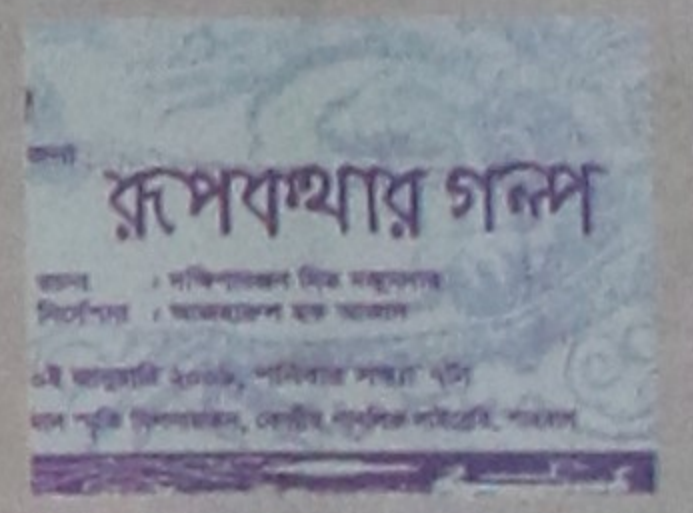


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK


Film Screening
 Film: Lalon
 Director: Tanvir Mokammel
 Venue: Bangladesh Film Centre, 160, Lake Circus, Kaliabagan
 Date: December 8
 Time: 4 and 7pm



Recitation
 Title: Rupkothar Galpo
 Organiser: Kanthasheelan
 Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag
 On January 10 at 7pm



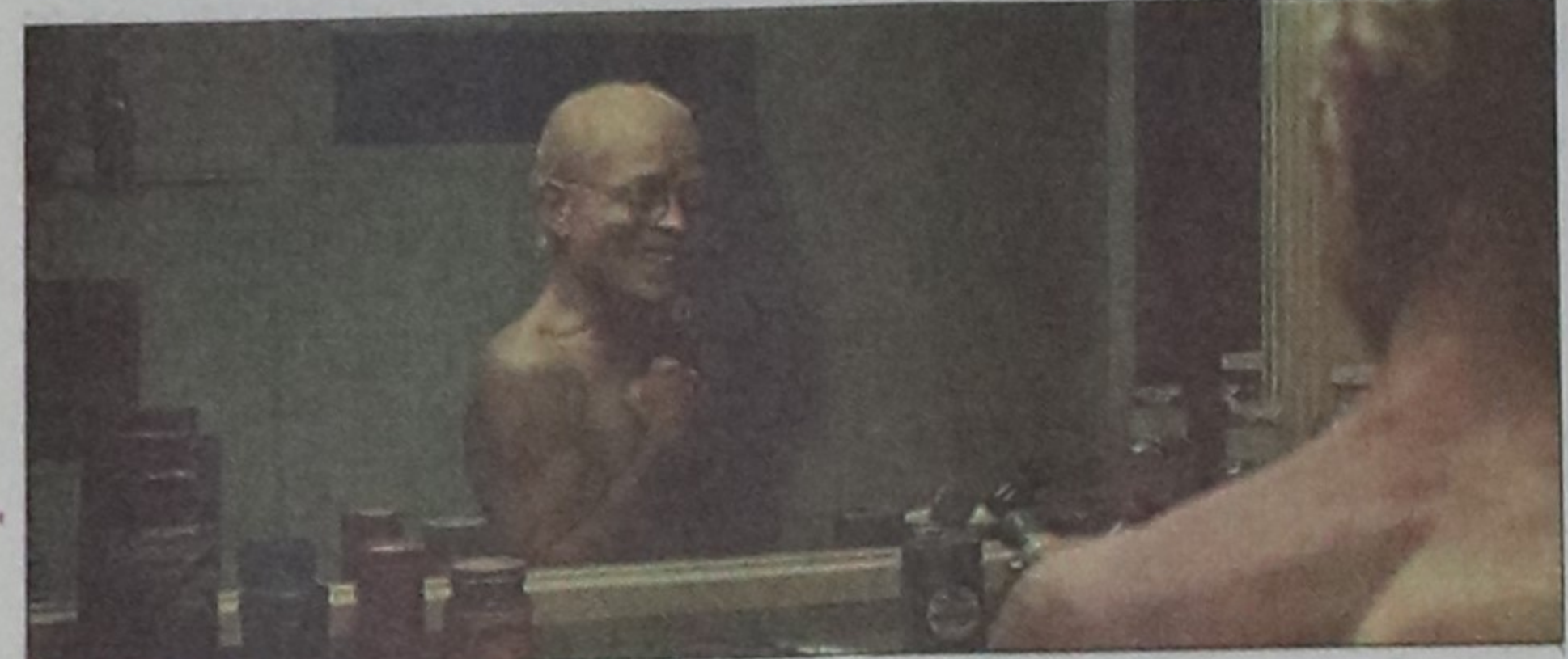
Digital Biography and Photography Exhibition
 Title: Jibon O Chitrey Gunjon
 Organiser: Gunjon
 Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Rd, Dharamdoli
 Date: January 6-10
 Time: 9am-12pm, 5-8pm



Dance Drama
 Play: Hey Ananta Panya
 Troupe: Shadhona
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: January 9
 Time: 7pm



Mortality Cinema New subgenre on the rise



In "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," the protagonist played by Brad Pitt heads inexorably toward his own demise equipped with the knowledge of exactly how much time he has left.

As Jim Morrison sang, "No one here gets out alive." Maybe he was referring to a modern-day movie experience?

To watch a Hollywood blockbuster these days is to confront one's own mortality, as some of the fall's biggest prestige titles have the meaning of life -- more specifically, the end of it -- on their minds.

In "Seven Pounds," a character wracked with guilt over the accidental death of his wife begins a long series of preparations to kill himself. The film's climactic scene has him dying dramatically in a bathtub suicide.

"Synecdoche, New York" features a man who, after a string of flawed relationships and an attempt to create a grand work of art, comes face to face with his mortality. The movie ends when a God-like figure gives the one-word command "Die." (He obliges.)

And in "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," a man heads inexorably toward his own demise equipped with the knowledge of exactly how much time he has left. In the movie's affecting climax, he dies as a baby, closing his eyes for the final time in the arms of the woman he loved.

Watching these films that give new meaning to the phrase "end credits," one is tempted to ask several questions. First, does Hollywood need a hug? And second, what exactly is behind this sudden burst of Yeats-like tendencies?

Over the decades there have been many great, and even more not-so-great, films that feature death as a central element. But most have used it either as a dramatic denouement, like the wartime romance, or as a story's engine, like countless family dramas.

What's happening here is perhaps something more

away from the person you love to spare them from getting hurt ("Button"). Mortality cinema might constantly nag us that we're nearing the end, but it sure spends a lot of time telling us what happens before we get there.

"Button" has earned nearly \$80 million since Christmas day, while "Pounds" has hit \$60 million since December 19.

Even more curious is why these movies are getting made in these uncertain times. With all there is to worry about in life at the moment, why throw death onto the pile?

For Hollywood, filmmakers who grew up during and were influenced by the American golden era of the 1970s are hitting age milestones. Someone who was, say, 14 when "The Godfather" came out would have just turned 50. "Synecdoche" director Charlie Kaufman, for instance, hit the mid-century mark just six weeks ago.

Of course, filmmakers tend to have death obsessions in general. Woody Allen once said that he didn't want to achieve immortality through his work, he wanted to achieve it by not dying.

