

## CULTURAL FEAST



## Exhibition

**Title:** Shades of life  
**Artistes:** 12 women artistes of Shakti  
**Venue:** Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalya, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi  
**Date:** October 17-26  
**Time:** 12:00-8pm

## Theatre

**Title:** Koinna  
**Troupe:** Prachyanat  
**Venue:** Matilda Samity Auditorium  
**Date:** October 24  
**Time:** 6:30pm

## Film Screening

**Title:** Puja Special  
**Organiser:** High Commission of India  
**Venue:** Indian Cultural Centre, House 25, Road 98, Gulshan-2

**Date:** October 25

**Film:** Bibar

**Date:** October 26

**Film:** Swet Patharer Thala

**Date:** October 29

**Film:** Ek Mutho Chhabi

## An evening of Russian poetry

**Organisers:** Meghdu & Russian Centre of Science & Culture, Dhaka  
**Venue:** The Russian Centre of Science & Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi  
**Date:** October 25  
**Time:** 5:30 pm

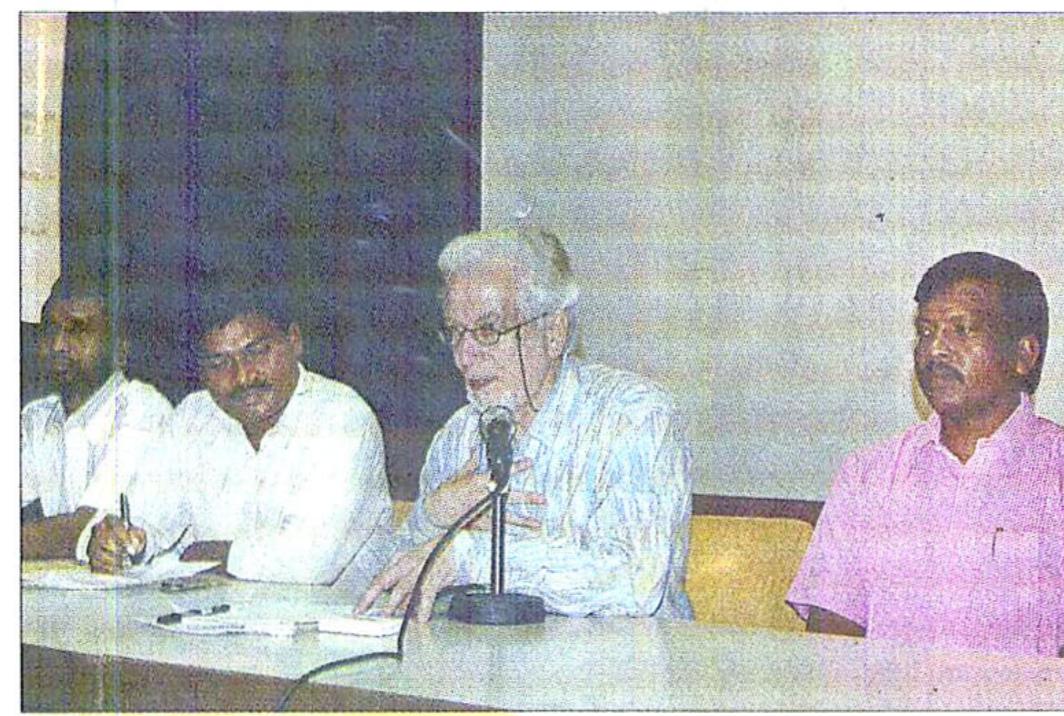
## Solo Painting

**Title:** Life and Nature  
**Artist:** Raghunath Chakraborty  
**Venue:** Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi  
**Date:** October 21-27  
**Time:** 3pm to 8pm



## Impassioned seminar

## Clarion call for recovering the Santal roots



Dr Marin Kampchen (C) speaks at the seminar

FAYZA HAQ

**T**HE continuation of the seminar at the Mother Language Festival on "Santal life and culture" saw its culmination at the Goethe-Institut premises on October 20.

Speaking on the occasion were Dr Marin Kampchen, a scholar and social worker and senior members of the Santal community -- Boro Baski, Gokul Hands and Sanyasi Lohar. The programme was rounded off after sunset with a dance and song extravaganza,

which was well worth watching.

Dr Kampchen said that the Santals prevailed in West Bengal, Jharkhand and Orissa, and also throughout Bangladesh. He himself had come to live in India 25 years ago, near Shantiniketan. The Indian Santals who came for the occasion of the seminar have been with him for some time too.

Dr Kampchen talked about Sona Muram, as an example, who was a schoolchild, and learnt much with exchange of ideas and opinions, like the rest of the other Santals who worked with him. Sona began an evening class with children.

There were dropouts often due to the lack of knowledge of Bangla, as their command was over the Santal language only. Boro Baski and Gokul Hands played an important role in this, Dr Kampchen said. Apart from the language of the Santals their traditional songs and dances were also encouraged.

His co-workers also taught the discipline of planting trees and developed a nursery, thus trying to improve the ecology. Dr Kampchen also looked into medical care, as were necessities during emergency.

He said that Santals aimed at a

life of simplicity and contentment, he himself playing the role model for the local Santals. He added that people came from Europe and parts of India to witness the Santal culture flourishing at the two villages in India, and later spread the news of its success. "This was not tourism, he emphasised but development of empathy for the Santals. Thus, there was an international empathy for the Santals," he concluded.

Boro Baski added "The Santals have one of the oldest cultures in the world. People sometimes comment cruelly that they are intellectually backward and that they fail to keep up with the modern drive for 'better life'. As a result, the young ones are pushed to give up their ancestral ways, English is promoted, and eventually the Santal language is often forgotten. Young Santals often get good jobs but eventually, tend to forget or overlook their roots. It's not enough to know about the world outside, I believe."

Santals from West Bengal and Bangladesh danced together in unison, with mirth and fervour, at the finale of the seminar. They used flutes, *dhol*, *madol* and the harmonium. The *ghungru* (ankle bells) added to the tempo. There was hearty and passionate singing by both the adults and youngsters, as well. All the rejoicing was ample proof of the Santal quest for pristine life. The performers wore *dhoti*, *sari*, turbans, feathers in their hair and also flowers, in case of the female performers. Flashing red and green spotlights played up the festivity on stage.

## TV Watch

## Adaptation of Jasimuddin's "Kabor" on ATN Bangla

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Palli-kobi Jasimuddin's poignant *cley* *Kabor* has been adapted several times for theatre and dance-drama. Now actor-director Shahiduzzaman Selim is making a single episode TV play based on *Kabor*.

In the play, through a 'dramatic monologue', a grandfather -- looking over his wife's grave -- narrates the tragic experiences of losing near and dear ones to his grandson.

The sole intention however, is

not just to narrate stories of "death". The elderly character also emphasises his passion for the loved ones. And these cherished memories as well as his emotions at the parting of the family members have been presented in flashback scenes.

On the reason behind the adaptation, Selim said, "Khorshed Alam (producer of the play) approached me to help him in making a video for a recitation of *Kabor*. I offered to make a TV play instead."

"Making a TV play based on familiar literary works like *Kabor*

can be quite challenging. Synchronising the rhythm of the poem with the dramatisation was tough. However, I have tried to maintain the authenticity of the poem. I've added a scene in the beginning of the play -- an elderlyman taking his grandson to his native village -- to make it relevant to the urban viewers. Syed Musharraf has written the script," said Selim.

Litu Anam, Khorshed Alam, Lara Lotus, Didan and others play the lead roles in *Kabor*.

*Kabor* will be aired on November 2 at 8pm on ATN Bangla.

A scene from *Kabor*

## Out soon, James Bond stamps!

Britain's national postal service, Royal Mail, has unveiled a set of stamps that feature the covers of Ian Fleming's *Bond* novels.

The stamps will go on sale from January 8, next year to mark 100 years of the author's birth.

Six of the 14 *Bond* novels written by Fleming will be depicted on the stamps, which are *Casino Royale*, *Dr No*, *Goldfinger*, *Diamonds Are Forever*, *For Your Eyes Only*, and *From Russia With Love*.

"It is a privilege for Ian Fleming's novels to be celebrated by the Royal Mail special stamps' programme. James Bond once again in the service of his queen and country: the first of many new adventures in 2008," the *Telegraph* quoted Corinne Turner of Ian Fleming Publications as saying.

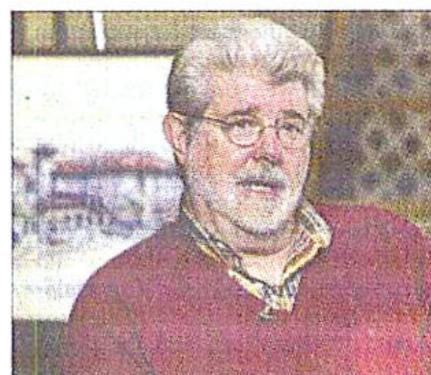
Julietta Edgar, Head of Royal Mail Special Stamps, said: "Fictional heroes don't come much more famous than James Bond, so it's entirely appropriate that we start our 2008 special stamp programme by honouring his creator, Ian Fleming."

Fans of the suave agent will also get to read a new

James Bond novel titled *Devil May Care*, written by Sebastian Faulks, next year.

Source: Internet

## George Lucas planning "Star Wars" TV series



AP, Los Angeles

The Force may soon be coming to a television near you. George Lucas is planning a live-action television series spin-off of the *Star Wars* film franchise.

Lucas told *The Los Angeles Times* he has "just begun work" on the series, which will not include the films' major characters Luke Skywalker or Darth Vader.

"The Skywalker aren't in it, and it's about minor characters," Lucas told *The Times*.

Lucas wouldn't reveal details, but joked that the series would be about "the life of robots."

Lucas, 63, already has another television series in the works. Lucasfilm Animation has been working for months on the computer-animated *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*.

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11:15	Drama Serial: Shengshoptak	12:00	Grameenphone Lead News	11:30	Shongbadporey	11:30	Pathoy	09:45	Drama Serial: El Shob	09:00	Kasabti Zindagi Kay	09:30	Bidai	07:00am	Hello Dhaka (Apu)	09:30	Man vs. Wild
12:05	Maa O Shishur Kalpa	12:30	Bangladesh	09:45	Public Reaction	12:00	Shoribad Proloin	11:30	Shei Gaan Shei Sur	09:30	Kasturi	10:00	Kasturi	03:00pm	Arun 68.0 (Nusrat)	11:30	Space Week
01:30	Hijol Tormal	09:50	Grameenphone	09:50	Trilobima	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	12:00	Shoribad Proloin	10:00	Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kli	11:00	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi	03:00pm	Dhaka Calling (Sakib)	11:30	Widest Week
02:15	Golpo Thaka Natok	04:05	Carbon	10:05	Tatay	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	01:30	Kabhi Tha	11:00	Bahu Thi	11:30	Kayamat	07:00pm	Seven Eleven (Sadia)	11:30	Outback Invasion
03:05		04:05	Shukhi Ponbar	11:05	Sports Time	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	01:30	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi	11:30	Kayamat	11:30	Kayamat	07:00pm	Deadly Summer	11:30	Deadly Summer
03:30		04:05	Musical Programme	12:30	Citycell Tarakatien	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	02:30	Secret Superpower	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
04:05		04:05	Stimpur	01:05	Tax Helpline	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	02:30	Fighter	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
05:05		04:05	Shamprolik	01:15	Ebong Cinemar Geon	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	02:30	Tactical to Practical	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
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07:00		04:05	Madli O Manush	01:45	Banglafest	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	03:00	A Tale of Two Cities	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
07:30		04:05	Gronho Kothion	01:45	Public Reaction	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	03:30	Hanger 18: UFO	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
08:35		04:05	Drama Serial: Alo	02:40	Mega Serial: Pro	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	04:00	Warehouse	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
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09:30		04:05	Talk Show	03:05	Oragnolity	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	04:30	Autobiles	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
10:30		04:05	Musical Programme: Agun Jhara Sonidhya	03:30	Sa Re Ga Ma	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	04:30	Witness to the Mob	11:30	Rebound	12:45	Swarmad	08:30pm	From Dusk Till Dawn	11:30	One Way Ticket
11:00		04:05		04:05	Musical Club	01:30	Shoribad Proloin	04:30	Secrets of Kaballah	11:30							