WHAT'S ON

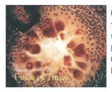
Liberation War National Theatre Festival
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 2-14

Group Art exhibition
Title: "The Voice of Time-2"
Venue: Institute of Art and Culture, H-2, R-1/A, Gulshan-1
Date: July 7-20
Time: 3pm-8pm

Indo-Bangla Master Painters Exhibition
Venue: Gallery Basilio, H-300, Rd-19/B, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: July 7-16
Time: 12-8pm

Theatre
Play: Lal Jamin
Troupe: Shunyan
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 11
Time: 7pm

Solo Sarod Recital
Artiste: Rajrupa Chowdhury
Venue: Bengal art Lounge, 60, Gulshan-1
Date: July 8
Time: 8pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Color of Time
Venue: Radius Art Gallery, Bay's Galleria, 57 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1
Date: June 29-July 21

Solo Print Exhibition
Title: Living with the Expressions
Artist: Ruhul Karim Rumee
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi
Date: June 30-July 10
Time: 12pm-8pm

Award Giving & Cultural Programme
Organiser: Geetanjali Lalitkala Academy; Venue: Khudra O Kutir Shilpa Institute Auditorium, H24/A, Rd-13/A, Sec-6, Uttara

THEATRE FESTIVAL ON LIBERATION WAR

Tales of torture

Scenes from "Bhru Tang Tang" and "Daam Diye Kinechhi Bangla" (below). PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

JAMIL MAHMUD

Countless Bangladeshis faced brutal torture at the hands of the Pakistani Army and its collaborators during the Liberation War. Some of the fourth day's plays at the ongoing Theatre Festival on the Liberation War significantly highlighted that aspect.

In their ranks were Shanglaap Group Theatre's "Manab Surat", Rangpur Shilpakala Academy's "Bhru Tang Tang" and Cox's Bazar City College's "Daam Diye Kinechhi Bangla".

These three plays along with several more were staged on July 6 at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy as part of the Theatre Festival. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in association with Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation has organised the fortnight-long event.

Shanglaap staged the play at the National Theatre Hall in the evening. The play has been written and directed by Rafiqul Alam. Mainly depicting the life of a villager, the play focuses on the Liberation War through the memories of other villagers. Brutality by the collaborators on youngsters and women comes forth in those reminiscences.

Rangpur Shilpakala Academy's "Bhru Tang Tang" is a more artistic presentation that focuses on the Liberation War through the struggle of people from indigenous communities. Written by Tanvir Ahmed the play, is directed by Reza Arif. The play was staged at the Experimental Theatre Hall.

"Bhru Tang Tang" mainly sheds light on the torture of Santal and Oraon communities living in the northern part of the country. Their upsurge only with bows and arrows epitomises their bravery and desperation for liberation.

On the other hand, Cox's Bazar City College's "Daam Diye Kinechhi Bangla" is a story of a woman during the War. Written and directed by Swapan Bhattacharya, the play narrates the story of how an ordinary woman gradually evolved into a Freedom Fighter. The Razakar's conspiracy comes forth as the woman killed her husband who was a collaborator and joined the liberation forces.

As it was Friday, plays were staged all day long starting from the morning. Among other plays staged on the day were "Shadhinata" (Govt. City College,Chittagong), "Ekatturer Andhakar" (Panchagarh MR College)and "Aguner Chhaya" (Mahmudul Hasan College, Tangail).

Today troupes from Chittagong, Khagrachhari, Bandarban, Barisal, Gaibandha, Rangpur, Bagerhat, Feni and Rajshahi will stage plays.

TV WATCH

Abdul Jabbar's son **Mithun** on Desh TV tonight

A CORRESPONDENT

Desh TV will air a special programme titled "Tribute to the Legend: Abdul Jabbar", an iconic figure who has earned the hearts of millions with his music. The programme will be telecast tonight at 9:45 pm.

Abdul Jabbar's son Mithun Jabbar will perform songs originally recorded by his father at the programme. He will perform the popular songs--"Aar Kotha Noy Ma", "Mukh Dekhey Bhul Koro Na'', "Orey Neel Doria", "Tara Bhora Raat-e", "Tumi Ki Dekhecho Kobhu" and more.

Mithun received higher education in music from The USA. He also trained under Ustad **Fazlul Haq and Ustad Karim Shahabuddin.** Fazlul Haq and Ustad Karim Shahabuddin.

