

Eid treats for the bookworm



Reader's delight: Special publications on Eid

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

IF Eid is for everyone, then why leave out the avid readers? Literature enthusiasts in the country eagerly await Eid as the newspapers and magazines bring out 'Eid-specials'. These special publications include novels, stories, short stories, memoirs, special features and more by noted and emerging writers, columnists and other personalities renowned in their respective fields. Although some magazines bring out special issues on Eid fashion, literature-based publications remain the highpoint to avid readers.

The tradition of Eid-special magazines can be traced to post-Liberation War Bangladesh when Shahadat Chowdhury (founder editor of weekly magazines *Bichitra* and *2000*) took the initiative to bring out a special literature-based publication on Eid. The idea and inspiration came from 'Pujabarsiki' published in West Bengal. Soon other magazines and newspapers started following this trend.

The latest issue of Eid-special issue of 2000 (2) poems, features, memoirs, stories and more. Highlights include *Dui Jatra* by Ek Jatra, a chronicle by Sirajul Islam Chowdhury; *Nadipothey Amader Ithash-4*, a continuation of a series by Nirmalendu Goon; *Nandanik Rickshaw Painting*, by Mahbubur Rahman, going over the history of rickshaw and how 'rickshaw art' came into being; *Dhakar Pracheen Bidyapith-er Bismriti Adhyaye*, a feature by Apel Mahmud, on Dhaka's oldest educational institutions like Dhaka College and

Government School, Collegiate School and their founders; *Gangey Nemey Pani Chena*, a feature by Saimon Zakaria on folklore fieldwork in Bangladesh and a ghost story by Dhruvo Esh.

Prothom Alo's Eid-special publication has also found popularity among the readers for its insightful features, exciting fiction and appealing illustrations. The special issue of *Prothom Alo* for this Eid includes *Kobider Antarmahal*, a collection of unpublished letters written by Bengali poets of the 1930s (collected and introduction by Abul Ahsan Chowdhury); noted poet and playwright Syed Shamsul Haq's memoir, *Pranecto Jibon*; *Durlobh Chhobitey Shekaler Bangla* by Anupam Hayat features rare photographs of prominent personalities and families (the Nawabs of Dhaka, for instance) of this part of Bengal; a special write up *Kalapanir Haatchhani*, by Golam Murshid, on the first Bengalis who crossed the Indian ocean to go to England.

Novels -- *Teen Porber Jibon* by Syed Manzurul Islam, *Phirey Esho Shundoritoma* by Anisul Haque, *Kemon Achho Shobuj Pata* by Emdadul Haque Milon, *Patangader Khela O Rangin Jolphul* by Selina Hossain, a translation of Tahmina Anam's *A Golden Age* (by Lisa Gazi) and *Nat-Boltu* by Muhammad Zafar Iqbal -- are special attractions.

Anyadin's Eid-special issue features noted author Humayun Ahmed's latest *Misir Ali* novel, *Misir Ali Chashma*. Needless to say, this will perhaps be considered the highlight of this publication by readers. Other notable novels

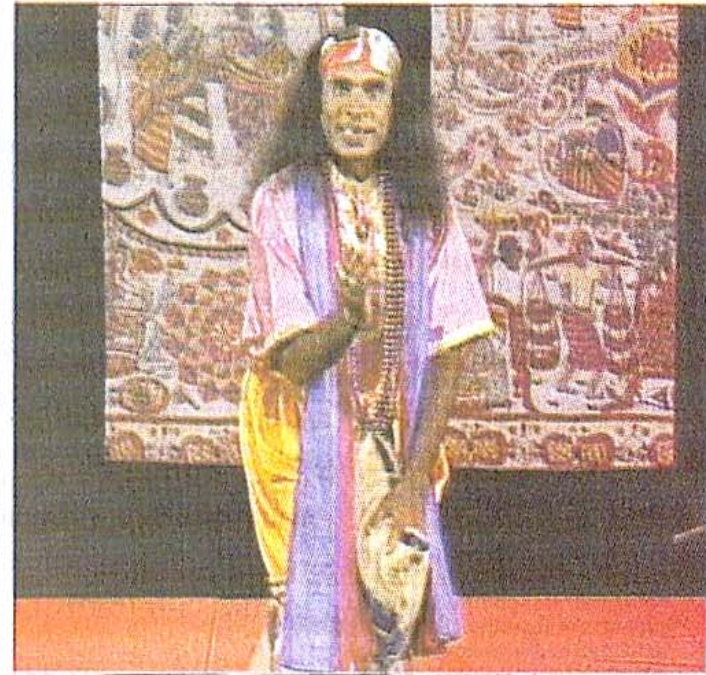
include *Khudhabrittanto* by Syed Shamsul Haq, *Bhalo Mondo Dwidha Dondo* by Sunil Gangopadhyay, *Swapnei Emon Hoi* by Samresh Majumder and *Nihritrey Sheyidin* by the late author Pranab Bhatto.

The *Daily Star's* Literature section brought out an Eid-special issue. The issue features translated stories -- *Every Day*, *One handkerchief* by Mahmudul Haque (translated by Mahmud Rahman), *Blood At Sundown* by Jafar Talukdar (translated by Ahmed Hussain), *Man Without His Tongue* by Syed Manzurul Islam (translated by Rubana), *Nostalgia For The Dodo Bird* by Shahduzzaman (translated by Sonia Amin), *What Do You Have On The Menu That's Totally Tasteless?* By Syed Mujtaba Ali (translated by Naeem Mohaimen), *Story of a Cold Draught* by Mainul Ahsan Sabir (translated by Nuzhat Amin Mannan), *The Flower In Him* by Hasan Azizul Huq (translated by Jyotiprakash Dutta), *A Life Like A Story* by Syed Shamsul Huq (translated by Khademul Islam) and more.

A list of Eid-special publications would not be complete without mentioning popular cartoon magazine *Unmad's* newest issue. As usual, this issue includes spoofs of hit *deshi* and *bideshi* movies like *Darun Chinir Dweep* and *Fantastic 420*. Then there are cartoons on contemporary issues, write-ups and poems -- all taking a lighter approach.

With all these options, bookworms should have a great time on Eid, reading in their leisure.

Eid Special "Pala-r Ashor: Firoz Dewan O Mariam Bibi" on Ekushey Television



Abdul Kuddus Boyati narrates the folk tale at the programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Pala Gaan is an integral part of our rural culture. Traditionally *Pala Gaan* features different folktales and devotional songs. Ekushey television will air a special programme on *Pala Gaan* titled *Pala-r Ashor: Firoz Dewan O Mariam Bibi*, which will be aired on the second day of Eid-ul-Fitr at 11:00 am.

Popular *palakar* Abdul Kuddus Boyati along with six co-artists will narrate Firoz Dewan and Mariam Bibi's tale at the programme.

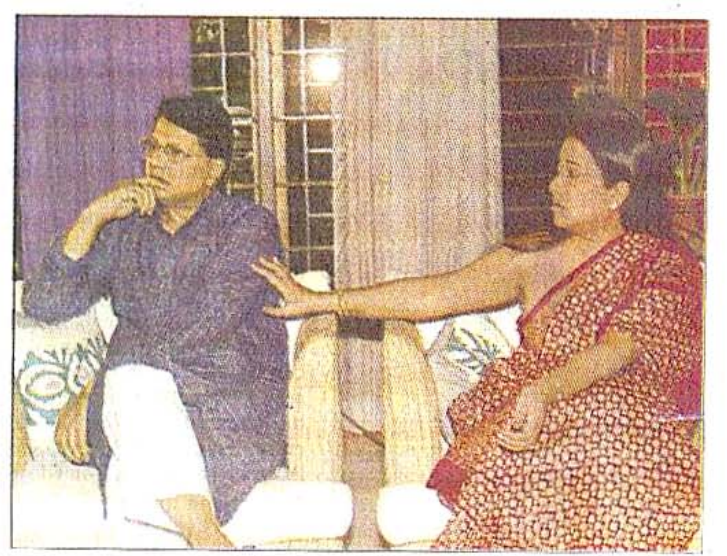
Firoz Dewan, son of zamindar Jalal Khan of Jangalbari, was a famous wrestler. His father was murdered by his uncle when he was hardly three. Forced to leave the palace with his mother, Firoz grows up far from wealth. Years after, the young Firoz meets Mariam Bibi in Baniachang and falls in love.

Sakhat Liton is the producer of the programme.

TV play "Oshomoy" on Banglavisión

On the fourth day of Eid, Banglavisión will telecast *Oshomoy*, a single episode TV play, at 11:20pm.

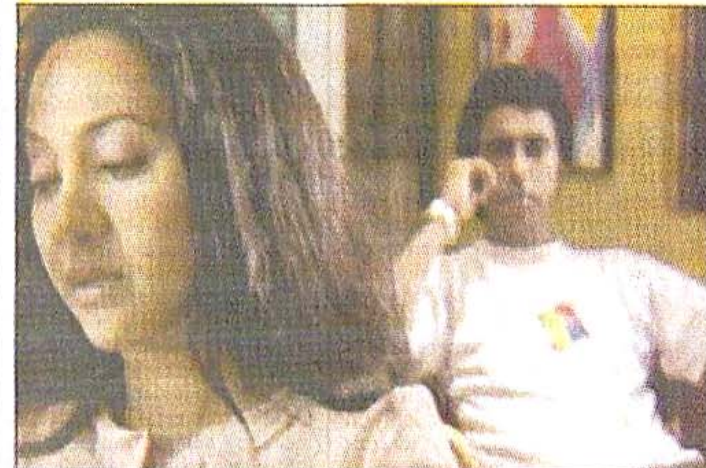
The story revolves around a couple. For years Dolon and Zubair, have been enjoying a blissful married life. They have no stress, their children have settled abroad and they have all the time just for themselves. The couple's favourite activities include going out for long drives, trying out at different restaurants, going on trips and more. Everything was going fine until one day upon returning from a long drive they discover a wounded young man near the entrance. Zubair rushes him to a hospital but fails to save him. The next day some policemen come at their home and inform them that as long as the real offender remains at large, they are the prime suspects. This comes as a shock to the couple and changes their laidback lives.



Alamgir and Subarna Mustafa in the single episode play

Oshomoy is directed by Arif Khan and written by M.A. Chanchal. Alamgir and Subarna Mustafa have played the central roles in the play.

Telefilm "Dhulo Megher Jotsna Bhromon" on Rtv



Tarin and Apurbo in the special tele-film

Written by Roumak Hasan and directed by Mezbaur Rahman Sumon, Eid special tele-film *Dhulo Megher Jotsna Bhromon* will be aired on Rtv on the fourth day of Eid at 8:00 pm.

The story revolves around Sumogno, a co-owner of a bookshop, and a popular actress Dipannita Choudhury. One day, Dipannita comes to Sumogno's shop. Through a chain of events the two get close. But one day when Sumogno goes to Dipannita's home, he meets a man who apparently seems to be her lover. Broken hearted, Sumogno rushes home. He goes to the extent of marrying the girl of his family's choice. One day Dipannita knocks at his door. The cast includes Tarin, Apurbo, Moin and others.

CULTURAL FEAST



Concert

Title: People's Stand Against Poverty
Artists: Twelve popular bands including Renaissance, Dolchut, Artcell, Omob, Aurhohin and Bangla
Venue: Rabindra Shorobor (beside the bridge on Rd. 8), Dhanmondi
Date: October 17
Time: 11:00 am

Exhibition

Title: Shades of life
Artists: 12 Women artists of Shako
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: October 17-26
Time: 12:00-8pm
Title: Song of Weaving
Organiser: Nitya Upahar
Venue: Gallery Nitya Upahar, 50, Aziz Super Market, Shahbag
Date: October 6-12

Bliss and banter of Eid gifts

FAYZA HAQ

Eid is a time for parcels to be delivered from house to house. It is a season of exchange of bonhomie and gifts. They may be in the form of simple saris or worked-on shawls, or elaborate hanging earrings of pearls and garnets. They could be boxes of chocolates or anything appreciated and useful. They may be books or curios, or even carpets and wall hangings. Quilted "nakshiktha" bedspreads, or cross-stitched sofa-backs, or even embroidered table mats could be bought as gifts, and given or sent -- as the circumstance requires.

Sometimes there is such a fluster and flurry in giving these presents that one wonders if the frantic

shopping required for the pleasure of giving and taking of gifts, is really worth it. At times there is a lot of care and preparation for the giving of presents. Yet, no matter what the planning and length of time spent in choosing or making of the gifts, one tends to think that Eid is a time for the giving of "kurta", saris etc, and gets a little blasé with the wild stampede to please the beloved ones.

"Eid is here again!" said a friend of mine, recently, when *Ramzan* started, as if it were another big pain in the neck to go buying the necessary presents -- with all the big crowds in the capital city, and the "highjackers" waiting in the lurch -- it was understandable. "I have to send off parcels to my sister-in-law and nephew who live



Going berserk with Eid shopping

overseas. I hope I can stand another trip to the GPO this year in the process," sighed a colleague of mine. "I must be ready with the packets of home-made muffins for relatives and friends this Eid. With the hassle of the last minute requests at the workplace this ends up in temper tantrums in the kitchen. If the cook woman, by any chance, decides to take French leave and dilly-dally in her district home -- as was the case in one unfortunate house -- the giving of gifts was somehow not as enjoyable. This was because the time and energy of the particular person was taken up in the kitchen. The business of distributing parcels of trinkets and clothes became almost a routine, hum-drum exercise rather than a spell of fun.



Flowers to brighten the Eid scenario

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Dool's House
On ATN Bangla at 11:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Fazlur Rahman Babu, Intikhab Denar



Star Wars: Episode II
On Star Movies at 8:45pm
Genre: Action/Adventure/Sci-Fi
Cast: Hayden Christensen, Natalie Portman

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, 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, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11 pm.
News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

CHANNEL 1
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm.
News Headlines (English) at 8:05 pm.

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

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

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

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11:40 Selected Programme
12:05 Mea O Shishur Kotha
12:30 Shafiqo Gatha
01:00 Selected Programme
01:30 Shukhi Pritar
02:15 Agricultural Programme
02:40 Esho Gamin Shikhi
03:05 Cartoon
04:05 Songest
04:30 Swadest
04:45 Swamibhona
05:10 Sisampur
05:10 Mahe Ramjan
05:10 Bolpoto
06:40 Dhomo O Jibon
07:00 Computer
07:30 Drama Serial:
08:30 Heerapri
08:40 Prolidin Bangladesh
09:30 Drama: Tibu
10:30 Swapno
10:30 Shurshobhar

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12:00 GrameenPhone Lead News
CHANNEL-I
09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
11:05 Tele Helpline
12:30 Citycell Tarokakelhan
01:05 Tax Helpline
01:15 Ebong Cinema Gaan
01:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Grameenphone Tridinatray April
03:05 Hidyoye Mali O Manusher Daak
04:05 Muktiyudho Proidin
04:30 Eri Anondo
05:20 Islamic Programme
06:05 Shroshar Shakhkhor
06:20 Cookery Show
07:50 Fashion dot com
08:20 Drama Serial:
09:35 Krishkhor Anondo
11:30 Drama Serial: Aste Aste
12:00 GrameenPhone After Shangbadpotrey

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