

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Title: Songs in Praise of Trees



Photographer: Ismat Ullah

Venue: Shilpangan, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi

Time: October 27-November 02, 10:30am-03:30pm and 06:30pm-08:30pm

Title: Neel-Indigo Exhibition

Organiser: Aranya & Source (MCC)

Venue: Aranya, 60 Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani

Time: October 22-November 15

The event features daily demonstrations of dyeing and printing with indigo as well as information on its cultivation and extraction.

Tapestry Exhibition

Title: Golden Tapestry Exhibition

Artists: Students from different schools of Bangladesh

Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road

Time: November 2-4, from 10am to 4pm

Title: Italian Art Books and Handicrafts Show

Organiser: The Italian Embassy

Venue: The Italian Ambassador's residence, House NW 7, Road 54, Gulshan 2

Time: October 29-30, from 10am to 2pm

Title: Even the Walls Have Ears



Artist: Tayeba Begum Lipi

Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi

Time: October 21-31, from 5pm to 8pm

Title: Islamic Calligraphy & Italian Reproduction Art

Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road 36, House 16, Gulshan

Time: October 29-November 20, from 12pm to 4pm, 7pm to 9pm

Title: Power

Artist: Khalid Mahmood Mithu

Venue: Gallery Chitrag, Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi

Time: October 22-31, from 10am to 8pm

Savouring the country delicacies

Iftar in a different setting

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

NOWADAYS, when one looks at the front page of the national dailies or the electronic media, one can hardly be unaware of the frenzied customers and not feel the pulse of the denizens at the shopping arcades. Makeshift stalls and restaurants are selling the mouth watering iftar items ranging from *jilebi*, *halim*, *dahi-bara* and many more. Ramadan is on.

But, I wonder why there are no pictures of how Ramadan is observed in villages!

My memory takes me back to my early visits to Sujabad, my ancestral home in Barisal in our younger days and how we observed Ramadan.

After a night-long journey, the big steamer 'Kiwi' finally docked at the shores of Barisal at dawn. From there, we boarded a boat for the final leg of the journey. The boat was clean, bright and spacious enough to be comfortable even for our large group. As the boat started off towards Sujabad, we all rushed to the deck to breathe in the fresh breeze from the river.

The trip was a long-awaited one for the whole family. We had planned to spend some days of Ramadan with our grandparents at our ancestral home. And our eager grandparents could scarcely wait for our huge 'troop' of cousins, nieces and nephews to arrive.

The sighting of the moon was always a special event. We made fun wagers on who would spot it first. That night we would gather in the attic to catch a glimpse of the elusive silver crescent. As



PHOTO: STAR

A wide array of iftar delicacies

some got busy preparing dinner for the guests (with the greatest dexterity so as not to smudge the fresh *mehendi*!), others left for the family mosque for prayers.

At night, we huddled around the fire in the centre of the yard, as the tantalising aroma of kebabs and a long session of songs from bygone days, put us in the mood for a hearty dinner. The

food ranged from *paturi* (prawns wrapped and baked in banana leaves), fried fish, to pilaf (*polaw*), plain rice and thick lentils, fresh vegetables, salads, pickles and desserts. Grandparents being grandparents, we could not leave the table without at least tasting every single dish.

Soon after, we would settle in for the night. Dinner would be taken early, so by the time it was 3 o'clock in the morning we would all

be up for another round of meal—*sehr*! Though it wasn't a pleasant experience to take meals at such early hours, there was the pleasure of being with your close ones and take vow to fast for the next day. Dessert would invariably be topped with a bowl full of thick creamy milk with molasses and a banana.

By the next morning, all tiredness forgotten, we would wake up with full vigour from the magic of the riverside air. While the boys took to chess and carom, the girls would lend a hand to

dadijan (grandma) in preparing meals for the evening.

It was always a festive event not for just one household but for the entire neighbourhood. We helped the shy neighbourhood *bous* (newly weds) who came over to help with the grinding of rice and spices. Some would accompany the elders to the nearby pond where fishermen were busy catching the king prawns and the *ruhi* fish. As the day light faded away, it would be time for a hearty *iftar*.

In the family room, a big *dastarkhan* (linen) with neat embroidery was laid out on the floor. Glasses were filled with fresh lime juice, *tokma*, curd sherbet or with sweet water from the tender coconuts. This was followed by *piazur*, *muri*, *chihola*, *alu puri*, *dal puri* and, last but not the least, the puffed rice balls with molasses; the *moa*—and a variety of *mithas* (cake) coated in date palm juice and thick milk. Nothing would please *dadagan* (grandpa) more than the dates and *chihola* with ginger and green chilies. Flattened rice *chira* and curd were what he said cooled the system after a long day of fasting.

Besides the rich array of delicacies, what moved me most was the way neighbours would join in, stop by for a chat, arrange for *iftar* together, and simply enjoy each other's company. Elders would complain about the price of foodstuff, boys about who caught the largest fish, and young girls—well there was no end to the chatter! It was not simply a quick *iftar* and rush off to watch TV, it was a time for bonding after a long day.

As we boarded our ship for the return trip, the happy visions of my family remained with me. Many years on, many miles away, I still hold dear those experiences. And for those of us who have enjoyed similar times, we know it's a time that will be cherished forever.



FILE PHOTO

A delectable variety of pithas (cakes)

someone sighted it, we all scrambled towards that end to get a closer look of the 'thin strand'—the new moon. The chanting of *Azaan* from the mosque heralded the start of Ramadan. The firecrackers went off next, probably some miles away. In the villages this was another simple way to spread the word!

The *mehendi* (henna) leaves had already been crushed and prepared into a fine paste. Then would begin the mad rush to have the most 'artistic' aunt paint flowery designs on our arms and palms with the vermillion *mehendi*. While

Rajib in critical condition



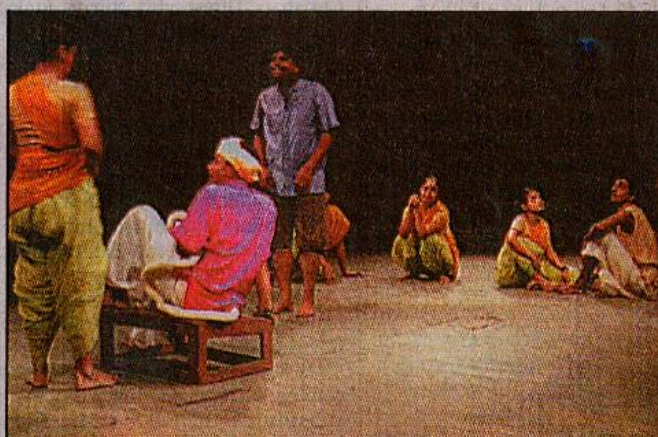
CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Wasimul Bari Rajib, a prominent name in film and television, is in a critical condition. He is suffering from intestinal cancer.

He was admitted to Holy Family Hospital on October 20. Earlier, last September he was admitted to the Singapore National University Hospital. However, due to little improvement in his condition, the doctors advised him to return to Bangladesh.

Currently, he is under the supervision of Professor Kaniz Mawla of Holy Family Hospital.

Rajib appealed to his fans and the people of Bangladesh to pray for his recovery.



Aranyak Natya Dai is going to stage its new production *Raaraang* at the Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy today at 7pm. Directed by Mamunur Rashid, *Raaraang* is set against the backdrop of the murder of Alfred Shoren, a Santal rebel. The story of oppression on the ethnic people has been narrated wonderfully in *Raaraang*.

OUR TALENTS

Bangladesh's rich cultural heritage has been built up by many notable talents. Some of them have passed away, while some are still contributing to their chosen fields. Here we continue to highlight their laudable moments in alphabetical order.

ABDUL ALIM

was born on July 27, 1931. A brilliant folk singer, Alim was gifted with a melodious voice which is yet to be surpassed by any of his peers in our country. His songs epitomised the very essence of folk culture and mesmerised listeners across the country. He played an important role in popularising this form of music.

Alim's talent in music took root in his childhood. He took music lessons from a local instructor, Syed Golam Ali, and earned a reputation as a singer. Later he went to Kolkata and became acquainted with Abbasuddin Ahmed and Kazi Nazrul Islam. He took lessons in folk music as well as classical music from Bedaruddin Ahmad, Ustad Mohammad Hossain Khasru, Momtaz Ali Khan, Abdul Latif, Kanailal Shil, Abdul Halim Chowdhury and others. He recorded his first two songs, *Tor Mostafake de na mago* and *Aftab ai baslo pate*, for a gramophone company in 1943.

After Partition Alim settled in Dhaka where he became a radio artiste. He also sang on television and for playbacks and recorded about 500 songs. He was highly regarded for his mystic *murshidi* and *bhatiali* songs. People who have heard Alim's presentation of *Naiya Rey Nayer Badaam Tuila*, *Duarey Aishachey Palki* and countless other songs will find it difficult to forget his presentation and artistic skills. Some popular songs rendered by Abdul Aleem are *Premar mora jole dobe na*, *Holudia pakhi shonar boron*, *Amare shajay dio noushar shajon*, *Porer jayga porer jomin*, *Babu salam bare bar*, *Shahshakhi par karite neo ana ana* and many more.

He received a number of national awards including the Ekushey Padak, Purbani Chalachchitra Purashkar and Bangladesh Chalachchitra Shangbadik Samiti Purashkar. He died on September 5, 1974 in Dhaka.



Anwara in Nawab Sirajuddaula

ANWARA'S

versatility as a powerful actress has made her a name to reckon with in the film industry. Born in 1948 in Comilla, Anwara started her career as a dancer as well as stage actress. Her first movie was *Azaan*. In the feature film *Bala* she first appeared as a heroine. She acted in films like *Nawab Sirajuddaula* in 1967 and *Golapi Ekhon Trainey* in 1978. She received the National Film Award 1986 as the best actress for the movie *Shubhida*. She has won the National Film Awards as the best actress in a supporting role for *Golapi Ekhon Trainey* (1978), *Shundori* (1979), *Sokhinar Juddha* (1984) and *Moroner Porey* (1990). Anwara also received BACHSHASH Awards as best actress in a supporting role for *Ma* (1977), *Koshai* (1980) and *Lal Kajo* (1982). She also was awarded with the FDC Silver Jubilee Trophy in 1983.

Photo Courtesy: Bangladesher Chalachchitra Itihash, Anupam Hayat

New Indiana Jones film on cards

A fourth installment of *Indiana Jones* looks to be on the cards.

Jeff Nathanson is reported to have been hired by George Lucas and Steven Spielberg to give the production a makeover.

A new blockbuster movie seemed set to come to a dead end in February when Paramount Pictures torpedoed a summer production.

That was because Lucas did not like the script. He, Spielberg and star Harrison Ford have an agreement that they all have to approve the script before any go-ahead.

Nathanson has all the credentials to come up with a script that plays well with Spielberg. The two have worked well together, Nathanson writing *Catch Me If You Can* and co-scripting *The Terminal*.

Source: Internet



A scene from the first Indiana Jones movie Raiders of the Lost Ark

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, 3:30 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) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i

07:30 Musical Programme: Prothom Shur
09:30 Shongbadpotrey
09:30 Bangladesh O Public Reaction
09:30 Triloko Maitra
10:30 Live Show: Tele Shomoy

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 5:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 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, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (Bangla) at 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.

BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

BTV

07:30 Bangladesh Hridoy
12:35 Satellite Programme
03:25 Bangla Feature Film
06:25 Special Programme
07:05 Malincho
07:30 Aisi Laka
08:30 Anondo Aayon
09:00 Itadi
10:30 Talk Show: Lal Golap

CHANNEL-i

07:30 Musical Programme: Prothom Shur
09:30 Shongbadpotrey
09:30 Bangladesh O Public Reaction
09:30 Triloko Maitra
10:30 Live Show: Tele Shomoy
11:30 Islam Ki Boley
12:00 Talk Show: Kora Alap
12:30 Sa Re Ga Ma
01:00 Banglar Gaan
01:30 Public Reaction
04:40 Janopader Khobar
05:45 Manohar Iftar
06:00 Music Plus
07:50 Weekly Drama: Bela Abela
09:35 Drama Serial: 69
10:00 Drama Serial: Ahonish
Bhulobshay Ekjon

ATN BANGLA

07:30 The Sword of Tipu Sultan
10:25 Annodisheete
11:05 Islamic Programme
03:40 Binodon Jummabar
05:10 Mobarak Ho Mahe Ramadan
06:20 Amra Korbo Joy

08:00

Rup Madhuri
08:30 Drama Serial: Knowab
09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Nee Beguni
09:30 Drama Serial: Baba
10:35 Cine Musical
Programme
Shushtha Thakun

ntv

08:00 Aajker Shakal
08:30 Siddika Kabir's Recipe
09:20 Asin O Jibon
10:30 Apnar Jigyasha
11:30 Trans World Sports
01:05 Smritir Janalay
02:30 Drama: Swarnodalana
03:45 Circus
05:20 Tiffinor Fankay
06:20 Shubho Shondhoy
08:15 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush
08:50 Pepsi Music Express
09:40 Drama: Manushiti
Dindarpan
11:25

HBO

9:15 Riding in Cars with Boys
12:00 Urban Legend
2:00 Red Dragon
4:30 Cinema Secrets
5:00 Sweet November
7:30 Dark Waters
9:30 Valentine
12:45 Mercy

STAR MOVIES

8:30 American Ninja 4
10:15 Brave New World
12:45 Rumor Of Angels
1:30 The Marrying Man
3:30 The Curse Of The Jade Scorpion
5:10 It Runs In The Family

7:00

Johnny English
Hitched
11:00 Brave New World
11:30 To Kill A King
STAR GOLD
9:30 Raja Hindustani
1:30 Knada Gawah
5:00 Mera Yaar Mera Dushman
8:30 Tum Bin
12:05 Dacati
ZEE CINEMA
1:00 Ahankaar
4:30 Do Aankhen
9:30 Aashiq
1:00 Shikha Hai Pyar Ka
3:30 Khiladiyon Ka Khiladi
7:00 Bollywood Blockbuster: Aitbaar

AXN

9:30 24
10:30 Ripley's Believe It Or Not!
11:30 Ruled X
12:00 The Right Stuff
12:30 CSI: Miami
1:30 Now See This
2:00 Wrc 2004 Rally
2:30 Ripley's Believe It Or Not!
3:30 24
4:30 Rated X
5:00 The Right Stuff
5:30 Cast Away
6:30 Andromeda
9:30 Axn Shakedown
10:30 Totally Outrageous
11:30 Poorman's Bikini Beach
CARTOON NETWORK
8:30 Pokemon
9:00 Digimon
9:30 The Scooby-Doo Show

10:30

Tom and Jerry Kids
Boo!
11:30 Rubadubbers
12:00 Baby Looney Tunes
12:30 A Pup Named Scooby-Doo
1:00 Boo!
1:30 Rubadubbers
2:00 Baby Looney Tunes
2:30 A Pup Named Scooby-Doo
3:00 The Legend of Snow White
3:30 The Powerpuff Girls
5:00 Justice League
5:30 Pokemon
6:00 Digimon
6:30 Tom and Jerry Show
7:30 All New Popeye
8:00 Dexter's Laboratory
8:30 Pokemon
9:00 Digimon
9:30 Tom and Jerry Show
10:00 Dexter's Laboratory
11:30 The Mask
11:00 Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries
11:30 The New Scooby-Doo Movies

ESPN

English Premier Football League
2004/05 Liverpool Vs Charlton Athletic (R)
2:30 Asian X Games
3:00 English Premier Football League
2004/05 Aston Villa Vs Fulham
5:00 Motorsport Asia (T)
5:30 Hitz (R)
6:00 Monster Truck Drags
Usa (R)

6:30

English Premier Football League
2004/05 Southampton Vs Birmingham City (R)
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 English Premier League Preview (T)
9:30 Harsha Un plugged (T)
10:00 Samsung Cricket Show (T)
10:30 Here We Go (S)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
12:00 Sportscenter Asia (S)

STAR SPORTS

8:00 New Zealand Tour Of Bangladesh 2nd Test Day 3 Highlights (R)
9:20 New Zealand Tour Of Bangladesh 2nd Test Day 4 Highlights (S)
4:30 Asia Golf Travel (R)
5:45 English Premier League Preview (T)
6:15 Tennis Swiss Indoors 2004 (L)
10:00 Nba Inside Stuff (T)
10:30 Sportsline (R)
11:30 New Zealand Tour Of Bangladesh 2nd Test Day 4 Highlights (S)

TEN SPORTS

1:30 Pakistan v Sri Lanka 2nd Test Day 2 (L)
6:30 Pakistan v Sri Lanka 2nd Test Day 2 (Review)
8:00 WWE Velocity
10:00 Pakistan v Sri Lanka 2nd Test Day 2 H/L
11:00 Italian Serie A Highlights
12:00 WWE Velocity

WHEN PRIYO SUPER SHOP BECKONS

For the finest imported silk and gorgeous chiffon saris and delectable *shalwar-kameez* sets, visit Priyo Super Shop at 26, Kamal Ataturk Road, Banani. To get brand-name accessories -- including shoes and handbags -- French perfumes, colognes and other desirable cosmetics, come to this cool outlet, where East meets West. One can pause and shop at will, when the mood takes one.

Here are also men's sophisticated suits, blazers, shirts, *punjabis*, and other suave accessories, like ties, shoes, wallets and belts-- which will definitely win one's heart. Children's items, like frilled and delicately embroidered party dresses of pretty, pastel shades and shirts are here for the calling. So are other children's goods, like cute shoes, along with a delicious selection of confectionery at this shopping mall.

The items are available at reasonable prices, to suit the middle class pocket, and should please expatriate tastes too. Stop and shop some time at this outlet for the coming Eid.