CHANCHAL CHOWDHURY @DS CAFÉ

Chanchal Chowdhury, one of the most popular actors of the small screen, has personified diverse characters throughout his illustrious acting career. The actor has a strong theatre background as well, which helps him to articulate characters at ease. He has acted in films too and won many a heart through his brilliant performance in Giasuddin Selim's "Monpura".

Recently, the busy actor was at DS Café, and spoke to fans over the phone and Star Arts & Entertainment.

Emon, Rajshahi: I'm a huge fan. I've seen all your TV plays. Where do you live?

Chanchal: Thanks. It's nice talking to a fan. I live in Siddheshwari.

The Daily Star (TDS): Are you still active on the stage?

Chanchal: Theatre is my passion and I still perform on stage regularly with my group Aranyak Natya Dol.

Laboni, Dhaka: What inspired you to become an actor?

Chanchal: I enrolled at the Institute of Fine Arts (now Faculty of Fine Arts), Dhaka University after moving to the city. I tried my hand at acting several times in my younger years. While studying at the institute, I got the chance to become more involved in acting and joined Aranyak Natya Dol in 1996.

TDS: Did you enjoy acting in a feature film?

Chanchal: Of course. That is the biggest medium to prove oneself as an actor. I've been working on the stage for a long time, and my passion will drive me towards many more performances in theatre productions in the future. TV plays give me the chance to reach out to audiences from all levels of society. But a good performance in a film defines major success. It cements an actor's place for ages.

Akash, Natore: Can you help me with acting?

Chanchal: Come to the end of your learning curve and the opportunity will knock at your door.

Zeenat, Dhaka: I'm a Masters (first year) student at FFA. I'm a huge fan of yours and can't express how much I enjoy your works. What do you do besides acting?

Chanchal: I was also a student at the institute. I don't do anything besides acting. It is my profession. However I also sing as a hobby.

TDS: Is there a particular role you wish you could play?

Chanchal: I don't have any particular dream role, but I always want to take on the challenge of portraying roles that I have never tried before. I try to give my characters as much life as possible. I always strive to receive new roles as I've already performed in over 400 plays during my 15-year long acting career.

TDS: Are you satisfied with what you have achieved?

Chanchal: Pretty much. I work because I love it. If I didn't enjoy it, I wouldn't be able to continue working.

TDS: How did you meet Salahuddin Lavlu?

Chanchal: Lavlu bhai saw me perform on the stage at Mohila Shamity. A year later, he called me up. My first work under his direction was "Chor Phad". Later he cast me in the serial "Bhober Haat". Since then, I've worked in most of Lavlu bhai's productions.

Rafiqul, Natore: Where did you learn to act so brilliantly? Which was your first play?

Chanchal: Several sources, especially from the stage and directors. My first play was "Shundori", directed by Mamunur Rashid.

TDS: How did "Monpura" happen?

Chanchal: Before "Monpura", I had worked with Giasuddin Selim on a few projects. My first project with him was a 26- episode serial called "Enechhi Shurjer Hashi". I continued working with him for several years after that and during that time I heard the story of "Monpura" from Selim bhai. He changed the cast many times as the actors kept aging.

I used to sing the now-famous song "Dhoro Bondhu Amar Keho Nai" (later featured in "Monpura") at the sets after we wrapped up. I requested Selim bhai to let me sing the song for the movie, even if he didn't cast me. However, a few months before shooting for the film began, Selim bhai called me up and told me to stop cutting my hair and shed a few kgs. When I asked why, he answered that he would cast me in "Monpura". Initially, Prova was cast opposite me. We shot the movie in 75 days.

TDS: How did you land the role in "Moner Manush"?

Chanchal: All thanks to theatre. Goutom Ghosh saw the "Rarang" production of Arannyak, where I play the role of a constable. After watching me perform, he wanted to cast me in the film. Later, the movie's distributor Habib bhai called me up with the offer.

Sagar Chowdhury, Sylhet: How did you feel after receiving a National Film Award?

Chanchal: That was a major occasion for me. This is the highest honour for any actor. It is a great achievement for me to earn state recognition for my performance.

TDS: Do you like travelling?

Chanchal: Honestly speaking, the only travelling that I do is to places where I have to shoot. I don't get the time to go to other places.

Zakir, BUET, Dhaka: Which Eid-special plays did you work on this year?

Chanchal: I put in a lot of hard work this Eid. Around 15 plays featuring me were aired during the festival.

TDS: How would you place yourself if you had to choose the top 10 popular actors in the country?

Chanchal: This is tough for me to answer. The audience are the true judges. Perhaps I won't even be in the top ten (laughs).

TDS: Who would you regard as the best contemporary actors?

Chanchal: This is also a tough one to answer. I can't name just one.

Anik, Rajshahi: You use the Pabna dialect in many of your plays. Where in Pabna are you from?

Chanchal: My family home is in Sujanagar thana, Pabna.

Shamim Zaman, Dhaka: When will you begin shooting for your next film?

Chanchal: Probably mid-September.

Tuhin, Patuakhali: Any update on your next movie?

Chanchal: I will soon begin working on Mostofa Sarwar Farooqi's next film "Television".

TRANSCRIBED BY SHAH ALAM SHAZU

EID FAN FARE

The city, along with its inhabitants, wears an almost carnival-like appearance during Eid. People, who didn't leave for their hometowns and villages, gathered in parks and other public vanues. *Nagordola*, candy floss, toys, flowers and countless other items and delicacies are offered and sold at the *mela* that take place in and around the city on the occasion.

PHOTO: MUMIT M

EID DELIGHTS

Bhalobashi Tai,Bhalobeshe Jai

A CORRESPONDENT

Airtel presents its second tele-film "Bhalobashi Tai,Bhalobeshe Jai"

This Eid, Airtel brings the multidimensional love story "Bhalobashi Tai, Bhalobeshe Jai", made up of three interwoven love stories.

The tele-film has been produced by Shihab Shaheen, who also directed "Bhalobashi Tai" (aired on the last Pahela Boishakh).

"Bhalobashi Tai" was one of the most talked about tele-films of the year.

"Bhalobashi Tai, Bhalobeshe Jai" has the hallmark of becoming another big success. The cast of the 90-minute tele-film includes some of the most popular stars of the country including Joya Ahsan, Shuvo, Pritee, Tisha, Oni, and Iresh Zaker.

Casting, music and animation sequences of the tele-film are much larger, grander and of higher quality than the run of the mill productions that one usually gets to watch on TV.

Tobuo Rongdhonu

In addition to the intelligent storyline, the tele-film also features an exclusive soundtrack. The tele-film will be aired tonight, at 11:30 pm, on ntv.

"Tobuo Rongdhonu" on Desh TV

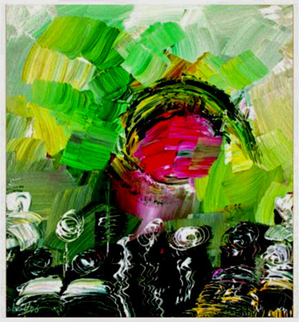
Single-episode TV play "Tobuo Rongdhonu" will be aired on Desh TV tonight at 7:45pm. The play has been written by Zeenat Hakim and directed by Azizul Hakim.

The story zooms in on a love triangle. Ayan and Anik are siblings. Anik lives overseas and wants to marry his cousin Sushmita. But Sushmita has feelings for Ayan. After coming to know about the bride of his younger brother's choice, Ayan tries to avoid Sushmita.

Apurbo and Sumaiya Shimu play the lead characters.

M.A. Karim's dance-drama "Ichhamotir Bakey", choreographed by Aparna Dutta, was recently staged by expatriate Bangladeshi performers in Washington DC, USA. The show enjoyed a full-house.

Bangladeshi Art Exhibition in Toronto



Paintings by Babul Mahmood (left) and Iftikhar Uddin Ahmed.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Art Society of North America (BASNA) has organised a group art exhibition featuring the works of fourteen contemporary Bangladeshi painters at Ben Navaee Gallery, Queen Street East, Toronto, in Canada.

Participating painters are Babul Mahmood, Abul Fazal, Chaman Ara Begum, Fahmida Hossain, Iftikhar Uddin Ahmed, Kawsar Ahmed Khan, Muhammad Muzharul Haque, Md. Sirajul Islam, Nazneen Sheraji, Nilutpal Debnath, Nadir Shariar, Sazada Sultana, Syed Nazmul Alam and Zakia Arzoomand Banu. The exhibition was inaugurated on August 19 and it will continue till September 4.

The group exhibition will also travel to Bangladeshi American Art Gallery, Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, USA. The exhibition at Pennsylvania will open on September 17 and it will continue till October 1.

Among the participating painters, Iftikhar Uddin Ahmed, Babul Mahmood and Nilutpal Debnath are well recognised in Bangladesh.

Iftikhar Uddin Ahmed works on past and present, in acrylic and mixed media. His continuous experiments with collage, forms and compositions provide an appealing and imposing view. Anchor, compass, doodles and columns are common features in his works.

Babul Mahmood concentrates on the theme of childhood. Restless curves, round and square forms, broken lines are recurring features in his paintings.

About the group exhibition, Babul Mahmood said over the phone: "We want to project the current trend of Bangladeshi fine arts outside the country."

Aamir Khan shows support to Hazare

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, *New Delhi*

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan, playback singer Sonu Nigam and director Raj Kumar Hirani lent a touch of star power to the venue of Indian anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare's public hunger strike on the penultimate last Saturday.

However, Aamir, who shared the dais with Hazare and threw his arm over the latter's shoulder in respect, made it clear that "I am not the biggest hero, Anna is the real hero."

Khan's remarks at Ramlila Maidan came as a key Hazare aide Kumar Viswas described the actor as the biggest hero of the country who has lent his support to the movement.

Regaling Hazare's supporters by singing "Mitwaa Tu Aaja Re..." from his superhit 2001 movie "Lagaan", Khan requested the 74-year-old activist to call off his fast as they needed him for leading the countrymen in further struggle.

"I sing poorly. It should not happen that you people run away when I sing," Aamir quipped.

"This is the first episode of the struggle. The climax would be when we get the strong Lokpal Bill," Aamir, who "knows what Jan Lokpal Bill is and the differences between it and other versions", said.

He said people should approach lawmakers and ask them to support Hazare's version of the bill.

"I have no doubt in my mind that we'll get a strong Lokpal (anti-corruption) Bill. However, we need to decide as to how we are going to live our lives...Will we give or accept bribes? Will we say no to corruption in our lives?" -- Khan said.

"It's high time everyone of us said no to any kind of corruption. Our actions will determine whether India becomes a corruption-free country or not," the actor said.

Sonu Nigam visited the Ramlila Maidan in the morning and warmed the hearts of Hazare supporters with patriotic songs and India's Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi's favourite hymn.

Raj Kumar Hirani, who has made blockbusters "Munnabhai MBBS" and "Lage Raho Munnabhai", said that he had never imagined that a day would come when the whole country would stand up against corruption.

THE WEEKLY STRUM

Song: Manush Chena Daae
Album: Jhora Shomoyer Gaan (1996)

Lyric by Subrata Ghosh and music by Joyjit Lahiri

Am.....E7.....
Barle Boyesh Shobai Manush Hoy Ki
Am.....E7.....
Shunle Kotha Manush Chena Jae Ki

F.....E.....Dm.....Am..
Chena Shohoj Noy Chinte Lage Bhoy
E.....Am..
Boli Tai Manush Chena Daae

Am.....E7.....
Hath Barale Bondhu Pawa Jae Na
Am.....E7.....
Barale Haath Bondhu Shobai Hoy Na

F.....E.....Dm.....Am..
Periye Onek Poth Nilam E Shopoth
E.....Am
Aami Noy Shotru Hobo Tai

Am.....E7.....
Haashle Pore Roshik Shobai Hoy Ki
Am.....E7.....
Kanna Elei Kante Para Jae Ki

F.....E.....Dm.....Am..
Hashir Niche Kanna Onek Holo Aar Na
E.....Am.
Mon Khule Heshei Jabo Tai

Source: INTERNET

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

Rtv

10:05	Bangla Feature Film: Hridoyer Bandhan
02:15	Tele-film: Nolak
04:00	Cinema R Gaan
05:00	Nabajataker Eid Adda
05:30	Our Democracy
06:03	Drama Serial: Shurutei Golmal
07:30	Drama Serial: Kota Dilam To
08:40	Lucky Line
09:20	Drama: Shundar Ali
11:25	Drama Serial: City Bus Return
12:50	Musical Concert

CHANNEL i

09:45	Ebong Cinemar Gaan
10:30	Tele-film: The Master Plan
12:30	Drama: Bhalobashar Plabonkal
02:40	Drama: Meghe Daka Chand
04:05	Tele-film: The Photograph Ekhono Bhalobashi
06:20	Musical Programme
07:50	Drama: Oronny Monjuri
09:35	Drama: Security Force 007

ntv

08:45	Moments in Dubai
10:05	Bangla Feature Film: Jomidar
02:35	Tele-film: Ghashphuler Kobi
05:30	Drama: Share Bahattur Ghonta
08:15	Drama: Dalia
09:20	Bhalobashar Galpo
11:30	Tele-film: Bhalobashi Tai Bhalobeshe Jai

BANGLAVISION

10:10	Bangla Feature Film: Moner Majhe Tumi
01:30	Eid Ayojon
02:10	Tele-film: Arshi Porshi
05:15	Maate Moydane
06:05	Probashi Eid Ananda
06:40	Drama Serial: Hero
08:00	Drama: Ami Bhule Jai Tumi Amar Nao
09:40	Ek Cup Cha
11:15	Music Night

ETV

05:25	Drama: Rohshor Dinratri
06:00	Ek Chilte
07:30	Drama: Bhalobashar Dui Prohar
08:30	EML Rock Tour
10:00	Drama: Chrysanthemum
11:30	Gaaner Opare
11:50	Drama: Na Bola Nished
12:40	Studio Concert

Desh TV

10:30	Bangla Feature Film: Dui Poishar Alta
03:00	Tele-film: August E Lekha Galposhamagra
06:00	Ontar Baul
06:30	Tara Kara
07:45	Drama: Jodi Dekha Pai
09:00	Drama Serial: Bhalobashi Ashcharja Meghdal
09:45	Bhalobashar Saat Din
11:45	Fossils-er Gaan

Boishakhi TV

10:30	Bangla Feature Film: Amar Shopno Tumi
02:30	Eid Cinemar Gaan
03:00	Tele-film: Je Jole Agun Jole
06:15	Ore Shampanwala
07:45	Drama Serial: Premer Nam Bedona
08:30	Drama: Mora Jyotsnay
10:40	Cine Ananda
11:45	Shomoy Katut Gaane Gaane

Diganta TV

03:00	Film: The Song of Sparrows
06:20	Jugalbondhi
07:50	Drama: Eliyen Eshechhilo
09:00	Drama: Phire Ashi Barbar
11:20	Live Studio Concert Music Hour

Maasranga Television

09:00	Hojjar Galpo
11:00	Bangla Feature Film: Kokhono Megh Kokhono Bristi
02:30	Tele-film: Bishal Rupali Porda
05:30	Adhghanta Phul Film
06:30	Nitol Paye
07:30	Bandhan
08:00	Drama: Sharbajoya, Himesh, Shara, Ayaran Kingkortobbobimur
09:00	Drama: Biragi
11:00	Ranga Raat
12:00	

Z Studio

11:00	The Pacifier
05:00	Just Like Heaven
09:30	The Proposal
12:00	The Thaw

Star Movies

11:50	Aliens In The Attic
03:05	Day Watch
08:55	A-Team
10:55	Miami Blues

Star World

01:30	Everybody Loves Raymond
04:30	Master Chef Australia
09:30	India's Most Desirable
11:30	Dexter

National Geographic Channel

02:30	Dangerous Encounters
08:30	Mega Factories
09:30	Nat Geo Rush
10:30	Dangerous Encounters

Discovery Channel

02:30	Dual Survival

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2

09:00	Mukhorito Jiboney
12:00	Darun Duparey
03:00	Duranto Bikeley
05:00	Shondhatara
07:00	Shajer Maya
09:00	Raat-er Akashey
11:00	Golper Shesh Nei

Radio Foorti

10:00	Morning Express
12:00	My Time
01:00	No Tension
04:00	Dhaka Calling
09:00	Night Rider
01:00	Back to Back music

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6

08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
12:00	Today's Adda
04:00	U Turn
07:00	Tobey Tai Hok
10:00	Raat Bhor Gaan

Hero
On BANGLAVISION at 06:40pm
Mini Series
Cast: Mosharraf Karim, Chanchal Chowdhury

Anand-er Rang
On ATN BANGLA
10:40pm
Magazine Programme
Host: Nawshin

Mora Jyotsnay
On Boishakhi at 08:30pm
Single Episode TV Play
Cast: Tauquir Ahmed, Kushum Shikdar

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm.
News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ATN BANGLA
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am. 12:00am. 4:00pm.
News (English) at 6:00pm

Rtv
News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ntv
News (Bangla):7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am

ETV
News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm,