



Deepa Khandaker



Shamim Ara Nipa



Anisul Islam Hero



Shibli Mohammad

In fond memory of a pioneer in dance, Golam Mostofa Khan

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When we were little, we used to watch Golam Mostofa on BTV, and that is when I decided that like him, I too wanted to dance. He was very close to Nipa and I, and we really was a father figure to us. He took Benuka Lalitkala academy to new heights.



Golam Mostofa Khan receiving the Ekushey Padak.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Ekushey Padak winning choreographer and dance maestro Golam Mostofa Khan died Sunday night at Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka. He was 82 years old.

After the country's independence, he was one of the integral figures in the popularisation of dance as an art form in the region. The cultural personality passed away after suffering from pneumonia and old-age related health problems.

The Daily Star reached out to eminent

dancers from Bangladesh, who shared their respects for the departed figure.

Shamim Ara Nipa:

He was a bright star in the skies of our industry. When we began dancing, he was one of the artistes that we looked in awe – he was a blessing for us. His contributions will never be forgotten. He was a hundred percent pure as a dance guru, and moreover, he was always positive in his attitude. May he rest in peace.

Shibli Mohammad:

He was a pioneer of dance in Bangladesh. No

one could even conceive at that time, the fact that a man could take dance as a profession. If he did not take the step, dance wouldn't be as accepted a profession as it is today. He ignored all the criticisms and ridicule to single-handedly fight for what he believed in.

When we were little, we used to watch Golam Mostofa on BTV, and that is when I decided that like him, I too wanted to dance. He was very close to Nipa and I, and we really was a father figure to us. He took Benuka Lalitkala academy to new heights.

Anisul Islam Hero:

He was a sweet-natured person, always in smiles. He treated me like a family member, and we were close for many years. I talked to him a few days ago, but I had no idea that the conversation would be our last – I was going to Chennai for my sister's treatment, and he said that he will pray for her. Years ago, when I came back from India, I taught at the Benuka Lalitkala academy. It was from then that I had grown close to him, and since then, we never drifted apart. He was a thorough gentleman, and I feel as if I've lost a family member.

Deepa Khandakar

In 1972, we toured India with Golam Mostofa bhai. I still fondly remember that time – he was so gracious, so loving that it was difficult to forget him. He was a complete dance guru, who valued discipline and dedication. We adoringly called him 'old hero'. I worked at his Benuka Lalitkala academy, and I was always in awe of how a person could be so easy to talk to. When he got sick, I called him, to which he replied that it was nothing but a simple fever. Only if I knew! He will always be one of the shining stars of dance.

Taylor Swift wins most prizes at MTV Europe Music Awards

Taylor Swift has bagged four awards at the coveted MTV Europe Music Awards on Saturday. The singer took home the awards for 'best artist', 'best pop', 'best video' and 'best long-form video'. The pop-star won the best video for *All Too Well*.

Nicki Minaj won the 'best song' award for *Super Freaky girl* and 'best hip-hop' award. British pop star Harry Styles won the 'best live' award, while BTS secured the 'biggest fans category' for the fifth consecutive year.

The event which was broadcasted live on MTV, paid tribute to musicians from Brazil to South Korea.



Small reunion of popular celebrities in the USA

Many popular television faces have moved abroad for a better future and brighter perspective. Actress Priya Dias posted some beautiful pictures from a friend's get-together at Queens, New York in the US.

The picture showcased the gorgeous Bipasha Hayat, Sara Zaker, Tony Dias, and Priya Dias in a single frame.

Priya Dias posted the pictures along with the caption, "Thank you very much Dola Bhabhi, for such a wonderful arrangement. After a long time, I got to meet Bipasha apu and Sara Zaker bhabi, and I really enjoyed it to the fullest. The music, the food, and the conversations were just perfect. I couldn't have asked for more."



NEWS

Pursuit of dues hits

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In addition to the termination benefits, the money they are owed also includes the provident fund, created by docking a percentage of workers' wages every month.

Rashid said, "When the provident fund was set up, many workers were wary of the concept but we were told that BEPZA would guarantee the fund, but now that money is gone too."

At the DRU, in a room full of nearly 200 female garment workers, almost everybody failed to get a job after getting illegally laid off from the factory.

