

## theatre

## Tale of a Father's Predicament

Arthur Miller's portrayal of crisis of a war-stricken family in his *All My Sons* deeply moved the city's theatre-goers at its premiere at the Mahila Samity Auditorium

By Tawfik Ali

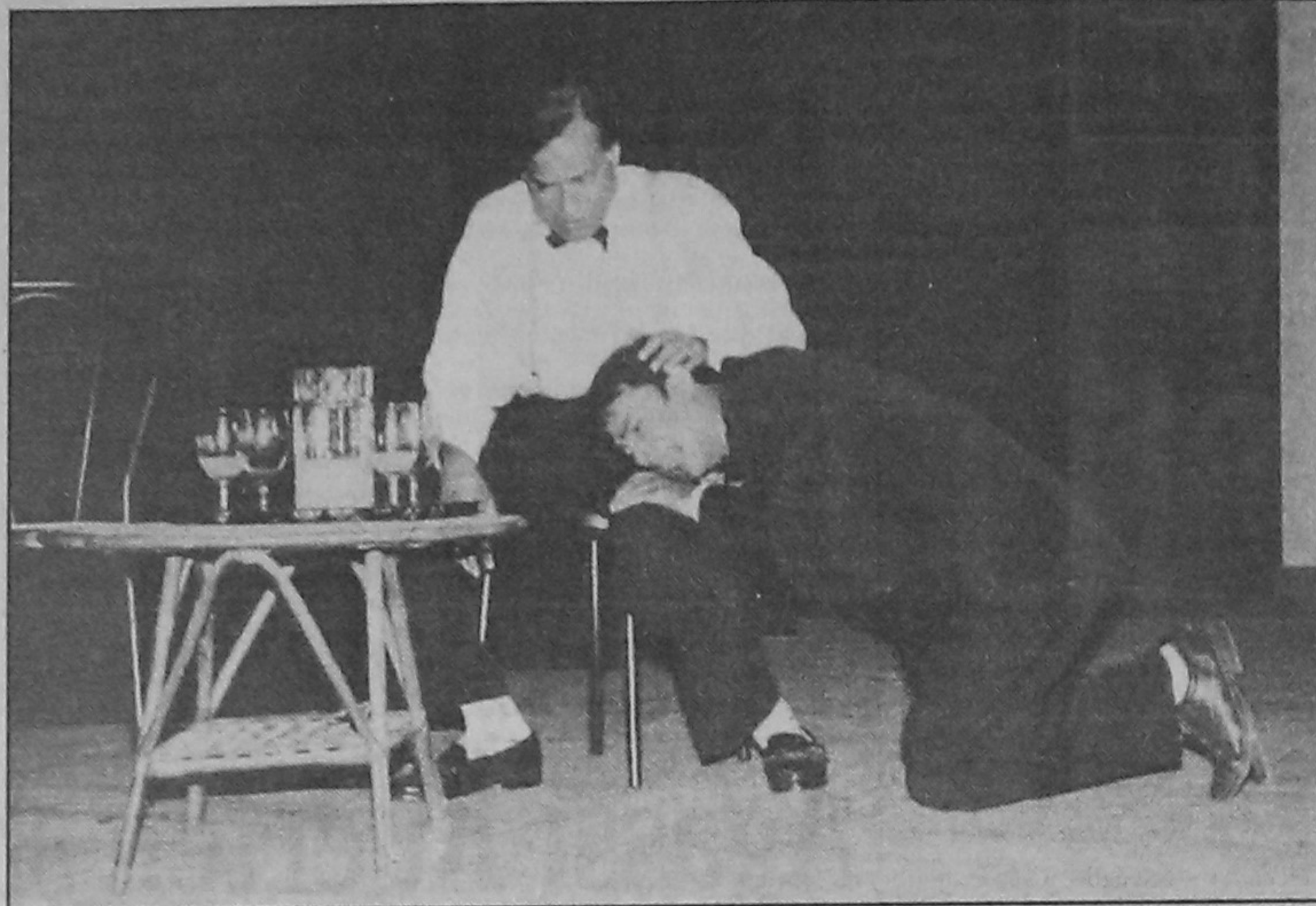
THEATRE depicts innermost crisis of human mind in a striking vividness and tells the stories that lie untold in human hearts; talks of dilemmas that one hardly can communicate to others. Theatre talks of life and its intricate obscurity. This is the hidden force to which the theatre lovers are drawn by.

Arthur Miller's celebrated classic *All My Sons* was premiered consecutively on November 23 and 24 at the Mahila Samity Auditorium at Bialy Road. The play has been translated into Bangla and directed by Jamaluddin Hossain—a prolific theatre personality in the country's group theatre movement.

This was an enterprising production of Nagorik Natyangan Ansambol, one of the pioneering theatre groups of the country. This theatre group enjoys a tremendous success earned in the past through a number of smashing productions.

The first premiere of Nagorik Natyangan Ansambol's latest production on Nov. 23 was attended by celebrated theatre personalities and dignitaries.

The fantastic production of *All*



Jamaluddin Hossain (in white shirt) and Sharif Shaikat in a dramatic moment of the play, *All My Sons*.

*All My Sons* calls for hearty appreciation and public acclamation.

The play is set in post-war American society. In the play the

past events and actions blend with those of the present. Indeed, past actions determine the present realities. As in other major works, Miller in this play too, has critically dealt upon the theme of consumerism in the post-war American society. The question of morality and value are brought into the focus in the play.

Jamaluddin Hossain's powerful performance in the role of the central character Joe Keller was moving.

Though the events and characters of the play are purely American, their inter-relationship, sorrows and happiness and values are so human that they don't appear unfamiliar to us in a different social context and time. Rather, the erosion of moral values, greed and selfishness, that are the central themes of the play, seem quite relevant in our time of moral and ethical degeneration.

All *My Sons*, it is expected, would drive us all into a soul-searching brooding.

The matter of making business at the time of war has developed as a plot of the story. But Miller

has projected morality in a broader perspective. That is, as a social being man is obliged to his society. However deceptive he might be, he can't evade the consequences of his deeds in the long run due to an inseparable bondage with the society. As seen in the play, moral obligations haunt Keller family till the last.

The son accuses his father of committing immoral acts. As a result the family gets disoriented. The father embraces a tragic end of life as a last resort to his bewilderment. A family remains left in the ruins of disaster.

During the twenties and the thirties, Miller began to think over false values of worldly success. He could have perceived the crisis and disaster caused by financial constraints in the lives of his parents and many others with his keen analytical eyes.

Miller was termed an Ibsenian when this play was staged in Broadway. Like many plays of Ibsen, many significant events of the play occur in flash back too.

## book launching

## 1971 Documents on Crimes against Humanity

Liberation War Museum's unique effort to keep our collective memories of Liberation War alive

By Audity Falguni

LIBERATION War Museum inaugurated its month-long exhibition titled "Gaurabmay Attyadan Chirajagarak" (the supreme sacrifice of the martyrs will always be remembered) as well as the launching ceremony of its first publication "Ekattar Ganahattar Daili" (Documents on Crimes against Humanity Committed by Pakistan Army and their agents in Bangladesh during 1971) on last Friday.

The mass killing carried out by the Pakistan army in Bangladesh in 1971 happens to be one of the most heinous crimes of the twentieth century. The mass killing in Kampuchea carried out by the Pol Pot regime within the next four years might come close to the crimes committed against humanity in Bangladesh in terms of pervasiveness. But the unfortunate aspect of the Bangladesh massacre is the atrocious carnage which took place on the eastern region of the subcontinent did not raise adequate concern world-wide. The documents published within the covers of the Daili, it is hoped will inform people the world over about the dark chapter of contemporary history and sensitize people about the violation of humanity.

With black jacket, the book is a bilingual edition. The contents of the title feature Hamoodur Rahman Commission Report on PAK Army activities in Bangla-

desh during 1971, UN Declaration of Human Rights, a partial transcript of the tape recording of some conversation between some of the Pakistan Army units operating in Dhaka on the night of March 25/26 1971. Sheikh Hasina's speech about the crime

bodies at Jalladkhana Killing ground after killing them. Soon after the independence, oneday I saw thick layer of human fat on water of safety tank at Jalladkhana. I went there to play with my friends. We assumed that the entire safety tank was filled

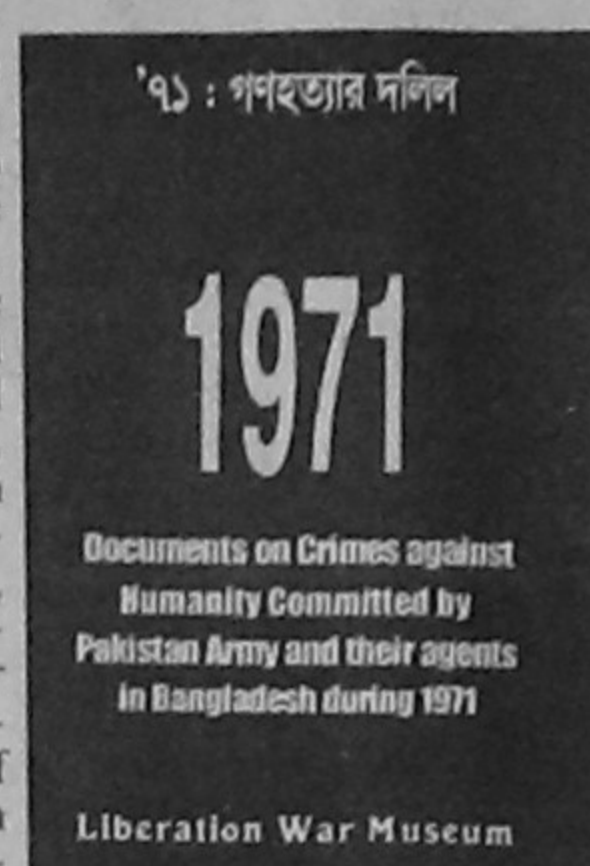
with dead bodies." oral history of one Md. Abdul Zabbar from Mirpur-11 is recorded and included in the book.

A number of other similar oral histories that are recorded and included in the volume, makes it a valuable reference work.

Readers will, however, benefit most from the Hamoodur Rahman Report added in the supplementary.

Although the commission was established "to determine the nature of the situation which led to the surrender by the chief of the Eastern Command and the soldiers under his supervision," provide indirect reference to the genocide committed by the Pakistani occupation army and shed new light to killing of the intellectual community as well as the mass killing in Bangladesh.

Liberation War Museum is entitled to special thanks for such a precious publication.



(From left to right) Akku Chowdhury, In-charge of Liberation War Museum, Reverend Tim, Human Rights Activist, US Ambassador Mary Ann Peters, Professor Anisuzzaman and Convenor of Genocide Crimes Facts Finding Committee, Dr. M. A. Hasan at the launching of the '71 Documents on Genocide

## Recommendations



## Bangla Faces

The Goethe Institut, Dhaka and Drik gallery have jointly organised a workshop on photography with renowned German photographer Thomas Lüttge at the Goethe Institut.

This is the second workshop of this kind by Lüttge in Dhaka. This year he will be conducting the workshop within the framework of the 'Chobi Mela', the first photography festival in Asia. The workshop will come to an end on December 11.

## Exhibition on Liberation

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Liberation War, the Liberation War Museum started a month long exhibition titled *Gourabmay Attyadan Chirajagarak* yesterday.

The remaining found in the killing fields of Jalladkhana and Nuri Masjid and some photographs are being exhibited.

## Krishti

The preview of their apparel exhibition of uniquely Deshi fabrics steeped in heritage for both men and women started at the Drik gallery.

The exhibition will come to an end today.

## Eid Collection

Organised by fashion house Altamira, a fashion exhibition titled *Eid Collection* will be inaugurated today at 12.00p.m. by singer Shumona Huq and model Tania.

The exhibition will be held at House No 1, Road No 2, Dhanmondi and will be open everyday from 11.00a.m till 10.00pm everyday.

150 designed Saris and 200 Salwar Kameezes will be displayed at the exhibition.

## TV GUIDE

## PICK OF THE DAY



## Lost in Space

Tonight on HBO at 10

No, it is nothing like the original 60's TV series. In fact, other than the familiar plot of the Robinson family set adrift in space looking for home, this movie is light years away. Even Robby the robot is new and updated. This is largely thanks to more than 750 state-of-the-art special effects that catapult it to being a visual feast, creating larger than life creatures and out-of-this-world scenarios.

An all-star ensemble cast also makes this movie a veritable eye candy. Matt Le Blanc from television's *Friends* plays the pilot of a mother ship, headed towards a new planet marked for colonisation. En route, the ship is sabotaged by arch villain Dr Zachary Smith and is sent hurtling off course. The Robinson family then has to figure out a way to survive in uncharted territories and unexpected circumstances. A definite must see for sci-fi fans. Other cast members add the glitter, such as Oscar winner William Hurt, Mimi Rogers, Lacey Chabert, and Heather Graham among others. Check out the groovy retro-inspired closing sequence. Starring: William Hurt, Gary Oldman, Matt Le Blanc

2:00 World News 2:30 Best of Insight 3:00 CNN & Time 4:00 World News 4:30 Biz Asia 5:00 Asia Tonight 5:30 World Sport 6:15 World News 6:30 Q&A 7:00 World News 7:30 Hotspots 8:00 Asia Tonight 8:30 World Sport 9:00 World News 9:30 CNNdotCOM 10:00 World News

Ushuaia 8:30 Lonely Planet II 9:30 Animals in Danger 10:00 Eye-witness III 10:30 Danger Zone 11:00 Outer Bounds I & II 11:30 Shark Files, The (II) 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Medical Detectives II 2:00 Medical Detectives I 2:30 Discover Magazine 3:30 Go For It 4:30 Ushuaia 5:30 Lonely Planet III 6:30 Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files 7:00 Bonehead Detectives of the Paleoworld 7:30 Wild Asia 9:30 Medical Detectives III 10:00 Ultrascience II 10:30

7:30 Romance: Sommersby 9:30 Drama: Second Best 11:30 Action: Maximum Force 1:15 Mid-day Movie: Free Fall 3:00 Drama: Phenomenon 5:30 Action: Rapid Assault 7:30 Comedy: Three Men and a Baby 9:30 Mysteries & Scandals 10:00 Monday Comedy: Three Fugitives 12:00 Night Of Laughter: Trinity is Still My Name 2:00 Family: 1010 Dalmatians 4:00 Action: Double Tap 5:30 Action: Maximum Force

## STAR PLUS

Bahu Thi 4:30 Cine Jharokha 5:00 Hit Ya Fit 5:30 Shrimati Shama Na Kehi Thi 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Fox Kids 7:00 Fox Kids 7:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 8:00 Tu Tu Main Main 8:30 Gharwali Uparwali 9:00 Saans 9:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati 9:30 Khani Char Char Ki 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Aj Ki Baat 12:00 Tanha 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 Small Wonder 1:30 Saans 2:00 Men Saheli 2:30 Tanha 3:00 Tu Tu Main Main 3:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 4:00 Gharwali Uparwali 4:30 Mirch Masala 5:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 5:30 Hit Ya Fit

## CHANNEL-I

Morning 5:40 Addar Table 6:15 Special Programme 6:50 Akattorer Dinguli. 7:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata-episode-64 7:40 Protoy 8:00 Din Protidin 8:25 Job Line. 9:00 Amar Chobbi. 10:10 Monohore Ifar. 10:20 Nayon Samukhe Tumi Nai 10:40 Addar Table. 11:15 Special Programme. 11:50 Akattorer Dinguli. 12:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata-episode-63 12:40 Protoy 1:15 Job Line. 2:00 Amar Chobbi. 2:50 i Focus 3:00 Bangla Cinema

## STAR WORLD

6:00 Hollywood Squares 6:30 The New WKRP in Cincinnati 7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 8:00 Home Improvement 8:30 Happy Days 9:00 French and Saunders 9:30 Blackadder 10:00 Murder Call 11:00 the



Everybody Loves Raymond on Star World tonight at 11

Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 Dr Quin Medicine Woman 1:00 Fashion TV 1:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 2:00 Mork & Mindy 2:30 Happy Days 3:00 Baywatch 4:00 Hollywood Squares 4:30 Home Improvement 5:00 Star News Asia 5:30 Friends 6:00 That 70's Show 6:30 Everybody Loves Raymond 6:55 Star News Asia 7:00 Dharma & Greg 7:30 Frasier 8:00 Chicago Hope 9:00 Friends 9:30 Star News



Friends on Star World tonight at 9

BTV 3:00 Opening Announcement 3:20 Open University 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Educational Programme 4:30 Programme on mother and child health 4:45 Mahe Ramadan 5:20 A special programme

Daybandhan 10:00 News at Ten 10:20 Sangeetanjali: Musical programme participated by eminent artists 11:15 Khabar/ The News 11:30 Close Down

## EKUSHEY TV



Toyota World of Wild Life, topic: Desert on Ekushey television today at 7 in the evening

commemorating poet Abdul Hai 5:45 Nutrition Facts 6:00 Khabar 6:10 Mahi O Manush 6:30 Umesh: A programme with new and upcoming artists 7:00 Dolon Campa: Nazrul Sangeet programme 7:25 Batikram: Magazine programme for the children 8:00 News in Bengali 8:20 Special programme on Victory Day 8:30 Drama: 2:30 Aker Potrikay 2:40 Drishti 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Andha Shikari 3:30 Pather Paychali 4:00 Pryo Gaan 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:00 Religious Musical Program 5:30 Drishti 5:50 Aker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Classic Cartoons 6:30 Chardike 7:00 Toyota World of Wildlife 7:30



Shakila Zafar will be singing in the programme Priya Gaan, today on Ekushey television at 6:30 in the evening

Ekushey News 8:00 Bangla Movie: Shidhanta 10:00 BTV News 10:20 Bangla Movie: Shidhanta 11:00 Ekushey Night News

## ALPHA BANGLA TV

6:00 Aalap 7:00 Grihasajja 7:30 News/Arghya 8:00 Serial: Din Protidin 9:00 News/Bharat Bhroman 9:30 Bhahari Aahar 10:00 Grihasajja 10:30 Cine News 11:00 Serial: Jemon Bolben Sir 11:30 Kichu Smriti Kichu Gaan 12:00 Bhahari Aahar 12:30 Amra Probasi 1:00 Serial: Shyaola 1:30 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche 2:00 Nayanantara 2:30 Feature Film 5:00 Football 5:30 Mojar Khela Kobitae 6:00 Arghya 6:30 Serial: Din Protidin 7:30 News 8:00 Serial: Nayanantara 8:30 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche 9:00 Serial: Mon Niye 9:30 Jibanan Re kha 10:00 News/Shyaola 10:30 Serial: Football 11:00 Din Protidin 12:00 Arghya 12:30 Bharat Bhroman 1:00 Surer Ei Jharna Dhara 1:30 Feature Film 4:00 Ek Akasher Niche 4:30 Griha Sajja 5:00 Shyaola 5:30 Jhara Samayer Upakatha 6:00 Aalap 7:00 Grihasajja 7:30 News/Arghya

## HBO

7:00 Christmas on Division Street 9:00 Burglar 11:15 Dead Bang 2:00 Grenlins 2: The New Batch 3:45 Space Jam 5:45 Eyes of a Stranger 7:30 The Accidental Tourist 10:30 Lost in Space 12:30 Melanie Darrow 2:15 Dead Bang 4:30 The Accidental Tourist

## BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News 6:30 Asia Today/Reporters 7:00 BBC News/Asia Today Inc/Asia Busi-

ness Report 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today/Reporters 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Earth Report Ex World Review 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Jancis Robinson's Wine Course 12:00 BBC News 12:30 India Business Report 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Correspondent Ex World Review 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Top Gear 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Correspondent Ex World Review 6:00 BBC News 6:30 Face To Face 7:00 BBC News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 Jancis Robinson's Wine Course 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Hardtalk 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Mastermind India 11:00 BBC News 11:15 World Business Report 11:30 Click Online 12:00 BBC News 12:30 World Business Report



Dharma & Greg on Star World tonight at 10:30