

Silver Jubilee

Karika's Silver Jubilee and Shonar Horin Awards

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

KARIKA, Bangladesh Handicrafts Cooperative Federation Ltd, the pioneer crafts organisation, set up in 1974, is an artisan's organisation in Bangladesh.

Karika completed its 25th year in November 2000, but due to political uncertainties the silver jubilee celebration was held on March 31, 2001. In the true spirit of an artisan owned organisation, the central focus was on honouring and recognising the artisans.

Founder member and current chairperson Perveen Ahmed introduced the "Sonar Horin" or Golden Deer Award 2001 under the aegis of Karika, and there was a number of renowned personalities to present and grace the ceremony. Chief Guest Baduir Rahman, Secretary, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development expressed his pleasant surprise to know that Karika was a cooperative and has been contributing for 25 years in crafts development and marketing. He hoped that despite some setbacks, Karika would now be able to revitalise itself and resume its place as a forefront crafts centre.

Poet Shamsur Rahman, who gave Karika its name in 1974, recalled his association, with the Handicrafts Federation which was committed to the promotion and development of traditional crafts. In his speech Shamsur Rahman recalled the high quality of crafts Karika marketed in the 1970s and 1980s and that it was Karika that first made Bangladeshi handicrafts, famous both through local retail sales and exports. He mentioned that on several occasions



Poet Shamsur Rahman is seen speaking at Karika's Silver Jubilee celebration on March 31. Cooperatives and Rural Development secretary Baduir Rahman appears on his right.

a long while back, when he traveled abroad he saw many foreign passengers carrying packets with the Karika label. He spoke of Karika's ability to continue its commitment to promote Bangali culture and identity and wished it a bright future.

Next was Professor Anisuzzaman, Chairman of Bangla Academy, who focussed on the unique status of Karika in which the artisans are shareholders. He said this was no small achievement and it placed Karika in a very important position as a mentor of skilled artisans, giving them status through financial clout. He emphasised the need to appreciate and value the skills and creativity of village and urban crafts people.

Professor Wakil Ahmed of Bangla Dept, University of Dhaka and former Pro-VC, spoke of the cultural roots of Bangladesh that manifest themselves through folk crafts. With several research publications on crafts of Bangladesh to his credit Wakil Ahmed pointed out that it is

necessary to preserve the authenticity of Bangali ethos in our traditional crafts. He said that there is a growing danger that foreign designs, and commercial demands are polluting



Karika Chairperson Parveen Ahmed is seen speaking on the occasion of Silver Jubilee on March 31 at the National Museum. Prof. Anisuzzaman and eminent folk culture expert Shamsuzzaman Khan are on her left.

the purity of our ancient folk and traditional urban crafts. Karika has played a role in the past in promoting the production and sale of authentic hand crafted goods, and will need to continue its mission. He said that as the common people have always used environment-friendly raw materials in making both decorative artifacts as well as household utility items. "There is every reason for us to continue to give one support by valuing the use of such products." He requested people who care for the cultural heritage to seek purity in design and form. Karika has a pioneering role to play in this regard, he said.

The Director General of the National Museum Shamsuzzaman Khan, himself a researcher and writer on subjects of Bangali folk

culture, made some noteworthy comments on Karika's special place, both as a federation of artisans as well as a centre for the preservation of authentic folk crafts. He recalled the contributions of Karika in introducing and educating the urban public about the beauty and value of folk crafts. He spoke of Karika's bold and dynamic action in holding the Asian Regional Artisan's Workshop in 1986 at the Shishu Academy premises. Apart from the seven SAARC countries, Australia and Papua New Guinea sent artisans to demonstrate and exchange their skills at the 10-day workshop. He said, "at that time Perveen Ahmed took the initiative and conducted an excellent artisans-at-work programme which made a difference to the vision and thinking of



Artisans Iqbaluddin Ahmed, Rina Islam, and Maron Chand Pal of Karika with the 'Shonar Horin'(Golden Deer) Awards-2001' on March 31.