Parveen Sultana's Solo Musical Soiree at IGCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Parveen Sultana performed at a solo musical soiree at Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) in Dhaka on July 6. The singer rendered an array of songs originally recorded by eminent singers from both Bangladesh and India.

The artiste's repertoire included a patriotic number "Ektara Tui Desh-er Katha", originally popularised by Shahnaz Rahmatullah; an adhunik song "Eki Shonar Aloye", originally recorded by Bangladeshi diva Sabina Yasmin; a folk song "Amar Shonar Moyna Pakhi", a popular song by Nina Hamid; a Nazrul Sangeet and several golden oldies originally recorded by Asha Bhonsle, Hoimanti Shukla and Chitra Singh.

Parveen also performed two songs from her albums and last but not least, the artiste wrapped up her solo soiree with a Hindi number "Yea Zindegi Usiki Ki Haye", originally popularised by Lata Mangeshkar that won her appreciation.

Parveen Sultana sings at the programme.

Emotional intelligence

Aminul Islam's first death anniversary today

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Today is the first death anniversary of painter Aminul Islam. On the occasion, artists, social and cultural activists, writers will place wreaths at his grave at Banani Graveyard in the city. A number of art institutes and galleries will also organise discussions on his life and immense contribution to the world of art.

Islam is one of the senior most and acclaimed painters in our country. Among Islam's contemporaries were Hamidur Rahman, Bazle Moula, Imdad Hossain, Khaled Chowdhury, Loknath Dhor and Ali Humayun (first batch of the Government College of Arts and Crafts, later renamed Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka in 1948). The group was very committed and most of them were involved in left leaning politics. Their preferred themes were nature, urban life and surrounding atmosphere.

At the time, Dacca (now Dhaka) was a quiet city and had lots of green spaces. Painters frequently visited the Buriganga river, Waiz Ghat and other scenic spots for inspiration. Zainul Abedin particularly stressed on drawing and successfully gave Islam and his comrades an understanding of this genre of art and its various significant aspects. The students also portrayed political chaos, economic crises, city life, rural life, still life and other subjects. Some of them were greatly influenced by internationally acclaimed impressionist painters.

Among his contemporaries, Islam made an immense contribution by introducing modern paintings in Bangladesh. "Painting, for me, is the best way to knowledge, the best means to participate profoundly in global life," Islam used to say.

The painter also said, "Painters are of two kinds one group works with emotions and the other works with intelligence. My position is in the middle. Both aspects are inherent in me."

On the completion of his primary education, Islam gained admission to Armanitola High School. He started copying Japanese and Chinese art in school. He would also copy Indian painters' works. He appreciated the cubist and semi-cubist works of Gagendranath Tagore. However, his parents did not want him to take up painting as a profession.

Islam passed his matriculation in 1947. He then sought admission in Calcutta Art College. While in Calcutta (now Kolkata), he met Zainul Abedin, Quamrul Hassan and Safiuddin Ahmed. They suggested that he avoided seeking admission in Calcutta Art College as an art college was to be established in Dhaka very soon. Islam returned to Dhaka with Zainul Abedin. However, since there was no sign of any art college being opened, he got admitted at Dacca College.

The Government Institute of Art opened in 1948. Islam got admitted there and completed his BFA. Then he went to Florence, Italy to pursue higher studies in art. His three years there proved very formative, as he found answers to many of the questions he had earlier about art and aesthetics.

After moving back to Dhaka, Islam's style underwent a fundamental change. Lines, colours and space became the prime focus in his paintings. Throughout his chequered career, he frequently returned to the nature.

Islam had grown primarily as a non-figurative painter since the early 1960s and started to experiment with different mediums and art forms. Besides painting, Islam also preferred drawing. In the course of his career, he developed several styles, particularly in his drawings and sketches. His figure-based works from the mid-1960s are remarkable; mainly "Homage to Khajuraho", an erotic drawing series focusing on the physical relationship between males and females. The series articulates the proper emotion and fantasy of human beings. The drawings appear serene and the lines have been meticulously done.

Gradually Islam became increasingly aware of the different qualities of lines produced by pen, pencil, brush, bamboo, discarded brush and other objects. The powerful drawings reveal his mastery over lines and superb composition skills. He also did murals in different parts of the country.

