







Solo Photography Photographer: Khaled Hasan Venue: Hakim Chattar, Dhaka Date: January 22-28



To mark the 40th Bangladesh School and

Madrassah Sports Competition, a vibrant

cultural show was held at the local stadium

Several hundred students from different

School, Mymensingh Zila School, DS Alia

show before the event kicked off.

which won over the audience.

Madrassah and Mukul Niketan High School

School in Netrokona, took part in the cultural

The cultural show included dances, songs

Earlier, to mark the opening ceremony,

Nurul Islam Nahid was the chief guest at the

Presided over by Director General of

Directorate, Professor Mohammad Nomai

ur-Rashid, the inaugural session was also

Secondary and Higher Secondary Education

A traditional Garo dance at the programme.

addressed, among others, by Principal

Secondary and Higher Education

Motiur Rahman, MP; Chairman o

and acts depicting several historic events,

discussion was held. Education Minister

Kaleidoscope

of Culture

Celebration at Bangladesh School and

Madrassah Sports Competition

Board, Professor Fahima Khatun and

Lokman Hossain Miah

day sports competition.

Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh

The minister said that educational insti-

tutions should promote sports and cultural

activities in the interests of the physical and

psychological development of students. Not

just studies, but co-curricular activities are

ment of students who will lead the nation in

future, he added while addressing the gath-

ering at the opening ceremony of the five-

Madrassah Sports Association organised

the competition. A total of 864 students

including 228 female students from 240

The minister also said that, 50 students

schools of the country took part in the

who will perform better in sports at the

national level will be allowed to go in for

special training and the athletes will get

opportunity for admission in government

schools throughout the country under the

'player quota'. The minister along with

other guests met with the athletes and

teachers from different districts.

Bangladesh National School and

equally important for the over all develop-

Dreams Unlimited

Chobi Mela VI opens



This year's festival with the theme, "Dreams", opened at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, in Dhaka.

of how one photograph of a man being tor

tured at Abu Ghraib prison caught the atten

tion of the world, he said, "Pictures promote

social change -- that's why this festival is so

important." He stressed the need for human-

ity to be united. It's worth mentioning that at

Reclaiming freedom for oppressed people

the last Chobi Mela, Noam Chomsky -- argu

ably the most profound intellectual alive

today -- was virtually [video conferencing

present with a message for the photogra-

was also the focus of a very moving and

poetic message by Omar Barghouti, a Pales

tinian political analyst. The message was

titled "A Palestinian Dream in Dhaka." Giving

AKRAM HOSEN MAMUN

With a rally and internationally renowned photographers singing, dancing all the way from the National Press Club to the premises of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), Chobi Mela VI, the International Festival of Photography was inaugurated on January 21. This year's festival with the theme, "Dreams" opened at the National Theatre Hall, BSA, in Internationally recognised photographers

like Nadia Baram, Dick Doughty, Laurence Leblanc, Mario Macilau, David de Souza and Kelly Hussey-Smith -- representing South and North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia respectively -- inaugurated the festival. In his opening speech, Dr. Shahidul Alam director of Chobi Mela, said: "While other festivals of photography have something to show, we have something to say. We live in an imperfect world where nations occupy nations in the name of democracy and freedom, and states kill and imprison civilians in the name of security."

He added: "Our dream is that the power of arts and the strength of our conviction will triumph... That through our photography and stories we will right the wrongs."

Dr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of International Criminal Court, in a special message for Chobi Mela VI, outlined the need for institutions to work together with people to ensure that the "world cannot be a place where crimes can be committed to gain power or to remain in power." Citing the case

of affairs to which Palestinian civilians have been subjected for decades, he concluded the message by saying, "We dream of seeing their boots lifted off our necks. We truly wish to feel The inauguration at the National Theatre

Auditorium and the evening sessions at Goethe Institut were broadcast live on Drik TV (www.drik.tv).

This year, the festival also recognised contributions to photography and society made by three outstanding artistes through the Chobi Mela Lifetime Achievement Awards The posthumous award to Naib Uddin Ahmed of Bangladesh was received by his granddaughter Nahrin Ahmed Naxshatra. Olufolake Bukola Ojeikere travelled from Lagos to accept the award on behalf of her father-in-law J.D. Okhai Ojeikere of Nigeria. Pedro Meyer of Mexico, while accepting the award, said, "If having developed and strengthened a deep seated friendship between Mexican and Bangladeshi photographers counts as a 'lifetime achievement' then indeed I feel there is merit to this award." The award includes a scholarship given in the name of each recipient to a deserving student, to study for a year at Pathshala (The South Asian Media Academy).

