



Moves of lathikhela and Bratachari dance enthralled the audience.

Bangladesh shines at music festival in Russia

A CORRESPONDENT

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, a 12-member group was selected to participate in the '3rd International Music Festival, Asia Pacific Region, 2012' in Krasnoyarsk in Russia. The festival was held from June 28 to July 4. Shyam Sundar Sikder, former Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, led the team with Samina Hossain Prema as the dance director.

After the long journey, the performers were heartened by the warm reception from the organisers at Krasnoyarsk. "We may have started the journey with some uncertainty, but by the time we reached, we were ready to explore and experience the culture and arts of different countries of the world," said an elated Prema.

Some of their performances focused on portraying the riverine nature of Bangladesh through the nuanced use of oars. Dhol, khamjani and ektara represented the baul mystics. Moves of lathikhela and Bratachari dance enthralled the audience. Festive rhythms of Dhakaite dhol were the highlights of the event. They had the opportunity to perform on Krasnoyarsk's famous stages of 'Philharmonic' and



Bangladeshi dancers with their counterparts from Russia.

If it wasn't for the wonderful translators and the enthusiasm of the Bangladeshi artistes, the language barrier would have been a real impediment to communication, informed the dancers.

The words "bravo Bangladesh" were repeatedly heard during the dances.

The dancers were Nasirul Islam, Tahnun Ahmedy, Md Hanif, Md Mahbub Hossain, Md Noorul Hoque Abir, Ziauriah Mouli and Sirajum Munira Shachi. The role of lathials were played by Md Shakhawat and Md Shahjahan. Renowned dhuli (drummer) Md Shafiq Mian accompanied them on the tour.

'Krasnoyarsk State Opera and Ballet Theatre'.

"After our performance, we enjoyed the exotic costumes and musical instruments representing different countries," added Prema, "One of the most memorable moments of our journey was the parade on The City Day of Krasnoyarsk, where we joined in with the national flag of Bangladesh along with the representatives of 19 other countries."

In the coal-mining town of Borodino, the participation with Russian dancers in a performance of Polki was quite an amazing experience for the Bangladeshi dancers.

Mourning the death of a legend

Memorial meeting for Humayun Ahmed at SUST

SUBRATA DAS, Sylhet

A memorial meeting for the recently deceased celebrated writer Humayun Ahmed was held at the central auditorium of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet on August 6. Assistant Professor of the Sociology Department, Md. Faruq Uddin, conducted the function. The function was held at the initiative of SUST administration with Professor Yunus in the chair.

As chief guest, SUST Vice-Chancellor Dr. Saleh Uddin said, "Humayun Ahmed excelled in whatever he did. His passing away was grieved by the entire nation. His books and later his TV series, plays and movies became instant hits. It is rare to find a Bangladeshi home where Ahmed's books are not read. He solely established the publication sector as an industry in the country."

Terming his death "a great loss for the nation and Bangla literature", Dr. Saleh Uddin added, "The vacuum that has been created in Bengali literature by Humayun Ahmed's death cannot be filled. His creations reflected the Liberation War perfectly and 'Aguner Parashmoni' is a bright example. He also acquainted us with the folk songs of Hasan Raja, Shah Abdul Karim and so on through his writings."

Recalling her father, Ahmed's visibly emotional daughter Sheela Ahmed said, "My second term exam result in class 4 was very bad. My father got me some chocolates and wrote a letter to me in which he requested me to be more attentive in school and thereby ease the pressure on him from my mother. He also told that it is often stressful for the daughter of a writer."

"Along with other family members, we were standing next to my father's coffin at the Shaheed Minar. We observed hundreds of thousands of people who had come to pay their last respects to him."



Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal speaks at the memorial programme.

PHOTO: STAR

It made me feel really proud and happy to be the daughter of such an illustrious a writer," said Sheela.

Humayun Ahmed's mother Ayesha Fayez who was seated among the audience was in tears as also Ahmed's first wife Gultekin Khan; his other daughter Bipasha; his sisters Sufia, Momtaz, Rokeya, and other family members and relatives.

