

CULTURAL FEAST

Documentary Film screening

Titles: Doshantor, Shironamheen
23rd July, Kalighor and Kurosawa: A Documentary
Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society
Venue: Goethe Institut Bangladesh, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Date: October 30
Time: 3:00 pm onwards

TV Play Premier

Title: Kabori
Organiser: Dream Factory Ltd.
Venue: National Museum Auditorium
Date: October 30
Time: 6:00 pm

CD Launch & Musical

Soiree
Organiser: Bengal Foundation
Venue: Bengal Shishpalay, House 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: October 30
Time: 7 pm

Electronic-Fusion Music

Organiser: The Boethe Institut Bangladesh and German Club
Band: Lychee Lassi (A Berlin-based band)
Venue: German Club, Road 104, Plot 24, Gulshan 2
Date: November 4
Time: Gates open at 8pm

Art Exhibition

Title: Still life
Artistes: Six eminent artists of Bangladesh
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi
Date: October 27- November 10
Time: 10 am to 8 pm

Film Screening

Title: Father & Son
Organiser: Zahirul Haque Film Society & Russian Centre of Science and Culture
Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
October 29
4:00pm Ballad of a Soldier
6:00pm A Driver for Vera

October 30

4:00pm Red Balls
6:15pm The 9th Company

October 31

8:00pm A Nest of Gentry
5:00pm Zatvorik
6:30pm Father and Son

Korean Film Festival 2007

Organiser: Embassy of the Republic of Korea
Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum
November 2 Sopyonje
November 3 Barefoot K-bang
November 4 YMCA Baseball Team
Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Film directors and journalists pay tribute to Obaidul Huq

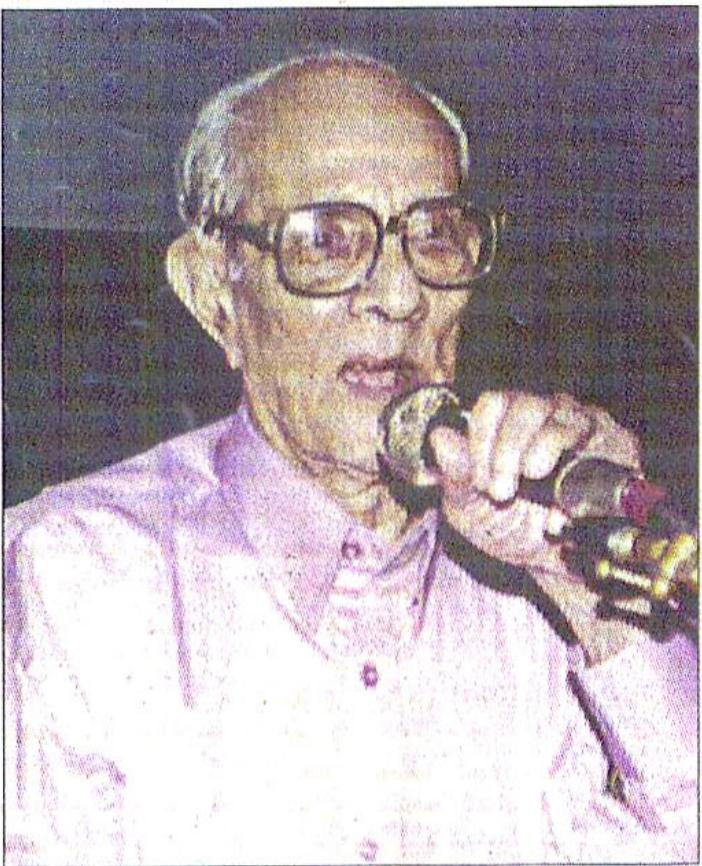
CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On October 28, renowned film personalities and journalists came together at Zahir Raihan Colour Lab Auditorium of Bangladesh Film Development Corporation to pay tribute to the late journalist Obaidul Huq. Bangladesh Film Directors' Association (BFDA) organised a discussion on the occasion.

Eminent journalist and former editor of the *Bangladesh Observer*, Obaidul Haque, passed away on October 13.

The discussants recalled him as a brave and creative individual until death at the age of 96. He was the first Bengali Muslim filmmaker in the subcontinent; daring to take up the challenge of making films, leaving his secured job as a civil servant, at an unfavourable time. Discussants also brought into focus his contribution as a journalist.

Hashi Nazrul Islam, who worked as an assistant director to Obaidul Huq in the film *Dui Diganta* in 1963, called him "a complete man, a rarity in the Bangladeshi film industry". Islam recalled Huq's honest, responsible and warm personal-



Obaidul Huq

ity that is difficult to find. He said Huq was like a "father figure" to him.

Journalist Mahfuzzullah said, "Obaidul Huq showed us the way to an honest and creative life overcoming prevailing limitations." He was especially sympathetic to his subordinates, he added.

Veteran filmmaker Soovas Dutt shared his memories of acting in the film *Dui Diganta*. Actress-director Kabori Sarwar called for making a documentary on Obaidul Huq. Filmmaker Amjad Hossain called Huq the "first fighter in our filmdom".

Editor of the *News Today* Riazuddin Ahmed, president of National Press Club Shawkat Mahmud and general secretary of National Press Club Kamal Uddin Sabuj; veteran journalist Gias Kamal Chowdhury; theatre and TV personality M. Hamid; son of Obaidul Huq, Arham Masudul Huq; journalist Ahmed Zaman Chowdhury; filmmaker Shibly Sadick and president of BFDA Shawkat Jamil also spoke at the discussion. General secretary of BFDA Shah Alam Kiron coordinated the proceedings.

A subtle and suave display Art exhibition by Purbita

FAYZA HAQ

The current exhibition by 'Purbita', a women's organisation, being held at the Shilpkala Academy, is a collection of works by amateur artistes that are quite admirable.

There are various mediums ranging from watercolour to oils and mixed media. The display is neat, precise and soothing to the eye. Apart from being lyrical in many cases the bläse urban existence is also touched. A feminine vision includes the expression of the aches and pains and the confusion of modern day existence in the metropolis with decisive colours and lines. Ranging from realism to expressionism and cubism, the paintings reflect dexterity and perseverance.

The artists have been trained by Kazi Moazzam Hussain, at YWCA. Works by sixteen artists have been selected for the display. Fahmida Khatoon's paintings in mixed media are fairly thought provoking. In the first image she brings in the depiction of the complex

existence of city life. In the work the artist presents an enchain hand smoking a cigarette, with a matchbox and an ashtray in front. This is done in a cubistic fashion with light, feminine shades, contrasted by darker ones. The second piece, *Image of life*, by Fahmida has a woman's portrait, done in two separate rectangular backgrounds. To the left is a large perched butterfly flecked with flamboyant colours.

Nipa D'Cruz's *Trap* shows two hands doing the cat's cradle game. An actual string has been superimposed on the painting. The game symbolises the often-confused existence of our urban women who sometimes feel suffocated by male dominance. Zakia Jasmine's work is also commendable, as it brings in the depiction of a school, where many people have studied and which floods in nostalgic memories.

Although the painters are amateurs, the exhibition is certainly worth viewing. The exhibition ends tomorrow.

Dr. Nilufar Jahan Khan, a gynaecologist by profession, has the best entrees, even though they are realistic and may not cater to the present rage for contemporary art. In her oil work one sees three *paratha* makers at a tea-stall rolling out the dough and frying the *parathas*. They work in unison on tables and the end of a big bin. Brave in their *ganji* and *lungi* they appear to be bursting with enthusiasm.

Dr. Khan's other paintings include presentation of roots of trees, with a backdrop of the sky and the falling cadre leaves. The romanticised delineations of tree roots are currently very much in vogue in the city. Her last piece brings in three large boats with red tiles and labourers, seen at Narayanganj. The portrayal of the brick kiln and the loaders on the boats have been done with an eye for details.

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