

Star Shoc iz

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CENTRE STAGE
MOSTAFA KAMAL RAZ

PHOTO FEATURE
ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

TALES OF FRIENDSHIP

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Porimoni's wild adventure



With a new film, *Adventure of Sundarban*, on the loop, popular actors Siam and Porimoni are set to work together again. The government grant-winning film is an adaptation from the novel, *Ratuler Raat, Ratuler Din* by Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, and it is being directed by Abu Raihan Jewel. The film is scripted by Jakaria Showkhin. Porimoni said, "I got to know about this project when the director contacted me, but, due to many circumstances, I never got the time to make this happen. However, I am finally being able to work for this film. I really liked the story, and look forward to the shooting for the rest of the film." Siam said, "I once got the opportunity to meet Muhammad Zafar Iqbal sir during a school picnic. I wanted to reach out to him. Back then, I somehow missed the chance. This film is like a dream project for me because I am getting to work for a film based on one of his novels. I believe I will achieve something new after completing the work."

Igniting a new fire



The fan-favourite song *Aguner Din Sesh Hobe Ekdin*, which was featured in the movie, *Ami Sei Meye*, was sung by Indian singers Kumar Sanu and Kavita Krishnamurti. Now, singer Kishore and Jhilik has remade the song with a new music arrangement, done by Kishore himself. The song was released with a music video, directed by Chandan

Roy Chowdhury, under the banner of *Anupam Recording Media*. The video features both the artists. Kishore said, "Jhilik and I remade this immensely popular song. We gave our all to this song. I think the listeners will feel a sense of nostalgia when they listen to this. I believe that listeners from every walk of life will love it."

A String of PRAISES

The film *Gondi*, directed by Fakhrul Arefeen Khan, was recently released. It consisted of a star studded cast including the likes of Sabyasachi Chakrabarty, Suborna Mustafa and Aparna Ghosh, among others. Arpana Ghosh, whose acting was highly praised by the audience, said, "We tried to make a story which the audience could connect to. We have been getting good responses from people going to watch the movie. I hope more people will go to watch the film in theatres. Getting the opportunity to work with two such iconic actors was a huge honour for me, and the experience of working with them is something that I'll cherish forever. This film will surely be one of the highlights of my career." Aside from this, Arpana has also been doing a television series, *Tolpar*. She has also started the shooting for a new film, *Onteshtikria*.



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ঠিক যেমন ঝপচাঁয় আড়িজাত্য মানেই

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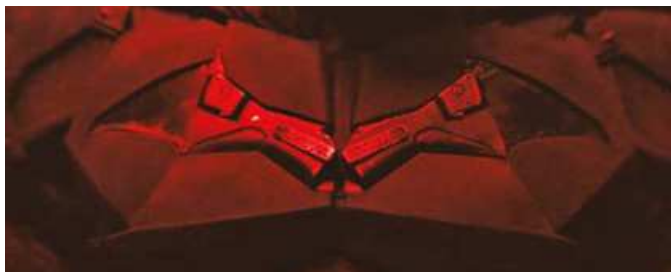
RE-MORSE-FUL

Even celebrities are victims to tattoo fails, and recently, the *Pirates of the Caribbean* actor Orlando Bloom got his son's name, Flynn, misspelled on a Morse code tattoo. When the actor posted a photo of his new tattoo on *Instagram*, a follower pointed out the mistake of how one dot was missing in the code and the name ended up spelling F-R-Y-N-N instead of Flynn. Bloom's tattoo artist was a sport about it and publicly accepted his blunder through a post made on *Instagram*. According to reports on *Fox news*, the tattoo artist wrote, "A beautiful reminder for @orlandobloom of his son. And yes, a dot is missing, we know, it will be fixed :)"



Bat-formation Time

Gotham's protector is back...with a new look! After a long wait, fans were able to see their favourite DC hero in a brand new avatar. Director Matt Reeves shared a camera test where actor Robert Pattinson was finally seen donning the Batsuit. In the clip that he shared on *Twitter*, a close-up of the suit was shown, where the Bat-symbol seemed to have a gun emblazoned on it. This may be a reference to a *Batman* comic, where the hero places the gun which killed his parents on the Bat-symbol. Fans are thrilled with this new reveal, losing their minds on social media. The only thing we can do now is wait for the full-length trailer and try to not go crazy in anticipation.



