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Multi-faceted artiste departs too early

Remembering Tariqul Islam Shanto



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Cartoonist and blogger Tariqul Islam Shanto, a staunch supporter of the Shahbagh movement, joined the protests at Shahbagh along with a group of television artistes, directors and producers. While staging demonstrations, he suffered a cardiac arrest and died on his way to the hospital.

During his college years at Tangail, Tariqul Islam Shanto began to jot down rhymes and sent them to different dailies in Dhaka. With many of those writings being published, he was inspired to come to the capital after graduating from college, and start nurturing his creative side with full throttle.

I had the opportunity to come in close contact with him during 1998 when we both worked at the cine magazine "Tarokalok" and "Kishore Tarokalok". Shanto worked as cartoonist and chief animator. Shanto launched his career as a cartoonist at Bangla daily Bhorer Kagoj. He was also the founder of "Kalpodut", a magazine dedicated to kids and teenagers.

He had earlier worked for "Unmad", a popular satirical magazine, for the past 20 years. Along with working on the mediums of poems and prose, Tariqul Islam Shanto revealed his skills as a cartoonist, after joining Unmad. He eventually started drawing cartoons for Daily Bhorer Kagoj, and went on to work for over ten years at Tarokalok and Kishore-Tarokalok magazines, gaining much recognition for his work at the latter. He also drew cartoons for the Daily Prothom Alo's supplement Alpin and Daily Jugantar's Bichhchhu magazine.

With 36 comic book titles under his name, Shantanu Detective Comics remain one of Tariqul Islam Shanto's most popular series. His other publications include a compilation of his Unmad cartoons titled Unmad Artist Special, and over a dozen children's stories and novels.

His book *Jongla Mamar Shikari Dol* sold over 5 thousand copies at the Ekushey Boi Mela a few years back. He also won the Meena Media Award on the creative section, for his popular rhyme book "Sheora Gachhe Bhoote Chha".

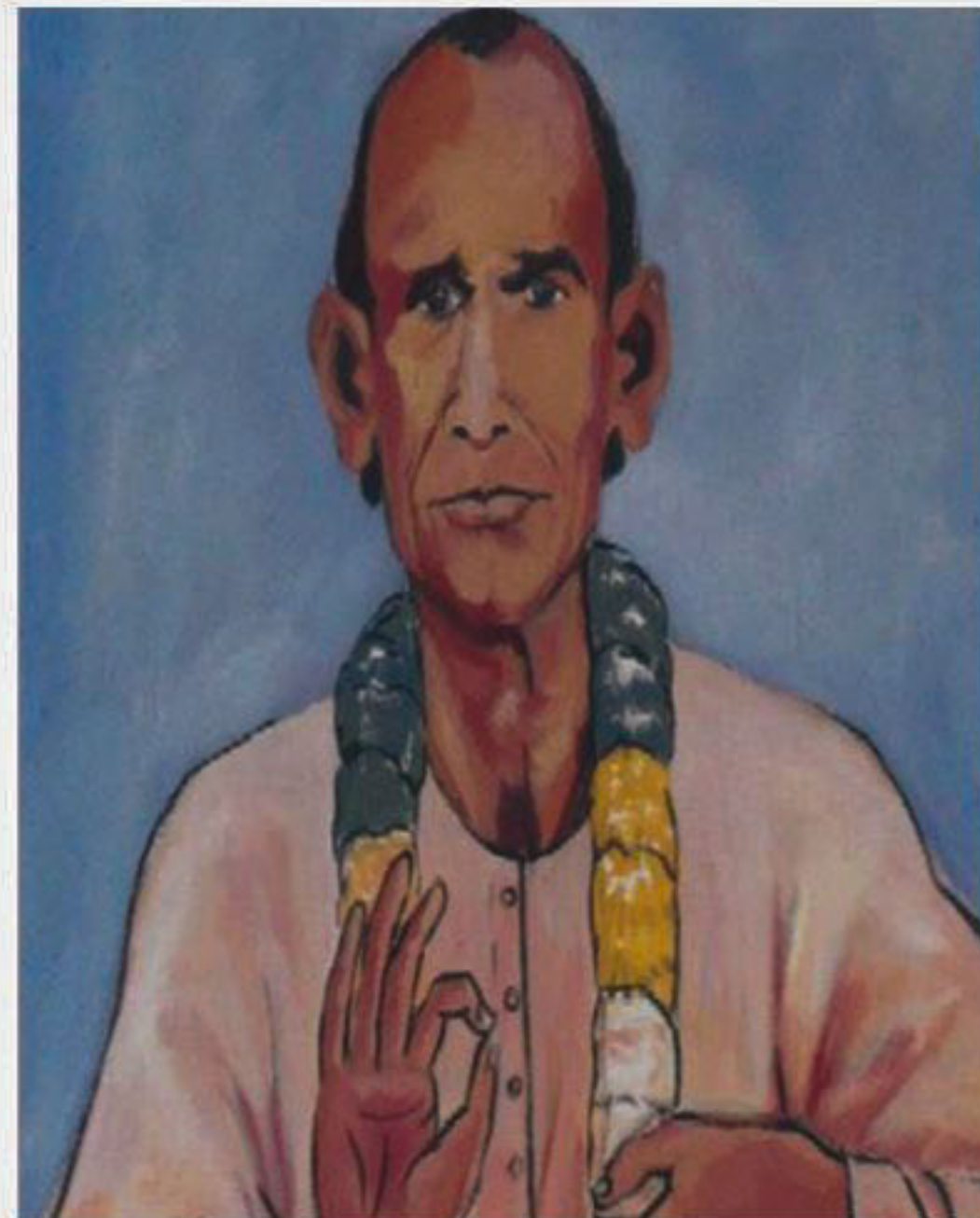
The talented artiste was more busy as a playwright and director for the past couple of years. Some of his works for television include Prokrito Shundori Patree Chai, Nayok Nayok Bhab, Chorer Mon Police Police, Shamsu Baburchir Ijot, Tobuo Prem, Ghore Ghore Durgo, Mayabi Chhayatole.

