



The song, "Nongor Tolo Tolo" was performed by Fatema Tuz Zohora, Samina Chowdhury, Salma Akbar, Elita and Kona, accompanied by Ghaashphoring Choir.

## JAYA AHSAN talks 'Alatchakra', latest projects

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

National Film Award-winning actor Jaya Ahsan has earned acclaim for her performances both at home and abroad. Her film, "Alatchakra", a government-funded project based on the Liberation War of Bangladesh, was released recently. Dubbed as the first 3D film to be released in Bangla, "Alatchakra" is directed by Habibur Rahman, and based on Ahmed Sofa's novel of the same name. In a candid chat with The Daily Star, Jaya Ahsan talks about working on the film, and more.

**Congratulations on the release of your film, "Alatchakra". Do you have any message for your fans?**  
Thank you to you, and to The Daily Star. I am grateful to my fans for their immense love and support over the years. I intend to keep working hard for them. After a long delay, movie theatres have started releasing new films. Our film industry has dealt with huge losses amidst the pandemic. Now, I hope that people come to watch our film, following all safety guidelines. This is a special film because we made it to commemorate 50 years of Bangladesh's independence.

**"Alatchakra" has been released at over 10 movie theatres in the country so far. How do you feel about the audience's response?**

My loved ones and well-wishers who watched the film praised my work. They are now encouraging others to go watch it in theatres. I attended a premiere show of the film, along with the audience. Their response truly inspired me.

**"Alatchakra" is adapted for the silver screen from a novel. Did this adaptation challenge you in any way?**

"Alatchakra" is an important film because it is based on a novel by a celebrated author like Ahmed Sofa, and it focuses on the Liberation War of Bangladesh. Even though there were different pressures surrounding the film adaptation and it challenged me in various ways, I enjoyed working on it, and I was determined to do a good job.

**You play the role of Tayeba in the film. What can you tell us about her?**

The protagonists of "Alatchakra" are Daniel (Ahmed Rubel) and Tayeba, who meet at a refugee camp. The film explores the Liberation War of Bangladesh brilliantly. I don't want to take away the excitement by revealing too much about it.

**You also worked on a film directed by Piplu R Khan, during the shutdown induced by the pandemic. Can you tell us anything about that?**

The film with Piplu R Khan is currently in post-production. I have also collaborated with Indian filmmaker Soukanya Ghoshal for the film, "OCD".

Translated by Shababa Iqbal

# Key moments from MUJIB CHIRANTAN

Bangabandhu's birth centenary, independence golden jubilee celebrations conclude



(L) A musical production, arranged by Fuad Almqutadir, featured singers Konal, Pantha Kanai, Johan, Sabbir Zaman, Tanjib Sarwar, Kona, Anika, and Tashfee, with choreography by Rachel Priyanka Perris. (R) Elita Karim and Dilshad Nahar Kona paid a tribute to the legendary Ayub Bachchu, with a cover of "Bhalolagar Bhalobashar Tumi Amar Bangladesh", a song by him.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Celebrating the birth centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the golden jubilee of Bangladesh's independence, a ten-day programme, "Mujib Chirantan", was organised at the capital's National Parade Square from March 17 to 26.

The celebrations were aired live on television and social media, every day. The programme was held following health guidelines, as guests from home and abroad joined the celebrations.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the programme, alongside heads of governments, or states, of different countries. We have compiled some key moments from "Mujib Chirantan".

On the first day, a theatrical production, based on the life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was staged. It started off with the depiction of the dark times



Raef Al Hasan Rafa arranged a musical performance, featuring Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's favourite songs.

following World War I in 1920, when Bangabandhu was born on the 17th of March. During his birth, the Indian subcontinent was met with nothing but injustice, scarcity, and domination, while the citizens cried in fear, hunger and dearth. Starting from Bangabandhu's encounter with former Prime Minister of Bengal Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy to his time in Baker Govt Hostel in Smith Lane, Kolkata, the performance featured it all.

On the fourth day, Raef Al Hasan Rafa, the man behind AvoidRafa, arranged a musical performance, featuring Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur



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Rahman's favourite songs, such as "Jhonjhar Moto Uddam", "Chol Chol Chol", "Takhum Takdhum Bajai", and "Purbo Digonte Shurjo Utheche". Sakib Chowdhury, Shumi, Sufi, and Rafa and Friends, were a part of the production. The artists also performed a new song about Bangabandhu and Bangladesh, "Tarunner Alokshikha", written by Sheikh Rana and composed by Rafa.

Another musical production, arranged by Fuad Almqutadir, featured singers Konal, Pantha Kanai, Johan, Sabbir Zaman, Tanjib Sarwar, Kona, Anika, and Tashfee, with choreography by Rachel Priyanka Perris. The artists

performed songs such as "Tora Shob Joyodhoni Kor", "Khachar Bhitro Ochin Pakhi", and "Nao Chariya De", among others. Fuad took to social media to thank all the artistes, stating that he felt blessed to be a part of the event. "Thank you Johan Alamgir and Amzad Hossain for handling everything production related in Bangladesh as I did my share of the work from my home in New Jersey," he further wrote in a Facebook post.

On the seventh day, commemorating Bangabandhu's determination for an equal country with equal opportunities for all, the programme highlighted the glorious achievements of women in Bangladesh over the last 50 years, in every sphere of life. Celebrated singers Elita Karim and Dilshad Nahar Kona paid a tribute to the legendary Ayub Bachchu, with a cover of "Bhalolagar Bhalobashar Tumi Amar Bangladesh", a song by him. "Nongor Tolo Tolo" was performed by Fatema Tuz Zohora, Samina Chowdhury, Salma Akbar, Elita and Kona, accompanied by Ghaashphoring Choir. The country wore a festive look throughout the ten days, commemorating the special occasion.



PHOTO: STAR



## Spring In Bloom Fashion Exhibition

The Spring in Bloom fashion exhibition was a three-day event that ran from March 18 to 20 at Edge Gallery of Gulshan North Avenue, Dhaka. Unilever Bangladesh Limited took the stride to organise a glamorous event under its flagship brand, TRESemmé, in association with the Fashion Design Council of Bangladesh. The event aimed to showcase the beauty and importance of slow fashion in the bustling world that moves faster than the blink of an eye.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF SPRING IN BLOOM