

Ashiqur Rahman Leon Theatre Actor, Director, Designer and Teacher.

He was appointed as a Lecturer in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Dhaka University in 2009. He received his BA with 1st class and 2nd position, and MA with 1st class and 1st position from the department of Theatre and Music. He is currently serving as the chairman of the department. His researched works have been published in various research journals of Bangladesh such as Half-Yearly Bangla Magazine of Shilpakala Academy, Half-Yearly English Magazine of Shilpakala Academy, and Bangla Academy Sahitya Patrika.

He teaches the courses on Acting Theory, Acting Practicum, Improvisation, Characterization Practice, Acting Theory and Practice of Stanislavski, Acting Theory and Practice of Grotowski and Meyerhold, Performance Theory, Stage and Light Design and Theatre Direction. He also regularly supervises the theatre productions, directed by BA final year students, of Dhaka University Central Theatre Festival.

He has participated in several prestigious international theatre festivals, seminars, workshops at United Kingdom and India. He has been acclaimed in the theatre arena of Bangladesh and in the academic level by directing and designing some wonderful theatre productions. Notable theatre productions directed and planned by him are: *Hamlet*, *Srabon Tragedy*, *Oporera*, *Nishimon Bisarjan*, *Riders to the Sea*, *Mricchkatika*, *The Leader*, *Scapin*, *Mahua*, *Betrayal*. To be noted, the play *Srabon Tragedy* produced by Mahakal Natya Sampradaya, is based on the history of the brutal assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family. In the history of Stage theatre in Bangladesh, Bangabandhu was presented and portrayed on the stage through this play for the very first time.

Apart from his teaching, direction and designing, he has gained a reputation as an established actor through acting and several of his plays are currently being staged regularly on the stages of Dhaka. The notable theatre productions he has acted in are: *And Then There Were None*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *Kalchautisha*, *Urubhangam*, *The Birthday Party*, *Sitar Banobas*, *Othello*, *The Lady from the Sea*, *Three Sisters*, *Dwarfs*, *Madhyam Bayog*, *Yarama*, *Life of Galileo* and *Kabar*. He regularly participates as a voice-actor in various foreign TV series and films, and these are being aired regularly on private TV channels Deepto TV, Maasranga Television, ATN Bangla and SA TV.

Leon has been playing regularly an important role in the field of art and education through theatre education, research, implementation and multidimensional participation.