

CULTURAL FEAST

Drama Festival

Occasion: Eighth anniversary of Abayab Natyadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Time: April 03-06, at 7pm everyday
Schedule
April 05 Pejgi (Swattik Natya Shampraday)
April 06 Raraang (Aranyak Natyadal)

Exhibitions

Title: Traditional Boats of Bangladesh
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Date: March 19-April 06, 10am to 5pm 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 27/5/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: March 23-April 06, 12pm to 8pm

Artist: Aminul Islam
Venue: Shilpakala Gallery, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi
Date: March 16-April 10, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm

16th National Art Exhibition
Artists: Eminent and promising artists of the country
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 12-April 11, 1am to 7pm and 3pm to 8pm on weekends

Bangladesh Denmark Cultural Exchange

Organiser: Royal Danish Embassy, Bangladesh and Mass Line Media Centre
Occasion: Birth Bicentennial of Hans Christian Andersen
Date: March 17-April 12

Upajatio Festival

Organiser: Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Shilpakala Academy, Plaza
Date: March 30-April 05, at 6:30pm
Schedule
April 05 Khagrachhari Zile Upajatiyo Cultural Evening

Film Screening

Organiser: Dhaka Film Society
Venue: Centre for Asian Arts and Cultures (CAAC) Auditorium, 62 Science Laboratory
Time: April 06
Schedule
4:00pm Raincoat
6:30pm Black

The call of the Santal clan

Musings with Jonah Murmu

KAVITA CHARANI

Bangladesh a sweet land
Land of flowers
Decorated plants wave in its wind....

This patriotic Santal song is a favourite with Jonah Murmu, who works with the Baptist Mission in Rajshahi. By birth he is a Christian, but his identity as a Santal, he asserts, is uppermost in his mind. His vehicle in promoting the indigenous culture is the world of song. He has been composing, singing and writing songs since 1981.

"The Bengali culture is predominant in the country. The Santal culture is not properly promoted," says Murmu, who sings Santal songs on the Rangpur radio station. In the midst of the onslaught of electronic media and a fading culture, there are many mountains to climb, he says. Take the case of the Santal dress called Panchi (skirt) Parhan (top). In the face of poverty and changing tastes, the traditional dress is not worn anymore. However, the Santal language is



PHOTO: INTERNET

A traditional dance by Santal women



Jonah Murmu

thankfully still alive.

The Santal songs, according to Murmu, have a unique identity. Be it the music, lyrics and the themes, there is a vast difference from Bangla songs. The types of Santal songs are Dang, Lagrey, Dashai and Shakrai. The Dashai genre is rooted in the songs of activists protesting British rule. "Dashai is the language of protest. Now it is a religious song and is used in religious programmes and festivals such as Durga Puja," says Murmu.

The Santals are the second largest indigenous groups after the Chakmas in Bangladesh. However, there is a shortfall in community members who are well versed in original arts—whether song, dance or music. Why? "The indigenous people such as Santals need funding so that their culture can be preserved. There are several cultural academies for the indigenous people, for example, the Adivasi Cultural Academy (for all indigenous peoples). The basic problem is that the Santals live in the village but these acad-

emies are based in cities. So Santal people cannot come to the city," points out Murmu.

This problem is not a stumbling block for other cultural groups such as the Garos and Chakmas, because the academies for these specific groups are situated in their own localities. However, the Santals don't have that facility. A long standing demand of the community is the establishment of cultural academies in the localities where Santals live.

"If we don't preserve the Santal culture it will be gone within the next 20 years," warns Murmu. Joining hands with community members, he seeks to generate awareness among Santal people about their present status and how they should preserve their culture.

However, all this will come to naught unless the government steps in with funding and backing for these indigenous people. Meanwhile it is dedicated people like Murmu who provide the much-needed encouragement to their kinsmen in preserving their roots and culture.

Abayab hosts drama festival

ERSHAD KAMOL

On a sultry evening in April, theatre workers of Abayab and theatre activists from different troupes gathered at the Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala. The occasion was the four daylong Abayab drama festival, which was inaugurated jointly by Ramendu Majumder and Ataur Rahman.

In the discussion session in which Keramat Meola, Liaquat Ali Lucky, Kazi Rosy, Jhuma Chowdhury and Mizanur Rahman delivered speeches.

Speakers at the programme said that cultural activists in the country face obstruction from the anti-social elements and have to overcome these odds. In the view of the General Secretary of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) Liaquat Ali Lucky, "In the era of globalisation, many indigenous art forms are losing their uniqueness. Cultural activists have to

struggle to preserve these diversified art forms."

After the speeches, Jolbalika, a presentation of Padatik Natya Songsd commenced the festival. Other plays that are included are, Raraang, an Aranyak production, Koinna, a Prachyanut production and Pejgi, a Swattik production. However, the organising troupe, Abayab, is not staging any play in the festival due to certain limitations.

