

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Film Screening**  
Title: Contemporary Russian & Argentine films  
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society and RCSC  
Venue: RCSC, H-42 (510), R-7, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 1-July 2



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: New Crop  
Artist: ASM Mustafa  
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, H 21, R 4, Dhanmondi  
Date: June 27-July 7  
Time: 10am-8pm



**Display of books**  
Title: 115th birth anniversary of Isaac Babel  
Organiser: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, Dhaka  
Venue: RCSC, H-42 (510), R-7, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 1-July 14



**Stone Free presents Pink Floyd**  
Organiser: Excalibur Entertainment  
Venue: Winter Garden, Hotel Sheraton  
Date: July 3  
Time: 6pm  
The concert is restricted only for ticket-holders



## Ustad Ali Akbar Khan: A sarod maestro departs

REENAT FAUZIA

My uncle Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, the unparalleled sarod maestro, died recently. His father Ustad Alauddin Khan and my grandfather Ustad Ayet Ali Khan were brothers.

The news came as a shock, though he had crossed the ripe old age of 87. On June 19, Doordarshan formally conveyed the news of his sad demise.

What a glorious musical career he had enjoyed! It was a saga of arduous rewar, going up to as much as 18 hours a day.

Born in the village of Shibpur in Brahmanbaria, Bangladesh, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan grew up in Maihar, Madhya Pradesh, where his father was the court musician to the Maharaja. An early entrant to the world of music, he began vocal training at the tender age of three. He then went on to practice diverse musical instruments under the tutelage of his father, who was adept at 200 instruments. However when the young boy reached the age of nine, his father decided that he should specialise in the sarod. In 1933, at the age of 11, he began to play a sarod especially designed for him by his uncle Ustad



Ustad Ali Akbar Khan

Ayet Ali Khan.

He made his first solo public appearance at the age of 13 in Allahabad. Beginning with performances at various music conferences in the '40s, he joined All India Radio, Lucknow, as a music director. Then he was sent to Jodhpur as a substitute for his father who had been invited to become the court musician for the Maharaja of Jodhpur. He remained there for six years, playing music up to eight hours a day. Upon the death of the Maharaja, Ali Akbar moved to Bombay (now Mumbai), the movie

capital of India, where, to his father's distress, he began to compose film music. When his father Ustad Alauddin Khan heard that Ali Akbar was working on film music, he angrily sent a telegram saying: "From today you are no longer my son." However, when Ustad Alauddin Khan himself went to see the movie "Khudhito Pashan," he questioned a close friend "Who composed this music? This is great!" He was told that the music had been composed by his son. On hearing this, he wrote a letter to Ali Akbar saying: "You can go ahead

and compose film music. I withdraw my last telegram." In 1954, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan encountered the notable Yehudi Menuhin, one of the 20th century's greatest western musicians. Menuhin sought to introduce the young talent to the western audiences. So Ali Akbar flew to the west in 1955, first to England and then USA. He had the honour to be the first Indian musician to play on western television. In 1955 in New York he recorded the first ever long play record of North Indian classical music. The album, incorporating

Raaga Sindhu Bhairavi and Raaga Pilu Barowa, was introduced by Yehudi Menuhin announcing the scale, counting the 16 beats of teen taal and demonstrating the drone.

Ustad Ali Akbar Khan had many credits to his name, having bagged the President of India Award twice over, and as a recipient of the Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan. In the United States, he was invited to play at the inaugural ceremonies of President Kennedy and, in 1991, he received the MacArthur Foundation Genius Fellowship in recognition of his work in transmitting and enhancing the musical tradition of North India. In 1993 he received the Bill Graham Lifetime Achievement Award. From 1970 to 1998 he was nominated for the Grammy Award five times. But due to some technical hitches he declined the nomination. In 1994 the Ali Akbar Foundation was set up to archive and preserve the music of the Seni Baba Alauddin Gharana so that future generations could access and research it.

Let us all pray for his eternal peace.

The writer is a sitar player and an academic.

## Abu Sayeed's next venture Apekkha to zoom in on terrorism

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, NEW DELHI

Every time director Abu Sayeed has undertaken a feature film project, the subject has been thought provoking. Be it "Nirontor," "Shankhonad," "Banshi" or "Rupantor."

But when he makes his fifth film next year, he might face a different kind of challenge as the subject is going to be terrorism.

After a three-year hiatus since "Rupantor" (2007), the internationally-acclaimed director returns to feature filmmaking next year with the work tentatively titled "Apekkha".

Sayeed told The Daily Star that the script for the proposed film has been written by him and revolves round the story of two youths in contrasting circumstances -- one a terrorist and another who is killed by terrorists -- and their families.

The common thread running through the two families is the absence of the youths from daily life -- a father pining away for his terrorist son who is lost to the family while a grandmother mourning the death of his grandson killed by an act of terrorism, Sayeed said.

Referring to the title of the film, Sayeed says both the father of the terrorist and the grandmother of the terror victim are waiting for their dear ones to return; both have been lost to terrorism.

Sayeed feels terrorism being a global issue, his next film is set to appeal to a much wider audience than his previous film "Rupantor" (Transformation), which was adjudged the best international entry at the International Film Festival on Tribal Art and Culture in Bhopal recently.

The accolade for his earlier feature film "Nirontor," which won three awards at different international festivals in India four years ago, inspired him to make the next feature film "Banshi" (Flute). The success of "Rupantor" in the Bhopal festival has inspired Sayeed to return to feature film once his present assignment of making a TV serial is over.

"Award does give you inspiration and it also helps in your area of activity," says Sayeed.

The director is yet to finalise the cast of "Apekkha" but would like to start work on it once he completes the TV serial "Pashapashi."



National University recently organised an inter college cultural competition at Government Bangla College in Mirpur. The competition was on Nazrul and Rabindra Sangeet, folk and modern songs, as well as dance, recitation and debate. Participating colleges were Government Ananda Mohan College, Mymensingh; Rajendra College, Faridpur; Shahadat College, Tangail; Gurudayal College, Kishoreganj; Eden College, Dhaka; Government Bangla College, Dhaka; Dhaka College and Government Titumir College, Dhaka. Picture shows judges, teachers and others.



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

## On Air

### ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Shanbadpotro  
08:30 Drama Serial: Jostnakal  
09:15 Drama Serial: Shadakalo Mon  
10:30 Hello Bangladesh  
11:05 Musical Programme: Shurey Shurey  
12:15 IT Zone  
01:25 Band View  
02:30 Dance Programme: Nupur-er Chhonday  
03:15 Drama Serial: Rupali Manush  
03:45 Children's Programme: Dhan Shalik-er Desh  
04:20 Islamic Programme  
05:10 Islamic Programme  
05:35 Jiboner Jolchobi  
06:15 Take Care  
08:00 Rexona Destination Unlimited  
08:40 Drama Serial: Ghar Jamai  
09:20 Drama Serial: Jyotsna Kaal  
11:30 Talking Point  
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

### CHANNEL I

08:05 Tagore Song  
08:30 Shokkal-er Gaan  
08:50 Ajker Chakri  
09:30 Shangbadpotro Bangladesh  
09:45 Public Reaction  
09:50 Grameenphone Tritiomatra  
11:05 Sports Time  
12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathan  
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan  
01:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma  
02:35 Musical Programme: Hridoyer Gaan  
03:05 Channel i Shera Kantho '09  
04:05 Muktiudhyo Proidin  
04:30 Apnaar Shuswashtyo  
05:30 Drama Serial: Shath Goenda  
06:00 Children's Programme: Mattu O Bondhura  
06:20 Arku Desh Bidesh Ranna  
07:50 Drama Serial: Tulir Telesmati  
08:25 Drama Serial: Chobish Ghonta

09:35 Drama Serial: Sufi  
10:00 Drama Serial: Nine Months in Brick Lane  
11:30 Special Programme  
12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Shanbadpotro

### ETV

10:02 Ekushey Business  
02:30 Drama Serial: Paan Bahar  
03:15 Ta Na Na Na  
03:30 O Bondhu Amar  
04:00 Drama Serial: Hitlu  
04:30 Desh Jurey Shanglaap  
06:30 Campus-ey Campus-ey  
07:45 Drama Serial: Ishkool  
09:30 Drama Serial: Hitlu  
10:10 Cine Hits  
12:02 Ekusher Raat  
08:30 Shasthya Protidin

### ntv

08:15 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe  
09:00 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan  
09:45 Drama Serial: Guide  
11:30 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy  
08:30 Drama Serial: Shada Megh Kalo Megh  
09:00 Mega Serial: The Family  
10:10 Talk Show Onno Nayan  
10:35 Amader Rannaghar  
11:05 Bhalo Thakun  
12:30 Gaanlalap  
01:30 Mega Serial: Gulshan Avenue  
02:40 Bangla Feature Film  
05:20 Shyamol Bangla  
06:00 Din-er Sheshey  
06:20 Media Bhuvan  
06:50 Point of Order  
08:15 Drama Serial: Megh Bondhu  
09:05 Life in Metro

### BANGLAVISION



Megh Bondhu  
On Banglavisat at 8:15pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Mosharraf Karim, Romana



92.2 FM  
06:00am Bhorer Janjaly  
09:00am Mukhonto Jiboney  
12:00pm Darun Dupurey  
03:00pm Duranto Bikelley  
05:00pm Shonsha Tara  
07:00pm Shajer Maya  
09:00pm Raat-er Akashey  
11:00pm Galper Shesh Nei  
Radio Forth 88.0 FM  
07:30am Hello Dhaka  
10:00am Morning Express  
12:00pm No Tension  
04:00pm Dhaka Calling  
09:00pm Knight Riders  
Radio Today 89.6 FM  
07:15am Good Morning Dhaka  
11:00am Maels Unlimited  
01:00pm Today's Adda  
04:00pm U-turn  
08:00pm Tobe Tai Hok  
11:00pm Raat-er Gaan  
02:00am Back to Back



Rexona Destination Unlimited  
On ATN Bangla at 8:00pm  
Travel Show  
Host: Nova

08:55 Drama Serial: 1920  
09:30 Frankly Speaking  
10:05 Drama Serial: House Full  
10:30 Marks All Rounder 2009  
11:30 Glamour World  
12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy  
01:05 Japan Video Topic  
02:30 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush  
03:15 Drama Serial: Jhuth Jhamela  
04:10 Quiz Show: Janar Acchey  
05:30 Apnar Jiggasha  
06:45 Bajo Ebong Bajao

09:45 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue  
11:25 Telepress Business  
12:00 Shangbaad Protidin  
08:40 Shuprobhaat Bangladesh  
09:10 Desh Kaal  
10:30 Padmarag  
11:00 Bangla Feature Film  
03:30 Drama Serial: Kaanch-er Putul  
04:00 Nongor  
04:30 Doctor's Voice

### CHANNEL 1

10:30 Total Sports  
11:45 Talk Show: Shoja Katha  
08:30 Dokhin Hawa  
09:05 Diganta Shanglaap  
03:05 Drama Serial: Gaon Geram-er Manush  
04:30 Sindbad  
05:30 Shahitya Diganta  
06:05 Diganta Anushandhan  
08:30 Drama Serial: Bhabnaar Char Deyal

### DIGANTO TELEVISION

03:50 Fearless Hyena II  
06:15 Vip  
Access: Transformers: Revenge Of The Fallen  
06:45 Reign Of Fire  
08:10 3 Burials Of Melquiades Estrada  
11:05 Dragon Lord  
01:00 Kiss Of The Dragon  
10:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway?  
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

### STAR WORLD

11:00 The Apprentice  
12:00 Friends  
01:00 Everybody Loves Raymond  
01:30 My Wife And Kids  
02:00 Samantha Who?  
03:00 Ghost Hunters  
04:00 The Apprentice  
05:00 Prison Break  
06:00 The Ellen Degeneres Show  
07:00 The Bold And The Beautiful  
07:30 7th Heaven  
08:30 Amantha Who?  
09:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway?  
10:00 Ghost Hunters  
11:00 Friends  
12:00 Everybody Loves Raymond  
12:30 My Wife And Kids

### STAR SPORTS

08:00 Volvo Ocean Race Weekly  
09:00 TNA Slander 08/09  
10:00 Wimbledon Highlights  
10:30 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships  
03:30 Hitz 09/10  
04:00 Wimbledon Highlights  
05:00 Ace 2009  
05:30 Score Tonight  
11:00 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships

### ESPN

10:00 NBA Action 2008/09  
10:30 Ebu European Circuit Finals  
01:30 FIFA Confederations Cup 2009 South Africa  
Match: Spain vs. South Africa  
04:00 World Of Gymnastics  
04:30 AFC Champions League Match: Kashima Antlers vs. FC Seoul  
07:30 KIA X Games Asia 2009 - Show 6  
08:30 2008 World Cup Of Trick Shots  
09:30 Sportscenter India 2009  
10:00 Sportscenter Asia  
10:30 Barclays Premier League Hotshots  
11:00 World Of Gymnastics  
11:30 Sportscenter India 2009  
12:00 Sportscenter Asia