

WHAT'S ON

Film Screening
Title: BANF Mountain Film
Festival World Tour: Dhaka 2011
Venue: Goethe Institute, H 10, Rd 9, Dhanmondi
Date: July 5-7
Time: 6pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Pater Gaan, Banglar Bagh
Artist: Nazir Hossain
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, 42, Rd 16 (new), Dhanmondi
Date: July 5-11
Time: 12-8pm

Recitation Programme
Organizer: Kall O Kalam
Venue: District Auditorium, Rajshahi
Date: July 8
Time: 7pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Women's Lib
Artist: Razia Sultana
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: July 1-8; Time: 12-8pm

Musical Soiree
Title: Shehar Aahar
Singers: Ifat Ara Deewan and Hridya Tehreen
Venue: Chhayanaut Bhavan, Dhanmondi
Date: July 8, Time: 7pm

6th Int'l Children Painting Exhibition
Organizer: Bangladesh Shiksha Academy
Venue: Bangladesh Shiksha Academy
Date: June 26-July 10

Photography Exhibition
Title: Time in the Wild Women's Tale
Venue: Goethe-Institut, H 10, Rd 9, Dhanmondi
Date: July 5-13, Time: 10am-7pm

Theatre
Play: Banglar Mati Banglar Jol
Troupe: Palakar
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpaka Academy
Date: July 7
Time: 7pm

Anniversary Programme
Organizer: Loko Natyadal (Banani)
Venue: Experimental and Studio Theatre Hall, Shilpaka Academy
Date: July 6-7
Time: 7pm



Bengal Tigers, in Indigenous Avatar

Nazir Hossain's solo exhibition at Bengal Shilpalaya



An unrestrained dynamism, combined with patriotic spirit, is noticeable in Nazir's works.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

A week-long solo painting exhibition, titled "Pater Gaan Banglar Bagh", is on at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi, in the capital.

Craft researcher and artist Shekhar Saha was a special guest at the opening. Director of Bengal Gallery, Subir Chowdhury, and Nazir Hossain also spoke on the occasion.

"The essence of our time-honoured folk art is no more found in the works of contemporary artists. I won't say that Nazir's works represent our folk art, rather I will term them as popular art that induce a sense of glee within," said Professor Shamsuzzaman Khan.

In his contributory article, printed in the catalogue, prominent art critic Mainuddin Khaled writes: "Folk tales are no stranger to our art. From Zainul-Quamrul to Abdu Shakoor, everyone has used folk elements to enrich their painting. In his works, Nazir has touched a new originality. I think Nazir is one of the most inventive of artists in creativity-prone, artistic Bengal."

Born in 1982 at Parbatipur, Dinajpur district, Nazir developed a hobby of collecting newspaper and magazine clippings containing cultural news, pictures of arts, and folk motifs. He loved to rearrange these -- forming new compositions. His fascination with collages and motif gradually shaped his artistic sensibilities that led

him to try his hand at painting. The subject of his paintings at the ongoing exhibition is the Bengal tiger, and the style of portrayal has been inspired by the indigenous art form 'Pata Chitra'. Nazir has developed a personal hallmark, employing elements from our folk art. His canvases imagine the allegorical world of tigers, peacocks and other creatures, co-existing with humans, often in comical, rich-shaw art-like imagery.

An unrestrained dynamism, combined with patriotic spirit, is noticeable in Nazir's works (acrylic on paper and canvas). The male characters in his works are wearing the national flag of Bangladesh as headband. At the opening of the exhibition, the artist himself was wearing red-and-green as a headband. Another eccentric and delightful feature is his depiction of tigers, taking part in the national movements.

Though comical in certain cases, some paintings address the need for ecological balance and peaceful co-existence: a tiger playing sharinda (musical instrument); a farmer cleaning his ear with a tiger's tail (as an age-old Bangla adage goes); two tigers drawing a plough and more.

Nazir's paintings have been exhibited at 50 schools across Bangladesh. He has had 19 solo, and several group exhibitions, including participation in the 18th Asian Art Biennale in Bangladesh (2008) and 18th (2008) and 19th (2009) National Art Exhibitions, organised by Bangladesh Shilpaka Academy.

The exhibition is open from 12-8pm everyday and will end on July 11.



THEATRE

Ataur Rahman to bring Syed Shamsul Haq's "Narigon" to the stage

JAMIL MAHMUD

Noted author-playwright Syed Shamsul Haq and celebrated theatre director Ataur Rahman have joined hands once more. The duo, which has presented some hugely successful productions on Dhaka stage, will be working on a new play titled "Narigon".

Haq wrote the play in 2005. The play is in lyrical form, which would be a challenge, considered Rahman.

The author-playwright has written two of the most acclaimed plays -- "Payer Awaj Pawa Jaye" and "Nurulnir Shara Jibon". His recent works "Opekkhoman" and "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol" have also received appreciation.

So far, Rahman has directed five plays written by Haq, including "Payer Awaj Pawa Jaye", "Irsha", "Opekkhoman" and "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol".

"Though I have previously directed Haq's plays, 'Narigon' would be a challenge for me as the play is in lyrical form, and is based on a historic event," said Rahman.

Though "Narigon" is based on events from Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah's life, the title (meaning 'women') suggests it focuses on female characters. The play narrates how the women of the royal family survived or what happened to them immediately after the Nawab's fall.

The central characters are: Nawab Alivardi Khan's wife (Siraj-ud-Daulah's grandmother); Amina Begum and Begum Lutfunnisa (Siraj-ud-Daulah's mother and wife respectively) and Ghasefi Begum (the Nawab's aunt who conspired against him).

Besides the Battle of Plassey, the play focuses on the conjunction of women's involvement in politics and



(Top) "Narigon" would be the sixth play by Ataur Rahman and Syed Shamsul Haq; a scene from "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol".

their social position.

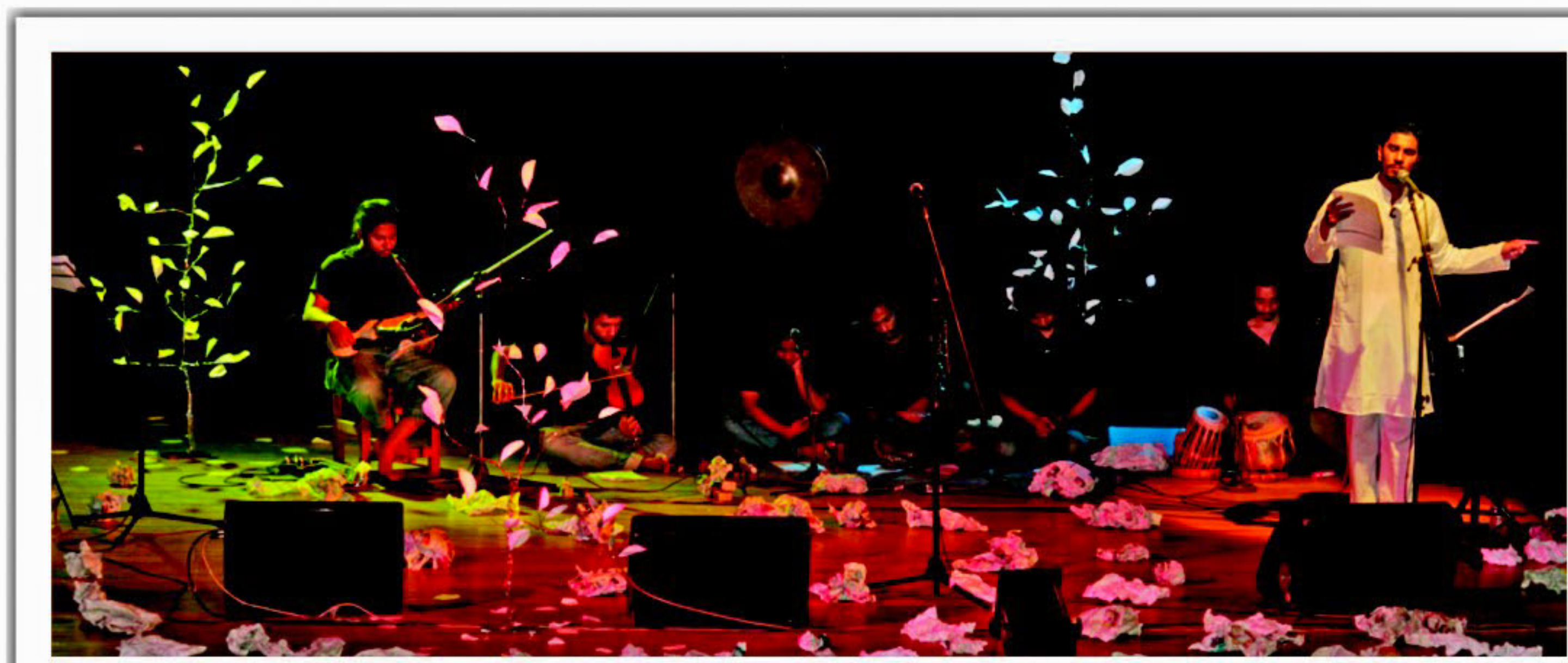
"Women have always been the biggest victims of war," said Rahman.

The production is in its primary stages at present. Chief of Palakar, Aminur Rahman Mukul, informed that they would start rehearsing in a couple of days. Mukul expects to bring the play to stage in late September this year. The cast is yet to be confirmed, although, some of the technicians have been finalised. Thandu Raihan will design the light, while Aniket Paul will do the set designing.

"Narigon" will be the second play by Palakar that features both Syed Shamsul Haq and Ataur Rahman. The troupe has previously produced the duo's work "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol" -- a biographical play on Rabindranath Tagore -- last year.



PHOTO: MUMIT M.



Heera Chowdhury's solo recitation performance "Payer Kichu Chinho Pore Achey" was held at Chhayanaut Auditorium on July 5. Chowdhury's elocution of modern Bangla poems accompanied by experimental background music and light effects by Sharif Islam and Abul Hasnat Bhuyyan, respectively, won over the audience. Recitation of poems by Taslima Nasrin, Rudra Mohammad Shahidullah and Sanjib Chowdhury were the highlights of the event.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Photo exhibition at RU

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi Photography Society (RPS) organised a daylong photo exhibition last Tuesday at Rajshahi University campus.

Around 75 photos shot by 22 photographers of RPS were on display at the university central library premises.

Most of the images feature the boundaries of nature and rural life-style.

RU student adviser Professor Gulam Sabbir Sattar inaugurated the exhibition on Tuesday morning.

Photo enthusiasts thronged the exhibition and left inspiring comments on the visitors' book.

RU Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Muhammad Nurullah visited the exhibition and appreciated the photographs highlighting nature and rural landscape.

Atikur Rahman, one of the organisers and also a teacher at the Mass Communication and Journalism department, RU, said that RPS arranged the exhibition to encourage young photographers and their visions.

RPS President Farid Aktar Parag said that initially they wanted to hold a three-day exhibition but due to the hartal, it was held for a day.

Rajshahi Photography Society was formed at 1985. Every year the organisation arranges photography workshops and exhibitions.



RU students at the exhibition.

PHOTO: STAR

A glimpse into the history of Dhaka University

Photo album by Syed Rezaur Rahman features rare images



AKRAM HOSEN MAMUN

Dhaka University (DU) Day was first observed on January 8, 1983. It was an initiative of the then Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU). However, the day was not celebrated every following year. For example, after 1989, following the uprising that overthrew Ershad from power, the DU administration didn't celebrate the day. Then, in 2001, under the leadership of Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury, (former vice chancellor of DU) 80th anniversary of the university was celebrated on July 5, informed the Acting Registrar of DU, Syed Rezaur Rahman whose book on the history and heritage of DU was launched on that day.

Since, 2007, he has been deeply involved in taking necessary steps to observe the DU Day on campus. This year, Rahman organised a weeklong photo exhibition (from June 30-July 6) at TSC, featuring the history of the university, through rare photos of the institution, its former vice-chancellors and many momentous occasions. His photo album "Smitriti Chowha (1921-2009)", featuring 1500 images, was also launched on June 30, 2011.

Documenting how students of the university had always been torch-bearers of cultural movements in the country, Rahman writes: "After the partition of 1947, Muslim students, particularly girls, began performing music in public. Laila Arjumand



The Nathan Committee (top) appointed by the government of Bengal on May 27, 1912, to draw up a scheme for Dhaka University; the Faculty of Law.

ing singers. Ferdous Ara, Sadya Aftun Mallick, Shakila Zafar, Dahlia Nawshin and many other singers, who are now famous, practiced and performed music on campus."

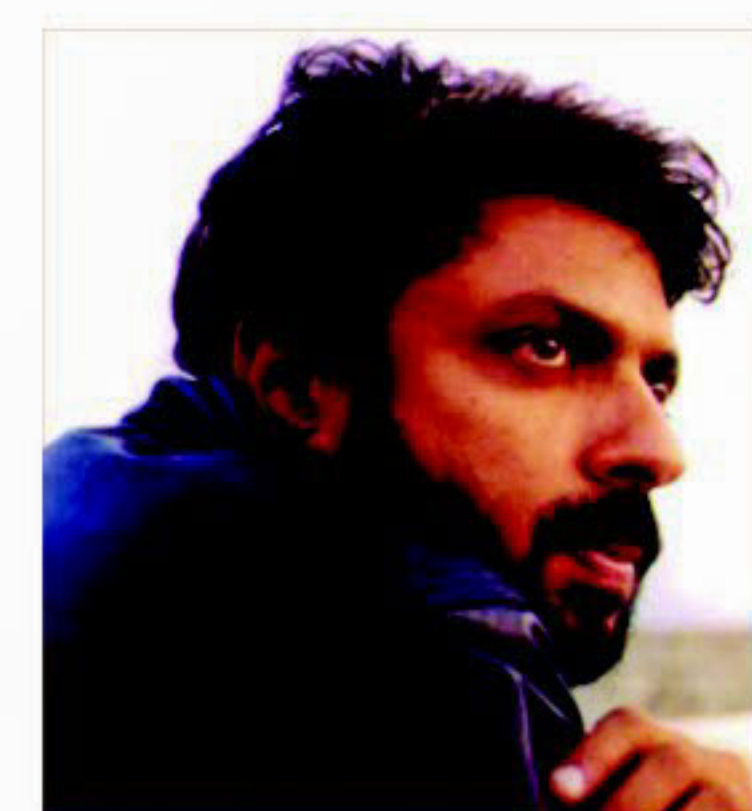
DU was founded during the British Raj. On March 23, 1920, the then Governor General of India passed 'The University Act'. On July 1, 1921, DU officially started its journey.

Since its inception, the university has changed its logo at least four times. Rahman's album includes the background of each logo.

History of the university, as documented in the album, focuses mainly on the administrative changes over the decades. Rahman has also chronicled the contribution of DU students to the cultural arena of the country.

"The contribution of DU students in the cultural sphere has always been commendable. TSC is recognised as a cultural centre, where major movements spawned," said Rahman.

Bhansali held guilty of plagiarism for "Guzaarish"



Sanjay Leela Bhansali

Sanjay Leela Bhansali has just suffered another blow by way of his last film "Guzaarish". The director has been instructed by the Dispute Settlement Committee (DSC) of India to pay a remuneration of Rs 10 lakh for plagiarising writer Taabish Romani's script "Goonj Uthi Shehnai".

DSC of the Film Writers' Association (FWA) had informed Bhansali in April that they unanimously conclude that "Guzaarish" has been lifted from Romani's

script. The committee pointed out that "Guzaarish" was similar to Romani's story in the "fundamental, material and substantial plot points."

The committee also noted that the film's script, submitted to it by Bhansali, didn't mention the writer's name although Bhansali was credited for screenplay and dialogues.

The DSC has asked Bhansali to pay Romani Rs 10 lakh as remuneration and by way of damages, and to give him credit in a separate card reading "Story By Taabish Romani" in all the subsequent copies of the film and film's publicity material.

It also informed Bhansali that in case he did not abide by the decision within 15 days, the matter would be referred to the FWICE. As Bhansali did not do the needful, the FWA referred the matter to the FWICE on May 9 for appropriate and necessary action.

Source: Internet



A scene from "Guzaarish"

Table with TV channel logos and program schedules for BTU, ATN Bangla, CHANNEL I, BANGLAVISION, and RADIO.

Table with program details for 'The Greatest Game Ever Played' and 'Tomar Jonno Amar E Gaan'.

Table with program details for 'Shero-der Mahajuddha On CHANNEL I at 09:35pm'.

Table with program details for 'The Greatest Game Ever Played'.

Table with program details for 'Tomar Jonno Amar E Gaan'.

Table with program details for various channels including Shokai Belar, RTV, nTV, Desh TV, and Boishakhi TV.

Table with program details for National Geographic Channel and Discovery Channel.

Table with program details for DRAMA SERIAL on various channels.

Table with program details for NEWS BULLETIN on various channels.

Table with program details for TALK SHOW on various channels.