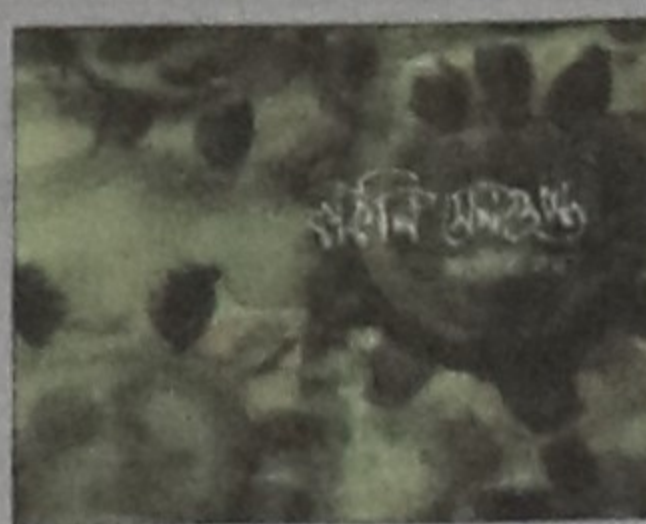


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition
Painter: Zahura Sultana Hossain
Title: Contemplation
Venue: Bay's Galleria, Radius Centre, Gulshan-2
Date: December 11-24
Time: 10 am-8pm



Solo Musical Soiree
Artist: Kakoli Sengupta
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H 275/F (old), Dhanmondi
Date: December 24
Time: 7pm



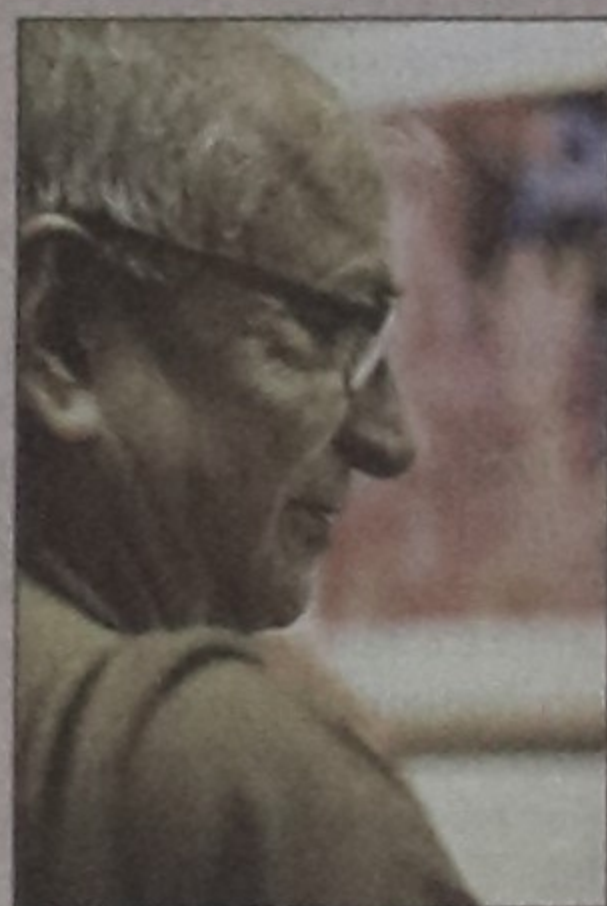
Theatre
Play: Shikhandi Katha
Troupe: Mahakal Natya Shampradaya
Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: December 25 & 26
Time: 7pm



Painting Exhibition
Painter: Biren Shome
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H 26, Rd 3, Dhanmondi
Date: December 25-January 5
Time: 10am-8pm



Renowned Indian artist KG Subramanyan to be in town



KG Subramanyan
A CORRESPONDENT

To mark the 95th birth anniversary of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU will hold a daylong 'Zainul Mela' at the FFA premises on December 29. Vice-chancellor (VC) of Dhaka University Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique will inaugurate the festival. Noted Indian painter K.G. Subramanyan is likely to attend the programme as honorary guest. Subramanyan is one of the most revered contemporary painters in India. He is noted for his satires and folk

motifs. As part of the 'Zainul Mela', Dhaka University will honour Subramanyan and Shafiuddin Ahmed (the senior-most painter in Bangladesh).

Also, on the 81st birth anniversary of artist Mohammad Kibria, Subramanyan will inaugurate an art workshop on January 1, 2010, at Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi. The

maestro will also give a speech on contemporary art on January 2, 2010 at Special Conference Hall of Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Building, University of Dhaka. Subramanyan will also visit the Liberation War Museum, National Museum, Fine Arts Department, Chittagong University, Paharpur in Bogra, among other places.



A painting by Subramanyan.

Spirited performances by Fahmida and Bappa

'Pran-er Khela' at Bengal Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The latest instalment of Bengal Foundation's monthly musical soiree 'Pran-er Khela' was held at Bengal Gallery in Dhanmondi on December 21. Popular singers Fahmida Nabi and Bappa Majumdar performed at the programme.

Luvu Nahid Chowdhury, director general of Bengal Foundation, briefly spoke prior to the performances, explaining why the foundation has been regularly arranging the musical programme.

The informal concert started a little late, as Bappa was stuck in a traffic jam -- a regular feature of Dhaka life. However, Fahmida was all set to start and when she was preparing to sing her first number of the evening, Bappa arrived.

As Fahmida rendered Rabindranath's patriotic song 'O Amar Desher Mati', Bappa accompanied her on the guitar. The song was a dedication to the motherland in the



Bappa and Fahmida perform at the programme.

month of Victory. The mellow mood of the song seemed to take over the audience.

Both Fahmida and Bappa -- belonging to families of renowned musicians -- are accomplished artistes in their own right. Bappa is the son of

prominent musician Barin Majumdar, while Fahmida is the daughter of singer Mahmud-un-Nabi.

Bappa started with the melodious number 'Brishti Porey' from his band Dalchhut's album

'Hridoypur'. Bappa's singing and guitar, combined with the keyboard and the soft beats of congo, was outstanding.

Next was one of Dalchhut's most popular numbers, 'Pori'. This time, the audience hummed with the

singer, turn the rendition into a grand choir. Fahmida entertained the audience with 'Lukochuri Galpo', from the 'Aha!' soundtrack.

The artistes rendered a couple of duets at the programme as well. The duet numbers included 'Hotey Chai Pakhi', 'Mon Pabon-er Ghuri', 'Tomar Jonno Tatar Timir' and 'Tumi Ki Bolo Ashbey'.

Bappa also rendered some familiar songs -- both from his solo and Dalchhut albums -- including 'Ghum-er Galpo', 'Nishwabdo Ami' and a tribute to the late Sanjeeb Chowdhury 'Ami Tomakei Boley Debo'.

Fahmida's solo renditions were 'Jodi Akash-er Neel', 'Swapno Chhowa Bhalobasha' and a cover of the classic 'Ami Shat Sagar Pari Diye'.

Rose and Bullet -- both members of Dalchhut -- accompanied the artistes on percussions and keyboard respectively. Eastern Bank Limited sponsored the soiree.

Roving shutterbugs zoom in on nature

Photography exhibition at Zainul Gallery



Poamuhuri, Alikadam in Bandarban.

JAMIL MAHMUD

A weeklong photography exhibition titled 'Alo Chhayaye Bangladesh' ended yesterday at the Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU. Organised by the Bangladesh Tourism Expansion Forum (BTEF), the exhibition opened on December 16.

BTEF embarked on its journey in 2001. The organisation's main objective is to encourage people to undertake tours within the country rather than overseas. In this regard BTEF has chosen photography as a tool to generate interest among domestic tourists. So far, BTEF has arranged over 50 tours in various locales of Bangladesh. A.R.K Ripon, coordinator of the exhibition,



Baniachang in Habiganj.

asserted that they take their cameras to different parts of the country, including familiar tourist spots. The exhibition featured photographs from 12 of the 50 tours arranged by

BTEF. The images highlight nature, traditions and lifestyle.

The photographs mostly feature the hilly region of the country, in particular distant parts of



Boishakhi Utshab at Paril, Manikganj.

Rangamati and Bandarban. The photos, shot during tours in Rangamati and Bandarban, suggest that the photographers went deep inside the remote hills to create vignettes of the indigenous people, their lifestyle, and the untainted beauty of the nature.

A photo taken in the deep forest of Alikadam, Bandarban shows the tranquillity of the hills. The image shows a tiny hut on a hill, surrounded by greenery -- a dreamy hideaway from the hustle and bustle of city life. The team of photographers also took photos of many familiar and unfamiliar places in the hilly region, including the bat cave of Remakri, Bandarban; Andharmanik forest and the Matamuhuri and Shangu rivers.

Several photographs feature the

north-eastern part of the country, in particular, Sylhet and Sunamganj districts. Photographers visiting Sylhet zoomed in on the lives of haor people. They took several photos at Baniachang, the lowland in Habiganj, to highlight the lifestyle of the haor population.

Through their lens they also captured the splendour of rivers -- Sari and Piyain in Sylhet, and Jadukata in Sunamganj.

The troupe also went to several popular tourist attractions like the Sundarbans and Cox's Bazar. Photos of the Sundarbans, the largest mangrove forest in the world, are truly remarkable.

Traditional cultural festivals like Charak and Baishakhi in Tangail and Manikganj areas were also photographed by the team.

Vignettes of Liberation War

Exhibition and cultural programme in Kurigram

ABDUL WAHED, Kurigram

To mark the Victory Day, a three-day exhibition of visual documents of Liberation War and cultural programme were held recently in Kurigram Shilpakala Academy.

Deputy Commissioner of Kurigram, Mohammad Asaduzzaman inaugurated the event as chief guest. Eminent personalities present at the event included the president of the district Anti-corruption Committee

Samiul Haque Nantu; Commander of the district Freedom Fighters' unit Sirajul Islam Tuku; former Kurigram Municipality Chairman Md. Kaziul Islam; President of Kurigram Press Club Mominul Islam Monju and Executive Director of ZIBIKA (a local NGO) Manik Chowdhury. ZIBIKA organised the programme.

A total of 101 images were on display at the exhibition, taking photo enthusiasts to the eventful days of 1971.

Manik Chowdhury told The Daily Star that the images were collected

through the Liberation War Museum, so that the post-war generations could learn about the facts of how Bangladesh was born.

Viewers at the exhibition said that documents and images of the Liberation War should be collected and preserved without fail.

Several cultural organisations such as Kurigram Shilpakala Academy, Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Shaju Sangeetangan and Nritya Shilpi Goshthi jointly staged performances on the occasion.

Winter pitha and vegetable fair in Jhenidah

AZIBOR RAHMAN, Jhenidah

A traditional pitha (winter cake) and vegetable mela was held on Monday at the Kaliganj premises of the "Hunger Free World" (HFW) in Jhenidah. This entertaining event was organised at the initiative of Japan-based voluntary organisation Women Ending Hunger with a view to preserving the age old traditions of villages in the country.

Chief guest AL lawmaker Abdul Mannan (Jhenidah-4) inaugurated the mela while Kaliganj upazila UNO Anjuman Ara Begum; Ataur Rahman Miton country director of HFW; programme director Anjuman Akhtar; Rokeya Khatun, headmistress of Sunekatan School were special guests.

Members of 50 women organisations put up stalls with an array of mouth-watering delicacies, such as *bhapa puli*, *patishapta*, *suji chamcham*, *jog pitha*, *dim pitha*, *gol nokshi*, *dhakun pitha* and *vegetable pitha*. The event continued till the evening.

Enthusiastic students and people from all walks of life gathered at the mela.

Programme director Anjuman Aktar of HFW said that this event had been running since December 21, 2001.

Poppy, one of the owners of a stall, said, "We enjoy such occasions and participate wholeheartedly in them. In the course of this event, we also have the opportunity to get together with our near and dear ones."

Another participant, Rekha said, "This mela gives us immense pleasure. We gather here on December 21 every year and thoroughly enjoy the day."

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A group performance at the event.

PHOTO: STAR