

## CULTURALFEAST

## Cultural Programme

Organiser: Sammitto Sanskritik Jote  
Title: Ekush Achhey Joydhot  
Ekush Banchey Oborot  
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar  
Date: February 9-19  
Time: 4:30pm-9pm

## Theatre Festival

Marking the 30th anniversary  
Group: Samay Natyadal  
Venue: National Theatre Stage  
Date: February 8-16  
Time: 6:30pm  
February 11  
Play: Shikhandi Koha  
Group: Mahakal Natya Sampradaya  
February 12  
Play: Meraj Fakir Maa  
Group: Theatre

## Documentary Screening

of Harun Farocki (German)  
Organiser: Goethe-Institut  
Bangladesh, Chalachitra Film Society and Zahir Raihan Film Society  
Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi  
February 10-13  
February 11  
4:30 pm Images of the World and the  
Inscriptions of War  
6:00 pm Videograms of a Revolution  
February 12  
4:30 pm Still Life  
6:00 pm Prison Images

## International Art

## Exhibition

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

## Solo Painting

## Exhibition

Title: Image of Time  
Artist: Asif-Uz-Zaman  
Venue: Centre for Photography & Visual Arts, 2022, Zakir Hossain Road, Nasirabad, Khulshi, Chittagong  
Date: February 10-15  
Time: 10am-1pm and 4pm-8pm

## Photography Exhibition

Marking the 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: Dr. K. G. House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi  
Date: February 1-15  
Time: 3-8 pm

## Solo Painting

## Exhibition

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

## Art Exhibition

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

## Exhibition

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

## Exhibition at Asiatic Society's art gallery



Artworks by Saffuddin Ahmed (L) and Zainul Abedin on display

FAIZA HAQ

**S**PEAKING at the inauguration of the Mother Language Day Art Exhibition at the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh Gallery of Fine Arts, Professor SMA Faiz, VC of Dhaka University said that the Asiatic Society is something to be admired. It welcomed many artists from overseas, and this particular exhibition is a hub of many cultures, said Professor Faiz.

Art critic Professor Nazrul Islam said, "This is a pioneer work in terms of setting up a permanent gallery. The exhibition marks the International Mother Language Day and there are participants from as many as eight countries, including Bangladesh. Although organised within a short time, the participants represent the subcontinent and beyond. The artworks of Zainul Abedin, Saffuddin Ahmed, Qamrul Hassan, SM Sultan and Mohammed Kibria are representations from Bangladesh. The display also features paintings of Bikram Shah from Nepal and other artists from South Asia and Europe."

Asiatic Society has always been a patron of art, literature and history, said Professor Nazrul Islam. The permanent gallery, even though it is limited in nature, will encourage people to come and appreciate fine arts, he said. The other two permanent galleries are the ones at the National Museum and the Shilpakala Gallery. He added that as the gallery is located at the breakpoint between the old and new city, it should attract many viewers. Several members of the society are themselves painters of repute, like Muratja Baseer and Hamiduzzaman Khan.

Eminent artist Hamiduzzaman Khan said that he had worked with the Asiatic Society for seven years, along with others like Qayyum Chowdhury, Rafiqun Nabi and Ivy Zaman. In the process, he said, he managed to collect many works by senior artists for the gallery. He added that in the field of fine arts, Bangladesh was ahead of many in South Asia.

Senior painter Qayyum Chowdhury said that to be able to exhibit at the Asiatic Society Gallery was a credit and honour for artists.



Mahfuza Khanum of the Asiatic Society said that the institution focused on fine arts and artworks by 35 artists from USA, UK, Germany, Spain, India, Malaysia and Greece that had been collected for the display.

Zainul Abedin's work is represented by the seated woman in her red striped sari, dreaming of her beloved. Saffuddin Ahmed's painting brings in a carpenter. An overwhelmingly large watercolour by SM Sultan conveys the dreams that the artist had for the prosperity of the country. A pensive woman is depicted by Qayyum Chowdhury while Abdul Basset's piece is also a stylised one. Fascinating lines enter Monirul Islam's semi-abstract work. Gold and blue dominate Syed Jahangir's depiction of women winnowing in the countryside.

The works of Clare Mitten from UK, Georgia Grigoriadou from Greece, Uttam Nepali, an impressionist artist, currently exhibiting in USA and Suzzee Ibrahim from Malaysia are also there to be admired.

The exhibition ends on February 24.

## Pitha Uthshab at TSC

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The 15th annual *Pitha Uthshab*, organised by the NGO Drishti, was held at the TSC Cafeteria, Dhaka University (DU) on February 9. Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique of DU was present as chief guest and the special guests were Golam Kuddus, general secretary of Sammitto Sanskritik Jote; writer Mitai Hussain and theatre personality and chairman of Drishti, Atiqul Haque Chowdhury.

About a dozen contestants, mostly housewives, displayed 52 *pitha*, including the familiar ones like *patishapta*, *bhapa*, *nakshi*, *doodh chitot*, *chancher puli*, *haath shemai*, *taaler bora*, *malpoa* and the not-so-familiar ones like *shurjomukhi*, *roshgolap*, *chandra puli*, *kanthal*



A variety of delectable pitha

*pata*, *khir pakon*, *jhinuk pitha*, *kanloti rosher pitha*, *lobongo lotika*, *ilish pitha*, *chirar pitha* and many more.

Speeches were delivered by Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Mitai Hussain, Atiqul Haque Chowdhury, Golam Kuddus and singer Iffat Ara Nargis. The contestants also spoke briefly.

Drishti hoped that the government would support primary and secondary level schools in teaching students about traditional food through cultural programmes.

Other attractions at the programme included folk songs rendered by artists of Drishti. The programme concluded with awarding the two best contestants—Afsana Akter Khushi for *kanloti rosher pitha* and Sultana Poppy for *ilish pitha*.

## Play highlighting negligence in health care



A scene from the play Banchey Chai

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sathkira

Sachetan Nagarik Committee, the Sathkira unit of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), recently held a cultural programme to generate awareness among the people to fight against corruption in the country.

A play titled, *Banchey Chai* (Want to Survive) was staged at the Sathkira Pourasabha Auditorium. The event was inaugurated by Sathkira Police Super, Mirza Abdullah Baki. Artists of Gana Natya Dal staged the play.

The play depicts how corruption and mismanagement at the government hospitals and health centres are depriving the people -- mainly the poor -- of proper medical services. The issue of wrong treatments and negligence by the physicians at the government hospitals claiming lives of the patients was addressed in the play.

Actors Masud, Rebeka, Samir, Moyeen, Selina, Rima, Shukdev, Babu, Munna, Shushanta, Habib, Mahadev and others performed in the play.

Samay Theatre Festival '08  
Amalesh Chakraborti: Highlighting socio-political issues in plays

ERSHAD KAMOL

At the ongoing theatre festival arranged by Samay Shanskritik Goshthi, Kolkata-based troupe Anik staged *Punorujjibon*, an adaptation of Ibsen's play *When We Dead Awaken*, yesterday. The troupe will stage the play in Chittagong tomorrow. Earlier Anik participated at two theatre festivals in Bangladesh in 1999 and 2000. On the occasion of *Punorujjibon* being staged, *The Daily Star* spoke with playwright-director Amalesh Chakraborti, the chief of Anik.

Chakraborti informed that his troupe Anik was formed in 1988. So far Anik has staged 13 plays; all plays written by Chakraborti. He is also the director of Anik's current production *Punorujjibon*. Rest of the Anik productions are directed by Malay Biswas.

On an average, the troupe stages six shows a month. Moreover, Anik gets a grant from the West Bengal Government. The troupe is also

involved in development works with ethnic minorities in India. Said Chakraborti, "We are working with the Santal and Oraon communities. We are helping them in staging their ritualistic artforms for the urban audience."

Born in Noakhali, Bangladesh, Chakraborti migrated to Kolkata at an early age, along with his family during the Partition. He got involved in political and cultural activities while he was a student.

Amalesh Chakraborti has written over 20 plays. Most of these are original works and rest are adaptations or translations -- mostly of Russian plays.

On the reason behind adapting/ translating Russian plays, Chokroborti said, "I find similarities between the socio-political scenario depicted in the Russian plays and that of contemporary Kolkata. Particularly, I find the reflection of my political views in these plays. Even, in my original plays, I focus on socio-political issues."



Amalesh Chakraborti

"These productions have been well-received by the audience in Kolkata, as the people are politically conscious," he added.

For his contribution to theatre Amalesh Chokroborti has received several awards including Natya Academy Award, provided by the West Bengal Government.

## Milestone for the Bangladesh Music Industry



(L-R) Abu Raihan, Habib, Balam and Joshua Wayes Ahmed

Bangladeshi music has been introduced into the world's largest digital music market iTunes, says a press release. Now that it is being distributed on a global scale, people from every country has access to Bangladeshi music. Albums such as Habib's *Panjabiwala*, Balam's self-titled album, Arnob's *Hok Kolorob* and Ashiq's *Ashiq O Ekota* are among the first to be currently available on iTunes. This step was taken by ICE Technologies to promote Bangladeshi music internationally and to take an active stand against music piracy. Habib and Balam were present, along with Joshua Wayes Ahmed, head of operations and Abu Raihan, manager of IT, of ICE Technologies, at the programme.

## Flute performance at Chhayananat

NADIA SARWAT

Noted flute artiste Murtuza Kabir Murad and his students performed at the Chhayananat Sanskriti Bhaban on February 9. The programme featured classical notes on *banshi* (bamboo flute).

With a profound inclination towards music, Murad started with *tabla* in 1985. He learnt *tabla* under the tutelage of Ustad Khandaker Khairul Alam for ten years. But the alluring tune of flute fascinated him more and he started taking flute lessons from Ustad Alauddin. Since then, he has dedicated himself to the instrument.

Acknowledging the need of a well-made flute for an artiste, Murad started making bamboo flutes himself. His flutes are now quite well-accepted by the artistes of the country and abroad.

"From the very beginning, I felt that learning flute can be challenging in our country. I tried to devise an easier way to learn flute and expand the scopes of this particular art form," said the flutist in his welcome speech at the event.

The event began with a group rendition of the song *Amar bhai-er roktey rangano Ekushey February*, as a tribute to the martyrs of the Language Movement. It was followed by a performance by Ariya

Sulola, a diplomat from the European Commission (EC) who has been training under Murad.

Shantanu from India; Nishat Afroze, architect and lecturer at the Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology; Andrea Rodriguez from CARE Bangladesh; Masum Billah and other students of Murad also performed at the programme. The renditions included *Raga Miyaki Malhar*, *Bhairav*, *Brindabani sharang*, *Jog* and more.

Muhammed Ali Naqi, Chairman, Department of Architecture,

Stamford University rendered *Raga Megh*, accompanied by electronic instruments without changing the classical format of the composition. Eight-year-old Noirita on keyboard and Muhammed Ali Nafi on electric guitar seemed quite comfortable performing with their father, Naqi.

Murtuza Kabir Murad was the last to perform. Demonstrating his mastery over the flute, the artiste rendered *Raga Chandrakosh* and a *dhun* in *Raga Pilu*. Swarup Hossain accompanied Murad on *tabla*.



Murtuza Kabir Murad (3-R, front row) and his students perform at the programme

## ON AIR

## PICK OF THE DAY



Channel-i Exclusive  
On Channel-i at 6:00 pm  
Interview with David Milliband  
Host: Sonia Bashir Kabir



Saw II  
On Star Movies at 10:45 pm  
Genre: Horror/Thriller  
Cast: Tobin Bell, Shawnee Smith

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, 7:30 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, 2:30pm, 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 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, 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

## Rtv

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

## BTV

08:15 Shuprobhat  
08:45 World Round Up  
11:15 Documentary  
12:00 Maa O Shishur Katha  
12:30 Chena Jana  
01:00 Banstun  
01:30 Cartoon  
02:15 Oru Poromani  
02:40 Kina Diganlo  
03:05 Shukhi Pontar  
03:30 Dolon Chapo  
04:05 Shushro Deho  
Shundor Mon  
04:30 Dhruvadi  
05:05 Debate  
06:10 Akush Amar Chonkar  
06:40 Nitir Talay Talay  
06:50 Kori O Korol  
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh  
08:35 Krishi Diba Nishi  
09:00 Chhayachhondo  
09:30 Dance Programme  
Tarna  
11:00 Talk Show: Date Line  
Dhaka

## CHANNEL-i

08:05 Tagore Song  
09:30 Shagbadporey  
Bangladesh  
09:45 Public Reaction  
09:50 Gramsephone Trilo  
Matra  
11:05 Educational  
Programme  
12:30 Citycell Tarika Kathan  
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gagan  
02:40 Selected Programme  
03:05 Baniyo O Orthoni  
03:30 Hidayer Gagan  
04:30 Entertainment Show  
05:30 Botmela Shorashori  
06:00 ChanneH Exclusive  
06:40 Super Man  
07:50 BBC Bangladesh  
Shanglap  
09:35 Drama Serial: Neel  
Taparore  
10:00 RC Travel On  
Drama Serial: 69  
11:30 Drama Serial: 69  
Gramsephone Aker  
Shangbadpore

## ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aker Shangbadpore  
08:30 Drama Serial: Mouchakey Dhal  
09:15 Drama Serial: Alok  
Nogor  
10:30 Talk Show: Onyodishit  
Shushro Thakun  
11:35 Musical Programme: Notun Chhobor Gagan  
12:15 Motanor  
01:25 Selected Programme  
Daily Soap: Dola House  
02:30 Drama Serial: O Amar  
Chhobor Nisi  
03:45 Children's Programme: Chhotoder Pithi  
04:20 Agricultural Programme: Matr

## ntv

08:30 Aker Shokasol  
Shantokur  
08:55 Samparko  
09:30 Drama Serial: 111 A  
Nelson Number  
Shangskriti Ei

## Shubash

05:00 Gram Goner Khorob  
05:10 Shushro Thakun  
05:45 Business Programme  
06:20 Documentary  
Programme: Ashy  
Pasher Manush  
06:00 Drama Serial: Swapno  
Mangal  
08:45 Musical Programme: Chirokaal Chirodin  
11:30 Talk Show: Projomno  
Bangladesh  
12:00 Gramsephone Lead  
News

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