

## Eid Accessories

## The rage that's costume jewellery

FAYZA HAQ

If our women had their way, they would deck themselves from their forehead to their toes. With Eid around the corner, the Dhaka malls, such as Rapa, Anam, Orchid and Muscat Plaza, are out with their ware of trinkets and jewellery that will easily delight the feminine eye. These contain bangles of all shapes and sizes, wrought in gold metal and decked with imitation pearls, rubies, amethysts and emeralds. They are made to match with clothes and are within the budget. They look real and are designed with bells and flowers. Coloured glass bangles are there too and often they are imported. These too come in a wide range of scintillating shades. The necklaces and earrings, even the ones at Hallmark and Archie's, are irresistibly delightful.

When the ladies saunter out with their beaus they would like to look informal and yet festive, and these lovely pieces of jewellery will play up the shades of chiffon and silks that they will be flaunting. Keeping in mind women's craving for ornaments, there were gala sales of costume jewellery with remarkable shapes and sizes. The designs were rich and opulent. The sets were sold out before even the official sale began, even though the prices had rocketed to several thousands of takas.

Then there's jewellery made of baked clay, painted bright. The earrings and necklaces are mostly of geometrical shapes while the prices are very reasonable.

Jewellery is no longer geared only for the affluent. With as little as Tk 500 you can get delightful selections for your neck and wrists. Heavy pendants have now been in vogue for some years and these are found in different shapes and hues all the way from Gulshan to New Market.

Many young women are fans of costume jewellery. Some have a fascination for silver, while others go for jewellery with an antique look. Some have a fascination for pearls, imported silver and stone studded jewellery. These go well with the *taant* and *jamdani* saris.

Young girls prefer funky jewellery, especially funky bangles and rings. Some go for the wooden jewellery from the sidewalks as well. It has become a fad to wear bronze and metallic ornaments. Now they are readily available in every nook and corner of Bangladesh.

There are the necklaces and



Trinkets of different kinds were among the best selling items this Eid.



earrings in the shape of large copper and brass discs arranged with a row of large matching beads. The discs are decorated with motifs of flora and fauna. There are then the necklaces that wink like topaz. Rows of delicate

chains ending in *Mughal* motifs attract the customer.

Silver coloured *madulis* strung around black threads have been in vogue for many years and are displayed with aplomb. Beads and shells go into decorating other necklaces, while brightly coloured straw, silk, odds and ends go to decorate other earrings and neck ensembles. Carved wooden jewellery in the shapes of flowers and leaves and painted a deep red also appear attractive. Bracelets of different coloured round and oval beads along with necklaces of glass beads with matching earrings are also delightful. Plastic bangles and rings can be seen too occasionally and these are topped with stones to give a glitzy look. Toe rings are also sought after by the trendy and graceful feet adorned by these silver bands recall the days of the Rajput royalty.

Some of the shops have chokers with pendants of beautiful patterns set with stones. There are strands of semi-precious stones like turquoise and garnets or pale yellow stones that could be taken for a brand of topaz. Coral necklaces are equally alluring. Pink, white and black strings of pearls are there for your choice. The earrings in these stones are intricately made and the necklaces that go with it are naturally a little expensive.

## EID SPECIALS

## "A Matter of Love" on Channel i

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Telefilm "A Matter of Love" will be aired on Channel i at 10:30 am on the third day of Eid.

Starring Shajol, Tisha, Naeem and Juthi, the telefilm is written by Shushmoy Shumon and produced by Samia Zaman. Kaushik Sankar Das has directed the telefilm.

The story revolves around two childhood friends, Rayan and Shayonti. Rayan wants to be more than just friends but Shayonti refuses. He thinks that only good friends can be good lovers. On the other hand Shayonti does not want to ruin a good friendship by getting into a serious relationship.

After a lot of persistence, Shayonti gives in and says yes to Rayan. And that's when trouble begins. Things that they liked about each other as friends before falling in love turn out to be reasons for fights and arguments. It reaches such a state that both begin to wonder whether it was better being just friends.



Shajol and Tisha in "A Matter of Love."

## "Bhalobeshe Dhonyo Koro" on ntv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

TV play *Bhalobeshe Dhonyo Koro*, featuring Tinni, Hillo, Nasim and Simla, will be aired on ntv on the fourth day of Eid at 9:30 am. The play is based on a story by Askar Ibne Shaikh. The script is by Mujtaba Soud. Sadek Siddiqui has directed the play.

The play centres on the story of three friends studying in Dhaka University. Ashraf is the brightest among them, who gets a first class and subsequently joins the university as a lecturer. Ashraf has a deep attachment with his native village. He loves a girl named Asma from the same village. Rozina, who comes from an affluent family in the city, is infatuated with Ashraf. But disgusted with Ashraf's rural likes, Rozina decides to choose one of Asraf's friends as her mate. Sayeed, the third one from the group is a playboy, who eventually falls for a girl named Rekha.



Nasim and Tinni in the play.

## Art competition to generate awareness against bird hunting

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

Eleven year-old Athay detests hunting birds. Athay took part in an art competition where he was asked to depict his anti-bird hunting attitude. The young boy portrayed a courtroom where a bird hunter with some of his preys in hand is on

the dock for trial.

It was a day like no other for 50 boys like Athay when Dhyiel Art School arranged a programme to make the children aware of the hazards of bird hunting. Held at the Zia Shishu Park last Monday, the theme of the programme was "Save the birds as they restore balance of nature."

The Art School brought out a

procession. Students of the school took part in the procession. They raised slogans against bird hunting and also came with placards, festoons and banners. An oath taking ceremony was also held.

A number of guardians also attended the programme.

A discussion was also arranged. Dhirindranath Sarkar,

chief executive of Kushtia Zilla Parishad, attended the programme as chief guest. Asmdia Jahid, director of Dhyiel Art School was in the chair. Artist Mir Jahid, Udichi, Kushtia district secretary Samar Roy, advocate Subrata Chatterjee, and Kushtia coordinator of NGO Proshika Habibunnahar also addressed the programme among others.

## ALL TIME GREATS

## A legacy of unparalleled work

Lata Mangeshkar turns 80

Lata Mangeshkar, the greatest Indian songstress of all time, turns 80 today (September 28). Like a flash of lightning, she illuminated a musical world on the verge of change in 1949 and it has never been the same since.

Every singer for the past six decades has been singing in the space charted by Lata's voice. Great singing, unlike good singing, is an experience of beauty laced with pity, a haunted happening in the shadow of our transience. And rarely has a singer symbolised this experience as Lata has over the last several decades.

Today, when the wider soundscape of India is as chaotically rich as that of any western nation with experimental music, indie-rock shows soaked in hipster attitude, pop idols cavorting on HD monitors, innumerable winners emerging from the ceaseless reality singing competitions, a demure woman in a white sari still manages to capture the attention of the subcontinent every time she sings or even speaks.

Her achievements are so gargantuan that even if she had stopped singing after the first 15 years of her career, Indian music would still be in her everlasting debt. Yet Lata continued to work at an extraordinary high level of artistic achievement.

Lata's artistic genius lies in her making singing seem so effortless. The most difficult of the ragas and the highest of the scales -- Lata reaches with a serenity that would be bewildering even for a classical master. She is often criticised for not being versatile enough, like her sister Asha Bhosle.

It's the critics, however, who seem out of touch with her reper-



toire -- *Aa Ja Jaane Ja*, one of the finest cabaret numbers; *Woh Ik Nigah Kyi Mili* where she sings like a soprano; *Ehsan Tera Hoga Mujh Par* and *Mere Naina Sawan Bhadon* where she sings at a scale used only for male voices; *Aye Dilruba* where she sings an Arabic tune flawlessly in high octave; innumerable songs that she sang for C Ramachandran and Sali

and did not allow others to grow under her shadow. But it's the music composers who monopolised her, and reserved their best compositions for her.

A biography of hers in early 1990s confidently predicted the end of the Lata era. Little did the biographer realise that Lata was just on the verge of giving the Indian film music some of its greatest hits ever.

At a time when mediocrity is running amok in the Indian film music industry and where anyone who can open his or her mouth is declared to be the next big singing sensation, Lata's presence alone provides a measure of sanity by making listeners realise what true artistry actually means.

Lata has enjoyed the love and respect of her countrymen and women like no other artiste in the last six decades. But what she hasn't been duly recognised for is her contribution as a crusader for the rights of playback singers.

She single-handedly took on the male-dominated Hindi film music establishment on a range of issues -- from insisting that records should carry the name of the singers to forcing the Filmfare Awards to recognise the contribution of playback singers to fighting for the royalties with the Indian music companies.

She has championed the cause of women in film and music industry by standing so tall above all others where even giants like Rafi and Kishore Kumar had to contend with Lata's primacy. Nowhere else has a woman so dominated an industry as Lata has with the share power of her artistic achievement.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent



## এমন দিনে। ভবঘুরে। আমরা ক'জন।

আবার এলো ঈদ। চলতে-বলতে, ঘুরতে-ফিরতে, সকাল থেকে সন্ধ্যা-রাত্রে। থাকতে চাই সবার সাথে। আর তাই বাড়ির সবার জন্য এপেক্স নিয়ে এলো ৩৮০ টাকা থেকে ৫৫০০ টাকা দামের নতুন নতুন জুতা। দেশজুড়ে, এপেক্স এর সকল শোকেমে। ঈদ আনন্দে। পায়ে পায়ে। সবার সাথে।



কোড: HW-01-291 মূল্য: ২২৫০.০০ টাকা কোড: GO-01-391 মূল্য: ১৬৫০.০০ টাকা কোড: TK-02-191 মূল্য: ১৬০০.০০ টাকা কোড: KE-37-469 মূল্য: ৩৮০.০০ টাকা