

The Daily Star's 15th Anniversary

Amidst razzle dazzle...



KARIM WAHEED

To celebrate *The Daily Star's* 15th anniversary, a glitzy evening that included who's who in the country as well as foreign emissaries and distinguished journalists from overseas, was held at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Center on February 4.

A photography exhibition that displayed memorable images published in the newspaper over the years was held at the premises.

The evening began with a laser and beam show demonstrating how a newspaper is born. The smoky ambience created for the show added to the effect.

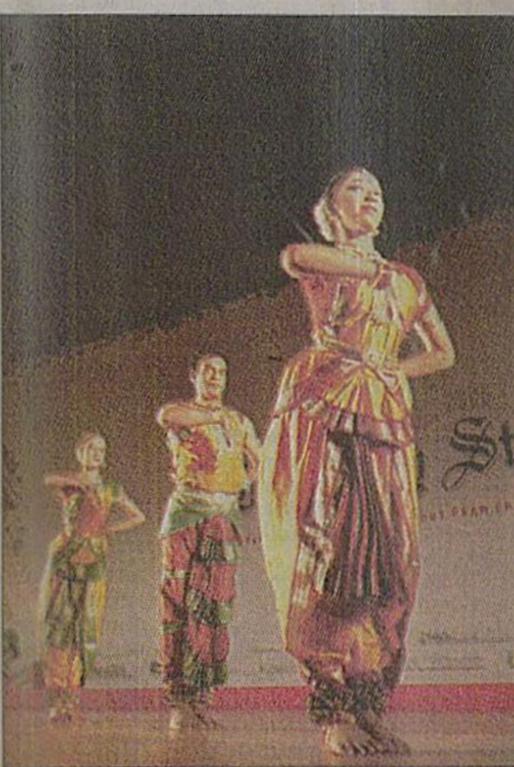
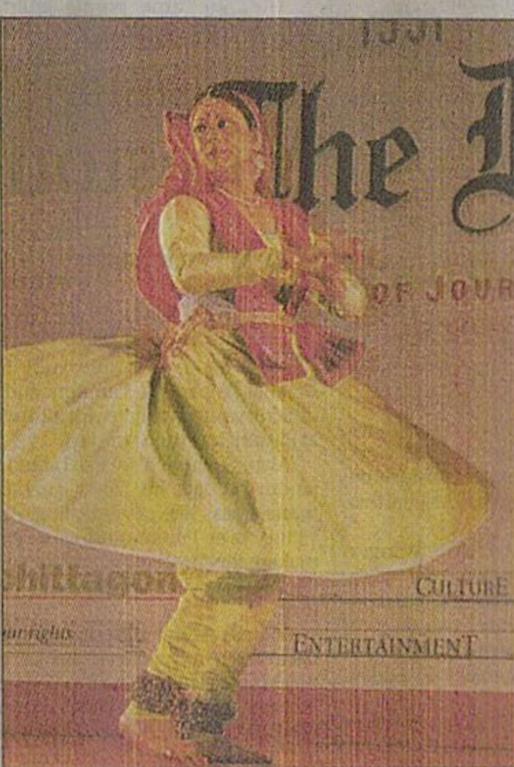
The cultural programme followed speeches by Mahfuz Anam, editor of *The Daily Star*, Professor Muhammad Yunus, chairperson of Grameen Bank and Rokia A Rahman, chairperson of Mediaworld Ltd.

Dancers of Nityadhara, an organisation run by noted dancer Minu Haque, presented classical dance in five segments:

Message of Peace, Manipuri, Bharatnatyam, Odissi and Kathak. Dancers clad in exquisite costumes, displaying impressive stances made the presentation an enjoyable experience. 'Tracing the heritage of our dance' was the theme of the presentation. *Message of Peace* and *Odissi* were choreographed by Minu Haque, Manipuri was choreographed by Tamanna Rahman, Bharatnatyam by Anisul Islam Hero and Kathak by Mumun Ahmed.

The major attraction of the night was *pot gaan*. *Pot gaan* or *potuya gaan* (scroll painting song) is an indigenous performing art form in Bangladesh. Through the medium of scroll painting, the choir narrates a story. The aim of *pot-er-gaan* is not only to narrate a story but also to generate awareness. In ancient times the indigenous performing art form depicted legends of the Goddess Monisha, along with Gazi Kalu-Chompaboti, Bonbibi and others.

In the contemporary world, this decaying performing art form deals with some social issues. The



theme of the evening's *pot gaan* was 'The risk to journalism in Bangladesh'. Rupantar, a troupe from Khulna performed the *pot gaan*.

