

Book launching

A trenchant social critic

Mahbuba Chowdhury's book *Kathay Kathay* launched

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A lively, illuminating and educative function of an exceptional nature marking the launching of the book *Kathay Kathay* by Mahbuba Chowdhury, who is also the editor of the only Bengali tabloid Manab Zamin and a newsreader of TV and radio, was held on April 8 in the city.

A galaxy of renowned poets, writers, journalists, radio-TV newsreaders, among others, attended the function.

Professor Haroon-ur Rashid, former Director General of Bangla Academy and presently teaching English Literature at North-South University, poet Asad Chowdhury, poet Al-Mujahidi, literary editor of the Daily Ittefaq took part in the discussion while Rahat Khan, the acting editor of the Daily Ittefaq and a reputed novelist chaired the session.

Celebrated and respected poet Shamsur Rahman and renowned lawyer Barrister Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed were also present as special guests. The unexpected chief guest in the literary milieu was Speaker of Jatiya Sansad Humayun Rasheed



A partial view of the audience at the introduction ceremony of the rhyme book of Mahbuba Chowdhury.



Mahbuba Chowdhury is seen in the picture addressing the gathering for their presence. Poet Shamsur Rahman, Rahat Khan, Speaker Humayun Rasheed, Barrister Ishtiaque are seen.



Mahbuba Chowdhury is seen presenting her book to Speaker of the National Parliament.

Chowdhury attended the launching programme as chief guest.

Country's front-ranking poets Shamsur Rahman, Al-Mujahidi and Asad Chowdhury spoke highly of the style and the composition of the rhyme and the achievements of Mahbuba Chowdhury as a poet. However, professor Haroon-ur Rashid and poet Shamsur Rahman were of the opinion that book could not be presented to a young child as it contains such verses which project disturbing picture of the present day society.

In old days rhyme books were meant for the children only, but with the passage of time the concept of nursery rhyme has undergone changes. Today's children are invariably part of the society. And their parents are confronted with various kinds of crimes which are taking place in front of the children also. Therefore, they cannot shut their eyes. Similarly today's TV channels are full of violence-prone movies. Whenever they switch on to TV channels they invariably confront obscene pictures and images of

violence. Mahbuba Chowdhury's rhymes are to quote from Coleridge, "Best word in best order." Political uncertainty, degradation of social values and mosquito menace are themes that recur in her book. A trenchant critic, she has presented a disturbing picture of the society.

Poet Shamsur Rahman said that Mahbuba Chowdhury had a firm grip of traditional Bangla verse and a deep understanding of the contemporary life and society and added that he did not have a different opinion on the intolerable pictures of the country that the writer presented in her rhymes.

Since the book paints a picture of the society in a sarcastic tone, it needs a civilized society to read and discuss the rhymes because only a civilized society can appreciate wit and humour. Professor Haroon-ur Rashid put a question mark to the effect whether ours is a civilized society?

Barrister Ishtiaque Ahmed, however, pointed out that in today's world rhymes had turned out to be

an instrument to wake up a society from sleep instead of using as lullaby. The society we live in had been reflected in the rhymes of Mahbuba Chowdhury commented by Barrister Ishtiaque.

Speaker of the National Assembly Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury had stressed on the need for more rhyme books analyzing and criticizing the society.

Her success lies in conveying the message to the readers, old and young alike, through her rhymes. Mahbuba Chowdhury's rhymes have a powerful underlying force as her simple words and expressions are alive with an intense significance.

Mahbuba Chowdhury is a young writer of rhymes, who has established herself in the literary arena.

Kathay Kathay is her second book of rhymes. The launching ceremony was rounded off with a reading of Mahbuba Chowdhury's rhymes by Tania, a college student, Saki Rezwana, news reader, Khaleida Ferdous, news reader, Anjur Riton, a young writer and the author of the book herself.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Festival of Bengali cuisine

A three-day festival of traditional Bengali cuisine jointly organised by Pearl and Sajna beings today. Have a sumptuous buffet rich with traditional Bengali dishes for Tk 400.

Poetry evening

Kabyakala, an association of poets, greets Bengali new year through a poetry reading session at Grand Azad Hotel, 55 Purana Pallan, at 7 in the evening.

Bangla Academy

Bangla Academy has arranged a poetry reading and musical programme to welcome Bengali new year at 8.30 in the morning today.

National Museum

National Museum welcomes Bengali new year through a musical programme to be held at 6 in the morning. Renowned photographer Dr. Nawazesh Ahmed will present a slide show based on the Rabindranath Tagore's collection of letters titled *Chhinapatra* at 6.30 in the evening.

Contemporary Asian film festival

A total of 13 films of same numbers of countries of Asia will be screened at the festival organised by Zahir Raihan Film Society beginning tomorrow at German Cultural Centre at 4 in the afternoon. The festival opens with the screening of *Children of Heaven* by Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi.

Solo exhibition

The 1st solo painting exhibition by Omar Khalid Rumi is now being held at Gallery 21. The exhibition will remain open from 10.00a.m. to 8.00p.m. everyday till April 15.

Dress show

Shatabdi is going to hold a dress exhibition on the eve of Pahela Baisakh (1st day of Bangla new year) from April 12 to 14 at Anal Centre from 11.00 a.m. till 8.00 p.m. every day. The show will include Sari, Kamiz and Panjabi.

Art Show

A solo exhibition of etchings by Mela Ferrer, a Spanish artist, is now being held at Shilpak H#16, R#16, Dhanmondi. The show will remain open to all till April 26 from 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. daily.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Ace Rothstein (Robert De Niro) and Nicky Santoro (Joe Pesci) are mobsters who move to Las Vegas to make their mark, to run a posh casino-hotel. But Nicky and his boozey wife Ginger (Sharon Stone) are adding too many problems in his set-up.

BTV
Morning session
6:00 Live telecast of Chhayanat's musical programme from Ramna 9:00 Programme on work out 9:30 Samata: Programme on women's right 10:00 Rup Rupantar 10:25 Programme on mother and child health 10:45 Documentary
Evening
3:20 Bengali feature film: Santan Jahan Shatru. Starring Razzak, Doli Zahur 4:00 Khabar 6:00 Khabar 6:10 Special programme for children 6:35 Programme of Chittagong centre 7:00 Sanbad Shironam 7:05 Halkhata hosted by poet Asad Chowdhury 8:00 News in Bangla 8:30 Special drama Hiar Majhey 9:00 Sanbad Shironam 9:30 Special musical programme 10:30 News in English 10:55 Special dance programme Naba Anandey Jago 11:30 Khabar/ The News 11:45 Closing

feature film: Shraban Meghar Din 6:10 Special discussion programme Amra Sabal Bangali 6:40 Special drama Bhalobasha Badal 7:50 Folk music 8:30 i Tele quiz 8:40 Drama Partha Sarathy 10:00 Magazine Chhaya 11:00 Bengali feature film: Shraban Meghar Din

World 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Click Online 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Correspondent 2:00 BBC News/ Pole to Pole 3:00 Heaven 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Holiday 5:00 BBC News 5:30 This Week 6:00 BBC News 6:30 Dancing in the Street 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Click Online 8:00 BBC News/ Ice Mummies 9:00 BBC News/ QED 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Wheels ex Hospital 11:00 BBC News 11:30 This Week 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Earth Report 1:00 BBC

Entrapment 10:45 Action: Look Up 12:30 Action: Aspen Extreme 2:15 Action: Night of the Wilding 4:00 World Championship Wrestling: Greed 7:00 Thrillerium: Ronin 9:00 Thriller: Deceived 11:30 Comedy: Nothing Hill 1:30 Comedy: Pushing Tin 3:30 Drama: Coming Home 5:45 Drama: Gross Anatomy

STAR WORLD
7:00 The Simpsons 7:30 Things People Do 8:00 The Bold & The Beautiful 10:00 TV Com 10:30 Travel Asia 11:00 Fox Kids Goosebumps 1:00 World Championship Wrestling Worldwide 2:00 Mission Impossible 3:00 Baywatch 4:00 Hercules 5:00 Xena 6:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 7:00 First Wave 8:00 Water Rats 9:00 3rd Rock From the Sun 9:30 Star News 10:00 Baywatch 11:00 First Wave 12:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 1:00 Xena 2:00 Morris Cerullo 4:00 Beanny Hinn 4:30 Space Island One 5:30 Doggie Howser 6:00 J A G

STAR PLUS
6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Cine Jharokha 8:00 Hit Ya Fit 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Fox Kids 10:30 National Geographic Special 11:30 Hit Ya Fit 12:00 Kuchha Papad Pucca Papad 12:30 Mirch Masala 1:00 TSN 1:30 Gharwali Uparwali 2:00 Tu Tu Main Main 2:30 National Geographic Special 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: Abhi Abhi (Soorya, Rudaina Khan Tanuja Suresh Oberoi) 4:30 Musafir Hoon Yaron 7:00 Chhupa Rustom 7:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 8:30 STAR Mast Movies: 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 11:45 Star Mast Movie 12:30 Siski 1:00 Kalash 1:30 Sewalal Mewawala 2:00 Tu Tu Main Main 2:30 Pan 3:00 Ek Main Aur

STAR GOLD
8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Dawat (Satish Kaul, Jayshree Gadkar) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Insaniyat (Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, Bina Rai) 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Chhoti Bahen (Balraj Sahni, Nanda Rehman) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Reid & Taylor Saturday Special: Sujata (Nutan, Sunil Dutt) 10:30 Jubilee Plus 11:00 Dil Ka Raaja (Raaj Kumar, Leena Chandavarkar) 12:30 Dil Ka Raaja (Contd.) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Dawat (Satish Kaul, Jayshree Gadkar) 5:30 Dil Ka

AXN
6:30 Grandeur Musashi RV/Space Warship Yamamoto Yoko 7:30 18 Wheels of Justice/The Road To Hell 8:30 Planer/Ex II/World Extreme Games 9:30 Rollerjam 10:30 Grandeur Musashi RV/Space Warship Yamamoto Yoko 11:30 Dare You 12:30 Silk Stalkings VII/Family Affair 1:30 World's Most Amazing/Videos I 2:30 Pensacola III/Busted 3:30 Movie: HongKong '97 5:30 Grandeur Musashi RV/Space Warship Yamamoto Yoko 6:30 Rollerjam 7:30 Heart of Courage 8:30 World's Most Amazing/Videos I 9:30 Silk Stalkings VII/Family Affair 10:30 Premiere Movie: Bridge of Dragons 12:30 Silk Stalkings VII/Family Affair 2:30 Movie: Bridge of Dragons 3:30 Silk Stalkings VII/Family Affair 4:30 Pensacola III/Busted 5:30 Rollerjam

ZEE CINEMA
6:00 Madine Ki Galyan - Feature Film 9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 9:15 Tara Rum 9:45 Movie Fare 10:00 Uhan - Feature Film 1:00 Cine News 1:15 Madhyantar 1:30 Bandini - Feature Film 5:00 Darpan 5:15 Flash Back 5:45 Film Time 6:00 Army - Feature Film 9:45 Chatpat Chat 10:00 Weekend Cinema 10:30 Zoroastri - Feature Film 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 2:30 Dil-e-Nadan - Feature Film 5:30 Chehren

ZEE MUSIC
6:00 Dial M 7:00 Aalap 7:30 Tararun 8:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Fillers 11:30 Zee Music Box 12:00 Best of the Best 1:00 Hit Pe Hit 2:00 Jharokha 2:35 Compact Disc Amanat 12:30 Khana Khazana 1:00 Zee & You 1:25 Jhalak 1:30 Whirl Pool Mera Magic Mera Home 2:00 Hudd Kar Di 2:30 Daayre 3:00 Rishley The Love Stories 4:00 Naye Nazrane 4:30 Antakshari 5:30 Aasman Se Tapki 6:00 Gaane Anjane 6:30 Nickelodeon on Zee 7:30 Sizzlers 8:30 Live Events 11:30 Saath Saath 12:00 Guldasta 12:30 Basera 1:00 Rishley The Love Stories 2:00 Aasman Se Tapki 2:30 Gaane Anjane 3:00 Bhooh Bangla - Feature Film 5:45 News in Hindi

SET MAX
7:30 Mini Movies: Chupp 8:30 Highlights Pakistan vs Sri Lanka 9:30 Mujhe Jeene Do 12:30 EHotlist 1:00 Matinee Film: Shiva Ka Insaff 4:00 Highlights 3:20 Pakistan vs Sri Lanka 5:00 New Zealand vs Pakistan (repeat) 2:30 Shiva Ka Insaff 5:00 Paap Ki Sazaa

CHANNEL I
8:30 Special programme for children: Aam Kurarar Sukh 9:15 Special discussion programme Amra Sabal Bangali 9:45 Special dance programme for children 10:40 Special drama Bhalobasha Badal 12:00 Folk music 12:40 Documentary Tomtom 1:10 Drama Partha Sarathy 2:10 Magazine Chhaya 3:00 Bengali

ECUSHEY TV
12:00 Ekushey Midday 12:20 Mukto Khorob 12:45 Jatra: Nabab Siraj-Ud-Dowla 2:30 Ei Shoptalho 3:30 Ekushey Headlines 3:05 Ekushey Television Special Presented West Bengal Film: Uttara 5:00 MacGyver 6:00 Ekushey Headlines 6:02 Baula Gaan 6:30 Chandrike 7:00 Annondo 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Music Program: Malo Ekushey 8:30 Special Drama: Shesh Obhino 9:30 Ekushey Halkatha 10:30 BTV News 11:15 Ekushey Late Night News

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
6:30 Real Kids, Real Adventures 7:00 Popular Mechanics for Kids IV 7:30 High Adventure 8:30 Lone ly Planet I 9:30 Cafe Digital 10:00 Beyond 2000 11:00 Lonely Planet Treks 11:30 Ushuaia 12:30 On The Inside 1:30 Ultimate Guide 2:30 Extreme Machines IV 3:30 Discover Magazine 4:30 Eyewitness I 5:00 Without Warning I 5:30 Assignment Discovery 6:30 Real Kids, Real Adventures 7:00 Popular Mechanics for Kids IV 7:30 Lifeline 8:30 Health Showcase 9:30 India Hour: Gulsitan 10:30 Trailblazers 11:30 Journeys to the Ends of the Earth 12:30 Lifeline 1:30 Health Showcase 2:30 India Hour: Gulsitan 3:30 Trailblazers 4:30 Journeys to the Ends of the Earth 5:30 Discover Magazine

STAR PLUS
6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Cine Jharokha 8:00 Hit Ya Fit 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Fox Kids 10:30 National Geographic Special 11:30 Hit Ya Fit 12:00 Kuchha Papad Pucca Papad 12:30 Mirch Masala 1:00 TSN 1:30 Gharwali Uparwali 2:00 Tu Tu Main Main 2:30 National Geographic Special 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: Abhi Abhi (Soorya, Rudaina Khan Tanuja Suresh Oberoi) 4:30 Musafir Hoon Yaron 7:00 Chhupa Rustom 7:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshri 8:30 STAR Mast Movies: 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 11:45 Star Mast Movie 12:30 Siski 1:00 Kalash 1:30 Sewalal Mewawala 2:00 Tu Tu Main Main 2:30 Pan 3:00 Ek Main Aur

STAR GOLD
8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Dawat (Satish Kaul, Jayshree Gadkar) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Insaniyat (Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, Bina Rai) 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Chhoti Bahen (Balraj Sahni, Nanda Rehman) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Reid & Taylor Saturday Special: Sujata (Nutan, Sunil Dutt) 10:30 Jubilee Plus 11:00 Dil Ka Raaja (Raaj Kumar, Leena Chandavarkar) 12:30 Dil Ka Raaja (Contd.) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Dawat (Satish Kaul, Jayshree Gadkar) 5:30 Dil Ka

ZEE CINEMA
6:00 Madine Ki Galyan - Feature Film 9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 9:15 Tara Rum 9:45 Movie Fare 10:00 Uhan - Feature Film 1:00 Cine News 1:15 Madhyantar 1:30 Bandini - Feature Film 5:00 Darpan 5:15 Flash Back 5:45 Film Time 6:00 Army - Feature Film 9:45 Chatpat Chat 10:00 Weekend Cinema 10:30 Zoroastri - Feature Film 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 2:30 Dil-e-Nadan - Feature Film 5:30 Chehren

