

WHAT'S ON

Theatre
Play: *Bohajan*
Troupe: *Bachchan*
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Oct 12
Time: 7pm

Musical Soiree
Featuring: *Kumar Bishwajit*
Venue: *India Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, Rd-24, Gulshan 1*
Date: Oct 12
Time: 6:30pm

Musical Soiree & Recitation
Organiser: *Amra Sharmajhali*
Artist: *Chanchal Khan and Dalia Ahmed*
Venue: *Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbagh*

Poetry Session
Participants: *Ras Satterland and 10 young Bangladeshis poets*
Venue: *EMK Centre, Midas Centre, 5, 9th floor, Rd 27, Dhanmondi*
Date: Oct 20

Engraving Exhibition
Artist: *Francisco Goya*
Venue: *Bengal Gallery, Dhanmondi*
Date: Oct 9-23
Time: 12pm-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Photographer: *Anil Advani*
Venue: *Radius Centre, Gulshan-1*
Date: Sep 21-Oct 12
Time: 10am-8pm

Theatre
Play: *Chitragada*
Troupe: *Svapnagada*
Venue: *Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy*
Date: Oct 14
Time: 7pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: *Visions of Empowerment*
Venue: *DEI Gallery, H-58, B-15A(New), Dhanmondi*
Date: Oct 12-20
Time: 3pm-8pm



Name and fame

In conversation with **Fazlur Rahman Babu**

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Over the years, Fazlur Rahman Babu has acquired a name as one of the most skilled actors of the country. His hidden talents however, came to the foreground when he sang two songs for the movie "Monpura" -- "Nithua Pathare" and "Shonai Hae Hae". "Nithua Pathare" was an instant hit, as people all over sang or hummed the tune.

Since then, Babu has had many offers to sing on different occasions. The audio companies and TV channels have not sat idle, encouraging the popular actor to let people know more about his singing skills. Babu says, "I began enjoying listening to music in my childhood. We had a cinema hall nearby where we lived in Khulna. I used to listen to songs from home and learn the tunes. I never took any formal music lesson. All that I've learned, was from listening."

On singing for "Monpura", Babu points out that director Giasuddin Selim wanted an unfamiliar voice to do playback for the film. "As Giasuddin Selim was a man of theatre and I had extensive experience of working with him, I gave the nod to his proposal; but I never imagined that the two songs would become so popular."

Asked on which identity he prefers more, Babu asserts that he is more an actor than a singer. He also urges his admirers to consider him as an actor, not a singer.

Following his playback experience in "Monpura", the actor has also stood behind the mike for "Ghetupuro Komola". He has lent his voice to five songs in the last film directed by Humayun Ahmed. Audiences have all praised his singing skills.

However, there is a story behind Babu's playback in "Ghetupuro Komola". The songs were already recorded by another singer but Humayun Ahmed rejected the takes, claiming that the voice did not suit the sound of the Ghetus. Later, the chief assistant director Jewel Rana and music director Maksud Jamil Mintu proposed Babu as an alternative. After initially

recording one song, Humayun Ahmed gave his thumbs up and had the actor sing four more songs.

Babu had already cemented his place in the acting arena, having won the adoration of thousands, along with a National Film Award as recognition for his skills. Asked how he manages to be successful as both actor and singer, Babu answers that singing with a lot of 'dorod' (emotions) is the secret to his vocal skills. He adds that he has also had previous experience of listening to Ghetu songs.

Babu, however, remains busier in acting, with shooting appointments every day. He recently visited Nepal to shoot an Eid special tele-film. Shooting is also complete for Eid dramas "Buno Chaltar Gao" and "Biralor Golea Ghonta Badhibe Ke".

The actor currently has two running serials on air, "Baga Sher" and "Oloshpur". He is also doing four new serials for directors of Giasuddin Selim, Al Hazen, KC Paul and Salahuddin Lavlu.

