

music

A World Apart: Taking Ghazal to a New Height

Manzurul Islam enthrals the audience with his ghazals at Sheraton Ballroom on Friday evening

By Tawfiq Ali

MUSIC enthusiasts started gathering at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel in the evening, defying the late October drizzles. Ruposhi Bangla organised a ghazal evening by Manzurul Islam Khan and Shalla Tasmin on October 27 at 7 pm. The ghazals started and went on even without the Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Mosharraf Hossain who was due as chief guest. But among others, Noor-e-Alam Chowdhury MP, Nazmul Ahsan Chowdhury, Secretary, Posts and Telecommunications Ministry and Azad Rahman, DG, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy were present as special guests.

There was brief addresses by the special guests before the main programmes. "Devotion and great pursuit had brought Manzurul to today's position of a ghazal exponent," said Noor-e-Alam.

The world of music is an enlightened world. Ghazal is a genre of music that establishes this fact. But ghazal nowadays is gradually gaining popularity in our country. Manzurul Islam is one of the front-ranking ghazal singer in the country," commented Nazmul Ahsan Chowdhury. While delivering his address, Azad Rahman said that practising art is a devoted pursuit for the artiste.

All the distinguished guests at the occasion emphasised on one point that there is a severe constraint of opportunity and environment to practise classical music - ghazal.

There are many promising artistes who are outstanding and have a going-global ability, if fostered properly," Azad Rahman opined. It is a very common phenomenon that art and culture do not enjoy a nourishing treatment in our country yet. The chairman of Swanirvar Bangladesh made this clear while addressing the audience. The patronisation that is required to bring art and culture in the forefront falls much short of expectation. "We need to patronise all the artistes accordingly," he said.

Ruposhi Bangla chief Khondoker Rezaul Karim highlighted his organisation's role and objectives in the cultural arena.

Manzurul's ghazal evening was sponsored by Ruposhi Bangla on the eve of his launching a ghazal album.

Then the ghazal recital started. Manzurul went on performing one after another and appeased the music lovers' hearts. Later he performed two Bangla ghazal "Beshi Kichhu Aasha Kora Bhul" and "Dhaka Joto Na Noion Duhatte Badal-Megh Ghumate Deba na."

The audience's enthusiastic response and hearty applause showed that Bangla ghazals appeal more to them. A trance-like atmosphere prevailed in the beautifully bedecked Ballroom for some time. The audience forgot worldliness and lost themselves perhaps in imaginative thoughts for some moments at least. It seemed they were in a divine world of purity -- a state that softens and purifies the soul. The artiste's melodious voice and taans took the audience to a blissful world of peace and tranquillity.

The fifth was a duet recital with Shalla Tasmin.

Manzurul ended his performance by presenting Aapko Mobarak Ho" addressed to the audience. Shalla later presented three ghazals. Manzurul performed a number of songs on audience's request.

Manzurul's musical education started under the guidance of Ustad Abul Kalam Siddiqui, Ustad Shi Shankar Das, Ustad Nurul Islam in the village Shibchar of Madaripur district. Then he went on to learn from Ustad Azad Rahaman, Amjad Hossain, Sanjib Day and Armin



Hug in Dhaka and completed his finesse with Chayanat. Later on he received taalim from Ranji Biswas and Ustad Asman Khan at Shreema Academy, Bombay in 1986-87. Majurul has been inspired by the spirit of rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

Though a bank officer, his dream is to explore the beauty through music, as he said, "If God tells me to sacrifice my most intimate thing, I will present him the music I learned."

Manzurul's dream is to enlist himself as one of the noteworthy ghazal singers of the sub-continent.

The evening was followed by a musical video screening Bristir Kanya.

BTV
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

Drama Serial: Na 2:35 Chirontoni 3:00 Amar Chobi 10:45 Asia Cup Football 8:30 Sunday Funday India 8:30 World 7:30 News 7:30 World Living: Top Gear 8:00 BBC World Headlines 8:10 Dateline London 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:10 Weekend World: Louis Theroux's Weird Weekends 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 India Business Report 11:00 BBC World News 11:10 Weekend World: The Entertainment Biz 12:00 BBC World News Headlines 12:30 Australia Direct 1:00 BBC World News 1:10 Weekend World: Wagon Train 2:00 World News 2:30 World Living: Top Gear 3:00 World News 3:10 Dateline London 4:00 BBC World Newsdesk Inc. World Report / 24 Hours

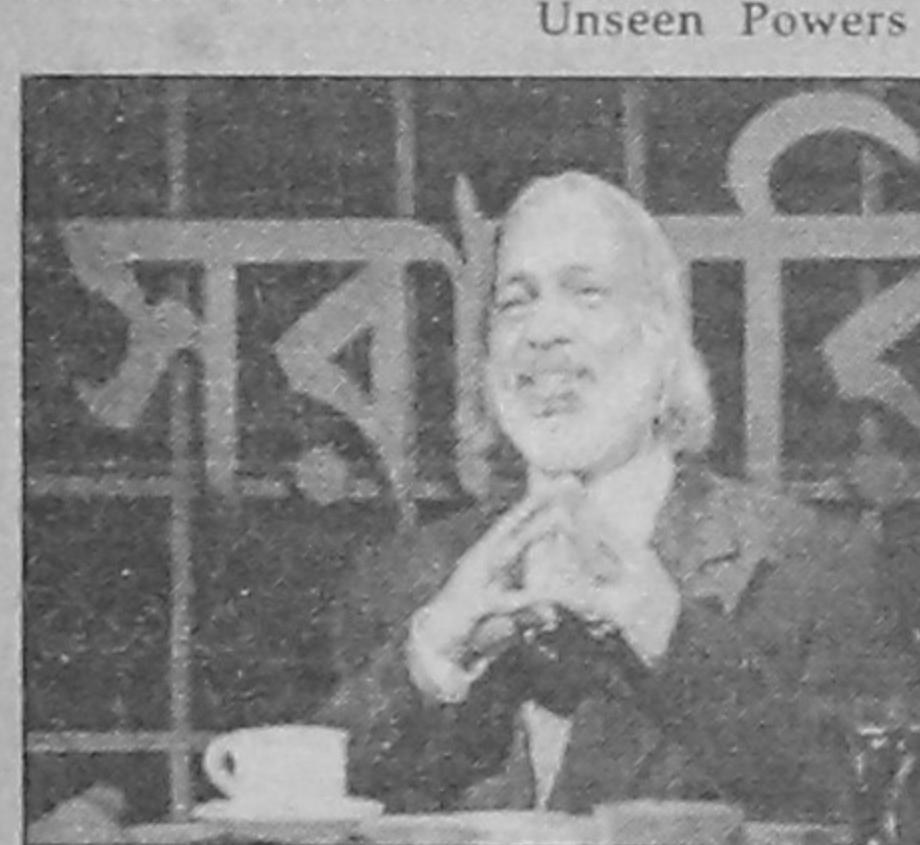
HBO
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STAR GOLD
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Sarashari, guest: Dr Moin Khan on Ekushey television tonight at 10:20

Show 4:30 Pusti Thatho 4:45 Col-Table (Based On Social En.) 5:10 Sashtha Thatho (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 Uvdid O Jibon 8:00 News At 8 (Bangla) 8:20 Dekha Adeka (Doc) 8:50 Package Serial: Khacha #2 ("Nader Choudhury, Suborna Mostafa, Elina, Darashiko, Rina, Rahman, Maya Ghosh) 9:30 Comedy Series-Tim Night Rider / Molla Nasiruddin (Bangla Dubs) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:20 Pach Akashher Tara (Programme On World Literature) 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A) Programme Outline For Monday B) National Song 11:45 Closing

EKUSHEY TV
2:00 Ajker Potrika 2:10

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