

WHAT'S ON

Film Screening
 Title: Nibash – The residence
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
 Date: March 30
 Time: 7 pm – 9 pm

BIG SCREENING EVENT
 Screening Event
 Title: Game Of Thrones Season 8 Screening
 Venue: Arena – Café & Lounge, Ring Tower (4th Floor), 6/A Ring Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka
 Date: April 15
 Time: 9 pm – 10 pm

Dance Drama
 Title: Dance Drama MEERA
 Venue: National Theater, BSA
 Date: April 13
 Time: 6 pm – 9 pm

Art Exhibition
 Title: Still—Life: an art exhibition by Moon Rahman
 Venue: Dwp Gallery, Lalmita
 Date: March 23 – April 7
 Time: 3 pm – 9 pm

Musical Ensemble
 Title: Shahed and Gaatch
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
 Date: March 29
 Time: 7 pm
 Tickets: At the door for BDT 300 (BDT 200 with a valid student ID)



PHOTO: COURTESY

Samsul Alam Helal's 'Disappearing Roots' at Shilpakala

ZAHANGIR ALOM
 A solo exhibition titled, *Disappearing Roots*, by promising visual artist Samsul Alam Helal opened on March 23 at the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The exhibition focuses on the displacement in the hill tracts of Bangladesh featuring the remaining traces of the ancient ways of life and the violence of gentrification. Diana Campbell, Chief Curator of Dhaka Art Summit, attended the event as the guest speaker. Rahnuma Ahmed, Public Anthropologist and Columnist, Yan Yan, the Chakma Rani (Queen) and Dr Sayeed Ferdous, Professor and Researcher, Jahangirnagar University, graced the occasion as honourable guests.

Disappearing Roots showcases the Kaptai dam, which was built in 1962 as a hydro power source. It produces about five percent of the total electricity consumed by Bangladesh. People were displaced as a result of it. The palace of the Chakma king, buried deep in the lake, is also a part of the exhibition, along with a 'chair', the symbolic representation of the throne that travels around communities. At times, the chair sits alone in the landscape, which is constantly under threat by the majority. Through sounds, photographs, 3D models and videos, the visuals emphasise on the remaining traces of the ancient ways of life, highlighting the violence of gentrification. Samsul Alam Helal is a visual artist based in Dhaka. He completed his



graduation in photography from Pathshala South Asian Media Institute. Helal loves to make fiction to question the reality. His aim is to go beyond the

socio-cultural and political issues which primarily interest him. He explores identity, dreams, longings and play with the psychological realm of these issues to understand the deeper marks they create. In his recent art practice he does photography, video and installation. Helal's work represents a reality in an alternate space. Helal is one of the winners of The World Press Photo Joop Swart Masterclass in 2016 and participated in various group shows including Kunsthalle Zurich, Speak Local, 2017, Colombo Art Biennale 2016, Dhaka Art Summit 2016, Chobi Mela 2012 and Bronx Museum, New York 2015. He was one of the visiting artists in the Fellowship Program in Harvard University in 2018.

PLAYLIST



Immortal songs of SHAHNAZ RAHMATULLAH

- ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK
 We have all grown up listening to this legendary singer, who has been moving generations with her soulful voice since the black and white era. She portrayed confidence, while her voice spoke of conviction, courage and the love for Bangla. Below is a playlist of some of her iconic numbers that the A&E team has on repeat.
1. Shagorer teer theke
 2. Ekbaar jete de na
 3. Je chilo drishtir shimanay
 4. Amaar jodi proshno kore
 5. Ektara tui desher kotha
 6. Ek nodi rokto periy
 7. Ghum ghum ghum chokhe
 8. Holud banto mehendi banto



'RUNWAY' screened in Manikganj to create awareness about violent extremism

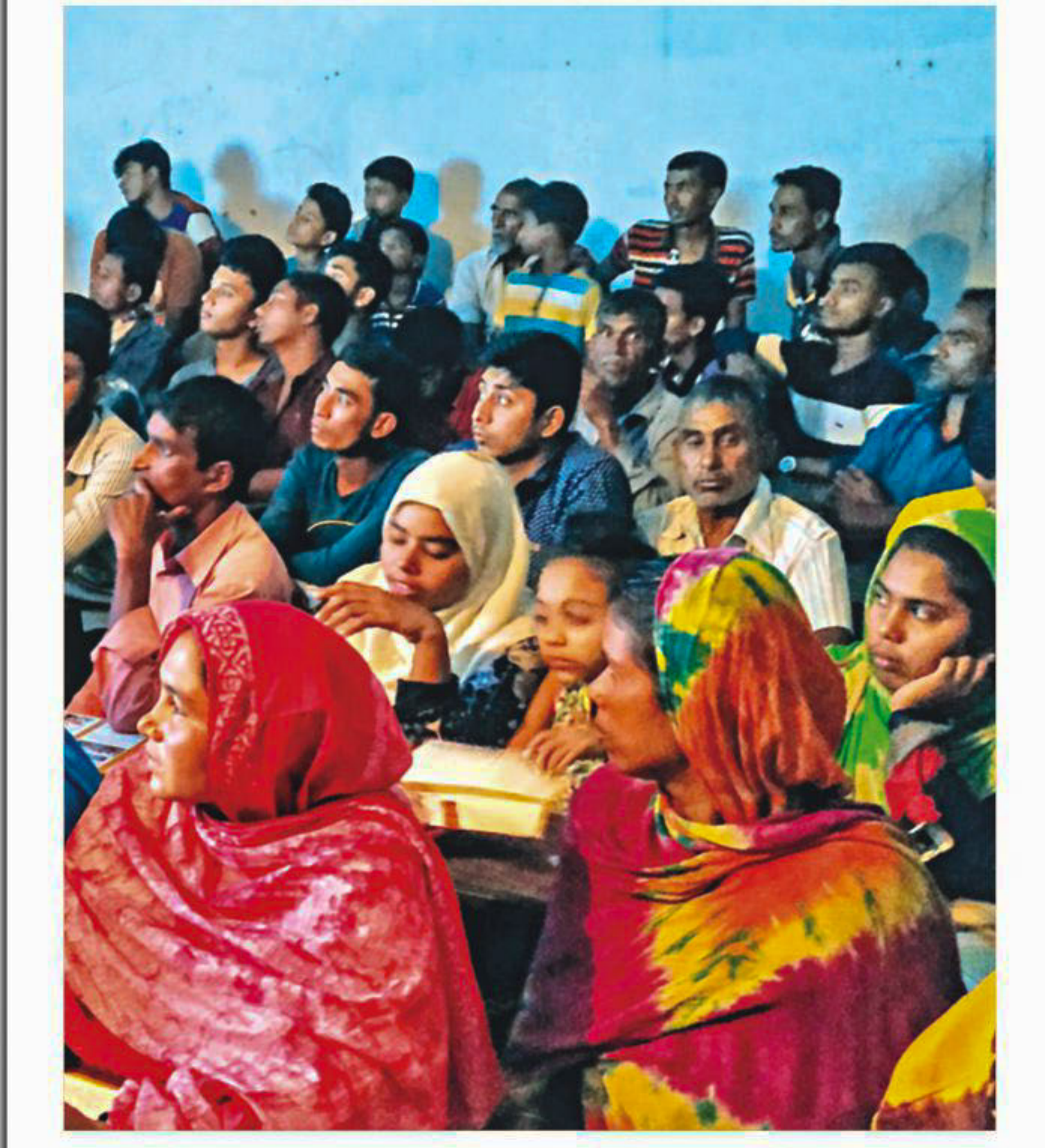


PHOTO: STAR

ZAHANGIR SHAH, from Manikganj
Runway was screened at Kakna High School, Manikganj on Saturday, with an aim of creating awareness about violent extremism. The film, written and directed by late noted filmmaker Tareque Masud, received the Bachsas Award for the Best Film and Best Art Direction.

It explores how unemployment hopelessness can draw the youth into finding a sense of purpose in radical Islam. People's Advancement Social Association (PASA), in association with the Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) organised the event. Some videos were also screened to create awareness about violent extremism.



PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK
 Mahiya Mahi starrer film, *Obotar*, directed by Mahmud Hasan Sikder, recently received approval from the censor board. Director Mahmud Hasan Sikder confirmed the news. The film will also star Rusho, Raisul Islam

Asad and Amin Khan, among others. The story of the film focuses on the anti-drug movement. "I wanted to convey a strong message regarding drugs through the film," says the director. *Obotar* contains five songs, featuring musicians, S I Tultul, Nancy, Oyshee, Jui, Mim and

'OBOTAR' approved by censor board

Sajal. The film was shot in Pabna, Gazipur, Keraniganj and Dhaka. "The story of the film made me give my hundred percent. I hope the audience will love it," says Amin Khan. *Obotar* is expected to release during the upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr.

LATAI HONOURS DISTINGUISHED POETS

FARJANA AHMED ANNAN
Latai organised a prize-giving ceremony for the third consecutive year, titled, 'Chhorashahitto Puroskar Prodan Anushtan' on March 23 at Bishwo Shahitto Kendro, where poets were awarded for their noteworthy literary works in 2017 and 2018 under different categories. In the ceremony, the eighth edition of *Latai*, the Faruk Hossain Shongkha, edited by poet Mamun Sarwar, was unveiled in front of the audience. As a publication, *Latai* aims to work with poets and writers from different generations to preserve the essence of Bangla Literature. The ceremony started with a welcoming address by Mamun Sarwar and included speeches by poets Akhter Hossain, Alam Talukdar, Aslam Sunny and Amirul Islam. Noted poet and Director General of Bangla Academy Habibullah Siraji was the chief guest while writer Ali Emam presided over the session. Habibullah Siraji congratulated the winners and stated that Bangla Academy will always support promising literary professionals and their work and that our community needs to work to improve the current state of Bangla Literature.



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

For 2018, Anjir Liton, Romen Raihan, Wasif A Khoda, Nihar Mosharrif and Ahmad Shadhin were announced as the winners of the Chhorashahitto Puroshkar. For 2017, Faruk Nawaz, FarukHossain, Hasan Hafiz, SM

Shamsul Alam, Ahmed Sabbir, Addoita Marut Chhoray and Moin Mursaleen were awarded. Poet Faruk Hossain received the lifetime achievement award from Habibullah Siraji and Ali Emam.