

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Monirul Islam
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, Dhanmondi
Date: May 27-June 15
Time: 10am-9pm

Book Launch
Organiser: Dhaka Shishu-ikshar Foundation
Venue: VP Lounge, National Press Club
Date: May 28

Dhaka Int'l Theatre Fest
Organiser: ITI Bangladesh Centre
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 21-30

19th National Art Exhibition
Organiser: Shilpakala Academy
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 28-June 17

Solo Surod Recital
Artist: Abhishek Lahiri
Organiser: IGCC, High Commission of India, Dhaka.
Venue: Music and Dance Centre Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Ishan Baibhab
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi
Date: May 23-29
Time: 12p-8pm

Jewellery Exhibition
To raise fund for tsunami victims in Japan
Organiser: Aadi
Venue: Zumi, H 24, Rd 113, Gulshan 2
Date: May 27-28

Ceramic Art Exhibition
Organiser: Harappa
Venue: Dink Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: May 28- June 4
Time: 3pm-8pm

1st Dhaka International Theatre Fest



A scene from "Doob Shatar", one of the films to be screened at the festival.

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK writes from London

The 12th Rainbow Film Festival, London will be held from May 29 to June 5, 2011 across various venues in Tower Hamlets, said Mostafa Kamal, director of the festival.

In the rundown to the festival an open meeting and press conference were held on May 23 at the Montefiore Centre, Hanbury Street, London E1.

Speaking at the press conference, Kamal said, "This festival focuses on catering to the needs of the local community. The emphasis will be on screening of Asian films, to bring the community closer."

Kamal, the founding secretary of the organisation, initially set up the Rainbow Film Society in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1978. Later, with a group of film enthusiasts, he set up the non-profitable organisation in London in 1991. In the year 2000 his organisation arranged a film festival in London for the first time. From then on it has been a platform to promote Bangladeshi culture, said

an upbeat Kamal. "There are certain impediments since only a handful of mainstream movies fit for a festival are made every year in our country. This makes the selection process rather difficult. Secondly, those who are directly involved with the film society movement and are making art-house cinema, are not too keen to join the festival. More so because it is a charitable endeavour. But what they don't foresee is that this could open up a window to the world. This could in many ways be commercially viable for them as well. Although, we are doing it on a voluntary basis."

How do they organise the festival? "The film society has a clear strategy worked out for the festival. The executive body chalks out the entire programme. To introduce an international flavour we have included movies from countries such as Iran, India, Turkey and Sri Lanka. This enables us to have a comparison of the standards of films in different regions as well," Kamal replied.

"The other side of the story is that expats here

are reluctant to go to the movie theatres. Our audience till now has been the first generation immigrants, although we are now also targeting youngsters to watch movies from their country of origin," said Kamal.

According to Mostafa Kamal, organising the festival certainly hasn't been a cakewalk. "Though this is the 12th festival, we await the Bangladesh government's cooperation in upholding our cultural traditions overseas. It is a massive task to bring in movies from Bangladesh and we have to face several obstacles, which could be easier if we had cooperation of the authorities concerned. We had sought assistance several times, even from Biman Bangladesh to carry our delegates from our country on a complimentary basis or to bring the films for free, to which we have not yet received any positive response."

"Films promote culture. Since the media coverage of our country is mostly negative, our aim is to promote the true picture of Bangladesh and enlighten people of our heritage. What is heartening is that we have set up a platform and national dailies such as The Guardian, London Times have our schedule in their listings. Even the leading TV channels here, seek our help regarding film related info. We are expecting around 15/ 20 percent non-Bangladeshi audience at the festival."

"Bangladesh '71" (documentary from UK with rare footage of the Liberation War), "Obujh Bou", "Khelaghor", "Nijhum Oronnyer" and "Doob Shatar" from Bangladesh; "Mati O Manush" and "Anjana Anjani" from India; "The First Stone" and "Token" from Iran will be screened at the festival.

For full details of the festival you can visit the website: <http://www.rainbowfilmsociety.com/11th%20festival.html>



From left: Shamima Ferdous (trustee of Rainbow Film Society), Mostafa Kamal (director, Rainbow Film Festival) and Ferdous Khan (Festival Committee member) at the press conference.

