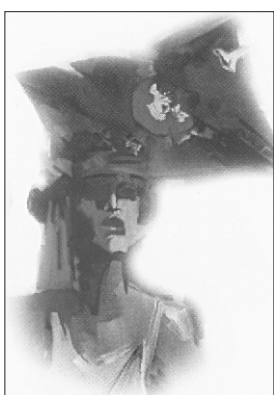


RECOMMENDATIONS



Celebration

March 20-21

Udichi, the well-known cultural organisation, arranges a two-day programme to celebrate the Independence Day 2004. The celebration will start at 4:30 pm everyday at the Central Shahid Minar.

Exhibition

March 06-26

To celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, an exhibition featuring the recent works of the eminent artist Quayyum Chowdhury is going on. The show will be open for all till March 26 from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Events at

Alliance Francaise

Exhibition

March 19-30

A painting exhibition of artist Awena Cozzanet is being held at the gallery.

Film Show

March 21

Alliance Francaise has arranged the screening of African short films starting at 5:00 pm at the centre's auditorium. The following films will be screened: *La Falsaie* (Morocco), *Le Festin* (Tunisia), *Les Ecuelles* (Burkina Faso), *L'Enfant Terrible* (Mali) and *Bon Voyage Sim* (Niger).

Musical evening

March 25

A musical programme will be held at the cafeteria at 9:30 pm. The members of the institute can enjoy the show free of cost.

Endeavour

Mary Wilson empathises with the under-privileged

Former Supremes-vocalist visits Bangladesh with 'Dare to Dream' project for cross-cultural understanding

AFSAR AHMED

ALTHOUGH music will always be her primary focus, Mary Wilson—the former vocalist of the band The Supremes—enjoys spreading her creative wings in other areas too. Singer, actress, author of two best-sellers, humanitarian, tireless spokesperson and activist for causes including breast cancer, research, domestic violence, AIDS and cystic fibrosis, Mary Wilson always uses her talent to make the world a better place. In continuation of her role as the cultural ambassador, she was here to motivate the poverty-stricken Bangladeshi children and promote her 'Dare to Dream' project. This project is a part of the US State Department initiative, known as CultureConnect, which promotes American culture beyond the stereotypes.

Sharing the Dream with the slum children

In the morning of March 17, Mary Wilson—in a black pantsuit and a straw hat—visited a school for the adolescent brick chippers at Gabtoli. The school is run by a local voluntary agency, the Centre for Mass Education in Science with funding from UNICEF. The children of the school, sitting under a canopy in the yard of the tin-and-brick schoolhouse, greeted her with great ovation and flower bouquets.

'Your pure and innocent eyes reveal your hearts', said the amused singer to the children and took photographs with them. 'I know you work very hard,' Wilson told her newest fans. 'When I was young, we were very poor and my family had to work very hard at the cotton plantation. But I grew up to be a rich lady. We dared to dream to make lots of money so we could get out of poverty. You have to dream so that you too can be big,' she told the children. '*Swapno Dekho*', she emphasised in Bangla with the help of an interpreter.

Then Wilson sang popular Supremes' hits such as *You can't hurry love* and *Baby love*, and although the children did not understand the meaning, they enjoyed the tunes and joined in by clapping. When Wilson apologised for not knowing their language, Bangla, the children put on a show for her—singing popular songs, including a local version of the US civil rights song, *We shall overcome* and also presented a play.

Later, Wilson went to ABC School in Bashundhara, an institution for deprived chil-



Famous American singer Mary Wilson with under-privileged children at ABC school

Mary Wilson's singing career began way back in the '60s. As a teenager from the Motown, Detroit, Mary Wilson along with her friends Florence Ballard and Diana Ross fuelled by their mutual obsession with music and driving ambition for stardom, formed a musical group 'The Supremes'.

Soon it became the most successful female band in the recording history with an incredible string of 12 number-one hits between 1964 and 1969. Once Diana Ross left to pursue her own solo career in 1970, Mary took up the mantle and sustained The Supremes until their official break-up in 1977.

The principal of the American International School, Dhaka, Dr. David Fussell, and his wife, provide the financial support for running

the school. There too, Wilson sang and talked to the children and had great fun.

A momentous musical evening

The long awaited evening rolled up when Mary Wilson, in a sequinned midnight blue gown, made an extraordinary appearance at the Osmani Memorial Hall. The concert was divided into three parts—the opening selections from Wilson's favourites, the slide presentation of *Dare to Dream* accompanied by Wilson's narration and the closing selections from her favourites. *You can't hurry love*, *Where did our love go?*, *Someday we'll be together*, *Stop in the name of love*, *Baby love*, *Reflections* were some of the most popular renditions of the evening. She enthralled the audience with her vibrant voice rich with emotion and fire.

Wilson quickly developed a rapport with the audience with her lively banter, dedicating some of her songs to the Embassy staff, diplomats, and others.

Later she invited some members especially 'older teenagers like her' from the audience to join her on stage to sing one of the Supremes' signature songs. After the show the fans besieged her for autographs.

Rendezvous with the legend

The minute the concert ended I felt edgy as I had waited long for a meeting with the legend. After the show, three of us (reporters) were taken back stage for an exclusive interview. At last she entered the room completely exhausted after a hectic day.

Asked about her impression and overall experiences in Bangladesh, she said, 'The people here are very warm-hearted, congenial and welcoming. But two days is really a short time to get acquainted with Bangladeshi culture. I hope to know more about it on my second trip.'

'I came here to inspire and motivate the deprived slum children. I had the same background and I never gave up my dreams. I got the feeling that we understood each other.'

Mary Wilson was chosen as a Cultural Ambassador because of her successful singing career as well as her dedication to helping young people. Whatever artistic venture she pursues, she never forgets her roots. 'Dreams do come true. I live by the philosophy that dreams don't die; although people do stop dreaming', she ended.

Historical perspective

An authentic document of the Liberation War

Discussion programme on the book Bangladesh Sharkar 1971

NOVERA DEEPTA

IN his book *Bangladesh Sharkar* 1971, Hossain Tawfiq Imam has portrayed the detailed activities of the 1971 Bangladesh government. Presented with authentic documents, this work is an extraordinary publication on the history of Bangladesh. Dr Anisuzzaman made this observation while addressing the audience as the chairman of the discussion programme on the book at the Liberation War Museum on March 19.

Hossain Tawfiq Imam, commonly known as HT Imam, was the Cabinet Secretary of the then Bangladesh Government in 1971 and he is a well-known name in the history of our Liberation War. The book *Bangladesh Sharkar* 1971, contains many chapters elaborating the history and the detailed activities of the Bangladesh government of that period.

Among the chapters, are the diary of the author, Liberation War: a war of the common people, establishment of the government: characteristics and success, the Cabinet, the Defense Ministry, the Information Ministry, the role of the expatriate Bangladeshis in the war, the war camps, the important events of September to December and others. In this book the author presents a neutral view of the events



(R-L) Muntassir Mamun, Syed Anwar Hossain, Dr. Rafiqul Islam, AK Khondokar, Dr. Anisuzzaman, HT Imam and Osman Goni at the event

and people at the time of the Liberation War. The book has been published by *Agamy Publishers*, the publisher of many books on the Liberation War.

Professor Muntassir Mamun said, 'The author is not a researcher but he has presented a book containing materials which will be helpful for the researchers as well.'

Professor Syed Anwar Hossain said, 'The author has presented the book with the retrospective analysis. And the name of the book is very appropriate because the government that conducted the war

was the Bangladesh government not an expatriate government.'

Dr Rafiqul Islam said, 'There was no 'war literature' in Bangla previously but the freedom fighters have written so many books on the Liberation War of Bangladesh that a new category has been introduced in our literature.' He said that the book is a rare document on the war that not only contains the events but other perspectives as well.

Important personalities, who were a part of the government in 1971, and others were present at the event.

Filmdom

Jesus battles zombies at the U.S. box office

THE forces of heaven and hell battle for the souls of moviegoers this weekend as Mel Gibson's box office Messiah 'The Passion of the Christ' heads into its fourth weekend facing a remake of the horror classic 'Dawn of the Dead.'

Even as 'The Passion' nears the \$300 million mark in North American ticket sales, box office analysts say Gibson's film about the last 12 hours in the life of Jesus is expected to see another week-to-week decline, leaving it vulnerable to an attack of the zombies.

'Dawn of the Dead,' an update of the 1978 chiller that carries the tag line 'When there's no room in hell, the dead will walk the Earth,' opened Friday in 2,744 in theaters with an ensemble cast that includes Ving Rhames and Sarah Polley.

The R-rated film, the feature debut of director Zack Snyder, pits survivors of a worldwide plague holed up in a shopping mall against an onslaught of flesh-hungry undead. The film is released by Universal Pictures, a unit of Vivendi Universal.

Competing for attention are two other R-rated wide releases this weekend -- the crime thriller 'Tak-



A scene from the film Dawn of the Dead

ing Lives,' starring Angelina Jolie as an FBI profiler chasing a serial killer in Montreal, and the memory-erasing romance from writer Charlie Kaufman 'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind,' starring Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet.

Boding well for 'Dawn of the Dead' is the strong track record demonstrated by a string of recent horror films, said Paul

Dergarabedian, president of box office tracking service Exhibitor Relations.

'Horror movies do really well at any time of the year, and last year they did very well,' he said. 'You can never count them out as a genre. They always find an audience.'

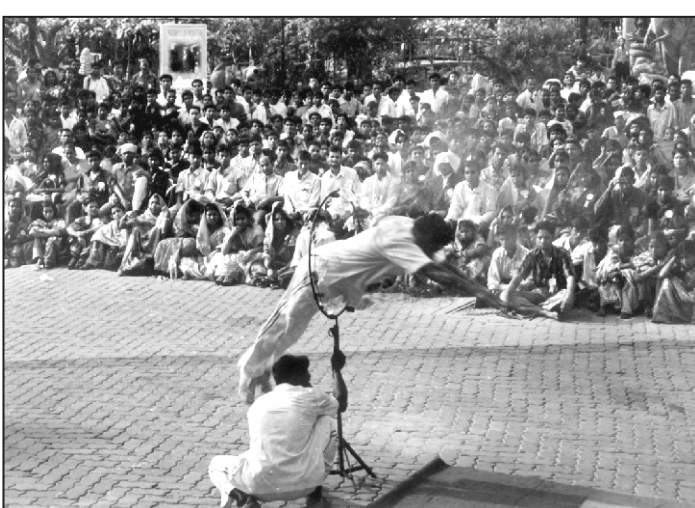
Source: Reuters

Channel click



The 6th episode of the documentary film *Adibashi Janapad* will be telecast tonight at 10:30pm on ATN Bangla featuring the Garos from Chhoto Gajni, Sherpur.

Event



Corporate members of different organisations enjoying acrobatics at the Fantasy Kingdom recently

Around the world

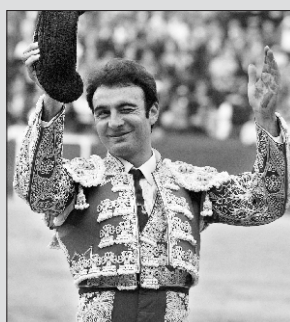
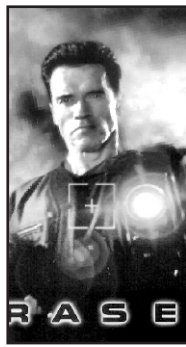


PHOTO: AFP

Spanish bullfighter Enrique Ponce gesture after the bull fight during the Fallas bull festival in Valencia, southeastern Spain.

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 9:30 pm: *Eraser*. Action / Drama / Thriller. Arnold Schwarzenegger, James Caan, Vanessa L. Williams. John Kruger is an U.S. marshal who is assigned to protect Lee Cullen, who works for the Cyrez Corporation, a company that manufactures top secret weapons for the military. Lee knows about a scam going on within Cyrez Corporation, and the man behind it is determined to silence Lee, because without Lee, the FBI has no case against the Cyrez Corporation. After taking Lee to New York City to hide her, John discovers that his friend, U.S. Marshal Robert Deguerin, is the mastermind behind the scam!

STAR MOVIES: 7:00 pm: *Monster's Ball*. Drama / Romance. Billy Bob Thornton, Taylor Simpson, Hale Berry. Hank Grotowski is a prison guard. He works with his son, Sonny, and lives at home with his racist father, Buck. Lawrence Musgrove has just been executed and a horrible tragedy has happened at home. Now, Hank has just met Leticia, a young black woman struggling to make ends meet and they quickly fall in love to ease each other's pains. If only he knew that Leticia is Musgrove's widow...

PICK OF THE DAY



Gangs of New York

On MGM at 9:30 pm

Genre: Crime / Drama.

Leonardo DiCaprio, Daniel Day-Lewis, Cameron Diaz.

The film starts in 1846 and ends in 1863 with the draft riots. The setting is New York's five points, the most violent part of the world at the time. The story is risen out of the conflicts between the white Anglo-Saxon "natives" and the Irish immigrants coming into the five points. One boy needs to avenge the death of his father...

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTB
News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:40 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:10 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.

News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

Late Night News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
Breakfast News 7:15 am, 9:00 am

News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.

Teletext of BTB news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Teletext of BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News (Bangla) at 09 a.m. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

NTV
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:02 pm, 6:30 pm, 9:45 pm.

News (Bangla) 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.

Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC World
Every hour on the hour

BTB

09:15 Anyo Bhuban: Sensitive Samurai

12:15 Shangbadpotrer Pata Thekey

01:05 Quiz Quiz

01:30 Cartoon Show: Totally Tooned In

02:05 Kheladhula

02:30 Amader Ranna

03:05 Prodimor Computer

03:00 IndiasTour of Pak: 4th ODI (Live)

06:45 Share Market, Weather Forecast

07:55 Teknaf Theke Tetulia

10:25 CHANNEL-i

09:50 Trityo Matra

11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush

12:00 Chhiti Pelam

01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:45 FCT Business Talk

06:10 Banijyo O Aurthoneti

06:45 Special Programme

07:55 Drama Serial: Sharey Tin Tola

09:35 Drama Serial: Ekanoboroti

10:00 Drama Serial: Ranu

ntv

09:30 El Shomoy

10:02 Hello Music

10:30 Arshi Nagar

11:00 Drama Serial: Andhokarer Phul

11:30 Magazine Sequence

12:02 Millennium (Ep. 10)

02:30 Ke Korbey Bajimat

03:00 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush

03:40 Telefilm

05:05 Ithasher Ei Diney

05:10 Horlicks Genius

05:40 Aparar Jigyasha

06:20

Shubho Shondhya

06:50 Khabar Deshey Deshey

08:10 Megha Serial: Tin Purush

08:50 Right Click

09:40 Quiz Show: Medhabi

11:20 Dindarpan

ATN BANGLA

10:15 Annodristee

10:50 Magazine prog: Ek Dui Teen

11:25 Mega serial: Mohona

12:40 Bengali feature film: Tajputra

3:45 Uro Cola Saat Rang

4:20 Drama: Tume Je Amar Kabita

5:50 Jibon Geggasha

6:20 Annodristee

8:00 Danish Pathe Pathe

8:50 English Serial Dubbed in Bangla: The Adventure of Sinbad

9:30 Music Plus

10:30 Documentary film: Adibashe Janopada

12:20 Bengali feature film: Baharam Badsha

TARA BANGLA

4:30 Bangladesh E Samay Rpt.

5:00 Chokher Aloy Dekhechilem

5:30 Tara News Aaj Bikele

6:00 Safar

6:30 Business Bangla This Week R

7:00 Rajai Rajai

8:00 Telefilm

9:30 Lalab Utsav

10:30 Jalsaghar

12:00 Rajai Rajai Rpt.

HBO

10:45 The Ten Commandments

3:00 Urban Legends: Final Out

06:20

Shubho Shondhya

06:50 Khabar Deshey Deshey

08:10 Megha Serial: Tin Purush

08:50 Right Click

09:40 Quiz Show: Medhabi

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