

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Class of 1979 Chankala
Venue: Gallery Corner-2, Villa De Anjuman, H-115, New DOCS, Mohakhali
Date: June 18-24
Time: 11am-8pm

Duet Painting Exhibition
Title: Painting and Passions
Artists: Papiya Nurunnahar & Eham Huj Khuda
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, H-60, H-7A, Dhanmondi

Musical Soiree
Artist: Samina Chowdhury
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan 1
Date: June 22
Time: 6:30pm

Group Art Exhibition
Featuring over 60 Bangladeshi Artists
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Cha-72/1/0, Uttar Badda
Date: June 9-July 9

Film Screening
Film: Feten
Venue: Berlin Hall, Goethe-Institut, H-30, R-9 (New), Dhanmondi
Date: June 24
Time: 5pm

Theatre
Play: Shesh Shonglap
Troupe: Shomoy
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 21

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Beautiful Bangladesh
Artist: Shuhag Parvez
Venue: Gallery Raya, H-20, R-16, Sector-4, Uttara
Date: June 15-27
Time: 11am-8pm

Musical Soiree
Artist: Fahmina Hossain
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan 1
Date: June 23
Time: 6:30pm



PHOTO COURTESY: TUPIN HOSSAIN

Natural selection

Tête-à-tête with Farzana Chumki

A CORRESPONDENT

Farzana Chumki shot into the limelight after winning the title of Lux Anondodhara Photogenic. She has never looked back since. The talented star also worked with Dhaka Theatre for a long spell interspersed with several modelling gigs. Ntv is now airing a serial featuring the actress, "Poth Gekhhe Beke" -- directed by Animesh Aich.

In an informal interview Farzana Chumki talked to The Daily Star about her latest play and her busy career.

Tell us about "Poth Gekhhe Beke".
Farzana Chumki: "Poth Gekhhe Beke" centres around a family. I play the role of a married woman. At one point of the story, several complications arise within the family. I'm working in a good project after a long time. Most actors seem to have plenty of work on hand. How about you?
Farzana Chumki: I'm working in just one serial, Murad Parvez's "Ondho Tirondaj". The storyline of this TV play is brilliant. The entire plot is derived from a real life story. In the play, I have a father and a sister, but no mother. After I get married, my husband refuses to introduce me to my in-laws.

What is the reason for such a lean schedule?
Farzana Chumki: My son Mir Farsat who is going school. My family is my priority. Mir Sabbir, my husband, usually stays very busy with shooting. Many TV plays require me to go outside Dhaka for shooting. But I avoid that on purpose. It is for such reasons I choose to

do only a few assignments. **You've also worked with Dhaka Theatre?**
Farzana Chumki: I've worked with Dhaka Theatre for over six years. As part of the group, I have acted in "Prachhya", "Haat Hodai", "Joiboti Konyar Mon", "Bon Pangshul" and "No Noiramoni". Now, time constraints keep me away from the theatre.

To what extent can theatre be a learning ground for an artiste?
Farzana Chumki: It teaches us many things. The stage not only gives us grounding in acting, but also gives lessons on discipline and how to respect one's seniors. I believe that theatre is a perfect school for an actor.

How did you embark on your journey in the media?
Farzana Chumki: By hosting a TV programme. After that I took part in Lux Anondodhara Photogenic, where Opi Karim was the champion and I was runner-up. After that I began my work in the media, eventually joining Dhaka Theatre.

How would you evaluate your husband Mir Sabbir's skills as director and actor?
Farzana Chumki: Sabbir is very serious about his acting. He is totally committed to his work, a strength that has brought him so far in the media. On the direction front, he has taken the challenge seriously. I'm proud of his work.

Why are you rarely seen in Sabbir's works?
Farzana Chumki: I don't want to work under the direction of Sabbir. He has often asked me to, but I want others to act in his dramas. Another reason is that most of his dramas have dialogues in the Barisal dialect, which I'm not very good at.

What are your plans for the days to come?
Farzana Chumki: Since I am doing a few assignments, I want to be selective and choose only good productions. Quality triumphs over quantity. That way both the audience and I are satisfied with my performances.

