

WHAT'S ON

Nazrul Mela
Organiser: Channel 1
Venue: Channel 1 Region Office Premises
Date: May 25
Time: 10am-4pm



Photography Exhibition
Title: Motherhood is Unique Lets Make it Safe
Photographer: Naymuzzaman Prince
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhamondi
Date: May 02-23



Film Screening
Title: Emmes Glück
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-10, Rd-9 (New), Dhamondi



Classical Concert (Instrumental)
Performers: Notoa Quares, Germany
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-10, Rd-9 (New), Dhamondi
Date: May 24, Time: 7:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Tumi Achiho Ontony
Artist: Rezaun Nahi
Venue: Shilpanjan Gallery, H-7, R-13(New), Dhamondi
Date: May 18-30




Theatre
Play: Kanjush
Troupe: Loko Natyadal
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 21, Time: 7pm



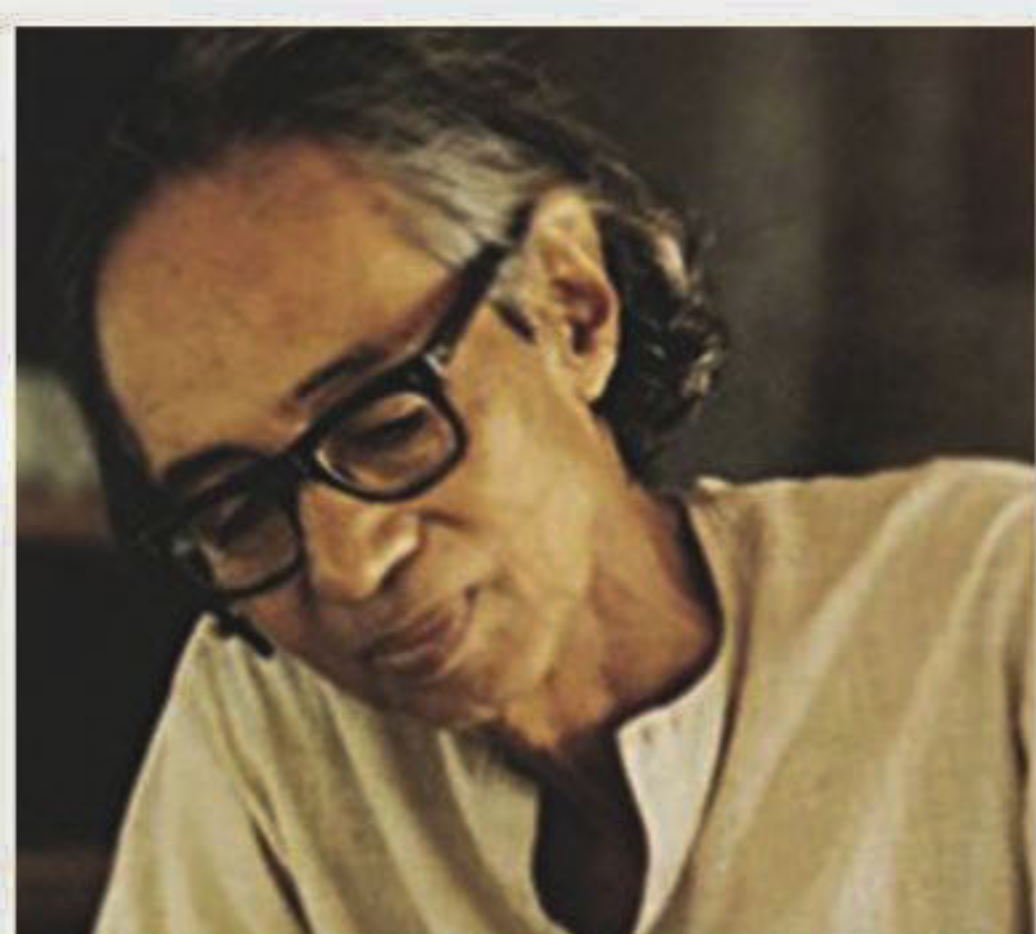
Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Intajy Shobag
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: May 10-22
Time: 2pm-9pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Minimal Kanti Das
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhamondi
Date: May 18-26
Time: 3pm-9pm



The Art of Bengal



Somnath Hore
KAVITA, New Delhi

Enter the precincts of Delhi Art Gallery in the quaint Hauz Khas village and you are visually transported to Bengal. On display are 240 paintings that feature "The Art of Bengal", all the way from the 19th century to 2007. The exhibition begins with early Bengal oils which relate to mythological themes such as the story of Savitri and Satyavan, Mahisasuramardini, Balaram and Krishna to "Draupadi Vastraharan".

