



However, they have had to make it work, which they did in two of four matches so far, landing them in a virtual semifinal today against Pakistan at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu

"These are the toughest conditions I have played in, you get tired after spending a little time on the field," said skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, a veteran of 17 years in international cricket.

In the end, much will depend on whether Bangladesh can find a way to prevail once more.

# Feeling the heat, but up for the battle

"But they are doing fine. And when they are up against one of the better teams in the world like Pakistan, they are up for the fight."



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|  |                |   |  |
|--|----------------|---|--|
|  |                |  |  |
| <b>Shakib Al Hasan</b>   |                | <b>Shoaib Malik</b>   |  |
| 34.91  | Average        | 35.62   |  |
| 181  | Innings        | 242   |  |
| 5482   | Runs           | 7196  |  |
| 134*   | HS             | 143   |  |
| 80.91  | SR             | 81.97   |  |
| 39   | 50s            | 43  |  |
| 7  | 100s           | 9   |  |
| <b>Shakib Al Hasan</b>   |                | <b>Shoaib Malik</b>   |  |
|  | <b>Bowling</b> |   |  |
| 244  | Wickets        | 156   |  |
| 189  | Innings        | 210   |  |
| 29.62  | Average        | 39.02   |  |
| 4.46   | Economy        | 4.64  |  |
| 01   | 5-wicket haul  | 0   |  |
| 5/47   | Best Bowling   | 4/19  |  |



If Shakib does miss out, it would be a big blow to Bangladesh because talismanic opener Tamim Iqbal is already out of the Asia Cup with a fractured hand.

"I have an appointment with the doctor in England on Friday and I am expected to travel day after tomorrow [Thursday] where the doctor will change the plaster and have a look at the injured area," Tamim told The Daily Star yesterday.



**Player-of-the-match:**  
Mohammad Shahzad.