CULTURALFEAST

Theatre Festival

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: 7pm

Date: September 4
Title: Konjush
Troupe: Loko Natyadal

Date: September 5
Title: Chhayanat
Troupe: Nagorik Natya Sampraday

Date: September 6
Title: Nimojjon
Troupe: Dhaka Theatre

Photography Exhibition

Title: Bangladesh Now
Organiser: Drik News
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: September 4 to September 13
Time: 3 pm to 8 pm

Title: BALIKA
Artiste: Aly Zaker
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh Gallery, Suite 3B, House 4, Road 104, Gulshan-2
Date: August 27 to September 6
Time: 11am to 8pm

Film Screening

Title: Soumitra Chatterjee Retrospective
Organiser: Chalachchitram Film Society
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag

Date: September 7
Time: 10 am
Film: Apur Sansar
Director: Satyajit Ray

Time: 11 am
Soumitra Chatterjee will exchange views with the audience

Date: September 8
Time: 10 am
Film: Dekha
Director: Goutam Ghosh

Time: 12 pm
Film: Teen Bhuboner Parey
Director: Ashutosh Banarjee

Time: 3 pm
Film: Aranyer Din Ratri
Director: Satyajit Ray

Time: 5 pm
Film: Charulata
Director: Satyajit Ray

Time: 7 pm
Film: Kony
Director: Saraj Dey

Art Exhibition

Title: Study Works of Khulna Art College
Organiser: Dots Contemporary Art Centre
Venue: Dots Contemporary Art Centre, 191/A Haque Tower (2nd Floor), Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road, Tejgaon
Date: September 3 to September 12
Time: 11 am to 8 pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Artiste: Samiran Chowdhury
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41,D.C.C North Super Market, 2nd circle, Gulshan, Dhaka.
Date: August 30 to September 10
Time: 10 am to 8 pm

Title: Oriental Art: My Style of Expression
Artiste: Malay Bala
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka
Date: September 1 to September 5
Time: 11 am to 8 pm

Ominous fate in foreign land better than life at home?

"Deshantori" screened

KARIM WAHEED

EARLY 2005: 26 Bangladeshis stranded at the Mediterranean Sea. No food or water for over a week has left 10 of them dead. A few of them have started considering their compadres as potential "food". Festering corpses had to be dumped in the sea… continents away from loved ones.

Making the film PHOTO: **SUJAN MAHMUD**

This harrowing tale of illegal migration shook the nation. Based on the accounts, writer Anisul Haque wrote a book titled *Dushshopner Jatri*, which inspired Harvard graduate Mridul Chowdhury to make a documentary. The documentary, *Deshantori* -- jointly directed by Mridul and Sujan Mahmud -- has already created a buzz. Highlighting the experiences of the individuals who tried to cross the Mediterranean Sea on a rubber boat, the documentary also provides an insight into the psyche of young Bangladeshis and commentaries by Dr. Muhammed Zafar Iqbal and Anisul Haque, among others.

The film was recently screened by Development Studies Group (DSG) of Independent University, Bangladesh at Radius Centre, Bay's Galleria.

The fact that a significant percentage of our people would do anything to move to a first world country does not come as a shock and that becomes apparent when the filmmakers interview students at different educational institutions. No lack of reasons: Endless traffic jams and power outage, political violence, sky-high unemployment…the list goes on.

But wait, it runs deeper than that. As Dr. Iqbal puts it: "Consciously and subconsciously the message -- 'everything made in Bangladesh is bad', has been ingrained in our psyche. We grow up convinced that anything from overseas is good."

A student points out, "In most cases, the references we study have nothing to do with Bangladesh." Another student adds that there is little or no opportunity for research in the country. A young women said, she would just like to be able to walk back home alone at 10pm or not have to worry about eve-teasing for once.

Are the sidewalks in first world countries paved with gold? No anomaly, no strain, no injustice? Is life outside Bangladesh easy? An interviewee asks, "You can't get up before 12pm in Bangladesh and in some other country you're willing to wake up at 6am?" An expat described how Bangladeshis often face prejudice overseas. Several young professionals who have lived and studied abroad maintained that life outside the country is no cakewalk. One has to struggle everywhere.

Almost none of the 26 people, who wanted to go to Spain illegally, came from dirt-poor families. Two came from middle class families living in Dhaka. Each of them had to give the human traffickers Tk 8 lakh. Poverty surely didn't push these people to take drastic measures and risk their lives in the middle of nowhere. What then, did?

Rabiul, one of the survivors of the journey, had borrowed the money to go to Spain from his relatives. He said, "If I wanted to start a business in Bangladesh, no one would give me money. When I told my relatives that I needed money to go abroad, they didn't hesitate to help. Going abroad is like a guarantee that the money will not go to waste." And that is often the common attitude. Many are convinced that Bangladesh is not a country worth living in if there is a way out.

But Dr. Zafar Iqbal asks, "If my mother is not pretty, should I start calling some easy on the eye stranger 'mother'?"

Sure there are problems but will mass migration help? Who will try to improve the conditions then? Is unfortunate fate in a foreign country preferable to life in Bangladesh?

The documentary does lose pace at points and seems repetitive during extended dramatised scenes in between interviews. However, it does zoom in on a crucial issue. According to5 Mridul, *Deshantori* will soon be aired on ATN Bangla as a prequel to the upcoming TV show *Phiriey Ano Bangladesh*.

"Swapnodanay" goes to Toronto Film Festival

Bangla feature film *Swapnodanay* (*On the Wings of Dreams*) will take part at the 32nd Annual Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), says a press release. The event is scheduled to start from September 6.

Produced by Impress Telefilms Ltd, *Swapodanay* is the first Bangladeshi film to be screened at the Toronto film fest.

This will be the movie's second screening at a major international film festival. This year in June, the film was screened at the 10th Shanghai International Film Festival and Golam Rabbani Biplob (director of *Swapnodanay*) won the Best Director Award in "Asian New Talent" category.

Swapnodanay follows the lives of a few individuals living in a remote village in the northern part of the country. The protagonist Fazlu (played by singer Mahmuduzzaman Babu) is a peddler -- pushing items like ointments and herbal remedies. One evening he returns home with a used trouser for his son. While washing the trouser, Fazlu's wife (Rokeya Prachy) finds some foreign currency in the pockets. The family gets over-excited at the possibility of acquiring a sizeable amount of cash. Fazlu and his pal Siraj (Fazlur Rahman Babu) roam around the rugged locales of the 'Barendrabhumi' on a beat-up motorbike, trying to exchange the foreign currency for Taka. Greed surfaces and the central characters -- Fazlu, his wife and Siraj -- start weaving their individual dreams. Desire and deception change the relationships forever.

(From left) Rokeya Prachy, Mahmuduzzaman Babu and Fazlur Rahman Babu in *Swapnodanay*

Nazrul's death anniversary observed

Mohammad Shafiqul Islam

To mark the 31st death anniversary of our National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, several programmes were arranged in the Sylhet city recently.

Nazrul's diverse poetry, songs and his messages were the focus of the programmes. Different cultural organisations -- Sruti, Sylhet Cultural Centre, Sylhet Writers' Forum, Jai Bangla Parishad, Kabikantha Shahitya Forum and others arranged discussion and cultural programmes on the occasion.

The programme titled *Kabi Proyan 1414* was presented by Sruti. A discussion was held, chaired by Ataur Rahman. Sukanto Gupto, general secretary of Sruti, delivered the welcome speech. Sumon Akhand, Assistant Professor of the Anthropology Department, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology; theatre organiser Nironjon Dey Jadu and journalist Ujjal Mehedi among others were the discussants at the event.

The writer is a Lecturer, Department of English, Metropolitan University, Sylhet

Theatre festival in aid of flood victims

Today's play "Kanjush"

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Yet another adaptation of Moleire's comedy will be staged today at the theatre festival in aid of the flood victims. The festival is jointly organised by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. By staging *Kanjush*, an adaptation of Moliere's *The Miser*, at the National Theatre Stage tonight, Loko Natya Dal adds one more show to their drama staged for a record number of times in Bangladesh. This is the 515th show of *Kanjush*.

Actors of Loko Natya Dal in *Kanjush*

A comedy of morals, *Kanjush* addresses the hypocrisy, greed, dishonesty and opportunistic tendencies of the elites through the story of a tightwad named Haider Ali.

Tariq Anam Khan has adapted *Kanjush*, which is directed by Liaquat Ali Lucky.

An evening of Lalan songs

Pagla Bablu performs at the musical programme

A CORRESPONDENT, *Faridpur*

To help the flood victims, Faridpur Lalan Parishad arranged a cultural programme at Jasimuddin Hall recently.

The programme titled *Bonnartoder Pashey* featured performance by Pagla Bablu, a noted Lalan singer.

Throughout the programme Bablu rendered timeless classics including *Manush bhojley shonar manush hobi*, *Ek haatey jodi bajto taali*, *Milon hobey koto dinye* and more.

Yahya Bhuiyan, deputy commissioner of Faridpur was the chief guest at the programme. Professor Rizvi Zaman, Faridpur and Kushtia cultural officers -- Md. Alauddin, Saiful Hasan Milon, Salamat Khan -- and a number of Lalan devotees attended the programme.

With "Halloween", Rob Zombie mangles an original

There's a phantom stalking Rob Zombie's *Halloween*, and it's not the hulking guy in the white rubber mask. It's the memory of John Carpenter's sublime 1978 shocker. Thirty years on, it still haunts the memory with nagging dread, overshadowing Zombie's effort to revive the story and make it his own.

And that's Zombie's goal. The two films interlock in major ways as they follow a silent killer who escapes from an asylum and rampages through his hometown. Yet they're very different in focus and tone.

Carpenter's film, with its clever shocks and sense of humour, made an indelible impression on a generation of filmgoers. It gave the audience a big guy with a big knife who did bad things. No excuses, no explanation, just iconic, irrational evil.

Zombie's *Halloween* is an origin story that shows the beginnings of Michael Myers' psychosis. With pro wrestler-turned-actor Taylor Mayne as the killer, the new film is bigger, longer, deeper and to a large extent original. Carpenter's however, remains better.

Zombie, who proved himself an able and inventive filmmaker with 2005's *The Devil's Rejects*, makes Michael the focus, following him from a 10-year-old serial killer-in-training to adulthood.

From the first shot of a boy in a cheap clown mask playing with his pet rat, the film follows the environmental factors pressing in on him. His home life is a disaster. Mom (the director's wife, Sherri Moon Zombie) works as a pole dancer because stepdad (Bill Forsythe) is too tired from drinking and yelling all day. The kids at school hassle Michael until he snaps.

The violence is relentless, but not jolting. *Halloween* goes slack in the middle section, as Michael matures into a hulking, silent time bomb.

Act 3, the bloodbath, most closely mirrors the original film, with teenage baby-sitters and their boyfriends frolicking while a half-seen thing watches malevolently in the background.

Carpenter's original, a series of brilliant joy-buzzer jolts, treated the story's horror as a dark pop joke, courting our giggling disbelief. Zombie turns it sombre.

One could argue that it's a more moral choice to make screen violence disgusting, but it also makes for unpleasant viewing.

