

Endeavo

Avant garde designs for the bourgeois demand

"Banglar Mela" opens with a bang

FAYZA HAQ

BANGLAR Mela, a new boutique, opened at Banani last Thursday. It has "shalwar kameezes", "Punjabis", shirts, saris, bed-sheets and handicrafts of terracotta and cane. The prices are reasonable and the colouring environmental friendly. The shop was inaugurated by the well-known artist Monirul Islam.

Monirul Islam, giving his view of the new outlet of clothes and gift items, says, "This is a good attempt for a Bangladeshi endeavour. The prices are heart-warming. The gift items are cute and eye-catching. I've liked the designs of the patterns of the clothes as the black and white combinations appear new tome. They have mixed designs using folk and other universal motifs which appear new and attractive to me. The loose 'punjabis' could be found in Africa too and so they appeal to me for the broad outlook of the designers. As for the mixed jute canvas found here, it should easily be popular abroad."

Sharkar Abdul Al Shafi, the director of finance of the project



A tie & dye saree in magenta and black



A block print shirt for men



A cotton salwar kameez set for summer

says, "I used to work with Grameen at one time and admired its philosophy of helping people in the far flung rural areas who do not have enough finance to support their handicrafts specially the Bangladeshi traditional handloom. Our products are all made by hand such as clothes coloured with vegetable dye and are free from health hazard. Meanwhile, the gift items endeavour to be different in designs from those that you find elsewhere. The new designs and cuts in the clothes is nouveau and is very reasonably priced." Our designer Imdad Hoque is well known and is both talented and persevering. He is not a designer by education but has been well-trained on the job. This has been done after organising the needy craftsmen who now work for us. We are hereto give marketing support so that today we will be exporting these items within a month to Germany, France and Spain, and our next target will be USA."

Imdad Hoque says, "Our main target is to get the middle-classes

although you might think only the elite will come to Banani. Even the well-to do have a penchant for cheap but durable items at a reasonable price. They don't want to go to places like New Market or Chandni Chawk because these places involve traffic jams. In order to get clothes and gift items in Gulshan and Banani, you normally have to pay a steep price. Our main aim is to create a market for cotton fabrics, along with those of jute and silk as well fabrics that are a mix of the three. We are also selling terracotta items and pure jute handicrafts. Thus we are selling hand-made items."

"I have the BRAC and Grameen background for eight years. I went into designing. Having completed my Masters in Marketing, I know what type of marketing that one is going for. I know how to isolate the textile oriented products and channel them to a suitable goal. I have studied the taste of the people. In 'Banglar Mela' I am doing the same work that I was doing earlier. I began with sericulture products and their

development. At Grameen I was a product development designer dealing with textile and other finished products. I have introduced commodities such as jute cotton union canvas fabrics and they are used for handicraft items such as hand bags, jewellery boxes, photo frames, etc. Combined with leather we even make smart jackets. These fabrics will be introduced by Monirul Islam in Spain to paint on. What is unique about our products are the cheaper cotton fabrics for home and casual wear. They have earthy colours or are pastel and cool. Thus you have fashion within a reasonable budget. You don't have to spend a couple of thousand takas just to get a simple set of 'shalwar kameez' or 'punjabi' or even 'fatua' or shirt."

"Again, our cane and terracotta products don't contain any chemicals. Incidentally, we have blended terra cotta with cane. Similarly our vegetable-dye and silk items are totally safe health wise."

"There are too a variety of items like jewellery boxes, 'batuas',

albums, ring box and they too are not costly. We even sell home-made pickles of a variety for only Tk 50 a bottle. Even the range of the 'shalwar-kameezes' are from Tk700 to Tk 11,00. In them we have used oriental motifs with paisley patterns, floral and folk designs along with subtle geometrical shapes. 'Kantha' patterns have also been included. We will go for the 'kantha' stitch very soon. In the dyes we have used olives. The patterns on the 'shalwar-kameezes' are very much in vogue, and we have also introduced the very avant garde short 'kurtas' and 'kameezes' with delectable tie and dye patterns."

"We have a number of designers for our work such as Shoibal Shah and Khalilur Rahman Shaheen who have been trained at the Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Bijli Huq and Bashi, who owns a boutique of her own, and belong to this group. A number of skilful weavers, who live in Chapainawabganj, Sirajganj and Narsindi, Comilla 'khadi' workers and terracotta experts are also

included in our payroll. Orun Guho Babu, famed for his 'khadi' work is also with our group. For cotton hand woven fabrics we go to Sirajganj while Tangail provides our saris."

Khalilur Rahman Shaheen, one of the artists in the organisation, says, "I've completed my studies at the Fine Arts Institute in 1992 and worked at 'Arong' from 1994 as a designer. I did various types of work there varying from 'punjabi's to 'shirt' using block and screen print as well as embroidery. I worked with wrought iron furniture and accessories too such as frames, lampshades and candle stands. I came to 'Banglar Mela' in order to do some original designing of my own."

The tie and dye and printed saris and "shalwar kameezes" along with the other garments and gift ite had an attraction of their own, specially considering the prices.



Brown slacks and cotton shirt for women

RECOMMENDATIONS

Theatre

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has organised a week-long theatrical shows from May 6 to 12 at Shawkat Osman Auditorium of the National Public Library Directorate, Shahbag. Seven theatre groups from across the country are due to take part in the programme.

Inaugural ceremony holds today at 6:00p.m. at the above mentioned venue with Prof. Kabir Chowdhury as the chief guest.

Music.

Closing session of the on going 12th National Rabindra song Festival holds today at 7:00 p.m. at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy Auditorium with Prof. Anisuzzaman as the chief guest and Anup Bhattacharya in the chair. Day's programme includes a reception to be accorded to eminent Rabindra song artiste Kalim Sharafi and musical recital.

Photography Show

A solo photography exhibition by Albert Khan opens today at 7:00 p.m. at Arial Centre, House # 15, Road # 7, Dhanmondi. The show runs from 2 to 8 p.m. daily till May 12.

Photography

A photo show featuring works of noted photographer and author of two important books on photography Mohammad Rafiqul Islam is now being held at National Photographic Gallery at 63/2 Science Laboratory Road, Dhaka.

Satyajit Ray Retrospective

Satyajit Ray Retrospective organised by Zahir Raihan Film Society is now being held at the auditorium of the High Commission of India at Road No. 2, Dhanmondi. Screening schedule: Nayak (The Hero) on May 6 at 3:30 p.m. and Aranyer Dintrati (Days and Nights in the Forest) on May 6 at 6:00p.m.

Art Show

"Mindscape"--4th solo painting exhibition by Syed Iqbal is now being held at the Bengal Shilpalay, Road # 27, House # 275/F, Dhanmondi. "Mindscape" is a series of sensitive art work by the artist. The show will remain open to public from 12 noon to 8 p.m. everyday till May 7 instead of May 4.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY

Robbie Williams on HBO at 7:45 p.m. HBO brings you Robbie Williams, the concert of the month from Manchester. An electrifying personality who knows how to party. In front of one hundred thousand fans including Let Me Entertain You, Angle, Kids and the high rotation super hit - Rock D J. You can not expect a show that is not just visually spectacular, but rip roaring good fun too!

BTV

3:00 Opening Announcement

3:20 Open University

3:45 Shukhi Poribar: Programme on population

4:00 Khabar

4:05 Animation Film: Animal Show

4:30 Pushittathya

4:45 Charpatra: Programme on child rights

5:10 Shashatathya: Healthcare programme for mother and children

5:25 National Television Debate

6:00 Khabar

6:10 Taruchaya: Folk songs

6:35 Programme from Chittagong station

7:00 News Headlines

7:05 Mati O'Manush: Agricultural development programme

7:30 Ilyhash Kotha Koy: Programme on Liberation War

8:00 News in Bengali

8:30 Poriprekshit

9:00 News Headlines

9:05 Drama Serial: Apun Jon (Episode 1)

