

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

WHAT'S ON

113th Anniversary of Nazrul
Bangladesh-India Joint Celebration
Venue: Bangladesh International Conference Centre & National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 25-26

Photography Exhibition
Title: Motherhood & Unique Lets Make It Safe
Photographer: Nazmuzzaman Prince
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dharmondi
Date: May 02-23

Film Screening
Title: Emma's Glück
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-10, Rd-9 (New), Dharmondi

Classical Concert (Instrumental)
Performer: Notos Quartet, Germany
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-10, Rd-9 (New), Dharmondi
Date: May 24, Time: 7:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Tumi Achho Ontorey
Artist: Razzan Habi
Venue: Shilpakangan Gallery, H-7, R-13 (New), Dharmondi
Date: May 18-30

Nazrul Mela
Organiser: Channel 1
Venue: Channel 1 Veigaon Office Premises
Date: May 25

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Intia Shohag
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dharmondi
Date: May 10-22
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Minimal Kanti Das
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dharmondi
Date: May 18-26
Time: 3pm-8pm

"Citycell Taroka Kothon" completes 8 years



A CORRESPONDENT

"Citycell Taroka Kothon", a show aired live on Channel 1 that has become hugely popular, recently completed 8 years. On the occasion, a press conference was held yesterday at Channel 1 centre in Dhaka.

Shykh Seraj, head of News, Channel 1; Taslim Ahmed, head of Corporate Communications, Citycell; filmmaker Giasuddin Selim; singer Rizia Parveen; dancer Likhon Roy, actress Sohana Saba and footballer Aminul Haque, among others, attended the conference.

About the show, Shykh Seraj said, "Generally TV, movie or film stars are not easily accessible. Fans obviously have many questions regarding their icons and idols. This show makes it possible for the fans to interact with their favourite stars directly, over the phone."

Taslim Ahmed said, "We want everyone's assistance to make the show even better."

Rizia Parveen said, "I've been a guest on this show several times and it's one of my favourite TV programmes."

Giasuddin Selim commented, "Completing 8 years and still going strong -- a big achievement for a TV show."

The conference was moderated by the host of show, Mousumi Barua.

Shykh Seraj and Taslim Ahmed answered questions from the journalists at the conference.

Attending personalities celebrated the occasion by cutting a cake. Till now, 2347 episodes of the show have been aired. Ananya Ruma is the producer of the show.

SPICY BITES
Hanif Sanket on entertainment for social change



PHOTO: LITON RAHMAN / DRINKNEWS

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

On 'Spicy Bites', cultural personalities face questions on issues from all angles. Over a career that spans 24 years, Hanif Sanket has become a household name with his role as a leading TV host and director for "Ittadi", along with his writing and directing of TV plays. A proud recipient of the Ekushey Padak in 2009, Sanket has earned much acclaim for seeking out outstanding personalities from various regions of the country.

The host of the most popular TV show in the country, Hanif Sanket recently came to The Daily Star to join a 'Spicy Bites' session.

