# RECOMMENDATIONS

### Reception May 01

Muldhara, an organisation of journalists, litterateurs and cultural activists, will arrange a reception for the eminent poet and novelist Sunil Gangopaddhyay, who is recently on tour in Bangladesh. The programme will take place at the 10th floor of the Gazi Bhaban at 41 Naya Paltan at 6 p.m. The poet will read his poems for the audience.

### Seminar

Drishtipat Natya Dal will hold a seminar and cultural programme on occasion of the May Day at the Central Shahid Minar at 4 p.m.

### **Exhibition**

May 02-08 An exhibition of artist Mahbub Kamran's artworks will start at the Novera Hall of the National Museum from May 2. Entitled Smritir Protibimba, the exhibition is held by publication houses Ghash Phul Nodi and Magnum Opus. The show will be inaugurated at 4 p.m.

April 25-May 01

anniversary, On its tenth Expressions Ltd., an advertisement company has organised six-day long art exhibition at Gallery Chitrak, Rd# 4, house # 21, Dhanmondi R/A. The exhibit features work by the lone Pata artist of the country Shombhu Acharva. The show continues through May 1 everyday from 10 am to 8 pm.

### Anniversary

May 03

Chhayanaut celebrates the birth centennary of poet Jasimuddin at the Shawkat Osman auditorium of the Public Library. The programme starts at 7 p.m.

#### Music festival April 30-May 02

Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet

Shilpi Shangstha holds a 3-day festival of Rabindra Sangeet at the Shishu Academy auditorium

### Music

# Folk music of Bangladesh

### Lest we forget our cultural roots

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

THE folk songs are an inherent treasure of Bangladesh. Folk songs reflect the way of life and culture of the rural people. The rivers, the meadows, the tributaries the paddy fields, the faith and festivity of people--all have a role to play in such songs.

The folk songs are based on the hopes and frustrations of the young heart and are mostly centered around their longing for the beloved. These songs all around the world speak about the day to day life, joy and sorrow of the common people. But it is not limited to love songs only -- it expresses the life and culture of different regions too.

Folk songs acquire a flavour and aroma of the rural folks, therefore particular area depicts songs which are distinguished from those

When speaking about the folk songs of our country, we find mainly five different kinds of folk songs. The gambhira, bhawaia, bhatiali, baul and jhumur. The legendary artists of folk songs of Bengal were Abbasuddin Ahmed, Kanai Lal Shil, Romesh Shil, Abdul Alim, Nirmolendu Chowdhury, Khoda Boksh Shai, Gumani Dewan. Purno Dash Baul is the living legend in the field of baul

Bhatiali songs are sung on the riverine areas of eastern Mymensingh and the low lands of Sylhet and Comilla. These tunes reflect the ever-flowing rivers and streams. The tunes are very melodious, often sad and the vocalist usually has to stretch his tune for a long time without interval.

Bhatiali songs are mostly based on raga Bhatiar. This raga when transformed into folk pattern takes the shape of Bhatiali tune. Bhatiali tunes have the common tendency to reach the peak. 'The songs' according to Professor Karunamov Goswami', ' are often inter linked with the Baul variety.' The Bhatiali songs of Barisal are often known as a pure variety, whereas in the Mymensingh and Sylhet areas it is at times a mixture of Baul tunes too. The songs of Radharomon of Sylhet and Jalaluddin of Mymensingh greatly depict such Through this tune, the sorrow

CULTURE

and frustration of a lover is deepened. The songs are mostly based on the boatmen who ply on the riverine countryside. The openness of the river, the wide expanse of the sky all have a magical effect and is fully expressed in these

The Bhawaia songs are the songs of the northern districts of Bangladesh. Here one notices the use of bullock carts as means of transport. In these songs the tunes follow the trends of the wheels of these carts, rolling awkwardly over the broken earthen roads.

Hence the tunes consist of vocal pattern which breaks with artificial modulation at regular intervals.

Bhawaia songs are mostly humorous in nature and based on the moishals or the cart drivers. But the heart breaking tunes often depict the lonely heart of the young brides too. The passionate tunes are often filled with the theme of the young brides who miss their own family circle after marriage and pine to return to their family. The Gombhira songs are pre-

sented in a different setting. These songs are popular in northern district of Chapai Nawabganj. Here the songs are set in the form of question and answer between a vise grandfather and his grandson, both coming from the rural background. The villagers learn a lot about modern trends of the city be it education, medicine or politics from the lyrical conversation. Both the grandpa and grandson wear the traditional dress of the farmers--a lungi, a vest and straw hats and



The grandfather and the grandson are the two popular characters of the

sophistication and influence on

the musical creativity. Tagore used

Bauls song in patriotic and other

The *Jhumur* song is sung along

03:00

04:30

05:05

05:30

06:00

07:25

07:30

07:55

08:00

08:30

09:00

09:30

10:30

11:00

11:30

Shagun

Series

Taaza Hits

Fox Kids

Bandhan

Kashmeer

Bahu Thi

Kaahin Kissi Roz

Kabhi Aaye Na Judai

Kaahin Kissi Roz

Film Topper - 301

Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet

Hum Saath Aath Hain

Film Topper - 301

Film Topper - 301

Shaka Laka Boom

Kyun Hota Hai Pyarrr

Kasautii Zindagii Kay

Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

Kumkum - Pyara Sa

bells on their legs. The participants sitting side by side usually represent the villagers and sing in cho-

The Baul songs are devotional in spirit. The presenters are called bauls too. They develop a mystical relationship with God and bear a philosophy of their own, explaining the metaphysical basis of human life. The lyrics are symbolic in nature mostly drawn from the making and functioning of human body. These baul songs have an enchanting style. The bauls deny the traditional rituals and beliefs of the religion. They proclaim that the human body is the abode of the Almighty rather than the temple or

Bauls live the life of the gypsies and pass on the message to the different communities from time

Fakir Lalon Shah was the most illustrious Baul poet of Bengal. Hason Raja of Sylhet, Radha Romon, Urkum Shah, Siraj Shai, Jalal Uddin Khan and a countless others lived at different regions at different times with different musical styles of Baul songs. The dotaara is a typical instrument used in these songs. Karunamoy Goswami pointed, 'Rabindranath Tagore blended baul song with raga forms and created a style, which had an impact on the level of

PICK OF THE DAY

fascinating too. The songs are mostly sung in off beat, as if drooling away in sleep. Bamboo pipes and madol or drums are used as musical instruments in these songs. Kazi Nazrul Islam stayed at the Santal villages and collected these tunes and introduced these melodies which were completely unknown form in Bangla music. He composed about 150 folk songs in his collection ranging from Jhumur, Jhapan to Bhatiali, Bhawaia and Baul. He used these forms in his film and musical sketches and gained wide popular-

the coal mine areas of Burdwan by

the Santal people. These songs are

quite different and the beat is

*Jhapan* songs are prevalent among the snake charmers. These people live a nomadic life. They live on boat and wander from place to place and live by selling roots and herbs and by showing the snake dances to the people. They perform their own songs when they put up their show of snakes. The songs are mostly written on the snake goddess Mansa and the story of Chand Sawdagar who was a victim of disobedience to the snake goddess.

Folk songs are so central to our culture that it is a shame that works of brilliant folk artistes such as Abbasuddin, Abdul Alim, Nina Hamid, Ferdousi Rahman, Mostofa Zaman Abbasi or the new generation favorites such as Kiron . Chandra Shaha, Farida Perveen or Bipul are not preserved properly. The songs of the artistes of yesteryears along with the popular artistes of today are a national treasure. Our rich folk culture should be presented with renewed vigour.

Re-launching of cassettes and CD's and the preservation of old records still available at the radio and TV centres should be the first priority. Along with this, connoisseurs who have a large collection should be contacted and the tapes should be taken care of, lest we risk locking away our proud heritage to long lost memories.



11:30

12:00

07:30

10:30

10:55

07:25

07:30

10:55

Bhabhi

**STAR GOLD** 

## TV GUIDE

Carissima

On Channel-i at 9.30 p.m.

**English Premier** 

Football League

**English Premier** 

Football League

**Enalish Premier** 

Football 2002/03

Bolton, England

Arsenal

Bolton, Wanderers Vs

(Episode 4)

#### **BTV** Sureeha Neen Dhaka test: Bangladesh Vs South Africa live telecast of 1st day News Head line 11:00 12:00 News Head line 01:00 News 02:00 News Headline 03:00 News in Eanlish 04:00 News Headline 05:00 05:05 Bangla Feature Film

07:00 News Headline Stock Exchange Weather Forecast Programme on International Labour Day 08:30 Drama of the Week:

News-Desh Janopod

Baro Shaheb 09:30 10:00 News at Ten 10:30 Telefilm: Dighol Ganyei Manush Late night news (Bangla

### and English) CHANNEL-i

06:00

Islamic Programme 7:15 Prothom Sur 10:00 Music Plus 10:30 Chaya Ganker 11:00 Manik Chor 12:00 Special Programme Tumar Bosonto Dine 12:30 2:00 Bangla Feature film: Ashoni Sonket Jonopoder Khabor 5:35 Joto Podh Toto Moth 5:45 Music Plus 6:45 Special Programme

7:15 Channel-i News 7:45 Ispahani-i tele quiz (q) 7:50 Queen: Serial 8:25 Drama Serial: Griha Golpo 9:00 Channel-i News

9:31 Isphani-i tele quiz (R) 9:35 Drama Serial: Carisma 10:00 Band Show: Close up Hit Wave 10:25 Channel-i mobile quiz

10:30 Channel-i News Sangbad Pothre Bangladesh Live Telecast of BTV

late Night News

Channel-i News

**ATN BANGLA** Islamic Prog ATN Bangla News Gondoraz Samsuno

Drama Serial Protepokkhe Talk Show: Face to 10:50 ATN Bangla News 12:00 Ajker Sangbadpotro 12:20 Musical prog: Srether Pata Theke 1:30 Bengali feature film: Santrashe Raja

4:20 Islamic prog: Sundor Jeboner Janne 4:50 Ajker Sangbadpotro 5:00 Gram Gonger Sangbad 5:15 Film Magazine: A Sapteher Chobi Musical prog: Saat Rang

5:50 Islamic prog 6:25 Islamee Sawal O Jawab 7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News 7:30 Special prog: On May Day

8:05 Drama Serial: Hada Ar-Bhudar Kandokarkhan Henolux Benudon ATN Bangla News 9:15 Prekkhapot ATN Bangla News 10:35 Special prog: On May Day 11:00 ATN Bangla News

12:00 Bengali film: Joy **HBO** 6:30 Contagious 8:30 The naked Gun From the Files of Police Squad 10:15 A Simple Wish 12:00 Blind Date 2:00 The Craft 4:00 The Deep End of the Ocean In & Out 8:00 Star Trek: Insurrec-

10:00 **Bad Boys** 12:15 Girl. Interrupted 2:45 The Deep End of the Ocean 5:00 Star Trek: Insurrec-

**ADVENTURE ONE** Across The Line Beyond Limits: Deeper Blue: Freediver Story 11:00 Out There 11:30 The Seal Hunters 12:00 Surfer's Journal

Explorer's Journal King Of The Arctic Deeper Blue: Freediver Story Danger Diaries

'Been'--the snake charmer's flute--is an integral instrument for the Jhapan songs.

12:30

3:30

11:00

11:30

4:30 Morning Glory 5:00 Explorer's Journa 6:00 Action Asia Challenge Across The Line Beyond Limits 7:30 8:30 Firefight Surfer's Journal 9:30 10:00 Action Asia Challenge

Across The Line

Beyond Limits

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** 

Mummy Road Show Tales Of The Living Chance to Grow, A Don't Say Goodbye 11:00 People Out There 11:30 Dogs With Jobs Earth PulseJackals 12:00 (aka The Golden 1:30 Built For the Kill

The Sonoran Desert Attack-in Pursuit Of Africa 4:30 The Lost Fleet Of Guadalcanal Mission Wild Dogs With Jobs Earth Pulse 7:00 7:30 Honey Badger 8:30 Built for the Kill 9:30 Savage Garden 10:30 Keiko: Born To Be

11:30 War Ships CHANNEL [V] 7:30 8:00 **[V]** Jumpstart 8:30

[V] Hit Machine **[V] Back To Back** 9:30 **[V]** Hit Machine 10:00 [V] Back To Back 10:30 [V] Hit Machine [V] Back To Back 11:00 11:30 [V] Hit Machine 12:00 [V] Zabardast Hits 12:30 [V] Jungli Jukebox [V] FDFS 1:00 1:30 [V] Hit Machine [V] Zabardast Hits 2:30 [V] Back To Back [V] Zabardast Hits [V] Back To Back [V] Hit Machine [V] Hotline Vitop5@5 6:00 [V]IDEO War 6:15 [V] Hit Machine 6:30 Very V 7:30 Ctrl [V] [V] Zabardast Hits 8:00

[V] Back to Back

[V] Zabardast Hits

[V] Jungli Jukebox

8:30

9:00

### TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR MOVIES: 8.40 p.m. Kiss of the Dragon. Liu Jian, a police officer from China, comes to Paris to help the vice squad apprehend a Chinese drug lord and his unknown French connection. The French connection is Richard, the head of the vice squad, who intends to kill the drug lord then frame Jian Jian ducks a bullet and escapes with a tape of what really happened. By chance. Jian turns to Jessica - a US farm girl who is one of Richard's hookers - for



[V] Fdfs

**STAR SPORTS** 

Chosen One

Late Night [V]

English Premier

English Premier

Championship

Bangladesh

Chittagong,

Bangladesh

Chittagong,

Bangladesh

Dream Team

Bangladesh

Bangladesh Vs

South Africa 2nd Test,

Day 1, 1st Session

South Africa Tour Of

Grameen Phone

Test Series 2003

Bangladesh Vs

Day 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wrestling Apple

Super 12's Rugby

Zealand Auckland

Blues Vs Coastal

Sharks Round 10

Futbol Mundial

Auckland, New

Crush (T)

Dhaka, Bangladesh

South Africa 2<sup>nd</sup> Test,

Bangladesh Vs

2002/03

League Highlights

League Highlights

Best of PGA Golf 25

Years of The Players

South Africa Tour of

South Africa 1st Test.

South Africa Tour of

Day 4, Highlights

[V] Zabardast Hits

10:00

8:52

5:00

7:30

HBO: 12.15 a.m. Girl, Interrupted. Susanna is depressed and directionless after finishing high attempt lands her in Claymore, a sexually abused Daisy, the burn victim Poll-- but falls under the hypnotic sway of Lisa, the wildest and most hardened of the bunch.

school in the late 1960's. A suicide mental institution. She befriends the band of troubled women in her ward-Georgina the pathological liar, the

Sportsline Tonight Sportsline 8:30 Cricket Talk Show Best Of Harsha Online 9:00 Asian 9-Ball Tour San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour Singapore, Singapore Finals 10:00 Dream Team (T) Sportsline Tonight 10:30 Sportsline (T) South Africa Tour of 11:00 Bangladesh Grameen Phone Test Series 2003 Dhaka, Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs South Africa 2nd Test,

Day 1, Highlights **ESPN** School Quiz Show Espn School Quiz 2003 (R) Wrestling Apple Crush (R) Football Focus **English Premier** Football League English Premie Football League City Vs West Ham United 11:30 School Quiz Show Espn School Quiz 2003 (R)

Premier Snooker

League Premier

Snooker League

Football Focus

Xbs

2003 Cardiff, Wales

12:00

2:00

Goals! 12:00 2002/03 Manchester **England Manchester** 

5:30 School Quiz Show Espn School Quiz 2003 (T) NBA Playoffs San 6:00 Antonio, TX USA Phoenix Suns vs San Antonio Spurs First Round, Game Sportscenter Hindi (L) **English Premier** Football League Football League 2002/03 Manchester, **England Manchester** City Vs West Ham Sportscenter Hindi (T) School Quiz Show Espn School Quiz 2003 (R)

TEN SPORTS Trans World Sports Fitness Beach New Zealand Tour of Sri Lanka '03: 5<sup>th</sup> Day, 1st Test H/Ls Trans World Sports 12:30 Indian Football Show 1:00 MUTV: Red Hot News MUTV: The Match

3:30

Premier "Man United v

Tottenham Hotspur"

MUTV: The Match

Ulysses comes to know that his son Gabriel, who escaped away from home in his childhood, has come back home. Gabriel gets acquainted with April and proposes her. April is, however, engaged with an educated guy called Hector. What will April do now? Highlights 4.00 Fitness Beach

4:30

5:30

6:30

7:30

7:35

8:35

9:30

11:35

12:00

Trans World Sports 09:05 The Bottom Line 09:30 Bajaj Caliber 1 15 Cricket Ratings Bajaj Caliber 1 15 10:30 Sports Update Trans World Sports Cricket Classics 12:00 Bajaj Caliber 1 15 Sports Update Cricket Classics 12:55 Bajaj Caliber 1 15 Sports Update The Bottom Line 02:00 Baiai Caliber 115 Sports Update The Bottom Line Fitness Beach 03:30 04:30 05:30

**STAR** WORLD 07:00 Geet Bahar Dr Morepen Tango Daily 08:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom Taaza Hits Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Fox Kids Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Eena Meena Deeka 10:30 Meri Saheli 11:00 Kabhii Sautan Kabhii 11:30 Sahelii 12:00 Shanti Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet 12:30 12:55 Taaza Hits 01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay Kumkum - Pyara Sa 13:30

Bandhan

Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

Bhabhi

02:00

08:30 10:10 11:00 11:30 12:30 01:00 01:30 02:30 03:00 05:05 06:00 06:30 07:25 07:30 07:55 08:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 08:30 Kyun Hota Hai Pyarrr 09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 09:30 Kashmeer

10:30

11:00

Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

Bahu Thi

12:00 Bhabhi STAR PLUS DR Morepen Tango Shaka Laka Boom Boom Taaza Hits Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Fox Kids Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Eena Meena Deeka Meri Saheli Kabhii Sautan Kabhii Sahelii Shanti Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Taaza Hits Kasautii Zindagii Kay Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan Bhabhi Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Shagun (461 - 560) Kabhi Aaye Na Juda Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii Kaahin Kissi Roz Film Topper - 301 Series Saans Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Taaza Hits Hum Saath Aath Hain Fox Kids Film Topper - 301 Series Kumkum - Pvara Sa Bandha Film Topper - 301 Series

11:30 Flashback Hit Filmein Hit 11:30 Sangeet SONY Om Namah Shivay 08:30 Mythological Om Namah Shivay Mythological Good Morning Disney Cartoons Good Morning Disney Cartoons Chartbusters Music Music Mantra Music Shaheen Drama Cook it up with Tarla Dalal Cookery 12:30 Devi Drama Kkusum Drama Goonj - Ateet Ki 02:00 Kahani Teri Meri Drama Kutumb Drama Dhadkan Drama 03:30 Ghar Ek Mandir Drama Alpviram Drama Kaun Apna Kaun Malgudi Days Drama Dekh Bhai Dekh 06:00 Just Mohabbat Comedy 06:30 Disney Hour 07:00 Disney Hour Chartbusters Music Mantra Meri Biwi Wonderful Sambhav Asambhav

Kkusum

Achanak

Kutumb

10:00

10:30

11:00

11:30

12:00

Kahani Teri Meri

Ghar Ek Mandir

Aahat Dehshat Ke 6

Bauls and their heritage have acheived a remarkable place in the hearts of the young and old alike, thanks to the

**ZEE TV** 

Kitty Party

Piva Ka Ghai

Cinema Hits

Cartoon Network On

Ek Nazar

Ek Nazar

Kahani

Piya Ka Ghar

Payer Zindigi Hai

Astitya Fk Prem

Kaahin Kissi Roz Cartoon Network Or Guldasta Rashtraveer Shivai 10:30 Dam Dama Dam Geet Bahar Payer Zindigi Hai Kuch Hit Kuch EK Nazar 12:30 Lipstic Sangeet Astitva Ek Prem 01:00 Kuch Hit Kuch Kahani

12:25 Superhit Madhumati 01:30 01:25 Kuch Hit Kuch 02:00 Superhit 14:30 02:30 Geet Bahar Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet 03:00 03:00 Kuch Hit Kuch 06:00 03:25 Superhit 06:30 03:30 Mela 07:00

07:30 Hit Filmein Hit 08:00 Sangeet Kuch Hit Kuch 08:30 Superhit 09:30 Suhaagan 10:00 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit

Miit Kitty Party 10:30 11:00 Mulk !1:30 Lipstic

**STAR MOVIES** 07:00 3 Strikes 08:15 Pete's Meteor

10:00 Bridget Jones's Diary Say It Isn't So 12:00 01:45 Men In Black 03:30 Deeply 05:25 Woman On Top Doctor Dolittle 2 08:40 Kiss Of The Dragor Red Heat

12:15 The Last Patrol **ALPHA TV BANGLA** 

9:00 Bollywood-E-Halchal De Re/Frist Take Andolan 11:00 Gaan Unltd. 11:30 Hiyar Majhe 12:00 Bishesh Songbaddata 12:30 Nayantara 12:57 Jhankar Goenda Paribar//Soni 1:00 Rosi Mojar Chobi Sanghat 1:50 Bhaqya Chakra 2:00 Bengali Feature Film 4:30 Gaan Unitd. 4:57 Jhankar 5:00 Kagaier Bou/Beauty Parlour 5:30 News 6:00 Ek Palake 6:30 Jeevan Rekha 7:00

Mathe Maidane 7:27 Jhankar 7:30 Pratibimba 8:00 Fk Akasher Niche 8:40 Aananya Spandan 9:20 9:57 Jhankar

10:00 Kagajer Bou/Beauty 10:30

Nayantara

11:00