

**WHAT'S ON**

**Film Screening**  
Title: 100 Years of Indian Cinema & Soubhik Chatterjee Film Retrospective  
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum  
Date: Sept 1-8



**Theatre Festival**  
On Lucky Dam 60th Birthday  
Organiser: Nagark Natyagan  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Sept 4-9



**Solo Tapestry Exhibition**  
Artist: Tajul Islam  
Venue: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Mirali  
Date: Sept 7-21  
Time: 11am-7:30pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: REM  
Artist: Saikat Das  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1  
Date: Sept 7-28



**Discussion & Musical Soiree**  
Marking 38th Death Anniversary of Abdul Alim  
Venue: Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Public Library



**Theatre**  
Play: Preji  
Troupe: Shahtia Natya Sampraday  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Sept 7



**Discussion & Manipuri Dance**  
Organiser: Mani Bhasa Gubherthou O Umang Sangha  
Venue: Music & Dance Centre Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: September 7, Time: 5pm



**Rabindra Sangeet Evening**  
Featuring: Nazim Chowdhury Bonna  
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H 35, Rd 24, Gulshan 1  
Date: Sept 8



# Tanvin Sweety: Perfect takes

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Tanvin Sweety's journey in the media began with ramp modelling opportunities, which eventually paved the way for a broader modelling career. Her continuing success in the field led

her to the realm of acting, and the talented Sweety seized every opportunity to cement her place on the TV screen.

But versatility has no bounds. Tanvin Sweety further dabbled in movies, making her debut in "Banshi", a film hinging on social issues that brought her recognition as a capable performer.

Sweety is also involved with the theatre. Following lessons at the Theater School, she worked on several productions on stage and won acclaim.

Plays on the stage featuring her include "Meraj Fakirer Ma", "Payer Awaaj Pawa Jaye", "Spordha", "Tomrai", "Ekhone Kritodash" and "Mukti".

Sweety's TV play debut was with "Godhuli Logone". Her popular works for television include "Shundori",

"Chhoto Chhoto Dheu", "Jomila", "Dokanir Bou", "Hara

dhoner Naat-jamai" and "Rupali Nodir Dheu".

Her portrayal of a widow, Dinmoni, in Mamunur Rashid's "Shundori" was a breakthrough. She pulled off the non-glamorous role with flying colours, and surprised both the director and the audience with her nuanced performance. Terming the role as one of the best works of her career, as well as one of the most challenging, Sweety said she received praise from all quarters following the airing of the drama.

Recent times have seen her being more careful in choosing her works. Quality now trumps quantity. Only one serial featuring the actress is now being aired on ntv. In Raihan Khan's "Ochena Protibimbo", Sweety plays a different kind of character. Saying that the drama was beautifully made, she says that it was shot in Bangkok.

The actress is also working in a new serial, titled "Station-e Shona Golpo". The serial will offer the audience a breath of fresh air, she claimed. Currently, the actress is in the Middle East, working in a mega-serial being directed by Mahfuz Ahmed, titled "Mago Tomar Jonyo". She will return home soon after the shooting is over.

Sweety has also tried her hands at producing dramas. Her production house is called Shonkhochil. Sweety said that she became a producer to give the audience some excellent productions and claimed that the production house has so far been able to make several noteworthy dramas.

Sweety also asserted that she is doing less work now, to make sure that the audience does not get frustrated by seeing her too frequently in front of the camera.

PHOTO: TUHIN HOSSAIN

# Tribute to Abdul Alim Remembering a timeless voice

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

Abdul Alim (1931-1974) a brilliant folk singer possessed a melodious and gifted voice, which is yet to be surpassed by any other folk singer of our country. His presentation was simply magical. His songs epitomised the very essence of folk culture and mesmerised listeners across the country. Indeed, he played an important role in popularising this form of music. With such a life of achievement it is unfortunate that his death anniversary is observed unceremoniously and he is now almost a forgotten chapter.

Alim migrated from Murshidabad (West Bengal) to Dhaka after partition (1947), and joined the Dhaka Radio Station as a staff artist.

From a very young age Alim's musical senses were honed from listening to the gramophone records. By the age of 14 he had already recorded two songs for the company. While performing songs at the Alia Madrasa in Calcutta (now Kolkata) he gained immense popularity among the connoisseurs of music.

