

WHAT'S ON

Theatre
Play: Raarag
Troupe: Aranyak Natyadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 22
Time: 7pm

Theatre
Play: Rakto Kambli
Troupe: Nagark Natya Sampradaya
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 22
Time: 7pm

Theatre
Play: Raja... ebgong Onaryo
Troupe: Prachyat
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 25
Time: 7:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Sonaganta: Prints & Paintings
Artist: Pishanika Karmakar Baidya
Venue: Shilpanjan Gallery, H-7, R-13 New, Dhanmondi
Date: July 13-24
Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Heavy Metal
Artist: Dr. Lambert Shumbhucho
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka
Date: July 12-29
Time: 12-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Color of Time
Venue: Radius Art Gallery, Bay's Galleria, 57 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1
Date: June 29-July 21

Theatre
Play: Arakshita
Troupe: Desh Natuk
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 21
Time: 7pm

Coin Exhibition
Venue: Nalini Kanto Bhattacharya Hall, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: July 10-25
Time: 10:30am-8pm



PHOTO COURTESY: TUHIN HOSSAIN

Recalling the genius that was Humayun Ahmed

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

As the news of his death broke out, reactions poured in from friends, colleagues and well-wishers of author-filmmaker extraordinaire Humayun Ahmed. They termed Ahmed as "a man of principle", "a highly creative individual", "an author who created a multitude of readers", "a father figure" and beyond.

Syed Shamsul Haq, author-poet-playwright
As an author, Humayun Ahmed had a significant role in creating new readers in this country. His repertoire is immense! I think his short stories will keep him alive forever. I can particularly mention the short story "Chokh" which I find to be remarkable. I would love to call his mother a "Ratnagarbha". She gave birth to Ahmed, Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and Ahsan Habib.

Dr. Enamul Haque, theatre personality-actor
He never feared to speak the truth. He was a man of principle. I was very close to him. He gave me the opportunity to act in his two groundbreaking television plays -- "Ayomay" and "Eishob Din Ratri". People still recall the character 'Moti', and credit goes to him.

Jewel Aich, illusionist
He wrote a novel, "Magic Munshi", couple of years earlier. He dedicated this book to me. I am lucky that I got the chance to bond with him. He was a man who loved to have fun and knew how to enjoy life to the fullest. His logic was impeccable. He had great interest in magic as well. I will miss his company.

Dolly Zahur, actor
When Ahmed's "Eishob Din Ratri" was adapted into a TV serial, I got the opportunity to work with him. I played 'Nilu' in the serial, and that was my breakthrough performance on TV. People used to call me "Nilu Bhabhi" for years. A creative titan like him comes

once in a lifetime.
Jayanta Chattopadhyay, actor
I worked with him in several TV plays and films. I was also part of his last film, "Ghetu Putro Kamola". We had a lot of fun while shooting the film. He was a wise man who loved to read. We had great times together in Nuhash Polli.

Faruk Ahmed, actor
I had the opportunity to act in his last play "Pipra", which is yet to be aired. I can proudly say that I have performed in most of his TV plays. I am a close friend and classmate of his younger brother Ahsan Habib. I came to know him in 1991.

Afsana Mimi, actor
I first met him at the set of "Kothao Keu Nei". Later, I also acted in his serials -- "Nokhotter Raat" and "Sabuj Chhata". I have read all of his writings, starting with "Nandito Narokoy". He is one of my favourite authors and, of course, Misir Ali is my favourite fictional character. This is truly a sad time for Bangla literature.

Tania Ahmed, actor
He was a father figure to me. He used to love me like his own daughter. My children used to refer to him as grandfather. I have lost a parent. This is an irreparable loss.

Zahid Hassan, actor
I used to call him "Humayun Bhai". I received a National Award for my performance in his film "Srabon Megher Din". I had the chance to perform in many of his TV plays as well. I acted in his film "Amar Acche Jol" too. He left too soon.

Shadhin Khasru, actor
I used to visit him at his Dhanmondi residence, "Dakhin Hawa", very often. Despite our age difference, he used to treat me as a friend. My role in his play "Brikhomanob" was a breakthrough in my career. What I've achieved as an actor so far -- all credits go to him.

Mir Sabbir, actor
When shooting, he used to wake up very early in the morning and used to walk for a while. I remember walking with him and he would touch upon a range of subjects during these conversations. A man like him is not born often.



SHAH ALAM SHAHU

During his recent trip back home, before going back to New York for continuation of his medical treatment, I had an opportunity to meet Humayun Ahmed at Nuhash Polli. Here's an account of my last interaction with the master storyteller.