Invited discussant, litterateur and journalist Anisul Haque said, "In Ahmed's writing there was a magical and forceful power; he presented the rain and moonlight in a new way before us. These elements were always in nature but we learnt to appreciate rain and moonlight with a renewed interest thanks to his remarkable depiction. He made the bland and unexciting existence of the middle and lower middle class colourful and joyful."

Recalling her first interaction with Humayun Ahmed, the writer's sister-in-law and Physics

Department head, Dr. Yasmeen Haque, said, "I first met him in USA with my then classmate Zafar Iqbal. To me, he was like my elder brother with whom I could share anything, perhaps more easily than with my other family members."

Recalling Humayun Ahmed's childhood, his younger brother and eminent writer Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal said, "Humayun Ahmed was born in 1948, on the same day as Prince Charles of England. The birth of the prince made it to the headlines and was discussed widely all over the world. My father said to my mother that he hoped that his son Humayun would one day be renowned as well and that hope has become a reality."

Humayun Ahmed's songs were rendered and excerpts from his writings were read out in the intervals. Professor Abul Hossain of Social Work Department; Supria Das; Priyanka Das; Nafur Rahman and Mamun rendered the songs.

Dalchhut to perform in Kolkata



As part of its continuous endeavor to promote bilateral cultural exchanges between India and Bangladesh, the Indira Gandhi Culture Centre, High Commission of India, Dhaka is organising the visit of popular Bangladeshi rock band Dalchhut to Kolkata, India from August 12-15, 2012, for a performance under ICCR sponsorship, says a press release.

Dalchhut would perform at the Rabindranath Tagore Centre in Kolkata on August 13.

Dalchhut, one of the most popular rock bands in Bangladesh, was formed by Sanjeeb Chowdhury and Bappa Mazumder in November 1996. Besides releasing five music albums-- "Ahhi" (1997), "Hridoypur" (2000), "Akashchuri" (2002), "Jochhnabihar" (2007) and "Aay Amonton" (2010) -- Dalchhut is also popular for its live performances on stage as well as on television. One of the most endearing features of the band is the way its mem-

bers interact with the audience while performing on stage. Besides, interacting with the audience, the band is also known for the social messages it spreads across the masses -- from generating drug awareness amongst the youngsters, offering support to acid victims, to speaking out against violence against women. The five-member band creates its own numbers.

The band plays a huge role in inspiring the young and aspiring musicians in Bangladesh. Dalchhut has several hits like "Bajee", "Shada Moila", "Gari Choley Na", "Bioscope", "Tomakei Bole Debo", "Jochhna Bihar", "Mon Chhuiyechho" etc.

Dalchhut's current line-up: Bappa Mazumder, vocals and guitar; Rose on drums; Bullet on key-board and supporting vocals; Tanim on bass guitar and supporting vocals and Shahian Kabondho, band manager.

DID YOU KNOW?



Greatest rock feuds of all time:

- **Simon and Garfunkel:** Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel's rocky relationship hit a low point in the mid-1980s when Simon erased Garfunkel's vocals from a planned reunion disc.
- **The Beatles/John Lennon-Paul McCartney:** When the Beatles split in 1970, Lennon and McCartney began feuding in the press, but they saved the harshest words for songs. "The freaks were right when they said you were dead," Lennon sang in "How Do You Sleep."
- **The Rolling Stones/Mick Jagger-Keith Richards:** Jagger and Richards' long-dormant feud flared up with the publication last year of Keith's memoir, Life, in which he mocked Jagger's "tiny dodger".
- **Pink Floyd/David Gilmour-Roger Waters:** In 1987, Waters toured separately from the rest of Pink Floyd. The group went to court over the rights to the band's name. "That's my pig (on their stage)," he said, referring to the props for the Wall tour.
- **Guns N' Roses/Axl Rose-Slash:** Axl Rose hasn't had any kind words for Slash since the original Guns N' Roses line-up dissolved in the mid 1990s, but he was harsher than ever before in a 2009 interview. "Personally I consider Slash a cancer," he said.

SOURCE: ROLLINGSTONE.COM



Scenes from "Ontorjatra" and "Third Person Singular Number" (right).

