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Professor anisuzzaman speaks at the programme.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To observe the 71st death anniversary of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore, Bangla Academy arranged a discussion and musical soiree at the Seminar Hall of the academy on August 6.

Shasuzzaman Khan, director general of Bangla Academy; Professor Anisuzzaman, president of the academy; Mijarul Quayes, secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, delivered speeches at the discussion. Professor Anisuzzaman presided over the programme.

Shamsuzzaman Khan delivered the welcome speech. In his words: "Bangla Academy has taken a major initiative in upholding and promoting Tagore's works. The total number of books published on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Tagore (by September this year) is likely to be 30. The academy also plans to publish a full-fledged biography of the bard

through which one can rediscover Tagore."

At the programme, Mijarul Quayes read out a paper, titled "Rabindranath-er Notokey Teen Nari". In his speech, Quayes said, "In Tagore's literary works human rights, especially the rights of women, has been addressed frequently. He had focused on women's issue a hundred years ago. In dance-dramas such as 'Shyama', 'Chitrangada' and 'Chandalika', Tagore has focused on womanhood by presenting women as the central characters. Tagore's approach of portraying women in his plays was unusual from the tradition of the then Bangla literature."

Professor Anisuzzaman said, "Tagore has always observed vast possibilities in women. Though Tagore's observation of women has been criticised often, the poet has talked about women many times in his works."

After the discussion, singers Sadi Muhammad, Manashi Shadhu and others gave performances.

# Highlighting folk music traditions of Bangladesh

Six-episode programme hosted by Momtaz on Channel 9

A CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of Eid, Channel 9 will air a special six-episode programme featuring folk songs of Bangladesh. The 'uncrowned queen of Bangladeshi folk music', Momtaz, will host the show titled "Banglar Eid Utshab". The programme will start from Eid day and continue for six consecutive days, at 5:40 pm.

About the show, Momtaz said, "Music enthusiasts know me as a folk artiste. Naturally, I was keen on doing this show that presents fine demonstrations of folk music from different parts of the country."

The programme will feature Boyani Pala "Behula Lakhindar", from Barisal division. The pala will be presented through acting and music.

From Sylhet, Manipuri Raas Leela and Natpala -- featuring dance and music -- will surely draw the audiences' interest.

Gazir Gaan, from Dhaka division, will highlight "Alal Dulal" and "Jamal Kamal" legends. These stories -- in kissa from -- will be presented by



Saidur Rahman Boyati and his troupe. Artistes of Chittagong will present traditional Maizbhandari songs. Special attraction is rendition of a Maizbhandari song by Momtaz. The show has been produced by Ruhul Taposh.

# Theatre

## Prangane Mor to stage Aurangzeb

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Prangane Mor is rehearsing its upcoming production, featuring the life of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. The troupe will hold the technical show of the play later this month; it hopes to premiere the play in the fourth week of next month.

According to the troupe sources, the play will highlight every aspect of the Mughal emperor's life. Aurangzeb was also known as "Alamgir" or "conqueror of the world".

His death, the palace politics as well as the pride of Mughal era will be highlighted in the play as well. Ananta Heera will direct the upcoming production, while Faiz Zahir will design the set. Ramiz Raju and Nuna Afroz will respectively direct the music and design costumes.

Prangane Mor gives priority to Tagore plays, nevertheless, the new production will be another non-Tagore work after "Droho Prem Nari" which is based on Nazrul's "Aleya".



Ananta Heera will direct the upcoming production.



# Parisian pain and a few red roses



Boulevard Montmartre (1897), a painting by Camille Pissarro of the boulevard that led to Montmartre as seen from his hotel room.

NAZIA ANDALEEB PREEMA

Sitting at the Café Brasilia, near my hotel in the heart of the city of Paris, having double espresso is a privilege. I have been coming to Paris for the last four years now. Summer is supposed to be the best time to be in Europe but this no longer feels like proper summer. With global warming, nothing is predictable anymore. But never the less, these places never cease to excite me.

Sitting at the café I can see the Academie Nationale de Musique very clearly. This is a huge traditional French building with the European decorative architecture -- a vision in turquoise blue and gold. In Paris, it is only natural to look at museum and galleries while you enjoy a cup of coffee and soak up the Parisian lifestyle around you. It is a civilisation that boasts of high art and culture. It is hard to tell who are the original Parisians though, as the city has become relatively more cosmopolitan than ever before. Even Indians learnt how to be "French" thanks to globalisation.

This is mid summer, but one has to wait at least half an hour to see a glimpse of the soft sun and enjoy its warmth. All the French balconies wait to shower in the

sunshine, which looks warm and golden but feels cool -- absolutely unlike the hot mid summer we know. Everyone looks chic here -- people walking with their beloveds, hand in hand; housemates; pets; and with big, branded, cheerful shopping bags.

Last evening I was sitting on the top of the Montmartre (a hill) which is 130 metres high and is a common touristy place. Many artists had studios or worked around the community of Montmartre, such as Salvador Dalí, Amedeo Modigliani, Claude Monet, Piet Mondrian, Pablo Picasso and Vincent van Gogh. I love the atmosphere as I can see the whole Paris from this spot. Few young guys were selling souvenirs, soft drinks, red roses and bottled water. As soon as they heard me talking in Bangla with my friend, they understood that I am from Bangladesh. When I come across Bangladeshis with odd jobs outside the country, they often deliberately ignore me or try to avoid me. This young man, probably 28/29, was different. He talked to me with a very warm smile and was describing how difficult it has been for him to survive here.

He came to Paris when he was 16 and now he is 29. For him it has been a tough 13 years. I can easily imag-



Montmartre in Paris; one can see the whole city from these stairs.

ine what he might have gone through, as despite having the highest degree from a university and travelling all over the world, not knowing French in France is a handicap. He was sweating profusely as he climbed up and down all the stairs of the historic Montmartre all day long to sell his red roses to the visiting couples but made very little money.

From the top level of the monument one can see the whole Paris but this man, with his hope of sending some money to his destitute family back home in Bangladesh, was an unsettling sight. I wished I could buy all his flowers but immediately stopped indulging my sympathy. My sympathy won't help him much, maybe for that evening. So I picked one and after much insistence he agreed to take 2 Euros. As I was a "deshi bon", he did not want me to pay at all.

Even now, as I'm sitting in this posh café, I'm thinking of that tender soft dark face, with a tired smile. I missed my Bangladesh. I want this young man to be back home, to serve Bangladesh with dignity, and not toil like a slave in a place that may not have any love for him.

The writer is a visual artist.

# EID SPECIAL High frequency on the small screen

A busy Eid for Sajal

SHAH ALAM SHAHU

With each Eid prompting a frenzy of special TV dramas, actors in demand also begin a mad dash to be titled "the most visible face" on the small screen. Popular actor Sajal has been the frontrunner in the race for the past few years. He, however, defends his frequent appearances on TV during Eid, claiming that since he does not appear in serials or mega-serials throughout the year, many of his one-hour-dramas are aired during the Eid festivals. This Eid, 20-30 dramas featuring Sajal are likely to be aired. However, the actor is not entirely sure of the exact number, as he has worked in a large number of TV dramas.

Some of Sajal's Eid dramas are "Ami Magic Korchi Na" by Tanim Rahman Angshu; "Hillo Kolli" and "Ekta Premier Golpo" by Ashrafi Mithhu; "My Husband My Hero" by Nuzhat Alvi Ahmed; "Prembaaj" by Nabi Morshed and "Hawa Balloon" by Shokal Ahmed. Sajal admits that remembering the titles of all the dramas is an impossible task but he is quick with the names of the directors -- Anjan Aich, Erina, Ahmed Sushmoy, Ashrafu Alam Ripon, Ananyo Emon, Mohon Khan etc.



The actresses Sajal has worked with in these plays are Tarin, Tisha, Popy, Momo, Monalisa, Bidya Sinha Meem, Romana, Nawshin, Mehjabin and more.

Asked to what extent quality is lost due to the proliferation of TV dramas, Sajal says that such claims are made by the media. However, Sajal adds that his dramas were not squeezed into a week, but done throughout the year. He further asserts that the audience will see a new Sajal in every drama.

As every year, Sajal will spend Eid at home. He claims that he prefers sleeping at home rather than travelling abroad or within the country during the Eid vacation. Shooting will ease up for a couple of days after Eid, he adds.

Sajal turns nostalgic thinking about how he spent Eid in his childhood. Terming those years as the best times in his life, Sajal says that the urban Eid is more mechanical. The best part about the childhood Eid festivals were shopping for several new sets of clothes, he adds.

His preferred attire for Eid is panjabi. He signs off by saying that he has already bought new sets of panjabi for this Eid-ul-Fitr.

# Humayun Ahmed's last play on Channel i this Eid

A CORRESPONDENT

On 7:50 pm, Eid day, Channel i will air the last play written by the recently deceased iconic writer Humayun Ahmed. The play, titled "Pipilika", has been directed by Saiful Islam. The cast includes Shuhei Khan, Pran Roy, Gazi Rakayet, Shamima Nazneen, Jewel Rana and Putul.

Synopsis: The headman of a village is as evil as one can be. He has two wives. He is frustrated with a recurring problem. The problem is that no matter where he is or where he goes, ants always throng him and irritate him. The headman tries everything, including sleeping on a boat. Nothing seems to work. He finally obtains a medicine but it causes severe body odour. The man can't seem to avoid embarrassment and confusion.



# Zarda Jamal on Maasranga Television

A CORRESPONDENT

On Eid day, at 8:45 pm, Maasranga Television will air the play "Zarda Jamal". Written by Polish Mahbub and directed by Hasan Morshed, the play features Mosharrar Karim and Nowshin in lead roles.

Synopsis: Jamal is a regular guy, who doesn't give anyone trouble. He works at a private firm. His only annoying habit is chewing paan with zarda. His colleagues and the people who live with him in a hostel are all annoyed by this unsavoury habit but Jamal doesn't care. Meanwhile, the local thug, whose name is also Jamal gets renamed "Zarda Jamal" by his lackeys. In an unexpected twist of events, paan aficionado Jamal gets arrested by police; they are actually looking for the local thug. Jamal's photo gets published in newspapers and his colleagues and friends all get shocked. The real culprit gets arrested and police release Jamal. But by then, damage has been done.



