

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Musical Soiree

Title: Bhasha O Shadinotar Gaan
 Organiser: Bangladesh Loko Sangeet Parishad
 Venue: Shawakat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh
 Date: March 30
 Time: 5pm



Musical Soiree

Title: Praner Khela
 Artists: Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Sharmin Shathi Islam
 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi
 Date: March 31
 Time: 7:30pm



Musical Festival

Title: Shatyen Sen Gano Sangeet Utshab
 Organiser: Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: March 27-28
 Time: 4pm onwards



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Anukul Mojumdar
 Title: Tales of Dreams
 Venue: Shilpangan Art Gallery, H-26, R-3, Dhanmondi
 Date: March 19-April 3
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Revisiting 1971

Programme at Rajarbagh Police Line

A CORRESPONDENT

"March 25, 1971, it's 11:20 pm by the clock; we could hear the Pakistani army convoy at a distance -- with tanks and heavy machine guns they have already surrounded us, we wait with our 303 rifles in hand, we wait for them to come -- to get closer," said Md. Shahjahan Mian, who was a wireless operator with the East Pakistan police, recalling that fateful night of March 25, 1971 when the Pakistani Army stormed the Rajarbagh Police Lines.

The night of March 25, 1971 -- penned in the history of Bangladesh as the "Black Night", the night when the Pakistani Army carried out a series of killings throughout Dhaka. Among the first places hit was the Rajarbagh Police Line. Here the brave policemen faced the full force of the

Pakistani army. Armed with nothing more than rifles, 150 of them laid down their lives embracing martyrdom that night.

"We fought as long as we could but as we ran out of bullets, we had to fall back," said Mian.

On the eve of March 26, hundreds of candles were lit at the Shaheed Smriti Shoudho premises, Rajarbagh Police Line.

Through discussions, cultural performances, and emotional tunes on bugles Shammilito Shangskritik Jote (SS) and Bangladesh Police observed the 'Black Night' and paid homage to the ones killed on March 25 and also celebrated the early hours of Independence Day. A minute's silence was observed on the occasion. As part of the cultural performance, theatre troupe Mohakal staged the play "Ghumnei".

Among others, Bulbul Islam, Rokaiya Hasina,

Nargis Chowdhury and Jharna Sarkar performed at the programme.

"On the night of March 25, at Rajarbagh it was the police who opened fire at the Pakistani Army first and they put up a huge resistance; the programme aimed at bringing their role to lime-light," said Hassan Arif, general secretary, SSJ.

Organised in association with Bangladesh Police literature and cultural subcommittee, State Minister for Home Affairs Advocate Shamsul Huq Tuku was the chief guest at the programme. Among others Nasiruddin Yousuff, president, SSJ; Inspector General of Police Nur Mohammad; DMP Commissioner A.K.M. Shahidul Haque and other senior police officials were present at the event. The programme was coordinated by Selim S.H. Chowdhury, organising secretary, SSJ.

World Theatre Day today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today marks World Theatre Day. Created in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the day is celebrated annually by the international theatre community. Various national and international theatre events are organised to mark the occasion.

Each year ITI invites a world-renowned figure to pen an international message that shares his/her reflections on the theme of Theatre and a Culture of Peace.

Eminent British stage, film and television actress Dame Judi Dench gives this year's international message. Excerpts from the message-

"World Theatre Day is an opportunity to celebrate Theatre in all its myriad forms. Theatre is a source of entertainment and inspiration and has the ability to unify the many diverse cultures and peoples that exist throughout the world. But theatre is more than that and also provides opportunities to educate and inform.

Theatre is performed throughout the world and not always in a traditional theatre setting. Performances can occur in a small village in Africa, next to a mountain in Armenia, on a tiny island in the Pacific. All it needs is a space and an audience. Theatre has the ability to make us smile, to make us cry, but should also make us think and reflect...."

The international message is translated into more than 20 languages and is read for tens of thousands of audiences around the world. For the first time ever the ITI U.S. Centre has also chosen a speaker to address the U.S. perspective. Lynn Nottage, Pulitzer Prize winning American playwright, will be the U.S. Centre's speaker.

Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF), in association with ITI Bangladesh Centre, Bangladesh Patho Natok Parishad and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) take the initiative to mark the day through a programme, which will be held this afternoon at the National Theatre Hall, BSA.

The programme includes a colourful procession, reading out the international message,

felicitation and a cultural programme. The programme will start at 4pm through the procession from Mahila Shamiti, Natok Sharani. The procession will end at Shilpakala Academy.

Actress Tamalika Karmakar will read out the international message. Veteran theatre personality Aly Zaker will deliver the keynote speech. ITI Bangladesh Centre President Aatur Rahman, BGTF Chairman Liakat Ali Lucky, Patho Natok Parishad President Mannan Heera and Golam Sarwar, deputy director, Department of Drama, BSA will also give speech. ITI Worldwide President Ramendu Majumdar will attend as honourable guest at the programme. Kamal Lohani, director general, BSA will preside over the programme.

Veteran theatre activist from Chittagong Mahbub Hasan will be feted with 'Natyakormi Shammanana'. Members of Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts and Manik Sarkar and his troupe from Comilla will perform at the cultural programme.



Dame Judi Dench gives this year's World Theatre Day message.

Musings

Atiqul Huque Chowdhury on Liberation War in TV plays and more

JAMIL MAHMUD

"Over the years TV plays made on the Liberation War focused on issues such as how the collaborators associated the Pakistani army, how they tortured the Freedom Fighters and general people and sometimes stories of the Freedom Fighters. Rarely did we see TV plays venturing into lesser exposed areas of the subject, like what was the cause behind the war," said veteran media personality Atiqul Huque Chowdhury.

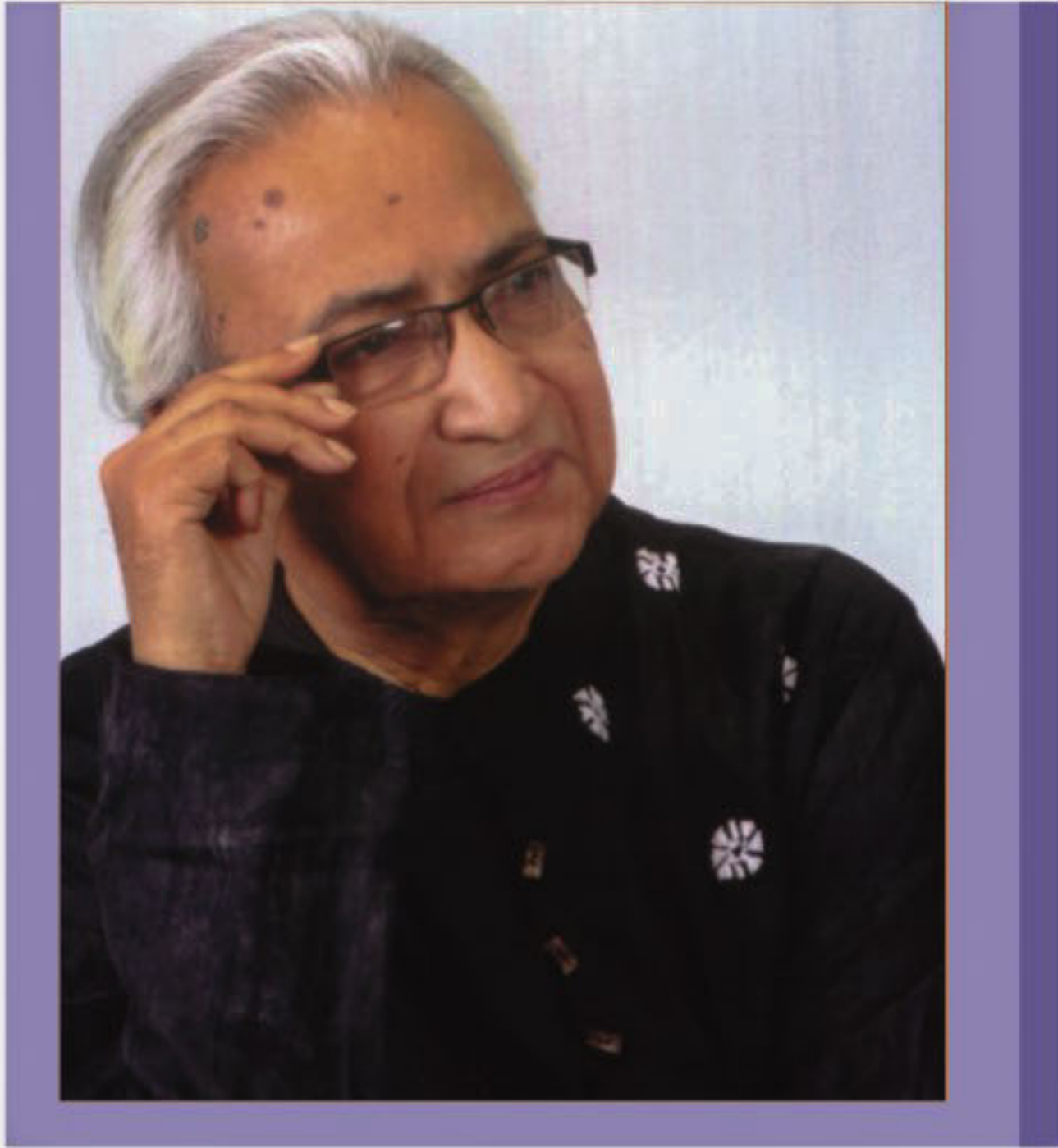
Talking to The Daily Star on the eve of 39th Independence Day, he discussed the transformation of TV plays. He also shared his views on the present state of TV plays, which he does not find inspiring in general.

Chowdhury has been one of the foremost media personalities actively involved with the golden era (from late 1970s to late '80s) of BTV plays. He started as a producer in 1965 and ended up as the Deputy Director General of the state-run TV channel. During his tenure, he made over 450 TV plays.

According to Chowdhury, besides the theme of the Liberation War, TV plays of that time also focused on social changes and romanticism.

He recalled notable actors, producers, directors and groundbreaking TV plays.

"Producers and directors like Mustafa Monwar, Abdullah Al Mamun, Mustafizur Rahman,



Atiqul Huque Chowdhury

Barkatullah, Nasiruddin Yousuff, Kazi Abu Zafar Siddiqui, K.M. Harun, Momtazuddin Ahmed, M. Hamid, Al Mansur, Selim Al Deen, Dr. Enamul Huq, Mostafa Kamal Syed and Nazmul Alam were the noteworthy directors. Abdullah Al Mamun's "Shubha", "Abar Ashibo Phirey" and "Aaina-e Bondhur Mukh"; Mustafa Monwar's "Mukhora Ramoni Boshikaron" and "Rakto Karobi"; Nasiruddin Yousuff's

"Bhagoner Shobdo Shuni" and my works "Babar Kalom Kothaye" and "Durbin Diye Dekhun" are considered some of the notable plays from that era. Actors such as Khalil, Humayun Faridi, Asaduzzaman Noor, Afzal Hossain, Asad, Ferdousi Majumdar, Subarna Mustafa and Sharmili Ahmed excelled as actors.

"Humayun Ahmed's serials like 'Ei Shob Din Ratri', 'Bahubrihi' and

'Kothao Keu Nei' are also noteworthy.

"These plays focused on the authentic portrayal of life. Apart from the Liberation War, the interrelationship between human beings, political ideology or philosophy, in fact the whole society came forth through these TV plays. These plays should be re-telecast," he said.

Chowdhury saw a rapid change in the early 1990s, when producers and directors started to show more interest in 'package' TV plays.

"It is obvious that at present we have to concentrate on commercialisation but sacrificing aesthetic values cannot be acceptable. We have to create a bond between them through improving our technical skills," he said.

"We had endless enthusiasm to do something for the newborn nation. Sometimes, we worked from dawn to dusk to articulate our untold stories through our works which were blended with arts and aesthetics," reminisced Chowdhury.

Though the current scenario is uninspiring to him, Chowdhury is positive about the future as he sees young individuals are emerging with more passion and enthusiasm.

"The scene is changing. I feel pleased when I see that youngsters are coming forth with a more positive approach. They are more rational than emotional. I am waiting for that day when our youth will dominate the country from every aspect," concluded Chowdhury.

Six-day 'Shishu Mela' and cultural programme held

HOSSAIN SERAJ, Magura

A six-day 'Shishu Mela' and cultural programme respectively at the Nomani maidan and Asaduzzaman auditorium to mark the birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the National Children's Day ended on March 25.

The cultural programme featured contests of poetry recitation, patriotic and folk songs, debate, drama, quiz, handwriting and art competitions.

Apart from the children's cultural competition, Dibya Natykala Academy from Rajbari district, Bangabandhu Sangskritik Parishad, Udichi Shilpi Goshthi and Shishu Academy in Magura, three cultural teams from Mohammadpur, Sreepur and Shalikhla upazilas performed folk and patriotic songs.

Jointly organised by Bangladesh Shishu

Academy in Magura and District Information Office with cooperation of the district administration, the event was formally inaugurated by the chairman of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society lawmaker of Magura-1 constituency Dr. Mohammad Serajul Akbar.

With Additional Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Tarikul Alam in the chair, the inaugural session was addressed by Dr. Mohammad Serajul Akbar as the chief guest while the Deputy Commissioner, Magura, Mohammad Dilwar Bakht, Magura sadar upazila parishad chairman Abu Nasir Bablu and Upazila Nirbahi Officer, S. M. Tarikul Islam were special guests. The session was addressed amongst others by the Additional District Magistrate in Magura Rahat Anwar and Children's Affairs officer Ahmed-al-Hossain.

On the last day of the programme a discussion on children's rights was held.



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

ATN BANGLA

01:30 Documentary Programme: Prapok
 02:30 Bangla Feature Film
 06:15 Square Hospital Shushtho Thakun
 12:00 Grameenphone Lead News
CHANNEL i
 01:20 Bangla Feature Film
 07:50 Jogajog Bangladesh
 09:35 Hirdoye Mati O Manush
 12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Shingbadpotro
ntv
 12:50 Swastho Protidin

04:25 Gallery
 06:40 Shubhoshondha
 09:00 Drama: Naat Jamai
 11:40 Music Jam
ETV
 01:30 Bangla Feature Film
 05:45 Sports Plus
 06:30 Bhuboghurey .Com
 10:10 Galpo Shalpo Gaan
 10:50 Financial Bulletin
RTV
 02:03 Swapno Din-er Gaan
 05:00 Telepress
 06:45 Look At Me
 07:35 Road To Democracy
 11:30 Jegey Achho Ki

DESH TV

03:00 Bijoyer Golpo Boli Desh TV Concert
 04:00 Desh Janopad
 07:45 Drama: Ekjon Sollo Chikitsok-er Golpo
 09:30 Fan Show

BANGLAVISION

12:30 Media Bhubaan
 02:30 Bangla Feature Film
 06:20 Bhalo Theko Bhalo Rekho Laal Golaap

ZEE STUDIO

08:30 Existenz
 10:30 The Mirror has two faces
 01:30 Murder at the cannes film festival
 03:30 Get shorty on Campus
 04:30 National Treasure
 07:30 The Haunted Mansion
 09:30 Romance & Cigarettes
 12:00 The Usual Suspects

HBO

10:00 Seven Pounds

12:30 Entourage S605: Fore!
 01:00 Entourage S606: Murphy's Lie
 01:45 The Invasion
 03:45 Batman Begins
 06:30 Seven Pounds
 09:00 Apr '10: HBO Central (SA)
 09:30 The Last Mimzy
 11:30 Batman Begins

BBC WORLD

11:00 BBC World News
 11:30 Middle East Business Report (r)
 12:00 BBC World News
 12:30 Click (r)
 01:00 BBC World News
 01:10 This Week
 01:30 The Real... (r)
 02:00 BBC World News
 02:10 Reporters
 03:00 BBC World News
 04:00 BBC World News
 04:10 UK Report
 04:30 Our World: Beneath the Radar (r)
 05:00 BBC World News
 05:30 Newsnight

06:00 BBC World News
 06:10 E24
 06:30 Fast Track (r)
 07:00 BBC World News
 07:15 Sport Today
 08:00 BBC World News
 08:30 Dateline London
 09:00 BBC World News
 10:00 BBC World News

ESPN

11:30 Castrol Football Crazy
 12:00 Football Forecast
 01:00 Sportscenter Week In Review
 01:30 Premier League Preview
 02:00 Global Football
 02:30 World Sport 2010
 03:00 Premier League Preview
 03:30 Sportcenter Weekend
 03:32 Simply The Best
 04:02 2010 US Figure Skating Championships
 06:00 Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games - Figure Skating
 11:00 Primetime Premier League

STAR SPORTS

11:30 Engine Block 2010

11:50 FIA F1 World Championship Qualifying 2010
 01:30 FIM Mx1 Motocross World C'ship 2009 - Highlights
 02:30 Ace 2010
 03:00 Behind The Baseline
 03:30 Drug Aware Pro 2009
 04:30 TNA Sikander 09/10
 05:30 Simply The Best
 06:00 Almost Anything Goes
 06:30 Mobil 1 The Grid
 07:00 FIA F1 World Championship Qualifying 2010
 08:30 Behind The Baseline
 11:00 Barclays Premier League 2009/10

AXN

12:30 DROP DEAD DIVA
 01:30 Top Chef
 02:30 Guinness World Records Smashed
 03:30 World's Most Amazing Videos
 05:30 Estate of Panic
 07:30 Chuck
 11:30 Top Chef
 12:30 Estate of Panic

Talk show

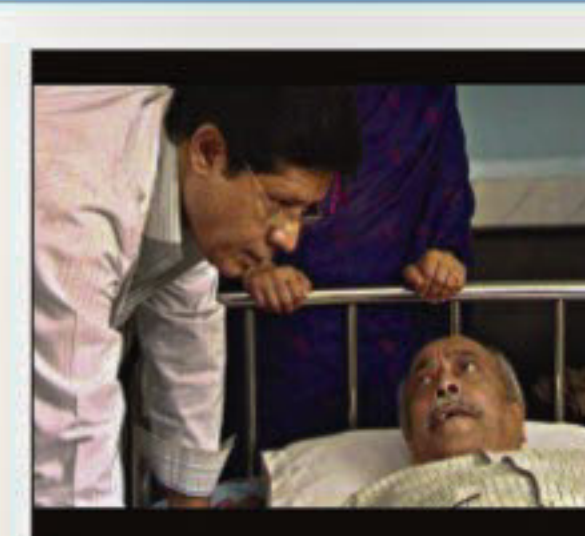
Channel i
 09:50am Grameenphone Tritiomatra
 12:30pm Citycell Taroka Kathan
ntv
 12:10am Talk Show: Ei Shomoy
DESH TV
 11:45pm Talk Show: Shoja Katha

Drama Serial

ATN BANGLA
 08:00pm Drama Serial: Projapoti Mon
 04:00pm Drama Serial: No Problem Dot Com
Channel i
 07:00pm Drama Serial: Keba Apon Keba Por
 10:00pm Drama Serial: Koyekti Kataghuri
ntv
 02:30pm Drama Serial: Chokkor
 08:15pm Drama Serial: Graduate
ETV
 09:30pm Drama Serial: Bhabi
RTV
 09:25pm Drama Serial: Porshi Bari

News Bulletin

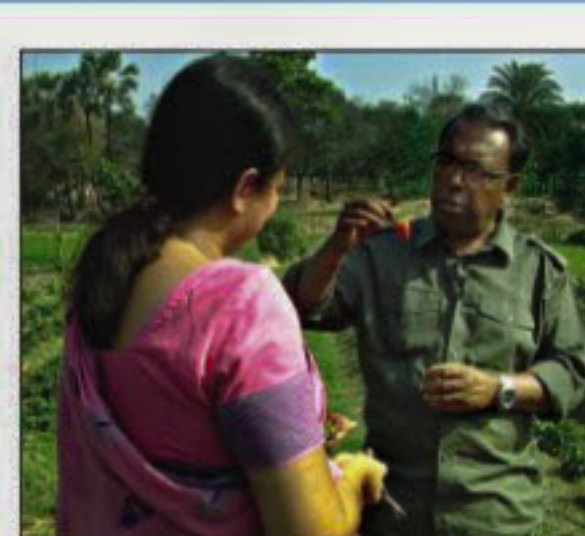
BTV
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00 am.
 News (Bangla) at 8:00 am
 2:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm.
 News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
 Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).
CHANNEL-i
 News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ATN BANGLA
 NEWS (Bangla): 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.
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, 7:30pm



Ekjon Shollo Chikitsaker Golpo
 On Desh TV at 7:45 pm
 Single episode TV play



Seven Pounds
 On HBO at 6:30 pm
 Cast: Will Smith



Hridoye Mati O Manush
 On Channel i at 9:35 pm
 Agricultural Programme
 Host: Shykh Seraj



abc radio FM 89.2
 06:00 Bhorer Janalay
 09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney
 12:25 Standard
 Chartered-The Daily Star Jiboner Joygaan
 03:00 Duranto Bikeley
 05:00 Shondhatara
 07:00 Shajer Maya
 09:00 Raat-er Akashey
 11:00 Golper Shesh Nei
RADIO FOORTI 88.0 FM
 08:00 Addabazi
 12:00 Boier Poka
 02:00 Foorti Unlimited
 06:00 Bumper to Bumper
 10:00 Club Foorti
 01:00 Back to Back music
RADIO TODAY 89.6 FM
 07:15 Good Morning Dhaka
 11:00 Musti Unlimited
 Today's World Music
 04:00 U Turn
 08:00 Tobey Tai Hok
 11:00 Raat Bhor Gaan