

WHAT'S ON

**Solo Print Exhibition**  
Artist: MF Hussain  
Venue: Gallery Basilio, New DOHS, Mohakhali  
Date: Jan 7-22

**Dhaka Int'l Film Fest**  
Venue: Central Public Library, National Museum, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka  
Date: January 12-20  
Time: 10am onwards

**Theatre Festival**  
Organiser: Natyagon  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Jan 14-21  
Time: 5pm

**Russian Film Festival**  
Venue: Zahir Raihan Auditorium, Jahangirnagar University  
Date: Jan 17-18  
Time: 3pm

**Wall Magazine Festival**  
Organiser: Bangladesh Wall Magazine Parishad  
Venue: Bangla Academy  
Date: Jan 13-15  
Time: 10am-6pm

**Film Festival**  
Organiser: Sushila Sam Samit  
Shongkhokan Parishad, Pabna  
Venue: Muktiyoddha Raftul Islam Rakul Auditorium, Pabna  
Date: Jan 10-16  
Time: 5pm

**Selim Al Deen Death Anniversary**  
Venue: Shilpakala Academy  
Date: January 13-16  
Time: 6:30pm

**Tareque Masud Master's Class**  
Lecturer: Victor Kossakovsky (Russia)  
Venue: The Daily Star Convention Centre  
Date: January 16

# A CELEBRATION OF BANGLADESHI FILMS

## "CHALACHCHITRA MELA" AT BFDC

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Happy times returned to BFDC (Bangladesh Film Development Corporation) last Friday, as Channel i and BFDC jointly hosted a fair to celebrate Bangladeshi cinema. Thousands thronged BFDC premises to add to the already festive atmosphere of the fairthe fourth instalment.

The big guns of the silver screen, along with the rising stars, started arriving since morning, with authorities having a hard time managing the inflow of film enthusiasts at the venue.

Officially inaugurating the fair at 11am, Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad termed the government's decision to increase grants for Bangladeshi films a "positive development". He further expressed hopes of Bangladeshi cinema returning to its glory days, adding his best wishes for the next movie fairs to be held on a grander scale.

Also present at the inauguration were Information Secretary Hedayetullah Al Mamun NDC; Managing Director of BFDC, M. Hamid; Impress Telefilm Managing Director Faridur Reza Sagar; President of Film Producers' Association, Masud Parvez; President of Film Directors' Association, Mohammad Hannan; President of Camera Artistes Association, Abdul Latif Bachchu; President of Film Editors' Guild, Abu Musa Debu; President of Film Artists' Association, Shakib Khan; seasoned actors Razzaq, Alamgir and others.

Veteran filmmaker Soovas Dutt received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to Bangladeshi cinema. M. Hamid and Faridur Reza Sagar handed him a cheque worth Taka One lakh, as part of the award. Dutt said that it was everyone's love that kept him going through the years, and it is that same love that he seeks for the rest of his days.

This edition of the fair took place at the Nayak Jasim floor of BFDC, with



Soovas Dutt (2-R) receives crest from Abul Kalam Azad; M. Hamid and Faridur Reza Sagar are also seen in the photo.

Cute Cosmetics acting as its chief sponsor.

Singers Abdul Jabbar and Mohammad Khurshid Alam received special recognitions for their efforts in film music. Actresses Nutan and Anjana, meanwhile, also received special recognitions for their contributions to Bangladeshi cinema. Contemporary actors, Shakib Khan, Moushumi and Misha Sawdagar also received special honours.

The daylong festivities included a cultural programme, featuring Mohammad Khurshid Alam, Subir Nandi, Rizia Parvin, S.I. Tutul, Kona, Tele Samad performing at the event. Actors Ilias Kanchan, Rozina, Anjana, Omar Sunny, Amin Khan, Helal Khan, Nipun, Shahnur, Shilpi, Samrat and Sahara also performed to the music. Razzaq, Bapparaj and Shilpi launched the performances.

Both veterans and rookies of the movie industry held casual chats throughout the daysharing memories and experiences.

