

Bengali Cultural Society of South Jersey
(A Non-Profit Organization)

সংস্কৃতি

Volume 23, Issue 2

April—June, 2008

From the Editor

Greetings!

To the last BCS Committee, warm and heartfelt thanks for doing a splendid job of managing and coordinating BCS activities over the last 2 years. Now that we have the baton, we will strive to make the next 2 years as interesting as we possibly can. You have certainly raised the bar.

Now, some exciting community news:

The Bengali School has a new lease of life. We have been able to enroll a group of very motivated children into Sunday classes, keeping alive the tradition established so many years ago. Please spread the word so that other children in the community can enroll as well. Based upon feedback from a number of our members, our focus will on Spoken Bengali.

We expect to get a new Ma Durga Protima by October this year. If you want a sneak peek, as did many in Kolkata, you can see the Bartaman Newspaper (<http://www.bartamanpatrika.com/content/kolkata.htm>). If anyone has any idea or suggestion regarding a home for our last Protima, please contact a committee member.

We have organized a picnic on July 27th based on feedback from many of you, who told us you would like some outdoor fun this summer.

We will have our Annual program on August 16th, showcasing our local talent. We look forward to seeing you there.

Congratulations to those graduating this summer. We wish you good luck in all your endeavors.

We are excited to launch our new BCS site. Local news and event details are available. Please visit often and tell us how we can improve it.

If anyone is interested in contributing an article or poem to this newsletter, please contact me. I would love to use this Newsletter to showcase some of our local literary talent.

মাইকেল মধুসূদন দত্ত বঙ্গ ভাষা

হে বঙ্গ, ভাঙারে তব বিবিধ রতন;-
তা সবে, (অবোধ আমি) অবহেলা করি,
পর-ধন-লোভে মত্ত, করিনু ভ্রমণ
পরদেশে, ভিক্ষাবৃত্তি কুক্ষণে আচরি।
কাটাইনু বহু দিন সুখ পরিহরি।
অনিদ্রায়, নিরাহারে সঁপি কায়, মনঃ,
মজিনু বিফল তপে অবরণ্যে বরি;-

কেলিনু শৈবালে; ভুলি কমল-কানন।
স্বপ্নে তব কুললক্ষ্মী কয়ে দিলা পরে-
“ওরে বাছা মাতৃ কোষে রতনের রাজি,
এ ভিখারী দশা তবে কেন তোর আজি?
যা ফিরি, অজ্ঞান তুই, যা রে ফিরি ঘরে।”
পালিলাম আজ্ঞা সুখে; পাইলাম কালে
মাতৃ-ভাষা-রূপে খনি, পূর্ণ মনিজালে ॥

New Bengali Movies

Khela (2008): Prasenjit-Manisha Koirala –
Director Rituporno Ghosh

The Game! The storyline is based upon a busy filmmaker and his personal life. Well, looks like it would be sort of a thriller movie and we all know how good “Rituparno Ghosh” is directing films.

Chalo Let's Go (2008) Parambrata, Aparajita, Saswata, Ritwick
Director Anjan Dutta

Anjan Dutta has already shown his abilities in music,

acting, directinghe is really a very talented person. After the huge success of “Bow Barack Forever” he is back with yet another direction “Chalo Let's Go”. filmed in Calcutta and Darjeeling .The story is about a music band.

Janatar Adalat (2008) Jishu Sengupta -Indrani Dutta
Direction: Manoj Thakur

There are five young people without a job and they start their fight against a corrupt MLA - Dulal Lahiri. While the story has been heard numerous times, Jishu Sengupta is a

very passionate actor with a great sense of humor.

For Those Looking to See a summer Movie with the Kids
....

Damu (1996) -Best Children's Film Award Winner
Bangla Movie
Direction: Raja Sen
Story: Narayan Gangopadhyay

National Awards
- Best Documentary film in 1993
- Best Children's film 1997
- Best Family Film 1999

Executive Committee (2008-2010)

President: Indranil Sardar / 856-489-1391 / Sardar@comcast.net
Vice President (1): Seema Bhar / 856-751-1279 / bratibhar@comcast.net
Vice President (2): Sunita Chakraborty / 856-210-6910 / sunita.chakraborty@comcast.net
General Secretary: Aparajita Mitra / 856-489-6434 / aparajita.mitra@pnc.com • Joint Secretary: Sonali Basak / 856-427-7205 / sbasak@amwater.com
Treasurer: Pradeep Banerjee / 856-616-9051 / pkbanerjee@gmail.com • Joint Treasurer: Dibyendu Bose / 856-435-4808 / dibyendu1203@yahoo.com
Editor: Bishakha Sen / 609-714-7952 / senhome@hotmail.com
Members-At-Large:
Fund-raising Coordinator: Debasri Ghosh / 856-425-3041 / dghosh1982@gmail.com
Youth Coordinator: Jaideep Sen / 609-238-1096 / jaideepsen1985@gmail.com
Cultural Coordinator: Debkumar Sarkar / 847-769-3834 / debkumar.sarkar@gmail.com
Ex-officio Members:
Sandeep Dhar / 856-778-0037 / sdhar68@comcast.net • Saptarshi Niyogi / 856-265-5386 / spin1yogi@hotmail.com

Veteran journalist Barun Sengupta dead

June 19th, 2008 - 9:48 pm ICT by IANS

Kolkata, June 19 (IANS) Senior journalist and founder-Editor of Bengali daily 'Bartaman' Barun Sengupta died after a prolonged illness at a city nursing home here Thursday, sources in the daily said. Sengupta (74) was admitted to the nursing home Sunday with multiple complications, and put on a ventilator Tuesday. A bachelor, Sengupta is survived by two sisters.

Imprisoned for nine months during the Emergency in 1975 for writing articles critical of the then Congress government of Indira Gandhi, Sengupta was a fearless scribe who believed that the soul of journalism lay in an uncompromising anti-establishment stand.

His death came at a time when Sengupta had just crossed 50 years of his

journalistic career and his daily paper 'Bartaman' turned 25.

Beginning his journalistic career in 1957 by launching a Bengali weekly 'Bartaman', Sengupta came in close contact with veteran Forward Bloc leader Hemanta Bose early in his profession.

He joined the 'Ananda Bazar Patrika' in 1960 and rose fast to become the daily's first political correspondent in 1965.

Sengupta left Ananda Bazar Patrika in 1984, and started his Bengali daily 'Bartaman' the same year.

Famed for his insight into national and Bengal politics, Sengupta's weekly col-

umn in Ananda Bazar Patrika gained him fame and great popularity among the readers.

A prolific writer, Sengupta wrote columns on state politics for his paper till a few days before his death.

Sengupta also authored a number of books in Bengali that were largely based on his vast experience in political reporting. Some of the more notable are Netajir Antardhan Rahashya (The mystery of Netaji's disappearance), Dillir Palabadal (Change of Guard in Delhi), and 'Sob Charitrai Kalponik' (All Imaginary Characters).

Heritage centre on Satyajit Ray to come up in Kolkata

From correspondents in West Bengal, India, 06:31 PM IST

Late filmmaker Satyajit Ray's films will be showcased at a heritage centre to be set up here, an official said Sunday.

'The idea is to have a centre that will be totally dedicated to Ray and have everything on him. As per our plan, the centre will have a seminar room, an exhibition hall, an auditorium, an archive for storage, preservation and display of Ray's papers and memorabilia, and a section with digitised version of

Ray's films,' said Sandip Ray, the maestro's son and a member of the Society for the Preservation of Satyajit Ray's Films.

Society's chief executive officer Arup De said Sunday: 'We have been collecting, cataloguing and restoring the precious and massive works of Ray over the past decade. These works need to be preserved at a permanent site with appropriate facilities. For example, films

are extremely sensitive to temperature and humidity. Hence, we need state-of-the-art vaults to preserve Ray's films.'

To be built at an estimated cost of Rs.50 million, the society is scouting for an appropriate site in the city.

'We will start working on the project as soon as we get an appropriate piece of land,' De added.

Fisherman escapes from tiger's jaws

27 Jun 2008, 0614 hrs IST, TNN

KOLKATA: A man catching crabs in the Moni river in Kultali had a lucky escape from being mauled to death by a Bengal tiger on Thursday morning. The big cat sneaked up on 34-year-old Jangra Pramanik and landed a paw on his knee.

Pramanik immediately jumped into the river. It waited on the riverbank while the frightened man yelled out to his four

companions. The four had accompanied him on board a country-made boat from Kaikhali Islands in the Sunderbans to catch crabs off Kultali.

On being alerted by his shouts, they chased the tiger with sticks. At this, the tiger went back into the forests. Once the tiger went away, Pramanik's companions rescued him from the river. The

five then boarded the boat and took Pramanik to a hospital in Canning.

China keen to set up tyre, steel units in West Bengal

From correspondents in West Bengal, India, 12:02 AM IST

China is keen to set up a tyre manufacturing unit and a steel plant in West Bengal, according to Chinese Consul General in [Kolkata](#) Mao Siwei.

Speaking at an interactive session organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce Friday, Siwei said: 'We are keen to set up a tyre manufacturing unit and a steel plant in the state. The tyre manufacturing unit will be a joint-venture between a China-based company and a Dubai-based company.'

He added: 'Bilateral trade between India and China is likely to touch \$60 billion much ahead of the target year of 2010.'

In 1999, trade between China and India was only \$2 billion. In 2007, the figure reached \$38.7 billion. It was an in-

crease of nearly 20 times within eight years.

According to the latest data, for the first four months of the current year, the amount of bilateral trade was \$18.8 billion, an increase of 65 percent over the corresponding period last year.

Siwei said: 'On this basis, we can predict that the figure for the whole year might be over \$56 billion.'

During the same period export from India to China increased by 87 percent.

Many Indian IT service companies were setting up shops in China, while Chinese companies bagged several contracts of large infrastructure projects in India worth \$12 billion, he said.

He stressed that India had a growing youth population, which would supply young labour force for a prolonged period. But China had an ageing population that would result in labour supply problems in future.

Siwei said: 'The Tibet issue should not affect the Sino-India relations.'

The GDP growth rate of India and China are eight percent and 10 percent respectively.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations

2008 High School Graduates:

Arpan Mitra
Arindam Chakravarti
Debayan Kushari
Soham Banerjee
Priyanka Lahiri
Sumita Routh

Law School Graduates:

Esha Gangulee
Supurna Bhar

Congratulations

- Debyani & Lawrence blessed with a baby girl KEIYA (granddaughter to Kasturi & Gautam Gupta)
- Nabanita & Sagarnil (Tirtha) blessed with twin girls NAYANA & NILOYA (granddaughters to Shanta & Late Indranil Nag)

Condolences to Shyamoli De for the loss of her mother.

Corrections in our edition Vol 23, Issue 1:

- *New member—KAI RAVI to Sruba & Raj Guharoy*
- *Graduate—Sucharita Mukherjee, daughter of Purnadip & Sophia Mukherjee*

Please do send an e-mail to The Editor at senhome@hotmail.com for any errors and/or announcements / articles to be published in our future editions.

Indian Cultural Center

Status of Indian Cultural Center:

- Finalizing contracts with architect and his team
- Finalizing conceptual floor plan and building elevation
- Finished partial construction within wetlands to satisfy NJDEP wetlands permit conditions
- Expected ground breaking in October 2008 and finished construction

in 12 months time frame provided sufficient fund has been pledged/collected

- After community input, we have filed our application to Evesham Twp. Planning Board to amend our final approval to increase the lot area from 1850 square feet to 3,000 square feet
- Expected construction cost at the present time is about 3.5 Million dollars

Directions to the Picnic

This park is approximately 9 miles from the Berlin Circle - from Berlin Circle follow Rt 73 South, for about 3 miles, and take the exit for Rt 536 Spur/E. Taunton Road, towards Williamstown (after the exit for Rt 30). Follow Rt 536, for about 5 miles, at the 3rd traffic light make a left on Erial Road. After 1 mile, you will see a sign of the park on your left. Go past that sign and the parking lot will be on the left.

Bengali Cultural Society of South Jersey
(A Non-Profit Organization)

P. O. Box 311
Voorhees, NJ 08043
Established 1978

SANSKRITI
(A Quarterly Newsletter)
Volume 23, Issue 2

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
VOORHEES, NJ
PERMIT NO. 39



সংস্কৃতি

We are on the web

www.bcscj.org

Upcoming Events

PICNIC 2008



Sunday, July 27, 2008
11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
New Brooklyn Park
100 Erial Road
Sicklerville, NJ 08081
(Directions on Page 3)

ANNUAL FUNCTION 2008



Saturday, August 16, 2008
5:00 PM
Voorhees Middle School
Voorhees, NJ 08043

DURGA PUJA 2008



Friday, October 3, 2008
Saturday, October 4, 2008
Sunday, October 5, 2008
Hartford School

Rhythms of India: Nandalal Bose (1882-1966): Visit the exhibition this summer at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which is currently on view through September 1, 2008. Often called the father of modern art in India, Bose was an intensely creative and spiritual artist who looked to India's own artistic traditions as well as those of Japan and China for inspiration. A hundred of the artist's finest works have been loaned from the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi (NGMA) for a once-in-a-lifetime retrospective. And here is the link to the exhibition on our website: <http://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/322.html>.