Largest individual collection of Liberation War documents

HARUN UR RASHID

HE Liberation War Museum gets enriched with the largest collection of documents of the country's Liberation War. The collection contains correspondence, clippings from foreign newspapers, photographs, leaflets, letters and publications of the Mujibnagar Government collected by diplomat-freedom fighter Sheikh Ahmed Jalal.

The exhibition is an important proof of the active participation of those who lived abroad during the war. Non-Resident Bangladeshis played an important role in constituting opinion and support in favour of Bangladesh during our Liberation War in 1971. They maintained an uninterrupted correspondence with the provisional Mujibnagar government of the newborn country. Besides, they wrote letters to foreign newspapers and magazines seeking support for the War of Independence of the

Sheikh Ahmed Jalal was one of

those who helped the Liberation War gain moral and economic assistance in Japan. After the country's independence, Jalal kept and preserved these documents with him for over 30 years. He intended to use all these documents in his writings on our Liberation War. He used a lot of these documents in his book Japan's Contribution in the

Independence of Bangladesh.
His untimely death in September 2003 left his wishes unfulfilled. However, his last wish has been fulfilled: he wanted to give all his collections to the Liberation War Museum. His wife Selima Jalal, handed over the collection to the museum on December 1 for public

Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Matsushiru Horiguchi inaugurated the display after a brief discussion session. Member Secretary of the Liberation War Museum Dr Sarwar Ali, one of the trustees of the Museum WM Mofidul Haque, diplomat-freedom fighter Rajiul Hassan and Selima Jalal spoke on

South Asian Film Festival

Matir Moina (The Clay Bird), the internationally acclaimed film directed by Tareque Masud and produced by Catherine Masud,

has been selected for screening at this year's

South Asian International Film Festival

(SAIFF) in New York. The biggest South Asian

cinema event in the US, the festival is taking

place over a five-day period from December

1-5 at several prime Manhattan theatre loca-

tions, says a press release. A selection of

major recent films from India, Pakistan,

Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal will be-

shown at the Time-Warner sponsored festival,

which aims to highlight and promote South

represent Bangladesh at this year's festival.

Among other films, Gurinder Chadha's new

film Bride and Prejudice, starring Aishwarya

Rai, and Shwaas, this year's Oscar contender

have a mainstream theatrical release in Amer-

ica. Renowned US distributor Milestone

Films launched the US release on April 30,

2004. Since then the film has been shown in 35

major cities across the US and Canada. Dur-

ing its release, the film won praise in many

Matir Moina is the first Bangladeshi film to

from India, will premiere at the festival.

Matir Moina is the only film chosen to

Asian cinema to American audiences.

screens Matir Moina



Clippings from foreign newspapers

CULTURAL FEAST

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

December 03 Madhobi (Theatre)

Publishers, Baily road and Pathak

Organiser: The institute of Fine

Fine Arts at Dhaka University

Exhibition

Title: Solo Exhibition

Artiste: Iflikhar Uddin Ahmed

Time: December 04-20, from 10am to

Venue: Shaju art Gallery

Time: December 03, at 7:00am

Venue: Bakul Tola of the Institute of

Tickets available at Shagar

Shamabesh, Shahbagh

Harvest Festival

Time: November 27-December 03,

Theatre Festival

Title: Angikey Boichitrey

at 6:30pm everyday



Dr Sarwar Ali speaks at the event; other guests are (sitting L-R) Selima Jalal, Japanese Ambassador Matsushiro Horiguchi, diplomat Rajiul Hassan and Mofidul Haque

When the Liberation War began, SA Jalal was in Japan having just finished his studies under the Japan Government's Monbusho scholarship. His ever enthusiastic spirit was reflected in his involvement with cultural activities in Japan. Along with his two friends he started the first school for learning Bangla for the Japanese. Despite the obstacles posed by the then Pakistan Government, they continued the certificate course quite successfully. Jalal enriched the library of the school to such an extent that the Pakistan consulate was compelled to recognise it.

When the Liberation War began, it did not take Jalal long to determine his duty: he started campaigning against the war. It was due to Jalal's endeavour that many Japanese politicians and

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

It is now 40 long years since popular Nazrul singer Fatema Tuz Zohra first enthralled the

audience with her musical performance. To

celebrate the occasion cultural organisation

Amra Shurjomukhi organised a reception

programme for the singer at the BPW Club

auditorium in Baily Road, recently. Popular

singer Abdul Hadi handed over the crest to the

There was a touch of nostalgia at the

programme. Fatema began her performance

with a Tagore song Promodey dhalia dinu mon.

This was the same song that she had rendered in

Fatema vividly remembers her early years as a

stepped into the music world through her first

participation in a competition as well as won

the first award of her life. 'I always remember

that day whenever I am on stage. This is truly

inspiring and I am still moved by the same emo-

Since then there has been no looking back for

Fatema. As she asserted, she has secured the first

position in most competitions that she has

participated in. She also claims to have won

many awards in the 40 years of her singing

career. Notwithstanding the limited 14 or 15

albums that have so far been released, she

singer in recognition of her singing career.

her first performance 40 years ago.

tions,' she reminisced.

zer. The year was 1964 when

these activities. They supplied aid for the refugee camps. A Japanese General, who was also one of Netaji Subhash Bose's colleagues, provided the Mujibnagar Government with a detailed map of the Chittagong Port. Jalal's collection is enriched with documents of such activities.

The collection contains the copy of the declaration of independence read on the oath-taking day of the Mujibnagar Government. It con-tains the Bangla and English ver-sions of the first Constitution of Bangladesh. It also contains min-utes of the National Advisors' Committee, consisting of personalities like Maulana Bhashani, comrade Moni Singh and Professor Mozaffar Ahmad. The latter document has not been published anywhere so far, not even in the 15-volume Muktijuddher Dolil. The collection general people got involved in bears proof of the role played by

Fatema's 40-year stint with music

Japanese people and its government during the Liberation War.

CULTURE

A large part of the collection comprises clippings from Japanese newspapers like Asahi Evening News, Mainichi Daily News and Japan Times. Besides, many foreign newspapers also mark Jalal's collection: among these are Sunday Times, Daily Mirror, Guardian, International Herald Tribune, China News, Manila Times and Korea Times. The total number of these newspaper cuttings stands at a colossal 3416. SA Jalal preserved all his documents in 32 volumes, each bound with a cover of green and red that reminds one of our National

The display of these invaluable documents has been creatively designed by artist Ashok Karmakar. The display runs till December 16

believes that her recordings offer superb music

Fatema's greatest inspiration was her father. She admits that if her father had not supported her in her early days, she would never have been a singer. As she said, 'Proper guidance is very important for the youngsters. Unfortunately this element is absent among the contemporary singers.' Her keywords for aspiring musicians are devotion and dedication.

'I always felt that I could have gone further in these 40 years, concludes Fatema.



Diversity in Design

Theatre's drama festival



Madhobi: Zeroing into gender inequality The last show of the festival.

Theatre's play Madhobi is an adapta-tion from the Hindu mythological epic the Mahabharata. Madhobi will be staged today at the Experimental Theatre Stage at 6:30 p.m. as the last play of the festival.

What is women's identity in the society? They are traditionally treated either as daughters or wives. Are they born only to perform the household chores and satisfy male desire? *Madhabi*, originally a Hindi play by Bhisham Sahni and trans-lated into Bangla by Ashis Goswami, confronts these questions.

The story shows the plight of the protagonist Madhobi: no one cares about her emotions. Madhobi's father, Jajait, to prove himself the greatest philanthropist in the world, sacrifices his daughter to Galab. The latter too, in turn, sells his wife to three kings for 800 horses with which



A ritual scene in the play

to pay his mentor's dues to his guru Bishwamitra. Even Bishwamitra oppresses Madhobi to some extent. Ramendu Majumdar is the director of the play. Mustafa Monwar is the

set designer while Nasirul Haque Khokon is the light designer. Ferdausi Majumdar, Toupa Majumdar, Joglul Alam, Apan Ahsan

and others perform in Madhobi.

Diversity in the drama festival

ised by the Dhaka Reporters' Unity, in connection with the ongoing drama festival titled 'Diversity in Design' Abdullah Al Mamun said, There is diversity in the scripts of Bangladeshi theatre, although it is not found much in the productions. That is why we have invited diversified productions of contemporary times to make our festival a colourful one.'

Theatre's weeklong drama festi-val kicked off with the premiere show of Theatre's latest production Mukti which deals with the family conflicts in the metros. Mizarul Kayes has translated American playwright Lee Blessing's original play Independence, directed by Tropa. The set designer of the play, Monsur Ahmed creates the interior design of a two-storeyed building, including a stair at the corner, a sofa-set at the middle of the stage and wooden walls at the backstage. His approach is realistic.

