

CULTURAL FEAST

National Theatre Festival

**Organiser:** Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation  
In association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
**Time:** 7pm  
**Venue:** National Theatre Stage

**March 12**  
Shobdaboli Group Theatre  
Neel Moyurer Joubon

**March 13**  
Sarothi Natya Shomprodai  
Dudh Kumarer Pala

**March 14**  
Natyajon Onyo Gajir Onyo Kissa

**March 15**  
Jahangirnagar University

**March 16**  
Subochon Natya Sangshad Rupoboti

**March 17**  
Desh Natak Jonome Jonmantor

**March 18**  
Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Eksho Bosta Chal

**March 19**  
Podokhep Kalapani

**March 20**  
Cox's Bazar Theatre  
Neel Shomudrer Jhor

**Venue:** Experimental Theatre Hall

**March 12**  
Loko Natyadol Shiddhidata

**March 13**  
Jibon Sanket Natyagosthi Bibhajan

**March 14**  
Ananya '79 Natyadol Rajkobi

**March 15**  
Govindagonj Theatre Shondor Alir Pala

**March 16**  
Theatre (Tophkana) Shonar Boron Koinya

**March 17**  
Theatre (Arambag) Bolod

**March 18**  
Dhaka Podatik Joldas

**March 19**  
Rangpur Natyakendra Muktothara

**March 20**  
Faridpur Theatre Matial

The schedule is subject to change

Painting Exhibition

**Artist:** Qayyum Chowdhury  
**Title:** Recent Past  
**Organiser:** Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts  
**Venue:** March 9-24

Group Exhibition

**Organiser:** SHAKO  
**Venue:** La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dacca  
**Date:** March 9-14

Solo Painting Exhibition

**Artist:** Znith Sattar  
**Title:** Secrets of Nature  
**Organiser:** Art & Soul Gallery  
**Venue:** Art & Soul Gallery  
**Date:** March 9-18

Slices of life

Photographs by Elizabeth Bass

FAYZA HAQ

TO celebrate International Women's Day the Russian Cultural Centre recently held a photography exhibition by Elizabeth Bass.

In one of the pictures of harmony we see an African girl with heavy beaded earrings and a coloured robe with brilliant stripes. She smiles broadly as she stands against a background of dry shrubs. *Through the looking glass* brings images through a broken glass panel of a house with walls, pillars and windows. The glass is in shades of blue, black and white. What one sees beyond are in the same colours of white and blue. A *dance to envy* brings in African women dancing gleefully in their orange and blue skirts. The action has made the colours of the skirts blurry but the feet are landed firmly on the wooden floor. The heads and hands are seen swaying rhythmically.

In *Colour ballot* we see a row of empty seats, some yellow and others red. One can imagine people coming here to sit and rest before they catch their flights. *Longevity* brings in two children laughing together. One is barely clad while the other has on a white shirt. This too is an image of hap-



Photographs by Elizabeth Bass

piness and carefree days. *Plexity* shows a child confused with what he sees.

*Grandeur* captures Old Dhaka with high pillars, verandahs, hallways and carved balustrades. Shrubs are seen growing on to the roof of the house. In another such photograph we see similar Grecian pillars, arches and shutters with decoration both at the bottom and top of the windows. The lens is then focused on the floor with its ancient tiles, the patterns of some of which are somewhat rubbed off. In another photograph we see a bright new rickshaw resting against ruins of walls.

*Yin and yang* ushers in the inside of a house with the images from outside through the open window. *Minutes of silence* shows another house that is covered with lichens and creepers. A caricature of a smiling old woman is seen doodled on the walls.

Elizabeth, whose mother is Russian, is studying interior architecture. She did a basic course in

photography from Pathshala. She has been working with the camera for two-and-a-half years. The exhibition, *Vibrancy and Emotions* brings in contrast of colours in everyday things in one part, while the other focuses on

Sonargaon, where she went on a weekend, and felt compelled to record what she experienced. Among noted photographers, Elizabeth admires Dr Shahidul Alam and Dr Pierre Clauquin.



Seminar on Int'l Mother Language Day in Beijing

A daylong seminar on International Mother Language Day was held on March 9 at Beijing Language and Culture University, for the second time in China, says a press release.

The seminar was jointly organised by China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), Chinese National Commission for UNESCO and UNESCO Office in Beijing. The theme of the event was "Promoting Multi-culture, Building Harmonious Society".

In his opening address, Liu Bin, president, CEAIE said that China has been making great efforts to create a harmonious environment around the globe, which is also a

precondition for the development of the languages of the world.

The secretary general of Chinese National Commission for UNESCO Tian Xiaogang said that the mother language is the soul of a nation, and preservation of mother language is a basic human right. He felicitated the government and people of Bangladesh for their unique contribution to promoting International Mother Language Day and paid homage to the language martyrs of Bangladesh.

Dr Yasuyuki Aoshima, director and representative of UNESCO Office Beijing announced that such seminars would be held in Beijing for five successive years to gener-

ate awareness about mother tongue and multilingualism with focus on education.

In his address, Ashfaqur Rahman, ambassador of Bangladesh to China thanked the organisers for recognising the importance and relevance of the International Mother Language Day. He requested the Chinese Government to take the initiative to develop a website documenting over 6000 languages in the world. He said since Mandarin was the most widely spoken language in the world, it was the prerogative and responsibility of the Chinese government to develop a comprehensive and accessible repository

of the living languages of the world.

The seminar was divided into two sessions: "Mother Language and Multi-culturalism" and "Mother Language Teaching and Practices". A number of Chinese, foreign education and language experts as well as representatives of resident diplomatic missions in China made presentations on a wide range of related issues.

The Bangladesh Embassy in Beijing took the initiative last year to observe the International Mother Language Day with the involvement of leading Chinese organisations.



National Theatre Festival '07 'Sattandha': A social satire

As part of the ongoing National Theatre Festival, Tirjak Natya Goshthi staged *Sattandha* on March 10 at Experimental Theatre Stage. Rafiqul Quader Rubel's play *Sattandha*, depicts that there is hardly any cause for cheer in the contemporary social milieu.

Though one may be distressed by the current social turmoil, not many effective initiatives are undertaken by the masses. The play features corruption that prevails in every sector of the society. Through fragmented stories the play depicts disorders in the education system, police sector, politics and other spheres.

In the process of unveiling the chaos in society, corruption in the education system has been highlighted. Rubel's play brings to light the irregularities at the university level because of the teachers' subservience to the ruling parties.

Like other such plays, the turmoil in politics and law enforcement agencies has been featured in *Sattandha*. But, the unique feature of the play is the oppression of the ethnic minorities by Bengali majority. The irony is that while most people bemoan the oppression of the Palestinians and Iraqis by the Israelis and Americans respectively, the average Bengali is blissfully unaware of the marginalisation of the ethnic minorities in Bangladesh.



Actors of Tirjak Natya Goshthi in Sattandha

A high point of the play is the final scene where a mother grieves for her lost son. The incorporation of the aesthetic sentiment of pathos by Haimanti created a gloomy ambience at the Experimental Theatre Hall as the audience could identify with the distressed mother. Other young actors of the troupe from Chittagong like Nasir as the narrator, Mamun as leader and Asad as police performed well.

As director of the play, Sayeed

Hiru has successfully applied technique of alienation. His presentation style and interpretation of the play is interesting. Another interesting aspect of the play is the sense of proportion in art design. Minimum light effect has been created on the empty stage. But, through mimetic gestures and voice modulation by the actors all the sequences have been created.

'Cyclewala' staged

On the other hand Natyachakra staged *Cyclewala* at the National Theatre Stage.

Leading contemporary Marathi playwright Vijay Tendulkar's allegorical play, *The Cyclist* unravels the exploitation of power and latent violence in human relationships, always seeking a well-deliberated resolution.

Tendulkar's narrative is about the adventure of life through a cyclist's journey. But the play is more than a mere journey of a cyclist rather a metaphysical journey -- a journey of the mind in search of the elusive truth.

Translated by Abdus Selim, Irin Parveen Lopa has directed *Cyclewala*. Junaid Eusuf performs in the role of 'Main Character' in the play.



A scene from Cyclewala

'Ebong Cinemar Gaan' set to score 1000



Moushumi and Ferdaus in a film song

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

*Ebong Cinemar Gaan*, a musical show based on Bangladeshi cinema, is currently running on Channel i daily at 1:05pm (except Fridays). The programme will observe its milestone 1000th episode today.

The show features songs from recent and old Bangladeshi cinema.

The 1000th episode deals with the musical hits from the latest Bangladeshi movies such as *Hridoyer Kotha*, *Rani Kuthir Baki Itihash*, *Brishti Bheja Akash*, *Tui Jodi Amar Hoitrey* along with an interactive request session.

From the next episode onwards, the director of the show Mrinal Kanti Das has plans to provide viewers news and information about actors, directors, musicians, make-up artistes, and cameramen of the silver screen.

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. (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, 12:15am.

**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, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

**ntv**  
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 6:15 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, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30pm.

**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

08:40 Bishwa Protidin  
09:05 Shomapti  
11:15 Musical Programme  
12:00 Mae O Shishur Kotha  
12:30 Swapno Shonar Gaon  
01:00 Shukhi Poribar  
01:30 Mati O Manush  
02:15 Sisimpur  
02:40 Boi Potro  
03:05 Cartoon  
04:00 Onu Poromanu  
04:30 Ogrodut  
05:05 Debate  
06:10 Kobi O Kobita  
06:40 Dolon Chapa  
07:00 Apon Bhumi  
07:25 Drupadi  
08:35 Protidin Bangladesh  
08:45 Chhayachhondo  
09:30 Jibon O Jibika

ATN Bangla


10:30 Talk Show: Onnodrishti  
12:10 Motamot  
01:25 Choloctrirer Golpo  
02:30 Drama Serial: Nirob Kosto  
04:20 ATN MUSIC  
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khorob  
05:10 Shormali Din  
05:45 Business Week  
06:20 Ashay Pasher Manush  
08:00 Drama Serial: Kathkoylar Chhobi Meet the Press

Channel i


08:30 Shokaler Gaan

09:30 Shangbadpotre Bangladesh  
09:45 Public Reaction  
09:50 Grameenphone Tritiomatra  
11:05 Educational Programme  
12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathan  
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan  
01:30 Shangbadpotre Bangladesh  
01:45 Public Reaction  
04:05 Citycell Medha Bikash  
04:30 Amader Gaan  
04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma  
05:30 Special Programme  
06:00 Star gate SG one  
06:15 Ontoralar Kotha  
06:40 Business Show  
08:00 BBC Bangladesh Shanglep  
09:35 Drama Serial: Tin Tin  
10:00 Drama Serial: Shada Ranger Swapno  
12:00 GrameenPhone Aiker Shangbad Potro  
BANGLAVISION  
09:30 Raat Biraatey  
10:10 Article 39  
11:10 Drama Serial: Sukher Kanta  
11:40 Cinebeat Shada Kalo  
02:30 Drama Serial: Chaitali Jochhonay Meyeti  
03:05 Apnar Agami

PICK OF THE DAY



**Shukher Oshukh**  
On Banglavisn at 8:55pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Mahmudul Islam, Tinni



**CSI: Miami**  
On AXN at 11:30pm  
TV Series  
Cast: David Caruso, Emily Procter

04:15 Drama Serial: Swapno Chura  
05:00 Drama Serial: Guest  
05:40 Diner Sheshey  
06:30 Amader Rannaghar  
08:15 Desher Pathay  
08:55 Drama: Shukher Oshukh

**STAR PLUS**  
09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
10:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
11:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

12:30 Kayamath  
01:00 asautii Zindagii Kay  
01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
02:00 Bhabhi  
02:30 Kesar  
03:00 Saarthi  
03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi  
04:00 Kayamath  
05:00 Aek Chabhi Hai Padoss Mein  
05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
06:30 Mickey Mouse And Friends  
07:00 Ducktales  
07:30 Prithviraj Chauhan

08:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby  
08:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa  
09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay  
09:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati- Srk  
10:45 Cyborg 2  
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi  
11:30 Kayamath  
12:00 Paraya Dhan

