

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

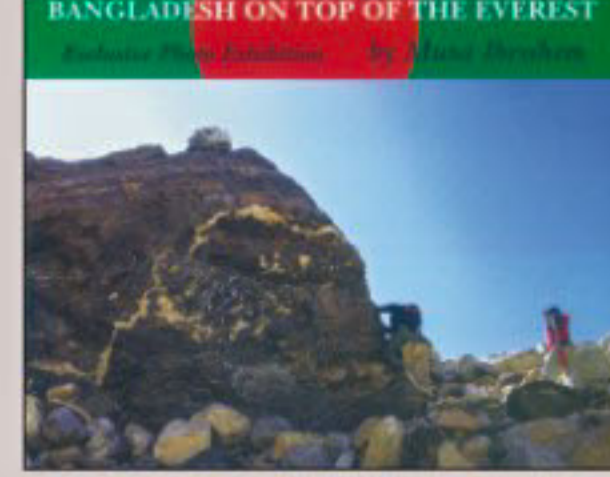
Korean Film Fest
Organiser: Embassy of the Republic of Korea
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: December 5-11
Time: 11am onwards



Drawing Exhibition
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
Date: December 3-20
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Photography Exhibition
Title: Bangladesh on Top of the Everest
Photographer: Musa Ibrahim
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: November 26-December 9
Time: 9am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Time and Beyond
Artist: Hamiduzzaman Khan
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H 20, Rd 16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: December 4-15



The earthy brilliance of Deshi crafts

Fair at National Museum is a hit



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Twenty-four artisans demonstrate their creative art forms to keen visitors at 20 stalls.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Marking the anniversary of Bangladesh National Museum, a five-day crafts fair is on at Nalinikanta Bhattachali Hall of the museum. Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad inaugurated the fair on December 4.

One of the things Bangladesh can justifiably take pride in is its time-honoured tradition of handicrafts. Countless, and in most cases, faceless artists and artisans of Bangladesh have established this functional art form through their cohesive artistic efforts.

The fair exhibits and sells handcrafted items that shine in their non-garish brilliance. Twenty-four artists are demonstrating their creative art forms to keen visitors at 20 stalls of the fair.

Jamdani, boasting a fine hand-woven fabric embellished with mainly floral motifs; Nakshikantha, (embroidered quilt); Tepa

Putul (clay dolls); embroidered hand fans; metal art, Puti Shilpo (beadworks); Daru Shilpo (glazed wood products); ceramics and leather goods have come from Dhaka division while bamboo and *hogla* (an aquatic grass) products have travelled all the way from Chittagong division.

The famed Shitalpati (mats made of reed) from Sylhet division; Shotronchi (chequered rugs) from Rangpur division; masks and Shokher Hari (painted clay pots) from Rajshahi division and Shola Shilpo (sponge wood) from Khulna division are other top attractions.

Art connoisseur and Finance Minister of Bangladesh, AMA Muhiit, also visited the fair on the inaugural day. Thanks to popular demand, the closing time of the fair has been extended from 4:30pm to 7pm.

Best three of the participant artisans will be awarded on the last day (December 8) of the fair. Department of Ethnology and Ornamentation of the museum has arranged the fair.



Selim Al Deen memorial programme in Faridpur

REZAUL KARIM, Faridpur

Selim Al Deen Smaranutshab Udjapon Parishad (SSUP) in Faridpur and Swapnodol, a committed theater troupe of Dhaka jointly launched a three-day programme on Friday to observe the third death anniversary of the celebrated dramatist Dr. Selim Al Din.

The programme included discussion, exhibition of photos and books, staging of Al Deen plays, rendition of songs etc.

Begumzadi Meherunnesa, widow of Al Deen, inaugurated the programme at Ambika Maidan in the town on Friday afternoon.

Swapnodol staged Al Deen's play "Horgoj" at Kobi Jasimuddin Hall in the town yesterday.



Celebrating four decades of Victory

Cultural festival at Shilpakala Academy



A magic act at the festival.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

A cultural festival to mark four decades of Victory (Bangladesh attaining independence after nine months of war on December 16, 1971) is being held by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) at its premises. Slogan of this year's Victory Day celebration is "Banglar Mati Durjoy Ghati, Bujhenik Durbritto". Beginning on December 1, the festival will go on till December 16 at BSA's Unmukto Moncho (open stage).

Major attractions at the festival include recitation of poems, rendition of songs and dance performances by noted and emerging artists and groups. One of the highlights: soulful renditions of gano sangeet by several cultural organisations.

To entertain the audiences, the academy has also arranged magic shows by illusionists.

The festival has already become quite popular. People watching shows standing outside the marquee set up by the academy is a clear indicator of that.