

A two-day cultural programme, titled "Desh Ghar-er Gaan 1418", organised by leading cultural organisation Chhayanaut wrapped up at Bakultala, Faculty of Fine Arts of University of

ZAHANGIR ALOM

On March 15, seasoned folk singer Kuti Mansur inaugurated the programme that featured the opulent heritage of Bangladeshi folk music and dance. Renowned artistes and troupes from across the country performed on the occasion. Dasharath Das kicked off the con-

cluding day's (March 16) programme through a solo dhol recital. Solo rendition of songs by Sudhir Lal Das from Sunamganj followed. The singer presented three Radha Raman numbers at the event. Eminent singer Pandit Ramkanai Das was next to take the stage. He first performed a tappa composed by his father Rashik Lal Das. The artiste also rendered an old folk song of the Sylhet region. Pinu Sen Das on tabla, Ratan

Kumar Roy on dotara, Shahidul Islam on banshi and Dasharath Das on dhol accompanied the singers. Abdul Kuddus Shah and Ali Shah

led a Kushtia-based troupe that performed songs of Fakir Lalon Shai. Shankar Lal Prem on tabla, Murad Baul on dotara and Noorman Shah on banshi made the performances Krishnachura Munda Pahan Cul-

tural Troupe from Naogaon

showcased several indigenous dance forms with their traditional music Sukhen Pahan and Rameshwar Pahan directed music while Sagari Rani Munda choreographed the dance pieces. Shilpi, Anita, Bineeta, Suchitra, Chandana, Aleka and Anjali were the featured artistes who took part in dances. Biplob Munda (dhol) Khitish (korka), Supath (madol) Sajeeb (khanjari) and Ripan (banshi) instrumentally assisted the performances. Karuna Rani Pahan narrated during the performances.

The indigenous Munda community lives in the northern part of Naogaon





Desh Ghar-er Gaan 1418

Folk festival in honour of Waheedul Haque wraps up



Clockwise (from top): Artistes of Krishnachura Munda Pahan Cultural Troupe dance; Milon Palakar enacts "Kamola Ranir Kissa": Abdul Kuddus Shah performs a Lalon song and Pandit Ramkanai Das sings at the event.

Abu Siddique on harmonium, Hazra

Julhas Mia on dhol accompanied the

As homage to eminent cultural

behind the nationalist cultural move

ment for decades, Chhayanaut has

Waheedul Haque, a driving force

activist and Tagore exponent

Ali on banshi, Rafigul on juri and

district that is part of the Barendra region. 'Pahan' is their ancestral title. Milon Palakar and his troupe from

Netrakona performed Pala Gaan that wrapped up the two-day programme The troupe presented "Kamola Ranir Kissa" on the occasion. The Pala performance was set on rustic humour that entertained the urban audience.

been arranging this programme for the last six years, highlighting various forms of folk songs practiced in different parts of the country. 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.

Bangabandhu recalled in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Pabna residents recalled Bangabandhu, father of the nation amidst festivity. Different organisations arranged programmes to celebrate the 92nd birth anniversary of Bangabandhu. Processions paraded the main streets of the district headquarters to mark the occasion.

The Pabna district administration chalked out day long programmes, including a rally, discussion and cultural programme. Children from several educational institutions took part in a painting competition held at the Pabna Town Hall A discussion and cultural programme were also held at the

Pabna Town Hall premises on Saturday night. Deputy commisioner Pabna, Md. Mostafizur Rahman chaired the discussion. Pabna Police Superintendent Jahangir Hossain Matobbar, educationist Professor Md. Kamruzzaman, Mirza Shahidul Islam and Professor Shibojit Nag spoke on the occasion. The speakers focused on the role of Bangabandhu in liberat-

ing Bangladesh. Bangabandhu led the people of Bangladesh towards a mass upsurge they asserted. The masses across the country joined the freedom movement and freed Bangladesh in the nine month Liberation war.

The speakers emphasised the importance of imbuing children about the real history of the country and thereby fostering

Later artistes from several organisations performed patriotic songs and dances.

Children's art contest in Sylhet

In observance of the 92nd birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, the Sylhet Zila Shilpakala Academy organised a children's art contest on Saturday last.

Addressing the contestants at the outset, District Cultural Affairs Officer Abdul Hannan said that the event is organised annually to enable the youngsters to learn about the life and works of the founder of the country. A good number of children from different schools, colleges and universities took part in three groups in the contest. Art teachers Arbinda Dasgupta, Jamila Akhtar Rakhi and Tamim Bin Emdad conducted the daylong event

The winners will be given certificates and prizes at the Independence Day function on March 26.

As part of the two-day-long "The Daily Star-Heritage Chatigram History Conference", the artistes of Roktokorobi performed songs commemorating Rabindranath Tagore's 150th birth anniversary. The programme was held on March 16 at the Theatre Institute in Chittagong.

NAZRUL'S BIDROHI

Rebel Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam symbolised rebellion against all forms of religious bigotry, social injustice and prejudice. His poem "Bidrohi" ("The Rebel") was recently narrated by Mahbub Hassan Saleh, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh, to the accompaniment of some fine Kathak dance presented by renowned Kathak danseuse Dr. Shovana Narayan On the eve of the programme, Shovana spoke to Kavita about the unusual experiment:

The poem mirrors the inner turmoil that is within every person at all times. It was relevant in 1922, it is relevant today and will be relevant in all times to come.

What is the programme about?

Shovana: This programme celebrates the 90th anniversary of the publishing of the epic poem "Bidrohi by Kazi Nazrul Islam". It also celebrates the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the governments of India and Bangladesh.

What is the aim?

Shovana: To me, the poem mirrors the inner turmoil that is within every person at all times. It was relevant in 1922, it is relevant today and will be relevant in all times to come. Each of us is beset with inner turmoil; be it hopes, desires, anguish, pain, a kind of rebellion emerging within against our own thoughts, our deeds, our desires, environment et al.

It is fascinating to see how several Indian mythologies and legends revolving around Lord Shiva and Lord Krishna, to name a few, are included in this poem. Ir fact, they form the basis of this poem. Therefore, the dance treatment found ample scope for expansion of thoughts and ideas of the poem.

I had already performed to this poem in the early '90s during my dance tour to Dhaka. However, the treatment of then and now is vastly different. Earlier, it was a straight rendering to the poem as in the 'kavitt' style o Kathak. This time, it is a visual operatic treatment in dance enactment involving all shades of choreography be it solo, duet or group renderings emphasising all the three aspects of 'nritta', 'nritya' and 'natya' of the

'Natyashastra'. What were the challenges of the project?

Shovana: The challenge was the choice of language Bengali is understood by a small percentage of Delhi' population. Hence, in order to reach out to the vast majority of the audience, the choice of language became essential. Since Hindi translations were not



immediately available, English translation by the late Kabir Chowdhury, which was available, became the obvious choice.

As for me, working with English poetry was not new, as along with late Professor Ramchandra Gandhi, the eminent philosopher and grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, we had pioneered the genre of dance enactment in English language (as he wrote his dance plays for me and recited them himself, in English) way back in 1991. You have done work on numerous other poets like Meerabai, Rumi, and Amir Khusro. How does Nazrul compare with them? Shovana: Each of these great poets spoke about the

inner quest of man, his aspirations and desires, in different terms. They all spoke the universal language of love, of the necessity to introspect, uplift ourselves and transcend ourselves. Together their poems provide a vast colourful canvas of emotions, imageries but with that one unifying factor of universal love and brotherhood -- of compassion, sensitivity and consciousness.

Tareque Masud, Mishuk Munier remembered in Tangail Three shows of **Runway** held

Faruque and secretary, MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

chancellor Professor

Moniruzzaman, proctor Omar

The contributions of late media personalities Tareque Masud and Mishuk Munier were recalled at Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University (MBSTU) in Tangail recently. The programme included a

also urged every Bangladeshi to discussion on the lives and works raise their voice against the disturbof the two noted personalities and ing phenomenon of road accidents. a film screening. Catherine Masud, widow of Dhrubotara, a techno-cultural

Tareque Masud, held a telephonic club of MBSTU, arranged the conference with the discussants. events at the academic building of At the concluding session, "Runway", the last film of Masud, was the university. Vice-chancellor of MBSTU, Prof. M Nurul Islam, Pro-Vice-

A keen audience, including teachers and students of the university, watched the film.

member Ashraf Uddin and

Assistant Commissioner Sharif

Raihan delivered speeches at the

Dhrubotara, ANM Imtiaz

addressed the discussion.

would not be filled.

The discussants mourned the

Munier in a fatal road accident and

untimely demise of Masud and

termed the loss as a vacuum that

The speakers at the discussion

Classical music workshop

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

shop, with Subhrangshu Chakrabarti and Sumitra Biswas of India as trainers, ended in Kushtia

a classical music evening was held at Kushtia Shilpakala Academy

Dhrupadi Sashtriyo Sangeet Charcha Kendra, led by cultural personality Mir Jahid, organised the events in association with Kushtia Shilpakala Academy.

in Kushtia ends A discussion was also held on the occasion. Amirul Islam, general secretary of Kushtia A three-day classical music work-Shilpakala Academy; its executive

programme. Mir Jahid gave the As part of the closing ceremony, welcome speech. Later, Sumitra Biswas performed khaval and thumri at the programme. Artistes and exponents of classical music in the district

attended the function. Eighteen participants took part in the training. Certificates were given among the participants.