The drama festival however, drew droves of theatre goers.



A colourful rally led by eminent theatre personalities

Shahrukh dragged to meet Jassi

Let's just say, Jassi aka Mona Singh offers a stiff competition.

Just the other day, she was shooting at the Film City in Goregaon. Coincidentally, Shahrukh Khan was facing the arc light at the same venue, on a different set of course. His son Aryan and daughter Suhana had



Mona Singh

accompanied him for the shoot on that particular day. It's a mystery how, but the kids got to know that Jassi was shooting nearby. The brother-sister duo left no stone unturned in finding out where the bespectacled lady with braces was. Not only did they track her down, they even dragged papa dearest along to meet her! Really "Jassi Jaissi koi nahi"

Depp is Hollywood slimeball

It all seemed a bit of a chuckle at the Nucleon Kids Choice Awards - with celebrities happy to make a fool of themselves.

Top prize has to go to Johnny Depp. The Pirates Of The Caribbean star was on stage, all set to pull the gunk lever on fellow actor Ben Stiller - who had agreed to stand beneath the bucket of green slime.

However, in true trickster style, when Johnny pulled the lever he was the one whose white T-shirt turned a slimy green.

But being a good sport, Ben joined in by smearing himself in the slime too.



Johnny Depp

At the awards show - a little more relaxed and informal than the Oscars - American Idol was named favourite TV show, with Adam Sandler and Hilary Duff being named favourite movie actor and actress. The singing gongs went to Usher and Avril Lavigne, with Green Day being named favourite music group.

Source: Internet

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 3:30 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Teletext 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
Teletext of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:30 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 8:30 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Teletext of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:20pm, 7:20pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 6:30pm, 11:30pm.
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC WORLD
Every hour on the hour

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Talk Show: Anandirshi
Drama Serial: Mahona
11:05 Business This Week
12:15 Amar Computer
12:50 Musical Programme
01:25 Cine Gaan
02:30 Drama Serial: Ghunpoka
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhla Nai
03:50 Drama Serial: Bahawal Raja Shannyashi
04:25 Shomoshanchayik
05:10 Campus
06:20 Aynar Shamney
08:00 Drama Serial: Shukhnagar
08:30 Drama Serial: Apartment
09:00 Drama Serial: Shukher Legiya
09:30 Ek Dul Teen
10:35 Mile Phokol Ray
12:20 Talk Show: Islam Ki Bolei Amra Ki Kori

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shongbad Potray
Bangladesh and Public Reaction
11:25 Trilio Matra
12:00 Gramen Phone
Cricket Online
11:30 Amar Chokhla
12:00 Chhili Pelem
12:30 Ajji Dupury
01:00 Ebong Cinema Gaan
01:25 Public Reaction
03:50 Bangla Feature Film
04:20 Musical Programme
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Sports
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Special Programme
07:50 Drama Serial: Poribar

O Ekti Company
Drama Serial: EK Akasher Tara
Drama Serial: Ghachhe Chhalbe
Drama Serial: Shakkhi Kutum

ntv

08:30 Ajker Shokal
Drama Serial: Spansher Bairey
09:05 Khobor
Shodhney
Chokhob Gaan
Khabor Deshey
Deshy
12:02 Single Drama
Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela
03:15 Tiffin Fankay
Drama Serial: Anyorokom
04:25 Ke Korbey Bajimat
05:15 Itkasher Ei Diney
06:20 Shubho Shondhney
06:50 Shraya Shonito
08:10 Drama Serial: Spansher Bairey
Nupur

CHANNEL-i

08:50 Drama Serial: Shaeola
Dinderpan
11:25 As Good As It Gets
Baby Boy
Psycho II
Tremors II After-shocks
Raspunin
Carnivale 01: Milfay
Carnivale 02: After The Ball is Over

STAR GOLD

10:10 Chhupa Rustam
1:25 Kuch Hi Kuch Superhit
1:30 Kati Patang
4:30 23RD MARCH 1931
SHAHEED
8:30 Alibaar
11:45 Jutha Such

STAR MOVIES

8:00 Born On The Fourth Of July
12:15 People I Know
1:55 Marines

STAR PLUS

4:30 K Street Pall Hill
5:00 Maan
5:30 Hit Film Mein Hit Sangeet- 20 M

PICK OF THE DAY

Nupur
On ntv at 8:50pm
Dance Programme
Hosted by Shamim Ara Shekher and Shibli Muhammad

Charmed
On Star World at 8:30pm
Genre: Comedy / Drama / Fantasy / Mystery
Cast: Shannen Doherty, Holly Marie Combs, Alyssa Milano, Rose McGowan

3:30 Hildegarde
5:05 Company
7:00 The Princess Diaries
8:55 Submarines
10:30 In Hell

7:00 Disney's The Weekenders
7:30 Kurkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
7:55 Film Topper
8:00 Hello Dollie
8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se
9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
9:30 Millee
10:00 Kkavyanjali
10:30 Kahaani Gher Ghar Ki
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
11:30 Kahan To Hoga K-Street Pali Hill

4:30 Hollywood Squares
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30 Ally Mc Beal
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 That 70s Show
7:30 Friends
8:00 Newsradio
8:30 Charmed
9:30 Wild Card
10:30 Miss Match
11:26 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Newsradio

S3
4:00 Dogs With Jobs
4:30 Backyard Science
4:45 Doc Eureka
5:00 Serious: Arctic
5:30 Interpol Investigates
6:30 The Last Voices From Heaven
8:00 Love Market In The Clouds
10:00 From The Heart
10:30 Air Crash Investigation
11:30 National Geographic's Taboo

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY

1:00 Tales Of The Living Dead
1:30 Mummy Road Show
2:00 Riddles Of The Dead

DISCOVERY

1:30 Animal Face Off
Saltwater Croc Vs. Great White Shark

2:30 Seven Wonders of the Industrial World
Transcontinental Railway
3:30 Superstructures of the World
Largest Building in the World
4:30 FBI Files, The Cruel Revenge
5:30 Splat 4 Oddworld, Whirl Girl
6:00 Healthy Living Healing Touch
6:30 Man and Machine V Underwater Machines
7:30 Wild Discovery Siberian Survivors A Tale of Two Foxes
8:30 Science Frontiers Body Armor
9:30 Classic Discovery Secrets of the Buried Armies
10:30 Hollywood Superstars Clint Eastwood: Man From Malpas
11:30 Prosecutors, The Pride and Joy

ANIMAL PLANET

2:00 Pet Nation Wild Rescues Klondike & Snow, Keira's Colies, Batworld
2:30 The Protectors Cell Dogs
4:30 Pet Star
5:30 Twisted Tales Horse
6:00 Monkey Business
6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals
7:00 Amazing Animal Videos
7:30 From Cradle to Grave Kingdom of the Lion
9:30 The Protectors Animal Precinct 4
10:30 Deep into the Wild Rattlesnakes
11:00 Wild and Dangerous Croc Catchers

STAR SPORTS

11:00 Asian 9-Ball Tour San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour Jakarta Hanggar Indonesia Quarterfinal
12:30 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2004/05 Liverpool England Liverpool Vs Bolton Wanderers (T)
2:30 Super 12 Super 12 Rugby 2005 Brisbane Australia Nsw Waratahs Vs Crusaders Round 6(R)
4:30 Ladies European Tour Thailand Ladies Open Bangkok Thailand Day One Highlights(T)
5:30 Rugby 7s World Cup Hong Kong China Highlights(T)
6:30 The Rugby Show (T)
7:00 Atp Masters Series Nasaqd- 100 Open Miami Key Biscayne Fl Usa Highlights(T)
8:00 Sportsline (L)
8:30 Pakistan Tour Of India Airtel Showdown Highlights: India V Pakistan 2005
9:30 Vishakhapatnam India In Dia Vs Pakistan 2nd Odi Highlights(S)
11:00 The Masters Official Films The Masters Official Films 2002 (T)

ESPN

2:00 Pro Billiards 2004 Sudden Death 7-Ball Las Vegas Usa
3:00 Thomas Engert Vs Corey Deuel Championship (

3:00 Icc Cricket World (R)
3:30 Fo Classic Matches Fa Cup Classic Matches Leicester City Vs Wycombe Fa Cup 00/01 Quarter Final(T)
5:30 English Premier League Highlights English Premier League Highlights 2004/05 (R)
6:30 Football Focus (L)
7:30 Football Up Close Toyota Football Up Close (R)
8:30 Sportscenter Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 Sri Lanka Tour Of New Zealand The National Bank Series Hamilton New Zealand Vs Sri Lanka 1st Test Day 2
10:30 Classic Boxing Sugar Ray Robinson Vs Jake Lamotta V (T)
12:00 Sportscenter Sportscenter Asia (S)

TEN SPORTS

12:00 Wl v SA: 1st Test, Day 5 Highlights
2:00 Portuguese League: Boavista V Sporting
2:30 Gillette World Sport Legends 04: Brian Lara
3:30 Italian Serie A- Highlights
5:30 Gillette World Sport- Highlights
7:30 WWE Smackdown
8:00 Garner TV
8:00 Wl v SA: 1st Test, Day 5 Highlights
11:00 German League Highlights
1:00 WWE Smackdown