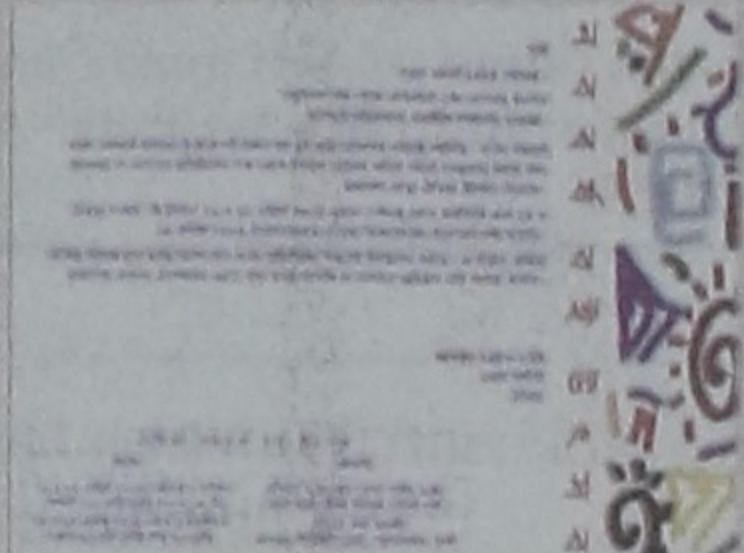


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Nababarsha Boi Utsab

Organiser: Oltijhya
April 11-12 Oltijhya, 3/1-H
Purana Paltan
Time: 10am-8pm
April 14-15 Oltijhya, Rumi
Market, 68-69, Pandas
Road, Banglabazar
Time: 9am-9pm



Concert

Artistes: Nagar Baul,
Bappa Majumdar, Shafin
Ahmed
Organiser: Dhaka
Sheraton Hotel and ntv
Venue: Winter Garden,
Dhaka Sheraton Hotel
Date: April 11
Time: 6pm onwards



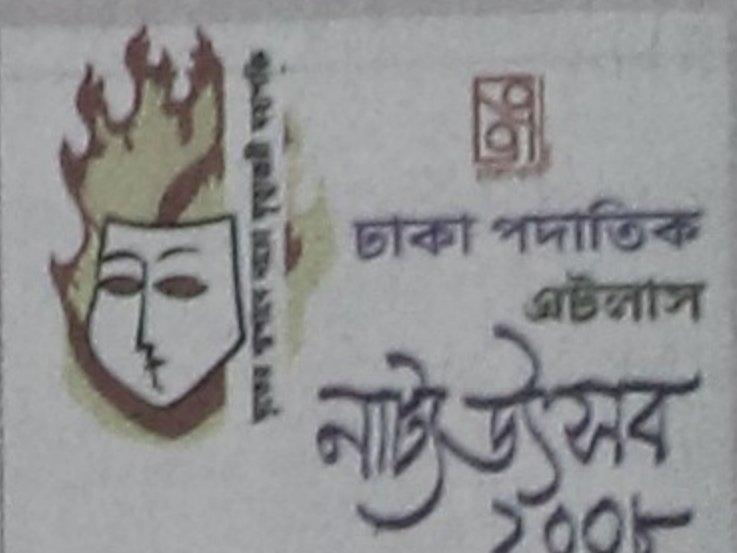
Cultural Programme

Organiser: Shurer Dhara
Venue: Lalmaia Girls High
School, Lalmaia
Date: April 13
Time: 6 pm



Dhaka Padatik Natya Utsab '08

Organiser: Dhaka Padatik
Venue: National Theatre
Stage, BSA
Date: April 2-11
Time: 4pm-6pm, 7pm-9pm
April 11
Play: Hingling
Troupe: Loko Kristi (India)



A culture of waste



ILLUSTRATION TOMMOY

SADYA AFREEN MALlick

When we visited Delhi a couple of years back, some of my friends were shocked to find the shopping malls closing early in the evening. That would never be the case in Dhaka... they wailed, which roughly translated meant so much better they keep mega-malls open way late, in the hope that a few customers (like us) MIGHT go on an unplanned shopping frenzy...! All my explanations on energy conservation, examples of major cities from London to Bangkok to Singapore to New York where the evening rule applies, fell on deaf

years. I can imagine their plight now since starting from February last year, the evening closures rule descended on Dhaka also. It was high time someone figured out the utter callousness with which we've been straining our energy resources. We have always had an acute energy shortage; yet malls were happily allowed to use illegal and hazardous electric supplies, plug in a few hundred neon signs and energy guzzling air-conditioners. Not to mention the streetlights which were lit even in broad daylight for months (reference *The Daily Star*).

This sort of irresponsibility is ubiquitous in most aspects of our

daily lives. We keep taps running, stoves burning, lights glaring when a little consciousness can help us reduce national wastage. Do we really need to hose down cars or can we make do with a bucket of water? Do we really need to turn on the air conditioner at full blast and then dive under a quilt?

Now that the evening closure rule has come into effect, one more step in the right direction could be the screening of documentaries or 'infotainment' (as they are called) that promote energy conservation. These documentaries should focus on the urban areas first, where we have

the most wastage, and spread out on to the suburbs.

An episode of the popular TV show *fyadi* comes to mind where Hanif Shanket discussed the misuse of water. How about using celebrities to convey the message? We already have media personalities generating awareness on serious social issues such as HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, gender violence etc. Why not address the misuse of energy sources?

The energy issue should be considered with much-deserved importance. A city without water, electricity, gas -- is that what the next generation should inherit from us?

Sand Sculpture Festival '08 in Cox's Bazar

Work of art on the beach

KARIM WAHEED

Sand sculptures -- the most common being sandcastles -- are an inseparable part of the beach culture around the globe. Here however, it is still somewhat unfamiliar as "Bangladesh doesn't have much of a beach culture," says Md. Ashfaqul Alam Roni.

A graduate in sculpture, Institute of Fine Arts, DU, Roni -- with assistance from 'Fourth House' (a supporting organisation) -- arranged a Sand Sculpture Festival in Cox's Bazar last month. The festival continued for four days starting from March 26. As it was a national holiday (March 26 being Independence Day), the beach town was crowded with tourists.

This was the second Sand Sculpture Festival held in Cox's Bazar. Earlier in 2002 Roni initiated the event but on a much smaller scale. This time around as well it was limited to mostly enthusiastic children alongside Roni taking part in creating forms out of sand.

As the eager onlookers crowded the beach, Roni moulded wet sand into sea creatures, human forms and more. Children seemed to be drawn to a bale of 16 turtles (each around 3 ft) in particular. Eventually the little ones started making mounds of sand. And that was Roni's intention, apparently -- to encourage them to be creative. Making a mound of sand is just the beginning, sandcastles will follow.

The beauty of sculpting with sand is that anyone can indulge in it. There is no room for errors when working with stones; clay is easier to work with but even that has limitations. But sand has endless possibilities. If you are not content with your creation, just let the waves dissolve it and then start anew.



A human face (top) and a bale of turtles made of sand

In four days, from dawn to dusk, Roni completed 29 sand sculptures -- ranging from 3 to 25 ft in size. Both dry and wet sand were used. The artist compares this impermanent art to the contemporary installations. However, according to him, depending on the venue and materials used, sand sculptures can last a few years.

"Events like this add to a vibrant beach life," says Roni. "We apparently have the world's longest natural sandy beach; we should do everything we can to promote it."

With some backing from the corporate brands this festival can certainly become a major beach attraction, believes Roni.



Musical evening at Chhayanat

Solo renditions by Partha Tanveer Naved



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Partha Tanveer Naved sings at the programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A musical programme featuring solo renditions by Partha Tanveer

Naved was held at the Ramesh Chandra Dutta Auditorium, Chhayanat Sanskriti Bhaban on April 8. The programme also included performances by other

artists.

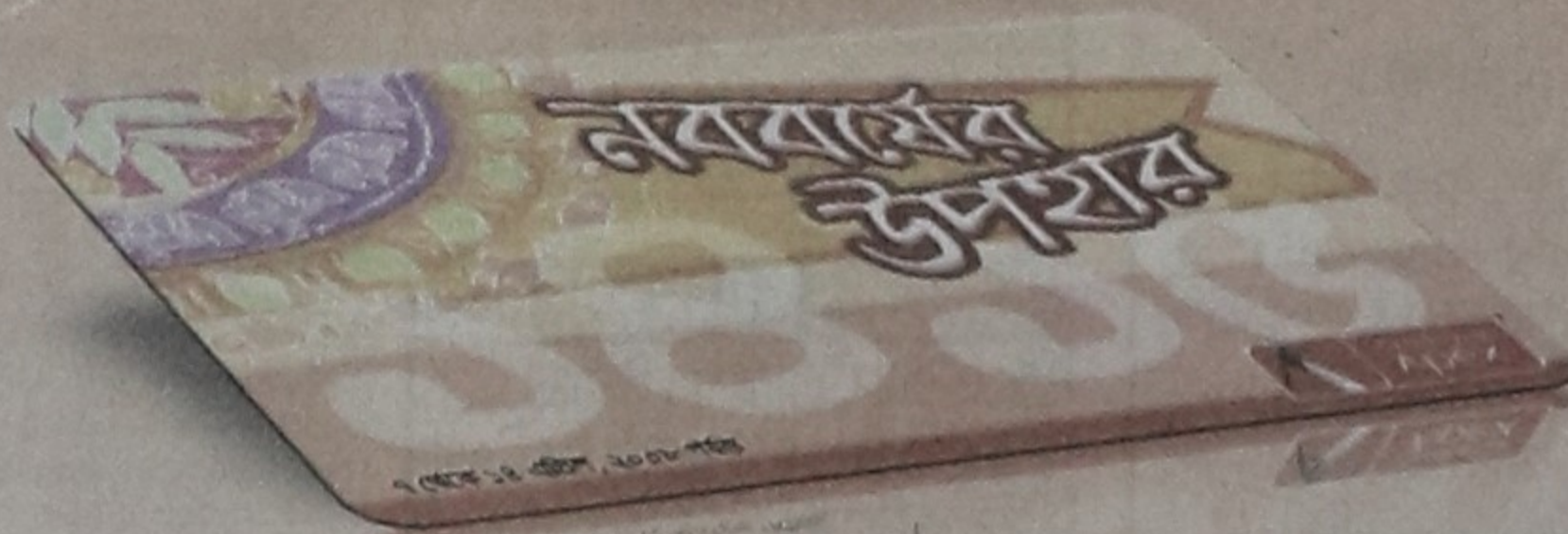
Partha started off with *Ke uthe dake*. Among other songs rendered by the artist were: *Tumi ektu kebol boshite diyo kachhe*, *Asha jaowar pother dhare* and *Jodi jantem amar kisher betha*. After his performance, Partha invited other artists on the stage.

Songs of *Bashonto* (spring) were the highlight. Mita Haque's rendition of *Bashonti hey bhubono mohini* was applauded by the audience. Moniruzzaman Chowdhury sang *Dhirey dhirey bao ogo utol haowa*, Rokaiya Hasina Nili performed *Diye genu bashonter ei gaan*, A.T.M Jahangir rendered *Eto din jey boshey chhilem* and Laisa Ahmed Lisa presented *Kokhon bashonto gelo*. Also, Khairul Anam Shakil performed the song *Esho esho amar ghoreesho*.

Partha also rendered Tagore's *Puja Poryayer Gaan* (devotional songs). The evening wrapped up with a group rendition of the National Anthem.



বৈশাখে এইবার
১০০০ টাকা
পর্যন্ত উপহার!



ঘমলেই ৫০-১০০০ টাকা নিশ্চিত ডিসকাউন্ট

প্রতিজ্ঞা জুতা কিনে স্ক্রাচ কার্ড সংগ্রহ করুন। স্ক্রাচ কার্ড ঘষে দেখে নিন টাকার পরিমাণ এবং তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে দোকান থেকে উল্লিখিত টাকার সমপরিমাণ ডিসকাউন্ট বুঝে নিন।

Close Up 1: Tomakei Khujchhey Bangladesh

Twelve get "Yes Card" in Sylhet

IQBAL SIDDIQUE, Sylhet

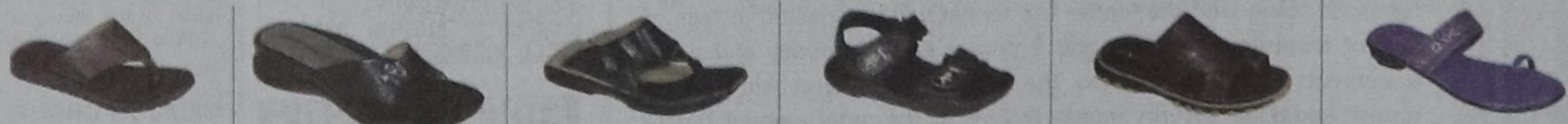
Twelve contestants got "yes cards" at the Sylhet audition round of the talent hunt *Close Up 1: Tomakei Khujchhey Bangladesh* held at a hotel in Sylhet city. Around 2535 aspiring singers took part in the audition.

The first "yes card" went to Shoma Islam of Fenchuganj.

Ten were selected from 1257 contestants on the first day. Only two were picked from 1278 the next day. The lucky ones are: Suma Islam, Enam Ahmed Chowdhury Emon, Kona Chowdhury, Priyanka Chowdhury, Arif Ahmed Tuhin, Swarna Majumder, Eva Gupta, Shampa Chandra, Emon Dev Chowdhury, Rajiv Das, Moumita Das Poly and Sharmin Yasmin Shammi --

from Sylhet, Maulvibazar, Sunamganj and Jaipurhat.

Judges evaluating the contestants in six panels were Anup Bhattacharya; Shujeyo Shyam; Md. Shahnewaz; Selim Ashraf; Anisur Rahman Tanu; Md. Jalal Ahmed; Sujit Mustafa; Anup Barua; Monowar Hossain Tutul; Md. Zahid Hossain; Sayeed Hasan Tipu and Asit Day.



স্টার

গ্যালারি অপেক্স-এর এই অফার ৭ - ১৪ এপ্রিল ২০০৮ পর্যন্ত প্রযোজ্য। চলে আসুন আজই।

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