

## CULTURAL FEAST

## Nobobarsho Boron



Organiser: Chayanat  
Venue: Ramna Botomool, Ramna Park  
Date and Time: April 14, starts at 6:00am

Organiser: Wrishil Shilpi Gosthi  
Venue: Shishu Park premises  
Date and Time: April 14, starts at 7:00am

## Film Screening

Film: Turup  
Organiser: Alliance Francaise de Dacca  
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dacca, auditorium  
Date: April 12  
Time: 6:30pm

## Theatre Festival

Organiser: Oboyob Natya Dal

Play: Shey Ek Rajyo  
Troupe: Aboyob Natya Dal  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy  
Date: April 11  
Time: 7:00pm

Play: A man for all seasons  
Troupe: Prachyanat  
Venue: Mahila Shomiti Milonayat, Bailyroad  
Date: April 10  
Time: 7:00pm

Rangeen Utshob:  
25 Years of Natural  
Dyes in  
Bangladesh

Organiser: The National Crafts Council of Bangladesh  
Date: April 5-May 5  
Venue: Aranya, 60 Kamal Ataturk Avenue Banani

Photography  
Exhibition  
Title: Aesthetic Beauty of Trees  
Photographer: Ismat Jahan  
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, House 16  
Road 36, Gulshan Avenue  
Date: April 5-18  
Time: 11:00am-8pm

## Recitation is a calling

In conversation with Dr Bhaswar Banerjee

## KAVITA CHARANJI

DR Bhaswar Banerjee has all the makings of an excellent reciter – a good voice and a perfect grip of pronunciation and modulation. One of his favourite poems is Jibonanda Das's haunting *Aat babor aager ek din*.

"Recitation is my passion," says Banerjee, who is deputy director (TV-programme training) at the National Institute of Mass Communication, Dhaka, pointing out that this art form has attracted him since childhood.

Explaining his interest in recitation, he asserts that he is drawn by the "technique of presenting poems, emotional colour, feeling of the words and vocal tone."

Although he has been active on other fronts such as acting, direction, research, radio and TV, workshops and teaching, he is primarily known as a reciter. To his credit he has cut 10 CDs along with other reciters.

Among the senior reciters, he counts Asaduzzaman Noor, Pijush Bandyopadhyay, Jayanta Chatterjee, Pranga Laboni and the late Gulam Mustafa. Talking about the younger crop of reciters, he cites Shimul Mustafa and Mahidul Islam.

Recitation and theatre go hand in hand, maintains Banerjee. He cites the case of great theatre personalities like Shambhu Mitra (from Kolkata) and late Kazi Sabayasachi, son of the National Poet Kazi



Dr Bhaswar Banerjee

Nazrul Islam who were reciters par excellence.

Tracing the origins of recitation in Bangladesh, Banerjee says that the trend began after the Liberation War but was dominated largely by a

few actors such as late Gulam Mustafa, late Khan Majlish and Khan Ataur Rahman.

Recitation, points out Banerjee, needs rigorous practice. In the process of training, a poem should

be read 10 times so that the reciter imbibes the "inner meaning of the poem and words." A key element is the understanding of the rhythm of the poem. "Bengali poetry is distinctive because of its unique rhythm," he says.

Currently Banerjee is busy conducting workshops and holding recitation productions for his 23-year-old recitation group Katha Abriti Charchar Kendra. Another project is the translation of Mohan Rakesh's play *Aashad Ka Ek Din* from Hindi to Bangla. He is also keen to direct this play and may conduct rehearsals from June.

Last year's milestone for Banerjee was the direction of a play titled *Aleek Babu* for Natyajan group. The production traveled to many parts of India: Kolkata, Delhi, Lucknow and Chandanagar at the invitation of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). The play received a warm response from the audience.

Banerjee's home at Green Road hums with activities as his and his wife Sharmila Bandopadhyay's (Manipuri and Odissi exponent) students pour in. Culture seems to run in the family and their daughter Sudesha Swamyaprabha combines her studies with Bharatnatyam and Manipuri dance.

Banerjee has a message for the current crop of reciters: "If they want to achieve any kind of recognition from the audience, they have to exercise their voice and work hard."



## ERSHAD KAMOL

Many plays highlight the struggle of the oppressed. Harun-ur-Rashid's play *Jalodash* is one of the few remarkable tragedies in Bangla that analyse and portray the mode of oppression and the plight of the proletarian class.

Featuring the miseries of the 'fisherman' community, *Jalodash* brings to light the various ways hoarders manipulate and exploit these people. Rashid also touches the issue of exploitation of the poor by several NGOs in the name of 'community development'.

Fundamentalism and complexity of village politics appear as an undercurrent in *Jalodash*. Many among these unfortunate ones leave their ancestral profession, many lean towards crime, many are forced to move and many die.

Nader Chowdhury's directorial compositions deserve plaudits. He has successfully created scenes such as the hustle bustle by a riverbank where the fishermen sell their catch to the wholesalers. Rituals in daily rural life have been used as elements to create an apt ambience. However, scenes such as the fishermen's recreational activities need to be improved.

Kamaluddin Kabir has designed the set using net and woods. However, the use of the net at the left corner of the stage appeared

Oboyob Theatre Festival '07  
'Jalodash': A saga of  
oppression

PHOTO: STAR

Actors of Dhaka Padatik stage *Jalodash*

as a snag to actors during 'fishing' scene. Light design is the weakest point of the play.

Mahbubur Rahman Tony in the role of elderly Haripado performed remarkably well, especially in the soliloquies where he expresses his frustration. Sheikh Shan-e Moula as an NGO worker and Rafiq Al Razi as Badshah per-

formed well. Sabrina Akbar Liza needs to develop her dancing and singing skills. Rest of the actors seemed quite monotonous in the play.

Dhaka Padatik staged *Jalodash* at the Experimental Theatre Stage on April 9, as part of the ongoing theatre festival arranged by Oboyob Natya Dal.

Jackie Chan launches Chinese  
TV reality show

Jackie Chan on Saturday launched a Chinese TV competition aimed at scouting out new action movie talent, saying more than 100,000 people have already signed up for a shot at kung fu stardom.

"A lot of actors are good at fighting but (their style) is not beautiful," the Chinese star and stunt man, who turned 53 Saturday, said in Beijing.

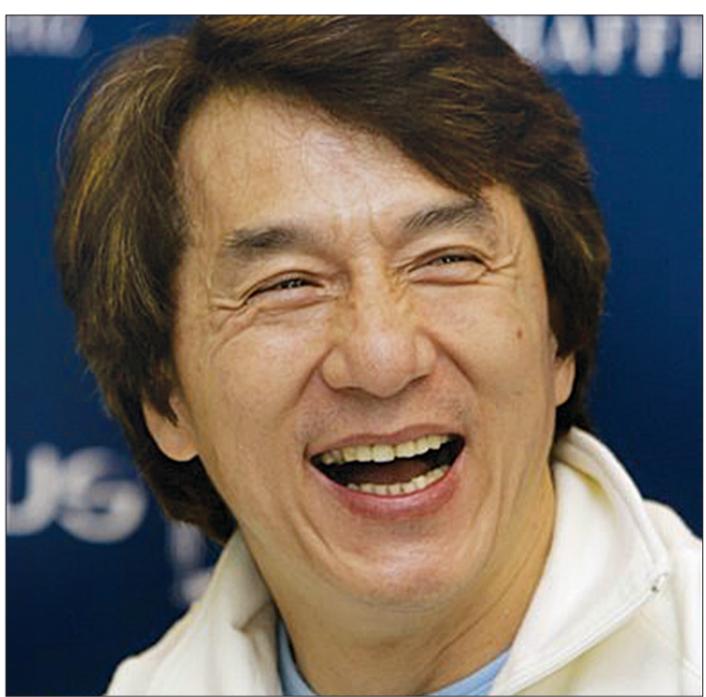
"If you can incorporate dance with an ability to perform kung fu, that would be better," Chan told an

audience that included a selected 20 of the show's contestants and some Chinese celebrities.

The TV show, whose English title is *The Disciple*, is jointly produced by Chan and Beijing TV Station, known as BTV.

The show will run from March to October, with 10 winners appearing in a movie to be produced by Chan, organisers said. The movie will be released before the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Chan said.

Source: Internet



## Chhayanat's Barshobaran to be aired live on Channel i



FILE PHOTO

## TV play 'Jokhon Shob Alo Nibhey Jaye' on ATN Bangla



Tarin and Dihan in the single episode play

## TV Watch

## Channel i to air classic Bangla films



Channel i is airing black and white films of the '60s and '70s known as the golden era in Bangladeshi film industry. Starting from March 30, the programme titled *Aktel Sonali Chhobir Mohotsab* is aired after 2pm news every last Friday of the month



People's Theatre Association (PTA) held a three-day workshop for children on Theatre recently at Nawabganj. Around 150 children from four local schools participated at the workshop. On the last day of the workshop PTA staged Shukumar Ray's *Obak Jolpan*. The play was directed by Liaquat Ali Lucky, general secretary, PTA

## TV GUIDE



## PICK OF THE DAY

On BTV at 7:15pm

Bangladesh Vs England

Live from Kensington Oval, Barbados

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

## BTV

11:15 Drama Serial  
12:05 Maa O Shishir Kotha  
12:30 Swapno Shonar Gaon  
01:00 Musical Programme  
01:30 Shukhi Ponbar  
02:15 Sisimpur  
02:40 Quiz Quiz  
03:05 Cartoon  
03:30 Cricket Shekha  
04:00 Shilpo Prangon  
04:30 Shopnil Agami  
05:30 Hijoj Tomal  
06:10 Paknik Barta  
06:40 Cricket Cricket  
07:15 ICC World Cup 2007:  
Bangladesh Vs  
England

## ATN Bangla

08:30 Kath Koylar Chhobi  
09:20 ATN Commentary BOX  
10:30 Talk show: *Aktel*  
10:30 *Onyordisti*  
11:05 Talk show: Meet the  
press  
12:15 Cinema Cinema  
01:30 Gane Shure Taruney  
02:30 Notun Chhobir Gaan  
03:10 Drama Serial:  
Bhalobashar Rang  
03:45 Children's Programme:  
Shapla Shaluk  
04:20 Cookery Show  
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khobor  
05:10 Njeke Jano Shapholy  
05:45 Islamic Programme  
06:20 Char Deyaler Kabyo  
08:00 Drama Serial: Nayan  
Tara  
08:40 Drama Serial:  
Bohemian  
09:20 Drama Serial

## ETV

08:30 Aj Potrikay  
01:00 Nazul Song  
01:30 Desh Jurey Chalchitro  
02:00 Shophol Jara Kemon  
02:30 Drishti  
03:00 Bolte Chai  
03:00 Saaj Bela  
03:30 Top News  
07:00 Baker Pathay  
08:15 Drama Serial: Society  
09:00 Drama Serial: Nokol  
09:30 Show Case  
11:00 Concert

## CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh  
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi  
10:00 Cartoon  
09:30 Bangla Feature Film  
10:20 Conan  
10:40 Raat Biraatey  
10:30 Shongbad Potrey  
10:30 Bangla Feature Film

## BANGLAVISION

08:35 Shubho Shokol  
09:05 Raat Biraatey  
09:30 Bangla Feature Film  
09:40 Conan  
09:10 Adam And Eve  
04:20 Raat Biraatey  
05:00 Cinebit Shadakalo

## STAR MOVIES

09:00 Engaged To Kill  
10:45 Tremors II  
11:00 Baywatch: Hawaiian  
Wedding

## STAR PLUS

09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa  
06:15 Nana Renger Dini Guli  
06:45 Bishwa Cup Protidin  
08:15 Dokhinyon  
09:30 Media Bhuban  
09:30 Drama Serial: Rupantor

## STAR WORLD

05:00 Saibaba  
06:30 Aladdin  
07:00 That's So Raven  
07:30 V Trailers - Star Plus  
10:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii  
11:55 Bolly V - Star Plus  
12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
12:25 Bolly V - Star Plus  
12:30 Kayamath  
12:45 Kasautii Zindagi Kii  
13:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa  
13:30 Bandhan  
14:00 Pritiwarj Chauhan  
14:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
15:00 Karam Apna Apna  
15:30 Kasutii Zindagi Kii  
15:55 Bolly V - Star Plus  
16:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
16:30 Kayamath  
17:00 Paraya Dhan  
17:30 Saibaba  
18:00 Aladdin  
18:30 That's So Raven  
19:00 V Trailers - Star Plus  
19:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
20:00 Karam Apna Apna

## DISCOVERY CHANNEL

01:00 The O.C.  
01:30 Koffee With Karan  
02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show  
03:30 The Bold And The  
Beautiful  
04:00 General Hospital  
05:00 Fashion House  
05:30 Less Than Perfect  
06:30 The Simpsons  
07:00 Cheers  
07:30 Friends Sr 8  
08:00 Seinfeld  
08:30 American Idol  
09:30 Heroes  
10:30 Grey's Anatomy  
11:30 Fashion House  
12:30 Seinfeld

## AXN

08:30 The 4400 (Season 2)  
09:30 Beastmaster (Season 1)  
10:30 PSI Factor (Season 3)  
12:00 Maximum Exposure  
(Season 2)  
01:00 Guinness World Records:  
Primetime (Season III)  
02:00 Sports Disasters 4  
03:00 House (Season 1)  
04:00 Maximum Exposure  
(Season 2)  
05:00 PSI Factor (Season 3)  
06:00 The 4400 (Season 2)  
07:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
08:30 Karam Apna Apna  
09:00 Kasutii Zindagi Kii  
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## STAR SPORTS CHANNEL

09:30 Guinness Premiership  
2006/07  
08:00 Wild Discovery  
09:00 Yummy Mummy

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

09:00 Triumph of Life  
Warplanes  
10:30 Telemall  
11:15 Global Sky Shop  
11:30 Naked Science  
12:30 Stigmata  
01:30 One Way Ticket  
02:30 Warplanes  
03:30 Vampire Bats  
04:30 Mad Labs  
05:00 Diamondback Survivors  
05:30 Nat Geo Junior  
06:00 Return to Croc Eden  
06:30 Warplanes  
07:30 A Life Among Whales  
08:30 Curse Of The Black  
Tyrphus  
09:30 Kung Fu Monk  
10:30 Warplanes  
11:30 Hunter Hunted

## ESPN

09:00 Taking Guard - West Indies Special  
09:30 2006/07 Spanish League  
Highlight  
10:30 Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07  
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