

Eid thoughts of stars

Eid is a good time to catch up with popular TV actress and model cum dancer, Bijori Barkatullah, TV actor Shahed Sharif Khan and pop singer Mehreen. The conversation veers from the culinary delights of Eid (according to Bijori) to the joys of Eid by Mehreen and Shahed's journey down memory lane. Here is what they have to say about this festive occasion:

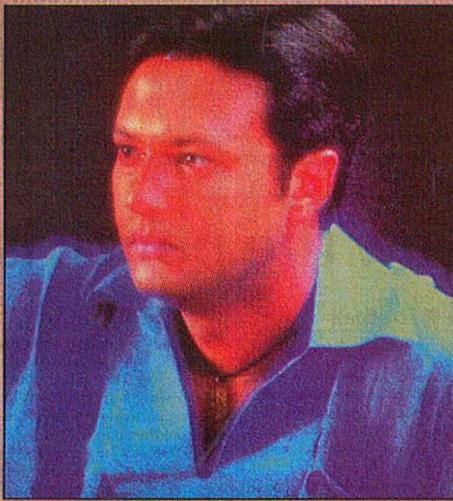
Shahed's Eid plans

Shahed a popular TV actor, shares some information about his Eid preparations and thoughts on this festival. Excerpts:

I am still busy shopping for my family and friends. I am basically ticking off names in my list starting from my parents, sister to other relatives. As for myself, I get to buy so many new clothes and outfits for my shooting throughout the year that buying attire especially for Eid does not interest me.

I'll be going to the Gorur haat on January 20. Usually, I accompany my father every year to purchase a cow or a ram. This year, he is a little unwell. That's why I'll be going instead with a few friends.

We do follow the tradition and buy a cow or a goat as per the ritual. However, I find the notion of buying and sacrificing too many cattle a complete waste of time and money. We do sacrifice two or three in one year, though, when we can afford to and distribute it to friends and family.



I plan to go to our village this year. My wife Natasha is abroad now, so I do have some time. We have even bought a boat, on which the whole family plans to go to the village in Brahmanbaria.

There is a major difference between Eid when I was younger and Eid now. As a young boy, I would finally get a chance to actually gallivant outside with my friends for days together, going from house to house asking for eid (money). Now, however, roles have changed, and I have to shoulder a lot of family responsibilities. At night, I grab the chance to call all my friends and say hello and Eid Mubarak.

For the occasion of Eid, I have worked in a few TV plays, which will be telecast on different channels. Most of the shows are definitely comic, to have the viewers enjoy their holidays and spend some nice time with family members and friends.

Eid memories of Bijori Barkatullah

Bijori Barkatullah a popular face on the small screen, will act in different special TV plays on this Eid-ul-Azha, directed and written by popular names such as Giasuddin Selim, Faria Hossain and Shanta Islam on BTv, ATN Bangla and ntv.

It is customary for the menfolk to go to the cattle market to buy cows, so the question of my going to buy cows is out of the question. However, I recall a horrifying experience involving the ritual of sacrificing animals. When I was hardly five, I once went to the house next door, wearing new clothes and jewel-

ery on Eid day. Suddenly, I saw a cow dashing desperately towards me. I was extremely horrified by the sight and there was nobody to comfort me. I came home trembling and was down with fever for the next few days.

On Eid days, like everybody else, I love to cook delectable dishes for my family. For instance, I love to make cold beef, which is my husband's favourite. Besides, I make kebabs and other delicious meat preparations. My husband (composer) loves to eat mouthwatering meals but he never goes to the kitchen.



'Eid is a time for family' -Mehreen

Mehreen, a talented popular singer, will appear in many special television programmes this Eid on three different channels. These include musical shows and fashion programmes. And the film Wrong Number, in which she has performed a playback song for the first time, will be released this Eid.

To quote her: "I don't really like to cook because my mother-in-law and my mother see to that. I like to jazz about, eat the whole day and also love to watch others cook. I will be looking for the special menus at

my relative's places this Eid. One of my aunts cooks Khichuri and a delicious preparation of beef, which I try not to miss. It is not only the festivities, it is an occasion which also teaches us to share with the underprivileged.

I have celebrated Eid abroad on several occasions. However, I prefer observing these special occasions at home. The excitement of Eid in Bangladesh, is almost missing abroad. Also, I miss the intimate environment of home and family get-togethers."



Eid Special

A bonanza for TV viewers on four channels

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Eid-ul-Azha is knocking at the door. And the city crowd is gearing up for this festive occasion with preparations for the age-old ritual of sacrificing cows and goats. The question is what will the city dwellers do the rest of the day? The small screen provides an answer. The four TV channels of the country—BTv, Channel i, ntv and ATN Bangla—have plans to entertain the viewers with a feast of entertaining programmes. A good number of telefilms will be shown on different channels.

decide to form a private detective firm. And one day they get their long awaited client, who offers them a generous sum of money to salvage two priceless artefacts, which are lost. And thus the adventure begins. Do the brothers solve the case or do they only complicate the situation? For this, viewers, you have to wait till the telefilm is on air. Shuborna Mustafa, Humayun Farid, Amol Bose, Rupok, Zahid Hasan and others portray different characters of the film.



A scene from telefilm Bandhua



Zahid Hasan and Amal Bose in Private Detective

Written by Pantha Shahriar and directed by Zahid Hasan, telefilm Private Detective will be telecast on ntv. Alok, the protagonist of the film, returns to the country after two decades. The reason is to find his roots and find out why his cruel mother abandoned him soon after his birth. He was first brought up at an orphanage and then a Christian monk took care

of him. While searching for his identity, Alok gets news of his mother. This marks a twist in the story. Does Alok hate his mother? Or will an untold story finally be uncovered? Zahid Hasan, Litu Anam, Kusum Shikder, Pricilla Parvin, Rubel Hasan and others act in the film.

On the third day of Eid, Channel i presents a star-studded telefilm, Bandhua. Shahed, Deepa Khondokar, Dilara Zaman, Jhuna Chowdhury, Ratri, Masum Aziz, Shilpi Sarkar Apu and others act in this film. The film captures both the rural and urban milieu. The playwright of the film is popular writer Imdadul Haq Milon while



Romana and Pricilla Parvin in telefilm Megh Baloker Galpo



Joya Ahsan and Ratan Khan in Bhalobashtey Bhashtey Fotur Korey Dibo

Nader Chowdhury is director. Upcoming stage and TV actor Nabik Chowdhury plays the role of a physically challenged village boy named Lebu. ATN Bangla brings viewers a telefilm directed by Zahid Hasan for this Eid. With an unusual and witty title Bhalobashtey Bhashtey Fotur Korey Dibo, the film depicts the love affair of Pulak and Priyata. Written by Kazi Shahidul Islam, in this telefilm Joya Ahsan, Mir Sabbir, Dolly Zahur, Zahid Hasan and others portray different characters. Priyata, a prodigious and stubborn girl who rarely fears to express herself, falls in love with Pulak. But Pulak fails to reciprocate her affec-

tion as is aware that a class-conscious society will never accept their relationship. As a result he acts strangely—to such an extent that Priyata thinks he has lost his mind. In fact, Pulak acted in this way just to help Priyata. However, Priyata misunderstands him. Can Priyata understand Pulak's sacrifice?

New Flicks

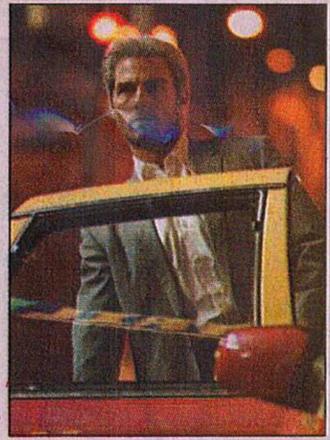
New filmfare at Star Cineplex

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Hollywood movie buffs can enjoy this Eid with 2004 blockbuster Collateral. The film premieres on the Eid Day (January 22) at the capital's Star Cineplex, the country's first international standard multiplex cinema theatre.

