

WHAT'S ON

Dhaka Int'l Film Festival
 Organiser: Rainbow Film Society
 Venue: Public Library; BNM; AFD; EMK Center
 Date: Jan 14-22
 Time: 10am onwards

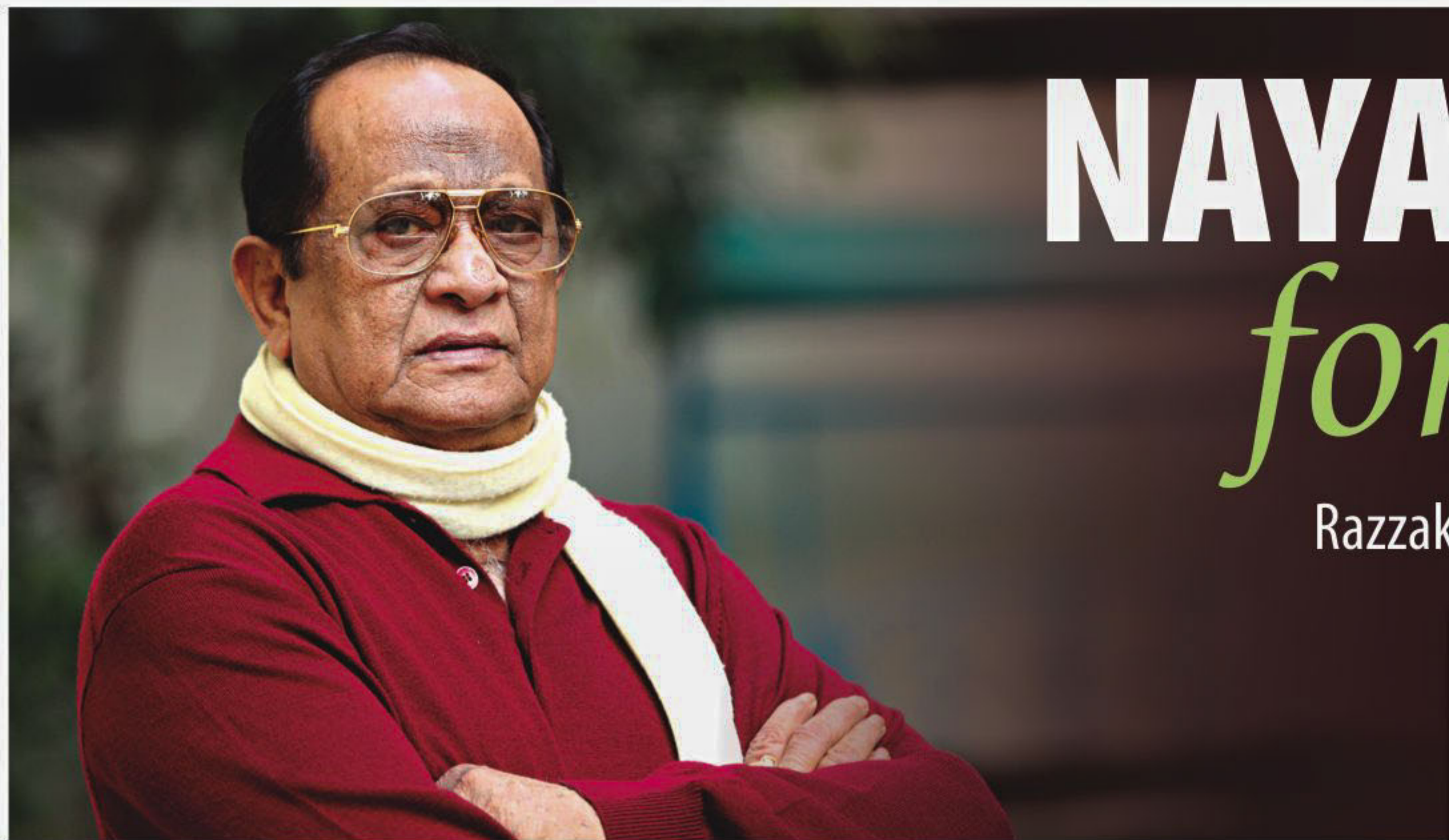
Solo Art Exhibition
 Artist: Gulshan Hossain
 Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, AJ Heights, Cha 72/1/D, Uttara Badda
 Date: Jan 16-Feb 6
 Time: 10am-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: "Less is More" by Asem Ansari
 Venue: Gallery Chitrag, Rd-6, H-4, Dhanmondi
 Date: January 15-31
 Time: 10am-8pm

