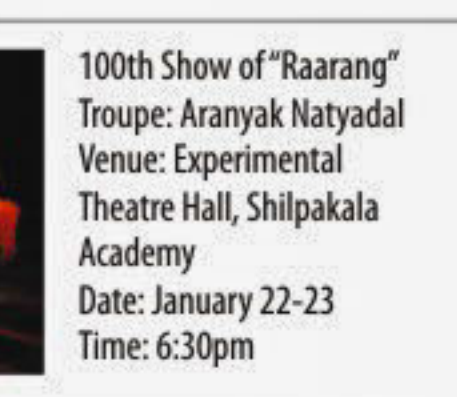


WHAT'S ON

Folk Festival
Organiser: The Daily Star
Venue: Bakul Tala, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Date: January 28
Time: 4pm-9pm



100th Show of "Raarang"
Troupe: Aranyak Natyadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 22-23
Time: 6:30pm



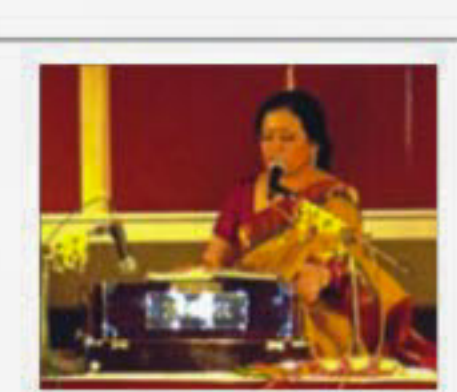
Art Exhibition
Reprint of Rabindra Artworks
Organiser: Chhayanaut
Venue: Chhayanaut Sangskriti Bhaban, Dhammond
Date: January 21-28
Time: 10am-8pm



Chobi Mela VI
At seven different venues
Theme: Dreams
Organiser: Drik
Date: Jan 21-Feb 3



Solo Musical Soiree
Artist: Saima Akbar
Venue: IGC, H-35, R-24, Gulshan-1
Date: January 21
Time: 6:30pm



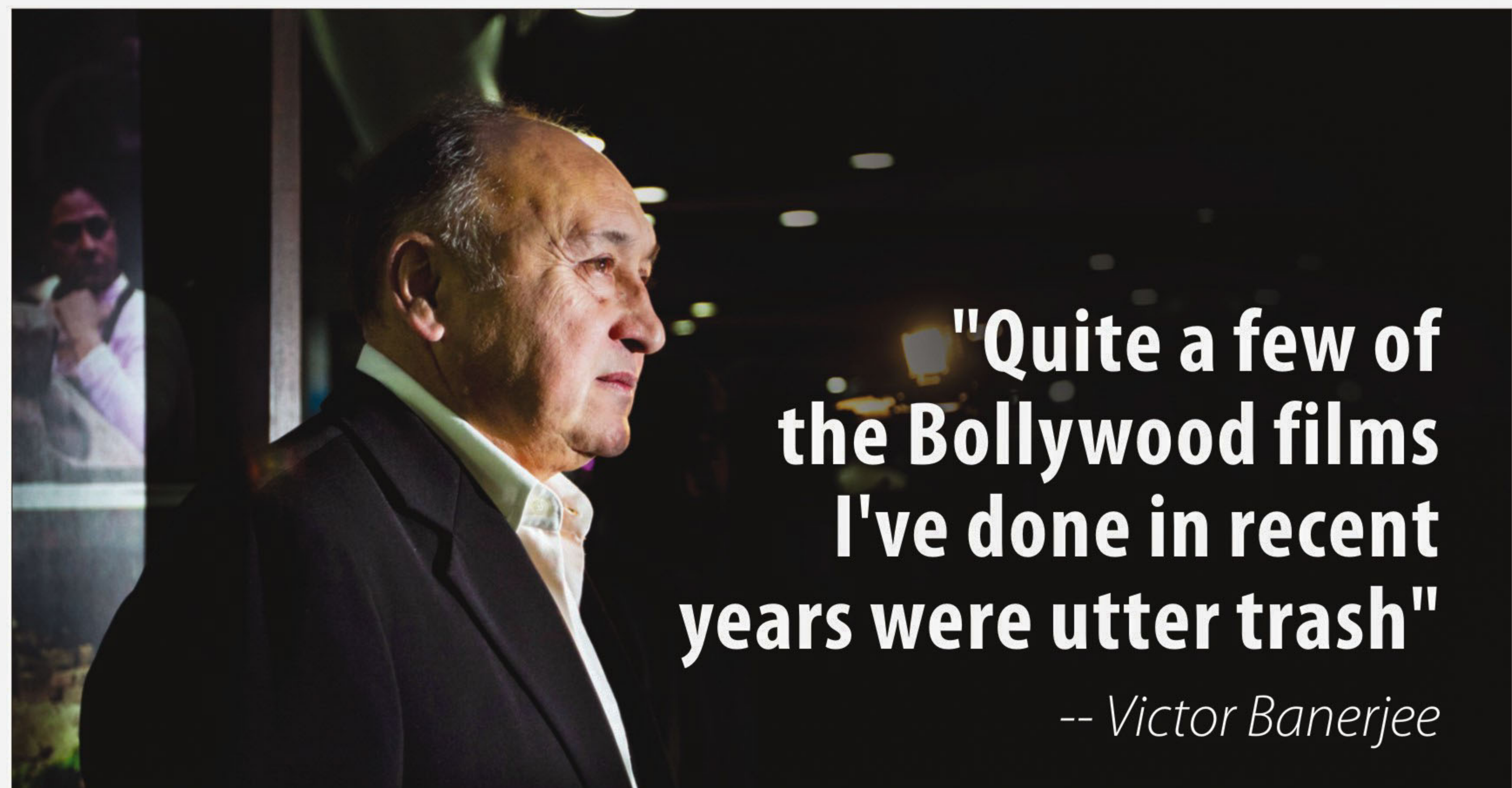
Rabindra-Dance Festival
Venue: Chhayanaut Sangskriti Bhaban
Date: January 21-22
Time: 6:30pm



Festival of Colours
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H 275/R, Rd 27 (old), Dhammond
Date: January 14-22
Time: 12-8pm



Classical Music Performance
Artist: Dada Tapan Kanti Baidya
Venue: TSC Auditorium, DU
Date: January 26
Time: 4-9pm



"Quite a few of the Bollywood films I've done in recent years were utter trash"
-- Victor Banerjee

PHOTO: SAZZAD IBNE SAYED

KARIM WAHEED
With films like "Ghare Baire" and "Shatranj Ke Khiladi" (directed by Satyajit Ray), "A Passage to India" (by David Lean) and "Hullabaloo Over George and Bonnie's Pictures" (by James Ivory) as credentials, Victor Banerjee is a name familiar to the serious movie enthusiast. Banerjee was in Dhaka recently to attend the premiere of Rubaiyat Hossain's debut feature film "Meherjaan"; he plays one of the central characters in the film. During a conversation at Westin Dhaka, the candid and articulate actor talked about "Meherjaan", work experiences he treasures and regrets, his impression of Bangladeshi cultural identity and more. When I asked him what he thought of the film ("Meherjaan"), Banerjee's response was: "I haven't seen it. In fact, I never watch any of my films." Prior to "Meherjaan", he had done two Bangladeshi films directed by Dilip Biswas (these were also released in Kolkata apparently). How did "Meherjaan" happen? Banerjee: "Rubaiyat approached me in person in Kolkata. Through our conversation I realised she's an academic. I found her fascinating and liked the script. She based the character on her great grandfather (who was a Pir). I did some research on Sufism which he adhered to. He studied at Aligarh and was a liberal Muslim. He envisioned not just a new country but also the right to exercise a cultural identity that's unique to Bengali Muslims." Expectations from the film? Banerjee: "My only fear is this film

might be considered too highbrow. 'Meherjaan' will certainly provoke debates and arguments, and I see that as success. A film must make you think. If it doesn't, it's a failure." Elaborating on his impression of the cultural identity of Bengali Muslims, he said, "The festivals here, presence of Lalon, everyday customs -- all combined, constitute a distinct identity which is far removed from that of Pakistan or any other Muslim nation." Going back to past; how did he bag the role of Dr. Aziz in "A Passage to India"? Banerjee: "When David Lean was looking for an Indian actor he received two lists of names; both included me. He was familiar with Satyajit Ray's work. Lean also admired Tagore, and because my name on the lists had references to both Ray and the Nobel laureate poet, he was interested." How does he get into character? Banerjee: "Sometimes an actor doesn't need to act. You give him the right costume, props, set, and s/he can walk right into the character. So the credit goes more to the director. This was particularly the case with Ray's 'Shatranj Ke Khiladi'. Rubaiyat too had worked hard to accumulate furniture and other props from that era ('70s). I didn't have to struggle to become 'Nanajaan' (Banerjee's role in 'Meherjaan')." When does it get difficult? Banerjee: "When some of the young directors are nonchalant towards justifiable suggestions. I can flat out tell you quite a few of the Bollywood films I've done in recent years were utter trash. This

particular film I did, which had Saif Ali Khan and Rani Mukerji, is an example of that. I didn't agree with the costume because I felt they didn't go with my character. Rani showed up wearing acid-washed jeans and things hanging from her waist and she was playing a geek who goes to an Ivy League college in US. The director clearly had no idea how the characters should look. Unsurprisingly, the film bombed." "Disagreements happen with lesser directors." "Then there are cases where the directors are grammatically A+ but their works lack heart. Shyam Benegal is an example of that. I've always felt his intellect and heart don't see eye to eye. Ray, on the other hand, demonstrated both. Until recently, I didn't realise how great he was."



A field day for Sumaiya Shimu



A CORRESPONDENT

Much to the delight of her fans, Sumaiya Shimu plays the role of a cricketer in the drama serial "Maar Chhokka", written and directed by Ferdous Hassan Rana.

The cast includes Abul Hayat, Dolly Zahur, Tushar Khan, Dr. Ejaz, Shams Shumon, Tania Ahmed, Shahed Sharif Khan and others.

An elated Shimu said this was the first time that she had enacted the role of a cricketer. Interestingly, she had never gripped a cricket bat in the past, but enjoyed watching cricket tournaments on the television with friends and family. She expressed the hope that viewers would enjoy her new avatar in the drama.

Setting Change in Motion

Two short films screened in Mymensingh

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh



A scene from "Bastabata".

Dhupchaya, a cultural organisation of youngsters screened two short films at Zila Shilpakala Academy auditorium on January 15 evening. The short films titled "Bastabata" and "Wait and See-1" were written by Razib Khan and Rakib Khan respectively. The cast of the short films included Rakib Khan, Parveen, Nizam, Dilip, Sarwar, Mehdi, Parag, MA Motalab, Saany, Nitol and Sohel.

Earlier, a discussion was held. Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation member and secretary of Bahurupi Natya Sangstha Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu was the chief guest, while secretary of Jhilik Natya Sangstha

Mohammad Saiful Islam was present as special guest with chairman of Dhupchaya, Razib Khan in the chair. Praising the initiative of the young artistes, the speakers said that traditional culture should be preserved in the interest of the country's art and culture. Making short films in the district town is rare and such initiatives would surely inspire the next generations, said the speakers. Razib Khan told the discussants that they were inspired by film and TV play director Mustafa Sarwar Farooki. "We want to support the country's culture. In the process we will be able to take a leaf from the country's glorious past," said Khan.

Street Plays in Rajshahi



A scene from "Sot Manusher Shondhane".

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Anushilan Natya Dal of Rajshahi University and Rajshahi Theatre staged two plays -- "Shunagoriker Sondhane" and "Bonhiman" on the concluding day of the two-day street drama festival in Rajshahi on Monday.

The audience at the open stage of RU Martyrs Memorial Archive braved harsh cold to attend the shows.

Both plays dealt with the Liberation War and liberal thinking. Performed by local artistes, the plays upheld strong morale on building a better Bangladesh.

'Shunagoriker Sondhane' (in quest of ideal citizen) was staged under the light in the evening. RU Dramatics teacher Moloy Bhoutmik directed the play underlining a message that the government should reach out to people.

The play through fanfare and colours depicted the contemporary culture of inefficient people getting chances at important positions while capable people are remaining ignored over influence of bad ones.

Nital Kumar Sarker of Rajshahi Theatre wrote and directed "Bonhiman" that was performed in the afternoon.

The play narrates how a woman lost her husband and son in the Liberation War, and finds her land occupied after independence and her life in struggles. It tells how enemies of the country's independence cripple the nation's backbone.

Before the shows, Udichi's RU Sangsad president Prof SM Abu Bakar in a short speech said that people learn how to struggle through practicing arts and cultural activities. He said street theatre is a method to reach out to the masses.

Prof Ananda Kumar Saha, RU teacher association general secretary called upon students and young generation to engage in cultural activities to spot-on wrongs of the theories they learn from education. Bangladesh Patha Natok Parishad organised the country-wide festival in association with The Daily Star to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Bangladesh and 20th anniversary of The Daily Star. The festival will follow on other districts until the gala celebration in Dhaka on February 14.

4th National Wall Magazine Fest and Competition

The three-day 4th National Wall Magazine Festival and Competition 2011 was held recently at the Bangla Academy premises. Bangladesh Deyal Patrika Parishad arranged the festival, where around 90 high schools and cultural organisations from over 30 districts attended with their respective works. Renowned artist Mustafa Mowar inaugurated the festival, while Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid attended with the concluding ceremony. Eminent educationist Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury, also president of Deyal Patrika Parishad, presided over the inaugural and closing ceremonies. Among participants, 10 received awards. Azimuddin High School, Kishoreganj received the first prize for its work "Deyal Bhangar Gaan". St. Joseph Higher Secondary School and Viqarunnisa Noon School & College received 2nd and 3rd prize respectively.



SURSAGAR
Light classical music and dance on The Daily Star's 20th Anniversary.
TODAY ON BOISHAKHI TELEVISION AT 3:30PM.
Featuring vocal performances by Anup Barua, Swani Zubayeer and Priyanka Gope. Dance performances by Nityanchal, Odissi and Tagore Dance Organisation Centre, Manipuri Lalitakala Academy and Srishti Cultural Centre.

ATN BANGLA	03:30	Meley Dhori	
10:45	Bangla Feature Film	Ichchheguli	
04:45	Banijjo Mela Protidin (Live)	Pothey Prantory	
10:45	Bihango Katha	Shotyer Shakho	
11:00	Drama	Gaan-er Shera Gaan	
12:30	Lead News	Diganta Music Hour (Live)	
CHANNEL 1		Z Studio	
01:05	Ebang Cinemar Gaan	10:30	Meet the Parents
02:40	Prokriti O Bibon	01:30	American Beauty
03:10	Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak	04:15	The Princess Diaries 2
04:05	Bangla Feature Film	07:15	Shadow Conspiracy
09:35	Shesder Mahajuddha	09:30	Deep Impact
12:00	Ajker Shonghadpotto	12:10	The Ring Two
RTV		12:30	Honey
10:05	Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan	02:30	Rocknrolla
01:05	Shastha Protidin	05:15	Madagascar 2
02:35	Ramizer Aina	07:45	Trick 'r Treat
03:20	Dhupchaya	09:30	Icarus
04:10	Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey	11:15	Jackie Chan's First Strike
		11:35	Star Movies
			Replacement Killers

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2	12:00	My Time
06:00	01:00	Hot Emotion
09:00	04:00	Dhaka Calling
12:00	09:00	Night Rider
03:00	01:00	Back to Back music
05:00	04:00	94.000 TROV FM 95.6
06:00	11:00	Must Unlimited
07:00	01:00	Today's Adda
09:00	04:00	0 Rum
11:00	08:00	Baby Ai HoK
Radio Frontal	11:00	Raat Bhor Gaan
10:00		Morning Express

Bagh Putul
On Rtv at 09:10pm
Drama serial
Cast: Suborna Mustafa, Ebrah Gahar

Battle in Seattle
On Star Movies at 12:35am
Genre: Action/
Drama
Cast: Andre Benjamin, Jennifer

Rumali
On mtv at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Prova, Mohiuddin Bahar

06:10	Shubho Shondhya	01:10	Deal
Rtv		02:55	Reign of Fire
12:05	Bashudha Protidin-er Gaan	04:45	Die Hard 1
02:30	Drama	07:00	The Brothers Bloom
05:00	Cinema R Gaan	09:00	Attack Force
11:45	Tomar Jonno Amar E Gaan	10:50	Sorority Row
		12:35	Battle in Seattle
			Star World
Desh TV		12:30	Burn Notice
04:30	Dur Durantey	07:30	Coffee With Karan
05:30	Durpath	08:30	How I Met Your Mother
06:25	Cine Goon	09:00	Friends
09:45	Desh Galpo	09:30	The Bachelorette
11:55	Drama	11:30	Two And A Half Men
			National Geographic Channel
03:05	Cinebit Shadkalo	11:00	Creative Vision
04:10	Drama Serial- Swapno Chura	11:30	Big Cat Week
06:05	Shyamol Bangla	04:30	Nat Geo Wild
09:05	Media Bhaban	07:30	I Didn't Know That
11:30	Talk of the Week	09:30	Super Factories
12:30	Bashudha Cinemar Gaan	10:30	Mega cities
		11:30	Men in Wild Week
			BB World
Boishakhi TV		12:30	BB World News
07:30	Bhor Halo Bibhabori	02:30	World Business Report
04:15	Shorashori Doctor	02:45	Sport Today
05:15	Boishakhi-CNN	07:00	Impact Asia with Missal Hussein
	Sharabidhwa Music Cafe	09:30	HARD talk
10:50		10:00	The Hub with Nik Gowing
Diganta TV		12:30	Score Card

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA	Rtv
08:00pm	Batasher Ghor
08:40pm	Ognonth
CHANNEL 1	
07:50pm	Hridoy-er Kacher Bishoy
RTV	
08:15pm	Rumali
09:45pm	Sabuj Nakkhoto
BANGLAVISION	
07:45pm	Dhaka to London
08:15pm	Bagh Putul
BANGLAVISION	
08:15pm	Dyrectaar
09:45pm	Gulshan Avenue
ETV	
08:00pm	Bondhon
Boishakhi TV	
08:45pm	Rosamia

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV	
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-1	
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 am, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	
NEWS (English): 9:00 am, 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, 10:20pm, 1:50am	
ETV	
News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
09:20am	Asian City Vision
12:05pm	Frontline
12:05pm	Amir Ami
CHANNEL 1	
09:45am	Tritiya Matra
12:30pm	Taruka Kathan
RTV	
12:10am	Ei Shomoy
Rtv	
10:45am	Tarokalap
ETV	
12:30am	Alukher Raat
Diganta TV	
06:50pm	Inside Story
12:05am	News of the Day