

National

Tagore's valuables lost from Shahjadpur Kuthibari

Shelaibada wakes up from slumber

From Akhteruzzaman Bablu

SIRAJGANJ, May 10: Rabindra Kuthibari at Shahjadpur here has taken a festive look during celebration of the one-day Rabindra Jyoti programme. Many stalls of various articles have been set up in a three-day fair arranged on the occasion. Stall owners from far and nearer places have thronged here. Many even came here from Dhaka, Narasingdi, Khulna, Kushtia and Bogra with their commodities. The place has become a centre of great re-union.

On the second day of the programme on Baishakh 26, "Talitor Math", a drama adapted from the original story of Rabindranath Tagore and directed by A K Azad and a dance drama directed by Parai and Laurence have been staged at Shahjadpur Rabindra Kuthibari.

Sirajganj Shilpkala Academy arranged the programme. Ullapara Upazila Sangskritik Jote also staged a drama and a musical programme with dance drama at Rabindra Kuthibari.

But regrettably Rabindra Kuthibari is now a neglected place and has become a centre of corrupt people.

It is learnt that Kazi Emdad was in-charge of the Kuthibari from 1989 to '97 and Sohrab Ali

palki (palanquin) but the authority concerned misappropriated the fund by repairing only with very inferior quality wood.

Meanwhile, the construction work for Rabindra Kuthibari at Shahjadpur has been completed at a cost of Tk 2 crore and 60 lakh. But before handing it over to the authorities concerned, frequent gambling, unsocial activities are going on. It is also alleged that many miscreants are bringing call girls here from outside.

The concerned employees who are engaged in selling tickets among the visitors, adopting unfair means. He is allegedly making money through bad practice.

As a result the government is depriving of a huge amount of revenue.

Now the small river the Jaygeer, which runs near the Kuthibari is being dried up and local influentials are grabbing the area which belongs to Kuthibari. In this small river, Rabindranath Tagore used to take bath and engaged in fishing.

Beside this river, he composed the poetry Sonartari, Chitra, Chaitali and Kalpona, short stories Galpoguchcho, Postmaster, Ramkanalay Nir-

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Streams of people both men and women, started pouring in the Kuthibari premises since early morning to witness the inaugural function.

A huge crowd welcomed the minister at the Kuthibari which stands as a silent witness to the many sparkling creative works of the great poet.

The whole area wore a festive look on the day.

In his inaugural speech the minister said, the great poet was the source of inspiration of our Liberation War.

The programme was arranged under the auspices of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

The mango grove in the premises of Kuthibari on the bank of the River Padma became busy as a large number of prominent figures in the field of education and culture assembled and took part in various cultural programmes.

The inaugural function was presided over by Abdus Salam, Deputy Commissioner of Kushtia and was addressed by Prof Md Serajuddin, Treasurer. Na-

divided into four parts.

BSS reports from Chittagong: The 139th birthday anniversary of Poet Rabindranath Tagore was celebrated in a befitting manner here on Monday.

Different socio-cultural organisations chalked out an elaborate programme to celebrate the occasion.

The main programme of the day was held at DC hill under the auspices of Sammilita 25th Boishak Uddyan Parishad in the evening. Leading cultural organisations in the city including Hillol Sangheet Niketon, Swar Binnash, Amara Palash, Bodhjan Recitation Council and Turza Cultural Forum took part in the DC hill programme where eminent artistes rendered Rabindra songs at the function.

Chittagong District Shilpkala Academy arranged a function titled Chitra Natunere Dilah Dak in the evening at its auditorium which was attended by Chittagong Divisional Commissioner ASM Mabudul Islam and journalist Abu Monem as special guests.

Chittagong centres of Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television aired special programmes highlighting the occasion.

