

anniversary

## 250th Birth Anniversary of Goethe

Federation of Deutsche Welle Fan Club of Bangladesh Remember the German Poet on his Birthday

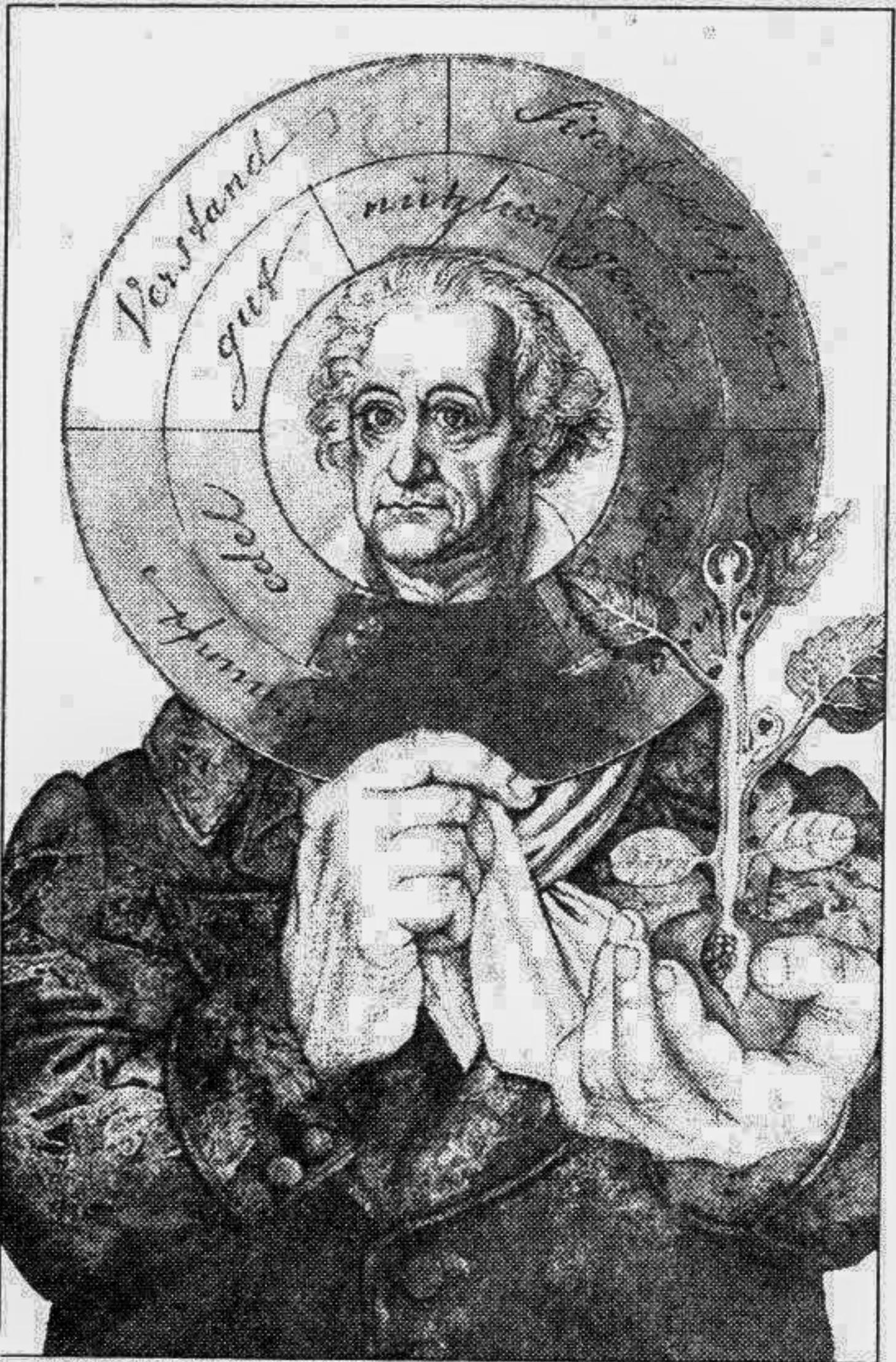
By Nadine Murshid

Venue: Goethe Institut  
Date: 29 August 1999  
Time: 6pm

**O**n the occasion of Goethe's Birthday, the Federation of Deutsche Welle Fan Club of Bangladesh organized a discussion and recitation program, where distinguished actor Aly Zaker and eminent poet Asad Chowdhury recited the translated version of Goethe's poems among others. Asad Chowdhury also gave a small introduction to Goethe and discussed him and his work with great fondness.

The program began a little late but even then there weren't too many people to enjoy the evening the guests were invited and there weren't too many of them present either. Masyud Mannan did not hesitate to start the evening without fanfare at around 6.30pm. "We're gathered here to show respect to Goethe. He turned 250 years old yesterday, 19 August 1999. Goethe is a common name in South Asia his poems are greatly appreciated in this part of the world, as in Europe. I called upon some of my friends to help me celebrate the birthday of Goethe this evening including Aly Zaker and Asad Chowdhury. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the director of Goethe Institut". With this he began the evening and as they all settled down on stage, the evening started off. Then, Mannan gave a brief history of Goethe, relating his works, his life, his meetings with Napoleon and Beethoven, his mistresses and his wife, his children and his death in 1832.

Then the Director of Goethe



Institut took her place at the stand and said, "Good Evening. As we all know by now, Goethe was born on 28 August 1749 in Frankfurt. He is one of the giants in world literature. His 'Faust', which took about half a century to write, has been translated into many languages including Bangla. Goethe's rep-

utation is not only because of his talents as a poet but also because of his research in the field of the natural sciences biology and physics. Because of his diversity, he is considered a genius, probably the last one we know. This institution, Goethe Institut, has been named after him to commemorate this great

man. I congratulate the Federation of Deutsche Welle Fan Club for organizing this program to-day."

Asad Chowdhury then spoke about Goethe. "Yesterday, the French TV was showing something on Goethe and I felt disappointed about not doing anything here in Bangladesh. Now, some of that disappointment has dissipated because of what we have gathered to commemorate the great man, who was a scientist, who studied law and whom the world remembers for his writings. Goethe gave confidence not only to his fellow men in Germany, as well as in Europe. He created ripples, storms even, around the world. He was so intelligent that he knew more than his teachers did. Once, when his father was teaching his Italian, he knew more than his father, who said, 'If I knew as much as my son did, I'd have been able to do something great'. When he was learning French, he said, 'Voltaire is dead. Now from whom and I supposed to learn? Such was the depth and width of his knowledge.'

Goethe was a great paroum and was known for his many lovers. There was this certain Charlotte Franstein, to whom he had written 105 letters. Imagine the love he had had for the woman! Goethe was very romantic and generally curious. His curiosity with the mountains and the rivers was like that of a child - he would look at a mountain and would want to sit on its peak, he would want to rush to the source of the river he looked at everything positively and this was contagious." He, then read out one of Goethe's poems, which he translated and then said, "We are miles away from Frankfurt and years away from 1749, but

we still wish him all the best". Then Nusrat Jahan read out 'My Feast' in Deutsche and Syed Shafiqul read out the Bangla translation, which went 'Dekha dekho prokrti kano nobo bodhur shajey shojjito hoyechey shudhu amar Jonno'. Mofizuddin Sheikh and Mahin then took the stage to read 'Gefunten' and its Bangla translation 'Shondhyan Pradip' (by Abu Zafar) respectively. Md. Motaleb Hossain read out 'Umnitan' and then 'Modhyoratey'. Thereafter Selim Chowdhury read out 'Tomakey money porey', a translation by Fazlul Shahabuddin. Masyud Mannan then read out 'Pruttushey' and then Golam Sarwar recited 'Prometheus'. 'Goethe's poems are warm, loving and pleasant, but this poem shows the fire in him' Sarwar said and then read, 'He shorbosto debota brindo...'

Aly Zaker then came on stage to recite from a translation of 'Faust'. Mr. Mannan suggested months ago about celebrating Goethe's Birthday, to which he readily responded.

"But I did not expect him to call me on the actual day and ask me recite. Hence, I cannot act it out. The last time I did that was ages ago. Now, I won't be able to do that. So let me just read it out." With this, he started, 'Je pothej jaina kano shaja ba baka', which concluded the celebrations. Moinul Islam then took the mike and said 'Thank You' to the audience as well as the participants, who put on quite a performance. The only disappointing part was that there weren't too many people to see such talented people in action. But at least, Goethe was remembered and his birthday celebrated, which is more than what anyone can ask for.



By Moshu M Chowdhury

A n array of programmes were held throughout Friday to observe the 23rd death anniversary of rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

The holiday morning commenced with a colorful rally which started from the 'Operabangla' (Victorious Bengal) of the Dhaka University campus. Acting Vice Chancellor of the Dhaka University, Prof. Mohammed Shahadat Ali led the rally which ended at the mausoleum of the national poet.

Prof. Mohammed Moniruzzaman, architect Mazharul Islam, Azad Rahman, Prof. Dur-

## Homage to National Poet

Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's 23rd death anniversary observed

retary of cultural affairs Mohammed Azizur Rahman, executive director of the Nazrul Institute poet Mohammed Nurul Huda, director of the National Museum Shamsuzzaman Khan spoke on the occasion. Prof. Abu Sayeed, State Minister for Information who was the chief guest at the programme: "Nazrul has conveyed the sufferings of the poor and downtrodden in his songs and literary works. His portrayal of his love for the country and hatred of racism is also ever prominent in all his works."

Among others who took part in the two-day long function titled 'Shattiyabshor Aloke Nazrul Jibon, Shaheyya O Shamskrity' at the museum. Poet Shamsur Rahman, Prof. Mumtaz Uddin Ahmed, former Sohrab Hossain, Khalid Hossain, Nilufar Yasmin along with many other Nazrul critics and performers were present at the occasion. The function was presided over by Prof. Abdul Gaffar.

The spokesmen from the Tamaddun Society said that rejection of Kazi Nazrul Islam as a poet would be the same as denying part of our history. They said that without the devotion to our culture, no political freedom will be achieved.

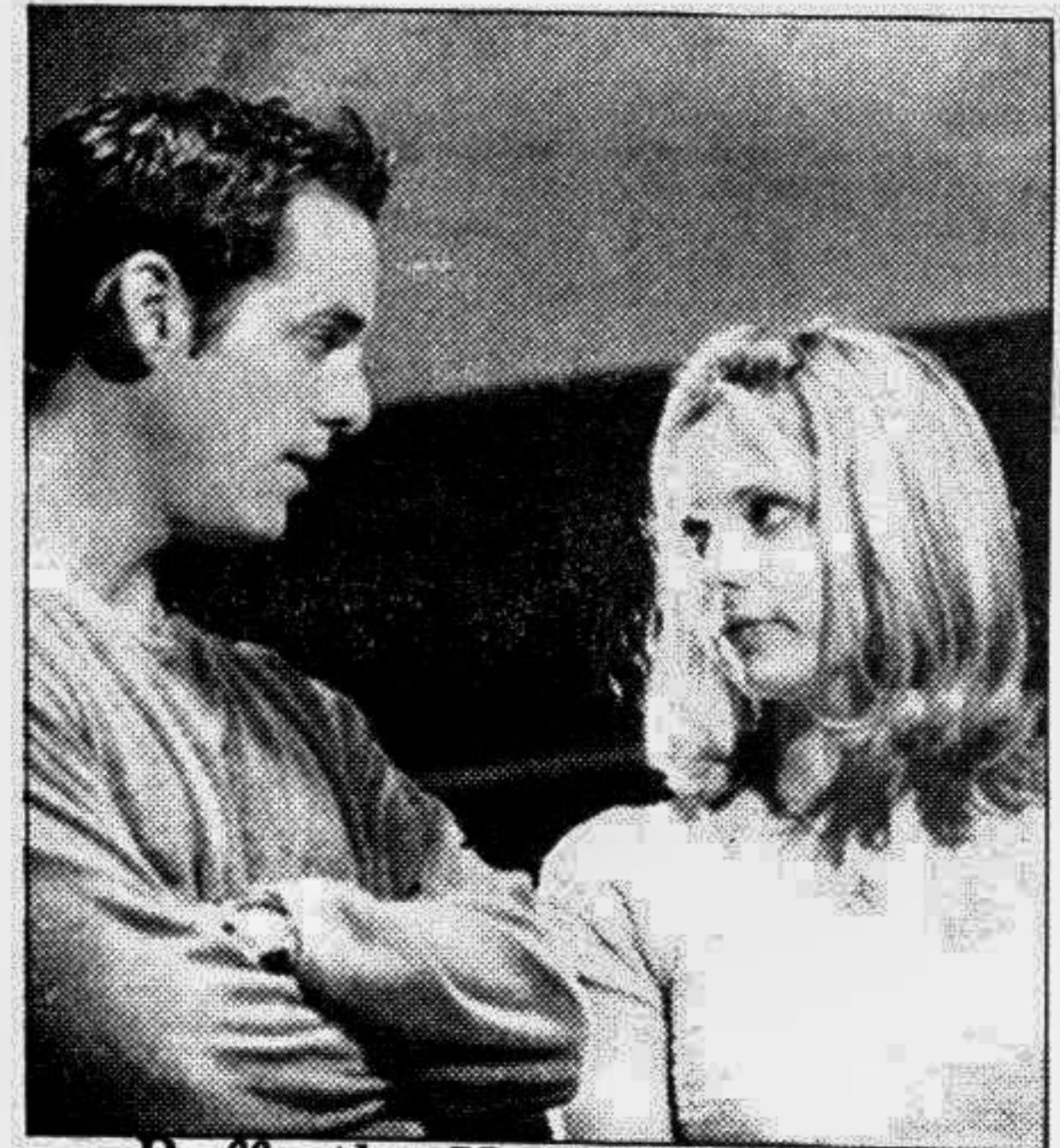
The function was enlightened with the words narrated from Nazrul's literature. Some of his songs were also performed in the function.

## Notice

Cultural organizations, activists, theatre groups, artists, film-makers are requested to send in invitations or get in touch with Mr. Ziaul Karim, in-charge 'Culture' page, for the coverage of their programmes.

—Editor

## TV Guide



## Buffy the Vampire Slayer

on Star World at 10 pm

In Ted — Joyce is romanced by a seemingly perfect man, Ted Buchanan, whom Buffy instantly distrusts.

7:00 Britaas Empire 7:30 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventure 8:00 2 Point 4 Children 8:30 Newhart 9:00 LA Heat 10:00 The Pretender 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 NYPD Blue 1:00 The Bold And The Beautiful 1:30 Tropical Heat 2:30 Fashion TV 3:00 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventure 3:30 2 Point 4 Children 4:00 Hollywood Squares 4:30 Sky World News 5:00 Asia News Update 5:15 World Business Report 5:30 Home Improvement 6:00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer 7:00 Ally McBeal 8:00 The Practice 9:00 The Bold And The Beautiful 9:30 Home Improvement 10:00 Buffy The Vampire 11:00 Ally McBeal 12:00 The Practice 1:00 Home Improvement 1:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer 2:30 Ally McBeal 3:30 Kenneth Copland Ministries 4:00 Life in the Word With Joyce Meyer 4:30 World News 5:00 2 Point 4 Children

## PTV-2

8:00 Tilwat Aur Tarmuna/Hamid/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Mansoojaat Barai Khud Kafalat 9:00 Sur Savaria & Sehra Ka Safer & Sada-E-Kasmin 9:40 Shana Ba Shana 9:50 Aaj Ki Kitab-E-Aik Nazm 10:05 Boor Kay Laddo 10:30 English Film: Chip And Dale 10:55 Milli Naghma 11:00 Khabrain 11:10 Serial 11:35 Serial 12:00 Urdu Khil 12:55 Quran-E-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Drama Serial 2:00 Serial 2:50 The Earth Revealed 3:20 Arasi Puday 3:40 Natural World 4:35 How Things Work 5:00 Yeh Mumkum In Hae 5:25 Hamara Sehat 5:55 Kitab Quiz 6:25 Aiou Courses 7:00 Taranum 7:05 Felix The Cat (Cartoon) 7:30 Such Guy 7:45 English News 8:00 Morven Gold Race Day 8:25 Girgit 8:55 PTV Gold (Prog) 9:00 Break for Headline News 9:20 Apk Ki Anwar Maqsood 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 11:00 Serial 12:00 Nypd Bits 10:00 Double Bill: Whoopi Goldberg The Associate [Tim Daly]

## STAR MOVIES

7:30 Family: The Kid (15) 9:30 Drama: Swing Kids (15) 11:30 Western: Jesse & Lester: Two Brothers (15) 1:30 Action: Volcano (\*Tommy Lee Jones) (15) 3:30 Family: The Kid (15) 5:15 Drama: Swing Kids (15) 7:30 Comedy: Noises Off 9:30 El Bits 10:00 Double Bill: Whoopi Goldberg The Associate [Tim Daly]

## STAR PLUS

6:30 Ninaad 7:30 Good Morning India 9:15 The Trial Show - Film Trialer 9:30 TVC Shopping 10:00 Good Morning India 12:00 Rendezvous - Bebaati pt-2 With Sunil Garewal 12:30 TVC Shopping 1:00 Ya Fit 1:30 Ya Fit 2:00 Main 2:30 Swalabhumi 3:00 Love My India 3:30 Hera Pheri 4:00 Is Duniya Ke Sitare 4:30 Putli Babu Ki 5:00 Doogie Howser 5:30 The Wonder Years 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Zabaan Sambalak 7:00 Hi Ya Fit 7:25 The Trail Show Film Trailer 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Say Cheese 8:30 Tanha 9:22 Rahe Naye Naye 9:30 Star News 10:00 3:2-1 10:30 Picture This 11:00 Aaj Ki Baat 11:30 A Mouthful of Sky 12:00 Star News 12:30 The Bold And The Beautiful 1:00 Brittas Empire 1:30 Space Island One 2:30 Jewel the Crown 3:30 Snowy River 4:30 Media TV 5:00 The Bold And The Beautiful 5:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show

on Star World at 11 pm

In These Are The Days — In the last episode of this series, Bobby Donnell (from 'The Practice') asks for the firm's help when two men see an operation to switch hearts. Cage's cousin is arrested for assaulting "happy people" with a paddle.

Ally McBeal

on Star World at 11 pm

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## Double Bill: Whoopi Goldberg

on Star Movies

The Associate at 10 pm

Starring Whoopi Goldberg, Dianne Wiest, Tim Daly

Whoopi Goldberg stars as an intelligent and sharp-witted financial analyst who seems to have all the right elements required for vaulting to the top of the Wall Street corporate ladder. But when she fails to get a well-deserved promotion, she hits the glass ceiling at her company and breaks off on her own. However, she soon realises she cannot make it without inventing a white male partner.

Corrina, Corrina at 12:15 am  
Starring Whoopi Goldberg, Ray Liotta, Tina Majorino and Joan Cusack

Academy Award-winner Whoopi Goldberg shines in the title role of this hilarious and uplifting romantic comedy, co-star Ray Liotta is Manny, the man whose life Corrina turns upside down and around when he hires her to look after his young daughter.

## ZEE INDIA TV

7:00 Jagran 7:30 to 11:30 PM Every Half Hour News 12:00 The Ent. Show 12:30 News in Hindi 12:57 News Headlines 1:00 Sports Show 2:00 Centre Stage 2:30 Factfile 3:00 Agenda 2000 3:30 Helpline 4:00 Teer Kaman 4:30 5:00 Vayodha 5:30

Vayodha 5:30

Aaj Ki Baat 6:00 7:00

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