

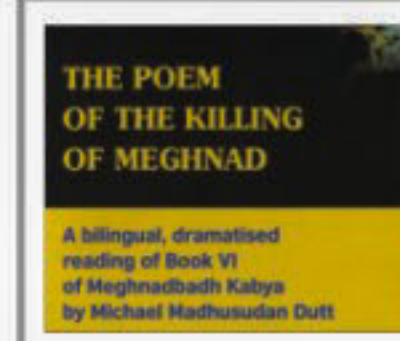
WHAT'S ON



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



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Texture and Colour in Mindscape
Artist: Maksudul Iqbal Nipa
Venue: Bengla Art Lounge, Gulshan-1
Date: Feb 19-Mar 1



Bilingual Poetry Recital
On Book VI of Meghnadbadh by Michael Madhusudan Dutt
Translator & Discusser: William Radice
Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road, Dhaka



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Renewal in Serenity
Venue: Galler Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sector-8, Utha
Date: Feb 18-28
Time: 11am-7:30pm



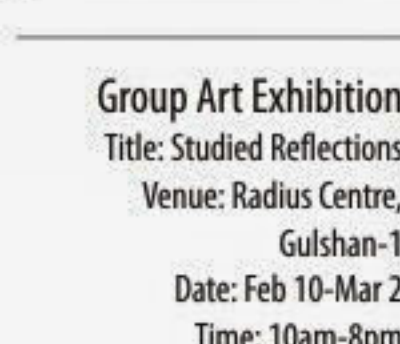
Multimedia Presentation
Featuring the verses of Tagore in his life & works
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum



Dance Recital
Dance-Drama: Rai-Krishna Padaboli
Organiser: Nirjanchal
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Feb 24
Time: 7pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: A tribute to Fakur Rayer
Organiser: The Arts Council Dhaka
Venue: Khazana Restaurant, R-55, H-9, Gulshan-2
Date: Feb 19-Mar 3
Time: 12pm-10pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Studied Reflections
Venue: Radius Centre, Gulshan-1
Date: Feb 10-Mar 2
Time: 10am-8pm

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

Tiny tots introduced to Bangla alphabets



Children at the 'Hatekhari' programme.

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, *Pabna*

Three-year-olds Aditto Chowdhury and Nahian Al Waeshy, together with around 50 children in their age group, wrote Bangla alphabets for the first time in a 'Hatekhari' (initiation to education) programme held at Shaheed Shadhan Sangeet Mahabidyalay in Pabna last Tuesday morning.

Gonoshipi Shongstha, Pabna, a leading cultural organisation of the district, arranged the special event for children below school-going age to mark the International Mother Language Day. Prominent educationists and personalities of the district instructed

the little ones on how to write Bangla alphabets.

"Our initiative to introduce children to Bangla inscription will attract them towards the Bangla language at the entry point of their educational life," Moshfeka Jahan Konika, secretary of the Pabna Gonoshilpi Shongstha, told this correspondent. Bibop Bhoomik, organiser of the programme, said that the event would be an annual feature to mark February 21 (International Mother Language Day) and generate awareness on our mother language. Former lawmaker and veteran lawyer of Pabna Court, Advocate Golam Hasnayen; educationist Professor Shibojit Nag, also

the president of the organisation; retired teacher Khalilur Rahman; cultural organiser Abdul Aziz; Advocate Shafikul Islam and secretary, Pabna Press Club, Ahmedul Haque Rana were present among others as guests.

Advocate Golam Hasnayen stressed the need to teach mother language. "If we do not have sufficient knowledge of our mother language we will be unable to move forward," he said.

"Through such programmes, we have to take the initiative to introduce children to Bangla," said Professor Shibojit Nag, prominent educationist and the president of the organisation.

HOMAGE TO LANGUAGE MOVEMENT MARTYRS IN NARAIL

PONUEL S BOSE, *Narail*

It was a spectacular sight as 1,00,000 candles, in the shape of Shaheed Minar and Bangla alphabets were lit in memory of the Language Movement at the playground of Narail Government Victoria College on February 21.

