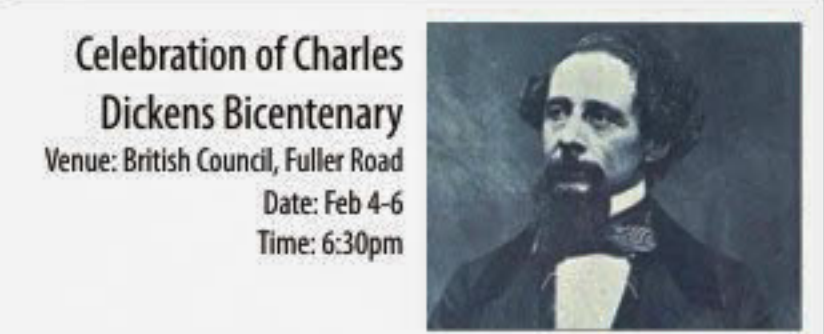


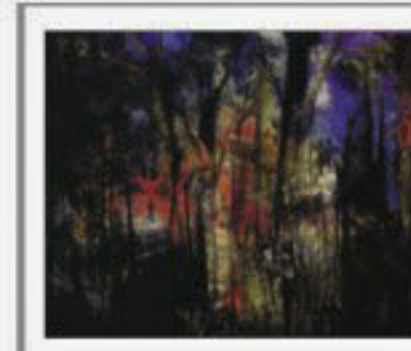
WHAT'S ON



Amar Ekushey Book Fair '12
Venue: Bangla Academy
Premises
Date: February 1-29
Time: 9am onwards



Celebration of Charles Dickens Bicentenary
Venue: British Council, Fuller Road
Date: Feb 4-6
Time: 6:30pm



Solo Recitation Evening
Title: Jemon Kore Gachhe Gauch
Recitologist: Tahsin Reza
Venue: Main Auditorium,
National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: Feb 6
Time: 6pm



Theatre
Play: Lal Jamin (25th show)
Troupe: Shunon
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall,
Shilpakala Academy
Date: Feb 6



Solo Exhibition
Title: Dreams-Sowing
Artist: Kanak Chandra Majumdar
Venue: Gallery Chitra, 8-6, H-4,
Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 28-Feb 12
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Dreams of the Land
Artist: Nurul Toufique
Venue: Bengali Art Lounge, Gulshan
Date: Feb 3-12
Time: 12pm-8pm



Solo Exhibition
Artist: Anand Chandra Majumdar
Venue: Nordic Club, Gulshan-2
Date: Jan 22-Feb 7
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Rejuvenation
Artist: Rajul Islam Loveluck
Venue: Gallery Kaya, Uttara
Date: Jan 27-Feb 7
Time: 11am-7:30pm

TEN NEW BOOKS BY SYED SHAMSUL HAQ AT **BOI MELA**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Considered one of the leading contemporary Bengali litterateurs, Syed Shamsul Haq is offering ten new publications at the ongoing Ekushey Boi Mela.

At this year's fair, five new books of poems by Haq are: "Ei Shob Tana O Poren" (from Anyo Prakash), "Othoba Shomantora" (Godyo Podyo Prakashoni) "Balyo Prem Kotha" (from Pathak Shamabesh), "Bhalobashar Padaboli" (Ittadi Publications) and "Kobita Samagra-Teen (Charulipi).

Three new fictions by Haq, available at the Boi Mela, are: "Bokul Rangin Studio" (Ittadi Publications), "Ferry Jahaj-er Opekkhay-a" (Shuddho Shor) and "Nihshongota" (Janota Prokash).

