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Another year has rolled into its fading days, and minds are already astir as the wedding bells begin to toll en masse. It never gets old— the feasts, the photos, the clothes, and the glee of the atmosphere; we may as well include it as our seventh in the calendar— the Wedding Season!

As guests see the smiling bride and the groom on the day of the reception, little thought is spared to the behind-the-scene stories. And why should any be? Everything looks perfect!

BY IRIS FARINA

THE MAKING OF A GREAT wedding



The people come in droves and every single one is welcomed by the family members of the bride or the groom, the photographers literally throw themselves on the floor for the perfect shot, the aroma of the food tickles the olfactory senses of the invited guests. Even the post wedding plans and honeymoon destination are on point!

Yet, there has to be disharmony right on the day of the wedding, and yes there were times a month ago when nothing seemed to work out. Transforming all that to the smoothly concluded wedding day is a miracle of its own. From compiling ideas, accommodating to every expansion of the budget to even looking over every minute detail right down to post-wedding formalities — the great wedding needs greater work to make it as such.

Every family has some set ideas of what a wedding should be and how it should be celebrated. It may seem outdated from what the soon-to-be couple wants to see, and their ideas may seem too forward to the soon-to-be father and mother-in-law. But money is the only thing that ultimately talks for ideas to materialise.

Booking the venue has to be done at least a year prior to the actual event in most cases, namely for the wedding reception. Every venue has its specific requirements in décor and catering. It differs from family to family where the rest of the formalities will take place.

A significant part of the budget is spent on the bride and groom's clothes and jewellery, and this is not limited to the wedding day wear only; a whole array of clothes is needed from the engagement to the reception.

To announce the great wedding, invitation cards are now getting grand and grander. From multi-tier boxes of sweets accompanying the card to scrolls reminiscing the Mughal era or intricate laser cut designs on high quality paper- the invitation cards vary in many many ways.

A wedding is made up of so many variables that something is bound to go wrong — the pessimist at heart will prepare for that. But a great wedding will have things going wrong, and that's the beauty of chaos and disharmony. In our heart or hearts, the greatest wedding is still the one that ties two families to begin a new one and brings together the well-wishers without making anyone bankrupt. After all, marriages are made in heaven, but the wedding has to take place on this mortal plane!

Special thanks to Samina Quasem and Mehrin Mubdi Chowdhury for their insight and Farzana Shakil for her beautiful makeup.

PHOTO: SAZZAD IBNE SAYED

MODELS: AZRA MAHMOD, SONIA YEASMIN ISHA

MAKEOVER: FARZANA SHAKIL

SET DESIGN: SAIMUL KARIM, ESKAY DECOR BY SAIMUL KARIM

WARDROBE: MANIK BANARASI, BRIDAL DUPPATA: RUKHSANA ESRAR RUNI

BRIDAL BLOUSE: JAHIN KHAN, JEWELLERY: AARAZ