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

ATN BANGLA
11:20 Business and Finance
01:25 Shurer Madhuri
05:35 Dhak Dhol
08:00 Drama Serial: Chena Mukh Ochena Manush
09:20 Drama Serial: Jhulonto Babura

CHANNEL i
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
02:40 Grorey Ghorey Gaaner Utshab
06:00 Chhayajhankar
09:35 Drama Serial: Longkakanda
11:30 Prokriti O Jibon

ntv
08:45 Bangla Feature Film
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey
06:15 Shubho Shondhya
09:00 Drama
11:30 Music Jam

ETV
11:30 Ekushey-er Business
06:30 Desh Jurey Oporadh Porikroma
07:50 Music Station
08:20 Drama Serial: Ohongkar
12:02 Ekushey-er Raat

Boishakhi TV
11:15 The Business Show
04:15 Shorashori Doctor
05:30 Shudhu Cinemar Gaan
08:00 Drama Serial: Istikutum
08:35 Fashion Haat

BANGLAVISION
11:05 Shokal Belar Roddur
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
06:05 Ebong Class-er Bairey
08:15 Drama Serial: Ladies First

Desh TV
03:00 Gaan R Gaan
05:02 Durpath
06:30 Sanskritir Sharadesh
08:15 Drama Serial: Chhayamukhosh
09:45 Tribute to the Legend
11:45 Total Sports

Diganta TV
06:00 Priyo Shilpir Priyo Gaan
09:40 Drama Serial: Village Politics
11:15 Gaaner Jolsha

Maasranga Television
11:00 Bangla Feature Film
06:30 Binodin Sharadin
08:30 Drama Serial: Khonikaloy
09:00 Tele-quiz
11:00 World Music

CHANNEL 9
09:15 Bangla Feature Film
06:00 Classic Cartoon
07:45 Drama Serial: Dead End
09:25 Kobir Lorai
11:15 Hits & Bits

RADIO

abc Radio FM 89.2
09:00 Mokhurito Jiboney
12:00 Darun Dupurey
02:05 The Daily Star Jiboner Joygaan
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondha Tara
07:00 Shaj-er Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey

RADIO FOORTI
07:30 Hello Dhaka
10:00 Morning Express
12:30 No Tension
04:00 Dhaka Calling
09:00 Full Volume

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
06:00 Green FM
08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
12:00 Today's Adda
04:00 U Turn

Criophelia
On ntv
at 09:00pm
Single Episode TV Play
Cast: Majnun Mizan, Moushumi Nag

The Island
On HBO
at 06:45pm
Genre: Action/ Thriller
Cast: Scarlett Johansson, Ewan McGregor

Jhulonto Babura
On ATN BANGLA
at 09:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Chanchal Chowdhury, Mosharraf Karim

Fox Movies
11:05 Drive Angry
03:05 Tron: Legacy
07:00 Insidious
08:45 UFC 148: Silva vs. Sonnen II

HBO
11:30 Doom
03:45 Inception
06:45 The Island
09:30 Ocean's Twelve
12:05 Open Water

Star World
04:00 The Simpson's
05:30 White Collar
08:30 Master Chef Australia

National Geographic Channel
03:30 Mission Arctic
05:30 Super Cars Week
08:30 Mega Marvels
10:30 Nat Geo Specials

Discovery Channel
02:30 Man vs. Wild

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA
08:40pm Chora Goli
CHANNEL i
07:50pm Noorjahan
ntv
08:15pm Bondhu Amar
ETV
09:30pm Tattu Ghora
Boishakhi TV
09:20pm Ognipath
BANGLAVISION
09:05pm Long March
Rtv
09:05pm Oloshpur
Desh TV
07:45pm Sat Kahon
Maasranga Television
08:00pm Sat Sawdagor
CHANNEL 9
08:40pm Helicopter

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

BTV
10:25pm Digital Bangladesh
ATN BANGLA
04:20pm Prosango
12:30am Lead News
CHANNEL i
09:45am Tritio Matra
12:30pm Taroka Kothon
ntv
12:00am Ei Shomoy
ETV
10:10pm Media Gossip
Boishakhi TV
11:00pm Reporters Dairy
12:00am Zero Hour
Rtv
10:40am Tarokalap
07:40pm Our Democracy

Garcia Marquez 'suffering from dementia', says brother

The brother of Gabriel Garcia Marquez says that the Colombian writer and winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize for Literature is suffering from dementia.

Jaime Garcia Marquez told students at a lecture in the city of Cartagena that his brother, who is 85, phones him frequently to ask basic questions.

"He has problems with his memory. Sometimes I cry because I feel like I'm losing him," he said.

He says the author has stopped writing altogether.

The BBC's Arturo Wallace in Colombia said there have been rumours about Mr Garcia Marquez' memory problems.

Jaime Garcia Marquez, his younger brother, is the first family member to speak publicly about it.

Invited to talk about his relationship with Gabo, as the writer is affectionately known in Colombia, Jaime said he could not hold back from talking about his illness anymore.

"He is doing well physically, but he has been suffering from dementia for a long time," he said. "He still has the humour, joy and enthusiasm that he has always had."

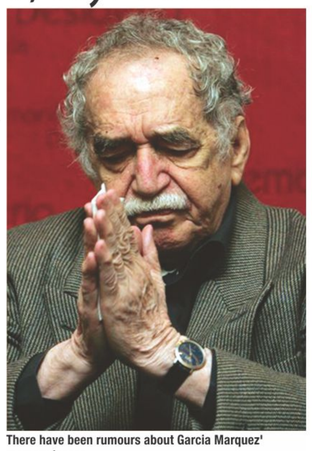
The 1967 masterpiece of magic realism, One Hundred Years of Solitude, begins with the story of a family unable to care for their senile grandfather.

"It is a disease that runs in the family," said Jaime Garcia Marquez.

Gabriel Garcia Marquez currently lives in Mexico and has not made many public appearances in recent years.

His novels include Love in the Time of Cholera, Chronicle of a Death Foretold and the The General in His Labyrinth.

He is best known for One Hundred Years of Solitude, which has sold more than 30 million copies and been translated into more than 30 languages.



There have been rumours about Garcia Marquez' memory losses.

SOURCE: BBC

Sweetmeat Monda: A rich tradition

AMINUL ISLAM, *Mymensingh*

Monda, a mouth-watering traditional sweetmeat, is easy on the taste buds. The sweet, first made in 1824, is reputed in the subcontinent and many countries for its originality, taste and flavour.

Ram Gopal Pal, better known as Gopal Pal, first prepared this sweetmeat in 1824. He offered it to Maharaja Suryakanta Acharya Chowdhury, one of the leading zamindars of Muktagacha.

Maharaja Suryakanta was full of praise for Gopal Pal and encouraged him to prepare monda to entertain guests who visited the zamindars. The zamindars also extended financial support to Gopal Pal for the expansion of the business.

Now Sree Ramendranath Pal and Brothers run the business. They are the fifth generation of the Gopal Pal family.

Ramendranath informed that the zamindar of Muktagacha arranged various cultural and discussion programmes at Muktagacha. They entertained their guests with monda. Ustad Alauddin Khan; famous physician of this sub-continent Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy and Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, were among those who visited Muktagacha then and tasted monda.

When the zamindars visited dignitaries and high officials of the British government, they took monda along with them, said sources.

Eminent cultural personalities and political leaders have visited the shop on different occasions.

Delicious monda displayed at the shop. PHOTO: STAR

Noted film actors Razzaq, Kabori, Shabana, Probir Mitra, Sohel Rana, Telly Samad, Bulbul Ahmed, Anwar Hossain and theatre personalities Mamunur Rashid, Amol Bose, Abul Khayer, Asadduzzaman Noor and Pijush Bandopadhyaya, among others have visited the shop and highly appreciated the taste and flavour of monda.

Many tourists from Pakistan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, China, Japan, Korea, England and America have visited the shop and have tasted the monda.

Tourists in their comments have termed monda as a very delicious sweet.

Eminent political figures of the country, including Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Basani and renowned lawyer Dr. Kamal Hossain, have also visited the shop.

Memorable social worker and philanthropist Ranada Prasad Saha (R.P Saha) of Mirzapur in Tangail also visited the famous shop on various occasions.

When Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi and Britain's Queen Elizabeth visited Dhaka, they were also treated to monda from this shop.

The popular "Bangladesh: a lonely planet travel survival kit" written by Alex Newton, Besty Wagenhauser and John Murray and published by Lonely Planet Publication from Australia in 1996 (Third edition), says "The Western palate may not appreciate the subtleties of this famous monda, which, to the uninitiated, tastes a bit like a grainy, sweetened yogurt cake".

They also wrote, "The Rajbari (Muktagacha Rajbari) here draws the occasional visitors, but the town is best known throughout Bangladesh for its famous sweet shop Gopal Pali Prosida Monda", which makes the best monda in the country."

Many shops named 'Muktagachar Monda' have opened up in and outside Muktagacha but the original monda shop has no branch, said Mihir Kumar Pal, Ramendranath's younger brother.

"We want to maintain the original reputation of our mondas so we do not plan to open a branch elsewhere in the country, said Mihir Pal, adding that mondas go for Taka 330 per kg (22 pieces).

Tom Cruise-Katie Holmes Split: The full story

Katie Holmes has filed for divorce in New York citing "irreconcilable differences", announcing the split via a statement to People magazine.

Hubby Tom Cruise, 49, said that he was "deeply saddened" by the news.

The pair signed a prenuptial agreement before their wedding in November 2006, which guarantees Holmes a yearly sum.

However, legal experts said that the actor could be prepared to give up a larger slice of his 160-million-pound fortune in return for Holmes remaining silent about the details of their marriage.

Cruise remains one of the world's most bankable actors. The star of "Top Gun" and the "Mission: Impossible" franchise earned an estimated 50 million pounds last year alone and runs his own Hollywood production company.

This will be the third divorce for Cruise. He was married to Mimi Rogers, the actress, from 1987-1990 and to Nicole Kidman from 1990-2001, with whom he adopted two children.

His relationship with Holmes, then an up-and-coming actress best known for her role in teen drama "Dawson's Creek", began in April 2005.

Two months later, Cruise used a press conference in Paris to announce that he had proposed under the Eiffel Tower.

The wedding took place in November 2006, a lavish affair in an Italian castle with guests including the Beckhams and Giorgio Armani.

The couple were last photographed together in February and Holmes was absent from the red carpet during Cruise's recent promotional tour for "Rock of Ages".

The actor is currently in Iceland shooting a new sci-fi film, "Oblivion".

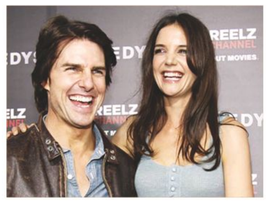
Holmes has asked for sole legal custody of their six-year-old daughter Suri.

According to TMZ.com, this will be setting up the couple for a high profile legal battle if Cruise chooses to contest her claim.

Holmes was reportedly scared that she was turning "into a robot" because of his controlling ways.

"After five years of this Katie really felt like she was going crazy and that she was actually turning into the robot that the press had always made her out to be," the Daily Mail quoted a source as telling RadarOnline.

"Katie has actually got a great personality and she used to be spunky and feisty. She changed so much when she was with Tom, she became downtrodden and insipid. In the end it just got too much, she was sick of it and decided she had to do something. Basically, she grew up and lost the star-struck goggles she had been wearing," the source said.



SOURCE: INTERNET

TALENT HUNT

"Close up 1: Tomakey Khujchhey Bangladesh" starts soon

A CORRESPONDENT

After four years, the much hyped musical talent hunt of the country, "Close up 1 Tomakey Khunjchhey Bangladesh" is set to kick off soon. A press conference was held in this regard at Spectra Convention Centre, Gulshan in the capital on July 5.

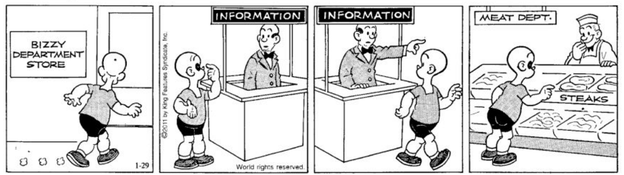
Chairman and managing director of ntv Mosaddek Ali and brand building director of Unilever Bangladesh KSM Minhaz spoke at the press conference.

"I hope new voices will enrich our music industry," said Minhaz.

"I hope the fourth instalment of 'Close up 1 Tomakey Khunjchhey Bangladesh' will become more popular than previous instalments," said Mosaddek Ali.

The registration of the fourth instalment of the competition will start soon. The audition round will begin in Dhaka, Chittagong, Comilla, Sylhet, Mymensingh, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Kushtia, Khulna and Barisal. The preliminary round for the expatriate Bangladeshis will be held in USA, UK, Canada, UAE and Australia (for the first time).

The title winner will receive Taka 10 lakh and a brand new car while first and second runners-up will be given Taka 5 and 3 lakh respectively.

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker

Henry by Don Tranchte