

WHAT'S ON

Book Fair
Organiser: Adorn Publication
Venue: Seminar Room, Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: June 1-15
Time: 9am-8pm

Adorn
BOOKS

Sculpture & Painting
Exhibition
Artists: Ferdousy Priyabhashini and Karu Titas
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H-42, Rd-27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: May 24-June 4

Duet Musical Soiree
Artists: Salma Akbar & Sajed Akbar
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, Rd-24, Gulshan-1
Date: June 7
Time: 6:30pm

Solo Drawing Exhibition
Artist: Mainuddin
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi
Date: May 31-June 12
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Fata Morgana
Artist: Roky Sultana
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan-1
Date: May 17-June 11

NEWS bytes

Workshop on classical dance concludes

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

The concluding ceremony of a five-day workshop on classical dance was held recently at Mymensingh Shilpakala Academy auditorium.

The workshop was organised by Novice Foundation (NF), Mymensingh unit at Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala, with participation from forty-nine dancers.

Marking the concluding ceremony, a discussion was held, with Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh, Mustakim Billah Faruqi as the chief guest.

Noted personalities of the local cultural fraternity spoke at the programme. Such workshops on classical dance will inspire young talents to dedicate themselves to this art form and enrich our traditional culture, added the speakers.

Later, the chief guest distributed certificates among the participants.

Colourful kite festival in Pabna

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A traditional rural kite festival was organised by Nimaichora union parishad of Chatmohar upazila on Saturday afternoon.

Three varieties of kites fluttered in the sky as 70 participants from different villages of the upazila participated in the festival.

Md. Sifat Ali, Mokbul Hossain and Maruf Hossain made it to the top spots.

A discussion was held on the occasion, chaired by Abdus Sobhan Fakir while Nimaichora union parishad chairman Abdullah Al Mahamud and local elite Kamruzzaman Khokon gave speeches.

The speakers said that kite festivals were once a common phenomenon in rural areas but the rich tradition is dying out.

It's True!

Before Stanley Kubrick came on-board for "A Clockwork Orange", writer Anthony Burgess considered selling the movie rights to Mick Jagger, frontman of rock band Rolling Stones, with the intention of Jagger playing Alex and the rest of the Stones playing the other Droogs.

Celebrating 40 years of Bangladesh-Vietnam relationship

Group art exhibition in Hanoi



Participating artists of the exhibition.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the diplomatic relationships between Vietnam and Bangladesh, Gallery 21 (Bangladesh), Bangladesh Embassy in Vietnam and Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism Socialist Republic of Vietnam will jointly organise a group art exhibition titled "Colours Across the Bangla Delta", featuring the works of painters Kanak Chanpa Chakma, Maksuda Iqbal Nipa, Shameem Subrana, Samina Nafis, and Bipasha Hayat. The exhibition will be held at the Vietnam Exhibition

Centre for Culture and Arts in Hanoi. The exposition will be inaugurated on June 5.

About 25 paintings of five artists will be displayed. This is the first time such an exhibition, featuring Bangladeshi artists, will be held in Vietnam.

Among the participating artists, Kanak Chanpa Chakma and Maksuda Iqbal Nipa are recognised painters in the country.

Kanak Chanpa Chakma's paintings are known for featuring tribal life and culture. Through her work, she closely observes the region -- lifestyle, environment and other aspects of the indigenous communities. She often transforms the

background of her paintings but most of the time figures have similar gestures.

A thoughtful and imaginative painter, Maksuda Iqbal is inspired by nature and its varied mysterious aspects. As an abstract expressionist, varied shades and soothing texture are the most significant aspect of her oil paintings. She likes to experiment with colours and applies them directly, piling up thick layers on the canvas. The layers provide a unique texture to her work and that is why her canvas carries a personal hallmark.

The exhibition will continue till June 7.



Faridur Reza Sagar (5-R) and Farooki (3-L) with the artistes at the programme.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Films by Mostofa Sarwar Farooki have a certain appeal to them, and never fail to draw moviegoers' attention. Following his global success with "Television", the acclaimed director has set out to direct two new movies, "Pipra Biddya" and "Dubo Shohor".

The announcement was made at a press brief yesterday at the Channel i office. Managing director of the channel, Faridur Reza Sagar was present at the event.

The cast of "Pipra Biddya" will include Miss Kolkata and Miss Universe India Sheena Chouhan, Nur Imran Mithhu, Sabbir Hasan and Mukit Zakaria. The film, with its story and screenplay by Farooki himself, will be produced by Impress Telefilm.

Chhobial will produce the other film "Dubo Shohor", which also has Farooki as the screenwriter. The lead roles in the movie will be played by popular actress Tisha and Lux superstar Mehzabien.

