

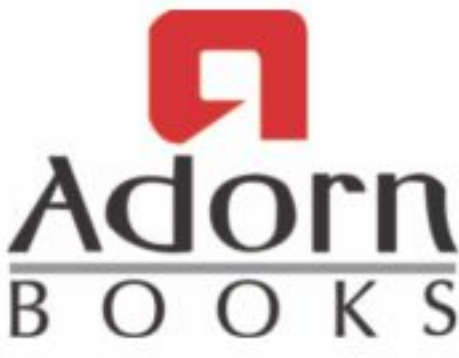
WHAT'S ON

Group Painting Exhibition
Title: Human Being for Humanity
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H-4, R-6, Dhanmondi
Date: June 8-12



Book Fair

Organiser: Adorn Publication
Venue: Seminar Room, Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: June 1-15



Group Print Exhibition

Title: Awakening
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, Rd-16 (New), Dhanmondi
Date: June 8-19



Waheedul Haq's Birthday Celebration

Venue: Chhayanaut Shangkriti Bhaban Auditorium
Date: June 13-14



Musical Soiree

Artist: Yasmin Mushtari
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, Rd-24, Gulshan-1
Date: June 14
Time: 6:30pm



NEWS bytes

Night Queen blooms in Lalmonirhat



S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Two "Night Queen" flowers, bloomed at the residence of Lalmonirhat Police Super Habibur Rahman on Monday night. Enthusiasts crowded at his residence to get a view of the flowers in bloom. Rahman had bought some plants of "Night Queen" from a nursery two months ago. He, his wife and their three children tended these plants carefully. Their efforts were rewarded with the blooming of the flowers. Picture shows Habibur Rahman's children with the flowers.

IT'S TRUE!



Legendary Indian singer Mohammad Rafi had good command over a number of languages. He sang in languages including Assamese, Konkani, Bhojpuri, Oriya, Punjabi, Bengali, Marathi, Sindhi, Kannada, Gujarati, Telugu, Maghi, Maithili and Urdu. He also recorded songs in English, Persian, Spanish and Dutch. Rafi sang 4,516 Hindi film songs, 112 non-Hindi film songs, and 328 non-film songs from 1945 to 1980.

Theatre fest Ponchodosh-er Ponchodin

A CORRESPONDENT

A five-day theatre fest, titled Ponchodosh-er Ponchodin will commence at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on June 13 evening. The event organised by Theatre troupe Natya Tirtha will feature the plays "Majh Raater Manushera" (Loko Natyadal Shiddheswari), "Amina Sundori" (Theatre Art Unit), "Dwip" (Natya Tirtha), "Shesh Songlap" (Somoy) and "Komola Sundori" (Natya Tirtha). All the five plays will see their fiftieth staging at the festival. The festival will kick off with the staging of "Majh Raater Tara". The festival will wrap up on June 17.

Ethno Fashion Show enthralls viewers in Chittagong



Models sashay down the ramp.

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

It was drizzling outside. The auditorium of Alliance Française de Chittagong teemed with familiar faces in the culture, fashion and media world of the port city. The clock struck 7 pm sharp. On cue, "Dhonya dhonya boli tare", the evergreen Baul song, began to play in the background.

Soon the eagerly awaited fashion show had got underway. The event started with the presentation of a Grameen checked red dress by a model. Taking over from her, other models turned out in ethnic chic sashayed down the ramp.

Fifty years back, the century old rivalry between Germany and France ended. To mark the historical Franco-German Élysée Treaty, Goethe Institute Dhaka and Alliance

Française de Chittagong jointly organised the fashion show titled "Ethno Fashion Show" at the auditorium of Alliance Française de Chittagong on Monday.

The event showcased the works of 10 young fashion designers-- Iffat Ara, Rubiaya Haque Raka, Nazia Afroz, Tasmit Afiyat Arny, Kehkasha Saba, Sifat Zaman, Yaana Nuzhat, Homaira Hasin Sadia, Jarin Tasnim Ona and Md Hanif Kaiser.

The show was the outcome of a workshop conducted by internationally acclaimed fashion designers Bibi Russell (Bangladesh), Michael Sontag (Germany) and Sakina M'SA (France).

Earlier, a digital presentation of the trainers was screened at the show. Olivier Litvine, director of Alliance Française Dhaka and its Chittagong Director Samuel Berthet

addressed the gathering.

Litvine pointed out that with its large scale garment factories, fashion design is a well entrenched tradition in Bangladesh.

"After the Rana Plaza collapse our project has taken on a different dimension," he said going on to add that if the ethnic designs of the country are properly positioned for customers in the West, the garment sector can be placed on a sounder footing. Later, the show began. To the tune of a western piece and Bengali folk song "Agey ki shundor din kataiyam" as background music, the models walked the ramps. Twenty one models showcased the dresses designed by the 10 young designers.

As the show wound up, the captivated audience greeted the models and the designers with loud applause.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Spelling Bee

In conversation with Gousul Alam Shaon

SHAHNOOR RABBANI

The quarter finals of The Daily Star Spelling Bee continues on Channel i, and the Managing Director of Grey, Syed Gousul Alam Shaon shared his views on the TV show.

"The Spelling Bee has given us a great platform to see our school kids express themselves and it's interesting to see how both Bengali and English medium students are doing so well in the Spelling Bee," he says.

He talks about the advertising challenges of Grey this time around compared to last year, but is quite pleased with the eventual reception.

"From an advertising perspective, I think the challenge was a bit different this time. Last year, our main challenge was to advertise the Spelling Bee as a positive product and one which school kids would want to be involved in. Thankfully we were able to do that. This year, it was more on building on that good start. So our task was slightly easier this time around and I think we have been able to properly market and brand it."

He goes on to talk about Grey: how and why it has been involved with the Spelling Bee.

"Grey has always been a company that is willing to challenge itself and look for new, interesting and innovative projects. There is always the goal to achieve a monetary benefit from it but with the Spelling Bee it was more about goodwill and building on a positive brand image."

"The Spelling Bee has improved from last year. The students seem better prepared this time around and it shows how they have been spelling marginally difficult words with greater ease," he says.

In conclusion, although he is very pleased with the outcome of the Spelling Bee and how it has been going so far, he believes it would be unfair to compare it to Spelling Bees in other countries. Simply because they have been doing this for decades and we are comparatively infants in our second year. In USA, they have the president come in, during the finale. It is huge over there. We are still growing, but in five years we will also grow."



Shafin's fascinating performance



Shafin Ahmed (C) sings at the programme.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted rock star Shafin Ahmed performed recently at Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) in Gulshan.

Shafin held the audience spell-bound by rendering some popular numbers like "Kotodin Dekhini Tomai", "Prothom Premier Moto", "Shey Din Dujone", "Mone Porey" "Parina Bojhate" and "Hotel California". Besides, Shafin's son Rakin

Ahmed lent his voice to the numbers 'Welcome to Wherever You Are' and 'Boulevard of Broken Dreams' at the event.

The singers were accompanied by Faisal on lead guitar, Rana on bass guitar, Selim Ahmed on violin and Mithun Chakrabarty on percussion.

Shafin inherited his musical talent from his legendary parents Kamal Das Gupta and Feroza Begum. He has won the hearts of his fans with his dedication to

music for more than three decades. His band "Miles" is extremely popular amongst Bangla music lovers across the globe for its quality music. Alongside releasing around 35 albums in both Bangla and English, Shafin has recorded and released over 200 songs through the music band Miles till date.

IGCC, in association with the State Bank of India in Bangladesh, organised the event as part of its regular cultural programmes.

Rakhi: Professional hazards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Whenever I go shopping, I usually wear a burka. Otherwise, people recognise me and want to talk to me, ask for autographs and pictures. To avoid these situations, I prefer to stay incognito. A few days back, I went to Chandni Chawk to buy a saree. Suddenly, two girls started to follow me. They eventually approached me, patted me on the back, and asked, "Are you Rakhi?" When I said yes, they became very excited at being able to spot me despite my burka. The three of us shared a good laugh.

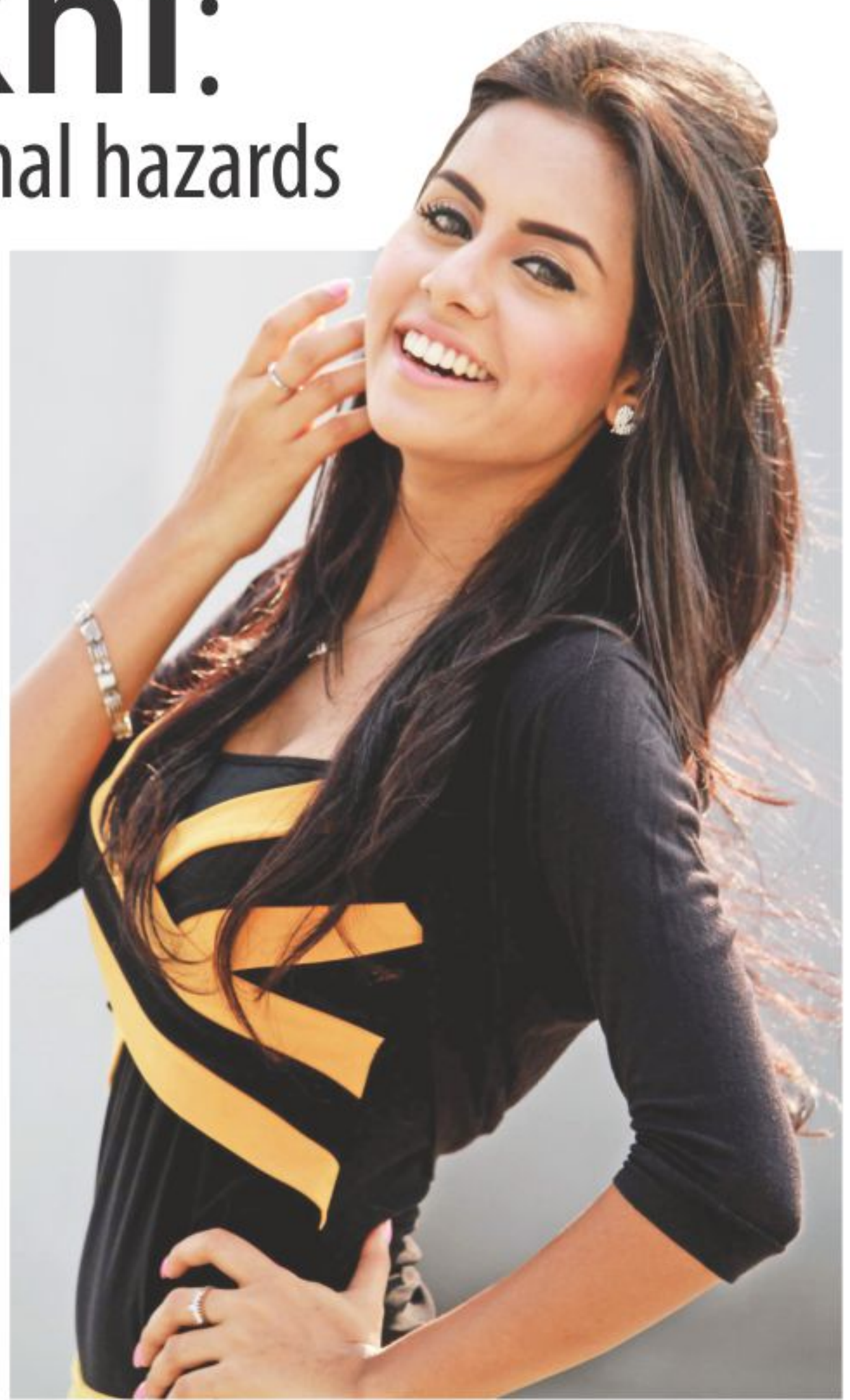


PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

TV WATCH

Gtv steps into two

A CORRESPONDENT

Today marks satellite TV channel Gtv's first anniversary. At a press conference held at Gtv office on June 10, Managing director Gazi Golam Asria, chief adviser Mustafizur Rahman, deputy managing director Manirul Islam, head of news Mezbah Ahmed and other senior officials of the channel gave journalist a rundown about the company and its upcoming projects.

Policymakers, cultural personalities, journalists and people from all walks of life will celebrate the day by cutting an anniversary cake this morning. Special programmes will be aired throughout the day. Starting from 10:45am, a special musical show will continue till 6:15pm. A single episode TV play "Love in Chittagong" will go on air at 8:55pm while members of the band Different Touch will perform at "G Studio Concert" to be aired at 11:10pm tonight.



Contact:
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Add some glitz to your brand and take part in the Star Fashion Eid Album!

Participants nationwide are requested to send their selected outfits and accessories for the album.

Criteria for participation:

1. Materials used should be locally produced.
2. All submissions must be accompanied with price and a short description of the product.
3. Designs should be original and suitable for weather conditions.
4. The attires and accessories sent for the album are returnable.
5. Entry fee per submission is Tk.500 (minimum 6 entries for each participating house).

Last date of submission: June 15, 2013