

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Painting Exhibition

Painter: Biren Shome
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H 26, Rd 3, Dhanmondi
Date: December 20 - January 5
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Painter: Rezaul Karim
Title: Twilight Zone
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27, Dhanmondi
Date: December 8-19
Time: 12pm-8pm



Christmas Carol

Organiser: Incarnation
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Ramna
Date: December 11
Time: 4pm



Film Screening and Discussion

Organiser: Steps Towards Development
Venue: Chhayanaut Shangkriti Bhavan
Date: December 5-6
Time: 4:30pm onwards



Homage to Dr Nowazesh Ahmed in Faridpur

REZAUL KARIM, Faridpur

Nishargo Sangsad, a group of nature lovers from Faridpur, held a memorial meeting to pay homage to the celebrated agricultural scientist and photographer Dr. Nowazesh Ahmed recently. The veteran photographer passed away from a cardiac arrest on November 24.

Held at the Shachetan Nagorik Committee's (SANAC) Alipur office in the town, the programme focused on the work and life of Dr. Ahmed.

In the course of the programme, the discussants asserted that Dr. Ahmed will always be

remembered by nature lovers.

His camera captured the typical elements of Bangladesh -- boats, riverbanks, farmers, rural lifestyle, mustard-fields and cornfields. Moreover, the contribution of Dr. Ahmed to photography is unique and presents us with an innovative approach to nature. Through his artistic photography, he leads us to the splendours of the natural world. He initiated the varied themes and colours in photography, in our country, the discussants added.

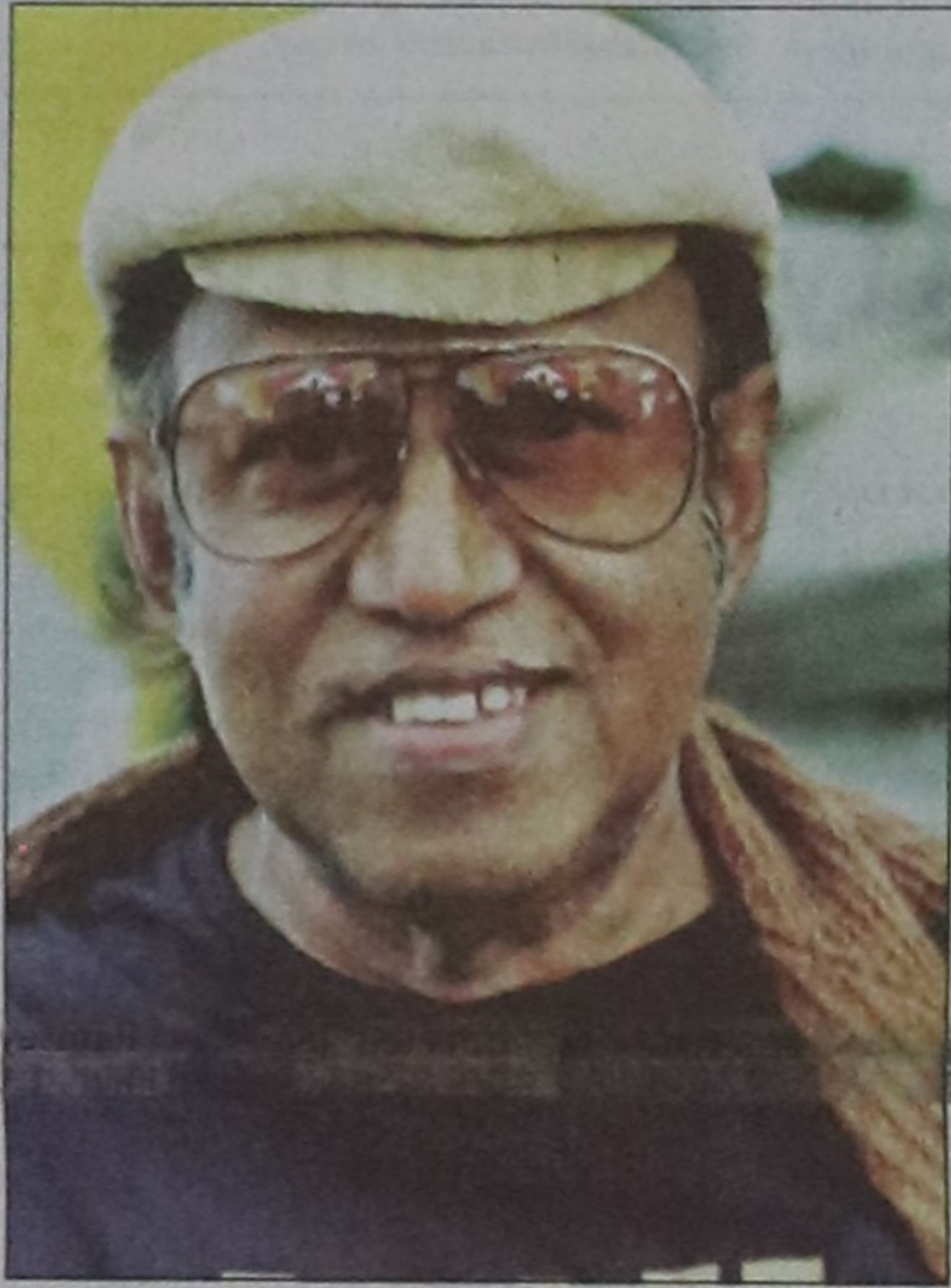
Above all, Dr. Ahmed was a poet, they said. In recent times, Dr. Ahmed published two books on the poetry of Rabindranath Tagore and Jibanananda Das. Besides publishing the books,

he made two slide documentaries on these two great poets.

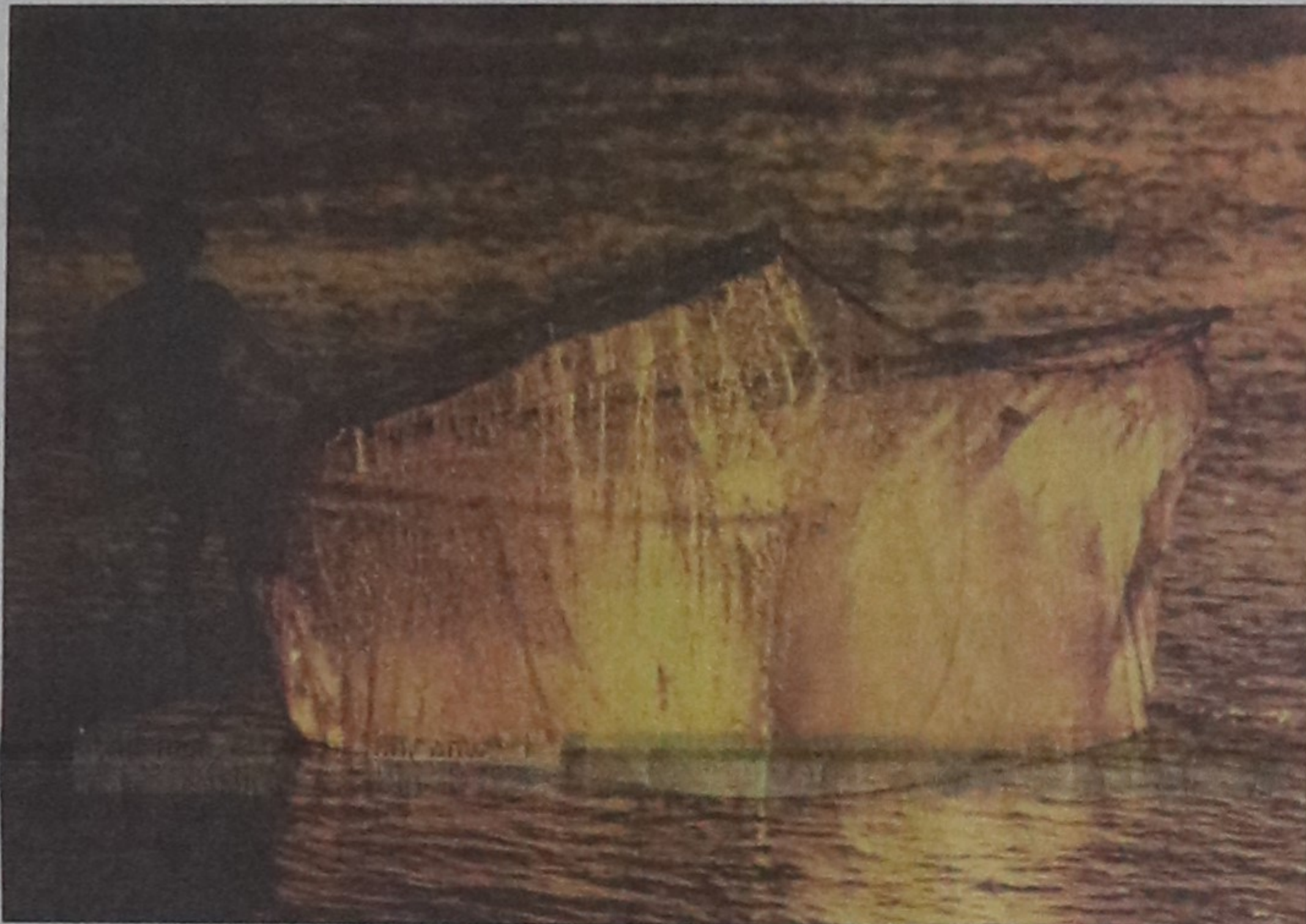
At the memorial meeting, acclaimed photo-journalist Nasir Ali Mamun was the chief guest and playwright Dr. Biplob Bala was special guest.

Among others, Mujibor Rahman, organiser of Nishargo Sangsad; advocate Shipra Goswami; journalist Rezaul Karim and Mira Akhtar spoke at the function, with Maksudur Rahaman Hiru, convener of the Nishargo Sangsad in the chair.

Dr. Ahmed's books and photographs were exhibited at the event. Several socio-cultural personalities from the district attended the programme.



Nowazesh Ahmed's (Left) camera captured the typical elements of Bangladesh --- boats, riverbanks, farmers, rural lifestyle and more.



A slice of life

International Film Festival of India



The Silver Peacock Award for the Best Director went to "A Brand New Life".

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

The story of a father and child separated by circumstances but trying to reach out to each other was the common theme of the three films which received the top awards at the International Film Festival of India in Goa this year.

Taiwanese film 'I Can't Live Without You', directed by Leon Dai, which portrays the moving tale of a father and his seven-year-old daughter separated by red tapism, bagged the coveted Golden Peacock Award for the Best Film. The award also carries a cash prize of Rs 40 lakh and a certificate. The director received a cash prize of Rs 20 lakh.

The Silver Peacock Award for the Best Director went to "A Brand New Life", a film from South Korea directed by Ounie Lecomte, capturing the sentiments of a nine-year old girl who is given by her

father to an orphanage for adoption and her hope of seeing her father again. The award also carries a cash prize of Rs 20 lakh.

The George Ovashvili - directed "The Other Bank" from Georgia won the Special Jury Award for recounting the story of the dangerous journey of a 12-year boy who wants to find his father in breakaway Republic of Abkhazia in Georgia, an enemyland.

Based on real-life characters, "I Can't Live Without You" is a story that revolves around the subtle portrayal of the anxiety and predicament of a man, its central character, and his relentless struggles to ensure that he doesn't lose his daughter after being told that the baby's legal guardians are her mother and the man whom her mother was legally married to.

The films were chosen by a five-member competition jury headed by Brazilian director Bastista de Andrade

from a basket of 15 feature films in the competition section from Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, UK, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Iran, Mexico,

Peru, Philippines, South Korea, France, Sri Lanka and Taiwan including two films from India.

The jury also included Kenichi Okubu (Japan), Jean-Michel Frodon (France), Sarika (India) and Vic Sarin (Canada).

Leon Dai said he was humbled to win the award and to be in India, a country about which he had learnt from his father who spent 12 years of his life in Kolkata before going to Taiwan. He said he plans to come to India again to produce films.

Ovashvili said getting the special jury award was a "big honour" and expressed his gratitude to the "amazing" audience in Goa.

The curtains came down on the 11-day festival with the screening of the Spanish film "The Broken Embraces", directed by Pedro Almodovar.

Bastista de Andrade said the decision was not easy but he expressed the jury's satisfaction over the selection of

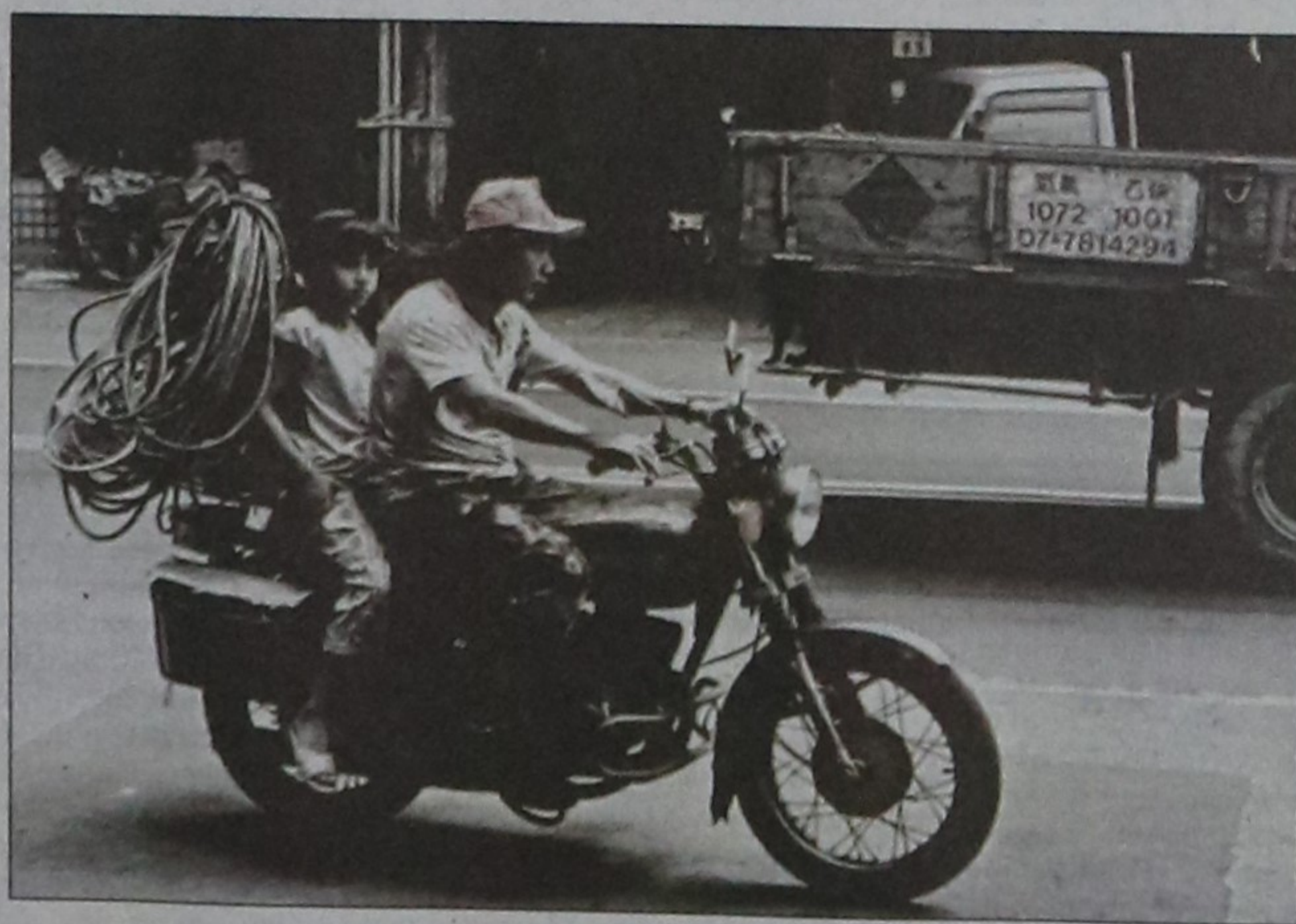
the award-winning films.

The festival, which began on November 23 with the screening of Chinese director He Ping's 'Wheat', witnessed the screening of 300 films from 47 countries. In the international section, a total of 145 films were shown in 18 categories.

The films of British director of Indian origin Gurinder Chadha, Manoel de Oliveira and Nonjee Nimbutr were screened in the Retrospectives Section.

Seventy seven Indian movies, including 44 in Indian Panorama with 26 feature and 18 non-feature films, were screened at the festival. There was a section to commemorate 75 years of Assamese cinema.

In the course of the festival, besides film shows, a host of films-related events like Film Bazaar, Master Class and Open Forum were also held to facilitate interaction and business meets in this sector.



"I Can't Live Without You", bagged the coveted Golden Peacock Award for the Best Film.

TV Watch

Musical programme on Hason Raja on Banglavisision



Mustafa Zaman Abbasi (R) and Mridul Kanti Chakrabarty (L) on tonight's show.

CORRESPONDENT

To commemorate the death anniversary of bard Hason Raja, a musical programme titled "Ki Ghar Banabo Aami" will be aired on Banglavisision tonight. Produced by Kawnain Shourav, the programme will go on air at 6:05pm.

Renowned folk singer Mustafa Zaman

Abbasi and music researcher Dr. Mridul Kanti Chakrabarty will appear as guests and render songs of the bard as well as discuss his life and works.

Hason Raja was born in 1854 in a zamindar family in Sunamganj. Some years after his death, Hason Raja's contribution was acknowledged in a lecture at Oxford University by Rabindranath Tagore. Hason Raja died on December 8, 1922.

Drama serial "Dorakata" on Rtv

CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Dorakata" will be aired tonight on Rtv at 9pm. The serial has been jointly scripted by Aminur Rahman Mukul and Mahfuza Hilali and directed by Sumon Anwar.

The serial revolves around the friendship between five fun loving university students: Shojol, Nirob, Anindo, Jisa and Hena. The friends plan a trip to Rangamati. En route they encounter a shady character named Abir, also a university student. The group tries to avoid him. On reaching Rangamati, they discover that Abir is staying at the same hotel. The group

decides to take no notice -- until they discover that he is stalking them.

When the group hires a boat to go to Longodu, Abir persuades them to take him along with them. In the evening, the engine fails, stranding the friends on a desolate hill. Now they come face to face with the stark reality that there are different shades to their characters -- greed, suspicion and the like.

The cast includes Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Mir Sabbir, Richi Solaiman, Naznin Naz, Raunak Hasan, Shojol, Chandni, Nadia, Nova, Shahriar Shuvo and Sanjida Preeti, among others.

The serial is aired on Saturdays and Sundays.



A scene from the drama serial.

Music all the way

Eid reunion in Bogra

CORRESPONDENT

An Eid reunion was recently held at Panchthupi Nasratpur High School, Dhunat, Bogra. The event featured local and guest artists who gave musical performances.

The programme began with Selim Reza's rendition of an Atul Prasad song, "Tumi nirmol koro mongol kore". Among the local artistes, TIM Nurunnabi Tarique, Murshida Akhtar, Reza and Rokib rendered songs. Guest artiste Alok Kumar Sen, performed a number of light classical songs.

Prior to the musical renditions Tarique also the Upazila Chairman of Dhunat Upazilla Parishad and Reza, convener of Panchthupi Public Library delivered speeches.

The programme was jointly organised by Panchthupi Public Library and alumni of Panchthupi Nasratpur High School.



Nurunnabi Tarique (L), performs at the programme. PHOTO: STAR