

AL MANSUR

A pioneering theatre activist will aid technical crew



Al Mamun

ERSHAD KAMOL

Al Mansur began performing in TV plays from 1973 and has received appreciation for his bold appearance on the small screen. Moreover, he has written many TV

Al Mansur says, "I have returned with a big project. Our TV programmes are technically backward compared to the programmes of developed nations. I have brought with me a high-tech camera, sound system, light system and editing panel. I aspire to train the selected young talents in direction, cinematography and editing using these high-tech tools. I have already started sharing my working experience in USA with seven selected technical crew. It is the part of orientation before beginning new TV programmes.

"I joined BTV as a producer in 1980 and worked till 1989. Later, I underwent training in the USA and made programmes there. While watching Bangladeshi programmes on satellite channels, I felt that I could help the young makers to make technically sound programmes."

Al Mansur has made a great impact on the post-Liberation War theatre movement in Bangladesh by introducing the neo-theatre movement. To quote Mansur, "Just after Liberation there were a few theatre troupes, which staged occasional plays in Bangladesh. At the end of 1972, at the fresher's reception for the students of Department of Journalism and Mass Communication of Dhaka University, I organised a 30-minute play at the

Teachers Students Centre (TSC) auditorium. I was the playwright, director and also acted in the play. Pioneering light technician of the country, Siraj, helped me immensely during the production. He developed a manual dimmer for the light operation.

"M Hamid, a student activist during those days offered to help us arrange hall-based drama competitions. Later, students of nine dormitories staged nine plays in the competition in 1973. I was the playwright as well as the director of one of the participating plays, which was staged by the students of SM Hall. Later, we organised Natyachakra, a theatre troupe under his guidance. And most of the activists of the then Natyachakra, such as M Hamid, Nasiruddin Yousuff, Selim Al Deen, Abdul Quader, Khairul Alam Shobuj and others are prominent theatre personalities of the country.

"In 1974 we formed Dhaka Theatre. I am the playwright of *Biday Monalisa*, which is a Dhaka Theatre production. The last stage play in which I performed is *Muntasir Fantasy*. Moreover, my play *Hey Jonota Arekhar* was staged at the then Racecourse Ground, at the council of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad, which had an audience turnout of over 20,000," adds Mansur.

Exhibition

Handicrafts to the forefront



A colourful work in batik (Top), a creation in applique (Bottom)

FAYZA HAQ

An exhibition of promising handicrafts was seen recently at the Zainul Gallery. The participants were Farhana Ferdausi, Nadia Anwar, Pintu Deb, Mehreen Zaman and Jagadish Chandra Roy. The exhibits included batik paintings, hand painted clothes and items of household interest.

Nadia Anwar used child art in her work of applique and batik. Three dolls were seen on the fabric background, one of African origin, wearing

green clothes, with another cuddly doll in the centre with striped clothes, and the last a cute stuffed toy. This was purely decorative and was based on the artist's experience at a school where she teaches. A mixed media work by the same artist brought in cats surrounding a bowl, which once bore three fish.

Another batik work by Farhana Ferdousi presented two rare birds a *holude bou* and a *dhanesh*. They were seen sitting on a tree with wild flowers. It took the artist a week to complete it

in the classroom. As she worked on the creation, Farhana progressed from light colours like white to the dark ones like blue and green. Wax played an important part in the making of the picture. Another of her creations bore three owls, seen at night time and were presented in vibrant reds and orange. The sky was colourful too.

A beautiful hand painted sari by Jagadish Chandra Roy brought in motifs of flowers, star bursts and sea weeds. This was in orange, yellow and mauve. A batik sari by the same artist depicted fish in vibrant greens and yellow on a background of black, pink and brown. Farhana's

entrée was a bedcover in blocks, in paisley pattern and peacock motifs. The cushion covers in batik brought in motifs of fish and other folk designs which also included animals like elephants and goats. Flowers had also been included in the composition. In addition, hand painted *punjabis* and *fotas* were included in the display.

