



APPEAL for
GAZA

A fundraising event by Drik



The “Appeal for Gaza” exhibition at Drik was a show of artwork donated by the country’s leading artists as well as work by young and upcoming talent. The exhibition was part of a fundraising event organised by Drik for Gaza victims during the continuing Israeli attack on Palestine. Proceeds from the sales will be donated through international aid organisations selected by the Palestinian embassy.

This initiative was part of the “No More” public awareness campaign of Drik.

Artists including Abdus Shakoor Shah, Abir Abdullah, Bishwajit Goswami, Jamal Ahmed, Jannatul Mawa, Kanak Chanpa Chakma, Mohammad Anisul Hoque, Monirul Islam, Nasir Ali Mamun, Rokeya Sultana, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Saiful Huq Omi, Shahid Kabir, Shahidul Alam, Shishir Bhattachariya, Swapan Chowdhury, Taslima Akhter, Tapash Paul, Wakilur Rahman and many more have donated their artwork for this exhibition. Special contributions were made by Bellissimo (Kazi Food Industries), Bengal Meat, Meena Bazar, Okapia Mobile and Samsung Electronics towards this fund raising.

“Appeal for Gaza” was inaugurated on 18 August 2014 at 6:00 pm. Mr. Saiful Islam, CEO Drik, Mr. Shahidul Alam, Managing Director Drik, artist Monirul Islam, students from Palestine living in Bangladesh and prominent personalities of the country were present during the inauguration.

The moving performance “A Bird of Stone” by Reetu Sattar, the poignant recitals by Iqbal Khorshed Jafar, Rafiqul Islam, Azharunnabi Rana and Maskure Sattar Kollol, the stirring songs by Kafil Ahmed, Krishnokoli, Waqeel Ahad, Labik Kamal Gaurob and Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb and the haunting flute of Pronob Das were powerful expressions of solidarity for the people of Gaza, by talented Bangladeshi artists. His Excellency Shaher Mohammad the Palestinian Ambassador provided the historical context to the genocide while the former resident of Gaza, Salim Hosne Salim Qannita gave a heart rending personal account of everyday life of Gazans. Inspired by the large attendance by people of all social backgrounds and the huge media interest, the exhibition was extended till 31 August 2014.

The remaining artworks from the exhibition are still available for sale through Drik office and online at www.drik.net/appeal-for-gaza



1. Mr. Shafer Mohammad, Ambassador of Palestine in Bangladesh and Mr. Saiful Islam, CEO, Drik in conversation at the inauguration.



2. The depiction of Palestine losing its land to Israel, caught attention of a visitor.

3. Reetu Sattar's performance, "A bird of stone" at the closing session of the event.

4. Singer Kafil Ahmed, performing with passion at the inauguration.

Photo: Wahid Adnan/Drik



Unlocking secrets - Image Archiving and Digital Asset Management Workshop @ Drik



Photo: Tapash Paul/Drik

A workshop on Image Archiving and Digital Asset Management (DAM) was arranged during April, 2014 at Drik. It was an informative and fun session. Graeme Cookson and Sarah Saunders from Electric Lane in the UK took Drik team members through the complex world of digital archiving; looking at issues such as archiving, retrieval and keywording. Techniques were discussed, questions asked, focus groups formed as practitioners met experts in their field. Drik will now be able to help photo organisations with digital content, maintain an efficient workflow and quality standards both internally and through online networks, improving efficiency and generating revenue. 'This workshop undoubtedly enhanced Drik's existing expertise in image archiving and management and took it to another level' said Mostafa Sorower, Team Leader of Drik Images.



Photo: Collected

"Some people argue that embedded data is not useful because it is not persistent. It can of course be stripped by software, though it is mostly by oversight than intent. But the usefulness of embedded data is such that it is better to have it and use it, and persuade software providers to retain it, than to live in world where images swirl around without any data at all. This is the 'done not perfect' philosophy by which most of us lead our lives".

Sarah Saunders, Electric Lane

Capturing the facts – from the field to the archive as Drik documents improved farming in Bangladesh



Photo: Drik AV

Famous for producing high quality, fresh vegetables that deliver nutritious food on the table, the farmers of Barisal, Faridpur and Jessore are taking the next step in knowledge management as USAID Bangladesh's project is changing their lives for the better. By using modern technology and technical know-how through a Horticulture Project these local farmers, the true heroes of Bangladesh will capture their success stories. Drik partners with USAID Bangladesh Horticulture Project to video document their achievements in the field which in turn keeps food on our table. The yearlong video documentation will focus on Potato, Sweet Potato, Commercial Gardening and Home Gardening

according to the specific cultivation season and capture rare shots, unique insights into the science and art of farming.

USAID Bangladesh is also providing good quality seeds to farmers which helps to grow more crops in the same field with no pesticides or fertilisers required. Drik is documenting this improved farming process, capturing the wisdom of the farmers and their progress. At the end of the documentation, Drik will produce four separate films on different types of cultivation which will tell the tale of these hard working people's lives.

Exile in Calcutta – A partnership exhibition by Drik and Goethe Institut



Photo: Thomas Meyer

If photographs are supposed to reveal hidden worlds, to pull apart curtains on scenes and people who are rarely in the limelight then this show surely did it all. Exile in Calcutta, a thought provoking and intriguing photography exhibition by German photographer Thomas Meyer took place between 15 – 21 April, 2014 at Drik Gallery, Dhaka. The exhibition was jointly organised by Goethe-Institut Bangladesh and Drik.

Judith Mirschberger, the Director of Goethe-Institut Bangladesh introduced the artist at the inauguration ceremony and Shahidul Alam, the Managing Director of Drik spoke at the occasion. In his series Exile in Calcutta, Thomas Meyer shows us environmental portraits of people living in Calcutta, whose roots belong to the present territory of Bangladesh. 'A painstaking, thought provoking and cross cultural journey into the other side' wrote one art critic.



Objects found in Kalpana Chakma's room and along the trail on the night of her disappearance.

Photo: Shahidul Alam/Drik

18

to remind
Kalpana
Chakma's
abduction

Disappearances, abduction, silence all these appear to be unfortunately common in our country. But for the law enforcing forces to be suspected, for the case to have gone on for almost two decades. This has surpassed previous human right abuse cases. Drik organised 18 an exhibition of photographs by Shahidul Alam on the date of Kalpana Chakma's abduction 12 June. The show stayed open till, June 18, 2014 to a huge cross section of the society

Kalpana Chakma, a young leader of the Hill Women's Federation, was abducted eighteen years back, from her home by military personnel and civilian law-enforcers on 12 June, 1996 at gunpoint. She remains missing to this day.

The exhibition, by Bangladesh's most well-known photographer, Shahidul Alam, is a powerful and poignant essay that uses found objects, newspaper clippings, extracts from her diary and her personal belongings to produce a haunting but lyrical rendering of the deeply disturbing story.

18 is part of Drik's public awareness campaign "No More". The exhibition was inaugurated by Nurul Kabir, editor, New Age.

The exhibition follows from the previous show "Searching for Kalpana Chakma", a collaborative study begun last year by Shahidul Alam and anthropologist Saydia Gulrukh.

Visuals and text - both worlds meet. Drik Books @ Shwachitro: Photo Book Show and Photo Talk



Photo: Wahid Adnan/Drik

It was a great day, a day dedicated to photo books and photo talk. Shwachitro: Photo Book Show and Photo Talk was initiated by Through the Lens (TTL). Drik participated at the event with its publications on 31 May, 2014. Photography lovers gathered to go on long hours of rendezvous. One of the main attractions of the show was Drik Books. The books caught attention of many and were praised by the visitors.

Drik on YouTube

www.youtube.com/DrikChannel



Tune in, reach out with a flick of the laptop, we are all over the medium. Drik's YouTube channel aims at informing and inspiring people through its video documentaries which address a range of social issues, both local and global - urban poverty, slum eviction, environmental disasters, education and health, women's empowerment, workers' rights etc. Subscribe and post comments to let us know your thoughts about the video, or send an email to communication@drik.net telling us what issues and perspectives are missing or just tell us you like the stuff you are seeing.

Customer is king - Drik introduces CRM in its Operation

We all like to be treated especially when we go into any organisation, more so when we are a client. Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform has been introduced into our organisation for managing Drik's interactions with existing and potential clients. This will enable Drik to organise, automate and synchronise sales, marketing, customer service, and technical support which will certainly make customer relationship management more efficient. 'This is what we needed, extending our personal touch into a sound, reliable process that will help us to deliver flawlessly' said S.M Qumruzzaman Parag, the Head of Marketing.

