

exhibition

## Tracing The History of Photojournalism

### Famous photojournalist Robert Pledge's slide presentation at Alliance Francaise

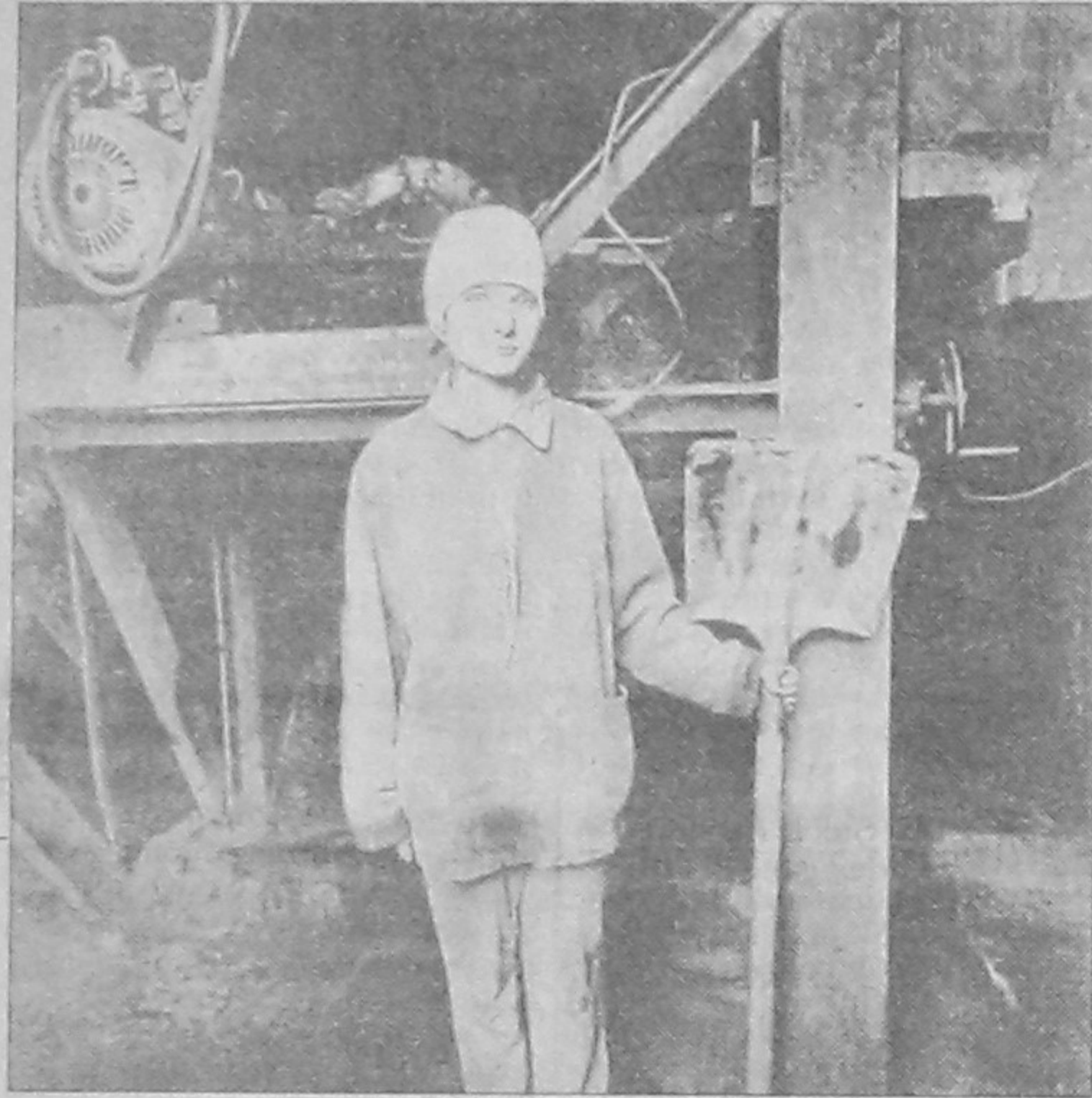
By Fayza Haq

ROBERT Pledge from New York, a curator of the "Chobi Mela", says, "I've been in photojournalism for 30 years. I've been all over the world. I started working in France and then I moved to USA several years later in '73 where I started a picture agency. Since then I've been involved in exhibitions, workshops, seminars and festivals in almost every continent from Mexico to Argentina, USA and Canada, all over Europe including France, Italy, Finland, Holland, Germany and the former Eastern Block, China, Japan, India and Africa. My original background is that of an anthropologist and linguist, specializing in West Africa, and I got caught up in journalism."



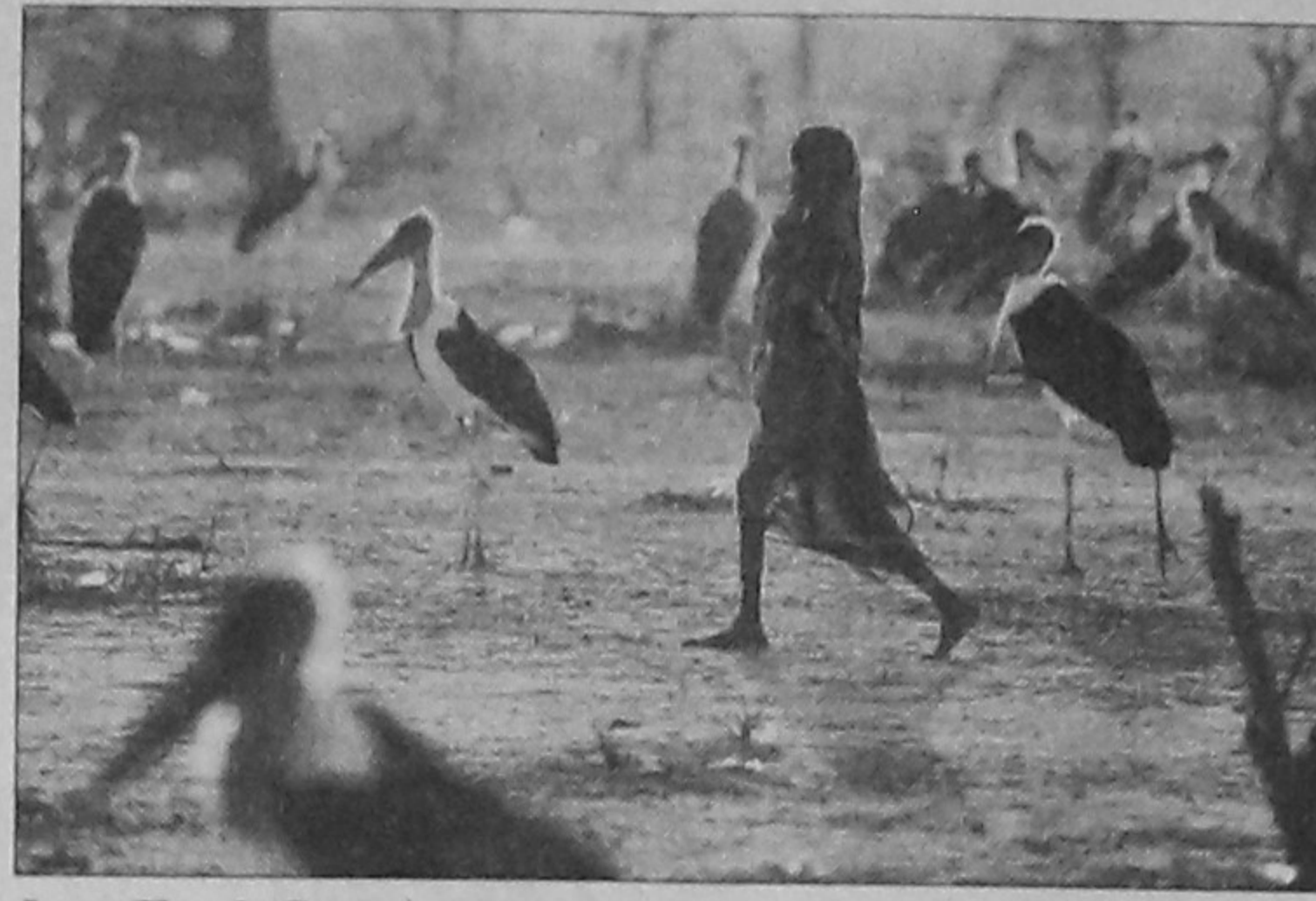
Don McCullin  
Photo: Don McCullin/Contact Press Images

"I was born in London of an English father and a French mother. I was born in the middle of the war and lived my first years in London. I did my college and university studies in Paris and then went to New York which is a country on its own a separate entity from the rest of USA being the most cosmopolitan of cities. I began a photo agency, a little like



Georgia Fiorio  
Photo: Georgia Fiorio/Contact Press Images

designed the exhibition called "The War We Forgot" which is unique in the history of photography bringing together over 20 photographers. Today most of them established and well known and are primarily from Bangladesh and India but also from France, England and USA, who were the main contingent of the photographers. There might have been others but we weren't able to find them. Sometimes the collec-



Jean-Claude Coutauze  
Photo: Jean-Claude Coutauze/Contact Press Images

people concerned are a bit anxious about something this big. But the quality of work and the level of motivation on the part of organizers and the efforts and energy spent to make it a success are tremendous. What we are seeing is not just very good but Dr Shahidul Alam was able to get major institutes, galleries and museums to participate wholeheartedly which is a very difficult thing to do as people tend to get anxious as it might not be a success and might not reflect well upon them. The quality of the work presented was incredibly high and was promising.

"I also saw the students in 'Patshala', who were very much involved and they were both talented and smart, who, in my view, could compete with any-

body in their generation in Europe and USA, which have much stronger traditions in terms of photography. Photography, everywhere in the world today is considered a very important means of art form and means of expression. It took a long time for this to happen."

Speaking about his slide show at the Alliance Francaise, Pledge says, "This has been done with the help of Alliance Francaise and 'Patshala' so that there was a diverse crowd. The main theme was how the whole world of photography has changed as with the increasing importance of television which functions 24 hours today all over the world and is the primary source of visual information for most people. There is the emergence of the internet that



Dilip Mehta  
Photo: Dilip Mehta/Contact Press Images

tion came from houses and studios and sometimes from agencies with which the photographers are affiliated such as 'Drik' and 'Begar'.

"All the prints are done from the original negatives. This is exceptional in this kind of situation. People were incredibly generous and willing to cooperate. The materials had to be searched out and put together. They were printed in seven or eight different labs in New York, London, Paris, New Delhi and Dhaka separately and we had to bring everything together to make this exhibition a unique event as it presents one subject taken by a diverse group of photographers.

"I think that the 'Chobi Mela' is a very important event and having been around with photography for 30 years I was very impressed as I feared there might be amateurs and there would be problems. There are always problems when you do a first edition of something this vast a size. At first



JB Diederich  
Photo: JB Diederich/Contact Press Images

uses communication and information and also visual information.

"The slides primarily were the works of photographers with whom I have been working for the last 25 years which include Don McCullin, the British war photographer, Annie Leibowitz, American 'star' photographer, Sebastiao Salgado, the Brazilian social documentary photographer and David Burnett, American photojournalist of great reputation. Through their photographs I will show how changes have taken place and there has been the shift from black and white to colour. I show how photographers work in a very different way today than when there was no television and internet, and the big illustrated magazines

like 'Life', 'Paris Match' and the 'Sunday Times' were the primary source of visual discovery for most people.

"I showed what photography can do that is complimentary to the TV and internet. The evolution of magazines and newspapers records a change of technology. The end of the cold war with the fall of the Berlin Wall have brought in different international relations where communication is much faster and everybody knows what is happening at the other end of the world immediately. This was not the case ten years ago and even less so forty or fifty years ago. One of the major roles of newspapers and photography in the printed media has changed tremendously."



Don McCullin  
Photo: Don McCullin/Contact Press Images

### Recommendations

#### Anniversary

The Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela plans to celebrate birth anniversary of Shilpa-Charya Zainul Abedin, Poet Jasimuddin and Scientist Dr Abdullah Al-Muli Sharafuddin through elaborate programmes. A painting competition will take place on January 19 and a poetry recitation session on January 20, while a two daylong science fair will be held on January 19 and 20 at the premises of the Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela at 37/A Segunbagicha.

Poet Shamsur Rahman and renowned artist Kalam Mahmud will be present as guests of honour and distribute prizes among the successful participants on January 26 at the auditorium of the Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela.



#### Exhibition

Selected Indonesian exhibitions titled 'Images from Antara News Agency, The Children of Timore Lorosa'e and The Transfixed Spectator' are being held at the Gallery Chittrak, House#21, Road#4, Dhammond.

The exhibition will run till January 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. everyday.



#### Art exhibition

Alka Mathur and Naresh Kapuria's joint show opens at Bengal Gallery on January 18. Alka Mathur is a familiar name in the Dhaka art circle. These two artists together promise a mind stirring show for the city's gallery-goers.

## TV GUIDE

### PICK OF THE DAY



#### Twister

Tonight on HBO at 10

Get set for the most breathtaking ride. A bunch of dedicated and crazy scientists tries to unravel how tornadoes work. Their modus operandi is simple get inside them. The film makes the collaboration of some of the finest talents including writer Michael Crichton (The Jurassic Park), director Jan De Bont (Speed) and Steven Spielberg.

Twister stars Bill Paxton, Helen Hunt and others.

Kulkarni) 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 12:00 Beqaabu (contd.) 12:30 Siski 1:00 Kalash 1:30 Sewalal Mewawala 2:00 Kabhi Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchaal Aata Hai 2:30 National Geographic Special 4:30 Love My India 12:00 Chhupa Rustom 12:30 Mirch Masala 1:00 TSN 1:30 Gharwali Uparwali 2:00 Kabhi Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchaal Aata Hai 2:30 National Geographic Special 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: 6:30 Musafir Hoon Yaroon 7:00 Family Fortunes 7:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshiri 8:30 STAR Mast Movies: Sabse Bada Khladi (Akshay Kumar, Mamta



Adventure Bangladesh on Ekushey television today at 4:00p.m.

### BTV

Morning Session  
9:00 Opening Announcement 9:10  
Kheledhula: Sports programme for the children 9:35 Shamata: Programme on women's right 10:00  
Matamat Answer to

Shukhi Poribar: Programme on population 5:50 Nibedan 6:00 Khabar 6:25  
Programme from Chittagong station 7:00 Geetimalya: Rabindrasangeet programme 7:25 Film Show: Earth Final

Headlines 2:05 Ajker Potrikay 2:15 Ei Shoptaho 2:40 Classic Cartoons 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Shorashori 4:00 Adventure Bangladesh 4:30 Toyota World of Wildlife 5:00 Documentary: Savage

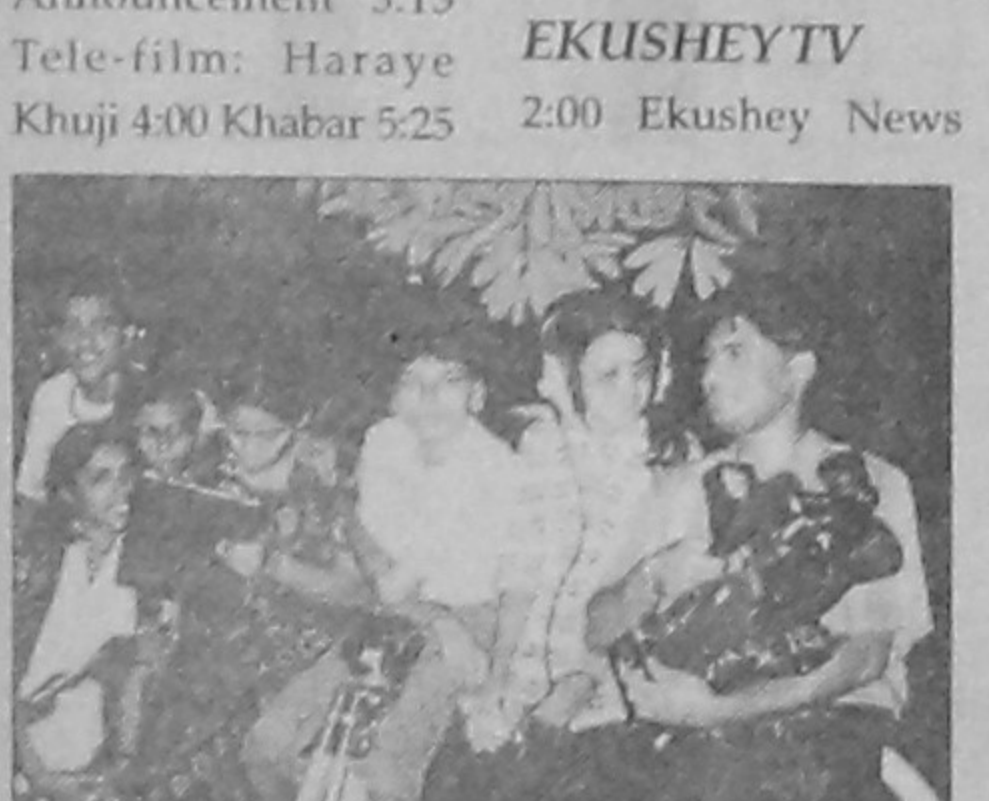


Film Show: Earth Final Conflict on BTV today at 7:25 in the evening

viewers letters 10:25 Shasthatathya: Healthcare programme for mother and children 10:40 Movie of the Week 12:40 Close Down  
Evening Session 3:00 Opening Announcement 3:15  
Tele-film: Haraye Khujji 4:00 Khabar 5:25

Conflict 8:00 News in Bengali 8:20 Drama of the Week: Basanta Sheshe 10:00 News at Ten 10:20 Talk Show: Khola Janala 10:45 Mini Series: Sea is Green 11:30 Khabar: The News 11:45 Close Down

World 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Noorjahan 7:00 Mukto Khobar 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Bangla Movie Dhon Dowlot 10:00 BTV News 10:20 Bangla Movie (Cont) 11:00 Ekushey Late Night News



Mukto Khabar on Ekushey television today at 7:20 in the evening

6:30 Animal Survivors 7:00 In the Care of Nature 7:30 Outer Bounds I&II 8:00 Without Warning 18:30 Lonely Planet V 9:30 Cafe Digital 10:00 Medical Detectives 10:30 Extreme Machines 11:30 Amazing Worlds 12:30 Wild Asia 1:30 Ultimate

6:00 Exalted Word 6:30 Creflo Dollar,

Guide 2:30 Trauma IV: Life in the ER 3:30 Uncharted Africa 4:00 In Care of Nature 4:30 Decisive Weapons (I & II) 5:00 Discovery News 5:30 Assignment Discovery 6:30 Real Kids, Real Adventures 7:00 Splat IV 7:30 Medical Mysteries 8:30 Health Showcase 9:30 New Detectives III 10:30 Journeys to the Ends of the Earth 11:30 Trailblazers II 12:30 Medical Mysteries 1:30 Health Showcase 2:30 New Detectives III 3:30 Journeys to the Ends of the Earth 4:30 Trailblazers II 5:30 Lifeline

STARGOLD  
8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Payal Ki Jhankar (Kishore Kumar, Jyoti Laxmi, Rehman) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Bandhan Kuchchey Dhaagon Ka (Shashi Kapoor, Rakhee) 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Hamari Yaad Aayegi (Ashok, Tanuja) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Saturday Special Aradhana (Rajesh Khanna, Sharmila Tagore) 10:30 Rahein Na Rahein Hum 11:00 Rahi Badal Gaye (Rishi Kapoor, Shabana Azmi) 12:30 Rahi Badal Gaye (Cont) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Hamari Yaad Aayegi (Ashok, Tanuja) 5:30 Rahi Badal Gaye (Rishi Kapoor, Shabana Azmi)

STAR PLUS (INDIA)  
6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Hit Ya Fit 8:00 Cine Jharokha 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Fox Kids 10:30 National Geographic Special 11:30 Love My India 12:00 Chhupa Rustom 12:30 Mirch Masala 1:00 TSN 1:30 Gharwali Uparwali 2:00 Kabhi Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchaal Aata Hai 2:30 National Geographic Special 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: 6:30 Musafir Hoon Yaroon 7:00 Family Fortunes 7:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshiri 8:30 STAR Mast Movies: Sabse Bada Khladi (Akshay Kumar, Mamta

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Changing Your World 7:00 World News 7:30 Outback Adventure 8:30 The Adventures of Sinbad 9:30 The Simpsons 10:00 The Things People Do 10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 12:00 Grace Under Fire 12:30 TV, Com 1:00 Travel Asia 1:30 Fox Kids Goosebumps 3:30 World Championship Wrestling Nitro 5:30 Baywatch 6:30 Hercules 7:30 Xena 8:30 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 9:30 First Wave 10:30 Water Rats 11:30 3rd Rock From the Sun 12:00 Star News 12:30 Baywatch 1:30 First Wave 2:30 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 3:30 Xena 4:30 Hercules 5:30 Key of David

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Wrestling: Starrcade 7:00 Thrillennium: snake Eyes 9:00 Action: The Contract 11:00 Drama: Johnny Handsome 1:00 Acton: Rambo First Blood 2 3:00 Comedy: Secret Life of Girls 5:00 Action: Alien Intruder

BBC WORLD  
6:00 BBC News 6:30 World Business Report 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Hardtalk 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Talking Movies 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Question Time 1:00 Click Online 2:00 BBC News/Royal College of Art, The Gulf War, Dancing in the Street 3:00 BBC News/Royal Coll Art, Icaesar, Idols, Burger & King, Future War, Horizon: Ice Mummies 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Eur Dir, USA Dir, Wrev Sci, Aus Dir

CNN  
6:30 World Beat World News Americas 7:00

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Dresses, Dragon, Davos, Rock Family Trees 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Hospital ex Mastermind 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Talking Movies 12:00 BBC News 12:30 This Week 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Earth Report 2:00 BBC News/Global Sunrise, The Gulf War, Dancing in the Street 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Talking Movies 4:00 BBC News/Royal Coll Art, Icaesar, Idols, Burger & King, Future War, Horizon: Ice Mummies 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Eur Dir, USA Dir, Wrev Sci, Aus Dir

CNN  
6:30 World Beat World News Americas 7:00

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The Artclub 8:00 Larry King Live 9:00 World News 9:30 World Sport 10:00 World News 10:30 Showbiz Today 11:00 World News 11:30 Science and Technology Week 12:00 World News 12:30 CNN Hotspots 1:00 World News 1:30 World Sport 2:00 World News 2:30 Style with Elsa Klensch 3:00 Larry King Live (replay) 4:00 World News 4:30 CNNdotCOM 5:00 World News 5:30 World Sport 6:00 World News 6:30 Biz Asia 7:00 World News 7:30 World Beat 8:00 World News 8:30 The Artclub 9:00 World News 9:30 Style South Asia 10:00 World News 10:30

CNN  
6:30 World Beat World News Americas 7:00

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Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World on Star World tonight at 8:30

CNNdotCOM 11:00 Business Unusual 11:30 CNN Indiadotcom 12:00 World News 12:30 Ebizasia 1:00 World News 1:30 CNN Hotspots 2:00 World News 2:30 World Beat 3:00 World News 3:30 GolfPlus

HBO  
7:00 Laguna Heat 9:15 Rush Hour 11:15 Swing Shift 1:30 Rear Window 3:45 Meteorites! 5:30 The Perfect Nanny 7:30 Cinema Secrets Ep 5: Epic Thrills and Chills 8:00 Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment 10:00 Twister 12:15 The concierge 2:15 Beyond the Walls 4:30 The Perfect Nanny

AXN  
6:00 Walker's World