

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Ekushey Book Fair
Venue: Bangla Academy
Date: February 1-28
Time: 3pm-9pm



Cultural Programme

To mark Amar Ekushey
Organiser: Shammito Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises
Date: February 8-21
Time: 4pm onwards



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Rashid Amin
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-26, R-3, Dhanmondi
Date: February 18-March 1
Time: 12pm-8pm



Recitation Programme

Recitor: Dalia Ahmed
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: February 22
Time: 7pm



Boi Mela thoughts

"Ekushey Book Fair should be held at a more spacious venue"

Maruf Raihan

A CORRESPONDENT

Poet Maruf Raihan came to prominence in the '80s when a number of poets delved into experimental works. Abstraction in poetry was a new feature at that time. Raihan's poetry has noticeable features like

his choice of words, straightforwardness and rhythm.

At the ongoing Ekushey Book Fair, his book of poems "Pilkhana O Onnanyo Dirghoshwah" (Adorn Publications) is available. Highlight of the book is the irreparable wound caused by the Pilkhana massacre (February 2009). The poet was deeply affected by the tragedy.

About the book fair, Raihan said, "It should be held at a more spacious venue. Over the years, the number of readers, publishers and writers has rapidly increased. We should always remember the world of words enlighten us all."

"Ekushey Book Fair is undoubtedly one of the biggest cultural events of our country. It has now become a vital part of our heritage," the poet said.

Abidur Rahman Anik: An 11-year-old guitar prodigy

A CORRESPONDENT

While many people in our country are not wholly familiar with staff notation, 11-year-old Mohammad Abidur Rahman Anik has gained recognition for his ease in playing the guitar with staff notation. Music seems to run in Anik's family, in which most of the members are either musicians or pursue music as their passion. Whether it is from them or perhaps to understand and manifest his own hidden talent, Anik has unquestionably revealed that playing the classical guitar is his forte.

But of all forms of music, why this? His mother Jahanara Mansur explains, "Although my genre of interest is classical music, I was not bent on my son pursuing the same genre. Anik learnt staff notation from Liton Adhikari Rintu for a year."

Since then Anik has been playing for around a year, and in a very short time, he has caught up with this complex form of music.

Anik says, "I really enjoy playing the guitar." He says that he doesn't find it arduous but rather relaxing. Anik wants to pursue music as a pastime but in the long run, he says, he would like to become a scientist.

Anik is the first young talent who will be performing on classical guitar (staff notation) on the ATN Bangla show "Chhotoder Prithibi" on February 22 at 3:45 PM.



Celebrating 400 years of Dhaka as the capital

Asiatic Society, Bangladesh holds cultural programme



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate 400 years of Dhaka as a capital city, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh has initiated several programmes including international seminar, photography and art exhibition. As part of the celebration, an hour-long cultural programme was held at the Main Auditorium of National Museum on February 17.

The programme was in honour of the delegates attending the three-day International Seminar, which was held at the Senate Building of Dhaka University. The cultural programme featured a blend of performances that are synonymous with Dhaka's heritage.

Professor Dr. Sharif Uddin Ahmed, chief coordinator and chief editor of 'Celebration of 400 Years of Capital Dhaka', explained the significance of the event in his inaugural speech. "This cultural show is based on our research on the city that reflects 400 year-old traditions," said Professor Ahmed.

The show started with a duet performance of "Darbari Nritya". Abidur Rahman and Tamanna Rahman Liza performed the number. The dance was followed by a rendition of 'kirtan', Mangal Chandra Mandal and his troupe rendered an excerpt from "Roop Pala", written by medieval author Gyan Das.

Kamal Ahmed and his troupe then performed traditional 'Dhakaiya qawwali'.

Songs of Tagore and Nazrul have been integral parts of the Dhakaitie identity and the programme did not exclude these songs. Farzana Yasmin and Yakub Ali Khan rendered a Rabindra Sangeet "Aamar Mallika Bon-e" and a Nazrul Geeti "Aamar Kon Kuley Aaj Bhirlo Tori" respectively.

Dance dominated the programme, as the performers demonstrated different genres, including classical and folk. Titli performed a solo 'Bharatnatyam'. A group folk dance, articulating the festivity of 'Pahela Baishakh', was the last performance of the programme.

Artistes of Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA), Kendriya Kochikachar Ashor and Kendriya Khelaghar took part in the programme.



Clockwise (from top-left): Abidur Rahman and Tamanna Rahman Liza perform "Darbari Nritya". Mangal Chandra Mandal and his troupe sing kirtan; Titli performs 'Bharatnatyam' and Kamal Ahmed and his troupe render traditional 'Dhakaiya qawwali'.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Renditions of 'bhawaiya' and 'bhatiali' songs at Boi Mela

ZAHANGIR ALOM

As part of the ongoing Amor Ekushey Book Fair 2010, a discussion and a musical programme featuring 'bhawaiya' and 'bhatiali' songs were held at the main stage of Bangla Academy on February 17.

Dr. Swaroosh Sarkar presented the main essay titled "Ekushey-r Prabandho" on the occasion. Mofidul Haque, Shahinur Rahman, Ahmad Mazhar and Farzana Siddiqua spoke on the discussion presided over by Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury.

"Ekushey [February] gave birth to the aspiration of secularism, Bengali nationalism, democracy and socialism in national conscience," Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury said.

Vice president of Rangpur Bhawaiya Academy, Bishwanath Mohanto rendered two songs -- "Haal Chhari Di Ashnu Bari" and "Bhejal Nageya Galo". Pallabi Sarkar Malati sang a 'bhawaiya' song "Dhiko Dhiko Dhiko Moishal Rey",

followed by a Lalon song "Boli Ma Tor Choron Dhorey."

Among other artistes, Nadira Begum, Mostafizur Rahman, Syed Golam Ambia, Anupoma Acharya, Salma Mostafiz, Halima Parvin, Lutu Sarkar, Minhaz Uddin Azad and Monir Hossain performed 'bhawaiya' and 'bhatiali' songs.

Monir Hossain sang the 'bhawaiya' song "O Tista Nodirey" (written by Mahesh Chandra Roy) and a 'bhatiali' number with a 'bichchhedhi' theme, "Jarey Chherey Elam" (written by Palli-kobi Jasim Uddin).

"Renowned 'bhawaiya' composer Mahesh Chandra Roy wrote this song [O Tista Nodirey] as an elegy after his wife Binapani Roy's death," said Jasmine Ara, writer of the book "Mahesh Chandra Roy-er Gaan".

Gazi Abdul Hakim, Almas Ali, Babu Zaman, Mohammad Solaiman, Abdus Sobhan and Nazmul Alam instrumentally assisted the singers.

Over a 100 new books were launched on the day.



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Joyous little girls, dressed in the traditional yellow that symbolises Spring, express themselves through dance at a cultural show organised recently by Nido in Sylhet.

PHOTO: STAR

উর্ষা প্রতিযোগ ২০১০

এইচএসবিসি-প্রথম আলো ভাষা প্রতিযোগ

শুধু বাংলা বলা ও লেখাকে উৎসাহিত করতে এবং মাতৃভাষার প্রতি ভালোবাসা উজ্জীবিত করতে এইচএসবিসি-প্রথম আলো আয়োজন করে 'ভাষা প্রতিযোগ'।

মাতৃভাষার শক্ত গাঁথুনী যাতে আমাদের শিশু-কিশোরদের বিশ্বজয়ের সিঁড়ি গড়ে দেয়, সেই প্রত্যাশা থেকেই বিশ্বের স্থানীয় ব্যাংক এইচএসবিসি ও প্রথম আলো আয়োজন করে দেশব্যাপী এই প্রতিযোগ।

২০০৫ সাল থেকে এ অবধি ৩০ হাজারের বেশি শিক্ষার্থীকে নিয়ে ভাষা প্রতিযোগ আলো ছড়িয়েছে দেশজুড়ে ৮০০-রও বেশি স্কুল ও কলেজে।

২৬ ফেব্রুয়ারি থেকে দেশব্যাপী প্রতিযোগ


