



FROM CENTRE

needed to be a dominant force in Dhaka's film industry but somehow could not live up to his potential. His performance in *Dhaka Attack* was applauded, alongside the relative newcomer Taskeen Rahman who had delivered a slobberknocker performance in the negative role that he portrayed. 'Magic Mamoni' Mahiya Mahi was refreshing in the role of a news reporter and arguably held the film together in terms of acting.

On the musical side of things, there was a much needed resurgence of young blood. Xefar had launched her first album, *Uncaged* while Nemesis came back to the fold with *Gonojagoron*. The most viewed Bangla song on YouTube, however, was *Jhoom* by Minar, which reached a whopping 2 crore views at the time of writing this article. The most successful film song was *Sholoana* from the film *Nobab*, which had the flamboyance of Shubhasree and Shakib Khan to back it up.

Countless television dramas were made in 2017, but only a select few were successful in capturing the audience. By far, *Boro Chele* was the most talked about television drama as it went viral over social media. The pairing of Apurba and Mehzabien was immaculate, with Mizanur Rahman Aryan leading the charge directing a realistic story of the struggles of a young man as he tries to balance love and economic struggles. Mosharraf Karim, as expected, came out as the leading

figure in the television drama scene with *Mohobbot Bepari*, *Ashiteche Tara Khan Break of Studies* and countless other comedies.

The theatre scene had received a much-needed push with the maestro Syed Jamil Ahmed's *Rizwan* shattering all conventions of Bangladeshi theatre. The play had turned into a festivity, with the demand for the tickets skyrocketing due to the brilliance of direction and acting in it.

According to Google's statistics, Sabila Nur was the most searched Bangladeshi in 2017. Currently playing the character of 'Riya' in the live action version of *Basic Ali*, the gorgeous young lady looks to make a comeback to the showbiz industry after a long break from it. When we asked her if she would join the silver screen any time soon, she replied, "I don't feel like I am ready for movies as of yet. I would definitely like to be in a movie, but at my own pace."

After covering the entirety of 2017 and its events, we at Star Showbiz feel that it was a refreshing year for the entertainment industry and it laid the foundation for better things to come. If that holds true, gear up for a fantastic roller-coaster ride that will be 2018!

By Sadi Mohammad Shahnewaz

