

LS EVENT

Then there were twelve

THE nervous anticipation enveloped the Rupchanda-Star Lifestyle Super Chef 2014's latest episode even before the show had fully began. Last week saw 12 participants from 24 battling it out in the kitchen, preparing their best dish as the task required. This week saw the second batch of 12 participants do the same.

The second batch, selected through lottery in the first day, were handed an advantage without their knowing. From the whispers of the first batch of twelve, some had already gathered a very good idea about what to expect. Many among them also had

the participants were seen increasingly engrossed in their own work, stealing a glance every now and then to gauge the competition.

What was notable was the mixture between local and international cuisine. Elaborate entries from both groups were seen. However, some chose to play it safe and focused on Bangladeshi cuisine, whilst others put forward flamboyant style over simple substance. The judges walked about, offering advice and asking questions, all the while marking the participants. The participants were then invited to bring up their

dishes for the judges to taste.

The judges tasted and then marked the participants on a few important factors such as taste, presentation, cleanliness and the x-factor. The judges were seen engaging in discussion but each chose to keep their marks to themselves. The participants nervously waited for the announcement and it came, with all 24 participants in the room.

The chosen 12 were then called one by one and were congratulated on having progressed to the next round. Those that did not fare so well were disheartened but accepted that although they had given their



a good idea about the kitchen conditions, utensils and the ingredients available in the pantry. Thus, a lot was expected from the 12 today. At the end of the day, of the 24, only 12 would remain.

The 12 participants lined up and awaited the judges. Shahida Yesmin, Shawkat Osman and Afroza Banu comprised the judging panel. The main judges of the show then began instructing the participants, informing them that they had the pantry to themselves and were given exactly two hours to finish their dish. Thus, the gauntlet was thrown.

What was revealing about this episode was the human element, which is usually seen in the toughest of competitions. Heart-warming moments unexpectedly came through, with participants seen running to get not ingredients for themselves but also their competitors. However, as time passed,



best, there were elements beyond their control. However, they all agreed that no one was going to hand you anything in this competition and only the truly best would survive the heat till the end.

Thus, this week's Rupchanda-Star Lifestyle Super Chef 2014 came to an end. With 12 more participants and a few more rounds to

go, the competition is getting tougher by the minute. Tune into to NTV every Monday night at 9:00 pm to catch the latest episode of the Rupchanda-Star Lifestyle Super Chef 2014.

By Osama Rahman

Photo: Sazzad Ibne Sayed

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