# CULTURE

# Theatre Festival '08 begins

Five plays to be staged

ERSHAD KAMOL

N the 74th birthday of theatre personality Professor Momotajuddin Ahmed, Theatre has arranged a six-day festival titled Theatre Festival '08 at the Mahila Samity Stage. On the inaugural day (January 18) a discussion, a seminar titled 'Satellite Culture and Theatre' and staging of Theatre's popular production Shat Ghater Kanakori were held.

Chairman of Theatre, Professor Momotajuddin Ahmed inaugurated the programme. Liaquat Ali Lucky and Golam Kuddus were the special guests at the opening cere-

Actors of Natyabhumi Group Theatre in the play Choroibeti

CULTURALFEAST

**Felicitation To poet** 

Syed Shamsul Haq

Organiser: Amra Surjomukhi

National Museum

Date: January 25

Documentary

15A (new) Dhanmondl

Book Launching

15A (new) Dhanmondi

Reminiscence

Organiser: Konthoshilon

Date: January 22

On Wahidul Haq

Date: January 23

Exhibition

Artist: Ivy Zaman

road 3, Dhanmondi

Time: 12pm-8pm

Time: 7 pm

Date: January 23

Time: 4pm

Bangladesh

Time: 4 pm

Title: in search of Heritage

Time: 5 pm

Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium,

**Premiere Show of Video** 

Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road

Title: Cultural Heritage & Fair Trade of

Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road

Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium,

Central Public Library, Shahbag

Sculpture and Art

Title: Brave World of Structure

Date: January 19-February 2

Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, House 26,

Apart from Theatre's productions -- Shat Ghater Kanakori and Rupbhan, two troupes from India will stage three plays at the festival. Theatre Festival '08 is dedicated to the memories of recently deceased cultural personalities Obayedul

Haque, Wahidul Haque, Mahbubul

Alam Chowdhury, Nitun Kundu

and Selim Al Deen. Indian troupe Natyabhumi Group Theatre staged Choroibeti. Written and directed by Partha Pratim Acharya, Choroibeti is a collage that depicts the oppression of the masses by power-hungry politi-

Solo poetry

evening at

Shilpakala

**CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT** 

A solo poetry evening featuring

renditions by Belayet Hossain,

secretary of the recitation wing of

Udichi Shilpi Gosthi, was held at

the National Theatre Stage, Bangla-

desh Shilpakala Academy recently.

It was the first solo programme by

The programme began with a

recitation of Tagore's Aguner

Parashmani. Renditions of

Birendro Chattyopadhyay's Sheuli

Jhora Mashey, Sunil

Gangopadhyay's Nirar Ashukh and

Next the artiste recited two

poems written by Purnendu Patri --

Kathopakathan and Madhobir

Jonyo. Other recitations included

Sunil Gangopadhyay's Keu Kotha

Rakheni, Sukanto Bhattacharya's

Ranar and Tagore's Prothom Diner

Titled Jiboney Pradeep Jalo, the

programme featured 23 poems

written by Rabindranath Tagore,

Sunil Gangopadhyay,

Shatyndranath Dutta, Sukanto

Bhattacharya, Purnendu Patri,

Nirmalendu Goon, Kais Ahmed

The programme wrapped up

with the recitation of Tagore's

Gram-er Meye

Mati O Manush

Programme

Shukhi Poribaar

Geeti Betaan

Mon-er Katha

Desh O Bigyan

Quiz Quiz

Lok Lokalay

09:00 Drama Serial:

ATN BANGLA

08:30 Drama Serial:

Shilpo O Shahityo

Protidin Bangladesh

Drama Serial: Modhyo

Raaler Osharohi

Shanshaptak

Gram-er Meye

09:30 Drama Serial: Kon

10;30 Shomali Shondhya

08:15 Ajker Shangbadpotro

Chorkuthun

Onyodrishti

11:35 Drama Senal: Khatta

01:25 Musical Programme:

ATN Music

03:15 Mega Serial: O Amar

04:20 Travel Show: Obiram

Bangladesh

Chokhkhu Nai

02:30 Daily Soap: Doll's

House

03:45 Aha Ki Anondo

05:10 Math-er Haat

05:40 Prijon

09:15 Drama Serial: Alok

Nogor

Talk Show:

11:05 Three Stooges

Mitha

12:15 Cinema Cinema

02:40 Selected Programme

Cartoon

Matir Gaan

02:15 Documentary

Maa O Shishur Katha

and others.

