

Shoppers say new Eid collection 'to die for'

SHOAIB AHMED SAYAM

Along with miseries, the pandemic has certainly brought citizens with generational privilege things to look forward to.

For instance, the exclusive collection of personal protective equipment (PPE) for Eid was the rage among people with daddy's 100 percent legitimate business money.

After a visit to the shops on Chand Raat, this reporter saw droves of mask-wearing families squeezing between individuals and peeking over shoulders to get a look at the newest collections.

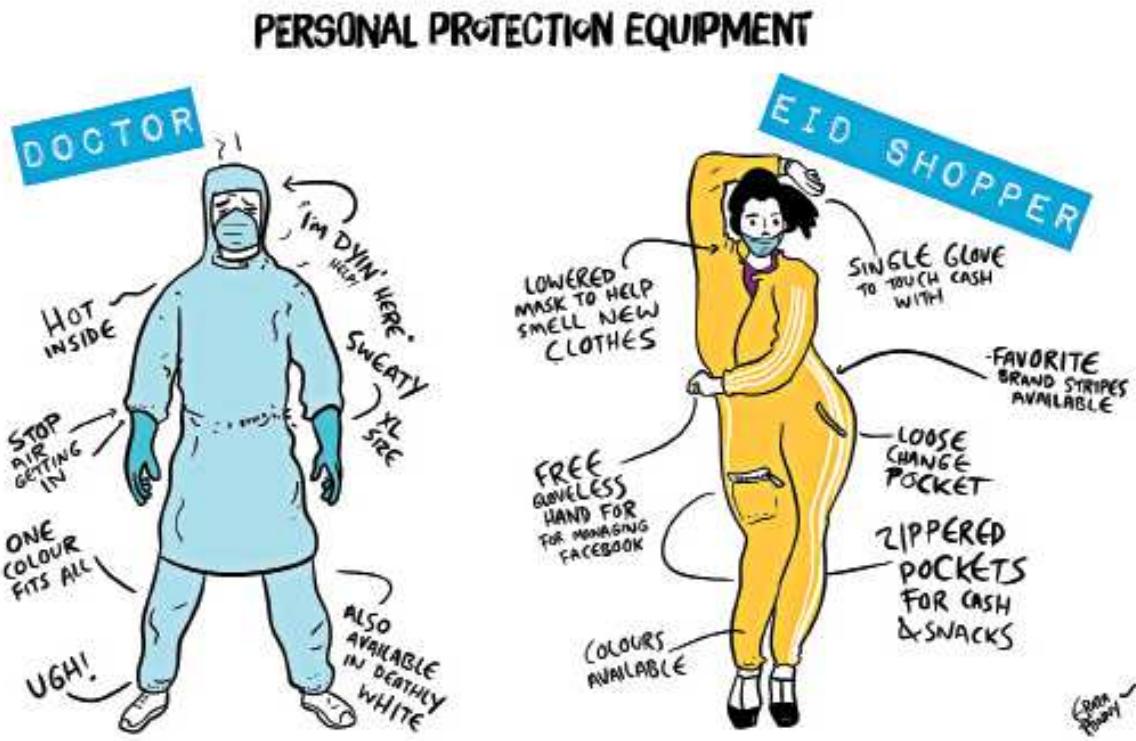
"They have this coughing cool as hell protective overall, and that too in my favourite colour!" said Sadman Zaman, a university student who protested the protest for reduced tuition fees.

"I have full rights to make independent choices unlike poor people. I didn't create the economic system that syphons resources from them and showers it on my family," he said when asked why did he not pick the much cooler blue overall.

Fahad Zaman was scanning the safety-goggle display, picking one up with his disinfected hands and putting it on his infected face. "How do these look?" he asked this reporter, who was wearing matching goggles, which was unacceptable because he had bought that "one-of-a-kind" pair for Eid reporting.

The goggles came in different colours and styles, belonging to popular brands like Ray-ban, Pola, Guchi, Appel and Goggle.

