

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 4, TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020
SRABAN 6, 1427 BS

Star

LIFE

Style

E-mail: lifestyleds@yahoo.com
64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. A publication of The Daily Star

EID SOLUTIONS P3
ONLINE CATTLE MARKETS
LS EID PORTFOLIO P5-C
EID WITH TENZING P12
A DESIGNER'S NEW CREATIONS

MODEL:
SONIA YEASMIN ISHA
WARDROBE:
MAYASIR BY MAHEEN KHAN

LS EID Selection



জীবাণু ধ্বংসে এক্সপার্ট

BERGER
MR. EXPERT
ADVANCED HAND SANITIZER

৯৯.৯৯%
জীবাণু ধ্বংসে কার্যকরী
পানির ব্যবহার ছাড়াই

World Health Organization (WHO) এর প্রস্তাবিত ফর্মুলা অনুযায়ী উৎপাদিত।

Secret Surprise by The Food Talk

Social media has always played a vital role in developing effective means of communication and is a great source of networking among the netizens of Dhaka. Under the current circumstances, the activities in social media platforms have become livelier and abuzz with a host of food groups introduced recently.

The Food Talk is one such Facebook group that is dedicated to epicures, which provides them a platform to review food, post recipes, share cooking tips and tricks, and review restaurants among many other things it facilitates.

The Food Talk just turned six and was initiated in 2014, by Taskin Rahman, founder of The Food Talk and the group has successfully maintained its edge among the myriad food groups consisting food connoisseurs,



restaurateurs, amateur chefs, and home cooks alike within a strictly limited number.

The group also held several meetups and very recently, The Food Talk conducted a fun

social experiment to celebrate its birthday and success, which was termed as "Secret Surprise."

The idea of this initiative was to send food and good vibes to a stranger within the Facebook group. Interested contributors were requested to sign up for this via Google Forms and the response was overwhelming. Within one day prior to the distribution of food, over a hundred people signed up.

Interested participants were arbitrarily connected through safe exchange of addresses within the areas of Gulshan, Banani, Uttara, Bashundhara, and all DOHS. Friday, 10 July, 2020, was the day of action where expectant participants sent and received food from the people they were assigned respectively.

People exchanged all sorts of food,

whether it was homemade or store bought, and not one person who was expecting a parcel was left disheartened. Taskin was in charge of assigning the names of senders and receivers, while the arrangement of delivery and maintenance of utmost hygiene and sanitation was left upon the contributors, which they adhered to perfectly.

It was extraordinary to see people take the effort to accompany their parcels with kind notes and gestures, along with well wishes for the receiver and their families. This was truly a one-of-a-kind interchange among the epicures of Dhaka.

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thefoodtalk>

By Fariha Amber

CHECK IT OUT

Le Reve's Eid-ul-Azha collection out now

The fashion world is a constant flux of new designs and recycling the classics. This time around, Le Reve, one of the country's premiere fashion houses, has opted to combine Tudor fashion with contemporary styles. Comfortable weaving and royal, exotic floral prints were the hallmarks of the time, which blend in seamlessly with the latest Eid-ul-Azha fashion trends.

Regarding this new collection, Monnujan Nargis, creative design director of Le Reve, stated, "Le Reve always emphasises the fusion of traditional styles with international trends, this time, the brand focused on layering and voluminous silhouettes with inspiration from Tudor style, featuring traditional



muslin, organza, and silk fabrics. We have used contemporary Jacobean prints, vintage romantic flowers, floral damask and baroque motifs, Elizabeth brocade, ornate floral lettering prints, and so on."

The line-up of women's wear not only captures the Tudor fashion

inspirations in contemporary wears but also in traditional outfits.

The men's collection, with traditional patterns and Tudor inspired floral prints, are suitable not only for Eid, but also for many special occasions around the year. Le Reve's offering of children's wear is all about fun and comfort while keeping up with style. It's not all about fashion this season, as Le Reve has expanded into offering home décor items plus COVID-19 essential masks and easy to sanitise bags.

