Bhogali Bihu festivity grips in Assam

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Amid day-to-day busy schedule the indigenous populace of Assam are preparing to celebrate the Bhogali bihu, one of the three national festivals of the state. As per the tradition the people will tonight arrange feast with pomp and gaiety. Tomorrow is the main bihu. Several organizations and the governor and the chief minister of the state have wished the people on occasion of the harvest festival. Wishing the people Asom Sahitya Sabha president Kuladhar Saikia said in a facebook post, “ I am wishing all of you a happy bhogali bihu.”

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Memorial Volume Released on First Death Anniversary of Nazira Educationist Queen Begum

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SK Hasan 15 October 2026 301 views

NAZIRA, October 15, 2026 — The first death anniversary of Mujibun Nahar (Queen) Begum, a respected educationist, social worker and former principal of Nazira Girls' Higher Secondary School, was observed in Nazira on October 13 with the release of a memorial volume highlighting her contributions to education, society and culture.

Begum, who passed away on October 14, 2025, devoted her life to the educational, social and cultural development of Nazira. She was widely admired for her commitment to building a healthy society and nurturing a sense of responsibility among younger generations.

The memorial volume, titled *Pragyar Prabha*, was formally released by Usha Saikia, a former teacher, noted poet, lyricist and writer, who had worked with Begum. Saikia recalled Begum's life and legacy during the commemorative programme held at the family residence.

The book was published through the initiative of Begum's daughters, Syeda Mehbooba Rahman and Syeda Mashhuda Rahman, along with their husbands, Syed Ibnul Haque and Hasan Iqbal. The programme was conducted by Hasan Iqbal.

Another book, titled *Sabal Byaktitwar Saral Sannidhyat* (In the Simple Company of a Strong Personality), was also released in memory of her husband, Alhaj Syed Mahbubur Rahman, popularly known as Gohain Saheb. The publication was brought out through the joint efforts of the two daughters and their husbands.

Begum was honoured with the Dikhowpariya Award by the Senior Citizens' Association in 2024 in recognition of her contributions and achievements.

During the programme, several distinguished personalities spoke about her life, philosophy, sense of duty and commitment to social welfare. Those who shared their recollections included retired principal Syed Mubidul Islam, Manju Saikia Barua, Nazira Senior Citizens' Association president Jatin Borgohain, senior advocate Mahendra Bhuyan, former principal Jatin Borgohain, Nazira-Simaluguri Development Authority chairman Dr Ajaylal Barua, retired teacher Syed Mukibul Islam, professor Sujata Barthakur, Dr Mubina Khatun, retired teacher Bijay Chandra Bora, Dr Diganta Das and Namita Neog Gogoi.

The programme was attended by Jitendra Nath Gohain, founding secretary of the Sivasagar District Senior Citizens' Association; Jawahar Lachit; Prasanna Handique; Nazira Senior Citizens' Association secretary Lakhindra Rajkhowa; Bharati Chetia; Manasi Bairagi; retired teacher Jadu Dutta; and Syeda Hadiya Begum, among others.

More than 50 admirers, well-wishers and people from different walks of life gathered to pay tribute to Begum and recall her contributions. The observance highlighted her enduring legacy as an educationist and social worker whose ideals continue to inspire people in Nazira.

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SK Hasan

Freelance journalist, Nazira, Sibasagar district.

BY SK HASAN

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