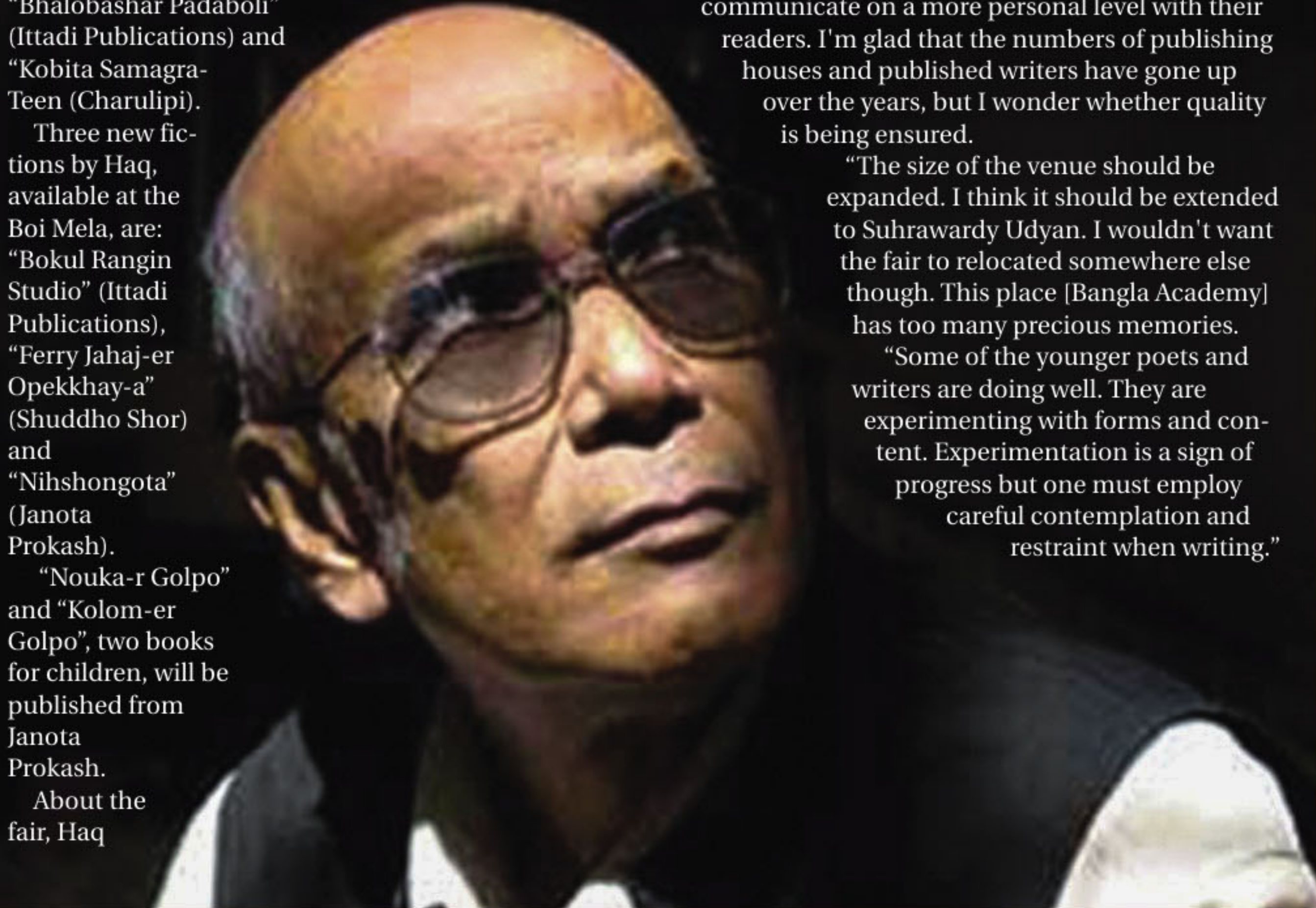
"Nouka-r Golpo" and "Kolom-er Golpo", two books for children, will be published from Janota Prokash. About the fair, Haq

said, "During the late 1970s and '80s, the fair was much smaller. Writers and publishers spent more time on books, and could maintain a closer relationship with the readers. The fair had a more tranquil ambience and there were open spaces where one could just relax. People showed more genuine enthusiasm.

"Gradually, the fair has become larger and busier. Going by the stalls one can understand the wide range of variety. Because of the rush and the ever-growing turnout, it's not physically possible for the writers to communicate on a more personal level with their readers. I'm glad that the numbers of publishing houses and published writers have gone up over the years, but I wonder whether quality is being ensured.

"The size of the venue should be expanded. I think it should be extended to Suhrawardy Udyan. I wouldn't want the fair to relocated somewhere else though. This place [Bangla Academy] has too many precious memories.

"Some of the younger poets and writers are doing well. They are experimenting with forms and content. Experimentation is a sign of progress but one must employ careful contemplation and restraint when writing."



National Classical Music Conference in Chittagong

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Musical enthusiasts of the port city were engrossed in the melodic notes of classical music at a two-day long classical music soiree, held at Theatre Institute Chittagong (TIC) on February 2 and 3.

Sadaranga Uchchanga Sangeet Parishad Bangladesh arranged the programme, titled "15th National Classical Music Conference", that featured instrumental and vocal performances by the artistes from home and abroad.

Director general of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Liaquat Ali Lucky, inaugurated the conference as chief guest. Assistant Indian

High Commissioner Shomnath Ghosh spoke as special guest at the inaugural programme.

Ustad Samamoy Chakraborty gave the welcome speech. Sadaranga Uchchanga Sangeet Parishad's advisor, Dr. Tapanjoyti Barua, chaired the programme.

In his speech, Liaquat Ali Lucky said that a devoted classical artist's music will never fade away.

Recalling his childhood, the DG of Shilpakala Academy said that though he is known as a theatre activist, he had completed a seven-year course in classical music, and that helped him learn discipline.

Terming classical music "the essence" of all

music, he said that this treasure-trove needs more awareness.

He also expressed his hope that the government would come forward to include music in the school curriculum.

Somnath Ghosh said that classical music is the foundation of South Asian music, and that everyone should work to generate global interest in this performing art form.

"Music came earlier than language," said Dr. Tapanjoyti, adding that classical music was inspired by elements in nature, and in return inspires us to become better human beings.

The music programme started with a choral rendition of "Runuk Jhunuk Baaje Nupur" by

artistes of Sadaranga.

Suparna Saha from Narayanganj performed Raga Behag followed by a tarana.

Following the performance of Raga Gara on sitar by Sajedul Islam, Biplob Bhattacharya from India played railla, tukda and qaida on tabla. He also played shahi bol, megha garjan and barsha (sound of thunder and rain) that left the audience mesmerised.

Usad Shahadat Khan, Pandit Bijan Chowdhury, Gopal Misra, Dolan Khanungo, Kalyan Bhattacharya, Dr. Ishrat Jahan, Arnab Chattopadhyay, Malabika Das, Afsana Khan, Kanak Chandra Kaistagir, Sabuj Ahmed, Rajib Chakraborty and Suparna Saha also performed at the conference.

THEATRE

Socrates-er Jobanbondi included in BRAC University curriculum



PHOTO: DRISHYAPAT

The play will be staged during all three semesters of the academic year at BRAC.

JAMIL MAHMUD

Drishyapat's much acclaimed play "Socrates-er Jobanbondi" (Statement of Socrates) has been included in the curriculum of BRAC University. The play will be part of the course Ethics and Culture, informed director of the play, Ali Mahmood, who also dons the role of the legendary Greek philosopher.

Mahmood also informed that the students and teachers of BRAC University were very impressed when they saw the play last year at the university's Savar campus, known as TARC.

"After watching the play, they were moved and discussed the messages and philosophies of Socrates. Following that, the university authority showed interest in including the play in their curriculum," said Mahmood.

As part of the agreement, the play will be staged during all three semesters of the academic year at BRAC. The shows will be treated as mandatory classes for the students of Ethics and Culture.

Drishyapat brought the play to the stage over a decade ago. The play is based on "Apo-

logia Sokratous" (Defence of Socrates) by Plato. Shishir Kumar Das wrote the play.

Plato, a direct disciple of Socrates, witnessed the trial and indexed the proceedings. After a mockery of a trial, Socrates was forced to commit suicide by drinking hemlock.

The play is divided into two parts. The first part introduces Socrates. In this part, the play mainly depicts the then corrupted Greek society through commentary of the state leaders. The second part showcases the trial of Socrates.

The play also throws some questions regarding democracy. Does democracy truly allow an individual to speak his/her mind? This is the underlying theme of the play.

The trial of Socrates was held in the spring of 399 B.C.E. The defendants, three members of the elite class - Anytus, Melenus and Poliarctus - falsely accused Socrates, who always ridiculed ignorance, pretence and arrogance through his philosophy.

The cast also includes Nehal Ahmed, Ahsan Habib, Josh Zayed, Moin Ahmed and Piku Bakshi. Hasan Shahriar and Ali Mahmood jointly designed the set.

Professor Israfil Shaheen to direct a Korean play



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Professor Israfil Shaheen, former chairman of the Department of Theatre, Dhaka University will direct a South Korean play. He received a formal invitation from the Korean Theatre Directors' Association (KTDA) last

year. The play will be a Korean adaptation of Eugene O'Neill's "Desire under the Elms".

Before leaving the country on February 2, Professor Shaheen informed The Daily Star that he will work in the Asia category, under KTDA's Directors' Workshop. It should be mentioned that "Shiddhanto" (an adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's "The Measures Taken"), directed by Professor Shaheen, was staged in South Korea last year.

A group of university students will audition to work in the play. The play will be staged on March 16, 17 and 18, said Professor Shaheen.

He also informed that inviting directors is part of an annual initiative by KTDA. It's a cultural exchange programme. "I accepted the offer because they usually focus more on the directorial process," said Dr. Shaheen.

Eugene O'Neill's "Desire under the Elms" is considered as an American classic. It represents one of O'Neill's attempts to place plot elements and themes of Greek tragedy in a rural New England setting. It is essentially a retelling of the myth of Phaedra, Hippolytus and Theseus.



PHOTO: STAR



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A solo sculpture exhibition, titled "Inheritance of Women", is on at La Galerie of Alliance Française de Dhaka. The exhibition featuring works of Sigma Haque Angkan opened on January 27.

Art connoisseur and secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mizarul Qayes inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Noted poet and architect Rabiul Hussain and Associate Professor at Faculty of Fine Arts, Lalurukh Selim, were present as special guests at the inaugural programme.

Sculpture is a bold medium. Angkan is among the few sculptors in Bangladesh whose subject of choice is the female form. Her first solo exhibition displays 27 sculptures highlighting the eternal femininity -- giving birth, nurturing children etc.

Angkan's sculptures depict the classic and overly familiar 'child on the lap of a mother' or 'child playing with mother'. Some pieces show female forms embracing solitude, while in some two or more women are seen chatting. Besides female forms, the artist has created several pieces showcasing fish, animals and beautiful masks. Angkan took a few months to complete the pieces made of bronze, aluminium, wood, and some welded ones. Two portraits (fibre) of the artist's dear ones are on display as well.

Aside from sculptures, the artist is also displaying 20 paintings (watercolour) and 9 drawings at the exhibition. Her watercolours predominantly portray the splendour of nature and stories from old Dhaka.

The exhibition is open from 3 to 9 pm everyday (Monday to Thursday) and ends on February 9.

Sigma Haque Angkan completed both her BFA (Honours) and MFA from the department of Sculpture, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. The sculptor took part in a number of workshops and exhibitions at national level over the last decade.

THE FEMALE FORM IN ALL ITS GLORY

Sigma Haque Angkan's first solo exhibition



Clockwise (from top-left): The artist and two of her sculptures -- "Deep into the heart" and "Responsibility-1".

