

RECOMMENDATIONS

Quamrul-er Ramonira

May 17-31
Entitled 'Quamrul-er Ramonira', a 15-day long painting exhibition by artist Quamrul Hassan is being held at the Shilpangan gallery in the city.

Calligraphy

May 17 - June 04
A calligraphy exhibition with the works of 24 renowned artists goes on at the lobby of National Museum in the city.

Twelve young artists' show

May 26 - June 4
A contemporary painting exhibition of 12 young artists of Bangladesh is on at the gallery of Russian Cultural center in the city.

Bangla songs of 21st century

May 31
Various cultural events and discussions will take place at the main auditorium of National Museum in the city from 3 p.m. onwards, in commemoration of the completion of the first decade of Nibedan, an organisation of traditional Bangla music.

Female artists' group show

May 24 - June 02
A group art exhibition of 25 female artists of the country is on at Gallery Chitral in the city.

Solo photography exhibition

June 1 - 3
Photographer Pranab Roy holds a solo of his works on nature at Pouro Pathagar in Narayanganj.

Made in Australia

June 1-7
Shahabuddin Mohammad, an artist of the country, presently based in Australia, holds his second solo exhibition at Zainul Gallery of Fine Arts Institute in the city.

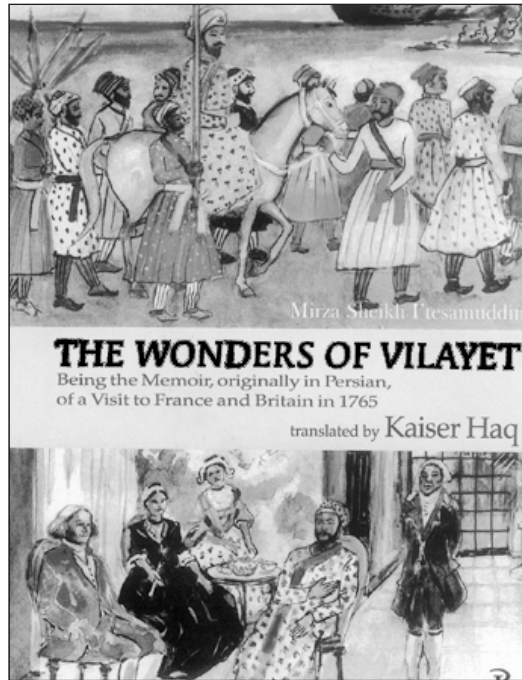
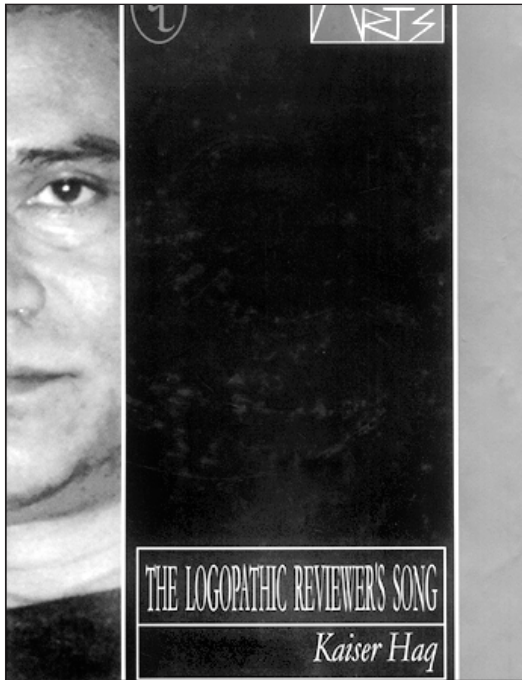
Book launching

Friday double bill

Literary enthusiasts of the city toast Kaiser Haq's two new books on Friday last

SAIFUL ISLAM

It was a rare event: very few programmes witness the presence of both of them together the giant of contemporary Bangla poetry poet Shamsur Rahman and poet Kaiser Haq, a major voice in contemporary post-colonial literary scene.



The Logopathic Reviewer's Song (a collection of poems jointly published by Aark Arts and UPL) by Kaiser has already attracted interest as it veers on situations ironically bizarre, things unpleasantly interesting, concepts and perspectives ridiculously exaggerated and grossly satirized.

Kaiser Haq is the first Bangladeshi who established himself as a new poet to watch out for in the international literary scene with two collections of poetry, Starting Lines (1978) and A Little Ado (1978).

Metropolitan sensibility is there in another way, in the presentation of the situations and events, in tearing down the guise and illuminating the covered and folded, and doing this what comes to the surface is the poet's resignation. Syed Manzoorul Islam justifies it in this way, 'the futility of writing verse in these days, poetry cannot stop war, it falls flat in this material world'.

seems to be a patchwork of 'distortion, abnormality and macabre'. M Harunur Rashid expresses his denial of the presence of the obscene in the book whereas Professor Manzoorul Islam sees this openness and unabashed expression as the poet's signature and considers it to be a germ of the metropolitan sensibility.

Professor Niaz Zaman, also, illustrates the fictional glow attached to the work of translation. To her the book is a 'miracle' in many ways, the event is historically important to Easterners. The miracle is also embedded in the texture of the travogue featuring the humor lying beneath the black man's confession of his strong desire to the blondes and bolds of the West. Unlike many of the central figure of the memoir,

poet, but the new collection did not succumb to that old identity, to poet Shamsur Rahman it is a departure and particularly the 'garo poems are excellent'.

Lauching two books belonging to two different kinds of genres have something to do with the writer, to Professor Manzoorul Islam they represent two different personalities of the author, and 'The Wonders of Vilayet' is 'fictionalized'. The frank and vivid portrayal of the visit of Mirza Sheikh I'tesamuddin to France and Britain in 1765, which reads like an original work, is presented in English with an added luster of humor peculiar to poet Kaiser. The Mirza finds his head near to the 'armpit' of a very tall man, the giant.

Dr. Niaz Zaman also admires 'the democracy', and freeness so much coveted by the halal eater Mirza who slits his chickens himself. Freeness of the men and women in the eighteenth century England, they are loitering in parks, together. Mirza also admires the education system, all order 'men and women', can read, and write.

Mirza, turns down the allurements of the aliens and returns. And he is not the only man who had been looking at the West, dumbfounded, the Britons look at him, his dress, and he becomes an object of admiration. For the post-colonial telling the book had been included in the post-colonial course of the Warwick University. The man from the East is 'equal to the Westerners', says Professor Niaz Zaman, agreeing to Professor Manzoorul Islam.

After the stimulating comments on the books the poet and translator, Kaiser Haq, read three beautiful poems -- 'Strange Pleasures', 'Itchy Hand' and 'Bananas: A Live Interview'-- form The Logopathic Reviewer's Song and a captivating extract from The Wonders of Vilayet.

Beauty pageant

Russian belle wins Miss Universe 2002

Russian law student Oxana Fedorova grabs the coveted crown

AFP, San Juan

THE Miss Universe crown went to Russia late Wednesday at a star-studded ceremony here, whose organisers appeared to be determined to steer clear of controversy.

The dark-haired Oxana Fedorova, wearing a flowing white gown, smiled and blew kisses to the crowd as she strutted across the stage on her victory walk.

She inherits the crown from Denise Quinones of Puerto Rico, who won the pageant last year.

The first runner-up was 22-year-old Justine Pasek of Panama while 19-year-old Ling Zhuo of China finished third.

Vanessa Carreira, 22, of South Africa and Cynthia Lander Zamora, 19, of Venezuela took respectively fourth and fifth places.

Twenty-four-year-old Fedorova, who also won the crucial swimsuit competition, may have been inadvertently helped by her interpreter, who mistranslated her answer to the final question "What makes you blush?"

As translated, her answer was, "When I say wrong things."

A more accurate translation, however, would be: "When I tell lies."

Fedorova, who hails from Saint Petersburg, the home town of Russian President Vladimir Putin, also said she had a very happy childhood and would not want to erase anything from her life.

Besides the crown, she wins 250,000 dollars, a two-year scholarship to the School for Film and Television in New York and as many advertising contracts as she can get.

Preparations for this year's contest were marked by fears it could be tinged by international politics and ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and between



PHOTO: AFP

Wearing the new Mikimoto crown, 24-year-old Oxana Fedorova, of Russia, poses in the Roberto Clemente Coliseum shortly after being named Miss Universe 2002 at the end of the LIVE CBS Television Network broadcast of the 51st annual Miss Universe competition in San Juan, Puerto Rico on Thursday. The first Miss Russia to win the title of Miss Universe, Fedorova, a post-graduate student and lecturer, will spend her year travelling and promoting HIV/AIDS awareness.

India and Pakistan.

Most Arab nations practically boycotted the pageant, preferring not to compete against Miss Israel -- Defence Force soldier Yamit Har-Noy.

Adding to the controversy, Har-Noy wore at last week's national costume show a gown incorporating the Israeli flag and a map of the Jewish state that included the

West Bank and all of Jerusalem.

Miss Egypt Sally Shaheen's dress included the word "peace" printed in dozens of languages.

Miss India was pushed by reporters to take a position on the use of nuclear weapons.

But in the end none of the contestants, who could spark controversy, made it into the top five.

TV GUIDE

Table with TV program listings for BT, ATN BANGLA, BBC WORLD, and EKUSHEY TV, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for HBO and STAR GOLD, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS and STAR GOLD, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.

Table with TV program listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, and STAR PLUS, including times and program titles.