

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Film Screening
 Film: Titas Ekti Nodir Naam
 Venue: Bangladesh Film Centre, 160, Lake Circus, Kalabagan
 Date: November 25
 Time: 6pm



Theatre

Play: Tin Poishar Pala
 Troupe: Bahubachan
 Venue: Zahir Raihan Cultural Centre, Shatrapur
 Date: November 25
 Time: 7:15pm



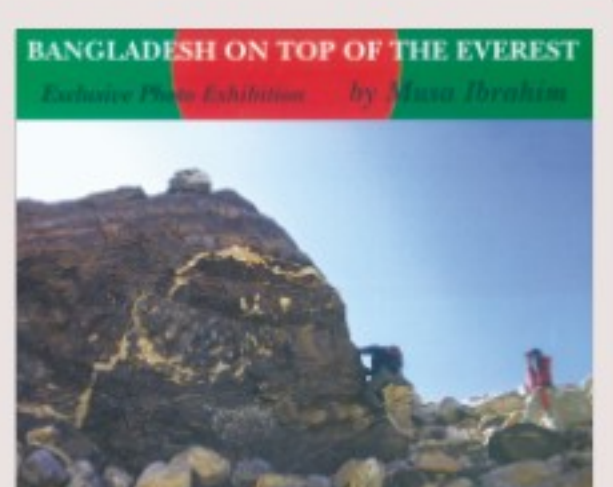
Theatre

Play: Baaramkhana
 Troupe: Theatre
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: November 24
 Time: 6:30 pm



Solo Photography Exhibition

Title: Bangladesh on Top of the Everest
 Photographer: Musa Ibrahim
 Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
 Date: November 26-December 9
 Time: 9-8pm



Tribute to a theatre icon

Nurul Momen birth anniversary celebration begins

JAMIL MAHMUD

To mark the 102nd birth anniversary of playwright Professor Nurul Momen, a weeklong programme has begun at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on November 22. Organised jointly by BSA and Aurnoy Mohona International, the celebration features plays, discussions, video screenings and a photography exhibition.

The event is being held at BSA till November 28.

The opening programme was held at the National Theatre Hall, featuring a discussion and staging of Momen's one act play "Nemesis".

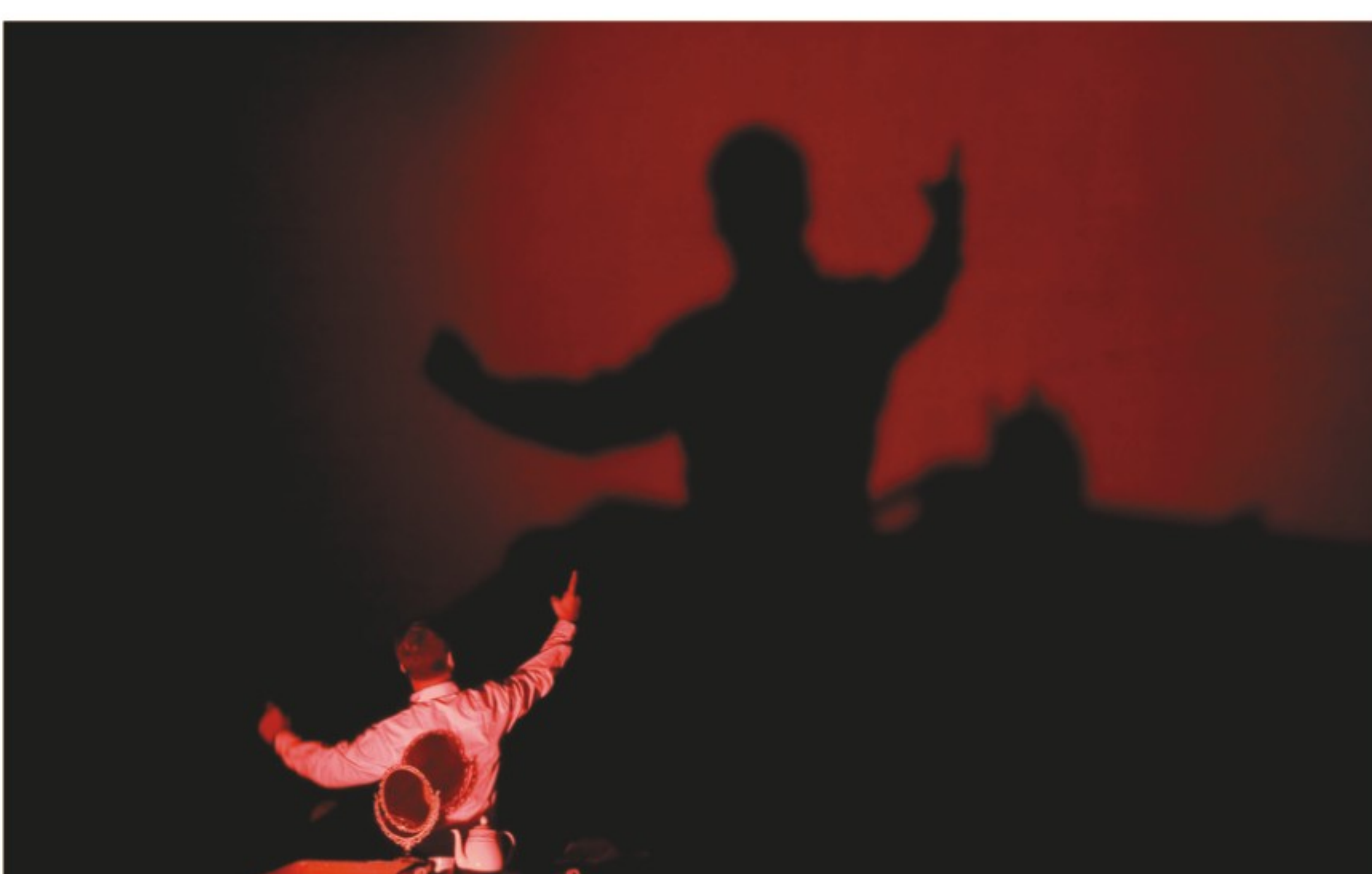
Among others, educationist Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed and noted actress Afroza Banu spoke on the life and works of Momen.

Both discussants emphasised on publishing books consisting Momen's writings. Professor Sayeed termed the theatre personality as "one of the bright stars of 1950s' and 60s' cultural arena. He also talked about Momen's satirical writings.

"At present there's a dearth of clever satires and it seems to me that people are going through some kind of depression," said Professor Sayeed.

National Professor Kabir Chowdhury was expected to attend the programme, but could not owing to ill health. His message was read out at the event. Dr. Mahmud N. Momen, son of Nurul Momen and president of Aurnoy Mohona International, gave the welcome speech.

A video clip featuring Professor Nurul Momen, which was aired previ-



A scene from Momen's one act play "Nemesis".

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

ously on Bangladesh Television, was screened after the discussion.

The highlight of the opening programme was staging of the play "Nemesis". Mahmud N. Momen directed the play. Faridul Fardin played the protagonist.

"Nemesis" depicts the moral predicaments of a middle-class school teacher Surojit Nandi. Surojit married Sulota, daughter of the dishonest, affluent Nripen Bose. Nripen gives Surojit an ultimatum that if he (Surojit) cannot earn Tk five lakh within three months, he won't accept

the latter's marriage to his daughter. Surojit is left with no other option but to undertake several unethical actions. Eventually he wants to break free from the wrong path but he is denied by Nemesis, the goddess of vengeance.

The programme continues at Experimental Theatre Hall (today), Studio Theatre Hall (tomorrow) and Seminar Room (for the rest of the celebration).
 Nurul Momen was popularly known as 'Natyaguru' in the theatre circuit. Throughout his illustrious

career, he worked in different fields. He was a playwright, poet, translator, lawyer and teacher.

His play "Nemesis" is considered to be one of the most successful experimental plays in Bangladeshi Theatre. Other notable plays written by Momen include "Rupantar", "Naya Khandan", "Alo Chhaya" and "Ruplekha".

