

CULTURAL FEAST

Classical Music Soiree

Organiser: Shuddha Sangeet Proshar Goshthi

Artists: Leena Taposhi Khan & Pujon Kumar Das

Venue: Bishwa Shahitya Kendra, Dhaka

Date: January 25

Time: 6:30

Film Screening

Programme: Kids First!

Organisers: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh & Children's Film Society

Films: Finding Nema & Peter Pan

Venue: German Cultural Centre, House-10, Road-9, Dhanmondi

Date: January 25

Time: 4pm onwards

Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Kamrul Islam Nadim

Venue: Russian Centre of Science & Culture

Inauguration: January 25, at 5:30pm

Theatre

Play: Chhayanat

Troupe: Nagorik Natya Sampradaya

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: January 25

Time: 6:30pm

Film Screening

Organiser: Indian Cultural Centre

Venue: House#25, Road#96, Gulshan 2

Date: January 27

Time: Bialiish-42 (Bangla)

Date: January 28

Title: Legend of Bhagat Singh

Date: January 29

Title: Fanaa

Exhibition

Kanak and Mithu's sojourn in Korea



FAYZA HAQ

KANAK Champa Chakma and her husband Khalid Mahmood Mithu are back from Seoul, South Korea, having won approbation for their work and country. They took part in a recent international art festival arranged by the Seoul Artists' Association.

"I sent in my painting, two feet by two feet; while Mithu's was two feet by three feet. We had worked on paper and sent our entries before our arrival at Korea. Mithu's was mixed media, while mine was acrylic, with a

modern composition of tribal life done in two colours, green and ash, touched with white. Mithu's abstract work was bluish in hue. He had used, in addition, jute and paper collage," explains Kanak.

The other artists at the festival hailed from Norway, the Netherlands, Japan, China, Taiwan, Vietnam and Myanmar, among others. The artists collected at Seoul, and then went by plane to Yeosu, an island where there was large gallery, in which the art exhibition was held. There was a parallel display of sculpture in an enormous,

nearby garden, in a valley with a river flowing past it.

"The cultural exchange was a great experience. Other artists expressed their desire to come and exhibit in Bangladesh. Art connoisseurs from Japan, China and Taiwan liked our work and invited us to their countries, in turn," says Kanak.

In Korea, Kanak studied Mahayana Buddhism which is different from the prevailing Hinayana branch of Buddhism prevalent in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India. She studied the temples and the monks. "The difference lies in the way of the prayer," says

Kanak, "The aspiration for Nirvana and the belief in Buddha, however, remain the same." She went to Myanmar too to study Buddhist philosophy, which she had represented in her work in Bengal Gallery in 2005. She hopes to dwell on the same subject in her future exhibit— having studied the similarities and differences in the way of life of the monks there and here in Bangladesh. A lot of saffron, gold and orange will be seen again in Kanak's future work, as also witnessed in her present canvases in her studio in Dhanmondi.

Artworks by Kanak Champa Chakma (L) and Khalid Mahmood Mithu

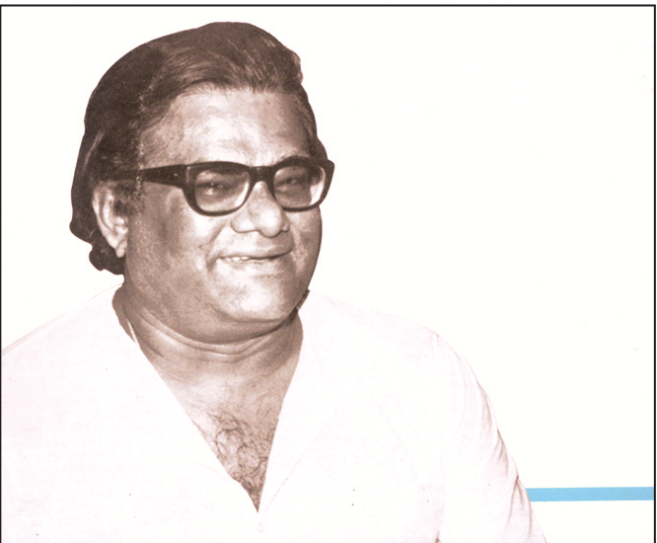
OUR TALENTS

Alamgir Kabir: A trailblazer in Bangladeshi alternative cinema

January 20 marked the 18th death anniversary of filmmaker Alamgir Kabir. Considered to be one of the film gurus in the country, Kabir was equally passionate about filmmaking, cultural and political movements and journalism.