Among all items, face-mask sellers were the winners in this pandemic. Customers were thronging mask stalls, which had a wide variety to offer. Shoppers had



several materials to choose from -- velvet, georgette, silk, jamdani -- with embroidered patterns and tassels.

"Madam, these were specially imported from Thailand. You won't find these in any other pandemic," said a shopkeeper, trying to entice his potential buyer.

"These look local to me. I want a mask so beautiful it'll make the coronavirus beg to get inside me," the middle-aged woman retorted. When asked how business is going, Nandu Zaman, a local shopkeeper, said, "After pivoting to selling PPE, business has been booming. It's as if people think Covid-22 cases are dwindling to

zero instead of rising every day."

"Why are people buying so much when they can't go out on Eid?" asked this reporter.

"Hell, if I know," Nandu replied.

To find an answer, the reporter went from shop to shop, dodging spit particles and elbowing anyone who came close. Then he encountered someone who was rotating for five minutes at one point with her phone held up. She kept saying "Bhai, price?", "Price, brother?", "Mama, price?"

Sufia Zaman was, in fact, live broadcasting from her Facebook page "Cundar Cundar Jama Kulakshun" to provide her audience an authentic Eid

shopping experience.

"There are 15 people watching right now. They'd be lost without my recommendation. Look, they're watching you now!" Sufia said, while pointing the camera at the reporter.

When asked about the significance of Eid shopping in this pandemic, she said, "Shopping is my passion. I shop and I shop, but I'm never satisfied. Online-shopping can never replace physically going to the store. I must caress the product, smell it, feel it, to be one with it."

"This virus will not separate our three-piece salwar kameez from our tailors," she remarked.

Local trillionaire donates BDT 100,000 only to Covid-22 research

RUMMAN ROWDY KALAM

Joshim Bashon -- local entrepreneur, CEO of shipping ;), Math Genuis, IBU alumnus, founding father of Amazing.com and saviour of the masses (this is copied directly off his official Facebook page) -- recently made headlines when he made a public donation for research into Covid-22.

While we here at Satireday do not endorse donation shaming, there was large public outcry over the contribution, which was a sum of BDT 100,000 only.

One of Bashon's own employees, who requested anonymity, had this to say, "Every day he comes and brags to us. I'm a trillionaire b-----, and that's in dollars. Trillionaire in dollars. Get woke. But now he donates less than 0.000000001 percent of his fortune and to distract from the fact that he has upped our working hours to 22 hours a day, seven days a week. I literally sleep in this warehouse now."

We, unfortunately, had to cut our conversation with Bashon's employee short simply because his sleep deprivation and high blood pressure almost definitely caused him a stroke over the phone.

Thankfully, however, I was able to call 969 emergency services, where I was greeted by a jingle informing me to stay alert about Covid-22. And after 10 minutes of hearing the song on a loop, I realised my anonymous correspondent had either saved

pat on the back.

2. Maximum sum donated from the "pat-on-the-back" programme will not exceed BDT 50,000 only.

3. In order for the "pat on the back" to be verified (to ensure you aren't one of his rival Axl Muske's robots), you have to photoshop a selfie of yourself with Bashon and post it to Tiddler.com with the hashtag "bestintheworld", which will then be verified by individuals from Bashon's team.

I was able to get in touch with Bashon for a virtual meeting on Doom.com, another spin-off idea from his company, which is currently under investigation for harvesting user data, but he refused to use Skype, so I had no other choice.

Asked why Bashon only donated such a small sum, when he was known for outlandish acts such as tipping even bigger sums to internet celebrity chef PottBae, this was his response: "Listen, you have to understand. I didn't become rich overnight. It took me a year or two. But I wasn't always like this. I worked hard to get to where I am. I started with nothing, and now I'm a trillionaire. And that's in dollars."

I proceeded to ask Bashon about the large inheritance his father left him, to which he replied, "Look. My father was a drinker. A fiend. Sorry, I was watching The Dark Knight yesterday and lost my train of thought. My father only left me

JOSHIM BASHON, LOCAL TRILLIONAIRE (IN DOLLARS), FLUSHED AWAY NOTES THAT WERE FROM A BANK MOSTLY USED BY POOR PEOPLE WHO SNEEZED DURING COVID-22



himself or, well, let's not think of negative things.

After the large public outcry, Bashon decided to respond by opening what his team is calling the "Pat-on-the-back" programme. Anyone can go to goodjobjoshim.org.gov and click on the "pat-on-the-back" button, which will then result in Bashon donating Tk 50***, only in your name, and you'll also have to witness a poorly made gif of Bashon getting a pat on the back.

The *** mark refers to the terms and conditions, which is five pages long, but here are some of the main ones that may concern everyone:

1. One person can only give one

a small sum of money, nothing too big."

When I poked him further by mentioning the "small sum of money" as being 500 billion dollars and further asking if the reports were true that he had not reported the inheritance on his taxes, Bashon decided to cut the call and block me on all his social media.

I cannot also access amazing.com from either my home or office computer, rendering me unable to purchase any more toilet paper, as amazing.com had purchased the entire market stock of toilet paper right before the Covid-22 outbreak.

Bidesh declares limited on scale victory in war against virus; disowns 3,800 infected nationals

Enemies of the state are harbouring the virus, says police official

ORCHID MANGCHA

Declaring a limited on scale victory in the war against Covid-22, Bidesh yesterday opened up day-to-day functions.

Large processions took to the streets to celebrate the legendary triumph. Masked citizens in PPEs thronged the colourful procession. Walls were lined with posters hailing the "Niece of Virologists", a moniker given to the Champion of People and Leader of the Nation Bobby.

The people had been waiting to forget what had been the most tumultuous period of their entire lives. "I can understand famine, cyclones and genocide. But physical distancing? Not shopping for months? To save other people's lives? That I cannot fathom," a spectator at the procession said.

"We are being careful. We have not won yet as long as there are traitors still hiding in the country. We are only allowing the highest foreign currency earners and our best friends in business to open up their factories, shops and offices," Abal Ahmed, the spokesperson for the Greatest Ever Leader II, said.

In a televised speech Her Majesty Bobby thanked mass prayer processions and her zero-tolerance policy for the virus as reasons behind the conquest.

"Take off your masks. You are now free!" She roared into her mic probably to entice the use of the adjective "rousing" in newspaper descriptions of her victory speech.

She also promised swift justice against those still harbouring the infection in their masks. Huge camps, which national observers have called "scary", are being set up to capture and keep all the traitors.

"I have now adopted a zero-

tolerance policy against traitors," she said.

The 3,800 citizens who are still infected with the virus had been declared traitors and persona non grata.

"They do not love the country. If they did, they would not have been harbouring this virus in their body. The harbouring of viruses is against the law under the infectious diseases act," Chief of Police Sultana Tasnim said.

The 3,800 are currently in isolation and will be shifted to an island no one wants to live in but there are pictures of the really colourful buildings there have

went viral once.

Detractors, however, said the country had won the battle but not the war and was just copying its bigger neighbour.

"So, they announced a shutdown and extended it by two days. We followed suit but extended it by three days. Then our neighbour said we will relax shut down on the 31st and we said okay, we will do so on the 30th. This doesn't throw anyone off. We can clearly see they do not have policy in place," Shukur Kumar, a newsman, said.

"Some of these factories and businesses are yet to clear their employees' salaries and Eid bonuses.

They should not be allowed to operate," he added.

When asked if he had received his own salary and bonuses, he admitted he had not but said those who moralise should not be held to the same standard as everyone else.

Businesses hailed the decision to reopen everything on a limited scale. In celebration, a chotpoti stall owner, who is yet to pay his employees their full salary for April, catered for a client's daughter's wedding free of cost. "In these times it is important to keep the clients happy," the owner, who we cannot name because of the vague wording in some laws, said.

