

An Evening of Monsoonal Songs

Nargis Chowdhury's solo presentation

by Shahana Parbeen

FOR us Bangladeshis, the rainy season, despite the inconvenience it causes to many, is a special season. It is celebrated by intellectuals and 'lesser mortals' alike. Our two celebrated poet's Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam have written numerous songs celebrating the incessant showers.

Nargis Chowdhury gave the audience a taste of Rabindranath's 'Borsha' (rainy season) at the India Cultural Centre on Friday evening.

Her solo music programme, aptly titled 'Srabanoghongohon Moho' consisted of 15 Rabindra sangeets celebrating the rain. Listening to her renditions of the Tagore's songs, even those who find the wet muddy season a really unnecessary bother, had a view of 'Borsha' from a different perspective. The monsoon season is a time for clandestine meetings of sweethearts. 'Borsha' is also a time to celebrate, love and to enjoy nature's beauties. The songs were complimented by the narrations provided with each song. Nargis Chowdhury sang very well and seemed totally transported into a land of rains — only the 'larger than life' bindi on her forehead kept disturbing her. It did the 'vanishing act' thrice! And whenever the lights dimmed, she had to quickly fix it on again — only to see it 'disappear' again. The spotlight on the narrator was



The mellifluous voice of Nargis Chowdhury created the ambience of Tagore's monsoonal songs on Friday at the Indian Cultural Centre in city.

switched on throughout the show making it a bit difficult for Nargis to move or change her posture. There was another lady, dressed in white and wearing pearls, on the *tanpura* who

sat so still that one would be forgiven if he took her for a mannequin because only very close scrutiny revealed that her fingers moved. However these were trivial matters when it came to the actual show because Nargis arrested the attention of the people with her presentations.

Among the songs she presented were 'Aaji Pronami tomare' 'Srabanoghongohon mohi', 'Amar Nai ba holo opare jawa' and 'Bodhu kon aalo'.

The programme was arranged by Padatik which basically is a theatre group but tries to promote other performing art talents among its members. Nargis Chowdhury has been a member of Padatik since 1980. She is also an enlisted performer with Bangladesh Betar and has been performing as an enlisted artist in BTV since 1991.

She has been learning music since her childhood. As a child, she trained under Ustad Gajendral Roy at Brahmanbaria. She has also trained under Nilufar Yasmin, Ajit Ray and Subhash Chowdhury of Biswabharati. Alongside all this she is a teacher at an English Medium school in Dhaka.

Despite starting late (the programme started 20 minutes after the scheduled time), the hour long music programme was able to enthrall the audience and give them a taste of another side of a rainy evening, with rain songs to make them all mellow.

DU Book Exhibition Opens

Research material, journals of DU go on the net

by Abul Kalam Azad

A two day-long book exhibition organised by Dhaka University began at the TSC cafeteria yesterday with a view to introduce books and journals written by the teachers and officials of the university to others.

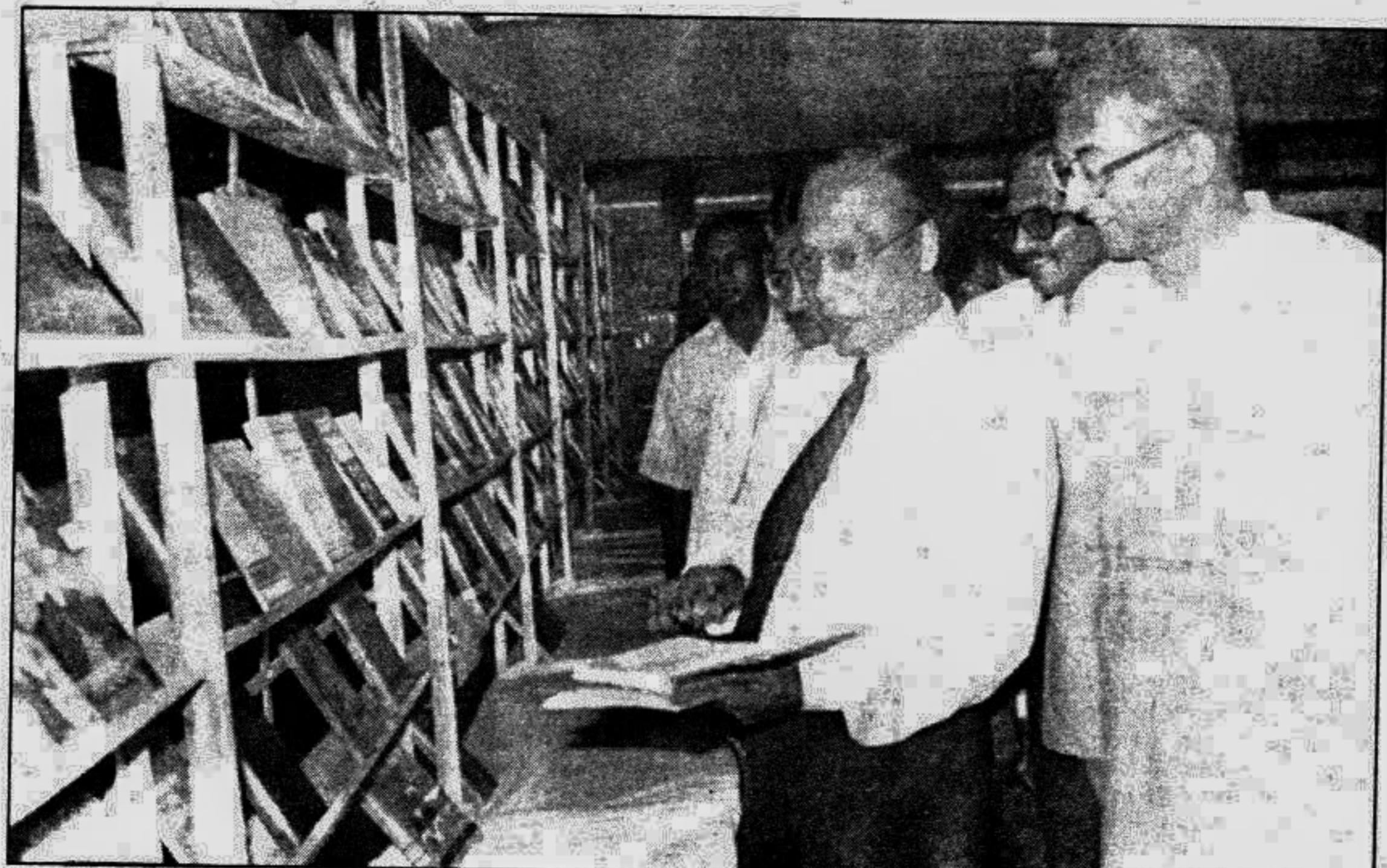
DU Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury has said that all quarters who like to generalise that DU teachers are busy with only their academic obligations and nothing else will be proved wrong when they see the result of their hard work round the year.

The DU Vice-chancellor inaugurated the exhibition in the morning as chief guest. More than 1225 books and journals of 238 university teachers and officials were put on display at the exhibition.

The books and journals have been published from different publishing houses at home and abroad including the Dhaka University Prokashani Sangstha (DUPS), different departments, institutes, research centres and bureau of the university.

The theme of the exhibition is to introduce rare books and journals of DU to the guardians, researchers, general students and the people of the country.

Addressing the inaugural function, the VC said that books are the best way to acquire



DU VC AK Azad Chowdhury browses a book at the DU book exhibition organized by the university. Star photo

knowledge and it is through books that knowledge is passed on from one generation to another.

He said that the teachers and researchers of DU have created a large pool of information with their activities which is important for the nation and its people. This exhibition will encourage both the teachers and researchers to write important research related books in future.

He also said that the university authorities were trying their best to restore the

positive image of the university. Prof. Shahadat Ali said that the authorities have failed to include all the books and journals by DU personnel this time but assured that they will try their best to include all in the next exhibition.

Lists of the research articles by DU faculties and scholars published in various national and international journals will also be available in the university's recently installed website (www.univdhaka.edu) in

connection with exhibition. A large number of general students and teachers of DU visited the exhibition yesterday which is open to all. The exhibition will continue upto 5 p.m. today.

Pro-VC and chairman of the Books Exhibition Committee Prof. M Shahadat Ali presided over the opening ceremony. Among others, DUTA president Prof. AFM Yusuf Haider, DU Register Muhammad Selim, Prof. Shahadat Ali and Dr. Bimal Guha also addressed the function.

TV Guide

Sunday 1st August
(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

BBC

6:00 BBC World News Headlines 6:30 World Living: Holiday Guide 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 World Focus: Correspondent 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 World Focus: Simpson's World 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Hard Talk 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 This Week 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 India Business Report 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 Wild World: Style 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 Hard Talk 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: This Week 3:00 BBC World News Headlines 3:05 BBC World Weekend: Watergate #4/5- Massacre 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Talking Movies 5:00 BBC World News 5:30 Reporters 6:00 BBC World News Headlines 6:05 World Weekend: 20:20 Profiles of Century- Mother Teresa 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 Wild World: Atlantic Releam #5/6- Into The Abyss Pt-1 8:00 BBC World Headlines 8:10 BBC World Headlines 8:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 World Focus: After One Small Step - Story Of Walked On Moon 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 India Business Report 11:00 BBC World News 11:05 Weekend: Watergate #4/5- Massacre 12:00 BBC World News Headlines 12:30 Simpson's World 1:00 BBC World News 1:05 World Weekend: 20:20 Profiles of Century- Mother Teresa 2:30 World Living: The Big Trip #8/16- Thailand & Malaysia 4:30 HARDtalk: 5:00 BBC World Newsdesk Inc. World Report /24 Hours



Hera Pheri on Star Plus at 7:00 pm.

(15) 2:00 Action: Raid On Entebbe (15) 4:30 El Cpt: Charlie Sheen 5:30 Action: Red Flag: The Ultimate Game

PTV-2

8:00 Tilwat Aur Tarjuma/Hamid Naat/Warzish 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Fun Time 9:05 TV Encyclopedia 9:25 Khat Farmanish 9:40 Sports Clinic 10:05 PTV Gold 10:30 English Film: Darkwing Duck 10:55 Mast Mast Sanyo 11:00 Khabrain 11:10 Sports Hour 12:05 The Sunday Brunch 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Food Show 1:40 Aaj Di Shaam 2:00 Drama Serial 2:25 Laag (Zebra Khan) 3:55 Karab 4:15 Education 5:25 Razi for 9th 6:25 Zameen Per Zindagi 6:55 Aiou Courses 7:00 English News 7:15 Do Sitare 7:30 English Film: Star Trek Deep Space Nine 8:10 Moon Serial 8:40 Khawab Ajab 9:00 Break for Headlines News 9:02 Khawab Ajab 9:20 TBA 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 11:00 Its My Choice Songs 11:35 Home Victim 12:35 Serial Monsoon 1:00 Khaas Khaas Khabrain/Close Down



Eight Heads in a Duffel Bag on Star Movies at 10 pm

Starring Joe Pesci, Dyan Cannon and George Hamilton

In this hilarious comedy, Joe Pesci stars as Tommy Spinelli, a Mafia hitman who heads across the country with some very unusual cargo — eight heads — in order to prove to his boss that he has in fact done 'the job'. But the cargo accidentally winds up in the wrong hands, with extremely amusing consequences.



I Love My India on Star Plus at 6:30 pm.

ZEE INDIA TV

7:00 Jagran 7:30 to 10:30 Every Half Hour - Zee News: Hindi 11:00 Zee Sports Show 12:00 Fact File 12:30 News in Hindi 12:57 News Headlines 1:00 Mystery Unfolds 1:30 Question Hour 2:00 Zee World 2:30 Insight 3:00 The Diplomacy Show 3:30 Beech Shahar 4:00 Teer Kaman 4:30 Jaanch Ya Aanch

MTV INDIA

7:00 MTV Hanging Out VJ Sonia 9:00 House of Style 9:30 Non-Stop Hits 10:30 Best of ... 11:30 Made in India VJ Cyrus 12:00 MTV Hipshakers 12:30 MTV Hit Music 1:00 MTV Housefull V Nafisa 1:30 Non-Stop Hits 2:30 MTV In Control- Cricket 3:30 MTV-U VJ Cyrus 4:30 MTV Ek Do Teen VJ Raageshwari 5:30 MTV & Kenwood India Hit List VJ Rahul 6:30 Non-Stop Hits 7:30 MTV Recycled 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 Housefull VJ Nafisa 10:30 MTV Fresh VJ Rahul 11:00 Simroof Mega Mix VJ Nafisa 11:30 Destination Dance — The Grind — Beach Show 12:00 MTV Unplugged 1:00 Non-Stop Hits Continue ...

MUSIC ASIA

7:30 Aalaap 8:00 B&W Gems 8:30 All Time Hits 9:00 Hit Parade 9:30 World Premiere 9:45 Brake Fall 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Colgate Zig Zag Best Of The Day 11:30 Bajaj Music Box 12:00 World Premiere 12:15 Medimix Madhur Moments 12:30 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 12:55 Pop Re Pop 1:00 Jharokha 1:30 Best Of The Best 2:15 World Premiere 2:30 Double Mint Double Maaza 3:00 All Time Hits 3:30 Med-

The Crow on Star World at 12 midnight

In a Gathering Storm — the leader of the Lazarus Group plans to subvert the Crow into his henchman and destroy Eric Draven. Shelly briefly becomes human to save him but is unable to prevent Draven and the evil Crow from a battle to the death.

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