

Anniversary

Nazrul's life: From a new perspective

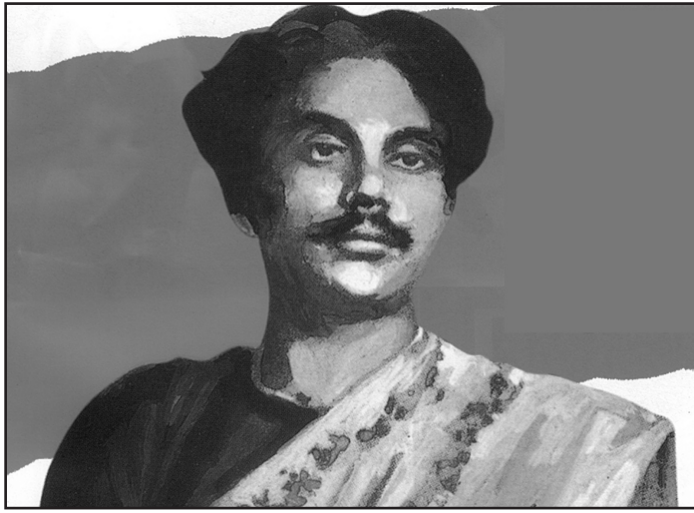
A soiree preceded by a factual discussion at the Shilpakala Academy

SAIFUL ISLAM

Many important issues related to the life of the national poet, Kazi Nazrul Islam, have not been properly analysed as yet. Some facts discussed at an event point to the necessity of seeing the life of Nazrul Islam from a new angle.

Zaman Abbasi, the Director-General of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy was present at the programme.

Nazrul Islam's family still owns property in the village of Churulia. The financial condition of his family was good when Nazrul was a mischievous and brilliant boy well-known for his whimsical ways.



A rebel throughout his life

background of the poet. Nazrul had been 'bohemian' in character. 'He was an unsettled man, and though a brilliant student, he never continued far, but the depth of his aptitude is evident in his poems, songs, translations, and fictional and non-fictional works' added Asadul Haq.

Nazrul did not knead breads, rather carried those to the baker's shop. The patriotic zeal took him to the frontiers in Karachi. 'He had never been to Persia as has been told by many' said Selina Bahar Zaman. It is a matter of regret that scholars of both Bangladesh and the West Bengal had been unable to unveil the mist that shrouded the life of Nazrul.

ance could be noticed in focusing on the works of Nazrul. This should not be the case. Nazrul Islam is a poet who established a new way of approaching literature at the era of Rabindranath Tagore, and Nazrul had a good number of successors.

The discussion also focused on the number of papers that were edited by Nazrul. In his speech Professor Wakil Ahmed threw light on the aspects of the life of the poet in relation to the circumstances he faced in a rigid society that was fanatic about its religion.

The musical evening after the discussion showered melody over the audience. Elegiac strains sprinkled sorrow commemorating the death of the poet. The soiree was woven with excellent collection of poems.

A bondage of partnership

Chalachitram and Goethe Institut observe respective founding anniversaries and hold 5-day programme

CULTURE DESK

CHALACHITRAM Film Society and Goethe Institut of Dhaka have organised a 5-day special programme titled, 'A Bondage of Partnership' from September 1 to 5, 2002, on the occasion of 20 years of Chalachitram Film Society (1982-2002) and 40 years of Goethe-Institut in Bangladesh (1961-2001).

Dr. A.R. Khan, President of Chalachitram Film Society and Markus Litz, Director of Goethe Institut in Dhaka, on behalf of the two organisations, invite all to attend the events of this programme to be held at the German Cultural Center (Hse # 10, Rd. # 9, Dhanmondi R/A.) in the city.

Programme schedules are as follows:

September 1 at 6:30 p.m. Formal inauguration, Reception, Film show: Katz und Maus (Germany)

September 2 at 5:00 p.m. Film shows: The left-handed woman (Germany), Suprabhat (Bangladesh)

September 3 at 5:00 p.m. Film shows: Wings of Desire (Germany), Guddi (Bangladesh)

September 4 at 5:00 p.m. Film shows: Chaka (Bangladesh), 23 (Germany)

September 5 at 6:30 p.m. A cultural ceremony brings an end to the 5-day programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Anniversary

September 1 to 5 Chalachitram Film Society and Goethe-Institut of Dhaka have organised a 5-day special programme titled, 'A Bondage of Partnership' on the occasion of 20 years of Chalachitram Film Society (1982-2002) and 40 years of Goethe-Institut in Bangladesh (1961-2001).

Dr. A.R. Khan, President of Chalachitram Film Society and Markus Litz, Director of Goethe Institut in Dhaka, on behalf of the two organisations, invite all to attend the events of this programme to be held at the German Cultural Center (Hse # 10, Rd. # 9, Dhanmondi R/A.) in the city.

Virtual art show

August 25 November 01 Artist A. Rahman holds a virtual art exhibition at www.flipstudio.com/arahman

The virtual display is first of its kind in Bangladesh by artist A.Rahman.

Photography exhibition

August 23 September 01 A solo photography exhibition titled, 'Our glorious past: Sonargaon' by photographer Syed Zakir Hossain, begins at the DRK gallery of Dhanmondi in the city. The exhibition is open everyday from 3 to 8 p.m. The exhibition schedules also contain launching of a photo album.

Architectural designs' show

Aug. 17 Sept. 09 An exhibition goes on at the National Museum at Shahbagh in the city to reveal the unfolding drama of the design and construction of Sher-e-banglanagar. Timetable: 10:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. (Saturday to Wednesday), 3:30 7:30 p.m. (Friday). The show is closed on Thursday.

Nazrul rediscovered

Bangla Academy observed death anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam

HARUN UR RASHID

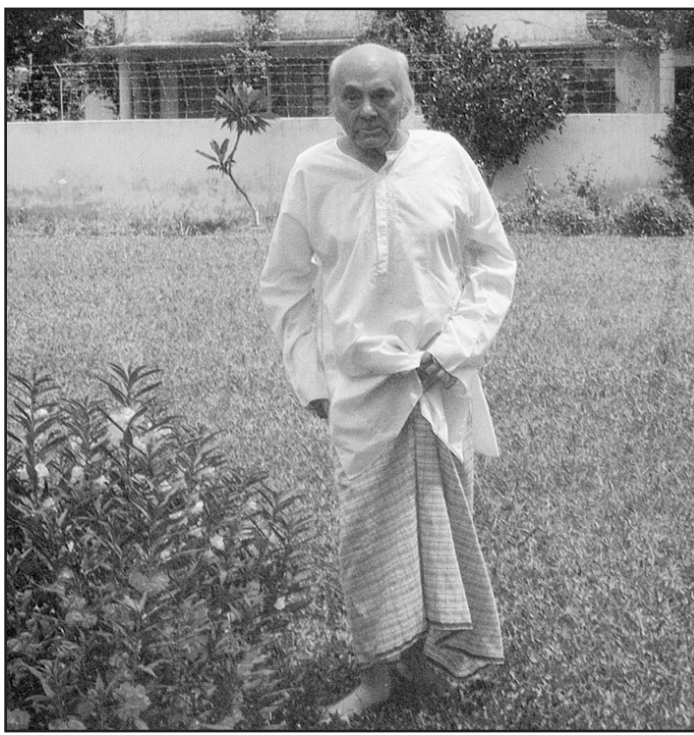
Research work has recently revealed a hitherto undiscovered persona of the National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. At a seminar, commemorating the poet's 26th death anniversary on August 27 (Bhadra 12, 1409), speakers discussed Nazrul's accomplishment as an editor. Organised by Bangla Academy, the seminar was presided over by the eminent litterateur and Nazrul-scholar Alauddin Al Azad, while Dr. Laila Zaman, professor of Bangla, Chittagong University, presented a dissertation paper on the topic 'Nazrul: the Editor'.

Kazi Nazrul Islam's reputation as one of the most important and influential literary figures, especially as a poet, in the history of Bangla literature is well established. His songs have also earned eternal seat of appreciation in the hearts of music lovers. But Nazrul as an editor of no less than three magazines has as yet remained undiscussed and untested. Professor Abul Monsur M. Abu Musa, Director General, Bangla Academy, said that everyone knew the fact that Nazrul edited magazines, namely, Nabayug, Dhumketu, and Langol. 'But the genius has

never been judged of his merit as an editor', he added.

Laila informed that, although the poet spent a brief span of six years, from 1920 to 1926, as an editor, the period, like the other phases of his life, was full of events. Nazrul's first edited magazine Nabayug attracted both appreciation and adverse critics. Particularly, the British colonial rulers took it very much with suspicion, which eventually gave way to bans and seizure of the magazine at various times. For Nazrul never bowed to the Imperial rulers from Britain, and prolifically published articles--especially essays and poems--written by himself and others in his evening-daily magazine.

Significance of Nabayug lies in the very name, which means 'a new era'. The magazine literally initiated novelty in several areas: first, instead of Arabic and Persian words in the names of magazines, a previously followed trend, Nabayug initiated the tradition of Bangla names for them. Secondly, the magazine popularised the idea of 'headline' of news through Nazrul's application of an inherent wit and humour, sarcasm and satire. The greatest contribution of



An elderly Nazrul takes a walk along a garden path

Nazrul's next edited magazine Dhumketu was its unequivocal, simple but resolute claim for independence of India for the first time in print. And to this aim, Nazrul mentioned the necessity of revolution in an editorial. Researcher Laila Zaman quoted Nazrul-biographer Rafiqul Islam: '... Dhumketu was the manifesto of the struggle for independence of the undivided India in the '20s of the 20th century.'

Nazrul's last edited magazine was named Langol that saw its inception on December 16, 1925. The magazine was declared 'a weekly manifesto of the labourers, citizens and independent governance'. The magazine continued up to its fifteenth issue on April 15, 1926. Laila pointed out that probably Langol first published translations of Karl Marx, V. E. Lenin, and articles related to socialism and class struggle.

Dr. Sonia Nishad Amin, Professor of History, Dhaka University, Professor Nazma Begum, former Head of the Department of Bangla, Government Titumir College, and litterateur Zubaida Gulshan Ara also

attended the seminar and spoke on Laila's essay. Dr. Amin mentioned a very important aspect of Nazrul's editorship that had not been focused in the research paper: Nazrul's support to feminist writings, which was 'next to impossible in those days'. Nazma Begum demonstrated the consequential link between 'Nazrul the Rebel' and 'Nazrul the Editor'. Gulshan Ara proposed a comparative study of the three magazines with other contemporary magazines.

Novelist Alauddin Al Azad said that the research essay focused on what Nazrul published as an editor, but it would be more effective if it had concentrated more on how Nazrul did all that. Azad remarked those findings about Nazrul's organising capacity, as an editor, would be more helpful to understand and evaluate him in his newly discovered role.

Although the research was conducted for a primary purpose, the seminar was surely successful in its aim to mark the beginning of a new area of research-orientated work on Kazi Nazrul Islam.

TV GUIDE

Table with TV channel listings for BTV, ATN, and Channel-i, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for STAR PLUS, STAR GOLD, STAR MOVIES, and STAR WORLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for CHOCOLAT, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for PICK OF THE DAY, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for ZEE CINEMA, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for ZEE TV, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for ZEE MUSIC, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for ZEE ENGLISH, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.

Table with TV channel listings for ANIMAL PLANET, STAR MOVIES, and STAR GOLD, including program names and times.