

Film

Reflection of the pain

'Ayana' screened at British Council auditorium

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MEN to seek revenge on women are sometimes using acid in the country as a weapon. This tendency grows among men after they are refused. In Bangladesh almost every other day we see reports on acid victims. Many beautiful faces are disfigured with this dangerous chemical. For quite some time now a social awareness for the acid survivors has come in place. Many organisations are working for the acid victims and trying to figure out a way to stop this menace.

As part of the British Council's ongoing programmes to support the acid survivors and combat violence against women, a film titled 'Ayana' (Mirror) was screened at the British Council auditorium on September 26.

'Ayana' (Mirror) is an attempt to visualise the acid violence of

Bangladesh. It is a 25-minute colour betacam documentary. Produced by Ari Chobi Nirman Prothistan and directed by S M Ashraf Abir, the premiere of the film was held on August 16 this year at the German Cultural Centre (Goethe Institut).

Young director Abir works as a freelance journalist and a regular staff reporter with the online magazine Meghbartha (www.meghbartha.net). From his childhood days, he aspired to become a filmmaker. It was only natural for him to partake as many film workshops and courses as he could avail himself of. It was in 1999 when he, for the first time, stepped into the world of film making, doing an experimental research documentary on the tea labourers of Sylhet. While editing the film, the idea of making a documentary on acid victims raced across his mind. Abir realised the magnitude of cruelty involving the crime of acid pouring when his



No face left to face the world: A snap of Dolly from 'Ayana'

friend provided him newspaper clips containing reports on acid victims.

The film starts with a blank screen with a baby crying in the

background. A little village girl is talking about what she wants to become when she grows up. And then a city schoolgirl is talking about her ambitions. Then suddenly some liquid substance is spilled on the screen. Like a dream just swept away. The faded screen returns with Dolly, an acid burnt patient lying in the DMCH (Dhaka Medical College Hospital) Burn Unit. She shares the most painful experience of her life.

Three acid victims are individually interviewed in the documentary. The second victim, Lucky, is from Mymensingh, who has received some treatment. She talks about the pain and suffering she had to undergo during her treatment. She was unable to eat and walk. As skin from different parts of her body was taken for her treatment, she was even unable to move.

Dr. S L Sen, Chief Plastic Surgeon speaks about the treatment of the acid victims. He said that the primary treatment for

someone burnt by acid is to pour as much water as possible on the wound. He also speaks about the treatment of acid victims in the rural areas of Bangladesh as only Dhaka Medical College has a 9-bed Burn Unit in the whole country. A 50-bed burn unit is going to be introduced within a short time; this is also highlighted in the film. Dr. Firoz Ahmed, Mental Department (DMC) talks about the different reasons for acid violence such as romance and marriage refusal.

There is also an interview of Nurun Nahar, a rehabilitated acid victim who now works for the Engio Coopi Bangladesh and is working for the acid victims. And Advocate Habib-unnessa of Bangladesh Supreme Court talks about the law stated for acid violence.

After this the film focuses on the family of Aminul and Shanta. Shanta's beautiful face was burned with acid because she refused to marry her cousin. But Aminul did not abandon the

woman he loved. They are now happily married for the past six years. They now have two beautiful children to take care.

Assistant direction for the film was given by Tanvir Zahid Nayan, Camera by Jewel, Still Photography by G M B Akash (Drik) and Music by Buno.

The film-show was followed by a panel discussion on 'Future Strategies for Raising Awareness Against Acid Attacks'. Matiu Rahman, Editor of the *Prothom Alo*, Dr S L Sen, Chief Plastic Surgeon, Dr John Morrison, Executive Director, Acid Survivors Association and Film

Makers Morshedul Islam and Kowser Chowdhury spoke on the occasion and discussed about future steps that should be undertaken to stop this curse.

In our country we do not have adequate facilities for the treatment of the acid burnt victims. The convicted criminals are also getting away, as a result the numbers of acid attacks are increasing day by day. 'Ayana' (Mirror) - the first ever 25-minute documentary on acid victims is an outstanding effort to raise social awareness for acid victims and for stopping this menace.



Lucky, another acid victim portrayed in the film



SM Ashraf Abir, the young director of the film 'Ayana' during a shooting session

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 at House # 10, Road # 9, Dhanmondi R/A. The show runs from 2 to 8 p.m. every day, (except Fridays & Saturdays) till September 30.



Solo exhibition

A solo painting exhibition by Ali Akbar is being held at the Gallery 21 (765 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka). The exhibition will remain open to all everyday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. till September 30.

Sculpture show

The 3rd solo sculpture show by Maynil Islam Paul is being held at the La Galerie l'Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. The exhibition will remain open to all everyday from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. till September 30.

Six Seasons

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

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



8:30 p.m. Jibon Theke Neya. Directed by Zahir Raihan this all time favourite stars Razzak, Shuchonda, Roji Samad, Anwar Hossain, Amjad Hossain and many more.

9:30 p.m. Witness. The Amish, a secluded community in America. A community still rooted in 18th century pacifist values. The Amish are those who cop Harrison Ford encounters in his investigation of a drug land murder. The only witness to the murder is an eight-year-old Amish boy.

10:30 p.m. The X-Files. Biogenesis: Mulder believes that metallic objects discovered in Africa are proof that life originated elsewhere in the universe.

PICK OF THE DAY



The World Is Not Enough. On Star Movies at 7:00 p.m. Greed, revenge, world dominance, high-tech terrorism: it's all in a day's work for James Bond, who races to defuse an international power struggle with the world's oil supply.

EKUSHEY TV

- 12:00 Ekushey Midday
- 12:20 Bangla Film: Chondri Das Rojokini
- 2:40 Drishti
- 3:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 3:05 Drama Serial: Olithi Apon
- 3:30 Kena Kala
- 4:00 Surer Prodeep
- 4:30 Drishti
- 4:50 Aker Potrikay
- 5:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
- 5:30 Circus Circus
- 6:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 6:05 Classic Cartoons
- 6:30 Deshjure
- 6:55 Ekushey Headlines
- 7:00 Chat Show: Ishpani Ek Cup Cha
- 7:30 Ekushey News
- 7:58 Ek Minute
- 8:00 Nirbachon Songlap
- 8:30 Bangla film: Jibon Thakea Naye
- 10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
- 10:30 Bangla Film: Jibon Thakea Naye
- 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News
- 11:30 Nirbachon Songlap
- 12:00 Ekushey Headlines

ATN

- 5:30 Islamic Prog
- 5:30 Child's prog. Shapla Saluk
- 7:00 Film songs: Surchobi
- 7:35 Drama serial: Uttaran
- 8:05 Drama serial: Gunjon
- 8:45 Magazine prog.: Tasmeery Kechukkhon
- 9:20 Reporting prog.: Ghotanar Napathee
- 9:55 Vollywood Khobor
- 10:35 Bengali film: Odhinayok
- 6:07 Anurodher Assor
- 6:45 ATN School Bitarka Protijogita
- 7:20 Drama Serial: Uttaran
- 8:00 Film prog.: Cine Songlap
- 8:35 Reporting prog.: Prekha Pot
- 9:10 Musical prog.: Surer Chaya
- 10:00 ATN Bangla News
- 10:35 Drama Serial: Rahiman Rurur Bilkis
- 11:05 Boliwood Top Ten
- 11:45 Indian Bengali film: Sobar Upore

HBO

- 7:00 Radioland Murders
- 9:15 ...And Justice For All
- 11:45 Children of the Corn
- 1:45 Pet Sematary
- 3:45 Malrats
- 5:30 King Cobra
- 7:30 Born Free
- 9:30 Witness
- 11:45 Billy Madison
- 1:30 Pet Sematary
- 3:30 Anne of the Thousand Days

STAR GOLD

- 10:30 Geet Bahar
- 11:00 Geet Bahar
- 11:30 Beete Hu e Din
- 12:00 Rahele Na Rahele Hum
- 1:00 Sunday Noon Show: Sawan Ki Ghat (Manoj Kumar, Shamika Tagore, Mumtaz)
- 3:30 Hum (Amilabh Bachchan, Rajnikant, Govinda)
- 7:00 Geet Bahar
- 7:30 Sunday Blockbusters Barood (Rishi Kapoor, Shoma Anand)
- 11:00 Beete Hu e Din
- 11:30 Nadiya Ke Par (Dilip Kumar, Kamini Kaushal)
- 12:30 Nadiya Ke Par (Contd...)
- 3:00 Geet Bahar
- 3:30 Raza Ki Baaf (Simi Garewal, Sujit Kumar)
- 7:00 Aitbar (Raj Babbar, Dimple Kapadia, Suresh Oberoi)

STAR WORLD

- 6:00 JAG
- 7:00 Nash Bridges
- 8:00 The Pretender
- 9:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World
- 10:00 Ally McBeal
- 11:00 The Practice
- 12:00 First Wave
- 1:00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
- 2:00 Angel
- 3:00 Crown and Country
- 3:30 Travel Asia
- 4:00 Baywatch Hawaii
- 5:00 The Simpsons
- 5:30 3rd Rock From the Sun
- 6:00 Star News Focus Asia
- 7:00 The X Files
- 8:00 Star Trek The Next Generation
- 9:00 That '70s Show
- 9:30 Star News Focus Asia
- 10:30 The X Files
- 11:30 Star Trek The Next Generation
- 12:30 Star News Focus Asia

STAR PLUS

- 6:00 Kuchha Papad Pucca Papad
- 6:30 Star Geetmala

7:30

- Aatma
- 8:30 Dharam Aur Hum
- 9:30 Jap Tap Vrat
- 10:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati Junior
- 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri
- 12:30 Chhupa Rustam
- 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
- 1:30 Mirch Masala
- 2:00 Ek Main Aur Ek Tu
- 2:30 Mail Milap
- 2:40 Star Sunday Matinee
- 3:00 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehli Thi
- 6:30 Fox Kids Sunday
- 7:30 Son Pari
- 8:00 Jubilee Plus
- 9:00 Star Mast Movie: Mehndi (Rani Mukherjee)

BBC WORLD

- 8:30 Correspondent
- 9:30 This Week
- 10:30 India Tomorrow
- 11:30 India Biz Report Profiles
- 12:30 Wheels
- 1:30 Hardtalk India
- 2:30 This Week
- 3:30 Earth Story
- 4:30 Click Online
- 5:30 JAG
- 6:45 People's Century
- 7:30 Top Gear
- 8:30 Dateline London
- 9:30 Crusades
- 10:30 India Tomorrow
- 11:30 Earth Story
- 12:30 Hospital
- 1:30 People's Century
- 2:30 Top Gear
- 3:30 Dateline London

STAR MOVIES

- 7:00 So-Fi/Comedy: Honey I Shrunk The Kids
- 9:00 Comedy: Mrs. Doubtfire
- 11:15 Sunday Best: Prelude to a Kiss
- 1:15 Action: Con Air
- 3:30 Star Kids Club: The Willes
- 5:30 Drama: True Friends
- 7:30 Action: Radical Jack
- 9:30 STARBIZ
- 10:00 Friday Night: Premiere: Starship Troopers

CHANNEL [V]

- 7:30 [V] So Long Gone
- 8:30 [V] Best of Jumpstart

10:30 [V] Sunday Stack

- 11:30 [V] Sunday Chaos Countdown
- 12:00 PO [V]
- 1:00 [V] Sunday Stack
- 1:30 [V] LIFW
- 2:00 [V] Sunday Stack
- 3:30 [V] Karaoke
- 4:00 [V] Sunday Stack
- 5:30 [V] Weekend Spl
- 7:00 [V] Colossal Chaos Countdown
- 7:30 PO [V]
- 8:30 [V] Sunday Stack
- 9:30 [V] Weekend Spl
- 11:00 [V] Mainstage
- 2:00 Billboard US Countdown
- 3:00 [V] So Long Gone
- 4:00 [V] Hit Machine

