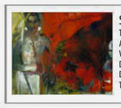
WHAT'S ON

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

Documentary Screening
Documentary: 1971
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: February 7-9
Time: 2:15pm, 6:30pm

Award Giving Ceremony
Title: M Noorul Quader Shishu Shahitya Puroshkar '11
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy
Date: Feb 10
Time: 3pm

Solo Recitation Evening
Title: Jemon Kore Gaichhe Akash
Elocutionist: Tahsin Reza
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: Feb 8
Time: 6pm



Solo Exhibition
Title: Dreams-Sowing
Artist: Kanak Chanpa Chakma
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, R-6, H-4, Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 28-Feb 12
Time: 10am-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Dreams of the Land
Artist: Noriko Yanagisawa
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan
Date: Feb 3-12
Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Exhibition
Artist: Kashinath Salve
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, R-6, H-115, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: Feb 7-20
Time: 11am-8pm

CD Launch
Artistes: Iqbal Bahar Choudhury, Sadi Muhammad, Rezwana Choudhury
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha
Date: Feb 8
Time: 6:30pm

"Boi Mela should be evaluated after it ends"

-- Hasan Azizul Haq, writer-author

JAMIL MAHMUD

Talking about the month-long Ekushey Book Fair, eminent author Hasan Azizul Haq says that it has become a trend for the writers, authors and publishers to discuss issues prior to or during the initial phase of the fair. He is of the view that it is better to evaluate the successes and anomalies of the fair after the end.

"Every year we have the same old talks on the same old issues. I just don't see any justification of this. Shouldn't we wait till something has finished before assessing it?" -- he says.

Haq was among the invitees at the inaugural ceremony. He attended the ceremony and found a comparatively calm atmosphere at the fair premises, which he wished to see till the end.

"When I was meandering, I found that some stalls were still under construction. The atmosphere was pretty calm. I just wondered if the atmosphere would remain like that till the end," he says, adding, "Nowadays, so many books and so many readers are coming everyday, it is really hard to browse in a relaxed mode at the fair."

Haq also points at the huge difference between publishing of books prior to the fair and throughout the rest of the year. According to him, nearly 4000 books are being published during the month-long fair, while the rest of the year sees a very little number of new books. "Where does our creativity go after the fair?" -- he asks.

He also mentions that poor productions will be found more at the fair, which should not have happened. Regarding the venue, he says, "Why are people always blaming the Bangla Academy authority? Publishers and those who are always talking about this issue should come forth to resolve this."

This year no new books by Haq will be published. However, several reprints and new editions will be available at different stalls.

Publishing houses Ityadi, Kotha Prakash and Jhinuk are offering Haq's older books -- "Srestha Prabandha", "Muktijuddher Golpo Shamogro" and "Darshan Shahitya Shahityik" respectively. A new edition of Haq's novel "Shiuli" will be available at the Kali Kolom stall.

ALL THAT JAZZ

The quartet performed classics, a few Korean compositions and a unique version of the Tagore classic "Anandolokey".
PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

FABIAN VON ALLMEN

Jazz can be very difficult to grasp. However, what was played last Saturday at the residence of the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea was easy on the ear though the Korean Ambassador to Bangladesh, Taiyoung Cho, advised the audience to "listen with the heart, not the head". Around 300 invitees followed his words and enjoyed the "Night of Jazzy Flare", on a lush evening.

The quartet composed of pianist Kyungin Min, drummer Yeojung Hur, bassist Youngjun Jung -- all professors at renowned Korean universities -- and the 23-year-old singer Juyoung Park. They were flown in for three shows here in Dhaka, two at the ambassador's residence in Banani and one at the Gulshan Club.

The set began with a few instrumental classics such as "Things ain't what they used to be" of Mercer Ellington and " No more blues" of the Brazilian King of Bossa Nova, Antonio Carlos Jobim. Eventually, Juyoung Park -- or, according to pianist Kyungin Min, "today's diva" -- joined the highly sophisticated band to sing "Girl talk" of Neal Hefti and "Come Sunday" of Jazz giant Duke Ellington. "'Come Sunday' is one of my favourite songs," explained the charming Juyoung Park between two songs; it has such a passionate melody and sincere lyrics. I hope the effect of this song will linger."