In Dhaka, he took lessons from Ustad Mohammed Hossain Khosru for some time. During his career, as a folk singer he performed at a number of music conferences. At the All Pakistan music conference in Lahore, Alim was awarded five gold medals for his remarkable performance and contribution to music. He recorded songs for "Mukh O Mukhosh", the first film ever to be produced in the erstwhile East Pakistan. Subsequently, he continued to record songs at a prolific rate.

The folk songs are inherent treasures of the riverine Bangladeshi culture. The songs express the hopes and frustrations of young hearts and it also upholds the life and culture of the different regions. Bhatiali songs, sung mainly in riverine regions of Mymensingh and the low lands of Sylhet, are meant to replicate the energy and timelessness of the rivers that have been flowing from time immemorial.

People who have heard Alim's presentation of *Naiya rey nayer badaam tulla, Duarey aishachey paliki, Premier mora jole dobe na, Holudia pakhi*



*shonar boron, Amare shajay dio noushar shajay, Porer jaiga porer joni, Mon-e boro asha chhilo jabo Modina-e, Sharbonasha Padma nadi rey, Babu selam baare bar, Shab shakhire par korite nebo ana ana, Ujaan gang-er naiya and countless other songs will find it difficult to forget his presentation and artistic skill in voice modulation and holding a tune without break which seemed like an eternity. Abdul Alim's talent in such Bhatiali songs were a treat to the listeners. Many say his passion*

was all-encompassing.

He recorded over 300 Gramophone records and sang playbacks in over 100 films. He won the National Award (1974) posthumously for play-back in "Shujan Shokhi" directed by Khan Ataur Rahman.

Eminent Nazrul singer Sohrab Hossain, a very close associate of Alim, often filled us on humorous anecdotes on their long friendship. "He was very afraid of heights, and dreaded the government delegations which were sent to far away countries by plane.

"Then there were times when the microphone had to be kept at a fair distance to avoid distortion while recording a song because of his powerful vocal range," Sohrab Hossain would reminisce.

Stout and short in stature with deep penetrating eyes, Alim was a man of simple habits. Many who have seen Alim perform on stage or at the BTV will remember him in his simple, white pajama-panjabi. Popularity never drove him into illusory glamour.

Folk songs are so central to our culture that it seems a shame that the works of such artists as Abdul Alim are not readily available to the listeners. Bangladesh Betar (radio) should have taken initiatives to preserve the golden voices of the yesteryears. Our recording companies have a role to play too. Many countries put in rigorous work to preserve their national treasure of songs, either by reprinting, editing, re-making (with new artists); in comparison we seem happy to exile our artists to footnotes.

# THEATRE Bideha: Agonies of war victims

JAMIL MAHMUD

Featuring agonies of two Biranganas (women who survived abuse during the Liberation War), a new play premiered on Dhaka stage. National Theatre Repertory brings the play, "Bideha", directed by Lucky Enam. The play premiered at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on September 3.

Young playwright Shahman Moishan's story follows Birangana Halima and Shantikumari (played by Lucky Enam and Momena Chowdhury respectively) who share their agonies with each other, as both have endured trauma and lifelong stigma. Living by the river Meghna, the women

only wish to die peacefully.

The all-female production introduces another character, a young non-resident Bangladeshi who is a war child (played by Jyoti Sinha).

Through bringing this third character, the playwright tries to build a bridge between two generations.

A representative of the post-war generation, the young girl admits that she has no country as internet or the virtual world is her realm. She didn't come here to seek her roots, but rather to discover all corners of the globe and study people and to write about them on her blog.

This third character tries to communicate with the Biranganas, to understand them.

Lucky Enam's directorial approach seemingly emphasised on expressions of emotions; at times the expressions didn't seem restrained or subtle. Her direction also varied somewhat from what the synopsis (on the

