and other master European dramatists are frequently

staged. Musicals are also very popular in Denmark, as

are radio plays."

CULTURE

A festive air

Weeklong celebrations by Sammilito Sangskritik Jote ends



Hundreds of people throng the open-air arena as artistes perform at the programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

weeklong cultural event was organised by the Sammilito A Sangskritik Jote to mark International Mother Language Day. The event ended on February 21, at the Rabindra Sorobor, Dhanmondi.

was marked by pleasant weather and festivity. Hundreds of people thronging the open-air arena, clad

expedition

At the Bengal Gallery were photo-

graphs taken during "A Climb for

Peace" a two-nation joint moun-

taineering expedition. This expedi-

tion aimed at scaling the 6187

metre summit of Mt. Rubal Kang

(Turtle Neck) situated in the Kulu

Himalayas. The journey proved

that when the climbers reached the

summit and joined hands in vic-

tory, they were unified in the spirit

of peace and harmony

FAYZA HAQ

in black and white and various beautiful dance sequences other colours, saluted the martyrs and rejoiced at the honour bestowed on the nation by UNESCO's recognition of Ekushey February as International Mother Language Day.

The programme kicked off with a choral rendering, followed by two The concluding day of the event solo performances by two talented singers. Next was the recitation of a poem Amar Okkhomota.

pine and fir, horses, tents, moun-

tain climbers were all brought into the focus of the camera so that the

viewer felt that he too had partici-

pated in the climb, along with the

15 mountaineers from Bangladesh

and India. With the climbers were

sherpas and 2 cooks plus 19 horses

that carried the loads. They were

carrying almost 760 kgs of food and

In the photographs came the

endless sweeps of snow over the

mountains, the sun shining on top

Among other showstoppers were times.

Turtle Neck: A mountain

equipments.

Mountains, streams, pathways, of the mountains, with sometimes

rocks, shrubs, mountain flora like the silhouettes of the climbers with

performed by young girls draped in colourful sarees and adorned with flowers, which added a hint of spring. Other well received items were two plays presented by drama groups Tapur-Tupur and Nattyafouj.

success was the enthusiastic response of the crowd and the performers' high spirits. All in all, a superb interlude in our hurried

their hats, goggles and back packs.

The sleeping climbers, the moun-

taineers taking their meals, the

group climbing up to their goal -

photographs for all times.

all these were captured in the

teams then went into "load ferry".

Team A which contained the

Bangladeshi team with less experi-

ence went ahead first with

Bashanta Shingha Rai as the leader

and Imran as the second in com-

mand. Reepon was left in the base

camp in case of rescue. After the

base camp the group moved on for

nine days. The third camp was the summit camp and its height was

5500 meters. It took two days to

rience of trekking before. They

joined with the India's "Mountain-

eers' Association of Krishnanagar",

expedition will be a breakthrough

for other Bangladeshi teams to

follow. As a final goal they want

some day to climb the Everest. This

expedition was to gather experi-

ence and they hope to cover more

heights in Nepal or India. All along

they felt like pilgrims moving

towards the unknown. When they

reached their summit and planted

the national flag they felt a surge of

The Bangladeshi team included

Muntasir Mamun Imran, Md.

Sirajul Haq Sagor, ARK Reepon, and

All the climbers had some expe-

establish a camp.

fulfillment.

Saad Bin Hossain.

Loading the packs, the two

An ample gauge of the event's

10th Int'l Short and Independent Film Festival ends

JAMIL MAHMUD

The award giving and closing ceremony of the "10th International Short and Independent Film Festival, Dhaka-'08" was held at the Shawkat Osman auditorium of Central Public Library on February 22. French film A Sunday in Pripyat (directed by Blandine Huk and festival, Frederic Cousseau), Slovakian film Abel's Black Dog (directed by Mariana Cengel-Solcanska) and Stay in Touch (directed by Saiful Islam) were awarded as the Best Documentary, Best Fiction and Tareque Shahriar Memorial Best Independent Shorts of the festival respectively.

