

CULTURAL FEAST

DVD Launch

Title: Mair Moyna
Programmes: DVD launching, Musical recital by anishey and Baul singers, screening of Making of Mair Moyna
Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road
Time: April 16, 4:45pm

Meena Media Awards 2005

Organisers: UNICEF AMIC
Venue: Bengal Foundation, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Time: April 18, at 11am

Film Screening

Title: Karl Valentin films 1913-1936
Organisers: Goethe-Institut and Chalachitram Film society
Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Road 8, Dhanmondi
Time: April 17-20, starting at 6pm everyday

April 17
Short Silent films: Karl Valentin's Wedding, The Jolly Vagabonds, The New Desktop, The Mysteries of a Hair-dresser's shop, Karl Valentin and Leisi Karstadt at the Oktoberfest
April 18
The Eclectic
April 19
Sound Films: At the Photographer's Studio, The Orchestra Rehearsal, The Maledict Spotlight, A Visit to the Theatre
April 20
Sound Films: The Confirmation Candidate, At the Record Shop, A Disastrous Violin Shop, The Inheritance

Dance Evening

Artist: China Art Troupe
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: April 16, at 7pm

Exhibition

Title: Boichiri
Artists: Farouq Prittyhoshini, Ra Kajol, Tayabuzzaman Topu
Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road
Time: April 13-30, 10am to 7pm
Title: War Time Film Poster Exhibition
Occasion: 60th anniversary of Victory over Fascism
Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Time: April 17-21

Title: 5th Vertical Ceramics and Wood Art Exhibition
Artist: Masudur Rahman, Azharul Islam, Nurul Amin
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Time: April 11-20, From 12pm to 8pm

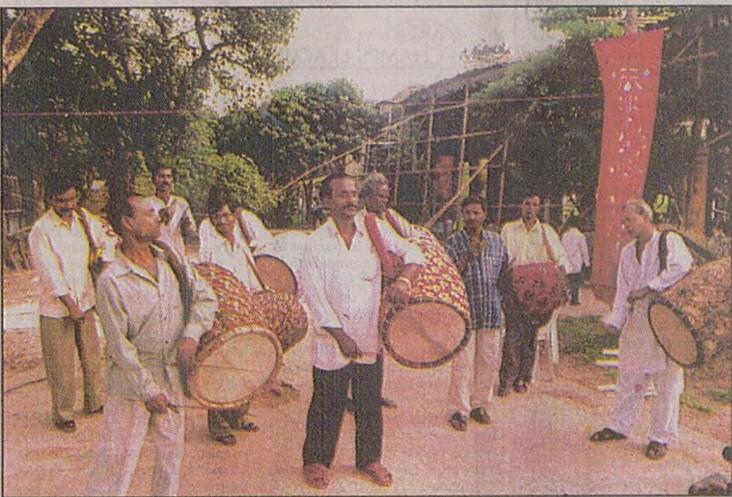
Organisers: Britto Arts Trust
Artist: 10 Rickschaw painters and 11 contemporary artists
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Time: April 11-19, From 5pm to 8pm

Title: A Kaleidoscopic Journey
Artist: Mohammad Fakruzzaman
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Time: April 11-25, From 12pm to 8pm

Artist: Babul Mahmood
Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Time: April 24-30

Title: Rejection
Artist: Abdus Salam
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Time: April 22-30, from 9am to 12pm, 5pm to 9pm

Bengal Baishakhi festival lures crowd



Artistes play dhol at the Barsho Bandana, a welcome note for the New Year

KARIM WAHEED

DHAKATES residing in the northern areas of the city, such as Gulshan, Banani, Baridhara, Badda, Jowar Shahara, rarely get a chance to have festivals to celebrate the Bangla New Year. When Bengal Foundation decided to organise a three-day-long Baishakhi celebration at the Gulshan Youth Club field, not only the outer Dhaka residents but Dhakaites from all over the city crowded the venue.

The festival was inaugurated on April 13 and on the first day, Chaitra Shankranti--the traditional farewell to the spring season--was celebrated. A popular custom in the Old Dhaka is flying kites on the occasion of Baishakhi. This trend was observed at the festival.

Another attraction was the fanush, a large balloon made of light paper with stretched bolts at

proper places with flat open 'mouth' at its bottom. Cotton or rags are wrapped around the main bolt and it flies free when fuelled by fire lit in a wrapper. Fanush is said to be the predecessor of flying balloons. Beautiful fanushes in different shapes mesmerised everyone as they made their way to infinity, illuminating the night sky.

The cultural programme on April 13 included Gazi Abdul Hakim's flute recital, dance performance by Nriyayadhara and Farida Parveen's rendition of Lalons songs.

On April 14, the first day of the Bangla New Year, the event started in the morning with greeting the new year with songs. The festival soon began to draw the crowds. Komola Ranir Shagor Dighee, an intriguing play, charmed the audience. Mystic songs performed by folk artistes also received applause.

An interesting feature of the festival was the presence of renowned artists Aminul Islam, Hashem Khan, Abdus Shakoor,



Rokeya Sultana work on a painting at the event

Muhammad Eunus, Rokeya Sultana, Jamal Ahmed and Ranjit Das painting on different aspects of the Baishakhi festival and the season of summer. The fair-goers had a rare chance to see paintings-in-the-making.

In the evening, the cultural event started with classical music performed by the students of Parampara, a music school operated by Bengal Foundation. Solo performances by Mita Haque, Aditi Mohsin, Laiza Ahmed Lisa, Sharmin Shathi Islam, Shama Rahman, Sumon Chowdhury, Bulbul Islam and Yaqub Ali Khan followed. The event ended with a dance presentation--Chitrangaada, presented by Dhrupad Kalakendra and Geetanjali.

Besides the cultural programme, the stalls at the festival, featuring handicrafts, painting, books, woven fabrics and clothes made out of local materials attracted people. Designer stores like Jatra, Aarong, Banglar Mela alongside small boutique shops participated at the fair.

It was a perfect occasion for the people of Dhaka to disregard last year's disappointments and welcome another year with new hopes and new dreams.

Padatik celebrates Chaitra Shankranti

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Padatik Nattya Sangsad organised a special cultural programme on the occasion of Chaitra Shankranti, on the eve of the Bangla New Year at the Rabindra Sarovar Amphitheatre by the Dhanmondi Lake on April 13.

Artist Hashem Khan inaugurated the programme by flying colourful kites and balloons. He urged the audience to uphold the prevailing secular culture of our country. Bauls and Boyatis played traditional tunes such as Thakitey pari na ghoretye, accompanied with local instruments--dhak, dhol, flute, kartal, mandira and others.

Artistes of Nriyam performed a dance piece with the song Amar Bangladesh ekater shur under Tamanna Rahman's direction. Dressed in traditional attire, the performers were playing ektara,



Performers of Nriyam present a dance piece at the celebration

dotara and mandira.

Members of Padatik Sangeet Sangsad rendered Bhasnatey ki kebol phota phuler mela, Ora

Year. Artistes of cultural groups Geetanjali, Kranti and Nibedon also presented various songs.

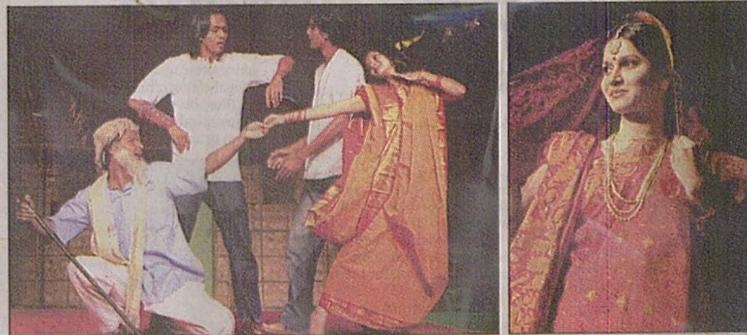
Popular Rabindra Sangeet singers Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Naima Ali, Salma Akbar, Sajed Akbar and Nargis Chowdhury also performed different numbers. Folk singers Biswajit Roy, Biman Chandra Biswas and others enthralled the audience with their Baul and spiritual songs.

Dance group Nriyanandan performed a spectacular piece choreographed by Sharmila Bandyopadhyay with the song Esho Hey Baishakh.

Padatik Natya Sangsad staged their latest production Jalbalika. Baul singers from Kushtia presented a Baul evening organised by Palli Baul Shamaj Shangstha at the end of the show, which continued till midnight. A sizeable audiences enjoyed the open-air show at the lakeside.