**STAR MOVIES**  
10:15 Jurassic Park  
15:25 Behind The Camera: The Unauthorized Story Of Mork & Mindy  
01:55 Chain Reaction

03:45 Eight Days To Live  
05:20 White Noise  
07:00 Moscow Heat  
08:35 In Her Shoes  
10:45 Cyborg 2  
03:30 Playing House

**AXN**  
09:30 Pensacola  
10:30 Numb3rs  
11:00 Maximum Exposure  
02:00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation  
02:30 AXN Xtreme Macau  
03:30 E Buzz  
04:00 Ultimate Guinness  
04:00 World Records  
04:00 Maximum Exposure (Season I)

05:00 Ultimate Guinness  
05:30 World Records  
06:30 Andromeda  
07:30 Amazon  
08:30 Numbers  
09:30 Maximum Exposure  
11:30 The Amazing Race: All-Stars  
12:30 The Amazing Race: All-Stars

**STAR WORLD**  
09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show  
10:30 The Apprentice  
11:30 Crumbs  
12:00 8 Simple Rules  
12:30 Koffee With Karan  
01:30 Angela's Eyes  
02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show  
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful  
04:00 General Hospital  
05:00 Fashion House  
06:00 Less Than Perfect  
06:30 The Simpsons  
07:00 Cheers  
07:30 Friends  
08:00 Seinfeld  
08:30 My Wife And Kids  
09:00 Still Standing  
09:30 The King Of Queen  
10:00 Frasier  
11:30 Fashion House

**DISCOVERY CHANNEL**  
08:30 Wild Discovery  
09:30 Discovery Biggest Shows  
11:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive  
12:30 Yummy Mummy  
01:00 Runway Moms

01:30 Wild Discovery  
02:30 Detective Stories  
03:30 Planet Earth  
04:30 Wild Discovery  
05:30 Journey of Life  
06:30 Extreme Machines  
07:30 Wild Discovery  
08:30 Million 2 One  
09:00 Everything You Need To Know  
09:30 Future Weapons  
10:30 Extreme Engineering  
11:30 New Detectives

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**  
09:30 Albuquerque Ballon Crash  
10:00 Plainfield III Tornado  
10:30 Global Sky Shop  
10:45 Bhagyashali Ratna  
11:15 Telemall  
11:30 Landslide  
12:30 Monsoon  
01:30 Ferrari  
02:30 Monkey Business  
03:00 Nat Geo Encores  
04:00 Plainfield III Tornado  
04:30 Irula / Horseshoe  
05:00 Nat Geo Genius  
05:30 Big Bang  
06:00 Venom Harvest  
07:00 Plainfield III Tornado  
07:30 King of the Cliffs  
08:30 Air Crash Investigation  
09:30 Seconds From Disaster  
10:30 Man-Eaters of India  
11:30 Rated W

**STAR SPORTS**  
09:30 Hit  
10:00 Ashes Heroes

10:30 Spanish Football League  
12:30 Motogp World Championship 2007  
04:30 Adventure Tri Series 2006  
05:30 Fa Cup Highlights  
06:30 Tna Badshah- Christopher Daniels  
09:00 Shaz & Waz Caribbean Special  
09:30 India Down Under  
10:00 Full Toss? Haste Rehna Boss  
10:30 Pro Bull Riders Association Buil  
11:30 Engine Block  
12:00 Corona Rally Mexico

**ESPN**  
09:00 Taking Guard - West Indies Spec  
09:30 Sportscenter Special  
10:30 Shaz & Waz Caribbean Special  
11:00 Bangladesh Tour Of Zimbabwe  
12:30 Castle Test Series  
02:30 Indian Premier Hockey League  
04:30 India Glorious - Headingley Spec  
06:00 Taking Guard - West Indies Spec  
06:30 X Games 11 Classic - Moto X  
07:00 Fa Cup Highlights (Soccer/Futbol)  
09:30 The Prince Of Kolkata  
10:00 Champions Of The World  
10:30 Sportscenter India  
11:00 Sportscenter Asia