

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

**Dhaka Int'l Film Festival**  
 Organiser: Rainbow Film Society  
 Venue: National Museum & Central Public Library premises  
 Date: January 14-22  
 Time: 10:30am onwards



**Theatre**  
 Play: Punarjanmo  
 Troupe: Prachyanat  
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
 Date: January 24  
 Time: 6:30pm



**64<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary**  
 Architect Shamsul Wares  
 Venue: H 50, Rd 3A, Dhanmondi  
 Date: January 21  
 Time: 7pm



**Classical Music and Dance**

Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA)  
 Venue: National Music and Dance Centre, BSA  
 Date: January 20-21  
 Time: 6pm



## Projecting the opulent cultural heritage of Bangladesh in UAE



(From left) Rumana Islam, Aditi Mohsin, Kiran Chandra Roy and Shaheen Samad perform at the programme in Abu Dhabi.

MD. NAZMUL QUAUNINE

A two-day cultural event -- organised by the Embassy of Bangladesh, UAE with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Bangladesh and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development, UAE -- was held on January 15 and 16, 2010 at the National Theater Auditorium in Abu Dhabi.

Since I joined the embassy, it has been my mission to organise such cultural events and I am elated that the events were well attended and that the local electronic and print media have covered this extensively. It has helped to

project our rich culture and art as well as improve the national image. The programme on January 16 was exclusively for our workers and our intention was to educate them about the culture and traditions of the UAE along with entertainment. Our workers seemed to deeply appreciate the event.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Brig (Rtd) Md. Enamul Haque was present on the first day as chief guest and he underscored in his address that the present Government has been giving much emphasis to project Bangladeshi culture abroad and as part of that

policy the Ministry of Culture has sent the delegation to the UAE. At the second day's programme Khorshed Alam Chowdhury, DG, BMET was the chief guest and he stressed on the importance of organising such cultural events for the Bangladeshi workers on regular basis.

Shaheen Samad, Kiran Chandra Roy, Aditi Mohsin, and Rumana Islam and a group of talented dancers staged a Bangladesh musical extravaganza. The event featured Nazrul, Rabindra, folk, patriotic and modern songs, and dances. The cultural programme was enriched through video pre-

sentations of Bangladesh's archaeological heritage and tourist attractions.

Bangladesh is known in the UAE for its thousands of workers in every sector but many are not aware of its opulent culture, arts, heritage, tourist hot spots and investment opportunities. Projecting our cultural heritage, arts, music and dance as well as fortifying cultural relations between Bangladesh and the UAE were the major motivation for organising this event.

The writer is the Bangladesh Ambassador to the UAE.

## Bells on their toes

Dance programme by Nritya Shilpi Sangstha

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Sangstha (BNSS), the platform organisation of the dance artistes, arranged a programme at the Auditorium of National Music and Dance Centre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on January 19. Titled "Shapna Jatra", the programme featured dance performances depicting patriotism. Members of several dance organisations took part at the programme.

The organisers informed that at the Shilpakala Academy, the programme was part of BNSS' regular activities.

Noted organisations like Katthak Shampraday, Nandanik, Nrityalok, Nrityam, Pallabi and Spandan as well as Ghashphul, Angikam, Parashmani, Shukonya and Jhankar demonstrated dance at the



programme.

Apart from the member artistes, a guest artiste from India, Tarit Sarkar also performed at the programme. The artiste, who is a teacher of Bharatnatyam, performed two solos.

As the theme of the evening was patriotism, most of the

organisations choose folk dance to articulate the theme. Fusion and classical were also featured.

Directed by noted danseuse Minu Hauque, Pallabi's performance of a folk number was good. Members of Nrityalok, Shukonya and

Nrityam also performed folk numbers. Kabirul Islam Ratan and Tamanna Rahman were the choreographers of Nrityalok and Nrityam's performance.

Angikam performed a fusion number, which was innovative. The members of the organisation, dressed with black and white 'shari', and demonstrated their number with recitation.

Two young artistes of Katthak Sampraday performed a katthak number.

Such kind of dance programme by BNSS has been held once in every three months.

Dance performances at the programme highlighted patriotism.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.



## Vying for the crown

Profiles of top five Lux-Channel i Super Star contestants



Clockwise (from top): Mehazabien, Swarna, Tahseen, Ishana and Orsha.

A CORRESPONDENT

Who will wear the crown in the upcoming 'Lux-Channel i Super Star 2009'? The grand finale is scheduled to be held on January 22. Viewers are eagerly waiting the day that will determine the winner from the five finalists -- Mehazabien, Ishana, Orsha, Tahseen and Swarna.

Mehazabien Chowdhury dreams of a successful career and a happy family. Her motto is to live life like royalty. She wants to represent her generation as well as be a role model for young women. Born on April 19, 1991, Mehazabien treasures her earrings and bracelets. Facebook and shopping dominates her free time.

Mounita Khan Ishana fantasises about being the next superstar. "While there is life, there is hope" is her motto. She believes inner strength, experiences and truth cannot be lost or taken away. Born on December 16, 1989, Ishana looks graceful armed with the perfect smile. Ishana likes reading books and watching movies.

Nazia Haque Orsha aspires to be an actress. Being a wholesome and honest person is her aim. Her positive outlook, confidence and pragmatic efforts are noticeable in everything she does. Born on May 21, 1991, Orsha wants to uphold our culture through her performances in the days ahead. Orsha loves watching plays.

Sifat-E-Tahseen also wants to be a good actress and a good person. She

thrives on positive thoughts, confidence and self-respect. She thinks that she was born to be a superstar. Born on April 1, 1991, Tahseen always considers the acceptability and comfort of things. Earrings and necklaces are her favourite jewellery. She is into dancing, singing, painting and news presentation.

Sadika Parvin Swarna is yet another aspiring actress. Her motto is attaining maximum happiness with minimum cost. Born on January 19, 1982, Swarna has a fascination with everything casual and simple. Anklets, bangles and necklaces are her favourite jewellery. Watching movies, listening to music, reading novels and dancing are her favourite pastimes.

