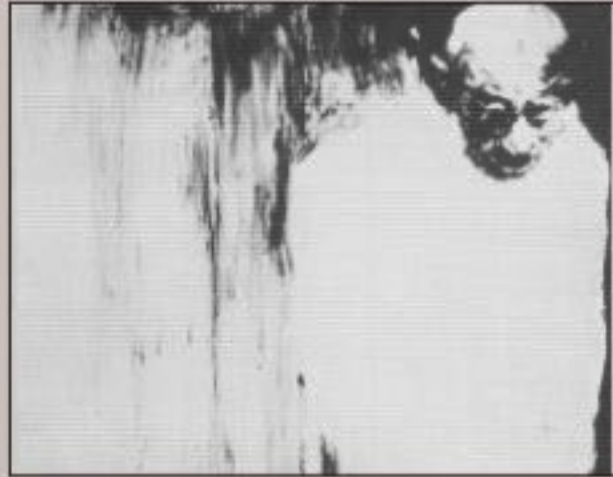


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Drawing Exhibition

Title: The Surge of Emotion
Artist: Shahabuddin
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, North Super Market, 2nd Circle, Gulshan
Date: January 4-19
Time: 10am-8pm



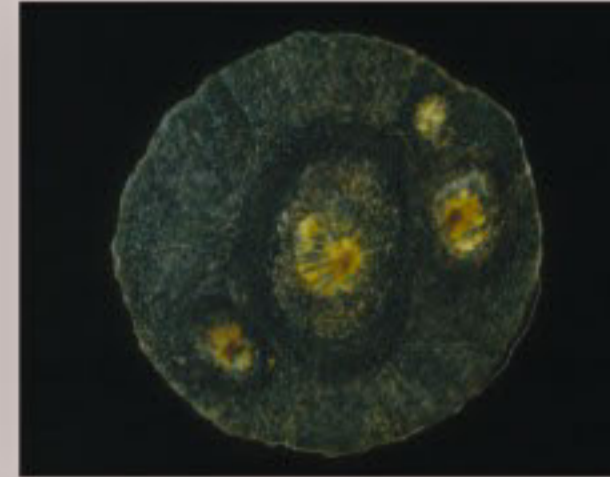
Jamdani Exhibition

As part of Aarong's 30th anniversary celebration
Organiser: Aarong
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 10-20
Inauguration: January 9 at 4pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Image
Artist: Mohammad Fakhrul Islam
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: January 4-15
Time: 9am-12pm & 5-8pm



Painting Exhibition

Painter: Biren Shome
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H 26, Rd 3, Dhanmondi
Date: January 4-20
Time: 10am-8pm



Liberation War and Language Movement on canvas

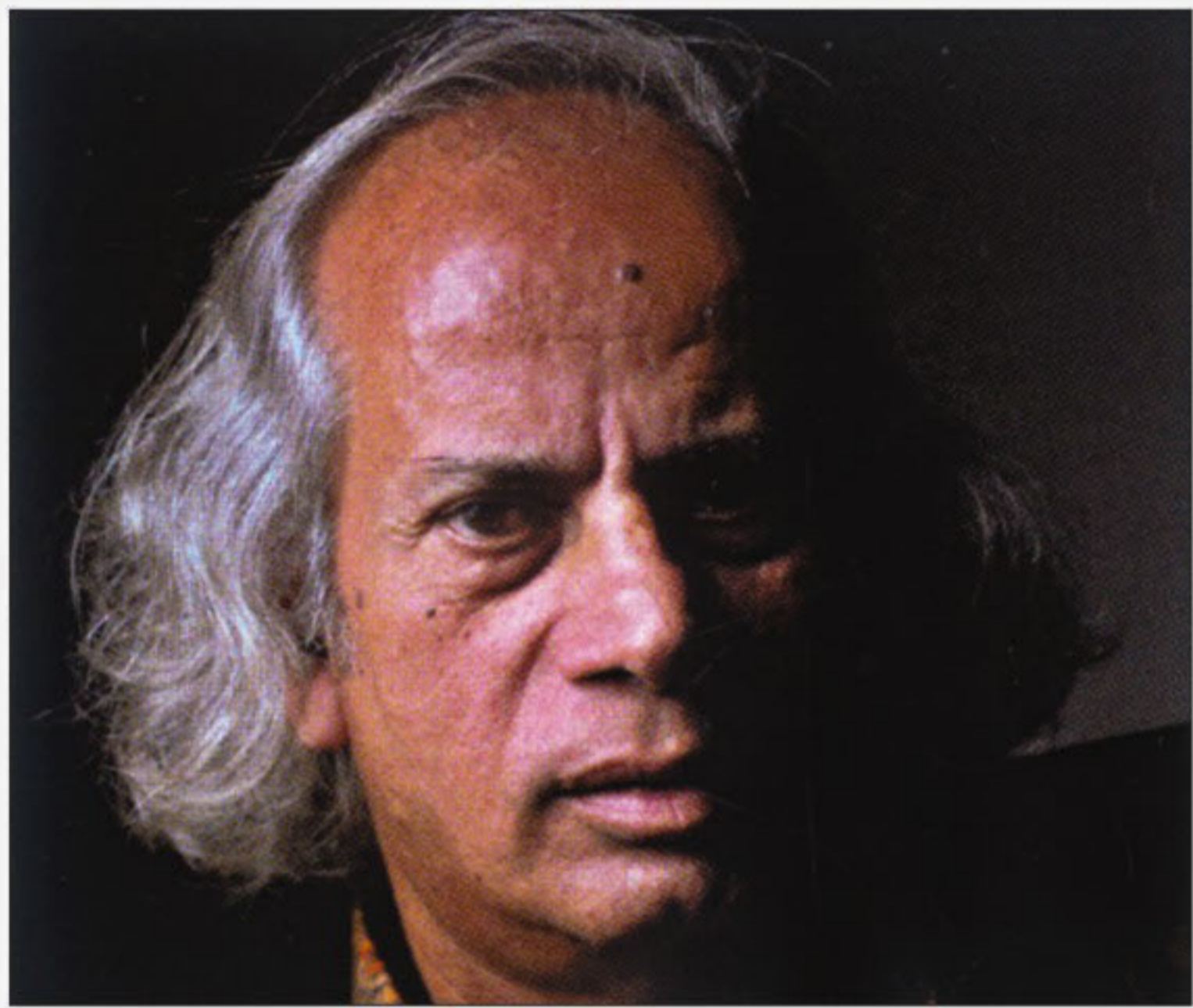
Biren Shome's solo exhibition at Shilpangan

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Liberation War, Language Movement and the familiar scenic beauty of Bangladesh are the major themes at the current exhibition of Biren Shome. Shome is one of the noted painters of the '60s who has maintained a significant role in the contemporary Bangladeshi art scene. Throughout his illustrious career, the artist has worked on varied themes, portraying them in his personal style and technique. His themes have always been closely connected to the essence of Bengal and its people. His works plunge deep into an assortment of forms like abstract, pure-abstract, realistic and semi-realistic.

Shome's solo exhibition is on at Shilpangan Art Gallery, Dhanmondi.

Shome's "Liberation War" gives the viewer a glimpse of joy and victory. The artist wanted to demonstrate the Freedom Fighters' valour and their dedication to the motherland. Freedom Fighters and their courageous movement as conveyed symbolically and in vivid picturesque terms with the Bangladeshi flag are very noticeable in some of his works. His figures are marked by fearless movements and soulful expressions. Colours are very vibrant in the series, focusing on the subject's surrounding and historical



aspects. Patriotism has a considerable place in the core of his paintings. The artist has also worked on the theme, Language Movement. Shaheed Minar, crimson sun, soaring birds, public demonstrations make the works impressive. Shome's paintings take the viewer back to our glorious past. The artist has used Bangla alphabets to focus on the subject's relevance.

