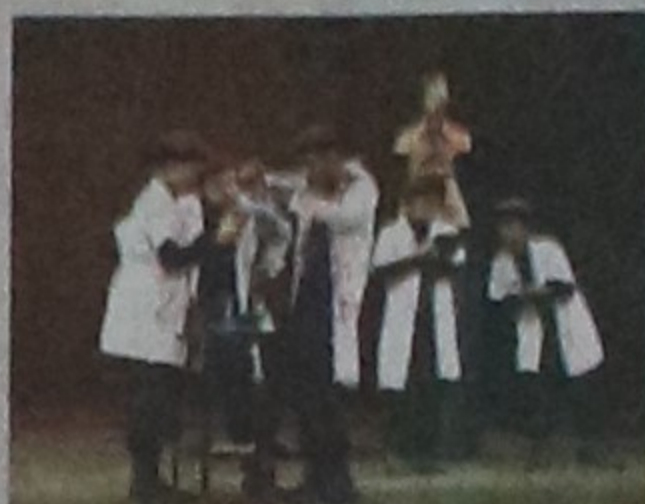


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

127th Birth Anniversary of Gurusaday Dutta
Organiser: Bratachari Samiti, Bangladesh
Venue: Dhaka University Premises
Date: May 29
Time: 4pm



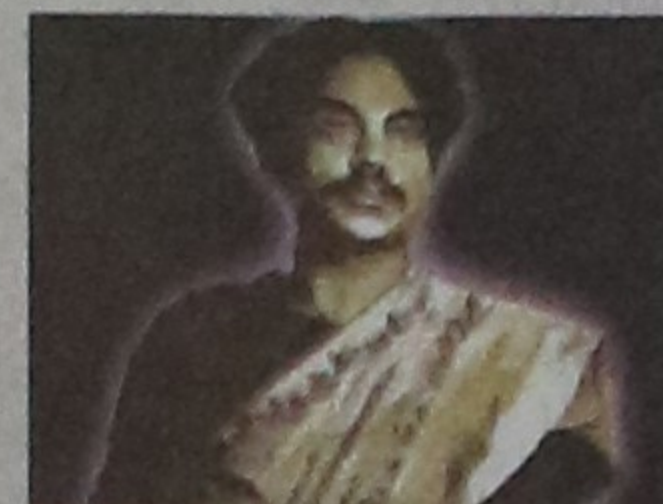
Theatre
Play: Amputation
Troupe: Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT)
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: May 31 & June 1
Time: 7pm



Discussion
Regular discussion organised by Chhayanaat
Subject: Desh Ghar er Gaan
Discussant: Nadira Begum
Venue: Chhayanaat Sanskriti Bhaban
Date: May 29
Time: 7:30pm



Recitation
Celebrating Nazrul Birth Anniversary
Title: Swagato Shanglaap
Organiser: Kanthashwelan
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library
Date: May 29
Time: 7pm



Pathos

Ranjit's figures, lines and forms in motion

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Ranjit Das is celebrated for his inimitable style and thought-provoking themes. His working style gradually changed after obtaining masters from MS University, Baroda, India. Ranjit has been busy creating novel and innovative artworks -- delving deep into pastoral Bengal and our socio-economic and political aspects.

His canvas delves into the woes and bliss of the common people. His works clearly project dreams and hopes of the rural folk. With the passage of time, Ranjit has refined himself as an artist.

Ranjit Das' solo painting exhibition, titled "Pathos," is now on at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi.

In the past, the artist predominantly worked with oil. Now he is quite adept in acrylic -- a medium that allows an artist to create a sense of serenity. Ranjit is most comfortable working on a large canvas, as his themes and compositions demand space. His work is elucidated by a powerful interplay of figures and space, helped by bold and sweeping brushstrokes.

At the current exhibition, dogs, horses, elephants, crows, swans and peacocks have emerged on the canvases, along with figures and other diverse forms. Horse and dog are the most prevalent subjects in the collection, and Ranjit has used the animals to convey symbolism. Their anguish, joy, contentment have come to the fore in lively and intimate manner.

All his works have in the background a story -- often familiar to us. The images give us a real picture of social structure and various contemporary issues in the country. Figures in his paintings are resonant and articulate. Ranjit's works are distinguished for their meticulously chaotic, reflective and imposing use of colour.



"Distinct Look-2" (acrylic on canvas)

The virtuoso artist's canvas covers a wide vista of aesthetic impressions that he has accumulated throughout his life. He has carefully gone through various phases of experimentation with colours, textures, lines, and tones.

Ranjit has been a prolific painter and has always tried to establish an individual hallmark. His works reflect a contemplative mind, one that searches for the right relationship between themes and figures. Sometimes the artist's use of colours give us a strong feeling of crucial moments.



"Cheerful Voyage-2" (oil on canvas)

Ranjit has also gone through various phases of experimentation, both in semi-abstract and abstraction. His sharp lines are suggestive and romantic. The lines across his solid compositions are evidently a major characteristic of his works. His figures are always perfectly synchronised with lines and that is why Ranjit's lines are considered more expressive than many of his contemporaries.

Scribbles, lines, arrows, broken lines, loops and curls, squares, oval and other forms enrich the artist's works. He builds up his lines and textures in certain ways. He is also continually

exploring the boundaries of expressions with various geometric and architectural forms, which are mostly unique.

Ranjit has mastered not one but several styles, each of which bears his individual stamp. It doesn't matter which style he pursues or which idea he tries to articulate through his subjects, Ranjit has rarely failed to invigorate his composition. This he has done with his characteristic élan, with vivid and exceptional colour schemes.

The exhibition at Bengal Gallery ends on June 10.

Mitali Mukherjee on Rtv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

She was born in Mymensingh. So, she feels a certain attachment to her birthplace. If she gets times, she rushes back to her homeland. She has a huge fan base in Bangladesh, thanks to her evergreen songs from the '80s.

The diva Mitali Mukherjee recently came to Bangladesh for a musical programme. Rtv will air the concert in three episodes. The first episode will be aired tonight at 11pm.

Songs by Mitali at the concert included the ghazal "Har cheez," "Takdum takdum bajai," "Shukh pakhi," "Harano din-er moto," "Akasher shob tara," "Je prem niye banchi" and "Mon je asho hoya." The show has been produced by Tanif Mahmood.



Rekha refuses lifetime achievement award



Rekha won a national award for the film "Umrao Jaan" and immortalised the role.

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

The culture department of the Maharashtra state government recently selected 55-year-old Rekha for a Lifetime Achievement Award, named after the late Bollywood legend Raj Kapoor. This honour is usually reserved for considerably senior artistes who have made great contribution to Indian cinema.

Rekha, however, informed the department that she was not willing to accept the award as it went against her image and film career, which was still far from over. This statement was made by Maharashtra Cultural Affairs Minister Harshwardhan Patil to the press last Monday.

To concede to Rekha's wishes, the government renamed the award as "Raj Kapoor Pratibha Gaurav" (Talent Award), replacing the earlier "Raj Kapoor Jeevan Gaurav" (Lifetime Achievement Award). The renamed award, which carries Rs two lakh in cash, a citation and a memento, will be presented to her at a function in Pune on May 30.

A spokesman for the actress confirmed Rekha's reluctance in accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Born on October 10, 1954 in Chennai as Bhanurekha Ganesan, Rekha won a national award for best actress for her performance in the Muzaffar Ali-directed film "Umrao Jaan" (1981).

Her other notable films are "Khubsoorat," "Rampur Ka Lakshman," "Kahani Kismat Ki," "Khoon Bhari Maang," "Ghar," "Muqaddar Ka Sikandar" and "Silsila."

Chaturanga on Banglavisision today

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

"Chaturanga," a weekly TV programme on arts, literature, music, culture and publication will be aired today at 5:20 pm on Banglavisision. Today's programme will include a discussion on "presenting Tagore songs accurately," participated by artistes Tapan Mahmud, Lily Islam and Samina Chowdhury. There will also be a segment on the Hason Raja Museum in Sunamganj.

The programme is planned and hosted by Muhammad Jahangir and produced by Ananta Zahid. The show will be re-aired on Saturday at 9:30am.



Muhammad Jahangir is the host of the show.

Meghdal on tonight's Call-er Gaan



CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Live musical programme "Call-er Gaan" will be aired tonight on Desh TV at 11:45 pm. The show is produced by Alamgir Hossain and anchored by Alif Alauddin.

Every episode of the show features live performance by popular and upcoming artistes and bands. Tonight's featured band is Meghdal.

Viewers can make phone calls or text message during the show and request for their favourite songs.

Anti-drug concert in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

An anti-drug concert was held at Shaheed Abdur Razzak Park here recently. At the concert, youngsters vowed to eradicate substance abuse from the society once and for all and to involve everyone in strengthening the ongoing movement against drug use and peddling.

'Adar,' a drug rehabilitation centre, organised the concert celebrating the third anniversary of the local band, Friends.

A discussion was also held to mark the occasion with president of Adar, Advocate Zahirul Haque Babu, in the chair. Sadar upazila chairman Nazrul Islam was the chief guest while assistant police superintendent (ASP) M.A. Hannan of Sadar circle and Sadar upazila vice chairman Advocate Shahnaz Parvin Mili were special guests.

Among others, Sreeula Union Parishad (UP) chairman Abu Hena Shakil, Amit Kumar Mondal, Milon Kumar Roy and Kazi Akhtar Hossain spoke at the event.

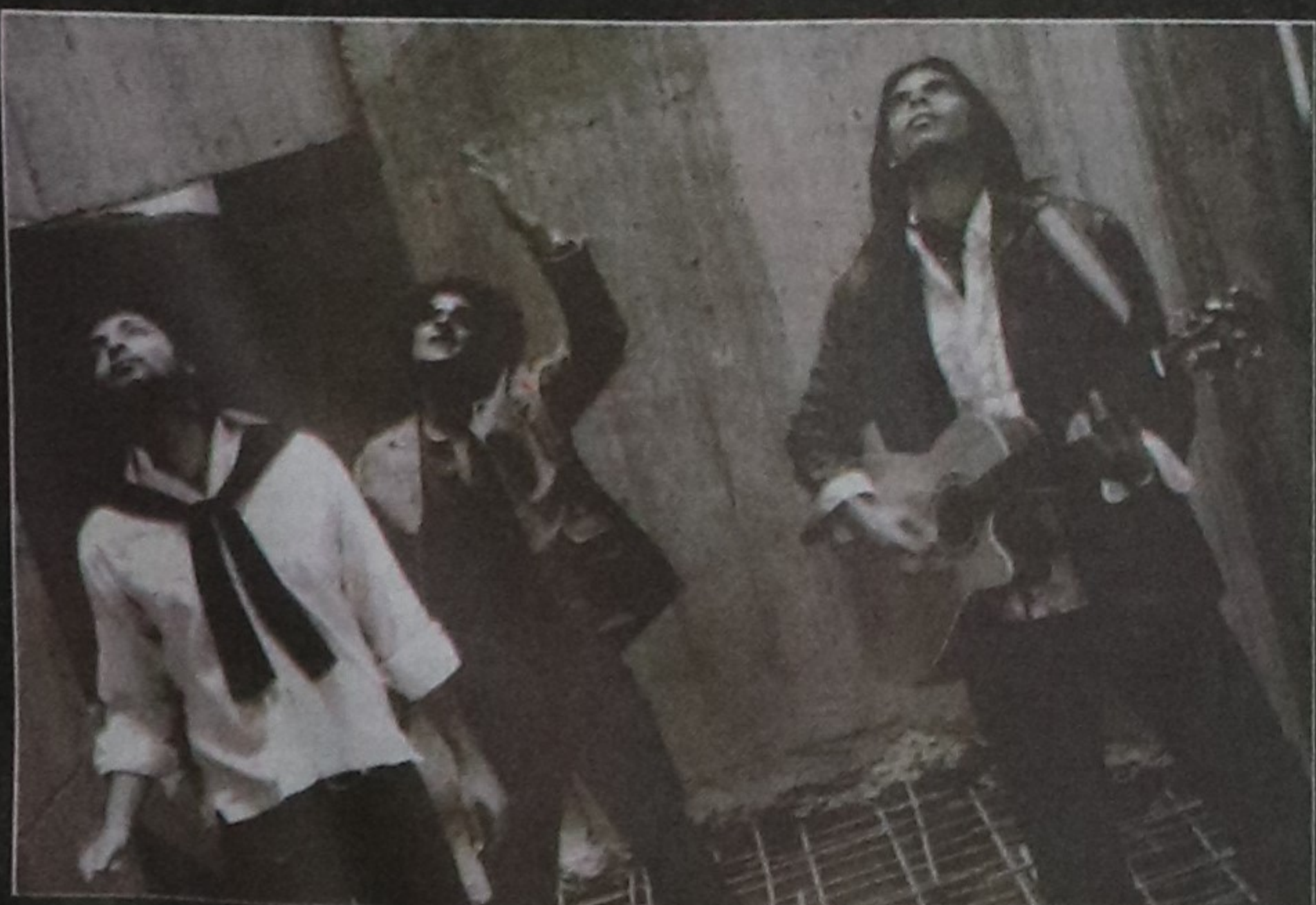
The chief guest said that the concert would help in generating awareness among people, in particular the young, who are often victims of



The band, Friends, performs at the concert.

substance abuse. ASP, M.A. Hannan declared, amid cheers, that stern actions would be taken against any member of the law enforcement agency found assisting or sheltering drug peddlers. He also urged students, the future leaders of the nation, to be more active in freeing the society from drug abuse.

The band, Friends, performed to an enthusiastic crowd after the discussion.



A concert featuring popular Pakistani band Fuzon and celebrated contemporary musician-singer, Habib, will be held at the Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton on May 29 at 7pm. Fuzon has gained popularity throughout the subcontinent with their atypical music and lyrics. Some of their popular numbers include "Neend naa aaye," "Suna suna," "Ankhoki sagar," "Khamaj," "Madhubanti" and more. The event has been organised by Macomm, an advertising and event management agency.