

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

May 22-June 5

The inauguration of a painting exhibition by Kakoli and a sculpture exhibition by Reaz will take place at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka on May 22 at 6:00 p.m. The exhibition will continue till June 5.

May 16-22

The second solo painting exhibition of artist Rajaul Islam Lovelu is going on at the Zainul gallery of Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. The display is open for visitors daily from 2 pm to 8 pm.

Music

May 22-23

Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad will hold Nazrul Sangeet Conference to mark the 104th birth anniversary of the Rebel-poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. The conference will feature Nazrul songs performed by reputed Nazrul artistes of the country. On the second day the Parishad will accord reception to eminent Nazrul Sangeet personalities Firoza Begum, Sohrab Hossain, Sudhi Das, Abdus Sattar, Julhasuddin Ahmed, Khalid Hossain, Ferdousi Rahman, and Rafiqul Islam. The programme will take place at the Nazrul Institute auditorium (Road-28 (old), Dhanmondi) at 5 p.m.

May 24-26

Bengal Shilpalay will host a musical presentation titled *Shongey Theko Sangeet*, by young classical, instrumental and Nazrul artistes. The schedule follows:

May 24
Classical vocal by Idul Bashar Rahi
Setar by Ibadul Haque Saikat
May 25
Classical vocal by Amin Akhter Saadman
Flute by Murtaza Kabir Murad
May 26
Nazrul Sangeet by Bijon Chandra Mistry, Sadia Afreen Hamid Nijhum, Jalal Hasan and Mimi Farhana Haque.
The programme starts everyday at 7 p.m.

Heritage

Befriending museums

International Museum Day observed in Bangladesh

HARUN UR RASHID

TWO ironically contradictory incidents mark the history of museums and world heritage this year. On the one hand, International Council of Museums (ICOM) has selected 'Museums and Friends' as its theme of activities for this year. On the other, it is this same year when one of the world's richest museums, the Baghdad Museum, came under the most barbaric destruction and looting after the Anglo-US forces had taken over the Iraqi capital a couple of months ago.

Despite the contradiction, however, the International Museum Day was celebrated the world over on May 18 in the spirit of the ICOM motto: 'Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.'

In Bangladesh too the day was celebrated jointly by Bangladesh Museum Council (BMC), ICOM-Bangladesh National Committee, and Bangladesh National Museum Officers' Association. A seminar was held on this occasion at the Poet Sofia Kamal Auditorium of the National Museum. M Abu Yunus, Secretary of Research and Publication, BMC, presented the essay on this year's theme 'Museums and Friends' at the seminar.

International Museum Day has been observed all over the world since 1977. The event provides the opportunity for museum professionals to meet the public and alert them to the challenges that Museums face if they are to be-as in the ICOM definition of museums-'an institution in the service of society and of its development.

It was, however, 15 years since the Day had been first celebrated that ICOM decided to choose a theme for each year. In 1992 the first theme was decided to be 'Museums and Environment.' In 1993 it was 'Museums and Indigenous Peoples', in 1994 'Behind the Scenes in Museums', in 1995 'Response and Responsibility', and in 1996 'Collecting today for tomorrow.' 1997 and 1998 jointly decided one theme-'The fight against illicit traffic of cultural property.' In



Lord Vishnu, Black marble, 12th century.



Ottar container, German silver, 20th century.

1999, the focus was on the 'Pleasures of Discovery', while the 2000 theme depicted museums' role in 'Peace and Harmony in Society.' In 2001 the theme was 'Museums: building community', and last year it was 'Museums and Friends.'

The idea of this year's theme 'Museums and Friends' can be traced back in the 17th century Europe. A group of enlightened people-collectors and connoisseurs of artistic, scientific and historical antiquities, artists,

teachers, professionals, students and even housewives-gathered together and came forward to uphold and popularise museums through various cultural activities.

Besides this, they also started enterprising expeditions in search of ancient relics, exhibitions of them, and raising funds for maintenance of the museums.

Initiated by a Spanish Friend, Luis Montreal, the International Friends of Museums was founded in 1972. Later in 1975, the organisation became a federation taking the



Locket, German silver, 20th century.

name 'World Federation of the Friends of Museums' (WFFM). At present the Federation has over six million members all over the world.

In Bangladesh, however, there is no such organisation yet. At different times a number of individuals, like Sharaf Kumar Roy, Akshay Kumar Moitreyo, Narendra Narayan Roy Chowdhury, Hakim Habibur Rahman, Rabindranath Tagore, Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin and others--have founded and patronised museums at different places.