Shuprobhat Bangladesh Gallery Jolrong hosts special programme

at Dhaka University



addressed the audience.

The participating painters were Tarun

Performers at the programme were

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ghosh, Sukumar Pal, Shishir Gallery Jolrong organised a daylong spe-Bhattacharya, Nisar Hossain, Khalid cial event featuring painting and perform-Mahmud Mithu, Kanak Chanpa Chakma ing art, titled "Shuprobhat Bangladesh", Firoz Mahmud, Abdus Salam, Alaptagin on March 17 at the Seminar Hall of Nabab Tushar, Sulekha Chowdhury and others. Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, University of

Noted painters, sculptors, conceptua artists from

different parts of the country took part in the event. The event was

Participating artists at the programme. the occasion of

inaugural session. Artist Shawon

Akhand, on behalf of Gallery Jolrong,

the 92nd birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Artists Sukumar Pal, Nisar Hossain

and Khalid Mahmud Mithu spoke at the

tory of the Liberation War, superstitions, bigotry and various social and political dilemmas

Chakraborti

Peoples

were highlighted in their artworks and performances. The outputs of the workshop will be displayed at Gallery Jolrong in Banani.

struggles, dreams, his

Keith Richards apologises to Mick Jagger

upcoming documentary chronicling the Rolling Stones' 50-year career Keith Richards addresses the derogatory comments he made about Mick Jagger in his 2010 memoir Life. Here is the exchange:

How have you both found surveying a journey that has already lasted 50 years? It must have been difficult at times, bearing in mind the nature of your relationship and especially the stories we have all heard about the tensions that resulted from the publication of Life. Mick: Well, I'm glad you said 50

vears as that sounds so much less

than half a century (laughs).



bound to recall both the highs and the

plain now from the book that Keith felt excluded, which is a pity. Time I reckon to move on. Keith: Mick's right. He and I have had conversations over the last year of a kind we have not had for an extremely long time and that has been incredibly important to me. As far as the book goes, it was my

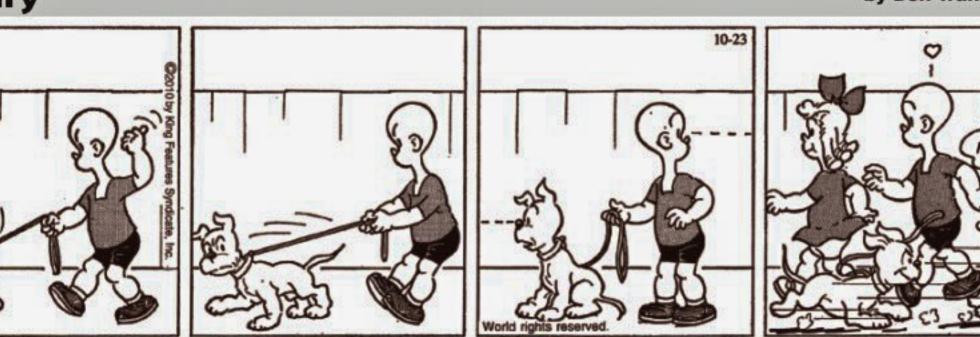
side of the Stones, mainly because I

offended Mick and I regret that. In the 1980s for instance Keith and

I were not communicating very well. I SOURCE: ROLLING STONE

by Mort Walker









change in the programme

Maasranga Television 10:02 Bangla Feature Film

03:25 Ghost Machine

02:10 Enter the Dragon





National Geographic 02:30 Seconds from Disaster

Discovery Channel

Nature's Deadliest My Naked Secret 09:50 Bridal Show Desh TV 10:30 Dual Survival 04:30 Durpath Tattoo Hunter

06:30 Prantojoner Shukhkotha BBC World DRAMA SERIAL House Number 138 Protnonari 09:30pm 08:45pm Pathorer Kanna 09:20pm Batpar BANGLAVISION 09:05pm Long March Desh TV

NEWS BULLETIN

08:15pm Sath Kahon

News (Bangla) at 10am, Vews (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm. News (English) at 10am, News (English) at 9am, BANGLAVISION ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 10am, News (Bangla) at 11am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm News (English) at 9am, News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. CHANNEL i News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, News (Bangla) at 1:45pm. 10:30pm. 6:45pm, 10:45pm. News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. News (Bangla) at 1pm,

News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, Maasranga Television News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am. TALK SHOW 12:00am Zero Hour

11:45pm Shoja Kotha