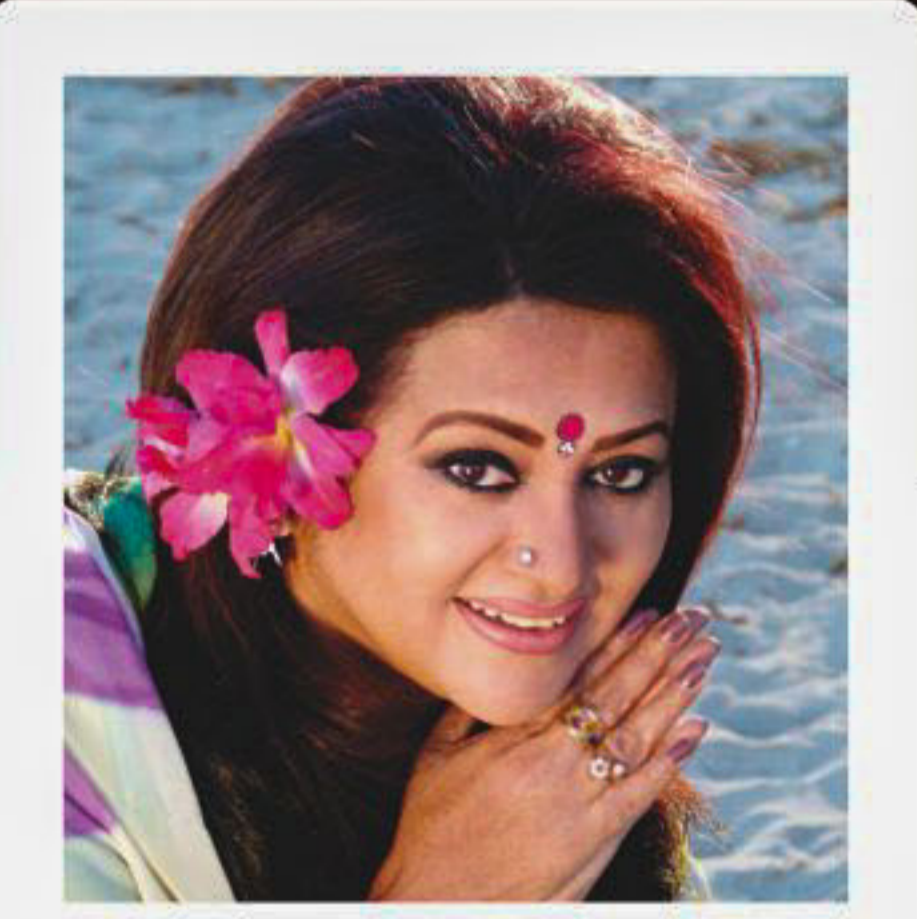
Solo Art Exhibition
 Alluvial Soul- Soil- Symbol
 Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: Jan 3-24
 Time: 9:30am - 7pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
 What I Talk About When I Talk About Life
 Artist: Shameem Subrana
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One
 Date: Jan 9-31; Time: 12-8pm

Contemporary Print Exhibition
 Venue: Shilpagan/H-7, R-13, Dhanmondi
 Date: Jan 15-30
 Time: 3-8pm



NAYAK RAJ
forever
 Razzak turns **75** tomorrow



Bobita
 My first film with Razzak was "Songsar", where he played my father. I was a teenager then, and after two years I played his heroine in "Shesh Porjonto". I was quite uneasy playing romantic scenes alongside him, but director Zahir Raihan convinced me that it was very normal on reel life. Coincidentally, both Razzak and I stepped into cinema with Zahir Raihan's films. And since then Razzak has become my family member and a guardian. I acted alongside him in many films, and some of them became tremendously successful. Razzak is more than just an artiste of great stature; he is an institution. I wish my favourite actor a long, healthy life.



Suchanda
 Razzak is an incredible artiste. I would have never known how much an actor can love films if I hadn't met Razzak. I have experience of working with him in a number of films. And on his birthday I want to say: Long live Razzak and keep acting. Our film industry needs you alive and well.



Samrat
 I can go on about him forever. I am fortunate to have a father like him. Wherever I go, I keep my head up and strong; I remember I'm the son of Nayak Raj Razzak -- who is loved my millions of people. I am proud of him. I worked in films under his direction, and my father has recently worked in a television play under my direction

FAHMIM FERDOUS and SHAH ALAM SHAZU
 It was 1996, and after his disappointment at the commercial failure of his first cinematic Urdu film "Bahana", Zahir Raihan looked to bounce back with "Behula", but after most of the-then leading men of Dhaka'i cinema were disinterested to play a lead role who is dead for most of the film, one of his assistant producers, a certain Razzak, stepped in. The film, starring Suchanda alongside him, brought the limelight on Razzak. His minor character role and assistant director days came to an end, and thus begun the rise of the 'Nayak Raj', which continued for decades. Razzak, arguably the biggest icon of Bangla cinema, turns 75 today. Born in 1942 in Nagtola (near Kolkata's Tollygunge), Razzak was the youngest among three brothers and three sisters. Despite losing his father Akbar Hossain and mother, Nisarunnesa at a young age, he motored on to study at Kolkata, became a part of Rongo Shobha Natya Dal (led by Chhabi Biswas), and even went to Mumbai to get a diploma at the Filmalaya film institute in 1961. But the beginning, his dream wasn't too smooth. Despite doing a few films in Kolkata, times were hard and he came to Dhaka in search of a

better life. He found work at prominent director Abdul Jabbar Khan's Iqbal Films, and assisted in Kamal Khan's "Ujala". But it was not easy -- working in TV series "Ghoroa", and being assistant director for films and doing small roles -- like "Akheri Station" and "Tero Nombor Feku Ostagor Lane", he began working as Zahir Raihan's assistant before "Behula" happened. Despite tough competition from established actors Khan Ata, Khalil, Rahman and Anwar Hossain, with films like "Abirbhav", "Moynamoti", "Taka Ana Pai", "Dorpochorno" and "Jibon Theke Neyo", he rose higher and higher in the industry, and continued the momentum after the Liberation with "Manusher Mon", "Ora Egaro Jon" and "Osru Diye Lekha", among others. Razzak's career took off with a mold-breaking role, and by the time he became the first action hero of the country with Zahirul Haq's "Rongbaj" in 1974, the name of 'Nayak Raj' -- given the previous year by Ahmed Zaman Chowdhury, editor of the film magazine Chitrali, had begun to stick. Even though Razzak was enjoying the height of his popularity, Razzak kept pushing his limits, playing the role of a security guard in 1978 film "Oshikkhito" and of a school assistant in Azizur Rahman's "Chhutir Ghonta",

highly unusual for an industry-ruling leading man. Razzak made his directorial debut in 1977 with the film "Ononto Prem", which he closed with a kissing scene with Babita that was unthinkable at the time. The film was eventually released without that final scene. Despite his hero days coming to a decline in the mid-eighties, he went on to act and direct films into his later ages, many under his own production company Rajlokkhi Productions -- named after his wife. He went on to become the first Bangladeshi actor to be a UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, founded the Bangladesh Film Artistes' Association, and continued his powerful presence on the silver screen. But it wasn't all of that, nor the five National Film Awards in his shelf -- that kept him motivated to keep working. He said in an interview with The Daily Star only last year that he wanted to work till he died. Although he has not been on the big screen after falling seriously ill last year, he remains the 'king' who never really stepped down. He is at the centre of some of Bangla cinema's greatest glory moments, and the love and adulation he receives from his fans and respect from his colleagues remains unmatched.

"Cinema has made me who I am today"



Razzak and Suchanda in "Anwara" (1967).

