

**WHAT'S ON**  
**Borshoboron 1422**  
 Organiser: Chhayanaut  
 Venue: Ramna Botomul, Dhaka  
 Date: April 14  
 Time: 6am



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Destination & Departure  
 Artist: Professor Monsur Ul Karim  
 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara  
 Date: Apr 11-21; Time: 11am-8pm



**Mongol Shobhajatra**  
 Venue: Charukala, Dhaka University  
 Date: April 14  
 Time: 9am



**Chaitra Sankranti & Borshoboron 1422**  
 Organiser: Shurer Dhara & Channel I  
 Venue: BICC, Dhaka  
 Date: April 13-14  
 Time: 6pm



**Theatre**  
 Play: Champak Nogorer Upokatha  
 Venue: Natmandal, Dhaka University  
 Date: April 13-16  
 Time: 7pm



## Bappa's Rabindra Sangeet album launched



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer-composer Bappa Mazumder released his latest album "Bedhechi Amar Pran" – an album of Rabindra Sangeet – at a restaurant in the city on Sunday. Representatives from the record label Girona Bangladesh Limited, MK Group, sponsors Brac Bank and GaanBangla TV were present at the ceremony, alongside theatre personality Shankar Sajoal. Hasan Abidur Reza Jewel hosted the programme.

Bappa has arranged music for the eight tracks on the album himself. About the album, he said "I'd arranged compositions of Tagore for other artists in the past, and had always wanted to do a complete album of Rabindra Sangeet. It was also one of my mother's wishes that I do so." He also dedicated the album to his parents.

The album has also released internationally, on various digital platforms, and will be available countrywide from April 18.

## TV WATCH "Ei Baishakh-e" on ATN Bangla



A CORRESPONDENT

Special telefilm "Ei Baishakh-e" will go on air on ATN Bangla tonight at 10:55pm. Written by Naznin Hasan Chumki and directed by Shanta Rahman, the tele-film casts Tisha, Niloy, Sayeed Babu, Shirin Bakul and others in different roles.

# In Baishakh spirit

## Pahela Baishakh programmes in the capital

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

As a new dawn ushers in the Bangla New Year 1422, the capital is abuzz with Baishakh melodies, colours and merriment. Cultural organisations, educational institutions and city dwellers are ready to welcome the New Year through various cultural programmes.

**Chhayanaut**  
 Leading cultural organisation and school Chhayanaut has been welcoming Pahela Baishakh at Ramna's Botomul since 1967 -- and it has become synonymous to Bangla New Year celebrations. Solo and group songs, dances and recitations by students of the esteemed organisation and noted artistes begin at 6am.

**Charukala, University of Dhaka**  
 One of the hubs of the Baishakh celebration in the city is Faculty of Fine Art of University of Dhaka. The Mongol Shobhajatra, brought out by the students and teachers of Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA) is one of the major attractions. The theme for the year is "Onek Alo Jalte Hobe Moner Ondhokar-e". The rally will start at around 9am, where replicas of a royal elephant delineating Jamini Roy's famous folk motif, a tiger, a lion, colourful birds, fish, tepa putul, goats, and a horse will circle the campus.

**Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy**  
 Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has inaugurated a four day Borshoboron programme from April 11-14, with the theme—"Mongol Houk Ei Shotokey Mongol Shobar". The event includes various activities such as alpona workshop, kite festival, cultural programme and much more.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

**Wrishij Shilpi Goshthi**  
 Artistes of Wrishij Shilpi Goshthi will welcome the Bangla New Year with the performance of music, dance and recitation by noted and promising artistes and famous folk troupe Dohar. The event will start at 7:30am at Narkel Bithi Chatter (in front of Shishu Park). Organisers will honour revered personalities on the occasion of Wrishij's 33rd year of celebration of Pahela Baishakh.

**Nazrul Institute**  
 Nazrul Institute will hail Pahela Baishakh through a programme at its auditorium. Noted poets Asad Chowdhury, Rabiul Hussain, Habibullah Shirajee, Nasir Ahmed, Muhammad Samad, Aslam Sunny

and Tarik Sujat will recite poems. Artistes of Nazrul Institute will offer solo and choral performances of poems and songs.

**UODA**  
 The Faculty of Fine Arts of University of Development Alternative (UODA) has been organising a colourful rally named Bangla Shobhajatra for the last 12 years. Teachers, students and officials of SODA, CODA and UODA along with Dhanmondi residents will take part in the rally that will start from UODA premises (Dhanmondi 12/A) at 10am. A cultural programme will also be held at UODA Charukala in the evening.

**Geetashudha**  
 Musical troupe Geetashudha Rabindra

Sangeet Anushilan Kendra will hold a programme at Sampan Restaurant premises in Dhanmondi 27 at 6:30am to welcome Pahela Baishakh.

**Benuka Lalitakala Kendra**  
 Artistes of Benuka Lalitakala Kendra will usher in Pahela Baishakh through a cultural programme at Lalmatia Housing Society School and College grounds at 5pm.

**BSMMU**  
 For the first time, academics of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) will arrange a Borshoboron programme under the banyan tree of BSMMU. Professor Dr. Kamrul Hasan Khan, vice-chancellor of BSMMU, among others, will recite poems at the event.

## Shimu's Baishakh plans



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

In her short career, Sumaiya Shimu has appeared in many hit TV plays, and continues to act with great enthusiasm. Ahead of Pahela Baishakh, the first day of the Bangla New Year, the artiste spoke to The Daily Star about her plans to celebrate the festival.

*Where will you celebrate Pahela Baishakh this time?*  
**Shimu:** Dhaka. Usually I enjoy celebrating the festival in the country.

*How do you see the New Year celebrations?*  
**Shimu:** The day is very special to me. Every religious community has their own festivals like Eid and Puja, but Pahela Baishakh is the festival of festivals for every Bangalee.

*What's your favourite attire on the occasion?*  
**Shimu:** Definitely sari in hues of red and white. I take light make up on the day. I also love putting flowers on the lock of my hair.

*What's your take on the quintessential panta-ilish menu on the day?*  
**Shimu:** I take it very positively as it is the part of Bangalee's heritage. Without panta-ilish, we can't think of celebrating the day.

*What are your Baishakh plans this year?*  
**Shimu:** This time, I will celebrate the festival with my family. I will wear a sari, then go hang out with relatives and friends.

*Do you receive gifts on the special day?*  
**Shimu:** As a matter of fact, I'm flooded with gifts on the occasion. I also love giving gifts to others.

*Any special memories from childhood Baishakh celebrations?*  
**Shimu:** Those were really wonderful days. On the occasion, I performed dance on the school premises and attended various cultural programmes. I also went to the Baishakh fair and came back with traditional delicacies like murki, moa, batasha etc. I still get nostalgic about those times.

## Rupchada Super Chef returns



A CORRESPONDENT

It is almost here. The Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2015, the biggest culinary competition in Bangladesh returns to television on the April 19. Building on last year's success, this year has seen an influx of even greater number of participants and even much more drama than ever before. To keep up with the kitchen, tune in to ntv every Sunday and Friday at 9:00 pm.

While there are plenty of mystery boxes, mystery challenges and a lot more to expect, this year the contest offers viewers the opportunity to take part

in the action as it happens. Every week, The Daily Star's Arts and Entertainment page, in association with Rupchanda, will be holding a quiz on the Super Chef episodes to be aired. Each quiz will have one question, related to the upcoming episode of Super Chef. Ten lucky winners from those who send in the right answers will be awarded spectacular gift hampers.

So, tune into ntv on April 19 at 9pm and begin playing the biggest quiz competition for the biggest culinary reality show of Bangladesh. If you can stand the heat, play along with us. For details, keep an eye on this page.

## "No Pahela Baishakh without panta-ilish"

... Kona



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Kona will celebrate Pahela Baishakh in Dhaka this time. She spoke to The Daily Star about her plans marking the festival.

Kona said she will spend time with her family in the morning. She usually wears saris in shades of red and white, loves putting on make-up and use flowers as accessories, but has been opting for salwar kameez for the last two years because it's more suited to her stage shows. However, this year Kona will wear a sari on the morning of Pahela Baishakh and go out with family members. On coming back, the singer is all set to have a scrumptious lunch of panta-ilish. She said she cannot think of celebrating the festival without the traditional dishes.

She recalled fond memories of the celebration during her childhood. On the occasion, the singer used to perform at cultural functions. This year, she will perform in two stage shows – one in Narayanganj, and another in Dhaka.

Kona wished everyone a Shubho Noboborsho, and hoped that every Bangalee will spend the day with their dear ones in a festive mood.

## "Baishakh is more than just panta-ilish"

...Sharmin Lucky



A CORRESPONDENT

Sharmin Lucky became a star through the popular culinary show "Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe", and since then, has been a stylish model and a successful radio jockey. In a conversation with The Daily Star, she expressed her views on how the Baishakh culture is changing.

"It appears that having panta-ilish and going to Ramna Botomul have become the prerequisite to establish oneself as a Bangalee. But I think Baishakh is much more than that. Women are obsessed with wearing red and white sari and having their hair puffed-up to get a 50's look. People go to beauty parlours to look the typical 'bangalee' for a day, but I think they lose their natural beauty of being a Bangalee woman in that process.

"For me, Pahela Baishakh will always be *bhaat-daal* (rice and lentil soup) cooked by my mother, and collecting raw mangoes after the *Kalbaishakhi* (Nor'Wester storms). The essence of a Bangalee woman's look should be simplicity; maybe just a simple cotton sari with *beli phool* worn on the head. This is what I have seen my mother doing; Baishakh doesn't feel the same anymore. We are adopting culture from elsewhere and losing our sense of the Bangla New Year.

"I celebrate Chaitra Sankranti, the last day of the Bangla calendar, with more gusto. At least it has not changed much."