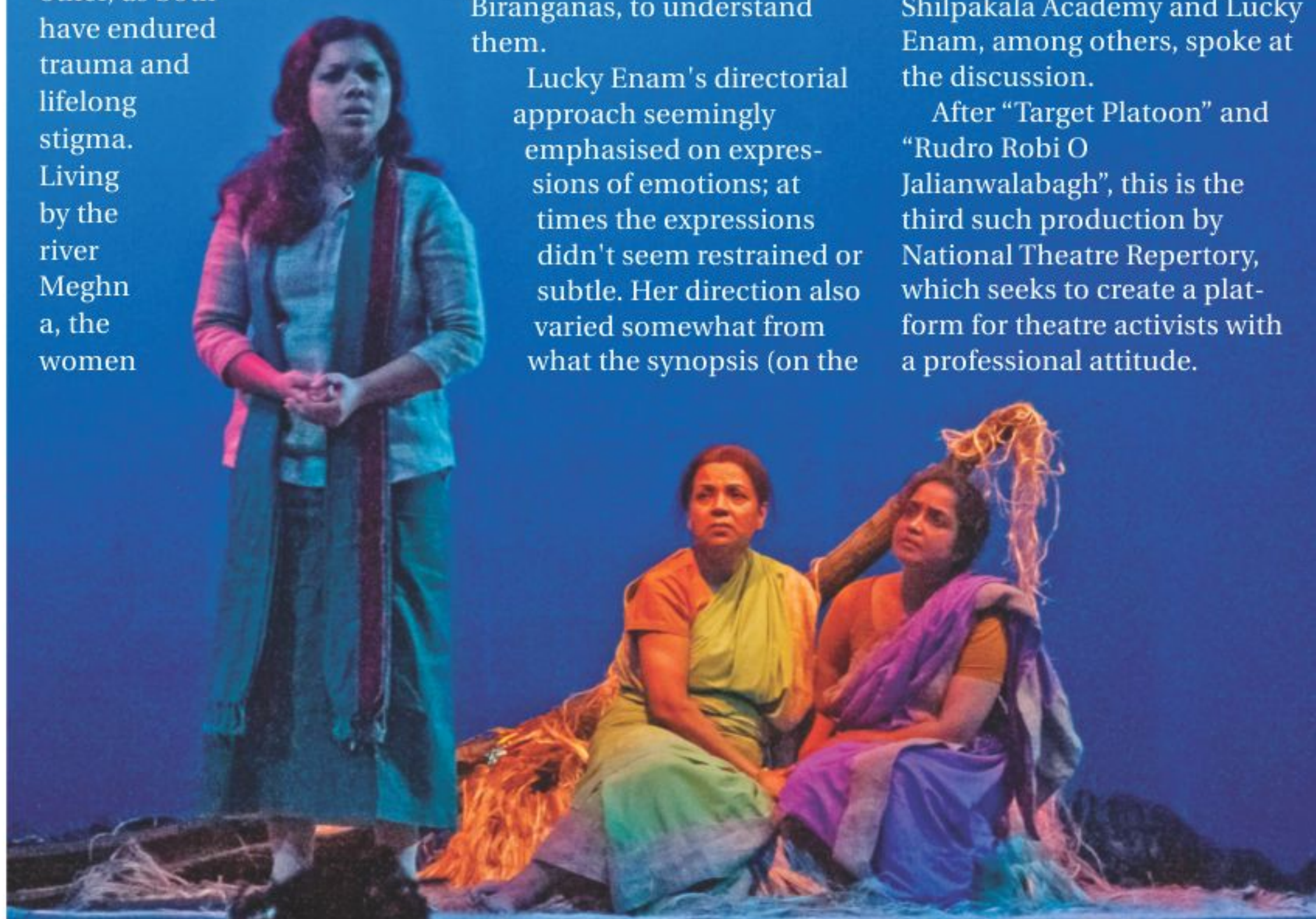
brochure provided by organisers) read. According to the text, Halima's death is suggested but the staged play depicted the three women getting together and hoping for a better future.

Sudip Chakroborthy's set and light aptly created a rural ambience. Use of bluish light on the backdrop as well as rural elements from daily life as props helped to create the ambience.

Kamruzzaman Roni did the music.

Prior to the premiere of the play, a discussion was held. Advocate Pramod Mankin, State Minister for Cultural Affairs; Liaquat Ali Lucky, director general, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Lucky Enam, among others, spoke at the discussion.

