

WHAT'S ON

Amar Ekushey Book Fair
Venue: Bangla Academy premises
Date: February 1-28
Time: 9am onwards

Amar Ekushey Programme
Organiser: Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises
Date: Feb 8-19 at 4pm everyday

Dui Bangla-r Rabindra Natyameela 2011
Organiser: Prangane More
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: February 12-18
Time: 5:30

Classical and Flamenco Guitar Fest
Organiser: CGAB
Venue: Chayanaut Auditorium, Shankar
Date: Feb 18
Time: 7:30pm-9pm

Mime Show
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: February 20
Time: 5pm and 7pm

Film Screening
Film: Dubokatar
Venue: Chittagong Theatre Institute, Chittagong
Date: Feb 17-19

Theatre
Play: Bisharjan
Troupe: Dashrupak
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Feb 25 at 6:30pm

Film Screening
Film: Lalon
Venue: Bangladesh Film Centre, 160, Lake Circus, Kalabagan
Date: Feb 17 at 6pm

Solo Exhibition
Title: Carnival of Agony
Artist: Ashraful Hossain
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, S-4, Uttara
Date: Feb 11-24

Documentaries on Shah Abdul Karim and Ramkanai Das

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two documentaries on Baul Shamrat Shah Abdul Karim and folk singer Pandit Ramkanai Das, both from the greater Sylhet region, were launched at a programme held at Liberation War Museum recently. Young filmmaker Niranjan Dey has directed both the documentaries.

Titled "Kemoney Chinibo Tomare", the documentary on Shah Abdul Karim highlights different aspects of the life of the mystic bard.

The documentary is filmed during 1993 at the residence of Abdul Karim in Dera. Sunamganj. The film artistizes Abdul Karim's political, social and religious views as well as zooms in on the then surroundings of his village, which is known as Bhati Anchal.

On the other hand, the documentary on Ramkanai Das is titled "Shurer Potik". Apart from practicing folk songs, Das has a reputation as a classical singer, especially as an accomplished khayal singer. His father and mother were noted folk singers and collectors of Sylheti folk songs. But Das became interested in classical music after listening to Kazi Nazrul Islam's raga-based songs on radio.

At the launching ceremony, noted personalities such as author Syed Shamsul Haq, music researcher Dr. Karunamaya Goswami, publisher Mafidul Haque, Shuvendu Imam and Abdul Karim's son Shah Nur Jalal spoke on the life and works of the two folk exponents.



Shibly Mohammad (right) and Shamim Ara Nipa

ZAHANGIR ALOM

All eyes are on the gala opening ceremony of the World Cup Cricket 2011 -- to be held at Bangabanghu National Stadium in Dhaka on February 17.

The three host countries -- Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka -- will showcase their cultural excellences through performances in three phases.

Noted Bangladeshi dancers and choreographers Shibly Mohammad and Shamim Ara Nipa have choreographed the 18 minute long Bangladeshi part of the celebra-

tion. Bangladesh Cricket Board has scripted the entire performance that features references to the Language Movement [of 1952]; the Liberation War [of 1971]; elements of patriotism; folk themed pieces representing idyllic Bangladesh; classical heritage [Kathak dance]; indigenous art forms and above all splendours of the opulent Bangladeshi culture.

"Around 200 dancers from our troupe 'Nriyanchal' along with 45 indigenous dancers will take part in the act -- representing the uniqueness of Bangladesh. Apart from this, more than 1000 supporting dancers will be placed in the field to

enhance the performance," said Shibly Mohammad. Shibly also spoke highly of the other choreographer, Shamim Ara Nipa. "Nipa is very creative. Throughout the preparation process we've maintained close coordination," he said.

Noted musician Ibrar Tipu has composed and directed music for the welcome song: "O Prithibi Ebar Eshey Bangla Ke Nao Chiney". Zulfikar Russell is the lyricist of the song. Indian musician Trishankar-Ehsan-Loy composed the official song "Maar Ghumakey" [in three languages -- Bengali, Hindi and Singhalese].

Performance of that song will wrap up the inaugural ceremony. Popular singers Arnob, Mila, Elita, Balam, Hridoy Khan and Kona will lend their voices to the welcome song. Several singers will also take part in the chorus segment.

"Ibrar Tipu is a highly talented musician. He is adept in both Western and Indian classical music. This composition will very likely earn him wider recognition," Shibly added.

Both Indian and Sri Lankan segments of the performances will stretch 12 minutes each. Famed Indian singer Sonu Nigam will

perform an opera-styled "Let's Go for Glory". The artiste has composed the lyrics and music for the number. Sri Lankan singers Snayushi and Iraj will render songs in their segment.

Three Bangladeshi divas -- Runa Laila, Sabina Yasmin and Momtaz -- will perform their respective songs at the beginning of the Bangladeshi segment. Internationally famed Canadian singer Bryan Adams will also perform two songs on the occasion.

