

exhibition

Poverty is Not an Obstacle

Bastob organises a successful children's show at Goethe Institut

By Fayza Haq

It does not necessarily require ample funds provided by friends or an astronomical financial family backing to produce successful paintings by children. Thirty young ones of Shilpi Sultan Pathshala, backed by Bastob, initiated and guided by Mariam Muller, presented water-colour works from age five to eleven. This was linked to the main topic of "Waterworlds Project of the Goethe Institut Munich at the World Expo 2000, and was exhibited at the Goethe Institut gallery. At the inauguration there had also been a musical performance by the Bangla-Shur Lalitkala Kendra and Bangla-Shur Cultural children.

The exhibition presented themes from mostly the countryside, bringing in boats, fish, water-lilies, boatsmen and fishermen. They also delineated the period of dearth of rain which depresses the farmer and puts him to despair and the flood scenes of '99 floods. Yes, the home front was brought in some of the water-colour images, including the school and ponds nearby. The importance of seasonal rain and the ensuing happiness that the Bangladeshi rural people take in birds, animals and flowers were also well presented by the artistic young ones with their bold vision and swift strokes. Some of the paintings reminded one of the apparently simplistic but highly imaginative and revolutionary paintings of Rousseau, Kandinsky, and Jackson Pollock.

One does not know how aware the young painters from the poor homes in Dhaka know about the masters, but their works had the pristine effect of



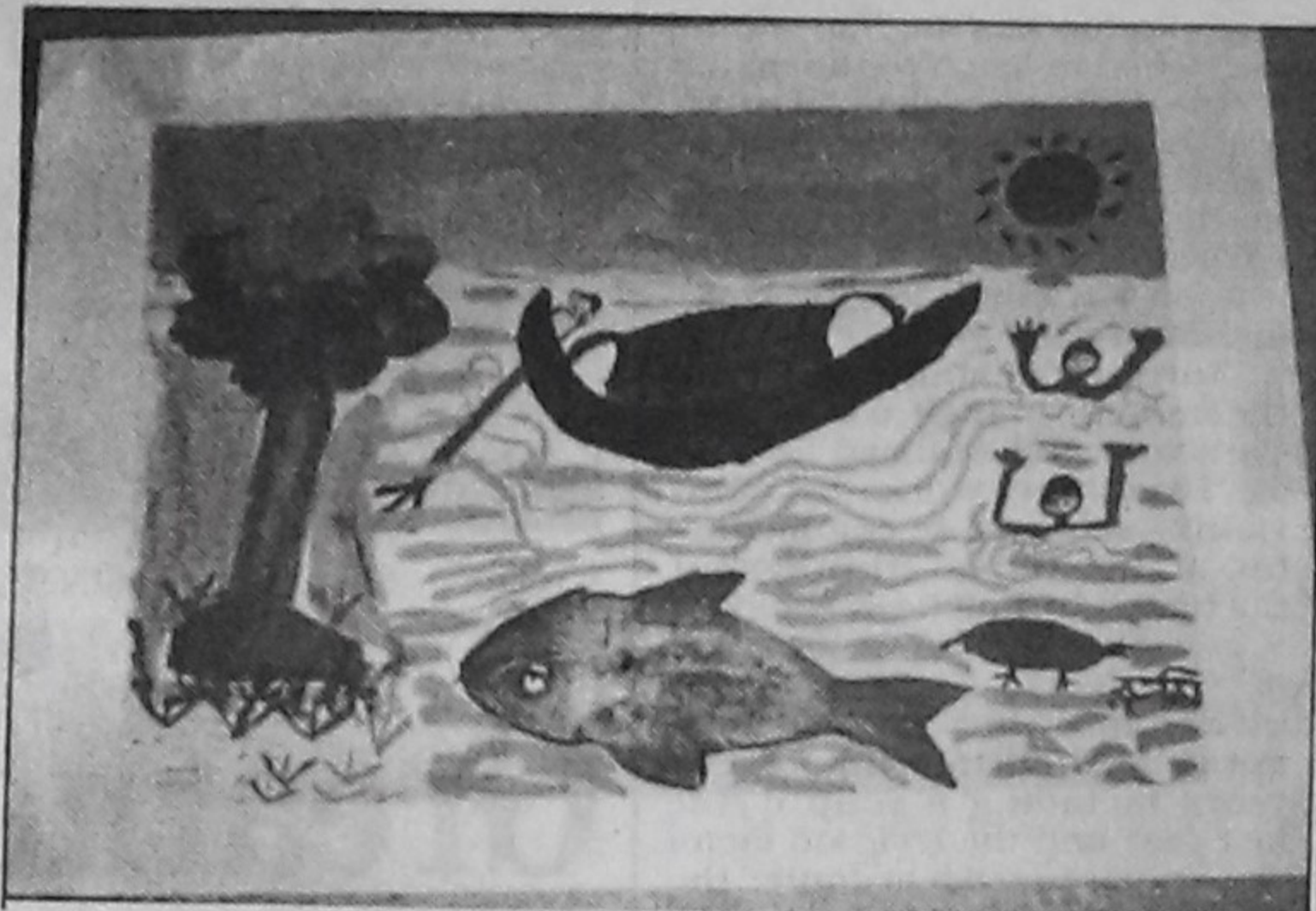
imagery and colours along with style and presentation that made one marvel at the imagination of the young painters, that brought in imaginary river monsters with human shapes and how little ones combined flora, fauna and boats with the scintillating orange, red, emerald and royal blue streaks, all held on a single sheet of paper. The panic of animals and humans in the overwhelming recent floods were also delineated. These scenes were surely out of pure imagination of the

little ones for the scenes could only have been seen in the news media or witnessed in photos such as the ones shown at Drik gallery and the paintings included in the Rickshaw-art at Alliance Francaise not so long ago.

The children could well have heard narratives of the rural existence with regular floods and occasional parched lands from their friends and family. The irrigation scenes and the inclusion of date palm trees along with the jade green fuzzy topped trees are surely what the city child knows of possible trips to the village home and of course via the guidance of the teachers at Shilpi Sultan Pathshala. Illustrations and photos in their text books in schools for the deprived and at home could also have helped the little ones to grasp a strong and passionate feeling for line and colour.

It is heart warming to see that young artists originating from pathetic economic existence can produce work that touches both the heart and mind of the connoisseurs and art lovers.

The painting of the *Lotus Near Home* by M Rina Akhter brings in floating lotus in carmine with yellow and orange sail boats in the pond with their boatmen in "lungis" and singlettes clearly defined and standing out along with the lemon yellow faces clearly outlined with black. The lady, with orange hands, brown face and gray-black hair, is in her vibrant vermilion picturesque maxi with brilliant orange dots with the swirling *doppatta* picturesque, is shown gathering water from a gray water-pump in an earthenware decorated with bright geometrical pat-



terns in stripes and zig-zags in shades of red, orange and brown. In the backdrop is brought the greenish yellow house with its roof, basically gray, orange and brown windows with and door clearly composed, along with trees — of chrome green outlined with burnt-umber — of two types bear brown fruit in the case of the date-palm. The sky sweeps atop the rest of the images in flat massive gray-blue offset the rest of the images in the painting. This idyllic picture soothes

the viewer and is a combination of swift seeps and close careful patiently done work. The rodent like animals munching green massive turnips, complete with leaves and roots, have also been delineated in this village scene. This is absorbing piece with its intriguing proportions of images is done by a young girl with promising mastery over paints. *Frogs Home* by Tumpa Akhter, Class 111, aged 7, brings in two frogs painted with absorbing details, playing under a toadstool, which is dotted with vermilion green and beige dots circled with burnt umber swirls. The main subjects are done in beige and ruby-red strokes with beige-umber for the main body. The limbs are jutting out in different poetic directions. There is a black boat has its wickerwork hood done in brown and boatman included to the left. His eyes, eye-brows and hair are outlined in black, as in most of the human images seen in the exhibit. Splashes of green, depicting grass as well as fish, seen under the boat, done in black and green, along with a tree placed on the ground. Also seen in the composition is a house with dark red and brown tones. Clouds of mauve-gray are brought in to the right of the water-colour. A human figure done in pale beige with a large *lepp* is included beside the toadstool. The falling rain comes in with intriguing drops of more mauve. The water is denoted in waves of jade and pale emerald green. The unusual perception of the depiction — portraying the normally perceived ugly frogs — fills the viewer's mind with incredible peace and *joie de vivre*.

Mohammed Yunus's *Life Struggle*, of Class V, aged 12, depicts flood and brings in a boatman depicted in beige outline with swirls of brown in the painting. He has a mauve and green *lungi* and a singlette, with his face, limbs and body done in washes of lemon yellow, as he hangs on to a pole which acts as an oar, as the endangered soul hangs onto the fragile support for dear life. Two other men are brought in, wading with the flood waters rising to their neck. One carries his greenish-brown painted worldly possessions, outlined

with orange, on his head, while the other balances a basket of food. While one is bearded the other is younger person — but both in obvious peril. The details are depicted by the pale yellow wash and the jet-black and gray outlines, while the mouths are streaks of orange. The thatched roofed houses in the background have flood water rising up to their walls. The trees too have water splashing up to their high branches. The tree tops in the painting are masses of pale chrome green swirls, carefully outlined with deeper emerald. On top are two flying birds almost as large as the humans — with scalloped motifs worked on to their bodies — and they usher in a tiny element of hope in the picture of prevailing peril. The work depicts how endangered birds and humans struggle on with courage. The pink door and the dainty windows all go to present a true conception of beautiful countryside that is repeatedly harmed by the devastating floods for which there appears to be no remedy except self-help and overseas aid.

Mohammed Nurunobi, of Class V, aged 12 has his *Fishing* presenting a contented fisherman with the typical singlette and *lungi* in yellow and loud checks to cover his derriere, with a fish on his line, with two other fish in the pond. Swirls of pale and dark blue denote the water. Trees, bushes, sky and grass have been brought into the "far from the madding crowd" composition in promising sweeps and splashes. A house has been included in lines of horizontal lines of brown to denote the details. Corrugated sheets for the construction have also been suggested. Part of the paper is left untouched to balance the composition and lend a soothing element for the eye. This is a definitely a positive presentation of leisurely life and brings in the environment for romantic imagination to flow free.

In *The Land of the Sea-Monsters*, Khwaja Md. Moinuddin, of Playgroup, aged 6, one finds a huge fish, crisscrossed with orange with a vermilion eye and tongue which is about to swallow up a house. This is again a superb presentation

that speaks of flights of fancy. The floating house is sketched in red, while the waves of water are purplish-blue on white. In the backdrop is a woman in orange, wearing a gray dress striped with red, while her facial features and flowing hair are done in midnight black. A tree and a house with orange windows and doors with a scarlet sunburst in the sky, and hints of greenery at the back speaks of a good insight into rural life. Meanwhile, the river in front adds cadence to the rhythmic creation in lilting hues.

Safe Journey by Md Shahab, Class 3, aged 10, holds a farmer pulling on to his bullock, whose private parts, horns, the tuft of hair on his tail are done in black. The river in front contains a fish with orange tail, fins and scales, which are brought in by bright red checks. There is the conventional tree to the left with leaves of different shades of emerald and jade of huge dimensions. The roots too have been exaggerated with impact. The ground is contained by flat strokes of more green, with delicate shrubs and trees included in the backdrop. A white and purplish blue sky provides contrast to the rest of the composition.

Another interesting creation is *Waterless Desert* by Runa Akhter, of Class 5, aged 10, dramatizes a man holding up his hands in despair. The subject's body is in beige and he has his brown and gray checked "lungi" hitched up to his knees with dejection and the onset of the overpowering heat. The empty vessel flung in anger to the side, decorated with careful geometrical motifs of red, beige and brown, with drops of water trickling out. The three date-palm trees to the right forefront with their careful delineation in brown, beige and black and the gray-green leaves, along with the flat strokes and the killing heat of the overhead sun portray an emotion which is universal.

Sun Under Water brings in a boat with delicate lines with a person in the usual singlette and *lungi* with the black and brown boat with a fish in front done in orange and as large as the boat next to it. The vermilion sunburst at the back has a blue sky to offset it. In front we are faced with sweeps of water. *Boat Taken by Fish* brings in a red sail with black and brown for the boat and its wicker shade.

The Goethe Institut has performed a task that is admirable, humane and thought-provoking in arranging the painting exhibit of the promising art-oriented children. These young ones live in despicable circumstances, and their works are seldom show-cased for the Dhaka elite and bourgeoisie to examine and take delight in.

to preview

Monthly Mania

Package magazine show

Kichu Kichu Kotha on BTV

By Cultural Correspondent

BTV introduces its latest monthly package magazine show *Kichu Kichu Kotha* this July. Designed with a different point of view, this show promises to please the audience with various entertaining elements. Starting from humorous to factual skits, it also spotlights on multiple concepts. The shooting of the first episode is over and it is scheduled to be telecasted at 9.00 p.m.

Celebrated artists such as Afsana Mimi, Shams Sumon, Lucky Enam, Khayrul Alam Sabuj, Taru Mostafa, Chitra Lekha Guha, Afroza Banu, Pijush Bandhopadhyay and Tajin take part in the chat section. Model and actress Chadni acts

four new models in four different adverts. Only 3 of the present 700 audiences will have the opportunity to play an interesting game called *Mojar Khela Obohela*.

Kichu Kichu Kotha also presents the interviews of peoples from different classes. In the first part the interview of Sardar Mohammed Ali Ajogar speaks about some heart touching experiences. Ajogar has been driving a truck for the last seven years.

In the documentary section, a comic show on *Doyel* will be presented. The most important part of the show presents us with a tragic documentary on child smuggling and abduction. The story of *Mauna Shishu Palli Plus* in Sripur takes the



LRB performs their latest number in *Kichu Kichu Kotha*

as a homeless girl. Actor Gulam Mustafa talks in a section for the children.

Comedians like Fazlur Rahman Babu, Abdul Aziz, A. B. Siddique, Rafiqullah Selim, Zillur Rahman, Black Anwar, Apel Bashir, Hasu, Ratn, Bulbul and the artists of *Nattyajan* theatrical group.

There is also an awareness-building section for the viewers about the prevalent situation in the country and will be briefed about self-saving theories and policies. The show also accompanies a fashion show and a placard display sections!!

Apart from comedy and discussions the show also has many skits on different ideas and concepts. The section with models shows the shooting of

views to visit some beautiful children who are now safely growing up. These children became victims of child-abductors.

Musical group LRB will present their new song while Sumona Huq will sing another number written by Kowser Ahmed Chowdhury.

Packed with these interesting and entertaining aspects, the show is bound to enthrall all.

Created by Media Mix Entertainment *Kichu Kichu Kotha* is written and hosted by Sajal Amin. It is directed by Uttam Shah. Sayed Khayrul Hasan presents it while Shamsul Arefin Sohel produces it. Data collecting and the scripts are by Anwar Alauddin.



Sumona Huq sings in the monthly show *Kichu Kichu Kotha*

RECOMMENDATIONS

Goethe's Theory on Colours

AN exhibition of Jonathan Wolfgang von Goethe's (1749-1832) *Theory on Colours* will be held at the Goethe Institut, Dhaka, from August 6. The exhibition sets out to illustrate the famous man's large interest in the natural sciences and how he carried out research in number of scientific areas by means of his work on colours. His observations and knowledge gained are said to underlie the light and colour phenomenon of nature. His experiments with prisms and other optical devices helped to support Goethe's view that light and shed are inseparable and that colours are product of their interplay.

Magazine Show

Uthshav

After a long eight-month break this July-September session Bangladesh Television will resume telecasting Uthshav, the popular magazine show. A magazine show for all category of people. There will be the usual events, such as the Rawshan Jamil's Quiz, the game play with old songs. Besides these there will also be some additional items.

The programme is planned and hosted by Mosharrar Hossain.

Juvenile Theatre at Goethe

A juvenile theatre-play on GRIPS method will be performed by Nityachakra at the Goethe Institut auditorium, Dhaka, on July 15, 16 and 31 at 7: 00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



British Film Week

The British Council with co-sponsorship from Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd. will host a film event titled 'British Film Week 2000' from 23 - 27 July at the British Council Auditorium. The titles of the films include *With or Without You*, *Notting Hill*, *Gregory's 2 Girls*, *East is East* and *Beautiful People*.



Artwork of Porcelain and Glass

A solo exhibition of "Artwork of Porcelain and Glass" by Kazi Rakib has started on July 14 at Gallery 21. Artist Aminul Islam inaugurated the exhibition and artist Mahmudul Haq was present as special guest. Among his sixty pieces of artworks on display, forty are of porcelain, fifteen glass-paintings and five glass sculptures. Rakib's abstract illustrations say a tale of a lot about the intricacies of abstraction. The members of the audience who have seen painting on crockery are likely to get a totally different taste in these pieces, although some paintings of birds on porcelain are bound to present the accustomed feeling that everyone has seen as far as 'dye on glass' is concerned.

Gallery Chittrak opens

The inaugural ceremony of Gallery Chittrak - a centre of fine arts situated in the quiet atmosphere in Dhanmondi, will be held on July 21 at 5.30 p.m. Renowned artist Professor Mohammad Kibria will be present as chief guest and inaugurate the gallery and also a fifteen day long exhibition of works by senior and junior artists of the country. Eminent educationist Professor Mustafa Nurul Islam will preside over the inaugural ceremony.

The gallery is said to be built with a difference as a bridge between the artists, art lovers and general viewers. The exhibition will remain open to all every-day from 10.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. till August 4.

TV Guide

Tuesday 18th July

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

ATN

5:30 Islamic Program 6:32 Horoscope prog. 7:10 Special prog. 7:50 ATN Music 8:25 Drama serial 9:00 Magazine prog. 9:35 Musical prog. 10:10 Drama serial 10:45 Bangla film : Khohi Drama serial 11:30 Bangla Music 7:10 Drama serial 7:50 Musical prog. 8:25 Musical Prog. 9:00 Drama serial 9:32 Band Show 10:10 Drama serial 10:45 Bangla film : Bijeel

BTV

3:00 Opening Announcement, Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 3:15 Patriotic Song 3:20 Open University Prog. 4:00 Bangla News 4:05 Pusti Thattho 4:20 Sports Programme 5:10 Nakhatrer Aalo (Programme For Children) 5:40 Sashtotho Thattho (Health Developing For Mother & Children) 6:00 Bangla News 6:05 Sabar Janno Shikha 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:00 News For Weather 7:05 Sangita (Aadhunik Song) 7:25 Tookhor (TV Quiz) 8:00 Bangla News At 8 8:30 Drama Series: Sultan-O-Rakhal #24 (Bangla Dub) 9:00 Serial: Bhanga Pather Raanga Dhulay #7/14 (*Pigush Bondopadhyay,

Shanta Islam, Tarin Jahan Toma) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:20 Je Samaje Aachhi 10:50 Sur Lahori 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A) Programme Outline For Wednesday B) National Song 11:45 Closing

EKUSHEY

2:00 Newspaper Headlines 2:05 Amader Kotha 2:30 Pop Show 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:02 Bangla Cinema: Rokhoni Bondi (Anju, Mahmud Koli) 5:30 Drishti (Public view) 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:02 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 6:30 Charidike 7:00 Ekushey News Headlines 7:02 Classic Cartoons 7:20 Behind Sydney 7:45 Ekushey News 8:00 Drama Serial: Dipannita (Tazin A., Azizul H., Afsana M., Shams S., Tomalika K.) 8:30 Telefilm Chaaka (Amirul Huk Chowdhury, Ashish Khandakar, Ruhul Amin, Dilara Zaman) 10:00 BTV News 10:20 The Big Fight WWF 11:00 Behind Sydney 11:30 Ekushey News Headlines

ZEE NEWS TV

7:30 Zee News: Hindi 8:00 Morning Zee 9:00 News Outlook 9:30 Zee News: Hindi 0:00 World Vies 7:00 Business News 7:30 Zee News: Hindi 8:30 Business News 9:00 News In English 10:00 Zee Prime Time Show 11:00 Zee News: Hindi 11:30 World Vies 12:00 News In English

MTV INDIA

7:00 Non-Stop Hits 8:00 MTV Classic 9:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits 11:00 MTV Most Wanted Vj Shehnaz 12:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music 1:00 MTV Housefull Vj Nafisa 1:30 MTV Non-Stop Hits 3:30 MTV Love Line Vj Malaika 4:00 MTV Bakra 4:15 Non-Stop Hits 4:30 MTV Select Vj Nikhil 5:30 MTV Most Wanted Vj Shehnaz 6:30 MTV Chill Out Vj Cyrus/Asif/Nikhil 7:30 MTV Chito Chat 8:30 MTV Non-Stop Hits 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 MTV House Full Vj Nafisa 10:30 MTV Loaded 11:00 MTV Lovelife Vj Malaika 11:30 The Grind (Beach Show) 12:00 MTV Chill Out Vj Cyrus/Asif/Nikhil 1:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits

DD 7 (BANGLA)

8:40 Khas Khabar 9:05 Amrito Katha 9:20 Sangbad 9:30 Khela Aar Khela 10:30 Janmadin (Birthday Greetings) 10:30 Gane Gane 10:35 Daily Soap: Shree Ram Krishna 11:00 Daily Soap: Hay Mohajeebon 11:15 Classical/Folk Songs- 11:30 Parliament Hour / Musical 12:00 Bengali Movie: 2:30 Khas Khabar 3:30 Daily Soap: Mohini 3:55 Daily Soap: Bhul Thikanay 4:20 Nepali Prog. 5:05 Chiching Fak / Harekrakamba 5:30 Sambad 5:40 Employment News/ Modern Songs. / Lalitalk 5:50 Camera Chochhy 6:10

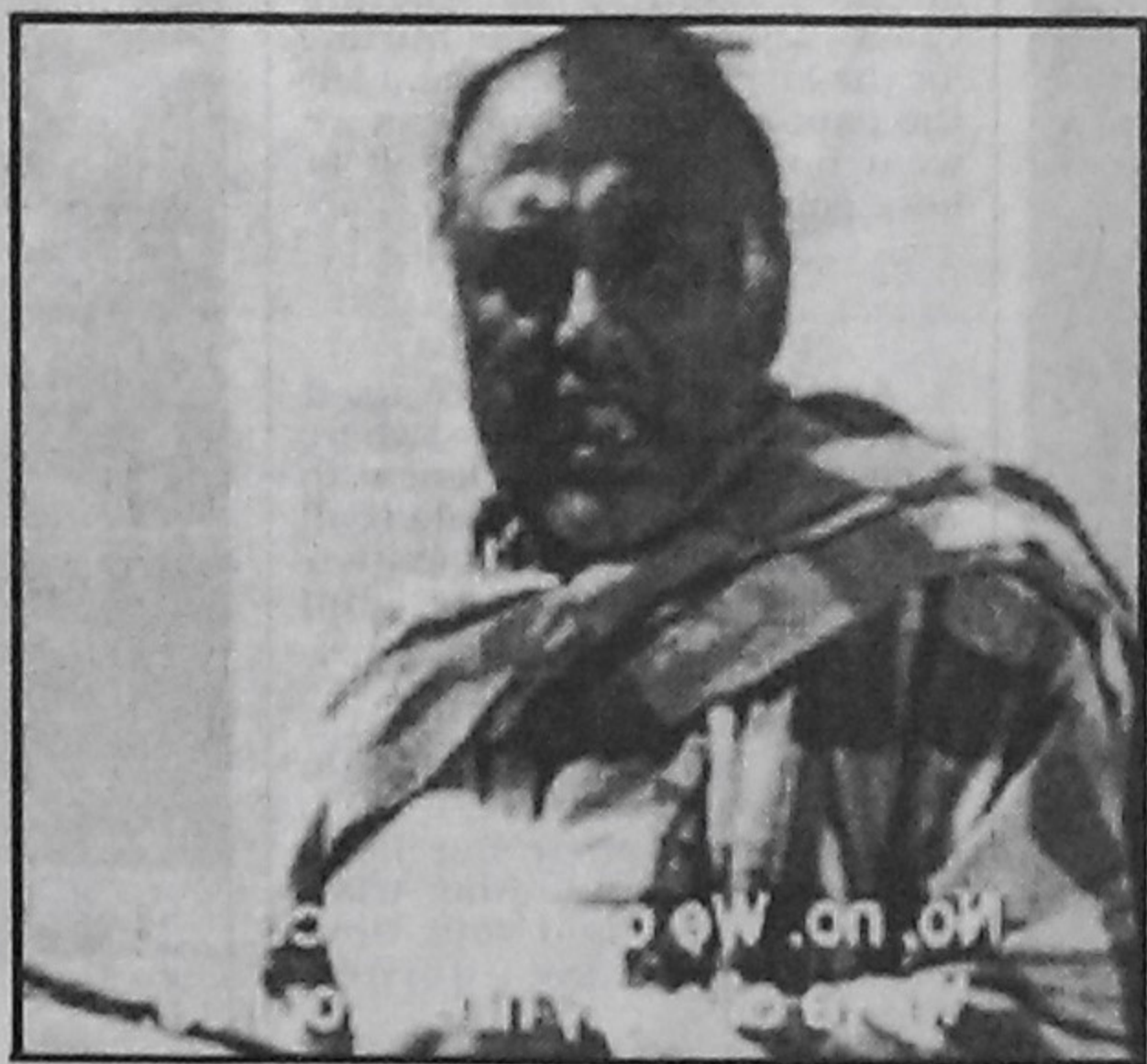
Chitro Githi 6:40 Khas Khabar 6:50 Daily Soap- Jannabhumhi 7:30 Bangla Sambad 7:55 Dinindan 8:00 Manasi 8:30 Aayner Doreponey (Serial *) 9:00 Daily Soap- Jannabhumhi 9:30 Daily Soap- Shree Ram Krishna 10:00 Khas Khabar 10:20 Mokho Mukhi 10:50 Sambad 11:00 Bengali Movie:

ALPHA

BANGLA TV

6:00 Alaap 7:00 Grihosajja 7:30 Bharot Bhroman 8:00 Serial: Din Protidin 9:00 Serial: Agni Yuger Padatik 9:30 Bhahari Aahar 10:00 Grihosajja 10:30 Serial: Bhalo Basa Mondo Basa 11:00 Serial: Iska Boner Bibi Roy 1:30 Bangla Movie:

11:30 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche 12:00 Serial: Beauty Parlor 12:30 Sa Re Ga Ma 1:30 Bahari Aahar 2:00 Serial: Jibani Rekha (*Indrani, Kushol) 2:30 Bangla Movie- Aaj Kaal Pansur Galpo 5:00 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche 5:30 Alaap 6:00 Bharot Bhroman 6:30 Serial: Din Protidin 7:30 News In Bangla 8:00 Serial: Bhowani Purer Chattajua 8:30 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche 9:00 Serial: Kono Ek Din 9:30 Serial: Kapurush 10:00 News In Bangla 10:30 Serial: Din Protidin 11:30 Serial: Shoni-Robi Mojar Chobi #19 12:00 Serial: Iska Boner Bibi 12:30 Serial: Jibon Janon 1:00 Serial: Biraj Bou (*Devashree Aaj Kaal Pansur Galpo



A scene from the drama Chaaka on Ekushey Television tonight at 8:30 pm.

DD-1

(NATIONAL)

5:55 Vande Mataram 6:15 CIET Programme 6:30 UGC Programme 7:00 IGNOU Programme 7:30 Samachar 7:45 Suba Sabera 9:15 The News 9:32 Imaging Science 10:00 UGC Programme 10:32 Tarang- CIET Programme 11:00, ETV Programme 11:30 Serial: Ardhangini 12:30 Serial: Kamyabi 12:32 Serial: In-tezara Aur Sahi 12:55 Serial: Kiran 1:00 Serial: Tulsi 1:25 Serial: Aapki Saheli 1:32 Serial: Agni 2:00 Serial: Deewar 2:30 Samachar 2:40 The News 2:50 Serial: Jagte Raho 3:32 Serial: Aparajita 4:00 Serial: Mitti Ke Rang 4:32 Serial: Aur Kisan Jaag Utha 5:00 Serial: Kal Kotari 6:00 Programme On Women 6:15 Kala Parikrama 6:32 Krishi Darshan 7:00 Live Show 7:30 Samachar 7:45 Career Hunt 8:00 Serial: Kanyakumari Ki Kahaniyan 8:32 Serial: Antaraal 9:00 Samachar 9:15 The News 9:30 Serial: Sargam 10:02 Serial: Om Namah Shivay 11:00 Serial: Raja Ka Baja 11:32 Ghoonta Aaina 12:00 National Programme of Music 12:30 News Headline 12:32 Serial: Ardhangini

SONY ENT. TV

7:30 Aatma 8:00 Sant Asaram Wani 8:30 Chart-busters (Trailer Show) 9:00 Ek Mahal Ho Sapno Ka

STAR SPORTS

7:00 Kardio Knockout 7:30 Asian Basketball Show 8:00 International Motorsport News 2000 9:00 Pga Tour Golf Greater Milwaukee Open Milwaukee, WI USA Day Two 11:00 Asian Basketball Association Taipei, TAIWAN- Chinese Taipei All Stars Vs Nba Stars 1:00 Asian Basketball Association Shenyang, CHINA- China All Stars Vs Korean All Stars 3:00 National Sports Report 4:00 Class 1 Uim World Powerboat C/Ships 2000 Preview 4:30 Usa Vs Europe Tenpin Bowling Championships 1999 Warsaw, POLAND 5:30 Atp Tour World Team Championship 2000 Dusseldorf, GERMANY Highlights #2 6:30 Triathlon Sabah Triathlon 2000 Sabah Sports India 7:30 Anz Sportsline 7:35 Thai Kick Boxing 8:30 Atp Tour World Series Tournament Miller Lite Hall Of Fame Newport, RI USA Finals 10:00 Gillette World Sports Special 10:30 Formula Nippon 2000 Suzuka Circuit, JAPAN Round 5 11:30 Anz Sportsline 11:35 National Rugby League New South Wales, AUSTRALIA- Melbourne Storm Vs Northern Eagles Round 24

ESPN

6:00 Live- Women's Professional Basketball 2000 Wnba Basketball-All-Star Game Phoenix, AZ USA