The Man Who Built 'Television'

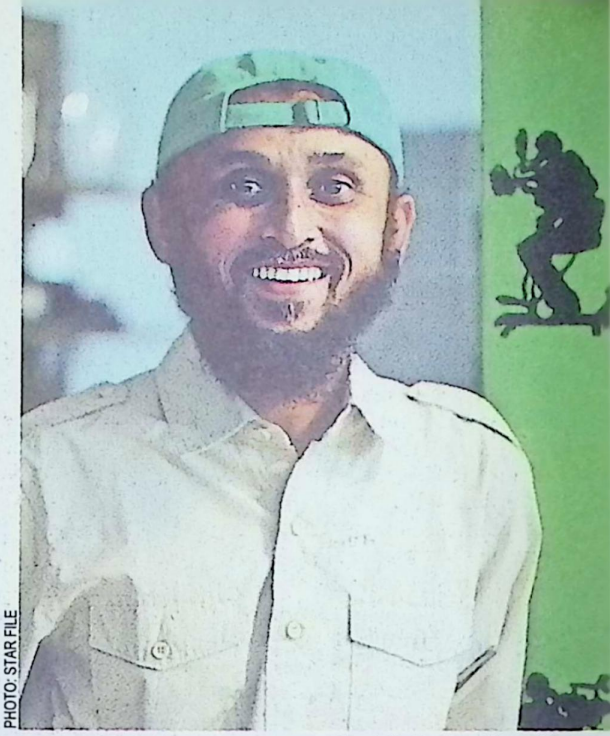
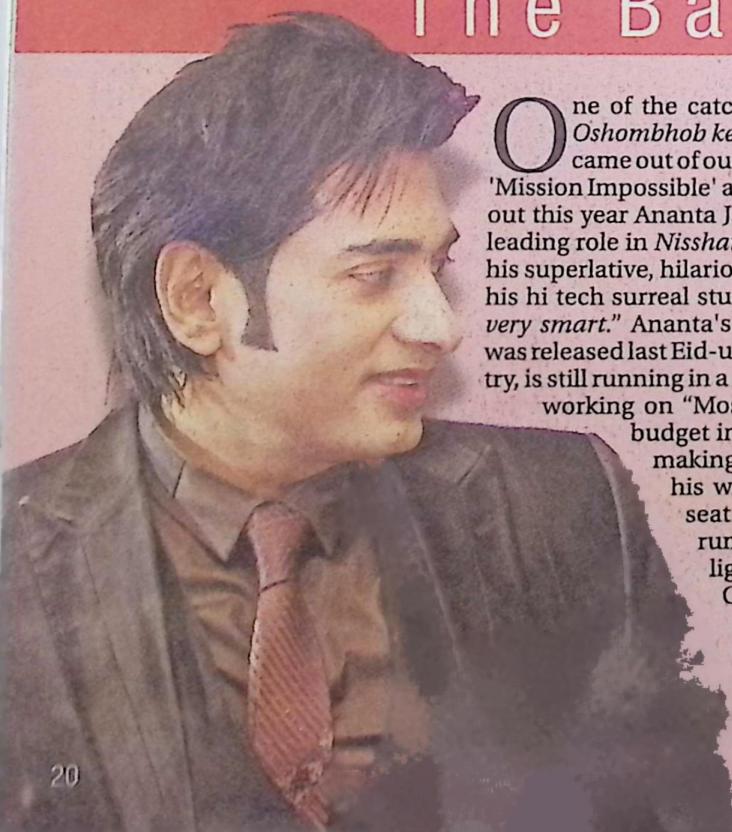


PHOTO: STAR FILE

Mostafa Sarwar Farooki

2013 brings a pack of good news for the film enthusiasts of Bangladesh. One of our Bangladeshi films 'Television' has drifted through quite a few film festivals around the world, bagged a number of noteworthy awards and earned prestige and popularity for our Bangladeshi film industry. For giving us these proud moments throughout the year, director, Mostafa Sarwar Farooki along with his team surely deserves a round of applause. 'Television' was screened in the Perspectives Film Festival in Singapore this October and had been selected in the festival's "Breakthrough in Independent Cinema" category. Also in October, it competed with a number of quality films from all across Asia in Rome's Asiatica Film Mediale's and has won the "City of Rome" prize for best feature film (jury). In addition, it won the best feature (audience) in popular vote in Asiatica. Then again, the film was screened in Kolkata International Film Festival and won the Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema (Netpac) award. 'Television' was also awarded with Jury Grand Prize in Asia Pacific Screen Award, 2013 and was nominated for best film and best screenplay in the same contest. Previously, the acclaimed film was nominated to compete at the Oscars in the "Best Foreign Language Film" category. Not only 'Television', this year Farooki has created a buzz with his film "*Pipra Bidya*", which had its world premiere at the 10th Dubai International Film Festival.

The Bangla Bond



One of the catchphrases of 2013 that we know by heart is *Oshombhob ke shombhob korari Anantar Kaj*! This dialogue came out of our invincible superhero Ananta Jalil's mouth in 'Mission Impossible' a TV commercial of Grameenphone. Throughout this year Ananta Jalil has been the centre of discussion for his leading role in *Nisshartho Bhalobasha* (translated as What is love), his superlative, hilarious dialogues and participation in talk shows, his hi tech surreal stunts or for his peppy song "*Dhakar pola very very smart.*" Ananta's latest film *Nisshartha Bhalobhasha*, which was released last Eid-ul-Fitr in over 200 theatres all around the country, is still running in a number of cinemas. This year, he also started working on "Most Welcome 2", claimed to have the biggest budget in the history of Bangladeshi film. Apart from making onscreen news, AJ's infidelity rumors with his wife Barsha also made his fans jump off the seat. As soon as the Ananta-Barsha breakup rumour was squashed, he again came in the lime light by taking Barsha to watch a Barca match in Camp Nou and by buying her a brand new Bulgari watch worth USD 22,000 from Dubai as an Eid present. All through 2013, our Bangla Bond Ananta Jalil kept people glued to his antics - both on screen and off.