

CULTURAL FEAST

Meril-Prothom Alo Award '05

Amidst glitz and glamour

KHALID-BIN-HABIB

MERIL-Prothom Alo Award 2005 was held on May 12 at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference centre to honour and inspire talents in the arenas of music, television, filmmaking and modeling. The nominations for the popular awards were open for public voting.

Ferdousi Majumder received the lifetime achievement award for her notable accomplishments and contribution to our theatre and TV. Educationist professor Zillur Rahman Siddique handed over the award to Ferdousi. Besides the award-giving ceremony, a glitzy musical programme, a fashion parade and skits based on current social issue entertained the audience.

A special performance by veteran film actress Kabori Sarwar was greeted with applause by the audience. Popular artistes and sport stars Moushumi, Riaz, Ferdous, Mahfuz, Subir Nandi, Ayub



(L-R) Filmstars Ferdous, Moushumi and Riaz entertain the audience with a performance



Shameem Ara Nipa performing at the event

Bachchu, Habibul Bashar Shumon, Joy, Nobel, Tania and many others, ensured that the three and half hour-long event remained a memorable one. Hanif Sanket, with his lively and witty anchoring, conducted the award-giving session.

Hajar Bochor Dhorey, written by eminent film director and author Zahir Raihan, won several major honours, including best film, best director (Kohinoor Akhter Shuchonda), best actor (Riaz) and best actress (Shoshi). Shuchonda delivered an emotional speech on the occasion, recalling her husband Zahir Raihan. The special award for best cinematographer went to Mahfuzur Rahman. The award handed over by editor of the Daily Star, Mahfuz Anam.

The award for best director for a TV play went to Abdullah Rana for

the play *Ghowsawarer Swapno*. Eminent writer Zafar Iqbal bagged the award for best playwright for the TV play *Ekti Shundor Shokal*. According to readers, the best actor was ATM Shamsuzzaman and the best actress -- Shabnoor.

Ayub Bachchu's band LRB won the award for best band. Asif and Samina Choudhury walked away with the awards for best male and female singer respectively.

The event wrapped up with a choral rendition of a patriotic song, *Ei deshta amader onek koshto korey paowa*, by Andrew Kishore, Bappa Mazumder, Asif and Monir Khan.

Squire Toiletries Ltd was the sponsor of the event.

Ibsen Commemoration '06 Bangladesh

A Japanese production of Ghosts staged

ERSHAD KAMOL

Bold and spontaneous performance of the actors can overcome language barrier. This was evident during the Japanese presentation of Henrik Ibsen's play *Ghosts*. Translated by Mitsua Mori, Japanese troupe -- Ibsen Performance Group staged the play at the National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on May 12.

Keeping the spotlight subtle, a gloomy ambience was created throughout the play, not to portray the supernatural elements, but to focus the darkness in a society -- promiscuousness of the male and sacrifice of the female to adjust with the family-life.

Like his father, Oswald Alving is ailing with syphilis and leads a reckless life. And it is not only the subject of inherited venereal disease that is offended in the play, but Ibsen's broad-fronted assault on

bourgeois hypocrisy, smugness and deceit. And through the decision of Mrs Alving -- not to leave her immoral husband's house -- Ibsen has featured a realistic picture of the society: The men are, by design, unreal, compared to the women.

A powerful performance was given by Keiko Ogawa as a sensitive, believable Helen Alving. In her conversations with Pastor Manders (Shoji Kurisu) during the unveiling of the dark family history, Ogawa's body language, voice modulation and gestures are perfect to present the aesthetic sentiment of the sequences. Shoji Kurisu also delivered a spontaneous performance in the role of a spineless character -- Pastor Manders.

It was challenging for Tatsua Yanagimoto to perform in the role of Oswald Alving who is a 'living dead'. And he has handled that wisely. Kazoko Ito as Regine Engstrand, the young housekeeper reared by Mrs

Alving, gave a vibrant performance. In his short presence Kensuke Hosoe as Jacob Engstrand, the drunken carpenter with the broken leg, performed boldly.

As director Nobuhito Hanashima's approach to the play is very simple. Equal momentum remained throughout the play. However, his handling of the two most important aspects of the play -- when Helene reveals the truth and when the orphanage burns -- is not that effective. During the composition of the 'orphanage burning' scene some background noise has been created. A realistic interior design of a house was created as well.

Ghosts was performed as part of the "Ibsen Commemoration '06, Bangladesh" arranged by Centre for Asian Theatre in collaboration with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and supported by Royal Norwegian Embassy.



A scene from the play Ghosts

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

A Midsummer Night's Dream staged by students of Dawn Grammar School

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Students of Dawn Grammar School staged *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a popular romantic comedy by William Shakespeare, on May 12 at the Russian Centre of Science and Culture.

Mahfuz Anam, editor of The Daily Star attended the event as the chief guest. Nurul Huda, former inspector general of Police and Yasmeen Murshed, chairperson of Scholastica School Ltd were present as special guests.

In his speech, the chief guest said, "Much of our evolution process occurs in schools. Schools play a significant role in developing children's mind. Despite numerous constraints, our schools are demonstrating great success; our students are excelling in O and A level exams."

Speeches by the guests were followed by performances by students of kindergarten, nursery and classes one, two, three. The young ones performed songs and group dances. Special attraction was four



Students of Dawn Grammar School perform in A Midsummer Night's Dream

youngsters portraying the iconic characters from Shakespeare's plays.

The main event of the evening, staging of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, started with a scene where three of the characters -- Theseus, a

suitor chosen by her father Egeus, as her husband. She is in love with Lysander. They cannot get married as Egeus is dead against it, so they decide to elope to the forest near the city. Demetrius hears about the plan and he follows them to the forest. Helens who is madly in love with Demetrius, follows him.

Oberon, King of fairies living in the forest, tries to solve the dilemma of the lovers with the help of magic. The magic, inappropriately applied, cause a blunder which results in a war to attain the love of Helena. A tiff between Oberon and his queen, Titania makes the sub-plot of the play.

Farhan Al Hafiz and Nowrin Huda played Theseus and Hippolyta respectively. Mushfiqur Rahman played Lysander and Tahiya Mansoor was in the role of Hermia. Khaledur Rahman and Shajela Shawkat played Demetrius and Helena. The play was directed by Tasneem Hossain and Dalia Mahmud. Shirleen Manzur was the music and dance director of the play.

Iraq's suffering captured on canvas

CNN, London

How does one capture a nation's suffering and pain in a single expression? This has been Iraqi artist Suad Al Attar's mission since the beginning of the first Gulf War in 1991.

More than a decade of turmoil in her homeland and her personal life have provided her with plenty of raw material that has made its painstaking way onto canvas in her latest exhibition, *Tears of an Ancient City*.

Born in Iraq where she spent her formative years and established herself as a painter, Al Attar left for London in 1976, but has remained close links to her homeland, becoming the first female artist to have a solo exhibition in Baghdad. Her work hangs in the British Museum.

While her work initially explored Impressionist-style mystical and romantic themes, it was brought into sharp focus when tragedy struck close to home.

She says that in 1993 her sister Leila Al Attar -- then the director of the Museum of Fine Arts in Baghdad -- was killed alongside her family when the house they were staying was destroyed in a US attack on the Iraqi intelligence headquarters.

Her key themes of loss and longing inspired by this event and the ongoing violence in Iraq can be seen clearly in one of her latest paintings, *The Cry*, which she says attempts to capture the anguish and sorrow of a nation that has endured loss.

Despite the conflict, Al Attar longs to return to Iraq, to

capture more peaceful images -- in particular the ancient city of Babylon.

Tears of an Ancient City will be exhibited at Leighton House Museum, London until June 15.



A painting by Suad Al Attar

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, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 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 pm.
News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm, 11:30 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

BTV
09:05 Musical Programme
09:25 Shashwato Jibon
09:35 Open University
10:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 Songbad Potrer
Pata Thekey
12:30 Shashtho Taito
01:30 Prottyashar Alo
03:05 Banshori
03:30 Cook Show
04:00 Gaaner Bhela
05:05 National TV Debate
06:10 Gitanjali
07:00 Mati O Manush
07:30 Drama Serial: Rang
Dhonu
08:45 Drama Serial: Rang
Dhonu
09:25 Drama Serial: Swapno Shonar Gaon
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia
10:30 Agun Jhora Sondya

CHANNEL i
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Tritiyo Matra
11:05 Tele Prescription (Live)
12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell
12:30 Tarokakothon(Live)
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama
03:30 Special Programme
04:25 Amader Gaan

05:30 Chithi Pelam
06:00 Music Plus
07:50 Aloy Bhubon
Bhora/Hallo Minister
Jibon Jekhane Jemon
10:00 Drama Serial: Bela Obelar Golpo
12:00 Akkeer Songbad Potro

ATN BANGLA
03:30 Onyodrishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Jonome
11:35 Gandharaj
Samsung Cine Aha
12:15 Adibashi Jonopod
12:50 Smritir Monikothae
01:30 Shornali Shadakalo
02:30 Drama Serial: Nirob Koshto
03:10 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai
03:45 Shapla Shaluk
04:20 Music Box
04:45 Ispahani Pure Snax
Quiz Time
05:10 ATN Music
05:45 Islami Sawal O Jobab
06:25 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Khola Duar
08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera
09:00 Drama Serial: Nirey Taar Neel Dheu
09:30 Drama Serial: Ek Akasher Swapno
10:40 Business This Week

PICK OF THE DAY

Lux Glamour World
On ntv at 09:10pm
Entertainment show focusing on latest Hollywood movies

The New Shabuj Opera
On ATN Bangla at 08:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Jayanto Chattyopadhyay, Tamalika

08:35 Ajker Shokal
09:05 Drama Serial: Romizer Aaina
09:30 Amra Ekhon Unish Kuri
10:05 Animal Kingdom
12:05 World Of Arts
12:30 Hoi Hullor
01:05 Mukhtangan
02:35 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush
03:15 Drama: Sada Kalo Akti Chhobi O
03:00 Kichhu Ronger Chhota
05:10 Din Darpan /Itihasher Ei Diney

05:20 Apanar Jiggasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Apon Aloy
08:20 Drama Serial: Romizer Aaina
09:10 Lux Glamour World
11:25 Dindarpan

CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Film
01:30 Bagan Bilash
03:00 Smallville
03:30 Drama Serial: Society
04:00 Drama Serial: Dui

04:30 Clueless
06:30 Hercules and the Circle of Fire
08:30 Ghost Ship
10:15 Deadwood 06: Plague
11:30 Drop Zone
01:30 Eraser

STAR MOVIES
10:20 101 Dalmatians
12:25 Down With Love
02:30 Freaky Friday
04:30 Stepmom
07:00 Parent Trap
09:30 Sudden Death
11:40 Hidalgo

STAR WORLD
08:00 Arrested Development
08:30 Billboard Us Countdown
09:30 Hogan's Heroes
10:00 Get Smart
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
12:30 Desperate Housewives
01:30 Lost
02:30 The O.C.
03:30 The Apprentice
04:30 Grey's Anatomy
05:30 Hollywood Shootouts
06:00 Travel Asia
06:30 Baywatch Hawaii
07:30 Malcolm In The Middle
08:00 Parkinson
09:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal
10:30 Desperate House-

04:30 Dugoney Paanch Concert
05:30 Chokh Meley Dhekhhi
07:00 Padmoraag
08:15 Drama: Achol
09:30 Ma
11:00 Drama: Nonggor

BANGLAVISIO N
08:30 Shubho Shokal
09:00 Cartoon
10:00 Desher Pothey
10:30 Drama Serial: Tobuo Bhalobashi
12:00 Drama Serial: Garchhara

02:30 Drama Serial: Krishnopokkho
04:00 Shat Shoter
04:30 Cartoon
05:00 Cine Beat
05:30 Ashey Pashey
06:40 Diner Sheshey
08:05 Drama Serial: Album Ki Jadu Bangla
08:40 Ganey
09:15 Drama Serial: Shohorer Shesh Bari
09:50 Apanar Agami

wives
Lost

DISCOVERY
08:30 Wild Discovery
09:30 Discover India
10:30 Feast India
11:30 More Than A Game
12:30 Mother's Day Special
01:30 Mother's Day Special
07:30 Mother's Day Special
08:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows
10:30 Night Safari
11:30 Mummy Autopsy

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:30 Air Crash Investigation
09:30 Born Wild
10:30 Realm of Great White Bear
11:30 Wild Orphans
12:00 Wild Orphans
02:30 People & Places
03:30 In the Womb
04:30 In the Womb
05:30 Science Times
06:30 Clone
07:30 The Living Edens
08:30 Sunset Bollywood
09:30 Delhi in Flames
10:30 Dangerous Encounters
Wild Sex

11:30 Lost
01:30 Uefa Champions League Magazine S
02:00 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
03:28 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
05:30 Sportscenter
05:35 Hitz
06:00 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
1:30 Spanish Football League

STAR SPORTS
08:30 Australia Tour Of South Africa
09:57 Fim World Motorcycle Championship
02:00 Football Extra
03:00 Fa Cup
03:30 Sbk Superbike
04:00 Football Extra
05:00 Race Day
06:00 Formula One
07:30 Chequered Flag
08:00 Fifa World Cup Programming
10:00 Hitz
10:30 Australia Tour Of South Africa

01:00 England Sportscenter Week In Review
01:30 Uefa Champions League Magazine S
02:00 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
03:28 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
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10:00 Hitz
10:30 Australia Tour Of South Africa

TEN SPORTS
09:00 WWE: Experience
11:30 Sports Movies: The Air Up There
02:45 WWE: Specials: Backlash (Raw)
07:30 Moto GP : GRAND