DISCOVERY

- 6:30 Untamed Australia
- 7:30 Wild Asia
- 8:30 Wild Discovery
- 9:30 Discovery Kids
- 10:30 Splat! IV
- 11:00 Mega Movie: Magic II
- 11:30 Untamed Australia
- 12:30 Land of the Tiger
- 1:30 Shark Weekend 2001
- 3:30 Medical Mysteries
- 4:30 Lonely Planet V
- 5:30 Crime Night
- 6:30 Science Mysteries
- 7:30 Discovery Sunday
- 8:30 Shark Weekend 2001
- 10:30 Powerzone

ZEE TV

- 12:30 Bourmilla Quiz Contest
- 1:00 Ateet
- 1:30 Dollar Bahu
- 2:00 Hip Hip Hurray
- 2:30 Zee & You
- 3:30 Hindi Feature Film
- 5:30 News

ESPN

- 6:30 Sportscenter: International Edition
- 7:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2001/02
- 11:00 Pool World Pool Trick Shot Masters 2001
- 1:00 Motorcycle Programming Firm Individual Speedway Wild G'Ship Gp 2001
- 2:00 Golf Classics 18 Toughest Holes in Golf in the US
- 3:00 South Africa Cricket India V South Africa In Review Nairobi, Kenya India @ South Africa Icc Knockout 2000
- 4:00 Italian Serie A Football Italian Serie A
- 6:00 Super Sunday Preview
- 7:00 English Premier Foot-

ball League English

- Premier Football League 2001/02
- Newcastle, England Liverpool @ Newcastle United
- 11:30 UEFA Champions League Highlights 2001/02 UEFA Champions League Weekly #5 Matchweek 3 H/Ls
- 12:30 South Africa Cricket India V South Africa In Review India @ South Africa
- 1:30 UEFA Champions League 2001/02 UEFA Champions League Group Phase 1, Matchday 3
- 3:30 International Beach Soccer Beach Soccer Worldwide Portugal @ Brazil
- 4:30 Golf Classics Arnold Palmer Signing Off
- 5:30 NFL Primetime Bristol, CT USA

SPORTS

STAR SPORTS

- 7:30 Sailing World Admirals Cup
- 8:00 WTA Tour Toyota Princess Cup Tokyo, Japan Finals
- 9:30 World Cup Mix Gillette World Sports Special Gillette World Sports
- 10:30 Formula One Qualifying 2001 Formula One Qualifying Indianapolis, In USA Us Grand Prix Qualifying
- 11:30 NBA Inside Stuff 2000/01 Nba Inside Stuff
- 12:00 Asian Basketball Show
- 12:30 Max Power
- 1:30 PSA Super Series Hong Kong Open 2001 Hong Kong, China Highlights
- 2:30 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League
- 4:30 Sports India

5:00

- Formula One Qualifying 2001 Formula One Qualifying Indianapolis, In USA Us Grand Prix Qualifying
- 6:00 South Africa Cricket India V Zimbabwe 1997 Benoni, South Africa India @ Zimbabwe 9th Odi
- 11:00 Race Day Indianapolis, In USA Us Grand Prix
- 11:45 Formula One 2001 Formula One World Championships Indianapolis, In USA Us Grand Prix
- 2:00 Chequered Flag: Formula One Indianapolis, In USA Us Grand Prix
- 2:30 PGA Tour Golf Texas Open At Llanerha San Antonio, TX USA Third Round
- 4:30 SBK Superbike Magazine Highlights
- 5:00 Asian Basketball Show

9:30 Central Park West

- 10:30 Picture This
- 12:00 Business Quotient
- 12:30 Jadoo & His Magic Word
- 12:45 Jobs People Do-Hindi
- 1:00 Cri Rsr-IT & Corp
- 2:00 Kya Ap Jante Ho
- 2:30 Aa Gayi Hindi
- 2:45 Little Einsteins
- 3:00 Paisa Vasool
- 3:30 Xpressions
- 4:00 Swayam
- 4:30 Parenting Ek Hsaas
- 5:00 Off-beat Professionals
- 5:30 Echak Daana
- 6:00 Managing People
- 6:30 Cri Rsr-School & ECL
- 7:30 Footprints of Time
- 8:00 Right Click
- 8:30 World Games
- 9:30 Fashion Design
- 10:00 Zed TV Curtain Raisers
- 11:00 Net Riders
- 11:30 Corporate Warriors
- 12:30 Strictly Business

ZEE CINEMA

- 2:30 Shararat
- 6:00 Sampark
- 10:00 Trishna
- 1:30 Chachi 420
- 6:00 Hathikadi
- 10:00 Rangela
- 9:00 Moonlight & Valentino
- 11:30 Joshua Tree
- 2:00 New York New York
- 4:30 Mystic Pizza
- 7:00 Kidnapped
- 9:30 Moonlight & Valentino
- 11:30 Joshua Tree

ZEE MUSIC

- 10:30 Hit Mix
- 11:00 Artist of the Fortnight
- 12:30 Zee Music Box
- 12:00 Dial M
- 1:00 Hit Pi Hit
- 2:00 Jharokha
- 2:35 Blue
- 3:05 Tara Rum
- 4:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 5:30 Zee Music Box
- 5:30 Hit Mix
- 6:00 Dil Se
- 6:30 E Music Live
- 7:30 Hit Pe Hit
- 8:30 Fillers
- 9:00 Omnipact Di
- 9:30 Zee Music Box
- 10:30 Sizzlers
- 10:00 Jharokha

ALPHA TV BANGLA

- 10:30 Soni Robi Mojar Chobi
- 11:30 Ananda Nagant Kathokatha
- 12:00 Bides Shini Bodhu
- 12:30 Trityo Purush
- 1:00 Ranna Ghar
- 2:00 Goenda Panbar
- 2:30 Bangla Feature Film
- 5:00 Anand Vilas
- 5:30 Disney
- 6:00 Alpha Khabor
- 6:25 Jhankar
- 6:30 Mojar Khela Kobitae
- 7:00 Ekushe Pa
- 7:25 Jhankar
- 7:30 Googly
- 7:55 Jhankar
- 8:00 Alpha Bangla Telechobi
- 10:00 News Bulletin

SITI CINEMA

- 3:30 Bulandi
- 6:30 Khotia Paisa
- 9:30 2001 (Do Hazar Ek)

CNN

- 11:00 World News
- 11:30 Inside Africa
- 12:00 World News
- 12:30 World Sport
- 1:00 World News
- 1:30 Diplomatic License
- 2:00 World News

CARTOON NETWORK

- 10:30 Boomerang
- 11:30 Bugs & Jerry Show
- 12:00 Tom & Daffy Show
- 12:30 Vot-A-Toon
- 1:30 Heidi
- 2:30 Bugs Bunny Specials
- 3:00 Scooby's All Star Laff-lympics
- 4:00 2 Stupid Dogs
- 4:30 The Popeye Show
- 5:30 Toon Tamaasha
- 6:30 Sindbad
- 7:00 Batman of the Future
- 7:30 The Powerpuff Girls
- 8:00 Sheep in the Big City
- 8:30 Heidi
- 9:30 Cardcaptures
- 10:30 The Popeye Show
- 11:30 Tom & Jerry Show

MTV

- 11:00 Chito Chat
- 11:15 Non Stop Hits
- 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music
- 1:00 House Full
- 1:30 Non Stop Hits
- 4:00 MTV Bakra
- 4:15 Web Watch
- 4:30 MTV Ek Do Teen
- 5:30 MTV & Kenwood India Hit List
- 6:30 Kya Boli Tu
- 6:45 MTV Classics
- 7:30 MTV Gone Case
- 8:00 Non Stop Hits
- 8:30 MTV Bakra
- 8:45 Made In India
- 9:00 Non Stop Hits
- 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music

SONY

- 10:30 Good Morning Disney
- 11:30 Boogie Woogie
- 12:00 Family No 1
- 12:30 Hum Sub Ek Hain
- 1:00 Yeh Duniya Hai Rangeen
- 1:30 Weekened Matinee
- 4:00 Star Yaar Kalakar
- 5:00 Boogie Woogie
- 5:30 Chartbuster
- 6:00 Music Mantra
- 6:30 Disney Hour
- 7:30 The Popadum Show
- 8:00 I Love You
- 8:30 Jeeto Chapped Phad Ke
- 9:30 Khel
- 10:00 Hindi Feature Film