

**WHAT'S ON**

**Amar Ekushey Book Fair**  
 Organiser: Bangla Academy  
 Venue: Suhrawardy Udyan & Bangla Academy Premises  
 Date: Feb 1-28  
 Time: 3-9pm (Sun-Thurs), 11am-9pm (Fri-Sat)

**Classical Guitar Concert**  
 Flaming Acoustics  
 Organiser: AFD  
 Venue: Nouvelle Vague, AFD  
 Date: Feb 17  
 Time: 6pm-7:30pm

**Cultural event**  
 Boshonto Utshob  
 Venue: Under the Banyan tree, Kala Bhawan, Dhaka University  
 Date: February 14  
 Time: 10:30am-1pm

**Subtext**  
 Organiser: Bengal Foundation Arts Programme  
 Venue: Gyantapas Abur Razzak Bidyapeeth  
 Date: Feb 4-24  
 Time: 11am-7pm

**Musical Show**  
 Ballads of Love with Tashfee  
 Venue: Gourmet Bazar Banani  
 Date: February 14  
 Time: 7pm-8:30pm



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

# KALYAN AND GRACE

## A blissful beginning

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

February is a special month for Bangladeshis; with yesterday marking Pohela Falgun and today being Valentine's Day, the streets of Dhaka are now awashed with vibrant shades of canary yellow, green, orange, and crimson. But the festive season will be even more special for the newlyweds, fully absorbed in each other and heady from the vibrancy of spring and new beginnings. Such is the case for popular actor Kalyan Corraya, who tied the knot with Grace Violet D'Costa last year on December 27. From celebrating New Years, to Pohela Falgun and Valentine's Day, the first three months for the new couple has been a significant series of shared firsts. Kalyan and Grace met through family acquaintances in USA, where she had been living since 2016 for further studies. In a recent conversation with The Daily Star, the couple opened up about their new life together.

The Daily Star's readers would be very curious to get to know you, Grace. Could you tell us a bit about yourself?

Grace: I have been living in Baltimore, USA, since 2016 when I moved with my parents and brother. Right now I am majoring in Economics at the Community College of

Baltimore County. I arrived in Bangladesh on December 7 last year, and on the 27th we were married. My family left soon after, and I have been here with just my husband and his family.

**Pahela Falgun and Valentine's Day will be significantly different and memorable for you both. What have you planned for this time?**

Kalyan: It isn't just those particular occasions; there was my birthday which we celebrated while we were on our honeymoon on January 28. This entire year has swept us both off our feet! For Pohela Falgun, we have hosted a large gathering to celebrate spring together with family, and also a belated birthday party for myself and my cousin. I surprised her with a new sari, and I presented my parents with new clothes as well. For Valentine's Day we have planned an outing which includes visiting relatives, and also have dinner somewhere. If we have time, we might drop by at the Ekushey Boi Mela.

**How did your first birthday celebration with your new bride go?**

Kalyan: Coincidentally my birthday coincided with our one month wedding anniversary, and we were honeymooning at Bali at the time. At midnight my wife surprised me with a cake in

our hotel room, and the following day we went sightseeing around the city, after which we had a candlelit seafood dinner by the shore. I was not only celebrating with my wife for the first time; before getting married I had never been away from my family on my birthday. I received wishes online from fans and acquaintances online, as well as over video calls with family and friends.

**Grace: It was truly the best time I've ever had. I am quite sad as I have to leave later this month as my classes will be starting soon. I won't be able to return until my semester ends in six months.**

**What advice do you have for couples in long distance marriages and relationships?**

Kalyan: The most common struggle everyone faces is miscommunication, because you can't see your partner in person. All I can say is that trust, loyalty, and understanding is very important. You must be very open and share all your feelings and experiences with each other, and respect your partner's space. Grace: It is important to manage time for each other, no matter how busy you are. My husband and I lead quite different lives as he is in the showbiz industry, but our marriage has been blissful and smooth so far because of our openness towards each other.

# Shusmita Anis releases "Tomar Akash"



A CORRESPONDENT

Reputed singer Shusmita Anis released a new song titled "Tomar Akash" on Sunday. The music video was uploaded on her Youtube channel and Facebook page in a ceremony at the capital's Thirty3 café.

The artiste, the song's composer Adit Rahman, lyricist Sohel Arman, music video director Tanim Rahman Angshu and its model Tanzin Tisha were present at the ceremony, along with musicians Bappa Mazumdar, Manam

Ahmed, Hamin Ahmed and others.

"I always try to bring something new to the audience, and this effort is a part of that," Shusmita Anis said at the event.

"It took us six months to bring the song to the audience," said Adit Rahman. "Shusmita apa has done the work with a lot of care."

The music video has been shot in Nepal's Pokhara, amid the stunning landscape of the Dhampus village. Along with Tanzin Tisha, popular Nepalese model-actor Narayan Dhakal can be seen in the video.

