## The Bunna Ceremony

Dhaka Dough is known for its organic products. Even though their concept is to purchase only 'deshi' supplies, the only one thing they purchase from abroad is coffee beans, and they only get the Ethiopian variety as it's the birthplace of coffee.

To introduce local coffee enthusiasts to authentic flavours from Ethiopia, Dhaka Dough came up with an innovative idea of bringing "The Bunna Ceremony".

Bunna is the term used for coffee in Ethiopia. This is an age old ceremony that is celebrated by the people of Ethiopia, but nobody is certain about when the tradition actually started. The Bunna Ceremony at Dhaka Dough was inaugurated by shedding some light on the myth of discovering coffee, about Kaldi, an Ethiopian goatherd, who noticed his flock nibbling on bright red berries of a particular bush and became more energetic.

Later, Kaldi tried the fruit himself and his excitement led him to take the beans to a monastery, where it was thrown

into a fire by the monk. The roasted beans were quickly taken out, grounded and dissolved in hot water, yielding the world's first cup of coffee.

Afterwards, the ceremony was explained in the terms of how the Ethiopians celebrated it in three parts; "Abol", the first part, where the coffee is the strongest, secondly, "Tona", where the coffee is milder, and the third part, "Baraqh", in which coffee is the mildest.

After the presentation it was time to brew some coffee beans, and a Dhaka Dough barista roasted coffee beans live, which gave a strong, exquisite aroma, filling the entire room. After roasting, they were put on a mortar and pestle, grounded finely, and put into a traditional pot, also used by Ethiopians, called "jebena".

Hot water was added and rested, until coffee was ready to be served. For the limited number of guests, the Bunna Ceremony at Dhaka Dough gave a chance to personally participate in a one of a kind ceremony, unique, thought-



ful and informative!

By Mahee Azreen

## **CHECK IT OUT**

## Amber Lifestyle

Over the decade, demand for western outfits for Bangladeshi women has increased, and is on the rise. Amber Lifestyle, a concern of the Amber Group, started with the aim of catering to this demand, bringing quality, yet affordable, western clothes for trendy Bangladeshis. They, however, have now ventured into other fashion frontiers as well.

Their store at the Jamuna Future Park consists of 20,000 square feet of space boasting quite a few sections of clothes; they have other stores located at various points in the city - Gulshan, Dhanmondi and Uttara.

The store has sections on ladies' wear, men's wear, and children's wear. The section accommodating fashion needs of the teens, feels like a breath of fresh air as such sections dedicated solely for teens are not commonly seen in the country's retail industry.

The store is superbly spacious, with the décor giving it a global feel. They have made separate sections in the show-room, with the middle space being open with a number of trendy sofas for consumers to rest on.

The men's zone has ranges of jeans, shirts, and coats. The shirts vary from solid colour to eye-catching prints. The coats

are mostly informal, varying in colours and prints, and would surely appeal to people who can sport them. The jeans are there in all shapes and sizes, so would be a haven for denim lovers. They also boast a line of traditional panjabis.

The teen zone looks really funky, with a pool table in the middle where various accessories like neck pieces and belts are on display. They have ranges of shirts, maxi dresses, formal gowns, traditional kurtas, and jeans. The kurtas are made in Bangladesh, as are most of the other products. They have a collection of hats, which would appeal to the new generation of fashion enthusiasts who like sporting hats on occasions.

Moving on to the ladies' zone, one can find the similar ranges of clothes, shirts, jeans, dresses and kurtis. They have various types of shoes and sandals in display which are reasonably priced. They also have some pretty kaftans on their racks, some embellished with pearls and stones. The price range is moderate to expensive, so there is something for everyone.

The Kid's Zone features all possible clothes for children, starting from dresses to jeans to shirts to panjabis. Shoes and sandals are also displayed in various colours; accessories

like hats and belts are also on showcase.

Accessories like shoes and bags and perfumes are under one section titled the lord martini. Handbags are available in various colours and sizes, with varying price range. The shoes collection is also tasteful. Their watch section have a selection of Titan and Espirit watches among other brands. And lastly the store has a separate section for only kurtis titled Blue Blood. Some pieces are really elegant; others are mostly the traditional ones for regular usage. Keeping Pahela Baishakh in mind, the colour code for the Blue Blood section currently is red.

Amber Lifestyle gives you a chic feeling with all the décor and the design, but their clothes vary from the range of regular usage to party wear. One might walk into the shop thinking it to be a very high-end store, but there is something for everyone. So for a change in scenario and to look for some variation in clothes, it would not hurt to peep in to Amber Lifestyle.

Have fun and stay classy! For more information, log onto: amberlifestyle.com.bd/v2/

By Lameya Alma Amin

