

WHAT'S ON

Amar Ekushey Book Fair
Venue: Bangla Academy Premises, Dhaka
Date: Feb 1-28
Time: 3-8pm (Sun-Thu) & 11am-8pm (Fri & Sat)

South Asian Painting Exhibition
Title: Cultural Confluence - United Colors
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi

Musical Soiree
Artist: Rafiqul Alam
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gahban-1
Date: February 15
Time: 6:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Portraits of Ambiguity
Artist: Rabul Karim Summe
Venue: Gallery Cosmos-2, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: Feb 16-25
Time: 11:30am-7pm

Theatre
Play: Pussy Cat and a Real Man
Troupe: Nagark Natyangan
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Feb 15

Group Exhibition
Title: Love is in the Air
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Al Heights, Das-7/2/10, Progoti Sherani, Uttara Badda
Date: Feb 9-26

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Re-enacting Actuality
Artist: Mahmudul Haque
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, R-16(New), Dhanmondi
Date: Feb 8-21

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go
Artist: Joya Shabirin Haq
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gahban Avenue, Gadda
Date: Feb 15- March 3

BOI MELA CORNER

Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal: People's Author



Dr. Zafar Iqbal surrounded by his fans at Boi Mela.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU
Two new novels by popular author Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal have been published so far at this year's Ekushey Boi Mela - with Tamrolipi bringing out "Istishan" and Mawla Brothers publishing "Gabbu". Both novels have created a huge stir among readers of all ages.

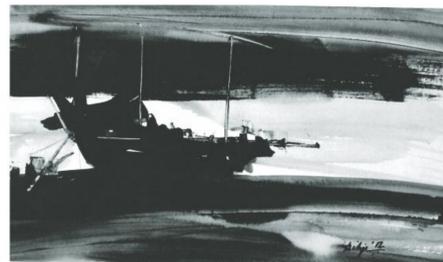
"Istishan" is based on the lives of some underprivileged children at a train station, while in "Gabbu", the eponymous character is a youngster who is passionate about inventing new things and aspires to be a scientist. A collection of newspaper columns by Dr. Iqbal has also been published at the fair. At 4pm on February 9, which was declared by the Bangla Academy authorities as a day for children, Dr. Iqbal arrived at the fair with his wife Dr. Yasmeen Haque. Children and adolescents rushed in to get a glimpse of their favorite author, collect autographs and take photos with him.

As word spread about Zafar Iqbal's arrival, people started pouring in at the Boi-tola. None of the requests for autographs or photographs were unanswered by the friendly author. After a while, Dr. Iqbal headed towards the Information Centre, where media workers gathered round him for a brief interview. TV, radio crews and newspaper reporters -- everyone's queries were answered with patience and a smile by the writer. The next stop was at the western corner of the Bangla Academy premises. Tamrolipi Prokashoni's owner Ronny accompanied the author. Evening set in, but that didn't slow down Dr. Iqbal. Without sitting at any book stall, he walked throughout the fair. Wherever he went, crowd formed around him. Some offered help to control the crowd, but the author assured everyone that they would get autographs if they approached one at a time. Night set in, but the autograph sessions continued, as Dr. Iqbal moved out of the venue to the streets. The crowd kept on coming with more requests for autographs. As he walked towards Doyel Chatter, his presence drew a new group of people. Two children ran up to him with their father, asking for a photo. The author happily complied.

Harmony in nature
Dilip Das' solo exhibition at Zainul Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Dilip Das is an Indian watercolourist and likes to portray the seasons of Bengal. Seasons and their impact on nature are featured in his watercolours. He began his career as a landscape painter, depicting nature

with its abundance of colours, light, shade and harmony. Das' solo exhibition is now on at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka. Professor Emdadul Haque Mohammad Matlub Ali, former dean of FFA, recently inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Das was born in 1950. He studied fine arts at College of Visual Arts, Kolkata. Greenery and untainted nature are Das' recurring subjects. At the exhibition, a large number of his watercolours focus on riverine life, rural beauty and mountains. The artist meticulously portrays riverine visuals. He, however, does not adhere to the 'photographic reality' style. His watercolours show serenity, hope and aspirations. The visuals are definitely easy on the eye. As themes, Das prefers seasonal changes, tranquil landscapes, boats of varied sizes, lakes, rainbow, rainy days, flowers, moonlit nights and cloudy sky. Viewers can easily relate to his themes and his compositions seem familiar. The exhibition ends today.



Watercolours by Dilip Das.



Watercolours by Dilip Das.



Samina Hossain Prema (R) and other members of Bhabna present "Bhanu Singher Padabali".

