### **CULTURAL FEAST**

### **Book Fair**

Occasion: Independence Day Venue: The Liberation War Museum, 5, Shegun Bagicha Date: March 22-31, from 10am to 8pm

**Exhibitions** Title: Traditional Boats of Bangladesh Venue: Bangladesh National Museum

and 39m to 7pm on Fridays Title: Colour of SHAKO Artists: 13 artists of the women artists association SHAKO

**Venue:** Bengal Gallery of fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi Date: March 23-April 06, 12pm to 8pm Title: C for Courage

Organier: Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela Venue: Kachi Kanchar Bhaban, 37/A, Segunbagicha Date: March 18-April 01

Title: Opening Exhibit Artist: Md. Tarikat Islam Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road. 36 House 16, Gulshan Time: March 25 -April 4, from 12pm to

Title: The Walls of Dhaka Artist: Bruno Ruhf Venue: Alliance Fraincaise, 26, Mirpur Road Dhanmond Date: March 18-31

Artist: Aminul Islan Venue: Shilpagan Gallery, House 25, Road 5. Dhanmon Date: March 18- April 10, from 10am to

16th National Art Exhibition Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: March 12-April 11, 1am to 7pm and

### **Connecting Futures Festival**

Venue: British Council Cultural show by students of Dhaka University and Jahangirnagar University

followed by musical programme at 5pm Children's Art Exhibition

Organiser: Charuloy Academy Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Road Date: March 25-31, from 3pm to 8pm (March 26-27 closed

### Festival of Indigenous People's Culture

Venue: Plaza of Bangladesh Shilpakala

### Time: March 30-April 05, at 5pm **Dhama Festival**

Organiser: Chekhov Theatre Occasion: World Theatre Day Venue: Russian Centre of Science and

6:00pm Discussion on the Impact of Russian Classical Theatre on Modern Theatre Exercise 6:20pm Drama: Kreutzer Soneta, based

on a story by Leo Tolstoy and staged by Performing Arts Resource Centre (PARC)

### Musical Soiree

Organiser: Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Venue: Nazrul Institute, Road 28. Date: March 30, at 6pm

## Japanese Film

Festival Organiser: The Embassy of Japan Venue: Institute of Modern Language University of Dhaka Time: March 29-31 March 29

### Kathak Dance Night

7:00pmSumo Do, Sumo Don't

Venue: National Museum Auditorium Time: March 29, 7pm

# Bari Siddique unplugged

# Music in the air...

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

O bring your flute along when you come next time." I requested Abdul Bari Siddique.

Bari in spite of his busy schedule kept his word. The melodious Brindaboni Sarang raga he played in between, unsurprisingly soon drew an audience into my office.

"The flute has six holes cut out smoothly in a bamboo. The instrument is difficult to master. One has to be adept in placing the fingers to produce the perfect notes. Which is why, even in India one would hardly find more than 20 flutists and about not more than four professional players," said

"The two varieties of flute are "Mohon bashi" and the "Ar bashi," which range from 7inches to 5 feet." The flute was used previously as an accompanying instrument in folk songs. Pandit Panna Lal Ghosh used the flute in Hindustani classical music. He developed a longer bansuri(flute), 5 feet in length, to generate lower sounds and more subtle expressions, while the short bansuri was used for folk

Bari's love of the flute began at the age of five when his elder brother returned from the weekly haat with a small banshi. Little did he know that one day he would be recognised as an eminent musician across the country.

In fact Bari's reputation has extended beyond Bangladesh. He has performed and conducted workshops in France, Switzerland, Malaysia, Pakistan, Iran and Singapore.

Bari comes from a family of musicians. His formal vocal training began at the age of 12 under Gopal Dutt of Netrokona. His career took off in earnest in 1981, when renowned Usad Aminur Rahman spotted Bari during a concert, and

Many roads led to Natok Sarani

(the road adjacent to the most

popular theatre venue Mahila

Samity Stage) on World Drama

Day, celebrated on March 27. To

mark this occasion, the Bangla-

desh Group Theatre Federation

(BGTF) and International Theatre

Institute (ITI) Bangladesh branch

The programme started with a

colourful rally of enthusiastic

theatre activists. In a short speech

Yousuff demanded re-opening of

the Girl Guides Auditorium by or

before May 1 for regular staging of

plays. The rally, was followed by a

by Mamunur Rashid, the Chairman

of BGTF.

programme.

cussion session presided over

The discussion session began

with the welcome speech delivered

by Ataur Rahman, the General

Secretary of ITI Bangladesh.

Liaqaut Ali Lucky, General

Secretary of BGTF, Nasiruddin

Yousuff, the President of

Shammilito Shanskritik Jote were

the other discussants in the

Mamunur Rashid and Nasiruddin

jointly arranged a programme.

**ERSHAD KAMOL** 



Abdul Bari Siddique

offered to tutor him. Ustad Aminur Rahman was a direct disciple of Pandit Panna Lal Ghosh (1911-1960), the pioneer flutist who had popularised the flute in the

For the next six years Bari trained under Rahman. His Ustad's house was frequented by the contemporary legends. "Devendra Muddreshshor, Director All India Radio, (also the son-in law of Pandit Panna Lal Ghosh), V G

Karnaad, Daagar Brothers, Mohiuddin Veenkaar, Ustaad Asad Ali Khan Veenkaar, Pandit Sriram Tewari and many other stalwarts would often come to perform and stay as guests of honour in Aminur Rahman's house. Barrister Tawfique Newaz, son of Rahman would train me in the different technical aspects of Alaap," went on Bari. "At one stage I went over to Pune and got professional tutelage

Being in an environment surrounded by musical maestros, Bari, not surprisingly spent his waking hours immersed in music, either listening to the greats or rehearsing his lessons for hours at

After graduating from Dhaka University, Bari joined the BTV in 1985/86. Besides playing the flute, he slowly also shifted to music direction and vocal performances.

"A flute piece to a song is like a glittering necklace on a lady complementing and augmenting the inert beauty.

"However, lately I felt that my

capabilities were not fully utilised as an accompanist. Therefore, I grabbed the offer to sing in Humavun Ahmed's film. I was awarded the BACHASAS award for my music direction in Sraban Megher Din for the song Showa Chan Pakhi. My next folk album titled Lokhkho Tara will be released on Pahela Boishak," points out Bari.

What is the difference between the Indian and European flute? "Indian music comes from silence whereas the European, from sound," says Bari. "The Indian way is definitely more melodious with miir, (the sweet curves and filigree works) and more natural. The European style is slightly restless. The European flute is known as Silver Flute, and ours is the typical natural bamboo flute"

The one concern Bari has is that the flute may become a dying art because of the industry's inability to draw new talent. As a performing art, it does not even have a place in any National Awards category.

Despite his concerns, Bari continues to play with a passion He performs and continues to develop his skills like any true artiste at heart. In the process, he continues to enthrall his audience and treat them to the intricacy and intensity for which he has won

# Theatre groups observe World Drama Day

was honoured for her contribution to theatre.

After the discussion, a Jatrapala titled Aanarkoli directed by Milon Kanti Dey was staged. With the typical rhythmic orchestra presentation Anarkali, a

joint production by Desh Opera, Madhu Chhanda Jatra Unit and Agrogami Natya Shongstha, started through a rivetting scene when Aanarkoli, an Iranian woman faces torture by a lecher. The story of the pala is pretty simple: just a narrative of love story between Mughal prince Salim and Anarkali, which has a tragic ending. However, the popular story still retains its unique appeal.

Theatre activists enjoyed the performance of the traditional Jatra artistes in colourful costumes and with high-scale rhythmic voice modulation

The International Theatre Institute (ITI), in their ninth council in Vienna, announced March 27, as World Drama Day. From 1962, onwards it has been celebrated by all the member countries of ITI. This year's World Drama Day is an opportune time for theatre activists to rededicate themselves to this



# "I sing on issues of the present time" -- Mahmuduzzaman Babu



To those who enjoy the songs that denote our land, our people Mahmuduzzaman Babu is a familiar name. He had reintroduced and popularised some songs that had become obscure to this generation. Here's a one-on-one

### How did Ami Banglar Gaan Gai happen? I came up with the idea first in 1993. I was thinking of

songs that stimulate our sensitive side. I started performing Pratul Mukhapadhaya's Ami Banglar Gaan Gai. I didn't make any change in the lyrics or the notes of the song, but improvised the style. In 2001, I performed the song at a special musical programme on BTV on the occasion of Ekushey February. Since then the song was telecast frequently on BTV from February through August 2001. The song attained great response from the viewers and Sangeeta offered to release an album, highlighting the song What would you call the genre of music you

I call it 'shomoi-er gaan'. Because, the songs I sing

are not typically 'gono sangeet' (people's song) or

hardcore patriotic songs. These songs focus on the issues of this time.

### Who are your favorite artistes?

Mostly artistes whose songs feature the masses. Among all the artistes, Bhupen Hazarika, Pratul Mukhapadhaya, Shumon and Tracy Chapman's music influences me the most.

Three songs that come to your mind right now. Shagor Sen's Agun-er Parashamani, Tracy Chapman's Promise and Bhupen Hazarika's Shmoi-er Ogrogoti.

What is the driving force for the show Paran-er

I made a proposal to the private TV channel, ATN to start a show that would bring out the talent of rural artistes who have not been touched by the mechanical life of the cities. These artistes speak of philosophies that are true and pure as their nature. Music is like prayer to these people.

An interesting event that made you laugh.

After Ami Banglar Gaan Gai became popular, quite a few people thought that I was Pratul Mukhapadhaya.

# Children drama carnival ends with a pledge

**CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT** 

Children in Bangladesh have few sources of entertainment. This is why the recent 14-day long children drama festival at Central Public Library Auditorium was an important milestone for the young ones.

The "Sixth National Drama Festival- 2005", arranged by People's Theatre Association (PTA), ended with enthusiasm and the participation of about 2000 children. There was much to choose from- 68 theatrical productions of 65 theatre troupes coming from different corners of the country.

Another interesting aspect was that the World's Children Drama Day on March 20 coincided with this festival. This explains why PTA made some special arrangements to observe this landmark day: besides regular staging of four plays a day there were some colourful cultural performances such as songs and dances by the activ

There was a good turnout of children at the Public Library Auditorium on the day of the drama festival on March 24. Among the audience was Seniuti Sarkar, a student of Vigarunnesa School who came two days and watched four plays in the festival. As Senjuti said, "I have enjoyed the performance of my contemporaries in the festival. I also take part in my school's cultural events and therefore, have an idea



Child performers in one of the plays

about acting techniques in children's drama. I believe that my experience at the festival will help me to act in such productions arranged by our school. I hope for more such programmes in the future.

Tania Alam, a college student was amongst hundreds of viewers who came at the closing day. Tania said, "I came with my family to watch 10 plays in the festival. I wish there were more festivals like this."

Satyen Pal, a parent, said, "In our country there is a lack of outdoor recreation for children. During the festival days we got a chance to acquaint our children about our

1:00

2:00

3:00

4:00

9:30

10:30

The festival attracted not only the masses, but also celebrities like Mamunur Rashid, Jamaluddin Hossain, Keramat Moula, Tariq Anam, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Azizul Hakim and others who went there to encourage future artistes. On the future plan of PTA

Liaquat Ali Lucky, the Secretary General of PTA, said, "Next year, we hope to arrange an international standard children drama festival, including Saarc countries. Moreover, we are planning to popularise other children drama forms like Grips Theatre, Shadow Theatre, School Theatre and

**Tennis Masters Series** 

Miami Key Biscayne Fl

Nasdag- 100 Open

Usa 3rd Round (S)

Australia Tour Of New

Zealand The National

Bank Series Auckland

New Zealand Vs Austra

Lia 3rd Test Day 4 2nd &

Icc Cricket World (R)

Qualifiers (England)

Manchester England

England Vs No Rthern

Ireland Fifa World Cup

3rd Session(L)

Fifa World Cup

**England Senior** 

International

Hitz (R)

11:00

**ESPN** 

11:30

12:00

12:30

# Tv guidE

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

### News Bulletin

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)

CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30,

### 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, 11pm. News (English) 8:20am,7:00pm 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**

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 **BBC WORLD** Every hour on the hour

### **ATN BANGLA** Talk Show: Annodrish

07:50

ntv

08:30

09:05

09:30

11:00

11:30

12:02

02:30

03:15

03:40

05:15

06:20

08:10

08:50

09:40

11:25

10:30 11:05 Drama Serial: Mohona Business This Week 11:35 12:15 Amar Computer 12:50 Musical Programme 01:25 Cine Gaan 02:30 Drama Serial: Ghunpoka 03:15 Drama Serial: O Ama Chokkhu Nai 03:50 Drama Serial: Bhawa

Raia Shannvashi 04:25 Shomoshamovik 05:10 Campus 06:20 Avnar Shamney 08:00 Drama Serial: Shukhnagar Apartment Drama Serial

#### Drama Serial: Shukher 09:00 Lagiya Ek Dui Teen Mile Pholok Ray Talk Show: Islam Ki

Boley Amra Ki Kori **CHANNEL** i Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and

Public Reaction Grameen Phone Cricket Online 11:30 Aamar Chhobi Chithi Pelam

12:00 12:30 Aaj Dupurey Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:00 01:25 Public Reaction Bangla Feature Film: 01:35 20 Bochhor Por 03:50 Banglar Gaan 04:20 Musical Programme 04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma

i sports

Music Plus

Special Programme

05:30

06:00

06:30

**HBO** 8:45 Urban Cowbov 11:30 Charlie's Angels: Full 12:00 Ocean's Elever 2:15 Sphere 5:00 Welcome to 6:45

Clear and Present Danger 9:30 The Animal 11:15 I Spy The Life of David Gale 1:15

STAR MOVIES

Bangladesh. Speakers said that though our theatre has a lacuna in the designing department, to its credit it deals with contemporary issues. That is why our theatre is a humane theatre, said the speakers. Another aspect of the discussion session was ITI Bangladesh branch's President Ramendu

Drama Serial: Poribar

O Ekti Company

Drama Serial: Ek

Chalchhe Chalbe

Aaiker Shakal

Drama Serial:

Sporsher Bairey

Chhobir Gaan

Khabor Deshev

Single Drama

Tifiner Fankey

Drama Serial

Anyorokom

Drama Serial: Jhut

Ke Korbey Bajimat

Itihasher Ei Diney

Shubho Shondhya

Frankly Speaking

Drama Serial:

Nupur

Dindarpan

Sporsher Bairey

Drama Serial: Shaeola

Deshev

Khoborer Shondhaney

Drama Serial: Shakkhi

Akasher Tara

Majumdar's speech on World The participants analysed the current drama scenario in Drama Day titled "Our Theatre and Others' Theatre". In the written Iran, Iceland and others.

the message of World Drama Day-2005 written by French director Arian Mushkin, Late Naima Anwar

speech Ramendu made some observations on theatre in developing countries such as UAE, Moreover, Tropa Majumdar read

# performing art.



O Amar Chokkhu Nai On ATN Bangla at 3:15pm **Drama Serial** Cast: Rokeya Prachi, Chithi, Pallab

1:30 Blind Horizon 3:15 Green Card 5:05 Me Myself And Irene 7:00 Alex & Emma Walk In The Clouds 10:15 Carrie 12:00 Spider STAR GOLD 9:50 Hukumat 1:30 Rajkumar 4:45 Auzaar

Nagina

Khalifa

**STAR PLUS** 

Maan

Nargis

Adventures Of Mickey

11:15

5:00

6:00

6:30

Jeepers Creepers

Anddonald Disney's The Weekenders 7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan Hello Dollie

