

Exhibition

For a brighter tomorrow

Photographer helps to restore acid victims face and faith

CLAUDIA LAUBSCHER

FOR a photographer it is difficult to portray the distorted faces of women who once were beautiful. Photographer Shafiqul Alam Kiron who has followed the fates of acid victims with his camera for more than a decade does this for a cause. His photos which are currently shown at an exhibition at the gallery of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka have a very clear aim. "With these photographs I want to protest against the horrible crime of acid attacks", says Kiron. He wants that these victims get justice.

Although he has been fighting against this crime together with the Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF), NGOs and women's organisations for several years now, yet the crime is still widespread. According to the recently formed academic body "Students Against Acid Violence" (SAAV) who organised the exhibition, acid violence has risen sharply in the last decade. "In the last two years there were 200 reported acid victims", says the photographer. In the exhibition he shows some striking examples of innocent victims. For example Shyamoly, a 15-year-old girl. The viewer is struck by the scars inflicted on her. She and her two younger sisters were attacked by an unwanted lover after her parents refused his marriage proposal and arranged for her to be married to another boy. The rejected man attacked Shyamoly and her sisters early in the morning just days before her marriage. The oldest sister was blinded, the youngest one received acid on her face and the middle one was burned on her arms.

For Kiron it is important not only to portray the attacks but



COURTESY : SHAFIQU ALAM KIRON / MAP

also the effects of the attacks. He also documented the treatment for facial reconstruction and surgery the girls received - thanks to the support of ASF, UNICEF and various NGOs such as "Thikana" and "Naripokkho". But sadly the photographs taken after treatment show that no operation can completely recover the body-parts that were burnt.

Kiron cannot stress enough on how important it is that the acid attackers are punished severely so that in the future men prevented from committing such inhuman actions. Therefore, he also witnessed some trials against the perpetrators with his camera. As with Shyamoly many cases against the girls' attackers are still under investigation. Nevertheless, some of the victims achieved at least judicial justice.

The attacker of acid victim Peyara Begum was convicted and sentenced to death by Gazipur court just a couple weeks ago. Kiron took Peyara's photograph as she was victoriously leaving the court. However, it must be said that the attacker appealed against the sentence.

Although Kiron uses his photographic gift to fight against acid attacks for several years now, he believes there is still a long way to go. Still he can be hopeful, as his photographs are seen by more and more people, awareness rises. Many victims know him meanwhile, some even have become his friends. "Only one out of ten victims I ask do not want their picture taken", says Kiron. "And often it is the victims themselves who ask to be photographed so that they can raise funds for treatment

and inform the public about this crime", he states. At the opening of the week-long exhibition on Friday evening some acid victims were



brave enough to come forward. "We are pleased that people think about us and are proud that they help us", said five girls holding each other closely. "We want the world to know about

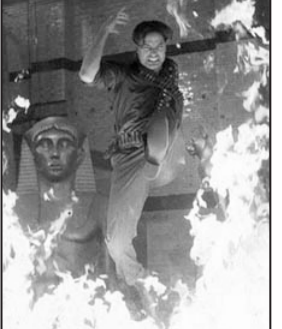
this crime and for this reason we don't mind to be photographed", they say. Among the victims who came to the opening of the exhibition there was also a boy. Boys also become targets of acid attacks, mainly in connection with land disputes. Manzu, who is in his twenties, said that he needed more treatment and that he is thankful for the help he gets. The victims stayed together like brothers and sisters. "The whole world must be aware about what happened to us", he says.

As Kiron's photographs remain on display, the scars and wounds inflicted on these young people go far beyond what is visible. He also documented the girls in the homes run by NGOs where they are provided with rehabilitation. They need help for reintegration into their families and society. Though the photographs are mostly very sad, a glimmer of hope is some-

times visible. One of the pictures for example shows Monira, an acid victim, who is helped by ASF to rebuild her life. She is shown dancing with her friend at a school in Tongi looking happily almost like any other girl.

