

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

### Theatre

**Play:** Raja Ebong Onyanyo.....  
**Troupe:** Prachyanat  
**Venue:** Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA  
**Date:** September 12  
**Time:** 7:15pm



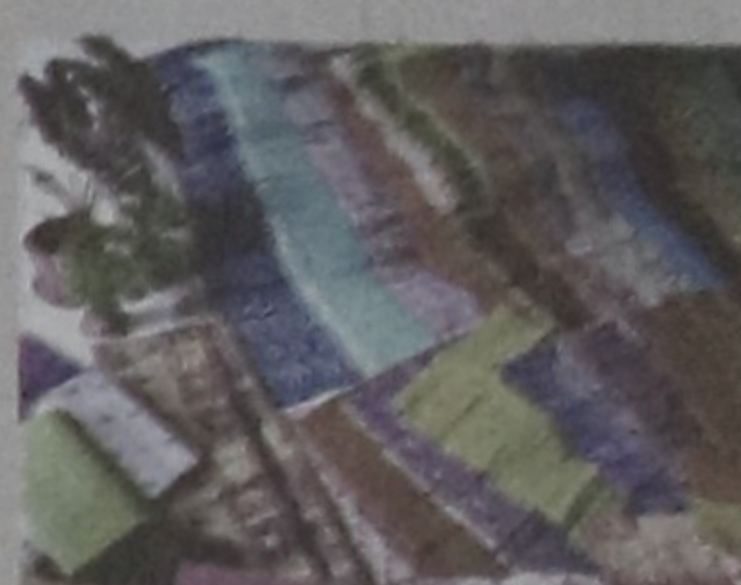
### Group Art Exhibition

by 19 artists from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka  
**Title:** Off the Beaten Path  
**Organiser:** Britto Art Trust  
**Venues:** Dnk Gallery, Dhanmondi; Galleri Kaya, Uttara; Bengali Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi  
**Date:** September 2-9  
**Time:** DG: 3pm-8pm, GK: 11am-8pm, BGFA: 11am-8pm



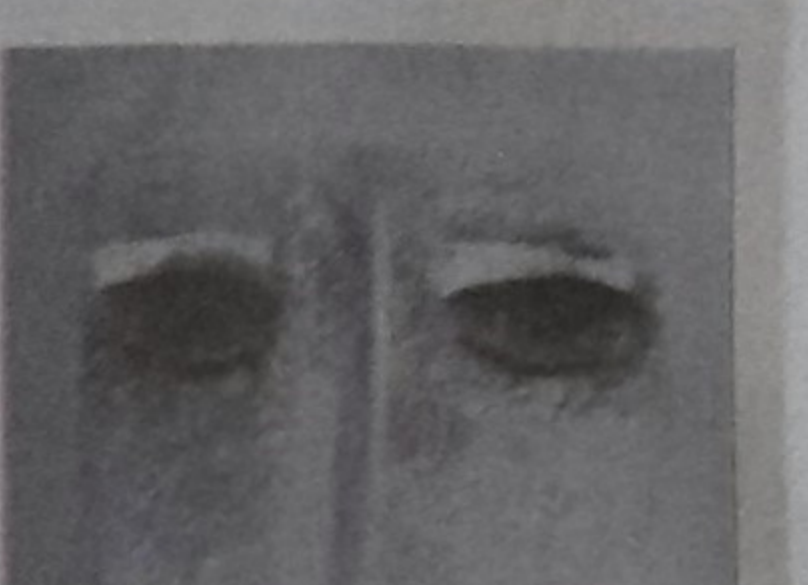
### Jamdani Mela

An exhibition of Jamdani Sarees  
**Venue:** Dnk Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (new), Dhanmondi  
**Date:** September 3-7  
**Time:** 3pm-8pm

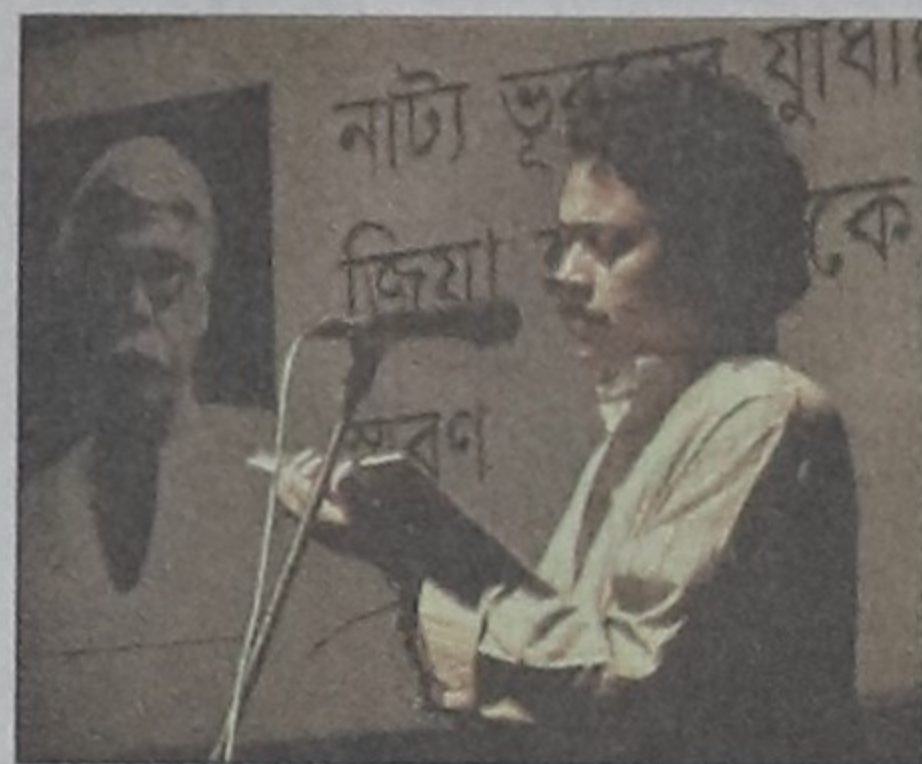


### Solo Exhibition

**Title:** The Intimate World of Colour  
**Artist:** Hamiduzzaman Khan  
**Venue:** Asiatic Society of Bangladesh Gallery of Fine Art, Nimtoli, Ramna  
**Date:** August 23-September 9  
**Time:** 12pm-8pm



## Rich tributes to Professor Zia Hyder at Shilpakala



(Anti-clockwise from top) Members of Palakar read *Shuvra Shundar Kalyani Ananda* by Zia Hyder. Syed Shamsul Haque and Nasiruddin Yousuff address the audience; Arif Hyder recites a poem by Zia Hyder.

ERSHAD KAMOL

September 5.

To pay homage to poet and pioneering theatre activist Professor Zia Hyder, Shammilito Shanskritik Jote, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Nagorik Natyasampradaya in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy organised a commemoration programme at the Experimental Theatre Stage on

Theatre personalities such as Ramendu Majumder, Ataur Rahman, Syed Shamsul Haque, Nasiruddin Yousuff, M. Hamid and Sara Zaker paid tribute to the late poet and theatre personality at the programme.

Describing Professor Hyder as a legendary figure in line with the epic Mahabharata Yudhisthira, the eldest son of King Pandu and Queen Kunti, who was

the protagonist of the Kurukshetra War and for his unblemished piety was known as the most pious one, discussants at the programme regretted not giving Professor Hyder due respect in his life time.

Ataur Rahman in his obituary reference to Professor Hyder focused on his remarkable contributions in Bangladeshi theatre and introducing academic theatre. Moreover, Rahman recalled the personality traits of his former colleague Professor

Hyder who was the founder president of the popular theatre troupe Nagorik.

Ataur Rahman said, "Professor Hyder gave the name of the troupe Nagorik and directed many theatre, TV and radio productions of the troupe in the initial stage of the troupe."

Ramendu Majumder said, "As cultural activities in Bangladesh are Dhaka centric, talents like Professor Hyder who passed his lifetime outside Dhaka did not get his due respect. We regret all the injustice to Professor Hyder."

"Truly he was like Yudhisthira to our theatre. We used to know about legendary theatre personalities of world theatre such as Peter Brook and Grotowski from him," said Nasiruddin Yousuff.

Besides the discussion, Professor Hyder's recitation two of his poems were projected. His younger brother Arif Hyder recited a poem by Zia Hyder.

An added attraction of the programme was a reading of Professor Hyder's popular play *Shuvra Shundar Kalyani Ananda* by Palakar.

Suffering from Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Professor Zia Hyder died on September 1. A teacher in theatre at Chittagong University Professor Hyder made remarkable contributions to the neo-theatre movement in Bangladesh shortly after the country's independence.

He is also renowned for his books on theatre such as *Natiker Katha* (a series on the history of world theatre), *Stanislavski-er Abhinaya-tawa* and *Natyakalaye Bibhinya* *Ism O Epic Theatre*. Most of these books are used as references in the theatre departments of the public universities in Bangladesh as well as Rabindra Bharati University in India. Moreover, Professor Hyder focused on introducing theatre as an academic subject at the university level in Bangladesh.

Besides, he wrote and directed many popular plays such as *Ele Bebe*, play *Shuvra Shundar Kalyani Ananda* and *Shada Golape Agun*, which gave momentum to theatre practice in Dhaka and Chittagong simultaneously.

Professor Zia Hyder won such prestigious awards such as Ekushey Padak, Bangla Academy Padak and Shaheed Munier Chowdhury Padak.

## Promoth Chowdhury's increasingly blurred legacy

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR, Pabna

PROMOTH Chowdhury, a noted Bengali litterateur, was the pride of Pabna. His ancestral residence is in village Haripur, in Chatmohar upazila under the district. Sadly, though, his rich literary heritage is in danger of being lost.

Today the only reminder of Chowdhury is his paternal home. Promoth Chowdhury was the son of Durgdas Chowdhury and his old home was 30 km from the district headquarters. His father was a deputy magistrate under the British government. Promoth spent his early years in Haripur though he was born in Jessore on August 7, 1868.

He came from a family of seven brothers and two sisters. He and his five brothers were barristers while the other two were doctors. His eldest brother Ashutosh was a judge of the Kolkata High Court during the British era.

Promoth's mother Mognamoe Devi was called Ratna Gorva (Mother of Jewels). Locals said that the Chowdhury family left the village after Partition in 1947, leaving behind precious assets. The family residence was looted. Locals still tip their hats to his memory in deep respect. Says a 38-year-old resident of the village, "We are proud to belong to the same village as Chowdhury. There is very little reminder of him, particularly among the younger citizens."

Among Chowdhury's notable books are *Tel-Noon-Lakri* (1906), *Beerboler Halkhata* (1916), *Nana Kotha* (1919) and *Probhondo Sangraha* (1952-53). He was also a talented poet. *Panchashat* (1913) and *Podacharn* (1919) are his sonnet books. Towards the end of his life he immersed himself in editing *Bishwa Bharati*.

Promoth Chowdhury passed away on September 2, 1946 in Kolkata. It is a testimony to

Chowdhury's formidable talent that he continues to attract a following. Says Professor Mohammad Nurunnabi, former principal of Government Shahid Bulbul College, Pabna, "Chowdhury does more than just write; he talks to his audience. His contribution is to introduce innovative writing tests during the Tagore era." Meanwhile the local government authorities seem to have the last word. Says Mohammad SAM Rafiqunnabi, UNO of Chatmohar upazila, "It is true that no steps were taken earlier for conserving his memories. Most of the land was occupied while the 19th century decorated buildings were looted earlier. The deputy commissioner of Pabna visited Chowdhury's village. He has instructed land officials to scrutinise the official land records. It is a pity that he is receding in the public memory and his birth and death anniversaries are hardly remembered."



(L) A rundown temple situated close to what was Promoth Chowdhury's home. Promoth Chowdhury's family home once stood on this barren tract.

### On Air

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-4**

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

**ATN BANGLA**

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

News (English) at 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

**CHANNEL-1**

News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am.

**BANGLAVISION**

News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm.

News (English) at 6:00 pm.

**Rtv**

News (Bangla) at 7:00 pm, and 10:30 pm.

**ntv**

News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 12:02 pm, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 1:00 am.

**ETV**

News (Bangla) at 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

**Channel- i**

09:30 Shagbadpotrey Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameen Phone Trinitomatra

11:05 Tele Prescription

11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush

12:30 Citycell Taroka Katha

01:05 Musical Programme: Ebong Cinemar Gaan

01:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma

02:30 Musical Programme: Hridoyer Gaan

03:05 Meridian Channel i Khudey Gaan Raaj

05:15 Muktiyudho Protidin

06:25 Pushi Monohar Iftaar

07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar Kulum

08:20 Drama Serial: Amader

10:30 Shahbag, Dhaka 1000

10:30 Ekushey Business

12:00 Ekushey Business: Special Focus

01:30 Ekushey Business: Shaphol Jara

02:10 Drama Serial: Aziz Market

03:30 Shahbag Dhaka 1000

04:00 Shangkriti Shakh Din

04:00 Explosive

05:30 Ekushey Shondha

06:30 Desh Jurey

07:45 Bhalobasha Karey Kay

08:15 Amader Shisu

09:30 Drama Serial: Ghatak Ebong Amra

10:10 Golpo Sholpo Gaan

10:50 Financial Bulletin

11:40 El Shoplader Bishwa

12:00 Ekush-er Raat

06:45 Shamporko

08:15 Drama Serial: Aim in Life

09:30 Closeup 1 Tomakey

11:35 Khujichhey Bangladesh

11:35 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy

**Rtv**

08:40 Net Fun

09:00 Talk Show: Shomoyer Daarpan

09:30 Musical Programme: R Music

11:00 Taroka Alap

12:35 Drama Serial: Apon Ghorey Porobash

01:05 Protidin

02:30 Bangla Feature Film

05:30 Net Fun

06:00 Protidin

06:30 Musical Programme: Path Chaoalei Anondo

08:00 Cookery Show: R-Ranna

02:30 Drama Serial: Shomudro Jol

03:05 Nodi O Jibon

04:20 Drama Serial: Nogorey

05:30 Law Chamber

06:05 Din-er Sheshey

06:20 Cinebit Shadakalo

06:50 Sports Vision

08:25 Daily Soap: Mohanagar

09:05 Visa Apan Agami

09:45 Drama Serial: Swapno Chura

11:25 Drama Serial: Protidin

**CHANNEL 1**

10:30 Bangla Feature Film

03:30 Duronto Pathik

04:00 Gaan-er Kharita

04:30 Music One

05:15 Hridoye Raamjaan

08:15 Drama Serial: Duronto Pathik

06:00 Raamjaan

08:00 Selected Programme

09:05 Apan Thikana

10:05 Musical Programme

10:05 Business Hour

**HBO**

09:30 Solar Attack

11:30 A Perfect World

02:15 Music And Lyrics

04:15 Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee

07:00 The Making Of Blood Diamond

07:15 My Best Friend's Wedding

09:30 Nacho Libre

11:30 Raising Cain

**STAR MOVIES**

08:05 Phenomenon

12:25 Phenomenon

**STAR WORLD**

08:30 Friends

09:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

11:30 Seinfeld

11:30 Friends

04:00 Life With Bonnie

04:30 According To Jim

05:00 My Name Is Earl

05:30 Stacked

06:00 How I Met Your Mother

06:30 That '70s Show

07:30 Ghost Whisperer

08:30 Ugly Betty

09:30 Grey's Anatomy

10:30 Desperate Housewives

11:30 Blood Ties

12:30 The Moment Of Truth

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

08:30 Built for the Kill

09:30 Inside: Sumo's Ultimate Clash

10:30 Telemail- Sauna Belt

11:30 The Serpent

12:30 The Secret Heart

01:30 Gone To Save The Planet

02:00 Operation Hot Pursuit

02:30 Planet Carnivore

03:30 The Serpent

04:30 Serious Amazon

05:00 Costa Rica

05:30 Big Bang

06:00 Lions

06:30 I Didn't Know That

07:00 What Would Happen If

07:30 Built for the Kill

08:30 Inside Mecca

09:30 Inside Jerusalem Holiest

10:30 Stonehenge Decoded

11:30 World's Deadliest Animals

12:30 Inside Jerusalem Holiest

**HISTORY**

08:30 Telemail

09:15 Eye Max

09:30 Secrets of the Sun

10:30 Mars: The Red Planet

11:30 The Doors

12:30 Biography

01:30 Environmental Tech I

02:30 Human Weapon

03:30 Investigating History

04:30 Beyond the Big Bang

06:30 North & South

11:30 Afghanistan

12:30 The Day the Towers Fell

**ZEE STUDIO**

08:30 50 First Dates

10:45 Connie And Carla

03:30 Down By Law

06:00 Raising Helen

08:30 The Passage

11:00 Stake Out

**Orchid**

On ATN Bangla at 9:20 pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Srabonti, Shoeb

**Swapolokey**

Travel Show: Banglalink

09:35 Travel Show: Banglalink

10:00 Bangla Pathway

11:30 Drama Serial: Shongshar

12:00 Mega Serial: 69

**Grameenphone Ajker Shagbadpotrey**

08:30 Ajker Shokal

08:55 Bangla Feature Film

12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy

01:05 Japan Video Topic

02:30 House Full

03:15 Arong Eid Preview 2008

04:25 Islamic Programme

05:30 Hridoye Romjaan

**ntv**

08:30 Ajker Shokal

08:55 Bangla Feature Film

12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy

01:05 Japan Video Topic

02:30 House Full

03:15 Arong Eid Preview 2008

04:25 Islamic Programme

05:30 Hridoye Romjaan

**ETV**

08:30 Ekush-er Shokal

09:15 Drama Serial: Aziz Market,