8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar 9:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 9:30 Kehta Hai Dil Kkavyanjali Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 10:30 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhu Thi 11:30 Kahiin To Hoga 12:00 K.Street Pali Hill STAR WORLD

The King Of Queens

10:30

Miss Match

On STAR World at 10:30pm Genre: Drama / Comedy / Romance Cast: Alicia Silverstone, Lake Bell, David Conrad

12:30 Everybody Loves Raymond 1:00 Frasier 1:30 Magnum P.I. 2:30 Oprah Winfrey 3:30 **Bold And Beautiful** 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway Ally Mc Beal 6:30 The Simpsons That 70s Show 7:00 7:30 Friends 8:00 Newsradio 8:30 Charmed 9:30 Wild Card

Miss Match

Newsradio

10:30

11:30

Grounded For Life The Casino

Vs. Bull Shark 2:30 3:30 World 4:30 5:30 6:00 Healing Living 6:30 Man And Machine **Extreme Machines** 7:30 Wild Discovery

8:30

# 12:00 Cover Story DISCOVERY

Nature World Of Mitsuaki Iwago Deer Of Nara, The Animal Face Off Hippo Seven Wonders Of The Industrial Great Eastern Superstructures Of the The Voice Of Terror Squaresfot-Ep 40 Remarkable Remedies

Science Frontiers

Valley Of The Kings Hollywood Superstars Real Winona Ryder, The Prosecutors, The

Return To Hubble

Journey Through The

#### ANIMAL **PLANET** 10:30 The Planet's Funniest

Animals Amazing Animal Videos 11:00 Animal Planet 11:30 Showcase Monsters Of Pet Nation Breed Pet Nation Emergency

The Nation Wild Rescues 2:30 The Protectors Cell Dogs 3:30 The Protectors Animal Precinct Pet Star 1 Episode 2

Twisted Tales 6:00 Monkey Business 6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals 7:00 Amazing Animal Videos 7:30 From Cradle To Grave 8:30 The Protectors Cell 9:30 The Protectors Animal Precinct

#### Deep Into 11:00 Wild And Dangerous 11:30 Forest Of Hope **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY** 10:30

10:30

11:30

11:45

12:00

Air Crash Investigation Backyard Science Doc Eureka Serious: Jungle

Deep Into The Wild

Creative Vision Tales Of The Living Dead Mummy Road Show Riddles Of The Dead Super Predators

Dogs With Jobs

**Backyard Science** Doc Eureka 5:00 Serious: Jungle Ng Explorer 6:30 Air Crash Investigation 7:30 Sperm Whale Oasis 8:30 Extreme Latitude

Interpol Investigates

#### Taboo 11:30 STAR SPORTS 8:00 Super Centuries (R) 8:30 Hitz (R) Super 12 Rugby 2005 9:00 Sydney Australia Nsw Waratahs Vs Bulls Round 5 (R)

11:00 Golf Classics British Open - The Year Of The Shark Greg Norman (R) 11:30 Golf Tournament Nz Pga Championship Highlights (T) Super 12 Rugby 2005 Cats Vs Highlanders

Round 5 (R) Watersports **Programming Hot Water** Extreme Programming Wild Spirits 2004/05 (T) The Rugby Show (T)

Max Power 2005 (T) 6:30 7:30 Super Centuries (R) 8:00 Sportsline (L) 8:30 Tennis Masters Series Nasdag- 100 Open Miami Key Biscayne FI

10:30

Usa 3rd Round (S)

Sportsline (R)

Qualifier(T) Tennis Masters Series Nasdaq- 100 Open Miami Key Biscayne Fl Usa 3rd Round(S) Tennis Masters Series Nasdag- 100 Open Miami Key Biscayne Fl Usa 3rd Round(S) Football Focus (L) Toyota Football Up Icc Cricket World (R) 8:30 Sportscenter India (L) Australia Tour Of New Zealand The National Bank Series Auckland New Zealand Vs Austra Lia 3rd Test Day

Highlights(S) Classic Boxing Gene Fullmer Vs Carmen Basilio (T) Sportscenter India (R) Football Focus(R)