

DHAKA
TODAY

Asiatic Society seminar

The inaugural session of the seminar on 'Dialogue Among Civilizations' organised by the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh in collaboration with the Iranian Cultural Centre will be held with President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: BIAM auditorium, 63, New Eskaton. Time: 9.30am.

Award giving ceremony

Medical College for Women and Hospital will hold an award giving ceremony for its meritorious students with President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: College auditorium. Time: 11.00am.

National conference

The 4th National Conference of Family Planning Government Doctors Association will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Khandaker Mosharrif Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Engineers' Institution auditorium. Time: 9.00am.

BISS seminar

A national seminar on 'SAARC: Challenges and the Way Ahead' organised by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) will be held with Foreign Minister Mosharraf Khan as chief guest. Venue: BISS auditorium. Time: 10.00am.

Certificate award ceremony

A certificate award ceremony for the trainees of the first in-country training course on CNG conversion and maintenance technology organised under UNDP project will be held. Venue: CNG Workshop, Joarsahar. Time: 4.30pm.

'Golden Bear' films

Zahr Raihan Film Society will screen two Best Film Award (Golden Bear) winning films from Berlin Film Festival - 'The People vs. Larry Flynt' (1997) by Milos Forman and 'Central Station' (1998) by Walter Salles. Venue: Goethe-Institute Dhaka, Road No. 9, Dhannondi. Time: 5.00pm and 7.00pm respectively.

Environment rally

The second environment rally organised by Barogram Unnayan Sangha in collaboration with the Bangladesh

Paribesh Andolan and the Hunger project will be held with Environment and Forest Minister Shahjahan Siraj as chief guest. Venue: Trimohini, Khilgaon.

Painting exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of a 12-day painting exhibition of Maruf Ahmed will be held. Venue: Shilpgram Art Gallery, Dhannondi. Time: 4.00pm. The exhibition will remain open from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Discussion meeting

A discussion meeting on 'Drug Free Bangladesh' organised by a socio-cultural organisation Jhalak will be held with Law and Parliament Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Osmani Memorial Auditorium. Time: 6.00pm.

Discussion on Bhasani

Anannya Sangnitik Goshthi will hold a discussion meeting in memory of late Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani and a cultural function. It will also distribute Bhasani Memorial Medal among the recipients for their outstanding contribution to different fields. Venue: Hotel Sunderban. Time: 6.00pm.

General meeting

The General meeting and Election of Bangladesh Women Officers Association will be held. Venue: Social Welfare Directorate Auditorium, Agargaon. Time: 2.30pm.

National conference

The 7th National Conference of Bangladesh Chhatra Federation will begin. Venue: Battala, Dhaka University. Time: 10.00am.

Roundtable

Liberty Movement will hold a roundtable dialogue across the generation gap on 'War on Terror and the South Asian Tangle'. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium. Time: 10.00am.

DHAKA
TOMORROW

Food festival

Midas Mini Mart will organise a Food Festival of delicious food and snacks. Venue: H-15A, Gulshan Avenue (Next to Wonderland). Time: From 10.00am to 10.00pm.

Obituary



Nuruddin Ahmed, a businessman, academician, politician and social worker, died at his residence in the city on Tuesday at the age of 79, says a press release.

He is survived by a son and two daughters.

Hailing from Pirojpur, Nuruddin served the Dhaka College and Dhaka University as a teacher.

A close associate of Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardy, he also led different student organisations during his student life. He was also elected an MP in the 1954 election.

His quikhwani will be held at his Dhannondi residence after Asr prayers tomorrow. Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the programme.

Ahsanullah

BSS, Dhaka

Ahsanullah, Additional Chief Engineer of Water Development Board (WDB), Barisal Zone, died of cardiac arrest at the BIRDH Hospital yesterday. He was 56.

The Namaj-e-Janaza of Ahsanullah was held at the Mosque adjacent to the Islamia Eye Hospital at Farmgate, family sources said.

He was buried at Agargaon Taltala Graveyard.

The Quikhwani of Ahsanullah will be held at his Mirpur residence tomorrow after Asr prayers.

Fahima Khatun



Fahima Khatun, wife of late Abdul Latif, a former deputy secretary, died of prolonged illness at the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in Dhaka yesterday morning at the age of 76.

