

**WHAT'S ON**

**Theatre**  
 Play: Pheriwal  
 Organiser: Oboyob Natyadal  
 Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, BSA  
 Date: April 17  
 Time: 7pm



**Film Screening**  
 Title: Testimony of a Thread  
 Venue: Chhyanaut  
 Date: April 22  
 Time: 4:30 pm



**Solo Photography Exhibition**  
 Title: Unseen in Our Sight: Dalits in Bangladesh  
 Photographer: GMB Akash  
 Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka  
 Date: April 15-29; Time: 3pm-9pm



**Group Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Exhibition 2017  
 Venue: Gallery Chitrag, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi  
 Date: Mar 28-Apr 20  
 Time: 10am-8pm



**Group Mask Exhibition**  
 Title: Mukh O Mukhosh-7  
 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara  
 Date: Apr 8-18  
 Time: 11am-8pm



# BSA celebrates Chaitra Sangkranti and Pahela Baishakh

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

In celebration of Chaitra Sangkranti 1423 and Pahela Baishakh 1424, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged a two-day (April 13-14) celebration programme.

A 20-member troupe, led by Joy of old Dhaka, took part in a kite festival at the rooftop of BSA on April 13. Mani Mian presented gambhira songs from Chapainawabganj, Jasim Pagla and his

troupe performed Gazi Kalu-Champabati palagaan and several dancers showcased Raibeshey dance at the event. The Chaitra Sangkranti programme also featured merry-go-round from Manikganj, traditional lathi khela from Sirajganj and a display of puppet show and bioscope.

To usher in Pahela Baishakh, BSA organised a celebration programme at its National Theatre Hall auditorium. Directed by Deepa Khandakar and Anik Bose, dancers performed

with songs such as "Esho Hey Baishakh", "Ailo Ailo Ailo Rey", and more while artistes led by Belayet Hossain Khan, presented dhaki nritiya with tradition boat race songs.

Artistes of BSA rendered Lalon songs. Noted singers Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Khairul Anam Shakil, Kiran Chandra Roy, Chandana Majumdar and Abu Bakar Siddiqui performed solos. Artistes of Dhaka University Cultural Sangsad presented a musical that wrapped up the programme.



## Bangladesh Embassy in Thailand observes Bangla New Year with grandeur

The Bangladesh Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand, arranged a day-long colourful Borphoboron celebration where more than 500 expatriate Bangladeshis along with locals, participated spontaneously, according to a press release.

The Embassy premises were decorated with the iconic symbols of Pahela Baishakh celebrations including a replica of Ramna Botomul for the musical soiree, a hand painted street alpona, as well as a traditional Baishakhi fair with face painting and mehdi corner, replicas of masks painting similar to traditional Mongol Shobhajatra, and a pitha uthsab. Expatriate Bangladeshi artistes per-

formed traditional Bangla songs and performed traditional dance numbers at the event.

In her welcome address, Ambassador Saida Muna Tasneem recalled Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's struggle for establishing a secular cultural identity the progressive values that drove the Liberation War. She also appreciated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's declaration of Bangla New Year as Bangladesh's major national festival, and urged the Bangladesh community to celebrate Bangla and Thai new years together, with Thai Songkran taking place on April 13-15 and Pahela Baishakh on April 14.

## Noboborsho celebrated in Mymensingh

**AMINUL SIALM, Mymensingh**

Colourful cultural functions marked Pahela Baishakh, the first day of the Bangla New Year 1423 in Mymensingh.

Artistes of Jatiya Rabindra Sangeet Sammilon Parishad organised a cultural show marking the occasion at the town's Municipal Park's Baishakhi Mancha, on the bank of Old Brahmaputra River.

Artistes of the parishad opened the day's programme with the Tagore song "Esho Hey Baishakh", followed by other songs and poetry.

Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKNIU) authority also undertook a daylong cultural programme.

Students of Fine Arts Department organised a fanush (sky lantern) festival, lighting lamps and fireworks on Chaitra Sankranti, the last day of the Bengali Year 1423.

Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Fine Arts College and Mymensingh



Borshoboron Utjapon Parshad in Mymensingh also organised a rallies in the town, among others.

Cultural programmes were also held on the campus of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU).

Artistes of other cultural organisations including Mymensingh Sangeet Bidhyalaya, Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Sandipon Sangskritik

Sangstha, Mymensingh district Shilpakala Academy, Shishu Academy, Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala, Mukul Niketan Sangskritik Academy and Novice Foundation, among others, organised separate cultural programmes to celebrate the New Year.

## Youth Bangla Cultural Forum's Baishakh celebrations

Engaging children with special needs

**A CORRESPONDENT**

Youth Bangla Cultural Forum (YBCF) has embarked on a new initiative for Baishakh celebrations as a tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Titled "Sanskritir Deshe Bangladesh," the forum seeks to enlighten today's youth on the authentic history of 1971 and Bangla cultural identity.

YBCF initiated their journey with 375 youths in order to drive society towards cultural awareness and social development with actor Saberi Alam as President and Komol Chowdhury as General Secretary. On the morning of Pahela Baishakh, the forum took to celebrating the occasion with 40 special needs children at Dhanmondi, where participants in



the event engaged in various competitive games, singing and more. This also marked the first time Baishakhi celebrations engaged youth with special needs.

Well known media personalities

such as Tanvin Sweety, Shabnaz, Maznun Mizan, Mona Chowdhury, Sharmin Shila, Dipa Khondokar, Nawshheen, Hillol, Kalyan Corraya, Rashed Mamun Apu, Obid Rehan, and many more attended the event.

# ALPONAY BAISHAKH celebrated in six cities



Distinguished guests and artists inaugurate the Alpona festival.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Asiatic EXP, in association with Banglalink Digital Communications Ltd. and Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd. organised a big Alpona festival in Dhaka and five major cities of Bangladesh, to mark the Bangla New Year 1424. The event was inaugurated by Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor and Parliament Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury on April 13 at Dhaka's Manik Mia Avenue, says a press release.

The festival was celebrated in presence of

people of all walks of life from Dhaka and other regions of Bangladesh. This is the first of its kind Alpona festival in Bangladesh which has taken place at Manik Miah Avenue - Dhaka, DC Hill Area - Chittagong, Padma Paar - Rajshahi, Shib Bari Circle - Khulna, Bangabandhu Park Road - Barisal and Town Hall Circle - Mymensingh.

Patron artist for Alponay Bangladesh, Md. Muniruzzaman along with general people

participated at the event.

The festival started at 9pm on April 13 and continued till the first hour of April 14. The main event of Manik Miah included street painting stretching across Manik Miah Avenue by noted artists and general people, food court, photo booth, amenities like face painting and many other attractions. The event became more colourful with the musical performance of popular band Chirkutt.



At BRAC CDM Rajendrapur in Gazipur, a large enthusiastic crowd came together to celebrate Pahela Baishakh with panta-ilish, sports, entertainment and boat cruises on the lake. A grand Baishakh concert was also held with Maqsood O' dHAKA, Close-up star Salma and her band Nongor and Baul Shahjahan Munsu and his troupe rendering Bangla folk and fusion music. A mini-village fair was also arranged on the decorated BRAC CDM premises featuring indigenous handicrafts, pottery, and puppet show along with street-bioscope. The Daily Star was the Media partner of the event.

**QUIZ CONTEST**  
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**QUIZ - 02**  
 Which celebrity acted first time in **Fast & Furious 8** movie?

**WINNERS OF QUIZ NO-1**  
 Saima Zaman, Mohammadpur  
 Saadi Islam, Dhaka University  
 Farzad Islam Antor, Uttara  
 Ararafat Hossain, Dhaka Cantonment  
 Fuad Hussain, Dhanmondi  
 Sharmin Sultana, Khilgaon  
 Sajida Alam, W Jatrabari  
 Monalisa Talukdar, Shewrapara  
 Achuyat Saha Joy, East Rampura  
 Hasin Arman, Uttara

**FAST & FURIOUS 8**  
 APRIL 13, 2017

