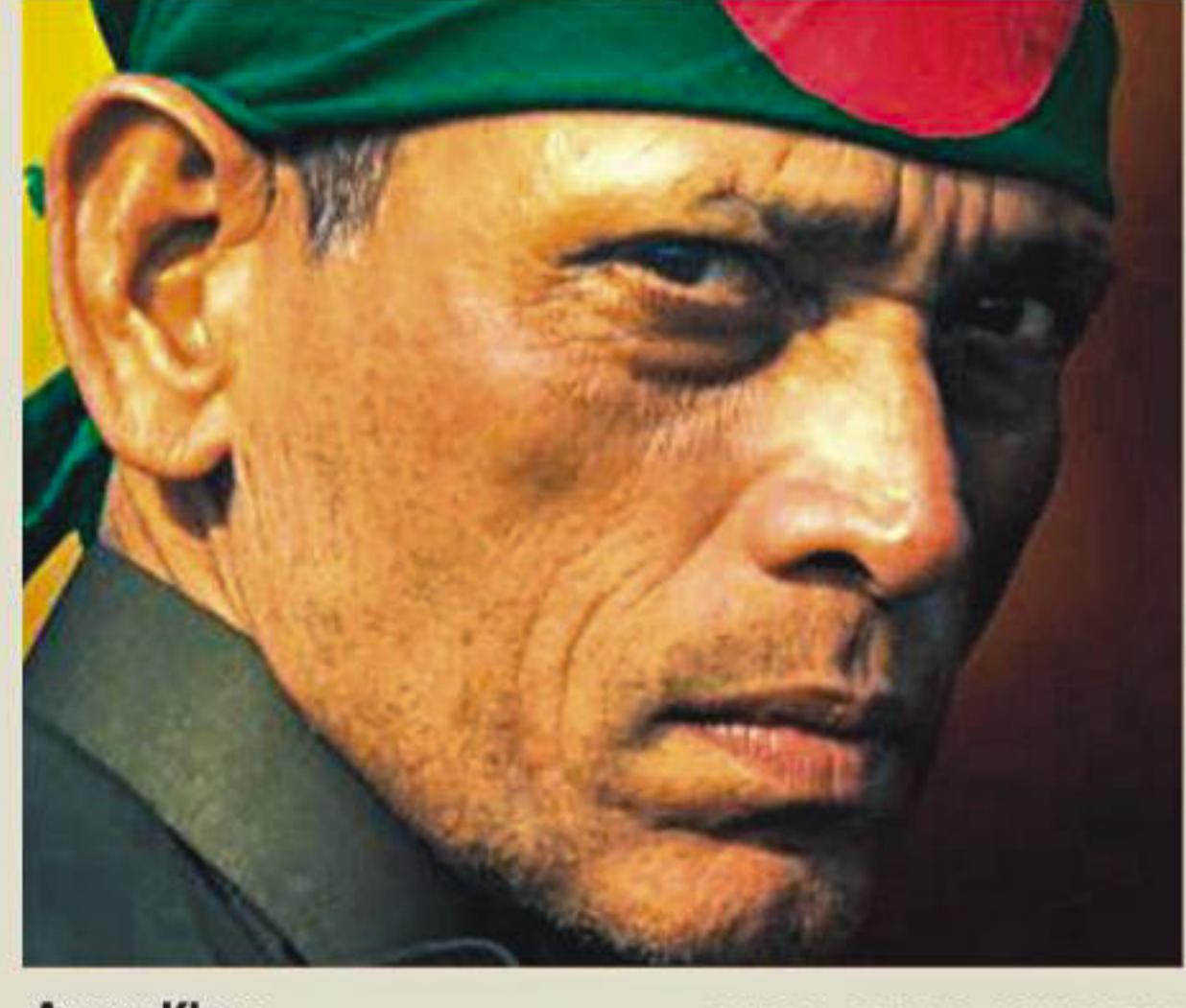


Stars who will receive the Ekushey Padak for 2019



Azam Khan

PHOTO: STAR & COLLECTED

Introduced in memory of the martyrs of the Language Movement of Bangladesh, the Ekushey Padak is the second-highest civilian award in Bangladesh. It recognises contributions in the fields of culture, education, economics and many others. Below is a special report on prominent recipients of the Ekushey Padak from the world of arts and entertainment this year.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Azam Khan (posthumous), Subir Nandi and Khairul Anam Shakil will be recognised for their tremendous contribution to music, while Liaquat Ali Lucky, Lucky Enam and Suborna Mustafa will be acknowledged for their role in performing arts.

Azam Khan was a freedom fighter, singer, composer and guitarist whose popularity transcended generations of music in Bangladesh. He was the lead singer of Uchcharan which was the first rock band of the country.

Subir Nandi has been an icon of modern songs of Bangladesh for many years. Following his popularity on radio

during the 1980's, Nandi sang hundreds of memorable songs in his illustrious career.

Khairul Anam Shakil is a renowned Nazrul Sangeet singer. A teacher and the General Secretary of Chhayanaut, he is also a well-known name to admirers of adhunik songs. He also has a tremendous contribution in the establishment of the pure notations in Nazrul Sangeet.

Eminent cultural personality Liaquat Ali Lucky is the Director General of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy. He has been developing cultural initiatives and extending cultural activities for strengthening the ideals of Bangladesh for years.

Having started her career in 1972,



Lucky Enam

veteran actor Lucky Enam has accomplished laudable performances in radio, television and theatre for many years. She has also proved her talent as a theatre director and co-founded the group, Nagorik Nattyangon.

Among the many artists who have enjoyed prolonged stints in the film, television and theatre industries, Suborna Mustafa's career is one of the most illustrious. Known for her riveting performances on the screen and the stage, Suborna Mustafa is the daughter of actor Golam Mustafa, also a recipient of the Ekushey Padak.

Each winner will receive a gold medal, a certificate and a cheque for Tk 2 lakh.



Subir Nandi



Liaquat Ali Lucky



Khairul Anam Shakil



Suborna Mustafa



The wit and humour of a nation EARKI'S 2019 CALENDAR

Whether they are used to vent our feelings over certain socio-political issues, or to reinforce our obsessions with prominent celebrities, memes are an easy and funny way for us to communicate with our peers. Over the years, memes have taken over our news feeds and even invaded our offline realities through quirky T-shirts and amusing party games, becoming part of the fabric of the humour in Bangladesh's culture.

Bearing that in mind, Earki, a satire platform that provides a light-hearted lens on current affairs and local news, introduced yet another product to make us chuckle - a desk calendar of twelve

Bangladeshi viral sensations from the last few years, presented in the form of caricatures.

SHABABA IQBAL

Team Earki is inspired by Know Your Meme, a website that documents internet memes and viral phenomena. In recent years, various individuals in Bangladesh have become the talk of the town, owing to their amusing stories, opinions and characteristics, both online and offline. While this lot of viral sensations includes prominent politicians, models and journalists, it also has ordinary citizens, who have found a place in our everyday conversations, social media statuses, comments and internet memes. The calendar provides brief histories of the different memes used for the twelve months. Under the tagline, *Rongobhara Bongobhara*, it features Sefat Ullah's "Ki, Hingshe Hoi? Amar Moto Hoto Chao?", Abdul Hai's "Naam Bolle Chakri Thakbe Na," Shamim Osman's "Khela Hobo!" and several others.

For a long time, no one was cataloging where these jokes came from, or how they spread, or the permutations they went through before ending up on everyone's social media accounts. Team Earki has done a commendable job in portraying the different characters that make our nation so humorously colourful. While there is debate going around about the impacts that memes will



have on our literature and interpersonal relationships as we move forward in the digital age, Earki's desk calendar sheds light on the brighter side of things. It showcases that at the

end of the day, memes are nothing more than a wonderful example of people using humour as a way of coping with the 'challenging times' of life!

Iflix & BENGAL Classic Tea present Ushnotar Notun Golpo

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Online video content streaming service, iflix, in partnership with BENGAL Classic Tea, is set to release their new original series of short films, comprising of four stories revolving around love, respect and bonding, told by four prominent

Bangladeshi filmmakers. The series commenced with the film *Sugar* by Vicky Zahed, which was released yesterday. It will be followed by *Tea-Stall* by Ashfaque Nipun, *Bhoy* by RB Pritom and *Blood-Rose* by Redoan Rony, all of which will be available on iflix, absolutely free of cost for subscribers.



Watch 'Jhora Patar Kabbo' tonight on NTV

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Jhora Patar Kabbo will bring a very unusual on-screen pairing of the upcoming star, Irfan Sazzad, and the veteran actor Bonna Mirza. The story revolves around

a divorced woman, played by Bonna Mirza, who is infatuated with a university student, played by Irfan Sazzad. The telefilm, scripted by Riad Shimul and directed by Wahid Palash, will be broadcast on NTV at 9 pm.

