

## CULTURAL FEAST

## May Day Celebration

Organiser: Uidchi Shilpi Gosthi  
Venue: Nabisco Shaheed Minar  
Chottor, Tejgaon  
Date: May 1  
Time: 5:30pm

## Solo Art Exhibition

Title: The Forms and Poetry of Nature  
Artist: Aklesh Ghosh  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27 (old) Dharmoddi  
Date: April 21-May 5  
Time: 12pm-8pm

Title: Cryptic Reality  
Artist: Abdus Sattar Taufiq  
Venue: Zainul Galleri, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University  
Date: April 30-May 6  
Time: 11am-8pm

## Grand Group Art Exhibition

145 artworks by renowned Bangladeshi artists  
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, D.C.C. North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan  
Date: April 28-May 28  
Time: 9:00am to 7:00pm (Friday closed)

## Swadeshi Properties Nritya Utsab 2007

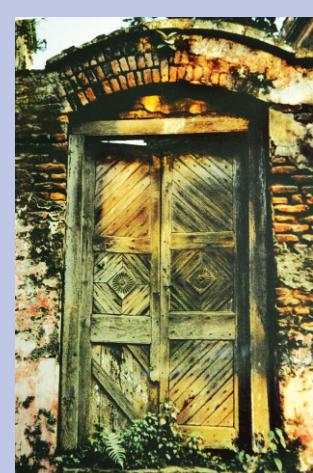
Organisers: Naba Nritya and The Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
Venue: Shaheed Osman Auditorium, Public Library, Shahbagh  
May 1: Shonai Madhab's by Ami's Workshop  
Time: 5-9pm

## Digital Art Exhibition

Artist: Rabi Khan  
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dacca  
Date: April 26-May 2  
Time: 9am-12pm and 5pm-8pm

## Photography Exhibition

By the members of Mukta Chokh, Pathshala, 2007  
Title: Balyati Prashada  
Venue: Alliance Francaise Gallery, Zoom, 26 Mirpur Road, Dharmoddi  
Date: April 20-May 3  
Time: Saturday-Friday 9am-12pm, 5pm-8pm



## A platform for dancers

## Third National Dance Festival ends



Jagaron, a dance performance by Jago Art Centre

## ERSHAD KAMOL

THE 3rd National Dance Festival arranged by Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Sangstha (BNSS), ended at the National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy on April 29.

As the day was marked by the

World Dance Day, a sizeable number of enthusiastic dancers came together at the programme. Apart from the inauguration and closing ceremony in Dhaka, the weeklong festival continued in other district towns such as Khulna, Sylhet, Barisal, Rajshahi, Faridpur, Mymensingh, Bogra and

## Chittagong.

Former Director General of Bangla Academy Dr. Ashraf Siddiqi was the chief guest at the event. Rahiza Khanam Jhunu, president of BNSS, presided over the programme. Shaju Ahmed, general secretary of BNSS, also spoke at the event.

In his speech the chief guest Dr. Ashraf Siddiqi said, "Presentation of the indigenous culture of this region is the key feature of the traditional dance forms of Bangladesh. Our folk culture appears colourfully in dance. Bangladeshi artists have been performing folk-based dance overseas, which has received plaudits."

Claiming the festival "a success", Shaju Ahmed said that BNSS has received positive response at every venue.

Rahiza Khanam Jhunu said, "Besides renowned artists, promising dancers have also performed at the festival. BNSS wants to encourage young talents from every corner of the country."

The speeches were followed by dance performances. Artists of BAFA, Chhayanat Sangeet, Jagor Art Centre, Nrityalok Sanskrutik Kendra, Tridhara, Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre (Chittagong) and others presented performances highlighting different styles and

genres of dance. Besides troupes from Dhaka, five troupes from Chittagong, Sylhet, Dimapur and Khulna performed at the closing ceremony. Some of the dance presentations were awe-inspiring while some were not up to the mark.

A Raga Basanti based performance by Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre (Chittagong) and Jagaron, a Jago Art Centre presentation, were highly appreciated by the audience.

Other important aspect of the programme was the celebration of World Dance Day. The day was introduced in 1982 to commemo-

rate the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, whose contribution to dance was immense. This year's World Dance Day was dedicated to children.

The official message by Sasha Waltz, a German art director and choreographer, was read out at the programme. Urging the need of talents such as Anna Pavlova, Uday Shankar, Rukmini Devi, Sangjukta Panigrahi, Bulbul Chowdhury, G A Mannan and Gauhar Jamil, Dr. Shoma Mumtaz (assistant professor of Department of Drama and Dramatics of Jahangirnagar University), delivered a message on the occasion as well.

## An artist of Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre (Chittagong) performs at the event

Photo: STAR



An artist of Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre (Chittagong) performs at the event

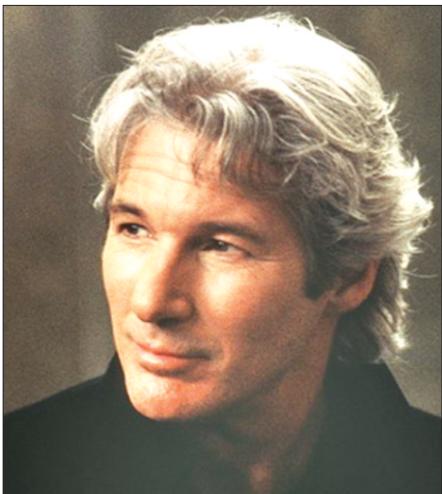


Youngsters perform at the Swadeshi Properties Nritya Utsab organised jointly by Naba Nritya and the Embassy of People's Republic of China on April 29



Child artistes dance at the programme held recently by Bangladesh Nrityashilpi Sangstha's Bogra unit on the occasion of National Dance Festival '07

## Richard Gere: Ready to say sorry



Breaking his silence following the outcry over the kissing controversy involving Shilpa Shetty, Hollywood star Richard Gere offered to apologise if he has "offended" anyone.

"What is most important to me is that my intentions as an HIV/AIDS advocate be made clear and that my friends in India understand that it has never been nor could it ever be, my intention to offend you. If that had happened, of course it is easy for me to offer a sincere apology," he said in a statement.

Gere's comments came a day after a Jaipur court issued an arrest warrant against him for planting a kiss on Shilpa's cheek in public during an AIDS awareness programme in Delhi, a fortnight ago.

In his statement, Gere said "to be honest, this recent media storm has taken me by surprise."

Gere also said he felt sorry that Shilpa had to carry the burden following the controversy for no fault of hers.

"What we thought was a very successful HIV/AIDS event has taken a sad turn. The evening and event in question was intended to celebrate courageous people and partnerships in the supremely important fight against HIV/AIDS, a worldwide pandemic which has afflicted over 5 million Indians and is still increasing," he said.

Lauding Shetty, Gere said, "Shilpa Shetty is a courageous and wonderful woman who deserves high praise and support for her campaign to generate awareness on HIV/AIDS."

"I assure you, I have utmost respect for her, and she knows this. Of course, I've felt terrible that she should carry a burden that is no fault of hers. The burden is mine and no one else's," he said.

Source: Internet

Source: Internet

Treading diverse tracks in the media  
In conversation with Raju Alim

His first play *Borsha Rater Nupur Dhoni*, based on a story by Shamsur Rahman, was a tribute to the poet. "As I am inclined to poetry, poetic consideration while making programmes is my topmost priority," Alim says. Two collections of poems penned by him titled *Shobor Uporey Shorir Shatyo* and *Duronto Pakhir Gaan* have already been published.

Talk show *Ekhoni Shomoy* is a popular programme that Alim produces. Over a hundred celebrities from different sectors have already participated in the programme. In March this year, he produced a daily talk show on the Liberation War -- *Muktijuddho Protidin*. Renowned theatre personality Nasiruddin Yousuff hosted the



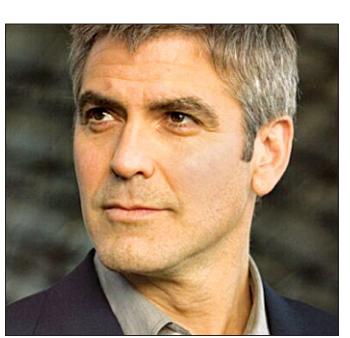
A scene from Sromiker Jayagaan

## programme.

He is also a lyricist. *Rupali chand ami bodhho ummadi* rendered by Mehreen and *Chaitro jai bishobhak mashey* rendered by Tishma earned him popularity as a lyricist. Ayub Bachchu composed the music for the songs.

To mark May Day, Channel-i will air a special programme -- *Sromiker Jayagaan* -- produced by Alim at 4:30pm. Political leaders and cultural activists such as Manzur Ahsan Khan, Rashed Khan Menon, Shirin Akhtar, Shykh Seraj and Mamunur Rashid will participate in the programme. Other attractions include recitation by Asaduzzaman Noor and *gano sangeet* by artists of Uidchi, Kranti and Wrishiz.

## George Clooney's new political drama



George Clooney is getting political again. He's planning a black comedy based on Rachel Boynton's 2005 documentary *Our Brand Is Crisis*. British scribe Peter Straughan has been hired to adapt this behind-the-scenes chronicle of the 2002 Bolivian presidential election, which Clooney hopes to direct and star in.

The story follows candidate Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada (affectionately known to some as Goni) who hired a US political consulting firm to help secure victory. Clooney is eyeing the role of campaign maestro James Carville, who used focus groups, slogans and smear tactics to get him into office. It worked but Bolivia quickly descended into crisis under Goni's rule and he was forced to resign.

Source: Internet

## TV GUIDE

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; 12:10 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 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

**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, 6:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00pm. News Headlines (English) at 9:05pm.

08:45	Bishwa Protidin	09:15	Pichhutan
09:05	Shomapti	10:30	Drama Serial: Taar Neel Dheu
11:15	Shukhi Poribar	11:05	Talk Show: Atek Oroydishi
11:40	Desher Gaan	11:35	Drama Serial: Outdoor
12:05	Ma O Shishur Kotha	12:15	Three Stooges
12:30	Drama serial: Swapno Shonar Gaan	12:30	Special documentary on May Day: Bostrobalikara
01:00	Talk Show	02:30	Talk show: Shomoshomoyik
01:30	Mali O Manush	03:15	Drama Serial: O Amar Chokh Nai
02:15	Musical Programme: Shurer Shurobhi	03:45	Children's Programme: Aaha Ki Anondo
02:40	Selected Programme	05:20	Easier Shomoy
03:05	Cartoon: New Woody Woodpecker	06:20	Aainar Shamne
03:30	Educational Programme: Ingrei Shikhh Ashor	07:00	Kothamala
04:00	Amader Aangina	08:00	Drama Serial: Shokal Shondu
04:30	Band Show	08:45	Special TV play on May Day: Chaka
05:05	Children's Programme: Mon-er Kotha	09:30	Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
05:30	Anushilon	10:15	Klanto Shomoy
06:10	Programme on Information and Technology	10:30	Grameenphone Tritiymatra
06:40	Geeti Bitan	11:05	Cricket Online (Live)
07:00	Quiz Quiz	11:35	Drama Serial: Tin
07:30	Drama Serial: Ujaan	12:30	Citycell Tarokakothon
08:30	Protidin Bangla-desh	01:05	Ebong Cinemar Gaan
08:35	Drama Serial: Shongshoptok	01:30	Shangbad Potrey Bangladesh
09:00	Special programme on May Day	02:40	Selected Drama of Humayun Ahmed
09:30	Protidin	03:05	Drama Serial: Anirban
10:30	Special programme on Buddha Purnima	04:05	Musical Programme
11:15	ATN Bangla	04:45	Shukri Joygaan
12:00	Ajker Shangbadpotro	05:30	Muktijuddho Protidin
12:30	Shangbadpotro	06:00	Drama Serial:

06:20	Drama Serial: Ochena Adhar	05:15	Rokte Kena Aat	04:15	Shamol Bangla	04:00	Bandhan
06:45	Alpo Sholpo Golpo	06:00	Saaj Bela	05:00	Nekabborer	02:00	Bhabhi
07:00	Drama Serial: Ei Shob	06:45	Ithihaser Path	06:25	Mohaproyan	02:30	Kesar
07:30	Drama Serial: Tin	07:00	Dhorey	08:15	Monah May Dibosh	03:00	Sarrthi
08:00	RC Travel On	07:15	Alpo Sholpo Golpo	09:00	Drama Serial: Agamir Kontho	04:00	Kyunki Saas Bhi
08:30	Gramophone	08:00	Kache Keo Dure	10:00	Rupantorer Golpo	04:30	Kabhi Bahu Thi
09:00	Ajker Shangbadpotro	09:0					