

WHAT'S ON

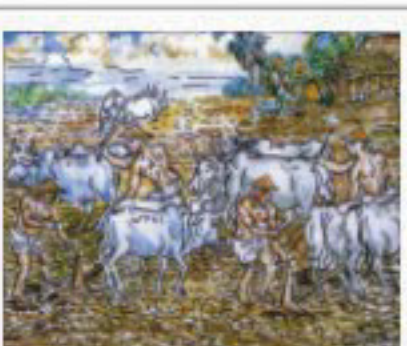
Shora Painting Exhibition
Painter: Sukumar Pal
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dharmundi
Date: April 11-16



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Symphony of Colours
Artist: Syed Abdullah Khalid
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, S-4, Uttara
Date: April 12-29



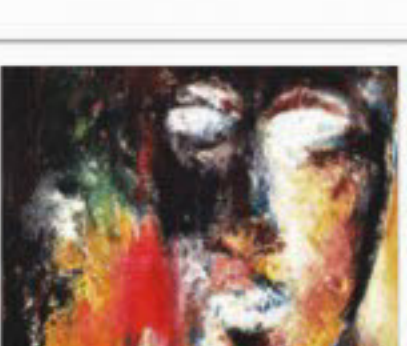
Grand Group Art Exhibition
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, DCC Market, Gulshan-2
Date: April 1-30
Time: 10am-8pm



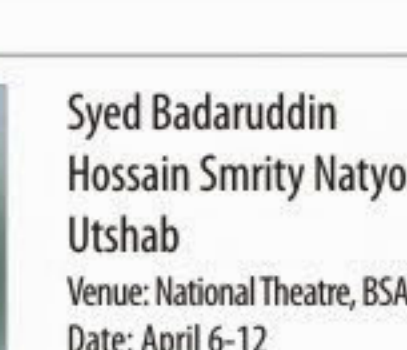
Book Fair
Organiser: Adom Publication
Venue: Public Library, Seminar Hall, Shikhaugh
Date: April 2-13
Time: 10am-8pm



Art Exhibition
Title: Time Eternal
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dharmundi
Date: April 15-28
Time: 5pm-8pm



Syed Badaruddin Hossain Smrity Natyo Utsah
Venue: National Theatre, BSA
Date: April 6-12



Musical Soiree
Artist: Chanchal Khan
Venue: IGCC, H-24, R-2, Dharmundi
Date: April 15
Time: 6:30pm



Contemporary Australian Art Exhibition
Title: BALGO
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, 69/71, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: April 1-13



Le Bangladesh à Paris

Festival featuring Bengali arts and culture draw French interest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

“Le Bangladesh à Paris” -- a month-long festival featuring Bangladeshi arts and culture -- is now on in Paris, France. Jointly organised by Alliance Française de Dhaka and Chittagong, Bangladesh Brand Forum and Fondation Alliance Française, the festival marks the 40th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence. The festival opened earlier this month.

The festival includes a photo exhibition featuring 15 contemporary Bangladeshi photographers. A heritage and craft exhibition featuring fabrics, embroidery, tapestry and jute materials is being held at the Galerie de la Fondation Alliance Française in Paris. A painting exposition of works by 18 Bangladeshi artists opened on April 7 at Cité Internationale des Arts. The exhibition will continue till April 22. Bangladeshi band Don't Ask performed at the opening ceremony, held at the Theatre of Fondation Alliance Française.

Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith; Information and Cultural Minister Abul Kalam Azad; Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mizarul Quayes; Enamul Kabir, Bangladeshi Ambassador to France; Jean-Claude Jacq, Secretary General of the Fondation Alliance Française; Salihia Lefevre, director, Alliance Française de Dhaka; Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, president, executive committee of Alliance Française de Dhaka and Adil Husain, president, executive committee of Alliance Française de Chittagong, among others, were present at the opening ceremony.

The dignitaries joined French art connoisseurs, enthusiasts and Bangladeshis living in Paris at the gala opening of the festival.



Information and Cultural Minister Abul Kalam Azad (left) at the photo exhibition in Paris.

Chhayanaut Ready to Usher in the Bangla New Year



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Starting from 1967, Chhayanaut's 'Barshoboron' [ushering in the Bangla New Year] at Ramna Park in the city has become a tradition. BTV, BTV World and Bangladesh Betar will air the programme live on Pahela Baishakh (April 14). Telnet, Grameenphone's sister concern, will cover the detailed programme on the website www.chhayanaut.org. Grameenphone is sponsoring the programme.

Private TV channels will also telecast the programme live. The day's programme will begin at 6:15am with an instrumental recital (Raga Ramkali on violin) by Sheuli Bhattacharya, followed by renditions of morning raga-based songs of 'Pancho-kobi' [Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, DL Roy, Anul Prasad and Rajanikant], patriotic songs, folk numbers and recitation.

Students [both current and former] and teachers of Chhayanaut with several guest artistes have rehearsed for over a month for the programme. Security is being beefed up circling the 'Barshoboron 1418' programme.

It should be mentioned that this year Chhayanaut will celebrate its golden jubilee.

Bob Marley: Beyond Famous

Scots director Kevin Macdonald says Bob Marley was "beyond" famous, as he prepares a documentary marking the 30th anniversary of the music icon's death.

The Oscar-winning filmmaker behind "The Last King of Scotland" says he is making the film, "Marley", because of the star's "continued resonance around the world."

"He's gone beyond being a famous musician, he's now a philosopher and prophet," he adds.

The feature-length documentary is due out later this year. Macdonald has been given unprecedented access to the Marley family's private archives -- the first time they have granted a filmmaker full authorisation.

Filming on the project, which was announced in February, has taken place in Ghana, Japan, the UK and the US, as well as Marley's native Jamaica.

The singer, songwriter and activist died of cancer in 1981 at the age of 36.

"I think there's always been interest in Bob Marley. It's speaking at the moment because it's the 30th anniversary of his death this year," says Macdonald.

Macdonald, who won an Oscar for the 1999 documentary "One Day in September", said the artist's ubiquitousness is one of the most interesting things about his musical legacy.

"I think that's what is so intriguing is that he's almost become lift music in the UK and America, you hear him so much. It's hard to hear it fresh."

"But recently in places like India or Tunisia, Marley is kind of the soundtrack to the revolution. He speaks to people politically in a way that is very important."

"In the slums of Nairobi, there are murals of Marley and people quote the lyrics to you."

The film's executive producers include Island Record founder Chris Blackwell and Marley's son Ziggy.

The musician's face continues to appear on bootleg products across the world, and in February last year, the Marley family signed a deal with a private equity firm to secure merchandising rights to the brand.

Since then, alongside hoodies



Images of Marley appear on numerous products.

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Since then, alongside hoodies

and t-shirts, fans can purchase children's books and even Marley coffee on the singer's official website.

"It's easy to get on your high horse about that," says Macdonald. "But I think actually what is more interesting is that it has taken them 30 years."

"It's certainly not the case with The Rolling Stones and The Beatles and Michael Jackson."

"Elvis Presley's estate is making 30 million a year and they say that Marley shouldn't be, but he is from a much poorer part of the world and a lot more people need the money."

"I think that what is important is what he says to people around the world. He manages to be a serious political figure to some, but he can also be an icon of rebellion."

Source: BBC

Syed Abdullah Khalid's solo exhibition at Galleri Kaya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Galleri Kaya (in Uttara, Dhaka) is holding a solo painting exhibition featuring celebrated painter Syed Abdullah Khalid. Titled "Symphony of Colours", the exhibition opens today and will continue till April 29.

Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith will inaugurate the exhibition. Architect and art critic Shamsul Wares and poet Rabiul Hussain will also attend the inaugural programme.

Khalid is recognised for his nature themed paintings. He prefers large canvases for portraying landscapes, greenery, picturesque beauty and still life. Forests and blossoming flowers are recurring features in his artworks. Around 40 paintings will be displayed at the exhibition -- mostly done in acrylic, and a few oil paintings.



Human Rights Theatre Fest ends

Call for trial of war criminals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The three-day National Human Rights Theatre Festival ended at Rabindra Sarobar, Dharmundi in Dhaka, on April 9 with a call to implement the trial of war criminals. On the last day, six theatre troupes staged their plays.

Organised by Jatiyo Manobadhikar Natya Parishad [National Human Rights Theatre Council], the festival featured plays by 10 member organisations of the council and 11 member troupes of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation.

On the last day, the organisers honoured three individuals from different fields for their contribution to upholding human rights. The honoured personalities are Jatra artiste Jyotsna Biswas, theatre activist Lily Chowdhury and human rights activist Khurshid Erfan.



Jyotsna Biswas receives a crest from Professor Afsar Ahmed (centre).

Ahmed. Human rights activist Sultana Kamal and Professor Afsar Ahmed, of the Department of Drama and Dramatics, Jahangirnagar University were present at the event.

On the last day, member organisations of the council from Netrokona, Kushtia and Joypurhat staged their plays. Olrik Theatre, Tirandaj Natyadal and Prachyanat also staged plays on the day.

The festival opened on April 7. A rally, marking the festival, was brought out on the following day. Human rights activists, theatre activists and people from all walks of life took part in the rally.

The Season of Red & White

Gearing up for Pahela Baishakh

From the beginning of April, the shopping scene at Dhaka faces a complete overhaul. Western beats are replaced by the traditional sounds at all the major shopping malls including Pink City, Genetic Plaza etc. Tops, dresses and even futuas make room for the classic saris, shalwar-kameez sets and panjabis and most importantly, red and white rule supreme.

Any female who has crossed over the '14-year-old' borderline is most likely jumping in anticipation for a chance to wear and wander around in a sari. You can get special Pahela Baishakh red and white saris in cotton, jamdani, half silk and silk.

Nine out of the ten boutiques of Deshi Dosh (at Boshundhora Mall) have geared up for the occasion with special discounts and offers. Here you can find cotton saris ranging from Tk 750-1500 and at the other end silk saris starting from Tk 2000 and going as high up as Tk 5000. In this range you will find many other saris of various materials.

If cotton or silk is not your style and you crave something which oozes sophistication, make a trip to Jamdani Kutir, Tangail Sari Kutir or Taant Ghar. Here your budget needs to be from Tk 3500 to 15000.

If you want a break from the toilsome travelling around in a sari on a hot and humid day, no worries. Shalwar-kameez sets, especially for the red and white celebration, have taken over the shelves of even the traditionally non-traditional retailers such as Yellow, Smartex, Infinity, Trendz and others.

Here you will find the appropriate clothing around Tk 1200, providing you with the basic red and white combination on cotton or synthetic material. If you decide to go up to Tk 6000, you'll get some decorative embroidery or thread work on your dress.

Traditional three-piece retailers such as Chaiti is also ready for the season, supplying the shoppers with an assortment of block, screen print and embroidered sets ranging from Tk 800 to 2500.

Like any other traditional event, it is almost a sin for a man to wear anything other than a panjabi in Pahela Baishakh. For those who are confused about what to buy and where to go, try checking out the various local fashion houses with the idea of creating outfits for couples -- panjabi



PHOTO: STAR LIFESTYLE ARCHIVE

like Kay Kraft, Banglar Mela or Aarong. Prices can range from Tk 800 to 6000.

Now we all know that the love birds in Dhaka city are heavily deprived of scopes to share special moments. Hence, just like Valentine's Day, Pahela Baishakh gives these couples the opportunity to go out and have a good time. Keeping this in mind, local designers have come up with the idea of creating outfits for couples -- panjabi

for the guy and sari or kameez for the girl. It doesn't end there; they have sets for mothers and daughters, and fathers and sons as well.

When the going gets hard in the daily hustle and bustle of life, the city dwellers seek days when they can take a break and celebrate life, and what better day to indulge in celebration than the Bangla New Year?

As one of the shoppers enthusiastically told

us, Pahela Baishakh is an event created and developed by the masses, and is a perfect outlet for our cultural expression. The vibrant colours, the intoxicating music, even the heavy traffic on the day are all part of the festivities. So shop, walk, eat and share the joy.

By Raisa Tashnova and Afrida Mahbub

India-Bangladesh Meeting on Cultural Cooperation

Secretary level discussions on India-Bangladesh cooperation in the field of culture was held in New Delhi on April 7, 2011. The Indian delegation was led by Jawhar Sircar, secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India and the Bangladesh delegation was led by Suraiya Begum, secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of Bangladesh, according to a press release.

India and Bangladesh share close historical, cultural and ethnic links. The cultural agreement between the two countries was first signed in Dhaka in December, 1972. The India-Bangladesh Cultural Agreement covers a range of areas of cooperation including art, mass-media (TV, radio, films and press), sports, archaeology, museums, libraries/archives and educational activities. The objectives enshrined in the cultural agreement are realised through the Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP).

The current Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 2010-12 between India and Bangladesh was signed on January 11, 2010 in New Delhi in the presence of the Prime Ministers of the two countries when the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina paid a state visit to India. One of the significant agreements was to jointly celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore.

At the recent discussions, the two sides highlighted the common cultural heritage of the two countries and emphasised the need to build on these shared links. The areas of discussion were: monuments and archaeology; museums and visual arts; national science museums; films and media; library and archives; performing arts; joint nominations of Intangible Cultural Heritage for UNESCO and joint commemorations of the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.

Tagore's 150th birth anniversary celebration in Bangladesh will open on May 6, 2011 in Dhaka, with participation of an Indian VVIP and artistes. The celebration in India will kick off on May 7, 2011 in New Delhi, with participation of a Bangladeshi VVIP and artistes.



PHOTO: MUMUKSHU

Theatre (Arambagh) staged "Jonmoshutro" on April 10 at the Experimental Theatre Hall. The play was staged as part of the weeklong Syed Badruddin Hossain Theatre Festival, organised by Padatik Natya Sangsad (TSC), that ends today. "Jonmoshutro" was written and directed by Gazi Rakayet.

ATN BANGLA	Boishakhi TV
12:15 OffTime	10:30 Bangla Feature Film
01:25 ATN Music	05:15 Boishakhi-CNN
03:45 Aha Ki Ananda	08:15 Sharabishwa
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor	08:15 The Music Train
05:20 Oviram Bangladesh	08:45 Jibon Rekha
10:45 Bihongo Kotha	10:00 Reporter's Dairy
09:30 Shangbadpore	11:30 Boishakhi Binodon O
Bangladesh	Shangshati Sangbad
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	12:30 Shudhu Cinemar Gaan
03:30 Amar Chhobi	
06:00 1Speed	01:30 Brother
07:50 Khude Gaanraj	06:00 Friday the 13th Part 2
09:35 Pordar pechhon-er Galpo	07:00 Mission To Mars
12:00 Aker Shangbadpore	09:30 The Last Wave
	11:45 Friday the 13th Part 2
ntv	Star Movies
01:05 Shastha Protdin	12:00 Major Movie Star
03:10 Amader Anandabari	01:45 Six Days, Seven Nights
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolaar	03:30 Glitter
Achhey	

abc radio FM 89.2	10:00 Morning Express
06:00 House Jambay	My Time
09:00 Wukhonto Jibony	01:00 No Tension
12:00 Darun Dupury	04:00 Dhaka Calling
03:00 Duranto Biskley	09:00 Night Rider
05:00 Shondhatar	01:00 Back to Back music
07:00 Shajer Mapa	04:00 TODAY FM 6.6
09:00 Raat-er Akashy	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
11:00 Golper Shech Nei	12:00 Today's Adda
Radio Foorti	04:00 U Tam

Raat Biratey
On Bangladesh at 11:25pm
Street Show
Guest: Partha Pratim Majumder

THE LAST WAVE
On Z Studio at 9:30pm
Genre: Drama/Mystery/Thriller
Cast: Richard Chamberlain, David Gulipili

Bihongo Kotha
On ATN BANGLA at 10:45pm
Documentary
Director: Kaisar Kader Selim

05:00 Desher Khabor	05:20 Brenda Starr
Glamour World	07:00 Youth in Revolt
ETV	08:35 Hunt For Eagle One
10:02 The Aim	10:10 Poltergeist: The Other Side
04:30 Elating Belating	11:45 Vip Access: Sucker Punch
05:30 Binodoner Bishwa	12:15 Battle in Seattle
05:50 Sports Plus	
07:50 Music Bit	HBO
11:40 Janotar Kotha	G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra
	12:45 Bloodsport
	07:30 Richie Rich
	09:30 The King Of Fighters
	11:30 Star Trek
	Star World
	01:35 Desperate Housewives
	03:10 Australia's Next Top Model
	04:35 Melissa & Joey
	07:50 Castle
	08:45 Canada's Next Top Model
	10:35 Parenthood
	11:25 Glee
	National Geographic Channel
	03:30 Last Stand of the Templars
	06:30 Egypt's Lost Rival
	07:30 Border Wars
	08:30 The Real Abraham Lincoln
	09:30 The Conspirator
	BBC World

ATN BANGLA	ETV
08:00pm Moqbul	08:20pm Ohangkar
09:20pm Poush Phaguner Pala	09:30pm Ghatk Baki Bhai
10:55pm Tondani	
CHANNEL-i	Rtv
05:30pm Jato Durey Jai	08:20pm Bagh Putul
ntv	09:05pm Cricket Rangpo
08:15pm Manabzamin	
09:45pm Darshok-er Galpo:	08:15pm Mad Bhai

RTV	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, 4:00 pm, 10:50 pm	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels)	News (English) at 6:00pm
CHANNEL-i	Rtv
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ntv	News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm, 1:00am
ATN BANGLA	ETV
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	News (English): 9:00 am, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

ATN BANGLA	ETV
10:30am Lead News	10:10pm Galpo Shalpo Gaan
11:00am News 2020	Rtv
06:20pm Kotha Mala	07:40pm Our Democracy
CHANNEL-i	BANGLAVISION
09:45am Trinita Matra	10:10am Front Line
12:30pm Tanaka Kathon	Desh TV
ntv	11:45pm Shojha Kotha
12:30am Ei Shomoy	Boishakhi TV