Alamgir Kabir was born on December 26, 1938 in Rangamati. Kabir started his schooling in Hoogli and in 1948, he was admitted to Dhaka Collegiate School. After passing from Dhaka College, he took admission in the Department of Physics of the University of Dhaka. He completed his honours from the university and went to England, where he studied electrical engineering at Oxford University. In England, he saw the film *The Seventh Seal* by renowned filmmaker Ingmar Bergman several times and developed a fascination for filmmaking. He also became involved in leftist politics and was a member of the Communist Party of England. Kabir worked as a reporter for newspaper the *Daily Worker*. He completed a number of courses on the history of the film industry, film direction and aesthetics.

Kabir was the founder of organisations such as East Pakistan House and East Bengal Liberation



Front at London and took active part in the 'campaign against racial discrimination'. During his work in the *Daily Worker*, he became acquainted with the strategies and methods of guerrilla warfare and had the opportunity to interview President Fidel Castro. Later, he took part in the wars of liberation of Palestine and Algeria. The French

government arrested him on one occasion and he spent eight months behind the bars.

Kabir returned to Bangladesh in 1966 and got involved in the leftist movement. The Ayub Khan regime arrested and put him in prison. He started his professional life in the then East Pakistan as a journalist for the *Daily Observer*. Very soon,

he earned a name for himself as a serious film critic. He then joined the *Express*, a weekly, as its editor. With the start of Liberation War in 1971, he joined the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra as the chief of its English section. He also worked as the chief reporter of the government-in-exile. During this time he also started making films. One of his first documentary films was on the freedom fighters. His voice was used for playback in some films made by others.

After the liberation of Bangladesh, Kabir made a number of quality feature films. These included *Dhire Bahey Meghna*, *Suryakanya*, *Shimana Periy*, *Rupali Shaikate*, *Mohona*, *Mahanayak* and *Parinita*. Short films by Kabir include the *Liberation Fighter*, *Culture in Bangladesh*, *Amulya Dhan*, *Bhor Holo Dor Kholo*, *Amra Dujan*, *Ek Shagor Rokter Binimoye*, *Monikanchon* and *Chorasrot*. Kabir is also the author of several books, including *Film in East Pakistan*, *Film in Bangladesh*, *Suryakanya*, *Shimana Periy* and *Mohona*. He was honoured with the Cine Journalists Award, Zahir Raihan Film Award of Uttaran and Syed Mohammad Parvez Award.

Kabir died in a road accident on January 20, 1989. His works remain an inspiration to generations of filmmakers in Bangladesh. Says acclaimed filmmaker Morshedul Islam, "Alamgir Kabir was one of the best teachers on films along with being a cine-activist and filmmaker. He had the power to motivate young people in filmmaking. He was the only filmmaker who could correctly react to the historic events of his time." Among Kabir's students were Tanvir Mokammel, Manzar-e-Hasen Murad, Tareq Masood and Morshedul Islam.

According to Tanvir Mokammel: "Alamgir Kabir was the doyen of the quality film movement in our country. His tragic death, when the alternate cinema was just taking off, was a national loss. As a filmmaker, he was exceptional, being much ahead of his time in this country, where our cinema is lagging 30 years behind the international standard. Kabir infused new ideas in filmmaking, as he introduced the 'cinema vérité' style — where the story is distributed through different images and does not follow the stereotyped narrative."

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Small Screen

Drama serial 'Dokkhinayon' on Banglavision

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Written and directed by Mamunur Rashid, drama serial *Dokkhinayon* is aired every Thursday at 8:10pm on Banglavision.

*Dokkhinayon* is a story of a father and the son, representing a generation gap. After the demise of the wife, Barrister Nazmul Ahsan quits his job and takes to travelling. He makes a stop in Australia where his son Kamrul Ahsan lives. The play unfolds around the subsequent tension between the father and the son.

Mamunur Rashid, Dolly Zohur, Mahfuz Ahmed, Tomalika Kormokar, Chanchal Chowdhury and Nadia are the main cast members of the serial.



Mamunur Rashid in a scene from the serial

'Chhayamukh': A new episode comes up



Intikhab Dinar in a major role from *Chhayamukh*

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The 13th episode of *Chhayamukh* will be aired tonight on ATN Bangla at 9:20 pm. Intikhab Dinar, Tazin Ahmed, Tonima Hamid, Shirin Bokul and Ataur Rahman form the main cast of the play. The play is written and directed by Rajibul Islam Rajib. In today's episode a new plot unfolds as Noyon threatens Kamal that he would take severe actions if the ransom is not paid.

79th Academy Awards

'Dreamgirls' leads with 8 nods, snubbed for best picture

The dream of the top Academy Award is gone for the musical *Dreamgirls*. It got eight Oscar nominations, but not best picture — leaving the main prize up for grabs.

Will it be the sprawling global drama *Babel*, which placed second with seven nominations, or the mob epic *The Departed*? Could the palace tale *The Queen* be crowned best picture, or even *Little Miss Sunshine*, a road-trip romp that became last year's independent-cinema darling?

At the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences last Tuesday, Sid Ganis (president of the academy) and actress Salma Hayek announced the nominations packed with surprises. The most unexpected was the downfall of *Dreamgirls*, considered a front-runner but which missed out on the fifth best-picture slot to the World War II saga *Letters From Iwo Jima*. It was the first time ever that the film with the most nominations failed to earn a best-picture slot.

*Dreamgirls* did grab nominations for Eddie Murphy and Jennifer Hudson, the favourites to win the supporting-acting prizes. Oscar attention is a new experience for Murphy, whose fast-talking persona has brought him devoted audiences but little awards acclaim in his 25-year career.

Best-picture is anyone's guess, though. Previous Hollywood honours usually narrow the field to a front-runner or two, but this season, top prize winners have been all over

the place.

Nominees in the best actress category include Helen Mirren, who plays British monarch Elizabeth II in *The Queen*; Penelope Cruz as a woman dealing with bizarre domestic crises in *Valver*; Dame Judi Dench as a scheming teacher in *Notes on a Scandal*; Meryl Streep as a tyrannical boss in *The Devil Wears Prada* and Kate Winslet as a housewife in an affair with a neighbour in *Little Children*.

Forest Whitaker was nominated for best actor as Ugandan dictator Idi Amin in *The Last King of Scotland*, while Leonardo DiCaprio was chosen for playing a mercenary on a quest for a rare gem in *Blood Diamond*. Also nominated are Ryan

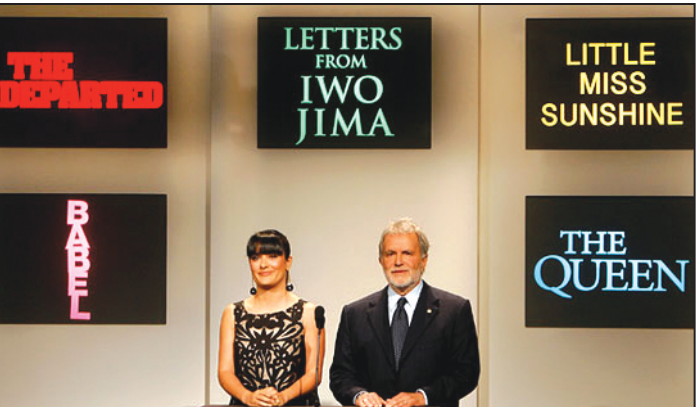
Gosling as a teacher with a drug addiction in *Half Nelson*; Peter O'Toole as a lecherous old actor in *Venus*; and Will Smith as a homeless dad in *The Pursuit of Happiness*.

It was the eighth nomination for O'Toole, and another loss would put him in the record books as the actor with the most nominations without a win.

"If you fail the first time, try, try, try, try, try, try, try again," O'Toole said in a statement.

This finally may be the year for *The Departed* filmmaker Martin Scorsese, tied with four other directors for the Oscar-futility record of five nominations and five losses.

Source: Internet



Salma Hayek and President Sid Ganis of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announce the nominations

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. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.

ATN BANGLA

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

News (English) 8:20am, 12:30am

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.

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.

CHANNEL 1

News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am

BANGLAVISION

News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 2:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00pm

News Headlines (English) at 9:05pm

RTV

News (Bangla) at 7:00am, 3:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:30am

BTV

11:15 Cookery Show

11:40 Shotoruz

12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha

01:00 Shukhi Poribar

02:15 Children's Drama

02:40 Esho Gaan Shikhi

03:05 Cartoon

04:00 Esho Computer Shikhi

04:30 Bansuri

05:05 Documentary Programme

06:40 Jiboner Alo

07:00 Shangita

07:30 Shomoyer Shanglap

08:30 Protidin Bangladesh

08:40 Drama of the Week

10:30 Musical Programme

ATN BANGLA

09:20 Drama Serial: Shokal Shondha

10:30 Talk Show: Aktel Anyodristi

12:15 Shomoyer Shanglap

04:05 ATN Ranna Ghar

04:20 Shundor Jiboner Jonno

05:10 Amader Joto Kotha

05:45 Islamic Programme

06:20 Aktel Protidin

08:00 Drama Serial: Shokal Shondha

08:40 Drama Serial: Koto Chena Koto Ochena

09:20 Drama Serial: Chhaya Mukh

CHANNEL i

09:30 Shangbad Potre Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameen Phone

