

WHAT'S ON

Film Screening
Title: 100 Years of Indian Cinema & Saurashtra
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: Sept 1-8

Theatre Festival
On Lucky Enam 60th Birthday
Organiser: Nagarik Natyangan
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sept 6-9

Solo Tapestry Exhibition
Artist: Tajul Islam
Venue: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Mirpur
Date: Sept 7-21
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: REM
Artist: Ranjit Das
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1
Date: Sept 7-28

5th Friendship Art Exhibition
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sept 7-16
Time: 10am-7:30pm

Theatre
Play: Paga
Troupe: Shakti Natya Sampraday
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sept 7

Musical Soiree
Title: Shorah Ashor
Venue: Rameshchandra Datta Smriti Milonkendra, Chhayanand, Dhakanshad
Date: Sept 7
Time: 7pm

Rabindra Sangeet Evening
Featuring Rezwana Chowdhury Bonna
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H 35, Rd 24, Gulshan 1
Date: Sept 8



Salman Shah's 16 death anniversary

With Sohanur Rahman Sohan's "Keyamat Theky Keyamat," Bangladeshi film got a new lease of life. Through this blockbuster, two stars were born -- Salman Shah and Moushumi.
Shahriar Chowdhury Imon aka Salman Shah (his stage name) changed the typical image of a Bangladeshi film actor. In the early 1990s when the country's film industry remained stagnant, Salman Shah took the film industry by storm with his spirited performance and irresistible charm. The ailing film industry witnessed a real romantic hero and welcomed a new era in the romantic film genre with his appearance. Soon he turned into a heartthrob of the young moviegoers.
The late actor Salman Shah had been and still is a shining star in Bangladeshi film. In his short span of film career he acted in 18 hit films. He secured a strong foothold with the film "Keyamat Theky Keyamat". And it was followed by films such as "Shopner Thikana", "Denmohor", "Tumi Amar", "Tomakey Chai", "Anjuman", "Priyojon", "Konyadan", "Swapner Nayok", "Swapner Purush", "Ananda Ashru", "Ei Ghar Ei Shongshar", "Sujan Sokhi", "Prem Juddha", "Buker Bhetor Agun", "Swapner Prithibi" and several other smash hits that exceeded the expectations of the audiences. Movie theatres that ran his films buzzed with youngsters.
But the shining star was soon lost under a dark cloud.



The 2nd Celebrating Life Filmmaking Workshop began yesterday (September 6) at The Daily Star Centre in Dhaka. On the first day, The Daily Star Publisher and Editor Mahfuz Anam and Standard Chartered Head of Corporate Affairs, Bitopi Das Chowdhury were present. Last year and this year's Filmmaking Workshop participants discussed their experiences on the first day. The film workshop will run for three months -- on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Distinguished filmmakers and film theorists will conduct classes during this period.

THEATRE FESTIVAL

Tagore's Muktir Upay staged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
As part of the ongoing theatre festival to celebrate veteran actor-director Lucky Enam's 60th birth day, Rabindranath Tagore's "Muktir Upay" was staged at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on September 5. The festival organised by Enam's troupe Nagarik Natyangan features six plays directed by her. "Tagore wrote "Muktir Upay" both in a play and a satirical short story form for children. The director picked the short story as she thought this particular piece has more scope to deconstruct.
The background of the play features rural Bangla. The theme is established on a common premise of "Bhondo Guru". The guru's devotees are predominantly men who have somehow left their worldly urges and families behind with an aim to find peace in higher causes.
However, the guru often seeks for costly 'guru-dakkhinas' such as fruits, curries and expensive attires. Simultaneously he teaches the devotees the mantra "nothing is constant and everything will be turned into dust". The near and dear ones of these young devotees are frustrated but unable to bring them back in family life.
The story gets a twist when one day an educated and wise young woman comes visiting the village from Kolkata. She takes it upon herself to resolve this situation, reveals gurudeb's true identity to the light, and bring order to the families.
A group of actors including Ferdous Riya, Sazzad Reza, Habib Bahar, Sharmim Aktar, Jubayer Hillol and Kanta Zaman performed different roles in the play. Ali Ahmed Mukul did the set which featured more or less of the concept of a Tagorean palace.
Thandhu Raihan did the light, while Hridi Haq did the costume.



