

**WHAT'S ON**

**Theatre Festival**  
Organiser: Swapnadal  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: August 1-6  
Time: 7:30pm

**Fashion Exhibition**  
Title: Colour of Festival  
Organiser: Parisian Fashion Institute  
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dharmond  
Date: July 27-Aug 10  
Time: 5pm-8pm

**Theatre**  
Play: Mohajoneo Nao  
Troupe: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy

**Theatre**  
Play: Target Platform  
Written & Directed by: Mamunur Rashid  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: August 9-11  
Time: 7:30pm

**Theatre**  
Play: Arakkhita  
Troupe: Desh Natak  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: August 5

**Film Screening**  
Film: War and Peace (Part 1)  
Venue: Auditorium, Russian Centre of Science & Culture, Dharmond  
Date: September 9  
Time: 6pm

**Group Print Exhibition**  
Title: Monsoon Vessage  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan  
Date: August 3  
Time: 7:30-9:30pm

**Theatre**  
Play: Banglar Mati Banglar Jol  
Troupe: Padak  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: August 6  
Time: 7:30pm

Mega serial involving Bangladesh and West Bengal



A scene from the serial.  
A CORRESPONDENT

A mega serial titled "Roshni", an adaptation of the novel "Prem Jeno Ek" by Rupok Shah, featuring artists from Bangladesh and West Bengal (India) will be telecast simultaneously starting from August 6 on Channel 1 and ETV Bangla.

The serial will be aired from Saturday to Wednesday at 5:10 pm. Harinath Chakravarti has made the serial featuring artists from the two countries. The serial has been shot in both the countries as well. Screenplay has been done by Sudeep Pal.

The title song has been composed by Shaan and Anis. Noted singers Ferdous Ara, Mehriin, Usha Uthup, Rezwana Chowdhury Bonny and Surojeet have recorded for the serial.

The cast includes Lux Channel 1 Superstar Roshni, Lutfur Rahman George, Jyotsna, Mishu and Harun, among others, from Bangladesh. Indian actors include Ronjoy, Shomudra and Shuchandra Mithu Chakravarti.

The story centres around Roshni and Ranjan who meet at Roshni's aunts house during a puja festival. The two often exchange pleasant remarks over phone and gradually come closer. But Roshni is an adopted child as her parents passed away during her childhood. Will this be a hindrance for Ronjon and Roshni as they contemplate marriage?

Cutting across cultures  
In conversation with Dr. Samuel Berthet



Dr. Samuel Berthet

**ZAHANGIR ALOM**

Director of Alliance Française de Chittagong (AFC) Dr. Samuel Berthet is a man of culture. Berthet's childhood memories conjure up the diverse cultural atmosphere circling his scenic school Ecole du Lac (Pond) at Grenoble, France.

"My school was an experimental one in a socially and culturally mixed area where we would learn in a fun atmosphere. We didn't have any barriers. We'd go boating or take on in many imaginative activities including music and drama. I had many friends from different regions including North Africa, Asia and South America," recalls Berthet.

"Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore visited France six times. In 1930 the bard exhibited his paintings at Gallery Pigalle for the first time ever. At that time everyone knew Tagore in France. My grandparents would read his books and their eyes would sparkle for decades to come whenever they heard his name," says Berthet.

A Masters in History (South Asia) from Delhi University in 1995-96, Berthet started his PhD under Professor Jacques Weber of Nantes, a French university, in 1997.

Berthet discovered a treasure trove of hundreds of photographs, taken by French musicologist and indologist Alain Daniélou at Shantiniketan, from 1932 to 1940, while digging through the late photographer's archives at his house in Rome, Italy. In 1932, Daniélou and Burnier drove through Afghanistan and on to India on a trail of discovery. Tagore first authorised Alain Daniélou to translate his songs and write suitable arrangements for western orchestra. "Apart from photography, the archive centre in Zagarolo, near Rome, also has paintings, music notations, and a huge number of published and unpublished writings, and translations by Alain Daniélou," says Berthet

"Tagore, the Universal Message", was a unique exhibition at AFC, Alliance Française de Dhaka, ICCR Delhi, Tagore Centre in Kolkata and Shantiniketan, organised in association with the French Embassy and the Harsharan Foundation, showcasing a selection of photographs of Rabindranath Tagore and Shantiniketan that were believed to be lost, but came to light in August 2010, when Berthet rediscovered them in the Alain Daniélou and

Raymond Burnier Photo Collection (DBPC), just a few months before Tagore's 150th birth anniversary.