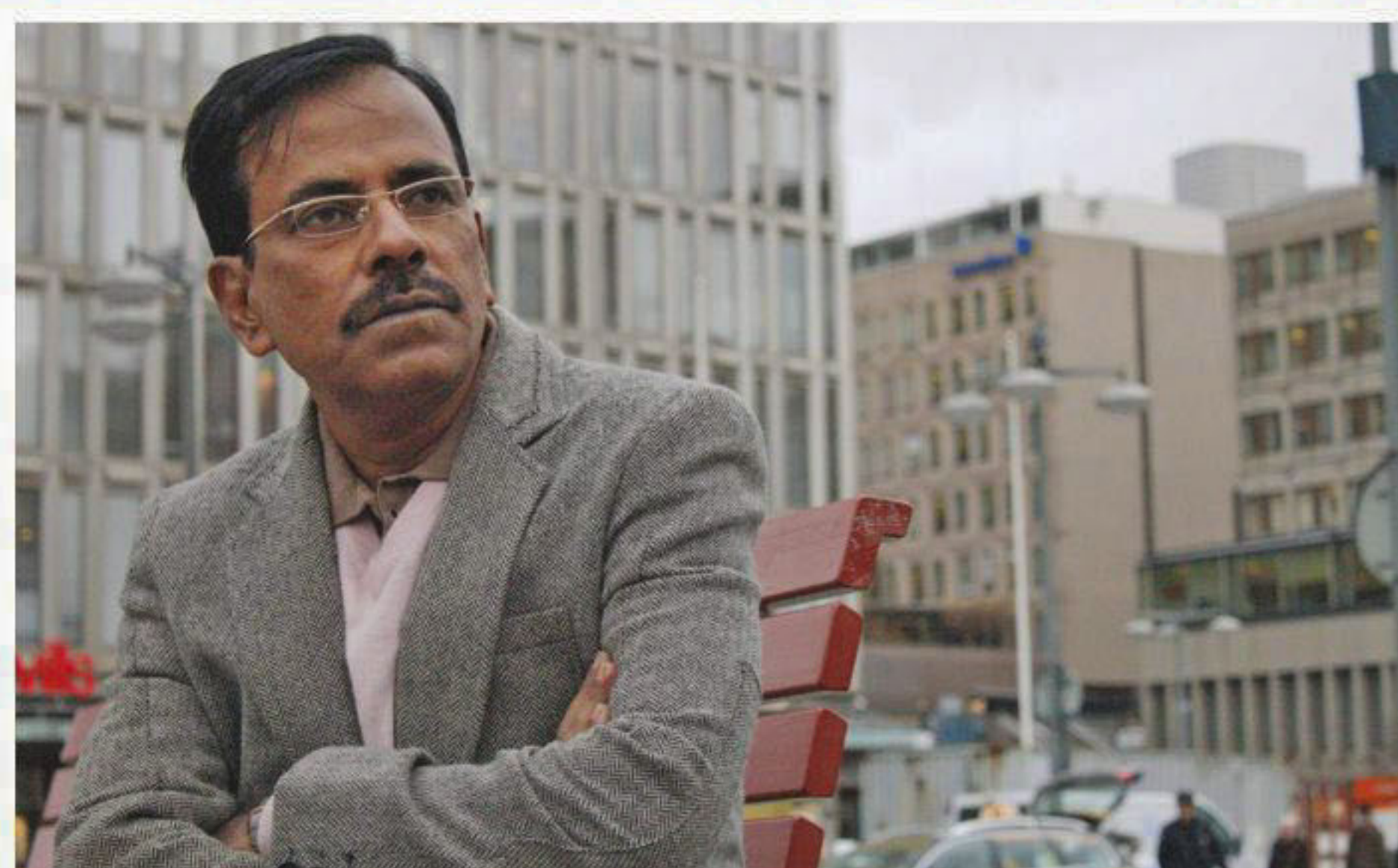
"Ittadi" brought a massive change to the concept of TV shows in the country. How was it possible?

Sanket: While I was studying for my intermediate exams, I began writing. As part of my job, while visiting the construction site of the auditorium for BTV, sometime around 1979/'80, I met renowned media personality Fazle Lohani. With time my acquaintance with Lohani grew and he inspired me to join the electronic media.

From the very inception, I was determined not to make a stereotypical, inane show, but to create a unique programme. I spent two years in the US and France for studies and had the chance to visit many big studios in those countries. I thought of using my experience for the new show. Nowadays, a stroll through a TV station will surely mean running into a TV host, but in those days, hosting a programme meant juggling five tasks at once. Anyway, I planned to mock society's shortcomings -- using songs, skits and reports to present the problems of the people and raise awareness. I observed the inadequacies and developed ideas. I can proudly claim that there is no show like "Ittadi" in the world. There might be quiz shows or different programmes, but bringing so many issues under a single programme is a challenge in itself.

Is "Ittadi" a comedy show?
Sanket: No. There is a difference between comedy and satire. We focus on the satirical part. But sometimes people mix the two. I believe that people demand entertainment, and if the truth can be expressed in an entertaining way, it will be engrained in people's mind.

How do you plan the programme?
Sanket: We have a team that roams around Bangladesh to collect information. We share ideas within the team and discuss contemporary issues. Our team is always on the lookout for human-interest stories. We featured the environmentalist Gowhar Ali who planted over 20,000 trees. We also featured pioneer of the book reading movement -- Polan Sarker,



Hanif Sanket

who later received the Ekushey Padak.

You've also visited many universities with your team...

Sanket: We went to many colleges and universities, including Dhaka University, Chittagong University, Rajshahi University, Comilla Victoria University College, Rangpur Carmichael University. We organised quizzes among students, with the top five being chosen to appear on "Ittadi". This inspired them to learn more.

