

HANDS ON
REVIEW

Feel premium without paying premium: Maximus iX



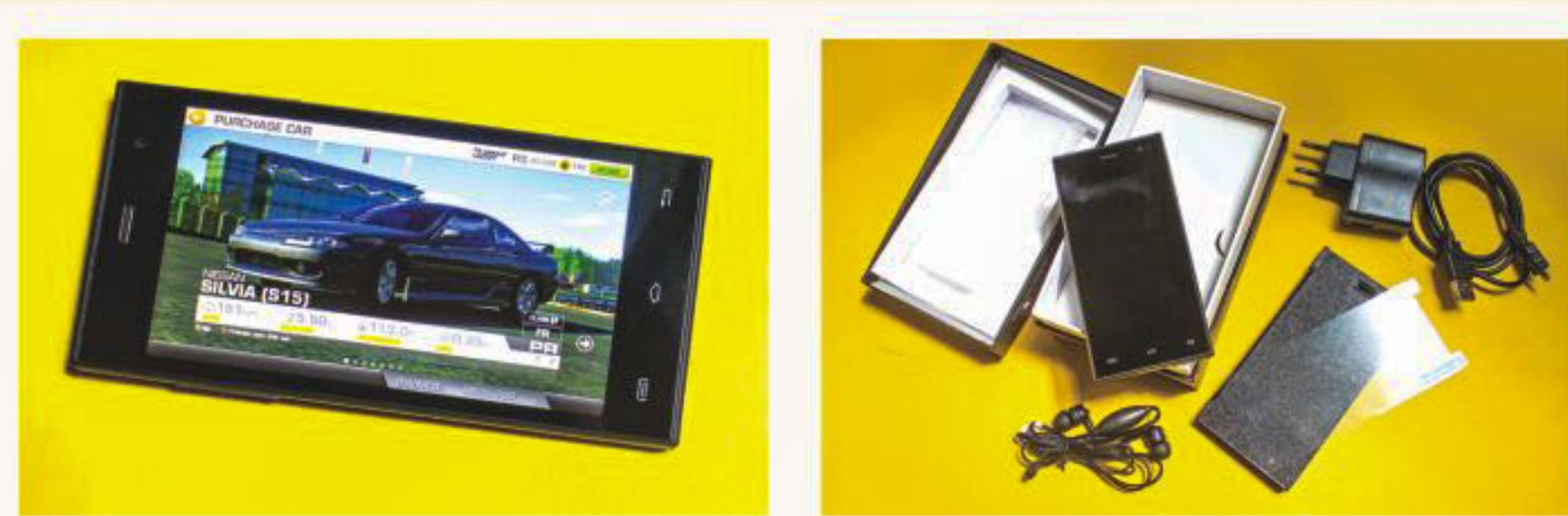
It's a hefty smartphone. There is a certain weight to it that makes it feel quite more premium than it actually is. And that's always a good thing. The weight has the right balance; not too much, not too light either. The edge is bordered by a thin aluminum strip with very steampunk-like exposed screws. They kept it simple on the back with a matt rubberized coating that has so far been quite good at resisting smudges and fingerprints. The sleek squared design reeks of robust industrial simplicity. The phone comes with a flip cover but we'd suggest leaving that off. You would want to show off the sharp looks.

So: first glance and feel is promising. Let's move to the performance specs. It comes loaded with the almost latest KitKat 4.4.2. The hardware packs a standard 1.3 GHz Quadcore supported by 1GB RAM and 8GB of internal memory with 32GB expandable memory. That's standard fare to be expected from most mid-range smartphones these days. What works is that the RAM doesn't get too cluttered so user experience is mostly very smooth. I've run Real Racing 3 while doing some

background task switching and it mostly passed without a hitch. The game itself is pretty high on graphics detail but the Mali 400 chipset managed to run it without any frame rate issues.

The display is a 4.5 inch FWVGA (854x480) resolution. While the entire screen interface looks sharp enough with

and well detailed. Low light images also come out well helped out with the LED flash. The camera works best with still images because the focus lags a little. Selfies will be terrific, group shots will be sharp as long as nobody is busy jumping around. We suggest downloading the Google camera app for a few more tweaks.



punchy colours, slight jagged edges are visible on small lettering and game graphics. Of course, it's barely noticeable and the simpler display should effectively help save more battery life. The FWVGA screen means you get proper wide screen video playback without any cropping.

The 2000mAh battery will last you through a day as expected. No disappointments there. The battery performance tests we ran showed a better score than the Nexus 4. Overall performance score placed the hone just below the Nexus 4 in our benchmarking tests.

The camera is an 8MP unit on the back and a 2MP unit up front. The main camera produces quite sharp pictures with neutral colors. The images look natural

SPECS

Display: 4.5 inches, IPS Display FWVGA (854x480)
Processor: 1.2 GHz Quadcore
Operating System: Android 4.4.2
RAM: 1 GB, **ROM:** 8 GB
Camera: Primary- 8 Megapixels, LED Flash & Secondary- 2.0 Megapixels
Sensors: Motion sensors: Accelerometer, Proximity etc
Battery Capacity: 2000 mAh

Price: Tk. 9,600/-

VERDICT

The Maximus iX is a surprise on many levels. Try as I might, it didn't creak or squeak. Why is that important? The price. At just under 10000 taka, this phone is very good value for money and offers premium look and feel. The build quality is way above its price range. I've found disappointing levels of fit and finish on phones costing four times as much.

The low price means some sacrifices had to be made. The non-HD screen means just a little less image sharpness but it's still something that renders small web fonts clearly enough that you can read without eye strain. The OS is relatively clean with little bloatware so the memory stays free enough to provide a constant smooth experience.

What you get for your money is a good looking phone with excellent build quality, ample power, good battery life and all the features you could want. And if you're a kid of the 90's that spent tons of money playing video games in neighborhood game shops, then this has a surprise in store. Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (also known as Mustafa in our Dhaka alleys) comes preloaded. If you've wasted much money feeding coins to the game machine, don't feel bad. At least now you don't have to spend too much to get a cool smartphone.

REVIEWS AND PICTURES
EHSANUR RAZA RONNY

TECH HAPPENING

Bangladesh's first e-Commerce directory launched

Computer Jagat, a key promoter of e-Commerce in Bangladesh, has launched a directory enlisting e-Commerce business of Bangladesh. The directory also contains two articles- 'E-commerce in Bangladesh' and 'e-Commerce around the World: Some Reflections'. These articles will give the readers an idea about the e-Commerce sector in Bangladesh and how we are doing compared to other countries in the world. The directory also contains information like physical location address, email and phone number and description. Details about the e-Commerce fair and the directory can be found here: www.e-commercefair.com



KASPERSKY SECURITY UPDATE

How infected ATMs gave away millions of dollars

What do you need in order to withdraw cash from an ATM? First, you need to have a debit or credit card, which acts as a key to your bank account. Second, you must know the PIN code associated with the card; otherwise, the bank wouldn't approve the transaction. Finally, you need to have some money in your account that you can withdraw. However, hackers do things differently: they don't need cards, PIN codes or bank accounts to get money. In reality, all they need is an ATM with some cash in it and a special piece of software.

Earlier this year, at the request of a financial institution, Kaspersky Experts performed a forensic investigation into a cyber-criminal attack that targeted multiple ATMs in Eastern Europe. What they discovered was quite impressive. Imagine this: a guy comes to an ATM, enters a code on a pin pad and almost instantly gets 40 banknotes, and then does it again and again. How can this be possible? Our experts say it's all about a trojan called Tyupkin, which infects the PC inside of an ATM and forces it to dispense banknotes when prompted by a special code.



As the investigation showed, criminals were somehow able to physically access the ATMs so that they could install the malware via a bootable CD on an imbedded Windows machine. The trojan that was used had complex abilities. First, when activated inside of the ATM, it had the ability to turn off the McAfee Solidcare AV software so that it could do its job with ease.

Second, to avoid accidental detection, Tyupkin trojan had the ability to stay in a standby mode for an entire week and activate only Sunday and Monday nights. Third, it had the ability to disable the local network in the case of an emergency, so that the bank could not remotely connect to the ATM to check on what was happening with it.



Bangladesh wins WITSA global ICT award

Recently Bangladesh was awarded with the prestigious 'Global ICT Excellence Award' in the category of 'Public Sector Excellence' for outstanding contribution in social development of the nation using IT. ICT division State minister Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak received the award on behalf of Bangladesh Government at World Congress on IT-WCIT in Mexico.

After receiving the award, in reaction, State Minister said that with the active guidance of the PM we were able to make a huge leap toward a true digital Bangladesh. Mr. Palak also added that the award was in fact the achievement of 16 million people of Bangladesh as they all cooperated to make this happen.

JUST IN



Fujitsu Corporate Lifebook E544

Fujitsu has introduced a new Lifebook: E544. This Lifebook has three categories: Among those, two are core i3 and other one is core i5. The processing power of core i3 is 2.4 GHz and core i5 comes with 3.2 GHz having turbo boost technology. The price of Fujitsu E544 Lifebook with core i3 processor comes with 500GB HDD and 4GB RAM is 64 thousand taka and the price of Lifebook that comes with 1 TB HDD is Taka 67,500/-. Moreover, Fujitsu E-544 with core i5 has been priced

Taka 75,500 only.

TECH SNAPS



Nick Chou, Senior Account manager of Transcend Bangladesh recently unveiled a series of new SD cards, Solid State Drives and portable media players.