Different stalls were also erected at



the venue, featuring movie related books, CDs and other merchandise.

The Eagle Video stall drew attentionwith a large number of people rushing to buy the collection of black and white movies from the 1970s and '80s. The poster exhibition by Bangladesh Cine Still Photographers Association was also a

mentionable event.

Wall posters also put up the images of 84 movie stars whom we have lost.

Abdur Rahman was the project manager of the fair, while event direction was conducted by Taher Shilpon.

Apu Mahfuz and Moushumi Barua hosted the entire event, with Channel i airing the programme live.

# Visitor's delight

## Sultan Mela-2012

PONUEL S BOSE, Narail

Thousands of S.M. Sultan aficionados and visitors from different corners of the country as well as locals and people from the neighbouring country have gathered at the annual Sultan Mela, being held at Sultan Mancha premises. In fact Sultan fans are now demanding an extension of the mela (fair) by three more days every year.

The Sultan Mancha premises and Shishu Shargo of Masindia village were in festive mode. Thousands of people and children had arrived at the mela. The children could be seen on the Nagor Dola. There were about 50 colourful stalls with different goods on display.

The mela kicked off on January 9 and will conclude on January 15. The visitors could be seen enthusiastically viewing art competitions, art exhibitions, bull fighting, horse races, jari gaan and kabi gaan, lathi khela, wrestling, recitation, theatre, cycling and ha-du-du.

Every afternoon a discussion is being held at Sultan Mancha with the participation of noted artists and renowned personalities of the country. On the heels of the meeting, in the evening cultural functions organised by different national and local organisations continue well into the night.

When contacted Md. Zohirul Haque, Deputy Commissioner Narail, said that this year it would not be possible to extend the mela at the last moment. He added that the authorities have chalked out a plan next year to increase mela days.



Ahmed Muztaba Zamal

JAMIL MAHMUD

As the 12th Dhaka International Film Festival reaches its 4th day [today], festival director Ahmed Muztaba Zamal talks about its progress. The Dariush Mehrjui Retrospective began on January 13. According to Zamal, this is a major event: "Mehrjui was there prior to the screening; the presentation was very nice; the print of the film was great and audience enjoyed it."

The retrospective, one of the most attractive sections of the festival, began at the Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library through the screening of "The Tenants".

A social satire that stands as a metaphor, "The Tenants" is a breath of fresh air from Iran. The film, set in the 1980s' Tehran, narrates stories of people with their own quirks and eccentricities.

Six Mehrjui films are being screened in the section.

A weeklong workshop started yesterday at the festival venue. The workshop, conducted by Australian documentary-maker Warne Stephen Robert, especially focuses on documentary development.

Foreign delegates including filmmakers, actors, organisers and jury board members are in town at present. Zamal said that delegates have expressed their satisfaction regarding the arrangement of the festival.

This year over 200 films are being screened -- an admirable accomplishment by any standard. Zamal informed that they wanted to include more but failed because of lack of venues. Films are being screened at four venues at this year's festival.



# "Dariush Mehrjui Retrospective is a major attraction at the festival"

-- Ahmed Muztaba Zamal, festival director



Mehrjui's "Banoo" will be screened today.

Financial constraint has limited the arrangement as well, according to the festival director.

"We had a plan to use Star Cineplex as one of the venues, as we used it on previous occasions. But it is quite far from the main venue and the mall atmosphere is not supportive of the festival. Moreover, its ticket price is higher than our expectations," said Zamal.

Zamal sees Australasian Competition as the most significant section, as he considers this an opportunity for Bangladeshi productions to shine. It mostly features films by independent filmmakers. About Short and Independent and Women Filmmakers sections, he said that these

two segments mainly feature works of young, aspiring individuals. "Young filmmakers are being showcased this year," he said.

He sees the participation of Bangladeshi films to be adequate -- 37 Bangladeshi films are being screened at the festival. However, regarding the overall inclusion, Zamal said that the organisers would be choosy in future.

Organised by Rainbow Film Society, the 10-day festival is being supported by several local and international organisations. AB Bank is the main sponsor of the fest, while Maasranga Productions and Standard Chartered Bank are two co-sponsors. Channel i is the media partner.

