

WHAT'S ON

Victory Day Celebration
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Shilpakala Academy premises

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Of Rupture and Continuity
Artist: Moniral Islam
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue
Date: Dec 10-23

Victory Festival 2011
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha
Date: Dec 10-16
Time: 5pm

Launching & Screening
Title: The Birth Pangs of a Nation (Book & Documentary)
Venue: Chhayant Auditorium, Dhamondi
Date: Dec 12

Photography Exhibition
Celebrating 40 years of Independence
Venue: La Galerie and Galerie Zoom
Date: Dec 9-22
Time: 3-9pm

Documentary Screening
on Liberation War
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhamondi
Date: Dec 13-17

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Masters of Bangladesh Art '11
Venue: Radia Centre, Gulshan-1
Date: Nov 25-Dec 17

16th Berger Young Painters' Art Exhibition
Venue: Zamil Gallery, FFA, DU
Date: Dec 11-15
Time: 10am-6pm

Travels through Liberty

In conversation with Shujeyo Shyam



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following the March 25, 1971 crackdown by the Pakistani army, I along with 14 engineers and officials moved from Agrabad to Kalurghat Shadhin Bangla Biplobi Betar Kendra (in Chittagong) from where the declaration of independence went on air the next morning. Pakistani army destroyed the area throwing bombs on March 30. Later, Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra (SBBK) was shifted to 57/8, Ballygunge Circular Road, Calcutta (now Kolkata), in India.

I joined SBBK in the first week of June, 1971. There were very few facilities at the radio station. I sang and composed about 12 inspirational songs, including "Aye Rey Chashi Mojur Coolie", "Rokto Diye Naam Likkhechhi", "Muktri Ek-i Poth Sangram", "Aha Dhonyo Amar Jonmobbhumi", written by Delwar, Abul Kashem Sandeep, Shahidul Islam and Bishwabriyo respectively at SBBK.

We, the SBBK artists, including Samar Das, Apel Mahmud, Ajit Roy and Abdul Jabbar, administered the radio station. Many freedom fighters would write letters to us, appreciating our efforts. They would also send in requests for their favourite songs in

those letters. The honour and assistance that the then Indian government and their people provided us were immense; but we couldn't even build a memorial to honour them.

I'd never forget the memories of Victory Day (December 16), 1971 when the then acting President Syed Nazrul Islam, Prime Minister Tajuddin Ahmed and others came to SBBK station and informed us that we were a free nation. Right at that time, we played the song "Bijoy Nishan Urchhey Oi" (written by Shahidul Islam and composed by me). "Bijoy Nishan" was the first song played in independent Bangladesh. It was a remarkable event in my life.

Another Bangabandhu will never be born in this country. As an ordinary freedom fighter, I admit with utmost regret that those who didn't want our independence are still united but we have become divided. I want all freedom loving Bengalis to unite.

Another regret is that the contributions of SBBK artists have not been aptly acknowledged. Their cultural activism during the Liberation War deserves proper evaluation and the artists who had inspired the nation in its troubled times should be honoured accordingly.

Tribute to a pioneering woman

Begum Rokeya Day observed

MEHEDY HASAN, Rangpur

Several socio-cultural organisations of Rangpur observed Begum Rokeya Day recently. The day started with the district administration placing wreaths at Begum Rokeya's birthplace at Payeraband, under Mithapukur Upazila. A special prayer was also held on the occasion. The Divisional Commissioner of Rangpur, Jasim Uddin; Deputy Commissioner B.M. Enamul Haque and Upazila Parishad Chairman of Mithapukur, Zakir Hossain, were present on the occasion.

Begum Rokeya Smriti Sangsad of Payeraband, Begum Rokeya Forum and Begum Rokeya University also placed wreaths to honour the iconic women's rights activist. Begum Rokeya University organised a daylong programme on its campus. Along with a discussion on Begum Rokeya's contributions, the programme featured essay, painting and poetry recitation competitions as well as cultural functions. Begum Rokeya Forum, run by RDRS Bangladesh, held a discussion at Rangpur Public Library. A three-day Begum Rokeya Fair was also inaugurated at Payeraband. Divisional Commissioner Jasim Uddin Ahmed inaugurated the fair, consisting of around 150 shops with handicrafts and artefacts.

Begum Rokeya, a pioneer of women's renaiss-

sance in the subcontinent, feminist philosopher, writer and social reformer, was born on December 9, 1880 and died the same day in 1932 in Kolkata. The birth and death anniversaries of this icon are officially observed as Rokeya Day since 1994. Begum Rokeya grew up in a conservative Muslim family, before the Partition of the subcontinent. The articles she wrote during the 1920s are brilliant in style and original in their grasp of women's position in the society. She struggled to establish women's rights, freedom, education, empowerment and economic emancipation during her lifetime, creating ripples in the then highly conservative society. She was the first woman who learnt Bengali and English with the help of her brother Ibrahim Saber. After her marriage to Khan Bahadur Sakhawat Hossain, she moved to Bhagalpur in India. Inspired by her husband, she began writing. Many of her books were published and played a significant role in the history of Bengali literature.

The path to women's emancipation, she said, was to break the chain of gendered division of labour and create social, economic, political and cultural conditioning so that they could enter any profession. To achieve this goal she devoted her life to the cause of women's education. After her husband's death in 1930, she set up the Sakhawat Memorial Girls High School in Kolkata.

Recitation programme on Liberation War

A CORRESPONDENT

To mark 40 years of independence, Baikuntha Abriti Academy, a troupe of elocutionists, in association with Bangladesh Sammilito Sangskritik Jote and Bangladesh Abriti Shamanny Parishad, hosted a solo perfor-

mance by noted elocutionist Shimul Mustapha. The event was held on December 9 at Rabindra Sarobar, Dhamondi, in Dhaka. Under the title "Aposh Korini Kokhono Ami Ei Holo Itihashi", the recital featured a total of 71 selected poems on the theme, Liberation War.

Mustapha started with reciting Shamsur Rahman's "Shadhinota Tumi". He recited selected poems of -- Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Jasimuddin, Jibanananda Das, Abul Fazar Obaidullah, Nirmelendu Goon, Mahadev Saha and others.

Capturing the rhythm of Bangladesh through lens



Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique (right) at the exhibition.