Ushering in spring
Recitation and Tagore dance-drama at "Bangla Gaan-er Utshab"

ZAHANGIR ALAM, writes from Kolkata
Though Kolkata is seemingly a little less enthusiastic in ushering in spring than Bangladesh, the nature knows it's time to wake up. The leafless Shimul and Palash trees here are alight with blossoming flowers, while the cuckoo is singing a bit earlier than usual. The entire Bangladesh is witnessing a spirited spring, with the youth of the nation congregating at Shagbhab (Dhaka), demanding justice for crimes against humanity in 1971. Noted actor-elocutionist and politician Asaduzzaman Noor echoed that spirit through reciting several poems on the Liberation War on the sixth day (February 13) of "Bangla Gaan-er Utshab-Kolkata 2013". Noor started off with "Nomo Nomo Nomo Bangladesh Momo" written by Rabindranath Tagore. Recitation of the Kazl Nazrul Islam poem "Amar Koifol" followed. His repertoire also included "Shadhinota, Ei Shobdoti Ki Korey Amader Holo" (by Nirmolendu Goon), "Amar Pirochoy" (by Syed Shamsul Haq) and "Ami Abhishap Dichhi" (by Shamsur Rahaman). Noor also read out "Nurul Din-er Shara Jibon", a lyrical drama written by Syed Shamsul Haq. Apart from recitation, the festival, jointly organised by Bengal Foundation and India's ITC-SRA, also featured two dance-dramas: "Bhanu Singher Padabali" by Bhabna (from Dhaka) and "Shapmochoh" by Dakkhini (Kolkata). The Bhabna production was choreographed by accomplished dancer Samina Hossain Prema. The dance-drama (in Brojbuli) weaved the romantic saga of Radha-Krishna through magnificent dance and narration. Lubna Mariam designed the set, while Shahabuddin Mia designed lights for the production. Suman Sarkar directed the music. Noted Tagore artiste Mita Huq and Supratik Sarkar lent their voices to the renditions. Sudeb Guhathakurta directed the dance-drama. The penultimate day's theme is "Panchakabi'r Gaan", featuring the music of Tagore, Nazrul, Atulprasad, DL Roy and Rajanikanta. The artists' lineup comprises of Shreya Guhathakurta, Sharmin Sathi Islam, Aditi Mohsin and Swagatalakshmi, Rabindra Sangeet album "Amar Mon Cheye Roy" by Aditi Mohsin and Nazrul Sangeet album "Khuji Taare Ami Apona-e" will also be released today. Prothom Alo and The Daily Star are partners of the festival. Maasranga Television is the broadcast partner and Charbela Chardik, Kali O Kalam and Bengal Barota are media partners of the festival.

Rafiqul Alam to perform at IGCC today

A musical programme, featuring renowned singer Rafiqul Alam, will be held today at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), Gulshan, in the capital. IGCC, in association with the State Bank of India in Bangladesh, is organising the event, according to a press release. At the programme, Alam will be singing his own popular songs along with classics, some Bhajans and Saraswati Bandana. Alam is a popular playback singer. He had trained under Pandit Haripodo Das and Ustad Abdul Jabbar Khan. He had also received training from Ustad Sagiruddin Khan of Kolkata. The singer learnt Rabindra Sangeet and songs of Atul Prasad from Konika Bandopadhyay and Ajit Roy. Alam has performed at prominent platforms in the USA, Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Italy, Australia, Japan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, New Zealand, UAE, India and Pakistan. The artiste has recorded over 300 playback songs for films besides singing over 4000 songs in his entire musical career till date. Alam received the National Film Award of Bangladesh twice and the Cine Journalists' Association Award for Best Male Playback Singer. He has released eight musical albums including one from the USA and another from London. The singer can render songs in 28 languages including Italian, French, Brazilian, Maldivian, Arabic, Uzbek, Telugu, Gujarati, Nepalese, Japanese and Chinese.



Rafiqul Alam.

Nationwide celebrations of Pahela Falgun

SHAHENOOR AKTHER URMI, Chittagong
The Port City wore a festive look, celebrating the first day of the Bangla month Falgun, with several socio-cultural organisations arranging programmes, including processions, songs, recitation, dance and more to usher in spring. Bodhon recital group and Proma Abriti Sangathan arranged two separate daylong programmes in the first hour of spring, at DC Hill premises and Institute of Fine Arts of Chittagong University. Bodhon started its programme at 9am with an instrumental rendition of "Aha Aji E Bashonte", followed by solo and chorus recitations and songs. Starting its programme at 8am, Proma brought out a colourful procession which was followed by group dances by School of Oriental Dance and Jhoom Aesthetic Council from Rangamati. This year Pahela Falgun programmes were organised expressing solidarity with the protesting youths at Shahbagh as well as throughout the country. With the theme of protest, the programmes also demanded speedy trial and capital punishment of war criminals



Artists of School of Folk Dance perform at DC Hill, Chittagong on the first day of spring.

