

In conversation

Mirana Zaman: Reminiscing on the past

MAHMUDA AFROZ

THE dedication and love that the yesteryear artistes had for their profession makes one look up to them with admiration and respect. Mirana Zaman is one such name who has been associated with Pakistan Betar (before Independence) and then with Bangladesh Betar since its inception. She gained popularity with the programme *Buniyadi Gonotanter Ashor* way back in the 1960s. The programme continues to be aired today under the name *Amar desh*.

Mirana has a unique story to share— unlike many from her generation who rebelled against family, society and in-laws. Her story is about a loving husband and encouraging in-laws who wanted her to be a part of the entertainment world, as they recognised her talent. "My husband loved songs and right after our marriage he bought me a tabla and harmonium and appointed a teacher. Can you imagine back in those times a husband keeping a teacher for his young bride so that she could learn to sing?" questions Mirana.

In Mirana's own words "I was obviously embarrassed to sing in front of my in-laws but they were so encouraging and supportive I relented ultimately." Her husband's job required them to travel quite often and in each of the places he would keep a teacher for her. "I was



Mirana Zaman (R) at a recording session with her colleagues

FILE PHOTO

hell bent on not learning, especially by wasting my husband's hard earned money and he was determined on making an artiste out of me."

Ultimately it was Mirana's sister-in-law Dr Nurunnahar Fyzzenessa who managed to cajole her into joining free music classes on Radio Pakistan. "She assured me they were free of cost, so I could learn

without feeling guilty. That's the only reason I joined," reminisces Mirana.

Soon her voice captivated her teachers and she began to get offers to do shows on the radio. And not long after, she got offers from some of the biggest names in the film industry to join movies. As she says, "I absolutely freaked out since I had preconceived notions of

film. I told my husband about it and while I was crying, my husband just laughed and told me to sign without hesitation.

"While on the one hand I sulked and accused my husband of being persistent, on the other hand I signed on two Urdu movies- *Jaha baje shehna* and *Kangan*. Since then Mirana has worked in over 100 movies and has been a regular staff

There is no reason why young talents from good families shouldn't join films

artiste on Bangladesh Betar.

"Even though it has been over 40 years, I still go to Bangladesh Betar where they air the programme *Amar desh*. It is designed to appeal to the villagers, to spread awareness about various issues. It was a unique theme back in my times," asserts Mirana. She continues, "People respect me and that's actually where I belong. Radio gave me a new lease of life and I am grateful for that."

Mirana likes seeing young energetic people join the industry. Her viewpoints have drastically changed from the time she joined the media; she is proud that girls from good families are flocking to be a part of the industry. "There is no reason why young talents from good families shouldn't join films. While there is an indecent trend in film, there seems to be a gradual revival of a congenial atmosphere. Earning respect in the media world depends largely on one's personality," says Mirana.



"I have always been keen to play the romantic role of Sophia Lauren in Sunflower"
--Dolly Zahur

Dolly Zahur is a name to reckon with on the small screen. Her launching pad was the TV drama *Eishob Dindratri* which won much acclaim. Dolly became the *bhabi* everyone adored. She went on to work in several TV serials, single-episode plays and some feature films. Among the films she is remembered for her performances in *Shankoneel Karagar* and *Agun-er-Poroshmoni*.

In a recent chat with *The Daily Star*, she candidly spoke on a gamut of issues. Excerpts:

What is your most treasured possession?

Without a doubt my son.

Your favourite food?

Nothing in particular, I am carnivorous.

What would you do if you were marooned on a deserted island?

I will wait for the time to end and in the meantime watch the sunset.

How about the best compliment you have ever received?

Being dubbed as 'easy going'; I can get along with anyone.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done?

I don't believe in doing crazy illogical things.

Your most embarrassing moment?

I know how to adjust to embarrassing situations, hence don't get embarrassed.

What is your dream role in movies?