9:30 Film Show: Team Knight Rider

10:00 Magazine Show: Ananda Ananda

10:30 News in English

10:55 Special programme on Buddha Purnima

11:30 Khabar / The News

11:45 Closing

EkUSHEY TV

12:00 Ekushey Midday

12:20 Bangla Film: Bhai Bondhu

1:00 Drishti

3:00 Ekushey Headlines

3:30 Kena Kata

4:00 Khelay Khelay Chirontonee

4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom

5:00 Circus Circus

5:30 Drishti

5:50 Aiker Potrikay

6:00 Ekushey Headlines

6:05 Classic Cartoons

6:30 Charidike

7:30 Ekushey News

8:00 Buddho Purnima Special Program: Asecho Jorimjoy

8:30 Noorjahan

9:30 Drama Serial: Biprotip

10:00 Protibedon

10:30 News: Simulcast from BTv

11:00 Ekushey Nighty News

11:30 Protibedon

12:00 Ekushey Headlines

CHANNEL-i

6:15 Drama: Grohon

7:00 Drama: Durbin

7:40 Music Horizonte

8:00 Din Protidin

8:25 Gher Gherosthali

9:00 Harano Vaikhe Khussi

10:40 Mancholoke

11:15 Drama: Grohon

12:00 Drama: Durbin

12:40 Music Horizonte

1:15 Gher Gherosthali

2:00 Harano Vaikhe Khussi

3:00 Bangla Cinema: Ghar Bhari (Uzzal/Rozina)

6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran

6:10 Addar Table

6:40 I Close Up

7:15 Drama: Dusapne

8:30 I Tele Quiz

8:40 Drama: Apun Thikana

9:15 Job Lin

10:00 Amar Chhobi

11:00 Bangla Cinema: Anutapto (Nayem/Sabnaji)

BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News

6:30 Holiday

7:00 BBC News

7:30 USA 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 Ray Mears

4:00 BBC News

4:30 Click Online

5:00 BBC News

5:30 USA Dir

6:00 BBC News

6:30 QED

7:00 BBC News

7:30 Top Gear

7:50 BBC News

8:30 Dateline London

9:00 BBC News

9:30 Pole to Pole

10:00 BBC News

10:30 India Biz Report

11:00 BBC News

11:30 Ray Mears

12:00 BBC News

12:30 USA Dir

1:00 BBC News

1:30 Violent Planet

2:00 BBC News

2:30 Top Gear

3:00 BBC News

3:30 Dateline London

4:00 BBC News

4:30 Asia Business

Report/Reporters

BBC News

Asia Business

Report/Asia Today

STAR WORLD

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 Practic

12:00 Martial Law

1:00 World Championship Wrestling Thunder

3:00 Crown and Country

3:30 Travel Asia

4:00 Baywatch Hawaii

5:00 The Simpsons

5:30 3rd Rock From the Sun

6:00 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

10:00 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 World With Joyce Meyer

4:30 World News

5:00 Fashion TV

5:30 Mork & Mindy

6:00 Murder Call

STAR PLUS

6:00 Kuccha Papad Pucca Papad

6:30 Star Geetmala

7:30 Good Morning India

8:30 Fox Kids Sunday

9:30 The Sword of Tipu Sultan

10:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati Junior

11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri

12:30 Family Fortunes

1:00 Musaffir Hoon Yaroon

1:30 Mirch Masala

2:00 Ek Main Aur Ek Tu

2:30 Mail Milap

2:40 Star Sunday Matinee: Kartavya

6:00 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Thi

6:30 Fox Kids Sunday

7:00 Jubilee Plus

8:00 Star Film Utsav: Jugnu

11:30 Star Bestseller

12:30 Kalash

1:00 Sonpari

1:30 Star Movie Show: Abhi Abhi

4:30 I Love My India

5:00 Shanti

5:30 Hit Ya Fit

STAR MOVIES

6:30 Drama: What's Love Got To Do With It

8:30 Thriller: Puppet Masters

10:30 Action: Mod Squad

12:00 Thriller: Murder Scene

1:45 Thriller: Thirteenth Warrior

3:30 Star Kids' Club: Muppet Christmas Carol

5:15 Comedy: Mickey Blue Eyes

7:00 Sunday Megamovie: Dreaming Of Joseph Lees

8:30 Drama: That Championship Season

10:45 Thriller: Puppet Masters

12:45 Action: Backroad Justice

2:30 Comedy: Mickey Blue Eyes

4:30 Drama: What's Love got to do with it

6:30 Comedy: The Marrying Man

STAR GOLD

10:30 Geet Bahar

11:00 Geet Bahar

11:30 Beete Hue Din

12:00 RaheIn Na RaheIn Hum

12:30 Electrolux Sunday Noon Show: Tum Haseen Main

3:30 Love In Tokyo (Joy Mukherjee, Asha Parekh)

7:00 Geet Bahar

7:30 Sunday Blockbusters Bachpan (Sanjeev Kumar, Tanuja)

11:00 Beete Hue Din

12:00 Jagir (Dharmendra, Zeenat Aman)

12:30 Jagir (Contd...)

3:00 Geet Bahar

3:30 Rupaye Dus Karod (Rajesh Khanna, Shabana Sadique)

7:00 Dhamkee (Vinod Khanna, Kumkum)

HBO

6:30 First Time Felon

8:45 Gremlins

11:00 The People Under the Stairs

1:00 Poison

3:00 Stepmom

5:30 Bird On A Wire

7:45 Robbie Williams: Live From Manchester Arena

9:30 Little Women

12:00 The Hunted

2:15 Gremlins

4:30 Cast a Deadly Spell

AXN

6:30 You're Under Arrest

7:30 You're Under Arrest

8:30 Core Culture

9:30 Battledome

10:30 You're Under Arrest/You're Under Arrest

11:30 Core Culture

12:30 Planet Ex II/World Extreme Games

1:30 Survivor II

2:30 VIP II/Va's On First

3:30 Movie: Universal Soldiers II: Brothers in Arms

5:30 You're Under Arrest/You're Under Arrest

6:30 Core Culture

7:30 Planet Ex II/World Extreme Games

1:30 Survivor II

2:30 VIP II/Va's On First

3:30 Movie: Universal Soldiers II: Brothers in Arms

5:30 You're Under Arrest/You're Under Arrest

6:30 Battledome

7:30 Exploring the Unknown

8:30 Survivor II

9:30 Farcape II/A Clockwork Nebari

10:30 Movie: The Replacement Killers

12:30 Exploring the Unknow

1:30 Movie: The Replacement Killers

3:30 Farscape II/A Clockwork Nebari

4:30 18 Wheels of Justice/Sleeping Dragons

5:30 Battledome

SET MAX

7:30 Mini Movies: Inspector Ea

8:30 Harmony

9:30 Shree Ramli Hanuman

12:30 Hotlist

1:00 Khamosh

3:30 The Left vs Right Cup (3pm-11 pm) Day 3

11:30 Kohram

2:30 Khamosh

5:00 Kisan Aur Bha

HALLMARK TV

1:00 Beyond The Call

3:00 Finding Buck McHenry

5:00 Sesame Street

6:00 Secret of the Sword

8:00 Ghostwriter

8:30 Wishbone

9:00 Sesame Street

10:00 Mercy Mission: The Rescue of Flight

12:00 Reason For Living: The Jill Ireland Story

2:00 Foxfire

4:00 Robin Cook's Acceptable Risk

6:00 Magical Legend of the Leprechauns

7:00 The Flamingo Rising

9:00 The Song Spinner

11:00 Thompson's Last Run

10:30 La Femme Nikita

11:30 For Your Love

12:00 Jesse

12:30 Police Academy

1:30 The Sopranos

2:30 Friends 7

3:00 Living Single

3:30 If Tomorrow Comes

4:30 Central Park West

5:30 Er

6:30 Touched By An Angel

7:30 La Femme Nikita

8:30 Living Single

9:00 Friends 7

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

2:00 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 CINEMA

9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme

9:15 Weekend Cinema

9:45 Movie Fare

10:00 Safed Haathi

1:00 Bollywood Top 5

1:15 Madhyantar

1:30 Tezaab

5:00 Darpan

5:15 Top Of The Tops

5:45 Film Time

6:00 Saajan

9:45 Bollywood Top 5

10:00 Fist Take/Making Of A Legend

10:30 Vishnu Deva

2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme

2:30 Hum Junglee hain

5:30 Chehren

5:45 Film Time

6:00 Imaan

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

