

CULTURAL FEAST

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Selected Graphics and Drawings 1949-2007
Artist: Murtaja Baseer
Venue: Gallori Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: August 17 to August 31
Time: 11am to 8pm

Theatre Festival

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: 7pm

Date: August 30

Title: Raarang

Troupe: Aranyak

Date: August 31

Title: Menaz Fakir-er Ma

Troupe: Theatre (Bally Road)

Date: September 1

Title: Bou Basanti

Troupe: Uidchi

Date: September 2

Title: Ghor Jamai

Troupe: Dhaka Theatre Mancha

Photography Exhibition

Title: BALIKA
Artist: Aly Zaker
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh Gallery, Suite 3B, House 4, Road 104, Gulshan-2

Date: August 27 to September 3

Time: 11am to 8pm

Art Exhibition

Fundraiser for flood victims
Organiser: Art and Soul Gallery
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road 36, House 16, Gulshan
Date: August 21 to 31
Time: 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Theatre

Title: Kanjush
Troupe: Loko Natyad
Venue: Mohila Samiti Auditorium
Date: August 31
Time: 7pm

Live Musical Soiree at Kozmo

Venue: Kozmo Lounge, Bikaip Tower (3rd Floor), Plot 74, Road 5/A, Sat Masjid Road, Dhamondi
Date: August 30
Time: 6pm
Artistes: Blue Note

Date: August 31

Time: 6pm

Artistes: Aumi and friends

Screening of Golden Lion award receiving films

Organiser: Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies
Venue: Alamgir Kabir Chalachchitra Kendra, 62, Science Laboratory Road
Date: August 31
Time: 4:30 pm
Film: Belle de Jour (Spain)
Director: Luis Buñuel

Date: 6:30 pm

Film: The Magdalene Sisters (Ireland)
Director: Peter Mullan

Exhibition of the works of 8 artistes

Venue: Studio of Enam Ul Haque, House 11 (Apartment 4B), Road 4, Banani DOHS, Kakoli
Date: August 19 to September 11
Time: 11am to 8pm

Date: August 28-30

Works: Photographs of Musa Ibrahim
Date: August 31-September 2
Works: Paintings of Rajeswary Pharyanji
Date: September 3-5
Works: Photographs of M.A. Mohit

Nazrul's death anniversary observed

Cultural programme at Shilpakala

ERSHAD KAMOL

To observe the 31st death anniversary of our National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged a special programme on August 27 at the National Theatre Stage. The programme featured discussion on Nazrul and presentation of Islamic songs, a genre in Bengali music that was popularised and pioneered by the poet.

Eminent Nazrul researcher Dr. Rafiqul Islam was the key speaker at the programme. Secretary of Ministry of Textiles and Jute Abdur Rashid Sarkar was the chief guest and Secretary of President's Secretariat Sirajul Islam was the special guest at the event. Professor Abul Kalam Manzur Morshed, noted Nazrul singer Fatema Tuz Zohra and Turkish Ambassador to Bangladesh Ferit Ergin were the other discussants. The discussion was presided over by the Director General of the academy Quamrul Hassan, ndc.

Focusing on the issue of distortion of Nazrul songs, Dr. Rafiqul Islam said, "Nazrul Institute has a collection of original records of Nazrul songs. BSA should take initiatives to train upcoming singers from all over the country, going by the authentic notations."

Professor Abul Kalam Manzur Morshed pointed out the craftsmanship of Nazrul. He said, "Nazrul had remarkable command over several languages including Bangla, Farsi, Urdu, Arabic, English and even certain dialects of Bangla."

Pointing out the popularity issue of Nazrul Sangeet in the backdrop of the current music scenario in Bangladesh, Nazrul singer Fatema Tuz Zohra said, "It is the responsibility of the artistes to make songs of Nazrul popular among the young generation, many of whom have turned away from traditional Bengali music."



Artistes of BSA perform at the programme

Discussing the global image of Nazrul, Turkish Ambassador to Bangladesh Ferit Ergin said, "Nazrul is quite popular in Turkey for writing poems against the British Imperialists during the Turkish liberation war and in particular for his poem on Kemal Ataturk, titled *Kamal Pasha*."

The discussion was followed by renditions of Islamic songs. The musical programme started with a choral rendition of *Khoi bar joyi Ali Haider jago* by the staff artistes of BSA. Noted Nazrul

singers Ferdous Ara, Khairul Anam Shakil, Sifat-e-Manzur, M.A. Mannan, Yasmin Mushari, Yakub Ali Khan, Shaheen Samad, Khalid Hossain, Shamima Parveen Shimu and Ferit Ergin among others rendered *Khoda ei goriber shono munajat*, *Zarin horof-e-lekha*, *Dur azaner modhur dhwoni*, *Pubal hawa pashchim jao* and more.

The programme ended with a *qawwali*, *Hey Madinabashi*, presented by the artistes of Dolanchana Sangeet Niketan.

Three-day programme at Nazrul Institute

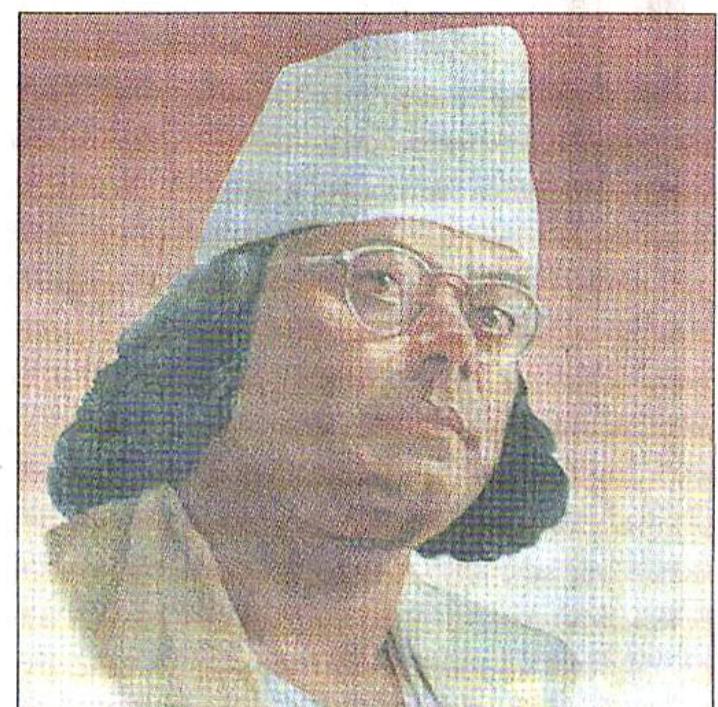
CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

"Kazi Nazrul Islam has always been our guiding light through all our national and social crises. He also fortified our socio-cultural identity. It is important to uphold and implement the ideas we found in Nazrul's works," said Dr. Rafiqul Islam in his speech on the last day of the three-day event organised by Nazrul Institute. The programme started from August 25.

The programme started with art and recitation competition for children at the Kabi Bhaban, Dhamondi and was followed by a competition on Nazrul songs the next day. The concluding programme was divided in three sessions -- discussion on Nazrul's works, prize distribution among winners of the competitions and a cultural programme.

Professor Ahmed Kabir, member of the trustee board, Nazrul Institute; Suraiya Begum, ndc, joint secretary of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Zikur Reza Khanam, acting president of Nazrul Institute distributed prizes among the winners following the discussion.

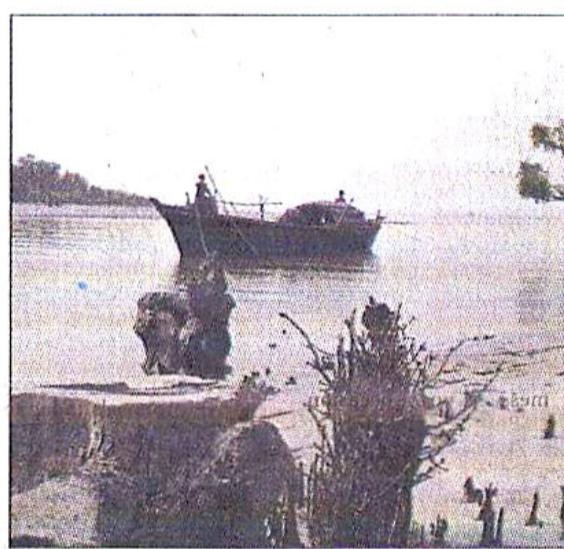
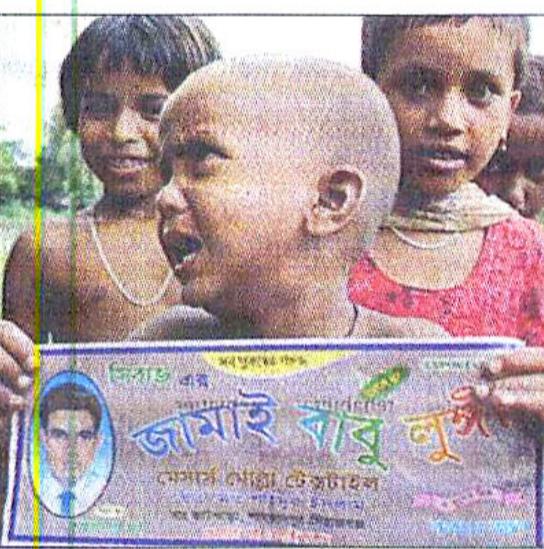
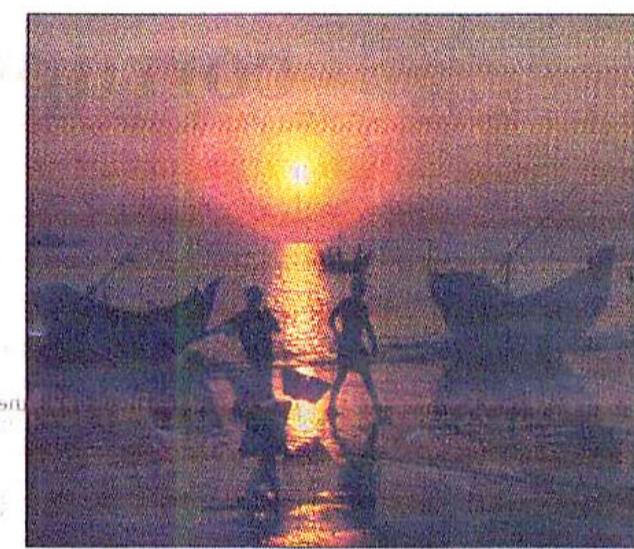
In her speech, Suraiya Begum, ndc recalled her experience of meeting the poet after he was rendered speechless. Even then no one believed that the poet would never speak again. His rebellious people recognise him most as a rebel poet, his works cover a whole range of emotions including love, devotion and deep religious yet secular expressions.



Quoting Nazrul, "Ami chirotorey durey choley jabo, tobu amarey debona bhulitey." Ahmed Kabir said that Nazrul would always remain among us through his numerous poems, short stories, essays, novels and songs. Though people recognise him most as a rebel poet, his works cover a whole range of emotions including love, devotion and deep religious yet secular expressions.

The third part of the programme included performances by the artistes of Nazrul Institute and Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad. Mahidul Islam recited from *Abhibhashan*. Renowned Nazrul artistes Khairul Anam Shakil, Fatema Tuz Zohra, Shaheen Samad, Yasmin Mushari, Sujit Mustafa, Ferdous Ara, Yakub Ali and others also performed at the programme.

In quest of nouveau angles



(From left) Photographs by M.A. Mohit, Sajal Khaled and Musa Ibrahim

FAYZA HAQ

Works of three young photographers -- Sajal Khaled, Musa Ibrahim and M.A. Mohit -- are on display at the residence of renowned bird photographer Enam Ul Haque. Their solo exhibitions are for three days each. In their works one can find fresh ideas and dimensions of camera work.

Sajal Khaled's works feature the innocence of children.

Sajal says, "I photograph different things but children remain my favourite subject." In 2004 he had an exhibition on German graffiti and in 2007 he had one based on abstract art with artist Swapna Chowdhury. In Germany, earlier, he had three exhibi-

tions -- in Berlin, Cologne and Dresden. Comparing his experiences in Germany with the ones in Dhaka, Sajal says that in Europe it is not easy to have a solo exhibition and one has to be skilled at one's craft to attract viewers. "Here I have my friends and family to support me and I feel much more relaxed," says Sajal.

Sajal believes that children are the most beautiful beings in the world. His series *Inspiration* includes 22 photographs in which he has tried to capture children enjoying moments of bliss. For Sajal these photographs are nostalgic too.

In one of the pictures one sees children climbing a bent coconut tree, leaning over a river. The shot

was taken on a rainy day. In another photograph, a child is playing with empty ice-cream cartons at Ramna Park surrounded by three inquisitive crows.

"A child's world is full of innocence and free from the responsibilities and tensions of the adults," says Sajal. A piece featuring a child holding up a large advertisement for a lungi, which says *Purushor pochando*, is quite funny.

Sajal believes that with the coming of digital photography, "photographers are gradually losing their imagination and skill."

The photographers he admires are Anwar Hossain, Enam Ul Haque and Abdul Hamid.

M.A. Mohit says that he goes in for capturing the ways of ethnic people and wild life, taking tips from senior photographers. He has had exhibitions of his works on the Himalayas and the people of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. This time he has concentrated on life in the coastal areas of Bangladesh.

In one of his pictures one sees sunrise in St. Martin; people are seen catching and cutting fish before drying it. In another photograph we see shrimp farmers of Nijhumdwip in Noakhali; four children are seen at work. The next photograph shows the gathering of clouds, before a storm. Boats, people, trees and

houses are included in the composition.

Musa Ibrahim says that he likes to travel and take pictures of rivers, hillocks and jungles. In this exhibition he has depicted people. Focusing on a place called Chamche in Nepal, he shows a child studying while walking and carrying the younger sister on his backpack. Another photograph brings in the Annapurna trail where a man leads his tired horse home. Below is a wide river and behind are mountains. Yet another picture brings camp scenes of mountaineers.

The exhibitions end on September 5.

Shyam Benegal announces "Gautam Buddha"

Shyam Benegal made the official announcement of the launch of his next film *Gautam Buddha*. The film will be produced by Light of Asia Foundation and Beyond Dreams Entertainment Limited.

This is a historic moment for South Asian Cinema. We are about to tell the story of a man who was born in the Indian Subcontinent and redefined the way the world thinks -- Gautam Buddha. The impact of his philosophy can be measured by the fact that hundreds of millions of people across the globe have embraced it and made it a way of life. Buddha's philosophy is more contemporary today than ever before," said Beyond Dreams Entertainment Limited's CEO Yash Patnaik while announcing a historic epic on Buddha. After working on the project for almost eight months, Beyond Dreams Entertainment Limited, Mumbai and Light of Asia Foundation of

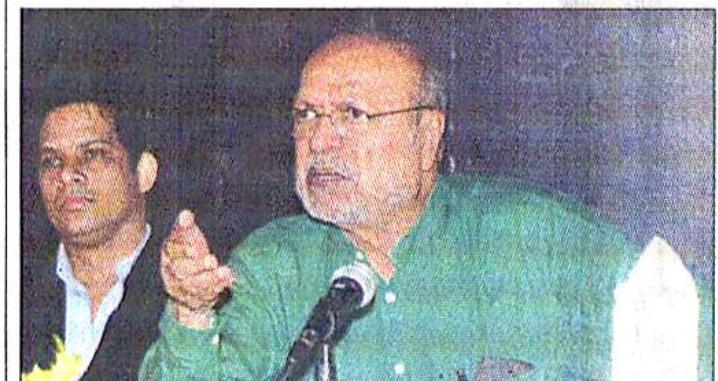
Colombo have built a multi-million massive film project.

Noted screenplay writer Atul Tiwari has been roped in to write the story, screenplay and dialogue of this epic. Tiwari has written many landmark movies like *Bose*, *the Forgotten Hero*, *Mission Kashmir* etc. Professor Nimal D'Silva, leading Buddhist scholar in the South Asia region has been appointed to head the research along with scholars from China, Japan and Korea.

An Indian delegation headed by Patnaik has already done a location study along with Benegal and Tiwari. During the trip Benegal and Patnaik visited the President of Sri Lanka Mahinda Rajapaksha who gave his full-hearted support for the project.

The film is expected to go on floor around mid-2008 and slated for a mid-2009 release.

Source: Internet



Shyam Benegal speaks at a press conference

ON AIR



Ganey Shure Tarunya
On ATN Bangla at 01:30 pm
Musical programme featuring rock bands

PICK OF THE DAY



Boston Legal
On Star World at 10:30 pm
TV Series
Cast: James Spader, William Shatner

01:05	Tax Helpline	04:00	General Hospital
01:15	Elong Cinemar Gaan	05:00	Prison Break
12:05	Shangshopak Kotha	06:00	Scrubs
12:30	Selected Programme	06:30	The Simpsons
01:30	Hijol Torni	07:30	My Wife And Kids
02:15	Golpo Theke Natok	08:30	Beauty And The Geek
03:05	Cartoon	09:30	Big Daddy
03:30	Shukhi Poribar	10:30	Zyzzzy Rd.
04:00	Shilpo Prongor	11:30	Ducktales
04:30	Hijol Tomel	12:00	Gool Troop
05:05	Siempur	01:00	V. Trailers - Star Plus
05:30	Special Programme	02:00	Sengam
07:25	Special Programme	03:00	Kasturi
08:35	Special Programme	04:00	12:00
10:30	Milad Maophil	05:00	Friends

07:00	The Matador	04:00	General Hospital
08:40	Baby's Day Out	05:00	Prison Break
10:20	Boogeyman	06:00	Scrubs
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