The background of the play features rural Bangla. PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

Abdul Alim Sangeet Parisad holds discussion and musical soiree

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Marking the 38th death anniversary of legendary singer Abdul Alim, a memorial programme -- featuring a discussion and musical performances -- was held at Shawkat Osman Memorial auditorium of Central Public Library, Shahbagh in Dhaka on September 5. Abdul Alim Sangeet Parsad organised the programme.
Information Secretary Hedayet Ullah Al Mamun, NDC attended the event as chief guest while former deputy director general of Bangladesh Betar, Ashfaqur Rahman Khan, was present as a special guest. General secretary of Nazrul Academy, Mintu Rahman, presided over the programme. Apart from the speeches by guests, internationally famed Bangladeshi fashion designer Bibi Russell and lyricist Hamdul Islam also spoke at the programme.
Artists of Abdul Alim Sangeet Parisad and sons, daughters of Abdul Alim performed songs originally recorded by the musical legend at the programme.
Zahir Alim, Abdul Alim's son and president of Abdul Alim Sangeet Parisad, performed four of his father's songs: "Haludia Pakhi", "Amarey Shajaiya Dio", "Duarey Aaishachhey Palki" and "Dol Dol Doloni". Asgar Alim, elder son of the music icon, rendered two songs: "O Padma Nodir Jol" and "O Padma Nodirey".
Abdul Alim's daughters -- Aktar Jahana Alim, Asia Alim, Noorjahan Alim and Zohra Alim -- presented covers of "Kyanba Tarey Shopoy Dilam Pran", "Hairey Tomar Piriti", "Tomaro Lagiya Rey", "Bohu Din-er Pirit Go Bondhu", "Kheoi Korey Bechakena", "Premer Mora Jol-e Dobbye Na", "Nirikh Bandho Rey" respectively and more.
Abdul Alim (1931-1974), a brilliant folk singer, possessed a melodious voice, which is yet to be surpassed by any other singer of our country. His presentation was simply magical. His songs epitomised the very essence of Bengali folk culture and mesmerised listeners across the country. Indeed, he played an important role in popularising this form of music.

DID YOU KNOW?



Zahir Raihan, filmmaker (1935-)
• The pioneering filmmaker's original name is Abu Abdar Mohamamad Zahirullah. In his childhood, his near and dear ones used to call him as Zafar.
• Comrade Moni Singh gave him the name "Raihan", as a political attribute.
• His "Iiban Theke Neyra" (1969) is the first Bangla film that allegorically narrates the oppression of the then Pakistani rulers. The film was initially banned and was later released because of mass demand.
• He is the director of the first English film made in the country "Let There Be Light", first colour film "Sangam" and first cinematograph film "Bahana".
• He disappeared on January 30, 1972 trying to locate his brother, writer Shahidullah Kaiser. Earlier in 1952, he was in prison for three months as law enforcers caught him instead of Shahidullah Kaiser.

FILM REVIEW

GHETU PUTRO KAMOLA

An authentic sketch of lowlands and a dead art

JAMIL MAHMUD
The vast lowlands in the eastern part of Bangladesh are truly enigmatic. What remain as dry land throughout the year, during monsoon these areas take a completely different look. This waterlogged state that approximately lasts for three to four months, limits mobility, thus initiating a dull state of inertia. As the proverb goes, "an idle brain is the workshop of devil", this state of inertia initiates a strange practice in the name of recreation.
In Humayun Ahmed's latest and last film, "Ghetu Putro Kamola", one finds a detailed account of this strange way of life. Highlighting a cultural tradition that is now extinct -- "Ghetu Gaan", the film depicts the joys and sorrows of the inhabitants of this lowland. It is essentially a sketch of the landscape and lifestyle.
Perhaps the film became the most anticipated one in Bangladesh, in recent times, because of Ahmed's sudden departure. Readers and audiences are hugely grateful to this remarkable storyteller for providing a detailed sketch of life in the lowlands in his numerous stories and this film.
Communal bliss, festivity, exuberance as well as dark and shocking social practices are brilliantly depicted in Ahmed's writings; he did the same with his last project.
We have seen the mighty feudal lords in many of Ahmed's writings and TV plays. We are familiar with their arrogance, their cruelty and their benevolence. Yet, when they come across as individuals, we can dissect their good and evil sides easily.
The landlord (played by Tariq Anam Khan) in



"Ghetu Putro Kamola" is a helpless one. Sometimes the landlord's need for recreation turn into lust and the film narrates the tragic outcome of this lust. The victim, Kamola (Mamun), a young boy singing and dancing as a girl, who entertains the landlord, faces this tragedy.
We saw Ahmed's successful depictions of landlords -- portrayed by mighty actors such as Asaduzzaman

Noor and Abul Hayat -- before. The teaming up of another bold actor, Khan, and Ahmed could be considered the key to this film's success.
There are representatives of conscience in the film -- the big-headed but practically listless artist Shah Alam (Agun); the dance trainer of the Ghetu team (Pran Roy) and the imam of the mosque (Abdullah Rana).
Unlike his previous films such as "Aguner Paroshmoni", "Srabon Megher Din" and "Amar Achhey Jol" which are adaptations of his literary works, Ahmed penned a brand new story for his latest film. The story is fascinating as his other works.
Some brilliant camera work, especially in the scene where Kamola is roaming around on the rooftop, playing with the landlord's daughter, or the flash-backs, or the starting sequence -- makes the film aesthetically enriched.
The cast also includes Tamalika Karmakar, Baul Abdul Kuddus Bayati and his troupe, Ani and Prapti. Shitalong Fakir's song "Shua Urilo" has been used throughout the film as the background score, though the credits mention Ram Kanai Das as the composer. Some of Ahmed's own compositions -- such as "Jamunar Jol Dekhte Kalo" -- have been sung by Fazlur Rahman Babu and Baul Shafi Mandal.
Mahfuzur Rahman Khan as director of photography, Salimullah as editor and Maqsood Jamil Mintu and SI Tutul as music directors have done well. Emon Saha directed the background music.
Produced by Impress Telefilm Ltd. and presented by Pran Jhalmuri, the film premiered at Balaka Cine World in Dhaka on September 5. The film will have its public release today, at Balaka and Star Cineplex in Dhaka.

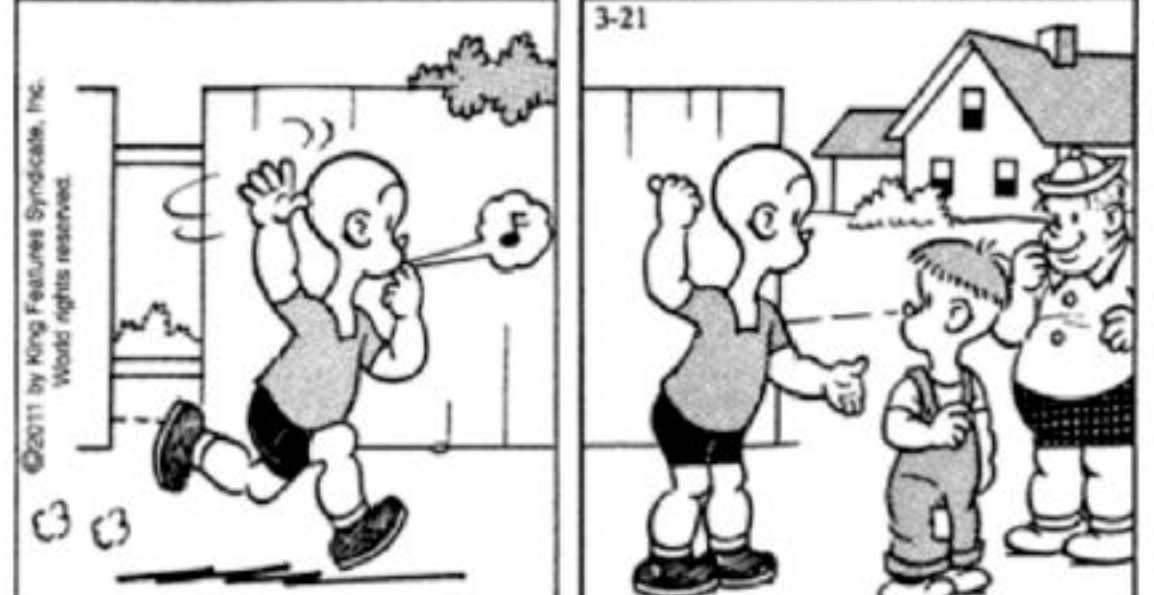
Beetle Baily



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Table with TV and radio program listings for ATN Bangla, Channel 1, ETV, and BANGLAVISION.

Table with radio program listings for abc radio FM 89.2, 96.00, 99.00, 12.00, 03.00, 05.00, 07.00, 09.00, 11.00, RADIO 4000, and 08.00.

Shithan Poithan On Desh TV at 09:45pm Single Episode TV Play Cast: Shatabdi Wadud, Farzana Chhahi

Rush Hour 3 On HBO at 09:30pm Genre: Action, Comedy, Crime Cast: Chris Tucker, Jackie Chan

99, Shaheb Ali Lane On ntv at 09:45pm Drama Serial Cast: Abul Hayat, Mir Sabir

Table with TV program listings for ntv, RTV, and Boishakhi TV.

Table with Drama Serial listings for ATN BANGLA, Channel 1, ntv, and Boishakhi TV.

Table with News Bulletin listings for BTV, ATN BANGLA, Channel 1, ntv, and Boishakhi TV.

Table with Talk Show listings for ATN Bangla, Channel 1, Boishakhi TV, and ntv.