

Remembrance

Eulogising a novelist

A discussion on Mohammad Najibur Rahman *Sahitya Ratna* at Bangla Academy

AZIZ AMIRUL

BANGLA Academy organised a discussion programme in memory of Mohammad Najibur Rahman *Sahitya Ratna* on the evening of October 18. The occasion witnessed a large group of literary people.

Former Pro-Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Wakil Ahmed presided over the meeting. The event also presented two other reputed scholars like Professor Rafiqul Islam, the Director-General of Bangla Academy and a former director of the same academy Azaharul Islam Bhuiyan.

Though the programme was arranged in observance of the death anniversary of Najibur Rahman yet the reve-

lation of the speakers also revolved round a common sphere of Bengali literature reminiscing the era of late middle ages up to early twentieth century till when Najibur Rahman passed away in 1923.

Well-known writers like Pyareyachand Mitra, Mukundaram Chakravarti, Mir Mosharrif Hossain, Daulat Kazi, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Hanna Catherine also offered analytical thoughts at the discussion. The main speaker Azaharul Islam delivered some truly enchanting words on the works and influence of the above authors on the Bengali community.

Born in 1860 in a village of Shahjadpur in Sirajganj district, Najibur Rahman came from a least advantageous

family. Due to limitation of economic competence young talented Najib had no other option but to drop out from secondary level.

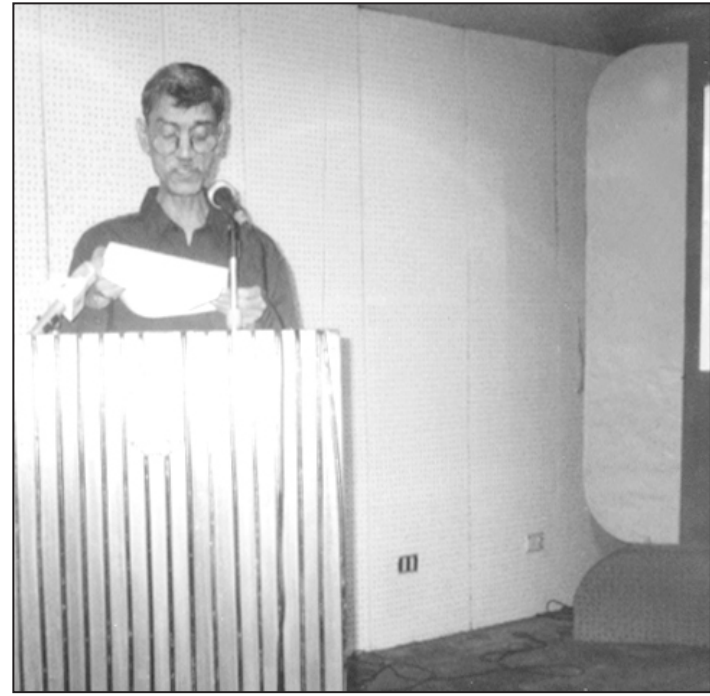
But his strong will power and gifted intelligence gained him easy access to the prestigious profession of teaching that remained as his chief source of returns till the end.

The most astounding feature of Najib lies in the fact of becoming a writer while passing his days amidst financial hardship and conservative social attitudes of the rural Bangladesh. The portrayal of rural middle-class set-up is found in a number of his works especially, in 'Anowara' in which the central character, a female, plays the role of a village teenager.

Rahman is able to adjust his attitude with a wide range



Professor Wakil Ahmed and Professor Rafiqul Islam



Azaharul Islam spoke on Anowara



Azaharul Islam Bhuiyan and Prof. Rafiqul Islam listening to Professor Wakil Ahmed

of aeon. Young readers engrossed among the pages of his works would find pleasure in reading the novels of Najibur Rahman, not to speak of a serious readers. Picturesque setting, style, theme and even the typical mode of verbal expression of the 19th century character comes up in high distinction among the vividly portrayed scenarios of this literary gem very rightfully entitled as 'Sahitya Ratna'.

Traditionally the young generation here has immense interest as far as love-related themes are concerned. An affair develops in the plot of 'Anowara' after a young girl receives a new lease of life by the homeopathic treatment of the visiting guest Nurul Islam. An educated young man of the urban community, Nurul Islam falls in love with her. But the

psychological enjoyment for a youthful reader of the 21st century would not be achieved from the idealistic plot of 'Anowara' as one would never discover the literary message of a modern fiction there.

