

WHAT'S ON

Recitation Programme
Title: Tomar Aakash Dao
Organiser: Tepantor
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 10 at 7:30pm

Children's Painting Competition
Venue: Indra Gandhi Cultural Centre, Rd 2, H 24, Dhamondi
Date: March 11
Time: 10am

Noazesh Knowledge Centre
Organiser: Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh
Venue: Cosmos Centre, 69/1, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: March 12; Time: 4pm

Exhibition
Title: Peace Women Across the Globe
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: March 8-19

Solo Photography Exhibition
Photographer: Naymuzzaman Prince
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: March 25- April 6

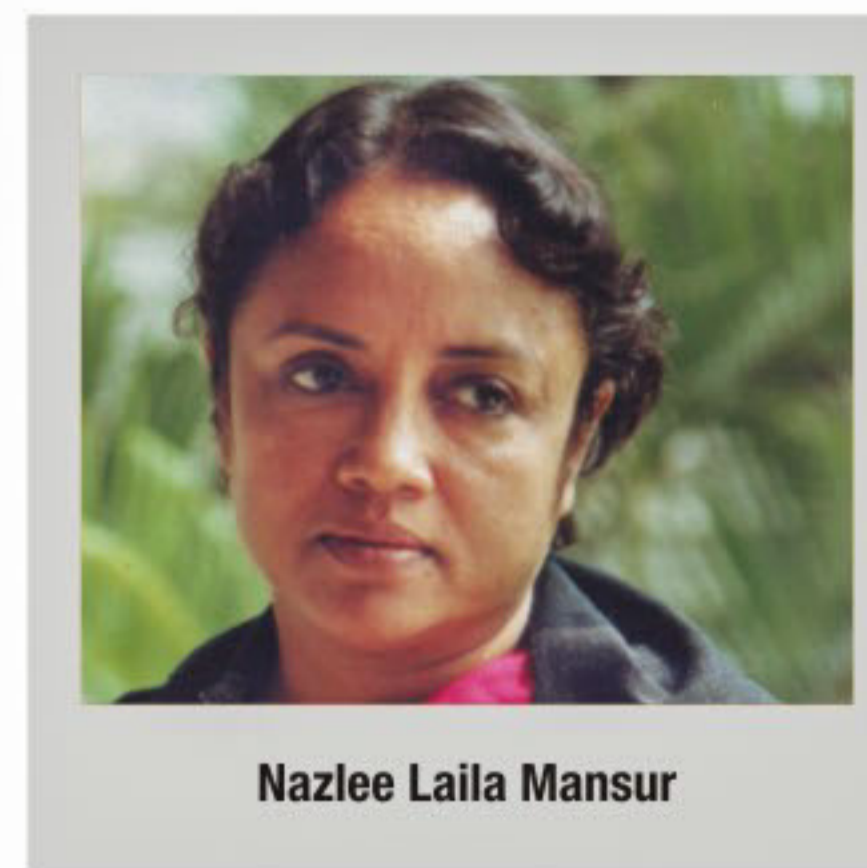
Solo Photo Exhibition
Title: Gur and Pandua
Photographer: Babu Ahmed
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, 102/56, Rd 16/16, Dhamondi
Date: Feb 27-March 8
Time: 12-5pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: 7 Voices
Venue: Tivoli Art Gallery, DCC Super Market, Gulshan-2
Date: March- 3-12
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Srijonshil Tarunner Natyapokash
Venue: Natyomondol, Dhaka University
Date: March 1-15
Time: 6:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Murshida Arzu Alpina
Title: Contemplation
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhamondi
Date: March- 4-16

Making their Presence Felt



Nazlee Laila Mansur

renewed determination for a future of equal rights, equal opportunities and progress for all."

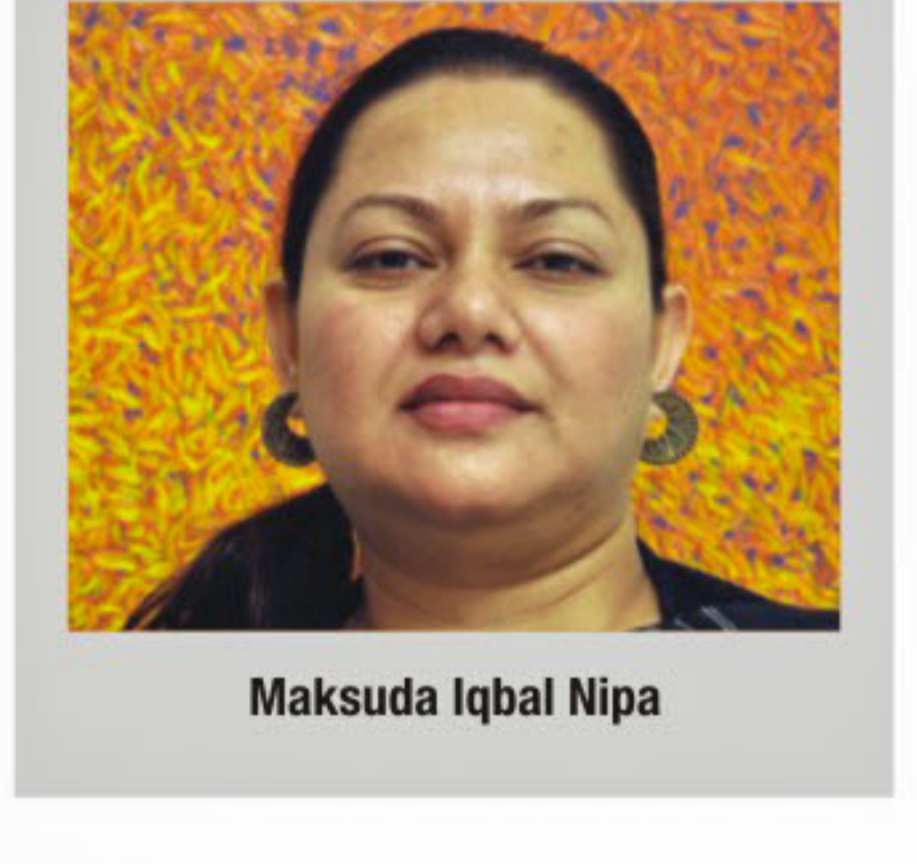
Fareha Zeba
Fareha Zeba is recognised for her conceptual works. Her paintings capture the essence of female bliss, woes and aspirations. Zeba has worked for acid victims and disadvantaged women. The painter also gets inspiration from poetry, novels and stories. The artist says, "Garment workers fighting for their rights are very bold. Our girls have won medals in Asian Games. Women have played vital roles in many sectors in our country. But in general they are always neglected in our male-dominated society. As a painter, I have also faced discrimination in some subtle ways among my male friends. It is a common social feature."



Fareha Zeba



friends formed an organisation called 'Shako'. They regularly exhibit their works. Some profits from Shako's annual show are donated to charities such as Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), Acid Survivors' Foundation etc.



Maksuda Iqbal Nipa



Habiba Akhter Papia

art scene. The artist feels, "Our women have not been able to make real progress due to various reasons. We should remember that women and children comprise three-fourths of world population. Woman's role is significant in families."

"Women often face discrimination -- at home and work. Women should have all the rights enjoyed by men -- to be allowed to live with dignity. They should have the option of expressing themselves and to have equal opportunities at the work place, within the family and other spheres."

Nipa is now working on a series titled "Adam and Eve" where she focuses on the relationship between men and women.

Habiba Akhter Papia
Habiba Akhter Papia is a sculptor whose works represent female power and magnificence. She is now a senior lecturer at the Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology.

