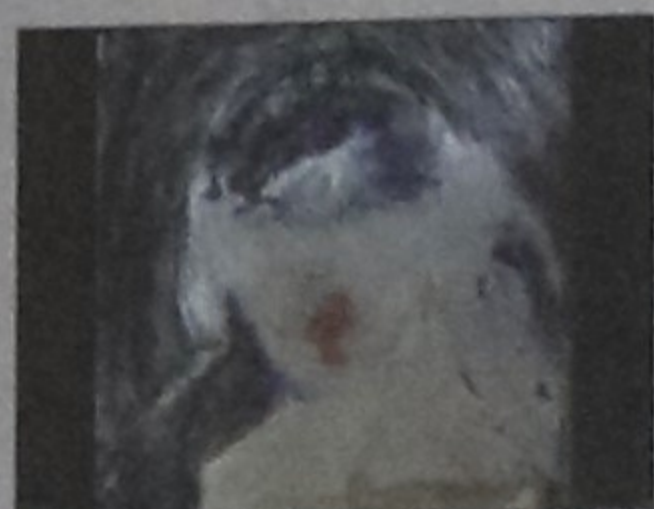


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Shudurer Mita
Artist: Mustaque Ahmed
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, H
21, Rd 4, Dhanmondi
Date: October 23-
November 5
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Ballads and Paintings
Artist: Abdus Shakoor Shah
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, Malibagh
Date: October 24-
November 7
Time: 11am-6pm



Painting Exhibition

Title: Faces of Buddha: An Expression of early medieval spirit
Organiser: IUB Art Club
Venue: Art and Aesthetics Gallery, 90 Park Road, Baridhara, Dhaka
Date: October 28-
November 11



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Mustapha Khalid Palash
Venue: Asiatic Art Gallery, Nimtoli, Ramna
Date: October 23-
November 22
Time: 10am-8pm



Hues of darkness and light

Homage to Mubínul Azim

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

November 1 marked the 34th death anniversary of renowned Bangladeshi painter Mubínul Azim. Azim is considered a pioneer in the Bangladeshi art scene. He and his contemporaries made a great contribution in the sphere of experimental paintings. Some of them combined local motifs and various western forms.

Since the '50s and '60s, Bangladeshi painters have incorporated a diverse range of familiar and unfamiliar forms and motifs in their works. Though the contemporary art history of Bangladesh does not have long innings, it flourished here within a relatively short period. This was made possible by some painters who studied in the west in the '50s and '60s. Upon their return, the influence of renowned western artists was evident in their works.

At that time, some artists took the chance to refine their skills and establish individual hallmarks. This period was significant for other reasons as



Mubínul Azim

FILEPHOTO

well: these painters introduced many forms of modern, abstract, abstract-impressionist and abstract-expressionist art. Their works had an enriching influence on other emerging painters as well.

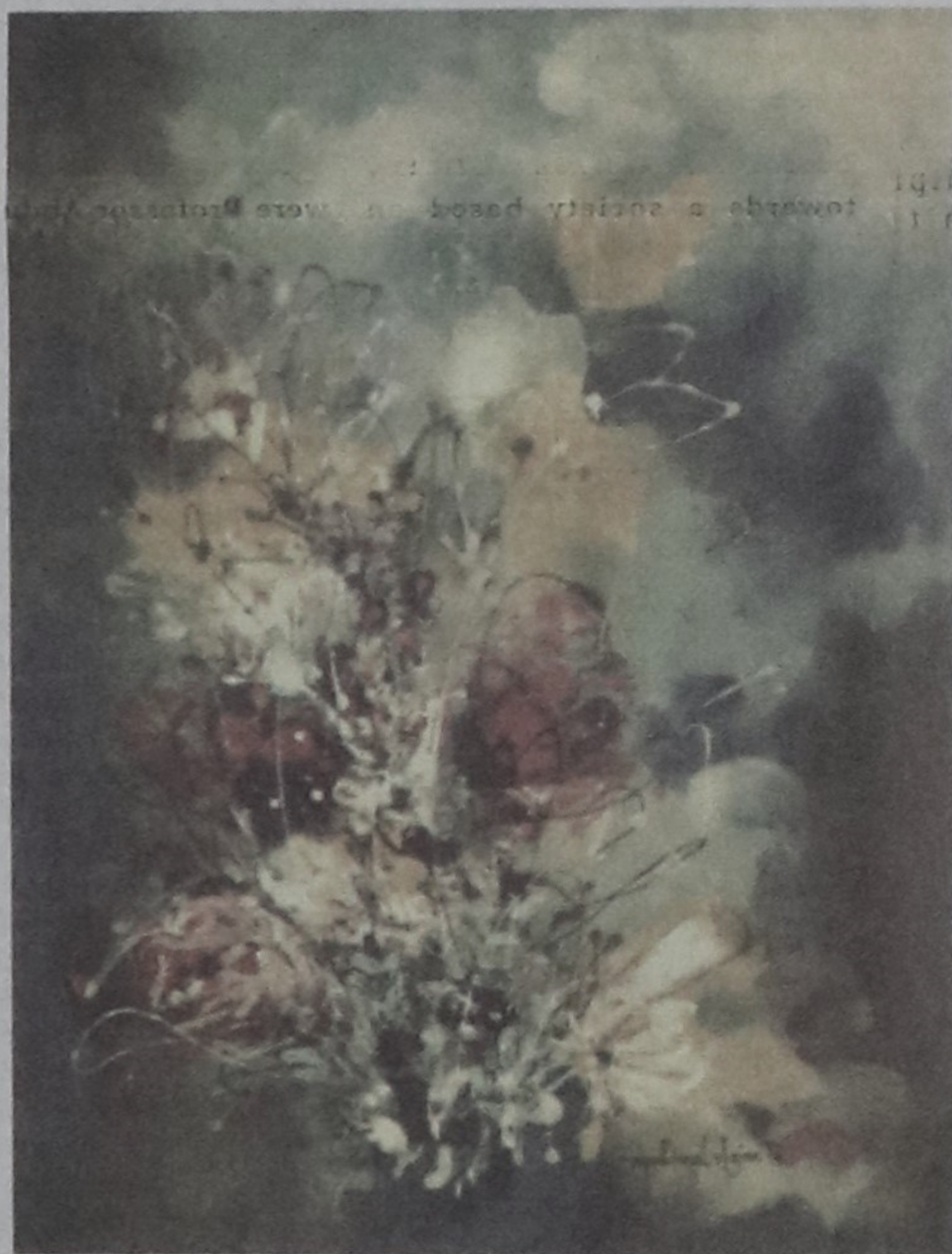
Azim died in 1975, at the peak of his artistic career. He produced many paintings, watercolours and sketches in the course of his short career. He graduated in fine arts from Dacca College of Arts and Crafts (at present Faculty of

Fine Arts, Dhaka University) in 1955. A hardworking and reflective introvert, Azim spent a significant part of his career in Karachi, Pakistan -- a hub for artists, poets, writers and novelists at the time. Besides immersing himself in painting, Azim taught at an art institute in Karachi. He returned to Dhaka for good after the Liberation War and devoted himself to painting. He held a solo exhibition in 1973 at Desh Art Gallery in the

city. After his death, two exhibitions of his works were held at Dhaka Club (in 1976) and Shilpakala Academy (in 1998).

Azim set out as a naturalist and figurative painter. In the early stages of his career, nature played a major role in his works. Along with natural elements, colour was a predominant aspect of his works. The treatment of colour and particularly the composition was distinct and exceptional. His canvases are marked with pigment and fluidity. A good interaction between use of space and objects always carried an individual and aesthetic trademark in his works. Sometimes his works seem to convey the feel of solitude. During a certain phase of his career, Azim focused on boats. He drew forms of boats that resembled the image of a new moon or crescent. The interplay of darkness and light was another significant characteristic of his works.

Azim was an artistic genius who should be honoured with a voluminous publication on his life and works.



Artworks by the artist.

Discussion on Shamsur Rahman at Bangla Academy

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Bangla Academy held a discussion on the late poet Shamsur Rahman at the academy's seminar hall, in observance of the poet's 80th birth anniversary on November 2.

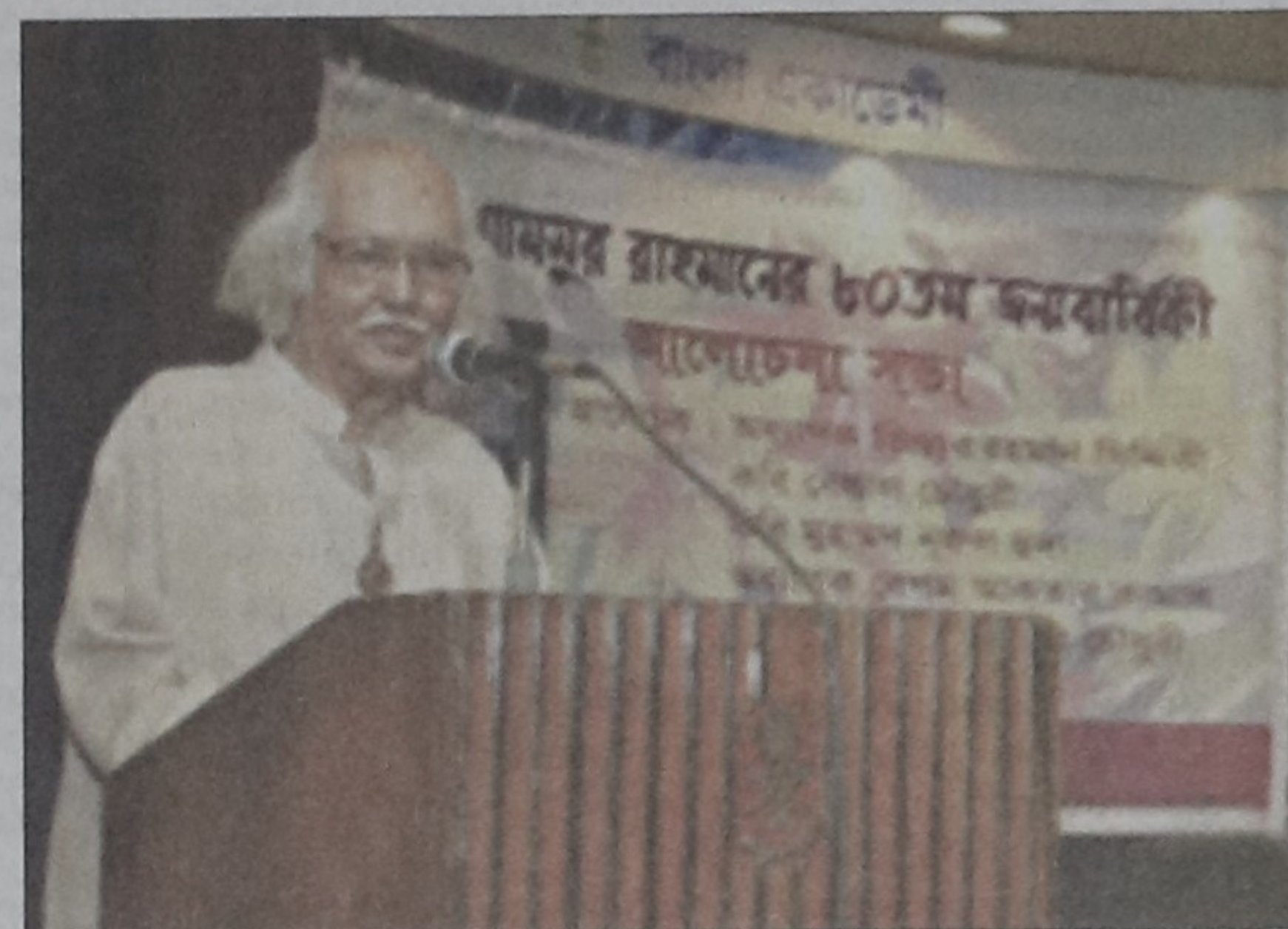
Shamsur Rahman (October 24, 1929-August 17, 2006) was a leading poet, columnist and journalist of his time. He had published over 60 books of poetry. Major themes in his poetry and writings include humanism, relationships, romanticised rebellion of youth, the emergence of and consequent events in Bangladesh, and opposition to religious fundamentalism.

At the discussion the speakers highlighted the poet's life, work, achievements and more.

The discussants were poet Belal Chowdhury; poet Muhammad Nurul Huda; Professor Begum Akhter Kamal and Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general, Bangla Academy. The event was presided over by National Professor Kabir Chowdhury.

In his speech Shamsuzzaman Khan said, "Shamsur Rahman's poetry is invaluable and has a pride of place in Bangla literature. His works epitomise Bangladesh."

"Today there is a major void in our literature due to the absence of great minds who passed away in the last three decades. With each death of these cre-



National Professor Kabir Chowdhury speaks at the discussion.

ative titans the void is getting bigger. It's about time that the young generation takes an active role in taking Bangla literature forward," Khan added.

Professor Begum Akhter Kamal said, "Shamsur Rahman's literary works are not only popular here but also admired in West Bengal."

"Shamsur Rahman wrote about the masses and their rights," she added.

Poet Nurul Huda said, "Like Jibanananda Das, poet Shamsur Rahman developed an individual style of

writing. His works were not influenced by anyone. He was skilled in depicting the socio-political situation through his poetry. In his works he movingly combined imagination with reality. He was in fact the greatest poet of his time."

Poet Belal Chowdhury said, "During the Liberation War Shamsur Rahman's poems were a major source of inspiration. His competent use of Greek mythology in his poems generated interest in Bangla literature beyond borders."

At 44, Shah Rukh feels much younger

Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan turned 44 on November 2.

