

Dotta on celluloid

Another Sharat Chandra novel to hit the mini-screen

HARUN UR RASHID

ANOTHER popular novel of Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay (1876-1938), *Dotta*, has appeared on the celluloid. Two directors—AKM Firoz and Obydul Kabir—have made a telefilm on the novel. Scriptwritten by AKM Firoz and shot in betacam format, an edited version of the two-hour telefilm was premiered on September 3 at the Liberation War Museum.

Set in the early 20th century, *Dotta*, meaning 'betrotted', is a simple love-story of two youths, who are engaged since their infancy. The betrothal was planned by their parents. Zamindar Bonomali proposed to his friend Jagdish the marriage of his daughter Bijoya with the latter's son Naren. As the two children grew up, Bonomali took the responsibility of Naren's education and sent him to England to study medicine.

In course of time, as both the friends die, the betrothal remains unknown to Bijoya, although Naren is aware of it—he has the letter Bonomali wrote to his father.

In the meantime, Rasbihari, another friend of Bonomali who also knew about the betrothal, hides it from Bijoya. He plans to marry her off to his only son Bilash and thus grab all the wealth of her estate. So, after Naren's return, the avaricious Rasbihari presents him to Bijoya as poor and indebted.

However, Bijoya gets attracted to Naren gradually as she discovers his knowledge, kindness and simplicity. Finally, Bijoya comes to learn about the engagement and the two are wedded.

The making of the telefilm is quite appreciable, except for a few directorial flaws. For example, while the costumes of Bijoya, Bilash, Rasbihari and others reflect the early 20th century, that of Naren does not. His



Meem and Rubel in a scene from the telefilm *Dotta*

short shirts and suits bear more of present time styles. Again, a microscope has been used in one scene. However, the microscope had not yet attained such advancement at that time as has been shown in the film.

Two Nazrul songs—*Dur duipobashini* and *Khelichho e bishwa loye*—quite suit the scenes they are used in. But the playbacks are perhaps from some recorded cassettes: no names of playback singers are shown in the credit lines. Real performances by artists would have been more appreciable.

Produced by Dipshikha Films and shot at beautiful locations of Tikatuli, Kaliakoir and other places

of Dhaka, the telefilm will go on air on the death anniversary of novelist Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay in January.

Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay's literary works have always been favourite resources of the makers of films, telefilms and dramas. *Devdas* and other novels and stories of this immortal litterateur have been made on celluloid at different times in both West Bengal and Bangladesh. This new venture of Firoz-Kabir duo will surely enhance our film activities.

of Dhaka, the telefilm will go on air on the death anniversary of novelist Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay in January.

Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay's literary works have always been favourite resources of the makers of films, telefilms and dramas. *Devdas* and other novels and stories of this immortal litterateur have been made on celluloid at different times in both West Bengal and Bangladesh. This new venture of Firoz-Kabir duo will surely enhance our film activities.

An evening of classical music

AFSAR AHMED

SEPTEMBER 3 was a day to remember for music lovers. The cultural feast began with a riveting tabla performance by Prasun Chatterjee, disciple of legendary tabla player Alla Rakha. The function was organised by the Indian High Commission at its auditorium.

Prasun introduced the basic sounds of the tabla with consistency and clarity. His concentration was evident as he effortlessly moved into different speeds and maintained the rhythm with accuracy. The performance began with a *peshkar* in *Teental* comprising 16 beats. The *peshkar* was developed with style and rhythmic flair. The audience was absorbed during the remainder of the performance with the traditional *bols* like *kaida*, *gat*, *takra* and the *chakardars*.

Some rare compositions were played, adding an extra depth into his performance and bringing a personalised *mehfil* atmosphere to the auditorium of the High Commission.

The main attraction of the evening was however, the performance by Sarathi Chatterjee who has attained considerable maturity in the mode of Hindustani music. For Sarathi it has been music all the way. Born into a family of professional musicians, he is one of the foremost young vocalists of his generation in India. He has been trained in two *gharanas*—first in *Kirana* by his father Arun Chatterjee and later in *Benaras* by his gurus Rajan-Sajan Mishra, creating a unique style of his own. But his traditional treatment of ragas has won acclaim for not diluting the purity by even a fraction'. Adds Sarathi, 'Hindustani



Sarathi Chatterjee (C) performs to a respective crowd

classical music is incredibly malleable.'

'Bangladeshi people have a musical orientation', continued Sarathi, 'It is nice to be able to speak in Bangla after a long time.' As evening rolled on he began with a *Kheyal* in raga *Maru Behag* which is a combination of two ragas, *Behag* and *Kalyan*. His rendition of the raga combined sublime spiritual expression with outstanding technical virtuosity. The performance began with a short *alap*, in which characteristic phrases of the particular raga were presented in a slow deliberate manner, outlining the romantic mood of *Maru Behag*. The journey through the many movements of this raga was a unique treat. The

bandish in *Ektal* and *Teental*, followed by the medium to fast-paced composition, was quite memorable. Traditional *sargam*, *tan*, and *tarana* in faster *Ektal* were well rendered.

His melodious voice perfectly suited to display his flair for singing *Khambaj dadra*. He ended with the song *Jarey jarey kagna*. The performance spanned about two hours.

The audience included several eminent singers such as Mutafa Zaman Abbasi, Khalid Husain, Azad Rahman, Shahin Samad and others. The concert, characterised by depth of expression and purity of tone, was mesmerising for the music lovers.

TV series on 'hard to reach children' soon

NOVERA DEEPIITA

The shooting of a new 26-episode drama serial, *Shukno phul rangin phul*, is on in full swing. Under the banner of Enliten Entertainment, the serial has been written by celebrated author Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and directed by popular actor Abul Hayat. This drama, funded by the UNICEF, is a mass awareness and education-based venture dedicated to the

hard to reach working children.

More than 100 top artists, such as Abul Hayat, Aupee Karim, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Najma Anwar, Sharmili Ahmed, Monir Khan Shimul, Tanima Ahmed, Pijush Bandyopadhyaya, Shamima Naznin, Masum Aziz, Rumana, Dr Izaz and 20 under privileged children, are working in this drama. The shooting is in progress in different locations like Uttara and Gazipur. The latter is the most common shooting spot for

popular dramas such as *Ronger Manush*.

The storyline of the drama is about a young girl (played by Aupee Karim), who wants to do something for the deprived children. As a result she joins a school for such children. But naturally she faces several difficulties in the course of her struggle. Her father (Abul Hayat), and her beloved (Monir Khan Shimul), who is a doctor, give her the support she needs to carry on

with hereffort.

One of the leading roles of the drama and the owner of the production house Enliten Entertainment, Monir Khan Shimul said, 'Illiteracy is the basic problem of Bangladesh. We are trying to do something effective for our country by eliminating it through entertainment.'

This all star-cast drama will be seen on BTv soon after the Eid-ul-Fitr this year.

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Art
Title: The Path Within
Artist: Nasreen Begum
Venue: Bengal Gallery of fine arts, 275/F, road 27, Dhanmondi.
Time: September 01-15, From 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Title: Urban Sight
Artist: Kazi Salahuddin Ahmed
Venue: La Gallerie, Alliance Francaise, 26, Mipur Road
Time: September 03-20, From 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm and on Saturdays from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Photography
Occasion: The 64th Anniversary of World War II
Venue: Exhibition Hall, Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, road 7, Dhanmondi
Time: September 01-10, From 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Ceramic Works
Organiser: Clay Image
Venue: Zamil Gallery Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Time: September 01-07, From 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Music from the heart of Bangladesh



Bangladeshi and Indian artistes in a joint musical soiree

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Padatik of Bangladesh and Mitali of India jointly organised a cultural programme at Rabindra Shadan of Kolkata recently. With the title, *Bangladesher hriday hotey*, the

programme featured the monsoon songs of Tagore as well as the folk songs of Bangladesh.

