

## WHAT'S ON

Chobi Mela VII  
Festival of Photography  
Organiser: Drik Gallery and Pathshala  
Venue: Drik Gallery, Shilpakala Academy, DLI premises and more  
Date: Jan 23-Feb 7

Group Print Exhibition  
Title: Chhappai Chhobi-2  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara  
Date: Jan 19-30  
Time: 11am-8pm

Kathak Dance Recital  
Artist: Ashimendhu Bhattacharya  
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh  
Date: Jan 27  
Time: 6:30pm

6th International Children's Film Festival  
Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbagh  
Date: Jan 19-25  
Time: 11am onwards

Solo Art Exhibition  
Title: Bound to the Soil  
Artist: Farida Zaman  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H-42, Rd-16/16, Dhanmondi  
Date: Jan 13-26  
Time: 12-8pm

Album Launch  
Artist: Roito Tomar Dware  
Venue: Bengal Shilpashala  
Date: Jan 22  
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition  
Artist: Shambhu Acharya  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi  
Date: Jan 22-31  
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Photography  
Exhibition  
Title: Buddhist Heritage in South Asia  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, H-60, R-131, Gulshan 1  
Date: Jan 18-28

## FUTURE IN FRAMES

## 6th Int'l Children's Film Fest begins



Children and organisers at the inaugural of the festival at Ashwini Kumar Hall in Barisal (top-left). Mustafa Monwar (top-right) and Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal speak at the Dhaka opening.



## STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Featuring over 200 films from 42 countries, the weeklong nationwide 6th International Children's Film Festival Bangladesh began on January 19. Children's Film Society of Bangladesh, in association with UNICEF, has been organising the event that is held in 22 venues in seven divisional cities.

Divided into two phases, the inaugural ceremony was held at the Central Public Library premises and the Main Auditorium of National Museum in Dhaka.

The organisers brought out a procession during the interval between two phases of the inaugural programme. Guests along with children took part in the procession.

Mustafa Monwar, veteran artist and chairman of the festival advisory committee, formally inaugurated the festival. Pascal Villeneuve, UNICEF representative in Bangladesh, was the guest of honour, and Canadian filmmaker Nancy Trites Botkin was special guest. Among others, Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, author and president of Children's Film Society Bangladesh and Moshedul Islam, filmmaker and festival director, addressed the audience at the inaugural event.

In his speech, Mustafa Monwar advised children to learn the techniques of filmmaking properly and to

apply the knowledge in nation-building.

After the inaugural session, four films -- "Water for Life", "The Window", "Ambitious" and "Tony Ten" -- were screened.

