

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

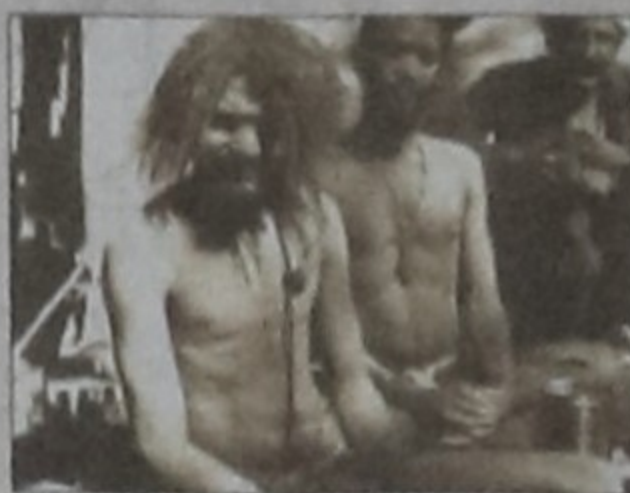
Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Origins of Fruits
Artist: Onil Hossain
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F (old), Dhanmondi
Date: December 22-January 2
Time: 12pm-8pm



Photography Exhibition

Title: India through the lenses of Alain Danielou and Raymond Bumer
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Rd, Dhanmondi
Date: December 21-31
Time: 10am-12pm & 5-9pm



Theatre

Play: Hargoj
Troupe: Swapnadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: December 30
Time: 7pm



Sculpture Exhibition

Sculptor: Nasima Haque Mitu
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
Date: December 25-31
Time: 11am-8pm



Unsatisfactory turnout at Dhaka Int'l Book fair '09



The book fair featured 169 stalls, including two publication houses from overseas.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

MAINUL HASSAN

The two-week long Dhaka International Book Fair 2009 at Suhrawardi Uddan ends today. National Book Centre and the Ministry of Cultural Affairs jointly organised the fair, which began on December 11. The fair, largest after the Ekushey Book Fair, featured a total 169 stalls giving the visitors an opportunity to choose from a lot. This year two publication houses from overseas -- National Book Trust, India and Al Huda International Publication, Iran participated at the event.

"This fair is an annual event. The main purpose of holding this fair is to promote books among the masses and to encourage them to develop reading habits," said Suhita Sultana, assistant director, National Book Centre.

This theme of this year's book fair

is: "Books for Change."

"We hope that such events will provide the local readers with an opportunity to check out foreign publications," Sultana added.

Apart from books, added attractions at the fair are discussions and cultural programmes. The discussions were attended by leading experts and intellectuals. So far the fair featured discussions on folk, the future of the publication industry of Bangladesh, copyright issues and more.

On December 23, a discussion on 'Pancho Kabir Gaan' (song of the five poets -- Rabindranath, Nazrul, Rajnikant, Atul Prasad and D.L. Roy) was held at the fair premises. Professor Karunamaya Goswami was the main discussant at the event. Mita Haque, Lily Islam, Shahid Kabir Polash and Azizur Rahman Tuhin performed songs of the five poets at the programme.

According to the booksellers, the turnout, however, was not as high as they had expected.

"For a book fair of this magnitude the turnout is not satisfactory. We expected more visitors," said Amjad Hossain, a vendor at the Oitijhya stall.

"One of the main reasons behind the inadequate turnout can be attributed to the lack of publicity. The organisers could have taken better initiatives for publicity of the fair, people simply don't know that this fair is being held!" Amjad Hossain added.

Another seller Omar Faruk, at The Sky Publishers stall, said, "Each year the fair is held at a different venue, so people actually do not know where this event is being held. I have seen no effort to publicise the fair."

Calling the ticket system "an obstacle", Rafiqul Islam at the

Tamrolipi stall said, "Even the Ekushey Book Fair is open to all! All book fairs should be open to all!" The organisers are charging Taka 5 for entry at the fair.

