

CULTURALFEAST

Ekushey Book Fair

Venue: Bangla Academy
Date: February 1-29

Reminiscence on Selim Al Deen

Organisers: Dhaka Theatre and Bangladesh Gram Theatre
Venue: Bangladesh Mahila Samiti Auditorium
Date: February 3
Time: 6:30 pm

Documentary Screening

Seven Documentaries produced by AV Centre
Title: Voices of Adolescents
Venue: Shaikat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag
Date: February 4-6
Time: 4 pm everyday

Theatre

Play: Ebong Ashwamedh Jagna
Troupe: Nityadhara
Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage
Date: February 4 at 7 pm

Film Festival

Title: 1st International Children's Film Festival
Organiser: Children's Film Society Bangladesh

Date: February 3
Venue: Shaikat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library
Time: 11 am

Film: Ek Akash (India), My Neighbour Totoro (Japan)
Time: 2 pm

Film: Hazratin Ahmet Celebin (Turkey), Gupi Bagha Phire Aelo (India)
Time: 4 pm

Film: Tere Zameen Par (India)
Time: 6 pm

Venue: German Cultural Centre, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Title: 11 am

Film: Tale of Gipsy children (Bangladesh), Viva Cuba (Cuba)
Time: 2 pm

Film: Ek Akash (India), Kellidimmedin (Turkey)
Time: 5 pm

Title: PRIZ JEUNESS SUITCASE 2006
Film: The Wooden Dog (Poland), This is Daniel Cook (Canada), Up2u (UK), Will's Vips (Germany), Zigzag Batavia Wharf in Lelystad (Netherlands)

Exhibition

Title: EVILIZATION
Artist: Ra Kaji
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Date: February 3-15
Time: daily 12 noon-8 pm

Sculpture Exhibition

Title: Long Distance Information
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: January 28 - February 13
Time: 12pm-8pm

Art Exhibition

Artist: Kazi Monir
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 29 - February 5

Photography Exhibition

Title: Studying Life
Venue: Drik Gallery
Date: February 1-15
Time: everyday 3-8 pm

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Bengal Foundation
Title: Praner Khela
Venue: Chhayanat Sangskriti Bhaban, Dhanmondi
Date: February 1-3
Time: 7 pm

Jatio Pathonaty Utsab '08 begins

ERSHAD KAMOL

WITH the slogan 'Jago Bahe Konthe Shoba' the weeklong Jatio Pathonaty Utsab '08 (National Street Theatre Festival), arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF), began at the Central Shaheed Minar premises on February 1.

BGTF has been regularly arranging the festival on the first day of February, the month of our glorious language movement, since 1985. Usually theatre troupes stage street theatres featuring socio-political issues at the festival. Jatio Pathonaty Utsab '08 is dedicated to legendary dramatist Selim Al Deen. Each day five street theatre performances will be staged at the Central Shaheed

Minar premises.

Air Vice-Marshal (ret'd) A.K. Khondokar Bir Uttom inaugurated the festival in which 35 troupes from different corners of the country will stage street plays. Theatre personalities such as Ramendu Majumder, Nasiruddin Yousuff, Liqat Ali Lucky, Mannan Heera and Jhuna Chowdhury delivered speeches at the programme. Conveynor of the festival Aktaruzzaman, who is also the assistant general secretary of BGTF, delivered the welcome speech. Secretary Programme of BGTF Probrir Sardar was the host of the programme. M. Hamid, chairman, BGTF presided over the inaugural session.

The festival began with presentation of National Anthem and



Ramendu Majumder speaks at the inaugural session

PHOTO: STAR

song of Ekushey - Aamar bhaiyer rokte rangano ekushey February performed by artistes of Padatik Natya Sangsad-Bangladesh.

Labeling street theatre as an important weapon against anarchy and socio-political turmoil, discussants at the inauguration session focused on the importance of the art form in the political movements since late 1970s. The discussants requested each troupe to stage at least one street theatre on the trial issue of the war criminals of 1971.

Actor Shirin Bakul read the announcement of Jatio Pathonaty Utsab '08 and Professor Afsar Ahmed discussed the contributions of late playwright Selim Al Deen, who has a remark-

able contribution of introducing street theatre as a medium of protest in the era of post Liberation War of Bangladesh.

On the opening day Anushilan Natya Dal from Rajshahi, Chhattagram Theatre from Chittagong, Swattik Natya Sampradaya (Dhaka) Purobi Sanskritik Chakra (Dhaka) and Natyafauz (Dhaka) staged Shunagoriker Shandhyane, 1971, Pataka O Nirob Shokun, Apriyo Satya and E Kon Jati respectively. Most of these plays feature the heinous activities done by the Pakistani collaborators during the Liberation War of Bangladesh. While some of the plays focus on the necessity of the trial of the Pakistani collaborators.



A scene from one of the plays staged at the festival

Pitha Utsab by Mojo

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On February 1 foodies gathered at the Wonderland Amusement Park in Gulshan to taste a variety of pitha. The occasion was a Pitha Utsab organised by the soft drink company Mojo. This was the second such arrangement by Mojo.

The event started around 10:00

am. The slogan of the event was "Eat Pitha Be Mitha".

For the children and accompanying parents enjoying a holiday at the park, the event turned out to be an added bonus. Along the rides, they were also able to try out the delicious pithas available at the festival, and enjoy the cultural programme featuring folk and pop music. Folk artiste

Tun Tun Baul and Inside U -- the promotional band of Mojo -- performed at the programme.

All together, there were 22 nicely decorated stalls offering various kinds of pitha, ranging from the popular patishapta to the steaming bhapa. Other attractions included Pakeo, Shaipuli, Nakshi Pitha, Khejur Pitha, Poa, Puli, Rosh Goja, Bibikhan and several types of Naaru. Apart from pitha, other food items such as chicken and beef samosa, kichdi with beef, beef and roti, pudding, dry cakes, vegetable chop, beef chop, noodle and more were also available. Pitha ingredients were also on display at some stalls. Khejurer rosh, a major condiment, was also available at the venue.

Singer Samina Chowdhury, G.M. Mustafa Rahman, managing director of Wonderland Amusement Park and designer Chandra Shekhar Saha judged the Pitha competition.

Winners were selected based on taste, presentation and novelty of the recipes. The prizes included microwave oven, dinner set and a rice cooker.

Winner of the "Mojo Cowboy Offer" contest was given a cow in the evening. The festival continued till 9 pm.



