

WHAT'S ON

Chobi Mela VII
Festival of Photography
Organiser: Drik Gallery and Pathshala
Venue: Drik Gallery, Shilpakala Academy, DU premises and more
Date: Jan 25-Feb 7

Group Print Exhibition
Title: Chhapai Chhobi-2
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara
Date: Jan 19-30
Time: 11am-9pm

Kathak Dance Recital
Artist: Ashimbanhu Bhattacharjee
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, R-16(New), Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 13-26
Time: 12-9pm

Album Launch
Album: Roibho Tomar Dware
Artist: Laiba Ahmad Lisa
Venue: Bengal Shilpakala, H-42, R-16, Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 22

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, 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.

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 Morshedul 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 crests, 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 Udjan 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 "Chhapai Chhobi-2", featuring the works of Mohammad Kibria, Murtaja Baseer, Nitun Kundu, Mahmudul Haque, Abul Barq Alvi, Ratan Majumdar, Waklur Rahman, Rashid Amin, Anisuzzaman, Nagarbasi Barman, Mohammad Rokonzaman 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.



A linocut by Murtaja Baseer.

Purnima in the spotlight

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Purnima is no newbie to the silver screen. Her 14-year career has brought her the National Film Award, along with the admiration of millions. Her talents have also been proven in TV dramas and commercials. The actress, who is leaning more towards TV dramas now, recently spoke to The Daily Star about her career and memorable performances:

What are you currently working on?

Purnima: I'm busy with TV plays and tele-films. I worked for a brief period as a judge on a dance competition. I've worked in Rajib Ahmed Chowdhury's drama "Khujie Bera Taare", and a TVC directed by Anjam Masud. I'm also doing a serial called "Idiots".

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: 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 character 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.

What films can the audience expect from you in the upcoming days?

Purnima: Sohanur Rahman Sohan's "Lobhe Paap Paape Mrityu" is set to be released soon. The audience will get to see me with Riaz and Amin Khan on the screen after a long time. "Chhayachhobi", where I've acted opposite Arefin Shubho, is also expected to be released soon. I've also acted with singer Tahsan in the film "To Be Continued".

Your future plans?

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.



DS CAFÉ



Rosy Siddiqui, known for her acting prowess, maintains a strong presence on stage, TV plays and films. Rosy continues to be active in TV plays, while she has been working in theatre for 23 years. She is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. She will be on the hot seat and will take your calls at The Daily Star Centre on January 28, between 4 and 5 pm. Readers, fire away all your questions at her! The best 10 questions will be featured in the transcript to be published later. Call 8126155, 01711623915 and 01711623917 to speak to Rosy.

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 Pune 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, Sunil 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



hospitals. "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

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 ALAM

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 SSF.

An extraordinary American musician, teacher and scholar, Jon Borthwick Higgins (1939-1994) 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 as the first non-Indian to perform South Indian classical music at a high level of proficiency, added Amin. 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 Megna Amin, 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 Seya" (on raga Valaji); "Siddhi Vinayakam" (on raga Shanmukhapriya); "Manavayala" (on raga Nalinakanti) and "Sri Dakshinamoorthim" (on raga Keeravani), originally composed by Lalugudi G. Jayaraman; Muthuswamy Dikshitar; Tyagaraja and Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna. The ensemble also performed a devotional bhajan titled "Raghupati Raghava".

Based on the concert performances, SSF also produced a DVD under the same title in 2012.

SSF is an Iowa based non-profit organisation with a mission to preserve, promote and propagate the priceless musical compositions of Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna and other great composers of South India in USA, Bangladesh, Canada and other parts of the world. Legendary musician Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna has carved a niche in the arena of music creating many new ragas with nearly 400 Carnatic compositions. He is not only a vocalist but also an instrumentalist who plays violin, viola, veena, mridangam and kanjeera with proficiency. The artiste has won distinguished awards including the 'Padma Vibhushan' and the 'Chevalier d'Arts et des Lettres (French Knight Award).

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 Tara Anand with a branch in Bangladesh that was set up in 2012.

Workshop on modelling at Alliance Francaise de Chittagong

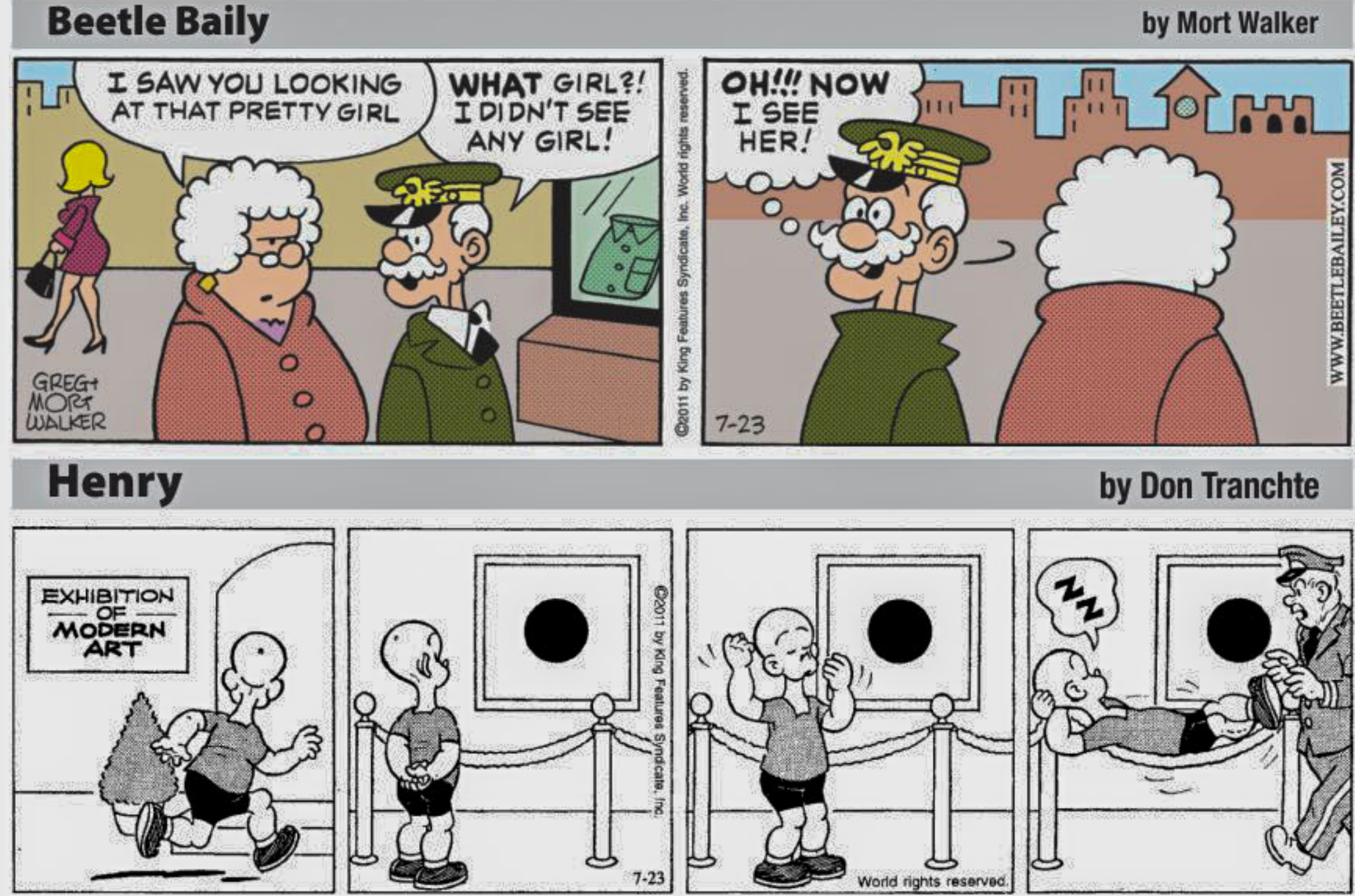
MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong

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 Berthet, 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.



05:30	Apar Jigasha Comedy Show	06:30	Life Style
09:00	Drama Serial: Ochna Protibimbo	08:00	Musical Launch
09:45		11:30	Sports
ETV		Gtv	
11:30	Ekushey-er Business	11:30	Bangla Feature Film
07:50	Music Station	09:00	Gaan-e-Gaan-e-Adda
09:30	Drama Serial: Panchu Premik	09:35	Drama Serial: Mayajal
10:10	Cine Hits	11:05	Aponi Kichhu Bolun
Boishakhi TV		Fox Movies	
10:40	Bangla Feature Film	03:40	Hoots
04:00	Shorashori Doctor	07:00	The Covenant
08:00	Drama Serial: Boro Bari Chhoto Bou	08:40	Glee: The Concert Movie
11:00	Reporters Daily	11:40	Kung Fu Hustle
BANGLAVISION		HBO	
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	03:40	Daylight
06:25	Front Line	05:35	Source Code
08:15	Drama Serial: Ladies First	07:40	East Wounds
11:25	Proshashi Mukh	11:55	Sanctum
Rtv		Star World	
12:35	Bangla Feature Film	08:30	Homeland
09:05	Drama Serial: Boya Poribar	08:30	Melissa & Joey
		09:30	Packed to the Rafters
		10:30	Grey's Anatomy
			Discovery Channel

ATN BANGLA	Rtv
08:40pm Jhulanata Babura	08:15pm Makrasha
ntv	Desh TV
08:15pm Metro Life	07:45pm Sri Kalun
ETV	Maaranga Television
08:20pm Swastika Durbal	08:00pm Hushbiri
Boishakhi TV	CHANNEL 9
09:20pm Ognipith	09:30pm Nagark
BANGLAVISION	CHANNEL 24
09:05pm Red Signal	09:00pm Ashin

BTv	Boishakhi TV
11:30pm News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 10pm, 11pm	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm
ATN BANGLA	News (English) at 9am, 6pm, 8pm
ETV	BANGLAVISION
08:20pm Swastika Durbal	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm
Boishakhi TV	News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, 11pm
09:20pm Ognipith	Rtv
BANGLAVISION	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm
09:05pm Red Signal	Desh TV
	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm
	Maaranga Television
	News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am

BTv	Ekushey-er Raat
11:00pm Oikyatoyar	Boishakhi TV
Bangladesh	12:00am Zero Hour
ATN BANGLA	Rtv
11:30pm Je Kotha Koi Boleni	07:30pm Sri Kalun
CHANNEL 1	Maaranga Television
12:30pm Tara Kothon	12:02am Shampokti
ntv	CHANNEL 24
12:00am Ei Shomoy	12:05am Modhyaster
ETV	Muktakab