

RECOMMENDATIONS

**Exhibition**  
June 06-16  
A photography exhibition titled 'Cityscape' is being held at the Shilparag gallery (House 15, Road 16, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1209) from June 6. The exhibition will continue till June 16.

June 6-19  
A painting exhibition of Rashid Amin titled 'Happenings' is going on at the German Cultural Centre, Goethe Institut Dhaka from June 6th to 19th, from 2-8 pm.

June 12-13  
The Bangladesh Bonsai Society and the Japanese Embassy will jointly organise the eighth exhibition of bonsai art-works at the BRAC Centre at Mohakhali. The opening ceremony will take place at 4 pm on June 12. The exhibition will remain open for visitors and buyers from 10 am to 7 pm on both the days.

**Theatre**  
June 27-30  
To mark the fourth Biannual Conference of Shattwik Nattya Somproya, the theatre group arranges a drama festival at the Shawkat Osman auditorium of Begum Sufia Kamal Library. Entitled Moliere Drama Festival, the festival features staging of Moliere's drama by four reputed theatre groups of Dhaka. Besides, a seminar titled Moliere's Drama in Bangladesh will also take place during the 4-day long conference of Shattwik.

Face to face

The queen of Lalon songs

A musical rendezvous with Farida Parveen

SADYA MALLICK and ELITA KARIM

**F**ARIDA'S immense contribution to the world of music lies in bringing Lalon's compositions back to life from the isolated world of the *Bauls*. Farida Parveen lives to preserve the musical memories of the man, Fakir Lalon Shah who is known around the world for his magical tunes woven together with simple, yet powerful mystical lyrics.

Coming upon Farida Parveen's residence was not an easy task. We practically had to gallivant from place to place hunting for her house. Fortunately, Farida Parveen's name is well known amongst the people living in the area. Several of them directed us to her house, where she welcomed us with a lazy but easy smile.

Clad in a simple black and white saree, Farida's eyes twinkled while she spoke of her first teachers. 'I had learnt my first ABCs of music from Kamal Chakrabarty at Magura at the age of four. Nazrul's songs were my initial passion. Eventually I caught hold of Lalon.'

'The depth and inner meaning of the lyrics of Lalon is akin to Sufism which caters for peace and love among human race. Some brand him as a humanist. This is so because he was against the social caste, creed and religious bindings. His own words reflect such ideas where he utters *shob lokey koi Lalon kijaat shongsarey*' says Farida.

She speaks of the early Fakir tradition, when during *Dol Purnima*, Lalon would sit with his disciples and sing to their heart's desire. Even now this tradition continues in many parts of the country. It was right after independence in Kushtia, when a family friend and Guru Maksud Ali Shai asked Farida to sing one of Lalon's compositions at one of these traditional gatherings. Farida's initial response was negative. However, when her father, whose job used to take the family from region to region, uttered his desire to have his only child sing at this gathering, Farida agreed and sang *Shotyo balo shupothe chalo*, her very first Lalon

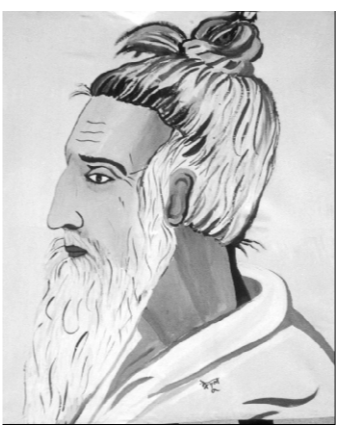
song. The appreciation and the love Farida received that night was enough to have her go deep within the heart of Lalon Fakir both as a person and a poet.

Creases suddenly appear on her face, when asked about the Lalon Academy in Kushtia. 'Sadly, this academy has not produced any individual dedicated to Lalon or to his compositions. The institute has the name, but does not possess the academics or the right ingredients to run the proper school of Lalon.'

In August 2002, along with the Japan government, the Farida Parveen project committee was formed which made her travel all

and dear to her, comprising her four children, students, housework and music. 'I do my own work at home, if no help is around. I prefer to finish up with my housework before my students come home.'