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Rabindranath Tagore wrote many poems and stories beside this Chhotonodi. - Star photo

served there as librarian. Most of the furniture, necessary articles have been stolen and damaged during his period. Of the stolen things most important is a bowl made of gold. Another necklaces made of wood has also been stolen. Precious round stones which the poet counted as he composed lines of any verse, his tooth brush made of wood have also been stolen.

At least 300 portraits of Rabindranath Tagore in different poses have also been destroyed. When this correspondent asked about the broken peacock size stand of the cot the authority concerned could not reply whether it was stolen or destroyed.

The precious palki (palanquin) which Rabindranath used to travel and observe the condition of his subjects is now in a deplorable condition. Informed sources said, an amount of Tk 20,000 was sanctioned to repair the

budhita. Babodhan, Tara Prosanner Kirti, Chhuti, Samapti, Khudito Pasan, and Othiti, including Chhinnopatra, essays, part of Panchabhati and a drama — Biswarjan.

He composed the remarkable verses, "Amader Chhoto Nodi Chale Bake Bake/ Balshak Mashe Tar Hatu Jal Thake/ Par Hoyej Goru, Par Hoy Gor/ Dui Dhar Uchu Tar Dhalu Tar Paree/ Chik Chik Kore/ Bali Kotha Nai Kada/ Dui Dhare Kashan Fule Fule Sada." This charming river and riverside through which once the gipsy women crossed, have illegally been occupied by the unscrupulous people.

Meanwhile, our Kushtia correspondent says: Thousands of people from all walks of life joined the grand celebration of the great poet Rabindranath Tagor's birth anniversary at Shelaibada Kuthibari to pay rich tributes to him.

Office bearers of Rajshahi Association

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAHI, May 10: A new executive committee of Rajshahi Association, club of elite of the city, was elected recently.

Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi and Additional Deputy Commissioner (general) are ex-officio president and vice president respectively of the organisation.

Other office bearers are vice presidents- Advocate Mohsin Khan and Dr Jubaida Khatun, general secretary- Dr Tasique Islam, joint secretary- Prof Ruhul Amin Pramanik, treasurer- Naoshete Ali, literary and cultural secretary- Abdur Rashid, sports and social welfare secretary- Mohammad Ali, women affairs secretary- Mounowara Rahman, office secretary- Tajul Islam, publicity secretary- Shafinddin Ahmed, executive members- Dr Saifuddin Chowdhury, Dr Chowdhury Mohammed Sarwar Jahan, Elahi Baksh Mondol, Nazrul Huque, Abu Bakr Siddique Eshan, Ariful Huque, Kanu Mohan Goswami, Aleya Sherif and Mojaharul Huque.

'Sexual misconduct' by SP: Probe completed

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, May 10: A CID team has completed the investigation into the allegation that superintendent of police of Netrakona sexually harassed a female assistant sub inspector (ASI).

The team headed by Additional DIG of CID Farook Ahmed completed the investigation on April 26.

Others led by commander of the district unit of Multijoddha Sangsads, an organisation of freedom fighters, in a press conference recently termed the complaint a false and fabricated and said that the whole matter was arranged only to tarnish the image of the police super, who was a freedom fighter.

Youth shot dead

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, May 10: A man was shot dead on Monday night on Mahatabuddin Road in the unidentified assailants.

The victim was identified as Nasu, 30, an armed terrorist of Tally Para area.

Seminar on sustainable development

From Our Correspondent CHITTAGONG, May 10: A seminar on "Population and Sustainable Development: Selected Issues of Greater Chittagong" organised jointly by Department of Economics of Chittagong University and Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) was held here Saturday.

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The patient, Aminul Kayes, 30, son of Abdus Samad, Headmaster of the aforementioned school might be cured after kidney transplantation doctors said. His physicians have advised him to go abroad as soon as possible for kidney transplantation.

Abdus Samad has appealed to the generous people including government and non-government organisations for help for proper treatment of his ailing son.

Donors may help through Account Number 34054575, Sonali Bank branch of the Prime Minister's Office, Dhaka.

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