

WHAT'S ON

Dinner and Musical Evening
 Title: Vegan Supper Club Event
 Venue: Gourmet Bazar Banani
 Date: August 4




Awareness Campaign
 Title: BYLC Running with Purpose
 Venue: Hatirjheel
 Date: August 3
 Time: 5:30am



Concert
 Title: 10 Years of the Armeen Musa Band
 Venue: Jatra Biroti
 Date: August 17
 Time: 7-10:30pm



Photography Exhibition
 Title: A Thousand Words
 Venue: Gallery Chitrak
 Date: August 10-11
 Time: 12pm



Exhibition
 Title: 'Hamra' Community Art Project
 Venue: EMK Center
 Date: July 28 - 30
 Time: 9:30am - 9:00pm



CELEBRATING BIRTH CENTENARY OF A MUSIC ICON

Star Melodies' homage to Abdul Ahad



(From left) All the performers sharing the stage; Sujit Mustafa with Anupama Mukti.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

To pay homage to the legendary music composer, director, singer and organiser Abdul Ahad, Star Melodies, a regular initiative of The Daily Star promoting Bangla music, hosted a special musical programme titled "Anek Brishti Jhorey Tumi Ele" to celebrate his 100th birth anniversary.

Prominent and promising singers performed at the event held yesterday evening at The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct of The Daily Star Centre. The featured singers -- Sujit Mustafa, Anupama Mukti, Nandita and students of the Government Music College performed several adhunik and patriotic songs composed by the timeless musician Abdul Ahad.

Eminent lyricists -- Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal, Mohammad Moniruzzaman, Gazi Mazharul Anwar, Mohsin Reza, Santosh Sengupta, Shahidul Islam, and Shamsur Rahman wrote lyrics of the scores. Sadya Afreen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, The Daily Star, hosted and coordinated the programme sponsored by Dhaka Bank Limited.

Brig Dr. Shahjahan Hafiz, also a Tagore singer, shared his personal memories with Abdul Ahad. Among others, former secretary Masud Ahmed spoke at the event.

"Half of today's featured songs are written by my father Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal," said Sujit Mustafa before starting his performance. The artiste beautifully rendered four songs including Amar Priya Jekhoni Elo, Tomar Kajol Kesh and Anek Brishti Jhorey.

Noted singer Anupama Mukti soulfully presented three songs -- Ami Sagorer Neel, Amito Amar Galpo Bolechhi and Haat-er Kakon Phelechhi Khule while promising artiste Nandita melliflously rendered three songs -- Modhumoy Prithibike Neelakash Daakbe, Tomar Alor Brintey and Bhromorer Pakhna Joto Dur-e Jakna at the event.

Students of the Government Music College started off the event with a choral patriotic song Amar Desh-er Matir Gondhey. Soloists -- Shyamama, Bikash and Asha -- from the college melodically presented three songs -- Tumi Ami



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Dui Teer, Moneto Porey Na Konodin and Shei Chithi Ajo Lekha Hoyni respectively.

Renowned Tagore singer Roquaiya Hasina Neely, also general secretary of Abdul Ahad Smriti Parishad, performed Dur-e Kothao while Monir Chowdhury sang Kichhu Bolo.

Born in Rajshahi, Ahad evinced a great interest in music at an early age and took lessons from Ustad Bali and Ustad Manju Sahib. He took part in the All-Bengal Music Competition in 1936 and stood first in the Thumri and Ghazal section.

In 1938, he bagged a prestigious scholarship from Shantiniketan as the first Bengali Muslim student. In 1941, he joined HMV, Calcutta (Now Kolkata) and grew to be a popular music director working for both the recording and film industry.


After the 1947 Partition, Ahad joined Radio Pakistan and became a key person in the

musical arena of Dhaka. He launched the careers of many singers, composed numerous songs and authored books on Bengali music.

In Santiniketan, he sang the song Diner Por Din Je Gelo and was blessed and beloved by Rabindranath Tagore. After spending four years at Santiniketan, he joined Master's Voice in Calcutta in 1941 as a music teacher. Famous artistes like Pankaj Kumar Mallick and Hemanta Kumar Mukhopadhyay recorded Tagore songs under his direction. He was also very popular as a music director in feature films such as Duhkhe Jader Jiban Gada, Asiya, Nabarun and Dur Hyay Sukh Ka Gaon.

