

RECOMMENDATIONS

Satranji display

August 1-8
An exhibition of traditional Satranji by eminent satranji maker and promoter Shafiqul Alam Selim of Karupannya, Rangpur, starts at DRJK gallery at Dhanmondi in the city and is open to all from 3 to 8 p.m. daily.

Aquarium Exhibition

August 2-9
An exhibition of aquarium and colourful tropical fish is currently being held at the outlet of American Aquarium Project at 22/2, Sonargaon road at Hatirpool (beside Eastern Plaza) in the city that displays and sells aquariums and fishes of a wide range.

Art exhibition

August 2-15
Artist Fakrul Islam holds a solo exhibition of his works at the gallery of Alliance Francaise, complete schedule of which will soon be announced. 'Art is the best way to express emotion, love and personal attitude of oneself' says Fakrul.

Children's painting

July 22-August 8
Entitled Wasserwelten (Water world), an exhibition of paintings done by children from the schools of 'Shilpi Sultan Pathshala' and 'Surovi' of Dhaka, takes place at Goethe Institut in the city from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. everyday except on Fridays and general holidays.

Telefilm

August 7
Premier of telefilm 'Devdas' will be held from 7 p.m. at TAI KING Chinese restaurant at New Eskaton (near Maghbazar) in the city. The event will also host muharat ceremony of Lajja, a telefilm.

Anniversary

A commemoration

Spirit of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore reawakens in the soul of every Bengali on his death anniversary

CULTURE DESK

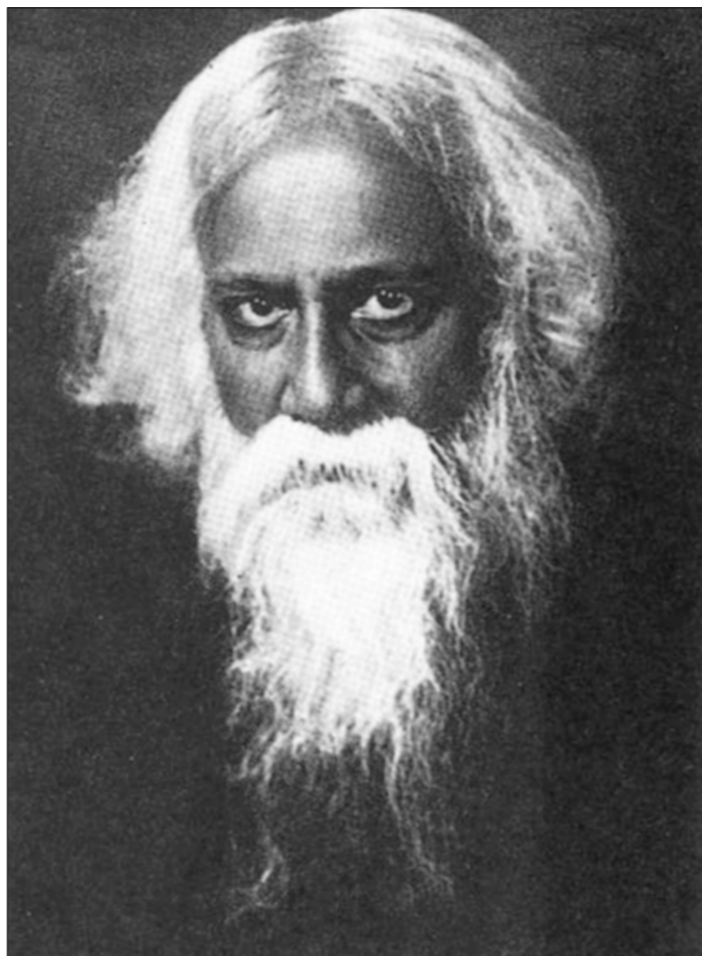
WHO are you, reader, reading my poems a hundred years hence?

I cannot send you one single flower from this wealth of the spring, one single streak of gold from yonder clouds. Open your doors and look abroad. From your blossoming garden gather fragrant memories of the vanished flowers of a hundred years before.

--From 'Gardener' Rabindranath Tagore 1913

As this excerpt reaches the reader, one truly lives in a time that dates nine decades from the period of the above composition. Rabindranath Tagore passed away some 61 years from now in 1941, on 22nd Srabon, that coincides this year on August 6.

Rabindranath Tagore was born in 1861, into one of the foremost families of Bengal. He was the fourteenth child of Debendranath Tagore, who headed the Brahmo Samaj (a Hindu reform movement). The family house at Jorasanko in Calcutta was a hive of cultural and intellectual activity. Tagore was educated by private tutors and first visited Europe in 1878. He began writing at an early age and his talent was recognised by Bankimchandra Chatterjee,



a leading contemporary Bengali author. He began to write poetry as a child; his first book appeared when he was 17 years old. After a brief stay in England during 1878, to study law, he returned to his homeland,

where he rapidly became the most important and popular author of the colonial era as he wrote poetry, short stories, novels and plays. Throughout the end of the nineteenth century, Tagore lived mainly in rural East

Bengal also managing the family estates. The poet later on, in his matured days of life had the opportunity to spend times at Shilaidaha, which was then a region of the east Bengal, now Bangladesh.

In the early 1900s he was involved in the Swadesi campaign against the British, but withdrew when the movement turned violent. The 'Gitanjali' period from 1905 to 1911 was the most difficult time for Tagore. His son and daughter died within four years of each other and this took place soon after the expiry of his wife who had died in 1902.

Shantiniketan had driven him to destitution; the confusion in the political life at that time had driven him to a lonely patch. So it was that he wrote 'Gitanjali' in 1910. Tagore wrote primarily in Bengali, but translated many of his works into English himself. In 1912 he came to England with 'Gitanjali', one such English translation of some of his religious lyrics. It was acclaimed by W.B. Yeats and later published by Macmillan, leading directly to his winning the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913.

He was awarded the 1913 Nobel Prize in literature and in 1915 was honored with knighthood by British King George V. In 1919, Tagore renounced his knighthood following the Amritsar massacre of 400 Indian demon-

strators by British troops.

In the 1920s and 1930s he made extensive lectures tours of America, Europe and Far East. Proceeds from these tours, and from his Western publications, went to Viswa-Bharati, the famous school and international university he created at Shantiniketan, one hundred miles north-west of Calcutta, at Bolpur. He founded the school in 1901 as a protest against the existing bad system of education.

He was close to Mahatma Gandhi, who called him the "Greatest Sentinel" of modern India; but he generally held himself aloof from politics. His own translation ('Collected Poems and Plays of Rabindranath Tagore' - 1936) has not proved sufficient to sustain the worldwide reputation he enjoyed in his lifetime, but as a Bengali writer his eminence is unchallenged.

Tagore also met Einstein, through a common friend, Dr. Mendel. Tagore visited Einstein at his residence at Kaputh in the suburbs of Berlin on July 14 of 1930 and the scientist returned the call and visited Tagore at the Mendel home.

Tagore composed over two thousand songs all of which occupy a major place in Bengali music. National anthems of both India and Bangladesh are creations of the multi-talented genius.

His works ran to twenty-nine extensive volumes those have brought before Tagore fans some sixty collections of verse including novels like 'Gora' and 'Desh bidesh'. Besides, he made experimental play like 'Daakghar' and essays on a host of religious, social and literary topics.

The passionate romantic desire for the loved one is perhaps most evident in two of Tagore's major poems, 'Kori O Kamol' and 'Manushi', apart from many others. Poems like 'Sonar Tori' and 'Chitra' have acknowledged the simple joys and passions of life and the surrounding atmosphere. In his poem 'Urvashi' Tagore built a picture of romantic love that went beyond any concept of desire.

His important and appraised plays included 'Balmiki Pratibha', 'Kaalmrigaya', 'Prakritir Protishod', 'Raja O Rani', 'Bishorjon', 'Chitrangada', 'Biday Abhishap', 'Malini', 'Gorai Golod', 'Boikunther Khata', 'Chirokumar Shabha', 'Sarodhushav', 'Falguni', 'Basanta', 'Muktodhara', one of the most difficult dramas 'Rakto Karabi', 'Natir Puja', 'Chandalika', 'Shyama', and more.

