

CULTURAL FEAST

Reminiscence

On K.M. Sobhan
Organiser: Bangladesh-Rush Moiri Samiti
Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Date: January 24
Time: 5:30 pm

On Wahidul Haq
Organiser: Konthoshlon
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag
Date: January 23
Time: 7 pm

Felicitation

To poet Syed Shamsul Haq and cultural programme
Organiser: Amra Surjomukhi
Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum
Date: January 25
Time: 5 pm

Premiere Show of Video Documentary

Title: In search of Heritage
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (new) Dhanmondi
Date: January 23
Time: 4 pm

Sculpture and Art Exhibition

Title: Brave World of Structure
Artist: Ivy Zaman
Venue: Shilpakala Gallery, House 28, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: January 19-February 2
Time: 12pm-5pm

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: Gallani Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: January 18-29
Time: 11am-8pm

The Making of Kuhu Art

Artist: Kuhu
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi R/A
Date: January 18-February 15
Time: 10am-8pm

Dance Festival

Organiser: Nityanchal
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Dance Drama: Teen Koryar Daan
Dance Troupe: Nityanchal
Date: January 25
Time: 6:30 pm

Dance Drama: Bhanushingher Podaboli
Dance Troupe: Bhabna
Date: January 26
Time: 6:30 pm

Dance Drama: Parjeyi
Dance Troupe: Sukalyan and Entourage
Date: January 27
Time: 6:30 pm

Dance Drama: Mohua
Dance Troupe: Nityanchal
Date: January 28
Time: 7:00 pm

Promoting the heritage of handicrafts



Handicrafts on display



CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A remarkable handicraft exhibition organised by Ecota Fair Trade Ltd. opened at Drik Gallery on January 21. In it one found varieties of displays ranging from bronze and wood wall hangings to superb silk quilts -- nakshi kantha -- with delicate stitches. One also saw pink, gold and red fabric bolts from various far-flung regions of the Chittagong Hill Tracts to sophisticated vegetable dye products from Aranya. Kumudini, Gram Mati and other well-known handicraft outlets.

Theatre

Padatik Natya Sangsad celebrates its 30th anniversary

NADIA SARWAT

On January 21, Padatik Natya Sangsad Bangladesh arranged a daylong event at the National Theatre stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, to mark its 30th anniversary. The event included an inaugural session, exhibition of props from the different productions of Padatik, a cultural programme, certificate giving ceremony and staging of the popular play, Jolbalika.



Cultural activists at the inaugural session

The theatre group started their journey with the motto 'Let drama be the weapon of struggles in life' in 1978. Shojan Badiyar Ghat, Maa, Monosha Pala, Chandraboti, Choitonney Droho and Chakkar are some of their memorable productions. Padatik has also staged a number of popular street plays.

The event was inaugurated with songs from different productions of Padatik. Golam Kuddus, general secretary, Sammito Sanskritik Jote; Tamanna Rahman, director of the dance organisation Nrityam; Mizanur Rahman, general secretary of Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad; M. Hamid, chairperson of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and others spoke at the session.

In the evening, a cultural programme was held. Ami juyey juyey ashichhi, Ei amader maa and other popular numbers from different plays were presented by the Padatik Musical group, headed by singer Nargis Chowdhury. Eminent cultural personality Ramendu Majumdar was the chief guest at the session.

Ramendu Majumdar congratulated the theatre group on their anniversary. He said, "Padatik's latest production Jolbalika can be inspirational. The social consciousness, which we find in this play, is a key element in theatre."

Students of the 2007 batch then conferred a maan-potro (panegyric) to the convener of Padatik Natya Sangsad, Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury. The chief guest then gave away certificates among the students.

The event ended with the staging of Jolbalika. Written by Masum Reza and directed by Shamsul Alam Bakul, the play is set against a rural background where the river plays a significant role in the lives of the characters. The story develops with an exciting nouka baich (boat race) where Joy Baul, the popular village singer introduces his daughter as his successor. The playwright addresses the ills in the rural society such as gender inequality.

Public memorial programme for Selim Al Deen

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A public memorial programme for renowned dramatist Selim Al Deen was held at the Central Shaheed Minar on January 21. Shamilto Sanskritik Jote, a common platform for cultural organisations, arranged the event.

Educationalist Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury chaired the programme. Noted cultural personalities Ramendu Majumdar, Syed Shamsul Haq, Atiqul Haque Chowdhury, Mamunur Rashid, Nasiruddin Yousuff, M. Hamid, Pijush Bandyopadhyay, Shimul Yousuf, Sara Zaker, Professor Afsar Ahmed, Milon Kanti Dey, Mannan Heera and others spoke at the programme. Meherunnesa Selim, the widow of the late dramatist, expressed her grief. Golam Kuddus, general secretary of Shamilto Sanskritik Jote, was the host of the programme.

The programme began with a rendition of the Tagore song Jibono jokhono shukaye jay performed by Mita Haque. A discussion on Al Deen's contribution to the Bangladeshi theatre followed. After

Rabindranath Tagore, Selim Al Deen is the only playwright in Bangla literature who developed a theatre theory and successfully applied it in his plays, said the discussants. His plays have enriched the post-colonial Bangla literature. His plays have been staged around the world.

A trendsetter, a theoretician, a dramatist, an educator, a theatre organiser, a philosopher and a freedom fighter -- Selim Al Deen passed away on January 14. He was buried at Jahangirnagar University campus.



Eminent cultural personalities at the programme

Bangladesh Writers Foundation honours literary personalities

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate its 11th anniversary, Bangladesh Writers Foundation arranged a programme at the Liberation War Museum Auditorium on January 21. Noted writer-translator Saleha Chowdhury was given the Writers Foundation Literary award 2007 at the event. Sinha M.A. Sayeed, Mizan Rahman, Tahmina Quraishi and Golam Mohammad received the Best Book Awards for their contribution to literature.



National Professor Kabir Chowdhury (C), writer Saleha Chowdhury (R) seen with other guests at the event

National Professor Kabir Chowdhury was the chief guest, while Poet Abu Bakar Siddiqui and Sajjad Qadir were special guests at the event. Prottoy Jasim, president of Bangladesh Writers Foundation, presided over the programme. A one-minute silence was observed for the recently deceased playwright Selim Al Deen.

"Initiated at a friendly gathering at the Modhur canteen, DU campus, Bangladesh writers Foundation works for the development of Bengali literature and culture. Our efforts are perhaps limited but we believe it is significant," Prottoy Jasim said in his welcome speech.

The winner of this year's literary award, Saleha Chowdhury, completed her Master's degree in Bengali Literature from Dhaka University and joined the institution as a research assistant. In the 70's

Saleha Chowdhury emerged as a talented writer. The expatriate writer has received several awards for her works. Binni Dhaner Khois her most celebrated work.

Poets Rabindra Gope, Aslam Sani, Ayat Ali Patwari, Syed Ahmed Ali Aziz, Aniruddha Delwar, Dildar Hossain and others recited their poems.



Artists Tinku Das(R) and Babita Das(extreme left) paint as singer Nupur Chhanda Ghosh (C) performs Bangla songs of the 19th century. The programme was held at the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts on January 21

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Abdthurey
On Channel-i at 8:20 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Ishita, Al Mamun

Shunyo Pata
On Banglavision at 9:45 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Abul Hayat, Dr Ejaz

Table with columns for channel, time, and program details for various TV networks like BTV, Channel-i, ntv, and Rtv.

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