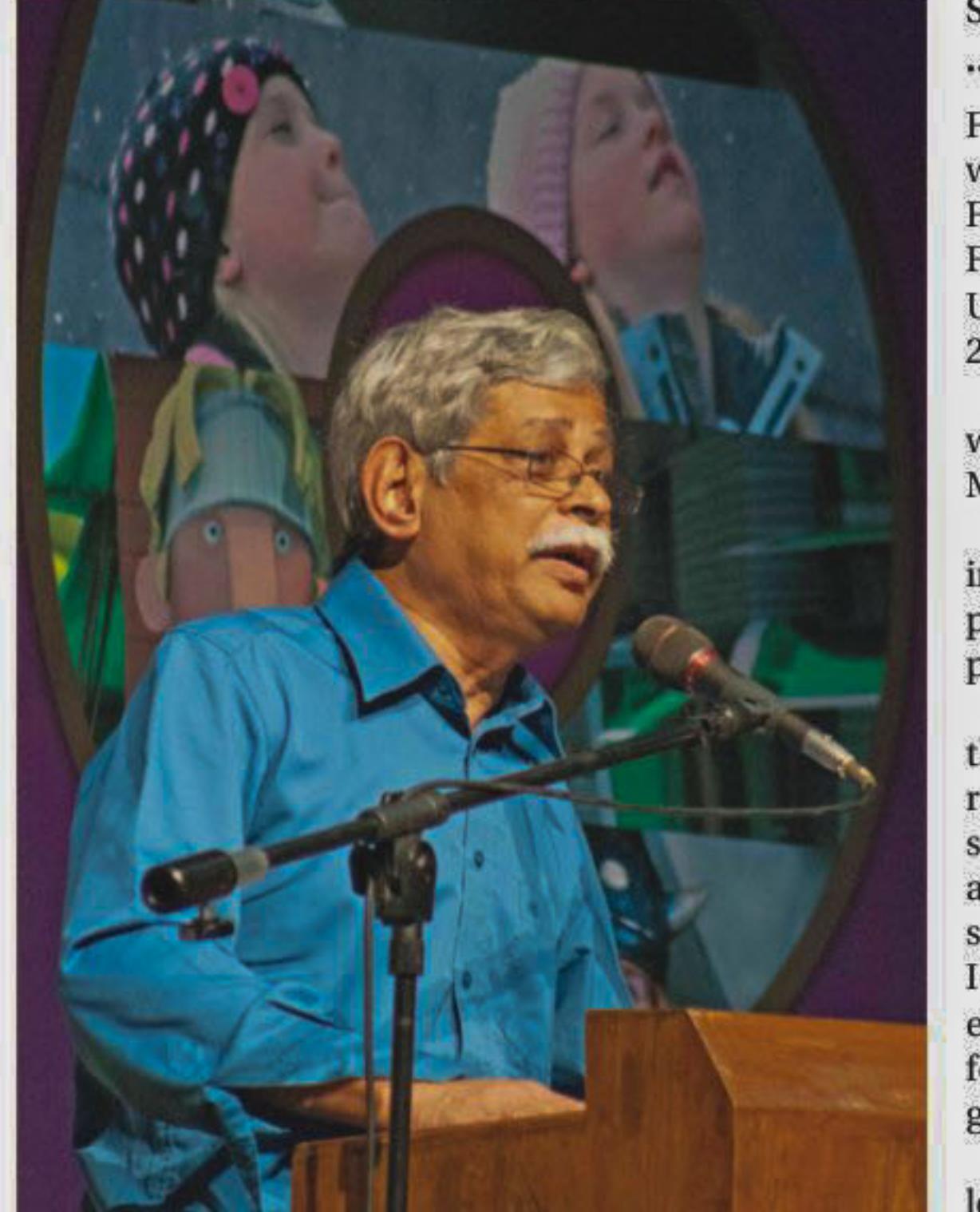
In Dhaka, the festival is being held at Central Public Library, National Museum, British Council, Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka (Dhanmondi and Uttara) and Daffodil International University. The number of venues in Chittagong is seven; in Rajshahi, four; and one each in Rangpur, Khulna, Sylhet and Barisal.

Around 125 child delegates are participating in the festival. The presence of four foreign delegates, including filmmakers and film critics, should be an inspiration for the children.

Five child filmmakers will be awarded with crest, certificates and cash prize. In association with ActionAid, the organisers will also give accolades to a girl filmmaker.

Apart from film screenings, the festival includes a workshop and seminar. Children will get the chance to see films at four sessions, starting from 11 am each day. The Central Public Library will be considered as the main venue of the festival.

The closing and award giving ceremony will be held on January 25 at the Main Auditorium of National Museum.



## Delectable Pitha at Shilpakala Academy



Jatiya Pitha Utshab Ujjapan Parishad (JPUUP) has arranged an eight-day National Pitha Festival. The festival, recently inaugurated by Foreign Affairs Minister Dipu Moni, is now on at the Coffee House premises of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Golam Kuddus, vice-president of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote; lyricist Shahidullah Farazi; dancer Minu Haque; theatre personality Ataur Rahman, Ramendu Majumdar, president of International Theatre Institute; and Mizanur Rahman, general secretary of the Patho Natok Parishad, were present as special guests at the programme.

The programme was presided over by cultural personality M.

Hamid, also convener of the festival. Khondoker Shah Alam, member-secretary of JPUUP, delivered the welcome speech at the inaugural programme. The inauguration was followed by a cultural programme in which artists performed traditional folk songs.

JPUUP has been organising the National Pitha Festival since 2008. This year's festival features 40 stalls offering various kinds of traditional pitha (rice cakes) made during winter. Pitha-enthusiasts in the capital can enjoy over 200 varieties of pitha during the festival.

