

The three essentials of Eid

AFSAR AHMED

Eid, the biggest religious festival of the Muslims, is almost knocking at the doors. And the rituals of Eid won't be completed without Topi, Tasbih and Jainamaz.

Topi: The head apparel

Wearing a new topi, the prayer hat, on the Eid morning has a traditional appeal more than religious significance. As people are getting more fashion conscious, the styles in topi have changed a lot. Fascination for white crocheted topi or shuti (cotton) topi is very common.

To young people, however, colourfully designed topi is more stylish. 'I'll definitely buy a colourful topi on this Eid which will suit my personality,' says Milon, who is fascinated by the design of the topi of Brunei's Sultan.

In contrast, Haji Aminullah—an elderly person buying a white Jinnah topi, says, 'The colour white has the charm of holiness and the lure of white topi is decent, sober and elegant.'

Bead dazled

Made of precious materials like ivory, amber, seashell, turquoise, coral, crystal, even gold, silver and various types of wood, the colourful and exotic tasbih of 100 beads is the Muslim prayer beads. Akin to the Christian rosaries, Greek's komboloi, Buddhists' malas, Muslims



Topis depict intrinsic designs besides the simple white coloured ones



An array of colourful tasbih on display

have tasbih that originated from Istanbul. Counting the tasbih has been a part of

the Muslim culture. The word 'tasbih' means 'to praise God', 'to praise God in hymns', and 'to pray to God'. The beads on a tasbih are divided into three sets by slightly larger beads; each bead stands for one of the names of Allah.

Tasbih made from gold, silver, amber, pearl, coral and other organic materials such as ivory, whale tooth, tortoiseshell, horn, camel bone and wood including snake wood, ebony, blood wood, olive, rosewood, tamarind, tulip wood, satinwood, sugar maple, teak and Burmese sandalwood are quite expensive, says Kamran—a tasbih seller near the Baitul Mukarram Mosque. 'Artificial beads have reasonable price starting from Tk. 20 onwards.' Tasbih made of fragrant woods are kept in closed boxes to retain the fragrance. In Ottoman times, rock crystal beads were preferred in summer for their cool feeling when touched and for the play of light diffracted by the facets.

Jainamaz: The prayer mat

To a Muslim the significance of jainamaz, the prayer mat, is sacred, blessed and timeless. But the intrinsic beauty of the designs of jainamaz can charm many people.

Originated in Persia and the Arab countries, floral motifs are the highlights of the designs in jainamaz. The materials of jainamaz vary from wool to velvet, synthetic to cotton, and jute. It has an artistic appeal as the designers and weavers of jainamaz apply their creativity with subtle imagination. That is why each jainamaz turns into an aesthetic artwork.

The most traditional designs are the floral compositions with an outline of a mosque embossed in the mat. There was a time when we had our own traditional jainamaz kantha—a rug used for prayers made by village women with magnificent stitches on it. Although those days are gone, we still have satranji having traditional colourful geometrical designs on it to use as jainamaz.

'But everyone likes foreign jainamaz especially those from Iran and Saudi Arabia,' says Akram, who has an array of splendid collection in his shop. A comparatively new jainamaz contains a magnetic compass embedded on it that helps one to identify the exact direction of the Holy Kaaba. The prices of such jainamaz range from Tk. 350 to Tk. 500.

Photos: Afsar Ahmed

CELEBRITY EID-THOUGHTS

With the countdown to Eid, our Cultural Correspondents spoke to two popular small screen celebrities, Fima and Dipa. Fima is the host of the widely watched Fashion Talkies on ntv, a former VJ and an actress, and Dipa Khondokar is an actress cum model. Here is what they think about fashion of bygone days and today.

Dipa



Dipa Khondokar eagerly awaits Eid every year. As always, the festival will be celebrated with exchange of gifts to close relatives and catching up with friends.

Childhood memories of Eid

Dipa spent her childhood at Narayanganj. Living in a joint family, she used to have great fun with her cousins on the Eid day. Like other children, she used to hide her new dresses on the eve of Eid. She also used to go along with her cousins to neighbouring houses on Eid morning. 'Usually my mother and grandmother prepared the foods. Our job was to decorate the house and welcome the guests,' says Dipa.

