

(From left) Mrinal Sen, Syed Shamsul Haq and Alamgir Kabir.



Kabir with eminent cultural activist Waheedul Haque.

PHOTOS COURTESY: MIR SHAMSUL ALAM

ALAMGIR KABIR

Revolutionary

- In the early 60s Kabir went for guerilla warfare training in Cuba.
- Took part in the wars of liberation of Palestine and Algeria.
- Took Part in the liberation war of Bangladesh.
- In 1966, Alamgir came back to Dhaka. The Ayub government imprisoned him for his involvement with the leftist movement.

Journalism

- 1959- Became a reporter of the Communist Party newspaper, the "Daily Worker".
- 1967- Joined at the weekly "Holiday".
- 1971-Published a quarterly newspaper called "Express".
- During the liberation war, Kabir worked as a reporter in English weekly called "People".

Publications

- 1969- Cinema in Pakistan.
- 1978- Started his publication house "Vintage Publication".
- 1979- Film in Bangladesh.
- 1984- Mohona: Chittranatya and This was Radio Bangladesh 1971.

Activism

- 1965- Founder of organisations such as East Pakistan House and East Bengal Liberation Front in London.
- 1969- Established Dhaka Film Institute.
- 1977-Established Bangladesh Filmmakers Association to fight against piracy.

Recognition

- 1982-National Award for best scriptwriting.
- 1979- Sayed Mohammed Pervez Memorial Award.

Family Life

- 1968- got married to Manjura Begum.
- 1975- After separation with his first wife, got married to actress Jayasree Kabir
- He left behind two daughters- Elora Kabir and Ajanta Kabir and a son Lenin Kabir.

He always carried a philosophical attitude to cinema – his works ranging from teaching, writing to filmmaking. What is the face of cinema in this particular region, he would ask. To define it, he emphasised on social consciousness as he wrote, "The aim of every art is to contribute directly or indirectly to social development and also to act as a catalyst in the process of social evaluation."

Renowned filmmaker Tanvir Mokammel termed him as an auteur filmmaker, a filmmaker whose personal influence and artistic control

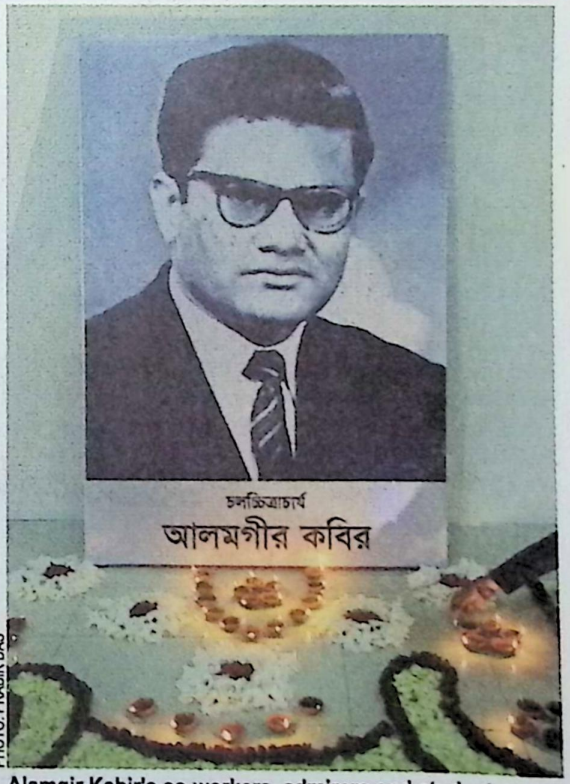


PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Alamgir Kabir's co-workers, admirers and students aptly call him *Cholochitracharya*.