

# Window to the world

## Aktel International Inter University Photography Exhibition '07

AHSAN HABIB

THE ongoing exhibition at National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy, titled "Aktel International Inter University Photography Exhibition 2007" is an attempt where young photographers have culled out images of individual visual explorations of the world.

The exhibition is jointly organised by North South University Photography Club and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and can be treated as a platform for university students to exhibit their talents in the art of photography. It is an opportunity for young Bangladeshi photographers to share their visions with a greater viewer-ship and also to compare themselves with their contemporaries from overseas.

This year 550 photographs by 200 photographers are participating in the exhibition. A total of 50 universities from 15 countries are participating in the exhibition. Works by students of universities from Canada, China, England, France, Germany, India, Nepal, Netherlands, Scotland, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, Turkey and USA are on display alongside photographs by Bangladeshi students.

The photographs are categorised into colour, black and white with subcategories -- landscape, portrait, lifestyle, architecture, action, still life and nature. Photo story is a new addition to the subcategories in this year's exhibition. A total of 32 awards including 2 jury awards have been given this year.

With varied subjects, the photographs satisfy tastes at different levels. Some mirror the social reality of oppression and inequality, some transmit the deep motives of the individual, some glorify the known, the familiar, while some bring out the colours of life and allure of nature. The world as the photographer views it, is brought before the viewer through passionately composed images.

The exhibition provides a chance for the photographers to share their views with the audience. According to Shahriar Jamil, the event co-ordinator, the exhibition intends to support the non-professional "potential dreamers" that constitute the majority of the practitioners of photography who rarely get the opportunity to exhibit their works in "elite" galleries. "There are photographers, who have taken photography as a profession



Clockwise (from top): Photographs by Monir Hussain (2nd prize, colour landscape), Ashrafal Awal (2nd prize, colour lifestyle), Easil Murtoza (1st prize, colour still life) and Mobin Abrar (1st prize, nature)

but then there are others too ... the bigger portion ... the non professionals. ... What is the scope for them? Will this bigger portion be left untapped?" he notes.

Initiated by North South University Photography Club, the exhibition has grown up to become the second largest photographic event in the region. This year, the Club honours emi-

nent photographer Nayeubuddin Ahmed with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to the field of photography in Bangladesh. The exhibition ends on March 23.

The Daily Star is a media partner of the event.



### CULTURAL FEAST

#### National Theatre Festival

**Organiser:** Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

**Time:** 7pm

**At National Theatre Stage**

**March 21**

Dhaka Theatre: Binodini

**March 22**

Uttoradikhari: Shampannayla

**March 23**

Biborton Jessor: Koiborto Gatha

Udichi: Chilikothar Sepoy

**Experimental Theatre Hall**

**March 21**

Oboyob Natyadol: Jolpori

**March 22**

Kheyali Group Theatre: Montong

Kothon

**March 23**

Nagorik Natya Shomproday:

Chhayanaut

The schedule is subject to change

## Cultural programme in Rangamati

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), Rangamati unit (which provides legal aid free of cost to the poor in the Chittagong Hill Tracts), SAS, Ashika and Community Development Library (CDL), jointly organised a programme titled *Blast Bichitra* at the district Shilpakala Academy hall in the hill town recently.

Debate competition, dramas, chorus and solo songs, dances were staged at the event to create awareness among the locals regarding the existing laws in the society. A discussion was also held at the programme.

Students from local institutions, local public representatives, several women's organisations, intellectuals, journalists and BLAST's benefi-



Young dancers from ethnic communities perform at the event

ciaries participated in the programme.

Litterateur Biro Kumar Tangchangya, civil society representative Joynarayan Chakma, Binodbihari Chakma and representative of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad Minara Begum attended the discussion.

Coordinator of BLAST, Rangamati Unit, advocate Jewel Dewan and Co-ordinator advocate Hola Thoi Marma conducted the event.

Several publications of BLAST including posters, booklets, brochures and video films were on display at the programme.

According to BLAST sources, some 184 cases have been received by the organisation, of which 80 cases have been dissolved so far in Rangamati since its inception in January last year.



## National Theatre Festival '07

### 'Muktodhara': Rage against the machine

Set against the backdrop of the post World War I, Rabindranath Tagore wrote the play *Muktodhara* which features misuse of technology, and urges that through sacrifices man has to free himself from the grasp of machine.

Many directors have presented the play in different ways. However, most of the endeavours are not successful, as it is really difficult to stage the play with so many allegories such as King Bibhuti, Dhananjoy Boiragi and Prince Abhijit.

Directed by Rashid Haroon, Rangpur Natya Kendra staged *Muktodhara* on March 20 at the Experimental Theatre Stage.

The play opens with a scene with actors rendering songs and carrying torches in hands. They are celebrating the completion of a gigantic dam. To govern the stream of the river Bhairaba, Jantraj Bibhuti -- ruler of imaginary land Uttarkut -- has built the gigantic 'machine' after 25 years of effort.

But, the peasants of another imaginary land Shibtora, a colony of Uttarkut, suffers the negative impacts of the dam. The situation gives rise to a conflict between the two lands. Sacrificing his life, Abhijit, a representative of man, destroys the huge machine for the welfare of humanity.

Tension that is required of so many conflicts -- between man and machine, between ethics and arrogance and between a colony



Actors of Rangpur Natya Kendra in *Muktodhara*

and an imperial state -- have not been created effectively on the stage. Rather, many of the scene makings as well as movements of the actors infer that director's approach is quite comical.

The use of scarves to distinguish between people of Uttarkut and Shibtora does not work at all. Perhaps the sound effect on an almost empty stage is not enough to create a sequence of destroying a gigantic dam. Perhaps the director could employ a different point of view.

As all of the actions take place on the street, set designer Deepankar

### 'Kalapani' staged

On the same evening Padokkhep, a Gaibandha based theatre troupe, staged *Kalapani* at the National Theatre Stage.

Sultan Muhammad Razzaq's play depicts the miserable lifestyle of the proletariat, who have been oppressed by the feudal lords for ages. Even the nature is hostile to them. *Kalapani*, which was used to refer to the 'lifetime imprisonment in the Andamans during the British rule', infers that these poor people are destined to be imprisoned by poverty and oppression for life.

Directed by Mahfuzul Islam, Ashekur Rahman is the set designer and Shahriar Sumit is the light designer of the play.



A scene from *Kalapani*

By ERSHAD KAMOL



Press Minister for Pakistan High Commission in Bangladesh, Sajida Iqbal Syed (2-R) with Syed Iqbal Hussain (additional secretary, government of Pakistan) along with artistes of Bangladesh Betar and TV rendered Bangla and Urdu songs at a programme held recently at the National Press Club, Dhaka

## 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, 12:15 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, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

#### CHANNEL 1

News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 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

#### BTV

11:15 Doctor Jokhon

Durey

Koishor

12:05 Maa O Shishur

Kotha

12:30 Swapno Shonar

Gaon

01:00 Shukhi Poribar

01:30 Smritimoy Dhaka

02:15 Sisimpur

03:05 Cartoon

03:30 Mati O Manush

04:00 Hijol Tomal

04:30 Shonoli Agami

05:30 Oi Notuner Ketan

Urey

06:40 Drama

07:15 ICC World Cup

2007: Bangladesh

Vs Sri Lanka

#### CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shongbad Potrey

Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Tritiyomatra

11:05 Sports Time

12:30 Citycell Tarokathan

Ebong Cinemar

01:05

Shangbhadpotrey

Bangladesh

01:45 Public Reaction

02:40 Selected Drama

04:05 Cricatalk Bishwa Cup

Special

04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 Mukti Judho Protidin

06:00 Music Club

06:20 Drama Serial:

Shompaddo

Upopaddo

07:50 Hello Minister

09:35 Aloye Bhubon

Bhora

10:00 Drama Serial: Jog

Beyog

12:00 Grameenphone

Ajker Shangbadpotro

#### CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat

Bangladesh

09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi

Cartoon

10:00 Bangla Feature Film

02:00 Bagan Bilash

03:30 Drama Serial:

Shomrajjo

04:00 Rupantoror Golpo

04:30 Fusion Bits

05:15 Expression

06:00 Saaji Bela

06:30 Top News

06:45 Mukti Judho

07:00 Baker Pathhey

08:15 Drama Serial:

Society

09:00 Drama Serial: Nokol

Poshakh

09:30 Show Case

#### BANGLAVISIO

N



### PICK OF THE DAY

#### ICC World Cup 2007

Bangladesh Vs Sri Lanka

On BTV at 7:15pm

Live from Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad

#### STAR MOVIES

10:05 Thir13en Ghosts

02:35 Family In Hiding

02:45 Mighty Joe Young

04:40 For Love Of The Game

07:00 Relic, The

08:45 Grudge, The

10:15 Still Small Voices

11:45 Fighting The Odds

#### STAR WORLD

09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show

10:30 Commander In Chief

11:30 Falcon Beach

12:30 The O.C.

01:30 Koffee With Karan

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 American Idol

10:30 Heroes

11:30 Fashion House

#### 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

Kayamath

01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay

02:00 Bhabhi

02:30 Kesar

03:00 Saarthi

03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

04:00 Bahu Thi

Kayamath

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

10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

Bahu Thi

11:30 Kayamath

12:00 Paraya Dhan

#### DISCOVERY CHANNEL

09:30 Honey We're Killing

The Kids

10:30 Bringing Home Baby

11:00 Amazing Baby Videos

11:30 Life On The Edge

12:30 Body Basics

01:30 Tiger Week

02:30 Detective Stories

03:30 Everything You Need To Know

04:00 Million 2 One

05:30 Journey of Life

06:30 Tiger Week

08:30 I Should be Alive

09:30 African Adventures

10:30 Stuntdaws

10:30 Building The Biggest

#### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

09:30 Eternal Enemies

10:30 Telemall

11:30 Naked Science

12:30 Is It Real?

01:30 Missing Link

02:30 Killer Whales

03:00 Coral Reef Spawning

03:30 Eternal Enemies

04:30 Disney Florida

05:00 Nat Geo Genius

05:30 Big Bang

06:00 Jungle Geoff

06:30 Eternal Enemies

07:30 Bringing Home The Bear

08:30 Hollywood Science

09:30 Guardians of Angkor

10:30 The Dragons of Galapagos

11:30 Hunter Hunted

#### AXN