

EVENT PROGRAMME

DAY 2
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

[223] 3:30 – 4:45 PM | ORAL TRADITIONS IN BENGAL | Bhasha Stage

The unselfconscious exchange of ideas and artistry prevalent in Bengal have become obscured behind today's communal politics. In this presentation with words and music, oral traditions are demonstrated through story, legend, recitation and song. Presented by Aruna Chakravarty and Jayati Ghosh.

[224] 3:30 – 4:45 PM | DISPLACEMENTS | KK Tea Stage

Featuring Benyamin, Kunal Basu and Meike Ziervogel with Antara Ganguli.

[225] 3:30 – 4:45 PM | RECITATIONS | Lawn

Ghassan Zaqtan, Fady Joudah, Kamal Chowdhury and Arvind Krishna Mehrotra. Presented by Ritu Menon.

[226] 3:30 – 4:45 PM | যুদ্ধের পর যুদ্ধ | Cosmic Tent

বাকি তার নিজের সঙ্গে নিজে প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বিতা জে যুদ্ধ করছেই কিন্তু জয়ের পর মানুষ সংগঠিত যুদ্ধে লক্ষ লক্ষ মানুষের গ্রন্থানি দেখতে হয়। পত শতকে ঘটে যাওয়াই দুটি বিশ্বযুদ্ধের মশলেতা তারপর বাঙালি আতিকে ১৯৭১-এ করতে হয়েছে মুক্তির জন্য যুদ্ধ, আজ পশতলের জন্য লড়াই - এইসব আলোচনা।

People are perennially at war—with themselves or with the world. After two world wars, partition, the war of liberation, we still find ourselves fighting for democracy. Featuring Athoy Mritika Shohita, Rafiq-un-Munir and Zakir Talukder in conversation with Parvez Hossain.

[227] 4:15 – 5:15 PM | UNPLUGGED | Bardhaman House

Presented by singer-songwriter Probar Ripon.

[228] 5:00 – 6:00 PM | NEVER A DULL DE | Main Stage

Legendary opinion maker Shobhaa De talks to Antara Ganguli about a lifetime as one of India's most outspoken independent voices.

[229] 5:00 – 6:00 PM | জীবন যুদ্ধে লেখা | Bhasha Stage

শেখরিকানের সময় শিশু হাসান আজিজুল হকের জন্মকুঁমি ছেড়ে আসা, বাহান্নর জায়া আন্দোলন, উনলতরের পপ-অভিযান, একাত্তরের মুক্তিযুদ্ধ, নব্বইয়ের পশতলের জন্য আন্দোলন - লেখালেখির জীবনে কী রকম প্রভাব ফেলেছে। পল্পে গল্পে বলবেন হাসান আজিজুল হক।

Hasan Azizul Huq discusses a lifetime of political and social struggle. In conversation with Shamim Reza.

[230] 5:00 – 6:00 PM | ROTTEN APPLES: NAIROBI AND DHAKA | KK Tea Stage

Kenyan debut novelist Ciku Kimeria in conversation with Bangladeshi writer Munize Manzur.

[231] 5:00 – 6:00 PM | TRANSLATING BLUES | Lawn

Mashrur Arefin, Chinmoy Guha and Rosinka Chaudhuri discuss the challenges of translating with Arunava Sinha.

[232] 5:00 – 6:00 PM | CAN SOUTH ASIA BE A POWER BLOC? | Cosmic Tent

What is it about South Asia that still holds back both more feisty growth and further integration? Can this region ever shake off its sluggishness and become a real world-beating regional bloc? Three top journalists, based out of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, take a hard look at the region's realities. Featuring Victor Mallet, Fahim Ahmed and Zafar Sobhan. Moderated by Ashiqur Rahman.

[233] 6:15 – 7:15 PM | শহর লেগে | Main Stage

Literally meaning Beyond the City, this performance explores creative expression transcending urban restrictions. Presented by Shadhona.

[234] 6:15 – 7:15 PM | ABUL MANSUR AHMED | Bhasha Stage

Launch of a collection of selected stories by Abul Mansur Ahmed by Daily Star Books. Ahmed was a leading Bangladeshi author and politician of the Pakistan era. Best remembered as a social and political satirist, his most popular works include *Satya Mithya* (1953), *Jiban Kusudha* (1955), *Ab-e-Hayat* (1968), *Aina* (1936–1937) and *Food Conference* (1944).

[235] 6:15 – 7:15 PM | OUTSIDE THE COMFORT ZONE | KK Tea Stage

Four women carving out new cultural spaces with a global vision discuss the challenges and the thrilling compulsion of such undertakings with Jude Kelly of UK's Southbank Centre, Muthoni Garland, founder of Kenya's Storymoja festival, Meike Ziervogel, founder and publisher of Peirene Press, and Sadaf Saaz, director and producer of Dhaka Lit Fest. Moderated by Kelly Falconer, founder of Asia Literary Agency.

[236] 6:15 – 7:15 PM | ROOTS | Lawn

Award-winning Palestinian poet, novelist and editor Ghassan Zaqtan, and translator and Palestinian–American poet Fady Joudah, talk to litterateur and academic Fakrul Alam.

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[211] 11:45 – 12:45 PM | AFRICA | Cosmic Tent

Kenyan storyteller Muthony Garland mesmerises with stories of her homeland. For children ages: 9-16 years

[212] 1:00 – 2:00 PM | WOW BITES | Main Stage

A range of women from different professions tell their stories through a gender lens. Featuring businesswoman the first Bangladeshi woman to climb Mount Everest, Nishat Majumdar and journalist Munni Saha. In conversation with Jude Kelly. A WOW – Women of the World festival talk.

[213] 1:00 – 2:00 PM | ODYSSEUS ABROAD | Bhasha Stage

Prize-winning writer, academic and musician, Amit Chaudhuri talks about his body of work, with Kaiser Haq.

[214] 1:00 – 2:00 PM | (M)OTHER TONGUES | KK Tea Stage

Three leading exponents of South Asian languages Marathi, Malayalam and Bangla explore the art of living between languages: one that connects them to their deepest origins, and another to the world. Featuring Kiran Nagarkar, Benyamin and Syed Manzoorul Islam. Moderated by Mashrur Arefin.

[215] 2:15 – 3:15 PM | জাতীয়তাবাদের বৃত্ত ভেঙ্গে | Lawn

নিজ সংস্কৃতিকে জানতে শিকড় আঁকড়ে থাকা নয়, শিকড়কে, নিজ সংস্কৃতিকে অন্যদের জানাতে জাতীয়তাবাদের বৃত্ত ভেঙে আন্তর্জাতিক পাঠকের সামনে কীভাবে উপস্থাপন করবেন, আপনার সাহিত্য আপনার সংস্কৃতি।

Emerging from the confines of nationalism. Featuring Papree Rahman, Chanchal Ashraf, Ahmed Mostofa Kamal, and Mahubub Aziz. Moderated by bilingual editor Somak Ghoshal.

[216] 1:00 – 2:00 PM | FLY ON THE WINGS OF WORDS | Cosmic Tent

A performance storytelling from *Wingless* by Paro Anand. For children ages: 8 years +

[217] 2:15 – 3:15 PM | LIBRARY OF BANGLADESH | Main Stage

This session marks the launch of Dhaka Translation Center's landmark *Library of Bangladesh*, a first-ever series of the best of Bangladeshi writing produced for a world audience. The inaugural batch will release works by Hasan Azizul Huq and Syed Shamsul Haq and presents a conversation with translator Bhaskar Chattopadhyay. The unveiling will also feature a few of the authors, DTC founder, K Anis Ahmed and director Kaiser Haq on stage.

[218] 2:15 – 3:15 PM | SEX WORKERS OR PROSTITUTED WOMEN? | Bhasha Stage

A lively discussion between global feminist campaigner Ruchira Gupta, and member of Bangladeshi women's activist group Naripokkho, Firdous Azim, exploring issues surrounding the sex trade.

[219] 2:15 – 3:15 PM | CUBA | KK Tea Stage

Renowned Cuban science fiction writer Yoss, in conversation with Fahim Ahmed, talks about his prolific writing career and life as a rock star in Havana. With Shamsuzzaman Khan and others.

[220] 2:15 – 3:15 PM | FOLKLORS AND FOLK LITERATURE | Cosmic Tent

With Shamsuzzaman Khan with Firoz Mahmud, Shahida Khatun, Shahinur Rahman.

[221] 3:00 – 4:00 PM | UNPLUGGED | Bardhaman House

Presented by singer-songwriter Armeen Musa.

[222] 3:30 – 4:45 PM | THE MARCH TO INDEPENDENCE | Main Stage

This session will mark the launch of Rehman Sobhan's memoir *Untranquil Recollections: The Years of Fulfilment* by Sage Publications, which covers the birth of the nationalist movement, how it developed into the freedom struggle, and eventually the Liberation War. As an influential teacher at Dhaka University, close adviser and confidante to Bangabandhu, and executive editor of *Forum* magazine, Rehman Sobhan will share his bird's eye view of those seminal years with *The Daily Star* publisher and editor Mahfuz Anam.

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[201] 9:30 – 10:15 AM | SPIRITUAL SONGS | Lawn

Naath and Kirtan from Nashid Kamal.

[202] 10:30 – 11:30 AM | PALESTINE | Main Stage

Few places in the world, even those which are deeply and unjustly abused, arouse as much passion as Palestine; not just in those people who are directly affected, but in the minds of the most far-flung observers. In this session, Jon Snow, one of the most powerful voices of conscience on this issue, speaks to two Palestinian poets: Ghassan Zaqtan—one who lives there and writes in Arabic, and Fady Joudah—who is once removed both in place and in language. The conversation explores the transfixing power of this place—its enduring appeal, endless sorrows and hopeless hopes.

[203] 10:30 – 11:30 AM | COFFEE TABLES: DO THEY NEED BOOKS? | Bhasha Stage

Coffee table books live with us like cherished companions. There is no limit to their topics, but they do call for a very particular kind of styling and sensibility. What makes so many of them utterly forgettable, while others become cultural icons? A clutch of Dhaka's best and latest producers of such books. Featuring Arif Hafiz, Munize Manzur, Ihtisham Kabir, and Sabrina Islam.

[204] 10:30 – 11:30 AM | THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT | KK Tea Stage

The short story is bigger than ever before. Linked stories are all the rage. The panel discusses how this short form now dares to fit 1.2 billion or the world, entirely into its folds. Featuring Sandip Roy, Mahesh Rao, Ranbir Sidhu and Ikhtisad Ahmed—marking the launch of his collection of short stories, *Yours, Etcetera* by Bengal Lights Books. In conversation with Bikash Sangraula.

[205] 10:30 – 11:30 AM | TWO VOICES | Lawn

Neeman Sobhan and Sabahat Jahan discuss their poetry with Leslie-Ann Murray. Marking the launch of Neeman Sobhan's *Calligraphy of Wet Leaves* by Bengal Lights Books.

[206] 10:30 – 2:00 PM | LIKE SMOKE | Cosmic Tent

Interactive readings from reality fiction for young adults with Paro Anand. For children ages: 13 years to adult

[207] 11:45 – 12:45 PM | THE TRIUMPH OF THE SNAKE GODDESS | Main Stage

Launch of Kaiser Haq's book published by Harvard University Press, a composite of 14th - 19th century texts from the *Manasa Mangal (Paama Puran)*, of the legend of Manasa, the Serpent Goddess—the female power looking over Bengal and beyond. Haq will be in conversation with cultural activist Lubna Marium, who has done extensive work with folk traditions venerating Manasa, folk expert and academic Syed Jamil Ahmed and academic Rosinka Chaudhuri.

[208] 11:45 – 12:45 PM | WASAFIRI: BANGLADESH ON THE WORLD STAGE | Bhasha Stage

Presenting the first time an acclaimed international literary journal has brought out a special issue on Bangladeshi writing. Guest editor Bangladeshi writer and poet Ahsan Akbar in conversation with writer K Anis Ahmed. Sponsored by *Wasafiri*, the Magazine of International Contemporary Writing.

[209] 11:45 – 12:45 PM | A MULTIVERSE OF IDEAS | KK Tea Stage

Celebrated Cuban science fiction writer and rock star Yoss, broadcaster and novelist Marcel Theroux and novelist Ranbir Sidhu discuss alternate worlds and thoughts with Bangladeshi novelist Saad Z Hossain.

[210] 11:45 – 12:45 PM | MYSTICAL DIMENSIONS | Lawn

Poet Arvind Krishna Mehrotra, writer Farukh Dhondy and scholar Patrick Laude, discuss the philosophy and essence of the mystical poetry of the greats - Rumi, Kabir, Hafiz and others.