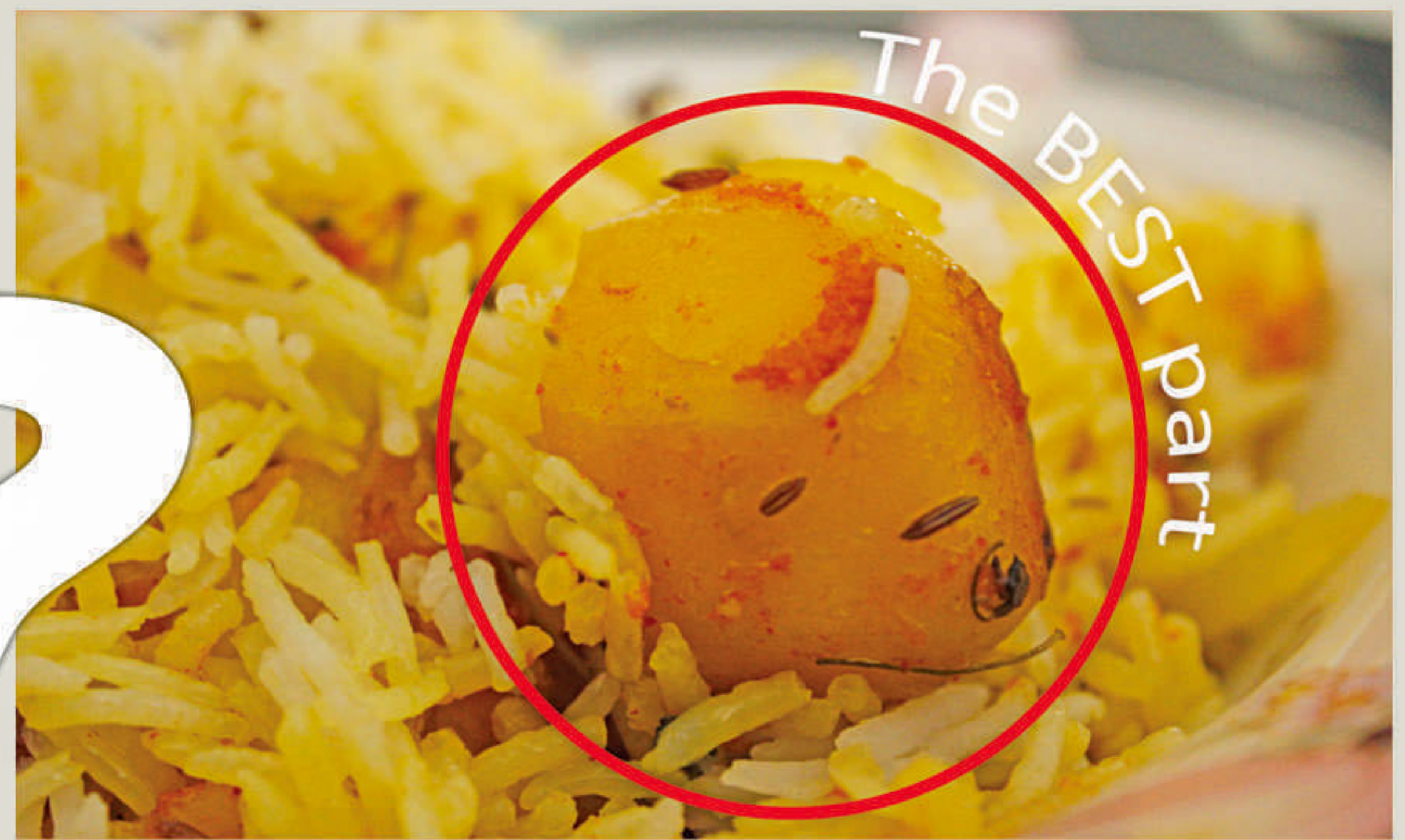


# Is it Even Food if it's not BHAAT?



NIBRAS WADUD KHAN

If you're like me and you don't know how to de-bone a *pabda*, let me tell you right now that it is all going to be just fine. There's no need to get a *tabeej* that will bestow upon you celestial *machh bachha* skills (just a heads-up, that doesn't work). Wasn't it Troy Bolton, who famously proclaimed in *High School Musical 2*, that "we're all in this together"? So, stop making that face you made when you first learned that *nana* and *nati* from *Ittadi* aren't actually granddad and grandson. Drop that *jharu* and tighten up the knot on your uber-stylish *Pakeeja lungi*. It's time to feel Bangali!

Let's face it – if there's *bhaat* on your plate, you've got 99% of being a Bangali down. Add to that some *bhorta* and *kacha morich* and that's your 100%. But

like any 'ideal' child, let's finally do what our mother has been nagging you about, and get more than a hundred.

First cardinal rule of being Bangali – eat EVERYTHING with your hands. *Shingara* and *mughlai* porota – duh! But why stop there? You can eat pasta, noodles, dessert the same way. Honestly, if we use our hands to eat something like *daal*, I don't see what's wrong in licking that delicious corn soup off my palm.

We Bangalis love to rhyme. We're all poets. From the conservative *gari-bari* and *pagol-chhagol*, to the unconventional *chultul* and *biskoot-tiskoot*, to the utterly outrageous *ac-messi* and *mobile-tobile*, it's baffling to think how we don't have more Kazi Nazruls and Robi Thakurs. Also, there is the mispronunciation of some common English words, kettle (*kettly*) and fridge (*freeze*) to name a few.

We have a few perplexing habits as

well: whenever we buy anything from shops, we always keep the paper/plastic bags, safely tucked away under the *toshok* of our beds, never to be used again. Side note: a true Bangali only sleeps on a bed if it has a *toshok*, a *katha* and a *kolbalish*.

What we are notorious for is our love of PARTY! With our '*baro mashe tero parbon*' thing and all, us Bangali teens often find ourselves at weddings and *dawat* having to greet, smile at, and interact with countless unknown relatives, because otherwise, being on our phones label us as the '*noshto* tech generation'. The silver lining here – we can skip lunch that day and proceed to stuff ourselves with *kacchi* and *murgi* at dinner (*aloo* in *kacchi* = heaven). Don't forget the *pan-masala* on the way out either.

Another undeniable Bangali trait is

how we never miss a word when Grammy-deserving *Nantu Ghotok* comes on at any *holud*. And surprise, surprise – it's always mysteriously on the playlist when we're hosting any party as well.

Being Bangali is lot of things. It's returning home by *Maghrib*, and getting to drink the *roshogolla* juice straight from the bowl. It's being called *gadhar baccha* by your own parents, but not fretting, because you have the panacea, Napa tablet, which can fix everything. It's like *ludu* – it doesn't matter if you thought it was going to be a '*dui chhokka paach*' and turned out to be a '*tin chhokka ek*', because it is impossible to play *ludu* and not have fun.

*Nibras is a hopeful doctor-to-be and a lover of murgi roast. He spends his free time stalking you on Instagram, so DM @niibzzz*

## SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

Exhibition and Fair  
 Sept 3, 4, 5  
 Emmanuelle's  
 Gulshan

SHOUT Desk

Sci-fi enthusiasts unite! Dhaka is going to have its very first science fiction convention. 'Science Fiction Convention Dhaka 2015' is going to be held at Emmanuelle's Banquet Hall, Gulshan-1 from September 3 to 5. The event is being organised by Fun Factory Rides, a professional and passionate thematic event management firm.

The convention will be an event for fans of science fiction, fantasy and mecha-lovers to get together and socialise, take photos at well-designed booths, buy gadgets, cosplay, and generally just have a

fun time with a crowd sharing similar interests.

The organisers promise to offer a diverse array of attractions. Special attractions include: Batpod (Dark Knight Rises), Baymax, Wall-E, Planetarium, Danbo, Space Shuttle (NASA), LED Infinity Mirror, 3D Floor Art, along with 33 Thematic Corners of movies, TV series, anime,

comics and prominent scientists etc.

There will also be: Photo Prop Extravaganza, Planetarium Show, Cosplay Contest, Sci-fi Art Competition, Sci-fi Storytelling Competition, Philosophy Board: Passion for Science, Sci-fi Snake-ladder Game and Sci-fi Related Stalls.

Entry: Regular pass for 500 taka; 200 taka for cosplayers.

Time: September 3, 2015 (3pm-9pm)

September 4 and 5, 2015 (10am-9pm)

To know more about Fun Factory Rides,

PLEASE VISIT:

<https://www.facebook.com/funfactory.rides?fref=ts>

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