



# THE GOOD FOOD GUIDE



A winter wedding is every bride's dream. The temperate climate - the pleasant wintry, evening breeze – is one of the most important factors that constitute the idea of a gala wedding. No matter how many times the elders ponder on the probable menu, it is a constant struggle between the yearning for perfection and affordability. And add to that growing anxiety, it is not only the biye or walima that demands special attention. Every ritual, starting from the 'panchini' to the 'firani', requires meticulous attention to detail. So, let us cut to the chase.

## PANCHINI

The show-starter! It could literally mean the 'wali' and family of the bride's side saying yes formally to the groom's side and vice versa. A tradition seeped in culture and the piety of the families committed to unite in a social bond.

Sadly, the cultural baggage element tends to dominate. Like most other wedding rituals, the emotions are now lost in a heap of extravagance. But some still strive to keep it simple with traditional trays and baskets adorned with betel leaf, betel nut and sweetened chewing tobacco. Served with light refreshments.

In the old parts of Dhaka, masala milk is often the star treat, perfect for chilly weathers or cold nights. Some 'deshi' readers might fondly recall, as it's often a sweet drink served to children on auspicious times or family get-

together.

The name of this drink is quite misleading as there are no spicy ingredients used. Masala milk is simple; a sweet, nutty hot drink that is steeped with the gorgeous flavours of cardamom and a pinch of saffron. The soothing taste and temperature are both perfectly suited to lull you away into world where the Mughals reigned the land.

## BRIDAL SHOWER

This is a foreign import straight from Victorian England. Here are some dos and don'ts - The best way to go about it is to get everyone together



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