The scorching sun was heating up the ground, with no rain in sight for the past couple of days. Ignoring the glare of the burning sky, Humayun Ahmed sat on the green bed of grass. Meher Afroze Shaon kept calling him from inside the house. Ahmed -- busy talking to everyone -- ignored her requests. However he asked for a glass of water, which was promptly brought by Nuhash Polli manager, Bulbul. The author's son, Nishad, was playing nearby -- looking for a chance to run to the nearby garden. But Ahmed barred him from doing so, saying, "don't go there Baba, there are ghosts in the garden."

A large crowd gathered round the popular author, about 20 of them coming from Netrokona -- teachers and guardians from Netrokona Shahid Muktiyoddha High School. Ahmed sought blessings from his paternal uncle, one of those from Netrokona. The writer said to his uncle, "It's your prayers that has kept me alive for so long."
Turning to others, he said, "The school's results must improve. How else would I proudly claim it to be my own school?"
He then opened a packet. Showing its contents to everyone, the author said, "These are seeds. I tried to grow them here, but failed to get any result. Hopefully this time the trees will grow."

Ahmed walked around Nuhash Polli, followed by a crowd of admirers, including the owner of Anya Prakash, Mazharul Islam; playwright Shakur Majid etc. He picked a Jambura from a nearby tree. The nature-loving litterateur then went near his tea plants and stayed there for a while. Next destination was the pond at Nuhash Polli. Ahmed told us the pond is named 'Lilaboti' -- after his daughter. A seemingly glum



In his own domain -- Nuhash Polli. PHOTO: STAR

Shaon said, "My little girl came to this world for a brief moment." Ahmed spent a silent moment by the pond. Shaon asked whether he needed some shade; he refused.
After all the walking, it was time for Ahmed to return to the house. He told the manager to make sure that everyone had lunch. He went in, along with Mazharul Islam, Shakur Majid and me. Ahmed sat on the floor of the living room and called for some watermelon. We resumed our *adala*, as his children -- Nishad and Ninid -- played nearby.
Lunch arrived. As we all ate, Ahmed played the perfect host,

asking us whether we had enough on our plates. Actress Tomalika Karmakar called me on the phone, and when I said that I'm at Nuhash Polli, she asked me to convey her regards to "Humayun bhai". After lunch, the author took a nap. Shaon informed us that the amount of visitors and Ahmed's endless chats with them would only worsen his condition.
It was time to bid adieu after Ahmed woke up. I handed him a copy of a Daily Star report on Nuhash Polli. He said, "stay well", as I said goodbye. Who knew this would be the last goodbye?

Humayun Ahmed at a glance

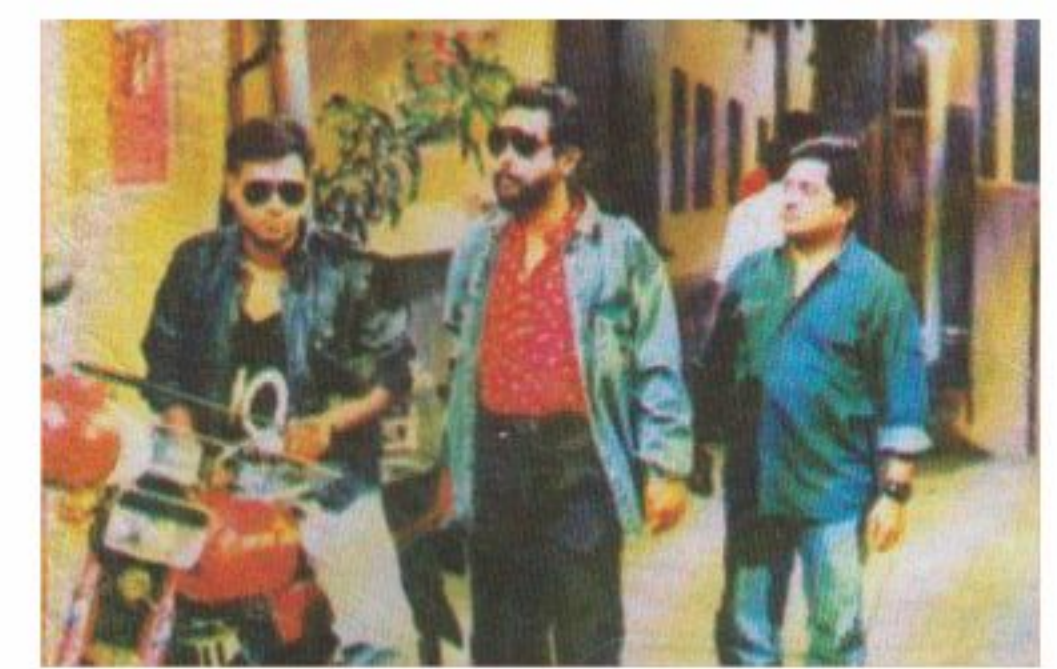
Born: November 13, 1948
Birth Place: Kutubpur, Mymensingh
Parents: Foyzur Rahman Ahmed and Ayesha Foyez
Occupation: Writer, filmmaker
Education: PhD in Polymer Chemistry, North Dakota State University
Genres: Novel, short story, drama, screenplay, autobiography, column
Subjects: Magic realism, social life, mystery
First novel: Nandito Narokoy (1972)
Notable work(s): Nandito Naroke, Shonkhoni Karagar, Ayomoy, Kothao Keu Nei, Mayurakhi, Kobi, Janom Janom, Ami-i Misir Ali, Himu, Shubhro, Jyotsna O Jononir Golpo, Modhyanh and Megh Bolechhe Jabo Jabo
Influences: Rabindranath Tagore, Ahmed Sofa