On the second day, Aranyak Natya Dal staged Raaraang written and directed by Mamunur Rashid. Designer Faiz Zahir has used a huge aashon (empty performing space where the audience sits on the four sides of the set) at the middle of the theatre hall, for the set. Faiz's design is logical for the theme of the play, which deals with the oppression of the ethnic community -- Santal -- by the dominating Bangalees. The third evening was punctu-

ated by Dhaka Theatre's production Prachya by Selim Al Deen. The director and set designer, Nasiruddin Yousuff has used a huge horizontal wooden box with a depressed platform as his stagecraft. The audience took their seat at the two sides of his rectangular set . Moreover, a black net has been used on the top of his set. Changing some of the stagecrafts, Yousuff has created different sequences on his rectangular wooden stage. His experimental set design successfully represents the theme of the play, which deals with feudal rural Bangladesh.

Set designer Selim Shamsul Huda Chowdhury has created an atmosphere of a riverbank through his stylistic set design in the play Jolbalika by Masum Reza. In doing that he has used ramp at the back of the proscenium stage. Green colour has been used for the set design. Nasirul Haq Khokon's symbolic light effects on the cyclorama made the set an interesting one. Padatik Natya Shongshod staged Jolbalika

on the fourth evening of the festival. Uttoradhikar, the group from Chittagong, staged Shampay Naiya by Aminur Rahman Mukul and directed by Musleuddin Sikdar. The

play depicts the lifestyle of the fishermen living in the southeast part of the country. Set designer Aminur Rahman Mukul has used two ramps at the two corners of the proscenium stage. Using ropes and bamboo, he has created a suggestive huge boat on the stage. Changing some stage-crafts and light effects, he has created a varied and suggestive atmosphere of a locality, sea

M. Saiful Islam, the designer of Tagore's play Raktokarobi, has created an interesting set on the proscenium stage. Stairs made of iron, and few stones made of thermacol have been used in the set to create the atmosphere of a mine. An interesting part of Siaful's design is the creation of caves at the backstage, using net. These caves

performing on a stylish set. Nagorik staged Raktokarobi yesterday at the Experimental Thea-

provide a huge space for the artistes

The weeklong drama festival ends today with the staging of Thea-tre's current production Madhobi, an adaptation from the epic Mahabharata. Mustafa Monwar's set design is simple but artistic. He has used a few ropes and stools for his set design. Changing some stagecrafts, Monwar has created different sequences in the play.

ERSHAD KAMOL

Padatik Natya Shangshad recently awarded the artistes and crew of the play Jalbalika with commemorative crests. Playwright Masum Reza, director Shamsul Alam Bakul, General Secretary of the Shammilito Shangshkritik Jote Golam Kuddus and Tagore singer Fahim Hossaln Chowdhury, Selina Shelly of Desh Natok discussed various aspects of the play. (From right to left) Graphic designer Hasib Ahmed, music composer Nasiruddin Sheikh, light director Nasirul Haque Khokon, playwright Masum Reza, director of the play Shamsul Alam Bakul, General Secretary of Shallilito Shangshkritik Jote Gulam Kuddus and choreographer Rubaet Ahmed are seen in the picture.



TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY

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

News Bulletin

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00 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) CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am. 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.10:00am. 2:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00

Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

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

TARA BANGLA NewsHeadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30

Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

BTV 07:30 Bangladesher Hriday Satellite Programme Shangbadpotrer Pata Theke Bangla Feature Film 06:35 Programme from Chittagong Centre Special Programme

Dekha Adekha

majornewspapers.

Anya Rakam Kotha O Chhobi 10:30 Talk Show: Lal Golap CHANNEL-i Musical Programme Desher Gaan

Tritiyo Matra Live Show: Tele Talk Show: Kora Alap 12:30 Shampuma Rangin Banglar Gaan Tritiyo Matray Apni 04:45

Sa Re Ga Ma Janapader Khabor Special Programme for 12:00 Music Plus Kothay Kothay Bhashay Re Drama Serial: 69

Banchtey Je Ki shukh **ATN BANGLA**

Drama Serial:

05:00

05:30

07:50

Drama Serial: New Islamic Programme 03:40 Binodon Jummabar Armra Korba Jay

Drama Serial: Khowat 09:00 Drama Sorial: Lal Nil 09:00 Drama Serial: Baba 10:35 Cine Aha ntv

Aajker Shakal Special Programme on AIDS 11:30 Trans World Sports Drama: Jiboner El

03:45 05:20 Millennium Tiffiner Fankey Shubho Shondhya 06:20 Amra Ekhon Unish Selected Programme 08:50 Pepsi Music Express 09:40

Drama

11:25 Dindarpan **HBO** Red Sonja 10:15 12:00 3:30 Most Wanted Striking Distance 7:30 Friday the 13th Part III

Exit Wounds Raven: Return of the Black Dragon STAR MOVIES

Fly li: The Insect Year Of The Gun Going All The Way X2: X-Men United 7:00 Chamber, 8:50 10:45 12:25 Psycho

