Nazrul birth anniversary celebrations around the city

(From right) Asadul Haque and Khalid Hossain receive their awards at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

THE National Poet's 108th birth anniversary was observed in the city with much gusto. Several organisations arranged different programmes to celebrate the day:

Nazrul Academy's homage to the National Poet

Nazrul Academy has arranged a four-day programme at the Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library to pay homage to the National Poet. Beginning on May 23, the programme titled 'Nazrul Mela-1414' ends today.

Besides rendition of songs by renowned and promising singers, each day noted Nazrul researchers and artistes are being awarded at the programme.

On the first day of the programme, Nazrul exponent Asadul Haque and artiste Khalid Hossain were honoured by Nazrul Academy for their contribution to research on Nazrul and Nazrul *sangeet* respectively.

On the second day (May 24), the programme was presided over by Professor Mohammad Abdul Gafur, vice-president of Nazrul Academy. Eminent Nazrul singer Sohrab Hossain was the chief guest at the programme. Dr. Ashraf Siddiqui, president of the organisation also spoke on the occasion.

The discussion was followed by a cultural programme. Syed Abu Zafar Ahmed Rasul recited two selected poems from *Ampara*, a compilation of Bangla translation of *sura* (verses from the Holy Quran) in lyrical form by Nazrul.

Sohrab Hossain, Khalid Hossain, Fatema Tuz Zohra and Shaheen Samad rendered Nazrul *sangeet* at the event. Promising singers of Nazrul Academy also performed at the programme.

For their contribution to Nazrul *sangeet*, artistes Fatema Tuz Zohra and Shaheen Samad were honoured on the second day.

Five-day programme at Nazrul Institute

Nazrul Institute has organised a five-day programme featuring children's competition on Nazrul *sangeet* and recitation. The competitions began on May 23. Renowned singer Khalid Hossain and MA Mannan, general secretary of NSSP were the judges of the competition.

Other programmes include musical performances and discussions being held at the Nazrul Institute auditorium.

A three-week-long 'Nazrul Boimela' (book fair) also began yesterday at the Central Public Library.

'Nazrul Mela' on Channel-i

To mark the 108th birth anniversary of our National Poet, Channel-i arranged a day-long 'Nazrul Mela' at its Tejgaon office. Channel-i aired the proceedings of the *mela* live. Solo and chorus renditions of Nazrul songs by noted and upcoming artistes, recitation of poems and performances by children were aired from the *mela*. Books, records, everyday items used by Nazrul and photographs of the poet were also exhibited at the venue.

Protiti's cultural programme

Cultural organisation Protiti organised a programme celebrating Tagore and Nazrul birth anniversaries at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum on May 23. Mansura Begum, Madhuri Saha, Bijon Chandra Mistri, Ashish Kumar Sarkar, Saifullah Parvez and Bornali Paul among others, presented songs and Bhashwar Banerjee recited poems at the programme.

Artistes of Protiti perform a chorus song

Julhasuddin Ahmed and Abdus Sattar honoured by NSSP

(From 2nd left) Abdus Sattar and Julhasuddin Ahmed along with the organisers at NSSP's programme PHOTO: STAR

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The two-day programme celebrating 108th birth anniversary of our National Poet by Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad (NSSP) ended on May 23.

NSSP honoured Nazrul exponent and researcher Abdus Sattar and veteran Nazrul artiste Julhasuddin Ahmed for their contribution in collecting, preserving Nazrul's works and promoting Nazrul *sangeet* respectively at the programme held at the main auditorium, National Museum.

On behalf of the sponsor, GrameenPhone (GP), Emadul Amin (director, Human Resource Development) said, "Our national life is indebted to Nazrul. His songs and poetry on one hand have inspired us during national movements and mesmerised us with his idea of romanticism on the other. GP is delighted to be a part of this celebration and we hope NSSP will keep up its efforts to provide Nazrul artistes from all over the country with a platform."

Nazrul exponent and artiste Sohrab Hossain then handed over the awards to the recipients. Abdus Sattar and Julhasuddin Ahmed were both awarded with a crest, a certificate and a cheque for Tk 50,000.

Sattar has worked tirelessly for the last few decades to collect original records of Nazrul songs and has made significant contribution in promoting authentic tunes and lyrics. Sharing his reaction, Sattar said, "I had always worked behind the scene. The fact that my research is being recognised on a grand scale in my lifetime is quite surprising. It is definitely encouraging."

Ahmed lost his eyesight at the age of 2. After receiving a record of Nazrul songs from his elder brother, a drive to learn the songs was ignited in him. Since then through Nazrul *sangeet* the artiste had been acquainted with several legendary personalities in the sub-continent. The emotionally moved elderly artiste expressed his gratitude for honouring him.

After the award giving ceremony, artistes from all over the country performed Nazrul songs. The musical programme started off with a chorus rendition of *Jhod jhanjhaye orey*. Noted artistes Nashid Kamal, Fatema Tuz Zohra, Leena Taposhi Khan, Khayrul Anam Shakil and upcoming artistes Jahangir Alam, Ataur Rahman, Debi Rani Bhodro (Khulna), Sheikh Badiuzzaman (Rajshahi), Shahnaz Sultana Reshma (Chittagong) and others sang at the programme. Recitation of poems by Nazrul and dance performances were also part of the programme.

The programme was hosted by Sujit Mustafa and Nashid Kamal.

CULTURALFEAST

Nazrul birth anniversary celebration

Organiser: Nazrul Institute
Activities: Children's art and music competition, cultural programme, book fair and discussion
Venue: Nazrul Institute Auditorium
Date: May 23-27

Nazrul Boimela

Organiser: Nazrul Institute
Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbag
Date: May 25-June 14

Collage Workshop

Exhibition
Title: Collagekalpa
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27 (old) Dhanmondi
Date: May 20-26
Time: 12pm-8pm

Grand Group Art Exhibition

145 art works of renowned Bangladeshi artists on display
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, D.C.C. North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan
Date: April 28- May 28
Time: 9:00am to 7:00pm (Friday closed)

MA Mannan: Bringing together Nazrul artistes

AHSAN HABIB

Nazrul singer MA Mannan has a music career that spans over four decades. Mannan has been actively involved with Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad (NSSP) since the organisation was formed four years ago. He now holds the post of general secretary of the organisation. Recently he shared his ideas, observations and suggestions on the current state of Nazrul songs in Bangladesh with *The Daily Star*.

According to Mannan, the TV channels have very limited interest in promoting upcoming Nazrul artistes because of their preference to financial returns over art and culture. "Though prominent singers get along quite nicely, upcoming artistes get little patronage from them. Aspiring artistes have to struggle to get the attention they deserve," he observed.

NSSP, with its membership now exceeding 190, is working to help upcoming singers in every possible way, Mannan informed. NSSP organises a monthly musical soiree titled *Bulbul* to promote aspiring artistes. In the programme, besides a senior artiste, three promising singers from Dhaka and one from other regions are given the opportunity to perform.

Mannan also informed that NSSP has prepared a list of deft music directors with proper training in Nazrul songs, as they have witnessed an ongoing trend of TV channels using music directors who have little or no understanding of Nazrul *sangeet*.

PHOTO: STAR

NSSP has expanded its activities to ensure the practice of Nazrul songs maintaining authentic tunes and lyrics in Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions, besides Dhaka. The organisation has also organised a number of workshops and training programmes in these locations, conducted by renowned Nazrul artistes. "We had received positive responses from the local people. We have plans to extend our activities in Sylhet and Rajshahi division within the next month. Gradually we intend to extend our activities furthermore," said Mannan.

Mannan is also involved with Dharmarajik Lalitokala Academy. He is the vice-principal of that academy.

Mannan received his training in Nazrul songs from noted Nazrul exponents -- Sohrab Hossain, Shudhin Das, Sheikh Lutfar Rahman and Bedaruddin Ahmed. On classical music, Mannan had trained under Ustad Narayan Chandra Boshak and Ustad Akhter Sadmani.

Apart from Nazrul songs, Mannan also sings *adhunik* and folk songs. He is an enlisted artiste of Betar (since 1965) and television (since 1966).

Jordin Sparks becomes the youngest "American Idol"

The big voice overwhelmed the beatbox last Wednesday night as Jordin Sparks was crowned the newest and youngest "American Idol". Sparks, 17, of Glendale, Arizona, prevailed over beatboxer Blake Lewis, 25, of Bothell, Washington, after a triumphant performance last Tuesday that wowed the show's judges and the viewers who gave her a majority of the record 74 million votes cast.

"Mom, Dad, I love you," Sparks, the daughter of retired NFL player Phillippi Sparks, said tearfully after a bearhug from Lewis.

The contest came down to either the stronger singer, Sparks, or the better entertainer, Lewis. Sparks delivered her songs simply and powerfully; Lewis' flourishes included his sound effects and sharp dance moves.

Even the famous were gushing over Sparks.

"She is an awesome singer," finale performer Smokey Robinson said backstage. "She sings so good, it's hard to believe she's 17. To sing like that you would have to have lived for a long time. She's an old soul."

The finale pulled out the stops and the stars, with Gwen Stefani, Tony Bennett, Bette Midler, Green Day and more singing.

The two-hour show opened with Lewis and Sparks dueting on the Beatles *I Saw Her Standing There*, followed quickly by a touring Stefani singing *4 in the Morning* via satellite from Massachusetts.

Midler took the stage as the show came toward its close, singing *The Wind Beneath My Wings*.

Past *Idol* winners and this season's contestants got a hefty share of attention, starting with first-season winner Kelly Clarkson. She performed her new single *Never Again*.

Carrie Underwood, the fourth-season "Idol", sang *I'll Stand by You* and was honoured by legendary music mogul Clive Davis for reaching 6 million in sales for her debut album, *Some Hearts*.

Source: Internet

An ecstatic Jordin after winning the title

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,7:00pm**
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.**

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 **10:00am. 12:00am. 4:00pm.**
News Headlines (English) at **8:05pm**

Rtv

News (Bangla) **at 10:15pm. and 12:15am**

BTV

10:00 Cricket: Bangladesh Vs India
05:05 Bangla Feature Film
08:35 Documentary Programme: Amar Bangladesh
09:00 Drama: *Bashbhumi*
10:30 *Matir Gaan*

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Talk show: *Aktel Onnodrishti*
11:05 *Durniti Mukto Orthoniti*
12:15 *Shurer Madhuri*
12:45 *Shathdin*
01:30 *Nari*
02:30 *Prokoushol Bhabna*
03:10 *Cholochitrer Bhabna*
03:45 Talk show: *Priojon*
04:20 *Shesh Okhor*
05:30 Talk show: *GrammenPhone Nari O Rajniti*
06:20 *Gondhoraj Samsung Cine Aha*
08:00 Mega Serial: *The New Sobuj Opera*
08:40 Mega Serial: *Laal Neel Beguni*
09:20 Mega Serial: *Ek Jonomey*
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

Channel i

09:30 *Shangbadpotre Bangladesh*
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 *GrameenPhone Tritiomatra*
11:05 *Na Bola Kotha*
12:30 *Citycell Taroka Kathan*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:30 *Shangbadpotre Bangladesh*
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Special Programme
04:05 Educational Programme
04:30 Dhaka Guide
04:50 *Shotyer Shondhaney*
05:30 *Muktijudho Protidin*
06:00 *Harano Shoishob Harano Shompod*
06:20 *Amar Bangladesh*
07:50 Mega Serial: *Bhober Haat*
09:35 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Rang Mahol*
12:00 *GrameenPhone Ajker Shanbad Potro*

Rtv

06:30 Documentary Programme: *Tahader Kotha*
07:00 Talk show
07:30 *Cinema Ar Gaan*
08:00 Cooking Show: *R Ranna*
08:30 Drama: *Dokhiner Janalata Khola Alo Ashey Alo Phirey Jay*
10:35 Rtv Exclussive

BANGLAVISION

10:10 *Apnar Ki Kichhu Bolar Achhey*
11:10 *Shomoy Ashomoy*
11:40 *Media Bhubon*
02:40 Drama Serial: *Kachhey Durey*
03:10 Drama Serial: *Dokhinayon*
04:15 Public Forum
05:00 *Ebong Classer Bairey*
05:40 *Diner Sheshey*
06:35 Music Moment
08:15 Drama Serial: *Shesh Odhay*
08:55 *Amar Ami*
09:30 Drama Serial: *Bachelor Dompoti*

