

WHAT'S ON

Theatre
Play: Banglar Mati
Troupe: Palakar
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 16

Film Screening
Title: European Short Film
Venue: Institute of Modern Language, University of Dhaka
Date: May 13-17
Time: 7pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Debashis Pal
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: May 4-15
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Classical Concert (Instrumental)
Performers: Notois Quartet, Germany
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-10, Rd-9 (New), Dhamondi
Date: May 24, Time: 7:30pm

Group Art Exhibition
Organiser: Shako
Venue: Radia Centre, 57, Gulshan Avenue
Date: May 8-18
Time: 10am-9pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: World Press Photo 12
Venue: Dink Gallery, H-58, R-15A (New), Dhamondi
Date: April 26-May 18
Time: 3pm-9pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Intiaj Shahaq
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: May 10-22
Time: 2pm-9pm

Theatre
Play: Onitkushaki
Troupe: Trandaj Natyadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 14

Chitrangada draws a full house in port city



PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

"Chitrangada", the dance-drama created by Rabindranath Tagore, drew a full house in the port city. In observance of 151st birth anniversary of Tagore, Jatiya Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad (JRSP) in association with the Assistant High Commission of India, arranged the programme at the city's Theatre Institute (TIC) on Thursday evening. Indian Assistant High Commissioner to Chittagong, Somnath Ghosh, and Premier University Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Anupam Sen, spoke on the occasion. In his speech Somnath said Tagore's thoughts and philosophy are still relevant. "His works are eternal," he said adding, "Through his work Tagore made the point that to comprehend a human being, his/her inner beauty is more important." Anupam Sen said, Tagore's "Chitrangada" shows that human actions and contributions are more precious than physical beauty. "Physical beauty exists for a definite time but human's actions and contributions are everlasting," he added.

At the beginning, artistes of the Parishad rendered Tagore songs. Later, dance-drama "Chitrangada", choreographed by artistre Proma Ojanta, was staged. Based on a story from the epic "Mahabharata", the dance-drama narrates the tale of Chitrangada, princess of Manipur, who falls in love with Arjun, the warrior prince. To win the love of Arjun, Chitrangada was transformed into an attractive woman by the god of love. The dance-drama ended with focusing on the truth that the real spirit of a woman lays beyond her physical beauty. Proma Abanti and Kanta Dey enacted the roles of Chitrangada (Surupa and Kurupa). Swapan Barua and Prabir Paul performed the roles of Arjun and Madan respectively. Noted artiste Mihir Nandi was the music director of the dance-drama, while reciters Dul Dasgupta and Mili Chowdhury were the narrators. The exhibition will continue till May 16.



IMMORTALITY THROUGH MUSIC
Kamol Dasgupta birth centenary celebration

KARIM WAHEED
A show that starts around 40-minute late, has already dampened the mood. Picking up from there, and not only appeasing the audience but also leaving them wanting more, is a Herculean task. Kamol Dasgupta birth centenary celebration at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in Dhaka, on May 12, did just that. The event was arranged by Kamol Dasgupta Foundation and sponsored by ACI Limited; ETV was the media partner.

For those who are not familiar with Kamol Dasgupta, he was the *Kaalboishakh* who created a bold identity in the sphere of Bangla music during the Rabindra-Nazrul hangover (1930s and '40s). Dasgupta not only managed to dominate the contemporary Bangla music scene, but also made a breakthrough as an uber-popular composer of Urdu/Hindi *geet* and *ghazal*. Still lost? Surely, you've heard or hummed "Ami Bonophool Go", or "Toofan Mail", or "Prithibi Amare Chaye", or "Du'ti Pakhi Du'ti Teerey"; all Dasgupta creations.

Speaking on Dasgupta, music exponent Mohammad Asafuddowla said, "Dasgupta had composed tunes of 8,500 songs, of which 400 were written by National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. Nazrul and Dasgupta were disciples of the same music teacher, Ustad Zamiruddin Khan. Nazrul had such blind faith on Dasgupta's abilities that he gave the composer whole-hearted consent to create the melodies of his songs that haven't been tuned yet."

