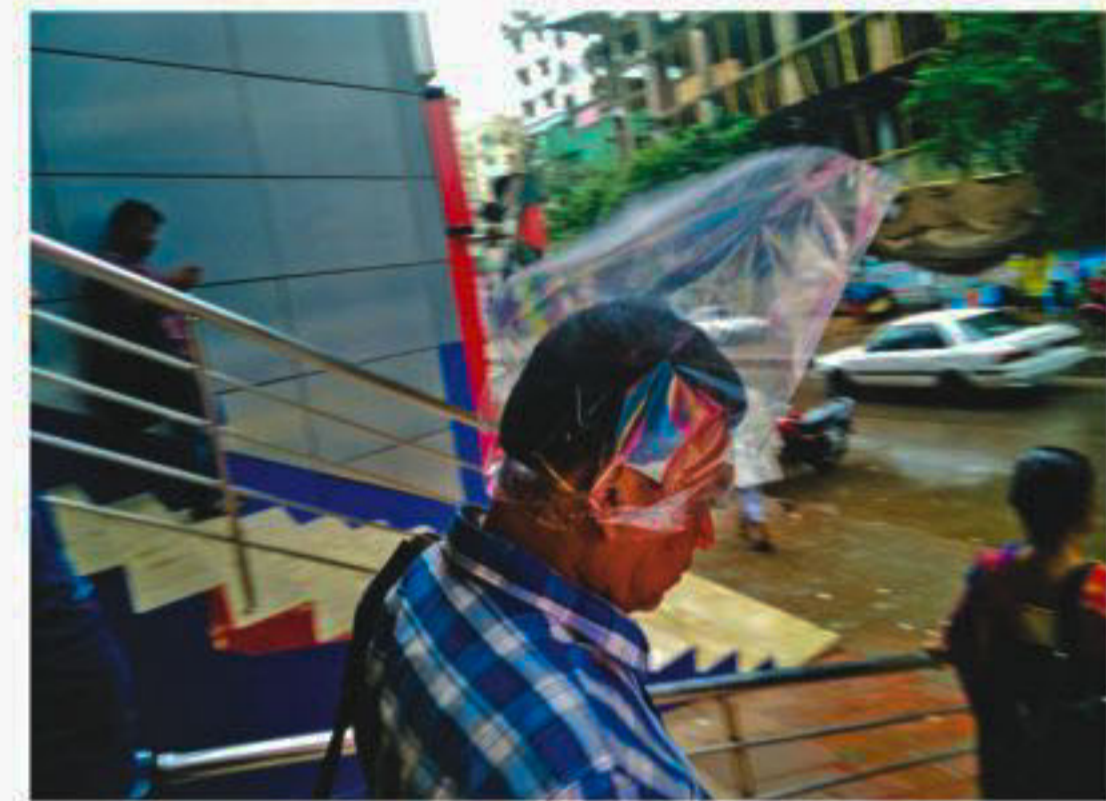


| SHUTTERSTORIES |



# DHAKA RAIN

PHOTOS: AKIB ABDULLAH  
TEXT: FAYEKA ZABEEN SIDDIQUA

Monsoon and Dhaka have always had a love-hate relationship. Whenever it comes, rain brings along with it a number of troubles- mud filled roads, never ending traffic and waist deep water. Despite that, Dhaka rain makes you see the city in a magical light. Through the sway in the trees and the earthy scent in the air, it's the rain that keeps the romance of the city alive.



| STRIKING A CHORD |

On the occasion of the 40th death anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam, a major exponent of Nazrul and a famous Bangladeshi singer of Nazrul compositions, Sadya Afreeen Mallick was recently awarded the Nazrul Award 2015. A multi-talented personality, Sadya aka or Sadya ma'am is the Editor of the Arts and Entertainment page of the Daily Star. For years, not only has she been researching on Bangladeshi music and sharing with many a young mind, Sadya and her young team of journalists have successfully been able to reach out to musicians, singers, actors, artists, writers and so many more, and bring them under one platform. Surely, she has played a significant role in shaping the views on Nazrul compositions and also all kinds of music in Bangladesh.

Sadya Afreeen Mallick had the opportunity to engage and study with big names and knowledgeable personalities in the subcontinent from a very early age, namely, Sudhin Das, Sohrab Hossain and Sheikh Lutfur Rahman, amongst many others. In the year 1990, Sadya had accompanied the legend herself -- Feroza Begum -- on a three-month tour of the United States of America. There she attended the inaugural of the first North American Nazrul Conference. They had performed at landmark venues at MIT, Pittsburgh, New York and more.

After making quite a name in the country, Sadya did not stop there. She toured the world-- the US, Europe, Far East and India, either as part of a troupe or for solo concerts. She accompanied Feroza Begum to 12 states in America, including Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and more. She has also appeared on live talk shows on Voice of America and the BBC to promote Nazrul Sangeet and Bangladesh's culture. Along with Manabendra Mukherjee, Sadya performed for a special documentary on Nazrul Islam produced and aired by Britain's Channel 4 in the UK.

Over the span of three decades, a number of records were released by private, government and international institutions. In 1991, she became only the second person from Bangladesh, after Feroza Begum to have her album on Nazrul songs released by HMV, India. This was also the only label ever directed and promoted by Feroza Begum---in Bangladesh. Titled 'Elo Phuler Morshum', the record, which Sadya considers to be yet another major achievement in her life,

# NAZRUL FOR PEACE!

ELITA KARIM  
PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



was released in 1991. Recently, Sadya initiated a video titled 'Calling all Peacemakers' where she brought together many of Nazrul's compositions, messages and words through which she plans to reach out to the younger generation. "Nazrul's words

are timeless," says Sadya. "And they must come to the limelight once again, especially for the younger people in Bangladesh who are forever soul-searching and seem to be looking for outlets to express themselves." The video can be viewed on the official YouTube

channel of *The Daily Star*. Through music and particularly Kazi Nazrul Islam's words, Sadya Afreeen Mallick dreams of making it bigger -- of bringing about a little more peace -- and eventually making this country a better place to live in. ■

## ABOUT TOWN

LISTEN TO THE GLOBAL  
**CREATIVE GURUS**  
 Communication Summit  
 Sky Ballroom, Le Meridien Dhaka  
 3rd September, 2016, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**COMMUNICATION SUMMIT 2016**  
 Date & Time: September 3, 2016 from 9 am to 5 pm  
 Venue: Le Meridien Dhaka, 79/A Commercial Area, Airport Road Nikunja 2, Khilkhet, Dhaka  
 Hosted by: Bangladesh Brand Forum  
For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/643180889190167/>

**TEEN FILM WORKSHOP 2.0**

**TEEN FILM WORKSHOP 2.0**  
 Date & Time: September 7, 2016, from 12 am to 6 pm  
 Venue: British Council, Fuller Road, Shahbag, Dhaka  
 Hosted by: Children's Film Society Bangladesh  
For Query, visit: <http://fete.chao.com/event/781/teen-film-workshop-2.0>

**SOUNDS OF LIFE EPISODE 2**

**SOUNDS OF LIFE: EPISODE 2**  
 Date and Time: September 2, 2016 from 3 pm to 10 pm  
 Venue: Midas Center, Dhaka  
 Hosted By- EMK Center and LiveSquare Entertainment  
For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/174917465335621/>