



Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala (alternate: **Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala**; translation: "Great Teacher of the Arts" Zainul Abedin "Art Gallery")¹ is an art museum in Mymensingh, Bangladesh.

Established in 1975, it contains the collections of the artist *Shilpacharya* Zainul Abedin (1914–1976). The art gallery was established in Mymensingh as this is where the artist spent his early days. Abedin, a pioneer of the country's modern art movement, created works of art on subject matters such as the Bengal famine of 1943 and the peoples' independence. The museum is located in the area of Shaheeb Quarter Park on the bank of the Old Bramaputra River.

Each year in December, the gallery authority organizes an anniversary programme that includes a discussion on the life and work of Zainul, as well as a painting competition. While the art gallery does not issue publications, Bangladesh National Museum, which has a collection of 800 Abedin paintings, has issued posters and cards on behalf of the artist. Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala is a branch of the national museum.



History:

Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala (শিল্পাচার্য জয়নুল আবেদীন সংগ্রহশালা) is an art museum located in Mymensingh District. It was built in the memory of great Teacher of Arts " Zainul Abedin ". This Art gallery was established in 1975 and it contains various collections of the artist Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin (1914–1976).

The art gallery was established in Mymensingh, where the artist spent his early days. Abedin, a pioneer of the country's modern art movement, created works of art on subject matters such as the Bengal famine of 1943 and the peoples' independence. The museum is located in the area of shaheeb quarter park on the bank of the old Bramaputra River. Each

year in December, the gallery authority organizes an anniversary program that includes a discussion on the life and work of Zainul, as well as a painting competition. While the art gallery does not issue publications, Bangladesh National Museum, which has a collection of 800 paintings by Abedin, issues poster and card on behalf of the artist. Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala is a branch of the national museum.



Born in Mymensingh, Abedin drew pictures sitting on the bank of Brahmaputra River. While studying at local Mrityunjay (মৃত্যুঞ্জয়) School, he won the first prize in a Bombay Chronicle art competition. Subsequently, the school's headmaster sent more of Abedin's paintings to India. Devoted to his art, the school teachers encouraged him to go to Kolkata and, in 1933, Abedin was admitted to Calcutta Government Art School.

In the 1950s, Abedin began a movement of collecting neglected pieces of Bangladeshi arts works that were scattered all over rural areas of the country. The artist remained attached to his hometown, prompting the establishment of a museum in Mymensingh on 15 April 1975 in a building owned by Mr. Barden who later sold it to a member of the Viceroy's

Executive Council. The gallery opened with approximately 70 pieces of art that included oil paintings and drawings by Abedin during his tours abroad. The gallery was initially run by a committee that was assisted by a local administration.

In its early years, it had 77 of Abedin's paintings but in 1982, seventeen pieces of art were stolen from the museum. Only ten of which were retrieved in 1994. Renovations began in 1997. Two year later, the National Museum took charge of the gallery and completed renovations in 2004 on the 3.2-acre facility. This included construction of a main gate, ticket counters, and walls. A projector, sound system and de-humidifier were installed. An artists' cottage and an open-air stage were added.



Attractions:

There are currently 53 oil paintings in the archive. The collection includes various themes and subjects, though most depict scenes of rural Bengal. Besides the original paintings there are 16 replicas and 75 photographs on Zainul's life and works. There are also 69 mementos on display such as brushes, brush holder, bottles of turpentine and linseed oil, carbon box, charcoal, wax, colour palette, colour tube, easel, ink pot, leather portrait holder, metal clip, reed pen, scraper, spatula and his spectacles. The mementos are situated in glass boxes in the midst of the gallery.



Collection:

There are currently 53 oil paintings in the archive. The collection includes various themes and subjects, though most depict scenes of rural Bengal.^[6] Besides the original paintings, there are 16 replicas, and 75 photographs on Zainul's life and works. There are also 69 mementos on display such as brushes, brush holder, bottles of turpentine and linseed oil, carbon box, charcoal, wax, colour palette, colour tube, easel, ink pot, leather portrait holder, metal clip, reed pen, scraper, spatula, and his spectacles. The mementos are situated in glass boxes in the midst of the gallery.

How to go:

A traveler can reach at Town Hall anywhere from Mymensingh city riding on rickshaws or shared auto-rickshaws which may cost around 10 taka. From the town hall area there are so many shared auto-rickshaws available heading toward Kachijhuli . You may ride one of those which may cost 5-10 taka.

Travel Information:

The art gallery is located very near to the Mymensingh Circuit House and 120KM north from the capital Dhaka. Anyone can travel to Mymensingh by Train or Bus from any part of the country and can use the Mymensingh Railway Station and Maskanda Bus Terminal.

You can go by walk from the Railway Station it's only 1.5KM and 3KM from the Bus Terminal; or you can take a Rickshaw or a Auto Rickshaw to the place.

Visiting Time:

Summer Time: April to September: 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM (Saturday to Wednesday)

: 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM (only Friday,

Thursday is closed)

Winter Time: October to March : 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM (Saturday is closed)

: 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM (only Friday,

Thursday is closed)

Entry Fees:

The entry is not free, so you need to buy a ticket, the ticket price as below:

Adult: Foreign Tourist: 500 BDT

Tourist from SAARC countries: 300 BDT

Bangladeshi: 20 BDT

Children: Children between 5 to 12 years: 10 BDT