Babu began acting soon after he finished school. He first performed on stage for Boishakhi Natya Goshthi. In 1983, he joined Dhaka's Aranyak Natya Dal, where he stayed for the next 20 years and performed in every single street play during the time.

He also worked with Bangla Theatre on productions like "Lebedef", "Manush" and "Adim". His first work for TV was in 1991, in the drama "Mriyu Khudha".

Asked which TV appearance first put him in the limelight, Babu answers that playing the role of Poran Majhi in Mamunur Rashid's "Tikotha" brought him his first taste of popularity. Many people still call him Poran Majhi, the actor adds.

Along with his work in TV dramas, theatre, street dramas, modelling and singing, Fazlur Rahman Babu has worked in eight films so far. They include "Shopno Danae", "Bihongo", "Ahat", "Briter Baire", "Monpura" and "Daruchini Dwip".

Despite his manifold talents, Babu is yet to try his hands at directing or producing dramas. Asked about this, Babu said he prefers to focus on acting, as it attracts him more than direction.

Asked what his long experience has taught him, Babu says, "There is little scope in movies for doing the things I want to do. This is my regret as an artist. I want to work in more challenging projects and continuously deconstruct myself."

Awards for young poets and writers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Literary magazine Kali O Kolom and HSBC have taken an initiative to recognise young and talented poets and creative writers across the country with the award "HSBC-Kali O Kolom Tarun Kobi O Lekhak Purashkar" (since 2008).

At a press conference held yesterday, it was announced that the awards for the year 2012 (Taka 1 lakh for each prize) will be announced in four sections.

Present at the press conference were: Andrew Tilke, CEO, HSBC; Talukdar Noman Anwar, head of marketing, communications and corporate sustainability, HSBC; Mahbub-ur-Rahman, corporate banking head, HSBC; member, editorial board, Luva Nahid Chowdhury; and editor, Kali O Kolom, Abul Hasnat.



(From left) Abul Hasnat, Luva Nahid Chowdhury, Andrew Tilke, Mahbub-ur-Rahman and Talukdar Noman Anwar at the press conference.

Talent search on Rabindra Sangeet

Tribute to Kanika Bandopadhyay on her 88th birth anniversary

A CORRESPONDENT

The final round of a talent search on Tagore songs was held on October 10 at 'Aikatan', Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata in collaboration with EZCC and ICCR. Twelve contestants (six each from India and Bangladesh) in the 16 to 25 age group participated in the competition.

The judges from India were Kali Krishna Guha, Rachayita Roy-Dutta and Subhasish Dutta. The Bangladesh judges from Padatik were Nargis Chowdhury and Abdul Wadud.



Contestants with Anup Motilal (centre); Abida Islam to his left and T. K. Sengupta to the right.

The programme was presided over by T. K. Sengupta, President, Mitali, Indo-Bangladesh Cultural Society, Abida Islam, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh, and Anup Motilal, director of EZCS, were present as guests of honour. Both expressed their appreciation of the endeavour to discover music talents in India and Bangladesh by Mitali and Padatik-Bangladesh.

The event was conducted by Kamallesh Sen Gupta, joint secretary of Mitali. The event was supported by KMC Mohar Kunj, Sarabharati Sanskriti O Sangeet Parishad, geetabita.com, banglanews24.com, washingtonbangladiadio.com, SPS Group, Tata Motors and other organisations.

The contestants in order of merit are as follows: Agnibho Bandopadhyay (India-Kolkata), Kuntala Chakraborty (Bangladesh-Sylhet); Medha Ghosh (Bangladesh-Dhaka); Adrika Sarkar (India-Kolkata); Ashish Chakraborty (India-South 24-Parganas) and Nur E Afroj Promei (Bangladesh-Sylhet)

A soiree to mark the 88th birth anniversary of Kanika Bandopadhyay will be held on October 12 at 6 pm at Aikatan Auditorium, EZCC, Salt Lake City, Kolkata.

The first six participants will perform at the cultural soiree to pay tribute to Kanika Bandopadhyay.



An episode from Mahabharat recreated

DU students stage "Prothom Partho"

JAMIL MAHMUD

Featuring a theatrical adaptation of Buddhadeb Basu's "Prothom Partho", students of the Department of Theatre, University of Dhaka began a week-long event at the Natmandal Auditorium on the campus. Directed and designed by the department's young teacher Ahmedul Kabir, the play premiered on October 9.

Veteran actress Ferdousi Majumdar formally inaugurated the event. Vice Chancellor of the university Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique was present as chief guest.

The Mahabharat-inspired play is a narrative of the run up to the epic battle between Arjun and Karna. The play relates the pros and cons of war in a dramatic way, more than that it narrates the other facets of heroic characters such as Arjun and Draupadi.

As Kunti (mother of Arjun and Karna), Draupadi and Lord Krishna appear on the scene to prevent Karna from taking part in the war, the audience sees Draupadi playing an antagonistic role. Failing to convince Karna through reasoning, Draupadi tries to seduce him.

One finds Arjun as a dictator through Karna's narration. The arrogant Karna is adamant that he will fight. Krishna finally warns Karna that he will face death for sure if he takes part in the battle, because Krishna sets a plot to ensure that Arjun is victorious.

Above all, the play is a symbolic protest against war, and makes the philosophical point to say that it's better to take necessary steps before a war occurs.

A group of students have been enacting the characters by rotation on different days. They include Preeti Dutta, ASM Ali Imam, Shaharul Islam, Mohammad Ilias, Kaniz Quayum, Afrin Huda, Dhiman Chandra, Saima Farjana, Tania Islam, Hafizul Islam and ASM Golan Nasir.

The play features several dance pieces, including Raibeshe, and raga-based music as background scores. Amit Chowdhury's dance direction and Dr. Tapan Kumar Sarkar's music were admirable features of the play.

The young students' performances were not remarkable -- at times tad melodramatic. They are performing in the play as part of their second-year curriculum.

The play will be staged each evening at 7 pm, till October 15.

Aamir Khan finds a fan in Tom Hanks

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Hollywood star Tom Hanks admires Bollywood actor Aamir Khan's work for Indian society.

"I really admire the work that Aamir Khan is doing (in India). Very few celebrities take the initiative of coming forward to change society and he has done a remarkable job. It's the giving back that's tough," Hanks said in a statement.

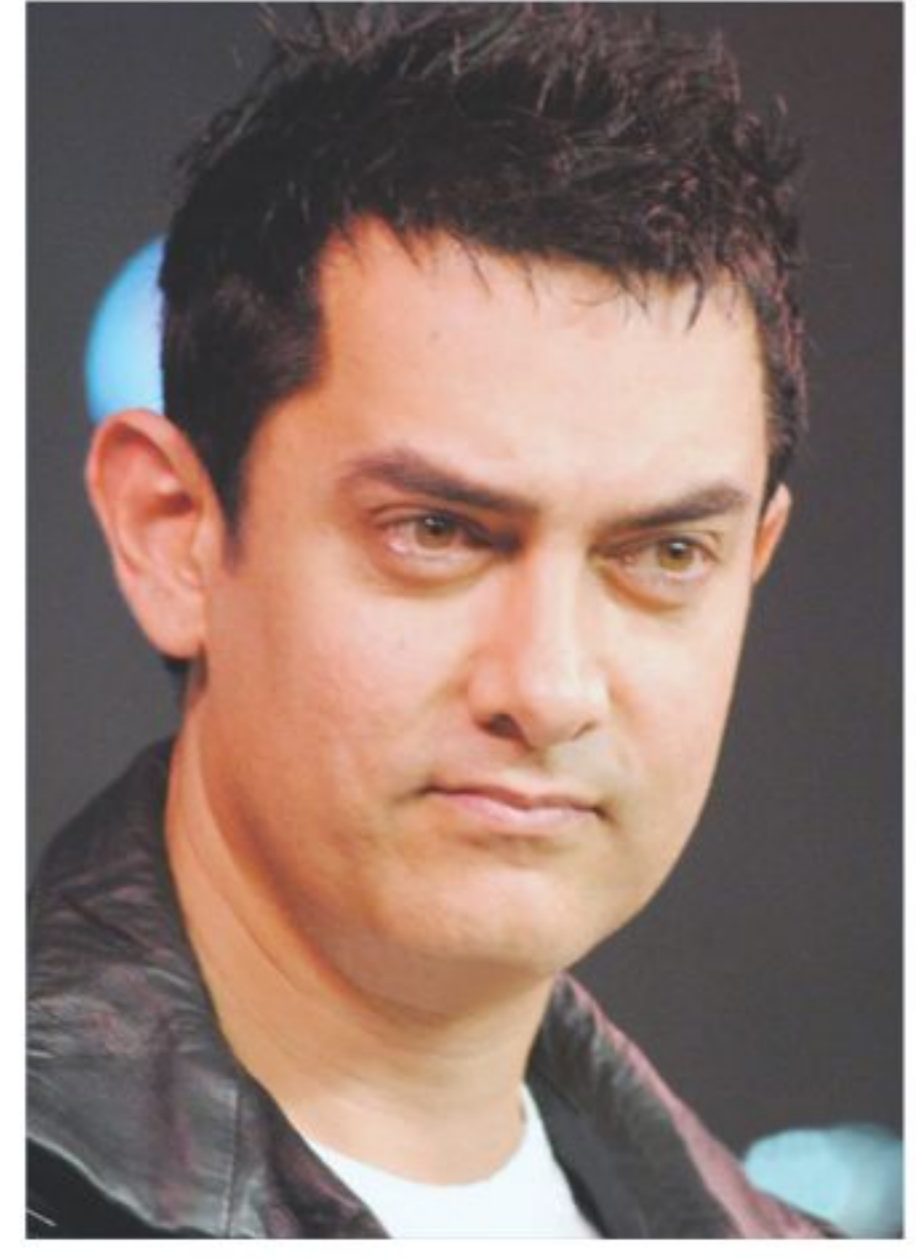
Hanks, whose new film "Cloud Atlas" also starring Hugh Grant and Halle Berry, is set to hit Indian theatres on October 26, read about Aamir in the September 10 issue of Time magazine which positioned the Bollywood actor as India's "first

superstar-activist".

Aamir had recently anchored a television programme in which he flagged several social issues like female foeticide, manual scavenging and dowry to the fore, backed by statistics.

The actor also raised the issues with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot.

Hanks feels that it is all a part of giving back to the people who give artists so much love. "Aamir seems to understand the influencing power of being a celebrity and is using it to act as a catalyst for change in society, something that definitely deserves both appreciation and support from all quarters," said Hanks.



Acting legend Bachchan celebrates turning 70

AFP, Mumbai

India's favourite film star Amitabh Bachchan turned 70 on Thursday, marking his birthday with a lavish celebrity party and drawing hundreds of fans to cheer their hero outside his home.

Bachchan, the elder statesman of Bollywood, hit the red carpet with his family on Wednesday night for celebrations in the entertainment capital Mumbai, where he was joined by a star-studded list of 800 guests.

Outside his residence in the city, fans gathered on Thursday to present flowers and chant "Long Live Amitabh!" but the birthday boy struck a modest note.

"Birthdays are special for all... mine is no different... but (it) would never be the same without your love and affection," he said to his more than 3.5 million Twitter followers.

Among the film, business and political big-

wigs at the party was fellow acting superstar Shah Rukh Khan, who tweeted that he had "too much fun" dancing with Bachchan and his wife Jaya, who organised the bash.