ALPHA BANGLA

6:30 Daibaddho

7:00 Arghya/Anand Vilas

7:30 News Bulletin

8:00 Surer Ei Jharnadharae

8:30 Jhonotar Dorbare

9:00 News Bulletin

9:05 Bharat Bhraman

9:30 Swami Vivekananda

10:00 Apna Der Janya

10:30 Talk Jhaal Misti

11:30 Netaji Subhash Chandra Bideshini Bodhu

12:30 Bhalobasa Mondobasa

1:00 Ranna Ghar

1:30 Bhowanipurer Chattujera

2:00 Jemon Boleben Sir

2:30 Chirodier - Feature Film

5:00 Arghya/Anand Vilas

5:30 Disney

6:00 Alpha Khabor

6:25 Jhankar

6:30 Mojar Khela Kobitae

7:00 Kelar Duniya

7:25 Jhankar

7:30 Googly

7:55 Jhankar

8:00 Alpha Bangla Rangmanch

10:00 News Bulletin

10:05 Iskaboner Bibi

10:25 Ek Palake

10:40 Ek Palake

11:10 Prapto Baeskoder Janye

11:20 Alpha Khabor

11:45 Ek Palake

11:50 Saat Rang

12:30 Surer Ei Jhama Dhara

12:30 Sur Taal

1:00 Bharat Bhromon

1:30 Bengali Feature Film

4:00 Ek Akasher Niche

4:30 Nayanlara

5:00 Ingit

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 Ganeshha

8:30 Nickelodeon

9:30 Jai Ganeshha

10:30 Vishnu Puran

11:30 Whirl Pool Mera Magic Mera Home

12:00 Zee Talkies

12:30 Quiz Contest

1:00 Khamoshiyar... Kab Tak

1:30 Top Of The Tops

2:00 Apun To Bas Vaise Hi

2:30 Zee & You

3:00 Tohfa- Cinema Hits

6:00 Ek Nazar

6:30 Nickelodan on Zee

7:00 Nickelodan (Allen)

7:30 Thief Of Baghdad

8:30 Hamare Tumhare

9:00 Suspense Hour

10:00 Rishthey The- Love Stories

11:00 India's Most Wanted

11:30 Aanchal Ki Chaon Mein Samander

12:00 Mehendi Tere Naam Ki

1:00 Ankahee

1:30 Zee Talkies

2:00 Dastaan

2:30 Ek Nazar

3:00 Aurat

5:45 News In Hindi

ESPN

8:00 World Table Tennis Champs World Table Tennis Championships 2001 Osaka, Japan

10:00 ATP Tennis Show

10:30 English Premier Football League Manchester, England Derby County @ Manchester United

12:30 Racehorse Digest

1:00 World Table Tennis Champs World Table Tennis Championships 2001 Women's Dbls Final & Mens Sgls Finals Sportscenter: International Edition

3:30 Cart Pole Qualifying Nazareth, PA USA

4:30 Italian Serie A Football Italian Serie A 2000/2001

6:30 Cayton Boxing Films Boxing Best's Best: Muhammed Ali

7:30 UEFA Champions

9:00 English Premier Football League

10:30 NFL Europe League NFL Europe League 2001 Highlights Show

11:00 Asian Sport Show

12:30 Extreme Magazine Yoz Magazine

1:00 Gillette World Sports Special Gillette World Sport

1:30 Spanish Football League 2000/01 Spanish Football League Barcelona, Spain

3:30 Formula One Highlights 2001 Formula One Highlights Catalunya, Spain Spanish Grand Prix

4:30 Fir World Motorcycle Championship Motogp 2001 Jerez, Spain

7:00 Sports India

7:30 West Indies Cricket the cable and Wireless Day Series Grenada, West Indies South Africa @ West Indies 4th ODI, 1st Session

11:05 Sports India

11:35 West Indies Cricket the Cable and Wireless Day Series Grenada, West Indies South Africa @ West Indies 4th ODI, 2nd Session