This latest collection is available at Le Reve Stores and online at www.lerevecraze.com.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/lerevecraze

FEAB announces virtual clothing fair

Fashion Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh – FEAB, has taken the effort to assist local clothing brands in these trying times by holding a two week long virtual clothing fair. The online fair, which started on 15 July, 2020 will continue till 30 July, 2020. With Eid-ul-Azha right around the corner, this fair gives interested buyers the option to not only purchase clothing items from their favourite local brands, but also a chance to contribute to alleviate the critical condition of the local clothing industry. The fair is currently ongoing at the online platform Station Bangla.

Buyers can avail 15 percent discount on all available products plus free home delivery. As for payment, the popular cash on delivery option is available, along with mobile payment options like bKash and Nagad.

To go to the virtual fair, please visit www.stationbangla.com

For more information, check out www.facebook.com/stationbangla or www.facebook.com/feab2010/

us on [f](#) /Sandalina

ঐতিহ্যের আর এক নাম আধুনিকতা
ঠিক যেমন রূপচর্চায় আভিজাত্য মানেই

অ্যান্ডালিনা

সোপ

রূপচর্চায় আভিজাত্য...

SPOTLIGHT

Qurbani Eid during COVID-19: Your questions answered

Due to the pandemic, the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha has thrown a gamut of new challenges to us all, pushing families and households into a sea of concerns, choices, and dilemmas, with a plethora of questions in mind.

This week, Star Lifestyle addresses the issues and questions, to aid you in arriving at an informed resolution.

Its decision time now!

Off to the haat?

For most of us, in the previous years, going to a cattle market to buy sacrificial animals was the obvious choice, one which a lot of people generally look forward to.

But this year, for obvious reasons, things are different, and many customers are looking for ways to avoid cattle markets.

Meanwhile, the two Dhaka city corporations are working with concerned authorities to ensure that health safety standards are maintained in the haats.

To illustrate, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) mayor Atiqul Islam has informed that the leaseholders of the cattle markets have been given terms, conditions, and guidelines relating to health safety, further stating that he has cancelled a number of haats this year considering the public health situation.

In an interview over the phone last week, the mayor told Star Lifestyle that there will be magistrates in the cattle markets for strict

monitoring.

The DNCC mayor has also recommended that the elderly, the sick, and children not visit cattle markets.

A concern for some people may be that while it is good that the number of haats has been reduced, what if the density of people in those haats increases, given that there are relatively fewer haats, making the reduction counterproductive?

Addressing this issue, the mayor replied, "We have recently launched a digital cattle market. So, there is that alternative, and buyers need not necessarily come to the traditional markets. But for those who want to physically visit a haat, we expect them to have in mind the basic health measures such as wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing and so on."

Meanwhile, the Joint Commissioner (Operation) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), Md Monir Hossain, said, "We will be monitoring the cattle markets and make buyers and sellers aware through various means — so that people don't end up eventually harming themselves in celebration of the festival."

On the other hand, the very idea of setting up any haat at all has also been challenged.

"As a virologist, I cannot

support this, given the current stage of the pandemic in Bangladesh. The risk of infection and spreading of the virus from the cattle markets is there," said Dr Jahidur Rahman, Assistant Professor, Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College.

He added that the risk can extend to the whole country because haats draw in traders and various stakeholders from all over Bangladesh.

The closest alternative to traditional haats

So, now you know about the health measures taken and also the possible risks of physically going to a haat. It is up to you to balance out and decide whether you want to visit a cattle market or opt to buy online.

But if you are torn between the two, there is actually a middle ground you may consider.

How about visiting a farm in Dhaka?

Mohammed Imran Hossain, owner of the renowned Sadeeq Agro said, "This year, many customers are preferring going to a farm and buying directly from there. Our farm also has a seating

arrangement for the comfort of the visitors."

Meanwhile, another reputed organisation, GME Ranch — which has its farm outside the capital — has set up a 'display centre' in Mohammadpur.

"The display centre has been arranged keeping the COVID-19 crisis in mind. Chances of any gathering are minimal and we have taken measures to ensure the safety of our visitors," informed Kazi Moshir Rahman, the head of GME Ranch. "You can see the cows, choose, and we will deliver it to your home."

The point is, with it a farm or display centre, you may likely avoid the typical hassles of a haat, and may even feel relatively safer, especially if you trust the particular brand, since it is the individual company which is monitoring the arrangement.

Just go online!

But why even go outdoors if you can order a cow or goat online, from the comfort and safety of your home? It's just a few clicks away! And this year, you have not just one or two, but several online platforms to choose from.

Services offered are varied and customisable. So, if you just seek to make the purchase online and have the living animal delivered to your home, it is possible.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 11



My lone battle

A part of my soul is dead, and the other half is dying a slow death. Amid such painful existence, how do I breathe every day and carry on with my duties each day? It's a question I ask myself continuously.

Depression is a personal fight, people urge you to share, in fact, sharing the pain is the ultimate cure for depression. Yet, there are days when you just don't feel like opening your eyes, let alone getting up from the bed and running the daily errands.

Maintaining the day to day routine becomes a chore; yet for me, someone who is a mother, a wife, and a daughter, not to forget a professional; how do I fight my desire to not do a thing and brood while being confined in this dark tunnel that I am currently in? The walk inside my head is so long and dark that sometimes I truly want to find another door and walk into a happier dimension.

But there is no denying the reality. You cannot escape your present state without actually confronting it, holding it by the neck and pushing it out of your mind. Because for me, the day is waiting. I need to tend to my child's needs, let the cook know the day's menu, inquire about the doctor's appointment for my mother; fix the photoshoot date, arrange the meeting, and fill my magazine pages.

Me being a responsible adult, do I have the time to sit and talk my way out of my depression? I know that there are so many like me, middle-aged woman, housewives, professionals, who are fighting the ailment and at the same time, maintaining real life without a glitch. It is taxing to play-act that you are

normal when clearly nothing in your life is anywhere near normal.

I am brooding, I am worried, I feel tensed, these are my normal emotions that I can handle. But I don't know how to handle depression, which is not a make-believe fancy nuance that will go away once the fad is over. No, you need to have the strength to work on it.

There are days that are so dark and gloomy, instances when ending the life seems the only plausible way out, there are times when you are agitated and even seeing the face of your loved ones trigger angst in you, there are times when you feel like blaming the entire universe for conspiring against you. Yet, there are days when you feel you can do this, you can find the way out, see light at the end of that dreary tunnel.

The constant swinging of the emotions, erodes your sensibility and there are times when you find yourself shrouded in lonesomeness and dejection; strong enough to think twice about going on. But like I have mentioned, depression is a reality and you need to go to a counsellor, a psychotherapist to find your way out of that yonder.

Today of all days is a good day to confront your demons and thrash them out, even if the euphoria lasts only for a day or two. Get out of bed, water your plants, tend to your favourite ferns, see how the monstera leaf is curling its way into a frond, play with your pets, make your favourite dessert, better still, try your hand at that London Cheesecake recipe by Nigella Lawson, watch a series — The Politician or Peaky Blinders. Try and take your mind off that hurt, that

wound, which never seems to heal.

Depression needs to be tackled. Seek help, even if you think things like you can fight it by yourself, it will go away, or all you need to do is face the day against your will. Trust me, depression lingers on and eats at your soul, slowly extinguishing the fire inside, until there is only a flicker of your past self.

As we gear up our multimedia section, we promise to upload relevant videos every week complementing our stories in print. This week Star Lifestyle brings to you a unique Eid catalogue where our celebrated local designers are showcasing their Eid collections. Also, this week we have amazing summer styling video by our resident stylist Sonia Yeamin Isha. Do not forget to view the latest trends.

