

CULTURAL FEAST

Drama Festival

Occasion: Eighth anniversary of Abayab Nityadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Time: April 03-06, at 7pm everyday
Schedule:
April 06 Raraang (Aranyak Nityadal)

Exhibitions

Title: Traditional Boats of Bangladesh
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Date: March 19-April 06, 10am to 5pm and 39m to 7pm on Fridays

Title: Colour of SHAKO
Artists: 13 artists of the women artists association SHAKO
Venue: Bengal Gallery of fine Arts, House 27/5/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: March 23-April 06, 12pm to 6pm

Artist: Aminul Islam
Venue: Shilpani Gallery, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi
Date: March 18-April 10, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 6pm

Artist: Abdus Salam
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Time: April 22-30

Title: Troik
Artists: Halima Ahmed, Sabira Shahinur Pallabi, Shaela Sharmin
Venue: Zaimul Art Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, DU
Time: April 02-07

16th National Art Exhibition
Artists: Eminent and promising artists of the country
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 12-April 11, 1am to 7pm and 3pm to 6pm on weekends

Bangladesh Denmark Cultural Exchange
Organiser: Royal Danish Embassy, Bangladesh and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Occasion: Birth Bicentennial of Hans Christian Andersen
Date: March 17-April 12, at 7pm everyday
Schedule:
April 07-08

Programme: Staging of the play *The Emperor's New Clothes* by Theatre
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy National Theatre
April 09-10

Programme: Staging of the play *Nightingale and Ugly Duckling* by Puppel Theatre
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Experimental Theatre
April 12

Programme: Screening of the movie *Move Me*
Venue: The British Council

Film Screening
Organiser: Dhaka Film Society
Venue: Centre for Asian Arts and Cultures (CAAC) Auditorium, 62 Science Laboratory
Time: April 06
Schedule:
4:00pm Raincoat
6:30pm Black

Play
Title: Mousetrap
Group: Padatik Nitya Sangsad
Venue: Mahila Shamiti Auditorium
Time: April 08, at 7pm

Yuri Gagarin Science Fest-2005
Programme: Photo exhibition and quiz competition in cooperation with Bangladesh Astronomical Association
Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Time: April 06-12

Rabindra Sangeet Festival comes to an end

Tagore remains in our heart and soul

KARIM WAHEED

THE 24th annual conference of the Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Shammilon Parishad (RSSP) came to an end on April 4. RSSP arranged several events and a competition for emerging singers who practice Tagore songs.

The day started with the members of RSSP's visit to the Shaheed Minar to demonstrate reverence to the martyrs of our land. A musical programme followed.

The Chief Guest Professor Anisuzzaman, along with the chairperson of RSSP Wahidul Haque, co-chairperson Sanjida Khatun and Mita Haque took the stage. Renowned sitar artiste, Khurshid Khan was honoured with the Rabindra Padak for his altruistic contribution to the arena of classical music in our country. Khan is the grandson of legendary musician Ustad Ayet Ali Khan and has devoted his life to classical music. Says a modest Khan: "My music learning process has not yet ended."

Wahidul Haque, Chairperson of RSSP expressed his contentment with the standard of the contestants who participated in the competition of Tagore songs arranged by RSSP. He mentioned that two of the young artists had rendered Tagore songs with such dedication that they made him tearful. As he said, "I was surprised to notice that these children and teenagers, many of whom are from outside Dhaka, talked with a dialect but sang Tagore songs with a perfect accent."



A colourful dance sequence at the event

These young artists have managed to go beyond the regional boundaries."

Shukanto Chakravarty from Comilla and Steve Turjo from Faridpur received awards of distinction in two age groups. Partha Pratim Roy of Dhaka and Meena Abid Shahrar from Khulna jointly won the first prize in the adult group. Aqib Ajmain from Bogra won first prize in the children's group.

Co-chairperson of RSSP, Sanjida

Khatun in her speech said "Tagore did not belong to any particular religion or caste. He followed the religion of humanity." Truly, in this day and age the whole world can learn to be more liberal and free by taking a closer look at Tagore's life and conviction.

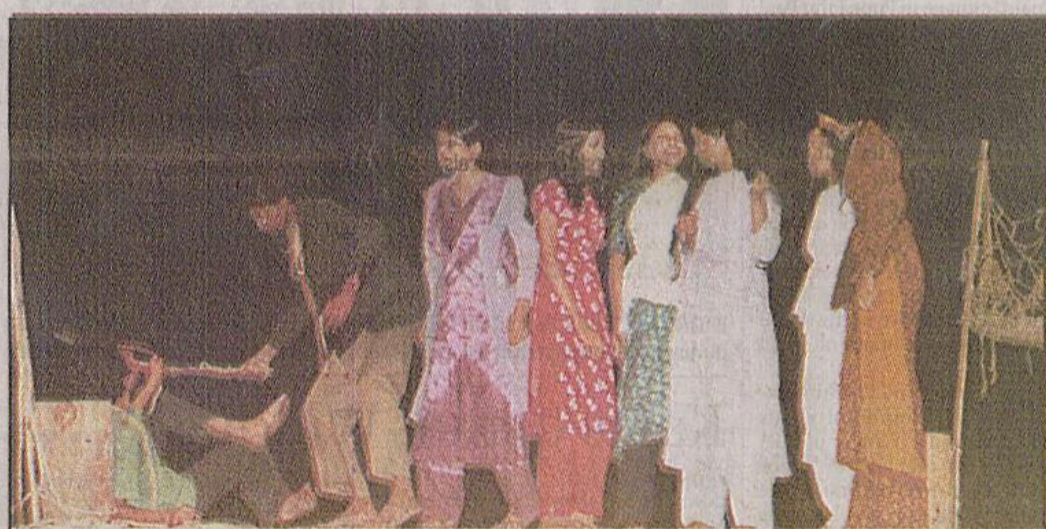
Chief Guest, Anisuzzaman chimed in with the other speakers at the occasion by saying that Tagore taught us that one's country means a lot to oneself, but way greater than motherland is humanity.

After the speeches, the musical part of the programme started with chorus songs by groups from Dhaka, Narayanganj and Matlab.

Nailla Tabasum Khatun and Golam Sarwar rendered poetry. Shukla Sarkar and her group performed a dance recital.

The event ended with a rendition of our National Anthem. There was also the hope of a continuing struggle to uphold humanity by absorbing Tagore's philosophies through his literary work, songs and plays.

Pratibimba: A message-oriented social drama



A scene from the play

ERSHAD KAMOL

The rural denizens of Bangladesh are confronted with several problems such as gender inequality, polygamy and dowry. All these take a toll on these people. Some times, driven to the edge, people lose their mental balance.

Protiggya Parishad, a Danida-funded NGO from Comilla, focused

on these issues on the proscenium arch stage. The awareness building exercise, a production titled *Pratibimba*, was staged at the National Theatre Stage on April 4. The experimental production was a part of the ongoing Denmark-Bangladesh joint cultural exchange programme, which coincides with the bicentenary of Danish fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen.

Pratibimba is set against the backdrop of Pabna Mental Hospital, where a doctor during her case studies unveils some tragic stories about people with mental disorders. Each of these stories is rooted in reality. Further, as *Pratibimba* is an improvised production there is no single playwright. Rather a stage play has been formed through the editing of all the improvised

sequences. Director Mir Mehbub Alam Nahid has handled the experimental "Development Theatre" technique efficiently. Through the narrator, he has unveiled the story of the play. The play unfolds and takes an interesting twist during a sequence when the mob continuously interrogates a sane person about his family secrets and ultimately drives him crazy. The transformation of the character and the technique is appreciable. Moreover, he has used some rural events such as *palagan* and games for choreography.

As an awareness generating play, simple portable elements such as a stick and rope have been used as the set of the play. However, the light design needs further attention.

Pratibimba is an example of good teamwork of the artists who have given their utmost to put together an interesting and artistic stage production.

Earlier in a short discussion, Danish Ambassador Niels Severin Munk and Project Director of Protiggya Parishad Imran Zulkarnain delivered speeches. Hanne Tomager, the Culture and Development consultant was the host of the discussion session.

A timeless appeal

Legendary actress Suchitra Sen turns 80

Today Suchitra Sen turns 80. The fact that this legendary actress is still amidst us, definitely delights her fans, but some of her ardent devotees have been quite downhearted for the last 30 years. The reason: Suchitra's self-isolation. For the last 30 years, Suchitra has been virtually invisible to the known world. Except for her near and dear ones, no one knows her whereabouts or her well-being.

So, why this self-confinement? Let's contemplate the reasons behind Suchitra secluding herself from the public.

"The core of Suchitra's existence as a star, is her immense popularity. So, when she decides to confine herself from public, that obviously does create a hubbub in the society," says Suchitra's contemporary Madhubi Chakrabarty. If the public reaction were different, that would have been odd.

To comprehend Suchitra's reasoning, one has to follow the chain of events that occurred prior to her self-exile.

Suchitra's last movie was *Pranay Pasha* released in 1978. The number of films she was doing was decreasing in the 1970s. Among her last movies, except for *Aandhi*, there was no major hit. The same goes for her co-star Uttam Kumar, the prominent actor with whom Suchitra formed one of the most popular 'on-screen' pairs on the silver screen in those times. Two years after *Pranay Pasha* was released, Uttam passed away and Suchitra officially secluded herself from the movie world. Uttam's untimely death sealed all the possibilities of future 'Uttam-Suchitra' movies. Any 'Uttam-Suchitra' fan would agree that without Uttam, Suchitra's existence on the silver screen was incomplete, even Suchitra knew that. She also realised that to survive in the rat race of the movie world on her own, she would need another co-star with acting excellence.

Although, Suchitra was known for her acting skills, her claim to fame was her screen presence, exquisite facial expressions and her knowledge of camera angles that would present her in a way few actresses can boast of.

Her divine beauty on the screen was presented in a more profound way by the skilled cameramen of her time. During her last days as an actress, she did not get that skilled film-crew to work with her.

"Suchitra did not come to Taliganj with dreams of becoming an actress. Her arrival in the movie world was more or less a necessity," says her confidante, director Asit Sen. He feels that even Suchitra did not realise that she could become a legend in time. It seems that she started acting in movies for financial reasons. Hence, acting in



movies was basically just 'work' to her. However, she attained a certain level of acting skills. There's a difference between actors who consider acting as their only passion and actors who see acting merely as 'work'. Hence, when the need to work ceases to exist, these actors don't hesitate to retire. This was another prime reason why Suchitra stopped signing contracts for movies, even though it was not easy for her.

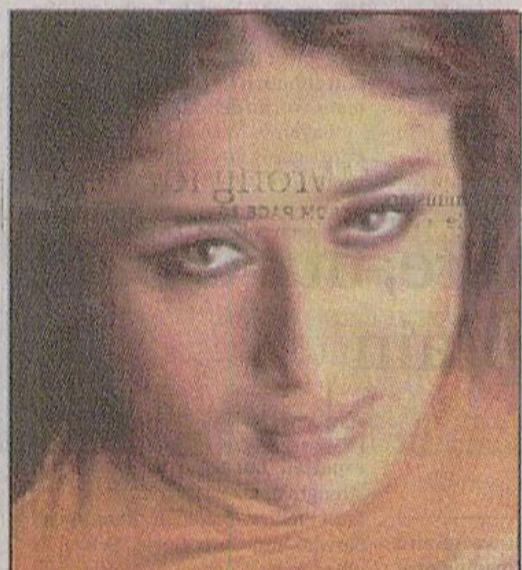
With age, artistes become "Didi", "Kaki" etc to their fellow artistes, Suchitra never responded to anything else but "Mrs Sen".

So, to sum it all up, Uttam's untimely death, aging, lack of need to work any more, made Suchitra overly self-conscious and this resulted in her leaving the cine-world.

Her departure from the silver screen and Bangla films, in particular, her isolation from her fans and public is prompted by her need to be remembered as the ageless, classic wonder, that is Suchitra.

Courtesy: Anandalko

SHORT TAKE



Kareena in Page 3...?