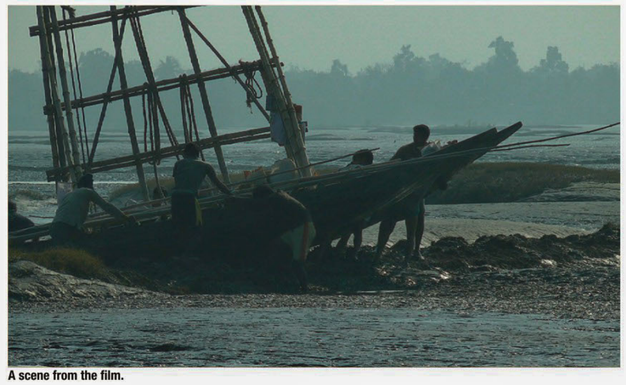
In between the two sets, students of the Korean School in Dhaka presented a traditional drum performance.

The set continued with classics such as "Isn't she lovely" of Stevie Wonder, a few Korean compositions and a unique version of the Tagore classic "Anandolokey". Juyoung Park enjoyed the Bengali song especially for its beautiful melody. The song is also one of Mijarul Quayes' (secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs) favourites, as he said in a short speech after the concert. He pointed out that only culture can build bridges between countries.

The concert was hosted by the Korean Association Bangladesh, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and co-sponsored by Meghna Group of Industries and Zeeshan International Agencies.

The Writer is an Intern at The Daily Star

Kamar Ahmad Simon's **Shunte Ki Pao!** going to Berlin Film Fest



A scene from the film.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Young filmmaker Kamar Ahmad Simon's "Shunte Ki Pao!" (Are You Listening) has been invited to 'Campus Studio Lab' at the 62nd Berlin International Film Festival 2012, according to the filmmaker. The film will be showcased as part of the section, 'Berlinale Talent Campus'.

The 10-day festival, one of the most prestigious in the world, will open on February 9.

Simon informed that he has been invited to attend the festival, which will give him a chance to exchange views with world-renowned filmmakers and film personalities. He is leaving for Germany today.

"Shunte Ki Pao!" has already been awarded at last year's 'Asian Forum for Documentaries', held in Kolkata. The film is about a community's struggle to get back the land they have lost.

Since the last tidal surge washed away their homes and belongings, they lived stranded on the only existing high land -- an age-old dyke, in the coastal belt of Bangladesh. This is not a film about how painfully they lived ever since, but how they dared to live again.

Apart from direction, Simon has also written the story and played the role of DoP (director of photography). Sara Afreen is the producer of the film.

Every year 'Berlinale Talent Campus' invites up-and-coming filmmakers in a very competitive selection from all over the world. It offers a networking platform for them.

Simon's film was selected out of 4300 applicants from 137 countries. He is one of the organisers of 'Tareque Masud Filmy Bahas'.

Radice's translation of Gitanjali under discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Chittagong*

Alliance Française, Chittagong organised a conference on February 3 on a newly translated version of Tagore's "Gitanjali".

Well-known poet and translator William Radice has done the translation.

As part of the celebration of Tagore's 150th birth anniversary Alliance Française, Chittagong organised the conference.

The first translation of "Gitanjali" into English was done by the English poet W.B. Yeats. For a long time, this translation was the source of other translations into different languages.

The originality of the present translation is that Radice has competence in both the source language and target language, which was not the case with the other translators.

William Radice is a senior lecturer in Bengali, at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He has translated several Bengali works by Rabindranath Tagore and Michael Madhusudan Dutt.

CULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA AT **BPL OPENING**

Nrityanchal to kick off the show

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The opening ceremony of Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) T20 will take place at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur tomorrow at 6pm. Both Bangladeshi and Indian silver screen stars and singers will perform at the show.

Bangladeshi dance troupe Nrityanchal will kick off the opening ceremony with a vibrant dance performance. A hundred dancers of Nrityanchal, led by Shibli Mohammad and Shamim Ara Nipa, will stage the piece, titled "Saat Sur". North America-based Indian choreographer Sukalyan Bhattacharya has choreographed the piece.

"'Saat Sur' will represent a big concerted effort. The Tagore song 'Aguner Poroshmoni Chhowao Praney' will feature both eastern and western elements. The costumes of the dancers and their mudra (stances) demonstrate this concept as well," said Shibli Mohammad.

A segment of the nearly three-hour long opening ceremony will be dedicated to the International Mother Language Day, according to Gazi Ashraf Hossain, chairman of the BPL governing body.

Bipasha Basu, Malaika Arora Khan, Rituparna Sengupta from India and Shakib Khan, Apu Bishwas from Bangladesh have confirmed their participation at the opening extravaganza. Indian singers Bappi Lahiri and Shaan have also confirmed their participation along with Ayub Bacchu, Mila and popular band Miles from Bangladesh.

President Md. Zillur Rahman will inaugurate the first edition of the tournament involving six franchises -- Barisal Burners, Chittagong Kings, Dhaka Gladiators, Khulna Royal Bengals, Duronto Rajshahi and Sylhet Royals.

The tournament will kick off on February 10 with Barisal Burners taking on Sylhet Royals at 2 pm and Chittagong Kings locking horns with Duronto Rajshahi at 6.30 pm.

257th Baruni Festival celebrated at Ramsagar

KONGKON KARMAKER, *Dinajpur*

Thousands of devotees from Dinajpur and other districts took a holy dip here in the historic Ramsagar pond to celebrate the historic 'Baruni Festival'. The festival has been celebrated since 1755.

The dawn to dusk festival was organised recently in the area surrounding Ramsagar pond here in Dinajpur Sadar which also houses a state owned ecological park situated about 8 kilometres of the district.

Thousands of devotees and tourists were seen arriving at the venue from the early hours of the day.

According to local folklore, Raja Pran Nath excavated the pond so that his subjects could overcome the acute water shortage that confronted the state. However, even after completion of the excavation, the pond remained dry. One day Raja Pran Nath had a dream that the pond would fill with water if he sacrificed his son.

Accordingly Raja Pran Nath sacrificed his son Ramnath in the interests of his subjects. Needless to say the subjects rejoiced.

Since then the pond has been named Ramsagar.

To recall the sacrifice, every year devotees celebrate the day on full moon day.

Cultural function to generate awareness on safe migration

ZAHANGIR SHAH, *Manikganj*

To generate awareness on promoting 'safe migration and local development' Bangladeshi Obhibasi Mohila Sramik Association (BOMSA) arranged 'Jari gaan' and theatre at Borongail Haat premises under Shivalaya upazila in Manikganj on Thursday.

Mamun Mia of Kaliganj of Gazipur district and his group staged the play and performed 'jari gaan' . Earlier, the association arranged a meeting addressed by officials of BWMWA.

European Union and Dan Church Aid are supporting the implementation of the programme.

"Rabindra Smriti"

Lovely's solo photography exhibition in Kathmandu

Shamsunnahar Lovely's fifth solo photography exhibition titled "Rabindra Smriti" was inaugurated on February 5 at NAFA Gallery in Kathmandu. Noted Indian actress Manisha Koirala inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Kiran Manandhar, Chancellor of NAFA and veteran Bangladeshi painter Dr. Abdus Sattar were present as special guests at the inauguration of the exhibition. The exhibition ended yesterday, according to a press release.

About 83 images were on display at the exhibition. The exhibition featured the places where Rabindranath Tagore lived, wrote and visited on varied occasions. The images also focused on household articles and furniture, including bed, chairs, bookshelf, writing table, boat, private car and kitchen ware.

Tagore Lodge, Kushtia.

