

CENTRE STAGE

GIASUDDIN SELIM

A passionate writer turned director, Giasuddin Selim stepped foot in the world of filmmaking with his debut film, 'Monpura'. His directorial ventures may not be many, but he has left a mark in the hearts of the audience with everything he has directed so far. His accolades include two 'National Film Awards': 'Best Story' for the film 'Adhiar' and 'Best Screenplay' for 'Monpura'. In this interview with Star Showbiz, he talks about his new film, 'Paap Punno' and about how he came where he is today.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Can you tell us about the shooting for your upcoming film, 'Paap Punno'?

It was a great experience shooting the film. We shot it in a village in Chandpur in an abandoned house. While shooting, the whole team stayed in Chandpur. We used to drive for one hour each day to go to the shooting spot.

Can you reveal anything about the plot of the film?

I cannot reveal too much about the plot, but it is a story which incorporates love, ego and basic instinct.

What inspired you to start direction?

I used to be a professional writer, and while writing, I saw how many directors were unable to visualise my writings in a proper way. I used to think that they could've done a better job, and when I got the opportunity, I started directing. In 1999, I got the first opportunity when I directed my first television serial, called *Biprotip*. That gained a lot of popularity among the audience.

What struggles have you faced as a director?

I didn't face any struggle as a director. I faced more struggles as writer. A writer has to do everything alone, by sitting down by themselves and coming up with an original story. But, as a director, I get a lot of assistance whenever I go to the shooting spot.

'Swapnajaal' and 'Paap Punno' were both shot in Chandpur. Is that your favourite

shooting spot?

It is by pure coincidence that the shooting spot for both films happened to be Chandpur.

What is your advice for upcoming directors?

The advice I have for upcoming directors is to enjoy the work they are doing. Without that, they cannot do great projects.

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What expectations do you have from 'Paap Punno'?

I hope that when the audience sees the film, they will enjoy it. That is all that I expect and hope from the movie.

Do you have any message for the readers?

I would ask everyone to support Bangladeshi cinema and dramas as our showbiz industry is in a state of crisis. I would ask them to come and watch our movies in theatres.

Ridwan Intisaar Mahub

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- iii. Plane Blade
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