Delicious pithas offered at the festival

PHOTO: STAR

Hasnat Abdul Hye's book exhibition

FAYZA HAQ

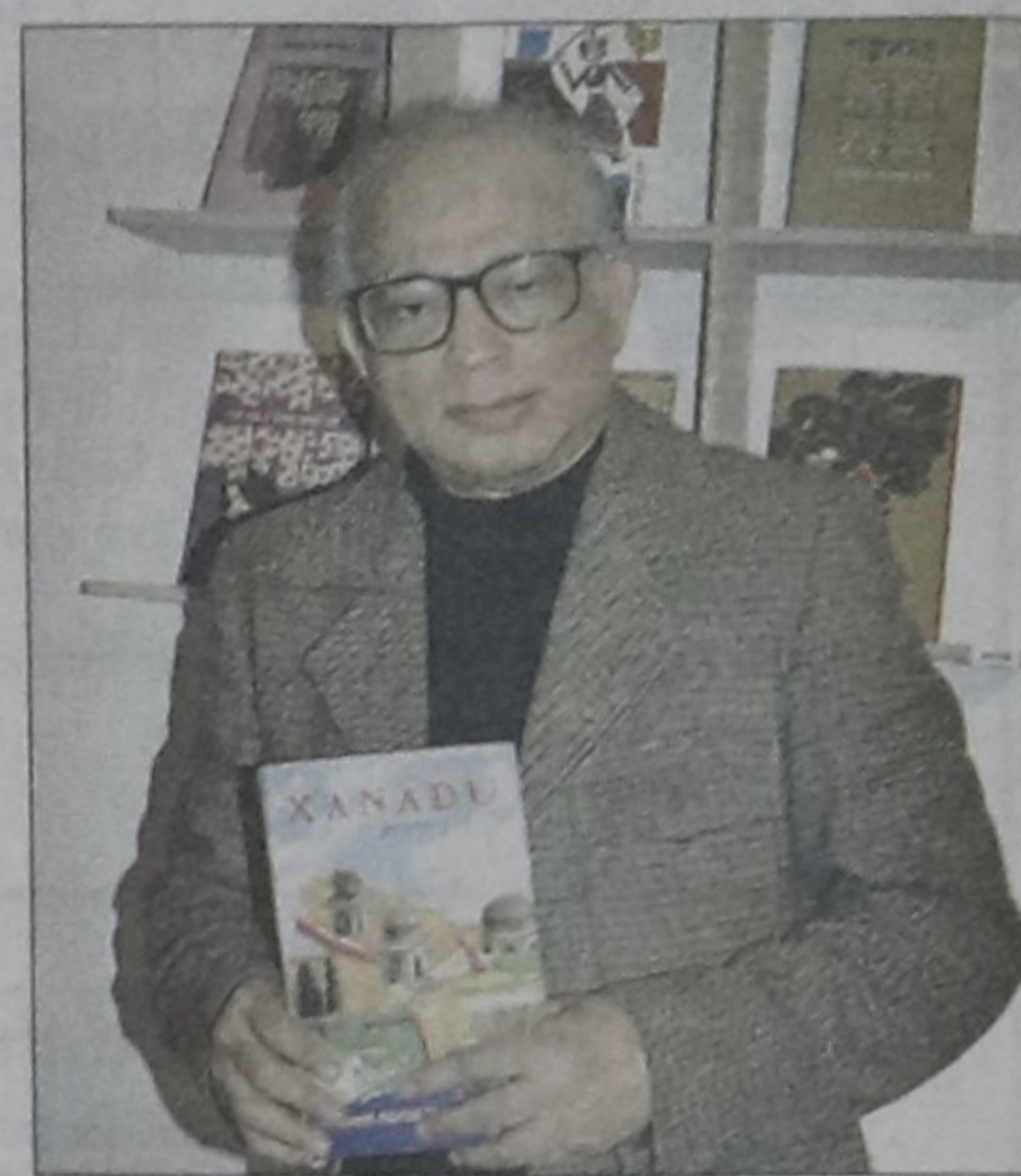
A unique display of Hasnat Abdul Hye's books took place recently at the Bengal Gallery. Two of his books -- one, an autobiography -- were launched on this occasion. The Bengal café looked splendid with the numerous colourful book covers, placed intermittently with posters of press cuttings. Despite the rain the turnout on the launching day was remarkable.

The first book is *Portrait of a Writer* and it contains two sections: one in English and the other in Bangla. Each part contains experiences of the writer as a litterateur and reviews of his books. In the second half are excerpts from Hye's books. This includes his haiku poems, his first short story *Carnival* (written in 1960), and his last short story *Still Life*. The line up also features his first travelogue, *Manhattan and Ten Dollars*.

The last section of the book presents interviews taken at different times, like the piece that appeared in *The Daily Star* by Ziaul Karim, another in *Sangbad* by Shourab, and by Bhagirat Misra from Kolkata. There is also a piece by William Radich, a Tagore scholar. The introduction of the English section is by Dr Akhter Hamid Khan.

The second book *Boyhood in British India and Pakistan* is a collection of autobiographical columns that appeared in *Daily News* under the banner *Aide Memoire*. This covers a period from 1943 to 1954, which comprises his childhood experiences and recollections, beginning as a boy of four. Hye has woven his narrative around his family, including his grandparents, uncles and eight siblings.

"As a child I saw the Congress Party members bringing out procession and it being blocked by the police, as our house was adjacent to the police station. From that I could gather that there was a conflict. Later on I saw the Calcutta Riots, with people being butchered before my eyes. However, although I felt the tension, I



Hasnat Abdul Hye

PHOTO: STAR

didn't, at that time, quite comprehend the politics behind it all."

Later, with the backdrop of the riots and communal agitations, Hye took the help of books written by historians and analysed the history of Partition. Asked if he thought that the Partition was justified.

The book depicts Ramadan, Ashura, Hindu festivals and other social and cultural lives in different places, as Hye's father was posted in numerous places, ranging from small towns to metropolises.

The exhibition was a veritable feast for book lovers.

Re-union of Sargam correspondents

A conference and re-union of Greater Chittagong correspondents of *Sargam*, the only regular monthly magazine on music of Bangladesh, was held at the Buddhist Foundation Auditorium, Nandan Kanan, Chittagong recently, says a press release.

Dr. Anupam Sen, renowned social scientist and Vice Chancellor

of Premier University was the chief guest. Rownaq Hossain, editor of *Sargam* was the main speaker. Ustad captain Azizul Islam, classical vocalist Swarnamoy Chakraborty and cultural activist Sujit Bhattacharya spoke at the programme.

The speakers emphasised the need of such a regular magazine to

uphold the culture of Bangladesh.

Dr. Sen praised the role and effort of *Sargam*. In his speech, Ustad Captain Azizul Islam requested everyone connected with music to come forward to help *Sargam* to run smoothly. A musical soiree by local radio and TV artistes ended the programme.

Call for economic justice Cultural programme held



Baul artist Shahjahan Munshi and his band and Mehreen perform at the programme

To build awareness of economic factors, The Global Economic Justice Forum held a three-day cultural programme recently with the slogan *Unite for Global Economic Justice*, at the Rabindra Shorobor at Dhanmondi, says a press release.

The function was inaugurated by renowned economist Dr Muzaffar Ahmed. This was followed by a play and songs rendered by Fahmida

Nabi and Bappa Majumder. On January 30, the second day of the event, there were performances by Baul artist Shahjahan Munshi, Shahid and his band and Mehreen. The programme concluded on January 31 with performances by Lucky Akhand and Happy Touch, Maqsood O' Dhaka, Partho and Kafil Ahmed and his band.

Rajput outfits plan to boycott 'Jodhaa-Akbar'

Under attack for alleged distortion of Rajput history in *Jodhaa-Akbar*, Bollywood director Ashutosh Gowariker is facing the ire of some community organisations which have threatened to boycott the big budget film due for a nationwide release in a fortnight.

The organisations which have been opposing the period film ever since shooting began around Amber Fort near here say they will decide a "clear course of action" tomorrow but deny plans of blocking its screening across theatres in Rajasthan.

They even suggested changing the title of the film starring Hrithik Roshan and Aishwarya Rai to 'Salim-Jodhaa' after Mughal emperor Akbar's son Jehangir, also known as Jehangir.

"Whatever Gowariker is showing in his film is far removed from history. No Rajput can welcome this distorted version but we have never said we will block the screening of the film," Sabha president Narendra Singh Rajawat said here on Thursday.

Asked about media reports to the contrary, he said, "If we had to block the film, we would have stopped its shooting. We are fighting it legally in court in a demo-

cratic manner."

He said Jodha Bai was the daughter of Raja Udai Singh of Marwar and was married to Akbar's son. "The problem can be solved if the film's title is changed to 'Salim-Jodhaa'."

Another Rajput organisation Karni Sena has prepared a report on the "evidence collected from the film's script" and will decide its course of action on Friday, its president Lokendra Singh Kalvi said.

He said either the film's title should be changed or the state government should "analyse the facts" to avoid any problems when it premieres on February 15.

Source: Internet



Aishwarya Rai

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Poroshpor
On Rtv at 9:20 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Tazin Ahmed, Parvez Murad



Deja Vu
On Star Movies at 7:00 pm
Genre: Action
Cast: Denzel Washington, Paula Patton

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 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

CHANNEL 1
News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:00pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 7:30am, 1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
News (English) at 6:00pm.

Rtv
News (Bangla) at 10:15pm, and 12:15am.

ntv
News (Bangla) 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 1:00am.

ETV
News (Bangla) 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm.

BTV

08:15 Shuprobhat
08:45 Bishwa Bichitra
11:15 Documentary
11:30 Shukhi Poribar
12:05 Agun Jhora Shondhya
12:30 Maa O Shishur Katha
01:00 Mati O Manush
02:15 Sisimpur
02:40 Bangladesh Feature Film
05:25 Debate
06:10 Ekush Amar Ohonkar
06:55 Amader Mukhljudho
07:30 Shei Din-er Katha
08:35 Amar Bangladesh
09:00 Drama: Ajob Chor
10:30 Amader Katha
11:00 Talk Show: Date Line Dhaka

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aker Shanbadpotro
08:30 Drama Serial: Ochun Pakhi
09:15 Drama Serial: Amader Nurul Huda
10:30 Talk Show: Onyodishli
11:05 Smile Show
12:15 Char Deyal-er Kaboy
01:30 Khehar Jogot
02:30 Take Care
03:15 Telo-film
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor
05:10 Kalar-er Jafar Dhoni
05:45 The Sword of Tipu Sultan
06:20 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Alonogor
08:40 Drama Serial: Syed

Barir Bou

09:20 Drama Serial: Prothom Shokal
11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News
08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 Shokaler Gaan
09:30 Shangbadpotro Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Trilomala
11:05 Apollo Tele Prescription
11:30 Hridoyer Gaan
12:30 Citycell Taroka Katha
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
02:40 Sa Re Ga Me
03:30 BBC Bangladesh Shonglaap
04:15 Hridoyer Gaan
05:30 Boimela Shorashori
06:00 Drama Serial: Alor Khonjey Kojona
06:30 South Asian
07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar Kutum
08:20 Drama Serial: Noudadubi
09:35 Mega Serial: 420
10:00 Drama Serial: Ocheni Neel Kontho
11:30 Drama Serial: 69
12:00 Grameenphone Aker Shangbadpotro

CHANNEL i

08:05 Aker Shokal
08:30 Bangladesh Feature Film
08:55

Rtv

08:15 Gaanchil Ei Din
09:05 Rtv Exclusive
10:00 Drama Serial: Neel Nirjon-ey
11:00 Tarokalap
12:00 Drama
01:30 Dhallywood Beats
02:30 Bangladesh Feature Film
05:15 Shamporik
06:00 Saajbela
06:45 Ami Ki Bhulitay Pari
08:15 Drama Serial: Ocheni Apon
09:00 Shomoyer Aynay
09:30 Cine Tunes
11:00 Padmarag
11:30 Nirbachito Khabor

Rtv

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Rtv

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11:00 Tarokalap
12:00 Drama
01:30 Dhallywood Beats
02:30 Bangladesh Feature Film
05:15 Shamporik
06:00 Saajbela
06:45 Ami Ki Bhulitay Pari
08:15 Drama Serial: Ocheni Apon
09:00 Shomoyer Aynay
09:30 Cine Tunes
11:00 Padmarag
11:30 Nirbachito Khabor

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat
10:30 Bangladesh Feature Film
10:30 Biswa Jurey Saat Din
03:30 Drama Serial: Ocheni Apon
04:30 Cookery Show: Shomoyer Swad
05:15 Shamporik
06:00 Saajbela
06:45 Ami Ki Bhulitay Pari
08:15 Drama Serial: Ocheni Apon
09:00 Shomoyer Aynay
09:30 Cine Tunes
11:00 Padmarag
11:30 Nirbachito Khabor

ETV

08:00 Ekush-er Shokal
08:00 Ekush-er Business
08:00 Special Focus
08:00 Ekush-er Business
08:00 Shophol Jara
08:00 Cine Heals
08:00 Cartoon
08:00 Total Music
08:00 Ekush-er Shondhya
08:00 Desh Jurey
08:00 Nishi Kutum
08:00 Drama Serial: Chena Manush-er Panchali
08:00 Concert
08:00 Musical Show
08:00 Spondon

BANGLAVISION

09:05 Drama Serial: Pingol Akash
09:30 Bangla Feature Film
12:30 Amader Othi
02:00 Daily Soap: Mohanagar
02:40 Drama Serial: Shomo Kutir
03:05 Nodi O Jibon
04:20 Banijyomela Protidin
06:00 Din-er Sheshey
06:50 Sports Vision
08:25 Drama: Mahanagar
09:05 Viss Apnar Agami
09:45 Drama Serial: Swapnochura
11:25 Drama Serial: Shohor-er Shesh Bar
12:00 Shangbad Protidin

STAR MOVIES

09:15 Trapped
11:00 16 Blocks
01:45 Program, The
02:45 The Greatest Game Ever Played
04:45 Rock, The
07:00 Deja Vu
09:05 Guardian, The
11:25 Sniper 2

ZEE STUDIO

10:50 In Studio
11:00 Ultimate Film Fanatic
11:30 The Big Lebowski
01:30 Beautiful Creatures
03:20 In Studio
03:30 World Cinema
05:30 The Boxer
08:00 Hollywoods 10 Best-New Series
08:30 Alex And Emma
11:00 Forever Mine

STAR WORLD

09:30 Who Wants To Be A Superhero

JAG

10:30 Invasion
11:30 Cops
02:30 Prison Break
03:30 Criminal Minds
04:30 Bones
06:00 Criss Angel Mindfreak
06:30 Most Shocking
07:30 Heroes
08:30 Kyle XY
09:30 Bones
10:30 Tna Xplosion
11:30 Surviving The Moment Of Impact

HISTORY CHANNEL

09:15 Sauna Belt
10:30 Beyond the Big Bang
11:30 Wuthering Heights
01:30 Great Train Robberies
02:30 Da Vinci Code
03:30 Machines of the East
04:30 Lost Book of Nostradamus
09:30 Sadat
10:30 Dooomsday Tech
11:30 More Dooomsday Tech
12:30 Diana: The True Story

STAR PLUS

09:00 Shararat
12:00 Star Voi Chhole Usthaad
01:30 Saibaba
02:30 Jai Ma Durga
03:30 Krishna Kathaiyen
04:30 Kaho Na Yaar Hai
08:00 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat
08:30 Saibaba
09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoor Aur Baby
10:30 Aek Chahi Hai
10:30 Padoss Mein
11:00 Lead India
11:30 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat
12:05 Shararat-Thoda Jaadu
Thodi Naz

Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

7:00am Hello Dhaka
11:00am Amar 88
3:00pm Dhaka Calling
7:00pm Seven Eleven
12:00am Back to Back music
Radio Today 89.6 FM
07:15am Good Morning Dhaka (Biplob)
07:45 am Today's Happy Moments
08:45am Shokaler Khabor
12:00pm Today's Adda (Nudrat)
01:45pm Dupurer Khabor
04:00pm U-tum (Kibria & Tania)
06:45pm Shondher Khabor
08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok (Sayem)
09:45pm Raater Khabor
11:45pm Moddho Raater Khabor
12:00am Today's Happy Moments

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

10:30 Mumbai Mega Flood
11:30 Luthiansa Nat Geo Genius
12:00 Anchorage! Hobert
12:30 Python Attack
01:30 Dino Death Trap
03:00 Michael Franti
03:30 Out Of Sight
04:30 Nat Geo Junior Hunt
05:00 Chimp Diaries
05:30 Big Bang
06:00 Dugongs
06:30 Apache Helicopter
07:30 Kakadu
08:30 Forest Intruder
09:30 Jungle Breakout
10:30 Total Towns