

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Recital of Kathak
 Dancer: Partho Pralim Das
 Organiser: Shadhona
 Venue: H 80, Rd 23/A, Banani
 Date: March 9
 Time: 7pm



Documentary Screening
 Film: Stories of Change
 Director: Kamar Ahmed Simon
 Venue: Star Cineplex, Basundhara City, Panthapath
 Date: March 8
 Time: 4:45pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 On 35th anniversary of RCSC in Dhaka
 Artist: Ludmila Gurar
 Organiser: Russian Centre of Science and Culture
 Venue: Exhibition Hall, RCSC, H 510, Rd 7, Dhanmondi



Children's Art Exhibition
 Title: Nature & Us
 Organiser: Charuloy Academy
 Venue: Goethe-Institut, H 10, Rd 9, Dhanmondi
 Date: March 6-12
 Time: 10am-8pm



Familiarising the mainstream with Adivasi culture

In conversation with Zannat-E-Ferdousi

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

An accomplished Nazrul Sangeet artist, Zannat-E-Ferdousi, is devoted to another cause as well. Ferdousi has been working as the director of advocacy at Research and Development Collective (RDC) for the last five years. Among the organisation's concerns are studies on the 'Adivasi' (indigenous) communities in Bangladesh, advocacy of their land rights and familiarising the mainstream culture with their traditions. Cultural Coordination Centre, Bangladesh -- a sister organisation of RDC -- deals with the last subject. Ferdousi is the general secretary of the organisation.

"According to Bangladeshi Adivasi Forum, there are at least 45 Adivasi communities in the country," says Ferdousi. "Naturally they have vibrant cultural traditions. However, except for a few, most of the Adivasi communities don't have apposite representation and exposure in the mainstream," she adds. "For the last three years, Shamlito Shangkritik Jote, Padatik and Bashonto Utshab Committee have been incorporating performances by Adivasi artistes in their programmes.

"There are 14 Adivasi festivals/celebrations in Bangladesh that can be

considered major. Among these is the New Year celebration, which the Chakmas call 'Biju' and Marmas/Tripuras call 'Baisabi.' Santals and Ora(n)os celebrate 'Karam Utshab' during 'Chaitra Shangkrani' (last day of spring). Santals also have 'Baha Parab' or spring festival. Byoms have a splendid

the Adivasi living in highlands and those living in the plains. Despite having vibrant cultural traditions, Santals, Malos, Bagdis and Ora(n)os living in the northern part of our country don't get enough exposure.

"There's another issue related to religious conversion among Adivasi commu-

Fortunately, now they are becoming more aware of their roots and identity and 'Wanggala' celebration is back."

"Something refreshingly positive about these Adivasi celebrations, that I've noticed, is the participation by all, regardless of age. Even the oldest



Exposure-wise, Manipuris, Chakmas, Garos and Tripuras are advanced.

dance to usher in spring. Manipuris commemorate 'Dol Purnima.' Ora(n)os have 'Phagoa Utshab' and so on.

"Representation-wise, the Garo community is perhaps the biggest in Dhaka. Exposure-wise, Manipuris, Chakmas, Garos and Tripuras are advanced. There's an

issue of disparity between

nities that are marginalised. Members of several Adivasi groups have been converting to Christianity and during the initial phase they were undecided on continuing their traditions and rituals that the local church declared 'Shaman' or 'un-Christian'; the 'Wanggala' festival of Garos, for instance,

among them join in singing and dancing. Music and dance are ingrained in all Adivasi festivals," Ferdousi says.

Disconcerting issues: Despite the popular impression that Adivasi women enjoy social freedom, they face four types of discrimination, whereas women in the

mainstream face three, according to Ferdousi. "Adivasi women also get paid significantly less than their male counterpart for their labour," she says.

Ferdousi also feels not much is being done to preserve and promote the Adivasi cultural practices by the state. "There are 'Upojatiya Cultural Academies in our country but I don't think they are effective. First of all, I have issues with the term 'Upojatiya,' which means tribal. You're dehumanising someone when you refer to him/her as 'tribal.' Then there is the concern of recruiting Bengali teachers/trainers at these academies. Isn't it logical to have Adivasi as trainers when grooming of Adivasi cultural practices is concerned? These academies can also play a key role in teaching Adivasi children their mother language," she says.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, RDC is holding a seminar on "Bangladesh - er Shonkhyalagh Nari: Adivasi O Cha-sromik" on March 14, says Ferdousi. Human rights activist Sultana Kamal and Nirola Thompson, a Khasi minister and vice-president of Bangladesh Adivasi Adhikar Andolan, are expected to speak at the seminar.

TV Watch

"Baula Antar: Jago Nari Banhi Shikha" on ETV

A special musical programme on International Women's Day, titled "Baula Antar: Jago Nari Banhi Shikha," will be aired tonight on Ekushey Television at 6:30 pm. Rishita Jahan and Saiful Islam have jointly produced the programme.

The programme features three female baul singers -- Anima Mukti Gomez, Ruma Sarkar and Lata Dewan. On the programme, the artistes will share their achievements as well as struggles.



The programme features three female baul singers.

"Antarjatik Nari Dibash-er Bishesh Anusthan" on ATN Bangla

A special programme on International Women's Day titled "Antarjatik Nari Dibash-er Bishesh Anusthan" will be aired tonight on ATN Bangla at 6:15 pm. Sabina Bari Lucky is the director, while Fuad

Chowdhury is the executive director of the programme. United Network Ltd. produces the programme.

The programme features discussions on women's empowerment, their role in

politics, economy and more.

Shamim Reza, lecturer, Dhaka University is the host of the programme. Human rights activist Sultana Kamal and Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury have taken part in the discussion.

Interviews of successful working women have also been highlighted on the programme.

Featured personalities are - Rawshan Ara Begum, additional D.I.G. of Rapid Action Battalion; Naima Imam Chowdhury, head of Women's Rights and Gender Equity, Action Aid Bangladesh; Sangita Ahmed, senior vice president, Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Member of Parliament Meher Afroz Chumki.



Hosted by Shamim Reza, the programme features Sultana Kamal and Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury.



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

On Air

BTV

- 09:05 Selected Programme
- 09:30 Musical Programme
- 10:05 Open University
- 10:30 Musical Programme: Malanchyo
- 10:55 Selected Programme
- 11:20 Gaan-er Jhomatolaye
- 12:10 Drama Serial: Sakin Shimultoli
- 01:00 Agricultural Programme: Shobaar Jonyo Shikhya
- 02:15 Educational Programme
- 02:40 Cookery Show: Amader Ranna
- 03:05 Cartoon
- 03:30 Educational Programme: Maa O Shishur Katha
- 04:05 Shanskriti Moncho
- 04:30 Musical Programme: Shur Lahori
- 05:05 Debate
- 06:15 Special Programme
- 07:00 Mati O Manush
- 07:25 Amader Muktijudhdo
- 08:30 Protidin Bangladesh
- 08:35 Drama Serial: Shesh Shomudro
- 09:00 Drama: Bhalo Manush-er Jonyo
- 10:30 Dance Programme: Tarana
- 11:00 Din Bodol-er Pala

CHANNEL-i

- News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.
- ATN BANGLA
- News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm, 11pm.
- News (English) at 8:20am, 7:00pm
- Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.
- CHANNEL 1
- News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am
- BANGLAVISION
- 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
- Rtv
- News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
- ntv
- News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am
- ETV
- News (Bangla): 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm
- abc radio
- News: 08:00 am, 12:00 pm, 03:00 pm, 06:00 pm, 09:00 pm, 12:00 am

CHANNEL 1

- 09:30 Shabodpotrey Bangladesh
- 09:45 Public Reaction
- 09:50 Grameenphone Tritio Matra
- 11:05 Tele Prescription
- 11:30 Agricultural Programme: Hridoyer Mati O Manush
- Talk Show: Citycell Taroka Kathan
- 01:05 Musical Programme: Ebong Cinemar Gaan
- 01:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma
- 02:30 Musical Programme: Hridoyer Gaan
- 03:05 Educational Programme: Medha Bikash
- 04:30 Aktel Money Talk
- 05:30 Mukti Judhdo Protidin
- 06:00 i Speed
- 06:20 Superman
- 07:50 Mega Serial: Sakin Shanshuri
- 08:30 Drama Serial: Sundari O Kaker Chhana
- 09:15 Asian City Top Spin
- 10:30 Hello Bangladesh
- 11:05 Special Programme
- 11:30 Shath Din
- 12:15 Cookery Show: Dekko Gura Moshla ATN Ranna Ghar
- 01:25 Khehar Jogot
- 02:30 Special Programme
- 03:45 Special Programme: Jononi
- 05:10 Special Programme: Alochhayar Jibonshongi
- 05:35 Musical Programme: Bashudha Dhak Dhol
- 06:15 Special Programme
- 06:45 Kandeey Aamar Maa
- 08:00 Drama Serial: Shoa Paanch Arai Lane
- 08:40 Drama Serial: Syed Babrur Bou
- 09:20 Special Programme: Kontho Jodhya
- 11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House

- 12:00 Grameenphone Lead News
- 03:20 Nodi O Jibon
- 04:10 Protidinor Boimela
- 05:20 Law Chamber
- 06:00 Citycell Din-er Sheshey
- 08:15 Drama Serial: Lucky Thirteen
- 09:05 Visa Apnaar Agami
- 09:45 Drama Serial: Swapno Chura
- 11:25 Jonolaar Mukhomukhi
- 12:10 Bashuda Cinema-r Gaan

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DIGANTA TELEVISION

- 08:05 Shobaar Agey Desh
- 09:05 Swashtho Diganto
- 09:30 Shindhu Hillol
- 11:30 Sholor Path
- 12:30 Shotyer Shakkhi
- 03:05 Drama Serial: Mohor
- 03:30 Career Line
- 04:30 School Angina
- 05:30 Eye Witness
- 06:03 Shathdin Bangladesh
- 06:30 Shahityo Digaanto
- 07:00 News Hour
- 08:05 Roots

ABC RADII

- 09:00am Mukhomukhi Jibonay
- 12:00pm Darun Dupurey
- 03:00pm Duranto Biketey
- 05:00pm Shondosara
- 07:00pm Shayer Maza
- 09:00pm Raal-er Akashay
- 11:00pm Jey Golper Shesh Nei
- 07:30am Hello Dhaka
- 10:00am Morning Express
- 12:00pm My Time
- 01:00pm No Tension
- 04:00pm Dhaka Calling
- 09:00pm Night Rider
- 08:00pm Today's Adda
- 04:00pm U Turn
- 08:00pm Today's Adda
- 11:00pm Today's Happy Moments
- 12:00am Today's Happy Moments

- 06:30 Special Programme: Jago Nari Bonhishikha
- 08:30 Drama Serial: Tuntuni Bhila
- 09:30 Drama Serial: Ghatok Ebong Amra
- 10:10 Drama: Swapno Bastob Ebong Dipannita
- 10:50 Financial Bulletin

Rtv

- 09:00 Jegey Achho Ki
- 10:03 Drama Serial: Apon Ghorey Porobash
- 11:03 Taroka Alap
- 11:30 Band Show
- 01:03 Heart Beat
- 02:03 Bangla Feature Film
- 05:30 Cinema R Gaan
- 06:03 Protidin
- 07:00 Cookery Show: R Ranna
- 07:30 Road To Democracy
- 09:00 Drama Serial: Meyeti Ekhon Kolhaye Jabey
- 09:50 Drama Serial: Priodarshini

- 11:30 Hot Stepper
- 08:00 BBC World News
- 08:10 Tropic Of Capricorn (r)
- 09:00 BBC World News
- 09:30 Panorama: Tax Me If You Can (r)
- 10:00 BBC World News
- 10:30 HARDtalk (r)
- 11:00 BBC World News
- 11:30 India Business Report
- 12:00 BBC World News
- 12:30 Middle East Business Report (r)
- 01:00 BBC World News
- 01:10 The Intelligence Squared Debate - Carbon (r)
- 02:00 BBC World News
- 02:30 The Real...Cairo
- 03:00 BBC World News
- 03:30 Dateline London (r)
- 04:00 BBC World News
- 04:30 Panorama: Tax Me If

BBC WORLD NEWS

- 10:30 India Business Report (r)
- 11:00 BBC World News
- NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
- 10:30 Food Lovers Guide To The Planet
- 11:30 My Brilliant Brain
- 12:30 Inside: Undercover In North Korea
- 01:30 Karen Davies
- 02:30 Latika Tiger Princess
- 03:30 Mission Navy
- 04:30 Lets Get Inventin
- 05:00 Big Bang
- 05:30 HDfC STD Life Spell Bee India
- 06:30 Killing Hitler
- 07:30 Hitler's Secret Bunkers
- 08:30 Big Blue
- 10:30 Rivers And Life
- 11:30 Planet Carnivore
- 12:30 Big Blue
- STAR MOVIES
- 12:45 Doa: Dead Or Alive

- 09:35 Radhuni Kirtimoti Nari Shommanona' 08
- 10:00 Drama Serial: Shongshar
- 11:30 Special Programme: Nettritye Nari
- 12:00 Grameenphone Aker Shangbadpotro
- 08:30 Tone and Tunes
- 09:25 Science Dot Com
- 11:05 Diganta Shanglaap
- 09:30 Drama Serial: Aziz Market Shahbag, Dhaka 1000
- 10:02 Bhuboghurey Dot Com
- 10:30 Ekushey Business
- 02:30 Spondon
- 03:15 Ei Shoplatho
- 03:30 Dhum Ta Na
- 04:30 Deshjurey
- 05:30 Sports plus
- 11:00 Trade Talk
- 09:30 Mother
- 11:30 The War
- 01:30 Hollywood's 10 Best: Chicks With Attitude
- 02:00 Entourage 33: What About Bob?
- 02:30 Entourage 34: Sorry, Ari
- 03:30 Sydney White
- 05:45 Mad About Mambo
- 07:45 Over The Hedge
- 09:30 The Flintstones In Viva Rock Vegas
- 05:00 BBC World News
- 05:30 India Business Report (r)
- 06:00 BBC World News
- 06:30 Newsnight (r)
- 07:00 BBC World News
- 07:15 Sport Today
- 07:30 The Bottom Line (r)
- 08:00 BBC World News
- 08:10 Tropic Of Capricorn (r)
- 09:00 BBC World News
- 09:10 The Intelligence Squared Debate - Carbon (r)
- 10:00 BBC World News

HBO

- 09:30 Mother
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- 09:00 BBC World News
- 09:10 The Intelligence Squared Debate - Carbon (r)
- 10:00 BBC World News

- 09:30 The Nanny Diaries
- 04:40 Runaway Bride
- 07:05 Sleep Up!
- 09:00 Vip Access: Confessions Of A Shopaholic
- 09:30 The Last Kiss
- 11:25 The Princess Diaries
- STAR WORLD
- 09:30 Koffee With Karan
- 11:30 Seinfeld
- 01:30 Friends
- 03:30 The Simpsons
- 04:30 Shark
- 05:30 Boston Legal
- 06:30 Smallville
- 07:30 90210
- 08:30 Monk
- 09:30 Boston Legal
- 11:30 Psych
- 12:30 Kath & Kim
- ZEE STUDIO
- 08:30 Beaches
- 11:00 Hollywood's 10 Best
- 11:30 Chicken Little
- 01:20 Connie and Carla
- 03:25 13 Going On 30
- 05:45 Mona Lisa Smile
- 08:25 Raising Helen
- 11:00 Erin Brockovich

STAR MOVIES

- 02:30 The Nanny Diaries
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Meyeti Ekhon Kothay Jabey
 On Rtv at 9:00 pm
 Drama Serial
 Cast: Shahed, Kushum Shikdar



- 09:00am Mukhomukhi Jibonay
- 12:00pm Darun Dupurey
- 03:00pm Duranto Biketey
- 05:00pm Shondosara
- 07:00pm Shayer Maza
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- 11:00pm Today's Happy Moments
- 12:00am Today's Happy Moments



The Princess Diaries
 On Star Movies at 11:25 pm
 Genre: Drama
 Cast: Anne Hathaway, Julie Andrews

- 02:30 The Nanny Diaries
- 04:40 Runaway Bride
- 07:05 Sleep Up!
- 09:00 Vip Access: Confessions Of A Shopaholic
- 09:30 The Last Kiss
- 11:25 The Princess Diaries
- STAR WORLD
- 09:30 Koffee With Karan
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