

WHAT'S ON

PROJECT GENERATIONS
Disconnected
Shishir & Nabila - Unplugged
Concert
Title: Project Generations - Disconnected
1.1 - Unplugged Tribute Gig
Venue: Lyceum Conference Center, Lalmatia
Date: September 13
Time: 3 pm - 8 pm
Ticket: BDT 250

Musical Soiree
Title: A night of blues with Labu Rahman and Friends
Venue: Jatra Birotti, Banani
Date: Today
Time: 7 pm - 10 pm

Exhibition
Title: Jamdani Festival 2019
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: September 6 - October 12 (closed on Sundays)
Time: 12 noon - 8 pm

Rock Concert
Title: Legacy of Rock N Roll
Venue: ICCB, Hall 04 (Naboratri), Bashundhara
Date: September 13
Time: 3 pm - 10 pm
Hotline: +8801707975206

INKE SOLACE
Poetry Exhibition by Zubayer Zakir Khan
Title: Inked Solace by Zubayer Zakir Khan
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: September 7 - 11
Time: 9:30 am - 8 pm

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PHOTO: STAR

Many happy returns to SHYKH SERAJ a friend of the farmers

ZAHANGAR ALOM

Today marks the 65th birthday of eminent media personality Shykh Seraj, a true friend of, and an active campaigner for, our farmers. For over four decades, he has been sponsoring television programmes for them. A pioneer of development journalism, Shykh Seraj hosts TV shows such as *Mati O Manush*, *Krishi Budget*, *Krishoker Budget*, *Phirey Chol Matir Taan-e* and *Krishoker Eid Ananda* on Channel i. Currently, he is the Director and Head of News of Channel i.

"There is a close link between *Krishi* (agriculture) and *Krishti* (culture). Farmers are the backbone of our economy. Doing something for them has, over the years, become my passion and profession. There is no culture without agriculture," said Shykh Seraj in a conversation with *The Daily Star*. "A farmer faces many problems. His journey of farming, from sowing seeds to harvesting is uncertain, yet he keeps a smile on his face, which I find immensely charming."

Today, many developed countries have initiated rooftop agriculture, producing herbs that are nutritious, but expensive. "The urban agriculture will ensure food security and greenery, prioritise healthy food and fight global warming. The 1995 Kyoto Protocol has also emphasised on making at least 20 percent of the rooftop green," he explains. "A good sign is that many educated farmers are involved in it."

Shykh Seraj thinks that agriculture in Bangladesh has already gone through many notable changes, and with the aid of ICT, a revolutionary change will take place in all sectors of agriculture

including livestock, fishery, poultry, dairy and horticulture. Latest technology, like Neck Pad or Cattle Shield, Bolas, Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS), Auto Aeration and Feeding for Fishes, Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), Horizontal Expansion, Vertical Expansion, Soilless Agriculture, Drip Irrigation System and mobile app-based agriculture, are all gaining momentum. Our farmers are becoming familiar with these technological practices, which ascertain precision in agriculture.

He also mentions that even though technology has made agriculture easier, the fact that many entrepreneurs with no prior experience are investing in it, might be alarming for our farmers. The farmers' lack of knowledge and investment would mean that they are in danger of being marginalised. If these farmers do not exist, Bangladesh will face immense challenges in the food industry.

"The government should take pro-farmer initiatives, so that they don't become landless. Instead of selling the land, they can lease it or make farmers the stakeholders for agro-projects," said Shykh Seraj.

For his philanthropic activities, Shykh Seraj has received more than fifty awards. The Ashoka Fellow, United Nations FAO's AH Boerma Award, Gusi Peace Prize from Philippines, Bangladesh Economic Association Gold Medal, UK's BCA Golden Jubilee Honour Award, prestigious recognition from the British House of Commons, Dr Ibrahim Memorial Gold Medal, Ranada Prasad Saha Gold Medal, Ekushey Padak and Independence Day Award are only a few of his accolades.



