

## 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: Chhapi Chhobi-2  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara  
Date: Jan 19-30  
Time: 11am-9pm

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

Group Art Exhibition  
Title: Buffering in Art  
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka  
Date: Jan 22-28  
Time: 11am-7pm

Solo Art Exhibition  
Title: Bound to the Soil  
Artist: Farida Zaman  
Venue: Bengali Gallery of Fine Arts, H-42, Rd-16(New), Dhanmondi  
Date: Jan 13-26  
Time: 12-9pm

Geeti Alekhyia:  
Tridiharaye Rabindranath  
Organiser: Bangladesh Sangret  
Shanghaish Sansamany Parishad  
Tringer: Sharar Dhara  
Venue: Music & Dance Centre, Shilpakala Academy

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 I  
Date: Jan 18-28



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Better known as the 'Nayakraaj' or the 'king of heroes', Razzak has made great contributions to the Bangladeshi film industry. A proud winner of five National Film Awards, he has also won the adulation of millions. Actor-director-producer, the multi-talented Razzak ruled the cinema scene at the peak of his career, with every new release a confirmed superhit at the box office. The veteran artiste celebrates his 71st birthday today (January 23). On the occasion, here's a glimpse into his illustrious life.

Born in 1942, in Nagtola, near Kolkata's Tollygunge, Razzak was the youngest among three brothers and three sisters. His father was Akbar Hossain and mother, Nisarunnesa.

Razzak finished his first phase of education in Kolkata's Khanpur and went on to study at the Charuchandra College. He had a yen for acting from an early age, prompting him to join the Rongo Shobha Natya Dal for proper training. At the time, Chhabi Biswas was the president of the theatre group.

Razzak first faced the camera for the movie "Shilalipi". He married Meherunnesa Lokkhi in 1962. But times were hard in Tollygunge, as there was hardly any opening in the movie scene. On his friend's advice he came to Dhaka in 1964 to try his luck.

Razzak's friend had written a letter, on the actor's behalf, to the producer of "Mukh O Mukhosh" (the first feature film made here), Abdul Jabbar Khan. Khan made arrangements for Razzak to work at his production company, Iqbal Films. Razzak began working under director Kamal Ahmed, as his assistant, for the movie "Ujaala". He also continued to act in minor roles and eventually he got the opportunity to work as an assistant director for Zahir Raihan.

At the time, Zahir Raihan was on the lookout for a young actor, for his film "Behula". The top actors of the time refused to act as a corpse, for the most

# Razzak Film Royalty

part, in the film. When Raihan offered the role to Razzak, the actor seized the opportunity.

After its release in 1966, "Behula" became a superhit and the Dhaka movie scene got a new promising star. Razzak was the new face beside tested heroes like Khan Ata, Khalil, Rahman and Anwar Hossain. Following the success of "Behula", Razzak worked in most films produced before the Liberation War.

Razzak carried the momentum in films like "Dui Bhai", "Abirbab", "Bashori", "Etotuka Asha", "Neel Akasher Niche", "Jey Agune Puri", "Dorpo Churno", "Jibon Theke Nawa", "Jog Biyog", "Moinamoti", "Shorolipi", "Modhumilon", "Dip Nebhe Nai", "Smritituku Thaaak" etc. These films lifted Razzak to a more elevated status in the industry.

After the country's liberation, Razzak's first released film -- "Manusher Mon", which was produced by Mostafa Mehmud -- was a commercial success.

Director Zahirul Haq pioneered the action genre in Bangladesh with his first effort "Rangbaaj", featuring Razzak as the protagonist, in 1973. Razzak also made his debut as a producer in 1976 with the film "Akankha". He received the 'Nayakraaj' title from the editor of film magazine Chitrali, Ahmed Zaman Chowdhury.