Yet the romantic tone, honesty and principles of different characters of this novel intensify through speeches and here we see the success of the author, flourishing within the boundaries of a restricted society.

For a contemporary reader of modern best sellers the plot of *Anowara* is a masterpiece in exploring the social condition of those times. For many readers the novel brings a lot of subjects quite similar in attitude and style of the present times. The heinous activities of the stepmother of Nurul

Islam and the worldly pleasures sought by her nephew are a few instances those could be matched with the villainous acts found in plots of the later period write-ups.

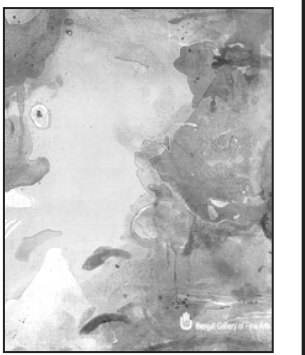
According to Professor Rafiqul Islam, the love story of 'Anowara', creating a number of conflicts in the lives of the central characters, is also a typical Bengali document trying to project the sense of religious fervour of the orthodox Muslim during the previous centuries. He also believes that 'Anowara' is the second most popular novel in Bengali Literature right after 'Bishad Sindhu', a novel by Mir Mosharrif Hossain based on the theme of religious sacrifice at Karbala.

'Anowara' is one of the first Bengali works in which the

readers get an opportunity to know and understand the lives and habits of the typical rural community of this part of the world", said Professor Ahmed. "The social demands of the common Bengali families come up in a distinct fashion in this novel with elaborated dramatic presentation of various themes including some conflicting social attitude", he added.

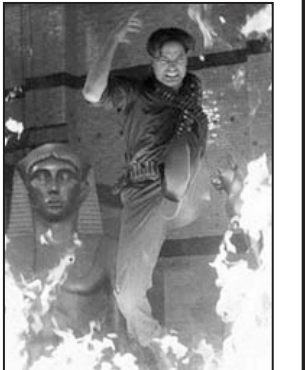
For the 100-plus guests, the discussion programme was, in fact, a befitting arrangement by Bangla Academy. It not only made us aware of the social values of our predecessors but also created quite a stir in the minds of the listeners allowing all to have a close review of the rich blend of literary retrospectives produced by 19th century Bengali authors.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Art show

An exhibition of Rokeya Sultana's work ceremoniously opens on October 25, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House # 275/F, Road # 27, Dhanmondi. The artist's work reflect affliction inflicted on nature and women. The show runs everyday from 12 noon to 8 pm. till November 14.



The Mummy Returns

This Hollywood blockbuster now runs at the country's premier cinema hall Modhumita. The Mummy Returns is the sequel of The Mummy and have all the ingredients of its earlier one. With its spine-tingling adventures against breath-taking landscapes, The Mummy Returns is sure to thrill cine buffs. Hordes of canine bodied Anubis warriors-literally hounds from hell-bound across the Sahara in attack formation while carnivorous pygmy mummies ambush their pray in the jungles of the Nile.

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 has been extended till October 31 everyday from 11 am to 8pm.

TV GUIDE

EKUSHEY TV

- 12:00 Ekushey Middy
- 12:30 Shoptaho Ghura Deshjure
- 1:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
- 1:30 Circus Circus
- 1:50 Classic Cartoons
- 2:10 Surer Prodeep
- 2:40 Drishti
- 3:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 3:05 Drama Serial: Otithi Apon
- 3:30 Kena Kata
- 4:00 Surer Prodeep
- 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
- 5:00 Circus Circus
- 5:30 Drishti
- 5:50 Aikjer Patrikay
- 6:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 6:05 Classic Cartoons
- 6:30 Deshjure
- 6:55 Ekushey Headlines
- 7:00 Chat Show : Ispahani Ek Cup Cha
- 7:30 Ekushey News
- 7:58 Ek Minute
- 8:00 Sumprotique
- 8:30 Natak : Deachokrojan
- 9:30 Program of Song
- 10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
- 10:30 Ekushey Business
- 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News
- 11:30 Nirbachon Songlap
- 12:00 Ekushey Headlines
- ATN
- 5:30 Islamic Prog
- 7:00 Child's prog. : Shapla Saluk
- 7:35 Film Songs : Surchobi
- 8:00 ATN Bangla News
- 8:25 Drama Serial : Uttaran
- 9:00 Reporting prog. : Ghotanar Napathee
- 9:35 Musical prog. : Amar Sukh Amar Biroh
- 10:10 Magazine prog. : Ispahani Ayojan
- 10:50 Boliwudr Khorob
- 11:20 Bengali film : Sukher Songsar
- 12:00 ATN Bangla News
- 6:07 Anurodher Assor
- 6:45 ATN School Bitarka Protijogita
- 7:00 ATN Bangla News Headlines
- 7:35 Drama Serial : Uttaran
- 8:10 Film prog. : Cine Songlap
- 8:45 Musical prog. : Anuvobe
- 9:20 Drama serial : Stretir Patai
- 10:00 ATN Bangla News
- 10:35 Indian film songs : Boliwud Top Ten
- 11:05 Bengali film : Chokhe Chokhe
- 11:30 ATN Bangla News

CHANNEL-i

- 6:25 Drama : Joar Vata
- 7:00 Drama (S) Durbin
- 7:35 Music Horizonte
- 8:00 Din Protidin
- 8:25 Na Bola Khatha
- 10:10 Music Plus
- 11:25 Drama : Joar Vata
- 12:00 Drama (S) Durbin
- 12:35 Music Horizonte
- 1:20 Sangbad Patra Bangladesh
- 2:00 Na Bola Khatha
- 3:00 Bangla Cinema: Ek Poloke (Shahin/Sabrina)
- PM
- 6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran
- 6:10 Music Plus
- 7:15 Channel I Sangbad
- 7:25 Drama : Joar Vata
- 8:00 Jaya Protiti
- 8:30 I Tele Quise. (Ques-)
- 8:35 Nilanjonna
- 9:30 Channel I Sangbad
- 9:20 Sangbad Patra Bangladesh
- 9:30 I Tele Quise. (Result-)
- 9:35 Business Show...
- 10:00 Quiz : 60 Sec.
- 10:01 Amar Chhabhi
- 10:30 Channel I Sangbad
- 11:00 Beete Hue Din
- 11:00 Bangla Cinema : Vul Bicher (Faruq/Rozina)
- BBC WORLD
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:30 Holiday
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Hospital
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 Correspondent
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 This Week
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 India Tomorrow
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 India Biz Report Profiles
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:30 Wheels
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Hardtalk India
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 This Week
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 Earth Story
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Click Online
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Hospital
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:45 People's Century
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Top Gear
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 Dateline London
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 Crusades
- 10:00 BBC News

- 10:30 India Tomorrow
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 Earth Story
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:30 Hospital
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 People's Century
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 Top Gear
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 Dateline London
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today
- HBO
- 7:00 Out of Africa
- 10:15 New Alcatraz
- 12:15 Donnie Brasco
- 3:00 Born Free A New Adventure
- 5:00 As Good As It Gets
- 7:45 Bulletproof
- 9:30 Fly Away Home
- 11:45 Child's Play 2
- 1:30 Psycho III
- 3:15 Out of Africa
- STAR GOLD
- 10:30 Geet Bahar
- 11:00 Geet Bahar
- 11:30 Beete Hue Din
- 12:00 Rahein Na Rahein Hum
- 1:00 Sunday Noon Show: Kashmir Ki Kali (Shammi Kapoor, Sharmila Tagore)
- 3:30 Daag (Dilip Kumar, Nimmi)
- 7:00 Geet Bahar
- 7:30 Sunday Blockbusters
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 This Week
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 India Tomorrow
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 India Biz Report Profiles
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:30 Wheels
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Hardtalk India
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 This Week
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 Earth Story
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Click Online
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Hospital
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:45 People's Century
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Top Gear
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 Dateline London
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 Crusades
- 10:00 BBC News

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- EKUSHEY: 7:00 p.m. *Ispahani Ek Cup Cha.* Reputed female singers of the country Shakila Zafar, Nilufer Yasmin and Rashida Khan Banu speak about the problems that female singers have to face. They also share their experiences and thoughts.
- EKUSHEY: 9:30 p.m. *Shatabdi Alo.* This magazine show tells us many things about the past century. During the earlier times of the past century electric light lights up Dhaka city for the very first time. *Shatabdi Alo* holds many informations like this.
- STAR WORLD: 10:30 p.m. *The X Files.* Hungry: The agents attempt to link a grisly murder to a fast food restaurant employee with a most unusual eating disorder.

PICK OF THE DAY

- End of Days**
On Star Movies at 7:00 p.m. Jericho Cane, a beaten down ex-cop, is the reluctant hero of End of Days, a chilling, horrific thriller set at the cusp of the millennium. For Cane, his job alongside partner Chicago has become a tiresome routine of sleazy surveillance jobs. But he soon finds himself drawn, against his will, into a heart-stopping game of cat and mouse revolving around one woman, Christine.

- 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 Shows
- 9:30 Star News Focus Asia
- 10:30 The X Files
- 11:30 Star Trek The Next Generation
- 12:30 Star News Focus Asia
- 1:30 The X Files
- 2:30 3rd Rock From The Sun
- 3:00 Creflo Dollar Daily
- 3:30 Kenneth Copeland Ministries
- 4:00 Life In The Word With Joyce Meyer
- 4:30 World News
- 5:00 Fashion TV
- 5:30 Mork & Mindy
- STAR PLUS
- 6:00 Mirch Masala
- 6:30 Star Geetmaala
- 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 Yaroon
- 1:30 Mirch Masala
- 2:00 Sangeet Toppers
- 2:30 Mail Milap
- 2:40 Star Sunday Matinee
- 3:00 Geet (Rajendra Kumar, Mala Sinha)
- 6:00 Sangeet Toppers
- 6:30 Fox Kids Sunday
- 7:30 Son Pari
- 8:00 Jubilee Plus
- 8:30 Ji Mantriji

- 9:00 Star Mast Movie : Bade Dilwala (Sunil Shetty, Priya Gill)
- 12:00 Sangeet Toppers
- 12:30 Kalash
- 1:00 Sonpari
- 1:30 Meri Saheli
- 2:00 Kaahin Kissii Roz
- 2:30 Jubilee Plus
- 3:00 Pal Chhin
- 3:30 Saahil
- 4:00 Sansar
- 5:00 Shanti
- 5:30 Sangeet Toppers
- STAR MOVIES
- 6:15 Born Yesterday
- 8:00 Escape From New York
- 9:45 Rocky
- 11:45 Mickey Blue Eyes
- 1:30 Ravenous
- 3:15 Where The Truth Lies
- 5:00 Run Away Bride
- 7:00 End of Days, The
- 9:00 Red Heat
- 10:45 Escape From New York
- 12:30 Rocky III
- 2:30 Red Heat
- 4:30 Born Yesterday
- CHANNEL [V]
- 7:30 [V] So Long Gone
- 8:30 [V] Best of Jumpstart
- 10:30 [V] Sunday Stack
- 11:30 [V] Colossal Chaos
- 6:00 Rally Racing 2001 2001 Fia World Rally Championships san Remo, Italy Highlights
- 7:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters series Stuttgart Stuttgart, Germany Men's Semifinal Match #1
- 9:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters series Stuttgart
- 11:00 Formula One Highlights 2001 Suzuka Circuit, Japan Paneseses Grand Prix
- 12:00 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League
- 2:00 PGA tour Golf National Car Rental Classic At Walt Disney World Orlando, FLUSA Third Round
- 4:00 Gillette World Sports Special
- 4:30 Asian Basketball Show Fim World Motorcycle Championship Motogp 2001 Sepang, Malaysia
- 6:00 Premier Football League 2001/02 Leeds, England Chelsea @ Leeds United
- STAR SPORTS
- 7:30 Sailing Sailing World Gothenberg Offshore Race
- 8:00 WTA Tour Ladies Kremlin Cup Moscow, Russia Finals
- 9:30 World Cup Mix
- 10:00 NBA Inside Stuff 2001/02 NBA inside stuff
- 10:30 FIM World Motorcycle Championship Motogp 2001 Sepang, Malaysia
- 1:00 IFA Shield Super Soccer Calcutta Style The IFA Shield
- 1:30 Five/Six Nations Championships Six Nations Championships 2001 Dublin, Republic of Ireland England @ Ireland
- 3:30 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League
- 5:30 Sports India

- Countdown
- 12:00 PO [V]
- 1:00 [V] Sunday Stack
- 3:30 [V] Karaoke
- 4:00 [V] Sunday Stack
- 5:30 [V] Weekend Spl
- 6:30 [V] Sunday Stack
- 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
- 4:00 [V] Hit Machine
- ZEE TV
- 6:00 Yaadon Ke Pal
- 6:30 Aalaap
- 7:00 Yoga For Life
- 7:40 Jagran
- 7:50 Zee Gym
- 8:00 Guldasta
- 8:30 Nickelodeon on Zee
- 9:00 Nickelodeon on Zee
- 9:30 Jai Ganesha
- 10:30 National Challenge Antakshari
- 11:30 Baazi Kiski
- 12:30 Quiz Contest
- 1:00 Hip Hip Hurray
- 1:30 Top Of The Tops
- 2:00 Dollar Bahu
- 2:30 Zee & You
- 3:00 Baton Baton Mein/Feature Film Ek Nazar
- 6:30 Nickelodeon On Zee
- 7:30 Nelaam Ghar Bid Bid Boom
- 8:30 Razzmatazz
- 9:30 Sansaar
- 10:30 Rishtey The Love Stories
- 11:30 India S Most Wanted
- 12:00 Gudgudee
- 12:30 Halahdi Tere Naam Ki
- 1:00 Jai Ganesha
- 2:00 Deewane To Deewane Hai
- 2:30 Manzilein Apni Apni
- 3:00 Halaku-Feature Film
- 5:30 News in Hindi
- ZEE CINEMA
- 6:00 Teri Talaash Mein - Feature Film
- 9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme
- 9:15 Weekend Cinema
- 9:45 Movie Fare
- 10:00 Akalmand-Feature Film
- 1:00 Bollywood Top 5
- 1:15 Madhyantar
- 1:30 Laadla-Feature Film
- 5:00 Darpan
- 5:15 Top Of The Tops
- 5:45 Film Time
- 6:00 Judaai-Feature Film
- 9:15 Bollywood Top 5
- 9:30 Making Of A Legend
- 10:00 Govinda Ala Re-Feature Film
- 1:45 Tara Rum
- 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme
- 5:30 Chehren
- ZEE MUSIC
- 6:00 Music Com
- 7:00 Aalaap
- 7:30 Tara Rum
- 8:30 Hit Pe Hit
- 10:30 Hit Mix
- 11:00 Artist Of The Fortnight
- 11:30 Music Box
- 12:00 Dial M
- 1:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 2:00 Jharokha
- 2:35 Blue
- 3:05 Tara Rum
- 4:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 5:00 Music Box
- 5:30 Hit Mix
- 6:00 Dil Se
- 6:30 Best of The Best
- 7:30 Hit Pe Hit
- 8:30 Fillers
- 9:00 Compact Disc
- 9:30 Music Box
- 10:00 Sizzlers
- 10:30 Jharokha
- 11:05 Compact Com
- 11:35 Phoren Maal
- 12:35 Shabab

- 1:05 Music Box
- 1:30 Jharokha
- 2:00 Hit Pe Hit
- 3:00 Pyaar Mohabbat Etc
- 3:30 Tara Rum
- 4:30 Phoren Maal
- 5:30 Sizzlers
- ALPHA TV BANGLA
- 6:00 Safallya
- 6:30 Manabi
- 7:30 Arghya/Ananda Vilas
- 7:00 News
- 8:00 Surer Ei Dharana Dharay
- 8:30 Lulko Choori
- 9:00 News
- 9:05 Bharat Bhraman
- 9:30 Premier Phande
- 10:30 Saramey Sur
- 10:30 Soni Robi Mojar Chobi
- 11:30 Kashinath
- 12:00 Bideshini Bodhu
- 12:30 Trityo Purush
- 1:00 Ranna Ghar
- 1:30 Goenda Paribar
- 2:00 Devdas -Feature Film
- 5:00 Arghya/Anand Vilas
- 5:30 Looko Churi
- 6:00 News
- 6:30 Mojar Khel Kobitay
- 7:00 Ekuse Paa
- 7:30 Googy
- 8:00 Alpha Bangla Telechobi
- 9:45 Purobi
- 10:15 Talk Jhal Misti
- 10:45 Ek Palake
- 10:50 News
- 10:55 Ek Palake
- 11:00 Nijei Nayak
- 11:30 News
- 11:55 Ek Palake
- 12:00 Bai Badha
- 12:30 Bangla Feature Film
- 3:00 Sur Taal
- 3:30 Bharat Bhraman
- 4:00 Saragama
- 5:00 Prapto Baesko De Janya
- 5:30 Talk Jhal Misti
- HALLMARK
- 1:00 God Bless the Child
- 3:00 A Town Torn Apart
- 5:00 Sesame Street
- 6:00 Seventeen
- 8:00 Ghostwriter
- 8:30 Wishbone
- 9:00 Sesame Street
- 10:00 The Boys Next Door
- 12:00 Reason for Living: The Jill Ireland Story
- 2:00 Seventeen Again
- 4:00 Falsely Accused
- 6:00 Touched By An Angel
- 7:00 Walter and Henry
- 9:00 Macshayne: Winner Takes All
- 11:00 The Inspector Pitt
- Mysteries: The Cater