The festival will be held till February 3 at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Alliance Française de Dhaka, Asiatic Gallery of Fine Arts, British Council, Drik Gallery, Goethe-Institut and Faculty of Fine Arts (University of

The Daily Star-BGTF Theatre Festival from January 25

anniversary of BGTF.

petition segment, where 48 films made by

children will be screened. Five of the

young filmmakers will receive awards

A 132-member delegation featuring

try will make the festival a memorable

event. To encourage the children, three

workshop will also be held during the

informal adda (conversation) with

children from different parts of the coun-

renowned personalities and a filmmaking

festival. Ten underprivileged and 10 differ-

To commemorate the late filmmaker

Badal Rahman, a special screening of his

film "Emil-er Goenda Bahini" will be held

at the festival. To express solidarity with

ently-abled children will be included in

along with prize money.

the delegation.

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of

Independence as well as the 20th anniver-

sary of The Daily Star (TDS), Bangladesh

Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) and

TDS have arranged a weeklong theatre

festival. Starting from January 25, the

festival will feature 21 plays by as many

troupes, and will take place at National

Theatre Hall, Experimental Theatre Hall

and Studio Theatre Hall in Bangladesh

Shilpakala Academy. The festival, which

will run till January 31, also marks 30th

A press conference was held at

Reporters Unity, Segunbagicha, in Dhaka

yesterday to inform the media on the

The plays and troupes to be featured at

the festival are: "Ebong Bidyasagar'

(Aranyak Natyadal); "Kotha '71" (Dhaka



(From left) Shah Alam Dulal, finance secretary or BGTF; Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, convener of

the festival; Liaquat Ali Lucky, chairman, BGTF; Keramat Mawla, senior vice president of BGTF; Ahmed

Fourth Int'l Children's Film Festival begins

said Islam.

Zooming in on Future Nation-builders

Mustafa Monwar, also chairman of the

Festival Advisory Committee, will inaugu-

Festival director and noted filmmaker

Morshedul Islam shared his hopes regard-

ing the festival. "The aim of the festival is

to provide wholesome entertainment for

children as well as to introduce them to

diverse cultures from across the globe,"

The screening of films will begin from

28. Apart from Dhaka, this year the festival

An attraction of the festival is the com-

January 23 and will continue till January

will also be held in Chittagong (at three

venues) and Rajshahi (two venues).

rate the event. Eminent writer and presi-

dent of the CFSB, Dr. Zafar Iqbal, will

preside over the inaugural session.

Gias; Rafi Hossain of The Daily Star at the press conference.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the theme "Future in Frames", the

begins today at the Shawkat Osman

Auditorium, Central Public Library,

Shahbagh in Dhaka. A total of 233 films

including feature, documentaries and

screened in the course of the festival. The

Central Public Library premises will be

used as the main venue, while films will

In association with UNICEF, Children's

also be screened at 13 more venues,

including Chittagong and Rajshahi.

Film Society Bangladesh (CFSB) has

arranged the festival. Renowned artist

animations from 40 countries, will be

4th International Children's Film Festival



150TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE Tagorean Dance: A Blend of Classical and Contemporary

ZAHANGIR ALOM

With the theme "Rabindranath-er Haat-e Haat Rekhey Bangladesh the fourth phase of Chhayanaut's yearlong rating 150th birth anni versary [May 8 this year] of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore

was held at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Shangskriti Bhaban in

Dhanmond Dhaka. January 21, the two day programme was titled, 'Rabindra Nrityoshob'. A group rendition of "Nrityer Taley Taley Hey

Nataraj" by artistes of the inauguration. Chayanaut Bhaban. General Secretary of

Chhayanaut, Khairul Anam Shakil, welcomed the audience. He also announced that Chhayanaut will hold a dance festival every year from now on. President of Chhayanaut, Dr. Sanjida

Rey" in the midst of her speech. "The sun, the moon stars and the world are swirl ing in the cosmic wave. We too are keeping pace with these throughout the journey of life,

Apart from plays, the festival will also

National Theatre Hall. The cultural

programme will be held prior to the

Tickets will be available to students and

theatre activists at a reduced price (Tk 20).

Francaise de Dhaka, British Council

Auditorium, Hazaribagh.

held on January 26.

Auditorium, Khilgaon Model School and

Bangladesh College of Leather Technology

Everyday films will be screened in four

sessions starting from 11am. Apart from

film screening, a daylong seminar will be

Padatik); "Droho Prem Nari" (Prangane is expected to inaugurate the festival.

Mor); "Dalim Kumar" (Natyakendra); Mahfuz Anam, editor, The Daily Star;

"Janmoshutra" (Theatre, Arambagh); Ramendu Majumder, president ITI

"Shikhandi Kotha" (Mahakal); Worldwide; Nasiruddin Yousuff, presi-

"Bhaddarnok" (Natyachakra); dent, Dhaka Theatre; Mamunur Rashid,

"Mahajoner Nao" (Shubachan); "Darpan chief secretary, Aranyak Natyadal and

Shakkhi" (Shabdo Natyacharcha Kendra); Ataur Rahman, president, Bangladesh

"Kanthal Bagan" (Nagarik); "Binodini" Centre of ITI, will be present as special

(Dhaka Theatre); "Ebong Aswamedh guests. Jhuna Chowdhury, Keramat

Jaggo" (Natyadhara); "Prakrito Mawla and Selim Shamsul Huda

Purangana" (Desh Natok); "Shonai Chowdhury will also speak at the event.

Madhob" (Loko Natyadal, Banani); "Soc- Liaquat Ali Lucky, chairman, BGTF and

rates-er Jabanbondi (Drishyapat); "Jol convener of the festival committee, will

(Theatre Art Unit); "Kanjush" (Loko feature songs, recitations and dances

Natyadal, Siddheswari); "Meraj Fakirer that will be held everyday at the lobby of

Balika" (Padatik Natya Sangsad); "Shesh preside over the inaugural programme.

Sanglap" (Shomoy); "Magoj Shamachar"

Ma" (Theatre) and "Badnam" (Sanglaap

simultaneously at three venues.

the imprisoned Iranian filmmaker Jafar

Apart from popular and well-known

venues such as the Central Public Library

and National Museum, the films will also

be screened at Shishu Academy, Russian

Centre of Science and Culture, Alliance

Panahi, a special screening of his film

"White Balloon" will also be held.

Everyday three plays will be staged plays

A scene from "Swapnoghuri", one of the films to be screened at the festival.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury

conventional form of delivering speech, seasoned dancer and choreographer Sharmila Banerjee presented her lecture on 'Rabindra Nrityadhara' (Tagorean Dance) at the event. Many excerpts, allusions, citations and references criss-crossed her lec-

Introducing novelty to the

Visual projections demonstrat ing Tagore's experiences and expertise regarding dance, along

young dancer was like a flash of lightning during some sequences, and nimble like a butterfly in Spring during others. The speaker pointed out artis-

Punjo Chhayaye", "E Bela Daak

the dance-drama "Chitrangada".

Swayamprabha led the troupe

Porechhey" and excerpts from

in almost all the pieces. The

tic embellishment in Tagore's dance-dramas -- "Notir Puja", "Shyama", "Phalguni" and more.

Java, Bali, Sri Lanka, China, Japan, Thailand, Russia and England. I also explored both the classical and the conventional dance forms of our own and incorporated these into composi-

Choreographed by Nilanjana Jui, Proma Abonti and Abdus Samad Polash, artistes of Nrityashoili (Sylhet), Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre (Chittagong) and Amra

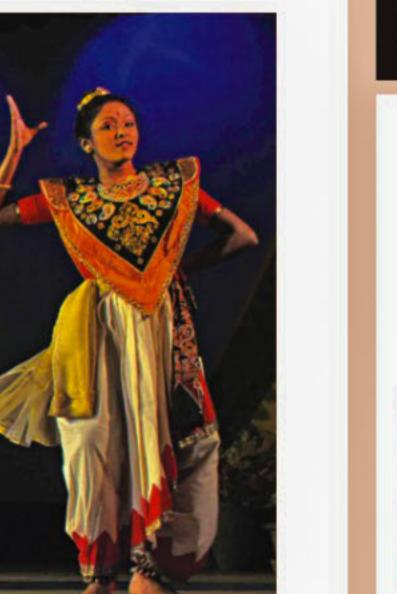


PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

Artistes of Sharmila Banerjee's troupe Nrityanandan beautifully presented Rabindrik Dance at the programme.