Similar views were shared at stalls of Ankur Publications, Shahitya Prokash, The Royal Publishers, Shahitya Katha and more.

The booksellers also suggested maintaining a gap of at least six months between the Ekushey Book Fair and the International Book Fair.

Even though majority of the vendors were disappointed, stalls offering books and other items for children and adolescents had a different view.

Naqibul Hassan of Panjeri Publications said, "There seems to be a good demand for comic books among the young visitors. Comic books such as 'Basic Ali', 'Laili' as well as 'Stories of Birbal', 'Molla Nasiruddin' and 'Gopal Bhar' sold well."

"Mohammad Zafar Iqbal's 'Meyetir Naam Narina', a novel for adolescents, is selling quite well at the fair," said Md. Faruk Hossain of Pearl Publication.

About the fair, Bratin Dey, assistant editor of National Book Trust

from India, said, "We have noticed a growing popularity of Indian books among the Bangladeshi readers. At this fair we are not selling books. We are only displaying our books to inform the people of the latest Indian publications."

"The response from the people has been very positive. NBT is an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, India. NBT will be holding the New Delhi World Book Fair, from January 30 to February 7, 2010. Publication houses from all over the world will be participating at the fair," Dey informed.

The Al Huda International Publication stall featured Iranian publications on Imam Khomeini, Islamic Calligraphy and other subjects.

Another stall featuring Iranian books were set up by the office of the Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of Iran in Dhaka. The stall featured translations of Iranian and Islamic books.

Today the fair opens at 11 am. The closing ceremony will be held at 4:30 pm. Promod Mankin, State Minister for Cultural Affairs, is expected to be present as the chief guest.



Cultural show for differently abled children

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

"Road to Rights", a Patha Jatra featuring cultural shows including plays and songs was held recently, targeted at creating awareness about the rights of differently abled children in Jhenidah. Later, a discussion was held at the old DC court premises on Wednesday at the initiative of NGO Action In Development (AID).

Jhenidah Sadar Upazila chairman, Kanak Kanti Das was chief guest while Debesh Das a representative of SLF Netherlands, Ifat Ara Parvin (Shoma) representative of AID Bangladesh and Aminul Islam Bakul Nirbahi director of AID were special guests at the event.

The speakers said that the public should safeguard the rights of differently abled children. Children from DRRA-Dhaka performed a pot-gaan. Later, a play "Protibandhider Adhikar" was staged, directed by Nazimuddin Julius.

Celebrity deaths had heavy impact in 2009

The recent passing of actress Brittany Murphy adds another high-profile name to the list of those who have died in 2009.

The year seems to have been filled with an inordinate amount of high-profile deaths -- some even on the same day.

Among those who passed away: Michael Jackson, Farrah Fawcett, Natasha Richardson, Bea Arthur, David Carradine and Patrick Swayze.

Authors John Updike, Frank McCourt and Dominick Dunne died, as did blues legend Koko Taylor, Ventures guitarist Bob Bogle, Mary Travers of Peter, Paul & Mary, guitar innovator Les Paul and Adam "DJ AM" Goldstein.

But was 2009 any more notable for celebrity deaths than other years? Or, in our hyper-caffeinated, overly Twittered culture, is there simply more awareness?

Adam Bernstein, editor for The Washington Post's obituary section, believes the latter. He said he believes the perception of the mass mortality of stars is driven by the overwhelming amount of attention paid to the deaths of even minor celebrities.

"Brittany Murphy is far from the most accomplished of actresses, but because she has attracted a following -- mostly from younger people who are probably shocked, of course, at her death at the age of 32 -- it becomes a big deal online," he said. "And that drives a lot of attention from newspapers, including ours, which went nuts with her death."

Social networking sites like Twitter are helping to drive the interest, Bernstein said, as people tweet about it and "the immediacy of the death suddenly becomes hot ratings online."

Source: Internet

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

On Air

BTV

08:15 Shokal-er Gaan
09:05 Documentary Programme: Phirey Dekha
09:15 Esho Gaan Shikhi
09:35 Sisimpur
10:05 Tiffin-er Adday
10:30 Documentary Programme: Amader Ei Bashundhara
10:50 Janley Chai Janatey Chai
11:40 Anushilon
12:10 Bidyangan
02:00 Shundor Jibon
02:30 Prottoy
03:15 Bangla Feature Film
07:00 Shamprotik
07:40 Documentary Programme: Phirey Dekha
08:25 Shobhyotar Joyjatra
09:00 Special Programme on Anniversary of BTV
10:25 Ranagoneer Dinguli
10:45 Muktiyudho Protidin

ATN BANGLA

09:10 Kaandey Amar Maa
09:20 Educational Programme: BSB Cambrian Education Zone
10:35 Special Programme on Christmas
11:05 Debate: BSB Cambrian Youth Parliament
03:15 Bangla Feature Film
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khobor
06:20 Amra Karbo Joy
08:00 Tatka national Dance Star
09:20 Drama Serial: Pashapashi
11:30 Drama Serial: Maa Tui Achchish Kemon
12:00 Talk Show: Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL i

08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 Shokaler Gaan
09:30 Shanbadpotrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Tritio Matra
10:30 Grameenphone Tele Shomoy
11:30 Islam Ki Boley
12:05 Kora Alap
12:30 Muktiyudhyo Protidin
01:05 Lux Channel i Superstar '09
01:30 Sa Re Ga Ma
02:30 Bangla Feature Film: Shamol

Chhaya
05:30 Surdoria Bagha Gayen
07:50 Cookery Show: Rupchada Hari Koral Ranna
08:25 Drama Serial: Bindu Thekey Britto
09:35 Reality Show: Ultradhikaar
11:30 Talk Show: Smrititey BTV
12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Sangbadpatra

ntv

08:30 Swastho Protidin
08:45 Franky Speaking
09:30 Bhalobesho Mor Gaan
10:30 Apnar Jigyasha
11:30 Amaro Gailey Ichchha Holo
12:10 Musical Programme
02:30 Tele Film
04:10 Special Programme on Christmas
05:40 Tiffin-er Phakey
06:40 Rup Madhuri

04:30 Muktokhobor
05:25 Shoptaho Jurey
06:30 Spondon
07:50 Nachey Gaaney Number One
09:30 Drama Serial: Bhabi
10:10 Nondito Borodin
12:02 Phono Live Studio Concert

RTV

10:00 Drama Serial: Tabuo
10:45 Taroka Alap
11:30 Share Update
12:30 Drama Serial: Dui Pokhyo
02:03 Documentary
03:10 Debate
06:00 Protidin
06:45 Dhruptadi Kahini
07:30 Road to Democracy
09:25 Black Horse RTV Golden Key
11:30 Jiboney Jibon Aano

DESH TV

10:30 Khelar Shokal
12:15 Dur Paath

04:05 Music Together
05:25 Din Bodoler Manush
05:55 Shubho Jonmodin
06:20 Drama
08:15 Drama
09:45 Drama Serial: Rang-er Dunia
11:45 Talk Show: Anyo Nayan

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
09:10 Events of the Day
10:30 Drama
11:30 Aalor Kafela
01:00 Drama
02:00 Gollachhut
03:30 Drama: Hanan
04:00 Hello Bangladesh
05:15 Shaptaho Sheshey
06:00 Saanhy Bela
07:00 Talk Show: Bondhu Amar
08:15 Drama: Jonjudyho
09:15 Show Case
09:45 Events of the Day

02:00 The Making Of 10,000 B.C.
02:15 Hellboy II: The Golden Army
04:45 Tmz 133
05:15 Collateral Damage
07:30 Hollywood One On One 71
08:00 Wanted
10:00 Tmz 134
10:30 10,000 B.C.
01:00 10,000 B.C.

ESPN

08:00 2009 Sheraton Hawaii Bowl
11:30 Fina Aquatics World
12:00 Seoul 1988 : Official Documentary
02:30 NBA Fastbreak 2009/10
03:00 Seoul 1988 : Beyond All Barriers
05:00 X Games Classix : BMX
06:00 Seoul 1988 : The World To Seoul
07:30 BPL 09/10: Manchester City vs. Arsenal

vs. Arsenal

STAR SPORTS

08:30 TNA Sikander 09/10
09:30 Game Christmas Special
10:00 TNA Ppv 08/09 - Sacrifice
01:00 TNA Ppv 08/09 - Siamwarsary
04:00 FIA F1 World Championship Highlights 2009
05:30 FIA F1 World Championship Highlights 2009
07:00 FIA F1 World Championship Highlights 2009
08:30 Score Tonight Special
09:00 FIA F1 World Championship Highlights 2009
10:30 FIA F1 World Championship Highlights 2009
12:00 FIA F1 World Championship Highlights 2009

BBC WORLD

08:00 BBC World News
08:30 Thinking Big (r)
A Woman's Place is in the Boardroom
09:00 BBC World News
09:30 The Hoard (r)
10:00 BBC World News
10:30 Inside Sport: Kieren Fallon
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 World Business Report
12:00 BBC World News
12:30 World Business Report (r)
01:00 BBC World News
01:30 Our World: Hitler's Bodyguard (r)
02:00 BBC World News
02:30 The Hoard (r)
03:00 BBC World News
03:30 Inside Sport: Kieren Fallon (r)
04:00 BBC World News
04:30 Our World: Hitler's Bodyguard (r)
05:00 BBC World News
05:30 World Business Report
05:45 Reporters
06:00 BBC World News
06:30 The Hoard (r)
07:00 BBC World News
07:30 Thinking Big (r)
A Woman's Place is in the Boardroom
08:00 BBC World News
08:30 Inside Sport: Kieren Fallon (r)
09:00 BBC World News
09:30 Our World: Inside M15 (r)
10:00 BBC World News
10:20 The Queen's Christmas Message 2009
10:30 Our World: Children of Beslan (r)
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 World Business Report (r)
11:45 Reporters (r)



Naachey Gaaney Number One On Ekushey TV at 7:50 pm Grand Finale Judges: Notun, Ithun Babu, Biplob



08:15 Drama Serial: Ekta Kinley Ekta Free
09:00 Busy-der Easy Show
09:45 Drama Serial: Dhupchhaya
11:30 Shur Bhora Nelima

ETV

09:30 Deho Tori
10:02 Shonamoni Shukhey Ashukhey
11:30 Job Line
12:02 Ekushey-er Dupur
12:30 Special Programme on Christmas: Oi Mohamanob Ashay
01:30 Obuj Duti Mon

01:02 Cartoon
03:00 Bangla Feature Film
04:00 Desh Janopad
06:02 Noboanondoy Jago
07:45 Oi Moha Manob Ashay
09:45 Rangmistari Show: Rodmekho Shurjomukhi

BANGLAVISION

09:00 Nodi O Jibon
11:05 Housing Barla
12:05 The Spirit of Islam
01:30 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue
03:20 Shamol Bangla

11:00 Amar Ghar
11:30 Desh Kaal

ZEE STUDIO

09:30 The Pink Panther
11:30 Snow
01:25 A Lot Like Love
03:30 Matilda
05:30 Eloise at Christmastime
08:00 Robocop 1
10:30 Robocop 2
01:10 Robocop 3

HBO

09:45 Fred Claus
12:00 Kung Fu Panda

08:30 Barclays Premier League 2009/10

Match: West Ham United vs. Liverpool

09:30 Sportscenter India : Year In Review

10:00 Sportscenter Asia : Year In Review

10:30 F1 Classics : 2000 German Grand Prix

11:30 Sportscenter India : Year In Review

12:00 Sportscenter Asia : Year In Review

12:30 BPL 09/10: Manchester City