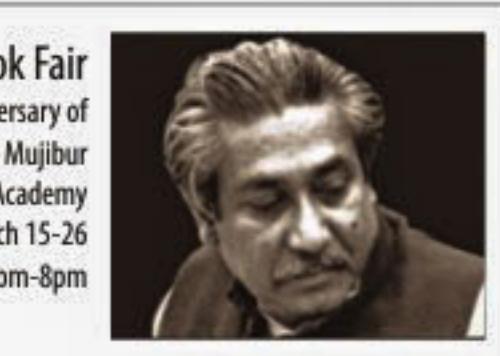


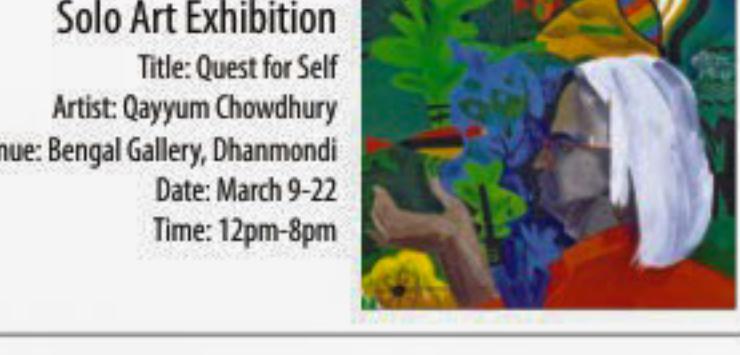
WHAT'S ON



Book Fair
82nd birth anniversary of
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy
Date: March 15-26
Time: 4pm-8pm



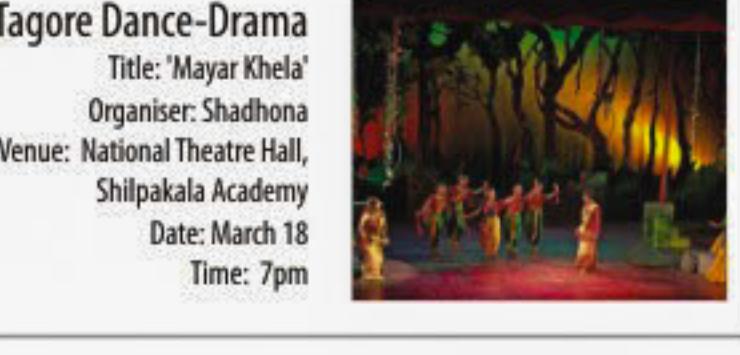
Francophonie 2012
Organiser: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka (AFD)
Venue: AFD, Dhammandi, Gulshan and Uttara
Date: March 15-24



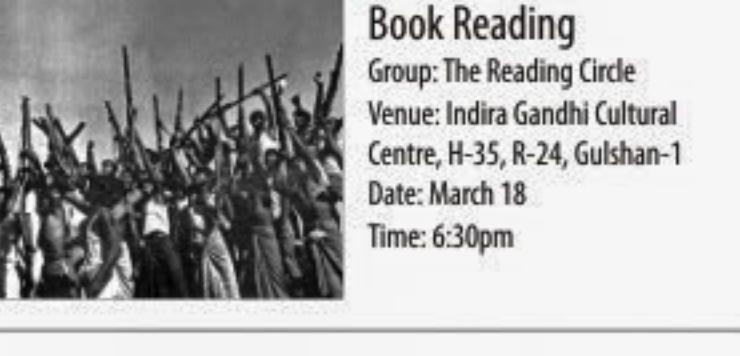
Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Quest for Art
Artist: Gyanay Choudhury
Venue: Bengal Gallery, Dhammandi
Date: March 22
Time: 12pm-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Vision -5
Venue: Gallery Cosmos-2, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: March 10-29
Time: 11am-8pm



Tagore Dance-Drama
Title: "Mayar Khele"
Organiser: Shadonna, Shilpkala Academy
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpkala Academy
Date: March 18
Time: 7pm



Book Reading
Group: The Reading Circle
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan-1
Date: March 18
Time: 6:30pm



Book Launch
Book: Shubhprakash:
Neelima O Naijaroj
Venue: Bengal Shilpkala, H-42, Rd 16, Dhammandi
Date: March 17



Theatre
Play: Shesher Kobita
Troupe: Theatre Art Unit
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpkala Academy
Date: March 17

A BENGALI IRON LADY

Japani Bodhu by Tanvir Mokammel

PALLAB BHATTACHARAYA, New Delhi

From a nondescript woman in Dhaka to Tokyo, where she read news in Bangla on radio for Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Azad Hind Fauj, travelling in the dead of night every day risking her life through bomb-ravaged streets of Tokyo during the Second World War.

That is the exceptional story of Hariproba Basu Mallik, who married a Japanese entrepreneur Wemon Takeda, and travelled to Tokyo in 1912, and whose life has been recreated on the celluloid by eminent Bangladeshi director Tanvir Mokammel in his latest documentary, "Japani Bodhu" (The Japanese Wife) set to be premiered in Dhaka next month.

Born in 1890, Hariproba would have remained a largely forgotten figure but for her "Bongo Mohilar Japan Jatra", a memoir of her journey to Japan in 1912, considered the first book on that country by any woman from the subcontinent.

The book was first published from Dhaka in 1915, Mokammel told The Daily Star.

Hariproba

a fell in love with and married Japanese entrepreneur Wemon Takeda who had set up a soap factory in Dhaka and she was 22 when she travelled with her husband to Japan in 1912.

It was an opportunity for Hariproba to not only meet her in-laws but also see the socio-cultural life of Japan. She not only visited Japan but also wrote a memoir, a kind of travelogue about the then Japan. Japan, as portrayed in Hariproba's book, is a different country altogether 100 years back, Mokammel said. "Bongo Mohilar Japan Jatra" was published four years before Rabindranath Tagore's "Japan Jatra".

Hariproba shifted permanently to



Wemon Takeda and Hariproba.

Japan in 1941 when the country was in the throes of the Second World War and when Japanese nationals from across the world were returning to their homeland.

Besides the War, what made Hariproba's life tougher was the illness of her husband and with the help of revolutionary Rashbehari Bose, she took up the job of reader of Bengali news aired from Tokyo Radio for Subhash Chandra Bose's Azad Hind Fauj in 1944-45 to make a living.

Day in and day out, Tokyo was battered by allied forces bombing and Hariproba saw around her all the horrors of the war as well the sufferings of the Japanese people and wrote another memoir on Japan. Wearing a helmet, she used to travel through the streets of Tokyo in the dead of night to reach the radio station to read the news, to take care of her ailing husband. It was during this time that Hariproba was introduced to Subhash Chandra Bose.

After her husband's death in 1948, she shifted to West Bengal and stayed with her sister in Jalpaiguri before breathing her last in Kolkata in 1972.



Hariproba (in a black sari), to the left of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Mokammel said what inspired him to make the documentary was the "extraordinary courage" shown by Hariproba in marrying a Japanese and travelling to a totally different country, society and culture.

"I have huge respect for women like Hariproba who muster the courage of venturing into totally uncharted territory in life. It takes a lot of courage to do so," the director said adding that "finding her books interesting and herself an exceptional character I decided to make a film on Hariproba."

"The film was with me for last 10 years and the special reason I made the film this year is because 2012 is the centenary year of Hariproba's travel to Japan," asserts the director.

The research for the film has been done by journalist Manjurul Huq and Kajihiro Watanabe and the documentary was shot in Tokyo, Kobe and Nagoya, the places where Hariproba had lived or travelled, in India and in Bangladesh.

The 67-minute film, supported by Japan Foundation, has been shot by Golam Masum Zico and edited by Delhi-based Mahadeb Shih and its music is done by Syed Shabab Ali Arzoo.

Musical Homage to Waheedul Haque

Chhayanaut holds Desh Ghar-er Gaan 1418



Manoj Bahadur (3-R) and his troupe during a Jhum dance presentation.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

by Pandit Ramkanai Das, Sudhir Lal Das, Shamim Ahmad and Sajia Binte Rahik.

Sajia Binte Rahik kicked off the inaugural day's event through rendering songs originally composed by Baul Shah Abdul Karim, Hasan Raja and Syed Shahnoor. Her repertoire included "Ami Kul Hara Kalangkini", "Sona Bondey Amarey Diwana Banailo" and more, while Shamim Ahmed performed "Tor Soney Korey Piriti", "Amare Chhariya Kala" and "Agyei Ki Sundar Din Katailai" originally composed by Arkum Shah, Durbin Shah and Shah Abdul Karim.

Apart from speech by the inaugurator, general secretary of Chhayanaut Khairul Anam Shakil delivered the welcome address. President of Chhayanaut, Sanjida Khutun, was also present on the occasion.

Featuring the opulent heritage of Bangladeshi folk music and dance, the programme was held at Bakultala, Faculty of Fine Arts of University of Dhaka. Renowned artistes and troupes from across the country performed on the occasion.

Manoj Bahadur and his troupe from Rangamati presented several indigenous dance forms including Jhum dance of the Chakmas, plate dance of the Marmas and bottle dance of the Tripura community. Sushmita, Annie, Shelley, Rimi, Rini, Sharup Hossain on tabla, Dasharath Das on dhol, Babu on banshi and Kumar Roy on dotara instrumentally assisted the performers.

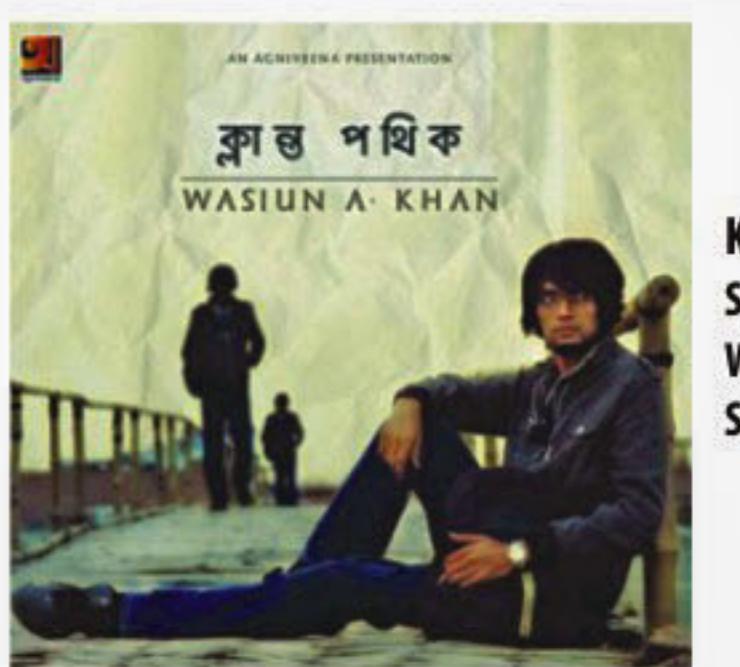
Manoj Bahadur and his troupe from Rangamati presented several indigenous dance forms including Jhum dance of the Chakmas, plate

Ria and Anupam took part in the dance presentations. Manoj Bahadur, Kirio Marma and Lovely Assam directed the traditional music, while Titu Devnath and Shimul Das instrumentally assisted the dance performances.

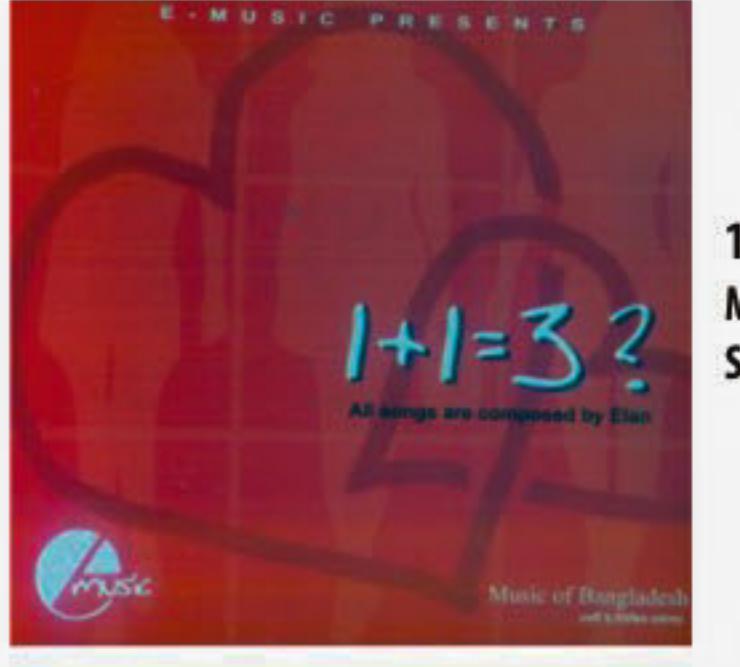
Based on a "Ramayan" story (Sita's banishment), Kripasindhu Roy and his troupe from Kuriagram performed Kushan Gaan that wrapped up the inaugural day's performances. Kripasindhu Roy directed music for the presentation. Aymal Haque, Mithu, Sujan, Nazmul, Jagodish, Kartik Chandra, Kakoli, Trisha and others took part in the presentation.

