

ANJANA

A legacy of 300 films and an unbeatable smile

‘Dasyu Bonhur’ marked the debut of Anjana in the film industry. Sohel Rana played the lead role, and also produced the movie. The film scored massive success at the theaters. Following this, they co-starred in Jadunagar, which also did well. Anjana and Sohel Rana became a popular on-screen pair, collaborating on numerous films.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Veteran actress Anjana Rahman, a beloved figure in Bangladeshi cinema, passed away at 1:10 am on Saturday while receiving treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Hospital. Her passing marks the end of an era, leaving behind a legacy of exceptional contributions to the film industry.

Anjana fell ill with a persistent fever in early December. After initial treatment at a private hospital, where she was admitted to the Coronary Care Unit (CCU), she was transferred to BSMMU, where tests revealed a blood infection.

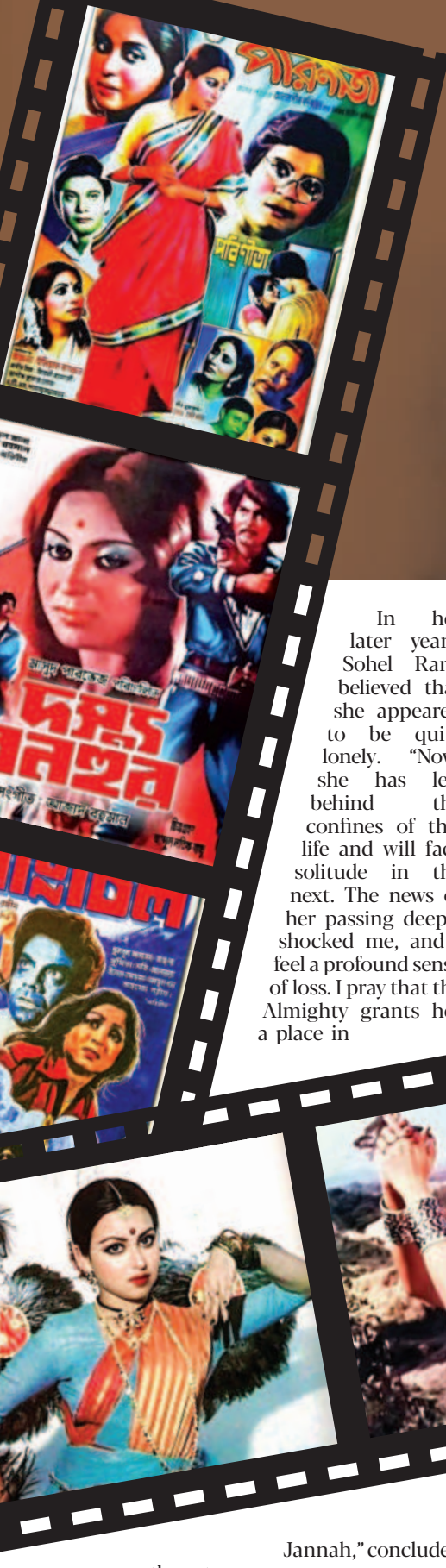
The actress was taken to the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC) at 11 am on Saturday, for fans and colleagues to pay their respects. Following the first namaz-e-janazaat FDC, a second one was held at Banani graveyard before her burial.

Born on June 27, 1965, Anjana made her acting debut with the critically and commercially successful *Dasyu Bonhur*, based on Romena Afaz’s popular series. Directed by Shamsuddin Togor and produced under Sohel Rana’s banner, the film paired her with Rana and established her as a promising talent.

Dasyu Bonhur marked the debut of Anjana in the film industry. Sohel Rana played the lead role, and also produced the movie. The film scored massive success at the theaters. Following this, they co-starred in *Jadunagar*, which also did well. Anjana and Sohel Rana became a popular on-screen pair, collaborating on numerous films.

