

WHAT'S ON

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Street Spaces  
Artist: Md Tofiq  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi  
Date: January 6-14  
Time: 12pm-8pm

**Documentary Screening**  
Title: '1971'  
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shubhagh  
Date: Jan 05  
Time: 2:15pm, 06:30pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Abdus Shakoor Shah  
Venue: Gallery Chitra, R-6, H-4, Dhanmondi  
Date: Dec 27-Jan 10  
Time: 10am-8pm

**Kibria Chhapchitro Mela**  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi  
Date: Jan 1-6  
Time: 3pm-8pm

**Classical Music Conference**  
Organiser: Bangladesh Uchchango Sangeet Shilpi Parishad  
Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium  
Date: Jan 5-8  
Time: 5:30pm

**Music Conference**  
Organiser: Lakshyapar, Narayanganj  
Venue: Convention Centre, Narayanganj Club Limited  
Date: January 5  
Time: 6:30pm Onwards

**Musical Soiree**  
Artist: Azizur Rahman Tuhin  
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Gulshan  
Date: Jan 6  
Time: 6:30pm

**Hasan Raja Folk Festival**  
Organiser: Bangladesh Uchchango Sangeet Shilpi Parishad  
Venue: Govt. Jubilee High School, Sunamganj  
Date: Jan 5-7  
Time: 3pm

# 2011 IN MUSIC

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Tough competition dominated the music scene of the country in 2011, with youngsters stirring up a greater fan following, compared to the twinkling shine of the veterans. Tension prevailed in the industry throughout the year, with a major breakthrough being the trend of releasing music through cell phone service providers.

Over 200 solo albums were released last year, compared to only 20 mixed albums and 10 by bands.

"Ahoban", the big budget album by Habib, turned out to be a commercial success, gaining mass popularity with its release through Banglalink.

Arfin Rumey was the busiest among the young musicians -- recording, composing and directing most of the songs in 2011.

Popular artiste Kumar Bishwajit celebrated his 30 years in music. Another fan favourite Asif Akbar came out of an early retirement from music, and started working on his new album.

The most talked about singers were Habib Wahid, Arfin Rumey, Nancy, Hridoy Khan, Kona and Porshi.

Belal Khan was the new find of the year.

"Pagol Tor Jonnore", his duet with Nancy, topped the charts. Tousif was another newcomer who earned his place under the spotlight in 2011, while rookie singer Lutfor Hasan seized focus through his album "Ghuri Tumi Kaar Akashe Uro". "Close-up One" stars Kishore, Pulok, Muhin, Atik, Sabbir, Beauty, Rinku, Putul, Rajib, Salma and Ronty were busy throughout the year with studio and stage performances.

The top lyricists of the year were Zulfikar Russell, Indramil Chattopadhyay, Jahid Akbar, Anurup Aich, Shahan Kabandha, Rana, Gunjan Chowdhury, Shomeshsar Oli and Robiul Islam Jibon.

The dominating music directors of the year were Prince Mahmud, Shawkat Ali Emon, Ibrar Tipu, Habib Wahid, Hridoy Khan, Fuad Al Muqtadir, Arfin Rumey, Suman Kalyan and Sandhi. Lyricist Jahid Akbar captured the attention of the media by penning songs for Indian artistes Kailash Kher and Raghav. Indian artiste Shubhmona and Bangladeshi singer Shahid meanwhile recorded a song written by Anurup Aich -- which was a hit in Kolkata. Composer Tanvir Tarek won his first Citycell-Channel i Award as a music director.

On the other hand, the death of "Close-up One" star Abid cast a shadow of gloom over the entire music industry last year.



Habib



Nancy



Kona



Hridoy Khan

## Manipuri Theatre premieres Debotar Grash

JAMIL MAHMUD

Manipuri Theatre staged its newest production, Rabindranath Tagore's "Debotar Grash", on December 29 at the Studio Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. After seven shows at the troupe's local area in Kamolganj, Maulvibazar, this was the Dhaka premiere of the play. The play premiered in Kamolganj on June 13 last year. The play received a grant from the government along with other selected troupes to produce Tagore play on his 150th birth anniversary.

The experimental work, based-on Tagore poem with the same title, has been both adapted and directed by Shuvashis Sinha.

The performance was mainly choral. Individual dialogues were often overtaken by the choral renditions. The story depicts the epic voyage of a group of people who face a tempest during their return home after attending a ritualistic festival. Among the travellers is a priest who is caught in a dilemma between religion and humanity even as he tries to determine the cause of the tempest.

Sinha adapted the play into his mother tongue of Bishnupriya Manipur language. It was hard for the Dhaka audience to keep pace with the dialogues; nevertheless, it seemed that the performance was largely based on musical elements. Using their traditional cultural elements such as dance forms and singing style, the Manipuri actors narrated the Tagore work in an indigenous theatre form.

The cast of the play included Jyoti Sinha, Lakkhan Sinha, Bhagyalakshi Sinha, Smriti Sinha, Sushanto Sinha, Sunil Sinha and Shukla Sinha. Sudip Chakraborty did the light designing, while Sharmila Sinha did the music. The music featured compositions of Tagore tunes with his lyrics transformed into Bishnupriya Manipuri language.

Ramendu Majumdar, ITI Worldwide president and chief of the committee that allotted troupes to produce Tagore plays, inaugurated the Dhaka show at the Studio Theatre Hall. After the premiere, two more shows of the play were staged the following day.



The play is in Bishnupriya Manipuri language.

## Day for percussionists

International Dhol Concert at Alliance Française de Chittagong



(From left) Babul Jaladas, Ashok Kumar and Jithendra Vishvabandhu perform at the programme.

PRANABESHI CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

The beats of dhol (Bangladeshi percussion) enthralled music enthusiasts of the port city here last Sunday evening.

Dhol artistes from Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka played indigenous, South Asian, Latin American and African rhythms and beats on dhol that regaled the audience.

The concert was held at the auditorium of Alliance Française de Chittagong. To welcome the New Year with music, Bangladesh Institute of Theatre Arts (BITA), in association with Alliance Française de Chittagong, arranged the event, titled 'International Dhol Concert-2012'.

This show was the outcome of a five-day regional dhol workshop organised by BITA and conducted by Babul Jaladas of Bangladesh, Ashok Kumar of India and Jithendra Vishvabandhu of Sri Lanka.

At the beginning of the programme, BITA executive body president, Professor Abul Mansur, welcomed the audience.

Recalling the significant contribution of Ekusey Award winning dhol artiste Binoy Banshi, Professor Mansur said that it was possible to uphold the culture of the country through emphasising the role of dhol in traditional music.

Samuel Berthet, director of Alliance Française de Chittagong, addressed the audience as chief guest, while BITA chief executive director Shishir Datta was in the chair.

Terming 'dhol' as a traditional instrument,

Berthet said that its popularity dates back to the 15th century. This symbol of joy, victory and festivity was widely used in the subcontinent with regional variations, he added.

The second session of the programme started with a performance by Jithendra Vishvabandhu from Sri Lanka, accompanied by four drummers of Bangladesh. His dexterous fingers on the dhol created a hush in the auditorium as a spellbound audience listened to the beats.

Later, Abhijit Acharjee played dhol to the tune of a dotara, a stringed folk instrument played by Pradip Biswas from Khulna.

Ashok Kumar of India introduced the dhol players in the intervals between the performances and briefly described the style of rhythms. Babul Jaladas played the shanai, accompanied by the beats of dhol by Harilal Das and Krisna Mohan Jaladas.

Following the performance an exceptional composition was performed by Ashok Kumar, Jithendra and Babul.

Later, many Latin American, African and regional rhythms in slow and fast beats were played in a composition that stole the show.

The concert concluded with "Sound of Wind and Rain", a superb composition. Directed by Ashok, this composition evoked the ambience of a rainy day, following a group performance named "Kaharba" by all dhol players.

The performance by Swapna Moulick, the sole female instrumentalist from Khulna, received much acclaim.

## Three-day Classical Music Conference begins today at Chhayanaut



Alauddin Mian speaks at the press conference.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Uchchango Sangeet Shilpi Parishad is hosting a three-day Classical Music Conference that begins today at 5:30pm at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Shangskriti Bhavan in Dhaka. Renowned Ustad Yasin Khan will inaugurate the conference, while Director General of BTV, Kazi Abu Zafar Siddiqui, will grace the occasion as chief guest.

A press conference was held in this regard at Dhaka Reporters' Unity on January 3. Apart from president and general secretary -- Alauddin Mian and Dr. Rezwan Ali respectively -- of the organisation, noted classical artistes and music teachers Professor Shameema Parveen, Dr. Harun-or-Rashid, Anil Kumar Saha, Dr. Fakir Shahidul Islam, Hasan Ikramullah, Mahmudul Hasan and Faizul Haque Bijoy were present at the press conference.

ence. Alauddin Mian presided over the press conference.

Both classical vocal and instrumental music will be performed at the music conference. Anil Kumar Saha, Dr. Rezwan Ali, Hasan Ikramullah, Mohammad Shoyeb and Alope Kumar Sen will perform classical vocal music, while Swarup Hossain (tabla), Alauddin Mian (violin) and Yousuf Khan (sitar) will present instrumental music on the opening day.

On second day (January 7) the conference will begin at 5:30pm. Chhayanaut guru Anup Barua, Faizul Haque Bijoy, Dr. Pradip Kumar Nandi, Arju Aktar Baby and SM Wadud will present vocal renditions, while noted instrumentalists Firoz Khan (sitar), Dr. Sheuli Bhattacharjee (violin) and Proshanto Kumar Das (tabla) will perform on the occasion.

On third and concluding day (January 8), the conference will feature Dr. Harun-or-Rashid, Professor Shameema

Parveen, Dr. Fakir Shahidul Islam, Chowdhury Mostak Hossain and Zabir Imam Khan Shahi performing vocal music. Noted flautist Gazi Abdul Hakim, sitar artiste Ebadul Haque Saikat and tabla artiste Zakir Hossain will present instrumental music at the conference that day.

Prior to the performances everyday, essays on music will be read out. Aside from holding annual national classical music conference, Bangladesh Uchchango Sangeet Shilpi Parishad has a range of plans, including holding monthly and seasonal classical music programmes, organising national classical music competition, editing audio-video CDs and books on music, carrying out training on classical music in Dhaka and other districts of Bangladesh, arranging seminars and lecture demonstrations on music, honouring noted musicians, and diffusing the importance of music to every nook and corner of the society through publicity.

## TAKE THE CAKE

### 'Pitha Utshab' held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sathkira.

A day long traditional 'Pitha Utsab' was held at Sathkira City College premises in the town on January 2.

The Pitha Utshab, organised by students of the Agriculture Diploma Course of Sathkira City College, was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC-general) and Sathkira City College governing body president Mukesh Chandra Biswas as chief guest.

The inaugural event was presided over by Sathkira City College principal, Professor Abu Ahmed while Sadar Upazila Parishad chairman Alhaj Nazrul Islam was the special guest.

Among others Sathkira Press Club president Advocate Abul Kalam Azad, college governing body member Abu Sayeed and Vice-Principal Shahidul Islam Mukul, spoke on the occasion.

Speakers said the festival will introduce students to traditional pitha (rice cakes) that are a legacy of hundreds of years. The festival featured 14 stalls, offering various kinds of exotic traditional rice cakes made by the students of the college.

People sampled the cakes such as 'patishapta', 'dudpulli', 'bhapa', 'dudkuli', 'pakanpitha', 'rasher pitha' and 'sarupitha'.

Apart from the 'pitha exhibition', cultural programmes featuring modern and folk songs, recitation and narratives were held at the venue.

A large number of people of all walks of life and students and teachers visited the venue. The festival was held for the first time at Sathkira Government College premises.



Artistes Anuradha Roma Chowdhury and Diya Chakravarty perform Tagore songs at a programme held at Bengal Shilpalaya in Dhanmondi, on January 2. Bengal Foundation arranged the programme that featured songs and narration highlighting the influence of Tagore songs on Bollywood.

## Lakshyapar's third annual classical music conference begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Narayanganj-based classical music group Lakshyapar is hosting a nightlong classical music conference, for the third consecutive time. The event begins today at 6:30pm at the Convention Centre of Narayanganj Club Limited. Veteran Taal Guru (tabla artiste) Modon Gopal Das will inaugurate the conference. The organisers will also honour

our Das with a lifetime achievement award.

Both vocal and instrumental music will be performed at the conference.

Anup Barua, Ashok Chowdhury, Dr. Ishrat Jahan, Shaila Tasmin and Paramita will perform vocal music while Shamim Zahir (sitar), Pinu Sen Das (tabla) and Nishit Dey (sitar) will present instrumental music at the conference.

Indian artistes Arshad Ali (vocalist), Shuddhashil Chatterjee (santoor) and K Rohan Naidu (violin) will

also perform at the music conference.

The arrangement of the conference aims to popularise the practice of classical music and to generate interest in the genre, according to Ashit Kumar, co-ordinator of the conference.

Marking the conference, a music competition was arranged. Students from 28 schools of Narayanganj took part in the competition. The best three contenders will be given scholarships at the beginning of the conference.

## Folk festival Celebrating anniversary of Hindol Sangeet Niketon in Jhenidah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

On Thursday night a mesmerizing Lalon sangeet utshab celebrating the 5th anniversary of Hindol Sangeet Niketon at Harinakundo upazila was held at Doel Chattar of the town. Thousands of people thronged spontaneously to enjoy the cultural evening.

Harinakundo upazila UNO Abdur Razzak was present as chief guest while Abdur Rahman Mondol (Retd. expansion official of Water Development Board); Monowar

Hossain Moni, music composer; Latif Shah noted Lalon singer were present as special guests chaired by Jamal Uddin president of Lalon Shah Parishad, Harinakundo upazila.

A good number of singers including child artiste Shihab, Trisha, Prokriti, Emu, Lima Priti along with Lalon devotee Abdul Latif Shah; Abdul Barek; Bashir and Shishir Sadhok performed Baul and folk songs.

Thousands of people of the upazila stayed at the venue with a rapt attention and enjoyed various songs till midnight.

Abdur Rahim of Jorapukuria village under the upazila said, such cultural shows add substance to our aesthetic sensibilities. It inspires the students to know more on music and research of Lalon.

A student Anup Kumar of class nine of Harinakundo pilot secondary school said, such cultural shows help us to delve deep into past traditions.

Hindol Sangeet Academy president Jamal Uddin asserted that, Harishpur under Harinakundo upazila is the birth place of Lalon Shah. So a memorial should be built here to commemorate him.

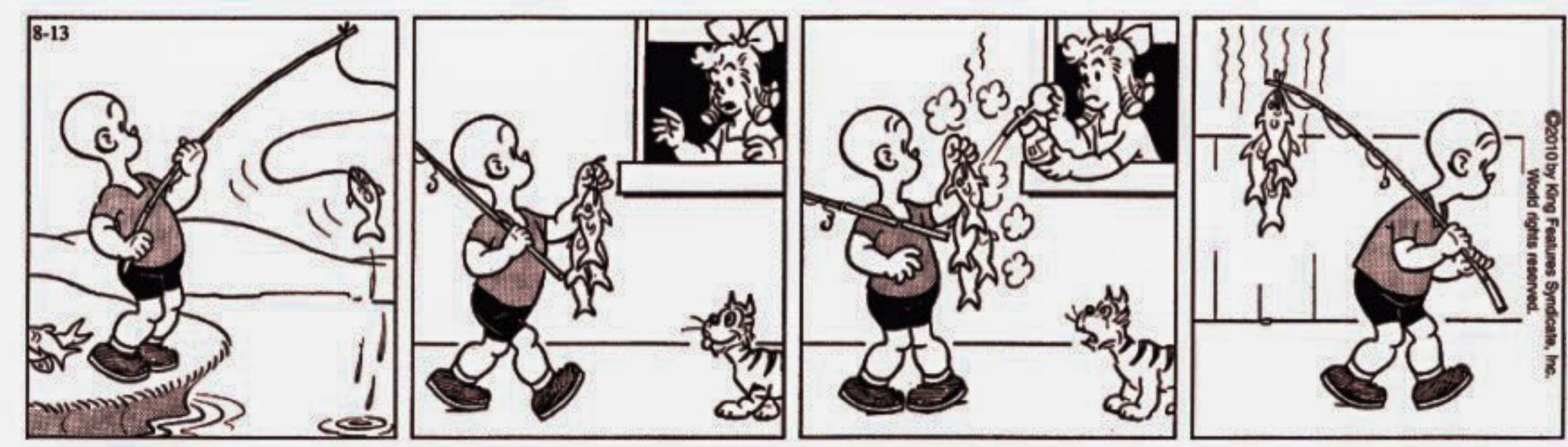
## Beetle Baily

by Mort Walker



## Henry

by Don Tranchte



ATN BANGLA	06:10	Music at Fun Dot Com
10:40	08:45	Drama Serial: Talbat
11:20	10:50	Reporters' Diary
06:15	12:30	Tara O Jyotsna Galpo
08:00		
11:00	01:30	Diganta TV
	05:30	Business Time Live
CHANNEL i		Mela Dhorir/Shokal
01:05		Belar Pakhi
01:30	08:00	Jiboner Jekhkhobi
02:40	09:25	Pothey Prantorey
03:30		Maasranga Television
09:35	10:02	Bangla Feature Film
	05:30	Amazing Animals
	06:30	Char Deyal-er Khela
	08:00	Tele-film
	11:00	Tomay Gaan Shonabo
BANGLAVISION		
02:20		Z Studio
05:20	01:30	Once Upon a Time in Mexico
06:05		The Sixth Sense
09:05	06:05	Naked Gun 2&1/2: The Smell of Fear
RTV	07:55	Naked Gun 33 & 1/3:
01:05		
05:00		

abx radio FM 89.2	12:00	My Time
06:00	01:00	No Tension
08:00	04:00	Dhaka Calling
12:00	09:00	Night Rider
03:00	01:00	Back to Back music
05:00		Shondhata
07:00	06:00	Gen FM
09:00	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
11:00	12:00	Today's Adda
Radio Foorti	04:00	U Rem
02:30	07:00	Solar Tai Hak
10:00	10:00	Rock the Station

**Bipashar Othithi on BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm**  
**Celebrity Talk Show**  
Guest: Mahfuz Ahmed

**Gothika**  
On 2 Studio at 09:30pm  
Genre: Horror/Thriller  
Cast: Halle Berry, Penelope Cruz

**Nikhaj On Desh TV at 11:55pm**  
**Single Episode TV Play**  
Cast: Apurba, Timi

05:30	Ananda Dhara	The Final Insult
11:30	Drama: Toptol Ballari	Gothika
12:05	Music Fast	
nTV		
10:05	Kichhu Kotha Kichhu	Gangs of New York
04:10	Janar Achhey Bolar	Next
06:15	Shubho Shondhata	Dick Tracy
09:00	Amaro Gaithe Ichchhe	Rocky
	Halo	Dragonfly
11:30	Music Euphony	StarWorld
ETV		
11:30	Ekushey-er Business	11:30 Low2 Hate U
05:40	Sports Plus	03:30 Terra Nova
07:50	Neel Paerar Gaan	09:30 Supernatural
09:30	Ekushey-er Chokh	10:30 The Shield
10:10	Drama: Nirbachito Dukh Kosto	11:30 The Big Bang Theory
Desh TV		
04:30	Durpath	Discovery Channel
06:30	Dur Durantey	07:30 Building the Future
07:45	Drama Serial: Gohinee	07:30 Man Woman Wild
09:45	Style & Fashion	08:30 Dinosaur Revolution
11:55	Drama: Nibhje	10:30 Swords
Boishakhi TV		
10:30	Bangla Feature Film	BBC World
04:15	Shorashori Doctor	11:00 BBC World News

ATN BANGLA	ntv
08:40pm	Chand Phul Amabozha
09:20pm	Motibhed CIA
CHANNEL i	
01:20pm	Kashar Phasa
08:25pm	Lesai
BANGLAVISION	
08:15pm	No Problem
RTV	
09:05pm	Olophur
09:50pm	Dhan Shaliker Gaan
08:15pm	Rugkatha
09:45pm	Shobuj Nekkhotto
Desh TV	
08:15pm	Sat Kahon
Boishakhi TV	
08:10pm	Fourth Class Society
Maasranga Television	
09:30pm	Dilar Galpo

RTV	NEWS BULLETIN
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.
News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
News (English) at 6:00pm	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 pm	ntv
News (Bangla): 7:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 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	RTV
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.	

ATN BANGLA	ntv
12:30am	Lead News
CHANNEL i	
09:45am	Titus Mita
12:30pm	Tanika Kothan
11:30pm	Swapna Orar Din
BANGLAVISION	
11:25pm	Talk of the Week
RTV	
10:40am	Tonkagap
07:40pm	Our Democracy
12:10pm	Ei Shomoy
Desh TV	
10:30pm	Desh Ei Galpo
Boishakhi TV	
09:30pm	Anandei Shanyay
12:00am	Zen Hour
Maasranga Television	
07:30pm	Prime Issue