North-east Indian Art Makes Waves

Art exhibition at Bengal Gallery

TAKIR HOSSAIN

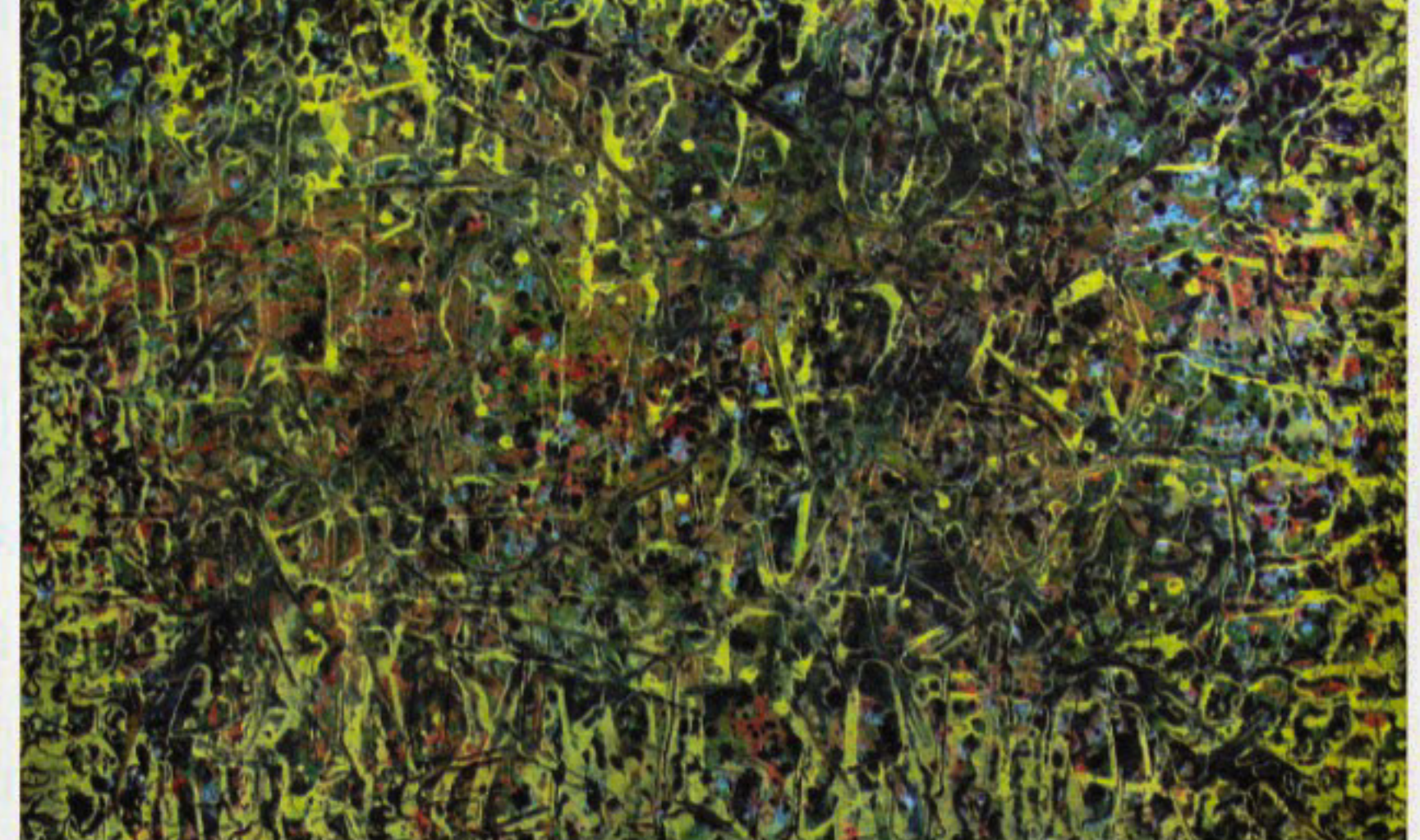
Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, in collaboration with Kirat (an organisation of artists from north-east India), has organised an art exhibition titled 'Ishan Baibhab', featuring works of 28 painters from Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram and Sikkim, at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts in Dhanmondi.

Among the participating artists, Tripura painters demonstrate a distinct scholarly touch. The cultural heritage of Tripura developed thanks to the royal patronage. Once the painters of the area practiced immensely on study works where lacked imagination and proper articulation, in recent years, the painters have been experimenting with new forms, themes and styles.

This is a sign of development and their works carry varied subjects. Most of the painters are very conscious about their political, social and economic conditions. The artists have also given importance to their traditions and customs. Some of the painters' works delve deep into compositions, figures and geometric forms. The artists are considered to be realist, semi-realist, abstract expressionist and impressionist. It is noticeable that the painters have been continuously experimenting with their preferred fields and shapes to establish a per-



From left: Artworks by Y. Gunindro Singh, Aditi Chakravarty and Arup Sinha.



sonal hallmark through their paintings. A number of the participating artists have divided their canvases into fragments, and used kaleidoscopic compositions. The colours look tranquil, with their smooth brushing and melodic textures. Among the participating painters from Tripura, Chinmoy Roy, Chandan Majumder, Abhijit Bhattacharya, Arup Saha, Partha Pratim Ganguly and Tapasree Ganguly's works are remarkable. Dipika Saha and Mukulendu Pathak's bronze sculptures are certainly aesthetic. The sculptors have been experimenting with their preferred fields and shapes to establish a per-

sonal hallmark through their paintings. Looking at her acrylic work, one wonders what innumerable symphonies and shades of colours the artist has discovered in nature. Her canvases highlight varied abstract images. But this abstraction does not muddle the viewers' perception. The canvases, wearing layers of washes of lucid colours, rather composes her expressions. Through her painting, the artist has discovered the mystery of nature and human psyche. Dhiraj Pradhan and Shampa Bhattacharjee are two notable painters from Sikkim. Dhiraj Pradhan is a pure abstract painter and his acrylic painting is form and composition-oriented.

Blue is the dominant colour, and the work gives the viewer a tranquil feel. Shampa Bhattacharjee has portrayed six female figures in similar approach and style. The work, featuring black and red, is quite interesting. Movement and expression are key aspects of the work. V. Lalzawmkima is the only participating artist from Mizoram at the group exhibition. His work is closely connected with surrealism. Analysis of dreams and movement are the most important features of the work. Today it is possible to say that the movement became a ground-breaking and intellectual event in human history. The influence of the movement is visible even in today's world art milieu.

Y. Gunindro Singh is one of the participants from Manipur who has brought to light social and political issues affecting his native state. His female figures are realistic. Subdued colours and meticulous technique lend an imposing view to his work. Shovin Bhattacharjee is the sole participant from Meghalaya. The painter has worked with digital print on archival paper. The piece on display at the exhibition is the artist's take on The Last Supper. Yellow chairs surrounding a red table, with digital motifs, get the focus. The exhibition continues till May 29.

KUNG FU PANDA 2

Returns to Its Chinese Home



On the eve of its premiere in China, "Kung Fu Panda 2" production designer Raymond Zibach hugged a panda-suited man in this southern China city, demonstrated making bowls of local noodles and mugged for Chinese press cameras on a Paramount promotion tour on Wednesday. Zibach, a California native and 15-year DreamWorks Animation veteran, was back in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province, for the second time. His first 10-day trip to China in November 2008 with director Jennifer Yuh Nelson and other key crew was to do the research they carefully and digitally

plowed into the DWA sequel to the film that was a huge hit here in 2008 and a wake up call for local animators. "I'm just so proud to be able to say thank you to this magical place," Zibach, 45, said in an interview with The Hollywood Reporter, tired after leading reporters up Mt. Qing Cheng, the birthplace of Taoism (a Chinese philosophy) and the inspiration for much of KFP2's lush green landscape. The Chinese characters for the famous mountain appear twice in the animated film, carved into rocks in the digital scenery inspired by locations sure to be recognised by local

"Kung Fu Panda 2", which released in the U.S. Thursday, will bow in China today. The Chinese voice cast doesn't include any famous talent -- no local Jack Black or Angelina Jolie equivalent -- an odd choice, perhaps, considering that Jackie Chan, one of China's biggest stars, gives voice to Monkey in the English version. The first "Kung Fu Panda", released here in June 2008 in the run-up to the Beijing Olympics, was the first animated film to gross more than 100 million yuan (\$15 million) at the local box office, quite an accomplishment in a market where animated fare has long been largely ignored by adults. In the wake left by KFP1 the Chinese government raised support for and pressure on the home grown animation industry to make better cartoon feature films. Although there's been little buzz around it, the China Film Group is due to release a home-grown animated feature about pandas in the coming weeks, putting its product head to head with DWA's toon.

SOURCE: INTERNET

"Strir Patra" and "Jonmoshutro" staged



Scenes from "Strir Patra" (top) and "Jonmoshutro".

JAMIL MAHMUD

The sixth day (May 26) of the ongoing 1st Dhaka International Theatre Festival saw staging of two plays -- "Strir Patra" and "Jonmoshutro" -- at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Natyabhumi from Agartala, India staged "Strir Patra" at the National Theatre Hall, while local troupe Theatre (Arambagh) staged "Jonmoshutro" at the Experimental Theatre Hall.

"Strir Patra" is an adaptation of Rabindranath Tagore's short story with the same title. The play brings to light the apathy

and unkindness women face everyday in the society. The protagonist of the play, Mrinal, is a housewife living with her aristocratic in-laws in Kolkata. She does not have any particular complaint against the in-laws.

However, the conflict in the story begins when a homeless girl takes refuge at Mrinal's home. Mrinal is particularly sympathetic to the girl, which others in the family do not approve of. Mrinal realises the frailty of women's existence in the society. She leaves home on a pilgrimage and from there she writes a letter to her husband that announces the termination of her relationship with the family.

Sanjoy Kar has dramatised and directed the play. Kar informed that the play was a tribute to Rabindranath Tagore on his 150th birth anniversary. The play premiered at a weeklong Rabindra Theatre Festival in Agartala.

Considering the appalling incidence of gender violence and discrimination against women in general, Kar said that he finds the play still very relevant.

Theatre's (Arambagh) "Jonmoshutro" was written and directed by Gazi Rakayet. This is Rakayet's sixth directorial work and first script

for the stage. Divided into two parts, the play deals with the missing identities of two individuals. Rakayet strives to build the story with the depiction of two different eras and link them with a common theme: class struggle. The first incident is set against the backdrop of undivided Bengal, while the second occurs in recent times.

In the first plot, the elderly Arfan Bhuiyan meets a young couple, Farida and her husband Shakhwat Daroga, at a launch terminal, on a

dark night. Bhuiyan has made the terminal his home for many years, as he waits for someone he lost 30 years ago. The second story follows Alfred Daniel, a British-Bangladeshi individual, who comes to Bangladesh in search of his roots. The cast included Jahangir Bhuiyan, Khaled Anand, Oliur Rahaman, Eusha Antara, Khan Jahangir and Tahmina Aktar.



THE WEEKLY STRUM

Song: Blowin' in the Wind
Lyrics and tune by Bob Dylan

CHORUS:	G C D G	G C D G
G C D G	How Many Times Can a Man Turn His Head,	And Pretend That He Just Doesn't See?
G C D G	How Many Roads Must a Man Walk Down,	The Answer My Friend is Blowin in the Wind.
G C D G	Before You Call Him A Man?	The Answer is Blowin in the Wind.
G C D G	How Many Seas Must a White Dove Sail,	How Many Times Must a Man Look Up,
G C D G	Before She Sleeps in the Sand?	Before He Can See the Sky?
G C D G	How Many Times Must the Cannonballs Fly,	How Many Ears Must One Man Have,
G C D G	Before They're Forever Banned?	Before He Can Hear People Cry?
G C D G	The Answer My Friend is Blowin in the Wind.	How Many Deaths will it Take 'Till He Knows,
G C D G	The Answer is Blowin in the Wind.	That Too Many People Have Died?
G C D G	How Many Years Can a Mountain Exist,	The Answer My Friend is Blowin in the Wind.
G C D G	Before it is Washed to the Sea?	The Answer is Blowin in the Wind.
G C D G	How Many Years Can Some People Exist,	
G C D G	Before They're Allowed to Be Free?	

Source: ultimateguitar.com

NEW RELEASES

Nishobdho Charney
Mixed album featuring Rabindra Sangeet
Source: Laser

Dusk to Dawn
Classical vocal by Syeda Minufar Nasrin
Source: Commitment

Bhalobashi Tai
Telefilm directed by Shahab Shaheen
Source:

BTV	07:50 Music Station
10:05 Rumpum	12:02 Ekushey-er Raat
12:10 Shusha Jigyasa	Desh TV
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	03:00 Bangla Feature Film
06:10 Phone-In	04:00 Desh Janapath
09:00 Drama	07:45 Desh Top Chat
10:25 Prane Mone Ontory	12:30 Total Sports
ATN BANGLA	Boishakhi TV
01:25 Prapok	10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:45 Bangla Feature Film	03:30 Bishay-er Bangla
06:15 Shusha Thakun	04:15 Shorashori Doctor
09:20 Drama Serial: Banglar Baro Yula	05:15 Boishakhi-CIN Shara Bishwa
10:45 Bihanga Kotha	10:50 Nirapad Sarak Chai
10:55 Drama Serial: Aayna Ghar	11:30 Boishakhi Binodon O Sanskriti Sangbad
CHANNEL i	Diganta TV
12:05 Ebang Cinemar Gaan	12:30 Score Cards
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	01:30 Duranto Khabar
05:15 Krishi Shingba	03:05 Probashe Bangladesher Aparajita
09:35 Hridoye Mati O Manush	
11:30 Fun Club Tournament	

RADIO

abc radio FM 99.2	08:00 Addabari
09:00 Mahabosty Shonay	02:00 Foorti Unlimited
12:00 Duran Duranary	06:00 Rumpur to Rumpur
03:00 Duranta Bikroy	10:00 Back to Back Music
05:00 Shonoharar	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
07:00 Shajer Maya	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
09:00 Raat-er Akashey	11:00 World Music
11:00 Golper Shech Nei	04:00 U Turn
RADIO FOORTI	07:00 Take Tai Hook

Chander Nijer
Kon Alo Nei
On tv at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mishu Sakhir, Monira Mithu

Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon
2 Studio at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/Drama
Cast: Yun-Fat Chow, Michelle Yeoh

Hridoye Mati O Manush
On CHANNEL i at 09:35pm
Documentary Programme
Host: Shykh Seraj

12:20 Ami Bai-er Kotha Bolchhui	08:05 Career Line
rtv	12:30 Moru Diganta-er Hanchhain
10:05 Bangla Feature Film	Z Studio
12:50 Shusha Protidin	11:00 The Other Man
04:10 Gallery	01:30 Boys and Girls
06:10 Shabbu Shondhoy	03:00 Transformers
06:45 Sankshiti Ei Shaptaho	07:40 King Soccer
09:00 Viewers Hour	09:30 Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon
Rtv	HBO
10:10 Dhruvodi Kahini	01:15 Whiteout
01:10 Bangla Feature Film	03:15 Shutter Island
05:00 Music R Music	06:00 Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen
05:30 Aroma Rupkotha	09:00 He's Just Not That Into You
06:00 Look at Me	11:30 Dinocroc vs. Supergator
07:40 Nagar Dola Rtv Model Haunt	Star Movies
BANGLAVISION	11:15 In The Line Of Fire
10:10 Moner Kotha	03:45 The Accidental Husband
11:05 Ami Ekhon Ki Karbo	05:20 Sniper 3
12:05 Probashi Mukti	07:00 Pearl Harbor
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	10:10 Black Hawk Down
05:20 Idami Jibon	Star World
12:00 Shagbad Protidin	11:30 American Idol
ETV	01:30 Bangla Feature Film
10:02 Dehghari	05:50 Sports Plus
01:30 Bangla Feature Film	06:30 Vobo Gure Dot Com
05:50 Sports Plus	
06:30 Vobo Gure Dot Com	

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA	08:20pm Golla
08:00pm Kak Daka Ehor	09:50pm Chhatr Nibash
CHANNEL i	BANGLAVISION
07:50pm Chaita Pappal	08:15pm Ladies First
10:00pm Ural Peshki Mon	09:05pm Close Chapter
rtv	ETV
08:15pm Chander Nijer Kon Alo Nei	09:30pm Patul Nach-er Etkotha
Desh TV	Desh TV
09:45pm	09:45pm Nikamal-er Bioscope

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am	News (Bangla) at 7:30am,
2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm,	1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm,
10:30pm,	10:30pm,
News (English) at 10:00am,	News Headlines (Bangla) at
4:00 pm, 10:00 pm,	10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm,
News (English) at 6:00pm	News (English) at 6:00pm
rtv	News (Bangla) 2:30 pm,
News (Bangla) 7:00 am,	4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm,
9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm,	10:30 pm, 12:30 am
10:30 pm, 12:30 am	News (Bangla) 7:30am,
ATN BANGLA	12:02am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm,
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm,	10:30pm, 1:00am
10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am,	ETV
4:00 am,	News (Bangla): 9:00am,
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm	11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm,
News (English): 9:00 am,	5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm,
6:00 pm.	11:00pm

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	Rtv
12:30am Lead News	10:40am Tarikalap
01:00am Volon 2020	BANGLAVISION
CHANNEL i	11:25pm Lal Golap
09:45am Triso Matra	ETV
11:05am Amader Aayna	10:10pm Galpo Shalpo Gaan
12:30pm Taroka Kothon	Desh TV
rtv	11:45pm Shuja Kotha
12:30am Ei Shomoy	Boishakhi TV