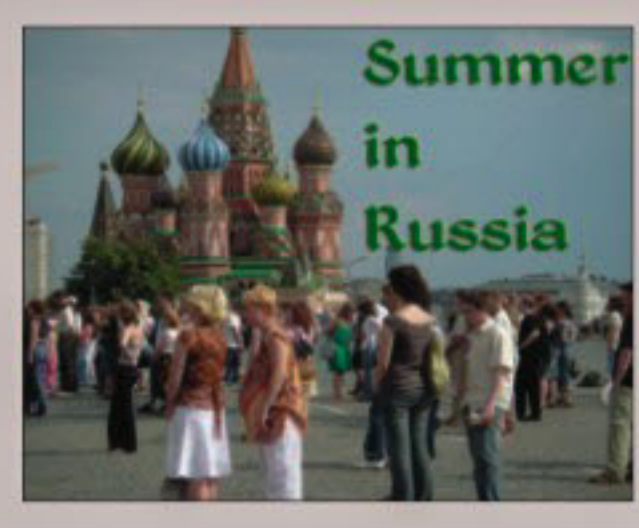

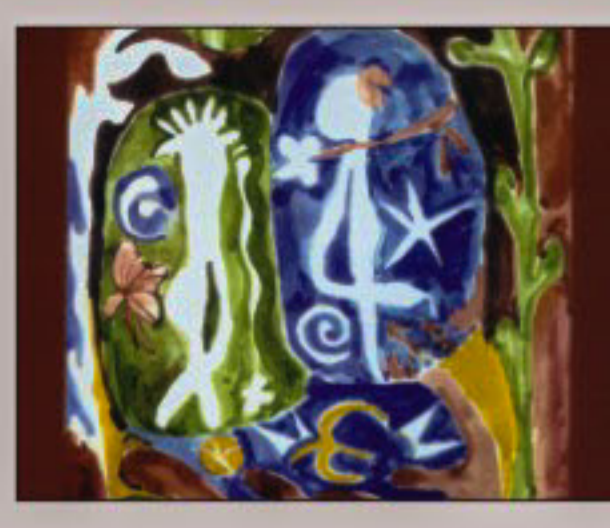



<p>WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK</p>	<p>Photography Exhibition Title: Summer in Russia Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, 42, Bhasha Shoinik M.A. Matin Road, Dhanmondi Date: June 16-30 Time: 10am-7pm</p> 	<p>Group Art Exhibition Organiser: Shadinota Charu Shilpi Sangsad Venue: Bangladesh Asiatic Society, Nimtoli, Dhaka University Date: June-26-July 1 Time: 10am-8pm</p> 	<p>Musical Soiree Title: Praner Khela Singers: Shammi Akhtar and Shahid Kabir Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, R-27, H-275/F, Dhanmondi Date: June 30 Time: 7pm</p> 	<p>Theatre Play: The Communicator Troupe: Centre for Asian Theatre Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy Date: July 2 Time: 7pm</p> 
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Panorama on canvas

Group art exhibition at Asiatic Society Gallery



TAKIR HOSSAIN

Shadinota Charu Shilpi Sangsad is holding a group art exhibition, titled "Sabujer Abahon," at Bangladesh Asiatic Society Gallery, Nimtoli, in Dhaka. At the exhibition, works of promising painters delve deep into pure panoramic views. The artists have portrayed landscapes and skyscapes. The exhibition is the outcome of a workshop, held recently in

Savar.

The works on display are study-based and the themes as well as techniques are closely connected to realistic and impressionistic styles. Paintings of Ashraf Islam, Dulal Chandra Gain, Saiful Islam, Abdus Sattar Toufiq, Taimur Hannan, Motiur Rahman, Shohag Parvez and Kamaluddin are noteworthy.

Ashraf Islam completed his MFA in Drawing and Painting from Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of

Dhaka. His oil painting tries to capture the subtle splendour of the first light. He translates the morning light into subtle memories of green and yellow. In the painting, he explores the relationship between nature and light. Light is a predominant aspect of his work and it reveals the beauty of the locality. Depiction of the area is completely impressionistic.

Saiful Islam's "The Agony" is remarkable for its use of silhouettes against the sky and the graceful

harmony of colours. Simple brushstrokes and vivid colours create the effect of reflection of the dying sun. Islam is a portrait and landscape painter. His trees are mostly leafless which indicates the unrequited aspirations in life.

A.B.M Taimur Hannan's silent and profoundly meditative landscape contains a symbolism that alludes to peace and hope in nature. Emerald green is the dominant shade in his work. The painting appears more serene because of its translucent colours. He produces plein-air watercolour and focuses his attention on impressive phenomena such as soft light and drizzle, which reflects his detailed study on landscape.

Shohag Parvez is a student of Oriental Art at FFA. Recently, he has won acclaim for his superb watercolour technique. He particularly likes to portray riverine views, hilly areas and deep forests. In his "Bank of the River," the manner of applying the brushstrokes and the colour range, intensely reflects the sky.

Kabir Ahmed Masum Chisty did his MFA in Sculpture from FFA. His charcoal-based work depicts many eyes in different shapes. He is greatly influenced by veteran Bangladeshi painter Shafiuddin Ahmed's famed series "Angry Fish".

Nazir Khan's impressionistic landscape at the exhibition is picturesque. The image synchronises greenery and the sky -- created with brushstrokes of blue and green.

The exhibition ends on July 1.



Clockwise (from top): Artworks by Saiful Islam, Shohag Parvez and Motiur Rahman.

Theatre

"Sitar Agni-Parikkha" gets a new look

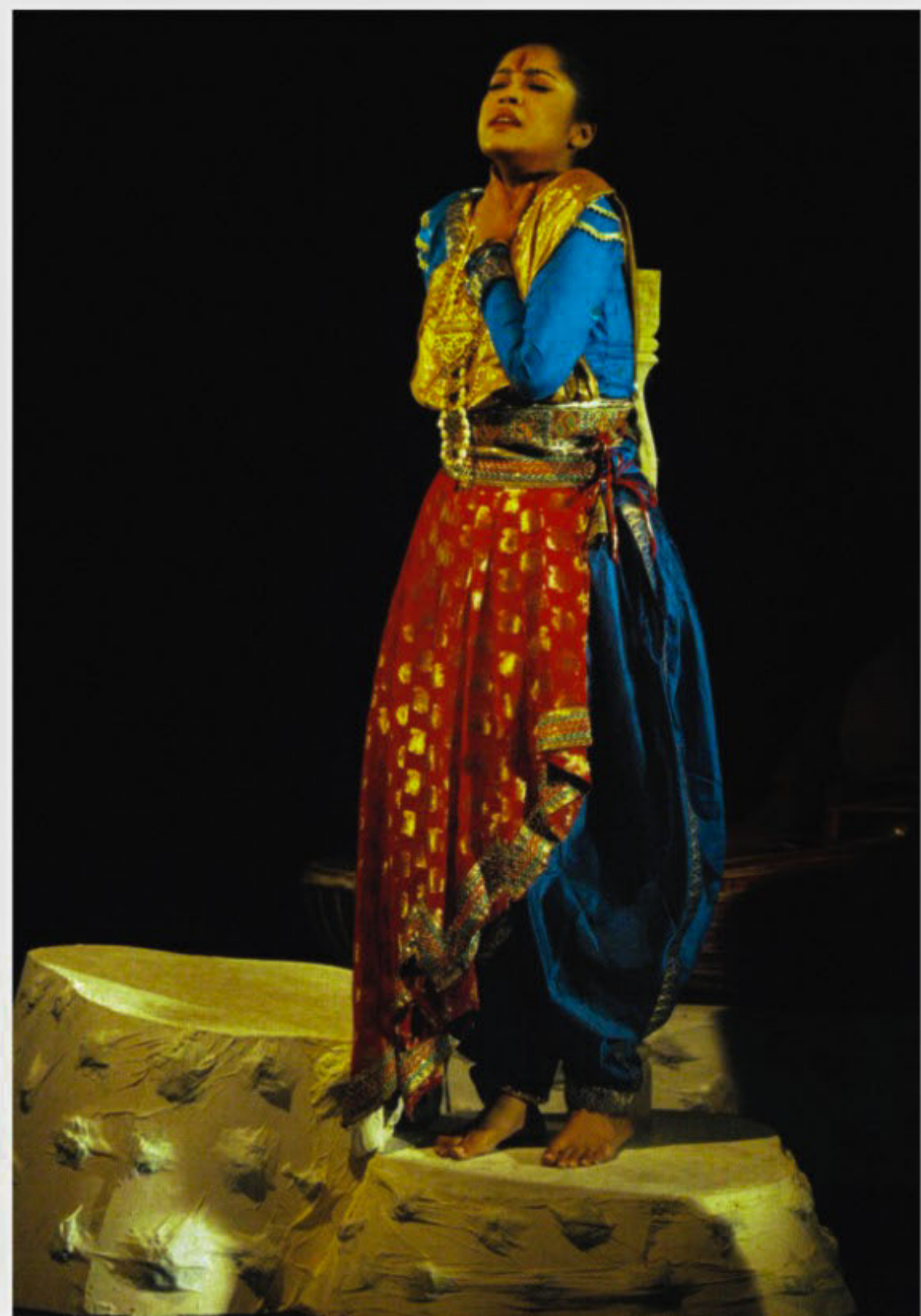
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shadhona, a centre for advancement of South Asian music and dance, presented the monodrama "Sitar Agni-Parikkha" on stage in July, last year. Eminent Indian actor Averee Chaurey played the protagonist. This year, Shadhona is staging the play with some changes. The main change is recasting of the lead. Instead of Chaurey, Bangladeshi actress Naznin Hasan Chumki will don the multiple roles in the production. Chumki is also directing the play. This is the first time in Bangladeshi theatre that an actress is both directing and enacting the protagonist in a monodrama. Some technical changes have also been made in the play.

The premiere of this version of "Sitar Agni-Parikkha" will be held during a three-day festival, beginning on July 31. A technical show of the play was held on June 28 at the Studio Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Saymon Zakaria has written the monodrama.

The play sees the heroine of the epic "Ramayan," Sita, in a new light. The story begins at the



Naznin Hasan Chumki in "Sitar Agni-Parikkha."

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

ashok-kanan in demon king Ravan's Lanka palace, where Sita laments her abduction and captivity.

The war over Sita ends. Sita's husband Ram smites Ravan. Sita is ecstatic in anticipation. But instead of her husband's loving arms, she finds belittlement and accusations of being unchaste.

Ram explains that the war with Ravan was not about her; it was about rescuing his machismo and heroism under threat from Ravan. And this is what breaks Sita's all-enduring patience. She comes of age. She realises Ram doesn't love her any more. A dejected Sita asks her brother in law, Lakkhan, to set up a *chita* (pyre) for her. Ram delightfully encourages this idea of *agni-parikkha* (the test of going through fire to prove one's chastity to the world). But hasn't Sita undergone *agni-parikkha* repeatedly?

Lubna Mariam is the choreographer of the play. Zahidul Kabir Liton is the music director, while Amlan Biswas and Aly Ahmed Mukul respectively are doing the light and set design of the play. The cast and crew also include Ayan Chowdhury, Ashim Natto, Laurence Uzzal, Mithun and Koli.

Haba dance: An indigenous tradition



Haba dance is performed by the Tripuras to seek the blessings of the gods.

PHOTO: STAR

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

Haba, a centuries old dance form, is performed by the Tripura community to propitiate the gods in the hope of good crops. The Tripura farmers also believe that they will enjoy a happy and prosperous life through dance, songs and arts.

Gairing Cultural Organisation, which works in Khagrachhari hill district to preserve and enrich Tripura culture and heritage, has sought to modernise the traditional Haba dance form.

The scholarly Monindra Lal Tripura asserted that in the hope of bumper crops, farmers sacrifice livestock such as chicken, ducks and goats. They also perform Haba dance in the woods and the fields to seek the blessings of the gods.

Khagrachhari district council chairman Kujendra Lal Tripura said that the Tripura farmers offer *puja* (prayers) before, during and after harvesting crops. They believe that with the blessings of the gods, they can save their crops from damage by natural calamities and disasters, he added.



Celebrities on World Cup 2010 Football fever

Shibli Mohammad

"I hope this year the cup goes to Argentina," said Shibli Mohammad, one of the leading dancers of the country.

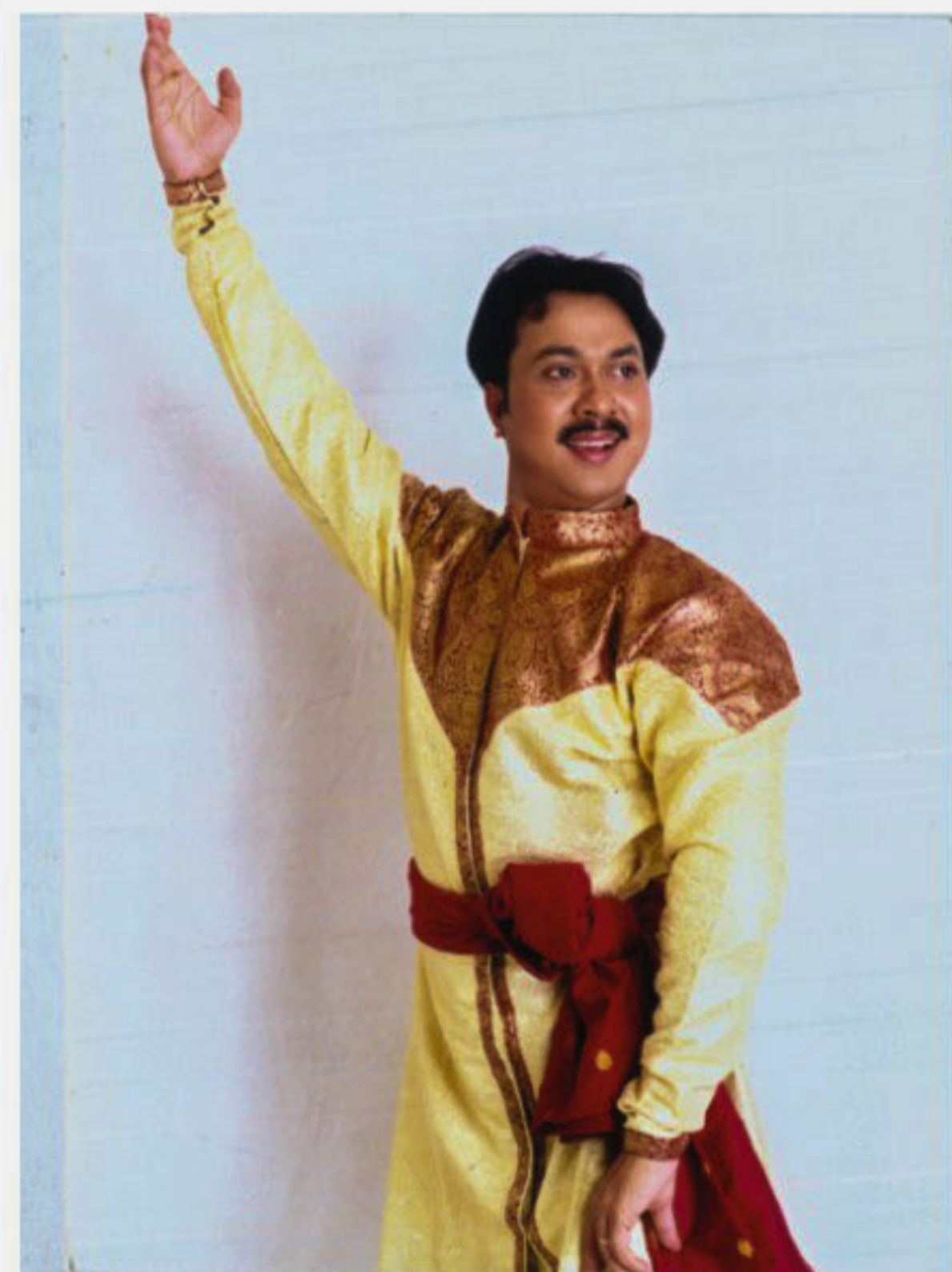
"Since I started understanding the game, Argentina has been my favourite team," said Shibli.

Why Argentina though?

Shibli: "One of the main reasons for supporting Argentina is Diego Maradona, one of the greatest footballers of all time. Maradona was truly an amazing player who proved his supremacy in football and won the hearts and minds of billions across the globe."

Do you have any other favourite?

Shibli: "England. I enjoyed their style of playing when I was a student in UK."



Two-part "Deathly Hallows" brings Harry Potter to close

After labouring for a decade to adapt J.K. Rowling's tales of the wizarding world to the big screen, those associated with Harry Potter are gearing up for the November 19 opening of the seventh film in the series.

An eighth film was shot at the same time, based on the second half of the 759-page book.

Warner Bros. is using trail-

ers to kick off "The Year of Harry Potter," which will culminate in the next summer release of the second part of "Deathly Hallows." The Wizarding World of Harry Potter theme park opened June 18 in Orlando, Florida.

The new movie focuses heavily on Harry's tangles with the evil Lord Voldemort.

"Harry and Voldemort go wand to wand in the courtyard," says long-time producer David Heyman.

In one scene, Voldemort grabs Harry's face and malevolently hisses, "Why do you live?" And brave Harry responds, "Because I have something to live for."

These last two films will be the first to be shown in IMAX 3-D.

"The technology has developed and offers great possibilities," Heyman says. "We won't be going for that 'wow, things always jumping out at you' effect. I think the best 3-D doesn't have to be aggressive. We'll be pushing back from the screen. We're going for an organic, truthful 3-D."

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" was made on a humongous budget of 100 million pounds.



In this ultra-tense confrontation, Harry's nemesis, Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes), hisses: "Why do you live?"

Source: Internet