The exhibition highlighted places like Dakkhin Dihi, Fultola, Jessore; Tagore Lodge, Kushtia; Shilaidaha Kuthibari, Shahjadpur, Patishar, Shantiniketan, Thakur Bari of Jorashako and other significant places.

The Bangladesh Sunderbans: Book launch at Gallery Cosmos

TAKIR HOSSAIN

The book titled "The Bangladesh Sundarbans" was launched on February 3 at Cosmos Centre, Malibagh. Authored by Enayetullah Khan, editor-in-chief of UNB and founder of Gallery Cosmos, the volume was published by the Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh.

The publication features a compilation of over 150 photographs. It also shares the personal experiences of the author with the reader and provides insightful background information. The book depicts the magnificent beauty of the Sundarbans through photographs and informative text. The book focuses on the majestic Royal Bengal Tiger, multicoloured flora, fauna and people like fishermen, shrimp-fry collectors, honey collectors, crab as well as shell collectors and many more.

Dignitaries at the book launch.

Professor Gowher Rizvi, the prime minister's International Affairs adviser; Dan Mozena, US Ambassador to Bangladesh; Svend Olling, Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh; William Hanna, EU (European Union) Ambassador to Bangladesh; among others spoke at the book launch.

As part of the book launch, Gallery Cosmos has organised two week -long art exhibition on the Royal Bengal Tiger along with a printmaking workshop on the Sundarbans.

The participating painters are Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Kalidas Karmakar, Abdus Shakoor, Biren Shome, Alakesh Ghosh, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Farida Zaman, Ranjit Das, Jamal Ahmed, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Kanak Chanpa Chakma, Afrozaa Jamil Konka, Sheikh Afjal Hossain, Ronni Ahmmed, Nagarbasi Barman and others.

The painters reflect on varied subject like tigers, deep forests, birds, forest and riverine life. The purpose of the exhibition is to increase knowledge and raise awareness about the Sundarbans along with depicting its splendor.

Most of the paintings feature the Royal Bengal Tiger through different perspectives. Some painters draw the tiger's fearsome expression, some have tried to focus on the animal's vivid coloured skins. A number of painters feature the beauty of the magnificent mangrove forest, various ecological aspects along with the lives and struggle of the common people, villagers, fishermen, honey collectors and the other forest dwelling people.

At the exhibition, Abdus Shakoor Shah has painted tigers with varied folk motifs. He has painted the tiger in small shape as he has used varied folk elements to impart his personal hallmark to the work.

Hamiduzzaman Khan has used rough strokes and thick textures. His mode of expression is abstract expressionism. His work symbolically presents deep forest with varied layers of colours. He has applied the watercolour style in his works.

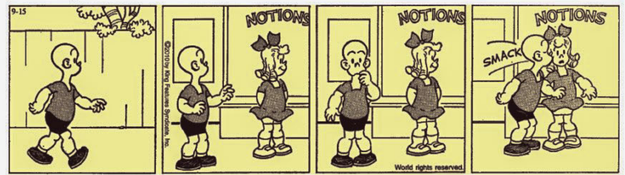
At the exhibition, Jamal Ahmed draws a tiger's face with an intimate study. Yellow dominates the work which is stunning in its realistic features.

In recent times, Proshanta Karmakar has become fairly active in the Dhaka art circuit. At the exhibition, the upper part of his canvas represents the Bangladeshi flag and the lower part of his canvas reveals the tiger's glistening skin.

The exhibition ends on February 16.

Beetle Baily — by Mort Walker

Henry — by Don Tranchte



All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

BTV
10:05 Amader Angina
03:05 Cartoon
07:25 Drama Serial: Gramer Manush
08:35 Amader Ei Boshundhora
10:35 Sonar Banglar Joyjatra

ATN BANGLA
11:20 Business and Finance
01:25 Band View
04:25 Showbiz World
08:00 Destination Unlimited
10:55 Bibeker Kache Proshno
11:30 Drama Serial: Asroy

CHANNEL i
11:05 Sports Time (Live)
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
03:05 Tele-film
05:15 Boi Mela (Live)
07:50 Drama Serial: Komol Bibir Otithi Shala O Kana Sirajdaula

ntv
05:00 Cinema R Gaan
09:50 Lucky Line
12:05 Ghorey Ghorey Utshab

Desh TV
04:00 Desh Jonopod
04:30 Durpath
06:30 Phaguner Molat
08:15 Drama Serial: Saatkahon
09:45 Music Dot Net

Diganta TV
11:30 Chitra Bichitra
03:30 Career Line
08:40 Pothey Pantorey
09:40 Drama Serial: Choshma Motin
12:30 Probashe Bangladesh (Live)

Maasranga Television
10:02 Bangla Feature Film
07:30 Prime Issue
08:00 Drama Serial: Pother Dabi
09:30 Hari Jiti Nahi Laj
11:00 Music Digest

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhorer Janalay
09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney
12:00 Darun Dupurey
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondha Tara
07:00 Shaj-er Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Galper Shesh Nei

Radio Foorti
07:30 Hello Dhaka
10:00 Morning Express
12:00 No Tension
04:00 Dhaka Calling
09:00 Knight Riders

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
06:00 Green FM
08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
12:00 Today's Adda
04:00 U Turn
07:00 Tobey Tai Hok
10:00 Raat Bhor Gaan

Choshma Motin
On Diganta TV at 09:40pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mir Sabbir, AKM Hassan

Kick-Ass
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/ Adventure
Cast: Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage

Showbiz World
On ATN BANGLA at 04:25pm
Entertainment show
Host: Rumana Afroz

11:30 Glamour World
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey
08:15 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe
09:00 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan
11:30 Drama Serial: Terminal

ETV
04:30 DW Global 3000
06:30 Baula Ontor
07:50 Fashion and Tune
08:20 Drama Serial: Ohongkar
10:10 Trinamool Sanglap

Boishakhi TV
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
04:15 Shorashori Doctor
06:20 Battle of Cricket
08:45 Drama Serial: Talbetal
10:50 Reporters Dairy

BANGLAVISION
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:25 Bichitra
09:05 Shoundorjo Kotha
11:25 Music Club

Rtv
01:10 Bangla Feature Film
12:00 Shamprotik

Z Studio
01:30 College Road Trip
03:20 Halloween H20: 20 Years Later
05:10 The Godfather: Part II
09:30 The Ring
12:00 The Ring Two

HBO
02:15 The Blind Side
05:00 Cop Out
07:15 Baseketball
09:30 Kick-Ass
11:55 Enter the Dragon

Star World
11:30 Desperate Housewives
03:30 Combat Hospital
09:30 Supernatural
10:30 The Shield
11:30 The Big Bang Theory

Discovery Channel
10:30 Man vs. Wild
03:30 Time Warp
08:30 Belly of the Beast
09:30 Equator
10:30 One Man Army

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA
08:40pm Chand Phul Omaboshya
09:20pm Poush Phaguner Pala

CHANNEL i
09:35pm Shokal Shondhya Raat

ntv
09:45pm Shobuj Nokkhotro

ETV
09:30pm Ghatak Baki Bhai

Boishakhi TV
08:10pm Fourth Class Society
09:20pm Grihodaho

BANGLAVISION
08:15pm No Problem

Rtv
09:05pm Boyra Paribar
11:30pm House Number 138

Desh TV

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm.
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).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ATN BANGLA
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.

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 6:00pm

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, 12:02pm, 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

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA
06:15pm Korthamala
12:30am Lead News

CHANNEL i
09:45am Tritio Matra
12:30pm Taroka Kothon
11:30pm Alloy Bhubon Bhora

Rtv
10:40am Tarokalap
07:40pm Our Democracy

ntv
12:30am Ei Shomoy

ETV
12:05am Ekushey-er Raat

Boishakhi TV
12:00am Zero Hour

BANGLAVISION
06:25pm Front Line

Desh TV