

WHAT'S ON

**Musical event**  
Title: CELEBRATE FRIENDSHIP  
Venue: The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Bangladesh  
Date: August 5  
Time: 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm




**Art exhibition**  
Title: Shoishob  
Venue: EMK Center  
Date: August 11  
Time: 9:30 am - 8 pm



**Concert**  
Title: 10 Years of the Armeen Musa Band  
Venue: Jatra Boro  
Date: August 17  
Time: 7-10:30pm



**Photography Exhibition**  
Title: A Thousand Words  
Venue: Gallery Chitrag  
Date: August 10 - 11  
Time: 12pm



**Theatre**  
Title: 12 Angry Men - 11th Show  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: August 5  
Time: 7:30pm - 9 pm



# The stars align with their closest friends

SHAH ALAM SHAZLI and SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Celebrities might be super-busy with their work, but even they have to make time for their friends! On the occasion of Friendship Day, The Daily Star talks to some renowned stars about their closest friends in media.



### FERDOUS-PURNIMA

"In the industry, Purnima is my closest friend. I would say she is practically family at this point. She is someone I can open up to about both my professional and personal dilemmas. We don't meet every day, but I know she is just a phone call away," says actor Ferdous. Ferdous and Purnima paired up for the film *Modhupurnima* years ago. The two hit it off quite quickly, and have been friends since then. They have also anchored many shows together, the most recent one being the National Film Awards. Ferdous describes their friendship as lifelong and beautiful. "Many friends have come and gone, but my bond with Purnima has stood the test of time. We have had our fights too, but we always make up quickly," smiles Ferdous.

### CHANCHAL CHOWDHURY-SHAHNAZ KHUSHI

"I had known of Khushi while working in the theatre group Aranyak. However, after *Ghor Kutum*, I started to understand her as a person a person. In Showbiz, Khushi is the one I can always count on," says Chanchal Chowdhury. The actors have staged dramas in theatre and appeared in many commercials together. Even though their friendship has faced a lot of ups and downs, Chanchal thinks that these moments of hardship only strengthens their relationship: "I want to cherish this friendship as long as I can live."



### XEFER-SHAHTAJ

Xefer Rahman and Shahtaj Monira Hashem are among the most popular young internet celebrities today. The two have built up quite the friendship, of which they often post pictures of. "Shahtaj is an amazing person, and I just love how straightforward she is," says Xefer. The singer admitted that having grown up around men, she has very few female friends. "Shahtaj has become very close to me in a very short time. In fact, she is one of the few close female friends that I have."



### ASHFAQUE NIPUN-ADNAN AL RAJEEV

Adnan Al Rajeev and Ashfaque Nipun are two of the most well known directors in the country. Incidentally, they are also best friends. "I first met him while I was working as an assistant director for *Made in Bangladesh* with Mostofa Sarwar Farooki bhai, he was newly recruited. When we started working together afterwards, we started sharing our ideas and works," says Adnan Al Rajeev. "Ashfaque is a great friend, and he is an amazingly talented director. He is calm, sensible, and intelligent; and I am lucky to have him as a friend."

# Zinnia

with love from India



SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Zinnia Chowdhury is a promising young singer who resides in Howrah, India. The artiste is currently touring Bangladesh promoting the release of her rendition of 'Bhromor Koiyo Giya', Radharomon Dutta's magnum opus from the 18th century. *The Daily Star* got in touch with Zinnia for an exclusive interview.

**Is this your first time in Bangladesh?**  
Yes, it is. I am amazed at the hospitality that I have received thus far. Even though protests are going on and I have to walk a fair bit to reach my destinations, I have no complaints as the students are doing it for a just cause.

**How were you inspired to make music?**  
My mother is a singer, and my father is a guitarist. You can say that I was fortunate enough to learn from both

of them. I performed on DD National when I was 3 years old. I went on to earn a national scholarship in 'light classical music' from the government of India. I am also currently a B-High graded artist in All India Radio.

**What made you want to sing 'Bhromor Koiyo Giya'?**  
When I first heard this song, it just connected to me on a very personal level. I instantly fell in love with it, and wanted to do a rendition of it. If you listen to the cover, you'll notice that we also incorporated Hindi lyrics into the song, in order to make it more accessible to the people of India. The lyrics retain the original vibe and meaning of *Bhromor Koiyo Giya*.

**Who are your favourite artistes in Bangladesh?**  
I absolutely love James, and the way that he sings. I also love Rabindra Sangeet sung by Bannya di (Rezwana Choudhury Bannya).

Yesterday, a daylong photography exhibition of 'Celebrating Life' was held at Joypurhat Govt. College's science building corridor. Films of Celebrating Life were screened at the college auditorium. At the exhibition, 43 winning photography entries were displayed. Students and teachers of the college visited the exhibition of The Daily Star-Standard Chartered Bangladesh's flagship photography, film and lyric competition, 'Celebrating Life' on the campus.



The Daily Star

Standard Chartered

celebrating life

CELEBRATING LIFE DISTRICT TOUR



6th August 2018

Photo Exhibition  
Film Screening

Concert By  
**BAND LALON**

College Auditorium  
GOVT. AZIZUL HAQUE COLLEGE, BOGRA

Partners

Showbiz

Channel

আনন্দধারা