The inaugural day had brought in prominent artists like Abdus Shakoor Shah, Abul Barq Alvi and Farida Zaman. It was a gala occasion, fit for the coming Eid.



CULTURAL FEAST

Photography Exhibition

**Title:** Gunter Grass: Photographs  
**Photographer:** Nasir Ali Mamun  
**Venue:** Exhibition Gallery, Goethe Institut, Dhanmondi Dhaka.  
**Date:** October 14-30

**Theme:** Photo exhibition on Palestinian Intifadha against aggressive Zionism  
**Organiser:** Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Venue:** Sculptor Novera Hall, National Museum  
**Date:** October 23-27, from 9am to 4:30pm

Group Exhibition

**Artistes:** Students of Department of Crafts  
**Venue:** Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University  
**Date:** October 22-27, from 10am to 8pm

Book Exhibition

**Occasion:** 135th birth anniversary of Russian writer Ivan A. Bunin  
**Venue:** Russian Cultural Centre  
**Date:** October 27-31

Art Exhibition

**Title:** Les Illustres  
**Artist:** 15 Contemporary artists of France  
**Venue:** La Gallery, Alliance Francaise 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi  
**Date:** October 14-30

ALL TIME GREATS

Nargis: An unforgettable presence on silver screen

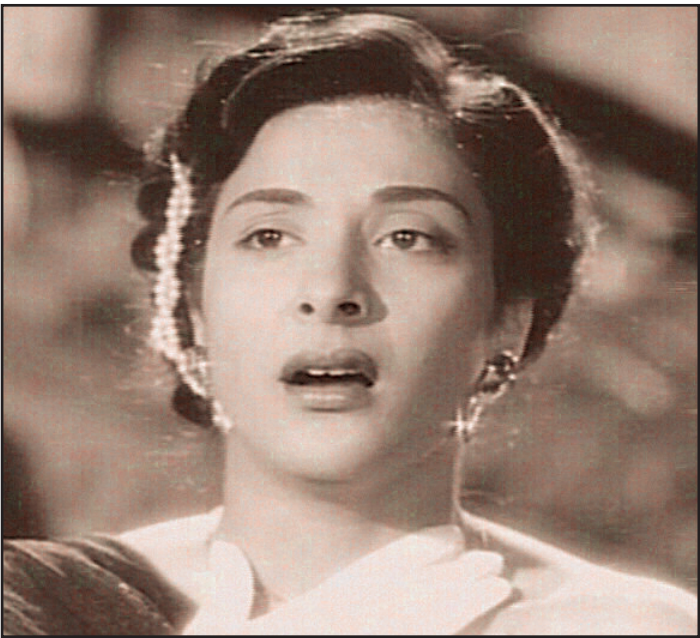
Among the great actresses of all time was the incandescent Nargis. Her authentic and understated performances made her a class apart in days when Indian cinema could be quite loud and theatrical.

Born on June 1, 1929, she was named Fatima Rashid. She was the daughter of actress, singer and filmmaker Jaddanbai. When just five years old, her mother introduced her as a child star, Baby Rani.

Her first adult lead role was in Mehboob Khan's *Taqdeer* (1943) opposite Motilal. She carved a niche in the same filmmaker's *Humayun* (1945) as Hamida Bano. However, the path to stardom came with *Andaaz* (1949) and *Barsaat* (1949). *Andaaz* remains one of the best love-triangles in Hindi cinema with Nargis turning in a fine performance as the urban woman caught between Dilip Kumar and Raj Kapoor.

Nargis often played women caught in a dilemma, leading to a tragic end -- *Mela* (1948), *Andaaz* (1949), *Jogan* (1950), *Babul* (1950), *Deedar* (1951) and *Beawafa* (1952) among others.

