

Quixotic collage in portraits

Works by Pascal Monteil

FAYZA HAQ

"This exhibition 'Spirits of the Cities' was born from the desire to show a glamorous Bangladesh personified by creative baroque and cultivated spirits. Through my aesthetic prism, I created portraits of historians, dancers, writers, artists, journalists, female entrepreneurs, students, and everyday people I met on the streets," says Pascal Monteil who had his exhibition recently at the Alliance Francaise.

"I show these pictures taken in Bangladesh with portraits of other people who incarnate the soul of other cities in the world: Paris, Kolkata, Shanghai, Teheran...and soon."

Monteil says that he uses photography like painting in his works. He makes many photographs to get to his final photograph. The works are like montages, where he changes the images, colours and textures of the original photograph.

The portrait of the King of Thailand Bhumibol, contains a portrait of Buddha, mosaic, marble, gold coins falling on the king, and a famous painting by Henri Matisse. There is also a mountain from the Gothic times. All these additions and changes are made in the computer.

Durasse's portrait brought him to Bangladesh. Durasse, a writer spoke a lot on Bangladesh in her books. There is metal at the side and her makeup is like that of a Chinese queen. The heavy brocade clothes are also additions.

The portrait of Penelope, Philomena, Petronel and Inaki brought in toys and objects of art,

which run and dance around the children.

Sharmeen Hussain, once a dancer and now an entrepreneur, has a portrait in which images have been taken from a ruin in Cambodia.

Berni Bonvoisin, once a singer and now a film actor, has the background from the gods and goddesses and demons of the Durga Puja in Kolkata. The featured door

is from Shanghai.

Andrei Putman, an architect and designer, symbolises the spirit of modernism in France. After the portrait is taken the other parts of the picture like the mosaic are brought in part by part. The window was taken from a Vermeer painting. The effects of Klimt's paintings were also included in the photograph.

The model from Kolkata has

another street from the same city included in the scene. The birds, rickshaw, cars and men bring the picture to life.

The central market of Phnom Pen has been included in the collection too as well as the Sangsad Bhaban of Bangladesh.

Monteil changed the position of the characters in the picture and added items like a dog and some red flowers.



A photograph by Pascal Monteil

Celluloid

Stories from a world in motion

A timeworn piece of Hollywood wisdom (occasionally attributed to Dostoevsky, John Gardner or some other writer) holds that every narrative arises from one of two situations: Someone goes on a journey, or a stranger comes to town. The immigrant's story, in its basic form, fulfills both of these archetypes. An individual or a family leaves a familiar world, by either choice, necessity or some perceived combination of the two, and arrives in a place that is as strange to the newcomers as they are to it.

In the United States, Western Europe and other relatively wealthy parts of the world, immigration is currently a subject of raw political contention. As such, it is a topic that tends to be discussed both heatedly and somewhat abstractly. The debate is heavy with numbers: the millions of new arrivals; the estimated costs and benefits of allowing them in or trying to keep them out; the changing demographic profiles of neighbourhoods, cities and regions. Hovering above these calculations are cultural anxieties and ideological conundrums that are, if anything, even more abstract: questions of assimilation and diversity, of security and cultural identity, of human rights and social obligations, of economic globalisation and national sovereignty.

The wave of immigration, mainly from Eastern and Southern Europe, that began at the end of the 19th century and ended in 1925 has been, for subsequent generations, a wellspring of nostalgia, a way of connecting modern American lives with a more exotic history in the old country or the old neighbourhood. And since 1965, when new immigration laws began to bring in large numbers of new arrivals from Asia, South America and elsewhere, there has been a revival of this tradition. Every publishing season brings novels and memoirs that offer fresh varia-

tions on the apparently inexhaustible themes of displacement and relocation.

But until recently these themes have never been quite as ubiquitous on movie screens. Though the American film industry was founded largely by enterprising immigrants and has been fed by successive streams of talented émigrés, Hollywood has generally preferred to depict an idealised, homogeneous America, where the non-white and the non-native linger in the margins and the shadows. The exceptions have mainly been examples of the backward-looking, second-generation tradition, films like the *Godfather* cycle, an ambivalent epic of an Italian family's incomplete Americanisation.

In *La Misma Luna* (*Under the Same Moon*), a new film from the Mexican director Patricia Riggen, a young boy and his mother live on opposite sides of the United States-Mexico border, she in Los Angeles, he in the town she left when she moved North. In some ways, they live in different worlds, and Riggen takes note of the small, everyday details that distinguish one place from the other. But they are also connected by telecommunications and by the director's narrative method, which cross-cuts between them as they move toward a possible reunion. Carlitos, the boy, sets out across the border, facing the hazards and hardships with disarming cheerfulness, while his mother, Rosario, contemplates a journey home, an escape from hard work and the constant fear of deportation as well as a chance to see Carlitos again.

Riggen's narrative strategy is, in some ways, a simplified version of the multistranded storytelling found in movies like *Babel* or *Fast Food Nation*.

Neither of those movies, both of which came out around the same time in 2006 (after having their



Baki Davrak (L) and Nursei Kose in *The Edge of Heaven*, directed by Fatih Akin

premieres at that year's Cannes Film Festival), is, strictly speaking, an immigrant tale, but both take the global flow of people and information as a theme and a plotline. And they, like *La Misma Luna*, take pains to point out that inequality and exploitation, along with isolation and estrangement, are features of the global economy.

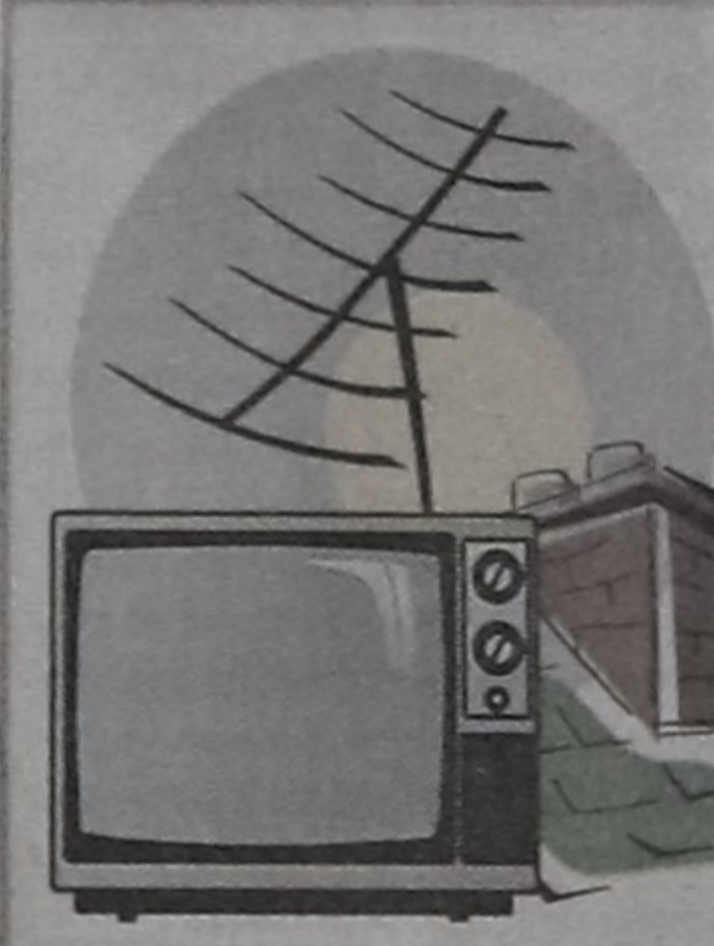
In Europe, mass immigration is both a newer phenomenon than it is in the United States and also a source of more pronounced political tension. And the stories told by French, Italian and German filmmakers -- some of them immigrants or the children of immigrants from North Africa or the Middle East -- reflect this unsettled state.

A sense of stubborn individualism, which can't be reduced to cultural identity or political abstraction, informs the films of the Tunisian-born French director Abdellatif Kechiche, whose three features so far (*La Faute à Voltaire*, *L'Esquive* and *La Graine et le Mulet*) are thick with idiosyncrasy

and cultural complication. The same might be said of Fatih Akin, the German son of Turkish parents, whose films confound every imaginable cliché and assumption about Europe, Islam, community and desire. His new film, *The Edge of Heaven*, is a tale of crosshatched destinies in which the journey from Turkey to Germany is made and reversed several times. One of the characters is a professor of German literature who travels to Turkey, his father's homeland but no longer really his own, and opens up a German bookstore.

The Edge of Heaven never comes to rest: there is no point of arrival, of assimilation to a new home or return to an old one. And *La Misma Luna*, a very different kind of movie in most ways, concludes on an image of irresolution, or continued perpetual motion. It tells an old story -- one of the oldest -- but one that never ends, except in the discovery, once again, of a new world.

Source: The New York Times



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

On Air

News Bulletin	08:15 Shuprobhat	08:05 Tagore Song	09:20 Drama Serial: Poroshpor	05:30 Visa Apnar Agami	02:00 Fear Factor	03:00 Gnhasti	08:30 My Wife And Kids
BTV	08:45 World Round up	09:30 Shangbadporey Bangladesh	11:00 Heart Beat	06:05 Din-er Sheshey	01:00 Ultimate Escape	03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	09:00 8 Simple Rules
News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.	11:15 Swadhindol Gaan	09:45 Public Reaction	11:30 News Watch	06:50 Cinebit	02:30 Whacked Out Sports	04:00 Kayamath	09:30 According To Jim
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.	12:00 Maa O Shishur Katha	09:50 Gramphone Trito Matra	12:00 Rtv Exclusive	08:25 Daily Soap: Mohanogor	03:00 CSI: Miami	04:30 Sangam	10:00 Life With Bonnie
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.	12:30 Shei Din-er Katha	11:05 Educational Programme	ETV	09:05 Cookery Show: Amader Rannaghar	04:00 Fear Factor	05:00 Santana	10:30 Last Comic Standing
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).	01:00 Banshuri	12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathan	08:00 Ekusher Shokaal	05:30 Ultimate Escape	05:30 Kasturi	06:00 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat	11:30 Cops
CHANNEL-1	01:30 Cartoon	01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	12:00 Ekusher Dupur	06:30 The Contender	06:00 Bidaai	07:00 Santana	12:30 Seinfeld
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.	02:15 Onu Porumanu	01:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma	12:30 Focus	07:30 Andromeda	07:00 Gnhasti	08:00 Santana	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
ATH BANGLA	02:40 Khela Dhula	02:35 Ekaltur Er Dinguli	01:30 Ekusher Business: Special	08:30 Fear Factor	07:30 Sangam	09:00 Santana	08:30 Big Bang
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11 pm, News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm	03:00 Shukhi Ponbaar	03:05 Banjiyo O Orthoniti	02:30 Spondon	09:30 Ultimate Guinness World Records	08:30 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat	09:30 Santana	09:00 Loggerhead & Turtles
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.	03:30 Dolon Champa	03:30 Musical Programme: Hridoyer Gaan	03:30 Katha ar Gaan	10:00 So You Think You Can Dance	09:00 Kis Desh me Hai Meraa Dil	10:30 Bhutan	10:30 Anamalai
CHANNEL 1	04:05 Ogrodut	04:05 Educational Programme: BSB Cambrina Medha Bikash	04:00 Magic Show	11:30 House	09:30 Bidaai	12:30 Lufthansa Nat Geo Genius	12:30 To the Edge of Argentina
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	04:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	04:30 FCT Business Talk	05:15 Ei Shoptaher Bishwa	STAR MOVIES	10:00 Kasturi	01:00 To the Edge of Argentina	01:30 Jungle Breakout
BANGLAVISION	05:05 Debate	05:30 Mukjuddho Amar Ohonkaar	05:45 Ekusher Shondha	08:15 Cube Zero		02:30 Colder Blooded	02:30 Out Of Sight
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	06:10 Swadhindol Amar Swadhindol	06:00 Superman	06:15 Sms Mania			04:30 I Didn't Know That	05:00 Mutant Tiger Snakes
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	06:35 Nritter Taley Taley	06:40 Oshamanyo	06:30 Documentary Programme: Desh Jurey			05:30 Big Bang	06:00 Pit Viper/Pioneer Crocs
CHANNEL 1	08:35 Krishni Dibanishi	07:50 BBC Bangladesh Shinglap	07:45 Cookery Show			06:30 The New Mafia	06:30 The New Mafia
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	09:00 Chhaya Chhondo	09:35 Drama Serial: Neel Tepantore	08:15 Drama Serial: Hiltu			07:30 Built for the Kill	07:30 Built for the Kill
BANGLAVISION	10:30 Bhalobashi Gaan	10:00 RC Travel On	09:30 Drama Serial: Dur-er Manush			08:30 Air Crash Investigation	09:30 Situation Critical
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	12:35 Musical Programme: Path Chaoatei Anondo	11:30 Drama Serial: 69	ntv			10:30 Trapped	11:30 Air Crash Investigation
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	08:30 Aiker Shokal			12:30 Situation Critical	HISTORY
News (English) at 6:00 pm	01:30 Rtv Exclusive	ATN BANGLA	08:55 Shantokutir			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
Rtv	02:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	09:30 Bajo Ebong Bajao			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 10:15 pm, and 12:15 am	03:00 Dolon Champa	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	10:05 111 A Nelson Number			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
ETV	04:05 Ogrodut	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	11:00 Shangknti Ei Shophalo			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 11:00 pm	04:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	11:30 Tifiner Phakey			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
CHANNEL-1	05:05 Debate	11:35 Musical Programme: Notun Chhobir Gaan	12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	06:10 Swadhindol Amar Swadhindol	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	01:05 Japan Video Topic			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
