

Allen Swapan arrives as a spin-off comic book character

The lead character from the Chorki original series *Mysel Allen Swapan*, directed by Shihab Shaheen, has now appeared in a comic book. Titled *Chronicles of Allen Swapan*, the comic has been released at the Amar Ekushey Boi Mela and is available at stalls 949-950 of Dhaka Comics.

Although inspired by the web-series, the comic features five distinct and original stories. Among them is *Skondhokata*, written by Zahidul Haque Apu, while *Dome*, *Munsunk*, and *Faad* were penned by Sheikh Korashanee. The two writers collaborated on *Peyaju*.

The illustrations for these five stories were done by Mehedi Haque (*Dome*), Kazi Maruf (*Skondhokata*), Jibir Mahmud Ratin (*Munsunk*), Abdullah Al Zunayed (*Peyaju*), and Meherab Siddiqui Sabit (*Faad*).

The cover art of the book was designed by Asifur Rahman, with editing by Mehedi Haque and Sheikh Korashanee. The comic is rated 'M' (Mature) and is intended for adult readers.



WHAT'S THE HAPS?



'Ek Jora Juta'

On February 21, Prachyanat marked its 29th anniversary and has scheduled a series of events throughout the month. As part of the celebrations, the joint production *Ek Jora Juta* (A Pair of Shoes), a collaboration between Toronto Theatre Focus, Canada, and Prachyanat, will be staged today at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

The story follows a lost pair of shoes, whose absence creates a void across the land. Life feels empty, and everyone waits for their return to restore hope. Will finding the shoes promise a revival for the world?

Date: Sunday | February 23

Time: 7pm onwards

Venue: Experimental Theater Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy



To raise awareness about the language of the visually impaired and to honour all forms of communication during Language Month, mobile network provider Grameenphone and OTT platform

Chorki launched a special campaign. The two companies decided to create an audio description of the Chorki original *Kacher Manush Durey Thuiya*, a project under

the *Ministry of Love* series. This version of the film is available for free on the MyGP app from February 21 to 23. Today is the last day for Grameenphone users to catch the audio version.

NEWS

Back resolution on Ukraine

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prompting an attack from Trump who called Zelensky a "dictator without elections."

He also falsely blamed Ukraine for starting the war.

But Trump on Friday appeared to shift away from his criticisms and said that Zelensky and Russia's Vladimir Putin will have to "get together" to bring an end to the conflict.

"President Putin and President Zelensky are going to have to get together... We want to stop killing millions of people," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.

He added Kyiv would "hopefully in the next fairly short period of time" sign a deal handing Washington preferential access to Ukraine's mineral deposits.

The minerals deal has become a major sticking point in the increasingly fraught relations between Washington and Kyiv.

Trump wants Ukraine to give US companies access to its vast natural resources as compensation for the tens of billions of dollars of aid delivered under his predecessor Joe Biden.

"They're very brave, in every way you can imagine. But we are spending our

treasure on some country that's very, very far away," Trump said of Ukraine.

In return, Ukraine is seeking security guarantees from the United States for signing away the precious rights.

Zelensky -- who had rejected the agreement -- said Friday he hoped for a "fair result."

Earlier Friday, Trump described Ukraine as at a disadvantage in the negotiations -- further alarming allies who think he will offer concessions to Putin.

"I've had very good talks with Putin, and I've had not such good talks with Ukraine. They don't have any cards," Trump said at the White House.

He also said during a Fox News interview on the same day that it was not "very important" for Zelensky to be involved in US-Russia talks.

The US president -- who has repeatedly expressed admiration for Putin -- again declined to blame Moscow for the February 2022 invasion, saying that the Russian leader "attacked but they shouldn't have let him attack."

Trump also said that Putin faced no pressure to make a deal.

"He doesn't have to make a deal,

because if he wanted, he'd get the whole country," Trump said.

French President Emmanuel Macron and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer -- who are both due at the White House next week for potentially tricky discussions -- have been accused by Trump of doing nothing to end the war.

Macron said Friday he will tell Trump that "you can't be weak with President Putin."

On the ground, both sides in the war are trying to improve their position on the battlefield amid Trump's push for a ceasefire.

Russia's army on Friday said it had captured two more villages in eastern Ukraine.

With Europe shaken by the new US stance on the conflict, Ukraine got renewed support from German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

"We won't leave Ukraine alone and decide things over their heads," he said Friday at his last major campaign event before weekend elections.

After speaking to Scholz and other regional leaders, Zelensky said in his televised evening address that "Europe must and can do much more to ensure that peace is actually achieved" in Ukraine.

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