# CULTURE

# CULTURALFEAST

#### 10th Dhaka International Film Festival

Organiser: Rainbow Film Society Date: January 17 Venue: National Museum Auditorium

11:00 am The Girl on the Stone (Mexico) 01:00 pm Mukshin (Malaysia)

03.00 pm Like Butterflies in the Light (Argentina)

05:00 pm Klssed by Winter (Norway) 07:00 pm The Journey (India)

### Solo Kathak Dance

Artiste: Tahmina Anwar Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Rewaz Performer's

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: January 17 Time: 6 pm

#### Theatre

Title: Konjush Troupe: Loko Natyadal Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: January 18 Time: 6:30 pm

Title: Death Knocks Troupe: Palakar Venue: Palakar Studio, 133/3, Natak Swarani, New Bailey Road Date: January 17, 18

## Sculpture and Art

Time: 6:30 pm

Exhibition Title: Brave World of Structure Artist: Ivy Zaman Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, House 26, road 3, Dhanmondi Date: January 19-February 2 Time: 12pm-8pm

# In search of a lost childhood Film Festival

## An Iranian globetrotter in Dhaka

KARIM WAHEED

lost my childhood to a war. The Iran-Iraq War had taken away so many childhoods!" -- says Iranian globetrotter Khosrow Yousefi. Yousefi, on his bicycle, has been to 20 countries in Asia and Africa including Azerbaijan, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, U.A.E, Togo, Benin, Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, India, and now he is in Bangladesh.

An interesting aspect of his expedition is that, Yousefi collects artworks from the children in each country. He has had a few exhibitions of these paintings and drawings (one in Islamabad, Pakistan for instance) but he has so far refused to sell any of them In Bangladesh, Yousefi is holding an exhibition at 'Chhobir Haat' that started from yesterday (cross the street from Institute of Fine Arts, Shahbagh) and the artworks on display are on sale. The proceeds will go to Sidr victims.

"I know what going to sleep without a meal feels like, I know what freezing in the winter without warm clothes does to one. The difference is, war made me suffer and in this case, a natural calamity has devastated these people,"

says Yousefi. On the raison d'être behind collecting drawings and paintings by children, Yousefi says, "I used to be an art teacher and I always see this exuding sense of harmony, warmth and friendship in the artworks by children."

Struggling with his English, the Iranian voyager says, "I want a 'proper world' for children. A proper world for children would be a utopia for everyone. The divisions between humans have been created by adults. Children do not see differences; these divisions and boundaries are impure and unnatural to them. In different countries, you may notice the differences in nature and surroundings in the drawings by children but the inner-messages are pretty much the same."

Yousefi began his journey three years ago.



The exhibition of artworks by children, collected by Yousefi, held in Islamabad, Pakistan

From Iran, he first went to Azerbaijan. "I speak Azeri, and I wanted an uncomplicated start," says Yousefi. From Azerbaijan, he went to Georgia, Armenia and Turkey. He speaks highly of the hospitality he received in Cameroon and Bangladesh but not all places have been kind. Because of his nationality, Yousefi endured difficulties in Gabon and had to return to Cam-

Yousefi entered India through Punjab. He like to or can." went to Varanasi, as a film by Makhmalbaf (Yousefi's favourite filmmaker) had triggered his interest in the city by the Ganges,

regarded holy by Hindus. From Kolkata, the cyclist started towards Bangladesh and crossed the Benapole border. He arrived here a week ago.

Yousefi would like to urge everyone to contribute according to his/her means, to the Sidr victims. "Not everyone has to buy a drawing or painting at the exhibition. You can also donate clothes and other items, whatever you would

Where would his journey end? Yousefi says with a smile, "The day I'm convinced that I've truly experienced childhood."



# "I'm delighted to have the world premiere of my movie at this festival"

In conversation with young American filmmaker Douglas Chang

**Douglas Chang** 

**ERSHAD KAMOL** 

The world premier of young American independent filmmakerscreenplay writer Douglas Chang's debut fiction film Absent Father was held at the 10th Dhaka International Film Festival. At the festival, Chang spoke to the The Daily Star about his film.

On the reason behind having the

world premiere of his debut film in Dhaka, Chang said, "I'm an upcoming American filmmaker of Chinese descent and I thought I should screen my first feature film in a developing Asian country like Bangladesh. And I'm delighted to have the world premiere of my movie at this festival.

"The theme of my movie is a combination of reality and spirituality. To me, people of Asian countries are more concerned with values and spirituality compared to the western world. I believe people from the developing countries will be my ideal audience. This aspect also motivated me to screen my touch psychological, sociological, film here in Dhaka."

Chang's movie Absent Father and I often present reality through highlights the dilemmas a teenage

dimensions whether we acknowledgeit or not. In Absent Father I've tried to symbolically present the myth of the 'Virgin Mother' through the story of a

contemporary American girl." The film was shot in Boston and most of the actors in the film are teenagers. On his directorial composition Chang said, "I've always tried to frame the beautiful and ugly aspects of life together. I've also used several close-up shots of the protagonist.

Commenting on the independent film market in the US, the young filmmaker said that quite a few talented directors are making interesting movies and sophisticated urban people are the main viewers of this type of cinema.

Douglas Chang graduated in Literature from New York University. He completed his MA in Film Studies from the same university. Chang began his career as an assistant director while he was a stufilms for television. I always try to dent.

> Chang is currently working on his new film, Sporda, which follows the aftermath of a plane crash in a

#### **TV WATCH**

## Tribute to Selim Al Deen

"Chaka" to be aired on Ekushey TV on Friday

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On January 18, Ekushey TV will air Morshedul Islam's celebrated feature film Chaka, written by the recently deceased Professor Selim Al Deen, at 7:30 pm. The film has won several international awards. Chaka is the first Bangladeshi film to be released at three theatres in France in 1995.

The film zooms in on a harrowing tale of a corpse that needs to be buried. It is carried to far flung cities and villages in search of a piece of land but no one is willing to go beyond the prejudices. Actor Amirul Haque Choudhury plays the lead role in the film.



A scene from the film

# Poet Bande Ali's 102nd birth anniversary today

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Today (January 17) marks the 102nd birth anniversary of poet Bande Ali Miah. One of the most prolific Bengali poets, Bande Ali's poetry epitomises the simple Bengali rural life. Not only was he a poet he was also a famous painter and script writer.

Bande Ali Miah was born on January 17 in 1906 in the Radhanagar village by the river 'Ichhamati' in Pabna town. The poet completed a diploma in painting from the Indian Art Academy in Calcutta in 1930. Known for his vivid depictions of rural Bengal, Bande Ali also left an ample collection of works for children.

"Unpretentious representation of our casual lives in his writings encouraged me to write," poet Sufia Kamal once remarked on Bande Ali's writing.

The first book by the poet Char-Jamai was published in 1927 from Calcutta Ashutosh Library. Eighty-four books by the litterateur include poetry, prose and plays. His renowned poem Maynamotir Char was published in 1931 from D.M Library in Calcutta. Considered one of his most remarkable works, the poem

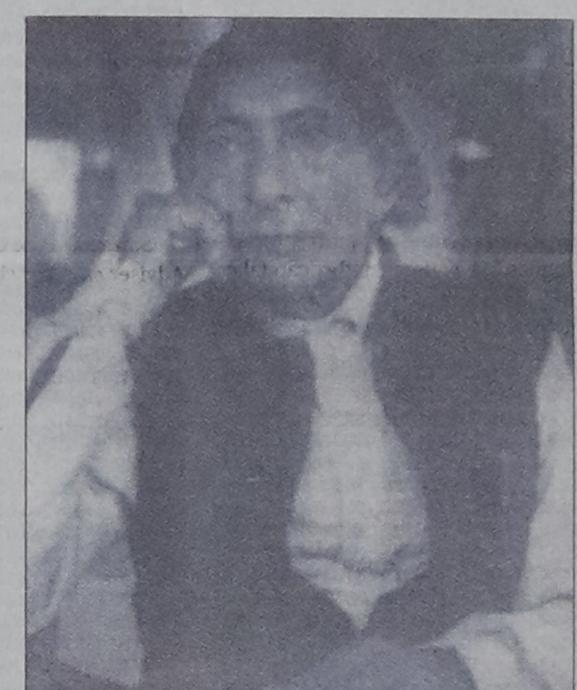
paints a magical, yet very real picture:

Borshar jol shoriya giyechhey jagiye uthechhey char Gung-shalikera gorto khuriya bandhitechhey shoreyghar

Gaheen nadir dui paar diya aankhi jaye joto duurey Akasher megh atithi jeno go tahar aangina jurey

"These are fine pictures, in Maynamatir Char, where you have painted the casual life of people living by the Padma," Rabindranath Tagore wrote to Bande Ali in a letter in 1932.

Among his books Anurag (1933), Padma Nadir Char (1933), Shapno Shadh (1936), Madhumatir Char (1946), Jagrato Jouban (1949), Moner Mour (1956), Aranno Godhuli (1958), Tasher Ghar (1954) enjoy mass popularity. Megh Kumari, Jongoler Khabar, Jangaler Raja and



Poet Bande Ali Miah

Shishuder Bishad Shindhu -- are his books for children. Bande Ali was a school teacher by profession in Calcutta until 1947. After the Partition, the poet came back to the country. Later he was appointed at the Rajshahi Radio Centre in 1964 as a scriptwriter, where he worked till his death. Bande Ali passed away on June 27 1979 in Rajshahi.

Pabna district administration had arranged a discussion and cultural programme today in 'Pabna Banomali Auditorium' marking the poet's birth anniversary.

## "M for Mother": The only movie screened in the 'Spiritual Section' M for Mother follows the strug-

unwed mother faces. Douglas

Chang and Allison Sherman jointly

wrote the screenplay. On the theme

of the film, Chang said, "It is a

common social issue in the US, but

most of Hollywood movies these

days miss these types of themes.

Before making this film, I've

political and mythological aspects

myth. Life always has mythological

directed several documentary

Though prior to the event, the director claimed that the Spiritual Film section would be one of the major attractions at the 10th Dhaka International Film Festival, only one spiritual movie received censorship clearance to be screened. On January 15 and 16 two shows of the Iranian spiritual movie M for Mother, written and directed by Rasoul Mollagholipour, were held at the festival.

gles of a mother who is expecting her first baby. The message of the film is that one of the most precious gifts to the entire humanity from God is a mother.

sponsored by Religion Today Film Festival, Italy. A package of 12 spiritual films arrived in Dhaka for the festival. But the organisers failed to pay Tk 10,000 for the cen- values and love for humanity." -

sorship clearance certificate for each of the films.

Representatives -- Simon Semprini and Katia Malatesta -- of Religion Today Film Festival have also arrived at the festival. Katia The Spiritual Film section was Malatesta said, "Though religion is the theme of these films, the movies are also artistically rich. These types of movies educate people to be more tolerance and encourage

## Ajay Devgan: Another Bollywood actor turns director

PALLAB BHATTACHRYA, New Delhi

After Aamir Khan with critically acclaimed Taare Zameen Par, another Bollywood actor Ajay Devgan is set to don the role of director for the first time.

Here recently to promote his just-released feature film Halla Bol directed by Raj Kumar Santoshi, Devgan, the twice National Award winning actor, said he would direct U, Me Aur Hum, starring himself and his actress-wife Kajol.

Direction is something that is not surprising for Devgan who had been an assistant to his father Veeru.

Meanwhile, the box office success for Halla Bol, which also features Vidya Balan and Pankaj Kapur, is important for both

08:25

09:05

11:25

03:10

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12:00

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12:00

12:30

01:00

STAR PLUS

12:55 Bolly V

Drama Serial:

Mohanagar

Drama Serial: Shilbhia

X Crime

March 16

Mr. Deeds

Firestarter

Predator

Enough

Venom

Bolly V

Bidaai

Santaan

01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa

Bandhan

Saarrthi

Bahu Thi

Sangam

Santaan

Hive, The

Adventures Of

Little Einsteins

Buckaroo Banzai

V Trailers - Star Plus

Kasautii Zindagii Kay

Karam Apnaa Apnaa

STAR MOVIES

Shudhu Gaan

Shongbad Protidin

Russia House, The



Ajay Devgan

Santoshi and Devgan.

After the box office debacle of his previous movie Khakee featuring superstar Amitabh Bachchan in 2004, Santoshi is hoping to stage a comeback. Inspired by veteran director Govind Nihalani with whom he had worked as an assistant, Santoshi had in the past made movies on serious issues like The Legend of Bhagat Singh (also starring Ajay Devgan in the title role), Damini, Pukar, China Gate, Lajja and comedy Andaz Apna Apna.

For Ajay, Halla Bol is crucial after the failure of his previous Hindi movie Cash, acting in which he admitted was "a mistake".

Halla Bol is the story of a theatre actor who makes it big in Bollywood but deflects from his path.

Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apu)

11:00am Amar 88.0 (Nusrat)

(Sadia)

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PICK OF THE DAY

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

## News Bulletin

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, 12:15 am. 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 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. CHANNEL 1

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

BANGLAVISION News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am 12:00am. 4:00pm. News (English) at 6:00pm

#### 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

# CHANNEL-i

Ei Shoptaher Bangladesh Sisimpur 09:30 Amra Notun Selected Programme 03:15 Bangla Feature Film 06:50 Malonchyo

Shuprobhaat

BTV

08:15

Talk Show: Bhabbar Bishoy 08:35 Protidin Bangladesh 08:40 Drama Serial: Swapnojatra 09:00 Shomoyer Katha Entertainment Show

#### Date Line Dhaka ATN BANGLA

Ajker Shangbadpotro 08:30 Drama Serial: Mouchakey Dhil 09:15 Drama: Rang Manchyo Taal Talk Show: 10:30

#### Onyodrishti 11:05 Drama: Dudhwall 12:15 Musical Programme Shurer Madhuri

Bhul-er Mashul 01:30 Daily Soap: Doll's 02:30 House Shundor Jiboner 03:10 Jonyo Debate Programme 04:10

12:50 Shodaipati

05:00 Gram Gonjer Khobor Fashion Show 06:20 08:00 Drama Serial: Mouchakey Dhil Pakhi

08:40 Drama Senal: Ochin Drama Serial: Amader Nurul Huda 11:30 Dally Soap: Doll's House 12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

# Shangbadpotrey

Bangladesh 09:45 Public Reaction 09:50 Grameenphone Tritiomatra 11:05 Selected Programme 12:30 Citycell Tarokakathan 01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:30 Sa Re Ga Ma

Grameenphone Tritiomatray April 03:05 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak 04:05 Hndoyer Gaan Selected Programme Special Programme

Talk Show: Ek Dui 06:30 Amar Chhobi 07:50 Drama Serial: Aguner 08:20 Drama Serial:

Advuturey

09:35 Drama Serial: Chhayabari 10:00 Drama Serial, Poran Kandey Dukhkhey 11:30 Aste Aste Aste 12:00 Grameephone Ajker Shangbadpotro

ETV 08:00 Ekush-er Shokaal Ekush-ey Business: 12:30 Special Focus 01:30 Ekush-ey Business: Shophol Jara 03:30 Cine Hits Shanskniti Shathdin Ekusher Shondhya 05:45 SMS Mania 06:15 Desh Jurey 06:30

Nishi Kushum

Ta Na Na Na

Ekush-er Shomoy

Ekush-er Chokh

Ekush-er Raat

08:15 Gaanchil Ei Din

07:30

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09:30

12:00

09:00 Rtv Exclusive 09:05 Prithibir Pathay Pathey 09:35 Jono Protyasha O Sharkar-er Ek Bochhor 10:00 Drama Serial: Anondojatra 11:00 Taroka Alap 11:30 Drama Serial: Modhyobarti 12:15 Special Programme 01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din 01:30 Dhallywood Beats 02:30 Bangla Feature Film

06:00 Protidin

06:35 Jago Bengladesh

Modhyobarli

Bochhor: Orthoniti

08:00 Drama Serial:

08:35 Sharker-er Ek

Chhayabari

Drama Serial

On Channel- i at 9:35 pm

Cast: Shahiduzzaman Selim, Romana Sajjad 09:20 Drama Senal: Anondojatra Just Band 11:00 News Watch 11:30 Rtv Exclusive ntv Ajker Shokaal 08:30 10:30

12:10

05:30

08:15 Drama Serial: Drama Serial: To-Let Guitar Amar Bondhu Drama Talk Show: Ei Shomoy Japan Video Topic Drama Serial: To-Let Drama Serial: Teen Purush

Drama Serial: Neer

Drama Serial: Teen

Bon-er Kashinda

Chetonay Islam

06:15 Shubho Shondhya

Predator On Star Movies at 5:15 pm Genre: Action/Thriller/Sci-fi Cast: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Carl Weathers

09:45 Drama Serial: 111 A Nelson Number 11:35 El Shomoy **CHANNEL 1** 08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh 10:30 Bangla Feature Film 02:00 Bachao Shundorbon 03:30 Drama Senal, Professor 04:00 Drama Senal: Gujob Show Case 04:30 Gollachhut 05:15 04:20

Saaj Bela

Amar Ghar

Drama

09:30 The One

06:45 Amar O Gaitey Ichhey

Swapnojaal

Holo

06:00

07:00

08:15

09:00 Glamour World Pata 12:30 02:30 Vocab 02:40 Akash 03:05

05:30

05:05

06:25

06:50

BANGLAVISION 09:00 Media Bhubon Drama Serial: Swapnochura Cookery Show: Amader Rannaghar

Drama Serial: Shunyo Nana Rang-er Dinguli Ei Shoptaher Bishwa Drama Serial: Mohanagar Drama Serial: Pingol Praner Gaan

Top Story

Banijyomela Protidin

Citycell Din-er Sheshey

Children's Programme

Shur-er Bhubon

02:00 Bhabhi 02:30 03:00 03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi 04:00 Kayamath 04:30 05:00 05:25 05:30 06:55

Bolly V V Trailers - Star Plus Kasturi Bidaai 06:30 Bolly V 07:00 Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz 07:25 Bolly V Sangam 07:30 08:30 Meri Awaz Ko Mil Gayi Roshni 09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 09:30 Bldaai

10:00 Kasturi

10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Kayamath 11:30 12:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa 12:30 Bolly V STAR WORLD

Friends

Seinfeld

10:30 The Jane Show

12:30 Seinfeld

NATIONAL

American Idel

Most Haunted

Sauna Belt

Speed Week

Bombay Calling

Taliban Uprising

Venom Harvest

Big Bang

Ferran

Is It Real?

12:30 Backyard Python

I Didn't Know That

Jamaican Rumble

Valley Of The Wolves

Taliban Uprising

Megastructures

World's Busiest Port

Wild Horse Hazard

ship

Wonder Armour

07:30

08:30

11:30

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06:00

03:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib) Seinfeld 12:30 07:00pm Seven Eleven Friends Desire: Table For Three 11:00pm Late Night Show The Eilen Degeneres 02:30

(Shuvo) Show 03:00am Back to Back music The Bold And The 03:30 Beautiful Radio Today 89.6 FM 04:00 General Hospital 07:15am Good Morning Enterprise Dhaka (Biplob) Malcolm In The Middle 07:45am Today's Happy The Simpsons Moments

My Wife And Kids 08:45am Shokaler Khabor 12:00pm Today's Adda (Nudrat) 01:45pm Dupurer Khabor 04:00pm U-turn (Kibria & Tania) 06:45pm Shondher Khabor 11:00 Criss Angel Mindfreak 08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok (Sayem) 09:45pm Raater Khabor

11:45pm Moddho Raater

Khabor GEOGRAPHIC THE HISTORY CHANNEL 09:30 Taliban Uprising 10:30 1985 Bulck Grand

> National Sauna Belt 11:30 FIFA Club Champion-Augustus: First Emperor 01:30 Enemy 02:30 The Universe 03:30 Mary Magdalene 04:30 Leopold & Leob/D B Cooper 05:30 The Aircraft Carriers 06:30 Augustus: First Emperor

07:30 True Strory of Gladiators

Operation Market 08:30 Garden 09:30 Honour 10:30 Ancient Discoveries 11:30 Leaving A Trace 12:30 Honour