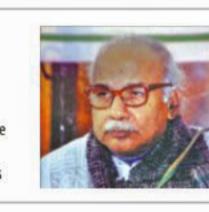
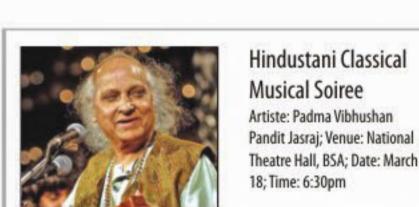
WHAT'S ON

















## Baul Samrat Remembered

#### Shah Abdul Karim Festival in Sunamganj Ends

The two-day folk music festival marking Shah Abdul Karim's birth anniver sary ended at his village Ujon Dhol, in Sunamganj district, in the early hours yesterday. Thousands of people from neighbouring areas enjoyed the concluding day's presentations.

At the concluding function, the bard's son Shah Noor Jalal thanked the audience and organisers for arranging the programme. The function began with a rendition of the mystical bard's popular song "Kemoney Bhulibo Ami" At the programme yesterday, bauls

from different areas rendered Karim's songs one after another, including "Gari Cholena", "Agey Ki Shundor Din Kataitam", "Bondhey Maya Lagaise", "Keno Piriti Barailere Bondhu" etc.

Bauls including Abdur Rahman, Ramesh Thakur, Bashir Uddin Sarker, Maya Rani Sarker, Haripodo Das, Khadija Akhtar, Anwar Reza, Dukhu Miah, Anik Hasan, Happy Rani Dhar, Rony Chakrabarty, Sheuli Chowdhury, Shah Abdul Toahed, Abdul Quaiyum and Billal Uddin performed at the

Sharfuddin and Nazrul Islam conducted the function.

Banglalink sponsored the festival. Born on February 15, 1916, Shah Abdul Karim led a very simple life. Growing up in hardship, he began to express his thoughts and emotions in songs from a young age. He was awarded the Ekushey Podok in the year 2001 for his outstanding musical

died on September 12, 2009.



Singers perform at the programme

# DHAKA UNIVERSITY THEATRE FEST Hemingway Classic OLD MAN AND THE SEA Staged

JAMIL MAHMUD

The fortnight-long theatre festival by the Department of Theatre, Dhaka University has reached its final phase. On March 12, an adaptation of Earnest Hemingway's overly familiar work "The Old Man and the Sea" was staged.

The play, translated by Ahmed Abdullah, was directed by Imam Abdulla Hakim. The innovatively designed set took almost half of the space of the small Natmandal auditorium, limiting seating capacity. However, the full-house seem ingly enjoyed the show till the end.

"The Old Man and the Sea", for which Hemingway won the Nobel Prize in Literature [1954], was written in Cuba [1951] It was the last major work of fiction pro-

duced by the American author. One of Hemingway's most famous works, "The Old Man and the Sea", zooms in on an elderly Cuban fisherman named Santiago, who struggles with a giant fish in the deep

The play becomes an epic battle between the weathered, experienced Santiago and a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream -- symbolising man's eter struggle against the natural world. Though the novel features few charac-

ters, the director opted to feature only the leading duo -- Santiago and his young follower Manolin. The play opens with Santiago at seas;

he has gone 84 days without catching any fish. He is so unlucky that Manolin has been told by his parents not to sail with protagonist, gave a stunning effort to

the old man. Still dedicated to the old articulate the old man's struggle. But at man, however, Manolin visits Santiago times the dialogue took away some of each night, getting him food and discussthat seriousness. ing many things. Santiago tells Manoli that the next day he will venture far out the shore with his prize, sharks attack the into the sea to fish, confident that his fish. Santiago kills some of them and

Thus the epic battle begins, when on the eighty-fifth day Santiago sets out alone, taking his little boat far into the

sea. By noon, a big fish takes his bait.

unlucky streak is near its end.

The battle between the old man and designed the play, as he also did with the the marlin is the most significant and set, light, costume and music. Instead of thrilling part of the play. The director sound of waves, he chose theatrical score depicts it through positioning the prota as the background music during the batonist on a tiny boat at the centre of the tle between the old man and the giant stage, which at times moves from one corner to another. Amitav Roy, as the

Tarique Ibrahim played as the young apprentice Manolin.

While Santiago tries to make his way to

many others are driven away. But the

just the skeleton.

sharks keep coming, and by nightfall the

sharks manage to devour the fish, leaving

The director almost single-handedly

#### Noazesh Knowledge Centre Opens Its Doors



(From left): Enayetullah Khan, Svend Olling, Prof Gowher Rizvi, Asaduzzaman Noor, Tapan Kumar Dey at the inaugural programme.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh (WTB) and Zoological Society of London (ZSL) jointly opened Noazesh Knowl edge Centre, the country's first library exclusively on nature conse vation, at the Cosmos Centre in Dhaka on March 12.

The seed of this knowledge centre was implanted in the minds of WTB trustees by the late Dr. Noazesh Ahmed, an eminent photographer and also the founding vice chairma

Noazesh Ahmed was an internationally reputed agricultural scienti and a notable photographer. He was a plant geneticist by profession. He obtained a gold medal for his outstanding contribution to agricultura research and development. He was also an environmentalist. He had always vouched for the development and preservation of our environme

Professor Gowher Rizvi, advisor and special representative of the Prime Minister, inaugurated the

centre. Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University AAMS Arefin Siddique; Svend Olling, the Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh; Asaduzzaman Noor, lawmaker and managing director of Desh TV; Tapan Kumar Dey of Bangladesh Forest Department were present as guests of honour. Enayetullah Khan, chief editor of

UNB and chairman of WTB, chaired Enayetullah Khan said, "WTB and

ZSL have formed the centre with a vision to produce a generation of young and well-informed citizens in the field of biodiversity conservation, environmental science and technology. Visitors will have access to a wide variety of e-journals, research papers, journals and books to educate themselves about biodiversity and the innovative conservation events that are currently taking place across the world. Besides providing educational materials, the knowledge centre will also hold discussions and film shows about biodiversity conservation and various aspects of environment."

## Chronicles of Change

"Ogni O Jol", a collection of short stories, launched

A CORRESPONDENT

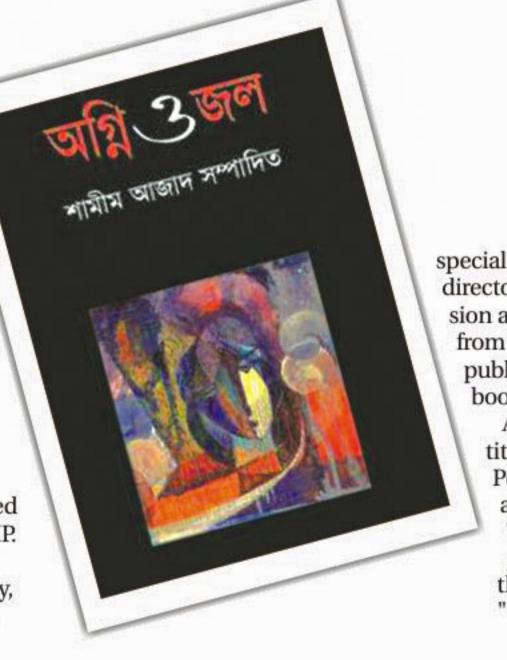
"Ogni O Jol: Rupantorer Golpo", a collection of eleven short stories by Selina Hossain, Audity Falguni, Shahnaz Munni, Jharna Rahman, Papree Rahman, Moni Haider, Tanvir Malik, Munasir Kamal and others, has been published by Mowla Brothers and BRAC University Press. Edited by poet-writer Shamim Azad, the book is unique in its articulation of change in women's lives and the ways the authors have transformed case studies into fiction.

conducted as part of the Stories4Change Writing Project attended by all the writers. This project was implemented by the Pathways of Women's **Empowerment Research Programme at BRAC** Development Institute. During October-

November 2010, the Stories4Change project organised a series of creative writing workshop facilitated by Shamim Azad, during which the writers worked on these case studies and trans formed them into fiction.

All the writers who contributed to "Ogni O Jol were present at the book launch held at Senate Stories in the book were inspired by case studies Bhaban, Dhaka University on March 12. Alongside

ung writers, renowned litterateur Selina Hossain shared her experiences at the event. The programme featured reading out excerpts from the book, songs, as well as screening clips of the creative writing process that produced these stories. The book was launched by Ruby Rahman, poet and MP. Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University.



special guest. Dr. Syed M. Hashemi, director of BDI, spoke on the occasion and Ahmed Mahmudul Huq from Mowla Brothers shared the publisher's perspective on the

> A set of six Bangla booklets, titled "Narir Khomotayon: Poribortoner Gotipoth" was also launched at the event. The reports in these booklets present some of the research that inspired the stories in "Ogni O Jol".

# Rabirag Performs in Sylhet



Sadi Mohammad (centre) and other artistes of Rabirag perform in Sylhet.

Artistes of Rabirag, Dhaka kept a packed audience captivated for over two hours at Sylhet Auditorium on March 10. This was Sadi Mohammad and his group's first ever performance in the north-eastern city. The programme, titled 'Kobi Bondona', was arranged in observance of Tagore's 150th birth anniversary.

The renditions started with "Nil Digontey" in a chorus led by Sadi and others. Other songs rendered at the event included, "Amar Mon

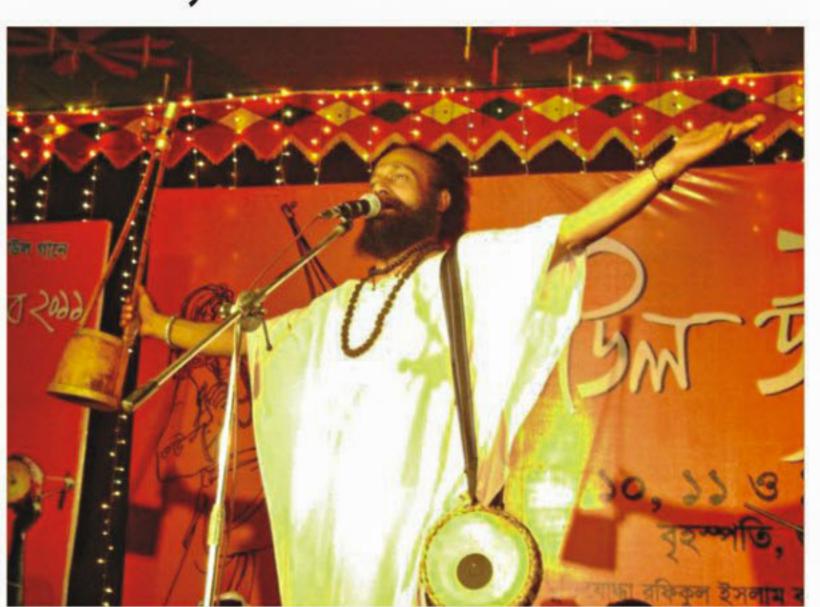
Manena", "Kanna Hashir Dol Dolano", "Tumi Ektu Kebol Boshtey Diyo", "He Punyo Dhonyo Koro", "Mor Bina Othey Kon Shurey Baji", "Ebar Tor Mora Gangey", "Ami Tomar Shongey Bedhechhi" and 'Anontero Porey". Rana Kumar Sinha, head of local organisation Anandaloke.

rendered "Akash Bhora Shurjo Tara".

Sadi informed the audience that they would be in Sylhet with their presentations again in the near future.

# Songs of the Soil

Three-day Baul Festival concludes



On the opening day of the festi-

val, a discussion was held on the life

and works of Lalon Shah, while the

Harinath and Meser Shah were held

on Friday and Saturday. Their songs

Three prominent folk artistes of

the country were accorded a recep-

were also performed at the event.

discussions focusing on Kangal

Pagla Babul sings at the programme.

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A three-day Baul Festival conclude in Pabna on March 12 with a call fo the preservation of folk traditions. round of discussions focused on the literary work of the three folk legends Lalon Shah, Kangal Harinath, and Meser Shah. A reception was also organised for the prominent folk singers of the country.

The festival, titled "Matir Taney Baul Gaan-e", organised by Gonoshilpi Shangshtha, opened at Pabna Town Hall premises. To mark the occasion, a rally set out from the Town Hall, paraded through the main streets of the district head-

#### rated the festival. The concluding day's discussion

was chaired by Professor Shibojit Nag, president of Gonoshilpi Shangstha's regional committee. Dr. Sarwar Jahan Fayaz, a folk researcher, discussed the life and literature of Meser Shah.

Earlier, at the opening programme Professor Mohammad Monwar Hossain Jahedi and Advocate Shafikul Islam Shibli spoke about the songs of Fakir Lalon Shah, while Professor Mohammad Kamruzaman, Dr. AKM Sirajul Islam and Dr. Samsul Bari spoke about the literary work of Kangal Harinath on The speakers stressed the value

and power of Bengali folk art. The songs of Lalon, Harinath, Hason Raja, Meser Shah and Shah Abdul Karim are close to our hearts. We have to preserve these songs. Among the renowned folk artistes, Pagla Babul and his team from

Lalon Practice Centre, Dhaka; Baul Salim and his group and the artistes of Gonoshilpi Shangstha performed at the event. The artists performed the lilting folk music, using local instruments.

tion at the festival: Pagla Babul, Professor Shibojit Nag, president instructor at Bangladesh Shilpakala of Gonoshilpi Shangstha's regional Academy and a famed singer, vet committee and a key organiser of eran folk musician of Kushtia, the festival, said that while Bengalis Mohammad Abdur Razzak and Abdur Rob Fakir, a teacher at love folk art, they are fast losing their rich heritage due to lack of Kushtia Lalon Academy. Seasone artiste Mohammad Tofazzal support. However, steps are being Hossain Boyati of Pabna inaugutaken to restore our heritage.

### ENRIQUE IGLESIAS to Collaborate with SUNIDHI CHAUHAN



Latin pop icon Enrique Iglesias is teaming up with Bollywood's versatile singer Sunidhi Chauhan to record his first ever collaboration with an Indian

Enrique, whose albums have sold over half a million copies in India, making him the highest selling international artiste in the country, is fresh off the success of his latest studio album "Euphoria", which has spawned the worldwide hit "I Like It", featuring Pitbull.

The duet with Sunidhi Chauhan will soon make it onto a 'Special Indian Edition' of the "Euphoria album". The album is scheduled to hit stores this month.



The duet with Sunidhi will include Hindi lyrics. "I have always appreciated Enrique's music," Sunidhi said. "It's from the soul, be it his Spanish or English work. So when I was offered to collaborate with him by Universal Music India and composer Shameer Tandon, who is a good friend of mine, I accepted it happily. I am glad we are collaborating on a track from his successful latest album Euphoria." Composer Shameer Tandon has previously

worked on films like "Page 3", "Corporate" and "Jail" amongst others.

Source: Internet

#### Flute Sisters Striking a high note

KAVITA, New Delhi

They call themselves "flute sisters". Aptly so as they are siblings and adept flautists. Meet Suchismita and Debopriya who performed the other evening on International Women's Day.

Their timing couldn't have been better. The duo are the only females flautists in the Hindustani classical music firmament though women do play the bansuri in the Carnatic music tradition of South India. What's more, Suchismita and Debopriya have trained under famous guru, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia for 15 The sisters' story goes back to their childhood.

Though the obvious choice for women was singing or dancing at the time, Suchismita and Debopriya Chatterjee's parents encouraged them to play a different tune. The choice of vocation was easy to understand. Their parents were musicians in The sisters first began training under Pandit

Bholanath Prasanna and later went on to take flute lessons from the Mumbai-based Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia. Their gurus happened to be acquainted with the young girls' parents and that may explain how they came to take lessons from Prasanna and Chaurasia. The sisters now in their early 30s have fond memo-

ries of their early training with Chaurasia. "When we were teenagers we would go to Panditji on weekends. He would make us feel special," recalls Suchismita "Even today we are under his shadow," she adds.

Both sisters assert that there is no competition

"Panditji said the more he understood music, the greater he realised that there was much more to achieve. You can imagine where that places us. He is like an oak tree and we, mere saplings," says Debopriya The sisters' achievements are all the remarkable as on a lyrical note.

apparent at the recent concert. Suchismita and Debopriya began the evening with Raga Yaman which

the former describes as a "Sampuran or complete raga It is like a woman -- beautiful, simple and complete.' The concluding piece was Raga Pahari, the signature tune of Chaurasia which he always plays at the end of a concert. "Pahari raga is a very popular folk tune and the audience always calls for Panditji to play it," says

they live in different towns and cannot practice jointly

between them when they take the stage. As Debopriya says, "We complement each other."

The undoubted harmony between the siblings was easy for them to pursue their calling. Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar by Sangeet Natak Acad-

emy. They are graded artistes of Aakashwani (also known as All India Radio) and have performed extensively in India and overseas. They have also cut two commercial CDs: "Guru Shishya" by Sense World Music and "Beyond Dusk".

as much as they would like to. Suchimismita is based in Pune, Debopriya shuttles between Mumbai and Muscat, where her husband is posted. Both point out that as married women with domestic commitments, it is not Such obstacles only seem to make the siblings more determined than ever. They have been honoured with the Surmani title as well as the Ustad

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not

> Shudhu Cinemar Gaam Boishakhi Shongskriti Binodon Sangbad

Diganta TV

Star Movies

On ESPN at 09:30am ICC World Cup 2011



**Celebrity Profile Guests: Binod** 

Showdown in Little World Cup Carniva Platoon Leader Bangla Feature Fil Fast & Furious Cricket Highlight Star World BANGLAVISION

> 07:30 Coffee With Karen Cricket Extra: Pre Show ICC Cricket World Cup

11: Bangladesh vs. Netherlands 07:30 The Monday Night 12:30 Cricket World Cup '11

DRAMA SERIAL 07:50pm Golla 08:00pm Mokbu 09:20pm Air Com 09:20pm Parapar Desh TV CHANNEL i 09:45pm Jimmi 07:50pm Shopnobazar

> 09:45pm All Rounder Maar Chhokka

BANGLAVISION

**NEWS BULLETIN** News (Bangla) at 7:30am.

ate Night News (Bangla ar elecast on all Bangla

4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm. News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm ATN BANGLA NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am

TALK SHOW 10:45am Tarokalap 08:30pm Our Democracy 11:05am Top Spir

ATN BANGLA

CHANNEL i

09:45am Tritio Matra

12:10pm Ei Shomoy

BANGLAVISION Desh TV

06:00pm How's That

06:10pm Front Line

11:45pm Shoja Kotha ETV