How do you select the locations?
Sanket: A lot of research goes into planning. The first outdoor shooting was at the National Museum, which prior to that occasion did not allow any shooting in its premises. Then we wanted to go outside the box, so we did shows at Shishu Academy and Jatiya Shangsad Bhaban. When we wanted to show historical and significant places to everyone, we staged the programme at Dhaka's Nagar Bhaban, Lalbagh Kella, Ahsan Manzil, Sonargaon, Narayanganj's Sonakanda Fort.

We also took on tougher challenges when we visited more distant sites like Puthia's Zamidar Bari, Dhonbari Zamidar Bari, Nababganj Zamidar Bari, Mahasthangar and Comilla's Shalbon Bihar. Our team included around 200 people. In Puthia, we had an audience of 40,000. Everywhere we went, the local residents and administration assisted us immensely. I don't have the energy like before, but I cannot shut down the show that is a part and parcel of the people and me. The show is running for 24 years with millions of viewership.

You once featured a differently-abled senior citizen and that created much stir...

Sanket: Yes. That elderly individual, who had no one to take care of him, visited 39 districts on his wheelchair. He set up a store --

'Jibon Shongram Store' -- selling candy, cookies and chanchur to kids. He could only afford to eat two cookies during the day and a plate of rice at night. We featured him on "Ittadi" and offered him Taka 2 lakh.

What other special stories did you cover?
Sanket: We featured a non-Bangladeshi doctor, who was also later featured by the daily Prothom Alo. The local villagers call him "Doctor bhai". His dream is that another Bangladeshi will take up the charge of the hospital he had established. Another story that we did was on a school built by 17 workers in Modhupur. The group of labourers toiled to collect the funds for constructing the school. They then gave up their own living space to start classes -- which eventually encouraged people of the village to give up some land for setting up the school.

These are in fact the greatest people of our country.
If you were given the duty to solve the city's utility problems like water and gas shortage, what would you do?
Sanket: The first priority should be to create awareness. Despite the abundance of TV channels, there is hardly any informative show. Only a few news reports cannot create mass awareness. The implementation of law is also a necessity. If people pay bribes to sign up for a power connection, then the law is not being enforced. If it can be made clear to everyone that all these ill practices are creating bigger problems, only then can the issues be tackled.

How can the awareness be created?
Sanket: Through television and newspapers. Instead of issuing statements, action needs to take place. Media can play a massive role in making people aware of the problems and their solutions.

Bangladesh-India to jointly celebrate Nazrul birth anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate the 113th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, as well as to mark the 90th anniversary of the publication of his most famed creation "Bidrohi", Bangladesh and India will jointly hold a two-day programme in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The programme will commence on May 25 morning through offering flowers at the poet's grave on Dhaka University campus. The inaugural ceremony will be held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka at 9:30am. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will formally inaugurate the celebration.

Salman Khurshid, Ministry of Law and Justice and Minority Affairs, India will be present as the guest of honour. Cultural Minister Abul Kalam Azad will preside over the inaugural ceremony.

The second phase of the inaugural event will feature music renditions, recitations and dance based on the poem "Bidrohi" -- by noted artistes of the country.

On May 25 evening, discussion and cultural performances will be held at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Poet Muhammad Nurul Huda will read out a keynote paper, while Professor Mohit-ul-Alam and Nabarun

Bhattacharya (India) will discuss on the paper. Professor Emeritus Serajul Islam Chowdhury will preside over the session.

The second day's (May 26) event will commence through a discussion at the National Theatre Hall. Dr. Lina Taposhi Khan will read out the keynote paper, while Dr. Nashid Kamal, Salauddin Ahmed and Badhan Sengupta (India) will discuss on the topic. Professor Mohammad Abdul Quayum will preside over the session.

The day's programme will also include renditions of Nazrul Sangeet and staging of the play "Shilpi" by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.



Bijan Choudhury exhibition at Bengal Gallery



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts will organise a solo art exhibition, titled "Tribute to Bijan Choudhury" -- featuring the works of a distinguished member of the contemporary art movement as well as one of the students of the first batch of Dacca Art College, artist Bijan Choudhury. The artist died on March 16 this year. The exhibition will begin today at Bengal Gallery in Dharmondi, Dhaka, and will continue till May 31.

Professor Anisuzzaman will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest. Artists Qayyum Chowdhury and Debabrata Chakrabarty (of Kolkata) will speak on the occasion. Bijan Choudhury was born in Faridpur in 1931. He studied at the Government College of Arts, Kolkata. Later, he graduated from the Dacca Art College (now the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka). In the 1950s, he was deeply involved with left leaning politics along with some of his peers -- Qayyum Chowdhury, Devdas Chakrabarty and Murtaja Bascer. Later he migrated to Kolkata but maintained close relationship with Bangladeshi artists. He participated in many workshops and art camps in Dhaka.

