

Theatre Festival '08 begins

Five plays to be staged

ERSHAD KAMOL

ON 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 Ghat 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-

mony.

Apart from Theatre's productions -- *Shat Ghat Kanakori* and *Ruphan*, 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.

On January 19, Agartala-based Indian troupe Natyabhum 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-

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 *Ruphan*. Heeron Dey has written the play based on a familiar folklore. The play features the tragic love story between Tajel and Ruphan, 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

has used folk tunes in his composition.

Yesterday, another show of the Theatre production *Shat Ghat Kanakori* was staged. Written and directed by Professor Momotajuddin Ahmed, *Shat Ghat Kanakori* is a satire on the dishonest politicians whose self-interest 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 Anyapasha Natyansha 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*.

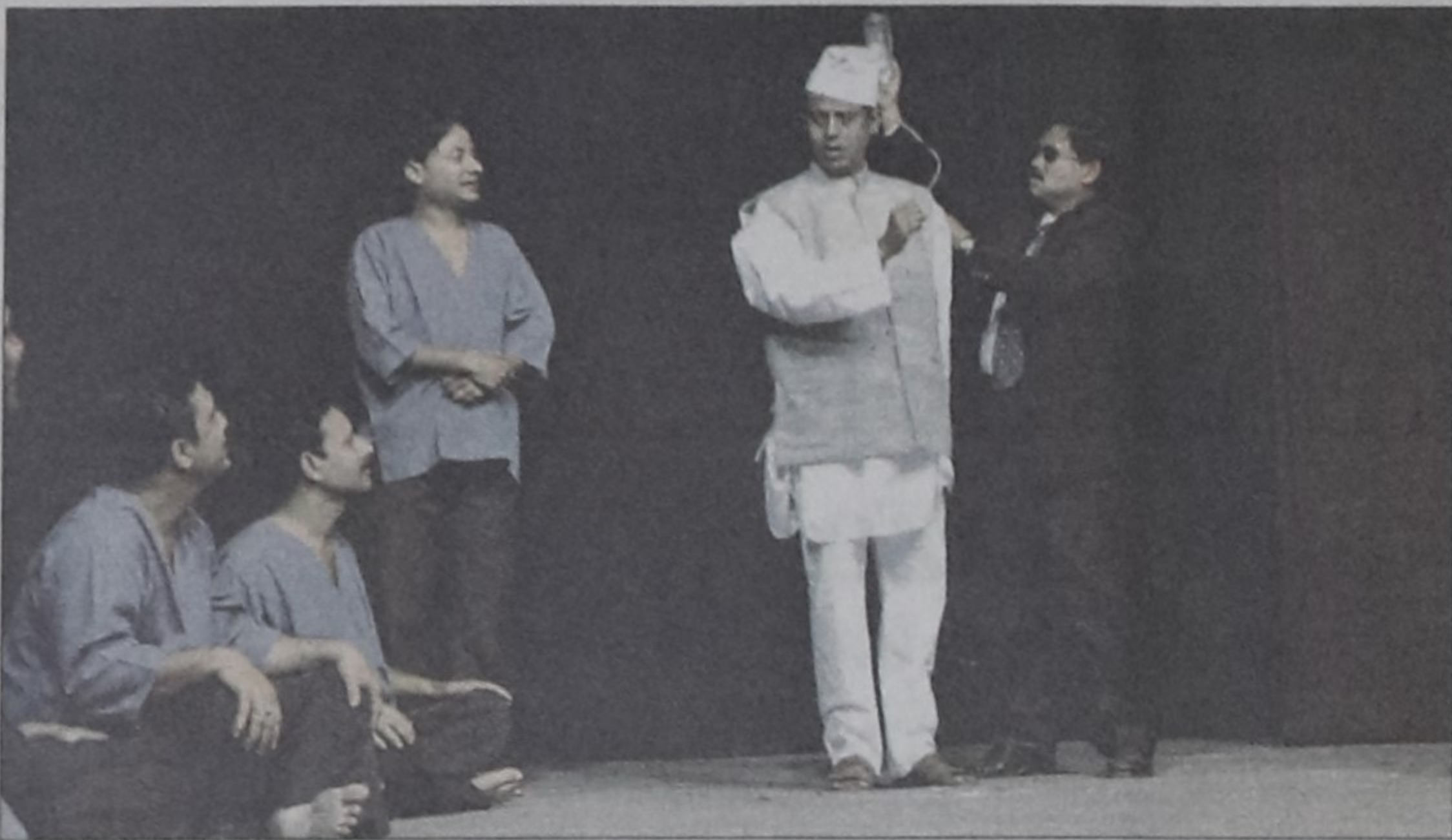
Actors of Natyabhum Group Theatre in the play *Choroibeti*

