WHAT'S ON

Musical Soiree
Artiste: Ferdous Ara
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H- 35, R- 24, Gulshan-1
Date: May 18; Time: 6:30pm

Film Screening
Title: European Short Film
Venue: Institute of Modern Language, University of Dhaka
Date: May 13-17
Time: 5pm

Photography Exhibition
Photographer: Najmul Huq
Venue: Interior Depot, H-7, R-14, Gulshan-1
Date: May 11-19
Time: 11am-8pm

Classical Concert (Instrumental)
Performer: Notos Quartet, Germany
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-10, Rd-9 (New), Dhanmondi
Date: May 24, Time: 7:30pm

Group Art Exhibition
Organiser: Shako
Venue: Radius Centre, 57, Gulshan Avenue
Date: May 4-18
Time: 10pm-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: World Press Photo 12
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, R-15A(New), Dhanmondi
Date: April 26-May 18
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Imtiaj Shohag
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: May 10-22
Time: 2pm-9pm

Theatre
Play: Banglar Mati Banglar Jol
Troupe: Palakar
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 16

Shawkat Osman's 14th death anniversary observed

Ahmed Rafiq speaks at the programme.

PHOTO COURTESY: SNIGDHA ZAMAN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of the 14th death anniversary of author Shawkat Osman, Shawkat Osman Smriti Parishad organised a discussion at the Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha, Dhaka on May 14.

Ranjit Kumar Biswas, secretary to the Social Welfare Ministry; Professor Nazrul Islam, President of Asiatic Society; Professor Bulbon Osman (elder son of Shawkat Osman); writer Andalib Rashdi; Dr. Rakibul Islam Litu, general secretary, Shawkat Osman Smriti Parishad; State Minister for Science, Information and Technology, Yafesh Osman (son of Shawkat Osman), among others, spoke on the occasion.

Tagore exponent and Language Movement veteran, Ahmed Rafiq, presided over the programme.

The discussants briefly focused on the writer's life and his contributions. His writings feature the exploited, particularly the disadvantaged communities. Their woes and other social problems are recurring subjects of his works.

Ahmed Rafiq said, "Osman fought against communalism and anti-Liberation War forces during his lifetime. His writings carry messages against fundamentalism and narrate stories of the oppressed. Bengali nationalism and individuality are also noticeable subjects in his writings."

Ranjit Kumar Biswas said, "Osman tried to break the chain of social and political discrimination through his writings. He also tried his best to keep the people of the country united in turbulent times."

Nazrul Islam said, "Osman was a man of sharp intellect, memory and wit."

About the writer, Bulbon Osman said, "Osman was a versatile writer. He keenly observed his surroundings and used that as his source of inspiration. He was also an avid reader. He had intense interest in music, art, geography, science and anthropology."

Shawkat Osman's real name was Sheikh Azizur Rahman. He was one of the leading Bengali litterateurs of the last century. Born in the village Shabolshinghapur, Hooghly, West Bengal in 1917, he started his professional career as a teacher by joining Chittagong Commerce College in 1947. He wrote many novels, short stories, poems, drama, stories and books for children under the penname Shawkat Osman.

He received many awards and accolades including Adamji Sahitya Award in 1962, Bangla Academy Award in 1966, Ekushey Padak in 1983 and the Independence Day Award in 1997.

LALON AT EPICENTRE

Theatre stages Baramkhana

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted troupe Theatre staged its play on the life and works of Fakir Lalon Shai, "Baramkhana", on May 14 at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Inspired by Sunil Gangopadhyay's novel "Moner Manush", which saw a film adaptation by Gautam Ghosh as well, the play is a narrative on how Lalon turned into a mystic bard, and moreover, a glimpse of the present day situation at his akhra in Kushtia. The play has been scripted by Pantho Shahriar and directed by Tropa Majumdar, who also played as the narrator.

Lalon's prime concern was to wipe out class struggle and religious bigotry from society. Through the play, the director raises the question: Is the present-day practice of his philosophy on the right course or is it losing its way amid life's many banalities?

The play is divided into two phases. The first phase narrates Lalon's life. Rather than highlighting his mystic aspect, this part significantly reveals Lalon as a politically and socially aware individual.

The latter phase depicts how people now pay homage to Lalon through organising festivals. This part is more like a satirical depiction through vignettes.

Before the curtain comes down, three large replicas of a wall come down and create a barrier between the performers and the audience. The director uses the wall as a symbol, as she wants to depict how new history develops as the old one remains on the other side of a metaphorical wall.

The cast included Rashedul Awal Shaon, Tanjum Ara Polli, Ershad Hasan, Kawsar Sajib, Kalyan, Tahmina Smriti, Abdullah Al Mamun Jewel and Asma Hena. Wahida Mallick Jolly has done the costume designing. Kartik did the music, while Saiful Islam designed the set.

"Baramkhana" is Theatre's 41st production and the first on Fakir Lalon Shai.

The director uses the wall as a symbol, to depict how new history develops as the old one remains on the other side.

PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

Chanchal Chowdhury

A household name

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Chanchal Chowdhury first caught public attention with his appearance in a Grameen Phone TV commercial. He then used his theatre experience to build a career in TV dramas as well. His performance in the movie "Monpura" cemented his position as an all-rounder actor. A subsequent appearance in the film "'Moner Manush" and numerous TV dramas later, he is now a household name.

Banglavision will air "Haar Kipta", featuring the actor, tonight. The actor talked to The Daily Star about the serial and his other acting assignments:

Tell us about "Haar Kipta".

Chanchal: The serial is scripted by Brindabon Das and directed by Salahuddin Lavlu. We have been shooting this serial for over a year now. I play the role of Bohor -- a very funny character. My personal opinion on the serial is that after a long time, I found the combo of a brilliant story and an interesting character.

Where did you shoot for "Haar Kipta"?

Chanchal: In Pubail, Gazipur.

You are a frequent face in Salahuddin Lavlu's works. Why is that?

Chanchal: First of all, I am a theatre actor, so is Salahuddin Lavlu. The director prefers to work with Brindabon Das who also comes from a theatre background. Maybe this is the reason why Salahuddin Lavlu can bring out the best from an actor. This may be a reason also why I prefer working with him. And from my experience with him, I can say that we hold similar opinions on many things. Now, I work in almost every project of his.

What are you working on now?

Chanchal: Several serials. Rtv is airing the serial "Oloshpur"; Boishakhi TV is airing "Pathorer Kanna"; Channel i is telecasting "Lonka Kando"; while I'm also working on a new serial called "Protishodh". Meanwhile, the airing of "Shobuj Nokkhotro" also finished recently. I also plan on working on a new serial by Syed Shakil, which has been written by Brindabon Das.

Why do you usually choose dramas set in rural areas?

Chanchal: The directors can answer this better. It is they who cast me in the roles. But I'm more comfortable in rural roles, as I grew up in a village.

Any update on the movie you're doing?

Chanchal: I'm working in Mostafa Sarwar Farooki's "Television". The shooting has already been completed; now editing is on. I play the role of a village youth.

Many of your contemporaries are now into direction. How tough do you think direction is?

Chanchal: I congratulate my contemporaries who have taken up direction. I believe that the task of direction is the hardest of all. But that doesn't mean acting is just a walk in the park.

Are you also busy with theatre?

Chanchal: I belong to the theatre. I work with Aranyak Natya Dal and have been active on the stage for over 15years. No matter how busy I am with TV serials and films, I will always keep on working on the stage.

Do you get any break from your busy schedule?

Chanchal: Not really. In the days when I get some time off, I prefer to stay at home, and give my child some time. On some occasions, I also choose to strike up adda with my close ones.

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

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

CHANNEL i
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
03:05 Tele-film
05:30 Drama Serial: Aj Kichhu Hote Cholchhe
07:50 Spelling Bee

ntv
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
09:50 Lucky Line
11:30 Drama Serial: Ural Pangkhi
12:05 Ghorey Ghorey Utshab

Desh TV
03:00 Gaan R Gaan
05:00 Durpath
06:30 Durer Janala
09:45 Music Dot Net
11:45 Total Sports

Maasranga Television
10:02 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Amazing Animals
06:30 Binodon Sharadin
08:00 Drama Serial: Biye Hobe
11:00 Music Digest

CHANNEL 9
09:02 Bangla Feature Film
07:00 Money Hour
09:15 Music Box
10:02 Dhulo Khela

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

Spelling Bee
On CHANNEL i at 07:50pm
Education Based Programme
Host: Romana Malik Munmun and Imtiaz Nawsher

Never Let Me Go
On Fox Movies at 07:00pm
Genre: Drama/ Romance
Cast: Keira Knightley, Carey

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

ETV
11:30 Ekushey-er Business
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 Business Hour
04:15 Shorashori Doctor
06:15 Deshghorer Gaan
08:15 Boro Bhalobashi Gaan
11:30 Reporters Dairy

BANGLAVISION
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:25 Bichitra
09:05 Nacho Bangladesh Nacho
11:25 Music Club

Rtv
12:35 Bangla Feature Film
05:00 Cinema R Gaan
08:15 Drama Serial: College Road
10:30 Drama Serial: Apon Apon Khela

Fox Movies
02:40 It's A Wonderful Afterlife
04:25 Tangled
06:10 Once Upon A Time
07:00 Never Let Me Go
08:45 Mars Needs Moms
10:20 Charlie's Angels

HBO
11:05 The Core
01:55 Enter the Dragon
04:05 Superman Returns
07:20 Extraordinary Measures
09:40 Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole
11:45 Final Destination 2

Star World
03:30 Desperate Housewives
05:30 Person of Interest
07:30 Coffee with Karan
09:30 Supernatural
10:30 Castle

DRAMA SERIAL
ATN BANGLA
08:40pm Chand Phul Omaboshya
09:20pm Poush Phaguner Pala
CHANNEL i
09:35pm Bhetor Bahir
ntv
09:45pm Dokhhinayoner Din
Boishakhi TV
08:00pm Pathorer Kanna
09:20pm Ognipath
BANGLAVISION
08:15pm Bokulpurer Jatri
Rtv
09:05pm Boyra Paribar
Desh TV
08:15pm Radio Chocolate
Maasranga Television
08:30pm Khonikaloy

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

TALK SHOW
ATN BANGLA
06:15pm Kothamala
12:30am Lead News
CHANNEL i
12:05pm Tritio Matrai Aponi
12:30pm Taroka Kothon
11:30pm Alloy Bhubon Bhora
Rtv
10:40am Tarokalap
07:40pm Our Democracy
ntv
12:30am Ei Shomoy
Boishakhi TV
12:00am Zero Hour
BANGLAVISION
06:25pm Front Line
Desh TV
11:45pm Shoja Katha
Maasranga Television

Michael Jackson costumes shown on world tour

REUTERS, *Los Angeles*

A collection of costumes worn by the late Michael Jackson is going on a global tour starting next month ahead of an auction in Beverly Hills in December, Julien's Auctions said on Monday.

The exhibit, to open in Santiago, Chile on Friday, will include one of the singer's signature crystal-covered gloves, a military-style jacket he wore for the Soul Train awards in 1989 and a silver spandex leotard Jackson wore during his "Bad" tour in 1987.

A helmet wired with battery powered lights that Jackson wore for the 2001 special concert at New York's Madison Square Garden that marked his 30 years as a solo entertainer will also go on display.

The 50-100 costumes to be exhibited were designed by Jackson's long-time Los Angeles-based collaborators Dennis Tompkins and Michael Bush, who spent 25 years creating his stage and personal clothes.

The items were mostly gifted back to Tompkins and Bush by the singer, and many are signed by him, auctioneer Darren Julien said.

The exhibit will open on Friday at the Museo de la Moda in Santiago, Chile and tour cities in Europe and Asia, including China and Japan, ahead of the auction in Beverly Hills on December 2.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the charities Guide Dogs of America and the Nathan Adelson Hospice in Las Vegas.

Jackson died aged 50 in June 2009 in Los Angeles from an overdose of the anesthetic propofol and sedatives. His personal doctor is currently serving a four year jail term for involuntary manslaughter.

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker

Henry by Don Tranchte

Young artists in the making

Faber-Castell Art Competition

A CORRESPONDENT

The 'Faber-Castell Art Competition 2012', the grand talent hunt involving the participation of 300,000 school students is well underway. Organisers have announced that out of the 3,500 schools, children from 1200 schools have already participated in the competition. The first round will be completed by May 15. The results for the first round will be published on that date at the respective schools where the competition was held.

Hafiz Ahmed, managing director of Fast Group of Companies, which has organised the event, is optimistic that the 'Faber-Castell Art Competition 2012' will introduce a new generation of prospective young artists to the world.

"We are trying to recognise children's talents and ensure their dreams come true," said Ahmed.

The Fast Group has been organising this competition, now in its fifth edition, since 2002. The aim is to recognise the creativity of children at the grassroots level.

"Ours is a country where there is an abundance of talent. However, compared to the abundance of talent that exists in this nation, only a few of our men and women have managed to secure their names in the global halls of fame.

"The problem is that their talents have not been appreciated at an early age, and these unfortunate boys and girls have had to move on with the harsh realities of life leaving behind their dreams. To recognise their talents at an early age, to ensure that their dreams come true, we need a platform in Bangladesh to bring these talents forward into the limelight, as they rightly deserve," said Ahmed.

A child paints at the competition.

PHOTO: STAR

Faber-Castell is a 251-year-old German brand with a strong presence in over 120 countries.

The young participants have their own take about the competition.

Aspiring artist, Mahmud, from Bogra said: "I am a little tense as there are so many participants. I am actually very worried because I want to win this competition"

Serene from Sir John Wilson (Gulshan, Dhaka) said, "I am very happy to have this opportunity to express my creativity at the national level"

When asked, Saleh from Jessore said, "I am very excited because if I win this round I can go to Dhaka."