# James Cameron takes 3-D film venture to China

REUTERS, Beijing

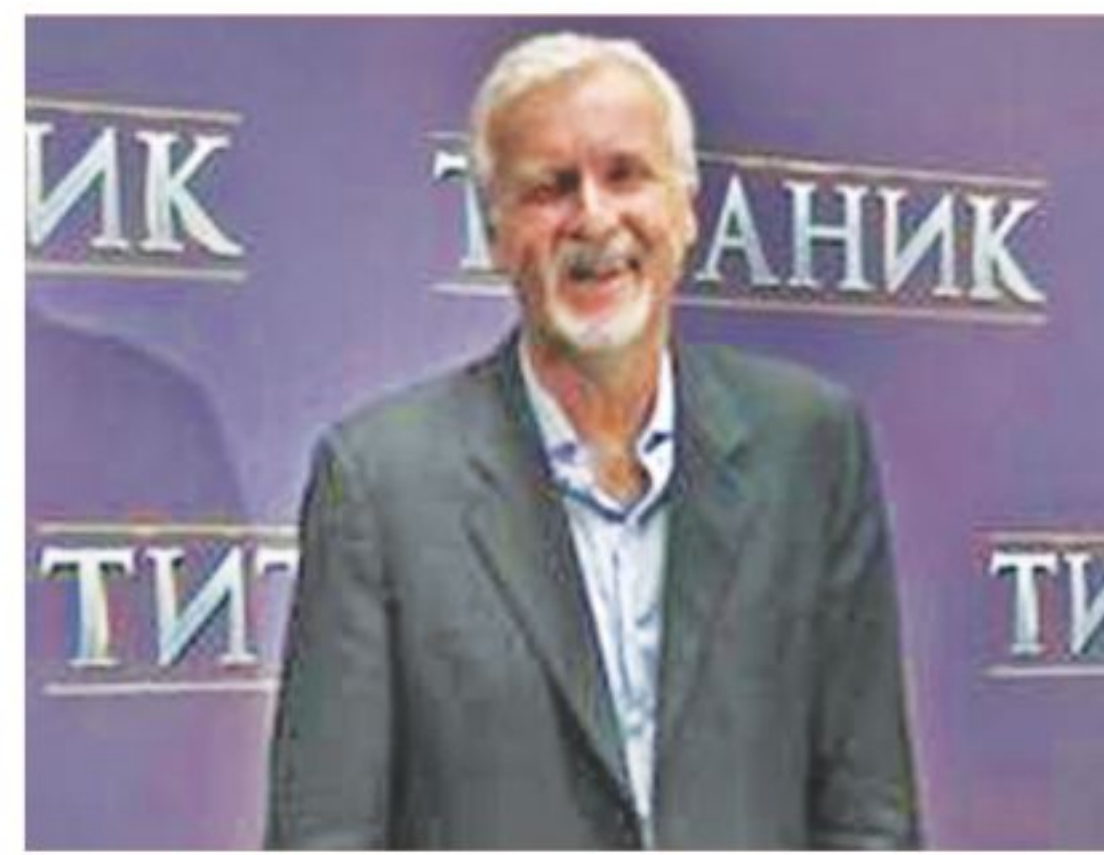
Oscar-winning director James Cameron said on Wednesday that he will open a joint venture in China to provide 3-D filming technology, the latest move by Hollywood to secure a foothold in the country's booming movie industry.

Box office revenues -- growing by leaps and bounds in China thanks to its fast-growing middle class -- have whet Hollywood's appetite despite complaints over government restrictions on access to screens, content control and piracy.

CPG China Division, the new arm of Cameron Pace Group, will offer Chinese film makers three-dimensional camera technology but will not be involved immediately in producing films, Cameron told Reuters in an interview.

"We're not going to tell Chinese film makers how to make movies. We are going to help them make a transition to 3D production technology as cost effectively as possible, and in a way that doesn't inhibit creativity," he said.

Three-dimensional films, which enhance depth



perception by being shot from two perspectives, gained in popularity during the 2000s and achieved a breakthrough with Cameron's 2009 blockbuster "Avatar", a movie about blue aliens which set a \$2.8 billion box office global earnings record.

Cameron also directed the second-highest grossing film of all time, the nautical disaster-romance starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet, "Titanic".

# Beetle Baily



# Henry



<b>BTV</b>	12:35 Shukhi Poribar	11:02 Bangla Feature Film
	03:05 Bangla Feature Film	05:02 Amazing Animals
	07:00 Rupali Porda	08:00 Tele-film: America to Ashulia
	09:05 Drama	11:00 Tomay Gaan Shorobato
	12:00 Olympic 2012 (Live)	
<b>ATN BANGLA</b>		<b>CHANNEL 9</b>
11:20 Business and Finance	09:15 Bangla Feature Film	05:30 Alokitto Ramzan
12:10 Bangla Feature Film	08:30 Drama: Koyla Kobi	09:50 G' Tane Factory
03:10 Showbiz World	06:10 Islami Sawal O Jawab	11:15 Islamic Jiggasha
06:10 Islami Sawal O Jawab		
11:00 Drama		
<b>CHANNEL i</b>		<b>CHANNEL 24</b>
11:05 Shantir Pothey	01:05 Travel Show	03:30 Bangla Feature Film
01:05 Ebang Gumar Gaan	03:05 Drama Serial: Jekhobhi	08:10 Dam Out with Us
02:40 Hidyoye Mati O Manusher Daak	11:35 Sports 24	
03:30 Bangla Feature Film		<b>Gtv</b>
		11:30 Bangla Feature Film
<b>ntv</b>	10:05 Tele-film	04:20 Jiggasha O Jawab
06:10 Chalbe Nobir Pothey	06:20 Mahoy Ramzan	09:35 Spot Light
09:15 Amaro Gaite Ichkiche		