Reminiscing further, Asafuddowla said, "I once asked him, 'The *raag* used in your compositions can't be detected. Why?' His response was: 'Com-

posing a song based on a certain *raag* is easy, but an ideal song demands its own identity.' Besides composition, Dasgupta's contribution to music came in other areas also. He devised a shorthand method for writing *shorolipi* (notations), sadly the practice stopped with his demise.

"Under Dasgupta's able supervision artistes who went on to become legends, such as Juthika Roy, Jagannay Mitra, Hemanta Mukherjee, Talat Mahmood, and of course Feroza Begum (Dasgupta's wife), blossomed." Asafuddowla said that it was regrettable that an artistic-musician-composer of Dasgupta's stature is not being celebrated nationally by the state and not much has been done to preserve and promote his work.

A musical homage was the highlight of the event. A-list singers, under Shujee Shyam's competent direction and accompanied by a brilliant orchestra, resurrected Dasgupta's classic tunes. Seasoned artiste Syed Abdul Hadi started off the music session with "Tumi Ki Ekhon Dekhichho Shoppo" and "Prithibi Amare Chaye".

After a rather slow start, Shakila Zafar's vivacious renditions of "Ami Bonophool Go" and "Toofan Mail" (made famous by the inimitable Kanan Devi) picked up the pace. Fatema Tuj Zohra seemed to have forgotten the lyrics of "Jibon-er Du'ti Raati", but that created an impromptu duet between her and Shafin Ahmed (Dasgupta's son). Zohra also presented a memorable cover of "E Bhabra Badol-e Hiyā Doley Re". Shafin Ahmed, better known as one of the founder members of Miles, paid tribute to his father with his covers of "Konthibe Amar Nishidini" and "Eshechhilo

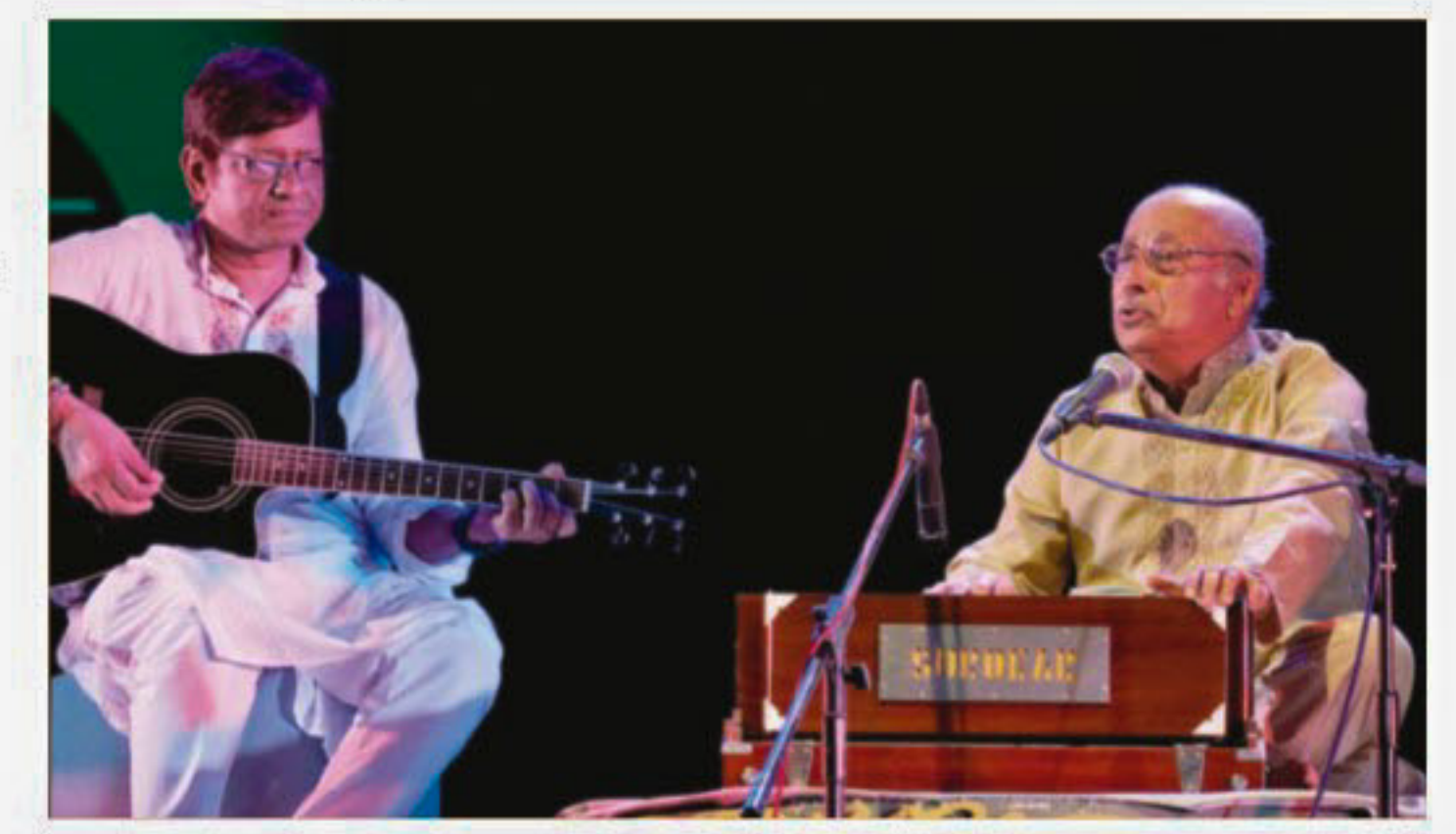


PHOTO COURTESY: SNIGHDA ZAMAN

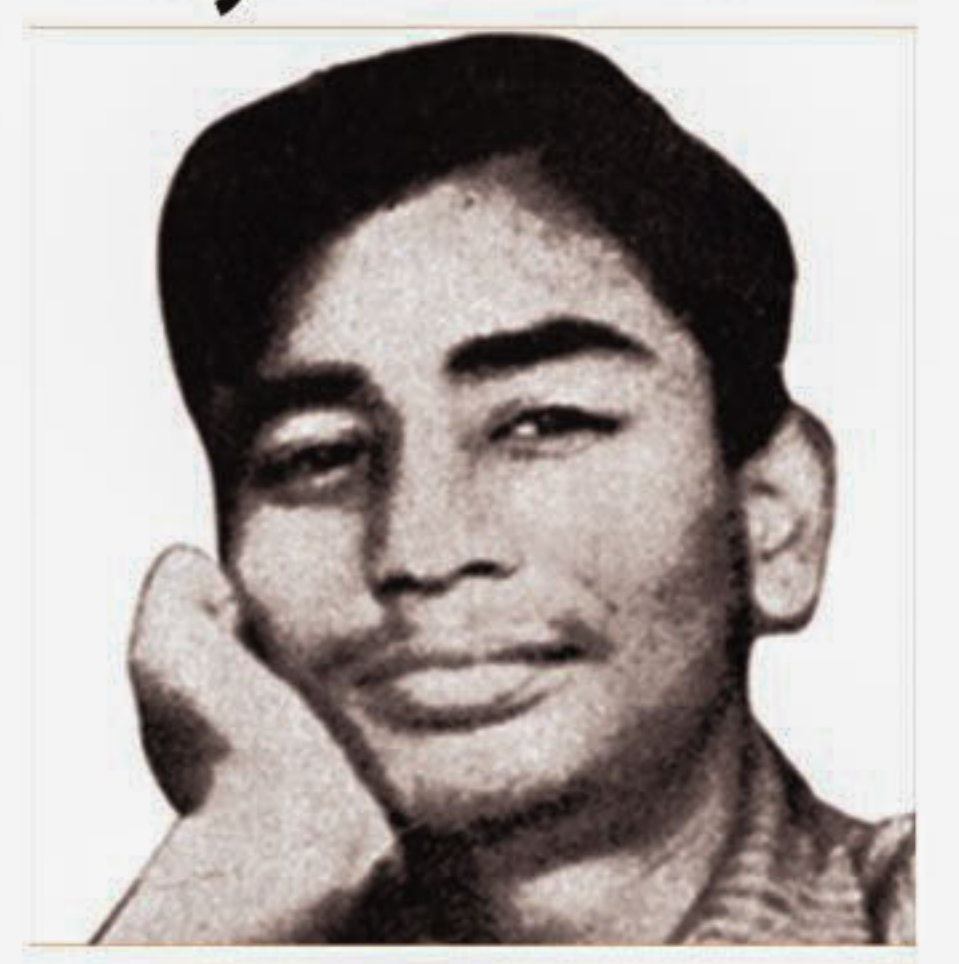
Clockwise (from top): Feroza Begum, Mohammad Asafuddowla and Shakila Zafar render Kamol Dasgupta classics at the programme.

Modhujamini." Asafuddowla brought to stage Dasgupta's *ghazal* and Urdu *geet* -- "Ghum-er Chhaya" and "Tasveer Teri Dil Mera Behla Na Sakegi" (originally recorded by Talat Mahmood). Ferdous Ara breathed life into "Bhuli Nai Bhuli Nai." Rounds of applause greeted Sabina Yasmin who conjured a nostalgia-induced monsoon ambience with "Emon Borosha Chhilo Shedin". Subir Nandi sang the ever-familiar "Du'ti Pakhi Du'ti Teerey" and "Menechhi Go Haar Menechhi" -- the latter, a submission to love's all-conquering

force. The best was, without a doubt, saved for last, as the octogenarian songstress Feroza Begum took the stage. She needed help to get on the stage, but proved her vocal abilities were anything but feeble through immaculate renditions of "Shorek Borosh-o Porey Tumi Ar Ami" and an apt closing note, "Ei Ki Go Shesh Daan". Though the common grievance is that Dasgupta's memories have not been given proper reverence, at that moment I reckoned, the legendary composer would survive another 100 years or as long as anyone -- knowingly or unknowingly -- hums his tunes.

Poet Sukanta's 53rd death anniversary observed

Yesterday marked the 53rd death anniversary of legendary poet Sukanta Bhattacharya. He was born in 1926 in Kalighat, Kolkata. His ancestral home is at the village Unshiya, under Gopalganj district now, in Bangladesh. His father, Nibaran Bhattacharya, was in the book selling business in Kolkata. Sukanta was one of the key figures of modern Bengali poetry, despite the fact that most of his literary works had been in publication posthumously. During his life, his poems were not widely circulated, but after his death his reputation grew to the extent that he became one of the most popular Bengali poets of the 20th century. The poetry of Sukanta is characterised by rebel socialist thoughts, patriotism, humanism and yet romanticism. Sukanta spent his childhood at their house on Nibedita Lane in Kolkata. He was sent to Kamala Bidyamandir, a local primary school where his literary career began. His first short story was published in Sanchay, the school's student magazine. Later another of his prose writing, "Vivekanander Jibon", was published in Sikha, edited by Bijon Bhattacharya. After studying at Kamala Bidyamandir, he got admitted to Belehata Deshbandhu High School. He joined the Communist Party of India in 1944. In the same year, he



edited an anthology, named "Akal", published by the Anti-Fascist Writers' and Artists' Association. In 1945, he appeared in the entrance examination from Belehata Deshbandhu High School but failed. He was the editor of the Kishore Sabha, the Bengali daily organ of the party, Dainik Swadhinata, from its inception in 1946. He died of tuberculosis at the Jadavpur T.B. Hospital in Kolkata in 1947 at a very young age of 20. His notable literary works are "Chharpatra", "Ghum Nei", "Purbabhas", "Abhijan", "Mithe-Kadha" and "Geeti Guccha". Compiled by Correspondent.

Rawshan Jamil's 11th death anniversary today

Today marks the 11th death anniversary of renowned dancer, TV and film actress, and director of Jago Art Centre Rawshan Jamil. On the occasion, a memorial programme and milad will be held today after Asar prayers at Jago Art Centre (Institute of Fine Arts) Bhaban, Swamibag in Dhaka, says a press release.



"Jibon Theke Neya", "Moner Moto Bou", "Shurja Sangram", "Laal Kajol", "Shurja Dighal Bari", "Matir Ghar", "Bou Shasuri", "Gauri", "Darpachurna", "Raat-er Por Din" and more.

Artists, teachers and students of the Jago Art Centre, and well-wishers of Rawshan Jamil are requested to attend the programme to pray for the salvation of the departed soul. Rawshan Jamil received the prestigious Ekushey Padak in 1995. Her first film was "Rakto Diye Lekha". Apart from earning accolades for her performances in a number of TV plays aired on BTV and Bangladesh Betar (radio), the artiste acted in a number of films including "Ali Baba Chollish Chor", "Titas Ekti Nadir Naam", "Golapi Ekhon Train-e", "Ora Egaro Jon",

Gender conflicts in focus "Daybadhya" staged in Dinajpur

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur
"Daybadhya" a play on critical social issues including gender conflicts was staged in Dinajpur on Thursday drawing a huge crowd. The play was a new presentation of Dinajpur Natya Samiti. The play, staged at the Samiti auditorium, was scripted by Chandan Sen and directed by Torikul Alam. The artistes of the play were Torikul Alam, Sultan Kamal Uddin, Babul Das, Anupom Chakraborty, Ratul Chakraborty, Jumman, Renu

Ara and Birshi. The illumination and stage design were done by Bokul Banarjee and Babul Das respectively. Nazrul Islam directed the background score of the play. The play highlighted the burning issue of conflict between men and women which usually later emerged as a major social problem and created social conflicts and confrontation at every nook and corner of the society. The play wrapped up giving a solution to the crisis. "Daybadhya" was staged twice over in response to popular demand.

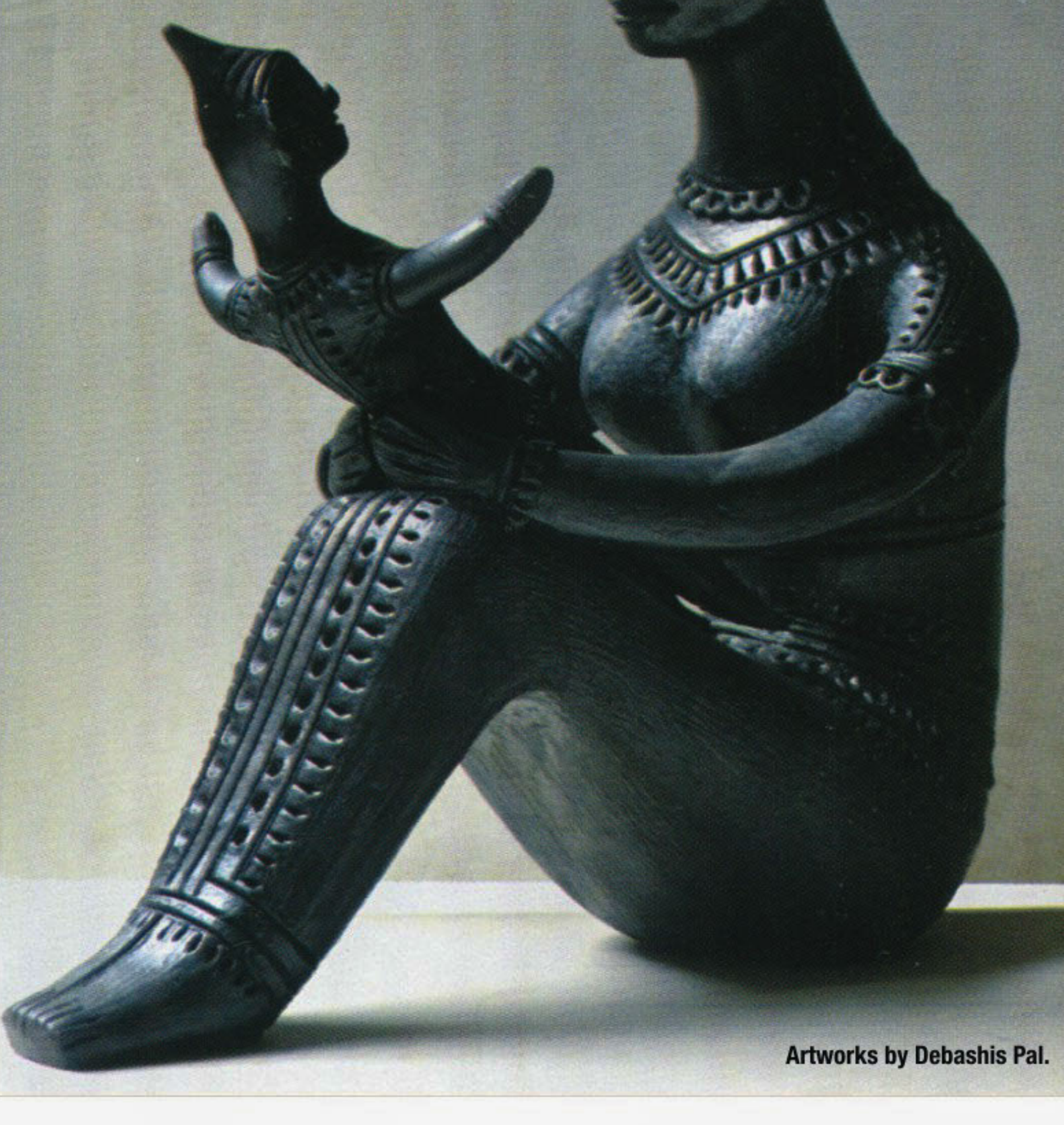
Igniting the imagination
Debashis Pal's solo ceramic exhibition at Galleri Kaya

