Culture

endeavour_

Bridging Cultural Gap

First Bangladeshi bookshop in the US

By Saima Islam

Bylews to life, and Bangladesh and Biswajit had the opportunity of being in Books have always inspired of 'Muktadhara', Chittaranjan Biswajit Shaha. His love for Shaha. Thus, with a view to books and his adherence for the cater to the need of reading maculture and language of terials to many-sojourned Bangladesh have led him to es- Bangladeshis living in USA. tablish a Bengali Book Shop. Biswajit started collecting and







'Muktadhara' in the heart of USA. A discussion on the topic September 1991 from his small of 'Practice of Bengali Cultural and Muktadhara- New York'

The programme was chaired sible. by the director of Bangla Academy Syed Anwar Hussain. Among the guests and speakers were, Ahmed Rafiq, Dr. Jyotirmoy Datta, Nirmalendu Gun. Dr. Purabi Basu, Osman Gani, Golam Mainuddin, Pijush Bandhapaddya, Jaharlal Shaha,

was held on May 12 at the Lib-

eration War Museum.

'Muktadhara' is the first America. Muktadhara is a well- depends on promotion and we

Riton, and Asad Chowdhury.

selling Bangladeshi books from apartment. The journey had not been an easy one but his determination and love for his task has made the impossible, pos-

All the speakers praised Biswajit's endeavour to promote Bangldeshi books, hence Bangladeshi culture in the west. Ahmed Rafiq said, "It's been almost 30 years since Bangladesh gained it's freedom but no significant effort has been Fakir Alamgir, Lufar Rahman taken to promote Bangladeshi books in the international Biswajit's bookshop, markets and I do not believe the demand does not exist. In this Bangladeshi bookshop in North age of globalisation, everything

66 TO OOKS can give new reputed publishing house of can get results only if we make ourselves known to the world. Although in a small way, never-- George Crabbe close contact with the founder theless Biswajit surely demands praise as one who has taken initiative and succeeded."

Dr Jyotirmoy Datta recalled the hard work that went into the project as he witnessed it all. He recalled how Biswajit set up stalls amidst the Durga Puja celebration and visited Pujas. conventions, Bengali New Year celebrations, theatre and cinema festival, concerts and virtually every community event with his wares of books.

But the most interesting attempts by Biswajit is perhaps organising the annual book fair to commemorate the 21st February which he started on 1992 in front of the United Nations building. The fair will be celebrated with more fervour in the coming times as the UN-ESCO has declared the 21st February. International Mother Language Day.

Golam Mainuddin said, " My interest in the book market has lead me to Biswajit. I saw him doing business from his house and couldn't help asking him how he did it. He showed me his lists of Bangladeshis living in USA, compiled in his computer. He distributes the information of new publications through the computer and sends the book by post according to orders. Not only this he has managed to provide various Libraries of USA with Bangladeshi books. We must acknowledge that he has done a great job and we must help him in every way to preserve this international market that he has created for the Bangladeshi books.

Jaharlal Shaha of the Muktadhara publications and Osman Gani of Aagami Prakashani, assured their every cooperation to Biswajit in future.

Biswajit not only sells books but also CDs, videos of Bangladeshi programmes, dramas and many such things. To him if a



Nirmalendu Gun, Shahid Kadri, and many other Bangladeshis living in USA

or becomes interested in a book that is enough reward for his ef-

brought out some CDs of various artists living in USA along with some popular Bangladeshi artists such as Shabnam Mustari, Fakir Alamgir and many others. Humayun Ahmed's 'Adhekha Bhuban' has been made into a VCD. Kumar Biswajit's album, 'Twenty Years of Me', has been released as DVD. The programme of May of this DVD.

want to bridge the gap between work.

customer comes to collect a our culture and the future genvideocassette and buys a book eration who are growing up in USA. I want to introduce them to our mother language. We have already developed soft Muktadhara has also ware with Bengali alphabets and also produced a CD of music bands of Bangladeshi youngsters living in USA. They might talk like Americans but in heart they bear the flare of a Bangladeshi."

Biswajit Shaha's love for his country, its culture, its literature has inspired him to make a



Sunil Gangopadhaya signing autographs at Muktadhara's outlet at Jackson Heights, New York.