BTV with several other international TV channels will air the programme live.



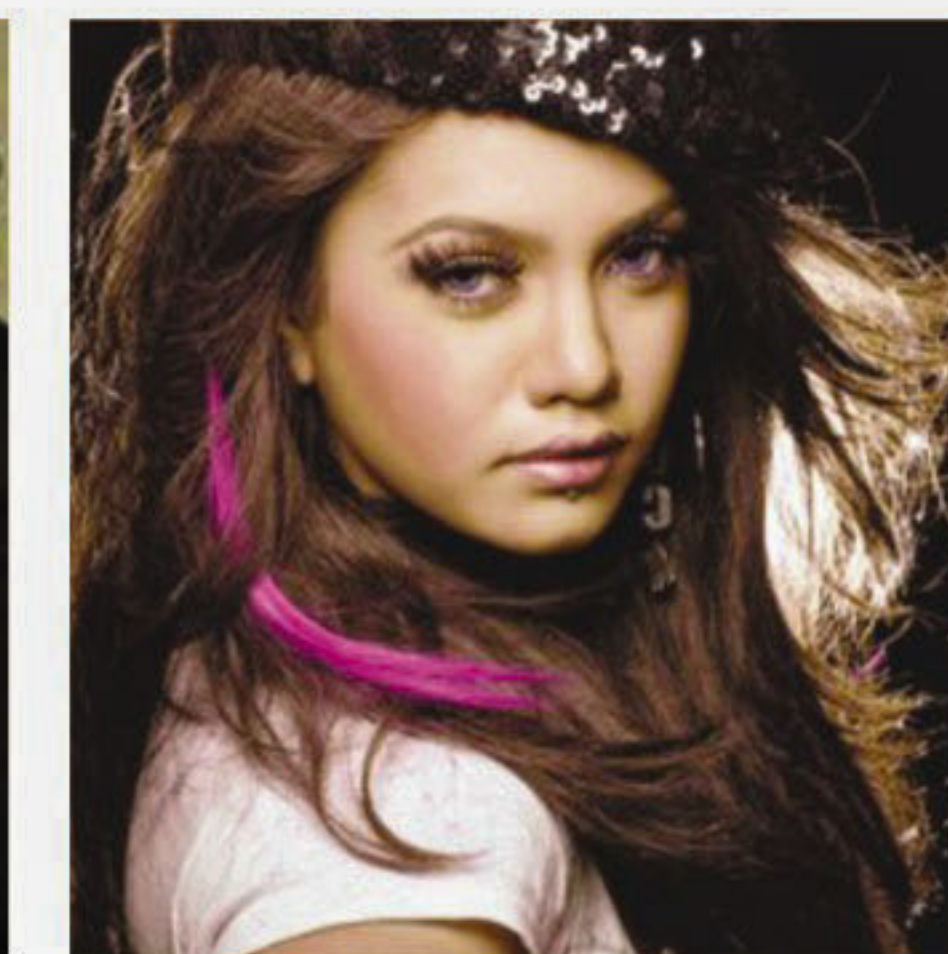
Balam



Kona



Ibrar Tipu



Mila



Hridoy Khan



Elita



Arnob

Rabindra Theatre Fest '11 in Full Swing



Scenes from "Rakto Karobi" (left) and "Tasher Desh".

The organising troupe, Prangane Mor staged its popular play "Rakto Karobi" at the National Theatre Hall. Loko Natyadal staged two plays -- "Chandalika" and "Tasher Desh" -- at the Studio Theatre Hall.

"Rakto Karobi" is perhaps the most staged Tagore play in both Bangladesh and India. Several Bangladeshi troupes have produced the play. This festival saw another adaptation by Fame School of Drama, Chittagong, the previous day.

Prangane Mor's "Rakto Karobi" has been directed by Nuna Afroz, who also dons the protagonist Nandini.

The play features a fictional world called 'Jakhopuri', where there is only wealth and no humanity. The king of the place is Makar-Raj. One day, a ravishing woman, Nandini, arrives in search of her lover Ranjan. Every man, every

element of the society, even the king, wants her. But Nandini will not respond to impurity. Ananta Heera played the king. The cast also included Ramiz Raju, Abu Yousuf Palash, Sarwar Alam and Zainal Abedin. Thandui Raihan did the light and Faiz Zahir did the set design for the play.

Loko Natyadal's "Chandalika" was directed by Shoma Giri. The play zooms in on the emotions of the low-caste maiden Prokriya, whom the upper-caste people have labelled "untouchable". Prokriya develops a fascination for the Buddhist monk Ananda. The genesis of the attraction can be traced back to an earlier incident where the monk was offered water by Prokriya. Shamima Islam, Fargin Khan and Mashruba Bintu enacted the lead roles in the play.