Bangladeshi crafts people." Shamsuzzaman Khan praised Karika for its commitment to the purity of ethnic Bangali crafts and requested it to take up once again the academic work of publishing the documentation it owns.

Perveen Ahmed mentioned that it was time to move forward, particularly with action programmes for Karika's development. She expressed requests that Bangladesh had not made an international name in the crafts export sector, as other neighbour countries like India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Malaysia had. She also pointed out that its structure as a cooperative had not always brought advantages due to several reasons in the past. She requested the chief guest, Baduir Rahman, Secretary of Cooperatives and Rural Development to provide incentives to Karika in fulfilling its role, and to work out inclusion of the federation in macro-level planning.

The grand finale to the lively comments made by the speakers, all

of whom spoke without prepared speeches, was the presentation of the "Sonar Horin" or Golden Deer Awards. This award the chairperson explained was to express the ideals of purity which lives in every creative artists, and which lead one to strive, to seek for the golden deer. Three founder member artisans, Rina Islam for excellence in making cloth dolls, Iqbal Ahmed for Balikon leather and Batik in vegetable dyes on textile, and Maran Chand Pal, a traditional potter of Rayer Bazar who also teaches at the Fine Arts Institute, won the awards for the year 2001.

It is worthwhile to mention here that the Golden Deer (actually highly polished brass metal) was designed by renowned puppeteer Mustafa Monwar. Following the presentation of the "Sonar Horin" awards by the Secretary Cooperatives and Rural Development, Shamsur Rahman presented certificates prepared by Asiatic Advertising Company.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Solo exhibition
The 1st solo painting exhibition by Omar Khalid Rumi is now being held at Gallery 21. The exhibition will remain open from 10:00a.m. to 8:00p.m. everyday till April 15.

Set design exhibition

The British Council in association with Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has organised a Set Design Exhibition that will continue up to April 16 at the British Council auditorium.

Paintings on the Berlin-Wall

A photography exhibition by Pierre Claquin on the paintings of the Berlin-Wall is now being held at the Goethe-Institut. The exhibition will remain open to all till April 12.

Art Exhibition

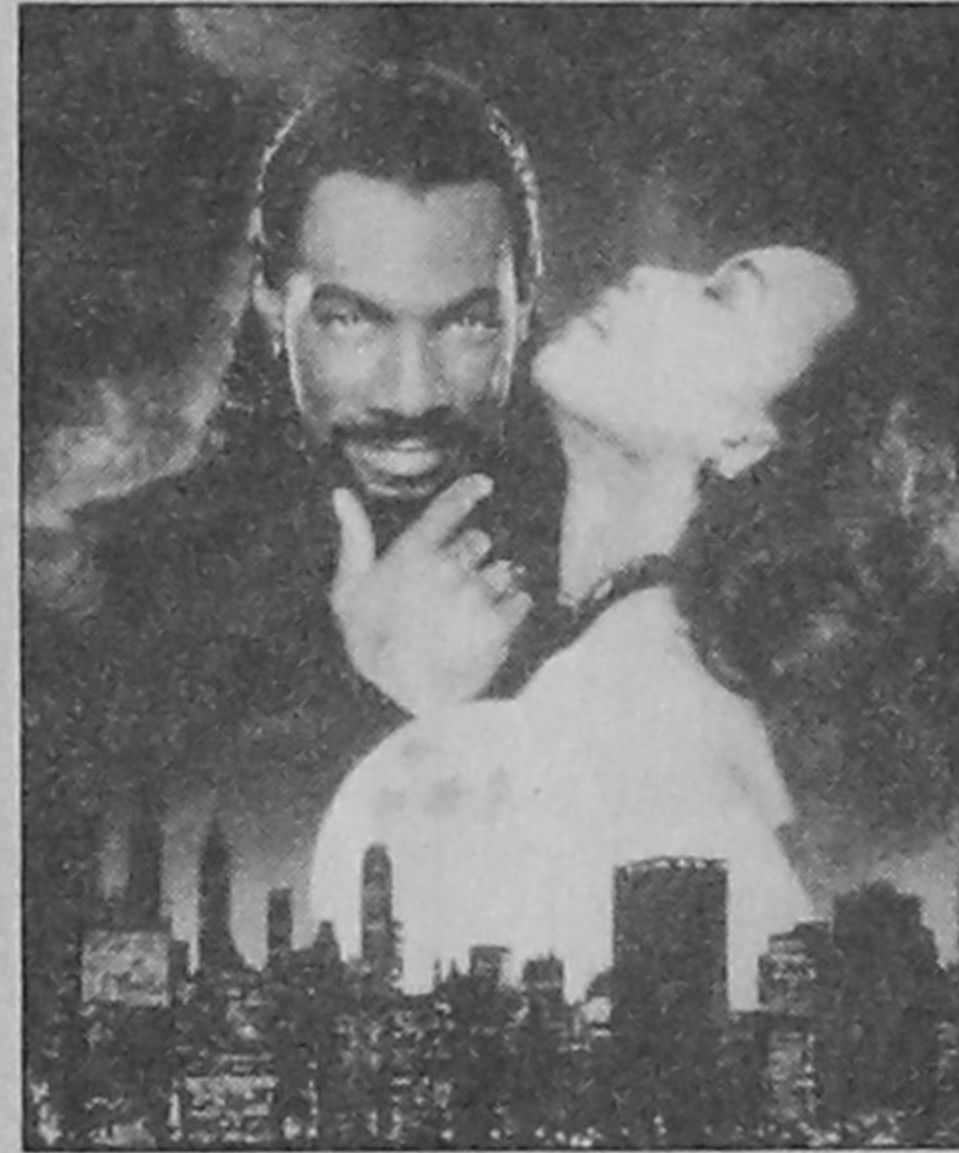
A solo show by Nasim Ahmed Naldi is now being held at Anal Centre. The exhibition runs from 2-8 p.m. till April 9.

Solo exhibition of prints

A solo exhibition of prints by Nasreen Begum is being held at the Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Art, University of Dhaka. The exhibition will continue everyday from 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. till April 12.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Vampire in Brooklyn on HBO at 9:30p.m.
Max Rubeo (Murphy) is the only survivor from a race of vampires on a mate, to keep the line from ending, he lands up in Brooklyn, where a girl child has a vampire father. But has grown up without knowing she is vampire. Max woos her and attempts to bring her where she belongs - the blood sucking destiny.

World Sports Special
Gillette World Sports 2:00 Grand Nat'l Steeplechase
2001 National 2001
Augusta Masters August 2001 August, GA USA Day Three 11:30 Gillette World Sports Special
11:05 West Indies Cricket The Cable & Wireless test Series Antigua, Antigua South Africa West Indies 4th Test, Day 2, Highlights 8:00 West Indies Cricket The Cable & Wireless test Series Antigua, Antigua South Africa West Indies 4th Test, Day 3, 1st Session 10:05 Motorsport Asia 11:05 West Indies Cricket The Cable & Wireless test Series Antigua, Antigua South Africa West Indies 4th Test, Day 3, 2nd and 3rd Session 3:30 Dog Show 2001 Phil. dog Show Presented by Purina Philadelphia, PA USA 4:30 Sportscenter: International Edition 5:00 Cart Pole Qualifying Long Beach, CA USA



Mega Serial: Noorjahan on Ekushey television at 9:30p.m.

ETV
12:00 Ekushey Midday
12:20 Drishti 12:45
Drama Serial: Jhor Bnshtir Neer 1:15 Cricket, Bangladesh vs. Zimbabwe One Day International (2nd Match live from Zimbabwe 7:30 Ekushey News 9:30 Mega Serial: Noorjahan 10:30 News: Simulcast from BTV 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News

BBC WORLD
6:00 BBC News 6:30 Holiday 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Eur Dir, USA Dir, Sci World, Aus Dir 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Correspondent 9:00 BBC News 9:30 This Week 10:00 BBC News 10:30 IT: India Tomorrow 11:00 BBC News 11:30 India Business Report 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Wheels Hospital 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Face To Face 2:00 BBC News 2:30 This Week 3:00 BBC News 3:30 ICE Mummies (14-15) Hillary's Ny (16) Ray Meers (17-19) The Big Chill (20) Killer Bugs (21) Facal/Leptosy (22), Earth Story (23-26) 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Click Online 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Eur Dir, USA Dir, Sci World, Aus Dir 6:00 BBC News 6:30 QED 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Top Gear 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Dateline London 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Dancing in the Street 10:00 BBC



Battledome on AXN at 6:30p.m.

STAR PLUS
6:00 Kuchcha Pappa Pucca Pappa 6:30 Star Geetma 7:30 Good Morning India 8:30 The Sword of Tipu Sultan 9:30 Fox Kids Sunday 10:30 Janata Ki Adalat 11:00 Chupa Rustom 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 12:30 Family Fortunes 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaron 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:00 Ek Main Aur Ek Tu 2:30 Mail Milap 2:40 Star Sunday Matinee: 6:00 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehli Thi 6:30 Jubilee Plus 7:00 Star Bestsellers 8:00 Star Film Utsav: 11:30 Jubilee Plus 12:00 Kalash 1:00 Adalat 12:30 Kalash 1:00 Pari 1:30 Star Movie Show: Gehra Raaz (Shekh Mukhtar, Shaaketa & Sujit Kumar) 4:30 I Love My India 5:00 Shanti 5:30 Hit Ya Fit

STAR WORLD
6:00 JAG 7:00 Nash Bridges 8:00 The Pretender 9:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 10:00 Ally McBeal 11:00 The Practice 12:00 Martial Law 1:00 World Championship Wrestling Thunder 3:00 Crown and Country 3:30 Travel Asia 4:00 Baywatch 5:00 The Simpsons 5:30 3rd Rock From the Sun 6:30 Star News Focus Asia 7:00 The X Files 8:00 Star Trek The Next Generation 9:00 TV Com 9:30 Star News Sunday 10:30 Star News Sunday 10:30 The X Files 11:30 Star Trek The Next Generation 12:30 Cops 1:00 Star News Focus Asia 2:00 The X Files 3:00 Creflo Dollar Daily 3:30 Kenneth Copeland Ministries 4:00 Life In The Word With Joyce Meyer 4:30 World News 5:00



Cricket: Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe One Day International (2nd Match) Live from Zimbabwe on Ekushey television at 1:15p.m.

STAR GOLD
8:30 Jubilee Plus 9:00 Jal Bin Machhli Nriya Bin Bijli (Sandhya, Abhijit) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Sunday Noon Show Mirch Masala (Smrita patil, Naseeruddin Shah) 3:30 Geet Bahar 4:00 Do Bigha Zamin (Balraj Sahni, Nirupa Roy) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Sunday Blockbusters Ajnabee (Rajesh Khanna, Zeehan Aman) 10:30 Beete Hue Din 11:00 Nadiya Ke Par (Dilip Kumar, Kamini Kaushal) 12:30 Nadiya Ke Par (Cont....) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Jal Bin Machhli Nriya Bin Bijli (Sandhya, Abhijit) 5:30 Nadiya Ke Par (Dilip Kumar, Kamini Kaushal)

HBO
6:30 Flirting 8:30 Into Thin Air: Death On Everest 10:15 Crime Of The Century 12:45 Exiled 2:30 Empire of the Sun 5:30 I Dream of Jeannie: 15 years later 7:30 Reality Bites 9:30 Vampire In Brooklyn 11:30 Palmetto 1:45 Crime Of The Century 4:45 Murphy's Romance

