

PICK OF THE WEEK



Our Choice

As Good as It Gets (IMDb rating 7.7)
 On HBO, January 17 at 06:45 pm
 Directed by James L. Brooks
 Genre: Comedy/Drama/Romance
 Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt, Cuba Gooding Jr
 The trials and tribulations of a compulsive writer, Melvin Udall. After his homosexual neighbour is brutally beaten, he is entrusted to the care of the neighbour's dog, with a difficult relationship with a waitress to add on top of that. What develops is a weekend trip/triangle between these three individuals, and together they learn the true meaning of "the sunny side of life".



The Sport

Zimbabwe Tour of Bangladesh
 CityCell Test Series
 2nd Test begins
 January 14-18 from 09:20 am
 Live from Dhaka, Bangladesh
 On ESPN



The Movie

Bruce Almighty (IMDb rating 6.5)
 On Star Movies, January 16 at 07:00 pm
 Directed by Tom Shadyac
 Genre: Comedy/Fantasy/Romance/Drama
 Jim Carrey, Morgan Freeman, Jennifer Aniston, Phillip Baker Hall, Catherine Bell
 Bruce Nolan, a television reporter in Buffalo, N.Y., is discontented with almost everything in life despite his popularity and the love of his girlfriend, Grace. At the end of the worst day of his life, Bruce angrily ridicules and rages against God and God responds. God appears in human form and, endowing Bruce with divine powers, challenges Bruce to take on the big job to see if he can do it any better.

Satellite TV



Trapped
 (IMDb rating 6.0)
 On HBO, January 15 at 09:30 pm
 Directed by Luis Mandoki
 Genre: Thriller/Crime
 Charlize Theron, Courtney Love, Stuart Townsend, Kevin Bacon
 Joe Hickley thinks he's got a great scheme: kidnap the child of rich parents, hold it for 24 hours, keeping the mother under his control while an accomplice gets the ransom from the father, who is on a trip. But things go very wrong when he tries this scheme on the Jennings family, in part because their daughter Abby is asthmatic, and in part because the Jennings' find out more than Hickley wants them to know.



Red Dragon (IMDb rating 7.4)
 On HBO, January 19 at 09:30 pm
 Directed by Brett Ratner
 Genre: Crime/Thriller/Horror
 Anthony Hopkins, Edward Norton, Ralph Fiennes, Emily Watson, Mary-Louise Parker
 FBI Agent Will Graham has been called out of early retirement to catch a serial killer, known by authorities as "The Tooth Fairy". He asks for the help of his arch-nemesis, Dr. Hannibal "The Cannibal" Lecter, so that he can be able to catch "The Tooth Fairy" and bring him to justice. The only problem is that "The Tooth Fairy" is getting inside information about Graham and his family from none other than Dr. Lecter.



Me, Myself & Irene (IMDb rating 6.0)
 On Star Movies, January 15 at 07:00 pm
 Directed by Bobby & Peter Farrelly
 Genre: Adventure/Comedy/Romance
 Jim Carrey, Renée Zellweger, Anthony Anderson, Mongo Brownlee
 Charlie is a Rhode Island state trooper with a split personality. He is otherwise mild-mannered and non confrontational until somebody or something pushes him a little too far. That's when his maniacal alter-ego, Hank, takes over. Charlie is assigned on a routine mission to return alleged fugitive Irene back to upstate New York, but they wind up on the run from corrupt police officers. And their escape would be a lot simpler on everybody involved if Hank didn't keep stepping in at the most inopportune times...

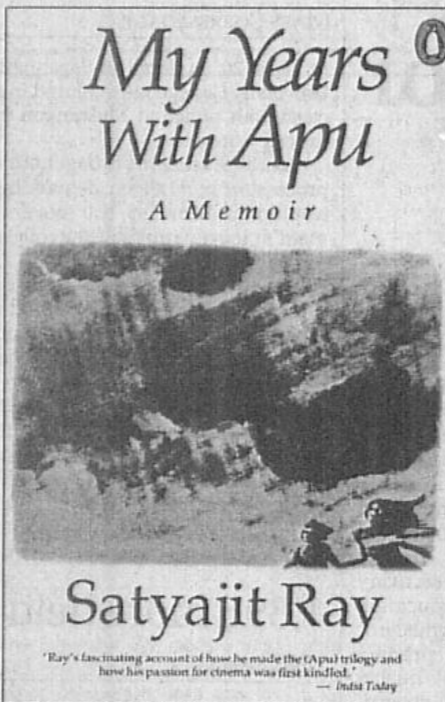
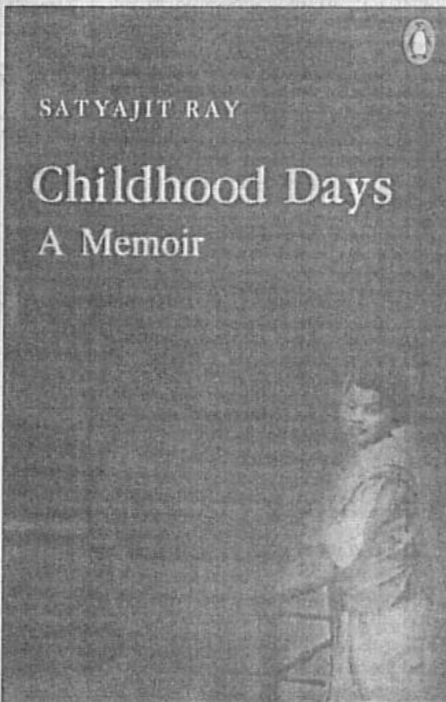
Ravenous (IMDb rating 6.6)
 On Star Movies, January 17 at 07:00 pm
 Directed by Antonia Bird
 Genre: Western/Drama/Horror/War/Comedy/Thriller
 Guy Pearce, Robert Carlyle, David Arquette, Jeremy Davies
 A soldier in the Mexican-American war in 1847 is promoted to captain for his perceived bravery but soon transferred to a remote outpost in the Sierra Nevada when the cowardly truth becomes evident. The outpost's keepers seem on the brink of madness in their own ways, and what passes for their tranquility is shattered by the intrusion of the lone survivor of an ill-fated expedition that ended in murder and cannibalism.



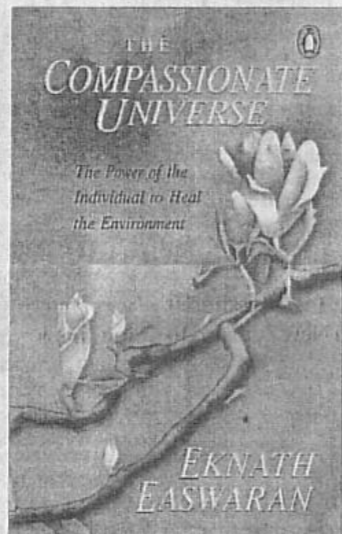
Jet Lag (IMDb rating 6.1)
 On Star Movies, January 20 at 08:45 pm
 Directed by Danilèle Thompson
 Genre: Comedy/Romance
 Juliette Binoche, Jean Reno, Sergi López, Scall Delpeyrat
 At Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, a beautician on her way to a new job in Mexico accidentally meets a cook who is on his way back from America. Labour strikes, bad weather, and pure luck cause the two of them to share a room overnight at the airport Hilton hotel. Will their initial mutual indifference and downright hostility turn into a one nightstand or perhaps something more?

Books

Childhood Days
 A Memoir
 Satyajit Ray
 Price: Tk. 425.00
 In this charming collection of stories from Ray's childhood and film-making days, we get a glimpse into the life of a man who appeared serious and aloof to the world, and find a different, more accessible Ray humorous, tender, affectionate. He tells us about his first taste of an ice cream, his initial understandings of the principles of photography, and the teasing he had to endure in school because of his famous father and grandfather. With unassuming grace he writes about his vast, talented family, where each member had his or her special quirks and eccentricities.



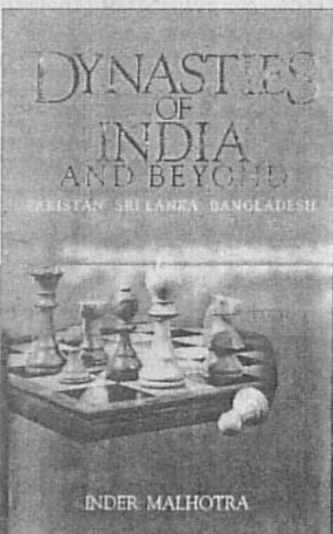
My Years with Apu
 A Memoir
 Satyajit Ray
 Price: Tk. 255.00
 This is an absorbing story of how one of the greatest directors of our time began his filmmaking career. Written in an impeccable style it brings back memories of an era when filmmaking was an art born out of a love for the medium and not merely a means to make money. My Years with Apu prompts wistful thoughts of those other books on the other Ray masterpieces that remained unwritten at the time of the director's death. A swift, detailed, precise narrative... the story and its many links still retain, as a powerful myth of artistic genesis, their freshness, and may have acquired a new significance with the passing of time.



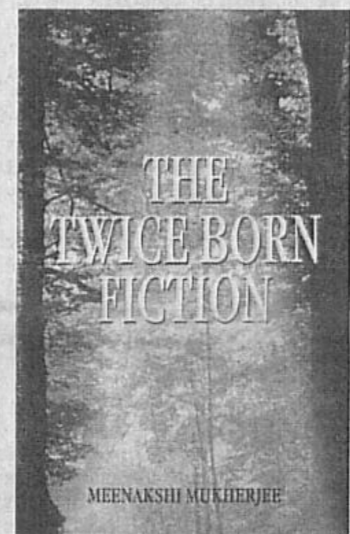
The Compassionate Universe
 The Power of the Individual to Heal the Environment
 Eknath Easwaran
 Price: Tk. 425.00
 In this book Eknath Easwaran shows how we can undo the damage humankind has done to the environment—by making small changes in our everyday lives. This book challenges us to discover that we live in a compassionate universe, where there is no conflict between our fulfillment as individuals and the health of the earth. Eknath Easwaran's books reflect two cultures: India, where he grew up in a self-supporting agrarian village, and the United States, where he taught for over thirty years. His early experiences of living in harmony with nature, his first-hand acquaintance with Mahatma Gandhi's India, and his lifelong interest in ecological issues have resulted in this book: a compelling examination of how our industrial society has injured the earth, and how we can make it healthy again.



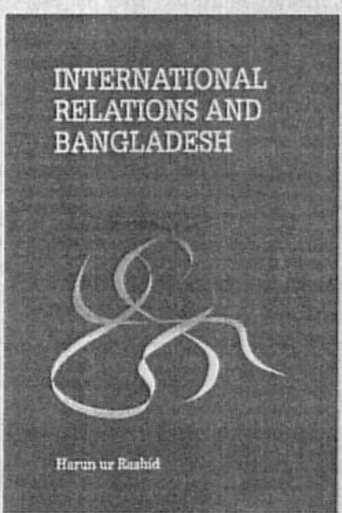
Perpetual Contact
 Mobile Communication, Private Talk, Public Performance
 Edited by James E. Katz & Mark Aakhus
 Price: Tk. 2595.00
 The spread of mobile communication, most obviously as cell phones but increasingly in other wireless devices, is affecting people's lives and relationships to a previously unthought-of extent. Mobile phones, which are fast becoming ubiquitous, affect either directly or indirectly every aspect of our personal and professional lives. They have transformed social practices and changed the way we do business, yet surprisingly little serious academic work has been done on them. This book, with contributions from the foremost researchers in the field, will be the first study of the impact of the mobile phone on contemporary society from a social-scientific perspective. Providing a comprehensive overview of mobile phones and social interaction, it comprises an introduction covering the key issues, a series of unique national studies, and a final section examining specific issues.



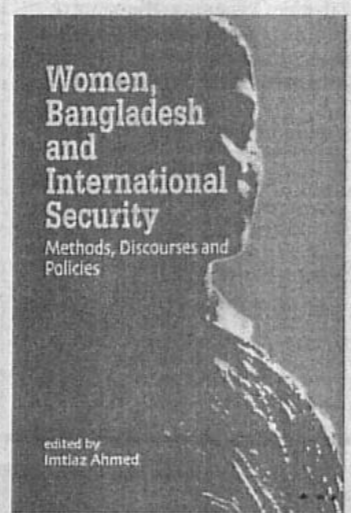
Dynasties of India and Beyond
 Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh
 Inder Malhotra, Price: Tk. 600.00
 Although the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty alone has hogged the world's attention so far—because of its uniquely dazzling dominance and durability—it is not the only one within India, leave alone the neighbouring countries of South Asia and beyond. Indeed, the number of clans striding the political stage in the region is rather large. The Senanayakes and the Bandanayakes were entrenched in Sri Lanka well before Indira Gandhi first became India's prime minister in 1966. The Bhuttos of Pakistan—father Zulfikar more than daughter Benazir—have left their imprint on their country, now once again under military rule with a civilian facade. In Bangladesh politics revolves around the two competing dynasties, one led by Sheikh Hasina, the orphaned daughter of the new nation's founder-president, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and the other by Khaleda Zia, the widow of General Ziaur Rahman, its first military ruler.



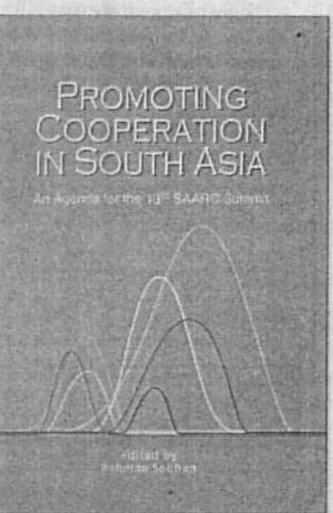
The Twice Born Fiction
 Meenakshi Mukherjee
 Price: Tk. 595.00
 First published in 1971, this study of the Indian Novel in English has remained a seminal book for the last three decades. This was the earliest work to apply rigorous standards of critical analysis to this new field of study and to situate the novels studied in their historical and social context. Written in an elegant and jargon-free language *The Twice Born Fiction* laid the foundations for future discourse in this field and anticipated some of the issues relating to nation, gender, power and identity that postcolonial theory was to take up subsequently. It is being reissued in the belief that the present-day reader would be interested in re-examining the paradigms that this book set up.



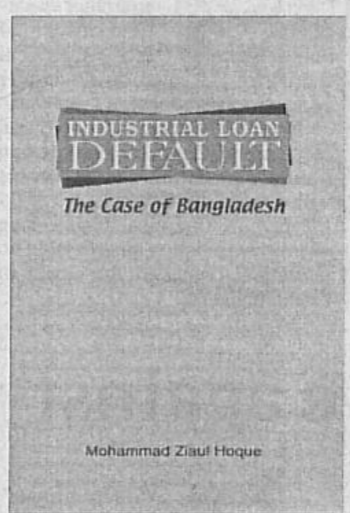
International Relations and Bangladesh
 Hanur ur Rashid
 Price: Tk. 550.00
 The book traces the evolution of major events of international relations during the 19th and 20th centuries and the emergence of independent states in Asia and Africa in post-colonial period and their impact on inter-state relations. The book provides insights into rivalry and power play of big powers in influencing global and regional events including some of the on-going intractable conflicts in many parts of the world. The September 11, 2001 terrorist attack in the US has brought about dramatic changes in international relations and this book contributes to an understanding of a post-September world at the start of the present century.



Women, Bangladesh and International Security
 Methods, Discourses and Policies
 Edited by Imtiaz Ahmed
 Price: Tk. 290.00
 Women, Bangladesh and International Security purports to do two things. Firstly, it is an attempt to relate the life and living of Bangladeshi women with the domain called international security. Seldom is there an understanding that the women of Bangladesh are actively engaged in the organization and reproduction of international security. Secondly, it is a theoretical intervention to the debate as how best to understand the engendered relationship between the national and the international. Often the idea is that women issues are mainly of domestic concern, with women hardly contributing to the domain of the international. This view is strongly challenged by the authors of this volume.



Promoting Cooperation in South Asia
 An Agenda for the 13th SAARC Summit
 Edited by Rehman Sobhan, Price: Tk. 375.00
 This volume is a compendium of the papers presented at the conference convened jointly by Wilton Park and the South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS) which was held at Wilton Park, Sussex, UK, during 11-12 October 2004. The Wilton Park Conference was a follow up of the twelfth SAARC Summit held in Islamabad in January 2004, and originates from a collective endeavour to provide inputs to the thirteenth SAARC Summit scheduled to be held in Dhaka during 9-11 January 2005. Prepared by a distinguished body of experts and eminent persons from South Asia, the papers focus on a number of key aspects of South Asian Cooperation including poverty eradication, trade and commerce, transport, energy, investment, health and also the designing of a social charter for South Asia.

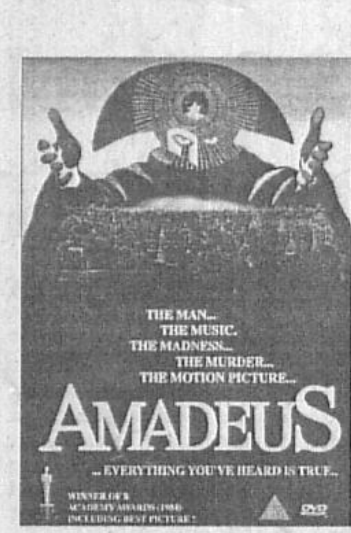


Industrial Loan Default
 The case of Bangladesh
 Mohammad Ziaul Hoque
 Price: Tk. 350.00
 This book is first of its kind which deals with industrial loan default problems in developing countries like Bangladesh. It provides an insight into the causes and consequences of persistent loan defaults and examines devastating effect of these on the liquidity and solvency of the banks and development financial institutions, and on the industrial growth in developing nations. It contains a new and thought-provoking model which is very useful in understanding underlying reasons for industrial loan default and provides directions for undertaking proactive and reaction measures to preempt the chances of loan defaults. This book is a landmark work in the field of bank finance.

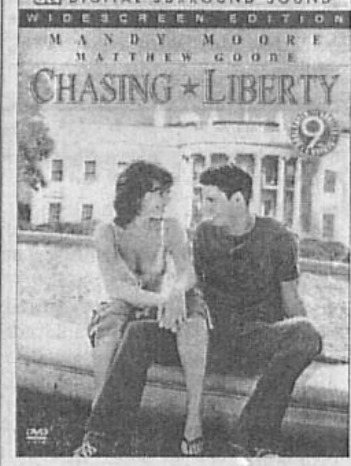
CDs & DVDs



Rashomon
 Directed by Akira Kurosawa
 Cast: Toshiro Mifune, Machiko Kyō, Masayuki Mori, Takashi Shimura, Minoru Chiaki
 Price: Tk. 150.00
 Rashomon is a Japanese crime drama produced with both philosophical and psychological overtones. In ancient Japan, a woman is raped and her husband killed. The incident is reported by four witnesses, each from their own point of view—each revealing a little more detail. Which version, if any, is the real truth about what happened?



Amadeus
 Directed by Milos Forman
 Cast: F. Murray Abraham, Tom Hulce, Elizabeth Berridge
 Price: Tk. 120.00
 Antonio Salieri believes that Mozart's music is divine. He wishes he was himself as good a musician as Mozart so that he can praise the Lord through composing. But he can't understand why God favored Mozart, such a vulgar creature, to be his instrument. Salieri's envy has made him an enemy of God whose greatness was evident in Mozart. He is set to take revenge.



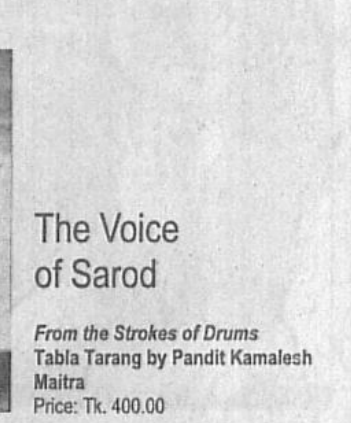
Chasing Liberty
 Directed by Andy Cadiff
 Cast: Mandy Moore, Stark Sands, Jeremy Piven, Annabella Sciorra
 Price: Tk. 120.00
 The President's daughter, unable to experience life like a normal 18-year-old, escapes from her entourage of Secret Service agents while traveling in Europe. She falls in love with a handsome British stranger, who also happens to be working undercover for her father. A modern-day homage to *Roman Holiday*.



Ivan's Childhood
 Directed by Andrei Tarkovsky
 Cast: Nikolai Burlyayev, Valentin Zubkov, Valentina Malyavina
 Price: Tk. 120.00
 Andrei Tarkovsky's prize-winning debut feature is an extraordinarily moving and powerful story of war and revenge. Determined to avenge his family's death at the hands of the Nazis, 12-year old Ivan joins a Russian partisan regiment as a scout, where he becomes indispensable for his ability to slip unnoticed through enemy lines.



The Voice of Sarod
 From the Strokes of Drums
 Tabla Tarang by Pandit Kamallesh Maitra
 Price: Tk. 400.00



The Jugalbandi Series
 Murali - Prasadram
 Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia & Dr. M. Balamurli Krishna
 Price: Tk. 400.00



Tomari Cholar Pothey
 Modern Bangla Songs
 Uttam Dewan
 Source: Laser Vision, 32 Sonargang Road, Paribagh; Ph: 8622425, 9676191, 0188490959

Source: University Press Limited, Ph: 9565441, 9565444, E-mail: upl@bangla.net