CULTURE Glories of ancient temples

Babu Ahmed's photographs uncover our rich cultural heritage

HARUN UR RASHID

HOTOGRAPHER Babu Ahmed considers the whole of Bangladesh to be a museum. And he has used the medium of photography to illustrate the country's rich cultural heritage, exemplified by its grand monuments. The focus of his work is to uncover the miserable negligence of these monuments through the years.

Babu's present exhibition at Bengal



Shilpalaya puts up photographs of a hundred temples scattered across the country. All these temples, built between the 16th and early 20th centuries, once had glorious moments, vibrant with religious rituals performed by devout followers. Exquisite terracotta embellishments, inimitable architectural innovations added to that glory.

At present, however, almost all these temples are facing serious threat. Most of them have been discarded long ago. Trees have overgrown on them, causing damage to the plaster, pillars and other parts of these graceful architectural wonders.



Kalinarayana Temple, Joydevpur, Gazipur; a Pancha Ratna type temple built circa late 19th

The exhibition was inaugurated by the German Ambassador to Bangladesh, Dietrich Andreas. Director and Representative of UNESCO Bangladesh, Wolfgang Vollman, was also present at the event. Vollman said that the UNESCO will publish a book containing 35 photos by Babu Ahmed, which will convey the rich cultural tradition of Bangladesh to other countries of the

Babu's exhibition is more of documentary type rather than art photography. It presents the principal kinds of temples found in the country like Ek Chala (one roof), Do-Chala (double roof), Char Chala (Quadruple roof), Ek Bangla (single hut), Jor Bangla (twin hut), Ek Ratna (single minaret, Pancha Ratna (five minarets), Naba Ratna (nine minarets) and one-storeyed and two-storeyed temples. The photographs are accompanied by brief

information about the names of the temples. their builders and the time of their construc-

Among the most ancient temples is the Mathurapur Deul of Madhukhali, Faridpur, built in about the 16th century by Sangram Singh, a Kshatriya General of the Mughals. Intricate terracotta works have given an elegant look to the cone-shaped building with a small entrance on one side.

Built in a comparatively nearer past, in 1810, the Nova-Ratna temple at Sujanagar, Pabna, is in ruins with overgrown shrubs and trees. Now desolate, the temple was built by Zamindar Gurugovinda Chowdhury of Tantibad, Sujanagar.

Jora Siva Temple (built in 1820) of Muktagachha, Mymensingh, is another such temple with trees grown on its cornices and roof. Queen Bimla Devi built this twin temple

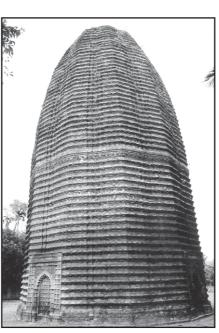
dedicated to Hindu God and Goddess Siva

Babu Ahmed, a former photographer of the Dainik Prothom Alo and the Dainik Sanbad, has been taking photos of such monuments since 1988. Of the thousands of monuments that bear marks of our cultural heritage, Babu has so far captured 500 through his camera.

Titled Bangladesher Shoto Mandir (One Hundred Temples), this is Babu's 3rd exhibition. His other displays were A Glimpse of Bangladeshi Heritage in 2002 and Mughal Muslim Architecture (Part 1) in 2003.

The young photographer dreams of creating mass awareness about the need to protect the cultural heritage of the country.

The exhibition runs until August 10.



Mathurapur Deul, Madhukhali, Faridpur; built

An evening with Farida Parveen

Orchestra, the event management company, came up with vet another of its musical ventures. At the All Community Club located in Gulshan 2, this company arranged an evening with the gifted singer, Farida Parveen, titled Achin Pakhi.

From the start, it was clear that the audience was in for music that enriched both the soul and mind. The evening began with a total of seven numbers from Badrunnessa Dahlia, a television and radio artiste. She warmed the crowd with popular numbers like Ey sundor sarnali shondha, Jale bhasha poddo aami, Bashi shune aar kaaj nai, Jhinuk phota and many more. The audience enjoyed the series of golden oldies, which also made the wait for the folk-legend much fruitful.

Farida Parveen stepped on stage next, much to the delight of the spectators. The hall was adorned in white with lit candles. Farida enthralled the crowd with all-time favourites like Aami apar hoye boshe achi, Barir kache arshi nogor, O amaar desh, o amaar prem, Paare ke jaabi, Khanchar bhetor achin pakhi, Jaat jaat gelo, Barir kache, Teen



Farida Parveen rendering Lalon songs, with Gazi Abdul Hakim on the flute

leaving the audience asking for more.

Her interesting quips in between her songs made the evening more delightful, not to mention the anecdotes and her many experiences gathered in all these years. She reminisced about the time when she along with a few other artistes from Bangladesh had toured over the subcontinent, enthralling the foreign audience with the essence of folk music from her land Pride was seen glowing on her face

when she spoke to the awe-struck audience about the respect and admiration she gathered that night.

Her simple yet harmonic set consisted of a flute played by the eminent Gazi Abdul Hakim, dotara played by Sheikh Jalaluddin, dhol played by SM Reza popularly known as Ghoti Babu, tabla played by Biswajit Sarkar and the octopads played by Reed.

The story of Tagore's lost belongings

SAKYASEN MITTRA, Kolkata

A new team will take over the investigation of the unsolved theft of litterateur Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel prize from his home inside Visva Bharati University. Currently investigations are being carried out jointly by officials of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and West Bengal police. But in view of the little headway the probe has made, authorities have decided to replace the present CBI sleuths with a new team, government officials indicated here On March 25, security staff of Uttarayan, Tagore's home

inside Visva Bharati University in Shantiniketan town, discovered that at least 50 of his memorabilia, including the Nobel gold medal he won in 1913, were missing. Two gold bangles and a sari of the poet's wife Mrinalini Devi, a ring belonging to his father Devendranath, some ornaments, silver utensils, several rare paintings and articles made of ivory were also found missing. Several people were

raided, antique dealers tapped and a rupees one million reward announced for information on the theft - but did not yield any result.

Investigators are unsure of the motive behind the theft but don't rule out the involvement of university staff. Investigations into the theft revealed new scandals at the university, including a racket that gave jobs to people with fake educational certificates. Dilip Sinha, the previous vice chancellor of the university, was arrested for passing off as genuine fake certificates of a teacher at the university. Sinha and the teacher, Mukti Deb, are now under arrest.

But the probe into the Nobel theft appears to have run into a wall. University authorities have asked the Swedenbased Nobel award's committee for a replica of the medal. The authorities have also decided to throw open the Uttarayan complex to visitors. This complex was closed after the heist. It houses a museum of Tagore's memora-

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Bangladesher Shoto Mandir (One Hundred Temple) Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, 275/F, Time: August 01-10, 12pm-08pm

Arts and Crafts from Switzerland

Organiser: Embassy of Switzerland Venue: Bangladesh National Time: July 30-August 10, from 10 am

Abhijit 6th Solo Exhibition Venue: Alliance Française, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi am-4 pm, 5 pm-8 pm

Second Solo Print Artiste: Ishihara Makoto Time: August 02-07 Venue: Zainul Gallery of the Fine Arts Institute, Dhaka University Solo Exhibition Artiste: Babul ahmed

Venue: Exhibition Hall of the Russian

Cultural Centre

Time: August 02-08

Nagarik Natyasampradaya to stage -- Raktokarabi



To observe the death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Nagarik Natyasampradaya will stage Tagore's play-- Raktokarabi directed by Ataur Rahman on August 6 at Mahila Shamity Stage. It is a fundraiser effort for the flood victims

Flood Aid Concert by Rupokatha

spread all over the country. While their lives for the better.' talking to the organisers of this have organised many musical priced at Tk 250. The concert will

charity concert, 'they said. 'Every penny from this event will be ing a concert at the Winter Gar- donated to the various agencies, den, Hotel Sheraton. The funds which are working towards

Swapnadal observes Hiroshima Day

On August 6, Swapnadal, a theatrical group has arranged a programme at the Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy to remember the victims of the Nuclear Bomb during the Second World War in Hiroshima and Nagasaki,

century) by Badal Sarkar at the Experimental Theatre Stage at 7 p.m. A photography exhibition on the victims of the atrocity will also be held at the same venue.



recently, during her concert at the Roman Theater in Carthage as part of her Tunisian tour.

3:30

4:00

4:30

5:30

6:00

6:30

7:30

9:00

1:00

2:30

Legendary Outlaw

of Nature Vultures

Pet Nation Vets in

Practice A Day to

Per Nation Emergency

Pet Nation Emergency

Vets Skin & Bones

Pet Nation Breed All

Pet Nation Elephant

Trilogy: Living with

Pet Nation Breed all

Pet Nation Elephant

Trilogy: Living with

Pet Nation Amazing

Animal Videos Season

Weird Nature Marvelous

Weird Animal Legends

Andre, the Seal/Buddy

Weird Animal X Komodo

Wild Encounters Doctor

Weird Supernatural

Close Encounters

Dragon Lore

Nightmares of Nature

Secret World of

about it Rottweiler

Vets Perils of

About It Collie

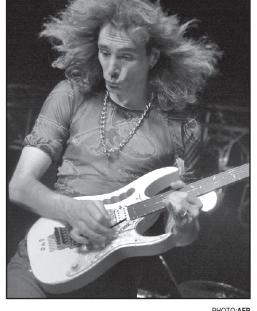
Puppyhood

Elephants

Elephants

Motion

Wild Encounters Profiles



US rock guitarist Steve Vai performs during a

Harsha Unplugged

Prakash Padukone(R)

Futbol Mundial (T)

Born To Play: Masters

Sportsline (L)

Of Football (T)

Series Western &

Southern Financial

Cincinnati Cincinnati Oh

Tennis Masters Series

Financial Group Masters

- Cincinnati Oh Usa L

Luther Lassiter Vs Irving

Classic's Billiards

Western & Southern

Group Masters -

Usa L Ast 16(L)

Sportsline (R)

Ast 16(L)

Crane (R)

concert at the Hong Kong International Trade and well as 1980s rockers Whitesnake, is currently

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

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

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am.10:00am.

2:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00 Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. ntv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am.

12:00 am. 6:15 pm. 9:30 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 am. 2:00 pm. 5:00 pm.7:30 pm.10:30 pm. Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. **TARA BANGLA**

NewsHeadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30

BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 . Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30

CHANNEL-i

Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public reaction 09:45 Tritiyo Matra 11:00 Agora Shopping 11:30 Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roddur 12:00 Chithi Pelam 12:30 Aaj Dupurey and

01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaar 01:30 Public Reaction 02:00 04:30 Dekhar Gaan Shonai 05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:35 Jonopoder Khobor 05:45 Musical Programme Music Plus

CitvCell Taroka

Aamar Chhobi 06:45 Drama Serial: Keboli Raat Hoye Jai 08:25 Drama Serial: Sharey Drama Serial: Upoha 10:00 Close Up Hit Wave ntv

08:00 Aaiker Shokal 08:30 Chenashur 09:00 Sports World 09:30 Museum Around the World 10:05 ShaplaKuri 10:30 Dhakar Cinema 01:25 TVC Drama Serial: 02:30 Sporsher Bairey 03:05 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan

Drama Serial: Shaola

Gambhira

Mahilangan

Shubhoshondhya

03:45

04:25

05:20

06:20

06:50 Ain O Jibon Drama Serial: Ronger 08:20 Manush 08:50 Drama: Ghatona Prashanggik 11:25 Dindarpan

TARA BANGLA Fully Fatafati Fantasy

11:30 Tele Shopping 12:00 Syllebusey Ne 12:30 Sri Ramkrishna 1:00 Filmi Furti 2:00 Taka Na Sona 2:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo 3:00 Swapner Rang Neel 4:00 Baro Eka Lage 4:30 Filmi Furti 5:00 Ghare O Baire 6:00 Serial Yug 6:30 Taka Na Sona 7:00 Sri Ramkrishna Tarpor Chand Uthlo 7:30 8:00 Antakshari 8:30 Serial Swapner Rang 10:00

Baro Eka Lage 10:30 Live Doshtai **HBO** Strange Frequency 3 12:00

Three Kings 2:15 Center Stage 4:30 Necessary Rough 6:45 Sphere The Fast and The 9:30 Furious D-Tox

11:45 **STAR MOVIES**

We Were Soldiers 11:40 **Unstrung Heroes** 1:15 Mr. Jones 3:15 The Color Of Money 5:20 **Guarding Tess** People I Know

Rupkatha, an event management first time that we are organising a company run by a few enthusiastic young people, will be organis-

collected from this concert will rescuing the flood victims from be donated to the flood victims their despair and developing Big names like NagarBaul. event, Sujon and Robin said that LRB, Warfaze, Dalchut, Artcell this is the first charity concert and Black will be performing in that they are organising. 'We the concert. Tickets have been

events and concerts. This is the be held on August 6 at 3.00 pm.

To observe the day, Swapnadal will stage a play-- Tringshoshatapdi (thirtieth

Lebanese singing star Nancy Ajram performs on stage,

Exhibition Centre (HITEC), recently. Vai, who was once a member of US legend Frank Zappa's band as touring with his band in Asia and Australia -- heading next to Beijing.

7:30

8:00

8:30

10:30

ESPN

PICK OF THE DAY



Hit Filmein Hit

Fox Kids

Bandhan

Boom

7:30

8:00

8:30

9:30

10:30

11:00

11:30

2:28

2:30

STAR WORLD

Life Nahin Hai Ladoo

Kumkum - Pyara Sa

Shaka Laka Boom

Dekho Magar Pyaar

Kasauti Zindagi Kay

Kahaani Ghar Ghar

Saara Akaash

Kvunki Saas Bhi

Kabhi Bahu Thi

Kahiin To Hoga

Mac Gyver

Star Asia Travel

Oprah Winfrey Show

Kaahin Kissi Roz

Sphere On HBO at 6:45 pm Genre: Sci-Fi/Thriller Cast: Dustin Hoffman, Sharon Stone

We Were Soldiers

Prem Shakti

Shirdi Sai Baba

Hum

Arjun

Bandish

Kora Kagaz

Sangeet

Bandhan

Hit Filmein Hit

Kasauti Zindagi Kay

Kumkum - Pyara Sa

Kabhi Aaye Na Judai

Kyunki Saas Bhi

Kabhi Bahu Thi

Kahiin To Hoga

Kaahin Kissi Roz

Tedhe Medhe Sapney

STAR GOLD

STAR PLUS

9:50

1:30

4:50

8:30

12:00

12:00

12:30

2:30

3:30

4:00



Keboli Rat Hoye Jay On Channel i at 7:50 pm Drama Serial Cast: Hridi Haque, Swapna Ferdousy, Mahfuz Ahmed

3:30

3:30	Bold And Beautiful
4:30	Hollywood Squares
5:00	Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30	Miami Vice
6:30	The Simpsons
7:00	Home Improvement
7:30	Friends
8:00	Just Shoot Me
8:30	Race To The Altar
10:30	Angel
11:28	Star Asia Travel

Baywatch NATIONAL **GEOGRAPHIC**

The Mighty Civet The Weather 2:30 Mission Everes India Diaries Finding Elliot-A Remarkable Dinosau

6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 Great Adventures With Hayden Turner 8:30 Fat Plague

Special 11:30 ANIMAL PLANET Toyota World Of Wildlife 12:00

One Day One World:

Cheating Death Africa From The Ground Sea Stories Dogs With Jobs S3 Toyota World Of Wildlife

Mission Everest 9:30 10:30 National Geographic Cheating Death

Weird Animal Legends Comanche/Ginny Weird Supernatural Paranormal Weird Animal X Kidnapping Dingo 1:30

9:30 10:00 10:30 11:30

Nightmares of nature Animal X Skunk Ape 12:00 **DISCOVERY** 12:30

Wedding Story Morlan & Victor Baby it's you 1:30 Fitness Fantasy Andy Martin/Rockclimbing

Living Pulse

Detective Stories The

New Detectives: Case Studies in Forensic Science Body Count Wild Discovery 25 Years of Survival Zach's ultimate Guide **Great Apes** Energy in Action **Nuclear Energy**

Great Hotels Shutters

on the Beach Santa Monica 6:00 Great Hotels The **Breakers** 6:30 Wings Thunderbirds Wild Discovery Alligators with Nigel Marven

Animal Face Off Siberian Tiger Vs. Grizzly Bear Wild Cat Country Sabretooth 10:30 Bazaar Shopping in Beautification with

Hawaiian Beaches Sophisticated Style Beach Hour Top ten Hawaiian Beaches

STAR SPORTS Cricket Gold (T) Born To Play: Masters 3:00 4:00

Rip (T)

5:30

Of Football (R) Asia Golf Travel (R) Watersports Programming Hot Water (T) Extreme Programming Sports Mania (T) Football Asia (R) Extreme Programming

laaf Super Grand Prix

Republic Highlights(T)

Ostrava Czech

Rubie & Millie Top ten

Indianoil Asia Cup 2004 Colombo Sri Lanka India Vs Bangladesh 7th Odi 1st Session(R) Indianoil Asia Cup 2004 Colombo Sri Lanka India Vs Bangladesh 7th Odi 2nd Session(R) Asian X Games Vi Presented By Toyota Skateboard Vert P/L's And Final(T) Cricket Gold (R) Streetball Streetball The 2004 And 1 Mix Tape Tour (R)

Sportscenter India (L' Uk Domestic Cricket Twenty20 Cup Yorkshire Vs Lancashire (R) 11:30 Sportscenter India (R) Sportscenter Asia (S)