

WHAT'S ON

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

Film Screening
Organizer: Torque Masud Memorial Trust
Venue: Shaikat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shaahbagh
Date: Feb 20-22
Time: 3pm onwards (Feb 21: 10am)

Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Long Awaited Freedom
Artist: Razul Akbar
Venue: Drk Gallery, H-58, R-15/A (New), Dharmadoli
Date: Feb 17-23

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

Musical Soiree
Artist: Tapan Chowdhury
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan-2
Date: February 22
Time: 6:30pm

Group Exhibition
Title: Love is in the Air
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, AJ Heights, Cha-72/1/D, Progoti Shorani, Uttar Bakda
Date: Feb 9-26

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Masters and Others
Venue: Shilpanjali Gallery, House 7, Road 13, Dharmadoli
Date: Feb 22-28

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go
Artist: Jays Shahaing
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1
Date: Feb 15-March 3

Brit Awards: Emeli Sande and Adele win

BBC

Adele, Emeli Sande and Ben Howard were honoured at this year's Brit Awards ceremony at London's O2 Arena on Wednesday. Sande won best British female and British album, while Howard scooped best British male and breakthrough. Adele won best single for her James Bond theme Skyfall - but she was not at the event, instead choosing to rehearse for the Oscars in Los Angeles. She sent a video message referring to last year's ceremony, when her best album acceptance speech was cut short.

Sande's triumph in the best British female category meant there was no posthumous win for Amy Winehouse. Folk rock band Mumford and Sons were named best British group. Their win came 10 days after the group's LP Babel took the album of the year trophy at the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Coldplay won best British live act, beating The Rolling Stones, who were nominated 35 years after they were shortlisted for the first ever Brit Awards.

In the international categories, the Black Keys won best group. Frank Ocean was named best male and Lana Del Rey picked up best female.

One Direction used the ceremony to give the first live rendition of their Comic Relief single. The night's other performers included Robbie Williams, Muse, Taylor Swift and Justin Timberlake.

Comedian James Corden returned as host this year and used his opening routine to make light of cutting short Adele's speech in 2012.



FAHMIM FERDOUS

Theatre group Padatik Natya Sangsad held a daylong cultural programme yesterday at the Ramna Botomul to mark the Language Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day. The 15th edition of Padatik's Annual Cultural Congress, to mark the occasion, also honoured Language Movement veteran and artist Murtaja Baseer.

The day's proceedings began with the tunes of Ekushey February in an instrumental arrangement, followed by the national anthem, performed by Padatik members.

In his address, Murtaja Baseer said that he doesn't feel he deserved the honour, because he did not participate in the Language Movement for recognition. The urge to take part in the movement came from within, he said. He also said that the decline in respect for and taking pride in the language frustrates him.

The chief guest at the programme -- also a Language Movement veteran -- Kamal Lohani also lamented the "over-use" of other languages for official and government purposes, but expressed hopes that the recent awakening of the youth may play a vital role in rekindling the love for Bangla, and its wider uses.

Leading figures of the Sammilito Sangskritik Jote -- Golam Kuddus and

Hasan Arif -- and Chief Executive of Padatik, Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, also addressed the audience.

The cultural programme kicked off with a group dance performance by Notoraj, who put up a powerful, yet touching display with poems and songs

on the Language Movement. The troupe closed the presentation with a composition based on Mahbub-ul Alam Chowdhury's epic poem "Kandite Ashini, Fashi'r Dabi Niye Eshhechi".

The cultural programmes featured a wide array of performances, including solo and group songs, recitals and dance, poth-natok or street-plays and baul songs. Beside noted artists of the country, a number of musicians and elocutionists from India also participated in the event.

The Daily Star was a partner of the event.

Padatik observes Ekushey with music, dance and recitations



(Top) Murtaja Baseer (3-L) and Kamal Lohani (C) with other guests at the programme. Dancers of Natoraj perform at the event.



An elderly woman helps a child write her first Bangla letters. PHOTO: STAR

Learning letters on International Mother Language Day

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Three/four year olds Adiba Ahad Aurthi, Soumik Shah, Rubaiya Sultana Ria, Nupur and 30 other children wrote Bangla alphabets for the first time at a "Haate Khari" (initiation to education) programme held at Shaheed Shadhan Sangeet Mahabidyalay in Pabna on Thursday marking the International Mother Language Day.

