Godor Protikkhay: A translation of Beckett's play

Students of Theatre School stage the play

HE curtains go up on an empty stage with a tree at the middle -- this is a typical approach to Samuel Beckett's masterpiece Waiting for Godot. And the burnt sienna set suggests lifelessness. As soon as the action begins, two tramps-- Vladimir and Estragon-- wait by the tree expecting the imminent appearance of Godot. The clownish vagabonds' wait for an unknown being, 'Godot', has inner meaning: Who are the clowns? Who is Godot? And why they are waiting

of the 16th batch of Theatre School, the largest and oldest non formal theatre training institute of the country, staged Godor Protikkhay. Translated by Professor Kabir Chowdhury, the work has its roots in Beckett's Waiting for Godot, described as the 'thea-

tre of the absurd'. In the evolution of a new vision of mankind in relation to his environment and the universe, one may expect to see a large number of influences. Clearly, the idea that human beings are 'absurd' is by no means new. Fundamentally, human beings These questions cropped once are struggling with the irrational-

ity of experience, in a state of what has been described as 'metaphysical anguish'

The clowns thereafter come across a master and a slave, Pozzo and Lucky, and a boy who brings them a message that Godot will soon be there. However, he does not appear at all and everything becomes evident. The clownish vagabonds are nothing but revolutionaries and 'Godot' is the 'catalyst' for change. But, Godot does not show up and nothing changes ultimately. As a result

oppression persists.

Director Ataur Rahman's directorial composition, without giving emphasis to the inner

frustration, emptiness, weariness, hopeless waiting and cruelty of the characters, puts emphasis on stream of words, eternal weariness and childish farce. And the use of 'growling' to portray the 'frustration' was not effective. Because of all these, the production loses the essence of 'theatre of the absurd' and rather turns to a comedy. The interesting feature of the production is that 14 performers enacted the roles of five characters.

Nasirul Haque Khokon has made the suggestive 'tree' with a rope in the middle of the stage Logically, Khokon's light designing is very simple but effective Most of the time a 'dusk scene was created on the cyclorama. And twice the cyclorama turned to a 'moonlit night' scene to portray hope.

The performances by Joyita Mohlanobish Mishti and Sharmin Shonchita Khanom Piya were less declamatory and more natural. The rest of the actors need to refine their acting skills.

Godor Protikkhay was staged on June 12 at the Experimental Theatre Stage on the occasion of the certificate giving ceremony of Theatre School. Presided over by Professor Kabir Chowdhury, who is also the principal of Theatre School, Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury was the chief guest of the programme. Director-playwright-actor Abdullah Al Mamun, the vice-principal of the school, delivered the welcome speech. Eminent actor-director Ataur Rahman also spoke on the occasion. Theatre personality Ramendu Majumdar, the secretary of the school, was the host of the programme.

Movie Watch

Ranikuthir Baki Itihash: A visual delight

KARIM WAHEED

Samia Zaman's long-awaited directorial venture Ranikuthir Baki Itihash was recently released in movie theatres. The second film produced by ntv features popular actors Ferdous, Poppy and Alamgir in the lead

Samia makes no qualms about the genre of the movie: Ranikuthir Baki Itihash is an out and out mainstream movie. However, it stands out for a number of reasons. Unfortunately, nowadays, when one hears the terminology "commercial Bangla film", the image or perception attached is not a very positive one. Over the years, mainstream Bangla films have become devoid of aesthetic sense and good old fashion family-oriented entertainment (Ajker Hitler, Premik Rangbaj, Swami Chhintai - the titles suggest all).

Thanks to Samia's background (She has worked as a film editor for BBC London for five years) and an eye for aesthetics, Ranikuthir...has turned out to be a visual delight.

The murder-mystery follows a newly-wed couple Momo and Rudro, who move to an old mansion in a mufassil town. All is going well until Momo starts having visions; as if she has lived in the mansion before. Soon, the sense of déjà vu becomes overpowering and Momo is convinced a woman was murdered in the mansion years ago. Incidentally, she also comes to know that her parents used to live in the same house before her mother supposedly eloped andher father became mentally imbalanced in grief.

Torn between pressure from



Poppy and Ferdous in Ranikuthir Baki Itihash

close ones to "let the unpleasant past be" and perpetual curiosity, Momo uncovers a truth that completely changes her perception of her family history.

The most impressive aspect of this film is the location and cinematography. The old Nawab Manzil at Tangail provides a stunning setting. Seasoned cinematographer Maksudul Bari deserves applause for providing extraordinary imagery of the ordinary. The quintessential 'lovers prancing around a huge tree', the Kashbon, a deshi boat with a colourful sail gliding down some narrow river -- all have the potential to mesmerise the cine-goer who has been

alienated from mainstream Bangla movies.

Special attention to costumes is noticeable. Urban-hip outfits designed by Monidipa Dasgupta and Chandana Dewan give the characters identities that the audience can relate to. However, Bollywood-ish see-through, glittery items used in certain scenes could have been avoided.

Poppy as the 'damsel in dilemma', Momo, is refreshing. Though at times, she seems to be stuck in the mainstream moviestar archetype, her silent expressions are eloquent. Saying that the actress has never looked more ravishing would not be an overstatement. Even in the song

sequences that one might confuse for a saree commercial, the tall actress looks at ease. Ferdous as her husband, Rudro, does not have much to do except for looking concerned and he does it well. Veteran actor Alamgir in a crucial role and Tariq Anam Khan doing a cameo are credi-

Music director SI Tutul provides two catchy numbers (specifically Bhalo lagey...) rendered by Samina and Asif.

The movie does dawdle at points and the 'killer' can be easily guessed but Samia does come up with a fantastic surprise in the end that is sure to leave the audience content.

CULTURAL FEAST

Students of Theatre School perform in Godor Protikkhay

Sculpture Exhibition Artists: Jhunu Akter Venue: Alliance Française Gallery

Date: June 1-14 26th anniversary of Benuka Institute of

Fine Arts Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy Date: June 19

Time: 5:45pm

Football Movie Organiser: Goethe Institut Dhaka, German Club and German Embassy Venue: Goethe Institut Dhaka

Film: One Day in Europe. Date: June 14 Film: Soccer Rules

Date: June 16

Date: June 16

Time: 5:00pm

Time: 5:00pm Venue: German Club Film: The Eleven Devils Time: 11:00pm Film: Boleiros



A classical music soiree was held recently at Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi. Noted Indian artiste Sarthi Chattyopadhyay of 'Kirana Gharana' performed two ragas at the event. Sarthl became the 'best artiste' in All India Radio's music contest at the age of 17. He received his training in Khayal from Pandit Raian Mishra of 'Banaras Gharana'.

09:30

09:30

09:45

09:50

11:05

02:40

04:20

04:45

05:30

06:00

06:15

09:35

Channel-i

Mani Ratnam creates the magic of Mumbai in Chennai

All of Mani Ratnam's films are known for their hard hitting themes and the detailing that goes into them. This time too, the director has outdone himself by creating one of the grandest sets ever created, for his

forthcoming film, Guru. The set, erected in Chennai, depicts Mumbai of the 1950s. The art director, Sameer Chanda has done extensive research and given atten-tion to the minutest of details. It is complete with trams, houses and junior artistes in costumes of that



Aishwarya Rai

era. The exact location of the set is still a well-guarded secret. However, people who have managed a sneak peck can't stop raving about it.

A period film, Guru stars a grand cast of Abhishek Bachchan, Aishwarya Rai, Madhavan, Vidya Balan, Arya Babbar, Mallika Sherawat, and Mithun Chakravarthy.

Source: Internet



Abhishek Bachchan



Mission Impossible III, having made its global debut on May 5, is coming to Bangladesh. The Hollywood action thriller will be released in theatres in Bangladesh on June 16. DHL is the official logistics and shipping partner of the movie

The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm.

News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm.5:00

pm.8:00 pm. News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm. Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and

English) at 41:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA Nows (Bangla) at 7:00 am.10:00am 2:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11pm. News (English) 8:20am,7:00pm Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News Headines (Bangla) at 10:00 am. 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 am. 2:00 pm. 5:00 pm.7:30 pm.10:30 pm. Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA News Handkes (Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30

BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

STV	
0:00	Satellite Broadcast
2:15	Shongbadpotrer Pa Theke
2:30	Shawstho Tatthya
2-05	Hilal Tomal

03:30 Geet Bitan 04:00 Protashar Alo World Cup-2006 Highlights Protidin Bangladesh

Drama Serial: Shap Drama Serial: Neel Koshto Drama Serial Maakoy Chai Teknal Thekey Tetulia

ATN Bangla ATN Taroka (Gala Cinema Cinema Ganey Shurey Motamot

Shurochhobi Drama serial Bhalobashar Rong Drama Serial Anondo Bedona Islam Ki Boley Amra 04:20 Ki Kori

Daily World Cup **Chan Cholyokor** The Sword Of Tipu 08:00 Drama Seria

Drama Seria

Drama Serial: Bela 10:00 Obelar Golpo ntv 08:35 Alker Shokal Frankly Speaking Colours 10:30 Gallery 11:00 Circus Lights 12:05 Shurer Joisha Drama Serial: Labonya Probha 03:15 Drama Serial:

Amader Gaan

Sa Ro Ga Ma

Alokito Bangla

desh

Music Plus

Bishwa Cup

Roundup

Music Olub

RC Travel on

Drama Serial:

Badha

Talk Show

Mounotar Shutoy

Shukher Legiya Drama Serial: Hoi Hol Roi Roi Drama Serial: Andharer Jatn Citycell Face to Face Shongbad Potrey

Bangladesh Public Reaction Tritiyomatra Sports Time (Live) Al Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakotho Ebong Cinemar Public Reaction Selected Drama Bashundhara

03:50

04:25

05:10

05:20

06:20

06:50

08:25

09:10

09:50

11:25

Rtv

09:00

FIFA World Cup 2006 On ESPN at 07:00pm Group H: Spain Vs Ukraine Live from Leipzig

Ronger Manush



Dawn of the Dead On HBO at 09:30 pm Genre: Horror Cast: Ving Rhames, Sarrah Polley

Drama Serial:	09:30	Music Concert: Jaal	Bar.
Amader Anondo	10:00	Aj Potrekay	08
Bari	10:30	Jibon Chorcha	10
Tepantor Er Onushthan Itihasher Ei Dine /	12:05	Drama Serial; Shimul Tolir Ghat	01:
Din Dorpon	01:00	Air Combat	02
Apnar Jiggasha	02:30	Shoto Proshno	03
Chuhha Chandhun	03:30	Technology Today	03

Ki Kotha Tahar 05:05 Bishwa Jurey Siddiqua Kabir's 05:30 06:00 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu 06:30 Rtv Exclusive 06:35 Jugol Bondi Drama Serial: 08:00 Amader Anondobar Tolir Ghat Din Dorpon 08:50 Griho Shoili 09:20 Tomar Bina Tarer Faizunnesa

183

Swapno Dinar Gaar Footbali Camiva Ajker Bangladesh Drama Serial: Shimu Drama Serial: Nawab

Channel 1 Shuprovat Bangladesi

Cartoon :30 :30 :00 :00 Bangla Feature Film Nonggor Bishwa Jurey Goalmele German Drama Serial: Nokol 04:00 05:00 Zila Bulletin

Drama Serial: Rodey 05:15 Small Ville 06:30 Top News 07:00 Kaal Kotha 08:15 Tatkhonik Natok 09:00 Drama Serial: Khanone Kushum Koli 09:30 Game Show

Goalmele German

11:00

Banglavision

03:30 04:30 Amar Ami Drama Serial: Ghorchara Diner Sheshe Drama Serial: Gouro Chondrika 08:35 Bangla Vision Golder

02:30 Drama Serial: Album Cinebit Shada Kalo 03:00 Drama Serial: Shore Bishwa Cup Protidii

Luck Bhelk

Rong Meye

10:00 Bangla Feature Film

03:30 Sports Update The Simpsons 07:00 King Of Queens 07:30 Friends Seinfeld Beauty And The Geek

10:30

11:25

Assassination Of Richard Nixon Patriot. The STAR WORLD Whose Line Is It Anyway?

The Drew Carey Show The Oprah Winfrey 10:30 Dance Fever 11:30 The O.C. 12:30 North Shore The A Team The Oprah Winfrey The Bold And The Beautiful General Hospital

Beauty And The Geek

Sports Update

Media Bhuban

Sports Round-Up

Once Upon a Time in

Little shop of Horrors

Escape from Mars

Dawn of the Dead

Secret Window

Sleepy Hollow

Deep Rescue

Flash Gordon

America's Sweethearts

Soul Plane

STAR MOVIES

Larva

Finding John Christm

Mermaids

11:00

HBO

10:00

02:00

03:45

05:30

12:45

02:45

09:25

11:25

07:30

09:30

08:30

1:30

09:00

09:30

10:30

11:30

02:30

03:30

04:30

05:30

06:00

06:30

07:00

07:30

08:00

08:30

11:30

11:20 11:30 01:30 02:00 04:30 05:50 06:00 09:15 09:45 09:50

Seinfeld STAR SPORTS NATIONAL 09:30 Production Car World Rally Champ GEOGRAPHIC

Asian 9-Ball Tour Croc Chronicles Cricket Classics Nat Geo Wild Hitz Bug Attack 10:00 International Wild Indonesia Motorsports News People & Places 02:00 Samsung Nations Cup 5 Weddings & the Wimbledon Library World Culture Chase The Dew Cricket Classics Wild! Life Adventure 04:30 Tna Impact 05:30 Max Power Nat Geo Junior 06:30 Tna Impact Croc Chronicles 07:30 Icc Cricket World

Nat Geo Wild U.S. Open Golf Extinct Championship Storm Stories Cricket Classics Storm Stories 09:30 Sportscenter India Expeditions to the 09:31 Wimbledon Library ShowReal Asia Films Air Crash Investigation 10:30 Tna Impact Sportscenter India

Devils of the Deep 11:30 The Golf Club ESPN TEN SPORTS FIFA World Cup 09:30

09:00 WWE: Smackdown Cricket Classics 11:30 West Indies v India News Special 2nd Test Day 4 FIFA World Cur Cricket Classics NFL Cheerleaders Nba Finals 01:00 Gamer TV FIFA World Cup 01:30 02:00 News Special 02:30 Germany 2006 FIFA World Cup (Spain Vs Ukraine) Germany 2006 Sportscenter

Germany 2006

FIFA World Cup

(Tunisia Vs Saudi

(Germany Vs Poland))

FIFA World Cup

India in West Indies World of Athletics West Indies v India: 2nd Test Day 4 WWE: After Burn 06:30 West Indies v India Straight Drive

West Indies v India:

2nd Test Day 5