

CULTURAL FEAST

Ekushey Book Fair



Ekushey Cultural Programme

Organiser: Sammilito Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar Premises
Date: February 9-19
Time: 4:00pm

Organisers: Sammilito Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Rabindra Sarobar Amphitheatre (Dharmoddi)
Date: February 15-21
Time: 4:00pm

Documentary Festival

Venue: Shawkat Osman Smriti Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: February 15-18
Time: daily at 11am, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm

Children's Painting Exhibition

By Russian and Bangladeshi school children-winners and participants of the 4th International Children Art Biennale Bangladesh-2006
Venue: Exhibition Hall, Russian Centre of Science & Culture
Date: February 15-20
Time: 10am-7pm

Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Alluvial Dream & Reality
Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalya, House no-275/F, Road no-27 (Old), Dhanmondi
Date: February 16-March 2
Time: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Bangla Calligraphy Exhibition

Artist: Arham-ul-Huq Choudhury
Venue: British Council, 5 Fuller Road, Dhaka
Date: February 17-28
Time: 10:00am-8:00pm



Celebrity couples share their interests, pet peeves and more in exclusive interviews with The Daily Star. This time the spotlight is on Tania and Tutul.

Feedback : Bringing fusion into the mainstream

In conversation with Fuad Naser Babu

ERSHAD KAMOL

FUAD Naser Babu is a familiar name in the band music arena of Bangladesh. Music composer and keyboardist of the popular band Feedback, Babu is a pioneer in the organised band music movement. Of the seven albums released by the band, *Ullash*, *Mela*, *Chodosho Bangaband* and *Bauliana* enjoyed huge popularity. Moreover Feedback has released two albums from Kolkata, one of which is produced by the prestigious recording company HMV.

"I remember the days when we used to perform at Hotel Sheraton, as there were no production companies to release albums by bands, nor many live concerts. We used to do covers of English numbers," says Babu giving a glimpse of the band music scenario of the late '70s and early '80s in Dhaka.

In 1982, Feedback for the first time performed a Bangla number titled *Ei din chiro din robe*, composed by Fuad Naser Babu, in a TV show. From then onwards the band began to perform Bangla songs. In 1985, the group released their first album titled *Feedback*, produced by Sargam," said Babu.

"Production company Sargam was the only platform for rock'n'roll bands and solo artistes till the late 1990s," he added.

Feedback attained popularity with the release of the album *Ullash* in 1987. However, *Mela* released in 1990, is their most popular album. In Babu's words, "Since the release of *Ullash*, we have gained mass popularity. Moreover, after the release of our all time hit album *Mela*, Feedback became the leading band in the golden era of our band music (1985-2000)."

Going over that era, Babu, who is also the vice president of Bangladesh Members of Band Association (BAMBA), said, "In those days band music was such a rage in the country that in each locality enthusiastic youths formed a band. We used to perform live concerts regularly. In fact, band music and youth became synonymous in the urban areas. BAMBA was also very active. But the scene began to change from 2000. Nowadays, the appreciation of band music is limited to the educated urban youth who have a



Fuad Naser Babu

PHOTO: STAR

taste for metals and alternative genres."

Why is band music in Bangladesh losing popularity among the masses?" Babu's response: "It's partly because production companies are not shouldering their responsibilities. Bands are not consistent with quality productions. Besides, the star vocalists are busy with solos rather than group efforts or live concerts."

Babu is a proponent of the view that an institution ought to be set up to promote band music. He believes that without proper training many talents may stagnate.

Feedback is perhaps the first band in the country that introduced fusion in the mainstream, though earlier a few bands such as Sols used to present folk songs using guitars, drums and keys. However, there was an absence of an organised project to fuse music genres. Feedback's fusion project was called *Bauliana*. And the band released an album

based on their experiment in 1996. On the project Babu said, "*Bauliana* was a huge project. We got the idea to fuse music when we released an album *Dehonghori* with renowned baul Abdul Rahman Bayati in 1994. In fact *Dehonghori* is the first album in Bangladesh, which features only one song -- *Mon amar dehonghori*, earlier rendered by Abdul Rahman Bayati.

"Later, including other seasoned bauls from different corners of the country such as Hiru Shah from Kushtia, we initiated the project and subsequently released an album in 1996. It was a success. But, we believe we could do better, if we had technical support as in current times. We had to quit the project when the lead singer Maksum left the band."

Babu also composes background music for TV plays as well as jingles for commercials. Moreover, he is the music director of two Bangla movies titled *Chholona* and *Ghar Amar Ghar*.

Our Talent

Sheikh Luthfur Rahman: An illustrious composer



Department and was eventually enlisted at the Kolkata Radio Station.

After Partition in 1947, he settled in the then East Pakistan and joined the radio station as an enlisted artiste.

From 1956 to 1964, he resided in erstwhile West Pakistan where he became a teacher at the Nazrul Academy in Karachi. During his stay, he also trained under Habib Ali Khan Binkar.

After his return to Dhaka, he conducted a students'

programme in music from the radio station that soon propelled him to prominence.

In his illustrious career, he served as the principal of Nazrul Academy, professor of the Department of Nazrul songs at the Music College and a regular teacher at Chhayana Sangeet Bidyut.

A meticulous teacher, his wholehearted appeal in the rendering of classical-based Nazrul songs and music compositions earned him widespread renown in the vast field of music.

By the mid-60s, Rahman shifted from semi-classical to composing his timeless Gono Sangeet pieces. *Orey Bhai*, *Banglaeher Bangali ar nai*, *Shunen Hujur bagher jaat eyi Bangali*, *Manbona bonbon manbona*, *Lanchito niporito Jonor joi*, *Biplaber o rokhtey ranga jhanda*, *Orey akashay*, *Himaloy thekey Shundor bon hoithat Bangladesh* (written by Shukanto Bhattacharjee), *Phul khelbaar deen noi oddo* (written by Shubas Mukhopadhyay), *Jonor sangram choleibei* (written by Sikendar Abu Zafar), *Orey bishom doirar dheu* and several others incarnated a spirit of confidence, vigour and inspiration to the freedom-loving Bengalis.

A recipient of the Ekushey Padak, Rahman wrote his autobiography *Jiboner Gaan Gai* and is remembered with reverence by his innumerable students and admirers.

With Ekushey February on the horizon, it is time once more to remember stalwarts like Rahman who have contributed immensely to an enrichment of the country's cultural heritage.

Source: Bangla Academy Charitabhidhan.

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

News Bulletin

BTW
News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am; 12:00 pm; 2:00 pm; 3:00 pm; 4:00 pm; 7:00 pm.
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am; 10:00 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. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am; 9:00am, 2:00pm; 7:00pm; 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 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. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m; 10:00 am, 11:00 am; 1:00 pm; 3:00 pm; 4:00pm; 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am; 12:00 am; 4:15 pm; 9:30 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 am; 2:00 pm; 5:00 pm; 7:30 pm; 10:30 pm.

CHANNEL 1
News (Bangla) at 8:00am; 2:00pm; 6:00pm; 7:15pm; 10:30pm; 7:30pm; 10:00pm; 12:30am.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00am; 2:00pm; 6:00pm; 7:15pm; 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00pm. News Headlines (English) at 9:05pm.

RTV
News (Bangla) at 7:00am; 3:00pm; 7:15pm; 10:00pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:30am.

BTV

11:15 Cookery Show
11:40 Ongona
12:05 Maa O Shishir Kotha
12:30 Swapno Shonar
01:00 Shukhi Poribar
02:15 Children's Drama
02:40 Esho Gaan Shikhi
03:05 Cartoon
04:00 Esho Computer
04:30 Bansuri
05:05 Documentary Programme
05:30 Nobo Digonto
06:40 Jiboner Alo
07:00 Shangita
07:20 Shomoyer Shanglap
08:30 Protidin Bangla
08:35 Ekush Amar Ahonkar
10:30 Musical Programme

ATN BANGLA

09:20 Drama Serial: Shokal Shonra
10:30 Talk Show: Aktei Anyodristi
03:45 ATN Ranna Ghar
04:20 Shundor Jiboner
05:10 Amader Joto Kotha
05:45 Islamic Programme
06:20 Bormonalar Rup
07:00 Drama Serial: Shokal Shonra
08:40 Drama Serial: Koto Chena Koto Ochena
09:20 Drama Serial: Chhaya Mukh
09:30 Shangbad Potre
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameen Phone
09:55 Trityomatra
10:30 Citellic Tarokakothon

ntv

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shangbadpotre Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Trityo Matray
03:05 Hridoy Mati O
04:25 Nirbachoni Olympiad
04:35 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Boimela
06:00 Shamoeki
06:20 Amar Chhobi
07:50 Special Programme
08:20 Drama Serial: Ferari
08:40 Esho Computer
09:35 Ekhoni Shomoy
10:00 Drama Serial: Nishidho Bonobhumi
12:00 Grammenphone Ajker Shangbadpotre

ATN BANGLA

08:35 Ajker Shokal
09:00 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe
09:30 Ki Kotha Tahir Shately
10:05 Cholcholito Kotha
01:05 Japan Video Topic
02:35 Shopner Neel Pori
03:15 Drama Serial: Shaola
04:25 Mon Amor Shandhar
05:20 Mohilangan
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Rightclick
07:25 Drama Serial: Bolechhe Jabo Jabo
09:00 Glamour World
09:30 Drama Serial: Bishkhoy
10:00 Drama Serial: Dindarpur
11:25 Dindarpur

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shangbad Potre
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameen Phone
09:55 Trityomatra
10:30 Citellic Tarokakothon

Rtv

08:00 El Shokal
08:40 Shuprovat Bangla-desh
10:00 Chokh Mele Dekhi

BTV

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08:40 Shuprovat Bangla-desh
10:00 Chokh Mele Dekhi

BANGLAVISION

09:00 Media Bhupan

BANGLAVISION

09:05 Kumkum - Pyara Sa

BANGLAVISION

09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi

12:00

Maria

10:00

Tumi Megh Ami

10:30

Bangla Feature Film

01:00

Aj Potrikay

01:30

Islamite Programme

03:45

Special Dance Programme

03:00

Telefilm: Bimukh

04:20

Heart Bit

05:15

Gollachut

06:00

Harano Diner Gaan

06:45

Ithasher Pathdhorey

07:00

Shombhabonar

08:15

Drama Serial:

08:30

Shurer Bhuban

08:35

Drama Serial:

08:45

Diner Ghontona

09:00

Drama Serial: