

Music

Something fresh from the world of Tagore and the Chakma tribe

Launching of *Alpana Chakam's two CDs at the Indian Cultural Centre*

FAYZA HAQ

ALPANA Chakma delighted her audience with her rendering of popular Rāndrasangeet songs as well as those with Chakma lyrics. This was at the programme to launch her two CDs on Rāndrasangeet and Chakma folk songs at the Indian Cultural Centre recently. Her teachers, Saadi Mohammed and Papiya Sarwar not only spoke at the occasion, with a packed and overflowing audience, but also sang themselves to lend support, while Saadi Mohammed played the harmonium as Alpana performed. Saadi Mohammed said at the occasion that Alpana was not only a treasured pupil but a promising colleague.

Alpana said, speaking for a few minutes in between the programme, behind the stage, next to the green room. "After finishing my studies in architecture, I studied at 'Sangeet Bhaban' for five years. Kalim Sharafi was my principal, while my teachers included Saadi Mohammed and Rizvana Chowdhury Bonna. I came to study under Papiya Sarwar later for four years. I have dedicated about 20 years in all to the pursuit of music."

Asked why she went into 'Rāndrasangeet' rather than other genres like 'Nazrul Geeti', Alpana said, "What lured me to this particular form of Bengali songs are the words and tunes of Tagore which are nonpareil in their soothing tunes and lyrics. I feel that Tagore songs will appeal to Bengalis of all time and generation. Even though it has a relative slow intrinsic rhythm most often yet it appeals to even the present generation with their hangups for modern music like the pop and band music."

Dwelling on whether she was not influenced by western music while composing some of his songs, Alpana said "Yes, undoubtedly there are some songs by Tagore which have underlying tunes of western music, as he had lived abroad and listened to music such as church music such as 'Phuley phuley dholey dholey' and I myself enjoy such tunes but the language is Bangla of the Victorian times and this fascinate me enormously. Talking about her instrumental



Kalpana Chakam along with Saadi Mohammed seen at the Indian Cultural Centre at the launching of Kalpana's two CDs

accompaniments Alpana said, "These included the harmonium which Saadi Bhai performed itself, then there was the 'behala', 'tabla', keyboard, 'mandira', and for the Chakma songs there was the flute."

Asked to mention the words of some of the songs that she had sung that evening, Alpana said, "There were four 'Rāndrasangeet' songs which included 'Shoda thako anondey', 'Jey raatey mor duarguli bhango chaorey', 'Ajey kalo matir basha' and 'Aye kothati money rekho'. The Chakma tribal songs included three compositions the first being 'Jimit jimi joley'. Edeshta amar edesta tomar edesh shobar which means that the firefly is shining

while the country is yours and mine. The second song 'Hillo milo bo jumot jay dey' which means that the hill tracts fire is going to the hills for 'jhum' collection (a type of tribal agricultural which is considered to be somewhat not all that good for the present environment but remains a traditional one that goes back for centuries), dancing all the way, carrying a knife in her left hand while the birds are chirping and she is thinking of the time when she will return home. My third song was 'Nochang jebay aey jagan chari' which means 'I don't want to leave you and go away as this place is my own and where I belong. As a request from the audience I also

attracted also to other genres of songs such as 'Lalangeeti' and love all Bangla folks songs. I do enjoy 'Nazrulgeeti' too although the messages of my own type attract me more. I'm compelled to listen to western music as the strains of these come from my children's rooms. Of course I'm acquainted with Mozart, Chopin and Beethoven and I love them as I like all types of music. As for pop music, I listen to it too although that does not grab me all that much. I believe that I should have experience and knowledge of all types of music. I did have students who are Japanese and who wished to learn Bangla songs, specially 'Rāndrasangeet' ones.

They came with JAICA, a Japanese organization, and they came for two to three years for different types of work. One was called Mami Krezawa, another Sumicko Seiko. Today I have a student, who has left for country for a month. She will return to continue learning with me. Elaborating on the CDs, Alpana said, "There are a dozen 'Rāndrasangeet' songs and another 12 Chakma folk songs. They include songs like 'Bohey nirantaro ononto ananda dhara' and 'Amaro porano jaha chae', and 'Jimi jimi jimi joley'. The CDs include other songs like 'Daoire acho tumi amar gane o pare', 'Asha jawar pother dharey', 'Borisho

dhora majhe shaniro bari'. 'Pran chay chokky na chay', 'Aaj josna ratesobie geche boney', 'Madhuro madhuro dhoni bahe', 'Dhirey dhirey praney amar esho hey', 'Je ratey mor duarguli jorey', 'Ei kothati money rekho' and 'Purano shei diner kotha'. "My Chakam 'gaan' CD includes 'Mimit Jimit jini joley', 'Uttan pege meghey meghey', 'Nochang jebay ei jagan chari', 'Aay chigonda mologe', 'Ette elo ek raja', 'Ama decchan marumuri gange choray bhora'. 'Hoi hoi hoi jumot jebong', 'Aay tungbi mologe', 'Aay aay o chanan' and others. I did not face any financial problems in making the CDs except that I got no sponsors and had to pay the entire cost myself from the money that I had accumulated as a practicing architect."

"Touching on her practice of songs Alpana said, "I have my harmonium and have 'tabla' accompaniment by Fariduddin once a week. I learn with Papiya Sarwar at 'Geetoshudha' twice a week. I also learn with Saadi Mohammed once a week. My teachers are very understanding and teach with tremendous care, dealing each phase individually and with patience. I would put their teaching as impeccable."

Asked to speak about her future plans, Alpana said, "I hope to continue with my singing and work with architecture which I have done for 15 years after my five years at BUET as a student. I am now with the Department of Architecture, Ministry of Public Works, where my duties are from nine to five I have to find time for both and combine them with my tasks as a housewife too. Should there be any conflict in the future with my two careers and I have to make a choice, I shall drop architecture rather than music. I had gone into architecture having completed my college at Rangamati. For this Shujit Chakma, my elder brother was the inspiration. He himself was studying Electrical Engineering at that time."

Alpana Chakma's soiree was a pure delight for music enthusiasts and her CDs should be a success specially for 'Rāndrasangeet' lovers and those keen on folk music of the ethnic type.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Poetry reading

August 17

17BC, an international poetry group holds an evening of English Poetry Recital at Bengal Shilpalaya from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Poet Shamsur Rahman, Poet Kaiser Haq, and Poet Sudeep Sen will be present on the occasion. Its open to all.

Australian Film Festival

August 15-16

Australian High Commission in Bangladesh hosts an Australian film festival on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Bangladesh. A total of ten films, of different lengths, will be screened at the British Council auditorium in the city. Free passes are available at the British Council office.

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.

Sculpture exhibition

August 12-28

A sculpture exhibition of artist Ferdousi Priyobhashini begins at Bengal art gallery at Dhanmondi in the city. The exhibition runs everyday and is open to all.

Dance Festival

September 15-17

A dance festival is to be organised by Nriya Dhara, a local dance institution, at the auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum at Shahbagh in the city that will be participated by over 100 danseuse from across the country including tribal performers from Marna, Santali, Pankho, Chakma and Manipuri communities.

A seminar on the trend and status of Bangladeshi folk dance will also be held during the three-day session that will be attended by reputed dance artists, instructors, critics and cultural personalities from across the country.

TV GUIDE

BTV

12:10p.m. News headline
12:15 Patriotic songs
12:20 Selected songs
12:45 Azan
1:00 News
2:00 News headline
2:20 Open University
2:40 Health based program
3:00 News
3:05 Bangla feature film
4:00 News headline
4:30 Aaker shongbadpotro
5:00 News
5:30 Computer round
6:00 News
6:10 Jibon-er Alo
7:00 News headline
7:05 Agami deen
7:30 Selected program
8:00 News
8:30 Drama of the week
9:00 News headline
10:00 News at ten
10:25 Samakalin Orthoni
10:30 Loukik Bangla
11:30 News (Bangla/English)

EKUSHEY

12:00pm Ekushey Middy
12:30 Desjure Shongbad
1:00 Ekushey Headlines
1:05 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
1:30 Documentary Programme : Japan Video Tropic
1:50 Classic Cartoons
2:10 Surer Prodeep
2:40 Drishti
3:00 Ekushey Headlines
3:05 Drama Serial
3:30 Priyotomashu
4:00 Surer Prodeep
4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
5:00 Circus Circus
5:30 Drishti
5:50 Aaker Potrikay
6:00 Ekushey Headlines
6:05 Shopnopure
6:30 Aladdin
6:55 Ekushey Headlines
7:00 Deshjure
7:30 Ekushey Shongbad
8:00 Ekushey News
8:05 Drama Serial: Nokshiparer Manushera
8:30 Pother Pachile
9:00 Natak : Chand Na Lota
10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
10:30 Mohua Moluar Gaan
11:00 Ekushey Late Night News
12:00 E Shoptaher Bishsho
12:30 Ekushey News Headlines