That seems like a good approach. But if you want to be reminded of mortality these days, you don't need to make a movie. You just need to see one.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

NEW RELEASES



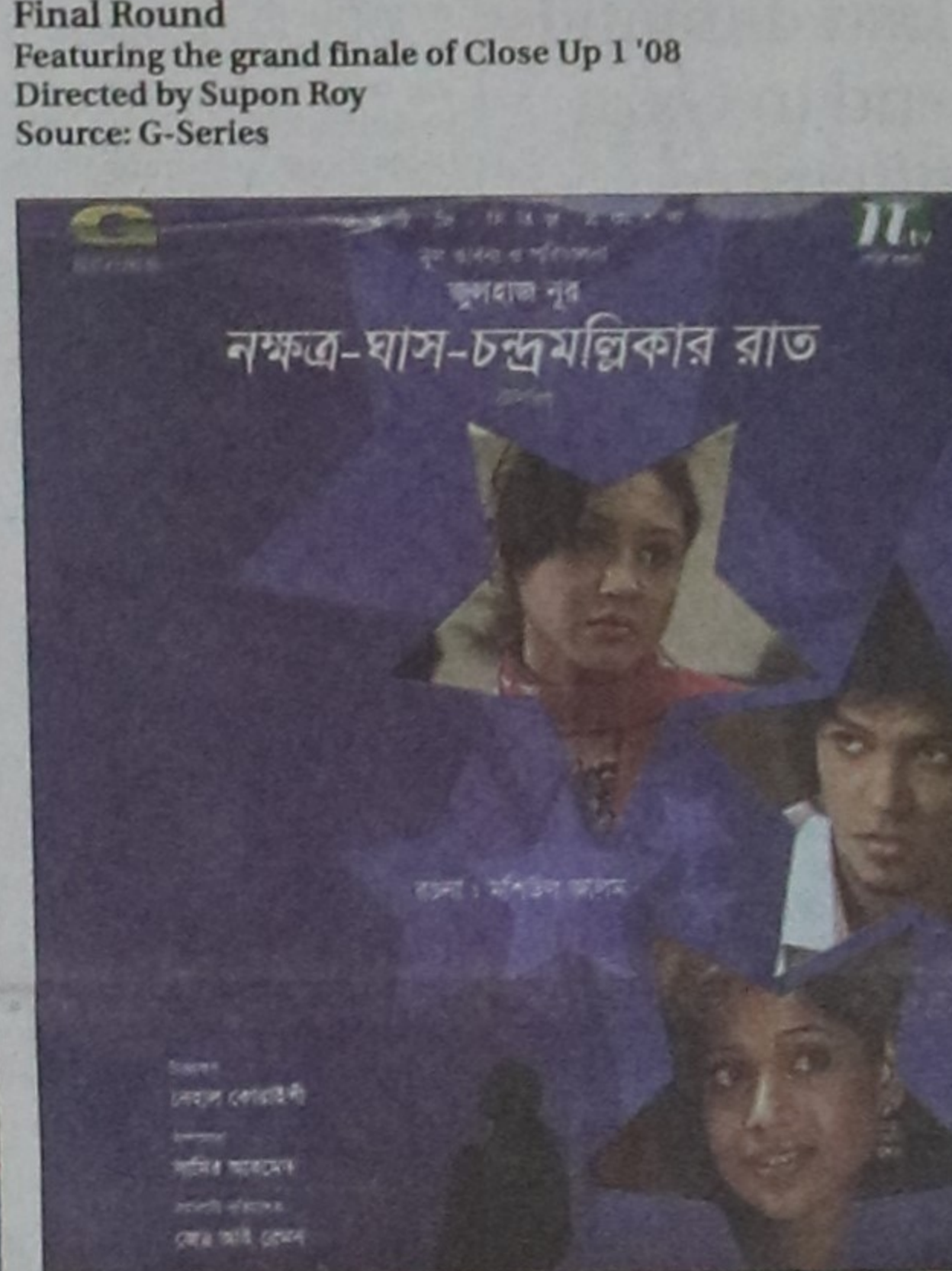
Shopno
 Solo album featuring Hyder Husyn
 Source: Rage Records



Final Round
 Featuring the grand finale of Close Up 1 '08
 Directed by Supon Roy
 Source: G-Series



Tomar-e Pratikkhay
 Album featuring Close Up 1 '08 winner Liza
 Source: G-Series



Nakkhatro-Ghash-Chandramallikar Raat
 TV play
 Written by Mashiul Alam and directed by Zulhaj Noor
 Cast: Al Mansur, Joya Ahsan and Nova
 Source: G-Series



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

On Air

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-1
 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, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 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): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ntv
 News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am
ETV
 News (Bangla): 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

BTV

08:20 Shuprobhaat
 09:05 Talk Show
 09:30 Musical Programme
 10:05 Open University
 11:20 Desher Gaan
 11:30 Apon Aloy
 12:10 Documentary Programme
 12:30 Maa O Shishur Katha
 01:00 Selected Programme
 01:30 Shukhi Ponbaar
 02:40 Janopad
 03:05 Cartoon
 03:30 Esho Gaan Shikhi
 04:05 Special Programme on Ashura
 05:05 Sisimpur
 05:30 Special Programme on Ashura
 06:15 Dhormo O Jibon
 07:00 Special Programme on Ashura
 08:25 Special Programme on Ashura
 10:45 Special Programme on Ashura
 10:30 Special Programme on Ashura

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aiker Shanbadpotro
 08:30 Drama Serial: Jyotsna Kaal
 09:15 Asian City Top Spin
 10:30 Talk Show: Onyodnshti
 11:05 Selected Programme
 12:15 Musical Programme: Shurer Madhuri
 12:50 Shodalpati
 01:30 Cinema Cinema
 02:30 Talk Chart
 03:05 Islamic Programme: Shundor Jibon-er Jonyo

CHANNEL-1

04:10 Debate Programme: BSB
 Cambrian Jukti Torko
 Live Programme on Int'l Trade Fare
 06:20 Talk Show: Priyojon
 06:45 Projonmo Kotha
 08:00 Drama Serial

08:40 Drama Serial: Nupur
 09:20 Drama Serial: Tomaar Doyaye Bhalo Achhi Ma
 11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House
 12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL i

08:05 Tagore Song
 08:30 Shokaal-er Gaan
 09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
 09:45 Public Reaction
 09:50 Talk Show: Grameenphone Tritomatra
 11:05 Talk Show: Baithak
 02:30 Musical Programme: Hridoyer Gaan
 03:05 Hridoye Mati O Manush-er Daak
 04:05 Shilpo O Sangskriti
 05:30 Special Programme
 06:00 Amar Chhobi
 06:20 Special Programme

ntv

08:30 Aiker Shokaal
 08:55 Drama Serial: Eit Kather Khancha
 09:30 Bajoy Ebong Bajoy
 10:05 Cookery Show: Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe
 10:30 Drama
 12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy
 01:05 Cartoon: Meena
 02:35 Drama Serial: Ondhokaar-er Phul
 03:20 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela
 04:10 Live Quiz Show
 05:25 Ilthasher Ei Din-ey
 05:35 Mahilangon
 06:15 Shubho Shondha
 06:45 Amaro Galtey Ichhchhey Holo
 08:15 Drama Serial: House Full
 09:45 Drama Serial: Brishtr Jonyo
 11:35 Musical Programme:

03:15 Dehaghari
 04:02 Drama Serial: Tomtom
 04:30 Deshjurey
 05:30 Sports Plus
 05:45 Ekush-er Shondha
 06:30 Fashion Trendz
 07:45 Dhum Ta Na
 09:30 Aromatic Gold Dhaka Fashion
 10:50 Financial Bulletin
 12:10 Ekusher Raat

BANGLAVISION

08:30 Cinebit Shadakalo Gaanapal
 09:00 Agricultural Programme: Shamol Bangla
 10:10 Ebong Classer Bairey
 10:40 Telepress Business
 11:03 Media Bhuban
 11:35 Cookery Show: Amader Rannagar
 Home Care
 12:30 Ghorey Bairey
 02:30 Drama Serial:
 03:03

08:15 Drama Serial: Shomudro Jol
 09:05 X-Crime
 09:45 Daily Soap: Gulshan Avenue
 11:15 Dance Programme
 12:10 Shangbad Protidin

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhaat Bangladesh
 10:40 Bangla Feature Film
 02:00 Gaaner Kotha Kothar Gaan
 03:30 Drama: Dosh Hajar Eak Taka
 04:00 Hirak Bari Shonar Churi
 04:30 Music Wagon
 05:15 Gollachhut
 06:00 Saajbela
 07:00 Shuktara
 08:15 Drama: Dosh Hajar Eak Taka
 09:00 Friends
 09:30 30 Rock

02:03 Bangla Fature Film
 05:30 Sa Sa Dhin Tai
 06:00 Protidin (Live)
 07:00 Road to Democracy
 09:00 Jiboney Jibon Anno
 11:30 Boshudha Tomar Jonno Amar E Gaan

STAR MOVIES

10:05 Wings Of The Dove
 11:50 Fied
 01:25 Flirting With Disaster
 03:05 Shut Up & Sing Dixie Chicks
 04:40 Vip Access: Vip Ticket To 2009
 05:10 Waitress
 07:00 Night At The Museum
 08:50 Shallow Hal
 10:45 Broken Arrow
 12:40 Infected

STAR WORLD

09:00 Friends
 09:30 30 Rock

09:30 30 Rock
 10:00 Scrubs
 10:30 Brother & Sisters
 11:30 Jimmy Kimmel Live

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

08:30 Tour of Duty
 10:15 Creative Vision
 10:30 Marco Polo
 12:15 Creative Vision
 12:30 Friday Film
 02:30 Mahabharata
 03:30 Marco Polo
 04:30 Rise and Rise of David Beckham
 05:30 Tour of Flight
 06:30 Around The World In 80 Treasur
 07:30 Bhanwar
 08:30 Marco Polo
 09:30 Hillary on Everest
 10:30 Yash Chopra
 11:00 Karan Johar
 11:30 Bhanwar




House Full
 On ntv at 8:15pm
 Drama Serial
 Cast: Hillol, Sumaiya Shimu

Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

07:30am Hello Dhaka
 10:00am Music Junction
 01:00pm No Tension
 04:00pm Dhaka Calling
 09:00pm Full Volume
 11:00pm Somooy Asomoy (SOS)

Radio Today 89.6 FM

07:15am Good Morning Dhaka
 11:00am Masti Unlimited
 01:00pm Today's Adda
 04:00pm U-turn
 08:00pm Toke Tai Hok
 11:00pm Raat Vor Gan



Flushed Away
 On HBO at 7:45 pm
 Cast: Hugh Jackman, Kate Winslet

07:50 Lux-Channel i Superstar '08
 09:35 Drama Serial: Doink Tolpaar
 10:00 Travel Show: RC Travel On
 11:30 Special Programme
 12:00 Grameenphone Aiker Shangbadpotro

ETV

08:30 Ekusher Shokaal
 09:30 Drama Serial: Tomtom
 10:30 Ekush-er Business
 11:30 Ekush-er Business
 02:30 Drama Serial: Akey Shunya Dash

04:20 Top Story
 05:15 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue
 05:45 Citycell Din-er Sheshey
 06:20 Special Programme: Abhibashir Ghamer Taka
 06:50 Shap Ludur Khela

Rtv

09:00 Business Blog/Alor Athi
 O Shompa Reza
 10:03 Nalor
 11:03 Taroka Alap
 11:30 Drama Serial: Ghar Shangshar
 01:03 Dhalwood Beats

11:30 October Road
 12:30 Jimmy Kimmel Live
 01:30 Shark
 02:30 The Ellen Degeneres
 05:30 La Femme Nikita
 06:30 October Road
 08:30 Seinfeld
 09:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway?

ZEE STUDIO

07:30 Charlie Chapin
 08:30 Americano
 11:15 Intermision
 12:30 Three Men and a Little Lady
 02:45 When A Man Loves A Woman
 08:15 Beaches
 11:00 The Hand That Rocks The Cradle