BANGLAVISION	06:35 Nritter Taley Taley	ATN BANGLA	02:30 Shantokutir			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	08:35 Krishni Dibanishi	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	03:15 Glamour World			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	09:00 Chhaya Chhondo	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	03:45 Drama Serial: Dhaka Nibash			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
CHANNEL 1	10:30 Bhalobashi Gaan	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	04:25 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	12:35 Musical Programme: Path Chaoatei Anondo	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	05:25 Ithasher Ei Dine			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
BANGLAVISION	01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din	11:35 Musical Programme: Notun Chhobir Gaan	05:30 Apnar Jigyasha			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	01:30 Rtv Exclusive	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	06:45 Rupal Pordar Golpo			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	02:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	ATN BANGLA	08:15 Drama Serial: Eit Kather Khacha			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
CHANNEL 1	03:00 Dolon Champa	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	09:00 Music Express			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	04:05 Ogrodut	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	09:45 Drama Serial: Dhaka Nibash			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
BANGLAVISION	04:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	11:30 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	05:05 Debate	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	BANGLAVISION			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	06:10 Swadhindol Amar Swadhindol	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	08:35 Ebong Classer Bairey			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
CHANNEL 1	06:35 Nritter Taley Taley	ATN BANGLA	09:00 Agamir Kontho			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	08:35 Krishni Dibanishi	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	10:10 Drama Serial: Tanik Ali Hadari			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
BANGLAVISION	09:00 Chhaya Chhondo	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	10:40 Praner Gaan			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	10:30 Bhalobashi Gaan	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	11:05 Sports Vision			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	12:35 Musical Programme: Path Chaoatei Anondo	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	11:35 Cinebit Shadkalo			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
CHANNEL 1	01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	12:00 Daily Soap: Mohanogor			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	01:30 Rtv Exclusive	ATN BANGLA	02:10 Harano Din-er Gaan			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
BANGLAVISION	02:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	05:10 Cartoon			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	03:00 Dolon Champa	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	06:00 Tagore Song			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	04:05 Ogrodut	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	07:25 Cricket World			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
CHANNEL 1	04:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	08:00 Drama Serial: Chokher Aloye			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	05:05 Debate	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	09:10 Drama Serial: Shobuj Gram Shamol Chhaya			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
BANGLAVISION	06:10 Swadhindol Amar Swadhindol	ATN BANGLA	12:00 Perfect Creature			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	06:35 Nritter Taley Taley	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	STAR PLUS			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	08:35 Krishni Dibanishi	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	08:30 Sangam			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
CHANNEL 1	09:00 Chhaya Chhondo	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	09:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	10:30 Bhalobashi Gaan	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
BANGLAVISION	12:35 Musical Programme: Path Chaoatei Anondo	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din	ATN BANGLA	10:30 SAIBABA			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm	01:30 Rtv Exclusive	08:15 Aiker Shangbadpore	11:30 Gnhasti			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
CHANNEL 1	02:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	08:30 Talk Show: Probnashi Bhabna	12:00 Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am	03:00 Dolon Champa	10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti	01:00 Kis Desh me Hai Meraa Dil			10:30 The Solitary Cyclist	11:30 Creative Vision
BANGLAVISION	04:05 Ogrodut	11:05 Shushtho Thakun	01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan			08:30 Houdini: The Great Escape	09:30 Telemat - Home Jogger
News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 1:30 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm	04:30 Shur-er Shurobhi	12:00 Gramphone Aiker Shangbadpore	02				