

## FEATURED AUTHORS



**Vikram Seth**  
Vikram Seth is a poet, novelist, travel writer, librettist, children's writer, biographer and memoirist. Gore Vidal described his debut novel, *The Golden Gate: A Novel in Verse* as 'The Great Californian Novel'; *A Suitable Boy*, is the longest novel ever written in English, and undeniably one of the most popular narratives of our times. His third novel, *Two Lives*, won the EMMA (BT Ethnic and Multicultural Media Award) for Best Book/Novel. He is working on *A Suitable Girl*.



**Hasan Azizul Huq**  
Hasan Azizul Huq is a Bangladeshi writer and essayist, famous for his meticulously written short stories. His first short story was published in 1964. He has written children's books and a memoir about his experiences during Bangladesh's War of Independence in 1971. His novel, *Agunpaksi* (Fire Bird), was greatly acclaimed in India and Bangladesh.



**Kamila Shamsie**  
Kamila Shamsie is the author of five novels: *In the City by the Sea*, *Salt and Saffron*, *Kartography*, *Broken Verses*, and *Burnt Shadows*. *In the City by the Sea* and *Kartography* were both shortlisted for the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize, while *Burnt Shadows* was shortlisted for the 2010 Orange Prize and translated into over 20 languages. She is a reviewer and columnist, primarily for *The Guardian*.



**Anisul Hoque**  
Anisul Hoque is a Bangladeshi author, novelist, dramatist and journalist, currently Associate Editor of Prothom Alo. Also a scriptwriter, with Bangladeshi filmmaker Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, he co-wrote the script for a film titled 'Television', which received the Asian Cinema Fund for script development, from South Korea's Pusan Film Festival.

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HAY FESTIVAL  
DHAKA  
15 - 17 NOVEMBER 2012  
AT BANGLA ACADEMY

AB Bank  
Presents  
HAY DHAKA  
MUSICFEST

16 November 2012  
6PM - 10PM  
At Rabindra Sharobar



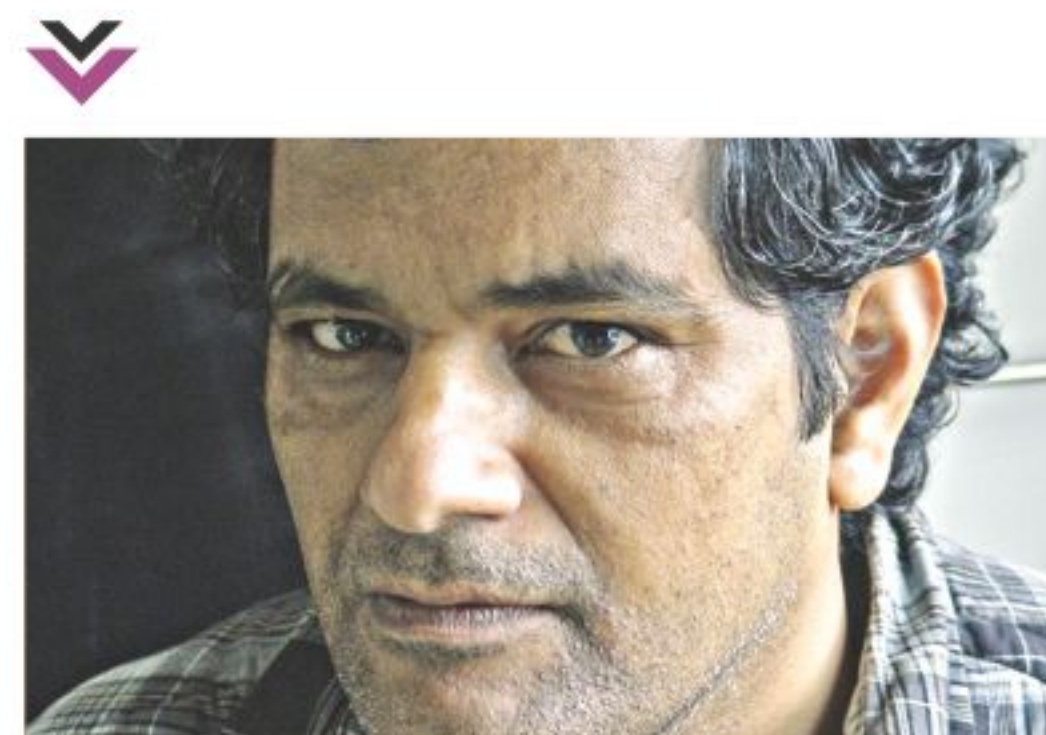
**Selina Hossain**  
Selina Hossain is a writer of fiction, an essayist, novelist and cultural activist who is one of Bangladesh's most celebrated writers. She draws upon history, folk traditions and contemporary events.