From paper to digital... e-books designed by Drik



To cope up with the fast paced digital world of today, Drik has started converting its print publications to e-books. Now, read Drik e-books on the go. These e-books are user-friendly for their responsive design. This new initiative will certainly satisfy the thirst of book lovers, who remain busy online, in most part of their day. Drik's catalogue of e-books can be accessed at drik.net/departments/e-library/. 'We look forward to the day when there are 170 million Kineo's in the country and you are all reading a Drik book' said Emad Uddin, Team Leader of Publications.

National Cancer Survivors Day 2014: A victory for its survivors



Photo: Habibul Haque/Drik

Diseases attack the body and the best weapon is the soul, the indomitable spirit which defies all odds this needed to be highlighted, to be celebrated. It was a celebration of life for those who have survived and an inspiration for those who recently diagnosed. Drik partnered with Sanofi Bangladesh Limited, Radio Foorti and BDCyclists to observe National Cancer Survivors Day on June 20, 2014. National Cancer Survivors Day started with a cycle rally, "Ride with the Survivors" followed up by an experience sharing session at Drik Gallery with the cancer survivors and doctors.

Dhaka Tribune subscribes to DrikNews

Dhaka Tribune added another feather in its quill with direct subscription to DrikNews. News that matters, presented by photographers that get close to the source, bringing issues to the table that are otherwise swept away in the flood of 'corporate, mass produced wire agencies' or get brushed under the carpet. To get to these 'unheard, uncaptured' stories of life through the newly launched English daily, the Dhaka Tribune has recently subscribed to DrikNews (www.driknews.com). DrikNews, the news agency of Drik provides photo and multimedia content to overseas and national the mainstream media, for a modest fee. Other subscribers of DrikNews include Deutsche Welle, The Daily Star, New Age etc.

Drik plans to bring out a series of photo books under the tentative title Discovering Bangladesh to portray a positive and promising country. These books will tell our stories with integrity and expected to act as ambassadors of Bangladesh globally. 'We have hundreds of photo clubs, some of the best photographic talent in the world and some of the best stories to tell, this book will be as much about them as about our country. Let us explore it with abandon, freedom and passion through the skills of our community' says Dadon enthusiastically, the Team Leader for Gallery and Event Management.



Submissions of photographs from amateur and professional photographers were invited to publish the first book of this series on the theme Lifestyle. We are pleased to see enormous positive response from enthusiastic photographers and hoping to publish the book by the end of this year.

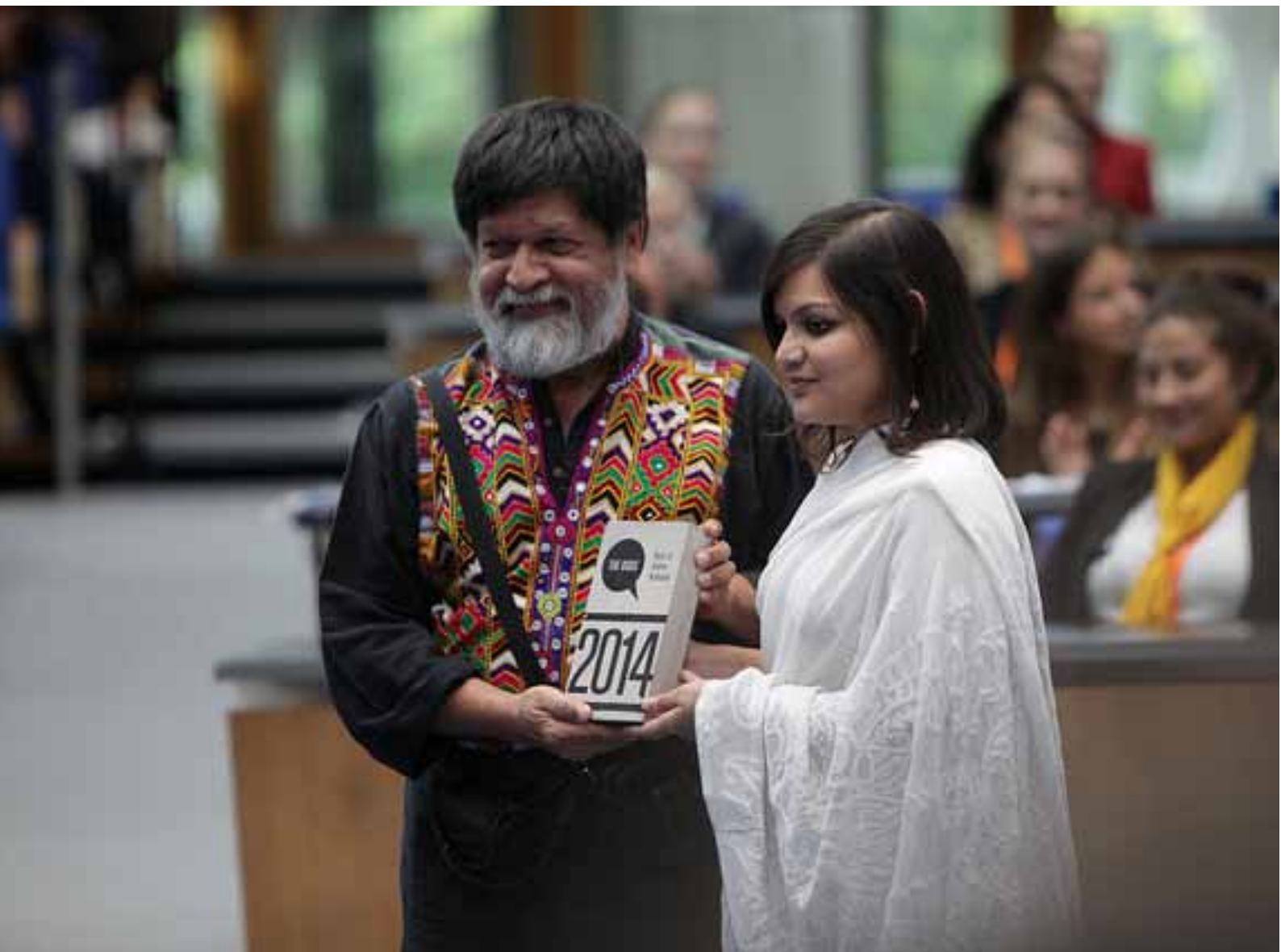
For more information please visit www.drik.net/discoveringbangladesh.



Did we say we only attract photographers and audio visual people? Think again, as you speak to the large number of people who joined our latest band wagon. "Hunt for Writers" is a quest for dynamic writers in English who have a passion for writing and whose bold words make a blank piece of paper come alive. It is an opportunity for aspiring writers to learn and associate with an organisation renowned for its cutting edge multimedia work and social activism.

First phase of "Hunt for Writers" quest is over. This initiative got a hugely positive response from enthusiastic writers of home and abroad. Selected writers will be presented with an opportunity of working for Drik initiated projects and publications and the next stage of the project is already underway.

Shahidul keeps travelling... Drik's footprint across the globe



Shahidul Alam, The Bobs Jury Member, and Ms Poovri Bhargava, representative of Khabar Lahariya, Winner "Global Media Forum Award"

Photo: DW/M. Muller

Now you see him, now you hear him, he is an activist on the move, forever searching, writing, engaging with minds and hearts that have a story to tell. This time, Shahidul Alam, the Managing Director of Drik, visits Germany as he was among the jury board of the Bobs Award 2014. The Bobs Award (www.thebobs.com) honours websites and

projects in 14 languages that champion the open exchange of ideas and freedom of expression. The Bobs event aims to show that online communication is worthy of being taken seriously and to point to the excellent example of work being done online to foster dialogue across language barriers.

শ্রম দিবস ২০১৪

Labour Day 2014

ক্ষমতার বিরুদ্ধে মানুষের লড়াই হচ্ছে বিস্মৃতির
বিরুদ্ধে স্মৃতি জিইয়ে রাখার লড়াই

— মিলান কুন্ডেরা

The struggle of man [sic] against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting
— Milan Kundera



The Labour Day 2014 was commemorated through the production of poster on *Rana Plaza Tragedy* with stitched photographs. Stitched photograph by Shahidul Alam/Drik.



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