

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

February 20-March 2

A sculpture exhibition by Ferdousy Priabhashini titled Aronner Dinratri is going on at the Shilpangan gallery. The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 9 pm.

February 16-March 1

The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts holds a solo exhibition of Monsur ul Karim. Venue: 275/F Rd. 27, Dhanmondi, Dhaka

February 18-28

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy holds a solo painting exhibition by Ryu, Kwang-il from the Republic of Korea at the National Art Gallery of the academy. The display will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm on weekdays and 3 pm to 7 pm on Friday.

February 23-March 2

Goethe Institut is holding a photographic exhibition titled A Mro Folk-belief: Utopia of a Pilgrim by Shameem Hasan at the institut's premises, beginning from February 23. The display will remain open from Sunday through Thursday, 2:00 pm-8:00 pm.

Photography

February 24-29

Aalok Group of Photographers is holding its annual photo exhibition for 2001 & 2002 at Drik Gallery in Dhanmondi. The exhibits feature a selection from the annual photo contest of the said years. The display remains open for all from 3 to 8 pm daily.

Award

Recognising contribution in Bangla literature

Muhammad Zafar Iqbal receives Sheltech Award 2003

NOVERA DEEPIA

AFTER receiving the Sheltech Award 2003, celebrated author and scientist Muhammad Zafar Iqbal said, 'I can never completely express my overwhelming feeling as I received this award. It is the same award received by great personalities like Shamsur Rahman, Kalim Sharafi, Qayyum Chowdhury, Feroza Begum and Rabeya Khatun in past years.'

Zafar Iqbal was handed over the award by the Chairman of Sheltech and the Managing Director of Square Group Tapan Chowdhury in a ceremonious programme arranged at the National Press Club on February 26.

Born in the year of the Language Movement, Zafar Iqbal was meritorious throughout his student life. He studied in Dhaka University and completed his Ph.D. from University of Washington. Later he worked as a scientist at California Institute of Technology and Bell Communication Research. His research area revolves around physics, computer, electronics and fibre optic communication. He designed one of the first Bangla word processors in 1984.

Basically a novelist, Zafar Iqbal writes chiefly for the children and adolescents. After spending eighteen long years in America, he came back home and joined the Shahjalal Science and Technology University.

His first book is *Copotronic Shukh Dukkho* published in 1976. Later he wrote many science fictions as well as other books both for



L-R: Tapan Chowdhury, Samuel S Chowdhury, Tawfiq M Seraj and Kutubuddin Ahmed handing the Sheltech Award 2003 to noted litterateur Muhammad Zafar Iqbal (M).

children and adults such as *Triton Ekti Groher Naam*, *Biggyani Safdar Alir Moha Moha Abishkar*, *Crugo*, *Pri*, *Neuron-e Onuranan*, *Bibarna Tushar*, *Dipu Number 2*, *T-Rex-er Shondhaney*, *Meku Kahini* and many more. He has written over 90 books so far. Zafar Iqbal has earned a permanent place as a science fiction writer in Bangla literature. In fact, Iqbal has popularised the genre in this region. He has received Kazi Mahibullah Award 2002 and Khalekddad Chowdhury Literature Award 1410 previously.

In his interesting and amusing speech, in relation of his recent appearance as an actor on televi-

sion, Zafar Iqbal said that he had received a good number of letters and e-mails from children saying, 'what have you done! Be careful don't do any such their as acting in the rest of your life.' He assured smilingly that he will never act in any media anymore.

About the youth of the country Zafar Iqbal is always very much optimistic. He said, 'The youth very much love the country and dream of a better tomorrow. They have interest in learning and have tremendous potential to do something positive. So, keep faith on them. They can build up this nation and the country.'

Sheltech introduced this yearly

award in 1998 in order to honour eminent cultural personalities. This particular award for Zafar Iqbal was a crest especially designed to denote Zafar Iqbal's subjects of writing—science. The crest depicted a blend of the past and present designs of telescope.

Among others Director of Sheltech Kutubuddin Ahmed, Vice Chairman of Square Group Samuel S Chowdhury, and Managing Director of Sheltech Dr. Tawfiq M Seraj also spoke on the occasion. Ayesha Khatun—mother of the author, Yasmeen Haque—his wife, and Yeshim—his daughter, were also present at the programme.

Theatre festi

Prokrity O Puran
Desh Natok Festival

Shampan Naiya

ERSHAD KAMOL

UTTORADHIKAR, the theatrical group from Chittagong will stage *Shampan Naiya* at the Public Library Auditorium today at 7:00 p.m. as part of the drama festival arranged by Desh Natok.

Preview:

Uttoradhiakar play *Shampan Naiya* by Aminur Rahman Mukul is a folk tale. The drama portrays the people living at the southeast coast of the country, whose life greatly depends upon the tides of the river Karnophuli. They coexist with multifold conflicts but are not tired of weaving dreams. Mosleuddin Shikdar directs the play. Aminur Rahman Mukul is the set designer and Nasiruddin is the light designer.



A scene from the play *Shampan Naiya*

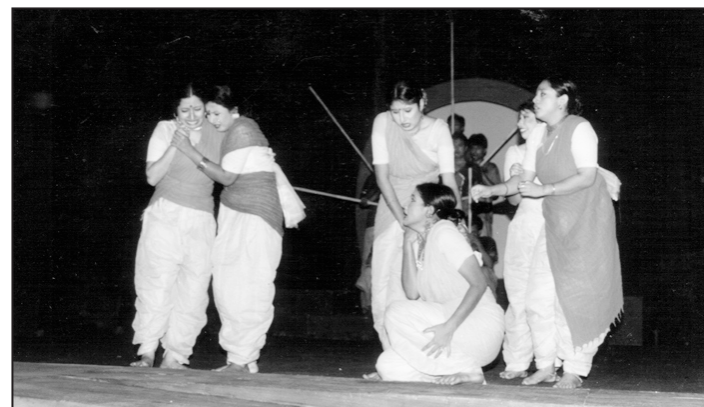
Kalshondhya: a classical play against the brutality of war

Nagorik Natyasamprodyha staged *Kalshondhya* on February 25 at the Public Library Auditorium as part of the drama festival arranged by Desh Natok.

Buddhadev Basu has adapted the play from 'Maushol' part of the epic *Mahabharata*. The legends of the play like Krishna, Arjun and others are not mere mythological characters.

Through the legends, the playwright has successfully portrayed a realistic picture of the chaotic world. Buddhadev's *Kalshondhya* is the natural-realistic play in which he has shown the inherent oppressive tendency of human being and the fall of the warlords as well. If we review the world's history, we see that the ancient superpowers like Egypt, Greece, Rome—all that once ruled over the world ultimately fell to destruction. The Dwarka City in the play *Kalshondhya* symbolically represents the chaotic world.

Director Khaled Khan has handled the theme of the play quite efficiently. He has effectively presented the vulgarity, war and the prophecy of the gods and god-



Kalshondhya--a play adapted from the *Mahabharata*

desses. His composition of war scenes and the comic scenes were artistic and enjoyable.

Rommyo Rahim's set is simple but can symbolically represent the theme of the play. The ash colour of the set conveys the chaotic as well as the sad environment successfully. He has used thrust in the proscenium stage.

Nasirul Haque Khokon has again

proved that he is the best light designer at present. His design could maintain all the requirements for a quality light design. Moreover, his colour effects on the cyclorama were excellent.

The teamwork of the performers was up to the mark. Rokeya Prachi as Shubhadra and Rajib Dey as Krishna played better than the others did.

Even

Dhaka Residential Model College observes Ekushey

AFSAR AHMED

The young pupils from class three to twelve of the prestigious institution, Dhaka Residential Model College, observed Amar Ekushey with tremendous enthusiasm and paid homage to the language martyrs of 1952. The principal of the college Prof. ABM Abdul Mannan Mia inaugurated the weeklong programme.

The students of the institution were divided into four age categories with exquisite names like *Ankur*, *Kisholoy*, *Pallob* and *Shatadal*. The five hostels competed according to the age groups in miscellaneous cultural genres. Poetry recitation, extempore speech, music, solo acting, story telling were some of the categorised competitions while group drama, arts and crafts, and wall magazine were open to all.

Satyendranath Dutt's *Khukir Baalish*, Asad Choudhury's *Ekusher Kobita*, Mohammad Moniruzzaman's *Ekusher Kobita* and Jibonananda Das' *Adbhut Adhaar Ek* were the selected Bangla poems for recitation. For English recitation, the contestants were given Ralph Waldo Emerson's *We Thank Thee*, Walt Whitman's *O Captain My Captain*, Charles Kingsley's



Renowned author Selina Hossain distributed prizes among the winners on the closing ceremony

The Night Bird and C Mackay's *Summer Rain*.

The day events were held at the *Batamul* (foot of the Banyan tree) in the college premises where a beautiful stage depicting the Shaheed Minar was built, while the evening programmes were held at the college auditorium. Dr Sayeda Khaled Jahan and Assistant Professor Ferdous Ara Begum were the convenors.

Channel cli

Faridi and Subarna in new roles

Quiz show Medhabi on ntv

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

Humayun Faridi's direction and Subarna Mustafa's presentation--what more is needed for a programme to be popular? And if it is a quiz show? Ntv starts airing such a programme named *Medhabi* from today. Popular actress Subarna Mustafa will host the show in the direction of Humayun Faridi.

Faridi, however, is a little anxious of how the audience will receive it. 'I tried my best to make the show attractive and the rest is on the audience.' But why has Faridi planned to direct a quiz show at all? 'There is no reason behind it. I love to watch quiz shows, and at the same time I love to make programme; so I tried to make such a show that would satisfy two of my liking' Faridi explains.

Quiz shows are immensely



Director Humayun Faridi in action while actress Subarna Mustafa is seen hosting one of the episodes of the quiz show *Medhabi*

popular around the world and no one can deny the importance of these as a medium of nurturing knowledge, especially for the youth. But in Bangladesh there have been no well-made programmes in this sector.

Is *Medhabi* influenced by the

popularity of *Cricket Cricket* of BTV? Faridi however does not think so. 'Nothing is like that because I am not the presenter of this programme', he says.

Every episode of the new weekly will feature meritorious students

from all over the country. Ntv received more than 16500 biographies in reply to its announcement to select the competitors for the programme, informs Faridi. Then a board of juries primarily selected 200 and 'in a final selection

we found out 64 participants for our programme', Faridi added.

Four participants will compete in every episode of the show and the winner will qualify for the next round. The quarterfinals will be held among the four winners from the first round. Thus through semifinals the finalists will be adjudged.

About her involvement as the presenter of this programme actress Subarna Mustafa says, 'I love working in different trends. The concept of the show and my faith on the standard of Faridi's work have made me interested to anchor the show. I hope people will find the style, arrangement, standard and the presentation of *Medhabi* totally different.'

The weekly show is scheduled for Sunday 9:50pm. Bangladesh time.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in

* News Bulletin

BTV

News Headlines(Bangla) at 9:40 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 p.m 3:10 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm. News(Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm. News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm.

Late Night News(Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i

Breakfast News 07:15 am. 9:00am

News(Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.

Telecast of BTV news(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News(Bangla) at 8:00 am. 12:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV News(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News(Bangla) at 09 a.m.10:00 a.m, 11:00 a.m.1pm. 2:00 pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm.and 8:00 pm.

ntv

News Headlines(Bangla) at 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm.

News (Bangla) 7:30 pm.10:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

NewsHeadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm.

Tara News(Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangla-desh(Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC World

Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL-i

09:45 *Tritiyo Matra*

12:00 *Chithi Pelam*

01:00 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*

02:00 Bangla Film: *Duniadari* (Alamgir, Rozina)

05:10 *Sa Re Ma Ga Ma*

05:45 *Sharif Malamine*

06:10 *Shangitmla*

06:45 *Music Plus*

07:50 *Gillette World Sports*

08:25 *Drama Serial: Chhera Pata*

08:25 *Vim Jhatpat*

09:35 *Ranna Chatpat*

09:35 *Poriskar*

09:35 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*

ntv

08:00 *Ajker Sakal*

08:30 *Manihar*

09:30 *Ei Shomoy*

10:02 *Hello Music*

10:30 *Dhakar Cinema*

02:30 *Ke Korbe Bajimat*

03:00 *Drama Serial: Ronger Manush*

03:30 *Music Express*

04:30 *Drama Serial: Aronyer Shukh Dukkho*

05:10 *Shongshkriti Ei Shoptaho*

05:40 *Alokapat*

06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*

08:00 *Drama Serial: Teen Porush*

09:10 *Tele Film: Niraloker Chand Dindarpan*

ATN BANGLA

10:15 *Annodristee*

10:50 *Drama serial: Sapno Copoth*

12:40 *Uro Cola Saat Rang*

1:20

Bengali feature film : Jareer

Pakeh

4:20 Shapla Shaluk

5:10 Sustha Thakun

7:40 Thunder Stone

8:15 Special prog :

8:50 Mega serial : Lal Neel Bagune

9:25 Drama serial :

Sapno Copoth

10:30 Chanchollakar Mamla

HBO

10:30

Jaws 2

1:00 Ben-Hur

5:00

Revenge of The Ninja

7:00 King Kong

9:30

Pay It Forward

12:00

Escape From Hellbound

(Hellraiser li)

STAR MOVIES

12:45

If Lucy Fell

2:15

The Ticket

2:45

The Rock

4:45

Hart's War

10:00

Road To Perdition

9:00

The Royal Tenenbaums

10:45

Hellraiser

12:30

STAR PLUS

2:30

Mirch Masala

3:00

Musafir Hoon Yaaron

3:30

Badal

6:30

Kya Baat Hail

7:00

Yatra

7:30

Khichdi

8:00

Jaaduu

8:30

Vikraal Aur Gabraal

9:30

Gharwali Uparwali

10:30

Khulja Sim Sim

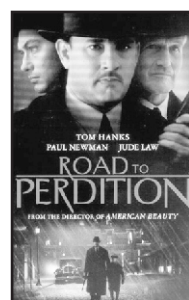
11:30

Mamla Gadbadi Hai

12:00

Kahani Jurm Ki

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR MOVIES:7:00 pm. Road to Perdition. Crime/Drama. Tom Hanks, Tyler Hoechlin, Rob Moxey, Paul Newman. Mike Sullivan works as a hit man for crime boss John Rooney. Sullivan views Rooney as a father figure. However after his son is witness to a killing he has done Mike Sullivan finds him self on the run trying to save the life of his son and at the same time looking for revenge on those who wronged him. Jude Law co stars as a hit man hired to kill Sullivan.

AXN: 4:00 pm. Deep Impact. Drama/ Sci-Fi /Thriller. Robert Duvall, Elijah Wood, Morgan Freeman. Young Leo Biederman joined his High School's Astronomy Club more to be with Sarah Hotchner than to look into the skies. One night, a field study takes place

STAR WORLD

2:00 Action Man

2:30 Monster Farm

3:00 X - Men

3:30 Kumars At 42

4:00 Cops

4:30 World's Wildest

Police Videos

5:30 The X Files

6:30 Xena:Warrior Princess

7:30

Tna Wrestling