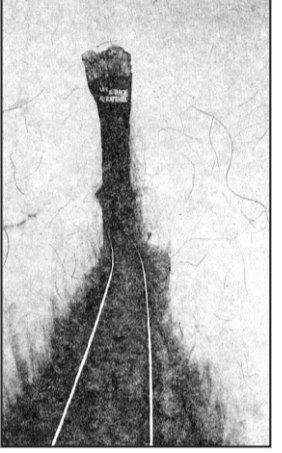
Kiron in 1999 won a first prize at the World Press Photo Contest at Amsterdam. Normally, the photographer who works for MAP Photo Agency, founded in 1993 by him an others, does not pursue a particular subject for more than a year. However, he promises: "I won't stop taking pictures of these victims until the attitude of society is changed." The exhibition lasts until next Friday. According to SAAV the money raised through ticket sales will be used to help the victim.

RECOMMENDATIONS



The Mummy Returns

This Hollywood blockbuster runs at the country's premier cinema hall Modhumita from today. The Mummy Returns is the sequel of The Mummy and have all the ingredients of its earlier one. With its spine-tingling adventures against breath-taking landscapes, The Mummy Returns is sure to thrill cine buffs. Hordes of canine bodied Anubis warriors-literally hounds from hell-bound across the Sahara in attack formation while carnivorous pygmy mummies ambush their pray in the jungles of the Nile.



Graphic prints show

Noted French artist Jean-Michel Alberola's solo exhibition of graphic prints is now being held at the French cultural centre, Alliance Francaise, at Dhanmandi.

Six Seasons

Shilparag Gallery at Dhanmandi (House#15, Road# 27 old) presents an exhibition on the theme six seasons. Leading artists of the country have captured in their canvases the rich variety of our seasons and their ambience. The month-long show has been extended till October 31 everyday from 11 am to 8pm.

