

First Int'l Children's Film Festival begins

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

THE First International Children's Film Festival Bangladesh was inaugurated on January 28 at the Shaukat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library. Young film enthusiasts are in for a treat, as the festival includes over 100 films, including feature, short, animation and documentary from 35 countries, as well as a selection of Bangladeshi children's films. The event is being organised by the Children's Film Society Bangladesh.

The inaugural ceremony opened with a rendition of the Tagore song, *Alo amar alo* by the young students of Chhayana. This was followed with the National Anthem, in which they were joined by everyone present. The Bangladeshi flag, the festival flag and the flag of Children's Film Society were hoisted by the chief guest, Rasheda K. Chowdhury, Adviser to the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Women, Children and Cultural Affairs; Mustafa Monwar, Chairperson of the Festival Committee and Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Vice-chairperson of the committee. Among others, Professor Anisuzzaman also attended the event. After the opening speeches and other formalities, the Estonian film *Ruudi*, directed by Katrin Laur, was screened.

A steady stream of tickets are being sold at Tk30 for adults and Tk 10 for children. There is also an assortment of souvenirs -- bags, T-shirts, posters, pens, stickers and more.

"Funding is the biggest, and



(From left) Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Professor Anisuzzaman, Rasheda K. Chowdhury and Mustafa Monwar at the inauguration

really the only obstacle we faced," said Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal. "It's a shame that corporate giants take little interest in such ventures. Don't they realise what they are saying is that they are not interested in the future nation-builders? The typical life of an urban child in our country involves school, where s/he is terrified of the teachers. Then tuition with the same teachers, and the day is rounded off by watching Hindi serials with parents. Leaving aside the lack of safe places to play, there is truly nothing on TV or at the movie theatres in

our country that offers quality entertainment for children. Film is an excellent source of recreation, but the number of children's films made in our country are very few," Dr Iqbal remonstrated. "I long for the day when a local film or a programme on television can claim to be a real treat for children. And until that day arrives, we will continue our demands to be heard," Dr Iqbal promised. Mustafa Monwar quoted Tagore -- "When a child is born, God sends hope to the world." But then

something goes wrong along the way. Children are the ambassadors of truth and purity. We must protect and nurture the torch-bearers of this world." "In a country like ours where it is a privilege to be able to go to school, there are children whose first duty of the day is to clean someone's toilet. Sometimes it's difficult to hope, but that is precisely what one must do, for nothing can ever be accomplished without it," said Rasheda K. Chowdhury. Children were certainly the

focal point of the day. The lively and talented singers of Chhayana, the articulate announcers and the 100 delegates and guests enlivened the ambience of the Public Library with the colour and buoyancy of youth. Children from all over the country were asked to write an essay on "My Favourite Movie", from which 100 children were selected to participate at the festival. Two children from Khagrachhari and 20 differently-abled children have also been invited.

"After the festival our child delegates will have the opportunity to spend three days with three notable personalities and then a day at a workshop on filmmaking," said festival director, filmmaker Morshedul Islam.

As part of the festival a daylong seminar on children's films will be held on February 2. The issues to be discussed are -- problems and prospects of children's filmmaking in Bangladesh, influence of film and media on children, necessity of children's programmes on television channels and the importance of government support in children's filmmaking.

When asked if the festival will be held every year, Dr Iqbal replied, "We certainly hope so. But these are baby steps, so maybe every two years for now."

The festival will continue till February 3. The venues are Shaukat Osman Auditorium and Seminar Hall at the Central Public Library, German Cultural Centre, Iranian Cultural Centre and the Russian Centre for Science and Culture.

Mime maestro Partha Partim Majumder in town

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

World-renowned Paris-based Bangladeshi mime artiste, Partha Partim Majumder, is in town. During his stay in Dhaka, Partha will conduct several workshops on mime.

Advertising Club has organised a weeklong workshop on mime titled *Reflect in Silence* for the commercial models of the country. Partha Partim Majumder will conduct the workshop from February 8 to 14.

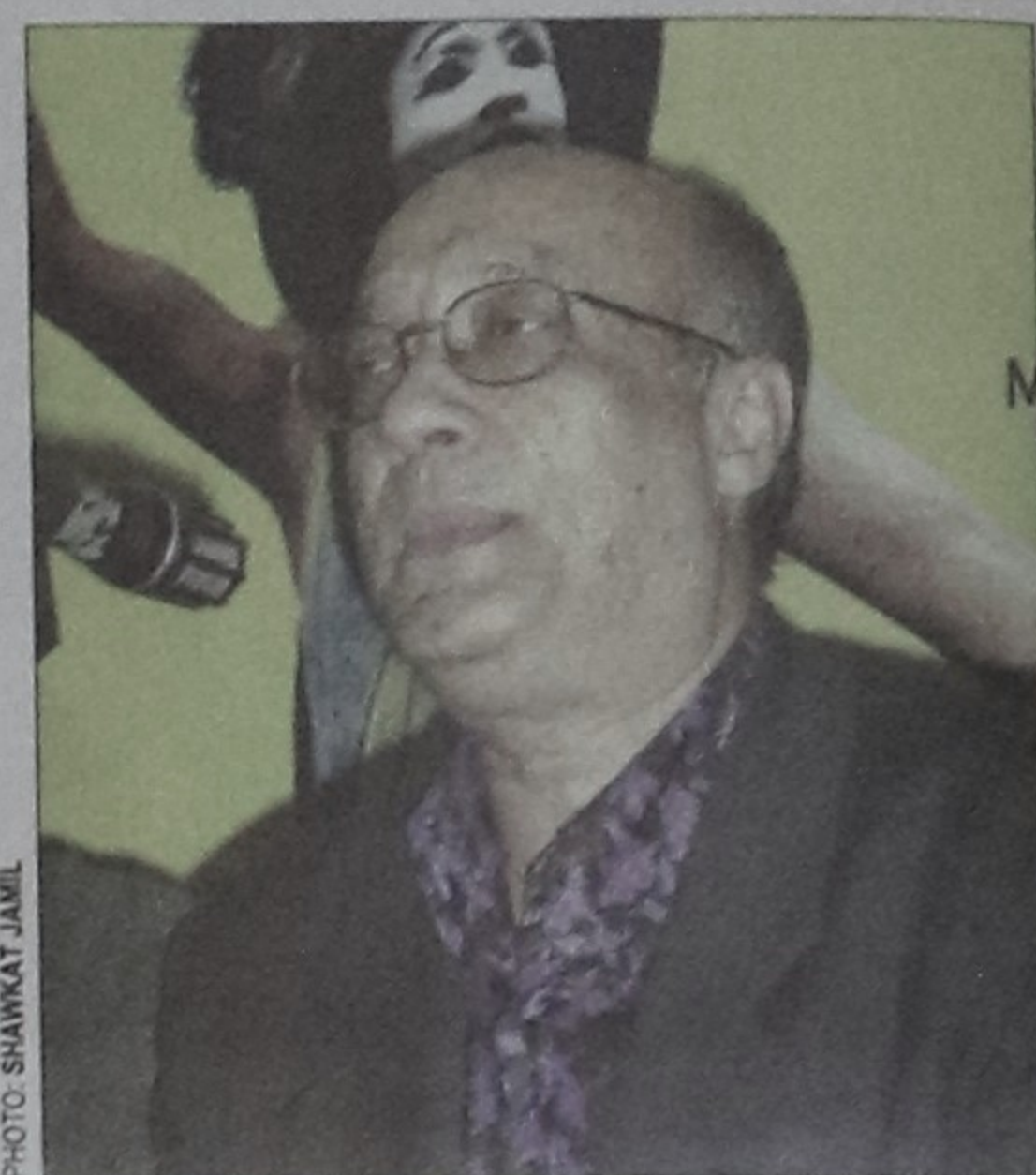
In this connection Advertising Club arranged a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters Unity on January 28. Apart from Partha, representatives of Advertising Club -- Sanaul Arefin, Wazir Sattar, Sarwat Ahmed, Syed Apon Ahsan and Anisur Rahman Mahmud -- spoke at the programme.

The representatives of Advertising Club briefed the press that the workshop has been arranged to train the models to improve their skills. Partha will select 30 models for the workshop.

Syed Apon Ahsan said, "Models in our country have no professional training. In the workshop the models will be informed about facial expressions and presentation. Depending on the success of the workshop, we will chalk out a bigger initiative in future."

"There is no age limit, but physical fitness is a must," said the mime maestro on the criteria for selection.

On the reason behind his Dhaka visit, Partha said, "Bangladesh Lung Foundation invited me to perform at the 1st International Conference on Lung Health,



Partha Partim Majumder at the press conference

which will be held from February 20 to 22 at the Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Centre. But, I will also conduct workshops for the theatre actors and models."



Nriyanchal Dance Festival ended on January 28 with the staging of Nriyanchal's production *Mohua* (from *Mymensingh Geetika*). The dance-drama features a timeless love story. Nader Chaand renounces the material world and roams the roads, woods in search of the object of his affection Mohua. Mohua has become immortal through greeting death in the name of love. Choreographed and directed by Shamim Ara Nipa, *Mohua*, featured Shibli Muhammad and Nipa in the lead roles. Under the direction of Tapan De, singers Kiran Chandra Roy, Sadi Muhammad and Ferdous Ara have rendered the songs in the production. Nriyanchal Dance Festival was sponsored by Citibank NA, Prime Bank Ltd, AB Bank and Warid Telecom

CULTURALFEAST

Publication Ceremony

Author: Hasnat Abdul Hye
Books: Hasnat Abdul Hye: Portrait of a writer and Aide-Memoire: 1943-1954
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi
Date: January 30
Time: 5:30pm

Film Festival

Title: 1st International Children's Film Festival
Organiser: Children's Film Society Bangladesh

Date: January 30

Venue: Shaukat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library
Film: *Sugarland; Where is My Friend's House*

Time: 11 am

Film: *Fill, Damu*

Time: 2 pm

Film: *Five Finger Puppet, Fly Away Home*

Time: 4 pm

Film: *Lost Cargo, Mukhsin*

Time: 6 pm

Venue: Seminar Hall, Central Public Library

Film: *Sonar Kella*

Time: 11 am

Venue: Russian Centre for Science & Culture, Dhanmondi

Film: *Snow Maiden*

Time: 11 am

Film: *Doctor Aibolit*

Time: 2 pm

Theatre festival featuring plays by Ashish Khondoker



A scene from one of the plays by Ashish Khondoker

Ram Nandai-er Ankh, Kala pani and *Black Out* -- three original plays by Ashish Khondoker will be staged at a five-day theatre festival at Alliance Francaise Dhaka, starting from today, says a press release.

The plays are based on the events related to the Cyclone Sidr that ravaged the southern part of the country.

All three plays have been developed using Ashish Khondoker's unique theatrical methods derived from the participants' extensive research, improvisation and views.

The festival will continue till February 3 (starting at 6:30 pm everyday).

Drama serial "Jege Theko" on ATN Bangla tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Written and directed by Mohon Khan, drama serial *Jege Theko* will be aired tonight at 8:00 pm. Shahriar Nazim Joy, Litu Anam, Mir Sabbir, Hillol, Srabosti Dutta Tinni, Sumaiya Shimu and Tanima Hamid play the central roles in the serial. Reshad was declared lost but no one could find his body. Everyone thinks that he is dead but his mother has faith that her son will be back. Eventually she starts making up stories about her son, to the point that she can see him.



(L-R)Tinni, Hillol and Sumaiya Shimu in Jege Theko

Lever 1040

NESCAFÉ

Presents

JAMES HABIB JUNOON

Organized by Media Partners

31st January 2008
Kalabagan Sports Ground
Gate Open: 2:30pm
Start: 5:30pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE @
Boomers
Books Express
American Burger
Geetali (Elephant Road)
ETC (Dhanmondi & Gulshan-1)
Moja Restaurant (Mouchak)
Super Cut Saloon (Dhanmondi)

Ticket @ Tk. 250

For further queries,
01190 40 71 00

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Tini
On ETV at 7:30 pm
Guest: Anwar Chowdhury,
British High Commissioner



Shunyo Pata
On Banglavisión at 9:45 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Kushum Sikdar, Mir Sabbir

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, 9:00am, 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 am, 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.

BANGLAVISIÓN
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

ntv
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, 11:30pm

BTV

08:15 Shuprobhaat
11:20 Drama Serial: Shangshaptak
12:05 Ama o Shishur Katha
12:30 Amar Joto Gaan
01:30 Hjol Tomal
02:15 Nabo Anondey Jago
03:00 Cartoon
03:30 Shukhi Poribar
04:05 Shondha Maloli
04:30 Probasha Mela
05:05 Sisimpur
05:30 Nitbachito Onushthan
06:30 Grontho Kathan
06:50 Mati O Manush
07:30 Protikhon
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh
08:35 Drama Serial: Alo Amar Alo
09:05 Drama Serial: Tumil Kemon Achha
09:30 Selected Programme
10:30 Oitihl Shipilder Ashor
11:00 Talk Show: Date Line Dhaka

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aker Shangbadpotro
08:30 Ashay Pasher Manush
09:15 Drama Serial: Shognomangol
10:30 Talk Show: Onyodisht
11:05 Drama
12:15 IT Zone
01:30 Musical Programme: Ganey Shurey Taruney
02:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House
03:10 Drama Serial: Rupali Manush
03:45 Children's Programme
04:20 Islamic Programme: Islam Ki Boley Amra

05:00 Ki Kori
05:20 Gram Gonjer Khobor
05:40 Islamic Programme: Talk Show: Proshongo
06:20 Musical Programme
08:00 Drama Serial: Jegey Theko
08:35 Drama Serial: Khuje Berai Taray
09:00 Drama Serial: Rangila Bao
11:30 Talking Point
12:00 Gamephone Lead News

CHANNEL i

09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Gamephone News
11:05 Sports Time
12:30 Citycell Tarokakathan
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
02:40 Sa Re Ga Ma Gambhira
03:30 Sa Re Ga Ma Hridoyer Gaan
04:05 Musical Programme: Tomar Shur-er Dhara
05:30 Mega Serial: Shalh Goenda
06:00 Cookery Show: Desh Bideshey Ranna
07:50 Selected Programme
08:20 Drama Serial: Rasta
09:35 Aloy-er Bhubon Bhora
10:00 Drama Serial: Poran Kande Dukhey
11:30 Mega Serial: 69
12:00 Gamephone Aker Shangbadpotro

ntv

08:30 Aker Shokaal
08:55 Drama Serial: To-Let Frankly Speaking

10:05 Gallery
10:30 Music Jam
11:30 Golpo Kathar Nalok
12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy
01:05 Japan Video Topic
02:30 Drama Serial: To-Let
03:15 Drama Serial: Toen Purush
03:50 Drama Serial: Neer
05:30 Apanar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondha
08:15 Cookery Show: Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe
09:00 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan
09:45 Drama Serial: Neer
11:30 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy

Rtv

08:00 Gaanchil Ei Din
09:05 Drishwa Kalpo
09:35 Kathay Kathay
10:00 Drama Serial: Anon
11:00 Taroka Alap
11:30 Drama Serial: Aguntuk
12:15 Cookery Show: R Ranna
12:35 Musical Programme: Shurey Shurey Path Chola
01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din
01:30 Dhallywood Beats
02:30 Bangla Feature Film Protidin
03:30 Kachhar Janala Durer Janala

08:00 Drama Serial: Aguntuk
08:35 Musical Programme: Gaan ar Gaan
09:20 Drama Serial: Anondojalra Prithibir Pathay Pathay
11:00 News Watch
12:00 Rtv Exclusive

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
10:30 Bangla Feature Film Rang Borong
02:00 Drama Serial: Daangul
04:30 Selected Programme Lukochuri
05:15 Drama Serial: Gujoh

09:30 Show Case
11:00 One-Sports

BANGLAVISIÓN

08:30 Children's Programme: Ichhey Ghur
09:30 Bangla Feature Film Mohanogor
02:00 Vocab
02:30 Drama Serial: Silvia March 15
03:05 Top Story
04:20 Banijyamela Protidin
06:05 Citycell Din-er Sheshey
06:50 Nana Rang-er Dinguli
08:25 Drama Serial: Mohanogor
09:05 Media Bhuvan

09:45 Drama Serial: Shunyo Pata
11:25 Shei Gaan Shei Shur
12:00 Shongbad Protidin

ZEE STUDIO

08:30 The Man In The Iron Mask
11:15 The Juror
01:45 Hollywood Homicide
04:15 Dragon Heart
06:15 Duel Of Fist
08:30 Crimson Tide
11:00 Glory

STAR MOVIES

09:40 Infamous
11:30 The Abyss
02:00 Aitbi, The
03:30 Blown Away
03:30 Transporter 2
07:00 Big Daddy
08:35 Eragon
10:20 Dungeons & Dragons: Wrath Of The Redline

STAR WORLD

09:30 Heroes
10:30 Who Wants To Be A Superhero
11:30 8 Simple Rules
12:00 He Simpsons
01:30 Desire: Table For Three
02:30 He Ellen Degeneres Show
03:30 He Bold And The Beautiful
04:00 General Hospital
05:00 Malcolm In The Middle
06:30 He Simpsons
07:00 My Wife And Kids
07:30 Friends
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 American Idol
09:30 Ghost Hunters
10:30 Bones
11:30 Most Shocking

HISTORY CHANNEL

08:30 Battle of Berlin
12:15 Sauna Belt
12:30 Casanova
01:30 Battle
02:30 Modern Marvels
03:30 Benjamin Franklin
04:30 UFO Hunters
05:30 El Camino vs Ranchoero
06:30 Casanova
07:30 Nefertiti: Mummy Returns
08:30 Battle of Britain
09:30 Battle
10:30 The Universe
11:30 Hawkins and Boggs

STAR PLUS

10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
09:30 Eragon
10:30 The New Adventures Of Winnie Pooh
11:00 The Replacements
01:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay
01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan

02:00 Bhabhi
02:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
03:00 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat
04:00 Kayamath
05:30 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
06:00 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat
06:30 Bidaai
07:00 Prithviraj Chauhan
07:30 Sangam
08:00 Santhan
08:30 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat
09:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay
09:30 Bidaai
10:00 Kasturi
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kayamath
12:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa

Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

7:00am Hello Dhaka
11:00am Amar 88
3:00pm Dhaka Calling
7:00pm Seven Eleven
12:00am Back to Back music

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 Tal Hok (Sayem)
09:45pm Raater Khabor
11:45pm Modhro Raater Khabor

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

09:30 In The Womb: Twins
11:15 Sauna Belt
11:30 What Would Happen If I Didn't Know That
12:30 Nostradamus Effect
01:30 Spend Some Quality Time
02:00 Walking Is Fun
02:30 Lions Behaving Badly
03:30 In The Womb: Twins
04:30 I Didn't Know That
05:00 Snake Wranglers
05:30 Big Bang
06:00 Lizard Kings
06:30 In The Womb: Twins
07:30 Eternal Arms Race
10:30 In The Womb: Twins
11:30 Inside The Forbidden City