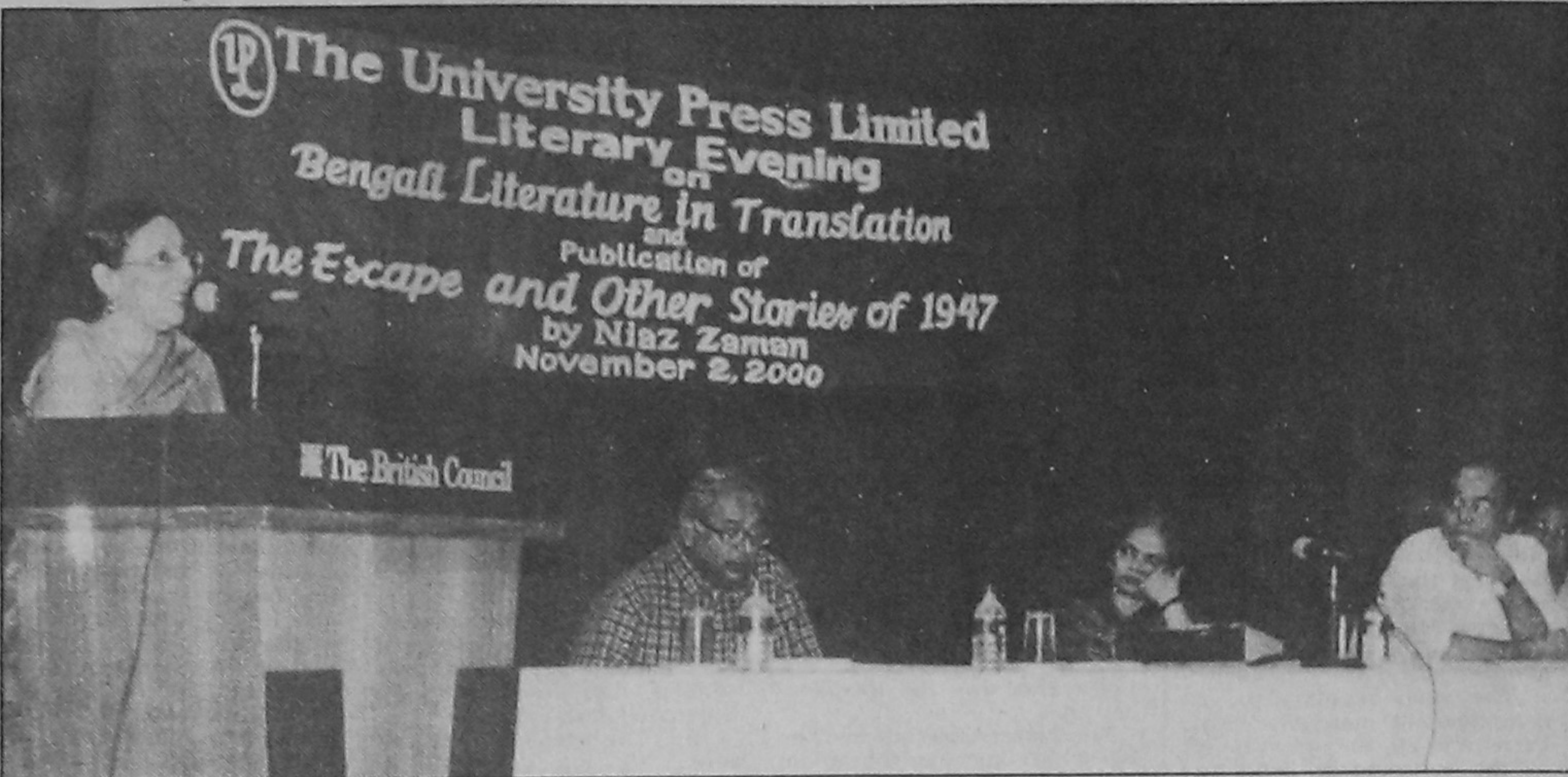


Culture

book launching

Digging History with Passion

Launching ceremony of Niaz Zaman's book "The Escape and Other Stories of 1947" at the British Council auditorium



Niaz Zaman making her point at the publication ceremony of "The Escape and Other Stories of 1947"

--Star Photo

By Tahera Yesmin

"The Escape and Other Stories of 1947", a collection of stories translated by Professor Niaz Zaman, was formally launched at the British Council Auditorium on November 2. By bringing out this book, she has taken a significant step to remind the readers about a crucial time we, as a nation, have passed in 1947.

Professor Razia Khan Amin of the University of Dhaka graced the launching ceremony of the book as the chief guest, while Professor Fakrul Alam of the same university presented a paper titled "The Pleasures and Pains of Translation" Enayetullah Khan, the editor of the "Weekly Holiday" reviewing the book in his address.

Niaz Zaman - a noted writer, translator and editor - tried to recall some events of 1947 through her newly published "The Escape and Other Stories of 1947", which was published by the University Press Limited.

Niaz Zaman is Professor and former Chairperson of the Department English, University of Dhaka. She has also taught at the University of Chittagong and George Washington University.

Her areas of interest include drama, American and Common wealth literature and folk stories. From 1982 to 1983, she served as Educational Attaché in the Bangladesh Embassy at Washington D.C. One of her studies on partition novels, published in three major languages, "A divided legacy", won literary awards from the National Archives and the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh in 1999.

"The Escape and Other Stories of 1947" is a book about the stories during the time of partition of the subcontinent. The creation of two nation-states - Pakistan and India - in 1947 was accompanied by the partition of the Punjab in the west and Bengal in the east. While there is much literature available about the effects of partition in the then western wing of Pakistan, there is little in what is now independent Bangladesh.

"The Escape and Other Stories of 1947" brings together a range of stories that focus on the consequences of the partition; how it affected the people of erstwhile East Pakistan. Written at various intervals over the past 50 years, the stories are not just literary texts but also significant social documents, with a valuable insight into personal lives of some, in the aftermath of the

partition and independence.

This book contains 12 stories; two of them which are translated by the writer himself. Other translators translated some of the stories and Niaz Zaman translated most. Stories titled "The Tale of a Tulsi Plant" by Syed Waliullah, "The Escape" by Syed Waliullah, "Roots" by Syeda Farida Rahman and "The Amulet" by Nazmul Alam are bound to move the reader's minds.

"The Tale of Tulsi Plant" is about some Muslim workers who came to Dhaka from Calcutta during the time of partition. After coming to Dhaka, they took shelter into an abandoned house. Soon they realised that was a home of a Hindu family after seeing a "Tulsi" plant. At the very beginning they wanted to pick up the plant but finally the plant survived.

Another story titled "The Escape" deals with the pains of reliving own home. The central character of this story was not named. Here the writer revealed the pain of all sufferers though this man.

"Roots" tells us about the relation between two medical students. Professor Fakrul Alam said, "Niaz Zaman has done a great job by translating the stories." He

thinks, "Translators are part of transmission of the civilisation and translators are making people to come closer to different writers and poets." He also said, "Translating is difficult, because to translate something a person has to get into the thought that the writer wanted to say. If a person can get ideas then his/her translation will be successful and that's the delighting part of it."

Razia Amin Khan and Enayetullah Khan also appreciated Niaz Zaman's work.

Some of the stories of "The Escape and Other stories 1947" were translated by Zerin Alam, Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Dhaka; Arifa Ghani, Lecturer, Department of English, Jahangirnagar University and Shabnam Nadiya, who recently graduated from the University of Dhaka.

Niaz Zaman's other publications include "The Dance and Other Stories and Selected Short Stories from Bangladesh". She has also edited "Other Englishes: Essays on Commonwealth Writing (co-editor), "Different Perspectives: Women Writing in Bangladesh (co-editor). From 1982-1996 she was Editor of the Bangladesh Journal of American Studies. She is an occasional columnist for the "Weekly Holiday".

anniversary

Happy Birthday to the Poet!

Khondokar Ashraf Hossain's 50th birth anniversary was observed at National Museum

By Tawfique Ali

FIFTIETH birth anniversary of poet Professor Khondokar Ashraf Hossain was observed on November 3 by Kabitapath Kendra at the Sufia Kamal Auditorium. A discussion meeting was arranged on the occasion. Eminent poets and educationists like Mahadev Saha, Prof Abul Quasem Fazlul Haq, Mohammad Rafiq, Dr Begum Akter Kamal, Dr Rajib Humayun, Dr Syed Manjurul Islam, Dr Rafikulah Khan, Dr Samitra Shekhar and many more spoke on the occasion. The programme was presided over by Prof Serajul Islam Chowdhury while Poet Shamsur Rahman attended the occasion as the chief guest. Dr Biswajit Ghosh featuring different aspects of Khondokar Ashraf's poetry presented a keynote paper. It key-note paper mainly focused on the message of his poetry and pointed out that women, both as beloved and the repressed of the society, enjoy an esteemed position in his poetry.

The auditorium wore a festive look with lots of bouquet. Poet's fans and poetry lovers flanked around him and wished him heartily. A shy poet blushed once and again at the admiration of his fans.

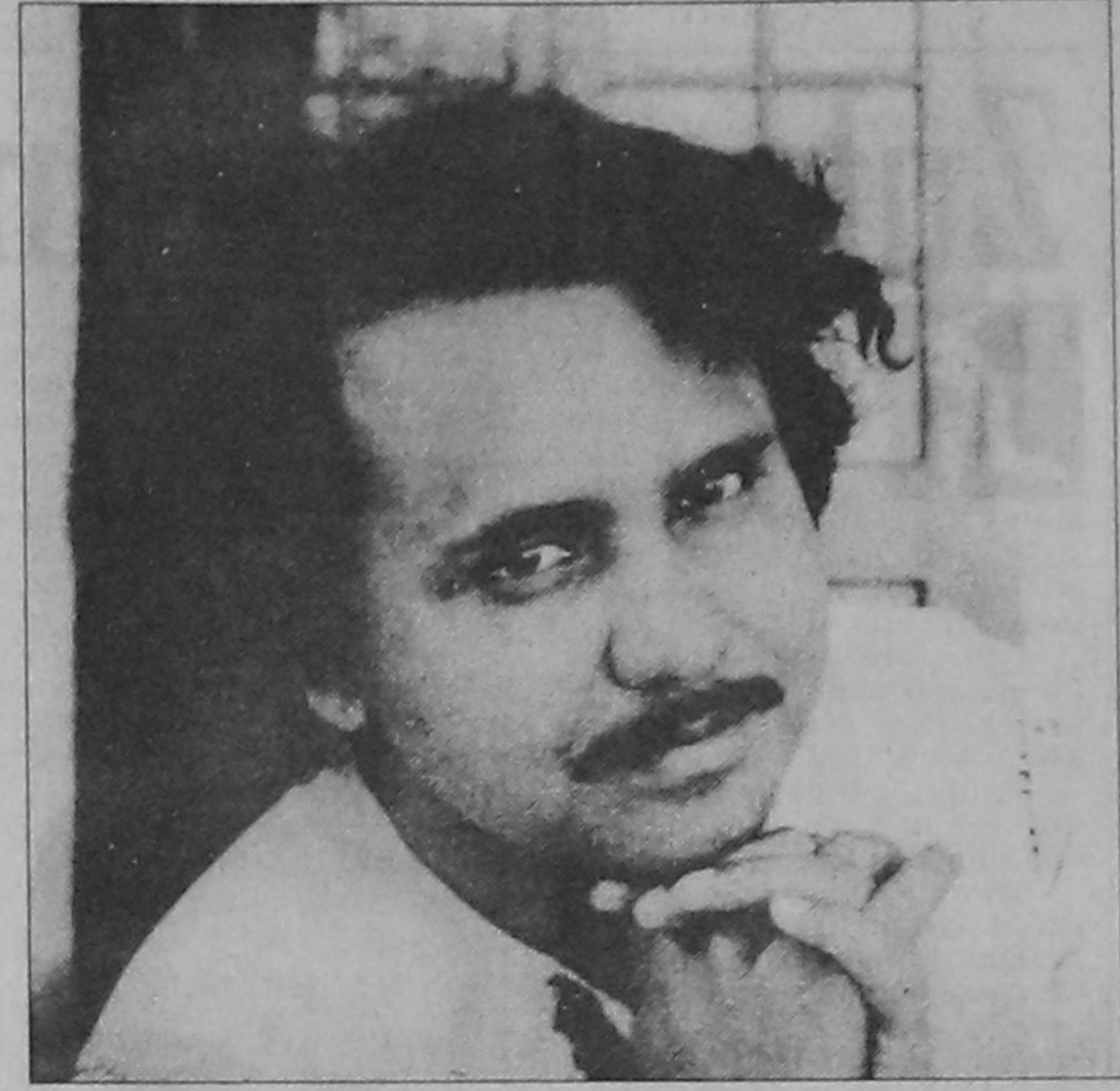
Though Ashraf Hossain started cultivating his poetic faculty in the '60s and '70s he emerged in the country's poetry arena and his name hit the headlines in the '80s.

His first volume "Tin Ramanis Kasida" was published in 1984 by Ekobingsha publication. His latest one, Jamunaparba, was published in 1998. His other notable works are "Jibaner Saman Chumuk" and "Sundari O Greenar Ghurgur". Ashraf Hossain has translated Saphocles's "King Oedepus", Ureipede's "Alcestes", Folktales from Bangladesh in collaboration with Prof Serajul Islam Chowdhury and Kabir

Chowdhury.

When called to recite his poems, Khondokar Ashraf expressed his pleasure saying, "I am overwhelmed with love the all you have shown to me

lively and impressive personality." Nirmalendu Gun said, "Ashraf is the most successful translator among us. If he utilises his English language skills, our Bengali poetry will be



Khondokar Ashraf Hossain

today." The guests enjoyed poet's recital of his own poems.

Ashraf Hossain has been editing "Ekobingsha" since 1985 and was awarded Pashchimanga Little Magazine Award in 1996 for it.

Observing the birth anniversary of the poet was the first ever presentation by Kabitapath Kendra. Speakers unanimously termed Ashraf Hossain as a poet of the '80s. Prof Syed Shahriar from Bogra said, "Bengali poets in one way or the other are influenced by Jibanando Das, Ashraf Hossain, who is poet of nature, is not an exception."

Prof Abul Kashem Fazlul Haq complimented as saying, "Khondokar Ashraf has a very

much benefited."

According to Syed Nurjural Islam, Ashraf Hossain is as compassionate as any other poet. "Titles of his poems are so poetic that they can be substitute for the poems themselves," he said. Shamsur Rahman said that Ashraf Hossain should have received more recognition than he has now.

What Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury said was a little different; he wanted to congratulate the poet informally. He said, "Being content with little success is a malady. The flow of creativity should not be restricted. The happy thing is that Khondokar Ashraf does not cease with a minor success."

Recommendations

Musical Soiree

A musical soiree by three musicians: Kumar Ashim Price, Uttam Dewan and Cynthia Rahman Ruma will be held at the Shawkat Osman Memorial auditorium (Public Library) on November 6 at 6 in the evening.

Workshop

Bishwashahittya Kendra Chalacchitra Chakra started a workshop on Russian filmmaker Andre Tarkovskis's films and thoughts on November 3 at the Bishwashahittya Kendra premises.

The course will continue till November 7.

1st Solo Photography

The inaugural ceremony of the eleven day long 1st photography exhibition by Mustafa Faroque Wahid was held at the Ariel Centre yesterday. Eminent photographer Dr Noazesh ahmed was present as chief guest. Artist Mustafa Manwar and Shamsuzzaman Khan director general, Bangladesh National Museum were also present as special guests.

The exhibition will remain open everyday from 2 8 p.m.

Recitation

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran started a weekly recitation and discussion programme from Masnau of poet Maulana Jalaluddin Rumi at the counsellor's office premises from November 1. Interested people are cordially invited to attend the function.

Cinema

In this weeks Friday movie session, the movie *Abel Gance hier et demain* will be screened at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka tomorrow at 10:30 in the morning. The movie is directed by Nelly Kaplan. In the evening at 6, the movie *Francois Truffaut ou l'espirt critique* by director Jean Gremillon will be screened.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



ANTZ

Star Movies tonight at 10
In this animated adventure Woody Allen plays Z-4195. He is just a worker ant one in a billion and his odds of landing the beautiful Princess Bala (Sharon Stone) are about the same. Undaunted by the ant colony's unyielding caste system, Z enlists the aid of his best friend; a soldier ant named Weaver (Sylvester Stallone), to get to the Princess. When a remarkable twist of fate turns Z turns drone into an unlikely hero, he unwittingly puts a bug in the ambitious General Mandible's (Gene Hackman) plan to liquidate the colony and remake it in its own image. Z soon finds himself leading a revolution that becomes a celebration of individuality in the face of overwhelming conformity.

World Wrestling Federation Metal 11:30
Rally Racing On TV 12:00
Limit 2000 Indonesia, Asia Sport Show 12:30



Sharashari tonight's guest Professor Kazi Faruk Ahmed, Ekushey television at 10:20p.m.

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 Show 4:30 Pusti Thattcho 4:45 Chharpatro 5:10

A) Programme Outline For Monday
B) National Song 11:45 Closing

EKUSHEYTV
(From 12 noon till 11:30pm from Sunday to Thursday)
2:00 Ajker Potrikay
2:10 Drama Serial: Na 2:35 Chirontoni 3:00

HBO
10:00 Unforgiven 9:45 Defending Your Life 12:00 Hollywood's Greatest Stunts 12:30 Platoon Leader 2:30 The Pelican Brief 5:30 Street Justice 7:30 Born Free 9:30 Byulproof

CHANNEL-i
Morning
6:15 Sorejomin 6:45 Amar Chanel 1 7:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata 7:40 Music Horizons 8:35 Din Protidin 8:50 Ghar Gherothali 9:00 Akattorer Dinguli 9:10

STAR GOLD
5:30 Aamne Samne 8:30 Holle Cinema 9:00 Chaudvin Ka Chand 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Sunday Noon Show Milap 3:30 Geet Bahar 4:00 Shabnam 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30

BBC WORLD
6:00 BBC World News Headlines 6:30 This Week 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 World Living: Holiday-Special USA Edition 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 USA Direct 9:30 BBC World News 9:30 World Focus: Correspondent- 10:00 BBC

STAR SPORTS
8:00 New Zealand Tour Of South Africa Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA- New Zealand Vs South Africa 6th Odi, Highlights 9:00 Nba Inside Stuff 2000/01 9:30 Golf Tournament Ericsson China Pga Challenge 2000 Beijing, CHINA Beijing Challenge 10:30

World News 10:30
Wheels 11:00 BBC
World News 11:30
India Business Report 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 Made In India: Mastermind India 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 Made In India: Face To Face India (Presenter- Karan Thapar) 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 This Week 3:00 BBC World News 3:10 Weekend World: The Entertainment Biz #4/6- Premiers And Junkets 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Click Online (Pres-Stephen Cole) 5:00 BBC World News 5:30 USA Direct 6:00 BBC World News Headlines 6:10 Weekend World: Question Time USA 7:00 BBC World News 7:10 Dateline London 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 World Living: Top Gear 9:00 BBC World News 9:10 Weekend World: Louis Theroux's Weird Weekends #3/3- Head For The Hills 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 India Business Report 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Living: Holiday-Special USA Edition 12:00 BBC World News Headlines 12:10 Weekend World: The Entertainment Biz 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 USA Direct 2:00 World News 2:10 Weekend World: Question Time USA 3:00 World Living: Top Gear 4:00 BBC World Newsdesk Inc. World Report / 24 Hours 4:41:29)

Sunday Blockbusters
Pyaasa 10:30 Jubilee Plus 11:00 Picnic 12:30 Picnic (Cont) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Shabnam

SONYNETV
7:30 Amrit Varsha 8:00 Sant Asaram Wani 8:30 Uttar Ramayan #82 9:30 Shree Ganesh #8 10:30 Good Morning Disney 11:30 Dinosaucers 12:00 Archana Talkies 1:00 Idhar Udhar 1:30 The Good Home Show 2:00 Weekend Matinee-Super Hit Film: Charon Ki Saugandh 5:30 Chartistbusters 6:00 Music Mantra 6:30 Good Morning Disney 7:30 The Poppadum Show 8:00 Bajaj Ki Lehren 8:30 Weekend Primee Hindi Film: Pakeezah (Ra) Kumar, Ashok Kumar, Meena Kumari) 12:30 Archana Talkies 1:30 CID Files 2:30 Bajaj Ki Lehren 3:00 Dinosaucers 3:30 Cine- Night Hindi Feature Film: Nau Do Gyarah

Anuvobe Anukhणे
10:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 10:10 I Music 10:40 71-ar Suddho Syrik 11:45 Amar Chanel 1 12:00 Drama Everyday-Joar Vhata 12:40 Music Horizons 1:15 Ghar Gherothali 2:00 Anuvobe Anukhणे 3:00 Bangla Cinema:

Evening
6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Frames of Change 6:40 Bha! Ki Dharun Dhrishao 7:15 Ami Se o Sagnit 7:45 Amar Chanel 1 8:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata 8:40 Jukti Tarko 9:15 Job Line 10:00 Akattorer Dinguli 10:00 Amar Chobi 2:45 Bangla Cinema:

Magazine show Ananda Ananda will be aired tonight after the news at ten. Directed by Badruzzaman the programme is hosted by Sohel Hayder Chowdhury.

Sashtho Thattcho (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 Band Songs Show 8:00 News At 8 (Bangla) 8:20 Dekha Adekha (Doc) 8:50 Package Serial: Khaacha #2 (*Nader Choudhury, Suborna Mostafa, Elna, Darashiko, Rina Rahman, Maya Ghosh) 9:30 Comedy Series-Tim Night Ridar / Molla Nasiruddin (Bangla Dubs) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:20 Sadjomata Tomar Jauca (Based On Liberation Fight) 11:50 Achin Pakhi 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40

Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Shantashi Raja 5:50 Dhrishiti 5:50 Ajker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 6:30 Chordikide 7:00 Supernatural: The Unseen Powers of Animals 7:30 Ekushey News 8:30 Noorjahan 9:30 Drama Serial: Jiboner Koto Rong 10:00 BTV News 10:20 Shorashori 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News 11:15 Ei Shoptaho 11:45 Ekushey News Headlines

New show Otoyeb on BTV tonight after the news in Bengali. The magazine show is hosted by Pallab and is directed by Shahidul Islam Mintu.

11:15 Zero Effect 1:45 Rosewood 4:30 Born Free

Spanish Football League 2000/01 2:30 Asian Basketball Show 3:00 Fim World Motorcycle Championship 2000 Motopg Philip Island, AUSTRALIA Highlights 4:30 Sports India 5:00 Rugby-Sanzar Domestic Competitions New Zealand Provincial Championships Div I Christchurch, NEW ZEALAND - Wellington Vs Canterbury Final 7:00 Gillette World Sports Special 7:30 Wta Tour Ladies Kremlin Cup Moscow, RUSSIA Quarterfinals 10:30 New Zealand Tour Of South Africa Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA- New Zealand Vs South Africa 6th Odi, Highlights 11:30 Asian Pga Tour Davidoff Tour: Lexus International Thailand, THAILAND Highlights 12:30 Live-Spanish Football League 2000/01

ESPAN
8:00 English Premier Football League Coventry, ENGLAND- Manchester United Vs Coventry City 10:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Stuttgart Pres. By Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Men's Semifinal Match #1 12:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Stuttgart Pres. By Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Men's Semifinal Match #2 2:00 Uefa Champions League Highlights 2000/01 Weekly #9 Matchwk 5 H/Ls 3:00 English Premier Football League 5:00 Live-Asian Bowling Tour 2000: Korea Masters Cup Seoul, SOUTH KOREA Leg 5, Day 1-Round 2 7:00 Live-Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Stuttgart Pres. By

Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Final Match 10:00 Live-English Premier Football League Liverpool, ENGLAND- Aston Villa Vs Everton 12:00 Van'S Triple Crown Van'S Triple Crown Bmx Stop 3 Bear Mountain, CA USA 1:00 Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour Pwba Bowling - Greater Harrisburg Open Mechanicsburg, PA USA

STAR PLUS
6:00 I Love My India 6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Good Morning India 8:30 Sunday Fundary 10:30 Janata Ki Adalat 11:00 Chupa Rustom 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 12:30 Family Fortunes 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaroon 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:00 Hello Cinema 2:30 Mail Milap 2:40 Star Sunday Matinee Singaar Madhubala, Suriya 6:00 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Hai 6:30 Jubilee Plus 7:00 Star Bestsellers- 8:00 Star Film Usav- Tum Haseen Main Jawan 11:30 Jubilee Plus 12:00 Janata Ki Adalat 12:30 Family Fortunes 1:00 Hasna Matt 1:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 2:30 Jubilee Plus 3:00 Kuchha Papad pucca Papad 3:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 4:00 Kabhi Kabhi Mere Ghar Mein Buchaal Aata Hai 4:30 Gharwali Uparwali 5:00 Family Fortunes 5:30 Hit Ya Fit

STAR WORLD
6:00 Batman 6:30 7:00 Second Noah 8:00 The New W K R P In Cincinnati 8:30 Lassie 9:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 10:00 Small Wonder 10:30 I Love Lucy 11:00 Xena 12:00 Hercules 1:00, A.G. 2:00 Waker Texas Ranger 3:00 Crown And Country 3:30 Travel Asia 4:00 Bay vatch 5:00 The

Simpsons 5:30 3rd Rock From Sun 6:00 Star News Focus Asia 7:00 The X Files 8:00 Star Track- Next Generation 9:00 TV.Com 9:30 Star News Sunday 10:30 The X Files 11:30 Star Track- Next Generation 12:30 Cops 1:00 Star News Focus Asia 2:00 The X Files 3:00

Ushuala 8:30 Wings 9:30 Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files 10:00 Jaws & Claws II 10:30 Popular Mechanics 11:00 Naturequest 11:30 ARK - Tales of the Animal Rescue Kids 12:00 Splat IV 12:30 Animals In Danger 1:00 In Care of Nature

throughs 1:30 Lifetime 2:30 Science Frontiers 3:30 Discovery Showcase 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 Discovery Magazine

ZEE TV
6:15 Yaadon Ke Pal (B/W Songs) 6:45 Old Is Gold 7:00 Bhakti Songs 7:30 Jagran 7:55 Fitness Plus 8:05 Breakfast Zee (News, Views & Chat) 8:30 Nicodolion Kid's show 9:30 Jay Ganesha #9 11:25 Guldsta 11:30 Alvida Darling 12:30 Hum Hai Anan 12:30 Bourta Quiz Contest 1:00 Dastak (Helpline) 1:30 First Take- (Film Preview) 2:00 Hudda Kar Di 2:30 Little Mirchi Thoda Pepper 3:00 Zee For U 3:30 Cinema Hits Hindi Film: 6:10 Ek Nazar 6:30 Nicodolion Kid's show 7:30 Ek Nazar 8:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 9:00 Rishtey- 9:45 K a s h a k 1 0 : 3 0 Agnichakra 11:00 X-Zone 12:00 Muskaan 12:30 Mehendi Tere Nam 1:10 Adikar 1:40 Laayee 2:10 Hummat 2:40 Naye Nazrane 3:10 Hindi Film, (B/W)

Creflo Dollar 3:30 Kenneth Copland Ministries 4:00 Life In The Word With Joyce Meyer 4:30 World News 5:00 Fashion TV 5:30 Mork & Mindy 6:00 Aerobics Oz Style 6:30 Hollywood Squares

STAR MOVIES
7:00 Thriller: Cold Around The Heart (15) 9:00 Drama: Last American Hero 11:00 Bhaskar Ghose Show 11:30 Sunday Best: White Fang (PG) 1:30 Thriller: Brown's Requiem (15) 3:30 Star Kids Club: Honey I Blew Up The Kid 5:15 Thriller: Tracks of A Killer 15:7:15 Comedy: Birdcage 9:30 Starbiz 10:00 Sunday Night Premiere: Antz 12:00 Action Force: Freeway (15) 2:00 Thriller: Thriller: Cold Around The Heart (15)

Bulletproof on HBO tonight at 9:30. Directed by Ernest Dickerson the movie stars Damon Wayans, Adam Sandler, James Caan and others. In his directorial debut provides some aggressively staged mayhem in this action flick. Rock Keats and Archie Moses are best of friends performing small criminal acts. All this changes when Moses discovers that Keats in Jack Carter, an undercover police officer who wants to arrest Moses.

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
6:30 Go For It! 7:30

The 31st episode of Nurjahan will be aired tonight on Ekushey television at 8:30.

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