# Udichi celebrates

## Ranesh Dasgupta's birth centennial



Dignitaries inaugurate the festival.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

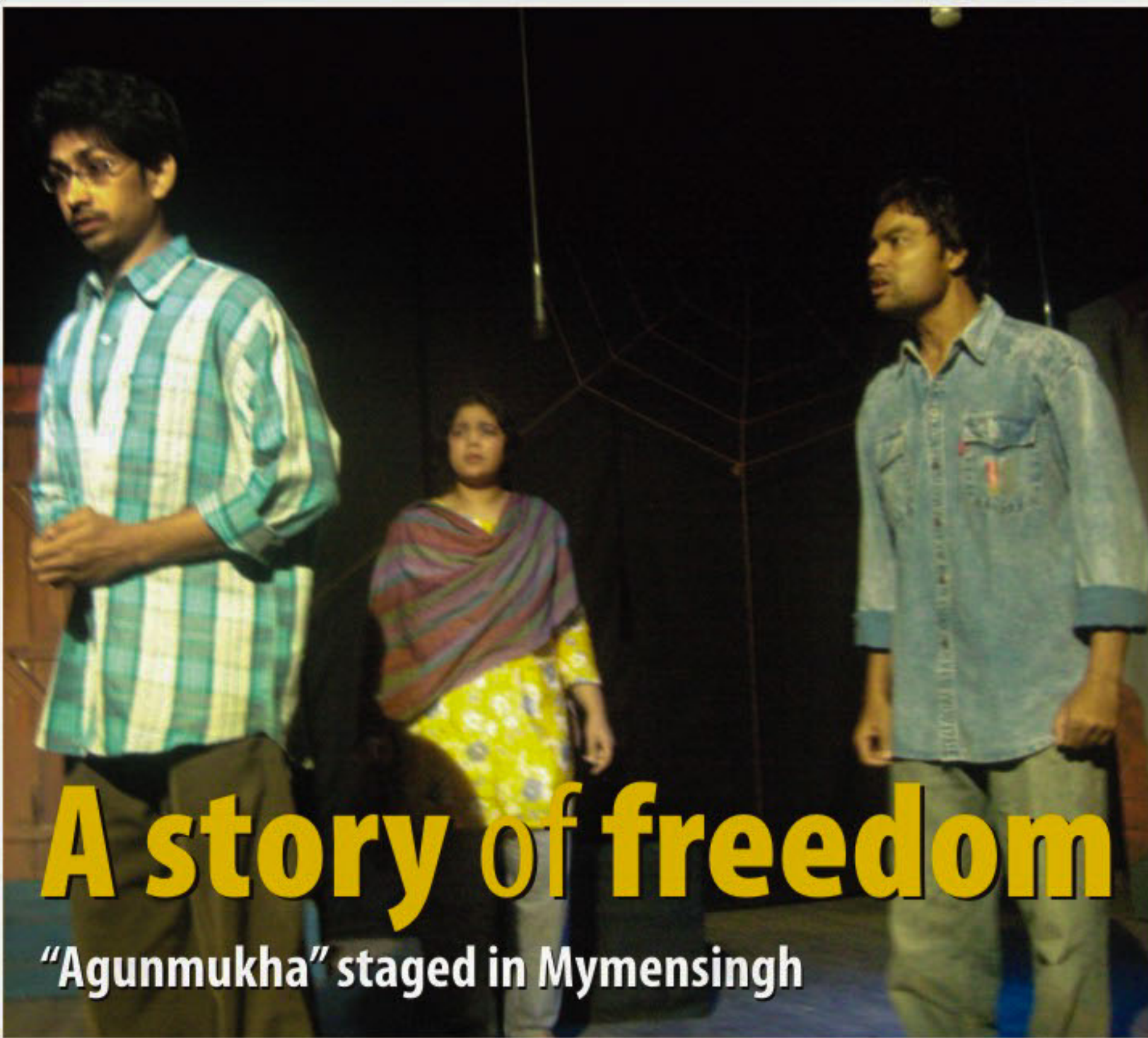
To mark the 100th birth anniversary of eminent litterateur and a founder of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Ranesh Dasgupta, Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi has arranged a three-day festival at the Shadhinota Stambho Complex of Suhrawardy Udyan in Dhaka. The festival was inaugurated on January 13.

Under the titled "Konthe Moder Kunthabihin Nityakaaler Daak", the festival features discussion, recitation and musical soiree.

Cultural personality Syed Hasan Imam inaugurated the festival. Indian eloquistons Partha Ghosh, Gouri Ghosh, Jagannath Basu and Urmilama Basu attended the programme as special guests.

Noted poets Nirmelendu Goon, Asad Chowdhury; cultural personalities Nasiruddin Youssuff and Asaduzzaman Noor; eloquistons Bhaswar Bandopadhyay and Kazi Arif also attended the programme.

The discussants talked about Ranesh Dasgupta's life and contributions. They were of the view that Dasgupta contributed greatly to the national cultural movement besides his involvement in the left leaning politics. His journalistic and creative writings predominantly speak out against fundamentalism and oppression. He was a liberal thinker. A renaissance man and a dedicated social and cultural activist, Dasgupta was fearless and never compromised his moral integrity.



# A story of freedom

"Agunmukha" staged in Mymensingh

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

"Agunmukha", a play that recounts the struggle of freedom loving people drew a huge audience at the local Shilpakala Academy auditorium on January 13.

Through the drama, the audience witnessed the struggle of people who seek to establish a society free from oppression and injustice on the one hand and corrupt practices of the state on the other.

Bahurupi Natya Sangstha, a leading theater troupe of the town, staged the drama for the second time.

Written by eminent playwright Mannan Hira, and directed by Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu, secretary of Bahurupi, the play was the 389th stage performance of the troupe.

The cast of the play included Shahadat Hossain Saikat, Subarna Saki Khushbu, Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu, Mofiz-un-Noor Khoka, Shahrier Neaz Babu and Krishna Talukder.

Manash Talukder, Wahab Mahmud Ramzan and Narayan Basak assisted in designing the stage, lighting and background music.

A discussion was held prior to the drama. Managing director of Bahurupi Natya Sangstha, Professor A.K.M. Helalul Islam and

assistant secretary general of Group Theatre Federation, Md. Akhtaruzzaman, spoke at the inaugural session.

Goshthi, Ali Azhar; secretary of Mymensingh Sahitya Sangsad, Anwara Sultana Anu and secretary of Chayanat Sahitya and Sangskritik Dal, Ariful Haque, were present at the show.

The speakers said that the people who refuse to compromise with evil forces embark on a struggle against them and this trend has been continuing for centuries. The patriotic rebels stay uncompromised until their death and this scenario is depicted in the drama.

The patriots believe that the truth is timeless and it is never scrapped as obsolete. A complexity is seen between the relationship of the people and the state. Only emotion cannot unearth many truths hidden in politics and human relationships.

Talking to this correspondent, Bahurupi secretary Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu said that they staged the drama for the second time as they had a highly favourable response from the audience after the first show.

The turnout at the venue was very encouraging and will definitely inspire other cultural organisations to stage plays in Mymensingh town, Hilu concluded.

# George Lucas says Hollywood won't support black films

Director George Lucas says it took 20 years to get his latest film made, "because it's an all-black movie".

Speaking on The Daily Show, Lucas said he had to self-fund "Red Tails", the true story of a group of African-American pilots who fought in World War II.

He claimed major film studios would not back the movie because "there's no major white roles in it at all".

"I showed it to all of them and they said, 'No. We don't know how to market a movie like this,'" he said.

"They don't believe there's any foreign market for it, and that's 60 percent of their profit," he added.

Lucas co-wrote and produced "Red Tails", which was directed by Anthony Hemingway.

It features several well-known namesincluding Oscar-winner Cuba Gooding Jr, Terence Howard and R&B star Ne-Yand shows how the pilots were segregated and kept on the ground for most of the war, until they were called up to fight for their country.

The real-life airmen featured in the drama were given a Congressional Gold Medal by then-President George Bush in 2007.

Lucas put \$58 million of his own money into the movie. It will be released by his company Lucasfilm, and distributed by Twentieth Century Fox.

He is putting a further \$35 million towards the distribution costs, said trade paper The Hollywood Reporter.

"It's a reasonably expensive movie," Lucas told Jon Stewart on The Daily Show. "Normally black movies, say Tyler Perry movies or something, they're very low budget."

"Even then, the [Hollywood studios] won't really release his movies, it goes to one of the lower, not major distributors."

"This [film] costs more than what those movies make," Lucas added. Director and actor Perry, whose movies include "Why Did I Get Married" and the "Madea" series, is one of the most profitable filmmakers



Poster of "Red Tails".

in the US.

However, he retains the rights to all his workwhich plays almost exclusively to black audiencesand has previously stated that his fans are "invisible" to the Hollywood mainstream.

Lucas' comments echo those of Spike Lee, who criticised the lack of black faces in Hollywood war movies in 2008.

Speaking about Clint Eastwood's movies "Flags Of Our Fathers" and "Letters From Two Jims", Lee said: "He did two films about two Jim back to back and there was not one black soldier in both of those films."

Eastwood later justified his choice of actors on "Flags Of Our Fathers", saying that the African-American troops who did take part in the battle

of two Jims were not involved in the key incident in the filmwhere US marines raised the American flag on Mount Suribachi.

The veteran actor argued that if he had deliberately "put an African-American actor in there, people would go: 'This guy's lost his mind'".

Lucas insisted that "Red Tails" was nothing like preceding war films, including 1989's "Glory", which, although it starred Denzel Washington, featured "a lot of white officers running these guys into cannon fire".

If his film does well at the box office, Lucas said he had a prequel and sequel planned.

SOURCE: BBC

# Tareque Masud's "Runway" comes to Netrakona

The late director Tareque Masud's latest film "Runway" will be shown in Netrakona, as part of the ongoing countrywide release of the film, today, according to a press release.

The film will be screened at Mahua auditorium in the town, with three shows at 3pm, 5pm and 7pm today. "Naroshundor", Tareque and Catherine Masud's short fiction set in 1971, will also be shown. The programme is being jointly organised by Sandhani Pathagar and Helbob Krira Chakro, in association with Sriti Chitro.

Recently "Runway" was also screened in Mymensingh on January 7, in Jessore on December 29 and 30, 2011 and in Rajbari on December 31. Later this month, shows are planned for Dinajpur, Rangpur and Comilla. The film will be released in Dhaka on February 10.



**Beetle Baily**

by Mort Walker

**Henry**

by Don Trachte

BTV	10:05	Amrao Pari	11:25	Business Vision
12:35	Shakhi Paribar	12:35	Rtv	Bangla Feature Film
03:05	Shadhu Gaan Noi	05:30	Game Game	Bhalobasha
05:05	Janya Television Bitarok	08:20	Drama Serial: Orokabho	
08:30	No Problem	09:50	Dhrupodi Kahini	Shimana Perley
ATN BANGLA		12:05	Desh TV	
01:25	Shurer Madhuri	04:00	Desh Janopod	
03:45	Glamour Iach	05:30	Durpath	
05:35	Dhaka Dhol	06:30	Sanskritir Sharadesh	
09:20	Chayanani Kayanani	07:45	Drama Serial: Ichhey	
11:00	Drama Serial: Bangshal to Baridhara	09:45	Holo	Tribute to Legend
CHANNEL i		09:45	Diganta TV	
09:45	Tritio Matra	03:05	Shastha Diganta	
01:05	Ebhong Cinemar Gaan	05:30	Prity Shilpi Priyo Gaan	
04:05	Grorey Ghorey Gaaner	08:40	Chhin gaki	
	Ushab	11:00	Shomblabharan	
06:00	Chhayajhankar		Bangladesh	
09:35	Drama Serial: Oti Lobhe		Maasranga Television	

RADIO			
abc Radio FM 89.2	07:30	Hello Dhaka	
09:00	Mokhonto Jiboney	10:00	Morning Express
12:00	Darin Dupury	12:30	No Tension
02:05	The Daily Star Jiboner	04:00	Dhaka Calling
	Joygaan	09:00	Full Volume
03:00	Duranto Bileley	11:00	Back to Back music
05:00	Shondha Tara	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	
07:00	Shay-er Maya	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
09:00	Rak-er Akashley	12:00	Today's Adda
11:00	Golper Shesh Nei	04:00	U Turn
RADIO FOORTI		07:00	Tobey Tai Hok

**Bela Obelal**

**Golpo**

On ntv at 09:00pm

Single Episode TV

Play

Cast: Fazlur Rahman Babu, Rokeya Prachi

**Hancock**

On 2 Studio at 09:30pm

Genre: Action/ Crime

Cast: Will Smith, Charlize Theron

**Long March**

On Bangladeshiat 09:55pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Mosharraf Karim, Chandni

11:30	Tati Nooto	10:02	Bangla Feature Film
08:55	Prakriti O Jibon	06:30	Khola Mon
04:10	Bangla Feature Film	08:30	Drama Serial: Samanta
Janar Achhey Bolar	11:00	Wold Music	Shamprotik
Achhey	12:02am	Z Studio	
Shubho Shondhya	10:30	Gone in Sixty Seconds	
Drama: Bela Obelal	01:30	The Hot Chick	
Golpo	03:50	Cast Away	
Music Jam	06:50	Tears of the Sun	
ETV	09:30	Hancock	
06:30	Desh Jurey Oporadhi	11:30	Dark Water
Porikroma		HBO	
07:50	Tara Bhera Raat	11:25	Transporter 3
08:20	Drama Serial: Ohongkar	01:35	Next
12:05	Ekushey-er Raat	03:35	Monster-in-Law
02:00	Sunday Live	05:45	The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
Boishakhi TV		09:30	Bangkok Dangerous
10:30	Bangla Feature Film	11:35	Turistas
04:15	Shorashori Doctor		Star World
08:10	Priyo Mukh	11:30	Friends
09:20	Drama Serial: Ushab	02:30	Achievers Club
12:00	Zero Hour	09:30	Love2 Hate U
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	10:30	Combat Hospital
05:20	Porikha Prostuti	11:30	Doctor
08:15	Drama Serial: Ladies First		

ATN BANGLA	08:00pm	Putra-shukh	11:30pm	Bhelki
08:40pm	Chora Gali	10:35pm	Amader Mohejjan	
CHANNEL i		Boishakhi TV		
07:50pm	No Mans Land	08:45pm	Tokhon Hemanta	
ntv		BANGLAVISION		
08:15pm	Bondhu Amar	09:05pm	Long March	
09:05pm	Oloshpur	08:15pm	Sat Kahon	

BTV	News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:30pm, 12:00pm, 4:00pm, 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm, 11:30 pm, (to be telecast on all Bangla channels).	11:30pm	Bhelki
CHANNEL-i	News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 pm, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 4:00 am, 11:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 6:00 pm.	11:30pm	Bhelki
ATN BANGLA	NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 pm, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 4:00 am, 11:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 6:00 pm.	11:30pm	Bhelki
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	11:30pm	Bhelki
ntv	News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 pm, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm, 11:00am	11:30pm	Bhelki
ETV	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	11:30pm	Bhelki
Desh TV	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	11:30pm	Bhelki
First	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	11:30pm	Bhelki

BTV	10:25pm	Digital Bangladesh	10:10pm	Media Gossip
12:30am	Lead News	03:30pm	Boishakhi TV	
ATN BANGLA		10:50pm	Sat Kahon	
12:30am	Lead News	04:00pm	Reporters Diary	
CHANNEL i		Rtv		
12:30pm	Taroka Kothon	10:40am	Tarokapl	
ntv		07:40pm	Our Democracy	
12:00am	El Shomoy	Desh TV		
ETV		11:45pm	Shoja Kotha	