

# THE FAULT IN OUR JILAPIS

FAISAL BIN IQBAL

Sugar syrup, ghee, flour, cinnamon, baking soda, and lots of oil. These are the ingredients brought together to make sweet and swirly pieces of sugar-dripping dough famously known as *jilapi*, perhaps the most loved sweetmeat in this part of the world.

Who would've thought people would create two versions of it and start quibbling about which is the better one? Yes, welcome to the world of "mota" and "chikon" jilapi. Let's see where jilapi enthusiasts draw the line between the two kinds and which one, ultimately, comes out on top.

## SIZE CONUNDRUM

Size isn't even a valid point to quibble over, but sadly, this had to be turned into an issue by some people. The large structure of the mota jilapi is somewhat more attractive to a majority of the people. Someone who has consumed only mota jilapi throughout their entire life is introduced to the concept and existence of chikon jilapi would probably lose his or her mind and say, "It's too small." Then again, people do have their own preferences and some people just like it small. They deserve kudos for appreciating the smaller things in life.

## CRUNCH COMPONENT

Jilapis freshly taken out of the syrup are always a delight; warm, delicious, and most importantly, crunchy. Chikon ones, however, have a more lasting crunchy feel to it which makes it stand apart from

your regular mota jilapi. However, the short-term crunch effect is lost if the jilapi is consumed a bit late.

