

exhibition

## A Narrative from Dreams

Front-ranking painter Ranjit Das discovers his new self in the show now being held at Bengal Shipalaya

BY TAWFIQUE ALI

ELEVENTH solo art exhibition of Ranjit Das is now being held at Bengal Shipalaya gallery at Dharmonti. The show features fifty-eight recent works, done in oil on canvas of Ranjit.

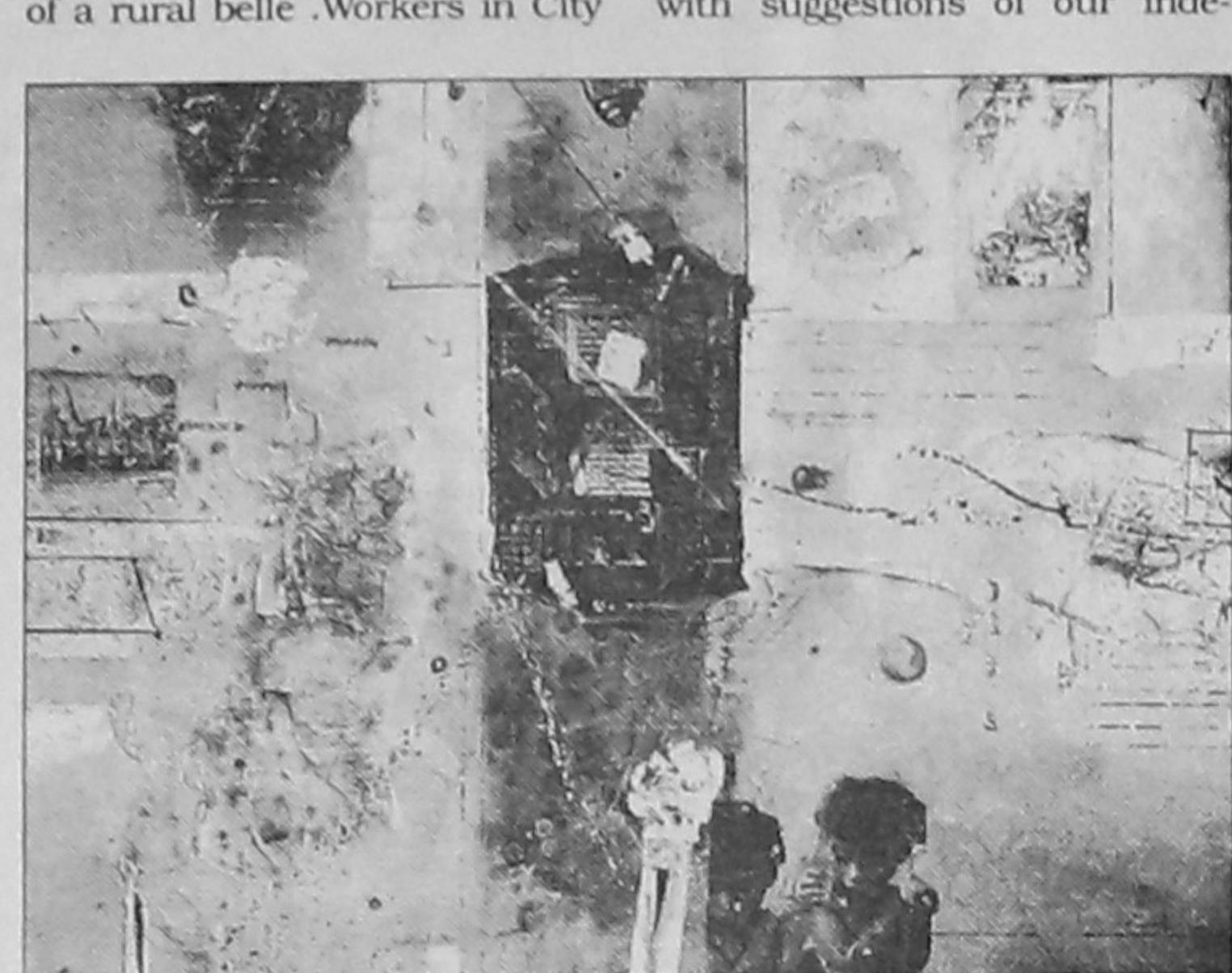
Ranjit is considered by the critics as of the most gifted artists of the 80s.

His bold and at times wired images, one might feel, have been dug out from the depths of a world of unknown. He paints reality in a convoluted form. For Ranjit, who bagged Grand Award in the 7th Asian Art Biennale held in Dhaka, there is no line to draw between dream and reality. His works invite the viewers to a world apart, more real and paradoxically more removed. There is a continuous sport of light and shade in his works. The spirit of our liberation war is a recurrent theme in his works. Though abstract, Ranjit's works are not obscure. The figures -- both human and animal and plants are quite recognizable.

In this exhibition Ranjit's depiction of images from daily life in rural Bangladesh and the toiling masses have found brilliant expression. Way to Village

Face of Bengal are two works that portray natural innocence and serenity of ordinary rural life on the pictur-esque canvas of Bangladesh. 'Way to Village' is a depiction of a woman walking along a bushy Kancha path leading to a village. Ranjit has seen the face of Bengal in the face of a rural belle. Workers in City

Street contemplates over the abject condition of countless city workers who are fallen and uncared of. A silent outcry of these souls might prick the sensitive hearts. Tragedy and Triumph, draws a sharp contrast between dejection and mirth. The picture is a strong symbolic work with suggestions of our inde-



Longing for happiness: Oil on canvas



Ranjit Das

pendence struggle.

'Environment' tells a story of helplessness in the face of degradation of nature. This piece is a grim portrayal of irreparable damage man has done to nature.

Though his works are basically abstract, Ranjit has a deep interest in figuration. Human figures appear concealed in the composition. The strength of his composition lies in his ability to create tension and balance represented by the living forms both human and animal. In his earlier works these forms appeared in frag-

ments, mostly because his images appeared as disturbing through their intense presence. These forms generated a sense of helplessness and pathos in the grim world of daily struggle. But in his present works Ranjit has broadened the scope of his subjects along with its colour configuration, but retaining the same rigor of geometrical pattern of squares, rectangles and circles. A calm composure and pathos has replaced the grimness in his early works. The paintings on show capture such tender and lively moments as shyness (Hiding Face in Sari), repose (Combing hair), exuberance (Run), and camaraderie (Boy with goat, Girl with goat, Girl with Flower). The rural landscape as the backdrop with and without figures is a remarkable dimension added to his works. A recurrent motif is the full moon washing the almost invisible landscape in gossamer thin rays that create mistiness and evoke romance. Cleansed of all unsavory aspects by the pristine and all pervading rays of the moon the rural landscape not only looks idyllic it also casts a hypnotic spell. Figures in the paintings are the dominant forms and hold the overall composition



Feeling-1: Oil on canvas

together directly and tell stories. Paintings like Girl and Goat, Girl with Basket, Man with Umbrella, Workers in the Street, are narratives of the lives of ordinary people.

In the four paintings on the theme of Liberation War (Tragedy and Triumph) figures with vary-

ing dimensions and gestures bring out the essence of the subject poignantly through interplay of composition and colour combination. Ranjit applies colours skillfully to evoke the emotion relevant to the subjects.

The exhibition will run till October 14, 2000 from 12 to 8 pm.

## Recommendations

### COMEDY FILM WEEK

#### Comedy Film Week

A weeklong film festival titled 'Comedy Film Week' started at the Shawkat Osman Memorial Hall, National Museum on September 30 and will continue up to October 6. Today's films: DR.DOLITTLE at 11 am, HOT SHOTS PART DEUX at 1.15 pm, THE KID at 3.15 pm, SELECTED MOVE at 5.30 pm, SELECTED MOVE at 7.30 pm.

#### Mahbub's Fifth Solo

##### at Gallery 21

The fifth solo exhibition by visual artist Mahbubur Rahman was inaugurated on September 29 at Dharmonti's Gallery 21. Artists Nisar Hossain, Mohammed Eunus, Professor Sayed Azizul Huq and Shishir Bhattacharjee graced the inaugural ceremony as guests of honour.

The exhibition will remain open to everyone from 10.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. everyday till October 9.

#### Good Morning Sydney

##### at Gallery 21

The second solo photography exhibition by A M M Ikram titled 'Good Morning Sydney' started at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka on October 1.

In his exhibition artist A M M Ikram has captured and introduced the environmental and socio-cultural scenario of Sydney. He tried to portray and the city and the people of Sydney with his camera.

Organised by the Environment & Ecological conservation organisation the exhibition will remain open to everyone from 5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. till October 5.

#### CD Release

The launching ceremony of the Rabindrasangeet CD by Sajed Akbar and Salma Akbar will be held at the National Museum auditorium on October 7 at 7.00 p.m. The CD is produced by Muldhara cultural organisation.

Eminent artist Kalim Sharafi, Ajit Roy, Tapan Mahmud and Sadi Mohammed will be present as invited guests on the launching occasion.

The launching ceremony will be followed by musical presentation by the artists.

#### German Film-Week

Goethe Institut in collaboration with the German Embassy, Dhaka will start the German Film-Week from October 8 at the Goethe Institut auditorium. The films will be shown everyday at 3.00 p.m.

The following films will be shown during the festival:

Der Pampelmusenmond, Lola rennt, Killing Heinz, Das Leben ist eine Bausch, Der Sommer des Falken, Quest, Zugvogel - einmal nach Inari, Lippels Traum, Der Sieg, Jenseits der Stille, Der Hund ist weg, Fanny, Plus minus null, Wege in die Nacht.

exhibition

## Story of a Tortured Soul

Mahbubur Rhaman expresses his angst in his 5th solo at Gallery 21

BY NAFID IMRAN AHMED

EVERY artist feels differently and every expression one makes is unique in its own way. Young and promising artist of the generation of the 90s, Mahbubur Rahman's 5th solo painting exhibition at the Gallery 21 reflects his thoughts and his feelings.

Mahbub's paintings are also reflection into his childhood memories. Like other children he takes flight in Kali temples, graveyards, cemeteries, abandoned houses, slaughtered animals. His paintings are mostly the collage of all these terrifying

oil on tin and plastic. He has also done a sculpture, in glass fiber.

Mahbub's work is a testimony to his skill in using colour. In most of the paintings he used striking basic colours and in some paintings, which are usually his drawings he used faded colours. The use of colours in his works vary with the themes and his feelings.

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images from his memories.

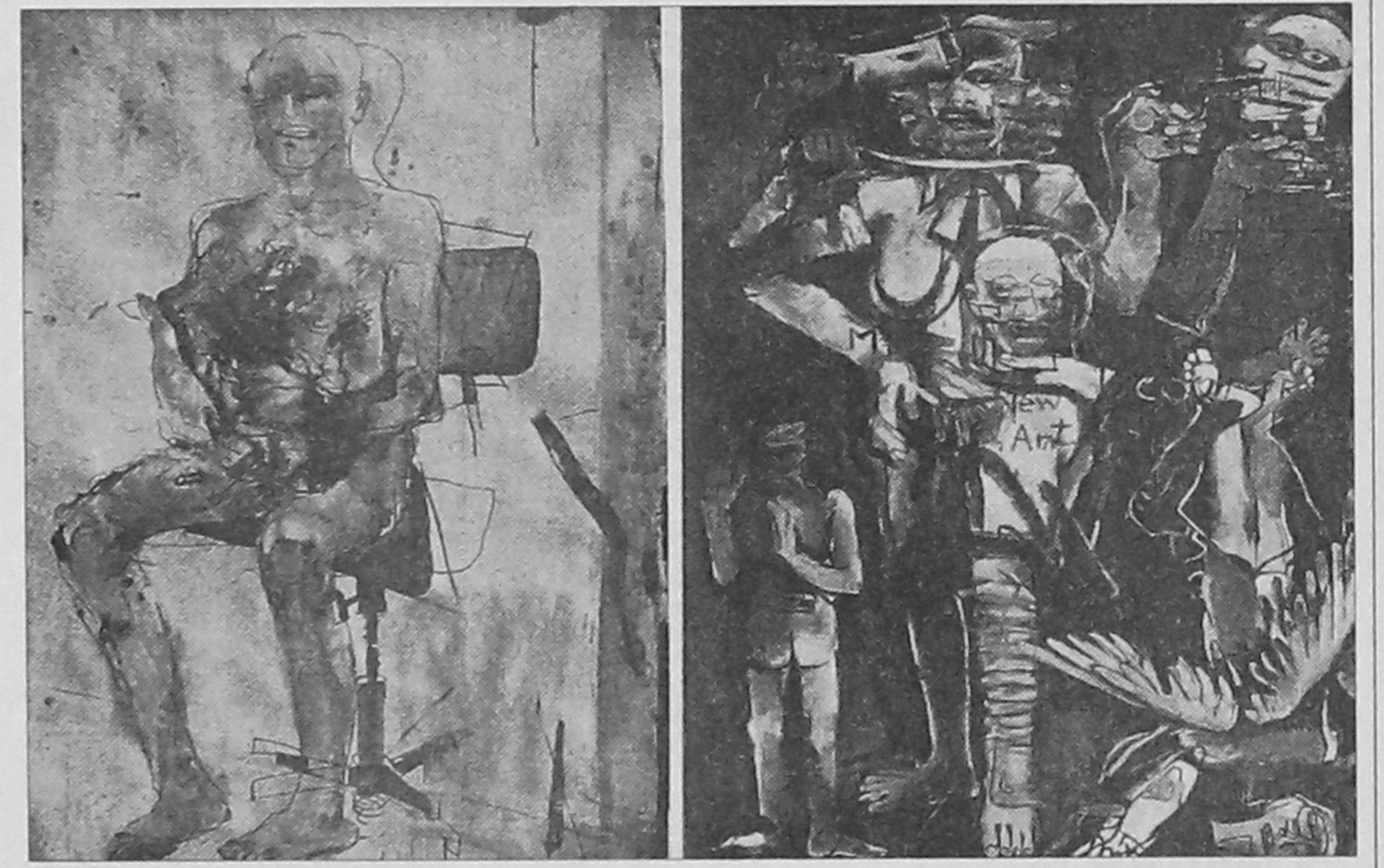
'While working on these themes,' said Mahbub 'I feel like destroying my own face and even destroying myself'. The forms and figures in Mahbub's works are expressed in such an intimidating and grotesque way that reminds one of the German expressionist paintings. The numerous images of breasts and phalluses moving around a woman figure is suggestive of repression on women.

The series on rickshaw is quite different from other works of the show. These paintings are the sequel to his previous exhibitions titled City Crisis held in 1997.

Long Shadow and the Bright Light held in 1999.

The one and only glass fiber sculpture of the show is titled Indifferent. The sculpture is a seated figure with a TV monitor placed on his chest and a dog on his lap. According to the artist the figure is explaining the dog about environmental pollution. Mahbub has created a video film on environmental degradation which is played on the TV monitor.

In conclusion one can only say that the show is a unique experience for the Dhaka's gallery-goers.



## Kachi-Kanchar Mela a Name in Children's Movement

BY MOHAMMAD AMJAD HOSSAIN

TODAY (5th of October) the largest and one of the oldest national children's organisations is celebrating the forty-fourth anniversary of its foundation. On this day forty-four years back Kachi-Kanchar Mela was floated at Tarabagh residence of the late Poet Sufia Kamal at the initiative of late Ruknuzzaman Khan (Dada Bhai). In fact this children's organisation is the brainchild of Ruknuzzaman Khan. This is for the first time that this organisation is celebrating its founding day without the presence of that pioneering leader who passed away on 3rd December last year. Apart from the death of legendary Poet Sufia Kamal, who expired in November last year, this organisation lost another of its dedicated leaders scientist-educationist Dr Abdullah Al-Muti Sharifuddin. He was the one who presided over the first ever meeting in connection with the formation of this organisation on 5th October 1956. Therefore, this year Kachi-Kanchar Mela is celebrating its founding day without these stalwarts.

During its 44 years of existence, which by any stroke of imagination is a miracle for any organisation in the context of Bangladesh environment, Kachi-Kanchar Mela has made a great stride towards development of children in different fields. Over the years this organisation has trained several hundred children in painting, music, dance, recita-

tion and literary writings. Of late, computer class introduced by this organisation keeping in mind the rapid advancement of modern technology is in operation for the last four years.

The central Kachi-Kanchar Mela is possibly the only children's organisation in Bangladesh, which has its own building for the conduct of different programmes for the children. And this is perhaps the only children's organisation which earned its reputation also abroad. Its budding artists brought laurel to its five branches which maintain library for the children. Today the organisation enjoys an enviable position in the country in terms of the positive contribution it made for the enrichment of the mental faculty of the children. This year six



Caring Guys For Bangladesh (CGB) organised a charity concert and film show at the Russian Cultural Centre on Saturday to raise funds for acid survivors

### BTW

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 Cartoon: Barne And Friends 4:30 Songs 5:00 National School Debate Competition 5:50 Dharma-O-Jibon 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:00 Sambad (Bangla News) 7:05 Batikram (Magazine on Children) 7:25 Laal Subojoer Paata (Cultural Programme On Children) 8:00 Bangla News At 8:20 Serial: Jayat Jayat Aboshasay #12 ("Tazin Ahmad, Litu Anam, Noora Afroz, Anant Hira, Mir Sabir, Shamim Shahid, Chumki) 9:00 Bahuroop (Magazine) 9:30 Geetibichitra (Songs) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:20 Bangla Mukh (Bangla Culture) 10:50 English Series: Sacred Monuments of Asia 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A Programme Outline For Friday B) National

Song 11:45 Clossing

**Ekushey TV**

2:00 Ajker Potrikay

2:10 Goboy 2:35

Nupur Bajey 3:00

Chittagong Headlines 3:02 Bangla

5:40 Drish 5:50 Ajker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:02 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 6:30 Charidike 7:00 Ekushey News Headlines 7:02 To Be Confirmed 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Drish 8:00 Roshonar Boshona 9:30 Bangla Movie: Ma-Baba 10:00 BTV News 10:20 Bangla Movie: Ma-Baba 11:00 Ekushey Late Night News 11:20 Bangla Movie: Ma-Baba 11:45 Ekushey News Headlines

**ATN**

5:30 Islamic programme 6:32

Health Prog 7:10 New Film Songs 7:50 Drama Serial 8:25

Drama Serial 8:40

9:15 I Dream of Jeannie 9:50 I Focus

10:00 Drama Abbotts 11:00 Bangla Cinema 11:00 Aviman

**Sony Ent. TV**

7:30 Amrit Varsha 8:00

Sant Asaram Wani 8:30

Music Mantra (Trailer Show) 9:00

Good Morning Disney 10:00 Haad Kaisa Hai Janab Ka #5 10:30 Dil Ki Mala Nahin #5

("Vishal, Rupali, Shriti Ulfa) 11:00 Thodi Si Bewafai #22 ("Suraj Thapar, Diya, Beena) 11:30 Aurat (Daily Soap) 12:00 Daily Soap- Ithaias 12:30 Movers & Shekars (Trailer Show) 1:30 Chartbusters (Trailer Show) 1:40 Jhalak 1:45 Daily Soap: Hasrateen #44 2:25 Chingare #74 3:00 Daily Soap: Nicolodion Kid's show 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Daily Soap: Chhattan #47 ("Shammi Kapoor, Anang Desh) 11:30 Arth #4 12:00 Sound of Music #12:10 Naye Nazrane (Trailer) 12:40 Tata Salt Khanha Khazana 1:10 Kasak

1:30 Daily Soap- Ghar Ek Mandir 4:00 Daily Soap- Nazdeekyan 4:30 Daily Soap- Ithaias 5:00 Daily Soap- Junoon 5:30

**CHANNEL-i**

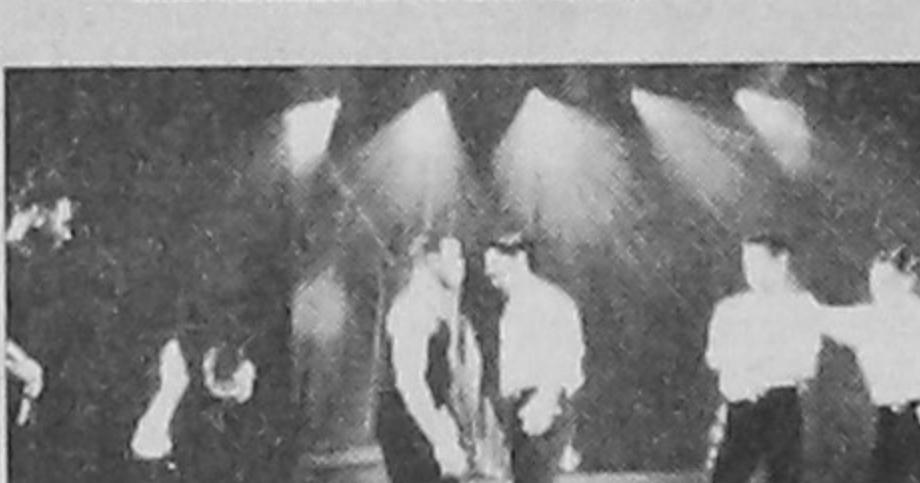
Bangla movie Ma Baba on Ekushey TV at 9:30 tonight.

Starring Mahmud Koli, Rozina and Zaved.



## TV GUIDE

### PICK OF THE DAY



Riverdance: Live at New York on Star World at 10 tonight. Filmed live at Radio City Music Hall in New York, this production is a powerful explosion of Irish dance, song and music. It is a fusion of traditional Irish dance and music, its primitive and powerful Celtic rhythms, blended with contemporary music and choreography; and includes powerful performances from international from Spain, America and Russia.

1:40 Jhalak 1:45 Daily Soap: Hasrateen #44 2:25 Chingare #74 3:00 Daily Soap: Nicolodion Kid's show 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Daily Soap: Chhattan #47 ("Shammi Kapoor, Anang Desh) 11:30 Arth #4 12:00 Sound of Music #12:10 Naye Nazrane (Trailer) 12:40 Tata Salt Khanha Khazana 1:10 Kasak 1:30 Daily Soap- Ghar Ek Mandir 4:00 Daily Soap- Nazdeekyan 4:30 Daily Soap- Ithaias 5:00 Daily Soap- Junoon 5:30

World Focus: 12:00 World News 12:30 Made In India: Face To Face (Presenter- Karan Thapar) 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 World Living: The Air Show 8:30 HARDtalk (Presenter- Tim Sebastian) 9:00 World News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC World News 10:15 World Business Report 10:30 Made In India: Moneywise (Presenter- Sucharita Ghosh) 11:00 BBC World News 11:35 World Business Report 11:45 World Sport 12:30 HARDtalk (Presenter- Tim Sebastian) 1:00 World News

Hit Ya Fit #380 9:30 Star Morning Film Show: Heera Aur Pathar (\*Shashi Kapoor, Shabana Azmi, Ashok Kumar) 12:30 Film Based Prog: Hit Ya Fit #381

1:00 TSN 1:30 Daily Soap- Tanha #28 2:00 Daily Soap- Meri Saheli #68 2:30 Daily Soap- Saans #69 3:00 Hindi Serial: Rajdhani #21 3:30 Small Wonder (Hindi Dube) 4:00 Daily Soap- Kyonki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi #55 4:30 Hindi Serial: Babulbari #20 5:00 Film Based Prog: Hit Ya Fit #382 6:00 Small Wonder (Hindi Dube)