To the rhythmic sound of raindrops, the show began with the chorus song rendered by the artistes of Mitali. Soon after the rendition, the

special guests including Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh Towhid Hossain, Tapan Bondyapadhyaya Director, Information and Culture Dept. of West Bengal, TK Sengupta and Anjan Sengupta of Mitali and Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury of

Padatik, delivered speeches. Prior to the programme, the artistes and the audience observed a minute's silence for the victims of the grenade attack in Dhaka.

In the first part of the programme five celebrated artistes of Bangladesh, Ifrat Ara Dewan, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Mita Haq, Nargis Chowdhury and Shushmita Ahmed performed twenty different Tagore songs like *Aji Tomay abar chai*, *Godhuli gagan mehe*, *Ami ki gaan gabo je* and *Badal diner pratham kadam phul*. Biplob Mondol in tabla, Babu in keyboard, Abhro Chattopadhyay in esraj accompanied the artistes. The performance of the Bangladeshi artistes were appreciated by the audience. Subir Mitra anchored the programme.

The second part of the show featured folk songs of Bangladesh. Biswajit Roy, Chumki Haq and the youngest Baul artiste of the show Roksana Akhtar rendered spiritual and romantic folk songs of Radharomon, Lalon and Hasan Raja. Roksana was accompanied with Bangladeshi dhol by Humayun Kabir. This part was anchored by popular Indian presenter Anup Ghosh and Purbasha Roy.

Between The Notes: A musical exploration

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

'Funky' is the appropriate term to describe the popular British music group Between The Notes (BTN), which features renowned cellist Matthew Barley. This group arrived in Dhaka on September 4. The group will perform two concerts in collaboration with music students of Chittagong on September 5 and in Dhaka on September 8 as part of the British Council's music project entitled 'Future Fusions'. Earlier in May, Matthew explored the potential collaboration with the children of Rhodella Music School and the Government College of



(L-R) Matthew Barley, Syed Masud Hossain, Dr June Rollinson and Azizul Haq addressing the press

The objective of the project was to foster cross cultural integration of different types of music, fuse UK music with other art forms such as dance, poetry and drama, as well as to blend music with other art forms. In order to attain this goal, a press show was held on the same day at the Spectra Convention Centre. On behalf of BTN, Matthew Barley spoke with the press. Dr June Rollinson, Director of the British Council, Azizul Haq, Managing Director of Glaxo Smith Kline and Syed Masud Hossain

of British Council were also present in the show.

Apart from Matthew Barley the other group members are Paul Griffiths, Fraser Trainer, Sam Walton and Peter Whymman. Creating fresh and stunning instrumental sound with cello, marimba, sax with guitar and piano, they have developed a unique style to break down the barriers between the audience and performers.

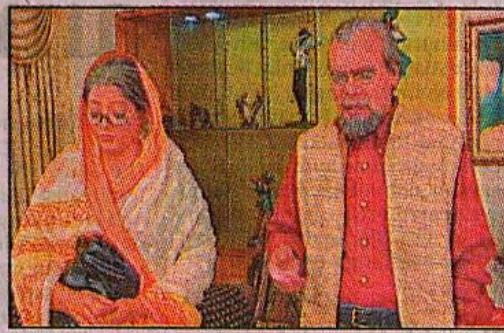
'We are here to find what happens when you put your musical

influences in a melting pot and stir, simmer and listen. Moreover we believe in exploring musically between the notes and developing a concept of learning music by making music', said Matthew. 'We use a variety of instruments and love improvisation and collaboration', he continued. Answering on his visions of life he opined, 'I believe in the maxim *know thyself* and we have a lifetime to get to know who we are.'

So here's a wish for a successful musical journey with the BTN.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Baba
On ATN Bangla at 11:15 am
Drama Serial
Cast: Abdullah Al Mamun, Dolly Zahur



The Guru
On Star Movies at 7:00 pm
Genre: Comedy/Romance
Cast: Heather Graham, Marisa Tomei, Jimi Mistry

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

News Bulletin

BTv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:30 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTv news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC WORLD
Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Trilipi Matra
11:30 Hridaye mati o manush
12:00 Chitri Pelam
12:30 Aji Dupurey O Chitceli Tarokakothon

01:00 Ebong Cinepar Gaan
01:25 Public Reaction
01:30 Bangla Feature Film: Nam Badnam (Shuchanta, Sobel Rana)

04:00 Banglar Gaan
04:30 Toyota Wild Life
05:00 Sa Ra Ga Me
05:35 Janapoder Khobar
05:45 FCT Business Talk
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Flop Show
07:50 Shanchita
08:25 Rupkatha
09:35 Drama Serial: Kotaharino

10:00 Drama Serial: Idaning Tini Deshpromik
ntv
08:00 Aajker Shakal
08:30 Chena Sur
09:00 Shanshkrir Ei
09:30 Shoptaho
Expedition to Animal Kingdom
10:02 Alanark
10:30 Gallery
11:00 Andhakarer Phul
11:30 Rupali Jhalak
12:02 History of American Cinema

02:35 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush
03:05 BACHSHASH Award Programme
04:25 Melay Uthi Ullashey
05:20 Apan Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Khabor Deshey
08:15 Drama serial: Teen

08:50 Drama serial: Teen

Purush

08:50 Right Click
09:40 Drama Serial: Chena Dukkha Chena Shukh Dindarpan

ATN BANGLA
11:25 Annodrishti
11:15 Drama Serial: Baba
11:50 Kichchukhkan
12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Dil
03:45 Uro Cola Soal Rang
04:20 Barsha Mongoler Gan
05:00 Gram gon'er khobar
05:45 Jibon jiggesha
06:20 The Three Stooges
08:00 Danish Pathe Pathe
08:30 Drama Serial: Kalo phor O amano
09:00 The Adventure of Sindbad
09:30 Mohona
09:30 Ujjan Ganger Naiya
10:30 Cholanam desh
12:20 business show

TARA BANGLA
2:00 Bangla Feature Film
4:00 Bole Bollywood
4:30 Post Mortem Rpt
5:00 Baise Straban
6:00 Chikabaji
7:00 Tulakalam
8:00 Telefilm
9:30 Spli Event
10:30 Jalsaghar
12:00 Fully Fatalfati

HBO
8:30 Osmosis Jones
10:30 Striking Distance
12:30 Blind Side
2:30 Sleepcom
5:00 Alvin and the Chipmunks Meet Wolfman
6:30 The Truman Show
8:30 On Deadly Ground
10:30 The Replacements

08:50 Hannibal
11:00 Beast The (Part 2)
12:30 Behind Enemy Lines
2:15 Home Alone 2: Lost In New York
4:20 Count Of Monte Cristo
6:30 Opening Night
7:00 The Guru
8:40 Evelyn
10:15 Beast The (Part 2)
11:45 Mister Johnson

09:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR MOVIES

1:30 Mirch Masala
2:25 Mail Milap
2:30 Meraa Dost Meraa Dushman
5:30 Pardey Ke Peechay
6:30 Fox Kids - Sunday
7:30 Vikraal Aur Gabraal
8:30 Khiladi 420

STAR PLUS
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR WORLD
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR PLUS

1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR WORLD
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR PLUS

1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR WORLD
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR PLUS

1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR WORLD
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR PLUS

1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR WORLD
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR PLUS

1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR WORLD
1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
2:30 John Doe
3:30 The 2004 Miss Teen USA
5:30 Journeys In Asian Cuisine
6:00 Travel Asia
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Stark Raving Mad
8:00 Fashion Tv
8:30 The Kumars At No 42
9:00 Rendezvous With

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1

STAR GOLD
9:30 Pardesi Babu
1:00 Jism
4:30 Maya
5:00 Dush Prem
8:30 End Of Days -Hindi
Dubbed
10:30 Biwi No. 1