What the Big cinema girl refused, the crossover kid lapped up and Page 3 toasted a silver jubilee. "True, Kareena did turn down the role," Konkona Sen admits, giving a 'done to death' look. Any apprehension that came along with a 'reject role'? She raises her brows, "I am not the cynical kind, nor do I over complicate things. She didn't do the role, I did. I actually thank her for refusing it. It was a damn good role and I had a ball doing it."

Source: Internet

Streisand and Barry Gibb reunite

BBC ONLINE

Streisand recently returned to films after an eight-year break.

Barbra Streisand is to reunite with Bee Gees star Barry Gibb on her latest album, due out in September.

Gibb, 58, will write and produce a dozen songs on the as-yet-untilled album, 25 years after the pair first worked together on the album *Guilty*.

Guilty (1980) went on to sell more than five million copies in the United States alone and spawned the hit single *Woman in Love*.

Streisand's last album, a compilation of movie theme tunes, came out in 2003.

That same year, Streisand, 62, said in an interview that she was bored of singing her own songs.

"That's why I gave up concerts. In addition to having stage fright and the exertion of singing 30 songs a night, it's boring to sing your own songs."

Last year she made a successful return to acting after an eight-year hiatus, starring in the comedy sequel *Meet the Fockers* opposite Dustin Hoffman and Robert De Niro.



TV GUIDE

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 6:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
News (Bangla) at 6:00 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) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00pm, 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, 11pm.
News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm
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 5:30pm, 7:30pm.
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 Programme From BTV Archive
08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 Shagbadpotrey Pata Thekey
12:30 Shasthya Tethya Rimjhim
01:05 Computer Programme
02:30 Hijol Tomal
03:05 Shukhi Poribar
03:35 Geelo Bitan
04:05 Open University
04:30 Desh O Bigyan
05:05 Mali O Manush
05:30 Prescription
06:00 Desh Janapad
06:10 Maloncha
06:35 Programmes of Chittagong Centre
07:00 News Headlines, Weather forecast, Share Market
07:05 Bhalo Thakun
07:30 Shasthya Thakun
08:25 Proidin Bangladesh
08:30 Shwadinota Mohan
10:25 Tefak Theke Taktulo
10:35 Kenon Achhen

CHANNEL i
09:30 Shagbad Potrey
09:50 Arshinagar
10:30 Public Reaction
09:45 Trilyo Matra
10:45 Sports Time
12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell Tarakakothon
01:00 Ebonj Cinema Gan
01:25 Public Reaction
03:50 Bangla Gan
04:20 Bai Ebonj Bai
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Achena Phuler Mela
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Gillette Sports

07:55 RC Travel On
08:25 Drama Serial: Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roddur
09:35 Drama Serial: Din Choley Jay
10:00 Drama Serial: Megabond
11:05 Drama Serial: Shukhnagar Apartment
12:15 Drama Serial: Shimelin Shimany
12:50 Geaney Shurey Tarunney Motanot
02:30 Drama Serial: Nil Akasher Nichey
03:15 Drama Serial: Nana Ronger Din
03:50 Drama Serial: New Files
04:25 Cinema Cinema Education Zone
05:10 Manoshi
06:20 The World's Greatest Show
08:30 Drama Serial: Khowab
09:00 Drama Serial: Bayoscope
10:30 Health Show
09:30 Shiray Shonito
10:05 Science Workshop
10:30 Arshinagar
11:00 Transworld Sports
12:05 Millenium
02:35 Sposher Bailey Nupur
03:15 Drama Serial: Sheela
04:25 Cartoon: Fardi
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Nari Gharey Bailey
08:15 Siddika Kabir's Recipe
08:50 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan

PICK OF THE DAY

Bayoscope
On ATN Bangla at 9:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Bonya Mirza, Litu Anam, Khayrul Alam Shabuj, Saleh Ahmed

8MM
On STAR Movies at 8:40pm
Genre: Mystery/Thriller
Cast: Nicolas Cage, Joaquin Phoenix, James Gandolfini

HBO
09:40 Drama Serial: Shyoola Dindarpan
11:25 Pinala: Survival Island
10:00 Rock Star
12:00 The Eighteenth Angel
1:45 The Bone Snatcher
3:30 Red Dragon
6:00 Tempo
7:45 Stealing Harvard
9:30 Cobra
11:15 Tales From The Crypt 40
12:00 Texas Chansaw
12:05 Massacre The Next Generation
1:45 Paper Soldiers
STAR MOVIES
10:00 The Princess Diaries

STAR GOLD
09:55 JURM
1:30 Pratibha
8:30 Shirdi Sai Baba
12:05 Shapath
STAR PLUS
5:00 Maan
6:00 Nargis
6:30 Adventures Of Mickey
7:00 Disney's The

Weekenders
7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
8:00 Hello Dolly
8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se
9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
9:30 Milee
10:00 Kavyanjali
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
11:11 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
11:30 Kahin To Hoga
12:00 K-Street Pak Hill

4:30 Hollywood Squares
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30 Ally Mc Beal
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 That 70s Show
7:30 Friends
8:00 Newsradio
8:30 American Idol
9:30 Philly
10:30 Third Watch
11:28 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Newsradio
12:00 Cover Story

6:00 The Planet's Funniest Animals
7:00 Amazing Animal Videos
10:30 Supernatural Extraneous Time Warp
11:00 Secret World of Gardens
11:30 Wild Encounters Big Five, Little Five Leopard

7:00 Massive Engines with Chris Bamie
7:30 Wild Discovery Reptiles Crocodiles And Alligators
8:30 Extreme Machines II Earth Breakers
9:30 Days That Shook The World
10:30 Past is Wild, Future is Wild
11:30 New Detectives
STAR SPORTS
8:30 Asian Tour Weekly 2005 (R)
9:00 Hitz (R)
9:30 San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour Indonesia Quarterfinal #3(R)
12:30 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Manchester United Vs Blackburn Rovers (T)
2:30 Equestrian Fei World Cup Jumping Series 2004/2005 Göteborg Sweden (T)
3:30 Ladies European Tour Bangkok Thailand Day Two Highlights(T)
4:30 Yachting Oryx Quest 2005 Highlights(T)
5:00 Rugby 7's World Cup Highlights(T)
6:00 Hitz (R)
6:30 Max Power 2005 (T)
7:30 Golf Focus (T)
8:00 Sportline (L)
8:30 France Olympique Lyonnais Vs Pav Eindhoven
9:00 Quarterfinal #2 Leg #1(R)
10:30 Sportline (R)
11:00 The Masters Official Films 2003 (T)
23:30 Sportline (R)

DISCOVERY
1:30 Science Frontiers Body Armor
2:30 Classic Discovery Secrets Of The Buried Armies
3:30 Hollywood Superstars Clint Eastwood: Man From Malpas
4:30 Prosecutors: The pride and Joy
5:30 Mystery Hunters
6:00 Living Pulse 2 Episode 2
6:30 Great Cars Episode 14

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY
12:30 Storm Stories
1:00 The Last Voices From Heaven
2:00 Love Market In The

ESP
7:00 Sri Lanka Tour Of New Zealand 1st Test Day 3 2nd & 3rd Session(L)
11:30 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 Lyon France Olympique Lyonnais Vs Pav Eindhoven En Quarterfinal #2 Leg #1(S)
1:30 Exon Zolay - Winter X Games VI - Review M Aspen Co Usa (T)
2:30 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Charlton Albion Etc Vs Manchester City
5:30 Motorsport Asia (T)
6:00 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 Liverpool Vs Juventus Fc Ou Arterinal #1 Leg #1(R)
8:00 Hitz (T)
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 Goals! (T)
9:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of New Zealand 1st Test Day 3 Highlights(S)
11:00 Soccer Realy Bend It Like Beckham Ep #1 & #2(R)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)

TEN SPORTS
10:30 Gartner TV
11:30 German League Highlights
1:30 Champion Classics
4:30 NCAA Championship
5:30 Italian Serie A - Highlights
6:30 WWE After Burn
7:30 German League Highlights
8:00 Gillette World Sport
10:00 Caribbean Classics
11:00 Portuguese League HLA
12:00 WWE After Burn
1:00 German League Highlights