**Ashtula**  
On Maasranga Television at 08:00pm  
Tele-film  
Cast: Kollan Koraisih, Ahana

**The Brave One**  
On HBO at 11:20pm  
Genre: Crime/Thriller  
Cast: Jodie Foster, Terrence Howard & Naevens Andrews

**Odrishya**  
On ATN Bangla at 11:00pm  
Single Episode TV  
Play  
Cast: Zahid Hassan, Akshan Habib

11:30 Holo	11:00 Ghor Mon Janaka
12:30 Aponar Jiggasha	<b>Fox Movies</b>
ETV Crime Watch	03:50 Galliver's Travels
11:30 Ekushey-er Business	05:20 Unstoppable
03:30 Bawla Ontar	07:00 Shark Night
08:20 Neel Payar Gaan	08:35 Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son
09:30 Ekushey-er Chokh	<b>HBO</b>
<b>Boishakhi TV</b>	11:50 The Scorpion King: Rise of a Warrior
12:00 The Business Show	02:05 Step Up
03:30 Alokitto Poth	06:50 The Twilight Saga: New Moon
05:30 Ramzan Protidin	09:30 Final Destination 2
08:35 Boishakhi Ranna	<b>National Geographic Channel</b>
<b>BANGLAVISION</b>	11:30 Deadliest Predators
04:05 Ramzan O Amader Jibon	02:30 Caught in the Act
05:15 Our'an-er Alo	08:30 India: Monkey Thieves
07:00 Style File	09:30 World's Weirdest
09:05 Bipashar Oritihi	<b>Discovery Channel</b>
<b>Desh TV</b>	03:00 Gaan R Gaan
03:00 Gaan R Gaan	05:00 Durpath
06:15 Ramzan Protidin	06:15 Style & Fashion
09:45 Drama	11:55 Drama

**DRAMA SERIAL**

<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	08:40pm Chand Phul	06:20pm Rajadar
	09:20pm Amabohiya	Boishakhi TV
	09:20pm Chayabrita	09:20pm Onipath
<b>CHANNEL i</b>		<b>BANGLAVISION</b>
07:50pm Bayanno Goli Ek Goli		08:15pm Bokulpurer Jari
08:35pm Boeing 737		<b>CHANNEL 9</b>
<b>ntv</b>		09:50pm Olshopor
08:15pm Mayanganam		07:45 Saakshon
09:45pm Dakshinyaner Din		08:15pm Radio Chocolate
<b>ETV</b>		<b>CHANNEL 24</b>

**NEWS BULLETIN**

<b>BTV</b>	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 10am, 4pm, 10pm	<b>Boishakhi TV</b>	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm
<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm, News (English) at 9am, 6pm	<b>BANGLAVISION</b>	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm, News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, 11pm
<b>CHANNEL i</b>	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10-30pm	<b>Rtv</b>	News (Bangla) at 1-3pm, 6-6:30pm, 10-4:50pm
<b>ntv</b>	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10-30pm	<b>Desh TV</b>	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm
<b>ETV</b>	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm	<b>Maasranga Television</b>	News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am

**TALK SHOW**

<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	12:30am Lead News	<b>Boishakhi TV</b>	10:30pm Reporters Diary
<b>CHANNEL i</b>	12:30am Tanika Koton	<b>Rtv</b>	12:00am Zero Hour
<b>ntv</b>	11:30pm Shawpato Otar Din	<b>Desh TV</b>	10:40am Tansakap
<b>ETV</b>	12:10pm Ei Shomoy	<b>CHANNEL 24</b>	10:30pm Desh E Golpo
<b>10:10pm</b>	Tobuo Badhon	<b>CHANNEL 24</b>	12:00am Modhyasrer
<b>12:05am</b>	Ekushey-er Raat	<b>Muktakab</b>	