

Images of Sidr devastation

Bayazid's moving observations



Photographs by Bayazid Akter

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

THE recent exhibition of documentary photographs by Bayazid Akter at the Goethe-Institut was indeed passion-driven and bold. Akter travelled to the Sidr-affected areas in Southern Bangladesh, and depicted havoc and unmitigated lament over the recent cruel cyclone that swept over the country with merciless speed and feroc-

ity. The wind and rain that ruined Bangladesh as a consequence, ripping houses, destroying crops, and killing men, beasts and birds are caught with marvellous depth of perception, and ingenuity through Akter's lens.

Speaking to *The Daily Star* at the Goethe-Institut café over a cup of steaming tea, Akter said that it was not easy for him to do the job in a few days, and have the coloured display in double-quick time to

make it relevant. This, Akter said, was despite his experience as a photojournalist in various local vernacular dailies, and being in the process of making a documentary film on the sweepers of Dhaka's Hazaribagh tannery area. He is also a regular contributor to a Japanese photo agency in Tokyo, and "Banglapedia", which add to his forte, he added. Disaster and the underprivileged have always been Akter's main themes for his projects over the years.

"I went to Barisal right after the cyclone on November 16, and reached Patuakhali the next day -- going part of the way by bus and later on foot. The road had been blocked by large uprooted trees, and this is how the tale of tears through photographs commences. I crossed Faridpur, Madaripur and Gauronadi, and I reached the scenes of havoc, pain and hunger. After Barisal and Patuakhali, I covered Bhola, Golachipa, Charbagha -- the islands located on the south-west of the Bay of Bengal," said Akter.

Akter graduated from the Beg Photography Institute, after his Masters in History from Dhaka University. He considers Dr Shahidul Alam and Anwar Hossain as his ideals.

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Akter. What upset him greatly were villages where there was only one lone survivor from families. The searching for corpses was heart rendering. "They didn't know whether to search for the dead, dear ones or seek shelter and food, or just indulge in sobs and endless rolling tears," concluded Akter. The images are dated from November 16-21.

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Three-day long street theatre festival in Tangail



A scene from the play *Butterfly*

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A three-day long street theatre festival, on the occasion of the International Anti-Corruption Day (December 9), concluded in Tangail town recently.

Local theatre group Nagar Natya Dal organised the festival in association with Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) at the Tangail Shaheed Minar premises.

A total of four theatre groups staged six plays during the festival.

Adviser of Nagar Natya Dal,

Harun-ur-Rashid inaugurated the festival.

The inaugural session was attended by Taufique Ahmed, programme officer of TIB and general secretary of Nagar Natya Dal, Swapan Bhattacharya.

In the first session, Nagar Natya Dal staged the play *Manusher Achar*. Swapan Bhattacharya directed the play. In the second session, Swadesh Natya Dal staged the play *Tokai-er Swapno*, directed by Bazlur Rahman.

In first session of the second day, Natyam staged *Butterfly*.

Talha-al-Mahmud directed the play. In the second session, Swadesh Natya Dal staged *Kendu Chora*.

In the first session of the concluding day, Ananda Natya Dal staged *Badhi*. In the concluding session, Nagar Natya Dal staged *Shefali*.

A large number of people enjoyed the shows every day during the Eid holidays. After the shows, Additional District Magistrate (ADM), Tangail, KM Tariqul Islam distributed crests among the participant theatre groups.

CULTURAL FEAST

Warid Caller Tunes

Campaign Grand Finale Concert

Venue: Kalabagan playground, Kalabagan, Dhamondi
Date: December 28
Time: 2:30 pm
Entry passes will be available with zero prepaid connections purchased from Warid Sales & Customer Service Centres.

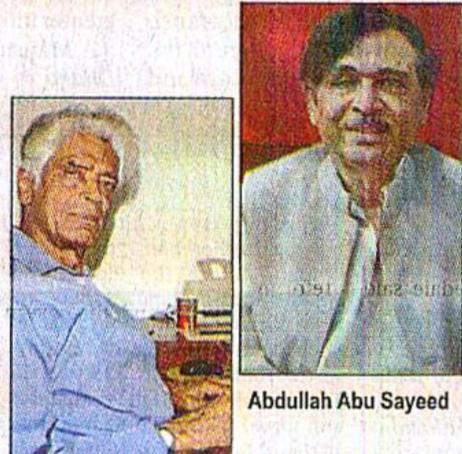
Art Exhibition

Title: RETROSPECT
Artists: Shadiq Hoque and Aadij Hoque
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, House 26 Road 3 Dhamondi
Date: December 25-31
Time: 5pm-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Victory Day
Artist: Proshanta Karmakar Buddha
Venue: Shilpajoy Art Gallery
Date: December 14-28
Time: 10:30am-8pm



Jamil Chowdhury



Abdullah Al Mamun

TV WATCH

Satellite TV channel Rtv's second anniversary



CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On the second anniversary of satellite TV channel Rtv, an array of special programmes will be aired on December 26. The programme includes a children's show, a musical programme, a special play and talkshows.

At 9:05am, children's show *Nil Akashay Megher Bhaber* will be aired. The talk show *Media Electronic* will be aired at 9:35am. Eminent cultural personalities Mustafa Monowar, Jamil Chowdhury, Abdullah Abu Sayeed,

Abdullah Al Mamun and Ferdousi Majumdar will discuss the beginning of electronic media in Bangladesh in the show. *Band 2006*, a musical show featuring several popular band groups of Bangladesh such as Chime, Prometheus, Dolchut, Warfaze and Maharaj will be aired at 7:40pm.

Written by Shibu Kumar Sheel and directed by Mezbaur

Rahman Shuman, single episode play *Shohortol Alo* will be aired at 8:00pm. The plot of the story traces an unusual relationship between Sajjad and a visually impaired flower seller, Mukt. Joya Ahsan, Partha Borua, and Rifat Choudhury will play the lead roles in the play.

Musical magazine programme *Ontorey Bahirey Nirontor* will be aired at 9:10pm. Nakib Khan, Partha Borua, Rezwana Chowdhury Bonya and Subir Nandi will participate in the show.

"Dushtu Meye" today on Channel i

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

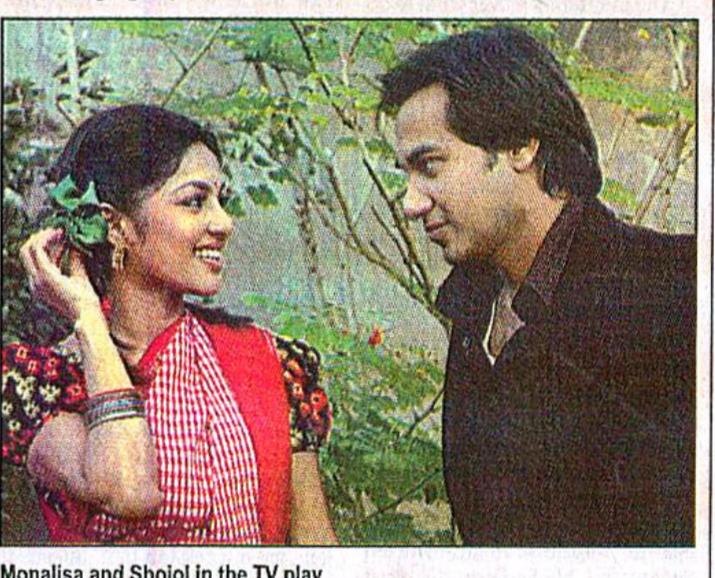
Channel i will air TV play *Dushtu Meye* today at 10:30 am. Written by Nazneen Rahman, the play is directed by chief cameraman of Channel i, Zubaid Hossain Tufan.

The story follows the life of a beautiful, mischievous village belle, Mishti. An orphan, Mishti inherits the property of her father and lives with her uncle who is the chairman of the village. To take over her property, Mishti's uncle

wants to marry her off to a man of his choice.

But the story takes a turn when the village football team loses a tournament with a team from Dhaka. To keep the trophy -- in the captain of pride -- in the village, the chairman plans a marriage between Mishti and Rajon, the captain of the winning team.

The cast includes Tauquir Ahmed, Monalisa, Shojol, Afroza Banu and Al Mansur.



Monalisa and Shojol in the TV play

New auditorium for Dinajpur Shilpakala Academy

KONGKON KARMAKAR, Dinajpur

Dinajpur Shilpakala Academy, a state run cultural organisation in Dinajpur, is readying its first floor and a full-fledged cultural auditorium at the institution complex. This step is a fall-out of a shortage of accommodation, according to sources.

Bangladesh Cultural Ministry recently sanctioned Taka 40 crores to the Dinajpur Shilpakala Academy for the project. Construction began last mid-September and is going on in full swing.

Mohammed Aminul Islam, District Cultural official of Dinajpur Shilpakala Academy told *The Daily Star* that the state-run cultural institute of Dinajpur presently provides training to at least 200 students in different arts such as song, dance and recitation. The new first floor would ease the accommodation situation of the students, he added.

Moreover, students of the institute have urged the authorities to step up the number of instructors once it gets two-storey facilities. At present there are only nine instructors at the Dinajpur Shilpakkala Academy, according to sources.

Islam also asserted that the full-fledged cultural auditorium would accommodate at least 1,000 people and give a boost to culture in the district.

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Momeza
On Channel-i at 4:10pm
Tele-film
Cast: Mousumi, Tony Dias

Rangeela Bao
On ATN Bangla at 9:00 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Fazlur Rahman Babu, Srabonti

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

BTV

08:15 Musical Programme
11:11 Musical Programme
Shurer Shahrang
Talk Show

11:40 Musical Programme:

Mati Shur

12:30 Tele-film: Dardito

Bilash

02:38 Bangla Feature Film

06:10 Drama: Shompolli

07:15 Musical Programme:

Mukhroli Eid

08:30 Drama: Bondhu

10:30 Drama: Phera Na

Phera

12:00 Gramophone Aker

Shangbadpoiro

Rtv

08:20 Gaanchil El Dih
RTV Exclusive

09:00 Onyodrishti

11:05 Drama: Bhalobashi

Bhalobashi

Bhalobashi

Making Of

12:15 Talk Show: Media

Programme: Jugol

02:30 Daily Soap: Doli's

House

11:30 Drama: Sholey

Cheray Key

03:10 Drama Serial: Rupali

Manush

Children's

Programme: Shapla

01:00 Gaanchil El Dih

Dhallywood Beats

01:30 Islam Ki Boley Antra

02:30 Gram Gajer Khobor

05:00 Drama: Bondhu

06:30 Documentary

03:15 Teen Punish

04:00 Shohortol Alo

05:15 Neer

06:30 Apni Jigyastra

07:30 Shubha Shondhya

08:15 Shohortol Alo

09:10 Musical Programme:

Roshik Naholey

10:30 Drama: Shohortol Alo

11:00 Drama: Sejal Jigyastra

06:20 Drama: Onyodrishti

07:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

08:00 Drama: Sejal Jigyastra

08:45 Drama: Onyodrishti

09:15 Drama: Onyodrishti

10:30 Drama: Onyodrishti

11:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

12:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

01:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

02:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

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04:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

05:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

06:00 Drama: Onyodrishti

07:00 Drama: Onyodrishti