Source: Internet

ON AIR

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**

ntv
News (Bangla):**7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am**

ETV
News (Bangla): **1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm**

BTV
08:45 *Pakhkhik Barta*
11:15 Documentary Programme
11:40 Educational Programme
12:05 *Maa O Shishur Kotha*
01:00 Heritage
01:30 *Mati O Manush*
02:15 Musical Programme
02:40 Selected Programme
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 *Shukhi Poribar*
04:00 *Amader Angina*
04:30 *Geet Bitaan*
05:05 *Moner Kotha*
05:30 *Anushilon*
06:10 Quiz Quiz
06:40 *Shotyer Onneshoney*
07:00 *Jonotar Kotha*
08:30 *Protidin Bangladesh*
08:35 Drama Serial: *Adalot*
09:00 Drama Serial: *Shongshaptak*
09:30 *Protikhon*
10:30 Special Programme

ATN Bangla
09:15 Drama Serial: *Soiyod Barir Bou*
10:30 Talk show: *Aktel Onyodristi*
11:05 Three Stooges
11:35 Drama Serial: *Nirob Kosto*
12:15 *Cinema Cinema*
01:25 ATN Music
02:30 Drama Serial: Dolls House
03:15 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokhkhu Nai*
03:45 Children's Programme
04:20 *Obiram Bangladesh*
05:00 *Gram Gonjer Khobor*
05:10 *Aainar Shamney*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Moner Janala*
08:35 *Aj Kaal Porshu*
11:30 *Rang Manchyo Taal*

CHANNEL-i
09:30 Special Programme
11:30 *Amar Chhobi*
12:30 *Citycell Tarokakathan*
01:05 Tax Helpline
01:15 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:30 Special Programme
02:40 Mega Serial: *Prio Bash*
03:05 i-Sports
04:05 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
04:30 Musical Programme
05:30 *Mukti Judho Protidin*
06:00 Drama Serial: *Shukher Oshukh*
06:20 Drama Serial: *Ochena Adhar*
07:50 DRockstar-2
09:35 Drama Serial: *Chondro Karigor*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Hridita*
11:30 *Ekanyo Barti*
12:00 *GrameenPhone Ajker Shangbadpotro*

ETV
08:00 *Ajker Shokaal*
01:30 *Drishti*
02:00 Drama Serial: *Bondhon*
03:30 *Chirontoni*
04:00 *Dhinak Dhinak Ta*
04:30 Drama Serial: *Hitlu*
05:30 *Baul Baul Mon*
05:45 *Ekusher Shondha*
07:30 *Amar Mukhti Aloye Aloye*
08:30 Drama Serial: *Biprotip*
10:30 Drama Serial: *Bondhon*
11:45 Reporter's File

Rtv
09:00 Rtv Exclusive
09:05 Lost
09:35 Sports Carnival
10:00 *Kachher Janala Durer Janala*
10:30 *Protidin*
11:30 Drama Serial: *Dohon*
12:30 *Jugol Bondi*
12:35 Drama Serial: *Raat Jaga Pakhi*
01:00 Heart Beat
01:30 *Ei Din*
02:30 Drama Serial: *Aguntuk*
03:45 Documentary Programme
04:20 *Gaan ar Gaan*
05:10 *Kothay Kothay*
06:00 *Protidin*
06:35 Witch Blade
08:00 Drama Serial: *Dohon*
08:50 Cooking Programme: *R Ranna*
09:20 Drama Serial: *Nirontor*
11:00 *Drishwa Kalpo*

Channel 1
08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*
09:30 *Chokh Mele Dekhi*
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 *Shukhtara*
03:30 Drama Serial: Coffee House
04:00 *Gaaner Khata*
05:15 Stop n Rock
06:00 *Saaj Bela*
06:45 *Itihasher Path Dhorey*
07:00 *Olpo Sholpo Golpo*
08:15 Drama Serial: Coffee House
09:00 Drama Serial: *Gujob*
09:30 Style
10:50 Expression
11:30 Music Station

Banglavision
08:35 *Shubho Shokal*
09:05 *Ebong Classer Bairey*
09:30 Music Moment
10:10 *Cinebit Shadakalo*
10:40 *Amar Ami*
01:00 Drama Serial: *Mohanogor*
04:15 *Shamol Bangla*
05:00 *Desher Pothey*
05:40 *Citycell Diner Sheshey*
06:35 *Shudhu Gaan*
08:15 Drama Serial: *Mohanogor*
08:55 *Bhokab*
09:10 *Agamir Kontho*
11:30 *Cinebit Shadakalo*
12:00 *Shangbad Protidin*

STAR PLUS
09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
10:30 Ducktales
11:00 Timon And Pumbaa
12:00 Sangam
01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
02:00 Bhabhi
03:00 Saarrthi
03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
04:00 Kayamath
04:30 Sangam
05:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
07:00 Kayamath
07:30 Sangam
08:00 Antakshari - The Gr8 Kids Spl
09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
09:30 Meri Awaz Ko Mil Gayi Roshni
10:00 Kasturi
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kayamath
12:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa

STAR MOVIES
10:45 Robots
12:15 Dungeons & Dragons: Wrath Of The
02:00 Baywatch: Hawaiian Wedding
03:30 Ice Princess
05:15 Into The West
07:00 Because Of Winn-Dixie
08:50 The Abyss
11:40 Banshee
01:15 Undercover Blues
02:45 You Only Live Twice

STAR WORLD
09:30 How I Met Your Mother
10:00 My Name Is Earl
10:30 Monk
11:30 Boston Legal
12:30 Everybody Loves Raymond
01:00 Yes Dear
01:30 Prison Break
02:30 The Ellen Degeneres Show
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
04:00 General Hospital
05:00 Ugly Betty
06:00 Scrubs
06:30 The Simpsons
07:30 My Wife And Kids
08:30 Life As We Know It
09:30 Ghost Whisperer
10:30 Brothers & Sisters
11:30 Seinfeld
12:00 Friends

HISTORY CHANNEL
09:30 Targeted
10:30 Tactical to Practical
11:30 Wonder Brand
12:00 Brahmagyan
12:30 Augustus: First Emperor
01:30 Gold
02:30 Deadly Kidnappings
03:00 Agatha Christie
03:30 Brad Pitt
04:30 Lost Evidence
05:30 Tactical to Practical
06:30 Augustus: First Emperor
07:30 Sisters of the Titanic
08:30 Battling the Insurgents
09:30 Reilly: Ace of Spies
10:30 Modern Marvels
11:30 UFO Files

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
09:30 Guardians Of Nature
10:30 Telemall
11:15 Global Pendant
11:30 Air Crash Investigations
12:30 Seconds From Disaster
01:30 Survival Of The Meanest
02:30 A Life Among Whales
03:30 Big Bang - S 8
04:30 Diamondback Survivors
05:30 I Didn't Know That
06:00 Return to Croc Eden
07:30 Triumph of Life
08:30 Close Encounters
09:30 Last Living Caveman
10:30 Guardians Of Nature
11:30 Seconds From Disaster

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
09:30 Colours of India
10:30 Future Weapons
11:30 Man Made Marvels
12:30 In Therapy
01:00 Healthy Living
01:30 Wild Discovery
02:30 Discovery Showcase
03:30 Mythbusters
04:30 Wild Europe
05:30 Man Made Marvels
06:30 Urban Explorers
07:30 Wild Discovery
08:30 Flavours of India
09:30 Truth about Food
10:30 Extreme Engineering
11:30 Deadliest Catch

Radio Foorti
07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apu)
11:00am Amar 98.4 (Nusrat)
03:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)
07:00pm Seven Eleven (Sadia)
11:00pm Late Night Show (Shuvo)
03:00am Back to Back music

PICK OF THE DAY

Nirontor
On Rtv at 9:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Deepa Khondokar, Anwar Pervez

The Abyss
On Star Movies at 8:50pm
Genre: Adventure/ Sci-Fi
Cast: Ed Harris, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio