

Theatre

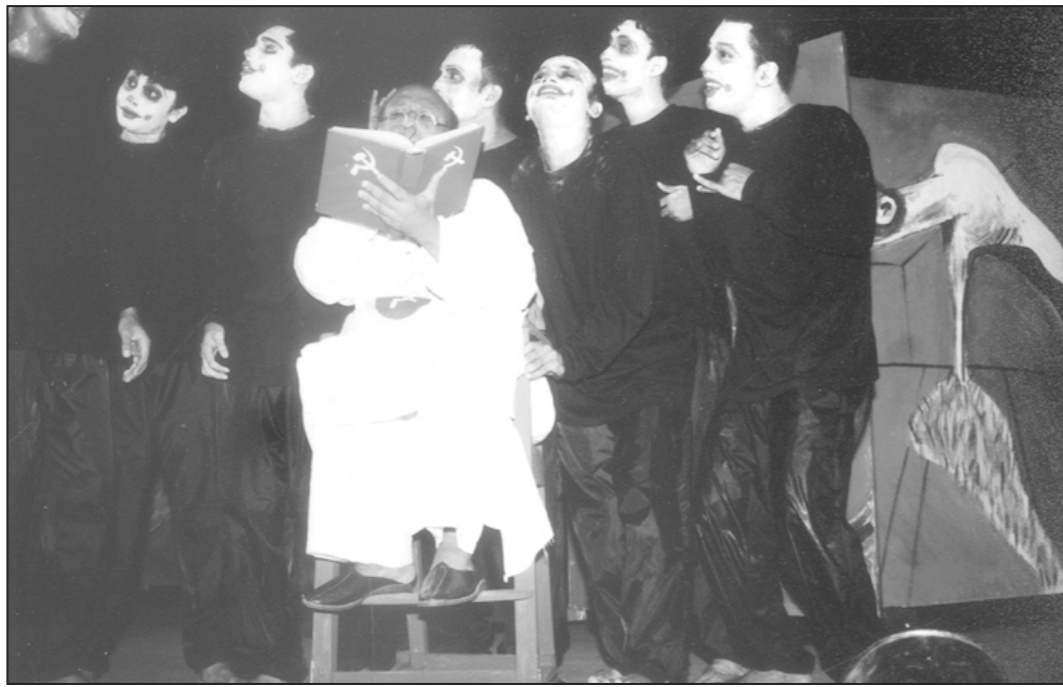
Portraying contemporary Bangladesh

Theatre Production stages *Sadi Sirajer Pala*, an adaptation of Marat/Sade by Peter Weiss

SAIFUL ISLAM

ON the dimly lighted stage the opposing forces are violently involved in conflict, some of these forces are positive and some are negative. But there is something in common their vision is foggy, they are not sure of their objective. The evil and the good forces make the atmosphere more murky when they lock themselves in a debate. The solution of the debate never comes in light. But the numbers of sacrifices increase. The popular leaders are diseased or lethargic or full of false ideology or inclined in seeing the world through colorful specs. They never accept each other. The good forces are divided. For the difference of their opinion and belief they are powerless. This helps the evil forces to become powerful yet united, procure arms, and to use religion for their benefits. And their method of achieving their target is divided if one wants power the other wants revenge and blood and gets involved in conspiracy.

Sadi Sirajer Pala is an adaptation of Peter Weiss' Marat/Sade by



Apel Bashar and the chorus team in a dramatic sequence from *Sadi Sirajer Pala*

Saidus Saklaen, Kamaluddin Nilu Sirajer Palathe latest successful theatrical venture in cooperation with the Goethe Institut Dhaka).

Rezaul Karim was the production in-charge while Sagir Mostafa was the stage manager. This drama was staged September 28, 2001 for the first time at Sawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Public Library, Dhaka.

Sadi Sirajer Pala is successful as an adaptation of Peter Weiss, Marat/Sade. The dramatic beauty of Marat/Sade has not been lost in adaptation. It has successfully captured the intricate structure and coherent dialogues of the original and an intelligent remix of popular numbers and careful dramatic projection of issues closely related to Bangladesh—killing, international conspiracy and clash of opinion and divided public vision has made the play relevant to our contemporary living.