Swadeshi Poshak Utsab 14:12

A blend of tradition and modernity



Models present a comic anecdote (left) and a model clad in a magnificent Jamdani saree (right) walks the ramp at the fashion show

NOVERA DEEPIITA

There have been many additional attractions to the celebration of Pahela Baishakh this year. Apart from the traditional joyous music and spectacular dance pieces or attending Baishakhi Melas or even eating panta bhat (fermented rice) with green chillies and hilsa fish, there have been some welcome innovations. Such one event on this year's Pahela Baishakh was a fashion show titled Swadeshi Poshak Utsab 1412. Organised by fashion house Neelanjana Palli, the show was held at the Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton.

Neelanjana Palli is the brain-child of Farzana Yasmeen Neela. Having started its journey in 1997, the aim of the organisation is to popularise traditional handloom apparel in the local as well as the international markets. Neela began her career as a designer by developing designs of

the indigenous group Rakhain in Barisal.

Neela's urge to conserve and promote the local tradition was in evidence in the materials and even the choreography of the fashion show. Models walked the ramp with traditional musical instruments like mandira and dhol at the beginning of the parade. Young and enthusiastic models Dola, Apurbo, Shubhro, Laj, Shorna, Mithila, Mim, Ili, Nisho, Brishti, Rayna and others presented the gorgeous traditional clothes to the delight of the audience.

Jamdani saree and salwar-kameez collections with magnificent colour, texture and combination charmed everyone. Cotton collections which included fatua, panjabee and children's wear also attracted attention. The ramp turned kaleidoscopic with a medley of popular Bangla songs, varying from Rabindra Sangeet to folk and modern to Baul: Esho amar gharey

esho, Orey sampanwala, Proso tomay amay kothay rakho, Jhingey phul and Shohag chand bodoni dhoni.

Another delightful performance was by a group of children wearing rose-red sarees dancing to the song Lal Jhuti kakatua. In another part of the show, young models presented a humorous tale with the song Tui kene kada dill.

Celebrated Indian singer Arati Mukhopadhyay presented three of her most popular numbers--Ek Baishakhey dekha holo dujonar, Ei mom jochhoray and Tokhon tomar ekush bochor, while popular Bangladeshi singers Sanjeeb Chowdhury and Mahmuduzzaman Babu rendered their hit numbers Ami Banglar gaan gai, Bioscope and Ei nasho shahorey. However, live performances instead of lip-synching with the recorded versions of the songs would have been more enjoyable.



Baishakhi galore

Pahela Baishakh, first day of the Bangla Year, has its distinguished charm and festivity. Girls in white-and-red traditional saree and boys in panjabee or fatua, colourful tattoos on their faces, roam about the city to join the celebration of the New Year. Here are glimpses from the events in Dhaka welcoming Bangla year 1412.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

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, 5:00 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, 2:00pm, 7:00 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, 11pm. News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm. Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 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 5:30pm, 7:30pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Trilopy Maitra
10:30 Na Bola Kotha
12:00 Chhiti Pulam
12:20 Dhaka Guide
12:30 A J Dupurey O Citicell

01:00 Ebong Glimmar Gaan
01:25 Public Reaction
01:30 Shenaboporey Bangladesh

02:30 Bangla Feature Film
03:50 Banglar Gaan
04:20 Special Programme
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:15 Janopader Khabor

05:30 Sangeetmala
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Drama Serial: Ebong

07:50 Drama Serial: Upakatha
08:25 Drama Serial: Nana
09:35 Hideoy Mati O Manush

10:00 Drama Serial: Pothey
08:30 Drama Serial: Pothey
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ATN BANGLA

10:30 Annodristhoye
11:30 Char Deyalar Kabya
12:15 Bangla Film
03:45 Musical Programme
04:20 Chalo Gaan Gai
05:10 Ishkul Bela
05:45 Jibon Jigyasha
06:20 Auto Man
08:00 Drama Serial: Lodiya
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PICK OF THE DAY



The Replacement Killers
STAR Movies 5:30
Genre: Action / Thriller / Crime
Cast: Yun-Fat Chow, Mira Sorvino, Michael Rooker
Directed by Antoine Fuqua



Pothey Pothey Chalthey Chalthey
On Channel at 10:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Tazin, Chhobi, Ishita, Shahed Sharif Khan
Directed by Chayanika Chowdhury

07:00 Johnny English
08:30 Nine Months
10:15 In Hell
12:00 Grosse Pointe Blank
09:00 Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani
01:00 Tu Chor Mein Sipahi
04:30 Major Saab
08:30 HINDI
11:00 Gunah
09:00 Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani
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04:30 Major Saab
08:30 HINDI
11:00 Gunah

02:30 The Casino
03:30 The Kumars At No. 42
04:00 Cops
04:30 Koffee With Karan
05:30 Britannia India's Child Genius
06:30 The X Files
07:30 Totally Outrageous
08:30 Behavior Ca
08:00 Weird TV
08:30 Tna Xplosion
09:30 Most Incredible Animal Rescues
10:30 Dog The Bounty Hunter
11:00 Cops
11:30 Goodness Gracious Me
12:00 Rendezvous With Simi

ANIMAL PLANET

11:00 Amazing Animal Videos
11:30 Chemical Killers
12:00 Predators Special
12:30 Growing Up Wild
1:30 King of the Jungle
2:30 Attenborough Presents Animals A-Z
4:30 Asia Animal Tacks: Malaysian Sunbears
5:30 The Most Extreme
6:30 Animal Miracles-Crime Fighting Pig
7:30 Lyndal's Lifeline Elephant Alert
8:30 Attenborough Presents Animals A-Z
10:30 Land of the Tiger Unknown Seas
11:30 Wild Encounters

DISCOVERY

11:30 Why Intelligence Fails
12:30 Surprise Attack
12:30 Wild Discovery
1:30 Future Space Exploration
2:30 The Roman Colosseum
3:30 Decisions that Shook the World
4:30 Why Intelligence Fails Backfire
5:30 Truth or Scare
6:00 Living Puzer
6:30 Junkyard Wars
7:30 Life on the Verical: The Goals of Canada's Grand Canyon
8:30 Discover India
9:30 Salyadris-Mountains of the Monsoon
9:30 Conspiracies on Trial
10:30 Korsk: Underwater Sacrifice

STAR SPORTS

9:30 Nba Inside Stuff(R)
10:00 Golf Focus(R)
10:30 Football Locker Room(T)
11:00 Asian Tour: Dynasty Cup Day Two(L)
2:00 Ioc Cricket World(T)
2:30 Football Locker Room (R)
3:00 Asian Tour Magazine Show 2004/05 (T)
3:30 Augusta Masters 2005 Review(T)
4:30 The Fa Cup - "Road To Glory" (L)
5:10 Fa Cup 2004/05 Arsenal Vs Blackburn Rovers Semi-Final 1(L)
7:30 Epl Saturday Premier-ship(T)
7:45 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Crystal Palace Vs Norwich City (L)
10:00 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Charlton Athletic Vs Bolton Wanderers (S)
12:00 Super Centuries (T)
8:30 Brazilian Goal (R)
9:00 Sportscenter Week In Review (T)
9:30 Here We Go (R)
10:30 Hitz (R)
11:00 Motorsport Asia (R)
11:30 Cricket Gold (T)
2:30 Nba Action (R)
3:00 Ioc Cricket World (R)
3:30 Uefa Champions League

MAGAZINE SHOWS

4:00 Brazilian Goal (R)
4:30 Sportscenter Week In Review (R)
5:00 Sportscenter Weekend (T)
5:05 Motorsport Asia (R)
5:30 Atp Masters Series Monte-Carlo Presented By Hsbc Monte Carlo Monaco Quarterfinal #4(S)
7:30 Epl Saturday Premier-ship(L)
7:45 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Liverpool Vs Tottenham Hotspur (L)
10:00 Epl Saturday Premier-ship(T)
10:10 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Birmingham City Vs Portsmouth (L)
08:00 WWE Velocity
09:00 World Rally
09:30 Winning Post
10:00 Cricket Classics
12:00 Trans World Sports
01:00 Portuguese League: Boavista v FC Porto
03:00 Legends
04:00 World Rally
04:30 Winning Post
05:00 Indian Golf Show
05:30 WWE Experience
06:30 Gillette World Sports
07:00 European Tour Weekly
07:30 Paris Marathon Highlights
08:25 German League: Werder Bremen v Hertha
10:30 Total Rugby
11:00 WWE Experience
12:00 Trans World Sports