


WHAT'S ON

Celebrating Life Gala 2013  
Venue: Shaheed Suhrawardy  
Indoor Stadium, Mirpur  
Date: October 4  
Time: 6pm  
(Event is invitational. Collect



Handicraft Exhibition  
Venue: National Art Gallery,  
Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Sep 22-27  
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition  
Title: Neuralgic Window  
Artist: Mustapha Khalid Palash  
Venue: Athena Gallery, Badda  
Date: Sep 13-26  
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition  
Title: Banglar Rup  
Artist: Shohag Parvez  
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, H-60, R-  
7/A, Dhanmondi  
Date: Sep 13-26  
Time: 3-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition  
Title: Jodha  
Artist: Shahabuddin Ahmed  
Venue: Gallery 21, 751, Satmasjid  
Road, Dhanmondi  
Date: Sep 20-Oct 11  
Time: 12-8pm



# Mahadev Saha critically ill



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Veteran poet Mahadev Saha is critically ill. He is under the supervision of doctors of the urology and nephrology departments of capital's Apollo Hospital. He has been suffering from prostate and kidney related disease. The poet requires financial help from government and other corporate houses for better treatment. Saha is one of the foremost poets of the late '60s, an era marked by accomplishments and revolutionary ideas. Saha can be considered experimental in regard to both content and form. He has published around 120 books of poetry. The major themes of his poetry and writings include human relationships, natural beauty, liberalism, romanticised uprising of youth and subsequent events in Bangladesh. Introvert by nature, Saha became an outspoken liberal intellectual in the 1990s against reactionary nationalism and religious fundamentalism in Bangladesh.

# Int'l theatre fest kicks off in Jessore



A scene from "Bisharjan".

PHOTO: STAR

MOKAMMEL SHUVO, Jessore

"Hridaye Bangla Natok", is the theme of the international theatre festival that kicked off on Sunday in Jessore. The six-day festival is jointly organised by Bibartan Jessore, Tirjok Chittagong and Drishtipath Dhaka. Apart from the organisers, Sharavuj and Prachya Kolkata, West Bengal will give performances at the festival. Lawmaker of Jessore-3 (Sadar) will inaugurate the festival at Shilpakala Academy. On September 22, "Bisharjan" of Tagore will be staged by Bibartan Jessore. The following day, Tirjok Chittagong will perform "Rakta Korabi" by Tagore. On September 24, "Dakghor" by Tagore will be performed by Sharavuj. On September 25, Drishtipath Dhaka will perform "Raja Himadri" by Sophocles and translated by Dr. Khandakar Tazmi Noor, a Kolkata troupe will perform "Romeo and Juliet" by Shakespeare on September 26. The last day of the theatre festival will feature "Supari Killer" by Brattra Basu.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADIT RUPON

# A landmark musical journey

## Govt. Music College celebrates its Golden Jubilee

ZAHANGIR ALOM

With the theme "Taan-e Taan-e Pran-e Pran-e Ganth Nandanhaar", Government Music College in Agargaon, Dhaka, celebrated its Golden Jubilee (1963-2013) by holding a vibrant musical event at the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum on September 21. It may be noted that the college was founded by Pandit Barin Majumdar. Present and former teachers, students, alumni, noted artistes and cultural personalities attended the programme that featured solo and choral renditions of songs and instrumental recitals. The artistes set off the event with a choral rendition of the national anthem. Several violinists orchestrated a performance, directed by Dr. Sheuli Bhattacharjee, an Assistant Professor of the college. Vocalist Mohammad Shoyeb rendered a melancholic raga "Darbari Kanada". As an ode to the season autumn, artistes of

the college performed a Nazrul song "Esho Sharod Prater Pothik" while noted soloists including Yakub Ali Khan and Abida Sultana presented "Daraley Duar-e Mor" and "Bhuli Kemoney" respectively. Abida Sultana also made the packed audience sway with her folk treat of the song "Banshi Shuney Aar Kaj Nai". Following his passionate performance of the monsoon genre "Rimjhim Rimjhim Jhim" by renowned Nazrul singer Khalid Hossain, the audience encored for more—a request he declined. Popular artiste Ferdous Ara performed "Keno Bajao Banshi". The rendition, accompanied with apt rhythm of kaharba by Swarup Hossain, was evocative as noted flautist Gazi Abdul Hakim produced a melodious piece in it. Asgar Alim, son of the legendary folk maestro Abdul Alim, enthralled the audience with his sonorous performance of the song "Sorbonaisha Padma Nodi" at the event. Among others, noted Tagore singer Tapan Mahmud rendered a solo song, Bahar recited a poem. Shahadat Hossain Khan recited classi-

cal music on his sarod, Rizwan rendered a chhoto kheyal set on raga "Behag", performance of a choral Tagore number and 'Sur Doria Epar Opar' title winner Munir presented a folk song "Swarup Tui Binay Dukh" at the event. The musical programme came to an end with a vibrant folk song "Paar Kore Dey Noukaye Paar Kore Dey" performance in chorus. Tagore singer Lily Islam together with music researcher Kamol Khalid emceed the entire event. Prior to the musical performance, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid as chief guest while Secretary of the Ministry of Education Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury and Director General of Directorate General of Secondary and Higher Education Professor Fahima Khatun as special guests spoke at the event. Vice-Principal of the college Rafiul Islam delivered the welcome address. Principal of the college Professor Shameema Parveen presided over the discussion.

# Documentary as cinema

## Film Southasia 2013 to be held in Kathmandu

KAVITA, New Delhi

Women's claustrophobic lives in an Afghanistan prison, horrific human rights abuses of the Sri Lankan civil war, migration, environmental havoc or plain narratives—these are just a few subjects of the documentaries to be screened at the upcoming Film Southasia 2013 in Kathmandu, Nepal. Starting October 3, over four days, film buffs can look forward to films that cut across the swathe of South Asia.

The documentaries come from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Many are either collaborations or individual endeavours of foreign filmmakers working in Southasia. From Bangladesh come films like "Are You Listening!" (Shunte Ki Pao!) directed by Kamar Ahmad Simon and produced by Sara Afreen, "Bishkabbo" (The Poison Teller) by Shabnam Ferdousi and "Hartalnama" (The Strike) by Farid Ahmed. The films deal with the hard contemporary realities of Bangladesh. "Shunte Ki Pao!" journeys into the precarious lives of a family who struggle to pick up the pieces of their lives after a tidal surge devastates their coastal village Sutarkhali. "Bishkabbo" is a story of three slum dwellers who sell insecticides in Dhaka. At one stage they realise that there is no difference between a cockroach and themselves. The life of insect and man merge disconcertingly. "Hartalnama" is a hardhitting film that traces the glorious history of the hartal and its present violent and politicised face. Critically acclaimed "Shunte Ki Pao" is the first Bangladeshi film to win the Grand Prix at the 35th Festival Cinema Du Reel in Paris. Other Southasian countries are not to

be left behind. "Algorithms" (India) directed by Ian McDonald is the first feature documentary on blind chess. "Celluloid Man" (India), based on the life and work of PK Nair, founder of the National Archive of India, was awarded the National Film Award (India) for Best Historical Reconstruction. Dylan Mohan Gray's "Fire in the Blood", too won much acclaim. The story of the exploitation of African countries and the South by western pharmaceutical companies and governments, "Fire in the Blood" was selected

Sri Lanka is the story of some of the worst war crimes and crimes against humanity of recent times. The film by Callum Macrae has received much praise for its bold journalistic endeavours, says Nishchol Oli, programme coordinator for Film Southasia 2013. Nepal's "Playing with Nan" by Dipesh Kharel and Asami Saito is the unusual story of a Nepalese man who migrated to work in a Nepali restaurant in northern Japan. "This year's FSA is definitely different from its past editions. We are featuring



A scene from "Elemental".

for the Sundance Film Festival." Juliet Lamont's "Miss Nikki and the Tiger Girls" is an incisive and entertaining story about Burma's first girl band. Women's claustrophobic lives in an Afghanistan prison is the subject of "No Burqas Behind Bars" by Nima Sarvestani. Pakistan is represented by "Saving Face" among others. The film, presented the Academy Award for Best Documentary Short Subject, recounts the stories of two acid attack survivors. "No Fire Zone: The Killing Fields of

more student films, more experimental shorts; there are two global films that contextualise South Asian issues on a larger global scale. We are also hosting two packages, one in association with National Institute of Design's Alpavirama Festival and the second one that focuses solely on the country of Afghanistan," says Oli. The documentary has clearly gone beyond the soporific, simple narrative accounts of yesteryears. FSA's motto "Documentary is Cinema!" says it all.

# NEWS bytes

## CAROLE KING honoured by Grammys



Carole King will receive a special honour from the organisers of the Grammy Awards next year. The singer-songwriter will be named MusiCares Person of the Year at an event held two nights before the main Grammys ceremony in January. She will be serenaded by artists including Lady Gaga, the Dixie Chicks, Bette Midler, Steve Tyler, Jason Mraz and her former partner James Taylor. King, 71, was honoured with a Grammy for lifetime achievement this year. Previous recipients of the MusiCares Person of the Year title include Bruce Springsteen, Paul McCartney, Elton John, Barbra Streisand and Neil Young. The award will honour King's career as a writer and performer, which spans nearly six decades, as well as her charitable and philanthropic work. The four-times Grammy winner was the first female solo artist to sell more than 10 million copies of a single album with "Tapestry", which stayed in the US music charts for six years after its 1971 release. Her biggest hits include "The Locomotion", "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow" and "You've Got a Friend".

Source: BBC

# IT'S TRUE!



Guitarist and multi-instrumentalist Brian Patrick Carroll, better known by his stage name Buckethead, has released 57 studio albums, four special releases and one EP, and has performed on over 50 more albums by other artists. He is famous for wearing a KFC bucket on his head, and an expressionless plain white mask. As an instrumentalist, Buckethead has received critical acclaim for his electric guitar playing, and is considered one of today's fastest and more innovative guitarists. In 2007, Buckethead released an unprecedented amount of new material. In February, a box set titled "In Search of The", containing 13 albums of original material, was released. His album "Monolith", released later that year, was a 5-CD box set, with one unbroken track per CD.

ERRATUM

In a photo caption printed in yesterday's issue, the late Tajuddin Ahmed was referred to as president. In fact, he was prime minister of the Mujibnagar government and later Bangladesh's

# Focus on indigenous 'Karam' festival

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Highlighting traditional "Karam Utsab" (festival) and giving a boost to the indigenous Mahato community and their mother tongue "Hariana", a book titled "Karam" was launched on Saturday. Ujjal Mahato, a student of the English Department of Pabna Edward College, authored the book. "Karam" is a festival observed by the ethnic people of the plain lands. The unmarried indigenous girls worship a Karam tree for the purity of the soul. The festival highlights the purity and beauty of nature. They also pray for the long lives of their near and dear ones," said

Mahato. Using the language 'Debnagri' in a page with its Bengali translation, the book focuses on the ethnic language that is now loosing its ground, added the writer. National Adibashi Parishad (NAP) organised the programme to mark the book launch that held at the Pabna Press Club stadium. A discussion along with a cultural programme focusing on the cultural heritage of the Mahato community was held where veteran politician-columnist Ronaish Maitra spoke as chief guest. Among other guests, president of Pabna Press Club Shibojit Nag, Secretary Ahmed Ul Haque Rana, chairman of Bangla Department of Pabna University of

Science and Technology Abdul Alim, President of Adibashi Parishad central committee Rabindranath Soren spoke at the event. Ram Prashad Mahato, president of Adibashi Parishad (Pabna district unit), presided over the discussion. Around 47 indigenous groups, with their distinctive dialects and cultures, live in Bangladesh. Among them 27 groups are yet to have been registered by the government," according to the discussants. "The apathy towards the cultures and languages of the indigenous community is endangering the future of the ethnic groups," said the speakers demanding that every indigenous group should get its due.

# Stakeholders' Conference



কক্সবাজারের স্থানীয় একটি হোটেলে হক গ্রুপ অব ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ-এর Stakeholders সম্মেলনে গ্রুপ এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব আদম তমিজি হক উপস্থিত থেকে Stakeholders দের মাঝে পুরস্কার বিতরণ করছেন।

HAQUE  
Haque Group of Industries