



The power to do more

# BYTES

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e-mail: bytes@thedailystar.net

## HANDS-ON REVIEW

# WALTON PRIMO X4

When it comes to smartphones on a budget, Walton's Primo lineup is definitely a force to reckon with in Bangladesh. Designed to compete in the upper midrange segment, Walton recently brought out X4- a metallic beauty with a superb set of hardware under the hood. Let's take a good look what this phone has to offer:

### Design

Design wise the phone draws inspiration from another popular midranger- Xiaomi Note 4. The curved back provides a smooth and sturdy grip despite the phone being a bit heavy. Our review unit came in a Champaign gold coloured front and back which we did like. Right below the back camera you can see an encircled groove with the Walton logo in it. At first look it might appear as a fingerprint scanner but looks can be deceiving, at least in this case.

The phone does have a fingerprint scanner but it's in the front on the home button. I guess Walton wanted to add a ring to its logo.

### Display

The phone comes with a 5.5 inch Full HD screen. It's well illuminated at 60% brightness and works fine under direct sunlight. The colour rendition seemed accurate and the touch screen worked as it's supposed - smoothly without lagging a bit. It can also with stand minor abuse, thanks to its 4th gen corning glass protection.



### Performance

The performance is the part where Walton Primo X4 outruns the competition. Coupled with a 64-bit 1.8 GHz Octa-Core Processor and a whopping 4GB RAM, X4 can process most of the task flawlessly. Be it the latest graphics intensive game or a RAM hogging app- X4 can chew and spit them out in

moments. Despite having a run of the mill GPU, we didn't see the phone slowing down for a bit. Certainly a good job by Walton!

### Camera

Sticking out in the back is the 16MP BSI sensored primary camera of the phone. We have been told the back camera comes with sapphire crystal which iPhone uses on their latest generation devices to make the back camera glass scratch resistant. We have been

also informed that the back camera has 6 layers densely packed lenses to cancel out noise as much as possible. The snaps that we took make it clearly evident that the primary camera is indeed much better than what we generally see in other devices of this segment. The phone also comes with some processing tweaks i.e. pro mode, time-lapse, slo-mo, HDR and even Macro mode. Check BYTES online for some of the sample snaps.

The selfie cam of the phone I am afraid didn't wow us the way the back camera did despite having a 13 MP camera with f/2.2 aperture. The images that we took tended to look a bit oversaturated; something we don't expect from a camera with these specs.

### Battery

To withstand your daily dose of usage, the phone comes equipped with a 3130 mAh battery. I used the phone several weeks and found I needed to charge the phone again at the evening for bit to run the entire day. But that's me, a heavy user who pushes the phone to limits on a daily basis. For any regular user we think the battery should be fine.

### Features

The phone comes with loaded with features. Let me highlight a key few. We loved the fingerprint scanner which takes around 0.2 seconds to unlock the phone. The customisable android menu buttons in the phone is a good touch too. The custom ROM is something we have been seeing for ages in Walton, so nothing new there.

## VERDICT

The Walton Primo X4 is a great smartphone for the price. It is more than a capable of catching snazzy moments, thanks to its outstanding rear camera. The front camera could use some upgrade though. If you are looking for an exceptional phone that you want as your driver then this is definitely worth considering.

## SPECS

- Display:** 5.5 inches, Full HD 1920 x 1080
- CPU:** Octa-core, 1.8 GHz
- GPU:** Mali-T860
- OS:** Android Marshmallow v6.0
- ROM:** 32 GB
- RAM:** 4 GB
- Camera:** Front: 16 Megapixel + Rear: 13 Megapixel
- Battery:** 3130 mAh
- Sensors:** Accelerometer (3D), Proximity, Light, Orientation etc.
- Price:** Tk. 22,990/-

REVIEW: SHAHRIAR RAHMAN  
PHOTOS: RAHIN SADMAN

## HELPING BANGLADESH TO MOVE WITH ITS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION ROADMAP

We sat with Rena Chai, Chief Operating Officer, South East Asia New Markets, Microsoft Asia Pacific recently to talk about Microsoft's big plan with Bangladesh. Here's the gist:

### Why is Bangladesh an important focus of Microsoft?

Bangladesh is a fast-growing economy, with a steady GDP of 7.1 percent; second highest in terms of growth rate in the world. We care deeply about inspiring and empowering people, creating opportunities that have lasting impact, and removing barriers to adoption so everyone can experience the transformational benefits of the digital economy. We also realise that technology is not a silver bullet; leaders across the public sector must also pair technology-enabled programs and initiatives with policies that benefit and enable all people. And, all of this must be built on a foundation of trust.

### What is Microsoft's plan for Bangladesh?

At Microsoft, our mission is to empower every person and every organisation on the planet to achieve more. We see technology as a powerful enabler - an agent of change in solving many of the challenges facing public sector agencies today as they move toward sustainable growth and development models and focus on the future of our planet and its 7.4 billion people. We aspire to be the global leader in driving responsible digital transformation across companies, governments and public institutions to enable measurable societal and economic impact where every person on the planet benefits.

Through our National Empowerment Plan, we seek to outline a cloud-based, digital transformation roadmap for each country, aligned to national priorities and designed to create new business development opportunities for businesses. As Bangladesh is eyeing to grow \$5B export by 2021, Microsoft's role is to partner with the government and its various wings to develop an ICT ecosystem that could facilitate the country's progression on its way to achieve the Digital Bangladesh vision. Our plan will bring to life solutions that governments and commercial customers can leverage to have a positive societal impact and provide tools to help governments establish public policies and regulations that will enable use of cloud services across all industries and increase trust in emerging technologies.

### What is the biggest challenge for Microsoft in Bangladesh?

The biggest challenge of Bangladesh is also a huge potential. 30 percent of the 160 million people in Bangladesh are youth. The total workforce of the country is approximately 82 million. As Bangladesh has a shortage of skilled labor force, we believe education and skill development are the most important investment in the future. Every person deserves the skills and opportunities that can unlock their potential. Their futures, and ours, depend on it. Microsoft has a long history of providing government leaders and public sector agencies, schools, educators, students and all job seekers access to the tools, resources, support, and

skills needed to educate, prepare, and re-skill existing and future generations for the opportunities ahead. For example, through Microsoft's YouthSpark Initiative, we work to increase access to computer science education and opportunities for youth around the world, including several initiatives focused on encouraging girls and women to explore and pursue careers in STEM. Microsoft YouthSpark has provided 300 million students in more than 100 countries with training to help them develop the computational-thinking and problem-solving skills that are critical to their future.

### Regionally, what are the technology trends that you are seeing these days?

We're in the middle of the fourth industrial revolution, as technology is altering our current systems of production, distribution and consumption at an unprecedented pace. Never has there been a time when technology has the potential to impact the world more than today.



Artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, biotech advances and the cloud are changing our lives and shaping the lives of future generations. With this change come enormous opportunity and the potential to bring benefits to every facet of life. Yet, for a substantial part of the world, the benefits of these advanced technologies are elusive and remain out of reach. While the Internet, mobile devices, and other emerging technologies are spreading rapidly through the developing world, the anticipated digital dividends of higher growth, more jobs, and better public services have fallen short of expectations. Today, 60 percent of the world's citizens remain excluded from the benefits of the digital economy. And there are many areas worldwide where digital transformation has displaced or endangered certain populations. There is an incredible amount of opportunity for all of us to do more.

Can you tell me about the education and women development and also community

### related plan of Microsoft in Bangladesh?

As digital leaders, it is part of our responsibility and DNA to ensure that everyone can benefit from the digital economy. We must promote digital inclusion in everything we do. We can do this by embracing a new construct, which we call digital diversity. This factors in the need to be aware of the impact that digital transformation has on diversity and is mindful of and purposeful about creating opportunities that are inclusive of women, minorities, and people with disabilities. It also strives to provide access to the skills that will allow women and minorities to land high growth jobs and allow them to prosper in the digital economy - now and over time. Empowering the Surfer girls in Bangladesh, teacher training programme and Windows Women programme for women entrepreneurs are a few to name our commitment. To make it happen, Microsoft Bangladesh, in partnership with A2I, is providing extensive training on hardware and software technology to 5000 women entrepreneurs who will be prepared to earn money as Service Engineers. We finished providing Digital Literacy and Service Engineering training to the surfer girls in the surf club at Cox's Bazar. We also arranged laptops from Dell to start them off with a donation for a small cyber café in the surf club. They are now offering training to the general public on how to use a computer, create an email account, surf the web and of course create a Facebook account. The surfer girls are earning from this training.

Microsoft has longstanding and growing investments in programmes encouraging girls and women to pursue learning and careers in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Globally, half of the youth who benefit from Microsoft-funded STEM education programs are female. We also invest in efforts to promote diversity and inclusion within our own workforce and the broader technology field.

### Are there any plans to collaborate with Government to promote digital literacy and connectivity in Bangladesh?

We are committed to helping public sector agencies achieve life-changing digital transformation. As part of this commitment, we work closely with government agencies, organisations, and institutions to help them develop and implement technology-based programmes and solutions so they can enable measurable societal and economic impact where every person on the planet benefits. Microsoft has already partnered with the government regarding the women's vocational training. Apart from that, as a part of our Citizenship Philanthropy program, we will be providing basic digital literacy for the underserved community.

INTERVIEWED BY: SHAHRIAR RAHMAN

## JUST IN

# Itel mobile celebrates 1st Anniversary

Itel mobile celebrated its 1st anniversary with their brand partners, authorised national distributor Global Brand Pvt. Ltd, top level management staffs on 8th January, 2017 at Hotel Radisson Blu Water Garden, Dhaka. Among present were country manager of itel mobile, Mr. Shyamol Saha, Sales Manager (BD) Mr. Stephen Guo & Mr. Jerry He and chairman of Global Brand Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Abdul Fattah, Channel Sales Manager Md. Emranul Hoque. While interacting with the crowd Mr. Shyamol Saha, Country manager of itel Mobile Bangladesh, said that itel is planning to



reduce digital gap by introducing more affordable smart phone and feature phones in coming months by focusing more on sales and customer service.

# Samsung introduces Galaxy S7 Edge Blue Coral in Bangladesh

Samsung has announced the launch of the latest addition to the Galaxy flagship device, Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge Blue Coral. It incorporates 12 MP dual pixel camera with f/ 1.7 aperture to get best and high quality pictures in low light. Accessories like the Gear VR and Level U Pro also adds to the revolutionary visual

and audio features of S7 Edge Blue Coral which enables the user to get a 360 degree video from all around the world and enjoy very high quality music respectively. Price: Tk. 74,900/- and available with 12 easy EMIs. Available in the black colour as well.

## TECH HAPPENING

# OnnoRokom BigganBaksho at DITF



The OnnoRokom BigganBaksho, first ever science kit in the country, has brought special touch in the Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF) this year. Those who buy the product, they get a coupon and three lucky buyers will win laptop, tab and smart phone. Besides, there is an opportunity to win

a refrigerator and voltage stabiliser by writing a review about BigganBaksho. Every box hosts a badge and sticker as inbox items. Through a quiz competition science nerds will be able to go home with bluetooth speaker, pen driver, power bank, selfie stick and table lamp.

## TECH BITS

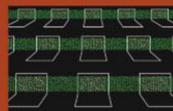
The NSA can now share unfiltered surveillance data with other intelligence agencies



The Nintendo Switch will cost \$300 and release worldwide on March 3



Google's Key Transparency project aims to ease a tough task in cryptography



Arizona plans to sue Theranos over faulty blood tests



YouTube launches "Super Chat," a way for creators to make money from their live streams