SHARAT UTSHAB 1426 OBSERVED AT CHARUKALA
Organised annually by Shottensen Shilpigosti, Sharat Utshab 1426 took place yesterday at Bakultala of Charukala (Faculty of Fine Art), Dhaka University. A wonderful arrangement of songs, dance, poetry performances and instrumentals among others, were presented at the event which is conducted in two parts (morning and evening). State Minister of Cultural Affairs K M Khalid graced the occasion as the chief guest.

PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Films releasing this month

Dhaliwood films have the potential of attracting large crowds to cinema theatres. However, that often depends on the quality of the films. Usually, many good movies are released during Bangladesh's major festivals, apart from which the number of films released are drastically low.



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

This September, however, bears good news for cinemagoers. Three films, *Mayaboti*, *Obotar* and *Shaap Ludo*, will be released this month. Nusrat Imrose Tisha and Yash Rohan starrer *Mayaboti* will hit theatres on September 13. "*Mayaboti* is a love story with a distinct tone. We hope that the audience will get to see something new," says Arun Chowdhury, the director

of the film. Mahmud Hasan Sikder's *Obotar*, will be released on the same day. The film marks Mahiya Mahi's return to the industry after a long break. Amin Khan will play Mahi's brother in the film, which will attempt to show the terrible consequences of drug addiction on the youth. Arifin Shuvoo and Bidya Sinha Mim starrer *Shaap Ludo* will be released on September 27. It is renowned playwright Golam

Sohrab Dodul's first directorial venture in films. *Shaap Ludo* has already created quite a stir, as television actors, through videos on social media, are requesting people to go watch it in theatres. The other cast members of the film include Tariq Anam Khan, Salauddin Lavlu, Zahid Hasan and Shatabdi Wadud among others. *Shaap Ludo* will also be released in the United States of America and Canada, besides Bangladesh.

Global Youth Film Festival Bangladesh concludes today



PHOTO: STAR

AMINUL ISLAM, from Mymensingh

Cinema Bangladesh has arranged their flagship event, Global Youth Film Festival Bangladesh 2019, at Shilpakala Academy in Mymensingh.

The festival uses cinema as a tool of communication for social, religious and political issues. It encourages teens and young adults to discuss issues that affect today's society, through films. Bangladesh is a nation of cultural diversity. With that in mind, the festival not only screens films from different cities, but also magnifies the country's heritage and culture. This year, it highlighted the issue of climate change.

Eminent cultural personality Ramendu Majumder inaugurated the event on September 5.

Film producer Hemanta Sadeeq, festival coordinator Asma Akter Liza and theatre activist Abul Monsur were present among others.

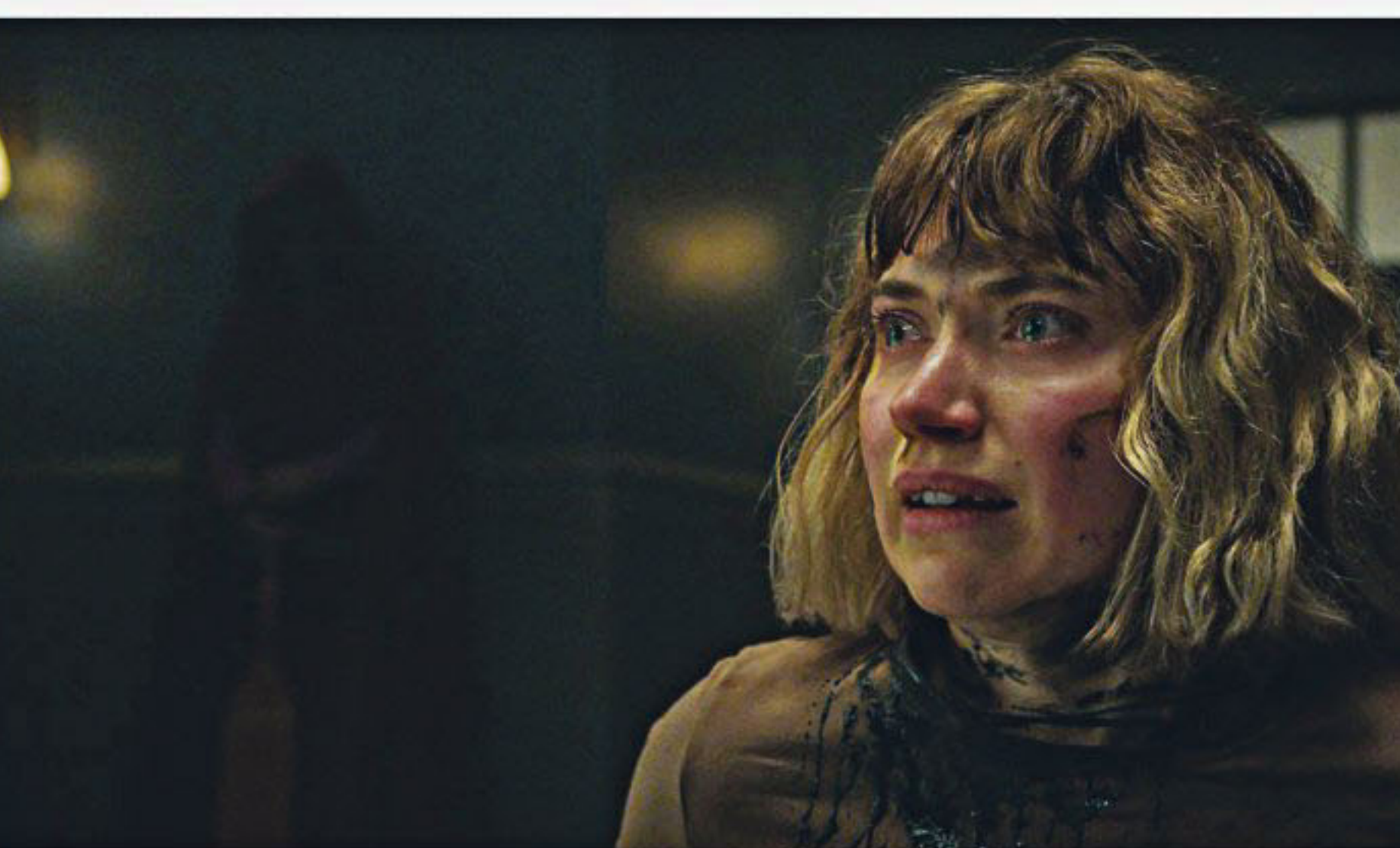
Syed Saiful Alam, the media manager of the event, said that they have successfully arranged two festivals in Rangpur and Laxmipur, and intend to arrange more in other parts of the country in the near future.

The jury panel for the International Competition category at the festival consisted of International Federation of Film Critics member Sadia Khalid Reeti,

internationally acclaimed filmmaker Mostofa Sarwar Farooki and Iranian filmmaker Morteza Farshbarf. Over 1,700 films, produced by young artists from 101 countries, were submitted for the category. 74 films from 35 countries were selected for the main competition, according to sources. Eight films will receive awards at the closing ceremony.

Around 50 young filmmakers participated in a workshop held at the event. Film producers, Golam Rabbani Biplob, Prashun Rahman, Jasim Ahmed and writer Shadat Hossain were the trainers. Three full-length feature films were also screened at the festival, which concludes today.

'Black Christmas' 2019's first look



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Sophia Takal's remake of the Canadian classic horror film, *Black Christmas* (1974), is ready for release under the same name. Originally produced and directed by Bod Clark, the two and a half minute trailer of the 2019 remake was just released, and it seems more than just a slasher film.

With Imogen Poots (Riley Stone),

Lily Donoghue (Marty), Aleyse Shannon (Kris) and Brittany O'Grady (Jesse) playing Hawthorne's sorority sisters, and Caleb Eberhardt and Cary Elwes being spotted in the trailer, the stalker remains a mystery.

This recreation of terror and thrill is to hit the theatres on Friday the 13th of December, just before the Christmas bell rings!