

Muslin Festival 2016

Following the directives of the Honourable Prime Minister for salvaging the proud heritage of the nearly extinct muslin of Bangladesh, Bangladesh National Museum and Drik Picture Library Limited are jointly organizing the 'Muslin Festival' in February 2016. Bengal Foundation is also associated in this endeavour. The regeneration of the disappearing muslin of Bengal is the main objective of the festival. The following activities have been taken up in this respect:

1. A four-week exhibition of muslin will be arranged at the Nalinikanta Bhattayashali Exhibition Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum. It is expected that the Honorable Finance Minister will kindly inaugurate the exhibition on 6th February 2016 at 11.00 am. The inaugural function will be held at the main auditorium of the Museum.
2. A book containing researches of international standard on muslin will be published on that occasion. The Honourable Finance Minister is expected to unwrap the research book in the inaugural function.
3. Work is ongoing for making a documentary on muslin. The documentary will be shown in the inaugural function in presence of the Honourable Finance Minister.
4. The honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs will apprise the public media of the significance and various aspects of the 'Muslin Festival' on 6th or 7th February 2016.
5. A plan to make publicities through hoardings & bill boards in various locations of Dhaka City and giving advertisements & publishing supplementary on muslin in the news papers on the occasion of Muslin Festival has been taken up.
6. One of the main events of the Muslin Festival is to arrange 'Muslin Evenings' in front of Ahsan Manzil Museum, situated on the bank of the river Buriganga on 5th and 6th February 2016. Preparations have been taken to play dance dramas and laser shows on muslin by using modern technologies and to arrange fashion shows. The function would continue from 7.00 to 9.00 each evening. The honourable Finance Minister will be invited to be the chief guest of the function. The function will be limited to invited guests only.
7. Advertisements had been given in news papers to purchase 5 to 10 pieces of muslin clothes and dresses made of 300 to 250 counts of cotton and being at least 100 years old. At least two pieces of muslin dress of that specification, and being of royal standard, were traced. It is hoped that the collected muslin clothes and dresses, if displayed properly in the exhibition, would be enough to prove to the world why muslin received so much admiration throughout the world. Initiatives have also been taken to exhibit muslins taken as loans from foreign museums and private collectors.
8. Local and international seminars and workshops will be arranged as a part of the Muslin Festival. Correspondences have already been started with the internationally reputed researchers on muslin.
9. A commemorative postal stamp also will be published by Bangladesh Postal Department on this occasion.
10. Moreover, a permanent exhibition will be installed at Gallery No. 29 of Bangladesh National Museum with the materials and exhibits collected in the Muslin Festival.
11. A mobile exhibition also will be arranged with the materials and exhibits collected from this Festival.
