

WHAT'S ON

Theatre Play: Eksho Bosta Chal (20th Anniversary)...

Group Art exhibition Title: 'The Voice of Time-2'...

Group Art Exhibition Venue: Dhaka Art Center, H-60, R-7A, Dhanmondi...

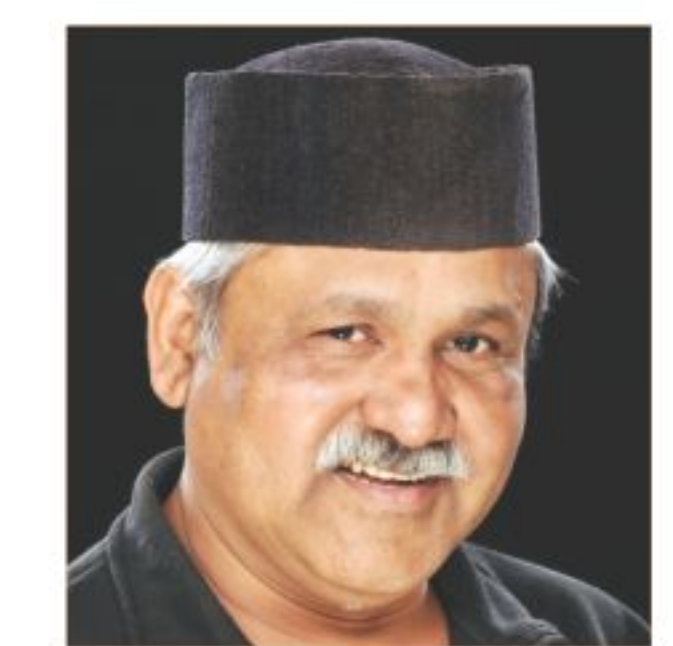
Solo Art Exhibition Title: Sonagson: Prints & Paintings...

Group Art Exhibition Title: Adda through Art...

Group Art Exhibition Title: Color of Time...

Solo Musical Soiree Artist: Timir Nandi...

Coin Exhibition Venue: Nalini Kanto Bhattacharjee Hall, National Museum...



A tribute to artist Fokhrul Islam "Shadows and Light" at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka

TAKIR HOSSAIN As part of its tribute to the late artist Mohammad Fokhrul Islam, a solo painting exhibition titled "Shadows and Light" is now on at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka.

About 29 paintings of the late artist are on display. The collection includes some of his previously unseen paintings.

Fokhrul started off as a ceramic artist in the early 1990s, and decided to switch to painting in the mid 1990s. In his paintings he depicted a spiritual and contemplative world decorated with dots, innumerable lines and uninhabited landscapes.

The images were done on paper with printing ink. He used printer's ink and mustard oil to create his mysterious subjects and metaphysical landscapes.

At the exhibition, when one observes his works more closely, numerous combinations of black lines and tones appear. None of the paintings and arrangements (or preparations) is in any way disruptive, repetitive and monotonous.

The artist unintentionally depicted gloomy sunsets, silent woods, sprawling deserts, howling tornados and cyclones and more. The arrangements of enormous dots and geometric forms (particularly vertical, horizontal and crisscrossing lines) create a sense of aestheticism. His work reflects a thoughtful process, one that searches for relationship between lines, dots, spaces and recurring textures. The textures look very controlled, structured and tenacious.

As an experimental painter, Fokhrul delved into dots, points and monochromatic images. His works are engrossed with rich textured patterns and the paintings are technically sophisticated. In his life time, the painter had been working on a continuous series and developing himself with innovative techniques and use of materials. In his works, he demonstrated durability and transformation. Durability, in terms of his style and technique, and transformation, in terms of his choice of subjects and visualisation.



The arrangements of enormous dots and geometric forms create a sense of aestheticism.

rapid sweeping strokes, he brought in large landscapes and vibrant life, despite their simplicity and economic use of colours.

Fokhrul's lines seem to us to provide a new presence and to introduce a novel chapter in our life. Life is always growing and expanding - a process that brings to us a New World which is completely unknown to us. His flat surface plays between the monochromatic colour and sprinkled texture to set up an illusionary effect of space. This has been created on the canvas although the colours that have been applied are flat tones. Keeping perspective in mind, the tonal plus linear approach give his work a different quality that

engrosses our attention and leads to fresh insights into dynamic possibilities suggested so vividly by Fokhrul, the thinking artist.

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, and studied at the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts, Beijing. He received many awards for his outstanding contribution to Bangladeshi art. Fokhrul had exhibited in India, Pakistan, China, Japan, France and Italy. The exhibition will continue till July 24.



Coin and currency exhibition at National Museum

Bengal's history is reflected in the coins and currency notes which were developed and issued over the centuries. To commemorate this evolving history of coins and currency notes in Bengal, Bangladesh National Museum, Bangladesh Bank and HSBC have organised "Abohoman Banglar Mudra O Kagoji Note Prodorshoni", from July 9-20 at the Nalinikanto Bhattacharjee Gallery at the National Museum, says a press release.

Suraiya Begum NDC, Secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor, Bangladesh Bank, graced the opening programme as special guests on July 9. Prokash Chandra Das, Director General of Bangladesh National Museum and Andrew Tilke, CEO of HSBC Bangladesh, also spoke on the occasion.

The exhibition showcases a wide, eclectic array of coins and notes issued across different phases of history -- ranging from the pre-

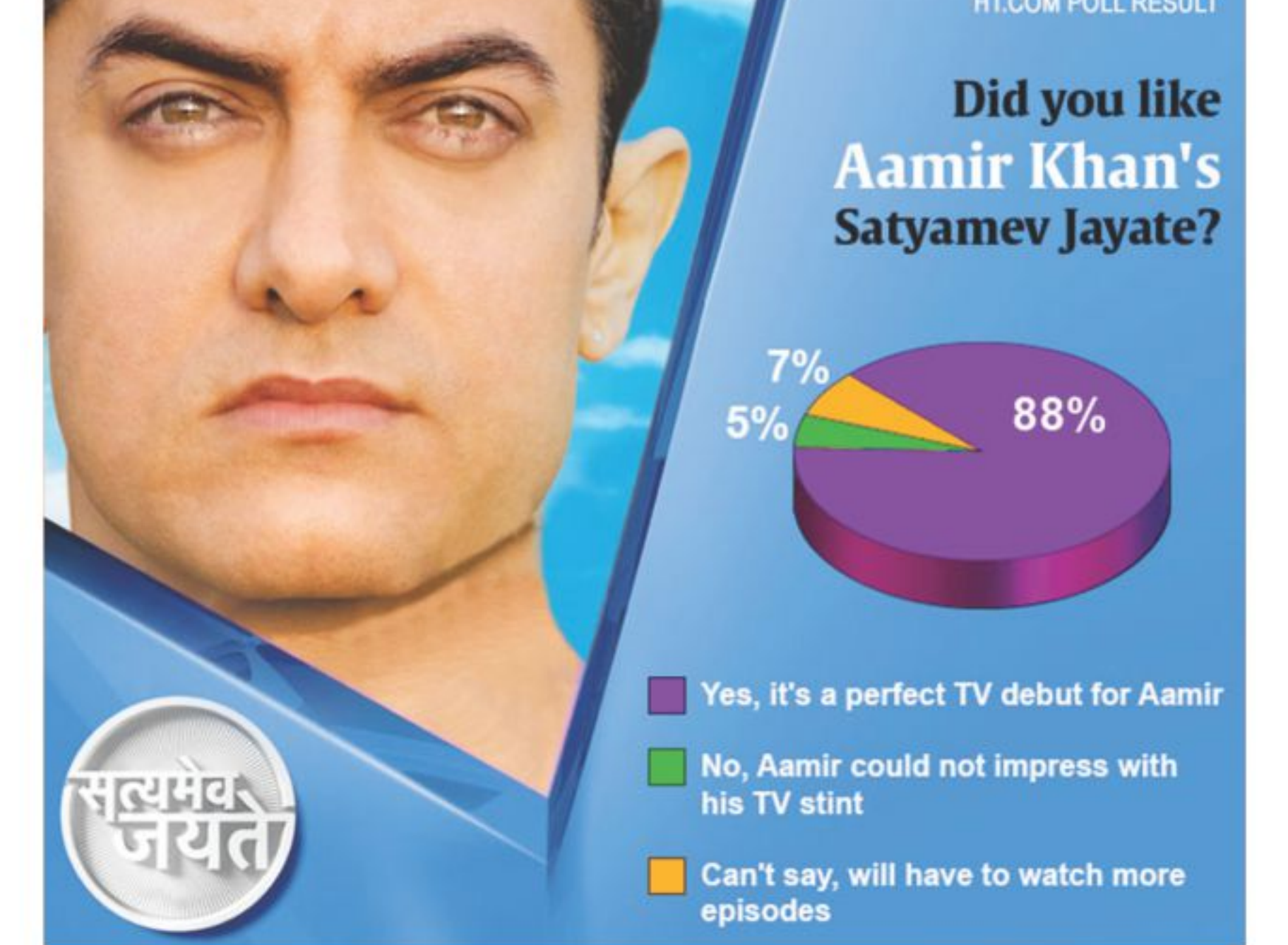
historic ages, the ancient Pala-Sen-Gupta periods, Sultani and Mughul eras to the British, Pakistan periods, and up to independent Bangladesh. The coins and paper notes exhibited at this exhibition will not only quench the thirst for knowledge and information of the general audience but will also provide avenues for insightful exploration and research by experts.

A carefully selected collection of coins and paper notes from the exclusive archives of Bangladesh National Museum and Bangladesh Bank are being displayed at this exhibition. HSBC, a co-organiser of this programme, has its own history entwined with currency -- the bank being an official currency issuer across various economies of the world, including New York, Hong Kong, Shanghai, British Malay, Philippines, Japan and Thailand -- at different points in time.



The exhibition showcases a wide array of coins and notes issued across different phases of history.

A new cause for Aamir Khan



PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

When it comes to espousing social causes, super star Aamir Khan has few parallels in Bollywood.

On Monday, the actor met Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, taking up the need for eliminating the practice of manual scavenging from the country.

Emerging from the meeting, Khan told the media that the Prime Minister assured him that the government will work to eliminate manual scavenging at the earliest.

Khan said the Prime Minister and federal Social Justice Minister Mukul Wasnik were well aware of the issue and would step up efforts to address it as soon as possible.

The actor said Wasnik "assured me that his ministry is already working on the matter and that both his ministry and the Prime Minister's Office will work to eliminate manual scavenging at the earliest". For his part, Wasnik said, "We

believe that every person should have the right to live a life of dignity. The fact that even today, a section of our society works as manual scavenger is unfortunate for not only society but for the entire nation."

"I am glad that Aamir Khan has raised this issue and I believe that the way he has focused on the issue will help create awareness in the society on the matter and we will soon be free of this malpractice," the minister added.

Aamir had recently highlighted the problem of manual scavenging in the popular TV programme "Satyamev Jayate" he anchors. He revealed that an estimated three lakh people are still engaged in manual scavenging across the country.

Earlier, he had brought into focus the issue of female foeticide and had met the chief minister of Rajasthan state Ashok Gehlot to take steps to end the problem in his state that has an escheved sex ratio. The TV show had also focussed on problems like child sexual abuse and domestic violence.

THEATRE

Golden jubilee of "Eksho Bosta Chal", "Shylock and Sycophants"



"Eksho Bosta Chal" is a joint production by Shilpakala Academy and Japanese Embassy.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy's award-winning samurai play "Eksho Bosta Chal" as well as Theatrewala Repertory production "Shylock and Sycophants" are about to have their 50th shows. The landmark show of "Eksho Bosta Chal" will be staged this evening at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, while "Shylock and Sycophants" will touch the important milestone tomorrow at the Experimental Theatre Hall of the academy.

"Eksho Bosta Chal" is a collaborative work between Shilpakala Academy and the Japanese Embassy in Dhaka. An adaptation of a Japanese literary work by Yuzo Yamamoto and directed by Golam Sarwar, the play is set against the backdrop of the transition from Shogunet era to Meiji resurrection, about 140 years ago. Professor Abdus Selim has translated it into Bangla. The 16th Uchimura Naoya Prize (conferred by Inter-

Stars pay tribute to Deep Purple's Jon Lord

Stars from the world of music and beyond have paid tribute to Jon Lord, former keyboard player with heavy rock band Deep Purple, who died on Monday.

Artists took to Twitter to pay their respects to the 71-year-old. The Kinks posted: "RIP Jon Lord. A fantastic pianist and composer. With The Kinks, he played keyboards on You Really Got Me. Legend." Twisted Sister's Dee Snider tweeted: "What an amazing musician and a true gentleman. We lost a great one. RIP"

Former Guns n' Roses guitarist Slash posted his comments: "Sad day in rock'n'roll. Jon Lord has passed on. One of the biggest, baddest, heaviest sounds in heavy metal. One of a kind. RIP"

Actor Ewan McGregor also paid tribute: "Jon played with my great friend Tony Ashton. They'll be jamming upstairs now!" Jazz pianist Jamie Cullum described Lord as "a hero of the keys." Referring to a popular make of synthesizer, he added: "I think I still have one of your Moogs!"

Richard Jones of Welsh band Stereophonics tweeted: "Deep Purple in Rock was the first album I bought. RIP Jon Lord. Legend! RJ x." Lord co-founded Deep Purple in 1968 and co-wrote many of the group's songs including Smoke on the Water. He also played with bands including Whitesnake.

The band said on Twitter: "God bless you Mr Jon Lord. Hasta siempre maestro JON LORD." Lord had been receiving treatment for pancreatic cancer since last August.

He died at the London Clinic on Monday, surrounded by family, a statement said. "Jon passes from Darkness to Light," it added.

Rage Against the Machine star Tom Morello praised "Deep Purple's cornerstone/keyboardsist. So many great songs and that incredible SOUND of his! Thank you."

Former Yes keyboard player Rick Wakeman was a friend and said he was "a great fan". "We were going to write and record an album

before he become ill," he said. "His contribution to music and to classic rock was immeasurable and I will miss him terribly."

Iron Maiden said on their Twitter account that they were "very sad" to hear Lord had passed away. Born in Leicester, Lord learned classical piano at an early age before being seduced by watching early rock 'n' roll star Jerry Lee Lewis and jazz organist Jimmy Smith.

Lord's rock attitude helped Deep Purple become pioneers of progressive and heavy rock. Away from rock music, Lord composed and performed with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall in 1969.

He also performed a concert to mark the 30th anniversary of Concerto for Group and Orchestra. He broke the news of his cancer diagnosis on his website last year, telling fans he would continue to write music as part of his therapy.

Jon Lord co-wrote many Deep Purple hits including Smoke on the Water. SOURCE: BBC

Nurjahan-Alokito Eid Fashion competition in Chittagong

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong

Monday evening was somewhat out of the ordinary for fashion enthusiasts of the port city as they had the opportunity to enjoy an event, "Nurjahan-Alokito Eid Fashion Competition 2012", organised by the national Bangla daily Prothom Alo, at the Institution of Engineers, Chittagong.

Popular illusionist Rajib Basak presented some items to the delight of the audience. Another attraction of the programme was the superb dance performances by renowned artistes Proma Abanti, Ananya Barua, Swapan Barua and their troupe.

Bishwajit Chowdhury, associate editor of Prothom Alo, who came on stage amidst loud cheers from the audience, pointed out that the fashion competition had been held for the last



The fashion competition is an opportunity for the port city designers to showcase their innovative works. PHOTO: ANURUP KANT DAS

13 years in the port city. Chowdhury said that the unique fashion competition in Chittagong is an opportunity for fashion designers of the city to showcase their innovative designs and many of them are now

established in the country. Soon after Chowdhury's speech, models took the ramp to flaunt the attire designed by the competitors.

Then four local singers -- Shapla, Debashish, Deepen and Teena -- presented some popular songs. The band Panchar provided the instrumental backup.

When a group of child models, attired in the clothes designed by the competitors came on the ramp, the audience gave a big round of applause.

Monwara Hakim Ali, president of Chittagong Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as special guest of the prize giving ceremony along with Quazi Motaher Uddin, assistant general manager (Marketing) of sponsor organisation Nurjahan, as special guest distributed the prizes among the winners.

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker



Henry by Don Tranchte



Table with TV channels and their programs: ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL 9, CHANNEL 1, CHANNEL 24, ntv, Drama Serial, ETV, RADIO.

Advertisement for Bodle Jao Bodle on Desh TV at 09:45pm, featuring a talk show host.

Advertisement for X-Men on Fox Movies at 07:00pm, featuring Patrick Stewart and Hugh Jackman.

Advertisement for Boro Bhobashhi Gaan on Boishakhi TV at 08:35pm, featuring a documentary.

Table with TV channels and their programs: Ekushey-er Business, Fox Movies, Boishakhi TV, BANGLAVISION, Desh TV, Discovery Channel.

Table with TV channels and their programs: ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL 9, ntv, Boishakhi TV, BANGLAVISION, BANGLAVISION, BANGLAVISION.

Table with TV channels and their programs: NEWS BULLETIN, BTv, Boishakhi TV, BANGLAVISION, ntv, Desh TV, ETV.

Table with TV channels and their programs: TALK SHOW, ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL 9, ETV, ntv.