

CULTURAL FEAST

Victory Day Celebration

Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Shegunbagicha
Date: December 10-18

December 15
4 pm onwards
Recitation and Music

December 16
10 am
Recitation and Dance
6 pm
Jatra pala

Organiser: Sammilito Sanskritik Jote
Date: December 13-16

December 15
Procession starts from Central Shaheed Minar

Photography Exhibition

Title: Changing Images of Women in Bangladesh
Organiser: Pathways of Women's Empowerment, BRAC University
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, House 26, Road 3, Dhamondi

Date: December 14-19
Time: 10am-1pm and 4pm-8pm

Dhaka Book Fair 2007
Organised by: National Book Centre
Venue: National Parade Square, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Date: December 1-16

Film Screening

Organiser: Academy of Film and Media

Venue: Academy of Film and Media, 4/1, Block B, Hunayun Road, College Gate, Mohammadpur

Time: everyday at 3 pm and 6 pm

December 15: Joyjet, Gone with the Wind

December 16: Brave Heart, The Guns of Navarone

December 17: Shyam Chhaya, The Pianist

Victory Day celebration

Gazir geet and folk songs performed at Liberation War Museum



Artists of Nibedan perform folk songs at the Liberation War Museum

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On the fourth day of the ongoing weeklong Victory Day celebration programme organised by Liberation War Museum, *gazir geet*, a popular indigenous performing

art form, baul and folk songs were presented.

The evening began with a speech by Colonel (Retd) Kazi Nuruzzaman, commander of sector 7 during the Liberation War. In his speech he told the people to keep up the spirit of Liberation War.

He said, "Our Liberation War was not a fight against the Pakistan Army, rather a war to earn a motherland for ourselves."

The speech was followed by baul songs. Abu Sayeed, Monwar Islam and Gunjer Ali, all baul singers from Sirajgonj, rendered baul

songs including *Michhey mayay majive mon, Dui dinor duniay, Jugey jugey khujibo to may* and more.

Next to perform was the cultural organisation Nibedan. They rendered several folk songs of Mukunda Das, Ramesh Sheel, Pagla Kanai, Bijoy Sarkar, Mamnoon Dutta and Shah Abdul Karim. The performance included *Shono kritidashera gaan, Agye ki shundar din katalam* and more.

The finale brought in the traditional *gazir geet* performed by freedom fighter and folk singer Abdul Jabbar Boyati and his troupe from Netrakona. Abdul Jabbar Boyati who started giving public performances at the age of 13, rendered many inspirational songs to arouse the spirits of freedom fighters in Netrakona during the Liberation War. Abdul Jabbar Boyati is also well known for performing *pala*. His popular *pala*s include *Ratan Badsa, Zubet Badsa and Rupak Badsa*.

Traditionally *gazir geet* is performed in rural areas to glorify legendary *Gazi Pir*.

The Victory Day celebration at Liberation War Museum will continue till December 16.

Swabhumi celebrates Victory Day

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Swabhumi Lekhok Shilpi Kendra arranged a discussion, song and dance performances on December 13 to celebrate the Victory Day. The event was held at Rabindra Shabrobor.

Eminent journalist and cultural personality Kamal Lohani was the chief guest at the event, while noted artiste Bulbul Mahalanobish and general secretary of Sammilito Sanskritik Jote Golam Kuddus were the special guests.

Upholding the slogan *Praner bhetor pran jaguk*, the event began with the national anthem sung by the artistes of Swabhumi. Columnist and writer Mohsin Habib, Sheikh Milow and Arif Ahmed of Swabhumi also delivered speech at the event.

Bulbul Mahalanobish said, "1971 gave us our identity. We have struggled for many years. If we remain united, no matter how hard the antagonising forces try, they will not be able to alter our history."



Artists of Swabhumi perform at the Victory Day celebration programme

An evening of acoustic tunes

James in his first unplugged concert



James renders a song at the concert

MAINUL HASSAN

Music lovers were in for a rare treat at a band music performance at Winter Garden, Sheraton Hotel. The programme jointly organised by Trilogy Entertainment Ltd and Reddot featured popular rock musician James, in his first ever unplugged musical on December 13. Title "James Unplugged" the concert was a delight to the rock music aficionados.

James's spontaneous performance at the concert is different from his previous performances. And the stage was decked especially designed for the occasion. All songs were performed with acoustic instruments. The blending of tunes by Zubair on the flute, Shunit on the violin and harmonic rhythms by Robert added more diversity to the songs. Elita Karim was the anchor person of the programme.

Speaking on the occasion James said, "This is my first ever unplugged musical concert and I'm very excited. Unplugged concerts are different from normal concerts to which

musicians in our country are familiar with. I think my fans will be a great concert."

James began his performance with the song -- *Dukhini dukhno koro na*. Next he presented *Je din bondhu choley jabo*, followed by *Diwana diwana, Goponey prier kachhey, Beder meye joyasna*. Other songs included were: *Bondhu aschhey bohudin porey, Mire bat, Ami taray taray, Je pothe pothik nei, Hoi hoi kando*. Moreover, he played song backs that he rendered in the Hindi movies *Woh Lamhe* (chhalchay) and *Albida* (albida).

The performance was wrapped up with -- *Vighi vighi raatey* from the movie *Gangster*. In all there were sixteen hit songs and familiar numbers.

Prior to James three bands -- Black, Artcell and Dreek (the fourth place securing band in the recent *Drockstars*) also performed at the same venue. The event was like a breath of fresh air offering an escape from the monotonous urban life.

James's spontaneous performance at the concert is different from his previous performances. And the stage was decked especially

Musical soiree

Ajit Roy's songs of freedom celebrated

JAMIL MAHMUD

A cultural programme featuring songs composed by renowned Tagore singer Ajit Roy during the Liberation War was held at the National Music and Dance Centre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on December 14. Ajit Roy's compositions during the Liberation War were aired from Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra. The songs had a great impact on keeping the heads high of the freedom-aspiring nation during the war.

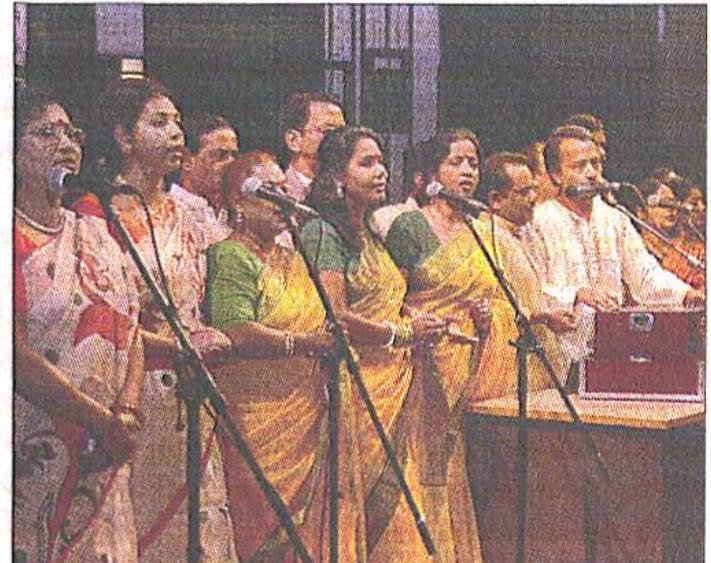
In collaboration with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), cultural organisations Abbhudo Sangeet Angan and Protipalak Society for Culture and Science together arranged the musical soiree.

The programme began with a group rendition of patriotic song *Dhano dhanye pushpay bhora*, rendered by artistes of the organisations. One-minute silence was observed to pay homage to the martyred intellectuals and the late *dotara* artiste Abinash Chandra Sheel.