Waheedul Haque believed that it would not be possible to form a complete impression of our culture, without becoming familiar with our folk music -- rooted in our tradition. Upholding this ideal, Chhayanaut has been arranging this programme for the last six years, highlighting various forms of folk songs practiced in different parts of the country.

NEW RELEASES



Klanto Pothik
Solo album by
Wasun A Khan
Source:



1+1=3?
Mixed album
Source:



Mon-e Porey
Aaj
Album of
Nazrul
Sangeet by
Deepti
Samarde
Dipu
Source: Laser

THEATRE

One Hundred Sacks of Rice

staged to celebrate Bangladesh Japan friendship



The play is set against the backdrop of the transition from Shogunate era to Meiji resurrection, about 140 years ago.

PHOTO: STAR

informed that the play has been selected for another prestigious Japanese award conferred by the Nagaoka Kome Happya Foundation. The authority will formally hand over the award this June.

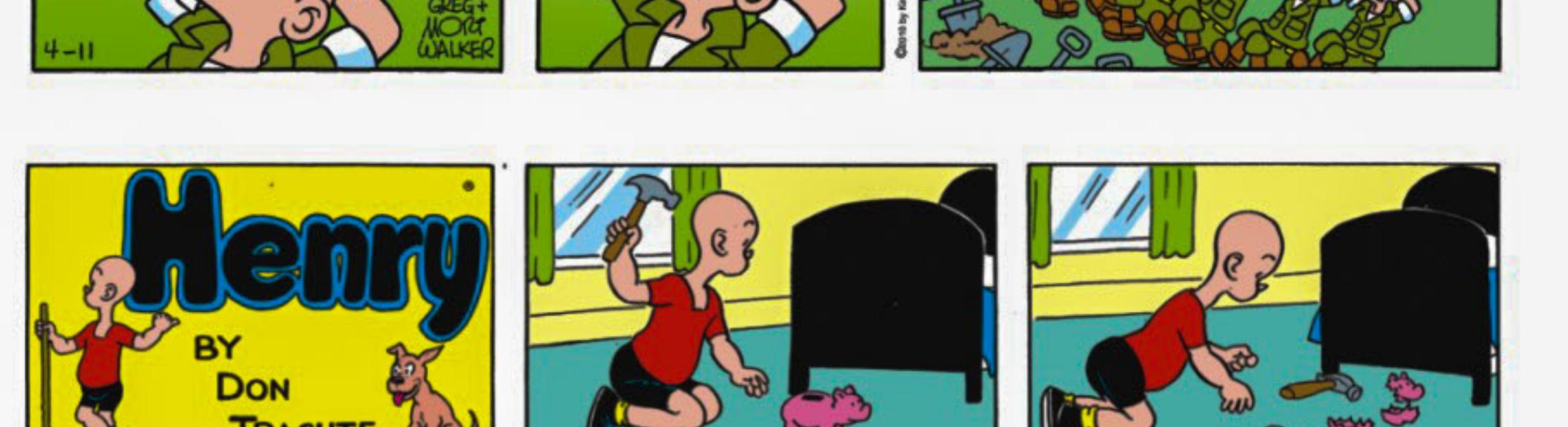
The play is set against the backdrop of the transition from Shogunate era to Meiji resurrection, about 140 years ago.

During the Edo era, a war between Tokugawa Shogun and the Emperor, known as the Meiji Restoration War, took place. Nagaoka was an affluent region before the war. However, after the war started, Nagaoka faced a bad harvest and inevitable poverty. As aid, one hundred sacks of rice were sent to Nagaoka.

The 16th Uchimura Naoya Prize (conferred by International Theatre Institute, Japan; 2008) winning play, "One Hundred Sacks of Rice", has been directed by Golam Sarwar. An adaptation of a Japanese literary work by Yuzo Yamamoto, the play has been translated into Bangla by Professor Abdus Selim.

Director Golam Sarwar

Many of the samurais and farmers, who survived the war, demanded the rice be shared among them. However, after a long debate, Torasaburo Kobayashi, one of the Nagaoka ministers and a highly educated samurai, persuaded his lord Reza Khan to sell the rice instead



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Medical Promotion Officers

Pharmacil Limited is committed to providing quality medicare affordable to all. We follow a unique business model to create the pharmaceutical company of tomorrow.

Currently we have a few positions to offer to eligible candidates willing to work as Medical Promotion Officers responsible for the promotion of pharmaceutical products in Bangladesh.

The candidates should have a Master's or Bachelor's degree (4 years honours) with biological science at least up to H.S.C. level and below 30 years of age.

Eligible candidates are encouraged to attend a walk-in **written test** as per the following schedule:

Date & Time : Friday, 23rd March 2012, 09.30 am.

Venue : Hall Room at 3rd floor, Star Hotel & Restaurant, House # 16, Road # 2 Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205.

Candidates are requested to submit a hand written application along with a complete resume, a recent passport size photograph and photocopy of National ID card, at the venue.

Pharmacil Limited

22/1 Dhanmondi, Road 2, Dhaka-1205, tel: 8625905

ATN BANGLA

11:10 Promoto Bangla
01:25 Prapok
03:05 Bangla Feature Film
09:20 Drama Serial:
Chhayanaut Kanary
11:00 Drama Serial: Shikhondi Kottha

CHANNEL I

12:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Baula Batach
09:35 Hridoye Mati O Manush
11:30 Fun Club Tournament

ntv

08:45 Bangla Feature Film
03:10 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush
09:00 Drama: Notebook
11:30 Viewers Hour
12:30 Chhobir Gaan

HBO

01:45 Final Destination 2
03:40 Open Water
05:20 Dinoevros or Supergator
07:10 Music and Lyrics

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhorer Janayat
09:00 Mukhoboroboye
12:00 Duronto Bilkley
05:00 Shundhatar
07:00 Shajer Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashay
11:00 Golper Sheis Nei
08:00 Addabazi

PHOTO

02:00 Foorti Unlimited
06:00 Bumper to Bumper
10:00 Back to Back Music
RADIO TODAY FM 96
06:00 Radio FM
08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
11:00 World Music
04:00 U Turn
11:00 Tobe Hoiok
10:00 Raat Bhor Gaan
12:00 Huttun Pecha

Bela Obela

Sharabela
On Desh TV at 09:45pm
Celebrity Talk Show
Guest: Binod Bihari Chowdhury

ANYONE ELSE WOULD BE DEAD BY NOW

On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/ Crime
Cast: Idris Elba, Zoe Saldana

Istikum

On Boishakhi TV at 08:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Hassan Masud, Putul

Boishakhi TV

09:20 Meena Cartoon
03:30 Bongobondhu O Bangladesh
05:30 Front Line
06:20 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue
11:00 Nirapad Sarak Chai

BANGLAVISION

01:05 Bangla Feature Film
04:30 Bongobondhu O Bangladesh
06:25 Front Line
09:45 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue
11:25 Lal Golap

Rtv

10:10 Dhrupodi Kahini
12:35 Bangla Feature Film
07:40 Tkholi Ben To
09:50 Drama Serial: Dhan Shakil-er Gaon
11:30 Jegey Akihi Ki

Discovery Channel

02:30 Man vs. Wild
03:30 Bermuda Triangle
04:30 Swamp Brothers
05:30 Taboo

Desh TV

03:00 Bangla Feature Film
06:30 Nurup Beje