

Banchar Aasha

Yet another ATN Bangla production nominated for Emmy Awards

ERSHAD KAMOL

ATN Bangla's docu-drama *Banchar Aasha* has been nominated for the 35th Emmy Awards, hosted by the US Academy of Television Arts and

Science, and considered equivalent to the Oscars.

Banchar Aasha will compete in the 'International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences' category, which honours programmes originating



A scene from *Banchar Aasha*

In conversation

Durba Chowdhury: An artiste-teacher of Rabindra sangeet and classical music

JAMIL MAHMUD

Though at present classical music may not have a sizeable audience, few artistes continue to devote their skills to this genre. Durba Chowdhury is one of them, who has spent years training in classical music and currently she is a music teacher.

Born and raised in a culturally oriented family of Chabhipargana, West Bengal, Durba's passion for music began at an early age. Durba's mother and elder sister are both classical singers. At the age of six, she started getting *taalim* under their guidance.

Durba's first music teacher was Santosh Sarkar. She completed *Sangeet Prabhakar*, a five-year diploma course -- on both Rabindra Sangeet and *Uchchanga Sangeet* -- from Nayaki Music College, Kolkata. After completing the diploma course, she enrolled in Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan in 1976 and successfully completed Bachelors and Masters degree in music.

At Visva-Bharati, Durba received tutelage in *Rabindra Sangeet* from legendary singer Kanika Bandyopadhyay, Nilima Sen, Ashesh Bandyopadhyay, Arup Ratan Bandyopadhyay. In *Uchchanga Sangeet*, she trained under V.V. Wazelwar.

Durba has fond memories of her student life at Visva-Bharati and says, "Learning the intricate details of music from iconic musicians at Visva-Bharati was a dream come true."

In 1987, Durba started working on her PhD

but due to unavoidable reasons, she had to discontinue. According to the artiste, "I do intend to complete my PhD some day."

Durba visited Bangladesh for the first time in 1985. She got married here and became a



Durba Chowdhury

Bangladeshi citizenship in 1993.

In 1991, Durba set up a music academy named 'Gayoki' in Dhaka and is the founder principal of the academy. At present the academy offers five-year courses in *Rabindra Sangeet*, classical music, songs of Atul Prasad, D.L. Roy, Rajanikant and other genres. On Gayoki, the devoted artiste says, our main goal is to properly train and groom talented vocalists. Extensive training is very essential for young music enthusiasts, who aspire to be singers. To be a proficient vocalist, one must have comprehensive knowledge of grammar of music. Anyone who has a good understanding of classical music should be able to perform any kind of song effortlessly.

Durba's only album of *Rabindra Sangeet*, titled *Dujonoy Dekha Holo*, was released in 1989. The album was released by Boishakhi Production.

On the current scenario of *Rabindra Sangeet*, Durba says, "If adding a few extra instruments and making subtle improvisations make Tagore songs more appealing to a new generation of listeners, then that endeavour should be welcomed." She also added that there are some basic differences between renditions in Bangladesh and Kolkata due to somewhat different grammatical practices.

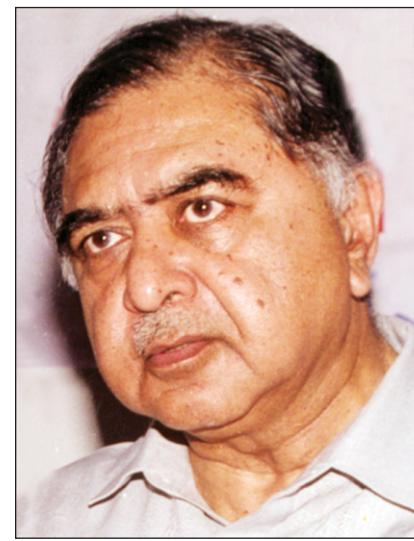
Rezwana Chowdhury Bonya and Mita Haque are Durba's favourite singers in Bangladesh while Kanika Bandyopadhyay is her ultimate idol.

"Tini" on Ekushey TV tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The first episode of the talk show *Tini* will be aired tonight on Ekushey TV at 7:30pm. The show focuses on the ideals as well as personal and professional lives of eminent personalities. The show will be aired every Wednesday.

Rather than being only descriptive, the show provides the guest with an opportunity for self-criticism. Hosted by Kazi Jesin, tonight's episode will feature renowned personality Dr. Kamal Hossain.



Dr. Kamal Hossain

Drama serial "Lukochuri" on Rtv tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Lukochuri, a psychological thriller directed by Dipankar Dipon will be aired tonight on Rtv at 9:20pm.

The series follows an affluent, acclaimed doctor, Sadman Kabir. Kabir's daughter Mouri shares a very special bond with her mother, Shusmita. Shusmita commits suicide out of the blue and the incident comes as a blow to Mouri, shaking her sanity. Sadman takes Mouri to a Bungalow, following the doctor's advice but Mouri does not respond to treatments. The situation gets complicated when Sadman finds out that Mouri has an imaginary friend named Sadi.

Tariq Anam Khan, Elora Gauhar, Tania Ahmed and Tony Dias play the leading roles in the serial.



Tania Ahmed (R) and co-artistes in *Lukochuri*

Shurolok's tribute to Abdul Ahad

Musical soiree in Melbourne

SHAGOR SHOKOT RAHMAN, Melbourne

The organisation honours a renowned cultural personality at each of their programmes. As

homage to Ahad, Chanchal Khan sang *Tumi ki keboli chhobi*.



Singers of Shurolok perform at the musical programme

"CMC Vatavaran": Film festival on environmental issues creates a buzz

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

It is far removed from the glitz and glamour of film stars but closer to the survival of human race: the environment and wildlife film festival, "CMS Vatavaran" began here recently.

Climate change and its disastrous impact like melting glaciers, shrinking forests, rising temperature, increasing sea level, scarcity of fresh water, frequent floods and droughts -- all issues will be covered by films being screened at the film festival.

The event is a competitive film festival in India on environment and wild life but has already been hailed as the Green Oscar.

The festival will showcase critically acclaimed national and international documentaries on environment and wild life.

The inaugural film of the fourth edition of the festival, which has already received 72

nominations (48 in Indian section and 24 in the international section) was a documentary on poaching of tigers directed by Krishnendu Bose. The event was inaugurated by Indian Water Resources

Minister Saifuddin Soz.

Soz said there was an urgent need to evolve a system of continuous interaction among government agencies, civil society, local bodies, voluntary organisations and communi-

ties for optimal development and management of ground water resources.

The festival providing 25 awards involving Rs 12.50 lakh this year, has "climate change" as its theme this year.

2.5X3

ON AIR

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTB

11:15 Drama Serial: *Shangshoptak Maa O Shishur Koitha*

09:00 Drama Serial: *Chhayamukh Musical Programme*

12:05 Ma O Shishur *Kotha*

09:30 Selected Programme

12:30 *Hijol Tomal*

11:05 Sports Time

02:15 *Galpo Theke Natok*

12:30 *Citycell Tarokathan*

03:05 *Cartoon*

01:05 *Tax Helpline*

03:30 *Shukhi Poribar*

01:15 *Ebong Cinemar*

04:00 *Computer*

01:30 Selected Programme

04:30 *Cookery Show*

02:40 *Mega Serial: Prio Bash*

05:05 *Sisimpur*

03:05 Documentary Programme

05:35 *Islamic Programme*

03:30 *ICC World Twenty 20*

06:10 *Drama Serial: Alo Amar Alo*

04:05 Selected Programme

09:15 *Drama Serial: Godhulir Alo*

04:30 *Mukhtijuddho Protidin*

10:30 *ICC World Twenty 20*

05:30 *Islamic Programme*

06:15 *Cookery Show*

06:30 *Drama Serial: Shath Goenda*

07:50 *Selected Programme*

11:05 *Talk Show: Kothamala*

10:00 *Drama*

12:15 *Amar Computer*

11:30 *Ekano barti*

CHANNEL-i

08:00 *Ei Din*

09:00 *Rtv Exclusive*

08:00 *Top News*

09:30 *Drama Serial: Rupali Manush*

09:05 *Witch blade*

09:35 *Kothay Kothay*

10:00 *Gaan ar Gaan*

03:45 *Children's Programme*

10:30 *Protidin*

04:20 *Islamic Programme*

11:30 *Drama Serial: Dohon*

05:00 *Gram Gorjer Khobor*

12:15 *Cookery Show*

05:10 *Islamic Programme*

12:35 *Drama Serial: Bhorer Swapno*

06:20 *Hamd Nafth*

11:00 *Akar Ekar*

ATN Bangla

09:15 *Drama Serial: Kath Koyer Chhobi*

10:30 *ATN Commentary Box*

07:50 *Selected Programme*

11:05 *Talk Show: Kothamala*

10:00 *Drama*

12:15 *Amar Computer*

11:30 *Ekano barti*

Rtv

08:00 *Ei Din*

09:00 *Rtv Exclusive*

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12:15 *Cookery Show*

05:10 *Islamic Programme*

12:35 *Drama Serial: Bhorer Swapno*

06:20 *Hamd Nafth*

11:00 *Akar Ekar*

Channel 1

08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*

09:30 *Chokh Mele Dekhi*

10:30 *Bangla Feature Film*