

WHAT'S ON

**Ekushey Book Fair**  
Organiser: Bangla Academy  
Venue: Suhrawardy Udyan  
Date: February 1-28  
Time: 3-8pm



**Chobi Mela IX**  
Title: Transition  
Venue: BSA Art Gallery, Northbrook Hall, BAFA, Beauty Boarding  
Date: February 3-16

**CHOBIMELA 2017**  
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PHOTOGRAPHY BANGLADESH

**Terracotta Fair and Exhibition**  
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum  
Date: February 11-18  
Time: 10am-5pm



**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Title: The Naked  
Artist: Tilotama Bhowmik  
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka  
Date: Feb 10-18  
Time: 3pm-9pm



**Art Exhibition**  
Title: Alchemy of Losses  
Artist: Asma Sultana  
Venue: Kalakendra, Mohammadpur  
Date: Feb 3-18  
Time: 5pm-8pm



# Tanvir Mokammel bags Ekushey Padak for 2017

**PALLAB BHATTACHARYA**  
"I want to dedicate the honour to all Freedom Fighters of Bangladesh who have made the biggest contribution to the country," said eminent director Tanvir Mokammel on his selection for the prestigious Ekushey Padak for 2017. Tanvir received the exciting news of the award on February 14 while he was taking a stroll in the picturesque mountains of India's famous hill station Darjeeling, West Bengal, where he has gone for a break before returning to a packed schedule to attend a screening of his feature

film "Laal Shaalu" and giving a lecture on "The Language of Cinema" in North Bengal University in nearby Jalpaiguri. "I believe in the message of the Gita to go on doing your work and not to worry about the results," said National Award-winning Tanvir who has made a number of feature films against the backdrop of the Bangladesh Liberation War including "Chitra Nadir Paarey," "Rabeya," "Nodir Naam Madhumati," "Jibondhuli" and the epic documentary "1971". In a career spanning 34 years, Tanvir, 61 directed six feature films and 14 documentaries and won national awards for "Nodir Naam Modhumati," "Chitra Nodir

Paarey" and "Lal Shalu." His documentaries include "Bastra Balika," "Swapnabhumi," "Achin Paakhi" and "Karnaphulir Kanna". The director is currently shooting his latest documentary "Seemantarekha" on the Partition of the Indian subcontinent and its effects on the lives of millions of people on both sides of Bengal. On February 18, Tanvir said he will participate in a seminar in Jalpaiguri on "The Partition, Communalism and Modern Bangladesh" before returning to Dhaka on February 19 to be on time to receive Ekushey Padak from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

# SHADHONA to represent Bangladesh at Khajuraho Festival

Reputed Bangladeshi dance school Shadhona has been invited to represent Bangladesh as a theme region for the prestigious Khajuraho Dance Festival 2017, to be held at Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh, India) from February 20-26. As the 'theme region', there will be a colourful display on the crafts and culture of Bangladesh in a pavilion specifically dedicated to Bangladesh, says a press release. Besides, there will be daily performances of dances from Bangladesh on an open-air stage before each day's main performance. Bangladesh will be presenting Raibeshe, Baul, Poddar Nachon and other folk dances, "Badolo Borishone" (a dance-drama based on Nazrul's story and songs), Manipuri from Srimangal, "Aye Amader Ongone" (a dance drama based on Tagore's "Brikhkoropon") and

patriotic dances from the Language Movement. The choreographers for the presentations are Shabbir Ahmed Khan (Biju), Sweety Das Chowdhury and Amit Chowdhury. Renowned Baul Singer Shafi Mondol will accompany the troupe, which includes dancers, Dhulis, Lathiyaal and Manipuri performers from Sylhet. The highlight of Bangladesh's participation will be a Bharatanatyam recital by noted dancer Amit Chowdhury and his students from the dance school Kolpotoru. Amit Chowdhury is a well-known dancer and has participated in several festivals at home and in India. Bangladesh's participation will be supported by Bangladesh Tourism Board of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, of the Government of Bangladesh.