"Tasher Desh" was directed by Liaquat Ali Lucky. The play is a satire on the social environ-

ment of the then British India. The play begins with a prince exasperated by the monotonous restrictions and boundaries of the royal palace. In a state of boredom, he embarks on a voyage with a young merchant. After falling prey to a violent tempter, they find refuge on the 'Island of cards'. But the island is without laughter, mirth and tears. In other words the inhabitants are devoid of emotions. The prince makes an attempt to break the mechanic existence of the inhabitants. The result is outstanding.

Mahbub Rabbi, Zahidunnesa, Barida Ali, Shamima Islam and Fargin Khan played important roles in the play.

Today, Rangokormi (India) will stage another adaptation of "Chandalika" at the National Theatre Hall, while Shobdabali (from Barisal) will stage "Elong Birpurush".



Scenes from "Rakto Karobi" (left) and "Tasher Desh".

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Rabirag's Homage to Tagore Musical soiree at Natmondol

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore, cultural organisation Rabirag held a musical soiree, titled "Kobibondona", at Natmondol, Dhaka University campus on February 14.

Artistes of Rabirag rendered a number of solos at the event. Tagore's love songs dominated the event as the day also marked Valentine's Day.

Amina Ahmed performed "Tumi Ektu Kebol" on the occasion. "Shohosha Dalpala" by Shondhya Bhattacharya followed. Dr. Shyama Ali rendered "Jokhon Eshechhiley" while Swapan Dutta sang "Din Porey Jaye" at the event. Pappi Nazneen, Ena, Nandini, Indrani, Makhon, Sushanto and others performed "Amar Mon Maney Na", "Chander Hashi", "O Je Maney Na", "O Amar Chander", "Swaponey Donhey", "Bhalobashi Bhalobashi", "Mon-e Ki Dwidha", "Amar Poran Jaha Chaye" and more at the programme.

Firoz Khan on sitar, Badrul Alam Bakul on keyboard, Riton on esraj and Farid Ahmed on tabla accompanied the singers. Director of Rabirag, Sadi Mohammad, coordinated the event.



Artistes of Rabirag perform at the soiree.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

A CORRESPONDENT

"Aha Aaji E Boshonte, Eto Phool Photey" -- lines articulate Tagore's melancholic disposition about spring. Again, the song "Aha Ki Anando Akash-e, Batash-e" reminds one of the bliss 'the king of the seasons' brings with it.

Rejuvenating such feelings of joy and sorrow, Satyen Sen Shilpi Gosthi arranged a Bashonto Utshab (spring festival) at Rabindra Sarobar, Dhamondi, in Dhaka, on February 14. With the theme "Aha Ki Anando Akash-e, Batash-e", the festival featured an elaborate programme as an ode to the onset of spring and Valentine's Day. The programme was titled "Panchu Kobi O Loko" Sangeet-e Bhalobashar Noibedyo". The programme saw the presence of thousands of people from all walks of life.

Renowned poet Asad Chowdhury;



Artistes of Mukul Nriy Kala Shanghona of Manikganj perform "Mohuar Pala" at the festival.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, organising secretary of Shammilito Shangkritik Jote and Gano Sangest artiste Fakir Alamgir were present,

among others, at the inaugural session. Complimenting the attire of women, poet Asad Chowdhury said,

"Phool Phutuk Aar Nai Phutuk Aaj Bashonto". After the brief inaugural session the main cultural programme began. Artistes of Dibyo, Nriyalyok,

Call to Preserve Dhaka's Heritage Sites Mahbubur Rahman's "City of an Architect" launched



(From left): Mahbubur Rahman, Mustapha Khalid Palash, Haroon-ur Rashid, Shahzia Islam, Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad, Prof. Nazrul Islam and Prof. Sharifuddin Ahmed at the book launch.

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Mahbubur Rahman's book "City of an Architect" was recently launched at Asiatic Society Auditorium in Dhaka. Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad was the chief guest at the programme. Professor Sharifuddin Ahmed, Department of History, Dhaka University; Nazrul Islam, chairman of University Grant Commission; Haroon-ur Rashid, head of Architecture Department, North South University; architect Mustapha Khalid Palash, chairman of Delvistaa Foundation; architect Shahzia Islam, among others, spoke on the occasion.

The book has been published by Delvistaa Foundation.

The speakers discussed the content, writings and the sketches of the book. The book includes 162 sketches of historically and culturally significant buildings in Dhaka [without

using any photograph]. The sketches feature Rose Villa (Tikatuli); Mathur Babu's House (Dayagan); Sutrapur Zamindarbari; Mitford Hospital and Sir Salimullah Medical College; Morapara Temple; Armenian Church; Lalkuthi (Farashganj); Pogose School (Shakharibazar); Kobi Nazrul College (Lakshimbazar); Ramkrishna Temple; Brahma Samaj Temple; Jaikali Temple etc. The sketches were done by architecture students of North South University and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

The book describes the splendour of the city's architecture and its historical values. The target readership includes those passionate about the city and its culture, heritage and its numerous crisscrossing roads. Most of the articles are research-oriented, informative, and provide a view of the entire city. Architect Mahbubur Rahman has tried to highlight the significant chapters of Dhaka architecture.