Yet if the subjects are quintessentially Indian, the strong influence from the West is visible too, both in the medium of oil and in technique. Some of the paintings were at one stage called Dutch Bengal Art and French Bengal Art because of the influence of the foreign artists on traditional Indian art.

Technique also bore a Western stamp such as the use of colonnades and columns in "Draupadi Vastraharan".

Go further in the gallery and you get to see a lithograph of social reformer Raja Rammohan Roy (1858) by Nabin Chandra. Traditional Kalighat pats rub shoulders with the so-called Bengal School of Art and Shantiniketan artists. If the mythological subjects are clearly visible in the Kalighat pat art, the Bengal School brings together famous artist like Abanindranath Tagore, Gaganendranath, Nandalal Bose and Asit Haldar, to name just a few.

The Bengal School was spearheaded by Abanindranath Tagore. Inspired by the wash style



Bikash Bhattacharjee

of the orient, the Bengal school gained currency under Abanindranath whose works such as "Mother India" (1910s) "The Music Party" (1910s) and "Forest Night" (1910s) are on display. The Bengal school, which derived inspiration from ancient Indian art was fuelled by a strong nationalistic fervour. The artists of the Bengal school, created dreamy, wispy imagery on mythological themes inspired from Ajanta cave painting through the use of wash style of the Orient.

The exhibition's aim is not to confine itself to Bengali artists. Rather it gives space to artists who have trained in the Bengal style from Kolkata: MAR Chugtai (from Lahore) Ramgopal Vijaivargiya (Jaipur, Rajasthan) and KG Subramanyam (Madras). The Shantiniketan section displays the works of artistic greats like Benod Bihari Mukherjee and Nandalal Bose. Ramkinkar Baij's stunning sculpture of Rabindranth Tagore stands side by side with Tagore's own typical doodles.

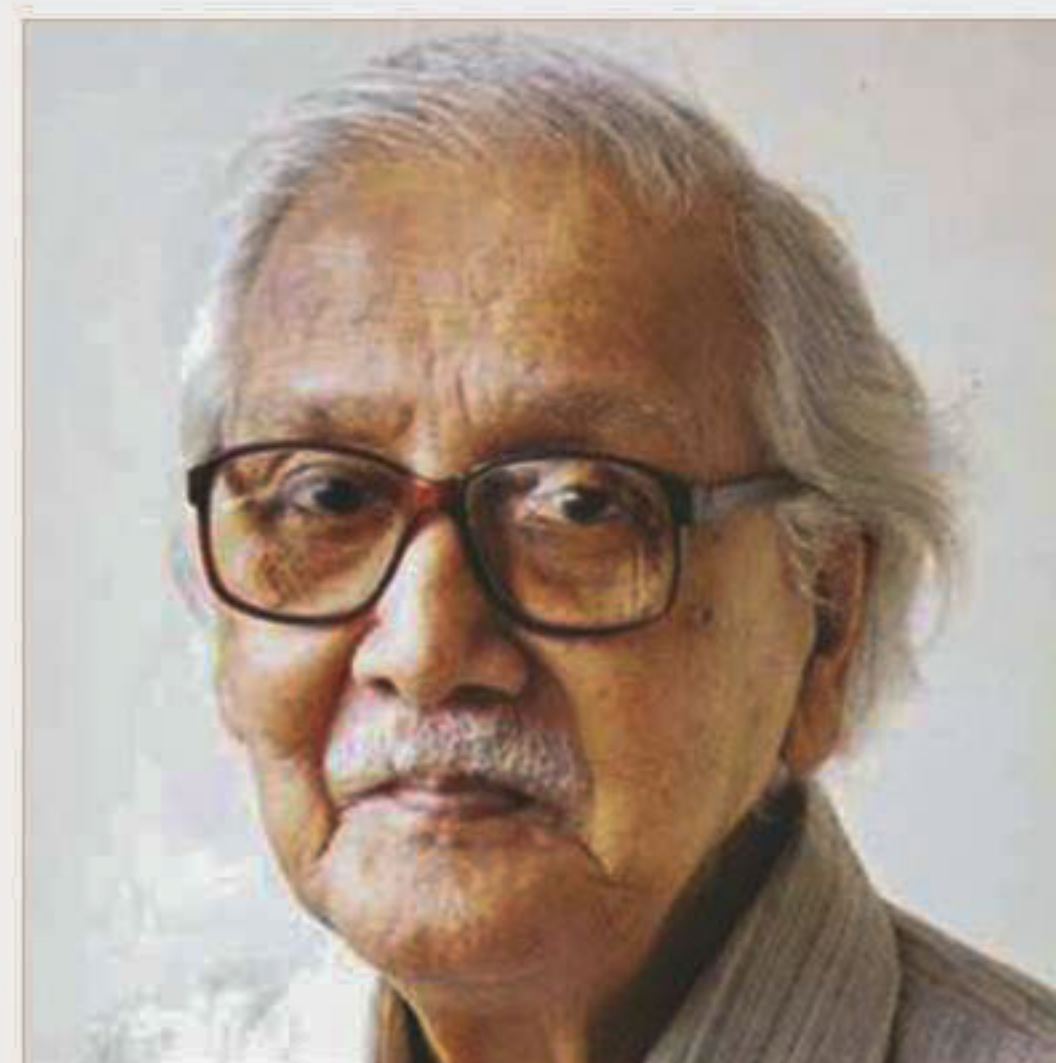
Several artists make strong political statements on the Bengal Fame of 1943-44. One of them, Chittaprosad Bhattacharya, was a political activist and an active supporter of the Communist Party of India.