He also acted in his self-directed dramas, as well as being an enlisted actor at BTV. The latest serial "Source" directed by him is awaiting to be aired. Tariqul Islam Shanto also owned a publishing house called Kolpodut.

He lived with his mother and only brother at his Nakhapara home, before passing away recently at the age of 39. The friendly, adda-loving artist now rests eternally at the Banani graveyard.

Bijoy Sarker

111th birth anniversary observed in Narail



PONUUEL S BOSE, Narail

Spiritual bard Bijoy Sarker's 111th birth anniversary was observed on February 20, amidst much festivity at his village Dumdi under sadar upazila in Narail district.

Bijoy Sarker Foundation arranged a day-long programme to mark the occasion. Wreaths were placed on the portrait of the late poet.

Jahangir Alom, chairman of Bashgram Union Parishad, launched the programme featuring renditions of the bard's songs by artistes from different districts of the country.

At evening set in, bayati Parimal Sarker from Bagerhat district and Gorachad Sarker from Magura district rendered Jari Gaan.

This year the prestigious Ekushey Padak has been awarded posthumously to Kabial Bijoy Sarker for his contribution to modernising 'Kabigaan'.

Kabial Bijoy Sarker was born on February 20 at village Dumdi under Sadar upazila of Narail district. Many of his songs are often aired on radio and TV. He died on December 4, 1985.

ALBUM REVIEW

Monosoroni's debut album examines urban existence

JAMIL MAHMUD

The up and coming band Monosoroni has made an impact with its recent album. The self-titled album features 12 songs penned, tuned and sung by Probar Ripon and Muiz Mahfuz.

Along with Ripon and Mahfuz, Monosoroni also features: Badhon (drums) and Proshun (bass guitar). Ripon plays the rhythm and Muiz creates the melody line on his lead guitar; the compositions are completed by Badhon's beats and Proshun's grooves.

As a vocalist, Ripon is pretty much a hardcore rocker; Muiz has a mellower voice. On the guitar, Muiz matches Ripon's vocal prowess and shows a tendency to produce twisted sounds.

The first track of the album is "Nirjon Abhayaranya". Ripon has written, tuned and recorded the song with

dark overtones. The number narrates the dire situation of an individual who finds himself confined within four walls with a spider as his only companion.

Ripon's other songs, too, more or less have this theme in common. In a sense, these songs are a cry for freedom and a better life.

In the song "Manush Na Kritodash?" Ripon has questioned contemporary existence, which, according to him, is no better than that of a Spartan slave. In "Ma-ke Lekha Chithi", the songwriter asks his mother how to survive in a concrete jungle.

Muiz's songs essentially highlight search for a better life as well, but comparatively, in a more subtle way. Written in first person, his songs find the protagonist standing somewhere between romance and rebellion. His songs include "Tomakey Chhara", "Rampam" and



Cover jacket of the album.

"Jonmandher Kanamachhi Khela".

Muiz has dedicated one of his songs, "Homesick", to poet Shaheed Kadri.

Guest artistes Seth Panduranga Blumberg played the slide-guitar in a couple of songs and Roni (of Meghdol) played the keyboard for the album.

Bengal Music Company Ltd. has produced the album.

Oscar sets the stage for big night

The name Derek McLane may not be familiar to many outside Broadway but this award-winning set designer is about to showcase the biggest project of his career in Hollywood today.

Having worked with Oscar producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron on the Broadway show *How to Succeed in Business* starring Daniel Radcliffe in 2011 - he got the call from the duo offering him the Oscars job.

"It's different in a number of ways (from designing a Broadway set) - one difference is we're not telling a narrative story in the way that you would be for a play, musical or an opera. That's what I'm most familiar with. And we just get one shot at it, there's only one performance. With a play, you do sometimes hundreds, even thousands (of performances). You get more chances to adjust. We don't get that luxury here," McLane said.

McLane studied previous Oscar sets before beginning work on his own design. "One of the mandates Neil and Craig (Oscar producers) gave me

is that they wanted this to look completely different to any other Oscar show, they did not want this to look like what people are familiar with," he added.

McLane says he won't be using industrial lamps as part of his Oscar set "but there are a number of pieces that riff on this idea in ways, some more related to the movies".

His most recent stage production was Broadway's *The Heiress*, starring Oscar-nominated actress Jessica Chastain.

Discussing the design aspect of films, he said "From a design point of view, I think *Life of Pi* is extraordinary, as is *Lincoln* and *Anna Karenina* - what they did with *Lincoln* was gorgeous, capturing the clutter and smoky claustrophobia in the White House. It was a visual surprise. It's an unusually strong crop of films this year from the Oscars."



PHOTO COURTESY: BBC

A sneak preview of Derek McLane's Oscars stage design.

Source: BBC

Week long Ekushey Boi Mela in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

The Ekushey Boi Mela began with 40 stalls displaying books in Bogra on Thursday at Shaheed Khokon Park road.

Mayor of Bogra municipality Adv. Mahabubur Rahman inaugurated the event.

Deputy Commissioner of Bogra Sarwar Mahmud was present as Chief Guest and noted cultural activist Toufique Hasan Moyna, Sadekur Rahman Sujan and H. Alim also attended the programme.

Expressing their solidarity with the spirit of the language movement, Bogra Sommilito Sanskritik Jote and district administration jointly organised the book fair that displayed books on language movement.

The fair created an opportunity to introduce new books among readers of all ages so that they could learn the accurate history of the language movement of 1952 and all struggles for democracy and rights of humanity in the country.

Different cultural organisations of the district performed patriotic songs with dance and recited poems on the occasion.

President of Bogra Sommilito Sangskritik Jote, Monowarul Islam presided over the inauguration of the eight day-long Ekushey Boi Mela.

ATN BANGLA

11:20 Business and Finance
01:25 Shurer Madhuri
06:15 Shushtha Thakun
11:30 Drama Serial: Boiri Batash

CHANNEL i

02:45 Grorey Chorey Gaanar Utshab
06:20 Rupantar
09:35 Garbo
11:30 Prokriti O Jibon

ntv

08:45 Bangla Feature Film
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey
06:15 Shubho Shondhya
09:00 Tomakei khujche Bangladesher

Desh TV

03:02 Gaan R Gaan
06:30 Sanskritir Sharadesh
08:15 Drama Serial: Radio Chocolate
09:45 Tribute to Legend

Maaranga Television

10:02 Bangla Feature Film
04:02 Drama Serial: Notun Alo
06:55 Shudho Shobdo
11:00 Tele-quiz

CHANNEL 9

09:00 Bangla Feature Film
08:30 Drama Serial: Nagarik
10:15 Drama Serial: Idiots
11:00 Sports Daily

CHANNEL 24

08:00 Shopping & Cocking
08:30 Travel Show

RADIO

abc Radio FM 89.2	10:00 Morning Express
09:30 Edik Odik	12:30 No Tension
05:30 Kacha Lanka	04:00 Dhaka Calling
06:30 Mitha Kara	09:00 Full Volume
07:20 GP Lounch	11:00 Back to Back music
07:45 Megh Barata	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
09:30 Love Hour	06:00 Green FM
11:10 Hindi Hits	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
RADIO FOORTI	12:00 Today's Adda
07:30 Hello Dhaka	04:00 U Turn

Harmony

On Gtv
at 09:00pm
Biographical Programme
Artiste: Fahim Hossain Chowdhury



Thor
On HBO
at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Chris Hemsworth, Anthony Hopkins & Natalie Portman

Nagarik

On CHANNEL 9
at 08:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Rahul Ananda, Dipannita



ETV

03:30 Ekushey-er Business
04:30 Documentary: Jibon Brittey
06:30 Desh Jurey Oporadh Porikroma
12:05 Ekushey-er Raat

Boishakhi TV

10:45 Bangla Feature Film
06:15 Drama Serial: Kajja Union
11:00 Reporters Dairy
11:30 Praner Mela

BANGLAVISION

01:05 Bangla Feature Film
06:05 Ebong Class-er Bairey
08:15 Drama Serial: Ladies First
11:25 Business Vision

Rtv

12:35 Bangla Feature Film
07:35 Drama Serial: Thanar Nam Shonir Akhra
09:50 Dhruopdi Kahini
12:05 Shimana Perley

09:00 Drama Serial: Ashin

Gtv

11:30 Bangla Feature Film
09:00 Harmony
09:35 Drama Serial: Jonani

Fox Movies

01:40 Glee: The Concert Movie
04:35 2012
07:15 The Walking Dead
11:30 Colombiana

HBO

03:25 The Three Musketeers
05:35 Due Date
07:25 The Mask
09:30 Thor

Star World

11:00 How I Met Your Mother
03:30 Grey's Anatomy
08:30 Arrow
10:30 The Princess Diaries

Discovery Channel

02:30 Man vs. Wild
04:30 Food Factory
09:30 How we Invented the

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA	08:40pm Shongshar Shukher Hoy Bedonar Goney	Boishakhi TV	09:20pm Ognipath
CHANNEL i	07:50pm Noorjahan	BANGLAVISION	09:05pm Red Signal
ntv	08:15pm Oghoton Ghoton Potiyoshi	Rtv	09:05pm Oloshpur
ETV	09:30pm Pancho Premik	Desh TV	07:45pm Saatkahon
		Maaranga Television	08:00pm Hashi Bari

NEWS BULLETIN

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

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	01:00am Onno Drishti	Rtv	11:20pm Our Democracy
CHANNEL i	12:30pm Taroka Kothon	Desh TV	11:45pm Shoja Katha
ntv	12:00am Ei Shomoy	Maaranga Television	12:02am Shampatik
ETV	10:10pm Media Gossip	CHANNEL 24	12:05am Modhyrater Muktabak
Boishakhi TV	12:00am Zero Hour	Gtv	