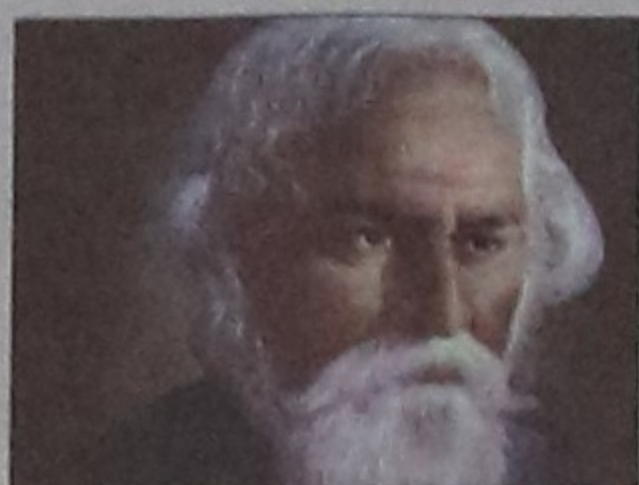


WHAT'S
ON THIS
WEEK

Rabindra Sangeet
Organiser: Dakkhini
Rabindra Sangeetangan
Venue: Auditorium,
National Music and
Dance Centre, BSA
Date: January 23-25
Time: 6pm



**Bangladesh-India
Friendship Art
Exhibition '09**
Title: Friendship
Organiser: Gallery Chittrak
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H
21, Rd 4, Dhanmondi
Date: January 23-27
Time: 11am-8pm



Pitha Utsab
Organiser: Coffee
House, BSA
Venue: Coffee House
premises, BSA
Date: January 23-31
Time: 3pm-9pm



Theatre
Play: The Frost Haired
and the Dream Seer
Troupe: Beavrisd Sami
Theatre (Norway)
Organiser: Centre for
Asian Theatre
Venue: National Theatre
Hall, BSA
Date: January 23
Time: 6:30pm



Three-day 'Bomang Raj Punha' to begin from February 5

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, back from
Bandarban

The traditional 'Bomang Raj Punha' celebrated by the Bomang Circle will start from February 5 in the hill town of Bandarban. Aungsoi Prue Chowdhury, 94, chief of the Bomang Circle, made the announcement at a press conference held recently at his palace in Bandarban.

The 11th instalment of 'Raj Punha', a 113-year old tradition, will continue till February 7 at the Rajbari compound in the town.

Every year a large number of people from Bandarban and adjacent areas gather in the town to attend the festival.

According to traditions, the Bomang Raja or chief collects taxes from the 'headmen' ('mouza' chiefs) and 'karbari' (village chiefs) at the royal function. Indigenous men mostly 'jhum' farmers pay annual taxes to their respective 'headmen' and 'karbari', and the accumulated funds are offered formally to the circle chief during 'Raj Punha'.

Apart from money, the 'headmen' and 'karbari' also offer tributes in other forms



Bomang Circle Chief Raja Aungsoi
Prue Chowdhury.

like livestock and liquor for the chief in accordance with tradition.

A total of 109 'mouza' are under the Bomang Circle.

The 'Raj Punha' has other attractions too. 'Mela' (fairs) held on the occasion include 'jatra-pala', circus, puppet show and stage plays.

"The intention of 'Raj Punha' is to uphold the age-old tradition of the Bomang dynasty. I don't hold this festival for monetary profits," said Bomang Chief Aungsoi Prue Chowdhury.

The tradition of 'Raj Punha' is observed by people of two other circles -- Chakma Circle in Rangmati and Mong Circle in Khagrachhari. However, the chiefs of those circles have not held the festival in recent years.

According to the Bomang Chief, the royal family settled in Bandarban town in 1727. He along with family members moved to Bandarban from the kingdom of Arakan (in Myanmar), when the ruler 'Pegu Emperor' was defeated by 'Tongu Emperor' in a battle that year. Members of the Bomang royal family are successors of the 'Pegu Dynasty'.

Akshay Kumar turns down award

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

It is seldom that a Bollywood star refuses to accept a popular award when (s)he is attending the presentation ceremony. But that is precisely what Akshay Kumar did on the night of January 14 when he refused to take the Star Screen Award for best actor in the Popular Viewers' Choice category for his performance in box office hit 'Singh is King', leaving his fans and organisers absolutely stunned.

Akshay left the stage without accepting the award, saying that actor Aamir Khan deserved that award for the latter's role in last year's biggest hit 'Ghajini'. Akshay said he felt that Aamir should have the honour and dedicated the award to him.

"To me, the best actor is Aamir Khan

for 'Ghajini'. This is for you, Aamir, from me and the people," Akshay had said at the ceremony.

The action left the organisers of the ceremony in Mumbai red-faced. But a day later when the actor was in Delhi to promote his latest film 'Chandni Chowk to China', he made it clear that his was not a publicity stunt.

"I have seen 'Ghajini' and I think the film really deserved the honour. Aamir can't be left out just because he doesn't attend such award-giving events," Akshay said adding, "I will not take something I don't deserve."

Was Akshay returning the compliments that Aamir had given him a few days back? Aamir had said that when he first saw the Tamil original of 'Ghajini' (The Hindi version is a remake of that), he felt Akshay or Salman Khan was better

suited for that role with their physical frames.

Or was Akshay unhappy that Hrithik Roshan was adjudged the best actor (male) for the latter's performance in 'Jodha Akbar'?

Unlike the best actor category done by a jury, the best actor in the Popular Viewers' Choice category was chosen through a system of e-mail and SMS voting by readers of 'Screen' magazine. Interestingly, Bollywood diva Aishwarya Rai too dedicated her award for best Popular Viewers' Choice actor (female) to the entire crew of 'Jodha Akbar'. The best actor (female) selected by the jury went to Priyanka Chopra for her role in Madhur Bhandarkar-directed film 'Fashion' which depicts downside of the fashion world.

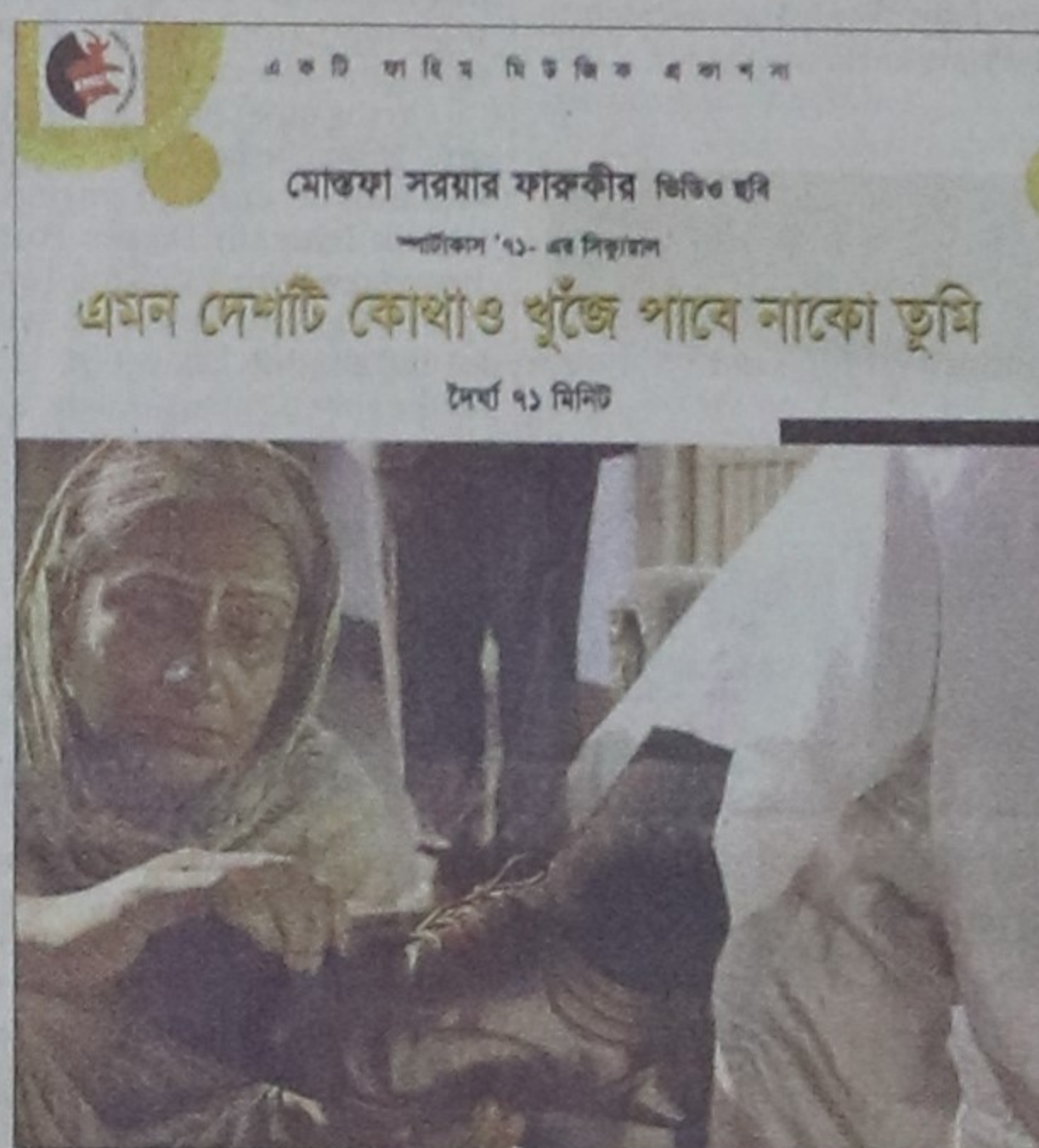
NEW RELEASES



Shokol-e Phuralo
Solo album of Rabindra Sangeet by
Sayeed Hasan Tipu
Source: Laser Vision



Bhabnagulo
Solo album featuring
Rakib
Source: Chiroharith



Emon Deshti Kothao Khuje Pabey Nako Tumi
Video film directed by Mostafa Sarwar Farooki
Cast: Sohel Khan, Monira Mithu, Musafir Syed
Source: Fahim Music



Chhochha Kadam
TV play directed by Nader Chowdhury
Cast: Shahiduzzaman Selim, Manosh Bandyopadhyay
Source: Laser Vision



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, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

ATN BANGLA
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.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

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

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

News (English) at 6:00 pm.
Rtv
News (Bangla) 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am.

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

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

abc radio
News: 08:00 am, 12:00 pm, 03:00 pm, 06:00 pm, 09:00 pm, 12:00 am.

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

On Air

BTV

08:20 Shuprobhaat
09:00 Cricket Match: Bangladesh VS Zimbabwe (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).
12:35 Talk Show
12:45 Sisimpur
05:10 Bangla feature Film
08:30 Desher Gaan
08:40 Drama Serial: Shomali Din
09:00 Chhayachhondo
10:30 Bohurupi

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aiker Shanbaadpotro
08:30 Special Programme
09:20 BSB Cambrian Education Zone
10:30 Cookery Show: Dakko Gura Moshla ATN Rannagar
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Tele Talk Banijyomela Protidin
06:25 Prokoro Joy
06:40 Amjona Kotha
08:00 Drama: Hello Hridita Achhey
09:20 Drama: Tomar Doasy Bhalo Achhi Ma
10:40 Bibeker Kachhey Proshno
11:00 Daily Soap: Doll's House
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL-i

08:30 Shokaal-er Gaan
09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Tritio Matra
10:30 Grameenphone Telehomoy
11:30 Islamic Programme
12:05 Kora Aalap
12:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma
01:30 Grameenphone Tritiomatray
Apni
02:35 Lux Channel i Performance
Award'08

06:00 Talk Show: Aloye Bhuban
Bhura

07:50 Musical Programme: Meridian
Channel i Khudey Gaan
Raj'08
10:00 Drama Serial: Dainik Tolpaar
11:30 First Minister
12:00 Grameenphone Aiker
Shangbadporto

ETV

10:02 Shonamoni Shukhey Ashukey
11:30 Job Line
12:30 Dhurn Tana
02:00 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Sports Plus

10:10 Bhalo Thakun
11:05 Housing Batra
11:40 Apnaar Agami
12:30 Mohioshi Nari
02:00 Drama Serial: Swapno Chura
02:30 Cookery Show: Amader Ranna
Ghar
03:03 Ganaalal
04:20 Dhormo O Jibon
05:15 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue
05:45 Citycell Din-er Sheshey
06:20 Selected Programme
08:15 Drama Serial: Ontorikhyo
09:05 Drama Serial: Bijli Moholla
09:45 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue



Ontorikhyo
On Banglavisat at 8:15 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Abul Hayat, Meer Sabbir

07:00 Drama: Nokhyotrey Kodin
09:30 Drama Serial: Aziz Market
Shahbag Dhaka 1000
10:10 Bhoboghurey Dot Com
11:00 Ekushey Shangbad
12:02 Phone O Live Studio Concert

BANGLAVISION

08:00 Shubho Shokaal
08:30 Shamol Bangla
09:00 Nodi O Jibon
09:30 Business Dialog

11:15 Talk Show: Anyon Nayan
12:10 Shangbaadprotidin
CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhaat Bangladesh
10:30 Drama
11:30 Alor Kaphela
01:00 Drama
02:00 Gollachhut
03:30 Drama
04:00 Selected Programme
04:30 Documentary Programme
05:15 Katgoray Channel 1

07:00 Adda
08:15 Drama: Taak-er Upor Taka
09:30 Hits n Tunes
11:00 Amar Ghar
RTV
09:00 Boshuda Tomaar Jonyo Amaar
El Gaan
10:03 Sa Sa Dhin Tai
11:03 Taroka Alap
01:03 Documentary
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Amader Pathshala
06:30 Protidin
07:00 Travel
07:30 Road To Democracy



abc radio 89.2 FM

09:00 Mushkito Jibney
12:00 Darun Dupurey
03:00 Duranto Boleky
05:00 Shonda Tara
07:00 Shajer Maya
09:00 Real-er Akashy
11:00 Jay Golper Shesh Nai
Radio Fori: 85.0 FM
08:00 Friday Morning Show
12:00 Hamd-Kash and Qura-nekar
02:00 Food Unlimited
06:00 Bumper to Bumper
11:00 Sonoy Asomoy (SOS)
Radio Today 89.6 FM
07:15am Good Morning Dhaka
11:00am Post Box 3032
01:00pm Islami Gan
02:00pm Rupel Gan
07:00pm Today's World Music
12:00am Today's Happy Moments

STAR MOVIES
08:00 Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man
09:50 T4xi
11:25 Desperate Measures
01:10 The Beach
03:10 Little Fish
05:00 Things To Do In Denver When You're Dead
07:00 Sleuth
08:30 Severance
10:10 Next
11:50 What Lies Beneath
STAR WORLD
09:00 Friends



American Idol
On Star World at 11:30 pm

09:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway?
09:30 Carpoolers
10:00 The Knights Of Prosperity
10:30 Psych
11:30 American Idol

FOX HISTORY & ENTERTAINMENT CHANNEL

08:30 Legends of Wimbledon
10:15 Creative Vision
10:30 Century of Flight
12:00 Creative Vision
12:30 Icons of Power
02:30 Mahatma: A Great Soul
03:30 The Future
04:30 Mini Cooper
05:30 Chocolate
06:30 Bhanwar
07:30 Legends of Wimbledon
08:30 Mahatma: A Great Soul
09:30 Swing Kids
11:30 Around The World In 80 Treasur

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL

08:30 Built For The Kill
09:30 Penious Journeys
11:00 Creative Vision
11:30 Street Monkeys
12:30 Camels, Courts & Concubines
01:30 Naked Science
02:30 The Monkey Prince
03:30 World's Deadliest Animals
04:30 Hunter Hunted
06:00 Big Bang
06:30 Bull Riding
08:00 Snake Wranglers
08:30 Hunter Hunted
09:30 Most Dangerous Moments
10:30 South India
11:00 A Different Sport
11:30 Trapped

ZEE STUDIO

12:30 Donnie Brasco
03:15 Down and Out in Beverly Hills
05:30 Hollywood's 10 Best
06:00 Raising Helen
08:40 High School Musical 2
11:00 Jane Eyre (1-2)