

Up-close with Anisur Rahman Milon

Shared interest in both TV and theatre

JAMIL MAHMUD

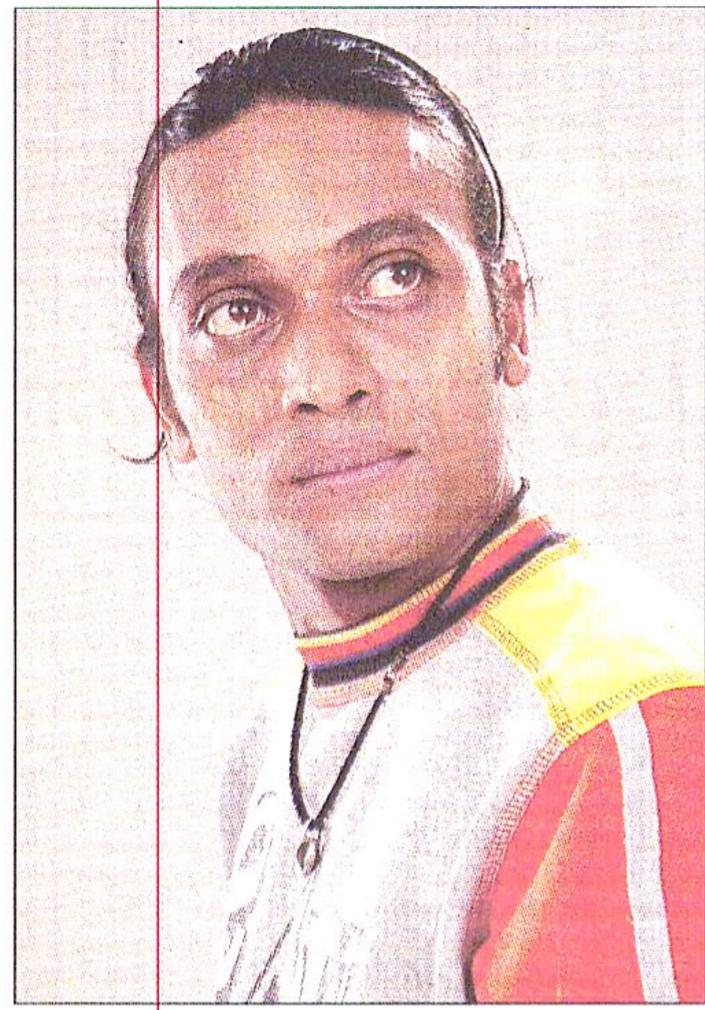
In 2001, he acted in his first TV play, *Akai*, directed by Rulin Rahman. The play was yet to be aired. That year he worked in six other single-episode plays. His first major work was in *Ranger Manush* (2003), a hugely popular mega serial directed and scripted by Salauddin Laylu and Masum Reza respectively. After *Ranger Manush*, actor Anisur Rahman Milon became a familiar face to TV viewers in the country. At present Milon is one of the busiest TV actors.

Milon says, "Ranger Manush and the other plays directed by Abul Hayat, Arun Chowdhury, Syed Awlad and a few others, gave me a leverage to become confident in the media." The actor plays major roles in the ongoing serials *Swapnochura* and *111 A Nelson Number* on Banglavision and ntv respectively.

He can also be seen in several other plays -- *Kachhey Durey* on Banglavision and *Bohemian, Moner Janala* and *Chhayamukh* on ATN Bangla.

Among his works, Milon considers *Projapoti Kal, Haatkura, Modhu Moira* and *Boyer Phul* notable. According to the actor, these TV plays and serials helped him carve a niche in the media. He says, "In *Ranger Manush, Otohpor* and *Doyita*, I enjoyed portraying diverse roles and received a warm response from the audience."

Mega serials, drama serials or single-episode plays, which format according to him tends to draw the audiences' interest?



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Milon says, "There is no sure-shot method or doctrine regarding this. An actor can even demonstrate his/her brilliance in a cameo in a single-episode play."

Milon worked in several plays set to be aired on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr. 2441139, written and directed by Alvee Ahmed, will be aired on Channel 1. "The play is inspired by Anjan Dutt's popular song 2441139, Aupi Karim and I play the lead roles," Milon says.

Other Eid-specials Milon has worked in include, *O Bondhu Aamar* (directed by Chayanika Chowdhury) to be aired on Banglavision; *Alkupurbo Bokul* (directed by Saidul Anam Tutul) and *Lal Balish* (directed by Sirajul Islam) set to air on BTV and *Shoja Chond* to be telecast on Ekushey TV.

Going over his background, Milon says he joined the troupe 'Theatre Centre' in 1983. He was a member of the group till '98 and in 2000 he joined 'Desh Natok'. At present, he is an active member of the troupe.

On his preference between the stage and TV, Milon says, "To someone like me, who has taken acting as a profession, TV is certainly very important but to satiate my creative urges, there is no alternative to theatre. Besides, I think theatre prepares actors for the other mediums -- TV and cinema."

Milon seems to have some interest in doing films. However, till now he has only done a cameo in *Golam Mustafa Shimul's Bhalobasha Shada-Kalo*. According to him, *Bhalobasha Shada-Kalo* was "kind of a warm-up" for him.

Film review

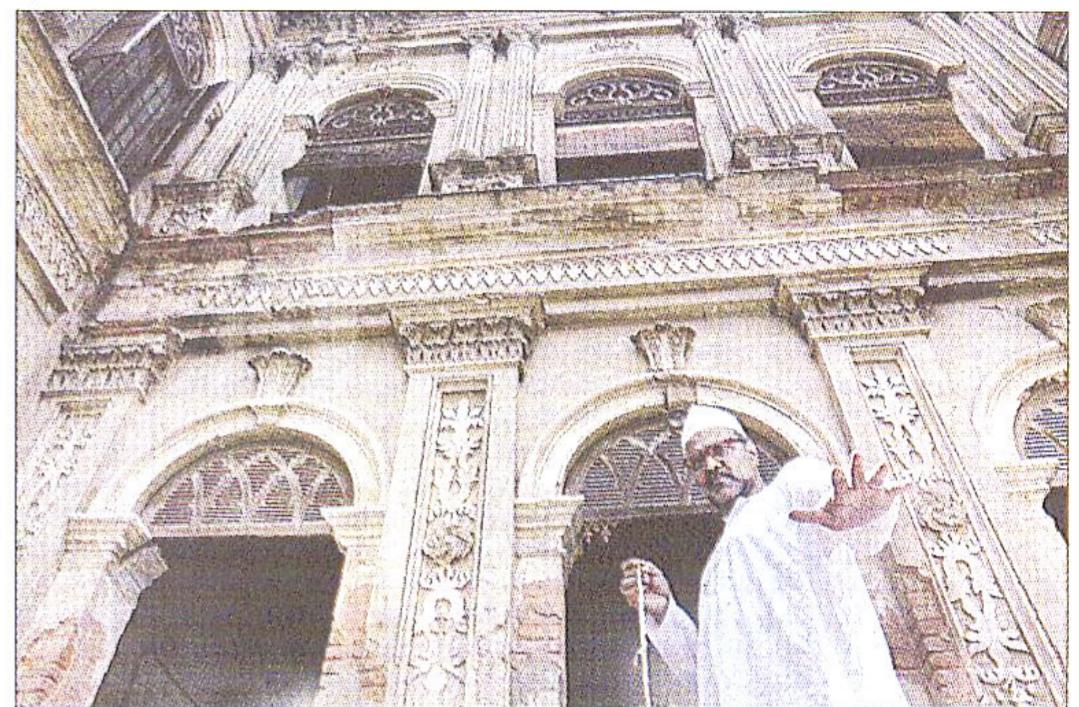
"Aha!": A story of decadence

ERSHAD KAMOL

Architect turned filmmaker Enamul Karim Nirjhar's debut feature film *Aha!* does not just zoom in on the architectural heritage of Dhaka but also addresses a burning issue -- replacement of age-old edifices to make way for multi-storyed apartments. Nirjhar, who has also written the story, screenplay and lyrics, has highlighted the psyche, inter-relationship and generation gap among the denizens of Dhaka -- a city that has been developed in an unplanned way. Most of the characters in the film are anything but righteous. They are arrogant, greedy and at times deviant.

In a swirling vortex of greed, love, cruelty and kindness, the story progresses through a complex array of people and their intentions. Ruba (Sathi Yasmin), Mallik's (Tariq Anam Khan) sole offspring, returns with her son to her father's mansion and seeks love in Kislu (Humayun Farid) but finds a suitor in her Australian-born cousin Asif (Ferdous). To her aristocratic, prejudiced father, this affair between his daughter and a man much older than her, is decadent.

The USP of *Aha!* is its treatment. Nirjhar's directorial compositions maintain the 'language of cinema', which a lot of Bangladeshi filmmakers miss. Though he has employed symbolism, impressionism and more, the presentation of the movie is notable in the sense that the story represents our contemporary time in a way we are familiar with. But the use of 'black hands on Ruba's face to refer to her nightmares' was not necessary.



Tariq Anam Khan in *Aha!*

Another important feature of Nirjhar's direction is the use of background music. Music composer Debajyoti Mishra's scores play a key role in the movie, but never take on a separate entity as prevalent in the run-of-the-mill subcontinental cinema. Songs in *Aha!* create a required ambience and none of the actors, except folk singer Habib, lip-syncs. Saiful Islam Badal's cinematography deserves plaudits.

However, the film seems to end abruptly. The climax of a tragedy when Mallik's guard Soleman (Fazlur Rahman Babu) kills Kislu, has not been portrayed clearly. The filmmaker might have wanted to avoid depicting the murder in a precise and graphic way;

however, there was room to develop the motive behind the murder and even the post-murder scene. It is not clear why an apparent philanthropist Mallik, who helps a reformed murderer Soleman by appointing him as his guard, orders him to 'kill' Kislu.

Tariq Anam Khan in the role of Mallik, living alone in his dilapidated ancestral mansion in Old Dhaka, has given a natural performance. Debubant Sathi Yasmin in the role of Ruba, a woman trying to escape from her abusive husband in US, is also impressive.

Humayun Farid, in the complex character of Kislu, Mallik's middle-aged neighbour, passing his time leisurely, talking about his fancies with

his poet friend Khadem (Khaled Khan), gives a credible performance.

Artists in brief roles, such as Khaled Khan and Pragna Laboni add to the strength of the cast. Fazlur Rahman Babu as Soleman, a reformed murderer serving Mallik, does not disappoint either.

However, Shahidul Alam Sachchhu as the estate developer Rafique, Gazi Rakayet as Rafique's ally Kanchan and Ferdous as Asif do not live up to the standards. In certain scenes Sachchhu exaggerates.

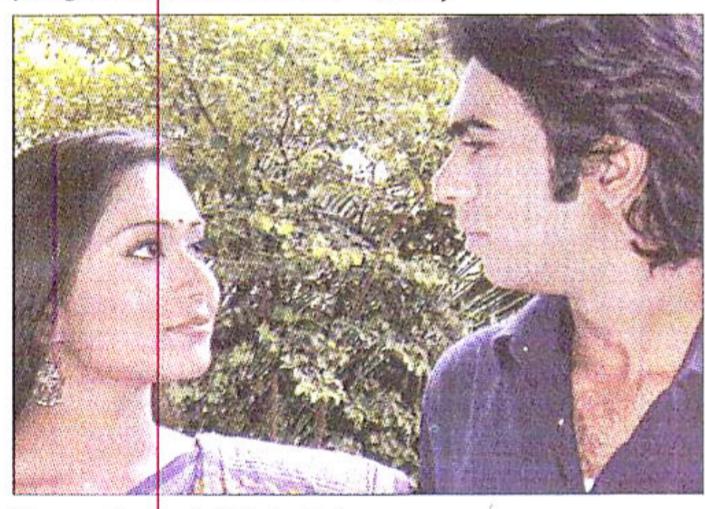
The premiere show of *Aha!*, an impress Telefilm production, was held at the Star Cineplex at Bashundhara Shopping Mall on October 6.

"Ek Tukro Neel" on Channel-i

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Written and directed by Rumana Rashid Ishita, single episode TV play *Ek Tukro Neel*, will be aired on Channel i on the fifth day of Eid at 9:35 pm. Momo, Apurbo, Nayem and K.S. Firoz play the central roles.

The plot revolves around three protagonists of distinct characters.



Momo and Apurbo in *Ek Tukro Neel*

One is fascinated by poems. Another is an easy going, nature lover and the third is poles apart from the others; totally indifferent towards love and affection. In spite of their differences, the three share a common interest: they all enjoy the wideness of the open blue sky.

Directed by Babul Ahmed, the story follows the unique strategy of a business organisation, Hatem Tai Limited. The organisation believes in the divine saying that 'whatever one donates, he or she will receive tenfold in return' and donates around Tk 20 lakhs to the welfare of the poor every month. The new manager however cannot understand this strategy. Surprised upon hearing about it, the manager's sister along with his daughter come to the office and asks the owner, Hatem, for money to get her niece married. Hatem at once gives them Tk 1 lakh. But the guilt-ridden aunt and niece duo lose their peace of mind.

Mamunur Rashid, Aruna Bishwas and Tony Dias play the lead roles.

Pranab Bhatta's last play "Hatem Tai Limited"

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On the second night of Eid at 11:30 pm, TV play *Hatem Tai Limited*, the last play written by recently deceased author Pranab Bhatta, will be aired on ATN Bangla.

Directed by Babul Ahmed, the story follows the unique strategy of a business organisation, Hatem Tai Limited. The organisation believes in the divine saying that 'whatever one donates, he or she will receive tenfold in return' and donates around Tk 20 lakhs to the welfare of the poor every month. The new manager however cannot understand this strategy. Surprised upon hearing about it, the manager's sister along with his daughter come to the office and asks the owner, Hatem, for money to get her niece married. Hatem at once gives them Tk 1 lakh. But the guilt-ridden aunt and niece duo lose their peace of mind.

Mamunur Rashid, Aruna Bishwas and Tony Dias play the lead roles.



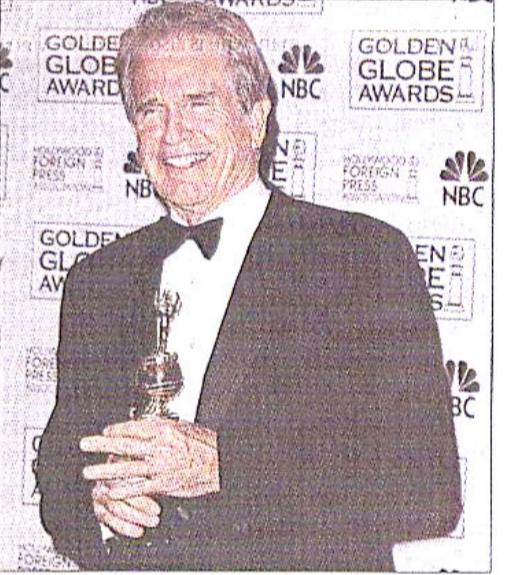
A scene from *Hatem Tai Limited*

Warren Beatty to receive lifetime achievement award

VETERAN ACTOR

Warren Beatty is getting a lifetime achievement award. The American Film Institute will bestow the honour on June 12, next year at their annual gala dinner in Los Angeles.

"Warren Beatty has charmed moviegoers as a dynamic leading man from his first moment onscreen," says AFI board chairman Howard Stringer. "He is also a master filmmaker; a writer, producer and director of such artistry and influence that his movies -- from *Bonnie & Clyde* to *Reds* -- have left an indelible mark



Warren Beatty

on the cultural legacy of American film."

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, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

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

News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

CHANNEL 1
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am.

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

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm.

News Headlines (English) at 8:05 pm.

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

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

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

BTv

Suproba
World Roundup
Desher Gitanjali

Diganta
Maa O Shishir
Kotha
Oru Poromana

01:00
Talk Show
01:30
Cartoon

02:15
Chena Jena
02:40
Swapno
03:05
Shukhi Paribar

03:30
Dolon Chipa
04:30
Bansuri
05:10
Documentary

06:10
Maithibasha
06:40
Selected
Programme

07:00
Drapadi
07:30
Mukhbir Pathay

08:35
Protidin Bangladesh
08:35
Dibani

09:30
Chhayabondhono

10:30
Koi Komol

11:30
Aket Omrodishhi

11:45
Ashaypasher
Marush

11:35
Business Week
01:25
Cocola Cholchitter

02:30
Doll's House

03:10
Football Match

05:00
Gram Goner Khobor

05:10
Khotomey Quran

05:30
Islamic

Programme

06:20
Hamro Nahr

06:25
Sustro Titikun

07:30
Aket Omrodishhi

08:00
Drama Serial: Kalii

08:45
Islamic Tak Show

09:30
Drama Serial: Shei

11:30
Shomoyer Kotha

CHANNEL-i

Suproba
Discussion
Programme

09:30
Grameenphone Tribh
Mitra

12:30
Chitayell Tarakakothon

01:05
Tax Helpline

01:15
Elbow Cinemar Gean

01:30
Shangbad Potrey

02:40
Bangladesh

03:45
Public Reaction

04:20
Drama Serial:
Priyabash

04:30
Bansuri

05:05
Banjyo O Orthonili