

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibitions

January 15-31
The 11th Asian Art Biennale is being held at Osmani Memorial Hall, Shilpa Kala Academy and National Museum. The show will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm everyday.

January 13-February 12
Sajru Art Gallery is holding the 50th Grand Group Art Exhibition of reputed Bangladeshi artists with 128 art works by 87 artists at the gallery premises (F140-41, DCC, North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan). The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 8:30 pm everyday except Fridays.

CD Launching

January 31
The second CD and audiocassette titled *Chena Pather Baire* by Nazrul Islam will be launched at the VIP Lounge of National Press Club at 4:00 pm.

Award for Akram Khan



Akram Khan won award for the best Modern Choreography in the Critics Circle National Dance Award 2003 of London on 13 January. Senior reporter of BBC Angela Rippon handed over the award to the artiste at the Sandler's Well Theatre in London.

Craft

Flurry of flowers and wild life

Decoupage and embroidery exhibition at "Chitrak"

FAYZA HAQ

It is always encouraging when our women come up with something new and fresh to delight the eye. Hasina Begum, with her decoupage and ribbon embroidery seen recently at "Chitrak" has brought in the African wild life and beauty along with other conventional scenes of

Hasina explains that there is special paper for decoupage which is cut, mounted and glazed in different stages after which it gets a three dimensional effect. Some of the patterns are her own while others are ones that she has collected along the way. The equipment and material is from overseas, from UK and South Africa. One has to use silicon and water-colour varnish with it. In case of the ribbon embroidery the motif is composed on computer and transferred on cloth and then worked open with needle, thread, ribbon and beads, by hand. "This gives satisfaction to my creative urge," Hasina comments. "What interest me in particular are trees, flowers and wild animals," she adds.

and which I hope to continue along with a career as a dietitian at Melbourne, Australia, where I'm now living. Coming to Bangladesh for a holiday, I received a lot of encouragement among my friends and relatives and so I decided to go public with my work. I'd held a joint show before while in South Africa."

Hasina believes that by developing and nourishing our interest in arts and crafts, we can overcome any unrest or evil in society.

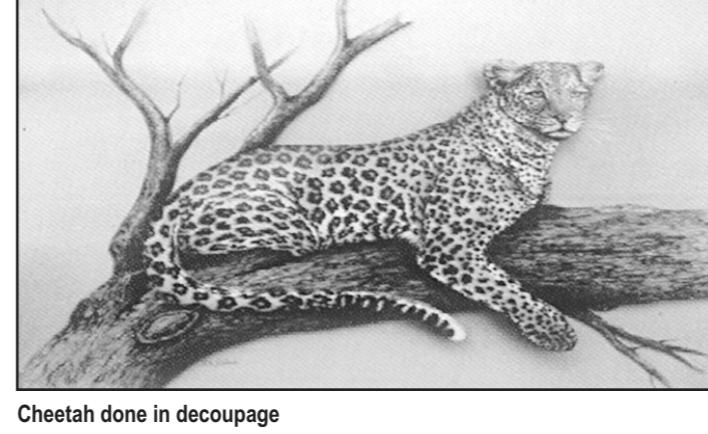
gardens in bloom. The work which presents beauty in life, takes us away from the unrest and violence that we face in everyday life.

Hasina says, "I first came across these crafts in South Africa where I lived for over ten years. I had done some embroidery of my own before as a student of Home Economics College. I set myself to learn this craft, which, to me, was very attractive and soothing. I took a course in ribbon embroidery and decoupage at the Ashanti Institution of Arts and Crafts at Port Elizabeth. I've been doing the embroidery for four years and I've been following the other technique since 2001. These are my passions

In one frame there was a pink orchid complete with petals and leaves, while another had three deep red rose blossoms, while a third had a fuchsia in grayish pink. There were other flowers too like lilies, zinnias and iris. Along with them were flying dolphins seen in a complete landscape with the sky, trees, river and mountains in the background.

Hasina had also brought in a spotted cheetah sitting on a tree, a golden and brown lion poised in front of a tree trunk. Among the presentation of wild life were three zebras, and a bee-eater with blue and green wings complemented by its orange breast. There were many depictions of ladies seen wandering in diaphanous Edwardian flowing clothes in gardens with feasts of flowers -- taken from the English countryside. Hedges, trees, pathways, garden furniture, pots for plants were included in the composition. The embroidery and decoupage lifted one up from the world of cement jungles and carried one away to the world of birds, free bees and delightful extravaganza of cultivated garden in a great range of colours. There were clocks too in the assortment of over 30 craft pieces, where numbers were replaced with large flowers, with a clockwork machine placed in the centre, along with the necessary hands.

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Cheetah done in decoupage



Ribbon embroidery presenting a scene

Folk drama

Shujon Beder Ghat

A Pala by Bhodra Jatra Unit

ERSHAD KAMOL

SHUJON Beder Ghat, a jatra by S M A Majid, is not Pallikabi Jasimuddin's *Shojon Bandiar Ghat*. As part of the folk-drama festival arranged by the department of drama and cinema of Shilpkala Academy, Bhodra Jatra Unit from Sathkira displayed the jatra on the temporary stage near the premises of the academy building.

The show started from the middle of the story when Pushpokumar, a crown prince, falls in love with Mala a snake charmer. The snake charmer chief Shujan Sardar is also in love with the girl and a conflict arises between the prince and Shujan and the latter dies as a consequence.

It was like a traditional jatra atmosphere found in the rural areas. The audience was seated on a mat on the ground to watch the

show on a typical *Chaukona Khola Mancha* (a stage open on all four sides). At first the orchestra played a rhythmic composition using conventional instruments like Cornet, Bongo, Mondira and Harmonium. And then the jatra artistes presented a patriotic song.

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The audience, the average run of the people of the city, enjoyed the performance of the professional jatra group.

In a flashback it is revealed that Mala is in fact the daughter of the king of that country while Pushpokumar is originally the son of the king's general. Through a conspiracy, the general had managed to become the king. At last, the parents of both the hero and heroine approve of their love and the *pala* ends with a poetic justice.

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Eid menu

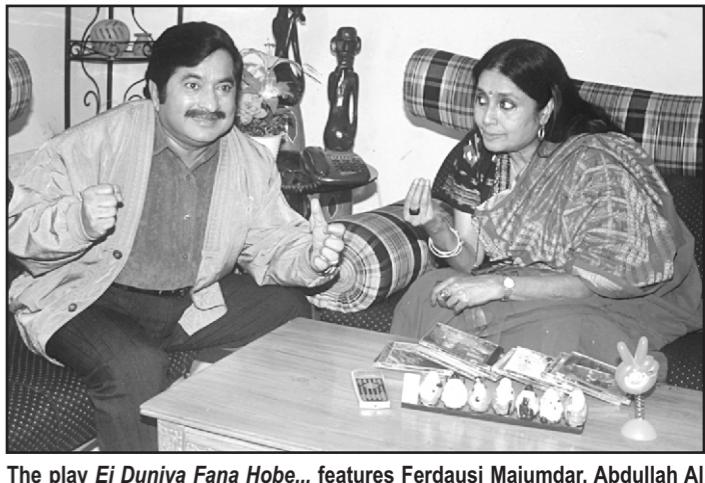
Eid special drama on ATN Bangla

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Ei Duniya Fana Hobe Kichhui Robe Na

To laugh at the distressing condition of human beings is unethical. The central character of Abdullah Al Mamun's play *Badsha Mia*, however, is seen to make money in the name of rehabilitating the unfortunate poor beggars of the town. Gradually he becomes almost uncontrollable in his scheme. Finally, when his family members come to know of his occupation, they take 'Stop Badsha Mia' action plan and successfully ensnare him in his own trap.

ATN Bangla will air the play on Eid day at 7:45 p.m.

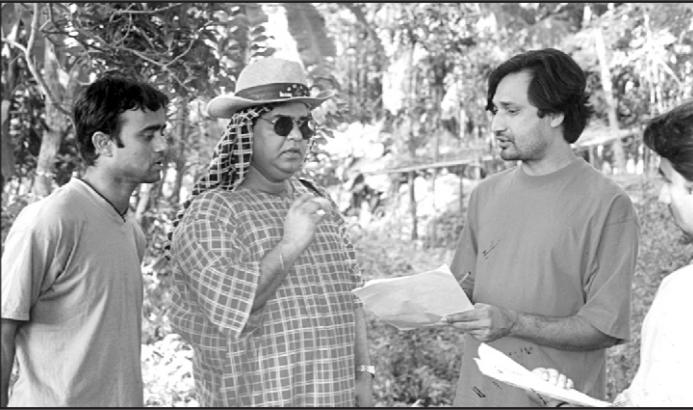


The play *Ei Duniya Fana Hobe Kichhui Robe Na* features Ferdousi Majumdar, Abdullah Al Mamun, Abdul Kader, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Azizul Hakim and others.

Mamunur Rashid's play depicts what happens when a village girl falls in love with a village 'hero'. *Hanif Kha*, a popular and influential youth of the village Shona Rong, is the hero in this play. *Hanif Kha* lends a hand to anyone in trouble. With his extraordinary fellow feeling he earns everyone's love and trust. The whole village becomes dependent on *Hanif Kha*. Chunki, a village girl, is in love with this lad and dreams of a happy future...

Directed by Mamunur Rashid and starring Mamunur Rashid, Liakat Ali Lucky, Tushar Khan, Urmi, Rowshan Ara Hossain and others, the drama will be on air on ATN Bangla on the third day of the Eid at 8:50 p.m.

Hanif Kha



Tushar Khan and co-artistes in a scene from *Hanif Kha*

Homage

Late night television pioneer Jack Paar in an undated photograph just before walking off "The Tonight Show." Paar died on January 27, at his Greenwich, Connecticut home after a long illness, according to Stephen Wells, Paar's son-in-law. At the height of his fame, he battled NBC censors over a joke about a water closet, a British euphemism for a bathroom. Incensed, he walked out at the beginning of a show, leaving announcer Hugh Downs to finish the program. His walk-off and subsequent disappearance dominated news for five weeks. Paar, 85, pioneered late-night talk on "The Tonight Show" on the NBC television network.



PHOTO: REUTERS

5:30	Spec On Assignment	4:30	W E How Animals tell Time	Football League 2003/04 (L)
6:00	Tomorrow's World	5:30	Croc Files Wild River Ride	Australian Open
6:30	Dogs With Jobs S3	6:00	Toyota World Of Wildlife	Women's Singles & Men's Doubles Finals (R)
7:00	7:00	6:30	Pets and Pests	ESPN
7:30	Earth Report	7:00	Extreme Contact Snapping Turtle Adventure	9:00 English Premier League Preview (T)
8:00	Earthquake	7:30	Myths & Logic Shaolin K	9:30 Nba Basketball
8:30	8:00	8:00	Shark Gordon White	Timberwolves Vs Los Angeles Lakers (L)
9:00	9:00	9:00	Tips of Osprey	12:00 Goals! (R)
9:30	On Assignment	9:30	Profiles of Nature Tiny Perfect Predators : Mantids & Dragonflies	12:30 Espn Cricket Show (R)
10:00	10:00	10:00	Crocodile Hunter	1:30 O'Shea's Big Adventure Green Blood
10:30	10:30	10:30	Captured on Camera	1:30 O'Shea's Big Adventure Magic Man
11:00	11:00	11:00	O'Shea's Big Adventure	2:25 W E Up with the Gibbons
11:30	To Love Honour And	11:30	Return To Athens (R)	2:30 Epl Premiership
			NaBa Inside Stuff (R)	2:30 Saturday Preview (L)
			World's Strongest Man/Woman 2003	2:30 English Premier Football
			Finals (R)	2:30 League 2003/04 (L)
			Epl Postshow	2:30 Epl Premiership
			Premiership Postgame (L)	2:30 Sportscaster Weekend
			1:00 English Premier League	2:30 English Premier Football League
			Extra Best 16 (T)	2:30 10th Odib (R)
			Return To Athens (R)	2:30 Australia Vs Zimbabwe
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