Gonoshilpi Shongshtha Pabna (GSP), a leading cultural organisation of the district, arranged the special event for children below school-going age to mark the International Mother Language Day like previous years.

Retired school teachers Md. Khalilur Rahman and JA Sufia Begum instructed the little ones on how to write Bangla alphabets.

A discussion was held on the occasion, chaired by president of GSP Professor Shibojit Nag. Among others, Advocate Golam Hasnayan; Advocate Shahjahan Mondol, secretary to the organization, Moshfeka Jahan Konika; teachers Khalilur Rahman and Sufia Begum spoke on the occasion.

The speakers talked about a time when parents initiated "Haate Khari" to start formal education of their children. Traditional festivals such as this are fading away into oblivion due to the influence of modern education system, they said.

The speakers stressed on the need to teach mother language at the beginning of education. Without sufficient knowledge of our mother language we will not be able to move ahead. We have to guide our children to first learn the mother tongue, the speakers said.

On the historic day of Amor Ekushey (February 21), the children embarked happily on their journey in education with 'Haate Khari' and so were their parents.

Talking to The Daily Star, educationists Khalilur Rahman and Sufia Begum said that the children are to be educated in the mother tongue at the beginning of the education. They got the first lessons of Bangla alphabet so they would be interested to learn their mother tongue at the beginning of their academic carrier.

President of Gonoshilpi Shongshtha Pabna, Shibojit Nag, said the children aged from three to four participated in the programme. This is the fifth consecutive year of arranging this special event marking the International Mother Language Day, he said, adding that 30 children of the district headquarter got the first lesson of Bangla alphabet on the occasion.



Young students of "Ochinpakhri" - the music academy of noted Lalon exponent Farida Parveen - perform at a cultural programme at Rabindra Sharobar marking the International Mother Language Day. PHOTO COURTESY: MD. SHAHEEN HOSSAIN

Painting competition in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Bogra Moumachi Khelaghor arranged a painting competition at its premises on February 21.

Before the opening of the competition a discussion was held on International Mother Language Day and the sacrifices of the martyrs who laid down their lives for Bangla language in 1952.

Chairman of Bangladesh Institute of Information and Technology (BIIT) and chief guest at the programme, Shahabuddin Saikat, and special guests -- adviser to Khelaghor, Dr. Habibur Rahman and district correspondent of The Daily Star, Mamun-ur-Rashid -- spoke on the occasion.

Around 80 participants took part in the competition and demonstrated their talents by painting on International Mother Language Day and sacrifices of the language martyrs in 1952.

The programme was presided over by noted crime reporter of the district, Masudur Rahman Rana.

Cultural programmes to observe Ekushey

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Manikganj district administration, in association with Bangladesh Shishu Academy, arranged a cultural competition at the Officers' Club premises in Manikganj on Thursday to celebrate the Language Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day.

District Shishu Academy officer Md. Shariful Islam informed that around 200 students from different primary and high schools of the district took part in the art, handwriting, impromptu speechand poetry recitation competitions.

Meanwhile, Manikganj Government Women's College arranged a discussion at its auditorium yesterday to observe the occasion. Vice principal of the college, Professor Abul Islam Sikdar and Professor Nowroz Mohammad Sayeed of Manikganj Government Devendra College spoke at the discussion.

A three-day long programme also began at the Shaheed Rafiq Memorial Library and Museum at Paril, under Singair upazila of Manikganj, the village of Language Movement martyr Rafiq Uddin Ahmed.

Meanwhile, the Manikganj district administration arranged a three-day long book fair at Manikganj Government Boys' High School that ended yesterday.



Participants of the handwriting competition. PHOTO: STAR

Alphabet Fair by Prothom Alo

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Hundreds of children, as well as adults, of Chittagong celebrated the International Mother Language Day (yesterday) amid joy and festivity at an event titled "Borno Mela".

To mark the occasion, leading Bangla daily The Prothom Alo organised the daylong festival at Nasirabad Govt. Boys' School premises where students and children along with their guardians thronged since morning.