Even though Razzak was enjoying the height of his popularity, he kept pushing his limits, always giving the audience something refreshing. In 1978, he worked in the film "Oshikkhito", playing the role of a security guard, which was groundbreaking for a mainstream "hero" of the time. He also played the character of a school assistant in the Azizur Rahman film "Chhuti Ghonta". These two films brought a new dimension to the actor's career.

Razzak made his directorial debut in 1977 with the film "Ononto Prem". He played the role of the protagonist, while Bobita played the female lead. The movie featured the evergreen song "O Chokhe Chokh Porekhe Jokhoni". Razzak also directed an adaptation of "Chapadanga



Razzak celebrates his 71st birthday today.

Bou", written by Tarashankar Bandopadhyay.

He has his own production company, Rajlukkhi Production, and has directed 17 movies made under the banner of the production house.

The veteran actor acknowledges the help and support he received from his wife during his 45-year-long career. Razzak has five offspring: Bapparaj, Bappi, Shampa, Moina and Shomrat.

Razzak still grieves the death of his eldest

daughter Shampa.

Razzak was the first Bangladeshi film star to be chosen as a UNFPA goodwill ambassador. He is also the founding president of Bangladesh Film Artists' Association.

This year, he received a lifetime achievement honour from National Film Awards.

On his birthday, Razzak wishes for the welfare of all citizens and hopes that no one is left hungry.

## “The paintings of Ajanta are a convincing reiteration of human values”

In conversation with **Benoy K. Behl**

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Art historian, filmmaker and photographer Benoy K. Behl first earned recognition with his remarkable photographs of the ancient caves of Ajanta. With more than 35,000 photos of Asian monuments and art heritage and 126 documentaries in his portfolio spanning over three decades, Behl is one of the leading exponents of visual art and heritage in South Asia. He is currently in Dhaka for his exhibition, "Buddhist Heritage in South Asia", being held at the Bengal Art Lounge in Gulshan, and The Daily Star caught up with him.

Tell us about "Buddhist Heritage in South Asia" and how it started.

Benoy K. Behl: As an art historian, I have always felt the need for documentation of heritage and art. So at one point in my youth, I decided to take the matter into my own hands, going to places and documenting age-old sculptures and monuments through photographs and films. This exhibition here in Dhaka presents a section of my project, "Buddhist Heritage of the World". I have travelled to 19 territories to photograph Buddhist heritage sites. While most of them are in Asia, there are Buddhist establishments deep in other parts of the world as well. For instance, I went to a place called Kalmukya, in Russia, to the south of the river Volga -- the only Buddhist heritage site in Europe. My exhibition on Buddhist heritage was launched recently with great



A terracotta plaque in Paharpur, Bangladesh -- photographed by Benoy K. Behl.

success in London, Washington DC, Tokyo, Colombo and New Delhi, and I plan to take this to as many places as I can.

Of all the places you have documented, which was the most striking?

Benoy K. Behl: Every heritage sight is striking in its own right, but the fifth-century paintings in the caves of Ajanta (in India's Maharashtra) are spectacular. I discovered a world of harmony and compassion that, for me, was a convincing reiteration of human values. I have also photographed stupa here in Bangladesh that were once ancient universities -- a remarkable experience. Then there were 11th century paintings that I photographed in very remote areas of western Tibet that no one had explored before.

What are the obstacles that you had to face through the course of your work?

Benoy K. Behl: None. While it may seem like a difficult job, because religion is a matter of sentiments, I have had no prob-

lem whatsoever wherever I have been. People in Asia are very warm, caring, and more open-minded than they are given credit for.

What's your next big project? Benoy K. Behl: Actually, the current project that I have undertaken is quite massive. It's on the "Islamic Heritage of the World". My plans are to visit 42 countries and territories to document the beautiful art that is incorporated with Islamic heritage. I have already completed work in about 12 countries, and part of the reason why I am in Bangladesh is to document the Islamic heritage here, because there are so many great instances of Islamic architecture here. Islamic heritage and architecture are spread more widely across the globe, and I want to bring it all together; Muslims were the most advanced people at one point of time. I want to portray that and spread the message that these divisions of today are unnecessary; the core values and underlying messages of all religions are same.

## Hometown pays homage to Madhusudan

Madhu Mela begins in Jessore

MOKAMMEL SHUVO, Jessore

'Madhu Mela', a festival to celebrate the 189th birth anniversary of poet Michael Madhusudan Dutt, opened at Sagardari (the birthplace of the poet) in Jessore on Monday. Information, Communication and Technology Minister Mostafa Faruque Mohammad inaugurated the weeklong festival as the chief guest.

In his speech, the chief guest said, Michael Madhusudan Dutt remains immortal through his contribution to Bangla literature. He enriched Bangla literature with his pioneering Bangla sonnets and dramas.

Director General of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Liaquat Ali Lucky, Keshabpur Upazila chairman, HM Amir Hossain; president of Jessore Press Club, Mizanur Rahman; secretary, Jessore Institute, Sheikh Robiul Alam; PR and Communication Manager of Banglalink, Shibly Sadique spoke on the occasion. Deputy Commissioner Mostafizur Rahman chaired the event.

Hundreds of people attended the inaugural ceremony of 'Madhu Mela'. The opening programme also included discussion on the life and works of the poet.

With eight hundred stalls carrying local products, handicrafts, agricultural products, the fair is drawing a massive turnout. Other attractions are: jatra, magic show and circus.

The festival has been moved by four days as it coincided with SSC exams. It was scheduled to be held on January 25, birthday of Madhusudan.

Madhusudan was born to a zamindar family at Sagardari in 1824. He was the son of Rajnarayan Dutt and Janhabi Debi.

Madhusudan passed away at Calcutta General Hospital on June 29, 1873, three days after his wife Henrietta breathed her last. The poet was buried at Park Street in Kolkata.

## Aboriginal art exhibition scores major hit in Paris



A man looks at the painting by Aboriginal artist Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri at the Quai Branly Museum in Paris.

AFP, Paris

An exhibition of the largest collection of modern Aboriginal paintings to have gone on display outside of Australia has been a major hit with art lovers in Paris.

The exhibition, "The Sources of Aborigine Painting", drew 133,716 visitors to the Quai Branly Museum in the space of just over three months, making it the 5th most popular exhibition the centre has hosted.

"We are delighted with the reception it has had," a museum spokesman said following the end of the exhibition's run on Sunday.

He noted that the success was particularly impressive given that the collection was competing for attention with blockbuster collections of the works of Edward Hopper and Salvador Dali as well as the

## An artist's eternal attachment to the soil

Farida Zaman's solo art exhibition at Bengal Gallery

ZAHANGIR ALOM

A 14-day solo art exhibition titled "Bound to the Soil" by artist Farida Zaman is on at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts in the capital. Foreign Minister Dr. Dipu Moni inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on January 13.

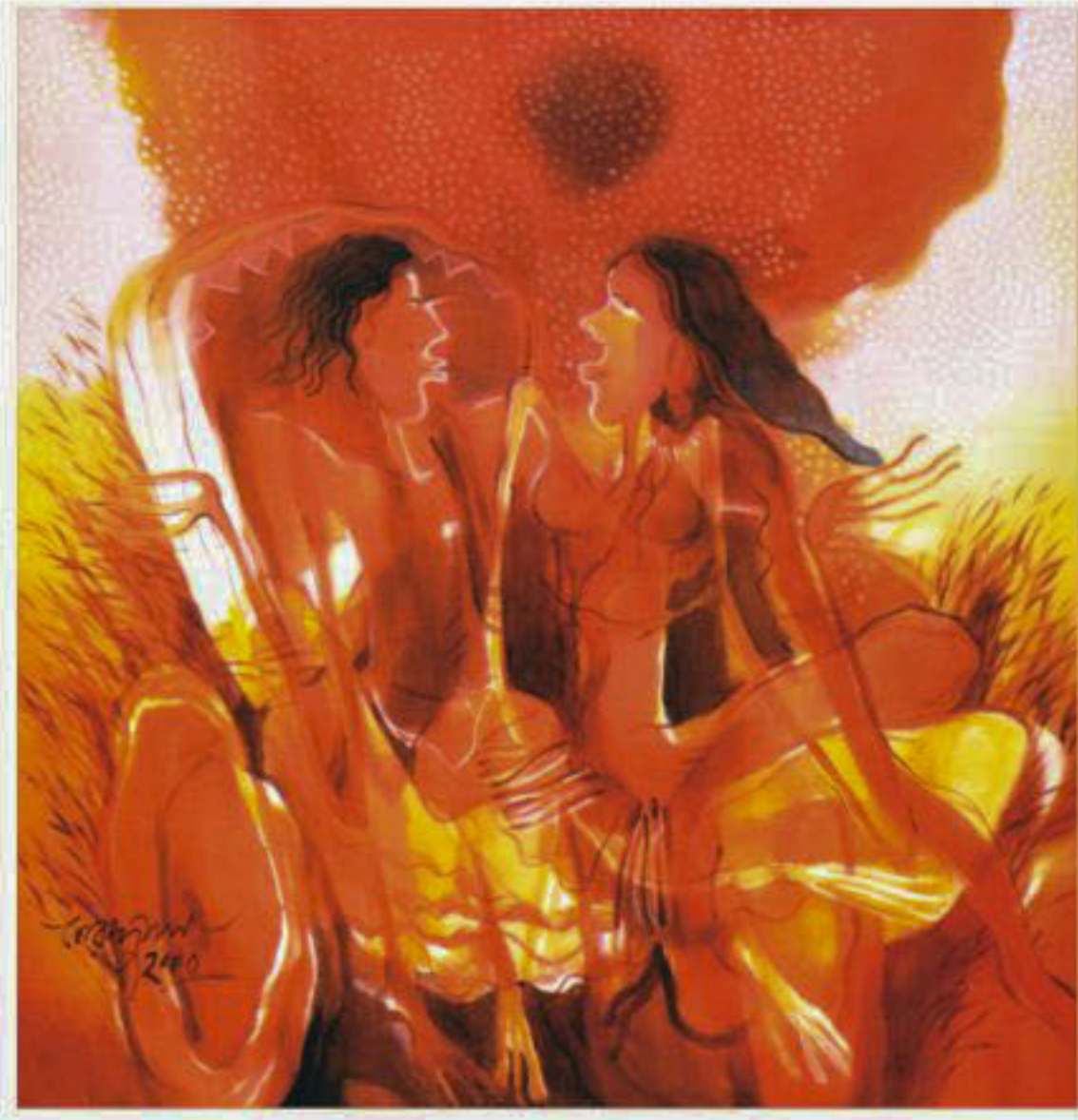
Veteran artist Qayyum Chowdhury and managing director of Maasranga Television Anjan Chowdhury were present at the opening ceremony as special guests. Apart from the guests, the featured artist and the director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts Subir Chowdhury spoke at the function.

A total of 63 artworks by Farida Zaman are on display at the exhibition. A noticeable feature of the artist's works is the depiction of riverine life in Bangladesh. Her works movingly articulate the lives of fishermen and women.

Cats, fish, birds, fishing nets and dusky women are other recurring subjects in her paintings. The artist usually uses crimson, blue, yellow, orange, brown, black and other bold hues. In her latest exhibition, the artist predominantly uses burn sienna and ochre yellow to produce several exquisite paintings themed on marshy land and orange, red and yellow to depict her fond series 'Sufia', capturing bucolic and beguiling expression of the rural women. Farida Zaman's line drawings represent one of her main artistic traits. The lines, dots and various familiar forms are inspired by Bangladeshi folk elements.

Adapt colour use coupled with marvellous scribbles, strokes and tonal variation surprisingly make a viewer stare at several works of the artist. "Morning Glory" and "My Land" are the titles of such works. Her "Expression-2", showcasing a female portrait, deserves accolades for having numerous dancing lines.

Her works truly document the everyday joys and woes of the fishermen community and rural life. The artist's "Cat and Fishing Net-2", done on a big canvas, portrays a watchful cat searching for fishes around fishing net. Farida Zaman's love for nature and different seasons like summer and monsoon is superbly expressed in two of her works "Summer", depicting a



"Couple in a Rickshaw" by Farida Zaman.

tropical flower Jaba (Hibiscus rosa-siniensis) and "Rain". The artist has used acrylic on canvas and paper to produce all the works displayed at the exhibition. The exhibition opening from 12 to 8 pm everyday will continue till January 26.

Artist Farida Zaman was born in Chandpur in 1953. She is an illustrator and a designer too. The artist completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Bangladesh College of Arts and Crafts (Currently Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1974. She did her Masters of Fine Arts at MS University of Baroda, India in 1978 and received her PhD from Visva-Bharati University of Shantiniketan, India in 1995.

Dr. Farida Zaman is a Professor and Chairman at the Department of Drawing and Painting of Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. The seasoned artist has received many awards and honours including a cultural award from Australian government. The artist has held five solo exhibitions and participated in many group exhibitions both at home and abroad.

### NEW YEAR

## Splendid start for stars

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

The year 2013 is off to a splendid start for Bollywood stars Ranbir Kapoor, Vidya Balan and Irrfan Khan and the films starring them ("Barfi", "Kahaani" and "Paan Singh Tomar" respectively), as they swept the top awards for best actor, actress and best films of two leading private entities -- Screen and Filmfare.

It is not often that one finds the same persons winning the best actor and best actress awards. Ranbir won the Filmfare award for best actor, for his role of a deaf-mute person in "Barfi" and shared the Screen award in the same category with Irrfan who also won the Filmfare critics' award for best actor for his performance in "Paan Singh Tomar".

Vidya Balan gained the best actress awards of both Screen and Filmfare for her performance in "Kahaani", directed by Sujoy Ghosh. This was also her fourth Filmfare award.

While the Screen award for best film went to "Paan Singh Tomar", the same honour by Filmfare was bagged by "Barfi" directed by Anurag Basu.

The honour for best director by Screen went to Anurag Basu for "Barfi" and that of Filmfare to Sujoy Ghosh for "Kahaani".

It was also a big year for Pritam, who won two Filmfare awards for "Barfi" -- one for music and another for background score. He also won the Screen award for best music director for the same film.

## Musical tribute to Nilufar Yasmin and Bijoy Sarkar at Shilpakala Academy



Afsana Runa and Mahfuzar Rahman Mohabbat sing at the programme.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

University Cultural Foundation (UCF) paid its musical homage to singer extraordinaire Nilufar Yasmin and renowned bard Bijoy Sarkar through a musical programme and a discussion at National Music and Dance Centre auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on January 21.

Singers Afsana Runa and Mahfuzar Rahman Mohabbat were the featured artistes who performed timeless songs originally recorded by Nilufar Yasmin and folk compositions of Bijoy Sarkar respectively at the event.

Afsana Runa started with the popular song "Tomakei Pabar Agey". The rendition of the song seemingly moved the audience, inducing nostalgia. This was followed by "Mago Amar Je Bhai".

Mahfuzar Rahman Mohabbat rendered Bijoy Sarkar's songs -- "Ami Gaan-er Mala Ganthiya Rakhilam Horoshey" and "Ami Jarey Bashi Bhalo".

Afsana Runa's repertoire also included Nilufar Yasmin's "Eto Shukh Shoiibo Kemon Kore", "Jibon Shey Tho Poddopataye Shishir Bindu", "Ek Boroshar Britshitte

Bhije", "Ekhon Keno Kandish O Pakhirey" and more. Mahfuzar Rahman Mohabbat's sonorous performance of the songs "Posha Pakhi Urey Jabe" and "Ei Prithibi Jemon Achhey" were memorable. His other renditions included "Ore Kalar Prem-e Eto Jwala" and "Janitey Chai Doyal Tomar".

Prior to the performances, chief adviser of UCF, Dr. AHM Mustafizur Rahman, delivered the welcome address. Deputy managing director of Agrani Bank Limited, Obayedullah Al Masud, graced the occasion as chief guest while president of Agrani Bank Officers' Welfare Association, Zamir Hossain Gazi, was present as a guest of honour. Editor of monthly Sargam and senior vice-president of National Press Club, Kazi Rawnak Hossain, and flautist Gazi Abdul Hakim shared their memories of Nilufar Yasmin and Bijoy Sarkar with the audience at the event.

Gazi Abdul Hakim on flute, Milon Bhattacharya on tabla, Reza Babu on percussion, Sunil Kumar Sarkar on keyboard, Jalal Ahmed on dotara and Daulatir Rahman on guitar accompanied the singers. Animesh and Shushmita emceed the event.

|            |                                 |   |
|------------|---------------------------------|---|
| BTV        | 05:05 Jariya Television Bitarka | 06:30 Durer Janala                        |
| 08:40      | Drama Serial: Nona Joler Kabbo  | 07:45 Drama Serial: Saatkahon Old is Gold |
| 10:25      | Gaan-er Jhomatalay              | 11:30 Chitra Bichitra                     |
| ATN BANGLA | 08:00 Drama Serial: Progga      | 06:30 Rong Rup                            |
| 08:40      | Parmita                         | 09:00 Pothey Pronotey                     |
|            | Drama Serial: Chupi Chupi       | 09:35 Drama Serial: Shimadobho Manushche  |
| 10:55      | Bibeker Kache Proshno           | Maasranga Television                      |
| CHANNEL i  | 03:05 Tele-film                 | 10:02 Bangla Feature Film                 |
| 06:00      | Ashalata                        | 08:00 Drama Serial: Kobajir Gelapshah     |
| 07:50      | Drama                           | 11:00 Music Digest                        |
| 09:35      | Drama Serial: Bonolata          | CHANNEL 9                                 |
| ntv        |                                 | 09:00 Bangla Feature Film                 |
| 11:00      | Biz Time                        | 10:02 BPL 2013 (Live)                     |
| 04:10      | Jamar Achhey Boshar Achhey      | 06:00 Power Voice                         |
| 08:15      | Roshnighar                      | 10:30 Drama Serial: Nishigandha           |

| abc radio FM 89.2 | 10:00        | Morning Express          |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 09:30             | Edik Odik    | 12:00 No Tension         |
| 05:30             | Kacha Laska  | 06:00 Dhaka Calling      |
| 06:30             | Misha Kara   | 09:00 Kaptai Riders      |
| 07:20             | GP Luvshah   | RADIO TODAY FM 89.6      |
| 07:45             | Megh Barasta | 06:00 Green FM           |
| 08:10             | Adda         | 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka |
| 09:30             | Rock of Ages | 12:00 Today's Adda       |
| 11:00             | Pabo 89.20   | 04:00 U Tam              |
| Radio Footit      |              | 07:00 Today's Tai Hok    |
| 07:30             | Hello Dhaka  | 10:00 Raat Bhor Gaan     |

Nishigandha  
On CHANNEL 9 at 10:30pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Fazul Rahman Babu, Bonyia Mirza

Ip Man  
On HBO at 07:25pm  
Genre: Action/  
Biography  
Casts: Donnie Yen, Simon Yam & Siu-Wong Fan

