

## CULTURAL FEAST

## Grand Group Art

## Exhibition

14 art works of renowned Bangladeshi artists on display  
Venue: Sajau 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)

## Group Theatre Festival 2007

Organiser: Group Theatre Forum, Chittagong  
Venue: Chittagong Shilpakala Academy Auditorium

Date: May 10  
Play: Pagla Ghor  
Troupe: Protinidhi Natyo Shomprodoy

Date: May 11  
Play: Chhayabrita  
Troupe: Shobdo Natyo Chorcha Kendro

Date: May 12  
Play: Chader Omobasya  
Troupe: Theatre Guild

## European Union Cultural Festival

Title: Celebrating EU-Bangladesh Relationship  
Organiser: European Commission, in association with partner organisations Photographic display

Title: Bangladesh Matters: Capturing the EU's Development Co-operation  
Venue: Drik Gallery  
Date: May 8-12

## Art Exhibition

Title: Mukti  
Organiser: Liberation War Museum  
Venue: Liberation War Museum  
Date: May 7-20  
Time: 10:00am- 8:00pm

## Classical and Folk music evening

Organiser: The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Dhaka  
Venue: The British Council  
Bangladesh, 5 Fuller Road, Dhaka  
Date: May 18  
Time: 6:30pm

## Asian Film Session

Organiser: Cinepal Film Society, Rush Film Society, Satyajit Ray Film Society, Bioscope Film Society.  
Venue: World Literacy Centre, Bishwa Shahity Kendro, 14 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue  
Date: May 9 & 10

## Theatre

Play: The Miser  
Troupe: Loko Natyadal  
Venue: Mahila Shomiti Milonayalon, Bailyroad  
Date: May 11  
Time: 7:00pm

Play: Lilaboti Akhyan  
Troupe: Loko Natyadal  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.  
Date: May 9-10

## Tagore's birth anniversary celebration at National level

Music, dance and drama at Shilpakala



Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Iffat Ara Dewan sing at the programme

ERSHAD KAMOL

**H**E made his presence felt everywhere: Rabindranath Tagore was a great poet, author, playwright, lyricist, composer, painter and much more. Almost all forms of art that Tagore had contributed to were presented at the National Theatre Stage, Shilpakala Academy on May 8 to mark the 146th birth anniversary of Kobiguru. As part of Tagore's birth anniversary celebration at National level, Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) jointly organised the event. Performing dance, music, poetry recitation and dance-drama, leading artistes and troupes of the country paid homage to Tagore. Ayub Quadri, advisor to -- Ministry of Education, Primary and Mass Education and Cultural Affairs -- was the chief guest of the programme.

The event began with presentation of two choral renditions by Sangeet Bhaban. Noted singers including Ajit Roy, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Lily Islam, Iffat Ara Dewan, Mahiuzzaman Chowdhury and Hashi Biswas rendered some evergreen Tagore songs. However, melancholy songs at a birth anniversary celebration by some artistes seemed quite inappropriate to the audience. Perhaps, these songs would be apt for special programmes on death anniversaries.

Kazi Arif, Nur-e-Hafza, Rezaul Hasan Titu, Mahmudul Hassan and others recited excerpts from Tagore poems. Moreover troupes -- Srishti Cultural Centre, Nandan Kala Kendra, Jago Art Centre and Sarara Sangskritik Sangathan -- staged group dance at the event.

Another attraction of the evening was the staging of Tagore's dance-drama *Chitrangada* by Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA).

Illustrating the love story (a brief reference in *Mahabharata*) between legendary Pandava hero Arjuna and Chitrangada, the princess of Manipur, Tagore's dance-drama addresses that one's true identity and realisation of self-worth is more important than assuming a false front just to please others. The dance-drama was directed by Rahija Khanom Jhunu. Sohel Rahman, Farhana Chowdhury Baby, Farzana Ria Chowdhury and Abdur Rashid Chowdhury performed leading roles in *Chitrangada*. Sadi Mohammed, Rezvana Chowdhury Bonna and Sajed Akbar rendered songs used as background music.

A publication featuring Tagore's paintings and articles, evaluated by leading scholars of the country, was also launched at the programme.



Artistes of Jago Art Centre perform their dance composition

initiated by Haque to encourage young talented Tagore singers.

On the last day of the festival, programmes were held in two sessions -- morning and evening. Artistes of BRSSS staged a musical performance titled *Kobi Bondona* in the morning featuring Tagore songs by 34 artistes.

In the evening, artistes celebrated 84th birthday of Kalim Sharifi -- renowned Tagore exponent and president of BRSSS.

Organisations including Shuroitirtho, Sangeet Bhaban, Bishwa Bina, Robi Roshmi, Robi Raag, Geeto Shudha, Dhrubotan also participated at the programme. Fahim Hassan Chowdhury and Mita Haq were among artistes who performed solo songs at the programme.

The event included discussion, cultural programme and a 'Rabindra Mela'. The discussion included two seminars -- 'Hu-

## National Rabindra Sangeet Festival ends



PHOTO: STAR

## TV GUIDE



## PICK OF THE DAY

## Bangladesh Vs India

On BTV at 9:05am

One-day cricket match

Live from Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur

## Chhayanat's Rabindra Jayanti celebration

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate Tagore's 146th birth anniversary, one of the leading music schools in the country, Chhayanat organised an evening of music and poetry at its Sangskriti Bhavan auditorium on May 8.

Dr. Sanjida Khatun, president of Chhayanat, shared her views on what Tagore means to the world. "Did Tagore exclusively write for aristocrats? Was he only a poet of progressive urbanites? Those who have properly studied his work know that he was a writer for the masses. His message was universal."

In the carefully manipulated light and shadow, the Tagore exponent then narrated the story of *Bishorjon*: the King of Tripura, Govindamanika, and his queen

have no heir. Craving to become a mother, the queen decides to sacrifice hundreds of animals to appease the deity the royal family worships. One day, the king came across a destitute little girl, Aporna, who was looking for her only possession -- her goat. The animal was as close as a blood relative to the young one. Aporna made her fears known by saying, "I've heard my goat was taken away to be sacrificed." This makes a profound impact on Govindamanika and he decides to put an end to this cruel practice.

The king decrees that anyone killing animals in the land would be banished forever. The high priest, Raghubati, feels his status is being threatened and starts conspiring against the king. Eventually, through an ultimate sacrifice of the

person who was closest to him, Raghubati realises how wrong he was. And Govindamanika places his offerings -- meant for the deity -- at the feet of the individual who has sacrificed himself for the sake of others. "Throughout his life Rabindranath placed humankind on top of everything; even religion," said Sanjida Khatun.

The musical programme started with a chorus, *Akash bhora shurjo tara*. Other renditions at the event included *Darun agnibaney* (chorus), *Chokhkey amar trishna* (solo by Brinda), *Nai rosh nai* (solo by Nilufar), *Esho shyamolo shundoro* (chorus), *Gahano ghamo chhailo* (chorus), *Khela bhanger khela* (chorus) and more.

The programme ended with a rendition of the National Anthem.



Artistes of Chhayanat sing at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

## Celebration at Shilaiddah

## Kuthibari

AMANUR AMAN, *Kushtia*

The two-day long celebration of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore's 146th birth anniversary ended yesterday at the Shilaiddah Kuthibari, also known as Rabindra Kuthibari. Kuthibari district administration arranged the programme.

Additional deputy commissioner of Khulna division, Shamima Sultana inaugurated the programme on the first day. Professor Fazlul Haque, vice-chancellor of Islamic University, was the chief guest on the second day.

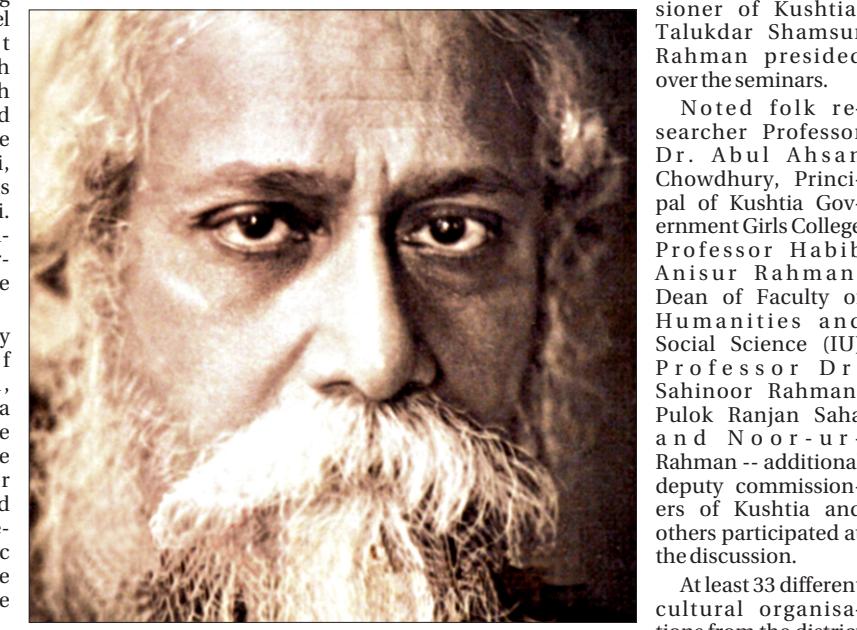
The event included discussion, cultural programme and a 'Rabindra Mela'. The discussion included two seminars -- 'Hu-

manism and Rabindranath' on the first day and 'Global Thinking of Rabindranath' on the second day.

Deputy commissioner of Kushtia, Talukdar Shamsur Rahman presided over the seminars.

Noted folk researcher Professor Dr. Abdul Ahsan Chowdhury, Principal of Kushtia Government Girls College Professor Habib Anisur Rahman, Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Social Science (IUS) Professor Dr. Sahinor Rahman, Pulok Ranjan Saha and Noorur Rahman -- additional deputy commissioners of Kushtia and others participated at the discussion.

At least 33 different cultural organisations from the district took part in the cul-



tural programme.

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

## News Bulletin

**BTV**  
09:05 Bangladesh Vs India one day cricket match

05:05 Doctor Jokhon Durey  
06:40 Islamic Programme  
07:00 Musical Programme  
07:30 Talk Show  
08:30 *Protidin* Bangladesh  
08:40 Drama: *Kobi O Ekti* Meye

08:15 *Ajker Shangbad* Potro

08:30 Musical Programme

09:15 Drama: *Shama*

10:30 Talk Show

11:05 Drama: *Oporichita*

12:15 *Bangla Feature Film*

03:45 *Shundor Jiboner Jonno*

04:20 Cooking Programme

05:10 *Amader Joto Kotha*

05:40 Islamic Programme

06:20 TV Serial: *Mugly*

08:00 Drama Serial:

12:00 *Grameenphone*

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