I have always been keen to play the romantic role of Sophia Lauren in 'Sunflower.'

What is your musical favourite?

Khachar bheetor ocheen pakhi.

Your favourite hang out places in Dhaka?

Home is where the heart is.

Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?

Trying to make my son a good human being

A moment you would like to remember?

Many good times spent with my husband.

Are you a believer in the new age therapies like meditation, yoga and crystal therapy?

I believe in walking.

Theatre Institute, Chattagram Learning the ropes of art forms

ERSHAD KAMOL

Eighty-four students have completed training on four sections of art forms -- theatre, dance, music and fine arts -- from Theatre Institute of Chattagram recently.

The institute offers three-month certificate courses in performing and fine arts. In its first academic curriculum, Theatre Institute, Chattagram offered foundation courses on stage design, Tagore songs, *Bharat-natyam* and painting.

Professor Monsur-UI Karim, Golam Sarwar, Shila Momen and Aminul Islam Hiru conducted the

courses.

The stage design course included set, light and costume design. Golam Sarwar, the chief instructor, conducted the course on set design while Thandu Raihan conducted a course on light design. Irene Parveen Lopa was the costumes design instructor.

Shila Momen on Tagore songs and Aminul Islam Hiru instructed the students on *Bharatnatyam*.

Fine arts students learnt basics of drawing, figure study, different media such as oil paint, acrylic, tapestry, mixed media and others. Professor Monsur-UI Karim was the chief course instructor.

Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation, ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury, also a patron of Theatre Institute, Chattagram, distributed certificates among the students. Dr Anupam Sen attended as special guest. Ahmed Iqbal Haider, director of the institute delivered the welcome speech. Evaluating the course, Haider said, "The first phase is satisfactory. We hope to extend the duration of the courses and boost the standard. We believe that Theatre Institute, Chattagram has the potential to create talented artistes."



Young ones at a practice session

Nazrul's death anniversary Special programmes on ntv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The country is set to observe the death anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam on August 27. Ntv will telecast daylong special programmes on the occasion. These include musical soirees, talk shows and special TV plays.

Malobika

Malobika, a special musical programme based on Nazrul songs will be telecast at 10:05am.

Duranta Pothik

Directed by Golam Sohrab Dodul and

adapted by Manik Manobik, the single episode special TV play *Duranta Pothik* will be telecast at 10:30am. The play revolves around a veteran artist and freedom fighter who has lived overseas for a long time. Acutely sensitive to the bleak present day situation of the country, he immerses himself in social work. The drama features Aly Zaker, Amirul Haque Chowdhury and others.

Bhalobasho Mor Gaan

A special episode on Nazrul songs will be hosted by eminent singer Ferdousi Rahman. Produced by Deepu Mahmud, the show will be



Swapna Nattayadal perform in Poddokhira

aired at 12:05pm.

Nazruler Lokogeeti

The programme *Nazruler Lokogeeti* is based on folksongs by Nazrul. The host, eminent folk singer Kiron Chandra Roy is the main attraction of the show. The show features popular singers Chandana Majumdar, Ambia Rahman and others. The programme is scheduled to be aired on 3:15pm.

Poddokhira

Poddokhira, a stage play, based on a story by our National Poet, will be aired at 3:50pm. Theatre troupe Swapno Nattayadal will perform. The drama features: Mahmud Jisan,

Jewel Arafat, Ali Hasan and others.

Baje Bansher Banshi

The musical programme *Baje Bansher Banshi* will be aired at 5:20pm. The show based on flute recitals along with Nazrul songs will be anchored by eminent Nazrul singer Sadya Afreen Mallick. Flute player Jalal Ahmed will perform at the show.

Gaaner Pakhi

Popular singer Fatema tuz Zohra will render Nazul songs. The show will be telecast at 6:50pm.



Aly Zaker (C) and co-artistes in a scene from Duranta Pothik

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTV

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, 12:15am.

Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News (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.

ntv

News Headlines (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 Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 7:30pm.

Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

BTV

09:15 Satellite Broadcast
11:15 Tommy Mahar
Kitchen

12:05 Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke

12:30 Maa O Shisur Kotha

01:00 Shukhi Poribhar

02:15 Drama

03:30 Matri Bhasha

04:30 Nabo Anande Jago

05:05 Chalantika

05:30 Selected Programme

06:10 Aparupa Bangladesh

06:35 Jiboner Alo

07:00 Sangita

07:30 Shamoyer Shonglap

08:35 Protidin Bangladesh

08:45 Weekly Drama

10:25 Teknaf Thekey Tetulla

10:30 Apnar Shawsthyo (Live)

ATN BANGLA

09:15 Drama Serial: Tushar

10:30 Anyodristi

12:15 Bangla Feature Film

03:45 ATN Rannaghar

04:20 Shundor Jiboner Jonyo

05:10 Amader Joto

05:45 Islami Sawaal O Jobab (Live)

06:20 Prapok

08:00 Drama Serial: Hortoner

08:30 Drama Serial: Ferari

09:00 Musical Programme

09:30 Drama Serial: Mon Tu

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameneen Phone

12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citicell

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

01:30 Shongbadpotrey

01:45 Public Reaction

02:40 Apni

03:05 Hridoye Mati O

05:30 Manusher Daak

04:05 Amader Gaan

04:25 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 RC Tones & Tunes

06:00 Music Plus

06:20 Amar Chhobi

07:50 Drama Serial: Ferari

08:20 Drama Serial: Shutoy

09:35 Lux Channel i Super

12:00 Grammenphone Aikjer

ntv

08:35 Sidkiy Kabir's

09:00 Recipe

09:30 Ki Kotha Tahar

10:05 Chalochchitro Kotha

10:30 Dhakar Cinema

10:50 Muktiangan

01:05 Mega Serial: Ranger

02:35 Labonyoprobha

03:15 Manush

03:50 Amader Anondo Bari

04:25 Mon Amar Shondhan

05:15 Dindarpan

05:20 Mohilangan

06:20 Shubho Shondhya

08:25 Drama Serial: Kachher

09:00 Manush

09:00 Glamour World

10:00 Drama Serial: Kuhak

11:25 Dindarpan

Rtv

10:30 Grihoshaili

11:30 Bishwa Jurey

12:05 Antoronyo Alap:

Jugobandi

02:30 Islamic programme

04:20 Heart Beat

05:05 Swapno Diner Gaan

05:30 Children's Programme

06:00 Aikjer Bangladesh

06:35 Shaptaho Jurey

08:00 Drama Serial: Biyer

Right Click

08:50 Cookery Show

09:20 Drama Serial: Shure

Aka Chhobi

10:45 Rtv Exclusive

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangla-

desh

10:00 Cartoon

10:30 Bangla Feature Film

02:00 Expression

04:00 Drama Serial: Kanone

Kushum Koli

04:30 Saaj Bela

05:15 Small Ville

06:00 Saaj Bela

06:45 Jonotar Ishitihar

07:00 Drama Serial: Shombhabonar

Bangladesh

08:15 Amar Nayokera

09:00 Drama Serial: Kanone

Kushum Koli

09:30 The One

PICK OF THE DAY



Amader Joto Kotha On ATN Bangla 05:10pm Programme on indigenous culture Host: Dr. Afsar Ahmed



Ferari On Channel i at 07:50pm Drama Serial Cast: Taukir Ahmed, Richi, Tony Deyes

Drama

03:30 Matinee Movie - Doli

Saja Ke Rakhna Movie

06:30 Contd. Movie

07:00 Music Mantra Music

07:30 Charbusters Music

08:00 Rishton Ki Dor Drama

08:30 Kaisa Ye Pyar Hai

Drama

09:00 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si

Drama