Finally we come to the modernist artists and sculptors like Somnath Hore, Bikash Bhattacharjee, Jogen Chowdhury and Gopal Banthary.

Bengal has been fertile soil for some of the greatest artists and the hope is that the tradition will continue --despite all the decay and decline that has set in.

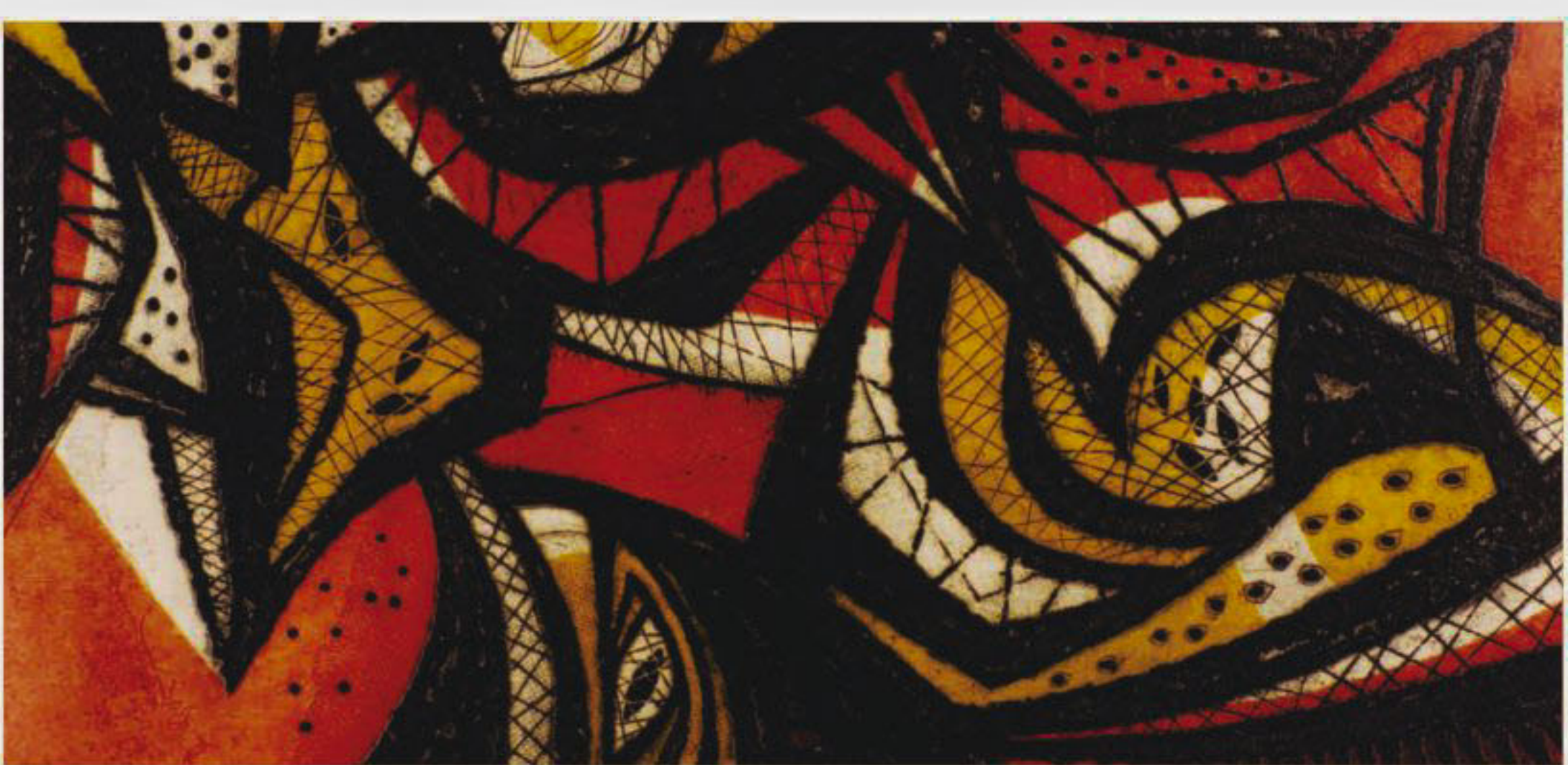
THE PRINCE OF PRINTS TAKES HIS LEAVE

RIP Safiuddin Ahmed



FAYZA HAQ

A year back, all artists of importance, and art enthusiasts, had gathered at Safiuddin Ahmed's residence, they spoke with him formally for last time. The grand children -- Fultushi and Nushi -- had been sent away. His wife, Sharmeen, and his daughter-in-law, had appeared at his bedside. Ahmed Nazir, his son, had appeared distraught and restless. For two years together, Safiuddin had broken his knees and three days back, he was taken off the life-saving devices of the hospital.



A print by Safiuddin Ahmed.

"He is in God's arms," said those who loved him and admired him. The oldest living legend in visual art had walked the earth, with his passion and care for Bangladesh. Bengal Foundation held two massive exhibitions featuring his works.

The great painters and cultural personalities had left almost hand in hand. There was Emdad bhai, Nisar Hossain's (the bearded firebrand art teacher) father and Mohammed Kibria, who was the apple of the eye for all Bangladeshi artists. At the loved and reputed Dhaka Art College (now Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University), the three maestros, or the triumvirate, had gathered, with their hopes, ideas and dreams. Whatever they had gleaned from Europe, India and the rest of the Subcontinent, had been poured together, for the benefit of the people.