Ekushey Uddipan Parishad organised the programme. Md. Zohirul Haque, Deputy Commissioner Narail; Munshi Hafizur Rahman, convenor, Ekushey Uddipan Parishad; drama-tist Kochi Khondokar, member secretary of Ekushey Uddipan Parishad jointly inaugurated the ceremony. Among others, Malay Kundu, convenor of Sammilita Sangstrik Jote

and Sharful Alam Litu, Commissioner of Narail Municipality, were present at the ceremony.

Thousands of people from different corners of the country watched the display with enthusiasm. A fair was also held at the venue.

With the theme, "Andhokar Theke Mukto Koruk Ekush-er Alo", Ekushey Uddipan Parishad launched the programme in 1997. From then on the programme has continued as a fixture to pay homage to the Language Movement martyrs.

Artists of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, Narail also rendered folk songs and recited poetry. Maasranga Television aired the programme live.



PHOTO: STAR

Ekushey observed on both sides of the border

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, *New Delhi*

Divided physically by the border but united at heart by the language and culture.

Artistes from India and Bangladesh on Tuesday (February 21) joined in a number of programmes to observe the 'Bhasa Dibas' (International Mother Language Day) in New Delhi, Kolkata, Agartala and along the international borders at Petrapole/Benapole and Agartala/Akhaura.

In New Delhi, the Bangladesh High Commission organised the Ekushey function at the Maitree Hall where noted scholar on Rabindra Sangeet and Nazrul songs, Dr. Mihir Bose, and his wife rendered songs of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazul Islam related to the occasion.

West Bengal Food Minister, Jyotipriya Mullick; Bangladesh MP SK Afruddin and many others joined in one such programme in which the artistes of both the countries took part in singing, recitation and discourses to remember the historic Language Movement this day in Dhaka in 1952.

At the border town of Bongaon in North 24-parganas district, singers and poets of both India and Bangladesh took part in musical programmes.

A team of Bangladeshi students performed in Kolkata to highlight Bengali language and culture.

The Deputy High Commission for Bangladesh in Kolkata began the day by bringing out a procession in the city followed by performances by a group of five students from the University of Dhaka.

Numerous programmes were held in the city too, including the one at Bhasha Udyan at the instance of Bhasha Shahid Smarak Samity where artistes performed to pay tribute to those who had died during protest on February 21, 1952 demanding recognition of Bengali as a state language along with Urdu in the then East Pakistan.

The Kolkata Indo-Bangladesh Cultural Centre had a musical soiree at Sisir Mancha to commemorate the day. While eminent singers like Kabir Suman and Sraboni Sen enthralled the audience, others recited poems.

Various other clubs and organisations also held cultural events in the city and elsewhere in the state.

A report from Agartala said hundreds of people gathered on either side of the India-Bangladesh border at Akhaura, on the occasion of International Mother Language Day to commemorate the historic movement on this date in Dhaka.

February 21, which was later given the honour of International Mother Language Day, was jointly observed by the people of both India and neighbouring Bangladesh and this kind of joint celebration would bring people of two sides closer, 'Bangladesh MP Obaidul Muktaadir

Chowdhury said while addressing the function.

As the programme went on, many cultural activists just crossed over to Bangladesh side and took part in cultural performances.

World Bengali Conference wraps up

ZAHANGIR ALAM

The three-day 'World Bengali Conference' wrapped up on February 21 at Rabindra Sarobar Mancho, Dhanmondi in the capital. London-based organisation, Bengali International (BI), in association with Sammilita Sangskritik Jote leaders, organised the conference for the first time.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the three-day conference as chief guest at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium on February 19. Nobel laureate Dr. Amartya Sen was a special guest at the inaugural programme.

Marking 60 years of Language Movement, eminent Bengalis from across the world, placed wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar in the morning on the concluding day (February 21). A vibrant cultural programme, featuring renditions of songs, dance, poetry recitations and more was also held at Rabindra Sarobar Mancho.

Leading and promising Bangladeshi artistes entertained the audience with their lively performances. The spirit of International Mother Language Day was highlighted through most of the performances.

Biman Chandra Biswas rendered

"Rashtro Bhasha Andolon", written and composed by Md. Shamsuddin and Altaf Mahmud. Ifhar Ara Nargis sang an Abdul Latif song "O Amar Bangla Bhasha" while Fakir Shahabuddin performed his own composition "Shobcheye Boro Porichoy Amra Bangali" at the event.

Several artistes of Bonhi Shikha performed three *Gano Sangeet* -- "Janatar Sangrami Oikye", "Manush Haw Abar Tora" and "Omni Na Bolong Onno Bhashar Bull".

Elocutionist Akhmallullah recited a Syed Shamsul Haq poem, "Amar Porichoy" that reminded the audience of the glorious Bengali identity.

Child artistes of Shampan presented a recital, titled "Roktey Shapath" at the programme. Saful Gani directed the performance.

Youngsters of Bangladesh Adibashi Forum presented four dance pieces showcasing the traditional cultures of ethnic communities including Chakma, Marma, Garo and Tripura.

Artistes of Nriyangan presented a dance, titled "Sukanya". Seasoned dancer Sultana Haider choreographed the piece on Language Movement.

Desh Bangla Theatre staged a street play "Anguri Kathan", written by Rasheedul

Iam and directed by Kamal Bari. The play satirically presents a Pakistani collaborator's exploitations of gullible village people through fatwa.

The cultural programme wrapped up with the staging of a Tagore dance-drama "Chitrangada", a contemporary production of Dhriti dance school.

Prior to cultural programme, a discussion was held where joint convenor of the conference preparatory committee and Sammilita Sangskritik Jote (SSJ) president Nasiruddin Yousuff; vice-president of SSJ and member secretary of the conference preparatory committee Golam Kuddus; one of the founders of Bengali International (BI), Dr. Binoy Bhushan Chowdhury; President of BI, Mohamud Shamsul Haque, and others spoke.

Four seminars were also held at the Nawab Nabab Ali Senate Bhaban of University of Dhaka on the inaugural and second day (February 20) of the conference.

Bengali International aims to encourage Bengali culture and form Bengali brotherhood worldwide.

Established in London, UK, Bengali International has branches in America, Australia and Africa. The organisation has been functioning for the last 35 years.



Artistes dance at the event.

PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

Guerrilla screened in Manikganj



Musical performance prior to the show.

PHOTO: STAR

ZAHANGIR SHAH, *Manikganj*

Nasiruddin Yousuff's film "Guerrilla", based on the Liberation War, was screened at Manikganj Press Club premises on Tuesday evening. Manikganj District Shangsikritik Oikya Parishad arranged the event to celebrate 60 years of the Language Movement.

Prior to the screening, the artistes of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi performed Gano Sangeet. Mostafizur Rahman Mamun, Dhruva Ghosh, Saifuddin Ahmed Nannu and Dipak Ghosh recited poetry at the function. Hundreds of people gathered for the event.

On the occasion, the organisation also held a discussion. Abdus Salam Bulu, president of Manikganj District Shangsikritik Oikya Parishad; Gazi Kamrul Huda Selim; Azaharul Islam Arzu, president of Communist Party of Bangladesh; Prodip Hore, president of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi's local unit; Dipak Kumar Ghosh, advisor to Shangsikritik Biplobi Shangha; Mir Moksed Alam, president of Khelaghar; Professor Ajit Roy; Laxmi Chatterji, chairman of Jatuya Mahila Sangstha; Nazrul Islam, president of Chhatra Union and Mohiduzzaman Mohid, general secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra League, addressed the gathering.

The speakers demanded a reform of the Shilpakala Academy's moribund Manikganj unit. They urged the Deputy Commissioner to take necessary steps or, they added, they would go in for tougher measures.

Discussion on Dhaka Art Summit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Samdani Art Foundation (SAF), in collaboration with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh National Museum, will organise the 1st Dhaka Art Summit. The summit will be held from April 12 to 15 in the city.

On the occasion of the summit, a discussion programme was held on February 19 at Gallery Chittrak in Dhanmondi. The speakers shared their thoughts and views about the upcoming summit.

Rajeeb Samdani, founder-trustee of SAF; Nadia Samdani, director of SAF; artist Mohammad Muniruzzaman, convenor of Summit Steering Committee; Bangladeshi expatriate artist Monirul Islam; Mijarul Kayes, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; senior artist Syed Jahangir; artist Khalid Mahmud Mithu and art critic Moinuddin Khaled spoke at the programme.

Sponsored by City Bank and American Express, the summit will be held at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh National Museum. Several other venues will host exhibitions, curatorial



Nadia Samdani speaks at the programme.

shows, seminars, presentations etc. Shahid Kabir; Hamiduzzaman Khan; Abu Taher; Ahmed Shamsuddoha; Sheikh Afzal, Professor, Drawing and Painting Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University; Farida Zaman, Professor, Oriental Department, FFA;

Nisar Hossain, Professor, Drawing and Painting Department, FFA; Biren Shome; Mohammad Iqbal, associate professor, Drawing and Painting Department, FFA; Maksudul Iqbal Nipa; Taleya Begum Lipi, among others, attended the programme.

In remembrance of an iconic essayist 13th death anniversary of Abu Zafar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today (February 23) marks the 13th death anniversary of Abu Zafar. Zafar was a noted educationist, essayist and columnist of our country. His writing enriched the literary movement in the '60s and '70s -- decades regarded as a "golden age" for Bengali literateurs. He was actively involved in national movements; in particular his immense contribution to the Liberation War will be remembered with utmost reverence.

Zafar was born in Murshidabad district of West Bengal in 1937. After completing his MA in 1960, he joined B.L. College [Khulna] as a lecturer. Subsequently he moved to Jagannath College [Dhaka] and



worked there for over a decade. After retirement, he served at several important posts

in the Education Ministry. His repertoire may not have been voluminous, but it's considered a touchstone where the standard of language and themes are concerned. Some of his noteworthy publications are "Anwisha Jiban" (A collection of essays), "Shahitye Samaj Bhabna," "Hasan Azizul Haque-er Golpey Samaj Bastobota" and "Rabindranath-er Rajnaitik Chintadhar."

Zafar authored a significant number of research papers published in national and international journals. He also contributed regularly to a number of newspapers in Bangladesh. He also wrote regularly in monthly literature magazines Muktohdara and Desh. He was an outstanding amateur portrait artist also.

Reading of "Meghnadbadh Kabya" by Radice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Michael Madhusudan Dutt's epic 'Meghnadbadh Kabya' is no more a highly potential yet alien text for non-Bengali readers due to William Radice's excellent translation, which was published in November 2010. Radice's rendition has since received critical acclaim from researchers as famous as Ghulam Murshid.

Today, to mark the centenary of the epic's original publication, Radice will give a reading at 6 pm at British Council, Dhaka. This is the first time Radice will be reading out his new translation in public. The reading, however, will not be an ordinary one. It will be complemented by reading of Bengali stanzas from the original text. With musical accompaniment to be rendered by Sydur Rahman Lipon, Shormymala and Delwar Hossain Didi, the event will take on a dramatised performance. The performance will be directed by Mukul Ahmed, a London-based theatre director.

Book VI has been selected for reading because it constitutes the climax of the epic, describing the dastardly slaying of Ravan's defenceless son Meghnad by Lakshman. The programme will be a unique opportunity to hear Madhusudan's magnificent poetry which has been given new life and mean-



ing for the 21st century readers by a translator who himself is an English poet.

Radice needs little introduction to Bengali readers. Well known for his translations of the poems and stories of Tagore, he has also published books including "Myths and Legends of India", "Teach Yourself Bengali" and "A Hundred Letters from England". He taught Bengali language and literature at SOAS, University of London from 1988 to 2011, and from 1999 to 2002 was Head of the Departments of South and South East Asia. He remains linked to SOAS as a Research Associate.

Beetle Baily

Henry

by Mort Walker

by Don Trachte

Beetle Baily

Henry

by Mort Walker

by Don Trachte

Beetle Baily

Henry

by Mort Walker

by Don Trachte

ATN BANGLA		12:05	Music Fest
11:20	Business and Finance	Desh TV	
06:15	Amra Korbo Joy	04:30	Durpath
08:00	Drama Serial: Not Out	06:30	Phaguner Molat
		07:45	Drama Serial: Mayer
11:00	Drama: Poush Raater Sheshe	09:45	Doya Poribahan
		11:55	Style & Fashion
CHANNEL i			Drama: Traffic Signal 0 Holud Bati
11:05	Shantir Pothey	Maasranga Television	
01:05	Ebong Cineamar Gaan	10:02	Bangla Feature Film
02:40	Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak	05:30	Amazing Animals
03:30	Bangla Feature Film	06:30	Char Deyal-er Khela
06:30	Boi Mela	08:00	Tele-film
		11:00	Tomay Gaan Shonabo
ntv		Z Studio	
10:05	Tele-film	01:30	Kill Bill Vol . 2
04:10	Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey	04:30	Heavyweights
		06:50	Erma
06:15	Shubho Shondhya	09:30	Friday the 13th: A New Beginning
09:00	Amraro Gaite Kichhe		

RADIO			
abc radio FM 89.2	12:00	My Time	
09:00	Mukhorito Bhojney	01:00	No Tension
12:00	Darun Dupury	04:00	Dhaka Calling
03:00	Duranto Bheley	06:00	High Roller
05:00	Sheshchakra	07:00	Rock to Back music
07:00	Shayer Maya	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	
09:00	Raat-er Akashy	06:00	Green FM
11:00	Golper Shesh Nei	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
Radio Footy		12:00	Today's Adia
07:30	Hella Dhaka	04:00	U Tum
10:00	Morning Express	07:00	Tubby Tai Hok

Ekusher Pongktimala
On Boishakhi TV at 12:30pm
Talk Show
Guest: Kamal Lohani

After the Sunset
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Crime/ Action
Cast: Pierce Brosnan, Salma Hayek

Poush Raater Sheshe
On ATN Bangla at 12:00pm
Single Episode
TV Play
Cast: Masum Aziz, Queen Rahman

11:30	Holo	11:30	The Terminal
	Music Euphony		HBO
ETV		03:45	Paranormal Activity 2
11:30	Ekushey-er Business	05:40	She's Out of My League
05:40	Sports Plus	07:40	Camel Spiders
07:50	Drama	09:30	After the Sunset
09:30	Ekushey-er Chokh	11:35	Clash of the Titans
10:10	Tobacco Badthin		Star World
Boishakhi TV		11:30	Desperate Housewives
10:30	Bangla Feature Film	02:30	Supernatural
04:15	Shorashori Doctor	03:30	Charlie's Angels
09:20	Drama Serial: Gridhobad	10:30	The Shield
10:50	Reporters: Diary		National Geographic
11:30	Praner Mela		Channel
BANGLAVISION		02:30	Mega Bridges
11:05	Shokal Belar Roddur	04:30	Animals: Game Crazy
02:20	Cinebit	09:00	Animal Mega Moves
05:20	Ponkika-Prustoti	10:00	Engineering Connections
06:05	Shyamal Bangla		Discovery Channel
09:05	Bipashar Orthi	03:30	Rampage
Rtv		08:30	Wildnet India
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	09:30	Breaking Point
05:00	Cinema R Gaan	10:30	One Man Army
05:20	Jadur Deshey		BBC World
11:30	Drama: Nil Shimana		

DRAMA SERIAL			
ATN BANGLA		08:00pm	Fourth Class Society
08:40pm	Chand Phul Amaboshya	BANGLAVISION	
09:20pm	Mithelhel C/A	08:15pm	No Problem
CHANNEL i			Rtv
07:50pm	Bhater Bahar	09:05pm	Outsinger
09:35pm	Shakal Shondhya Raat	09:50pm	Dhan Shaliker Gaon
ntv			Desh Tv
08:15pm	Rupkotha	08:15pm	Sat Kahon
09:45pm	Dokhilaayoner Din		Maasranga Television
Boishakhi TV		09:30pm	Dilar Golpo

RTV	News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:30pm, 12:00pm, 1:30pm, 4:00pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	NEWS BULLETIN
	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, 12:00pm, 1:30pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	
CHANNEL-4	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	
	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	

TALK SHOW			
ATN BANGLA		11:25pm	Talk of the Week
12:30am	Lead News	Boishakhi TV	
CHANNEL I		12:00am	Zero Hour
09:45am	Tristia Matra	12:30am	Ekushey-er
12:30pm	Tarika Kothon	Pongktimala	
11:30pm	Sharpho Dear	Rtv	
Din		10:40am	Tarakalap
ntv		07:40pm	Our Democracy
12:10pm	El Shomoy	Desh TV	
BANGLAVISION		10:30pm	Desh E Golpo