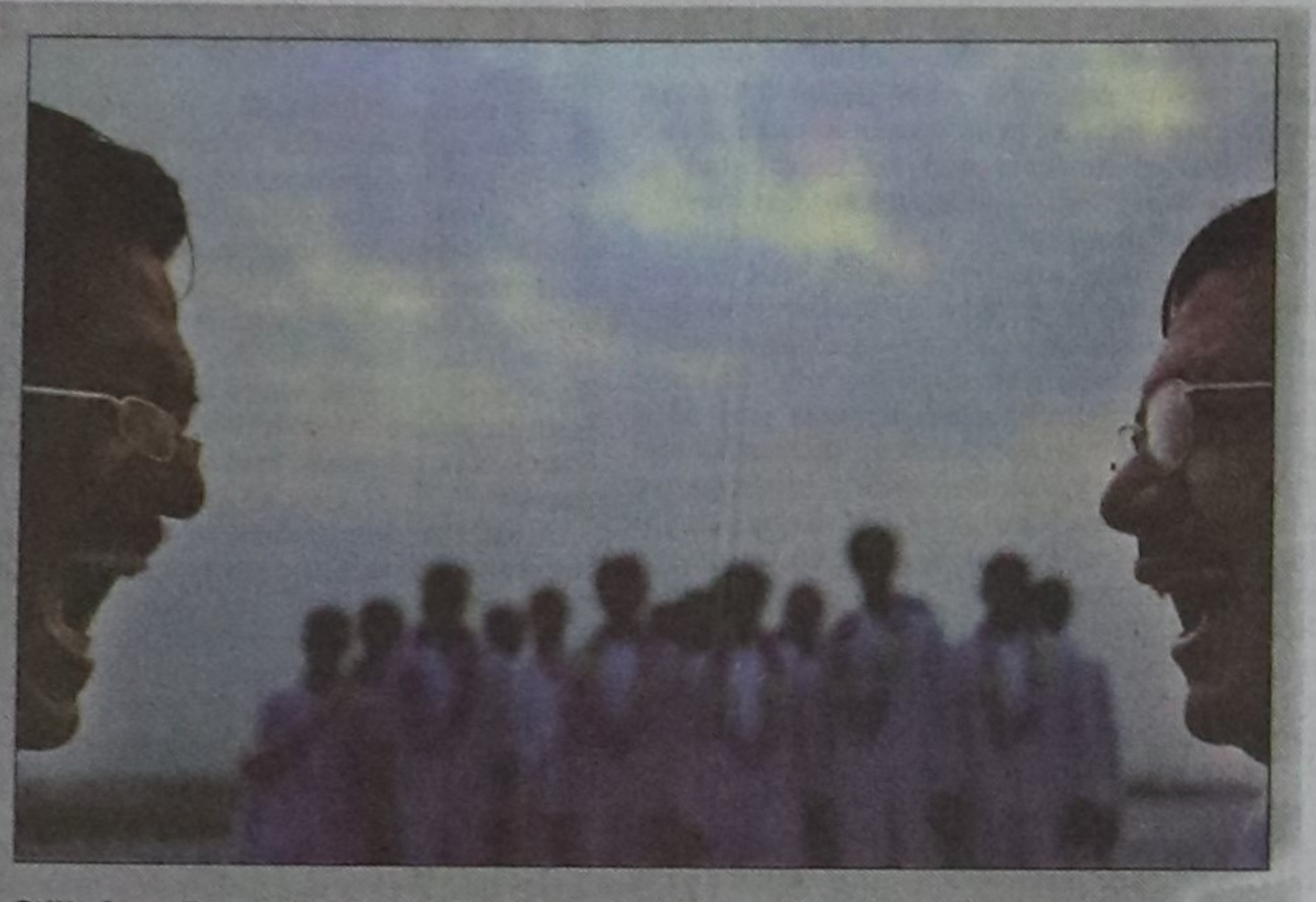


<p>WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK</p>	<p>Poush Mela '09 Organiser: Poush Mela Ujapan Parisad Venue: Ramna Batomul January 9: 7am-11am January 10: 4pm-9pm</p> 	<p>Group Drawing Exhibition Title: Rhythmic Lines Venue: Asiatic Gallery of Fine Arts, Nimtoli, Ramna Date: January 3-15 Time: 12pm-8pm</p> 	<p>Solo Art Exhibition Title: Stimulated Luminescence Artist: Juneer Kibria Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27, Dhanmondi From January 5-14 at 12-8pm</p> 	<p>Photography Exhibition Condolence for the people of Gaza Organiser: Iranian Cultural Centre Venue: ICC, H 54, Rd 8/A, Dhanmondi From December 30-January 12 (9am-5pm)</p> 
-----------------------------------	--	---	--	---

Buzz

Nirjhar's Nomuna ready for release



Stills from Enamul Karim Nirjhar's upcoming film "Nomuna".

Devjyoti Mishra, who did the soundtrack of "Aha!", is the music director of "Nomuna". Fahmida Nabi, Milan Mahmud, Mehreen, Shawjeeb, Waqil and Proma have recorded the songs. The soundtrack will be out prior to the release of the movie. "Nomuna" (meaning example) follows an incident of a child being shot. Death of children, though appalling, have become a reality in a dystopian world. How does one react? How to react? The film does not provide answers to any of these questions, but reflects a search within, a hunt for an example that is lost somewhere over the course of evolution. The cast includes Kaffey Khan, Gulshan Ara Champa, Gazi Rakayet, Lutfur Rahman George, Shams Suman, Shahir Huda Rumi, Subhasish Bhowmik, Abdur Rashid, Iresh Zaker, Arefin Shubho, Saquiba, Runa Khan and others. Shot in 35mm, the 107-minute long film has been completed in seven months. "Nomuna" has been produced by 9 Steps.

TV Watch

Drama Serial "Sagai" on ATN Bangla



Anisur Rahman Milon (centre) and co-actors in a scene from the serial.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT
ATN Bangla will air the drama serial "Sagai" tonight at 8 pm. Written and directed by M. Sakawat Hossain, the cast of the series includes Mamunur Rashid, Jayanto Chattyopadhyay, S.M. Mohsin, Anisur Rahman Milon, Apurbo, Jyotika Jyoti, Borsha and others. The story is set in a village called Kholahati. Most of residents are potters. They make clay pots, pans, toys and other items, and sell them at the local bazaar. Ketki however, has another talent aside from pottery; she is a singer. She even forms a choir, which performs on several occasions at the village and neighbouring areas. Hanif Miah is an influential character of a neighbouring village. A relationship blossoms between Hanif and Ketki. Meanwhile, Rashed, a young man from the city comes to the village with an NGO working on micro-credit. The serial progresses as incidents develop in the lives of the characters.

KARIM WAHEED
Architect turned filmmaker Enamul Karim Nirjhar hit the jackpot with his debut feature film, "Aha!", in 2007. Apart from receiving wide acclaim at international festivals, the movie bagged four National Film Awards including best director and best editor. Nirjhar's second

feature film, "Nomuna", is ready for release. The director made the announcement at an informal get-together at Voot in Dhanmondi on January 7. One of the three films to receive grants awarded by the Ministry of Information last year, "Nomuna" features Dolby Digital Surround EX system which would add a new dimension to the cinematic experience as it creates a fuller, more realistic sound for increased dramatic effect in the theatre. Apart from directing, Nirjhar has also written the story, script and songs for "Nomuna". As the director put it, his latest project is "more ambitious," and he has "tried to overcome limitations I encountered" in his last film.