BTV

06:10

Roopnaraaner Koley.

Tagore's Krishnokoli followed.

cians with double standards. The play also focuses on the potential of the masses to resist anarchy. The story has been presented through a chorus, and 11 artistes have enacted different characters.

On the following day Theatre staged its current production Rupbhan. Heeron Dey has written the play based on a familiar folklore. The play features the On January 19, Agartala-based tragic love story between Tajel and Rupbhan, the latter being much younger than the heroine. Kamruzzaman Chowdhury Runu has directed the play. Music plays the key role in narration. Music composer Enayet A Mawla Jinnah

Yesterday, another show of the

Theatre production Shat Ghater Kanakori was staged. Written and directed by Professor Momotajuddin Ahmed, Shat Ghater Kanakori is a satire on the dishonest politicians whose selfinterest results in rampant corruption.

The play is set against the backdrop of the volatile country during the late '80s when the people took to the streets to protest the then dictator. The play portrays factual stories of those days when the leviathan ruler persuaded many student leaders, politicians, intellectuals and even a few journalists to work in his favour. The play also uses flashbacks to depict events from the Liberation War.

In Momotajuddin's play, certain politicians who worked with the Pakistani regime against the Bangladeshi people, were later on benefited by the Bangladeshi military rulers. A university teacher, for example, relays the suffering of his mother during the Liberation War. He shares that an influential Maulana took his mother to a military camp. This particular Maulana becomes a minister later on, after the Liberation War.

Kolkata-based troupe Anyapesha Natyanesha will stage two plays at the festival. Two shows of Shesh Anker Sheshey will be staged today at 4 pm and 7 pm at Mahila Samity Stage. Tomorrow the troupe will stage Ekti Obastob Natok.

met. The vows were exchanged

over the phone. Araf's mother

salvages the situation claiming that

100th episode of drama

earlier.

and Mir Sabbir.

serial "Neer" on ntv

**CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT** 

The 100th episode of drama serial

Neer will be aired on ntv tonight at

9:45 pm. Written and directed by

Ejaz Munna, the serial focuses on

the joys and woes of an extended

Tonight's drama-packed epi-

sode centres on the wedding of

Ayesha and Araf. It is disclosed that

Ayesha was previously married to

an expatriate whom she had never



Moments in time

Photos by Shankor Sawjal

KARIM WAHEED

On Shankor Sawjal's photographic pursuits, noted cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor says, "Shankor and I went to Kabul together. We were on the road, going out of the city, signs warning commuters of landmines becoming frequent. Shankor got off the road to take photos. Why? He had spotted some budding tulips in the midst of ruins. He was ecstatic! That's what Shankor tries to find in every frame -- life, even in the most inhospitable atmosphere."

Sawjal's solo photography exhibition, Drishyakaal was recently held at the National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

The collection of photos is arranged in several series. Shishir Shokal includes images of -- as the title suggests -- dewy dawns. A misty river and its surroundings,

huts on hill-tops, dew-drops caught in a cobweb shimmering like diamante and so on. But the most remarkable of these is perhaps an image of a lone cow grazing in lush green pasture, a woman following the animal, rays from the heavens kissing the earth. The image can pass off as an impressionistic painting but Sawjal denies any digital manipulation.

The photographer says, "I don't use digital cameras. The effect you see in this photo, of a cow grazing, happened because the resolution was somewhat low. After printing, the green sort of looked like it was brush-painted."

vignettes of everyday life that have become rare moments -- an elderly man strolling in a park or woods, a boy lounging on the golui (front edge) of a boat, a man making boitha (paddle), tea-pickers congregating and more. An image

of two pairs of feet -- adult, dirty, calloused feet with tiny, delicate, baby feet -- stands out.

Another photo frames a young

Buddhist monk from the back, the

"Drishyakaal": Shankor Sawjal's solo photo exhibition

golden peak of a pagoda gleaming on top of a hill. The image of rail lines seemingly moving towards eternity through woods is sure to grab one's attention as well. Abinashi Gaan features photos of the Shaheed Minar, Martyred

Intellectuals' Memorial and Smritishoudho in Savar -structures, monuments and sculptures that remind us of the Liberation War.

