

exhibition

A Narrative from Dreams

Front-ranking painter Ranjit Das discovers his new self in the show now being held at Bengal Shipalaya

By TAWFIQUE ALI

ELEVENTH solo art exhibition of Ranjit Das is now being held at Bengal Shipalaya gallery at Dhanmondi. The show features fifty-eight recent works, done in oil on canvas of Ranjit.

Ranjit is considered by the critics as of the most gifted artists of the 80s.

His bold and at times wired images, one might feel, have been dug out from the depths of a world of unknown. He paints reality in a convoluted form. For Ranjit, who bagged Grand Award in the 7th Asian art Biennial held in Dhaka, there is no line to draw between dream and reality. His works invite the viewers to a world apart, more real and paradoxically more removed. There is a continuous sport of light and shade in his works. The spirit of our liberation war is a recurrent theme in his works. Though abstract, Ranjit's works are not obscure. The figures—both human and animal and plants are quite recognizable.

In this exhibition Ranjit's depiction of images from daily life in rural Bangladesh and the tolling masses have found brilliant expression. Way to Village

'Face of Bengal are two works that portray natural innocence and serenity of ordinary rural life on the picturesque canvas of Bangladesh. 'Way to Village' is a depiction of a woman walking along a bushy Kancha path leading to a village. Ranjit has seen the face of Bengal in the face of a rural belle. Workers in City



Longing for happiness: Oil on canvas

Street contemplates over the abject condition of countless city workers who are fallen and uncared of. A silent outcry of these souls might prick the sensible hearts. Tragedy and Triumph, draws a sharp contrast between dejection and mirth. The picture is a strong symbolic work with suggestions of our inde-



pendence struggle.

'Environment' tells a story of helplessness in the face of degradation of nature. This piece is a grim portrayal of irreparable damage man has done to nature.

Though his works are basically abstract, Ranjit has a deep interest in figuration. Human figures appear concealed in the composition. The strength of his composition lies in his ability to create tension and balance represented by the living forms both human and animal. In his earlier works these forms appeared in frag-

ments, mostly because his images appeared as disturbing through their intense presence. These forms generated a sense of helplessness and pathos in the grim world of daily struggle. But in his present works Ranjit has broadened the scope of his subjects along with its colour configuration but retaining the same rigor of geometrical pattern of squares, rectangles and circles. A calm composure and pathos has replaced the grimness in his early works. The paintings on show capture such tender and lively moments as shyness (Hiding Face in Sari), repose (Combing hair), exuberance (Run), and camaraderie (Boy with goat, Girl with goat, Girl with Flower). The rural landscape as the backdrop with and without figures is a remarkable dimension added to his works. A recurrent motif is the full moon washing the almost invisible landscape in gossamer thin rays that create mistiness and evoke romance. Cleansed of all unsavory aspects by the pristine and all pervading rays of the moon the rural landscape not only looks idyllic it also casts a hypnotic spell. Figures in the paintings are the dominant forms and hold the overall composition



Feeling-1: Oil on canvas

together directly and tell stories. Paintings like Girl and Goat, Girl with Basket, Man with Umbrella, Workers in the Street, are narratives of the lives of ordinary people.

In the four paintings on the theme of Liberation War (Tragedy and Triumph) figures with vary-

ing dimensions and gestures bring out the essence of the subject poignantly through interplay of composition and colour combination. Ranjit applies colours skillfully to evoke the emotion relevant to the subjects.

The exhibition will run till October 14, 2000 from 12 to 8 pm.

exhibition

Story of a Tortured Soul

Mahbubur Rhaman expresses his angst in his 5th solo at Gallery 21

By NAFID IMRAN AHMED

EVERY artist feels differently and every expression one makes is unique in its own way. Young and promising artist of the generation of the 90s, Mahbubur Rahman's 5th solo painting exhibition at the Gallery 21 reflects his thoughts and feeling.

The exhibition titled Self-Slaughter began on September 29. Eminent artists Nesar Hossain, Mohammed Eunus, Professor Sayed Azizul Huq and artist Shishir Bhattacharjee graced the inaugural ceremony as guests of honour.

Mahbubur Rahman did his MFA from the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka in 1993. This talented artist has a number of awards to his name, including the Grand Prize at the 9th Asian Art Biennale, 'Best Award' for sculpture at the 12th Young Artists' art exhibition and others are noticeable.

