

RECOMMENDATIONS

Solo Water Colour Exhibition

November 15-22
Artist S. Helaluddin holds a solo watercolour painting exhibition at Divine Art Gallery at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in the city.

Begum Selima Rahman, State Minister, Cultural Affairs, earlier inaugurated the exhibition with the presence of H.E. Hu Qian Wen, Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh and artist Mahmudul Haque who presided over the inaugural ceremony.

Leonid Meteor Shower Camp

November 19
A unique event that of meteor shower observation will be held after midnight, from 2:00 a.m. till before sunrise, upon the deck of M.V. Abashar, a cruise launch on river Shitalakhya and Meghna.

Photography

November 17-December 02
Dr. Pierre Clauquin holds a solo photography show titled, 'Surviving Dreams: The struggling circus of Bangladesh', at the gallery of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka in the city that remains open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. everyday.

Surya Utsav

December 29-January 02
Bangladesh Astronomical Association arranges one of its annual events, Surya Utsav (Sun Festival) as the organisation aims at showing the participants, several exciting matters including the first sunrise of the year 2003, cultural ceremony of the indigenous people of the area, Keokradang at Bandaban district, Piha festival and observation of the night sky through telescope.

Film

From haute couture to holding up the heritage
Uttom Ghosh's premiere of "Bibir jogot" at Alliance Francaise

FAYZA HAQ

A documentary of just 45 minutes, on a subject as already well-known as Bibi Russell, can still have an impact. "Bibir Jogot" made by Uttom Ghosh mesmerized the five hundred onlookers who were seated, standing and even sitting cross-legged and crouched, recently at the Alliance Francaise. What was the fantasia that they were watching which had caste such a spell on them? It was the artistic presentation of a story of someone who was today a UNESCO ambassador.

Talking about the motivation for making the film, Uttom says that basically he is a theatre person, with his education at Santiniketan in acting. It is Rabindranath Tagore and Satyajit Ray whom he has always kept in mind. As a part-time painter and musician and a freelance journalist with papers like "Jono Kontho", "Bhorer Kagoj" etc, he had felt that he must do something for the local heritage which is being swiftly swept aside with the inevitable progress of industrialization and mechanization.

Dwelling on why he chose Bibi Russell as his subject matter rather than any other individual who was

working towards the same end, Ghosh says that he was currently concerned with women's rights both at home and overseas. He wanted to drive home the fact that women are working side by side with men and deserve equal recognition the world over. Ghosh felt that no male was working towards the cloth weaving industry in the manner that Bibi is currently doing, despite her many other engagements. Based on this admiration the film took its shape.

Talking about where he intended to take his film, Ghosh says "I have basically made the film aimed first at

my own country; the young generation are not fully aware of our culture; we are accepting the western culture like some starved animal but I'm pained that we are losing sight of our own rich past. I want to show that Bibi is doing this splendid work; hopefully, with time I will someday be able to take the film overseas too. I want to erase the negative image of our country that has been implanted in the minds. There isn't just deprived sex-workers' children selling flowers in the streets or the overwhelming downpours and ensuing in poverty and consequential hunger and deprivation enveloping this so called 'Third world coun-

try'. We are definitely not just a 'bottomless basket' as Henry Kissinger had once commented. Sure, there are the unavoidable natural calamities but there is more to it than that here in Bangladesh. I would like to drive home the point that too much of the negative aspects of our country that has been projected overseas. Whatever writing that is often done are left in libraries and consumed only by the intellectuals and seldom reach the common stream.

"When I travelled abroad there was this vile depiction and conception of mass hunger and poverty; political discontentment and social inequalities. I felt like taking a disquette of the beautiful things that we find in our own country and banging it in some computer which, if only I could, would focus on and relay the wonderful aspects of our eastern culture and heritage. Why should our own papers present only kidnapping, rape, murder, acid throwing on women on the front pages and not something tranquil alongside that? I know these matters are vital to bring home to the people but there are pleasant sides of our life too which do not get the same highlighting, I feel. I know this is easy to say but difficult to do but nevertheless one has one's right to have one's own hopes and aspirations as this is supposed to be a free country where people can think aloud. My film is a matter of thinking aloud. It is a pity that I'm born at such a time that even though we have driven away the British and the 'Pakis' there is still no respite in mass discontentment in our country. I refuse to believe that our governments have been doing their level best, no matter who comes into power. Overseas too there is one turmoil after another and I want people not to be flummoxed and overwhelmed by this all."

Touching on his experience of the film world, Ghosh says that he has grown up seeing Satyajit Ray's films; during his birthday his parents gave him portraits and books on this great film maker. He says that his knowledge on the film world is limited even though he has studied as far as Renoir's 'nouvelle vague'; he has done various workshops on films at different places both at

Kolkata, and Dhaka (at the Goethe Institut and the Rainbow Film Association) in 1999 and 2000, which includes the one where Buddha Dev Dasgupta was the main guide. What Dasgupta explained about complex aspects of film making gave me the incentive in this field. Ghosh says, "Again, I keep in touch with all the various happenings of the Lumiere Film Institute, Paris and join their various workshops. He gleaned considerable information for film making. Again, the Nobel prize winner Amartya Sen's daughter, Nandana Dev Sen, who lives in India encouraged me furthermore. She sends me the necessary books and videos and we discuss problems that arise in film making, along with others fields of art. My friends are all culturally inclined and lend me the moral support without which I couldn't have come this far. Rithwick Ghotok's son, Ripon, from Kolkata, (who has four documentary films to his own credit) has also helped me in this context."

In his film on Bibi Russell he has tried to bring in the past, present and future of the ex-international model and presently a designer and social worker along with comments of her life and work by several authorities on culture. The subject of folk culture preservation is a vast one, in Ghosh's conception, which he has tried to capture through his Beta form camera. "I have used the ideas of Tidananda Das Gupta, a film maker whom I'd met at Santiniketan, who gave me the guide lines of documentary making, in exchange of which I sung various Bangladeshi folks songs such as 'bhawaiyya' and 'marfat' for him." He has used two camera men in his work viz. Polok Rahman who worked in ETV, and Mukta, who once worked in "Contact Media". He was forced to working with junior photographers as more experienced hands wouldn't help him out.

Ghosh, in his film has tried to depict how Bibi Russell is progressing with her laudable projects while being conscious of her past fame. He has included some photographs from her past and the fashion shows that she has choreographed overseas. The background music that has been used is based on Rabindranath's "Jagote Ananda



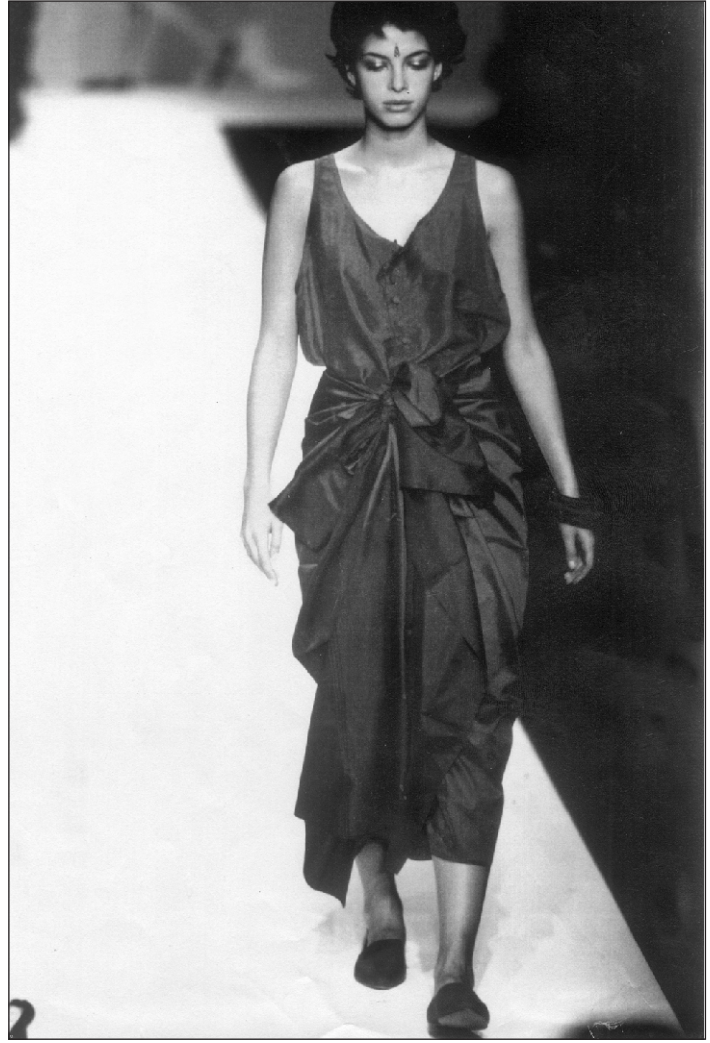
Uttom Ghosh, the maker of "Bibir Jogot"

