

# The Longest Street Painting in the World

A Useful Collection of Media Write-ups

THE work of the creation of the world's longest street painting began at Landskrona center, at Sweden in May. This year. Within three weeks approximately 525 meters of Eriksgatan and Storgatan, from "Folkets Hus" to the pharmacy will be covered with happy colourful patterns. "A splendid idea," said artist Ruhul Amin Kajol, who was directing the project.

"Heaven on Earth" is the name of the street painting, which is going to give Landskrona a space in the next publication of the Guinness Book of Records. "When the gray asphalt is transformed and becomes beautiful and alive, then the atmosphere in the city is delightful too," says Kajol, who originally comes from Mymensingh, Bangladesh. He has studied ceramics at the Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Kajol has also had more than 20 exhibitions in Bangladesh, Denmark, Finland, Sweden

and Spain. These days Kajol lives and works in Denmark. He has taken part in the work of making the world's longest wall painting in Spain.

"That was an exciting arrangement and it took us 12-13 days to complete," says Kajol, who is calculating with three weeks in Landskrona. Then the painting will cover Eriksgatan and Storgatan between "Folkets Hus" and the Pharmacy. "The problem, is the weather," says Kajol, looking up in the sky and at its gray clouds. It should be summer weather now, but we hope that it will be dry in the coming days.

The carnival committee who have been taking the initiative for the street painting, hopes that the street painting will be a successful tourist attraction this summer.

"We think it will attract a lot of people and this is a big cultural event," says Per Leteus at the carnival committee.

Hopefully the whole project was an economical success with the help from different company as donors.

"I have done many big paintings before but this is the funniest I have ever done. I hope that also the people in Landskrona are proud for it," said Kajol.

He had had 30 painters from Denmark who have helped him since 30th of May.

"I hope that all the people who have helped me will also have learnt something which can be useful for them later in life. Per Leteus from the Karneval committee was satisfied with the painting. There is no painting which is this long, not any what they know about any way," he said.

"This is the biggest commission in my life," said Kajol, who spread some roses over the Danish youth who had been working hard. On the street you can now find people, animals, nature and traditions. All living creatures around us painted at Landskrona streets, said Kajol who received applause and hugged his fellow workers.

The opinions about this painting is divided. The people who are against it have spoken about the traffic trouble it makes. The people in favour of the painting are happy. "No one wanted the Eiffel Tower either, when it was built. Look

how many people who are coming just to see that," said one of the Gert Gunnarsson, an onlooker.

People also had different opinions at the inauguration. Some thought that it was very nice with the music and colours while others thought it was ridiculous.

A summary of reports from various newspapers in Denmark.



## A Painter's Penchants and Problems

by Fayaza Haq

LAILA Sharmin's new collection of prints, scheduled for the next exhibition, comprise etchings based on the earlier theme of T S Eliot's "The Hollow Men", seen earlier at Alliance Franciase Gallerie last April.

Visiting Laila's studio, one found her bent double over her favourite occupation — making prints. In "Hollow Men in the Twentieth Century-1" one sees a flat creation in which a figure is sketched with triangular face, slanted eyes and upturned nose. The bosom is brought in subtilly in the left, while the subject is surrounded by apparently careless strokes, in crosses and zig-zag forms. The use of occasional pale colours and opaqueness of the backdrop lent an effect of peace, although the subject is that of the lonely and helpless man. Despite the fact that there might not have been any difference between Laila's theme of '93 and '94, the insight was more mature, while the symbolism was even more dramatic.

In "Love-1" there was a departure from the earlier subject and theme, and one discovered a couple sauntering in the moonlight, the woman being juxtaposed against the man in the background. The artist's penchant for depicting the sky brought in a moon on either side of the backdrop. Sketched in grass in the foreground lent harmony and lyricism to the composition.

An embracing and kissing couple was seen in "Lovers 2", a mezzotint, learnt under the guidance of the visiting Japanese professor Shiroki



cheaper while the copper ones are more expensive and difficult to handle".

Talking about her Japanese teacher, Laila commented, "He could not speak English and the translator knew little about the technique. Consequently, the experience of learning at that time was not exactly and

make their prints. "As for Atelier, it is almost non-existing and that too is not an encouraging place for artists who are not close friends and Kalidas Karmakar, who has organised the studio, and lives and works abroad. The Shilpkala Academy can take steps to establish a studio for professional painters. When they can afford biennials regularly, surely this will not make a big hole in their pocket. This is why this media is not popular with the young artists. It is next to impossible to afford a machine for print making on one's own in our country as we have limited budgets. Even the water colour papers sent from UK costs £30 for fifteen pieces, and one must make do with this. What is available in Dhaka, are also made in England. 10" by 15", costs Tk 200, from which one can obtain small prints," she explains.

One also discovered water colour and oil paints, apart from brushes and crayons, which the artist uses for her work — for the gifts, that she gives to her family, and which she does as a pastime. But graphic remain dear to her heart.

She has taken to graphic because she believes that painting on paper or canvas has its limitations while graphics — etching, lithographs, woodcuts, engraving

— has wide scope for improvisation and experimentation. Prints can be made from a single plate and one finds more buyers with limited income. In graphics, if speaking only about etchings, Laila can use varied textures and get satisfactory, multiple results, as she explains. In etching, aquatint, the artist can get, again, other results. One also discovered a large collection of books on art which proved that the artist tried her best to



Hollow Man in the Twentieth Century (Etching)

## A Visit to the Universal Studios of Hollywood

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most recognisable movie sets still standing in Hollywood. This lonely abode was also used in filming Psycho 2 and 3 and the chilling TV series "Bates Motel". Even now it shivers down our spine.

**Miami Vice Smugglers' Cove:** For the live Miami Vice Action Spectacular we had been stumbled onto a deserted hideaway to an island which is a stronghold of an infamous band of smugglers and arms-traders. It is the active base of operation for all contraband shipments in the Caribbean. Miami Vice cops Sonny Crockett and Ricardo Tubbs have been tracing them for sometime. There they have shown how they had taken action against those bands. Without blinking our eyes and even flinching we enjoyed every single second of this action spectacular. It was the most ambitious special effects presentation ever designed. With many unbelievable explosions, outrageous pyrotechnics and over 50 high-tech special effects and stunts in a break-neck-paced 15 minutes, we were thrilled to the utmost.

**Wild Wild West:** In this stunt show we have braced ourselves for excitement as the 'baddest' brawlers around tear down the explosive for the live action super stunt show. When Ma Hopper and her boys face

off against Universal's famous stunt team, we saw Hollywood's finest show, the tricks of their trade, how they survive knockdown, drag-out gun fights, crackling bull-whips, whirlwind fistfights, saddle-busting horse play and many more. We have also seen breathtaking highfall of a plank from a three-storey building and were almost gasping at the grand finale that literally brought the house down. It was a real movie-style mayhem at its funniest.

**The Jurassic Park:** Inside the Studio Centre we saw the actual sets of the award winning film, the Jurassic Park and learnt its special effect tricks and came face to face with awesome dinosaurs. The special effect experts took us behind the scenes to experience firsthand the mysteries of film technology.

**Great White Jaws:** Then by the tram ride we passed through Amity, a very small town terrorised by the Great White Jaws. At first the town appeared peaceful but suddenly the shark leaps out of the water just inches away. His great crushing jaws snapping, his whole body thrashing from side to side, throwing spray and foam in his frenzied efforts to get at the passengers of the Ride. The star of Universal's "Jaws" is a one ton, 25-foot long "eating machine" that was

of-a-kind superstar talent of Lucy who touched the hearts of millions around the world. There we found everything of her costumes, fan letters, scripts, magazine features, awards and a hilarious screened excerpts of "I Love Lucy". These tributes made us all fall in love with Lucy all over again.

Then we watched the Rocky and Bull Winkle Show, where Boris and Natasha battled live on stage. Next we went to an Internationale Carnival where we enjoyed many funs and games of old Europe.

At the end of the hectic day we felt tired and went to the Mel's Diner. This is a 1950's cruise spot from American Graffiti with burgers, roasted herb chicken, pizzas, fish and chips. We enjoyed our dinner as we listened to the Doo-Wop singers perform live.

### Shopping Centre

There is a big shopping centre inside the Studio. In Studio Style one can buy from film T-shirts to leather Bomber jackets. From Silver Screen Collectibles one can buy posters and apparels of all Hollywood stars including Marilyn Monroe. In the Woody's Cast of Characters there are most incredible array

of cartoon star collectibles and toys. In the Time Traveller's Depot are the greatest assortment of Back To The Future gifts. In Jurassic Park Souvenirs there are Jurassic Park hats, T-shirts and novel gifts. In Miami Vice Smugglers' Cove are Miami hats, T-shirts and even flamingos. This shopping centre is the only place where one can take away

staff quality mementos while watching one's favourite TV shows play on vintage sets.

All these exceptional opportunities for shopping have made this Centre most attractive for the visitors to the Universal Studios. For any visitor to the USA a day or two in the Universal Studios of Hollywood will be a most memorable enjoyment of life. I feel myself enriched with all thrilling knowledge after my visit to this 'live' world of silver screen.

### LOVE

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adversity, love is an eternal elixir. Those who cannot, the calamity can be crushing. It is in such a stage the husbands, exclaim, "Frailty thy name is woman". Most of them plod through life and die and emotional wreck.

True love is divine. It is giving without asking anything in return. Successful love is an exercise in the realities of life. A discreet compromise for common good. Ideal love, to be precise, is a matter of sharing.

When the partners, the man and the wife give love without quantifying the results, trust and respect bless the pair.

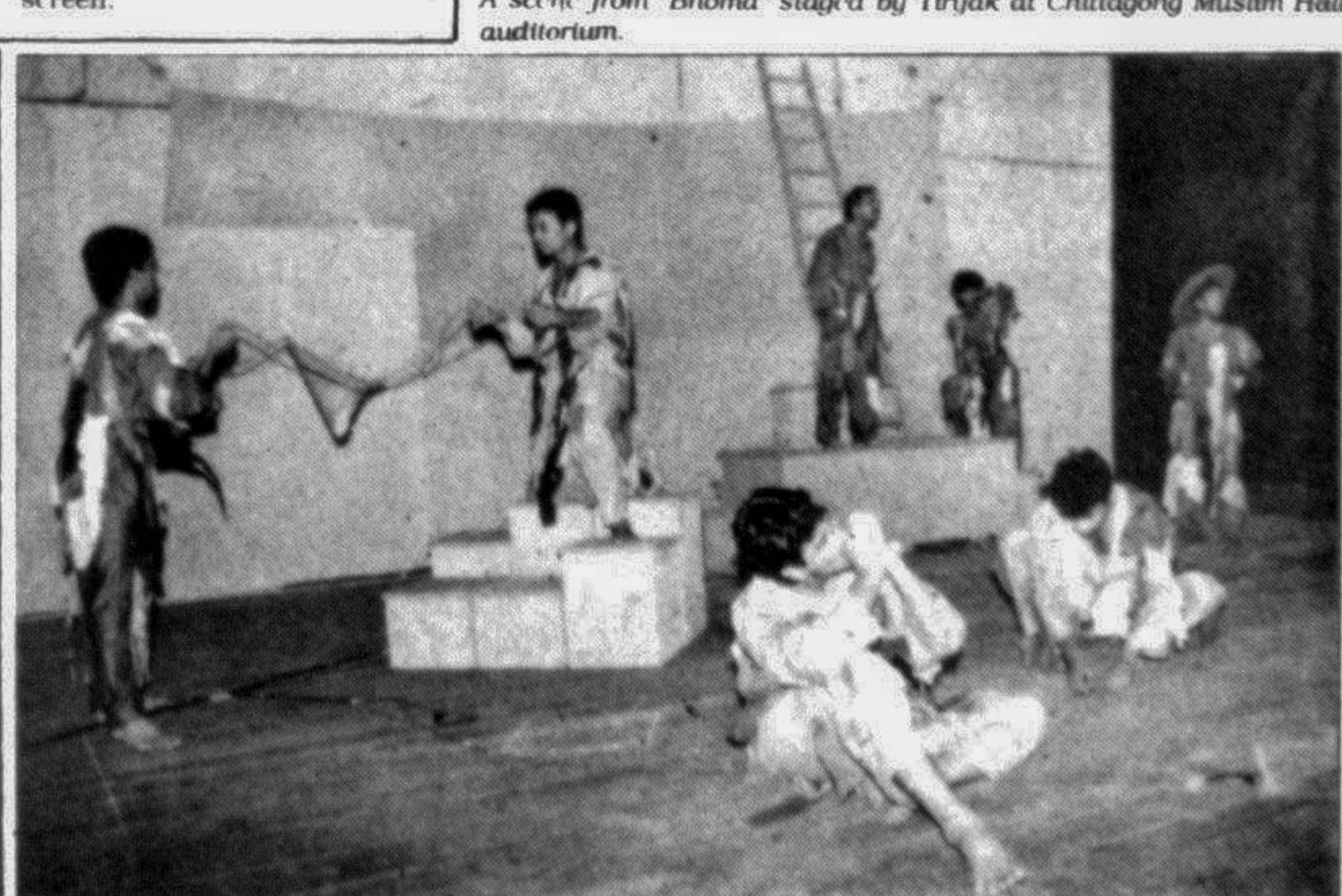
Happiness fills up the cup of life to the brim. Love becomes a many splendoured thing.

They don't feel what they are doing; just doing, not thinking of consequence. Driven by immediate wants they act, and only drift and sway thereafter, for not comprehending the greater need of the time that would eventually follow.

Directed jointly by Jamil Ahmed and Ahmed Iqbal Hyder of the group, "Bhoma" was first staged by Tiryak on November 16, 1987 at Chittagong Shilpkala Academy auditorium.

Badal Sarker is a modern Indian playwright from West Bengal. Many of his plays have existentialist theme stirring deep into senses of a reader or viewer. In the play in question, "Bhoma" is a person but he represents a class, the majority who are losing sensation.

A scene from "Bhoma" staged by Tiryak at Chittagong Muslim Hall auditorium.



### BOOK REVIEW

Gana Madhyam (mass communication) '93  
Edited by Muhammad Jahangir

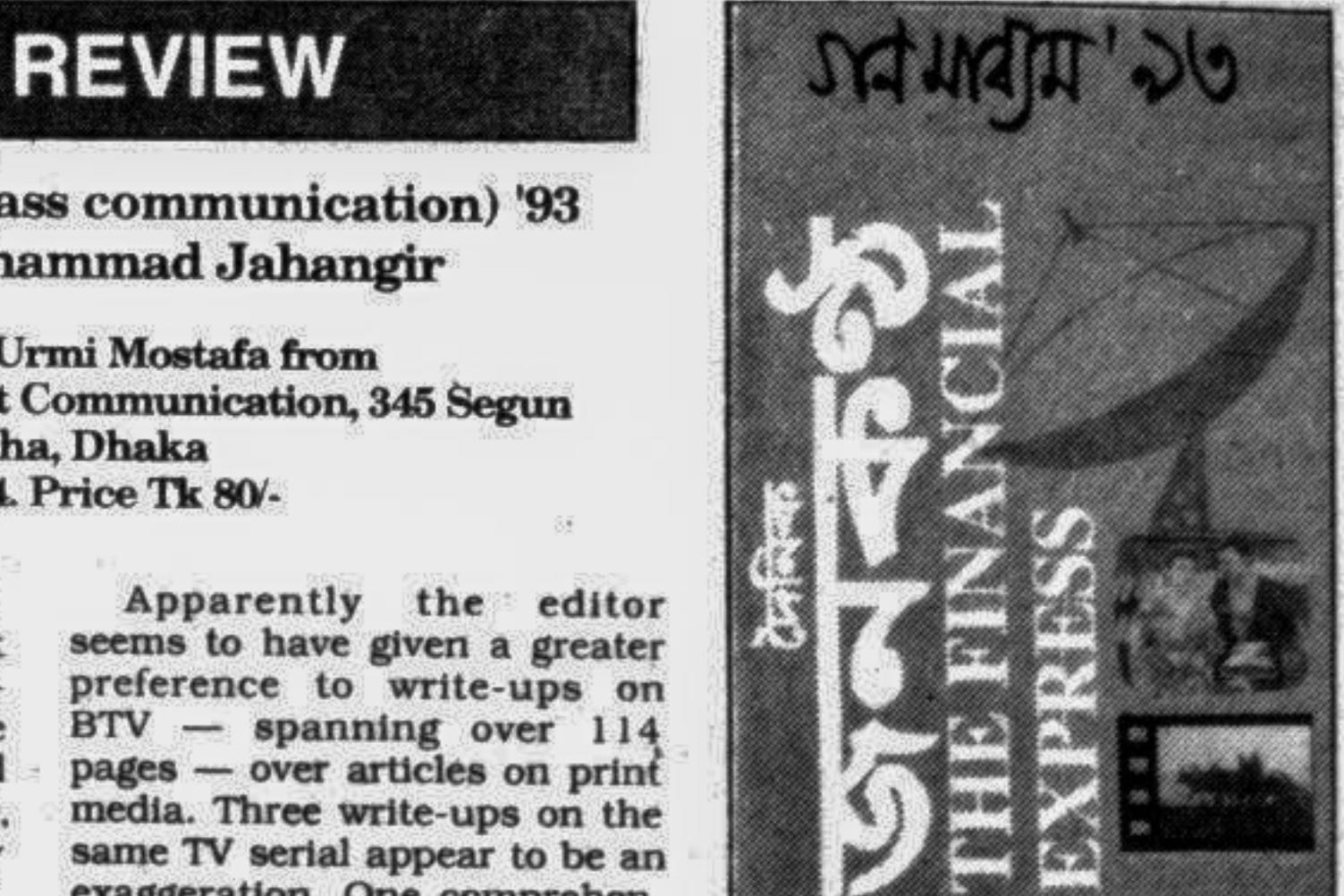
Published by Urmil Mostafa from  
Centre for Development Communication, 345 Segun  
Bagicha, Dhaka  
Pages 324. Price Tk 80.

