



2018

Edmonton Bichitra এডমন্টন বিচিত্রা



In this Issue

- Bright Young Faces
- Self Search of Bengali Culture
- The Establishment of the Heritage Society
- Kazi Nazrul Islam
- Nominees for Ekushey Heritage Award 2018
- Bangladeshi Recipes
- And more...



Magazine of the Bengali Community

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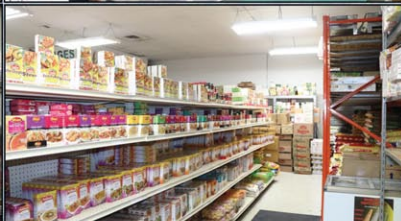
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Table of Contents

"A Message from BCHSE's President" <i>by Mashod Bhuiyan</i>	3
"A Greeting from the Editorial Advisory Board" <i>by Delwar Jahid</i>	5
BCHSE's Event Calendar 2018/2019	7
Message from the Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada	8
Message from Hon. David Eggen, Minister of Education of Alberta	9
Message from Hon. Ricardo Miranda, Minister of Culture & Tourism of Alberta	10
BCHSE's Executive Committee 2018	11
"Bright Young Faces" <i>by Shabbir Ahmed</i>	12
"Self Search of Bengali Culture" <i>by Ishrat Jahan</i>	18
"Traditional craftsmanship and Shital Pati of Bangladesh" <i>by Syfur Hasan</i>	20
"Kazi Nazrul Islam - A Bengali Poet" <i>by Chamili Laskar</i>	23
"Pohela Boishakh 1425 around Bangladesh" <i>by Dhaka Tribune</i>	26
"Celebration of Durga Puja" <i>by Prothom-Alo</i>	30
"Inauguration of Heritage Bangla School" <i>by Prothom-Alo</i>	32
"Celebration of Ekushey" <i>by Prothom-Alo</i>	34
Nominees for Ekushey Heritage Award	36
Introduction of the Bengal Foundation	38
"Cadets for Business" <i>by Aanas Ayham</i>	40
"Meeting with Edmonton Police Service" <i>by Prothom-Alo</i>	42
"Meeting with the Minister of Education" <i>by Prothom-Alo</i>	44
"Bangladeshi Recipes" <i>by Ripa Fowzia Naznin</i>	46
Memory of Prof. Dr. Nurul Islam	52
Pictures	54



Who is BCHSE?

The Bangladesh Canada Heritage Society of Edmonton (BCHSE) is a socio-cultural organization that preserves, promotes and celebrates Bangladesh culture, heritage and history, serving the local community of Bangladeshi-Canadians in the Edmonton area.

BCHSE is dedicated to creating a cohesive and effective voice of our community with the aim to make a positive difference in the lives of our children, youth and adults. We strive to build cultural enrichment, peace, progress, and prosperity, and the preservation of our cultural heritage.

Imprint

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*by Mashod Bhuiyan,
President of BCHSE*

A Message *from BCHSE's* President



Mashod Bhuiyan

It is my great pleasure to present this issue of the "Edmonton Bichitra, the Magazine of the Bengali Community" on

behalf of our organization BCHSE, the Bangladesh Canada Heritage Society of Edmonton.

We just recently updated the name of our organization to better reflect our mission and as part of a larger attempt to define our brand within the community and beyond.

I am now in my 3rd term as president of BCHSE since January 2018. The last three years serving our organization have been challenging, welcoming new executive members in their positions and running a successful Bangladesh Pavilion at the Heritage Festival 2017 in Edmonton.

Our executives are an esteemed group of accomplished people that represent and service our diverse community in



different areas.

I am honoured to be granted the opportunity to serve as president also for the year 2018. As someone with experience working locally in both, community and voluntary sectors, I am keenly aware of the role our newly established Special Project Committee has as a community builder across these sectors. The Special Project Committee will represent the voice of our organization throughout the community and with the government and stakeholders.

With the definition of a great strategic plan for the years 2018 to 2023, we will be focussing in leading BCHSE to grow our community by facilitating and driving new opportunities for its members, partnerships in business and media, and sponsorships. Our attention will also include our continued mandate to become self-sustainable and more visible in the coming years.

In 2018 we aim to set our strategic direction for the future by defining a set of new managerial objectives. With the long-term plan to build a Heritage Center for our community, we will explore how to intensify resources and how we can pioneer new topics with our programming. Other objectives are to

make BCHSE more attractive to its members by increasing the value of its membership, and the diversity of its member demographics.

To achieve building a solid base for our greater plans BCHSE has to use all available strength and support, as these are our true opportunity for a successful future.

Thanks go out to our executive committee, our advisors, and our members for the continued support of our organization.



Shanta's Art

*by Delwar Jahid,
Special Project Chair
of BCHSE*

A Greeting *from the Editorial* Advisory Board



Delwar Jahid

Together with our executives and the general members at the Celebration of Shobo Nobobarsho (the Bengali New

Year 1425), I wish you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous Year!

BCHSE in its 9th year now obtained the more appropriate name: "Bangladesh Canada Heritage Society of Edmonton" - the society that has been accredited as the promoter of Bangladeshi and Canadian heritage and culture.

BCHSE remains the only association in our city, our province or even within Canada that is solely dedicated to our heritage. Our BCHSE membership continues to grow as we work to provide the type of support consistent with our mission and vision.

I am humbled, honored and privileged to supervise the publication of the Edmonton Bichitra 2018. I have been working with the talented and dedicated Execu



tives to enhance the value of being a heritage society member. I am grateful to, and inspired by my community and friends who push me back to my place where truly we could do a collective good.

We look forward to continuing community works like establishing the Bangladesh Centre, the Heritage Bangla School, the Central Shahid Minar, and the Senior Center (old age home for Bangladeshi origin) towards fulfilling the mission of BCHSE.

I am proud to be given this wonderful opportunity of the Special Project Committee Chair and I will continue my support to the leadership of BCHSE and its members with an action plan that includes partnerships involving different stakeholders and associations.

During the next year (the 10th year of our organization) BCHSE will continue to address the unmet issues within our community and introduce an integrated approach towards its work strategies. With the active collaboration of our Executives, we will work to promote training, education, and advocacy on heritage and culture themes, and we will reach out to our members and other organizations.

Finally, I remain most impressed as I learn more about the community and its trends to progress in Edmonton; as I learn more about the society that preserves, promotes, and celebrates our Bangladesh culture, heritage and history, serving the local community of Bangladeshi-Canadians.

I offer my very best compliments and well-wishes to the founding members, our executive team, our volunteers, our general members, our advertisers, who are having a greater power on the survival of the society.

Everybody's contributions will be used appropriately and honored deeply by our organization BCHSE, the Bangladesh Canada Heritage Society of Edmonton.

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BCHSE's *Event Calendar* 2018/2019

2018

- BHESA's New Year Celebration Saturday, April 21
- Pohela Boishakh (Bengali New Year) Saturday, April 28
- BHESA's Mother's Day Celebration Sunday, May 13
- Iftar Party (Food Festival) Sunday, June 10
- Canadian Multiculturalism Day Wednesday, June 27
- BHESA's Children Festival Saturday, July 21
- Edmonton Heritage Festival Saturday, August 04
- Eid-ul-Adha Reunion Saturday, September 08
- International Day of Peace Friday, September 21
- Formation of the Executive Committee
Candidate List Saturday, November 17
- Human Rights Day Monday, December 10
- Annual General Meeting (AGM) Tuesday, December 25

2019

- Ekushey February Thursday, February 21
- International Day for Elimination of
Racial Discrimination Thursday, March 21
- Shadhinota Dibosh
(Independence Day Celebration) Saturday, March 23

BCHSE's event dates are subject to change.



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

April 14, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to the readers of Edmonton Bichitra 2018 and to everyone celebrating the Bengali New Year.



The Bengali New Year is a wonderful opportunity to gather with family and friends to exchange warm wishes and to celebrate the rich customs that are an integral part of your culture. I know that you will enjoy the festivities with all the enthusiasm that this important occasion deserves.

Canada is home to a multitude of cultures that live, work and thrive together. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the many contributions that Bengali Canadians have made, and continue to make, to our country.

Please accept my best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

Office of the Minister

Greetings from the Honourable David Eggen Minister of Education

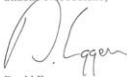
On behalf of Premier Notley and the Government of Alberta, it is my privilege to wish Bengalis in Alberta a Happy Bengali New Year 1425.

On April 14, Bengalis everywhere unite to celebrate Pاهela Baishakh. This bright and joyous festival is celebrated by visiting friends and family, uniting in prayer and handing out traditional Bengali sweets. This day celebrates good fortune, reflecting on the past year and looking ahead to new beginnings.

Alberta has a vibrant and diverse multicultural population, which contributes to our strength as a province; both economically and culturally. We know that our strength is in our diversity, our sense of inclusion and our commitment to stepping up and helping one another.

Many Bengalis have chosen to call Alberta home. Bengali New Year is a time to celebrate linguistic, historical, cultural and contemporary contributions of the Bengali-Albertan community. Together, we will continue to make life better by ensuring that all Albertans are treated with respect and have opportunities to build successful lives for themselves and their families.

Shubho-Noboborsho,



David Eggen
Minister of Education

March 2018



**Message from Honourable Ricardo Miranda
Minister of Culture and Tourism**

As the Minister of Culture and Tourism, it is my great pleasure to offer my warmest greetings this Bengali New Year. I hope everyone enjoys the colours, feasts, and family time as you celebrate this jubilant holiday on the Bengali calendar.

I believe diversity is what makes us stronger, and celebrating cultural events in your community and in publications like the Bangladesh community magazine, *Edmonton Bichitra*, help to promote and strengthen our cultural mosaic. I thank the Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta for representing Alberta's Bengali community, sharing your culture and history, and contributing to the lives of Albertans.

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I wish everyone a happy Bengali New Year 1425!

Shubho Poila Baisakh!


Ricardo Miranda
Minister

Executive Committee

'18



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President



Bikash Talukder
Vice President



Mohammad Ali
General Secretary



Sarwar Mahmud Arif
Joint General Secretary



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Member of Communication Affairs



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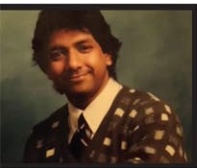
Md. Mozaffer Hossain
Member of Youth Affairs



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by Shabbir Ahmed
Vice President of BCHSE

Bright Young Faces



Shabbir Ahmed

I found a bunch of young people trying their best to achieve something from their collective effort and strong faith. Which is very impressive and bears a lot of responsibility for the community as a whole. Everything needs commitment to develop and go ahead in its natural course, which doesn't come easy. It needs a lot of passion, convictions and most of all, a united effort. I am talking about BCHSE (Bangladesh Canada Heritage Society of Edmonton). Imbued with high potential for growth, intelligence and commitment, these young individuals have been volunteering, steering financing projects, inviting guests and dignitaries, different social interest groups to introducing our culture to the Canadian people and marking a strong feat of success, as the prime ambassadors of our motherland, Bangladesh, striding half way across the globe.

Also, it is very interesting when we see these days the numbers of immigrants are rising in leaps and bounds with time. Most of our community members have been coming as students (on Commonwealth Scholarships, Private Funding and effort, Full / Part financing, Need Based and Need Blind Scholarships etc.) or entrepreneurs, independent immigrant categories, on sponsorship programs or even as refugees. Through these various doors, the immigrants find their suitable ways to 'land' in this beautiful country, called Canada.

Soon after we come here we see the vast landscape all around us, hardly also we see people walking on the side walk or on the streets as pedestrians, which strikes us most. In our back home we have roads and sidewalks, but they are all full with people. Sometimes it is very

difficult to walk straight or devise special ways to move forward. Also, there is another characteristic goes a long way, the vendors are occupying the sidewalks, in some cases a majority share of the sidewalks are seized and some groups are taking toll from these vendors, too. Police is hardly any factor to free the side walks for the pedestrians.

This is just a microcosmic view of only one part of the problem depicting the feeling in the heart and soul of the new immigrants when they arrive to this really a beautiful world of opportunity.

I am enthused with the grandiose effort of our new Canadians to introducing or rather I should say inducting a fusion among two diverse cultures.

We love people, we love food, we love intermingling, we love gossips, we love games like Cricket, Football (soccer), Badminton, swimming, all kinds of sports including Kabadi (local name for touch 'N go), Danda Guli ('Danda' stands for hitter and 'guli' stands for puck) these are something inherent in our culture. We all grew up with these native activities and sports.

As we all know, Bangladesh is a beautiful lush green fertile land based on siltation

due to the delta at the foot hills of the 'Mount Everest' stretching up to the far South to the Bay of Bengal; housed in a mesh of thousands of rivers. Among them, the main stream flowing from the Himalayas are great river called 'Brahma Putra' (Son of Lord Brahma). This is the only river referred as the son, due to greatest of all the mighty rivers like the Ganges (the 'Padma Nadi'; Padma, the lotus; and Nadi is river; flowing in the Bangladesh soil), The Meghna Nadi, Teesta Nadi, Jamuna Nadi, Gumoti Nadi, Bhagirati Nadi. These some of the major rivers touching the lives of most of us. The memories with these rivers are unforgettable. We learned swimming in these rivers and used to swim far away during monsoon. A truly great feeling.

We are used to with fresh water white fish and some of them are very tasty fishes like Hilsa, Rui, Katla, Mrigal, Shing, Magur, Koi, Pabda, Tengra, Pangash, Chital etc. Among the most exotic fish is hilsa. Which we buy in Edmonton from the local store at an exorbitant price like 14.00 CAD a pound for the prime size which is 3.5lb. each. I bought some last month, from the local store for my niece in Calgary for moving to a new house, to make her feel happy and blessed at her new residence.



Hilsa is like family of Salmon in Canada. They are a very deep-water fish. Eggs are hatched in the swift currents of the mount Himalayas spawned among the rocks and speedy flow of water. The small larvae, by the time swim across the delta to the seas in the deep South of Bangladesh become full grown. After a year it will go to the far North to the Mount Himalaya for hatching eggs, while it goes up through the great rivers they are usually caught during the monsoon season, which starts in July and lasts till the end of August. Bangladeshi version of hilsa is one of the highest in demand and exotic in size as well compared to the hilsa of Thailand and neighboring areas. The most important area of the big concentration of hilsa is usually in the districts of Chandpur, Barisal, Bhola, Pirojpur, Shirajgong, Jamalpur etc. Among all, Chandpur, Pirojpur, Shirajgong and Barisal are rated as the best quality hilsa. At Chandpur point, two mighty rivers meet together, they are Meghna (deep green) and Padma (turbid). The width of these two rivers are about seventeen miles (26 kilometers) from coast to coast during the full monsoon season and can be very treacherous to cross due to high tide. But people are used to.

Cooking hilsa is often very tricky due to

too delicate and soft. It can be baked, boiled, fried and very popular way of cooking is with polao ('polao: is a special form of cooking rice in butter, very aromatic and delicious'). In our culture, hilsa has a very strong influence. We are a nation of poets and musicians.

In the deep monsoon season, we love to see the beauty of incessant rain from a distance extended widely across the lush green paddy field intertwined with small and medium rivers, where usually teenage kids may be catching fish using nets or lines. Sometimes or often happens, when the water from the river comes so close to the balcony of the main residence, the kids love catching fishes from the balcony. These huts are made of either corrugated tin sheet or plain clay laid on bamboo-structure for long term durability (it keeps the house very cool in hot summer and warm in cold winter very environmental friendly and natural). I have seen people to catch big fishes in lines from the balcony. A lot of fun.

We also love to recite poetry and songs by Tagore (essayist, poet, playwright, novelist, painter, musician also a social reformer who received Noble Prize for Literature in 1913). Kazi Nazrul Islam (who wrote over 2500 Bengali songs, known as a great poet of "Rebellion"

against the British rule). Apart from the world of poetry and verses Bengali is famous for prose, novels, lucid folk literature of Swarat Chandra Chattopadhyay to very intense piece of work created by “Literary King” Bankim Chatterjee and famous epics by Michael Modhusudhan Datta. Also, the writings of Sunil Gangopadhyay, Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay, Jibanananda Das are simple examples of literary stars in the great constellations of profound Bengali literature which had been flowing like a quiet fountain since the era of Poet Alaol (c 1607-1673): known as one of the greatest poets of Medieval Literature. His writings include RAGTALNAMA, PADMAVATI (1648), SATIMAYANA-LOR-CHANDRANI (1659). Also, poet and great philosopher Lalon Shah (1774-1890) became renowned for his Sufism (Baulism) was a Bengali Baul Saint, mystic, song writer, social reformer and thinker. There have been Bangladesh Government funded many scholarships, awarded to the students of Lalon Institution in Kustia District. In the recent days Lalon Giti (Songs) have been winning the hearts of millions of young Bangladeshis in the country and abroad. It may be termed as the rebirth of Lalon Shah’s literary genius.

The Modern Bengali literature gained light and dynamism in the 19th Century.

Among them were the works of Raja Rammohun Roy, Dinabondhu Mitra, Ishwar Chandra Bidhayasagar, Michael Modhusudhan Datta, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Ishwar Chandra Gupta, Mir Mosharraf Hossain, Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Najrul Islam, Nurul Momen, Sarat Chandra Chatterjee, Bhabhutibhusan Bondopadhyay, Tarashankar Bondopadhyay, Ashapoorna Devi, Subhash Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Niharanjan Das Gupta, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Poet Shamsur Rahman etc.

In Music and Dance, today’s Bollywood have drawn attention of world stage in pomp and great gala performance, an industry producing three movies a day on average, all around the year over the last 15- 20 years in a row. The foundation of Indian Music has emanated from few gurus like S.D. Burman father of R.D. Buman (famous Bollywood Music composer), Ravi Sankar (Father of World Music). Ostad (Guru) Alauddin Khan, a versatile musician along with Uday Sankar, a famous dancer toured around the world and charmed Western audience and introduced Indian Music to the world stage. Ostad Alauddin Khan was awarded “Padma Bhushan” by President Rajendra Prasad. Under the strong discipline of the master his children and pupils became the famous musicians



today. His talented daughter, Anna Purna; son Ali Akhbar Khan, Son-in- Law Ravi Shankar, his nephew Bahadur Khan, grandson Dhanesh, student Indranil, Swaran Rani and so many others around him. He built up the greatest musical family of modern India. Its parallel is hard to find anywhere anytime around (Ref: A documentary on Ostad Alauddin Khan by Ritwik Ghatak).

At last, coming back to my topic of today "Bright Young Faces", these young crowd made me inspired to talk about our rich heritage and in the true sense our culture of everlasting treasure.

Contact Shabbir Ahmed

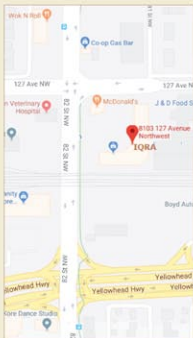
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বৎসরের আবর্জনা দূর হয়ে যাক যাক যাক
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পুরনো বছরকে বিদায় জানিয়ে নতুন বছরকে বরণ
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হয়।

পহেলা বৈশাখ, পহেলা মানে প্রথম বাংলাপঞ্জিকার ১ম
মাস অর্থাৎ বৈশাখের ১ তারিখ বৈশাখ, “নববর্ষ”।
বাংলাসনের এ দিনটিকেই বলা হয় “নববর্ষ”।
দিনটিকে বাংলাদেশের মানুষ খুব

উৎসবের সঙ্গেই পালন করে আসছে যুগযুগ ধরে। শুভ
“নববর্ষ” উদযাপনে সকল শ্রেণি-পেশা ও ধর্মের মানুষ
(জাতি-ধর্ম-বর্ণ নির্বিশেষে) অংশ গ্রহণ করে থাকে।
বাঙালি মেয়েরা ঐতিহ্যবাহী শাড়ী এবং পুরুষেরা
পাজামা-পাঞ্জাবি সহ রংবেরং এর পোষাক পরিধানে
খুবই বিনোদন বোধ করে।

প্রত্যেক ঘরে ঘরে বিশেষ ধরণের খাবার তৈরি হয়।
যেমন: প্ধা-ইলিশ, নানা রকমের পিঠাপুলি, সন্দেশ,
বাতাসা, ক্ষীর সহ হরেক রকমের খাবার। বাঙালি
জাতি তাদের সামর্থ্য অনুযায়ী সব স্তরে নতুন বছরের
প্রথমে ভালো খাবার খায় এবং মানুষদের প্রতি
ভেদাভেদ দূর করে মানবতাবোধকে জাগ্রত করে এ
বিশেষ দিনটি। নববর্ষের এ দিনটিতেই দরিদ্র,

অসহায়, ও নিপীড়িত, মানুষদের পাশে দাঁড়ানোর প্রেরণার দেয় নববর্ষ!-যা একটি জাতীয় ঐতিহ্যের গেরবোজ্জল পটভূমি।



বাঙালিদের উৎসবের যত গুলো দিন আছে, অনুভূতি রয়েছে তার মধ্যে সবচেয়ে সুন্দর ও সর্বজনীন দিন হলো ১লা বৈশাখ। মাতৃভূমি ও এর সংস্কৃতির প্রতি গভীর ভালোবাসায় এখন দেশে বিদেশে পালিত হয় বাংলা “নববর্ষ”। বাঙ্গালী সংস্কৃতি এখন বিশ্বে একটি আলোচিত ও সমাদৃত সংস্কৃতি।

বাঙ্গালী সংস্কৃতির জন্য যারা সামান্যতম ভালোবাসা অনুভব করেন তারা অবশ্যই স্বীকার করবেন কৃষি, স্বাস্থ্য ও নদী কেন্দ্রীক এ সংস্কৃতিই আমাদের সংস্কৃতির ভিত্তিমূল।

সুদূর অতীত কাল থেকে পহেলা বৈশাখ বাংলা সনের প্রথম দিন ধার্য হয়ে আসছে নববর্ষ হিসেবে। লোকউৎসবের প্রধান দিন হিসেবে প্রতিষ্ঠিত এ দিবসটি। প্রতিবছর ১৪ই এপ্রিল (পহেলা বৈশাখ) দিনটিকে নিয়ে উৎসবে মশগুল থাকে বাঙ্গালী সমাজ। বাঙালি জাতিগোষ্ঠীর এ সংস্কৃতির শুভ সূচনার দিন অর্থাৎ নববর্ষ এখন বিশ্বজনীন উৎসবে পরিণত

হয়েছে। বিনোদন বিবেচনায় বিশ্বজগতে বাঙালি জাতির সর্বজনীন সংস্কৃতির পরিচিতির অন্যতম কারণ পোষাক-আষাক।

নির্দিষ্ট করে এ দিন সরকারি ছুটির দিন। বাঙালি জাতির সর্বজনীন সংস্কৃতি লোকউৎসবের পাশাপাশি পারিবারিক পরিমন্ডলে ও এদিবসটির গুরুত্ব অসীম। প্রবাসে ও এর ছাপ লক্ষণীয়।

বাঙালি পরিবারগুলো দেশের আদলে নববর্ষে নানাহ অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করে। আয়োজন করে রকমারি খাবার-দাবারের।

শুধু আনন্দ উৎসবে বাংলা নববর্ষ উদযাপন থেমে নেই। প্রবাসীরা বাঙালি সংস্কৃতি নির্ভর আমাদের মুক্তিযুদ্ধের চেতনাকে তুলে ধরার যেকোন সুযোগকে হাতছাড়া করতে রাজি নন। এবারের বৈশাখী উৎসব ও ব্যতিক্রম নয়। বাংলাদেশ সরকার এই উৎসবকে স্বীকৃতি দিয়েছে চাকরিতে বোনাস প্রবর্তন করেছে। সংস্কৃতি উৎসব বোনাস গত বছর হতেই শুরু হয়েছে। ইতিমধ্যে দাবি উঠেছে বাংলা নববর্ষ উদযাপনের এ দিনটিকে জাতীয় হেরিটেজ দিবস হিসেবে ঘোষণা করার জন্য। এর যুক্তিকতা এখন প্রতিষ্ঠিত। বাংলাদেশের জাতীয় পরিচয়, এর সংস্কৃতি, যা এখন ক্রমবিকাশমান। প্রবাসে বাঙালি সংস্কৃতিকে ভিন ধারায় তুলে ধরতে আত্মানুসন্ধান বাঙ্গালী সমাজ। বাঙালি সংস্কৃতিই আমাদের শেকর, আমাদের আত্মোপলব্ধি.



EDITION 2018

by Syfur Hasan



Syfur Hasan

Traditional *craftsmanship* *and Shital Pati of* Bangladesh

The UNESCO has been maintaining a list of World Heritage Sites, keeps a list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The traditions or living expressions which are passed down through generations in the form of performing arts, oral traditions, rituals, social practices, festive events, or knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe.

These are some aspects of Bangladesh culture and heritage which are considered by the UNESCO to be a part of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity:

"UNESCO established its Lists of Intangible Cultural Heritage with the aim of ensuring better protection of important intangible cultural heritages worldwide and the awareness of their significance. This list is published by the Intergovern-

mental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage and its members are elected by State parties meeting in UN General Assembly. Through a compendium of the different oral and intangible treasures of humankind worldwide, the program aims to draw attention to the importance of safeguarding intangible heritage, which UNESCO has identified as an essential component and as a repository of cultural diversity and of creative expression". (Wikipedia)



This Sitalpati from Bangladesh is recognized by UNESCO. Sitalpati is a kind of mat which was used in rural Bangladesh and some parts of India that feels cold by nature. It is made from murta plants. This kind of Mats with decorative designs called Nakshi or Shital pati. Sitalpati is made from cane or from murta plants. The murta plant grows around water bodies in Comilla, Barisal, Sylhet, Sunamganj, Noakhali, Feni, Tangail, and also in Chittagong.

UNC Dhaka reports on: Cultural Heritage: Shital Pati on Unesco list

"Traditional art of Shital Pati weaving of Sylhet has been included in the Unesco's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity.

The recognition came on Wednesday at the twelfth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the ICH from December 4-9 at Jeju in South Korea.

This is the fourth ICH from Bangladesh recognised by the Unesco. Except it, Mangal Shobhajatra on Pahela Baishakh was recognised as the ICH last year, while Baul songs and traditional art of

Jamdani weaving got the recognition in 2008 and 2013, according to the Unesco.

This year, 35 nominations have been submitted for getting inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and the Shital Pati is one of them.

Shital Pati is the traditional art of making a handcrafted mat by weaving together strips of a green cane known as "Murta".

The mat is used by people all over Bangladesh as a sitting mat, bedspread or prayer mat.

The main bearers and practitioners are weavers living mostly in the low-lying villages in the greater Sylhet region, but there are also pockets of Shital Pati weavers in other areas of the country.

Both men and women participate in collecting and processing Murta, with women being more involved in the weaving process. The craft is a major source of livelihood and a strong marker of identity; primarily a family-based craft, it helps to reinforce family bonding and create a harmonious social atmosphere. Mastery of the technique commands social prestige, and the practice empow



ers underprivileged communities, including women, according to the Unesco.

The government promotes awareness of the element through local and national craft fairs, and Shital Pati communities are increasingly being organized into cooperatives to ensure the efficient safeguarding and transmission of the craft and guarantee its profitability.

Safeguarding efforts involve the direct participation of the communities concerned and the practice is primarily transmitted from generation to generation within the families of crafts people..."

It is to be noted that Bangladesh has agreed on: Periodic reporting on the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The Convention provides in Article 29 that States Parties shall submit to the Committee reports on the legislative, regulatory and other measures taken for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in their territories. Current page presents the periodic reports and deadlines of a country: Bangladesh (see overview on all States Parties).

Periodic reporting on the implementation of the Convention allows States Parties to assess their implementation of the Convention, evaluate their capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, report on their inventories of intangible cultural heritage and update the status of elements inscribed on the Representative List.

On the implementation of the Convention

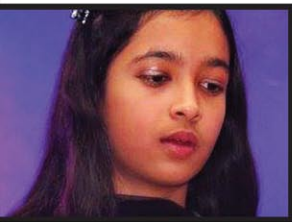
Each State Party submits its periodic report to the Committee by 15 December of the sixth year following the year in which it deposited...(source: UNESCO).

Bangladesh heritage and culture is very important and we need to promote awareness of the element through local, national and efforts in abroad to uphold the image of our country.



by Chamili Laskar

Kazi Nazrul Islam A Bengali Poet

*Chamili Laskar*

Kazi Nazrul Islam was a Bengali poet, writer, musician, and revolutionary. He was the national poet of Bangladesh, popularly known as Nazrul. He started working quite early in his life to financially support his family which also affected his education. He did numerous jobs in his childhood and later joined the armed forces. He started working quite early in his life to financially support his family which also affected his education.

He did numerous jobs in his childhood and later joined the armed forces. While serving in the army, he started his literary career, which mostly revolved around poetry. Initially, he received appreciation and praise for his poetic collections but later the British Empire sensed a bit of hostility and rebellion in his poems and imprisoned him for over a year. During his years in prison, his rebellious and fierce attitude grew deeper and he wrote many such works. After coming out of prison, he encouraged people to fight for independence and also wrote about the weaker classes of the society. Later his focus shifted towards religion due to some personal life incidents. He faced a constant struggle in his personal life due to poverty, his wife's illness, his mental health and the death of his loved ones. Despite all difficulties, he emerged out as a revo



lutionary who managed to leave his imprint in the spheres of music, poetry, and writing. Let's learn about his childhood and early life more in depth.

He was born on May 24th, 1899 in Churulia village in the Burdwan District of West Bengal. His father's name was Kazi Fakir Ahmed and his mother's name was Zahida Khatun. His father was the caretaker of the local mosque and mausoleum. After his father's sudden death, he faced many hardships. When he turned ten, he started working as a caretaker in his father's place to support his family and also helped assist the teachers at school. In 1910, he attended the Searsole Raj High School in Raniganj and then the Mathrun High English School. But soon he abandoned his studies due to the financial crisis and started working as a cook. Later, he took up a job at a bakery and tea shop in Asansol. In 1994, he resumed his studies and took Bengali, Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian literature, and Hindustani classical music. In 1917, he joined the Indian Army as a soldier and served there for three years, rising to the rank of Battalion Quartermaster (Havildar). In 1919, he published his first piece while serving in the army, 'The Autobiography of a Delinquent' or 'Saogat'.

In 1920, he left the army and joined the 'Bangiya Mussalman Sahitya Samiti' where he wrote his first poem 'Bandhan hara' or 'Freedom from bondage'. In 1922, he wrote his poem titled 'Bidrohi' which was published in 'Bijli' (Thunder) magazine. The poem described a rebel passionate about his cause and received praises from people belonging to different classes of the society. Later in 1922, his political poem 'Anandomoyee Agomone' appeared in the magazine 'Dhumketu' which he had started publishing. This led to his arrest during a police raid at the magazine's office. While imprisoned, he composed a large number of poems and songs until his release in December 1923. Eventually, he became a critic of the "Khilafat" struggle and the Indian National Congress for not bargaining political independence from the British Empire. He also motivated people to fight against the British and organized the 'Sramik Praja Swaraj Dal'. From 1926 onwards he started writing poetry and songs for the weaker sections of the society. Later in life, his works shifted from rebellion to religion. He studied and explored 'namaz' (prayer), 'roza' (fasting) and 'hajj' (pilgrimage). He devoted works to 'Qu'ran' and the life of Islam's prophet 'Muhammad'. In 1933, he published a collection of essays entitled 'Modern World Literature' which



Kazi Nazrul Islam

had different themes and styles of literature. He also published 800 songs based on classical ragas, kirtans, and patriotic songs in 10 volumes. In 1934, he got involved in the Indian theater and motion pictures, and debuted in a movie based on Girish Chandra's story called 'Bhakta Dhruva'. In 1939, he started working for the Calcutta radio and produced music such as 'Haramoni' and 'Navaraga-Malika'. In 1940, he started working as a chief editor for 'Navayug', founded by A. K. Fazlul Hoque.

Kazi Nazrul Islam's most notable pieces of work were his rebellious poems such as 'Bodhan', 'Shat-il-Arab', 'Kheya-parer Tarani' and 'Badal Prater Sharab' which did receive a lot of critical appreciation. In 1926, he wrote one of his most famous poems titled 'Daridro' ('Pain or

Poverty') which received a lot of appreciation. In 1928, he became a lyricist, composer and music director for 'His Master's Voice Gramophone Company'. One of his biggest works in the industry was writing songs and directing music for a play named 'Siraj-ud-Daula'. In 1945, he received the Jagattarini Gold Medal from the University of Calcutta for his work in Bengali Literature. In 1960, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan, one of the highest civilian honors of the Republic of India. Later on he was conferred the title of 'national poet' and awarded the 'Ekushey Padak' by the Government of Bangladesh.

In 1921, he got engaged to Nargis, the niece of a well-known Muslim publisher, Ali Akbar Khan, in Daulatpur. On the day of wedding, he walked away from the ceremony upon hearing an unreasonable condition of Ali Akbar Khan. In 1921, he met a young Hindu woman, Pramila Devi on his visit to Comilla. They fell in love and later got married in 1924. His first son, Krishna Mohammad, died prematurely while his second son, Bulbul, died of smallpox. He had two more sons, Savyasachi and Aniruddha. In 1939, his wife fell ill and was paralyzed from waist down. In 1941, he was shaken by the death of Rabindranath Tagore. Within months, he himself fell



seriously ill and gradually began losing his power of speech. Eventually, his mental dysfunction intensified and he was admitted to a mental asylum in 1942. In 1952, he was transferred to a mental hospital in Ranchi and then to Vienna for treatment where he was

diagnosed with Pick's disease. He returned to India in 1953 and in 1962 his wife died while he remained in intensive medical care. On August 29, 1976, he died in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was buried beside a mosque on the campus of the University of Dhaka.

Pohela

Boishakh 1425 around

Bangladesh

*Courtesy of Dhaka Tribune,
published April 14, 2018*

Pohela Boishakh, the first day of the Bangla calendar, is being celebrated across the country amid much festivity. True to a centuries-old tradition, Bangladeshis from all walks of life have been thronging different popular and historic spots since dawn to welcome Bangla New Year 1425 with new hopes and aspirations for a better, more peaceful year. The celebrations of Pohela Boishakh have become an integral part of Bangali lives. Mughal Emperor Akbar introduced the Bangla calendar in 1556 of the Gregorian calendar in a bid to



*A Pohela Boishakh procession in Bagerhat
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*

streamline the timing of land tax collection in the then "Subah Bangla" region, much of which falls under Bangladesh.

**Courtesy of Dhaka Tribune,
published April 14, 2018**



*A Pohela Boishakh procession in Barishal
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*



*A Pohela Boishakh procession in Gopalganj
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*



*A vibrant Pohela Boishakh procession in Bhola
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*



*Performers on the occasion of Pohela Boishakh in Habiganj
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*



*A Pohela Boishakh procession in Brahmanbaria
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*



*A Pohela Boishakh procession in Jashore
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune*



A Pohela Boishakh procession in Jhalakati
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune



A Pohela Boishakh procession in Panchagarh
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune



A procession of jubilant Khulna University students
April 14, 2018, in Khulna | Dhaka Tribune



A Pohela Boishakh procession in Satkhira
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune



A Pohela Boishakh procession in Narsingdi
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune



Colourful floats for Pohela Boishakh in Tangail
on April 14, 2018 | Dhaka Tribune

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সততা

বিশ্বস্ততা

নির্ভরতা



Celebration of Durga Puja

আলবার্টা বঙ্গ সোসাইটির উদ্যোগে সরস্বতী পূজা
অনুষ্ঠিত

এডমন্টন থেকে -সনাতন হিন্দু সম্প্রদায়ের জ্ঞান, বিজ্ঞান-বিদ্যা ও সংস্কৃতি এবং শুভ্রতার প্রতীক এ সরস্বতী দেবী। সেম্য অবয়ব, শুভ্র বসন ও হংস প্রতীক সম্বলিত পুস্তক এবং বীণাধারিনী দেবী সনাতনী হিন্দুদের হৃদয় মন জয় করেছে। সনাতন ধর্মে অনন্তকাল ধরে শিক্ষাকে উঁচুস্তরে রাখা হয়েছে। ব্রহ্ম ও ঋষি এ অভিশক্তির অংশকে একেকজন দেব-দেবীর *f*পে কল্পনা করেছে। ব্রহ্মের যে শক্তি বিদ্যা শিক্ষা দান করেন তাঁকে সরস্বতী দেবী জ্ঞানে পূজার্চনা করা হয়। গত ২১ জানুয়ারি, ২০১৮, রোজ রবিবার পাকিস্তান সেন্টারে আর্টিফিশিয়াল একটি পূজা মন্ডপ তৈরী করে আলবার্টা বঙ্গ সোসাইটির উদ্যোগে সরস্বতী পূজা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। সারাদিন ব্যাপী এ পূজা অর্চনায় নারী পুরুষ ও শিশু কিশোরেরা অংশ নেয়, সন্ধ্যায় অনুষ্ঠিত হয় একটি মনোজ্ঞ সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান।

সঙ্গীত পরিবেশন করেন কাজী আওরঙ্গজেব, সবিতা চেধুরী, নাতাশা রহমান, দেবজানী, পিংকী ও শিশু শিল্পী প্রবা, শ্রুতি, সামুভা, রিকি এবং নৃত্যে শানিন ও

দৃষ্টি প্রমুখ।

এডমন্টনের হিন্দু সম্প্রদায়ের লোকজন সকালে পুরোহিতের পূজার্চনা শেষে দেবী সরস্বতীর পদচরনে অঞ্জলি ও পুষ্পার্ঘ্য অর্পণ করে। সরস্বতী পূজা উপলক্ষে শিশু-কিশোরদের অংশগ্রহণে আয়োজন স্থল মেতে উঠে। পূজার্চনা শেষে ভক্তবৃন্দের মাঝে মহাপ্রসাদ বিতরণ করা হয়। আলবার্টা বঙ্গ সোসাইটির সভাপতি বিকাশ তালুকদার ও সন্জীব কুমার চেধুরী, কিশোর চেধুরী সরস্বতী পূজা উপলক্ষে আগত হিন্দু সম্প্রদায়ের লোকজন ও অতিথিদের শুভেচ্ছা জানান।

অতিথিদের মধ্যে উপস্থিত ছিলেন বাংলাদেশ প্রেসক্লাব সেন্টার অব আলবার্টা এর সভাপতি, বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদ, কানাডা ইউনিট কমান্ডের নির্বাহী সদস্য দেলোয়ার জাহিদ, বাংলাদেশ কানাডা এসোসিয়েশন অব এডমন্টনের সভাপতি ম. লস্কর, সাবেক সভাপতি ড. মানস সেম সহ কমিউনিটির নেতৃবৃন্দ।



Durga Puja Celebration



Shanta's Art



EDITION 2018

*Courtesy of
Prothom-Alo*

Inauguration of Heritage Bangla School

এডমন্টনে বাংলাদেশ হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের
অমর একুশ পালন

একুশ উপলক্ষে এডমন্টনে বাংলা স্কুলের কার্যক্রম শুরু
২৬ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৮, ১৭:৪৩
(আপডেট: ২৬ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৮, ২১:৫০)

বক্তব্য দিচ্ছেন দেলোয়ার জাহিদ। তাঁর পাশে অভিব-
াবক ও স্কুলের শিক্ষার্থীরা

আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবস বিশ্বময় ছড়িয়ে দেওয়ার
প্রত্যয় নিয়ে কানাডার এডমন্টন সিটিতে হেরিটেজ
বাংলা স্কুল নামে একটি স্কুলের কার্যক্রম শুরু হয়েছে।
গতকাল ২৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি এই স্কুলের শুভ উদ্বোধন
ঘোষণা করা হয়।

উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে সভাপতিত্ব করেন বাংলাদেশ
হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের সভাপতি মাসুদ ভূঁইয়া।

বক্তব্য দেন বাংলাদেশ প্রেসক্লাব সেন্টার অব
আলবার্টার সভাপতি, বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদের
কানাডা ইউনিট কমান্ডের নির্বাহী সদস্য ও বাংলাদেশ
হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের স্পেশাল প্রজেক্ট কমিটি

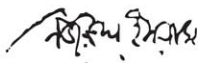
চেয়ারপারসন দেলোয়ার জাহিদ। তিনি বলেন, প্রবাসে
নতুন প্রজন্মকে মাতৃভাষা শিক্ষা ও স্বদেশি সংস্কৃতির
চর্চায় এখনই মনোযোগী না হলে একুশের চেতনা
একসময় শুধু আনুষ্ঠানিকতায় পর্যবসিত ও অর্থহীন
হয়ে পড়বে।

হেরিটেজ বাংলা স্কুলের ভর্তি ও ক্লাস শুরু করতে
যাচ্ছে এর পরিচালনা পর্ষদ। বাংলা ভাষার ক্লাস ও
বাংলা মিউজিক ক্লাসসহ গণিত (কে-নাইন) শিক্ষা
দেওয়ার উদ্যোগ নিয়েছে বাংলাদেশ হেরিটেজ
অ্যাসোসিয়েশন। অনুষ্ঠান পরিচালনা করেন স্কুলের
সমগ্রয়ক ফয়সল ভূঁইয়া।



Inauguration of the Heritage Bangla School

I shall uproot this miserable earth
 effortlessly and with ease.
 Weary of struggles, I,
 the great rebel, Shall rest in quiet
 only when I find
 The sky and the air free
 of the piteous groans of the oppressed.


 কবীর ইসলাম



Rebel Poet
Kazi Nazrul Islam
 (25 May 1899 – 29 August 1976)



EDITION 2018

Courtesy of
Prothom-Alo

Celebration of Ekushey

বাংলাদেশ হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের অমর একুশ
পালন

কানাডার আলবার্টার বাংলাদেশ হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের উদ্যোগে এডমন্টন সিটিতে আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবস তথা অমর একুশে যথাযোগ্য মর্যাদায় পালিত হয়েছে। একুশের চেতনাকে তুলে ধরতে সংগঠনটি গত কয়েক বছর ধরে অমর একুশ পালন করে আসছে। একুশে পালনের লক্ষ্যে সকল মাতৃভাষা সংরক্ষণের বার্তা নিয়ে এডমন্টনে পালিত হয় এ দিনটি।

২১ ফেব্রুয়ারি বুধবার অত্যন্ত ভাবগম্ভীর পরিবেশে বিভিন্ন সংগঠনের পক্ষ থেকে অস্থায়ী শহীদ মিনারে পুষ্পার্ঘ্য অর্পণ করা হয়। বাংলাদেশ প্রেসক্লাব সেন্টার অব আলবার্টার সভাপতি, বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদের কানাডা ইউনিট কমান্ডের নির্বাহী সদস্য ও বাংলাদেশ হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের স্পেশাল প্রজেক্ট কমিটি চেয়ারপারসন দেলোয়ার জাহিদ, হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের সভাপতি মাসুদ ভূঁইয়া নির্বাহী পরিষদ সদস্যদের নিয়ে, এশিয়ান নিউজ অ্যান্ড ভিউজের প্রকাশক সাইফুর হাসান বাংলাদেশ হেরিটেজ মিউজিয়াম ও মাহিনুর জাহিদ মেমোরিয়াল

ফাউন্ডেশনের পক্ষ থেকে শহীদ মিনারে পুষ্পস্তবক অর্পণ করেন।

একুশের অনুষ্ঠান বক্তব্য দিচ্ছেন দেলোয়ার জাহিদ। তাঁর পাশে অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের কর্মকর্তারা। এ উপলক্ষে অনুষ্ঠিত হয় আলোচনা সভা। বক্তব্য দেন দেলোয়ার জাহিদ। তিনি একুশ ও স্বাধীনতার চেতনাকে প্রবাসে সমুন্নত রেখে ও প্রবাসী বাংলাদেশি ও সাধারণ মধ্যবিত্ত মানুষদের সংঘবদ্ধ করে একটি শক্তিশালী সংগঠন গড়ে তোলার প্রত্যয় ঘোষণা করেন। সভায় সভাপতিত্ব করেন মাসুদ ভূঁইয়া।

আরও বক্তব্য দেন অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের সাধারণ সম্পাদক মুহাম্মদ আলী, এক্স-অফিসিও ফয়সল ভূঁইয়া, সভাপতি সাবির আহমেদ। এ ছাড়া শেখছা কার্যক্রমে অংশ নেন মুহাম্মদ আলী, মহিউদ্দিন, আমির হোসেন, সুলতানা মঞ্জুমদার, ইকবাল হাসান, মুজাফফর হোসেন, রুকমুদ্দিন জাপান, হায়দারজান চৈধ্যুরী, সাইফুর হাসান ও চাদনী লস্কর প্রমুখ। প্রতি বছরের মতো এবারও একুশে হেরিটেজ অ্যাসোসিয়েশন ও এমজেএমএফ একুশে অ্যাসোসিয়েশন বাংলা নববর্ষের আগে ঘোষণা করা হবে। একুশে পালনের



Celebration of Ekushey

পর্বটি ফেসবুক লাইভে সরাসরি সম্প্রচার করা হয়েছে। যা সম্পাদনা সাপেক্ষে প্রকাশযোগ্য।
রায়হানা রাসমীন, এডমন্টন, আলবার্টা, কানাডা।



Kashful

Bangladesh is a small and very beautiful country. From east to west and north to south, it is full of beauty. The whole country is surrounded by numerous river such as, podma, meghna, jaamuna, dhorla, tista and so on. It is surrounded by green trees. Those trees cover up the country like a blanket. Moreover, this country has different kinds of flowers and delicious fruits and those fruits are integral part of our life. Agriculture is the main income source in Bangladesh.

Kashful is one of the common flower and grass of Bangladesh. It is known as Kans grass in English, Kaans in Hindi and Kashful in Bengali. It is a perennial grass that grows up to 3 meters. It grows in Bangladesh, Nepal, Himalaya range, and Bhutan during early autumn along the riverbank. It is usually white in color, but sometimes may be gray in color. These white colored grasses enhance the natural beauty. We feel something different when we go to kashful's field. We feel as we are in heaven.

by Nahid Sharmin

Nominees

for the Ekushey Heritage

Award



Nominees of the BHESA's Ekushey Heritage Award 2018

[ltr] Mr. Bikash Talukder, Mr. Mozibur Rahman, Mr. Arif Khan, Ms. Shirin Sultana, Ms. Natasha Rahman, Ms. Chamili Laskar

BCHSE nominated six dedicated volunteers for the Ekushey Heritage Award 2018 in recognition of their contributions to their fields or significant organizational endeavors.

This years' nominated recipients are

- Mr. Bikash Talukder
(Musician and Founding Member of BHESA)
- Mr. Mozibur Rahman (Entrepreneur)
- Mr. Arif Khan
(Advocate at the Bangladesh High Court)

- Ms. Shirin Sultana
(Volunteer and Community Worker)
- Ms. Natasha Rahman (Singer)
- Ms. Chamili Laskar, Pinky (Singer)

Mr. Bikash Talukder

Awarded for Cultural Activities and Community Service. Mr. Bikash Talukder is a musician and one of the founding members of the Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta (BHESA).

His contributions to our local heritage and culture date back to the beginning of our organization. Back home in Sylhet,

Bangladesh he is known as a singer and music teacher. Today he is the president of the Alberta Bonga Society and a member of the Bangladesh Canada Association of Edmonton (BCAE).

Mr. Mozibur Rahman

Awarded for Patronage and Community Service. Mr. Mozibur Rahman is a successful entrepreneur and has provided significant contribution to the community since 2009, the founding of the Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta (BHESA). As a patron he has created many local job opportunities for the people of our community.

Mr. Arif Khan

Awarded for Community Service. Mr. Arif Khan is filling the position as an advocate at the Bangladesh High Court, and has contributed significantly to the positive image of our Bangladeshi community. He is also the former treasurer of the Bangladesh Canada Association of Edmonton (BCAE) and election commissioner for the Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta (BHESA).

Ms. Shirin Sultana

Awarded for Voluntary Activities. Ms. Shirin Sultana is a volunteer and community worker who studied engineering at the Chittagong Engineering University

back in Bangladesh. She is a great organizer and contributed significantly at the Bangladesh Pavilion during the Edmonton Heritage Festival.

Ms. Natasha Rahman

Awarded for Cultural Activities. Ms. Natasha Rahman is a studying undergraduate at the University of Alberta. She is a successful performer, and before her studies she was a member of the local Bangladeshi music group which regularly performs in the greater Alberta region. She is well known for her performances at events of the Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta (BHESA) since the establishment of this organization.

Ms. Chamili Laskar (Pinky)

Awarded for Cultural Activities. Ms. Chamili Laskar is a high school student who performed at events of the Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta (BHESA) since its establishment in 2009. She brought significant contributions to BHESA's events by leading group performances and arranging the backing vocals for the music. She also participates in theatrical performances. Chamili has been recognized by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for her performance in an awareness-building concert in support of the Syrian Refugee Crisis.



EDITION 2018

Introduction *of the Bengal* Foundation

Bengal Foundation is projecting culturally rich Bangladesh to a global audience. Bengal Foundation was set up on the belief that exposure to the arts and culture lend a certain enlightenment and erudition to people, which not only make their quality of life better but also contribute to the betterment of society as well as the country. Engagement with the arts enriches people in a way which not only makes one more learned but also more humane.

Bengal Foundation aims to sculpt a sense of aesthetics within the people, as well as the appreciation of it; establish points of reference for the growth and proliferation of art and facilitate the creation of environments responsive to the arts. It also works to conserve tradition; allow diversity, evolution and growth from within; disseminate processes, techniques, information and

knowledge about the arts in order to empower, and instill confidence. Therefore the core undertaking of the Foundation is to create awareness in, and encourage the practice of, the arts in all its adaptations and uphold a positive image of Bangladesh by disseminating information about its cultural wealth.

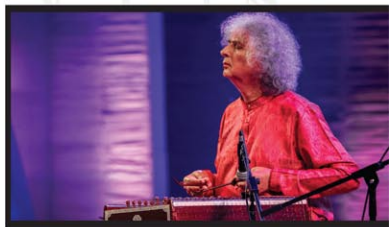


Ganesh-Kumaresh-Rajgopalan

“There can be no better means of ensuring a bonding of people, of bringing them together, than through cultural exchange. The aesthetic sensibility and creative urge that come together in the arts are surely the ingredients that foster ties between nations and societies, and greatly assist in the promotion of all those attributes that strengthen humanity. Against the backdrop of such principles, it has been Bengal Foundation's endeavour to spread the message of Bangladesh's cultural heritage to the world. We remain engaged in the task of promoting and expanding the influence

and reach of our music, art, drama, crafts and literature, in different ways.”

Abul Khair,
Chairman Bengal Foundation



Pandit Shivkumar Sharma



Pandit Ullas Kashalkar



EDITION 2018

by Aanas Ayham,
Master Corporal

Cadets *for* Business



Aanas Ayham

When you look at me you see a normal person. What most people don't know see is that I'm a cadet, and when I tell them that their always in disbelief. I don't blame them, I'm a very short, skinny boy but, what most people don't know is that you don't have to be 6ft tall person who goes to the gym every day. That's the beauty of cadets, anybody can join me, you, as long as you are 12 - 18 years in age, and the best part of cadets is that it's free.

Now that you're interested in cadets, let me tell you about it. There is so many divisions in Cadets like Air, Army, Sea, Navy, Fire, Police, and the one I'm in is Army. Army Cadets teaches you many important life skills like discipline, perseverance, and teamwork. One of the most important things about Army Cadets is our uniform. Having a uniform to care for can be hard, but it does teach me life skills like perseverance. For example: polishing your boots can be tricky and will sometimes take hours upon hours. Sewing on badges can also be pain in the neck and again will sometimes take hours upon hours. Another important thing about Army Cadets is Field Training Exercises. When you are in a Field Training Exercise you get to do cool things like learn how to read various different maps, learn how to use a radio, and cool survival techniques. My favorite part of

Field Training Exercises is all the teamwork like when.... We have to set a tent up at 11pm or find checkpoints using a compass and a map all these activities teaches you about teamwork. The last and final life lesson Army Cadets teaches you is discipline. Army Cadets teaches you discipline by making you do drill which is basically listening to commands

and being able to carry it out in an orderly fashion.

Well there you have it everything you need to about Army Cadets condensed into one paragraph.

If you are interested email the writer at KevinBusiness807@gmail.com.



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Meeting with Edmonton Police Service

দক্ষিণএশিয়া সম্প্রদায়ের সাথেএডমন্টন (নর্থ-ইষ্ট)
পুলিশ সুপারের মিটিং

এডমন্টন পুলিশ সার্ভিসের পক্ষ থেকে দক্ষিণ এশিয়ান সম্প্রদায়ের সাথে সম্পর্ক জোর দারের একটি কমি-উনিটি লিয়াজন কমিটি গঠিত হয়েছে। এডমন্টনের এ গুরুত্বপূর্ণ কমিটিতে যোগ দিয়েছেন.

বাংলাদেশপ্রেসক্লাবসেন্টারঅবআলবার্টারসভাপতি ও বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদের কানাডা ইউনিট কমান্ডের নির্বাহী সদস্য দেলোয়ার জাহিদ।

এডমন্টনের বিস্তৃত দক্ষিণ এশীয় সম্প্রদায়ের সাথে একত্রে কাজ করতে আগ্রহী এডমন্টন পুলিশ, যা

বাঙ্গালী সম্প্রদায়ের জন্য অতীব গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। আজ সন্ধ্যায় এডমন্টন পুলিশসার্ভিসের (নর্থ-ইষ্ট) কার্যালয়ে এক সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়।

বৈঠকেএডমন্টন(নর্থ-ইষ্ট)

পুলিশসুপারসভাপতিত্বকরেন. দেলোয়ার জাহিদ সম্প্রদায়ের সাথে পুলিশের যোগাযোগের ফাঁক গুলো দূর করতে নৈমিত্তিক কোন সুযোগ তৈরীর কথা বলেন। তিনি বিভিন্ন সম্প্রদায়ের সাথে সংলাপ, অপরাধ প্রতিরোধ, সম্প্রদায়ের মধ্যে অন্যান্য সংযোগের সুযোগ কে ব্যবহারের পরামর্শ দেন। লক্ষ্য হচ্ছে পুলিশ ও সম্প্রদায়ের মধ্যে যোগাযোগ স্থাপন ও তাকে শক্তিশালী করা, বিভিন্ন সম্প্রদায়ের বিষয়বস্তুর উপর কমিউনিটি ও পুলিশ উভয়কে সচেতনতা ও শিক্ষা প্রদানের জন্য চলমান সংলাপ ও ইতিবাচক সম্পর্ককে আরো উন্নীত করার উপর জোরারপ করেন তিনি।

পুলিশ সুপার সাম প্রতিক ঘণাত্মক আক্রমণের শিকার বাংলাদেশী আনুয়ের ঘটনাটি খতিয়ে দেখার আশ্বাস দেন।

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Meeting with the Minister of Education

আলবার্টার শিক্ষান্বী ইগান এর সাথে বাংলাদেশ
প্রেসক্লাব সভাপতির বৈঠক

এডমন্টনে ঘূনাত্মক আক্রমণের শিকার আনামুর
মিয়াকে নিয়ে বাংলাদেশ প্রেসক্লাব সেন্টার অব
আলবার্টা এর সভাপতি, বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদ,
কানাডা ইউনিট কমান্ডের নির্বাহী সদস্য দেলোয়ার
জাহিদ আলবার্টা পার্লামেন্ট ভবনে শিক্ষান্বী ইগান এর
সাথে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বৈঠক করেন।

শিক্ষান্বী ইগান আলোচনার শুরুতে আর্থিক দুঃখ প্রকাশ
করেন এবং এ ধরনের সহিংসতার নিন্দা করেন।

প্রেসক্লাব সভাপতি দেলোয়ার জাহিদ এডমন্টনে
ক্রমাগত সংহিংসতা বৃদ্ধির ঘটনায় গভীর উদ্বেগ প্রকাশ
করেন। তিনি কানাডায় কোন ধরনের আক্রমণের
শিকার মানুষ কি ভাবে বর্ণবৈষম্যের মুখোমুখি হন তা
ভুলে ধরে বাংলাদেশী অ্যালবার্টনদের অধিকাংশই
শ্রমপ্রিয় ও পরিশ্রমী লোক বলে দাবি করেন। তিনি
একটি সমৃদ্ধ সমাজ গড়ে তোলার জন্য সরকারের
সক্রিয় সহযোগিতা কামনা করেন।

দেলোয়ার জাহিদ এক বিবৃতিতে এধরনের সংহিংস-
সতার ঘটনায় গভীর উদ্বেগ প্রকাশ করে কমিউনিটির

সকলকে সতর্ক ভাবে চলাফেরার পরামর্শ দিয়েছেন।
এডমন্টন (উত্তর)সিটি পুলিশ সুপারের সাথেও বিষয়টি
নিয়ে আলোচনার উদ্যোগ নিয়েছেন।

আনামুর মূলঘটনার আদিষ্ট শিক্ষান্বী ইগানকে অবহিত
করেন এবং একটি লিখিত স্মারক হস্তান্তর করেন।
এডমন্টন সিটির ডাউন টাউন এলাকায় তিনজন
শ্বেতাঙ্গ যুবক স্থানীয় একটি ক্লাব থেকে বের হয়ে
অকারনে আনামুরের উপর আক্রমণ চালিয়ে তাকে
রক্তাক্ত জখম করে। পুলিশ ঘটনাস্থলে এসে
আনামুরকে হাসপাতালে প্রেরণ করে। চোখের পার্শ্বে
কেটে যাওয়ায় সেখানে ডটি সেলাই দেয়া হয়েছে।

এডমন্টন পুলিশ মামলাটি নথিভুক্ত করে বিষয়টির
উপর জোর তত্ত্ব চালাচ্ছে.

আলোচনাতে শিক্ষান্বী তার বর্ণবৈষম্য বিরোধী প্রকল্প
কাজে সহযোগিতার আহান জানান, এডমন্টনে
ঘূনাত্মক আক্রমণের মাত্রা বেড়ে যাওয়ায় বাংলাদেশ
প্রবাসীরা খুবই উদ্বেগ।

ছবি বা থেকে ডানে: প্রেসক্লাব অব আলবার্টা এর
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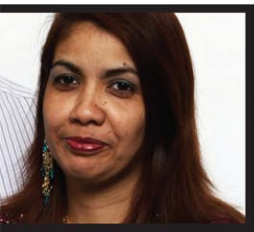
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EDITION 2018

by Ripa Fowzia Naznin

Bangladeshi Recipes



Ripa Fowzia Naznin

Directions

1. Peel the ripe mango and separate the seed, then cut the mango in small size and blend it in a blender to make pulp.(if you want to use mango pulp, then add it directly with yogurt.)
2. Then add the yogurt, water and sugar in the pulp, and blend it to a smooth consistency.
3. Now pour your lachhi in a glass, add the ice and garnish with nuts, then serve.

Mango Lachhi

Ingredients

- 1 ripe medium mango
or 1/2 cup mango pulp
- 1 cup yogurt
- 3 tbs sugar or to taste
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 tbs crushed nuts (optional)
- 2 pieces ice



Mango Lachhi

Narikel Puli Pitha

Ingredients

- 1 cup date jaggery (gur)
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup desiccated, unsweetened coconut
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 cup rice flour
- 1 ½ cup water
- ½ teaspoon salt
- oil for deep frying

Procedure

Steps to make coconut filling

1. Boil water and add the gur.
2. As gur melts add coconut to the pan. Cook stirring often until the mixture is semi sticky but not runny.

Steps to make pitha dough

1. Boil water. Add salt and oil.
2. Add rice flour to boiling water and keep stirring with a wooden spoon to form a firm but soft and not sticky dough. Adjust flour accordingly.
3. Knead well for about 3-4 minutes.
4. Take a portion of the dough and roll it out as thick tortilla, about a quarter of an inch thick.
5. Cut out circles with a cookie cutter.
6. Place a small amount of coconut filling on each circle. Repeat the process with the remaining dough.

7. Brush the edges of with water and seal tightly to form a crescent (semi-circular) shape.

Steps to fry pitha

1. Heat oil.
2. Fry the narikel puli pitha in medium heat until the dough is cooked through and slightly golden. Serve warm or at room temperature.



Narikel Puli Pitha

Beef Rezala

Ingredients

- Beef - 1 kg
- Chopped onions - 2 cups
- Ginger paste - 1 tablespoon
- Garlic paste - 1 tablespoon
- Coriander powder - 1 teaspoon
- Chili powder - 1 teaspoon
- Cinnamon - 2 (1" stick)
- Cardamom - 5 to 6



- Cloves - 3 to 4
- Bay leaf - 2
- Plain yogurt - 4 to 5 tablespoons
- Green chili - 7 to 8
- Kewra - 2 tablespoons
- Oil - ½ cup
- Sugar - 1 teaspoon
- Lime juice - 2 tablespoons
- Ghee - 2 tablespoons

Procedure

1. Cut the beef into small pieces. Clean and rinse.
2. Marinate the beef with ginger, garlic, coriander, chili powder and yogurt.
3. Set aside for half an hour.
4. Heat oil in a pan and fry the cinnamon, cardamom, cloves, bay leaves and onions for about 2 minutes.
5. Stir in the marinated beef and mix for about 2 minutes.
6. Cover the pan and let it simmer till the water starts to boil.
7. Turn down the heat and keep covered.
8. Remove the lid after 10 to 12 minutes and stir thoroughly.
9. Add 1 cup of water if the water dries up.
10. Cover the pan again.
11. Once the beef is soft and tender and the gravy starts to thicken, add the green chili, lime juice, kewra and sugar.

12. Simmer for another 3 to 4 minutes.
13. As the gravy dries up, mix in the ghee.
14. Add another ½ cup of water and keep covered over low heat.
15. Cook for another 10 minutes before turning off the heat. Serve hot.



Beef Rezala

Chicken Korma

Ingredients

- 1 and 1/2 kg chicken, cut in 6 or 8 pieces
- 1 and 1/4 th cup onion paste
- 2 table spoon of ginger paste
- 2 teaspoon of garlic paste
- 6-7 green cardamoms
- 2 sticks of cinnamon
- 5-6 cloves
- 2 small bay leaves
- 1/2 tea spoon crushed white pepper
- 1 tea spoon mace

- 8-10 whole green chilies
- 1 and half cup thick milk or heavy cream and milk
- 2 table spoon almond paste
- 2 tea spoon chopped golden raisin
- Ghee and oil
- salt, to taste
- 2 tea spoon sugar or to taste
- Keora water

Procedure

1. Wash the chicken pieces and drain water.
2. Heat ghee+oil, add the whole garam masalas (cinnamon, cardamom, bay-leaves and cloves) and fry a little. Then add onion, ginger and garlic paste. Cook adding water little by little. Careful, it must not get stuck to the bottom or burnt, otherwise you will end up with brown colored korma, rather than the white one.
3. Add the chicken pieces and cook adding water little by little, what we call "koshano" in Bangla. Add salt and enough water and cook covered. Don't add too much water at a time. If needed, we can always add later.
4. When the chicken is cooked and the gravy is almost drying add the milk, sugar, almond paste, chopped raisins and whole green chilies. Cook another few minutes. You can use heavy cream or evaporated milk instead of milk.

5. Turn off the stove and add 1 table spoon of ghee and keora water. Cover the pot and keep it on the hot but turned off stove, as it will work as "Dom".
6. Serve with pulao, rice, paratha, or naan.



Chicken Korma

Shorisha Elish

Ingredients

- 1 Ilish mach or Hilsa fish, cut into long slices
- 1/2 cup of soy bean oil
- 1 cup of onion slices
- 1 teaspoon of onion paste
- 1 teaspoon of ginger paste
- 1 teaspoon of garlic paste
- 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder
- 1 teaspoon of red chili powder
- 1 teaspoon of coriander powder
- 1 water as needed



- 1 tablespoon of mustard paste
- salt as needed
- 4-5 green chilies
- 1 tablespoon of chopped coriander leaves

Procedure

1. Wash and drain the water out of the fish
2. Heat a pan with oil. Fry the onions until they turn golden brown.
3. Add the onion, ginger and garlic pastes. Stir and add the turmeric, red chili and coriander powders. Pour in 1/2 cup of water
4. Cook until the water released dries to form a thick gravy with oil floating on top. Add the fish slices. Also add the mustard paste. Turn over the sides of the fish slices and stir the mixture so that spices cover the fish well
5. Pour in 1 cup of water and sprinkle the salt.
6. Cook with lid on at low heat for 10 minutes.
7. Sprinkle the coriander leaves and green chilies. Cook for another 5-7 minutes.
8. Serve with plain steaming white rice.



Shorisha Elish

Payesh

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup long grained rice (basmati)
- 6 cups full-fat milk
- a pinch of saffron (kesar) strands
- 1/3 cup warm milk
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 3 pcs bay leaves (tejpatta)
- 1/3 tsp cardamom (elaichi) powder
- 1/3 cup chopped mixed nuts (cashewnuts, almonds and pistachios)

Procedure

1. Wash and soak the rice in enough water for 30 minutes. Drain and keep aside.
2. Combine the saffron-warm milk in a bowl, mix well and keep aside.
3. Heat the milk in a deep non-stick pan, boil on a medium flame for 8 minutes.

4. Add the rice, mix gently and cook on a medium flame for 20 minutes, while stirring occasionally.
5. Add the sugar, bay leaves, cardamom powder and saffron-milk mixture, mix well and cook on a medium flame for 4 minutes, while stirring continuously.
6. Switch off the flame, discard the bay leaves and add the mixed nuts and mix well.
7. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour and serve chilled.



Payesh

Kalo Jam

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup of all purpose flour
- 1 cup of powdered milk
- 2 tablespoons of ghee
- 1 egg, beaten well
- 2 cups of water
- 1 cup of sugar

- 1 cup of mawa

Procedure

1. Add flour, powdered milk, ghee, baking powder and egg in a mixing bowl. Mix well and make oval, circular shaped "kalo jam" in your palm. Set aside.
2. In a cooking pot, heat water and sugar to make a thick sugar syrup. Pour this syrup on a bowl.
3. Heat a deep frying pan with oil and fry the kalo jam a few at a time until they turn brown.
4. Soak the fried "kalo jam" overnight in the sugar syrup.
5. Sprinkle the mawa all over. Serve!



Kalo Jam



Prof. Dr. *Mohd.* Nurul Islam

Dr. Nurul Islam, who passed away March 7, 2018 in Dhaka, due to cardiac arrest was a founding member of BHESA. He received BHESA's Ekushey Heritage Award 2014 for Education and Community Service. Prof. Dr. Mohd. Nurul Islam who was an educationalist served the MacEwan University since July 1998.

Prior to that he has taught in many other universities, e.g. at Dhaka University, National University of Singapore, Dalhousie University, Memorial University, University of British Columbia, North South University of Dhaka.

He was former President of the Bangladesh Cultural Association of Edmonton (BCAE) currently the Bangladesh Canada Heritage Society of Edmonton (BCHSE) and was the founder of the Edmonton Bangla School. Also, he was president of Bangladesh Canada Association of

Edmonton (BCAE).

Further he was member of the Board of Trustees at the Edmonton Islam Academy from January 2008 to November 2010.

He contributed to our community with dedication and sincerity until his sudden death. The Bangladesh Heritage and Ethnic Society of Alberta (BHESA) extends its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Islam.



Prof. Dr. Mohd. Nurul Islam



Tomal Islam, former VP of BHESA is receiving an award on behalf of Dr. Islam, and Mohammed Ismail also received an award.



Joining press conference of BHESA in 2014 at the University of MacEwan



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“ Iftar Party June 17, 2017





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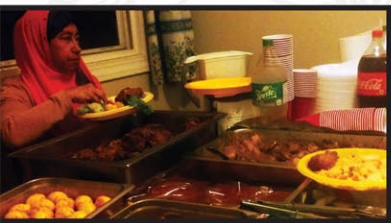






EDITION 2018

“ Eid Reunion September 4, 2017



“ Annual General Meeting *December 25, 2017*



“ Inauguration *January 24, 2018*





EDITION 2018

“ Ekuschey February 21, 2018



“ Independence Day March 3, 2018





EDITION 2018

“ Pohela Boishakh April 28, 2018

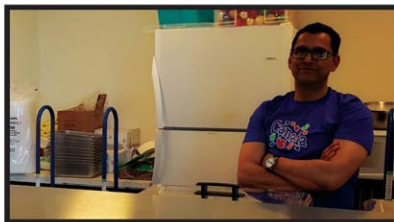






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