"Along with the exhibition of those rare images, conferences and regular musical soires were also held at the exhibition venues. One of the main points of the event was to emphasise Tagore's role as a pioneer of the concept of intangible heritage which looks at protecting craftsmen, rural artists and other non-commercial cultural legacies around the world," adds Berthet.

"I wanted to translate Tagore's aim of constructing the university as a proactive move to promote cultural dialogue across the social and cultural layers and to offer a space for creativity in close connection with nature and free from the growing commercial and industrial pressure," Berthet goes on.

Berthet, who did part of his PhD with the dissertation title "History of Indo French Cultural Relations between 1870-1962", at Shantiniketan in 1999-2000, is



The photo was shot by French historian, musicologist Daniélou and Swiss photographer Raymond Burnier.

Many of my friends from Shantiniketan have now become teachers at Visva Bharati University or prominent artists, retaining their sense of freedom, originality and initial generosity. I always recall them as my family members and pay visits to them every now and then," says Berthet.

After completing his PhD in 2002, Berthet taught history at the French Department of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. At that time he wrote many articles and conducted research on the maritime history of South Asia, tribal cultures and Tagore.

Berthet has his own perspective of Shantiniketan. He regards the place as an artistic assembly of Bauls, urban artists, classical artists, academics and many more.

"So far as I know, no other university had such a tribal component and cross-cultural assimilation during the colonial period. Tagore's experiment greatly influenced educational experimentation

*"So far as I know, no other university had such a tribal component and cross-cultural assimilation during the colonial period. Tagore's experiment greatly influenced educational experimentation worldwide."*

worldwide," asserts Berthet.

Berthet envisages Tagore as a free-minded person. Emphasising Tagore's idea of "Freedom of Mind", the enlighten Tagore enthusiast cites an excerpt: "Tagore, like Max Jacob (a painter), was always ready to laugh at his fine pronouncements a moment after he had spoken them. Another man I would call a 'Free Spirit' was Nicolas Nabokov. But whenever people, instead of simply being themselves, wish to be labelled as Christians, Muslims, Communists, Democrats, Fascists or Socialists, I feel as though their minds were dead and see no point in trying to establish contact." [From Alain Daniélou's book titled "The way to the Labyrinth: Memories of East and West".]

"There goes a West African maxim 'Too serious is not serious'. Sense of humour and wit is important in a person's life. Tagore felt 'free spirit in movement' and emphasised on endless learning. He would play and have fun with

children to help their creative faculties flourish," asserts Berthet.

The port city (Chittagong) has teamed with various vibrant cultural programmes and activities after Berthet joined AFC as director in September, 2008. Prior to that Berthet with several other European and South Asian university teachers made a documentary film on "Heritage and Maritime History" in Chittagong in 2006.

Berthet, a connoisseur of Hindustani classical music, is an ardent fan of Ustad F. Wasifuddin Dagar of the Dagarvani. The connoisseur arranged a solo classical musical soiree featuring a performance by the Ustad at AFC, Chittagong. Paris based international mime maestro Partha Pratim Majumder conducted a workshop there. Bibi Russell inaugurated the first "Slow Food Festival" of Bangladesh jointly organised with the AFC Biodiversity Club.

"During my tenure, Professor Alak Roy, a sculptor of international repute, exhibited his arts, noted singer Shila Momen performed in a Tagore concert, Yasmin Kabir and Renuka George screened their films and documentary on Wasifuddin Dagar at AFC. Alexandre Jurain, an amazing exponent of classical estraj, also performed for his first public appearance. I feel extremely sad that I could not do anything with filmmaker Tareque Masud, who I already admired before coming to Bangladesh," says Berthet.

"We organised the first solo exhibition of internationally famed Bangladeshi photographer Shoaib Faruquee, as well as by Didarul Alam Chowdhury and Nazir Uddin Mahmud at the AFC gallery," says Berthet.

AFC for the first time in Bangladesh invited Shantiniketan artists of international repute, who performed with Binoy Banshi and his son Babul Jalidas (dhol artists) of Chittagong in Milonmela. The event jointly featured exquisite Baul singers, Chhau and Gotipua dancers and Kalarippattu, a martial art of Kerala. French Kathak dancer and choreographer Isabella Anna also performed at AFC twice.

Maybe culture of the subcontinent, especially the culture of undivided Bengal that was solely nourished by Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, has an appeal that is universal, be it for Tagore exponent Berthet or his British friend William Redice.



