

It doesn't get as straightforward as this. The group's name itself, Save the Heritages of Bangladesh, is all you need to know to get an understanding of its aim and its sentiments. And surely, our country is in dire need of such organisations, given the ill-treatments and lack of awareness there is regarding heritage.

Save the Heritages of Bangladesh is a not-for-profit, social awareness group on Facebook. It was created by Tony Angel; however, he is longer active in it. The group is currently being managed by 5

SAVE THE HERITAGES OF BANGLADESH



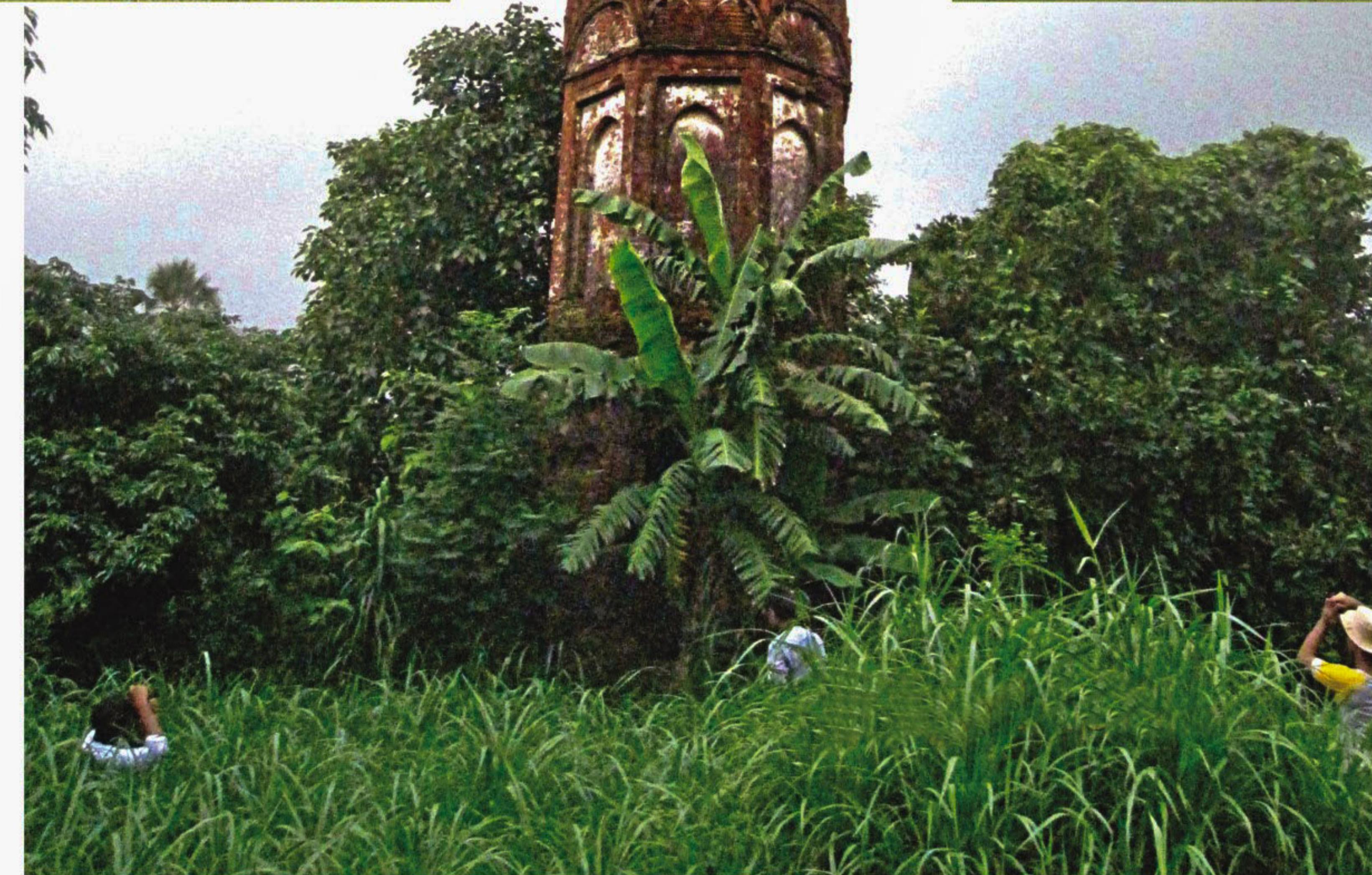
admins, with Sazzadur Rasheed being the leader and figurehead.

An architect by profession, he is an Associate Professor and the Head of the Department of Architecture at State University of Bangladesh. He is also the Principal Architect of Trimatra.

In today's world, the power of social media is unparalleled. And Save the Heritages of Bangladesh is a very active group. Do you want to know the story behind a heritage site? There are history buffs out there who will come forward to help you out, suggesting website links, books, etc. Do you need pictures of a particular historic building? The admins are very cooperative in helping you with that. Have you heard of a fabulous heritage site that you would like to visit but do not know the location? Many of the group's members are passionate travellers and are likely to provide you directions, in addition to the admins giving you Google Earth images, for better identification, whenever possible. And of course, you can always share your own experiences and pictures.

The group also expresses its concerns about conservation to our country's Department of Archaeology.

M H HAIDER
PHOTOS: COURTESY



A small portion of Facebook groups become successful enough to actually cross the boundary of virtual world and form something in the physical world. Save the Heritages of Bangladesh is one such group.

It organises a daytrip on the last Friday of every month. There are fascinating places in Bangladesh that you have not even probably heard of. The group will take you there and tell you about its history.

Destinations include Comilla, Mymensingh, Munshiganj, Savar, Tangail, Old Dhaka, etc. Is it really possible to go

to these places, see the sites and come back on the same day? Punctuality is not crucial, but necessity. The trip actually starts on time! "We have a pre-planned list of sites we are going to visit. If we start off late, we won't be able to cover all of them," Rasheed explains. "Our journeys are supposed to start on 7am; at worst there may be a delay of 5 to 10 minutes for members to get settled in transport. But that's it."

For new members, the strictness about punctuality can be shocking - and impressive!

HERITAGE WALK

The travellers are a diverse mix: students, architects, corporate job holders, archaeologists, photographers, journalists, foreigners who are in Bangladesh for work or in a vacation, etc.

Registration fee for a trip may vary but is usually somewhere around Tk1000. Mode of transport is air conditioned minibus/micro-bus; breakfast, lunch and snacks are inclusive. Not a bad deal at all!

Today is the last Friday of November. As you are reading this, the group is enjoying in Kishoreganj. You've missed it. Don't miss the next one!



BRAD PITT
December 18, 1963

An actor and producer known as much for his versatility as he is for his handsome face, Golden Globe-winning actor Brad Pitt's most widely recognized role may be Tyler Durden in *Fight Club* (1999). But his portrayals of Billy Beane in *Moneyball* (2011), and Rusty Ryan in the remake of *Ocean's Eleven* (2001) and its sequels, also loom large in his filmography.

Pitt's earliest credited roles were in television, starting on the daytime soap opera *Another World* (1964) before appearing in the recurring role of Randy on the legendary prime time soap opera *Dallas* (1978). Pitt's portrayal of Achilles in the big-budget period drama *Troy* (2004) helped establish his appeal as action star and was closely followed by a co-starring role in the stylish spy-versus-spy flick *Mr & Mrs Smith* (2005). He continues to wildly vary his film choices, appearing in everything from high-concept popcorn flicks such as *Megamind* (2010) to adventurous critic-bait like *Inglourious Basterds* (2009) and *The Tree of Life* (2011). He has received two Best Actor Oscar nominations, for *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* (2008) and *Moneyball* (2011).

“ I'M ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE YOU HATE BECAUSE OF GENETICS. IT'S THE TRUTH.

I ALWAYS LIKED THOSE MOMENTS OF EPIPHANY, WHEN YOU HAVE THE NEXT DESTINATION.

YOU MUST LOSE EVERYTHING IN ORDER TO GAIN ANYTHING.

BEING MARRIED MEANS I CAN BREAK WIND AND EAT ICE CREAM IN BED. ”

SOURCE: IMDB AND BRAINYQUOTE

THE HONEST HAWKER

Last Sunday night, while coming back home from work, I was walking on the footpath. I found a hawker selling different day-to-day accessories like mirrors, combs, bolters and many other items. I bought three combs from him, as to me it was very essential to buy a comb. I gave him a fifty taka note as each comb was fifteen taka. But he could not manage five takas as he had no change. At one time, I told him that there was no need for change. But what he said then surprised to a great extent. "I have not kept anyone claimant for a single taka in my ten years of business. I strongly believe in eternal life and hence don't want to make myself

indebted even for a small amount of money. I will be very happy if you wait here for a few minutes so that if any customer buys anything, I will try to give you back the five taka", he said. Hearing his words, I waited there for ten minutes and got my money back. But I was wondering how hawkers of this day and age can be such honest. It was quite rare, indeed. Where everywhere there is a competition to bamboozle others, this honest hawker thinks and lives in the opposite direction. I thought to myself that it's better to be honest than to be rich.

Noorjanah Kabir
Uttara, Dhaka



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

BE AN ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY

Last Saturday, for the very first time, I had become very angry with one of my neighbours. He is a well educated and modest man and has been teaching in a local high school for the past five years. But what he does everyday is that he throws light rubbish from his balcony towards the open space in front of our building. Earlier, another neighbour and I told him about the ultimate outcomes of such practices that it is actually disturbing us. The garbage is not only visually unpleasant, but also gives

off bad odour and hampers the general environment. But he did not care about what we said; rather he is continuing it. Last Saturday, we got very angry with him for his repeated behaviour. It is actually very disgusting to make someone understand something that he understands already. I do not know why people do such things even after knowing the consequences. It is our duty to keep our environment fresh and clean.

Habibur Rahman
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka