

## WHAT'S ON

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



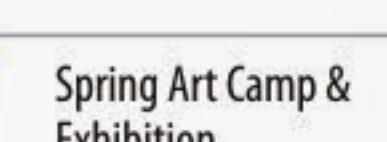
Amar Ekushey Programme  
Organiser: Sangskritik Jote  
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises  
Date: Feb 8-19 at 4pm everyday



Installation Art Exhibition  
Venue: Ekushey February  
Venue: IUB Campus, Bashundhara  
Date: February 20  
Time: 3:30pm



Spring Art Camp & Exhibition  
Venue: Modern Gallery, Art Club Bangladesh, 94, Rd 11/A, Dhamondi  
Date: Feb 17-20  
Time: 11am-5pm



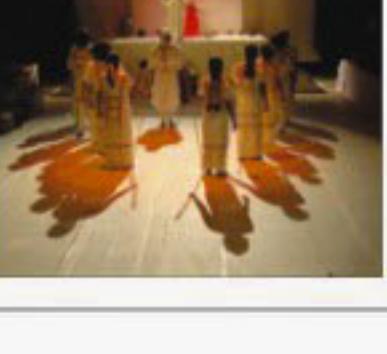
Mir Show  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpkala Academy  
Date: February 20  
Time: 5pm and 7pm



Ekushey February Programme  
Organiser: National Museum  
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh  
Date: Feb 18-21



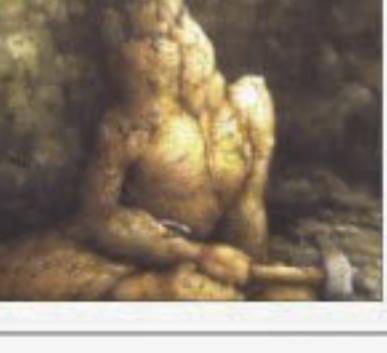
Theatre  
Play: Dohar  
Artist: Doharuk  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpkala Academy  
Date: Feb 25 at 6:30pm



Film Screening  
Film: Gainsbourg  
Venue: Auditorium, Allianc Francaise, 26, Mirpur Rd, Dhamondi  
Date: Feb 25 at 6pm



Solo Exhibition  
Title: Cambay e Apney  
Artist: Asifur Haque  
Venue: Galleri Koya, R-16, S-4, Uttara  
Date: Feb 11-24  
Time: 11am-7:30pm



Images: In the rhythm of music, culture and history.

#### OSAMA RAHMAN

Unforgettable! That may be all it takes to describe the events that transpired on the memorable February 17, 2011. A big bang signalled what many have been impatiently waiting for: the ICC World Cup had finally come home. That evening Bangabandhu National Stadium played host to the most impressive unparalleled extravaganza to grace Bangladesh.

Before the official ceremony, a few local artistes entertained the crowds, setting the mood for what was about to come. Sprawled before them lay an expansive white stage, creating the impression of the field being bathed with snow.

And then, in a flash, it all began. The Chhayantanaut team sang the National Anthem to begin the proceedings. Under the open sky, surrounded by thousands and with a million eyes riveted on Bangabandhu National Stadium, the lyrics of our anthem took on even greater meaning. Bangladesh had indeed come a long way.

It was then for the crowd to greet the entry of all the players, who came in rickshaws, the one to Dhaka, fondly known as the City of Rickshaws. The players thoroughly enjoyed this adventure, especially West Indian Captain Darren Sammy, who seemed to love the sensation of the rickshaw ride. After all the captains had arrived, Sonu Nigam joined them, paying tribute to the world of cricket in his own mellifluous way.



Speeches followed before the programme really took off. Once everyone had their say, Team India entered the stage. From the country of numerous shades, India's performers represented their culture, their rich heritage and their ideology in their

Symphony of Colours. Truly one of the most colourful displays ever, India really lifted the spirits of everyone present and brought even more life and vibrancy to the stadium. The diya-dancers added more authentic flavour to a breath-taking performance.



Sri Lanka then followed, ready to flaunt their culture and tradition. Sea-waves created by men and women coloured the stage while a 'ship' sailed through them. The audience were left awe-struck, lost in the hills of Kandy and the whispers of the Indian Ocean. The reveal-

ation of the Pearl of the Indian Ocean in the form of a beautiful Princess led to cheers of joy and much applause. Mask-bearers, dish-spinners and the depictions of gods, blended Sri Lankan mythology with a truly wonderful culture.

Finally, the host entered the stage. The grounds immediately turned red and green. Sabina Yasmeen, Runa Laila and the evergreen Mumtaz each entered the stage to tumultuous roars of approval. Mumtaz's performance not only brought the crowd to life but we also witnessed our national players smiling and emulating her lyrics, oblivious to the pressure that was about to come.

A dance performance by Nityanchal followed, bringing forth our golden culture before everyone. The Language Martyrs were honoured and we were transported back in time, to Bangabandhu's revolutionary "Ebar shongram amader mukti shongram". As the atmosphere reached fever pitch, Royal Bengal Tigers and Peacocks arose to welcome the coming of Baishakhi. The large screen then showed the beauty of Bangladesh in a brilliant way, drawing the audience to insights into Bangladesh, into life and love of many things.

The second final roar came for Bryan Adams, who took to the stage and gave a lively performance. It wasn't just the 'Summer of '69' but also numerous thoughts of '71 and '52.

At the very end Shankar, Ehsan and Loy sang this year's Anthem, "Ghumake Dei" and a most beautiful evening came to an end. The roar of the tigers, the elation, the memories of a struggle, the remnants of hopes for a golden future were all that remained in the air that night. The sparkle of the fireworks gleamed in the imagination as everyone made his way back home.

## Liberation War in focus

The Daily Star and the Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad hold street theatre festival

#### ZAKIR AZAD, Comilla

Three street plays were staged on the open stage of Comilla Town Hall Shaheed Minar, on Friday evening as part of the month-long street theatre festival jointly organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad to mark the 40th anniversary of independence and 20th anniversary of the national daily.

The festival in Comilla was inaugurated by Professor Md. Ali Choudhury, former principal of Comilla Victoria Govt. College. Presided over by Shahjahan Choudhury, president of Shanglap Natya Samprada and conducted by freedom fighter Humayun Kabir Mojumder, the gathering was addressed, among others, by Nripandu Kumar Chaterjee, President Sammilito Sangskritik Jote; freedom fighter advocate Golam Farooque;

Albul Kasem Hriday editor of Comillar Kagoj; journalist Yasmin Reema; Anjum Ara Ahmed secretary of Comilla Theatre; Fariduddin Ahmed, former general secretary of Jananit Natya Samoroday; Salauddin Lablu of Choukosh Natya Samprada and Rafiqul Islam Choudhury Khokon president of Apollo Natya Sangsads.

The speakers at the function expressed their appreciation of The Daily Star for initiating such programmes across the country. They also lauded the role of the paper in upholding the spirit of the Liberation War.

Three local troupes Protibimbo Natty Theatre, Dakata Theatre (Laksmi) and Choukosh Natya Samprada staged two plays on the occasion.

Protibimbo Natty Samprada staged "Khepa Paglar Pechal", written by S.M. Sulaiman and directed by Shahjahan Choudhury, Dakata Theatre staged "Bhul Songsodan" directed by Sushil Acharya and Shadhinotar Samprada staged "Choukash Natya Somproday" written by Mumtazuddin Ahmed.

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

As part of the countrywide Street Theatre Festival-2011 organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad, plays were staged day long at the local Sarad Mancha of Sur Samrat Alauddin Sangitagan premises on February 11.

Two prominent theatre groups of the town presented street plays while the cultural function included Jarigan, dance folk songs, and Rana Sangeet.

Bir Uttam Md. Habibur Rahman narrated his battlefield experiences of the Liberation War.

Jihlum Natya Shangstha staged the play, "Tapur Kotha", written and directed by Manirul Islam Sabran, general secretary of Jihlum Shishu Kishor Sangathan.

Swadeshi Natya Dal staged the play "Amader Katha", written by WARBE Development Foundation and directed

by Syed Azizur Rahman, local member of Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad.

RAM UBAIDUL MUKTADIR Chowdhury, MP of Brahmanbaria 3, was the chief guest in the festival while Abdul Wadud and Dik Theatre of the Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (Sust) activists were on the stage with "Shalish" of Quazi Rafique. The performances drew much appreciation from the audience.

Prior to the presentations, a brief discussion was held where Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education)- Mohammad Shahab Uddin Khan was present as chief guest. Cultural activists-Niranjan Dey Jada, poet Tushar Kar, Sanjay Nath Sanju, Abdul Wahid and The Daily Star staff correspondent Iqbal Siddiquee spoke among others.

Several hundred enthusiastic people, mostly students and youths enjoyed the plays at the city's Central Shahid Minar premises for about three hours.

In addition, two plays were staged at the Pourashava Muktamancha of Sunamganj district town the same day. Sunamganj Proscenium Theatre staged "Chourasta" while Bandhan Theatre presented "Undur". Prior to the plays, Satyaranjan Talukder chaired a brief discussion. The speakers included Sunamganj district chapter general secretary of the Jatiya Rabindra Sangit Sammilan Parishad Onisimous Chowdhury, cultural activists Shahin Ara Lais, Khalil Rahman and Devarashish Talukder Shubhra.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

As part of the countrywide Street Theatre Festival-2011 organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad, plays were staged day long at the local Sarad Mancha of Sur Samrat Alauddin Sangitagan premises on February 11.

Two prominent theatre groups of the town presented street plays while the cultural function included Jarigan, dance folk songs, and Rana Sangeet.

Bir Uttam Md. Habibur Rahman narrated his battlefield experiences of the Liberation War.

Jihlum Natya Shangstha staged the play, "Tapur Kotha", written and directed by Manirul Islam Sabran, general secretary of Jihlum Shishu Kishor Sangathan.

Swadeshi Natya Dal staged the play "Amader Katha", written by WARBE Development Foundation and directed

by freedom fighter Gazi Muhammad Ratan Mia, deputy commander in Brahmanbaria; freedom fighter Chokhe Jol", written and directed by S.M. Ali Azhar Hablu. The role of the anti-liberation forces in the society was depicted in the play.

Molina Devnath, Azhar Hablu, Omar Faruq, Tuhin Ahmed, Shafiqul Islam Akash and Masudul Islam Masud played different roles. Earlier a discussion was held. Chairman of sadar upazila Fazur Rahman Fakir, freedom fighter Mohammad Hafizur Rahman, Mymensingh Press Club secretary Ataul Karim Khokon, president and secretary of Bidrohi Natya Goshthi,

Bidrohi Natya Goshthi staged the play, Barnamalar Chokhe Jol", written and directed by S.M. Ali Azhar Hablu. The role of the anti-liberation forces in the society was depicted in the play.

Molina Devnath, Azhar Hablu, Omar Faruq, Tuhin Ahmed, Shafiqul Islam Akash and Masudul Islam Masud played different roles. Earlier a discussion was held. Chairman of sadar upazila Fazur Rahman Fakir, freedom fighter Mohammad Hafizur Rahman, Mymensingh Press Club secretary Ataul Karim Khokon, president and secretary of Bidrohi Natya Goshthi,

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

As part of the country wide Pathanatak festival-2011 organ-

mances of the artistes and said that such performances take us back to our roots of our traditional culture.

Theatre is an ancient art form and such programme can inspire the younger generation the most, said Ali Ahsan Mamun, a student of Govt. Ananda Mohan College.

The artistes also thanked The Daily Star for supporting such countrywide programmes.

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

As the part of a country wide campaign, a street theatre

Nurunnabi, freedom fighter AKM Shariful Islam, veteran journalist Anwarul Haque, freedom fighter Rabul Islam Rabu, president of the Shamshillit Shangskritik Jote, Pabna Biplob Bhattacharya among the cultural activists agriculturist Zafar Sadique, Rajur Rahman, Hashkar Chowdhury and The Daily Star correspondent Ahmed Humayun Kabir Topu spoke on the occasion.

"The Bangalee people dreamt of a Sonar Bangla and sacrificed their lives for an independent country. But even four decades after independence we are yet to fulfill our dreams," said the speakers.

Later Pabna Theatre 77 staged "Khekhsial", directed by Abul Kasem. Later the Darpan Shangshkritik Goshthi, Pabna staged "Shadhinatar Dirghashwash", directed by ANM Hai Al Hadi.

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Street Theatre Festival 2011 organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Pathanatak Parishad, plays were staged at the Kabi Muzammel Haque Town Hall premises in Bhola district headquarter on February 13.

Two prominent theatre groups 'Bhola Theatre' of Bhola town and 'Toplar Kristee Sansar' of Lalmoni upazila town performed at the festival drawing over thousands of people.

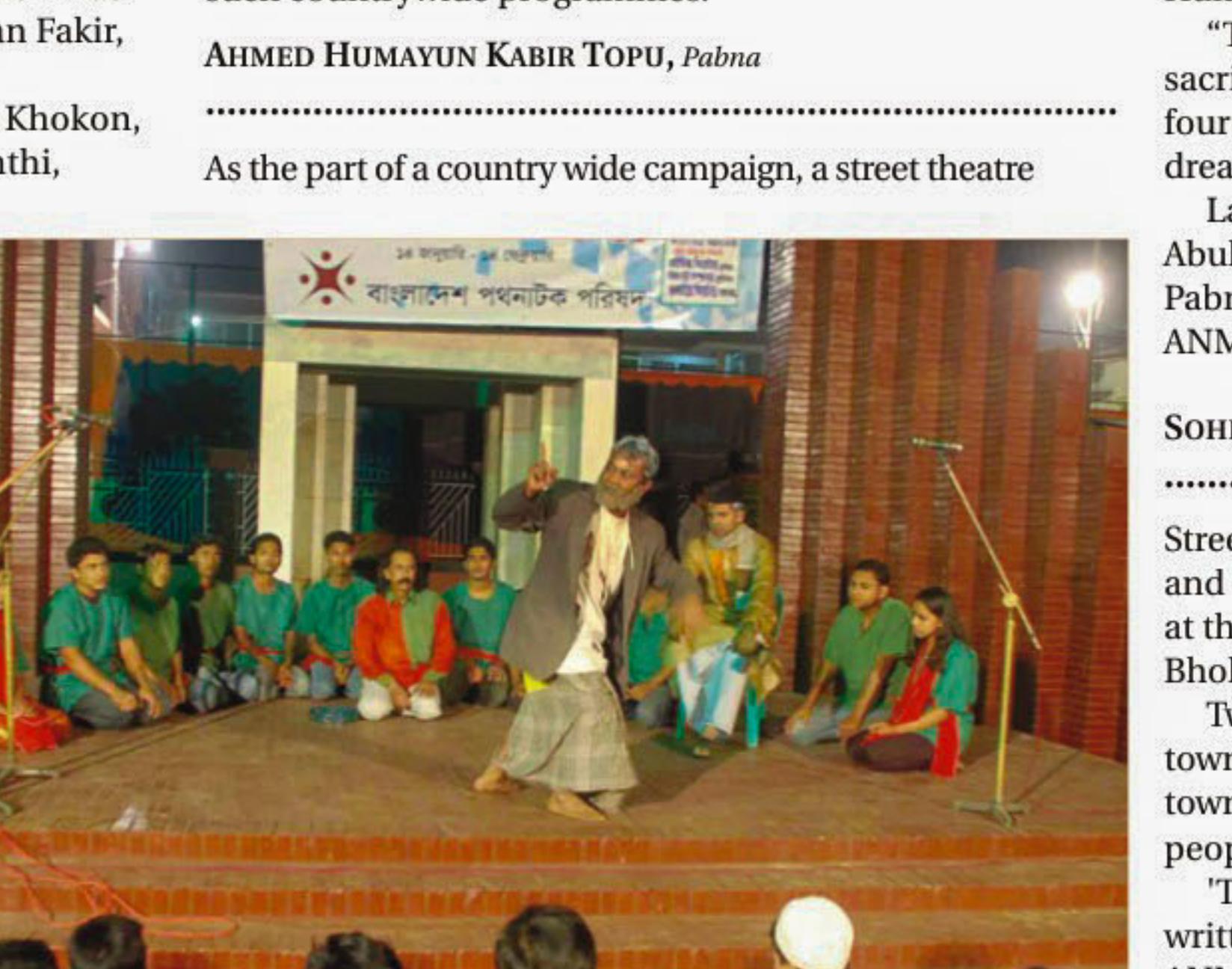
"Toplar Kristee Sansar" staged the play 'Public Servant' written and directed respectively by Goutam Roy and ANM Sahijan Dulal.

"Toplar Kristee Sansar" staged the play 'Manikjor' written by Sultan Md. Razzak and directed by Bashir Ullah Bachu.

Humayun Kabir, principal of Homeo College and Hospital Bhola; Mobashir Ullah Chowdhury, president of Bhola district unit of CPB; Mohiuddin Masud Johnny, a Daily Star reader; Journalists Abdur Chowdhury Tuhin, Mostaq Ahmed Sahn, Niamot Ullah, and Sharmin Jahan Shyamoli; school teacher Nasir Liton; secretary of Bhola Theatre and Jasim Johnny, secretary of Toplar Kristee Sansar addressed among others in the function. Md. Sohrab Hossain, Patuakhali correspondent for The Daily Star gave the welcome speech.

Amjad Dulon presented the programme. Talking to this correspondent, Ranjan Bhounik, a retired school teacher said that such programmes are useful in saving nearly the extinct performing arts like street drama. Anjuman Ara, a teacher appreciated the performances.

Veteran educationist Professor Mohammad



(From Left) Bahurupi Natty Sangstha of Mymensingh, Theatre 77 of Pabna and Protibimbo Natty Somprada of Comilla stage "Daidaitya", "Khekhsial", "Khepa Paglar Pechal".

PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: STAR

ATN BANGLA

02:45 Bangla Feature Film

02:50 Store Cards

02:55 School Anejna

03:00 Aparajita

11:30 Down the Wicket

11:30 Shindhu Hindol

Z Studio

02:30 Melodies

02:45 The Shaggy Dog

04:15 The Motorcycle Diaries

07:00 Saving Private Ryan

12:00 Sand

Diganta TV

12:30 D-Tox

02:45 Pari Blart

04:45 Bring It On: Fight to the Finish

07:15 Monsters vs. Aliens

09:30 Snakes on a Plane

11:45 Spartacus: Blood and Sand

HBO