

WHAT'S ON

Solo Print Exhibition
 Title: The Soul of the Soil
 Artist: Farzana Rahman Bobby
 Venue: Gallery Shilpangan, Lalmatia
 Date: Today
 Time: 3 pm - 8 pm

Musical Concert
 Title: Sunglew Musical Fest-1
 Venue: International Convention City
 Bashundhara, Hall 4
 Date: July 19
 Time: 6 pm onwards

Concert
 Title: TSCy Gaan
 Venue: TSC, University of Dhaka
 Date: Today
 Time: 4 pm onwards

Art Exhibition
 Title: Deep in Dhaka
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
 Date: Today
 Time: 7 pm onwards

Art Workshop
 Title: Reading art in and out of time by Mustafa Zaman
 Venue: Shunno Art Space, Lalmatia
 Date: July 19
 Time: 3 pm onwards

Azizul Hakim's directorial endeavour

Renowned actor, Azizul Hakim, has acted in countless television, radio and stage dramas as well as a number of movies during his career. But he's largely known to the Bangladeshi audience for playing lead male protagonist characters during various hit tele-fictions in the 90s.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Apart from being a regular television actor, Azizul Hakim has also directed a few serials as well as hour-long tele-fictions, which have been well received by the audience. Two of his most popular serials were *Ebong Ami* and *Jol Pore Pata Nore*. The last tele-fiction Azizul Hakim directed was a year ago. It was filmed in Australia and broadcasted on Channel i.

A year later, the actor-director is back in his director's chair to work on a new telefilm, titled *Shopner Nil Thami*. The script, written by Zeenat Hakim, is being enacted by actors Shomapti, Aporna Ghosh, Jonaki Chakma, Sharmili Chakma, Rajib Chakma and Tuli Chakma among others.

"We filmed at a few locations in Rangamati. We are editing the telefilm now. It will be telecast soon," said Azizul Hakim. "Although I usually act in the telefilms I direct, I am not part of the cast in *Shopner Nil Thami*." Azizul Hakim is currently acting in two television serials, namely *Bokulpur* and *Unlucky Thirteen*, directed by Kaiser Ahmed and Faridul Hasan respectively. The serials are being telecast on two private satellite channels.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

An extravaganza of diverse arts

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The 23rd National Art Exhibition has brought about a festive mood in the local art circuit. This important exhibition is organised biennially by the Department of Fine Arts, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Initiated in 1975, the exhibition has, so far, earned recognition from art-lovers across the whole nation as a celebration of modern artworks by artists from all over Bangladesh. This year's exhibition is featuring a display of 322 artworks by 310 artists. The participants have expressed their artistic feelings and thoughts through watercolour, oil, mixed media and acrylic paintings, sculptures, prints, crafts, ceramics, installations, videos and performing arts.

The primary selection committee

comprised of renowned artists -- Mostafizul Haque, Mohammad Iqbal, Anisuzzaman Anis, Sheikh Sadi Bhuiyan and Nasreen Begum. The jury committee for selecting the best artworks for awards included renowned artists -- Abdus Shakoor Shah, Mohammad Eunos, Ranjit Das, Farida Zaman and architect Shamsul Wares.

The objective of this exhibition is to bring together artists belonging to different age groups, working in different mediums and techniques. The event has also become a platform encouraging exchange of ideas between artists, critics and art enthusiasts.

The artworks at the exhibition are expected to possess distinctively local characteristics in terms of forms, subjects and aesthetics. Artists' mode of expressions are varied -- realistic,

semi-realistic, pure-abstract, semi-abstract, abstract expressionism, expressionism, impressionism and neo-expressionism.

Artist Kamruzzaman won prestigious Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Award for his work titled 'Global Warming-2' that depicts the perilous effects emanating from climate change. The artwork shows a bird flying in one direction while another bird is sitting on a tree stump in a desolate place, where there were many trees at one point, but now nothing but tiles. In the middle of the frame there is a structure made out of wood and a huge bowl-like form made out of twigs, suitable for making bird's nests.

Bangladeshi Shilpakala Academy Honourable Mention Awards were given to four artists. Tanvir Mahmud received media best award in sculpture

for his work 'Pronidhan-2', Ruhul Karim Rumeed received media best award in printmaking for his art which features a series of dehumanised portraits under the title 'Portraits of Ambiguity'. Sahid Kazi received new media best award for his installation 'Golden Fiber' while Rafat Ahmed Badhon won the media best award in painting for his watercolour titled 'Relation-4'.

Uttam Kumer Talukder received the Bengal Foundation Award for his artwork titled 'Story of Life-1', whereas Faria Khanum Tuly received the Kazi Anowar Hossain Award for her artwork 'Preetimba-4' and Sumon Wahed won the Dipa Haque Award for his work 'The Map'.

The exhibition, opening daily from 11 pm to 8 pm, and from 3 pm to 8 pm on Fridays, will continue till July 21.

An evening of baul music



AMINUL ISLAM, from Mymensingh

A musical soiree of folk songs was held recently at the local Shilpakala Academy auditorium in Mymensingh, remembering renowned bauls and spiritual performers of the region. The programme was organised by Novice Foundation, an arts education centre in Mymensingh.

Eminent jatra artiste Gouranga Adhitya inaugurated the event while the chairman of Novice Foundation, Rezaul Karim Aslam delivered the welcome speech. District cultural officer Arzu Parves, drama personality Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu, Ustad A K M Shahabuddin Khan, baul Sunil Karmakar, Nazrul artiste Bijon Topder

and classical maestro Ashish Sarker Tushar were present, among others.

The works of bauls and spiritual artistes - Lalon Shai, Ulkil Munshi, Jalal Uddin Khan, Khaleque Dewan, Upendra Sarker, Monmohon Dutta, Abed Ali, Rashid Uddin, Abdul Hye Mashreki and Khair Uddin Dewan -- were the highlights of the event.

A mesmerising performance by Joyeta Orpa, a ninth grader, had the packed auditorium spellbound, as she rendered 20 songs by 10 prominent bards. The artiste was assisted by Raj Kumar on dhol, Probir Dey on tabla, Saidul Islam on dotara, Abdul Kader on mondira and Azizul Islam on flute. Poet Anwara Sultana, Saiful Islam Dudu and Sarwar Jahan anchored the programme.

Nadia Ahmed keeping busy with shoots for Eid



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

With Eid ul Adha nearing by the day, actors are on a busy schedule to meet the deadlines and complete their shoots on time. Prominent actor and dancer, Nadia Ahmed is no different. For the upcoming festive season, Nadia is working on four different seven-episode TV serials.

The shooting for *Mofizer Lifestyle* is currently underway at Uttara where Nadia will be acting opposite Fazlur Rahman Babu. The comedy-drama depicts how three of Babu's wives work as household helps across the capital, while he reaps the benefits sitting idle.

Nadia already completed the shoot for the serials titled, *Jamai Hajir*, *Low Pressure* and *Shoda Shotto Kotha Bolibo*, directed by Faridul Hossain, Adi Basi Mizan and Morsalin Shuvo respectively. The talented actor will also be seen in adaptations from Rabindranath Tagore's plays, *Muktir Upay* and *Uddhar*, helmed by Anjan Aich and Abul Hayat respectively.

Apart from the aforementioned TV serials, she is also busy working on one-hour tele-fictions, which will also air during Eid. She is also scheduled to work with directors Dipu Hazra, Tauquir Ahmed, Anjan Aich, among others, in the near future.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Happy Birthday, PRIYANKA CHOPRA!



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Inarguably India's biggest international star, Priyanka Chopra has broken past countless ceilings and established herself as a household name across the globe, as an actor, singer and producer. Crowned as the winner of Miss World 2000, Priyanka started her career in films at the tender age of 17 and has acted in nearly 60 films till date. Apart from her movies, she has delivered a number of superhit songs, which she voiced. Priyanka Chopra was named as one of the 100 most influential people in the world by *Time* magazine (TIME 100), as well as one of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women by *Forbes*, amongst numerous other accolades in her lifetime. On the special occasion of her turning 36 today, we wish the ethereal star a very happy birthday!

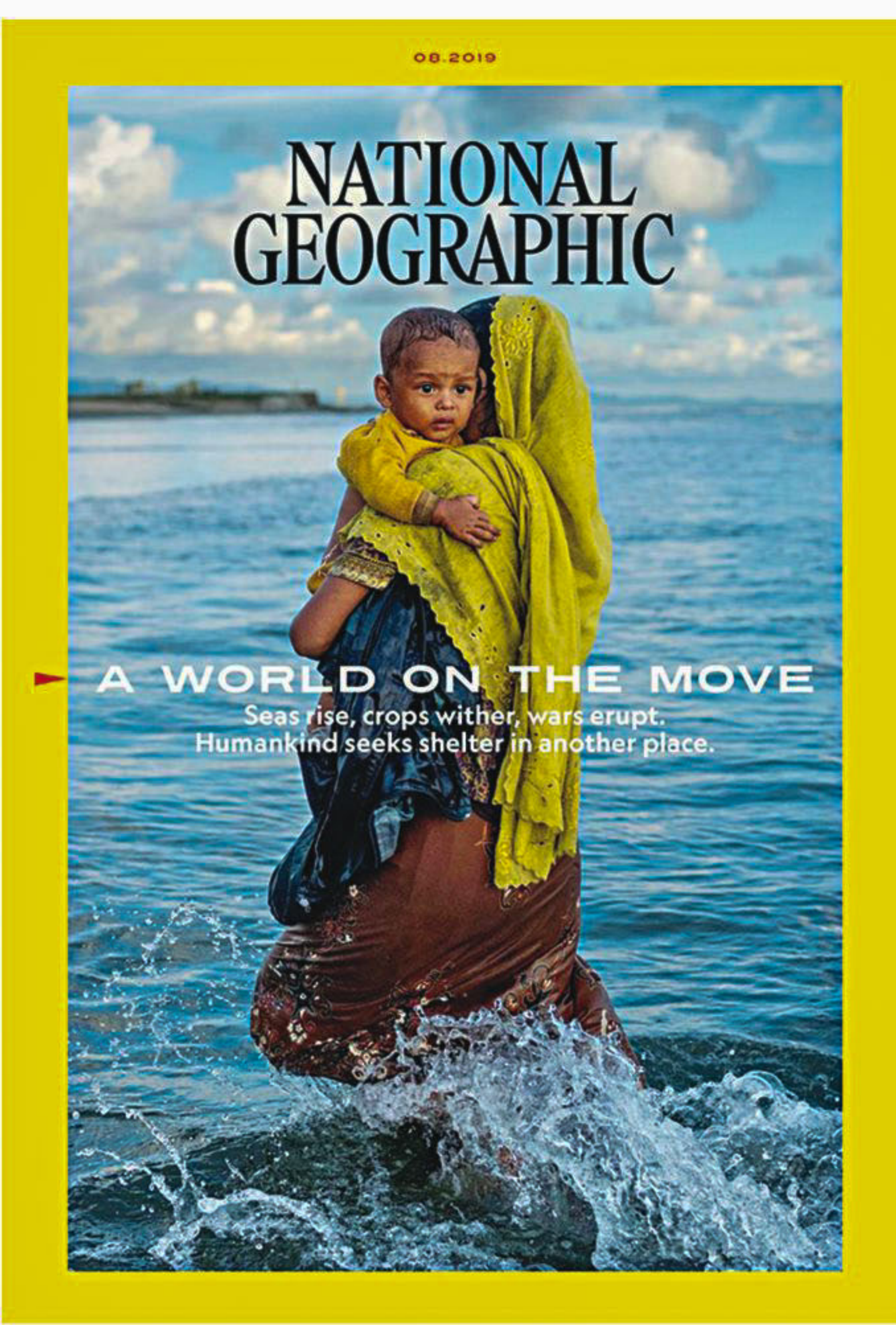


PHOTO: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FACEBOOK PAGE

Bangladeshi photojournalist K M Asad's photo of a Rohingya mother carrying her child, got selected as the cover of 'National Geographic' magazine, for the August 2019 issue. Asad took to social media to express his gratitude and share the joyous achievement with his friends, family and well-wishers.