

A PAINTING BY SADAT.

Mega movie on BANGABANDHU on the cards

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

On August 17, India accepted a proposal to facilitate the making of a "mega movie" on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by Bangladesh on his birth centenary, in the year 2020, and the two countries agreed to jointly produce a documentary on the Bangladesh Liberation War on its 50th anniversary.

The decisions were taken at a meeting the visiting Bangladeshi Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu had with his Indian counterpart M Venkaiah Naidu in New Delhi yesterday morning.

The meeting discussed the issue of free film trade between the two countries as Naidu asked Bangladesh to consider relaxing the legal provisions which restricted the number of Indian films in that country, saying such a step "would have a positive impact on the local film industry," according to an official statement.

The Indian minister also offered to train young filmmakers and entrepreneurs from Bangladesh at the Indian Film and Training Institutes.

Referring to joint production of a documentary on the 1971 War of Independence of Bangladesh, Naidu stated that the archival material available with Films Division of India, Doordarshan (India's state-owned television channel), and other media units would be optimally utilised. The proposed documentary would commemorate the 50th year of Bangladesh Independence in the year 2021.

Naidu also agreed to a proposal of Hasanul Haq Inu to facilitate the production of a "mega movie" by Bangladesh to mark the 100th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in 2020, said the statement.

Both sides also agreed to work out a proposal for an agreement for joint audio-visual co-production between the two countries and to organise a Film Festival of India in Bangladesh and a Bangladesh Film Festival in India.

The Bangladeshi Minister agreed to the request of Naidu to provide the celluloid version of the film "Devdas" directed by Pramatesh Barua made in 1935. Bangladesh had earlier provided to India a DVD version of the film.

Naidu also said that collaborative measures would be initiated between National Film Development Corporation of India and Bangladesh Film Development Corporation to promote joint production of films and also between National Film Archives of India and Bangladesh Film Archives for digitisation and archiving.

He also said that information dissemination is critical to counter terrorism which is a common issue plaguing both India and Bangladesh.

"Timely and correct dissemination of information will prevent rumours and falsehood while at the same time, build the spirit of cooperation and understanding between people," according to the statement.

Naidu conveyed to his Bangladeshi counterpart that All India Radio would be launching an exclusive service for Bangladesh and Bengali diaspora titled "Akashvani Maitree" on August 23, 2016. The President of India would be launching the radio station which would act as a bridge of amity between the two countries.

The two ministers, during their deliberations, also agreed to promote capacity- building and training workshops for media persons, exchange programmes for officers associated with information and broadcasting, and exchange of programmes between Doordarshan and its counterpart in Bangladesh.

ART COMPETITION Prize distribution ceremony at Zainul Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Commission of India, in association with University of Dhaka (DU), organised an art competition titled "India@Bangladesh" for young and talented art students from seven universities and specialised art institutions at the Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), DU from August 11 to 13.

Fifty one participants were selected for the competition. They were drawn from the University of Development Alternative, Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology, Jagannath University, University of Dhaka, Jahangirnagar University, Narayanganj Art Institute and Dhaka Art College.

A prize distribution ceremony was held on 16 August at Zainul Gallery, FFA where the paintings of contestants were exhibited for the next four days. The ceremony was followed by the inauguration of the exhibition by Harsh Vardhan Shringla, High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh.



The guests at the exhibition.

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
Title: "Art Against Terrorism - BRAVE HEART"
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, Lane-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: August 19-31
Time: 12am-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: "London 1971"
Venue: Gallery 5, National Art Gallery Plaza, BSA
Date: August 18-20
Time: 3pm-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: "Shilper Aloye Bangabandhu"
Venue: Gallery 3, National Art Gallery Plaza, BSA
Date: August 1-31
Time: 11am-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: Faces. Places. Stories
Artist: Ata Mohammad Adnan
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: Aug 13-31
Time: 9:30am-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Salma Abedin Prithi
Venue: Kalakendra, 1/11, Iqbal Rd, Mohammadpur
Date: August 12-30
Time: 5-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Proshanto Karmakar
Venue: Bay's Gallery, Radius Centre, 57, Gulshan-1
Date: Jul 30-Aug 30
Time: 12am-8pm

"The audience needs to broaden their musical horizons" ... Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb

A CORRESPONDENT

It's been a busy time for popular musician, composer, music director and lyricist Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb. On August 13, EMK Centre held "EMK Happy Hour" with "Shawjeeb & his piano" as the centrepiece. The well recognized Shawjeeb took the audience by storm.

A philosophical Shawjeeb spoke to The Daily Star, after a musical programme at Star Melodies. "One has to gain respect and equally value the other for the way they treat you," he said. He had much more to add:

What are your feelings about the depth of Nazrul and Rabindra Sangeet?

Tanveer: I am no one to talk about the depth of Rabindranath and Nazrul Sangeet. As I get older, I can only try to understand and appreciate the realities behind their songs. Some of the songs that I heard when I was young, never made any sense to me-- until now.

The versatility of Nazrul songs and the authenticity of Rabindranath's songs are a dynamic combination. Think about Nazrul; he never completed his education-- but look where life took him. Today his writings are included in the university curriculum. On the other hand, Rabindranath was privileged but he never devalued anything at all. People need to be passionate like these revolutionaries. Such lumi-

naries come in centuries.

How do you view your audience?

Tanveer: The lay audience needs to be exposed to different genres of music, rather than one particular form. We need spontaneity in our lives and the audience needs to broaden their horizons when it comes to song and music.

As for my audience, they are biased (he laughs a little). There are times when I heard them saying that I was confused, as I have a grasp of so many forms of songs and music. Sticking to one genre of music is being dishonest to myself, my passion, my love for songs and to my audience. I perform Shyama Sangeet, semi-classical and much more. This is what audiences ought to expect from a singer.

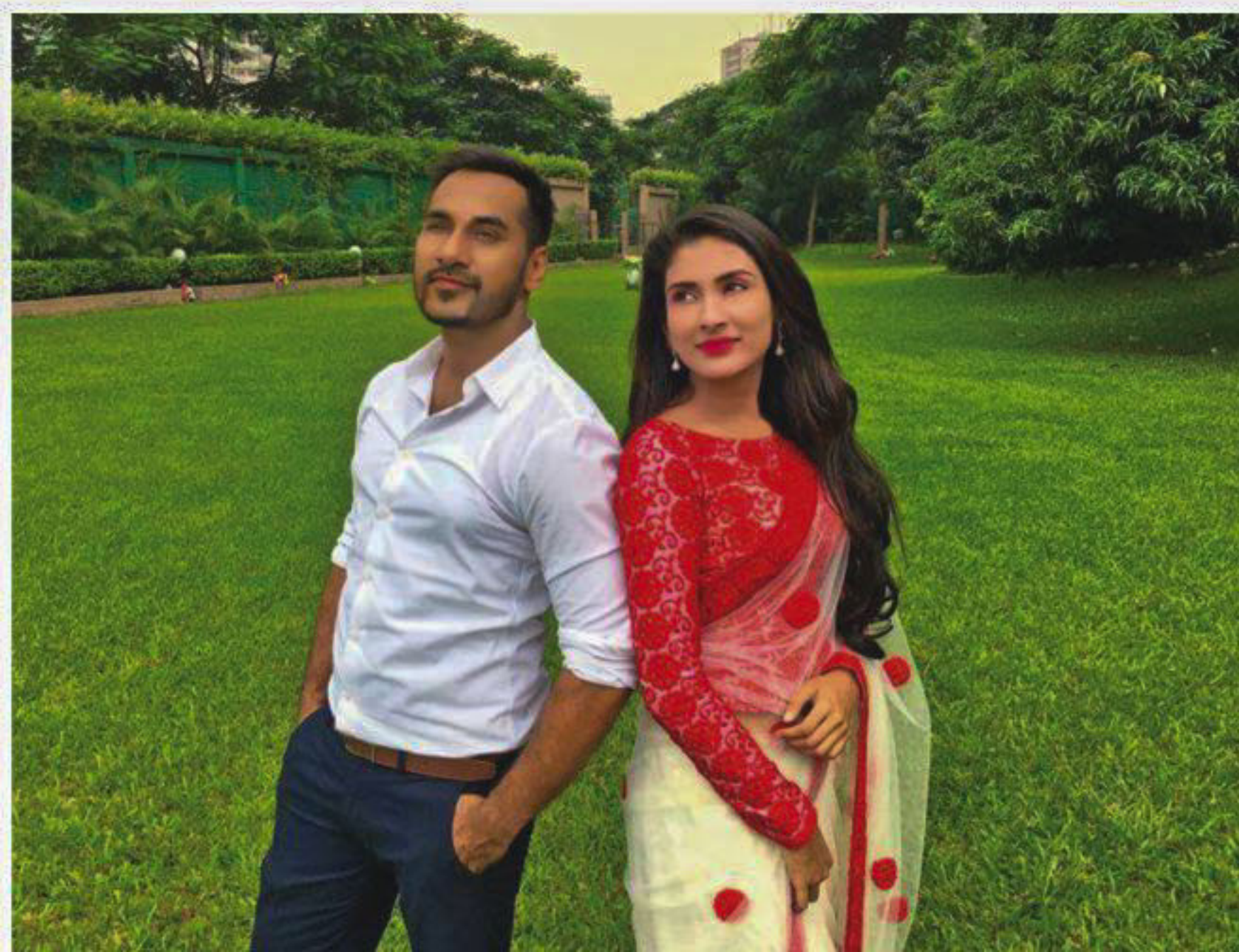
What would you suggest to upcoming singers or musicians?

Tanveer: There are no shortcuts and there will never be shortcuts in life. You have to learn about life the hard way. If you take a shortcut, it will have a way of returning to you and eventually haunt you with regrets. So for upcoming singers, my advice is: know your

passion for them. To gain fame is not easy. People in this field face hardships. They should always remember that there is no competitor. The only competitor in a person's life should be none other yourself. You need to outperform yourself. Don't look at your past mistakes, mend them and look ahead.



"Arshi" on Rtv



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shajal and Mahjabin will be seen together in a new TV play. Directed by Chayanika Chowdhury and scripted by Shafiqur Rahman Shantanu, it is titled "Arshi".

The story of the play revolves around Arshi, who decides to meet a man chosen by her father. Later the story takes a dramatic turn, when they discover an unwanted truth.

Rtv will air "Arshi" tonight at 11:20pm.



SADAT

UNFOLDING TALES UNTOLD

Stars share little-known stories about themselves

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mir Sabbir, actor

I stay at home whenever I get some leisure hours. I prefer to enjoy my free time with my children. For me, leisure hour means I have to be with my family no matter what. So we go for vacation, sometimes within the country and sometimes abroad. Then again, if there is a day off we explore new restaurants. I cannot think of any other activity apart from this. Home is where your heart is and my family has my heart.

Other than that, there was a time when I used to read a lot of books, although I do not get enough time anymore. I still try to read my favourite writers' books whenever I can.