

RECOMMENDATIONS

Conference

**May 04**  
Bangladesh Film Producers Distributors Association (BFPDA) will hold a conference on means to revive the lost glory of the film industry of the country. The conference will take place at Hotel Raj Moni Isha Khan at 1 p.m.

Film show

**May 04**  
The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Dhaka will screen a Korean film entitled *My Heart* as a part of regular film show each month with a view to providing opportunity with those interested in Korean culture and language in Bangladesh. Subtitled in English, the film will start at 5 p.m. at the auditorium of Korean Embassy (4, Madani Ave., Baridhara, Dhaka-1212).

Handicraft exhibition

**May 02-06**  
In observance of May Day 2003, Drik is holding at its gallery a show of handicraft items made by the workers of Bangladesh Homeworkers Women Association (BHW) and Home Net Bangladesh. The exhibition is open to visitors from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is open to all.

Exhibition

**May 02-08**  
Artist Eliza Sultana Annie is holding her first ever solo-painting exhibition at the Zainul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Art, University of Dhaka. The exhibition remains open for visitors from 2 to 8 p.m.

May 02-17

Alliance Francaise in Dhaka is hosting an exhibition of Dokra sculpture on rail platform, woodcut print works on rail boggy and paper cut installation on railroad. Entitled *Rail Series*, the exhibition consists of works by artist Matia Banu Shuku. The show continues until May 17 everyday from 9 am to 12 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm except Saturday.

Reception

# Birthplace revisited

Eminent poet Sunil Gangopadhyay tells of rediscovering his roots in Bangladesh

HARUN UR RASHID

THE spacious flat on the ninth floor of Gazi Bhaban at Naya Paltan was tightly packed with a crowd of faces--known and unknown. The audience comprised of personalities like Professor Kabir Chowdhury, litterateur Ali Imam, poet Rafiq Azad and many others. Also present were journalists from newspapers, photographers and camera crew from TV channels, and about a hundred poetry-lovers from all age groups. And at the centre of all attractions was sitting one of Bangla poetry's most celebrated poets, Sunil Gangopadhyay, with his wife Swati.

That Sunil is on a tour in Bangladesh with a view to visiting his birthplace at Majpara village in Madaripur has been a talk of the town during these three or four days. And thousands of Sunil's admirers--lovers of his poems, novels, travelogues and detective stories--have been after the slightest opportunity to see the wizard of words, to get an autograph as one of the most precious souvenirs of their life.

At the Gazi Bhaban gathering Sunil Gangopadhyay was being given a reception from 'Muldhara', an organisation of writers, journalists and cultural activists. The function also introduced Razzak Howlader, a freedom fighter from Majpara, who was the architect of this 'pilgrimage' for Sunil.

The programme started with two of Sunil's favourite folk songs of Bangladesh, 'Amar har kala korlam re' and 'Amay eto ratey kenao dak dil pran kokila re'. Sunil said that it is not for the attraction of the birthplace, rather for the love of people living in this country, their hospitality and culture that he has come to Bangladesh.

Sunil Gangopadhyay left Bangladesh at the age of 14 around 1944 for staying with his father who was then teaching at a school in Kolkata. At the end of the World War II, when Japan bombed over the city, the Gangopadhays



Sunil Gangopadhyay

came back to Majpara for the Indian government closed all schools for one year on ground of safety. At that time closing of schools meant end of earning. After the War Sunil and his family again went to Kolkata as situation had improved by then, and this time for good. For after only two years there would be the saddening Partition of the great Indian subcontinent into two countries based on religion--India and Pakistan. And this would bring the inevitable halt to any possibilities of returning for the Gangulis.

During that one-year stay in Majpara in 1945, Sunil got admission into a school where he had his first High School lessons. Now that he visited the school

again, he found to his great delight and astonishment that the school is still there, much more developed than it had been in his times. He also found a pond exactly as it was before. Sunil expressed his utter ecstasy at the warmth he has received from people everywhere he has visited. He said that people of his village cordially invited him to stay and live in the village for the rest of his life. 'They even offered me lands and houses,' he said.

Razzak Howlader narrated how this remarkable event came to take place after a long time it had first come into his mind. Razzak, who is settled in Montreal in Canada, has an interest in visiting places where great people lived. He has so far visited homes of William Shakespeare, John Keats and some

other noted personalities. One day while reading a book of Sunil Gangopadhyay, he came to know that Sunil is from the same village that he hails from. And it struck him instantly how absurd it would be to visit all those foreign places whereas such a great person has his home in Bangladesh--his own country.

So Razzak wrote a letter to Sunil at his address of Ananda Bazaar. He however got no reply, and it would be quite a long time before he will be able to create any interest in Sunil. For Sunil was already detached from the ordinary people by his star-like stature. Very interestingly, Razzak, after failing to get close to Sunil at several occasions, turned to the poet's better-half Swati for help. And it is Swati who ultimately convinced Sunil into the enterprise.

Sunil expressed his gratitude to Bangladesh's most popular novelist Humayun Ahmed for writing a very hearty welcome note in the *Daily Prothom Alo* on May 1 issue. In the write-up, Humayun proposed to the government of the country to consider conferring honorary citizenship to Sunil Gangopadhyay.

Indeed, Sunil Gangopadhyay is the poet who has touched innumerable Bangali poetry-lovers in their youth by a colossal volume of poems--all so very romantically sad and memorable. As child-litterateur Ali Imam put it, 'Sunil is our most favourite poet after Rabindranath Tagore and Buddhadev Basu.'

This year will certainly remain very remarkable in the life of Sunil Gangopadhyay. For the year marks 50th anniversary of the little magazine *Krittibas*, which saw its publication by Sunil in the monsoon of 1953. This year the poet will get 70. And this year he came back to his homeland, his birthplace, his roots, may be for a short while but obviously achieving a great impact. The year 2003 will remain memorable also to us, the bemused lovers of Sunil's poems.

Music

# A wonderful evening with classical music

Death anniversary of Ustad Abed Hossain Khan observed

NOVERA DEEPTA

TO mark the seventh death anniversary of Ustad Abed Hossain Khan, the 'Ustad Ayet Ali Khan Sangeet Niketon' organised a discussion and classical instrumental musical programme at the Goethe Institut on April 30.

Two musicians--Deb Prasad Chakrobarty on the Setar and Malob Dashgupta on the Tabla--came from Kolkata that evening to play with the Bangladeshi musicians. They played *Jugalbandi* in Raga *Puriya Kalayan*. The twin grand daughters of Abed Hossain Khan, Afsana and Rukhsana Khan and their father played along with the guest artists from Kolkata.

When all were playing the

orchestra wearing red and golden Panjabees, they enchanted the audience with the rendition of pure classical music. A *Jugalbandi* was played by the twin grand daughters in raga *Manjh Khambaj*. *Bhim Palosi* was played by Rinat Fouzia on the Setar. Shanjib Majumdar accompanied her on the Tabla.

Earlier there was a discussion on the great musician Ustad Abed Hossain Khan. Famous musician Shudhin Das spoke about the contribution of Abed Hossain. He said, 'Ustad Abed Hossain Khan taught in the music school, prepared the syllabus of Dhaka University, National University and Text Book Board. He was also involved with directing music in various movies and earned fame in the international field in music direction through the famous film



Ustad Abed Hossain Khan

titled *Nadi Onari*. He referred to Ustad Abed Hossain Khan as an expert in Setar and Sarod, and played these instruments regularly on the radio and television from its very inception. 'He received the Ekushey Padak in 1985 and also got due honour from different institutes.'

Cultural Secretary Najmul Ahsan Choudhury and the Chairman of Nazrul Institute, Mobarak Hossain Khan spoke on the occasion. They pointed out that the practice of classical instrumental music should be carried on by the musicians since it acts as a bond- age of all music of the world.

Celebration

# May Day for the mass



CULTURE DESK

FANTASY Kingdom observed the historical May Day by holding two-day long colourful programme for those who work from dawn to dusk to

build the country. Fantasy Kingdom offered a special gift of 'free entry' for the people on this occasion.

Gonosangeet performer Fakir Alamgir, singer Agoon, and film actress Moushumi and actor Rubel

performed for the audience.

Besides, famous band Prometheus gave a concert of its popular tracks.

Surely this will remain an exemplary endeavour by the Fantasy Kingdom authority.

# TV GUIDE

<b>BTV</b>	9:40 Suvecha Neen 10:00 <b>Dhaka Test: South Africa Vs Bangladesh Day-3 Live From Bangabandhu Stadium</b> 11:00 News Headline 12:00 News Headline 1:00 News 2:00 News Headline 3:00 News In English 5:00 News Headline 5:05 National Television Debate 6:45 News For Children 6:50 News Desh Jonopodh 6:10 Gitanjali 6:35 Programme Of Chittagong Centre 7:00 News Headline, Stock Exchange, Weather Forecast 7:05 Mati O' Manush 7:30 Louk Lakaloy 8:00 News At Eight 8:30 Drama Serial 9:00 Drama: Julekhar Deen Rattri 10:00 News At Ten 10:25 Songbad Protibedon 10:30 <b>The X-Files</b> 11:30 Late Night News/News Headline
<b>CHANNEL-i</b>	6:15 Islamic Programme 7:15 Prothom Sur 9:30 Music Plus 10:00 Drama Serial: Khoda Boxer Hat 11:00 Radhuni Ranna 11:30 Flop Show 12:15 Tara O'Shampa Reza 12:50 Drama: Purbaragh 2:00 <b>Bangla Feature Film: Prohori</b> 5:35 Jonopoder Khabor 5:45 Special Programme 6:10 Music Plus 6:45 Baniya O' Arthonithi 7:15 <b>Channel-I News</b> 7:45 Ispahani-I Tele Quiz (Q) 7:55 Unnayan Manusher Jyanna 8:25 <b>Drama Serial: Griha Golpo</b> 9:00 Channel-I News 9:31 Ispahani-I Tele Quiz (R) 9:35 <b>Drama Serial: Akannoborti</b> 10:00 Drama: Khela 10:25 Channel-I Mobile Quiz 10:30 Channel-I News 11:15 Sangbad Pothre Bangladesh 11:30 Live Telecast Of Btv 12:15 Channel-I News

<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	6:00 Islamic Prog 8:00 Atn Bangla News 8:25 Irani Serial Dubbed In Bangla: Ibne Cina 9:00 Reporting Prog: Ghotona Probah Sports Magazine 9:35 "Stadium" 10:10 English Serial Dubbed In Bangla "Secret Woman" 12:00 Atn Bangla News 12:30 The Daily Newspaper Discussing Prog: Ajker Sangbadpotro 12:40 Musical Prog: Atn Music 1:20 Bengali Feature Film : Sonar Singsar 4:20 New Singer Competition Prog: Nabin Boran 4:50 The Daily Newspaper Discussing Prog: Ajker Sangbadpotro Gram Gonger Sangbad 5:00 Musical Prog: Saat Rang 6:25 Islamic Prog: Islamee Sawal O Jawab 7:00 Atn Bangla Evening News 7:30 Musical Prog: Surer Madure 8:05 Drama Serial: Sandatara 8:40 Musical Pro: Atn Bangla News 9:00 Drama Serial: Amar Thekana 10:00 Atn Bangla News 10:30 Special Prog On Korean Culture Rhythm Of Korea 11:00 Atn Bangla News 12:00 <b>Bengali Feature Film: Jebon Sangeet</b> 6:30 Summer School 8:30 Star Trek: Insurrection 10:30 Maverick 1:30 The Funhouse 3:00 Turbulence 5:00 Executive Decision 7:45 A Simple Wish 9:30 <b>48 Hrs (Eddie Murphy, Nick Nolte)</b> 11:30 Masterminds 1:45 Deadly Species 3:30 Cinema Secrets Iii: 5- Racing Through Times 4:00 Maverick
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<b>AXN</b>	6:30 The Right Stuff 7:30 Relic Hunter The Light Of Truth 8:30 Now See This 9:30 Guinness World Records: Primitime 10:30 Ripley's Believe It Not! 11:30 Fear Factor 12:30 <b>Movie: Twister</b> 2:30 <b>Movie: Deep Impact</b> 4:30 Rated 5:30 Rescue 911 6:30 24 3:00 Am 4:00 Am 7:30 Csi Crime Scene Investigation A Little Murder 8:30 Axn Action Premiere <b>Movie: Clear And Present Danger</b> 11:30 <b>Movie: Return To The Blue Lagoon</b> <b>STAR GOLD</b> 7:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet - 20 M 7:30 Diksha 10:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 11:00 Geet Gata Chal 11:30 Kuch Yaadein Kuch Baatein Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 12:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet - 20 M 12:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 12:30 Erineet Goest To Africa Hindi Dubbed 3:00 Without Ticket 3:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 3:30 Aftatoon 6:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 7:00 Celebrte With Music 7:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 7:35 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet - 20 M 8:00 Jubilee Plus 8:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 8:30 <b>Movie: Isho (Amir Khan, Jui Chawala, Ajoy Devgon, Kazal)</b> 11:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 12:00 Teesri Kasam <b>ADVENTURE ONE</b> 5:00 Explorer's Journal 6:00 The Hunt For Amazing Treasures 7:30 Boot Camp
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<b>TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>HBO:</b> 9:30 p.m. <b>48 Hrs.</b> Oddball cop and tough guy, Jack Cates is the only survivor of a cop shooting and in hunting down the murderer collects Reggie Hammond from jail for 48 hours. Hammond is oddly motivated to help. The killer is searching for his stash of cash. Cates and Hammond who have the Black-white, cop-crook thing to work out make surprisingly good partners as they navigate through the city looking for their suspect. <b>AXN:</b> 8:30 p.m. <b>Clear and Present Danger.</b> Harrison Ford returns as intrepid CIA Agent Jack Ryan. When his mentor Admiral James Greer becomes gravely ill, Ryan is appointing acting CIA Deputy Director of Intelligence. His first assignment: investigate the murder of one of the President's friends, a prominent U.S. businessman with secret ties to Colombian drug cartels.
<b>STAR SPORTS</b>	8:00 World Of Rugby The Irb's World Of Rugby (T) 8:30 Dhaka, Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs South Africa 2nd Test, Day 3, Highlights (R) 9:55 <b>South Africa Tour Of Bangladesh Grameen Phone Test Series 2003 Dhaka, Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs South Africa 2nd Test, Day 4, 1st Session (L)</b> 12:00 Nba Inside Stuff (R) 12:30 Dhaka, Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs South Africa 2nd Test, Day 4, 2nd & 3rd Session (L) 5:00 Race Day Barcelona, Spain Spanish Grand Prix (L) 5:45 Formula One 2003
<b>STAR WORLD</b>	6:00 J.A.G 7:00 Billboard Us 7:00 Countdown 9:00 The Lost World 10:00 Ally Mcbeal 11:00 Mutant X 12:00 Artistic Licence 12:00 Dark Angel 3:00 Kids Say The Darndest Things 3:30 Travel Asia 4:00 Baywatch Hawaii 5:00 The Simpsons 5:30 Malcolm In The Middle 5:45 Formula One 2003

<b>PICK OF THE DAY</b>	<b>Selena</b> On Star Movies at 9.00 p.m. 'Selena' tells the story of Latin Queen Selena Quintanilla-Perez, who was the most popular Latin Singer at the time of her tragic death at the age of only 23 years in 1995. The film tells the story of the singer as she is accidentally discovered by her own father at the age of 10. Her life story takes off when Jennifer Lopez accurately portrays Selena through her unforgettable concerts, her family struggles, and her secret marriage to her guitarist Chris Perez.
<b>NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC</b>	6:00 Nick's Quest 6:30 Me & Issac Newton 8:30 Kiwi Buddha 9:30 Ron Haviv 10:30 Mission Everest 11:00 Nick's Quest 11:30 Video Diary 12:00 Piranha! 12:30 Thai Boxing: A Fighting Chance 1:00 Next Wave S2 2:00 National Geo-Genius 2:30 Mission Everest 3:00 Built For The Kill 4:00 Animal Attraction
<b>STAR PLUS</b>	6:00 Mirch Masala 6:30 Geet Bahar 7:30 Dr Morepen Tango - San 8:25 Film Topper-301 Series 8:30 Gurukul-Ancient Wisdom Of In 9:30 Jai Mata Ki 10:30 Yatra 11:00 Samnewali Khidki 11:30 Hai Na Bolo Bolo 12:25 Film Topper-301 Series 12:30 Chupa Rustam 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yarron 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:00 Taaza Hits 2:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet - 20 3:00 Mail Milap 3:30 Mera Sapno Ki Rani

5:30 Chupa Rustam 6:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet - 20 6:30 Fox Kids Sunday-500 Series 7:00 Mission Everest 7:25 Film Topper - 301 7:30 Sonpari 8:00 Jubilee Plus 8:30 <b>9th Annual Star Screen Award</b> 11:30 Chupa Rustam 12:00 Taaza Hits <b>STAR MOVIES</b> 7:30 In Her Defense 9:15 Against All Odds 11:30 The End Of The Affair 1:15 O Brother, Where Art Thou? 3:15 Nina Takes A Lover 5:00 Without Limits 7:00 The Touch 9:00 Selena 10:45 The Order 7:30 Sant Asaram Vani 8:00 Shri Krishna 9:00 Shree Ganesh 10:00 Mahabharat 11:00 Bourvita Quiz Contest 11:30 Honey I Shrunk The Kids 12:30 Kya Hadsaa Kya Haqeeqat 1:30 Sunday Matinee 5:00 Harmony 5:30 Chartist 6:00 Music Mantra 6:30 Disney Hour 7:30 Kapil Di Se 8:00 Cricket Masters 8:30 Kya Hadsaa Kya Haqeeqat 9:30 Bollywood TimeS 11:30 Shaam-E-Ghalib <b>ESPN</b> 8:00 Premiership Extra 9:00 Nba Action 9:30 School Quiz Show 10:00 Espn School Quiz 2003 Review Show 10:30 Cricket Gold 1:30 English Premier Football League 3:30 Hai Na Bolo Bolo 3:30 England Liverpool Vs Manchester City 3:30 Nba Playoffs First Round, Game 6 5:30 Uefa Champions League Highlights 2002/03 Uefa Champions League Weekly 6:30 Sportscenter Weekend
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6:35 Australia Tour Of West Indies The Cable & Wireless Test Series 2003 Barbados, West Indies West Indies Vs Australia 3rd Test, Day 3, Highlights 8:00 <b>Australia Tour Of West Indies The Cable And Wireless Test Series 2003 Barbados, West Indies West Indies Vs Australia 3rd Test, Day 4, 1st Session (Live)</b> 10:05 Western Union World Football 10:35 <b>Australia Tour Of West Indies The Cable And Wireless Test Series 2003 Barbados, West Indies West Indies Vs Australia 3rd Test, Day 4, 2nd &amp; 3rd Session (Live)</b> <b>TEN SPORTS</b> 6:30 Speed 7:00 Heat 8:00 New Zealand Tour Of Sri Lanka '03: 1st Day, 2nd Test H/Ls 10:00 <b>New Zealand Tour Of Sri Lanka '03: 2nd Day, 2nd Test (Live)</b> 6:30 Pick Of The Week 7:00 Chili Factor 7:30 Bajaj Caliber 115 Sports Update 7:35 Trans World Sports 8:35 New Zealand Tour Of Sri Lanka '03: 2nd Day, 2nd Test H/Ls 10:55 Bajaj Caliber 115 Sports Update 11:00 Bajaj Caliber 115 Cricket Ratings 11:30 Bajaj Caliber 115 Sports Update 11:35 Bajaj Caliber 115 Cricket Ratings 12:00 Robot Wars <b>CARTOON NETWORK</b> 8:00 Justice League 8:30 X-Men Evolution 9:00 Johnny Bravo 9:30 Flintstones 10:30 The Cartoon Cartoon Show 11:00 <b>Tom &amp; Jerry Kids Tiny TV</b> 2:30 The Looney Tunes Show 3:00 Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries 3:30 The Powerpuff Girls
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4:00 The Mask Power Zone 4:30 ThunderCats 5:00 Centurions 5:30 Justice League 6:00 X-Men Evolution 6:30 Tom & Jerry Show 7:00 <b>The Popeye Show</b> 7:30 <b>The Scooby Doo Show</b> 8:00 Dexter's Laboratory 8:30 The Mask 9:00 X-Men Evolution 9:30 Tom & Jerry Show 10:00 The Powerpuff Girls 10:30 Top Cat 11:00 Two Stupid Dogs Power Zone - Late Night 11:30 ThunderCats 12:00 Centurions 12:30 The New Scooby Doo Movies <b>DISCOVERY</b> 8:30 Terra X the Oracle of the Desert: Magic of Siwa 9:30 Discover India: The Lost Temples Of India 10:30 Junkyard Wars: Kids 11:00 Going Wild With Jeff Conwin Idaho-Snake River 11:30 Real Kids Real Adventures: Apartment Rescue 12:00 Popular Mechanics For Kids Real Life Science Fiction 12:30 Eccentriks 1:00 Wedding Story Lisa & Dave 1:30 Extreme Wild Creatures of the Thaw 2:30 Shark Files: Sharks of the Red Triangle 3:30 Health in the Air 4:30 Air Rage 5:30 Amazing Worlds/Wonders of the World: Argentina 6:30 Motorworld: Italy Great Crimes And Trials: Wayne Williams: The Atlanta Killer 7:30 Before We Ruled The Earth: Hunt Or Be Hunted 8:30 Before We Ruled The Earth: Mastering The Beasts 9:30 Mystery of the Iceman 10:30 Night in the Savannah 11:30 Supernatural Science Open to Suggestion
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