Vicky's shielded LOVE



Popular actor Vicky Kaushal surely knows his way with Bollywood's divas as he has made the headlines yet again for his alleged affair. Breaking many hearts, the *Masaan* actor is reported to be dating actor Katrina Kaif. The duo has not confirmed or denied about their relationship publicly. The speculations spurred after they were spotted on dinner dates and outings on several occasions. In an interview, Vicky stated he wants to guard his personal life. We are not very sure if that would be possible as talks about his affairs somehow came to focus. The two actors will soon be seen in a film together, produced by Ronnie Screwvala. Aside from this, Vicky will next be seen in *Bhoot Part One: The Haunted Ship* and Katrina will next be seen in *Sooryavanshi*.





TALES OF FRIENDSHIP

COVER STORY

Known for his roles in movies like 'Megher Kole Rod', actor Tony Dias used to be one of the most famous actors in the Bangladeshi showbiz industry before he settled in the United States of America. After eleven years, he is back home, and in this interview with Rafi Hossain, he talks about the importance of family and friendship and how he was able to leave his career and move to a new country.



Rafi Hossain: Welcome to Uncensored with Rafi Hossain. Today, we are joined by Tony Dias. Even though you came to Bangladesh for such a short period, you still made time for us. Thank you for that, Tony. What made you come visit Bangladesh?

Tony Dias: Friendship plays a pivotal role in my life. I keep my friends immediately after my family. Without their support, I would've never been able to reach this height of success. When I started doing plays, reciting poems on the radio or when I started doing plays with Nagorik at Bailey road, my friends would support me. They never let me feel like I wasn't supported. Since they play such a huge part in my life, it's hard to stay without them for too long. That's why I came here, even if it's for a short time.

Rafi: It has been eleven years since

you moved to the US. You moved there right when you were at the peak of your career. Was it very difficult to stay away from the showbiz industry?

Tony: It was very difficult. Any form of art is very dear to me, especially acting. I could even say that it is in my blood as my ancestors would travel around and do plays during the British ruling. Ever since I was a child, I had a love for acting. My parents never told me to act; it was something that I just wanted to do. So, it was very difficult to move away from it. But, I value family more than anything, for which I took the decision to move away. Another thing is, it's easy to reach the pinnacle of our showbiz industry without working for too long, but once you reach there, going past that is incredibly difficult. Our industry lacks good stories which are not repetitive. As a result,

acting becomes exhausting. Our industry still hasn't been able to develop much. Even now, the storylines are the same. The films don't get proper budgets, people aren't trained to do the work properly, and overall, the whole industry needs a massive revamp.

Rafi: Do you think that you wouldn't have been able to achieve more if you had stayed?

Tony: Yes, I think I wouldn't have been able to achieve much more. I was getting older, but wasn't getting better stories or roles. People weren't watching our films. Instead, they were more interested in watching foreign ones. I was unhappy with the work that I was getting, so it was best for me to leave as I didn't see a future for myself here.

Rafi: Where do you see yourself in ten-years-time?

Tony: I cannot think of doing anything other than films. I might even do films in US if I can get good roles. I don't want to do many projects; I would even be happy to come and do some projects here. I don't need to do hundreds of projects a year. I am



happy to do maybe just three or four.

Rafi: What does friendship exactly mean to you?

Tony: My friend circle is very diverse. We have remained friends for over forty years now, and during this time, we have always stood by each other. If anyone is going through any issue, all of us have stepped forward to help them. We also have a common fund in case someone from the circle is in need. Friendship is a very important thing for me. For friends, you have to learn to compromise and be understanding. Even though I don't get to see them often, we still keep contact through social media platforms. Without social media, I think that it would have been harder to maintain friendships as they make you feel like you are much closer to each

other even if you haven't seen each other in a long time.

Rafi: I heard that your daughter is studying acting in university. Have you had a hand in that?

Tony: Like I said, I have acting in my blood. That's why it may be in hers too. I always told her to pursue whatever she enjoyed, and she leaned towards acting. When she was in high school, she would always be a part of plays. From there, she got her love for doing theatre. When she told me that she wanted to pursue a degree in theatre and acting, I told her to go for it.

Rafi: Is there anything you would like to share with the fans and readers?

Tony: Since my childhood, I have understood films. I believe that a country's culture is highlighted most in the films that are made there. The dramas and novels are also very crucial, but I think that films are the most highlighted medium. We have to work hard to make our films good enough to be of international quality. I want to see a day when people in foreign countries buy tickets to watch Bangladeshi movies in their cinema halls. I have been working hard with some organisations to screen Bangladeshi films in the US for our people there, and maybe even people from other countries. We all have to work together to make Bangladeshi films get international recognition. If producers and filmmakers here can cooperate with us and do this, it can help this industry develop a lot. I would ask the readers to pray for all of us so that we can make some worthwhile projects and be able to take the Bangladeshi film industry worldwide.

Ridwan Intisaar Mahbub



Mostafa Kamal Raz

Mostafa Kamal Raz rose to fame as a director and screenwriter. His film directorial debut was with 'Projapoti' in 2011, and he has done four other films, along with several television series and telefilms. In today's interview, he talks about his life and work.



Tell us something about yourself.

I really don't have anything to say about myself honestly.

What was your first project?

My first project was a TVC. My first TV drama was called Purno Doirgho Bangla Chyachobi. I don't recall much about either of them.

What inspired you to start direction?

My true inspiration was Mostofa Sarwar Farooki. I started going out of my comfort zone while working with him, and realised that this is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life.

Which career would you have otherwise pursued if not directing?

I can't really say what I would have become had I not been a director because I haven't lived that life. In saying that, however, my family wanted me to be a doctor. Perhaps, if I wasn't a director, I would have taken that as a profession.

Can you share a special work-related memory?

I have no special memories related to shooting because every single shooting is special to me. We have a lot of fun in every shoot, so it's virtually impossible for me to choose one specific memory.

Can you tell us something about your drama series, 'Family Crisis'?

It is a 94-episodes drama series on NTV. It features Shahiduzzaman Selim, Sharmili Ahmed and Rosy Siddiqui, among several others.

What are the struggles you had to face in your profession?

I never had to face any struggle as I took life one step at a time. I worked with Mostofa Sarwar Farooki and did my own work, and slowly, through working, I am

where I am now.

Which project did you enjoy doing the most?

I don't really know because we start all projects thinking it will be the best, but end up wanting to improve many aspects after finishing.

What is your advice for up and coming directors?

The new directors are doing quite well. My advice would be to work honestly and know what you're doing. In this day and age, if you have talent, nothing can tie you down. So, you can't blame unsuccessful projects on lack of opportunities. Another thing that I would like to add is that one can't go too far under the reference of others; you have to be your own person.

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Amina Hossain

PHOTO:
**MOSTAFA KAMAL RAZ'S
OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE**



POPCORN HIGHLIGHTS



The Pharmacist

The Pharmacist is a crime documentary series on *Netflix*. It has been directed by Jenner Furst and Julia Willoughby Nason, produced by Lana Barkin and Jed Lipinski, under the banner of *The Cinemart*. The series tells the story of a pharmacist who is in search of his son's killers. It was originally released on February 5, 2020.



Jawaani Jaaneman

Jawaani Jaaneman is a Hindi comedy film, starring Saif Ali Khan, Tabu and Alaya Furniturewala, among others. It was directed by Nitin Kakkar, written by Hussain Dalal and Abbas Dalal, and produced under the banner of *Pen Marudhar Entertainment*. The plot follows the life of a forty-year-old playboy, as he discovers that he has a daughter. The film was released on January 31, 2020.

THE STRANGER

The Stranger is a mystery thriller miniseries based on the eponymous novel by Harlan Coben. It has been directed by Daniel O'Hara and Hannah Quinn, produced by Madonna Baptiste, and stars Richard Armitage, Siobhan Finneran, and

Jennifer Saunders, among others. The story revolves around a man who attempts to discover the truth about his loved ones, after a secret is brought to light. It was originally released on January 30, 2020, on *Netflix*.



FOR LIFE



For Life is a legal drama series, released on February 11, 2020, on *ABC*. It was created by Hank Steinberg. Produced under the banners of *Channel Road Productions*, *G-Unit Film & Television* and *Doug Robinson Productions*, among several others, and stars Nicholas Pinnock, Indira Varma and Joy Bryant, among others. The storyline follows the life of a prisoner who becomes a lawyer to fight for himself for a crime he didn't commit.



NEXT IN FASHION

Next In Fashion is a reality show and fashion design competition on *Netflix*. It is hosted by Tan France and Alexa Chung, produced by Robin Ashbrook, Yasmin Shackleton and Adam Cooper, under the banner of *theoldschool*. The

show involves designers who strive to create unique and fashionable looks. It was released on January 29, 2020.

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Shreya Shomoyeeta & Amina Hossain

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Kabori Sarwar



Symon & Roshan



Sumaiya Shimu



Ilias Kanchan



On February 12, 2020, The Daily Star celebrated its 29th founding anniversary with the theme, "Journalism Without Fear or Favour". Like every other year, the grand celebratory event was graced by many politicians, eminent scholars and academics, corporate personalities, foreign dignitaries, journalists, social and development workers along with many celebrities.



Ariq Anam Khan & Rachel Priyanka



Bidya Sinha Mim



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Runa Khan & Sabnam Faria



Rubayyat Jahan & Raja Kaasheff



Sovvota



Jyotika Jyoti



Emon



Jannatul Ferdous Peya



Orchita Sporshia



Oyshee



Tashfee