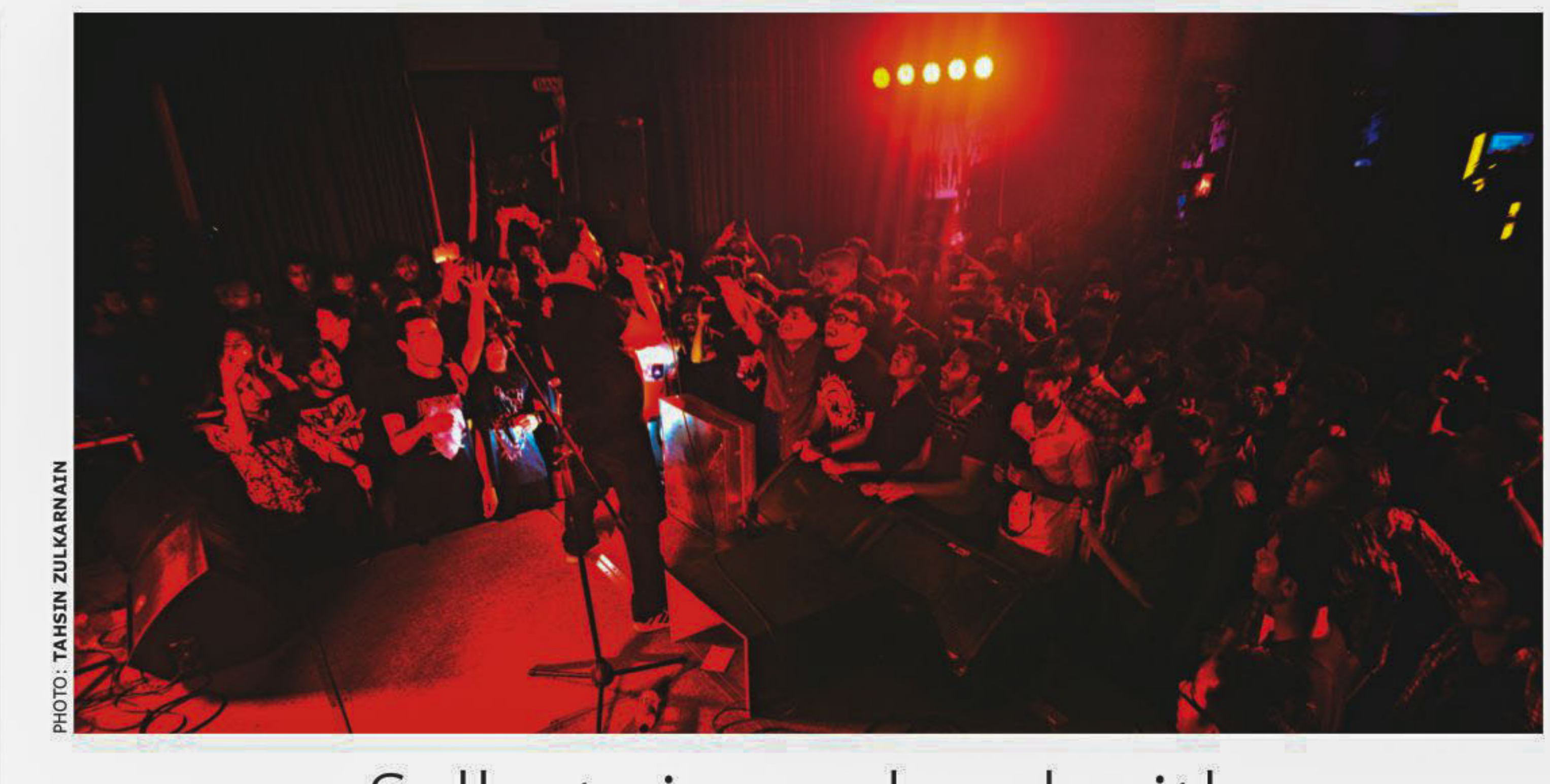
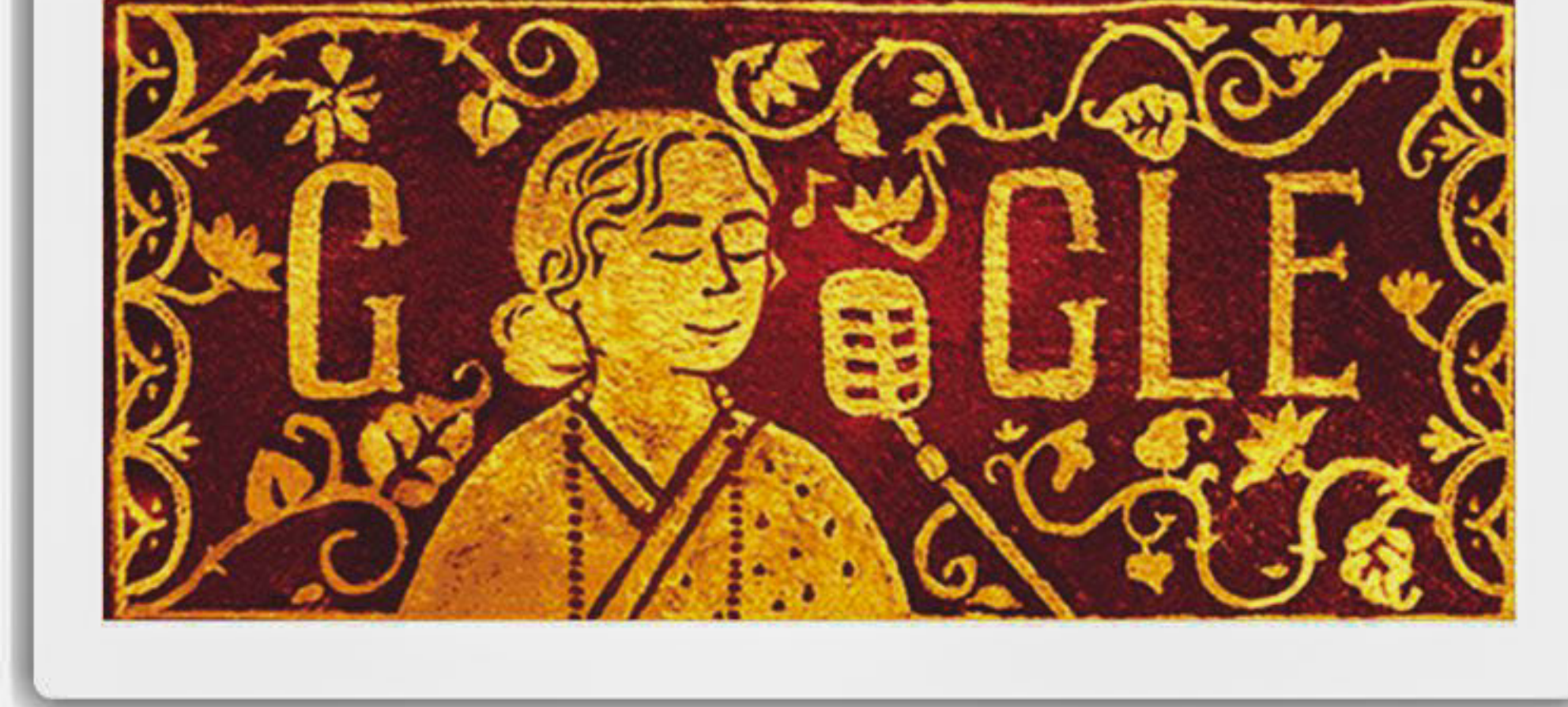
The government of Pakistan awarded him Tamgha-i-Imtiaz in 1962 and Sitara-i-Imtiaz in 1969 for his contribution to music.

