

JOY BANGLA CONCERT

Inspiration through music

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The Joy Bangla Concert was presented by Young Bangla on March 7, 2015 at the Army Stadium in Dhaka. Attendees had to register prior to the concert to get complimentary passes for the event.

The show started at 5PM. There was free WiFi by Link3, while Channel 9 broadcasted the concert live on TV. The hosts, Jewel and Munmun, reminded everyone that March 7 was the anniversary of Bangabandhu's historic speech in 1971. Throughout the event, laser shows and documentaries highlighted the speech. Renowned musician and freedom fighter, Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul, opened the show by conducting a grand orchestra that played our National Anthem, followed by a rendition of "Shob Kota Janala".

From then on, favourite bands and artists of the youth took to stage. Each performed their own renditions of songs related to our independence. Shunno was the first band to take the stage. They opened with their most popular song, "Shoto Asha". They then did a rock cover of "Joy Bangla, Banglar Joy", before moving on to their other popular songs.

After a short break for Maghrib prayers, Arbovirus appeared on stage. Starting with a rock rendition of "Amra Tomader Bhulbo Na", they moved to a slow and inspiring version of "Amra Korbo Joy". They lifted the spirits of the audience with "Jaalo Agun Jaalo", and gave hope with "Hariye Jao". It was Nemesis' turn after Arbovirus and they made their entry with the entire crowd cheering for them.



"Rokto Diye Naam Likhechi" was their first patriotic song, but Jamshed (Powersurge) and Tridib (Mechanix)

joined them for another, "Purbo Digonte". Nemesis kept the crowd charged up until the end of their performance with "Tritiyo

Jatra", "Joyodhoni", and "Kobe".

Shironamhin was the next act, and they performed "O Amar Desher Mati" and "Chol Chol Chol", along with their own songs, and kept the crowd entertained before Cryptic Fate took the stage. Cryptic Fate had Rafa with them on the drums. They stayed for quite a while and rocked the crowd with "Tir Hara Ei Dheuer Shagor", "Maa Go Bhabna Keno", and their original songs like "Bhorer Opekkha". They wrapped up with the all-time favourite cricketing song, "Cholo Bangladesh".

It was revealed at the concert that Young Bangla is acknowledging the efforts put forth by young Bangladeshis through the Joy Bangla Youth Award. Moreover, in collaboration with four ministries, Young Bangla and Center for Research and Information are offering internship opportunities to young individuals at the ministries. To know more about this, visit www.youngbangla.org.

The star-studded night rose to a new height when Arnob & Friends came on stage. They delivered a rendition of "Dhono Dhanno Pushpo Bhora". Arnob and his friends entertained the audience with their soothing and groovy melodies of "Shona Diya", "Tomar Jonno", etc.

It was then that my friends and I left, as it was getting late, so we missed the performances of Artcell and Warfaze, who were scheduled afterwards. But from what I hear, their performances contributed tenfold to the success of the event. And thus concluded one of the most electrifying music events of the year so far.

PHOTOS: DARSHAN CHAKMA

The hills are [still] alive with the sound of music

ECHOES BY
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Happiness in the cinema hall starts when the film finishes. The lights turn on. You stay in your seat. You patiently wait for the lights to turn off again. The waiting is over. The next show of the film starts. Fifty years ago on March 2, 1965, "The Sound of Music" premiered in the USA. Fifty years later, the hills are [still] alive with the sound of music.

We all know the story. It's a watershed in history: Austria in 1938. Maria is a young woman trying to become a nun. Although there's no shortage of enthusiasm from her side, something goes wrong all the time. Fate seems to be somewhere else. The Navy Captain Georg von Trapp has lost his wife. He has seven mischievous children. One governess after another comes to and goes away from the von Trapp family before you can snap your fingers. Maria isn't one to turn down a challenge. She picks up her guitar and dances to the von Trapp family gate singing "let them bring on any problems, I'll do better than my best." Thus starts one of the most loved musical fairy tales of

all time.

As soon as Maria meets the von Trapp family, she sees the mistake many fathers never see. The children, devoid of a mother's love, seek attention from their father. The Captain wants 'order'. Failing to reach out to their father, the children make the life of each governess miserable to the point they leave. Still the father wants 'order'. Maria, with her motherly love and affection soon wins the hearts of the children. She does so with something that is in the hearts of all people, a universal feeling for music.

It's summer time. The warm summer heat slowly starts to melt the Captain's heart. He starts to get

close to his children. His love for music when his wife was alive slowly reawakens. Maria, the bridge between the Captain and the children, soon finds herself at a crossroad between the convent and the Captain's family.

The Austrian Alps are blooming with Edelweiss, the little white flower, a personification of peace and calmness. Fairy tales and life are never so calm for too long. Austria is on the brink of an invasion from Hitler's Germany. The Captain finds he will soon be drafted to fight against his own people. By this time, Maria has become a member of the von Trapp family. The Captain, Maria and the children flee Austria to become troubadours like the real life von Trapp family and the real life Maria on whom

"The Sound of Music" is based.

"The Sound of Music" remains timeless for two reasons. Music is portrayed in the universal appeal of love – in all its spiritual glories. It is also a fairy tale that challenges like all epics: the choice between right and wrong; the choice between justice and injustice. Like our own War of Independence, "The Sound of Music" shows how the power of music has the grace to give hope beyond hope.

How many movies can you name that your grandparents watched, your parents watched, and you still watch? What's more, the three generations still keep on watching? Keeping things simple has made "The Sound of Music" transcend space and time. Fifty years later, "The Sound of Music" still truly remains one of the 'few of our favorite things'.

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