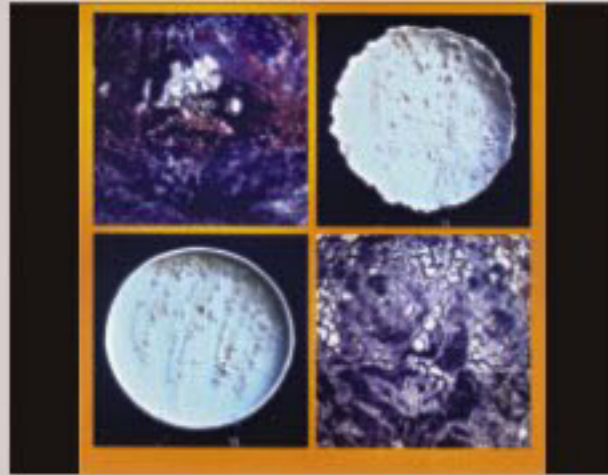


## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

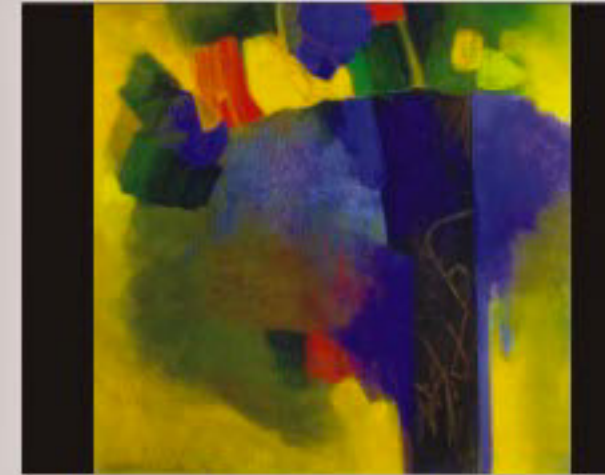
**Ceramics Exhibition**  
 Title: Aesthetic Studio Ceramics  
 Artist: Syed Shahadat Hussain  
 Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi  
 Date: December 18-30  
 Time: 3-9pm (Monday-Thursday) 9am-12pm & 5-8pm (Friday & Saturday)



**Photography Exhibition 2010**  
 Organiser: East West University Photography Club  
 Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, Rd-15A (New), Dhanmondi  
 Date: December 27-31  
 Time: 3-8pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Artist: Hashem Khan  
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattoshali Gallery, National Museum  
 Date: December 18-January 2  
 Time: 12pm-8pm



**Aerial Photography**  
 Photographer: Yann Arthus-Bertrand  
 Organiser: US Bangladesh Foundation and Texeupop  
 Venue: South Plaza, National Parliament  
 Date: December 19-February 19



## Adibashi Music and Dance at National Museum

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Marking the 39th victory day (December 16), Protipalok Society for Culture and Science (PSCS) arranged a cultural programme titled "Boichitrer Oitijhye" at the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbagh in Dhaka on December 28.

The event featured performances by indigenous artistes, particularly from Santal and Orao communities, from the northern part of the country. Cultural troupes Chintak (Gaibandha) and Mohiruo (Dhaka) also performed on the occasion.

A choral adibashi (indigenous) song with dhol and madol kicked off the event. Another group rendition, of "Muthi Haat Tuley Janachchhi Mora Shanti Shanti Shanti" written and composed by Mostafa Anwar Swapan and Dr. Shyamol Chowdhury, followed. Musical performances by Mohiruo were directed by Pradip Sarkar.

Child artistes of PSCS greeted Babu Lal Chowdhury [of Chintak]; Minoti Henrom [representing the Santal community]; Babu Bidhan Singh [of the Orao commu-



nity] and researcher of adibashi language and culture, Abu Taleb Mandol, with bouquets.

Marcel Mumu, Bishwanath Soren, Nikhil Soren, Noresh Baskey, Liton Baskey, Sushil Mumu, Ram Romen, Robi, Gopal, Rubius, Sashin Mumu of the

Santal community performed their traditional 'Sarhay' dance at the programme. They also performed 'Maritalk' and Christmas dances at the programme. Romen Das and Robidas Baskey assisted the performers with dhol and madol.

Sumoti Rani, Doli Rani, Shyamoli

Rani, Bashonti Rani, Shibnath, Alok and Pachchhu Udao of Orao community performed their traditional dances to songs in Chhadri language (mother tongue of the Orao). Adhir Malo, Santosh Malo, Bhabani Singh, Sushanto Orao and Ganesh Orao instrumentally assisted the

artistes.

Members of Chintak performed patriotic numbers, Gano Sangeet and more at the event. Head of Chintak, Babu Lal Chowdhury, directed music for the performances.

Convener of the programme Mostak

**The event featured performances by indigenous artistes, particularly from Santal and Orao communities, from the northern part of the country.**

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Ahmed delivered the welcoming speech at the event.

Secretary to the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, Masud Ahmed; Chairman of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industry Corporation, Ranjit Biswas; eminent singer Ajit Roy; General Secretary of Bangladesh Sangeet Shilpi Samonnoy Parishad, Bishwajit Roy and others also spoke on the occasion.

"One kind of flower cannot enhance the beauty of a garden, likewise a national culture cannot be enriched if it's not inclusive. We have to nurture the languages and cultures of indigenous people of our country to turn Bangladesh into a beautiful garden," said Ranjit Biswas.

PSRS honoured the ailing singer Bipul Bhattacharya at the programme. Bishwajit Roy received the honour on Bhattacharya's behalf.

The only complaint from the audience was that the light and sound at the auditorium were unsatisfactory, becoming a hindrance in fully enjoying the vibrant performances.

Porikhit Chowdhury anchored the event.



Mahfuz Ahmed and Joya Ahsan at the press briefing.

## Crossing a Milestone

Popular TV serial "Choita Pago" completes 50th episode

A CORRESPONDENT

Directed by actor Mahfuz Ahmed, popular TV serial "Choita Pagol" completed its 50th episode on December 24th. The cast and crew of the serial held a special press briefing at the Channel i station in Dhaka to celebrate the occasion with the media. Mahfuz Ahmed, Joya Ahsan, Majnun Mizan, Rawnak Hasan, Tahsin and Brindabon Das were present at the programme.

Mahfuz thanked the audience and the sponsors for their continuing support. Saying that he hails from Noakhali, Mahfuz said that "Choita Pagol" is the first TV serial to entirely use the dialect of the district. He added that congratulatory phone calls from all over the country -- wishing the success of the serial -- have given him immense delight.

Mahfuz also credited the cast and crew's contribu-

tion to the serial, as the defining factor for the success of "Choita Pagol".

Asked about casting three actors for a single role, the director said that Nowshin was the primary choice. After she went overseas, Moushumi Bishwas was cast in the role, who in turn, also left for Canada. Finally Lux Super Star Tahsin was chosen to play the role.

Actress Joya Ahsan attributed the serial's success to Mahfuz Ahmed's hardworking and perfectionist attitude.

Brindabon Das said that he did not personally know Mahfuz before "Choita Pagol". Four years ago, he met Mahfuz through the late actor Challenger. The duo mulled over the plan for the serial, which has been realised now, says Brindabon.

The cast, crew and the journalists present, later enjoyed the 50th episode of the well-appreciated serial.

## Seminar on Spanish at JU



Discussants at the seminar.

A seminar titled, 'Learn Spanish and join 500 million Spanish speaking people' was held at the New Arts Faculty, Jahangirnagar University (JU) on December 28. JU Centre for Language Learning organised the seminar, according to a press release.

Speakers at the seminar were of the view that Spanish, used by nearly 500 million people across the world, is the fourth most widely spoken language. The influence of Spanish on art and literature is very significant. In this era of globalisation, there is no alternative to be familiar with the art, literature and culture of different countries by learning their languages.

Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir, Vice Chancellor of JU, inaugurated the seminar as chief Guest. The director of Centre for Language Learning, Professor Khaled Hossain, presided over the seminar. Also present, as special guests, were Faer Mahmud Kazi, director general of Spanish Cultural Centre and Anna Maria Arevalo, coordinator of Spanish Cultural Centre.

Speakers discussed the enormous possibilities, significance, and necessity of learning Spanish at the programme. Faer Mahmud answered queries made by students after the discussion.

## A bouquet of plays

Eight-day 'Mayor Natya Utshab' ends

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

The eight-day long theatre festival 'First Mayor Natya Utshab' in Barisal ended on December 27.

The festival was arranged jointly by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) and Barisal City Corporation.

Barisal city Mayor Shawkat Hossain Hiron inaugurated the festival. Rendu Majumdar, president of International Theatre Institute Worldwide; Liaquat Ali Lucky, chairman of BGTF; Jhuna Chowdhury, secretary general of BGTF and theatre personality Mamunur Rashid, among others, attended the event.

Fourteen theatre groups from Dhaka, Barisal and Jhalakathi staged 15 dramas

at Barisal Ashwini Kumar Hall and Shabdaboli Studio Theatre.

Group theatre teams from Dhaka which participated at the festival were: Theatre Art Unit with "Magoj Samachar"; Drama Department of Dhaka University with "Shiddhanta"; Dristipat with "Nagor Alir Kicchha"; Natya Kendra with "Araj Charitamrita"; Pranganey Mor with "Lokonayak" and Aranyak with "Hamlet".

Group theatre teams from Barisal that took part in the festival were: Shabdaboli Group Theatre with "Fona" and "Neel Moyurer Joubon", Kheyali Group Theatre with "Nodi Mayer Moto", Barisal Natak with "Pagoitihasik", Brojomohan Theatre with "Ei Deshey Ei Beshey", Barisal Shishu Theatre with "Bolta" and Natyam with "Shylock and



Fourteen theatre groups from Dhaka, Barisal and Jhalakathi staged 15 plays at Barisal Ashwini Kumar Hall and Shabdaboli Studio Theatre.

PHOTO: STAR

Sycophants". A theatre team from Jhalakathi, Protik Natya Gosthi, staged

"Shahider Shirt" at Shabdaboli Studio Theatre and Ashwini Kumar Hall.

## Rooted Creativity-7 at Bengal Gallery

A CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of 10th anniversary of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, the gallery has organised a series of exhibitions, titled "Rooted Creativity". The seventh instalment of the series will be inaugurated on December 31 at Bengal Gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. The exhibition will continue till January 9, 2011.

Featured painters are Ibrahim, Kuhu, Murshida Arzu Alpna, Syed Hassan Mahmud, Nazma Akhter, Goutam Chakravarty, Nazia Andaleeb Preema, Gulshan Hossain, Dewan Mizan and Shamsul Alam Azad.

Professor Gowher Rizvi, adviser to the Prime Minister on International Affairs, will inaugurate the exhibition. Architect and poet Rabiul Hussain will be present as special guest. Syed Mahbubur Rahman will be present as guest of honour at the inaugural programme.