

## CULTURAL FEAST

## Exhibition

Title: Bandhan



Mritu Pakhi by Rafiqun Nabl

Artists: (Bangladesh) Quamrul Haqan, Aminul Islam, Qayyum Chowdhury, Debdas Chakraborty, Hashem Khan, Samajit Roy Chowdhury, Monirul Islam, Rafiqun Nabl, Nitun Kundu, Mahmudul Haque, Abbas Shakor, Farida Zaman, Ranjit Das and Maksudul Ahsan; (India) FN Sözü, MF Husain, KG Subramanyam, Jogen Chowdhury, Sanat Kar, Uttam Kumar Basak and Adity Chokravarti. Venue: Shilpangan, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi. Time: December 30-January 8, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm.

## Retrospective

Title: Tanvirul Dol. Organiser: Alliance Française. Schedule: January 14, 06:00 pm Inauguration of photography exhibition of Pierre Clapin on making of Lalshalu, Oyee Jamuna and Lalon. Screening of Achin Pakhi. January 16, 05:00 pm Oyee Jamuna. 06:00 pm Chitra Nodir Parey. January 17, 05:00 pm Images and Impressions (Documentary on the ideals of the International Folk High School in Denmark). 06:00 pm Lalshalu. January 18, 06:00 pm Lalon.

## Film Screening

Alfred Hitchcock Retrospective. Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society. Venue: Goethe Institut, House 10, Road 09, Dhanmondi. Schedule: January 11, 03:00 pm onwards Rebecca and Spellbound. January 12, 03:00 pm onwards The Birds and Topaz.

## CD Launch

Title: Bhalobashar Kono Maney Nei. Artists: Fahmida Nabl and Nipo. Venue: Bakultala, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Time: January 07, at 4:00pm.

## Flower Show

Title: UNESCO Club Flower Show Competition. Organiser: National Association of UNESCO. Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbag. Time: January 09, from 10:30am to 5:00pm.



## Exhibition

## Cultural bonds in photography

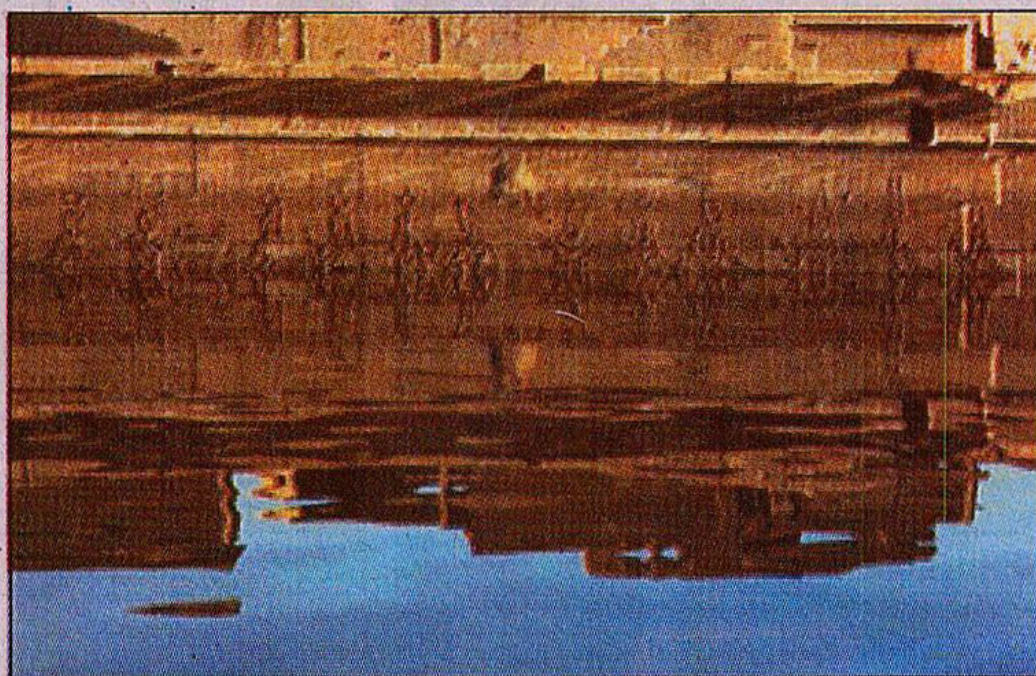
HARUN UR RASHID

DIK Gallery is holding a photography exhibition titled *Bridging East and West* depicting the change of the eastern and middle eastern regions of Asia and its connection with the west in terms of economy, politics and culture. The 11-day long display contains photographs that have been published in the bimonthly magazine *Saudi Aramco World* brought out by the Arabian American Oil Company since November 1949.

Initially published as a newsletter, the magazine's aim has been to link the company's US offices with "the field"—primarily Dhahran, in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. But as oil took on greater global importance and *Aramco* grew with the oil boom of the 1960s and '70s, the publication grew into a bimonthly educational magazine. Historical, geographical and cultural articles helped the American employees and their families appreciate an unfamiliar land.

The photographs at the exhibition have been placed decade-wise, from the 1950s to the present. And through this, the whole presentation becomes a photographic demonstration of the theme of the display.

A black-and-white photograph by an unknown photographer depicts a caravan of Bedouins on



Photograph by Nik Wheeler from the '70s depicts the Temple of goddess Isis at Philae

their move crossing the 1729-kilometre Trans Arabian Pipeline—well-known as Tapline—which connects the new oilfields of Saudi Arabian Eastern Province with the Mediterranean. Phoenicia's Eternal City by Khalil Abou El-Nasr presents the city of Sidon in February 1958. The accompanying article called it "a city of laminated civil-

sations...where you can have your car filled with gasoline at a sparkling new service station while watching archeologists uncover the ruins of an ancient king's stables."

By the 1960s, the pictures mostly become colour presenting the mysterious-looking Cairo at sunset, cablecars hovering between the mountain and the sea at Jounieh, the "Jewel of Lebanon", Istanbul—the "Queen of Cities" etc.

One photograph by Nik Wheeler from the '70s depicts the Temple of goddess Isis at Philae in danger as the waters of the Nile rose along the face of the temple after the construction of the Aswan High Dam in 1970. A total of 21 endangered monuments including the famous statues of Ramses II at Abu Simbel were removed from the site. Only the Temple of Isis and the Temple of Trajan at Philae had to be moved after they were partly inundated. The project required the construction of a cofferdam around the two temples, which was then pumped dry. The temples were then moved, stone by stone—all 40,000 stones—

to higher ground nearby.

The 1982 photograph of Katrina Thomas captures the Lebanese singer Fairouz who came to lime-light after the death of Umm Kulthoum in 1975. With the Lebanese civil war, her popularity soared further, for her voice seemed to capture the spirit of the time. Her velvety voice, elegiac and angelic, carried with it the full weight of the Lebanese tragedy, and yet inspired her audience to envision her homeland made whole again.

One of the very recent photographs project the famous desert caves of Saudi Arabia that were created during the rainy epoch that lasted from 30,000 to 8000 years ago. The moist climate left limestone outcrops in central Saudi Arabia riddled with sinkholes. Some remain valuable water sources today, while others lead down to spectacular, largely unexplored dry caverns such as "The Dome" in Dhal Shawyah.

The exhibition runs till January 11 from 3pm to 8pm.



One of the famous desert caves of Saudi Arabia

## ALL TIME GREATS

## Frank Sinatra: The singer sings his song

Frank Sinatra's appeal never dies. "No one sells a song like Francis Albert Sinatra," a music critic once wrote. And this held true through nearly six decades of sweeping changes in music and pop culture. Cutting his first



record in 1939, in his long career he made around 1,800 recordings, gathered nine Grammys and won recognition as the foremost singer of the last century.

Perhaps Sinatra's mass appeal is best summed up by a date: 1996, the year he won his last Grammy for the album *Duets II*. The second in a series of albums, *Duets* paired Sinatra with contemporary artists like Bono of U2 and Gloria Estefan, and symbolised resurgence in the popularity of swingera music in the 1990s.

Sinatra decided to enter the music world in 1933 after attending a concert by his idol, Bing Crosby. Then followed gigs at local clubs and bars, which led to a radio contest in which Sinatra, teamed with another trio, took

first prize. Subsequently, after a series of concerts and radio shows, in 1939 he fronted for bandleader Harry James.

In 1940, Sinatra signed up with band legend Tommy Dorsey. The team made several hit records in the World War II era. Later years saw Sinatra's singing career on the upswing. His string of hits included *New York, New York* and the all-time favourite *My Way*. Other classics were *Night and Day*, *Witchcraft*, *Strangers in the Night*, *September of my years* and a duet with his daughter Nancy, titled *Something Stupid*.

Sinatra won popular acclaim for his attention to detail and his philosophy of "reading" the lyrics with an unmatched clarity which wrong emotion from each

line. "What is the point of singing wonderful lyrics if the audience can't understand what is being said or heard?" once questioned Sinatra.

In the 1960s, Sinatra formed his own record label, Reprise Records. He topped the charts again with the albums *Nice and Easy* and *Strangers in the Night*. At the 1994 Grammy Awards in New York, Sinatra was honoured for a lifetime of musical accomplishments with the prestigious Legend award.

Filmmakers also know Sinatra's name. Among the films that he has starred in are *Higher and Higher* (1944), *Around the World in 80 Days* (1956) and *Von Ryan's Express* (1965).

He died on May 14, 1998.

## Popularising folk-art

## Christina Nygren: Promoting Swedish-Bangladeshi theatre

KAVITA CHARANTI

Christina Nygren, Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre Studies, Stockholm University, is no stranger to Bangladesh. A familiar face in the Dhaka theatre circuit, she was here once again in her capacity as a project manager with the Swedish Centre of International Theatre (ITI). The project, will run for three years and promote theatre activities among children and youth in South Asia. It is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

"The aim is to develop children's creativity by giving them their due as an audience. We seek to generate awareness of children's rights, gender equality, right to education and other social issues," says Christina. And the objective is not just didactic. "Along with education, the objective of the project is to entertain," she adds.

How does this philosophy translate into action? For one, the project seeks to build a bridge between theatre groups in Sweden and Bangladesh, at present cooperating with the Khulna-based Rupantar and Liaquat Ali Lucky's Rakhal and People's Little



Christina Nygren

Theatre. In March, Rupantar went to Sweden to stage performances. Further, around three weeks ago, a Swedish group called Slava came to Khulna to conduct a seven-day workshop. This was to culminate in a joint theatrical production called *Song of Man*.

Explaining the reasoning behind the partnership, a brochure on the workshop says, "We are relentlessly working to resurrect and rediscover the folk art forms from the roots to rescue them from erosion and oblivion

and to use them for community development. So we want to popularise forms like *Potgan*, *Austok*, *Kirtan* and *Jatra*."

In February 2005, another Swedish group, Tittut, is to come to Dhaka for a workshop with schools. "The workshop will serve as a platform to teach new theatrical techniques to the Swedish and Bangladeshi groups," said Christina.

What makes the project even more interesting, is that Rupantar has extended its reach to include rural areas in Sundarbans and the area in Khulna district.

Christina firmly believes that the common person has close links with theatre. She said that the audience in rural areas has a mix of "devotion and emotion" for drama. As she asserted, she has many times seen audiences of 7,000-8,000 people waiting for her an hour or two before a play. "In which country would this happen?" she questions.

Simultaneously with her other projects, Christina is set to publish a book on the performing arts of West Bengal and Bangladesh next year. Given her dedication to theatre, her latest work should be worth a read.

## Channel click

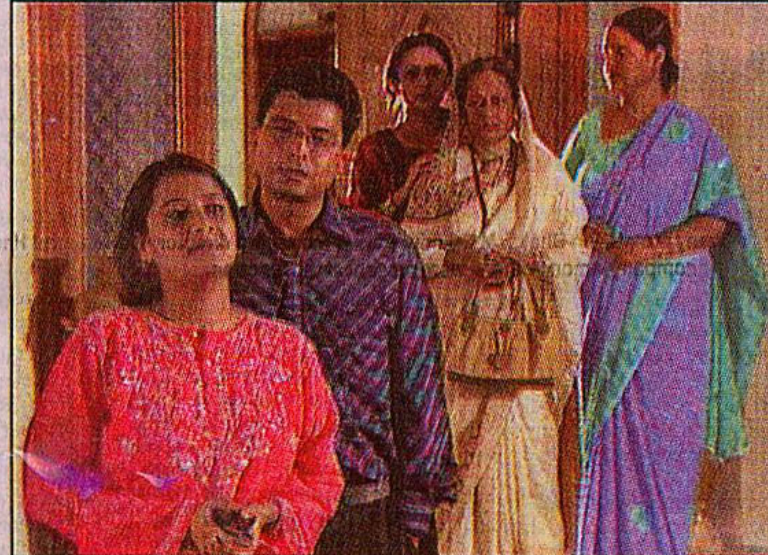
## Shwapnoloker Deshey

## A new drama serial with a message

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

*Shwapnoloker Deshey* is a tale of a self-reliant woman, Rabeya Khan who fights against social adversities and at times her own family. She carries on the family business after her husband's death. Two of her sons go abroad and eventually she loses the elder son in a plane crash. She struggles hard and establishes the business and ultimately becomes a business magnate. Her grandson Abir comes from abroad and assists her. As the business expands, Rabeya's reputation brings in profitable projects. Meanwhile, her younger son Raquib, returns from abroad, with the intention of grabbing his mother's riches. The twist of the story lies here when Raquib abducts his own mother for money.

Written by Saiful Islam Mannu and directed by Taher Shipon, the 13-episode drama is being telecast on BTV from Monday last. The protagonist of the drama is powerful actress Najma Anwar, who passed away recently. This is the last drama serial that she acted in. The role of her son, Raquib is played by Humayun Faridee while the other actors are

(L-R) Aupsee Karim, Shams Shumon, Chumki, Najma Anwar and Chitralakha Guha in *Shwapnoloker Deshey*, also the last drama played by Najma Anwar

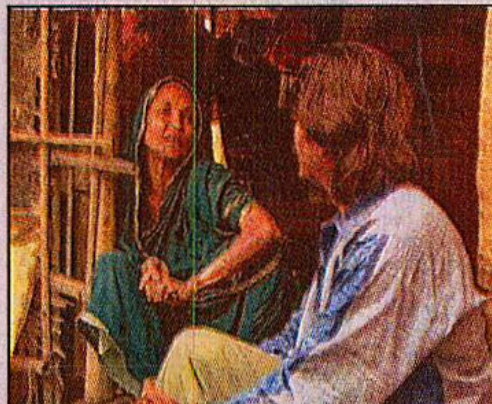
Chitralakha Guha, Aupsee Karim, Kunkum Hassan, Shams Shumon, Meer Sabbir and Nazneen Hassan Chumki. The drama features some newcomers like Mithi, Tanisha, Maznun Mizan and Apu Saif. According to Taher, "The youngsters did a good job and need constant encouragement."

A production of Dream Factory,

the serial has a message that family ties are important rather than money. About choosing BTV for the screening of the drama, the director said, "This is an attempt to go closer to the masses who mostly watch BTV. We offer the audience entertainment and assure them of upholding our originality."

## TV GUIDE

## PICK OF THE DAY

Bangladesh Vs Zimbabwe  
1st Test Match, Day 1  
Live on BTV and ESPN  
From 9:20 pmAIDS Protirodher Bikolpo Nai  
On tv at 6:50pm  
Awareness Programme  
Hosted by Kazi Shahidul Islam

9:30	D-Tox	1:30	Magnum P.I.
11:30	Enough	2:28	Star Asia Travel
1:45	Urban Cowboy	2:30	Oprah Winfrey Show
<b>STAR MOVIES</b>		3:00	Saarthi
8:45	Double Impact	5:00	Whose Line Is It Anyway
10:30	Leo	6:00	Shaadi Number One
12:15	American Psycho 2	6:30	Fox Kids
1:50	Hope Ranch	7:30	Kasauti Zindagi Kay
3:30	American Born Confused Desi	8:00	Saara Akaash
5:20	Made Up	9:00	Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
7:00	Road To Perdition	9:30	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
8:55	Killing Me Softly	10:30	Kahin To Hoga
10:30	Leo	12:00	K-Street Pali Hill
12:15	Creepshow II	11:30	Star Asia Travel
<b>STAR WORLD</b>		12:00	Cover Story
10:30	Ed		
11:30	Philly		
12:30	Third Watch III		

1:30	Doodh Ka Karz	3:00	Healing Touch
4:45	Vijeta	3:30	Great Romances of the 20th Century Ingrid Bergman & Roberto Rossellini
8:30	Ram Shashtra	4:00	Legends of the Isles Stonehenge
12:00	Aamne Saamne	4:30	The Case Studies In Forensic Science Material Witness
<b>NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC</b>		5:30	I Love My Music, My Animal and My House
10:00	Next Wave	6:00	Fat Free Food for Thought
11:00	Into The Deep	6:30	Extreme Machines
12:30	The Simran Show	7:30	Image Impossible
1:30	Riddle Of The Dead	8:00	Wild Discovery Termites Attack
2:30	Walk In The Desert	8:30	Wildest South America
3:30	Into The Deep	9:30	Story of Evolution
4:30	Game For II	10:30	Fields of Armor Debacle
5:30	Planet Wild	11:30	World's Best Kept Secrets Of the FBI
6:30	Dogs With Jobs SS		
7:30	Storm Stories		
8:30	Wildlife Diary		
	On Assignment		

## ANIMAL PLANET

9:30	Different Ball Game
10:30	Riddle Of The Dead
11:30	Walk In The Desert
12:00	Wild on the Set Snakes
1:00	Eagle Master of The Sky
2:00	AI About It German
3:00	K-9 to 5 Water Rescue, Geese Chaser, Construction Dog
4:00	Miracles Happen
5:00	Doctor's Doctor
6:00	Cheetahs
7:00	Elephant
8:00	The Protectors Cell
9:00	Dogs Rockville
10:00	The Crocodile Hunter
11:00	Diaries, The Bundle of Ivory
12:00	Monkey Business
1:00	The Planet's Funniest Animals
2:00	Wild on the Set
3:00	Primates
4:00	In The Wild Meg Ryan: White Elephants
5:00	Lion
6:00	Wolves
7:00	The Blue Planet
8:00	Wild Encounters
9:00	Season In The Sun

## STAR SPORTS

8:00	Pakistan Tour Of Australia 3rd Test Day 5 2nd & 3rd Session(L)
9:00	Dakar Rally 2005 Day 6 Highlights(S)
10:00	England Tour Of South Africa 3rd Test Day 4 Highlights(R)
11:00	England Tour Of South Africa 3rd Test Day 5 1st Session(L)
12:00	Dakar Rally 2005 Day 6 Highlights(R)
1:00	England Tour Of South Africa 3rd Test Day 5 2nd & 3rd Session(L)
2:00	Sportline (L)
3:00	Asian Festival Of Speed Formula Round 10(T)
4:00	Sportline (R)
5:00	Pakistan Tour Of Australia 3rd Test Day 5 Highlights(S)

## ESPN

8:20	Zimbabwe Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Test Day 1 (L)
9:20	In The Driver's Seat Ana Pro Star Finals Gainesville FL Usa (R)
10:20	Zimbabwe Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Test Day 1 2nd & 3rd Session (L)
11:20	Hitz
12:20	Football Crazy (L)
1:20	Goals! (R)
2:20	English Premier Football League 2004/05
3:20	Manchester United Vs Tottenham Hotspur (T)
4:20	Harsha Closeup Dream Job - Harsha Ki Khoj Studio Round #1(T)
5:20	Zimbabwe Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Test Day 1 Highlights(S)
6:20	Dakar Rally 2005 Day 6 Highlights(S)
7:20	Sportscenter India (R)
<b>TEN SPORTS</b>	
8:20	V8 Motorsport Championship 04
9:20	Indian Golf Show
10:20	ICC Cricket World Cup 2003/04
11:20	ITTF Pro Tour Table Tennis Finals HLs
12:20	V8 Motorsport Championship 04
1:20	ATP Tour Chennai Open Day 3 HLs
2:20	Bajaj Sports Show: Ep 8
3:20	WWE: The Bottom Line
4:20	ATP Tour Chennai Open: Ep 4
5:20	WWE: The Bottom Line

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

## News Bulletin

<b>BTV</b>	
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) at 11:30 pm.	
<b>CHANNEL-i</b>	
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.	
<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.	
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.	
<b>TARA BANGLA</b>	
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.	
<b>BBC WORLD</b>	
Every hour on the hour	