

# IBA, DU welcomes its newest BBA batch

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On October 27, 2017, Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Dhaka arranged the Freshers' Reception Programme (affectionately called Fresherz) for its newest BBA Batch, BBA 25th. The event was organised by the BBA 24th Batch, as it is the institutional tradition for the sophomores to organise the event for the freshmen. Beximco Pharmaceuticals Limited was the title sponsor of the event.

The event started off at 5 PM with a welcoming speech from the BBA Chairperson, Md. Ridhwanul Haq, PhD. "Fresherz has just as much significance to this institution as any other event it houses, because it has an integral part to play in shaping the IBA culture," he said.

His speech was followed by a speech from the Director of IBA and the President of the Ceremony, Professor Dr. AKM Saiful Majid. He emphasised on the significance of the event by saying, "It is of utmost concern that the freshers be given the right kind of reception to emphasise how this place accepts them as one of its own and boosts their morale for the rest of the years they are about to spend here."

The final speech came from Ali Nawaz, the Chief Financial Officer of Beximco Pharma who attended the programme as a representative of the chief guest, Nazmul Hassan MP, Managing Director of Beximco Pharma. Being an MBA alumni of the esteemed institution, he became very nostalgic.

He also encouraged the freshmen by saying, "I am very proud to say that in most of the private local companies of Bangladesh, IBA-ites are holding the top-most positions."



After the speeches were done, Dr. Majid and the guest were handed crests as a token of gratitude for gracing the event with their presence.

The formal part of the ceremony was followed by cultural performances by the three current BBA batches, BBA 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. The entire auditorium sang along with the performers who covered songs such as "Summer of '69", "Wonderwall", and many more. Aside from the song covers, the event also

featured electrifying dance performances and fun, engaging activities for the freshmen to partake in. After a series of wonderful performances, the event ended at 10 PM.

It is customary for Fresherz events to have a theme based on pop culture. This year's Fresherz was Oscar-themed. Starting from the amazing décor, lighting and photo booths to the "Black Tie" dress code of the event, everything successfully managed to recreate the atmosphere of the

Academy Awards with commendable accuracy.

Ever since its inception in 1966, IBA has established its supremacy as the leading business school of the country in terms of not only academic performance and job placement but also in terms of extracurricular activities. So, those who manage to get in deserve nothing but the grandest and most heartfelt reception and this year's Fresherz has managed to give the freshmen exactly that.

# A love letter to winter

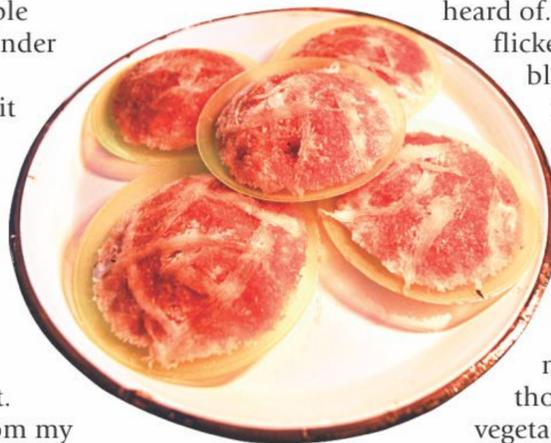
SHAH TAZRIAN ASHRAFI

Dear Winter, I perceived your arrival when the gentle chill in the air turned into biting cold and the morning fog gathered on my window glass, condensing and crashing to the sill. Your quiet footsteps didn't warn anyone of your arrival. Though there is a feeling of dread attached to your tail, I'm sure your chilling winds have silenced it. Why won't they? Your arrival itself is like a festival in my country.

I am sure I am nothing more than a blanket turner for you, but you are one of the reasons I look forward to this time of the year. Your advent sprouts many small street stalls of warm delicacies throughout the country, and when I'm walking alone at night, the *bhapa pitha* smell wafts from the stoves and knocks on my wallet. I see people gathering around to taste the handmade blessings you bring. The sky you turn bleak induces

a shiver down my spine, and the leafless trees that line the streets add to the ghost town imagery. Yet I find it beautiful because the air reeks of burning wood and I catch a sight of amber fire baptizing some people wrapped in shawls under the sickly sky.

I strongly believe it is only you who skyrockets the sales of badminton rackets and shuttlecocks in our country. This is literally the only sport that I'm a bit more than average at. Cornering myself from my athletic peers for most of the year, this is the time when I actually get to enjoy playing. And you always make sure that I can flaunt my skills. An extra dose of gratitude for that.



It would be an injustice to your splendour if I forget to pen down the *biye bari* chronicles. The calendar is dominated by wedding schedules from relatives one knows and ones never heard of. I believe the

flickering wedding lights, blowing trumpets, flower-clad cars, and of course, the food - a quintessential reason for attending weddings, complement you.

While I grew up a non-vegetarian, the thought of shoving vegetables of whatever nutritional value they hold down my oesophagus sickened me to my core. But of course, your entrance magically makes the smell of vegetables being cooked mouth watering, and I

become an occasional vegetarian. Many households come under the clutches of the scents of vegetables blended with spices - thanks to the boon you pass upon our rural lands with your frosty hands.

As cold as you might be, or as lifeless as you might turn the landscapes into, you tempt the foreign birds with diverse feathers, beaks, crowns, and colours to follow your trail. They nestle themselves in the leafless, skeletal trees, and their songs become a soothing wakeup call.

Since I have a bucket full of hot water and a cosy spot with an Agatha Christie book waiting for me, I'll end my letter here.

Sincerely,  
A speck of your lovers

Shah Tazrian Ashrafi believes winter has come and so has his anxiety. Send him gorom pani and SolayMUN Shukhone speeches at [facebook.com/shahtazrianashrafi](https://www.facebook.com/shahtazrianashrafi)