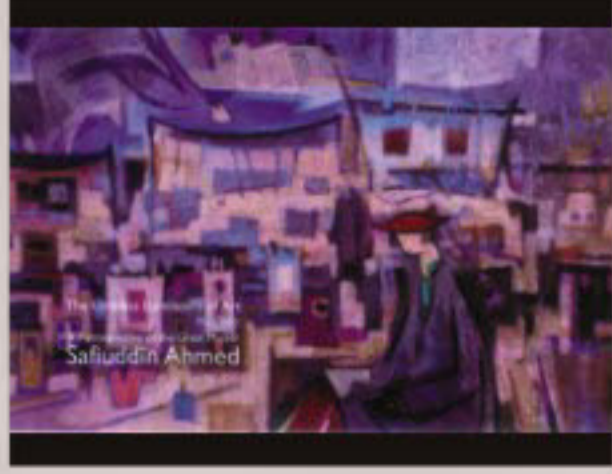


## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

### Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: The Limitless Luminosity of Art  
Artist: Safiuddin Ahmed  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H-275/F, R-16, Dhanmondi  
Date: December 10-December 23  
Time: 11am-8pm



### Drawing Exhibition

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



### Group Photography Exhibition

Title: Pinnacle of Goodwill  
Organiser: Bangla Mountaineering and Trekking Club  
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, Malibagh  
Date: December 10-12  
Time: 5pm-8pm



### Sculpture Exhibition

Title: The Dialogue of Nature  
Sculptor: Ferdousy Priyabhshini  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi  
Date: December 9-13  
Time: 11am-8pm



# Awareness through music

## Concert on Universal Human Rights Day 2010



Awardees with the organisers and dignitaries (centre) at the programme.

### AKRAM HOSEN MAMUN

To mark Universal Human Rights Day 2010 as well as to generate awareness against violation of basic human rights, Manusher Jonno Foundation in association with UKaid and Royal Norwegian Embassy in Bangladesh organised an award giving ceremony and a music festival on December 10 at the Mall Chatarr on Dhaka University campus.

Leading singers of the country including Sabina Yasmin, Fahmida Nabi, Bappa Majumder, Partho Barua and Krishnokoli rendered songs at the programme.

During the first session of the programme, Manusher Jonno Manabadhikar Award 2010 was conferred to 13 individuals. The awards are recognition of the individuals' contributions in generating awareness on human rights at the grassroots level.

Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith was present at the ceremony as chief guest. Syed

Manzoor-e Elahi, chairman, Governing Board, Manusher Jonno Foundation presided over the programme. Shaheen Anam, executive director, Manusher Jonno Foundation delivered the inaugural speech.

Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor, Dhaka University; Irene Khan, former secretary general, Amnesty International and Daniel Davis, senior programme manager, HD and Governance Adviser, DFID were present as special guests.

The guests handed over awards to the recipients. Shaheen Anam said, "To our frustration, instances of human rights violations are increasing in our country. It, nevertheless, makes us proud to see committed activists working at the grassroots level." She added, "I'd like to pay tribute to all the activists -- and not just the award recipients today -- working to ensure human rights."

Irene Khan, former secretary general of Amnesty International, said, "It would have been impossible for international human rights activists like me to

do anything meaningful, without the efforts and sacrifices of countless individuals working at the grassroots level, risking their lives." She thanked Manusher Jonno Foundation for taking an initiative to honour these individuals.

After a short break, the music festival started. Shantanu Biswas began with a rendition of the theme song of Manusher Jonno Foundation.

Fahmida Nabi performed some of her popular songs like "Lukochuri", "Ami Akash Hobo" and a Lalon song. She also entertained the audience with her witty remarks.

Krishnokoli, seemingly very popular among Dhaka University (DU) students, rendered some of her hit songs. "At DU, I have mostly performed during student protests. Rarely did I have the opportunity to sing in front of such a large crowd." The crowd seemed to like the fusion of different instruments featured in her performances. "Nachogo Kali" and "Ichche Moton" were cheered by the audience.

After a break, Sabina Yasmin appeared and had the audience hypnotised with her melodious voice, for an hour. She performed her classics "Ekti Bangladesh", "Isharaye Shish Diye" and "Shey Je Kano Elo Na". People from all walks of life, rickshaw pullers and DU students alike, were seen equally moved by her performance.

Dolchut's performance, especially the sound of acoustic drums, stirred the young rock lovers. The band performed some of its popular old numbers, songs written and composed by their late frontman Sanjib Chowdhury. Bappa Majumder's guitar left the crowd craving for more.

Souls began with a somewhat redo of their classic "Mon Shudhu Mon Chhuechhe". The band also performed "Nishongota" and "Rim Jhim Jhim Brishi".

All artistes were of the view that we should continue the good fight to uphold and ensure basic human rights within and beyond the confines of our family.

## DS Café



This month DS Café will have noted actor-director-playwright Mamunur Rashid take your calls at The Daily Star office. Readers will have the opportunity to converse with him on our Liberation War and more. Call 8126155 today, between 11am to 12 pm, to speak to him!!!

## Classical performance by Priyanka

### A CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Culture Centre, High Commission of India, Dhaka held a musical soiree featuring Hindustani classical vocal performance by Priyanka Gope on December 10 at the centre in Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

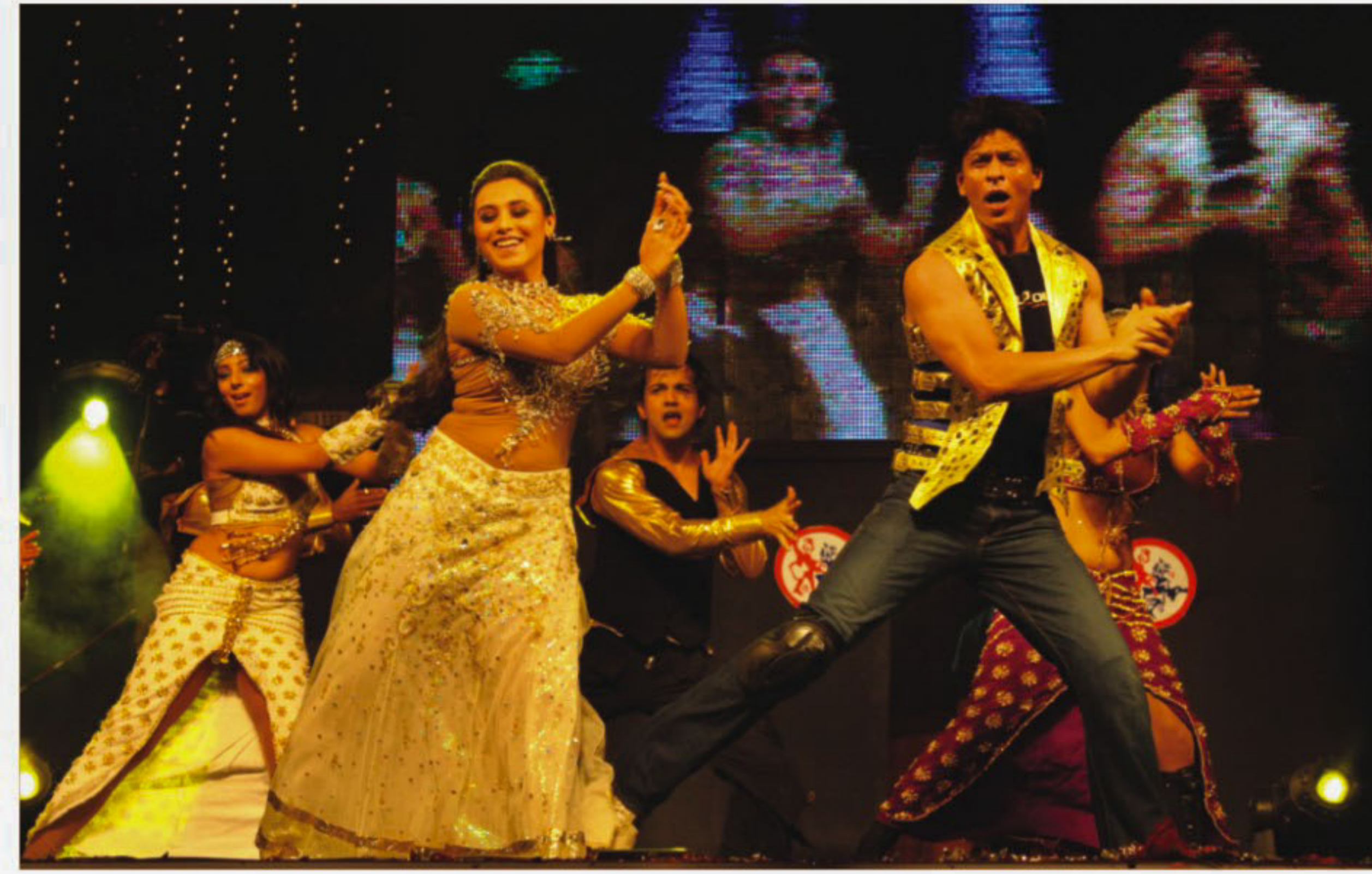
Priyanka is a lecturer at the Music Department, Dhaka University and also Chhayanaut, and is an accomplished exponent of Indian classical vocal music in Bangladesh. Trained under noted maestros Priyanka has completed her Masters of Arts from the Department of Music, Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata. She has won several national and international awards including

Acharya Uday Bhushan Smriti Purashkar from the Rabindra Bharati University, a gold medal from the Prime Minister of Bangladesh etc. Priyanka is enlisted as a 'regular artiste' of Bangladesh Betar (radio) in the 'A Grade'.

At the programme the vocalist started off with a rendition of a *khayal* in Raga Madhuvanti (madhya laya- jhap taal). She extended on the raga in drut (teen) taal. The *bandish*, "Maan Bharey Piya", was in jhap taal. A *thumri* in Raga Khamaj (jaat taal), "Ab Mora Mano", was next.

The performance went on for 45 minutes. "We still have a long way to go in popularising classical music. Talented musicians should be nurtured and highlighted," she said.

# King of Bollywood entertains Dhaka



## Shahrukh Khan live at Army Stadium

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

### ZAHANGIR ALOM

All roads led to Army Stadium as the decked out stage was all set to welcome the 'King of Bollywood' Shahrukh Khan on December 10. Countless die-hard fans of the 'Bollywood Badshah' waited with bated breath to catch a glimpse of their favourite 'hero'.

Most of Shahrukh's Bangladeshi fans are seemingly youngsters. Of them the number of female fans might surpass that of men. They had so far watched Khan's charismatic performance on the small screen, and didn't want to miss the opportunity to see him perform live in Dhaka.

The show, titled 'King Khan Live in Dhaka' was organised by Antar Showbiz.

A team of performers, which included Bollywood, stars Rani Mukerjee, Arjun Rampal and Isha Koppikar joined Khan in the three-hour live performance.

Bangladeshi singer Parvez opened the show. Parvez started with a high-pitched melancholic rock song "E Jibon Hariye Jaye". Chairman of Antar Showbiz, Swapan Chowdhury with his wife Nasreen Chowdhury, took the stage and delivered speeches.

A visual presentation featuring Bollywood actress Isha Koppikar was on next. The performance featured dances

routines from films "Qayamat" and "Don" (2006).

Arjun Rampal arrived on stage in style -- on a bike. The actor sported a guitar and performed to the song "Rock On" and "Aap Ka Kya Hoga".

"How is Dhaka? I love you," Arjun yelled in Bangla. He also said, "Couple of days ago I suffered a back injury, but I had to come to Dhaka. I didn't want to disappoint you all."

The ravishing Bengali belle Rani Mukerjee danced to a medley of some hit songs from her films, including "Saathia", "Hum Tum" and "Shava Shava".

Dazzling the audience with her cordial smile and girl-next-door charm, Rani spoke to the audience in Bangla and said, "You folks have been supporting me since the beginning of my career. I want your love and support more in the days ahead, so that I deliver better performances."

Silence prevailed as footage of Shahrukh Khan went on the screen. Khan with his entourage of performers appeared on stage at 8:47pm. The mega-star performed a segue of hits -- "Love Mera Hit Hit", "Dard-e Disco" and "Abhi Na Jao Chhor Kar."

Audiences were chanting "Shahrukh", "Shahrukh" as he disappeared from stage, leaving them craving for more of the star.

Wearing a white shirt, Khan appeared again on stage after a while and said, "Ami

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman-er deshey Bharatbarsho thekey onek onek bhalobasha aar shubhechcha boye enechhi."

"I've heard of Kazi Nazrul Islam, Jasimuddin. I love Runajee's (Runa Laila) music. That's why I'm in Dhaka," he added.

As per Khan's request, a couple from the audience joined Khan on stage and interacted with him.

Khan also delivered dialogues from his films "Devdas" and "Baazigar" on the show.

The highlight of the night was a duet by Rani Mukerji and Shahrukh Khan. The performance included "Tujhey Dekha Tho Ye Jana Sanam", "Tum Paas Aaye", "Tawba Tumharey Ye Isharey", "Koi Mil Gaya" and "Mitwa".

Later, all the artistes performed to the song "Om Shanti Om." A rendition by Neeraj Shridhar wrapped up the show.

Boishakhi TV aired the event live.

Though several press conferences and features published in newspapers claimed that Shahrukh Khan will vote, and inspire his fans to vote, for the Sundarbans (largest mangrove forest in the world) to be included in the Natural Wonders List, he didn't do so. The audience did not seem satisfied with the overall management of such a major event. Some fans also misbehaved, disrupting the experience for the rest of the audience.