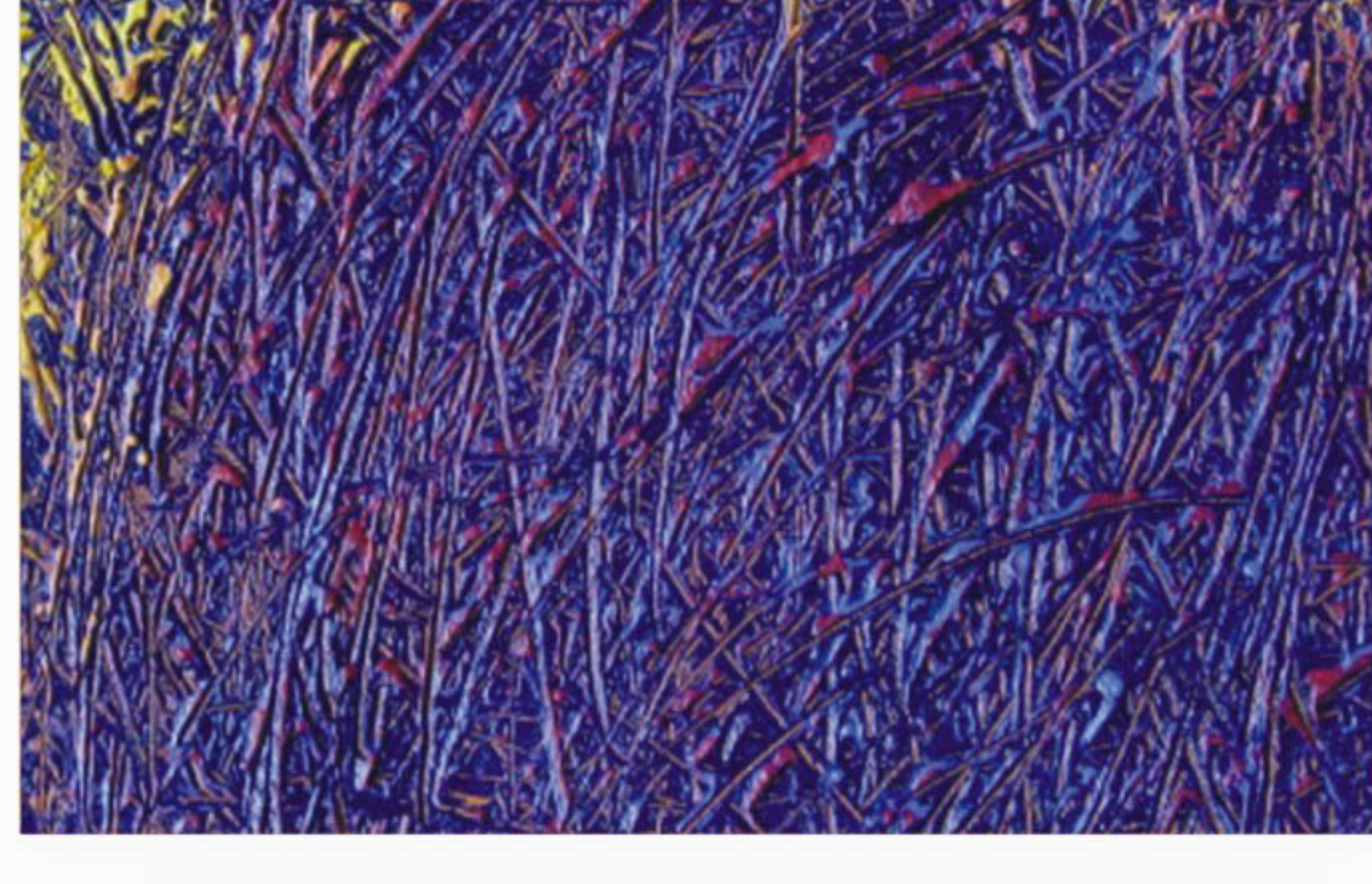
The sculptor says, "International Women's Day is a global event celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. In some countries in Europe and Asia, International Women's Day is a national holiday. When I think about Bangladeshi women and their current situation, I feel frustrated. Many women in our country have no knowledge about their fundamental rights."

"In my works, my figures look lean but bold. I believe, the women of Bangladesh are very bold and gradually they have become more conscious about their needs and rights."



TAKIR HOSSAIN
International Women's Day is being observed today all over the world to emphasise women's rights. Female artists have played a vital role in the Bangladeshi cultural movement. Their artworks concentrate on social, cultural and environmental issues including harassment, discrimination of women, fundamentalism and intolerance. On this front, Atia Islam Anne, Niloofar Chaman, Nazlee Laila Mansur, Fareha Zeba, Dilara Begum Jolly, Murshida Arzu Alpina, Masuda Iqbal Nipa [who emerged in the late '90s] and Habiba Akhter Papia are the most prominent names. These artists demonstrated their creativity through different modes like surrealistic, semi-realistic, figurative, symbolic, abstract, semi-abstract and conceptual. They are considered to be socially aware painters. Their works articulate their personal observations on anomalies in the society. Their canvases display women's needs, despair and frustrations. On the occasion of International Women's Day, The Daily Star spoke to some of these artists:

Nazlee Laila Mansur
Nazlee Laila Mansur is recognised for her portrayal of urban chaos, domestic turbu-



Chayanika's Special Play on Int'l Women's Day

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Rtv will air a special presentation by Chayanika Chowdhury tonight at 7:50pm. Titled "Onakankhito", the play has been written by Sharmeen Chowdhury Iphshita. The story surrounds the struggles of a widow. Arefeen Shubho, Bindu and Shormili Ahmed star in the play. The director says she will consider herself successful only if the audience appreciates her creative output.

Making single-episode TV plays crowds playwright and director Chayanika's already busy schedule. So far she has 132 such plays to her credit. "Maya", a play written by Imdadul Haq Milon was her 50th directorial feat, while she completed her century with Arun Chowdhury's "Choloman Chhobi". Other mentionable Chayanika Chowdhury productions are "Tomake Chhyue", "Dui Bon", "Noshto Nir", "Jekhane Shimanto", "Shonar Kathi Rupar Kathi", "Anchol", "Kotha Chhilo Onnorokom", "Esho Haat Dhoro" and "Locket".



Chayanika Chowdhury

Chayanika made her directorial debut with "Ek Hibone", a play which aired on October 28, 2002. Chayanika's involvement with TV dramas came through her husband, noted playwright and journalist Arun Chowdhury. She used to check the scripts for Arun, as well as sit in front of monitors during shooting. These experiences steered her towards a career in the media.



A scene from "Onakankhito".

Swearing "no big deal" to Dame Helen Mirren

Oscar-winning actress Dame Helen Mirren discussed blank verse and bad language as she promotes "The Tempest", a radical new film version of one of William Shakespeare's final plays. "The whole drama of swearing is so overblown," says Dame Helen Mirren with a sigh. "It's idiotic that it's made into such a big deal." "The Tempest" is a new film adaptation of the William Shakespeare play that sees her take on the traditionally male role of exiled sorcerer Prospero. However, it is not blank verse or Elizabethan poetry that is on her mind, but words of a somewhat cruder nature. The 65-year-old has returned from the Academy Awards, where "The King's Speech" -- a film where strong language is used in a speech therapy context -- won the best picture award. The ceremony also saw Melissa Leo, this year's recipient of the best supporting actress prize, leave the Kodak theatre audience open-mouthed after dropping what is euphemistically called "the F-bomb" during her acceptance speech. "I think she was totally over-excited," says Dame Helen, whose appearance as an Oscar presenter saw her return to the venue where she was named best actress in 2007 for "The Queen". "She was trying to show how rough and raw she is and it was a terrible mistake."

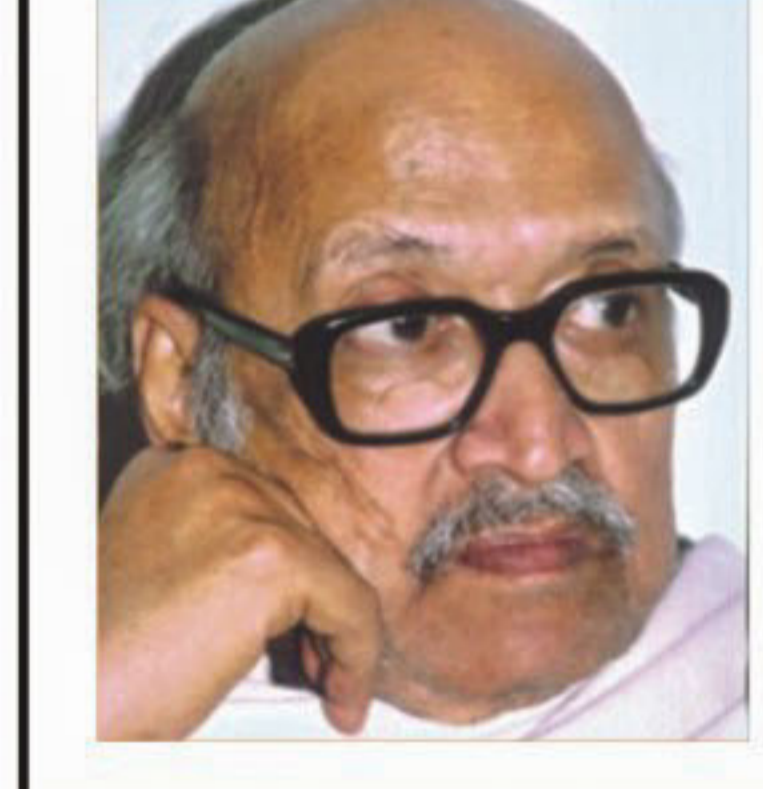
"I do think the fuss is completely out of order," the star continues. "The ludicrousness is when you have to loop swear words for your film to be shown on an aeroplane or how different his canon of work would have been if he'd been able to write for women. "And I wonder whether he would have written 'The Tempest' with a woman in mind, because to my mind it fits so incredibly well." Set on a tropical isle, Julie Taymor's film sees Dame Helen's character take belated revenge on the noblemen of her home country who ousted her as duchess some years previously. The cast features a colourful mix of acting talents, ranging from Oscar-winning US actor Chris Cooper to flamboyant British comedian Russell Brand. So does Dame Helen have her eye on any other Shakespearean roles that might have hitherto seemed beyond her? No, she answers firmly. "Apart from one vowel, not a word of 'The Tempest' had to change," she explains. "I can't think of any other Shakespeare play



Dame Helen Mirren in "The Tempest".

Source: BBC

Poet Samarendra Sen Gupta Passes Away



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Noted West Bengal poet Samarendra Sen Gupta passed away on March 6 at a hospital in Kolkata. He was 76. He had been ailing from complications caused by cancer. He left behind two sons, relatives, admirers of his poetry and well-wishers. Gupta was one of the leading contemporary Bengali poets in India. He was a prolific poet. Some of his nota-

ble poetry books are "Amar Samay Olpo", "Coffee Houser Shiri", "Desh Amar Shadesh", "Charidike Prithibi", Khola Kolom-er Pasho", "Gachh Manush", "Chhobir Shobdo" and more. He won several prestigious awards -- Sahitya Academy Puroshkar, Rabindra Puroshkar, Vishnu Dey Puroshkar etc. Gupta started writing in 1956/'57. His first writing was published in a college magazine. Legendary author Premendra Mitra requested him to

write for his literary journal. Gupta worked for the Anandabajar's "Ochena Shahor" from 1958 to '59. He also worked for the "Kolkata Korcha" where Sunil Gangopadhyay, Shymol Gangopadhyay, Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay were his colleagues. Gupta was born in Dhaka in 1935 and spent the first 16 years of his life here before moving to Kolkata in 1951. After settling in Kolkata, he became involved with the leftist movement.

"Achalayatan" Staged at Shilpakala Academy

Sixth phase of Tagore's 150th birth anniversary celebration by Chhayanaut ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sixth phase of the yearlong celebration by Chhayanaut to celebrate Rabindranath Tagore's 150th birth anniversary ended on March 6 through staging of one of the Nobel laureate's most acclaimed plays, "Achalayatan". Nagarik Natya Sampraday staged the play at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Veteran theatre and media personality Aly Zaker directed the play. The play is one of Nagarik's earlier productions, and was staged after a long gap. The play premiered in 1980. "Achalayatan" depicts the eternal conflict between old, rigid, restraining values and rebellious, free spirited, revolutionary ideas. The play is about an institution steeped in ancient traditions that has not seen any change throughout the decades. In this institution called 'Achalayatan', Panchak and Mahapanchak are two brothers who are radically opposed to each other on the axioms of life. Panchak is a rebel opposing everything traditional, whereas



A scene from "Achalayatan".

Mahapanchak does not want to give up his traditional values. There is a clash of wills between these characters and trouble seems to be brewing in the institution. Amidst the chaos arrives their guru, throwing open the gates of Achalayatan for the first time. The residents of the institution get a taste of the real world and real people. Rawnak Hasan and Patho Shahriar performed as

Panchak and Mahapanchak. Among others, FM Raza, Gobinda Kumar Biswas, Jhantu Bayen, Tahmina Islam, Nawmi Kamrun and Masud Rana performed other roles in the play. Aly Zaker also did the set and costume designs. Amlan Biswas did the light designing. The day's programme also included screening of Satyajit Ray's film "Tin Konyai", held at the Chhayanaut auditorium in Dhanmondi.

ATN BANGLA	05:00 Durapath
12:15 OffTime	07:45 Ognijita
01:25 ATN Music	12:30 Total Sports
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor	BoishakhiTV
05:20 Obram Bangladesh	10:30 Bangla Feature Film
10:45 Bihongo Kotha	01:10 Time to Cricket (Live)
11:30 Big Hit's	05:30 Nari Pothey Pothey
12:30 Gameenphone Lead News	08:45 Prothoma
	11:30 Boishakhi Binodon O Shongkrti Sangbad

CHANNEL i	09:30 Sh angbadpotre Bangladesh	DigantaTV	12:30 Score Cards
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	01:30 Hirdoy-er Gaan	01:30 Chitra Bichitra	05:30 Shar Shurbhi
01:30 Jago Nari Jago	05:30 Khude Gaanaj	08:05 Lime Light	10:00 Prime Time
07:50 Aker Sh angbadpotre	12:00	11:05 Down the Wicket	Z Studio
ntv	03:10 Amader Aandabari	11:00 Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit	01:30 Memoirs of a Geisha
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey			

Jokher Dhon
On Banglavisian at 09:05pm
Special Drama
Cast: Ilora Gohor, Nupur

Becoming Jane
On Z Studio at 07:00pm
Genre: Biography / Drama
Cast: Anne Hathaway, James McAvoy

Shohor Bhora Ka(n)cher Kokil
On ETV at 07:50pm
Special Drama
Host: Aaruba, Mona Lisa

05:00 Desher Khabor	04:30 The Triumph of Love
09:00 Gramar World	07:00 Becoming Jane
11:30 Cover Drive	08:30 The Peacemaker
ETV	12:10 Happiness
10:30 Ekushey Business	Star Movies
06:30 Cricket Extra	10:25 Into the Sun
07:50 Shohor Bhora Ka(n)cher Kokil	01:45 Taken
09:30 Ami Shei Meye	03:20 Bewitched
11:40 Janatar Kotha	07:00 Shrink
11:50 Crazy Cricket	08:50 Born to Raise Hell
RTV	10:30 Still Waiting
10:20 Aroma	12:05 Serious Moonlight
12:05 Protidiner Gaan	HBO
06:00 Extra Innings	10:15 Death Becomes Her
07:50 Drama: Onakankhito	12:15 Angels & Demons
11:20 Drama: Nishoho Thekey Pasa	03:00 Grace of My Heart
BANGLAVISIAN	07:15 The Skulls II
09:05 Shadhul Gaan	09:30 Obsessed
01:05 Concert for Women	12:00 Bloodsport
05:45 Googly	Star World
06:05 Sports Time	10:30 The Simpsons
09:05 Drama:	02:30 Las Vegas
11:20 Riverswearing	07:30 Coffee With Karen
11:50 Raat Biratay	08:30 The Good Guys
Desh TV	10:30 Dexter
12:15 Feature Film: Provoked	11:30 Two And A Half Men
04:00 Desh Janapath	Discovery Channel

ATN BANGLA	ETV
08:00pm Makbul	08:20pm Ohongkar
09:20pm Pooch Phagater Pata	Rtv
CHANNEL i	09:15pm Air Com
09:35pm Maar Chhokka	10:40pm Vagabond
ntv	BANGLAVISIAN
08:15pm Manabzamin	08:15pm Mad Bhai
09:45pm Darshok-er Golpo	Desh TV

NEWS BULLETIN	BANGLAVISIAN
RTV	News (Bangla) at 8:00 am
09:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	News (Bangla) at 7:30am, 1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.
NEWS (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:30 pm	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
NEWS (English) at 6:00pm	News (English) at 6:00pm
CHANNEL-i	News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	NEWS (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am
ATN BANGLA	NEWS (English): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 6:00 pm.

ATN BANGLA	ETV
11:00am Top Spin	10:10pm Golpo Shalpo Gaan
06:20pm Koba Mala	Rtv
CHANNEL i	12:55am Zero Hour
09:45am Tritio Matra	BANGLAVISIAN
12:30pm Tanika Kathon	10:10am Front Line
ntv	Desh TV
12:30am Ei Shomoy	06:00pm How's That

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