

CULTURALFEAST

Fete de la Musique

Organiser: Alliance Francaise de Dacca
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: June 29
Time: 6:00pm
Artiste: Ecole de danse

Date: June 30
Time: 6:00pm
Artiste: Ecole de musique

Mask Exhibition

Organiser: Department of Fine Art and Prakritajon Projonmo
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh, House No. 4, Road No. 104, Gulshan 2
Date: June 25-29

National Art Exhibition

Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 17 to July 16
Organiser: Department of Art, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Art Exhibition

Artist: Bipul Shah
Title: Journey with Wreckage
Venue: Galleri Kaya House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttora
Date: June 21-July 4
Time: 11am-8pm

Photography Exhibition

Title: Ability and Inclusion
Artist: Shumon Ahmed
Organiser: Centre for Disability in Development
Venue: Shilpangan, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: June 27 to July 7
Time: 12pm to 8pm

Theatre

Title: Koina
Troupe: Prachyanat
Venue: Mahila Samity Auditorium
Date: June 28 Thursday
Time: 7 pm

Children's Theatre Festival

Organiser: Rakhal
Venue: Shawkot Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library
Date: June 28
Time: 5:15pm
Title: Neel Shadar Deshey
Troupe: Sonali Shishu Theatre, Setabganj
Time: 6:00pm
Title: Te Matha
Troupe: Amader Theatre, Dinajpur
Time: 6:45pm
Title: Ek Kishor Muktioddhar Galpo
Troupe: Little Theatre, Bogra
Time: 7:30pm
Title: Raja O Rajdrohi
Troupe: Nabarupi Shishu Natyadal, Dinajpur

Theatre

Title: Godor Pratikhyay
Troupe: The Thespians
Venue: Experimental Teatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 2
Time: 7 pm

Saying no to drugs

Cultural personalities contribute to the cause



(Clockwise from Top-Left) Subir Nandi sings at the programme, a group dance performed by artistes of Shilpakala, Fieldworkers of anti-drug campaign present a group dance

AHSAN HABIB

AN anti-drug cultural evening on International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), was held on June 26. This was to promote the anti-drug message to youths, telling them that there are better alternatives to having fun than substance abuse. The programme was held at the National Theatre Stage.
With the slogan *Nesha noy gaan, juddho noy praan*, the programme featured prominent artistes of the country performing and campaigning for the anti-drug cause. Factual information on drug abuse and its social consequences were presented in between the performances.
The show started with an anti-drug song *Jibonto etkai tobe keno koro opochoy*, rendered by non-professional singer Shafi Kamal, one of the directors of BSA. Noor-e-Hafza acted out a monologue that narrates the tragic story of a drug-addict from a mother's point of view. Fieldworkers of Anti-Drug Campaign performed a group dance directed by Deepa Khondoker, accompanying the song *Shorbonasher dikey amra pa bariyechhi*. Anima Mukti rendered an



anti-drug song, *Esho na boli madok ke na boli*.

A number of group dances directed by MR Wasek, Shafikur Rahman, Sultana Haider and Sarwar Ahmed Belayet Hossain Khan were also presented.

Subir Nandi, Ferdous Ara, Joyonto Mukherjee Shibu, Nashid Kamal, Pagla Bablu, Wrishiz Shilpi Gosthi and rock bands – Feedback and Maksud O Dhaka – also rendered their popular songs at the show and talked about the benefits of living drug-free lives.

Adviser to the Caretaker Government, Geeteera Safiya Choudhury, was the chief guest while the director general of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Quamrul Hassan presided over the programme.

Though the programme was not a part of the Academy's regular activities, BSA intends to take up such extra responsibilities because of its commitment to the nation, said Quamrul Hassan. He also informed that the performers participated in the programme without taking honorarium and many of them have contributed to the programme.

Speaking at the event, Geeteera Safiya Choudhury urged every citizen regardless of age, gender or class to fight against drug abuse through generating awareness.

Profile

Mona's dreams in pastel chalk

FAYZA HAQ

Mona Mahmud Chowdhury, whose solo exhibition is due at the Bengal Gallery (scheduled to start from July 4), has a surrealistic style in which she blends her concept of nature and man. She is especially fond of rivers and trees and includes human figures and animals.

Mona studied at Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata in 1993. She completed her Masters in Fine Arts from Biswa Bharati, Shantiniketan in 1994. In 1993, she was selected as a working artist by Lalit Kala Kendra, Kolkata. She got her post-graduate diploma in Advanced Painting from Central Saint Martins College of Fine Arts and Design, London in 1996.

Mona says that her father, A.S Mahmud, always encouraged her with her paintings. "Since I worked hard and took my studies seriously my teachers were enthusiastic about my work. I had Partho Protim, Dev Robin Mondol and Dharmarayan Das Gupta as my teachers. At Shantiniketan I had Jogin Chowdhury and Sanat Kar as my guides. It was also my father's influencing words that told me that one could have a pleasant life despite difficulties. And those words saw me through my student days – with the not so pleasant hostels. I enjoyed it greatly, however, when I went to the railway stations and *Santal Patti* while working in Kolkata and Shantiniketan. I tried to find beauty in my surroundings. I took pleasure in studying the history and aesthetics of art apart from my painting."

Her stay in England too had tremendous influence on her work. She went to museums, exhibitions and became more aware of the modern western trends in paintings. Ingrid Karma and Mike Thorpe were her teachers. While in India there is a lot of stress on "study work", as Mona puts it, in England the teachers encourage individual experimentation, and development of per-



Mona Mahmud Chowdhury
sonal style.

Just as a river moves from place to place, Mona feels our lives affect many around us and have far



An artwork by Mona

Buzz

Christina Aguilera, budding actress

AP, Shanghai

Christina Aguilera says she's reading scripts in search of the right role to launch an acting career.

"I am looking forward to moving into another form of what I feel is another creative outlet for me and that



would be acting," the 26-year-old singer told reporters last Monday in Shanghai, where she was to hold her first mainland China concert.

Aguilera, who married music executive Jordan Bratman in 2005, said she was taking her time reading and understanding the film industry.

"It is something that, when I attempt to do it, I want to do it right so it's important for me that I do choose the right first role for myself," said Aguilera, who performed Tuesday night at the Shanghai Grand Stage, host to earlier performances by the Rolling Stones, Eric Clapton and the Black Eyed Peas.

Aguilera found fame alongside boy bands and Britney Spears, but caused a stir with the release of her second album, 2002's *Stripped*, with its accompanying sexual imagery and overall bad-girl attitude. The album received mixed critical reviews but racked up strong sales.

Her latest record, the double album, *Back to Basics*, and its accompanying tour were inspired by the blues, jazz and early soul music of the 1920s, '30s, and '40s, along with the sexy, grown-up look of Hollywood divas like Marilyn Monroe, Jean Harlow and Veronica Lake.

"I wanted to revert back to a time and place in music that truly inspired me the most," Aguilera said.

Her sexy act apparently didn't faze China's cultural officials, who told the Rolling Stones not to sing some of their racier hits and cancelled a performance by Jay-Z after deeming the rapper's lyrics "vulgar."

OUR TALENTS

Bande Ali Mia: Articulating the simple rural life

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR, Pabna

Yesterday, June 27, marked the 28th death anniversary of poet Bande Ali Mia. Bande Ali was a poet, novelist, playwright and attained much acclaim for his works for children. The noted litterateur also tried his hand at painting.

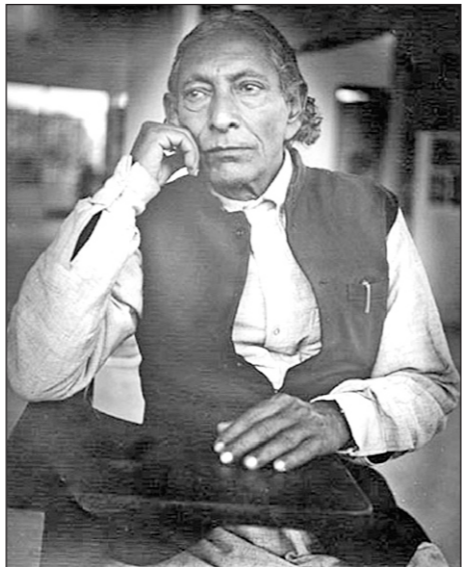
Bande Ali was born on January 17, 1906 in the village Radhanagar, by the river Ichhamoti in Pabna district. Poet Bande Ali had passed his childhood in this town. He passed the Entrance examination from Majumder Academy, Pabna in 1923. He studied painting at the 'Indian Art Academy' in Calcutta and got his diploma from the institution in 1930. For some time he worked as a journalist in the magazine *Islam Darshan*, and then taught at a Calcutta Corporation school (1930-1950). He subsequently moved to East Pakistan, where he worked at the Dhaka and Rajshahi radio stations.

"His simplicity has encouraged me. I love the unpretentious language and presentation portraying the innocence of childhood," Poet Sufia Kamal once remarked on Bande Ali in her writing.

Bande Ali's first book, *Chor Jama*, was published in 1927 by Calcutta Ashutosh Library. In total Bande Ali wrote 84 books including poetry, prose, drama and lyrics mostly centring on rural life.

His popular collection of poems *Maynamotir*

Char was published in 1931 by D.M Library, Calcutta. In *Maynamotir Char* Bande Ali depicted the quintessential rural life in 19th century Bengal, with unmistakable simplicity. *Barashar jal shoriya giyachhe jagiya uthechhe char*



Gang-shalikera garta khurhiya bandhitechhe ghar...

These elements enrich the poem that remains one of the most endearing pieces in Bengali literature. Admiring the book, Rabindranath Tagore wrote in a letter to Bande Ali in 1932, "These are enchanting imageries, you have painted in *Maynamotir Char*, depicting the casual lives of people living in the Padma chars."

Among other books by Bande Ali are *Anurag* (1933), *Padma Nadir Char* (1933), *Swapno Shadh* (1936), *Madhumatir Char* (1946), *Aranya Godhuli* (1958), *Tasher Ghar* (1954) and more. *Megh Kumari*, *Jungle-er Raja*, *Shishudur Bishadh Shindhu*, *Shonar Harin* and *Shiyal Pandit-er Pathshala* written for children became hugely popular.

The poet spent his last days in Rajshahi. Bande Ali passed away in 1979 at his Kazhatpara residence in Rajshahi town. He was buried at the premises of his ancestral home in Radhanagar.

This year in observance of the poet's death anniversary, Pabna district administration has arranged a weeklong programme, including drawing and recitation competition for school children. A discussion and prize distribution among the competitors will be held at 'Pabna Bonomali Institute' premise this Friday (June 29).

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Koto Chena Koto Ochena
On ATN Bangla at 8:40pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Fazlur Rahman Babu, Jitu Ahsan



The Mistress of Spices
On Star Movies at 8:45pm
Genre: Drama / Romance
Cast: Aishwarya Rai, Dylan McDermott

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, 11pm, 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, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 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 8:00pm.

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, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
News Headlines (English) at 8:05pm

Rtv

News (Bangla) at 10:15pm. and 12:15am

ntv

News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am

ETV

News (Bangla): 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

BTV

11:40 Shotorupa
12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha
12:30 Selected Programme
12:30 Shukhi Porbar
12:15 Swapner Deshey
12:40 Esho Gaan Shikhi
12:30 Cartoon
12:40 Ekaal Shekaal
12:30 Banshuri
12:15 Sangeeta
12:30 Doctor Jokhon Durey
12:40 Dhomo O Jibon
12:30 Selected Programme
12:30 Swadesh
12:30 Shomhabona
12:30 Protidin Bangladesh
12:40 Drama: Swapner
12:30 Oparey
12:30 Shur Nirjhor

ATN Bangla

10:30 Talk Show: Aktel
11:05 Anandristi
11:05 Aj Kaal Porshu
12:15 Bangla Feature Film
12:30 Shundor Jiboner Jonno
12:40 Obiram Bangladesh
12:30 Musical Programme
12:30 Islamic Programme:
12:30 Islami Sowal O Jobab
12:30 TV Serial: Mugly
12:30 Drama Serial: Shokal
12:30 Shondha
12:30 Drama: Koto Chena
12:30 Koto Ochena
12:30 Drama Serial: Chhayamukh
12:30 Musical Programme
12:30 GrameenPhone Lead
12:30 News

ATN Bangla

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CHANNEL-i

09:50 GrameenPhone
12:30 Trilomitra
12:30 Citycell Tarokakathan
12:30 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
12:30 Shingbad Potery
12:30 Bangladesh

01:45

02:40 Tritio Matray Apni
03:05 Hridoye Mati O
04:50 Manusher Daak
05:30 Sa Re Ga Ma
06:00 Mukti Judho Protidin
06:20 Tarzan
06:20 Amar Chhobi
07:50 D Rock Stars 2
09:35 Drama: Chander Gari
10:00 Drama Serial: Hridita
11:30 Ekanyo Barti
12:00 GrameenPhone Aker
12:00 Shongbadpotro

01:05

10:05 Joyitar Joyjatra
10:30 Single Episode Drama
12:10 Talk Show
12:10 Japan Video Topic
12:30 Chokkor
13:15 Drama Serial: Ranger
13:15 Manush
13:50 Drama Serial: Neer
14:25 Enechhi Shurjer Hashi
14:50 Mohilangan
16:45 Horlicks Genius
18:15 Bangladesh
18:15 Shonkho Bash
18:50 Glamour World
19:45 Drama Serial: Shokhina Bibi
11:35 Ei Shomoy

01:05

10:05 Akbar the Great
11:00 Drama Serial: Bridya
11:00 Asram
12:00 Drama Serial: Biyer
12:00 Golpo
12:00 Grho Sholli
12:00 Aj Potrikay
12:00 Wide Angle
12:00 Apon Shimanay
12:00 Children's
12:00 Programme: Sa Sa
12:00 Din Tai
12:00 Musical Programme:
12:00 Praner Manush
12:00 Achhey Praney

01:05

12:30 Drama: Koto Chena
12:30 Koto Ochena
12:30 Drama Serial: Chhayamukh
12:30 Musical Programme
12:30 GrameenPhone Lead
12:30 News

06:00

06:30 Din Protidin
06:30 Shoptah Jurey
08:00 Drama Serial: Biyer
08:00 Golpo
08:40 Akbar the Great
09:20 Drama Serial: Briddha
10:40 Asrom
11:00 Rtv Exclusive
11:00 Magazine
11:00 Programme: Char
11:00 Deyal

06:00

06:30 Ekusher Shomoy
10:00 Drama Serial: Bondhon
11:45 Reporters File
11:45 Channel1
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
10:30 Drama Serial: Society
10:30 Drama Serial: Nokol
10:30 Poshakh
10:30 Baker Pathay
10:30 Golla Chhut
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10:30 Ithashar Path Dhorey
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02:30 Bhabhi
02:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
03:00 Saarthi
03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi
03:30 Bahu Thi
04:00 Kayamath
04:30 Krishna Kathaiyen
05:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
05:30 V Trailers - Star Plus
05:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:00 Meri Awaz Ko Mil Gayi
06:00 Roshni
06:30 Kasturi
07:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
07:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
07:30 Shararat
07:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
08:00 Antakshari - The Gr8
08:00 Kids Spl
09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
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