But certainly it's time we had such an organisation in the country', unanimously resolved all the speakers present at the May 18 seminar. Dr. Shah Sufi Mustafizur Rahman, Associate Professor of Archaeology, Jahangirnagar University, and M. Shihab Uddin of the National Museum discussed on the essay read out by Abu Yunus at the seminar. Presided over by the BMC President SAM Monwar Jahan, the seminar was also attended by Begum Selima Rahman, State Minister for Cultural Affairs, and Dr. SMA Fayed, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University.

As is often noticed in programmes held by government organisations, the seminar could not be as effective as it should have been. Among the activities suggested on the occasion by ICOM and WFFM, and narrated at the seminar by Monwar Jahan, very few seemed to have been executed. There should have been sufficient poster and advertising on the national media so that people from all walks of life could come to know about the Day and its importance. The auditorium was decorated with banners inscribed with awareness-increasing lessons, but they could not certainly reach the general people. For the audience at the seminar comprised mostly of employees of the National Mu-

seum.

The speakers emphasised that it

is more important for us to protect and preserve what we have at present. It is necessary to encourage preservation of the existing treasures our museums now possess so that they proclaim our rich cultural and historical ancestry.

Dance

Nrityanchal dance festival ahead

CULTURE DESK

NRITYANCHAL, a reputed organisation for dance and music, will hold the final competition on June 2 of the nationwide 'Nrityanchal Talent Search Programme' at the Kachi Kancha auditorium in Dhaka. Competitors who secured first place in the preliminary competition held in nine centres of the 6 divisions of the country from February to April will compete in this final session. Performers who earned second place in *Kathak* and *Bharat Natyam* disciplines are also eligible for the contest.

Prominent cultural personality Mustafa Monwar and David Fletcher, Chief Executive of Standard Chartered Bank will attend the programme.

The competition ultimately paves the path of the aspired 'Nrityanchal Festival 2003' to be held on June 04-05 at the Shishu Academy.

Shamim Ara Nipa and Shibli Mohammad in the dance drama *Shakuntala* to be staged at the festival in June.

Research

Ph. D. awarded on literary works

CULTURE DESK

MOSTAFA Tariqul Islam has received his Ph.D. degree from Rajshahi University for research on the literary works of Syed Shamsul Haque, a prominent poet-playwright-novelist of Bangladesh. This is the first ever Ph.D. programme done on the works of a living Bangladeshi literary personality.

Born in 1935 in Kurigram, Syed Shamsul Haque started his literary career in 1954. He has written more than 150 books of poetry, story, essay, novel, drama and literature for children. His writings have been translated in English, French, Hindi, Urdu, Russian and Japanese. He received Adamji Prize for poetry, Bangla Academy award for short stories, Munir Chowdhury Honorary for drama. The government of Bangladesh has honoured him with the highest awards of the country-Ekushey Padak and Swadhinota Padak.

Cinema

PHOTO: STAR
Inauguration of shooting of the film *Kokhono Megh Kokhono Brishti* at the Osmani Memorial auditorium yesterday. (From left) Actor Razzak, director Moushumi, writer Rabeya Khatun, actor Ferdous and Information Minister Tariqul Islam. The film is being produced by Impress Telefilms.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

BTV

12:00 Opening Announcement
12:10 News Headline
12:15 Shubhecha Nin
12:30 Shangbad Patre Pata Theke
12:40 Shashtha Tathy
1:00 News
1:05 Lok Loka Lye
1:30 Chhande Chhande
2:00 News Headline
2:05 Cartoon Film
2:30 Open University
3:00 News (English)
3:10 Bengali Feature Film
4:00 News Headlines
5:00 News
5:30 On-Line
6:00 News
6:10 Udbhid O Jibon
6:35 Jiboner Alo
7:00 a) News Headline
b) Share Market
c) Weather Forecast
7:05 Grontho Bhubon
7:30 Film: Darknight
8:00 News At Eight (Bangla)
8:30 E Shapthata Natak:
Mayabi Jhilik
9:30 Selected programme
10:00 News At Ten
10:25 Weather Forecast
10:30 News Reporting
10:35 Telefilm: Shahaj Bibor Pala
11:30 Late Night News/News Headlines
CHANNEL-i
2:00 Bangla Feature Film: Juli
5:00 Money Talk
5:35 Jonopoder Khabar
5:45 Joto poto Toto Mott
6:10 Music Plus
6:45 Housefull
7:15 Channel-i News
7:45 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Q)
7:55 English Serial: Queen
8:25 Drama Serial: Grihalgo
9:00 Channel-i News
9:31 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (R)
9:35 Drama Serial: Charisma
10:00 Band Show: Close up Hit Wave
10:25 Channel-i Mobile Quiz
10:30 Channel-i News
11:15 Sangbad Potrey Bangladesh
11:20 Business Show
11:30 Late Night News of BTW
12:15 Channel-i News

ATN BANGLA

9:30 Maverick
12:00 Mrs. Winterbourne
2:15 Deadly Species
4:00 Jezebel's Kiss
6:00 Zeus And Roxanne
8:00 Python
10:00 Executive Decision
12:45 Rush Hour
2:45 Mrs. Winterbourne
5:00 Zeus And Roxanne

STAR MOVIES

7:45 The Doctor
10:00 Mad City
12:20 Transylvania
14:00 Double Whammy
16:00 While You Were Sleeping
18:00 US Marshals
20:00 Raj Kapal
22:00 The Order

ADVENTURE ONE

12:40 Musical prog.: Srether Pata Theke
1:20 Bengali Feature film: Ajker Sangbadpotro
1:40 Islamic prog.: Ajker Sangbadpotro
2:20 The Daily News/News
2:40 The Daily News/News
4:50 The Daily News/News
5:00 Gram Banglar Sangbad
5:15 Film Magazine: A

STAR GOLD

7:30 Hollywood Squares
5:00 The Brady Bunch
9:30 Knight Rider
10:00 Twisted Tales Bugs

STAR GOLD

7:30 The Zoo
10:00 Twisted Tales Bugs
12:30 Animal Planet Safari

ANIMAL PLANET

7:00 Everybody Loves Raymond
7:30 Drama & Greg
8:00 Friends
8:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer

STAR WORLD

4:30 Angel
10:30 NYPD Blue
11:28 Star Asia Travel

TARA BANGLA

11:30 Out There
11:30 Extreme Science
12:00 Surfer's Journal
12:30 Explorer's Journal

STAR BANGLA

6:00 Kenneth Copeland Ministries
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Friends
7:30 Tuesday Trauma

STAR BANGLA

12:00 Breed All About It
12:30 Battersea Dogs

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR MOVIES: 8:40 p.m. *The Order*. Reformed artifact smuggler Rudy is forced to travel to Jerusalem and come to the aid of his museum curator father, who has been kidnapped by a radical religious group. After being framed for murder there, Rudy must enlist the help of a mysterious woman so that he may find a sacred scroll before it falls into the wrong hands, thus starting Holy War.

HBO: 10:00 p.m. *Executive Decision*. Terrorists take over a 747 bound from Athens to Washington D.C., supposedly to effect the release of their leader. Intelligence expert David Grant suspects another reason and convinces the military that the plane should not be allowed to enter U.S. airspace. An assault mission is devised, using a specially equipped plane designed for mid-air crew transfers, and Grant finds himself aboard the 747 with a team of military anti-terrorists who have to defuse a bomb and overpower the terrorists.

STAR GOLD: 7:30 *Wild Rescues*
9:00 *Croc Files*
9:30 *Animal Planet Safari*

ANIMAL PLANET
11:30 *Mela*
12:25 *Kuch Hit Kuch*

STAR GOLD: 7:00 *Experience*
9:30 *The Zoo*
10:00 *Twisted Tales Bugs*

STAR GOLD: 7:00 *Experience*
9:30 *Animal Planet Safari*
11:30 *Natural World*

STAR GOLD: 7:00 *Experience*
9:30 *Animal Planet Safari*
11:30 *Natural World*

ANX
11:30 *Experience*
12:25 *Experience*

ANX: 7:00 *Experience*
9:30 *Experience*
11:30 *Experience*

PICK OF THE DAY



Rush Hour

On HBO at 12:45 a.m.

Realizing that the FBI and their by the book tactics may be

unsuccessful, the Chinese consul recruits the aid of a

loyal Hong Kong inspector to help rescue his kidnapped

daughter. Outlawed by the FBI, the inspector must form an

unlikely partnership with a cocky, street smart LAPD

officer who prefers doing things his own way.

STAR SPORTS

9:00 HITZ
11:30 Max Power Max