

WHAT'S ON

Solo Dance Show
Production: DESH by Akram Khan Company
Organisers: British Council & Bengal Foundation
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sep 18-19, Time: 6:30pm everyday




Group Exhibition
Only Connect: Edition One
Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct
Date: Sep 14-23
Time: 12-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Murtaja Baseer
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: Sep 13-25
Time: 11am-8pm

MURTAJA BASEER
A collection of Drawings, Collages & Oil Paints 1994 - 2014

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Montage
Artist: Samajit Roy Chowdhury
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi
Date: Sep 6-22
Time: 12-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Shreyoshi by 11 women artists
Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 11th Floor, 751 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi
Date: Sep 12-Oct 4
Time: 12-8pm



NEWS
bytes

Clooney to receive honorary Golden Globe



US actor, director and producer George Clooney is to receive an honorary award at next year's Golden Globes.

Organisers said the 53-year-old would be given its Cecil B DeMille award for "his outstanding contributions both in front of and behind the camera".

Clooney was being recognised "as much for his global humanitarian efforts as he is for his accomplishments in the entertainment industry," the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA) said.

Recent recipients of the DeMille award include Martin Scorsese, Steven Spielberg and the late Robin Williams.

Source: **BBC**

IN CONVERSATION

Theatre is still not a profession in Bangladesh

-- Tabibul Islam Babu

SAURAV DEY

Tabibul Islam Babu is among those theatre activists who closely witnessed the evolution of Bangladeshi theatre and played active role in the movement.

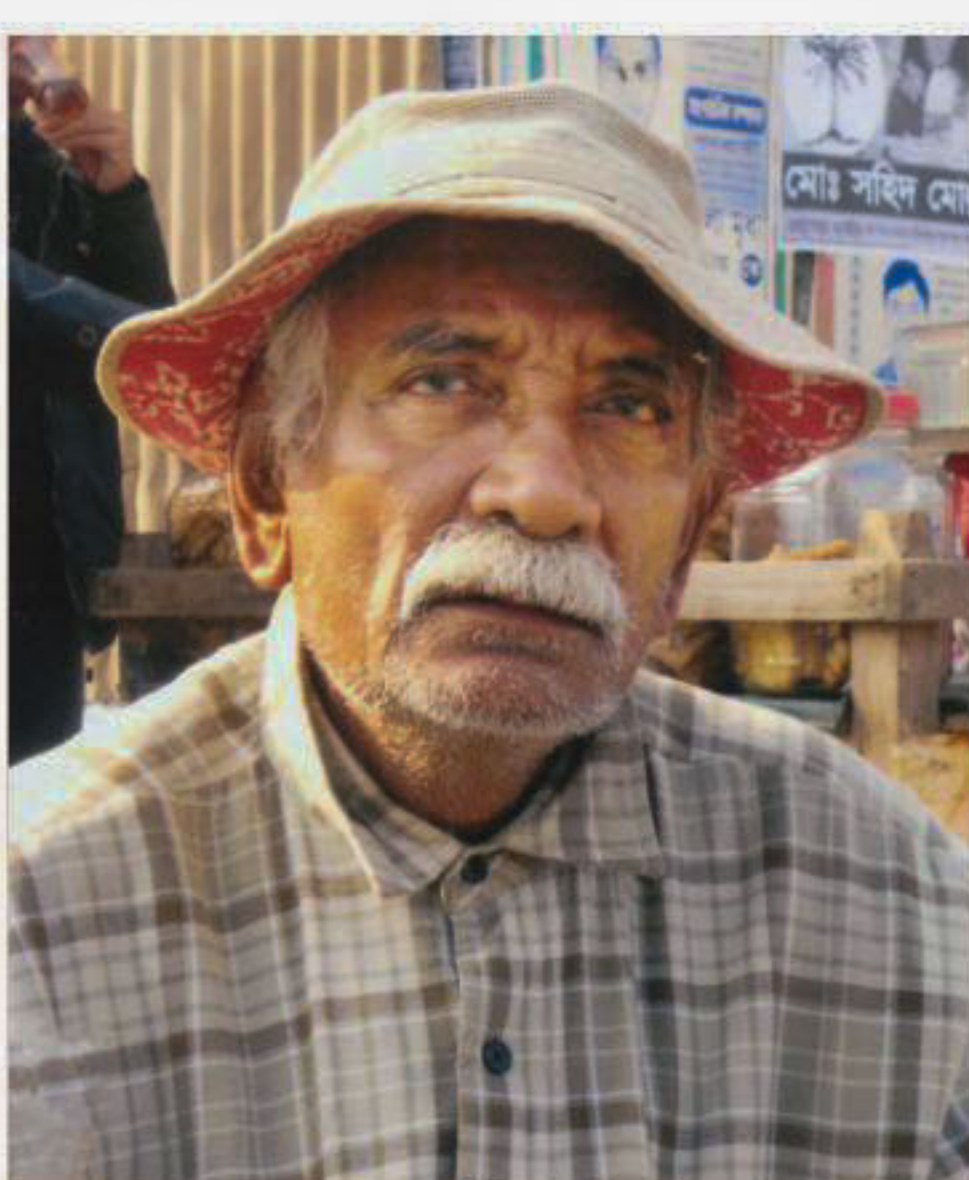
He has been involved with theatre since the 1960s when Bangladeshi theatre scene lacked an organised shape. However, the scenario began changing following the Liberation War, which eventually flourished our cultural movements. In a recent conversation, the thespian who turned 70 today shared his stories behind getting into theatre and more.

How did you get into theatre?

Tabibul: Though no one from my family had involvement with theatre, I used to feel a certain attraction for acting from childhood. 'Dress as you like' was a fascinating event that I used to take part in school life. In my childhood, I acted in a few plays in Barisal. Then I shifted to Narayanganj and first appeared in Rabindranath's "Sheshrokkha" in 1963, directed by the late Zia Haider. Later I came to Dhaka and got admission in Dhaka University. While I was in DU, I got involved with theatre. In 1972, the troupe Theatre was formed and I was one of the founder members. Our first play was "Kobor" and then we did Abdullah Al Mamun's "Subochon Nirbashone".

Tell us more about your journey.

Tabibul: I am primarily an actor, but I am equally engaged in organisational activities. I served as a treasurer of Theatre for 10 years



and took the troupe to Korea as the team manager in 1986. In 1982, when theatre got divided we formed Theatre (Arambagh). Later, Theatre got another division and some of the members formed Theatre (Topkhana Road). The troupe experienced many partitions. My troupe's (Theatre Arambagh) first production was "Jamidar Darpan". In 1986, we received invitation from the Indian government to stage our play in Kolkata, Jaipur and Delhi.

In 1997, I founded Natyajon and till date I am the president of the troupe. My troupe's production Jotirindronath Thakurs "Alik Babu" was invited to India in 2006. I also

acted in TV plays and shared set with actors like Bulbul Ahmed, Abul Hayat and others.

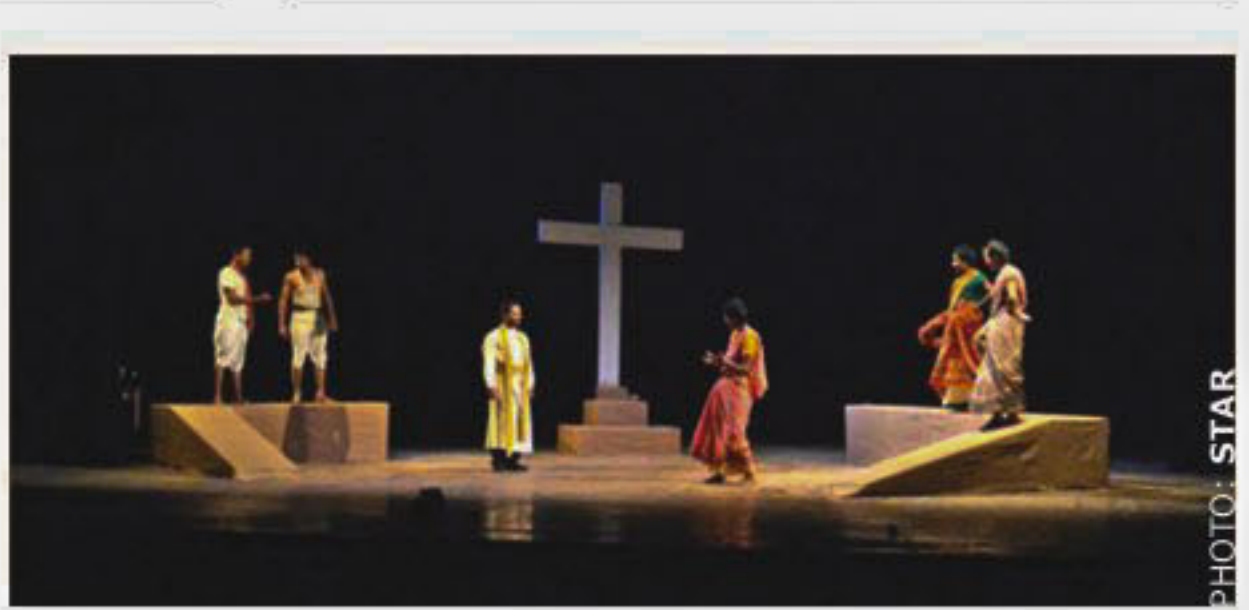
How do you look back at the evolution of theatre in Bangladesh?

