

# Portrait of a prolific actor

In conversation with Amol Bose

ERSHAD KAMOL

FOR his notable performances in diverse characters in films, Amol Bose has attained mass popularity. A busy film actor, Bose is equally familiar to small screen viewers. Initiating his career as a *jatra* artiste, the seasoned actor has contributed to *jatra*, theatre, cinema and TV plays.

While a student of class seven, Bose first performed in a school play, which ignited his interest in acting. Subsequently, he joined a professional *jatra* troupe, 'Milon Shangha' in Boalmari, Faridpur. Initially Bose had to play female characters in *jatra* plays such as *Bicharok* and *Shomajer Boli*.

Assessing the potential in the young actor, Shyam Sundar Saha, a professional actor of Star Theatre, a renowned commercial theatre troupe of Kolkata, encouraged Bose to take on male characters. This encouragement had an immense impact on the actor and he tried to develop his skills under the guidance of mentors including Prasab Mukherjee, Sirajul Haque Mridha, Nityananda Saha and Nirapad Chowdhury.

Bose came to Dhaka in 1963; he was then working for EPIDC, now known as BJMC. Once in Dhaka, he became involved as a theatre director and performer. In his words, "I became very busy in club theatre

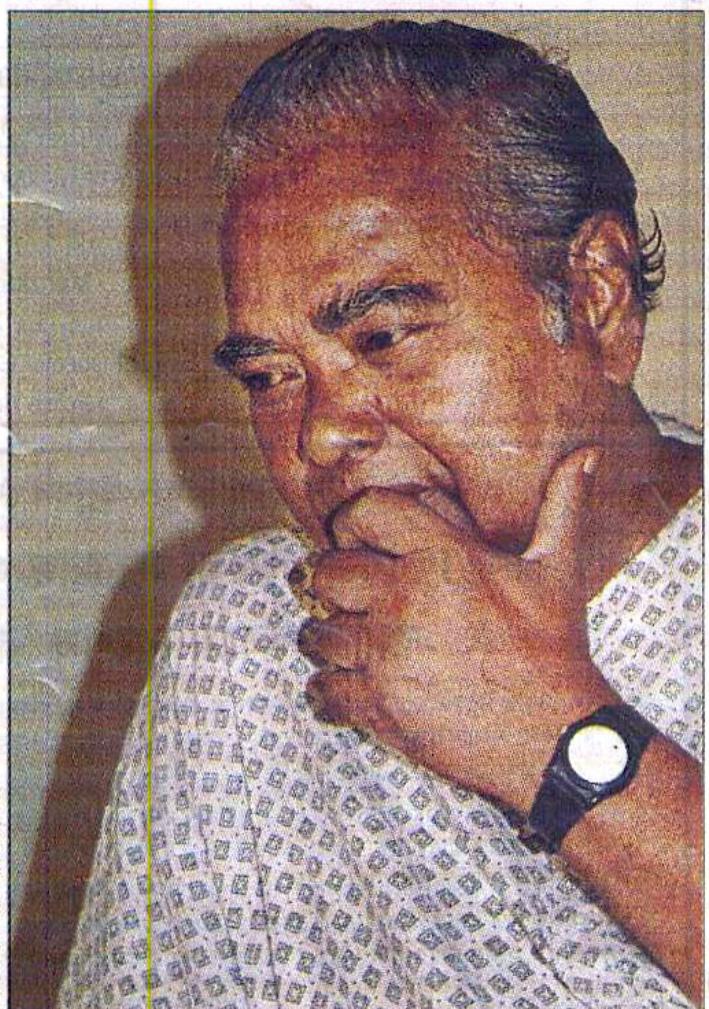


PHOTO: SHAFIQUE BIN QASHEM

and *para* (community) based theatre productions. My direction of Nurul Momen's play *Alo Chhaya* became very popular. The then Finance Minister of East Pakistan gave me a gold medal for my performance as the character 'Shafat' in the play."

Amol Bose continued theatre performances and direction for several years with theatre troupes 'Aboshor', 'Shaptorupa', 'Shabai' and 'Rangdhonu Natya Goshthi'. Plays directed by Bose attained wide popularity at home and abroad. "Over 25,000 London residents enjoyed *Strajud-Daulah* and *Rupban* -- both Rangdhonu Natya Goshthi productions -- directed by me. Plays directed by me were well-received in India as well," says Bose.

Besides direction and acting, Bose has guided artistes such as Anwara, Rozina, Rajib, Probir Mitra, Dildar and Sadeq Bachchu who went on to become accomplished film actors.

Bose claims that he has acted in over 400 films. Moreover, he had directed films in the initial stage of his career in 1960s. However, he could not continue direction. His performances in blockbusters like *Abichar*, *Hothat Brishti*, *Ami Shei Meye*, *Tomakey Chai*, *Mon Maney Na* and others won him much plaudit. He was honoured with a National Award for his work in the movie *Ajker Protibad*. It was a

rather brief role. The actor says, "I only had 12 dialogues in the film. But, there must've been something noteworthy about it."

On his achievements Bose says, "Regular practice of theoretical and practical applications of acting is the key to my success. With each performance I try harder to do better."

Amol Bose believes that after him and his contemporaries -- Anwar Hossain and ATM Shamsuzzaman -- there will be a void in the film industry. This will inevitably result in further deterioration of the standard of mainstream Bangladeshi cinema. "It is necessary to initiate a film institute to train quality film actors, directors and technical hands to improve the standards of the film industry," he says.

Bose has been acting in TV plays since the initiation of BTV in 1964. His unique performance as 'Mahishashur' in the Puja-special TV plays is still remembered. His regular skit, *Nanai*, in the TV show *Ityadi* is also hugely popular. In his words, "Script is very important for a quality performance and Hanif Shanket's sense of humour made the skit what it is."

To Bose, his wife is his best critic, "without whose support", he says, he could not have reached his current position.

## Eid special Tele-film "Shamparko" on Ekushey Television



Aupi Karim in *Shamparko*

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Eid special tele-film *Shamparko* will be aired on Ekushey Television at 3:30 pm on October 13. Noted actor-director Abul Hayat has directed the tele-film and Brindabon Das has penned the story.

The story starts with some predicament when the matron of a distinguished family suddenly falls ill. All of her offspring live overseas and are well established

except a daughter who is also busy with her family and profession. The doctor gives his verdict: she would not survive. Taking care of the terminally ill mother becomes a full-time job and the sons and daughters decide to hire a woman from their village as a nurse. In return, the woman will get rights to the family's village properties, which the woman's husband but unless the matron dies, they are not entitled to her property.

Dolly Zahir, Aupi Karim and Tauquir Ahmed play the lead roles in the tele-film.



## Despite it all, Britney single climbs the charts

AP, Los Angeles

Britney Spears is finally catching a break. Her new song, *Gimme More*, is now a success on the music charts -- despite the pop star's turbulent personal life and the humiliation of her much-panned performance at MTV's Video Music Awards.

*Gimme More* -- released to radio stations in August -- topped Billboard's Hot Digital Songs chart at No. 1 with 179,000 downloads, and jumped from No. 68 to No. 3 on Billboard's Hot 100.

The song is the first single from her new album, set for release Nov. 13.

Earlier this week, a judge ordered the 25-year-old singer to temporarily hand over custody of her two sons to ex-husband Kevin Federline.

## ABC apologises for "Housewives" joke

A scene in TV's *Desperate Housewives* that used Philippine medical education for a punchline prompted angry calls from viewers, an online petition demanding an apology and criticism from Philippine officials.

In the season premiere that aired last Sunday on ABC, Teri Hatcher's character, Susan, goes in for a medical checkup and is shocked when the doctor suggests she may be going through menopause.

"Listen, Susan, I know for a lot of women the word 'menopause' has negative connotations. You hear

"aging," "brittle bones" and more," the gynaecologist tells her.

"Okay, before we go any further, can I check these diplomas? Just to make sure they aren't like, from some med school in the Philippines?" Susan fires back.

Viewers called the network to complain but the number of callers wasn't available, an ABC spokesman said last Wednesday. As of Wednesday evening, more than 30,000 names were attached to an online petition seeking a network apology.

"A statement that devalues Filipinos in healthcare is extremely unfounded, considering the overwhelming presence of Filipinos and Filipinos in the medical field," the petition read in part.

ABC, owned by The Walt Disney Co., responded with a statement Wednesday. ABC said it was considering editing the episode.

"The producers of *Desperate Housewives* and ABC Studios offer our sincere apologies for any offence caused by the brief reference in the season premiere. There was no intent to disparage the integrity of any aspect of the medical community in the Philippines," the statement said.

The TV episode even became an international incident, with reports on it topping Philippine news shows and drawing newspaper headlines as officials there registered their displeasure.

Source: Internet

### CULTURAL FEAST

#### KOZMO *Alive*

Arinob & Andrew



#### Music at Kozmo Lounge

Artistes: Omob & Andrew Morris

Venue: Kozmo Lounge, Bikalpa Tower, (3rd Floor), Plot 74, Road 5/A, Sat. Masjid Road, Dhamondi

Date: October 19

Time: 6pm-8pm

Tickets are available at Kozmo

## Generating awareness on education thorough drama

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

Khagrachhari Theater, a local cultural organisation, staged a play recently at the District Shishu Academy as part of their awareness-generating programme held each month.

The play *Ekhonker Shikha* has been written and produced by M. Murtaza Polash.

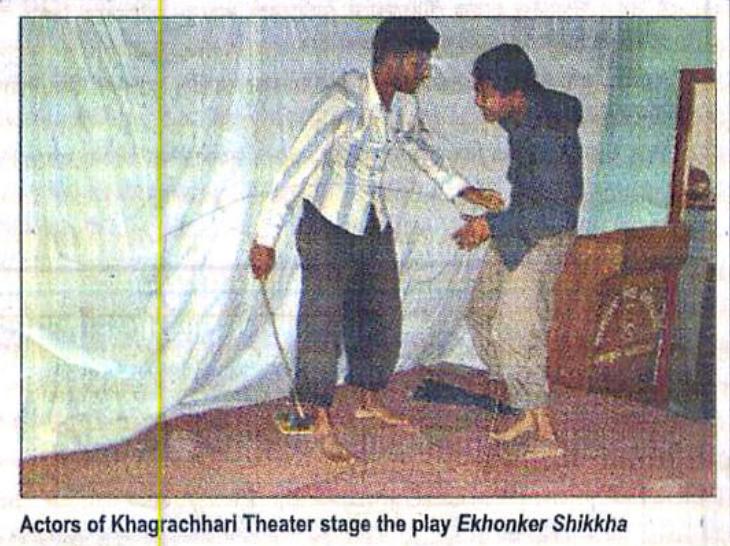
In the play the characters try to establish that education is backbone of a nation and it plays a key role in nation building. Mass education drive should be implemented throughout the country but the methods of teaching should also be changed. The ancient teaching methods have more or less become obsolete and

we have to get on with the times. To ensure education for all, teachers should follow the modern method, which was developed after closely studying the psychology of children. Teachers have to understand the students and employ methods that work best for them.

Corporal punishment or verbal abuse can never be ways to teach children. The play also points out that teachers should not discriminate between students. Every child has a right to learn.

Teachers play the most important role in creating enlightened citizens and their role should be taken more seriously.

Some 150 people enjoyed the play.



## Child Rights Week observed in Rangamati

SHANTIMOI CHAKMA, Rangamati

Speakers at a discussion underlined the need for ensuring children's rights, as they are the future of the nation. Today's children will take the responsibility to lead the nation forward.

Children's right to education and health must be ensured, the speakers said.

To achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, we have to generate awareness on child health in our society, stressed the speakers.

The discussion, held at the auditorium of Tribal Culture Institute (TCI) recently, was jointly organised by SAS, ASHIKA, Monoghar, Shishu Forum CDL and

Chhutte Jay.

Later a musical soiree was held at the venue where child artists performed indigenous and Bengali songs and dances.

Children perform at the cultural programme

TARUNA DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION.

ADC (revenue) Biswajit Bhattacharya, Sadar upazila, nirbhi officer Matir Rahman and training coordinator of 'Antar', Md. Jalal Uddin attended the discussion. President of SAS, Sushil Chowdhury delivered the welcome speech.

Prior to the discussion, an art competition was held at the TCI museum compound where some 200 students from different public and private primary schools took part. Sugata Chakma, director of TCI inaugurated the competition in the morning.

Earlier this week, a judge ordered the 25-year-old singer to temporarily hand over custody of her two sons to ex-husband Kevin Federline.

The cast of *Desperate Housewives*

07:00 Scary Movie 4 03:00 Criss Angel Mindfreak

08:25 Capote 04:00 Malcolm In The Middle

10:30 First Blood 04:00 My Name Is Earl

12:15 Thir13en Ghosts 04:00 Yes Dear

01:45 Day Of Wrath 04:00 Monk

05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus 04:00 The Office (Us)

09:05 V Trailers - Star Plus 04:30 Ghost Whisperer

09:30 Saan 04:30 Tha Xplosion

10:00 V Trailers - Star Plus 04:30 Kyle XY

10:30 American Dragon: Jack Long 04:30 Ugly Betty

11:00 That's So Raven 04:30 The Black Donnellys

11:30 Sonpari 04:30 Celebrity Daredevils

12:00 Karishma Kaa 04:30 Kyle XY

12:30 V Trailers - Star Plus 04:30 Guts & Bolts

01:00 Shaka Laka Boom 04:30 Yes Prime Minister S1

01:30 Boom 04:30 Stalking The Innocent

01:45 Brain Power 04:30 The Visiting Fireman

02:15 Italy 04:30 Abominable Snowman

02:45 Mexico 04:30 Mercedes

03:15 Blotter Alert 04:30 Terror Strikes Moscow

03:45 Kasauuli Zindagi Kay 04:30 Archangel

04:15 Kasturi 04:30 Spartacus

04:45 V Trailers - Star Plus 04:30 Biography

05:15 Making Of Oflagachanun 04:30 Advance To Ground

05:45 Mein Daar 04:30 Zero

06:00 My Friend Ganesh 04:30 I Didn't Know That

06:30 Nach Baliye 3 04:30 Dakola, Orca, Target

07:00 PritiVraja Chauhan 04:30 Big Bang

07:30 Ba Bahoo Aur Baby 04:30 Emperor Penguins

08:00 The Living Weapon 04:30 Skywalk Collapse

08:30 Jackie Dee Story 04:30 La Loire Atlantique

09:00 Kasturi 04:30 Crashing In The Himalayas

09:30 Searching for a Miracle 04:30 The Hunt For The Hitler

10:00 Mein Daar 04:30 India

10:30 Spacemen 04:30 Spacemen

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