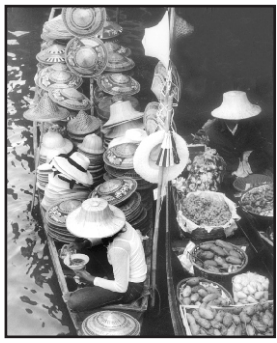


## RECOMMENDATIONS



## Thailand through my eyes

**March 01**  
Bengal Gallery of Fine arts will hold a photography exhibition by Dr Rashid Un Nabi titled, 'Thiland through my eyes' on March 01 at 6:30p.m. The exhibition will continue everyday from 12-8p.m. till March 10 (Closed on public holidays).

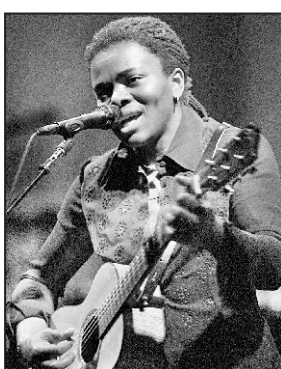
## Exhibition

**February 28 - March 9**  
A solo exhibition by artist Tahera Khanom will start at the Gallery Chitrak on February 28 at 5:30p.m. The exhibition will continue everyday from 10a.m. - 8p.m. till March 9.

## Mobile art exhibition

**February 26 - March 2**  
Bangladesh Shipakala Academy in co-operation with The British School has organised a 5 day long mobile art exhibition, which will take place at The British School auditorium on February 26 at 11a.m.

## Music



US musician Tracy Chapman performs on stage of the Kongresshaus in Zurich on February 24.

## Award

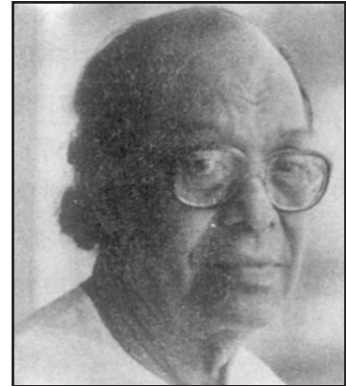
## The great get the laurel

*Swadesh Chinta Shangha declares Dr. Ahmad Sharif Memorial Award for 2000--2003*

HARUN UR RASHID

THE seven lived through the generation that saw off the British regime, the heart-breaking split of their beloved country into two, then three smaller ones, and the gradual erosion of patriotism, especially of those who rule.

One of them died only two weeks ago. The rest are all in their seventies and eighties.



Dr. Ahmad Sharif

And still they are as charged with inspiration and unflinching bending commitment to work for the cause of people just as they were in their youth. They command respect for the immense hardship they have undergone in waging a struggle for people all through their lives.

The seven are the recipients of Dr. Ahmad Sharif Memorial Awards for the years 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003. 'Swadesh Chinta Shangha,' a group late scholar Dr Ahmad Sharif founded, conferred the awards on them marking his fourth death anniversary.

They are 'Biplobi'



Biplobi Vinodbihari Chowdhury

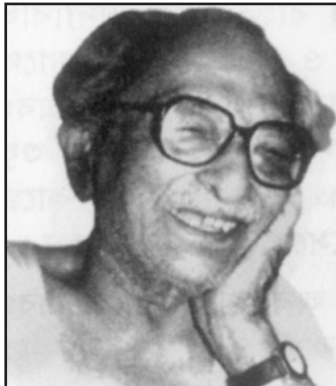
Vinodbihari Chowdhury, Comrade Amal Sen (posthumously), pioneer of women's movement Hena Das, thinker Santosh Gupta, thinker Sardar Fazlul Karim, Language Movement pioneer Abdul Matin, and thinker Vinod Dasgupta.

The ceremony took place at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) auditorium at Dhaka University premises, where Khalekuzzaman presented the Ahmad Sharif Memorial Speech 2003 themed 'Marxist politics and the leftist union.'

Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury handed out the awards as chief guest while Professor Abul Kashem Fazlul Haque presided over. The family of the late Dr. Sharif introduced memorial Award.

Among the recipients of the awards for the last four years, Comrade Amal Sen has been given the award posthumously as he died on January 17 this year.

Dr. Ahmad Sharif was one of Bangladesh's most illustrious scholars after Dinesh Chandra Sen, Sukumar Sen, Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah and Muhammad Enamul



Comrade Amal Sen

Haque. Ahmad Sharif's most magnanimous work was his research into the long neglected Bangla literature of the Middle Ages, also referred to as the Dark Ages.

He also compiled the archaic Bangla words from Abdul Karim Shahitya Bisharod's vast collection of Bangla ballads, their derivational lineage, meaning with spatio-temporal explanations, notes and usage. Having been completely secular all the way, Ahmad Sharif researched out the contribution of the Bangali Muslims in the Bangla literature of the Middle Ages.

Controversial to some though, he stood out as a philosopher who always looked at life from different windows. His inquisitiveness and revolutionary reasoning made him an uncompromising man of logic, be it about religion, politics or social customs. He never ceased to oppose the unscientific.

Ahmad Sharif, however, did not oppose just for the sake of opposing, Serjul Islam Chowdhury once wrote. It was rather Sharif's inherent uniqueness that made him



Women's pioneer Hena Das



Thinker Sardar Fazlul Karim

revolutionary.

He never accorded to any useless customs of the society. And he had the guts to smile back at death. He donated his dead body to a hospital for use in human welfare. A *Hafez* (scholar) in the Holy Qur'an now reportedly sees the world through Sharif's eyes, informed Khalekuzzaman in the memorial speech.

In his last days, Ahmad Sharif wished to unite the leftist parties in Bangladesh. Sharif was not a Marxist himself though, he had a strong faith in leftist politics. He believed that only communist socio-economic infrastructure could make a coun-



Thinker Santosh Gupta



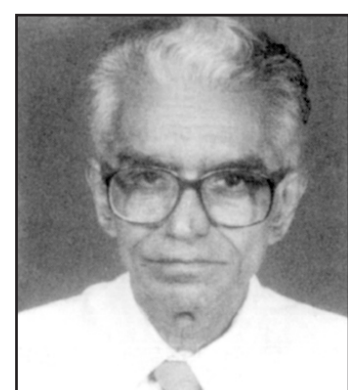
Language-fighter Abdul Matin

try independent and sovereign. So, just a few days before his death he arranged a meeting of all leaders of the leftist parties. Swadesh Chinta Shangha is the outcome of that meeting, which still sits regularly and discusses various subjects ranging from politics to economics to literature and philosophy.

All the recipients were activists in all major movements in the subcontinent that shaped the history of the region. 'Biplobi' Vinodbihari Chowdhury was a companion to 'Masterda' Surya Sen in the historic capture of the Chittagong armour cache in April 1930. A major part of his

life he had to spend in jails for his political activities. He also participated in the 1952 Language Movement.

Comrade Amal Sen came into limelight by forming farmers' movement in Egarokhan of Narail district in 1933. Later in 1946, he played the key role to build up the historic Tebhaga Movement in Narail. Till his death he remained a member of the central committee of the Sixth Congress of the



Thiker Vinod Dasgupta

United Workers' Party.

Hena Das is one of the very few talented female leaders the country has ever produced. In 1943, during the World War II and the famine of the Bengal, she formed an organisation for women's self-protection. During 1948-49 she organised women in the Nanka Movement. Hena Das was also a teacher, and she has been the Vice-president of the Bangladesh Teachers' Foundation since 1992.

Santosh Gupta's house in Barisal was always a safe refuge for underground communist activists. He spent a large part of his life

behind the bars. In 1971 he worked as the Assistant Editor to the Information Department of the exiled Government of Bangladesh.

Sardar Fazlul Karim was elected a member of the People's Congress of Pakistan in 1955 while he was in prison. From 1963 to 1971 he worked for the Department of Translation and Culture of the Bangla Academy.

Language Movement activist Abdul Matin formed the Dhaka University State-language Movement Committee in 1950. For leading the movement in January/February 1952, he was arrested on March 7 that year. Abdul Matin has authored some of the most authentic books on the Language Movement.

Vinod Dasgupta was arrested for his leftist political connections more than once. But he continued his education and political activities. He is also one of the country's eminent journalists. He remained an Assistant Editor to the daily *Bangladesh Times* until he was forced to retire through 'golden handshake' in 1990.

These great personalities who have finally been honoured by the Swadesh Chinta Shangha ceremoniously should have received state recognition much earlier. For, they represent a golden generation who sacrificed and suffered to see the nation breathe freely. A country is always in wait for such patriotic offspring as these seven have been.

