

'Raja Himadri' staged at Shilpakala

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Drishtipat Natyadal staged their production *Raja Himadri* yesterday in Jatiya Natyashala, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

The play is based on the epic *Oedipus* by Greek tragedian Sophocles. It deals with the struggle of soul searching and identity crisis that caused a wound to the human heart for thousands of years, which is still a relatable fact. The play has been translated and directed by theatre activist Dr Khandaker Tazmi Noor, who also plays the most challenging character, Raja Himadri.

Drishtipat Natyadal has performed the drama in different parts of Bangladesh and India, including two international theatrical festivals in India.



I AM CONFIDENT ABOUT 'DOHON'

- Mamo

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

National award-winning actor Zakia Bari Mamo became a household name with the superhit film 'Chuye Dile Mon', and her many roles on the small-screen. She is currently busy with her upcoming film, 'Dohon.' In a recent conversation with *The Daily Star*, the artiste talks about what she has been up to.

What can you tell us about *Dohon*?

Mamo: We are now finishing up shooting for *Dohon*. I am tremendously confident about the film because I believe it has a beautiful story. I am very happy to be working with such a great cast and crew. I hope cinema-goers like the film.

Can you reveal anything about your character in *Dohon*?

Mamo: My character in *Dohon* is a journalist

named Maya. I am quite excited to see how my fans and admirers will react to Maya, as this role is different from anything I have done before.

Your last release *Alta Banu* was presented at the International South Asian Film Festival in Toronto, Canada. How do you feel?

Mamo: People at home and abroad were full of praise for *Alta Banu*, which makes me very happy. I had the pleasure of work-

ing with reputed small-screen director Arun Chowdhury. It was overall one of the most positive experiences of my career by far.

Will your fans and admirers see you in a film called *Monforing*?

Mamo: Yes. I will be working with director Shihab Shaheen and actor Arefin Shuvo in *Monforing*. We will reveal more about the film when the time comes.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Bappa's 'Kobita' catches on

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

When *Mehdi Mix 1* released on Eid, it gained a lot of praise for featuring some of the top artistes in the industry. Among the songs from the album, Bappa Mazumder's *Kobita* has recently seen the launch of a brand new music video. The music video, which released under the banner of G Series, sees Bappa display his 'hidden' acting talent along with the melodious voice he is renowned for. The director, Shuvobroto Sarkar has brought out the best in Bappa and Sushmita Sinha, who stars opposite him. The gifted singer's acting prowess makes us wonder whether we will see him star in his own movie!

Today marks the 5th death anniversary of prominent folk singer and an active artiste of the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, Bipul Bhattacharya.



REMEMBERING BIPUL BHATTACHARYA

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Fondly remembered for his famous song *Ei na Bangladesher Gaan*, the then 16 year old Bipul Bhattacharya appeared in the documentary *Muktir Gaan* by Tareque and Catherine Masud where he seemed to lead many choruses. In an interview, the late filmmaker Tareq Masud had mentioned that there would be no *Muktir Gaan* without Bipul Bhattacharya. Unfortunately, this eminent artiste has not received much recognition from the nation. He suffered from lung cancer and silently passed away in 2013.



PHOTO: THE FILM'S OFFICIAL TWITTER PAGE

The poster of Malala Yousafzai's biopic titled 'Gul Makai' features a Pakistani girl holding a book in her hand. What's intriguing is the fact that one half of the book is caught in flames, which perhaps depicts the struggles that Malala faced in her life. The film has been helmed by Amjad Khan and has the intriguing tagline of "One child, one teacher, one book & one pen, can change the world."



Sonali Bendre Behl revealed she has been diagnosed with "high-grade" cancer and is undergoing treatment in New York. The actor called the diagnosis a "curveball" but said her family and friends have stood by her and they remain "optimistic" in this difficult time.



Sonali Bendre Behl @iamsonalibendre · 3h

Sometimes, when you least expect it, life throws you a curveball. I have recently been diagnosed with a high-grade cancer that has metastasised, which we frankly did not see coming. A niggling pain led to some tests, which led to this unexpected diagnosis. My family and close friends have rallied around me, providing the best support system that anyone can ask for. I am very blessed and thankful for each of them.

There is no better way to tackle this, than to take swift and immediate action. And so, as advised by my doctors, I am currently undergoing a course of treatment in New York. We remain optimistic and I am determined to fight every step of the way. What has helped has been the immense outpouring of love and support I've received over the past few days, for which I am very grateful.

I'm taking this battle head on, knowing I have the strength of my family and friends behind me.