

Winners of Celebrating Life 2013.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

awards, along with crests and certificates. Celebrating Life encourages contestants to broaden their horizon of thinking and take their cameras to the remotest corners of Bangladesh, and to bring rural Bangladesh to the limelight. Weeklong festivals are organised in districts of Bangladesh throughout the year, showcasing the winning entries from the previous years' contests; bringing the spirit of Celebrating Life to remote areas and villages of Bangladesh, and making sure that the whole nation can participate in the celebrations!

About the Photography Contest

The photography contest, one of the three contests of Celebrating Life, invite participants to submit a maximum of 3 entries per person. A jury board composed of eminent personalities/experts in the field of photography critique the submissions, amongst which three winners are selected. These winners receive certificates, crests and cash prizes. Initial screening shortlists a few hundred photographs from tens of thousands of entries every year. The judges then go through the shortlisted photos, scoring and ranking them to find the top photographs. The winner receives a cash prize of Tk. 100,000/- the 1st runner's up entry receives Tk. 50,000/- and the 2nd runner's up entry will receives Tk. 25,000/-. Nine additional entries receive honorable mention awards and certificates only. The twelve finalists receive massive promotion, through the grand annual award giving ceremony, the district level festivals, on Standard Chartered Bank's early calendars, and through a photobook publication printed once every two years, not to mention being published in The Daily Star! All of these twelve finalists of 2013 are being featured in today's issue of the Star magazine!

Meet the Photography Judges of 2013

In 2013, Celebrating Life's Photography contest brought together three noted personalities of the photographic community as judges. They are Md. Rashid Un Nabi, Nafis Ahmed Nadvi and Abir Abdullah. Rashid is a cancer specialist by profession, who won about 30 national and 62 international awards in photography including FIAP Gold Medal, PSA Gold Medal, Asahi Shimbun Gold Medal, FIAP Honorable Mention Blue Ribbon, Nikon award, MILK award, FIAP Bronze Medal etc. He was also the Editor of the Bangladesh Photographic Society Journal from 1990 to 1991.

Nadvi comes from a family of renowned photographers. After obtaining his Bachelor of Fine Art degree from Dhaka University, he went on to win many photographic accolades, including the 1st Prize in the 2nd National Photo Contest organised by the Bangladesh Photographic Society, the 3rd Award in the 1st International Photographic Art Exhibition organised by the Photographic Association of Beijing of China and Best Prize in the 2nd National Photo Contest organised by the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, to name a few.

Abir is an internationally renowned photographer whose work has been exhibited in Europe, South America, Asia and the U.S. His work has been published in the World Press Photo book New Stories and Phaidon Press' Blink. He is currently working for the European Press photo Agency (EPA) as its Bangladesh correspondent, and is known for his work on environmental issues.

For details about Celebrating Life, please visit www.celebratinglifebd.com, and search for 'celebratinglifecontests' in Facebook.