"I don't see any of my movies"  
-- Victor Banerjee

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Victor Banerjee may have wowed critics as a versatile actor but believe it or not he does not watch his movies as he "hates to look" at himself on screen.

"I don't see any of my movies," Banerjee told media persons here on Sunday last. The two exceptions, he mentioned, were maestro Satyajit Ray's "Gharey Bairey", in which he puts up a stupendous performance in the role of Nikhilesh, and Hollywood film "Hullabaloo Over George and Bonnie's Pictures".

The 66-year-old actor, who was here for the Osian's film festival, said it was Ray who had goaded him to watch "Gharey Bairey" at Gorky Sadan in Kolkata and his co-star in the Hollywood film Peggy Ashcroft who had persuaded him to buy two tickets in London and watch it along with her.

Two films featuring Banerjee, including Rubaiyat Hossain's "Meherjaan" and an Assamese movie, are set to be screened in the Osian's festival now on here.

It was in keeping with his revulsion to watch himself on the screen that he gave a miss to the world premiere of the Assamese film, Bidyut Kotoky's "Ekhon Nodir Nedeekha Xipaare", at Osian's festival on Saturday night.

"I hate to look at myself on screen. I don't want to end up confused thinking which side of my face look better before the camera," he reasoned.

The actor, who has performed with aplomb with several Tollywood commercial films with aplomb besides earning critical acclaim for his roles in Shyam Benegal's "Kalyug" and David Lean's "A Passage to India", said the toughest time in his career spanning for over three decades was during the shooting of Ray's "Shatranj Ke Khiladi".

"My knowledge of Urdu was minimal and I lied that I knew the language well. Later, with the help of Urdu-speaking experts, I was able to speak my lines," he recalled.

Monalisa's Eid plans

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Model-actress Monalisa is now busy with shooting for Eid-special TV plays and tele-films. She is not doing any new TV serials though two serials -- "Joynal Jadukor" and "Pa Rekhechhi Jouboney", featuring Monalisa, are on air.

The busy actress will go to Qatar for shooting another TV serial titled "Mago Tomar Jonno" after Eid-ul-Fitr. "At present I am busy with single episode TV plays, tele-films and Eid programmes," says Monalisa.

So far the actress has completed shooting for two single episode TV plays directed by Ferdous Hasan Rana and a tele-film "Shey Amaye Bhabolabsha Na", directed by Shihab Shaheen.

Of late, Monalisa has completed shooting for a Chayanika Chowdhury play titled "Projapati". Shooting for another play by Chayanika will start next week. Apart from Monalisa, Jenny, Apurba, Iresh Zaker and others will don different roles in the play. With co-artiste Zahid Hasan, the actress has also completed shooting for another single episode play, "Chapabaj", directed by Simanta.

"During Eid, my fans will see me in several other TV plays and tele-films that I cannot mention right now," says Monalisa. Currently, I am acting in "Ghori", a single episode TV play, directed by Din Mohammad Montu.

"The story of each play and my roles in these are diverse. Some of them are comedies while some are very serious in approach," adds Monalisa.

Monalisa hopes to stay in Dhaka during Eid. She wants to share the joy of Eid with her family and near and dear ones. Monalisa still recalls her childhood Eid days. "I still remember Eid in the years gone by. We had such fun! Now I cannot even shop because of my schedule," says Monalisa.



PHOTO COURTESY: TUNIN HOSSAIN

**THEATRE**  
Nishimon Bisharjan goes to India



A scene from "Nishimon Bisharjan".

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mahakal Natyasampraday will tour West Bengal, India with its latest production "Nishimon Bisharjan". An adaptation of Rabindranath Tagore's "Bisharjan", the play has been dramatised by Anon Zaman and directed by Ashik Rahman.

The troupe will leave the country today, informed its chief Mir Zahid Hasan. During their weeklong stay, they will hold three shows. The troupe is going to take part at a theatre festival on Rabindranath Tagore. Titled "Rabindra Natokay Dui Bangla", the festival is going to be arranged by Ritvik in Baharampur, where Mahakal will stage the play on

August 3. Moreover, it will hold another show of the play on August 5 at Rabindra Bharati University.

The play starts with Nishimon, a girl from north Bangladesh, narrating her tragic story to the river Gomti. She has lost her beloved, Taratari, who was killed during a suicide bomb attack. Later, it is revealed that Taratari was a member of an extremist group, and he was carrying the bomb.