The workers were asked to raise their hands if they failed to get employed afterwards—and almost all the hands shot up.

"The factory was established in 1994, and the workers had been there for several years. When they were laid off, they could not find jobs because they were considered too old," said National Garment Workers Federation chief Amirul Haque Amin.

Most of the workers present in the room yesterday were middle-aged and above. It is a common practice in the industry to value speed and younger workers.

"When the factory closed down I was at the end of my work years," said one Jibannahar. "I had worked for 10 years at that factory. I was earning Tk 5,500 monthly, of which a portion went to the provident fund. I also did not get the salary for the last month of work."

According to labour law, if a factory wishes to terminate a worker, then they must give 120 days' notice and also compensate at a rate of 30 days' wages for every completed year of service.

"We had gotten tired of protesting and many moved away," said Jibannahar, explaining why they have been silent for so many years.

Speaking on the issue, DEPZ authorities said it has to be verified whether the claimants were actually workers of the factory.

"They asked us to provide an authentic list of the workers but the authorities should have it. BEPZA keeps workers' list of all factories as part of a rule," said Amin.

BEPZA's Executive Director (investment promotion) Tanvir Hossain said that they have to look into the matter since it is such an old case.

BNP prepares for a grand

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The Daily Star's repeated calls for comments.

Police also arrested three party men in connection with old cases in Habiganj yesterday.

The arrestees are Hafizur Rahman Khan, president of Gupaya union BNP, Abdul Hamid, its vice-president, and Md Shaheen Mia, a former convener of the unit.

Golam Mortuza, officer-in-charge of Habiganj Model Police Station, said they were arrested from their homes in separate drives.

He, however, could not confirm if the three had any cases against them.

GK Gaus, senior joint convener of Habiganj district BNP, said, "They [the

arrestees] are not accused in any case. Police arrested them only to create panic among our leaders with an aim to foil our rally."

Meanwhile, unlike the previous divisional rallies, transport owners and workers in Sylhet have not yet called a strike.

Speaking to The Daily Star, some of them, seeking anonymity, said they were waiting for instructions from the central leaders.

A strike, however, is unlikely as a religious gathering of the Anjuman-e Hefajat-e Islam Bangladesh is scheduled to take place in the city's central truck terminal from November 17-18.

Admission process for all

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the central lottery will also need to hold a lottery through committees approved by the education ministry.

Applications for both the government and non-government schools will have to be submitted using the website "gsa.teletalk.com.bd".

Students would be able to select five schools against one form. The price of a form has been set at Tk 110 and the fee can be deposited from Teletalk prepaid mobile phones.

All schools would need to complete the admission process within December 28.

Children aged six and above will be allowed to enrol in Class I.

For the past decade, admissions to Class I have been taking place via lottery all over the country. Last year, the government introduced the lottery system for all classes of secondary schools.

However, the admission process at government primary schools is entirely different. The schools enrol all students who apply and no admission test is required.

Each year, millions of students and their guardians across the nation wait for the admission day. Majority of students are enrolled in Class I, at the beginning of students' academic life, and in Class VI, after the completion of primary education.

According to the Directorate of Primary Education, 3,250,251

students were enrolled in Class I across the country in 2021. The same year, 21,09,353 students were enrolled in Class VI, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics.

The DSHE's objective of introducing the lottery system was to lessen the hassle of students and guardians, who previously had to go from one school to another seeking admissions.

Another objective was to mitigate the "allegations of irregularities and corruption," regarding the admission process at non-government schools, top officials of the directorate told The Daily Star.

Before the lottery system, all schools used to admit students only based on vacancy.

Man dies after AL

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lawmaker; Ahmed Hossain, AL central organising secretary; Azizus Samad Don, AL central member; and lawmakers Joya Sengupta, Muhibur Rahman Manik, Shamima Shahrier were greeting the crowd from the stage at that time.

Mosharraf's men then started throwing brickbats and stones towards the leaders.

No central leaders, however, were injured as they were protected by the local members present at the council.

Both Mosarraf and Ranjan have been suspended from the party.

World Cup fever

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40,000-strong Facebook fan page for Tunisia's national side, one of the four Arab teams qualified along with Qatar, Morocco and Saudi Arabia.

Qatar "could have offered preferential prices" to fans in the region, Abed told AFP, although Qatar says it has subsidised the cost of accommodation available on its official portal.

Abed was one of several fans contacted by AFP in a straw poll of supporters across the region, whose population is more than 400 million.

World Cups have traditionally attracted more affluent supporters than weekly club football, whose fanbase is often working-class, football historian Paul Dietsch told AFP.

The World Cup in Qatar "reinforces" the universal trend of a growing gap between the rich and the poor, Dietsch said.

Even in oil-rich Saudi Arabia, which has the Arab world's largest economy and shares a land border with Qatar, fans said the costs were prohibitive.

"You have to take out a loan to attend the three (group) matches," said 25-year-old Saudi student Mouhannad, who asked not to be identified by his full name.

According to FIFA, Qatar has topped the list of countries for World Cup ticket purchases, which neared three million.

Man held

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They were directed by their father to do so.

Hearing the victim's screams, locals rescued her and admitted her to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital. Three days after treatment there, she filed a written complaint with Narsingdi Sadar Police Station yesterday, accusing Mujibur and his sons.

At least 10-12 unnamed people were also made accused in the complaint.

Al Amin said Mujibur would be produced before a court, after which he will be sent to jail, adding that police have launched a drive to arrest the others.

Biden, Xi clash on Taiwan

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aggressive actions toward Taiwan, which undermine peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and in the broader region, and jeopardise global prosperity," the White House said.

Despite the clash on Taiwan, the White House indicated it had found some common ground with China on Russia's invasion of Ukraine – a high priority for Biden who is hoping to deprive Moscow of its key potential source of international

support.

Xi and Biden "reiterated their agreement that a nuclear war should never be fought and can never be won and underscored their opposition to the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in Ukraine," the White House statement said.

Biden also nudged China to rein in ally North Korea after a record-breaking spate of missile tests has raised fears that Pyongyang will soon carry out its seventh nuclear test.

WB assures full support

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He was accompanied by Abdoulaye Seck, the WB's incoming country director for Bangladesh and Bhutan, who will assume his position on January 1, 2023.

During the press briefing, Ihsanul Karim said the prime minister also requested the WB to take steps regarding the Russia-Ukraine war, which has been causing immense hardship across the globe.

Raiser described Bangladesh as a "success" in terms of development. "Bangladesh is one of the countries

that has surprised the world with its impressive development."

He also noted that significant development took place under the leadership of Sheikh Hasina.

He lauded Bangladesh's successes in disaster management, saying that casualties in the country due to cyclones have lessened due to successful management capability.

The WB is working to ensure food security and providing surplus foods to countries with deficits to meet their needs, he added.

'Missing' doctor

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case with Kishoreganj Model Police Station.

CTTC officials yesterday disclosed his arrest and involvement in militancy.

Md Asaduzzaman, chief of the CTTC unit, told The Daily Star that Kawsar was a top leader of Ansar Al Islam and several members of the outfit's military wing were active under his command.

Sources said his wife is an intern at the hospital.

Investigators claimed that Kawsar was "responsible for all activities of the outfit in Kishoreganj. He has been involved in militancy since 2013".

"We have got the names of several doctors from Kawsar. They are also working for the outfit," said a top CTTC official, requesting anonymity.

The official added that they were also looking into the activities of his wife.

Kawsar used to conduct a training programme for the outfit members in a house in Kishoreganj.

Ahamedul Islam, additional

deputy commissioner of the CTTC unit, said they came to know about Kawsar's links with the outfit while investigating a case filed with Dakshin Khan Police Station on September 24.

On that day, CTTC arrested Saiful Islam alias Shakil and Rezaul Alam alias Tinku in the capital for their alleged links with the outfit.

Shakil had training from Kawsar, the CTTC official added.

Neurons that help

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new neurosurgical treatments, said: "This paves the way to more targeted treatments for paralysed patients."

"We can now aim to manipulate these neurons to regenerate the spinal cord."

As part of the clinical trial, the scientists recruited nine participants with severe or complete paralysis caused by spinal cord injury.

The patients received epidural electrical stimulation (EES) treatment – an experimental therapy that helps those regain movement and control that had been lost.