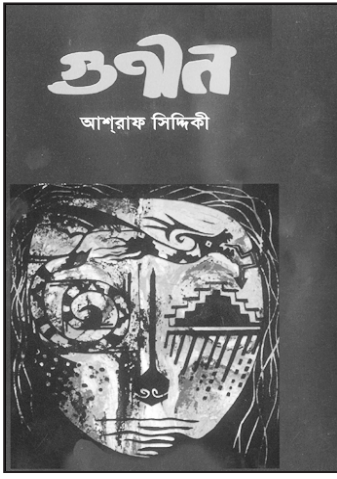
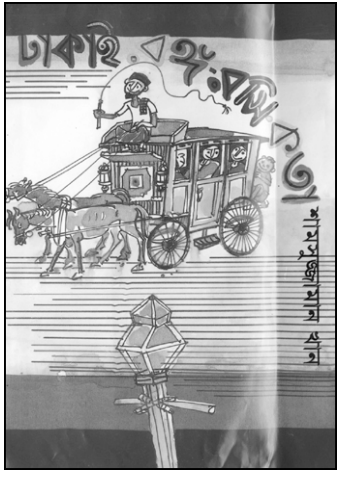
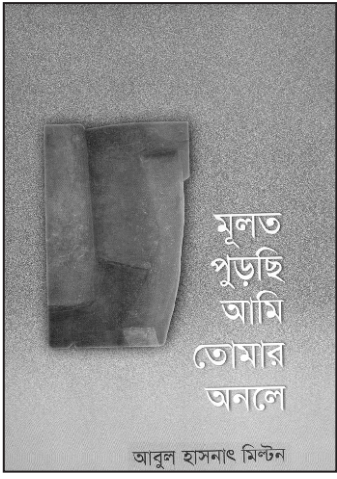
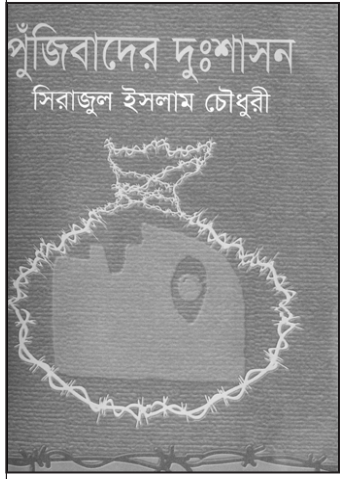


Fair

# Cupid and Venus visit the Boi Mela

Ekushey Book Fair experiences another day of visitors overflow



TAWFIQUE ALI

**G**UESS what! Enthusiasm was high among the visitors who kept pouring at the Amar Ekushey Boi Mela in huge numbers to collect new and necessary books and hang around for a while freely. The fair on February 14 wore a quite different look; a huge number of young people went out to celebrate Valentine's Day on the second day of Bashanta (spring). They chose the book fair premises as the ideal venue to get together, and that gave the fair a joyous look along with its own cultural festivities which are going on at the southern corner, in front of the Bardhaman House at the Bangla Academy premises.

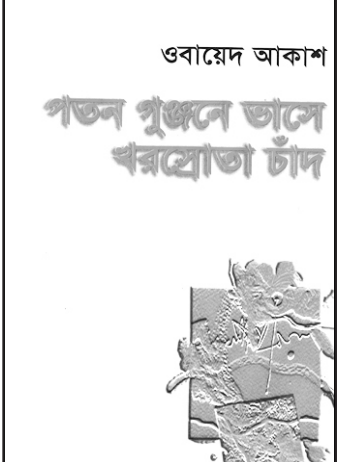
A misty blanket of dust over the fair site, which may sometimes cause breathing problems, was not an obstacle for those who flock in front of each stall. They were found tirelessly sorting out books of their choice and need. Although three days of opposition-called hartal disrupted the smooth arrival of new publications, yet a number of new titles - novels, poetry, juvenile literature, essays and miscellaneous - arrived on the shelves.

Despite the fact that most of the visitors came just to hang around, sale was not bad. Then again, most of publishers and stall owners are asking to extend the time of the fair by a couple of days. They want to showcase their last phase of publi-

cations. "We are in trying hard to bring out all our publications as early as possible," said a bookseller. Well, it's a common answer now inside the boi mela.

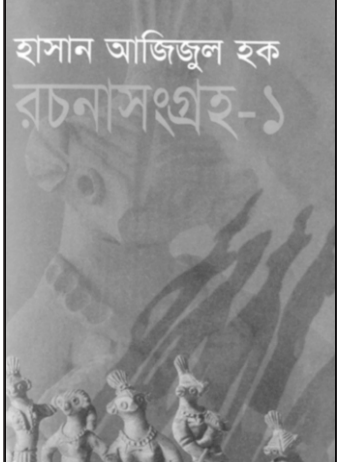
Among the latest publications that have reached the fair so far, some are worth mentioning here.

"Jatio Grantho Prokashon" is a pioneer publishing house that usually brings serious and valuable



works to the readers. Its latest initiative encompasses a pretty range of publications meant for the Ekushey Book Fair 2001. One of its most notable publications is "Pujibader Dushashan" by Serajul Islam Chowdhury, priced at Taka 120. In this book Prof. Choudhury

dwells upon the misrule and evils of capitalism that the society suffers from. It has also published "Probashe Protidin" by Jilur Rahman Siddique, priced at Taka 120, complete works of Hasan Azizul Huq, priced at Tk 250, "Language Movement in East Bengal" by Badruddin Umar, priced at Tk 150, complete works of the same author which costs Tk 250, "Muslim Sobhyatar Swarnajug" by



Mafizullah Kabir priced at Tk 200 and many more are in the queue. Another significant work "Dhaka Ranga Rasikata" by Shamsuzzaman Khan has been published by Protic Publishing House. Oboshar published

Rabindranath - a book on Rabindranath Thakur contributed by giants of Bangla literature like Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah, Muhammad Abdul Hye, Kazi Matahar Hossain, Showkat Osman, Khan Sarwar Murshid, Ahmed Sharif, Anisuzzaman, Ahmed Safa and many more. Prof Anisuzzaman has edited the book.

"Chhanda" by Abdul Mannan Syed is a book of rhymes from traditional Bangla poetry. It has also been published by Oboshar.

"Patan Gunjane Bhashe Kharasata Chand" is a collection of poems by young emerging poet Obayed Akash. Bartoman Somyani has published this collection, which has been priced at Tk 45.

Young poet Abul Hasnat Milton, who is also a physician, has shown the impact of poetry on readers' minds. His volume of poems - "Mulata Purchhi Ami Tomar Anale, especially on the Valentine's Day, made even a realist to feel nostalgic about his/her past.

Latest presentations of Shahetyama include "Gunin", a novel by Ashraf Siddique, Nirmalendu Gun's "Basanta", selected poems of Shamsur Rahman translated by Saidur Rahman, "Kishor Galpo Samagra" and "Kishor Upanyas Samagra" by Abul Khair Muslehuddin, "Soti Upanyas" by Shahid Akhand and "Gibon O Sasthya" by Dr. Bimal Kumar Agarwala.

Exhibition

# Forms and Fragments

BY FAYZA HAQ

**R**AHMAN'S second solo exhibition at the Zainul Gallery had forms, colours and contours that made you sit up. Yes, they were experimentation but their pictorial designs were worth pausing and contemplating. His



A Rahman

world is a creation of his own although it is based on nature from time to time. At others the flights of fancy are well worth reckoning. He is not philosophical but what he creates is visually stimulating. His works call to mind what Jacques Darida said about "vague beauty" that does not serve any other end but its own.

Based on his first solo his second effort has the same artistic language. He has gone on to experiment on monotype although one does not detect any change in his style. However a linear progress can be detected when his works are covered with images although they hark back to his past attempt. However there is much more of the emotional pitch while the evocation of atmosphere is admirable. His preoccupation with "wheels" are linked up with the passage of time and thought that occur in the mind.

In the new developments the artist has moved away from the scattered appearances of his plastic-wood prints. One hopes that he will progress and make his work a little more lucid.

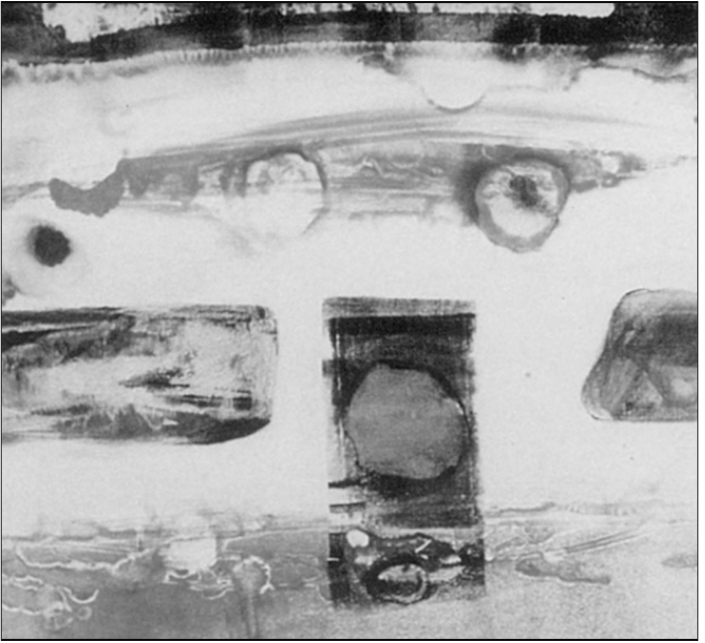
In his "Ekush" one sees bars of colours standing vertically leading on to splashes of clouds which could stand for fire against the pale sky. This could very well stand for the Shahid Minar with the cascading flowers seen above. His "Darkness" has the image of a woman clad in a red sari held in a rectangle and suspended from a ball on top. This is held up in a background of blue gray. The head and the body are

simply suggested and juxtaposed with the geometrical form on top. "Red" has a splash of ochre surrounded by globules of black and white suspended. This abstraction appears like some giant parachute or scattered pieces of giant gems on a red backdrop.

One can detect long stems of grass, bars of clouds and the river in front in the horizontal and vertical lines arranged in "Print-z". Above the tall swaying blades of grass done in white against a gray-green background is a splash of red brining in the sunlight falling on the collected clouds. Splashes of white cloud support and offset the harsh red. Equally mysterious and non-committal is "Cancer" which has splashes of emerald, lime-green and red tapering to a bluish gray cone on top. Below are frenzied squiggles of gray on a darker background. These try to capture the strange ways of the cancer disease. "Print-y" is similarly strange and

grays and blacks with a touch of blue and white the piece attracts your notice and holds your attention for quite a while. Visually attractive is "Grass" with the dancing and bending blades against a pale mass. Thus the often ignored common element is presented in a lyrical way giving importance to each blade so that they appear some tall giant birds. Splashes and smudges bring in the side of a boat complete with its roof on top and the poles that are used to keep its balance. The natural scene at the back with trees, clouds and the sun are brought in a semi abstract manner as are the waves of water in the foreground.

Not to be bypassed is "wheel" with its massive reddish circle and a white centre that makes the wheel like some giant eye of a bird. From the wheels grow splashes of black like some dust scattered by the powerful wheel. "Fragments in Space" contains objects and



Fragments in space

thought-provoking with its mass of midnight blue atop the layers of scintillating ochre and red.

There is another creation that appears like the depiction of an industrial area with the long chimneys against a gray sky which holds a huge flamboyant beige and white cloud. Although using only dull

spheres that resemble the busy streets with a brown speeding car, a blue lamp post and oblong pieces of ends of speeding vehicles.

Rahman's exhibition was an interesting experimentation with forms and images.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Exhibition

A solo exhibition of paintings and drawings by Nazlee Lalala Mansur has opened at the Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. The exhibition will run till February 17 from 2 to 8p.m. daily.

Exhibition

A solo exhibition of artworks by Dilara Begum Jolly will be inaugurated on February 16 at 5p.m. at Gallery 21. Architect Muzharul Islam will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest while poet and journalist Abul Moen will also be present as special guest.

Film Show

Walt Disney Retrospective by Zahir Raihan Film Society. Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen 6 animated fairy tales made by world famous American animation film maker Walt Disney from February 18 to 20 at the German Cultural Centre at Dhanmondi (Road No. 02). Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs will be screened on 18th February at 4:00 p.m. and Cinderella at 5:30 p.m. On 19th February, Sleeping Beauty at 4:00 p.m. and The Little Mermaid at 5:30 p.m. And on 20th February, Beauty and the Beast at 4:00 p.m. and Aladdin at 5:30 p.m. Children are allowed free access to all the shows.

Exhibition

Spaces & Places, the last exhibition of Chobi Mela, has opened at Drik Gallery (House# 58, Road# 15/A, Dhanmondi). 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



**The Tuskegee Airmen on HBO at 10:00 tonight.** A true story recognizing the courage and integrity of the first squadron of black combat fighters in World War II who battled racial opposition to become one of the finest US fighters froup. Starring : laurence Fishburne, Allen Payne, Courtney Vance.

CNN

4:00 CNN This Morning 4:30 Asia Business Morning 5:00 CNN This Morning 5:30 Asia Business Morning 6:00 CNN This Morning 6:15 Asia Business Morning 6:30 Asian Edition 6:45 Asia Business Morning 7:00

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 II 9:30 Assignment Discovery 10:30 Go For It! 11:30 Intimate Escapes 12:00 Intimate Escapes 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Medical Detectives I 2:30 21st Century Medicine 3:30 Eyewitness II 4:00 In Care of Nature 4:30 Outer Bounds I & II 5:00 Without Warning I 5:30 Lonely Planet II 6:30 Splat II & III 7:00 Let's Dance/There's No Food Like My Food 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Ultimate Guide to Planes 9:30 Future Tense 10:00 Cafe Digital 10:30 India Hour: Gulistan 11:00 India Hour Gulistan 11:30 Discovery Profile Series 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30

**BTV.** Morning Session 9:00 Openin announce-



Drama Pagla Ghanta on Ekushey TV at 9:00 tonight.

ment. 9:10 Khabar. 9:15 Alor Pathe. 9:35 Documentary. 10:00 The News. 10:05 Khrira Jagat. 10:25 Moner Mukure. 11:30 Alap-Sanglap: Talk-Show. 11:55 Moder Gorba Moder Asha. 12:30 Closing. Evening session 3:00 Opening announcement. 3:20 Bangla movie. 4:00 Khabar. 6:00 Khabar. 6:10 Sukhi paribar. 6:35 Programme from Chittagong station. 7:00 Sangbad shironam. 7:05 Maloncha. 7:25 Drama serial Aloukik. 8:00 Bangla news. 8:20 Movie: Cleo-

patra-2525. 9:00 Ajkal. 10:00 News at Ten. 10:20 Movie: The X-Files. 11:30

Pagla Ghonta 10:00 BTV News 10:25 English series: MacGyver 11:15 Ekushey Late Night News 11:30 Ei Shoptaho 11:45 Ekushey Headlines

CHANNEL-I

6:15 Ekushe Boi Mela 6:50 Akattorer Dinguli 7:00 House full 7:40 I Dream of Jennie 8:00 Din Protidin 8:25 Abong Syed

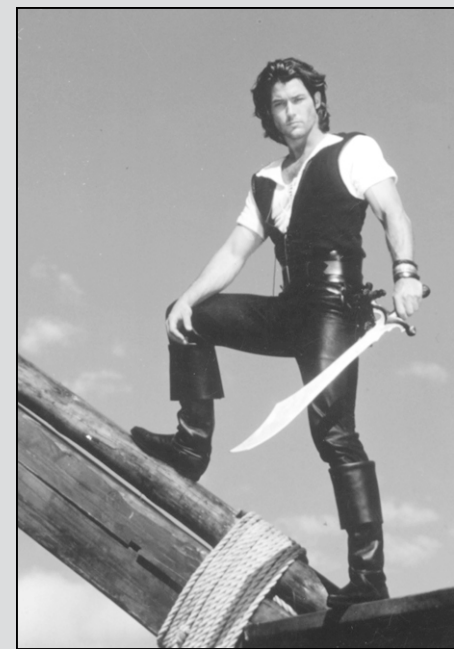


Cleopatra-2525 on BTV at 8:20 tonight.

Samsul Haque 9:00 Drama: Kaktharua 9:50 I Focus 10:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 10:10 Suvo Sandha 10:40 Vasha Amar Ahongker 11:15 Ekushe Boi Mela 11:50 Akattorer Dinguli 12:00 House full 12:40 I Dream of Jennie 1:15 Abong Syed Samsul Haque 2:00 Drama: Kaktharua 2:50 I Focus 3:00 Tele film: Amar Ahongkar 6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Suvo Sandha 6:40 Vasha Amar Ahongker 7:15 Abrittair Kazi Arif 7:50 Akattorer Dinguli 8:00 Sarejomin 8:40 Your Choice Ole Ole 9:15 Vasha Akhone 10:00 Drama: Kajol Rekha 10:50 I Focus 11:00 Bangla Cinema: Abirav (Razzak/Kobori)

STAR GOLD

8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Ghunghat (Pradeep Kumar, Asha Parekh) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Payal Ki Jhankar Chand (Kishore Kumar, Jyoti Laxmi) 3:30 Bollywood



The Adventures of Sindbad on Star World at 6:00 in the evening.

News 4:00 Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam (Guru Dutt, Meena Kumari, Waheeda Rehman) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Shadaar Shukrawaar Jagir (Dharmendra, Zeenat Aman) 10:30 Bollywood News 11:00 Geetaa Mera Naam (Sadhana, Sunil Dur, Feroz Khan) 12:30 Geetaa Mera Naam (Contd) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Sahib Bibi Aur



Murder Call on Star World at 1:00 p.m.

Rehman) 5:30 Geetaa Mera Naam (Sadhana, Sunil Dur, Feroz Khan)

HBO

6:30 Addicted To His Love 8:30 Masters Of The Universe 10:45 His Bodyguard 12:30 Ghosts Of Mississippi 3:00 Jimmy Hollywood 5:15 Assassins 7:45 Uncommon Valor 10:00 The Tuskegee Airmen 12:00 White Water Summer 1:45 Ghosts of Mississippi 4:15 Uncommon Valor

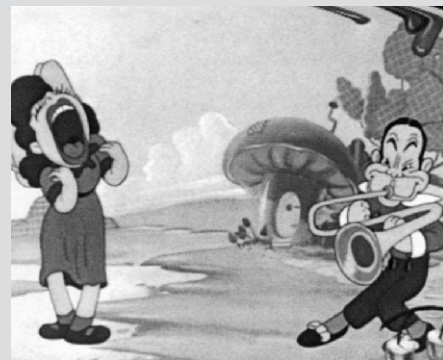
BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News 6:30 World Business Report 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today/Asia 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 Click Online 12:00 BBC News 12:30 IT: India Tomorrow 1:30 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Panorama 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Talking Movies 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Panorama 6:00 BBC News 6:30 IT: India Tomorrow 7:00 BBC News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 Talking Movies 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Hardtalk 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Question Time India 11:00



Virgin Takdum Takdum on Ekushey TV at 8:30 tonight.

Ultimate Guide to Planes 3:00 Morris Cerullo 3:30



Cartoon Totally Tuned In on Ekushey Tv at 7:00 in the evening.

2:30 Future Tense 3:00 Cafe Digital 3:30 India Hour: Gulistan 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 21st Century Medicine

STAR WORLD

7:00 Nash Bridges 8:00 Murder Call 9:00 Friends

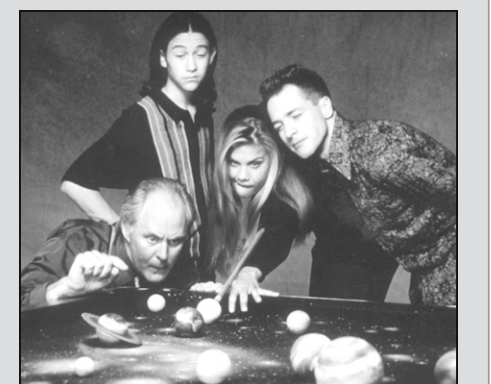
2:30 Future Tense 3:00 Cafe Digital 3:30 India Hour: Gulistan 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 21st Century Medicine



Nash Bridges on Sar World at 2:00 p.m.

9:30 Star News 10:00 Nash Bridges 11:00 Goodness Gracious Me 11:30 Blackadder 12:00 3rd Rock From The Sun 12:30 French and Saunders 1:00 Murder Call 2:00 Nash Bridges

Jharokha 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Star Morning Show: Kasam Vardi Ki (Jeetendra, Bhanupriya) 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 TSN 1:30 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Thi 2:00 Meri Saheli 2:30 Saans 3:00 Hasna Mat 3:30 I Love My India 4:00 Jubilee Plus 4:30 Cine Jharokha 5:00 Hit Ya Fit 5:30 Chhupa Rustam 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Fox Kids 7:15 Koi Mil Gaya



3rd Rock From The Sun on Star World at 12:00 noon.

8:00 Kinetic Mega Show/Family Fortunes 8:30 Tu Tu Main Main 9:00 Star Superhit Pathhar Ke Phool (Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon) 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 11:45 Pathhar Ke Phool (Contd) 12:30 Kabhi Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchaal Aa Hai 1:00 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 2:00 Gharwali Uparwali 2:30 Chhupa Rustam 3:00 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Thi 3:30 Kalash 4:00 I Love My India 4:30 Janata Ki Adalat 5:00 Siski 5:30 STAR Bestsellers

6:00 I Am Weasel 6:30 The Powerful Girls 7:00 The Popeye Show 7:30 Batman The Animated Series 8:00 Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries 8:30 Garfield and Friends 9:00 The Road Runner Show 5:30 The New Scooby Doo Movies

TCM TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES

9:30 Please Don't Eat The Daisies 11:25 Jumbo 1:40 Cass Timberlane 3:40 Good News

STAR MOVIES

7:00 Drama: Lloyd 9:00 Thriller: Rage: Carrie 2 11:00 Drama: Alegria 12:30 Drama: The Horse Whisperer 3:15 Drama: The Grifters 5:00 Drama: Journey Of Natty Gann 7:00 You Pick-the-Flick: