

## CULTURALFEAST

## Musical Soiree

Organiser: Chhayanan Shangskriti  
Bhaban  
Venue: Chhayanan Shangskriti  
Bhaban

Date: July 19

Time: 7pm

## Theatre

Title: Abimisra Asundar  
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Shilpkala Academy, Shegunbagicha  
Troupe: Natukay  
Date: July 12  
Time: 6:30pm

## National Art Exhibition

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

## Solo Print Exhibition

Artist: Rashid Amin  
Venue: Shilpangan Art Gallery, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 10 to July 24  
Time: 12am to 9pm

## Film Screening

Title: Film Within A Film  
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society  
Venue: German Cultural Centre, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 10  
2:00pm: Akaler Sandhane (India)  
4:00pm: A Slave of Love (Russia)  
6:00pm: Day for Night (France)  
8:00pm: Good Morning, Babylon (Italy)

## Theatre Festival

Title: Nobo Anonde Jago Aji Nobo

Robi Kirone

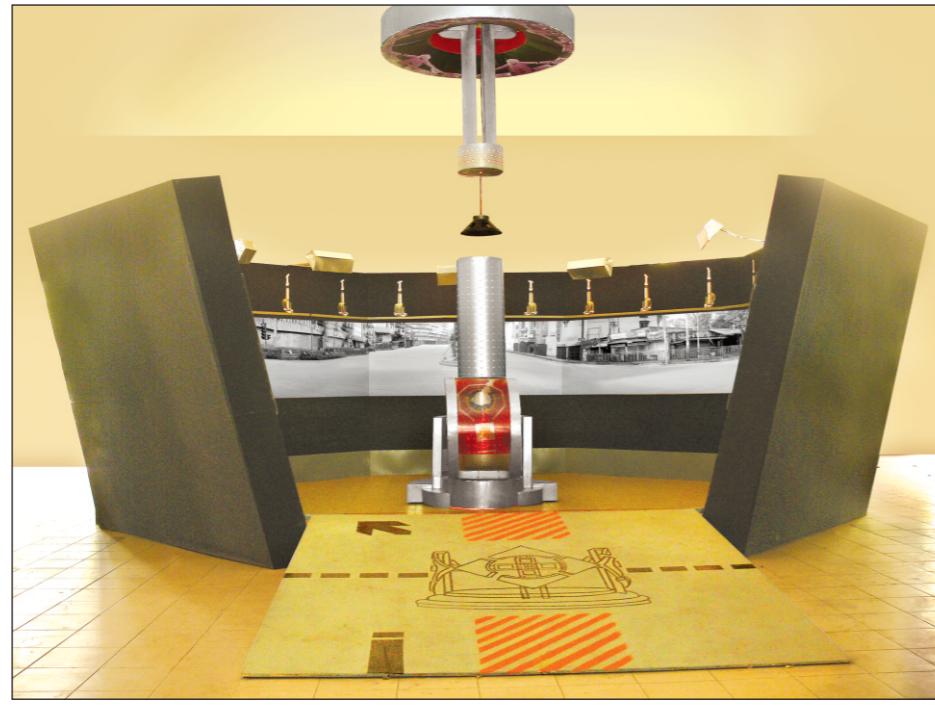
Organiser: Mohakal Natya Sampradaya

Plays: Meraj Fakirer Ma, Rarang, Bhager Manush, Koinna, Jolodas, Projapoti, Rupoboti, Shomoyer Projoney, Nokshi Kantha and Bou Bosonti

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy  
Date: June 13-25

## 17th National Art Biennale

## Shahinur Rahman: Winner of Bengal Foundation Award



Installation work by artist Shahinur Rahman: Zero: The Primary Unit on display at the exhibition (left), the artist



the concept of 'zero point energy' developed following Einstein's 'theory of relativity'. Nowadays it is a well-used term in reference to the electromagnetic field. The idea is that 'zero-point energy' remains when all other forms of energy are removed from a system. Besides, 'zero' has a special meaning from spiritual point of view.

Shahin says, "I like to incorporate science in my artworks and the ultimate aim is to highlight spirituality. Currently I'm working on another installation dealing with the undesirable impact of genetic experiments."

Shahinur Rahman completed his BFA (in painting) and MFA (in graphic design) with outstanding results from the University of Chittagong. Currently Shahin is a freelance artist and CEO of a designing firm called 'Redline'. The artist says, "I do a lot of drawings to hone my thoughts. But, I don't sell my paintings. Interior designing is my bread and butter. I prefer installations, as the art form was developed as a means to protest when art was being treated like a commodity."

towards ethics, wisdom, faith, thoughts, consciousness and mysticism; booming sound effects indicating cosmology.

'Zero Point', also known as 'Nur Hossain Chatterjee' -- geometrically the central point of Bangladesh -- has a special meaning to Shahin. He felt the urge to do something highlighting the site. To quote him, "The installation is an expression of optimism. I've tried to present the 'Zero Point' as a spot of convergence from where one can acquire rational ideas, abandoning all forms of evil. In my installation Zero: The Primary Unit.

Observing the installation, one finds that a mechanical figure is placed at the centre of an octagonal area. The headless figure is suspended upturned; energy is generated from its heart. Its eyes are open to the sights of the surroundings: Symbolically representing paths

On his thought process while working on the installation, Shahin informs that scientifically,

## M. Abdus Samad's 70th birth anniversary observed

## JAMIL MAHMUD

Eminent cinematographer and director late M. Abdus Samad's 70th birth anniversary was observed at Bangladesh Film Archive's Projection Hall on July 8. Bangalee Shangmagra Museum (BSM), an institution that preserves and displays works of eminent Bengalis in different fields, arranged the event.

Noted cultural personalities of the country including Baby Islam, filmmakers Soovas Dutt and Chashi Nazrul Islam spoke at the programme. Speakers reminisced their ties with Samad. Samad's

colleagues, relatives and students also spoke at the programme.

Eminent media personality Atiqul Haque Chowdhury presided over the programme.

At the programme Baby Islam announced the publication of a commemorative book on M. Abdus Samad titled *Praner Manush Achhey Praney*. Tariq Rahman, founder and executive director of BSM, delivered the welcome speech.

Samad began his career as a cinematographer in UK, after completing a diploma on cinematography from there. After returning home in 1963, Samad initially

worked as cinematographer. Eventually he emerged as a film director in 1973.

It should be mentioned that Samad worked as a trainee cinematographer in Academy Award winning movies *The Guns of Navarone* and *The Bridge on the River Kwai*.

Among Samad's notable works as a cinematographer in the country are *Aasi*, *Roopbari*, *Ora Egari Jon*, *Shangram* and more. Samad directed *Shurja Shangram* and *Shurjagran*.

Copies from his movies *Shurja Shangram* and *Shurjagran* and *Abirbhab* directed by Soovas Dutt were screened at the programme.



(From L-R) Baby Islam, Atiqul Haque Chowdhury and Chashi Nazrul Islam display the cover jacket of the commemorative book Praner Manush Achhey Praney on M. A. Samad

PHOTO: STAR

## UNESCO slams new seven wonders list

The UN body for culture overnight blasted a private initiative that drew nearly 100 million Internet and telephone voters to choose seven "new" wonders of the world.

"This campaign responds to other criteria and objectives than that of UNESCO in the field of heritage," said Sue Williams, the spokeswoman for the UN cultural body that designs world heritage sites. "We have a much broader vision," she added.

Voters chose the Great Wall of China; India's Taj Mahal; the centuries-old pink ruins of Petra in Jordan; the Colosseum in Rome; the statue of Christ overlooking Rio de Janeiro; the Incan ruins of Machu Picchu in Peru; and the ancient Mayan city of Chichen Itza in Mexico.

British actor Ben Kingsley and US actress Hillary Swank hosted a ceremony at Lisbon's Stadium of Light, broadcast in more than 170 countries to an estimated 1.6 billion viewers.

A private Swiss foundation launched the contest in January, allowing voters to choose from 21 sites shortlisted out of 77.

According to its backers, the campaign aimed to update the original list of seven world wonders, drawn up about 200 BC, of which only the pyramids of Giza remain today.

Shortlisted sites that missed the final cut included Sydney Opera House; the Acropolis in Athens; Paris' Eiffel Tower; the Easter Island statues; Britain's Stonehenge; Cambodia's Angkor Wat temples; New York's Statue of Liberty; and the Alhambra in Spain. Christian Manhart, UNESCO's press officer, criticised the ballot, saying it sent out a "negative message to countries whose sites have not been retained".

"All of these wonders obviously deserve a place on the list, but what disturbs us is that the list is limited to just seven," he said, pointing out that "seven were adequate in antiquity because the antique world was

much smaller than today", only comprising the area surrounding the Mediterranean.

Egypt, home of the Giza pyramids, was also critical, dismissing the new list of wonders as worthless.

Source: Internet



The Giza pyramids

## Genesis Theatre stages plays featuring Nazrul's works

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Genesis Theatre staged two short plays -- *Khuki O Kathbirali* and *Damal Chhele Nazrul* at the Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy on July 8.



Young actors perform in the play Damal Chhele Nazrul

*Khuki O Kathbirali* is based on a poem for children by Kazi Nazrul Islam. The script has been developed by Begum Munzat Hossain. The play features a playful squabble between a little girl and a squirrel, over guavas. When Khuki cannot reach juicy, ripe guavas,

she begs a squirrel on the tree to fetch her some. The squirrel does not oblige and Khuki can only watch the tree-hopper goat while devouring the objects of her desire.

The second play *Damal Chhele Nazrul*, written by Mahmudullah, features early days of Kazi Nazrul Islam. The sudden death of his father brings economic constraints and Nazrul soon becomes a *muazzin* at a local mosque. Unable to bear the educational expenses, Nazrul is forced to leave the school and joins a *leto gaan-er dol*. After some time he leaves the group and starts working at a bakery as an apprentice.

Though he left school, a perpetual hunger for knowledge was always in his heart. Every day he would make some time for *putipathip*. One day he meets a police officer, Kazi Rafizullah, who is impressed by the youngster's talents. The officer takes Nazrul with him and enrolls him in a school.

The plays were directed by Noor Hossain Rana.

## Drama Serial "Alo Amar Alo" on BTV

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

BTV will start airing drama serial Alo Amar Alo from July 18.

The story revolves around the relationship that develops between Alo, an 11-year-old girl, and an actress who goes to Alo's village to shoot for a film.

Alo wants to go to secondary school. But her parents are not eager to let her continue her studies. The actress meets Alo and a cordial relationship develops between the two. Eventually the actress manages to convince Alo's parents to let her continue her education. Each episode of the series depicts issues that hinder education for young girls in rural areas. The series also addresses the contributions an educated girl can make.

Anisul Haq has penned the script for the serial. Directed by Abul Hayat, the series features Abul Hayat, Dolly Zahir, Champa, Aupi Karim, Jitu Ahsan, Tania Ahmed, Dilara Zaman, Jayanta Chattapaday, Sharmili Ahmed and Fazlur Rahman Babu in major roles.

Alo Amar Alo will be aired every Wednesday at 8:30pm.



Aupi Karim in a scene from the TV serial

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