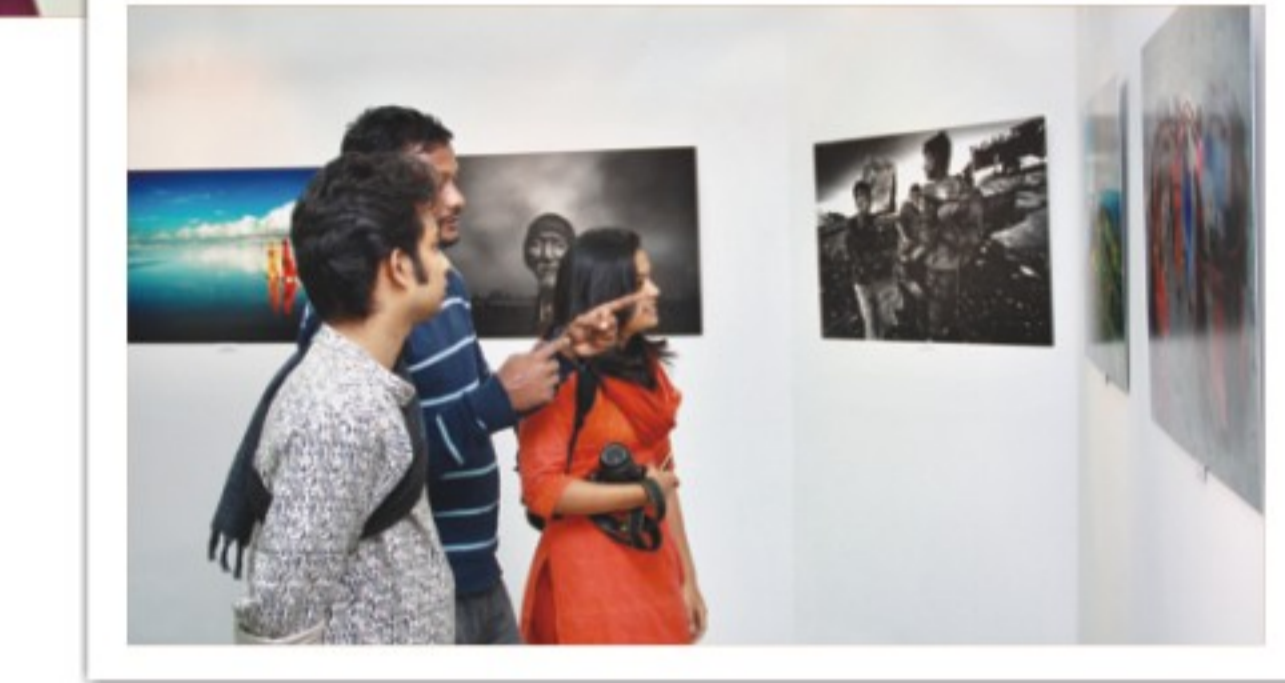
FAYZA HAQ

The photo exhibition, "Le Bangladesh a Paris" -- inaugurated by Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor, Dhaka University, with Olivier Livine, Director of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka -- began last weekend. Viewers from all walks of life flocked to it, including the average photo buffs, critics and the media.

Held at the Gallery Zoom and La Gallery, the exhibition delineates the rich, complex cultural heritage and diversity of the country. It features works of 13 photographers, some with overseas fame and not with just local accolades to speak of. The lineup includes the French photographers Bruno and Julien (Zeppelin), Abir Abdullah (who is now based in the US) and Anwar Hossain (veteran photographer who now resides in France). The bold works of Hasanuzzaman Prince, who has held solo exhibits at Bengal Gallery and Alliance Francaise,

deal with mind-boggling subjects such as leprosy shelters in South India and tribal massacres in the heart of Africa. The chess game of warfare had been understood and portrayed by Prince, with indelible marks on the minds of the viewers. Here, however, the subject was an optimistic one. The aim of the photographers was to repeatedly depict and drive home the richness of the Bangladesh culture and traditions -- celebrating 40 years of independence.

Equisite displays of people, seen against the backdrop of typical deshi scenes with flatland, abounding with wealth of rivers, and trees with the thick fresh leaves had been magnificently captured by the camera of both well-established photo-artists, as well as the newcomers. Both Basif and Sumon Kanti Paul Himu, along with Saiful Huq Omi and Didarul Alam Chowdhury, have captured in photography what artists of Bangladesh -- ranging



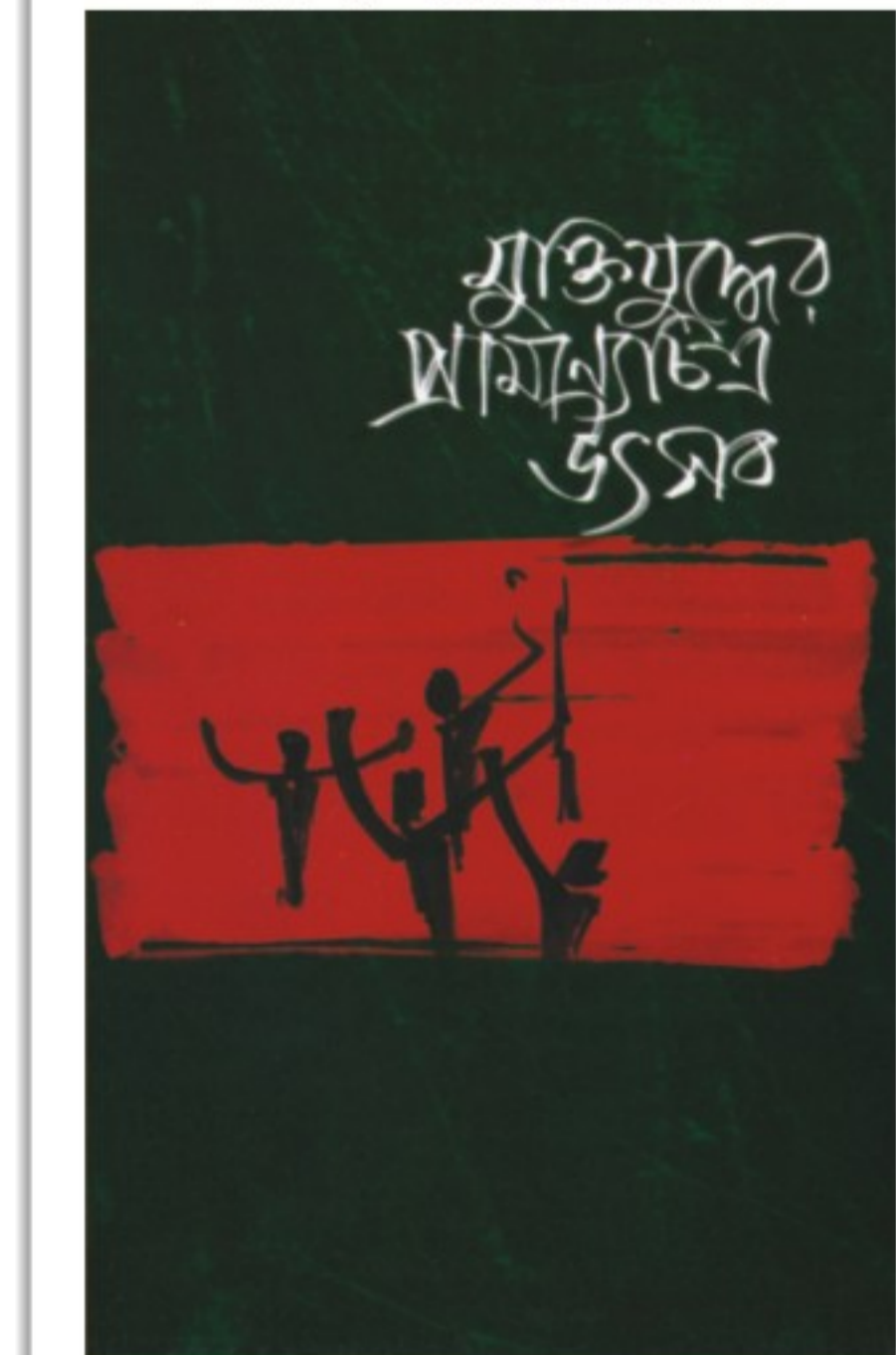
works of Abir Abdullah.

Anwar Hossain mesmerises with his image of a lady splashing herself with water, her knees buried deep in the river. The drops of water appear as diamonds in the dark sky behind her. She can remind one of Botticelli's Venus. The depiction of the female forms by Anwar Hossain is extremely dramatic and bold, in its black and white simplicity and unforgettable charm. Mumem Wasif and Sumon Kanti Paul Himu, along with Saiful Huq Omi and Didarul Alam Chowdhury, have captured in photography what artists of Bangladesh -- ranging

from Qayyum Chowdhury and Kanak Champa Chakma -- have done with paints on canvas. The colour, vibrancy, rhythm and scintillating portrayal of what martyrs of the country have given their lives for have been adequately portrayed.

The Embassy of France in Bangladesh, along with France-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce, had earlier held a month-long cultural event in the Galerie de Foundation, Alliance Francaise, in Paris from March 2011 to April 2011. The Dhaka exhibition at Alliance Francaise will continue till December 22.

Documentary Screening at Dhaka Art Centre



A CORRESPONDENT

To mark the 40th anniversary of independence, Dhaka Art Centre will hold a five-day long documentary screening on Liberation War. The festival will be held from December 13 to December 17.

On the first day of the festival, Mustaque Ahmed's "Die Million" and Saiful Wadud Helal's "Aparajeyo Bangla" will be screened.

Theatre personality M. Hamid; freedom fighter and one of the trustees of Liberation War Museum, Akku Chowdhury and sculptor Hamiduzzaman Khan will be present as honorary guests at the inauguration.

Bagha Jatin's 132nd birth anniversary celebrated



AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

A daylong programme was held on the occasion of the 132th birth anniversary of Bagha Jatin, a Bengali revolutionary philosopher. His real name was Jyotindranath Mukhopadhyay. The programme, by the Shara Desh Forum, was held last Friday at the Rail Station premises here. The programme included discussion and a cultural function.

Tushar Ahmed Reza, convener of Shara Desh Forum; poet and writer Liton Abbas; regional chairman of NGO Nijera Kori, Sikha Saha; Daily Ittefaq correspondent Sohel Habib; English weekly The Kushtia Times correspondent Professor Zillur Rahman and Daily Sangbad correspondent

Rawshan Joarder, spoke at the discussion. After the meeting, a cultural event featuring performances by the local artistes was held.

Jatin was born to Sharatshashi and Umeshchandra Mukherjee at Kaya village in Kumarkhali Upazila in Kushtia on December 7th, 1879. He grew up in his ancestral home at Sadhubati village in Saikupa Upazila in Jhenidah until his father's death, when he was only five. According to different sources, Jatin was the principal leader of the Yugantar party that was the central association of revolutionaries in Bengal. Having personally met the German Crown-Prince in Kolkata shortly before World War I, he obtained the promise of arms and

ammunition from Germany. He was responsible for the planned German Plot during the World War I. Another of his original contributions was the indoctrination of the Indian soldiers in various regiments in favour of an insurrection. In 1925, Gandhi termed Jatin as 'Bagha Jatin' for his divine personality.

Several sources mention Jatin as one of the founders of the Anushilan Samiti in 1900. He was also known as a pioneer in creating its branches in the districts. Inspired by Swami Vivekananda, Jatin expressed his ideals in simple words: "Amra morbo, jagat jagbe" "We shall die to awaken the nation." This contributed much in freedom of undivided India.

Bijoy Sarkar's 26th death anniversary observed

PONUELS BOSE, Narail

A two-day programme marking the 26th death anniversary of the bard Bijoy Sarkar concluded on December 5 at the Shilpakala Academy premises in Narail. The event was jointly organised by the Charon Kobi Bijoy Sarkar Foundation and the district administration.

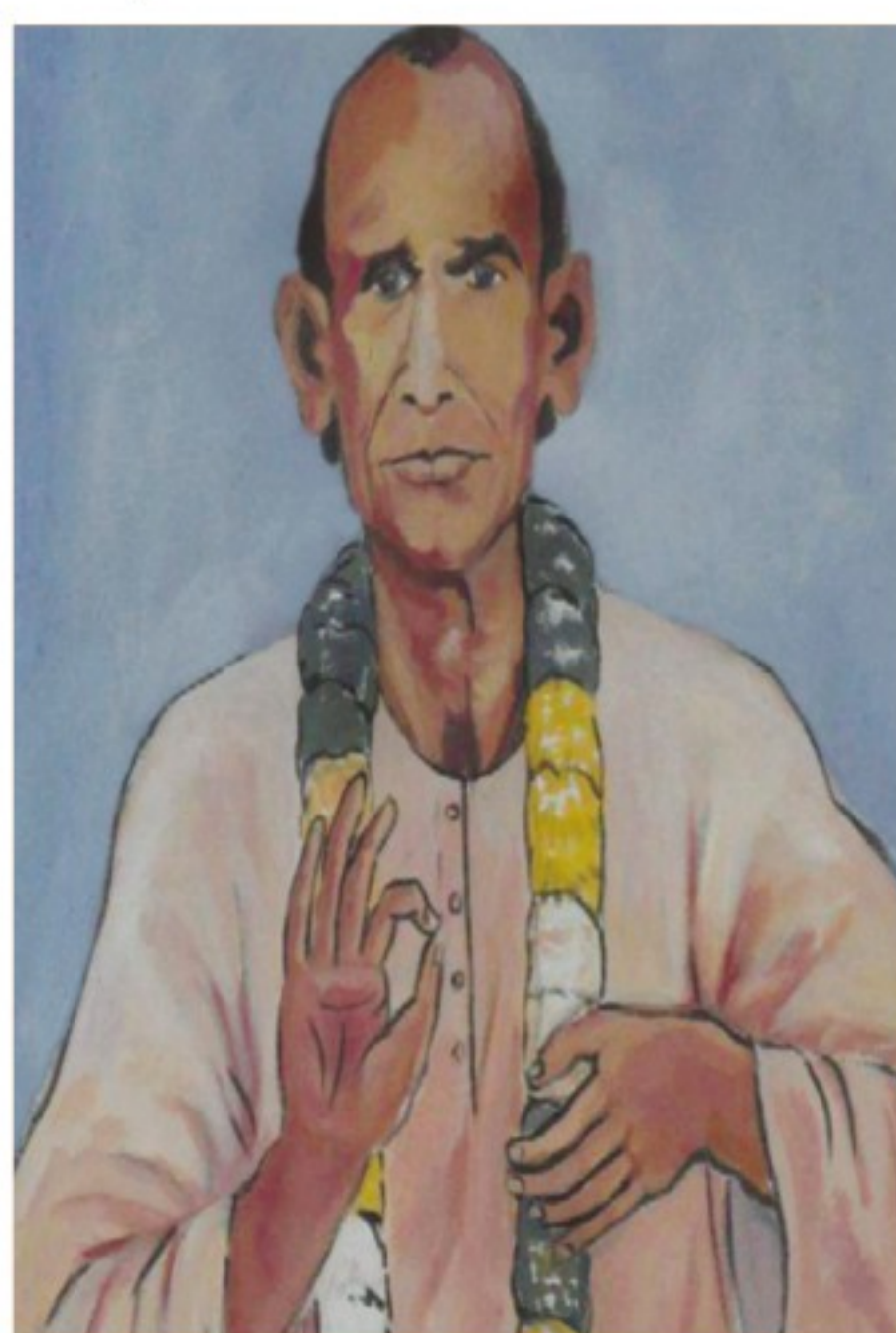
The programme included placing wreaths on the portrait of the late poet. Kajol Adhikary, elder son of Bijoy Sarkar, formally inaugurated the programme by lighting lamps. The event featured renditions of the bard's songs by artists from different corners of the country, discussion and conferring the Bijoy Sarkar Foundation Medal.

A fair was also held at Shilpakala Academy premises to mark the occasion.

Dr. Md. Abdur Sattar, Vice Chancellor, Jessore Science and Technology University. Others present at the inaugural programme were Advocate Subhash Bose, President of District AL; Khandakar Hasnat Kabir, Additional District Magistrate; Humayun Kabir, Sadar Upazila Chairman; JulfikarAli, Chairman, Narail Municipality; Dr. Anupom Hera Mondol, Assistant Professor, Folk Department, Rajshahi University; Swapon Guho, executive director Rupantor and Sukanto Sarkar, cultural personality and researcher from Khulna.

The welcome speech was delivered by Md. Masudul Kabir, member secretary of Charon Kobi Bijoy Sarkar Foundation and Executive Magistrate, Narail. The meeting was presided over by Md. Zohirul Haque, Deputy Commissioner, Narail and convener of Charon Kobi Bijoy Sarkar Foundation.

On the concluding day (December 5), Professor Kazi Abu Zafar Siddique, Director General of BTV, was the chief guest. S.M. Fazlur Rahman, Police Superintendent, Narail; Howlader Md. Rokibul Bari, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Narail; Dr. Sheikh Rozibul Islam, Chairman, Bangla Department, Kushtia Islamic University; Abdul Kader Sikder, General Secretary, District BNP; Dr. Baki Billah, Kushtia Islamic University; Jatindranath Roy, President, Bijoy Shoran Samity, Kolkata; Taposi Roy Chowdhury, Secretary, Lalon Academy, Kolkata and Kajol Adhikary, cultural personality, were special guests. The welcome speech was delivered by Md. Akram Shahid Chunnun, joint convener, Charon Kobi Bijoy Sarkar Foundation. The meeting was presided over by Md. Zahurul Haque, Deputy Commissioner, Narail.



5th Berger Award for Excellence in Architecture conferred



Award recipients with organisers at the ceremony.

A CORRESPONDENT

As a tribute to Tagore, International School of Dhaka (ISD) hosted an event on December 10. The programme, involving mainly the youngsters, was an attempt to familiarise young minds with Tagore's remarkable works. The protagonists of the play "Ichchha Purn", played by Yamin Shafiq and Farzad Khan, did justice to the roles of the father and the son, respectively.

Rabindra Sangeet was performed by Arnob with his band -- Buno, Jibon, Eivind Lodemel and Nazrul. Live music also featured Palki Ahmad.

The play was written, directed and produced by Farjahan Rahman and Tahsina Rahman, secondary teachers at ISD. The musical evening was organised by Maheen

Khan, Development Officer, Marketing and PR. An art exhibition by Kabir H. James, featuring Tagore-inspired portraits, was also on.

ISD has always promoted performing arts through several multi-lingual programmes. Extracurricular activities are given equal importance as academic studies. ISD Parent Teacher Association and ISD CEO, Richard Tangey, had tremendous contribution in making the event a success.

ISD Parent Teacher Association held its annual fair at the ISD grounds last Friday. It was a fun-filled day for visitors, who took pleasure in eating, drinking, shopping and generally having a good time under the open sky. This is an annual event for the ISD community.

Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd organised an award giving ceremony of 5th Berger Award for Excellence in Architecture (BAEA) on December 8 at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Agargaon, says a press release.

From 2003, Berger took the initiative of recognising the works of talented architects of the country and the competition takes place every two years. This year the competition comprises of two categories -- Berger Architects' Award and Berger Young Architects' Award. Both categories have two sub-categories -- Residential and Non-residential. About six projects got recognition in both the categories.

In Residential category, Salauddin Ahmed and Rafiq Azam; in Non-residential category, Patrick D' Rozario, Selim Altaf Biplob and Tamanna Sayeed jointly won Berger Architects' Award; Commendation (non-residential) joint winners were Khan Md. Mustapha Khalid, Mohammad Foyez Ullah and K. M Saiful Kader.

Apart from these awards to inspire young architects for their works Shahnaz Khan, Rumana Chowdhury and Shamsuddin Ahmed jointly won Berger Young Architects' Award in Residential Category, while Commendation Berger Young Architects' Award (residential) went to Jubair Hasan and Rubayet Tanveer Chowdhury.

Homage to Tagore and annual fair by ISD



Arnob (centre) performs at the cultural programme.

ATN BANGLA	Business and Finance 01:25 Chalcitra-er Galpo 04:20 Matir Subash 05:15 Aaynar Shamney 08:40 Shimana Chharye Rtv	Bangla Feature Film 05:00 Cinema R Gaan 06:00 Drama Serial: Jekhane Shimanto 08:20 Drama 09:50 Bridal Show	Boishakhi TV 01:30 Bangla Feature Film 05:30 Shudhu Cinemar Gaan 08:10 Drama Serial: Ecaruser Dana 08:45 Bijoy Prane Prane 11:05 Reporters Dairy
CHANNEL i	01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 04:20 Amar Chhobi 05:30 Drama Serial: Aj Kichhu Hote Chalechhe 07:50 Drama Serial: Kuashar Phona 11:30 Banglar Pathway	01:30 National Treasure: Book of Secrets 04:05 Reindeer Games 09:30 Pineapple Express 12:00 A Beautiful Mind	Maasranga Television 08:30 Drama Serial: Samanta 09:02 Mayeher Padshaha 09:30 Kingjortobostom 11:00 Maasranga Unplugged
ntv		Z Studio 01:30 End of Days 04:05 National Treasure: Book of Secrets 07:20 Reindeer Games 09:30 Pineapple Express 12:00 A Beautiful Mind	Star Movies 05:05 Predators

abcr radio FM 89.2	10:00 Morning Express 12:00 My Time 06:00 Bhoosr Janalay 09:00 Mukhonto Jiboney 12:00 Danon Duprey 05:00 Desanta Boleky 07:00 Shondhata 05:00 Shajher Maya 09:00 Raat-er Akashy 11:00 Gajey Shach No Radio Foorti 07:30 Hello Dhaka	10:00 Morning Express 12:00 My Time 01:00 No Lesson 04:00 Dhaka Calling 09:00 Night Rider 01:00 Back to Back music RADIO TODAY FM 89.6 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka 12:00 Today's Adas 04:00 U Turn 07:00 Tobey Tai Hok
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Dhono Dhanyo Pushpey Bhora
On Rtv at 6:20pm
Single Episode TV
Play
Cast: Omer Aiaz
Ony, Sarika

Pineapple Express
On Z Studio at 9:30pm
Genre: Action/
Crime
Cast: Seth Rogan, James Franco

Bhabnagar On Desh TV at 09:45pm
Musical
Programme
Host: Rinku

08:45 Bangla Feature Film 04:10 Janar Achhey Bolkar Achhey 08:15 Drama Serial: Dur Paharer Batashera 09:00 Maggi Test an Balance 11:00 Drama Serial: Terminal	07:00 Anacoda 08:35 Anacoda: The Hunt For The Blood Orchid 10:20 Xtinction: Predator X 11:55 The Sorcerer's Apprentice
BANGLAVISION 01:05 Bangla Feature Film 05:20 Shyamol Bangla 08:15 Drama Serial: No Problem 11:25 Probashki Mukh	02:05 Devil 03:50 Meteor Storm 05:45 Carriers 07:30 Ninja Assassin 09:30 Super Shark 11:20 Repo Men
ETV 10:02 Desh Jurey Oporadh 04:30 Probashki Bangladesh 07:50 Amar 10:10 Cine Hits 12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	HBO 02:05 Devil 03:50 Meteor Storm 05:45 Carriers 07:30 Ninja Assassin 09:30 Super Shark 11:20 Repo Men
Star World 10:02 Desh Jurey Oporadh 04:30 Probashki Bangladesh 07:50 Amar 10:10 Cine Hits 12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	Discovery Channel 12:00 Million 2 One 03:30 Man Woman Wild 08:30 Curiosity 09:30 Man vs. Wild 11:30 Treeman

ATN BANGLA 08:00pm Adorsha Mezi Bari 10:55pm Uttaradikar Rtv 09:05pm Boya Paribar 11:30pm Dot Com Fantasy	09:05pm Ashar Hiche Manush BANGLAVISION 09:05pm Long March ETV 09:30pm Lolita Desh TV 08:15pm Sat Kahon Boishakhi TV 10:35pm Pathoner Kanna
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BTV News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:30pm News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).	BANGLAVISION News (Bangla) at 7:30am, 1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm News (English) at 8:00pm Rtv 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, 12:15pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am ETV News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm
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ATN BANGLA 11:30pm Je Kotha Keu Boleni Rtv 10:45am Tarshap 07:45pm Our Democracy Maasranga Television 07:30pm Prime Issue	12:00am Shamprotik CHANNEL i 12:30pm Tarska Kothon ntv 12:10pm E Showmy BANGLAVISION 06:20pm Front Line Desh TV 11:45pm Shuja Kotha Boishakhi TV
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