jogge amar nimontron" at the beginning. The music with the modelling, incidentally, had been composed by him. Later, he used the words of fiction writer Selina Hussain (who said that Bibi Russell was one of her favourite personalities who is now working to preserve the local "taat" industry and present it at for inspection by foreign eyes and the recent Bibi Russell fashion show in South Africa footings had been used for this while the catwalk was conducted with local background music of Bangladesh such as Lalon Shah's song "Shob lokey koi Lalon ki jat shongshare"). The well-known actress Najma Anwar who has known the subject of the film since her childhood next spoke about Bibi Russell's family background, such as the home where "Chhaya Naut" originated and her present preoccupation with the weavers all over Bangladesh and the impact Shoilul Guho, Bibi's guru had on her (with shots from the actual work in progress). Next came the renowned economist Dr. Anisur Rahman (who also spoke about Bibi's enlightened family origin and the role the family played in the Liberation War; this was along with his statement that cultural events

should have more focus in media here and abroad, addressing the owners of these media). Finally, Bibi Russell's mother, Mrs Shamsur Rahman concluded the film by saying that the subject of the documentary now belonged to the entire world and not her alone), the Tangail weaving expert Montu Basak, and the French ambassador to Bangladesh Michel Lummaux. These personalities all spoke on Bibi Russell. Ghosh has tried to make this documentary in nouveau angle by including the "nouvelle vague" concept.

Bibi Russell has been presented as stepping forward since the time she returned from her training in London in her youth. Some of her own modelling pictures have been used. The backdrop used the key word of "nimontron" so that one is aware of the invitation to watch the progress and achievements of the subject of the film.

Ghosh says that his future plans include presenting the positive projection of Islamic culture, particularly that of the Iranians. One came away from the film have sat through spell-bound, when usually local documentaries are not that mind-expanding.



A scene from the catwalk video included in the documentary

TV GUIDE

BTV

- 12:15 Patriotic songs
1:00 News
2:00 News headline
3:00 News (English)
4:00 News headline
4:50 Mahe Ramzan
5:00 News
6:00 News
7:00 News headline (English)
7:05 Weather
8:00 News (Bangla)
9:00 News headline
9:30 Bangla-r mukh
10:00 News at ten
10:25 News feature
11:15 Khabar / The News
11:45 Closing

CHANNEL-i

- 2:00 Bangla feature film
5:00 Hamd O' Naat
5:30 Islamic discussion
5:45 Teer Monohar Iftar
6:10 Music Plus
6:45 I Sports
7:15 Channel I News
7:45 Telequiz
7:55 Drama serial
8:25 Drama serial
9:00 Channel I News
9:30 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh
9:45 Telequiz
9:50 Drama serial
10:25 Mobile quiz
10:30 Channel I News
11:15 Nazrul songs

ALPHATV BANGLA

- (+ 30 mins)
12:00a.m. Chirodiner (Bangla)
2:30 Goody
3:00 Nijei Nayak (Bangla)
3:30 Pratibimba (Bangla)
4:00 Ek Akasher Niche
4:30 Ananya (Bangla)
5:00 Spandan
5:30 Daibaddho (Bangla)
6:00 De Ray
6:30 Nijei Nayak (Bangla)
7:00 Alaap Bengali Spl
7:30 Purobi Bangla
8:00 Gaan Unltd. (Bengali)
8:40 Bharat Bhraman
9:00 Goyenda Paribar (Bangla)
9:30 Saregama (Bangla)
10:30 Daibaddho (Bangla)
11:00 Gaan Unltd. (Bengali)
11:30 Spandan
12:00a.m. Ananya (Bangla)
12:30 Nayantara
1:00 Ek Akasher Niche
1:30 Pratibimba (Bangla)
2:00 Nagin Kanya
4:30 Gaan Unltd. (Bengali)
5:00 Ek Palak (Exposure)
5:30 News In Bengali
6:00 Daibaddho (Bangla)
6:30 Ek Palak (Exposure)
7:00 Bishesh Sangbad Data
7:30 Pratibimba (Bangla)
8:00 Ek Akasher Niche
8:40 Ananya (Bangla)
9:20 Spandan

BBC

- 00:00 BBC News
00:30 World Business Report
00:45 Sport Today
01:00 BBC News
01:30 HARDtalk (r)
02:00 BBC News
02:30 Back To The Floor
03:00 BBC News
03:30 World Business Report
04:00 BBC News
04:30 Correspondent
05:00 BBC News
05:30 World Business Report (r)
05:45 Asia Today
06:00 BBC News
06:30 World Business Report (r)
07:00 BBC News
07:30 Asia Today (r)
07:45 World Business Report (r)
08:00 BBC News
08:30 Asia Today (r)
08:45 World Business Report (r)
09:00 BBC News
09:30 Asia Today (r)
09:45 World Business Report (r)
10:00 BBC News
10:30 Fast Track (r)
10:45 Holiday (r)
11:00 BBC News
11:30 Talking Movies (r)
12:00 BBC News
12:30 Europe Direct (r)
13:00 BBC News
13:30 Click Online (r)
14:00 BBC News
14:10 Correspondent
15:00 BBC News
15:10 Great Railway Journeys
16:00 BBC News
16:30 Top Gear (r)
17:00 BBC News
17:30 This Week
18:00 BBC News
18:10 Correspondent (r)
18:30 BBC News
19:10 Trouble At The Top
20:00 BBC News
20:30 Correspondent (r)
21:00 BBC News
21:10 Great Railway Journeys (r)
22:00 BBC News
22:30 Wheels (r)
23:00 BBC News
23:30 Talking Movies (r)
ZEE CINEMA (+ 30 mins)
1:00a.m. Tune Mera Dil Le Liya

- 3:30 Kuch Lamhe
3:45 World Radio Ceylon Ki
4:00 Qawali Ki Raat
6:30 Ikke Pe Ikka
7:00 Pardey Ke Peeche
10:00 Bhumika
1:00 Naach Utha Sansar
4:30 Dadamoni (A Tribute To The Legend)
5:00 Yeh Majdhar
8:45 Kuch Lamhe
8:45 Kuch Nagme
8:45 Yaadein Radio Ceylon Ki
9:00 Jurm
ZEE TV (+ 30 mins)
12:00 Aati Rahengi Baharein
12:30 Kohi Apna Sa
1:00 Kittie Party
1:30 Kammal
2:00 Love Marriage
2:30 Awara Abdullah (B/W)
5:00 News In Hindi
5:30 Yaadon Ke Pal
6:00 Bhakti Bhav
6:30 Yoga For Life
6:50 Zee Gym
7:00 Jagran
7:30 Bhagwat Katha (Ztv)
8:00 Manav Dharam (Ztv)
8:30 Cartoon On Zee (Scooby & Scrappy Doo)
9:00 Cartoon On Zee (Powerpuff Girls)
10:00 Hum Paanch
10:30 Knock Knock Kaun Hai
11:30 Aati Rahengi Baharein
12:00 Aa Gale Lag Jaa
12:30 Astitva
1:00 Kohi Apna Sa
1:30 Kittie Party
2:00 Gharana
2:30 Ram Avtaar
6:00 Cartoon On Zee (Jonny Quest)
6:30 Cartoon On Zee (Superman)
7:30 Aa Gale Lag Jaa
8:00 Kammal
8:30 Aati Rahengi Baharein
9:00 Astitva
9:30 Kohi Apna Sa
10:00 Kittie Party
10:30 Simply Shekhar
11:00 Lipslick
11:30 Tele Brands
HBO
07:00 Cinema Secrets II Ep 5: Road Rage

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

HBO: 2:00 p.m. Fear. Wahlberg, also known as Marky Mark to his music fans, gives his best performance to date, as a psychotic teen with a deadly obsession? his love for his girlfriend. So just how twisted is he? Well, let's just say he'll do anything to defeat anybody who gets in his way, including her family!

HALLMARK: 11:00 p.m. Follow the river. Mary Ingles is pregnant when she and her two sons are captured by Shawnee Indians. In this compelling, gritty tale, Mary impresses her Indian captors with her patience and grace under difficult circumstances so much so that the handsome Shawnee chief proposes that she become his mate.

NAT. GEOG.: 8:30 p.m. Hippos Of The Zambezi. Wallowing in mud up to their tiny ears they look so innocent, but they're responsible for more deaths in Africa than any other animal. Discover the hidden side of the hippo.

- 07:30 Escape From L.A.
09:30 Battlefield Earth
12:00 The Adventure Of Rocky And Bullwinkle
02:00 Fear
04:00 Matilda
06:00 Masterminds
08:15 The Little Rascals
10:00 Liar Liar
11:45 Night Visions Ep 08: Bitter Harvest / My So-Called Life And Death
07:30 Cartoon On Zee (Powerpuff Girls)
10:00 Hum Paanch
10:30 Knock Knock Kaun Hai
11:30 Aati Rahengi Baharein
12:00 Aa Gale Lag Jaa
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HBO
07:00 Cinema Secrets II Ep 5: Road Rage

HALLMARK

- 01:00 Mark Twain's Roughing It - Part # 2
03:00 Steve Martini's Undue Influence - Part # 1
05:00 Sesame Street - Episode # 48
06:00 Nurses On The Line
08:00 The Wishing Tree
10:00 The Young Riders: Season II
11:00 My Brother's Keeper Touched By An Angel V - Episode # 24 - Black Like Monica
02:00 Sesame Street - Episode # 48
03:00 Scholastic Clifford Special Delivery / A Ferry Tale
03:30 Caillou - Episode #

PICK OF THE DAY



Liar Liar
On HBO at 10:00 p.m. Motor-mouth lawyer and perpetual liar, Fletcher makes his luxurious living by twisting the truth out of shape and to his advantage in and out of the courtroom. He makes friends by flattering them, and business partners by sleeping with them.

- 02:30 Sportscenter Hindi (R)
03:00 English Premier League Highlights
04:00 World Of Rugby The Irb'S World Of Rugby (T)
04:30 Sportscenter Bristol, CT USA (L)
06:00 Sportscenter Hindi (R)
06:30 Motoworld (T)
07:00 NFL Football (I) St Louis, MO USA Chicago Bears
11:00 English Premier League Highlights
12:00 Motoworld (R)
12:30 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Zim Sun Test
Series Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 2nd Test, Day 3, Highlights(R)
13:20 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Zim Sun Test
Series Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 2nd Test, Day 4, 1st Session(L)
15:30 American Muscle 2002 American Muscle (R)
16:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Zim Sun Test
Series Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 2nd Test, Day 4, 2nd & 3rd Session(L)
20:30 Sportscenter Hindi (L)
21:00 Cricket Programming Legends Of Cricket (R)
21:45 Cricket Programming Legends Of Cricket (R) Bloopers (R)
22:30 Sportscenter Hindi (T)
23:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Zim Sun Test
Series Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 2nd Test, Day 3, Highlights(S)
23:30 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Zim Sun Test
Series Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 2nd Test, Day 4, Highlights(S)
01:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (T)
02:00 Soccer AfC U-20 Championship 2002

- Doha, QATAR Japan Vs Uae
04:00 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (R)
04:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (R)
05:00 Spanish Football 2002/03 Spanish Football League Betis, SPAIN
07:00 Trans World Sport (T)
08:00 Cricket Talk Show Harsha Online (R)
09:00 Internationals In England
English Rugby Home Tests 2002 Twickenham, ENGLAND England Vs Australia 2nd Test(R)
11:30 Cricket Talk Show Harsha Online (R)
12:30 Futbol Mundial (R)
13:00 South Africa Cricket Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series Centurion, SOUTH AFRICA South Africa Vs Sri Lanka 2nd Test, Day 4, Highlights(R)
13:55 South Africa Cricket Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series Centurion, SOUTH AFRICA South Africa Vs Sri Lanka 2nd Test, Day 5, 1st Session(L)
16:00 Football Asia (R)
16:30 South Africa Cricket Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series Centurion, SOUTH AFRICA South Africa Vs Sri Lanka 2nd Test, Day 5, 2nd & 3rd Session(L)
21:00 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (L)
21:30 Sachin Tendulkar Programming India Vs... Presented By Sachin Tendulkar (T)
22:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (T)
23:00 Asia Sport Show (R)
23:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (R)
STAR WORLD
16:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz

- (+ 30 mins)
05:00 Hollywood Squares
05:30 The Brady Bunch
06:00 Cheers
06:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
07:30 Bugs
08:30 That 70s Show
09:00 Grounded For Life
09:30 Boston Public
10:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
11:28 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Everybody Loves Raymond
12:00 Becker
12:30 Suddenly Susan
13:00 The Bold & The Beautiful
13:30 Hollywood Squares
14:00 The Brady Bunch
14:30 Baywatch
15:30 The Simpsons
16:00 Cheers
16:30 Starnews Asia
17:00 Frasier
17:30 The Drew Carey Show
18:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
Starnews Upd
18:30 J.A.G
19:30 Law And Order - S.V.U
20:28 Star Asia Travel
20:30 Frasier
21:00 The Drew Carey Show
21:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway
22:00 Law And Order - S.V.U
STAR PLUS (+ 30 mins)
04:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
04:30 Kora Kagaz
05:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
05:30 Bhabhi
06:00 Geet Bahar
06:30 Geet Bahar
07:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
07:30 Aatma
08:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
09:00 Fox Kids
09:55 Kya Film Kya Geet
10:00 Small Wonder
10:30 Telebrands
11:00 Meri Saheli
11:25 Film Toppers
11:30 Shanti
12:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
12:30 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
13:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
13:30 Bhabhi
14:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
14:30 Shagun
15:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
15:30 Smriti
16:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz

- 16:30 Kora Kagaz
17:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
17:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
18:00 Fox Kids
18:40 Aaj Ki Baat
18:55 Kya Film Kya Geet
19:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
19:25 Film Toppers
19:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
20:00 Khichdi
20:30 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
21:00 Kehta Hai Dil
22:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
22:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
23:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz
STAR GOLD (+ 30 mins)
07:00 Daag
10:00 Telebrands 51 - 100
10:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
11:00 Do Aur Do Paanch
14:00 Geet Bahar
14:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
15:00 Chhoti Bahu
18:15 Hit Geet
18:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
19:00 Pyar Ka Devta
22:30 Geet Gata Chal
23:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
23:30 Dil Ka Raajia
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (+ 30 mins)
06:00 My Favorite Monkey
07:00 Nat Geo Frontline Diaries
08:00 Scientific American Frontiers
09:00 Revolutionary Rhythms
09:30 Yanomami Homecoming
10:00 Dogs With Jobs
10:30 Tomorrow World
11:00 Africa
12:00 Islands Of The Vampire Birds
13:00 Nature Zeit
14:00 Going To Extreme
15:00 Search For Peking Man
16:00 Salt Traders Of The Himalayas
17:00 Human Edge
17:30 Mission Wild
18:00 Dogs With Jobs
18:30 Tomorrow's World
19:00 Poles Apart
20:00 Hippos Of The Zambezi
21:00 Afganistan Revealed
22:00 Plagues