wildest 10:00 Murder Call 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 Dr. Quinn Medicine Women 1:00 Fashion TV 1:30 The Bold And The cus: Holiday 3:00 BBC 9:30 Star News (English) Beautiful 2:00 Martin

Happy Days 4:00 Hollywood Squares 4.30 Home Improvment 5:00 Star News Asia 5:30 Friends 6:00 That 70's Show 6:30 Every Body Loves Raymond 6:55 Asia News Update 7:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway 7:30 Fraseir 8:00 Chicago Hope 9:00 Friends 9:30 That 70's Show 10:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway 10:30 Every Body Loves Raymond 11:00 Fraseir 11:30 Chicago Hope 12:30 Friends 1:00 That 70's Show 1:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway 2:00 Everybody's Loves Remond 2:30 Fraseir 3:00 Creflo Dollar Daily 3:30 Kenneth Copland Ministries 4:00 Life In The Word With Joyce Meyer 4:30 Sky World News 5:00 The Things People Do 5:30 The New WKRP CinCinnati

Short Show 3:00 The New

WKRP CinCinnati 3:30

(15) 11:30 Action: Total Recall (15) 1:30 Comedy: Tin Men (15) 7:30 Com- Croc Files 7:30 Wild Disedy: Project-X 9:30 This covery 8:30 Blue Reef 9:30 Week That Year 10:00 The New Detectives 10:30 Monday Comedy: Mr. Re- On The Inside 11:30 Disliable (15) 12:15 Comedy: covery Profile Series Mr. Destiny (12) 2:15 12:30 Blue Reef 1:00 Two Thriller: Double Tap (15) Worlds 3:30 Drama: Outrage PG 6:00 Comedy: Pass the

6:30 Ushuaia 7:30 Travel-

Survivors 12:30 Wild Dis- Grandma 5:00 Family covery 1:30 Medical De- Hour 6:00 Wild 7:00 Our

ing Together 7:30 Life On Powerpuff Girls 9:30 The Line 8:00 Conflect Scooby & Scrappy Doo Over Water 9:00 Family 10:00 Tom & Jerry Kids Hour 10:00 Wild 11:00 Our 10:30 Big Bag 11:00 Cave ers 8:30 Lonely Planet Living World 12:00 Na-9:30 Eyewitness 10:30 tional Geographic 1:00 tures of Captain Planet Music Mantra 9:30 Film Wild Guide 11:00 Walker's People & Places 2:00 12:00 Tiny Toon Adven-Cay Chronicles 11:30 As- About Asia 3:00 Insectia tures 12:30 Flinstones 3:30 Film Show

7:30 Action: Raw Deal (15) tectives 2:30 Discover Living World 8:00 Na-9:30 Thriller: Double Tap Magazine 3:30 Travelers tional Geographic Spa-4:00 Next Step 4:30 cial 9:00 People & Places Ushuaia 5:30 Lonely 10:00 Wild 11:00 Our Liv-Carpool 3:30 Comedy: Mr. Planet 6:30 Naturequest ing World 12:00 National Destiny (12) 5:30 Comedy: 7:00 Crocodile Hunter's Geographic Spacial 1:00 People & Places

pects of Life 12:00 Animal 3:30 Insects 4:00 1:00 The Smurfs 1:30 The

6:30 Jetsons 7:00 Flint-Show 8:00 Dexter's Laboratory 8:30 What A Car-6:30 About Asia 7:00 Liv- toon Show? 9:00 The Kids 11:30 New Adven-

Tom & Jerry Kids 2:30 The New Scooby Deo Movies 3:30 Flinstones 4:00 The Mask 4:30 Swat Kats 5:00 Scooby & Scrappy Doo 5:30 Dexters Laboratory 6:00 What A Cartoon Show? 6:30 The Powerpuff Girls 7:00 The Popeye Show 7:30 Scooby Doo Where Are You? 8:00 The Road Runner Show

8:30 The Smurfs 9:00

Tiny Toon Adventures

Road Runner Show 2:00

6:30 Film Show 9:30 Chartbusters 10:00 Music Mantra 10:30 Film Show 1:30 Chartbusters 2:00 Music Mantra 2:30 Film Show 5:30 Film Show 8:30 Chartbusters 9:00 Show 12:30 Film Show

6:00 Mukho Sher Antaraley 6:30 Alaap 7:00 Kee Darun Dreshow 7:30 Monihaar 8:00 De-Ray

8:30 Antaraley 9:00 Preyashi 9:30 Bangla Movie 11:30 Mukho Sher Antaraley 12:00 Zee Jalsa 12:30 Chalo Chitra Chomotkar 1:00 Bahari Ahaar 1.30 Plabon 2.00 Griho Sajja 2.30 Bangla Movie- Strir Patra (*Uttam Kumar, Supria Devil 5:00 Bharat Bhroman 5:30 Kee Darun Dreshow 6:00 Prem Trishna 6:30 Param Para 7:00 Swapna Niye 7:30 Kagojer Bou 8:00 News In Bangali 8:30 Shyaola 9:00 Jhara Samayer Upakatha 9:30 Bangla Movie- Samapti (*Madovi) 12:00 News In Bangali 12:30 Bharat Bhroman