Oedipus gets an oriental makeover

Drishtipat premieres "Raja Himadri"

JAMIL MAHMUD

"Oedipus", the heart rending Greek tragedy by Sophocles, has seen many stage adaptations in different languages. In Bangladesh, several theatre productions have presented the tragedy and theatre troupe Drishtipat's new production is the latest. The troupe gives the Greek tragedy an oriental touch, as the new production, "Raja Himadri", zooms in on the misfortune of a Himalayan king.

Drishtipat premiered its new production at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on June 15. Khandakar Tazmi Noor, as a guest artiste, has adapted, directed the play and plays the protagonist as well.

While the off-read story of "Oedipus" circles around King Oedipus and his wife/mother Jocasta, "Raja Himadri" only focuses on the Himalayan ruler.

The plot: King Himadri and his wife Himrani live happily together until a stranger arrives one day and discloses Himadri's dark secret. The secret opens a darker chapter in their lives and finally separates them.

The cast included Mrinmoy Chakraborty, Abdul Halim, Jahangir Kabir, Abul Hossain, Marjana Barkatun and Rafiqul Islam. The performances of the actors were unimpressive. Perhaps the production will improve over the next couple of shows and become more engaging. The set somehow seemed to hinder the movement of the performers. While Tazmi Noor as Himadri was a bold presence, he seemed to lack the personality of a King. Tazmi Noor adapted the play from a Bangla translation by Shambhu Mitra. Junayed Uaf designed the set and light, while accomplished Indian musician Durbadal Chattopadhyay created the music. The background scores demonstrated Chattopadhyay's deep interest in classical music. Amina Rahman was the costume designer who turned out the performers in strange costumes akin to the attire of Himalayan nomads. "Raja Himadri" is the 21st production by the troupe.

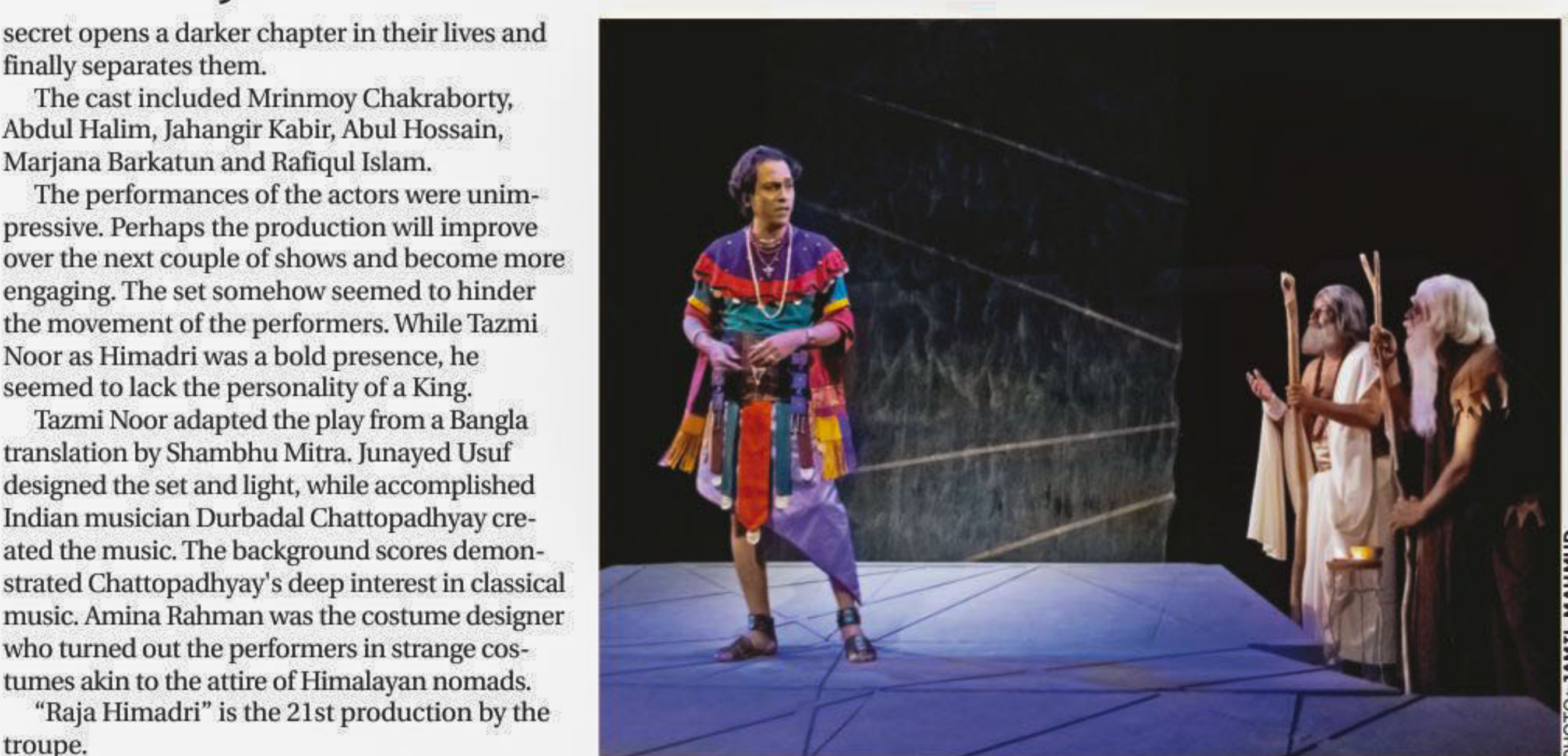


PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

TV WATCH

Jononi on GTV

A CORRESPONDENT

TV serial "Jononi" -- produced by Pothik -- began airing on GTV from June 16, and will be telecast at 8:30 pm every Saturday on Wednesday. Written by Shyamol Bhaduri, the serial has been directed by Shahadat Hossain Sujon.

The cast includes Nima Rahman, Priscilla Parvin, Mahmud Sajjad, Shahadat Hossain, Dipa Khondokar, Shobeb, Moushumi Nag, Tahmina Sulatana, Mou, Yusuf Russel, Tanvir, Arpana Das, Rikta and Khalekuzzaman. "Jononi" centres around a mother who is willing to do anything for her family. Sometimes tragedy strikes the family, while at other times happiness prevails. Director Shahadat Hossain Sujon says the serial is inspired by the image that the word "Jononi" conveys. Dipa Khondokar says the audience will see her in a new light in the drama, where she plays a key role. Moushumi Nag hoped that the serial would be a success, adding that she expects to touch the audiences' hearts through her character.



A scene from the serial.

Pabna Drama Circle observes 31st anniversary



AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Pabna Drama Circle (PDC), a leading theatre organisation of the district, observed its 31st anniversary. A weeklong programme marking the occasion kicked off on June 13 amidst festivity. Theatre artistes and the cultural activists from various organisations brought out a rally from the organisation premises. Administrator of Pabna Zila Parishad, Md. Saidul Haque Chunnui, and the secretary general of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, Jhuna Chowdhury, led the procession through the main streets of the district headquarters. Earlier, a discussion was held at the Pabna Town Hall premises, chaired by Bhaskar Chakrabarti, life member of Pabna Drama Circle. Md. Saidul Haque Chunnui; Jhuna Chowdhury; president of Pabna Reporters Unity, Habibur Rahman Shopon; and general manager of Universal Group, Achinta Kumar Ghosh, spoke on the occasion. Secretary, Pabna Drama Circle,

Seminar on creative publication at Shilpakala Academy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Gyan o Srijonshil Prokashak Samiti organised a seminar titled "Medhabi Projomno Gothone Srijonshil Boi". The event was held at Seminar Room, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on June 16. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid was present as chief guest at the seminar. Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, secretary, Ministry of Education, and Suraiya Begum, secretary-in-charge, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, were present as special guests.

Professor Dr. Syed Anwar Hossain delivered the keynote speech at the programme. Syed Mohammad Shabed, former director general of Bangla Academy; author Selina Hossain; publisher and



Discussants at the seminar.

essayist Mofidul Haq; writer Ahmed Mahfuzul Haque and Mahrukh Mohiuddin, director of Marketing

and Business Development of University Press Limited, among others, spoke on the occasion. Mohiuddin

Ahmed, president of Bangladesh Gyan o Srijonshil Prokashak Samiti, presided over the programme.

Syed Zakir Hossain, publisher and chief executive officer of Adorn Publication, delivered the welcome speech at the seminar.

The discussants expressed that without creative works or publications, a nation will never be enlightened.

Nurul Islam Nahid said, "The present government is trying to change the entire education system. The government has taken many steps in this regard. The making of creative questionnaire is one such initiative."

Selina Hossain said, "Creative literature seems to be flourishing in our country. This trend should be encouraged."

Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury called on all, especially the writers and publishers, to take steps to promote creative publications.

Prachyanat remembers deceased member

Memorial programme for Rinkon Sikder

In honour of their deceased group member Rinkon Sikder, theatre troupe Prachyanat and Prachyanat School of Acting and Design arranged a memorial programme at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on Saturday, 16 June.

Rinkon was one of the most multitalented artistes of the troupe who passed away on April 28, 2012 at the age of 27. Besides acting he wrote several plays, poems and lyrics. "Kothopokothon" and "Keramatanama" -- short productions written and directed by him -- are regularly staged by the troupe. Rinkon completed his Honours in Sculpture from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University last year. The programme featured an



installation and a theatre performance. The installation showcased Rinkon's works, including rendition of the popular songs from his plays. Later, students of Prachyanat School staged "Rakta Kalyan", the last play directed by Rinkon. "Rakta Kalyan" is an adaptation of renowned Indian playwright Girish

Karnad's play with the same title. Installed in 1989, against the backdrop of a communal conflict, the drama draws parallel between the socio-religious, political and economic conditions of existing times and southern India in 12th century AD. Photo and Text: MUMIT M.

Port City celebrates first day of rainy season

Mostafizur Rahman Russell, conducted the meeting. The speakers focused on the role of cultural organisations and the theatre movement in generating social awareness. Theatre is one of the main tools to generate social awareness as theatre artistes recreate the authentic picture of society. Theatre artistes played a vital role in the anti autocratic movement of the 1990s, said the speakers, while urging people to extend patronage to theatre organisations. They went on to add that regular stage performances were the norm once but times have changed due to lack of support. Influential people therefore must support theatre. Artists of Pabna Drama Circle staged "Agun Mukha" by Mannan Hira at the Pabna Edward College Auditorium. Pabna Drama Circle embarked on its journey on June 13, 1981 with a pledge to transform society through theatre movement. Over the last 31 years the organisation has staged 38 plays and held several social programmes as well.

Port City celebrates first day of rainy season

SHAHENOOR AKTHER URMI, Chittagong

Somaj Somikha Songho, a culture-centric research organisation, arranged a cultural event celebrating monsoon, titled "Ashadh-er Megh Bheshe Bheshe Jale, Surer Anondo Dharaye" at Fulki Auditorium in the port city on Saturday.

Omar Kaiser, poet and journalist, speaking as chief guest at the programme said, "Rain evokes our old memories, making it a renewing experience every time." "Every writer and poet falls in love with rain. Rabindranath Tagore was no exception. He was heartbroken in Europe as he missed the monsoon," he added. The renditions started with group dance, Nitto Rong Academy with "Esho Shaymol Shundoro", "Aaji Jhoro Jhoro" and "Pagla Hawar Badol Din-e". The function concluded with the solo performances by two singers. Kazi Mahood Emam Bilo, president of the organisation and Kollo Das, executive director; Abul Momen, resident editor of the daily Prothom Alo; and Shila Momen, principal of Fulki, were present on the occasion.



Dancers perform at the programme.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Beetle Baily



by Mort Walker

Henry



by Don Trachte

ATN BANGLA	11:20 Business and Finance 12:15 Vision 2020 01:25 Matir Shubash 05:15 Aynar Shamney 08:00 Drama Serial: Palabar Poth Nei	06:30 Binodin Sharadin 08:30 Drama Serial: Khonikolay 09:02 Kingkortobobimur 11:00 Shajir Barankhana 12:45 Euro 2012: Croatia Vs Spain (Live) 02:45 Euro 2012: Italy Vs R. of Ireland (Live)
CHANNEL i	01:05 Ebong Gremur Gaan 01:30 Hridayer Gaan 04:30 Ami Maa Hete Cholchhi 09:35 Lux Channel i Superstar 11:30 Travel On	CHANNEL 9 09:15 Bangla Feature Film Drama Serial: Dead And Khabar 09:15 Heater Kachhey Pother
ntv	08:45 Bangla Feature Film 04:10 Janar Achhey Balar Achhey 06:15 Shubho Shondhya 08:15 Drama Serial: Dewal 09:00 Maggi Test on Balance 11:30 Drama Serial: Chowdhury Villa	11:15 Hits & Bits 11:45 Sports Daily CHANNEL 24 01:05 Move with Musha 08:10 Shopping & Cooking 09:30 Drama Serial: Jastur Shabar 10:15 Drama Serial: Ekali Gangchil

RADIO	10:00 Morning Express 12:00 My Time 01:00 No Tension 04:00 Dhaka Calling 09:00 Night Rider 01:00 Back to Back music RADIO TODAY FM 89.6 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka 12:00 Today's Adda 04:00 U Tam 07:00 Tabey Tai Hok
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Helicopter
On CHANNEL 9 at 08:40pm
Drama Serial:
Cast: Anisur Rahman Milon, Joyraj

Game of Thrones
(Season 1)
On HBO at 08:10pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Sean Bean, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau & Lena

Maggi Taste n Balance Kitchen
On ntv at 09:00pm
Cooking Show
Host: Rahima Sultana Reeta

ETV	11:30 Ekushey-er Business 05:25 Ichhey Ghur 07:50 Musical Programme 09:30 Drama Serial: Tattu Ghora 10:10 Cine Hits 12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	12:00 Talk Show Gtv 11:30 Bangla Feature Film 08:30 Panna Shee Dine Katha 08:00 Drama Serial: Bagha-sher 09:05 Ghor Mon Janala 12:00 Shongbad Shonglap
Boishakhi TV	11:15 The Business Show 11:30 Shudhu Cnenmar Gaan 06:20 Kishi O Jilon 09:20 Drama Serial: Ognipath 11:00 Reporters Dairy	01:10 Drive Angry 02:55 The Season of the Witch 04:35 Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story 07:00 The Legend of Zorro 09:15 Ceremony 11:50 The Da Vinci Code
BANGLAVISION	10:10 Nacho Bangladesh Nacho 01:05 Bangla Feature Film 08:15 Drama Serial: Ladies First 11:25 Proshoi Mukh	HBO 02:30 Black Water 04:15 Final Destination 06:20 High Lane 08:10 Game of Thrones (Season 1): Garden of Bones 09:30 Around the World in 80 Days 12:05 Child's Play 3
Desh TV	05:00 Durpath 06:00 Kolpokoler Golpokotha 07:15 Sat Kabon 09:45 Cinema Express 12:30 Total Sports	Star World 04:30 The Big Bang Theory

ATN BANGLA	08:45pm Rupantarer Manash 07:50pm Chhatri Dine Ebong Ekti Neel Nohaha	09:05pm Boyra Paribar Boishakhi TV 08:00pm BANGLAVISION 09:05pm Long March Desh TV 08:15pm Chhayamakhosh Maasranga Television 08:00pm Sat Sawdigor
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NEWS BULLETIN	BTV News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm. News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm. ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm. News (English) at 9am, 5pm. CHANNEL i News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10:30pm. ntv News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. ETV News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.	Boishakhi TV News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm. News (English) at 9am, 5pm. BANGLAVISION News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. Rtv News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm. Desh TV News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm. Maasranga Television News (English) at 7pm, 1am.
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TALK SHOW	ATN BANGLA 11:30pm Jh Kotha Koi Boleni 12:30am Lead News CHANNEL i 09:45am Trito Matra 12:30pm Tanika Kothon ntv 12:00am E Shomoy Boishakhi TV	08:35pm Public Intellectual Zero Hour BANGLAVISION 06:25pm Front Line Rtv 10:40am Tarikalap 07:40pm Our Democracy Desh TV 11:45pm Shuja
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