None will forget the prints of Safiuddin, mostly in black and white, with touches of muted earthy colours, here and there. Farmers; umbrellas; accompanying dogs; trees in the distance, and much more were captured with imagination and skill. Everything was neat, with geometric precision -- the circles; the oblong shapes along with other circular and U-shaped lines that formed patterns on paper. There was nothing to surpass the master print-maker. He was a prince among princes, in painting and print-making. Those, like Monirul Islam, found him an inspiration, even till his sick bed. Qayyum

Chowdhury -- another great man of colours -- and his wife often parleyed with him, at his bedside. Intellectuals and aesthetes, like Professor Anisuzzaman, would be at his bedside -- just to enjoy his company and confer with, even about the daily weather. Even curly-topped Rafi Haque, a friend of Juneer, Mohammed Kibria's son, would be found hanging around the joint, at least, at the "Last Supper" -- the last night, last year, during Safiuddin Ahmed's birthday, which included singing and merrymaking.

Safiuddin Ahmed was best known for his depiction of farmers, and other toiling labourers who were bareback, toiling, under the burning skies or the pouring rain. He glorified the common man, as all the great contemporaries of his did in the 1940s, after the Partition of 1947. He understood the evil eye of the marauding Pakistan army. He was always patient and gentle with his students. He was not out to excel; he just did, like his contemporaries. The

common man was his hero, like Wordsworth and Frost. He sang of the simple fishing and farming, taking enormous pride in their labour.

Safiuddin Ahmed passed away at Square Hospital in Dhaka early Sunday (12:30 am). He was 90. He had been ailing from old-age complications. He was admitted to Square Hospital as suddenly he felt sick on Tuesday (May 17) evening. Later, he was put on life support as his condition deteriorated.

He left behind his wife, two sons, one daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

His mortal remains will be kept at his Dhanmondi residence (Road-4, House-21) from 8 am to 10 am today. Then the body will be kept at Central Shaheed Minar, from 10 am to 12 pm. It will be taken to Charukala (Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) at 1 pm.

He will be buried at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Graveyard.

Artistes and exponents discuss on the National Poet 4th National Nazrul Convention at Shilpakala Academy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking the 113th birth anniversary of our National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, International Nazrul Research Centre (INRC) joined hands with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) to arrange the 4th National Nazrul Convention and a special programme, titled "Bishwajanan Nazrul" (Universal Nazrul), at National Music and Dance Centre Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on May 18.

Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad was chief guest at the event. Chairman of Nazrul Institute, Professor Rafiqul Islam; Vice-Chancellor of Jatyo Kobi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Professor Syed Gias Uddin Ahmed and Director General of BSA, Liaquat Ali Lucky, were special guests. Cultural councillor of Iranian Embassy, Muhammad Orai Karimi, and Indian artistes Shyamprasad and Madhabi Majumdar were also present at the programme.

Convener of the convention preparatory committee, Kazi Abu Zafar Siddiqui, delivered the welcome speech; Nazrul exponent Karunamaya Goswami was the chief discussant. Noted Nazrul artiste Khalid Fossain; poet and researcher Khandakar Ashraf Hossain and poet and executive

chairman of INRC, Muhammad Nurul Huda, spoke at the convention. Chairman of INRC, Asadul Haque, presided over the programme.

The organisers conferred Nazrul Smriti Sammaronita Padak on eminent Nazrul researcher Professor Rafiqul Islam; veteran Nazrul singer Sohrab Hossain; Nazrul's friend and poet Mohammad Moiuuddin (posthumously) and Indian Nazrul artiste Deepali Nag. The guests unveiled a CD featuring Nazrul melodies and memoirs of eminent personalities.

A video footage, featuring music and excerpts from a discussion by artistes and Nazrul researchers both from home and abroad, was screened at the programme. A choral rendition of the song "Jai Hok", by the young artistes of Sursaptak, followed.

Artistes of Hindi Sangeet Academy and Dolonchapa Sangeet Academy presented several songs, including "Ami Purab Desher Purobari" and "Shundar Oitithi", while artistes of Bulbul Lalitkala performed songs and group dances at the programme.

Nazrul singers M.A. Mannan, Rebeka Sultana, Sujit Mustafa, Dr. Nashid Kamal, Fatema Tuj Zohra, Ismat Jahon, Shahid Kabir, Rahat Ara Geeti Muntarin Mahal and Indian singers Kakoli Sen and Madhabi Majumdar performed at the programme.

On the occasion of 151st birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Bengal Foundation, Agartala, India recently organised a three-day cultural festival, titled "Kabipronam".

The festival was held at Maharaja Bir Bikram Bhawan in Agartala. Bangladeshi painter Qayyum Chowdhury inaugurated the festival. Bidhayak Probitra Khor, president of Kirat (an organisation of artists from north-east India), and Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, were present as special guests. Professor Arunoday Saha, vice-chancellor of Tripura University, presided over the programme. Noted elocutionist Bhaswar Banerjee recited at the programme. Singers Bulbul Islam, Nandita Yasmin, Shoma Rani Roy and Sharmin Sathi Islam rendered songs while Tamanna Rahman and her troupe danced at the programme.



TRIBUTE TO TAGORE



Singers render song at the programme.

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstaha (RSSS), Sylhet, and Anandaloke, Sylhet, jointly organised a function in observance of the 151st birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore at the open stage on the premises of Sylhet Sangeet College on Friday last.

Tagore exponent Mihir Kanti Chowdhury spoke at the beginning of the event. The function began with the chorus "Aaji Bangladesher Hridoy Hotey" by the artistes of the organisation.

This was followed by a number of renditions including "Ebar Tor Mora Gangey", "Je Tomayee Chharye Chharyak", "Jodi Tor Daak Shuney Keu Na Ashley" and "Buk Bendhey Tui Dara Dekhi".

The child artistes of Anandaloke, Sylhet also rendered songs. Young artistes of Anandaloke sang "Dariye Achho Tumi", "Aroop Tomar Bani", "Ashim Dhon Toh Achhey", among others.

Poet Mokaddes Babul recited the poem "Hothath Dekha". Rana Kumar Sinha and Sumona Aziz conducted the programme. Ashoke Sarker on esraj, Debashish Bandopadhyay on keyboard, Johnny Paul on octopad and Taorem Ratul Sinha on tabla accompanied the artistes.

DS CAFÉ

The gorgeous model and actress Monalisa is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. She will be on the hot seat and readers can fire away questions at her at The Daily Star Centre on May 26, between 4 and 5pm. The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 8126155, 01711623915 and 01711623917 to speak to Monalisa.



Pre Euro Football Match on Maasranga Television

A CORRESPONDENT

The 14th tournament of "Euro 2012", the largest and exclusive event of European football, will kick off on June 8. Legions of football lovers are waiting to watch the sensational magic of stars David Villa, Xavi, Iniesta, Van Persie, Swine'stiger, Arjen Robben, Franck Ribéry and Thomas Müller and others.

Football teams are busy with last moment preparations. Under the title "Pre Euro Friendly Football Match 2012", several friendly matches will be held from tonight. The runners-up of 2010 World Cup Football "The Netherlands" will face the 22 time Bundesliga Champion Club "Bayern Munich" at 1.30 am (BDT) tonight.

Present World Champion and Euro Champion Spain will play another friendly match with Serbia at 8 pm (Bangladesh Time) on May 26 while Spain will play another match with Asian giant South Korea at 12:30am (Bangladesh Time) on May 29. Maasranga Television will air all the matches live.

Rabindra Sangeet by Mymensingh Sheba Niketan

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Tagore artistes rendered songs, enthralling a large turnout at Mymensingh Muslim Institute Auditorium on Friday evening.

Mymensingh Sheba Niketan, a voluntary and socio-cultural organisation held the programme marking the 151st birth anniversary of the bard.

The artistes performed songs on seasons composed by Tagore and more. Marking the opening ceremony of the programme, a discussion was held. Sunil Chandra Pal, secretary, Jatyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's Mymensingh unit vice-chairman of Sheba Niketan, Md. Hafizur Rahman; the organisation's life-member Dr. Harishankar Das; Advocate Moazzem Hossain, among others, addressed the opening session.

Dr. Hossain Ahmed Golandaj, Sheba Niketan's secretary, delivered the welcome speech.

The speakers were of the view that Tagore was the inspiration for many democratic movements and a strong voice against the injustice prevalent in society. The writings of Tagore, including huge volumes of songs, are the store of Bengali literature, said the speakers.

Advocate Abul Kashem and Mukti anchored the programme.



Warda Rehab, Maliha, Rhidi, Ayshi, Sony, Mahub, Tanu and Tanisha of Dhriti Nartanaley danced to several Tagore songs at a cultural programme titled, "Hey Mohajibon", held at the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum on May 18. The museum arranged the two-day programmes marking its founding anniversary and International Museum Day 2012. The presentation was choreographed by Warda Rehab. Planned and choreographed by Shamim Ara Nipa, artistes of Nityanchal presented a dance-drama "Mahua" on the second day (May 19) of the programme.



PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

A colourful cultural programme titled "Happy Florets", staged by children, was held at Theatre Institute, Chittagong (TIC) last Friday. Floret Preschool and Daycare arranged the programme with the theme "Learning by doing".

The programme featured recitation, dance, group and solo songs by the children.

An ode to feminine grace

Mrinal Kanti Dash's solo exhibition

A CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of International Mother's Day, Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi has organised a solo painting exhibition titled "Ichhedana", featuring the works of promising painter Mrinal Kanti Dash.

The event was inaugurated by the artist's mother Promali Dash on May 18. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Dipu Moni, was present as chief guest. Noted artist Monirul Islam was present as guest of honour on the occasion.

The paintings on display highlight panorama and feminine grace. Women and their contributions

have been highlighted. The painter seeks to articulate that women and nature have an inseparable relationship. Vivid colours and shades are also recurring features in his paintings. The exhibition will continue till May 26.



Guests at the inauguration.

Beetle Baily

by Mort Walker



12-23

Henry

by Don Trachte



12-29

ATN BANGLA	06:30	Prantojiner Shukkotha
11:20	Business and Finance	Drama Serial: Mayer Doa
12:15	Vision 2020	Porobahan
01:25	Matir Shubash	Cinema Express
05:15	Aaynar Shamney	12:30 Total Sports
	Shirama Charye	
CHANNEL 1		Diganta TV
01:05	Elong Cineram Gaan	11:30 School Angina
01:30	Hridoyer Gaan	01:30 Business Time Line
06:00	Jibon Jekhoney Jemon	05:30 Saghala Bangladesh
09:35	Drama: Monnadin	08:40 Onushondhan
11:30	Travel On	09:40 Drama Serial: Ranga Ma
		Maasranga Television
ntv	10:02	Bangla Feature Film
08:45	Bangla Feature Film	08:30 Drama Serial: Khonkaloy
04:10	Jana Achhey Bolar Achhey	09:02 Kingkrotobobimur
		Drama Serial: Ishkul
06:10	Shubhe Shondhya	11:00 Shajir Baramkhana
08:15	Drama Serial: Dewal	Pre-Euro Friendly
09:00	Maggi Test an Balance	Football '12
11:30	Drama Serial: Terminal	
ETV	09:15	Bangla Feature Film
11:30	Ekshey-er Business	07:45 Drama Serial: Dead And

RADIO		
abc Radio FM 89.2	10:00	Morning Express
06:00	Bhoer Janalay	12:00 My Time
09:00	Makhorho Jiboney	01:00 No Tension
12:00	Darin Rupony	04:00 Dhaka Calling
03:00	Dewan Shikoy	09:00 Night Rider
05:00	Shondhura	01:00 Back to Back music
07:00	Shajhe Maya	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
09:00	Raat-er Akushey	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
11:00	Gojen Sheril Ne	12:00 Today's Adda
Radio Footi	06:00	U Tam
07:30	Hello Dhaka	07:00 Tabey Tai Hok

Cinema Express
On Desh TV at 09:45pm
Celebrity Talk Show
Guest: Nipun



Quarantine
On Fox Movies at 10:20pm
Genre: Horror/Thriller
Cast: Jennifer Carpenter, Steve Harris



Ognipath
On Boishakhi TV at 09:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Nima Rahman, Moushumi Nag



05:25	Ichhey Ghari	09:15	Haster Kachhey Pother	
07:50	O Bondhu Amr	10:02	Dhulo Khela	
09:30	Drama Serial: Tattu Ghor	11:15	Hits & Bits	
10:10	Cine Hits	12:05	Ekshey-er Raat	
12:05	Ekshey-er Raat		Fox Movies	
Boishakhi TV	03:45	Open Season		
11:10	Bangla Feature Film	05:15	The Expendables	
03:30	Shudhu Cineram Gaan	07:00	Men In Black II	
06:20	Krish O Jibon	08:30	Species III	
09:20	Drama Serial: Ognipath	10:20	Quarantine	
11:00	Reporters Diary	11:55	Haunted Chang	
		1800		
BANGLAVISION	12:15	Rash Hour		
10:10	Nacho Bangladesh Nacho	02:15	The Twilight Saga: Twilight	
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	04:55	Honey 2	
08:15	Drama Serial: Ladies First	07:15	Step Up	
11:25	Probashi Mukh	09:35	Step Up 2: The Streets	
Rtv	12:10	Bangla Feature Film	11:45	A Nightmare on Elm Street
05:00	Cinema R Gaan			
09:50	Bridal Show		Star World	
11:30	Drama Serial: Ural	03:30	Revenge	
		05:30	Criminal Minds	
12:05	IT Right	07:30	Coffee with Karan	
DesH TV	05:00	Durpath	09:30	Jr Master Chef
			10:30	Dexter

ATN BANGLA	09:05pm	Boya Paribar	
08:40pm	Rupantarar Manush	Boishakhi TV	
CHANNEL 1	08:00pm	Porobahan	
07:50pm	Chahir Din Dongi Ek	BANGLAVISION	
	Neel Niksho	09:05pm	Long March
ntv	09:45pm	Phyo	DesH TV
Rtv	07:15pm	Sat Kahon	
08:20pm	Parsha Protiktya	08:00pm	Sat Sawdagar

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 1	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.	

ATN BANGLA	11:30pm	Ja Kotha Koo Bolei	
12:35am	Lead News		
CHANNEL 1	06:25pm	Front Line	
09:45am	Tritio Matra	Rtv	
12:30pm	Tanika Kothon	10:40am	Tarakalp
ntv	07:40pm	Our Democracy	
12:00am	Ei Shomoy	08:50pm	Our Democracy
Boishakhi TV	11:45pm		