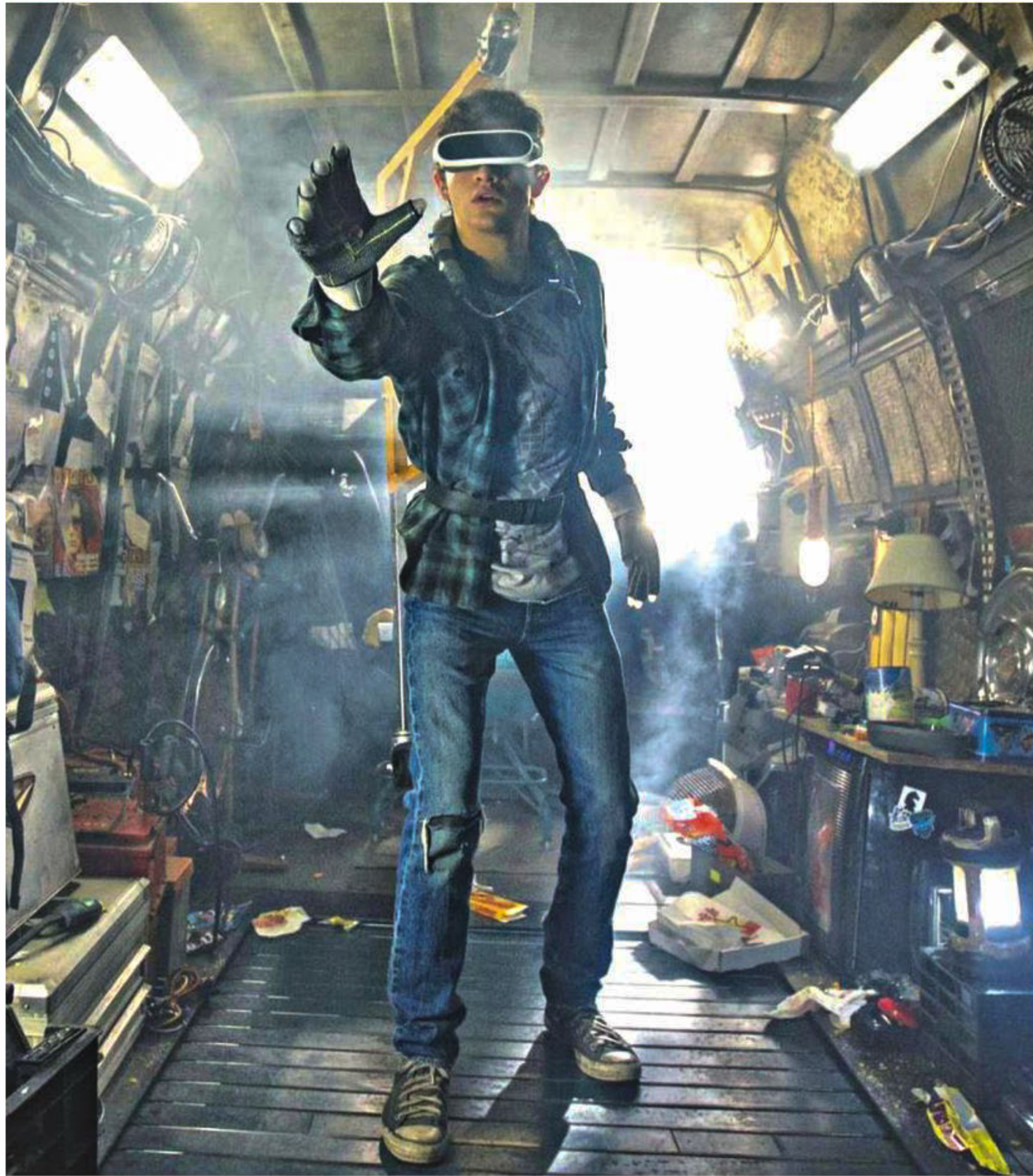
## TOO MUCH SYRUP

The sweet gush of syrup is what makes jilapis stand out from all the other sweet items you can possibly name. This gush of sweetness varies in chikon and mota jilapis and is what makes people prefer one over the other. In case of mota jilapis, the syrup is a lot more contained and for many that's a bit too much. Some people prefer mota jilapis just for this excess gush of syrup.

## PRICE TAGS

Your average mota jilapi will cost you somewhat around BDT 100 per kilogram, which is quite reasonable for your everyday iftar consumption. The mota jilapis which have additional adjectives before them will cost more, but we won't be taking them into account. Chikon jilapis, on the other hand, can cost you from BDT 200 to all the way up to BDT 800 and more depending on where you buy them. That steep an amount is alright if you're consuming them once a week or so, but it's not a viable daily option.

Now let's come to the conclusion, or at least try. No matter how you look at it, there is no specific winner. At the end of the day, it all comes down to preferences; we all have our own favourite. Some like it thick, some prefer thin. So instead of finding the fault in jilapis, let's all just appreciate these sweet, crunchy, and curly delicacy and hope that one day it will bring world peace.



## MOVIE REVIEW

# Of video games and great visuals

TASNIM ODRIKA

The movie "Ready Player One" is set in a dystopian future.

In the year 2045, much of the world is left in ruins and by that time humanity has accepted the fact that it would not be able to change this. As an escape from this harsh reality, everyone spends their time inside the virtual reality software, OASIS. The place is named so because inside the place you can be anyone you want to be, do anything you want to do, and go anywhere you want to go.

After the death of one of the co-founders, it is announced that in the game there is an Easter egg hidden inside a door which requires 3 keys to open. These keys are scattered all around the virtual universe and the person finding the egg would receive full ownership and control of the OASIS.

The plot revolves around a teenager, Wade Watts, and his group of friends and their race to find the keys before the evil video game conglomerate Innovative Online Industries (IOI) finds them. The premise of the movie is what attracted me to watch it in the first place. Each of the challenges to find the keys is set in equally stunning worlds; the visuals are impeccable.

Also, did I mention Steven Spielberg directed it? For a lot of people, that alone would be reason enough to go watch the movie.

The movie is based on Ernest Cline's novel of the same name and like all movie adaptations there are some changes. Whether these changes are good or not is a matter of perspective. Also, however impressive the visual aspects of the movie are, for me it seemed that the story moved a bit too fast and as a result failed to truly engross me. There happened to be a few plot holes created due to the fast story line. The characters were also one-dimensional. For movie goers who love action-packed movies filled with excitement, this should not be much of a problem for this is basically what the movie is: a big rush of adrenaline.

If you love video games, this is a must watch. Spielberg has beautifully captured the world of virtual reality making you wish you could be a part of it. Did I have a good time watching the movie? I sure did. Would I watch it again? Most probably not.

*Tasnim Odrika is having an existential crisis at the moment and doesn't really know who she is anymore. Send her compliments at odrika\_02@yahoo.com*



PHOTO: KAZI AKIB BIN ASAD