

## NEWS bytes

### New Doctor Who to be revealed

The BBC is set to exterminate weeks of fevered speculation tomorrow, when it reveals the identity of the next "Doctor Who" in a live Time Lord extravaganza.

"The Thick of It" actor Peter Capaldi and Idris Elba from "Luther" are both lead contenders to replace Matt Smith as the 12th Doctor for the eighth series, expected to air next summer, according to bookmakers. The new Doctor will be interviewed by Zoe Ball in the half-hour special, which will also feature contributions from the show's executive producer, Steven Moffat, and Smith, who is bowing out after four years.

Cutting It star Ben Daniels is also in contention, as is Skyfall actor Rory Kinnear. David Harewood, Olivia Colman, Dame Helen Mirren and Billie Piper also get a mention.

Source: GUARDIAN

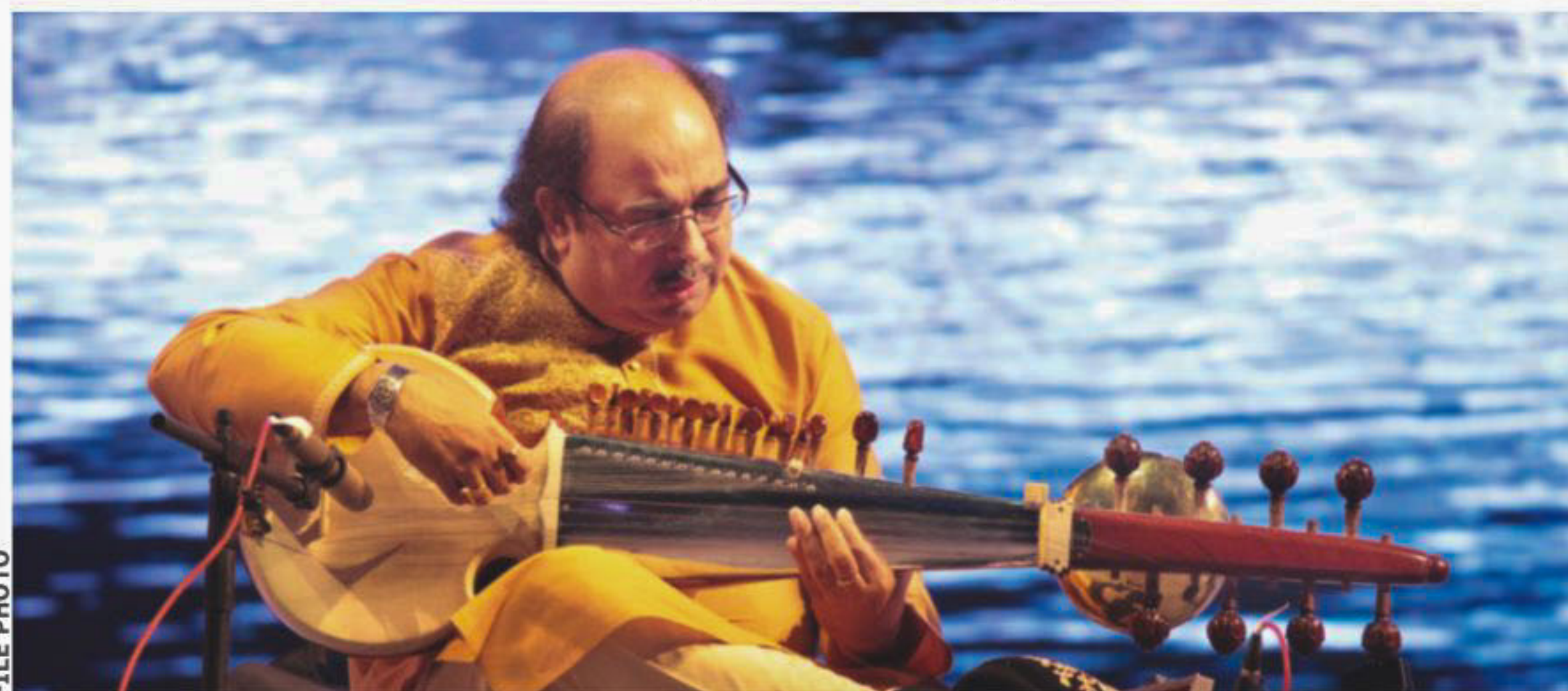
## It's True!



Roger Daltrey, frontman of British rock band "The Who", made his first guitar from a block of wood, a cherry red Strat copy, and joined a band called "The Detours" who were in need of a lead singer. They told him he had to bring a guitar, and within a few weeks he showed up with it, and he could play it too. When his father bought him an Epiphone guitar in 1959, he became the lead guitarist for the band. "The Detours" was later renamed "The Who" in 1964, and went on to sell 100 million records, with 18 Gold, 12 Platinum and 5 Multi-Platinum album awards in the United States alone.

# Swar is the Ishwar of music

In conversation with Pandit Tejendra N Majumdar



ZAHANGIR ALOM

Why is classical music necessary for life? Sarod maestro Pandit Tejendra Narayan Majumdar was asked.

"Classical Music is the root of all music as the way heart beat and the respiratory processes are the vital requirements for a life. The earth was created with the naand or the sound. Through the course of stabilisation, the earth had a close musical concurrence with the sound of nature. The special frequency of that sound is called swar. Swar is Ishwar or the God of music. Classical Music, being an oldest form of high art, will never lose its position from the hearts of music lovers as melody has a universal appeal."

He also expounded on the necessity of arranging classical music festivals, the first of which he attended last December, and the second season of which is slated for later this year.

"I am especially grateful to ITC-Sangeet Research Academy (SRA) and Bengal Foundation for holding such a nice festival that I hope would bring qualitative changes in Bangladeshi music scene. It is really a great venture. Bangladesh is teemed with many a great numbers of classical music audience, enthusiasts, connoisseurs and of course the prodigious talents in classical music. Bangladesh is, in a word, a breeding paradise of many sweet voices. What is needed is the nourishment of those talents. If they received proper taleem or training and knew the secret of performing good pieces long time in melody, they could truly

fashion a big bang. The Bangladeshi talents have to have patience, precise taleem, mental readiness and an initiative to reach the refined melody to the people. An honest effort can ensure the hard task half done and I think, Bengal Foundation is on the right track in achieving that goal."

"The journey has just begun. If it goes on, a new horizon for Bangladeshi classical music will certainly gleam one day," added the Pandit.

"Music is the food for soul," would say my guru Ustad Ali Akbar Khan," he said.

According to the Pandit, strength of classical music is so powerful that it can unite people around the globe taking away all the squabbles. The essence of classical music that has no language, race, religion, caste and creed, can ascertain mental peace among all, creating a new world. Classical music is the only music that can create a fraternity delineating politically constructed boundaries as mere impositions.

Pandit Tejendra Narayan Majumdar started his musical training under his grandfather, Bibhuti Ranjan Majumdar. He later trained under Ustad Bahadur Khan (son of Ustad Ayet Ali Khan) for 18 years until the maestro's death. He then continued under Ajay Sinha Roy, the legendary Ustad Ali Akbar Khan (son of Baba Ustad Allauddin Khan) and Pandit Ravi Shankar. Majumdar is one of the most popular and celebrated sarod players of his generation. He stood first in the All India Radio Music competition in 1981 and was awarded the President's gold medal and also received the Pandit D.V. Paluskar award.

## EID TIDBITS

# Apurbo in celebratory mode

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

Apurbo is one of the busiest TV actors of our time. He has starred in many romantic plays and in his short career has become a popular face among TV viewers. The model-turned-actor recently spoke to The Daily Star on how he is gearing up for Eid.

You seem to be always on the move; how have you managed to fit in time for your Eid shopping?

Apurbo: Before marriage, I shopped for Eid with my friends. Now, my wife and I enjoy shopping for Eid. She has already made the rounds of shops, which will make things easier for me when I go for my picks.

What is your preferred attire this Eid?

Apurbo: Actually, my wife is designing a Panjabi for me. I'm excited about it.

What are your Eid plans?

Apurbo: My Eid schedule includes going to the mosque for Eid prayers, meeting my neighbours and friends. I will also catch up with relatives whom I haven't met for a while because of my busy schedule. I will keep the next day exclusively for my friends. Besides, I will entertain guests who come to our home.

What was Eid like in your childhood?

Apurbo: My childhood Eids were full of surprises. I remember that I always wanted new clothes, and it was kept under the wraps before the big day. But the most fascinating part was the 'Eid salami' that I

got from my parents and other relatives. We saved the money and late in the day compared amongst ourselves as to who got the most. Now, I enjoy giving 'salami' to others. However, after my marriage I get 'Eid Salami' from my mother-in-law.

Do you get to watch the special TV plays aired during Eid?

Apurbo: In my younger days, I was able to see many plays because I was not shooting. However, even today I always manage time to watch a wide range of TV dramas and all.

