

RECOMMENDATIONS

Anniversary

June 18
June 18 is the first death anniversary of Neelima Ibrahim, one of the country's pioneer female educationists, litterateur and social activist. Neelima Ibrahim Bangladesh Study Centre will observe the occasion with several activities. A discussion and a launching ceremony of a book titled Neelima Ibrahim Smarak Grantho (Neelima Ibrahim Memorial Book) will be held at the VIP Lounge of the National Press Club. Nurjahan Begum, editor of the well-known magazine for women Begum will attend the event as the chief guest. The programme will start at 4.30 p.m.

Exhibition

June 06-16
A photography exhibition titled 'Cityscape' is being held at the Shilparag gallery (House 15, Road 16, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1209) from June 6. The exhibition will continue till June 16.

June 6-19
A painting exhibition of Rashid Amin titled 'Happenings' is going on at the German Cultural Centre, Goethe Institut Dhaka from June 6th to 19th, from 2-8 pm.

June 14-24
Dhaka Shahititya Sanskriti Kendra is holding the 6th calligraphy exhibition at the National Museum gallery on the occasion of Holy Siratunnabi (Sm.). The exhibiton presents works of 42 artists. The exhibition is open for visitors everyday from 10 am to 5 pm.

Theatre

June 27-30
To mark the fourth Biannual Conference of Shattwik Natitya Somprody, the theatre group arranges a drama festival at the Shawkat Osman auditorium of Begum Sufia Kamal Library. Entitled Moliere Drama Festival, the festival features staging of Moliere's drama by four reputed theatre groups of Dhaka. Besides, a seminar titled Moliere's Drama in Bangladesh will also take place during the 4-day long conference of Shattwik.

Personality

The Genius of Mustafa Monowar

The mentor of a generation of budding artistes.

NASHID KAMAL

WE had been rehearsing for more than three weeks before we boarded the chartered plane for Zambia. Those



Mustafa Monowar--a rare manifestation of multifaceted persona.

three weeks had resulted in creating new dimensions in the history of dance in Bangladesh. Mustafa

pose, he asked her to lift the other leg! Nipa had asked whether Jewel Aich was going to join in, as she herself knew of no other dance technique other than 'magic' which would enable her to attain a floating position. These jokes and many more were propagated by other dancers. Sometimes when I joined

part of a cultural entourage. He was a hard task master, he was very dedicated in his pursuits to attain perfection, specially in the dance items which were the apple of his eye. I was going to be the compere of this programme and having known me and having groomed me from my childhood, he weaved the

ever, we looked forward to the grandeur of the palace or National theatre where the programme was to be held the next afternoon. Next morning, we were to be taken to the premises where the Zambian government wanted us to host our cultural programme. As the microbus full of participants entered the well guarded palace, one had

gardens we half expected to see some amphitheatre where the show would be held. The hosts brought us to this open air place where there was an elevated stage of grass and told us that the programme would be held there! There was no backdrop (apart from the azure sky with floating white clouds), no green-room, and no sound system. The cackling of the peacocks and the playful mirth of the deers would be the only background music for our compact programme! We were all at a loss, specially me because I needed to change my sari four times during the show and appear back into the stage in the minimum possible time.

Montu Chacha assured us that he would think of something and he asked them for some kind of a screen which would shield us from the audience. They brought in a huge canvas which was completely barren and told us to change our clothes behind this screen. We had

The weather was like the Bangladeshi winter and amidst miles and miles of lush green grass we were greeted by everfriendly peacocks and deer, who came peeking into the car windows as if they were receiving us. As the car sauntered through the gardens we half expected to see some amphitheatre where the show would be held. The hosts brought us to this open air place where there was an elevated stage of grass and told us that the programme would be held there!

in the rehearsals from my busy class schedules in the Dhaka University, where I worked, I was flabbergasted by the prickly wounds arising from these comments of other fellow artists. They referred to Mustafa

entire programme around my abilities to speak, recite, sing and join in the dance. As an anchor of the programme he set me up in such a manner that I would speak of Bangladesh and demonstrate the effect of rain with the song (slight excerpt) *Allah Megh De, Pani De* when the dancers would fill the stage with the entire version of this dance and the song would be played in the background. I had to change my sari four times to match the moods of various seasons, colours like green for serenity, yellow to match spring, red to denote fiery summer and lastly white to denote peace. Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda was particularly lauded for his role of peace and our cultural presentation ended with a poem in English while the dancers would flock in behind me, all attired in white, carrying banners of peace and joining in silent mime as I recited the entire poem. It was a very compact programme and only Mustafa Monowar knew how to bring out the best in everyone and assemble an appropriate combination.

