

DHAKA SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2009 Culture@thedailystar.net

The Daily Star

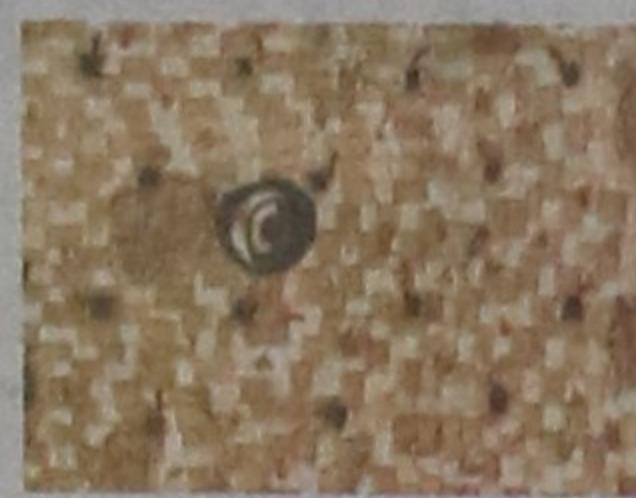
WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Dhrupad Recital
Artists: S Nafeesuddin Dagar and S. Aneesuddin Dagar
Organiser: High Commission of India and Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
February 10 at 7pm



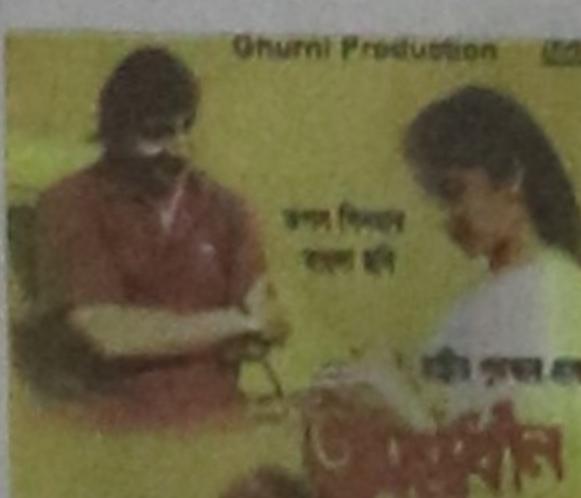
Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Palol Dinlipti
Artist: Kalidas Kamakar
Organiser: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, R 27(old) Dhanmondi
Date: February 15-28
Time: 12pm-8pm



Tapan Sinha Retrospective

Organiser: High Commission of India Cultural Centre
Venue: Auditorium, HCl Cultural Centre, H 35, Rd 24, Gulshan 1
Date: February 5-9
Time: 6pm, "Antardhan" on February 9



Street Theatre Festival 2009
Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theater Federation
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises
Date: February 1-7
Time: 4 pm onwards



Ekushey book fair in Pabna



Guests at the inaugural of the book fair last Thursday.

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

'Ekushey Book Fair,' at Pabna Town Hall premises, has become a source of recreation for the locals. The two weeklong book fair began on February 1. The formal inauguration programme was held last Thursday (February 5). Earlier, competitions in four categories for school students were held during the first four days of the fair.

Vice Chancellor of Pabna University of Science and Technology (PUST), Dr. Amin Uddin Mridha, inaugurated the fair last Thursday. A discussion was held on the occasion. President of Ekushey Book Fair Celebration Committee, Sultan Ahmed Buro, chaired the discussion. Cultural activist Shadhin Majumdar conducted the programme.

Among others, VC of PUST; Sohni Hossain, managing director of the Universal Group; Advocate Azizul Haque, principal of Pabna Law College and Md. Zakir Hossain, secretary of Ekushey Book Fair Celebration Committee spoke at the programme.

Speakers urged all to uphold the spirit of language movement through ensuring a

knowledge-based society. The historic Language Movement inspired Bengalis to fight for their rights, an aspiration that culminated into the Liberation War. The Language Movement made a huge impact on our culture as well, speakers said.

Later a cultural programme was held at the fair premises. Noted local artists Ashraf Hossain Robi and Nasima Ashraf led the programme. Highlights included renditions of patriotic songs.

According to the fair sources, over 400 school students of the district participated in the competitions held during the first four days.

Of them, at least 150 children participated in a painting competition held on February 1; 92 children participated in a recitation competition on February 2; 70 children participated in a music competition on February 3 and 67 children participated in a dance competition on February 4.

Pabna Drama Circle staged its production "Ojha" on February 4 at the fair. According to fair sources, 34 stalls have been set up, featuring books from publication houses of the district and beyond.

Music as a tool for social change

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

Speakers at a discussion, held recently, urged students to work for the development of society. Music can enhance creativity among the young and help them reach out to others, speakers conveyed. Music is necessary for an enlightened society, they said.

The discussion was part of a programme, titled "Smrititey Chiro Shomujal," organised by Khagrachhari Hill District Council, held at Khagrachhari Shilpkala Academy premises recently. The objective was to generate interest in music among youngsters.

Speakers also expressed that music encourages spirituality, patriotism and pride in one's traditions. Through



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music, many have achieved enlightenment.

Later, at the programme, awards were given to winners of contests on arts, Nazrul Sangeet, Rabindra Sangeet, patriotic songs and dance.

Deputy Commissioner A.K.M. Khairel Alam; Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) Chairman Ruhity Karbari and KHDC member Abu Bakar Siddique spoke on the occasion.



A two-day drama programme was held at the 'Mukta Mancha' of Rajshahi University recently. RU Theatre organised the shows with an aim to encourage cultural activities on campus. "Shatti Bhuter Golpo," a play highlighting social injustice and corruption, was staged twice during the programme.

PHOTO: STAR

A.R. Rahman has no regrets about "Slumdog"

AP, New York

Oscar nominee A.R. Rahman has a polite suggestion for those in Bollywood who are complaining that the hit film "Slumdog Millionaire" casts India in a negative light with its depiction of poverty in Mumbai's slums: don't just criticise it, make your own film.

"In my opinion if creative people want to comment on a film, and if I were a director and felt that way, I would make another film and prove my point and say this is what India is about," Rahman told The Associated Press in an interview from Los Angeles before returning home to work on film scores before participating in the February 22 Oscars awards show.

As for "Slumdog Millionaire," the noted Indian film music composer believes it is "a great statement of showing in a way the past reality and the growth of the economy in India, which all comes across beautifully."

The 43-year-old Rahman has been hailed in India for his three Oscar nominations for "Slumdog Millionaire" -- for best original score and the songs "O...Saya" and "Jai Ho." But the rags-to-riches saga of Mumbai orphan who competes on India's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" quiz show received a controversial reception in India.

Rahman refused to comment on a defamation lawsuit filed against him and actor Anil Kapoor, who plays the quizmaster in the film, by a Mumbai slum-dwellers' rights group alleging its members found the term "Slumdog" insulting.

But he said he had no qualms about working on the film with British director Danny Boyle and his crew, whom he described as "very sensitive people."

"When you came out of the film... that felt so good and positive that nothing else mattered to me," said Rahman. "I loved working with Danny and I loved his whole vision of the screenplay and the artistic quality of the film."

"And for me it's not about India alone, it's about the human spirit which triumphs, and this could have happened in China or Brazil or anywhere else."

Rahman says the film is consistent with his humanitarian goals. An honorary U.N. ambassador, he set up the A.R. Rahman Foundation to support educational programmes for underprivileged children across India. He has also founded a conservatory in his home city of Chennai to prepare youngsters for careers in music.



A.R. Rahman arrives at the Academy Award luncheon in Beverly Hills, California on February 2, 2009.

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All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

On Air

BTV

09:05 Kobita O Chobi
09:30 Smritimoy Geetimoy
10:30 Swashtho Sheba
11:30 Selected Programme
12:10 Desher Gaan
12:10 Selected Programme
01:30 Shukhi Poribar
02:15 Sisimpur
02:45 Bangla Feature Film
05:35 Shomoyer Shanglaap
07:00 Geeti Mayo
08:35 Drama Serial: Shomoy Oshomoy
09:00 Drama: Ghum
10:30 Apnaa Doctor

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Shanbadpotro
08:30 Dance Programme: Nupur-er Chhondoy

Vision 2020

10:30 Hello Bangladesh
12:15 Omor Skushey Boimela
Protidin
01:30 Prapok

02:40 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Teletalk Banijyo Mela Protidin
06:20 Square Hostipat Shushtho Thakun

06:45 Projorno Katha
08:00 Drama Serial: Sagai
08:40 Drama Serial: Eka
09:20 Drama Serial: Noksha
10:40 Mukto Shonglaap

11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL 1

08:00 News (Bangla) at 8:00am. 12:00pm. 2:00pm. 6:30pm. 7:30pm. 10:00pm. 12:30am

08:00 News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am. 12:00am. 4:00pm. News (English) at 6:00pm

08:00 News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

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