# Aamir to play astronaut in biopic

After "Dangal", actor Aamir Khan is all set to star in another biopic, this time based on the astronaut. The 51-year-old actor is will feature as Rakesh Sharma, the first Indian to fly into space. The report suggests that the film will be the story of retired Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma, it will be titled "Salute", and produced by Siddharth Roy Kapur and Aamir Khan. "Siddharth had approached Aamir with the script of his last film and this time too he went straight to him. The 2018 film will be made under his newly-launched banner RK Films. It will be directed by Mahesh Mathai," Mumbai Mirror quoted a source as saying. Mahesh Mathai, who is likely to direct the film is a well-known ad filmmaker. He has directed films like "Bhopal Express" and "Broken Threads". Aamir Khan last featured in the wrestling drama "Dangal". The film was a sports biopic based on Hatiyana-based wrestler Mahavir Singh Phogat and his daughters Geeta and Babita Phogat. Aamir played Mahavir, who trains his daughters against all odds to become wrestlers. Meanwhile, Aamir Khan will also be seen in "Thugs of Hindostan" opposite Amitabh Bachchan. The film is directed by Vijay Krishna Acharya and produced under Yash Raj Banners.



# Jibanananda Fair starts in Barisal

117th birth anniversary of the Poet



SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

The three-day Jibanananda Fair to observe the 117th birth anniversary of the most popular poet of modern Bengali literature started at Govt. BM College on Wednesday morning calling for more study and research on him. The festival has been organised by Utrayan, a cultural organisation of the college. The programme features a discussion, book fair, procession and cultural functions. M. Ziaul Haque Barisal Education Board (BEB) inaugurated the fair and SM Imanul Hakim principal Govt. BM College addressed the programme as chief guest. Jibanananda Das, born on February 17, 1899 in Barisal, spent most of his time as an English literature

teacher in BM College. He remained anchored in his own soil and time, successfully assimilating experiences real and virtual and producing hundreds of unforgettable lines. His intellectual vision was thoroughly embedded in Bengal's nature and beauty. His success as a premier modern Bengali poet in post-Tagore era can be attributed to the fact that Das in his poetry not only discover the tract of the slowly evolving 20th-century modern mind, sensitive and reactive, full of anxiety and tension, the speakers discussed. Participant of the programmes also demanded a memorial research Academy in his own residence. On October 14, 1954, while un mindfully crossing a street near Kolkata's Deshapriya Park, Jibanananda was hit by a tram and died eight days after, on October 22.

# "Taray Taray Deepshikha" holds final rounds

**A CORRESPONDENT**  
Rabindra Shorobor was the site of the fourth "Tarai Tarai Deepshikha" performances, organised by BRAC with Channel i as the media partner on February 10. "Tarai Tarai Deepshikha" is a talent hunt initiative by BRAC to give underprivileged children a platform to pursue and showcase their artistic skills. The competitive programme focuses on four categories; dance, singing, art, and poetry recitation. The occasion was graced by Minister of State, Post and Telecommunications Tarana Halim; director of BRAC Education Dr. Shafiqul Islam; Secretary to Education Ministry Sohrab Hossain; managing director of Impress



Telefilm and Channel i Faridur Reza Sagor; Secretary of CHT Affairs Ministry Naba Bikram Kishore Tripura; and eminent Tagore exponent and associate Professor of the Department of Music at Dhaka University Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya. The guests delivered welcome addresses praising the initiative. Nearly 12 lakh students and members from BRAC-run institutions all over the country participated in the programme, before narrowing down to 210 participants selected from regional competitions. After the quarter and semi-finals, 20 finalists were selected for the programme on Friday. Children were sorted into group "K" or pre-primary classes, and group "Kha" for students older than grade 5. Following the performances on stage, the winners announced were Oishi Adhikary (from Jessore) in Art; Tasnia Islam Piusha from "K-Group" (Kishoreganj) and Taniya Akhtar from "Kha-Group" (Dhaka) in recitation; Medha Rani Barmun (Kurigram) from "K-Group" and Shiv Shundor Barmun (Lalmonirhat) from "Kha-Group" in the dance category; Shahriar Ahmed Panna (Sylhet) from "K-Group" and Rezwan Hasan (Bogra) from "Kha-Group" won in the singing category.

**Bogra College Theatre observed its founding anniversary at Mukta Mancha in the campus of Government Azizul Haque College in Bogra through Boshonto Utshab recently. The event included a joyous rally, recitation of poems, dance, Baul songs and a play.**

