

WHAT'S ON

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



Classical Vocal Music Recital
Artist: Vidy Shah
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: March 4



Solo Art exhibition
Artist: Suman Ghosh
Venue: Art Club, Garden Gallery, H-94, R-11A, Dhamondi
Date: Feb 25-Mar 3; Time: 3pm-7pm



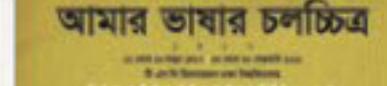
Workshop & Art Exhibition
Organiser: Circular Gallery Coop.
Artist: Fudveka Tuhashin
Venue: Crimes Centre, 69/1, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: Feb 25-March 5



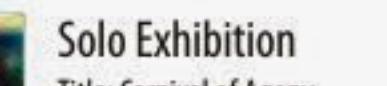
Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Proshno Karmakar
Buddha
Venue: Nordic Club, Gulshan-2
Date: February 5-28
Time: 2pm-8pm



Solo Photo Exhibition
Title: Gaur and Pandua
Photographer: Babu Ahmed
Venue: Bengal Gallery/Fine Arts, H-27/5, Rd 16 (new), Dhamondi
Date: Feb 27-March 8
Time: 12-8pm



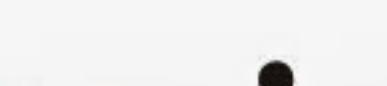
Film Festival
Organiser: DUF
Venue: TSC Auditorium, DU
Date: February 24-28
Time: 10am onwards



Solo Exhibition
Title: Festival of Agony
Artist: Kfarul Hasan
Venue: Galleri Koya, H-20, R-16, 4-Uttara
Date: Feb 11-28
Time: 11am-7:30pm



Photography Exhibition
Title: 60 Shots-Season 2
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, R-15A, Dhamondi
Date: Feb 25-Mar 1



Soaring High

Kite festival in Kushtia ends



AMANU AMAN, Kushtia

A two-day long kite festival ended in Kumarkhali upazila, Kushtia district, last Saturday. Shilon, a cultural organisation in the upazila, held the festival.

The programme included kite flying, a discussion and a cultural event. A rally was also brought out in the upazila. The venue of kite flying was Kumarkhali embankment.

Around 150 participants flew different types of kites such as Dhaush, Sapa and Dole at the festival. The event drew several thousand people from all parts of the district.

A discussion, followed by a prize giving ceremony, was held at Kumarkhali Children's Park.

President of Shilon, Sunil Kumar Biswas, presided over the discussion on the occasion.

Kumarkhali upazila chairman Abdur Rouf addressed the gathering as chief guest.

Shahjahan Ali Biswas, general secretary of Shilon, gave the welcome address.

The chief guest distributed prizes among the winners.

Later cultural programme was held by the locals.



Lost Capitals of Ancient Bengal

Photo exhibition highlighting Gaur and Pandua

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts has organised a photography exhibition, titled "Gaur and Pandua -- The Lost Capital of Bengal - Bangladesh and India", featuring the works of Babu Ahmed. The exhibition opened yesterday at Bengal Gallery, Dhamondi, Dhaka and will continue till March 8.

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Rajesh Mitter, inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Dr. Abu Sayeed M. Ahmed, Head of Department of Architecture, Asia Pacific University, was present as special guest.

Photographer Babu Ahmed completed his Masters in Bangla from the University of Dhaka. He has participated at

several seminars and workshops in the country and abroad. Some of his noteworthy publications are "Selected Hindu Temples of Bangladesh", "Mughal Monuments of Bangladesh" and "Dhaka City Guide Maps".

Babu started his career as a photojournalist in 1988 and has worked for major national dailies. His previous exhibitions include "Glimpses of Bangladeshi Heritage" at Drik Gallery (2002), "Mughal Monuments of Bangladesh" at Institute of Fine Arts (2003), "100 Temples of Bangladesh" at Bengal Gallery (2004), "Selected Monuments of Bangladesh" (2005) and "Islamic Heritage of the Ganges Delta" at the Museum of Islamic Art in Berlin (also in 2005).

Ahmed's photos at the exhibition feature Chhoto Sona Mosque, Darasbari Mosque, Badshahi Takht Adina Mosque, Tantipara Mosque, Gumi Gate, Gunnat Mosque, Bara Sona Mosque, Dhaniacha Mosque, Shah Niamat Ullah Wali's Complex, Chamkati Mosque, Qadam Rasul Complex and more.

The photographer has reflected on the architectural splendour of Gaur and Pandua and traced the glorious past of Bengal. Ahmed deserves special credit for studying the history of lost cities through meticulous and elaborate effort.

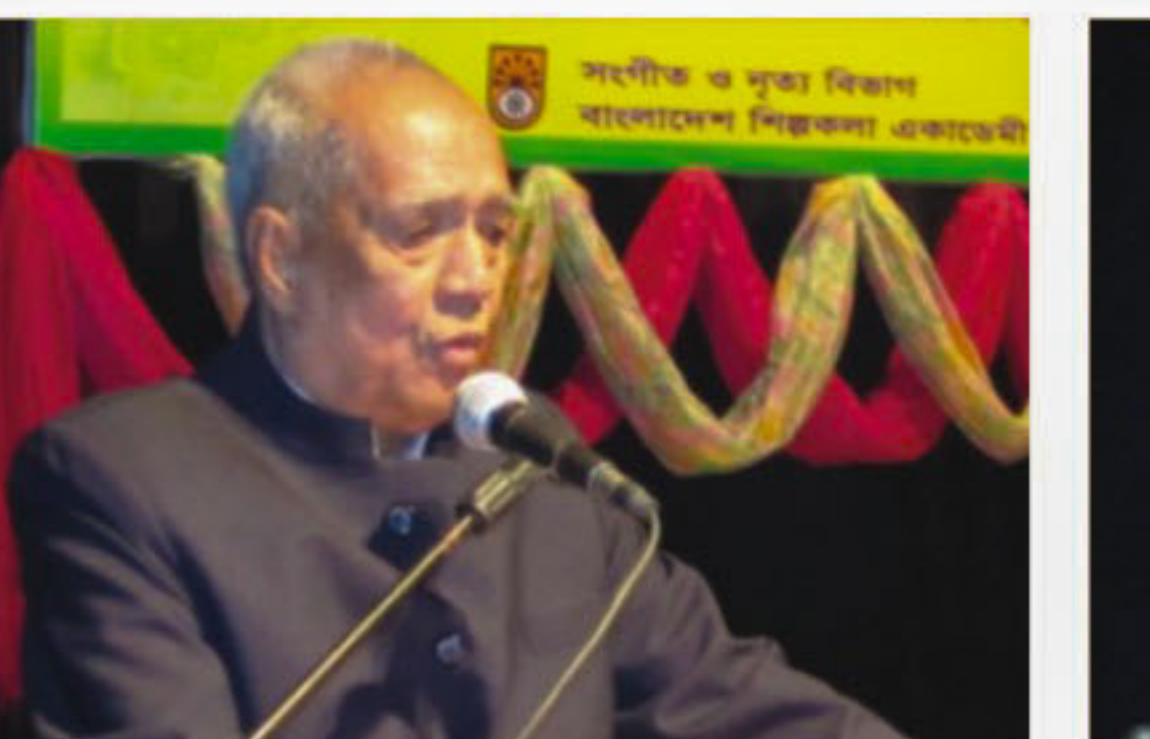
On the occasion of the exhibition, a press conference was held on February 26 at Bengal Cafe. Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts; Babu Ahmed and Sarwar Jahan (assistant manager of Bengal Gallery), among others, spoke at the programme.

Chhoto Sona Mosque, Chapainawabganj, Bangladesh (top); Firoz Minar, West Bengal, India.



Homage to Pandit Barin Majumder

Classical music and dance at Shilpkala Academy



Ustad Kamruzzaman Moni (left) and Professor Mridul Kant Chakraborty reminisce on the late Pandit Barin Majumder.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

As part of their monthly cultural programme, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy (BSA) arranged a classical musical soiree and dance recital at its Music and Dance Centre Auditorium on February 26.

The programme was dedicated to the memory of Pandit Barin Majumder, a pioneering classical vocalist and musician [February 14 marked his birth anniversary]. Majumder founded the first music college in the country.

Barin Majumder was born into an aristocratic family of Radhanagar, Pabna. His father Nishendra Majumder was an artist and dramatist. His mother used to play sitar. As he showed interest in music, his father took him to Calcutta [now Kolkata] where he trained under Bhishnubabu Chatterjee. Two years later when his guru became sanyasi (sage) he returned to Pabna. But Majumder was not satisfied and wanted to go to Lucknow to study music. But his uncle who was the decision-maker of the family did not let him go. Instead he brought Ustad Raghuraman Goswami from Lucknow to teach Barin Majumder at home.

At home Majumder managed to finish the course of Maurice College. But his indomitable will took him to Lucknow where he met Chinmoy Lahiri, Uday Shankar and Ravi Shankar. Lahiri took him to the principal of the Maurice Music School and he was admitted to the third year class. Lahiri also taught him music.

Deputy Director of Music and Dance Department of BSA, Abdul Kader Talukdar, delivered the welcome speech on the occasion.

The event was divided into two sessions -- discussion, where a disciple of Majumder, Ustad Kamruzzaman Moni, and Professor Mridul Kant Chakraborty of Dhaka University reminisced on the late artist and classical music performances [vocal and instrumental] along with a Kathak recital.

Leo J Baroi kicked off the event with a rendition of the Raga Abhogi Kannada. With the bandish "Ayori Basant", renowned classical vocalist Anil Kumar Saha performed Raga Kaushik Dhwani. Saha's high pitched rendition embodied the essence of a cuckoo's ardour singing during the season of spring. Mohamad Shakur on harmonium and Syed Jafid Hossain on tabla accompanied the vocalists.

A star performance by a Chhayanaut teacher Ebadul Haque Saikia was next. Saikia played Raga Bagesher, featuring alap, jor, dhamar and gaut on the instrument. Zakir Hossain assisted him on tabla.

Tabassum Ahmed wrapped up the programme through a tarana performance, a feature of Kathak dance.

The widow and disciple of Pandit Barin Majumder, noted musician Ila Majumder, along with two of their sons Partha Pratim Majumder and Bappa Majumder with other cultural personalities and dignitaries were present in the audience.



Anil Kumar Saha (centre) performs at the event.

PHOTO: STAR

Hassles of Fame

Tisha: First Person Singular

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

In this instalment of "Hassles of Fame", TV and film actress Tisha talks about the predicament she faces thanks to her growing popularity.

When I was a child, I used to hear that 'hassle' always accompany fame. Reading about celebrities made me chuckle at times. But as my face became more visible in the media, I got a firsthand experience of the troubles fame brings.

It is natural for fans to seek autographs, and it's also for me to meet fans during my shooting break. But when they mob a, it's usually troublesome. Posing for pictures with fans is no hassle, unless someone starts taking random shots with their cell phones without my consent.

Another problem I face is the limitation to roam around and do what I want. Even if I want to have a plate of phuchka in between my shooting hours, there's always a crowd milling around me. Sometimes when I go shopping without a burqa -- the extent of the hassles can be seen. Even the shopkeeper raises the price when he realises who I am.

The most irritating price to pay for fame is unwanted phone calls. This is the reason I don't always answer all calls. But somehow the fans find a way to get their hands on my number and call at odd hours. Instead of treating me like a fellow human being, they consider me only a "star".

In overseas I don't face much trouble unless a fellow Bangladeshi recognises me and comes up to me; but the country's always a different story. Even if I travel to Cox's Bazaar



for a shoot there's always a crowd forming around me.

I've also faced hassles mid-air. When flying, passengers sometimes try to take a peek at me and ask for autographs. They also praise or criticise me for my works. But when someone wants to take a picture mid-flight, it always irritates me.

In the end I have to admit that there are two sides of the coin of fame. I have to face what I dislike because that's how the fans express their love and admiration towards my work. That is a great achievement.

Book Fair in Sylhet

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Book fairs play an important role in sparking interest in books and drawing new readers. Unfortunately most such events are organised in the capital while the other regions are relegated to the sidelines. To promote the reading habit, reputed publication houses both from Bangladesh and outside need to make an entry in other districts and divisional towns.

This was the consensus among speakers at the inaugural function of a three-day book fair, organised by the Sylhet Metropolitan Police (SMP) was held at the same venue from February 21 to February 23.

The event was organised as part of the programme in observance of the International Mother Language Day. As many as 22 stalls were set up at the fair which ended on February 26. Another book fair organised by the Sylhet DSA building. Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet Abu Syed Mohammad Hashim formally inaugurated the event, which drew a good number of book lovers everyday.

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The night before Hollywood gathers to honour its best, Razzie voters sifted through what they dubbed the cinematic rubble and disdained "The Last Airbender" as the worst movie of 2010.

The M. Night Shyamalan action-fantasy flick, which was panned by critics upon its release last year, won (or should be) the "worst" for Worst Director, Worst Picture, Worst Screenplay, Worst Supporting Actor and a new category -- Worst Eye-gouging Misuse of 3-D. The other movie that took home multiple gold spray-painted statuettes Saturday night was "Sex and the City 2" for Worst Screenplay and Worst Actress -- presented jointly to the four leading ladies: Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall, Cynthia Nixon and Kristen Davis.

Worst Supporting Actor: Jackson Rathbone for "The Last Airbender" and "Twilight Saga: Eclipse" (the other most-nominated title of the year).

Worst Supporting Actress: Jessica Alba for "The Killer Inside Me," "Little Fockers," "Machete" and "Valentine's Day."

Worst Eye-gouging Misuse of 3-D: "The Last Airbender."

Worst Screen Couple or Ensemble: The cast of "Sex and the City 2."

Worst Director: M. Night Shyamalan

Worst Screenplay: "The Last Airbender."

Worst Prequel, Remake, Rip-Off or Sequel: "Sex and the City 2."

Source: CNN



ATN BANGLA

11:05	Topside
12:10	Motamot
05:20	Ayaner Shamney
08:00	Drama: Mukhol
10:45	Bihongo Kotha
10:55	Drama: Nandini
01:05	Ebong Cinem Gaan
03:10	Ahban
05:30	Boi Mela Shorashory
07:50	Drama: Swapnobazar
12:00	Ajker Shangbadpotro
11:30	Ekushey's Business
04:00	Drama
06:30	Desh Jurey
08:20	Ohonkar
10:10	O Bondhu Amar
12:05	Bangali Ekusher

CHANNEL i

01:05	Ebong Cinem Gaan
03:10	Ahban
05:30	Boi Mela Shorashory
07:50	Drama: Swapnobazar
12:00	HBO
04:00	Capon Rocknolla
06:30	Barb Wire

ETV

11:30	Ekushey's Business

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