and raised slogans against them. Jhenidah Government Nurun Nahar College complex on Wednesday, Nurun Nahar College, Bihango Cultural Academy and an NGO called Srijoyo jointly organised the programme. Deputy Commissioner Khaja Hannan was present as chief guest at the event. The students of Government Nurun Nahar College, Poura Model School and College and Bihango Academy brought out a rally in the

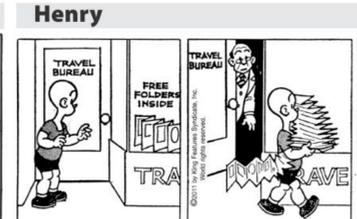
town. Hundreds of people from all walks of life participated in the rally and assembled at the Nurun Nahar College complex wearing masks and carrying coloured festoons. **JAHANGIR ALAM, Netrakona**
A two-daylong 'Bashonto-kalin Shahitya Utshab' (Spring-time Literature Festival) was held at the Mukterpara area of the district town on Wednesday and Thursday, on the occasion of Pahela Falgun. Netrakona Shahitya Shomaj organised the event. The programme included a procession, discussion and a cultural function at the premises of the Public Library, and was inaugurated by renowned artist Shishir Bhattacharya. A procession of artistes was brought out from the Bokulola on Wednesday. The procession paraded the main roads of the town. Later in the evening, a discussion was held on Khalekud Chowdhury's life and contribution to Bangla literature. Presided over by Kamruzzaman Chowdhury, president of Netrakona Shahitya Shomaj, the discussion was addressed among others by renowned writer Professor Jatin Sarker; poet Soruj Mostafa, poet Yeazdani Koraisi and poet Shimul Milky. On the occasion, Netrakona Shahitya Shomaj presented the 17th Khalekud Chowdhury Literary Award to poet Nurul Haque. Netrakona Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Shorodol Shilpi Goshthi and Jhankar Shilpi Goshthi performed songs and dance on Thursday, while renowned poets and writers also recited poetry and narrated stories on the day. **SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal**
Pahela Falgun, the first day of spring according to the Bangla calendar, was celebrated in Barisal amid much enthusiasm on Wednesday. People, mostly youngsters, celebrated the occasion carrying flowers. They were also wearing black signs demanding capital punishment for all war criminals. Barisal Natok and Udichi Shilpi Goshthi's Barisal branch arranged the 'Bashonto Utshab' at Saraswati School ground on Wednesday afternoon, with songs, dances, recitations, talks and exchange of greetings, gifts and presentations.

Berlin fest unveils Iranian director Panahi's cry for freedom

AFP, Berlin
The 63rd Berlinale premiered Tuesday the latest film by banned Iranian director Jafar Panahi, a haunting lament about crushing state oppression and a tribute to the resilience of the creative drive. "Closed Curtain", which Panahi co-directed with longtime collaborator Kambuzia Partovi, tells the story of two people on the run from the police hiding out at a secluded villa. The older fugitive owns a dog, while the young woman, who soon proves suicidal, was caught attending an illicit party on the Caspian Sea. They keep the drapes drawn to avoid detection by the authorities but while the man tries to keep working -- on a film script, as it happens -- she slips deeper into despair. Panahi was detained for a documentary he tried to make on the unrest following the 2009 election and banned from making more films for 20 years. He was given a six-year jail sentence but currently remains under house arrest. But the director, who has picked up a clutch of prizes at major international festivals for socially critical movies, has been feted abroad as one of the most original voices of the Iranian New Wave. Though he was prevented from coming to present the film in Berlin, Panahi appears on screen during the second half of the picture and it remains unclear whether the two fugitives are not just a figure of his imagination as the action moves from reality to fiction and back again. The walls of the villa are covered with European versions of his own film posters including the 2000 picture "The Circle" which ends with a prison door slamming shut on a cell containing all the main female protagonists. Partovi, who also plays the role of the man with the dog, said Panahi had been deeply depressed due to the official restrictions when they started working on the project, which he said was aimed at "bridging this hard period". "It's difficult to work but being able to work is even more difficult, particularly at the height of your career," he said. Partovi said it was unclear what consequences the new picture, which got a mixed reception in Berlin, would have for them in Iran. "Nothing has happened until now but we don't know what the future has in store for us," he said. Maryam Moghadam, the lead actress, said her character represented Panahi's desperation. "She's the dark side, the hopelessness of every person and specifically the director in the movie," she said. Panahi's "This Is Not A Film" had to be smuggled out in a USB key hidden inside a cake to be screened at the Cannes film festival.