Many cultural personalities attended the programme. They were Hashem Khan, Munirul Islam, Musatfa Zaman Abbasi, Moshedul Islam, Runa Laila, Alamgir, Chashi Nazrul Islam, Atiqul Haque Chowdhury, Ramendu Majumdar, Ataur Rahman, Nasiruddin Yousuf, Asaduzzaman Noor, Aly Zaker, Tareque Masud, Catherine Masud, Farida Perveen, Sharmila Bandyopadhyay, Masud Ali Khan, Shaheen Samad, Nashid Kamal, Fakir Alamgir, Fahmida Nabi, Bappa Majumdar, Kumar Biswajit, Shomi Kaiser, SI Tutul, Azizul Hakim and several others.

The programme was highly appreciated by the audience.

Clockwise (from left) Manipuri dance, *Message of Peace*, *Pot gaan*, Bharatnatyam and Kathak

Showcasing quality films at Goethe Institut

ERSHAD KAMOL

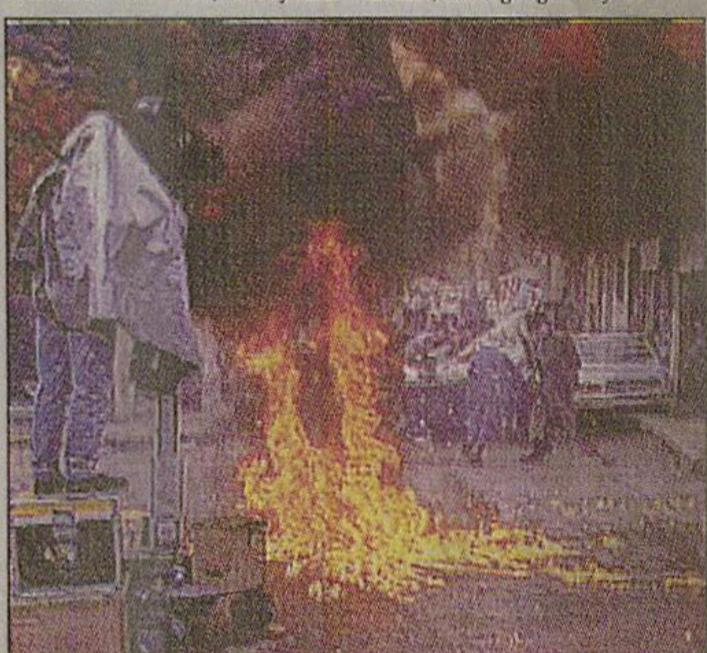
Another feast for film lovers. Ten selected movies from the tri-continental film festival, held in December 2005, are being screened at Goethe Institut. Six film societies Chalchitram, Chipachas, Dhaka Film Society, Jahangirnagar Film Society, Narayanganj Film Society and Zahir Raihan are jointly showcasing these films.

Beginning on February 2, the selected movies for the film screening session are *West Beyrouth*, *Khamosh Pani*, *The Quagmire*, *Luna Papa*, *Ali Zaoua*, *Rice People*, *Hyense*, *The Silences of the Palace*, *Zulu Love Letter* and *Platform*.

One of the organisers of the film session at Goethe Institut, Munira Murshed Munni said, "Many film

lovers as well as the activists of the film societies requested us to arrange a film screening session of the movies showcased in the last tri-continental film festival."

Catherine Masud said, "Last year we arranged the tri-continental film festival and screened movies sponsored by 'South Fund' of French Government. We have the DVD versions of those films. Now we are supporting other organisations to screen these movies. These quality movies have been made by the filmmakers from the countries in North Africa, Latin America and South Asia. The filmmakers can get innovative ideas on movie making with limited resources. We are eager to support the organisations to screen these movies at different places in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet."

A scene from *West Beyrouth*

Second season of the ATN Taroka



Judges in the show, (L-R) Subir Nandi, Azad Rahman and Fatema Tuz Zohra

ATN Taroka Tarokader Taroka is a prime-time show on ATN Bangla. Auditions for the second season of the talent hunt show have begun. The objective of the show is to select Bangladesh's best singer, actor or actress, says a press release.

Five six selected candidates for music and 56 selected candidates for acting round from 18 centres will take part in this talent hunt programme.

Celebrity judges are called on

the show to comment on the performances and to inspire the performers. The music round will be hosted by Khandakar Ismail and Dilshad Nahar Kona, and judged by Azad Rahman (music director), Subir Nandi (singer) and Fatema Tuz Zohra (singer). The judges of the acting round are Chashi Nazrul Islam (film director), Kabir Sarwar (actress) and Abdulla Mamun (actor).

Watch the music and acting rounds at 9.00 pm every Monday and Tuesday only on ATN Bangla.

A medley of colours at children's art exhibition

KAVITA CHARANJI

The ongoing 1st annual art exhibition of the Cubic School of Fine Arts in Gulshan is a definite eye opener. Though the young artists live in Dhaka, their 38 paintings reflect nature in all its infinite variety. In addition to the urban scenes, figures and still life, there are rural landscapes complete with huts, rivers, flowers and people. The mediums are water colours, crayons and pencils.

Among the artists is nine-year-old Adeeba Mahjabeen Rahman, a student of Baridhara Scholar's Institution. Her work draws inspiration from her visits to her village in Dinajpur district. To quote her: 'I love going to the village because the surroundings are natural and I enjoy living in huts.'

Another promising and adventurous soul is Sheikh Iqram Mahbub, who will be eight in April and is a student of Scholastica. 'I wanted to show how the tsunami hit villages and left suffering people hungry,' he says.

Cubic's first student who joined the art school in its present premises in 2004 is Rahat Binte Hamid, an eight-year-old student of Baridhara Scholar's Institution. Her proud mother, Zarine Akter, shows her painting of children playing amidst nature in the backdrop.

Among the older students is Dewan Sonia who will turn 17 soon and studies at Hurdo International School. The school also has one Sri Lankan and three Korean students. Among the elder learners is Michael from the Dutch Embassy who is in the midst of doing a pencil portrait. His motivation in joining the classes, he says, is to 'see if I can give expression to my hidden artistic talent.' He has opted for this school, because 'it is low key

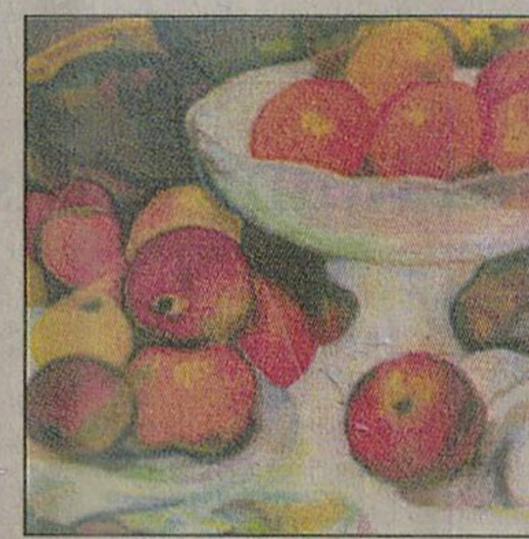
not commercialised.'

At the helm of the Cubic School of Fine Arts is its director, Mujahidul Hassan (Rana), assisted by his wife Nafisa Mehbub, coor-

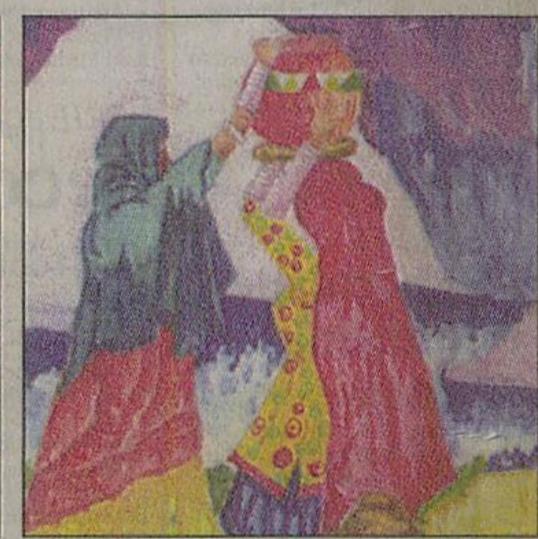
dinator of the school. 'The purpose of the exhibition is to inspire the children to higher levels of creativity. The children have recreated joyous images of themes chosen by

them,' says Nafisa.

The interesting exhibition is co-sponsored by Nestle's Nido and Alien Properties. The display concludes on February 6.



Works on display



TV GUIDE

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

BTV

10:00 Satellite Programme
12:30 Shashtha Tattva
01:00 Lekha Pora
02:40 Anu Paromani
03:05 Nitro Tala National
04:00 Football League 2005
06:10 Apon Bhami
06:35 Nityer Taley
07:00 Selected Programme
08:45 Drama Serial: Enechi
09:25 Drama Serial: Alopar
10:35 Shindhu Hili

Grammer Phone

10:00 Shironam
10:05 Zoo Adventure
10:30 Dhakar Cinema
01:05 Muktagon
02:35 Drama Serial: Ramzir Aaina
03:15 Lux Glamour World
03:50 Drama Serial: Godhulir Aby
04:25 Bishnuya Swader
Khobor
05:20 Apnir Jiggyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhiya
06:50 Khobor
07:20 Shondhyane
07:20 Nuri Huda
07:20 Rtv Delke Bolun
08:25 Drama serial: Labanya Prohba
Ban Ghar Thik Thak
09:10 Drama Serial: Akash
09:50 Chhironya
11:25 Dindarpan

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CHANNEL I

09:45 Trityo Maitra
10:45 Educational
programme (live)
12:30 Aaj Dupurey

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Anmodish
11:05 Drama: Ek Jonome
11:40 Trab Award-
2005

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