Tabibul: Life was easier in the past. Then there was no struggle for life and no traffic jam. When group theatre immensely flourished in Kolkata in the 70s, it directly inspired our theatre movement. At that time we devoted ourselves to stage. I used to clean hall and sell tickets door to door at that time. There was only one venue in Bailey Road. Those days are gone, and Bailey Road has lost its appeal. It has now turned into a place for restaurants and sari shops.

What's your take on the constraints that our theatre faces?

Tabibul: Take Kolkata for example. A provincial capital has so many auditorium and halls, but Dhaka, being the capital of a country, has only two halls. Shilpakala Academy is the only place here but we need more halls and venues. Also we have no archive and it is very difficult to know about the past or go through collections. Here, theatre activists do little or no research at all and many are coming to theatre without proper training or academic qualifications.

Moreover, many are using theatre as a launching platform of TV. Today is the age of professionalism; you cannot spend your life in theatre unless it gives you money. But theatre is not a profession in Bangladesh. It doesn't bring you money. So it will be difficult to keep going unless we can bring professionalism in theatre and make it a job sector.



Theatre fest concludes in Habiganj

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, *Sylhet*

A five-day theatre festival titled 'Khowai-Ganga Natyotsab' concluded at Habiganj Zila Shilpakala Academy recently.

"Matilal Padri" - based on Komol Kumar Mazumder's fiction and directed by Aniruddha Kumar Dhar - was staged at the festival on the concluding day.

Artists of Nriyapuri presented dances while Deputy Commissioner Md. Zainal Abedin, Sammlita Sangskritik Jote's Habiganj chapter president Shahid Chowdhury and festival convener Dr. Mukid Chowdhury, among others, addressed the concluding function.

Kolkata-based group Anik staged "Ekusher Golpo" on the first day of the festival on September 9. Protik Theatre of Deundi Tea garden in Chunarughat upozila staged "Akti Asharer Golpo" by Dr. Mukid Chowdhury on the following day and Shaistaganj theatre staged "Achin Diper Upakhyan" on September 11. Children's organisation Sundorom staged Rabindranath Tagore's "Chondalika" on September 12.

A large audience came in for the festival and enjoyed the plays.

Brihonnola hits screens on Friday



A CORRESPONDENT

"Brihonnola", a film produced jointly by Filmhawk and ATN Bangla, will release across the country on September 19. The partially government-funded film's pre-lease premiere took place yesterday at Star Cineplex at Basundhara City. Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor was present at the show, along with the film's director Murad Parvez, ATN Bangla Chairman Mahfuzur Rahman and lead casts Ferdous and Sohana Saba.

The film, that also casts Azad Abul Kalam, Dilara Zaman, Dr. Enamul Haque, Jhuna Chowdhury, KS Firoz, Intekhab Dinar and Manas Bandoopadhyay, has already been screened at the Darpan Singapore International Film Festival. Emon Saha has produced the music for the film, with the songs voiced by Kona, Debolina Sur and Rituraj Sen.

Runa's new film CHHITKINI

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Runa Khan is a popular TV actresses and model, with several TVCs to her credit, while she has made a foray into celluloid as well.

After a six-year hiatus, she has now worked in a government-funded movie "Chhitkini". Directed by Sazedul Awal, the film is based on the life of a stone quarry worker named Moimona. Runa plays the lead role in the film.

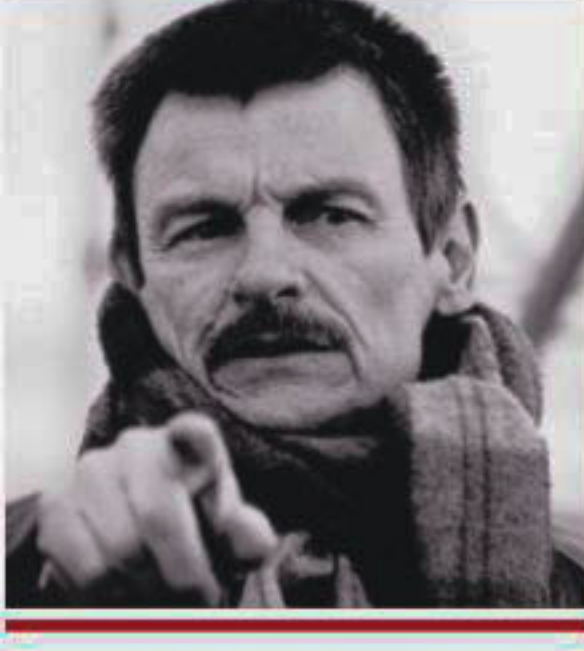
"The plot of the movie is very interesting. It strikes me intensely," Runa told The Daily Star.

