

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

February 20-March 2
A sculpture exhibition by Ferdousy Priabhashini titled Aronner Dinratri is going on at the Shilpangan gallery. The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 9 pm.

February 16-March 1

The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts holds a solo exhibition of Monsur ul Karim. Venue: 275/F Rd. 27, Dhanmondi, Dhaka

February 18-28

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy holds a solo painting exhibition by Ryu, Kwang-il from the Republic of Korea at the National Art Gallery of the academy. The display will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm on weekdays and 3 pm to 7 pm on Friday.

February 23-March 2

Goethe Institut is holding a photographic exhibition titled A Mro Folk-belief: Utopia of a Pilgrim by Shameem Hasan at the institut's premises, beginning from February 23. The display will remain open from Sunday through Thursday, 2:00 pm-8:00 pm.

Classical programme

February 23-25

Classical musical evenings are being held in the Art Gallery, 2nd floor, Shilpakala Academy from 6:00 p.m. every evening, till February 25. Eminent cultural personalities are performing in the programme.

The best films of 2002-2003

February 22-26

Zahir Raihan Film Society is screening 17 critically acclaimed films of 2002-2003 from around the world at the Goethe Institut Dhaka at Road no. 9, Dhanmondi:

Wednesday, 25th February 2004:

2 : 0 0 P M :

Concert



PHOTO: AFP

Music director AR Rahman performs at a concert entitled 'I believe...a better world is possible' for the children of India in Bombay recently.

Event

Bangladesh-Bharat Moitree Samity observes Ekushey

HARUN UR RASHID

'21st February is regarded as a day of mourning for the brave language martyrs Rafique, Salam, Barkat, Shafiur and countless others. The month is regarded as one of sorrow. But we should consider it as a month of protest', said eminent dramatist-actor-director Professor Mamta Uddin Ahmad. He was speaking at a programme organised by Bangladesh-Bharat Moitree Samity (BBMS).

BBMS held the programme at the Biswa Shahitya Kendro on February 22 in observance of Amar Ekushey and International Mother Language Day. Professor Mamta Uddin spoke at the event as the chief guest. Indian Deputy High

Commissioner in Bangladesh Dilip Sinha, noted dramatist Begum Mamta Hossain, BBMS general secretary Aminul Haque Faruque and BBMS presidential board member Aminul Islam Bedu also spoke on the occasion.

Mamta Uddin narrated about his acquaintance with the language martyrs and their families. 'Rafique was killed just a few days before his marriage. He used to carry a Raja pen—a popular brand of the time—which helped in identifying his dead body,' Mamta informed. 'Later Rafique's betrothed was wedded to his younger brother Rashid.'

Mamta Uddin very passionately upheld the rich treasure of Bangla language to the audience. 'About 28 crore people all over the world

speak in Bangla—including the 14 crores in our country and the rest in the neighbouring West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and other places,' he said. At present there are about 4.5 lac words in Bangla, he added. 'But if the demography is conducted properly including all regional dialects, slang words etc, the number would rise up to 8 lac.'

Mamta Uddin termed February as a month of protest; for, 'still people have to sacrifice lives for good causes.' He said that only two years ago a youth named Jamal Uddin was killed because he named his library after Tajuddin Ahmad.'

Deputy High Commissioner Dilip Sinha asked the audience's apology for his inability to speak in Bangla. He informed that a big auditorium is

opening soon in Gulshan where BBMS would be able to hold such programmes.

BBMS's Aminul Islam Bedu expressed his protest against those who think that Bangla is being abused by the influences of Hinduism. He said that those who had sacrificed their lives for Bangla language in 1952 were neither Hindu nor Muslim. 'All of them were Bengalees—Bangla speakers'.

After the discussion, Mamta Uddin presented the Indian dramatist Dr. Minakshi Sinha Ghosh an *Uttariyo* (scarf) and a Rajshahi silk *sari*. Professor at Rabindra Bharati University, Minakshi Sinha Ghosh performed solo acting at the programme. Besides, poet Nahida Rokhsana recited poems.

Cultural exchange

Bangla speech contest by foreign nationals

ON the occasion of the International Mother Language Day, Japanese Universities Alumni Association in Bangladesh (JUAAB) in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan, organised a Bangla speech contest for the foreign nationals living in Bangladesh, at 4 pm at the TSC auditorium last Sunday, says a press release.

Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh, Matsushiro Horiguchi attended the programme as chief guest while Director General of Bangla Academy Professor Monsur Musa was the special guest. It was presided over by JUAAB President Professor M Mozammel Hoq.

A total of 10 foreign nationals including Japanese, Jordanian, Korean, Nepalese and Iranian, participated in the Bangla speech contest. The participants beautifully described their experiences of daily

life, their impressions and thoughts in Bangla. The participants were awarded with JUAAB crest and certificates for their excellent speeches.

The speech contest was held in two separate categories. In one category, only the Japanese nationals took part in the contest. Among them, first, second and third prizes were given to -- Hiroki Watanabe, Hiroki Watanabe (another contestant) and Nahoko Okada respectively.

In the other category, the speech contest was held among the nationals of all other countries except the Japanese. The first, second and third prizes were given to Izu Shrestha of Nepal, Iman Ibrahim Al Sharif of Jordan and Lee Hyun A of Korea respectively. The programme was followed by a cultural soiree.

It can be mentioned that JUAAB



Expatriates expressing their impressions and thoughts in Bangla

is an organization of Bangladeshi nationals who are engaged in various professions in Bangladesh after completing their higher education in Japan. JUAAB started its activities from the beginning of 2000 under the direct support of the

Japanese Embassy. It has been working for strengthening Japan-Bangladesh education and cultural exchanges. The organisation is patronized by the Embassy of Japan in Dhaka.

Campus chronicle

1952: Tritiyo prohor

North South University celebrates Ekushey

ELITA KARIM

NORTH South Sangskritik Sangathan, the official cultural club of the university, was not far behind in the countrywide-celebrated *Ekushey*. The one and a half hour show, which had begun at 4:30 pm titled *Tritiyo Prohor*, was a musical drama where students portrayed the passion for their language and sang popular patriotic numbers. The show was organised mainly by Misho, Russel, Gazi and Proshun, the executive body of 2004, NSUSS.

Taking the audience back to the year 1952, performers enacted famous scenes from history, when 'Urdu and only Urdu' was declared to be the state language of Pakistan. Riots and group protests were also



NSUSS singing the 'Ekushey' song

shown, and the picture of people giving up their lives for their language was brought back to life. These moments created by Arif, Zico, Rasheed, Maha, Rintu, Samira, Mitul, Lisa, Ashraf, Naved, Misho and Russel were truly re-lived by all present in the hall.

Chorus numbers like *Ora amaa mukher kotha kayra nite chay* and *Shikol porar chol* by Tazeen, Mehreen, Elita, Gazi, Rintu, Arif, Diya and Lisa had everyone singing along. Heart rendering solos like *Aami Banglay gaan gai*, *Aamay jetye daona maago* and *Aaguner*

poroshmoni performed by Elita, Russel, Dia and Kanti respectively had everyone humming along and participating with the spirit of the day. The popular song *Aami Banglay gaan gai* had an overwhelming effect on the audience, where recitation went side by side with singing.

Monty, hosted the show, along with reciting various patriotic poetry, where one was also enacted descriptively by Ashraf, who represented the symbolical meaning of the poem by literally breaking off the *shikol* (chains) to free himself. The audience also appreciated Emran (keyboards) and Dipankar (tabla). The show came to an end when the performers, professors and the audience stood together to sing the *Ekushey* song.

Theatre festival



Prokriy O Puran Desh Natok Festival

Kalshondhya

ERSHAD KAMOL

NAGORIK Natyasampradaya will stage *Kalshondhya* as part of the drama festival arranged by Desh Natok at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Library Auditorium.

