

## CULTURAL FEAST

## Sculpture and Art Exhibition

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

## Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: In Search of light  
Artist: Rafique Siddiqui  
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: January 18-25  
Time: 12pm-8pm

## Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Written Image  
Artist: Wajidur Rahman  
Venue: Gallian Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara  
Date: January 18-29  
Time: 11am-8pm

Title: The Making of Kuhu Art  
Artist: Kuhu  
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi R/A  
Date: January 18-February 15  
Time: 10am-8pm

Title: Art in Mind  
Artist: Arif Al Karim Bhuiyan  
Venue: Galerie Zoom, Alliance Francaise de Dacca, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi  
Date: January 10-21  
Time: 9am-12pm & 5pm-8pm (everyday), 5pm-8pm (Sunday)

Title: Ecology of Mind-2  
Sculptor: Alak Roy  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpaya, H 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dhanmondi and British Council, 5 Fuller Road, Dhaka University  
Date: January 5-19  
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## 10th Dhaka International Film Festival



## The end of the event

Award giving ceremony held



Recipients of the film awards

ERSHAD KAMOL

TENTH Dhaka International Film Festival, the biggest event of its kind in the country, ended yesterday at the National Museum Auditorium. Though initially the organiser Rainbow Film Society announced that the nine-day festival would continue at five venues, which began on January 10, was held at only two venues: Central Public Library Auditorium and National Museum Auditorium.

Only 33 movies had been screened of the expected over 100 full-length films, short films and documentaries from 40 countries.

Of the announced 11 sections of films -- Australasian Cinema, Retrospective, Tribute, Cinema of the World, Focus, African Films, Bangladesh Panorama, Independent Film, Women Filmmaker Section, Spiritual Film Session and International Cinema -- the organiser has failed to screen African Films, Retrospective, Tribute and Focus sections. Only one movie had been screened from two sections.

In response to the question related to the failure the organisers blamed the restriction created by Bangladesh Film Censor Board. Director of the Festival Committee, Ahmed Muhtaba Zamil said, "We

have been arranging the festival regularly. In the previous nine occasions we had never faced such bureaucratic restrictions, never had we paid for censorship clearance to the board for arranging the festival. Like the previous years we also approached the Ministry of Information for special consideration, but we had not get any positive response."

"Moreover, we did not get censorship clearance in time. Which is why we could not give the schedule of the festival in press. That is the reason behind unsatisfactory turnout," said Zamil.

"In fact, the government should immediately form a guideline

related to film screening, especially in case of arranging international film festivals. Otherwise, it is not possible to organise an international standard festival in the country," added Zamil.

Zamil also said that keeping the experience of this year's festival Rainbow Film Society would be able to arrange a better festival next time.

The award giving ceremony was held on yesterday at the National Museum Auditorium.

Iranian movie *Kargaran Mashghouleh Karand* (Men at Work), directed by Mani Haghighi won the International Jury Award at the Australasian Competition section, the main competition section of the festival. Bangladeshi movie *Mad, e in Bangladesh*, directed by Mostafa Sarwar Farooki, won the Special Mention at the same section.

Sri Lankan film *Sankara*, directed by Prasanna Jayakody won the International Critics Prize provided by International Film Critics Federation (FIPRESCI) Jury.

Bangladeshi movie *Ghani*, directed by Kazi Morshed Best Film Award awarded by SIGNIS, a Belgium based organisation. Malaysian movie *Cinta*, directed by Kabir Bhatia won the Special Mention at the same category.

*Rupkothar Golpo*, directed by Tauqir Ahmed won Audience Award, which was awarded by the survey doney of the organiser.

The festival was arranged by Rainbow Film Society in association with European Union, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Royal Norwegian Embassy, SIGNIS, Religion Today Film Festival and GMG Airlines.

## Blue waves of Buriganga

Arif's admirable endeavour in water-colour

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Arif Al Karim Bhuiyan, who has his solo watercolour display at the Zoom Gallery, Alliance Francaise, was praised by the chief guest Rafiqun Nabi and Moinuddin Khalid. Jacques Bounin, the deputy director of Alliance Francaise, also spoke of the artist in glowing terms at the recent opening.

Rafiqun Nabi said that he admired the young



Sample of art work by Arif Al Karim Bhuiyan

painter for making the large pieces with watercolour, when it is difficult to do so, unless one is an expert. Nabi said that in his youth the artist's late father and the rest of the group at the Art College, marvelled at the shades of blue found in his father's palette. The fact that Arif is continuing with the tradition, said, Nabi, by sticking to shades of ultramarine, cobalt and turquoise, especially in the painting that was labelled as homage to his father, was superb.

It is not only that Arif is continuing with the tradition of blue watercolours -- and offsetting them with contrasting reds, greens and browns, with the requisite black and white -- he also paints for the preservation of the Buriganga River scenario.

Arif, who lived in the vicinity of the Buriganga, and studied at the Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts, is seeped with the beauty of the sky, river, buildings, people, and the numerous vehicles that are found on the bank of Buriganga and on the waves of that important water expanse. Thus boats, steamers, lorries, tankers, cars, buses, temples and multi-storied houses are all included in the focus. This is as if someone were looking at the river not only from a bird's eye view, but also from various angles, taking in the people and places with exact precision.

Moinuddin Khalid pointed out that the somewhat child-like perspective is on purpose. This is in order to maintain the freshness of the artist's vision. When one is confronted with the complexities of the styles and mediums of the artists, with computerised screen touches, development from photographs and what you will, the pristine vision and mode of art is indeed a welcome change. Not all the paintings appear naive as some can pass for the sophisticated presentation of master painters from Bangladesh too.

Arif, who has widely travelled in Europe, with his father who was a draughtsman in Germany, compares Buriganga to the River Thames, and hopes that this waterway too will be rescued in time, with effort and imagination.

The exhibition ends on January 21.

## Oprah Winfrey and Discovery to create new cable network

Oprah Winfrey, the daytime talk show diva whose media empire also includes a television production company, radio show, magazine, popular website and other ventures, will soon be getting her own television network.

Winfrey and Discovery Communications said last Tuesday that they would jointly create OWN, the Oprah Winfrey Network, a cable television channel to make its debut in 2009 on what is now the Discovery Health Channel. Discovery Health is available in more than 70 million homes.

The new channel will not initially carry *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, the top-rated syndicated daytime talk show featuring Winfrey as host. But Winfrey said that she had the option to end that show in 2010 or 2011 and could move the talk show to the new channel then.

"Eventually that will happen, we hope," Winfrey said in a conference call with reporters last Tuesday.

The venture will be half owned by Discovery, of Silver Spring, Md, and half by Harpo Inc, Winfrey's production company, which is based in Chicago. Winfrey will serve as chairwoman of the network, which will have full editorial control over the joint venture and will be responsible for its "programming, branding and creative vision," the companies said.

In addition to continuing her syndicated talk show, Winfrey said she would also continue to produce programming for other outlets. A new reality show, *Oprah's Big Give*, is scheduled to begin on ABC in March.

Discovery and Harpo said the new venture involved no additional cash investment, but that Winfrey would contribute her Harpo.com website to the company. This is not Winfrey's first foray into television programming. She was an initial investor in the Oxygen cable channel in 1998, but she soon cut many of her ties to that company.

Asked about the difference between Oxygen, which was sold to NBC in October for \$925 million, and the latest venture, Winfrey said Oxygen "did not reflect my voice." That assertion is subject to interpretation, however, Winfrey was host of a 12-part series called *Oprah Goes Online* on Oxygen. The show was sort of a primer on the Internet. She also was frequently



referred to as a co-founder of the channel in news reports at the time.

"I was not a participant in the development of the channel," she said. "That's why after a couple of board meetings I took myself off the board."

With the Oprah Winfrey Network, "I will have editorial control," she said. "I have a vision for what we want to accomplish with this network."

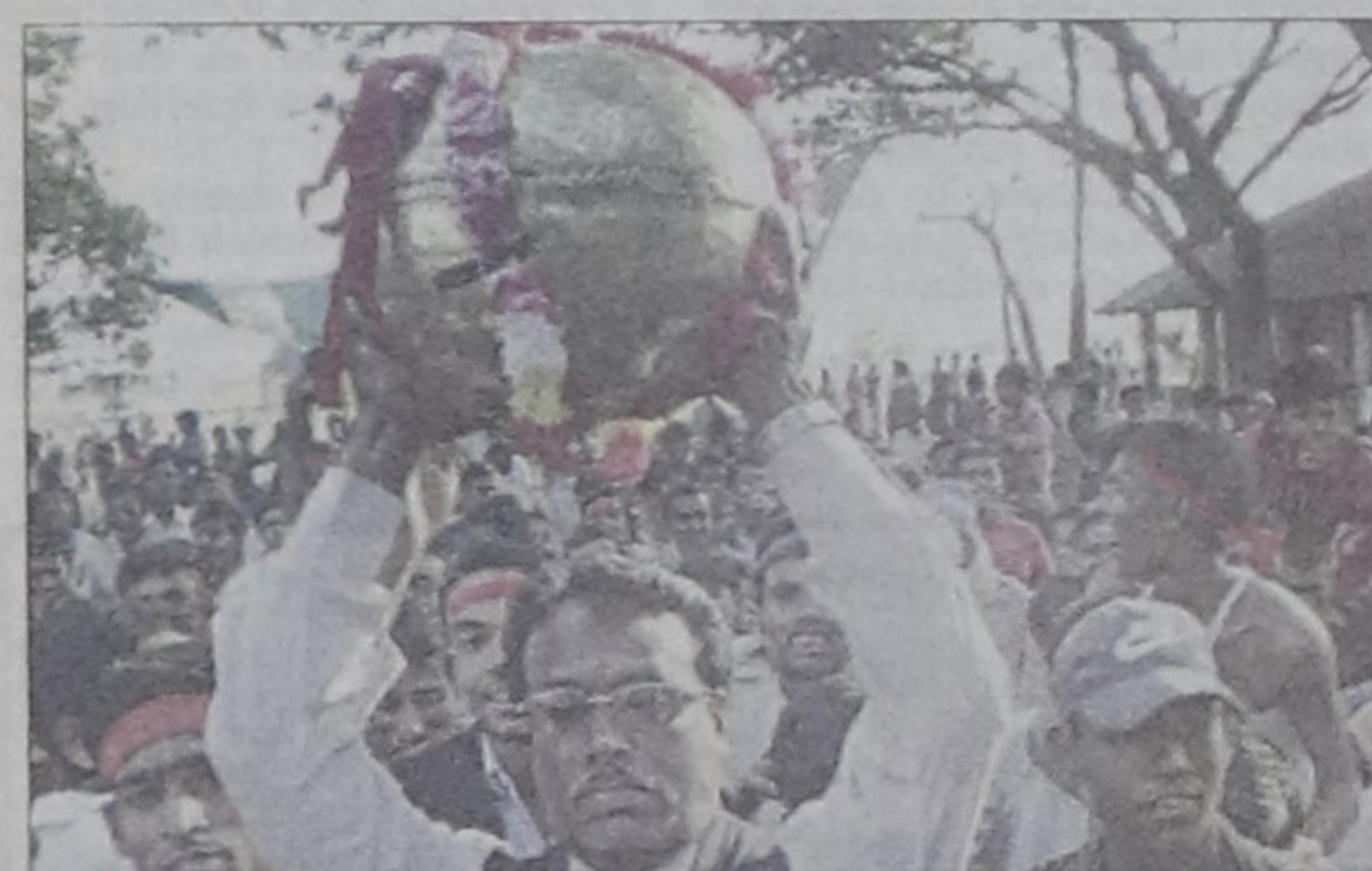
David Zaslav, president and chief executive of Discovery Communications, said that he and Winfrey would immediately begin a search for a chief executive for the Oprah Winfrey Network.

Source: Internet

## "Homeguti Khela": A traditional game marked with festivity

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

The two-century-old traditional "Homeguti Khela" was recently held at the Boroia field in Laxmipur village, Phulbaria Upazila, some 16 kilometer away from the district



A scene from the game

town. Thousands of enthusiastic people from near and far thronged the venue and enjoyed the game. According to the organisers, the sport is held annually.

President of Homeguti Khela Smriti Sangsad, A.B. Siddique,

inaugurated the game. Among others, local Union Parishad Chairman, Ashiqul Haque, was present at the event.

"Homeguti Khela" (the game requires hiding the guti, a brass ball) is played on the last day of the Bengali month, Poush, every year. The day is locally known as "Pahura" or "Poush Sangkranti" and is celebrated by the local people.

Residents of several villages of the upazila, form a group and participate in the game. The guti or brass ball, weighing around 30 kilograms, is hidden by a group, which another group has to locate. The winning team is accorded a reception in Laxmipur village. The game does not end until the guti is found. Last year the game continued for eight hours straight and was eventually found in the Vitubari village, close to Muktagacha Upazila. Once the game continued for ten days at a stretch.



Singer Zahid Hasan performs at a solo ghazal evening organised by 'Shudhaswar', a social organisation in Bogra. The programme was recently held at the Community Development Library (CDL) auditorium, Bogra

## ON AIR

## PICK OF THE DAY



## College Student

On Rtv at 8:00 pm

Single Episode TV play

Cast: Chanchal Chowdhury, Chhonda



## Eraser

On Zee Studio at 11:00 pm

Genre: Action/Thriller

Cast: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Vanessa Williams

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, 6:00 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

BTV

08:45 Esho Gaan Shikhi

11:15 Swadesh/Desh-er Gaan

11:30 Shukhi Ponbaer

12:05 Agun Jhara Shondhya

12:30 Talk Show

01:30 Mati O Manush

02:15 Sisimpur

02:40 Bangla Feature Film

05:25 Debate

06:25 Selected Programme

06:50 Amader Mukhtijudho

07:25 Shei Din-er Katha

08:30 Documentary

Programme: Amar Bangladesh

09:00 Drama: Taka

10:30 Amader Katha

11:00 Talk Show: Date Line Dhaka

CHANNEL i

08: