

NADIA AHMED

vibrant as ever

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Nadia Ahmed is a well-known and adored personality in the world of acting, dancing and modeling. Recently, she has stepped into anchoring as well. She is currently busy with a variety of Eid TV shows and several serials which will be aired on different television channels. In a candid interview, Nadia spoke to The Daily Star about what she has been up to.

Tell us about the Eid TV shows that you have wrapped up.

Nadia: I have wrapped up tele-fictions titled *Shantona De*, *Ringmasterer Ghora*, *Home Minister* and *Back to Bachelor*. Other than that, I have done an Eid special TV serial called *High Pressure 2*. I have also worked with directors Sajal Arefin and Tushaar Khan. I can't reveal the names of their shows just yet.

What types of roles are you playing in these Eid special TV shows?

Nadia: I am playing a poor ringmaster's wife in *Ringmasterer Ghora*. In *Shantona De*, I am portraying a dimwitted girl. Meanwhile, in *High Pressure 2*, I am playing a sister who is always worried about her brother's high blood pressure. So, the audience will see me playing a wide range of characters.

You have done anchoring for the first time recently. How was the experience?

Nadia: Anchoring for the first time was a really good experience. I have always described myself as an actor, so to get an offer for anchoring was surprising, but I wanted to give it a shot. The show I anchored will be aired on Maasranga TV.

How do you balance your media career and your family life so seamlessly?

Nadia: I am married to an artist, so we have a great understanding. We hope to build a happy life together. You have recently won an award abroad. How does it feel?

Nadia: A Tollywood awards show is organised in the USA every year, and I won the award for best dancer in it this time. I have been dancing since as long as I can remember, and I have continued to pursue it over the years. So, it is a great honour to get recognised for my craft.



PHOTO: SHEKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Calligraphy: expression through letters

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Many claim that the days of hand-written letters are gone. However, the art of hand-written letters and messages has its own charm, and can never be replaced.

Calligraphy is a form of art that is now being embraced by different artists of this country. Through this form of art, people see the wonders a simple pen can do. Hence, nowadays artists have taken a keen interest in experimenting with letters and presenting a unique form of visual art.

One of the artists is Humairah Shams, who recently conducted a two day-long workshop on calligraphy. Initially, she started with a seven days' challenge of lettering, which was about drawing letters and quotes into some formation to make it look nice. Then gradually, she fell in love with calligraphy and started taking it professionally. "What I love about calligraphy is that you are able to express yourself through words but you are also able to

draw it," says Humairah. "Painting words I want to say is the most fun part. I usually try to make my words short and pretty"

Calligrapher Omiya Hassan, who mostly does Bangla calligraphy, started her calligraphy journey from 2016, when she went to attend a conference in India. She had a segment where she had to represent Bangladesh by setting up a stall, and her team was brain storming news ideas about things to showcase. "I had this idea that we can write names of people who visit our stall in Bangla," says Omiya, "Bangla alphabets are so diverse in nature and have so many curves and dimensions!" After that, she started following English calligraphy tutorials and tried incorporating those in Bangla. It turned out to be a hit and every visitor loved their personalised gift. She further adds that there is no strict rule in calligraphy and practicing is the key for beginners.

Anything hand-written is personal and calligraphy is a fun way to illustrate thoughts and convey love.



PHOTO: FABIHA ATIQ

Treating the world as your canvas



SHABABA IQBAL

Sayeef Mahmud, widely known as *Inksmith* on social media, has been drawing since as long as he can remember. He would draw his favourite movie scenes with stick characters when he was only two and a half years old. For him, the world is nothing but a canvas to his imagination. "The most fascinating part about making art is that it allows me to continue being a child while still having the mentality of an adult," says the 22-year old artist. He describes himself as a traditional illustrator – one who is inspired by cyberpunk, a genre of science-fiction that features advanced science and technology in an urban and dystopian future. He predominantly uses ink and more recently, water colour in his art.

Last year, Sayeef's dedication as an artist led him to Humboldt



State University in Arcata, California, as an exchange student for a semester. According to Sayeef, the experience helped him identify his strengths and hone his craft.

Sayeef has recently held one storytelling workshop for children and one mural art workshop for university students. In addition, he has been a part of

The Milkshake Collective, an initiative featuring a medley of various contemporary artists, and the Invisibellas, a street art project that aimed to shed light on gender-based inequality.

Sayeef feels that many parents still don't want their children to pursue art, and instead, choose more common areas like medicine or engineering. So, even talented artists do not get to explore their full potential because of social pressures. He says, "An artist should try to keep improving and stay determined and passionate despite the challenges."

He believes that people should always draw what they relate to as a person. "Right now, I am trying to incorporate more of Dhaka's culture in my work. I am drawing our unique streets and cityscapes with an imaginative twist to things," says Sayeef.

Find Sayeef's art on his facebook page, titled *Inksmith*.

PHOTO: SALIM SADMAN SAMOY



DRESS LIKE Ranveer Singh

Fans of Ranveer Singh are not unaware of his eccentric fashion sense. The dashing actor often shows up with the weirdest of outfits, but somehow manages to pull them off in a way in which only he can. The good news for all the Ranveerians out there is that he is soon planning to open his own clothing line, once he gets some time off from his hectic schedule. This means that soon you can not only adore Ranveer, but dress like him too!

Source: The Times of India



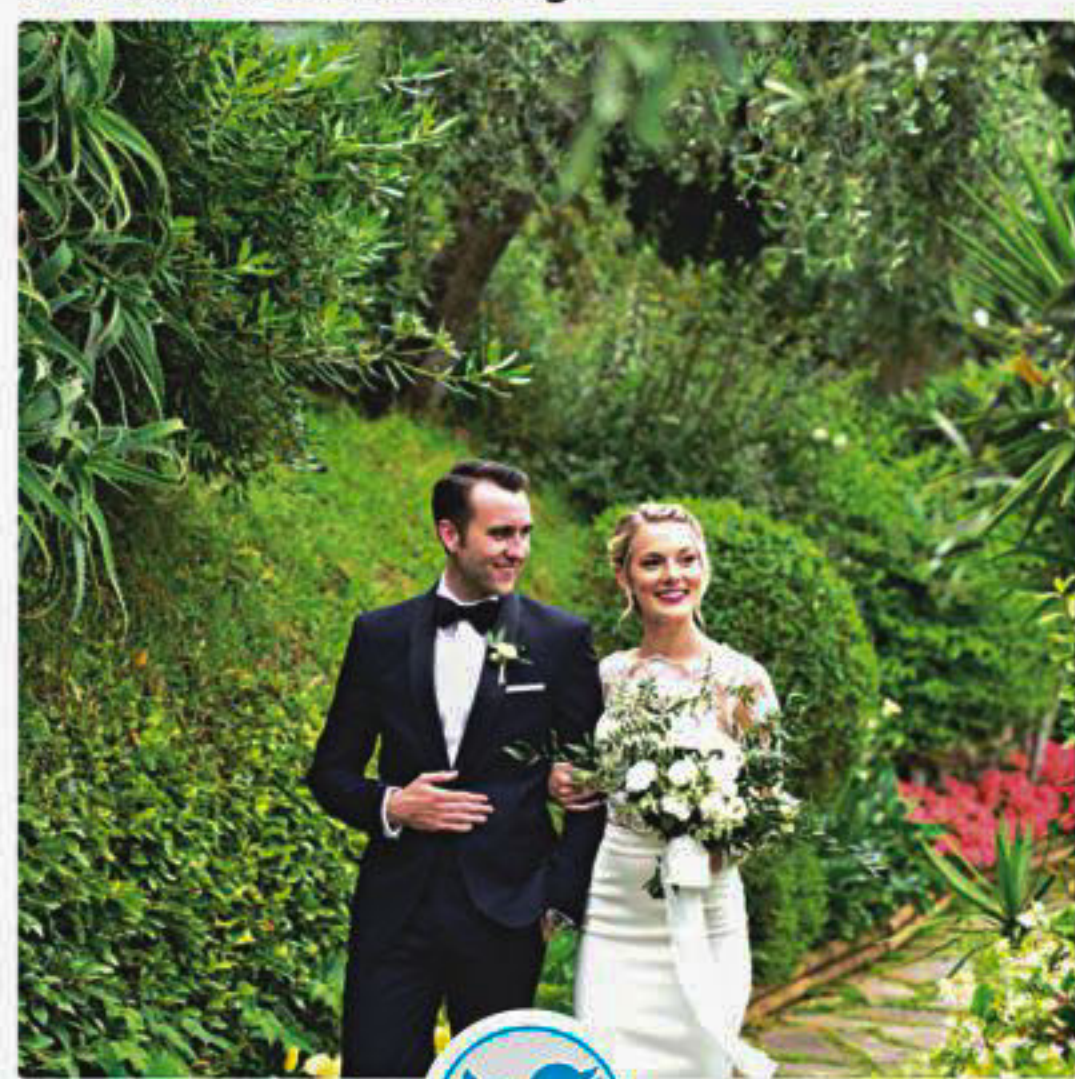
Relive Shakib-Apu on your television screens

This Eid, ATN Bangla will go on a Shakib-athon as 12 of Shakib Khan's films will be aired on the channel. The 'Dhaliwood King' will be seen opposite Apu Biswas, his former wife. Even though the beloved couple are not together anymore, fans of the duo can relive their chemistry on their television screens on ATN Bangla.

Source: ATN Bangla

Matthew Lewis
@MattDaweLewis

Not only did I miss @ArcticMonkeys in LA but they were performing in Italy at the same time we were there and my wife made me get married instead. Fuming.



Matthew Lewis, better known as Neville Longbottom from the Harry Potter franchise, recently married his girlfriend, Angela Jones. The actor posted on Twitter joking that he missed out on one of his favorite bands' performance in Italy as he was busy tying the knot there.

