

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

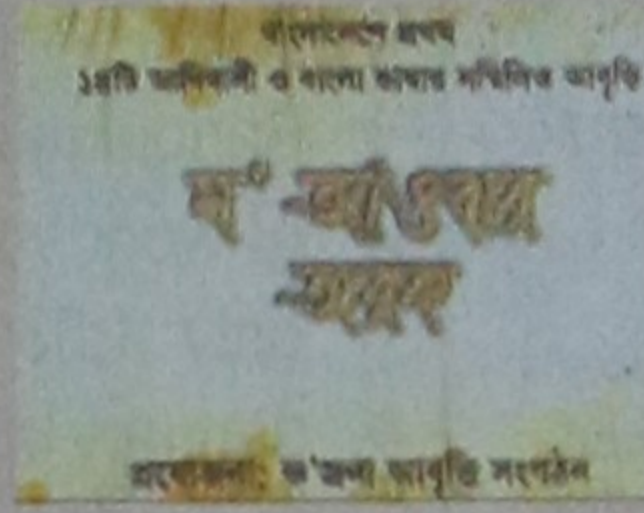
Ekushey Boli Mela '09
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy premises
Date: February 01-28



Chobi Mela V
Intl Festival of Photography, Bangladesh '09
Theme: Freedom
Venues: National Museum, BSA, Drik Gallery, Bengal Gallery, AF, GIB, British Council, Asiatic Gallery, Kalpana Boarding and Karwan Bazar underpass
Date: Jan 30-Feb 20



Recitation of poetry in 14 Adivasi languages
Title: Ma' Aoujhar Arok
Organiser: Kajona Arittli Sangathan
Venue: TSC Auditorium, Dhaka University
Date: February 8
Time: 6pm



Streetwise Art Exhibition
Venue: Bay's Galleria, 57, Gulshan Avenue
Date: December 2008-February 2009
Time: 11am-6pm



Drishyapat celebrates 18th anniversary

Abdullah Abu Sayeed honoured

NADIA SARWAT

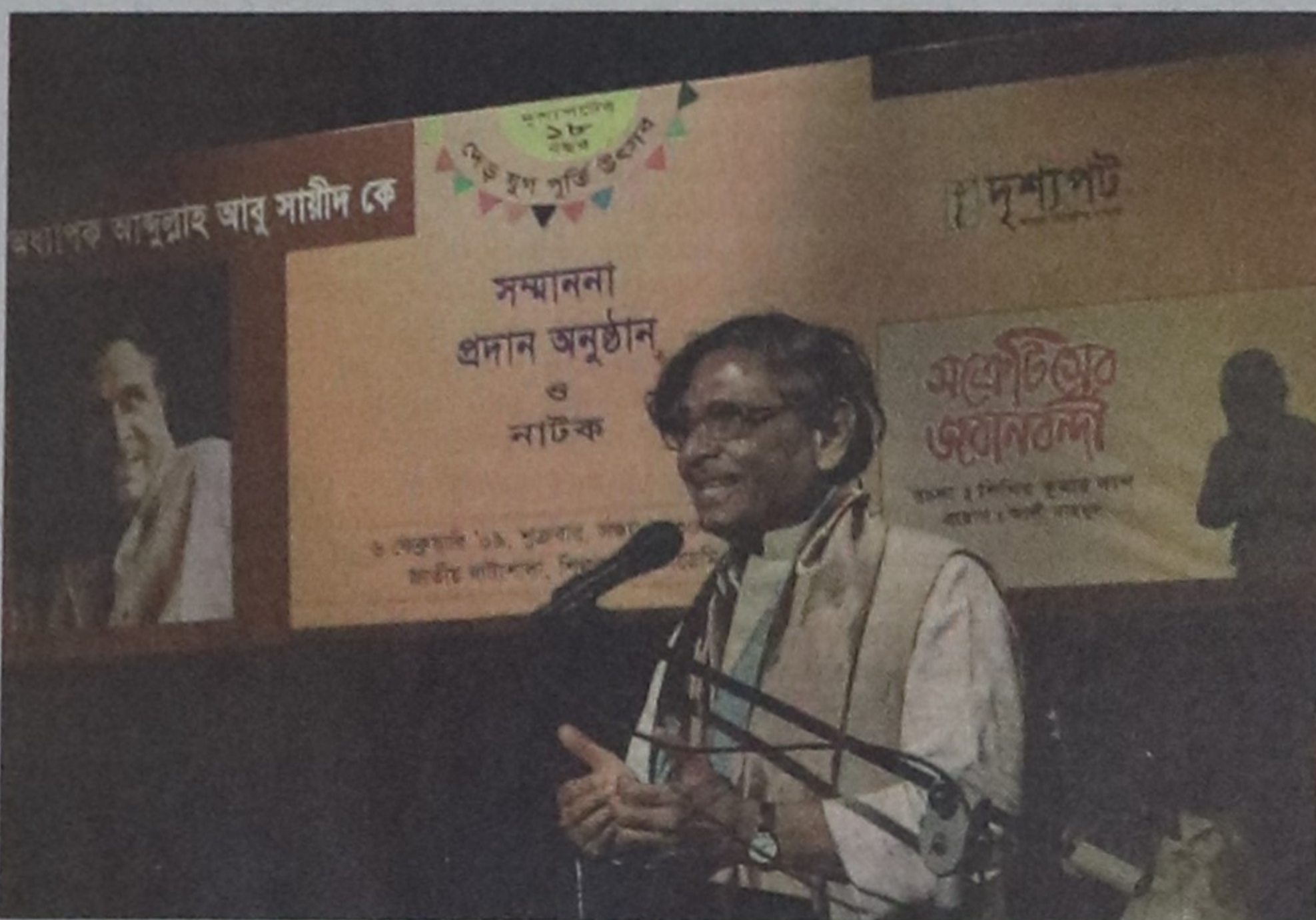
Theatre troupe Drishyapat celebrated its 18th anniversary by honouring eminent cultural personality Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed. The event was held at the National Theatre Stage, BSA on February 6. Mahfuzul Haque, principal, Dhaka Imperial College was present at the event as special guest. Drishyapat also staged its successful production "Socrates-er Jobanbondi" at the event.

Nehal Ahmed conferred "Uttorio" on the noted educationist on behalf of the troupe while Azizur Rahman presented "Uttorio" to Mahfuzul Haque. Piklu Bakshi of Drishyapat handed over a crest to Sayeed.

"We are not immortal. Therefore, I believe in living with joy, an all encompassing joy that can be achieved through spreading goodwill to the people around you. We should not think about how much we get in return, nor should we think about our ultimate destination. In fact, our ultimate destination is death; we should concentrate on work to enrich our lives," said inspiring orator Sayeed.

The play "Socrates-er Jobanbondi" had moved Sayeed to tears when he first saw it, said Sayeed in his speech. He expressed the hope that the play would be staged in different educational institutions and organised shows for the production.

However, the troupe is unable to continue its show because



Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed speaks at the event.



A scene from the play "Socrates-er Jobanbondi"

of the dearth of actors and a proper venue for rehearsals. The latter problem, in fact, became acute and the troupe had to call a halt to their activities. The latter hurdle also confronted several theatre troupes of the country. A helping hand to Drishyapat came from Mahfuzul Haque of Dhaka Imperial College who provided them with a rehearsal room. Through the event, the troupe expressed its gratitude to Mahfuzul Haque.

"Socrates-er Jobanbondi", by Shishir Kumar Das, is one of the popular productions by Drishyapat. Other such productions are "Narak Gulzar" by Manoj Mitra (ongoing production), "Public" by Mamunur Rashid and "Nag Mandal" by Girish Karnad.

Based on the historical trial of Socrates, the great Athenian philosopher as documented by another master philosopher Plato, one of Socrates' disciple, in his "Apologia Sokratous" (Defense of Socrates), the play is directed by Ali Mahmud. Drishyapat has brought some new elements to the play in a departure from its earlier version of the production. Ali Mahmud, Piklu Bakshi, Nehal Ahmed, Ahsan Habib, among others are the actors in the play.

Three-day Patha Natya Utsab held in Sylhet

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The Sylhet divisional chapter of the three-day Jatiya Patha Natya Utsab ended in Sylhet recently with a demand for the trial of the war criminals and the corrupt elements of society. Thirty two organisations from the region took part in the programme: 12 from Sylhet, five from Moulvibazar and four from Habiganj. However, no organisation from the Sunamganj district participated on the occasion.

Freedom fighter Aftab Ali formally inaugurated the three-day programme on Sunday afternoon. Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation treasurer-Shah Alam Dulal and publication secretary Hafizur Rahman Suruj were also present on the occasion. From 6 pm to 11 pm every day, thousands of enthusiastic spectators

watched the street plays at the Sylhet central Shaheed Minar.

On the first day, Shayestaganj Theatre's Ananda Niketan, Desh Natyagoshthi, Khowai Theatre and Habiganj Theatre from Habiganj and Digonto Theatre from Sylhet staged their productions.

On the second day, the troupes which took part were Prantik Theatre, Srimangal Theatre, Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Monu Theatre from Moulvibazar district and Theatre Bangla, Sandhani Natya Chakra and Nabashikha Natyadal of Sylhet district.

On the third and concluding day, Beanibazar Sangskritik Command, Golap Natya Chakra, Nagarnat, Kotahkoli, Srote Natyadal, Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Natya Niketan and Natyamancha staged their productions.

A tribute to the Language Movement

Young ones display their talent

GOLAM MOSTAFA JIBON, Sirajganj

A painting and recitation competition was held at the premises of Public Library in Sirajganj town on Friday. The programme was organised by Jatiya Kabita Parishad, district unit, Sirajganj to mark the month of the Language Movement.

About 100 contestants, mostly school students from the town, took part in the competitions in two categories. The contestants who were below 12 years took part in Ka group and those above 12 years participated in Kha group.

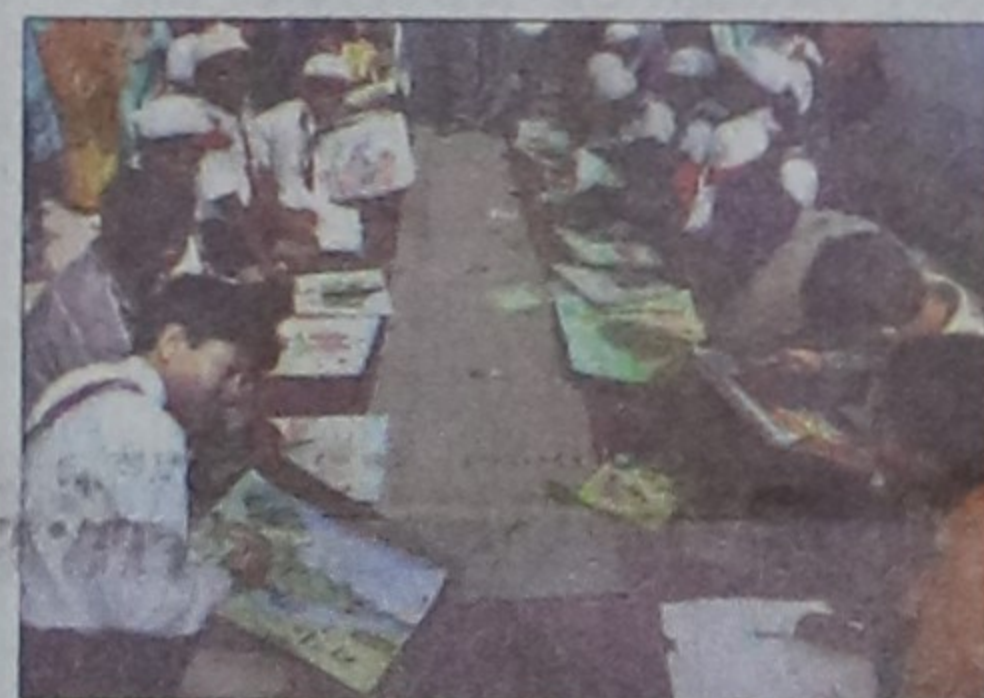


PHOTO: STAR

Enthusiastic students participate in the art competition.

In the recitation competition, the contestants recited poems on themes like love, patriotism and the Language Movement, written by renowned poets in the country.

Dr. Masum Sarker, an upcoming poet inaugurated the programme, while Jatiya Kabita Parishad president poet T. M. Moazzem Hossain;

secretary Jesmin Shikder, joint secretary Protik Mahmud and director of Sirajganj Art Institute Shahidul Islam Hira launched the programme.

The Jatiya Kabita Parishad will distribute prizes and certificates to the winners on February 13 in a function at Sirajganj Degree College auditorium, said sources.

Kareena and Saif: A matter of good chemistry?

Kareena Kapoor (Bebo) and Saif Ali Khan are setting the silver and the small screen ablaze with their chemistry. The latest is their ad for Airtel, the market leader in the mobile telephone business. Here we have a pouting Kareena and a preoccupied Saif who pacifies his lady love with the ease with which Airtel users can set hello tunes (in this case, pyaar hua, ikraar hua) on their phones. With this ad, the hot couple joins the ranks of Ajay Devgan-Kajol and Bipasha Basu - John Abraham who have paired together for many a brand endorsement.

Clearly it is goodbye to ex-partners Shahid Kapoor and Amrita Singh respectively. The grapevine has been abuzz with rumours about Saif and Kareena's "marriage", whether they live together and the future of the relationship.

Apparently Kareena's relationship with Shahid, the son of Pankaj Kapoor, began in 2004. Much media coverage some of it unwelcome--came their way and was once at the epicenter of a scandal when onlookers with mobile phone cameras filmed them kissing and released it to the media. The relationship fell apart three years later when they were filming for Jab We Met. Nevertheless there was no mudslinging. In an interview, Kareena was full of praise for her former partner. In her words, "I have seen Shahid from his first film to Jab We Met and I can say that there is a marked difference. According to me, he is a bundle of talent, waiting to explode. I have that much faith in him as an actor."

As for her new boyfriend Saif, she was apparently drawn to the senior actor on the



The grapevine has been abuzz with rumours about Saif and Kareena's marriage.

sets of Tahsan., when Shahid was away shooting in Canada. Then rumours began floating around in September 2007 that she was dating Saif. In October the same year, during Manish Malhotra's grand finale show at the Lakme Fashion Week, Saif confirmed their relationship to the media. "We are happy together," he pronounced.

However, the rumour mills continue to work overtime. Last year the media asserted that Kareena had tied the knot with Saif. In fact, there were many versions of the supposed marriage. According to Saif's astrologer Pandit Suvashitraj, "Yes I have heard that Saif and Kareena solemnised their relationship with a formal exchange of rings in the presence of a maulavi."

However, Saif dismissed such reports as a rumour. His mother, famous film actress Sharmila Tagore too denied any knowledge about the supposed marriage. As she said, "I have no idea. When he married Amrita Singh, he didn't inform us. I don't think he would do the same thing again."

In a blatant show of their love affair, Saif has boldly tattooed Kareena's name on his hand. When playfully challenged by her friends to display the extent of his love for her, he slashed his palm. Meanwhile Bebo was seen around with a huge diamond ring.

Will the duo last as a couple? Given the ups and downs of Bollywood relationships, everybody is eagerly watching.

Source: Internet

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