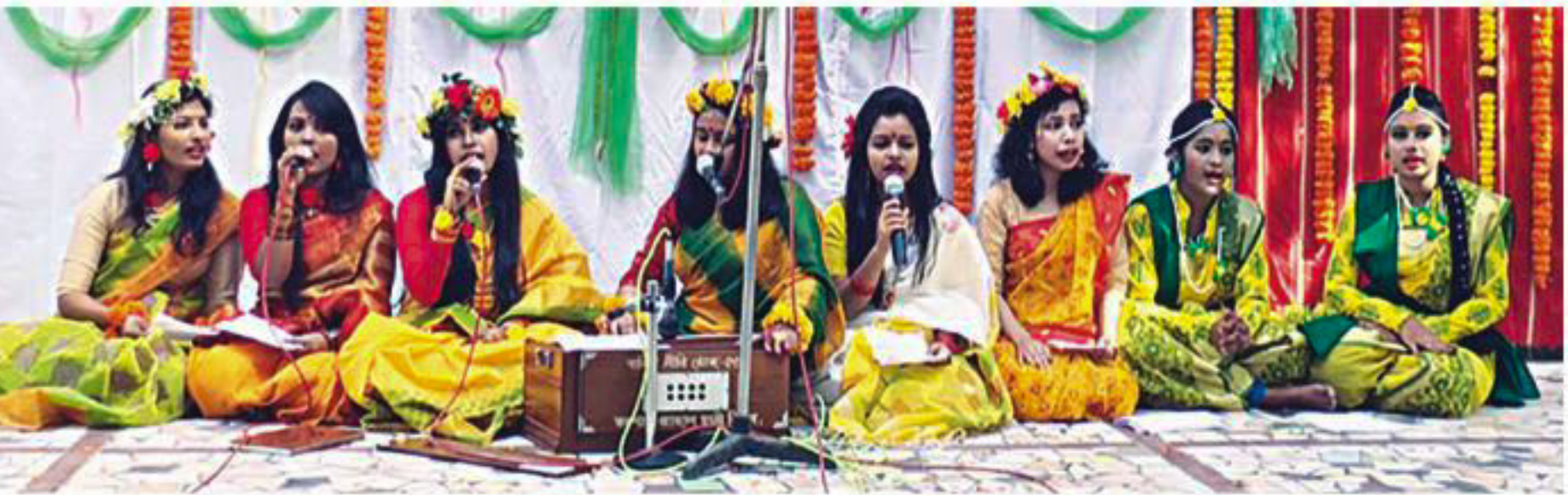


PHOTO: STAR

# Bashanta Baran in Barisal

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

Pahela Falgun, the first day of Spring in the Bangla seasonal was welcomed in Barisal with spontaneous enthusiasm on Tuesday.

Students of Barisal Govt. Women's College welcomed the 'king of the seasons' at their campus. Prof. Ziaul Haque, chairman of Barisal Education Board, inaugurated the programme presided over by Prof. Abdul Moteleb, principal of the college.

Barisal Natok and Udichi Shilpi Gosthi Barisal unit in association with other cultural organisations arranged a traditional Bashanta Baran Utsab at the Saraswati

School ground on Tuesday afternoon. Nikhil Sen, noted cultural activist who has been honoured with Ekushey Padak this year, inaugurated the programme.

Other cultural organisations also arranged celebrations at different parts of the city on this occasion.

Songs, dances, recitations, talks and exchange of greetings and gifts marked the festivities.

Large groups of people, mostly youngsters, traditionally celebrate the charming occasion wearing colourful outfits and flowers on their hands. Shades of saffron, yellow, orange and red were the choice of many for their festive clothing.



Tele-film "Science er Meye Arts er Chhele"; written by Syed Ziauddin, directed by Habib Shakil; starring Afran Nisho, Mehzabien, Johnny; on ATN Bangla, at 10:45pm.

# VALENTINE'S DAY on the small screen

*It's the time of year when romance blooms everywhere, and the TV screens are not to be left far behind. Like every year, television channels join in on the mood to bring a variety of programmes. Here's a selection of them:*



Single-episode play "Tomar Bashanta Dine"; written by Zarsis Ahmed, directed by Abu Hayat Mahmud; starring Apurbo, Snigdha Momin, Solaiman Khoka; on Desh TV, at 9:45pm.



Single-episode play "Dupur Akasher Rongdhonu"; written by Zahir Karim, directed by BU Shuvo; starring Poppy, Apurbo, Sporshia, Kalyan Korraya; on Ekushey Television, at 10pm.



Single-episode play "Ami Tomar Golpo Hobo"; written by Md. Khairul Hasan, directed by Mabur Rashid Bannah; starring Mumtaheena Toya, Tawfif Mahbub; on Banglavisn, 8:45pm.



Single-episode TV play "Aj Nitu'r Gaye Holud"; written and directed by Imraul Rafat; starring Nusrat Imrose Tisha, Irfan Sajjad; on Channel i, at 7:50pm.



Tele-film "Joler Tole Kar Chhaya"; written and directed by Harun Rusho; starring Sajal, Tanzin Tisha, Airin Tani; on Maasranga TV, at 8:20pm.



Short film "The Gift of the Magi"; directed by Shihab Shaheen; starring Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed, Shyamol Mowla; on Rtv, at 7:40pm.



Single-episode TV play "Best Friend"; written and directed by Probir Roy Chowdhury; starring Mehzabien, Jovan, Azad; on ntv, at 11:30pm.