The festival started with the national anthem presented by Rakto Karobi, a leading cultural troupe of the Port City.

Language Movement veteran Syedur Rahman Chowdhury inaugurated the festival as chief guest. Abul Momen, resident editor of Prothom Alo, gave the welcome speech.

With an aim to boost love towards Bangla alphabets, provide formal first lesson on the alphabets, and introduce Bengali culture and heritage to children, Prothom Alo initiated the programme, said Biswajit Chowdhury, joint editor of Prothom Alo.

Zahid Reza Noor, deputy feature editor of the daily, conducted the programme.

Over 25 stalls were set up at the premises, which highlighted Bengali culture, traditional clothes and food.

At the daylong colourful festival, children were given the first lesson on handwriting at the stall 'Haate Khari'. At the stall 'Borno Chhaya', children enjoyed different games on Bangla alphabets. At the stalls 'Borno Ghar' and 'Borno Pandit', artists Abul Mansur, Ahmed Newaz and Kawza Kayum were busy introducing children to alphabets. Marma and Rakhan bormnala (alphabets) were also on display at the stalls.

A cultural programme and a painting-drawing competition were also held on the occasion.

Proma Abriti Sangathan presented a group recitation titled "Janani Bangla", directed and scripted by Hasan Arif.

Artists of Sangeet Bhaban rendered the patriotic songs -- "Rakto diye naam likhechhi" and "O moder desho bashire".

Channel i Shera Kantho artistes, Chaity and Nishita, also performed patriotic songs at the festival.

Sarod recital by Ustad Shahadat Hossain Khan



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 20th general assembly and conference of the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) is now on in Dhaka. More than a hundred architects from 21 commonwealth countries and over thousand students and individuals associated with the organisation are taking part in the conference.

On the occasion, Delvistaa Foundation organised a musical soiree featuring sarod artiste Ustad Shahadat Hossain Khan on February 20 at the BRAC Centre Auditorium in Dhaka. Shahadat Hossain Khan, accompanied by his two daughters -- Afšana Khan (on sitar) and Ruksana Khan (on sarod) -- played Raga Mishra Kafi.

Architect Mustapha Khalid Palash, chairman of Delvistaa Foundation and president of Architecture Alumni Association of BUET, delivered the welcome speech at the programme. Architect Shahzia Islam, secretary, Delvistaa Foundation, also spoke at the programme. Architect Mobashwer Hossain, president of Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) and Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB); Ziaul Huq Chowdhury, general secretary of Architecture Alumni Association of BUET, and senior architects, academics attended the recital.

Upholding the spirit of Amor Ekushey

Musical programme held opposite Nazrul Mausoleum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The nation celebrated the Amor Ekushey, also known as the International Mother Language Day, with apt reverence, solemnity and resolve. People from all walks of life paid their tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the dignity and emancipation of our mother language Bangla.

As part of paying homage to the martyrs of Language Movement, artists along with members of several bands held a musical programme opposite National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's mausoleum at the Dhaka University campus.

The artistes stated off the programme with rendering the national anthem. Later, the singers performed Tagore songs "Anandalok-e Mongolalok-e", "O Amar Desher Mati" and "Gram Chhara Oi Ranga Matir Poth"; a DL Roy song "Dhano Dhanyo Pushpa Bhora" and several spirited patriotic songs including "Teer Hara Ei Dheu-er Sagor" in chorus.

Demanding speedy and just trail of the war criminals, artistes and several bands performed their own compositions at the programme as well. Shibu of the band Meghdol; Emon of Chirkutt; Atanu Sharma of Chitkar, Prabur Ripon of Monoshoroni and Sunny, Kakon, Anik and Roksana Amin of the band Biskut performed their original compositions at the programme.

The youths at Shahbagh thoroughly enjoyed the musical programme keeping their spirits high on Amor Ekushey.