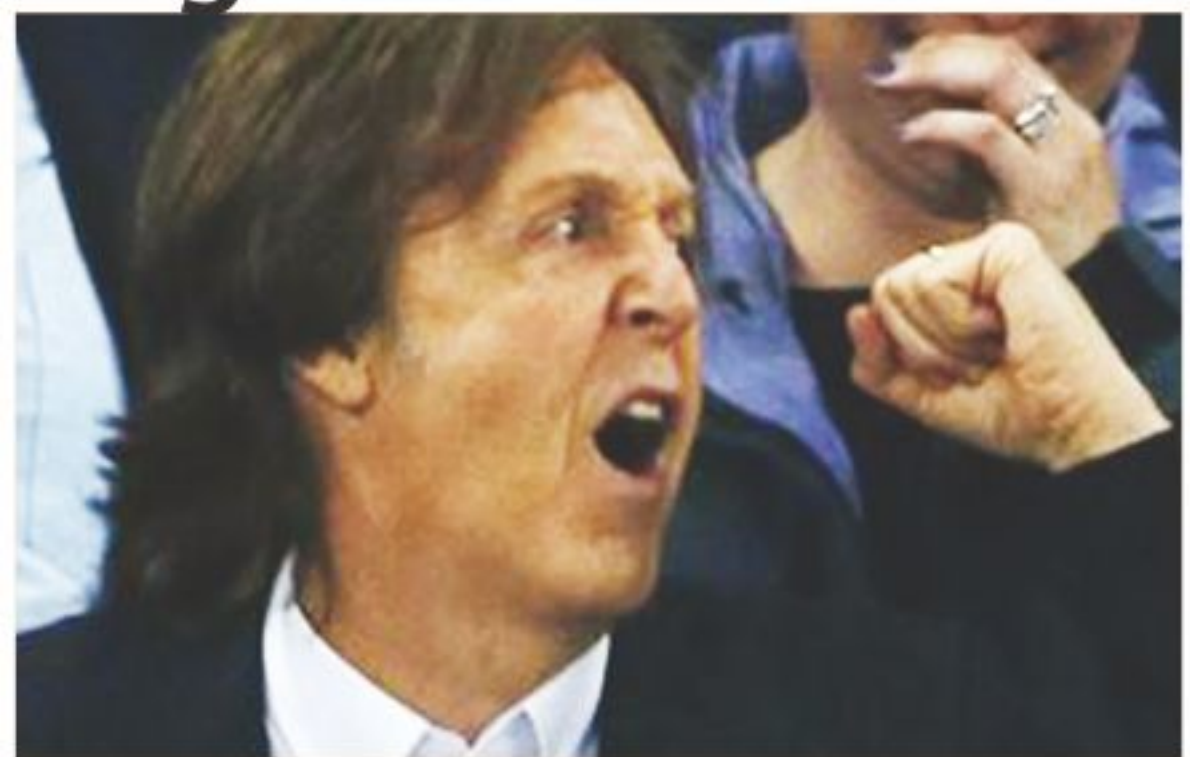
After "Target Platoon" and "Rudro Robi O Jalianwalabagh", this is the third such production by National Theatre Repertory, which seeks to create a platform for theatre activists with a professional attitude.



The play features inter-connection among three war-torn women.

PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

# France to award Paul McCartney Legion of Honour



Former Beatle Paul McCartney watches the athletics events during the London 2012 Olympic Games.

PHOTO: REUTERS

REUTERS, Paris

French President Francois Hollande is scheduled to decorate former Beatle Paul McCartney with a Legion of Honour award, the president's office told Reuters on Monday.

In the ceremony scheduled for September 8, McCartney will be made an officer of the Legion of Honour, France's highest public distinction which has been awarded to the likes of actor Clint Eastwood and singer Liza Minnelli.

No one at McCartney's office was available for comment. Created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, and symbolized by a red lapel thread, the Legion of Honour has three grades, Chevalier, Officer and Commander.

The honour carries social status but no money, and recipients have to buy their own medal from a licensed jeweler, with prices ranging from 169 euros to 700 euros (\$210 to \$880) for the highest rank.

McCartney, 70, is the most influential songwriter in the history of popular music. He has already been awarded a knighthood by Britain's Queen Elizabeth, whom he recently serenaded along with tens of thousands of spectators at the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

He first rose to international fame with The Beatles, co-authoring songs such as "Yesterday" and "Hard Day's Night" alongside bandmate John Lennon, then went on to forge a solo career, forming the band Wings with his first wife Linda.

He and Ringo Starr are the only remaining members of The Beatles.

# Athena Gallery to hold drawing exhibition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Athena Gallery of Fine Arts in North Badda, Dhaka will hold a month-long group drawing exhibition, featuring the works of noted and accomplished artists in Bangladesh. About 24 artists are taking part at the exposition. The exhibition will open on September 15, and will continue till October 15.