When asked about the various re-mixed versions of the original Lalon songs, which are coming out today and are being sung by popular artists, she says that as long as the artists learn and develop the correct technique of singing the Lalon songs, she does not have any kind of problems. The magic in Lalon Shah lies with its tunes. 'In re-mixes the tune often tends to sway away from the original fa-



The mystic rhythm of Fakir Lalon Shah still remains unfolded to the world at large.

developed musical instruments and technology can be used to make the compositions sound better, but the tunes should not be manipulated in any way,' said Farida Parveen the queen of Lalon songs.

Her face lights up when she talks of her students. 'My students come to me from far away places like Kishore Ganj, Sylhet, even Japan, who visit me once a year.'

Farida also enjoys listening to Tagore songs. She finds many of the songs very similar to Lalon's own compositions. 'In fact, our national anthem is a carbon copy of one of Lalon's compositions' says Farida.

Tagore termed Lalon as his *Kibiya Lakkhi* since the Noble Laureate was himself deeply influenced by his Baul songs. Baul songs were later on extensively used in the songs of Tagore. The message of the Baul songs are for peace and tranquility.

According to Farida Parveen, singing Lalon's compositions requires deep respect for our culture and also our country. Farida portrays an incredible sense of patriotism in her words, and the love, dedication and respect for her country, music and Lalon are always seen hovering in her eyes strengthening everyone around her.



Farida Parveen drew the attention of music lovers through her Lalongeti filled with passion and dedication.

over Japan, where she spoke of Lalon and rendered his songs, to the Japanese' delight. 'This kind of a project was never done with a foreign singer in Japan before,' she mentions.

Besides her professional life, Farida also has a life very personal

and dear to her, comprising her four children, students, housework and music. 'I do my own work at home, if no help is around. I prefer to finish up with my housework before my students come home.'

Music video

Aamir Khan's debut in musical album

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

**B**OLLYWOOD superstar Aamir Khan now a days sports long hairs. He is playing the role of Mangal Pandey in eminent director Ketan Mehta's period film based on the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny.

While essaying that role has not inspired Khan to be a rebel in a film industry that firmly believes in the status quo and highly commercial formula, Khan all the same is not hesitant to make foray into new area and does not seem to easily lose heart over failure.

Breaking free briefly from the big screen, Aamir Khan is set to make his debut in musical album based on works by eminent Urdu poet Kaifi Azmi. The album, featuring the star actor along with upcoming actress Gauri Karnik, is scheduled for release next week.

The star told reporters in Bombay yesterday that it is his way of paying tribute to Kaifi Azmi, the poet he has admired and respected. That is why he could not turn away when the poet's son Baba Azmi, who has directed the video music album, had offered Khan the role.

'It was purely an emotional decision to do the album,' said the actor, adding 'I hope the album reflects Kaifi Azmi's vision of life.'

The musical album shows Khan in the role of a photo journalist who has seen the seamy side of life and seeks comfort in the company of his

girl friend.

But appearance in musical album is one-off event for Khan who says there is no more forthcoming. He said he made an exception in this case only because of Kaifi Azmi.

The album, based on eight poems by Kaifi Azmi, is titled 'Jab Bhi Choom Leta Hoon In Haseen

Aankhon Ko' (Whenever I Kiss these Beautiful Eyes)."

"I take pride that we produce musicals and I don't think we need to do something different only to break a myth. Should we stop making musicals only because our film did not meet with success at the Oscars?" said Khan.



Top Bollywood actor and Oscar nominee, producer Aamir Khan (R), actress Gauri Karnik (L) and director Baba Azmi (C) pose before shooting a music video called 'Pyar Ka Jashn' ('Celebration Of Love'), based on selected poems of noted poet, the late Kaifi Azmi (portrait in background) in Bombay, 10 June 2003. Khan, reportedly the highest paid actor in Bollywood, is performing for the first time in a music video which will be released in July 2003.

Dance drama

Rakhalia Banshi staged at Mymensingh

CULTURE DESK

**T**HE students of Muslim Girls School and College in Mymensingh town staged a dance drama titled *Rakhalia Banshi* at a cultural function held on the occasion of according a freshers reception programme at the college auditorium recently.

The dance drama were performed by Rifat Sultana Tarin, Mithila Gomez, Munmun Bhuiyan, Moni, Umi, Nuri, Shila, Barni, Taria, Rumi, Mouri, Papri, Suma and Depa. Nazmul Haq Lenin directed the dance drama while AKM Shahabuddin Khan was the music director.



Students enthralled the audience at the dance-drama Rakhalia Banshi.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the

**BTV**  
8:40 Shubhechha Nin  
8:50 Alor Pothe  
9:00 News  
9:15 Khela Dhula  
9:35 Shushthaya Thakun  
10:00 The News  
10:05 Janma Bhumi  
10:15 Drama for Children: Shopner Deshe  
10:35 Notun Kuri 2003  
11:00 News Headlines  
12:00 News Headlines  
3:10 News Headline  
3:15 Shangbadpatrer Pata Theke  
3:25 Bangla Feature Film  
8:00 News Headlines  
5:00 News  
5:35 Cartoon Film  
6:00 News: Desh Janapod  
6:10 Shathya Katha  
6:35 Programmes from Chittagong Centre  
7:00 News Headline  
Share Market  
Weather Forecast

7:05 Maloncha  
7:30 Serial Alif Laila  
8:00 News at Eight (Bangla)  
8:30 Apnar Charpath  
9:00 Shangeetanusthan  
9:30 Shoptodinga  
10:00 News at Ten  
10:25 Weather Forecast  
10:30 News Reporting  
10:35 Aina  
11:00 Believe it or Not  
11:30 Late Night  
News/News Headline

**CHANNEL-I**  
06:10 Islamic Programme  
07:15 Prothom Sur  
09:00 Joto Potho Toto Moth  
09:30 Chalar Pothe  
10:00 Radunir Ranna  
10:30 Chhuti Sakal  
11:30 Drama Serial: Ggrihagolpo  
12:00 Drama Serial: Thief Of Bagdad  
12:30 Band Show: Close Up Hit Wave  
01:00 Drama Serial: Charisma  
02:00 Islamic Programme: Satyer Sandane  
03:30 Telefilm  
5:35 Jonopoder Khabor  
5:45 Borsha Mongal  
6:10 Music Plus  
6:45 Talk Show  
7:15 Channel-i News  
7:50 Drama  
Serial:Abhimani  
8:25 Drama Serial: Horek Rokom Jibon  
9:00 Channel-i News  
9:35 Drama  
Serial: Akannyaborti  
10:00 Drama: Rhdoyer Kachhe

ATN BANGLA

6:00 Islamic Prog:  
Directed by Arkan Ullah  
Haruni:  
8:00 ATN Bangla  
News  
8:25 Drama serial:  
Cheinly Na  
Amai  
9:00 Film magazine:  
Henolux  
Benudon  
Bichitra  
9:35 Reporting prog:  
Prekkhapot  
10:05 Health care  
prog.: Sustha  
Thakun  
11:05 Islamic Prog:  
Directed by Arkan Ullah  
Haruni.  
12:00 ATN Bangla  
News  
12:20 The Daily  
Newspaper  
Discussing  
Prog: Ajker  
Sangbadpotro  
12:40 Islamic Prog:  
Directed by Arkan Ullah  
Haruni.

3:25 Bengali Feature  
Film: Pagla Raja  
4:50 The Daily  
Newspaper  
Discussing  
Prog: Ajker  
Sangbadpotro  
5:00 Gram Gonger  
Sangbad  
6:25 Children prog.:  
Amra Karbo Joy  
7:00 ATN Bangla  
Evening News  
7:30 Street Show:  
Pathe Pathe  
8:05 Drama Serial:  
Theteo Jibhon  
8:40 Magazine Prog:  
Tasmery

ATN BANGLA

9:00 Kechokhon  
ATN Bangla  
News  
9:25 Drama Serial:  
Aponjon  
10:00 ATN Bangla  
News  
10:30 Musical Prog:  
Music Vision  
11:00 ATN Bangla  
News  
12:00 Drama:  
Bhalobasha  
Mane Neel  
Propapote  
**TARA BANGLA**  
6:30 Aajker  
Shironam  
7:00 Tarar Chokhey  
8:30 Tara News  
9:30 Tara News  
Bangladesh  
10:00 Hanrir Khabar  
10:30 News Magazine  
11:30 Tara News

**HBO**  
6:30 Attack On The  
Queen  
8:15 Hellraiser  
10:15 Madeline  
12:00 The Spitfire Grill  
2:15 Sabrina Down  
Under  
4:00 Darkman III:  
Die Darkman  
Die  
5:45 Dennis The  
Menace Strikes  
Again  
7:15 Daylight  
9:30 Lost Souls  
11:30 Teacher's Pet  
1:15 Sexual Predator  
3:00 Darkman III:  
Die Darkman  
Die  
4:45 Daylight  
**MGM**  
6:30 Big Town  
9:00 Double Impact  
11:30 Honor Betrayed  
2:00 Silence Of The  
Lambs

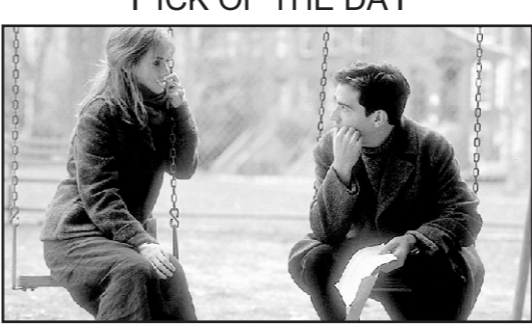
TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

HBO: 7.15 p.m. Daylight. When a bunch of runaway robbers in a getaway car hit the tunnel connecting Manhattan and New Jersey, trouble strikes when they hit a truck full of explosions. After the impact, the tunnel is left weakened and blocked off by both exits, but leaving some survivors. When Kit Latura was about to drive into the tunnel he see the impact and knows he gotta take action. He is given the job, and is sent into the tunnel, but time is running out.

STAR MOVIES: 7.30 p.m. Lethal Weapon 4. Martin Riggs and Roger Murtaugh, after escaping death from the previous movies are put on a hit list by The Triads. When blood thirsty mercenaries are on their tail they team up again with Leo Getz and Lorna Cole, a newcomer (Chris Rock) to finally put an end to the Triads for good. Martin Riggs and Roger Murtaugh, each now feeling too old to be doing what they're doing, try to stop the Chinese Triads from doing their illegal business in the U.S.

4:30 Viper  
7:00 Hit The Dutchman  
9:30 Man Friday:  
True Blood (Jeff Fahey, Chad Lowe)  
11:30 The Buddy  
**ZEE TV**  
2:00 Piya Ka Ghar  
2:30 Dollar Bahu  
3:00 Jeena Isi Ka Naam Hai  
3:30 Classics  
4:00 Sangini  
4:30 Classic Movies  
7:30 News  
8:00 Sound Of Music  
8:30 Life In The Word  
9:00 Bhakti Bhaav  
9:30 Yoga For Life  
9:50 Jagran  
10:20 Zee Gym & Eat  
Healthy  
10:50 Yaadein Radio  
Ceylon Ki  
11:00 Cartoon Network  
Work On Zee  
12:00 Ek Nazar  
12:30 Professor

PICK OF THE DAY



Lost Souls  
On HBO at 9.30 p.m.  
A small group of Catholics led by an ailing priest believe that Satan intends to become man, just as God did in the person of Jesus. The writings of a possessed mental patient lead them to Peter Kelson, a writer who studies serial killers. They think it's his body Satan will occupy. The youngest in the group, a teacher named Maya Larkin, goes to Peter to investigate further and to convince him to believe in the possibility of Evil incarnate.

10:30 Earth Final  
Con-  
flict/Deportation  
11:30 Boarding Pass/  
Who Dares Wins  
12:30 Relic Hunter /All  
Choked Up  
1:30 The Right Stuff  
2:30 Movie: Death  
Becomes Her  
4:30 Who Dares Wins  
5:30 Relic Hunter /All  
Choked Up  
6:30 Earth Final  
Con-  
flict/Deportation  
7:30 Boarding  
Pass/Who Dares  
Wins  
8:30 Profiler/The  
Monster Within  
9:30 The Amazing  
Race  
10:30 Andromeda/The  
Prince  
11:30 Movie UN Cut:  
Movie: Cruel  
Intentions  
**SONY**  
7:30 Amrit Varsha  
8:00 Sant Asaram Vani

ZEE CINEMA

7:30 Sant Gyaneshwar  
(Mahes Kohare,  
Usha Solanki)  
10:30 Tohfa (Jeetendra,  
Sridevi)  
1:30 Qila (Dilip Kumar,  
Rekha Mukul  
Dev)  
5:30 Khoobsurat  
(Sanjay Dutt,  
Urmila  
Matondkar)  
9:30 Bollywood  
Blockbuster  
Hathayar (Sanjay  
Dutt, Shiipa  
Shetty)

**SET MAX**  
8:30 KPFFH-Mother  
9:00 Hotlist  
10:30 Aarop  
1:00 KPFFH-Mother  
2:30 Do Ladke Dond  
Kadke  
5:00 Hotlist  
6:30 Guide  
9:00 Kapil Dil Se  
10:30 Blockbusters-  
Mission Kashmir  
1:00 Hotlist  
**STAR GOLD**  
7:30 Heer  
10:55 Kuch Hit Kuch  
Superhit  
2:30 Boogie Woogie  
3:00 I Love You  
4:00 Gha Ek Mandi  
Alpviram  
4:30 Kaun Apna Kaun  
Paraya  
5:00 Cadburys  
Bourvilita Quic  
Contes  
5:30 Shri Krishna  
6:30 Disney Hour  
7:00 Chartbusters  
7:30 Music Mantra  
8:00 Kya Madsaad Kya  
Haqeeqat  
9:30 Devi  
10:00 Heena  
10:30 CID  
11:00 Crime Patrol  
11:30 Bhanwar

ZEE CINEMA

7:25 Kuch Hit Kuch  
Superhit  
7:30 Saajan Chale  
Sasural  
10:55 Kuch Hit Kuch  
Superhit  
11:00 Ooh La La  
11:55 Kuch Hit Kuch  
Superhit  
12:00 Haiwan  
**STAR PLUS**  
6:30 Star Geetmala  
7:30 Dr Morepen  
Tango - Daily  
8:30 Shaka Laka  
Boom Boom  
9:00 Taaza Hits  
9:05 Hit Filmein Hit  
Sangeet - 20 M  
10:10 Hit Filmein Hit  
Sangeet - 20 M  
10:30 Meri Saheli  
11:00 Pal Chinn  
11:30 Kabhii Sautan  
Kabhii Sahelii  
12:00 Shanti  
12:30 Hit Filmein Hit  
Sangeet - 20 M  
12:55 Taaza Hits  
1:00 Kasautii Zindagii  
Kay  
1:30 Kumkum - Pyara  
Sa Bandhan  
2:00 Bhabhi  
2:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi  
Kabhi Bahu Thi  
3:00 Shagun (461 -  
560)  
3:30 Kabhi Aaye Na  
Judaai  
4:00 Kahaani Ghar  
Ghar Kii  
4:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz  
5:00 Film Topper -  
301 Series  
5:25 Saans  
5:30 Hit Filmein Hit  
Sangeet - 20 M  
6:00 Hum Saath Aath  
Hain  
7:00 Hit Filmein Hit  
Sangeet - 20 M  
6:30 Fox Kids

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**  
6:30 Time Of The  
Elephants  
7:30 Truth Files  
8:30 Sea Hunters The  
Dinosaur Dealers  
The  
10:30 My Backyard  
Serengeti  
11:30 Dogs With Jobs  
11:00 Earth Pulse  
12:30 Whale Rescue  
1:30 Built For The Kill  
2:30 Wild Passions  
3:30 24 Hrs Beneath  
The Rainbow Sea  
4:30 Cold Water Warm  
Blood  
5:30 Africa From The  
Ground Up  
6:00 Return To The  
Wild  
6:30 Dogs With Jobs  
7:00 Earth Pulse  
7:30 Taming The  
Tigers  
8:30 Built For The Kill  
9:30 Wolves Of The  
Sea  
10:30 Chance To Grow  
A  
11:30 Raising Of U534  
**ESPN**

ZEE CINEMA

7:25 Film Topper -  
301 Series  
7:30 Kumkum - Pyara  
Sa Bandhan  
7:55 Film Topper -  
301 Series  
8:00 Shaka Laka  
Boom Boom  
8:30 Kyun Hota Hai  
Pyarr  
9:00 Kasautii Zindagii  
Kay  
9:30 Khullja Sim Sim  
10:30 Kahaani Ghar  
Ghar Kii  
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi  
Kabhi Bahu Thi  
11:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz  
12:00 Bhabhi  
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