

Giving beauty a purpose

Farhina from Chittagong gets the crown

ELITA KARIM

It started off with a bang! Dancers adorned in colourful tissue filled the stage with the tinkling of their ghungrus and danced along with fusion music by none other than Habib. The Lux Anandadhara Photogenic 2004 contest had officially begun, with the audience-- packed with stars from the media world-- getting set to enjoy the show. Meanwhile, the judges had their glasses held up on the nose, with a pen in one hand, ever observant of everything going on around them.

The panel comprised a sophisticated nine-some: leading lights from the diverse fields of music, drama, literature, direction and of course modelling. The panel had the famous public speaker and television host Anisul Haq, famous poet and writer Syed Shamsul Haq, the powerful actor Alamgir, Subarna Mustafa who covered the television screen to everyone's delight, the household name of TV drama today Zahid Hassan, the ever smiling actress Afsana Mimi, artist Kanak Champa Chakma, the model and actress Aupi Karim and popular theatre personality Sara Zaker.

Organised by Unilever Bangladesh Ltd., the pageant was held at the ballroom in Pan Pacific



The radiant winners: Lux Anandadhara Photogenic 2004 Kazi Farhina Islam (M), first runner up Tanzika (R) and second runner up Sumaya (L)

Sonargaon, decorated in flowing colours of peach and yellow. The show was anchored by Brownia and Faisal, who kept the audience smiling and at the same time updated with comprehensive information about the pageant.

They took the audience back in time to the previous week when the girls went through a dynamic session which included physical exercises, meditation and of course a lot of *adda*, shopping and dinner with stars like Zahid Hassan, Afsana

Mimi, Aupi Karim and many more. The 12 finalists, resplendent in flowing garments in red, gold, green, blue and all the colours of nature possible, appeared on stage. Farah Anjum Bari, the owner of the boutique house Impressions,

created these designs.

The girls introduced themselves through the audiovisuals and spoke a bit about themselves. All through the introductions and the events on stage, the audience was spellbound by the mystical ambience of the music, arranged and composed by Tahsan and Jon of the band Black. A melodious performance of the song *Mon shudhu mon chuyechi*, by Tapan Chowdhury and Shakila Zafar, was enjoyed by all.

The 12 contestants were then snowed under a barrage of questions by the judges and surprisingly gave spontaneous replies with their ever-glittering smiles. While the judges were deciding on the six selected finalists out of the 12, a fantastic performance by Ayub Bacchu and Subir Nandi was rendered, to the delight of the music lovers in the audience. Following the theme of *Shoppo*, both Bacchu and Nandi worked the chords of the guitar and the vocals respectively, along with the mind-blowing percussions and tabla, which created a completely new dimension of music in the country.

Once the six finalists were selected, the audience began to wonder and whisper amongst themselves as to who the winner would be. The girls then had to pick a topic and speak on it for one minute and had the chance to show-off their brains with beauty.

Before the winner was crowned, Black performed their number *Eka* from their second album *Utosober Por* and made the audience relax in the midst of the growing tension.

The winners were announced by none other than Runa Laila, who was lingering on the stage and playfully chitchatting to make the wait more tantalising. The second runner up title was given to Sumaya from Dhaka, the first runner up title to Tanzika from Rajshahi and the Lux Anandadhara Photogenic 2004 award was given to Kazi Farhina Islam from Chittagong. The sashes, titles and the winning crown were awarded to the girls by the winner of Lux Anandadhara Photogenic 2003, Shayla Shabnam.



Dancing away with fusion music



Ayub Bacchu and Subir Nandi create new dimension in the music scene

COMMEMORATION

Preserving the works of Abbasuddin Ahmed

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A new book on the life and works of Abbasuddin Ahmed, king of folk songs, will be published by the beginning of next year. The book will be available in the upcoming *Ekushey Boi mela*. Former Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal, son of the late prolific musician, made the announcement at a discussion session at the Bishwa Shahityo Kendra recently. Mustafa Kamal was the chief guest at the session. Bangladesh Lok Sangeet Parishad organised the session, which was on the life and works of the great musician.

'The generation gap in our nation is so evident, that the present generation is totally unaware of the contributions of the past,' said the Chief Justice, while speaking at the session.

He briefly stated the stories

relating to the struggle, love and contribution of his father towards Bangladeshi music.

'With lyrics from poets like Kazi Nazrul Islam, Jasimuddin and others, he rapidly gained a place in the hearts of millions of Bangladeshis,' said Mustafa Kamal.

The mutual respect that Nazrul Islam and the musician shared was notable from the fact that Abbasuddin's eldest son--Mustafa Kamal was named by none other than Nazrul, added Justice Kamal.

'Hopefully in the upcoming Ekushey Boi mela, there will be another book consisting on write-ups from authors from Bangladesh and West Bengal,' announced Mustafa Kamal. Previously, only one book dedicated to the life of Abbasuddin Ahmed, named *Amar Shilpi Jiboner Kotha*, was an autobiography. It was Indramohan Rajbongshi, the president of

Bangladesh Lok Sangeet Parishad who collected these write-ups.

'Through his songs, the plight of the village folks is easily portrayed,' pointed out Dr. Ashraf Siddiqui, Special Guest at the session.

He further mentioned an incident and quoted Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Haque saying that, with Abbasuddin and Kazi Nazrul Islam, by his side, he could conquer the hearts of millions.

Before ending his speech, Siddiqui recited a poem written by the guest of the session Sabir Ahmed Chowdhury dedicated to Abbasuddin. Ferdousi Rahman, daughter of the late musician, and Indramohan Rajbongshi also spoke at the session.

An entertaining musical program was then organised where groups of musicians sang popular tracks of the late musician.

Abbasuddin Ahmed, was born



Former Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal speaking on the occasion

on October 27, 1901 in the district of Cooch Behar. He was famous for his musical contributions to regional Bangladeshi music, such as *bhawaiya*, *Chatka*, *Jari*, *Sari*, *Bhatiyali*, *Murshidi*, *Bichchhedhi*

(songs of estrangement), *Marsiya*, *Dehalattua* and Islamic songs.

Abbasuddin Ahmed died on December 30, 1959. He has left behind a lasting legacy for our folk culture.



Theatre Art Unit Jugopurti Natya Utshob '04



Rokeya Rafiq Baby: Boosting the theatre medium

ERSHAD KAMOL

Popular stage performer Rokeya Rafiq Baby is the chief of Theatre Art Unit, and the convenor of the ongoing drama festival. Her troupe staged *Golapjan*, in the festival, where she performs as the protagonist. On the venue selection process for the festival, Baby said, 'We had plans to arrange the festival in the first week of December. Meanwhile, National Theatre Stage was opened on December 4. We took the opportunity to hold our festival

there. The venue is rather expensive, but we are lucky to be the first theatre group, to put up a show with a view to do something positive to popularise the new venue.'

As Assistant General Secretary of the Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTf), Baby aspires to develop the theatre medium in Bangladesh. As part of the ongoing drama festival, Chupkatha, the theatre troupe Kolkata, stages two plays today at the National Theatre Stage-- at 4:00 p.m. *Dui Tarango* and at 7:00 p.m. *Mrs. Soriano*.



PREVIEW Dui Tarango

Ujjal Chatyapadhyay's play *Dui Tarango* is a search to find the meaning of life from two settings; Through the dramatic monologue a woman living in a religious environment envisages joy in romanticism; and through an autobiography a female writer shares her experience of similar situations.

Dui Tarango, a theatre of absurd, is directed by Doli Basu, the two-act plays set and light are done by eminent set designer Khaled Chowdhury and Tapas Sen.

Chandranath Chatterji and Doli Basu perform in the play.



A scene from the play

Mrs Soriano

What is more important for an individual-- love or social status? Eduardo de Filippo's play *Mrs. Soriano* confronts the viewers with this question. Felumena, a harlot, has been serving for 25 years at Doenico Soriano's house. It is only when the rich man wants to marry a girl with social status that Felumena seeks a return from Soriano for her services. She demands recognition as his wife. At the end she tricks him into marrying her. And old Soriano gives her social status by taking her as his wife.

Jayanto Bandopadhyay, Dolly Basu, Tapan Bandopadhyay and others perform in the play.

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Dolly Basu as the protagonist



SHORT TAKES

King clone

INTERNET

Irish actor Jonathan Rhys-Myers, who starred in the hit film, *Bend It Like Beckham*, will play Elvis Presley in CBS' new warts-and-all, four-part mini-series about The King's life.

Rhys-Myers was cast mainly because of his uncanny resemblance to Elvis, the mini-series executive producer Howard Braunstein told a reporter.

'He was the first person I'd ever thought of for the role,' Braunstein said. 'I watched *Bend It Like Beckham*, and when you see him, you just say 'He is Elvis.' Rhys-Myers has the physical look and the style that embodies Elvis, both the sweetness and the sex appeal.'



Vosloo terrorising 24

REUTERS, Los Angeles

South African-born actor Arnold Vosloo, best known for his role as villain Imhotep in the *Mummy* movies, has landed a recurring role on Fox's 24, playing the leader of a terrorist plot against the United States.

Also repeat on 24 this coming season is Jonathan Ahdout. The actor, who played Shohreh Aghdashloo's son in last year's feature *House of Sand and Fog*, will once again play the actress' son on 24. On the show, Aghdashloo plays the wife of a Middle Eastern businessman.

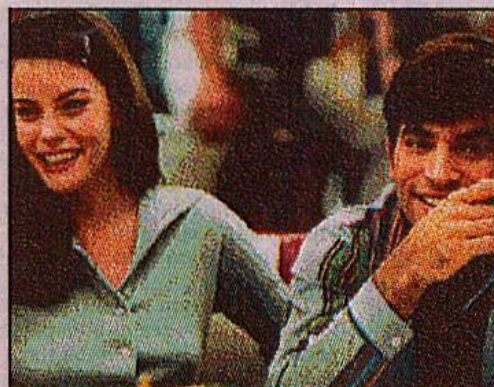


TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Amra ekhon Unish Kuri
On ntv at 6:50pm
Talk show
Hosted by Kaniz Shubarna



That Thing You Do!
On Star Movies at 7:00pm
Genre: Comedy/Drama/Music
Cast: Tom Everett Scott, Liv Tyler, Tom Hanks

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, 8:00 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, 9:00am, 7:15 pm, 8:00pm, 10:30, 12:15am.
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 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
NewsHeadlines(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

BTV
08:15 *Smritimol Archives*
08:40 *Asia in this Week*
09:05 *Children's Drama*
09:30 *Natun Kuri 2004*
11:15 *Helio Apnakey Bolchhi*
12:15 *Alor Disha*
03:25 *Bangla Feature Film*
06:00 *Desh Janopad*
06:35 *Programme From Chittagong Centre*
07:30 *Selected Programme*
08:30 *Apnar Chappash*
09:00 *Cine Magazine*
09:30 *Priyo Manush*
10:30 *Lal Golap*
12:05 *Satellite programmes*
CHANNEL-i
09:45 *Trityo Matra*
10:30 *Grameen Phone Tele Shomoy*
12:00 *Kora Aalap*
12:30 *Special Drama: Shampura Rangin*
01:00 *Banglar Gaan*
01:30 *Public Reaction*
02:30 *Trityo Matra Apni*
04:15 *Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan*
04:45 *Se Re Ga Ma*
05:15 *Janopader Khabor*
05:30 *Special Programme*
06:00 *Music Plus*
06:30 *Kathay Kathay*
07:50 *Special Drama: Apekshita*
09:35 *Drama Serial: 69*
10:00 *Drama Serial: Banchnitye Je Ki Shukh*
ATN BANGLA
10:25 *Annodishlee*
11:05 *Islamic Programme*
03:40 *Binodon Jummabar*
05:10 *Shesh Akkhar*
06:20 *Aamra Korto Joy*
08:00 *Rup Madhuri*
08:30 *Drama Serial: Knowab*

09:00 *Drama Serial: Lal Neel Beguni*
09:30 *Drama Serial: Ek Janome*
10:35 *Cine Aha*
12:20 *Sustha Thakun*
ntv
08:00 *Aajker Shekal*
09:20 *Special Programme on AIDS*
10:30 *Apnar Jigyasha*
11:30 *Trans World Sports*
01:05 *Smritir Janalay*
02:30 *Drama: Phirey Ashi Jalo Bar*
03:40 *Millenium*
05:15 *Ijhasher El Diney*
05:20 *Tiffin Phakey*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhita*
06:50 *Amra Ekhon Unish Kuri*
08:30 *Drama Serial: Urey Jay Bak Pakkhi Dindarpan*
HBO
7:15 *Batman Returns*
9:45 *Death To Smoochy*
12:00 *True Crime*
2:00 *The Big Hit*
3:45 *Exit Wounds*
5:45 *Joe's Apartment*
7:30 *Ballistic: Ecks VS. Sever*
9:30 *The Animal*
11:15 *The Bone Snatcher*
1:00 *Batman Returns*
STAR GOLD
9:55 *Bandish*
1:30 *Rain Balam*
4:30 *Dilwale*
8:30 *Nigahen*
11:45 *Nasam O Nishan*
STAR MOVIES
9:45 *Bulletproof Monk*
11:30 *Arachnophobia*
1:30 *Last Samurai*

3:00 *Les Miserables*
5:20 *Babe: Pig In The City*
7:00 *Home Alone*
8:45 *Home Alone 2: Lost In New York*
10:45 *Bulletproof Monk*
12:30 *Hollywood Ending*
STAR PLUS
12:00 *Kora Kagaz*
1:00 *Haana Mal*
1:30 *Chalili Ka Naam*
2:30 *Meri Mrs Chanchala*
3:00 *Piya Bina*
4:00 *Aur Phir Ek Din*
4:30 *Rajdhani*
5:00 *Pardey Ke Peechey*
5:00 *Shaadi Number One*
6:30 *Fox Kids*
7:30 *Kabhi Khushi Kabhi*

8:00 *Sonpari*
8:30 *Karma*
9:30 *Shararat - Thoda Jadu Tod Naz*
10:00 *Khulja Sim Sim*
11:00 *Kalchakra*
STAR WORLD
2:30 *Oprah Winfrey*
3:30 *Bold And Beautiful*
4:30 *Hollywood Squares*
5:00 *Whose Line Is It Anyway*
5:30 *Miami Vice*
6:30 *The Simpsons*
7:00 *Home Improvement*
7:30 *Friends*
8:00 *Just Shoot Me*
8:30 *Tna Wrestling*
9:30 *The Apprentice*

10:30 *Koffee With Karan*
11:28 *Star Asia Travel*
11:30 *Baywatch*
DISCOVERY
10:30 *Newport Lifeguards*
11:30 *The No Place To Hide*
12:30 *Orphans Of The Wild*
1:30 *Celebrities' Reputations*
2:30 *Coco Chanel: Private Life*
3:00 *Bazaar Florence*
3:30 *Great Cars*
3:30 *Beach House Top Ten*
4:30 *Hawaiian Beaches*
5:30 *The Desperate Agenda*
6:00 *City Cabs Bombay, India*
6:00 *Earth Science for Children All About Fossils*

6:30 *Speed Extreme*
7:30 *Machines Daring*
8:30 *Aviators*
9:30 *Lion Battlefield*
10:30 *Raw Nature Raw Mates*
11:30 *Rivals, Colour Of War*
12:30 *Death At Midnight*
1:30 *Impact-Stories of Survival Impact*
2:30 *Crime Night Scene of the Crime Down Spring*
3:30 *Treasure Seekers*
4:30 *Cheating Death*
5:30 *The Sinner Show*
6:30 *Croc Chronicles S2*
7:30 *Volves Of The Air*
8:30 *Planet Wild*
9:30 *\$100 Taxi Ride*
10:30 *Game For It*
11:30 *Legends Of The Ice World*
12:30 *Treasure Seekers*
1:30 *Assignment*
2:30 *Planet Wild*
3:30 *\$100 Taxi Ride*
4:30 *Game For It*
5:30 *National Geographic Special*
6:30 *Tomorrow's World*
7:30 *Mummy Road Show*
8:30 *Riddles Of The Dead S2*
9:30 *National Geographic's Taboo*

ESPN
9:00 *Tour De Taiwan 2004*
10:00 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
11:00 *Portsmouth Vs Arsenal*
12:00 *Samsung Cricket Show*
1:00 *Motorsport Asia*
1:30 *Hitz*
2:30 *India Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Odi 1st Session(R)*
3:30 *India Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Odi 2nd Session(R)*
4:30 *Sportscenter India (L)*
5:30 *Sportscenter India (R)*
6:30 *Preview*
7:30 *Samsung Cricket Show*
8:30 *Here We Go (S)*
9:30 *Sportscenter India (R)*
10:30 *Sportscenter Asia (S)*
STAR SPORTS
9:30 *International Triathlon Union (Itu) Combined Itu*
10:30 *World Championships 2004 Event Highlights(T)*
11:30 *Equestrian Riders Tour 2004 Paris France*
12:30 *English Premier Football League 2004/05 Bolton England Bolton Wan*
1:30 *Derby Vs Manchester City (R)*
2:30 *Asian Festival Of Speed Asian Touring Car Series Beijing China Round 8(T)*
3:00 *Skins Game The Skins Game 2004 California*

TEN SPORTS
5:00 *Ca Usa Day Two(T)*
6:00 *Nba Basketball San Antonio Tx Usa*
7:00 *Minnesota Timberwolves Vs San Antonio Spurs (R)*
8:00 *English Premier League Preview (T)*
9:00 *Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships Rewind : Best Of Wimbledon 2004*
10:00 *London Uk Serena Williams Vs Ameile Mauresmo Women's Singles Semifinal(T)*
11:00 *Sportslive (R)*
12:00 *Nba Inside Stuff (T)*
1:00 *Figure Skating Holiday Show (T)*
2:00 *Sportsline (R)*
3:00 *WWE: The Bottom Line*
4:00 *Top Ten Batsmen*
5:00 *ICC Cricket World*
6:00 *Trans World Sports*
7:00 *V8 Motorsport Championship 04*
8:00 *Singapore Stanchart Marathon 04*
9:00 *UEFA Cup Extra Magazine Show*
10:00 *Sportswatch*
11:00 *Indian Golf Show Legend: Marvan Atapattu*
12:00 *Gamer TV*
1:00 *Speed*
2:00 *Portuguese League H/Ls*
3:00 *WWE Velocity*
4:00 *Trans World Sports*
5:00 *ATP Tennis*
6:00 *Italian Serie A Juventus v Milan*
7:00 *Legend: Marvan Atapattu*
8:00 *WWE Velocity*
9:00 *Speed*