

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Victory Day Celebration

Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha
Date: December 14-16
Time: 4pm



Bijoy Mela

Organiser: Channel I
Venue: 39-40 Shahid Tajuddin Ahmed Road, Tejgaon
Date: December 16
Time: 11:05am



Recitation, Gono Sangeet

Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha
Date: December 15
Time: 4pm



Recitation and Dance

Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha
Date: December 16
Time: 10am



Victory Day celebration at Liberation War Museum



PHOTO: MUMIT M

Folk song and dance at Liberation War Museum's Victory Day celebration.



NADIA SARWAT

A four-day celebration by Liberation War Museum (LWM) on our Victory day started on December 13 at the museum premises with a demand to include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the curriculum of schools, colleges and Madrasahs.

Mafidul Haque, trustee and member secretary of LWM welcomed the audience and presented the proposal. "Through our extended experience in teaching the youngsters the history of our Liberation War, we have realised that it is necessary for them to learn about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and about peace and amity. We call upon the concerned authority to take necessary steps to include these aspects in the formal education," he said.

Quazi Ali Reza, Information Officer of United Nation's Information Centre, Dhaka then read out the message of the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the occasion of International Human Rights Day (which was on December 10). Reza also informed the audience about the background, which led the United Nations to make the declaration in 1948. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the document, which has proven to be a key instrument in restoring peace in several war-torn countries.

Professor Dalem Chandra Barman, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Dhaka University presented the keynote paper titled "Declaration of Human Rights and Genocide Convention."

The second part of the event featured a cultural programme. Students of Begum Rahima Ideal Girls' School performed songs and dance. A group dance with the song "O Ganga tumi boichho keno" and a chorus rendition of the patriotic song "Sundar subarno tarunyo labonyo" were greeted with rounds of applause.

Next on stage was Ruma Sarkar singing baul songs. She started with the song "Shomoy geley shadhon hobey na." Jalal Boyati from Comilla performed several baul songs at the event. "Yahya, Bhutto, Tikkar kalla chai/ Shonar Bangla agun diye korlo chhai," a song composed by the Boyati expressing the fiery resolve of the freedom fighters to free the land and avenge the murdered countrymen was a highlight. The event also included 'punthi paath' (recital) -- going over the history of Liberation War -- by Hakim Boyati and Halim Boyati from Netrakona.

Yesterday, family members of the martyred freedom fighters reminisced about their experiences and the loved ones whom they lost during the Liberation War. Muktiyoddha Characha Kendra, an organisation from Rajshahi, performed at the event. Performance by the artistes of Chhayanaat concluded the second day's programme.

The four-day event also includes programmes at the 'Jalladkhana Badhyobhumi Smritipith' (killing field) in Mirpur. The event will end tomorrow with a 'jatarapala' titled "Ganga Thekey Buriganga" by Loko Natya Gosthi at the Liberation War Museum premises.

Sammilito Sangskritik Jote's Victory Day programme



PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

Artistes dance and sing at the Central Shaheed Minar on December 13.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Like every year cultural organisation Sammilito Sangskritik Jote (SSJ) has arranged a three-day "Bijoy Utsab" to mark the Victory Day (December 16).

With the slogan "Konthey tolo bijoyer shur, okutobhoy Ekattur," the three-day programme was inaugurated on December 13 at the Central Shaheed Minar premises by relatives and family members of the seven 'Bir Shertha.' This is the 19th Victory Day celebration by SSJ.

"We have been holding special programmes to mark the Victory Day since 1990," said Golam Kuddus, general secretary, SSJ.

"With such programmes we try to honour those who had sacrificed their all in 1971 and also generate awareness among the masses," Kuddus added.

This year SSJ is holding programmes at two venues -- at Central Shaheed Minar and Rabindra Sarobar. Added attraction: two

trucks carrying SSJ members will stop at the important locations of the city; holding live performances.

On December 13, the programme started with a one-minute-silence honouring the martyrs of the Liberation War.

Artistes of Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha (BRSSS), Dhaka unit, rendered the National Anthem.

A "Ghoshona potro" (proposal), was read out by Ahkam Ullah, member, SSJ.

After a dance performance by artistes of 'Spondon,' Ashrafur Alam and Laila Afroz recited inspirational poems.

A short discussion followed. Golam Kuddus; Manna Hira, president, Bangladesh Pathonotok Parishad; Kazi Arif, convenor, Bijoyutsab 2008; Habibullah Siraji; Dr. Mohammad Samad; Mamunur Rashid; M. Hamid, chairman, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation; and Nasiruddin Yousuff, president, SSJ spoke at the event.

The programme starts from 4 pm and continues till 8:00 pm everyday.

Victory Day special

Ekjon Durbal Manush on ntv



(From left) Chanchal Chowdhury, Saberi Alam and Mamo in the play.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Special TV play "Ekjon durbal Manush" will be aired on Victory Day (December 16) at 9 pm on ntv. An adaptation of a story by Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, the play has been directed by Golam Sohrab Dodul. Chanchal Chowdhury, Mamo, Saberi Alam, Avid Raihan, Dr. Enamul Haque and others have donned the key roles.

The play goes back to 1972. The story follows Zafar, a University student, who was locked up for two months by the Pakistani military during the Liberation war. Though many take him as a freedom fighter for this reason, basically, Zafar is a feeble-minded individual. He lies incessantly to fool his friends; can't help staring at good-looking girls in his department, but also feels guilty about pretending to be someone he is not.

Eventually on the death anniversary of his mother, Zafar promises not to fib, at least not on that day. That day, a woman named Rokhsana comes to meet him. Rokhsana is Shawkat's sister. Shawkat was one of the captives along with Zafar at the army camp who was killed afterwards. Rokhsana takes Zafar to her mother who wants to know about the last days of her son. Does Zafar tell her the truth?

Amader Bijoy-er Kotha on Banglavisian

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Hosted by noted cultural personality Mamunur Rashid, special talk show "Amader Bijoy-er Kotha" will be aired on Victory Day at 9:45 pm on Banglavisian.

Lt. General (ret'd) Harunur Rashid Chowdhury Bir Pratik, former commander-in-chief of Bangladesh Army; poet Nirmalendu Gune and Shujee Shyam, renowned music composer and artiste of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra will reminisce on the days of Liberation War on the show.

(From left) Lt. General (ret'd) Harunur Rashid Chowdhury Bir Pratik, poet Nirmalendu Gune and Shujee Shyam on the show.



Celebrating the day Sirajganj was liberated



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

'Bangal,' an organisation of poets arranged a programme featuring discussion, poetry recitation, music and more on Saturday evening at the hall room of Azeem hospital in Sirajganj town. The programme marked the celebration of the day Sirajganj district was liberated from the occupying Pakistani forces in 1971.

Poet Dr. Masum Sarker presided over the discussion. Poet and freedom fighter T.M. Moazzem Hossain; K.M. Akhtar Hossain; poet, novelist and journalist Golam Mostafa Jibon; Kalpona Chowdhury; and M.A. Matin among others spoke on the occasion. Speakers unanimously said that the

nation achieved independence through immense sacrifice of the freedom fighters. During the Liberation war, the country lost many of her gifted sons and daughters.

After the discussion, poets took part in reciting poems and artistes rendered songs on different themes.

Sirajganj town was liberated on December 14, 1971 following a fierce battle between freedom fighters and the Pakistani forces. Different Bengali guerrilla groups took position at strategic points around the town and engaged in a battle with the Pakistani military. The Pakistani soldiers were forced to leave the town.

Marking the day, other organisations including Sirajganj Zilla Muktiyoddha Sangsad arranged rallies and discussions.