

EXHIBITION



POKING CONSCIENCE THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY

RASMIA RAHMAN AMREEN

PHOTOS: KAZI TAHSIN AGAZ APURBO AND IMRUL ISLAM

On the evening of 5th January, 2017, a two-week long photography exhibition titled "16" was launched at the EMK Center located at the heart of Dhaka, Dhanmondi 27. The exhibition is a joint collaboration of two renowned and vibrant Bangladeshi photographers, Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo and Imrul Islam.

The exhibition features artwork pieces that portray stories the Bangladeshi audience can relate to. Every piece has been created through the multiple exposure technique, where two or more images are superimposed in a single frame to create a single image. In this exhibition, each artwork has been created by superimposing two different images

contributed by the two photographers. The display sheds light on topics such as urbanisation in Dhaka, the effects of global warming on our nature, unsustainable tourism and its effect on St. Martin's coral reef, migrant workers of Bangladesh, the Buriganga River and its deteriorating condition, gender violence, Dhaka attack and more. Along with the photographs, texts are provided too to convey the artists' thoughts on every piece. "We want the audience to start having a dialogue within themselves upon issues less talked about," expressed Apurbo.

The opening attracted crowds of youth. When Sabiha, a student of North South University, was asked what brought her to the exhibition, she replied, "I'm an avid follower of Apurbo bhaia's photography and was keen to see how he and Imrul bhaia collaborated together and presented their skills." Nawra, a World Bank employee, said "I love how stories from

each photograph are open to interpretations but you can also read the text and know the photographer's point of view." Naim, another spectator, mentioned "The project is very interesting and each piece expresses a clear statement. Such exhibitions should take place more often and in open spaces so that it is exposed to more people."

When Imrul was asked about what kind of impact he wants the photographs to have upon the audience, he replied, "We want people to start acknowledging each incident individually and not just focus on numbers. Through this exhibition, we want the audience to look at nuances and the texts have been provided to slow down time while they explore each image".

The exhibition is open to all and would continue till 19th of January, 2017 (except for Fridays). EMK Center is located on the 9th floor of the Midas Center Building at Dhanmondi 27, Dhaka. ■



STRIKING A CHORD



AND THE CITY STOPPED MOVING

ELITA KARIM

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Last week was a confusing one. On one side, we were trying to pay respect to the elders, to the rulers and to tradition. On the other end, we were all stuck on the roads, trying to do just that! To add to it all, kids were stuck

trying to go to school, university students trying to get their last minute projects done and the daily working people making an effort to reach office on time.

The view from the 7th floor window was a magnificent one, however. As we sipped our teas, standing arrogantly by the window, secretly enjoying the fact that some of us actually managed to reach our offices (a little late, though), we couldn't help but wonder at the beauty of the

scene below. Trails of vehicles seemed to be stuck together with glue; there were no specific patterns though – a truck followed by a Mercedes, an unmovable bike, trying to get past a Toyota Corolla (probably an Uber), ambulances, finally going silent (wonder if the patients had gone silent as well! Dear God!) and of course covered vans, buses and CNG run autorickshaws – the world below was filled with rainbow colours of all shapes and sizes!

Somewhere in another corner of the city, a group of youngsters enjoyed and celebrated. They were dancing to Hindi classics, screaming out gibberish and simply enjoying life. One wanted eagerly to be a part of the singing and the dancing groups! Legend says that these youngsters possess a magic wand and for generations, this magic wand was used for the 'good' for the society (some if not all). On that particular day, the wand was used to stop the city in motion, to stop the people from commuting and to stop the vehicles from moving.

It's still the beginning of a New Year. Let's hope for the best.

ABOUT TOWN



16: AN EXHIBIT BY IMRUL & APURBO

Date and Time: January 05-18, 2017, from 10 am to 8 pm (Except Friday)
Venue: EMK Center, Midas Center Building (9th Floor) House#5, Road 16, Dhanmondi
Hosted by: Imrul Islam and Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo
For query, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/147271202427586/>



TEA EXPO 2017

Date and Time: January 12-14, 2017, from 10 am to 10:30 pm
Venue: International Convention City Bashundhara – ICCB, Kuril Bishwa Road, Next to 300 ft. Purbachal Express Highway
Hosted By: Bangladesh Tea Board
For queries, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/720903018072790/>



SHAKRAIN FESTIVAL 2017

Date and Time: January 14, 2017, from 10 am to 10 pm
Venue: LuxmiBazar
For more information, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/205602073229498/>