



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

**WHAT'S ON**

**Odommo Chattagram**  
12-day festival by The Daily Star  
In Chittagong  
Date: March 30-April 10



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Peace in Times of Disquiet  
Artist: Mohammad Iqbal  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi  
Date: April 6-17

**Bhawaiya Festival**  
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh  
Date: April 8  
Time: 11am onwards

**Theatre Festival**  
Organiser: Padatik Natya Sangshad (TSC)  
Venue: Shilpakala Academy  
Date: April 4-9  
Time: 7pm

**Chaitro Sankranti Boi Utshab**  
Organiser: Adom Publication  
Venue: Public Library Premises  
Date: March 31-April 12  
Time: 10am-8pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Song of the United Heart-River  
Artist: Matlub Ali  
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: March 30-April 8;

# Music, magic

## A day with Fahmida Nabi

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

The daughter of eminent singer Mahmudunnabi, Fahmida Nabi was raised in a family of music enthusiasts and musicians, who gave her all the inspiration she needed to choose music as a career. One of the most popular singers of the country, Fahmida Nabi has received a national award as recognition of her work, while she is also involved in social work.

The Daily Star recently caught up with the artiste.

**What is your opinion on the recent changes in the music scene?**

**Fahmida:** Changes are preferred when the music is more melodious. Lyrics of songs are more life-centric at the moment. But everything should be refined and more honed. Only then will it survive the test of time.

**Your father was a respected musician and his songs continue to be popular. Would you share any particular memory of your father?**

**Fahmida:** My father used to tell me that music only takes a permanent form in the hands of those who understand it and those who remain humble. I follow these words by my father. I want my music to outlive me.

**How busy is your schedule these days?**

**Fahmida:** I'm currently busy with stage shows and working on my 12th album -- "Ami Palte Jaini". The title song focuses on the idea that everyone changes, but I have remained the same. The lyrics go like this: "Dyakhlo palte gechhe ei shohorer chitro, palte gechho tumi, dekho palte gechhe



rajar niti, shudhu paltate parini ami". Words and tune of the song were composed by Russell. It's a brilliant romantic song, which I believe the listeners will like.

**How many songs will the album include? Who are the lyricists and composers?**

**Fahmida:** There will be 10 songs in the album. I'm targeting Eid as its release date. It's been a year since I did the album "Akash O Shomudro Aupar". For my latest album, the lyricists are Kawsar Ahmed

Chowdhury, Golam Morshed, Jahid Akbar, Zulfiqar Russell and Shahan Kobondho. The songs were composed by Russell, Tanvir Tarek and several others.

**Will the new album have any of your own songs?**

**Fahmida:** Yes. The title of the song is "Amar Dukkho Shudhu Shekhanei".

**Which music trends bother you?**

**Fahmida:** No one seems to really appreciate songs any more. They only say that the music is good, but make no comment about the words. This really hurts me. I believe that songs should be lyric-centric, not the other way around.

**Any other ongoing project at the moment?**

**Fahmida:** Live performances are keeping me busy. I'll travel to several European countries next month to give performances. Now I'm going to Scotland where a one-day music festival will feature artistes from many countries. It's an honour to be performing at such an important occasion. Apart from live shows, I also work to generate HIV/AIDS awareness.

**You also released an album on Rabindra Sangeet?**

**Fahmida:** I had to do some Rabindra Sangeet for TV plays. Following that, everyone encouraged me to bring out the album, which was received very positively.

**You won a National Film Award for singing "Lukochuri Lukochuri" for the movie "Aha"!**...

**Fahmida:** Yes. I became more responsible with my music after that. I'm more conscious in my attempts to make good music.

# Tagore's play about building dam on a waterfall has deeper meaning for Indians and Bangladeshis

## Theatre stages Muktohdhara in Kolkata

TAMANNA KHAN, writes from Kolkata

Written in 1922 by Noble laureate Rabindranath Tagore, the play "Muktohdhara" sweeps away the differences between the people of Shibtarai and Uttarkut. Similarly, Bangladeshi troupe Theatre's production "Muktohdhara", directed by Naila Azad, brought the people of Bangladesh and India closer.

As part of the yearlong celebration initiated jointly by the governments of Bangladesh and India, from May 2011, on occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, the 31-member troupe is visiting India with its production. Their first performance was staged on April 4 on the Rangamancha of Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre Complex, Salt Lake, Kolkata.

The one-an-half hour performance by Theatre has successfully won the heart of the Kolkata audience. Ratna Bhowmick, a regular theatregoer living in Salt Lake, appreciated the team work, as was evident especially in the performance of the citizens of Shibtarai. Veteran thespian Ferdousi Majumdar once again proved her eminence, donning the role of Bibhuti, the architect of the dam that tries to hold the flow of the waterfall Muktohdhara. Tropa Majumdar's acting, in the role of Amba, the woman who lost her son, was also heart rendering.

The play itself refers to the current political and economical strife among nations over natural resources. The ugly truth regarding the present day environmental politics appears in the antagonist Ranajeet's dialogue, "It is easy to pressurise from the top. Keeping the foreign subjects under that pressure is politics." Yet at the end of the play, spiritually wins, as Bairagi says, "One can sit on the throne after becoming the king, but one cannot become the king just by sitting on the throne."

Renowned personalities including eminent litterateur Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay; theatre activist

Manoj Mitra; Acting Deputy High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Tareq Md Ariful Islam, were present at the programme. Kishore Krishna Banerjee, director of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation and member secretary of Eastern Zonal Tagore Commemoration Committee, presented a brief of the yearlong programme in the welcome address. Last year, Indian artistes visited Bangladesh. Art camps, recital workshops, theatre workshops were held in Bangladesh and India. This year Bangladeshi theatre and dance troupes will be visiting Kolkata, Delhi, Agartala, Shilong and Silchar as part of the cultural exchange, he said.

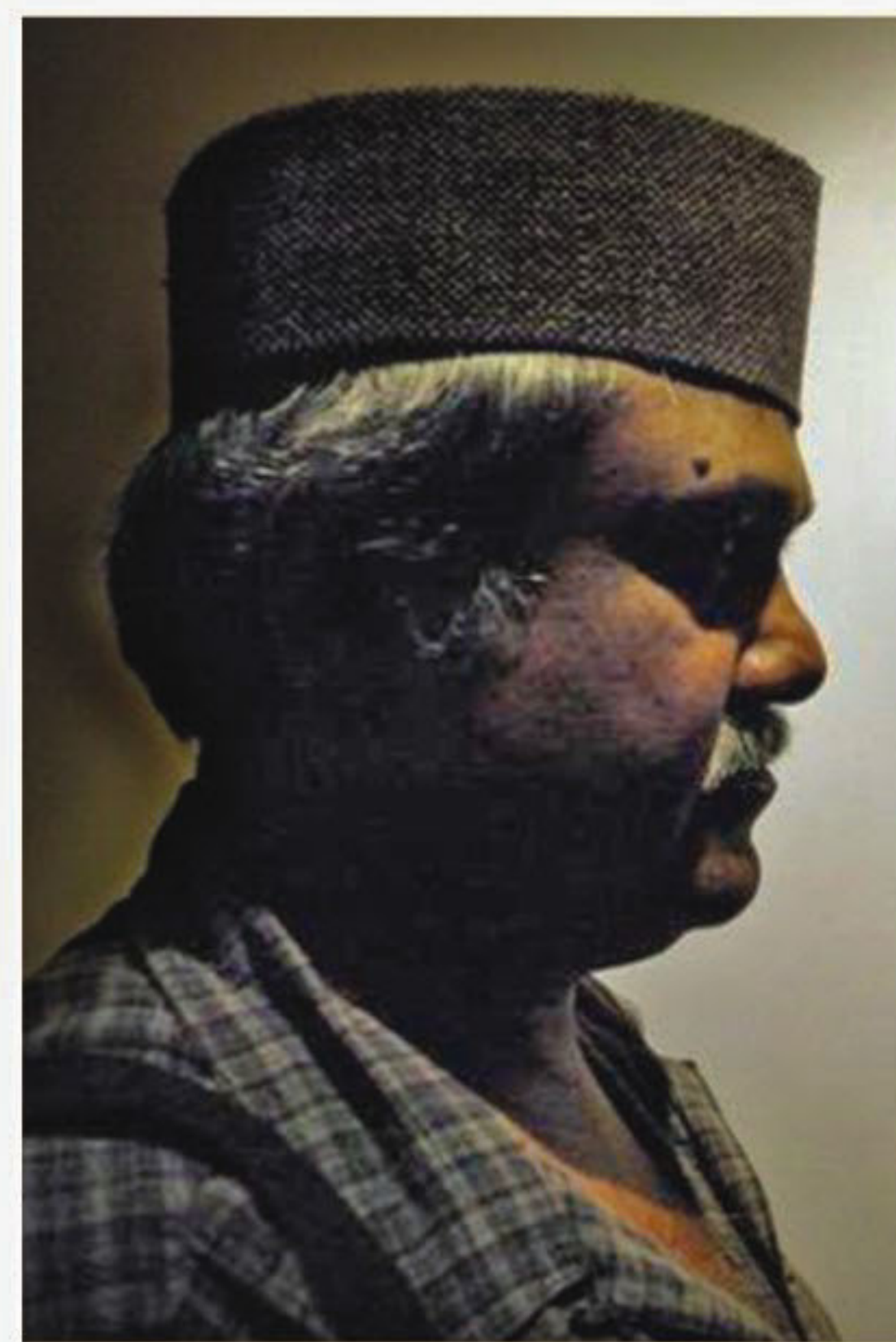
In his speech, chief guest Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay highlighted the relevance of Tagore's philosophy in today's world. Ramendra Majumdar, president of International Theatre Institute, and team leader of the 31-member troupe visiting India, said, "In Bangladesh, we have not only inherited Tagore but achieved him after a long struggle. In 1961, we celebrated Tagore's birth centennial in an adverse atmosphere; today we are celebrating his 150th birth anniversary in a much favourable situation." He hoped that the people-to-people relationship that developed as a result of the joint celebration would also make the relationship between the governments of the two countries cordial.

His words were echoed in the speech of the Acting Deputy High Commissioner Tareq Md Ariful Islam. He said that the intensity of the relationship that has developed between the two nations through the cultural exchange should continue and create more scope for research on Tagore. Lastly, Manoj Mitra praised the members of Theatre for their relentless effort and good performance. At the end of the programme, Anup Motilal, director of Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre presented the vote of thanks. Theatre's next show will be held at the Kamani Auditorium in New Delhi on April 7.



"Muktohdhara" is directed by Naila Azad.

# ARTIST FOKHRUL ISLAM NO MORE



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted artist Mohammad Fokhrul Islam passed away on April 6 at Ibrahim General Hospital, Dhanmondi in Dhaka. He was 48. He had been ailing from diabetes related complications.

His remains were taken to Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka where his teachers, fellow artists and others paid their last respects. His Namaz-e-janaza was held after Jumma prayer at Basiruddin Road Jam-e Masjid. He was buried at the Azimpur graveyard.

About the deceased artist, eminent painter Monirul Islam said, "He was quiet, soft spoken and extremely polite. On many occasions we discussed Bangladeshi art and other issues. He was an experimental painter and his works carried a unique touch."

Fokhrul was born in 1964 in Dhaka. He completed MFA from the Department of Ceramics, Institute of Fine Arts (now Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1988. He went to China, on a three-year scholarship from the Chinese Government, at the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts, Beijing. He received many awards for his outstanding contribution to Bangladeshi art. He held several solo exhibitions at home and abroad. He participated in many group exhibitions and workshops.

Fokhrul started off as a ceramic artist in the early 1990s, but decided to switch to painting in the mid 1990s. Since then, his voyage through paintings where he depicted a spiritual and contemplative world had been concerned with uninhabited landscapes.

ntv	08:55 Bangla Feature Film	07:00 Zookeeper
	04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey	09:35 Homeland
	06:15 Shubho Shondhya	10:35 Vantage Point
	09:00 Drama: Ek Bristir Raatey	12:10 Monster House
	11:30 Music Jam	<b>HBO</b>
		11:35 Cats & Dogs
		03:25 Shrek Forever After
		05:25 2 Fast 2 Furious
		07:45 Jonah Hex
		09:30 Gridiron Gang
		12:10 Rocky IV
		<b>Star World</b>
		03:30 The River
		04:30 Supernatural
		08:30 The River
		09:30 Missing
		10:30 Desperate Housewives
		<b>National Geographic Channel</b>
		03:30 Snake Wranglers
		07:30 In the Womb
		10:30 Man hunt
		11:30 Taboo
		<b>Discovery Channel</b>
		11:30 Food Detectives
		02:30 Man vs. Wild
		08:30 Into the Universe with Stephen Hawking

<b>DRAMA SERIAL</b>	
ATN BANGLA	11:30pm House Number 138
08:00pm Palabar Poth Nai	ETV
08:40pm Chora Goli	10:35pm Amader Meherjan
CHANNEL i	Boishakhi TV
07:50pm No Mans Land	09:20pm Utshab
ntv	BANGLAVISION
08:15pm Bondhu Amar	09:05pm Long March
Rtv	Desh TV
09:05pm Oloshpur	08:15pm Sat Kahon

<b>NEWS BULLETIN</b>	
BTV	Boishakhi TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm.
News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm.	News (English) at 9am, 6pm.
ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.
News (English) at 9am, 6pm.	News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
CHANNEL i	Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm.	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm.
ntv	Desh TV
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
ETV	Maasranga Television
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.	News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am.

<b>TALK SHOW</b>	
ATN BANGLA	10:10pm Media Gossip
12:30am Lead News	Boishakhi TV
CHANNEL i	12:00am Zero Hour
09:45am Tritto Matra	Rtv
12:30pm Taroka	10:40am Tarokalap
Kothon	07:40pm Our Democracy
ntv	Desh TV
12:00am Ei Shomoy	11:45pm Shoja Kotha
ETV	Maasranga Television