

RECOMMENDATIONS



Mobile Arts Exhibition January 10-14 Bangladesh Shilpa Kala Academy has organised a 5-day long mobile art exhibition at various educational institutions since January 10 as part of its 'Project for Expansion of Art-activities throughout Country.'

Concert Antar Showbiz in collaboration with Close Up has organised a concert titled 'Rock Brigade' on January 17 at Army Stadium, Dhaka.

15th National Fine Arts Exhibition 2002 The 15th National Fine Arts Exhibition 2002 is being held at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Exhibition The oil on canvas paintings by Kazi Saliuddin Ahmed is on at the National Museum till January 14th

Exhibition "The Ruin", solo exhibition by Nahid Niazhi Nipu has begun on January 10th at "La Galerie", Alliance Francaise

Theatre

Telling tales of the third sex

Mohakal Natya Sampraday stages drama that deals with the hermaphrodites

HARUN UR RASHID

ANAN Zaman, a youth with a humane mind, has written a full-length drama on the sexually challenged people commonly known in Bangla as hijra.

Humayun Azad has shown how the meaning of self-existence reduces into a nullifying non-existence for the protagonist, when a group of religious fanatics sever his male organ.

transformation, especially in their puberty, in which they lose their sexual identity. People with such sexual disability generally show characteristics of both male and female sexes.

course of this search he even stands defiant before the Creator and demands a sexual identity. First, he wants to be made a man, full of vigorous manliness and capable of reproducing his own blood descendants.



The characters of the play presenting the anguish of the sexually challenged

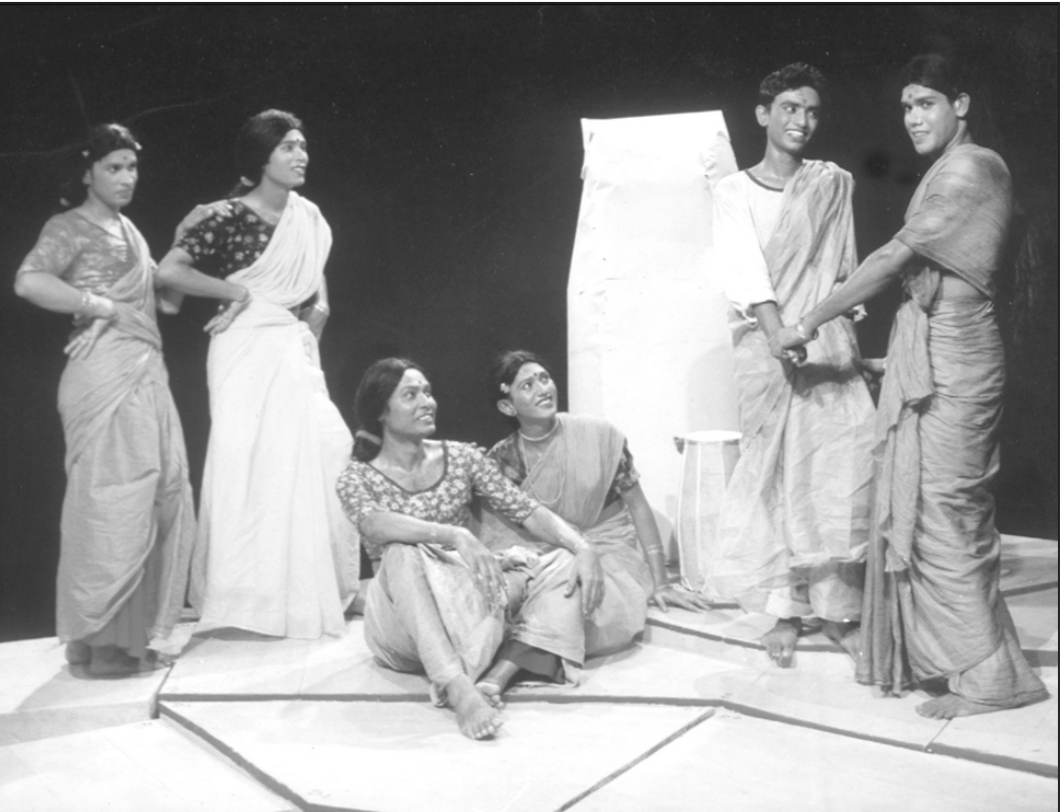
dent of Drama and Dramatics department at Jahangirnagar University, is, however, not the first to deal with the hermaphrodites. In his novel Kobi Othoba Dondito O-purush (The Poet or the Punished Un-man) eminent novelist

of the world, a person's very first identity is determined by his/her sex property. But there are people who, for some unpredictable biological mystery, do not possess that vital property since birth. Again sometimes they go through a

denly discovers in his puberty that he is partly a man and partly a woman. At once all normalcy of his life destroys, and an utter inner suffering runs him through his entire life, in which he searches for a dignified identity for living in the society as a human being. In

Anan Zaman reveals through this research drama some common woes in the lives of hermaphrodites, which he has found in his research work conducted on the inhabitants of the den of Kali hijra at Sabujbag, Savar.

Most of the hermaphrodites in our country are generally males with some exposed physical feminine characteristics. Due to this duality, young males often fall in love with them. But once the truth is revealed, the lovers get terrible on the poor hermaphrodites and treat them very badly.



Overtly sexual conversation is the main passtime of the hermaphrodites although they do not feel it themselves.

drives after these poor creatures even after their death. In their community hermaphrodites maintain rituals of one's own religion, and after death they are given funeral according to that religion as the sex to which one had more bent. But often it is found difficult for them.

dance a new-born'. This is a ritual of blessing the newborn through orgy of dancing and beating on the dhol. Sometimes they are hired for dancing at various rural events like jatra, fairs and circus shows.

even one hermaphrodite rickshaw-puller or hawker-vendor. He believes that hermaphrodites also have equal rights as we have to live in the society with proper dignity; we should involve them into our ordinary social activities.

TV GUIDE

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