On the other hand, the artiste is now very busy shooting one-hour plays.

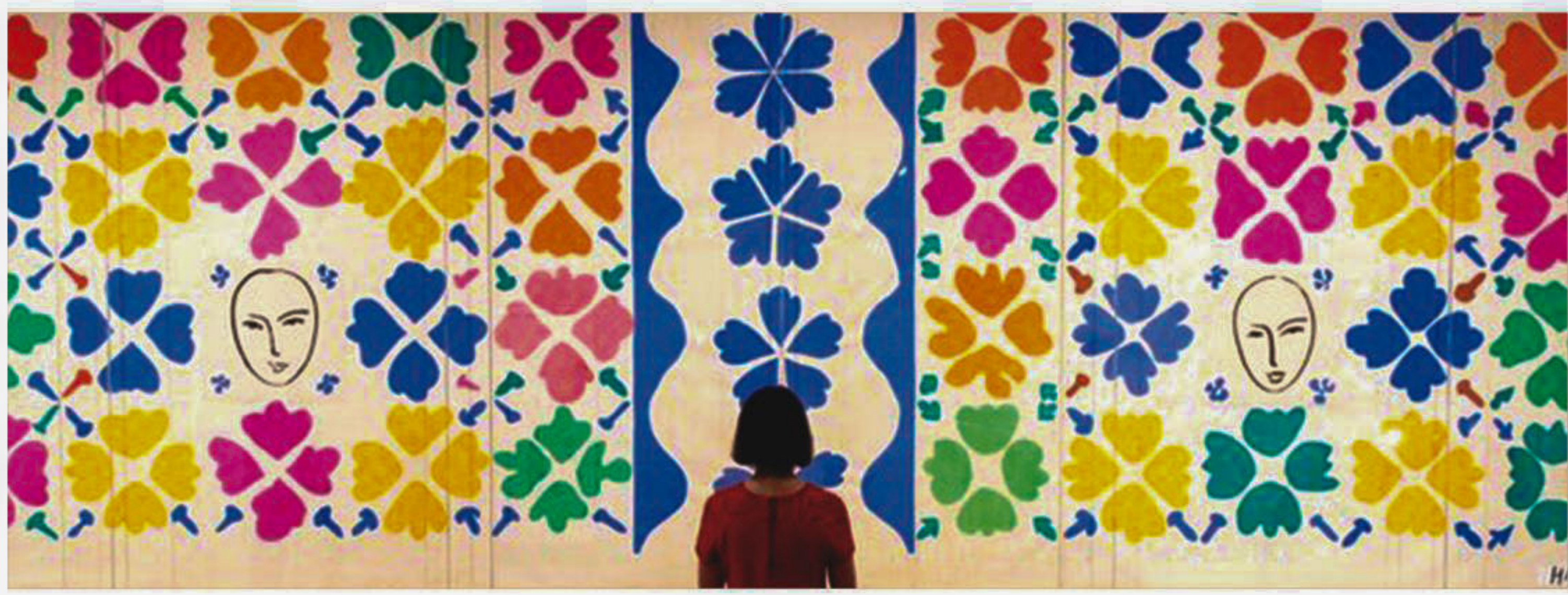
Her debut film was "Balughari", directed by Rajibul Islam, under whose direction she later appeared in "Unaditto". She also acted in the movie "Bakhan", directed by Ashish Khandaker.

IT'S TRUE!

Andrei Tarkovsky, considered one of the greatest filmmakers to have ever lived, directed only seven feature films, as well as three shorts, aside from writing some screenplays. However, numerous awards were bestowed on him during his lifetime. At the Venice Film Festival, he was awarded the Golden Lion. At the Cannes Film Festival, he won the FIPRESCI prize four times, the Prize of the Ecumenical Jury three times (more than any other director), and the Grand Prix Spécial du Jury twice. He was also nominated for the Palme d'Or two times. In 1987, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts awarded the BAFTA Award for Best Foreign Language Film.



Matisse exhibition is Tate's most successful art show



An exhibition of Henri Matisse's cut-out art has become the most successful exhibition held to date at the Tate with more than 560,000 visitors.

The Tate Modern show was the first in its history to attract more than half a million people.

"Matisse: The Cut-Outs" drew attention to the final part of the French artist's career from 1937-54.

Sir Nicholas Serota, director of the Tate, said he was "delighted" at the show's success. "The fact that the works have not been brought together for 40 years captured people's imaginations," he said.

The exhibition opened on April 17 and came to a close on 7 September.

While the large-scale exhibition of Matisse's later work did "slightly exceed expectations", this summer's "Kenneth Clark - Looking for Civilisation" show "did not

quite get as many visitors as we hoped", Sir Nicholas admitted.

Previous record attendances for Tate attractions were for the Matisse Picasso show in 2002, which drew 467,166 people, followed by Damien Hirst's 2012 exhibition which brought more than 463,000 visitors through its doors.

A live tour of the Matisse exhibition was also broadcast in some 200 cinemas around the UK and initially pulled in 15,000 people. A film of Matisse Live is due to be released in screening rooms around the world shortly.

The Tate has also announced plans to tour some of its key works around the country, including Tracey Emin's hallmark 1988 piece "My Bed".

Her then controversial work, which sold for £2.2m at auction earlier this year, will be displayed in her hometown of Margate at Turner Contemporary as well as Tate

Liverpool. Sir Nicholas told the BBC that Emin herself would initially install the artwork, which features an unmade bed and a floor littered with empty vodka bottles, cigarette butts and condoms.

Matisse's "The Snail" will be exhibited at Tate Liverpool, marking the first time it has been shown in the UK outside London. Artworks by Picasso, Constable and David Hockney will also be exhibited around the UK as part of the scheme.

Tate's annual report, published on Monday, showed that 7.03 million people visited the four galleries - Tate Britain, Tate Modern, Tate Liverpool and Tate St Ives - in 2013-14, down from the previous year's record 7.74 million.

"We will always expect to see a fluctuation year to year," Sir Nicholas said.

Source: **BBC**

Jewel's ceramic exhibition at Zainul Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Robiul Hossain Jewel's first solo ceramic exhibition, titled "Keramos" concluded on September 15 at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), University of Dhaka. Dean of FFA, Professor Abul Barq Alvi inaugurated the exhibition on September 11. Apart from Alvi, chairman of the Department of Ceramics Dr. Azharul Islam Sheikh Chanchal and Assistant Professor Md. Robiul Islam of the same department spoke at the opening ceremony.

On the title of the exhibition, Jewel said that the word 'Ceramic' is derived from a Greek word 'Keramos' meaning 'potter' or 'pottery'. Keramos in turn originated from a Sanskrit root - meaning 'to burn'. Hence, the word Keramos was to infer 'burned substance' or 'burned earth'.

The exhibition encompassed lifestyle arts and thematic arts revolving around theological and mythological aspects. One



of his works, titled "Drive out from Heaven", symbolises Adam and Eve's expulsion from paradise after they bite into the forbidden fruit. The forbidden fruit finds its place sandwiched between Adam and Eve's sculptural visages. Another work, "Key of Heaven", represents a big upward key with several other small keys beside that.

Tagore-Nazrul celebrations in Mymensingh

AMINUL ISLAM, *Mymensingh*

Artists of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi performed at a cultural show held to mark 'Tagore-Nazrul celebrations-2014' at Mymensingh Press Club auditorium recently.

The Press Club had organised the latest edition of its annual programme.

Swapon Sarker, Molina Devnath, Joyanti Biswas Jolly, Poly Talukder, Shuvra Joarder and Mondira Sannayal Pritha rendered some popular songs of the bards.

The artistes were assisted by Jishutosh Talukder on tabla and Razib Banik on Mandira. A discussion followed.

Prof. Dr. Mohit Ul Alam, vice-chancellor of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKNIU) was the chief guest.

Professor Manzurul Alam of Bangladesh Agricultural University;

Professor Atiqur Rahman; Professor Rebeka Yeasmin; and writer Salim Hasan were the discussants.

Press Club secretary Ataul Karim Khokon and its literary and cultural secretary Jagadish Chandra Sarker addressed the discussion among others chaired by Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh Mustakim Billah Faruqui.

The speakers said that Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam enriched Bangla literature through their voluminous works.

We find humanity, love and affection in their writings and at the same time we also witness a revolt against the evil elements who unleashed oppression and repression on innocents, said the speakers.

The writings of both the bards also inspired in times of national crises, the speakers added.