12:30 Citicell Tarokakothon

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaen

01:30 Shangbadpotre

Bangladesh

01:45 Public Reaction

02:40 Tritiyo Matray Apni

03:05 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak

04:25 Nirbachoni Olympiad

04:35 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 Quiz Show: Bangladesh Amar Bangladesh

06:20 Amar Chhobi

07:50 Aktel Saaf Kotha

09:35 bddl Ekhonei Shomoy

10:00 Drama Serial: Nishidho Bonobhumi

12:00 Grammephone Ajker Shangbadpotre

ntv

08:35 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe

09:00 Ki Kotha Tahar Shatey

09:30 Choloচিত্র Kotha

01:05 Japan Video Topic

02:35 Labonyoprobha

03:15 Drama Serial: Shaola

03:50 Drama Serial: Neer

04:25 Mon Amar Shondhan Kon

05:15 Shada Moner Manush

05:20 Mohilangan

06:20 Shubho Shondhya

06:50 Rightclick

08:25 Drama Serial: Megh Bolechhe Jabo Jabo

09:00 Glamour World

10:00 Drama Serial: Bishkhyo Dindarpan

11:25 Ei Shokal

08:00 Aj Potrikay

09:05 Shaptahik Adda

09:30 Drama Serial: Kagajer Manush

Rtv

08:00 Shuprovat Bangladesh

02:00 Dance Programme

03:30 Telefilm: Ei Opekthay

05:10 Baker Pathay

06:00 Saaji Bela

06:45 Iltihasher Pathdhorey

07:00 Shombhabonar Bangladesh

08:15 Drama Serial: Ghugur Basha

09:00 Drama Serial: Dash Diner Ghotona

09:30 The One

11:00 Musicnet

BANGLAVISION

09:05 Ebong Classer Bairey

09:30 Amader Ranna Ghar

10:10 Drama Serial: Kachhey Durey

10:45 Agamir Kontho

12:30 Media Bhuban

02:30 Drama Serial: Joba Kushum

03:05 Cinebit Shadakalo

03:40 Rupantra

04:20 Drama Serial: Krishno Pokho

05:00 Ichhey Ghuri

05:30 Diner Sheshey

06:30 Shurer Bhuban

08:05 Drama Serial: Dokhinayon

09:20 Article Thirty Nine

03:05 The Making of Tomorrow

07:30 The Making of Sky

09:30 Captain and the World of Tomorrow

10:50 Comfort and Joy

06:45 Tales From The Crypt

27: People Who Live in

07:30 Brass Hearses

09:30 Hudson Hawk

11:45 Catwoman

02:15 The Making of Sky

07:30 Captain and the World of Tomorrow

STAR MOVIES

11:30 Chumsclubber, The Radio

01:15 Mr. 3000

03:15 Flight Of The Phoenix

05:00 Godsend

07:00 Star Wars: Ep. Iv - A New Hope

08:45 Employee Of The Month

10:50 Dark Harvest

12:25 American Idol

11:30 Heroes

12:30 Grey's Anatomy

01:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.

02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show

03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

04:00 General Hospital

05:00 Table For Three

06:00 Arrested Development

06:30 The Simpsons

07:00 Cheers

07:30 Friends

08:00 Seinfeld

08:30 American Idol

09:30 Heroes

10:30 The Office

11:00 Two And A Half Men

11:30 Fashion House

06:00 Odyssey In Western Oz

06:30 The Great Betrayal

07:30 Shark Quest

08:30 MegaStructures

09:30 Frontline Of Construction

10:30 Crime Night

11:30 The Dark Side of Hippios

STAR SPORTS

12:00 Tna Impact (Wrestling)

01:00 Sports Max 2006/07 (Extreme Spor

02:00 Full Toss? Haste Rehna Boss (The Australian Open 2007 Presented B

06:00 2007 Euromilhoes

06:30 Dakar (Auto Rac

06:30 Australian Open 2007 Presented B

07:30 Nokia Football Crazy (Soccer/Fut

08:30 Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07

10:00 Jamie's Greatest Hits (Magazine)

10:30 Tna Xplosion (Wrestling)

11:30 Australian Open 2007 Presented B

ESPN

10:30 English Premier Football League

12:30 2005 World Juggling Federation C

01:00 Indian Premier Hockey League (Fi

03:00 English Premier Football League

05:00 European Badminton Championships

06:00 Nokia Football Crazy (Soccer/Fut

07:00 Indian Premier Hockey League (Fi

09:30 Sportscenter India (Sport News)