

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Musical Soiree
Title: Praner Khela
Artists: Ferdous Ara and Mafizur Rahman
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, 275/F, Rd 27, Dhanmondi
Date: August 13
Time: 7:00pm



Theatre
Play: Raja...Ebong
Onnyanya
Troupe: Prachyanat
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: August 16-17
Time: 7:30pm



Musical Soiree
Title: Shrotar Ashor
Venue: Ramesh Chandra Dutta Auditorium, Chhayanaut
Date: August 14
Time: 7:30pm



Photography Exhibition
Title: Survivors
Artist: GMB Akash
Organiser: Alliance Francaise of Dhaka
Venue: Alliance Francaise of Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: August 14-27



Tracing the path of inter-religious harmony

Three-day film session and seminar ends at Goethe-Institut

JAMIL MAHMUD

A three-day film screening and seminar titled "Inter-religious Film Session and Seminar" ended at the auditorium of Goethe-Institut Bangladesh yesterday. The Embassy of Italy in Dhaka and Rainbow Film Society, in association with Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, arranged the festival. The festival featured films and documentaries on different aspects of religious harmony. Throughout the session, 12 films from different countries including Bangladesh, UK, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Bulgaria were screened.

The festival started on August 10 with the screening of "L'Inchiasta," directed by Italian filmmaker Giulio Base.

The Italian Ambassador to Dhaka, Itala Maria Occhi, among others, spoke at the seminar. At the seminar, speakers discussed on the subject of inter-religious harmony. They also



A scene from "Satyer Gahiney."

addressed the ways to overcome conflicts among the global religions.

Ahmed Muztaba Zamal, secretary general, Rainbow Film Society was the moderator at the seminar. Eminent personality and former diplomat Syed Margub Morshed

gave the vote of thanks.

Muztaba Zamal's documentary "Satyer Gahiney" (Truth and Beyond) was screened at the venue on the first day. The 50-minute documentary traces several paths to nirvana that are pursued in our country. The

film also tries to recognise a harmonious relationship among these religions.

To find the facts and collect data, the filmmaker travelled to several districts of the country -- like Kushtia, Chittagong, Sylhet, Manikganj and Tangail -- that

are well known for spiritual and mystic personalities and the practice of their philosophies.

The second day's programme included screening of the French documentary "Un Noel au Tibet," jointly directed by Jean-Baptiste Warluzel, Falk van Gaver and Constantine de Slizewicz.

The documentary highlights the lifestyle of several thousand catholic Tibetans, who live near the Tibet-southwest China border. French and Swiss missionaries converted the Tibetan populace there in the 19th century. Despite being doubly persecuted now for being Tibetan and Christian, they try to hold on to their faith in the absence of priests.

Other films screened at the festival are -- "For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Bosnia-Herzegovina), "With Extreme Cruelty" (Bulgaria), "Spursuche- Tracing the World Religions" (Germany), "Living in a Perfect World" (Italy) and "48 Angels" (UK).

Japanese subtlety and aesthetics

Sakie Kanai's solo exhibition at Zainul Gallery

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Japanese prints are known for their soft colours, minimal expressions and meticulous lines and forms. Japan's tranquil weather has enormously influenced its printmakers' works over the ages. Their works are frequently done in subtle tones and scrupulous textures. Woodcut print is very popular in Japan, as printmakers can show various delicate lines and tones in this medium. The medium is very time consuming and arduous though. Artists, however, prefer it because the output looks remarkable. Bangladeshi painters, who received their higher education in fine arts from Japan, are engrossed with quiet colours and detailed lines, forms.

Sakie Kanai is a promising Japanese printmaker. Her solo exhibition featuring woodcut prints is now on at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Earlier she had participated in a group exhibition in Dhaka.

Sakie's works predominantly feature nature, mystery and emotion. She is not a figurative or objective printmaker. Varied unfamiliar forms and stratum of colours are noticeable in her works. The images are contemplative and balanced. The artist has tried to grasp inner feelings, yearnings and personal perceptions through her prints. Some of her images clearly express her fondness of geometric forms. Her forms are not formally arranged but articulate with an attentive approach.

There are different phases in Sakie's creations that are



A woodcut print by Sakie Kanai.

marked by her preference for one or more particular colours -- grey, light yellow, beige and light green. Sakie uses her colours more like impressionist painters. Her colours reveal their pure form. In her abstract compositions, space has been carefully marked out to create a feeling of closeness and spontaneity. Flat forms provide a kind of volume and dimension to her works.

"Poetry at Night," on display at the exhibition, shows mingling of grey and light yellow. The forms look impressive on a relaxed ground. Sakie's

colours denote a poetic imagination.

"It Goes in Rain" shows a black encircled form with some simple and curved lines. The lines symbolise rain and its lyrical aspects. Beige has been superbly magnified on the ground of this work.

"When it is Enclosed" depicts an architectural design of some uneven structures. The shape is the focal point, and the vision engages the viewer to contemplate the power of imagery and romanticism.

The exhibition ends on August 13.



Arnob (3rd from left) with fellow musicians and officials from HSBC and Bengal Music at the launch of the album "Arnob & Friends Live" on August 11. The album was launched at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts in Dhanmondi. The album features songs performed at concerts arranged by the non-profit volunteer organisation of Bangladeshi expats, Drishtipat, in the UK, USA and Canada. Presented by HSBC, the album is part of the financial institution's latest brand campaign "Different Points of Value."

Three-day art exhibition at Rajshahi University

ABU KALAM RATAN, RU

A three-day art exhibition at Rajshahi University (RU) campus, titled "Art and Artist Live Together" was inaugurated on August 10.

'Sangsrab', a group of seven students of Fine Arts of Rajshahi and Dhaka University, organised the exhibition at the central cafeteria on RU campus. The students are Shahnaz, Samaun Hassan, Suma Debi Mondol, Aminul

Islam of RU, and Bikas Ananda Setu, Bikas Kanti Karmakar and Farhana Yasmin Juthi of DU.

RU Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Muhammad Nurullah inaugurated the exhibition with Chairman, Fine Arts Department, Professor Amirul Momenin Chowdhury in the chair.

A total of 28 pieces, including painting and sculptures, were on display at the exhibition.

The exhibition drew a huge turnout of teachers and students.



Visitors at the exhibition.

PHOTO: STAR

Cultural exchange programme in Khagrachhari

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

The people of three indigenous communities recently attended a cultural exchange programme at Mohajonpara Chandonpati Club in the hill town of Khagrachhari as part of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People celebration. Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO), which brings together indigenous people across the globe, organised the event.

Country director of VSO, Bangladesh, Shahana Hayat attended the programme as chief guest.

Participants at the programme hoped for progress of the disadvan-

tagged indigenous communities across the world. Locals and foreigners, attending the event, performed songs, dances and recited poetry. A short play on indigenous traditions and culture was also staged at the programme.

In a brief speech, Shahana Hayat said, "We want to ensure equal rights and privileges for all, where everyone can enjoy a happy and prosperous life in a classless society."

Local NGO Zabarang Kalyan Samiti's executive director, Mothura Lal Tripura, said, "Through this programme we gained a new perspective from those who have come from abroad."



PHOTO: STAR

Foreigners perform at the cultural programme organised by VSO in Khagrachhari recently. The event was part of a cultural exchange initiative.

More on World Indigenous Day

RABIUL HASAN, Chapainawabganj

A discussion, rally and cultural programme were held at the Upazila Parishad premises of Nachole in Chapainawabganj last Sunday to observe Int'l Day of the World's Indigenous People.

Nachole upazila Lahanti Akhra Forum, Adibasi Academy and Adibasi Samajik Sangathan jointly organised the programme.

Hundreds of indigenous people, including women and children from different villages of Tanore and Godagari of Rajshahi, Niamotpur and Porsha of Naogaon and Gomostapur, Nachole and Sadar upazila of Chapainawabganj district took part in the programme.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Enamul Haque inaugurated the rally.

The rally was followed by a meeting held at the Adibasi Academy. A discussion was also held at Nachole Upazila Parishad premises with Hingu Murmu, president of Adibasi Academy, in the chair.

Talk show Eki Brintey starts tonight on Desh TV

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A new celebrity talk show "Eki Brintey" goes on air on Desh TV tonight at 8:30.

The programme features celebrity couples; father and son/daughter; mother and son/daughter; brother-sister; mentor-disciple and director-actor duos.

The guests will share their personal and professional experiences, views on contemporary issues and much more.

Popular model-actress Tanvin Sweetie hosts the show.

Singer-musician Tutul and his wife actress Tania are the



Tutul and Tania are guests on tonight's show.

guests on tonight's episode of the show.

The programme is produced by Ushnish Chakraborti.



PHOTO: BANGLARCHOKH.COM

To observe the 68th death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy arranged a discussion and cultural programme at its auditorium of Music and Dance Centre recently. At the programme, noted litterateur Selina Hossain discussed on Tagore's influence on the mass movements throughout the history of Bangladesh. Later, artistes took part in a cultural programme featuring dance and music.