Nazrul Islam said, "We have been neglecting our heritage. This is most unfortunate for a nation. This scenario is almost identical for all the heritage sites across the country.

"The book is divided into several phases. It's informative and has lots of sketches with wonderful descriptions. Readers can finish the book in one sitting; it's almost like reading a novel."

Dr Sharifuddin Ahmed said, "Years of irregularities and neglect by the authorities concerned have led to damage, destruction and even unlawful occupation of archaeological sites across the country, but such continuous loss of national heritage has failed to yield the concern departments' attention."

Haroon-ur Rashid said that the book covers many areas and it provides insight into several unknown historical stories about the city. Rahman's contribution to the country through this book is much appreciated, he added.

ATN BANGLA	11:45	A Beautiful Mind
12:15	IT Zone	Star Movies
01:25	Band View	09:00
04:25	Ekusher Bol Mela	11:05
08:00	Unlimited	There's Something About Mary
10:45	Bihongo Kotha	01:05
01:05	Ebhong Cinemar Gaan	02:50
01:30	Hridoyer Gaan	04:55
04:30	Bol Mela Protidin	07:00
12:00	Ajker Shongbadpoto	08:55
ntv	08:30	Species
04:10	17 Agin	10:45
05:30	03:45	Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen
06:25	05:15	Observe and Report
09:00	07:15	Road Trip: Beer Pong
ETV	09:30	The Hangover
04:30	11:30	Two Brothers
	07:30	The Simpsons

abcradio FM 89.2	10:00	Morning Express
06:00	12:00	No Tension
09:00	04:00	Dhaka Calling
12:00	06:00	Kings & Queens
03:00	08:00	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
05:00	07:15	Good Morning Dhaka
07:00	11:00	Masti Unlimited
09:00	01:00	Today's Adda
11:00	04:00	U-tan
Radio Foorti	08:00	Toba Tai Hok
07:30	11:00	Raat Vor Gan

Maar Chhokka
On CHANNEL i at 09:35pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Abul Hayat, Dolly Zahur

Shobuj Nokkhotro
On tv at 09:45pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Dodul, Tisha

05:50	Sports Plus	01:30	The Bold and the Beautiful
06:30	Ride on the Top	02:00	Friends
11:50	B o i M e l a	07:30	Kiefer Sutherland
12:02	Ekusher Raat	08:30	Detroit 187
Rtv	10:45	09:30	Masterchef US
03:30	Bashudha Tarokalap	10:30	Burn Notice
05:40	Cinema R Gaan	11:30	Two And A Half Men
06:00	Amader Bol Mela		
12:05	Angshik Shada Kalo Zero Hour		
Deshtv	08:30		
05:30	Durpath	04:30	Nat Geo Wild Caught in the Act
06:25	Phagun-er Molat	05:30	Nat Geo Amazing!
07:45	Alor Pathjari	06:30	SnakeWeek
08:15	Vaue Talk	07:30	Didn't Know That
09:45	Contenders	08:30	Great Migrations
12:30	Total Sports	09:30	World's Toughest Frags
BANGLAVISION	10:30	09:30	D a n g e r o u s Encounters
09:05	Shudho Gaan	11:30	Don't Tell My Mother
01:05	Bangla Pratana Film		
04:05	Protidin-er Bol Mela		
09:05	Shoundajjo Kotha		
11:25	CBC Tiles Rivers Saving		
ZStudio	08:30		
08:30	The Spiritual Boxer	07:30	Impact Asia with
09:40	Invincible	08:30	Mishal Husain
01:30	Chicago	09:45	World Business Report
04:50	Unbreakable	06:30	HARDtalk
07:10	Stansky & Hutch	10:30	The Hub with Nik Gowling
09:30	Bringing Down the House	11:45	Sport Today

ATN BANGLA	Rtv
08:40pm	07:50pm
09:20pm	04:40pm
CHANNEL i	08:15pm
07:50pm	09:45pm
09:35pm	08:45pm
ntv	09:45pm
09:45pm	08:20pm

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am	News (Bangla) at 7:30am
2:00 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm	1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm
News (English) at 10:00am	10:30pm
4:00 pm, 10:00 pm	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels)	10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm
CHANNEL-i	News (English) at 6:00pm
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	Rtv
ATN BANGLA	News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	ntv
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

ATN BANGLA	ntv
10:30am	Lead News
11:00am	Topspin
09:45am	12:00am
12:30pm	12:00am
11:30pm	06:05