

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition

Abdur Razzaque Retrospective
 Title: Rhythms of Figures, Forms and Nature
 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi
 Date: October 10-29
 Time: 12pm-8pm



13th Asian Art Biennale '08

Organiser: Bangladesh Shipakala Academy
 Venue: Bangladesh Shipakala Academy, Osmani Memorial Hall and National Museum
 Date: October 21-November 19
 Time: 11am-7pm (Fridays 3pm-8pm)



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Beauty of Nature
 Artist: Kanideb Adhikari
 Venue: Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU
 Date: October 17-22
 Time: 10am-8pm



Theatre

Play: Dakghar
 Troupe: Palakar Studio,
 133/3, Natak Swarani
 Date: October 23-24
 Time: 6:30pm



Rare photographs of Tagore in jeopardy at Rabindra Memorial Museum



Rabindra Memorial Museum (top-right) and reproductions of paintings by Tagore on display at the museum.

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, back from Sirajganj

The Rabindra Memorial Museum at Shahjadpur in Sirajganj district houses some rare photographs of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore and his family. Unfortunately these priceless items are wasting away because of poor maintenance and neglect.

Dr Mohammad Shafiqul Alam, director general of the Department of Archeology, Bangladesh said during a phone conversation that the department has taken initiatives to preserve the heritage and memo-



abilia of 'Kabiguru' Rabindranath Tagore.

In the year 1969 the then Pakistan government declared 'Rabindra Kachharibari' as a protected archaeological site along with several memorabilia like bedstead, chairs and basin as well as old structures.

Officials of the department said that photographs of the poet and Tagore family were displayed at the museum after 'Rabindra Kachharibari' was declared a museum. The museum also houses photographic reproductions of paintings by Tagore -- the only existing ones in Bangladesh.

In his book "Rabindranath: Kishore Jibon," writer Hayat Mamud noted that Tagore completed over 2,000 paintings and sketches during his lifetime.

Nahid Sultana, custodian, Rabindra Memorial Museum pointed out that only 57 reproductions of paintings by poet are on display at the museum. On the other hand, 87 rare photographs of Tagore and his family members along with other prominent personalities of the day have been preserved at the museum.

According to an official of the museum, there is an urgent need to preserve these photographs and reproductions.



Artists render the National Anthem at a cultural programme titled "Shilpocharchar Mukto Paribesh Chai" held at the Bakultala premises at Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University on October 20. The programme started on October 19 under the banner of "Shachetan Shilpi Shamaj," a platform for activists and cultural personalities including singers, actors, filmmakers, photographers, poets and reciters to protect artistic freedom. At the programme, participating artistes condemned the removal of 'Baul' sculptures in front of Zia International Airport.



Bangladeshi artist Nazia Andaleeb Preema (right) donated her work to a British Charity at the British Curry Awards. Founder of British Curry Award, Enam Ali (2nd from left), is seen along with others at the event on October 19, 2008. The grand event was held at the prestigious Grosvenor House, London, where Bangladesh was presented in a unique manner. Preema's painting was auctioned and the proceeds were given to a British Charity, JW Fund for Kidney Cancer, says a press release. The event set another milestone for Bangladesh as for the first time a Bangladeshi brand, ACI Spice, took part in the ceremony as one of the sponsors.

"Talking Point" On ATN Bangla tonight



Munni Saha hosts the talk show.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Talking Point, a late night talk show on contemporary issues, will be aired at 11:30 pm on ATN Bangla tonight. Directed and hosted by journalist Munni Saha, the programme is produced by Tarek Ripon.

The show brings forth several contemporary socio-political problems, both national and international. Through the discussion with the specialist guests invited to the show, the show also probes the reasons behind and tries to suggest ways to solve those problems.

This is the 63rd episode of the programme, which is aired every Wednesday. The show is also re-tecast on Sundays at 7:30 am.

Drama serial "Adda" on Rtv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Adda" will be aired tonight on Rtv at 9:50pm. The screenplay of the serial has been done by Alvi Ahmed. Ahmed is the director of the serial as well.

The plot of the serial follows the friendship between Sajjad, Kaushik and Rumpa. Sajjad is a struggling actor desperate searching for his breakthrough role. Kaushik works for a mobile operator. Rumpa is the assistant editor of a literary magazine. Sajjad and Kaushik live in a rented flat while Rumpa lives with her brother Babu. Babu got married twice, both ending on sour notes. Together, Babu, Kaushik and Sajjad forms an "anti-marriage" group called "Chhirkumar Sabha." The three continue with their vows to never get married until Mithila, an affluent, beautiful and whiny woman who went to school with Rumpa, emerges on the scene.

The cast includes Sumaiya Shimu, Apurba, Shajol, Runa Khan, Sheuti, Shahadat Hossain and others.



A scene from "Adda"

Gwyneth Paltrow |

"I'm helping Madonna over split"



AP, London

Gwyneth Paltrow is helping her friend Madonna through the break-up of her marriage.

The actress told reporters that she's supporting the pop star following Wednesday's announcement that she's separated from filmmaker Guy Ritchie.

"She's a very good friend. I'm supporting her in all the

ways that I can. I'm just there for her. I speak to her a lot," Paltrow said as she attended the premiere of her film "Two Lovers" at London's Film Festival.

Like Madonna, Paltrow -- who's married to Hollywood singer Chris Martin -- lives partly in London.

Madonna and Ritchie, who were married at a Scottish castle in December 2000, have two children: Rocco, 8, and David Banda, 3, who was adopted in Malawi in 2006. Madonna also has a 12-year-old daughter, Lourdes, from a previous relationship.

Madonna's publicist said Sunday that details of a divorce settlement are yet to be finalised, dismissing reports that the couple had agreed to a custody arrangement for the couple's children.

Novel featuring the division of Sylhet region

Third edition of "Pardeshi" launched

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet.

Veteran educationist and former Vice-chancellor of Assam University and North-Eastern Hill University of Shillong, Dr. Jayanto Bhattacharya has said that the historic division of Sylhet region (as part of the greater "Division of Bengal") remains mostly ignored.

The novel "Pardeshi" by the late litterateur Abdul Malek Chowdhury. The first edition was published in 1922.

Among others, former Chairman of Privatisation Commission, Enam Ahmed

novel, he added. Another aspect of the literary work is the portrayal of relation between the Bengalis and indigenous people of Shillong.

Dr. Bhattacharya was speaking as the chief guest at a discussion recently at Shahid Soleiman Hall in Sylhet city. The occasion was the unveiling of the third edition of the novel "Pardeshi" by the late litterateur Abdul Malek Chowdhury. The first edition was published in 1922.

Among others, former Chairman of Privatisation Commission, Enam Ahmed

Chowdhury, eminent educationist, Professor Md. Abdul Aziz; Dr. Md. Shahnoor of the North-Eastern Hill University of Shillong; former Sylhet Pourashabha Chairman, A.F.M. Kamal and writer Abdul Hamid Manik spoke at the discussion. Poet Ragib Hossain Chowdhury, president of the Kendriyo Muslim Shahitya Sangsad, chaired the function. Poet Shahadat Alim presented the keynote paper while Shahitya Sangad Secretary, Harun-uz-Zaman Chowdhury presented the address of welcome.



Discussants at the book launch.

PHOTO: STAR