BOISHAKHI

08:00 *Din Protidin*
09:00 Cartoon
09:30 Musical Programme
10:25 Drama: *Nishito Ratri*
01:25 *Tarar Aloye*
02:00 Game Show
03:30 Drama: *Mohiuddin*
05:00 Cartoon
05:30 *Chitrogeeti*
06:00 Nazrul Song
07:15 Quiz Show
07:45 Drama Serial: *Polatok*
09:15 Drama Serial: *Kanch Ghor*

STAR MOVIES

09:30 On The Lot
10:30 The Lizzie Mcguire Movie
12:05 Panic Room
01:55 Noel
03:35 Beauty Shop
05:20 Charlie's Angels
07:00 Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle
09:00 On The Lot
10:00 Tomorrow Never Dies
12:00 Chain Reaction
01:45 Soul Plane

STAR PLUS

08:30 Hum Saath Aath Hain
09:00 Bolly V - Star Plus
09:05 V Trailers - Star Plus
09:30 Saans
10:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
10:30 Aladdin
11:00 Timon And Pumbaa
11:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
11:30 Sonpari
12:00 Karishma Ka Karishma
12:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
12:30 V Trailers - Star Plus
12:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
01:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
01:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
02:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
02:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
02:30 Tom Yum Goong (Hindi)
05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
05:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
05:30 Krishna Kathaiyen
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:30 Star Voice Of India
07:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
07:30 Idea lifa Award 2007
08:30 Lucky
09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
10:30 Star Voice Of India
11:30 Thodi Si Zameen Thoda Sa Aasma

STAR WORLD

08:30 Prison Break
09:30 The Apprentice
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
12:30 The Simpsons
01:00 Travel Asia
01:30 Wills India Fashion Week
02:30 Arrested Development
03:00 8 Simple Rules
03:30 The Simpsons
04:00 My Name Is Earl
04:30 Frasier
05:00 Psych
06:00 30 Rock
06:30 The O.C.
07:30 Tna Xplosion
08:30 Desperate Housewives
09:30 2007 Miss Usa
11:30 Psych

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

08:30 Wild Discovery
09:30 Discovery Spotlight
11:30 Extreme Machines
12:30 Engineering the World's Rally
01:30 Leopard Week
02:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows
04:30 Wild Discovery
05:30 Really Big Things with Matt Rogers
06:30 Planet Earth
07:30 Wild Discovery
08:30 Discover India
09:30 Everest: Beyond the Limit
10:30 How do they do it?
11:30 Equator

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

08:30 Lion Of The African Night
09:30 Survivors
10:30 Titanic
11:30 Munich Olympic Massacre
12:30 Superstore Collaspe
01:30 Comet Air Crash
02:30 Piripiri, Pugsly, Josh
03:00 Crabs
03:30 Killer Asteroid
04:30 Girl Stars
05:00 Cass, Buddy, Mercedes
05:30 Big Bang
06:00 Leatherback Turtles
06:30 Plane Crash In Potomac
07:30 Mating Game
08:30 Realm of Mugger Crocodile
09:30 Super Snake
10:30 Seconds From Disaster
11:30 End Game

STAR SPORTS

08:30 K1 World Grand Prix 2005
10:30 Tna Impact (Wrestling)
11:30 Guinness 9 Ball Tour 2007, Kaohs
12:30 The Ubs Golf Club (Golf)
01:00 Istanbul Cup (Tennis)
02:30 Istanbul Cup (Tennis)
04:00 Road To Beijing (Olympics)
04:30 Close Encounters (Cricket)
04:57 Gillette World Sport 2007
05:27 2007 Fia World Touring Cars Cham
05:57 2007 Formula One Qualifying
07:00 Epl Celebration (Soccer/Futbol)
09:00 Macau Open (Golf)
10:00 French Open Preview
10:30 Indian Legends (Cricket)
11:30 Indian Legends (Cricket)
12:25 World Hockey Magazine

ESPN

10:30 Sportscenter Week In Review
11:00 Best Of Hitz
11:30 Major League Baseball
02:30 Npower Test Series
03:53 Sportscenter Weekend
06:00 Sportscenter Week In Review
06:30 Npower Test Series
11:00 Chappell-Hadlee Trophy
12:30 Npower Test Series

PICK OF THE DAY

Bangladesh Vs India

On BTV at 10:00am

Second Day of the Test Match

Live from Sher-e Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur