

MAHEJABEEN HOSSAIN NIDHI

By focusing on three key aspects – today's reality, tomorrow's uncertainties, and future possibilities – Ahmed explored what it is to be a “futurist”. He went as far as to claim that transformative future thinking is a way of regaining influence and capacity by exploring alternative futures and envisioning the desired. Shadab Mahmud, freelance health development consultant and a

Whenever there is an agent of change that strives to affect the future, there is always a certain percentage of active resistance. These active resisters feel inclined to pursue a "default future" where they surrender themselves to an imminent unchangeable state or a "used future" in which case they simply follow the path others had laid out before them. In striking contrast, Ahmed stated that these are what we must strive to avoid. Instead of

Other than uplifting and spirited conversation, the

workshop also included interesting exercises that provoked everyone to become active participants. By contemplating the history and development of Tejgaon, the attendees formed groups that came up with their own perception of a "Triangle Future of Tejgaon" – a future they presume based on three features: the pull of the future, the push of the present and the weight of the past. This activity highlighted the futuristic capabilities of the people present there.

Saif Kamal, Founder of Toru, believed his events "catered for local knowledge and aimed to create an ecosystem for innovation."



He further discussed the holistic frame of the future where everyone has a crucial part to play. In order to live up to this role, he suggested potential tools that might enhance the outcomes. Of these, he talked about an innovative technique called "back-casting", initially resorting to futuristic visions and then tracing them back to reality. He went on to explain the importance of linking this story, the narrative of the futuristic

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