

RECOMMENDATIONS

Hashem Khan's

Solo Exhibition

September 27 October 7

Renowned artist Hashem Khan holds a solo exhibition, 'Art Fair: Six Seasons' at Shilpangan gallery at Dhanmondi in the city. The exhibition remains open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. everyday.

Photography on The

Twin Towers

September 29 October 6

A photography exhibition is on at the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy in the city, of photographer Obaidullah Mamoon, titled, 'The Twin Towers and The American Spirit' and remains open to all from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily except on Friday, when the time is 3 to 7 p.m.

Six celebrated

artists' show

Sept. 20 Oct. 7

Akku Chowdhury hosts art exhibition of 6 celebrated artists of the country, Jamal Ahmed, Kanak Champa Chakma, Khalid Mahmud Mithu, Saidul Islam Juice, Farsha Zeba and Nisar Hossain at La Galerie, Kemal Ataturk Avenue. The show remains open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Solo art exhibition

Artist Firoz Mahmud holds a solo exhibition of his artworks at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, sponsored by Benson & Hedges. The exhibition is open to all and the timings coincide with that of Alliance Francaise.

Anniversary

A seedling matures

Channel-i, a private satellite television channel, observes its third anniversary

AZIZ AMIRUL

HRIDOY Bangladesh 'Bangladesh in heart', as says part of the logo of Channel-i, the private television channel welcomes common citizens at her office at Swiddeshshari in the city, also of Impress Telefilm, the parent firm, to join the third anniversary celebration of the electronic media organization today, October 1. Back in 1999 Channel-i appeared before the viewers as a satellite channel in Bangladesh. It is the first digital Bangla channel that has been running for over ten hours every day with fresh programs since launching.

Today the channel goes on air from nine o'clock in the morning. Special programs include entertainment for children, youth and for adults, as well. Magazine programs, songs, viewers' opinion, comedy, drama and many more are there on schedule of the day. Two special dramas, 'Jatra' of Humayun Ahmed and 'Ashroy', written by Pranab Bhatt are also to be presented on the day.

Channel-i, on the eve of its



'Jibon Jekhaney jemon', like many other programs, makes Channel-i important third anniversary, informs of presenting several new long-version serial programs those are to be aired on weekly and daily basis. 'Griho golpo', a new daily soap arrives soon with its first episode, as informed by Shaikh Siraj, Director, Director (News) of the channel. 'Jor bhata', a daily soap serial continues on air with transmission of its 200th episode and so far, is a top choice of the regular viewers. Since the last three years, Channel-i has aired programs

on a wide range of topics apart from pure entertainment. These included education, community awareness, information technology, social progression, language and language-movement related issues. A significant development in the channel during the past year has been the introduction of regular daily news on fixed times of the day. As Shaikh Siraj informs, Channel-i started news transmission through airing results of the National Parliamentary elections that took place on October 1 last year. The channel soon brings on air additional news headlines during late afternoon, English and breakfast news in morning session. Along with news, a daily-based musical magazine, 'Music Plus', too, celebrates its first year since its launching, with completion of its 365th episode.

With the closure of Ekushey Television, Channel-i certainly takes a big leap as a frontrunner in this competitive media business though it lacks some potential. The main limitation of Channel-i lies in its very technical status, satellite transmis-

sion. Whereas a terrestrial channel is able to go on air with coverage across the country, a channel based on satellite technology can only reach those who possess cable access on their television sets, mostly in large metropolitan cities. As a result, advertisers of products more suited to rural and remote areas do not usually prefer to choose a satellite channel, and approach a terrestrial one.

It is more of a ritual for Channel-i to transmit special programs on eventful days of the year like religious festivals, Independence and Victory day. Commemorative programs are produced in observance of birth and death anniversaries of reputed personalities of national and international stature. Band music and talk shows are some of the more popular programs of the channel among the younger viewers.

As regards various social awareness programs like on arsenic pollution, diseases and illness like tuberculosis, AIDS, etc., adult education program, environment protection and so on, the channel authorities produce short documentaries and films strictly on their own expertise and technical expertise.

Some of the more popular programs like *Amar cchabi*, *Jor bhata*, *Flop show*, *Jibon jekhaney jemon*, *Your choice ole ole*, *Sajai swapner ghar*, *Kothay kothay*, *I Sports*, *Music Plus*, *Baro mash-er ranna*, *chithi pelaam*, *Goto saat deen*, *Shilpo kotha*, *Boithoki*, *I Focus*, *Sanchita*, *Gaan-er oparey*, *Roving I*, etc., have brought Channel-i commendable honour from among the television viewers of the region.



Shaikh Siraj, Director of Impress Telefilm, parent organization of Channel-i, while speaking to The Daily Star, expresses his feelings, thoughts and more about his vast experience during conducting of an earlier television program of BTV, 'Mati O Manush' that had gained immense popularity and support among both the urban and the rural population.

As Siraj believes, to be a competent staff of a television channel, one should possess standard qualities those of an electronic media journalist, which he feels are not easily available originally among those who want to work in this sector and usually come from print media. 'The boys and girls who now work here had to be initially trained for at least three months before being given job assignments', says Siraj.

'Before launching the channel I myself did not have any television news experience, only the experience of running an agro-based program, 'Mati O Manush', in Bangladesh Television from 1982 till 1996'. Yet, I gained quite a vast experience from the program, through interaction with a cross section of commoners and replying to hundreds and thousands of letters those had to be sorted out for reading before television viewers. Says Sheik Siraj. A similar kind of program that has been aired on Channel-i is *Amar Chan-*

nel-i, one of 250 episodes that contained quizzes by drama personalities to viewers across the country on some particular drama scene of the performer shown earlier on the program. Winners used to be picked up through drawing lot those provided opportunity to the winning viewer to reach the studio and meet his or her dream personality face to face, speak and shake hands. Thus closeness between the stars and the common people took place easily.

'Certainly, Channel-i is the first channel in this country to introduce several new conceptual programs on television including VJ culture, 7-day soap drama, highly attractive computerized screen format and such', the director adds. 'Today it is our extreme pleasure to celebrate the third anniversary of the channel along with our fans and patrons who constantly provide us inspiration and courage. Though we have implemented the use of advanced technology, yet, we are not fully satisfied with our performance and are trying our best to provide the viewers with better quality programs', says Siraj.

Shaikh Siraj holds a special category 'Ekushey Padak' in development journalism for his contribution to country's agricultural advancement through hosting of the program, 'Mati O Manush'.

A scene from 'Jor bhata'

CHANNEL-i

(3rd anniversary)

9:00a.m. Opening
9:10 Children's program
10:00 Chader hashi / mag
10:40 Alor bonnya
11:30 Bioscope
12:15p.m. Songs
1:00 Amar Channel i
1:50 Bangla feature film
5:05 Children's program
5:40 Rangraas
6:10 Music Plus
6:45 Mega serial
7:15 Channel I News
7:50 Asroy
9:00 Channel I News
9:30 Shongbadotrey
Bangladesh
9:40 Telequiz
9:50 Drama: Jatra
10:30 Channel I News
11:15 Amar Channel I News
12:00a.m. Channel I News

ATN BANGLA

5:30 Islamic Prog
7:00 Children Prog: ATN
Sapla Saluk Gold
Medel Protejgata
8:00 ATN Bangla News
8:25 Reporting Prog:
Ghotonar Nepathee
9:00 Magazine Prog:
Sutorang
9:35 Musical Prog: Music
Time
10:10 Drama Serial: Brether
Balobosa
12:00 ATN Bangla News
2:00 Film Song's Prog:
Surchobi
2:30 ATN Bangla News
Headlines
2:45 Bengali Feature Film:
Dheuer Por Dheu
5:50 Musical Prog: Music
Time
6:25 Drama Serial: Kakhono
Jante Chayo Na
7:00 ATN Bangla Evening
News
7:25 Musical Prog
8:00 Computer Based Prog:
ATN Computer Projekte
8:35 Film Magazine:
Henolun Benudon
Bichitra
9:10 Drama Serial: Ey
Karech Balo
10:00 ATN Bangla News
10:35 Musical Prog:
11:15 Musical Prog: Ek
Barosar Breste Beje
11:30 ATN Bangla News
12:00 Bengali Film: Aamar
Sansar

BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News
6:30 World Business Report
7:00 BBC News
7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
8:00 BBC News
8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
9:00 BBC News
9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
10:00 BBC News
10:30 World Business Report
11:00 BBC News
11:30 World Business Report
12:00pm BBC News
12:30 World Business Report/Today
1:00 BBC News
1:30 Click Online
2:00 BBC News
2:30 Hardtalk
3:00 BBC News
3:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
4:00 BBC News
4:30 Asia Today/World Business Report

HBO

6:30a.m. Body Parts
8:15 No Way Back
10:15 A Memory In My Heart
12:00pm Hard Rain
02:00 Double Platinum
04:00 Tango & Cash
06:00 The Blob
08:00 Sudden Terror: The Hijacking Of School Bus #17
10:03 Ninjas Knuckle Up
11:45Night Visions 01: The Bokor

STAR GOLD

7:00am Geet Bahar
7:30 Mehbوب Ki
Mehbidi

11:00 Bollywood Beats
11:30 Raampr Ka
Lakshman

3:00 Geet Bahar
3:30 Madhumati

7:00 Bollywood Beats
7:30 Mangal Masti-Tum
Hasen Main Javan

11:00 Yeh Kaisa Insaf

11:00 Voices from a locked room

11:00 Kalash Show

9:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay

9:30 Kehta Hai Dil

10:30 Becker

12:30 The Bold & The Beautiful

1:00 Hollywood Squares

2:00 Family Ties

3:00 Baywatch

4:00 The Simpsons

4:30 Cheers

5:00 Star News Asia

5:30 Frasier

6:00 JAG

6:30 Asianews Update

7:00 The Pretender

7:30 The Night

8:00 Law & Order

9:00 Frasier

9:30 JAG

10:30 The Pretender

11:30 Law & Order

12:30 Fox Kids-Daily

1:00 Shaka Laka Boom

1:30 Aatma

2:00 Aatma

2:30 Film Toppers

3:00 Aaj Ki Baat

3:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar

4:00 Sangeet

4:30 Sangeet

5:00 Hain

5:30 Kalash Show

6:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay

6:30 Kehta Hai Dil

7:00 Becker

7:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar

8:00 Sangeet

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