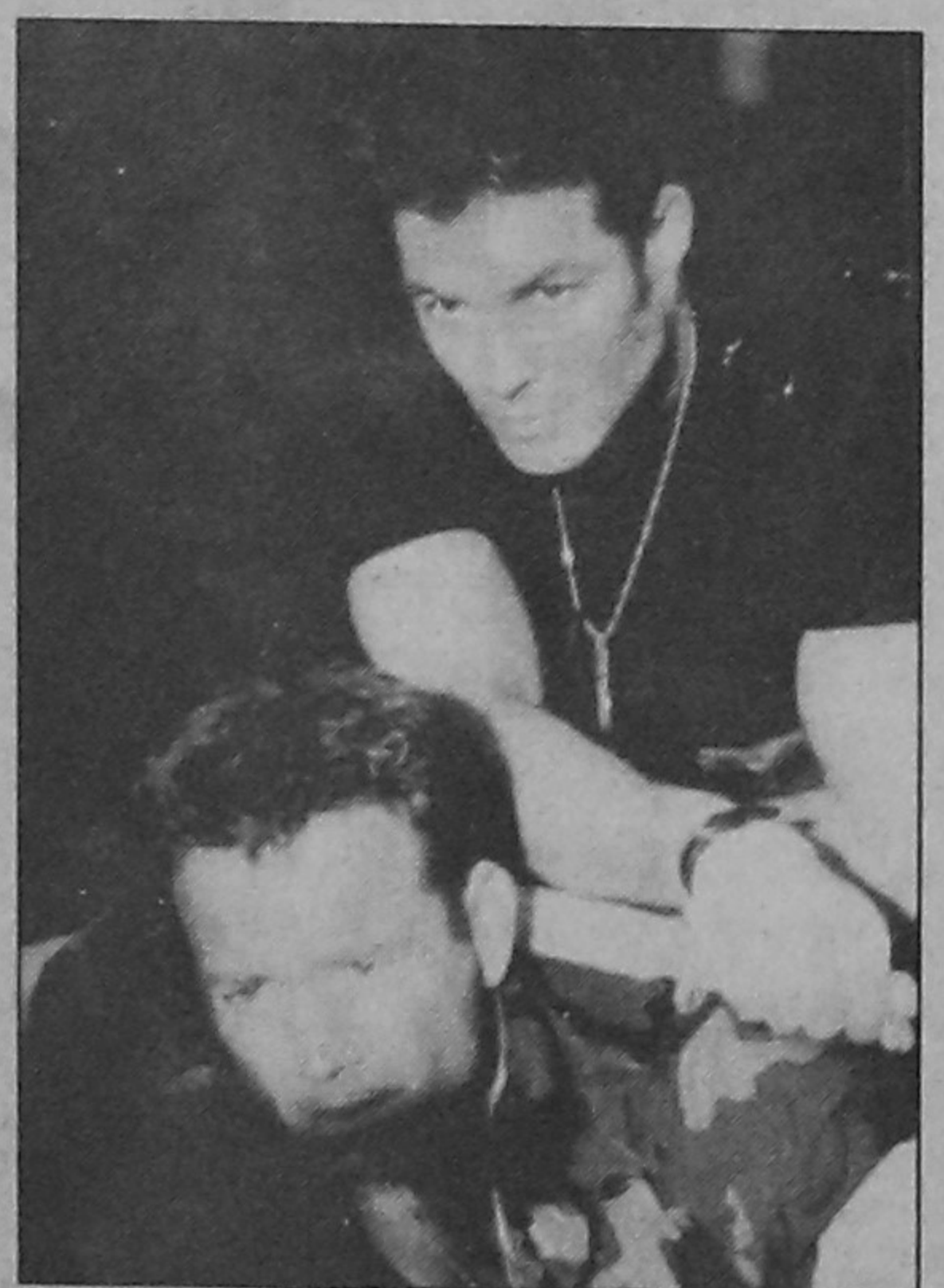
ZEE MUSIC
6:00 Dial M 7:00 Aalap 7:30 Tararun 8:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Fillers 11:30 Zee Music Box 12:00 Best of the Best 1:00 Hit Pe Hit 2:00 Jharokha 2:35 Compact Disc Amanat 12:30 Khana Khazana 1:00 Zee & You 1:25 Jhalak 1:30 Whirl Pool Mera Magic Mera Home 2:00 Hudd Kar Di 2:30 Daayre 3:00 Rishley The Love Stories 4:00 Naye Nazrane 4:30 Antakshari 5:30 Aasman Se Tapki 6:00 Gaane Anjane 6:30 Nickelodeon on Zee 7:30 Sizzlers 8:30 Live Events 11:30 Saath Saath 12:00 Guldasta 12:30 Basera 1:00 Rishley The Love Stories 2:00 Aasman Se Tapki 2:30 Gaane Anjane 3:00 Bhooh Bangla - Feature Film 5:45 News in Hindi

ZEE CINEMA
6:00 Madine Ki Galyan - Feature Film 9:00 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 9:15 Tara Rum 9:45 Movie Fare 10:00 Uhan - Feature Film 1:00 Cine News 1:15 Madhyantar 1:30 Bandini - Feature Film 5:00 Darpan 5:15 Flash Back 5:45 Film Time 6:00 Army - Feature Film 9:45 Chatpat Chat 10:00 Weekend Cinema 10:30 Zoroastri - Feature Film 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 2:30 Dil-e-Nadan - Feature Film 5:30 Chehren

ZEE MUSIC
6:00 Dial M 7:00 Aalap 7:30 Tararun 8:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Fillers 11:30 Zee Music Box 12:00 Best of the Best 1:00 Hit Pe Hit 2:00 Jharokha 2:35 Compact Disc Amanat 12:30 Khana Khazana 1:00 Zee & You 1:25 Jhalak 1:30 Whirl Pool Mera Magic Mera Home 2:00 Hudd Kar Di 2:30 Daayre 3:00 Rishley The Love Stories 4:00 Naye Nazrane 4:30 Antakshari 5:30 Aasman Se Tapki 6:00 Gaane Anjane 6:30 Nickelodeon on Zee 7:30 Sizzlers 8:30 Live Events 11:30 Saath Saath 12:00 Guldasta 12:30 Basera 1:00 Rishley The Love Stories 2:00 Aasman Se Tapki 2:30 Gaane Anjane 3:00 Bhooh Bangla - Feature Film 5:45 News in Hindi

ZEE TV
6:15 Yaadon Ke Pal 6:45 Old Is Gold 7:00 Bhakti Geet 7:30 Amrit Kalash 8:00 Jai Ganeshha 9:00 Nickelodeon 10:00 Guldasta 10:30 Film Chakkur 11:00 Thief of Baghdad 12:00 Amanat 12:30 Khana Khazana 1:00 Zee & You 1:25 Jhalak 1:30 Whirl Pool Mera Magic Mera Home 2:00 Hudd Kar Di 2:30 Daayre 3:00 Rishley The Love Stories 4:00 Naye Nazrane 4:30 Antakshari 5:30 Aasman Se Tapki 6:00 Gaane Anjane 6:30 Nickelodeon on Zee 7:30 Sizzlers 8:30 Live Events 11:30 Saath Saath 12:00 Guldasta 12:30 Basera 1:00 Rishley The Love Stories 2:00 Aasman Se Tapki 2:30 Gaane Anjane 3:00 Bhooh Bangla - Feature Film 5:45 News in Hindi

STAR SPORTS
7:30 Golf Programming GolfGlobe 2001 8:00 WTA Tour Ericsson Open Miami, FL USA Semifinals 11:00 Sport Unlimited 12:00 SBK Superbike Magazine Highlights 12:30 Table Tennis ITTF Pro Tour 2001 Croatia Open Zagreb, CROATIA Semifinals 2:30 National Rugby League National Rugby League 2001 Brisbane, Queensland, Australia Melbourne Storm 4:30 NBA Inside Stuff 2000/01 NBA Inside Stuff 5:00 Formula One Qualifying 2001 Formula One Qualifying Imola, San Marino San Marino Grand Prix Qualify 6:00 Cricket Talk Show Boys And Sunny Masterclass: Captaincy 7:00 Spanish League Highlights 2000/01 Spanish League Highlights 7:30 Futbol Mundial 8:00 Augusta Masters Augusta Masters 2001 Augusta 9:00 EGillette World Sports Gillette World Sports 9:30 Formula One Qualifying 2001 Formula One Qualifying Imola, San Marino San Marino Grand Prix Qualify 10:30 Spanish League Highlights 2000/01 Spanish League Highlights 11:00 PGA Tour Golf WorldCom Classic The Heritage of Golf Hilton Head Island, SC USA Second Round 1:00 Espanish Football League 2000/01 Spanish Football League 3:00 Judo 2001 Hyundai Millennium Judo Cup Budapest, Hungary Highlights 4:00 Great Four Grand Prix Gymnastics 2000/2001 Paris, France Highlights



First Wave on Star World at 7 pm.



Drama Partha Sarathy on Channel I at 8:40 pm.



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World on Star World at 6 pm.



Movie Uttara on Ekushey TV at 3:05 pm.



Pole to Pole on BBC World at 2:10 and 3:10 pm.