PREVIEW

Khaled Khan directs the play *Kalshondhya* adapted by Buddhudev Basu from the mythological epic *Mahabharata*. After the *Kurukshetra* war mentioned in the epic, the city Dwarka became chaotic and evil was rampant in every part of the city. Jealousy, hypocrisy, brutality and vandalism became the traits of human beings and gods as well. The playwright finds the same scenario in the contemporary world. Who knows if the earth will also be destroyed like the mythological city of Dwarka?

The set will be designed by Ramya Rahim and the light design will be done by Nasirul Haque Khokon.

A scene from the play *Kalshondhya*

An exceptional opening of the festival

ON February 23, Desh Natok inaugurated their drama festival 'Nature and Myth' 2004, at the open space outside the Public Library Auditorium amidst a warm celebration.

It was unlike the traditional inauguration programmes where there were no speeches in the 25-minute opening ceremony. All the guests were equally enthusiastic and active.

Selina Shelly, a group member, announced the schedule and introduced the guests with the

audience. Jochhona Biswas, the chief guest, then unfolded the banner of the arrangement. Mita Haq, a renowned Tagore singer presented 'Rangie Die Jao' and at the same time eminent theatre activists of the country, M Hamid, Aly Zaker, Asaduzzaman Noor, Jamaluddin Hossain, Abul Hayat, Keramot Maola, Liakat Ali Lucky, Tareq Anam, Khairul Alam Shobuj, Raisul Islam Asad, Sara Zaker, Rawshonara Hossain, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Dr. Afsar Ahmed, Munira Yousuf Meme, Rosy Siddiqui, Rokeya Prachi and

others painted images of butterflies on a huge canvas. This was followed with rhythm and music. Nishat Jahan recited Tagore's 'Boshonto Japon'. And then, all the participants presented the National Anthem.

The audience enjoyed the colourful opening, featuring many of their favourite artistes who had assembled in an open space.

Many renowned artistes were still pouring in and expressed their anguish, as they could not attend the grand opening on time, due to trafficjam.

Channel clip

A different touch

TV programmes on Ekushey

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

EVERY year, the local channels telecast special programmes through out the month of February to mark the Language Movement. Especially on February 21, all channels customise their schedule with various special programmes.

This year, the schedule of the day started with the live telecast of paying homage to the martyrs of Language Movement at the Central Shaheed Minar at the striking hour of midnight. All the Bangladeshi channels telecast the tribute through BTV.

Among other programmes, Channel-i introduced something new by airing two programmes namely *Amra Jeno Bhuley Na Jai*, a documentary on the present condition of the language martyrs' families, and a programme paying a tribute to Altaf Mahmud, the composer of the *Ekushey* song *Amar Bhaier Roktey Rangano*. The present condition of the family-members of the martyrs, their feelings and their sorrows were shown in the documentary. The programme showed Rafique, Jabbar, Salam, Barkat, Shafiur's ancestral homes and revealed many unknown sides of those heroes. The programme on Altaf Mahmud also showed the martyr's daughter, Shavon, remembering the days she spent with her father. Other members of the family took part in the discussion as well.

ATN Bangla aired an innovative and informative programme titled *Ekusher Prothom*, which was presented by Professor Dr. Rafiqul Islam. The new generation as well as the old were undoubtedly well informed on *Ekushey* from this programme that dealt with the first productions—like the first poem, song, drama, monument etc.—commemorating *Ekushey*.

Asaduzzaman Noor speaking to Naboni about the importance of Mother Language in *Ebong*

Ntv's drama *Ebong* was an exceptional preparation on *Ekushey*. It presented the importance of mother language these days. Azaduzzaman Noor and the child artist Naboni's performances were very naturally presented.

BTV aired some traditional scores of programmes on *Ekushey* as it does every year.

Two Indian channels Tara Bangla and Akash Bangla also aired special programmes to mark the day. Blending of views of cultural personalities of Bangladesh and West Bengal and presentation of their enterprises on *Ekushey* were remarkable.

TV GUIDE

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

* News Bulletin

BTV
News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:40 am. 12:10 pm. 2:00 p.m. 3:10 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm.
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm. 5:00 pm. 8:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm.

Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i

Breakfast News 07:15 am. 9:00am
News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am. 12:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 09 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00pm. 6:00 pm. and 8:00 pm.

n tv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 pm. 10:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC World

Every hour on the hour

ATN BANGLA

10:15 Talk Show : Annodristee

12:40 Uro Cola Saat Rang

1:20 Bengali Feature Film: Ashar Alo

4:20 Musical Prog. Viewers Opinion

5:10 Prog. Motamot Islamee Sawal O Jawab

6:25 Talk Show : Annodristee

7:40 Samsung Cine Aaha

8:15 Drama Serial: Khuwab

8:40 Drama Serial: Nayeka Sangbad

9:25 Drama Serial : Danob

10:30 Talk Show: Face to Face

12:20 Bengali Feature Film : Lal Banarosh

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Tritiyo Matra

11:30 Close Up Juke Box

12:00 Chithi Pelam

01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

02:00 Feature Film: Ei Mon Tomakey

5:10 Dilam (Shakil Khan, Poppy)

05:45 Sa Re Ma Ga Ma

06:10 Boi Ebong Boi

06:45 Music Plus

06:45 Yammy Chhaya

07:50 Jhankar

08:25 Travel On

08:25 Drama Serial: Kichhu Megh

09:35 Kichhu Roddur

09:35 Drama Serial: Rangdhanu Rang

10:00 Drama Serial

ntv

09:30 Ei Shomoy

10:02 Hello Music

10:30 Shur Ananda

11:00 Tele Film

02:30 Cine Gaan

03:00 Drama Serial: Ebong Ami

03:30 Taray Taray

04:00 Drama Serial: Shongshoy

04:30 Drama Serial: Obosheshey

04:30 Propat

05:25 Ke Korbe Bajimat

06:00 Apnar Jigyasha

06:35 Shubho

06:55 Sports World

08:00 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe

08:35 Shurer Jolsha

09:50 Drama Serial: Brittondori

11:20 Dindarpan

HBO

8:30 Lost Souls

10:30 Sheena

12:00 Proof of Life

3:00 28 Days

5:00 Hollow Man

7:00 Twelve Monkeys

9:00 Terminator 2 : Judgement Day

12:30 Vanilla Sky

STAR MOVIES

8:45 Airheads

10:15 Ice Bound

11:45 Strictly Sinatra

1:30 The Color Of Money

3:30 Jaws: The Revenge

5:00 The Ticket

5:30 Mad Dog And Glory

7:00 The Rock

9:05 Joe Somebody

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 12:30 pm Vanilla Sky. Drama/Romance/Sci-Fi/Thriller; **Tom Cruise, Penélope Cruz, Cameron Diaz.** David Aames takes all he has for granted; his wealth, his inherited publishing company, his good looks. Especially his relationships. It catches up to him when a friend/sometimes sex-partner can't see their relationship the way he sees it. From that point, the movie takes a Lynchian twist that ultimately and literally pulls us into Aames' tortured psyche.



STAR MOVIES: 7:00 pm The Rock. Action/Thriller/Drama; **Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage, Ed Harris.** A group of renegade marine commandos seizes a stockpile of chemical weapons and takes over Alcatraz, with 81 tourists as hostages. Their leader, a former highly-decorated U. S. general, demands \$100 million to

PICK OF THE DAY



Twelve Monkeys

On HBO at 7:00 pm

Genre: Drama/Thriller/Sci-Fi

Bruce Willis, Madeleine Stowe, Brad Pitt

An unknown and lethal virus has wiped out five billion people in 1996. Only 1% of the population

has survived by the year 2035, and is forced to live underground. A convict reluctantly volunteers to

be sent back in time to 1996 to gather information about the origin of the epidemic and locate the

virus before it mutates so that scientists can

10:45 Apocalypse Now Redux

STAR PLUS

11:00 Meri Saheli

11:30 Hum Saath Aath

Hain

12:00 Shanti (601 - 800)

12:55 Taaza Hits

1:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay

1:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan