RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

May 29 - June 12 Bengal Shilpalay organises an exhibition of recent works by Kalidas Karmakar titled 'Alluvial Faces' at the Bengal Gallery of

Fine Arts from May 29 to June 12.

May 22 - June 5

The inauguration of a painting exhibition by Kakoli and a sculpture exhibition by Reaz will take place at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka on May 22 at 6:00p.m. The exhibition will continue till June 5.

Music

May 24-26

Bengal Shilpalay will host a musical presentation titled Shongey Theko Sangeet, by young classical, instrumental and Nazrul artistes. The sched-May 25

Classical vocal by Amin Akhter Saadmani Flute by Murtaza Kabir Murad

May 26 Nazrul Sangeet by Bijon Chandra Mistri, Sadia Afreen Hamid Nijhum, Jalal Hasan and Mimi Farhana Hague. The programme starts every-

day at 7 p.m.



Film Festival

May 24 - 28

Organised by Dhaka University Film Society a film festival titled 'Satyajit Ér Chalachhitra' has started at the TSC auditorium, University of Dhaka. Screening schedule is as follows: May 25

10am - Jolsha Ghor, 12:30pm -Hirok Rajar Deshe, 3:30pm -Nayok, 6pm - Rabindranath O' May 26

10am - Oporajita, 12:30pm - Jono-Oronnya, 3:30pm - Oshoni Shonket. 6:00pm - Mohanagar

Brith anniversary

Kazi Shaheb

The rebel behind the fire

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

O many youngsters Kazi Nazrul Islam is perhaps only a portrait they see on media. A rather formidable looking youth with a fiery expression and careless raven locks or a wide eyed aging person with wispy white hair. It wasn't till recently when I addressed a group of bright young students at one of the most well-known schools in Dhaka that I realised how unknown Nazrul was to the young generation.

When I started to speak about Kazi Shaheb, it did not actually cause a stir among the students. Rebel poet? Soldier? Philosopher?

So I started again, this time asking them to write a few songs each, set tunes and deliver it within the shortest time possible. The songs would have to be of different tunes, subject matter and composition. This time I got a few puzzled looks. When they heard that Nazrul had been writing from age 11 despite being under privileged, having little education and at a time when he had to worry where his next meal would come from, I knew from their expressions that I had their interest.

Kazi Nazrul Islam's forefathers I went on, had come from Patna, the capital of Bihar, as Kazi or judge. His father had already lost whatever property he had inherited from his forefathers when Nazrul was born in the year 1899.

Nazrul learnt Arabic and Persian at the local makhtab or school But soon he had to quit school at the age of eight due to extreme poverty his family faced after his father's death.

Nazrul was mature beyond his age and showed talents far superior to his peers. At a very tender age of eleven he became the Imam of the mosque and worked at the makhtab to maintain his impoverished family of five. His keen interest in music led him towards a folk musical group called leto. He tried to imitate his uncle Bazley Karim and very soon mastered the technique of composing a song all by himself. He amazed the people by his ability to compose songs on different themes too. After a tre-



Kazi Nazrul Islam, the personification of Bengali literature.

mendous success as a Leto Kobi for four years he left for Churulia. There he worked as an apprentice

When Nazrul returned to Raniganj two of his teachers at the school had a strong influence on the young prodigy. Satish Kangilal was his friend philosopher and guide. He had profound knowledge on classical music. Whenever he had spare time he would impart lessons to his student at the altar. Secondly Nibaron Chandra Ghatok, who was linked with the revolutionary organisation, imbued Nazrul with the idea of armed struggle against the British

The first World War had already started three years back when Nazrul volunteered to join the

British Army in 1917. He was then preparing for entrance examination. Nazrul's intention to join the Bangalee platoon was not to fight for the British colonial power but to later on use the skills to fight against oppression by the Raj. The question of poverty and getting a job was also at the back of his mind.

Nazrul was first dispatched to Naushera and then to Karachi. In Karachi he rose to the rank of a Havildar, a British-Indian noncommissioned officer. But on reaching Karachi he found that the war front was quite a distance away at the borders of Mesopotamia and France.

There were soldiers in the barrack who could sing, play the flute, drums and the clarinet. Nazrul's keen musical senses drove him to take lessons from his fellow mates. A Pajabi teacher who was attached to the regiment was well versed in Arabic and Persian. Nazrul's prior knowledge in both the languages wee honed up under the supervision of the *Moulavi shaheb*. It was at this time that he developed acquaintance with the love songs of Persia known popularly as

Later on Nazrul translated the Rubaiyat-e-Hafeez by the great Persian poet which was finished after a long and laborious effort.

By now, Nazrul had learnt about the socialist revolution of Russia. This gave him an inspiration to fight for the cause of the down-trodden. Nazrul came of a poor family so he possessed an innate sympathy for the poor and the weak. He believed in socialism and used his fiery writing as an expression of his belief.

In the forties. Bengali theatre and music flourished. The trend was originated by non other than Kazi Nazrul Islam.

When Nazrul appeared on the literary scene of Calcutta, as a soldier poet, the literary world of Bengal was dominated by Rabindranath Tagore. Tagore had cast a spell over his contemporaries with his unique literary talent. This was the age of Tagore in Bengali literature and it was difficult for any poet or writer not be influenced by it. Nazrul too was influenced by Tagore and sang and recited the poems of Tagore with

But soon, events in the subcontinent left its mark on Nazrul and his writing took a defiant twist.

The anti-British movement had gained momentum. It reached a bloody stage in 1908 when, in consequence of an abortive attempt on Kingsford, Prafulla Chaki and Khudiram Bose sacrificed their lives in the struggle for freedom. The gruesome mass murder of Jalianwalabagh in 1919, the Khilafat movement in 1920 and the non co-operation movement started in 1920-21 changed the spirit of youth and the aged for-

As the country stood on the verge of bursting out in revolt, the Bengali songs appeared surprisingly sweet and tender, mainly because of historical influences. But having witnessed carnage and authoritarian rule, Nazrul's writing became rebellious. He wrote tirelessly and his work spread across

society like wildfire, opening its eyes to reality. To say that it started a cultural movement would be to understate it.

Young Nazrul was also a journalist. He was joint editor of Naba Yug The New Ear. This was banned very soon for the rebellious and inspiring attitude of the editorials written by him. In 1922 Nazrul came out with his bi-weekly

Nazrul's first book of poems A*gni Vina* were published in 1922. It was a compilation of the most notable collections of poems by Nazrul. The cover design was done by Abanindranath Tagore, one of the greatest painters of India and a member of the famous Jorashako family in which Tagore was born.

Out of his 77 years of life he lived a creative life of less than 24 years from 1918-1943 which ended after his sudden mysterious neurological illness. During this period he composed about 3000 songs which ranged from patriotic to ghazals, thumree, folk songs modern Bengali songs and much more. He authored 25 books on poetry, 3 novels, 3 books of translation, 29 plays and operas, 2 movie scripts, 5 books of essay and other writings. He was a composer, singer, lyricist, actor and director. His 1500 recorded songs is a feat that remains unbroken.

Nazrul had written "I will burn like an incense and spread the aroma -- without a stir or a word" His words were only partly true. His ideas had spread far and wide, but not silently as he had thought. He had stirred the spirit of a nation and he lives on in our minds.



Nazrul, surrounded by contemporary literary figures, way back in 1931.

Poem

Woman Kazi Nazrul Islam I sing of equality. In don't see any difference between a man and a woman. Whatever great or benevolent achievements here are in this world, half of that was by woman the other half by man. Whatever sin, grief, pain, tears-half of that was brought by man the other half by woman. Who calls you a hell-pit, woman? Tell him--the Original Sin wasn't a womanit was the male Satan! Or, the Sin or Satan is neither a man nor a woman but neuter, equally mixed with man and woman To all the flowers and fruits of the world woman has given to them their beauty, juice, sweetness fragrance. You've seen the Taj Mahal from the outside, but have you seen what's inside it? Inside it is Momtaz--the woman, outside it is Shah Jahan! Woman is the goddess of wisdom, music and harvest. Also the goddess of beauty-woman returns again and again in a variety of beautiful appearances. Man has brought the burning, scorching heat of the sunny day, woman has brought the peaceful night soothing breeze and cloud. She has given strength and courage during the day, as a bride at night. Man comes with desert-thirst, woman provides the drink of honey Man ploughs the fertile land, woman sows crops in it turning it green Man ploughs, woman watersthat earth and water mixed together bring about a harvest of golden paddy!

The Poet's Queen Kazi Nazrul Islam

Your love has made me a poet! The beauty that you see in me is the picture of your love for me! The sky, the wind, the light of dawn, the evening star, the morning sunthey all greet me as their own. They too love me because of your love for me! In your love my own self was hidden. In your sudden arrival my hope blossomed forth. It's you within me who plays the flute on my sword! All my preparations for worship are but offerings of your heart for me! My messages, my laurels of victory, O my queen--It's all because of you. It's your love that has made me a poet! The beauty that you see in me is the picture of your love for me!

Translated by Sajed Kama

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for

ATN BANGLA

Islamic prog-ATN Bangla News Bangla: Ibne Cina Reporting prog: Ghotona Probhah

Sports Magazine: Stedium

English Serial Dubbed in Bangla: Secret 12:00 ATN Bangla News

The Daily Newspaper Discussing Prog: Ajker Sangbadpotro 12:40 Special Musical Prog Birth Anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam

Bengali Feature Film Baba Keno Chakor Special Children prog Birth Anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam: Projapote Projapote The Daily Newspaper

Discussing Prog: Ajker Sangbadpotro Gram Gonger Sangbad Special Prog Birth Anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam

Bulbule Nerob Narges Bone Musical prog: Saat Rang Islamic prog: Islamee 6:25 Sawal O Jawab

7:00 ATN Bangla Evening Special Musical prog on Birth Anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam: Feroja Begomer Priyo Gan Special Drama on

Birth Anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam :Shilpe ATN Bangla News 9:25 Drama Serial: Ersha 10:00 ATN Bangla News

Special Musical Prog Birth Anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam Kar Bhashe Baze ATN Bangla News Bengali Feature Film:

Moucho

CHANNEL-i Programme For

Children

Musica

Programme: Tobu Tumare Debona Surer Bina Baje Auggnibina Kobi 12:45 01:00 Letto Ganer Aasar Stage Drama: Modumala 04:00 **Dukha Jibon** 04:30 Specia Drama:Jilimili 05:45 Prane Banie Bansi 06:10 Music Plus Nazrul-Ke Nibedito Kabitamala 07:15 Channel-I News Ispahani-I Tele Quiz 07:45 Drama Shiulimala 07:50 09:00 Channel-I News 09:31 Isphani-I Tele Quiz

Solo Musical 09:35 Programme: Sunder Authiti Talk Show: Nazrul Jodi Ey Addai Thakten 10:30 Channel-I News 11:30 Late Night News Of BTV 12:15 Channel-I News **HBO** 6:30 Ferris Bueller's Day Off

8:30 The Unsaid 10:45 The Ten Command-3:00 **Final Destination** 5:00 Casualties of War 7:00 Ransom 9:30 Saving Private Ryan 12:45 The Big Hit

2:30 The Unsaid 4:45 He Said, She Said AXN 6:30 The Right Stuff Relic Hunter 7:30 Vampire's Kiss 8:30 Now See This 9:30 Guinness World Records Ripley's Believe It or Not! 11:30

12:30

2:30

4:30

7:30

8:30

1:00 2:00 4:00 4:30 6:00 Fear Factor Movie: Die Hard 6:30 Movie: Sudden Death 7:00 Rated 7:30 CSI Crime Scene 9:00 10:00 **AXN Action Premiere**

Angels

STAR GOLD Sangeet - 20 M 7:30

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 Slam Dunk Ernest

Without Ticket Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 3:30 Raja Hindustani Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit Shri Shri Superstar Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet - 20 M Jubilee Plus Kuch Hit Kuch

Superhit 12:00 Naseem **ADVENTURE ONE** Explorer's Journal

The Hunt For Amazing Treasures Fires of War Football Fever Fresh Air Crew Out There Ornate Caves of Borneo Explorer's Journal Fire! Pain And Suffering **Danger Diaries** Poles Apart NG Explorer Explorer's Journal **Danger Diaries**

Movie: Charlie's Movie: I Still Know What You Did Last

driver and others.

Hit Filmein Hit Jahan Sati Wahar Bhagwan

3:25

7:00 7:35 8:00 Superhit 8:30 9th Annual Star Screen Award Kuch Hit Kuch

7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 11:30 12:00 Antarctic Wildlife Adventure

Football Fever

Fresh Air Crew

The Lonely Dorymen

Explorer's Journal

Football Fever

Out There

The proud owner of a Crysler, the poet sips a cup of tea, with Chandi his

Sheulimala

On Channel-i at 07:50 p.m. To mark the birth anniversary of rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam Channel-i will broadcast a special drama 'Sheulimala' on May 25 at 7.50 p.m.under the direction of Munir Hasan Chowdhury . Starring: Shujit Mustafa, Fatematuz Zohora, Joseph Kamal Rodricks, Salauddin Ahmed, Mithu Rahman, Ajay Kumar, Aminul Haque Token and others.

HBO at 09:30p.m Saving Private Ryan In World

War II, it is found that 3 soldiers who have

been killed are brothers. The mother will be

were actually four brothers. A mission

is deployed to find Private James Ryan

The army discovers that there

Fresh Air Crew

Out There

WORLD

Benny Hinn

Thunderbirds

countdown

Beautiful

Darndest Things

and send him home.

10:30

11:00

11:30

STAR

6:00

6:30

7:30

8:30

10:30

receiving three death notices on the same day.



Feroza Begumer Priyo Gan

On ATN BANGLA at 07:30 p.m. ATN Bangla will telecast a programme 'Feroza Begum-er Priyo Gaan' to mark the birth anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam on May 25 at 7.30 PM. The programme will telecast some favourite songs of the legendary Nazrul singer Feroza Begum. Rare information and songs by famous singers will be the main attraction of the show.

AXN at 08:30p.m. Charlie's Angels. Three cute chicks work for the mysterious "Charlie". They are the female 'James Bonds" of our time. Charlie's private investigation company is addressed by programmer Eric Knox, owner of Knox Technologies, whose revolutionary voice-recognition software has been stolen. Charlie's Angels Natalie, Dylan and Alex are sent to place a bug in the system of bitter rival Roger Corwin, who is under strong suspicion.

4:30 Buffy The Vampire The Lonely Dorymen Slayer Kids Say the Darndest Things 6:00 Travel Asia 7:30 Kids Say the 6:30 Baywatch Hawaii

Ally McBeal

Artistic Licence

7:30 Futurama 8:00 Malcolm in the Middle 8:30 Kumars At 42 Billboard us Rendezvous With The Bold & The Simi Garewal Goodnessgradi

12:30

1:30

10:00 Top Drive 10:30 The X Files 11:00 Rendezvous With Sim Garewal 12:00 Dharma & Greq **STAR MOVIES**

Panic 9:15 Focus 11:00 Ghosts of Mississippi Vertical Ray of The Sun 1:15 3:15 Addicted To Love Remember The Titans 7:00 Corky Romano

8:45 Crazy/Beautiful 10:30 Focus Wet Hot American Summer ANIMAL PLANET

Wild Rescues Croc Files/Croc Hunter Diaries 9:30 Animal Planet Safari 10:30 Champions Of The Wild Cats/Velvet Claw 11:00 11:30 Planet's Funniest

Animals 12:00 Breed All About It **Animal Doctor** 1:00 Friday Rescues 2:30 Jeff Corwin Experience Island/Zookeepers

Animal Planet Safari

Supernatural

Animal Doctor

Lifesense

7:00 Friday Rescues Jeff Corwin Experience 9:30 Island/Zookeepers 10:00 Wild On The Set 10:30 Animal Planet Safari 11:30 Supernatural

4:30

5:30

6:00

6:30

12:00 Lifesense TARA BANGLA Tara Aloy

7:30 Jalshaghar 8:30 Tara News 9:30 Tara News Bangladesh 11:30 Tara News

NATIONAL **GEOGRAPHIC**

6:00 Nick's Quest Scientific American 6:30 Frontie Indian Diaries Through These Eyes 9:30 10:00 Cameramen Who 10:30 Mission Everest 11:00 Nick's Quest 11:30 On Assignment 12:00 Wild Orphans 12:30 Myths & Logic of Shaolin Kung Fu 1:30 Next Wave S2 2:00 National Geo-Genius

SR2 2:30 Mission Everest 3:00 Built for the Kill 4:00 Wild Orphans 4:30 NG Explorer 5:30 Return of the Mountain Lion Tomorrow's World 6:30 On Assignment 7:00 National Geo-Genius

SR2 7:30 Mission Everest Built for the Kill 8:00 9:00 Taming the Tigers Mission Everest 10:00 Wild Orphans 11:00 Next Wave S2

11:30 Avalanche Angles STAR PLUS 6:00 Mirch Masala Star Geetmala 6:30 Dr Morepen Tango 7:30

Film Topper-301 Series

8:25

Gurukul-Ancient 1:00 Wisdom of In 1:30 Jai Mata Ki 10:30 Yatra Samnewali Khidki 11:00 3:30 11:30 Hai Na Bolo Bolo 12:25 Film Topper-301 Series Musafir Hoon Yarron 1:00 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:00 Taaza Hits 2:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangee 2:25 Mail Milap 2:30 Ziddi Hit Filmein Hit Sangee 6:00 20 6:25 Taaza Hits Fox Kids Sunday-500 6:30

Series

Sonpari

Jubilee Plus

Kasamm Se

Aaj Dekk

Sant Asaram Vani

Bournvita Quiz Contest

Shri Krishna

Mahabharat

Kids

Harmony

Disney Hour

Kapil Dil Se

Hageegat

Rupaya

Attack!

Kids Water

Popular Mechanics for

Shree Ganesh

Taaza Hits

Mission Everest

Film Topper - 301

Kismey Kitnaa Hai Dam

7:00

7:25

7:30

8:00

8:30

11:00

12:00

SONY

7:30

8:00

9:00

10:00

11:00

11:30

12:30

1:30

5:00

5:30

6:00

6:30

7:30

8:00

8:30

9:30

10:30

11:30

12:30

Great Crimes And Trials: 8:30 Ultimate Guide Volcanoes 9:30 Volcanoes Night Safari: Silhouettes of The Desert Supernatural Science Bermuda Triangle

Fccentriiks

Wedding Story:

Two Worlds

If We Had No Moon

World and Count

The world

Extreme Wild: Between

Shark Files: Danger

Amazing

Worlds/Wonders of

Jeremy Clarkson's

Motorworld: Cuba

TEN **SPORTS** 6:30 Speed 7:00 8:00 Sri Lanka, New

Zealand, Pakistan Triangular '03: 6th ODI, NZ vSLH/Ls Pick of the Week European PGA Golf 11:30 '03: Volvo PGA Champ Day 3 Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Pakistan Triangular '03: 7th ODI, Finals H/Ls Trans World Sports Telefonica World Series '03: Round 3. Magny Cours 6:30 Chilli Factor European PGA Golf

'03: Volvo PGA

'03: Volvo PGA

Champ Day 4

Sports Update

Sports Update

Honey I Shrunk The Kya Hadsaa Kya Haqeeqat Sunday Matinee Chartbusters Music Mantra Bajaj Caliber **Cricket Masters** Kya Hadsaa Kya European PGA Golf Sunday Movie: Amdan Champ Day 4 Atanni Kharcha 9:30 Bajaj Caliber 11:30 Shaam-E-Ghalib

DISCOVERY Terra X: Curse of the Inca Gold Discover India :Nagarahole From An Indian Junale Junkyard Wars Kids Going Wild with Jeff Corwin Djuma, South Africa Bushbaby Real kids Real Adventures: Bear

European PGA Golf '03: Volvo PGA Champ Day 4 Sri Lanka, New Zealand. Pakistan Triangular '03: 7th ODI, Final H/Ls Bajaj Caliber 115 Sports Update Sri Lanka, New

Zealand, Pakistan Triangular '03: 7th Sports Update ODI, Final H/Ls

ODI, Finals H/Ls Bajaj Caliber 115 Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Pakistan Triangular '03: 7th