

WHAT'S ON

Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2015
 Venue: Bangla Academy Premises, Dhaka
 Date: February 1-28
 Time: 3-8pm & 11am-8pm (Fridays)



Concert
 Jatratronica
 Artist: Perera Elsewhere
 Venue: Jatra Banani Outlet
 Date: Feb 19
 Time: 6-10pm



Group Painting Exhibition
 Title: The Paradoxical Now
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya
 Date: Feb 10-23
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Group Painting Exhibition
 Title: Taste of Light and Darkness
 Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Time: 6pm
 Date: Feb 7-22



Kite Festival
 Ekusher Ghuri Utshab
 Organiser: Project Be
 Venue: Gulshan Youth Club
 Date: Feb 21
 Time: 3-6pm



NEWS bytes

"Pirates 5" begins production in Australia

"Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" has commenced production in Queensland, Australia. The fifth film in the franchise brings Johnny Depp and Javier Bardem down under for plenty of swashbuckling. Shooting will take place both on location in Queensland and in the Village Roadshow Studios on the Gold Coast.

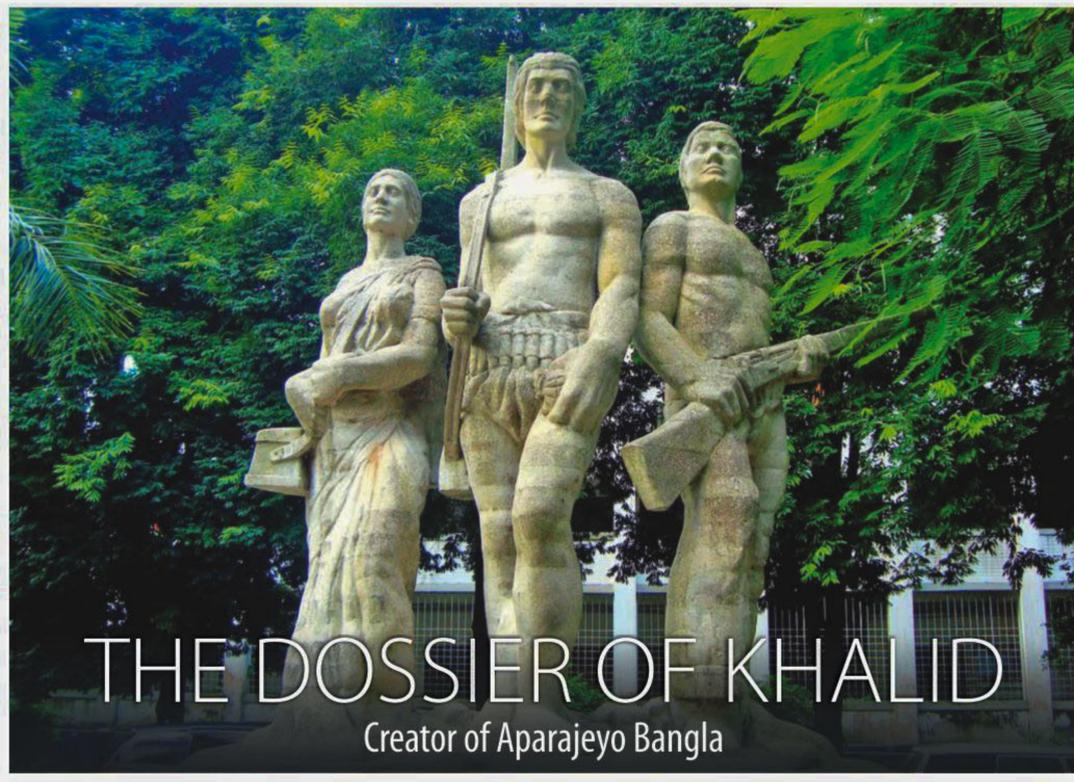
Depp returns to the role of Captain Jack Sparrow, who in this film will be targeted by the villainous Captain Salazar (Bardem) as Sparrow searches for Poseidon's trident in hopes of fending off "deadly ghost pirates," per a press release from the studio.

Orlando Bloom returns to the series to shiver more timbers after skipping the fourth installment, "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides". Bloom will reprise his role as Will Turner, and Turner's relationship with his son



(played by newcomer Brenton Thwaites) is rumored to loom large in the plot of "Dead Men Tell No Tales". "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" is slated to bow in theatres on July 7, 2017.

Source: Variety



THE DOSSIER OF KHALID
 Creator of Aparajeyo Bangla

DR. (CAPT. RETD.) SYED AHMED MORTADA

Professor Syed Abdullah Khalid was born in an aristocratic Syed family in Kazi-Ilias, Sylhet town. Though his father wanted him to follow in his footsteps and become a clergy, Khalid ended up a painter and eventually a sculptor, one of the greatest the country has produced.

Khalid spent his early childhood and a good part of his adolescence in the confines of Sylhet before moving out in pursuit of his thirst for art and craft.

Khalid was a maverick soul fond of adventure, exploration and action. To appease his father, Khalid used to put on his cap when he came out of his house, but it instantly moved to his pocket once he reached out of sight of his father. He never forgot to put the cap on his head before reaching home.

In many respects, his life had a resem-

blance to Fatik of Tagore's central character in "Chhuti". He had all the charisma of a born leader, but his soul was in painting. The walls of the family's dilapidated house, 'Bhatipara Ghar' were full of drawings, graffiti, motifs and figures -- mostly by charcoal -- which Khalid had finished unnoticed.

Beginning with Subidbazaar, Sylhet, where his earliest schooling started, he would always secure top position in art and craftsmanship. At that very tender age, he used to make Eid cards, birthday cards and send them to his friends.

Seeing his talent, his cousin and brother-in-law Habibur Rahman Khan brought him to Dhaka and they were housed in a small compartment in Palashi barrack.

After his matriculation from Nawabpur School, Dhaka, Khalid was admitted to Dhaka Art College, the architect of which was renowned Muzharul

Islam. He graduated from Art College in 1969 amidst a turbulent political situation in erstwhile East Pakistan. Khalid, as a VP of the student union, spearheaded the mass movement, breaking Section 144. He took part in the Liberation War as a freedom fighter. For a short while, Khalid was a teacher of Dhaka Art College. He completed his Masters in fine arts in first class first from Chittagang University, from where he retired as a professor.

Undoubtedly his best creation is "Aparajeyo Bangla", which he finally completed on December 16, 1978 in front of Arts Faculty of Dhaka University.

Many of his other sculptures and murals, "Aparajeyo Bangla" (Invincible Bengal) continue to symbolise the spirit of the Liberation War for future generations.

The writer served in the Army's Medical Corps and is a literature enthusiast.

Art for humanity, art against VIOLENCE



Asaduzzaman Noor, Shahabuddin Ahmed and Monirul Islam at the exhibit.
 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Brittanta 71 Foundation together with Gallery Chittrak has organised a three day (February 17-19) art exhibition at Gallery Chittrak in Dhanmondi. Cultural affairs minister Asaduzzaman Noor, eminent painter Shahabuddin Ahmed and Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, organising secretary of Bangladesh Awami League, jointly inaugurated the exhibition.

The anti-state elements and their followers are carrying out inhumane activities. In order to help them overcome their pain, shock and contribute to their treatment and livelihood, a society of 50 artists including eminent painters -- Syed Jahangir, Mustafa Monwar, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Hashem Khan, Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Shahabuddin Ahmed, Shahid Kabir, Kalidas Karmakar, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Abul Barq Alvi, Abdul Mannan and Biren Shome are taking part with their signature works.

The artworks on display feature the idiosyncratic styles of the participating artists. This is a singular opportunity for art lovers and buyers to have a look at or buy a diverse assortment of works comprising abstract, semi-abstract, portrait, nature, landscape, figurative, oriental and symbolic genres. Several young painters are also participating with their fine works. The prices of the artworks vary from 20 thousand to eight lakhs. The organisers would like to help the affected individuals and families with the proceeds from the exhibition. The exhibition, open from 10am to 8pm daily, concludes today.

Sarker Protick bring home World Press Photo Award

A CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi photographer Sarker Protick won an award at the 58th World Press Photo Contest for the year 2014, announced earlier this week.

His photo series, "What Remains" has been named second prize winner at the Daily Life Stories category of the contest. A faculty member of Pathshala South Asian Media Institute, Protick's winning photo series is based on his ageing grandparents.



The World Press Photo of the Year 2014 title was awarded to Danish photographer Mads Nissen for his photograph of a gay couple in Russia, a country where homosexuality is criminalised. Other winning photographs of the contest include images of political and social significance from Gaza, Istanbul, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and more.

The World Press Photo organizes the contest every year to recognize the year's most important achievements in

photojournalism and photography. The contest is heralded as the world's most important and prestigious award in the field of press photography.

More than 95,000 images were submitted from more than 130 countries to the 8 categories of this year's contest.

The winners were selected by a jury comprised of 17 internationally-recognised jurors. The jury was chaired by Michele Nally, director of photography and assistant managing editor of The New York Times.

IT'S TRUE!



Leonard Cohen was nearing 70 when his daughter suggested that his longtime friend and business manager might not be acting in good faith. Cohen began looking through statements and discovered that for nearly a decade his friend had been selling off his music publishing rights. What should have been a well-earned \$5 million nest egg and growing was drawn down to a paltry \$150,000. Cohen was forced back onto the road and back to writing and recording songs. It's been a gift to his fans, but he lost a close friend, had his trust violated, and had little choice in the matter. But, being Leonard Cohen, he takes a Zen-like approach to it all and has embraced his late-career renaissance.



Kushum's first book launched at Boi Mela

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular actress Kushum Sikder's first poetry book "Nil Kafer Kobi" was launched recently at the ongoing Ekushey Boi Mela. The actress repeatedly visited the fair in the last few days and gave autographs to her fans. The information minister unveiled the cover of the book that came from Annesha Prokashoni.

Meanwhile, Kushum is passing busy days on both celluloid and the small screen. She acted in two films which earned her immense fame at that time. Kushum recently signed up a movie after a long break. She will be seen opposite Tollywood heartthrob Prosenjit in the film "Shankhachil", directed by Goutam Ghosh.

"The shooting will start soon," Kushum told The Daily Star.

"Bindu Bishorgo" on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Bindu Bishorgo" airs every Thursday and Friday at 8:20pm on ntv.

The play, written and directed by Animesh Aich, encircles the everyday story of a joint family. The joy and sorrow of the family and personal stories of every family member are depicted in minute details in the play.

Mousumi Hamid, Sporshia, Abul Hayat, Allen Shubhro, Raisul Islam Asad, Laila Hasan, Farhana Mithu and others are in the cast.



"Ordhek Surjo Grohon" on SATV

A CORRESPONDENT

Tele-film "Ordhek Surjo Grohon" will air today at 10:30am on SATV. Written and directed by Anjan Aich, the tele-film casts Tarik Anam Khan, Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Shyamol Maola, Bindu, Majnun Mizan, Brishti, Sagorika and others.