On Thursday Bachchan was due to open a mobile diabetes van at a Mumbai hospital. Known universally as "The Big B", Bachchan made his name as the "angry young man" of Hindi cinema. He starred in more than 150 films including the 1970s hits "Sholay" (Embers), "Deewaar" (The Wall) and "Don".

Still acting in several films a year, he was voted "actor of the millennium" in a BBC online poll in 1999 and became the first Indian actor to gain a lookalike at London's Madame Tussauds waxworks museum.

He is set to make his Hollywood debut with a fleeting appearance in the new adaptation of E. Scott Fitzgerald's 1925 novel "The Great Gatsby", starring Leonardo DiCaprio and due for release next year.

Bachchan's legions of admirers monitor his health closely: he was discharged from a Mumbai hospital late in February after undergoing surgery twice for an abdominal problem.

He also nearly died following an accident on the set of the 1982 film "Coolie" where he ruptured his spleen during a fight scene.

Fans at the time prayed for his recovery, holding vigils outside his hospital and making offerings at temples and mosques.

The veteran actor is a ubiquitous figure in Indian life, hosting the local version of quiz show "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?", supporting charity causes such as protecting tigers, and featuring in countless advertisements.

He is set to make his Hollywood debut with a fleeting appearance in the new adaptation of E. Scott Fitzgerald's 1925 novel "The Great Gatsby", starring Leonardo DiCaprio and due for release next year.

Sushma Sarker On the Rise

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Sushma Sarker is busy on TV at the moment, equipped with five years of acting experience with theatre group Desh Natok. Her acting talent emerged when she was a student at the Department of Drama at the Jahangirnagar University. Several of her TV plays are currently being aired by different channels, while she has also done several modelling gigs. The actress recently spoke to The Daily Star.

What was your first TV play?
Sushma Sarker: I first worked in Giasuddin Selim's "Shada Megher Bishriti". Channel 1 aired the play. I acted opposite Mosharraf Karim. The play was widely acclaimed

Which plays made you popular among the audience?
Sushma Sarker: The plays that brought me recognition are: "Dulim Kumar" by Nurul Alam Atiq; "Kuhok" and "Nabila Chorri" by Akram Khan; "Nandini" by Syed Awlad; "Sobuj Gramee Neel Dish Antenna"; "Mayerder Pathshaha" and "Mayer Dowa Paribahan" by Sumon Anwar. All of these are serials.

Which productions did you work in during your days with Desh Natok?
Sushma Sarker: I joined the group when I was a student at Jahangirnagar University. With Desh Natok, I acted in "Nitya Purnan", "Birsha Kabyo", "Jonome Jonnamtor" etc.

You've also had some experience with modelling.
Sushma Sarker: Yes, I did commercials for Teer Shorishar Tel, Meril Baby Lotion, Pran Chanachur, Banglalink, Nokia, Shillong Cha, RFL Kitchen and Marks Allrounder. The two commercials for RFL Kitchen and Marks Allrounder are now being aired on TV.

Which of your serials are being aired at the moment?
Sushma Sarker: Channel 24 is airing "Jadur Shohor" by Nurul Alam Atiq; Gazi TV is showing "Ponchoh"



by Omlan Bishwash; "Ohonkar" by Kaiser Ahmed is being aired by Ekushey TV; Banglavisión is airing Syed Awlad's "Gulshan Avenue" and SA Haq Alik's "Ladies First".

How many Eid-special plays have you done so far?
Sushma Sarker: I had to turn down many Eid-specials, as most days of the month were already booked for shooting for serials. However, I was able to work in Matia Banu Shuku's Eid drama "Din-er Sheshe". It was the first time I had the opportunity to work with Suborna Mustafa. She played my mother in the drama. I also worked in an Eid-special drama by Shamdin Ahmed.

You've also worked in movies...
Sushma Sarker: I'm working on Maru's new film "Parle Thheka". A song was very recently shot for the film. Joya Ahsan is also working in the movie. The rest of the work will be done soon. I've worked as a guest star in Redwan Rony's "Chorabali". I've worked in Nurul Alam Atiq's film "Doob Satar" too.

What about your experience as a show host?
Sushma Sarker: I'm hosting a show for Ekator TV, titled "Binodon Karkhana". It is aired every Friday night at 9:30 pm.



Amitabh Bachchan (L) poses with wife Jaya Bachchan (2nd L), son-in-law Nikhil Nanda (C), daughter Shweta Nanda (3rd R), son Abhishek Bachchan (2nd R) and daughter-in-law Aishwarya Rai-Bachchan during a party on the eve of his 70th birthday on October 10.

PHOTO: AFP

DID YOU KNOW?

The Rolling Stones

- Founder member Brian Jones named the band The Rollin' Stones to pay tribute to "Rollin' Stone" by Muddy Waters.
- Early in the band's history Jagger and Richards formed a song writing partnership and gradually took over leadership of the band from the increasingly troubled and erratic Jones.
- The band has released 22 studio albums in the UK (24 in the US), eight concert albums (nine in the US) and numerous compilations; and has album sales estimated at more than 200 million worldwide.
- In the early 1950s Keith Richards and Mick Jagger -- who are responsible for creating one of the greatest rock feuds -- were classmates at Wentworth Primary School in Dartford, Kent.
- The Rolling Stones' logo, designed by John Pasche, was introduced in 1971.
- Martin Scorsese filmed on October 29 and November 1, 2006 the Rolling Stones performances at New York City's Beacon Theatre which was released as the 2008 film "Shine a Light".

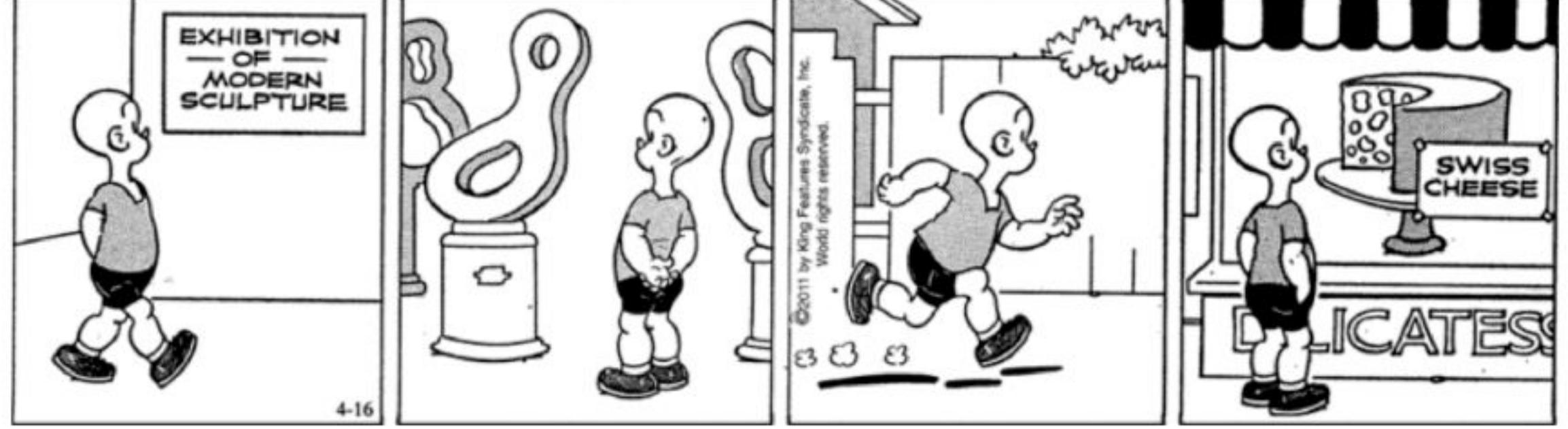
Beetle Baily



Henry



Henry



ATN BANGLA	03:05	Bangla Feature Film	02:30	Ichchhey Gaan-er Dupur
	05:00	Gram Gonjer Khabor	05:02	Square Hospital Doctor's Chamber
	08:00	Diploma Misti Lorai	07:35	Drink and Dessert
	11:30	Documentary Programme	09:00	Film Based Game Show: Houseful
CHANNEL 9			12:02	Drama: Biragi
	12:05	Prokhti O Jibon	02:35	Bangla Feature Film
	02:40	Teletim	06:00	Kids Hour
	05:00	Janapad-er Khobor	08:40	Tune Factory
	07:50	Special Programme	09:15	Tele-film
ETV	10:02	Sonamoni Shakh-e-Oshukh-e	11:15	Beauty Time
	01:30	Bangla Feature Film	11:35	The Twilight Saga: Eclipse
	06:30	Musical Programme	01:40	Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby
	10:10	Drama	03:30	National Treasure: Book of Secrets
	12:05	Phone & Live Studio Concert: Band Akhra	05:30	Quarantine
BANGLAVISION	10:10	Bhalo Thakun	07:00	Ghost Rider

abc radio FM 89.2	12:00	Boier Paka	
09:30	Estik Osk	02:00	Forti Unlimited
01:20	Akor Shoudhaney	06:00	Bumper to Bumper
05:30	Kacha Lanka	06:00	Club front
09:30	Romay Rada	01:00	Back to Back music
07:20	GP Lounch		RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
07:45	Megh Barata	06:00	Green FM
08:10	Adaa	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
11:10	Center Never Lies	11:00	Flash Back
RADIO FOURTH		12:30	Islamic Program
08:00	Adabbal	02:15	Rajputi Gaan

Scandal
On ATN Bangla at 11pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mir Sabbir, Rumana

The Mask
On HBO at 10pm
Genre: Action/Comedy
Cast: Jim Carrey, Amy Yasbeck

Sunglass
Single Episode Play
On Desh TV at 09:45pm
Cast: Shoshi, Shahadat

11:05	Amader Rannaghar	08:55	Wild Things II
06:25	Gaan O Fom	10:25	Wild Things: Diamonds in the Rough
09:05	Maver Kotha	11:50	Plates of the Caribbean: At World's End
11:25	Ani Ekhon Ki Korbo (Live)		

ntv	12:10	Apun Aaloy	HBO	11:15	Blade
	02:35	Tele-film		01:35	Mr. Bean's Holiday
	06:45	Roopmadhuri		03:30	The Lost Future
	11:30	Katha O Gaan-e Kichukhon (Live)		05:20	Ocean's Thirteen
				07:45	Rango
				10:00	The Mask

Rtv	10:10	Doctor's Prescription (Live)	Star World	11:30	Two And A Half Men
	05:00	Young Star (Live)		02:30	Grey's Anatomy
	07:35	Glamour World Dot Com		04:30	Glee
	11:20	Weekly Drama		08:30	The Simpson's
				09:00	The Front Row with Anupama Chopra

Desh TV	03:00	Live Musical Programme	09:30	Master Chef Australia
	04:00	Desh Janapad		
	08:15	Bando Thelkey Britto		
	09:45	Drama		
	11:45	Call-er Gaan: Rajib		

Boishakhi TV	10:20	Papnet Show	National Geographic Channel	11:30	Mega Structures
	08:00	Amor Guttar Amar Gaan		02:30	Secrets of the Taj Mahal
	08:35	Drama		05:30	At-Crash Investigation
	11:05	Shomoy Katuk Gaan-e Gaan-e		08:30	Seconds from Disaster
				09:30	Big Cats
				11:30	Nat Geo Secret Diaries
Maaranga Television	09:45pm	99, Shaheb Ali Lane	Discovery Channel	11:30	