Apart from pitha, festival-goers can also enjoy live performances every day, in the evening.

The festival will continue till January 25.

## Group print exhibition at Galleri Kaya

## A CORRESPONDENT

Galleri Kaya in Uttara has organised a group print exhibition, titled "Chhappai Chhobi-2", featuring the works of Mohammad Kibria, Murtaja Baseer, Nitin Kundu, Mahmudul Haque, Abdul Barq Alvi, Ratan Majumdar, Wakilur Rahman, Rashid Amin, Anisuzzaman, Nagarbasi Barman, Mohammad Rekonuzzaman and others.

The exhibition was inaugurated on January 19, and will continue till January 30.

Dan Mozena, US ambassador to Bangladesh, inaugurated the exhibition. Eminent architect and art critic Shamsul Wares was present as guest at the inaugural ceremony. Artist Mahmudul Haque also spoke at the programme.

Galleri Kaya director Goutam Chakraborty delivered the welcome speech.

"We have plans to open hospitals. We would be doing that... after restaurants are out. We need to earn money to put in a hospital, we need some time," Salman said.

The actor, who yesterday opened the first 'Being Human' flagship store that has a clothing line and accessories, insists it is for

## Purnima in the spotlight

## SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Purnima: It's being directed by Muhammad Mustafa Kamal Raj. I've previously worked with him for a movie, which is awaiting release. During shooting, the director told me about it, and I liked the story and characters right away. My elder sister Dilruba is also acting in the serial.

Will you be more frequent in TV dramas from now on?

Purnima: There is a possibility. However, that doesn't mean that I will be absent from films. I want to work in films, dramas and TVCs.

Are you shooting for any movie right now?

Purnima: Currently I'm working on an FI Manik's movie "Judge Barrister Police Commissioner". I've received many film offers in recent times, but had to decline them all as I didn't like the stories or the characters.

It's been a while since you performed in a serial?

Purnima: I think I didn't do any serial in at least 10 years. I did my first serial under the direction of Zahid Hasan, titled "Lal Nil Beguni". Later on, I did several one-hour TV plays and tele-films, but that was my only serial at that time. "Idiots" is only the second serial of my career.

Tell us about "Idiots".

Purnima: It's a comedy. I laugh the entire time I'm on the set. I don't have any dialogue in the serial; instead I have to act out everything with gestures. In the drama, I have a wonderful relationship with a few tenants staying at our house.

Why did you agree to this particular TV serial?

Purnima: I want to stay involved with good assignments. Rather than quantity, I want to focus on the quality. You can be under the spotlight if you manage to deliver even a handful of worthy performances.



## Salman Khan, the philanthropist

## PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Following the footsteps of other Bollywood stars into the business of food joint chains, actor Salman Khan is planning to open restaurants and hospitals but insists it is not all for business but for a noble cause.

"We will start restaurants in metros first... We will open first in Mumbai and Puna and so on. Profits earned from them will go to the need of people living in metros. We will tie-up with someone who has the same kind of ideology... we are doing all this for a noble cause," Salman told the media.

A number of actors like Mithun Chakraborty, Suniel Shetty and Arjun Rampal are already into the business of running hotels and restaurants.

Salman runs a charitable organization called 'Being Human', with an aim to help the destitute in the areas of education, healthcare and he plans to venture into new areas of business under the same name.

"We want people to come and eat, drink and that is how they will in a way do charity. So, when you are wearing something, eating or drinking something, you are doing your bit; it is all going to help people towards education and healthcare," the actor said adding he also intends to enter into the healthcare segment by opening



charity and there is no business attached to it.

"I think this is the worst ever business proposition that anyone can be in. I am happy that I have found like-minded people who are interested in not earning profits but to be associated with the brand and keep a little for themselves and do more charity", he said.

DVD LAUNCH  
Sound of Southern Breeze: A Tribute to Jon B Higgins

## ZAHANGIR ALOM

An Iowa (USA)-based Carnatic music centre Sarva Sree Foundation (SSF) organised an evening of Carnatic (South Indian) instrumental music for the first time sometime back. Titled "Sound of Southern Breeze" the concert was a tribute to the first American Carnatic musician Jon B. Higgins on his birthday, informed Meghna Ameen, president of the SSE.

An extraordinary American musician, teacher and scholar, Jon Borthwick Higgins (1939-1984) spent much of his student and professional life at Wesleyan University, Connecticut, USA. He was not only adept in European and Western classical music but also recognised the first non-Indian to perform South Indian classical music at a high level of proficiency, added Ameen. Higgins, on a Fulbright Scholarship, went to India to learn the genre first from T. Viswanathan and later from renowned dancer T. Balasaraswati. He also wrote a

dissertation on the dance music of Bharatanatyam. Higgins returned to USA as a Senior Research Fellow of the American Institute of Indian Studies.

According to Meghna Ameen, the concert held at Englert Theater in Iowa City, USA, featured four US-based noted South Indian musicians: Arun Ramamurthy (violin), Shrinidhi Hemmige (guitar), Akshay Anantapadmanabhan (mridangam) and Dr. Ravi Balasubramanian (ghatam). The ensemble played Carnatic and western instruments in both conventional and western styles to promote South Indian music in the USA and globally.

The recitals presented at the concert included "Varnam-Chalamu Sneya" (on raga Valajhi); "Siddhi Vinayakam" (on raga Shanmukhapriya); "Manayakam" (on raga Nalinikanti) and "Sri Dakshinamoorthi" (on raga Keeravani), originally composed by Laligudi G. Jayaraman; Muthuswamy Dikshitar; Tyagaraja and Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna. The ensemble also performed a devotional bhajan titled "Raghupati Raghava".

Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna named Sarva Sree Foundation, "Sarva Sree", (everything beautiful), was established in 2008 by Meghna Ameen (a Bangladeshi disciple of Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna) and T. Aran Anand with a branch in Bangladesh that was set up in 2012.



A linocut by Murtaja Baseer.

## Workshop on modelling at Alliance Francaise de Chittagong

## MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong

A three-day workshop on modelling and catwalk, organised by Alliance Francaise de Chittagong, wrapped up in the Port City on Saturday.

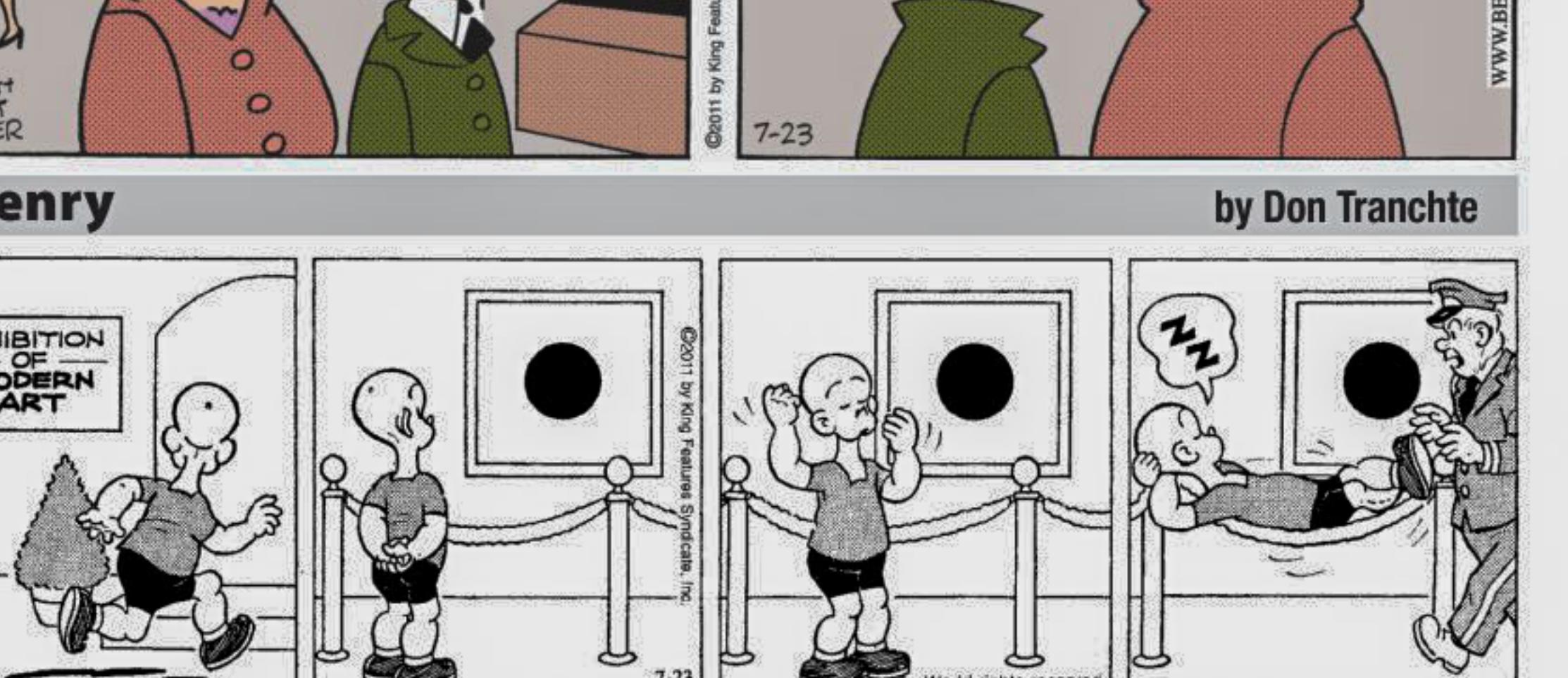
Noted fashion designer Bibi Russell conducted the training in which 20 young aspirant models participated.