Black is the predominant shade in depicting mourning in the series. Shome's brush strokes seem restrained and look stylised.

Beauty of Bengal, as seen by the artist, also highlights Bengali women, and their dreams. Shome's portrayal is dynamic and the proportions are appropriate. Coarse lines carry a distinct mark in his paintings. His compositions

are neatly organised, demonstrating soothing tones and aesthetic arrangement of space. The painter brings in many objects. The objects at times appear directly and at others, are symbolically patterned. Panamgnagar, Bauls, the indigenous way of life, rivers and more have stunningly emerged in his works.

Shome likes to display a certain romantic concern for vivacious hues. Most of his compositions are based on solid texture and organised forms. Many of his works feature darker shades. A number of Shome's drawings demonstrate a connection between trees and humans. He meticulously presents the topic with delicate lines.

Shome has also done many prints where simplicity seems to be the key trait. Figures are noticeable in the works. Sometimes his works are completely engrossed with colours and pure forms.

Shome's early works were symbolic and horses, pushcarts, wheels represented struggle and velocity. The soulful artist is always searching for something fresh and new. He works with acrylic, oil, pen, sign pen, and wash and mixed media, and uses many mediums and techniques for bringing dimension to his works.

Shome's exhibition at Shilpangan ends on January 20.



Biren Shome (top); artworks by Shome at the exhibition.



Another milestone for "The Simpsons"

To speak of the latest milestone by "The Simpsons" seems to restate the obvious.

Long before now, enduring life for "The Simpsons" and its brightly jaundiced folk was simply assumed. What began 20 years ago as a fluke then erupted into a pop-culture juggernaut has continued to spin yarns, spawn characters, and lampoon society with no end in sight.

Fox is airing 450th episode of "The

Simpsons" today. "Once Upon a Time in Springfield" will be followed by an hour-long documentary from Morgan Spurlock ("Super Size Me"), fancifully titled "The Simpsons 20th Anniversary Special in 3-D on Ice."

"I think we could do it for another 20 years, actually," Matt Groening, creator of the iconic show, said recently.

Here's hoping the spectacular ensemble of voice talent keeps talking

to the end. After 20 years, Dan Castellaneta remains full-throated as portly, dim-witted dad Homer, Julie Kavner is tower-tressed mom Marge, Nancy Cartwright is lippy first-born Bart and Yeardley Smith is oversmart daughter Lisa.

Of course, these off-screen stars of "The Simpsons" are well served by visual artistry that keeps them shielded from the passage of time.

The show's writers play a huge role,

too, with fastidiously crafted scripts that, by comparison, leave most sitcoms in the dust. (Granted, some fans may complain "The Simpsons" isn't as sharply realised as in earlier years, but still.)

"What I love about 'The Simpsons' is, it's so collaborative," Smith said. "The actors do a third, the animators do a third, and the writers do a third."

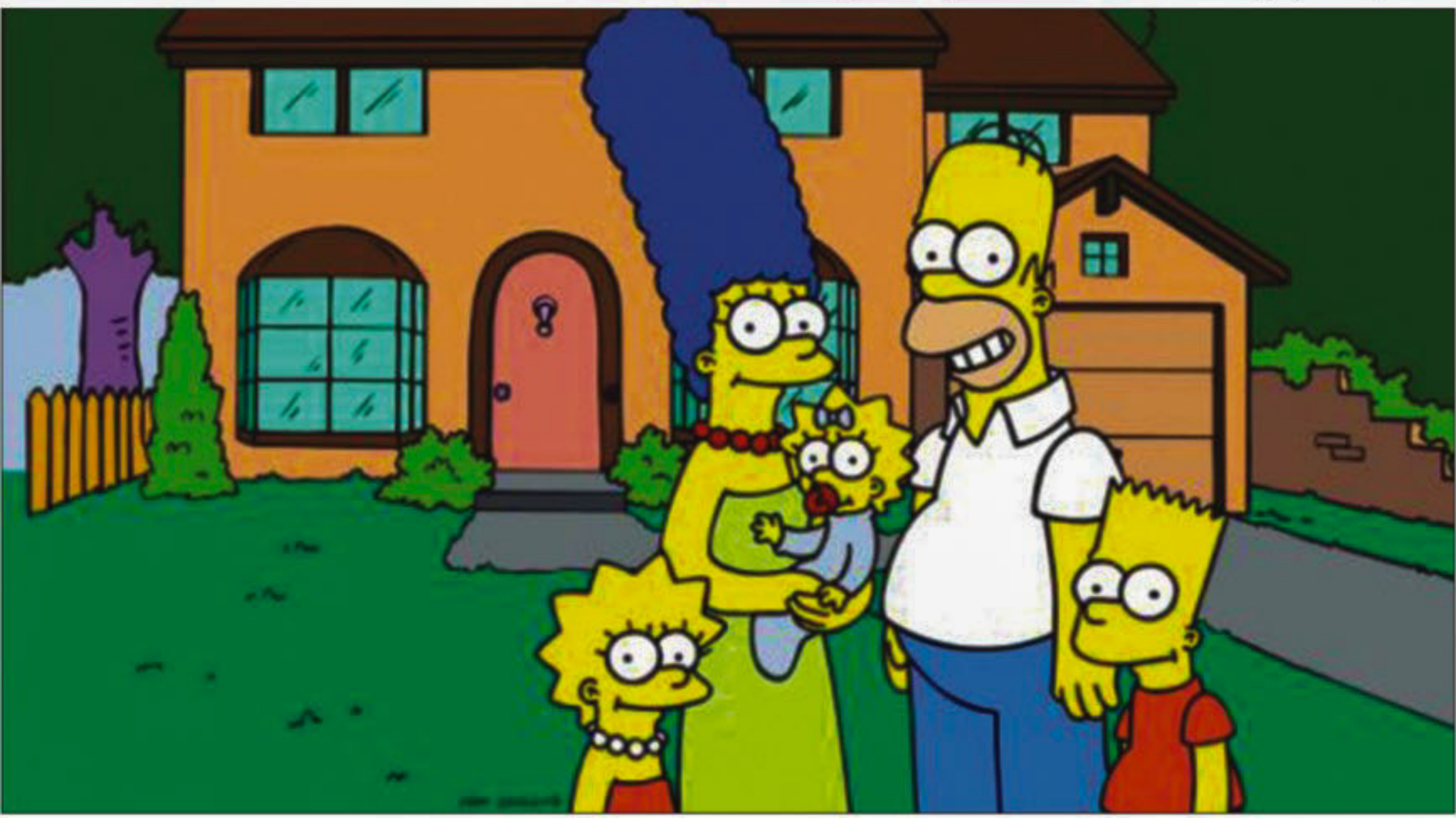
Also part of the acting troupe is Harry Shearer, whose stable of roles includes Mr. Burns, Waylon Smithers, Ned Flanders, Rev. Lovejoy, Kent Brockman, Dr. Hibbert, and Principal Skinner.

"Matt has a satirical, anti-authority streak," says Shearer. "From the beginning, 'The Simpsons' was taking the side of the family against all the authority figures and institutions that buffeted them in the modern world. Certainly, that resonated for me."

How many different voices has Shearer done on "The Simpsons" in all?

"The one real influence that Bob Dylan has had on my life is that, every time I'm asked that question, I give a different answer," says Shearer. "So: hundreds," he replies in a raspy Dylan-esque voice.

Source: Internet



SSJ's council after eight years



(From left) Liaquat Ali Lucky, Golam Kuddus, Nasiruddin Yousuff, Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Ramendu Majumdar, Mamunur Rashid and Mannan Hira at the conference.

A CORRESPONDENT

After a break of eight years, the seventh council of Shammilito Shangskritik Jote (SSJ) was held at Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library in Shahbagh on January 8. National Professor Kabir Chowdhury inaugurated the daylong event. At the council, a new 47-member executive committee for the term (2010-2012) was elected.

Members of the newly formed executive committee are Nasiruddin Yousuff, president;

Golam Kuddus, vice-president; Hassan Arif, general secretary; Ahkamullah, assistant general secretary; Selim S.H. Chowdhury, organising secretary; Ahmed Gias, finance secretary; Rafiqul Islam, publication secretary; Rezina Wali Lina, information and research secretary; Mosharrif Hossain, publicity secretary and Faizul Alam Pappu, office secretary.

President, ITI Worldwide, Ramendu Majumdar; cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor MP; CEO of RTV M. Hamid and 31 others have also been elected as members of the executive committee.

Music, dance and fun galore

Celebrity alumni reunite at Mohammadpur Govt. School

A CORRESPONDENT

Mohammadpur Government School celebrated its 6th reunion on the school campus on January 8, after around 17 years. The batches from 1969 to 2009 were present at this reunion. The media partners of the event were Rtv, Dainik Shomokal and Radio Foorti.

"We've been planning this reunion for a while," said Abdul Gaffar (1971 batch). "A significant part of our childhood was spent here. It's really interesting to meet up with classmates and catch up." He added that mainly the senior batches, 'Prakton Chhatro Samiti', had organised the event to set an example for the junior batches.

The Daily Star was told that many renowned cultural figures like Subir Nandi, Sadi Mohammad, Shibli Mohammad and others are former students of the school. Other than

media personalities, there were bankers, doctors, engineers, journalists etc among the attendees. It was interesting to see groups of friends from different batches busy talking about old times.

The school observed a whole day of programs to celebrate the reunion. At dusk, the cultural programme began.

Guest artistes Oishika Nadi and Shaheen Sarder began the show. They were followed by SM Khaled (1978 batch), guest artiste Ferdous Ara, Subir Nandi and others. The bands Lalon, Prometheus and Bijoyroth -- all of whom are former students of the school -- performed. There was a fusion dance by Shoily (Tawfif Babu and group) after the presentation by Abdul Gaffar and Mamun-ur-Rashid.

"I am meeting my friends after 20 long years," said Moyeenul Khandaker, one of the attendees.

Farooki on "Amar Ami" tonight

A CORRESPONDENT

Filmmaker Mostafa Sarwar Farooki is the guest on tonight's episode of Banglavisian's weekly celebrity talk show "Amar Ami". Farooki's latest feature film "Third Person Singular Number" was recently released and has gained much appreciation from the audience at home and abroad at international film festivals. Apart from filmmaking Farooki is also a successful TV play director and always tries to offer the audi-



Farooki with the host of the show.

ence something innovative. media and more.

On tonight's show Farooki will share his experiences with viewers -- becoming a filmmaker, his journey in the

Sharon Stone: Meryl Streep "looks like an unmade bed"

Sharon Stone, 51, has some choice words for Meryl Streep, 60, in the new issue of Tatler magazine, saying the "It's Complicated" star gets so much work at least in part because Streep looks "like an unmade bed" and is "because she looks like a woman we can all relate to."

Stone was most recently seen in "Basic Instinct 2" and "Bobby" in 2006 and talking about her "good friend" the Dalai Lama in 2008.

"I look at her and I think, 'I'm chasing my kids, I've moved my parents in with me, I'm coping with food spills -- that looks like me in real life.'"

"Meryl looks like an unmade bed, and that's what I look like. To me, that looks true," Stone said.



Meryl Streep

Stone, a Dior anti-aging spokeswoman, also denies doing anything to herself, then backtracks to admit she did something once. "I have had zero, nothing done to myself: no lifting, no Botox, no injectables," she said.



Sharon Stone

"I did try something once and I saw myself in a movie and didn't like the way I looked. I thought I looked like I had a giant balloon head, and I felt it wasn't for me."

Source: Internet