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The Kalurghat radio centre was discarded when it was bombed by the Pakistan Air Force on March 30.

**An image of the programme list from Shwadhin Bangla Betar Kendra**

| May 30, 1971 | |
|---|---|
| 6-58 pm | Signature Tune |
| 6-59 pm | Opening of the Station |
| 7-00 pm | Agnishikha: |
| | a) Darpan: Talk in Bengali |
| | b) Oikatan: Patriotic song |
| | c) Recitation |
| | d) Ranaveri: Reports from sector |
| | e) Patriotic Song |
| 7-20 pm | News in English |
| 7-30 pm | *Shayottoshashon theke Shadhinota* |
| | Talk in Bengali: Mr A Mannan. MNA |
| 7-40 pm | Raktaswakhkhar: |
| | Self composed poems |
| | a) Belal Mohammed |
| | b) SI Noor |
| 7-45 pm | News in Bengali |
| 7-55 pm | News commentary in Bengali |
| 8-00 pm | Folk Song: Shah Ali Sirker |
| 8-05 pm | *Bangali Jobab Dao*: Talk in Bengali |
| 8-15 pm | Patriotic song |
| 8-20 pm | *Biswajanamot* |
| 8-25 pm | Charampatra: Counter programme |
| 8-35 pm | Slogans and patriotic song |
| 8-40 pm | Close down |

*Charampatra* was not only an attempt to escalate the combat efficiency of our freedom fighters by boosting up their morale and enthusiasm, but also this programme worked as a tonic for the 65 million Bangladeshi living in a volatile condition. *Charampatra* also won over 15 million Bangladeshis who had to take refuge in India and also among the Bangla-speaking native Indians.

Similar to *Charampatra*, other programs like *Agnishikha, Pindir Prolap, Darpan, Bajrakantha, Pratidhdhani, Kathgorar Ashami* used to be the source of inspiration for the fearless freedom fighters from the battle fields as well as for the nation.



Kamal Lohani played a significant role in organising *Shwadhin Bangla Betar Kendra.*

"*Jallader Darbar* by Kalyan Mitra was another very popular satirical short drama of that time," says Kamal Lohani, a veteran journalist who played a significant role in organising *Shwadhin Bangla Betar Kendra.*

Different characters of the play like *Badshah Kella Foteh, Durmukh Khan* or *Nabab* used to reflect the war time scenario. For instance, *Durmukh Kella Foteh's* character was a parody of President Yahya Khan, whose army ruthlessly killed the civilians of the East Bengal.

Sometimes the nation used to tune in to listen to *Bajrakantha* and Slogans. That segment used to depict portions of Bangabandhu's speech which bolstered the morale of the nation.

Another popular package was *Agnishikha*, an assorted programme with a set of sub programmes like *Darpan* (talk in Bengali), *Oikatan* (patriotic songs), Recitation, *Ranaveri* (reports from sectors), *Kabikantha* (self recited poems) etc.

Wherever our freedom fighters serve during the war, a radio used to accompany them. That was the only means of getting news and entertainment from back home. Therefore inspirational songs