

<p>WHAT'S ON</p> <p>Painting Exhibition Bangabandhu Bangladesh Organiser: BSA & Samata Sonargaon Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA Date: March 4-17 Time: 11am-8pm</p>		<p>Photography Exhibition Title: London 1971: Unsung Heroes of the Bangladesh Liberation War Venue: British Council Date: March 3-31</p> 	<p>Solo Painting Exhibition Title: Journey & Images Artist: Ranjit Das Venue: Galleri Kaya Date: March 12-25 Time: 11am-8pm</p> 	<p>Solo Photography Exhibition Title: Here, For Now Photographer: Hadi Uddin Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur Date: Feb 25- Mar 22 Time: 5pm-8pm</p> 	<p>Solo Art Exhibition In Memory of Khalid Mahmood Mithu Venue: Zainul Gallery, FFA, DU Date: March 7-13 Time: 12noon-8pm</p> 
---	--	--	--	---	---

INSTILLING THE SPIRIT OF LIBERATION WAR

JOY BANGLA CONCERT HELD AT ARMY STADIUM

To instil the spirit of the Liberation War while revisiting the timeless melodies that inspired numerous Freedom Fighters in the battlefield of 1971, Young Bangla organised a "Joy Bangla Concert 2017" at Army Stadium on historic 7th March when on the this day in 1971, the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman delivered a rousing speech, calling upon his compatriots to free the country from Pakistani occupation.



Clockwise from top left: Radwan Mujib Siddiq Bobby and Saima Wazed Putul enjoying the concert; Cryptic Fate, Arbovirus, Shironamhin, Shunno and Lalon give the crowd memorable performances. PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several prominent and popular bands -- Spondon 72, Cryptic Fate, Arbovirus, Shunno, Nemesis, Shironamhin, Lalon, Chirkutt and Warfaze -- performed Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra songs along with their respective scores at the concert.

The emcees -- Iresh Zaker and Maria Noor -- welcomed all and introduced the featured bands prior to their performances. IUB students set off the concert rendering the National Anthem. Spondon 72 performed "Joy Bangla Banglar Joy". They also sang a Majjhbandari song "Ishkool Kulilachey Rey Maula" and the song "Hishabi Mahajon".

Cryptic Fate then came on stage to start off with the songs "Muktir Ek-i Poth Shongram", "Teer Hara Ei Dheu-er Sagar", "Cholo Bangladesh", "Bhorer Opekkha", "Bhoboghurey", "Protibaad" and "Akromon".

Arbovirus began their performance with the song "Orey Shon Rey Tora Shon". Their



repertoire included "Amra Korbo Joy", "School", "Omanush", "Hariye Jao" and "Jaalo Aagun Jaalo".

Shunno along with popular singer Elita Karim started off with presenting a

"Shono Mohajon", "Bedona" and "Godhulir Oparye".

Nemesis rendered the songs -- "Rokto Diye Naam Likhechhi", "Joyodhwoni", "Obocheton", "Bir" and "Gonojowar" while Shironamhin performed "Jonmo Amar Dhonno Holo", "Ekta Phool", "Ebar Hashi Mukhey", "Bondho Janala", "Bullet Kingba Kobita" and "Shonshon Jodio Kashbon".

Noted actor elocutionist Jayanta Chattopadhyay recited poems on Liberation War. The recitation was followed by the airing of Bangabandhu's historic 7th March speech.

The band Lalon rendered "Rokto Chai", "Shomoy Gele", "Khepa", "Gurur Choron" and "Opaar" while Chirkutt performed "Nonggor Tolo Tolo", "Purba Digontey Surjo Utichechey", "Dhono Dhanno Puspho Bhora", "Jadur Shohor", "Khazna" and "Tarunno".

Warfaze wrapped up the concert performing the songs "Bijoy Nishan", "Joy Bangla Boley Agey Baro", "Jibon Dhara", "Boshey Achhi", "Moharaaj" and "Oshamajik".

A tribute to folk legend KALIKA DA

REAZ AHMAD

From Lalon to Shitalong, from Dhamail to Bihu - Kalikaprasad Bhattacharjee captured each and every nuance of rich Bengali folk music in a style and manner that few could do, further enshrining homegrown culture in northeastern parts of India as well as Bangladesh.

Kalikaprasad, fondly known in musical fraternity as Kalika da, met a tragic end in a road accident in West Bengal's Hooghly on Tuesday. Kalika's untimely demise cast a pall of gloom in the cultural circuits of India and Bangladesh.

If not for anything else Kalika's legacy would be long cherished for the contributions he made to bring the rich tradition of Bengali folks and heritage of musical mysticism to the fore, popularising it among the new generation, mainstreaming off-forgotten and long lost musical forms, otherwise popular among the downtrodden, tea workers, peasants, labourers, indigenous communities and industrial workers.

By forming a hugely popular Bengali musical band - Dohar - back in 1999, Kalika initiated a new journey to the path of experimentation. He experimented and excelled in the use of varied traditional yet less used musical instruments.

Kalika and his band mates recorded many musical numbers, rich in lyrics and tunes but long been neglected as music of yesteryears or as music of economically backward rural communities of the northeast.



Shillong, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts of Assam, and also parts of Tripura in India.

In this age when youths are losing interest in this ancient dance form that comes along with the Dhamail style of musical rendition, it was Kalika and his band Dohar who took it upon them to pass on the rich heritage to the next generation.

Kalika turned Dohar as a platform for cultural activists, who consider this world as a musical bonanza and intends to energise its inhabitants with the melodious power of folk tunes.

The genres of folk songs Dohar performs (as many as 35 folk forms) include, among others, Baul, Bhatiyali, Bhawaiya, Chatka, Jhumur, Saarigaan, Jaari gaan, Gaajan/Charak, Dhamail, Bihu etc. They employed over 25 different kinds of ethnic instruments.

Under Kalika da's tutelage Dohar also presented Tagore songs accompanied with various ethnic folk instruments like Dubki, Dotara, Banjo, Flute, Shinga, Mandira, Kashi, Kortal, Sarinda and percussions.

Bangladesh and more precisely the northeastern part - the greater Sylhet region - had a permanent place in the heart of this great folk legend - Kalika da. He had a yearning for rich culture, heritage and tradition of this part of Bengal (now Bangladesh).

Kalika had great admiration for all the big

names in the Baul and folk genres in Sylhet and beyond in Bangladesh. While reflecting on a song of separation by the legendary Hemanga Biswas, Kalika once expressed a deep sense of void and empathy that the division of geographical Bengal cost the richness of cultural Bengal. He related his experience of becoming uprooted in the song that evokes the pain and isolation of the uprooted in an alien country with the partition of Bengal in 1947. Hemanga Biswas, known for his advocacy for peoples' music, hailed from greater Sylhet.

Kalika researched on folk music and archived traditional folk numbers from various parts of Assam, Bengal and Bangladesh. He made several stage appearances and performed for different TV channels in Bangladesh. He had also lent his voice in films like Jaatishwar (2014), Moner Manush (2010) and Bhuban Majhi (2017). Kalika is survived by his wife, a daughter and a host of admirers worldwide.

The writer is the Assignment Editor of The Daily Star.

Appreciating women's crowning glories

Prothom Alo hosts International Women's Day event

A CORRESPONDENT

When envisioning challenging sports such as lathiyaal, archery and horse-racing, one cannot help but imagine men helming these fields. However, at an International Women's Day event held at Chhayanaut's auditorium on March 7, organised by Prothom Alo, the glass ceiling was shattered as young girls and women were brought forward on stage, awarded for their accomplishments in those fields. The event highlighted their victorious tales as they struggled against convention to achieve their dreams.

The auditorium was packed with women of all ages, with prominent women's rights activists in attendance, along with Prothom Alo Editor Matiuur Rahman and Associate editor and eminent writer Anisul Huq. Hameeda Hossain, Rounaq Jahan, Salma Khan, Salma Ali, Wahida Banu, Maleka Begum, Sadya Afreeen Mallick and Audity Mohsin were present at the event, and were called on stage to share their thoughts on gender issues. Shomapti Rai, a visually impaired singer stood alongside the prominent female figures and performed a few lines of the song "Tora Je Ja Bolish Bhai." Feature editor of Prothom Alo Sumona Sharmin compered the programme.



The programme commenced with a musical performance by Abonti Shithi, who rendered "Jekhane Shimanto Tomar" and "Amra Korbo Joy." This was followed by a film screening documenting the journey of lathiyaal Ruponti Chowdhury. This was followed by the appearance of Hira and Bonnya, who won the gold and silver medals respectively at Dhaka International Archery Competition. Then came a film screening the tale of Tasmina from Noaga, who was made the subject of the documentary "Tasmina: The Horse Girl." Prothom Alo awarded her a horse of her own, which she named after the daily. All

four girls were presented with bouquets by State Minister of Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroz Chumki.

Prothom Alo Editor Matiuur Rahman recounted the harrowing stories of two acid attack survivors, Marzia Akhtar from Gazipur and Musammatt Shamima from Jhenidah, and the progresses they have made today. Musammatt attended the programme, who dreams of being an internationally renowned fashion designer.

The event concluded with riveting performances by Joler Gaan, who paid a tribute to the recently deceased Kalika Prasad Bhattacharya during their performance.

"Bhuban Majhi," releases in Thakurgaon

Liberation War continues to inspire filmmakers



QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, Thakurgaon

"Bhuban Majhi," a Liberation War-based film directed by Fakhru Arefeen Khan, released recently in Thakurgaon. The film sports a stellar cast with prominent Kolkata actor Parambrata Chatterjee and popular Bangladeshi actress Aparna Ghose in the lead roles. The film is funded by the Bangladesh government.

At the movie theatres Balaka Talkies many senior government officials viewed the film on Friday evening. In the audience was Deputy Commissioner (DC) Md. Abdul Awal. Giving his feedback on "Bhuban Majhi," DC Md. Abdul Awal commended the film and said that such films should be widely watched so that people could get a better idea of the history of the Liberation War.

Besides, he said that cinema halls now attract a miniscule audience which will endanger the film industry.

He urged film makers and producers to make quality historical films that can attract viewers to cinema halls once more.

The Daily Star is the Youth Engagement Partner of the film.