

CULTURAL FEAST

Dhaka Book Fair 2007

Organised by: National Book Centre
Venue: National Parade Square, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Date: December 1-16

Art Exhibition

Title: Nilun Kundu: The Creative Mind
Artist: Nilun Kundu
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shipalaya, H 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: December 3-17
Time: 12pm-8pm

Exhibition

Title: Jhora Shishir Gaan
Inauguration: 4 pm, December 1
Venue: Nitya Upahar, 50, Aziz co-operative super market, 2nd floor, Shaltbagh
Date: December 1-10
Time: 12pm-8pm

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Nandan
Venue: Chhayana Shangkriti Bhaban, House 72, Road 15A, Dhanmondi
Date: December 3
Time: 6:30pm

Film Screening

Film: Tajuddin Ahmed: An Unsung Hero
Venue: Alliance Française de Dacca, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: December 1
Time: 5pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Tokai
Artist: Rafiqunnabi
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi
Date: December 1-7
Time: 10am-8pm
Title: Enticement: Sketches of Heritage
Artist: Sajid-Bin-Doza Bonny
Venue: Alliance Française de Dacca, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: December 3-16
Time: 9am-12pm & 5pm-8pm except Saturday (5pm-8pm)

Photography Exhibition

Title: NSUPC-ADECADE
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: November 28-December 1
Time: 3pm to 6pm

Photo Exhibition

Title: Arkos-Antarkos
Photographer: Enam Ul Haque and Terna Ojha
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: November 30-December 4
Time: 3pm-8pm

Theatre

Title: Bhagat Manush
Troupe: Samay Natyadal
Venue: Mahila Samiti Auditorium
Date: December 1
Time: 6:30 pm
Title: Dakghar
Troupe: Swapnadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: December 1
Time: 7 pm

Solo Painting

Artist: Shyamal Roy Chowdhury
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road 36, House 18, Gulshan
Date: November 30-December 16
Time: 11am-8pm

Musical soiree

Sarod maestro Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta performs at Chhayananat



Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta (C) on sarod performs with Mita Haque (R)

NADIA SARWAT

ON November 29, at the Rameshchandra Dutta Memorial Auditorium, Chhayananat arranged their regular monthly musical soiree, *Srotar Ashor*. The highlight of this programme was performance by Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta, the 76-years-old sarod maestro.

Noted artistes Mita Haque, Khairul Anam Shakil, Anup Barua, Auditi Mohsin and Partha Tanvir Noved performed Rabindra and

Nazrul Sangeet at the programme. Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta on sarod provided *sangat* with his masterful *bistara* of the respective *raga*.

Dr. Sanjida Khatun, president of Chhayananat, opened the evening, saying, "It has been long since the artist (Buddhadev) wanted to come to Chhayananat, but we were unable to arrange a programme for him for some unavoidable reasons. I am glad that we could finally make it happen. My sincere regards to the maestro." She also provided a

brief introduction to the artist's life and career.

Regretting the belated visit to Chhayananat, the maestro said, "My fascination with Rabindra Sangeet began at an early age. The artistic application of *raga* in Tagore songs are unrivalled. Of late I've been intrigued by Nazrul Sangeet, thanks to encouragement from Haimanti Shukla and Khairul Anam Shakil. I hope the audience will be able to find the essence of these songs in my performance."

The first song of the evening was *Shedin Meghey dulechhinu bonoy* -- a chorus performance. The rendition was followed by the Pandit's *bistara*, seemingly moving both the singers and the audience. Next was Partha Tanvir Noved's rendition of *Shey kon boner harin*. The Pandit did the *bistara* on *Raga Adivasant*.

Mita Haque sang *Shukhoheen nishidin paradin hoye*. After the rendition, Mita repeated the *dhun* while the maestro was playing sarod. Last Tagore song of the evening was *Tabo daya diye*, performed by Auditi Mohsin.

Khairul Anam Shakil's rendition of the song *Meghey meghey* was the first Nazrul Sangeet of the programme. The audience was delighted to see how effortlessly the maestro harmonised with his sarod.

Anup Barua rendered two songs, *Shunyo e bukey and Barsha, oi elo barasha*. The Pandit apologised for not being able to play with the latter.

The last song of the evening was *Din-o-tarin duk-o-harini*, rendered by Khairul Anam Shakil. According to the Pandit, Kazi Nazrul Islam instantly composed the song at a courtly musical soiree, at the request of Gyan Goswami. Apparently Gyan Goswami was fascinated by a 'gothi' played by Ustad Md. Ameer Khan on sarod and asked Nazrul to compose a song based on it. Pandit Buddhadev played the 'gothi' for the audience.

Even after the songs were over, the maestro continued his music for a while at the request of the audience.

Fashion designers from SAARC countries to get together

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

The cultural saga of SAARC countries continues. After the rock groups from the eight member-countries came together here recently, in a few days it would be the turn of fashion designers of the region to weave their magic at two shows in the Indian capital early next month.

On December 7, coinciding with the SAARC Foreign Ministers' meeting here, leading fashion designers of these countries will gather in Delhi to showcase their collections in two separate fashion shows.

Bangladesh's Rina Lateef and Nasrin Karim will join Ritu Kumar and Anamika Khanna of India, Ather Hafeez and Saadia Mirza of Pakistan, Kesang Ananyat of Bhutan, D Keertisena and Senake D Silva of Sri Lanka, Shakun Shairchan of Nepal, Zolaykha Sherzad and Mina Sherzoy of Afghanistan among others in the shows.

The theme of the fashion show is aptly called "Threads of Unity" that is expected to enhance exchange of ideas among SAARC countries.

The idea of the show involving fashion designers of South Asian countries was suggested by Indian External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee.

Pre-teen prodigy

Shiropa Purna wins 'Jury Award' from Canada

FAYZA HAQ

Shiropa Purna, nine, the talented daughter of artists KM Mithu and Kanak Champa Chakma, has recently



Shiropa Purna

won the Jury Award for her film *Jellyfish* at the Canadian competition 'Kids for Kids'. Earlier, Shiropa created a buzz with her film titled *Five Finger Puppets*, screened at the Bengal Gallery.

The young filmmaker has an artistic sensibility, watching her parents paint and make films from her early childhood. She takes lessons in classical music, dancing and French.

Her elder brother Arjo Sreshtha helps her with the films. Arjo won an award from Europe for his *Lost Love Story* at a tender age as well. His paintings were on display at the age of three at Gallery Tone, years back.

Giving the story line of her film *Jellyfish*, Shiropa speaks of how she, Arjo and her cousins went to Cox's Bazaar, on a holiday trip in January, this year. There she came across a wounded jellyfish, stuck in the sand that could have been hurt by some passing animal or man, as Shiropa puts it. She called her playmates, Bushra, Farisa and Samit, rescued the fish, and together they set it free in the sea.

"Life is important to every one," Shiropa comments with alacrity, "and it was imperative that we rescued that endangered creature. God would be happy with this act of compassion."

Returning home, she pondered on the incident and penned out the story line of her five-minute-long film, giving the direction with time, she says.

Apart from the above mentioned two films, Shiropa has directed and acted in yet another short film. This is based on her imaginary adventures in Sonargaon, set in the time of the Liberation War.

Devoted to dance

In conversation with Rekha

MAHMUDA AFROZ

Perseverance and patience are what helped Rokaiya Begum Rekha achieve her artistic skills. Being the 6th among 10 siblings was not simple. The budget was always short and there was never enough to indulge in extra-curricular activities. Her father was the typical conservative middle class Muslim Bangladeshi. But Rekha's dogged determination conquered not only her father's sternness but also got many to take notice.

It all started when she was a student of the Shishu Academy at the age of eight. Three years went by before her father objected to the dance lessons. So the lessons stopped. However she resumed classes in 8th grade without letting her father know. But once again she had to stop as eventually her father found out.



After completing her HSC exams Rekha began living with her elder sister. She finally got the chance to explore her talents without the overbearing and intimidating presence of her father. She enrolled in BAFA (Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts) and graduated after three years.

Since then she has performed in the BTV program *Nritter Taley Taley* and hugely popular shows *Itali and Shubhechha* on several occasions. Numerous TV commercials followed (between 1997 and 2001): *Singer Television and Refrigerators*, *Lipton Taza tea* and more. Rekha has also modelled for music videos of songs by Asif, Biplob, Kumar Biswasji and others.

In the meantime Rekha was also busy representing Bangladesh on the world platform with her dance troupe 'Anondo'. She toured cities in Germany, France and Switzerland, staging performances that highlighted the various social issues of Bangladesh. In her own words, "It was our way of trying to educate the western world of the problems we face in Bangladesh."

However, Rekha realised that she should focus more on her dancing and hone her skills further. She was with the cultural organisation 'Nriyanchal' for a year before she won the ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations) Scholarship in 2002 to do her masters in Kathak (Lucknow Gharana).

From then on it was a journey of self-exploration. While Kathak was her major subject, Rekha also completed a one-year course in Odissi, Indian ballet and Mayurbhanj Chhau dance, all from the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra in New Delhi.

In her own words, "I completed five years of theory and training before I was awarded a first class masters degree. I had to travel to various parts of India, to other institutes, to perform under the guidance of my guru and even to Singapore to prove my worth."

After successfully completing her degree Rekha came back to Bangladesh.

Rekha has again joined Nriyanchal but this time as a dance instructor. She is also an enlisted dancer at BTV. In her free time she choreographs, and teaches Bengali folk dance to expatriates living in Bangladesh.

According to her, "I want our culture to be represented abroad. Teaching foreigners in Bangladesh is a step closer. The best part is that there is no language barrier as dancing knows only the language of rhythm."

Investigative programme "Prapok" on ATN Bangla

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

ATN Bangla will telecast the investigative programme *Prapok* today at 1:30 pm. Earlier, the programme was aired on Sundays at 5:10 pm.

In every neighbourhood some kind of mismanagement takes place. *Prapok* tries to bring these problems to the limelight by documenting them. Each episode addresses a particular problem by zooming in with an investigative approach. Interviews of the local people are included. A special segment the programme features letters describing the plight of the people, which get published on the national dailies.

Today's episode will feature two investigative reports. One will highlight the issue of the sculptures honouring the Liberation War being neglected throughout the year. These sculptures get special attention only in December.

The second report will be on Dhaka University (DU). Recent findings of students who were able to get admission illegally at DU have raised serious questions



A scene from the show about the effectiveness of the entire DU admission system.

The programme is produced by Amjad Kabir Chowdhury and hosted by Rawan Jahan.



Emirates' Area Manager, Bangladesh Hanif Zakaria (3rd from Left) addresses a press meet to announce the introduction of Bangla movies onboard Emirates flights. The event was held on November 29, at the Bokul Room, Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. *Noi Number Bipod Sangket*, directed by Humayun Ahmed and produced by Impress Telefilm Ltd, is the first Bangla film to be shown as part of the airline's in-flight entertainment programme. Managing Director of Impress Telefilm Ltd, Faridur Reza Sagor; Managing Director of Triune (Pte) Ltd, Kazi Wahidul Alam and noted litterateur and film director Humayun Ahmed also spoke on the occasion

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Ghar Kutum
On Channel i at 07:50 pm
Mega Serial
Cast: ATM Shamsuzzaman, Fazlur Rahman Babu



Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle
On Star Movies at 09:25 pm
Genre: Action
Cast: Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu

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

ATN BANGLA

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

CHANNEL 1

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

BANGLAVISION

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

Rtv

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

ntv

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

ETV

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

BTV

11:15 Dasher Gaan
11:30 Shukhi Poribar
12:00 Bangla Feature Film
03:00 Sissimur
03:30 Selected Programme
05:05 Nabo Anondoy Jigo
06:25 Selected Programme
07:00 Amader Muktiyudho
07:25 Drama Serial: Basul
07:45 Bjoy Amar Bjoy
08:35 Documentary
Programme: Arzo Bangladesh
09:00 Drama: Nishobho
Man
10:30 Amader Katha
11:00 Talk Show: Data Line
Dhaka

ATN BANGLA

09:15 Amader Nurul Huda
10:30 Akto Onondosthi
11:05 Shithi Din
12:15 Musical Programmes:
Shesh Okhkhor
01:30 Documentary
Programme: Prapok
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:00 Gram Gonir Khabar
06:20 Gondhoraj Sansung
Cine Aha
06:40 Shei Shob Din Raatri
08:00 Drama Serial: Alokogor
08:40 Drama Serial: Chor
Kuthuri
09:20 Drama Serial: Ek
Jonomey
11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's
House

12:00

Gramphone
Lead News
Channel i
09:30 Shangbadporey
Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Gramphone
Trikomata
11:05 Na Bola Katha
12:30 Citycell Tarika
Kathin
01:05 Ebong Cinema
Gaan
01:30 Musical Programme:
Sa Re Ga Ma
02:40 Selected Programme
03:05 Talk Show
04:05 Educational
Programme: F.M
Method
04:50 Shetyer Shondhaney
05:30 Muktiyudho Protidin
Swapneel
Agami
06:30 Quiz Show
07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar
Kutum
08:20 Drama Serial:
Noukadubi
09:35 Hindoye Matlo O
Manush
10:00 Drama Serial: Phiro
Dekha
11:30 Live Drama Serial:
Astey Astey Astey
Gramphone
12:00 Aker Shangbadporey
Rtv
09:05 Drama Serial: Ebong
Rohushey Golpo
Children's
10:00

10:30

Programme
01:30 Bangla Feature Film:
Protidin
05:15 Ekusher Shondha
05:45 Ekusher Shondha
06:10 Sens Mania
07:30 Explosive
08:30 Total Music
09:30 Ekusher Shomoy
10:30 Binodon Bishwa
11:45 Reporter's File
12:00 Ekusher Raat
Banglavisoin
09:05 Children's
Programme
09:30 Sports Vision
10:10 Agami Kontho
11:05 Talk Show: Shomoy
Oshomoy
08:00 Ekusher Shokal
Mukto Khabor
08:30

01:30

Media Bhushon
01:00 X-Crime
02:30 Vocab
02:40 Drama Serial:
Kachitay Durey
04:15 Cinebill Shada Kalo
04:45 Citycell Dinner
Shashay
05:30 Banglavisoin Cafe
06:25 Music Moment
06:55 Selected Programme
09:05 Talk Show:
Amar Ani
09:45 Drama Serial:
Bachelor Dampoti
11:20 Rant Biraatey
12:00 Shongbad Protidin

02:30

01:00 The Bold And The
Beautiful
12:30 The Knights Of
Prosperity
01:00 Travel Asia
01:30 My Wife And Kids
02:00 According To Jim
02:30 The Jane Show
03:00 Criss Angel Mindfreak
03:30 The Knights Of
Prosperity
04:00 The Knights Of
Prosperity
04:30 Yes Dear
05:00 Monk
06:00 Miss World 2007
08:00 The Office (Us)
08:30 Kyle Xy

03:30

08:30 Brothers & Sisters
09:30 Ncis
10:30 The Bold And The
Beautiful
12:30 The Knights Of
Prosperity
01:00 Travel Asia
01:30 My Wife And Kids
02:00 According To Jim
02:30 The Jane Show
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Prosperity
04:00 The Knights Of
Prosperity
04:30 Yes Dear
05:00 Monk
06:00 Miss World 2007
08:00 The Office (Us)
08:30 Kyle Xy

04:30

08:30 American Dragon:
Jack Long
11:00 101 Dalmatians
11:30 SONPARI
12:00 Karishma Kaa
Karishma
12:30 V Trailers - Star Plus
01:00 Prithviraj Chauhan
02:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
02:30 Bidaai
05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
05:30 Suhaag
08:30 Nach Baliye 3
09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
10:30 Star VOI Chhote
Ustaad
11:30 Kayamath
12:00 Bidaai
12:30 Boly V

05:30

09:30 Ugly Betty
10:30 Miss World 2007
12:30 Kyle Xy
DISCOVERY CHANNEL
09:30 Discovery Theatre
10:30 Oil Sweat and Rigs
11:30 Passport to Space
12:30 Extreme Engineering
01:30 Wild South America
02:30 Discovery's Biggest
Shows
04:30 Hunters
05:30 Passport to Space
06:30 Man Vs. Wild
07:30 Hunters
08:30 World Aids Day
09:30 Truth About Food
10:30 How Do They Do It?
11:00 Massive Engines with
Chris Barrie
11:30 Wild Africa

06:30

08:30 Planet Carnivore
09:30 Gray Whale
10:30 Why Dogs Smile
12:30 Head On!
01:30 Mumbai Mega Flood
02:30 Morocco
03:30 Mad Labs
04:30 I Didn't Know That
05:00 Cindy, Chipper, Hope
05:30 Big Bang
06:00 Blue Whales
06:30 Apollo 13
08:30 AIDS Jaagoo
10:00 India's Hidden Plague
11:00 Mad Labs
11:30 Gangland
12:30 Arctic Oasis

07:30

Radio Foorti 88.0 FM
07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apur)
11:00am Amar 88.0 (Nusrat)
03:00pm Dhaka Calling
(Sakib)
07:00pm Fuad Live (Fuad)
11:30am Back to Back music
Radio Today 89.6 FM
07:15am Good Morning
Dhaka (Eliab)
07:45am Today's Happy
Moments
08:45am Shokaler Khabor
Fatafah Adda
(Nudrat & Sayfi)
01:45pm Dupurer Khabor
04:00pm U-lum (Tania)
06:45pm Shondher Khabor
08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok (Sayem)
09:45pm Raater Khabor
11:45pm Raat Vor Gan
(Nob)
12:00am Today's Happy
Moments
12:10am Raat Vor Gan
(Nob)
HISTORY
09:30 Carthage
10:30 Guts & Bolts
11:30 Yes Prime Minister S2
12:00 Cuckoo
12:30 The Last Journey
01:30 Rome's Hidden Empire
02:30 Ancient Rome
03:30 The Pullman
Palace Cars
04:30 China
05:30 Hercules
06:30 Dash & Lilly
08:30 Das Boot
12:30 Dash & Lilly