

exhibition

Drawing out Beauty from Simplicity

Jamal Ahmed's 43rd solo exhibition opens at the Divine Art Gallery

By Fayza Haq

Jamal Ahmed whose 43rd solo exhibition opened yesterday at the Divine Art Gallery has once again captivated his viewers with his



Jamal Ahmed

charcoal and acrylic work. Jamal goes in for these mediums as they are easy to preserve in our tropical climate and also simple to handle rather than the expensive oils.

As his old friend Kuhu puts it, drawing is not something easy to come by, specially when this presents details of human figures. Jamal's drawing has more than a 3-D impact and does more than simply decorate or illustrate. He has live models, who sit for him at the rate of Tk100 for a day's work and he adds his vivacity and romance to the delineation of the simple poor. With the layers of horizontal washes that he puts using charcoal and acrylic, he presents his old, wrinkled men and bronze skinned young women with great sincerity and flare. He applies his white paints as an undercoat and over that earthy colours like brown and orange dance with great vitality. The final effect has a pearly glaze. In each picture you have the lure of realism that is so difficult to find in an artist's of his experience and standard.

He does not find life easy as an artist and complains that he must make quick sales and certainly has no regular patronage to lean on as did the artists of the Renaissance period in Europe.

Also, he has to buy his charcoal and paints overseas and is lucky that he gets the opportunities to go to places like USA and Japan. Also, he says that when local awards are made it is always the same known faces who get the prizes or those who have manipulated with the authorities. "There are many who have won awards in Bangladesh and who yet do not do anything remarkable in their later lives," he says. He combines his teaching at the Institute of Fine Arts with free lance painting and must work late into the nights. Also, he does not rely on photographs when he does his landscapes and insists on spending a lot of time in the countryside in order to bring depth in his work for the past 12 years. Again, live models are not easy for him to get, although, in his work he brings beauty even from out of wrinkles

however, as in our neighbouring country there are many more artists for that country is so much more vast than that of ours. "The way to success is to make more and more paintings, and the students are not correct when they say that they are not getting enough attention from their teachers. The situation is not much more different in other developed countries."

Jamal's "Girl with the dove" is remarkable indeed as the artist has brought in so much of beauty with just black and white and some texture work. This won a prestigious in the recent local biennale. His "Man behind the smoke" brings in the appeal of an old man's face as he enjoys his cigarette. His "Face" also draws out the beauty in a homely face despite the double chin and the dark marks on the face.



Man behind smoke, Arylic, 2000

and sagging waistlines.

He comments that they follow the same syllabus as in Calcutta but recently there have been moves to modify this. He says

Apart from 43 solo exhibits, Jamal has also taken part in numerous group shows as in China, Japan, Bulgaria, Norway, France, USA and India.

documentary

Tribute to Our Women in the War

Video documentary by Tareque and Catherine Masud tells the traumatic story of women who were battered by the Liberation war in 1971.

By Tawfique Ali

None paid a bigger price in our War of Liberation as our women did. And their trauma only began there. They subsequently lost a place in society and suffered, in most cases for the rest of their lives. And the sad truth is that very few people attempt to document their



Young women receiving guerrilla training in 1971. (still from the documentary).

pain and express it, so that the new generation can try and understand what we all went through in 1971.

However once in a while a few people do come up with the initiative to depict the contribution of these women, and all others in our war. Women & War, premiered in the city on Thursday, is one of those few.

The screening of the video documentary on the role of women in 1971 Liberation War was organised by Ain O Salish Kendro, a legal aid forum, at the British Council Auditorium on Nov. 16. Tareque and Catherine Masud two noted short filmmakers, directed the film. These two film makers have already earned a name for themselves following the making of "Mukti Gaan" and "Mukti Katha" two documentaries made on the theme and events of the War of Independence. Ain O Salish Kendro also demands due kudos for their role in the making of this film. The documentary Narir Katha or Women and War is a joint production of ASK and Audiovision.

The documentary has been designed to project upon the valiant role played by Bangladeshi women during the country's bloody struggle for independence in 1971. To

enlighten the magnanimity of the sacrifice they made for the country; the violation and humiliation they had to undergo; and their ultimate fate in the post-liberation period have been the concerns dwelt upon in the film. Men's victory in the war has been sung and glorified but women's participation in the quest of freedom; their supreme sacrifice; and the havoc they

survived has not been recognised in the way it should have been. Women's dishonour for the cause of country's freedom was later treated as shame instead of glory. As such society failed to nourish those valiant women to whom we all are indebted as to their male co-warriors. Women's contribution, either direct or indirect, has to be brought to the forefront to at least recognise them if not to compensate them.

A number of case studies compiled up in the documentary tell the tale of millions others unknown, undiscovered and lost in oblivion.

The screening of the documentary was preceded by a brief discussion by the project Director of ASK case study on women freedom fighter Mrs. Suraila and Catherine Masud.

Suraila said that women had taken part in liberation war in different ways. Their part in the nine-month long struggle had been recorded to some extent but was not wholly compiled in any way as compared to the rest of the historical records we find of others in the war. This has rightfully caused resentment in them.

"At one stage we felt an urge to come forward to uphold women's contribution in any field of the society," she said. According to her, women's loss is of a wide range. If a woman is assaulted; if she loses her husband or her son in the war, her loss is irreparable. Women may be affected in many ways, even emotionally.

"We are planning to raise the issue of their loss at the international war tribunal," she said.

Nineteen case studies were conducted and the reports have been compiled in a book that is going to be launched soon. Suraila remarked that conducting these case studies was in itself a painful experience since to only hear what these neglected women have gone through and what injustice has been done to them was simply unbearable. These women still shrink in shame while recollecting the humiliation and violation of their womanhood in the hands of the barbaric Pak army and their collaborators.

Suraila also said that there are different dimensions to war and many facts and history are still undiscovered. This documentary film is an outcome of a part of the research work on the liberation war being conducted by ASK.

Catherine Masud, while speaking on the occasion, said, "this documentary is a compilation of women's experience that they encountered in the 71 liberation war. It's a comprehensive representation of war experience of the women who survived the violence and trauma of the war."

The title of the film Narir Katha, is an apt one in the sense that it not only speaks of the women but it lets women speak also. In the film sculptor Ferdousi, an adivasi (tribal) woman and a group of

rural people tell the stories of their independent struggle against the Pakistani occupation force. They reproduce how dearly women paid for the country's freedom. One village woman, who

was mute with the shock at the loss of her husband in the war, speaks more than any one else. Though she is dumb her helpless signs tell the stories enough to move any human heart and tell them more than others.

The screening followed another brief discussion in which Tareque Masud and Manjare Hassin took part.

Manjare Hassin emphatically made a point that making such a documentary has a global dimension since war crime is a crime



An Adivasi (tribal) woman Mojli Bala recounting her trauma of '71 (still).

against humanity. Through recording of such historical facts we mean to establish human values.

Tareque Masud said, "collective efforts are to be made in making documentary films. It has to be free of any political party affiliation to enhance their credibility."

A panel discussion followed the screening. The discussants comprised of Dr Nawsheba Sharaf, Mufidul Hoque and Meghna Guha Thakurta. Nawsheba Sharaf told a story of women repression during the liberation war recollecting from her memory. Mufidul Hoque said that the issue of war criminals trial is often talked about in the present day world. "Like the Nuremberg trial and Tokyo trial we must demand an international trial of the genocide in Bangladesh in the International War Tribunal."

Meghna highlighted elaborately about the possibility of holding a trial against the brutal Pakistani war criminals in the ICC.

The event ended with an open discussion and exchange of views on the documentary.

Recommendations



Artists of the New Millennium

Gallery 21 celebrates its 3rd founding anniversary with the group exhibition titled Artists of the New Millennium. The inaugural ceremony of the exhibition started on November 17. The exhibition will bring together the works of all our exciting younger painters.

Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general Bangladesh National Museum will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest while Professor Rafiqun Nabi and Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman were also present as special guests.

The exhibition will remain open from 10:00a.m. 8:00p.m. till November 27.

Nattayakarmi Padak 1999

The yearly award giving ceremony by Loko Nattayakarmi Padak 1999 will be held at the Mahila Shamity auditorium on November 20 at 6:45p.m. This year the awarded personalities will be Abul Hayat and Humayun Faridi.

The awards will be presented by National Professor Kabir Chowdhury and Shamsuzzaman Khan, Director General Bangladesh National Museum.

Doll Exhibition

A fortnight-long exhibition of Japanese dolls, organised by the Embassy of Japan, is being held at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy from November 10. The exhibition will remain open to all till November 25.

Monochromatic Rainbow

The 5th solo exhibition by Md. Shaiful Islam titled Monochromatic Rainbow has started at the Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Art, University of Dhaka. The artist will be exhibiting his oil paintings, photo paintings, sculptures, ceramics, photography and poems in the exhibition.

