

A CHAT WITH

# KHAIRUL

*Could you tell us about how you developed a taste for music?*

My mother Khadija Begum, being a singer herself, has sparked the essence of music in me and was my initial guru. My uncle Mohammad Ali has also inspired me to analyse music.

*Who have you been mentored by in your journey as a singer?*

Shyamal Kumar Bhowmik has trained me for a long time. I have also taken lessons from Abinash Chandra Shill. I have also studied folk music at Chayanaut for six years with distinction. Currently, I'm learning from Nadira Begum, the spearhead of Bhawaiya music.

*What was the first song that you played using a harmonium?*

The first song I played using a harmonium was "Bangla Amar, Ami Banglar". I have also received an award from the Bangladesh Shishu Academy for the song.

*Tell us about the singer who has inspired you the most.*

It is none other than the legendary Manna Dey. I am immensely motivated by him.

*If there was a song that you cherished, which one would it be?*

I have a rather emotional attachment with the song titled "Dorodia". It was written and composed by me. Since it has not been released officially, I am looking forward to it.

*Have you voiced any songs commercially?*

Yes, I have. It was a folk song for a drama in a renowned TV channel.

*What are your ambitions concerning your career in music?*

To me, music is life. Every day, I try to grow musically. It has helped me to connect with people, understand them better, learn from them and broaden my horizons. When I am gone, I want to be remembered as a revered musician.

Interviewed by Minam Haque



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