TV GUIDE

BTV	3:20 Open University 3:45 Shukhi Poribar 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Animation Film: Totally tuned in 4:30 Aloy Hhubon Bhora 5:10 Shashatathya 5:25 National Television debate 6:00 Khabar 6:10 Taruchaya 6:35 Programme from Chittagong station 7:00 News Headlines 7:05 Mati O'manush 7:25 Barta Probaha 8:00 News in Bengali 8:30 Drama: Rong Badal 9:00 News Headlines 9:30 Musical programme 10:00 News in English 10:30 Abohomon Bangla 11:30 Khabar / The News 11:45 Closing	EKUSHEY TV	12:00 Ekushey Middy 12:30 Shoptaho Ghura Deshjure 1:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 1:30 Circus Circus 1:50 Classic Cartoons 2:10 Surer Prodeep 2:30 Drishti 3:00 Ekushey Headlines 3:05 Drama Serial: Othhi Apon 3:30 Kena Kata 4:00 Surer Prodeep 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:00 Circus Circus 5:30 Drishti 5:50 Aaker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey Headlines 6:05 Classic Cartoons 6:30 Deshjure 6:55 Ekushey Headlines 7:00 Chat Show : Ispahani Ek Cup Cha 7:30 Ekushey News 7:58 Ek Minute 8:00 Surprotique 8:30 Natok : Deschokrojan 9:30 Program of song 10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV 10:30 Ekushey Business 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News 11:30 Nirbachon Songlap 12:00 Ekushey Headlines	ATN	8:00 ATN Bangla News 8:25 Drama Serial : Uttarar 9:00 Musical Prog: Singer : Meherin 9:35 Package Drama : Bor Bachai 10:10 Boliwooder Khobor 10:50 Bengali Film : Vondo 12:00 ATN Bangla News 6:07 Anurodher Assor 6:45 ATN School Biltarka 7:00 ATN Bangla News Headlines 8:10 Film prog. : Cine Songlap 8:45 Musical prog. : Sretir Patai 10:00 ATN Bangla News 10:35 Drama : Bo-Jo-Ha-Ro-Lo 11:15 Boliwood Topten 11:30 ATN Bangla News 12:00 Bengali film : Daghne
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CHANNEL-i	6:25 Drama : Joar Vata 7:00 Drama (S) Durbin 7:35 Face to Face 8:00 Din Protidin 8:15 Jukti Tarkho 9:00 Nescafe Calssic Un Plugud.. 10:10 Addar Table 10:40 I Music 11:15 Drama : Joar Vata 12:00 Drama (S) Durbin 12:40 Face to Face 1:15 Jukti Tarkho 2:00 Nescafe Classic Un Plugud.. 3:00 Bangla Cinema : Bheadhop (Rubel/Sabrina)	PM	6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Addar Table 6:40 I Music 7:15 Channel I Sangbad 7:25 Drama : Joar Vata 8:00 Jibon Jekhane Jemon 8:30 I Tele Quize. (Ques-) 8:35 Ami Se Sangit 9:00 Channel I Sangbad 9:15 Business Show 9:30 I Tele Quize. (Result-) 10:00 Quize : 60 Sec. 10:01 Amar Chobbi 10:30 Channel I Sangbad 11:00 Bangla Cinema : Dhailotho (Ilias Khanchoni/Anju)	BBC WORLD	6:00 BBC News 6:30 Holiday 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Hospital 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Correspondent 9:00 BBC News 9:30 This Week 10:00 BBC News 10:30 India Tomorrow 11:00 BBC News 11:30 India Biz Report Profiles 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Wheels 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk India 2:00 BBC News 2:30 This Week 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Earth Story 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Click Online 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Hospital 6:00 BBC News 6:45 People's Century 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Top Gear 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Dateline London 9:00 BBC News
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9:30 Crusades 10:00 BBC News 10:30 India Tomorrow 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Earth Story 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Hospital 1:00 BBC News 1:30 People's Century 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/Asia Today 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today	HBO	6:30 Murphy's Romance 8:45 Sabrina Goes To Rome 10:30 Virtuosity 12:30 Philadelphia 3:00 Crocodile 5:00 I'll Do Anything 7:15 Escape From Alcatraz 9:30 Death Becomes Her 11:30 King Solomon's Mines 1:30 Philadelphia 4:00 The Third Miracle STAR GOLD 10:30 Geet Bahar 11:00 Geet Bahar 11:30 Beete Hue Din 12:00 Rahein Na Rahein Hum 1:00 Sunday Noon Show: Chunaoti (Feroz Khan, Neetu Singh, Dharmendra) 3:30 Aadmi (Dilip Kumar, Waheeda Rehman, Manoj Kumar) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Sunday Blockbusters Vardi (Sunny Deol, Jackie Shroff) 11:00 Beete Hue Din 11:30 Preet Na Jane Reet (Shammi Kapoor, B. Saroja Devi) 12:30 Preet Na Jane Reet (Contd...) 3:00 Geet Bahar 3:30 Singaar (Madhubala, Suraiya) 7:00 Vardi (Sunny Deol, Jacki Shroff) 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 First Wave 1:00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
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TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS	EKUSHEY: 7:00 p.m. Ispahani Ek Cup Cha. This week the talk show focuses on women in our film. Heroine Champa and noted director Subhas Dutt will feature in the show.	EKUSHEY: 8:30 p.m. Dichakrjan. Sona is an only son of Rawja Begum, a widow. Sona earns his living by fishing. A bicycle is his all time companion.	STAR WORLD: 10:30 p.m. The X-Files. The Sixth Extinction II: Amor Fati: Kriechgau confronts Scully and demands access to her research on the alien spaceship. Their conversation is interrupted by a phone call from Skinner, who informs Scully that Mulder has disappeared from the hospital. At the neuro unit, Skinner tells Scully that Mrs. Mulder authorised her son's release.
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PICK OF THE DAY	Death Becomes Her. On HBO at 9:30 p.m. Madeline Ashton is in show business. But lately, she's had little to show for it, except eyes bags and saddle-bags. The once Beverly Hills beauty watches as her beauty goes downhill, her waning career tagging along for the ride. Her enemy and former friend Helen Sharp, once a shy book editor, now transformed herself into a famous beauty author.
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CHANNEL [V]	7:30 [V] So Long Gone 8:30 [V] Best of Jumpstart 10:30 [V] Sunday Stack 11:30 [V] Colossal Chaos Countdown 12:00 PO [V] 1:00 [V] Sunday Stack 1:30 [V] Da Puttar Spl Diya Mirza 3:30 [V] Karaoke 4:00 [V] Sunday Stack 5:30 [V] Weekend Spl 6:30 [V] Sunday Stack 7:00 [V] Colossal Chaos Countdown 7:30 PO [V] 8:30 [V] Sunday Stack 9:30 [V] Weekend Spl 11:00 [V] Mainstage 2:00 Billboard US Countdown 4:00 [V] Hit Machine	ZEE TV	6:00 Yaadon Ke Pal 6:30 Aalaap 7:00 Yoga For Life 7:40 Jagran 7:50 Zee Gym 8:00 Guldasta 8:30 Nickelodeon on Zee 9:00 Nickelodeon on Zee 9:30 Jai Ganesha 10:30 National Challenge Antakshari 11:30 Baazi Kiski 12:30 Quiz Contest 1:00 Hip Hip Hurray
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1:30 Top Of Th Tops 2:00 Dollar Bahu 2:30 Zee & You 3:00 Ram Lakhani-Feature Film 6:00 Ek Nazar 6:30 Nickelodeon On Zee 7:00 Nickelodeon 7:30 Nelaam Ghar Bid Bid Boom 8:30 Razzmatazz 9:30 Sansaar 10:30 Rishthey The Love Stories 11:30 India S Most Wanted 12:00 Gudgudee 12:30 Mehndi Tere Naam Ki 1:00 Jai Ganesha 2:00 Deewane To Deewane Hai 2:30 Manzilein Apni Apni 3:00 Akalmand-Feature Film 5:30 News in Hindi ZEE CINEMA 6:00 Anpadh -Feature Film 9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 9:15 Weekend Cinema 9:45 Movie Fare 10:00 Maha Chor-Feature Film 1:00 Bollywood Top 5 1:15 Madhyantar 1:30 Dulhe Raja-Feature Film 5:00 Darpan 5:15 Top Of The Tops 5:45 Film Time 6:00 Raju Ban Gaya Gentleman-Feature Film 9:15 Bollywood Top 5 9:30 Making Of A Legend 10:00 Lal Badshah-Feature Film 1:45 Tara Rum 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 2:30 Aaj Ke Angaarey-Feature Film 5:30 Chehren ZEE MUSIC 6:00 Music Com 7:00 Aalaap 7:30 Tara Rum 8:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Artist Of The Fortnight 11:30 Music Box 12:00 Dial M 1:00 Hit Pe Hit 2:00 Jharokha 2:35 Blue 3:05 Tara Rum 4:00 Hit Pe Hit 5:00 Music Box 5:30 Hit Mix 6:00 Dil Se 6:30 Best of The Best 7:30 Hit Pe Hit 8:30 Fillers 9:00 Compact Disc 9:30 Music Box 10:00 Sizzlers