PHOTO: STAR

CULTURALFEAST

Felicitations To poet Syed Shamsul Haq

Organiser: Amra Surjomukhi
Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum
Date: January 25
Time: 5 pm

Premiere Show of Video Documentary

Title: In search of Heritage
Venue: Dik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (new) Dhanmondi
Date: January 23
Time: 4 pm

Book Launching

Title: Cultural Heritage & Fair Trade of Bangladesh
Venue: Dik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (new) Dhanmondi
Date: January 22
Time: 4 pm

Reminiscence

On Wahidul Haq
Organiser: Konitoshion
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag
Date: January 23
Time: 7 pm

Sculpture and Art Exhibition

Title: Brave World of Structure
Artist: Ivy Zaman
Venue: Shilpakala Gallery, House 26, road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: January 19-February 2
Time: 12pm-8pm

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, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy recently. It was the first solo programme by the artiste.

The programme began with a recitation of Tagore's *Aguner Parashmani*. Renditions of Birendro Chattopadhyay's *Sheuli Jhora Mashey*, Sunil Gangopadhyay's *Nirar Ashukh* and Tagore's *Krishnokoli* followed.

Next the artiste recited two poems written by Purnendu Patri -- *Kathopakashan* and *Madhobir Jonyo*. Other recitations included Sunil Gangopadhyay's *Keu Kotha Rakheni*, Sukanto Bhattacharya's *Ranar* and Tagore's *Prothom Diner Shurjo*.

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 and others.

The programme wrapped up with the recitation of Tagore's *Roopnaraaner Koley*.

100th episode of drama 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 family.

Tonight's drama-packed episode centres on the wedding of Ayesha and Araf. It is disclosed that Ayesha was previously married to an expatriate whom she had never

met. The vows were exchanged over the phone. Araf's mother salvages the situation claiming that she had been informed about it earlier.

The cast includes Sweetzy, Azad Abul Kalam, Srabonti, Richi, Momo, Hillol, Anwar, Elora Gauhar, Masud Ali Khan, Shamsuzzaman Benu, Shams Shumon, Chanchal Chowdhury and Mir Sabbir.



A scene from the play

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Mouchakey Dhill
On ATN Bangla at 8:00 pm
Drama Serial

Cast: Dr Enamul Haq, Deepa Khondokar



The Bone Collector
On Zee Studio at 11:00 pm
Genre: Thriller

Cast: Denzel Washington, Angelina Jolie

08:00	Cookery Show: Tomi Mian Recipe	06:35	Kathay Kathay	02:30	Drama Serial: Shanto Kutir	10:40	Amar Ami
08:30	Shurohal	08:00	Drama Serial: Mowchakey Dhill	09:55	Crime Watch	11:05	Drama Serial: Byasto Doctor
09:30	Ekusher Shomoy	08:45	Drama: Bhul Rang Manchoy Taal	09:30	Drama Serial: Nabila Chori	09:30	Apar Agami
10:30	Drama Serial: Shukhi Manush Project	11:30	Grameenphone Lead News	10:25	Drama Serial: Chori	11:30	Daily Soap: Mohanagar
				04:25	Drama Serial: Anon Pionukh	02:40	Drama Serial: Tanik Ali Hadari
				06:20	Drama Serial: Shukhi Manush Project	03:05	Musical Programme: Shurer Bhubon
				08:15	Drama Serial: Neer	04:20	Bangiyela Mela Protidin
				11:25	Drama Serial: Neer	05:30	Drama Serial: Shohoror Shesh Bar
				08:30	Ajker Shokaal	06:05	Citycell Din-e-Sheshey
				08:55	Drama Serial: Shanto Kutir	06:20	Ekusher Shomoy: Amader
				10:05	Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan	08:25	Drama Serial: Mohanagar
				10:30	Music Express	09:05	Vocab
				11:30	Drama Serial: Teen Bon-e-Kashinda	09:25	Agami Kontho
				12:10	Ei Shomoy	11:30	Cinebit Shadkala
				01:05	Japan Video Topic	12:00	Shangbad Protidin

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STAR MOVIES

08:00	The Innocent	02:30	The Ellen Degeneres Show
09:55	Grizzly Rage	03:30	The Bold And The Beautiful
11:25	Domino	04:00	General Hospital
01:25	The Family Stone	05:00	Enterprise
03:10	Back To The Future II	06:00	Malcolm In The Middle
05:00	Metro	06:30	The Simpsons
07:00	Albi, The	07:00	My Wife And Kids
08:35	Enough	07:30	Friends
10:30	Holy Man	08:00	Seinfeld
12:30	Grimm Love	08:30	The O.C.

STAR PLUS

10:30	The New Adventures of Winnie Pooh	10:30	Brothers & Sisters
11:00	Little Einsteins	11:30	Who Wants To Be A Superhero
12:00	Santaan	12:30	Seinfeld
12:30	Bidaai		
01:00	Kasauti Zindagi Kay		
01:30	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan		
02:00	Bhabhi		
02:30	Karam Apnaa Apnaa		
03:00	Saanthi		
04:00	Kayamathi		
04:30	Sangam		
05:00	Santaan		
06:00	Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat		
06:30	Bidaai		
07:00	Baa Bahoo Aur Baby		
07:30	Sangam		
08:00	Santaan		
08:30	Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat		
09:00	Kasauti Zindagi Kay		
09:30	Bidaai		
10:00	KASTURI		
10:30	Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki		
11:00	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi		
11:30	Kayamathi		
12:00	Karam Apnaa Apnaa		

STAR WORLD

09:30	The O.C.	05:30	Ferrari
10:30	Last Comic Standing		
11:30	According To Jim		
12:00	The Simpsons		
12:30	Seinfeld		
01:00	Friends		
01:30	Desire: Table For Three		

03:30	The Bold And The Beautiful	04:00	General Hospital
05:00	Enterprise	06:00	Malcolm In The Middle
06:30	The Simpsons	07:00	My Wife And Kids
07:30	Friends	08:00	Seinfeld
08:30	The O.C.	09:30	Heroes
10:30	Brothers & Sisters	11:30	Who Wants To Be A Superhero
12:30	Seinfeld		

NATIONAL

08:30	Dens of Danger	03:30	The Bold And The Beautiful
09:30	The Real Serengeti	04:00	General Hospital
10:30	Sauna Belt	05:00	Enterprise
11:30	Air Crash Investigation	06:00	Malcolm In The Middle
12:30	Taliban Uprising	07:00	My Wife And Kids
01:30	Gang Wars	08:00	Seinfeld
02:30	The Dark Side of Hippo	09:30	Heroes
03:30	The Real Serengeti	10:30	Brothers & Sisters
04:30	I Didn't Know That	11:30	Who Wants To Be A Superhero
05:00	Rattlesnake Road Trip	12:30	Seinfeld
05:30	Big Bang		
06:00	Pit Viper/Pioneer Cross		
06:30	The Real Serengeti		
07:30	Animal Extractions		
08:30	Mad Labs		
09:30	Is It Real?		
10:30	Lion		
11:30	Taliban Uprising		
12:30	Hunter Hunted		

HISTORY CHANNEL

09:30	Sauna Belt	05:30	Ferrari
10:30	The Pullman Palace		
11:30	The Story of David		
12:30	Jekyll & Hyde		
01:30	Mary Magdalene		
02:30	Operation Solo		

Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

07:00am	Hello Dhaka (Apu)
11:00am	Amar 88.0 (Nusrat)
03:00pm	Dhaka Calling (Sakib)
07:00pm	Seven Eleven (Sadik)
11:00pm	Late Night Show (Shuvo)

Radio Today 89.6 FM

07:15am	Good Morning Dhaka (Biplob)
07:45 am	Today's Happy Moments
08:45am	Shokaler Khabor
12:00pm	Today's Adda (Nudrat)
01:45pm	Dupurer Khabor
04:00pm	U-tum (Kibria & Tania)
06:45pm	Shondher Khabor
08:00pm	Tobe Tai Hok (Sayem)
09:45pm	Raader Khabor
11:45pm	Moolho Raader Khabor

Radio Today 89.6 FM

06:30	The Story of David
07:30	Abominable Showman
08:30	Saipan
09:30	Honour
10:30	Modern Marvels
11:30	Real UFOs
12:30	Honour

ZEE STUDIO

08:30	Full Throttle	01:40	The Alamo
10:30	The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou	04:45	Novocaine
01:05	Ek + Hollywood's 10 Best	06:45	Hot Shots 1
		08:45	Maid In Manhattan
		11:00	The Bone Collector