

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

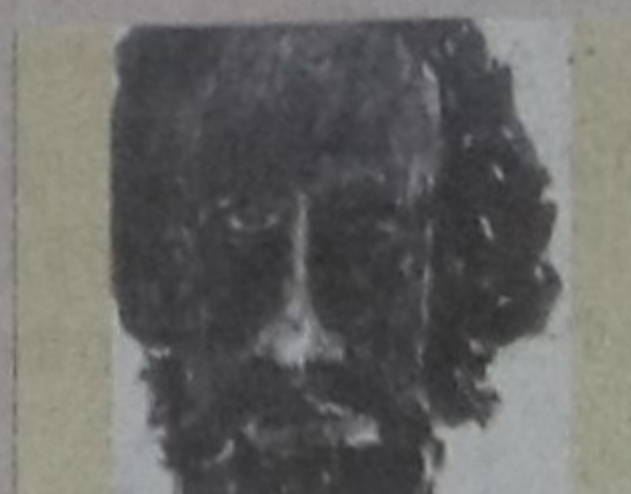
Theatre Festival

To celebrate Abdullah Al Mamun birth anniversary
Organiser: Theatre
Venue: Bangladesh Shipakala Academy
Date: July 10-17
Time: 6:30pm onwards



Rabindra Festival

Organiser: Chhayanaout
Venue: Chhayanaout Sangskriti Bhavan, Dhanmondi
Date: July 17-18
Time: 10am (1st day), 6pm (2nd day)



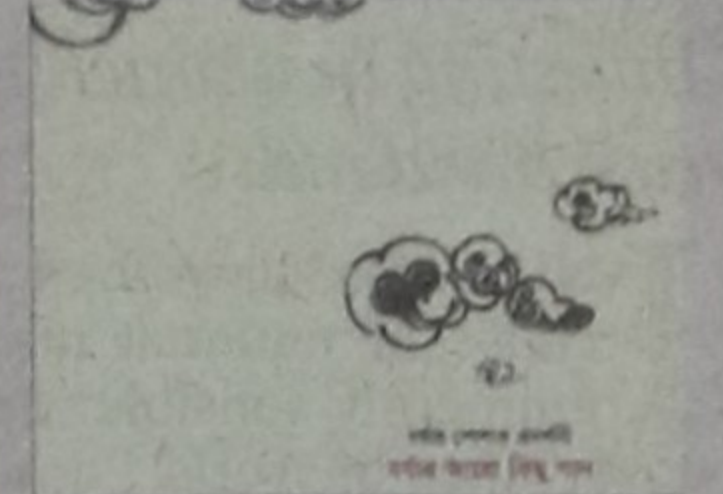
Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Pahariya Pathay
Artist: Shohag Parvez
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise of Dhaka
Date: July 3-16
Time: 9-12am & 5-8pm



Exhibition

Title: Banhar Aro Kichhu Gaan
Organiser: Nitya Upahar
Venue: Gallery Nitya Upahar, 4th floor, Aziz Co-operative Super Market, Shahbagh
Time: 10am-8pm
The exhibition will continue throughout the monsoon



All for mainstream Bengali movies

Up close with Purnima

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The doe-eyed quintessential Bengali beauty Purnima is perhaps the reigning dream girl in Bangladeshi cinema. She has been a part of the film industry for over a decade now, and has won the hearts of millions throughout the country.

Purnima entered the film industry when she was a student of Class 9 at Science Laboratory School. Director Zakir Hossain Raju discovered her. However, before joining the industry as a lead actress, she had done *Shotru Ghayel* with Rubel as a child artiste. As a youngster, everyone around Purnima adored her. "I was a naughty kid but my teachers could never punish me. My 'gullible' and 'naive' looks would always melt their heart," admits Purnima. However when she was punished, she would discretely tie up the shoelaces of her teachers. "While they couldn't do anything about it, they would end up complaining to my mother," she recalls.



Although she is constantly in the public eye, Purnima says she is a homebody. She doesn't like interacting with strangers unless it's related to her profession. In her own words, "I am outright unsocial, I don't like partying. I would rather sit in a corner in my room and spend time listening to music."

Answering a question on how she handles fame, Purnima responds: "I am

comfortable with my popularity. In Bangladesh we are not hunted down by the paparazzi like in the West. Only during a shoot there is a crowd, but they are decent. If I go out, hardly anyone bothers me. Besides we are what we are because of our fans. I have chosen a public career so I should know how to deal with it."

Purnima prefers movies to serials or advertisements. "The film industry is my second home. As it takes months or even years to complete a movie, the relationship between actors and the crew develops. It's like one big family. Besides everyone in the industry pampers me like a child. I just love being here." Besides in certain ways serials are more complicated feels Purnima. "One needs to memorise lengthy scripts and there are not many retakes. One has to maintain one's own wardrobe and makeup unlike in the movie industry in our neighbouring country or in the West where everything is taken care of by others."

Purnima talks about the

plight of the Bangladeshi movie industry compared to its counterpart in India. "It's actually sad to see how the Bangladeshi movie industry is deteriorating. At one point we were doing better than Tollywood (the movie industry of Kolkata) but today we are lagging behind. There is no point in even trying to compare ourselves with Bollywood." The main problem Purnima feels is our use of old technology. "We still have the same old cameras, lights and other equipments that were used 25 years ago. How can one expect to keep up if there is nothing new to offer?"

Purnima calls on cine enthusiasts to watch mainstream Bangla movies. "While there are indecent movies, there are good movies as well. People should not sneer at us just because we are from the Bangladeshi cine world. We do try to make good movies and need support from the audience. So please watch our movies and then you have a right to be judgmental," concludes Purnima.

It's Dr. Shah Rukh Khan from now on



Shah Rukh Khan (centre) is now a Doctor of Arts.

Bollywood Mogul Shah Rukh Khan has been conferred with an honorary doctorate in Arts from the University of Bedfordshire, UK, says a press release. At the time of his acceptance of the honour from Professor Les Ebdon, Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive of the University, on July 10, Shah Rukh said, "I am delighted that the NGO Routes 2 Roots nominated me for the Honorary Doctorate in Arts... Today I feel that I am part of the illustrious alumni of this prestigious University. I look forward to doing my bit in providing necessary assistance to the deserving students for higher education in my University."

The doctorate was conferred on Shah Rukh in recognition of his exceptional achievement as a film actor and producer. There is an interesting story behind the award. According to Rakesh Gupta, one of the founders of Routes 2 Roots, "Shah Rukh's mother (Fatima Begum) worked as a social worker and a magistrate while his father (Taj Khan) was an engineer. The couple met propitiously under unusual circumstances when his mother was injured in a car accident. Shah Rukh's mother needed blood which his father who happened to be at the hospital donated without knowing her. So if the story is true then doing social work runs in Shah Rukh's blood, literally. He too looks after the sick and shares his wealth with the poor. But he never talks about it as he feels that if you do charity for a reason, it's not charity."

Shah Rukh does indeed keep a low profile on this aspect of his charismatic personality. According to Gupta, he has funded several charitable causes and has also adopted a few villages for electrification in the Indian state of Rajasthan. Apart from regular donations to organisations and individuals (especially in the case of AIDS and cancer patients), he is behind the creation of a children's ward at the Nanavati Hospital in Mumbai, in memory of his late mother. He is also active with relief funds when the Indian nation faces a natural calamity. It comes as no surprise, therefore, that he was conferred with the prestigious 'Padma Shri' Award for his valuable contribution to Indian art and culture.

The NGO Routes 2 Roots, which nominated Shah Rukh for the award, endeavours to bring people and cultures together across SAARC countries in general, and India and Pakistan in particular. Some of Routes 2 Roots' initiatives in cultural diplomacy include bringing Sabri Brothers and Asif Mehdi Hasan from Pakistan to India and taking Shubha Mudgal's first classical performance to Karachi. Quoting Routes' founders, such cultural diplomacy "enhances people to people contact in our SAARC neighbourhood, promoting peace. Music concerts and food festivals under the exchange programme reiterate our common history and culture."

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

150th episode of Amader Rannaghar tonight



Tazin (right) with Diti on tonight's "Amader Rannaghar."

Banglavision will air the 150th episode of cooking show "Amader Rannaghar" tonight at 9:05 pm.

Jointly hosted by Parveen Sultana Diti and Sahiba Munmun, the programme features recipes of dishes -- ranging from traditional *desi* to *Mughlai*, Chinese, and continental.

A segment of the show features a celebrity who shares his/her recipe with the audience. Tonight's episode will feature popular actor/TV show host Tazin as the celebrity guest. Other segments include kitchen tips and recipes sent by viewers. The programme is produced by Shah Mainul.

Khalid Khan and Chanchal Khan on O Bondhu Amar

Ekushey TV will air the talk show "O Bondhu Amar" tonight at 10:10 pm. Celebrities who happen to be friends in real life, are invited on the show.

Tonight's episode will feature actor-director Khalid Khan and singer Chanchal

Khan as guests. The duo will share insight into their personal lives, their friendship and more with the audience.

"O Bondhu Amar" is hosted by Naznin Hassan Chumki and produced by Fatima Shilu.



(From left) Chanchal Khan and Khalid Khan with the host of show.

Nothing can beat it!

PHILIPS



Features:

- 17bit color processor
- 100Hz LCD
- Perfect Pixel HD engine
- HD Natural Motion
- Full HD LCD display, 1920x1080p
- 4xHDMI inputs

Price at its best
STOCK LIMITED
Discount on LCDs
up to Tk. **110,500**



Free Installation with every LCD.
Drop into your nearest Transcom Digital Showroom and get your LCD TV Now!!

FREE



*Home Theater System with specific models of LCD

Exclusively Available at

TRANSCOM
DIGITAL

Your Trusted Electronics Retailer

For More Information : 8855366-8, 01712 665463