

Ushering in spring



PHOTO: ISTIAQUE BIN QUASHEM

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

AT Bakultala, Charukala (Institute of Fine Arts) premises, members of Jatiyo Bashonto Udjapon Parishad ushered in *Pahela*

Falgun (the first day of spring in the Bengali calendar) with an elaborate cultural programme. Shades of saffron, yellow, orange and red were predominant. City trees may not have adorned themselves with flora

but young women certainly did. Flowers were in plenty at the vendors' on the sidewalks. Artistes Laiza Ahmed Lisa, Ferdous Ara, Hassan Arif and others rendered songs. Performers of Nityam enlivened

the ambience with a dance of joy. An added delight was a dance performance by *Adivasi* artistes.

Kith and kin as well as strangers decorated each other with coloured powder to celebrate

the 'season of colours'. Children enjoyed sweets and candies.

Not too far from them were those for whom *Pahela Falgun* is perhaps just another occasion to earn a few more bucks -- the flower vendors.



Singer Habib Wahid (C) seen with pop icon Ferdous Wahid (L), Senior Manager of Marketing, Warid Telecom, Zeeshan Kingshuk Huq; Marketing Manager Asif Ahmed and proprietor of Sangeeta Advertising, Selim Khan at the launching programme of the musician's new solo album *Bolchhi Tomakey*. Warid Telecom arranged the programme at the ballroom of Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel on February 12. Anyone purchasing two Warid Zed prepaid connections from Warid franchise outlets and all retailers anywhere in Bangladesh on Valentine's Day (today) will get a free copy of Habib's new album, says a press release

Samay Theatre Festival '08 Today's play "Meghoboti"

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As part of the ongoing theatre festival arranged by Samay Sanskritik Goshthi, Indian troupe Hritik will stage *Meghoboti* today at the National Theatre Stage. Adapted from the Sophocles

classic *Antigone*, Goutam Roy Chowdhury's drama *Meghoboti* is an anti-war play. Through the tragic end of the protagonist Meghoboti, Chowdhury's play is a satire on those rulers, who impose war in the guise of national interest.



Actors of Hritik in the play Meghoboti

Valentine's Day celebration at Fantasy Kingdom

On the occasion of Valentine's Day, February 14, Concord Entertainment Co. Ltd. has arranged two-day programmes at Fantasy Kingdom, Water Kingdom and Foy's Lake, says a press release. A concert featuring Nagorbaul, Souls and Kaniz Suborna will be held today. A fashion show and concert featuring LRB, Yaatri and Mila will be held on February 15 at Water Kingdom.

At Foy's Lake, Chittagong a Valentine's Day concert featuring Asif, Cynthia and Rajib will be held today.

Love Bites: Concert celebrating Valentine's Day

MAINUL HASSAN

On the occasion of Valentine's Day, Macomm Resolve in association with Nestle Bangladesh Ltd organised a daylong event at the Winter Garden, Dhaka Sheraton Hotel on February 12. Titled "Nescafe Love Bites -- A valentine celebration", the programme was a treat for young couples.

The event began at 4:00 pm with love games. The audience took part in six games -- Hearts in a heart, Bed of roses, The love buzz, Power of love, I love you and Hand in hand.

The highlight of the event -- a concert featuring Bappa Majumder, Balam, Mila, Raaga and Laura started around 5:20 pm. First to perform was Balam. Balam opened his performance with his hit number *Ek muho roddur*. Other songs performed by Balam included *Prem shikari*, *Tomar jonno* and *Ehabye aar dekhona*.

Next was Laura accompanied by two members of the band, Radioactive -- Mitul and Taposh. Laura performed covers of international hits including *500 miles*, *Waiting for tonight*, *Still the one*, *Iris* and the Lucky Akand classic *Amaye dekona*. She also performed two songs from her album *Opekhar Por* -- *Opekha* and *Amar mon*.

Raaga's performance featured romantic numbers with Elita on the vocals. The band performed a cover of *This love* and its popular numbers *Brishti*, *Kothaye* and more. A highlight of Raaga's performance was a rendition of the SD Burman classic *Ghum*.



Mila sings at the concert

PHOTO: STAR

Next on stage was Mila. The artiste performed five numbers -- *Elo chuley*, *Chhera paal*, *Baburam shapurey*, *Melayete* and *Rupbaan*.

Bappa Majumder with his band Dolchhut performed *Din bari jaye*, *Pori*, *Baaji*, *Bioscope* and *Gaari cholenia*. Bappa wrapped up the event with a rendition of the romantic number *Mon chhuyechho*, from his album *Jyotsnabihar*.

Speaking to this correspondent on Valentine's Day, Bappa said, "Valentine's Day may not be a part of our traditions but it is not doing

anyone any harm either." The artiste added, "I will celebrate the day in my studio with my valentine, my music."

Sharing his views, Balam said, "Cultural exchange is a positive thing. But we must also be cautious in adopting elements and practices from other cultures."

Mila said, "Valentine's Day is a positive thing. A day when people can take out some time to be with his/her loved one, is indeed a good thing."

After the concert a romantic movie *Music and Lyrics*, featuring Hugh Grant and Drew Barrymore, was screened at the venue.

Valentine's Day special "Chor" on Banglavisision

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On February 14, Valentine's Day, Banglavisision will air a single-episode play *Chor*. The play features cricketer Khaled Masud Pilot in one of the lead roles.

Shiuli (Aupi Karim) and Selim (Khaled Masud Pilot) are neighbours. Selim is infatuated with Shiuli and writes love letters to her. Eventually he gets braver and starts knocking on Shiuli's window past-midnight. This rendezvous does not go unnoticed. Manik (Manik Khan), a young man in the same neighbourhood, is also besotted with Shiuli and he spots Selim talking to her in the wee hours. One night Selim is caught in the act by the villagers. Taking him as a thief, the villagers beat him and tie him up; he'd be handed over to the police the next morning. But the story takes a surprising turn.

Chor is an adaptation of a story by Sayeed Bahadur. Shamim Shahed has adapted and directed the play. *Chor* will be aired tonight at 9pm.



Khaled Masud Pilot (C) and co-actors in Chor

"Hoytoba Bhalobasha" on Ekushey TV



Shajal and Momo in Hoytoba Bhalobasha

On the occasion of Valentine's Day, Ekushey Television will air a single-episode TV play *Hoytoba Bhalobasha* tonight at 9:30 pm. Directed by Kaushik Shankar Das, the play features the interaction between two strangers on crossroads.

Rusho has been eagerly waiting for six months to meet Trisha and Neela is on her way to go back to Chittagong after breaking up with Raihan. Rusho and Neela come across each other at a time when they are both trying to figure out what love truly means -- is it confined to saying those "three words" or does one have to prove his/her love through sincerity and perseverance?

Shajal and Momo play the lead roles.

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Robey Nirobey
On Channel-i at 7:50 pm
Single Episode TV play
Cast: Apurbo, Kushum Sikdar, Faria



Chirokumar Shangha
On ntv at 9:00 pm
Single Episode TV play
Cast: Hasan Masood, Sumaiya Shimu



Onnorokom Bhalobasha
On ATN Bangla at 5:30 pm
Special Programme
On Valentines Day



Ghum Sheshey
On Rtv at 8:00 pm
Single Episode TV play
Cast: Mahfuz, Tisha

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, 12:15 am.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.
News (English) at 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

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 Shugbhaat
08:45 Musical Programme
11:15 Documentary
Programme
Drama Serial: Kan
Gram-er Meys
Misa O Shishur Katha
12:30 Shapholyo Gatha
01:00 Nider Taky Taky
01:30 Shukhi Poribar
02:15 Agricultural Programme
02:40 Jangood
03:00 Carlton
03:30 Educational
Programme: Onushlon
Saangreeta
Sardesh
04:30 Swamihakona
05:05 Stimpur
05:30 Utthid O Jiban
06:10 Ekush Amar Chonkaar
Dhomo O Jiban
06:35 Computer
07:30 Talk Show: Shondhani
Shongitap
08:40 Drama: Shorol Sholyo
10:30 Shur Shombar

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