**Firdous Azim**  
Firdous Azim is a chair of the Department of English and Humanities at BRAC University, a member of woman's activist group Naripokkho. As a contributing editor for *Feminist Review*, she edited the special issue *South Asian Feminisms: Negotiating New Terrains*. She is also editor of the *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal* entitled *Complex Terrains: Islam, Culture and Women in Asia*.

**Fakrul Alam**  
Fakrul Alam is an academic, writer, and translator. Among his works are *Daniel Defoe: Colonial Propagandist*, *The Essential Tagore*, *Jibananada Das: Selected Poems*, *Translated with Introduction, Bibliography and Glossary*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography: South Asian Writers in English*, and *The Unfinished Memoirs*, a translation of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's unfinished autobiography.

**Anisuzzaman**  
Anisuzzaman is an eminent academic of Bengali literature. He is currently Professor Emeritus with the Department of Bengali at the University of Dhaka.

**Mohammad Hanif**  
Mohammad Hanif is a journalist, playwright, and novelist, who also wrote the script for a film, *The Long Night*. His novels include *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*, which was long-listed for the Man Booker Prize, shortlisted for *The Guardian First Book Award*, and won the *Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Novel*. His latest novel, *Our Lady of Alice Bhatti* was published in 2011.



**Masuda Bhatti**  
Masuda Bhatti is a London based Bangladeshi journalist, columnist, novelist, poet and editor of a cutting edge Bengali Bi-Weekly, published from Bangladesh. For an interview with Mikhail Gorbachev, she was awarded the Best Interviewer of the Year 1997 by the *Moscow Times*. She divides her time between Dhaka and London.

**Farah Ghuznavi**  
Farah Ghuznavi is a columnist and short story writer. She writes regularly for *The Daily Star's* *Weekend Magazine*, and has been published in various collections and anthologies. She is the editor of the anthology of new writing from Bangladesh, *Lifelines*, which will be launched at the festival.

**Umme Muslima**  
Umme Muslima is a writer, poet and gender specialist, regularly published in various national dailies and magazines. She is the current Project Director at the *Commonwealth Youth Programme Technology Empowerment Centre's* *Wheels for Disenfranchised Rural Young People* of Bangladesh.

**Muhammed Zafar Iqbal**  
Muhammed Zafar Iqbal is a Bangladeshi scientist, writer of science fiction, children's books, and columnist. He is currently a professor at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. One of Bangladesh's most loved children's authors, his stories have been adapted for television dramas and made into films; recently an animated film was made based on one of his science fiction novels, *Treaturer Jogot*.



**Gillian Clarke**  
Gillian Clarke is a Welsh playwright, editor, poet, and translator, who also teaches creative writing. She is the current Welsh National Poet and president and co-founder of Ty Newydd, the writers' centre in North Wales. She is the first woman poet to receive the prestigious Wilfred Owen Association Poetry Award in 2012.

**Ruby Rahman**  
Ruby Rahman is a poet and has been a teacher and a journalist. Her work has been anthologised in both Bangladesh and India, and published in US journals. She serves on the editorial board of *Kali O Kalam*, a Bengali monthly literary journal, and is currently on the Jury Board of the Prothom Alo newspaper.

**Kaiser Haq**  
Kaiser Haq is a poet, essayist and translator, and one of Bangladesh's most outstanding writers in English. He has been a Commonwealth Scholar, Senior Fulbright Scholar, Vilas Fellow, Royal Literary Fund Fellow, and Café Poet at the UK Poetry Society's Poetry Café. At this year's festival, four of his books will be launched.

**Sitakant Mahapatra**  
Sitakant Mahapatra is an Indian poet and literary critic who writes in Oriya and English. He has published poetry in several Indian languages, essays, a travelogue, contemplative works and translations.

**Phillip Hensher**  
Phillip Hensher is a critic, journalist, librettist and writer of short fiction. He was named one of *Granta's* Best of Young British Novelists in 2003. AS Byatt selected his story for the *Oxford Book of English Short Stories* in 1998, making him the youngest author in it. He contributes to the *Independent*, the *Mail* on Sunday, and the *Spectator*. His latest book, *Scenes from Early Life*, published in April 2012 is about pre-1971, conflict-riven East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).



**Shahnaz Murni**  
Shahnaz Murni is a poet and essayist, who writes fiction and short stories. She is a television journalist, currently working as news editor with the private TV channel ATN Bangla. In 1997 she published her first book of short stories, *Jiner Komaya* (*The Spirit's Daughter*).

**David Davidar**  
David Davidar is an Indian novelist and publisher. With 25 years experience in publishing, he co-founded Aleph Book Company, an independent literary publishing firm, in partnership with Rupa Publications India. He has edited or published the likes of Kiran Desai, Arundhati Roy, Shashi Tharoor, Vikram Seth, Khushwant Singh, William Dalrymple, Romila Thapar, Salman Rushdie, Mark Tully, Rohinton Mistry and Amitav Ghosh.



**Tahmima Anam**  
Tahmima Anam is a Bangladeshi novelist. Her debut novel, *A Golden Age*, has been translated into 22 languages. Her second novel, *The Good Muslim*, was longlisted for the 2011 Man Asian Literary Prize. Her writing has been published in *Granta*, *The New York Times*, and *The Guardian*. She is co-producer of Dhaka Hay Festival.

**V.K. Karthika**  
V.K. Karthika is a publisher and chief editor of Harper Collins India, who has been working in the field of publishing for over a decade. Karthika is said to be 'instrumental in creating literary masterpieces out of manuscripts.'

**Anwara Syed-Haq**  
Anwara Syed-Haq is a novelist and poet, and activist, who is on the Executive Council of the National Children's Academy. She is a trained psychiatrist and member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the UK.

**Kazi Anis Ahmed**  
Kazi Anis Ahmed's first published story, 'Forty Steps', was nominated for a Pushcart Prize, re-published in an anthology edited by Niaz Zaman, translated into Bengali by West Bengali translator Manabendra Bandopadhyay and released as a book. His short story collection, *Good Night, Mr. Kissinger and Other Stories* was launched last weekend.

**Mahmad Rahman**  
Mahmud Rahman's collection of short stories, *Killing the Water*, is set in Bangladesh, urban America, and imagined territories, each one speaks of war, migration and displacement. He has also recently translated Mahmudul Haque's iconic novel, *Kalo Barof* (*Black Ice*).

**Ahmed Mostafa Kamal**  
Ahmed Mostafa Kamal is a writer and has published eight novels. He is currently teaching at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).

**Bedabrata Pain**  
Bedabrata Pain is an Indian film director and producer, who worked with NASA until 2008. His latest film, *Chittagong*, has been internationally acclaimed.

**Arundhati Subramaniam**  
Arundhati Subramaniam is a poet, writer, poetry editor, curator, and journalist. Author of the bestselling biography *Sadbguru: More Than a Life and Book of Buddha*. Her work has been translated into Hindi, Tamil, Italian and Spanish.

**Audity Falguni**  
Audity Falguni is a poet, writer, essayist, researcher and translator, who has published short stories, poetry, essays and novellas. She translated Marc Chagall's autobiography, *Gabriel Garcia Marquez's The Autumn of the Patriarch*, and Alexandra Groomling's *Michelangelo: Life and Work*, among others. She is a gender specialist with UNDP Bangladesh.

**Sharbari Zohra Ahmed**  
Sharbari Zohra Ahmed is an author, filmmaker and columnist for *The Daily Star* who wrote, produced and starred in her first play, *Raisins Not Virgins*, which was also staged in Dhaka; the screenplay adapted from the play was selected for the prestigious Tribeca All Access program at the festival in 2008. She also wrote and directed the short film, *Duniya*.

**Shehan Karunatikala**  
Shehan Karunatikala has worked as an advertising copy-writer, played in a band, and written travel stories. *Chinaman: The Legend of Pradeep Mathew*, was winner of the DSC South Asia Prize, and the 2012 Commonwealth Book Prize. He writes for the *Guardian*, *Newsweek*, *National Geographic*, *Rolling Stone*, *Wisden*, *The Cricketer* and the *Economic Times*.



**Syed Shamsul Haq**  
Syed Shamsul Haq is a Bengali poet, playwright, novelist and essayist. One of Bangladesh's most popular and gifted authors, his works are however, not readily available to readers in languages other than Bengali.

**Mrittika Chakma**  
Mrittika Chakma is a cultural activist from the Chittagong Hill Tracts. An author and poet, he plays a vital and valuable role by building a bridge between indigenous cultures and mainstream Bangladeshis.

**Rafiqul Islam**  
Rafiqul Islam is an eminent Nazrul researcher, and a key figure in facilitating researchers and artists, to promote Kazi Nazrul Islam's works before a global audience. Islam is the Pro-VC of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).