Featured artists are Qayyum Chowdhury, Murtaja Baseer, Syed Jahangir, Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Mahmudul Haque, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Shahid Kabir, Shahabuddin Ahmed, Chandra Shekhar Dey, Mohammad Eunus,

Jamal Ahmed, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Kanak Champa Chakma and others. Alexander A. Nikolaev, Russian Ambassador to Bangladesh, will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest.

About the exhibition, Zeenat Ikramullah, curator of Athena Gallery, said, "As part of its inauguration, the gallery recently organised a group art exhibition, featuring works of both prominent and young Bangladeshi painters. Now we want to showcase something different, and I personally feel that drawing is a reflection of personal observations and experiences of an artist. It is the basic foundation of art. Drawings articulate an artist's poetic insight and represent his/her individuality."



A drawing by Murtaja Baseer.

# Keeping alive a tradition Boat race on Padma kicks off

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A weeklong boat race kicked off in Pabna on September 3. The race was inaugurated at the Char Botalampur village, of Pabna Sadar upazila. Boatmen from different areas of the district participated in the traditional race that was held in the mighty river Padma.

Varara Union Parishad organised the boat race here in the district to keep alive the typical rural tradition. Varara Union Parishad chairman Md. Abu Sayeed chaired the inauguration programme while the administrator of Pabna Zila Parishad, Md. Saidul Haque, inaugurated the festival.

Among others, Pabna Sadar upazila chairman Mosharaf Hossain; cultural affairs secretary of district unit AL, Abdul Latif Biswas and journalist ABM Fazur Rahman spoke on the occasion.

The boat race is a typical rural event for Ben-

galis. During the rainy season the villagers organise boat races in most of the riverside villages of the country but now the boat race has lost its festive mood due to the drying up of the rivers, said the speakers.

Speaking as the chief guest, Md. Saidul Haque said the heritage of traditional boat race must be revived.

Twenty boats from different areas of the district joined the boat race here on the Padma river on the opening day. A weeklong fair also kicked off beside the river marking the race.

"Once, the traditional boat race used to be an annual fixture in the mighty river Padma during the rainy season. The river has lost its early heritage but we are losing our tradition too. To keep our heritage alive we have organised festival for the people who live beside the mighty river Padma," said Sayeed, also the organiser of the festival.



Bangladeshi artists with dignitaries at the inauguration of the exhibition.

# Boost to academics Crests for academic excellence

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Crests were handed to scholarship holders at primary and junior levels from Haluaghat upazila recently.

Haluaghat Honours Association, a forum of Honours students organised the programme at Haluaghat Upazila Parishad auditorium to inspire children to become more dedicated to academics. A cultural show was also held marking the programme, performed by the local artists.

State minister for Cultural Affairs advocate Promod Mankin, MP was the chief guest.

Presided over by the president

of the Honours Association Nahidul Islam, the function was also addressed among others by Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mizanur Rahman Bhuiyan, vice-principal of Shaheed Smriti Degree College Abdur Rashid, president of upazila Jubo League Abdul Wahab, Rafiqul Islam and secretary of the association Bisahma J. Ghosh.

The state minister said that only quality education can building a strong nation with worthy citizens.

He added that the government has taken various steps to give a boost to education at all levels with a view to free the country from illiteracy.

The chief guest also urged the

students to be more attentive to their studies so that they can be future nation builders. The guardians and members of the association should come forward to build a technologically advanced and prosperous Bangladesh.

Thanking the organisers for taking the initiative to inspire students, the guests also urged different sections of society to organise more such programmes.

Teachers, students, guardians, members of civil society and local elite were present at the function.

Later the minister distributed crests to 30 scholarship holders at the primary and junior level.

**Beetle Baily**

by Mort Walker

**Henry**

by Don Trachte

BTV	03:05	Oparajita	05:00	Durpath
05:05		Jatya Television Bitarok	07:45	Drama Serial: Saatkahon
08:40		Drama Serial: Nona Jole	09:45	Bodie Jao Bodie Dao Michil
		Kalbo	12:30	Total Sports
11:05		Ekhon Bolar Shomoy		Diganta TV
ATN BANGLA	11:30			Diganta Onmashandhan
06:15		Kothamala	03:30	Dig Diganta
08:00		Destination Unlimited	06:30	Kanopphuli Teere
08:40		Drama Serial: Chund Phul	09:35	Drama Serial: Shimabodhi Manusheru
		Omabochya		Music Hour (Live)
10:55		Bibekher Kache Proshno	11:15	
ntv	11:30	Glamour World		Maasranga Television
04:10		Janar Achhey Bolar	11:02	Bangla Feature Film
		Achhey	08:00	Drama Serial: Kobiraj
08:15		Roshuigar	09:02	Golapshah
09:00		Musical Programme	09:30	Rupkatha
ETV	05:30	Baala Ontor	09:30	Hari Jiti Nahi Lai
		Fashion and Tune	11:00	Music Digest
07:50		Drama Serial: Ohongkar		CHANNEL 9
08:20			08:45	Bangla Feature Film
			07:00	Money Hour
			09:25	Gen X

abc radio FM 88.2	10:00	Morning Express
09:30	12:00	No Tension
03:25	04:00	Dhaka Calling
05:30	09:00	Knight Riders
06:30	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	
07:30	10:00	Green FM
08:30	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
09:30	12:00	Friday's Adda
	09:00	U Turn
Radio Foorti	10:00	Tobey Tai Huk
	07:30	Rast Sher Gang

**Bodie Jao Bodie**

Dao Michil On Desh TV at 09:45pm

Talk Show Host: Mithila Farzana

**The Mummy Returns**

On HBO at 09:30pm

Genre: Action/Adventure

Cast: Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz

**Boro Beshi Bhalobashi**

Gaan On Boishakhi TV at 08:35pm

Documentary Guest: Moniruzzaman

10:10	Docu-drama: Change Sheet Report	10:30	Drama Serial: Apun Apun Khela
Boishakhi TV		11:45	Daily Sports
10:40	The Business Show		CHANNEL 24
04:15	Shreshth Doctor	01:05	Shopping & Cooking
08:35	Boro Beshi Bhalobashi	03:05	Drama Serial: Jadur Shuhar
	Gaan	08:10	Made in Bangladesh
11:00	Reporters Dairy	09:30	Drama Serial: Paa Rekhechhi Joubone Sports 24
11:30	Drama Serial: Natbalbu		
BANGLAVISION		11:40	
01:05	Bangla Feature Film		Gtv
04:20	Amader Rannaghar	11:30	Bangla Feature Film
05:20	Bichitra	06:20	Cover Story
06:25	Front Line	08:15	Purano Seti Diner Kotah
11:25	Music Club	09:05	Creme Fiction
Rtv		11:35	Jante Chai Jante Chai
10:40	Tarokalap		Fox Movies
12:35	Bangla Feature Film	02:00	Win Win
09:05	Drama Serial: Boyra Panbar	03:50	The Beaver
09:50	Lucky Line	07:00	Anger Management
12:25	Ghar-e-Ghar-e-Ushab	08:45	Maid in Manhattan
Desh TV		10:35	Spider-Man 3
03:00	Gaan R Gaan		HBO

DRAMA SERIAL			
ATN BANGLA	08:15pm	Bokulpurer Jatri	
09:20pm	Rtv		
CHANNEL 1	08:15pm	Side Effect	
07:50pm	Desh Tv		
Bayanno Golir Ek Goli	08:15pm	Radio	
ntv		Chocolate	
09:45pm		Maasranga Television	
Dokhinayoner Din	08:30pm	Khonekaley	
ETV	CHANNEL 9		
09:30pm	Kamini	Bachelor the	
Boishakhi TV	08:40pm	Family	
09:20pm	Ognipath		
BANGLAVISION			

## NEWS BULLETIN

<b>BTV</b> News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm, <b>ATN BANGLA</b> News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm, News (English) at 9am, 6pm, <b>CHANNEL 1</b> News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10:30pm, <b>ntv</b> News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, <b>ETV</b> News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm, <b>Boishakhi TV</b> News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, News (English) at 9am, 6pm, <b>BANGLAVISION</b> News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, <b>Rtv</b> News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm, <b>Desh TV</b> News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm, <b>Maasranga Television</b> News (Bangla) at 7pm, 11pm,
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TALK SHOW					
ATN BANGLA			Rtv		
12:30am	Lead News		11:30pm	Our Democracy	
CHANNEL 1			Desh TV		
12:30pm	Taraka Kathon		11:45pm	Shoja Khatu	
ntv			Maasranga Television		
12:30am	El Shomoy		12:02am	Shampotik	
ETV			CHANNEL 24		
12:05am	Ekushey-er Raat		12:00am	Modhayerar	
Boishakhi TV				Muktabak	
12:00am	Zero Hour		Gtv		