**I**n the present day world we are witnessing a fast changing information technology. It is true that there are more materials written and printed today than ever before, but there are also new electronic devices which in fact threaten the traditional process of literacy built on the phonetic alphabet alone. To my knowledge there is hardly any journal worth the name in the field of journalism here to cater to the needs of the students of mass communication and also practitioners in the field. In such case, the compilation of articles on mass media in one publication is indeed a praiseworthy venture while this may serve the interest of inquisitive readers.

I have read with interest the publication *Ganamadhyam* edited by Muhammad Jahangir, who is a journalist and has earned fame as a TV anchor man. It is rather difficult to review a compilation of selected articles on mass media. The articles appeared in different newspapers and periodicals of Bangladesh in 1993. The publication contains four distinct sections — print, TV, radio and other essays. Topics range from attack on the press team of the Prime Minister, discrimination in the distribution of advertisements, death of a giant in journalism, crisis in the image of newspaper to BTV caught in hipposyndrome, BTV taking the nation for ride, privatisation of radio and TV in Bangladesh etc.

keep abreast with the latest works and of the artists and their lives, as regards the visual media.

Commenting on the state of art in Bangladesh Laila said that it does not lag behind the other countries in the subcontinent, specially going by the works of Shafuddin Ahmed, Mohammad Kibria, Abdul Sattar, Mahmudul Huq and Jamal Ahmed. She felt that they had retained their national identity and also dared to experience with imagination. Among the western artists Salvador Dali and Rene Magritte are her favourites.



the problem in the publication sector turned out to be feature articles. The editor concludes with a pessimistic note. He has expressed doubt about bringing out the publication in the coming years for want of finance, albeit he is confident that some one might think it plausible to continue in line with the present format. Despite printing errors here and there, the total get-up gives a good impression of the publication which could be preserved for reference purpose. I wish the publication keep on coming out every year to satiate the thirst of the readers and also to keep alive contribution of phonetic alphabet unique by itself in the fast advancing communication media.

**Reviewed by**  
**Mohammad Amjad Hossain**

## Viewing Video

by Lenin Gani

NAME	TYPE	CAST
1. Colour of Night	Thriller	Bruce Willis/Jane March
2. High Strung	Comedy	Jim Carrey
3. Strenes	Comedy	Hugh Grant/Tara Fitzgerald
4. City Slackers-II	Thriller	Billy Crystal/Jack Palance
5. Sunset Heat	Fairy tale	Dennis Hopper
6. The Nutcracker	Concert	Macaulay Culkin
7. Richard Marx (Hold on to the Nights)	Thriller	Dirk Benedict
8. Blue Tornado	Cartoon	Jennifer Beals/
9. Woody Woodpecker	Thriller	Daniel Baldwin
10. Dead on Sight	Thriller	Elizabeth McGovern
11. The Favour	Rom/Comedy	Jackie Chan
12. Fast Fury	Kung Fu	

NAME	TYPE	CAST
1. Hum Aapke Hain Kaun	Making/songs	Avinash Varde/Chandni
2. Aajaan Sanam	Romantic	Bal Kishan/Vijaya Shanti
3. Zulm Ka Muqabla	Action	

Source: Film Fair Video and other clubs.

## 50th Staging of "Bhoma"

by "Tiryak"

by A Correspondent