She was the mother-in-law of former PDB chairman Brig. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Malek and former chief engineer of Bangladesh Railway Kamal Uddin Ahmed.

She left behind four sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn her death.

The namaj-e-janaza of late Fahima Khatun was held at CMH mosque premises after Asr prayers.

She will be buried at the family graveyard at village Chinair of Brahmanbaria today.

All necessary formalities, including the feasibility study, have been completed to implement the gigantic project with assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB), official sources said.

The government has decided to construct the 126.22-km Dhaka-Cox's Bazar-Gungdum via Ramu rail line soon, keeping the Trans Asian Railway as well as its

election commitment to the people of Chittagong in mind.

Canaral, a Canadian railway firm, started the study in Jan 2001 and completed it in eight months at a cost of Tk 2.86 crore. It recommended construction of the meter-gauge railroad saying that it would be profitable.

An amount of Tk 1.60 crore will go on land acquisition and rehabilitation of the affected people.

According to the study report, a 96-km rail line from Dohazari to Cox's Bazar would cost 19.03 lakh US dollars while Ramu-Gungdum rail line 4.24 crore US dollars.

The project envisages that upon its completion some 24.24 lakh passengers, including 10.48 lakh tourists from home and abroad, will travel by trains on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar route every year in addition to carrying 8.69 lakh mt of goods.

The rail project is also expected to accelerate the pace of industrialisation by attracting the private entrepreneurs to setup cement factories and paper and textiles mills in the region, which will help raise the volume of goods transportation to nearly about 35 lakh mt a year.

What prompted the government to move fast for implementing the project is the Trans Asian Railway that would go through Iran and Turkey to connect Europe and the Far East nations with this subcontinent.

The 3-day National Rabindra Sangeet Conference will begin here on March 8.

The decision was taken at a meeting of cross section of people held at Chandpur Sangeet Niketan on February 3.

Rabindra Sangit Specialist Wahidul Haque presided over the meeting. About 400 singers on Rabindra Sangeet from all over the country are expected to participate in the conference. The conference will be held at the hall room of BADC Complex, Chandpur.

Khairul Kabir's anniversary of death today

Today is the fifth death anniversary of Khairul Kabir, a journalist, banker and politician, says a press release.

He died of old-age ailments in Singapore on February 7, 1997.

The founder-editor of the Sangbad, Kabir was the founder-life member of the Jatiya Press Club.

Khairul Kabir was one of the architects of the historic 6-point programme which was the basis of the demand for autonomy for then East Pakistan and subsequently the Liberation War.

He was a close associate of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Taffazzal Hossain Manik Miah, Khan Abdul Sabur Khan, Kazi Anwarul Haq, Dr Mahmud Hossain and National Professor Abdur Razzak.

In 1955, he was selected by the United States Government for the leadership programme and successfully completed it.

In the field of banking Kabir was the first chairman and managing director of the Janata Bank and a Fellow of the American Bankers' Association.

Khairul Kabir was also a sponsor director of Pubali Jute Mills Ltd, East Pakistan Co-operative Insurance society and the United Insurance Co Ltd.

Kabir left an indelible impression in the field of art and culture. He was one of the founders of then Pakistan Art Council, now known as Shilpakala Academy. He set up the first Colour Cine Film Laboratory in the country when he was the first Managing Director of the Film Development Corporation.

In the field of sports, Kabir was the president of the Pakistan Basketball Federation, Member of the Football Federation, Cricket Control Board and was also Member of the Construction Committee of the Dhaka Stadium. He was also the founder member of the East Pakistan Flying Club and the Dhaka University Officers' Club.

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The 37th death anniversary of eminent artist and writer Ruby Rahman will be observed today, says a press release.

An expert in Classical Chinese paintings, Ruby was killed in a car accident on this day in 1965 at the border of Lebanon and Syria. Her husband late M. Rahman, a diplomat, was posted in Damascus at that time.

Ten of her paintings are preserved at the National Museum.

Author of "Chinese Fairy Tales" and "Bichitrata", Ruby was honoured by Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) in 2000.

On the occasion of her death anniversary, a Qurankhwan and milad mahfil will be held at the High Court Mazar.

A milad mahfil has been organised at his ancestral home in Qurankhwan to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

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