Children in the Act

Rabindranath always kept him

enmeshed in philosophical

with a number of live performances in support of her presen tation, fascinated the audience

Dancers of Sharmila Banerjee' thoughts, music, rhythm and troupe Nrityanandan, particudance. The assimilation of aeslarly her daughter Sudeshna thetic body language belonging Swayamprabha, beautifully preto classical, foreign and convensented several pieces to the song tional forms of dance constitutes "Bojro Manik Diye Gantha", Rabindra Nrityadhara," Banerjee "Gahana Kushuma Kunja Majhey", "Amar Ongey Ongey Ke

Bajaye Banshi", "Ketechhey Ekela

Quoting Tagore, the artiste added, "I've been acquainted with traditional dance forms of

Homage to Tagore

A scene from "Boner Pakhi Moner Aanande"

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

On Friday evening, children from Sonar Ta

and Sahajpath of Fulki School staged the

play "Boner Pakhi Moner Aanande" (Wild

Laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore at

Shilpakala Academy in Chittagong.

acters from Tagore short stories --

Ashim Das was the director.

birds in boundless joy) as homage to Nobel

The delightful play featured five child cha

"Kabuliwala", "Chhuti", "Bolai", "Postmas-

children's dilemmas in contemporary times.

Poet Abul Momen scripted the play and

study circle, titled 'International Study Circle

on Child Education', arranged by Integrated

Later, Shubhra Tagore gave a speech on

Educational-Cultural Programme (IECP),

Tagore's unstinting support to dance.

ter" and "Atithi". The play also focused on

The play was presented at a two-day

"The soul of a bard in

Ka'jon Shilpi Goshthi (Bogra) performed several group dances while Chhayanaut artistes Arpita Shome, Sonia Rashid and Farhana Ahmed presented solos to Tagore songs

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

In her speech, Shubhra said that

Rabindranath was the first in the subconti-

nent to incorporate fine arts in general edu-

cation at his institution. Terming dance "a

that in the 19th century the art form was

neglected in the subcontinent. Tagore

ments and expressions were aplenty.

Manipuri and Kathakali dance styles

increased leg movements in the art form

the Rabindrik Gharana," she said adding

hunting sequence in his dance-drama,

styles, Manipuri, Bharatanatyam and

Tagorean style of dancing.

Kathak, which are incorporated in the

was on villagers.

that Tagore used the Naga folk style in the

"Chitrangada". Likewise the folk style was

incorporated in "Chandalika" as the focus

Later, she performed three classical dance

moving language of the body," she asserted

Initially, in Rabindrik dance, hand move-

"Bharatanataym and folk also mixed with

Saberi Alam and Ahkam Ullah recited from Tagore while renowned dancer Munmun Ahmed performed a solo dance to recitation and instrumental

BANGLAVISION Star World 12:30 Two And A Half Men

10:10 Art Show: Lal Gola 08:30 How I Met Your Mother

Koffee With Karan Robi Jege Acho K National Geographic Channel

11:30 Super Factories 07:30 Best of The Decade

11:30 Men in Wild Week **BBC World** 11:00 BBC World News

DRAMA SERIAL 09:30pm Ghatak Baki Bhai

NEWS BULLETIN

ate Night News (Bangla a telecast on all Bangla News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm

4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm

ATN BANGLA NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am

News (Bangla) at 7:30am.

TALK SHOW

09:45am Grameenphone

Desh TV 11:45pm Shoja Katha CHANNEL i

10:25pm Ohangkar-er ATN BANGLA 11:05am Asian City Vision

Tritiomatra

06:20pm Super Brand 12:00am Ei Shomoy

12:02pm Ekusher Dupur BANGLAVISION 09:05pm Amar Ami

11:50 The Avenging Eagle

01:25 Meet Dave

RADIO abc Radio FM 89.2

> 11:00am Musti Unlimited 01:00pm Today's Adda 04:00pm U Turn

On ntv at 08:15pm