Eid shopping

'I always enjoy buying gifts for others and I would rather buy a simple handloom sari for myself. Since my childhood, I have seen that every elderly lady in the family wears a white sari on Eid morning,' says Dipa. 'For the last two years, I have been following the tradition and it gives me immense pleasure and tranquility,' she adds.

Attires on Eid

'I love handloom saris,' says Dipa. Although the old tradition of make up and attire is coming back, Dipa thinks that the recent trend is more fashionable and comfortable.

Fima



Views on fashion

Fashion is something that always comes back in a cyclic order. Whatever it is—costumes, shoes, ornaments or even hairstyle—everything comes back after some time. For instance, plastic bangles are in fashion now. I can remember when I was a little girl I used to wear similar plastic bangles. Likewise, the puffy hairstyle of the 1960s is back again. The short kameez was a craze only some months back. Look at what is happening now: the trend of long kameez with churidar is back again.

Changes in fashion

Chemicals were widely used in cosmetic and make up kits in earlier times. However, due to harmful reaction of these chemicals, beauty conscious women avoid such products. Instead, products containing herbal and natural materials are gaining popularity. For example Multani soil, chandan, honey amla and riha are very good for the skin. And for hair care there are methi, papaya, banana and coconut oil. We have learnt from our elders that weekly massage and putting hair oil once a week is essential. Steaming also helps the skin to glow.

Trendy attire

I just love cotton and handloom saris. This Eid, I have a good collection of bright handloom saris. But I also prefer gorgeous collections of Kanchivaram or pure silks for the evening parties.

EID SPECIAL TV GUIDE



Drama Shada Kalo Projapati will be seen on Eid day on Channel i at 9:30pm

CHANNEL i Day before Eid. 7:30 Prothom Shur. 8:00 Rabindrasangit. 8:35 Shagnobodhoy Bangladeshi. 9:45 Trilo Matra. 11:00 Telo Prescription. 11:30 Hiddoy Mat O Manush. 12:00 Sa Re Ga Ma. 12:30 Aj Dupurey O Ghyol Taroka Kolhon. 01:00 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan. 01:30 Bangla Feature Film: Abujh Shartan. 03:40 Banglar Gaan. 04:10 Jamala.

07:50 Bochhor: Kumar Biswajit. Drama: Balok Balika. (Writer: Anisul Haque, Director: Mostafa Sarwar Faruqi. Cast: Aupey Karim, Mahfuz Ahmed). 09:40 Drama: Phagur Dui. (Writer: Masum Reza, Director: Saidul Anam Tutul. Cast: Litu Anam, Chadrni, Jayotro Chatterjee).

Third day of Eid. 7:30 Musical Programme. Trio Matra (Eid Special). 9:30 Chand Uthbey Phul Phulbey (Children's Eid special Programme). 11:30 Fantasy Kingdom Maria.



Talk show Alochon will be aired on ntv at 9:50 pm on the third day of Eid

12:00 Telefilm: Dulahbhai. (Writer: D A Tayeb, Director: S H Haydar Tarf, Cast: Abdul Kader, Tania Ahmed, D A Tayeb). 02:15 Sa Re Ga Ma. 03:00 Telefilm: Ghosh Foringer Swapno. (Writer: Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Director: Abdullah Rana. Cast: Asaduzzaman Noor, Apree Karim, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Intekhab Dinor, Caeser). 05:30 Musical Programme. 06:00 Music Plus. 07:50 Bhalobashar Bangladeshi Drama: Khar.

ATN BANGLA Day before Eid. 05:00 Eid Shanghika (discussion on Eid special magazines and newspapers). 05:30 Vim Eid Special Ranna. 06:00 Music Plus. 06:30 Eider Taroka Tarokar Eid. 07:50 Eid Ananda. (Drama: Ek Tara Dotara. Cast: Tania Ahmed, Ahmed Rubel, Selim Mahfub). 09:40 Eid day. 7:30 Musical Programme. 7:30 Trio Matra (Eid Special). 9:30 Bangla Feature Film: Bachelor (Writer: Anisul Haque, Director: Mustafa Sarwar Faruqi. Cast: Aupey Karim, Ferdous Ahmed Rubel, Humayun Fareedi, Shabnur, Hasan Masud). 11:00 Eider Gaan. 11:00 Telefilm: Nirob (Adaptation & Direction: Shomi Kaiser, Ishita, Polko, Litu Anam, Chumki, Apurba). 01:30 Musical Programme (Host: Keke Ferdous). 05:30 Eid Taroka Adda. 06:00 Film: The Lost Love Story. 06:00 Gaaney Gaaney 25.



Cox's Bazarey Koyekjon will be on ATN Bangla at 9:00pm on the second day of Eid



Runa Laila Exclusive will be aired on the third day of Eid at 10:30pm on BTv

02:00 Telefilm: Tini Eigon. (Writer & Director: Ahmed Yusuf Sabey. Cast: Humayun Fareedi, Shomi Kaiser, Litu Anam, Mim). 04:30 Mokorok Ho Mahey Ramadan. 06:20 Shubhamardi: Special programme on the newly released movies on Eid (Host: Hridy). 07:50 Drama: Abhayastram. (Writer: Brindaban Das, Director: Saidul Anam Tutul. Cast: ATM Shamsuzzaman, Najma Anwar, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Rumana). 09:00 Drama: Gopal Bhanr Sheaney Sheaney. (Writer: M A Saam).



Telefilm Inggeet will be telecast on the second day of Eid at 10:30 pm on ntv

08:00 Telefilm: Tini Eigon. (Writer & Director: Ahmed Yusuf Sabey. Cast: Humayun Fareedi, Shomi Kaiser, Litu Anam, Mim). 09:00 Mokorok Ho Mahey Ramadan. 09:30 Shubhamardi: Special programme on the newly released movies on Eid (Host: Hridy). 09:50 Drama: Abhayastram. (Writer: Brindaban Das, Director: Saidul Anam Tutul. Cast: ATM Shamsuzzaman, Najma Anwar, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Rumana). 11:00 Drama: Gopal Bhanr Sheaney Sheaney. (Writer: M A Saam).

Second day of Eid. 10:30 Chand Khushi (Children's programme) Solo Rectal of Manma Dey (Host: Shanta Islam). Third day of Eid. 10:30 Eid Marna (Children's programme) Magazine on expatriates' Eid: Bhindeshi Eid (Host: Mishi).

11:45 Musical Programme: Premier Tori (Artistes: Asif Kariz, Tapon, Shakila, Manir Khan, Rizia, Badshah Bultul, Mitali, Director: Kakoli). 12:30 Miss Bangladesh USA (Beauty contest held in New York). 04:10 Telefilm: Shonar Bikel. (Writer & Director: Ferdous Hasan. Cast: Shahed, Sraoniti, Tisha, Dolly Zahur, Farah Ruma, Shahidul Alam Sachchu). 06:20 Musical Programme: Amar Prothom (Syed Abdul Hadi, Farida Parveen, Kumar Bishwajit, Momotaz, Shammi).

ATN Bangla will telecast musical programme Asha Chhilo at 10:30pm on the third day of Eid



06:20 Musical Programme: Amar Prothom (Syed Abdul Hadi, Farida Parveen, Kumar Bishwajit, Momotaz, Shammi). 08:00 Akter Shakal. 08:00 Day before Eid. 08:00 Akter Shakal. 08:30 Ranger Manush. 09:20 Amra Ekhon Unsh Kur Cima. 09:30 Popsi Music Express. 09:40 Drama: Rahu. 09:45 Ridoya Ramadan. 09:55 Elhasher El Dine. 05:20 Islam Shikhar Ashor. 06:20 Shubho Sandha. 06:55 Sangskriti Ei Shaptaho. 08:20 ntv Ek Bachor. 11:25 Dindaran.

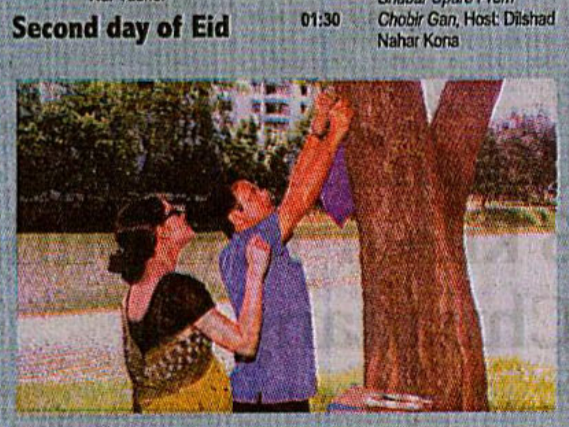
07:50 Drama: Shedon Dujanya. (Writer & Director: Aranya Anwar. Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Shahar Nazim Joy, Shahed, Mosarrat Karim, Tisha). 09:00 Drama: Keheeman. (Writer: Abu Sofian, Director: Mizanur Rahman Labu. Cast: ATM Shamsuzzaman, Bonya Mirza, Azad Abul Kalam, Sikh Ahmed, Shabnam Parveen). 10:30 Musical Programme: Asha Chhilo (Artist: Akbar). 11:00 Musical Programme: Maner Chhilo Gony. (Artist: Iva Rahman). 08:30 Garnira. 09:30 Man Amar Shendhan Kori (Musical Programme on Baul music). 10:05 Band Music: Band Beats (Nagar Baul, Miles, Souls LRB, Feedback Family, Pramitha). 11:30 Talk Show: Ki Katha Tahar Shalho. Host: Imdadul Haq Milon. 12:05 Fashion Queue. 01:30 Chobir Gan, Host: Dishad Nahar Kona. 02:40 Telefilm: Americana. (Writer-Director: Ferdous Hasan. Cast: Dilara Zaman, Zahid Hasan, Joya Ahsan, Kumkum Hasan, Shur Jhankar, Artistes:).

Telefilm Gontyabosthal will be seen at 11:20pm on the fourth day of Eid on ntv



Prem Korechhi Besh Korechhi on ATN Bangla at 3:40pm on the Eid day

06:20 Rupeshi Mamtai, Rinaul Fauszi, Shahraz Zaman. 06:50 Shubhoshandha (Eid special). 06:50 Purono Pop, Artistes: Azam Khan, Fakir Alamgir, Lucky Akhand. 08:15 Drama: Ami Chok. 09:50 Bhalobashar Shomudra Jole (Part 1). (Writer-Director: Humayun Ahmed, Cast: Riaz, Shaon, Joyonta Chatterjee). 09:50 Runa Laylar Ekoi Ghazal: Geeti Modhumoy. 11:20 Magazine Programme: Shada Kalo, Host: Abdun Nur Tusher.



Bhalobashar Bishri will be seen on BTv on the second day of Eid day at 8:30pm

08:00 Akter Shaka. 08:30 Runa Laylar Ekoi Ghazal: Geeti Modhumoy. 09:05 Mina Alo Shahone. 09:30 Molo Chader Man. 10:05 El Amader Gram. 10:30 Telefilm: Emgeel. (Writer: Director: Shahab Shaheen. Cast: Api Karim, Intekhab Dinor. Cast: Ahsun, Sangeet: Man Pkhi Chardana. 02:40 Bangla Feature Film: Joyella. (Director: Toukir Ahmed. Cast: Bipasha Hayat, Azizul Hakim, Mahfuz Ahmed, Humayun Fandi, Tarq Anam Khan. 06:20 Shubhoshandha. 06:50 Musical programme: Dujone Kujone. 08:20 Drama: Ami Chok. 02:40 Telefilm: Dul Fronte. (Writer: Anur Choudhury, Director: Arif Khan. Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Humayun Fandi, Bipasha Hayat. 05:20 Cine Magazine: Tarey Tarey. 06:20 Shubhoshandha. 06:50 Musical Programme: Hridoy Jura Achho. 08:20 Drama: Anyapool. Cast: Bappa Majumdar, Sumaya Shirin, Aruna Biswas. 09:50 Talk Show: Alochon. (Writer: Anur Choudhury, Director: Arif Khan. Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Humayun Fandi, Bipasha Hayat. 11:20 Drama: Shwapnashri. Cast: Joya, Mahfuz, Sraoniti, Tini, Fazlur Rahman Babu).