Wired for action, Collateral is directed by Michael Mann; written by Stuart Beattie while Tom Cruise, Jamie Foxx, Jada Pinkett Smith, Mark Ruffalo, Peter Berg and Bruce McGill portray different characters in this 115-minute film.

To announce the screening of the film, a media launch was held on January 19 at the theatre. While talking about the Star Cineplex's fourth Hollywood movie venture, Rabeth Khan, executive director of Showmotion Limited said, "This Eid will be memorable for movie lovers as Collateral will hit the town on the Eid Day. Initially, on January 22 there will be three shows of the movie at 3:30pm, 6:00pm and 8:30pm. Later from January 23 there will be four shows daily on 12:15pm, 2:45pm, 5:15pm and 7:45pm." The ticket rate is also reasonable. To quote Rabeth, "The price of the regular ticket is Taka 150 while the premiere one costs Taka 200."



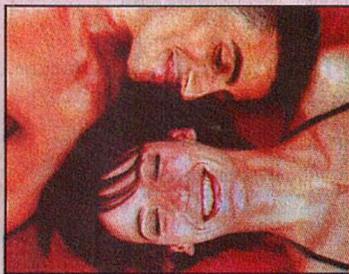
"Apart from Collateral, the Bangla movie Shasti, based on Rabindranath Tagore's novel, will be shown at the theatre from Eid day and there will be three shows of this film everyday. But on Eid day there will be only two shows of it," Rabeth added. Besides, Welcome to the Jungle, 50 First Dates and XXX are also showing at different theatres of Star Cineplex.

Set in Los Angeles mostly after dark, the story of Collateral centres on a taxi driver, Max (Jamie Foxx), and the assassin Vincent (Tom Cruise), who hops a ride with him deep into the night. As the pair cover the city, looping over interchanges and down wide open boulevards, they travel a landscape alive with wild animals and wilder men, noisy with unfamiliar music and chatter, and punctuated by the hard pop of occasional gunfire.

Suddenly, a body lands splat on the roof of the taxi, shattering the cabby's nerves and a large section of his front window, and Stuart Beattie's screenplay kicks into overdrive. Max discovers with his horror that Vincent is a killer for hire and this is only the first stop on what looks to be a very strange trip.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Story of Evolution On Discovery Channel at 9:30pm Documentary Programme Human Instincts: Deepest Desire



Shampurno Rangin On channel i at 9:35pm Drama Serial Cast: Caesar, Sumaia Shimu, Shahed, Farah Ruma

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

News Bulletin

BTv News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 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) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am. Telecast of BTv news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm. Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm. Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 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

BTv 07:30 Shubhechha Nin 08:00 Satellite Programme 12:15 Saongbad Potrer Pata Thekey 12:30 Shashiya Tolhya 01:05 Live Telecast Of The First One Day International Between Bangladesh And Zimbabwe 09:30 Selected Programme 10:30 Anader Ain 11:00 Shapshor 12:05 Satellite Programme

CHANNEL-i 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:45 Trilijo Matra 11:00 Agora Shopping Guide

ATN BANGLA 11:30 TVC Sky Shop 12:00 Chitli Polam 12:30 Aaj Dupurya and CityCall Taroka Kathon Ebong Cineamar Gaan 01:00 Public Reaction 02:15 Trilijo Matra Apni 02:40 Rutinor Bairey 03:45 Banglar Gaan Shonar Gaan 04:15 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan

ntv 05:30 RC Tone And Tunes 06:00 Music Plus 06:30 Aamar Chhobi 07:50 Drama Serial: Kebofi Raat Hoye Jai 08:25 Beast Master 09:35 Drama Serial: Shampurno Rangin 10:00 Drama Serial: Arai Tola Bari

BTV 08:30 Sprosher Bairey 09:20 Nari Ghary Bairey 10:05 Priomukh 11:30 Dhakar Cinema 02:35 Drama Serial: Sprosher Bairey Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan 03:15 Drama Serial: Shaola 04:25 Gambhira 05:20 Mahilagan 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Special Programme on AIDS 08:20 Drama Serial: Urey Jay Bak Pakkhi 08:50 Drama: Projon Proyon Dindaran 11:25 ANNYODRISHI Magazine Show: Ek Dul Tin 11:35 Islamic Programme 12:10 Shornali Shadskalo 12:50 Na Na Musical Programme Shundar Jiboner Jonjo 05:10 Cinema Cinema 06:20 Film Show: Mortal Combat Conquest 08:00 Drama Serial: Tana Potan 08:30 Drama Serial: Mati 09:00 Drama Serial: Rater Kanna Bhrorer Shishir 09:30 Drama Serial: Mohona 10:35 Musical Programme

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4:30 Wild Family Secrets 5:30 Game For It 6:00 Planet Wild 6:30 Dogs With Jobs S3 7:00 Storm Stories 7:30 Guardians Of Eden 8:30 Fall Plague 9:30 Frontlines Of Construction 10:30 Riddle Of The Dead DISCOVERY 11:00 Legends of the Isles St Patrick 11:30 New Detectives Betrayed 12:30 Wild Discovery Ice Island 1:30 Ultimate Cars People's Champion Building The Ultimate I & II Spacecraft 2:00 Why Intelligence Fails Surprise Attack GDe Gaulle & Yvonne Vendroux 4:00 Legends of the Isles Robin Hood 4:30 The Case Studies In Forensic Science Elements of Murder I Love My Music, My Animal and My House 6:00 Fat Free 6:30 Extreme Machines Hovercrafts 7:30 World's Strangest Animal 8:30 Wildest Wildest Australia 9:30 Story of Evolution Human Instinct Fields of Armor Hammer Into Anvil World's Best Kept Secrets Of... Law Enforcement ANIMAL PLANET 11:30 Wildlife Specials

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Leopard Agent of Drakness 12:30 Breed All About It Old English Sheep Dogs K-9 to 5 Stabbed K-9 1:00 Emergency Vets 1:30 Antonio Spurs (T) 2:00 Pet Nation Emergency Vets Peycke's Peak 2:30 Growing up Wild... Marsupial Moms The Protectors Cell Dogs James River 4:30 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries, Pink Gloves 6:00 Monkey Business 6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals 7:00 Wild on the Set Tattle Tails 7:30 In The Wild Horsemen of Mongolia 8:30 Growing up Wild... Orangutan 10:30 The Blue Planet, The Frozen Seas 11:30 Wild Encounters George And The Rhino STAR SPORTS 6:00 Australian Open Men's/Women's Second Round 2:30 Australian Open Men's/Women's Second Round 6:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Highlights(R) 6:30 Australian Open Day #4 Highlight 7:30 Sportsline (L) 8:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Maratha Warriors Vc Hyderabad Sultans (L) 10:00 Sportsline (R) 11:00 Australian Open Day #4 Highlight

ESPN 8:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Highlights(T) 8:30 Nba Basketball Dallas Mavericks Vs San Antonio Spurs (T) 11:00 English Premier Football League Charlton Athletic Vs Birmingham City (T) 1:00 Zimbabwe Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Odi 1st Session(L) 4:30 Goals! (R) 5:00 Zimbabwe Tour Of Bangladesh 1st Odi 2nd Session(L) 6:30 Sportscenter India (L) 9:00 Randa Ki Khoo Studio Round #3(T) 10:00 Football Crazy (L) 11:00 Motorsport Asia (R) 11:30 Sportscenter India (R) TEN SPORTS 10:00 Golf Highlights Volvo Masters Andalucia 10:30 Indian Golf Show 11:00 Gillette World Sport 11:30 ICC Cricket World Portuge League H/Ls 1:30 Transworld Sports 2:30 V8 Motorsport Championship 04 Legends : Tiger Woods 4:00 Sportswatch 4:30 ICC Cricket World 5:30 Transworld Sports 6:30 WWE: The Bottom Line 9:30 European PGA Golf 05: South African Always Open 10:00 Indian Golf Show 11:00 Transworld Sports 12:00 WWE: The Bottom Line