'My works mirror the social and political crisis we are in, the city life and different incidents of my life. Social injustice, outrage and environmental degradation move me so much that I tried to express the anxieties of the time in my works to unburden myself of my angst,' said Mahbub while explaining his works. These words serve as a great commentary to his works which take on rape, hijacking, murder, torture, injustice, dishonesty, police harassment, and suicide as their subjects.

Mahbub has experimented with different media in this exhibition. Most of his paintings are in acrylic on paper, oil on canvas,

oil on tin and plastic. He has also done a sculpture, in glass fiber.

Mahbub's work is a testimony to his skill in using colour. In most of the paintings he used striking basic colours and in some paintings, which are usually his drawings he used faded colours. The use of colours in his works vary with the themes and his feelings.

Mahbub's paintings are also reflection into his childhood memories. Like other children he takes fright in Kali temples, graveyards, cemeteries, abandoned houses, slaughtered animals. His paintings are mostly the collage of all these terrifying

images from his memories.

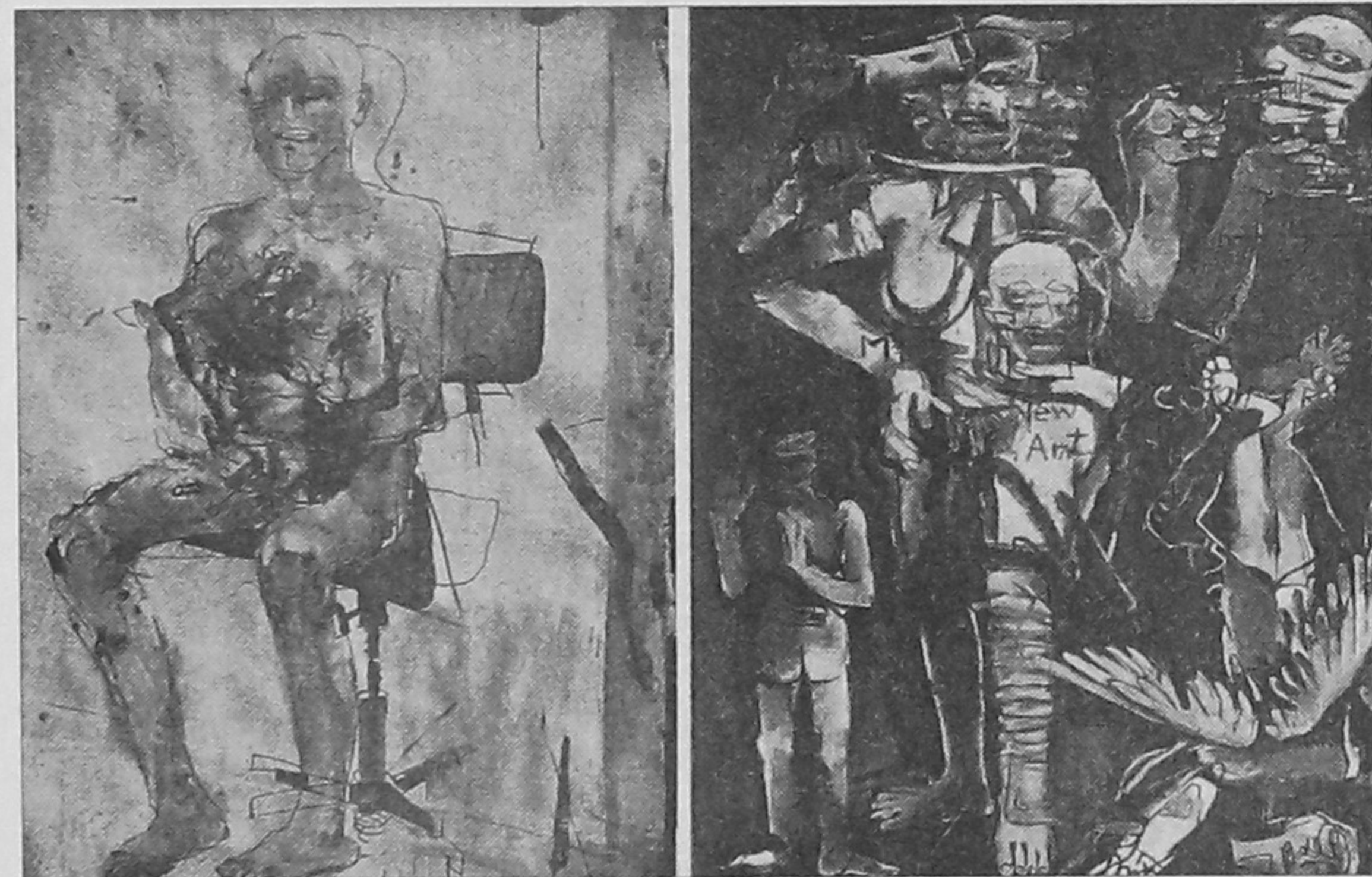
'While working on these themes,' said Mahbub 'I feel like destroying my own face and even destroying myself'. The forms and figures in Mahbub's work are expressed in such an intimidating and grotesque way that reminds one of the German expressionist paintings. The numerous images of breasts and phalluses moving around a woman figure is suggestive of repression on women.

