

MUSING

Analysing the Pathao rider

You need to travel in Dhaka, and you are running late for a meeting, or a class. Who do you call?

For the last two years, that answer has been a unanimous — Pathao! Being able to get to your desired destination at the shortest possible time is one of the reasons that makes Pathao godsend. However, there have been times when you wondered if you have picked the right Pathao 'rider'; so let us break down the strange possibilities.

THE GRAND PRIX ROOKIE

Better be good at saying silent prayers while you are being hurtled down the road at speeds not ascertainable by physics

while sitting mere millimetres away from your rider. He will fly through Dhaka's roads at the speed of sound regardless of how many other cars, buses, CNGs, and occasional humans are on the road. And, if, by chance, you unfortunately find an empty road, hold on tight as if your life depends on it; for it really does!

THE MIT GRADUATE

You will be baffled at how effortlessly they ride, drawing long traces of sine, cosine graphs. They will never fail to form a perfect ellipse, which would, by then, leave you questioning all the hours you had put in learning those intricate shapes. Why are you

studying engineering again?

SPEED BREAKER

Meet the uncontrollable handle-man for he incessantly keeps twisting the accelerator, almost throwing you off the bike and then hits the brakes just as often, shooting you forward like a cannon ball. You will be left to realise that you spent most of the time glued to their back than on the seat.

Ladies, take caution!

REBEL IS MY MIDDLE NAME

As he speeds past the now-still traffic, changing signals is merely an alterations of colours for this rider. Even while you plant the "I don't know this lunatic rider" look on

your face as the grumpy traffic sergeant's death stare keeps getting smaller in the distance, you are left wondering why the rider has no concept of the terms 'ticket' or 'impound' or jail, or even traffic laws!

Regardless of the type of Pathao driver you find, 'Pathao' has proven to be a blessing for those of us running constantly late for things we should have already been at 10 minutes ago. As a precaution though, never forget to carry a helmet with yourself for not all 'Pathaos' come with helmets. Remember, safety first!

By Ali Sakhi Khan

NEW IN TOWN

OBHAI promises safety: simple commitments featuring smooth ride

OBHAI makes it easier for riders to pick one of the four services from the app by specifying the destination. OBHAI also has prescheduled rides for those who are comfortable in securing their rides ahead of time. Moreover, they have strict instructions not to exceed a 50 km/hr speed limit.

The concept of ride sharing is comparatively new in Bangladesh. After its introduction in late 2016, the number of ride sharing services has significantly increased till now, allowing multiple options for people to choose from.

In a ride sharing service, personal transports are needed to register and start serving as a rider. But there are certain essential aspects which must be managed to ensure smooth rides.

According to a report by National Committee to Protect Shipping, Roads and Railways (NCPSRR), 2297 people were killed and 5480 injured in road accidents between January 2017 and June 2017. The statistics present the daunting scenario and the dire need for safety measures in the transportation sector.

OBHAI promises to offer safe, reliable, and convenient transportation to everyone with or without smartphone, as a user can book a ride by simply calling its customer service (09610056789).

Apart from the fact that OBHAI has its own fleet of motorcycles; the reason for OBHAI gaining prominence in ride sharing is their firm commitment to ensuring safety for the passengers. OBHAI drivers

have been carefully recruited by using the most comprehensive background checks as well as rigorous in-person interviews to ensure utmost security, and safe driving experiences for the passenger in every ride.

For female passengers, OBHAI has a unique service managed exclusively by female riders. Even after revolutionary changes, it is undeniable that safety for women is an issue that deserves the highest priority.

OBHAI makes it easier for riders to pick one of the four services from the app by specifying the destination. OBHAI also has prescheduled rides for those who are comfortable in securing their rides ahead of time. Moreover, they have strict instructions not to exceed a 50 km/hr speed limit.

Amidst growing demand for ride sharing services and their effectiveness in moving people in considerably less time, many ridesharing services have emerged. OBHAI, a concern of MGH Group, puts their focus on safety and hopes to play an effective role in easing commuting in Dhaka and other major cities in the country.

For more information: www.obhai.com

TIPS

Do's and Don'ts of Ride Sharing

As much fun as it is riding or travelling on the back of the bike, safety should always come first. Here are a few tips to keep in mind for your next journey:

- Always wear a proper helmet (this goes for both the passenger and rider) that fits the size of your head. As annoying and uncomfortable as it feels to some, remember that not wearing one even during a crash at a speed of just 25 kilometres per hour can cause brain injury.
- It is best to be wearing long pants or jeans while riding a bike. Also, be wary of dangling element like scarves and purses as there is a chance it can get stuck in any part of the bike.
- Footwear is integral, especially for those riding the bike. Always try to wear shoes that give you proper grip and avoid sandals at all costs!
- Never get on a bike until the rider is ready for you to do so, and the same goes for getting off as well. As a passenger, always be as much aware of your surroundings as the operator is. This means pacing yourself when they pick up the speed or come to halts.
- Never shift your weight between the left and right feet on the passenger pegs. This tilts the bike from one side to another and can lead to compromising of the biker's handling ability.
- While travelling through traffic, be very aware of the vehicles around you. If you see vehicles coming to a sudden stop, always position your bike on the left or right side in front of the car.
- To avoid accidents in traffic, always keep a finger on the brake lever and your right toe within the reach of the rear brake pedal.

By Supriti Sarkar