The exhibition will remain open everyday from 2 - 8 p.m. everyday till November 23.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



101 Dalmatians

Tonight on Star Movies at 10

In this classic tale of puppy love and dog-napping, the happy household of Dalmatians Pongo and Pedy (and their "human pets" played by Jeff Daniels and Joely Richardson) is thrown into a state of chaos when their new-born pups are stolen along with a brood of other Dalmatians from the London area. The fashionable fur-loving Cruella Devill (Glenn Close), is the likely suspect in the ferocious scheme.

With Pongo, Pedy and a resourceful group of animal allies hot on the trail of the missing puppies, Cruella and her clumsy cohorts shift the action into high gear as this comical chase races to a cheering conclusion in this all-new live-action version of the animation classic.

101 Dalmatians Stars Glenn Close, Jeff Daniels and Joely Richardson.

Bros: Snow White 15
9:30 Starbiz 10:00
Sunday Night Premiere: 101 dalmatians
G 12:00 Action Force: Red Sonja PG 2:00
Western: Bad Girls 15
4:00 Western: The Jackals 5:30 Thriller: The Grimme Bros: Snow White 15

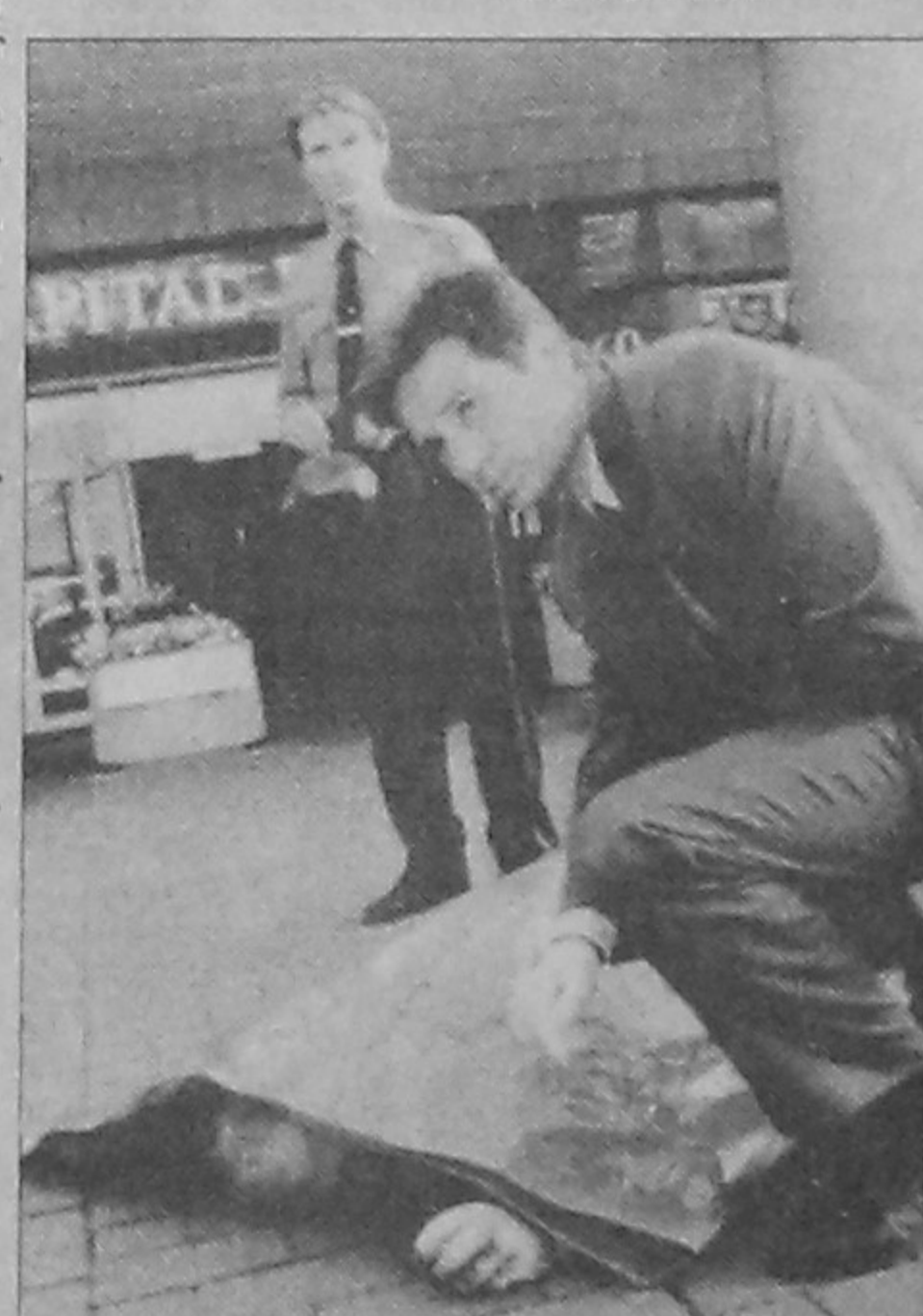
6:30 The New WKRP in Cincinnati 7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
7:00 Thriller: Scam 15
9:00 Western: The Jackals 11:00 Bhaskar Ghose Show 11:30
Sunday Best: Bad Girls 15 1:30 Drama: 18 Shades of Dust 15 3:30
Star Kids Club: Ernest Goes to Camp PG 5:30
Drama: Ultimate Deception 12 7:30
Thriller: The Grimm