Dr Baitunnahar of Abbhudo and Shantanu Saha Roy of Protipalak gave speeches at the programme. Director General of BSA, Kamruzzaman NDC also spoke at the programme.

Several songs composed by Ajit Roy during the Liberation War for Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra and Ashfagur Rahman, station-in-charge of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra recalled their days during the Liberation with Ajit Roy.

Ajit Roy himself rendered sev-



Shilpakala staff artists present a song composed by Ajit Roy

PHOTO: STAR

programme.

Ajit Roy embarked into his music career as a Tagore singer. His mother introduced him to Tagore songs in his childhood. Later he also made major contributions in the field of *Gano Sangeet* genre, especially during the Liberation War.

In 1971 Ajit Roy joined Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra. Later he joined Bangladesh Betar as a music producer.

His renditions in several feature films also attained popularity, especially in Khan Ataur Rahman's feature film *Jibon Thekey Naya* (1969).

The veteran singer received "Swadhinata Dibash Padak" in 2000.

ATIQUE HAQUE CHOWDHURY

As I am 76 today, I feel it's time I put my impression and thoughts of TV plays in our country. Despite being a TV playwright and director and working in this field for the last 45 years, I believe TV plays have a limited audience in our vast socio-economic structure.

At this point, let me confess that I'm not under the delusion that I have been able to satiate the aspiration of our viewers, neither have I been able to project the true culture and spirit of our national life aptly.

No, I am not absolutely frustrated with the overall situation. I have not thrown in the towel and I still believe that TV plays can inspire and move the viewers if we are truly patriotic and are imbued with the spirit of Ekushey and the Liberation War.

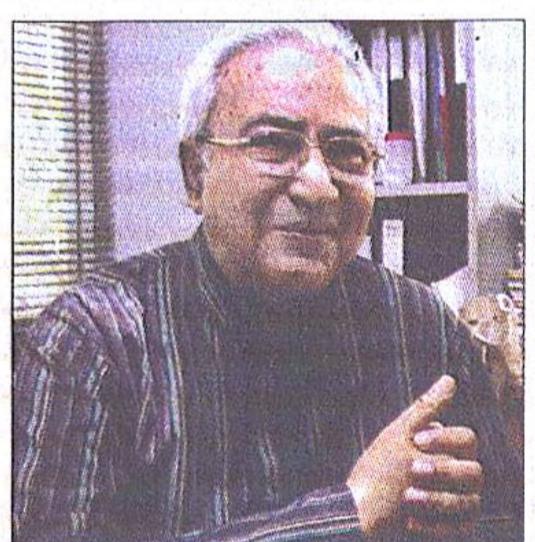
Another Victory Day is near. I believe love for the country should thrive in every Bangladeshi heart. And as dramatists, we should be always sincere, bold and also sensitive with our artistic and creative endeavours. Intellectual curiosity and element of simplicity should be present in our TV plays. The hopes and aspirations of the common man should be highlighted in our TV plays. Love, hatred, conflict, suspense, namely melodrama -- these should not and cannot be the only elements of a TV drama. We should also consider that "mushy" romance is but one aspect of "love" and that should not hog the centre stage. The purpose of TV plays is to stir the mind and the soul.

I also believe that now the society has been transformed into a colossal trade-centre. Individu-

als possessing perceptible noble and heroic qualities should be termed as the real "hero" or "heroine". The actual villain is a society that victimises people, as the environment and circumstances are controlled by it.

I am in tune with Stanislavski, who, once, said, "When you portray an evil man find out where he is good."

The author is a noted director and writer of TV plays



Atiqul Haque Chowdhury

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY

Shornokutir
On Banglavision at 09:45 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Dilara Jaman, Ahsan Habib

Into the West
On Star Movies at 10:05 pm
Genre: Adventure
Cast: Josh Brolin, Michael Spears

STAR WORLD

06:55 Tomakay Paor Jonno	09:30 Nds
Hey Swadhinota	10:30 The Bold And The
08:25 Drama: Bogor Ahr	Beautiful
Biscope	12:30 The Knights Of
09:05 Talk Show: Amar Ami	Prosperity
09:45 Drama Serial: Shomokutir	01:00 Travel Asia
11:20 Real Biratey	01:30 Heroes
12:00 Shangbad Pratidin	06:30 Ghost Whisperer

STAR MOVIES

08:45 The Family Stone	07:30 Tna Xpllosion
10:30 Behind Enemy Lines	09:30 Kye Xy
12:15 Just My Luck	10:30 The Black Donnellys
02:00 Hot Shots!	11:30 World's Most
03:30 Layer Cake	Shocking Moments
05:10 Lucky Number Stevin	12:30 Kyle Xy
07:00 Vernon	09:30 Open Water
08:30 Sniper 2	10:30 Mad Labs
10:05 Into the West	12:00 Kanhsima Kaa
11:35 Open Water	04:30 I Didn't Know That

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

09:30 Icebear	09:30 India's Hidden
10:30 American Dragon	Plague
11:30 Mela	11:30 Marriage
12:30 Gods & Goddesses	01:30 Large Sharks
02:30 Italy	02:00 Bidaai
03:30 Mad Labs	03:00 Steam Heavenly
04:30 Kanhsima Kaa	05:00 Angel, Mike
05:30 I Didn't Know That	06:00 Big Bang
06:30 Steam Heavenly	07:00 Hunting Pablo
07:30 Mad Labs	08:00 Escobar
08:30 Angel, Mike	09:00 Planet Carnivore
09:30 Large Sharks	04:30 Show Real Asia
10:30 Hunting Pablo	05:00 Greece: Age of Alexander
11:30 Mad Labs	06:00 Mata Hari
12:30 Escobar	07:00 Tokyo Shock Boys
01:30 The Universe	08:30 Hostages
02:30 The Great Ships	09:30 A Tale of Two Cities
03:30 The Great Ships	10:30 Pyotr Tchaikovsky
04:30 Greece: Age of Alexander	11:30 Rembrandt
05:30 Mata Hari	12:30 Hostages

HISTORY

09:30 Greece	09:30 Rembrandt
10:30 Pyotr Tchaikovsky	12:30 Hostages

ETV

06:30 Nds	07:00 Hello Dhaka (Apu)
07:00 Amar 88.0 (Nusrat)	11:00am Dhaka Calling (Sakib)
08:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)	03:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)
09:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)	07:00pm Fud Live (Fud)
10:00pm Fud Live (Fud)	11:30pm Back to Back music

Radio Foorti 88.6 FM

07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apu)	07:15am Good Morning Dhaka (Biplob)
11:00am Amar 88.0 (Nusrat)	07:45am Today's Happy Moments
03:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)	08:45am Shokaler Khabar (Nusrat & Sayfi)
07:00pm Fud Live (Fud)	12:00pm Falafal Adda (Nusrat & Sayfi)
11:30pm Back to Back music	02:00pm Dupsuri Khabar

Radio Today 89.6 FM

07:15am Good Morning Dhaka (Biplob)	07:45am Falafal Adda (Nusrat & Sayfi)
08:45am Shokaler Khabar	08:45am Dupsuri Khabar
12:00pm Today's Happy Moments	12:00pm Falafal Adda (Nusrat & Sayfi)
01:45pm Dupsuri Khabar	01:45pm Shokaler Khabar
04:00pm U-turn (Tania)	04:00pm U-turn (Tania)
06:45pm Shokaler Khabar	06:45pm Shokaler Khabar
08:00pm Toba Tai Hoi (Sayem)	08:00pm Toba Tai Hoi (Sayem)
09:45pm Raater Khabar	09:45pm Raater Khabar
11:45pm Modhno Raater Khabar	11:45pm Modhno Raater Khabar
12:00am Today's Happy Moments	