TAKIR HOSSAIN
If we look at our history, we detect the use of ceramic and terracotta. Clay has been used in various artistic purposes in our country. It has become popular from ancient times, as the material has been easily found in our surrounding. Flexibility of clay makes it easier to use in various categories of pottery. Our soil is ideal for this purpose. It is noticeable that legendary artists like Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso and Marc Chagall have also worked with the medium.



Debashis Pal -- assistant professor at the Ceramic Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University -- has worked for an extensive period on ceramic. His solo ceramic exhibition, titled "Journey in Fire", is now on at Galleri Kaya in Uttara, Dhaka. Debashis was born in Netrakona, a place characterised by panoramic splendour, riverine beauty and excellence in pottery. Though Debashis now lives in Dhaka, memories of his childhood continue to inspire him. Some of the recurring subjects in his works are flora, birds and rural women. Adroitly coloured with plain hues and touches of pale blue, crimson, black, azure and green, they bring out a sophistication of early portrayals of women and their children, human figure, torso, seeds, plates, bowls and vases. Embellished with dots, lines and curls, most of his works have been produced in stoneware. There are some "raku" as well. The spirit of our Language Movement, Liberation War and current socio-political instability and upsurges are also highlighted at the exhibition. Round, rectangular, oval, triangular and other shapes have formed the outer edge of the works while the colours of red,

white, black, blue, yellow, green and more have been applied to provide absolute sense of artistic sophistication. Debashis' "Journey in Fire-64" features a cluster of human faces that symbolise the current chaotic situation of our society. Another piece, "Journey in Fire-32", includes a human face and water lily -- constructing a typical vision of rural Bengal. "Journey in Fire-4" features a number of faces in different shapes where the colours used are red, white and grey. The work addresses the anomalies in our political, economical and social structure that is followed by corruption and power play. The exhibition ends on May 15.



Artworks by Debashis Pal.

Group art exhibition of faculty members of Rabindra Bharati University

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Dhaka Art Centre (DAC) in Dhamondi has organised a group art exhibition titled "Changing Images", featuring the works of the faculty members of Visual Arts, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, India. The exhibition was inaugurated on May 10. The Members of the Board of Trustees of the DAC, senior Bangladesh artists and participating painters were present at the inaugural session. The participating artists are Adip Dutta, Aditya Prasad Mitra, Anindya Pandit, Atanu Basu, Debashis Bhattacharja, Dolon Champa Ganguly, Jayanta Naskar, Krishna Biswas, Nikhil Ranjan Pal, Parag Roy, Paula Sengupta, Rajat Sen, Sandip Chakraborty, Sohini Dhar, Shreyasi Chatterjee and Surajit Chanda. The exhibition will continue till May 16.



Visitors at the exhibition.

Reception for theatre activists in Rangpur

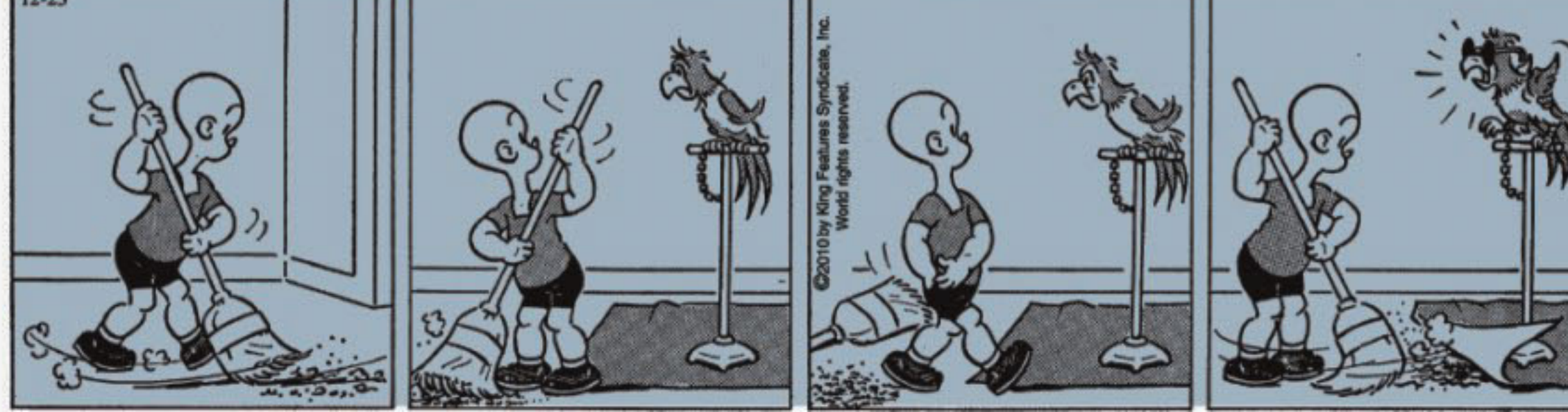
MEHEDI HASAN, Rangpur
At a reception in Rangpur, the newly elected executive committee members of Rangpur Regional Betar Dramatists and Drama Artists Sangsad emphasised the necessity of providing an environment for rich Bengali culture to flourish through theatre. Dramatists and drama activists should focus on social issues in line with the spirit of the War of Liberation and infuse patriotism among the younger generation so that they learn about the authentic national history and can work towards building a non-violent and successful nation, they said. Committee members addressed the gathering at a ceremony arranged by the organisation to its newly elected

executive committee members at the office of Rangpur Natya Kendra in Rangpur town. Kazi Md Junnon, newly elected president of the regional Betar Dramatists and Drama Artists Sangsad and president of District Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, Kazi presided over the ceremony followed by the organisation's first executive committee meeting. Monwara Begum, vice-president of the organisation, Ifekharul Alam Raj general secretary, Abul Khayer, joint secretary, Hassan Ali, organising Secretary, Abdul Mukul, treasurer, Mizanur Rahman Talukder, publicity and publication secretary and Maksudur Rahman Mukul and Nizamul Islam Bablu executive members of the organisation and Nizamul Islam Bablu were also present on the occasion.

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker



Henry by Don Trachte



BTV	11:05 Uttaran	09:50 Bridal Show
	01:05 Business Hour	11:30 Drama Serial: Ural
	05:05 Jatiya Television Sitara	12:05 IT Night
	09:35 Desh Debantar	
	10:25 Digital Bangladesh	Desh TV
		05:00 Durpath
ATN BANGLA		06:30 Prantidinesh Shubhshaha
11:20 Business and Finance		Drama Serial: Mayer Doa
12:15 Vision 2020		09:45 Cinema Express
01:25 Main Shubash		12:30 Total Sports
05:15 Aajniar Sharnayee		Diganta TV
09:20 Shimana Chhatrye		11:30 School Angina
CHANNEL i		01:30 Business Time Line
01:05 Ebnog Cinema Gaan		05:30 Suphala Bangladesh
01:30 Hridoyer Gaan		08:40 Omushonhan
06:00 Jibon Jekhaney Jemon		09:40 Drama Serial: Ranga Maa
09:35 Drama		Maaranga Television
11:30 Travel On		10:02 Bangla Feature Film
ntv		05:30 Backyard Science
08:45 Bangla Feature Film		08:30 Drama Serial: Kikonkalya
04:10 Janar Achhey Balaar Achhey		09:02 Kingdombombur
		09:30 Drama Serial: Ishkul

RADIO		
abc radio FM 89.2	10:00 Morning Express	
06:00 Bhoori Janajay	12:00 My Time	
09:00 Mukhorho Jiboney	01:00 No Iestion	
12:00 Darun Dupurey	04:00 Dhaka Calling	
03:00 Dwanera Boleley	09:00 Night Rider	
05:00 Shonoharara	01:00 Back to Back music	
07:00 Shajher Maya	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	
09:00 Raat-er Akashy	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka	
11:00 Gejjer Shesh Nei	12:00 Radioy Adha	
Radio Footi	04:00 U Tum	
07:30 Hello Dhaka	07:00 Tabey Ho Hak	

Tattu Ghora
On ETV at 09:45pm
Drama Serial
Cast: ATM Shamsuzzaman, Dolly Zahur

The Bourne Identity
On HBO at 11:45pm
Genre: Action/Crime
Cast: Franka Potente, Matt Damon

Ochena
On ntv at 09:45pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Tariq Anam Khan, Mahiyat

06:10 Shubho Shondhya	11:00 Shajiri Baramkhana
08:15 Drama Serial: Dival	CHANNEL 9
09:00 Maggi Test an Terminal	09:15 Bangla Feature Film
11:30 Drama Serial: Terminal	07:45 Drama Serial: Dool And
ETV	09:15 Haatir Kachhey Protber
11:30 Ekushey-er Business	Khabar
05:25 Ichhey Ghari	10:02 Dhulo Khela
07:50 O Bondhu Amar	11:15 Hits & Bits
09:30 Drama Serial: Tattu Ghora	Fix Movies
10:10 Cine Hits	02:10 Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son
12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	04:00 Neverland (Part 1 of 2)
Boishakhi TV	05:30 Neverland (Part 2 of 2)
11:10 Bangla Feature Film	07:00 Trust
03:30 Shudhu Cinema Gaan	08:45 The Fighter
06:20 Kishi O Jibon	10:40 Shadow Man
09:20 Drama Serial: Ognipath	HBO
11:00 Reporters Diary	02:10 Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
BANGLAVISION	02:35 Justin Bieber: Never Say Never
10:10 Nacho Bangladesh Nacho	04:50 Around the World In 80 Days
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	07:25 Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li
08:15 Drama Serial: Ladies First	09:30 Speedy Singhs
11:25 Probashi Mukh	
Rtv	
12:10 Bangla Feature Film	
05:00 Cinema R Gaan	

DRAMA SERIAL	
ATN BANGLA	09:50m Boya Paribar
08:40pm Rupanantarer Manush	Boishakhi TV
CHANNEL i	08:00m Istikomul
07:50pm Chhatir Din Ebnog Ekti Neel Nokha	BANGLAVISION
	09:50pm Long March
ntv	08:30m
09:45pm Ochena Protibimba	07:15pm Sat Kahan
08:20pm College Road	08:00pm Sat Sawdagar

NEWS BULLETIN	
BTV	Boishakhi TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm.
News (English) at 10am, 6pm, 10pm.	News (English) at 9am, 5pm.
ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.
News (English) at 9am, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.	News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
CHANNEL i	Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm.	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm.
ntv	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.

TALK SHOW	
ATN BANGLA	08:40pm Public Intellectual
11:30pm Je Kotha Kru Boleni	09:00pm Zero Hour
12:30am Lead News	BANGLAVISION
CHANNEL i	08:50pm Front Line
09:55am Trilo Matra	10:40am Tarokalp
12:30pm Tarika Kothon	07:40pm Our Democracy
ntv	08:10pm
12:00am Ei Shomoy	Desh TV
Boishakhi TV	11:45pm Shuja Kotha