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
6:30 Untamed Australia 7:30 High Adventure 8:00 High Adventure 8:30 Wings 9:30 Going wild with Jeff Crowin 10:00 Buck Staghorn's Animal Bits 10:30 Popular Mechanics for Kids IV 11:00 Let's Dance & Eat 11:30 Real Kids, Real Adventures 12:30 India

STAR SPORTS
7:00 Ncaa Men's Basketball C'ships 2001 Ncaa Men's division 1 Basketball C'ships Minneapolis, MN USA Duke Arizona Championship Game 9:00 Augusta Masters August 2001 August, GA USA Day three Highlights 9:30 Film World Motorcycle Championship Motogp 2001 Suzuka City, Japan 12:00 Nba Inside Stuff 2000/01 Nba Inside Stuff (R) 12:30 Gillette

Hour: Gulistan 1:30
Discovery Profile Series 2:30 Discovery Profile Series 3:30 Discovery Profile Series 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 Discovery Profile Series 6:00 Wings 7:30 Medical Mysteries 8:30 Vital Breakthroughs 9:30 Science Frontiers 10:30 Discovery Showcase 11:30 Treks in a Wild World 12:00 Lonely Planet Treks 12:30 Medical Mysteries 1:30 Vital Breakthroughs 2:30 Science Frontiers 3:30 Discovery Showcase 4:30 Treks in a Wild World 5:00 Lonely Planet Treks 5:30 Discover Magazine

AXN
6:30 You're Under Arrest /You're Under Arrest 7:30 VIP /New Valid Order 8:30 Dare You 9:30 Battledome 10:30 You're Under Arrest /You're Under Arrest 11:30 Action Heroes/World Extreme Games 12:30 Survivor II 1:30 Eco-Challenge 3:30 Sabah Highlight 3:30 Movie: When The Bough Breaks 5:30 You're Under Arrest /You're Under Arrest 6:30 Battledome 7:30 Action Heroes/Action Heroes 8:30 Survivor 9:30 VIP //Beware Of Dog 10:30 Movie: Joan of Arc Pt 1 12:30 Action Heroes/Action Heroes 1:30 Eco-Challenge Sabah Highlight 3:30 Movie: Joan of Arc Pt 1 5:30 Battledome

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ESPN
6:30 Sportscenter: International Edition 7:00 Atp Tennis Show 7:30 English Premier Football League 9:30 English Premier Football League 11:30 Classic's Big Fights Boxing Hour Cassius Clay: The Early Years 12:30 Cart Pole Qualifying Long Beach, USA 1:30 Italian Serie A Football 2:00/2001 3:30 B3 Bikes, Blades & Boards B3 Stop 1 Bikes Anaheim, CA USA 4:30 Skiing Nordic Ski World Championships Lathi, Finland Highlights 5:30 Western Union World Football 6:00 Uefa Champions League highlights 2000/1 Uefa Champions League Weekly 7:00 West Indies Cricket The Cable & Wireless test Series Antigua, Antigua South Africa West Indies 4th Test, Day 2, Highlights 8:00 West Indies Cricket The Cable & Wireless test Series Antigua, Antigua South Africa West Indies 4th Test, Day 3, 1st Session 10:05 Motorsport Asia 11:05 West Indies Cricket The Cable & Wireless test Series Antigua, Antigua South Africa West Indies 4th Test, Day 3, 2nd and 3rd Session 3:30 Dog Show 2001 Phil. dog Show Presented by Purina Philadelphia, PA USA 4:30 Sportscenter: International Edition 5:00 Cart Pole Qualifying Long Beach, CA USA

ESP
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ZEE MGM
6:00 Total Recall 6:30 Dirty Rotten Scoundrels 8:30 Original Sound Track 9:00 From A Whisper To A Scream 11:00 Hollywood Remembers 11:30 Crazy Legs 1:30 Hollywood Remembers 2:00 Coca Cola Kid 4:00 Total Recall 4:30 The Believers 6:30 Hollywood Remembers 7:00 From A

ZEE ENGLISH
6:30 Benny Hill Show 7:00 Too Close For Comfort 7:30 Music Zone 8:00 Late Show With David Letterman 9:00 Touched By An Angel 10:00 Royal Canadian Air Force 10:30 La Femme Nikita 11:30 For Your Love 12:00 Jesse 12:30 Police Academy 1:30 The Sopranos 2:30 Friends 3:00 Living Single 3:30 Nothing Lasts Forever 4:30 Central Park West 6:30 Touched By An Angel 7:30 La Femme Nikita 8:30 Living Single 9:00 Friends 9:30 Suddenly Susan 10:00 Veronica's Closet 10:30 The West Wing 11:30 Late Show With David Letterman 12:30 Movie Stars 1:00 Late Show With David Letterman 3:00 Music Zone 4:00 Benny Hill Show 4:30 Kate & Allie 5:00 Original Sound Track 5:30 Music Zone

ZEE MUSIC
6:00 Zee Music Com 7:00 Aalap 7:30 Tararun 8:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Artist Of The Fortnight 11:30 Zee Music Box 12:00 Dial M 1:00 Hit Pe Hit 2:00 Jharokha 2:35 Blue 3:05 Tararun 4:00 Hit Pe Hit 5:00 Zee Music Box 5:30 Hit Mix 6:00 Dil Se 6:30 Zee Music Live/Best of the Best 7:30 Hit Pe Hit 8:30 Fillers 9:00 Compact Disc 9:30 Zee Music Box 10:00 Sizzlers 10:30 Jharokha 11:00 Zee Music Com 12:00 Phoren Maal 1:05 Zee Music Box 1:30 Jharokha 2:00 Hit Pe Hit 3:00 Pyar Mohabbat Etc 3:30 Tararun 4:30 Phoren Maal 5:30 Sizzlers



The X Files on Star World at 10:30p.m.

Alpha Khabor 6:25
Jhankar 6:30 Mqar Khela Kobtai 7:00 Wah Ke Daroon Drishya 7:25 Jhankar 7:30 Googly 7:55 Jhankar 8:00 Alpha Bangla Rangmanch Utsav 10:00 News Bulletin 10:05 Iskaboner Bibi 10:25 Ek Palake 10:40 Anya Bhuvan/Prpto Baeskoeder Janyte 11:10 Ek Palake 11:25 Alpha Khabor 11:40 Ek Palake 11:45 Sal Rang 12:15 Wah Ki Darun Drishya 12:25 Ek Palake 12:30 Sur Taal 1:00 Bharat Bhromon 1:30 Bangali Feature Film 4:00 Ek Akasher Niche 4:30 Nayanara 5:00 Ingti 5:30 Foot Ball 6:00 Apna Der Janya

ZEE TV
6:15 Yaadon Ke Pal 6:45 Old Is Gold 7:00 Bhakti Geet 7:30 Amrit Kalash 8:00 Ganesha 8:30 Nickelodeon 9:30 Jai Ganesha 10:30 Vishnu Puran 11:30 Whirl Pool Mera Magic Mera Home 12:00 Zee Talkies 12:30 Quiz Contest 1:00 Khamoshiyan... Kab Tak 1:30 Top Of The Tops 2:00 Apun To Bas Vaive Hi 2:30 Zee & You 3:00 Yeh Vaada Raha- Cinema Hits 4:00 Naye Nazare 6:00 Ek Nazar 6:30 Nickeloden on Zee 7:30 Thief Of Baghdad 8:30 Hamare Turnhare 9:00 Suspense Hour 10:00



The Simpsons on Star World at 5:00p.m.