



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Internationally renowned Bangladeshi illusionist, Jewel Aich has returned home after a weeklong stint in Singapore. The magician led a seven-member team to hold a show in Singapore. The show went brilliantly, according to Aich.

Aich and his team left Dhaka on August 30 and returned on September 6. The show, arranged by Singapore Bangladesh Society (SBS), was held at Singapore National Trade Union Congress auditorium Proceeds from ticket sales would go to funds for the welfare or Bangladeshis working in Singapore.

Aich informed that he had performed 36 magic acts at the Singapore show.

Preparations had been on for the Singapore show for over three months. During this time, writer Humayun Ahmed passed away. "I was shocked and couldn't bring myself to think about the show at that time. I even considered cancelling the show but with the help of my near and dear ones, all went well," said the magician.

About the show, Aich said, "This was a wonderful experience. The auditorium was incredible. Audiences of and around my age knew of me but youngsters didn't. Before the show, an audio-visual presentation on me was screened This effectively introduced me to the young in the audience, who were

"The first act was met with loud louder after the second act; excitement rose with each act. I felt as if I was climbing the Himalayas. The applause was deeply gratifying.

"Even after the show was over noticed no one in the audience was leaving." Why? "They were waiting for autographs and to take photos with me. I did so gladly," responded

"The organisers were excited about the show and elated with it success. A Singaporean magician, Jamie P, told the organisers, 'now you know why I have been recommending Jewel Aich.' I had trained Jamie and he won the title of Best Magician in Asia once," Aich said.

Jewel Aich has been performing overseas since 1998. The seasoned illusionist has held shows in many countries and his repertoire of experiences are varied too.

"Once, at a show in Europe I had to perform for 10,000 people. My goal was to make sure that even the person who was furthest from me saw my act. That was some experience!" -- recalled Aich.



Jewel Aich performed 36 magic acts at the Singapore show.



Nazrul Sangeet by veteran and young singers at Public Library

Marking the 36th death anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, Bangladesh Nazrul Sangeet Sangstha (BNSS) arranged a musical programme with a brief discussion at Shawkat Osman Memorial audito rium of Central Public Library, Dhaka on September 10. The event was titled "Jaha Chai Jeno Joi Korey Pai".

Eminent Nazrul Sangeet artistes and president and general secretary of BNSS, Khalid Hossain and Khairul Anam Shakil respectively, delivered the welcome speeches focusing on the life and works of the National Poet. Granddaughter of Kazi Nazrul Islam, Khilkhil Kazi, also spoke at the event.

A number of promising and renowned artistes of BNSS performed Nazrul Sangeet at the event. The artistes set the tone for the musical soiree with the chorus, "Shubhro Shamujjal Hey Chiro Nirmol".

The credit for the event goes to BNSS who successfully selected the talented artistes for the renditions of several genres including Nazrul's devotional songs. Sushmita Debnath Shuchi presented "Ogo Ontorjami Bhokter Tabo" while Maidul Islam performed "Shokhi Bolo Bondhuarey". The depth and melody that Shuchi showcased in her rendition was in a word "immaculate"

Dedicated Nazrul singer Bizon Chandra Mistry captivated the packed audience as he sang, "Hey Priyo Amarey Debona Bhulitey". Another talented artiste Sanjay Kabiraj was soulful in rendering the number "Keno Kandey Poran Ki Bedona-e".

Veteran Nazrul Sangeet artistes Khalid Hossain, Khairul Anam Shakil, Salahuddin Ahmed, Sharmin Sathi Islam, Nasima Shaheen and Khilkhil Kazi beautifully performed solos -- "Phutlo Jakhon", "Prothom Prodip Jalo", "Ghumiye Gechhey Sranto Hoye", "Jarey Haath Diye Mala Ditey Paronai", "Tabo Mukhokhani Khujia Phiribo" and "Korun Keno Arun Ankhi" respectively -- at the event.

Noted artiste Yakub Ali Khan's solo performance of



Artistes during a group performance (top); Bizon Chandra Mistry sings at the event.

the lesser-known song "Kon Shey Shudur Ashok Kanoney Bondini Tumi Sita" won the hearts of many Nazrul Sangeet lovers.

Fakir Shahidul Islam, Rafiqul Islam, Afroza Khan Mita, Sheikh Shaila were among the other artistes who performed solos on the occasion.

Later, artistes of BNSS performed another chorus, "Mrityu Nai, Nai Dukkho". The event wrapped up with the rendition of the national anthem.

Ashraful Alam Prodhan and Imtiaz Alam Fulu on tabla, Almas Ali on violin and Iftekhar Hossain Sohel on keyboard instrumentally assisted the singers.