## TV GUIDE

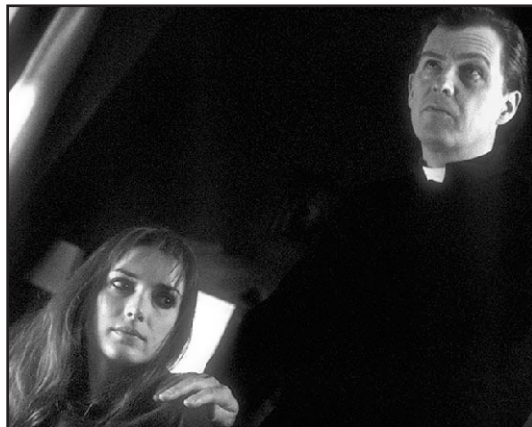
## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



**STAR MOVIES:** 12.15 p.m. **Rambo: First Blood Part II.** John Rambo is removed from prison by his former superior, Colonel Samuel Troutman, for a top-secret operation to bring back POWs still held in Vietnam. Rambo's assignment is to only take pictures of where the POWs are being held, but Rambo wants to get the POWs out of Vietnam. Teamed up with female Vietnamese freedom fighter Co Bao, Rambo embarks on a mission to rescue the POWs, who are being held by sadistic Vietnamese Captain Vinh and his Russian comrade, Lieutenant Colonel Padovsky.

**HBO:** 8.15 p.m. **A Simple Wish.** Murray is a male fairy godmother, and he is trying to help 8-year-old Anabel to fulfill her 'simple wish' - that her father Oliver, who is a cab driver, would win the leading role in a Broadway musical. Unfortunately, Murray's magic wand is broken and the fairies convention is threatened by evil witches Claudia and Boots.

## PICK OF THE DAY



## Lost Souls

On HBO at 10.00 p.m.

A small group of Catholics led by an ailing priest believe that Satan intends to become man, just as God did in the person of Jesus. The writings of a possessed mental patient lead them to Peter Kelson, a writer who studies serial killers. They think it's his body Satan will occupy.

13:30	Hit Filmein Hit
14:00	Deewarein
14:30	Hum Hai Kal Aaj Kal
15:00	Milan
15:30	Yatra
15:55	Kya Film Kya Geet
16:30	Sea Hawks
17:30	Love Ke Liye Kuch
18:30	Bhi Carega
19:30	Musafir Hoon Yaaron
20:00	Aaj Ki Baat 1000 Series
00:05	Kichdi
00:30	Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr
01:00	Tu Tu Main Main

6:30	Zee Music Box
7:30	Taaza Maal
8:30	Dil Se
9:00	Sizzlers
9:30	Hit Pe Hit
10:30	Hit Mix
10:45	Tvc Skyshop
11:00	Taaza Maal
12:00	Pop Re Pop New
12:30	Tele Brands
1:00	Hit Pe Hit (B)
2:00	Jharokha
2:15	Tvc Skyshop
2:30	Tara Rum
3:30	Hit Mix
3:45	Tvc Skyshop
4:00	Zee Music Box (b)
5:00	Pop Re Pop New
5:30	Hit Mix
5:45	Tvc Skyshop
6:00	Dil Se

6:30	World Spirituals
6:30	Bhakti Bhav
7:00	Life in The World-Good News
7:30	Jagran
8:00	Bhagwat Katha
8:30	Manav Dharam
9:00	Cartoon On Zee
9:30	Cartoon on Zee
10:30	Ghar Jamai
11:00	Mr. Gayab
12:00	Countdown Show
12:30	Love Story
1:30	Saturday Suspense
3:00	Bombay To Goa
6:30	Cartoon On Zee
7:00	Cartoon On Zee
8:00	Thursday Premier
Trailors	
8:30	Simply Shekhar
9:00	Albela
12:00	Zee & You

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10:30	[V] Back To Back
11:00	[V] Saturday Stack
11:30	[V] Zabardast Hits
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16:30	[V] Saturday Stack
17:00	[V] Weekend Spl
18:00	[V] Zabardast Hits
18:30	[V] Back To Back
19:00	[V] Special Program
22:00	Club [V]
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16:00	Ng Explorer
17:00	Nick's Quest
17:30	Bear Attack
18:00	Tomorrow's World
18:30	Earth Pulse
19:00	Bringing Home The Bears
20:00	Bringing Home The Bears II From Russia With Love
21:00	Secret China S2
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22:30	Nulla Pambo The Good Snake
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ADVENTURE ONE	
(30 minute +)	
05:30	Explorer's Journal
06:30	Surfer's Journal
07:00	Shiver
07:30	Pioneers Of The De
08:30	Danger Diaries
09:30	Firefight
10:30	Explorer
11:30	Explorer's Journal
12:30	Surfer's Journal
13:00	Shiver
13:30	Pioneers Of The De
14:30	Danger Diaries
15:30	Shiver
16:00	Pioneers To The De
17:00	Danger Diaries
18:00	The Abyss
19:00	Explorer