Abhudaya Cultural Group performs Tagore song to mark the birth anniversary of one of the greatest poets ever to write in Bangla at Shishu Academy auditorium yesterday.

to preview

event

Anurager Rang on Channel i

By Cultural Correspondent

HANNEL i will air the drama serial, Anurager Rang on May 15 at 10.00pm. The play is written by Begum Mamtazuddin Ahmed and directed by Shaila Masud. The play starrs: Shamimara Nipa, Shibli Mohammad, Khaled Khan, Tania Rahman Tanni, Jahanara Ahmed and many others.

understand Joyanto some- horoscope of the stars will be times. But still she decides to focused. The star of this time is sacrifice a lot to have Joyanto eminent actress Sara Jaker. back. But something has gone wrong along the line. A few days Ferdousy and Rupak. The propasses by like this. Suddenly a dashing man comes into her Hasan Chowdhury.

life. He is very smart. He is Mr. Akbar. Amal kaku cannot stand this man. Joyanto asks Tapashi to leave him. But Tapashi becomes attracted to him. The man tells Tapashi about money and popularity.

Star Line

Channel i will air Star Line on May 15 at 8.00pm. The programme will feature many inside and outside stories regard-Synopsis: Tapashi cannot ing the stars. The future, the Star Line is hosted by Sapna gramme is directed by Munir



TV Guide.

Sunday 14th May (All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

3:00 Opening Announcement, Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 3:15 Patriotic Song 3:20 Open University Prog. 4:00 Bangla News 4:05 Animation Film: Jim Henson's Animal Show 4:30 Pusti Thattho 4:45 Chetona (Children's Programme) 5:10 Sashtho Thattho (Health Developing For Mother & Children) 5:25 National Television Debate Competition 6:00 Bangla News 6:05 Metho Surr 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:00 News For Weather 7:05 Mati-O-Manus 7:25 Bhramon (Programme For Local Traveling) 8:00 News At 8 (Bangla) 8:30 Nodi Nirobodhi 9:00 Package Serial: Songhat #3 (*Afsana Mimi, Azizul Hakim, Toni Dayes, Farzana Rahman Chhabi) 9:30 Comedy Series-Molla Nasiruddin (Bangla Dubs) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:30 Aanandoloka 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A) Programme Outline For Monday B) National Song 11:45 Closing

7:00 Classic Cartoons 7:20 Jana Ajana 7:45 Ekushey News 8:00 Bismriti Written & Directed by Moloy Bhattacherji 8:30 Roar 9:30 Priyo Gaan (Rothindranath Roy) 10:00 BTV News 10:30 Sharashari Hosted by : Aly Zaker, Guest : Professor A K Azad Chowdhury

6:30 Rangeela Re 7:00 Chartbusters 7:30 Music Mantra 8:00 Film Show: 11:00 Chartbusters 11:30 Music Mantra 12:00 India Down Under 1:00 Film Show: 4:00 Chartbusters 4:30 Music Mantra 5:00 Film Show: 8:00

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6:30 Ushuaia 7:30 Travelers 8:30 Challenge 9:30 On The Inside 10:30 Naturequest 11:00 Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files 11:30 Born Winners 12:00 Born Among Wild Animals 12:30 Blue Reef 1:00 Two Worlds 1:30 Discovery Profile-Series 7:30 India Hour: Gulsitan 8:30 Wild Discovery 9:30 Science Frontiers 10:30 Discovery Showcase 11:30 Discovery Profile-Series 12:30 Wild discovery 1:30 Science Fron-

6:30 Aalap 7:00 Kee Darun Dreshow Shyaola 9:30 Serial: Ekushe Pa 10:30 Serial: Sanghaat 11:00 Serial: Aamra Probashi 11:30 Zee Jalsa 12:00 Serial: Shoni-Robi Mojar Chobi 12:30 Serial: Half Chocolate 1:00 Serial: Nil Chander Alo 1:30 Khana Khazana 2:00 Serial: Guest House 2:30 Bangla Movie-Amar Sanghi (Prosenjeet, Vijayata Pandit) 5:00 Bharat Bhroman 5:30 Asian Sky Shop 6:00 Special programme 6:30 Serial: Memsaheb 7:00 Serial: Gugli 7:30 News In Bengali 8:00 Serial: Shoni-Robi Mojar Chobi 8:30 Kichu Smriti Kichu Gaan 9:00 Serial: Agni Yuger Padatik 9:30 Serial: Iskabonar Bibi (Indrani, Shila Dittay) 10:00 News In Bangali 10:30 Serial: Ekushe Pa 11:00 Serial: Shyaola 11:30 Sanghaat 12:00 Serial: Aamra Probashi 12:30 Bharat Bhroman 1:00 Grihosajja 1:30 Bangla Movie 4:00 Serial: Memsaheb 4:30 Serial: Shoni-Robi Mojar Chobi

7:00 NBA Inside Stuff 99/2000 7:30 Pepsi Asia Cup 1995- India Vs Pak-Chartbusters 8:30 Music Mantra Istan 3rd ODI, Highlights 9:30

Cricket Magazine Stumped- Australia Vs India 10:00 Asian Basketball Show 10:30 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire

7:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mer-

cedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Rome Pres.By Infostrada Rome, Italy Men's Quarterfinal Match 9:00 Boxing Series ESPN2 Friday Night Fights Ledyar D, Ct USA 11:00 Sportscenter: International Edition 11:30 Spanish League Highlights 1999/00 12:00 UEFA Champions League 99/00 Barcelona, Spain- Valencia Vs Barcelona Semifinal #2, Leg 2 2:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Rome Pres. By Infostrada Rome Italy Men's Semifinal Match #1 4:00 7:30 Monihaar 8:00 Serial: Amaar Tennis Masters Series By Mer-Tumi 8:30 Serial: Reen 9:00 cedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Rome Pres.By Infostrada Rome, Italy Men's Semifinal Match #2 6:00 Boxing Series ESPN2 Friday Night Fights Ledyar D, Ct USA 8:00 Sportscenter: International Edition 8:30 Live- Football Focus 9:00 Live-English Premier Football League 11:00 English Premier Football League 1:00 Italian Serie A Football 1999/2000

6:00 BBC World News Headlines 6:30 World Living: The Travel Show 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 Australia Direct 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 Correspondent 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 This Week 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Wheels 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 India Business Report 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 Wild World: Face To Face India (Presenter- Karan Thapar) 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 Moneywise (Presenter- Sucharita Ghosh) 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 This Week 3:00 BBC World News 3:10 Under The Sun- 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 Click Online (Pres.-Stephen Cole) 5:00 BBC

World News 5:30 Australia Direct 6:00 BBC World News Headlines-6:10 Full Circle 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 Top Gear 8:00 BBC World Headlines 8:10 Dateline London 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:10 Horizon: 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 India Business Report 11:00 BBC World News 11:10 Under The Sun- 12:00 BBC World News Headlines 12:30 Australia Direct 1:00 BBC World News 1:10 Full Circle #7/10- 2:00 World News 2:30 Top Gear 3:00 World News 3:30 Dateline London 4:00 BBC World Newsdesk inc. World Report / 24 Hours

7:30 Aatma 8:00 Sant Asaram Wani 8:30 Ramayan #58 9:30 Hum Sab Ek Hain #92 Ep- Nou Bandar Ek Room Ke Under 10:00 Family No. 1 #80 *Kanwaljeet, Tanvi Azmi, Kabir Aporna) 10:30 I Love You #23 Ep-(*Anup Soni, Shruty Ulfa) 11:00 Dil Vil Pyar Vyar #45 Ep- Bad Boys (*Rushali, Pooja Ghai, Sonali, Kareena, Vishal, Rakesh, Ali Asagar) 11:30 Archana Talkies 12:30 Cine Matinee- Super Hit Film: Mother India (*Nargis, Raj Kumar, Sunil Dutt, Rajendra Kumar, Kamini Kaushal) 4:00 Udaan 4:30 Mahayagya 5:00 The Good Home Show 5:30 India Magic 6:00 Boogle Woogle 6:30 Cook It Up With Tarla Dalal 7:00 Bajaj Ki Lehren 7:30 C.A.T.S. #12 Ep- A Rose For The Dead 8:30 Film: Tridev (*Sunny Deol, Jackie Shroff, Nasiruddin Shah, Madhuri Dixit, Sangeeta Bijlani, Sonam) 12:00 Midnight Hours: Aahat # Ep- 1:00 Archana Talkies 2:00 Chartbusters (Trailer Show) 3:00 The Popadum Show 3:30 Cine- Nite Hindi Feature Film: Man Mauji

6:00 Yaadon Ki Pal (B/W Songs) 6:30 Zee News & Zee Business 7.00 Bhakti Songs 7.30 Jagran 8:05 Guldasta 8:30 Disney Hour Cartoons 9.30 Shree Krishna #46 10:30 Vishnu

Puran #16 11:30 Alvida Darling #11 (*Farque Shak, Brasha Usgaoker, Shobha Khota, Bharty Achreker) 12:00 Hotel Hindustan #11 (*Salish Koushik, Sudher Panda, Soma Anand, Ramon Singh) 12:30 Bourta Quiz Contest 1:00 Saare Janvihan Se Achcha (*Semon Singh) 1:30 Top of The Tops / First Take- (Film Preview) 2:00 Hum Panche (Comedy Serial *Rakhi Vijan, Soma Anand) 2:30 Special- Mother Day- O Mammy 3:00 Zee For U 3.30 Cinema Hits Hindi Film: 6:30 Ek Nazar 7:00 Disney Hour Cartoons 8:00 Saheb Biwi Aur TV 8:30 Oh! Daddy #9 (*Rohan Kapoor, Achintay Kaur, Natasha Singh) 9:00 Rishtey- Anchal 10:00 Kashak #11 (*Sharmila Tagore, Surash Oberoy, Nasir) 10:30 Agnichakra 11:00 Zee Horror- Anhonee 11:30 Hip Hip Hurray #81 12:00 Mehendi Tere Nam Ki #12 1:00 Hindi Films (*Shangita Ghosh, Aruna Irani, Sanjeev Shetty) 12:30 X-Zone 1:30 Yeh Hai Mere Apne 2:00 Footloose #2 2:30 Naye Nazrane 3:00 Hindi Film

5:55 Vande Mataram 6:15 CIFT Programme 6:30 UGC Programme 7:00 IGNOU Programme 7:30 Samachar 7:45 Rangoli 8:45 The News 9:00 Sanjhi Bani (Regional) 9:32 Betaal Pachchisi (Series) 10:32 Meethe Meethe Bathen (Series) 11:00 Serial: Swati 11:32 Picnic Antakshari 12:00 School Days (Serial) 12:32 Serial: Shaktiman 1:32 Curent Affairs Programme 2:30 Samachar 2:40 News in English 3:05 News For Hearing Impaired 3:20 News In Sanskrit 3:30 Samachar 3:32 Serial: Mahatma 4:32 Feature Film in Hindi 8:00 Series: Jai Mata Ki 9:00 Samachar 9:15 The News 9:30 Surabhi (Cultural Magazine) 10:00 Nehla Pe Dehla 11:00 Curent Affairs Programme 11:32 Buisiness Magazine 12:00 National Programme of Dance 12:32 Fugitive The Most Wanted 1:00 Geet Ateet 1:30 Picnic Antakshari 2:00 School Days (Serial)

7:00 Aahad 7:15 Bhakti Sagar 7:30 Sarab Sanjhi Bani 8:00 Business Weekend 8:30 Wealthy Health 8:45 Meethe Meethe Bol 9:30 Immigration And North-East India 10:00 Kashmir Shayron Ki Nazar Se 10:30 We Love You 11:00 Disney Club 12:00 Peechha Karo 12:30 Home Style 1:00 Fifty Fifty 1:30 My Choice 2:00 Top of The Pop 2:30 The Famous Five 2:55 Urdu News 3:30 Hindi Film 5:30 One Cube 6:00 The Great Experiment 6:30 Goof Troop 7:00 Brave Buds 7.30 Swaraj 8.00 Lat's Talk 8:30 Geet Gata Chal 9.00 Juhi (serial) 9.32 Hungama Unlimited 10.30 Aaj Tak 10:50 Single Metro-Top 3 11.00 India This Week 11.30 Sunehari Yaadein 12.00 Investigator

7:00 Classical Music 7:30 Mindscapes 8:00 Business Weekend 8:30 Pride of India 9:00 All In All 9:32 Kya Baat Hai 10.00 India News 10:15 Light Music 10:32 Ghoomta Aaina 11:00 Tele Film 12:00 Bharat Samachar (News In Hindi) 12:15 Hindi Film Show 2:30 Samachar 2:40 The News 3:00 Classical Music 3:15 Mindscapes 4:00 Business Weekend 4:32 Pride of India 5:00 All In All 5.32 Kya Baat Hai 6:00 Ghoomta Aaina 6:32 Tele Film: 7:30 Hindi Film Show (Rpt)

7:30 The Health Show 8:00 Zee News: Hindi 8:30 Namaste Zee 9:00 News Outlook 9:30 Zee News: Hindi 10:30 Guftagu 11:00 The Premier Show 11:30 Zee News: Hindi 12:00 Guftagu 12:30 Zee News: Hindi 1:00 N.R. Eyes 1:30 Zee News: Hindi 5:00 IT Trail 7:00 Business News 7:30 Zee News: Hindi 9:00 News In English 11:30 News In English 12:00 Business News 12:30 Am to 06:30 AM Every Half Hour - Zee News:

Zee Movies

8:30 OST 9:00 Film: 11:00 Hollywood Remembers 11:30 Film: 1:30 OST 2:00 Film: 4:00 Total Recall 4:30 Film: 6:30 Hollywood Remembers 7:00 Hollywood Gold Film: 9:00 Frank Sinatra 9:30 Sunday Best Film: 11:30 Fright Nights Film: 01:30

8:00 Late Show With David Letterman 9:00 Academy Awards Winners 10:00 Music Zone 10:30 Over The Edge/The Lifestyle Show 11:30 Here's Lucy 12:00 Three's Company 12:30 Katé And Allie 1:00 Candido Camera 1:30 Spice 2:00 Music Zone 2:30 Mixed Doubles 3:00 OST 3:30 Saturday Series: If Tomorrow Comes 4:30 The Roseanne Show 5:30 Music Zone 6:00 Here's Lucy 6:30 Over The Edge 7:00 The Roseanne Show 8:00 Remarkable 20th Century 8:30 Family Pride 9:00 Sunday Special: Nothing Lasts Forever 10:00 To Night With Feroz 10:30 Adult Comedy: Benny Hil Show 11:00 News 11:30 Late Show With David Letterman 12:30 Friends 1:00 News 1:30 The Roseanne Show

8:00 Tilwat Aur Tarjuma/Hamd/Naat/Warzish 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Fun Time 9:05 TV Encyclopedia 9:25 Khat Farmaish 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 2:55 Laaj (Zeba Khan) 3:55 Karabar 4:15 Education 5:25 Riazi for 9th 5:55 Zameen Per Zindegi (Drama Serial) 6:25 Aiou Courses 7:00 English News 7:15 Do Sitare 7:30 English Film: Star Trek Deep Space Nine 8:10 Monsoon (Serial) 9:00 Break For Headlines News



Dry Point 2000

The inaugural ceremony of a printmaking exhibition titled Dry Point 2000 by artist Professor Bulbon Os. man was held at the Divine Art Gallery, Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel on May 5 at 5.30 pm.

Professor A K Azad Chowdhury, Vice Chancel. lor, University of Dhaka inaugurated the exhibition as chief gust.

The exhibition will remain open from 10.00 am. 8.00 pm till May 14,

French Musical Night

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will be organising a 'French Musical Evening' dedicated to the famous French composer of classical music Claude Debessy on Saturday, May 27 at 7.00 pm. There will also be visual display of French classical music over the century.



Showkatuzzaman at Gallery 21

A solo exhibition of paintings by artist Showkatuzzaman is being held at Gallery 21 at Dhanmondi. The show will remain open to all everyday from 10 am to 8 pm until May 22.

Poetry Night

Alliance Française de Dhaka will be organising a Poetry Night on May 21 at 6:00 pm. All those interested are requested to contact the reception of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka at the earli-

2nd Solo

The 2nd solo painting exhibition by Pintu Islam which start at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka on May 5 will remain open from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon and 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm everyday till May 18.



Movies at Alliance Friday, 19th May 2000 Les Amant/The Lovers By Louis Malle with Jeanne Moreau. Jean-Marc Bory at

11:00 AM 1958. Jeanne Tournier, a young lady of the provinces, flits between Paris and Dijon, where her husband,

Henri owns an important newspaper. Jeanne is extremely bored as her husband in spite of his love for her is to taken up with his paper go give her any time. She also has a distinguished lover, the polo champion Raoul Flores, making her the envy of all her friends, especially Maggy. In a chance encounter, Jeanne meets Bernard Dubois-Lambert, a yeoung archaeologist, whom she invites home for dinner where her husband, her lover and Maggy are all present. The mutual attraction between Bernard and Jananne leads to a night on intense passion when they happen to meet in the grounds of the house, against a background music by Brahms. By dawn, Jeanne leaves everything to go with her new lover, under the scandalised gaze of her guests. Will their love survive the test of time?