

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Poush Mela '09
Organiser: Poush Mela Udjapan Pansad
Venue: Ramna Batomul
January 9: 7am-11am
January 10: 4pm-9pm



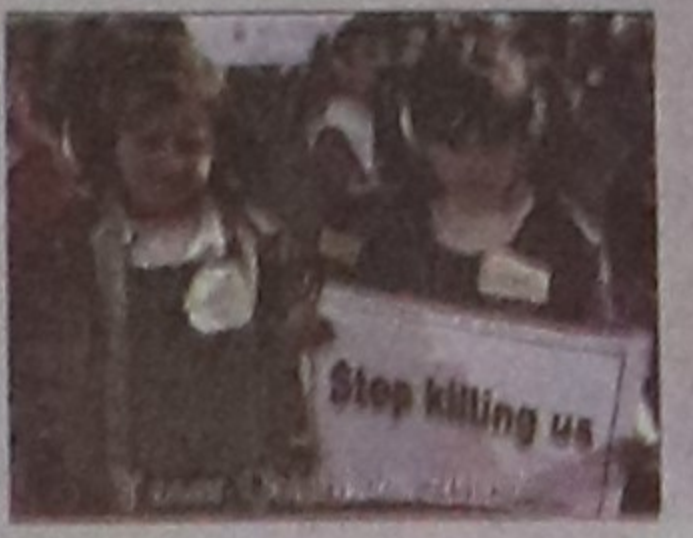
Group Drawing Exhibition
Title: Rhythmic Lines
Venue: Asiatic Gallery of Fine Arts, Nimtoli, Ramna
Date: January 3-15
Time: 12pm-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Stimulated Luminescence
Artist: Juneer Kibria
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27, Dhanmondi
From January 5-14 at 12-8pm



Photography Exhibition
Condolence for the people of Gaza
Organiser: Iranian Cultural Centre
Venue: ICC, H 54, Rd 8/A, Dhanmondi
From December 30-January 12 (9am-5pm)



Polli-kobi Jasimuddin's 106th birth anniversary observed in Faridpur



D Jamal Anwar, son of Jasimuddin, speaks at a memorial discussion in Ambikapur on the occasion of the poet's 106th birth anniversary (left). A portrait of the poet.

REZAUL KARIM, Faridpur

The 106th birth anniversary (January 1, 1903) of 'Polli-kobi' Jasimuddin was

observed recently at the poet's native village Ambikapur in Faridpur.

On the occasion, different organisations including Faridpur district administra-

tion, Jasim Foundation, district Shilpakala Academy and Faridpur Sahitya Parishad chalked out elaborate programmes.

The programmes included

placing wreaths at the poet's tomb, public prayers, discussion, recitation of poems and rendition of songs written by Jasimuddin, photo exhibition, and screening of a film, pro-

duced by Khan Ataur Rahman, titled "Ekjon Kobi Jasimuddin".

Among others ATM Nasir Mia, additional deputy commissioner (general); Abu Masud, additional deputy commissioner (revenue); Professor Md. Shahjahan; Munshi Harun-ur-Rashid, president of Faridpur Journalists' Association; D Jamal Anwar, son of Jasimuddin; Professor MA Samad and Mafiz Imam Milon, coordinator, Faridpur Jasim Foundation spoke at the memorial discussion.

Faridpur Deputy Commissioner and Faridpur Jasim Foundation President Akhtaruzzaman Mohammad Mostafa Kamal chaired the function.

In memory of Jasimuddin, a fortnight-long fair will be held at the premises of the poet's home in Ambikapur village from January 25.

Tomar Dowa-e Bhalo Achhi Ma A moving depiction of migrant Bangladeshi workers

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Sixteenth episode of the TV serial "Tomar Dowa-e Bhalo Achhi Ma" will be aired tonight at 9:20 pm on ATN Bangla. The serial is aired every Thursday and Friday. Written by Kazi Shahidul Islam, the series is directed by Mahfuz Ahmed.

The story follows the plight of six young individuals - Gaurango, Sikandar, Bulbul, Jewel, Rashid and Jainal - all from financially strained families. Each is from a different area of Bangladesh and they don't know each other, but their backgrounds and situations seem similar at times. At the cost of family property or savings, they go abroad in search of better prospects. They share a common goal -



A scene from the serial.

to rescue their families and themselves from abject poverty. They are soon disillusioned by the reality however, once they make it abroad. Easy money and easy life in foreign land proves to be a myth. The series addresses the miscon-

ceptions that lure rural young men to pursue perilous, woeful lives abroad.

The cast includes Ferdausi Majumdar, Mosharraf Karim, Chanchal Chowdhury, Hasan Masud, Intekhab Dinar, Richi Solaiman, Tania Ahmed and Humayra Himu.

"Shomudro Jol" on Banglavisision

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

TV serial "Shomudro Jol" will be aired on Banglavisision tonight at 8:25 pm. The serial has been directed by Mohon Khan.

The story of the serial revolves around a newly married couple Rusho and Adhora. Rusho and Adhora get married without notifying their respective families. They go to Cox's Bazar for honeymoon. In the midst of their honeymoon, they run out of money. Rusho plans to go back to Dhaka to get money despite Adhora's objections. On his way to Dhaka, Rusho has an accident, which causes amnesia.

Back in Cox's Bazar, Adhora eagerly awaits Rusho's return. The cast of the serial includes Gazi Rakayet, Shahed Sharif Khan, Banya Mirza, Shajol, Shahriar Nazim Joy, Litu Anam, Chandni and Tanima Hamid.



Shajol and Banya Mirza in a scene from "Shomudro Jol".

Bollywood bids Bush goodbye with a parting shot



REUTERS, New Delhi

Barely two weeks before George W. Bush leaves the White House, Bollywood is ready with a farewell present - a film that takes pot shots at the outgoing US president.

"The President is Coming," set in Mumbai during Bush's trip to India in 2006, tells the fictional tale of six Indians vying for a chance to shake hands with the visiting head of state.

Bush is a running theme in the film and so are 'Bushisms' - verbal slip-ups in his speeches - that have gained notoriety during his eight-year presidency.

"Bush is more of a sort of metaphor for the things that America represents - good or bad - but he's also used as a bit of a punching bag because he's an easy target," said Kunaal Roy Kapur, the film's 29-year-old director.

Shot in a mock documentary style, the English-language film depicts a series of farcical tests conducted in a room at the US consulate to single out a young Indian worthy enough to meet Bush.

"The President is Coming," adapted from a play of the same name, opens this week, just days before Barack Obama takes office on January 20 as the first black US president.

"It's definitely a nice little goodbye present for Bush," said Kapur.

There is no word yet on whether an actor plays the president's role in the film, although the director has said he used different ways to deal with the problem, including using video footage of Bush.

Television promos for "The President is Coming" showed a person wearing a rubber Bush mask and a business suit walking past various Mumbai landmarks.

Kapur said the film, made at a cost of about 30 million rupees, would have lost much of its charm if Bush had not been the incumbent US president.

"The premise wouldn't have been as much fun if any of the other presidents had been around," the first-time director said.

"The whole fun of it is that it's President Bush."

Shakoor exhibitions held in India



Abdus Shakoor explaining one of his paintings to noted Indian poet and art critic Pragay Shukla. (Below) Shakoor paintings at the Delhi exhibition.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Abdus Shakoor Shah is one of the most renowned painters in Bangladesh. Throughout an illustrious career, Shakoor has been working on folk motifs and ancient ballads of rural Bengal. The artist had a breakthrough when he was studying at Baroda, India in 1978. His main objective is to represent our traditional culture and heritage through artworks.

Upon invitation from ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations), Shakoor had two solo exhibitions in Delhi and Kolkata recently. In Delhi, the exhibition was held at AIFACS Gallery from December 8 to 14. The exhibit was inaugurated by Professor Shaheed Mahdi, vice president of ICCR.

In Kolkata, the exhibition was held at Rabindranath Tagore Centre from December 19 to 26. The Kolkata exhibition was inaugurated by Syed Masud Mahmood Khondokar, high commissioner of Bangladesh in India.



Mahorat of Chirodin Ami Tomar



The 'mahorat' was attended by distinguished media personalities.

'Mahorat' (formal announcement) of "Chirodin Ami Tomar," the first film produced by ATN Movies (a concern of ATN Bangla), was held at BFDC on January 5, says a press release.

The film will be directed by FI Manik and features Riaz and Purnima in lead roles.

ANM Badrul Amin, managing director of BFDC was the chief guest at the programme.

Among others, Dr. Mahfuzur Rahman, chairman, ATN Movies; Mujibur Rahman, managing director, ATN Movies; filmmakers Chashi Nazrul Islam, KMR Manzur, Nasiruddin Dilu, Khorshed Alam Khasru, Muhammad Hannan, Shahidul Islam Khokon, Sohanur Rahman Sohan; the cast and crew of the film were present at the 'mahorat'.



Chhayanaat held a press conference at Rameshchandra Dutt Smriti Milanendra, Chhayanaat Sanskriti Bhaban yesterday at 11 am. Plans for the upcoming 'Chhayanaat Shuddha Sangeet Utsab' were announced at the conference. The three-day festival will be inaugurated by renowned music teacher Khurshid Khan. (From left) Anup Barua, Nazrul artiste and classical music teacher at Chhayanaat; Dr. Sarwar Ali, a trustee of Liberation War Museum; Dr. Sanjida Khatun, president of Chhayanaat; Ashit Dey and Rezwana Ali Lavlu, both teachers at Chhayanaat are seen at the conference.