Keep out your watch for Lifestyle Talkies dealing with subjects from managing household finances to dealing with health issues. We also have Lifestyle Videos tending to a lighter aspect, like gardening tips to latest styling trends. You can also send us video suggestions to lifestyle@yahoocom on topics you'd like to know more about and we'd try our best to accommodate.

Happy Viewing!
Happy Thoughts!

— RBR

Simple elegance from Monereen

Online designers and boutiques are aplenty these days, and fashion forward individuals are finding it easier than ever to browse from one brand to another, while shopping for a unique look. As easy as that sounds, it is equally probable to get lost in the cookie cutter designs, and cheap clothing that don't last beyond a season.

Back in late 2018, with a view to provide truly unique, limited wear for women, Monereen began its journey. Founded by Aambereen S Zaman, the brand strives to provide customised options for kurtis and kameez sets with just the right touch of simplicity. With exclusive and limited time designs, Monereen has its own set of loyal followers. Aside from customisations, Zaman's brand also relies on feedback and suggestions to incorporate into their offers.

Despite the ongoing pandemic and the difficulties, Monereen's Eid-ul-Azha 2020 collection bears the brand's signature look of subtlety with karchupi designs. This season, as staying and working from home has become the new norm, Zaman has focused on Chikan fabric that's all about comfort while being dressy. The kurtas are ready to wear with a wide variety of customisation options which Zaman and her team are ready to provide upon request. Bearing the tagline, "Everyday wear with an ethnic flair" Monereen's latest collection is one that hopes to make dressing up for the upcoming occasion a little bit easier.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/Monereenbd and www.instagram.com/monereenbd/

HOROSCOPE



ARIES (MAR. 21-APR. 20)

Take part in stimulating debates. Find ways to entertain yourself. Keep your opinions to yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



TAURUS (APR. 21-MAY 21)

Put your thinking cap on. Help out a good friend. Don't let your emotions take over. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.



GEMINI (MAY 22-JUN. 21)

Take full advantage of your capabilities. Follow your gut feeling. Try not to hurt someone's feelings. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



CANCER (JUN. 22-JUL. 22)

Don't miss the bigger picture. Don't put pressure on your partner. Your mind will be wandering this week. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



LEO (JUL. 23-AUG. 22)

Do the things you enjoy. Find creative projects to undertake. Secret affairs will only lead to deception. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEP. 23)

Take care not to lose any belongings. Avoid getting into heated arguments. Opportunities for romance will flourish. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



LIBRA (SEP. 24-OCT. 23)

Don't miss out on travel. Take time to visit loved ones. Be extra careful this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



SCORPIO (OCT. 24-NOV. 21)

Business ventures can earn you cash. Make changes to your home. Self-deception regarding relationships will be a problem. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Deception will lead to disputes. Take interest in your partner's accomplishments. Look into projects that utilise your potential. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

Take a step back. Dealing with friends can get difficult. Let your thoughts be known. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



AQUARIUS (JAN. 21-FEB. 19)

Romantic opportunities could be misleading. Your family can be difficult this week. Spend on what you love. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



PISCES (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

Share the blame. Moneymaking ventures could be extremely profitable. Control your temper. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LS CATALOGUE

Kurti is back with a bang



While we are shouting and making ourselves clear — we must also submit to reality — kurtis never actually left! No, they never did.

Winter, spring, summer, autumn; whatever the season, kurtis look awesome and maybe that's why designers love experimenting with them. Wares Abdullah, one of our favourite designers, spared no effort to work on some dazzling kurtis for this Qurbani Eid, bringing forward a few of his selected best.

The black and white wrap

Even though the colours are common, the pairing is fascinating, especially on a fusion kurti. Planning to go summer hopping over to an ice-cream parlour or even stay indoors and video-chat with friends? This is one of the suggested combos that we can swear by. So, if you are looking for something

beaded jewellery and you are set for the day.

The sultry black

Everyone has a black kurti in their wardrobe and it remains a common classic. But wait a minute! Add a dollop of bright colours such as neon green, fuchsia, or a tinge of yellow to the plain black and you have brilliant eye-popping designs.

The cool white

If loud and bright is not your thing, then you can always try out the refreshing white from the designer's summer collection. He makes it authentic by placing belts and floral motifs on them.

The timid yellow

Want something more comfortable and



fresh, trendy and just off the fashion boat, then this design might be the right choice for you.

The tie n' dye frenzy

Remember the crazy dyes from the '90s? Well, they are back. Choose whatever colour you prefer; our favourite will always be the blue and white. Pair this amazing kurti with

apt for the occasion? Then the soft lemon three-piece with English laces is the perfect match for you. And trust us, we simply love this!

By Fashion Police

Model: Sonia Yeasmin Isha

Wardrobe: Wares Abdullah

The luscious colours of the latest collection of MAYASIR BY MAHEEN KHAN encourage a splurge into poetry since the colours are vivacious and perfectly suitable for summer, which is already brimming with the charming hues borrowed from nature. They are enough to make you stop and marvel at the exquisite summer collection by the designer.

The worthy COLOUR palette

By Fashion Police
Model: Sonia Yeasmin Isha
Wardrobe: MAYASIR BY MAHEEN KHAN

Luscious GREEN

I wet my paint brush
With a dollop of oil.
And all I can master
On a clear canvas
Is the mad fluttering of the foliage.
The swaying of the dewdrops
On sharp blades of pine green.
Passionate RED and BLUE
Two of my favourite colours —
Red and blue.
Whisper sweet nothings of passion.
Breathing love into my very being!
Red for me is the colour of love,
And blue — the ever familiar.
A Moscato,
Of raisins and table grapes.



The BLUE song

Ever seen the playful surfers
ride the waves
In the pristine blue waters?
Or sensed the fragrance off of
A handsome bouquet of
purple cherry-pies?
Maybe you have not!
And maybe it's time you didn't
Miss out anymore.
On the scents of a freshly
bloomed flower.
Learn to let go!
Learn anew
The marvel of the
dazzling blue.

EARTHY verses

The burnt clay hues pop out of the earth
It marvels at the green
That reside, side by side.
The earthworms crawl, with a hint of a sigh
Butterflies flutter, on a bright morning sky.
Mocha, a colour with many distinctions
Is my favourite!
A calm that is deserving, justified
And considerate.



CHECK IT OUT

Say goodbye to heatwaves with Daikin Air Conditioner

Modern home living has transformed in so many ways that most of us take everyday comforts as something we cannot live without.

Electronics and appliances of every kind have taken over the home, and all for the better.

So, it comes as no wonder that air conditioners always take up a good space at home for the ultimate comfort during summer. But the benefits of having an air conditioner at home is not just limited to keeping the temperature down.

PREVENT ELECTRONICS FROM OVERHEATING

Just about every personal computer at home is having to do some heavy duty work these days. Having an air conditioner not only helps to keep these devices from overheating, it also helps in prolonging their expected lifetime. Since a room is sealed off for an air conditioner to work properly, there is less dirt and grime entering these devices, making operations smoother.

WORK AND STUDY BETTER

Air conditioners aren't just good for having a good night's rest, they are equally important for brain work! With most of work and study being done at home, having a hot and uncomfortable room will only cause the day to drag along. Not to mention the sweating and the dehydration that tag along with it. In this case, having an air conditioner ensures a good rest and a good flow of activity.

BETTER SHELF LIFE FOR COSMETICS

Summers are a dreadful time for cosmetics and beauty products like lipsticks, liquid foundations, serums and the likes. The heat can easily cause the products to lose their integrity and make it impossible to achieve the desired results after application. While one option is to put them in the refrigerator, let's face it — no one wants to place their eye serum next to chicken that is sitting to be marinated overnight. With a cooler room, cosmetics can easily be stored and used longer.

With both direct and indirect benefits of having an air conditioner at home, it is quite easy to get lost in the various offerings from numerous brands. One answer to all the confusion regarding



choosing the right brand would be Daikin's range of air conditioners, currently being marketed by Transcom Digital in Bangladesh. This Japanese brand is renowned for using cutting edge technology to deliver products and solutions for better living. So, it comes as no surprise that their range of air conditioners too are well-suited for the various needs of the users in this region. With efficient use of electricity, noiseless operation, and fast cooling, the ACs from Daikin also have a number of special



attributes that make them stand out.

High and low voltage issues are typical concerns that affect the efficiency of an AC. The average brands with their in-built voltage stabilisers end up with decreased air-cooling during bouts of high or low voltage. This also puts pressure on the compressor, resulting in various electrical issues. Daikin's range of ACs utilise a professional in-built voltage stabiliser to ensure smooth operations without affecting the internal components.



The compressor, often aptly termed as the 'heart' of the AC, is of the latest Neo Swing type. Compared to the typical rotary compressors, this variant takes away all the worries for the everyday user. The compressor also comes with a warranty of five years, making it one less worry for the user.

Another issue for an AC is the space it occupies at home, particularly for the split types, which utilise both indoor and outdoor units. For regular brands, bigger cooling capacity almost always translates into a large chunky unit. That is not the case for Daikin ACs, as sleek, compact designing ensures better cooling without compromising on style. Aside from that, appearance wise, the exterior utilises High Impact polystyrene, ensuring that the outer colour does not fade away easily.

The ACs from Daikin are being offered in three categories — Premium, Regular, and Non-Inverter with different cooling capacities at various price points. The range can be availed at all 66 showrooms of Transcom Digital. However, with the ongoing situation, showrooms are open for limited time. Interested buyers can always shop online and avail home delivery services along with after sales services from Transcom.

— LS Desk

Photo Courtesy: Daikin Air Conditioners

Check out the full range of Daikin Air Conditioners and shop online at www.transcomdigital.com

For more information on products and offers, visit www.facebook.com/transcomdigital



From Japan

The Global Air Specialist Brings You...

সবচেয়ে Energy Efficient AC

UP TO **85%** ENERGY SAVING



GLOBAL NO. 1 BRAND FROM JAPAN

অতিরিক্ত **UP TO 22%** আরও **DISCOUNT!**






নির্দিষ্ট ব্যাংকের ক্রেডিট কার্ড হোল্ডারদের জন্য*

Up to **12** EMI @ **0%** interest with **31** banks*

Free Home Delivery

Free Home Installation

Product Exchange Offer



TRANSCOM DIGITAL







Scan to visit: transcomdigital.com

*মত প্রযোজ্য



LS CATALOGUE

Trusting the traditional

If you thought it was only the ladies who enjoyed wearing traditional, then you are probably out of touch with style! And it's about time this misconception is cleared out.

Contrary to popular belief, men actually have numerous style combinations to try — for both formals and casuals. And panjabis are just the tip of the crown for formals, making the gentlemen look their best in almost every style. This Qurbani Eid, designer Humaira Khan introduces an amazing men's line for panjabis that are both striking to the eyes and comfortable to wear at all times, from her brand ANIKINI.

Without further ado, here are a few styles to keep an eye on.

Asymmetric and Flying

The asymmetric styles are modern and experimental. Men who like fresh and trendy designs should try out these contemporary looks.

Chinese it is

The sleek and straight Mandarin panjabis are best suited for men who are tall and slim. The collar that may look binding and narrow, does not actually feel constrained when worn. If you are not a big fan of Chinese designs, try to remember that

Keanu Reeves actually wore a similar style in the Matrix trilogy and looked 100 percent debonair and charming.

Linen panjabis

Cotton panjabis have always been a favourite amongst South-East Indian men. But another popular fabric that has been coming up lately to beat the heat of the summer in the subcontinent has been the ultra-comfortable linen.

Linen as a material is excellent for the hot months, as well as all round the year. And the best thing about linen is that is very light.

There are countless other styles besides the ones discussed. And this Eid might be the right time to explore all these designs. Here are a few hints: muffler styles, plaid panjabi, jacket panjabi, Gujrati, Pathani, Kabuli, Middle-eastern, Kolkata, and the list goes on forever.

If you haven't tried out any of these, then you are probably missing out on the best in fashion possibilities.

By Fashion Police

Model: Mashid Rahman

Photo: Tirtha Biswas

Wardrobe: ANIKINI by Humaira Khan



Qurbani Eid during COVID-19: Your questions answered

Or, if you wish not only to purchase, but also to have the sacrificial animal slaughtered in an abattoir and its meat professionally cut and packed and sent to your doorstep, that's possible too!

Information of each animal is provided in the websites, from breed to approximate live weight. Photos and even videos are there so that a potential customer can make an informed decision.

Sounds attractive and convenient, right? Let's then discuss and explore this virtual cattle market option with three websites.

Check out DNCC's brand new online cattle market (www.digitalhaat.net), an initiative where e-Commerce Association of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Dairy Farmers' Association, ICT Division, and many others have joined hands.

To put it simply, at first impression, it is essentially a very large amalgamation of online businesses and sellers offering Qurbani cattle; and the FAQ section will satisfy you of the basic queries you may have.

DNCC mayor informed that the online platform takes a comprehensive approach, bringing together various types of stakeholders; slaughtering services, delivery systems, meat donation initiatives, payment systems, etc.

Also visit www.amarfoods.com; there is a very user-friendly section of the website that particularly focuses on Qurbani cattle. The cattle are sourced from Sorbojoya — a project under the same parent company, Watermark Group. Sorbojoya works in the rural level and has social goals such as women empowerment and rural development, and hence, purchasing from them has a noble social cause attached.

Their 'slaughter house offer' clearly states details such as delivery of meat in 3kg-packs, separate packs for various organs, etc.

"Even though there is the option of delivering a living animal, majority of our customers are opting for the slaughtering service," Jakaria Mohammad Palash, CEO and MD of Watermark Group, informed. "We also

have an additional option where you can come and be present when the slaughtering takes place; you will be given a fixed time slot based on the schedule."

Sadeeq Agro too, has a website (www.sadeeqagro.com) which will cater to your Qurbani needs. "Our organisation over the years has built a trust amongst customers, and this reliability and credibility is very important when someone is looking to buy online," the company's proprietor said.

Given the concerns of social distancing and hassles of slaughtering and processing, online haats overall provide a brilliant solution.

Also, everyone always speaks of the notion of 'Digital Bangladesh,' well, why not contribute to it by becoming an online



customer if you are planning to purchase a sacrificial animal this year?

"The pandemic can give rise to a large number of new online buyers," Palash commented.

What's your budget?

If you have indeed decided to buy a Qurbani animal this year, you will of course need to think of a price range — one which is affordable for you, keeping in mind any uncertainties or future financial hiccups that might come your way.

"Generally speaking, a lot of customers who are buying cows this Qurbani Eid have lowered the amount they are willing to pay. They have reduced their budgets. And many are opting for goats instead of cows," Palash expressed his observations regarding the

overall market scenario.

Keep in mind that slaughtering services come with additional charges. But at the same time, it does relieve you of many tasks whilst minimising the risks associated with health. On the other hand, if you go to a haat and make the Qurbani arrangements like you have always done before, there are costs such as 'haasil', payment of butchers, etc.

The donation quandary

All said and done, don't forget to plan ahead on how to distribute meat amidst the needy.

If you do not want to undertake the activity yourself — which has logistics of its own and can present challenges in terms maintaining social distancing — you may opt for charity organisations to take this responsibility on



your behalf.

For example, the endeavour of DNCC Digital Haat mentioned earlier, allows you this option. "For those who want a portion of the meat to be donated, we have partnered with relevant organisations which shall do that," the mayor explained in the interview.

On the other hand, if you wish to do it yourself, have a solid plan!

First of all, check with your apartment's committee (if applicable), whether it has taken any policies — not just regarding donation activities, but overall guidelines surrounding Qurbani Eid.

It is likely that there will be crowds and a rush whilst distributing meat — a potential hazard for COVID-19.

Dr Jahidur Rahman sternly warns of the risk. Nevertheless, the virologist commented that if an individual still decides to undertake this activity, it should be done wearing masks and gloves, but at the same time, the other end — those receiving the meat — should also have the same measures.

Indeed, for those looking to donate meat themselves, controlling the crowd — or rather, not allowing it to form in the first place — will be of paramount importance.

"Why do people actually get impatient or push over each other? One of the reasons is that they always feel there isn't enough for everyone. Therefore, we request those who are donating meat to give assurance to the people that everyone will eventually receive their share, and that they should wait while maintaining social distancing," DMP Joint Commissioner (Operation) Md Monir Hossain suggested.

He added that the police generally in any case always increase the level of patrolling in the streets during Eid, and this time around, it shall keep an eye out for crowds and gatherings and help people maintain social distancing.

So, what is your verdict?

At the end of the day, we all have to take responsibility of our actions during such trying times; negligence will not just harm you and your family, but a whole community.

Now, regarding Eid-ul-Azha, with all the information, expert opinions, and options in hand, it's your decision to make! You may even decide not to buy any sacrificial animal this year. It is about your financial condition, your individual level of comfort and reliability on the initiatives or the promises made by various entities, and most importantly, the health risks involved.

Here's to a happy and safe Eid-ul-Azha. Eid Mubarak!

By M H Haider

Photo courtesies: GME Ranch; Sorbojoya

IMPROVED

with color guard

Fast wash

DETERGENT POWDER

POWER WASH

এখন নতুন মোড়কে

আরো উন্নত ফর্মুলায়

KOHINOOR CHEMICAL



LS CATALOGUE

The subtle greys

I think we have had enough of red, orange and fuchsia already! The summer heat somehow exaggerates the bright colours and turns them into a nauseating mix. The bright red pops out like a dent in the car, and the only way to remain subtle and restrained, inclines towards the whites. But aren't those already worn, tested and faded out? What if you are in the mood for experimenting?

Star Lifestyle might just have the befitting solution for you this Eid, with Tenzing Chakma's latest collection in fascinating greys.

Like to wear midis? Or experiment with fusion kurtis – the renowned designer encourages us to do all that and more, in pretty shades of bluish-grey. Checks have always been the designer's favourite pattern and this season, he indulges again to prove to the world that checks can look glamorous under any circumstances.

Some of you may wonder whether the collection is monotonous, because sometimes, these can be a bit boring. Well, in that case, good news! Tenzing Chakma brings about a mix of colours to play with the basic grey. An undertone of red and orange is visible here and there, to make the designs even more attractive.

As always, Tenzing usually suggests the designs be worn as a stand-alone piece, but you always have the option to mix and match. A long kurti, a close variant of the '90s midi, can be paired with white pants and colourful scarves.



It's safe to say that the summer collection by Tenzing Chakma are complete pieces on their own, but then again, if you wanted to add in your bit of flair to it, the options always remain open. So, have fun experimenting!

By Fashion Police
Models: Arpa, Riti, Upama, Anushka, Yashodhara
Wardrobe: Sozpodor By Tenzing Chakma
Photo: Hill Valley Production

