

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Chhayanat
Title: Srotar Ashor
Venue: Chhayanat Shangkri Bhavan
Date: February 28, 29, Time: 6:30 pm
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: National Music and Dance Centre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: February 28, Time: 6 pm



Solo Sculpture Exhibition

Title: Rejuvenation of Womanhood
Sculptor: Habiba Akhter Papi
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, DU
Date: February 25-March 2
Time: 12pm-7pm



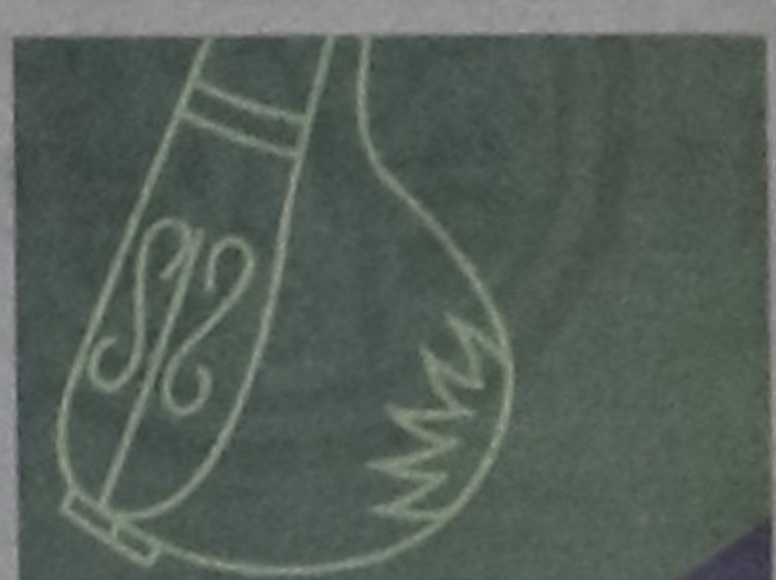
Theatre

Play: Roktokorobi
Group: Naqorik Naty Sampraday
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: February 29
Time: 7pm



Anniversary

Organiser: Surasaptak
Venue: National Music and Dance Centre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: February 29
Time: 5:30 pm



SAARC Poetry Evening held



Rasheda K. Chowdhury speaks at the programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To mark the International Mother Language Day, the first SAARC Poetry Evening was jointly organised by Meghdut Abritti Shangshad and UNESCO, Bangladesh Office, in collaboration with the high commissions/ embassies of the SAARC countries. The programme was held at the Shaheed Zia Auditorium, National Museum on the evening of February 26.

Rasheda K. Chowdhury, Adviser to the Ministries of Primary and Mass education; Women and Children; Cultural Affairs was present as the chief guest. Foreign Secretary Tuhid Hossain and Malama Meleisea, UNESCO representative to Bangladesh attended the programme as special guests.

After the introductory remarks by Mosud Mannan, chief organiser of Meghdut, the guests were presented with bouquets. Tuhid Hossain and Rasheda K. Chowdhury then delivered speeches.

A verse from the *Charyapada*, written in the oldest form of Bangla, was recited by Professor Niranjana Adhikari. Recitation of poems in languages of the SAARC countries followed. Poems from Afghanistan in Pashto and Dari were

recited by Second Secretary Feroz Shah Shahryar. Sonam Tshering recited Bhutanese poetry. Ajit Gupte, Mousumi and Chayan Singh rendered poems in Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Hindi and Bangla. The Bangladesh High Commissioner to Maldives Mizarul Quayes recited poetry from Maldives. Ramesh Prasad Khanal, CDA and Krisu Chhetri, attaché rendered poems from Nepal. First Secretary Amir Shouket represented Pakistan and Jayashantha Peiris recited Sri Lankan poetry.

A poem in Garo was recited by Jemi Daizy Marak, followed by a poem in Chakma by Trilind Changma. Excerpts from poems by Michael Madhusudan Dutt, Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam were rendered by Rafiqul Islam, Bhashwar Bannerji and Mahidul Islam respectively. Raju Ahmed Mamun recited from Sufia Kamal's work; Sajid Akhand from Shamsur Rahman; Dr Rashid Hyder from Syed Shamsul Haque; Mosud Mannan from Al Mahmud; a self-composed poem by poet Asad Chowdhury; Farhad Hossain from Nirmalendu Goon and a poem by Dilwar Khan, the latest recipient of Ekushey Padak.

The programme concluded with gifts presented to representatives of the high commissions/ embassies of the SAARC countries and the vote of thanks by Malama Meleisea.

Meghdut was founded in 1984. The organisation concentrates on the art of poetry recitation. According to Mosud Mannan, the programme was organised as an initiative to promote cultural understanding between the SAARC members.



Feroz Shah Shahryar reads Afghan poetry



Sonam Tshering recites poems from Bhutan

Bangladesh Folk Council '08 begins

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (ASB) has arranged a three-day Bangladesh Folk Music Council '08 at its premises. Rural artistes from different corners of the country are presenting traditional performing art forms at the event that started from yesterday. Moreover, the researchers are scheduled to read 27 papers at the three-day seminar.

Thirty-two troupes will stage a half hour performance each during the council. Three seminars will be held on three days. Moreover, eight papers will be presented.

President of ASB, Professor Sirajul Islam informed that the council is a part of the 'Bangladesh Cultural Survey' project -- ASB's latest venture. Performances by the rural artistes will be documented both digitally and in publications.

To quote Professor Sirajul Islam, "We have been working on this project for the last three years and have trained several researchers to write on the traditional art forms of their local areas. They have produced some interesting articles, which will be presented at the seminars. And the performances of the rural artistes will be recorded during the council."

At the Bangladesh Folk Council '08, audiences will get the chance to observe the traditional performing art forms of the major ethnic communities living in Bangladesh.

Theatre Festival at JU ends



Artists of Prachyanat perform at JU

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As a tribute to Selim Al Deen, the ten-day long theatre festival titled *Naryo Parbon '08*, organised by Jahangirnagar Theatre, ended on February 25. Professor M. Muniruzzaman, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University attended the concluding programme. President of Jahangirnagar Theatre, Professor A.K.M. Shahnewaz presided over the event. General Secretary of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, Jhuna Chowdhury delivered a speech at the programme.

The highlight of the festival was the 'Music Ensemble' performed by Prachyanat on February 21. The day marked Prachyanat's 10th anniversary.

Before the performance a brief discussion was held, where Chief Secretary of Prachyanat, Azad Abul Kalam and President of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, M. Hamid gave speeches.

The 'Music Ensemble' is a compilation, featuring popular songs from Prachyanat productions, Shah Abdul Karim classics, folk songs and more.

During the performance at JU, Prachyanat also presented several patriotic songs including *Aamar bhai-er roktey rangano*, *Dhano dhanyo pushpey bhora* and *Shobkoto janala khuley daona* to mark the International Mother Language Day.

The troupe also rendered Shah Abdul Karim classics including

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The troupe also rendered Shah Abdul Karim classics including

Aar koto chinibo tomarey, Ashi bolelo gelo bondhu and Kon mestori nao banailo.

Other songs performed at the programme included *Heiya, Shua urilo urilo, Gulabi gulabi chandni re, Matir manush, Bokul phul and Kalo joley.*

The troupe also rendered the Tagore song *Amar praner manush achhey praner* and the John Denver classic *Annie's song*. It was an unusual cover of the latter with accompanying local instruments like harmonium, mandira and others. Rahul Anand directed the Ensemble.

Subachan Natya Sangsad staged their latest production *Khona* on the closing day of the festival.

Kranti performs at the Ekushey Boi Mela

As a part of the regular cultural programme organised by Bangla Academy at the ongoing Amar Ekushey Granthamela, cultural organisation Kranti arranged a vibrant music and recitation performance (*Geeti Alekhiyo*) titled *Roktojhora Phlagun* recently, says a press release.

Compiled by poet and recitor Mosharraf Hossain, the presentation was directed by *gano sangeet* artist Mahbubul Haider Mohon.

Mosharraf Hossain, Khairul Ahsan Shohag, Zubeida Begum and Jhona Alamgir recited at the event while Manjur Ahmed, Shahina Hasan Munni, Samson Sarker, Laili Islam, Quazi Dinar Sulatna and others rendered songs. Shyama Prashad Majumdar and Shib Kumar Singha accompanied on keyboard and tabla.

Weeklong book fair ends in Khagrachhari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

A seven-day long book fair ended on February 26 at the Officers Club premises in the hill town to mark the International Mother Language Day.

Khagrachhari Hill District Administration organised the event, offering the local book lovers an opportunity to browse through the pages and purchasing the books on display at the ongoing book fair.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mohammad Shahadat Hossain inaugurated the fair.

CD Launch Gunijan offers a compilation of biographies

NADIA SARWAT

Gunijan, a web-based organisation, has taken the initiative to compile the biographies of noted Bangladeshis. The biographies will be available on Gunijan's website. The organisation also launched the CD featuring the compilation of biographies. Titled *Mohima Tobo Udbhashito*, the CD was launched on February 26 at the Liberation War Museum. At the same programme, a research book titled

Bangladesh Education in Transition: Policy, performance, way forward, edited by professor Mahmudul Alam was also launched. The book is published by Development Research Network (D.Net). Veteran women's rights activist Hena Das and Professor Anisuzzaman launched the CD and the book respectively.

Gunijan has included biographies of 55 eminent personalities in the CD. The organisation wants to extend this programme and intends to release CDs regularly.

The programme, presided over by Dr. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, was well attended by several noted personalities including human rights activist Hamida Hossain; Language Movement veteran Abdul Matin; filmmaker Morshedul Islam and educationist Sardar Fazlul Karim.

Dr. Ananya Raihan, executive director of D.Net in his welcome speech said, "Gunijan has been working on this project since 2003 with an aim to introduce these

personalities to our youngsters. As part of this initiative, we arranged a 'digital biography exhibition' at the Drik Gallery in 2006. But as most people in our country do not have Internet access, we decided to make the compilation available in the CD format."

Urmi Lohani, the co-ordinator of Gunijan then informed the audience on the CD. The CD contains biographies, selected works (literary and others), published and unpublished articles, interviews (both written and audio-visual), photographs and more. Dr. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, Hamida Hossain and Litterateur Selina Hossain were in the advisory board.

The guests expressed their contentment at the laudable initiative taken by Gunijan.

Biographies of Professor Anisuzzaman, Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury, Abdul Alim, Abdul Matin, Ila Mitra, Kalim Sharafi, Quazi Khalikuzzaman Ahmed, Kumudini Hajong, Nilufar Yasmin, Farida Parvin, Feroza Begum, Sufia Kamal, Murtaza Bashir, Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Mustafa Monwar, Rehman Sobhan, Hashem Khan, Shamsur Rahman, Morshedul Islam, Chashi Nazrul Islam, Habibur Rahman, Rani Hamid and others are included in the CD.

The Gunijan web portal is run by a dynamic voluntary team. Anyone can contribute to the Gunijan initiative providing information, photographs, publications and more at this address: www.gunijan.org/Donation/donate.php



Noted personalities attended the CD and book launch at the Liberation War Museum

Admission

Applications are invited for admission into MBA Program in Summer semester starting in May 2008

MBA Program

(Following the guidelines of AACSB, the highest accreditation body of business schools in USA)

Majors: Marketing, Finance, Management & HRM

Admission Requirements:

- ◆ A four-year Bachelor or a three-year Honors degree or a Master's degree in any discipline
- ◆ At least Second Class (45% or above) in all exams or a minimum CGPA of 2.5 on a 4-point scale
- ◆ Qualifying in NSU admission test or minimum score of 550 (CBT 213) in both TOEFL & GMAT
- ◆ Waiver of written test for candidates with undergraduate GPA of 3.8 or above from NSU

Admission Test : 11 April 2008

Application Deadline: 8 April 2008

- ☐ Special course waiver for candidates with 2 years of executive experience
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- ☐ Financial aid and graduate assistantship for MBA students

Honors/Master's (appeared) candidates may sit for the admission test but must submit mark-sheets before admission

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY

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