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

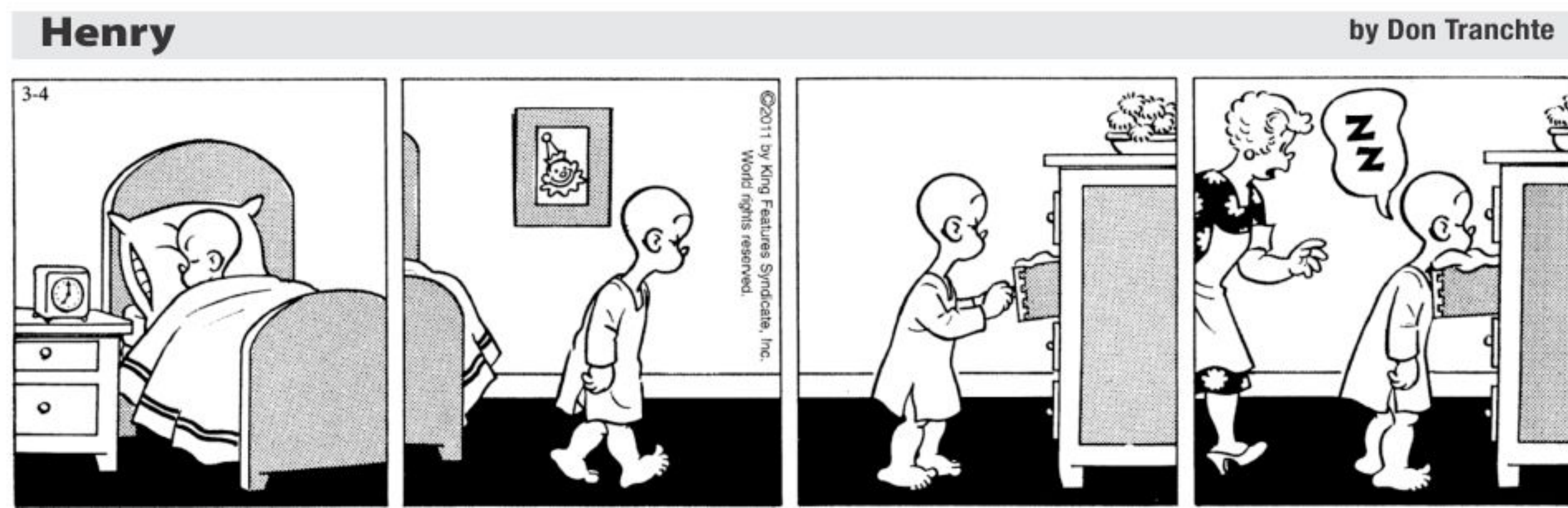
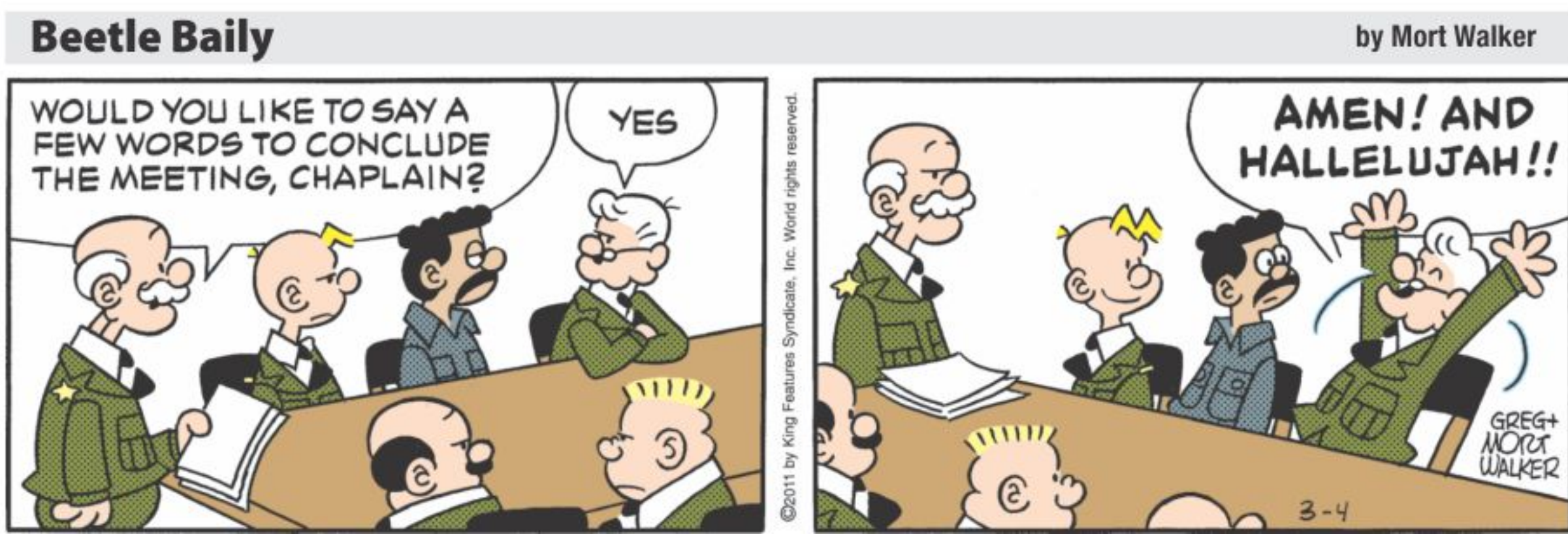
A festival of five feature films by four directors of Bangladesh begins in Hyderabad today in the first such event being hosted by a southern Indian city exclusively featuring movies from the neighbouring country.

The three-day festival, being organised by Annapurna International School of Film and Media, will showcase "Chitra Nadir Parey" and "Lalon" by Tanvir Mokammel, "Shadow of Life" by Murad Parvez, "Third Person Singular Number" by Mostafa Sarwar Farooki and "Ontorjatra" by Tareque and Catherine Masud.

For the festival, a message from Tanvir Mokammel has been recorded which will be shown before the festival.

"This is the first time that a film festival, exclusively screening Bangladeshi films, has been organised in any South Indian city," Mokammel told The Daily Star over phone.

Mokammel said his message will contain a brief overview of the "new wave" of Bangladeshi cinema and introduction to his two movies to be screened at the festival.



Sultan's 89th birth anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

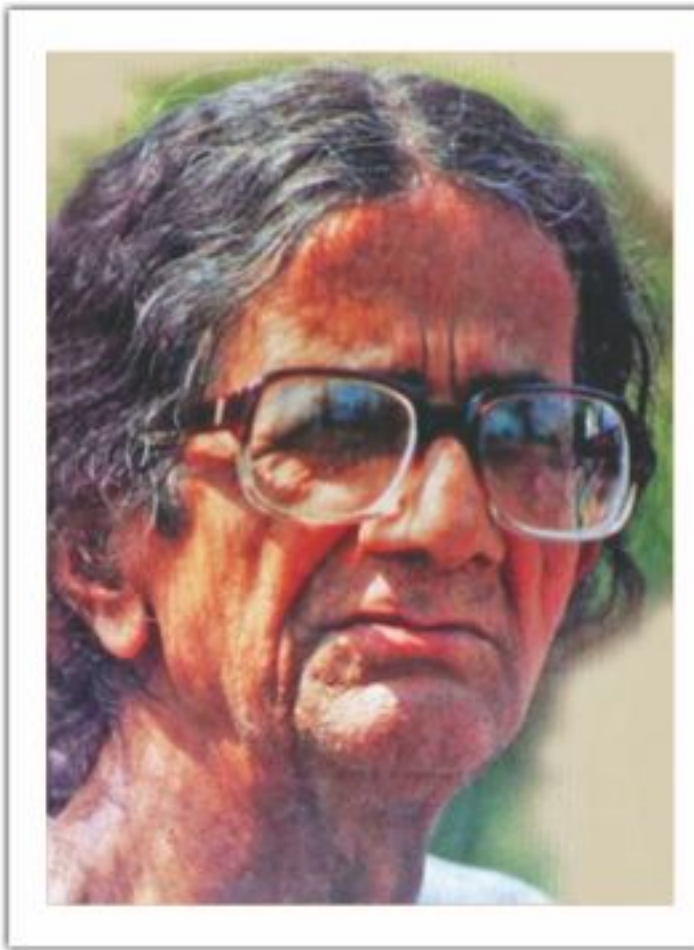
Master Bangladeshi painter SM Sultan was born in 1923 in Masimdia, Narail district. After only five years of schooling in Victoria Collegiate School in Narail, he joined his father to work as a mason.

A bohemian and mystic, Sultan works delve deep into rural life, especially peasants, fishermen, day labourers and their simple lives. His works articulate lives of the working class people in a way that had not been done before.

Today marks the 89th birth anniversary of SM Sultan.

Sultan's paintings depict farmers busy harvesting or ploughing the field. Tiny huts and villages are also seen in the paintings. Sultan was mainly recognised for his depiction of rural beauty and villagers -- their struggles and their way of life. The human forms are robust and powerful and represent the hard working people in villages.

About him, artist Samarjit Roy Chowdhury said, "Sultan was not only a globally renowned artist but also a philanthropist. When I was admitted to Dhaka Art College (now Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1955, the college was in Segun Bagicha and Sultan lived in a tiny room behind the college.



He frequently visited the institute. He always had a flute with him. One day, surprisingly, he came to our college in a white sari. In the 1950s and '60s, I came across many articles on him in several English newspapers and journals published from West Pakistan. He had the rare ability to quickly become the centre of attention at any social and cultural gathering."

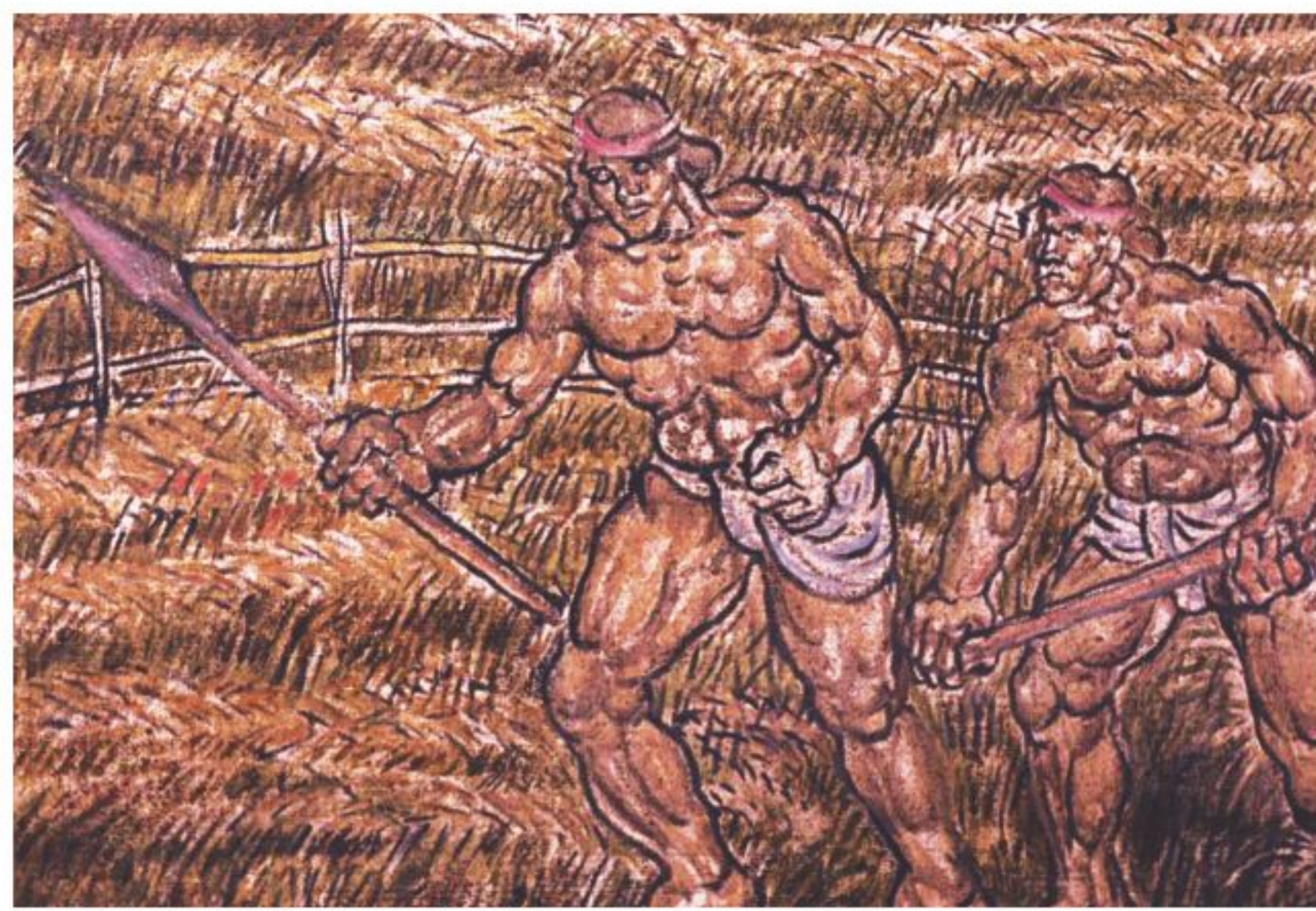
Artist Abdus Shakoor Shah said, "On a first look at Sultan's artworks, one gets

the impression of power and strength. His canvases is large, like a stage where life's dramas are played out. The painter presented human figures which symbolically suggest the possibility of a dream rather than reality."

Mohammad Iqbal, Assistant Professor of Drawing and Painting Department, Faculty of fine Arts, said, "A bachelor, Sultan stayed in an abandoned building, in the pastoral environment of Narail. There he lived with an adopted family and pets. He had a great fascination for both domestic and wild animals. He would later build a mini-zoo at his home."

Sultan received the Ekushey Padak, Swadhinata Padak, Bangladesh Charu Shilpi Sangsad Padak and other prestigious awards.

The master painter died in 1994.



A painting by SM Sultan.

Abdullah Al Mamun Theatre School stages Munier Chowdhury plays

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of their course conclusion, students of the 22nd batch of Abdullah Al Mamun Theatre School staged two short plays of Munier Chowdhury at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on August 8. The programme also saw handing over of certificates to the students.

The students staged Munier Chowdhury's "Dando" and "Dandodhar" -- directed by Golam Sarwar. Prior to the staging of the plays, the certificate giving ceremony was held at the venue. Dr. Khandakar Shawkat Hossain, secretary,

Housing and Public Works Ministry, was the chief guest. Ramendu Majumdar, principal of the institute, among others, spoke at the programme.

Both the short plays by Chowdhury feature middle class issues with light humour. The story of the play "Dando" zooms in on a lawyer and his wife, while "Dandodhar" depicts the story of a professor.

Jiban Nahar, Abbas Kabir Chowdhury, Nuruzzaman, Abu Sayem and Abu Raihan performed in the plays. Nuruzzaman was the set designer. Abdullah Al Mamun Theatre School offers a yearlong certificate course.



A scene from "Dando".

PHOTO: STAR

ATN BANGLA		Maasranga Television	
09:20	Bangla Feature Film	02:30	Phono Live Concert
03:10	Amra Korbo Joy	04:40	Square Hospital
05:00	Gram Gonjer Khabor		Doctor's Chamber
11:30	Documentary Programme	07:35	Art & Craft Programme: Shaili
CHANNEL i			
12:05	Prokriti O Jibon	08:00	TV Play: Surjamukhi, Abujh Nadi
02:40	Teletext: Neel Nirabota	09:00	Film Based Game Show: Houseful
04:05	Janapad-er Khabor		
11:30	Spot Light		
ETV		Fox Movies	
10:05	Sonamoni Shukh-e-Oshakh-e	11:20	The Next Three Days
12:30	Bangla Feature Film	01:35	Shark Night
06:20	Drama: Rajadar	03:10	Fair Game
09:30	Drama Serial: Jomjal	05:00	The International
Jadukor		07:00	I Am Number Four
11:45	Phone & Live Studio Concert	08:55	Best of the Festivals Blitz
		10:40	
BANGLAVISION		HBO	
10:10	Bhalo Thakun	10:00	The Scorpion King: Rise of a Warrior
11:05	Amader Rannaghar	12:15	The Twilight Saga: New Moon

abc radio FM 89.2		RADIO	
06:00	Bhorer Janajay	02:00	Boler Poka
09:00	Mukhonto Jiboney	06:00	Forti Ungrated
12:00	Dorun Dugurey	06:00	Bumper to Bumper
03:00	Duranto Boleley	10:00	Back to Back music
05:00	Shonohatara		
07:00	Shajer Maya	06:00	Green FM
09:00	Rast-er Akashay	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
11:00	Golper Shesh Nei	11:00	Flash Back
RADIO FOORTI		12:30	Islamic Program
06:00	Adhahat	02:15	Rupali Gaan

99, Shaheb Ali Lane
On ntv at 09:45pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Rawnak, Kazi Ujjal

The Mask
On HBO at 12:00am
Genre: Action, Comedy, Crime
Cast: Jim Carrey, Peter Riegert

Scandal
On ATN Bangla at 11:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mir Sabbir, Romana

07:00	Style File	02:55	Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li
11:25	Ami Ekhen Ki Korbo (Live)		
ntv		04:55	The Island
12:10	Hells Excellency	07:40	Final Destination 2
02:35	Tele-film: Rajar Galpo Shesh	09:30	Bridesmaids
07:00	Roopmadhuri	12:00	The Mask
11:30	Agnar Joggasha (Live)	Star World	
		02:30	Criminal Minds
Rtv		03:30	Two and a Half Men
10:10	Doctor's Prescription (Live)	09:00	The Front Row with Anupama Chopra
03:45	Nature's Jaggonan (Live)	09:30	Master Chef Australia
05:30	Game Show: Ghar-e-Bairey	11:30	Two and a Half Men
07:35	R Music	12:00	Simpson Year 23
Desh TV		National Geographic Channel	
03:00	Live Musical Programme: Priyotom-er Gaan	11:30	Deadliest Predators
05:55	Tasar Mela	02:30	Caught in the Act
08:15	Bindu Thekey Britto	08:30	The Elephant Kingdom
09:45	TV Play: Abar To-Let	09:30	World's Wildest
11:45	Call-er Gaan	10:30	Taboo: Gross Food
Boishakhi TV		11:30	Taboo: Gross Food
08:20	Bangla Feature Film	11:30	Man Woman Wild
03:30	Documentary: Alokit Poth	02:30	Untamed & Uncut
08:35	TV Play: Gurumukhi Bidya	08:30	Man Vs. Wild
11:30	Shomey Katak Gaan-e Gaan-e	09:30	Myth Busters
		10:30	Swamp Brothers
		11:30	My Shocking Story

ATN BANGLA		DRAMA SERIAL	
09:20pm	Chhayabrita	08:15pm	Harkipity
11:00pm	Scandal	09:45pm	Gulshan Avenue
ETV			
09:30pm	Joyal Jadukor	08:15pm	Chorkabyo
		09:00pm	Orkoshur
BANGLAVISION			ntv

BTV		Boishakhi TV	
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 9pm		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm	
News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm		News (English) at 9am, 6pm, 9pm	
ATN BANGLA			
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm		BANGLAVISION	
News (English) at 9am, 6pm		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 10:30pm	
CHANNEL i		News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm	
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 8pm, 10:30pm		Rtv	
ntv		News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm	
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm		Desh TV	
		News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm	
		Maasranga Television	
		News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am	

ATN Bangla		BANGLAVISION	
12:30am	Lead News	12:05pm	Maha Shatto
CHANNEL i		09:05pm	Moner Kotha
12:00am	Ajker		
01:00am	Shongbadpatri	12:30am	Hello America
Boishakhi TV		12:30am	Rtv
12:30am	Trite Matra	10:40am	Tankalap
12:00am	Hridoye Jummabar		
	Zero Hour		