So how does he feel at 44? "I feel much younger though I accept my age. I feel like I am 25 or 26 years old," Shah Rukh said. But he admitted, "I look older when I don't sleep well."

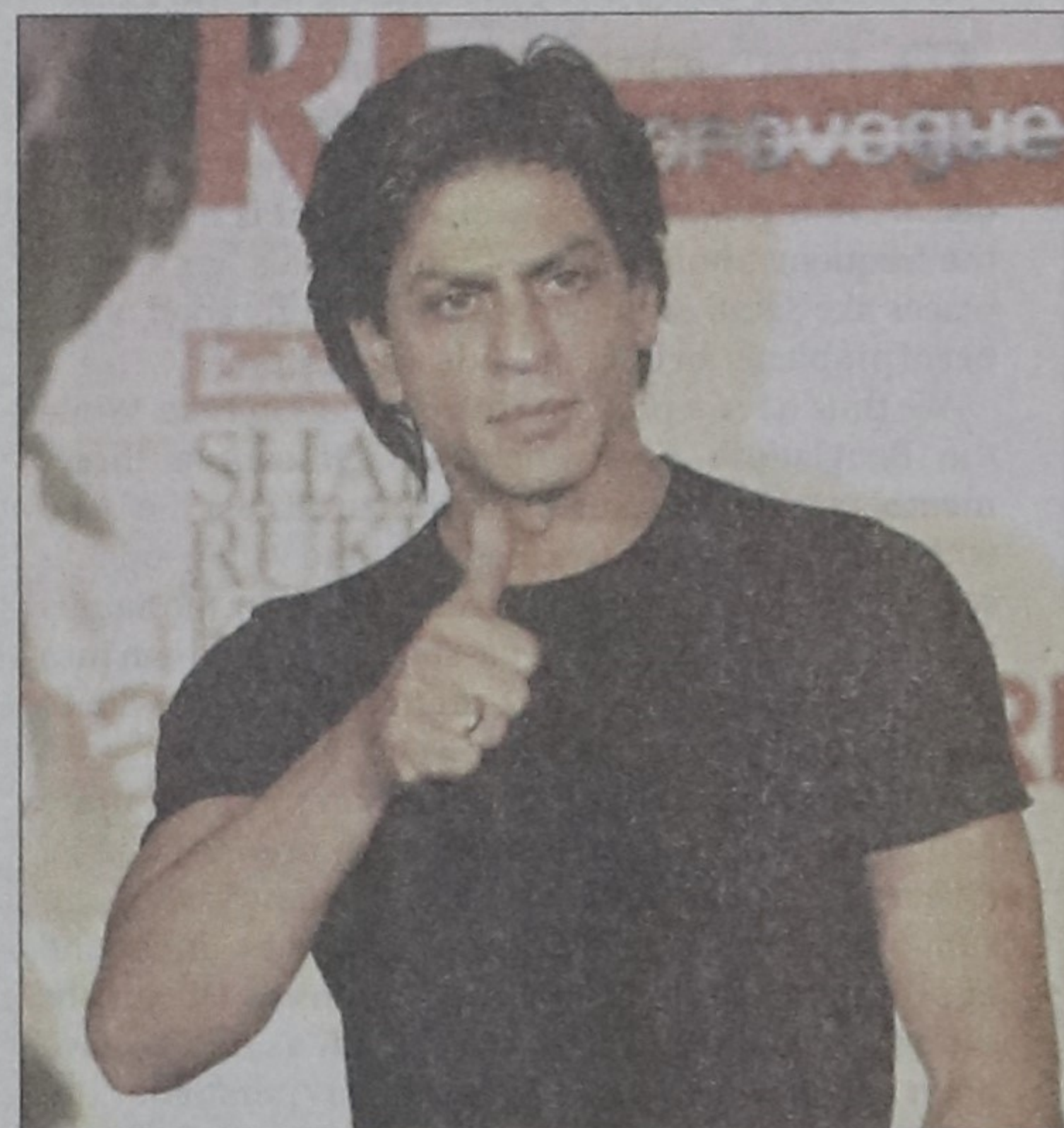
Does he feel any competition from the younger stars of the industry? "I have my own status in the industry and I have made a deep impact on people's life in the field of entertainment," he said.

The previous year hadn't been so good for the superstar. "It was not good for me because of my IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders and an injury that put me down. But I got to spend time with my children and also write my autobiography (titled 'Twenty Years of a Decade')."

"Also," he continued in jest, "I did not earn enough money. I will catch up on that later."

So what did his wife give him on his birthday? "As usual, Gauri did not give me anything," the actor said.

Source: Internet



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