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The July spirit burns bright

Thousands from all walks of life poured into the streets yesterday to mark the first anniversary of the July uprising. From Manik Mia Avenue to Shahbagh and the Dhaka University campus, crowds gathered in solidarity, waving flags, chanting slogans, and reaffirming their commitment to justice, democracy, and the people's power that defined the uprising.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN, SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



36 days of JULY THE REBEL WITHIN YOU

'THE REBEL WITHIN YOU'

Star organises month-long exhibition on July uprising



Participants at the inaugural ceremony of "The Rebel Within You" -- a month-long group art exhibition at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The month-long commemorative art exhibition, titled "The Rebel Within You," to mark one year of the July uprising, was inaugurated at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

The exhibition, organised by the newspaper, features artworks of 11 young artists who participated in an art camp held at The Daily Star Centre on July 29.

The exhibition paid tribute to the student-led mass movement, and spotlighted the events of July that continue to resonate through the creative expressions of a new generation of artists.

The event was curated not only to display artistic output, but also the lived experiences of the July uprising. Many of the participants expressed that the act of painting felt both cathartic and liberating. Artists described their work as a way to document the psychological weight of the protests and to resist forgetting.

Participants at the exhibition included Abdulllah Al Junayed, Lata Chakma, Aishae Chakma, Mong Shonic Rakhaaine, Ayan Anon, Tanvir Ibn Kabir, Badhon Akther, Safiqul Islam Sagor, Ovi

Rahman, Arham Habib, and Farhad Husen Sumon.

The artists, from Dhaka and Chattogram, crafted art and visual commentary rooted in personal experiences of the uprising.

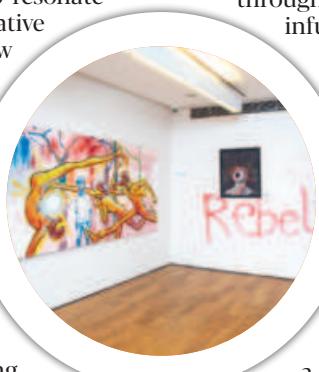
The exhibition also featured textile-based pieces from Mohammed Maaz, the founder of "1972 Art 39," along with the works produced during the art camp.

Maaz, who stitches social justice into fashion, offered a parallel medium for understanding the July events through his embroidery-infused artworks.

The opening ceremony included a slam poetry session and rap performances. The inaugural ceremony of the exhibition, "The Rebel Within You," aimed to offer a multi-layered understanding of the July Uprising by bringing together visual art, written reflection, and music.

The ceremony commenced with a slam poetry segment presenting Raian Abedin and Tahseen Nover Prachi. This was followed by a public reading by the winners of a youth writing

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



'We'll fight on until justice is served'

Vow families of July martyrs, injured at event hosted by Dhaka district admin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Families of those killed and injured during the July uprising have demanded justice and punishment for the perpetrators, declaring that no election should be held until the attackers are brought to trial.

They have also urged the government to formally recognise the martyrs and ensure long-term support for the wounded.

They made the remarks while speaking at a commemorative event organised by the Dhaka district administration at the Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Center in the capital yesterday.

Various government officials were present at the programme, who expressed solidarity with the victims' families, promising to deliver justice and spare no one responsible.

At the event, the mother of martyr Akram Khan Rabbi spoke with tearful pride. "My son was killed on July 19. He went to offer prayers and never returned. I am proud to be the mother of a martyr, but how does a mother live without her child?"

She demanded exemplary punishment for those responsible, including the ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

As she spoke, the audience chanted slogans: "Bichar chai, bichar chai (We demand justice)" and "Khuni Hasinor bichar chai (Trial of killer Hasina demanded)".

Jamil Ahmed Shahzada's mother, whose two sons were injured during the protests on July 18, said, "I consider myself a fighter. But my sons have yet to receive justice. No election should take place without prosecuting those responsible for attacking our children."

She thanked the doctors who treated the wounded and vowed to remain on the streets until justice is served. "Before politics, we want the recovery of our children," she said. "On behalf of all mothers, I say,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Struggle for a better future continues

Says Prof Yunus marking July Uprising Day



BSS, Dhaka

The sacrifices made by the "July heroes" will only be truly meaningful when Bangladesh is transformed into a real welfare state, said Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday.

"Today, the entire nation remembers a day that has left an indelible mark on the history of our country. August 5 is not just a special day; it is a symbol of mass uprising and the dawn of a new beginning," he said in a video message marking the July Mass Uprising Day, organised by district administrations across the country.

Marking the day, he paid tribute to all the heroic freedom fighters of the 1971 Liberation War, saying that Bangladesh

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

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