Early life: Ahmed went to many schools in Sylhet, Comilla, Chittagong, Dinajpur and Bogra as his father lived in many places upon official assignment. He passed the School Certificate (1965) from Bogra Zilla School. He stood second in the merit list in the Rajshahi Education Board. Later he enrolled in Dhaka College and subsequently in Dhaka University to study Chemistry. He passed both BSc (Honours) and MSc with First Class. He joined Dhaka University as a lecturer of Chemistry. Later he went to North Dakota State University in the United States to study for PhD.
Television and films: The TV serials, "Eishob Din Ratri", "Bohubrihi" and "Ayomoy", based on his books, made Ahmed hugely popular. He directed films based on his own stories. His first film "Aguner Paroshmoni", on the Liberation War, won the National Film Award in eight categories.
Literary style: Humayun Ahmed distinguished himself with a unique simple literary diction that quickly became popular.
Death: After a nine-month struggle against colorectal cancer, he died at Bellevue Hospital in New York on July 19, 2012.

Compiled by Correspondent



"Amar Achhe Jol"

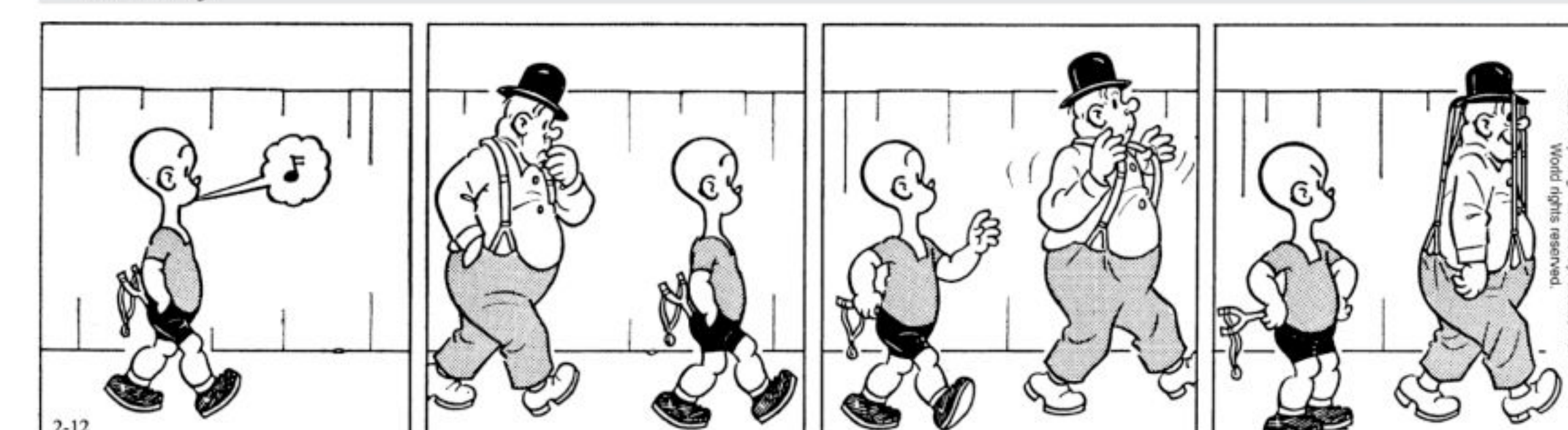


"Shyamol Chhaya"

Beetle Baily



Henry by Don Tranchte



NEW RELEASES

Keno Megher Chhaya
Solo album of Nazrul
Sangeet by Swami Zubayeer
Source: Bengal Foundation

Dukkho Korona, Bacho
Studio album by Mrittika
Source: Sangeeta

Tomar Apar Niley
Solo album of Laloi Sangeet by Chandana Majumdar
Source: Bengal Foundation

Bhalobashi
Solo album by Nusrat
Source: CD Choice

ATN BANGLA	10:40 Bangla Feature Film 04:05 Jamtey Chai 08:00 Drama Serial: Chena 08:40 Drama Serial: Choragoli	CHANNEL 9	09:15 Bangla Feature Film 06:00 Classic Cartoon 09:25 We are the Band 11:45 Sports Daily
nTV	08:45 Bangla Feature Film 03:10 Drama Serial: Ronger 07:00 Gallery 09:00 Drama: Interview 11:30 Aponar Jigasha	Gtv	05:35 School-e Oboshorey 08:00 Drama Serial: Sweet 09:05 Agami Bhabna 12:00 Shongbad Shonglap
ETV	10:02 Dehghari 12:30 Bangla Feature Film 06:20 Drama: Rojadar 08:20 Gaaner Oparey 12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	Fox Movies	02:00 Michael Forever- The Superstar Tribute Concert 03:30 Skyline 05:05 Scream 4 07:00 X-Men Origins: Wolverine 08:50 The Sixth Sense 10:40 X-Men: The Last Stand
Boishakhi TV	10:30 Bangla Feature Film 08:00 Tarar Ranna	HBO	

RADIO	02:00 Foorti Unlimited 06:00 Bumper to Bumper 10:00 Back to Back Music
abc radio FM 89.2	06:00 Bhoore Janalay 09:00 Mukhoro Bhooney 12:00 Damin Duguney 03:00 Duranto Bhooye 05:00 Shoudhata 07:00 Shajer Maya 09:00 Raat-er Akushey 11:00 Golper Shesh Nei 08:00 Adababi
RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	06:00 Green FM 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka 11:00 World Music 04:00 U Turn 07:00 Rbe Sai Inc 10:00 Beat Star Gaan 12:00 Hurum Pecha

Rojadar On ETV
at 06:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Dr. Enamul Haque, Shikha

X-Men: The Last Stand
On Fox Movies
at 10:40pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman

Housefull On Maasranga Television
at 09:00pm
Quiz Show
Host: Alamgir

08:35 Amra Duti Keman Juli 11:00 Nisapad Satak Chai 11:30 Amar Chokhe Ami	11:55 Catwoman 02:10 Blade 04:40 Ip Man 07:00 How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days 09:30 Blade II 11:00 The Simpson 04:30 Two and a Half Men 05:30 Criminal Minds 08:30 Master Chef Australia 10:00 New Girl
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BANGLAVISION	11:10 Bangla Feature Film 05:15 Quaraner Alo 07:00 Style File 09:45 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue	National Geographic Channel	02:30 Deadliest Predators 05:30 Super Cars Week 06:30 Mega Factories 07:30 Mission Arctic 08:30 Caught in the Act 10:30 In the Womb
Desh TV	03:00 Bangla Feature Film 07:40 Star Fashion 08:15 Pothey Jekey Jekey 12:30 Total Sports	Discovery Channel	04:30 Swamp Brothers 05:30 Man vs. Wild 08:30 Oprah's Next Chapter 09:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive 10:30 Bering Sea Gold

ATN BANGLA	09:20pm Jhulonto Babura 09:50pm Noorjahan 08:15pm Bondhu Amar 09:30pm Joyaal Jadukar	CHANNEL 1	08:15pm Oushobito 08:30pm Dilur Golpo 08:00pm Bondhu 08:40pm Opashe Baraf Dana
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NEWS BULLETIN

BTV	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm News (English) at 9am, 9pm CHANNEL 1 News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10:30pm nTV News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm ETV News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.	Boishakhi TV	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm News (English) at 9am, 9pm News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. Rtv News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm. Desh TV News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm. Maasranga Television News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am.
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TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	12:30am Lead News 09:55am Trilo Matra 11:05am Amader Aayna	BANGLAVISION	09:00pm Amar Ami 11:25pm Lal Golpo Rtv 10:40am Tarakalap Desh TV 09:45pm Bela Obea Sharakala Boishakhi TV 11:45pm Shoja Kotha 12:00am Zero Hour
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