Meanwhile off-screen, the grapevine was rife with gossip about her affair with the often married Raj Kapoor. After *Awaara* (1951) she paired up almost exclusively with him, even turning down her mentor Mehboob's *Aan* (1952). Film-goers watched enthralled as the duo romanced each other in several films.



In *Shree 420* (1955), for instance, there was an unforgettable song, *Pyar Hua Ikarar Hua* which depicted Nargis and Raj prancing around under an umbrella in heavy rain.

By 1956 the pair had gone their separate ways. *Chori Chori* (1956), a breezy entertainer based on Frank Capra's *It Happened One Night* (1934), was their last film together. However, she did a special appearance in Raj Kapoor's production *Jagte*

*Raho* (1956) for old times sake. Critics and viewers felt it was fitting that at the end of the film she was the woman who finally quenched Raj Kapoor's thirst.

Later, Mehboob offered her a role in his magnum opus *Mother India* (1957).

*Mother India* is a moving film, which depicts the sufferings of an Indian peasant woman. Nargis made this role unforgettable with a strong

and earthy performance. The film represented the pinnacle of her career and won her the Best Actress award at the prestigious Karlovy Vary festival. *Mother India* was also nominated for the Oscar for Best Foreign Film but it lost to Federico Fellini's *Nights of Caberia* by a solitary vote!

The film was a turning point for Nargis in more than one way. Apparently while shooting for *Mother India*, Nargis was trapped amidst lit haystacks. As the flames leapt skywards, Sunil Dutt playing her rebellious son, Birju, in the film ran through the fire and rescued her. Subsequently he proposed to her. Nargis married Sunil Dutt and quit films after the marriage. However, she did lend her voice and we see her silhouette in Sunil Dutt's 'one actor movie monument' *Yaadein* (1964) and she did make a comeback of sorts expertly playing a woman with a split personality in *Raat Aur Din* (1967) winning a National Award for the work.

In addition to films, Nargis had philanthropic leanings. The first film personality to be awarded the Padmashree, her charitable work for spastics saw her nominated to the Rajya Sabha. She died of cancer in 1981, the same year her son Sanjay Dutt made his screen debut with *Rocky*.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Goodfellas' reign of terror continues on movie chart

Martin Scorsese's classic mobster movie *Goodfellas* is the greatest film of all time, according to the experts at a British film magazine.

The 1990 film, based on the exploits of real life gangster Henry Hill, which starred Ray Liotta, Robert de Niro and Joe Pesci, was No. 1 in a *Total Film* magazine poll published Monday last.

"*Goodfellas* has it all--story, dialogue, performances, technique," the magazine said. "It is slick, arguably the slickest film ever made. But it is also considered, layered and freighted with meaning."

*Vertigo*, Alfred Hitchcock's masterpiece starring Kim Novak as a woman who is haunted by her dual persona, was at No. 2 and *Jaws*, the thriller that starred a shark, was third. *Fight Club* starring Brad Pitt, came fourth, followed by *The Godfather*:



Tokyo Story



Goodfellas

*Part II*, Orson Welles' classic *Citizen Kane*, *Tokyo Story* directed by Japan's Yasujiro Ozu and *The Empire Strikes Back* the second film in George Lucas' *Star Wars* saga, was eighth.

The *Lord of the Rings* trilogy was at No. 9 and the Cary Grant comedy *His Girl Friday* was tenth.

There are a number of surprises, with the classic wartime drama *Casablanca* only making it to No. 98 and *Lawrence of Arabia* languishing at No. 77.

Other films in the top 25 included *Chinatown* (No. 12); *Manhattan* (No. 13); *Taxi Driver* (No. 14); *It's a Wonderful Life* (No. 15); *Apocalypse Now* (No. 20); *Rear Window* (No. 24) and *Sunset Boulevard* (No. 25).

Source: Internet

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 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, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 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.  
**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 Shubheccha Nin  
09:05 Musical programme  
10:00 Satellite Programme  
12:30 Shashito Tathya  
01:00 Moner Kotha  
02:05 Khelley Khelley Computer  
02:40 Selected Programme  
04:00 Roopkothar Deshey  
04:30 Ramzanul Mobarak  
04:50 Mahey Ramzan  
06:10 Talk Show: Shorashori  
06:35 Jiboner Alo  
07:00 News Headlines, Share Market, Weather Forecast  
07:05 Grantha Bhupon  
07:30 Egiye Cholar Pothey  
07:45 Rekha O Lekha  
08:30 Weekly Drama: Megh Bheshey Jai  
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia  
10:30 Rimjim  
12:05 Satellite Porgramme  
**CHANNEL i**  
09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction  
09:45 Trityo Matra  
10:45 Sa Re Ga Ma  
11:10 RC Tunes and Tunes  
12:00 TVC sky shop  
12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citicell Tarakokothon (live)  
01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan  
01:25 Public Reaction  
03:10 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak  
04:00 Bashudhara Amader Gaan  
04:20 Music Plus  
05:05 Ramzanul Mobarok  
05:48 Hamid O Naat  
05:55 Hardam Manohar Itaar  
06:30 Amar Chhobi  
07:50 Step 2 Dubai

08:25 Drama Serial: Albatross  
09:35 Drama Serial: Shampurno Rangin  
10:00 Drama Serial: Pothey Jetey Jetey  
**ATN BANGLA**  
10:30 Annodrishti  
11:05 ATN Taroka (acting): Rangamati zone  
12:15 Eid Shombhar  
12:45 Shurer Madhuri  
01:30 Purakirtir Bangladesh Muktiyuddher Ei Diney  
02:27 ATN Rannaghor  
03:15 Shundar Jiboner Jonno  
04:05 Ispahani Pure Snax Quiz Time  
04:20 Islami Sawal O Jobab Live  
04:50 Mobarok Ho Mahey Ramzan  
06:20 Mortal Combat  
08:00 Drama Serial: Char Deyaler Chand  
08:30 Drama Serial: Ferani Cyren  
09:00 Drama Serial: Britto  
10:35 Feather Touch Char Deyaler Kabbyo  
**ntv**  
08:35 Aajker Shokal  
09:00 Drama Serial: Titumirer Bansher Kella  
09:30 Nari Ghorey Bairay  
11:30 Bangla Cinema: 13 No. Feku Ostagar Lane  
01:05 Mukhtangan  
02:35 Drama Serial: Belabumi  
03:15 Drama Serial: Rangchhut

**PICK OF THE DAY**  
**Albatross**  
On Channel i at 8:25pm  
**Drama Serial**  
Cast: Raisul Islam Asad, Salahuddin Lavlu, Tomalika  
03:50 Hridoye Ramzan  
04:25 Mohilangan  
05:20 Jibon Gorar Ashor  
06:20 Shubho Shondhya  
06:50 Biz Week  
08:25 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush  
09:20 Music Express  
10:00 Quiz Show: Medhabi Dindapan  
11:25 Shangskriti Ei Shaptah  
**HBO**  
10:00 The Adventures of Pluto Nash  
12:00 Contact  
03:00 Tyson  
05:15 John Q  
07:30 Clocktappers  
09:30 Last Action Hero  
12:15 Welcome to the Jungle  
**STAR MOVIES**  
09:45 Day After Tomorrow  
11:50 Pit Fighter  
01:20 Levity  
03:00 Dying Young  
04:50 Love Actually  
07:00 Swimming Upstream  
08:45 Torn Apart  
10:20 Nemesis Game  
12:00 Pit Fighter  
**Star Plus**  
11:00 Patang  
11:30 Shanti  
12:00 Zindagi Milke  
12:55 Taaza Hits  
02:30 Kesar