**Sadaf Saaz Siddiqi**  
Sadaf Saaz Siddiqi is an entrepreneur, activist and a writer. Her poems have been published in national newspapers, and included in the anthology *Journeys*, and were featured in Sharbari Zohra Ahmed's film *Duniya*. She is co-producer of Hay Festival Dhaka.

**Zakir Talukder**  
Zakir Talukder is a doctor by profession but is better known for his creative writing. He has written short stories, novels, children's stories and also translated Christopher Hitchens' book *The Trial of Henry Kissinger* and *Marianne Fredriksson's Anna, Hanna en Johanna*.

**Kuldip Nayar**  
Kuldip Nayar is a veteran Indian journalist, syndicated columnist, human rights activist and author, noted for his long career as a left-wing political commentator. The author of fifteen books, he writes for over 80 newspapers in 14 languages, including *The Daily Star*, *The Sunday Guardian*, and *The News*. His most recent publication is *Beyond the Lines: An Autobiography*.

**Nandita Das**  
Nandita Das is an Indian actress and director, best known for her roles in two of Meera Nair's films, 'Fire' and 'Earth', but has acted in over 30 films, in ten different languages. Her directorial debut, *Firaaq*, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and travelled to over 50 festivals to critical acclaim.



**Nasreen Jahan**  
Nasreen Jahan is a modern Bangladeshi author and literary editor. Her writing combines realism, surrealism, and magic realism. The novel *Urukku*, published in 1993, has been translated into English by Kaiser Haq, and will be launched at the festival.

**Eurig Salisbury**  
Eurig Salisbury is a Welsh poet and the current Welsh Children's Laureate. A research Fellow at the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. He has published two volumes of poetry, one for children.

**Naila Azad**  
Naila Azad is a performer, director, choreographer and designer with over 20 years experience teaching acting and movement and as an artistic director. She is the only Bangladeshi woman to have a post-graduate degree from UCLA in Film and Media.



**Wasfia Nazreen**  
Wasfia Nazreen is a writer, photographer, and rights activist who has been published in various international publications. She is the founder of *Bangladesh on Seven Summits*, a campaign to climb the world's seven highest mountains, in celebration of 40 years of Bangladesh's independence, especially dedicated to the women.

**Rizia Rahman**  
Rizia Rahman has been writing since the late sixties. She moved from straightforward narratives to magic realism and multi-layered structures. She has written several novels, and translations of her short stories have been anthologised in various publications in Bangladesh and abroad.

**Shubhashish Sinha**  
Shubhashish Sinha is a poet, playwright and novelist who writes in Bangla and English. His work in theatre has garnered praise in both Bangladesh and India; he represented Bangladesh at the SAARC writers conference in New Delhi in 2005.

**Writers Block**  
Writers Block is a group of Bengali authors writing in English. The group includes, Shazia Omar, Farah Ghaznavi, Sadaf Siddiqi, Munize Manzur, Masud Khan Shujon, Saad Hossain, Sal Imam, Awrup Sanyal, Lori Simpson, M.K Aaref, Srabanti Ali, Alizeh Ahmed and Tisa Muhaddes.

### 10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HAY FESTIVAL DHAKA:

- All events are free and open to the public. You can walk in anytime, but to avoid queuing, register online at [www.hayfestival.org/dhaka](http://www.hayfestival.org/dhaka)
- We have three venues, with simultaneous events throughout the day. Be sure to explore the programme beforehand to choose your favourite events and plan the day.
- Arrive early and pick up free passes for venues and sessions with limited number of seats.
- Free Wifi will be available throughout the venue.
- Join the conversation on our facebook page: [www.facebook.com/haydhaka](http://www.facebook.com/haydhaka) or LiveTweet the events at @hayfestdhaka
- Participate in our book exchange—bring your old books, and take a free book from the stall. Any extra books will be donated to JAAGO foundation.
- Attend the Short Story Surgery from 9am on Friday morning and get experts to read your creative writing.
- Purchase books at the festival bookshop and get your books signed by participating writers.
- Lunch, snacks, and fresh juice will be available for purchase.
- Don't forget to turn off your mobile phone!

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

All our events are free and open to the public. However, some of the sessions will be held in the auditorium with limited seating. Free passes will be handed out at the venue on a 'first come first serve' basis. Avoid disappointment by arriving early to get your hands on the passes for the following sessions:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

11:30 AM DEBUT DIRECTORS  
Catherine Masud & Nandita Das

2:45 PM VIKRAM SETH  
In conversation with David Davidar

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

2:45 PM MOHAMMAD ZAFAR IQBAL  
In conversation with Onik Khan

5:00 PM 'CHITTAGONG'  
Preview screening of the new feature film by Bedabrata Pain