Jury Duty on HBO today at 5 in the evening

Animal Rescue Kids 12:00 Splat IV 12:30
Lonely Planet V 1:30
Discovery Profile Series 7:30 Vital Breakthroughs 8:30
Lifeline 9:30 Web Week 10:30 Discovery Showcase 12:30
Vital Breakthroughs 1:30
Lifeline 2:30 Web Week 3:30
Discover Showcase 4:30
Discovery Profile Series 5:30
Discovery Magazine

ALPHA BANGLA TV

6:00 Alaap 7:00 Griha Sajja 7:05 News Bulletin 7:35 Arghya 8:00 Surer Ei Jharna



The X-Files on Star World tonight at 10:30

Dhara 8:30 Manabi 9:00 News Bulletin 9:05
Bharat Bhroman (Travel Show) 9:30
Bahari Aahar 10:00
Grihasajja 10:30 Sa Re Ga Ma 11:30 Serial: Jeevan Rekha 12:00
Apnadar Janya 12:30
Serial: Bhalobasa Mondobasa 1:00 Cine News 1:30 Serial: Bhawani Purer Chattujee 2:00 Serial: Jemon Bolben Sir 2:30
Bangla Movie: Chopper 5:00 Serial: Hiyar

Majhe 5:30 Mon Niye 6:00 Arghya 6:30 Shudhu Tomake Chai 7:00 Serial: Gugli 7:30
News In Bangali 8:00
Serial: Jhara Samayer Upkatha 8:30 Serial: Agni Yuger Padatik 9:00 Kichu Smriti Kichu Gaan 9:30 Serial: Iskabanar Bibi #31 (Indrani, Shila Dittay) 10:00 News Bulletin 10:05 Daibaddho 10:30
Serial: Arya Bhuvan 11:00 Serial: Chena Mukh Achena Manush 11:30 Serial: Andolon 12:00 Arghya 12:30
Bharat Bhroman (Travel Show) 01:00
Serial: Kapurush 01:30
Bangla Movie: Chopper 04:00 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche

Special 9:30 [V] Oye 10:00 [V] Hit Machine 10:30 [V] Mainstage 11:30 Billboard US Countdown 12:30 [V] Hit Machine

STARSPORTS

6:00 Tiger Cup 2000 8:00 Gillette World Sports Special 8:30 World Wrestling Federation Metal 9:30 Cricket Magazine: Stumped Batsmen vs. Bowlers 10:00 Rally Racing-APRC Rally of Canberra 11:00 WTA Tour-Chase Championships of The WTA Tour 11:30 South Africa Cricket-New Zealand Tour of South Africa Cricket-New Zealand vs. South Africa LIVE 12:25 South Africa Cricket-New Zealand Tour of South Africa Cricket-New Zealand vs. South Africa LIVE 9:30 Internationals in England-Rugby Union: Int's Out of England 2000 Australia vs. England 11:30 South Africa Cricket-New Zealand Tour of South Africa Cricket-New Zealand vs. South Africa

ESPN

6:30 Pakistan Cricket: England Tour of Pakistan England vs. Pakistan 7:30 ATP Tennis Masters Series: Paris 9:00 ATP Tennis Show 10:00 Pakistan Cricket: England Tour of Pakistan England vs. Pakistan Cricket: England Tour of Pakistan England vs. Pakistan LIVE 1:00 Sportscenter: International Edition 1:30 Pakistan Cricket: England Tour of Pakistan England vs. Pakistan LIVE 5:30 Italian Serie A 2000/2001 7:30 UEFA Champions League Highlights: 2000/01 Weekly 8:30 Pakistan

Cricket: England Tour of Pakistan England vs. Pakistan 9:30 Sportscenter: International Edition 10:00 English Premier Football League Liverpool vs. Tottenham Hotspur LIVE 12:00 ASA World tour: 2000 ASA Inline Pro Tour: Best Wrecks

ZEE CINEMA



Bird On A Wire tonight on HBO at 10.

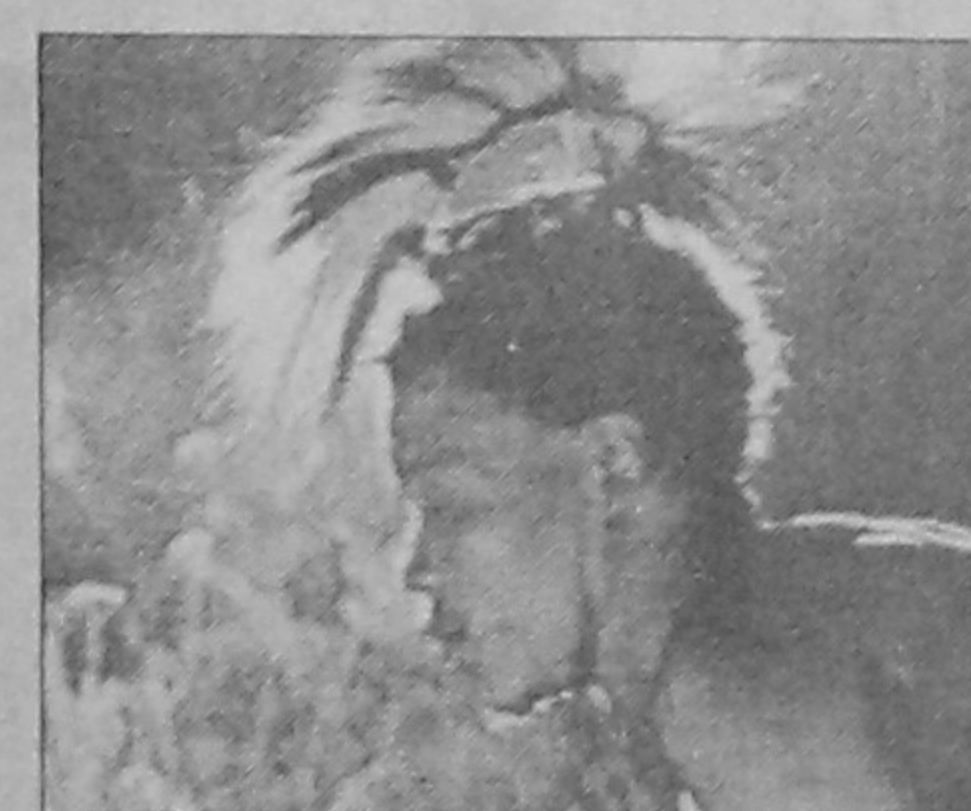
This action-romantic comedy stars Mel Gibson and Academy Award-winning actress Goldie Hawn as a couple thrown together in less-than-ideal circumstances. He is Rick Jarmin, her college boyfriend whom she assumed dead. When he shows up alive and kicking, she wishes he were dead. That is, until she finds out, a lot of other people want him that way too. Seems he turned state's witness against a bunch of very ugly people and has since been hiding under the Federal Witness Protection Program. He has been successfully living under one identity after another, but now has to confront his past when she blows his cover. Director John Badham, skillfully orchestrates the chases, the explosions and the death-defying stunts that culminate in a spectacular zoo set one of the largest studio sets to be built in Vancouver. In addition to running from the bad guys, Gibson and Hawn have to contend with six tigers, a lioness, three jaguars, a baboon, four alligators and an assortment of colourful four-legged "extras."

BTV Morning Session 9:00 Opening Announcement 9:45 Live telecast of the question and answer part of the 20th session of the 7th National Parliament



Magazine show Shamahar will be telecasted on BTV tonight at 10:20. Written and planned by Anwar Hossain Ami the show is packed with a folk song by Montaj, a song by Feed Back, jokes by Harun Kisinger and Kajol, group dance, a report on Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Magic and many more.

Evening Session 3:00 Opening Announcement 3:20 Open University 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Animation Show 4:30 Nutrition Facts 4:45 Nakhatr Ato: Children Merit Show 5:10 Health Info 5:25 National Television Debate Competition: Participated by the students



Super Natural, topic: Close Encounters on Ekushey televisio at 7 in the evening

of Colleges and Universities 6:00 News 6:10 Machbahiya: Folk Music Show 6:30 Programme from Chittagong station 7:00 Mati O' Manush: Agricultural development programme 7:25 Chokher Aloy: Literature

6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Frames of Change 6:40 Addar Table 7:15 Ami Se o Saggit 8:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata episode 8:40 Jukti Tarko 9:15 Job Line 9:50 Akattorer Dinguli 10:00 Amar Chobi 2:45 Bangla Cinema: Pratikha

HBO

6:30 Oxford Blues 8:30 Daybreak 10:30 Hollywood's Greatest Stunts 11:00 National Lampoon's Vacation 1:00 Last Stand at Saber River 3:00 National Lampoon's The Don's Analyst 5:00 Jury Duty 6:45 Unforgiven 9:30 Bird on a Wire 11:45 Heaven's Burning 1:45 In Country 4: norgiven

STAR GOLD

5:30 Zehreela Insaan 8:30 Holle Cinema 9:00 Aar Paar 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Sunday Noon Show Jogan 3:30 Geet Bahar 4:00 Jab Yaad Kisiki Aati Hai 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Sunday Blockbusters CID 10:30 Jubilee Plus 11:00 Gehra Raaz 12:30 Gehra Raaz (Cont) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Yaad Kisiki Aati Hai

STARPLUS

6:00 I Love My India 6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Good Morning India 8:30 Sunday Fundary Fox 10:30 Janata Ki Adalat 11:00 Chupa

Khabar/ The News 11:45 Close Down.

CHANNEL-i

Morning 5:40 Addar Table 6:15 Sareezamin 7:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata episode 8:40 Jukti Tarko 9:15 Job Line 9:50 Akattorer Dinguli 10:00 Amar Chobi 2:45 Bangla Cinema: Pratikha

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Rustom 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 12:30 Family Fortunes 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaroon 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:00 Hello Cinema 2:30 Mail Milap 2:40 Star Sunday Matinee Yamraaj 6:00 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Hai 6:30 Jubilee Plus 7:00 Star Bestsellers- 8:00 Star Film Utsav- Chhito Bahu Rajehs Khanna, Sharmila Tagore 11:30 Jubilee Plus 12:00 Janata Ki Adalat 12:30 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Hai 1:00 Hasna Matt 1:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 2:30 Jubilee Plus 3:00 Kucha Papad pucca Papad 3:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 4:00 Kabhi Kabhi Mere Ghar Mein Buchaal



Pratibedan on Ekushey television tonight at 8 and 11:30

Aata Hai 4:30 Gharwali Uparwali 5:00 Swwalal Mewawala 5:30 Hit Ya Fit 6:00 Chupa Rustom 6:30 Star Geetmala

STAR WORLD

8:00 The pretender 9:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 10:00 Ally Mcbeal 11:00 The Practice 12:00 Martial Law 1:00 World championship Wrestling Thunder 3:00 Crown And Country 3:30 Travel Asia 4:00 Baywatch 5:00 The

Simpsons 5:30 3rd Rock From Sun 6:00 Star News Focus Asia 7:00 The X Files 8:00 Star Track- Next Generation 9:00 TV.Com 9:30 Star News Sunday 10:30 The X Files 11:30 Star Track Next Generation 12:30 Cops 1:00 Star News Focus Asia 2:00 The X Files 3:00 Creffo Dollar Daily 3:30 Kenneth Copland Ministries 4:00 Life In The Word With Joyce Meyer 4:30 World News 5:00 Fashion TV 5:30 Mork & Mindy 6:00 Hollywood Squares



6.30 The New W KRP in Cincinnati 7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show

STAR MOVIES

7:00 Thriller: Scam 15 9:00 Western: The Jackals 11:00 Bhaskar Ghose Show 11:30 Sunday Best: Bad Girls 15 1:30 Drama: 18 Shades of Dust 15 3:30 Star Kids Club: Ernest Goes to Camp PG 5:30 Drama: Ultimate Deception 12 7:30 Thriller: The Grimm