**Last Action Hero**  
On HBO at 09:30pm  
**Genre: Action/Adventure**  
Cast: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Anthony Quinn  
03:50 Hridoye Ramzan  
04:25 Mohilangan  
05:20 Jibon Gorar Ashor  
06:20 Shubho Shondhya  
06:50 Biz Week  
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12:55 Taaza Hits  
02:30 Kesar

04:30 Freedom In the Wild Cheetahs  
06:30 Holly Hunter O'shea's Big Adventure Crocodile Canyon  
07:30 Wild Rescues  
08:30 Natural World Coyote  
10:30 Mad Mike and Mark Predator's Ball  
11:30 Animal Precinct  
**DISCOVERY**  
10:00 Africa's Great Rivers Okavango: The Miracle River  
10:30 Wild Discovery: Wildest Asia  
11:30 Ultimate Cars Racers  
12:00 Building the Ultimate Roller Coaster  
12:30 Great Palaces of the World: Royal Palace of Meknes Morocco  
01:30 Science Frontiers: Living Without A Memory  
02:30 Real Kids Real Adventures: Sucked Underground  
03:00 Healthy Living: Healthy Mother, Healthy Child  
03:30 Baby Story  
04:00 Great Romances of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
04:30 Wild Discovery Menziwa's Children: The Elephants of Zimbabwe  
05:30 Spy Stories CIA Secrets Escape From Terror  
06:30 Discovery Wings The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Airliner  
07:30 Wild Tech Seeing Journey of Life Human Life  
09:30 Days that Shook the World

10:30 100 Greatest Discoveries Astronomy  
**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**  
11:30 When Nature Strikes Back  
02:30 Air Crash Investigation S2  
03:30 Animal Nightmares  
04:00 Totally Wild  
04:30 Backyard Science  
04:45 Doc Eureka  
05:00 Serious: Desert  
05:30 Croc Chronicles  
06:00 Snake Wranglers  
06:30 Ng Explorer  
07:30 Frontlines Of Construction  
10:30 Interpol Investigates  
**ESPN**  
10:00 English Premier Football League 2005/06 Portsmouth Vs Charlton Athletic  
12:00 Asian X Games 2005 Presented By Kia - Sport Climbing Men & Women Highlights  
12:30 Champions Tour Golf Sbc San Antonio Tx Final Round(T)  
02:30 X Games Classic: The Best & The Worst Los Angeles, Ca (R)  
03:00 English Premier Football League 2005/06 Bolton Wan Derers Vs West Bromwich Albion (T)  
06:00 National Motocross Championship 2005 Episode One(T)  
06:30 Asian X Games 2005 Presented By Kia - Gold Medal Show (T)  
07:00 Bull Riding Pro Built Ford Tough Series 2005

09:00 Nampa Id Usa Team India Programming India Glorious (R)  
**STAR SPORTS**  
09:30 MotoGP World Championship 2005 Istanbul Turkey Highlights(R)  
11:00 Women's Golf Samsung World Championships 2005 Palm Desert, Ca Day Two(R)  
02:30 Brazilian Football (T)  
06:30 World Enduro Championships 2005  
07:00 Heinoia Finland (T)  
07:00 Bowling 38th Singapore International Open Finals Highlights(T)  
07:30 Asian Festival Of Speed Porsche Infineon Carrera Cup Asia Taebaek Korea Round 9(T)  
09:00 Sportscenter India Update (L)  
09:30 Cricket Classics Indian Legends  
10:30 Sportscenter India Update (L)  
10:32 Tna Xplosion  
**TEN SPORTS**  
10:30 European PGA Golf H/Ls: Mallorca Classic  
11:00 ATP Tennis : Ep 21  
11:00 Italian League Highlights  
01:30 World Cup Classics(1999-semi final Aus v SA)  
02:30 Portuguese League H/Ls : Ep 10  
03:00 German League Highlights  
03:30 Cricket Classics  
06:30 WWE: The Bottom Line Transworld Sports: Ep 43  
10:00 European PGA: Volvo Andalucia Day 1