Mona Lisa copy reveals new detail

A painting thought to be the earliest replica of Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa has been discovered at Madrid's Prado Museum.

The Prado said it did not realise its significance until a recent restoration revealed hidden layers.

The artwork features the same female figure, but had been covered over with black paint and varnish.

The painting is thought to have been created by one of Leonardo's students alongside the 16th century original.

There are dozens of surviving Mona Lisa replicas from the 16th and 17th centuries - when, as a new US exhibition illustrates, copying famous artworks was a thriving business.

The Art Newspaper, which reported the discovery, said the "sensational find will transform our understanding of the world's most famous picture".

The original painting, which currently hangs at the Louvre in Paris, is obscured by several layers of old, cracked varnish.

However, cleaning and restoration is thought to be too risky because the painting is fragile.

The Art Newspaper said the removal of the black paint on the



The restored painting (right) offers more detail than the original (left).

replica had revealed "the fine details of the delicate Tuscan landscape", which mirrors the background of Leonardo's masterpiece.

Martin Bailey, who reported on the discovery for the paper, told the BBC: "You see Lisa's eyes, which are quite enticing, and her enigmatic smile. It actually makes her look much younger."

In fact, the new painting has led experts to speculate that the woman who sat for the Renaissance Masterpiece was in her early 20s--much younger than the Louvre's original appears to show.

As the replica remained hidden for so long under the overpaint, experts



had believed it was painted long after Leonardo's death.

But after using x-rays to analyse the original drawings underneath, conservators have concluded the work was carried out at the same time as Leonardo's original.

The museum presented its findings at a conference on Leonardo da Vinci at London's National Gallery.

There is still some restoration to complete on the painting but, once it is finished, it will be exhibited at the Louvre in March, allowing visitors to compare the two works.

SOURCE: BBC

National Street Theatre Festival

Six plays staged on the second day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six plays were staged on the second day (February 2) of the weeklong National Street Theatre Festival. Organised by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, the festival is being held at the Central Shaheed Minar premises.

Starting from afternoon, the shows continued till 8.30pm. Most of the plays highlighted the issue of trial of war criminals. All performing troupes were from Dhaka.

Natyajodda staged Rabinindranath Tagore's "Khyatir Birambana". Faisal Ahmed was the director of the play. Uttara Theatre staged "Mora". Written by Shuvankar Chakrobarty, the play was directed by Majibur Rahman. Udichi staged "Koshto Bondi Manushera". Rabiul Islam is the playwright and director of the play.

Ekota Natya Goshthi, Drishtipat Natya Sangsad and Desh Bangla Theatre staged plays on the day as well. Desh Bangla Theatre's "Jowar" was written and directed by Rashidul Islam. Drishtipat staged "Joratali". Kazi Anis directed the play. Ekota's "Goru" was written by Moloy Bhaumik and directed by Manosh Kar.

People from all walks of life enjoyed the shows under the open sky at the Shaheed Minar premises.

Today, seven plays will be staged. Troupes from Dhaka and Narayanganj will showcase their works. The festival features nearly 50 troupes from all corners of the country.

BTV	12:35 Shukhi Paribar	06:30 Phaguner Molat
03:05	03:05 Shusher Haat	07:45 Drama Serial: Ichhey Halo
07:50	07:50 Judhho Oporadi	09:45 Tribute to Legend
09:35	09:35 Hamd O Naat	
ATN BANGLA	01:25 Shurer Madhuri	03:05 Special Talk Show
03:15	03:15 Khelar Jogot	06:00 Priyo Shipri Priyo Gaan
05:35	05:35 Dhak Dhol	09:40 Drama Serial: Village Politics
09:20	09:20 Drama Serial: Chhayananti Kayanari	12:05 News of the day
11:00	11:00 Drama Serial: Bangshal to Baridhara	08:30 Drama Serial: Samanta
		09:30 Jakey Haralam
CHANNEL i		11:00 World Music
01:05	01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	Z Studio
02:40	02:40 Groyer Ghorey Gaaner Uthab	11:05 Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo
06:00	06:00 Chhayaankar	01:30 Enemy of the State
09:35	09:35 Drama Serial: Oti Lobhe	04:20 End Game
		06:30 The Rock
11:30	11:30 Tati Nosto	09:30 Top Gun
		11:50 The Sum of All Fears
ETV		

abc Radio FM 89.2	10:00 Morning Express
12:00 Duran Durany	12:30 No Tension
02:05 The Daily Star Abhorner	04:00 Dhaka Calling
	06:30 Full Volume
03:00 Debutante Bideley	11:00 Back to Back music
05:00 Shondha Tara	
07:00 Shaj-er Masud	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
09:00 Raat-er Alashey	12:00 Today's Adda
11:00 Golper Sheal Nei	04:30 U Tum
RADIO FOOTI	07:00 Taboy Tai Hak
07:30 Hello Dhaka	10:00 Raat Bhor Gaan

Chora Goli
On ATN BANGLA at 08:40pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Abul Hayat, Tauquir Ahmed

INCEPTION
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Leonardo DiCaprio, Joseph Gordon-Levitt

Media Gossip
On ETV at 10:10pm
Talk Show
Host: Tavvir Tareq

06:30	Desh Jurey Oporadi	HBO	09:30 Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home
07:50	Gaaner Oparay	11:40	Camel Spiders
08:20	Drama Serial: Ohongkar	01:30	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
12:05	Ekushey-er Raat	04:45	The Twilight Saga: Twilight
02:00	Sunday Live	07:25	Hachiko: A Dog's Story
Boishakhi TV		09:30	Inception
04:15	Shorashori Doctor		Star World
08:10	Priyo Mukh	02:30	Achievers Club
09:20	Drama Serial: Uthab	04:30	Supernatural
12:30	Ekushey-er Pongtimala	10:30	Combat Hospital
BANGLAVISION			National Geographic
01:05	Bangla Feature Film		Channel
05:20	Amader Jiboney Eid-e-Miladun Nabi	02:30	A Traveler's Guide to the Planets
08:15	Drama Serial: Ladies First	03:30	Return to the Python Cave
11:25	Business Vision	09:30	The Known Universe
Rtv		11:30	Taboo
05:30	Gaane Gaane		Discovery Channel
08:20	Drama Serial: Chorkobak	02:30	Man vs. Wild
09:50	Dhruopati Kahini	08:30	Discovery Saved My Life
12:05	Shimana Perney	10:30	Gold Rush
Desh TV			
04:00	Desh Janapod		
05:30	Durpath		

ATN BANGLA	09:00pm	09:00pm
08:00pm	Putra-shukh	11:30pm House Number 138
08:40pm	Chora Goli	Boishakhi TV
CHANNEL i		08:45pm Tokhon Hemanta
07:50pm	No Mans Land	BANGLAVISION
ntv		09:05pm Long March
08:15pm	Bondhu Amar	Desh TV
ETV		08:15pm Sat Kahon
10:35pm	Amader Meherjan	Maasranga Television
Rtv		

RTV	News (Bangla) at 8:00 am	09:00pm	09:00pm
	2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.	1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm.	
	News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.	
	News (English) at 6:00pm Rtv	News (English) at 6:00pm Rtv	
	News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:30pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am	
	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	

ATN BANGLA	12:30am	12:00am
09:45am	Lead News	Zero Hour
12:35pm	Trinio Matra	10:40am Tarakalap
ntv	12:35pm Taroka Kothon	07:40pm Our Democracy
12:00am	Ei Shomoy	Desh TV
ETV		11:45pm Shuja Kotha
10:10pm	Media Gossip	Maasranga Television
Boishakhi TV		07:30pm Prime Issue