The series on richshaw is quite different from other works of the show. These paintings are the sequel to his previous exhibitions titled City Crisis held in 1997,

Long Shadow and the Bright Light held in 1999.

The one and only glass fiber sculpture of the show is titled Indifferent. The sculpture is a seated figure with a TV monitor placed on his chest and a dog on his lap. According to the artist the figure is explaining the dog about environmental pollution. Mahbub has created a video film on environmental degradation which is played on the TV monitor.

In conclusion one can only say that the show is a unique experience for the Dhaka's gallery-goers.



endeavour

Kachi-Kanchar Mela a Name in Children's Movement

By MOHAMMAD AMIAD HOSSAIN

TODAY (5th of October) the largest and one of the oldest national children's organisations is celebrating the forty-fourth anniversary of its foundation. On this day forty-four years back Kachi-Kanchar Mela was floated at Tarabagh residence of the late Poet Sufia Kamal at the initiative of late Ruknuzzaman Khan (Dada Bhai). In fact this children's organisation is the brainchild of Ruknuzzaman Khan. This is for the first time that this organisation is celebrating its founding day without the presence of that pioneering leader who passed away on 3rd December last year. Apart from the death of legendary Poet Sufia Kamal, who expired in November last year, this organisation lost another of its dedicated leaders scientist-educationist Dr Abdullah Al-Muti Sharfuddin. He was the one who presided over the first ever meeting in connection with the formation of this organisation on 5th October 1956. Therefore, this year Kachi-Kanchar Mela is celebrating its founding day without these stalwarts.

During its 44 years of existence, which by any stroke of imagination is a miracle for any organisation in the context of Bangladesh environment, Kachi-Kanchar Mela has made a great stride towards development of children in different fields. Over the years this organisation has trained several hundred children in painting, music, dance, recita-

tion and literary writings. Of late, computer class introduced by this organisation keeping in mind the rapid advancement of modern technology is in operation for the last four years.

The central Kachi-Kanchar Mela is possibly the only children's organisation in Bangladesh, which has its own building for the conduct of different programmes for the children. And this is perhaps the only children's organisation which earned its reputation also abroad. Its budding artists brought laurel for the country by bagging gold, silver and bronze medals and certificates in the international painting competitions held in India, Japan and Turkey. This year six

artists of Kachi Kanchar Mela received silver and bronze medals and certificates from New Delhi and Tokyo.

Now so many children are attending the painting class that sometimes it becomes difficult to provide accommodation. The central Kachi-Kanchar Mela, therefore, has taken up a programme for expansion of its building. Recently the Mela sent donation of books and almirahs to its five branches which maintain library for the children. Today the organisation enjoys an enviable position in the country in terms of the positive contribution it made for the enrichment of the mental faculty of the children.



Caring Guys For Bangladesh (CGB) organised a charity concert and film show at the Russian Cultural Centre on Saturday to raise funds for acid survivors

Recommendations

COMEDY FILM WEEK

Comedy Film Week

A weeklong film festival titled 'Comedy Film Week' started at the Shawkat Osman Memorial Hall, National Museum on September 30 and will continue up to October 6. Today's films: DR. DOLITTLE at 11 am, HOT SHOTS PART DEUX at 1.15 pm, THE KID at 3.15 pm, SELECTED MOVIE at 5.30 pm, SELECTED MOVIE at 7.30 pm.

Mahbub's Fifth Solo at Gallery 21

The fifth solo exhibition by visual artist Mahbubur Rahman was inaugurated on September 29 at Dhanmondi's Gallery 21. Artists Nisar Hossain, Mohammed Eunus, Professor Sayed Azizul Huq and Shishir Bhattacharjee graced the inaugural ceremony as guests of honour.

The exhibition will remain open to everyone from 10.30a.m. to 8.30p.m. everyday till October 9.

Good Morning Sydney

The second solo photography exhibition by A M Ikram titled 'Good Morning Sydney' started at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka on October 1.

In his exhibition artist A M Ikram has captured and introduced the environmental and socio-cultural scenario of Sydney. He tried to portray the city and the people of Sydney with his camera.

Organised by the Environment & Ecological conservation organisation the exhibition will remain open to everyone from 5.00p.m. to 8.00p.m. till October 5.

CD Release

The launching ceremony of the Rabindrasangeet CD by Sajed Akbar and Salma Akbar will be held at the National Museum auditorium on October 7 at 7.00p.m. The CD is produced by Muidhara cultural organisation.

Eminent artist Kalim Sharafi, Ajit Roy, Tapan Mahmud and Sadi Mohammed will be present as invited guests on the launching occasion.

The launching ceremony will be followed by musical presentation by the artists.

German Film-Week

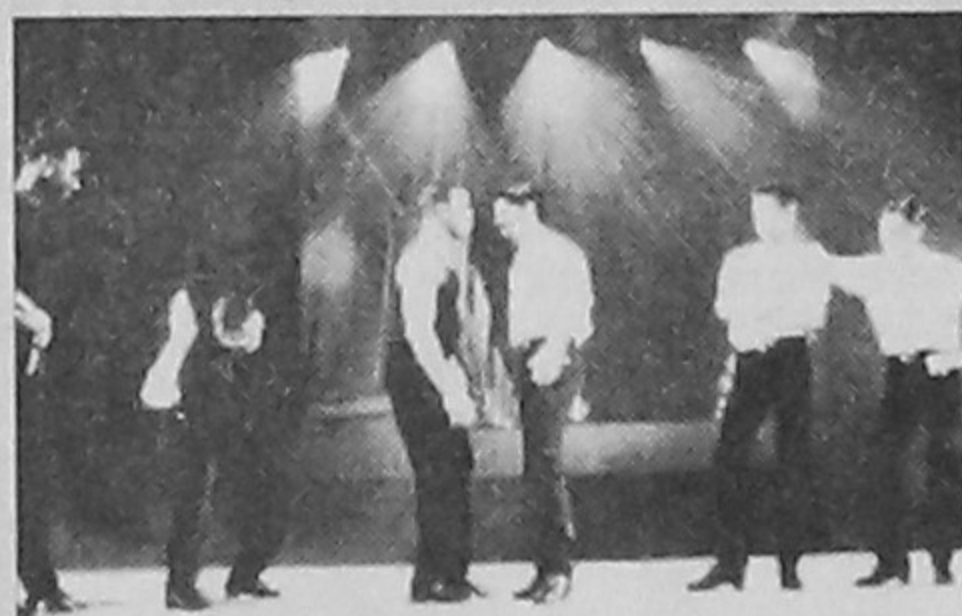
Goethe Institut in collaboration with the German Embassy, Dhaka will start the German Film-Week from October 8 at the Goethe Institut auditorium. The films will be shown everyday at 3.00p.m.

The following films will be shown during the festival:

Der Pampelmusenmond, Lola rennt, Killing Heinz, Das Leben ist eine Baustelle, Der Sommer des Falken, Quest, Zugvogel - einmal nach Inari, Lippels Traum, Der Sieg, Jenseits der Stille, Der Hund ist weg, Fanny, Plus minus null, Wege in die Nacht.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Riverdance: Live at New York on Star World at 10 tonight. Filmed live at Radio City Music Hall in New York, this production is a powerful explosion of Irish dance, song and music. It is a fusion of traditional Irish dance and music, its primitive and powerful Celtic rhythms, blended with contemporary music and choreography, and includes powerful performances from international from Spain, America and Russia.

1:40 Jhalak 1:45 Daily Soap: Hasratin #44 2:25 Chingaree #74 3:00 Daily Soap: Banegi Apni Baat 3:30 Zee Talkies 4:00 Daily Soap: Adhikar #43 4:30 Sampat & Sampat #14 (Farida Jalal, Nabin Nischol, Sunita Sengupta, Pamela Mukharjee, World Focus: 12:00 World News 12:30 Made in India: Face To Face India (Presenter: Karan Thapar) 1:00 World News 1:30 World Living: Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: 3:00

BBC World News 3:30 Hard Talk: (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Holiday 5:00 BBC World Today 5:30 World Focus: 6:30 Made in India: Face To Face India (Presenter: Karan Thapar) 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 World Living: The Air Show 8:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 9:00 World News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC World News 10:15 World Business Report 10:30 Made in India: Moneywise (Presenter: Sucharita Ghosh) 11:00 BBC World News 11:35 World Business Report 11:45 World Sport 12:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 1:00 World News

Hit Ya Fit #380 9:30 Star Morning Film Show: Heera Aur Pathar (*Shashi Kapoor, Shabana Azmi, Ashok Kumar) 12:30 Film Based Prog: Hit Ya Fit #381 1:00 TSN 1:30 Daily Soap: Tanha #28 2:00 Daily Soap: Meri Saheli #68 2:30 Daily Soap: Saans #69 3:00 Hindi Serial: Rajdhani #21 3:30 Small Wonder (Hindi Dube) 4:00 Daily Soap: Kyonki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi #55 4:30 Hindi Serial: Cincinnati Bhublaboo 2:00 5:00 Film Based Prog: Hit Ya Fit 5:30 Cine Jharokha #69 (Daily Wonder (Hindi Dube) 6:30 Fox Kids 7:30 Hindi Serial: Kuchha Paapad Pucca Paapad #66 8:00 Hindi Serial: Tu Tu Main Main 8:30 Hindi Serial: Saher #26 9:00 Hindi Serial: Deewarain #26 (*Milind Soman) 9:30 Daily Show: Kaun Banega Crorepati #56 (Presenter: Amitabh Bachchan) 10:30 Hindi Serial: Aatish #20 (*Rohit Roy, Smriti Malhotra, Neena

Kulkarni, Reena Wadhwa) 3:00 National Sports Report 4:00 Sports Unlimited 5:00 Boxing Series Fight Time On Fox (12 Rds. Usba Jr. Lightwt C'Ship) Detroit, Mi Usa-Steve Forbes V David Santos 7:00 Soccer Road To Asian Cup 2000, Part 1 Preview 8:00 Live-Sport News-Sportline Tonight 8:30 World Wrestling Federation Raw 10:30



Saans on star plus at 2.30 pm

Sepang, Malaysia Rounds Five & Six 11:00 Soccer/Futbol-Fifa Wld Futsal C'Ship 2000 - Asian Qualifiers Bangkok, Thailand-Iran Vs Japan Group 'A' 12:30 Sport News-Sportline Today 1:00 Soccer Atc Under-16 Championship 2000 Danang, Vietnam Final

World Pool Masters 8:30 Major League Baseball Division Series 2000 11:00 Motor Cycle Racing-Motoworld 11:30 lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- Sri Lanka Vs West Indies 2nd Odi, Highlights 12:30 Live-lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- England Vs Bangladesh 3rd Odi Preview 12:45 Live-lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- England Vs Bangladesh 3rd Odi, 1st Session 4:15 Live-lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- England Vs Bangladesh 3rd Odi, Lunchtime Show 5:00 Live-lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- England Vs Bangladesh 3rd Odi, 2nd Session 8:30 lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- England Vs Bangladesh 3rd Odi, Review 9:30 Billiards-Pool 2000 World Pool Masters 10:30 English Premier League Highlights 11:30 lcc Knock-Out Kenya, Africa- England Vs Bangladesh 3rd Odi, Highlights 12:30 Boxing Series Espn21 Friday Night Fights Montreal, Canada

BTV 3:00 Opening Announcement, Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 3:15 Patriotic Song 3:20 Open University Prog. 4:00 Bangladesh News 4:05 Cartoon: Barne And Friends 4:30 Songs 5:00 National School Debate Competition 5:50 Dharma-O-Jiban 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:00 Sambad (Bangla News) 7:05 Balikram (Magazine on Children) 7:25 Laal Suboojer Paala (Cultural Programme On Children) 8:00 Bangla News At 8:00 Series: Jatay Jatay Aboshasay #12 (*Tazin Ahmad, Litu Anam, Noona Afroz, Anant Hira, Mir Sabbir, Shamim Shahed, Chumki) 9:00 Bahuroopi (Magazine) 9:30 Geetibichitra (Songs) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:20 Banglar Mukh (Bangali Culture) 10:50 English Series: Sacred Monuments of Asia 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A Programme Outline For Friday B) National

Song 11:45 Clossing Ekushey TV 2:00 Aker Potrikay 2:10 Goboy 2:35 Nupur Bajey 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:02 Bangla Movie: Putrobodhu 5:40 Drishti 5:50 Aker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:02 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 6:30 Charidike 7:00 Ekushey News Headlines 7:02 To Be Confirmed 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Drama 9:00 Roshonar Bashona 9:30 Bangla Movie: Ma-Baba 10:00 BTV News 10:20 Bangla Movie: Ma-Baba 11:00 Ekushey Late Night News 11:20 Bangla Movie: Ma-Baba 11:45 Ekushey News Headlines

CHANNEL-i 6:15 Drama Everyday: Rithoy ar Kase 7:00 Travel Show 7:40 Drama: Lara 8:00 Din Protidin 9:15 Music Circle 10:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 10:10 I Music 10:40 Silpo Khatha 11:15 Drama Everyday: Rithoy ar Kase 12:00 Travel Show 12:40 Drama: Lara 12:50 I Focus

2:00 Music Circle 3:00 Bangla Cinema: Harano Sur. 6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Ap Gane Gane 6:40 Money Talk 7:15 Drama Everyday: Rithoy ar Kase 8:00 Chitti Pelem 8:40 Drama: AZ Robibar 9:15 I Dream of Jeanmie 9:50 I Focus 10:00 Drama: Abboshesa 11:00 Bangla Cinema: Aviman ATN 5:30 Islamic programme 6:32 Health Prog 7:10 New Film Songs 7:50 Drama Serial 8:25 Drama 9:35 Magazine



Bangla movie Ma Baba on Ekushey TV at 9.30 tonight. Starring Mahmud Koli, Rozina and Zaved.

Prog 10:10 Drama Serial 10:45 Bangla Film: Shapure Maya 6:32 Islamic programme 7:10 New Film Songs 7:50 ATN Music 8:25 Knight Rider 9:00 Magazine Prog 9:35 Reporting Prog 10:10 Musical Prog 10:45 Bangla Film: Demag Sony Ent. TV 7:30 Amrit Varsha 8:00 Sant Asaram Wani 8:30 Music Mantra (Trailer Show) 9:00 Good Morning Disney 10:00 Haal Kaisa Hai Janab Ka #5 10:30 Oil Hai Ki Manta Nahin #5 (*Vishal, Rupali, Shruti Ulla) 11:00 Thodi Si Bewafai #22 (*Suraj Thapar, Diya, Beena) 11:30 Aurat (Daily Soap) 12:00 Daily Soap: Ithaas 12:30 Movers & Shekars 1:00 Chartbusters (Trailer Show) 1:30 The Poppadum Show 2:00 Boogi Woogi 2:30 Daily Soap: Imtihaan (*Renuka Shani, Ferdous Dadi) 3:00 Aurat (Daily Soap) 3:30 Daily Soap: Ghar Ek Mandir 4:00 Daily Soap: Nazdeekiyan 4:30 Daily Soap: Ithaas 5:00 Daily Soap: Junoon 5:30

Chartbusters (Trailer Show) 6:00 Music Mantra (Trailer Show) 6:30 Disney Hour 7:30 Boogi Woogi 8:00 Hum Sub Ek Hain #113 Ep-8:30 Milan #5 (*Natasha Singh, Rohit Roy) 9:10 Shashreen #5 (*Shashreen) 9:50 Ek Mahal Ho Sapna Ka (Daily Soap) 10:30 Aahat #238 Ep-11:10 Movers & Shekars 12:00 Daily Soap: Nazdeekiyan 12:30 Cine Prime Nite Film: 2:30 Movers & Shekars 3:00 Daily Soap: Imtihaan (*Renuka Shani, Ferdous Dadi) 3:30 Cine Night show-Hindi Feature Film: ZeeTV 6:15 Yeason Ki Pal (B/W Songs) 6:45 Old Is Gold 7:00 Bhakti Songs 7:30 Jagran 7:55 Fitness Plus 8:05 Breakfast Zee (News, Views & Chat) 9:00 Guldasta 9:30 Nicodlon Kid's show 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Daily Soap: Chattan #47 (*Shammi Kapoor, Anang Deshay) 11:30 Zee Talkies 4:00 Daily Soap: Adhikar #43 4:30 Sampat & Sampat #14 (Farida Jalal, Nabin Nischol, Sunita Sengupta, Pamela Mukharjee, World Focus: 12:00 World News 12:30 Made in India: Face To Face India (Presenter: Karan Thapar) 1:00 World News 1:30 World Living: Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: 3:00