

FIRST LOOK



Huawei's Mate 8

SHOUT DESK

The Mate 8 is Huawei's latest challenger in the game of the big guns. The 6-inch giant is stacked with some impressive features. But are they enough to make the Mate 8 a worthy contender in the highly competitive smartphone market? Let's find out.

The Mate 8 has a well-made metal unibody. The gently curved back is smooth and matte. If you are a fan of big phones, this slickly designed set would rank high up on your bucket list. The 6-inch FHD display has a 1920x1080 pixel resolution, which might not be the highest resolution smartphone in the market, but that does not affect clarity of viewing, and aids in power saving.

Speaking of power saving, the Mate 8's battery life is a definitive champion. The 4000 mAh monster will serve you faithfully for as long as two days straight after one full charge. Once the charge is out eventually, you can charge it beyond the 30% mark in less

than half an hour. Full charge takes a little over an hour. If you are out all the time and enjoy browsing and watching videos without having to worry about battery charge, the Mate 8 is an ideal choice for you.

Although the Mate 8 comes with Google's latest Android Marshmallow 6.0 OS, it does add its own touch to the software, which it terms Emotion UI (EMUI 4.0). Some visible changes include exclusion of the app drawer, which you may need some getting used to if you loved it before. But the new edition offers the convenient option of getting things started simply by invoking 'OK Google' from any screen. The latest Android OS allows you to enjoy some interesting additional features like Doze and Now on Tap as well.

The monster phone packs Huawei's very own octa-core Kirin 950 processor and 3 GB RAM. The Mali-T880 MP4 GPU, the ultra-powerful Cortex cores, and the 64-bit chip which has four 2.3GHz and four 1.8GHz

cores make it a dream phone to play even the most graphic-intensive games available for android, including Real Racing 3, Asphalt 8 and Lara Croft: Go with no sign of stuttering.

The 8 MP front camera allows you to take great selfies in any light condition. The 16 MP back camera also does not disappoint at all with features such as optical image stabilisation, a dual-tone flash and HDR mode. You can focus and click within less than a second. You can video record at 1080p and 720p at 120fps for slow motion shots.

The redesigned fingerprint scanner on the back impresses. It can take you to the home screen in less than a second, and can be useful when taking pictures.

If you are a fan of big smartphones and are looking to buy a premium one, Huawei's Mate 8 is definitely a good choice. Priced at BDT 59,990, the Mate 8 is currently available at Huawei Experience Centers at Bashundhara City and Jamuna Future Park as well as brand and retail outlets across the nation.

ONE LITTLE GHOST, TOO MANY ADVENTURES

BOOK REVIEW

ANUPOMA JOYEETA JOYEE

Vuter Naam Ramakanto Kamar is a graphic children's novel first published at Ekushay Boi Mela 2016 by Mahbulul Haque of Ikrimikri Publication. Written by Imdadul Haq Milan, with Chinmay Devorsi's illustrations, this book is old chocolate in new packaging, as I would put it. *Vuter Naam Ramakanto Kamar* was a full-fledged children's novel by Imdadul Haq Milan in 1992. Reading this little graphic novella now with the literary mind-set of a grown reader felt all too nostalgic, as I had spent a few good afternoons reading that novel back when I first discovered the joy of reading.

The vibrant paperback edition illustrates the daylong adventures of a young ghost Ramakanto Kamar with little background details on the perks and troubles of being a ghost in a human infested world. It's a lot of pressure being a ghost and to top all that if your ghost-self gets lost in a gigantic field for an entire day with no idea about how to get back to your ghostly abode – the adventures are bound to get crazy. All would have gone fairly well if not for the human doppelgänger of Ramakanto and his nosy

friends and his even nosier cows who don't know how to take the presence of a ghost normally without losing their minds every second of the day. Laltu, the doppelgänger, is the wise guy this story needed from the beginning since Ramakanto was too confused and paranoid for a paranormal, scary being. Laltu is too practical to believe that Ramakanto is a ghost *even after* he expressly states so because he is smart enough to deduce that doppelgängers are casually found while grazing your cows in broad daylight. After messing up a lot, Ramakanto finally makes it into the night with the help of Laltu. I will let you find out about the rest of their adventures by yourself (SPOILER ALERT: The paranoid ghost and its comparatively smarter doppelgänger end up being friends).

This book will give a good laugh to readers who are just getting into the habit of reading. Full of interesting phrases and allegories, the ingenious adventures will make the little ones want to have a quest of their own. While the 1992 book of the same name was targeted for young readers with the ability to grasp fuller version of novel without



visuals, this one is more appropriate for even younger readers who will feel wooed not only by the imaginative expeditions of the ghost but also by the colourful pictorial representation. The visuals complement the story rendering the book altogether a good package. Don't worry if your little one ends up wanting to befriend a bouncy, little ghost

after reading this book; as this story reveals – not all ghosts are bad.

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