When we landed in Zambia, it was 2 am and we were very disappointed with the local hospitality, because the hotel rooms were dismal and no food was available even from the room service. How-

the feeling that we were entering a safari park. It was the month of June and the weather was in the twenties



The cultural entourage comprising eminent dancers, singers and musicians in a jovial mood, all set for the tour to Zambia.

like the Bangladeshi winter and amidst miles and miles of lush green grass we were greeted by everfriendly peacocks and deer, who came peeking into the car windows as if they were receiving us. As the car sauntered through the

two more hours to go for the show. Montu Chacha asked for some coloured chalk and he set to task. He just poured his entire concentration into this five feet by eight feet screen and in two hours of rigorous labour turned the entire screen into



Puppetry, a previously neglected folk-art, has attained enormous heights of popularity with the Midas touch of Mustafa Monowar.

a beautiful African scenery. It was unbelievable how he captured the Zambian landscape in a few seconds, the same seconds in which we had hardly looked around to realize that so many elements existed in the surrounding. Starting from the wide array of colours displayed by the healthy peacocks to the minutest details of bumle bees sitting in the particular species of ferns in the gardens of Zambia, he had it all in his painting! During the cultural show, we actually went behind it to change our clothes and make a success of our complete programme originally meant for an indoor presentation. Keeneth Kaunda came to greet us on stage and actually told me 'Oh You are so small and on stage you look so big!' I felt that I was able to stand tall because of the way Mustafa Monowar had construed the garland of cultural items, each sparkling in its own content yet complete in unification.

As I see various write ups on Mustafa Monowar, sometimes as a puppeteer, sometimes as a drama director, sometimes as an artist or designer of *Notun Kuri*, I wonder whether we have actually captured all his qualities to represent the true persona. Mustafa Monowar is one of those rare persons who can recognize a ring on Ferdausi Rahman's finger and choose it to be

one on the Raja of Tagore's 'Rokto korobi'. He can sing his father's (Poet Ghulam Mustafa) songs 'Ogo Madina Monowara' and just bask in the glory by saying 'Evu can you imagine a desert being compared with a lush green garden?'

Morubhumi nou ko tumi Tumije gul bagicha
He's the one who can sing Talat Mahmud's ghazals and also draw pencil sketches in the children's programme. But above all, I feel, that his contribution to this society has been in creating the new generation of artists. He has been able to nurture many of us from our childhood days during the inception of TV in 1964, and not only implant the seeds of art in us but also cultivate it enough to see us bloom to his fullest satisfaction. Sample names like Nima Raman, Shimul Billah, Kashfia Nahreen, Faridur Reza Sagar, Ali Imam, Rita Shabnam, Dilshad Khanam, Al Monsoor and my own humble self are all his creations. Mustafa Monowar alias, my Montu Chacha, is not only an artist himself but is also a creator of what can be termed as the post independence cultural cadre.

The author is a renowned vocal artiste, compere and Professor of Population-Environment, Independent University, Bangladesh.

TV GUIDE

<p>All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the</p> <p>BTV</p> <p>12:00 Opening Announcement</p> <p>12:10 News Headlines</p> <p>12:15 Shubhechha Nin</p> <p>12:30 Shangbadpotrer Pata Theke</p> <p>12:40 Shasthya Tathya</p> <p>1:00 News</p> <p>1:05 Ei Dhaka Shei Dhaka</p> <p>1:30 Shapto Shur</p> <p>2:00 News Headlines</p> <p>2:05 Cartoon Film</p> <p>2:30 Amader Ranna</p> <p>3:00 News In English</p> <p>3:05 Alor Shatodal</p> <p>3:35 Shukhi Paribar</p> <p>4:00 News Headlines</p> <p>4:05 Banshori</p> <p>4:30 Shotorupa</p> <p>5:00 News</p> <p>5:05 National Television Debate Competition</p> <p>5:45 News For Children</p> <p>6:00 News Desh Janapad</p> <p>6:10 Geetanjali</p> <p>6:35 Programme of Chittagong Centre</p> <p>7:00 News Headlines</p> <p>Share Market</p> <p>Weather Forecast</p> <p>Mati O Manush</p> <p>7:30 Shataful Futte Dao</p> <p>8:00 News At Eight (Bangla)</p> <p>8:30 Amader Chhoto Nadi</p> <p>9:00 Drama: Baje Na Banshi</p> <p>10:00 News At Ten</p> <p>10:25 Weather Forecast</p> <p>10:30 News Reporting</p> <p>10:35 The X-Files</p> <p>11:30 Late Night News/News Headlines</p> <p>CHANNEL-i</p> <p>07:15 Prothom Sur</p> <p>10:00 Music Plus</p> <p>10:40 Drama Serial:Khoda Buxer Haat</p> <p>11:30 Your Choice Ole Ole</p> <p>12:00 Tara O' Sampa Reza</p> <p>12:40 Drama Serial: Jibon Chhabi</p> <p>2:00 Bangla Feature Film: Atmyo Ohanker</p> <p>5:35 Jonopoder Khabor</p> <p>5:45 Nilajona</p> <p>6:10 Music Plus</p> <p>6:45 Banijya O Othoniti</p> <p>7:15 Channel-i News</p> <p>7:45 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Q)</p> <p>7:55 Unnnyan Manusher Janya</p> <p>9:00 Channel-i News</p> <p>9:31 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (R)</p> <p>9:35 Mega</p>	<p>ATN BANGLA</p> <p>6:00 Islamic prog:</p> <p>8:00 ATN Bangla News</p> <p>8:25 Irani Serial</p> <p>Dubbed in</p> <p>Bangla: Ibne Cina</p> <p>9:00 Drama serial: Sarojan</p> <p>9:35 Sports Magazine: Stedium</p> <p>10:10 News</p> <p>English Serial</p> <p>Dubbed in</p> <p>Bangla: Secret Woman</p> <p>12:00 ATN Bangla News</p> <p>12:20 The Daily Newspaper</p> <p>Discussing Prog: Ajker</p> <p>Sangbadpotro</p> <p>12:40 Musical prog: ATN Music</p> <p>1:20 Bengali Feature Film : Asadharon</p> <p>4:20 New Singer</p> <p>Competition Prog: Nabin Boran</p> <p>4:50 The Daily Newspaper</p> <p>Discussing Prog: Ajker</p> <p>Sangbadpotro</p> <p>5:00 Gram Gonger</p> <p>Sangbad</p> <p>5:50 Musical prog: Uro</p> <p>Cola Saat Rang</p> <p>6:25 Islamic prog: Islamee Sawal O Jawab</p> <p>7:00 ATN Bangla</p> <p>Evening News</p> <p>7:30 Musical prog: Surer Madure</p> <p>English Serial</p> <p>Dubbed in</p> <p>Bangle: The Adventure Of Sinbad</p> <p>8:40 Musical prog: Tale</p> <p>Tale Gane Gane</p> <p>9:00 ATN Bangla News</p> <p>Drama Serial:</p> <p>10:00 ATN Bangla News</p> <p>10:30 Special Talk Show : Somokalin Bisswo</p> <p>11:00 ATN Bangla News</p> <p>12:00 Bengali Feature Film: Premik</p> <p>ZEE TV</p> <p>9:00 Yoga for Life & Zee Gym</p> <p>9:50 Jagran</p> <p>10:20 Count Down</p>	<p>10:50 Cartoon Network on Zee</p> <p>11:00 Urja</p> <p>12:30 Sa Re Ga Ma Pa</p> <p>1:00 Gubbare</p> <p>2:00 Simply Shekhar</p> <p>2:30 Khana Khazana</p> <p>3:00 Cinema Hits : Indrajeet (Amitabh Bachchan, Neelam)</p> <p>6:00 Ek Nazar</p> <p>6:30 Cartoon Network On Zee</p> <p>7:30 X-Zone</p> <p>8:30 Sansui</p> <p>9:30 Antakshari</p> <p>Alvida Darling</p> <p>10:00 Count Down</p> <p>10:30 Suspense Hour</p> <p>11:30 Rishtey</p> <p>HBO</p> <p>6:30 The Ticket</p> <p>8:15 Lawrence of Arabia</p> <p>12:30 Box Office</p> <p>America Ep. 02</p> <p>Piranha II : The Spawning</p> <p>3:00 Rush Hour</p> <p>5:00 Higher Learning</p> <p>7:30 Desperate Measures</p> <p>9:30 The Mothman Prophecies</p> <p>12:00 The Frighteners</p> <p>2:15 Lawrence of Arabia</p> <p>AXN</p> <p>6:30 The Right Stuff</p> <p>7:00 Relic Hunter: All Choked Up</p> <p>8:30 The Amazing Race</p> <p>9:30 Guinness World Records:</p> <p>Primetime</p> <p>10:30 Ripley's Believe It Or Not!</p> <p>11:30 Fear Factor</p> <p>12:30 Movie: Clear and Present Danger</p> <p>3:30 Movie: Fortress 2</p> <p>: Re-Entry</p> <p>5:30 Rated X</p> <p>6:00 Rescue</p> <p>7:30 CSI Crime Scene</p> <p>Investigation High and Low</p> <p>8:30 AXN Action</p> <p>Theatre Premiere</p> <p>Movie : The Presidio</p>	<p>TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p>WORLD SUBMERLAND</p> <p>ERIC THAL</p> <p>THE PUPPET MASTERS</p> <p>JAY AUSTIN</p> <p>PRESIDIO</p> <p>STAR MOVIES: at 08:30 p.m. The Puppet Masters. Strange aliens land in the Midwest, taking over people's minds in order to spread their dominion. Sam Nivens (Eric Thal) and Andrew Nivens (Donald Sutherland), aided by Mary Sefton (Julie Warner), are part of a government agency who must stop the the aliens before the aliens get to them.When a flying saucer reportedly lands in rural Iowa, The Old Man decides to investigate.</p> <p>AXN 8:30 p.m. The Presidio. Jay Austin is now a civilian police detective. Colonel Caldwell was his commanding officer years before when he left the military police over a disagreement over the handling of a drunk driver. Now a series of murders that cross jurisdictions force them to work together again. That Austin is now dating Caldwell's daughter</p>	<p>PICK OF THE DAY</p> <p>Mothman Prophecies</p> <p>On HBO at 09:30 p.m.</p> <p>When John Klein, a Washington Post journalist, and his wife Mary finally find the house of their dreams, they just can't believe their luck. On the way back from the bargain, Mary nearly runs over a caped, winged figure, jerks the wheel and skids into the sidewalk. She hits her head badly, and dies in the hospital a little later. John, completely devastated, soon finds some sketches his wife made after the</p>	<p>lights(R)</p> <p>1:30 Asian 9-Ball Tour</p> <p>San Miguel Asian</p> <p>9-Ball Tour Manila</p> <p>Philippines</p> <p>Quarterfinal #4(R)</p> <p>2:30 Formula One</p> <p>Qualifying 2003</p> <p>Formula One Sat</p> <p>Qualifying Montreal</p> <p>Canada Grand Prix</p> <p>Air</p> <p>3:30 Wimbledon Library</p> <p>Films Wimbledon</p> <p>Official Film 1998 (T)</p> <p>4:30 Fim World Motorcycle Championship</p> <p>Motogp World</p> <p>Championship</p> <p>2003 Cataluny</p> <p>Spain</p> <p>7:00 Gillette World</p> <p>Sports Special</p> <p>Gillette World</p> <p>Sports (R)</p> <p>Spanish Football</p> <p>League 2002/03</p> <p>Spanish Football</p> <p>League (R)</p> <p>9:30 Hitz (T)</p> <p>10:00 Race Day</p> <p>Montrea</p> <p>Canada Grand Prix</p> <p>Air Canada(L)</p> <p>10:45 Formula One 2003</p> <p>Formula One World</p> <p>Championship</p> <p>Montreal Canada</p> <p>Grand Prix Air</p> <p>TARA BANGLA</p> <p>7:00 Tara Aloy</p> <p>7:30 Jalshaghar</p> <p>8:30 Tara News</p> <p>9:30 Tara News Bangladesh</p> <p>11:30 Tara News</p> <p>SONY</p> <p>7:30 Sant Asaram War</p> <p>8:00 Shri Krishna</p> <p>9:00 Shree Ganesh</p> <p>10:00 Mahabharat Kath</p> <p>10:30 Kuch Kehti Hal Ye</p> <p>11:00 Cadburys</p> <p>11:30 Honey I Shrunk The Kids</p> <p>12:30 Kya Hadsaa Kya</p> <p>Haqueeqat</p> <p>1:30 Sunday Matinee: Asva</p> <p>4:00 Star Yaar Kalakar</p> <p>88</p> <p>5:00 Harmony</p> <p>5:30 Chartisters</p>	<p>6:00 Music Mantra</p> <p>7:30 Haal Kaisa Hal Ja</p> <p>8:00 Meri Biwi</p> <p>8:30 Kya Hadsaa Kya</p> <p>Haqueeqat</p> <p>10:00 Sunday Prime : Shool</p> <p>SET MAX</p> <p>8:30 Harmony</p> <p>9:00 Hotlist</p> <p>10:30 Ek Chadar Mali Si</p> <p>1:00 Biographies</p> <p>1:30 Samsung IIFA Awards 2003</p> <p>7:30 Mili</p> <p>9:00 Current Bollywood</p> <p>10:30 Mera Movie</p> <p>1:00 Hotlist</p> <p>ZEE CINEMA</p> <p>7:30 Baiju Bawra</p> <p>(Bharat Bhushan, Meena Kumari)</p> <p>10:30 Hum Tum Pe Marte</p> <p>Hain (Govinda, Urmila)</p> <p>1:30 Double Mazaa</p> <p>:Sunny Deol : Betaab (Sunny Deol, Amrita Singh)</p> <p>5:30 Double Mazaa</p> <p>:Sunney Deol : Gadar-Ek Prem Katha (Sunny Deol, Amisha Patel)</p> <p>9:30 Love : Salman Khan, Revathi</p> <p>STAR GOLD</p> <p>7:00 Hit Filmein Hit</p> <p>Sangeet - 20 M</p> <p>7:30 Jesus</p> <p>10:55 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>11:00 Geet Gata Chal</p> <p>11:30 Kuch Yaadein Kuch</p> <p>Baatein</p> <p>11:55 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>12:00 Hit Filmein Hit</p> <p>Sangeet - 20 M</p> <p>12:25 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>12:30 Beethoven's 2nd - Hindi Dubbed</p> <p>3:00 Without Ticket</p> <p>3:25 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>6:55 Hello Brother</p> <p>7:00 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>7:25 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>Asoka - The Series</p>	<p>8:25 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>8:30 Coke [V] Popstars - 2</p> <p>9:30 Kambakht Ishq</p> <p>11:55 Kuch Hit Kuch</p> <p>Superhit</p> <p>12:00 Phagun</p> <p>STAR PLUS</p> <p>6:00 Mirch Masala</p> <p>7:00 Star Geetmala</p> <p>8:00 Dr Morepen Tango</p> <p>Sun</p> <p>8:25 Film Topper - 301</p> <p>Series</p> <p>8:30 Gurukul - Ancient</p> <p>Wisdom Of In</p> <p>9:30 Jai Mata Ki</p> <p>10:3 Yatra</p> <p>11:00 Samnewali Khidki</p> <p>11:30 Hai Na Bolo Bolo</p> <p>12:25 Film Topper - 301</p> <p>Series</p> <p>12:30 Chupa Rustam</p> <p>1:00 Musafir Hoon</p> <p>Yarron</p> <p>1:30 Mirch Masala</p> <p>2:00 Taaza Hits</p> <p>2:05 Hit Filmein Hit</p> <p>Sangeet - 20 M</p> <p>2:25 Jai Milap</p> <p>2:30 Hukumat</p> <p>6:00 Hit Filmein Hit</p> <p>Sangeet - 20 M</p> <p>6:25 Taaza Hits</p> <p>6:30 Fox Kids Sunday - 500 Series</p> <p>7:00 Mission Everest</p> <p>7:25 Film Topper - 301</p> <p>Series</p> <p>7:30 Sonpuri</p> <p>8:00 Jubilee Plus</p> <p>8:30 Coke [V] Popstars - 2</p> <p>9:30 Badal</p> <p>NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC</p> <p>6:00 Nick's Quest</p> <p>6:30 Dinner On The Diner</p> <p>7:30 Dinner On The Diner</p> <p>8:30 King Cobra</p> <p>9:30 On Assignment</p> <p>10:00 Tiger's Eye</p> <p>10:30 Mission Everest</p> <p>11:00 Nick's Quest</p> <p>11:30 Demolition Divers</p> <p>12:00 Wild Orphans</p> <p>12:30 Nat Geo Frontline</p> <p>Diaries</p> <p>1:30 Next Wave S2</p> <p>2:00 National Geo-</p>
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