Reflecting on his memories of Anjana, Sohel Rana shared that she was an accomplished dancer. During the Pakistan era, at just 9 years old, she received an award from Ayub Khan. “I first came to know her through her dance performances, having watched her at an event. Impressed, I decided to introduce her to the world of cinema.”

“In *Jadunogor*, Anjana delivered an exceptional dance performance, moving gracefully like a doll. I believed no one else could replicate that dance the way she did. From then on, I affectionately called her ‘Doll Dancer,’ a name I continued to use for her throughout her life,” said the noted actor.



In her later years, Sohel Rana believed that she appeared to be quite lonely. “Now, she has left behind the confines of this life and will face solitude in the next. The news of her passing deeply shocked me, and I feel a profound sense of loss. I pray that the Almighty grants her a place in

Razzak, became a massive hit. The film resonated with audiences across urban and rural areas, cementing her status in the industry. Over her career, she acted in a record 30 films with Razzak, including notable titles such as *Anarkoli*, *Ram Rahim John*, *Saheb Bibi Golam*, *Matir Putul*, *Rojonigondha*, *Sohag*, *Sanai*, *Bidhata*, *Mana*, and *Abhijan*.

Both Rozina and Anjana have worked on several movies together. Most notably, their films *Abhijan* and *Matir Maya* left an impression on their audiences. During the filming of these movies, they developed a strong bond. Rozina fondly reminisced about the special moments they shared while working on *Abhijan*.

“She dedicated her

life to cinema. Before that, she was a well-known dancer. I have countless memories of Anjana *apa*. I remember shooting *Abhijan*, a film by Nayak Raj Razzak, outdoors. We filmed on a ship over a river for many days and stayed there. During that time, she made me feel like family. We shared so many stories. When I went to see her for the last time at the hospital on Saturday night, I couldn’t control my tears. May the Almighty grant her Jannah,” concluded the actress.

Anjana’s career spanned over four decades, during which she appeared in over 300 films. She shared the screen with nearly all leading actors of her time, including Zafar Iqbal, Jashim, Wasim, Ujjal, Sohel Rana, Farooque, and Bulbul Ahmed.

Her collaboration with Zafar Iqbal in 16 films, including *Protibodh*, *Ashirbad*, *Ankur*, and *Shesh Dekha*, was particularly notable. Additionally, she acted in 27 films with Jashim, a testament to their enduring on-screen chemistry.

Her versatility extended beyond the Bangladeshi film industry. Anjana worked with international stars such as Mithun Chakraborty from India, Faisal, Nadeem, Javed Sheikh, and Ismail Shah from Pakistan, and Nepalese actors Shiva Shrestha

and Bhuwan KC. Her performance in *Desh-Bidesh*, a blockbuster shot in the United States and co-starring Jashim, Shabana, and Mahmud Kali, further exemplified her global appeal.

Anjana’s talent earned her two National Film Awards: one for *Gangchil* and another for *Parinecta*, where her portrayal of Lolita garnered immense praise. As a producer, she made significant contributions through her company, Anjana Films, producing acclaimed titles such as *Pran Sajani*, *Bondhu Jokhon Shotru*, and *Chalu Sardar*.

Beyond



PHOTOS: COLLECTED

acting, Anjana was actively involved with the Bangladesh Film Artists’ Association, winning elections within the organisation. Her presence at industry events and camaraderie with colleagues underscored her deep connection to the film community.

Her career included numerous memorable films such as *Rakhe Allah Mare Ke*, *Prem Shomadhi*, *Jiddi*, *Eemandar*, *Shonar Palonk*, *Bedona*, *Chokher Moni*, *Dojokh*, *Didar*, *Agnipurush*, *Target*, *Maharaj*, *Rajar Raja*, *Jadu Nogor*, *Nepali Meye*, *Shukhe Thako*, *Jinzir*, *Sanai*, *Bou Kotha Kou*, *Rupali Soikote*, *Bagdader Chor*, *Mohona*, *Onobodhu*, *Rajbari*, *Himmatwali*, *Nantu Ghotok*, *Gunai Bibi*, *Abhijan*, *Noori*, and *Desh Bidesh*.

In a previous interview with The Daily Star, Anjana fondly recalled watching *Dasyu Bonhur* at Gulshan Cinema Hall. “There were thousands of people,” she said. “Sohel Rana told me to wave at them, and when I did, the sight of the massive crowd cheering for me remains one of the most unforgettable moments of my career.”

Her last film, *Bhool*, released in 2008, marking the conclusion of an illustrious career. With her extraordinary talent, dedication, and grace, Anjana remains an enduring icon of Bangladeshi cinema, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of audiences and colleagues alike.

Tahsan to tie the knot

Musician and actor Tahsan Khan will tie the knot with US-based makeup artist, Roza Ahmed.

Roza Ahmed, a graduate of New York University, is a successful entrepreneur. After completing her studies, she obtained a cosmetology license and subsequently founded “Roza’s Bridal Makeover” in Queens, New York.

For over a decade, she has been renowned as a bridal makeup artiste in both Bangladesh and the United States. Additionally, as a makeup educator, she has trained thousands of women and helped many become entrepreneurs.

Even though the news of the artistes getting married became viral on social media, Tahsan said that the formalities are yet to be done.

In the evening, the singer himself uploaded a picture with his beloved, dedicating a poem to her. “On a day of leisure, as my fingers dance across the keys/ Swaying to the melody, a vision of you I seize/ Whose enchanting rhythm will fill my life’s every part/ In the soothing steam of tea, forever you’ll be in my heart”, the lyrics roughly translate to this soulful ballad.

Tahsan Khan is a prominent figure in the Bangladeshi entertainment industry, renowned as a singer-songwriter, actor, and television presenter. He began his musical journey with the band Black before embarking on a successful solo career, known for his unique blend of classical and modern music. His acting career has seen him grace both the silver screen and television.



‘Chokkor 302’ gets censorship clearance, release date to be announced soon

Filmmaker Saraf Ahmed Zibon’s debut film, *Chokkor 302*, has secured clearance for theatrical release. Backed by government funding, the film has successfully obtained certification from the Bangladesh Film Certification Board without requiring any edits.

Sharing the news on Facebook, Zibon expressed his excitement, stating, “Our film *Chokkor 302* has received its certificate without any cuts or modifications, bringing us one step closer to our dream. See you all soon in theatres!”

In the upcoming psychological thriller, acclaimed actor Mosharraf Karim takes on the lead role, with Reekita Nondine Shimu joining him as the female protagonist.

Zibon was awarded a government grant of Tk 65 lakh for the 2021-22 FY for his film *Chokkor 302*. The project initially bore the title *Bicharaloy*, but following a directive from the ministry, it was later renamed *Chokkor 302*.

Prabir Mitra hospitalised as health deteriorates

Veteran actor Prabir Mitra has been hospitalised due to severe health issues. Facing complications from oxygen deficiency and other ailments, the 79-year-old was admitted to a private medical facility in the capital on December 22. His younger son, Sifat Islam, confirmed the news to Prothom Alo.

Sifat Islam shared that his father’s health is worsening. Initially in the ICU for oxygen deficiency, he was moved to the HDU (High Dependency Unit) due to blood loss and a significant drop in platelet count.

Born on August 18, 1943, in Chandina, Cumilla, Prabir Mitra spent his formative years in Old Dhaka, where his passion for acting took root. His early exposure to theatre began during his school days, and he notably performed in *Dak Ghar*, a celebrated play by Rabindranath Tagore.

In 1969, Prabir Mitra made his cinematic debut under the direction of the story H Akbar in *Jolchhobi*. Although his first on-screen appearance was filmed that year, the movie premiered on January 1, 1971.

With a career spanning over four hundred films, he delivered remarkable performances in notable titles including, *Titash Ekti Nadir Naam*, *Jibon Trishna*, *Seyvana*, *Rokto Shopoth*, *Charitrohin*, *Joy Porajoy*, and many others.

