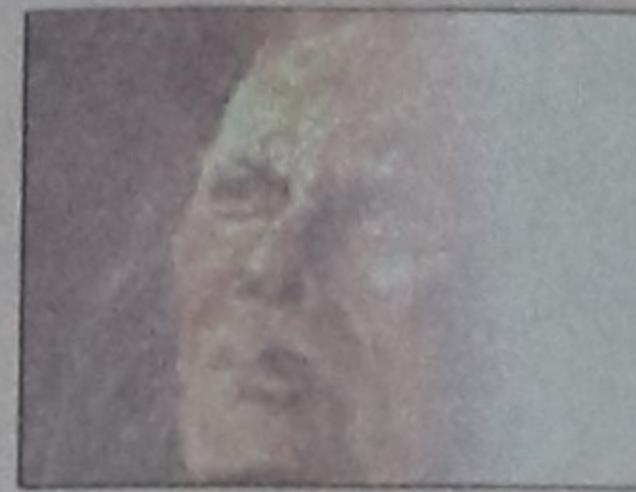


DHAKA WEDNESDAY JULY 29, 2009 Culture@thelystar.net

The Daily Star

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Documentary Premiere
Documentary: Shikor (On the life and works of Shah Abdul Karim)
Venue: Conference Lounge, Press Club
Date: July 29
Time: 3pm



Solo Art Exhibitions

Title: Drowning: Is There Time for Love?
Artist: Monica Jahan Bose
Venue: Alliance Francaise of Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dharmundi
Date: July 23-Aug 5
Time: 5-8pm

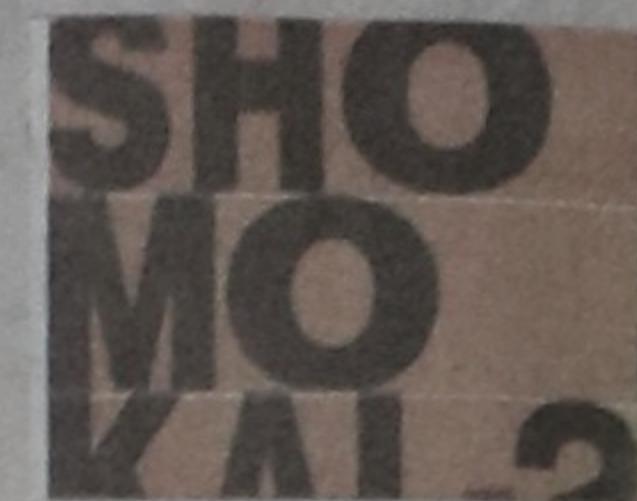


Theatre Festival

Celebrating 26th anniversary of Mahakali Natya Shomprodaya
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 23-30
Time: 8pm everyday
Inauguration on July 23 at 6.30pm



Art Exhibition
Title: SHOMOKAL-2
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara
Date: July 31-August 11
Time: 11am-8pm



Ashit Bishwas: Lifelong devotion to esraj



CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Ashit Bishwas is a gifted musician and one of the few adept *esraj* players in Bangladesh. Today he is a familiar face at various cultural programmes. Recently, he performed solo at a programme organised by the Indian High Commission in Bangladesh. He has also worked as a background musician for several documentary films. Last year he provided the background score for a BBC documentary featuring the Royal Bengal tigers of the Sundarbans. The documentary is to be aired shortly. And apart from his various artistic pursuits, he also trains students in the *esraj*.

Ashit was an early entrant to the world of music. He began learning *Nâzrul* songs from his father Radha Raman Bishwas. At the time he had no inkling that he would become a reputed *esraj* player.

He first heard the *esraj* on an old cassette, while still a young boy. He was then living with his family in Sylhet. The music stirred his

imagination and he knew then that the *esraj* would be a lifetime companion. His newfound enthusiasm took him to Agartala where he was trained by Ustad Manoranjan Babu.

Later he moved with his family to Chittagong. He began playing the *esraj* at various cultural programmes. In 1985, when he was still doing his higher secondary, he managed a job in Bangladesh Betar, Chittagong. In September 2007, he was transferred to Dhaka Agargaon Radio Station, where he works to date.

Ashit has attracted a huge fan following in the course of his career.

On the scope for young artistes in Bangladesh, Ashit says, "There are numerous talented musicians in Bangladesh who are underexposed. Besides, fresh, new faces are always being discovered. I would like the High Commission of Bangladesh to launch these talents in the international arena. I firmly believe that our musicians can earn much fame if they are given the opportunity to showcase their talents on an international forum."

Cultural programme at Sirajganj tree fair

GOLAM MOSTAFA JIBON, Sirajganj

A weeklong tree fair and cultural function has been arranged at Sirajganj Collectorate School and College ground in the town to mark a tree plantation drive.

Sirajganj District Administration, Forest Department and Agriculture Extension Department (AED) have jointly arranged the programme in association with the NGO, Samannay Parishad.

Deputy Commissioner Humayun Kabeer inaugurated the programme last Saturday afternoon. Police superintendent Mosharaf Hossain, additional deputy commissioner Abdul Qayum Sarker and Social Forest Department's Divisional Officer Ajit Kumar Rudro were present as special guests at the event. The programme was presided over by Hasibur Rahman, deputy director of AED, Sirajganj.

Speakers at the programme were of the view that due to rampant deforestation, the country's ecological balance is in disarray. As a result we face both droughts and floods. They urged all to plant trees, starting with each home.

A rally -- led by the DC Humayun Kabeer -- was brought out in the town on Saturday morning on the occasion.

Local artistes from several organisations performed at the cultural function, held each evening at the fair. The event will wrap up this Friday with a seminar and a prize-giving ceremony.



Child artistes perform at the fair.

Anwito, a multilingual cultural movement, turns two



PHOTO: MUMIT M

Dance performance and recitation at Anwito's anniversary celebration.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Anwito, a multilingual cultural movement, celebrated its second anniversary at the Music and Dance Centre auditorium, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) in the city on July 27.

The celebration included a discussion and a cultural programme.

Social Welfare Minister Enamul Haq Mostafa Shaheed was the chief guest, while ITI Worldwide President Ramendu Majumdar was the special guest at the discussion. In his speech, the minister said, "Our language and culture could be effectively used to confront ignorance and fundamentalism." He also quoted from "Elegy Written in a Country Church-Yard" by

Thomas Gray and made references to Sheikh Saadi, Omar Khayyam, Jalaluddin Rumi, Imru'u al Qais and Syed Mujtaba Ali in his speech.

Shafi Kamal, chairman of Anwito, presided over the meeting.

The cultural programme featured a dance to a poem on Liberation War, recitation of

"Banshiwala" by Rabindranath Tagore and poems in several languages, renditions of Bangla, Farsi, Urdu, Hindi, English songs and more performed by artistes of Anwito.

Regrettably, certain artistes at the programme were seen lip-synching with CDs playing in the background.



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

On Air

BTV

08:45 Shokaler Gaan
09:05 Documentary Programme: Phirey Dekha
09:30 Ananda Bhraman
10:05 Open University
10:30 Selected Programme
11:00 Roshikota
11:30 Quiz Quiz
12:10 Gharey Bairey
12:30 Maa O Shishur Katha
01:30 Hijol Tomail
02:15 English Debate
03:00 Cartoon: Bananas in Pyjamas
03:30 Shukhi Poribaar
04:05 Toruner Swapno
04:30 Dolon Chapa
05:05 Sisimpur
05:35 Computer
06:15 Samprotik
07:00 Maati O Manush
07:45 Documentary Programme: Phirey Dekha
08:25 Documentary: Amar Bangladesh
08:30 Drama Serial: Pathar
09:30 Drama Serial: Chhai
10:25 Rupali Dheu

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Sangbadpatra
08:30 Drama Serial: Shada Kalo Mon
09:15 Drama Serial: Noksha
10:30 Talk Show: Hello Bangladesh
11:15 Talk Show: Asian City Top Spin
12:15 IT Zone
01:25 Musical Programme: Band View

02:30 Dance Programme: Nupurer Chhondrey

03:15 Drama Serial: Rupali Manush
03:45 Children's Programme: Shapla Shaluk

04:20 Islamic Programme

05:00 Gram Gonjer Khobor

05:10 Islamic Programme

05:35 Jiboner Joichobi

06:15 Take Care

08:00 Travel Show: Rexona Destination Unlimited

08:40 Drama Serial: Ghar Jamai

09:45 Drama Serial: Jotsnaka

11:30 Talk Show: Talking Point
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL 1

08:05 Tagore Song (Special)
08:30 Shokal-er Gaan
08:40 Ajker Chakri
09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Triomatra
11:05 Sports Time
11:30 Shur Doria Epar Opar
12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathan
01:05 Ebong Cinemaa Gaan
01:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma

02:30 Tomader Bhulbona

03:05 Channel i Sheera Karthi '09

04:10 Muktidhudo Protidin

04:30 Apnaar Shuswasthyo

05:30 Drama Serial: Shath Goenda

06:00 Children's Programme: Mattu

08:30 Shasthya Protidin

08:55 Drama Serial: 1920

09:30 Frankly Speaking

10:05 Drama Serial: House Full

10:30 Shamporko

11:30 Glamour World

12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy

01:05 Japan Video Topic

02:30 Family Game Show: Bari Bari

04:02 Drama Serial: Paanbhar

05:30 Sports Plus

07:45 Special Programme: HIV AIDS

08:30 Paan Bahar

09:30 Drama Serial: Hitlu

10:10 Cine Hits

12:02 Ekusher Raat

08:30 Shasthya Protidin

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