

RECOMMENDATIONS

Commemorating meeting on Bulbul Choudhury
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: The second floor of National Art Gallery of the academy
Discussant: Begam Rahiza Khanom Jhunu
Time: June 22, at 6:00 pm
Followed by dance performances by eminent artists.

Commemorating meeting on Kabial Ramesh Shil
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: The second floor of National Art Gallery of the academy
Discussant: Dr Ashraf Siddiqui
Time: June 23, at 6:00 pm
Followed by folk song rendition by eminent artists.



Painting Exhibition
Title: Solo Painting Exhibition 2004
Artist: Monirul Islam
Venue: Shilpangan, Road 5, House 25, Dhanmondi
Time: June 11-25, from 10 am to 9 pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: Image Construction
Artist: Nahid-Ul-Islam
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Time: June 07-28, from 9 am to 12 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm

Folk Song
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Performers: artistes of Jhankar Lalitakala Academy
Time: June 22, at 6:00 pm

Jazz Evening
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Performers: Blast Quartet of France
Time: June 22, at 9:00 pm

Musical Soiree
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
June 22
Performers: Liferu Banu Lily
Time: 8:00 pm
June 23
Performers: artistes of Shanchari Sangeet Shangstha
Time: 8:00 pm

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

Begum Sufia Kamal: An icon of women's rights

NOVERA DEEPIITA

Women must have the courage to fight back against repression, said poet Begum Sufia Kamal, the icon of women's rights. In remembrance of this courageous woman, the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) celebrated her 93rd birth anniversary recently. Held at the GIRDAP auditorium, the programme included a discussion meeting followed by a cultural session. The chairperson of BMP, Hena Das chaired the discussion session, while General Secretary of BMP Ayesha Khanom and celebrated columnist and cultural personality Wahidul Haque also took part in the discussion.

Professor Sanat Kumar Shaha presented the keynote paper on *Equal Participation of Women in State Governance: Democratic Culture of Politics*. In his speech Professor Shaha elaborately discussed the historic background of the role of women in state governance throughout the world dating back from the ancient period. He also discussed the history of state governance and how mostly men controlled it. He also stressed on the negative impact of the image of women that has been portrayed in the world literature and myths. Lastly, he spoke of the negligence that women faced in the past years.

Professor Shaha dwelt on the principal reasons of male dominance in political history and on how women have advanced and become efficient and dependable workers despite



'We should proceed on the path where she started her journey'

obstacles and negligence. In conclusion, he suggested that women can have effective participation in state governance. In his words, 'If the character of men remain unchanged and the women keep following it as ideal, then the true victory of womanhood will never be established. Women must flourish by their originality.'

Evaluating the keynote paper, Ayesha Khanom said that it is difficult for women to establish themselves in state governance but the struggle is still on. Commemorating Sufia Kamal's birth anniversary, she said, 'She is the symbol of our morality. We always go back to her for shelter to establish the culture of humanity.'

Wahidul Haque expressed the view that Sufia Kamal was not only a women's rights activist but also the leader of cultural movement. Her extraordinary personality, he said, has led us to become intellectually empowered and enlightened.

Veteran woman activist Hena Das unequivocally spoke about Sufia Kamal's tremendous contribution to our cultural movement. She said, 'We should proceed on the path where she started her journey and promise that we will follow the path of freedom and work for the welfare of human beings.'

At the end of the discussion session, noted artiste Subarna Mustafa recited from *Stri Jatir Abanati* by Begum Rokeya, while celebrated Tagore singers Ifat Ara Dewan, Mita Haque, Aditi Mohsin and others rendered songs.

Recitation group: A profile

A boost to reciters

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

TEN years ago, the idea of a recitation group was mooted at a workshop held in 1984 at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The enthusiastic participants requested Bhaswar Bondyapadhaya, a well-known contemporary recitor, to launch a group which could promote this art form. As a result, a group named Oikotan was formed. After organising some programmes and workshops, the organisers somehow lost their impetus. At the end of 1984, these youngsters, led by Bhaswar

appreciative are the teachers or performers who have problems in speaking in a clear and original accent and who have regional dialects.'

The participants are given grades in three categories like *Shamman* (Honours), *Shapholya* (Success) and *Shadharon* (General). Bhaswar points out that the participants, who have got the first grade *Shamman*, are being included in the group as activists and reciters. After the six-month provisional period, the participants are given membership of the group by evaluating their performance throughout the period. The group has conducted at

there,' says Bhaswar regretfully.

Among the 100 productions of Katha, the most successful are: *Hajar Churashir Ma*, *Natuner Jonjo Shok*, *Shochchar Shabdaboli*, *Praney Pran Mil Korey Dao*, *Shishuirtho*, *Abhijan* which are also noteworthy recitation compositions. Among the members, Enamul Haque, Syed Shahidul Islam, Abdus Selim Choudhury, Abdur Rahman, Titash, Sabera Mahmub, Tania, Tariq and Mizan are the regular performers.

Another style of recitation is *Sruti Path*, that is staging a play in a shorter version and in the style of recitation. In *Sruti Path* the performers dress up as the characters of the play but they deliver the dialogue by sitting in a fixed place without any physical movements. Many famous plays like *Nuradiner Shara Jibon*, *Oedipus* and *Payer Awaj Pawa Jay* have been staged as *Sruti Path*. The group also counts satiric and issue-based rhymes as recitation.

Katha has performed in various programmes and visited West Bengal a number of times. The festivals like *Pashchim Utsav*, *Padma Ganga Utsav* and *Jamuna Bramhaputra Utsav* were attended by venerable personalities like Sunil Ganguly, Ranesh Dasgupta and Partho Ghosh who were highly appreciative of Katha's performance.

Interestingly one of the most powerful actors of the country, Ali Zaker, always refers the members of his group *Nagarik Natya Shamprodaya*, to Katha for learning perfect pronunciation and vocal acting,' says Bondyapadhaya proudly.

The latest version of this group is to stage *Prothom Partho* by Buddhadev Basu. The objective of Katha is promoting recitation as an art form not only in our country but also beyond national boundaries.



Recitation artistes performing at a show

Bondyapadhaya, reorganised their group. This time they changed the name to Katha Abriti Charcha Kendra.

Since 1984 this group has organised 34 workshops. They have trained people in the practical and theoretical aspects of voice and speech development, recitation and pronunciation. These workshops have helped to improve the pronunciation and vocal expression of the participants from all walks of life,' claims Bhaswar. 'Especially

least five workshops for the children age group of six to 12 who have performed in recitation programmes and plays.

The syllabus that determines which poems will be recited, is set and homework is given to the members, every Friday. Previously the group members used to meet in the Teachers Students Centre (TSC) of Dhaka University. 'However, after the new government has come to power, we don't have the provision to have our meetings

Dhaka Drama Festival 2004 Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation

ERSHAD KAMOL

REVIEW

Birsa Munda: An ethnic play

DHAKA Theatre Mancha staged *Birsa Munda* by Alok Dev on June 20 as part of the drama festival arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation.

The play *Birsa Munda* is set against the backdrop of the British colonial period when the native and tribal people revolted against British oppression. The genre of the play is Ethnic Theatre.

The protagonist of the play *Birsa*, in *Birsa Munda*, is a tribal leader who organises his community against the British rulers and as a result has to sacrifice his life. The playwright also shows how the missionaries try to convert the people to Christianity and the tragic end of the movement as a result of the betrayal by the traitors.

Munda rebellion took place in 1889 at Nagarpur. Masum Reza has written another play - *Birsa Kabya* based on the same revolution. In *Birsa Kabya* Masum has tried to present Birsa as a hero, which is why he focused on the biography of Birsa. However, Alok Dev's play *Birsa Munda* is only a fragment of the historical event. It only focuses on the rebellion of the Munda tribe against the British Empire and their native accomplices.

Masum Reza in *Birsa Kabya* has



A scene from the play Birsa Munda

used several dialects to represent different communities. However, in *Birsa Munda* by Alok Dev, the playwright has used standard Bangla to represent Bangali as well as the tribal people's dialect. But surprisingly, Alok in *Birsa Munda* has used imperfect Bangla only to represent the British accent, which goes against his own technique of handling dialogue diction.

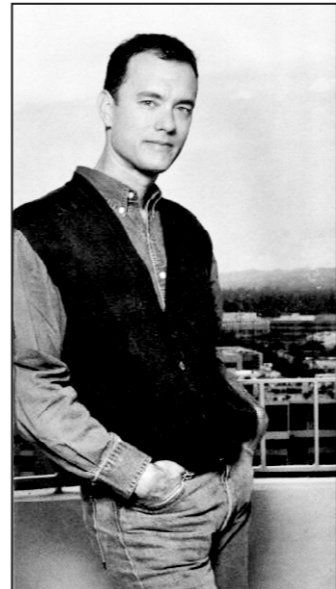
Director Arup Anwar unfolds his play through a narrator. His technique of directing the Ethnic Theatre needs to be improved. In certain cases his ignorance of the

genre is explicit. Set designer Rizvi has used thrust stage. His using of a symbolic yellowish colour for the church represents the underhand activities of the missionaries to convert the natives to Christianity during that period.

The light design needs to be improved.

The main lacuna in the performance was the dialect. The artistes definitely need to promote standard Bangla for a better performance.

Hanks to star in first western



Tom Hanks is reportedly to star in his first western.

Empire says the 'Terminal' star has signed up to appear in 'Boone's Lick' with Julianne Moore.

The film is an adaptation of a novel by 'Lonesome Dove' author Larry McMurtry.

In the film, Moore plays a headstrong woman who goes on a journey with her children from 'Boone's Lick', 'Montana', to the fort where her husband lives.

She takes her husband's brother, played by Hanks, along with her, and falls in love with him on the way.

'The Experimental Theatre Stage will ultimately become an ideal venue'

-- Mamunur Rashid

'From the beginning of our drama history we were looking for an ideal theatre stage. The Experimental Theatre Stage fits the slot. After this festival, I think it will turn to be a very good venue,' says Mamunur. 'The stage is very convenient for quality acting. The performers need not think much about projection while acting. As a result they can

wholly concentrate on acting. I think the quality of productions of the groups will develop on this stage. That is why, I think the theatre groups will try to stage plays here,' Mamun added.

Mamun expects that the drama lovers of our country will share a similar sentiment about the modern theatre hall.



Schedules (June 22-27)

June 22 Play: <i>Shoroshi</i> Playwright: Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay Director: Mostofa Heera Group: Shantapad Group Theatre	Director: Tarun Kumar Basu Group: Theatre (Topkhana)
June 23 Play: <i>Shadhucharan</i> Playwright: Chandan Sen Director: Ratan Saha Group: Pratidwandini Nattyagoshtthi	June 25 Play: <i>Hat Hadai</i> Playwright: Selim Al Deen Director: Nasiruddin Youssuff Group: Dhaka Theatre
June 24 Play: <i>Bhabaghurey</i> Playwright: Shantanu Biswas	June 26 Play: <i>Ami Gadhna Bolchhi</i> Playwright: Krishan Chandar Director: Mujibur Rahman Dilu Group: Dhaka Drama Natyadal
June 27 Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy; Time: 7 pm Tickets are available at Sagar Publishers, Baily Road and at the venue before show. Prices: Tk. 30, Tk. 50 and Tk. 100.	June 27

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 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 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 7:15 am, 9:00 am
 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 9 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.
ntv
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 5:00 pm, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
 News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
 Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 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

BTV
 07:30 *Bangladesher Hridoy Hotey*
 09:00 Satellite Programme
 12:15 *Shongbad Potrer Pata Thekey*
 01:05 Cartoon Show
 02:05 Computer Programme
 03:05 *Shukhi Paribar*
 03:30 Campus
 04:05 *Sangeeta*
 04:30 Open University
 05:05 *Probash Mela*
 05:30 *Mithoshkria*
 06:00 *Desh Janopod*
 06:10 Euro Highlights
 07:00 Weather Forecast
 07:30 Musical Programme
 08:30 Drama Serial: *Shonar Horin*
 09:00 Drama Serial: *Aporajita*
 09:30 Drama Serial: *Jaley Tahar Chihaya Upohar*
 10:30
CHANNEL-i
 09:45 *Trityo Matra*
 10:45 *Grameen Phone Cricket on Line Chithi Pelam*
 11:30 Euro Round Up'04
 12:00 *Aaj Dupurey*
 12:30 *Bangla Film: Agni Path* (Rozina, Omar Sunny)
 04:00 *Banglar Gaan*
 05:00 *Sa Re Ga Ma i Sports*
 05:45 Music Plus
 06:45 i Speed
 07:50 Close up Juke Box
 08:25 Drama Serial: *Sharey Tin Tala*
 09:35 Drama Serial: *Anekei Eka*
 10:00 Drama Serial: *Taka*
ATN BANGLA
 10:30 Talk Show:

11:15 *Annodrishtee*
 Drama Serial: *Mohona*
 11:50 *Adibashi Janapad*
 12:30 *Bangla Film: Raja Shaheb*
 03:45 *Uro Cola Saat Rang*
 04:20 *Shomoshamoyik*
 05:10 Computer Programme
 06:20 *Annodrishtee*
 Drama Serial: *Achena Manush*
 08:00 Drama Serial: *Nagarey Bawla Batash*
 09:00 *Ek Dui Teen*
 Drama Serial: *Bhule Jawa Naam*
 10:35 *Bangla Film: Mrityu Dhandu*
 12:20
HBO
 10:15 The Crew
 12:00 Casper
 2:00 Curse of The Talisman
 4:00 Cinema Secrets III Ep 3: Remarking Reality
 7:15 Star Trek: Nemesis
 9:30 Red Dragon
 12:00 Nutty Professor II
 2:15 The Thirteenth Floor
STAR MOVIES
 8:45 Rare Birds
 10:30 The Kid Stays In The Picture
 12:00 Cocoon
 2:00 Hildegarde
 3:30 Lost In Yonkers
 5:25 Maiden Voyage
 7:00 Ice Age
 8:30 Home Room
 10:45 Leprechaun 2
 12:15 White Gold
STAR GOLD
 9:00 Sher - E - Hindustan
 12:30 Apradhi

PICK OF THE DAY



Ice Age
 On Star Movies at 7:00 pm
 Genre: Adventure / Animation / Comedy
 Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary

Probash Mela
 On BTV at 5:05 pm
 Magazine programme on expatriate Bangalis
 Hosted by Mamun Intiaz

4:30 Dadagiri
 8:00 Without Ticket
 8:30 Tum Bin
STAR PLUS
 12:00 Tanha
 1:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
 1:30 Kumkum- Pyara Sa Bandhan
 2:00 Bhabhi
 2:30 Kesar
 3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai
 3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
 4:00 Kahini To Hoga
 4:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz
 5:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney
 6:00 Samedwali Khidki
 6:30 Fox Kids
 7:30 Kumkum- Pyara Sa Bandhan
 8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
 8:30 Khichdi
 9:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay

7:00 Home Improvement
 7:30 Friends
 8:00 Just Shoot Me
 8:30 Special
 9:30 Wild Card
 10:30 Law & Order: SvU
 11:28 Star Asia Travel
 11:30 Baywatch
ANIMAL PLANET
 11:30 From Cradle to Grave: Dolphins, Dancers of the Deep
 12:30 Caught in the Act
 2:30 Wild Encounters: Mother Nature
 3:30 Pet Nation: The Classified Episode
 4:00 Pet Nation
 4:30 Pet Nation: Mr. Fancy Pants
 5:00 Pet Nation: Phyllis The Manatee, Search & Rescue, Wallaby
 5:30 Pet Nation: Weimaraner

5:30 Globe Trekker: Deep South USA
 6:30 Speed: Extreme Machines : Million dollar motors
 7:30 Wild Discovery: The Devil's Playground
 8:30 Science Frontiers
 9:30 Space and Universe: Space Medicine Space Research
 10:30 Junkyard Wars: Railroad Racers
 11:30 Spy Fi: Cia: America's Secret Warriors Betrayal
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
 9:30 Bug Attack
 10:30 National Geographic Special
 11:30 Dogs With Jobs
 12:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
 12:30 On Assignment
 1:00 Snake Wranglers
 1:30 Marco Polo
 2:00 Clan Of The Crocodile
 2:30 Chasing Time
 3:00 5 Weddings Couple Of Funeral
 3:30 Korubu: First Contact
 4:30 Croc Chronicles
 5:00 Wildlife Diary
 5:30 Wildlife Detectives
 6:00 Sea Stories
 6:30 Dogs With Jobs
 7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
 7:30 On Assignment
 8:00 Snake Wranglers
 8:30 Marco Polo
 9:00 On Assignment
 9:30 Chasing Time
 10:00 5 Weddings Couple Of Funeral
 10:30 Paradise Drowned
 11:30 Croc Chronicles
 12:00 Wildlife Diary

STAR SPORTS
 7:00 Sportsline (R)
 7:30 European Championship Highlights Uefa Euro 2004
 9:30 Hitz (R)
 10:00 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships London Uk 1st Round(R)
 The Golf Club 2004 (R)
 Hitz (R)
 4:00 World Enduro Championships 2004
 Thiers France Highlights(T)
 4:30 World Superbike Championships 2004
 Silverstone England Highlights(T)
 5:00 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships London First Round(L)
 Sportsline (L)
ESPN
 7:00 Espn School Quiz 2004 (R)
 7:30 Sportscenter India (R)
 8:00 Espn School Quiz 2004 (R)
 8:30 European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Switzerland Vs France First Round (R)
 11:00 European Championship Highlights Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 10
 4:30 U.S. Open Golf Championship Sportscenter At The U.S. Open Second Round Highlight Show(T)
 5:30 Espn School Quiz 2004 (T)

6:00 Asa World Tour - Inline Street Cincinnati Oh Usa (R)
 6:30 Football Focus Extra (L)
 7:00 Espn Presents Samsung Cricket Show (R)
 7:30 European Championship Highlights Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 10 Highlights(R)
 8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
 9:00 European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Croatia Vs England First Round(R)
 11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
 12:00 Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (L)
TEN SPORTS
 7:00 Beach Volleyball Highlights
 9:00 Raw : Ep 576
 9:30 Sanjays Modern Masters
 10:00 Gamer TV
 10:30 ICC Cricket World
 11:00 Gillette World Sport
 11:30 ATP Tennis
 12:00 Gamer TV
 3:00 Hockey Classics: Beach Volleyball Highlights
 3:30 Gamer TV
 4:00 Gillette World Sport
 4:30 ATP Tennis
 5:00 Gamer TV
 5:30 Sanjays Modern Masters
 7:30 Smackdown 2: Ep 251
 8:00 Gamer TV
 9:00 French Tennis: Events Highlights 04
 11:00 Hockey Classics: Argentina v Pak