

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Exhibition
Title: Poshakay Ronger
Uthab
Venue: Gallery Nitya
Upahar, Aziz Cooperative
Super Market, Shahbagh
Date: August 28-
September 19
Time: 10am-8pm

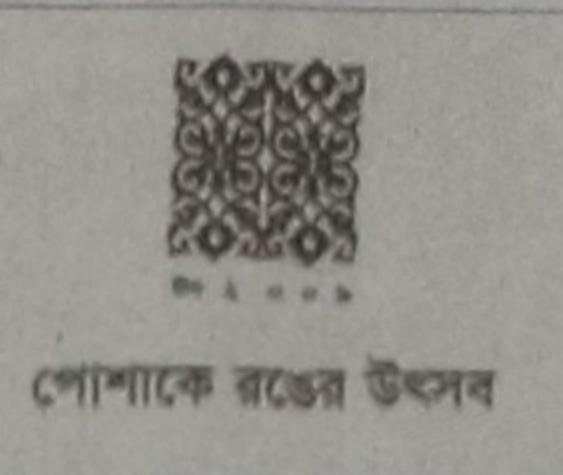


Photo Exhibition
Images of tourist sites
of Moscow and St.
Petersburg
Venue: Lobby, Russian
Centre of Science &
Culture,
H 42, Rd 7, Dhanmondi
Date: September 1-30



**Solo Sculpture
Exhibition**
Sculptor: Mohammad
Aliqul Islam
Venue: Gallery, Asiatic
Society, Nimgol, Ramna
Date: August 28-
September 6
Time: 2-8pm



Photo Exhibition
Title: Our stories: Middle
Class Bangladesh
Date: August 27-
September 9
Venue: Goethe-Institut
Bangladesh, H 10, Rd 9,
Dhanmondi
Time: 10am-8pm



Ahmed Sofa: The voice of the deprived

TAKIR HOSSAIN

"I come from a family of farmers. It is very hard to overlook this fact. I do not want to exaggerate anything. My forefathers had been directly involved with agriculture. I feel proud to be a part of them. I want poor farmers and labourers to eat rice and sing in a jovial mood," said Ahmed Sofa, in an interview in a book "Ahmed Sofar Samay", written by Nasir Ali Mamun. The book received high acclaim for its simple and ordinary language.

Ahmed Sofa was one of the most prolific writers of Bangladesh. He was born in 1943 at Gaachbaria in Chittagong. Among the contemporary fiction writers in Bangladesh, Sofa belongs in the first rank for his thought-provoking and contemplative writings. If we look at his writings, we will see most of his writings are vital and pensive providing many messages in the social, political and economic milieus. He wrote in many genres such as novels, stories, essays, poems, translations, songs and criticism. Sofa was outspoken but bold in expressing the truth. He hardly practised religion but his religious belief was unquestionable.

Sofa was very closely associated with noted painter SM Sultan. Both were



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bohemians, bachelors and had no interest in fame, money or other earthly elements. "We could not find such a personality in the last 100 years. His themes were all encompassing. He is the icon of Bengal. He is the greatest painter of the soil. He is also a philosopher. Nobody has

come forward to explore him truly. We need Sultan because he was the son of a farmer. Zainul Abedin, Quamrul Hassan are not presented in such way. They are gentlemen. They do not identify with peasants and workers," said Sofaat "Ahmed Sofar Samay".

Sofa's novels are usually in small volumes. All his novels draw the attention of the reader for their well fleshed out, familiar and lively characters. His works plunge deep into the suffering people and their miserable living conditions.

Ahmed Sofa's "Jadoppi Amar Guru" is a remarkable book-focused on National Professor Abdur Razzak's way of life. Abdur Razzak is recognised as one of the foremost intellectuals of our country. He was a thinker, philosopher, political scientist, and analyst of various contemporary issues.

Sofa embarked on his career as a novelist with "Surja Tumi Sathi". Published in 1967, the literary work got an extremely favourable response. Readers felt that after a long time they had found a writer who spoke their language.

Sofa wrote what he believed in. He disliked pretension and his writing is devoid of exaggeration. His writings strongly voice the concerns of underprivileged people in our country. Writing was his passion. He led a very simple and ordinary life with little place for comfort and luxury. For a long time, he stayed in a single room with nothing else but a bed, chairs, table and bookshelves.

Ahmed Sofa died in 2001.

Laila Hasan and Tapan Mahmud on Rtv tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Noted danseuse and actor Laila Hasan along with Tagore singer Tapan Mahmud feature as guests in tonight's episode of entertainment talk show "Dhrupadi". The show will be aired on Rtv at 9:25pm.

"Dhrupadi" features stories behind the success of celebrities through an entertaining conversation between the guests and the host. Apart from their success as artistes, both Hasan and Mahmud are well-known organisers who have gone a long way in promoting their respective cultural fields. In the course of the programme, both Hasan and Mahmud will share the factors behind their success with viewers.

The weekly programme has been compiled, directed and hosted by Shanta Islam.



Laila Hasan and Tapan share the secrets behind their success in the show.

TV play Banolota Sen on ntv



Mosharraf Karim and Richi enact the lead roles in the play.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Single episode TV play "Banolota Sen" will be aired on ntv tonight at 9:00pm. Written by Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, the play has been directed by popular small screen actor Mahfuz Ahmed.

The play follows the story of a man named Jalal who works at an advertising firm. Sumi works at the office as an executive. One day, while checking a billboard of the company being set at a railway station, Sumi spots a young man about to jump in front of a rushing train. She stops the man. Jalal plans to use the incident for an advertisement. He makes an agreement with the young man, named Masud, offering him Tk 10 lakh. Sumi cannot accept this deal and resigns from the company.

Richi Solaiman, Mosharraf Karim and Hasan Masud play the lead roles.

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

On Air

BTV

08:45 Shokal-er Gaan

09:05 Phirey Dekha

09:15 O Amar Desher Mati

09:35 Udayer Pathay

10:30 Kanukaj

11:30 Mati O Manush

12:10 Swashtho Jigysa

01:30 Shukhi Poribaar

02:15 Sisimpur

02:45 Bangla Feature Film

05:45 Geeti Malyo

06:25 Islamic Programme

07:45 Documentary Programme:

Phirey Dekha

08:25 Shobhyotar Joyjatra

09:00 Drama: Unmochon

10:25 Special Programme in memory of Abdul Alim

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Shangbadpotro

08:30 Children's Programme

09:10 Kandey Amar Maa

09:15 Drama Serial: Pashapashi

10:30 Hello Bangladesh

11:05 Talk Show: Asian City Top Spin

12:15 Bangla Feature Film

03:40 Square Hospital Shushto Thakun

04:15 VIM Zhotpot Iftar

04:35 Islamic Programme

05:35 Islamic Programme

06:35 Rasul-er Deshey

06:45 Islamic Programme

08:00 Drama Serial: Karo Kono Niti

12:00 Nai

08:40 Drama Serial: Eka

09:20 Drama Serial: Naksha

10:40 Talk Show: Mukto Shanglaap

11:30 Daily Soap: 14 May @

12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL 1

03:45 Rabindra Sangeet

08:30 Shokaler Gaan

08:40 Ajker Chakri

09:30 Shabnabpotrey Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameenphone Tritio Matra

11:05 Amader Aina

12:05 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma

ETV

12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathan

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

01:30 Selected Programme

02:30 Mukti Juddho Protidin

04:05 Fashion Dot Com

04:30 Ramjanul Mobarak

05:10 Talent Hunt: Sur Daria Epaar

06:30 Opaar

06:45 Cookery Show

06:45 Kafela

07:50 Drama Serial: Sakin Sharishuri

09:35 Hridoye Mati O Manush

10:00 Drama Serial: Nine Months in Brick Lane

11:30 Drama Serial: Jatrawala

Shari

09:00 Drama: Banolota Sen

11:30 Apnaar Jigysa

RTV

09:30 Drama Serial: Bhabhi

10:02 Deho Ghor

11:30 Mukto Khobor

12:30 Naachey Gaaney Number 1

02:02 Bangla Feature Film

05:15 Sports plus

05:20 Bhoghurey Dot Com

06:45 Drama: Rojadar

07:45 Eid Shomphar

09:30 Drama Serial: Bhabhi

10:10 Golpo Sholpo Gaan

11:45 Market Trend

12:02 Ekushe Ratal

09:45 Drama Serial: Alta Shundori

BANGLAVISION

08:00 Shubho Shokal

08:30 Drama Serial: Babar Hotel

09:00 Ebong Classer Bairey

11:35 Cookery Show

12:30 Housing Barla

01:30 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue

02:30 Bangla Feature Film

05:20 Islamic Programme

05:55 Quran-er Alo

06:45 Amader Jiboney Ramjan

08:15 Drama Serial: Rupnogorer Konya

09:05 Talk Show: Lisan Mehedi Amar Ami

09:45 Daily Soap: Gulshan Avenue

11:25 Tarabih Shanglap

12:10 Shangbad Protidin

02:00 Get shorty

02:30 I Do, They Don't

04:30 Shes The Man

06:40 The Jungle Book 2

08:20 Blind Dating

10:30 Summer of Sam

STAR MOVIES

08:50 The Nanny Diaries

11:00 Impy's Island

12:40 Wall Street

03:00 Because I Said So

06:40 Superhero Movie

08:30 Mirchi Fighters, The