"First Minister" on Channel i

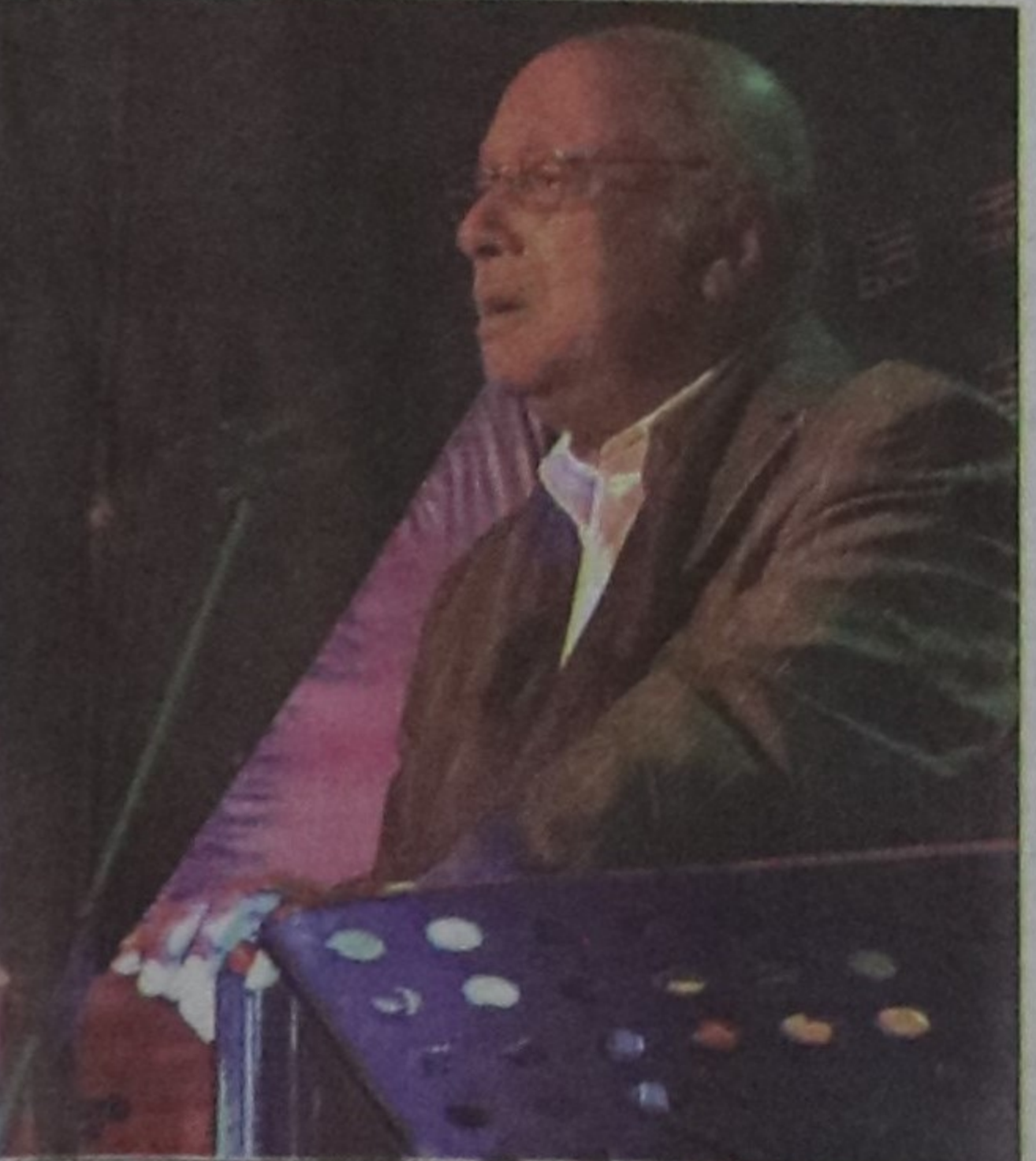


Newly appointed minister for foreign affairs Dr. Dipu Moni (left) was recently on the show.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT
Talk show "First Minister" will be aired on Channel i tonight at 11:30 pm. Highlighting ministers who have been recently sworn in for their first term, the show is aired every night at 11:30 pm. Gradually the show intends to feature every minister and state minister. Apart from the ministers, first-time voters and people from different classes and professions also take part in the programme. People from all walks of life share their thoughts and views through videoconference on the show. Hosted by Rasheda Rawnak Khan, the programme is directed by Shahidul Alam Sachchu.

Asaf-ud-Daula on "Amar Ami" tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT
Former secretary and founder editor of Bangladesh Today, Mohammad Asaf-ud-Daula, is tonight's guest on the talk show "Amar Ami". The programme will be aired on Banglavision at 9:05 pm. In his own right, Asaf-ud-Daula is also a renowned cultural personality. He is an accomplished singer, songwriter and music composer as well as a deft music connoisseur. Tonight's episode provides an insight into his illustrious career. Hosted by Munmun, the show is directed by Usnish Chakrabarti.



Like the rest of the Muslim world, Bangladesh mourned the Karbala tragedy in which Imam Husayn (R) embraced martyrdom along with his family members and friends on the 10th day of Muharram in the Islamic calendar. Commonly known as "Ashura," on this day in 680 AD, Imam Husayn (R), the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), made the supreme sacrifice to uphold the true values of Islam. Preparations to observe Holy Ashura started from midnight, January 7. To mark the day, members of the Shiite community brought out processions carrying 'tazia' at different parts of the city, including Husaini Dalan, Mohammadpur and Shutrapur. These photos were taken during the biggest procession, which started from Husaini Dalan, Old Dhaka and ended at Jhigataia via Azimpur, New Market and Science Laboratory areas.

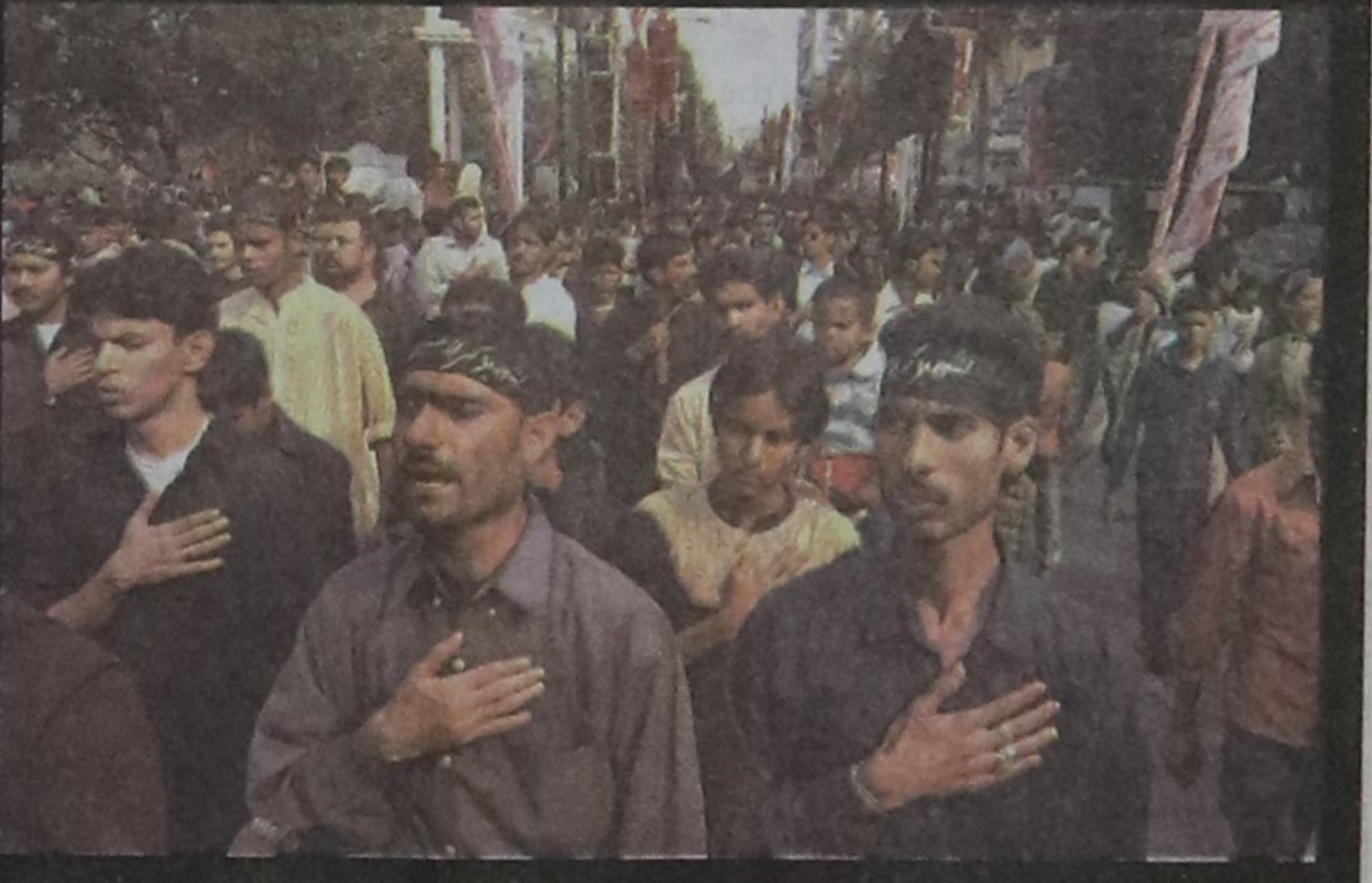
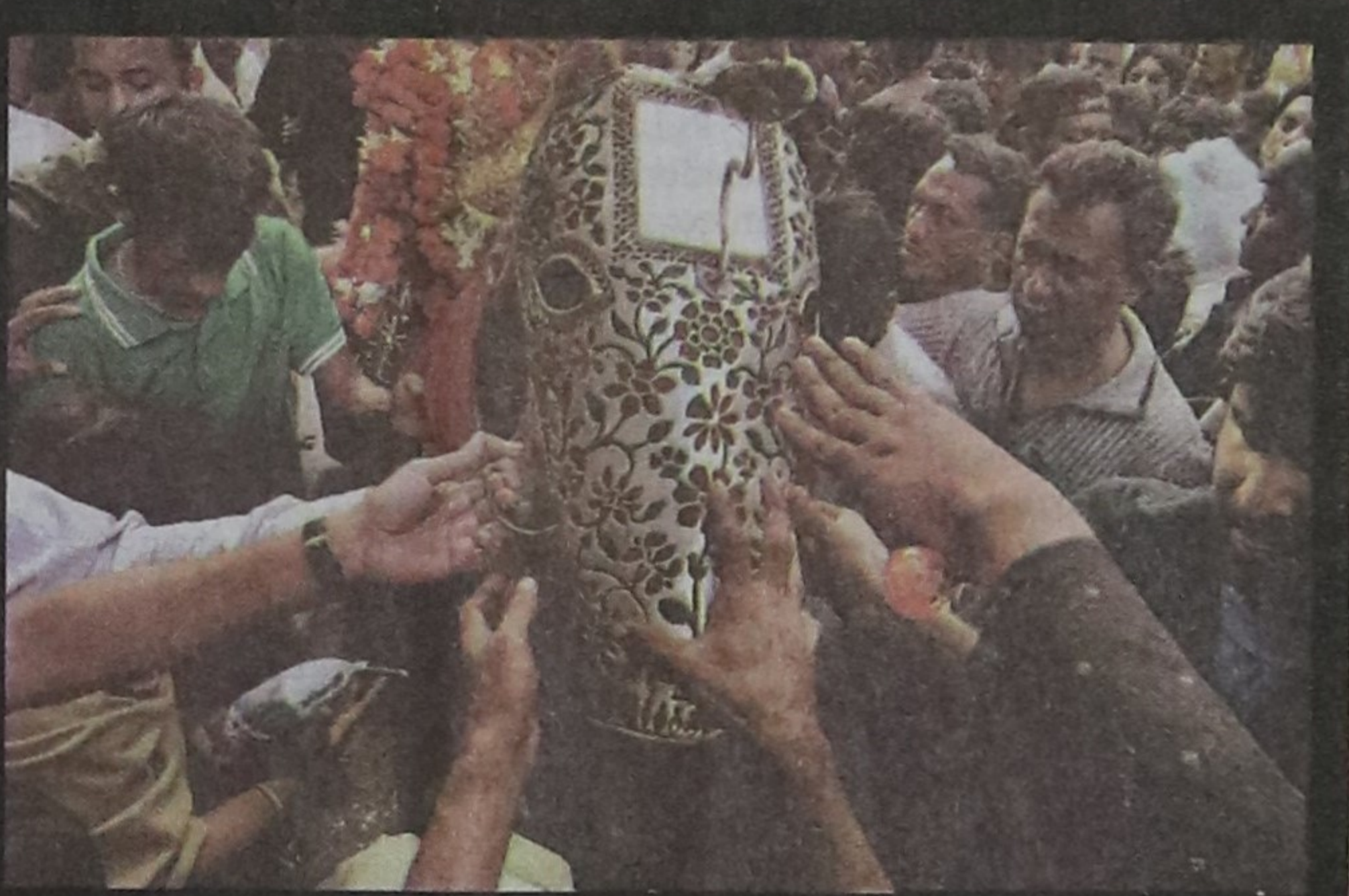


PHOTO: MUMIT M

"Dark Knight" sweeps People's Choice Awards

AP, Los Angeles
"The Dark Knight" soared away with every trophy it was nominated for last Wednesday at the 35th annual fan-favourite ceremony. The caped crusader flick won five awards, including favourite cast, superhero, action movie and on-screen matchup for Christian Bale's Batman and the late Heath Ledger's Joker. "On behalf of all of the cast from the movie, thank you very much to the fans," said Bale. "Here's to Heath." The People's Choice Awards was hosted by Queen

Latifah following last year's writer's strike-friendly, pre-taped programme. Stars such as Adam Sandler, Kate Hudson, Robin Williams, Hugh Laurie and Reese Witherspoon showed up to accept their awards at the slightly subdued ceremony. "It's such a great way to start the new year," Witherspoon, the "Four Christmases" star who won an Oscar in 2005 for portraying June Carter Cash in "Walk the Line," said as she accepted her award for favourite female movie star. "A couple years ago, I won a great award for singing in a movie. This year, I won an award for having a baby throw up on me." Other recipients selected by Internet voters in categories spanning movies, television and music included "Dancing With the Stars" as favourite reality show, Carrie Underwood as favourite female singer, "House" as favourite TV drama, Brad Pitt as favourite leading man, Angelina Jolie as favourite female action star and Ellen DeGeneres as favourite talk show host. "I wish I could share this with you," DeGeneres told the audience while clutching her trophy on stage. "I could throw it on the ground and smash it into a million pieces, and give each one of you a little piece of it, but that's violent, and that's probably why you voted for me, because I'm not violent." Other winners were "WALL-E" for best family movie, "27 Dresses" for best comedy and "The Secret Life of Bees" for best independent movie. Will Smith was named both the top male action star and best male movie star; Kate Hudson was declared the best leading lady. The best TV comedy was "Two and a Half Men" and the top TV animated comedy was "The Simpsons." Queen Latifah accepted the favourite drama and independent movie awards alongside her "The Secret Life of Bees" co-star Dakota Fanning. The overly enthusiastic host opened the show by wading through the audience and asking celebrities if they could keep entertaining the masses in 2009. All mimicked President-elect Barack Obama by answering: "Yes we can."