

CULTURAL FEAS

Ekushey Special Exhibition

Title: Reprinted illustration exhibition
Artists: 43 painters including Zainul Abedin, Qamrul Hasan, Murtaza Bashir
Organiser: The Liberation War Museum
Venue: Auditorium, the Liberation War Museum
Date: February 17-23

Ekushey Special Programmes

Title: Amar Ekushey 2005
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy premises
Date: February 01-28
February 01-28
Ekushey Book Fair
Time: Weekdays: From 3pm to 9pm; Weekends: From 11am to 12 noon and 2pm to 9pm; On Feb 21: from 8am to 9pm

February 23

Programme: Cultural programme
Time: 6pm

February 24
Programme: Cultural programme
Time: 6pm

February 25
Programme: Children's poetry recitation and art competition, Prize distribution followed by cultural programme
Time: 9am

February 26
Programme: Cultural programme
Time: 6pm

February 27
Programme: Cultural programme
Time: 6pm

February 28
Programme: Closing ceremony of the Ekushey book fair and announcement of the best book-stalls followed by cultural programme
Time: 4pm

Musical programme

Title: Phele Asha Diner Gaan
Organiser: Srijan
Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, Shahbag
Date: February 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Exhibition

Title: Children's Painting Exhibition
Artists: Child artists ranging 4 to 16 years of age
Organiser: Artist Muhammad Abu Selim
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A, Dhanmondi
Date: February 25-March 01, from 3pm to 8pm

Title: Third Solo Exhibition
Artist: Ronni Ahmed
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road

Time: 18-26 February, from 10am 12am and 5pm to 9pm
Title: Nature and Life
Artist: Golam Faruque Bebul
Venue: Gallery Chitrag, House 21, Road 4, Dhanmondi

Date: February 14-24, from 10am to 8pm

Upholding the spirit of Ekushey



As the day advances on Ekushey, the Shaheed Minar altar takes on a magnificent look with the combination of alpina and colourful flowers brought by millions who through the Shaheed Minar to pay their respect. Students of Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, decorate the altar as a tradition.

Padatik's daylong tribute to the Language Martyrs

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

FEBRUARY 21, prevalently known to Bangalees as Ekushey, evokes an array of values and emotions. Like previous years, this time also Padatik Natya Sangsad paid its tribute to the heroes of the momentous episode of our history with a non-stop 12-hour long cultural programme. The group has been holding the programme at the traditional Bakultala of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University for seven consecutive years.

With the slogan Jago Nirbhoy Dhamey, Jago Shangram Shajey, the programme was inaugurated by veteran language activist Gazul Haque. Mahfuz Anam, editor of The Daily Star, was present as special guest. The National Anthem and the timeless song of Ekushey by Padatik Sangeet Sangsad followed next.

Rendition of songs like Muktiro Mandiro Shopano Toley, Jago Anshano Bandi and other people's songs by Padatik Sangeet Sangsad, Kranti, Wrishez Shilpi Goshthi, and group recitation by Shwanan, Katha Abritti Charcha Kendra, Kanthashilpi, Baikuntha Abritti Academy enthralled the crowd. Street plays were performed by Shayannika Theatre, Arja Theatre, Mahala while dance performances by Nriyanandam and Pubali Sansad from Feni were also held. Popular singers Amir Nandi, Anup Bhattacharya, Naima Ali, Fakir Alamgir, Bulbul Mahalanabish, Ifat Ara Dewan, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Shammi Akhter and eminent reciter of India, Pradeep Ghosh also performed.



Artistes of Padatik perform at the show

Tapur Tupur observes Ekushey

Ekushey does not only denote the language martyrs making the ultimate sacrifice for our mother-tongue Bangla. Ekushey also edifies us to wrangle with any kind of social

injustice and to take a firm stand for our rights. This was the theme of the cultural montage presented by Tapur Tupur Entertainment on February 21 at the Liberation War Museum in Shegun Bagicha.

Green Theatre commenced the programme with a chorus rendition of Amar bhaier ronkthey rangano Ekushey February. Prominent journalist and intellectual Kamal Lohani addressed the audience with speech on what Ekushey means to him and how the values of Ekushey still relate directly to the young generation. He ruminated on 1952 when he was a teenager in Pabna and was troubled by the incidents in Dhaka on February 21. Lohani's oration was followed by poet Matin Bairagi's recitation of three of his poems--Cholo Ebar, Kobi-R Swapno and Swapno Kokhono.

Dr. Muhammad Samad recited Dhormo and Tania. Rezina Wali Lina paid homage to Late Humayun Azad's poems--Bangladesher Kotha. Hasan Arif then recited Shaheed-er Ma and Ekushey Gaan of Mahadeb Shaha, and Ekush Maney Oit Noy, Agami. A chorus by Muktohdara Shongskriti Charcha Kendro followed next. A recital, Phirey dekha Bangladesh, staged by Green Theatre, was next. Through group dances and songs, this recital illustrated the history of our struggles against the British and Pakistani reigns. The event concluded with solo performances by Bappa Majumdar, Anisuzzaman Babu and Shoma Roy.



Reciters of Muktohdara seen at the programme

Tête-à-tête

Fakir Alamgir: A singer of the masses

HARUN UR RASHID

Leading exponent of Gono Sangeet (People's song) Fakir Alamgir believes, "Gono Sangeet is not just another genre of music; it is also an artistic expression of revolt against all discrimination and dictatorship." And the month of February is obviously another occasion to infuse the nation with the eternal spirit of equality and fraternity. "Gono Sangeet is a fitting tribute to the Language Martyrs who sacrificed their lives to establish Bangla as our mother tongue," says Fakir.

Songs like Rafique Shafique Barkat nameyi, O amar ei Bangla bhasha, Ora amar mukher kotha kaira nitey chaay, Lakho shahider rokter binimoye, Orey bangalee bhai krishti chhere cholechho kothay and many more have captured the spirit of Amar Ekushey and inspired people. "After the barbarous killing on February 21, Hemanga Biswas of West Bengal composed a song--Shono desher bhai bhogini--where he tells the tale of Amar Ekushey," asserts Fakir. "It is one of the songs written and sung immediately after the incidents of February 21."

Besides Amar bhai-er rokthey rangano Ekushey February, Amar Ekushey has featured in many other songs. Among them are Rokthey



Fakir Alamgir sings to a receptive audience

amar abar proloydola--written by Indu Saha and tuned by Sheikh Luthfur Rahman, Daam diye kinechhi Bangla--written and tuned by Abdul Latif, Ami rokto diye kinlam Bangla--written by Aliul Alam and tuned by Fakir Alamgir and many others.

"What is unique about Gono Sangeet is that the songs are not pigeon holed for particular occasions," says Fakir. "One can sing Naam taar chhilo John Henry, which is based on the heroic feat of John Henry on May Day, or Oma

Khudiramer galpo balo na on any occasion. But the songs immediately correspond to the very spirit of independence and democracy," he concludes.

February 21 is also the birthday of Fakir Alamgir. In 1976 he formed the acclaimed group Wrishez Shilpi Gosthi and since then has been performing Gono Sangeet under its banner. His resounding voice as well as a unique style of singing has earned him popularity among the mass.

Tara spreads its wings

Friends Television Network (FTN) of the US, with its local office in Dhaka, has been appointed as the distributor of Tara News, a 24-hour Bangla news channel and Tara Muzik for the television territory of North America and Bangladesh.

The two new channels, were launched in Kolkata on February 21, as a mark of honour to the International Mother Language Day, says a press release. The news channel was inaugurated by Abed Khan and Selina Hossain of Bangladesh. Indian personalities included Maheshwata Devi, Sunil Gangopadhyay and Nibanjan Chattopadhyay.

Feroza Begum of Bangladesh and Amla Shankar of India inaugurated the Muzik channel. A musical troupe, comprising Rezawana Chowdhury Bonna, Pathik Nabi, Srishthi and four musicians, were present. The CEO of FTN Sayed M Haider was present, while Bibi Russell attended the function as a special guest.

The soft launch was held the same day at the Spectra Convention Centre, in Dhaka. The guests included media personalities, cable operators, business dignitaries and diplomats.

To begin with, FTN will supply only social and business news to Tara Dhaka. The company is delegated to provide 10 minutes of news to the latter's office to be telecast to viewers all around the world.



Najma Anwar and Zahid Hasan in Shangkhanaad

Shangkhanaad releases in Europe

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The film Shangkhanaad is soon to be released commercially in Europe by the distribution company Trigon-Films. Directed by Abu Sayeed, the film will be released in movie theatres of Switzerland and Austria.

A prominent company, Trigon-Film distributes creative films worldwide. "The commercial release of the Bangladesh film in Europe is noteworthy in the history of our film industry. This step will widen the scope for the commercial release of more Bangladesh films worldwide," Abu Sayeed says.

According to the director, "Usually Bangladesh films are distributed within the country only. Because of technical, political and economic limitations, our films are not widely distributed abroad. And

this is why we cannot compete in the international market."

Abu Sayeed regrets, "It's a pity that Shangkhanaad will be telecast soon on Swiss and Austrian television channels although it has not been screened in any Bangladeshi television channel yet."

Released under the banner of Masranga Productions Limited, the film is based on the novel Urey Jay Nishi Pakkhi by Nasrin Jahan and features popular artistes such as Zahid Hasan, Fazlur Rahman Babu, KS Firoz and Najma Anwar. This is Abu Sayeed's third widely acclaimed film.

The film will also compete in the Fribourg International Film Festival in Switzerland and Milan Film Festival in Italy in March.

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, 4:00 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. ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 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. TARA BANGLA News-Headlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm. BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

BTV 07:30 Shubhechha Nin 08:15 Programme From BTV Archive 08:40 Bishwa Protidin 09:00 Satelitte Programme 12:15 Shangbadpotrer Pata Thekey 12:30 Shasthya Tathya 01:05 Kathamala 02:05 Khetley Khetley Computer 02:30 Hijol Tomal 03:05 Shukhi Poribar 03:35 Gaeto Bilan 04:05 Open University 04:30 Angkar 05:05 Mati O Manush 05:30 Apon Bhumi 06:00 Desh Janapad 06:10 Maloncha 06:35 Special Bulletin for the hearing impaired 07:00 News Headlines, Weather forecast, Share Market 07:05 Barta Probaho 07:30 The World's Greatest Show 08:25 Protidin Bangladesh 08:30 Ekush Amar Ahangkar 08:35 Drama Serial: Kharer Putal 09:00 Drama Serial: Krishnakali 10:25 Teknaf Theke Talulia Cultural Programme by Bangladesh Police 10:35 Shangskritik Parishad Satelitte Programme 12:05 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:45 Trityo Matra 10:45 Sports Time 12:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell

01:00 Tarokakothon Bangla Feature Film: Agnipath (Omar Sunny, Zinat, Rozina) 03:20 Banglar Gaan 03:50 Boi Ebong Boi 04:20 Boimela Protidin (Live) 04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma Gaaner Oparey 05:30 Music Plus 06:00 Gillette World Sports 06:30 RC Travel On 07:55 Drama Serial: Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roddur 08:25 Drama Serial: Din Choley Jay 09:35 Drama Serial: Arai Tola Bari 10:00 ATN BANGLA 10:30 Onnodishthi Shobar Jonyo 11:05 Drama Serial: Shimahin Shimanyay Gaaney Shurey Tarunney Motamot 12:30 Drama Serial: Nil Akasher Nichey 03:15 Drama Serial: Nana Ronger Din 03:50 Drama Serial: New Files 04:25 Cinema Cinema Manoshi 06:20 The Sword of Tipu Sultan 08:30 Drama Serial: Khowab 09:00 Drama Serial: Bayoscope 09:30 Drama Serial: Mati Citycell Shusthya Thakun Live 10:20 Drama 12:30 ntv 08:30 Aajker Shakal

PICK OF THE DAY Shubhashondya On ntv at 6:20pm 600th Episode of the daily evening show Host: Tina Salem Manzur Nil Akasher Nichey On ATN Bangla at 2:30pm Drama Serial Cast: Mim, Mir Sabbir, Golum Farida Chhanda

09:05 Drama Serial: Sporsher Bairey 09:30 Ei Amader Graam 10:05 Science Workshop 11:00 Transworld Sports 12:05 Millennium 02:35 Drama Serial: Sporsher Bairey 03:15 Dehoghar 03:50 Drama Serial: Sheola Cartoon: Fardi 04:25 Apar Jigyasha 05:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Nani Gharey Bairey 08:15 Siddika Kabir's Recipe 08:50 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan 09:40 Drama Serial: Shyaola 11:25 Dindapan 09:30 Charlotte Gray 12:00 Big Daddy 2:00 The Beast 4:15 The Majestic 7:15 Eraser 9:30 Thir 13En ghosts 11:45 Tales from the Crypt 42: The Pit 12:00 Primal Fear STAR MOVIES 10:00 All The Pretty Horses 12:00 Rats The (A.K.A. The Colony) 1:30 One Hour Photo 3:10 Rocky III 4:50 Dance With Me 7:00 Daylight 8:55 Rambo: First Blood Part II 10:30 All The Pretty Horses

2:30 Oprah Winfrey 3:30 Bold And Beautiful 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 5:30 Ally Mcbeal 6:30 The Simpsons 7:00 That 70s Show 7:30 Friends 8:00 Newsradio 8:30 American Idol 10:00 Philly 11:00 Third Watch iii 12:00 Cover Story ANIMAL PLANET 1:30 Emergency Vets(I) 2:30 In The Wild 3:30 Oranguta Rescue 4:30 The Protectors Wild Rescues (iv) Episode 5 5:30 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries The Crock Xmas Monkey Business 5 Episode 12 6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals The (Season 2) Episode 7:00 Wild On The Set III Champion Chimps 7:30 Showcase Growing Up Grizzly 8:30 Lords Of The Animals 9:00 Lords Of The Animals 9:30 Natural World 10:30 In The Wild Asian Elephants (Goldie hawn) 12:00 Wild Encounters Shadows Of The Sun DISCOVERY CHANNEL 1:30 Science Frontiers Living Without A memory 2:30 Life On The Edge 3:30 Lawrence Of Arabia 4:30 Mystery Night Haunted London 5:30 Zach's Ultimate Guide 6:00 Birds Of Prey 6:30 Living Pulse 6:30 Speech Ep 7:00 Wind Driven Swimming Lions 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Swimming Lions 8:30 Ultimate Cars Power Cars 9:00 Building The Ultimate I&II Racing Car 9:30 Superweapons Of The Ancient World 10:30 Great Romances Of The 20th Century 11:00 Legends Of The Isles Merlin The Wizard 11:30 New Detectives NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 1:00 Storm Stories 1:30 Backyard Science 1:45 Doc Eureka 2:00 Serious: Jungle 2:30 Body Snatchers Of Bangkok 3:00 Two Way Tea Journey 3:30 Road Is My Life 4:30 Backyard Science 4:45 Doc Eureka 5:00 Serious: Jungle 5:30 Extinct 6:30 Dogs With Jobs 7:00 Storm Stories 7:30 Beauty And The Beasts: A Leopard Story Cheating Death 8:30 Africa 9:30 Riddles Of The Dead 11:30 National Geographic's STAR SPORTS 10:00 Skins Game Champions 12:30 Fa Cup 2004/05 Round 5(R) 2:30 Beach Soccer 3:30 Watersports 4:30 World's Strongest Man 5:00 Track & Field/ Athletics I 8:00 Sportsline (L) 8:30 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 Sportsline (R) 10:30 Sportsline (R) 11:00 Golf Focus (T) ESPN 9:30 Fa Cup 2004/05 Round 5(T) 11:30 Beach Soccer 12:30 Champions Tour Golf T Hitz (R) 3:30 Fa Cup 2004/05 Round 5(T) 5:30 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 Hitz (T) 8:00 Sportscenter India (L) 9:00 Goals! (T) 11:30 Sportscenter India (R) 12:00 Harsha Closeup TEN SPORTS 10:30 Gamer TV 11:00 European Tour Weekly 11:30 Polo Gold League Tournaments 12:30 German League Highlights 1:00 European Tour Weekly 3:00 ABF Tour : Hongkong 4:00 India-Pakistan Unforgettables 4:30 IRB Rugby 7s Highlights : LA, USA 5:30 Italian Serie A - Highlights 6:30 WWE After Burn