

"I am quite selective with scripts"

- MITHILA

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Rafiath Rashid Mithila made a name for herself in the entertainment industry with the TV series 'Housefull' as well as several television commercials. This Eid, her fans will get to see her in new Eid tele-fictions. Recently, she also finished shooting for two new TV commercials. She talks about her latest projects in an interview with The Daily Star.

How busy are you with shooting?

Mithila: I usually do not do a lot of work because I am quite selective with scripts at the moment. I have just finished working on a project titled *Boys Down*, directed by Ishtiaq Ahmed Romel. I will also be seen in a six-episode series called *Destination Wedding* and a tele-fiction called *Neerar Neel*.

When will your new TV commercials air?

Mithila: I have just wrapped up the commercials. I am hoping they will be aired some time before Eid. I have worked with Riaz and Apurba respectively for the commercials.

Are you hosting any shows at the moment?

Mithila: I host a children's show on Radio Shadhin, once a week. It is called *Bere Uthar Golpo*. I really enjoy hosting this show.

It has been a while since you have been seen on any TV series. Why so?

Mithila: It is difficult to find time. It has been a while since *Housefull* and it was a huge success. Right now, I have a full-time job besides my media career. So, I can only manage time for short telefilms.

What are your plans for Eid?

Mithila: I will spend time with my family and my daughter Ayra in Dhaka. She is the most important person in my life right now. I plan to take her out shopping and relax.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

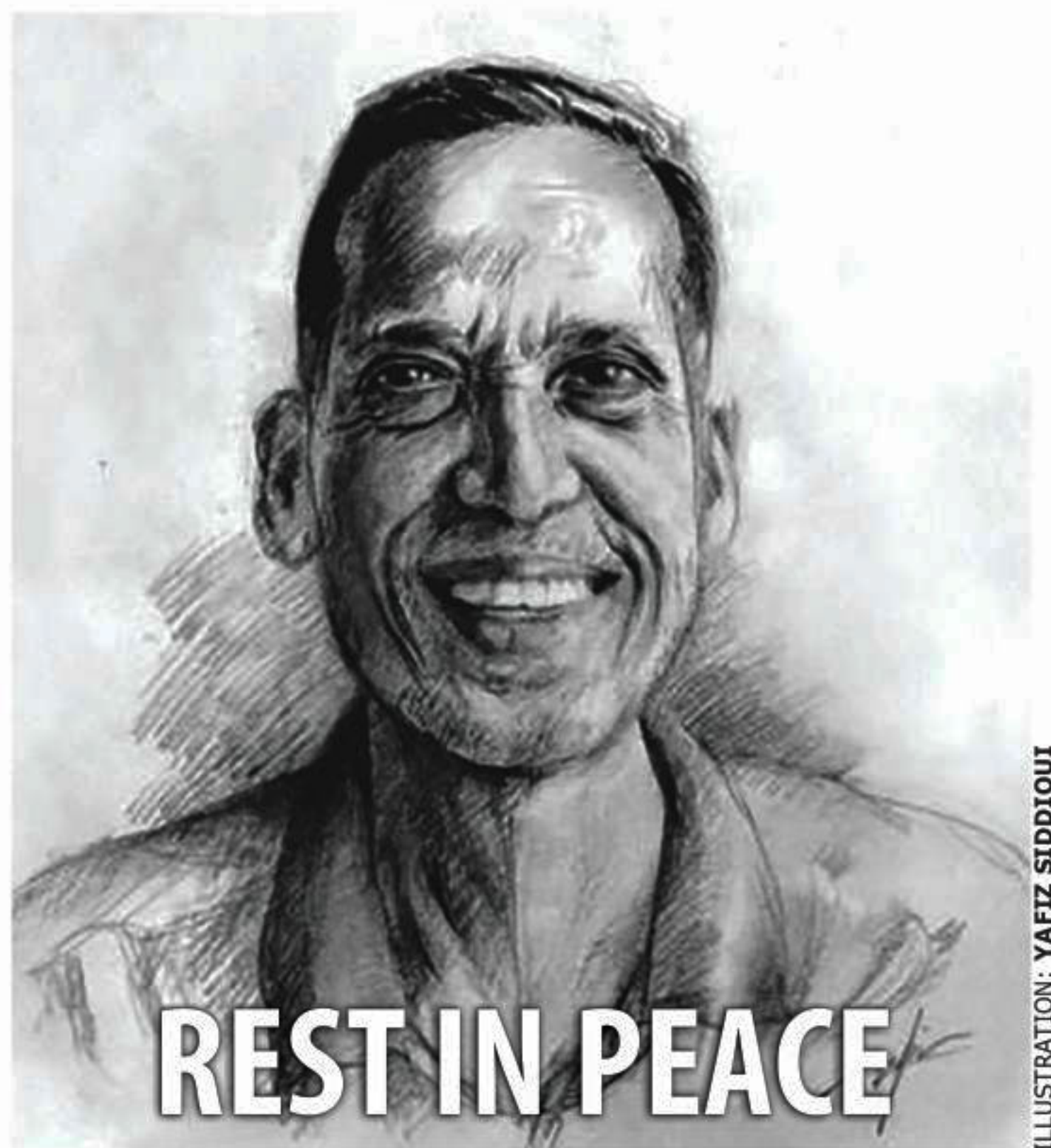


ILLUSTRATION: YAFIZ SIDDIQUI

ROCK GURU

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Today marks the 7th Death Anniversary of the pioneer of rock music in Bangladesh, Azam Khan. The legacy that he has left behind cannot be defined by his discography of 20 plus albums, it is much more profound than that. A freedom fighter and an advocate for peace at a time of violence, Azam Khan's name was synonymous to the emerging underground rock music scene after liberation. As another legend, Maqsoodul Haque (Mac) notes in *History of Rock - The Legacy of Azam Khan*, "By mid 1973, words spread like wildfire in the youthful underground about the emergence of a man who had taken on the entire establishment to do a new kind of music despite personal attacks and social criticism. That man was

Azam Khan."

The great man is sometimes wrongly termed 'Pop Samrat' by people to this day. This title is misleading, as 'Pop' stands for popular music that is generally accepted by the society. For Azam Khan, acceptance was a hard-earned victory through years of struggle and blockbuster hits such as *Ore Saleka Ore Maleka*, *Bangladesh*, *Obhimani* and a myriad of others.

When he breathed his last on this day in 2011, the entire music industry had wept, irrespective of the genre that they belonged to. One of the reasons was the well-established fact that without him, a big portion of the industry would not exist as we know it today. Azam Khan was a rock-star, and he rocked harder than anyone could. Azam Khan taught us how to rock. Rest in peace, Guru.

Talking about Tagore in China

Notable actor, director and writer Ataur Rahman, who is also the recipient of the Ekushe Padak, along with Dr Israfeel Shaheen, Professor of Theatre & Performance Studies at the University of Dhaka and eminent theatre director, will be leaving for Beijing, China on June 6 to attend conferences on "Tagore and Today's World." The conferences will be hosted by the Department of Asian & African Languages and Literatures at Peking University and Jiguang Classic School from June 8-11. They will give lectures on different aspects of Rabindranath Tagore's works as well as present papers and videos.

Source: Department of Theatre and Performance Studies, University of Dhaka.



Dr Israfeel Shaheen



Ataur Rahman



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Tisha steps down from 'Baalighor'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Nusrat Imroz Tisha, who is taking the silver screen by storm after conquering the modeling industry and TV, will not be seen in Kolkata's eminent filmmaker Arindam Sil's *Baalighor*. She was on board to act in the film alongside the likes of Arefin Shuvo and Nawshaba. The cast and crew will begin shooting for the film soon.

In a telephone conversation with *The Daily Star*, Tisha regretfully informs that she has decided to step down from the film due to scheduling conflicts.

As of now, Tisha is busy shooting for several Eid projects. She has also won a National Award this year for her performance in *Ostitto*.

Eid albums from Bengal



ZAHANGIR ALOM

On the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, Bengal Foundation has launched six new Eid albums. Recorded by prominent and promising singers of Bangladesh, the albums feature compositions penned and composed by Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Radha Raman Dutta and several Bhawaiya bards.

Renowned singer Rathindranath Roy's solo album *Dhorola Nodir Paar-e* is a great treat to the folk music aficionados as the artiste recorded several popular Bhawaiya numbers including *O Ki O Bondhu Kajol Bhromora Rey*, *O Ki Gariyal Bhai* and *Phandey Poria Boga*.

Famous folk singer Chandana Majumdar can be heard singing several Radha Raman Dutta songs like *Jol-e Jaiyo Na Go Rai*, *Ami Krishna Kothaye Pai* and *Bhromor Koiyo Giya* in the album *Pranbondhu Bihone*.

Shimu Dey's solo album *Tomaye Amaye Miley* has Tagore songs like *Majhey Majhey Tobo Dekha*



Pai, Ke Boshiley Aji Hridoyashoney and Tomar Holo Shuru.

Abhaya Dutta also recorded Tagore songs including *Bajilo Kahar Veena*, *Aji E Nirala Kunjey* and *Dinshesher Ranga Mukul* for her solo album *Alok Malar Saje*.

Nazrul singers Susmita Debnath Suchi and Mohit Khan have been featured in a duet album *Noyoner Shei Sadh*. The singers recorded several solos like *Uchaton Mon Ghar-e Royna* and *Shawon Ashilo Phirey* while they lent their voices to a duet song *Tumi Sundor Tai Cheye Thaki Priyo*.

Shukla Paul Setu also recorded eight Tagore songs like *Khelaghar Bandhte Legechhi*, *Aj Shobar Rong-e Rong Mishatey Hobe* and *Ami Roop-e Tomaye Bholabo Na* for her solo album *Kachhe Jobe Chhile*.

Noted Indian musician Durbadal Chattopadhyay arranged music for four albums while Pratyush Bandopadhyay arranged music for the album *Kachhe Jobe Chhile*. Bangladeshi Tagore singer Himadri Shekhar arranged music for the album *Tomaye Amaye Miley*.

The Daily Star



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