10:30 Jharokha 11:05 Compact Com 11:35 Phoren Maal 12:35 Shabbab 1:05 Music Box 1:30 Jharokha 2:00 Hit Pe Hit 3:00 Pyaar Mohabbat Etc 3:30 Tara Rum 4:30 Phoren Maal 5:30 Sizzlers ALPHA TV BANGLA 6:00 Safallya 6:30 Manabi 7:00 Arghya/Ananda Vilas 7:30 News 8:00 Surer Ei Dharana Dharay 8:30 Luiko Choori 9:00 News 9:05 Bharat Bhraman 9:30 Premier Phande 10:00 Samayer Sur 10:30 Soni Robi Mojar Chobi 11:30 Kashinath 12:00 Bideshini Bodhu 12:30 Tritiyo Purush 1:00 Ranna Gha 1:30 Goenda Paribar 2:00 Bagh Bandi Khela - Feature Film 5:00 Arghya/Anand Vilas 5:30 Looko Churi 6:00 News 6:30 Mojar Khei Kobitay 7:00 Ekuse Pal 7:30 Googly 8:00 Alpha Bangla Telechobi 9:45 Purobi 10:15 Talk Jhal Misti 10:45 Ek Palake 10:50 News 10:55 Ek Palake 11:00 Nijei Nayak 11:30 News 11:55 Ek Palake 12:00 Dai Baddha 12:55 Ek Palake 12:30 Bangla Feature Film 3:00 Sur Taal 3:30 Bharat Bhraman 4:00 Saregama 5:00 Prapto Baesko De Janya 5:30 Talk Jhal Misti HALLMARK 1:00 Roxanne: The Prize Pulitizer 3:00 Lost Child, The 5:00 Sesame Street 6:00 Frankie & Hazel 8:00 Ghowriter 8:30 Wishbone 9:00 Sesame Street 10:00 Johnny's Girl 12:00 Daisies in December 2:00 Frankie & Hazel 4:00 Our sons 6:00 Touched By An Angel 7:00 Getting Up And Going

ESPN	6:30 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02 8:30 ATP Tennis Show 9:00 Western Union World Football 9:30 Racehorse Digest 10:00 ECB International Cricket The Npower Test Series Manchester, England Pakistan @ England 2nd Test, Day 2, 1st Session 1:00 ECB International Cricket The Npower Test Series Manchester, England Pakistan @ England 2nd Test, Day 2, 2nd & 3rd Session 5:00 UEFA Champions League Highlights 2001/02 UEFA Champions League Weekly 6:00 Super Sunday Preview English Premier Football League 2001/02 6:50	2:00 Angel 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 8:00 The X Files 7:00 Star Trek The Next Generation 9:00 That '70s Shows 9:30 Star News Focus Asia 10:30 The X Files 11:30 Star Trek The Next Generation 12:30 Star News Focus Asia 1:30 The X Files 2:30 3rd Rock From The Sun 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 Fashion TV 5:30 Mork & Mindy STAR PLUS 6:00 Kuccha Papad Pucca Papad 6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Aatma 8:30 Dharam Aur Hum 9:30 Jap Tap Vrat 10:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati Junior 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 12:30 Chhupa Rustom 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaroon 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:30 Gharwali Uparwali 2:30 Mail Milap 2:40 Star Sunday Matinee Chhoti Bahu (Rajesh Khanna, Shamila	2:00 Meri Saheli 2:00 Kaahin Kissisi Roz 2:30 Jubilee Plus 3:00 Pal Chihin 3:30 Saahil 4:00 Sansar 4:30 I Love My India 5:00 Shanti 5:30 Sangeet Toppers STAR MOVIES 6:30 Billy Bathgate 8:15 Total Recall	10:00 Red Sonja 11:45 Lake Placid 1:30 Backroad Justice 3:15 Perez Family, The 5:00 Distinguished Gentleman, The 7:00 Entrapment 10:45 Total Recall 12:30 Rocky I 2:30 Turner And Hooch 4:15 Billy Bathgate
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SPORTS	2001 Formula One Qualifying Suzuka Circuit, Japan Japanese Grand Prix Qualifying 7:30 Sailing Saling World Gothenberg Offshore Race 8:00 WTA Tour Sparkassen Cup Leipzig, Germany Finals 9:30 NBA Inside Stuff 2001/02 NBA inside Stuff 10:00 IFA Shield Super Soccer Calcutta Style The IFA Shield 10:30 Race day Suzuka Circuit, Japan Japanese Grand Prix 11:14 Formula One 2001 Formula one World Championships Suzuka Circuit, Japan Japanese Grand Prix 1:30 Chequered Flag Chequered Flag: Formula one Suzuka Circuit, Japan Japanese Grand Prix 2:00 South Africa Cricket South Africa Tri Series Kimberly, South Africa
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