DID YOU KNOW?
Cultural activities at Shahbagh Protest [till date]

- "Chorompotro 2013" has been written for the protest. "Chorompotro" was a popular radio programme during the Liberation War in 1971.
- Hyder Husyn and Brothers have composed a song titled "Tora Shob Chol Chol Chol".
- Indian singer-composer Kabir Suman composed three songs titled "Gonodabi", "Shahbagh-e Raathbor", and "Tin Minute" expressing solidarity with the protest.
- Imranul Hoque and Sonia Jahid composed a puthi titled "Sohi Rajakarnama" which is presented by the students of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.
- Negative Altitude, a studio for motion pictures, released an inspirational work on the protest, a video titled "Abar Falgun".
- Magic Movement erected an installation, titled "E Khancha Bhangbo Ami Kemon Korey" in front of Shahbagh Police Station. A cage-like wooden structure, the installation is a symbol of protest, urging all to break free.
- A huge mural -- depicting atrocities by the Pakistan army and their collaborators during the Liberation War, and Bangladesh's struggle for independence -- has been painted by students of Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University at the entrance of the institute.



BTv	09:35 Tom & Jerry Tales	11:45 Call-er Gaan
	03:05 Bangla Feature Film	Boishakhi TV
	07:30 BPL 2013 (Live)	02:30 Shudhu Cnemar Gaan
	10:30 Tamna	08:00 Amar Guita Amar Gaan
		08:50 Drama
		11:05 Shomey Katuk Gaan-e Gaan-e
ATN BANGLA		
	03:05 Bangla Feature Film	Maasranga Television
	05:00 Gami Goner Khabor	02:30 Lakhing Gaan-er Dupur
	08:00 Drama	05:02 Square Hospital Doctor's Chamber
	11:00 Comedy Hour	08:00 Drama: Atangka
CHANNEL i		09:00 Bengal ITC-SRA Classical Music Festival
	12:05 Prokoti O Jibon	12:02 Drama: Chemistry
	02:40 Tefelini	
	07:50 Sherakontha	CHANNEL 9
	09:35 Handsome Ultimate Man	08:00 Bangla Feature Film
ETV		07:30 BPL 2013 (Live)
	10:02 Sonamoni Shukh-e Oshukh-e	11:00 Power Voice
	01:30 Bangla Feature Film	12:00 Sports Daily
	08:20 Gaan-er Opore	CHANNEL 24
	10:10 Drama: Obak Bhulobasha	03:20 Dateline Bangladesh
	12:05 Studio Concert	08:00 Boi Mela
BANGLAVISION		09:00 Drama: Ekti Raat Tumi O
	10:10 Bhalo Thakan	

Bengal ITC-SRA Classical Music Festival
On Maasranga Television at 09:00pm
Musical Programme
Artist: Pandit Tejendra Narayan

In Time
On Fox Movies at 07:00pm
Genre: Action/ Sci-Fi
Cast: Justin Timberlake, Amanda Seyfried & Cillian Murphy

Props
On ATN BANGLA at 08:00pm
Single Episode TV
Play
Cast: Aporbo Majumdar, Sumaiya Shimu

11:05 Amader Ramnagar	11:30 Ami
06:25 Gaan-e Gaan-e Dosh-e	Sports 24
09:05	Fox Movies
11:25 Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo	02:50 Wall-E
(Live)	04:30 Armageddon
	07:00 In Time
ntv	08:50 The Beach
02:35 Tele-film: Shudhu Ekbar	11:30 Click
Bolo	
06:45 Roomadhuri	HBO
09:00 Tomakei khujche Bangladesh	02:05 Top Gun
Musical Programme (Live)	04:20 Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows
11:30	06:45 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1
Rtv	09:30 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2
12:10 Bangla Feature Film	
07:35 Glamour World Dot Com	
11:20 Golshabi	Star World
Desh TV	03:30 Teacher's Achiever's Club
11:30 Dosh Amur	07:30 Koffee with Karan
03:00 Prityojon-er Gaan	09:30 Packed to the Rafters
06:30 123 Shimpur	10:30 Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
09:45 Drama: Onachachant Dah	11:30 Homeland

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA	09:20pm Chayabanta	06:20pm Chhoto Bou
Channel i	11:30pm Rozini	Bhorusha Coaching Centre
ntv	08:15pm Mayangam	BANGLAVISION
06:15pm	09:30pm Dhol	08:15pm Dui Sakar
ETV	09:30pm Boro Barir	09:45pm Karta Kahini
Boishakhi TV		Rtv
03:00pm		08:15pm Apon Ghor

NEWS BULLETIN

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

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	12:30am Lead News	11:30pm Moha Shatto Al-Quran
CHANNEL i		ntv
09:45pm Tani Motra	12:30am Hello America	
12:00am Aker Shongshongpatro	Desh TV	
Boishakhi TV	07:45pm Mukh O Mukhrota	
12:30pm Hridoye Jumbarar	Rtv	
12:00am Zero Hour	10:40am Taroklap	
BANGLAVISION	Gtv	