

Amar Ekushey programme by Padatik Natya Sangsad

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To observe 'Amar Ekushey' cultural organisation Padatik Natya Sangsad-Bangladesh organised a daylong programme at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy premises on February 21. Titled "Doshom Padatik Ekushey Shangkritik Shammelon" the event was divided into three sessions.

The event started at 10:30 am. First to perform were artistes of Padatik Sangeet Sangsad who performed the eponymous Amar bhaier rokte rangano Ekushey February. Two songs of Salil Chowdhury -- O alor pathay jatri and Dhonyo mago jonmechi ei deshey -- followed. Padatik Sangeet Sangsad wrapped up their performance with the DL Roy classic Dhono dhanyo pushpobhora.

Padatik Natya Sangsad-Bangladesh has been holding programmes on Ekushey February since 1999. The slogan of this year's programme was "Swadhinata!



Indigenous artistes of Girishur Shilpi Gosthi dance at the programme

Oshohjoy Shukhey O Dukhkhay Jonmodondo Tumi, Jonmo Dao Notun Manob". Artistes of Shurtirtha and Chhayanat per-

formed at the programme. The event also included solo renditions by Mita Haq, Bishwajit Roy, Chumki Haq, Shaiful Alam Raja, Chitra

Sarkar, Ferdous Ara, Sharmin Rahman Chaiti and others. One of the main attractions of the opening session was a performance

by Girishur Shilpi Gosthi -- an indigenous cultural group from Rangamat. The group opened their performance with a traditional Jhum dance. A chorus rendition of O mor shonar dechchan (desh) followed. Shubhadra Tripura rendered the song O ani achaimaniha (O amar jonmohumi dhonyo holam jonney).

Joyita Chakma, President of Girishur Shilpi Gosthi, said, "We are delighted to have the opportunity to perform here today. This is the first time that we are performing at an 'Ekushey' programme."

Language movement veterans Syed Badruddin Hossain and Dr Suifa Ahmed were honoured by Padatik Natya Sangsad-Bangladesh. Noted cultural personality Mustafa Monwar was the chief guest at the programme.

The evening session featured dance, theatre, recitation and performances by leading and promising artistes. GMG Airlines was sponsor of the programme.

ITI Theatre Festival '08 Tobias Biancone on strengthening ITI as a platform

ERSHAD KAMOL

Swiss poet-playwright Tobias Biancone was appointed as the Secretary General of ITI Worldwide Committee on last February 1. He is also the founder of the Playwrights' Forum, ITI. Plays by him such as The Spy, The Half Truth, Exhibition Opera (Derunter Mensch) and others have all been well received in Europe. This year a collection of his poems will be published in Bangla. Biancone is participating at the ITI Theatre Festival '08 in Dhaka. This is Biancone's third visit to Dhaka. The Daily Star recently spoke with the playwright.

Sharing his vision as the current General Secretary of ITI, Tobias said, "It's a challenge to keep the ITI activities going smoothly during a 'transitional' period. I would try to fortify ITI as an effective platform for theatre activities."

He added, "ITI has been arranging theatre performances in different parts of the world including the conflict-ridden areas like Cyprus, Palestine, North Africa and Sudan. ITI, a non-governmental organisation of the UNESCO, has been conducting these activities since its formation. The organisation was established in 1948 in Prague by eight European countries with an aim to generate awareness against the brutality of the World War II. Working for peace was also a major agenda. ITI is concerned about the current global socio-political scenario and the organisation is initiating actions to preserve the diverse cultural heritage of the world. I would like to contribute more to these sectors."

Tobias believes that ITI can also play an effective role in developing the standards of theatre activities. He said, "We organise workshops involving theatre activists from different countries. But, I believe ITI can

also provide scholarships to the theatre activists from developing countries to enrich their technical knowledge at recognised western universities. It would be rather difficult for ITI, as the organisation is already facing financial limitations. But, ITI can pursue the governments of developed countries to provide the required assistance."



Tobias Biancone

Musical Soiree at Chhayanat



Students of Chhayanat sing at the musical programme

NADIA SARWAT

To mark the International Mother Language day, Chhayanat arranged a musical soiree at its Sanskriti Bhavan Auditorium on February 21. At the programme, artistes of Chhayanat presented songs on our language, martyrs of the Language Movement and devotion to the country.

The event started with a chorus rendition of the song Amar bhai-er roktye rangano Ekushey February by the young students of Chhayanat. Runa sang O kokil rey, tu Fagan mashey -- a song that articulates the agonies of a sister who has lost her brother to the Language Movement.

Aninda Rahman, accompanied with a chorus, rendered Shaheed Minar bhengechho -- recalling the

incident of the Pakistani junta demolishing the Shaheed Minar.

Next was a chorus rendition of the song Milto praner kolorobey, celebrating the spirit of the Language Movement. Another chorus was Nahi bhoy nahi bhoy. Julio performed the familiar Tagore song O amar desher mati.

Noted artistes Shahin Samad and Mita Haque sang Kaindona kaindona ma go and Moder gorob moder asha respectively. Bijon Chandra Mistri rendered O amar Bangla ma tor. Tagore singer Laisa Ahmed Lisa sang Krishnochura aar Rokto Polash. Chandana Majumdar sang Haiyey amar mon matano Desh at the programme.

The programme ended with chorus renditions of Rokto shimul topto palash and the National Anthem.

Weeklong Ekushey Book Fair begins in Pabna



Mili Rahman speaks at the book fair

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

The weeklong "Ekushey Bui Mela" organised by the Sammlito Sanskritik Jote, Pabna at the local Town Hall premises was inaugurated by Mili Rahman, the widow of Birshrestha Matiar Rahman and the Chairperson of Matiar Rahman Smriti Foundation, on February 21.

Convener of Ekushey Book Fair celebration committee, Zakir Hossain chaired the programme. Among others, Professor Md. Nurunnabi, senior journalist Anwarul Haque, Language Movement veteran Ranish Maitray and the Convener of Sammlito Sanskritik Jote, Pabna, Abul Kashem were present at the inauguration.

Mili Rahman said in her speech that war criminals have to be punished in order to uphold the values of the Liberation War. "The Language Movement inspired the people to fight for independence," she said. Other speakers added that language defines culture and urged writers to pay attention to the quality of their publications.

A cultural programme followed the speeches. There are 30 stalls at the fair. The book fair ends on February 27.

Introducing children to Bangla alphabets

Handwriting competition by Karok Natya Shamproday

MAINUL HASSAN

Cultural organisation Karok Natya Shamproday (KNS), arranged a handwriting competition for children at the Central Shaheed Minar premises yesterday, as part of their 'Amar Ekushey' programme.

Hundreds of children accompanied by their parents, took part in the competition titled "Borno Likhon Protijogitar Ekush Bochhor".

"The aim of this competition is to get the children interested in the Bangla alphabets," said Shankor Sawjal, General Secretary, KNS. The organisation has been holding this event annually since 1986. Every year the programme is held on the first Friday after February 21.

"It is very important that the children know and understand the sacrifices made by the martyrs of the Language Movement. Getting a child acquainted with his mother tongue ensures his/her attachment to the

language throughout adulthood," Sawjal added.

A highlight of the programme is the 'Hatey Khorir' session, where children are introduced to the Bangla alphabets by Language Movement veterans. This year Language Movement veterans -- Emdad Hossain, Rowshan Ara Bachchu, Dr Kazi Khaleda Khatun and Abdul Matin -- helped the children write Bangla alphabets.

The handwriting competition was next. Participating children (between the ages of 3 to 6) were divided into three groups -- 'Ka' (below class 1), 'Kha' (class 1) and 'Ga' (class 2). During the contest, artistes of Sargam Lalitkala Academy performed songs highlighting the spirit of Ekushey and Bangla language.

In the final session of the programme children were introduced to alpona. They painted over alpona drawn at the Central Shaheed Minar.



Children learn to write Bangla alphabets

Music and handwriting competitions by Nazrul Institute

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To mark the International Mother Language Day, Nazrul Institute arranged a three-day competition on children's handwriting and Nazrul songs, starting from February 19. As part of the event, discussion and a cultural programme were also held at the Institute. Winners of the competitions received prizes at the programme.

Acting Executive Director of the Institute, Zikur Reza Khanam gave the welcome speech. Eminent Nazrul researcher and Chairman of the Nazrul Institute Trustee Board, Professor Rafiqul Islam chaired the programme. Executive Director of the Institute, Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury also spoke at the event.

A brief cultural programme followed. Artistes of the Nazrul Institute began the cultural programme with the group rendition of Amar bhai-er roktye rangano Ekushey February.

Noted Nazrul singers Ferdous Ara and Shaheen Samad rendered Ajkey smritir shurer shabhaye and Kaindona kaindona maago Banga janani respectively.

Singer Khalid Hossain performed Shabuj shudhar dheu khey jaye. Salauddin Ahmed wrapped up the programme with the rendition of Amar maayer bhasha.

After the cultural programme, the winners of the competitions received certificates and prizes. In the handwriting competition, Bafiat Bin Morshed, Zubayer Al-Alam and Farzana Yasmin received the first prize in Group A, B and C respectively.

In the Nazrul song competition, Tasnuma Farayeen Immi and Tahsin Suba received the first prize in Group A and B respectively.



Winners of the competitions with the guests

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Pingol Akash On Banglavisation at 8:25 pm Drama Serial Cast: Chadni, Shahed



Night at the Museum On Star Movies at 7:00 pm Genre: Comedy Cast: Ben Stiller, Robin 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, 12:15 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, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am. BANGLAVISATION 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 08:45 Esho Gaan Shikhi 11:15 Documentary Programme: Swadesh/ Desh-er Gaan 11:30 Shukhi Poribar 12:05 Prothom Ontora 12:30 Maa O Shisur Kalha 01:00 Mafi O Manush 01:30 Selected Programme 02:15 Sisimpur 02:40 Bangla Feature Film Debate 05:25 Apon Aloye 06:25 Amader Mukhijudho 06:50 Talk Show: Shei Diner 07:25 Talk Show: Amar Bangladesh 08:35 Documentary Programme: Amar Bangladesh Drama: Kalo Shutar Mela 09:00 Ponbesh Prashongo 10:30 Talk Show: Date Line Dhaka ATN BANGLA 08:15 Aiker Shanbadpoto 08:30 Nupurer Chhondey 09:15 Bhashar Katha 10:30 Talk Show: Oryodishili 11:05 Shath Din 12:15 Musical Programme: Shesh Okhkor 01:30 Documentary Programme: Prapok 02:30 Gram Gorjer Khabor 05:00 Amra Korbo Joy 06:20 Ainar Shamney 08:00 Drama Serial: Alokogor 08:40 Drama Serial: Chcr Kuthuri

- 09:20 Drama Serial: Ek Jonomey 11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House 12:00 Grameenphone Lead News CHANNEL i 08:30 Shokaaler Gaan 09:30 Shangbadpotey Bangladesh 09:45 Public Reaction 09:50 Grameenphone Tribunalra 11:05 Talk Show: Amader Aaina 12:05 Mukto Bazar 12:30 Citycell Taroka Katha 01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:30 Musical Programmes: Sa Re Ga Ma 04:05 Educational Programme: F M Method 04:50 Sholyer Shondhaney 05:30 Wand Boimela Shorashori 06:00 Sisimpur 06:30 i Speed 07:50 Bonyali 09:35 Hidoya Matio O Manush 10:00 Drama Serial: Phire Dekha 11:30 Live Drama Serial: Astoy Astey Astey 12:00 Grameenphone Aiker Shangbadpoto ntv 08:55 Drama Serial: Swapno Jaal 09:30 Dunder Chhondey 10:05 Tiffin-er Phakey

- 09:00 Rtv Exclusive 09:05 Drama Serial: Ebong Rohoshyer Golpo 10:00 Hallo Love 11:00 Taroka Alap 11:30 Children's Programme 12:15 Indian Idol Concert 01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din 02:30 Bangla Feature Film Prolidin 06:00 Musical Programme: Shur-e Shur-e Path Chola 08:15 Drama Serial: Shanto Kutir 09:00 Drama: Shekor 11:35 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy Rtv 08:15 Gaanchil Ei Din

- 10:30 Apnar Jigyasha 12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy 01:05 Cartoon 02:30 Drama Serial: Swapno Jaal 03:15 Music Jam 04:25 Drama 05:30 Alokpat 06:20 Shubho Shondha 06:45 Shangkriti Ei Shoptaho 08:15 Drama Serial: Shanto Kutir 09:00 Drama: Shekor 11:35 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy Rtv 08:15 Gaanchil Ei Din

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- 08:00 Ekush-er Shokal 12:00 Ekush-er Dupur 02:30 Bangla Feature Film Prolidin 05:15 Prolidin 05:45 Ekush-er Shondha 06:15 Sms Mania 06:30 Shoptaho Ghurey 07:30 Explosive 08:30 Total Music 09:30 Ekushoy Shomoy 10:30 Binodon Bishwa 11:30 Amader Boimela 12:00 Ekushur Raat BANGLAVISATION 09:00 Children's Programme: Ichchhey Ghuri

- 12:00 Shangbad Protidin STAR MOVIES 09:30 Aquamarine 11:15 Vip Access 11:45 Marine, The Rebound 02:45 Flyboys 05:05 Illusionist, The 07:00 Night At The Museum Die Hard With A Vengeance 11:00 Phat Girlz 12:45 Marked For Death STAR PLUS 10:30 Micky Mouse Clubhouse 11:00 The Replacements 11:30 SONPARI 12:00 Kaho na yaar hai 01:00 Bidaai 03:00 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat 05:00 Hoqi Pyar Ki Jeel 06:00 Aek Chabbhi Hai Padoss Mein 08:30 Jai Maa Durga 09:30 Pritviraj Chauhan 10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby 10:30 Star-VOI Chhote Ustaad 12:00 Santaan STAR WORLD 08:30 The Apprentice 09:30 Who Wants To Be A Superhero 10:30 American Idol 11:30 Invasion 12:30 Cops 01:30 Prison Break 03:30 Criminal Minds 04:30 Bones 05:30 Criss Angel Mindfreak 06:30 Most Shocking 07:30 Heroes 08:30 Smallville

- 09:30 Bones 10:30 Tna Xplosion 11:30 The Unit 12:30 Smallville NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 10:30 Bhutan 11:30 Minnie Driver 12:30 Call Me Cinnamon 01:00 Amazing Adv Of A Nobody USA 01:30 Ceu / Hapa 02:00 Vusi Mahlasela 02:30 Spider Deadly Love 03:30 Lufthansa Nat Geo Genius 04:00 St. Petersburg/ SanIago 04:30 I Didn't Know That 05:00 Chimp Diaries 05:30 Big Bang 06:00 Crittercam-WildTech Adv 06:30 Mega Thursday 07:30 Super Cat 08:30 Air Hijack 09:30 Lufthansa Nat Geo Genius 10:00 Unwind 10:30 Hunter Hunted 11:30 Geo Sessions 12:00 Ceu / Hapa 12:30 Jet Age HISTORY 09:30 Engineering an Empire 11:30 A Diplomatic Incident 12:00 Winston Churchill 12:30 The Redheaded League 01:30 Most Dangerous Places 02:30 Salem Witch Trials 03:30 Com

- Radio Foorti 88.0 FM 07:00am Hello Dhaka 11:00am Amar 88 03:00pm Dhaka Calling 07:00pm Celebrity on the hot seat 10:00pm Back to Back music Radio Today 89.6 FM 07:15am Good Morning Dhaka (Biplob) 07:45am Today's Happy Moments 08:45am Shokaler Khabor 12:00pm Fatalfai Adda (Nudrat & Sayfi) 01:45pm Dupurer Khabor 04:00pm U-tum (Tania) 06:45pm Shondher Khabor 08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok (Sayem) 09:45pm Raster Khabor 11:45pm Moodho Raster Khabor 12:00am Today's Happy Moments 12:10am Raaf Vor Gan (Nirob) 04:30 Terror Goes International! 05:30 BIOGRAPHY 06:30 Enemies of the Slate 08:30 Jumbo Movie 10:30 Mata Han 11:30 Anne Frank 12:30 Enemies of the Slate ZEE STUDIO 10:50 Baby Geniuses 12:55 My 5 Wives 03:10 Dirty Dancing 05:30 Alex And Emma 08:15 Eraser 11:00 A Life Less Ordinary