A politically aware painter, his works are visual narratives. His strong mastery over lines never deteriorated into illustration. Most of his paintings are considered to be surrealistic and symbolic. Choudhury's artworks were exhibited extensively in India, Bangladesh, Germany, Sweden and other countries. He won many awards, which included the award from the Academy of Fine Arts in 1963 and the Rabindra Bharati Award in 1978.



A painting by Bijan Choudhury.

THEATRE

Golden jubilee of Aranyak's Ebong Bidyasagar

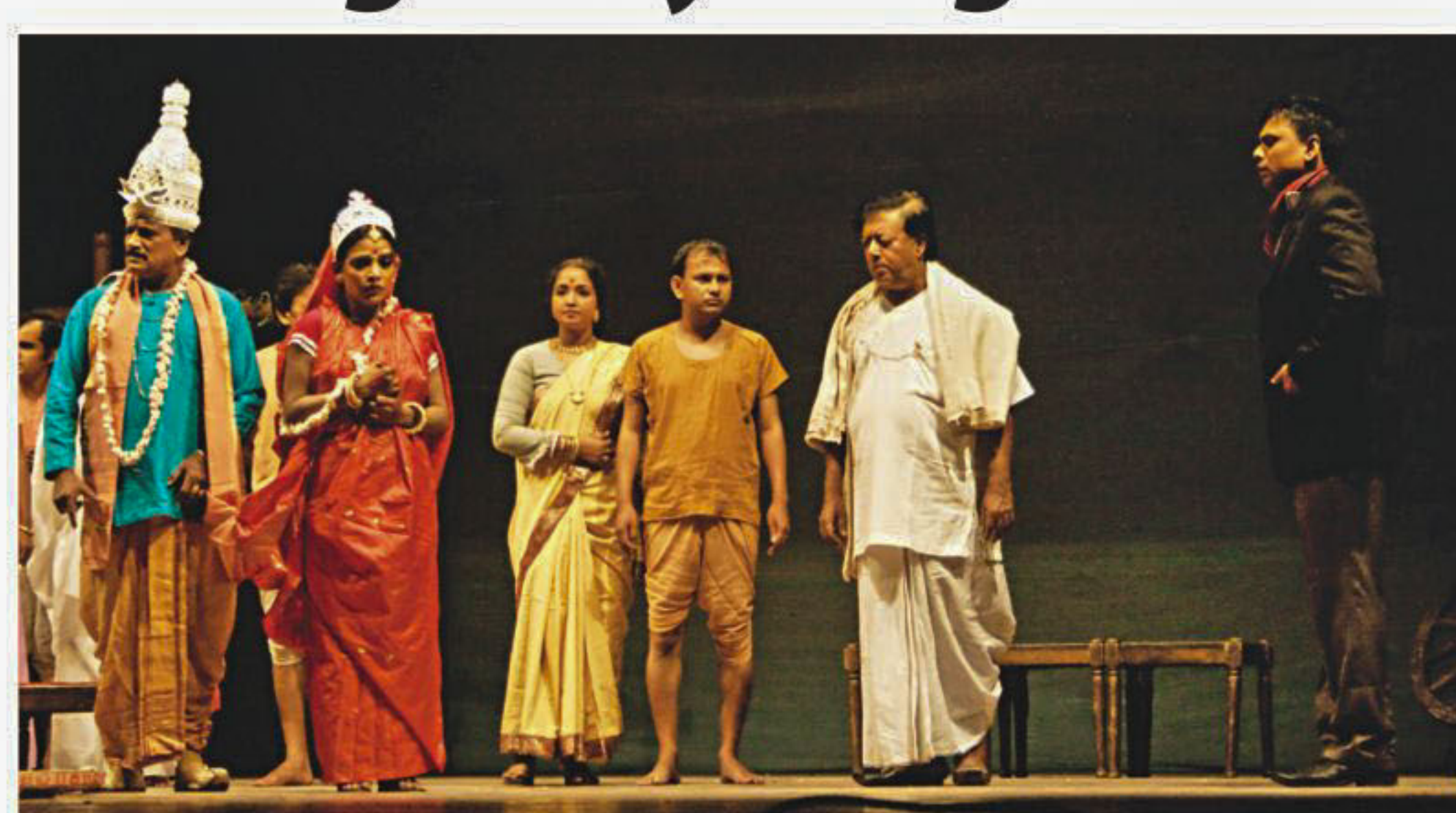


PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

The play is set in the mid-nineteenth century Calcutta (now Kolkata).

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Aranyak Natyadal staged the 50th show of "Ebong Bidyasagar" at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on May 19. Highlighting the life and times of Ishwar Chandra Bidyasagar, the play has been written by Mannan Heera and directed by Mamunur Rashid. The show was also part of Aranyak's yearlong 40th anniversary celebration. Prior to the play, a 15-minute light and sound show -- featuring the troupe's memorable moments over the last 40 years -- was held.

"Ebong Bidyasagar" is set in the mid-nineteenth century Calcutta (now Kolkata). Calcutta was experiencing a transition, often described as the 'Bengal Renaissance'. The central character in the play is Ishwar Chandra Bidyasagar, eminent scholar, philosopher and social reformer -- one of the key figures of the Bengal Renaissance.

The play particularly focuses on the challenges the reformer faced when trying to introduce remarriage of widows to the conservative Hindu society.

With the playwright's freedom to use fictional characters as well as the historical ones, the play portrays several significant incidents in Bidyasagar's life -- such as founding schools for women; arranging weddings of widows; helping his contemporary, the famous poet Michael Madhusudan Dutt when he was burdened under debt; interaction with 'Young Bengals' and more.

Mamunur Rashid played Bidyasagar, while Deepak Suman donned the role of Madhusudan. The cast also included Shamima Shawket, Aminul Haque, Mannan Hira, Momena Chowdhury and Tamalika Karmakar.

As part of the celebration, a seminar on the play as well as the 19th century Bengal Renaissance was held on May 18 morning at the Seminar Hall of Shilpakala Academy.

The seminar was arranged by theatre-based journal Theatrewala. Abul Quasem Fazlul Haque read out the keynote paper, titled "Renaissance-er Dharyar Bidyasagar O Aranyak Production" at the seminar. Theatrewala editor Hasan Shahriar moderated the session, while veteran as well as young theatre activists took part in the discussion.

Bodle Jao Bodle Dao on Desh TV tonight

A CORRESPONDENT

A new show goes on air on Desh TV tonight. The discussion-based programme will highlight varied social problems such as road accidents, harassment of women, acid victims, traffic jam, corruption, pornography, drug addiction and domestic violence. Singer Mahmuduzzaman Babu is the anchor of the programme. The show will be telecast tonight at 9:45 pm.

Modhorater Train on Maasranga Television

A CORRESPONDENT

Maasranga Television will telecast a series, titled "Modhorater Train", based on mysterious and eerie real experiences. The episode featuring noted singer Sadi Muhammad will be telecast tonight at 11 pm. The singer will share his experience of shock and horror.

The programme has been planned by Syed Fahim Munaim, and produced by Abul Hossain Khokon. Mridul Ahmed is the anchor of the programme.



A scene from "The Hunt".

DS CAFÉ



The gorgeous model and actress Monalisa is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. She will be on the hot seat and readers can fire away questions at her at The Daily Star Centre on May 26, between 4 and 5pm. The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 8126155, 01711623915 and 01711623917 to speak to Monalisa.

Danish child abuse film shocks Cannes crowds

REUTERS, Cannes

Danish director Thomas Vinterberg burst on to the scene in Cannes in 1998 with the acclaimed "Festen", and critics say he is close to his best again this year with "The Hunt", a shocking take on child abuse and its impact on a small community.

Unlike some movies on the same theme, "The Hunt" leaves no doubt as to the main character's innocence. Lucas, played by Danish star Mads Mikelsen, is a nursery school teacher adored by the children and an integral part of a closely-knit circle of friends.

But when he is accused of sexual abuse by the young daughter of his best friend, smarting after he disciplines her for being over-affectionate, most of his colleagues

and loved ones quickly assume the worst.

Events spiral out of control as the besmirched Lucas fights a lonely battle to prove his innocence and work his way back into a society that may never truly accept him again.

Rather than running away, he decides to confront his doubters, leading to tense standoffs and explosions of violence, invariably ending in humiliation.

Vinterberg portrays adults' desire to believe children and protect them at all costs.

"In Denmark we have a saying that children and drunk people always tell the truth," he told reporters ahead of the red carpet world premiere in Cannes on Sunday. "Yes, we are claiming that this is not always the truth."



A scene from "The Hunt".

ATN BANGLA	03:00	Gaan R Gaan	
11:20	Business and Finance	05:00	Durpath
12:15	Vision 2020	06:00	123 Saimepur
05:15	Obiram Bangladesh	06:30	Obak Prithibi
08:00	Drama Serial: Palabar	12:30	Total Sports
	Porh Nee		Diganta TV
	Drama Serial: Cafeteria	01:30	Business Time Live
11:30		06:30	Jibon Onnesha
		08:40	Chitra Bichitra
CHANNEL 1		10:00	Prime Time
01:05	Ebong Cinemar Gaan	12:05	News of the Day
04:20	Amar Ghobai		Maasranga Television
06:20	Robin Hood	10:02	Bangla Feature Film
07:50	Shera Nachyee	05:30	Amazing Animals
11:30	Banglar Pathyee	06:30	Binodin Shanshin
		07:30	Amader Protyasha
04:10	Rupamadhuri	08:30	Drama Serial: Khonikaly
	Janar Achhye Bolar	08:30	Modhyratner Train
	Achhye	11:00	CHANNEL 9
06:10	Shubho Shondhya	09:15	Bangla Feature Film
09:00	Glamour World	06:00	Classic Cartoon
11:30	Drama Serial: Terminal	07:00	Tahader Kotha
ETV			
11:30	Ekushey-er Business		

RADIO			
abc radio FM 89.2	10:00	Morning Express	
06:00	Bhorer Janalay	12:00	No Tension
09:00	Mukhorho Jiboney	04:00	Dhaka Calling
12:00	Darin Dupony	09:00	English Riders
03:00	Dreams Bakery		RADIO TODAY FM 89.5
05:00	Shondha Tara	06:00	Green FM
07:00	Shaj-er Maya	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
09:00	Raat-er Akushey	12:00	Today's Adda
11:00	Gopur Shesh Ne	04:00	U Turn
Radio Fori		07:00	Keyy Fa Hok
07:30	Hello Dhaka	10:00	Raat Bhor Gaan

Shera Nachyee
On CHANNEL 1 at 07:50pm
Dance Reality Show
Judges: Ferdous, Purnima & Munmun

Paul
On HBO at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Genre: Adventure/Comedy
Cast: Simon Pegg, Nick Frost

Parsho Protirikha
On Rtv at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mosharraf Karim, Shatabdi Wadud

04:30	Gaaner Opare	10:30	Dhulo Khela
05:30	Binodoner Bichwa	10:30	Drama Serial: Apon Apon Khela
07:50	Music Station		
10:10	Golpo Shalpo Gaan		
			Fox Movies
		03:45	Stigmata
		05:25	The Resident
		07:00	The Next Three Days
		09:15	HomeLand
		10:15	The Mechanic
		11:50	Reign of Fire

BANGLAVISION			
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	12:55	A Nightmare on Elm Street
06:05	Sports Time	02:55	Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li
06:30	Shoundarjo Kotha		Step Up 2: The Streets
09:05	Nacho Bangladesh	05:05	Paul
	Nacho	07:10	Happy Feet
11:25	Raat Bireatey	11:45	Around the World in 80 Days
			Star World
12:35	Bangla Feature Film	03:30	Desperate Housewives
05:00	Gaaner R Gaan	05:30	Dexter
08:15	Drama Serial: Pashka Protirikhya	07:30	Coffee with Karan
09:50	Look at Me	09:30	Jr Master Chef
12:05	Business Talk	10:30	Person of Interest
			Desh TV

DRAMA SERIAL			
ATN BANGLA	08:40pm	Ognipath	
09:20pm	Rupantar Manush	BANGLAVISION	
	Poosh Phaguner Pala	08:15pm	Bokulpurer Jatin Rtv
CHANNEL 1			
09:35pm	Longlakando	09:50pm	Boya Paribar
ntv		11:30pm	Utal Pangkhi
Desh TV			
08:15pm	Deval	08:15pm	Radio Chocolate
09:45pm	Ochena Protibimba		CHANNEL 9
Boishakhi TV			

NEWS BULLETIN			
BTV	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm.	Boishakhi TV	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm.
09:20pm	News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm.		News (English) at 9am, 5pm.
ATN BANGLA	News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm.		News (English) at 10am, 2pm, 7-10pm, 10-10:30pm.
	News (English) at 9am, 5pm.		News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
CHANNEL 1	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm.		Rtv
	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm.		News (Bangla) at 14:50pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm.
ntv	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.		Desh TV
	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.		News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
ETV	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.		Maasranga Television
	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.		News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am.

TALK SHOW		
ATN BANGLA	12:30am	Lead News