What is your wife's feedback on your dramas?

Apurbo: My wife Aditi is a great critic of my work. She is complimenting when she likes my dramas. If she doesn't, she readily criticises my acting.

PHOTO: ATL AAKASH



# A R RAHMAN set for first home tour

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Oscar winning composer and singer A R Rahman is set to embark on a month-long musical tour across India, in the first such event in his career at home, and says it would be an effort to interact with fans.

The tour, titled "Rahmanishq", will take Rahman across a number of cities, beginning with Kolkata on October 1, followed by Visakhapatnam (October 12), Jaipur (October 20) and Ahmedabad (October 27).

"It is always fun and exciting to perform for fans.

It will be an experience of music, joy and fun. I think everything has a right time. And it's good that this is happening now. Three years ago, I didn't even know my future," Rahman told reporters recently.

The 47-year-old composer said "I want to closely interact with my fans while we cele-

brate my music on the tour. We are a great prosperous musical nation and tours like these are a great way to rekindle the connection with the audiences on a more personalized level."

Rahman, fondly called the 'Mozart of Madras' said it is the love of the audience which keeps motivating him to create more and more music. He said the singer has to be creative and battle against his personal ego. "I feel any true artiste will have creative ego, without that your work can't be the best. But you have to be at war with your personal ego," he said.

The musical-extravaganza will have live interactive theatrical experience encompassing his award winning musical renditions from feature films like "Roja", "Jodhaa Akbar", "Slumdog Millionaire", "Jab Tak Hai Jaan" to "Raanjhanaa".

The tour aims at spreading the message of friendship, peace and happiness through music.

Before starting his Indian tour, Rahman will present a concert in Sydney on August 24.

# Hanif Sanket's directs TV play for Eid

## Dhoron Gun-e Koron on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular TV personality Hanif Sanket has been a familiar face to TV viewers through his widely popular variety show "Ittyadi." Sanket also makes TV plays on special occasions like Eid, which are equally popular too, as his productions are differently made and carry social messages. Written and directed by Hanif Sanket, a single-episode TV play "Dhoron Gun-e Koron" will be aired on ATN Bangla at 8:50pm on the day of Eid-ul-fitr.

The story of the play zooms in on an urban family. Head of the family Zaman is morally very strong. His children's lives are made difficult due to their father's over-exposed principality. Complexity follows both in and out of the house; but Zaman sticks to his principle and seems uncompromising. A person comes to



"Dhoron Gun-e Koron" is an entertaining family drama.

untie the complex family entanglement. Various events follow.

The TV play features a number of prominent actors including Abul Hayat, Masud Ali Khan, Dilara

Zaman, Apurbo, Jenny, Abdul Kader and Afzal Sharif. Noted lyricist Rafiquzzaman penned the official soundtrack of the play, while Mehedi directed music for it.

# Remembering Hiroshima

## Swapnadal stages Tringsho Shatabdi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Swapnadal and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy jointly observed Hiroshima Day on Thursday at the Experimental Theatre Hall through various programmes. Marking the 68th anniversary of the tragic events of Hiroshima-Nagasaki, the programmes included an anti-war poster and photography exhibition at the lobby of the hall, distribution of paper cranes in memory of Japanese child Sadako Sasaki -- the symbol of trauma of war -- followed by a brief discussion. Minister of the Japanese Embassy in Dhaka Hirowiki Minami, Chairman of Japan-Bangla Peace Foundation (JBPF) Humayun Kabir and the chief of Swapnadal Zahid Repon participated in the talks. The evening's programmes wrapped up with a special staging of Swapnadal's production "Tringsho Shatabdi", a play against the madness of war.

Though the plot of the play is based on the effects of the atomic explosion of Hiroshima-Nagasaki, one of the darkest chapters of humanity, it also focused on Bangladesh's liberation war and other global turmoil as well. The cast and



A scene from the play.

crew of the play included Hasan Rezaul, Sonali Rahman Julee, Fazle Rabbi Sukorno, Rakib Hossaim, Samad Bhuiyan, Zebunnesa Alo and SM Tareq. Zahid Repon directed the play, adapted from the original script by Badal Sarkar.

Swapnadal has been observing Hiroshima Day as the only theatre troupe outside of Japan, with anti-

war messages and support for peace, since 2002. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has been involved with the initiative since 2011, and this year's programmes were also assisted by the Japanese Embassy and JBPF. Although Hiroshima Day is on August 6, the observances were held earlier this year with the schedule of Ramadan and Eid in mind.