Artistes of the band "Biskut" sing at Shahbagh. PHOTO COURTESY: ANUP AICHA

ATN BANGLA	03:05 Bangla Feature Film 05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor 08:00 Drama 11:00 Unwayane Taranya Bhubana	Maasranga Televisio	05:02 Square Hospital Doctor's Chamber 08:00 Drama: Big Budget 09:00 Bengali ITC-SRA Classical Music Festival 12:02 Drama: Dana Bhangra Swapno
CHANNEL I	12:05 Prokriti O Jibon 02:40 Tefelini 02:50 Sherakorbha 09:35 Handsome Ultimate Man	CHANNEL 9	02:30 Bangla Feature Film 07:45 Gaan-er Kheyta 11:00 Sports Daily 11:40 Desh-er Tara
ETV	10:02 Sonamoni Shukh-e Oshudh-e 01:30 Bangla Feature Film 08:20 Gaan-er Opare 10:10 Drama: Phuchka 12:05 Studio Concert	GTV	03:25 Jigasha O Jobab (live) 06:30 School-e Oshor-e 08:05 Roop Madhurja 09:05 Aker Onnoma
BANGLAVISION	10:10 Bhalo Thakun 11:05 Amader Rannaghar 06:25 Gaan O Fun 09:05 Gaan-e Gaan-e Desh-e Desh-e 11:25 Am Eshon Ki Korbo (Live)	FX Movies	07:00 The International 09:00 The Grey 11:00 Transporter: The Series 11:50 Angels & Demons HBO

RADIO	12:00 Ruler Pika 02:00 Forst Unlimited 06:00 Bumper to Bumper 10:00 Club Fourt 01:00 Back Back Music 02:00 RADIO TODAY FM 89.6 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka 11:00 Flash Back 11:30 Guitar Never Lies 12:30 Nume Program 02:15 Rajshahi Gam 05:00 Today World Music
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Bengal ITC-SRA Classical Music Festival
On Maasranga Television at 09:00pm
Musical Programme
Artist: Debarshree Bhattacharya and Sandeep

Top Gun
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Action Drama
Cast: Tom Cruise, Tim Robbins, Kelly McGillis

@18
On ntv at 02:35pm
Telemovie
Cast: Iresh Zaker, Mishu Sahaib, Tawfiq

ntv	02:35 Tele-film 06:40 Roomadhuri 09:00 Tomakei Khujche Bangladesh 11:30 Musical Programme (Live)	12:55 The Hangover Part II 02:45 10,000 BC 04:55 Transporter 3 06:55 The Hunt for Red October 09:30 Top Gun 11:38 The Grudge	
Rtv	02:10 Bangla Feature Film 07:35 Glamour World Dot Com 11:20 Apar Jigasha	Star World	03:30 Teacher's Achiever's Club 08:30 Melissa & Joey 09:30 Packed to the Rafters 10:30 Grey's Anatomy 11:30 White Collar
Desht TV	11:30 Desh Amar 03:00 Prityogon-er Gaan 06:30 123 Singing 09:45 Drama: Swagano Aanki 11:45 Call-er Gaan	National Geographic Channel	05:30 Secrets of Wild India 09:30 Dangerous Encounters 10:30 Inside 11:30 Taboo
Boishakhi TV	02:30 Shudhu Cnemer Gaan 08:00 Amar Guitar Amar Gaan 08:50 Drama 11:05 Shomoy Katuk Gaan-e Gaan-e	Discovery Channel	02:30 Gator Boys 04:30 Food Factory 09:30 Magic of Science 10:30 Swamp Wars

ATN BANGLA	09:20pm Chhayabrata Channel i 11:30pm Rozhni	DRAMA SERIAL	03:00pm Baro Baro Chhoto Bou 06:20pm Bhorasha Coaching Centre Channel i 08:15pm Mayanigam
ntv	08:15pm Mayanigam	BANGLAVISION	08:15pm Dui Takar Bahaduri 09:45pm Korta Kahini Rtv 08:15pm Apon Ghor
ETV	09:30pm Dhol	NEWS BULLETIN	BTV News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 6pm, 9pm, 10am, 4pm, 10pm. ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm. News (English) at 9am, 6pm. CHANNEL I News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. ntv News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. ETV News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
Boishakhi TV		TALK SHOW	ATN BANGLA 12:30am Lead News CHANNEL I 09:45am Trilio Matra 12:00am Aker Shongbadpatro Boishakhi TV 12:30am Hridoye Jummaber 12:00am Zero Hour BANGLAVISION



Children take part in "Write as You Like" at the Borno Mela. PHOTO: STAR