Nurul Momen was born in Buraich, Alfa Danga of Faridpur (then Jessore), on November 25, 1908. Before joining the Department of Law, DU he was a lawyer at Calcutta High Court.

Hometown's homage to screen legend

Suchitra Sen Film Festival in Pabna

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR
 TOPU, Pabna

The second Suchitra Sen Film Festival in Pabna begins from Friday, November 26. Suchitra Sen Smriti Shangrakhan Parishad (SSSSP) is the organiser of the festival, which will showcase the legendary screen diva's popular films in her hometown, Pabna. The eight-day film festival is to be held at Pabna Town Hall premises.

Renowned film actor Razzak will inaugurate the festival, while veteran film director Amjad Hossain will speak as chief guest at the inauguration of the festival.

Film actors Sohel Rana, Ujjal and Diti are also expected to be present at the inauguration, said Mohammad Saidul Haque, convener of SSSSP, Pabna, and also the head of the festival committee, at a press conference held at the Pabna Press Club.

The first Suchitra Sen Film Festival was arranged in 2009 jointly by the Pabna district administration and SSSSP. This year however, Smriti Parishad will organise the festival while the district administration will assist the event.

"The audience is highly



appreciative of Suchitra Sen's films which have made her a screen legend. Seeing the overwhelming response from the audience last time, we decided to hold the festival for the second time," Haque told The Daily Star.

Eight films of Suchitra will be screened at the festival: "Path-e Holo Deri", "Indrani", "Bipasha", "Komol-Lota", "Shurjo Torun", "Devdas"

(Hindi), "Rajlakshi-Srikanta" and "Alo-Amar-Alo", said Pradip Shannal Gopal, festival coordinator.

This instalment of the festival has a day set aside for women viewers only. Dr. Ram Dulal Bhoumik, member secretary of the festival organising committee, told The Daily Star. The day will also focus on the anti-harassment campaign, he said.

Pierce Brosnan returning to TV

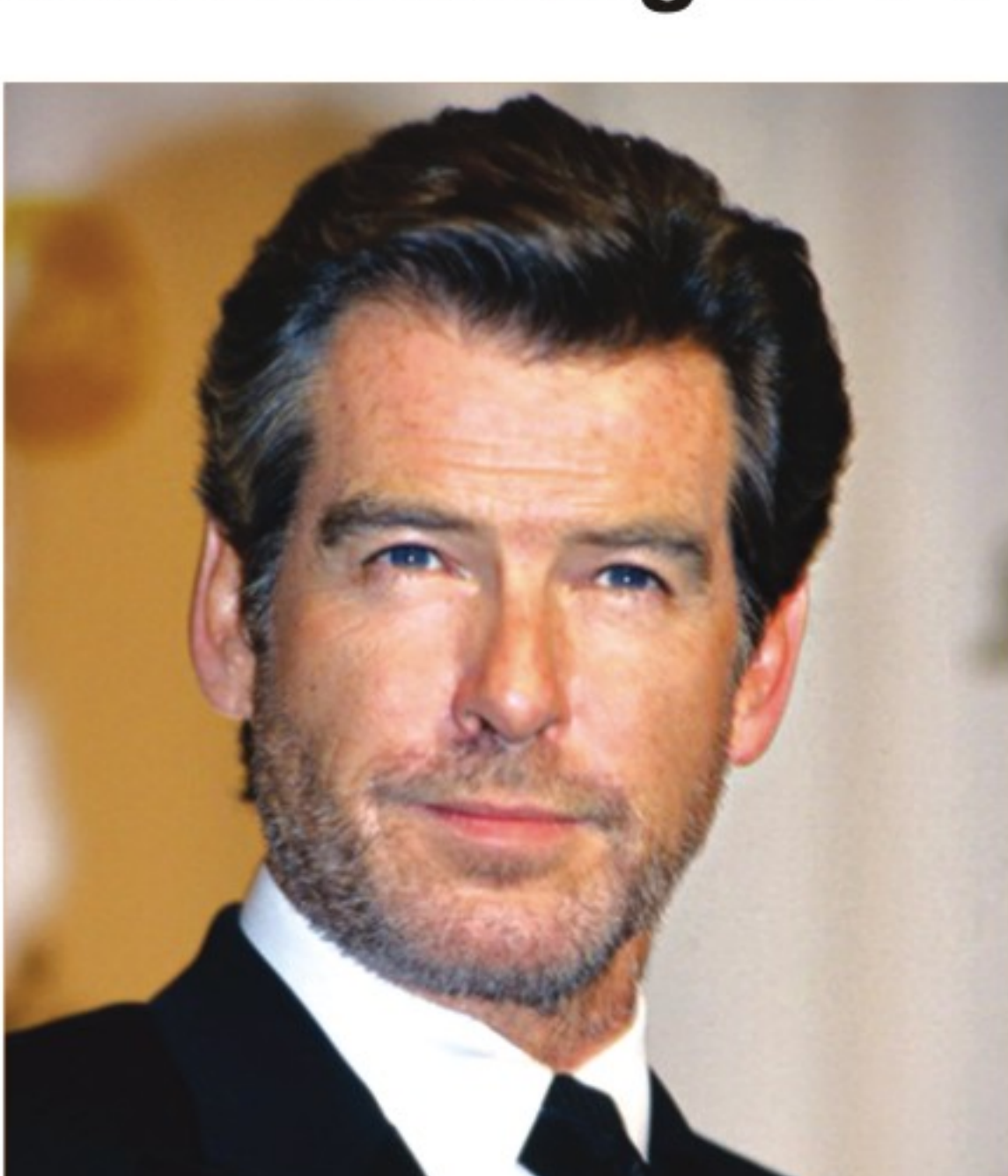
Former James Bond Pierce Brosnan is set to make a comeback to the small screen after 28 years.

The James Bond star, whose last high-profile stint on TV came in 1980s' crime show "Remington Steele", has signed up to star in a new thriller series about a private detective, based on the experiences of real life investigator Logan Clarke, reports the Daily Express.

Deadline.com reported that Brosnan will not play the lead in the show, but will take on a smaller part.

The currently unnamed project will be penned by former "ER" writer/producer Jack Orman, while the former 007 will act as an executive producer.

Source: Internet



Recalling Hemanga Biswas' musical contribution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

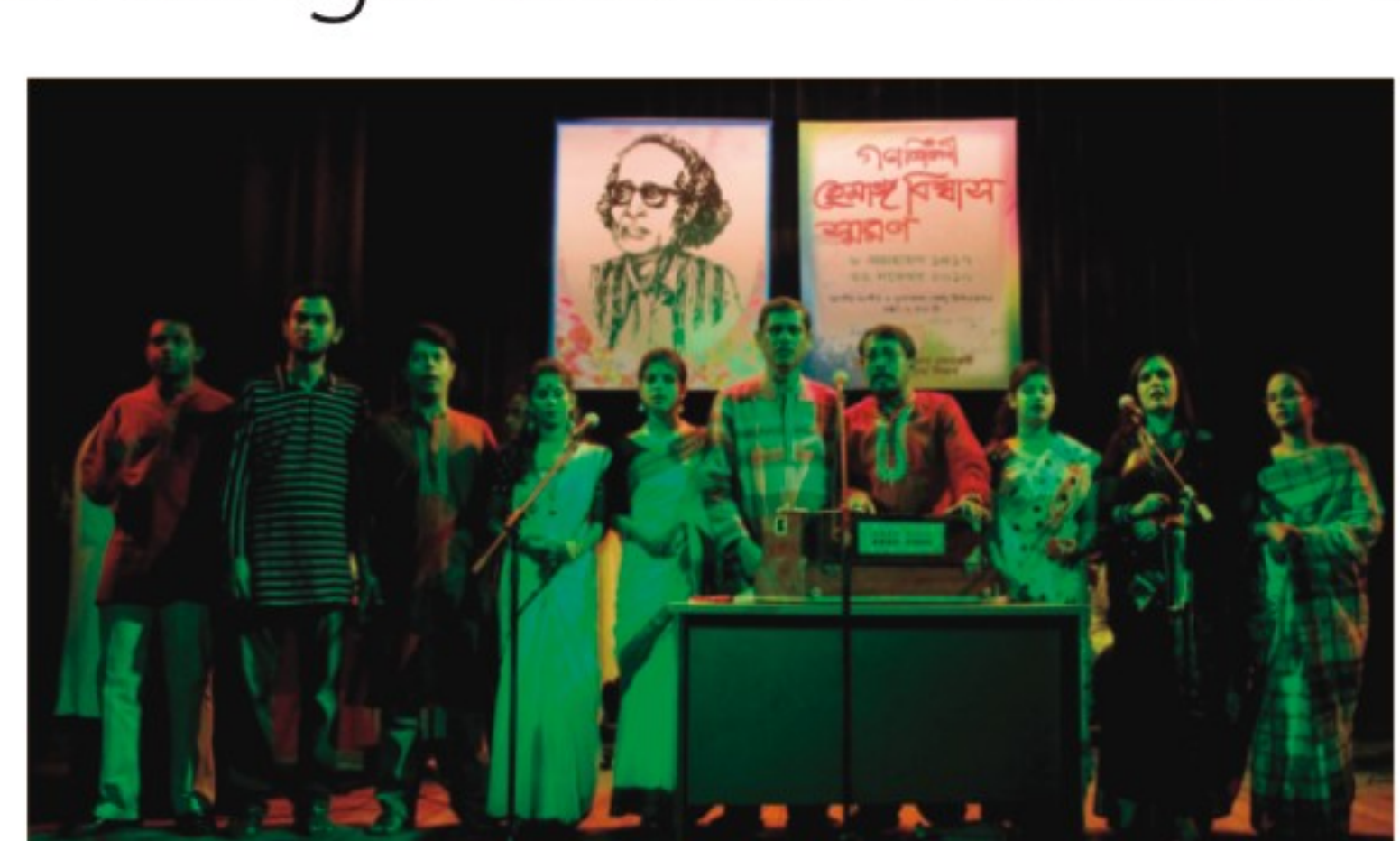
To observe the death anniversary of Gano Sangeet exponent Hemanga Biswas, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged a musical programme at the auditorium of National Music and Dance Centre.

Noted Gano Sangeet artistes and troupes rendered songs at the programme.

A discussion was held prior to the performances. Kamal Lohani, director general of BSA, presided over the discussion. Among others, Professor Mridul Kanti Chakraborty and Professor Shantanu Kaiser spoke at the programme. Mahmud Selim, director of Music and Dance Department, BSA, gave the welcome speech.

The speakers recalled Hemanga Biswas' contribution to the Gano Sangeet genre.

Fakir Alamgir, Meer Yousuf and



Artistes of Wrishiz during a group performance.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Mark Manosh Saha rendered several songs at the event. Members of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi and Wrishiz Shilpi Goshthi presented several group renditions.

Hemanga Biswas was born in a

zaminder (landowner) family. Son of Harakumar Biswas and Sarojini Biswas, Hemanga studied at Habiganj Government High School. He studied at the MC College in Sylhet between 1930-31.

Biswas embraced the values of communism during his college life and wrote poems and plays on equal rights. At this stage he started performing Gano Sangeet. Institutional education system failed to contain him and Biswas became involved in a movement to ensure the rights of tea garden labourers, farmers and the underprivileged throughout the region. For his political convictions, he was arrested in 1930.

Biswas wrote many songs, using the alias "Sanchay Sen". Some of the songs popularised by Hemanga Biswas are "Habiganj-er Jalali Koitor", "Shabdhaney Gurujir Naam Loiyoy", "Shono Desher Bhai Bhogini", "Nongor Chharia Deorey Dukhi Naiyya", "Amra Bir Kishorer Dol", "Amra Tho Bhuli Nai Shaheed", "Udoypurer Jatri", "Langulari Bakey" and more.

Biswas died on November 22, 1987 in Kolkata.

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