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Nayak Raj Razzak has enthralled audiences with countless hit films for over four decades. In his long career span, he has received the National Film Awards several times. The Daily Star caught up with the legend, just ahead of his 75th birthday (tomorrow, January 23).
First of all, Happy Birthday!

Razzak: Thanks, and I wish The Daily Star continued success.
What's the birthday gift you want on the day?
Razzak: Any gift is heart-warming, but flowers are the best gift for me. You can't find a single person who does not love the fragrance of flower.
Who is usually the first to wish you on your birthday?

Razzak: My wife, Lokhhi.
What's your expectation from the day?
Razzak: I just wish for the country's welfare and prosperity and people's good health.
What are your expectations from your fans at this age?
Razzak: I just seek everyone's blessings. Last year, I recovered from a very serious illness by the grace of Almighty and people's love. So I just want to be in their blessings.
Are you involved with any work at present?
Razzak: Some selective assignments. Recently, I appeared in a TV play under the direction of my son Samrat.
Do you get nostalgic and look back?
Razzak: When I'm around my grandchildren, I go back to my childhood days. Those were really golden days.
What does your film career mean to you?
Razzak: Film is everything for me. I can't think of anything except cinema in my life. Cinema has made me who I am today, the 'nayak raj' (smiles).
How do you start your day?
Razzak: With morning prayer.

NEWS bytes

"Spider-Man" gets new release date

Sony has shifted the release dates for its upcoming reboot of "Spider-Man". The studio has moved up the release of "Spider-Man" from July 28, 2017 to July 7, 2017. The live-action movie from Jon Watts -- a collaboration with Marvel -- stars Tom Holland as the young webslinger and Marisa Tomei as his aunt May. Sources say the shoot was pushed back a month so a polish could be given to the script before production started. The date was just vacated by Disney's "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales", which will now bow on May 26, 2017. The reboot of "Jumanji" will also be pushed back from Christmas Day 2016 into the now open weekend of July 28, 2017 -- previously occupied by the superhero tentpole. The film is currently the only title slated for that date.



Special segment on Spelling Bee Season 4
 Summit Salutes the Nation Builders

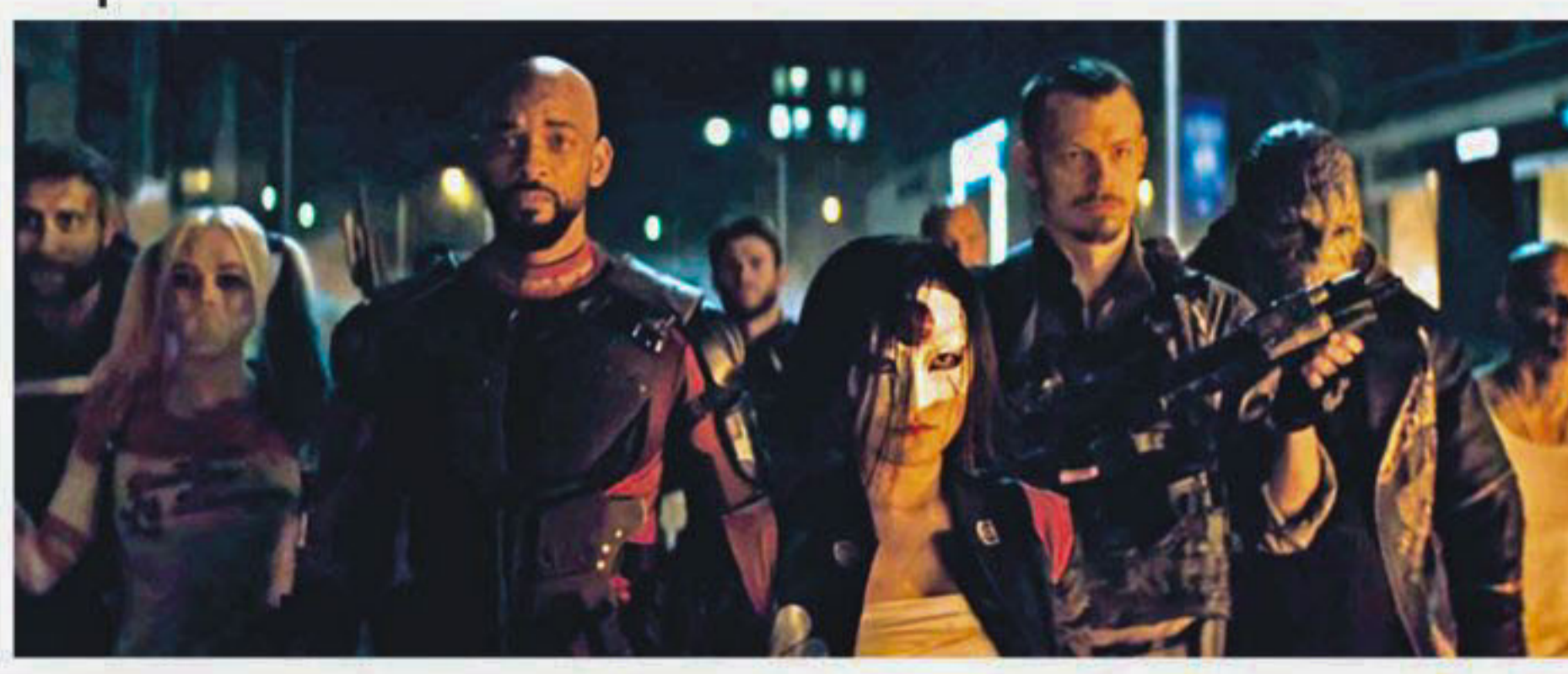
Teachers play a vital role in building the future of a nation. In Spelling Bee Season 4, a new section, "Summit Salutes the Nation Builders" was introduced as a tribute to all the teachers of the nation, says a press release. In the season's early episodes, the host urged the viewers to write about their favourite teacher and send it to champs21.com website. They received write-ups on many teachers in the portal. Many of the teachers they interviewed are

retired but still attached at heart to the noble profession. Champs21.com created an audio-visual of teachers, where they shared wonderful memories of their teaching career. More teachers are to be featured in the upcoming episodes. Keep your eyes on Channel i every Wednesday and Thursday at 7.50pm to catch a glimpse of your favourite teacher. All audio-visuals created are available on champs21.com web site.



New Suicide Squad trailer is a total blast

Though it wasn't originally planned, the first look at footage from David Ayer's "Suicide Squad" arrived shortly after its debut at San Diego Comic-Con last summer... but feels like forever ago. Many months have passed since then, and while fans got the occasional photo and plot tidbit, there haven't been any big previews for the comic book movie since. The drought is now over, as Warner Bros. and DC Comics released the latest trailer for the exciting production on Wednesday. After "Man of Steel" and "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice", many were expecting "Suicide Squad" to be another dark, serious comic book movie, but that's not the picture that this trailer paints at all. Instead, this film looks like it could basically wind up being Warner Bros. and DC Comics' "Guardians of the Galaxy" - and that would be absolutely huge for the growing DC Cinematic Universe. The footage hooks the audience immediately with the amazing sound of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody", and that by itself does an amazing job setting the tone -- making "Suicide Squad" look simultaneously intense and bombastic. It doesn't so much rely on jokes to generate laughs and excite-



ment, but does it simply by cranking everything up -- from the over-the-top action to the eccentricities of the characters. This is a movie featuring a pair of psycho clowns, a lizard man, and a witch lady, and it's just completely leaning into it. Written and directed by David Ayer, "Suicide Squad" is based on the DC Comics of the same name, and begins as government official Amanda Waller (Viola Davis) starts a special program involving incarcerated supervillains. She approaches multiple dangerous and deadly individuals in their cells and makes them an offer: their prison sentences will be reduced

provided that they take part in a Black Ops mission that could wind up costing them their lives. Before long, Waller creates a team that includes the likes of Harley Quinn (Margot Robbie), Deadshot (Will Smith), Boomerang (Jai Courtney), Slipknot (Adam Beach), Diablo (Jay Hernandez), Killer Croc (Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje), Enchantress (Cara Delevingne), Katana (Karen Fukuhara) and Rick Flag (Joel Kinnaman). Together they will go out to save the world... in their own special fashion.

Source: **Cinemablend**