To To Company  
On ATN BANGLA at 09:20pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Zahid Hassan, Golam Farida Chhanda

|              |                                    |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 11:30        | Drama Serial: Chowdhury Villa      | CHANNEL 24                         |
| ETV          |                                    | 03:25 Drama Serial: Ashin          |
| 11:30        | Ekushey-er Business                | 08:00 Aram Moto Gaan               |
| 07:50        | Fashion and Tune                   | 12:00 Modyhatyer Muktabak          |
| 10:10        | Docu-drama: Charge Sheet Report    | Gtv                                |
| Boishakhi TV |                                    | 11:30 Bangla Feature Film          |
| 10:45        | Bangla Feature Film                | 06:30 Purano Shei Diner Kotha      |
| 04:00        | Shorashori Doctor                  | 09:05 Crime Fiction                |
| 08:00        | Drama Serial: Borobarir Chhot Bhai | Fox Movies                         |
| 08:35        | Glamour Guide                      | 03:40 Monte Carlo                  |
| BANGLAVISION |                                    | 08:40 The Switch                   |
| 01:05        | Bangla Feature Film                | 10:25 Glee: The Concert Movie      |
| 06:25        | Front Line                         | 11:50 World without End            |
| 06:25        | Nacho Bangladesh                   | HBO                                |
| 09:05        | Nacho                              | 03:55 Ong Bak 3: The Final Warrior |
| 11:25        | Music Club                         | 05:40 Save the Last Dance 2        |
| 12:35        | Bangla Feature Film                | 07:25 Ip Man                       |
| 05:00        | Cinema R Gaan                      | 09:30 Cowboys & Aliens             |
| 09:05        | Drama Serial: Boyra Paribar        | Star World                         |
| 09:50        | Lucky Line                         | 03:30 Homeland                     |
| Desh TV      |                                    | 05:00 Melica & Joey                |
| 03:00        | Gaan R Gaan                        | 09:00 How I Met Your Mother        |
|              |                                    | 09:30 Packed to the Rafters        |
|              |                                    | Discovery Channel                  |
|              |                                    | 02:30 Rampage                      |
|              |                                    | 08:30 Nature's Greatest Events     |

DRAMA SERIAL

|              |                            |                             |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ATN BANGLA   | 09:20pm To To Company      | 09:20pm Ognipath            |
| CHANNEL i    | 11:30pm Rashmi             | BANGLAVISION                |
| ntv          | 09:45pm Shunno Shamikan    | 08:15pm Generation Next Dot |
| ETV          | 08:20pm Bhamradash College | Rtv                         |
| Boishakhi TV |                            | 08:15pm Makrasha            |
|              |                            | Desh TV                     |
|              |                            | 08:20pm Radio Chocolate     |
|              |                            | Maasranga Television        |
|              |                            | 08:40pm Khonikaly           |

NEWS BULLETIN

|            |   |  |   |
|------------|---|--|---|
| BTV        | News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 10pm, 11pm  | Boishakhi TV                             | News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm        |
| CHANNEL i  | News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm                 | BANGLAVISION                             | News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm |
| ATN BANGLA | News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm, 11pm | News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm     | Rtv   |
| CHANNEL i  | News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm                | News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm | Desh TV                                     |
| ntv        | News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm             | News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm     | Maasranga Television                        |
| ETV        | News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm    | News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am                |   |

TALK SHOW

|            |                     |              |                      |
|------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| ATN BANGLA | 01:00am Onno Dristi | Boishakhi TV | 12:00am Zero Hour    |
| CHANNEL i  | 09:45am Tinto Matra | Rtv          | 10:40am Tarokash     |
| 09:45am    | Kathon              | 11:30pm      | Shoja Kotha          |
| ntv        | 12:30am Ei Shomoy   | 11:45pm      | Maasranga Television |
| ETV        | 12:05am Ekushey-er  | 12:02am      | Shampotik            |