A brief discussion session was held preceding the award giving ceremony. President of Bangladesh Short Film Forum N. Rashed Chowdhury gave the welcome speech, while Manzarehasin Murad, director of the festival gave the vote of thanks.

festival turns into competitive screened. format from this year. In the best Documentary Segment, filmmaker and Jury Board member Shaheen Dill-Riaz announced A Sunday in Pripyat as the Best Film. In the Best Fiction Film Segment, Jury mem-

ber and filmmaker Morshedul Islam announced Abel's Black Dog as the Best film.

Cinematographer and film activist Zahidur Rahim Anjan, one of the juries of Independent Shorts segment, announced Stay in Touch for the Tareque Shahriar Memorial Best Independent Shorts of the

The organisers initiated Independent Shorts segment from this year to encourage young independent Bangladeshi filmmakers. Less than ten minutes length films made in any format was allowed for the segment. The award winning film Stay in Touch is made in Cell Phone format.

Noted litterateur and Chairperson of the festival Hasnat Abdul Hye handed over the award to the recipients. Among award winning filmmakers only Saiful Islam was present at the programme.

Hasnat Abdul Hye also gave the closing speech, after which the Since its inception in 1988, the award winning films were

> During the nine-day long festival, beginning from February 14, over 170 films from 36 countries were screened. Oxfam GB was the partial sponsor and ntv was the media partner of the festival.

The festival ends Natmandol during the festival. Out

ITI Theatre Festival '08

President of the Danish ITI, Heino Byrgesen, is in

Dhaka to participate at the ITI Theatre Festival. This is

his fourth time in Dhaka. The Daily Star recently spoke

Byrgesen, the former President of Nordic Theatre

Union, completed his PhD in theatre and began his

career as a theatre reviewer for the Danish National

Radio (DNR). Byrgesen is now the Head of Production,

Commenting on the activities of Bangladesh Centre

Byrgesen informed that the theatre scenario in

Denmark is different from here. Danish theatre activ-

ists are very professional. The Danish Government

provides subsidy to all art forms including theatre. He

said, "There are over 60 theatre troupes in Denmark.

Except one private theatre troupe, all groups receive

assistance from the government. Each year the govern-

ment provides 80 million dollars specifically for thea-

Commenting on the current theatre activities in x

Denmark, Byrgesen said, "Plays featuring socio-

political issues such as 'migration' and 'gender' are

popular in Denmark. Young Danish playwrights are

writing interesting poetic scripts on these issues as

well. Besides, classics by Shakespeare, Harold Pinter Heino Byrgesen

of ITI, Byrgesen said, "This is one of the most active

centres of ITI. We are absolutely impressed by its publi-

cations, which is an achievement of this centre."

Radio Drama, the Audio-Dramatic Division of DNR.

ERSHAD KAMOL

to Heino Byrgesen.

tre activities."

Heino Byrgesen on the

achievements of BCITI

The weeklong ITI Theatre Festival, jointly organised by Bangladesh Centre of ITI and Bangladesh Shilapakala Academy (BSA), featuring 22 plays at four venues ended yesterday.

Of the 22 plays, 20 theatre performances were staged by the leading troupes of the country. BSA staged its production Eksho Bosta Chaal. Department of Theatre and Music, University of Dhaka staged Urubhangam regularly at the

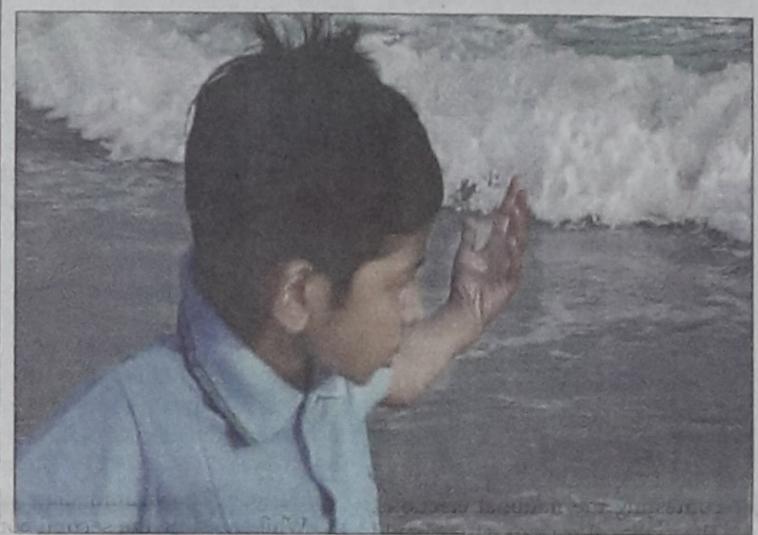
of the three departments of public universities that provide theatre only invited at the festival.

To participate at the festival, Theatre: Country Reports". several foreign delegates came to Dhaka. The ITI delegates participated at the (two-day) 125th session of Worldwide Executive Council and international seminar titled Whither Theatre.

The seminars included four sessions -- "Is there a need for a National Theatre?"; "Voice of the education, Department of Theatre Marginalised in Theatre"; "Theatre and Music of Dhaka University was for Development: The Crisis Within" and "Current Trends in

> "Meet the director session" was introduced at this year's festival. Everyday the directors of the plays participated at the discussions on their plays staged the day before.

"Sonata": A moving documentary on autism



A scene from the documentary

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

An unusually moving documentary Sonata-A story of autism was screened at the Dhaka Independent and short Film Festival on February 21. This is a production and they found the participants of Paix Media, a non-profit organithere friendly and helpful. This sation based in Washington DC, USA which is dedicated to social

Bangladeshi mother, Rola, who has an autistic child, Tamzid. It is his inability to formulate any speech for six months that gives the warning signal that something is seriously wrong with the child. At that time Rolagoes to the US on a scholarship to study law. She takes her child along with her and it is in New York that Tamzid is first diagnosed as autistic.

Sonata follows Tamzid's progress through interviews, testimo-

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY

nies and re-enactments. Although he has a long way to go, it was noticed that Tamzid has a passion for the piano and that's what the title of the film suggests.

The film has been made to show that autism is not a hopeless condition and that it can be treated with therapy. Since Rola left the country the situation in Bangladesh regarding autism has improved consider-The storyline follows a ably. But misconceptions have to be removed and awareness has to be generated. Autism is a disorder of brain function that appears early in life, generally before the age of three. Children with autism have problems with social interaction, communication, imagination and behaviour. At present Bangladesh has more than 8,43,000 autistic children.

Sonata is directed by Sentu Roy. The film is co-produced and edited by Sagheer Faiz.

by Professor Murtaja Baseer, jointly coordinated by Professor Abdus duce subjects like fine arts, sculp-

Art Workshop held at UGC

Language Day, the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) and the Bengal Foundation jointly organised a daylong workshop on art at the UGC Auditorium recently, says a press release. Over 40 artists, including Professor Rafiqun Nabi, Shishir Kumar Bhattacharya, Dr Abu Taher, Professor Hashem Khan and Shamarjit Roy Chowdhury partici-

To mark the International Mother

paintings that were presented to the UGC. This is the first initiative of this kind by UGC.

pated at the workshop, producing 37

Islam. Education and Commerce - reducation, alongside artificiation

Adviser, Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, handed over certificates among the participants at the closing ceremony. In his speech, Dr Rahman The workshop was inaugurated urged the authorities of recently established universities to intro-Shakur Shah and Professor ture and liberal arts, and asked the Hamiduzzaman Khan and pre- UGC to organise workshops, semisided over by Professor Nazrul nars and symposiums on higher

Shurer Bhubonay Shurdhuni

Mohanagar

02:40 Drama Senal: Shomo

Din-er Sheshey

Drama: Mohanagar

Sports Vision

Apnar Agami

Drama Senal:

Swapnochura

11:25 Drama Serial: Shohor-

12:00 Shangbad Protidin

Vip Access

11:15 From Dusk Till Dawn

09:50 Robotech: The

STAR MOVIES

07:00 Invincible

01:00 Woods, The

09:00 SHARARAT

10:30 Krishna Aayo

12:30 BAL GANESH

03:00 Bhagam Bhag

06:30 Arahan (Hindi)

09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan

10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby

08:30 SAIBABA

09:30 Krishna Kathaiyen

Nathkhat Nandlal

STAR PLUS

03:20

er Shesh Bari

Kutir

03:05 Nadi O Jibon

Shurdhuni arranged a musical soiree of singers Nausher Uddin Kaderi and Monir Chowdhury at the Bengal Gallery, recently, says a press release. Mahfuzur Rahman, chairman and managing director of ATN was present as chief guest and Saifuddoula, Chhayanat's founder member and Shurdhuni's adviser as special guest. Speeches were also delivered by Dr Khaleda Begum, general secretary of Shurdhuni and Dr Zakir Hussain.

Some of the songs rendered by Nausher Uddin Kaderi were Aye moushumi mon shudhu rong bodlai, Tumi ferae diyechho bolay, Bar-e bar-e ke jeno dakey, Bon-e noi and more. Monir Chowdhury sang Aye nodi emon nodi, Amar ek deekay shudhu tumi, Amai akash bolo, and Tumi ekjoni shudhu bondhu.



Nausher Uddin Kaderi sings at the programme

Endless sweeps of snow over the mountains captured through the lens

BTV

08:15

11:15

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible

News Bulletin

for any change in the programme.

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

12:15am

Rtv

News (Bangla) at 10:15pm. and 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, 11:00pm

Shuprobhat 02:30 Bishwa Bichitra Documentary Programme: Swadesh/ Desher Bhabna

11:40 Entertainment Show: Protidhoni Selected Programme Maa O Shishur

Katha 01:00 Drama

Shilpo Prangon 02:40 Educational Programme 03:05 Cartoon Amader Mon

Talk Show 04:05 04:30 Geeti Malyo 05:05 Debate 06:10 Swasho Katha 06:35 Laukik Bangla 06:50 Mati O Manush

07:25 Talk Show: Shomoyer Shanglaap Protidin Bangladesh 08:35 Drama Serial: Shohorer Sheshbari

09:00 Entertainment Show:

10:30 Musical Programme:

Onyodrishti

11:05 Drama: Shob Pakhie

Ghorey Pherey

Shurer Murchhona

Aaina

Dhaka ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Shanbadpotro 08:30 Drama Serial: Ochin Pakhi 09:15 Drama Serial: Amader Nurul Huda 10:30 Talk Show:

Char Deyal-er Kabyo Khelar Jogot Take Care TRAB Award 2007 Gram Gonjer Khabor

Kaal-er Jatrar Dhoni 05:45 The Sword of Tipu Suttan 06:20 Three Stooges 08:00 Drama Serial: Aloknogor 08:40 Drama Serial: Syed Barir Bou 09:20 Drama Serial:

Prothom Shokal 11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House 12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL i 08:05 Tagore Song 08:30 Shokaaler Gaan 09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh 09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameenphone Tritiomatra 11:05 Apolo Tele Prescrip-11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush Kathan Gaan

12:30 Citycell Taroka 01:05 Ebong Cinemar 11:00 Talk Show: Date Line | 01:30 Sa Re Ga Ma 02:35 Selected Programme 03:30 BBC Bangladesh Shonglaap 04:15 Hridoyer Gean 05:30 Warld Shorashori Boimela 06:00 Drama Serial: Alor Khonjey

Kojona

Kutum

06:30 South Asian

Ochena Neel Kontho Drama Senal: 69 12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Shangbadpotro ntv Ajker Shokal 08:30 08:55 Bangla Feature Film Talk Show. El Shomoy Japan Video Topic 01:05 02:30 Drama Serial: Swapnojaal Drama: F M 03:15 Shongbod 07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar 04:25 111 A Nelson

Number

08:20 Drama Serial:

10:00

Noukadubi

Drama Serial:

Nabila Chorit On ntv on 9:45 pm Drama Serial Cast: Dilara Zaman, Richi

05:30 Apnar Juigyasha 06:20 Shubho Shondha Mega Serial: 420 06:45 Shomporko Drama Serial: 08:15

Shantokutir 09:00 Crime Watch Drama Serial: Nabila Chorit 11:35 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy CHANNEL 1 08:40 Shuprobhaat Bangladesh

09:15 Selected Programme Bangla Feature Film 02:00 Biswa Jurey Saat Din 03:30 Drama Serial: Ochena Apon

Heroes On Star World at 10:30 pm TV Series Cast: Hayden Panettiere, Jack Coleman 04:00 Gaan-er Khanta 05:15 Shamprotik

06:00 Saajbela 07:00 Shondhikhoney 08:15 Drama Senal: Ochena Apon 09:00 Shomoyer Aynay Rajniti 09:30 Cine Tunes 11:00 Gaaney Gaaney Bohudur

11:30 Nirbachito Khober ETV 08:00 Ekush-er Shokal 12:30 Ekushey Business: Special Focus 01:30 Ekushey Business: Shophol Jara

03:30 Cine Heats

04:00 Cartoon 04:30 Total Music 05:15 Dhekha Na Dekha 05:45 Ekusher Shondhya 06:15 SMS Mania 06:30 Desh Jurey 07:30 Nishi Kutum

> 08:30 Drama Serial: Chena Manush-er Panchali 09:30 Ekushey Shomoy 10:30 Musical Show: Spondon 11:30 Amader Boimela BANGLAVISION

09:05 Drama Serial: Pingol Akash

12:30 Amader Otithi

02:00 Daily Soap:

09:30 Bangla Feature Film

10:30 Chak De Yaara STAR WORLD 09:30 According To Jim 10:00 My Wife And Kids 10:30 Two & A Half Men 11:00 8 Simple Rules

11:30 Smallville

12:30 The O.C.

01:30 The Bold And The Beautiful 03:30 Desire: Table For Three

Banijyomela Protidin 04:30 The Ellen Degeneres Show 05:30 Love You To Death 06:00 Travel Asia 06:30 Ugly Betty 07:30 For Better Or For Worse

> 09:30 Desperate House-WIVES 10:30 Heroes 11:30 J.A.G. 12:30 Vanity Insanity NATIONAL

08:30 Bionic Woman

Shadow Chronicles 11:25 Night At The Museum GEOGRAPHIC Raise Your Voice 05:10 Devil Wears Prada 10:30 Palau 11:30 The Most Dangerous Drug 08:45 Pirates Of The Caribbean: Dead M

12:30 Inside Afghan Heroin 01:30 Head On! 02:30 Super Cat 03:30 Hunter Hunted 04:30 Nat Geo Junior 05:00 Chimp Diaries

05:30 Big Bang 06:00 Crittercam-WildTech Adv 06:30 Garbage Mountain 07:30 American Buffalo 08:30 Living With Big Cats

09:30 Animals Behaving Badly 10:30 Python Attack 11:30 Living With Big Cats 12:30 Animals Behaving

HISTORY

Badly

10:30 Greece: Age of Alexander 11:30 Wuthering Heights 01:30 Super Cars

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-turn (Kibria & Tania) 06:45pm Shondher Khabor 08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok (Sayem) 09:45pm Raater Khabor

11:45pm Moddho Raater Khabor

12:00am Today's Happy Moments 12:10am Raat Vor Gan (Nirob)

02:30 Witches 03:30 Robots 04:30 Hippies 06:30 Jumbo Movie 10:30 60's Tech 12:30 Mata Hari

ZEE STUDIO 09:50 Charlie Chaplin 11:00 Ultimate Film Fanalic

11:30 50 First Dates 01:50 13 Going On 30 04:30 The Piano Player 07:30 Charlie Chaplin 08:05 Hollywoods 10 Best season 2 08:35 A Life Less Ordinary

11:00 Free Willy