

CULTURAL FEAST

Group Exhibition

**Title:** Contemporary 4  
**Artists:** Iftikhar Uddin Ahmed, Kanak Chanpa Chakma, Khalid Mahmood Mithu, Md Muslim Mia, Atsuko Minami, Mao Nakada, Shuzou Kumagai and Tsukiko Baba  
**Venue:** Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts  
**Date:** December 19-25

Paintings and Sculpture Exhibition by Young Artists

**Organiser:** Dots, Contemporary Art Centre  
**Venue:** 191/A Haque Tower (2nd floor), Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road, Gulshan  
**Date:** December 20-30  
**Time:** 11:00am to 8:00pm

Asian Film Mela

**Organiser:** Dhaka Film Society  
**December 25**  
2:30pm House of Flying Daggers  
4:30pm Turn Left Turn Right  
6:30pm Omkara  
**December 26**  
2:30pm Fireworks  
4:30pm West Beyrouth  
6:30pm Waiting for the Clouds  
**Venue:** Alamgir Kabir Chalachchitra Kendra Milonayaton, 62 Science Laboratory Road, Dhaka

Solo Classical Vocal Recital

**Artist:** Pandit Sarathi Chatterjee  
**Organiser:** High Commission of India in Association with Indian Council for Cultural Relation  
**Venue:** Osmani Memorial Hall  
**Date:** December 24 at 6:30 pm

Theatre

500th staging of 'Kanjus'  
**Troupe:** Loko Natyadal  
**Venue:** National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
**Date:** December 29

Dhaka Art Circle 2006

**Artists:** Abu Taher, Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Mohammed Mohsin, Syed Enayet Hossain, Anwarul Huq, Rejaul Karim, Biren Shome, Matlub Ali, Swapan Chowdhury, Abdus Shakoor, Chandra Shekhar Dey and Rafi Haque  
**Venue:** Shilpangan, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi  
**Date:** December 18-31  
**Time:** 9:00am-12:00pm and 5:00pm-8:00pm, except Saturdays (only 5:00pm-8:00pm)



'Tis the season to be jolly

The Christmas spirit is on



Christmas decorations on display

FAYZA HAQ

CHRISTMAS is not just a festival for countries with an overwhelming Christian population. Bangladesh too has its celebrations with goodies, gifts, Christmas trees, carolling, exchange of greeting cards and the

rest of the year-end paraphernalia.

Other highlights are midnight singing at churches, making of *pithas* (winter cakes) in rural areas, homes, hotels and other public places.

There is also the making of roast beef and chicken, with fried

potatoes, along with other sizzling veggies. Sweets and desserts in the form of *pithas* of various contents, shapes and sizes have already kept the homemakers, their children and friends busy. The aroma of delectable, piping food, like cakes, pies and other treats have made the home and hearth merry for weeks together. *Biryani* and *murg-pilau* are also musts for the table.

As for the sending of bright and cheery greeting cards with accompanying gifts, shops like Aarong, Hallmark and Archies, along with Binoj and other outlets have seen young and old, flocking with glee and enthusiasm. Shops in Tikatully, New Market, Nilkhet, Mohammadpur and all along Mirpur Road, as well as the far-flung area of Dhaka -- Gulshan and Uttara -- have allured buyers.

Silk and chiffon saris, trendy, embroidered *salwar-kameez* and *punjabi* sets, jeans and tops, shoes, costume jewelley -- and sometimes silver, gold and actual gems -- have gone into the Chrisymas parcels. Curious for the homes have been bought with enthusiasm and ardour. Sending gifts like cakes, biscuits, chocolates, potted plants require only the "courier service" or the helping hands of friends or relatives going the way of dear ones. These follow the tradition of the "gifts of the Magis".

I know of two old friends and their children, spending Christmas Eve sipping tea, listening to carols. They can only buy a few choice post cards on the occasion, and photograph Santa Claus with the children. They look forward to this day every year.



TV Watch

Christmas special

'Muktidata' on Rtv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of Christmas, a special programme, *Muktidata* will be aired tonight at 10.50 pm on RTV. On a chilly winter's night, Christ was born in Bethlehem. The

day is celebrated around the world. Christ came to earth as the saviour of mankind. The anchor for the programme is Priya Dias and Shibly Mohammad. The programme will show different aspects of Christmas celebrations.



Joyous participants in the programme

'Shahinur': A new episode of 'Ontoraler Kotha'



A scene from the serial

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The forthcoming episode of the serial *Ontoraler Kotha* is titled *Shahinur*. *Ontoraler Kotha* is a TV programme which endeavours to generate public awareness on gender violence and possible preventive measures.

The story line of the case study: The well loved Shahinur, a girl from an affluent family lives in the village Jaleshwar, Savar. Her mother is always busy with the

household work along with her only son and daughter. There are rows of mud huts and brick houses both at the back and front of their house. The family depends on the income from the house rent. Rokhsana and her husband Nazim rent a room under false pretences.

What happens next is for the viewer to discover.

Directed by Salahuddin Sanwar the serial will be aired on channel i this evening at 6:20pm.

Rokeya Prachy awarded at Kara Int'l Film Festival

*Ontorjatra*, the film by Tareque Masud and Catherine Masud, has brought in another international honour for Bangladesh at the Pakistan Kara International Film Festival held from December 7 to 17 in Karachi. Rokeya Prachy received the Best Supporting Actress award for her role in the film, according to a press release. The award citation states that Prachy was awarded "for her quietly affecting performance as a grieving widow coming to terms with her husband's past."

Co-director Catherine Masud was present in Karachi for the screening of the film. Last July, *Ontorjatra* was also honoured with a Special Jury Mention Award at Cinefan's International Festival of Asian Cinema in Delhi.

*Ontorjatra* was aired nationwide in the UK on Channel 4 on December 21. The film participated at the Dubai International Film Festival too, held recently. On November 25th, the film was shown at the closing ceremony of the Bengal Film Session at the British Museum in London. The film session, which opened with Satyajit Ray's *Devi*, featured classic Bengali films by Ray, Ritwik Kumar Ghatak and Mrinal Sen among others. Tareque and Catherine Masud were specially invited by the Museum to present their films.

*Ontorjatra* is presented in Bangladesh by Maasranga Productions Ltd and is made with support from the British Council. Sara Zaker, Rifaqat Rasheed, Abdul Momen Chowdhury, Rokeya Prachy, Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Harold Rasheed have played the major roles in the film.



Rokeya Prachy

Honorary knighthood for U2's Bono



U2 frontman Bono is being awarded an honorary knighthood by the Queen, the British Embassy in Dublin has said.

The singer, whose real name is Paul Hewson, has been given the honour for "his services to the music industry and for his humanitarian work", it said.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair congratulated him, telling the singer in a letter: "You have tirelessly used your voice to speak up for Africa."

The 46-year-old will receive the honour in Dublin early in the new year.

British ambassador David Reddaway will conduct the ceremony.

A statement on the U2's website said the singer, who has lobbied Western leaders to increase aid to developing countries and cancel Third World debt, was "very flattered" to receive the award.

It added that he hoped it opened doors for his campaigning work against extreme poverty in Africa.

Because he is not a British national, he will not be able to use the title "Sir". The honour is the same as that conferred upon fellow Dubliner Bob Geldof in 1986.

Other recipients of honorary knighthoods include Microsoft founder Bill Gates, singer Placido Domingo and film director Steven Spielberg.

Source: Internet

4X3

TV GUIDE

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. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

**CHANNEL-i**  
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.

**ATN BANGLA**  
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.  
News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm  
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 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.

**CHANNEL 1**  
News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am

**BANGLAVISION**  
News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 2:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.  
News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00pm  
News Headlines (English) at 9:05pm

**RTV**  
News (Bangla) at 7:00am, 3:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm.  
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:30am

BTV

08:10 Desher Gaan  
08:30 Open University  
09:05 Shomapti  
11:15 Musical Programme  
12:30 Maa O Shishur Kotha  
01:30 Mati O Manush  
02:15 Sisimpur  
02:40 Children's Drama  
03:05 Cartoon  
03:30 Football Shekha  
04:00 Cookery Show  
04:30 Agrodut  
05:05 Debate  
06:10 Amader Mukti Judho  
06:40 Dolonchapa  
07:00 Shafolyo Gatha  
07:30 Musical Programme  
08:35 Protidin Bangladesh  
08:40 Chhaya Chhondo  
10:30 Special Programme of Christmas

ATN BANGLA

09:20 Drama Serial: The New Sabuj Opera  
10:30 Talk Show: Anyodishili  
11:15 Prosongo Nibachon 2007  
12:10 Special Programme of Christmas: Shanta Who

02:30 Nirob Kosto  
03:10 O Amar Chokhu Nai  
03:45 Chotoder Prithibi  
04:20 Prosongo Nibachon 2007  
05:10 Special Programme of Christmas: Khristo Utshob  
05:45 Business Week  
06:20 Aktel Protidin  
08:00 Drama Serial: Kath Koylar Chhobi  
08:45 Meet the Press  
10:45 Shal 2006

Channel i

08:30 Shokaler Gaan

09:30

Shangbadpote Bangladesh  
Public Reaction  
Tritomatra  
Citycell Taroka Kathan  
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan  
01:30 Shangbadpote Bangladesh  
01:45 Public Reaction  
04:05 Amader Gaan  
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma  
05:30 Banijyo O Orthonti  
06:00 Stargate SG One  
06:20 Ontorarel Kotha  
07:50 BBC Bangladesh  
Shanglap  
09:35 Drama Serial: Shemana  
10:00 Shadha Ranger  
Swapno  
12:00 GrameenPhone Aikar  
Shanbat Potro

ntv

08:35 Aajker Shokal  
09:05 Ramizer Aaina  
09:30 Medhabi Bangalir Golpo  
10:05 Zoo Adventure  
10:30 Dhakar Cinema  
01:05 Muktagang  
02:35 Closeup 1 Tomakei  
03:15 Somoshomoy  
03:50 Ramizer Aaina  
04:25 Bhinnno Swader  
Khorob  
05:10 Din Dorpon/Itihasheer  
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha  
06:20 Shubho Shondha  
06:45 Crime Watch  
08:15 Drama Serial: Labanya Proba  
09:00 Music Express  
09:50 Muktir Ahoban  
11:25 Din Dorpon

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat



BBC Bangladesh Shanglap

On Channel-i at 7:50pm  
Open Discussion programme on contemporary issues

09:30 Bangladesh  
10:00 Chokh Mele Dekhi  
10:00 Cartoon  
10:30 Bangla Feature Film  
02:00 Padmorag  
03:30 Drama Serial: Shurney Boshobash  
05:15 Cine Tune  
06:00 Saaj Bela  
06:30 Top News  
06:45 Itihasheer Path Dhorey  
07:00 Shuktara  
08:15 Drama Serial: Daar Kaak  
09:00 Gaaner Khata  
09:30 Bioscope  
11:00 Olpo Sholpo Golpo

Rtv

09:05 Aj Potrikai  
09:10 Talk Show: Prio Mukh

PICK OF THE DAY



Crime Watch

On ntv at 6:45pm  
Investigative programme  
Host: Shrapon Roy

10:45 Drama Serial: Sukher Kanta  
11:30 Article Thirty-Nine  
02:30 Drama Serial: Magno Chaitoney  
03:00 Shish  
03:50 Apnar Agami  
04:20 Drama Serial: Uro Chithi  
04:20 Cinebit  
05:00 Drama Serial: Hashuli Bagumer Upokotha  
05:30 Diner Sheshey  
06:30 Music Mantra Music  
08:10 Chart Busters Movie  
09:15 Based  
Shourabh

SONY

09:30 Chartbusters Music  
10:00 Music Mantra Music  
10:30 Music Beats Music

10:00 Drama  
10:30 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama  
11:00 Bigg Boss Reality Based  
11:00 Vaidehi Drama  
11:30 Music Beats Music  
12:00 Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Contd.

STAR PLUS

09:05 V Trailers - Star Plus  
09:30 Kunkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
10:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
10:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
11:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii  
11:55 V First Day First Show- Starlu  
12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
12:25 Bolly V - Star Plus  
12:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa  
01:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay  
01:30 Kunkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
02:00 Bhabhi  
02:30 Kesar  
03:00 Saarthi  
03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi  
04:00 Kahiin To Hoga  
04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa  
05:00 Aek Chabhi Hai Padoss Mein  
05:55 V First Day First Show- Starlu  
06:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus  
06:30 Aladdin  
07:00 The Emperor's New Groove  
07:25 Bolly V - Star Plus  
07:30 Prithviraj Chauhan  
07:55 Bolly V - Star Plus  
08:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby  
08:30 Antarkish  
09:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay  
09:30 Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Drama  
10:00 Kuliavaddhu Drama  
10:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

Bahu Thi  
Kahiin To Hoga  
Paraya Dhan

HBO

10:30 Kicking and Screaming (2005)  
12:30 The Big Preview: Dejavu  
01:00 Christmas With the Kranks  
03:00 Nowhere to Run  
05:00 Mystery Men  
07:30 Elf  
09:30 Stealth  
12:00 13 Going on 30  
02:00 Christmas With the Kranks  
03:00 Deck The Halls  
09:30 Flubber  
11:05 The World Is Not Enough  
01:15 Jumanji  
03:00 Home Alone 2: Lost In New York  
05:10 Just Friends  
07:00 National Treasure  
09:15 Noel  
10:55 The Village

STAR MOVIES

08:00 Everybody Loves Raymond  
11:00 Just Shoot Me  
12:00 Growing Up Gotti  
11:00 Still Standing  
11:30 The Simpsons  
12:00 Malcolm In The Middle  
12:30 Religion  
02:00 Friends  
02:30 Friends Sr 8  
03:00 Friends  
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful  
04:30 General Hospital  
05:30 The Office  
06:00 Friends  
06:30 The Simpsons  
07:00 Cheers  
07:30 Friends

STAR WORLD

09:00 Scrubs  
09:30 Everybody Loves Raymond  
10:00 Just Shoot Me  
10:30 Growing Up Gotti  
11:00 Still Standing  
11:30 The Simpsons  
12:00 Malcolm In The Middle  
12:30 Religion  
02:00 Friends  
02:30 Friends Sr 8  
03:00 Friends  
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful  
04:30 General Hospital  
05:30 The Office  
06:00 Friends  
06:30 The Simpsons  
07:00 Cheers  
07:30 Friends

08:00 Seinfeld  
08:30 My Wife And Kids  
09:00 Everybody Loves Raymond  
09:30 The King Of Queen  
10:00 Becker  
10:30 The Office  
11:00 Friends  
11:30 Desire: Table For Three

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

08:30 Death Down Under  
09:30 Inside  
10:30 The Living Edens  
11:30 Rolling Stones In Rio  
12:30 Speed Week  
01:30 Super Subs  
02:30 Nat Geo Encores  
03:00 Hayden Turner's Wildlife  
03:30 Inside  
04:30 Nat Geo Junior  
05:00 Game For It  
05:30 Big Bang - S 7  
06:00 Nat Geo Junior  
06:30 Inside  
07:30 Triumph Of Life  
08:30 Nat Geo Encores  
09:30 Seconds From Disaster  
10:30 In The Wombs: Animals

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

08:30 Best of Wild Discovery  
09:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows  
11:30 Man And Machine  
12:30 Baby It's You  
01:00 Yummy Mummy  
01:30 Wild Discovery  
02:30 Detective Stories  
03:30 Mystery Hunters  
04:00 Great Moghuls  
04:30 Best of Wild Discovery  
05:30 Life In The Undergrowth  
06:30 Extreme Machines  
07:30 Best Of Wild Discovery  
08:30 Discovery Marquee  
10:30 Junkyard War