The issues are brilliantly presented with *soirée* of music through the mouth of the characters who work as foil to each other. Moreover the essence of French revolution may easily be grasped by the Bangladeshi audience because they have also experienced a num-



Rejaul Ekram Raju, Manila and the chorus team in a scene from *Sadi Sirajer Pala*

ber of revolutions in the last century.

Symbolically the characters uphold the dream of the freedom-loving nation. And through self-judgement and debate they unmask themselves. Some of the characters talk about their dream, illusion, and disillusionment and accept their flaws. They are driven by self-criticism and try to look for the reason of their failure. In their quest of freedom progress they show an utter disrespect to the path taken by each other resembling themselves to the egotistical politicians of Bangladesh. If the asylum symbolize Bangladesh then the lunatics of the asylum represent the people. They introduce the leaders to the audience, they echo their words and statements, and they enthusiastically follow their direction and think that they are not crazy. Whenever they raise their voice they are repressed. Their voice to Professor Rauf with bent heads but his big words and theories are of no practical use.

The story of the play is: popular leader Mahtab Jilan is in a mental

hospital for treatment, ironically he suffers from serious skin disease and lies in a bath-tubthe shadow of Marat, a hard liner French revolutionist. Sima Israt, a nurse is devoted to nurse him. He is vulnerable to a lot of adversities. In the asylum, does he embrace a natural death, or is he killed?

The common patients, who believe that they are not at all insane, are imprisoned and they crave for economical and political emancipation under the leadership of Mahtab Jilan. The anarchists, fundamentalists and terrorists are in a tug of warthey want to grab power, as a result the people who have fought for freedom and restored it with blood are now on the verge of frustration, the freedom is yet to come.

Professor Rauf, who belongs to the communist ideology, believes in Bengali spirit in his own way. Sadi Siraj, the author of the play (as the story goes), however is all against Mahtab Jilan's ardent endeavors in connection with the movement for upholding Bengali spirit, though he

also fosters this spirit in his ownbut clearly from a different point of view. There is another section person, who long for power and are known as opportunist, under the shelter of whom the fundamentalists and the defeated power of 1971 are trying to consolidate there ground.

Meanwhile, in this tumult inter-continental terrorists have gathered in the country. Sahara Akhand has joined and is abetting the conspirators, the only obstacle in the way is Mahtab Jilan.

The confederate of the fundamentalist group, Sahara Akhand, assassinates Mahtab Jilan, the personification of Bengali spirit dies hopelessly marking the end of Sadi Sirajer Pala.

Atul a theatrical buff says'a theatrical show of this kind, just two days before the election is praiseworthy. There is food for thought in it. I think people will follow its severe criticism of undamentalists and terrorists closely'. In fact Sadi Sirajer Pala has been widely appreciated by the audience.



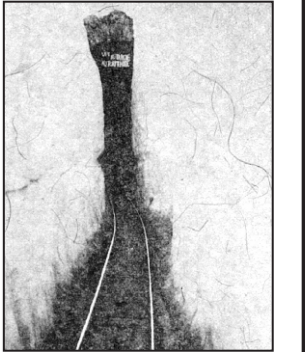
Afroza Banu and Rejaul Ekram Raju in a scene from Theatre's *Sadi Sirajer Pala*

RECOMMENDATIONS



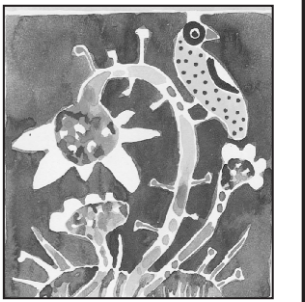
Debut photo show

Mulla Shawqatul Alam Sagar first solo photography show is now being held at the Indian High Commission auditorium at 754, Salmajid Road, Dhanmondi. Open from 3 to 8 pm. Mulla's solo exhibition runs until October 8.



Graphic prints show

Noted French artist Jean-Michel Alberola's solo exhibition of graphic prints opens at the French cultural centre, Alliance Francaise, on



October 7 at 6:30 in the evening.

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 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.

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR MOVIES: 5:00 p.m. *Turner And Hooch*. Tom Hanks stars as Scott Turner, a meticulous professional whose well-ordered world is disrupted when he becomes the unwilling owner of Hooch, a mean, sloppy dog that loves nothing more than to cause chaos for his unamused new owner



EKUSHEY: 10:30 p.m. *Chitrageti*. Songs in this 'election special': *Shanai Baje Dholok Baje Bhai Kande Bhabi Kande, Lokkho Tarar Mazhe Tum, Jane Januk Jagatbashi Ami Tomay Bhalobashi, Bhromorta Gungun Gan Shuniye and Ai Monita Likhe Dilam Tomar Name.*



ATN BANGLA: 2:10 a.m. *Bhalobashi Tomake*. This Bengali cinema stars Shabnoor, Riaz, Bobita, Humayun Faridi, Rajib and many more.

PICK OF THE DAY



Nirghum Raat. On Ekushey at 9:15 p.m. Rudra stops talking to his mother because he refuses to get married. He starts communicating with his mother through a placard. On the other hand a girl starts following Rudra at the University. He wants to get rid of her but instead he ends up falling in love with her.

EKUSHEY TV

- 12:00 Ekushey Middy
- 12:05 Ananda : Bamba Concert
- 12:30 Bangla Film: Mpdhur Milon
- 12:30 Ananda : Bamba Concert
- 6:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 7:00 Jonotar Ray
- 8:00 Classic Cartoons
- 9:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 9:15 Natok : Nirghum Raat
- 10:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 10:45 Ananda : Bamba Concert
- 11:10 WWF Smackdown
- 12:00 Jonotar Ray
- 1:05 West Bengal Film : Agni Porikha

STAR GOLD

- 10:30 Amul Bollywood News
- 11:00 Geet Bahar
- 11:30 Pyar Ka Mandir (Mithun Chakraborty)
- 3:00 Amul Bollywood News
- 3:30 Jagriti (Abhi Bhattacharya, Pronoti Ghosh)
- 7:00 Geet Bahar
- 7:30 Mangal Masti-Kati Patang (Rajesh Khanna, Asha Parekh)
- 11:00 Amul Bollywood News
- 11:30 Tum Haseen Main Jawan (Dharmendra, Hema Malini)
- 12:00 Amul Bollywood News

ATN BANGLA

- 6:08 Islamic Prog
- 6:40 Musical Prog. : Akake Bekeal
- 7:50 Drama : Atol Prohor
- 9:05 Musical prog. : Gun Shodu Gun
- 10:05 Musical prog. : Noborup
- 10:40 Indian Bangla Film
- 1:15 Musical prog. : Antur Jane
- 1:50 Bangla Film : Abdulla
- 5:25 Musical prog. : Amar Vote Ami Dabo
- 6:10 Magazine prog. : Amar Vote Ami Dabo
- 7:20 Film song : Golpo Shole Gun
- 8:30 Drama : Neel "Somudro"
- 9:40 Musical prog. : Gun Shodu Gun

ALPHA TV BANGLA

- 10:00 Sa Re Ga Ma
- 11:00 Nijei Nayak
- 11:30 Grihsajja
- 12:00 Bahari Ahaar
- 12:30 Phire Elam
- 1:00 Ingeet
- 2:00 Nayantara
- 2:30 Bangla Feature Film
- 5:00 Gaan Unlit
- 5:30 Disney
- 6:00 Alpha Khabor
- 6:25 Jhankar
- 6:30 Grohon
- 7:00 Guest House
- 7:25 Jhankar
- 7:30 Purobi
- 7:55 Jhankar
- 8:00 Nayantara
- 8:30 Ek Akasher Niche
- 9:00 Ananya
- 9:30 Omanisha

HBO

- 6:30 China Town
- 9:00 I'll Do Anything
- 11:15 Masters of the Universe
- 1:30 The Browning Version
- 3:30 Virtuosity
- 5:30 Ghost
- 8:00 Christina's House
- 10:00 Men of Respect
- 12:15 Primal Fear
- 2:45 Virtuosity
- 4:45 The Bride

STAR GOLD

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STAR WORLD

- 6:00 Happy Days
- 6:30 3" Rock From The Sun
- 7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
- 8:00 Water Rats
- 9:00 That 70's Show
- 9:30 Dhama & Greg
- 10:00 Chicago Hope
- 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
- 12:00 Everybody Loves Raymond
- 12:30 Frasier
- 1:00 Media TV
- 1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
- 2:00 Mork & Mindy
- 2:30 Happy Days
- 3:00 Baywatch
- 4:00 The Simpsons
- 4:30 3" Rock From The Sun
- 5:00 Star News Asia
- 5:30 Friends
- 6:00 JAG
- 6:55 STAR News Asia
- 7:00 The Pretender
- 8:00 NYPD Blue
- 9:00 Friends
- 10:00 JAG
- 10:30 The Pretender

STAR PLUS

- 6:00 Sanskruti
- 6:30 Star Geetmala
- 7:30 Shrimati Sharma Ne Kehi Thi
- 8:00 Hit Ya Fit

STAR MOVIES

- 8:30 Aatma
- 9:30 Fox Kids-Daily
- 10:30 Small Wonder
- 11:00 Kabhie Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchal Aata Hai
- 11:30 Saahil
- 12:00 Sansar
- 12:30 Hit Ya Fit
- 1:00 Hum Saath Saath hain
- 1:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii Sanskruti
- 2:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
- 3:00 Shagun
- 3:30 Shanti
- 4:00 Meri Saheli
- 4:30 Kaahin Kissii Roz
- 5:00 Kabhie Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchal Aata Hai
- 5:30 Hit Ya Fit
- 6:00 Small Wonder
- 6:30 Fox Kids Daily
- 7:30 Sanskruti
- 8:00 Hum Saath Saath Hain
- 8:30 Kalash
- 9:00 Kaahin Kissii Roz...
- 9:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati
- 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
- 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
- 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat
- 12:00 Shagun

STAR MOVIES

- 6:00 Sin of Innocence
- 7:45 Parent Trap
- 10:00 Guilty As Sin
- 11:45 Rambo 2
- 1:30 Silver Bullet
- 3:15 Sex, Lies and Obsession
- 5:00 Turner and Hooch
- 7:00 Mystery Alaska
- 9:00 Deadly Bet
- 10:30 Parent Trap, The
- 12:45 Dreaming of Joseph Lees
- 2:30 Silver Bullet
- 4:30 Sin Of Innocence

CHANNEL [V]

- 7:30 [V] So Long Gone
- 8:30 [V] Jumpstart
- 10:30 [V] Jungli Jukebox
- 1:00 [V] FDFS
- 1:30 [V] Hit Machine
- 2:30 [V] Colossal Chaos Countdown
- 3:00 [V] Hit Machine
- 4:30 [V] Hotline
- 5:30 Very [V]
- 7:30 [V] Hit Machine
- 9:30 [V] Jungli Jukebox
- 10:00 JAG
- 10:30 [V] Hit Machine
- 11:00 Late Night [V]
- 1:30 [V] Hit Machine

HALLMARK

- 12:00 Old Curiosity Shop

STAR NEWS

- 7:30 Breakfast News
- 6:00 STAR News Hindi
- 6:30 Bollywood News
- 7:00 STAR Bazaar
- 7:30 Saat Baje
- 8:00 STAR Khel
- 8:30 Tonight at 8
- 9:00 STAR Samachar
- 9:30 STAR News English
- 10:00 STAR Business News
- 10:30 STAR NewsHour
- 11:30 STAR News English
- 12:00 Sports Tonight
- 12:30 STAR News English

ZEE TV

- 1:00 Amanat
- 1:00 Razzmatlaz
- 2:00 Deewane To Deewane Hai
- 2:30 Manzillain Apni Apni
- 3:00 Hindi Feature Film
- 5:45 News
- 6:15 Yaadon Ke Pal
- 6:30 Aalaap
- 7:00 Yoga For Life
- 7:30 Jagran
- 7:50 Zee Gym & Eat Healthy
- 8:20 News
- 8:30 Ardhangani
- 8:45 Yaadein Radio Ceylon Ki

SPORTS

- 6:00 Pro Wakeboard Series 2001 Pro Wakeboard Series Abbotsford, Canada
- 6:30 Sportscenter Hindi NFL Football (I) East Rutherford, NJ USA San Francisco 49ers @ New York Jets
- 7:00 NFL Football (I) East Rutherford, NJ USA San Francisco 49ers @ New York Jets
- 7:30 Sportscenter Hindi NFL Football (I) East Rutherford, NJ USA San Francisco 49ers @ New York Jets
- 8:00 Italian Football Hilltes Italian Serie A 2001/2002 Highlights
- 8:30 Pro Wakeboard Series 2001 Pro Wakeboard Series Abbotsford, Canada
- 9:00 Football Focus
- 8:30 Sportscenter Hindi
- 9:00 English Premier
- 6:30 Motorsports News International Motorsport News 2001
- 10:30 Pga Tour Golf Texas Open At Lancertera San Antonio, TX USA Second Round
- 12:30 Sportsline Today
- 1:00 English Premier Football League English Premier League 2001/02 Derby, England Arsenal @ Derby Country
- 3:00 National Sports Report
- 3:30 Go Kart Champions of the Future Karting Series 2001 Motherwell, Scotland Highlights
- 4:00 Asian Festival of Speed 2001 Proton Championship Sepang, Malaysia Rounds Three & Four
- 5:00 Wta Tour Toyota Princess Cup Tokyo, Japan Finals
- 6:30 Sailing Volvo Ocean Race
- 7:00 English Premier League Highlights English Premier League Highlights 2001/02
- 8:00 Sportsline Tonight
- 8:30 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League Madrid, Spain Valladolid @ Real Madrid
- 10:30 Sportsline Tonight South Africa Cricket India V South Africa In Review India @ South Africa
- 12:00 Sportsline Tonight Asian Festival of Speed 2001 Proton Championship Sepang, Malaysia Rounds Three & Four
- 1:30 National Rugby League 2001 Telstra Premiership Sydney, Australia Newcastle Knights @ Parramatta Eels Grand Final
- 3:30 Sportsline Tonight South Africa Cricket India V South Africa In Review India @ South Africa
- 4:00 Asian Festival of Speed 2001 Proton Championship Sepang, Malaysia Rounds Three & Four
- 5:00 Sportsline Tonight Asian Super Cup Asian Super Cup 2001 Korea, Korea Al-Shabab (Ksa) @ Suwon

ZED TV

- 10:30 Swayam
- 11:00 User Interface
- 11:30 Managing People
- 12:00 Net Set Go
- 12:30 Tip Tap Toe
- 12:45 Jobs People Do
- 1:00 Paisa Vasool
- 1:30 Parenting Ek Ehsaas
- 2:00 Footprints of Time
- 2:30 Little Einsteins
- 2:45 Aa Gayi Hindi
- 3:00 Funda Kya Hai
- 3:30 Maze Maze Mein
- 4:00 Walkin Tall
- 4:30 Apni Sehat
- 5:00 Echak Daana
- 5:30 Zed TV Curtain Raisers
- 6:30 Master X
- 7:00 Fashion Design
- 7:30 Word Games
- 8:30 Kehte Sunte
- 9:00 Gamenat Show
- 9:15 CD Si Baat
- 9:30 Kuch Dekho, Kuch Seekho
- 10:00 Zed TV Curtain Raisers
- 11:00 Cyber Chat
- 11:30 Orator
- 12:00 Crt Rsr-Youth

ZEE ENGLISH

- 10:30 A Mind To Kill
- 11:30 Full House
- 12:00 Capitol
- 12:30 All My Children
- 1:30 Dave's World
- 2:00 Three's Company
- 2:30 Friends
- 3:00 Suddenly Susan
- 3:30 A Mind To Kill
- 4:30 Here's Lucy
- 5:00 Evening Shade
- 5:30 Heartbreak High
- 6:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
- 7:00 Full House
- 7:30 Three's Company
- 8:00 Here's Lucy
- 8:00 Friends
- 9:00 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
- 9:30 Homicide
- 10:30 Veronica's Closet

ZEE MGM

- 9:00 Act of Vengeance
- 11:30 Love Bites
- 2:00 Bull Durham
- 4:30 Big Town
- 7:00 Driven To Kill
- 9:30 Act of Vengeance
- 11:30 Love Bites

ZEE MUSIC

- 10:30 Hit Mix
- 11:00 Cool Age
- 11:30 Zee Music Box
- 12:00 Zee Music plus
- 1:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 2:00 Jharokha
- 2:35 Artist of the Fortnight Tara Rum
- 3:05 Hit Pe Hit
- 5:00 Zee Music Box
- 5:30 Hit Mix
- 6:00 Compact Disc
- 6:30 Zee Music Plus
- 7:30 Hit Pe Hit
- 8:30 Just Jammin
- 9:00 Dil Se
- 9:30 Zee Music Box
- 10:00 Sizzlers
- 10:30 Jharokha
- 12:00 Sizzlers
- 12:30 Jharokha

SITI CINEMA

- 10:30 Nai Imarat
- 3:30 Janwar
- 6:30 Number Aadmi
- 9:30 Hathiyaar

CARTOON NETWORK

- 10:30 Mike Lu & Og
- 11:00 Flintstones
- 11:30 Tom & Jerry Kids
- 12:00 The Little Lulu Show
- 12:30 Scooby Doo Where Are You?
- 1:00 Johnny Bravo
- 1:30 Pkay & The Brain
- 2:00 Sylvester & Tweety
- 2:30 The Mask
- 3:00 Flintstones
- 3:30 Tom & Jerry Kids
- 4:00 The Perlie Of Penelope Pliast
- 4:30 Swat Kats
- 5:00 The New Adventures of Captain Planet
- 5:30 Dexter's Laboratory
- 6:00 The Powerpuff Girls
- 6:30 The Popeye Show
- 7:30 Acme House
- 8:30 Scooby Doo Hour
- 9:30 Boomerang
- 10:00 Speed Racer
- 10:30 The Cartoon Show
- 11:30 Power Zone

MTV

- 10:30 MTV Most Wanted
- 11:30 Non Stop Hits
- 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music
- 1:00 House Full
- 1:30 Web Watch
- 1:45 Non Stop Hits
- 2:00 Made in India
- 2:30 Non Stop Hits
- 3:00 MTV Love Line
- 3:30 MTV Bakra
- 4:15 Non Stop Hits
- 4:30 MTV Select
- 5:30 MTV Most Wanted
- 6:30 MTV Classics
- 7:30 Chito Chat
- 7:45 Non Stop Hits
- 8:30 MTV Bakra
- 8:45 Non Stop Hits
- 9:30 MTV Boli Bund

SONY

- 10:30 I Love You
- 11:00 Khel
- 11:30 Chamatkar
- 12:00 Family No. 1
- 12:30 Boogie Woogie
- 1:00 Kahin Diya Jale Kahi Jiya
- 1:30 Ek Mehal Ho Sapno Ka
- 2:00 Kaun Apna Kaun Paraya
- 2:30 Kusum
- 3:00 Ghar Ek Mandir
- 3:30 Choti Si Asha
- 4:00 Aurat
- 10:30 World News
- 11:00 World Report
- 12:00 World Sport
- 12:30 World Sport
- 1:00 Q & A
- 2:00 World News
- 2:30 Science & Technology
- 3:00 Larry King Weekend
- 4:00 Business International
- 4:30 Biz Asia
- 5:00 Asia Tonight
- 5:30 World Sport
- 6:00 World News
- 6:30 Biz Asia