Tagore's most valuable contribution went to the short story genre. The range of subjects was stunning, from simple love stories to ghost

stories. 'Golpoguccha' presented a large compilation with some of the best shorts from Tagore.

Tagore's novels had been of deep philosophical nature. His earliest were 'Boithakuranir Haat' and 'Rajorshi'. In 1902 he wrote 'Chokher Bali', 'Noukadubi' in 1905, and 'Gora' in 1910 most of which contained strong protesting messages against racism. 'Chaturanga' in 1916 carried four short stories. In the same year he wrote 'Ghore baire' which is one of Tagore's most significant novels. 'Jogajog' and 'Shesher Kobita' during 1930 had remained as two of his most popular novels along with 'Char Adhya'. The two long stories but not exactly novels were 'Dui Bon' and 'Malancha'.

Among several essays that Rabindranath wrote the most notable were 'Chinnopotro', 'Jibonsmriti' and 'Europe Probashir Potra'.

Poet, novelist, painter, and musician, Rabindranath Tagore has remained a grand master of Bengali culture, a pioneer and foremost Indian supreme Romantic poet whose works could be seen as some particular documentary realistic creations those had ever since been carrying certain original vision.

TV GUIDE

Table with TV channel listings for EKUSHEY, HBO, and CHANNEL-i.

Table with TV channel listings for STAR PLUS, BBC WORLD, and STAR MOVIES.

Table with TV channel listings for STAR GOLD, STAR NEWS, and CHANNEL [V].

Table with TV channel listings for STAR WORLD, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, and CHANNEL [V].

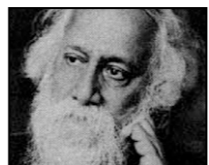
Table with TV channel listings for ZEE NEWS, ZEE ENGLISH, and ZEE TV.

Table with TV channel listings for ALPHA TV BANGLA and ZEE TV.

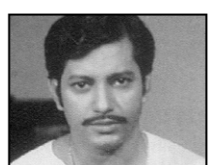
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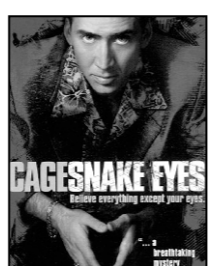
TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



CHANNEL-i: 6:45 p.m. Gaaner oparey. The program has been created with a large compilation of Tagore songs sung by reputed local singers. The program is dedicated to Tagore on his death anniversary. To be hosted by Sadi Muhammad, the program is directed by Hedayet Hossain.



CHANNEL-i: 7:50 p.m. Maan bhanjan. The drama, produced from an original masterpiece of Tagore, features a zamindar, Gopinath, who refuses his wife's love and leaves home for a professional dancer, Labanga. But finally he comes to know that Laanga is married and has lost childbearing capacity.



STAR MOVIES: 7:00 p.m. Snake Eyes. Atlantic City cop Rick Santoro is pretty happy with life. He has a wife and a mistress, gets his regular rake-offs, and walks easily through town. On duty at a prize-fight when a member of the government is killed, he soon has several leads. But he realises he has to make a choice - turn the other way as he has in the past when the stakes weren't so high, or follow up the investigation and put his cosy lifestyle very much at risk.

PICK OF THE DAY



Small Soldiers
On HBO at 10:00 p.m.
High tech action toys, programmed for combat, soon turn a suburban neighbourhood into a major battlefield. They're every kid's dream toy - high tech action figures that incorporate the latest missile technology to bring never before experienced realism to combat play. But these action figures prove to be a little too smart as they soon bring havoc to the neighbourhood while systematically battling to kill-off each other.

Table with TV channel listings for Bulletin, Zee Business, News At 7, News At 8, Metro News, News At 9, Prime Time, Iss Waqt, Din Bhar, World View, Manoranjan, ALPHA TV BANGLA, ZEE NEWS, ZEE ENGLISH, ZEE TV.

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