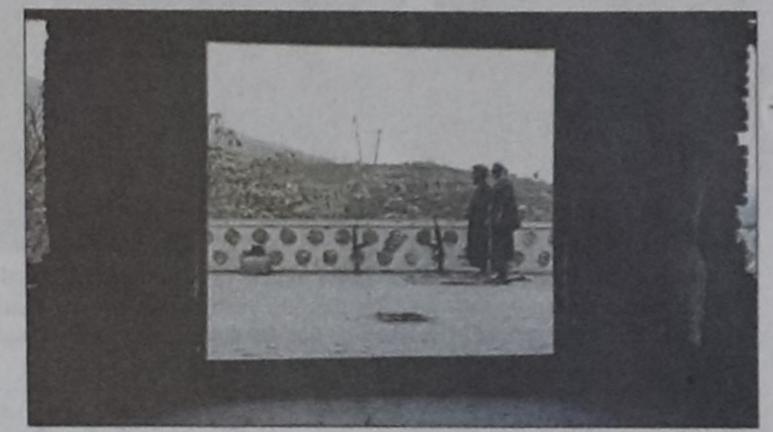
The series Jibondhara includes interesting images of a Dhaka getting drenched. Two girls treading a wet track sprinkled confetti-style with Krishnachura petals, a blurry watery image of a rickshaw-puller in the pouring rain and more are sure to stir a viewer's

Ruins of ancient tombs, a tank next to a crumbling wall, two men praying with their guns leaning on a railing next to them, houses on the steps of a hill, young ones acting their age at a bazaar with heaps of mouth-watering raisins, pistachios and such, bright hues of blossoms in an arid setting that can lift anyone's mood and more are part of the Afghanistan series.

The priceless toothy smile of a young girl who apparently came to get some khichdi, in a Sidr-hit area, will light up any wall. This image and several others, in the Jagaran series, highlight the "rise of the Nagar Barsha includes some phoenix" in the coastal regions that were devastated by a cyclone

Sawjal, who writes and composes songs, acts, makes ads and takes photos, works with the sensitivity of a philosopher. His photography comes across as an extension of his disposition.





#### she had been informed about it The cast includes Sweety, Azad Abul Kalam, Srabonti, Richi, Momo, Hillol, Anwara, Elora Month-long Gauhar, Masud Ali Khan, Shamsuzzaman Benu, Shams folk festival Shumon, Chanchal Chowdhury begins in

Sonargaon

Bangladesh Folk Art and Craft Foundation has arranged a folk-art and craft festival at its premises in Sonargaon, Narayanganj. The festival started yesterday and will continue till February 19, says a press release.

Sharful Alam, the acting secretary to the Ministry of Cultural Affairs inaugurated the festival. Sheikh Alauddin, director of Bangladesh Folk Art and Craft Foundation, presided over the event. Narayanganj District Commissioner, Faizul Kabir was present as special guest. A cultural programme followed the inaugura-

## Salman Khan joins his compatriots at Madame Tussaud's

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Actor Salman Khan has joined four other Bollywood stars in having his life-size wax statue at the world famous Madame Tussaud's Museum in London. "Absolutely fantastic!" -- reacted

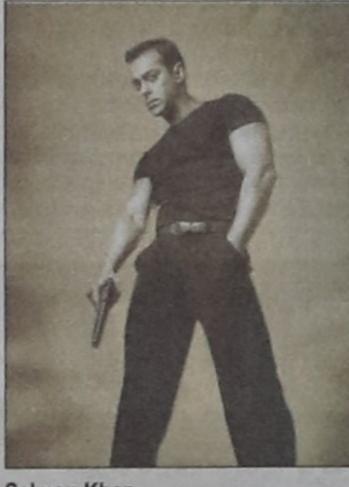
the 43-year-old Khan, who has featured in over 50 Hindi films, as he looked intensely at his replica he unveiled on January 15, looking quite excited. Other Bollywood stars who

already have their statues at the Madame Tussaud's are Amitabh Bachhan, Shahrukh Khan and Aishwariya Rai. Salman Khan's wax figure is just metres from Rai, his former girlfriend.

According to Salman who was accompanied by his current girlfriend, actress Katrina Kaif, his replica has thicker hair and is more muscular than he is.

The actor donated a set of clothes and a bracelet for the wax a British Asian entertainment statue at the museum.

The Bollywood hunk was chosen from a group of ten Bollywood stars



The Ellen Degeneres

Malcolm In The Middle

The Bold And The

General Hospital

The Simpsons

My Wife And Kids

Brothers & Sisters

Who Wants To Be A

Show

04:00

Beautiful

Enterprise

Friends

Seinfeld

The O.C.

Heroes

Superhero

Dens of Danger

Sauna Belt

Gang Wars

Hippos.

03:30 The Real Serengeti

Big Bang

Mad Labs

Is It Real?

06:00 Pit Viper/Pioneer Crocs

12:30 Taliban Uprising

11:30 Air Crash Investigation

The Dark Side of

1 Didn't Know That

The Real Screnget

Animal Extractors

Rattlesnake Road Trip

The Real Serengeli

12:30 Seinfeld

GEOGRAPHIC

NATIONAL

10:30

01:30

02:30

04:30

05:00

05:30

06:30

07:30

08:30

09:30

Salman Khan

in a poll conducted last summer by magazine and BBC Asian Network. Among the nine other stars Salman beat in the race for a statue at the museum are Abhishek Bachchan, Madhuri Dixit, Hrithik Roshan and Lata Mangeshkar.

It took five artistes and three months to build the wax statue at a cost of 400,000 US Dollars.

The museum hopes the statue of Salman will attract many more South Asian and British Asian visitors.

Apart from shooting for films, the trip to the Madame Tussaud's and the honour to unveil his wax replica came as a welcome relief for Salman from his legal woes set off by his alleged involvement in a black buck poaching case in the north western state of Rajasthan and hit-and-run case in Mumbai.

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Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apu)

11:00am Amar 88.0 (Nusrat)

03:00pm Dhaka Calling

07:00pm Seven Eleven

(Sadia)

(Shuvo)

Radio Today 89.6 FM

Moments

Dhaka (Biplob)

07:15am Good Morning

07:45 am Today's Happy

08:45am Shokaler Khabor

(Nudrat)

01:45pm Dupurer Khabor

04:00pm U-tum (Kibria &

Tania)

06:45pm Shondher Khabor

(Sayem)

08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok

09:45pm Raater Khabor

11:45pm Moddho Raatem

Khabor

06:30 The Slory of David

Honour

10:30 Modern Marvels

08:30 Saipan

09:30

07:30 Abominable Snowman

12:00pm Today's Adda

11:00pm Late Night Show

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

### News Bulletin

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 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am. 12:00am, 4:00pm, News (English) at 6:00pm

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

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

Talk Show: Katha Mala 08:15 Shuprobhaat Drama Serial: Pramanyo Chitro Mowchakey Dhil 11:40 Drama Serial: Kon 08:45 Drama: Bhul

> Grameenphone Lead News CHANNEL-i Shangbadpotrey

Rang Manchyo Taal

A scene from the play

09:45 Public Reaction Grameenphone Tritio Matra 11:05 Cricket On Line 11:30 Amar Chhobi Citycell Tarokakathan Ebong Cinemar Gaan Mega Serial: Prio 01:30 Sa Re Ga Ma 02:40 03:05 i-Sports 04:05 Hridoy-er Gaan

04:30 Shangeet Mala 06:00 Tarzan 06:20 Drama Serial: Ochena Adhar 06:45 Business Show 07:50 Musical Programme: Amar Prio Gaan 09:35 Drama Serial: Neol Tepantoprey 10:00 Drama: Dhaka 71 11:30 Drama: 69

GrameenPhone Ajker Shangbadpotro 08:00 Ekusher Shokal 12:00 Ekusher Dupur 12:30 Ekushey Business: Special Focus 03:30 Shomali Shadakalo 04:00 Cartoon 04:30 Drama Serial: Hitlu Cholar Pathey 05:15 05:45 Ekusher Shondhya Quiz Show: SMS 06:15 Mania