"With hills, sea and its natural bounty, Chittagong has all the resources to create culturally inclined young people who could make a mark in the profession of modelling," said Russell at the closing session of the workshop.

Among others, Dr. Samuel Berthel, director of Alliance Francaise de Chittagong, addressed the closing session and certificate giving ceremony.

The participants were awarded certificates at the conclusion of the workshop.

## Beetle Baily



BTB	Bashori 04:30 06:00 08:40 09:30	Bridal Show Star of Politics Krishi Dibashi Gaan R Gaan Kalpokerol Galpoktha Orno Drishi
ATN BANGLA	Business and Finance 01:25 02:00 09:20 09:30	Desh TV 03:00 03:30 04:00 04:30
CHANNEL 1	09:45 07:50 10:30	Maarsa Television 08:30 09:30 10:30
CHANNEL 9	11:20 09:35 10:30	Shajari Barankhana 09:30 10:30
CHANNEL 11	09:45 07:50 10:30	RADIO 05:30 06:00 07:45 08:15 09:30 10:45
RADIO	06:30 07:45 08:00 08:30 09:00 10:00	My Time No Tension Night Rider Night Rider Back to Back Music RADIO TODAY FM 89.6 Good Morning Dhaka Today's Adda U Turn Tobei Tai Huk Rat Bhor Ghan
Pancho Premik	07:30	On ETV at 09:30pm Drama Serial Cast: Shohel Khan,
Kung Fu Hustle	11:40pm	On Fox Movies at 11:40pm Genre: Action/Comedy Cast: Stephen Chow, Wah Yuen & Qiu Yuen
Makrasha	07:30	On Rtv at 08:30pm Drama Serial Cast: Niloy, Nafiza
CHANNEL 24	05:30 09:00 09:45 11:30	Life Style Musical Launch Sports Gtv 07:30 09:00 10:30 11:30
ETV	11:30 07:50 09:30	Bangla Feature Film Music Station Drama Serial: Pancho Premik Cine Hits
Boishakhi TV	10:10	Ekushey-er Business 04:30 07:00 08:40 11:40
Fox Movies	04:35 07:00 08:40 11:40	Hook The Covenant Glee: The Concert Movie Kung Fu Hustle
HBO	03:40 05:55 07:40 11:55	Daylight Source Code Exit Wounds Sanctum
Star World	03:30 08:30 09:30 10:30	Homeland Melissa & Joey Raiders Grey's Anatomy
RTV	12:35 09:05	Bangla Feature Film Drama Serial: Boyra Porbar
BANGALAVISION	01:05 02:05 08:15 11:25	Bangla Feature Film Front Line Drama Serial: Ladies First First Probashi Mukh
CHANNEL 9	11:25	Boishakhi TV 04:30 07:00 08: