

RECOMMENDATIONS

Dyed Fabric show

November 26 December 6  
"Rangeen Utsab", an exhibition celebrating 20 years of the revival of natural dyes in Bangladesh, has a unique range of fashionware and gifts in exquisite colours and designs.  
The exhibition is accompanied by craft demonstrations and is being held at Aranya, 60, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani. The show is open from morning till late evening everyday and is open to all.

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.

Art Show

November 20 January 10  
A group art exhibition of four young artists is being held at the American International School at Baridhara in the city and remains open daily throughout the day.

Apparel display

November 22 December 6  
An exhibition of dresses and apparels take place at ARIAL Centre (Rd. 7), Dhanmondi in the city. The show is open from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily and is open to all.

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 Bandarban district, Pitna festival and observation of the night sky through telescope. Interested persons are requested to register names within November 30 at the office of Bangladesh Astronomical Association 1/3, Block-E, Lalmatia, Dhaka Ph: 0171-187555.

Fashion

"Cool", comfy and catering to the bourgeois

The aftermath of the Eid sale, at "Ethnic", in the city

FAYZA HAQ

If you want something "cool", comfortable, pleasing to the eye and within your bourgeois budget for any festive occasion going to "Ethnic" will do the job. There you find gorgeous saris, flamboyant and subtle shaded and worked upon "punjabis", as well as "shalwar-kameez" and "dupatta" sets to feast your eyes upon, flaunt on the occasion. This boutique, run by four sisters, (one of whom is overseas at present) is housed in a residence at Lalmatia, and has clients coming from Gulshan to Dhanmondi. The owners don't want to compete with fashion houses like "Libas" (Gulshan) or the products of Rina Latif or even "Aarong" as they feel that would only be for the upper echelons of our society. The sisters, Farzana, Rukhsana, Razia (and the one overseas) are all sweet and gentle -- as are their products.

The owners have had a catwalk exhibit in USA, but the rest of their items have been shown at local large hotels such as "Sheraton" and "melas" such as those held by WVA. A recent Eid sale, comprising of three days, has already been held recently, but whatever remnants were there on November 27, would win any working woman's heart, in view of buying items for her friends, relatives and other dear ones.

Talking about the origin of the boutique, Farzana says that they began cutting, stitching, embroidering each others clothes, specially for the younger siblings, with the encouragement of their mother, who herself did crochet, cutting and sewing, like most women of her time, when the owners were in their teens and pre-teens. She says, "We tried to do something new and varied even at that time; friends and relatives seeing our handwork requested for dress and 'shalwar-kameez' and even sari items for themselves. It is these accumulated praises and requests, and today with the financial backing and praises of our various brothers that we've been able to put up this boutique in 1995. When we used go out to buy for ourselves we might find the material but not the design or the embellishments to our taste. The colour combos and the embroi-

dery were not always to our liking. Working by ourselves, we are able to do something unique, according to our own taste and those home we know like the wife of Kofi Annan from the UN, and the well-known gynecologist Dr Ashrafunnesa.

Asked how had specifically given them the support that they need for their ambitious venture, Farzana the eldest sibling says, "My mother Jehanara Haq was its basis; later our brothers and my husband -- who include an architect, a businessman (basically an engi-

sew, embroider and do the block prints are from Dhaka. As people's choices range from cotton to silk; some like mirror and "hazrabuti" and beaded work while some go for simple applique on "kota" material or plain cotton. Others like painted upon designs for their apparels; some combinations of the two. We would like to cater for the vast range of variety, of course remaining within a reasonable middle-class budget for the special occasion or even just the occasional visit."

"We cater for the middle and

something of Tk say 20,000, which you will get even at the Ghausia Market or the boutiques at Gulshan and Bonani."

Discussing her competitors, Farzana says that they are not in competition with any other boutiques to be found in and around Dhanmondi, such as the shops at Raffle Square, "Lamiz", "Kaycraft", Easter Plaza shopping mall, or any such place in and around their vicinity. "Our work is our passion," Farzana says, "and we, the three sisters i.e., have come across much

Tk10,000 for Eid or birthday (as he is an architect or businessman or psychiatrist or whatever, so that his hip-pocket nerve doesn't bother him the least). We don't cater for those who have money flowing in from overseas in almost astronomical amounts. The work that we are selling for Tk 6,000 is being sold at the shops for Tk 12,000 without exaggeration or 'casting stones' at anyone or minimizing any rival's efforts. They say that they have done exclusive embroidery with brand name etc., or that it is one of a

'zari' work and the whole sophisticated combination of extravaganzas -- that their mind and heart ache for. The fine local silk and cotton, with the matching threads and other embellishments are not easy to obtain at a fair price. Sometimes, for a single piece of embroidery or block work my sisters and I have to make three to five trips as we do not have a factory, such as, say, Shahrak Shahid, one of our competitors, does (while some of his clients have complained that his block print work in the 'punjabis' sometimes runs even with dry-cleaning). To match colours and find reliable block printers are not easy feats to accomplish. We try our best to provide flawless products."

Speaking about her workers, Farzana says that they get expert embroidery workers and tailors from Mirpur, Mohammpur, New Market, Dhanmondi etc. to do the embroidery, applique work, "hazrabuti" and "zardousi". Each person specializes in each craft and has to be approached separately.

Asked to compare her products with those find in the rest of the Subcontinent, Farzana says, "We are different in every way from our counterparts in India or Pakistan. However, as channel TV is there and foreign fashion magazines can be obtained in the markets, we have some cultural similarities as regards our clothes etc. We follow their cuts and styles, colour combinations, as many of our customers want something similar to what they have seen in the media or in imported fashion magazines. We maintain a similarity with our counterparts in the rest of the Subcontinent, so that our buyers approach us with eagerness. However, we do not get the materials or the work at the price that our competitors can do in India or Pakistan. They can sell at cheaper rates and we can, in no way, compete with them. That's why wedding shopping by the elite -- with money power to back them -- is done in India most often; others go to Pakistan too, if they have the opportunity i.e. As we are confined to a house, we cannot provide the country with fancy clothes on a large scale. We began with saris in which we mainly used Rajshahi silk, 'taat', 'kota' etc., which do not exceed Tk 6,000. For the 'shalwar-

kameez' we used the materials that our clients want i.e. silk, chiffon and cotton, which are within the price range of Tk 4,000"

Examining the offers at "Ethnic" one comes across a maroon silk sari with "alpana" motifs, done in a vertical manner and striped with gold, intermingling with more floral motifs, which are further divided by dramatic bars. In the body of the sari one finds more "alpana" motif. Another sari is in beige, black and orange with geometrical motifs and bars of striking lines. This contains "alpana" patterns and intricate geometrical designs done in a rather unusual manner. There are then the "motka" saris in pale yellow and soft, dreamy pink with embroidery on the "anchal" as well as on the body, with matching threads and even sequins in the latter one. Here too the favourite floral motifs dominate. There is block gold "alpana" in a scintillating maroon sari along with others with "zardousi" on the black or turquoise background. The embroidery is found along the "anchal" and against the corners of the saris "anchals".

There is a wide range of "shalwar-kameez" and "dupatta" sets for the under 40s, such as the pale orange, pink, with yokes and sleeves done with intricate paisley patterns and floral motifs. Cotton creations with applique in pastel shades, accompanied by embroidery and silk ones with heavily embroidered yokes and sleeves, with the cuts in an unusual angle are all found here. "Punjabis" of different categories are available too. They range from the dull red one in "motka" silk with heavy embroidery at the chest and cuffs, to beige and blue pale ones with geometrical, vertical motifs in matching shades; along with cotton ones with intricate white vertical flow of intertwining designs in white.

Coming back from "Ethnic", one felt that one had seen a superb collection of apparels for both genders, done in a way to mesmerize one. The impact may not have been "excellent", but it was definitely "tres bien". It was surely a treasure trove for one in quest of something sweet, something subtle --without having to resort to over-drafts or desperate measures of borrowing.

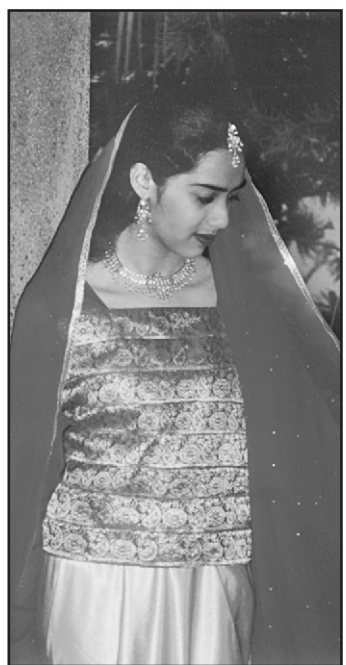


PHOTO CREDITS: ETHNIC

ner) connected with fabric industry etc, and a plastic surgeon give us the logistical support and also the honeyed praise which is essential for continuous work. My younger brother began the ISD School and runs the 'Tropica garments' concern, so that he too can pool in with the necessary aesthetic and financial support. Hence designing and textile oriented work runs in the family."

Dwelling on their especial focus as regards design, fabric and prices, Farzana says that first and foremost they prefer to work on local fabrics and with local embellishments. The people who cut,

upper middle class, " she adds when asked about whom their products were aimed at. These range from patrons coming from Gulshan and in and around Dhanmondi. There are some who from as far as Old Dhaka -- but these are not in large numbers. Anyone who wants something nouveau at a reasonable rate comes here regularly. Again there is the elite too, who want to economize when they have numerous friends and family members to please. As yet we are not making anything pricey or gorgeous as yet. You get a range for office wear to glad rags for Eid or any other formal wear; we don't go in for

finer work in the Eid bazaar, and yet I still like our own products even though I say this myself. Our motifs are floral and the colours tend to be sober. We do bring in some elements of abstraction in our geometrical prints and embroidery as well as the painted clothes. Our designs are mainly of floral nature, presented in different ways -- i.e. shapes and sizes of the motifs."

Talking about whether or not one tends to spend much on festive occasions when around one are sights of teeming poverty and despair in the slums and the roads, Farzana says, "Yes, you do get the comments 'My husband gave me

piece (which applies to our own products). Sure, there are Indian saris as at 'Savera' (near Eastern Plaza).

Asked about the problems that they face while going about their work, Farzana says, "We do not get the materials that we want, and have sometimes to depend on foreign items as we don't always get the quality cloth that we desire as in the cases of some of the chiffon 'shalwar-kameez and dupatta' sets, or even some of the saris that our clients hanker after, and want us to give them in the complete embroidered manner -- with beads,

TV GUIDE

**BTV**

12:00p.m. News headline

12:15 Azan

2:10 Patriotic songs

2:20 Bangla feature film

4:00 News headline

4:30 Ajker shongbadpotro

4:50 Mahe Ramzan

5:00 News

5:45 Health program

6:00 News

6:10 Cartoon

6:35 Chittagong BTV

7:00 News headline (English)

7:05 Weather

7:10 Malancha

7:30 Tommy Miah's Kitchen

8:00 News

8:30 Songs

9:00 News headline

9:05 Saptadinga

10:00 News at ten

10:25 News feature

10:30 Songs

11:15 Khabar / The News

11:30 Closing

**CHANNEL-I**

1:35p.m. Hamd O' Naat

2:00 Satyar Shandhaney

2:50 Double mazaaz

4:30 You BOSS

5:00 Hamd O' Naat

5:30 Islamic discussion

5:45 Teer Monohar Iftar

6:10 Music Plus

6:45 Special program

7:15 Channel I News

7:45 Telequiz

7:55 Pepsi Concert

8:25 Drama serial

9:00 Channel I News

9:30 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh

9:40 Telequiz

9:50 Drama serial

10:25 Channel I Mobile

10:30 Channel I News

11:15 Marine location theyky

12:00a.m. Channel I News

**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 Click Online

03:00 BBC News

03:30 World Business Report

04:00 BBC News

04:30 Asia Business Report

04:45 World Business Report

05:00 BBC News

05:30 Asia Business Report

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 Asia Business Report

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 Asia Business Report

10:00 BBC News

10:30 HARDtalk

11:00 BBC News

11:30 World Business Report

12:00 BBC News

12:30 World Business Report

13:00 BBC News

13:30 World Business Report

13:45 Sport Today

14:00 BBC News

14:30 Talking Movies (r)