The Government of Bangladesh awarded him the Shadhinata Padak in 1978.



Two legends of Bangla music, Kamal Dasgupta and Feroza Begum had their birthdays on the same day yesterday. Besides having unforgettable contributions to Nazrul Sangeet, the two were also a married couple, perhaps making them the most talented duo in Bangladeshi music history. Yesterday, Google paid homage to Feroza Begum on her 88th birth anniversary by creating a doodle for her on its home page. The gesture was welcomed with great enthusiasm by the public. The homage was shared by both Shafin Ahmed and Hamin Ahmed, the pair's children who also have an illustrious musical career to their names.

Source: Shafin Ahmed's Facebook page



Sylhet sings aloud with LEGACY OF ROCK N ROLL

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY, writes from Sylhet

The Friday afternoon brought in some surprises for the rock music lovers of Sylhet, as Dan Cake presented country's seven popular bands along with a popular local band together on the stage of Legacy of Rock N Roll in the Celebrity Hall in hotel Star Pacific, Sylhet yesterday.

The city was drenched in rain since the morning, which worried the organisers about the audience turn up. Nonetheless, they had their bets on the passion of the local music lovers, and continued preparations for the show. Head of marketing of Dan Cake, Minhaj Hossain made it clear that they intend to encourage growth in the music industry: "We also want to present the local bands to the audience, so that they can get exposure and do better in the future."

The anxiety ceased as the young rock n roll enthusiasts flocked around the venue in their favourite rock band t-shirts. The show started with an explosive performance by H2SO4, a popular local rock band. The other performing bands were Arbovirus, Avoidrafa, Powersurge, Mechanix, Radioactive, Echoes and Savagery. The bands not only performed their own songs, but also covers to please the energetic crowd. Mechanix dedicated their song Niyoti to their band member Zeheon Ahmed, who passed away in his prime. Powersurge wowed the audience with a stellar medley cover of the songs of Guru James.



Four friends from MC College, Raiyanur Rahman, Sakibul Islam Ahmed, Mahir Daiyan, Nafis Sadik Siam were thrilled to see their favourite bands Mechanix and Arbovirus perform on the stage. Nafis said, "It is a great initiative to revive the concert culture. We haven't had a show of this grandeur in a long time. We hope they arrange more of these shows in the future."

Nayemur Rahman is a CSE major and an apprentice in playing the drums. He took the trouble of travelling through the rain just to watch his favourite band Powersurge play live.

Nahida Akhter was one of the few female

participants attending the concert. She expressed her joy by headbanging with the rest of the male-dominated crowd.

Many in the audience travelled here from Dhaka. They saw it as a perfect opportunity to listen to some rock music and explore the beautiful city of Sylhet.

The concert brought back life to live music for the audience. The musicians were pumped up with an audience who sang along with every lyric that they did. With the head bangers and air guitar move, the audience owned the space completely. The overwhelming response from Sylhet is a sure sign of hope for good music.



Chhayanaut hosted their 'Sufia Kamal Memorial Monsoon Programme' on July 27, Friday.