

RECOMMENDATIONS

Fair
January 17-February 5
Bangladesh Folk Art & Crafts Foundation holds the 'Folk Art Fair and Folk Festival 2003' at its premises at Sonargaon. The fair continues up to February 5.

Exhibition
January 25-February 5
Art Quest inaugurates an art exhibition from January 25 at the National Museum Gallery at 11 a.m. Containing the art works of a number of eminent artist of the country, the exhibition will run till February 5 daily from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Thursday closed; Friday 3.30 to 7.30 p.m.).

Music
January 27
Alliance Francaise de Dacca organises an evening of classical music by Kalpana Bhattacharya. The programme starts at 7 p.m. at the Alliance Francaise Auditorium.

Exhibition
January 21 -February 10
Renowned German photographer Andreas Herzau recently conducted a workshop titled 'Foregners in Bangladesh last year'. The outcome of the workshop—a collection of photographs by fifteen photographers and students is on display at the Goethe Institut Dhaka. The exhibition will continue till February 21 everyday from 2 pm to 8 pm, except weekends and holidays.

Exhibition
January 26 -February 1
The third Inter University Photography Exhibition 2003 is going to start on January 26 at the Drik Gallery. Organised by North South University Photography Club, the inauguration of the exhibition will take place at 11 a.m., where the Information Minister Tarique Islam will be present as the Chief Guest. On February 1, at the closing ceremony of the exhibition, prizes will be given away to the participants. The proceeds from the exhibition will be donated to the Acid Victim Funds of the daily Prothom Alo.

Fashion
January 27
Dhaka International Leather Fashion Show 2003 takes place at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel Poolside at 9 p.m. Followed by a dance show, the event is organised by Bangladesh Finished Leather, Leather Goods and Footwear Exporters' Association.

Music

When music enriches our culture

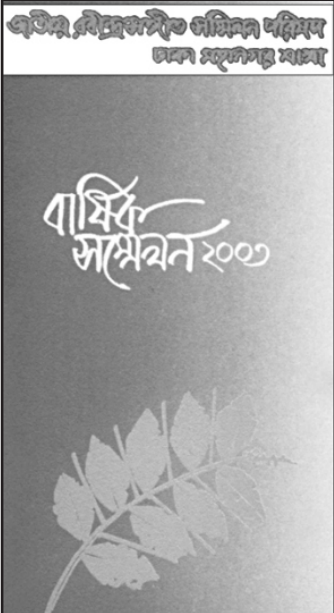
A conference of Tagore songs and more

HARUN UR RASHID

OUR Bangali cultural nationality is remarkably different from that of the rest of the world in two ways: first, we have a glorious history behind our language, and then, we have a vast treasure of music. According to renowned music scholar Wahidul Haque, language and music are the two essential elements that have always greatly influenced the formation of cultures the world over. In fact, he said, he had not found any sociological and anthropological documents that there was any time when people did not have language or music. But unfortunate for our culturally enriched country, we are at present going through a time of cultural decadence. Wahidul Haque was speaking at the Annual Conference 2003 of the Dhaka Metropolitan Branch of National Rabindrasangeet Conference Council (NRCC), held recently at the Showkat Osman Auditorium of Public Library.

Dhaka Metropolitan Branch of the NRCC organised the conference to mark the end of tenure of its organising committee elected for the term 2001-2003. The conference also declared the new committee for 2003-2005 term. Presided over by AFM Saifuddin, President of the outgoing committee, at the conference were also present Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and Wahidul Haque. Partho Sharothi Sikdar, General Secretary of the 2001-2003 committee, presented a report of the activities of the branch in the last two years.

National Rabindrasangeet Conference Council is one of the very few organisations—not to speak of musical organisations alone—which has been successfully working for more than two decades. So far, the council has organised twenty-one annual conferences. Moreover, during this period, the council has spread its activities over most parts of the country by forming forty-four branches at district levels. Some branches have also formed,



like the Moulvi Bazaar and Shetabganj branches.

Although the council has formed centering *Rabindrasangeet*, from the very beginning, it has also laid importance on other kinds of music of the country. Especially, at many branches students are also taught *Nazrulgeeti* by expert teachers. And to pick out talented singers, the council arranges a central *Rabindrasangeet* competition every two year, where winners at the district level competitions contest. This competition has already marked significant difference in various aspects from other traditional musical contests. Competitors have to sing one song each from a council-selected list of five songs. They also have to recite the songs and answer relevant queries by the judges besides performing them.

Moreover, each participant has to prepare five other songs of their own choice, from which he/she has to perform one chosen by the judges. In addition to these, there are optional extra five marks for performing the song in accompani-

ment with the *taanpura* alone, which is regarded as the main interest in music on the part of the competitor. The council appoints a panel of a minimum of twenty-four judges at the preliminary level of the central competition, while at least six judges are responsible for evaluating in the final round.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Branch of the NRCC organizes a good number of workshops, performances and regular and special events. Among the regular events that the branch has organised during last two years, were celebrations of the rainy season, spring and autumn, Independence Day, International Mother Language Day, and training workshops on *Rabindrasangeet*. It also organised performances of *Nazrulgeeti*, folk songs and classical music. Among the special events were performances of Bangla songs of olden days, songs of the Rabindranath Tagore, Dwijendralal, Atul Prasad and Rajani Kanta.

Again, this year, the branch held a marvellous performance combining music of the east and the west. Professor Frank Kunz of the Arizona State University, USA, played western classical music on the guitar while Richard Adams accompanied him on the viola. Eastern music was presented by the artists of the council.

The recent *Rabindrasangeet* competition of the council at Aroni School in Dhanmondi. At the annual conference of 18th January, the winners in two categories in three grades of that competition were awarded by the chief guest Dr. Zafar Iqbal. After the prize-giving ceremony the first graders performed *Rabindrasangeet*. A few invited artists also rendered songs of Rabindranath Tagore. Listening to the songs performed by the young singers was a pleasing experience. No doubt the council is training up talented singers. It can be expected that soon that the country will regain its glorious culture, which is perhaps essentially musical in nature.

Event

International gathering at Kolkata Trade Fair

Bangladeshi cultural team helps improve trade links

RUMMAN UDDIN AHAMED

THE 16th international trade fair was held at Kolkata recently. One of the participating countries at the fair was Bangladesh. The chief guest was the Trade Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Choudhury, while the fair was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of West Bengal Buddhadev Bhattacharya. On this

occasion the Bengal National Chamber and the Commerce Industries at a local hotel. In the banquet a laudable cultural programme was presented with songs and dance.

Later on, in the large fair pavilion the national level artistes performed in a cultural programme of three hours. The programme enriched the cultural and trade relation of both the Bengals. The dances and songs



Bangladeshi cultural delegation at the Kolkata Trade Fair

occasion the Bangladeshi cultural team consisting of 25 members under the leadership of national award winner, Shahidul Haque Khan, participated in the fair.

The Bangladeshi team consisted of the vocal artistes Subir Nandi, Farida Parvin, Niaz Mohammad Chowdhury, Rezwana Chowdhury Bonnya, Lina Taposhi, Dr. Nashid Kamal, and Abu Bakar Siddique. The dance artists were Munmun Ahmed, Tabassum Ahmed, Nasrin Akter Iva, Shirin Khan Shudha, Maria Israt Jahan, Rumana Hayder, Tanis Islam, Aatur Rahman Mohon and Shubrata Kumar Das. Meanwhile, the Bangladeshi instrumentalists were Gazi Abdul Hakim, Shekh Jalal Uddin, Bishwanath Sorkar Bishu, Anwar Sadat Robin, Toriqul Islam Torique, Hanif Ahmed, Parul Banik Chhowa and Azad Rahman Shakil. The cultural team reached Kolkata recently by air and road.

In honour of the Trade Minister, trade representatives and the cultural team, a banquet was organ-

ised by the Bengal National Chamber and the Commerce Industries at a local hotel. In the banquet a laudable cultural programme was presented with songs and dance.

Later on, in the large fair pavilion the national level artistes performed in a cultural programme of three hours. The programme enriched the cultural and trade relation of both the Bengals. The dances and songs

of Farida Parvin, Rezwana Chowdhury Bonnya, Subir Nandi, Niaz Mohammed Chowdhury, Lina Taposhi, Abu Bakar Siddique and Munmun Ahmed held the audience spellbound.

Next, a programme at Salt Lake's Swabhumi pavilion by the Bangladeshi artistes captivated the audience for three hours. At the end of the programme, Export Development Bureau's Vice Chairman said that they went there with Bangladeshi culture and the love of Bangladeshi people which will gradually tighten the bond of the two countries in cultural and trade affairs. Four days long Bangladeshi cultural programme has bemused the audience of Kolkata so much that they requested for more programmes in the near future. The people at the government level expressed the hope that the cultural programmes will further strengthen the cultural bridge as well as improve the trade relations.

Venture

JPR flies high

Organizing events

CULTURE DESK

EVENTS-management has been mostly hotel-based in our country. And those in very high profile are reasonably rare. Events like fashion shows, trade shows, annual general meetings, concerts and the likes are generally held at a few luxurious three-star or five-star hotels. And in some cases the management responsibility of these ceremonies entirely goes to the concerned hotel authorities. There are, however, companies—a very insignificant number of them—who sometimes hold such programmes. But the standard seldom attains the international level.

Standing against such a backdrop, JETSETPR has recently ushered in an unprecedented trend of events-management in the country. Having hosted its first event in July 2001, JETSETPR—or JPR, in short—has almost redefined and set new standards to entertainment business.

Utilising the latest technology of the 'digital era', JPR provides state-of-the-art solutions to its clients in forms starting from graphic work, multimedia presentations to media coverage for productions. Besides, JPR's elitist strategy of the promotional business often involves

participation of celebrities like beauty-pageant winners, models and look-alikes. Recently, at the New Year's eve party at a local hotel, JPR introduced a famous Michael Jackson impersonator.

Headed by Mishal Karim, the company truly reflects its creator's tastes and preferences. Karim, the CEO, has a bright UK-based educational background in economics and finance. He entered the entertainment business at an early age. At only 19 he became one of leading promoters in London running two successful club nights: Friday nights at ICENI, and Tuesday nights at C a f é de Paris. Among his early successful events were also the Karl Kani fashion show and the record launching ceremony of the band Bad Boy. At 21 Karim found his place in a two-page spread in a leading fashion magazine for women, *Company*. A UK-based television channel also aired a documentary, named *Flash*, on young entrepreneurs, among whom Karim was one.

By February 2003 JPR is hopeful to launch its website www.jetsetpr.com so that its clients may avail online registration facility. Already having two representative offices in London and India, JPR also hopes to expand its network to Dubai and Oman.



Mishal with Yukta Mukhee

TV GUIDE

BTV	
12.15	Shubhechha Nin
12.30	Ajker Shangbadpatro
12.40	Health Bulletin
01.00	Khabar
01.05	Priyo Shilpi Priyo Gaan
02.00	News Headlines
02.05	Cartoon Show
02.30	Open University
03.00	Khabar
03.05	Amar Desh
03.30	Shukhi Paribar
04.00	News Headlines
04.05	SSC Students' Programme: Lekhapora Swapner Deshey Khabar
04.30	Swapner Deshey Khabar
05.00	School Debate Competition
05.45	Children's News
06.00	Khabar-Desh janopad
06.10	Dolon-champa
06.30	Chhandey Anandey
07.00	English News Headlines
07.05	Share Bazaar & Weather Bulletin
07.10	Prothom Bangladesh Drama Serial
07.30	Bangla Shangbad of 8'o clock
07.30	Shamokaleen Naatok
08.30	Drama Serial: English News at 10'o clock
10.00	News Report Shamokaleen Aurthoneeti
10.25	Rangdhonu Anandoloke
10.30	Shangbad/ News Headlines
CHANNEL-i	
07.00	amProthom Shur
09.30	Music Plus
10.50	Jeebon Jekhaney Jemon
11.25	Mega Serial: Grihagalpo
12.30	Drama Serial: Panthojan-er Shokha
02.00	Bangla Feature Film: Hattya
05.35	Janopad-er Khabar
05.45	Alokito Bangladesh
06.10	Music Plus
06.50	Drama Serial: Bashor Ghar
07.15	Channel-i News
07.45	Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Questions)
07.55	Close Up Juke Box
08.25	Drama Serial: Amader Groom Amader Shafeli
09.00	Channel-i News
09.31	Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Answers)
10.00	Drama Serial: Dola
10.25	Channel-i Mobile Quiz 2525

ATN BANGLA	
5:30	"Islamic Prog
8:00	ATN Bangla News
8:25	New Singer competition prog: Nabin Boran
9:35	Musical prog: Surer Madure
10:10	Talk Show: Alokat
12:00	ATN Bangla News
2:05	Film Song's prog: Surchobi
2:30	ATN Bangla News Headlines
2:45	Bengali feature film: Lat Saheber Meya
5:40	The Daily Newspaper
	Discussing Prog: Ajker Sangbadpotro
5:50	Islamic prog: Islame Sawal O Jabab
6:25	Children Prog: ATN Bangla Saluk Gold Medel
7:00	ATN Bangla News Evening News
8:00	Musical Prog: Nemontnon
8:35	Band Musical Prog: Pop Dhamaka
9:00	ATN Bangla News
9:15	Musical prog: Music Time
10:30	Drama serial: Brether Balobasa
11:00	ATN Bangla News
12:00	Bengali feature film: Jute
HBO	
7:00	For Love Of The Game
9:45	Flashback
12:00	Crocodile
2:00	Flashdance
4:00	A Night At The Roxbury
5:45	The Wood
7:45	Practical Magic
10:00	The Generals' Daughter
12:15	Rosemary's Baby
3:00	Dying To Live
4:45	A Night at The Roxbury
AXN	
6:30	The Amazing Race
8:30	No Boundaries
9:30	Seven Days

10:30	Earth Final Conflict
11:30	CSI
12:30	Who Dears Wins
1:30	Seven Days
2:30	The Amazing Race
4:30	Rescue/High Action Adrenalin
5:30	Who Dears Wins
6:30	CSI
7:30	No Boundaries
8:30	Prime Zone Alias X Zonefear
9:30	Factor
10:30	The Amazing Race
12:30	The Hunger
1:30	AXN Late Nights
	Queen of Swords
STAR MOVIES	
7:00	Double Whammy
8:45	The Ticket
9:15	Deceived
11:00	The Third Wheel
12:30	Power Elite
2:15	Ladybugs
3:45	Benny and Joon
5:30	Shoot
7:00	A Fish Called Wanda
8:45	Coupe De Ville
10:00	Incognito
12:15	Deceived
2:00	Fart The Movie
3:30	Power Elite Stop! Or My Mom Will Shoot
6:45	The Ticket
SONY	
6:00	Music Mantra
6:30	Just Mohabbat
7:00	Dil Ka Dwar Khol
7:30	Amrit Varsha
8:00	Sant Asaram Vani
8:30	Charbusters
9:00	Good Morning Disney
10:00	Music Mantra
10:30	Bourmvita Quiz Contest
11:00	Shree Ganesh
12:00	Hum Sab Ek Hain
12:30	Kya Haadsa Kya Haqeeqat
1:30	Kabhi Biwi Kabhi Jasoos
2:30	Boogie Woogie
3:00	Om Namay Shivay
4:00	Just Mohabbat
4:30	Chhoti Si Asha
5:00	CATS
5:30	Shri Krishna
6:30	Disney Hour

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 10.00 p.m. The General's Daughter. The naked corpse of Captain Elisabeth Campbell, daughter of Lieutenant General 'Fighting Joe' Campbell, is found staked out on the urban warfare range of Fort MacCallum. Army CID detectives and ex-lovers Paul Brenner and Sara Sunhill are called in to investigate, and find themselves wrapped up in a maelstrom of sexual impropriety and misguided face-saving.



STAR MOVIES: 8.45 p.m. Coupe de Ville. Three brothers—a corporal, a troublemaker and a dreamer—meet for the first time in five years. They have met to drive home a car they have bought for their mother's 50th birthday. During the long ride home they

PICK OF THE DAY



Rosemary's Baby
On HBO at 12.15 p.m.
Rosemary and her new husband, Guy, move into a new apartment in New York, befriending an elderly couple who live near by. But when another girl in the block commits suicide, Rosemary starts getting

8:00	Music Mantra	20:00	[V] Back To Back
8:30	Kya Haadsa Kya Haqeeqat	20:30	[V] Zabardast Hits
9:00	Devi	21:00	[V] Jungli Jukebox
10:00	Heena	21:30	[V] Fdfs
10:30	CID	22:00	[V] Hit Machine
11:00	Meri Biwi Wonderful	22:30	Late Night [V]
11:30	Bhanwar	23:00	[V] Zabardast Hits
12:00	Chhoti Si Asha	23:30	[V] Back To Back
CHANNEL [V]		STAR GOLD	
(Thirty minutes plus)		(Thirty minutes plus)	
00:00	[V] Hit Machine	2:30	Hit Filmein Hit
1:00	[V] Hit Machine		Sangeet
3:30	[V] Hit Machine	3:00	Sg0530n
7:00	[V] Hit Machine	3:30	Sg0530n
7:30	[V] Back To Back	6:30	Geet Bahar
8:00	[V] Jumpstart	7:00	Sg0930n
9:00	[V] Hit Machine	10:25	Kuch Hit Kuch
9:30	[V] Back To Back	10:30	Hit Filmein Hit
10:00	[V] Hit Machine		Sangeet
10:30	[V] Back To Back	11:00	Sg1330n
11:00	[V] Hit Machine	13:55	Kuch Hit Kuch
11:30	[V] Zabardast Hits	14:00	Geet Bahar
12:00	[V] Jungli Jukebox	14:30	Hit Filmein Hit
12:30	[V] Fdfs		Sangeet
13:00	[V] Hit Machine	14:55	Kuch Hit Kuch
13:30	[V] Zabardast Hits	15:00	Superhit
14:00	[V] Back To Back	15:00	Sg1730n
14:30	[V] Zabardast Hits	18:25	Kuch Hit Kuch
15:00	[V] Back To Back		Superhit
15:30	[V] Hit Machine	18:30	Hit Filmein Hit
16:00	[V] Hotline		Sangeet
17:00	Vitop5@5	19:00	Monday Gold
17:30	[V]Ideo War		Kuch Hit Kuch
17:45	[V] Hit Machine	22:25	Superhit
18:00	Very V		Kuch Yaadein
19:00	Ctrl [V]	22:30	Kuch Baatein
19:30	[V] Zabardast Hits	23:00	Hit Filmein Hit

	Sangeet		Episode # 92
23:30	Sg0200	7:00	Demon
HALLMARK			Johnson County
01:00	Lavryle Spencer's Home Song		War - Part # 1
03:00	The Inspectors 2	9:00	Early Edition - Season Iii - Up, Chuck
05:00	Journey		Star Trek: Voyager - Episode # 95 Night
07:00	Scholastic Clifford - Welcome To The Dog-house/Promises,Pro mise	11:00	Johnson County War - Part # 1
07:3	Caillou - Episode # 5		
08:00	Sesame Street - Episode # 117		
09:0	Off Season		
11:00	The Color Of Courage		
1:00	Touched By An Angel Vii (25 X 1hr) - Episode # 21 (20) Band Of Angels		
2:00	Live Through This - Episode # 4		
3:00	Scholastic Clifford - Welcome To The Dog-house/Promises,Pro mise		
3:30	Caillou - Episode # 5		
4:00	Flipper (66 Episodes X 1hr) - Mermaid Island		
5:00	Sesame Street - Episode # 117		
6:00	Star Trek: Voyager -		

14:00	Wildlife S3		Sangeet
15:00	Built For The Kill		Small Wonder
	Tarsier-The Little Alien	18:00	Fox Kids
16:00	Ng Special	18:40	Aaj Ki Baat
17:00	Croc Chronicles	18:55	Kya Film Kya Geet
17:30	Return To The Wild	19:00	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
18:00	Dogs With Jobs S3	19:25	Film Toppers
18:30	Earth Pulse	19:30	Shaka Laka Boom Boom
19:00	Dragons Of The Namib	20:00	Krishna Arjun
20:00	Croc Chronicles S2	20:30	Kasautii Zindagii Kay
20:30	Toyota World Of Wildlife S3	21:00	Des Mein Nikla Hoga Chand
21:00	Built For The Kill	22:00	Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
22:00	Cleverest Ape In The World	22:30	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
23:00	Secret Life Of Cats	23:00	Kaahin Kissi Roz Aaj Ki Baat
STAR PLUS		STAR WORLD	
(Thirty minutes plus)		(Thirty minutes plus)	
00:00	Shagun	00:00	Focus Asia
00:30	Sonpari	00:30	Iht World
1:00	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	1:00	The X Files
1:30	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	2:00	Cheers
2:00	Hum Hai Kal Aaj	2:30	Creflo Dollar Daily
	Kal Aur Kal Khichdi	3:00	Kenneth Copel
3:00	Yatra	3:30	The Simpsons
3:30	Shanti	4:00	World News
4:00	Jubilee Plus	4:30	Suddenly Susan
4:30	Saans	5:00	Hollywood Squares
5:00	Hit Filmein Hit	5:30	The Brady Bunch
	Sangeet	6:00	Cheers
5:30	Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr	6:30	Oprah Winfrey Show
6:00	Star Geetmala	7:30	Bugs
7:00	Shaka Laka Boom Boom	8:30	Nash Bridges
	Aatma	9:30	Traders
8:30	Hit Filmein Hit	10:30	Oprah Winfrey
	Sangeet	11:28	Star Asia Travel
9:00	Fox Kids	11:30	World's Wildest Police Videos
9:40	Hit Geet	12:30	Suddenly Susan
9:55	Kya Film Kya Geet	13:00	The Bold And The Beautiful
10:00	Maal Hai To Taal Hai		
10:30	Hera Pheri	13:30	Hollywood Squares
	Meri Saheli	14:00	The Brady Bunch
11:25	Film Toppers	14:30	Baywatch
11:30	Shanti	15:30	The Simpsons
12:00	Hit Filmein Hit	16:00	Cheers
	Sangeet	16:30	Starnews Asia
12:30	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	17:00	Frasier
		17:30	That 70s Show
13:00	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	18:00	Everybody Loves Raymond
	Bhabhi	18:25	Starnews Asia
13:30	Kyunki Saas Bhi	18:30	Grounded For Life
14:00	Kabhi Bahu Thi	19:00	Becker
	Shagun	19:30	Boston Public
15:00	Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii	20:28	Star Asia Travel
	Smriti	20:30	Frasier
15:30	Kaahin Kissi Roz	21:00	That 70s Show
16:30	Saans	21:30	Grounded For Life
17:00	Hit Filmein Hit	22:00	Everybody Loves Raymond