

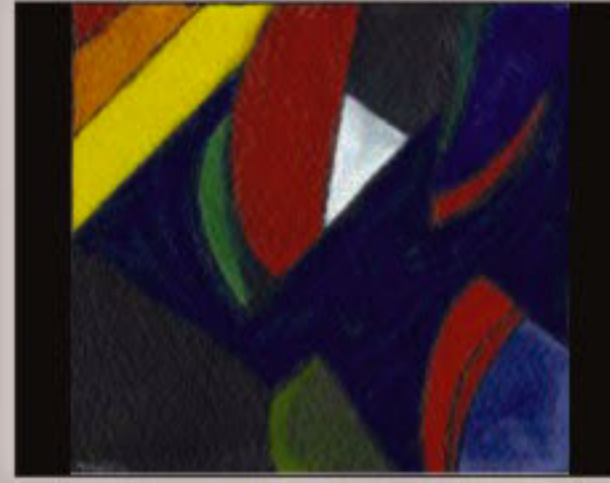
WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Fracophonie Festival '10
Organiser: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: March 20-27
Time: 5pm onwards



Painting Exhibition

Organiser: IUB Art Club
Title: Colour and Form-A Trilogy of 39
Independence Day
Venue: Art and Aesthetics Gallery, 90, Park Road, Baridhara
Date: March 24-April 14
Time: 9am-5pm



Film Screening

Filmmaker: Tanvir Mokammel
Films: Tajuddin Ahmed: Nishongo Sarothi, Chitra Nadir Pary Lal Shalu, Lalon, Rabeya
Venue: Bangladesh Film Centre Auditorium, 160, Lake Circus, Kalabagan
Date: March 26
Time: 10:30am-9:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Anukul Mojumdar
Title: Tales of Dreams
Venue: Shilpangan Art Gallery, H-26, R-3, Dhanmondi
Date: March 19-April 3
Time: 12pm-8pm



Swadhinota Festival at Shaheed Minar

Call for trial of war criminals



Dancers of Nataraj perform at the festival.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

On the occasion of the 39th Independence Day, Shammilito Shangskritik Jote (SSJ) has begun a three-day 'Swadhinota (independence) Festival' at Central Shaheed Minar from March 24. One of the organisers of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, Belal Mohammad, formally inaugurated the festival.

Leading cultural personalities attended and spoke on the occasion, and a cultural

programme followed. Paying tribute to the Father of the Nation, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, every speaker demanded the trial of war criminals.

The inaugural programme was presided over by eminent cultural personality and President of SSJ Nasiruddin Yousuff. Among others, President of International Theatre Institute (ITI) worldwide Ramendu Majumdar; Secretary General of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation Jhuna Chowdhury; Vice Presi-

dent of SSJ Golam Kuddus; one of the trustees of Liberation War Museum Mofidul Haque; President of Gano Sangeet Shamannay Parishad Fakir Alamgir; President of Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Shangstha Laila Hasan; poet Dr. Muhammad Samad and organising secretary of the SSJ Selim SH Chowdhury spoke at the programme.

"Freedom fighters and cultural activists faced their common enemy, Pakistani army along with their local collaborators, during the

war," Ramendu Majumdar said.

Apart from demanding trial of war criminals, Golam Kuddus warned of the anti-Liberation War forces that are still active. Fakir Alamgir started his speech through one of his songs -- "Ekti amar ongikar, nei je kono tulona tar."

Mentioning the role of gano sangeet during the war, Fakir Alamgir further said, "March is an eventful month for all Bangladeshis: the historic speech by Bangabandhu on March 7, Bangabandhu's birthday on March 17, declaration of independence on March 26 and so on."

Choreographed by Laila Hasan, dance troupe Nataraj performed "Kothaye Priyo Swadhinota" at the event. Shaptashur, Swabhumi, Kendriyo Khelaghar Ashor and Padatik Sangeet Shangshad also performed at the programme. Written and directed by Kazi Rafique and Wahidul Islam respectively Padatik Natya Sangshad (TSC) staged a play titled "Tribunal".

Apart from paying tribute to the martyrs at Rajarbagh Police Line Smriti Shoudha, SSJ held programmes for the second day at Rabindra Sarobar, Dhanmondi yesterday. Today the festival will end at Rabindra Sarobar.



Belal Mohammad speaks at the inaugural programme.

The cultural aspect of independence movement

In conversation with Dr. Sarwar Ali

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Sarwar Ali has been actively involved in virtually all cultural movements during the pre-Liberation War years. A trustee of Liberation War Museum and treasurer of Chhayanaut, Dr. Ali recounted the cultural aspect of the independence movement.

"Cultural activism in the pre-Liberation era began with the Language Movement. Pakistan was created based on religious identity. However, Bengali Muslims soon realised that they have a unique linguistic and cultural identity," says Dr. Ali.

"In the '60s that self-redemption resulted in cultural activism. Cultural uprising went parallel to the political protests. A landmark was the birth of Chhayanaut, one of the leading cultural organisations of the country, during the Tagore birth centenary celebrations. The celebrations provided an initial impetus for rallying around the poet as a symbol of secular Bengali cultural identity.

"In 1967 *Pahela Baishakh* (Bangla New Year) was celebrated on a mass scale at Ramna Park. Chhayanaut arranged the event. I've been with Chhayanaut ever since. "As the nationalist move-

ments gained momentum, each year the turnout at the *Pahela Baishakh* celebration grew.

"University students formed a cultural group called 'Shangskriti Shangshad'. Many of the noted cultural and media personalities of the country have been members of that group," he says.

"On *Ekushey* (February 21), discussions and processions were held in the morning. The evening session of the programme at Shaheed Minar featured performances by renowned and young artistes including Ajit Roy, Fahmida Khatun, Zahedur Rahim and Shaheen Samad. Altaf Mahmud conducted two of the programmes. Not only in Dhaka, artistes performed in other districts as well to generate awareness in the ongoing cultural movement.

"The movement brought everyone together when in 1967 the Pakistani information minister banned the performance of Rabindra Sangeet from state-run radio. On Tagore's death anniversary leading artistes held a programme disregarding the ban. A 'Protirodh (resistance) Committee' was formed at poet Jasimuddin's home," Dr. Ali continues.

"Following the tornado in 1970 that devastated the coastal areas, no aid came



Dr. Sarwar Ali

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

from West Pakistan. Under the leadership of artist Quamrul Hassan, a group of cultural activists was formed. The group, called 'Bikkhubdho Shilpi Shomaj' raised funds for the victims of the tornado.

"During the Liberation War, the 'Bangladesh Shohayok Shamiti' centre [on 144 Lenin Shoroni, Calcutta] became the hub of cultural activism. Led by Dr. Sanjida Khatun, a group of Bangladeshi artists --

Mahmudur Rahman Benu, Shaheen Samad, Naila Khan, Lubna Mariam, Bipul Bhattacharjee and Sharmin Murshid, among others -- called 'Bangladesh Mukti Shangrami Shilpi Shangstha' travelled to the refugee camps and war-zones in 1971," says the veteran cultural activist.

Dr. Ali, however, could not travel with that group, as he was training for combat in Agartala [India].

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Swiss troupe Mummenschanz performed at the International Theatre Festival (organised by Dhaka Padatik) on March 24. The two-hour performance, titled "Mummenschanz-3X11", was held at National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The production is a retrospective on 33 years of the troupe, which was formed in the '70s, when pantomime was becoming popular. The troupe uses props, costumes, changeable masks and employs elements of mime, dance and acting to connect with the audience.



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

ATN BANGLA
 10:30 Kalo Rater Galpo
 11:15 Dance programme: Bijoy Dhvani
 02:30 Dance programme: Swadhinotar Chhondey
 03:15 Tele-film: Tuphan Alir Bhut
 05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor
 06:20 Amra Karbo Joy
 09:20 Special Musical Programme
 11:30 Special Programme: Swadhinotar Ghoshok Ke?

CHANNEL i
 11:05 Tele-film: Dwando
 02:30 Rang Tulley Muktijuddha
 05:30 Muktijuddha Protidin

06:00 Ekatturer Joddha
 11:30 Special Programme
 11:00 Utthan Porbo
 11:30 Lal Sabujer Kabyo
 12:10 Musical Programme: Shur Bhora Nilima
 04:10 Janmohumir Gaan
 05:30 Chetony Swadheen Bangla Betar Kendra
 08:15 Drama Serial: FNF

ETV
 11:30 Dhum Ta Na
 12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Hangor Nadi Grened
 05:25 Tiring Biring Ganga Foring
 06:30 Ithash-er Poth Dhorey

07:50 Chalochitrey Muktir Gaan
 12:02 Ekusher Raat

RTV
 10:40 Taroka Alap
 12:30 Bishwa Toroney Boijoyonti
 06:45 Muktijuddhey Bangladesh Hospital
 07:15 Uttal Ekattur

DESH TV
 10:30 Ki Korey Jatiyo Holo
 11:02 Muktijuddher Gaan
 12:15 Pala Gaan: Johormala Sundory
 03:02 Tele-film: Aalochhaya Ondhokar
 06:02 Baul And Fusion
 07:45 Bijoy-er Galpo Boli
 11:45 Desh Amar
 12:15 Closeup Call-er Gaan

BANGLAVISION
 10:45 Desher Gaan
 11:05 Swadhinotar Galpo
 01:30 Kathay Shurey Bangladesh
 03:30 Music Together
 05:25 Din Bodoler Manush

08:15 Musical Programme: Praner Gaan Jagoroner Gaan
 11:20 Swadhinotar Gaan: Rathindranath Roy

ZEE STUDIO
 10:35 Ladies and the Champ
 01:30 Fireflies in the Garden
 04:05 The Mirror has two faces
 06:50 Chicago
 09:30 National Treasure

HBO
 09:00 Margot At The Wedding
 10:45 Hancock
 12:30 3 Ninjas: High Noon At Mega Mountain
 02:30 The Fast And The Furious
 04:30 Tmz 198
 05:00 Monster Ark
 06:45 Hollywood One On One 79
 07:15 Hancock
 09:00 Tmz 199
 09:30 Seven Pounds
 12:00 The Fast And The Furious

BBC WORLD
 03:30 The Bottom Line (r)

04:00 BBC World News
 04:30 BBC World News
 05:30 GMT with George Alagiah
 06:00 BBC World News
 06:30 World Business Report
 06:45 Sport Today
 07:00 World News Today with Lyse Doucet

08:30 World Business Report
 08:45 Sport Today
 09:00 BBC World News
 09:30 Click
 10:00 The Hub with Nik Gowing
 10:30 BBC World News
 10:40 Weekend World
 11:00 The Hub with Nik Gowing
 11:30 World Business Report
 11:45 Sport Today

AXN
 11:30 DROP DEAD DIVA
 12:30 So You Think You Can Dance (Season 3)
 01:30 Caught on Camera
 02:30 Estate of Panic
 03:30 Top Chef
 05:30 Slamball

06:30 CYRIL: SIMPLY MAGIC
 07:30 Top Chef
 08:30 Keith Barry: the escape
 09:30 Criss Angel Mindfreak
 10:00 Ebuzz
 10:30 SPIDER-MAN 3

STAR SPORTS
 12:00 FIM Mx3 World Championship 2009 - Highlights
 12:30 Trans Tasman Tough Rugby Test Series - Mixed
 01:30 FIM Mx1 Motocross World C'ship 2009 - Highlights
 02:30 Barclays Premier League 2009/10
 Match: Aston Villa vs. Sunderland
 04:30 TNA Sikander 09/10
 05:30 Golf Focus 2010
 06:00 Sea Master Sailing Series 2010
 06:30 TNA Sikander 09/10
 07:30 Umac
 08:30 Classic Boxing: The Best Years
 09:30 Score Tonight
 10:00 TNA Sikander 09/10

Independence Day Specials

ATN Bangla
 08:00pm Moddho Dupur 71
Channel i
 07:50pm Gontobyer Kherokhata
ntv
 02:30pm Ekhon Jam Gaachhtai Shudhu Kachhey
 09:00pm Notebook
ETV
 10:10pm Kokkho Pother Juddha
Rtv
 03:00pm Dhono Dhanyo Pushpa Bhora
 09:25pm Oholya
Desh TV
 09:30pm Bhooy
BANGLAVISION
 02:30pm Daag
 06:05pm Ekti Lal Sharir Galpo
 09:05pm Dudh Khalir Tiger
Channel 1
 08:15pm Choloman Chhobi
Diganta Television
 09:00pm Nishipur High School

News Bulletin

BTV
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00 am.
 News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.
 News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
 Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).
CHANNEL-i
 News (Bangla): 7:00 am,

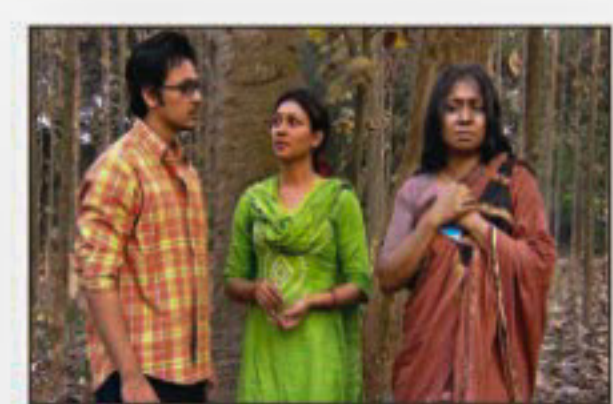
9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ATN BANGLA
 NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am
News Every Hour:
 7:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm, 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.
BANGLAVISION
 News (Bangla) at 7:30am,

1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
 News (English) at 6:00pm
Rtv
 News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ntv
 News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm,

7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am
ETV
 News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm
abc radio
 News: 08:00 am, 12:00 pm, 03:00 pm, 06:00 pm, 09:00 pm, 12:00 am;
 English Bulletin: 1:30pm, 7:30pm



Baar Baar Ashi Phirey
 On BTV at 10:25 pm
Special musical programme on Independence Day



Notebook
 On ntv at 9:00 pm
Single Episode TV play
 Cast: Nafisa, Rokeya Prachi



Moddho Dupur 71
 On ATN Bangla at 8:00 pm
Single Episode TV play
 Cast: Mamunur Rashid, Chanchal Chowdhury



abc radio FM 89.2
 06:00 Bhorer Janalay
 09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney
 12:00 Daranto Bikelley
 03:00 Shondhatara
 05:00 Shajer Maya
 07:00 Raat-er Akashy
 09:00 Golper Shesh Nei
 11:00
RADIO FOORTI 88.0 FM
 08:00 Addabazi

12:00 Boier Poka
 02:00 Foorti Unlimited
 06:00 Bumper to Bumper
 10:00 Club Foorti
 01:00 Back to Back music
RADIO TODAY 89.6 FM
 07:15 Good Morning Dhaka
 11:00 Musti Unlimited
 01:00 Today's World Music
 04:00 U Turn
 08:00 Tobey Tai Hok
 11:00 Raat Bhor Gaan