CHANNEL-1

1:50p.m. Bangla feature film
5:05 Documentary
5:35 Joto pod toto mot
6:10 Music Plus
6:45 Chaya Jhankar
7:15 Channel I News
8:00 Drama serial
8:30 Drama serial
9:30 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh
9:45 Mobile quiz
10:00 Marine location thekey
10:25 Ispahani I telequiz
10:30 Channel I News
11:25 One man show
12:00 Channel I News

ATN BANGLA

5:30 Islamic Prog
7:00 Health care prog : Sustha Thakun
7:45 Film song's prog : Surchohi
8:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
8:25 Drama Serial : Nonte Fante
9:00 Talk show : Face to Face
9:25 Drama Serial : Paranote
10:10 Musical prog : Music Time
10:50 Drama Serial : Kayokjon Aparode
11:15 Bengali feature film : Janmo Theke Jalce
12:00 ATN Bangla News
6:07 Islamic Prog
6:45 Film based Prog: Cine Magazine
7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
7:35 Musical Prog: Music Time
8:10 Mage Serial: Kun Semamany Mukte
8:45 Talk Show : Samokalin Prosongo
9:20 Reporting prog: Prekha Pot
10:00 ATN Bangla News
10:35 Drama Serial : Khushu
11:15 Bengali feature film : Buker Don
11:30 ATN Bangla News

HBO

6:30 Havana
9:30 Casper
11:30 Brave New World
1:30 Jaws 2
3:45 The Nutty Professor
5:45 Small Soldiers
8:00 Varsity Blues
10:00 Extreme Measures
12:15 Snow Falling on Cedars
2:45 Jaws 2
5:00 Killer: A Journal of Murder

STAR MOVIES

6:45 The Viper
8:45 The Hand That

10:45 Rocks The Cradle
12:45 Ernest Goes To Jail
2:45 Six Days, Seven Nights
4:15 Enemy of the State
5:15 Jumanji
7:15 Hot Favourites: Jurassic Park
9:30 Thursday Mega Movie: Mighty Joe Young
9:30 Late Night Innings: Borough Of Kings
11:45 Late Night Innings: The Mexican

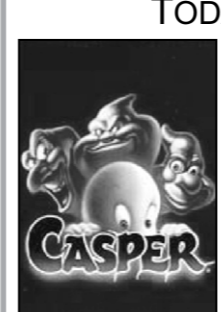
STAR PLUS

7:30 Hum Saath Aath Hain
8:00 Aatma
9:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
9:30 Fox Kids Daily
10:10 Hit Geet
10:25 Kya Film Kya Geet
10:30 Small Wonder
11:00 Maal Hai To Taal Hai
11:30 Meri Saheli
12:00 Shanti
12:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
1:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz
1:25 Film Toppers
1:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
2:00 Bhabhi
2:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
3:00 Shagun
3:30 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
4:00 Kavita
4:30 Kabhi Sautan Kabhi Saheli
5:00 Kora Kaagaz
5:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
6:00 Small Wonder
6:30 Fox Kids
7:20 Aaj Ki Baat
7:25 Kya Film Kya Geet
7:30 Kumkum-Pyara Sa Bandhan
7:55 Film Toppers
8:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain
8:30 Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr
9:30 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
9:30 Kismey Kitnaa Hai Dhuum Aaj Dekkhenge Hum
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
9:00 Frasier
9:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
6:55 Star News Asia
7:00 Angel
8:00 NYPD Blue
9:00 Frasier
9:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
11:30 NYPD Blue

STAR GOLD

7:00pm Geet Bahar
7:30 Abhi To Jee Lein
11:00 Bollywood Beats
11:30 Manchali
3:00pm Geet Bahar
3:30 Independence Week
5:00 Spl Shaheed
7:00 Bollywood Beats

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 9:30 a.m. *Casper*. Greedy heiress Carrigan Crittenden inherits the haunted Whistaff Manor and discovers that the house contains a treasure, which is closely guarded by three nasty ghosts. She invites ghost therapist Dr. James Harvey, and his daughter Kat, to move into the eerie mansion and get rid of the supernatural creatures. The nephew of the three spirits is Casper, a friendly ghost who becomes Kat's pal. Casper takes Kat to his father's secret lab where he once attempted to bring Casper back to life with a special machine.



STAR MOVIES: 8:45 p.m. *Return To Me*. The film is an endearing romantic comedy infused with real life humor, starring Golden Globe®-winner David Duchovny and Academy Award®-nominee Minnie Driver. Life can change in an instant and it does for our two lead characters. A lonely Bob Rueland (David Duchovny) is embraced by Grace Briggs (Minnie Driver), who is surrounded by a coterie of substitute mothers including her Irish grandfather, who with his Italian brother-in-law run a Chicago restaurant. Although Bob and Grace are strangers at the start of our story, their lives are soon forever intertwined by fate.

7:30 Lamhe Pyaar Ke : Haqeeqat
11:00 Ankhen
STAR WORLD
7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Da Vinci's Inquest
9:30 Star News English Show
9:30 Whose Line is it Anyway
10:00 Ally McBeal
11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
12:00pm The Practice
1:00 Caroline In The City
1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
2:00 Hollywood Squares
2:30 Family Ties
3:00 Baywatch
4:00 The Simpsons
4:30 Cheers
5:00 Star News Asia
5:30 Frasier
6:00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
6:55 Star News Asia
7:00 Angel
8:00 NYPD Blue
9:00 Frasier
9:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
11:30 NYPD Blue
STAR NEWS
6:30 Newshour
7:30 Breakfast News
8:00 Breakfast News
9:00 Hindi
9:30 Star News English
10:00 Star News Hindi

6:00 Star Khel
6:30 Bollywood News
7:00 Star Bazaar Hindi
7:30 Saat Baje Hindi
8:00 Hotline
8:30 Tonight at 8
9:00 Star Samachar
9:30 Star News English
10:00 Star Business News
11:00 Star Newshour
11:30 Star News English
12:30 Star News Hindi
CHANNEL [V]
1:00 [V] Back to Back
1:30 Wild
2:00 Nat Geo Max
3:30 Sci-Files
4:30 People and Places
5:00 Human Edge
6:00 Mission Wild
6:30 Dogs With Jobs
7:00 Earth Pulse
7:30 On The Edge
8:30 Wild
9:30 Nat Geo Max
10:30 Sci-files
11:30 People & Places
AXN
6:30 Movie: Midnight Express
9:30 Relic Hunter
10:30 Now and Again A Girl's Life
11:30 Beastmaster II
12:30 Guinness World Records : Primetime
1:30 Relic Hunter
2:30 Movie: Midnight Express
5:30 Guinness World Records: Primetime
6:30 Adventure Central
7:30 Beastmaster II
8:30 Queen of Swords

PICK OF THE DAY



Extreme Measures

On HBO at 10:00 p.m.
In director Michael Apted's *Extreme Measures*, a trauma surgeon discovers that the inexplicable deaths plaguing the ward seem to be related to a privately-funded, top-secret research program headed by a venerable physician.

12:30 Tu Kahe Agar
1:00 Love Marriage
1:30 Kohi Apna Sa
2:00 Kamal
2:30 Gharana
3:00 Ek Nazar (Movie)
6:30 Nickelodeon On Zee
7:00 Nickelodeon
8:00 Kitne Kool Hain Hum
8:30 Kamaal
9:00 Amanat
9:30 Khelo Number Khelo
10:00 Kohi Apna Sa
10:30 Love Marriage
11:00 Tu Kahe Agar
11:30 Gharana
12:00 Yeh Dil Kya Kare

ZEE MUSIC

7:30 Sizzlers
8:00 Music Box
8:30 Artist Of The Fortnight
9:00 Sizzlers
9:30 Hit Pe hit
10:30 Hit Mix
11:00 Tararum
12:00 Just Jammin
12:30 Hit Pe Hit
1:30 Music Box
3:30 Jharokha
2:30 Tara Rum Pum
3:30 Hit Mix
4:00 Hit Pe Hit
5:00 Dil Se
5:30 Hit Mix
6:00 Music Plus
7:00 Dialogue
7:30 Hit Pe Hit
8:30 Bes Of The Best
9:30 Sizzlers
10:00 Dil Se
10:30 Jharokha
11:00 Music Box
11:30 Phoren Maal

ZEE NEWS

6:30 Religious Prog
7:00 RPT
7:30 Bulletin
8:00 RPT
10:30 Bulletin
12:00 RPT
12:30 Bulletin
12:57 RPT
1:00 Bulletin
1:30 RPT
2:57 Manoranjan
3:00 Bulletin
4:00 RPT
4:30 Bulletin
4:57 Manoranjan
5:00 RPT
5:30 Bulletin
6:00 RPT
6:30 Zee Business
6:57 Manoranjan
7:00 Bulletin
7:30 News At 7
8:00 Zee Business
8:30 News At 8
9:00 Metro News
9:30 News At 9
10:00 Prime Time
10:30 ISS Waqt

ZEE TV

6:00 Yaadon Ke Pal
6:30 Bhakti Bhav
7:00 Yoga For Life
7:20 Jagran
7:50 Zee Gym & Eat
8:20 News
8:30 Ardhangini
8:45 Yaaden Radio Ceylon Ki
9:00 Nickelodeon On Zee
9:30 Nick On Zee
10:30 Hum Paanch
11:00 Hudd Kar Di
12:00 Mehndi: Tere Naam Ki

11:00 Din Bhar
11:30 World View
ALPHA TV BANGLA
6:30 Bhowanipurer Chattujera
7:00 Shyaola
7:30 Aalaap Bengali Spl
8:00 Purobi Bangla
8:30 Gaan Unltd.
9:10 Bharat Bhraman
9:30 Half Chocolate
10:00 Chena Mukh Achena Manush
10:30 Shudhu Tomake Chai
11:00 Bideshini Bodhu
11:30 Gaan Unltd.
12:00 Chokh
12:30 Chena Mukher Shari
1:00 Nayanlara
1:30 Ek Akasher Niche
2:00 Pratikbimba
2:30 Biyalish
5:00 Gaan unltd.
5:30 Ingit
6:00 News In Bengali
6:05 Swartaal-Exposure
6:30 Bideshini Bodhu
7:00 Shyaola
7:30 Mathe Maidane
8:00 Pratikbimba
8:30 Ek Akasher Niche
9:10 Chena Mukher Shari
9:50 Chokh
10:30 News In Bengali
11:00 Ingit
11:30 Nayanlara
12:00 Shyaola

ZEE CINEMA

7:30 Heera Moti
10:30 Hanste Khelete
1:30 Sun Meri Laila
6:00 Haveli
10:00 Gopi Kishan
ANIMAL PLANET
7:00 Animal Doctor ii
7:30 Animal X
8:00 The Aquanauts
8:30 Animal Planet safari
9:00 Tamed N Trained
11:00 Postcards from the Wild
11:30 Wild Island
12:00 Vets on the Wild Side
12:30 Animal Hospital
1:00 Vet's School
1:30 Wild Rescues I
2:00 Champions of the Wild
2:30 Walk on the Wild Side
3:00 Animals Planet Safari
4:00 Animal Doctor II
4:30 Tamed N Trained
6:00 Extreme Contact
6:30 O'Shea's Big Adventure
7:00 Vets on the Wild Side
7:30 Animal X
8:00 Animal Planet Safari
9:00 Champions of the Wild IV
9:30 Cats
10:00 Animal Doctor II

DISCOVERY

7:30 Animal People II
8:00 Rolf's Amazing World of Animals II
8:30 Wild Discovery
9:30 Globe Trekker
10:30 Healthy Living
11:30 The Human Body
12:30 Woman's Hour
1:30 Wild Discovery
2:30 Amazing Animals
3:30 Discovery Kids
4:30 Action Zone: Expeditions
5:30 Lonely Planet V
6:30 Animal People
7:00 Rolf's Amazing World of Animals II
7:30 Wild Discovery
8:30 Health living
9:30 Human Body
10:30 Junkyard Wars
11:30 Weather Wonders
ZEE MGM
6:30 Carry On England
9:00 The Man Who Knew Too Much
11:30 Doctor At Large
2:00 Italian Movie
4:30 The Woman in Red
7:00 Dead On
9:30 Secret Admirer
ZEE ENGLISH
6:00 Benny Hill Show
6:30 Capitol
7:00 Family Pride
7:30 Heartbreak High
8:00 Benny Hill Show
8:30 Three's Company
9:30 Kate & Allie
10:00 Living Single
10:30 ER
11:30 Full House
12:00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air
12:30 Veronica's closet
1:00 Royal Canadian Air Force
1:30 Benny Hill Show
2:00 Three's Company
2:30 Friends
3:00 Seinfeld
3:30 ER
4:30 Suddenly Susan
5:00 Mad About You
5:30 Heartbreak High
6:30 Full House
7:00 Jesse
7:30 Seinfeld
8:00 Three's Company
8:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
9:00 Suddenly Susan
9:30 Veronica's Closet
10:00 Mad About You
10:30 Seinfeld
11:00 Friends
11:30 La Femme Nikita