

WHAT'S  
ON THIS  
WEEK

**Musical Soiree**  
Title: Shobarey Kori  
Ahaban  
Organiser: Prottil  
Venue: Shawkat Osman  
Auditorium, Central  
Public Library, Shahbag  
Date: April 13  
Time: 7pm

**Theatre**  
Play: Trollus and  
Cressida  
Troupe: Nagarik Natya  
Sampraday  
Venue: Experimental  
Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: April 11  
Time: 7pm

**Solo Painting  
Exhibition**  
Title: My Dreams  
Artist: Masuma Khan  
Venue: Alliance Francaise  
de Dacca, 28, Mirpur Rd,  
Dhanmondi  
Date: April 3-17  
Time: 9am-12pm, 5-8pm  
(Saturdays 5-8pm)

**Film Screening**  
Films: 'Naroshundor' and  
'Muktir Kotha'  
Director: Tareque and  
Catherine Masud  
Venue: British Council  
Auditorium, 5 Fuller Rd  
April 10-11: 11am  
onwards

## In Focus

Chaitra Shangkranti in true  
Maulvibazar style

RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI,  
Moulvibazar

Rural folks celebrate 'Chaitra Shangkranti,' the last day in the Bengali calendar, amidst much festivity in their unique way. 'Charak Puja' and 'Baruni' are features of the celebration among rural Hindus of Maulvibazar district. From time immemorial, these events are being observed throughout the region.

According to the Bangla Academy calendar, April 13 marks 'Chaitra Shangkranti.' But villagers still follow the old Bangla calendar and according to that, 'Chaitra Shangkranti' will be observed on April 14 this year.

'Charak Puja' and 'Baruni' organisers collect donations to arrange the festival. They have a unique but traditional technique of raising funds for the festival. Two members of the group are dressed as Lord Shiva and Goddess Gauri. The actors go from door to door dancing as the two deities and collect donations. This dance of Shiva and Gauri is quite popular among the villagers; musicians and singers accompany the actors for added effect.

After necessary funds have been collected, the organisers



Actors perform the 'Shiva and Gauri dance' to collect funds for 'Chaitra Shangkranti' celebration.

gather at an open space in the village. A wooden pillar is erected at the centre of the field/open space and ropes with iron hooks are attached to the pillar. Two devotees then pierce their backs with the hooks and stay suspended. Supposedly, their passion and devotion overcome their bodily senses and they feel no pain.

One (or more) individual in the get up of the goddess

Kali dances at the venue of 'Charak Puja.' Some devotees even walk on burning charcoal. Thousands throng the venue to witness the miracles. On the occasion, a 'mela' (village fair) is set up at the venue of 'Charak Puja.' Traders put on display their goods, including sweets and toys.

In the past, 'Charak Puja' was held in several places of the district and people

enjoyed the festival. But with changing times, these folk traditions are losing ground. 'Charak Puja' and 'Baruni' still get celebrations but at a reduced scale.

Local cultural activists and enthusiasts fear that if mass awareness and interest in rural traditions are not generated, celebrations like 'Chaitra Shangkranti' may soon become a thing of the past.

## Street theatre festival in Thakurgaon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A three-day long 'Patho Naty Utsab' (street theatre festival) opened at Thakurgaon Public Library premises last Wednesday evening.

Thakurgaon Nishchintapur Theatre organised the festival with the slogan, "Krantikaley jonmechhi, muktir mohonayemishechhi."

A total of six theatre troupes from Thakurgaon, including Angikar Naty Niketan, Shapla Naty Goshthi, Alpona

Naty Goshthi, Nattayon, Debiganj Theatre and Nishchintapur Theatre took part at the festival.

Former lawmaker and eminent cultural personality, Alhajj Fazlul Karim, inaugurated the festival as chief guest. President of Thakurgaon Shammilito Shangskritik Jote, Shafiqul Islam, attended the inaugural programme as special guest.

Rashidul Islam, president of Thakurgaon Nishchintapur Theatre, presided over the inaugural session.

Speakers at the discussion conveyed

that street theatre reflects the contemporary socio-cultural state of the country. They also said that the theatre activists of the country have always been vocal against all forms of social injustice through street theatre performances.

The opening play at the festival was "Bag" by Angikar Naty Niketan. The play was written and directed by Goutam Kumar. Shapla Naty Goshthi staged its production "Abak Jalpan," written by Sukumar Roy and directed by Goutam Kumar.

The festival ended yesterday.

## "Star Trek" premieres in Australia

AP, Sydney

The new cast of "Star Trek" has launched the Starship Enterprise on its maiden voyage, with the crew showing a lot of respect for their predecessors.

The 11th big-screen film in the sci-fi series had its world premiere Tuesday at the Sydney Opera House in Australia in advance of its debut in theatres May 8.

Among the stars on hand: Chris Pine, who takes on William Shatner's old role as James Kirk; Zachary Quinto, who inherits Leonard Nimoy's Mr. Spock; Karl Urban, filling the shoes of DeForest Kelley's Dr. McCoy; and Eric Bana, who plays a villainous Romulan.

Out of admiration for the original Kirk, Pine noted that when he was cast, he wrote Shatner a "letter of introduc-

tion and said who I was and what I was doing."

Quinto had a chance to form a personal relationship with Nimoy, who reprises his role as the older Spock. The new Spock said he aims to carve out his own path as the Vulcan scientist with pointed ears.

"Leonard and I have become very close in this

process and his experience has been unique to him and mine will be unique to me," Quinto said.

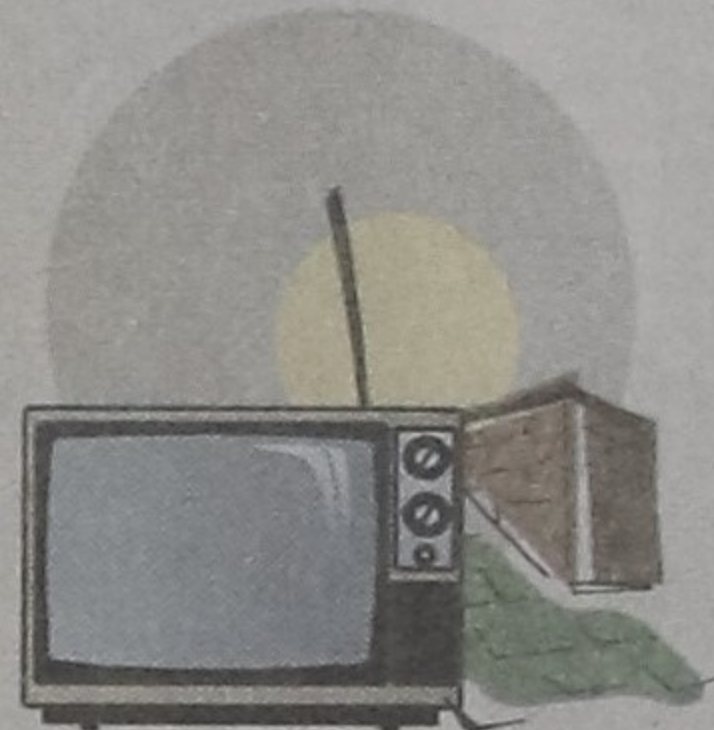
Directed by J.J. Abrams, "Star Trek" is a prequel to the 1960s TV series and the subsequent movies, relating how Enterprise Capt. Kirk, best buddy Spock and their Enterprise crewmates first came together.

John Cho, who plays Mr. Sulu, said he avoided imitating the performance of his predecessor, George Takei.

"I didn't think it would be wise to do a copy of George Takei's performance," Cho said. "It just didn't seem like the right thing to do, and J.J. didn't ask me to do that, so I avoided it."



Chris Pine (left) and Zachary Quinto in "Star Trek."



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

## On Air

## BTV

09:05 Kobita O Chhobi  
09:30 Smritimoy Geetimoy  
10:05 Swastho Sheba  
10:30 Amader Aangina  
11:20 Desher Gaan  
01:30 Shukhi Ponbaar  
12:30 Geeti Naty  
02:15 Sisimpur  
02:45 Bangla Feature Film  
05:05 Laukik Bangla  
07:00 Geeti Malyo  
08:35 Drama Serial: Shomoy Ashomoy  
09:00 Drama: Bibamo Jibon  
10:30 Apnar Doctor

## ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Shanbadpotro  
08:30 Dance Programme: Nupur-er Chhonday  
09:15 Asian City Vision 2020  
10:30 Talk Show: Hello Bangladesh  
11:05 Drama Serial: Tomaar Doyaye Bhalo Achhi Ma  
12:15 Musical Programme: Shesh Okhkhori  
01:30 Documentary Programme: Prapok  
02:40 Bangla Feature Film  
05:30 Char Deyaler Kabyo  
06:20 Square Hospital Shushtho Thakun  
06:45 Kaandey Amar Maa  
08:00 Drama Serial: Sagai  
08:40 Drama Serial: Eka  
09:20 Drama Serial: Naksha  
10:40 Talk Show  
11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House  
12:00 Gramphone Lead News

## CHANNEL I

08:05 Rabindra Sangeet  
08:30 Shokaler Gaan  
09:30 Shanbadpotrey Bangladesh  
09:45 Public Reaction  
09:50 Gramphone Trillo Matra  
11:05 Amader Aaina  
12:05 Musical Programme:

12:30 Talk Show: Citycell Taroka Kathan  
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan  
01:30 Shobaar Jonyo Shobshesh Bigyan Dharona  
02:30 Selected Programme  
05:30 Muktiyudhyo Protidin  
06:00 Quiz Show  
06:20 Jibon Jekhaney Jemon  
07:50 Drama Serial: Sakin Shari Shuri  
09:35 Agricultural Programme: Hridoye Mati O Manush  
10:00 Drama Serial: Nine Month in Brick Lane  
11:30 Drama Serial: Chondro Carigar  
12:00 Gramphone Ajker Shangbadpotro  
ntv  
08:30 Ajker Shokaal



Apon Ghorey Porobash  
On RTV at 9:50 pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Sahiduzzaman Selim, Soaeb, Joy

09:20 Nokia Music Lounge  
11:35 Talk Show: El Shomoy  
BANGLAVISION  
08:00 Shubho Shokaal  
08:30 Drama Serial: Mama Bhagney  
09:00 Kemon Budget Chai  
09:30 Choturango  
10:10 Shamol Bangla  
11:05 Jonotaa Mukhomukhi  
01:30 Drama Serial: Shada Megh Kalo Megh  
02:40 Drama Serial: Antyorkhyo  
03:20 Onno Nayan  
04:10 Musical Programme: Gaanlap  
05:20 Daily Soap: Gulshan Avenue  
06:00 Citycell Din-er Sheshey  
06:20 Din Bodoler Manush  
08:15 Drama Serial: Jogphol  
09:05 Talk Show: Amar Ami  
09:45 Daily Soap: Gulshan Avenue  
11:25 Selected Programme

12:02 Ekusher Raat  
DIGANTA TELEVISION  
08:05 Bigganmoy Quran  
08:30 Shindu Hillol  
09:05 Ekantyo Shanglaap  
10:30 News of the Day  
12:30 Aain O Jibon  
03:00 Drama Serial: Shesh Kothay  
03:30 Bob the Builder  
04:30 Mele Dhori Ichhaguli  
05:30 Shashto Diganta  
06:05 Desh Diganta  
06:30 Sholor Path  
08:05 Drama Serial: Mohor  
08:30 Sholyer Shakhkhi  
09:25 Career Line  
11:05 Shobaar Agey Desh  
RTV  
09:00 R Music  
10:03 Drama Serial: Alta Shundori  
11:03 Taroka Alap

02:30 Bangla Feature Film  
06:02 Gaan-er Shur-er Ashor Khali  
07:45 Desh Top Chart  
08:15 Urukku  
09:30 Drama Serial: Shubhro  
10:02 Drama Serial  
10:30 Total Sports  
11:45 Shoja Katha  
BBC WORLD  
08:00 World News Today  
09:00 BBC World News  
09:30 HARDtalk (r)  
10:00 BBC World News  
10:30 BBC World News Inside Sport (r)  
11:00 BBC World News  
11:30 Middle East Business Report  
12:00 BBC World News  
12:30 Click (r)  
01:00 BBC World News

06:30 Dateline London  
07:00 BBC World News  
07:15 Sport Today  
07:30 Equestrian World  
08:00 BBC World News  
08:30 Exploring Malaysia  
09:00 BBC World News  
09:30 The World Uncovered (r)  
HBO  
08:30 Robo Warriors  
10:30 Wild Things  
12:45 Margot At The Wedding  
02:40 The Contractor  
04:40 Happy Gilmore  
06:15 Hollywood One On One 34  
06:45 The Matrix  
09:30 The Invasion  
11:30 Evan Almighty  
STAR MOVIES  
08:50 Lions For Lambs  
10:40 Blown Away  
01:00 Ten Things I Hate About Y  
03:00 Gone Baby Gone  
05:10 The Medallion  
07:05 The Myth  
09:30 School For Scoundrels  
11:35 Equilibrium  
STAR WORLD  
09:00 The Simpsons  
09:30 Kath & Kim  
10:00 How I Met Your Mother  
10:30 According To Jim  
12:30 American Idol  
01:30 Psych  
02:30 Jimmy Kimmel Live  
03:30 Last Comic Standing  
04:30 American Inventor  
05:30 Most Daring  
06:30 American Idol  
07:30 Smallville  
08:30 90210  
09:30 Bones  
10:30 Boston Legal  
11:30 Heroes  
ZEE STUDIO  
08:15 The Mirror has two faces  
11:05 Enn Brockovich  
02:05 The Groomsmen  
04:20 Scream  
06:50 Bruce Almighty  
09:00 The Hollywood Reporter  
09:30 Scream 2  
12:15 Secret Window

## News Bulletin

BTV  
News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00 am.  
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm.  
News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.  
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).  
CHANNEL-i  
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am  
Jonopad-er Khobor: 5:15 pm  
ATN BANGLA  
NEWS (Bangla): 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am  
News Every Hour: 7:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm, 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm  
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.  
Gram-Ganjer Khobor: 5:00 pm  
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): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm  
abc radio  
News: 08:00 am, 12:00 pm, 03:00 pm, 06:00 pm, 09:00 pm, 12:00 am; English Bulletin: 1:30pm  
RADIO TODAY  
News: 08:45 am, 01:45pm, 06:45pm, 09:45pm, 11:45pm