07:30 Arnar Mukhti Aloy-e

Aloy-e

Mouchakey Dhil

06:35 Kathay Kathay

08:00

09:20

11:00

11:30

12:00

ntv

08:30

10:05

10:30

12:10

Drama Serial:

Modhyobarti

News Watch

Rtv Exclusive

Ajker Shokaal

Music Express

Ei Shomoy

01:05 Japan Video Topic

Drama Senal: Shanto

Kichhu Katha Kichhu

Drama Serial: Teen

10:10 Cinebit

Bon-er Kashinda

Ranna

Priomukh

Kutir

Gaan

Cookery Show: R

Drama Serial: Anon

On ATN Bangla at 8:00 pm Drama Serial Cast: Dr Enamul Haq, Deepa Khondokar

08:00 Cookery Show: Tomi

08:30 Shurothal

09:05 Heart Beat

09:35 Sports Carnival

10:00 Drama Serial:

11:00 Taroka Alap

Barti

12:35 Apon Shimanay

01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din

06:00 Protidin

01:30 Dhallywood Beats

02:30 Bangla Feature Film

12:15 Jugolbondhi

09:30

Mianr Recipe

Ekusher Shomoy

Manush Project

10:30 Drama Serial: Shukhi

Poroshpor

11:30 Drama Serial: Modhyo

PICK OF THE DAY

The Bone Collector On Zee Studio at 11:00 pm Genre: Thriller Cast: Denzel Washington, Angelina Jolie

02:30 Drama Serial: Shanto 11:05 Kutir Doctor 03:15 Crime Watch Drama Serial: Nabila 11:35 03:50 Charit 02:00 Gallery 04:25 05:30 Apnar Jigyasha Hadari Shubho Shondhya 06:20 06:45 Nrityo Lohori Drama Serial: To-Let 08:15 ntv Shamoeki 09:00 09:45 Drama Serial: Neer 11:25 Ei Shomoy BANGLAVISION 08:30 Shurer Bhuboney

Shurer Bhubon Shesh Bari Drama Serial: 08:25 Mohanogor 09:00 Cookery Show: Amader Ranna Ghar 09:05 Vocab 09:30 Drama Serial: 09:25 Agamir Kontho 11:30 Swapnochura

10:40 Amar Ami Drama Serial: Byasto Apnar Agami Daily Soap: Mohanagar Drama Serial: Tarik Ali 03:05 Musical Programme: Banijyo Mela Protidin Drama Serial: Shohorer Citycell Din-or Sheshey

Ebong Classor Bairey Cinebit Shadakalo Shangbad Protidin 12:00

08:35 Enough 10:30 Holy Man 12:30 Grimm Love STAR PLUS The New Adventures of Winnie Pooh Little Einsteins 11:00 12:00 Santaan Bidaai 12:30 01:00 Kasautii Zindaglii Kay Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan

STAR MOVIES

11:25

03:10

05:00

07:00

The innocent

Grizzly Rage

The Family Stone

Back To The Future li

Domino

Metro

Alibi, The

Bhabhi 02:00 02:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa 03:00 Saarrthi 04:00 Kayamath 04:30 Sangam 05:00 Santaan Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat 06:00 06:30 Bidaai 07:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby Sangam 07:30 08:00 Santaan

08:30 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat 09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 09:30 Bidaai 10:00 KASTURI 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ke 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi

11:30 Kayamath 12:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa STAR WORLD 09:30 The O.C.

10:30 Last Comic Standing 11:30 According To Jim 12:00 The Simpsons Seinfeld 12:30

Friends

01:30 Desire: Table For Three

01:00

10:30 10:30 12:30 The Story of David

01:30

05:30 Ferrari

Lion 11:30 Taliban Uprising 12:30 Hunter Hunted HISTORY CHANNEL 09:30 Sauna Belt The Pullman Palace Cars

Jekyll & Hyde

Operation Solo

03:30 Mary Magdalene

11:30 Real UFOs 12:30 Honour ZEE STUDIO 08:30 Full Throttle 10:30 The Life Aquatic With Stave Zissou 01:05 Epk + Hollywood's 10

Best The Alamo 01:40 Novocaine 04:45 Hot Shots 1 06:45 Maid In Manhattan 08:45 11:00 The Bone Collector