The cast includes Poly Biswas, Mir Zahid Hasan, Hasan Al Mamun, Bithun Ahmed and Arif Hossain.

Apart from direction, Ashiq Rahman also designed the set, light and props.

"Nishimon Bisharjan" premiered last year.

Group print exhibition

A CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Art Lounge will organise a group print exhibition titled "Monsoon Vernissage", featuring the works of senior and promising painters of Bangladesh and India. The exhibition will open on August 3. Participating painters are Qayyum Chowdhury, Mahmudul Haque, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Monirul Islam, Kalidas Karmakar, Biren Shome, Hashem Khan, Anisuzzaman, Tapan Ghosh (India), Dhiraj Chowdhury (India), Sunil Das (India), Amitabh Sen Gupta (India), Shanu Lahiri (India), Ganesh Haloi (India), Sunil Das (India) and others.

**Beetle Bailey** by Mort Walker

OUT OF ALL THE GUYS HERE, I ADMIRE BEETLE THE MOST

HE'S THE BEST ADJUSTED

HE'S LIKE A DOG...

HE TAKES LIFE ONE SNOOZE AT A TIME

**Henry** by Don Trachte

SELF PORTRAIT BY HENRY

Madonna says boos at Paris gig were from "a few thugs"

Madonna has said the angry reaction from a crowd at her recent 45-minute show in Paris was from "thugs who were not my fans".

"Playing the Olympia was a magical moment for me," she said in a statement on her website.

"Unfortunately at the end of the show, after I left the stage, a few thugs who were not my fans rushed the stage...pretending to be angry fans," she said.

Some fans on Twitter agreed with her but others said they had booed her.

One said: "I have been a fan for 20 years and I booed Madonna at the Olympia 45 minutes for 275 euros. Shame on you."

Another tweeted: "Madonna has blamed 'rogues' attending her concert at the Olympia without understanding that her fans felt cheated."

Media website The Examiner said "many fans did feel short-changed due to lack of communication on how the show would be shorter".

But it suggested that "the actual riots and the screaming were started by supporters of Marine Le Pen, the leader of the far right National Front in Paris. Apparently, they are still upset that Madonna compared

Le Pen to a Nazi in her tour."

Many fans vented their frustration on a Facebook page owned by the star's publicist, Liz Rosenberg.

"Some people slept in the streets for 48 hours. So what happened with the concert?" asked Rudy Vanhover. "She was incredible but we were all shocked by the departure and the duration of the concert."

Madonna said the "thugs" threw plastic bottles at the stage and that "the press reports have focused on this and not the joyous aspect of the evening".

"But nothing can take away or ruin this very special evening for me and my fans. When I looked out in the audience, everyone I saw had a smile on their face. I look forward to having this wonderful experience again."

At her concert in Vienna on Sunday, the singer told the crowd: "Those people were not my fans, they were not there to support me.

"But that's ok because wherever there is darkness, I'm going to bring you some light... we're not going to let them spoil our fun, are we?"



SOURCE: BBC

<b>ATN BANGLA</b> 01:25 Kothamala 06:10 Islami Sawal O Javab 08:00 Destination Unlimited 08:40 Drama Serial: Chand Phul Omabodhya 10:55 Bibeker Kache Proshno <b>CHANNEL 1</b> 11:05 Sports Time 12:30 Tanika Kothon 01:05 Ehang Cinemar Gaan 03:05 Tele-film 09:35 Drama Serial: Bojing 757 <b>ntv</b> 11:30 Glamour World 06:15 Chobro Nobir Pothe 08:15 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe 09:00 Kichu Kotha Kichu Gaan 11:30 Aponar Jigasha 11:30 Ekushey-er Business	<b>Diganta TV</b> 03:30 Chitra Bichitra 05:30 Islamic Talent Search 08:40 Pothey Pantorey 09:40 Drama Serial: Shimabodho Manusher 12:30 Probashe Bangladesh (Live) <b>Maasranga Television</b> 11:02 Bangla Feature Film 06:30 Mahay Ramzan 08:00 Drama Serial: Kobiraj Golapshah 09:30 Hari Jini Nahi Lai Music Digest <b>CHANNEL 9</b> 09:15 Bangla Feature Film 05:30 Alokitto Ramzan Gam X 09:25 Mahay Ramzan 10:30 Drama Serial: Apon Apon Khela 11:15 Islamic Jigasha
--	---

<b>ab radio FM 89.2</b> 06:00 Bhorer Janjaly 09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney 12:00 Darun Dapurny 03:00 Duranta Bheary 05:00 Shondha Ras 07:00 Shaj-er Maya 09:00 Raat-er Akashey 11:00 Galper Shesh Nei 07:30 Hello Dhaka	<b>RADIO</b> 10:00 Morning Express 12:00 No Tension 04:00 Dhaka Calling 09:00 Knight Riders 04:00 TUDAH FM 82.5 06:00 Green FM 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka 12:00 Today's Adda 04:00 U Turn 07:00 Koley Jai Huk 10:00 Raat Sher Gaan
--	---

**Bodie Jao Bodie**  
**Dao Michil**  
On Desh TV at 09:45pm  
Talk Show  
Host: Mithila Farzana

**FINAL DESTINATION**  
On HBO at 11:25pm  
Genre: Horror/Thriller  
Cast: Devon Sawa, Ali Larter & Kerr Smith

**Poush**  
**Phaguner Pala**  
On ATN BANGLA at 09:20pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Intekhab Dinar, Sanjida Pritee

04:30 Syam O Shushastha 06:20 Drama Serial: Rojadar 08:20 Drama Serial: Ohongkar 10:10 Docu-drama: Charge Sheet Report <b>Boishakhi TV</b> 12:00 The Business Show 03:30 Alokitto Poth 05:30 Ramzan Protidin 08:35 Boro Bhalobashi Gaan 11:00 Reporters Diary <b>BANGLAVISION</b> 11:10 Bangla Feature Film 04:05 Ramzan O Amader Jibon 05:15 Our Jan-er Alo 07:00 Style File 11:25 Music Club <b>Desh TV</b> 05:00 Durpath 06:20 Ramzan Protidin 07:45 Drama Serial: Sakthakon 09:45 Bodie Jao Bodie Dao Michil 12:30 Total Sports	<b>CHANNEL 24</b> 01:05 Shopping & Cooking 03:05 Drama Serial: Jadur Shaha 08:10 Made in Bangladesh 09:30 Drama Serial: Paa Rekhechhi Joubone Sports 24 <b>Gtv</b> 11:30 Bangla Feature Film 04:20 Jigasha O Javab 06:20 Mahay Ramzan 09:05 Crime Fiction 11:00 Z-documentary <b>Fox Movies</b> 01:15 X2: X-Men United 07:00 The Omen 08:55 The Double 10:35 Love & Other Drugs <b>HBO</b> 02:25 Wu Xia 04:45 Cop Out 06:55 Ocean's Twelve
--	---

<b>ATN BANGLA</b> 09:20pm Poush Phaguner Pala <b>CHANNEL 1</b> 07:50pm Bayanno Golir Ek Goli <b>ntv</b> 09:45pm Dokhinayoner Din <b>ETV</b> 09:30pm Kamini <b>Boishakhi TV</b> 09:20pm Gopinath <b>BANGLAVISION</b>	<b>DRAMA SERIAL</b> 08:15pm Bokuipurer Jati Rtv 08:15pm Side Effect Desh TV 08:15pm Radio Chocolate <b>BANGLAVISION</b> News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 11pm News (English) at 9am, 6pm <b>ETV</b> 08:30pm Kamini <b>Boishakhi TV</b> 08:40pm Baderor the family
---	---

<b>ETV</b> News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm <b>ATN BANGLA</b> News (Bangla) at 11pm, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm News (English) at 9am, 6pm <b>CHANNEL 1</b> News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10:30pm <b>ntv</b> News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm <b>ETV</b> News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.	<b>NEWS BULLETIN</b> <b>Boishakhi TV</b> News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 11pm News (English) at 9am, 6pm <b>BANGLAVISION</b> News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm <b>Rtv</b> News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm <b>Desh TV</b> News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm Maasranga Television News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am.
---	--

<b>ATN BANGLA</b> 12:30am Lead News <b>CHANNEL 1</b> 11:30pm Aloy Bhushon Bhora <b>ntv</b> 12:30am Ei Shomoy <b>ETV</b> 12:05am Ekushey-er Raat <b>Boishakhi TV</b>	<b>TALK SHOW</b> 12:00am Zero Hour Rtv 11:30pm Our Democracy <b>Desh TV</b> 11:45pm Shojha Katha <b>Maasranga Television</b> 12:02am Shampirok <b>CHANNEL 24</b> 12:00am Modiyater Muktabak
---	--