Speaking at the press conference, Farooki disclosed that "Pipra Biddya" will present the story of a youth from a middle-income family who struggles with his dreams, limitations, failures, and greed. The story of "Dubo Shohor", meanwhile, is about the friendship of two young girls, and their love life.

Sheena Chouhan, Tisha, Mehzabien and Mukit were present at the event.

The films will see cinematography by Golam Mawla Nabi, editing by Khaled Mahmud Rajon, while popular musicians will work on the tunes.

Manipuri cultural complex to be set up at Komolganj



Pankaj Saran speaks at the programme.

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pankaj Saran has said a Manipuri cultural complex at Komolganj in Sylhet will be established soon with support from India.

Besides, India will work for the renovation, and preservation of the triple temple in Sylhet city. Saran

was addressing a function arranged by the Manipuri Juba Sangha on Friday afternoon at a community centre at Sylhet city's Shibganj.

He said that bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh go way back and are based on a strong footing. Steps are being taken to further strengthen cultural and commercial relations, he added.

A three-member team of experts

from the Indian Archeological Department visited and prepared a report on Raja Gambhir Sinha's triple-temple at the city's Lamabazar, he added; now work on these would begin soon.

Although the Manipuris have their roots in India, a good number of them have long been living in Sylhet, the High Commissioner noted.

The proposed complex at Komolganj will have a Manipuri weaving development centre, ICT centre, library, conference hall etc, the envoy added.

The High Commissioner's wife Priti Saran, Assistant High Commissioner Somenath Ghosh, Sylhet Deputy Commissioner Md. Shahidul Islam and Manipuri community leader Dhiren Sinha also addressed the gathering among others. The function was followed by a cultural event.

The High Commissioner and others also visited the temple at Lamabazar and Manipuri weaving training centre at Shibganj.

Tanvir Mokammel's "Jibondhuli" slated for July release

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA

For the first time in his nearly two-decade career, veteran director Tanvir Mokammel is planning to release the music album of his forthcoming feature film "Jibondhuli".

"Yes, I am planning to come out with a music album of the five songs in the film," Tanvir said in response to a question by The Daily Star.

The film, he said, will have five songs, including a title song, one at the end and another during the sequences of thousands of people displaced by the Bangladesh Liberation War crossing the border.

Written by Mokammel, "Jibondhuli" is a story about the experiences of a poor low caste Hindu drummer and his family during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

This is the second film by Mokammel

featuring a number of songs, after "Lalon".

"Since 'Jibondhuli' is a story about a drummer, it is but natural that the film will have a number of songs," replied Tanvir when pointed out that having five songs is somewhat unusual when one thinks of most of his previous films.

The dubbing and the background music of the film are complete and out of the five songs recorded for the film, four are written by the director himself while the other is from a folk repertoire.

Syed Shabab Ali Arzoo, the music director of the film, has composed the tunes of all the four songs. Noted folk-singer Abu Bakar Siddiki, Mrinal Dutta and actress Chittralekha Guha are the playback singers.

For the final print of the film, Tanvir will go to Chennai sometime this month and the film is expected to hit the theatres in Bangladesh in July. Mokammel said that he is also planning to release the film thereafter in Kolkata.



A scene from "Jibondhuli".

World Environment Day in Jamalpur

Primary school children take part in painting competition

ABM AMINUL ISLAM, Jamalpur

In the run up to World Environment Day on June 5, a painting competition for primary school students of Melandah and Sarishabari upazilas was organised by NGO Social Development Foundation (SDF) Jamalpur in collaboration with District Primary Education Office and the upazila education office. The event was held at the district office of SDF on Sunday morning.

Seventy three children from class three to five from 28 government primary schools under the two upazilas took part in the competition.

The participants were given options to choose as subjects, with an emphasis on climate change and its effects on human beings and wildlife across the globe.

Deputy Commissioner Delwar Haider

was chief guest at the programme. The special guests were Md. Shahadat Hossain, regional programme director, SDF, Jamalpur region and M. Khalilur Rahman, District Primary Education Officer.

A short discussion followed, presided over by SM Mujibur Rahman, District Programme Manager, SDF Jamalpur.

Chief guest DC Delwar Haider said the children should be conscious about climate change and its harmful effects on the environment.

Special guest M. Shahadat Hossain said that with increasing environmental awareness, children will be well equipped to take on the challenges of climate change as adults.

Later, prizes along with certificates were distributed among the top three contestants in the competition. Prizes were also handed out to the other seven children.

DS CAFÉ

Popular TV actor Hasan Masood is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. He will be on the hot seat and take your calls at The Daily Star Centre on June 10, between 4 and 5pm. Readers, fire away all your questions at him! The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 01711623915, 01711623917 to speak to Hasan Masood.



A Russian group of artistes from Academic Choir of Russian songs perform at TSC of University of Dhaka on Sunday, in a programme organised jointly by the university and Russian Centre of Science & Culture in Dhaka.