

WHAT'S ON

Book Fair
Organiser: Orijyo
Venue: Central Library premises, Shahbagh
Date: April 24-May 20
Time: 9am-9pm

Grand Group Art exhibition
Venue: Sgja Art Gallery, DCC Market, Gulshan-2
Date: April 1-May 10
Time: 10am-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: 18 Souls
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, R-7, H-60, Dhanmondi
Date: May 6-11
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Ifat Ara Dewan
Venue: Bengal Gallery, H-275/F, R-27, Dhanmondi
Date: May 5-15
Time: 12pm-8pm

Satyajit Roy Retrospective
Organiser: Indra Gandhi Culture Centre
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Date: May 13-16

Celebrating Tagore's 150th Birth Anniversary
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy Premises
Date: May 8-10
Time: 10am and 4pm

Group Art exhibition
Title: Rabindranath Tagore
Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA
Date: May 6-15
Time: 11am-6pm

Jatio Shishu-Kishore, Adishachi Nityo Ubhah
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: May 9-19
Time: 4: 30pm

18 Souls at Dhaka Art Centre



Veteran painter Rafiqun Nabi inaugurates the exhibition.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Mina Hayder, an expatriate Bangladeshi painter, in collaboration with Dhaka Art Centre has organised a group art exhibition titled "18 Souls", featuring the works of 18 contemporary Bangladeshi painters. The exhibition is now on at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi. The exhibition is part of the celebration of Bengali New Year. The featured artists are Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Shahid Kabir, Mohammad Euntus, Jamal Ahmed, Mostafizul Haque, Nasreen Begum, Mina Hayder, Ivy Zaman, Syed Hasan Mahmud, Mohammad Iqbal, Sheikh Afzal Hossain, Nisar Hossain, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Atia Islam Anne, Ahmed Shamsuddoha and Masuda Iqbal Nipa. It is a follow-up to a two-day art camp held on April 29 and 30. The camp was held at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi. Eminent painter Professor Rafiqun Nabi inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on April 6. Art enthusiast and managing director of Bay Development Ltd Iftekhar A. Khan was present as special guest. The exhibition ends tomorrow.



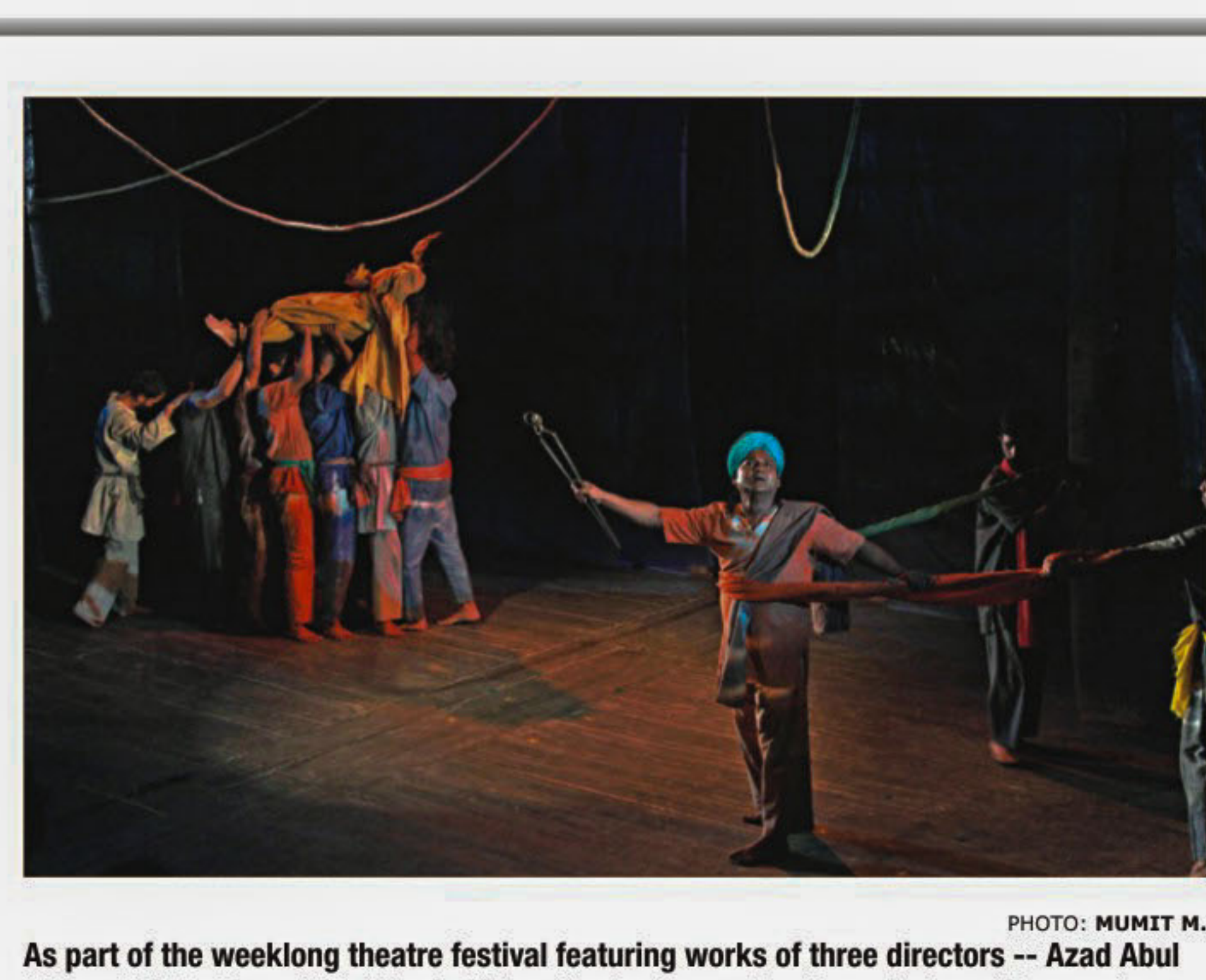
When her pleas fall upon deaf ears, Devayani curses Kacha: "A bearer of burdens you will become hereafter, and futile will be your efforts to use the art you have learnt."

Conflict between Divine Duty and Earthly Love
Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy stages Bidaye Abhishap at Shilpakala Academy

ZAHANGIR ALOM
The repertory of JNMDA has produced 34 dance-dramas to date. The directors and choreographers associated with the repertory include the late Guru Rajkumar Priyogopalsana, Guru Thiyam Tarunkumar, S. Tondon Devi, Guru Thingbaijam Babu Singh, Th. Chaotombi Singh and Km. Suryamukhi Devi, among others. "Bidaye Abhishap", depicting the conflict between divine duty and earthly love, was choreographed and directed by N. Amusana Devi. "Inside the innocuous-looking poem, there remains hidden a mind-enthraling charm and an uneasy area of interpretation. It is not quite easy to fathom the inner meaning of the poem. Nevertheless, I have, in consultation with those who are more knowledgeable, endeavoured to express the poem's main idea through this dance-drama. It is an attempt to bring the seed the poet had cast in the form of a poem into flowering in the texture of Manipuri dance," N. Amusana Devi said. Synopsis: Guru Shukracharya is seen praying and teaching his disciples (including his daughter Devayani) at his ashram (hermitage). Under the orders of Indra, Kacha (a Brahmin youth and the son of Brihaspati) descends to earth to learn Maha Sanjeevani (the technique of bringing a dead person back to life) from Shukracharya. Through divine intervention, Devayani and Kacha meet and get acquainted. Devayani takes Kacha to her father and requests him to accept the young man as his disciple. The guru gives his consent. Devayani and Kach grow fond of each other and love blooms. However, Kacha soon comes to his senses and recalls the purpose of his visit to earth. Through several acid tests, Kacha proves his worthiness. The guru gives the young man permission to return to heaven as his learning is complete. When Devayani comes to know of Kacha's impending departure, her grief knows no bound. When her pleas fall upon deaf ears, she curses Kacha: "A bearer of burdens you will become hereafter, and futile will be your efforts to use the art you have learnt." Kacha accepts them gladly with a smile and departs. O. Jiten Singh and G. Chandan Devi enacted the roles of Kacha and Devayani. W. Lokendrajit Singh played Shukracharya in the dance-drama. Lokendrajit Singh did the stage designing. A. Lakshmi Devi and L. Sharat Singh designed the costumes. Kh. Rameshkumar Singh and P. Meghachandra Singh composed the music. Artists of Jibon Sanket Natya Gosthi of Habiganj, Bangladesh staged the play "Streer Potro", adaptation of a Tagore short story. Nazniz Sultana Rony donned the central character, Mrinal, in the production. Amrita Roy and Ishrat Jahan Nisha played the roles of Boro Bou and Bindu. Ruma Modak adapted the play and Aniruddha Kumar Dhar Shantanu directed it.



Renowned Indian singer Hoimanti Shukla, along with Saikat Mitra, Swagoto Dev and Amit Ganguly (also from India) performed at the 30th anniversary celebration of the SHR Group at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka recently.



As part of the weeklong theatre festival featuring works of three directors -- Azad Abul Kalam, Faiz Zahir and Shubhasis Sinha, theatre troupe Prachyanat staged its popular production "Koilna" at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on May 8. The play has been written by Murad Khan and directed by Azad Abul Kalam. Monthly magazine Theatrewala arranged the festival. Today (May 10) Manipuri Theatre will stage its latest production "Kohey Birangana".

Tagore birth anniversary celebration continues

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
The three-day Rabindra Jayanti celebrations began here on Sunday at Dakkhindihi under Phultala upazila and also at Pithabhog under Rupsha upazila of Khulna district. Organised by the Rabindra Birth Anniversary Celebration Committee, formed by the district administration with the Deputy Commissioner Md. Jamsheer Ahmad Khandaker as convener, elaborate programmes have been drawn to hark back to the Nobel laureate's works in conformity with the six seasons of the year. Presided over by the lawmaker of Khulna-5 constituency Narayan Chandra Chanda, the inaugural function at Dakkhindihi was inaugurated by Jute and Textile Affairs Minister Abdul Latif Siddiki as chief guest. On the other hand, the inaugural function at Pithabhog under Rupsha upazila was inaugurated by the State Minister for Labour and Employment Begum Mannujun Sufian. According to the programmes drawn up by the Khulna district administration, seminars, discussions, cultural functions, painting competition etc will be held everyday at both Dakkhindihi and Pithabhog marking the 150th birth anniversary of the great poet. The cultural functions at Dakkhindihi will see participation of noted Tagore artists of Bangladesh and India, said Deputy Commissioner of Khulna. Apart from Khulna district administration, different socio-cultural organisations have also jointly drawn up programmes to observe the birth anniversary of the poet at Shahid Hadis Park.



Artistes perform at the celebration in Dinajpur.



The cultural programme in Thakurgaon.

Sabina Yasmin, Shampa Saha, Nirmla Majumdar and others. President of district unit, Jatya Rabindra Sangeet Sammlon Parishad, Professor Montosh Kumar Dey, designed and directed the programme.

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Sangskritik Biplabi Sangha (SABIS), Udichi Shilpi Gosthi and Probbhat Sangha jointly organised a discussion and cultural function at SABIS auditorium in the town on Sunday evening to observe the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.

Shahidul Islam Faruque, president of SABIS, presided over the discussion, while the speakers were Professor Benimadhab Chakravarty; Professor Saifuddin Ahmed; Dipak Kumar Ghosh and Lakshmi Chatterjee. After the discussion, artistes of Udichi,

SABIS and Probbhat Sangha rendered solo and choral songs of the Nobel laureate poet. Jerin Sultana Boni, Polish Bhowmik, Anubha Mandal Suchi and Ishrat Jahan Rinta of SABIS and Sukla Roy of Probbhat Sangha rendered songs on the occasion. Jatya Rabindra Sangeet Sammlon Parishad brought out a rally in the district town. Abul Islam Shikder, acting vice principal of Government Women's College, led the rally.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

As part of countrywide celebrations to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, the Pabna district administration organised a three-day programme at the Pabna Town Hall premises. The programme concluded on Sunday. Painting, music and recitation competitions were held on May 6 and 7. Cultural



Anisul Haque (centre) and Asaduzzaman Noor with others at the programme.

Ke Hotey Chaye Kotipoti? "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" comes to Bangladesh

A CORRESPONDENT
At a press conference at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in Dhaka, on May 9, it was announced that Anisul Haque, former president of BGMMA, will host the Bangladeshi version of the mega-popular game show "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" The adaptation, titled "Ke Hotey Chaye Kotipoti?", will be aired on Desh TV. The format of the original programme is owned and licensed by Sony Pictures Television International. The show originated in the UK and its Indian adaptation, titled "Kaun Banega Crorepati" was one of the most popular TV shows in India. Any contestant on "Ke Hotey Chaye Kotipoti" can win BDT 1 crore (10 million) by correctly answering 15 random (multiple-choice) questions of varying difficulty in a row. TV viewers of the country will be able to know the procedures of enrolling into the programme by keeping an eye on Desh TV from May 10 to 16. Desh TV, Red Dot, and Delta Bay have joined hands in organising the programme. Robi is the title sponsor of the show.

New Visual Language Exhibition on the artworks of the three Tagores



The Union Minister for Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Culture, Kumari Selja and the Planning Minister of Bangladesh, Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) A.K. Khandker going round the exhibition.

painters had worked, their individual temperaments and search for a new visual language, using among other genres, fantasy, mystery and romanticism. The evolving political, social and cultural identity of India at that time had a profound impact on the Tagore family of Jorasanko in north Kolkata. Added to this ferment, was the influence of the awakening national consciousness. From 1928 onwards,

Table with TV channels and programmes: ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, ETV, etc.

Table with radio stations: abc radio FM 89.2, Dhaka Calling, etc.

Advertisement for Batpar On Boishakhi TV at 09:20pm, Drama Serial, Cast: Banna Mirza, AKM Hasan.

Advertisement for Se7en On HBO at 07:00pm, Genre: Crime/Mystery, Cast: Brad Pitt, Morgan Freeman.

Advertisement for Busy for Nothing On Rtv at 08:20pm, Drama Serial, Cast: Faruk Babar, Babu, Chhonda.

Table with various TV channels and programmes: BANGLAVISION, Desh TV, Boishakhi TV, Z Studio, etc.

Table with drama serials: ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, ETV, etc.

Table with news bulletins: RTV, BANGLAVISION, ATN BANGLA, etc.

Table with talk shows: ATN BANGLA, ETV, CHANNEL i, etc.