

Music

Message from Tripura

Indian and local exponents of Tagore song sing their heart out circulating a message of friendship and cultural bondage

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"MAY be we are separated by geographical boundaries, but Bangladesh is my second home, the hospitality and warmth with which we were greeted is difficult to into words!", said Panchali Dev Barman, a classical and Tagore singer, visiting Dhaka along with three other performing artists from Tripura on an invitation of Podatik Natya Sangshad, a front-ranking theatre group of Bangladesh.

It was a bracing experience for all at the Indian High Commission Cultural Center in Dhammudi on the evening of September 20 as three singers from India and two from Bangladesh Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Nargis Chowdhury performed various number of Tagore songs accompanied by superb "tabla" presentation from Santunu Barman, also a member of the Tripura delegation.

Entitled "Aalor Omol Komol Khani Ke Footaalo", the musical soiree was well hosted by Bhashkar Bannerjee.

Madhurima Bhattacharya and Abhijit Sen completed the trio of Indian singers with Panchali, enjoying and relishing their Dhaka visit in a tremendous way, with soaring moods of ecstasy and fulfillment.

"This is my third visit here but the cultural tone in Bangladesh seems increasingly fascinating the more I come to this country, the more I become closely linked with the place. The audience in Bangladesh is certainly much more gracious and knowledgeable than those in other parts of the sub-continent. People in this country know, admire and most importantly appreciate whatever that is rendered to them, be it song, recitation or dance. This is a positive quality rare among audiences in other countries", comments Abhijit, a regular artist of Doordarshan.

"As we all know, India is a country highly enriched in cul-

ture with innumerable native and regional dialect, social customs and traditions besides having a diverse range of ancient and contemporary lifestyle. It is very much compelling for the country's inhabitants to choose and follow multicultural themes, thus the Bengalees of West Bengal are also, experiencing and becoming fond of mixed cultural traditions, including some Westernised cultural versions, often what is commonly termed as "Opo-shangskrit" or alien culture. To my opinion, no culture of any region can overtake that of another if ones' own commitment and traditional values remain intact through sincerity and dedication", said smart and confident Abhijit Sen.

Moreover, the Agartala-based male vocal believes that a strong influence of Bengali literature and research have established a firm position of Rabindra Sangeet in Bangladesh. Though in Tripura there are many talented artists asso-

ciated with Tagore songs, yet, according to Abhijit, the foundation of Tagore culture is still not very compact in the West Bengal as much as it is here in Bangladesh!

According to Panchali Barman, Bangladesh has a lot of talented and renowned artists in various sectors of the cultural arena. She thinks that since there has been a gradual increase in the exchange of cultural performances and programmes between the two neighbouring countries over the recent past, therefore fine accomplishments and advanced cultural atmospheres can be developed in both India and Bangladesh through frequent visits. She further requests the Bangladeshi organisers to present cultural programmes and events of guest artists all over the country instead of arranging solely in Dhaka city as it would then be a golden chance for all to meet and gain new experiences from the visiting artists of the subcon-

tinent. Panchali Barman, presently teaching the vocal art, is a graduate on classical music from Lucknow besides holding B.Mus. degree from Kolkata University and M.Mus. degree from Rabindra Bharati University.

Madhurima Bhattacharya, the other female vocal of the small troupe, also expressed her extreme pleasure for being able to visit Bangladesh, this has been her third visit to Dhaka. "I cannot hide my joy and elation seeing the warm welcome given to us by the people of Bangladesh. It seems as if I am in my own country; hardly able to distinguish the difference. In fact, the people here are much more eloquent of their feeling than those of other neighbouring regions. I have

visited this country on several occasions and wish to come again if there is any invitation from cultural groups", stated Madhurima, quite thrilled to have a successful live show at the High Commission auditorium in Dhaka.

Santunu Barman, the relatively youthful tabla accompanist of the singers, seems to be similarly delighted about the trip, the lone non-performing member of the delegation. "I would like to thank the organisers for arranging our visit. Rich tribute should be given to the audience of Dhaka, so receptive and appreciative of artistic skill", mentioned Santunu, a graduate from Lucknow University and a scholarship holder of National

Resource Center in India.

"To keep pace with the modern era, tabla performance in this part of the subcontinent needs some renovation and 'speed' to bring liveliness, probably, the greatest way to capture hearts of young audience. Attention should be given in such a way that the synchronisation develops and modernises with the aid of latest musical instruments but without inflicting any wound to the original basics of the tabla", said Santunu.

Podatik certainly deserves praise for bringing in these Tagore exponents, who utilising their harmonic skills, are always willing to spread the message of bond and unity between the two Bengali communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Photo-Exhibition : Germany 1945-1995.

Goethe Institute Dhaka holds a photo exhibition titled 'Germany 1945-1995' (Deutschland seit 1945), featuring fifty years of German history, on September 17 at House # 10, Road # 9, Dhammudi R/A. The show runs from 2 to 8 p.m every day, (except Fridays & Saturdays) till September 30.

30 years of Independence

To celebrate 30 years of Independence 'Ganer Dali' has organised a cultural evening at the National Museum on September 22 at 7:15 p.m.



Six Seasons

Shilparag Gallery at Dhammudi (House #15, Road # 27 old) presents an exhibition on the theme six seasons. Leading artists of the country have captured in their canvas the rich variety of our seasons and their ambience. The month-long show will continue till October 14 everyday from 11 am to 8pm.



Artists receiving crest and flowers from Sayed Badruddin Hossain



Abhijit Sen from Agartala rendering songs at the programme



Performers of Bangladesh and India along with Sayed Badruddin Hossain, President Podatik

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR WORLD: 8 pm: *Water Rats*. In, Free as a Bird, when young boy's dead body is found, Goldie and Jack have to prove who is responsible before an enraged local community exacts their own just on the main suspect.



STAR WORLD: 9:30 pm: *Baywatch Hawaii*. In, Baywatch O'Hana, the team arrive at the cave in Maui overlooking the ocean. A tourist tells Sean that a group of people maybe four or five are trapped inside the cave. Sean calls Jason for back up. Jason immediately springs into action and gets Allie and Kekoa. Sean and Jenna go into the cave. Unfortunately, their Nextels will no longer work.



EKUSHEY: 7 pm: *Prasangya: Nirbahan*. This week this talk show will focus on who are competing for the first time in this years parliamentary election. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Farid Hussain and Nasrin Khandaker will take part in the discussion.

PICK OF THE DAY



The Whole Nine Yards.

On HBO at 10 pm. Nicholas Oz' Oseransky is a nice dentist living in suburban Montreal. His next-door neighbour is a hit man hiding out from a dangerous Chicago crime family. World apart, These two neighbour have one thing in common: someone's trying to kill them.

SEEKHO

11:00 Maze Mein

11:30 Right Click

12:00 Studying Abroad

12:30 Tip Tap Toe

12:45 Little Einsteins

1:00 Zed TV Curtain Raisers

2:00 Footprints of Time

2:30 Jobs People Do

2:45 Aa Gayi Hindi

3:00 Swayam

3:30 Kya Aap Jante Ho

4:00 Drishit

4:30 Off-beat Professionals

5:00 Kehte Sunte

5:30 Once Upon A Time

6:00 Architecture

6:30 Crt Rsr-Yout

7:30 Orator

8:30 Walkin Tall

9:00 Xpressions

9:30 Nest Set Go

10:00 Zed TV Curtain Raisers

11:00 Strictly Business

11:30 Financial Management

12:00 Crt Rsr-Yt & ECL

1:30 Hit Mix

11:00 Fillers

2:00 Zee Music Box

1:00 Best of The Best

2:00 Jharokha

2:35 Compact Disc

3:05 Tara Run

4:00 Hit Pe Hit

5:00 Zee Music Box

5:30 Hit Mix

6:00 Just Jammin

6:30 Dial M

7:30 Hit Pe Hit

9:00 Zee Music Box

10:00 Sizzlers

10:30 Jharokha

ZEE CINEMA

8:00 Mini Series

2:30 Meri Dosti Tera Pyar

6:00 Khwaja Ki Diwani

10:00 Alibaba Marjina

1:30 Dil Apna Aur Preet Parai

7:30 world News

8:30 Business Unusual

9:00 World News

8:30 Style South Asia

9:00 World News

9:30 CNN India DotCOM

10:00 CNN dotCOM

1:30 Batman The Animated Series

11:00 Swat Cats

12:00 GI Joe

1:30 The New Adventure of Captain Planet

12:30 Character of The Month

1:30 Heidi

2:30 Bugs Bunny Specials

3:00 Flintstones

4:00 Stupid Dogs

4:30 The Popeye Show

5:30 The New Scooby Doo Mysteries

6:00 Addams Family

6:30 Toon Tamasha

7:30 Cardcaptor Dog

8:30 Johnny Bravo

9:00 Mike Lu & Og

9:30 Boomerang

10:30 The Poppy Show

11:30 Tom & Jerry Show

1:30 MTV

10:30 Non Stop Hits

12:30 MTV Hit Film Music

1:00 House Full

1:30 Non Stop Hits

4:00 MTV Bakra

4:15 Non Stop Hits

4:30 MTV Vina Nominations Special

5:30 MTV Most Wanted

6:30 MTV Classics

7:30 VMTV Fresh

8:00 MTV Bakra

8:45 Chito Chat

9:00 Non Stop Hits

9:30 MTV Hit Film Music

10:30 Good Morning Disney

11:30 I Love You

12:00 Boogie Woogie

12:30 Hum Sub Ek Hain

1:00 Yeh Dunliyai Rangeen

1:30 Weekened Matinee

5:30 Chartbuster

6:00 Music Mantra

6:30 Disney Hour

7:30 CID Files

8:00 Making of