DU students stage Death of a Salesman thises with the parents. Happy, the younger son, is more of a careless, happy-go-lucky Students of the Department of Theatre, Failing to cope with the growing competi-University of Dhaka are holding a weeklong tive market, Willy Loman gets frustrated and theatre festival, featuring a single play expresses his anger at home and pubic "Death of a Salesman", at the Natmandal on places. His fate drives him to a tragic death; campus. The play premiered on September 9 his wife Linda has to absorb all the agonies. and had a press show on the day before. Apart from direction, Titash also designed Translated into Bangla by Fateh Lohani, the the set and light. Using the limited space of play has been directed by Ziaul Haque the Natmandal, the director aptly created a small flat-like set with a living room, and Department of Theatre, DU has more family space. The two wings of the organised the festival as part its stage were used for the outside curriculum. Arthur Miller's "Death of a sequences such as a bar and an office where Loman confronts his former Salesman" (1949) is an early colleagues. depiction of the pros and cons of During flashback scenes, the capitalism in New York, set in the director has used a large piece of post Second World War era. The transparent fabric, hanging play follows an elderly salesman from rooftop, to create a and his lower-middle class see-through barrier family that includes his wife between the audience and two sons. The play and the performers. highlights dealing with The cast includes ethics and upholding mid-DU students -- Sifatdle class sentiments -e-Rabbi, Tahmina referring to a situation Islam, Oisharja Azad, familiar to contemporary Lahul Mian, Amit Zahidi, Md. Abdul The play starts as Willy Hamid, Ridwanul Loman, the salesman, Kabir and Meer returns home exhausted after a cancelled busi-Manjurul Haque. ness trip. Worried The play will be about Willy's frustrastaged every evetions, his wife Linda ning at 7 pm till suggests that he ask his September 16. boss to allow him to work in his hometown. Their elder son Biff sympa-

Kanthabithi stages recitation production 'Shobjatra' in memory of Humayan Ahmed



"Bhoy", "Krishnapakkha",

"Shobjatra-2".

acters Himu does.

"Chhayashongi", "Bhalobashar Golpo",

The performers of the production

Humayan's most popular fictional char-

The programme began with a discus-

sion on the life and literary works of the

With Abdur Romim in the chair, the

discussion was addressed amongst oth-

ers by, Mohammad Mokhlesur Rahman,

Mohammad Arafat Islam, Shafikul Islam,

Mohammad Shamsuzzoha, Rashedul

Islam, Rezaul Islam Rizu, and Lubna

At the fag end of the programme,

artistes of JRSSP, Magura performed

Humayan Ahmed's favourite Tagore

Kothao", "Megh Bolechhey Jabo Jabo"

Nimontroney".

songs like "Aguner Poroshmoni", "Durey

and "Tumi Amaye Dekechhiley Chhutir

Mohammad Taimur Rahman,

wore yellow *panjabi*, as one of

"Mrityu Gandha", "Shobjatra-1" and

HOSSAIN SERAJ, Magura

Performers of Kanthabithi, an organisation of elocutionists in Magura, staged a recitation production titled, "Shobjatra" (funeral procession), based on popular short stories of renowned litterateur Humayan Ahmed at the premises of Sayed Ator Ali Public Library in Magura town on Sunday evening.

The production was staged at a programme jointly organised in memory of the popular storyteller Humayan Ahmed by the Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammilon Parishad (JRSSP), Magura uni and Kanthabithi.

Apart from recitation production, the programme featured discussion and rendition of Humayan's favourite Tagore

The production was scripted and directed by the organising secretary of central Abriti Samonnoy Parishad (ASP) and also the convener of Kanthabithi,

Khan Mazharul Haque. The script was based on Humayan's short stories -- "Khadok", "Ashomoy",

Homage to Tagore and Nazrul

Theatre (Bailey Road) and Natyakendra staged their productions -- "Baramkhana" and "Aroj

Charitamrita" respectively -- at the National Theatre Hall and Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh

Shilpakala Academy, on September 10. Both the biographical works highlight the ethos of rural

bards Fakir Lalon Shai and Aroj Ali Matubbar. "Baramakhana" has been written and directed by

Pantho Shahrier and Tropa Majumdar. Written by Masum Reza, "Aroj Charitamrita" has been

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

directed by Tariq Anam Khan.

To pay homage to Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam, the two illustrious bards of Bengali Literature, Sandipon Sangskritik Sangstha, a prominent cultural group of the district organised a cultural show at the town's Muslim Institute auditorium recently.

The cultural programme, the 68th performance of the group started with the rendition of Tagore and Nazrul songs, "Etatuku chhowa lagey", "Bagichae Bulbuli tui" and more. Samir Sarker, Swapon Basak, Shawkat Ali

Manik, Priyanka Sarker, Rupa Sarker, Azizur Rahman Liton, Nusrat Jahan and Sabbirul Islam performed at the show. The artistes were assisted by Chayan Sen and Priyanka Karmaker on keyboard while Probir Dey was on the tabla.

Earlier, Mahbub Hossain Sharif, the director of the cultural group delivered the welcome speech. "We will remember the two giants of Bengali literature through the show. The two poets have enriched our literature and the music world as well." Sharif told the audience.

PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

More programmes should be organised to give the poets the pride of place in our everyday lives, Sharif concluded.

Deepa Mehta: India may not see Midnight's Children



A scene from "Midnight's Children".

A new film based on Sir Salman Rushdie's novel "Midnight's Children" may not be released in India, director Deepa Mehta has said.

Mehta told The Hindustan Times that the film, based in India, has yet to find a distributor in the country.

She said it would be "a pity if insecure politicians deprive the people of India [the chance] to make up their own minds about what the film

The film was shown at the Toronto Film Festival in Canada on Sunday. "Salman has often said that the book was his love letter to India. I think the film reflects that love," Mehta told the newspaper.

The newspaper suggests the film's inability to find a distributor may be because the Booker Prize-winning novel was critical of former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Mrs Gandhi's Congress party, headed by her daughter-in-law Sonia Gandhi, is in power in India at the moment and the paper suggests distributors may not be willing to antago-Both Mehta and Sir Salman are

considered controversial figures in The author's 1988 book "The Satanic Verses" remains banned in India. In January he withdrew from the

Jaipur Literature Festival after reports of a death threat. He was also forced to abandon plans to address the gathering by a

video link after protesters threatened to march on the venue. Mehta was prevented by some Hindu groups from filming "Water" in

the Indian city of Varanasi She later shot the film in Sri Lanka, where "Midnight's Children" was also

According to the Toronto Film Festival, the new film is "an engrossing allegorical fantasy in which children born on the cusp of India's independence from Britain are endowed with strange, magical abilities."

Source: BBC

TV WATCH

THEATRE

VEET Channel i Top Model 2012

After creating waves in its first season, "VEET Channel i Top Model" is once again coming to rock Bangladeshi TV. In this regard, a press conference

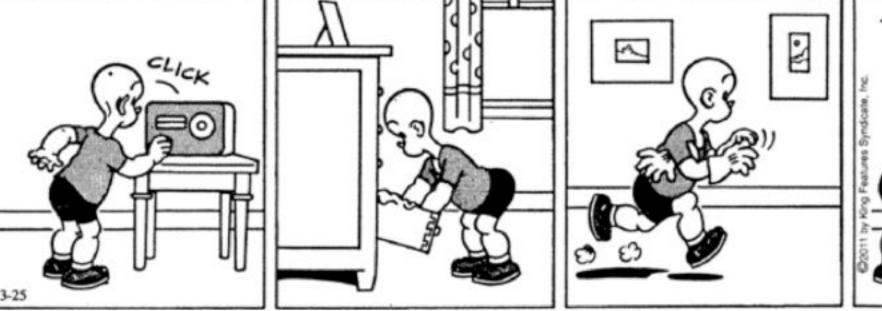
was arranged at Channel i centre on September 10. Reazul Chowdhur managing director, Reckitt Benckiser Bangladesh Ltd; Faridur Reza Sagor, main judges along with other on the print media. Participants tration by sending a SMS to that hot-



renowned stars and senior officials of should send two recent photographs line number Channel i and Reckitt Benckiser of any size along with their registration Bangladesh Ltd were present at the forms to GPO box number 2433, September 15-September 30. Dhaka-1000. Besides, there will be a Prospective participants can regis- hotline number available at been planned by Rumana Rashid ter for the contest by downloading www.vctm.tv. Interested individuals Ishita and will be directed by Raihan forms from the website or keeping tabs can also get information about regis- Khan.

Registration will open from







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All programmes are in local

time. The Daily Star will not

change in the programme.

12:05 Ghar-e Ghar-e Utshab

be responsible for any

11:02 Bangla Feature Film 08:00 Drama Serial: Kobiraj



Drama Serial: Chowdhury

Purano Shei Diner Kotha Shorashori Doctor Jante Chai Jante Chai Boro Beshi Bhalobas Fox Movies The Greatest Movie Ever

> Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black P Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides

The School of Rock 07:15 Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost

DRAMA SERIAL 09:20pm Ognipath 08:15pm Bokulpurer Jatri 07:50pm Bayanno Golir Ek Goli Ri 08:15pm Side Effect

> 08:15pm Radio Chocolate Maasranga Television 08:30pm Khonikaloy

NEWS BULLETIN

Drama Serial: Boyra

09:30pm Kamini

oishakhi TV

News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm. News (English) at 10am, News (English) at 9am, ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 11am, News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm News (English) at 9am, News (English) at 1pm, CHANNEL i 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. News (Bangla) at 2pm, News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm. 9pm, 10:30pm.

News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. News (Bangla) at 1pm,

oishakhi TV

News (Bangla) at 2pm, News (Bangla) at 7pm, TALK SHOW 12:00am Zero Hour

ATN BANGLA 12:30am Lead New: CHANNEL i 12:30pm Taroka Kathon 2:05am Ekushey-er

11:30pm Our Democracy CHANNEL 24

11:45pm Shoja Katha

12:00am Modhyraater Muktabak