

Heritage

Two decades of glorious revolution

Dhaka celebrates Iranian culture and heritage

TAWFIQUE ALI

ANCIENT Persia, today's Iran has a unique position in world culture. There are many commonalities between Iran and Bangladesh that have given a strong ground to develop a friendly bond between these two Muslim countries- similarities in respect of religious, cultural and social values.

On the occasion of the 22nd Anniversary of the Victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, Office of the Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Dhaka has drawn out a five-day cultural week and Film Festival at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy from February 4 to 8.

The week was inaugurated on 4th February at 4pm at the Academy's auditorium. Cultural Counsellor and Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran and State Minister for Information, Prof Abu Sayed attended the inaugural ceremony. The ceremony was chaired by Professor Abdul Momin Chowdhury, Chairman of Asiatic Society of Bangladesh.

The festival includes Cultural Exhibition, Film Show and Children Drawing competition. The exhibition was open to public everyday from 9 am to 5 pm and Film Show everyday from 4 pm to 8 pm till 8th February.

In his inaugural address Cultural Counsellor Shahabuddin Daraei pointed out that the goal of the



Iranian children singing national anthem at the inaugural ceremony.

revolution was to retain Iran's own glorious past and cultural heritage and national dignity and integrity in the face of colonial aggression launched by the Occidental block and political powers. He further highlighted the fact that it was the Islamic ideals and values and patriotism of the Islamic leaders that made Iran stand upright defying the hostility and colonial intrigue posed by the capitalist and socialist blocks of the world. Iran is a country that feeds on its own traditional cultural

resource and adheres firmly to religious ideology and belief. "Islamic regeneration has kept Iran going on with the distinction of their own culture and history," Daraei said.

Rezaei Noori, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran said, "Culture is a means to bring people close to each other," in his address.

Professor Momen Chowdhury in his address, termed the occasion as an arrangement that would facilitate to bridge the unity of the people of

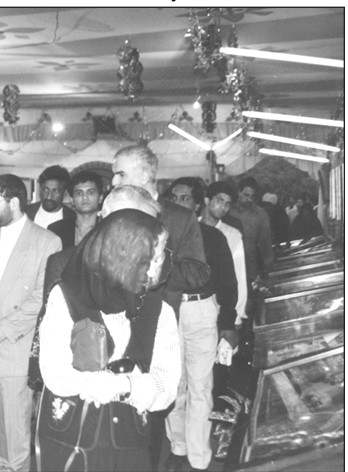
the two countries Bangladesh and Iran. "Persian culture goes back to ancient time. Iranian culture has passed thousand of years and reached the modern age. We should look at Iran to learn how to retain heritage of cultural tradition," Professor Chowdhury pointed out. The opening ceremony followed screening of "Peddlar" a famous Iranian movie.

The cultural exhibition, held at the Shishu Academy premises, contains The Holy Quran, books on

Islamic issues, calligraphy, photo and poster, handicrafts, engraving, video documentary show. There were photographs are on the historical places of Iran and on the Islamic Revolution. Islami calligraphy of verses from the Holy Quran, shows artists' devotion and craftsmanship. A wide range of copies of the Holy Quran, many are centuries old and hand written, were kept on display. Exquisitely made and woven handicraft articles draw viewers' admiration. What appeal most are Iranian pottery and urns. The viewers pour profusely to the show and admired an admiration at the intricacy of design and delicacy of taste marked on these pottery. Floral and figurative design had been depiction of tradition, history and above all a rich artistic imagination creation.

Iranian films, preoccupied with human values, ideology and a deep sense of life, are popular in Bangladesh. We may draw a leaf from the book of Iranian film-makers in making creative films.

The occasion offered Dhaka's exhibition-goers visitors a glimpse of Iranian culture in a pleasurable early spring afternoon.



A section of visitors at the cultural exhibition featuring Iran's Islamic culture and tradition, held on the occasion of 22nd anniversary of Islamic Revolution in Iran.



Curious visitors look on while an engraver is engaged in his work on a metal pot at the exhibition. This intricate engraving requires an artist's patient devotion.

Beauty pageant

All roads lead to You Got The Look 2001

Beauty pageantry writes a new history in our cultural firmament this evening at Sheraton

ZIAUL KARIM

THE city's literati, journalists, professionals, glitterati will be witness to the crowning of miss Best Look and miss Best Hair at the You Got The Look beauty pageant this evening at Sheraton Winter Garden.

Shortlisted from an astounding 400 portfolios, the 20 finalists have been through an intensive crash programme to tune in with the language of modern beauty pageant.

What inspired the organisers to eye for such an ambitious extravaganza?

A.Z.M. Saifuddin, media manager of Grey Advertising and one of the organisers of the mega event, says, "The idea behind the pageantry was to promote young models, choreographers and beauticians of the country. The February 8 evening will greet all new faces making it on the catwalk. This is also one way of appreciating our young beauties who are talented and confident but never been given a platform to express themselves. We are basically doing that."

Explaining how the final list for the gala evening was prepared, Rezaul Islam Kallol, chief executive officer of Model Watch and one of the key organisers of the event, says, "Our first criterion for shortlisting the contestants was the entry-portfolios. We closely scrutinised each folios and tried to select them one their looks and merit for us brown without brains don't mean much."

"The finalists are then put into a compact training with choreographer, fashion designer, beautician to prepare themselves for their pageant statement on February 8" says Kallol.

"The training has given me self confidence, self esteem and above all I have gathered the strength to believe in myself," says ebullient and confident Naushab Salahuddin, one of the finalist of You Got The Look at the recess of the intense preparations that have been going



on at Panda Garden.

Naushab has just completed her A-level from Scholastica. "I take interest in fashion and am keen about fashion statement," says Naushab.

Responding to the question what is the first responsibility of a model she says, "Certainly taking care of oneself first and that is looking good."

Shahrukh Amin, choreographer of the big event, while speaking about his experience with the rookies in pageantry says, "I had to begin with ABC like how to walk on the ramp, how to express oneself and even how to smile. But I am amazed to see their progress. They are fast learners and I'm confident of a great show on Thursday evening."

Speaking about the theme music of the show Shahrukh says, "I have tried to synchronize the music with the dresses to be presented on the evening. For example I have used funky music for evening gown and suit while fusion music for fusion-clothes."

The evening is going to be an all young event. Right from the designer to choreographer they belong to an average group of thirty. Arman Ahmed who designed the dresses to be presented this evening has done a year internship in fashion designing under Emdad Hoque of Grameen. He has designed for Batexpo '99 and Dhaka Club Fashion '2000. "I design for the women of today who believe in modernism and at the same time know how to present themselves," says perky Arman.

All in all, an all young team is bubbling with energy and motivation to fire the catwalk at Winter Garden this evening.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Film Festival and Cultural Week

On the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the Victory day of Islamic Revolution in Iran, office of the Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dhaka has organised a Cultural and Film Festival Week began on February 4 at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium.

Exhibitions of the holy Quran, books, calligraphy, photo, poster, handicrafts, engraving, video documentary show, photographs on historical places of Iran and photographs on the Islamic Revolution will be displayed everyday from 9:00a.m to 5:00p.m. till February 8. Films will be screened from 4 to 8p.m. till February 8 and there will also be a children drawing competition.

Coming of Age

An exhibition of paintings by selected contemporary artists will be held at the European Commission Residence on February 9 at 5:00p.m. venue: 177 Gulshan Avenue. The exhibition is being organised by Gallery 21. The inaugural ceremony will be followed by a cultural event.

The exhibition will remain open on February 10 & 11 from 3:00 - 8:00p.m.



Exhibition

Spaces & Places, the last exhibition of Chobi Mea, opens today at Drik Gallery (House# 58, Road# 15/A, Dhanmondi.) at 5:00 p.m. The exhibition is characterized for its use of photographs in drawings while depicting a 360 degree space beyond vision centering around any point. British Artist Polly Hope uses photographs and other art forms of murals and architectural objects in her work.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Internal Affairs

on HBO at 10:00 Tonight. No one is pure good or evil. That sets the foundation for an intense plot that pits two LA police officers against each other. As the tension escalates, they begin to see that while both have different approaches to the law, they are also drawn to each other by the similarities they would rather forget. Starring : Richard Gere, Andy Garcia, Nancy Travis.

Paleoworld IV 2:00 New Sanctuaries 2:30 Decisive Weapons 3:00 Discovery News 3:30 Wings 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 Health Showcase

STAR GOLD

8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Bidaai (Jeetendra, Leena Chandavarkar) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Preet Na Jane Reet (Shammi Kapoor, B Saroja Devi, Johnny Walker) 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Naqab (Rishi Kapoor, Farha) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Lamhe Pyaar Ke Nazrana (Raj Kapoor, Vyjantimala) 10:30 Bollywood News 11:00 Aapas Ki Baat (Raj Babbar, Poonam, Shakti Kapoor)

HBO

7:00 Love Affair 9:15 Assassins 11:45 Sabrina goes to Rome 1:30 Guess Who's Coming to Dinner 3:45 White Water Summer 5:30 Hook 8:15 His Body Guard 10:00 Internal Affairs 12:15 Selena 2:45 Assassins 5:15 His Body Guard

STAR PLUS

6:00 Tu Tu Main Main 6:30 STAR Geetmala 7:30 Hit Ya Fit 8:00 Cine

Jharokha 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Star Morning Show: Shoorveer 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 TSN 1:30 Small Wonder 2:00 Meri Saheli 2:30 Saans 3:00 Shagun 3:30 Kabhi Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchaal Aata Hai 4:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 4:30 Cine Jharokha 5:00 Hit Ya Fit 5:30 Kuchha Papad Pucca Papad 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Fox Kids 7:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 8:00 Tu Tu Main Main 8:30 Ma Shakti 9:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi



Walker Texas Ranger on Star World at 7:00 p.m.

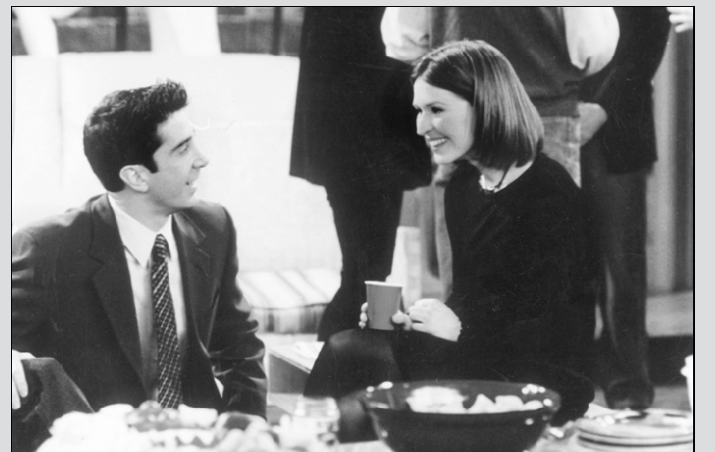
Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 12:00 Shagun 12:30 Talebrands 1:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 1:30 Star Movie Show: Shoorveer 4:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 5:00 Saans 5:30 Meri Saheli

CARTOON NETWORK

6:30 The Road Runner Show 7:00 The Smurfs 7:30 The Popeye Show 8:00 Dexter's Laboratory 8:30 Courage the Cowardly Dog 9:00 The

TCM TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES

9:30 The Sister 11:30 High Barbaree 1:25



Friends on Star World at 9:00 p.m.

Executive Suite 3:05 White Banners

ESPN

6:00 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz Olympiad 6:30 Sportscenter Hindi 7:00 Argentine Football Copa Cordoba Cordoba, Argentina Boca Juniors 9:00 Junior X-Games Li Presented by Toyota 9:30 Australia Cricket Carlton Series 2001 Perth, Australia Zimbabwe 10:00 College Gymnastics Sec Gymnastics-Super 6 Kickoff Tuscaloosa, AL 11:00 Motoworld 11:30 Winter X-games Winter X-Games Day 1:00 Sportscenter Bristol 2:00 Snooker Billiards Espn World Snooker: 2001 Nations Cup reading, England Semifinal 4:00 Extreme Programming 2001 Paul Mitchell X Qualifier Squaw Valley,

STAR

CA USA 4:30 Argentine Football Copa Cordoba Cordoba, Argentina Boca Juniors 6:30 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz Olympiad 7:30 New Zealand Cricket Sri Lanka, Tour Of New Wellington, New Zealand Sri Lanka Highlights 8:30 Sportscenter Hindi 9:00 Premier Snooker League 2001 11:00 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz Olympiad 11:30 Sportscenter Hindi 12:00 College Gymnastics Sec Gymnastics-Super 6 Kickoff Tuscaloosa, AL 11:00 Motoworld 11:30 Winter X-games Winter X-Games Day 1:00 Sportscenter Bristol 2:00 Snooker Billiards Espn World Snooker: 2001 Nations Cup reading, England Semifinal 4:00 Extreme Programming 2001 Paul Mitchell X Qualifier Squaw Valley,



Martial Law on Star World at 8:00 p.m.

BTV
3:20 Open University 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Cartoon film: Burney and Friends 4:20 Ta Ta Thai Thai : Dance Lessons for Children 5:00 TV School Debate 5:45 Dharma-O-Jiban 6:00 Khabar 6:10 Programme



English serial Amazon on Ekushey TV at 8:00 p.m.

on mother and child health care 6:35 Programme of Chittagong Centre 7:00 Sangbad Shironam 7:05 Jiban-o-Jibika 7:30 Sandha Malati 8:00 News in Bangla 8:20 Drama series: Pakhi Sab Kare Rab 9:00 Monihar 9:30 Janatar Adalat 10:00 News at Ten 10:20 Banglar Mukh: Programme on Bengali Culture 10:50 Muktir Pathay 11:30 Khabar The News 11:45 Closing

EKUSHEY TV

12:00 Ekushey News Headlines 12:05 Aiker Potrikay 12:15 Bangla Movie: Obohela 2:40 Drishti 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Drama Series: Shodh



Asaduzzaman Noor and Sara Zaker in tele-film Jotsnar Phool on Channel I at 11:00 tonight.

1:50 Amar Channel I 2:00 Audio Bazaar 2:50 I Focus 3:00 Bangla Cinema: Harano prem



BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News 6:30 World Business Report 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 8:00 BBC News



CHANNEL-I

6:15 Special Programme on Hajj 6:50 Akattorer Dinguli 7:00 Ulto Fadhe 7:40 Chitti Pelem 8:00 Din Protidin 8:25 Khola Khuli 8:50 Amar Channel I 9:00 Audio Bazaar 9:50 I Focus 10:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 10:10 Deser Game 10:40 Vasha Amar Ahongker 11:15 Special Programme on Hajj 11:50 Akattorer Dinguli 12:00 Ulto Fadhe 12:40 Chitti Pelem 1:15 Khola Khuli



Drama Tithi on Ekushey TV at 9:00 tonight.

3:30 Safol Jara Kemon Tara 4:00 Mon Mon Re Amar 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:00 Circus Circus 5:30 Drishti 5:50 Aiker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Classic Cartoons 6:30 Chardike 7:00 Close-Up E-Zone 7:30

Business Report 7:30 Top Gear ex Waterworld 8:00 BBC News 8:30 HARDtalk 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC News 10:30 It: India Tomorrow 11:00 BBC News 11:15 World Business Report 11:30 Talking Movies 12:00 BBC News 12:30 World Business Report 12:45 World Sport 1:00 BBC News 1:30 HARDtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Click Online 3:00 BBC News 3:30 World Business Report 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Asia Business Report/World Business Report 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today

CNN

4:00 CNN This Morning



8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report

9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 10:00 BBC News 10:30 HARDtalk 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Top Gear Waterworld 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Face to Face 1:00 BBC News 1:30 HARDtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Simpson (even) Money Prog (odd) 3:00 BBC News 3:30 HARDtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Holiday 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Simpson (even) Money Prog (odd) 6:00 BBC News 6:30 Face to Face 7:00 BBC News 7:15 World

News 4:30 Biz Asia 5:00 Asia Tonight 5:30 World Sport 6:00 World News 6:15 Asian Edition 6:30 Biz Asia 7:00 Q & A Asia 8:00 Asia Tonight 8:30 World Sport 9:00 World News 9:30 Ebizasia 10:00 World News 10:30 Biz Asia 11:00 World News 11:30 Q&A South Asia 12:00 World News 1:00 The Artclub 1:30 World Business Today 2:00 World News 2:00 Q&A News 2:30 Q&A 3:00 World News Europe 3:30 CNN Newsroom

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
6:30 Animal Survivors 7:00 In Care of Nature 7:30 Outer Bounds I & II 8:00 Without Warning I



8:30 Lonely Planet

9:30 Beyond 2000 10:00 The Quest 10:30 Go For It! 11:30 Intimate Escapes 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Medical Detectives II 2:30 Health Showcase 3:30 Animal Survivors 4:00 In Care of Nature 4:30 Outer Bounds I & II 5:00 Without Warning I 5:30 Lonely Planet I 6:30 Going Wild With Jeff Corwin 7:00 So You Want To Be? 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Paleoworld IV 9:00 New Sanctuaries 9:30 Decisive Weapons 10:00 Discovery News 10:30 Wings 11:30 Discovery Profile Series 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30