

CULTURAL FEAST

Ekushey Book Fair

Venue: Bangla Academy
Date: February 1-29
Time: 4pm onwards
11:00am onwards on weekly holidays

Theatre Festival

To mark the 30th anniversary
Group: Samay Natyadal
Venue: National Theatre Stage
Date: February 8-16
Time: 6:30pm
February 10
Play: Punurujibon
Group: Anik (India)
February 11
Play: Shikhandi Kolha
Group: Mahakal Nasya Sampradaya

International Art Exhibition

Organiser: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh
Venue: Auditorium, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, 5 Old Secretariat Road, Nirmal, Ramna
Date: February 9-24
Time: 2pm-8pm

Cultural Programme

Organiser: Sammilito Sanskritik Jote
Title: Ekush Achhey Joyoddhoto Ekush Banchey Obiroto
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar
Date: February 9-19
Time: 4:30pm-9pm

Fine Arts and Handicrafts Fair

Organiser: Greater Mymensingh Fine Arts Coordination Forum
Venue: Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrashala, Shaheb Quarter Park, Mymensingh
Date: February 1-14

Photography Exhibition

to mark 65th anniversary of Battle of Stalingrad
Organiser: Russian Centre for Science and Culture
Venue: Russian Centre for Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Date: February 6-14
Time: 10 am-7 pm (except Friday & Saturday)

Title: Studying Life
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: February 1-15
Time: 3-8 pm

Title: Love & Affection
Artist: Anukul Mojumder
Venue: Shilpangan, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: February 7-18
Time: 10am-1pm and 5pm-8pm

Title: Nobiner Ditiyo Jatra
Venue: Words and Pages, 125, Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-2
Date: February 4-10
Time: 11am-8pm

Organiser: Nityaupahar
Title: Uthrupadi Bomomala
Venue: Gallery Nityaupahar, Aziz Super Market, Shahbag
Date: February 7-29
Time: 10am-8pm

Organiser: School of Creative Art Gallery
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: February 5-11
Time: 3pm-8pm

Title: Nobiner Ditiyo Jatra
Venue: Words and Pages, 125, Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-2
Date: February 4-10
Time: 11am-8pm

Organiser: Nityaupahar
Title: Uthrupadi Bomomala
Venue: Gallery Nityaupahar, Aziz Super Market, Shahbag
Date: February 7-29
Time: 10am-8pm

Ekushey programmes by Sammilito Sanskritik Jote

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Every year, the nation observes February 21 by paying homage to the martyrs of the Language Movement. To mark the occasion Sammilito Sanskritik Jote (SSJ) has arranged a 10-day long special programme at the Central Shaheed Minar premises.

SSJ, a common platform for cultural organisations, has been holding special programmes in February every year, since 1983. Hundreds of organisations from all over the country participate at the programme.

The inauguration of this year's programme was held on February 8. Language Movement veteran Professor Rafiqul Islam inaugurated the

programme. The slogan of this year's programme is "Ekush Achhey Joyoddhoto -- Ekush Banchey Obiroto".

The event started with placing wreaths at the Shaheed Minar by members of SSJ. A one-minute silence was observed in the memory of the Language Movement martyrs.

A group rendition of the National Anthem was presented by members of Chhayanat, Shurirha, Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Parishad and Anondo Dhoni. That was followed by a rendition of *Amar bhai-er roktye rangano Ekushey February*.

The welcome speech was given by Golam Kuddus, general secretary, SSJ. Kuddus said that when internal affairs are concerned, Bangla

should always be given the first priority. English and other languages should be preferred in international affairs.

In his speech, Professor Rafiqul Islam brought to light the issues our language faces nowadays. He emphasised on generating public awareness on distortion of Bangla in the media. Professor Islam also urged for the proper practise of Bangla in private universities. He appealed to the parents to teach their children proper Bangla.

Cultural personality Ramendu Majumder said that apart from promoting and upholding Bangla, safeguarding the languages of the indigenous communities in our country is also important.

Among others, media personality Asaduzzaman Noor, Mizanur Rahman, general secretary, Bangladesh Pothanotok Parishad and Jhuna Chowdhury, secretary general, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation were presented at the programme. Nasiruddin Yousuff, president of SSJ, presided over the session.

In between the speeches recitations were performed by Akamullah, Laila Afroze and Naila Tarannum Kakoli.

A cultural programme followed. Children's organisation Kendriyo Khela Ghor Ashor presented dance and Shafiqul Alam Raja rendered songs.

The event ended with two street plays -- *Ora Notun Beshey* by Mohakal Nasya Shomproday and *Uttori* by Oboboy Natyodal.

The programmes at Shaheed Minar will continue till February 19. SSJ will also hold special programmes at two other venues -- Rabindra Sarobar, Dhanmondi (from February 15-21) and at the Mirpur Outdoor Stadium (from February 17-23). The programmes will start from 4:30 pm and will continue till 9:00 pm.



Professor Rafiqul Islam speaks at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

Banglalink Desh Music Fest '08 in Chittagong



PHOTO: STAR

Band members raise their hands promising to resist drugs and corruption

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Music lovers of the port city enjoyed rock and pop music at the MA Aziz Stadium last Friday. The occasion, 'Banglalink Desh Music Fest 2008', was an initiative in aid of the Sidr victims. Six popular bands, acclaimed singer Haider Husyn and the new sensation Shirin, who is originally from Chittagong, entertained the huge crowd at the six-hour long concert. Over 30,000 people gathered at the show, organisers speculated.

Banglalink, one of the largest mobile phone operators in the country, organised the concert to raise funds for the victims of the devastating Cyclone Sidr that left many homeless.

Proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Chief Adviser's relief fund, organisers said.

Channel-i, Radio Today, amadegaan.com and Carnival joined hands with Banglalink in the

effort.

The crowd did not have to wait long as the concert kicked off at around 3:00 pm. Popular TV presenter Abdur Nur Tushar uttered, "O bhai aana Chantgainya nawjowan, doijyar kulat bashat gar, sina di thekai jhar tuwan" (O brother we are the Chittagongian youth, making home by the sea, ready to face the waves and storms).

Sustain was the first band to perform. The group performed their songs including *Pabitra prem* and *Aami hoye jabo Akash*.

Shirin of Panjabiwala fame, was next on the stage. The artist, who is currently based in London, was not scheduled to perform but did not turn down the request of the organisers.

Sumon and his band Aurthohin performed *Tumi bhorecho*, *Tomar jonyonay and Jochhana*.

Hyder Husyn entertained the audience with five of his songs

including *Muktijoddha*, *Sarkari officer*, *Faisya gechi*, *Mon ki je chaye bolo* and *Shadinata*.

James with his band Nagar Baul took the stage amidst the dazzle of the flare lights just after dark. Nagar Baul performed *Diwana diwana*, *Dusto chheler dal*, *Beder meye* and *Pagla haawa*. James ended the performance with his popular Hindi song *Bhigi bhigi*.

Renowned rock musician Ayub Bachchu thanked the organisers and the audience for lending a hand to the Sidr victims.

The seasoned musicians of the band Miles started their performance with *Jala*. That was followed by *Chand tara shurjo*, *Neela*, *Jatyo sangeer-er ditiyo line* and *Phiriy dao*.

Ayub Bachchu and his band LRB were the last to perform. LRB performed its new song -- *Tomakey duar thekey dekchhi*.

Theatre Samay Natya Utsab begins

ERSHAD KAMOL

The nine-day Samay Natya Utsab was inaugurated on February 8 by theatre personality Ramendu Majumder at the National Theatre Stage. The festival marks the 30th anniversary of theatre troupe Samay Sanskritik Goshthi. Six local and two Indian troupes will stage nine plays at the festival.

The festival is dedicated to the memory of Selim Al Deen. The inauguration programme began

with paying homage to the recently deceased theatre icon. Dance troupe Nriydhara staged a dance performance with the Tagore song *Aguner paroshmoni*.

Convenor of the festival, Aktaruzzaman said, "The 30th anniversary programme was scheduled for last year, but because of Sidr we had to reschedule the festival."

Labelling Samay Sanskritik Goshthi as one of the leading theatre troupes of the country, Ramendu Majumder said, "Since

1977, Samay Sanskritik Goshthi has been very active in street theatre. It has also staged a good number of full-fledged theatre productions, which feature diverse social issues."

Speaking on Selim Al Deen, Majumder said, "We should study his plays minutely. I believe through his plays Al Deen emerged as a philosopher."

Majumder added, "Organisers usually face bureaucratic issues when inviting artists from overseas. We hope the current government will consider the issue."

Prior to the staging of *Nimajjon*, the first play at the festival, director Nasiruddin Yousuff, said, "Nimajjon presents a chronological look at genocides that have taken place around the world." According to the play, the history of civilisation and genocides are interwoven.

Today's play "Punorujibon"

As part of the theatre festival arranged by Samay, Indian troupe Anik will stage *Punorujibon* today at the National Theatre Stage.

An adaptation of Ibsen's *When We Dead Awaken*, *Punorujibon* features the internal and external conflicts between a renowned sculptor and his model.

Amallesh Chakrabarti has adapted and directed the play.



Dance troupe Nriydhara perform at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

Call to ensure right to mother tongue

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

Speakers at a recent discussion said that the government is prepared to initiate primary education in mother languages of the 13 indigenous communities living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), which is mandatory as per the 'CHT Peace Accord'. The present government has all the intentions of implementing the programme, they said.

Speakers said this at a prize-giving programme at the Tribal Cultural Institute (TCI) in Khagrachhari.

Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) Chairman Monindra Lal Tripura was present as the chief guest.

Education in mother tongue is important for ensuring quality schooling, increasing children's ability to learn, making the children aware of their own language and traditions, decreasing school dropouts and increasing attendance in schools, they added.

Among others, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Mohammad Rashed Hassan, Upazila Primary Education Officer Shafiqul Islam Sarker, Dr. Shahid Talukder and Headmaster of Khagrachhari Model Primary School Kabir Ahmed were present.

Prior to the discussion, an art competition was held at the venue. Over 100 students from different educational institutions took part in the competition.

Manipuri Museum Inaugurated in Sylhet



PHOTO: STAR

Members of Academy for Manipuri Culture and Arts perform at the event

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Integrated Manipuri Association (IMA) recently inaugurated the Manipuri Museum at Subidbazar, Sylhet. Deputy Commissioner Harun Ur Rashid Khan formally inaugurated the museum. Eminent personalities from the Manipuri community were present at the event.

Later, a discussion was held at the Saifur Rahman Auditorium. Thongam Dhiren Singh chaired the programme. AK Sheram, former chairman of IMA; Mozammel Haque, additional Deputy

Commissioner (Rev) and Arosh Ali, president of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Sylhet unit spoke on the occasion. From the Indian State of Manipur, Mrituwa Bahadur, director of Mrituwa museum in Manipur State, India; Dr. K. Sushila, director of the Manipuri Archives and Premananda Sinha were also present at the event.

The discussants addressed the importance of preserving the rich cultural heritage of all ethnic minority groups in the country. Later, a cultural programme was arranged where the members of IMA and Academy for Manipuri Culture and Arts performed.

Book launch in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Shash Bashi, a novel by Md. Abdul Hakim Jamil, was launched at the Pabna Bonomali Institute auditorium recently. Chief Executive Officer of Pabna Zila Parishad, Md. Sadar Ali Biswas, launched the book as the chief guest. Professor Md. Abdul Karim chaired the event.

Former head of the Bangla Department, Pabna Edward College, Professor Md. Kamruzzaman; President of Pabna Bar Association, MA Matin Miah; Managing Director of Universal Group, Sohoni Hossain and Dr. Sarwar Jahan Foyez spoke at the programme. Speakers at the programme said that literature represents the reality of a society.

The author of *Shash Bashi*, Md. Abdul Hakim Jamil is a Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer in Pabna. After the book was launched, a play -- an adaptation of the novel -- was staged.

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Prothom Shokal On ATN Bangla on 9:20 pm Drama Serial Cast: Tony Daes, Nadia



Shomporko On ntv at 6:45 pm Talk Show Guest: Abdullah Abu Sayeed, Al Monsur

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

ATN BANGLA
08:15 *Ajker Shabdopatra*
08:30 Drama Serial: *Ochin Pakhi*
09:15 Drama Serial: *Amader Nurul Huda*
10:30 *Onyodrishti*
11:05 Drama: *Roshik Gopal*
12:15 *Char Deyal-er Kabjo*
01:30 *Khilar Jogol*
02:30 *Take Care*
03:15 Football

BTV
08:15 *Shuprobhat*
08:45 *Bishwa Bichitra*
11:15 Documentary Programme: *Swadesh/ Desher Bhabna*
11:40 *Kobilar Onushthan*
12:00 Programme: *Maa O Shishur Katha*
12:30 Drama: *Shilpangan*
02:40 Educational Programme
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 *Amader Mon*
04:05 *Geeti Malya*
04:30 Debate
05:05 *Ekush Amar Ohankaar*
07:25 Selected Programme
08:30 *Prolidin Bangladesh*
08:35 Drama Serial: *Shohorer Sheshbari*
09:30 Drama: *Bhitorer Manush*
10:30 Musical Programme: *Shur-er Murchhona*
11:00 Talk Show: *Date Line Dhaka*

CHANNEL i
08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 *Shokaler Gaan*
09:30 *Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh*
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 *Gramsephone Trilomatra*
11:05 *Agolo Tele Prescription*
11:30 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*
12:30 *Citycell Taroka Kathan*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
02:35 Selected Programme
03:30 *BBC Bangladesh Shonglaop*
04:15 *Hidoyer Gaan*
05:30 *Boimela Shorashori*
06:00 Drama Serial: *Alor Khonley Kojana*
06:30 *South Asian*
07:50 *Mega Serial: Ghar Kulum*
08:20 Drama Serial: *Noukadubi*
09:35 *Mega Serial: 420*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Ochena Haol Kontho*
11:30 Drama Serial: *69*
12:00 *Gramsephone Ajker*

05:00 *Gram Gonjer Khabor*
05:45 *The Sword of Tipu Sultan*
06:20 *Three Stooges*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Aloknogor*
08:40 Drama Serial: *Syed Barir Bou*
09:20 Drama Serial: *Prothom Shokal*
11:30 Daily Soap: *Doll's House*
12:00 *Gramsephone Lead News*

CHANNEL 1
08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 *Shokaler Gaan*
09:30 *Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh*
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 *Gramsephone Trilomatra*
11:05 *Agolo Tele Prescription*
11:30 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*
12:30 *Citycell Taroka Kathan*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
02:35 Selected Programme
03:30 *BBC Bangladesh Shonglaop*
04:15 *Hidoyer Gaan*
05:30 *Boimela Shorashori*
06:00 Drama Serial: *Alor Khonley Kojana*
06:30 *South Asian*
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08:20 Drama Serial: *Noukadubi*
09:35 *Mega Serial: 420*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Ochena Haol Kontho*
11:30 Drama Serial: *69*
12:00 *Gramsephone Ajker*

ntv
08:30 *Ajker Shokal*
08:55 *Bangla Feature Film*
12:10 Talk Show: *Ei Shomoy*
01:05 *Japan Video Topic*
02:30 Drama Serial: *Swapnojal*
03:15 Drama: *Tumi Jol*
04:25 *111 A Nelson Number*
05:30 *Appnar Jugyasha*
06:20 *Shubho Shondha*
06:45 Talk Show: *Shomporko*
08:15 Drama Serial: *Shanlokulir*
08:45 *Crime Watch*
09:45 Drama Serial: *Nabila*

Shangbadpotro
11:35 Talk Show: *Ei Shomoy*
08:30 *Ajker Shokal*
08:55 *Bangla Feature Film*
12:10 Talk Show: *Ei Shomoy*
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06:45 Talk Show: *Shomporko*
08:15 Drama Serial: *Shanlokulir*
08:45 *Crime Watch*
09:45 Drama Serial: *Nabila*

CHANNEL 1
08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*
09:15 Selected Programme
10:30 *Bangla Feature Film*
12:00 *Biswa Jurey Saat Din*
03:30 Drama Serial: *Ochena Apon Gaaner Khalat*
04:00 *Cookery Show: Shomporko Swad*
05:15 *Shamprotik*
06:00 *Saabhela*
06:45 *Ami Ki Bhulitay Pari*
07:00 *Shondhikhoney*

ETV
08:00 *Ekush-er Shokal*
12:30 *Special Focus*
01:30 *Ekushey Business: Shophol Jara*
03:30 *Cine Heats*
04:00 *Cartoon*
04:30 *Total Music*
05:15 *Ekatyo Katha*
05:45 *Ekushey Shondhya*
06:15 *SMS Mania*
06:30 *Desh Jurey*

09:05 *Visa Apnar Agami*
09:45 Drama Serial: *Swapnochura*
11:25 Drama Serial: *Shohorer Shesh Bari*
12:00 *Shangbad Prolidin*
08:15 *Chestnut*
09:45 *Big Daddy*
11:20 *Pirates Of The Caribbean: Dead M*
01:55 *Jurassic Park Ii*
03:30 *Pink Panther, The*
05:10 *Sentinel, The*
07:00 *Night At The Museum*
08:50 *Next*
10:30 *Big Daddy*
12:00 *Cruel Intentions 2*

STAR PLUS
09:00 *Shararat*
09:30 *Krishna Kathaiyen*
10:30 *Star Vol Chhote Ustaaad*
01:30 *Saibaba*
02:30 *Jai Maa Durga*
03:30 *Krishna Kathaiyen*
04:30 *Kaho Na Yaar Hai*
05:30 *Star One Special*
07:00 *Star Vol Chhote Ustaaad*
07:30 *Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz*
08:00 *Jai Maa Durga*
08:30 *Saibaba*
09:30 *Prihviraj Chauhan*
10:00 *Baa Bahoo Aur Baby*
10:30 *Aek Chhabhi Hsi Padoss Mein*
11:30 *Jai Maa Durga*
12:05 *Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz*

BANGLAVISION
09:05 Drama Serial: *Pingol Akash*
09:30 *Bangla Feature Film Amader Olifhi*
12:30 Daily Soap: *Shomo Kudir*
03:05 *Nodi O Jibon*
04:20 *Banijyomela Prolidin*
06:05 *Din-er Sheshhey*
10:00 *My Wife And Kids*
10:30 *Two & A Half Men*

STAR WORLD
09:00 *Life With Bonnie*
09:30 *According To Jim*
10:00 *My Wife And Kids*
10:30 *Two & A Half Men*

09:05 *8 Simple Rules*
11:30 *Kyle XY*
12:30 *The O.C.*
01:30 *The Bold And The Beautiful*
03:30 *Desire: Table For Three*
04:30 *The Ellen Degeneres Show*
05:30 *Love You To Death*
06:00 *Travel Asia*
06:30 *Brothers & Sisters*
07:30 *American Inventor*
08:30 *Six Degrees*
09:30 *Desperate Housewives*
10:30 *Heroes*
11:30 *J.A.G.*
12:30 *Vanity Insanity*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
10:30 *Yellowstone*
11:30 *Forest Intruder*
12:30 *Jungle Breakout*
01:30