15:00 BBC News

15:30 Life (r)

16:00 BBC News

16:30 Asia Today

16:45 World Business Report

17:00 BBC News

17:30 HARDtalk (r)

18:00 BBC News

18:30 World Business Report

18:45 Sport Today

19:00 BBC News

19:30 Talking Movies (r)

20:00 BBC News

20:30 Asia Today

21:00 BBC News

21:30 HARDtalk (r)

22:00 BBC News

22:30 Question Time India

23:30 Top Gear (r)

**HBO**

06:30a.m. The Crossing

08:30 Manhattan Murder Mystery

10:45 Robin Cook's Formula For Death

12:45p.m. Hero

03:00 Dudley Do-Right

04:30 Peggy Sue Got Married

06:30 Whispers In The Dark

08:30 Night Visions Ep 10 : Hate Puppet / Darkness

09:30 The Art of War

11:45 The Bridge on the River Kwai

**STAR MOVIES**

01:00a.m. Book Of Shadows: Blair Witch II

03:00 Being John Malkovich

05:00 Fluke

07:00 Dr. Doittle 2

08:45 Man Who Cried, The

10:30 Uk Top Ten

11:00 Gone In 60 Seconds

1:00p.m. Unbreakable

2:45 Men Of Honor

5:00 Remember The Titans

7:00 Apocalypse Now Redux

10:15 Say It Isn't So

12:00a.m. Harrison's Flowers

**ESPN**

(+ 30 mins)

00:30 Cricket Programming Super Selector (R)

01:00 Wrestling Apple Crush (R) 01:00

02:00 Spanish Football League 2002/03

03:00 Spanish Football League Pamplona, SPAIN Ca Osasuna Vs Atletico Madrid (L) 02:00

04:00 Pool World Pool Masters 2002 (R) 01:00

05:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2002/03 London, ENGLAND Chelsea Vs Sunderland (R) 02:00

07:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan International Series Harare, ZIMBABWE

**TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS**

**HBO: 3:00 p.m. Dudley Do-Right.** Somewhere along the Canadian Rockies, dastardly villain S. Whiplash and his band of outlaws seize the property of the townfolk of Semi-Happy Valley and organize a fake gold rush.

**HBO: 1:00 p.m. Hero.** Bernie LaPlante is not the sort of man you would peg for a hero. A small-time crook by profession, he chances to be the first person on the scene of an airplane crash. For reasons that are inexplicable, even to himself, he saves the lives of several people on board, one of whom happens to be TV reporter Gayle Gayley. Unable to identify him at the scene of the accident, Gayley mounts a nationwide campaign to find the Angel of Flight 104.

Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 4th Odi, Highlights(S) 01:30

08:30 Premiership Extra (T) 00:30

09:00 Wire To Wire (T) 00:30

09:30 Premiership Extra (R) 00:30

10:00 Team India Programming Cricket Sabha (R) 00:30

10:30 Cricket Programming Super Selector (R) 00:30

11:00 Sachin Tendulkar Programming India Vs... Presented By Sachin Tendulkar (R) 01:00

12:00 South Africa Cricket Standard Bank One Day International Series

12:30 South Africa Cricket Standard Bank One Day International Series Benoni, SOUTH AFRICA South Africa Vs Sri Lanka 3rd Odi, 1st Session(L) 17:00

17:30 South Africa Cricket Standard Bank One Day International Series

Day International Series Benoni, SOUTH AFRICA South Africa Vs Sri Lanka 3rd Odi, 2nd Session(L) 01:00

21:30 Uefa Champions League Highlights 2002/03 Uefa Champions League Weekly #12 (T) 01:00

22:30 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2002/03 Liverpool, ENGLAND Liverpool Vs Manchester United (S)

**STAR SPORTS**

(+ 30 mins)

01:00 Cricket Programming Super Selector (R) 00:30

01:30 Team India Programming Cricket Sabha (R) 00:30

02:00 Asia Festival Of Speed 2002 Asian Formula 2000 Series Zhuhai, CHINA Rounds Eleven & Twelve(R) 01:00

03:00 New York Marathon Marathon 2002 New York, NY USA Highlights(R) 01:00

04:00 Sailing Sailing World

**PICK OF THE DAY**

**The Art of War**  
On HBO at 9:30 p.m.  
At the dawn of the millennium, the UN will sign a trade treaty with China that will catapult China into the big league. But someone is trying to sabotage the summit, and secret agent Neil Shaw and his boss Eleanor Hooks believe that Chinese UN Ambassador Wong is behind everything.

(R) 00:30 International Triathlon Union (Ibu) Itu World C'Ships 2002 Cancun, MEXICO Event Highlights(R) 01:00

05:30 Sports Unlimited (R) 01:00

06:30 Australia Cricket Orange Test Series Perth, AUSTRALIA Australia Vs England 3rd Test, Day 2, Highlights(R) 01:27

07:57 Australia Cricket Orange Test Series Perth, AUSTRALIA Australia Vs England 3rd Test, Day 3, 1st Session(L) 02:03

10:00 Sachin Tendulkar Programming Sachin Speaks On World Cup Stars (R)

10:30 Australia Cricket Orange Test Series Perth, AUSTRALIA Australia Vs England 3rd Test, Day 3, 2nd & 3rd Session(L) 04:30

15:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan International Series Harare, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 5th Odi, Highlights(S) 01:30

16:30 Cricket Programming

04:30 Super Selector (R) 00:30

17:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan International Series Harare, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 5th Odi, 2nd Session(L) 04:00

21:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan International Series Harare, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 5th Odi, Highlights(S) 01:30

22:30 Asia Sport Show (T) 00:30

23:00 Pakistan Tour Of Zimbabwe Nissan International Series Harare, ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe Vs Pakistan 5th Odi, Highlights(S) 01:30

**STAR WORLD**

(+ 30 mins)

00:00 Xena : Warrior Princess 01:00

01:00 Walker, Texas Ranger 01:00

02:00 Cops 00:30

02:30 Kids Say The Darndest Things 00:30

03:00 Benny Hinn 00:30

04:00 Ten Commandments 00:30

04:30 Thunderbirds 01:00

05:30 J.A.G 01:00

06:30 Billboard U.S.

08:30 The Lost World 01:00

09:30 Ally Mc Beal 01:00

10:30 Mutant X 01:00

11:30 Artistic Licence 02:00

13:30 Dark Angel 01:00

14:30 Theatres On The Bay 00:30

15:00 Travel Asia 00:30

15:30 Baywatch Hawaii 01:00

16:30 The Simpsons 00:30

17:00 Malcolm In The Middle 00:30

17:30 Focus Asia 00:30

18:00 Iht World 00:30

18:30 The X Files 01:00

19:30 Star Trek The Next Generation 01:00

20:30 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal 00:30

21:00 Focus Asia 00:30

21:30 Iht World 00:30

22:00 The X Files 01:00

23:00 Star Trek The Next Generation

**STAR PLUS**

(+30 mins)

00:00 Film Topper - 1000 Series 00:05

00:30 Sonpari 00:25

00:50 Kjhichdi 00:30

01:00 Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr 00:30

01:30 Gharwali Uparwali 00:30

02:00 Tu Tu Main Main 00:30

02:30 Avinash Ips - 2 00:30

03:00 Ek Mulaqat 00:30

03:30 Hum Hai Kal Aaj Kal Aur Kal 00:30

04:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron 00:30

04:30 Sshhhhh...Koi Hai... 01:00

05:30 Mirch Masala 00:30

06:00 Star Geetmala 01:00

07:00 Aatma 00:55

07:55 Film Topper - 1000 Series 00:05

08:00 Gurukul - Ancient Wisdom Of In 01:00

09:00 Jai Mata Ki 01:00

10:00 Yatra 00:30

10:30 Bol Baby Bol 00:30

11:00 Kya Masti Kya Dhuum 00:55

11:55 Kya Film Kya Geet 00:05

12:00 Chupa Rustam 00:30

12:30 Musafir Hoon Yaaron 00:30

13:00 Mirch Masala 00:30

13:30 Hit Filmehin Hit Sangeet 00:25

13:55 Mail Milap 00:05

14:00 Parvarish 00:30

17:30 Hit Filmehin Hit Sangeet 00:30

18:00 Fox Kids Sunday 00:55

18:55 Kya Film Kya Geet 00:05

19:00 Sonpari 00:30

19:30 Jubilee Plus 00:30

20:00 Jab Pyar Kisise Hota Hai 03:30

**STAR GOLD**

(+ 30 mins)

02:15 Hit Geet 00:15

02:30 Hit Filmehin Hit Sangeet 00:30

03:00 Yeh Raat Phir Na Aayegi 03:15

06:15 Hit Geet 00:15

06:30 Hit Filmehin Hit Sangeet 00:30

07:00 Nastik 03:30

10:30 Geet Gata Chal 00:30

11:00 Kuch Yaadein Kuch Baatein 00:30

11:30 Hit Filmehin Hit Sangeet 00:30

12:00 Vijeta - Starmastmovie 03:00

18:15 Hit Geet 00:15

18:30 Kuch Yaadein Kuch Baatein 00:30

19:00 Hit Filmehin Hit Sangeet 00:30

19:30 Jubilee Plus 00:30

20:00 International Khiladi - Starmastmovie 03:30

23:30 China Town

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

(+ 30 mins)

00:00 Oz Trek 2000 01:00

01:00 People's Planet 01:00

02:00 People's Planet 01:00

03:00 People's Planet 01:00

04:00 Australia's Improbable Animal 01:00

05:00 Oz Trek 2000 01:00

06:00 People's Planet 01:00

07:00 People's Planet 01:00

08:00 People's Planet 01:00

09:00 Australia's Improbable Animal 01:00

10:00 Nat Geo Genius 00:30

10:30 Tomorrow's World 00:30

11:00 Riddle Of The Dead 01:00

12:00 Tomorrow's World 00:30

12:30 Tales From Belize 00:30

13:00 Game For It 00:30

13:30 Earth Report 00:30

14:00 Artic Kingdom Life At The Edge 01:00

15:00 Evolution 01:00

16:00 Ng Explorer 01:00

17:00 Tales Of The Living Dead 00:30

17:30 Insectia 00:30

18:00 Nat Geo Genius 00:30

18:30 Tomorrow's World 00:30

19:00 Game For It 00:30

19:30 Rolex Awards 2002 00:30

20:00 Riddle Of The Dead 01:00

21:00 Africa's Deadly Dozen 01:00

22:00 Evolution 01:00

23:00 Hot Science

**STAR NEWS**

(+ 30 mins)

00:00 Bigfight 01:00

01:00 Star News 00:30

01:30 Star News 00:30

02:00 Star News 00:30

02:30 Star News 00:30

03:00 Star News 00:30

03:30 Star News Limglight 00:30

04:00 Reality Bites 00:30

04:30 Star News 00:30

05:00 Star News 00:30

05:30 Star News 00:30

06:00 Star News 00:30

06:30 Star News 00:30

07:00 Bigfight 01:00

08:00 Star News 00:30

08:30 Star News 00:30

09:00 Star News 00:30

09:30 Star News 00:30

10:00 Star News 00:30

10:30 Star News 00:30

11:00 Star News 00:30

11:30 Business Week 00:30

12:00 Star News 00:30

12:30 Reality Bites 00:30

13:00 Star News 00:30

13:30 Star News 00:30

14:00 Star News 00:30

14:30 Star News Limglight 00:30

15:00 Star News 00:30

15:30 Star News 00:30

16:00 Star News 00:30

16:30 Star News 00:30

17:00 Star News 00:30

17:30 Star News 00:30

18:00 Bigfight 01:00

19:00 Saat Baje 00:30

19:30 Startalk 00:30

20:00 We The People 01:00

21:00 Star News Sunday 01:00

22:00 Ravivaar 01:00