Complicity

Psycho On Star Movies at 10:45pm Genre: Horror/Thriller Cast: Vince Vaughn, Anne Heche, Julianne Moore Directed by Gus Van Sant

10:10

11:25

12:30

1:00

1:30

3:30

3:35

Bedona Ki Bhashay Re On Channell at 7:50pm Drama of the Week Cast: Shirin bakul, Chhanda, Dilara Zaman Written and directed by Shirin Bakul

STAR GOLD Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit Hum Hai Bemisaal Kuch Hit Kuch Superh

4:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhi 4:30 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit 8:25 8:30 Desh Premi Sher - E Hindustan STAR PLUS

8:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet- 20 M 8:30 Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Taaza Hits Hit Filmein Hit

Sangeet- 20 M Fox Kids Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet- 20 M Simran Show Film Topper - 301 Shaadi Number One Kora Kagaz Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet- 20 M

6:00 7:25 7:30 Taaza Hits 7:55 Hasna Mat 8:00 Chalti Ka Naam 8:30 Meri Mrs Chanchala 9:30 Piya Bina 10:00 11:00 12:00 Khulja Sim Sim Kalochakra Taaza Hits

4:00

4:30

5:00

5:25

5:30

Aur Phir Ek Din Raidhani Pardey Ke Peechey Film Topper - 301 Series Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet-

Taaza Hits 9:30 Shaadi Number One Fox Kids Film Topper - 301 Series 12:00 12:30 Herohonda Indianty -Red Carpet Film Topper - 301 Series 2:28 2:30 Sonpari Karma 4:30 Shararat - Thoda Jadu Todi Naz

STAR WORLD Friends Just Shoot Me

Whose Line Is It Anyway The Drew Carey Show The Simple Life Young Posh And Loaded Adventure Inc. Magnum P.I. Star Asia Travel Oprah Winfrey Show Bold And Beautiful Hollywood Squares Whose Line Is It Anyway

Hollywood Squares

Miami Vice

The Simpsons

Home Improvement

Just Shoot Me Tha Wrestling The Apprentice Koffee With Karan

Star Asia Travel

Crittercam-Wildtech

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

11:28

11:30

8:00

6;30

7:30

11:30

8:30 \$100 Taxi Ride Game For It Honey Badger: The Meanest Animal in The Holy Cow Chasing Time \$100 Taxi Ride 12:30 The Simran Show Croc Chronides 1:30 Africa From The Ground 2:00 Crittercam-Wildtech \$100 Taxi Ride Game For It Honey Badger: The

Meanest Animal In The World Africa From The Ground \$100 Taxi Ride Game For It

Science Times

Taboo

National Geographic Mummy Road Show Riddles Of The Dead S2 National Geographic's

STAR SPORTS Max Power Max Power 8:30 2004 (R) Nba Basketball Denver

CO Usa Cleveland Cavallers Vs Denver Nuggets (L) Asian Festival Of Speed Formula Brow Asia Beijing, China Round 7(R)

Africa From The Ground English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2004/05 Liverpool England Liverpool Vs Arsenal (R) Tri Series 2004 Highlights #3(T) laaf Track & Field laaf

> 2004 (Day 2) Monte Highlights(T) Extreme Program Sports Mania (T) Nba Basketball Denve CO Usa Cleveland Cavaliers Vs Denver

Nuggets (R) Sportsline (L) English Premier League Preview (T Hong Kong Cricket Sixes The Cathay Sixes 2004 (T)

Chartered Hong Kong International Cricket Nba Inside Stuff (T) Sportsline (R) New Zealand Tour Of Australia 3 Mobile Test Series Adelaide, Australia Australia Vs New Zealand 2nd Test.

Day 5, Highlights(R)

ESPN 7:00 Sportscenter Asia (R) Skating World Skating Challenge (T) English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2004/05

Birmingham, England Birmingham City Vs Norwich City (T) Extra Uefa Champions League Extra Group Phase 1, Matchweek 5(T)

Champions League Extra Uefa Champions League Extra Group Phase 1, Matchweek

English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2004/05 Bolton, England Bolton Wanderers Vs Portsmouth (R) Motorsport Asia (T) Asian X-Games

Qualifiers Latin X Games Champions League Extra Uefa Champions 6:30 League Extra Group Phase 1, Matchweek

Sportscenter India (L) English Premier League 9:00 Preview (T) Born To Play: Masters Of Football (R) Cricket Show Espn 10:00 Presnts Samsung Cricket Show (T)

Here We Go (S) 01:00:00 10:30 portscente Sportscenter India (R) Sportscenter Asia (T)