

Bittersweet ROMANCE

COVER STORY

Newly married couple, Sabnam Faria and Harunur Rashid Opu, is keeping the festivity of their wedding alive by letting their fans know about their married life. There are not many couples who open up about their marriage, but in an interview with Rafi Hossain, the newly-wed couple talked about their love and relationship.

Rafi Hossain: Welcome to *Uncensored* with Rafi Hossain. Today we have the newly married couple, Sabnam Faria and Harunur Rashid Opu. We are very excited for them, and I am sure fans of Sabnam must be eager to know about Opu and their married life. So, tell me Sabnam, what changes did marriage bring into your life?

Sabnam Faria: The only thing that has changed is my house. At my parents' house, I was always the youngest. So, everyone would be busy helping me get ready, before I left every morning. But now, at my in-laws', everyone wakes up a little late. So, I have to prepare everything the night before. That is the only change I have faced after getting married.

Rafi: You didn't face any trouble adjusting to a new place?

Sabnam: Not at all. My mother-in-law makes sure that I am very comfortable.

Rafi: Opu, what changes happened in your life after getting married?

Harunur Rashid Opu: Right now, it is too soon to tell if any changes took place. We are still in the 'honeymoon phase'.

Rafi: So, you both were in a relationship with each other before you got married?

Sabnam: Not exactly, we were very good friends. But both our families fixed the marriage.

Rafi: When did you both decide to be more than just friends?

Opu: Probably six months after we became good friends. The thing is, I have a very large friend circle. But outside of that, I was not friends with anyone else, she was the only one. And she was very busy with her work, so she couldn't really find time to befriend anyone. Somehow, we connected through Facebook and became really good friends. We used to talk a lot, and her replies were very interesting.

Rafi: Why were they interesting?

Sabnam: When I met Opu, I was at a very low point in my life. I had crippling depression after a long-term relationship ended badly. That depression took me to a very dark place. So, a colleague of mine suggested that I should try to talk to other men, because that might help me get out of it. The problem was that I was already done with my graduation, so all my friends were abroad. And I was doing a lot of projects, so I couldn't just go somewhere and start talking to somebody, as most people view actors in a different light. I was also very scared to talk to

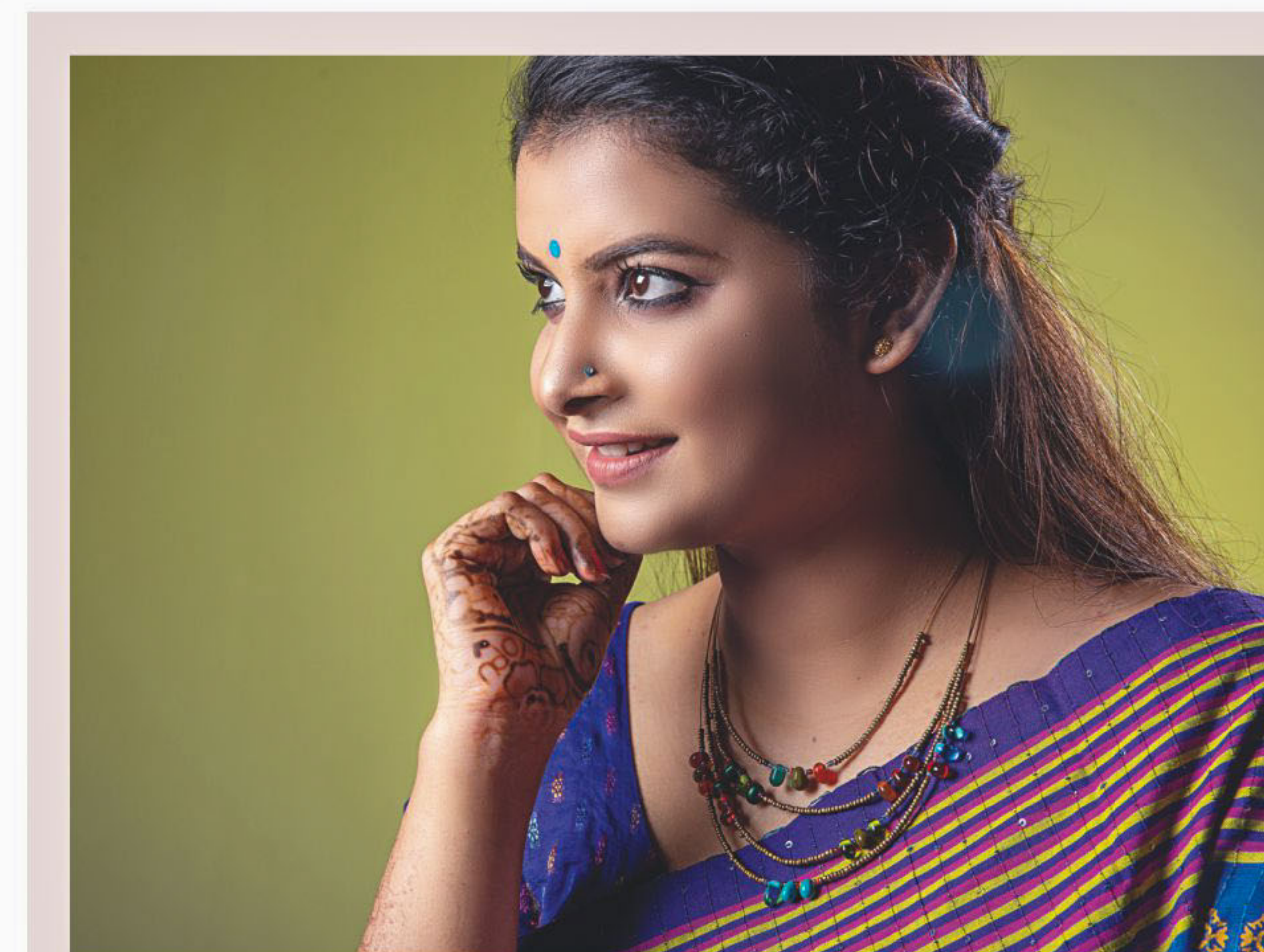
anyone on Facebook as I was paranoid that the person I was talking to would screenshot it and spread it around. One day, I noticed that Opu had sent me a friend request. Since we had a lot of mutual friends, I decided to accept it. Soon enough, he messaged me, and I explained how he shouldn't pay heed to any strange thing I say because I recently had a bad breakup. He consoled me, saying that he was still not over a breakup that he had ten years ago (laughs). We talked a lot after that.

Opu: Since we used to talk a lot, we decided to meet. We realised that if we went to lunch or dinner, it would seem like we were more than friends, so we decided to go have breakfast.

Sabnam: We then went to *Star Kabab* to have breakfast. We hung out, and had a lot of fun. I really like it when men dress-up; the first things I see in a man are his shoes and belt. Ironically, when we first met, Opu showed up wearing trousers and a shawl because they made him feel comfortable. We later found a common love for steak and used to go to different restaurants every week just to have it.

Opu: After becoming very good friends, we would talk all the time. She would tell me about her family issues. At this point, I had developed some feelings for her, so I told her that if she can't find a man before the 25th of December of that year, I would flirt with her because I had

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already played the role of her boyfriend, minus the romance.

Rafi: How did you react to that suggestion?

Sabnam: I took it as a joke, really. So, it was Christmas day, and coincidentally, we both went to the same place. I was with my cousins, and he was with two of his female friends. He was being very formal with me, and I thought that he was behaving like that because of those friends.

Opu: I was actually being formal because I thought that she was with her elder sister. Only later, did she tell me that it was a cousin of hers. But since she thought that it was because of the girls that were with me, she became a little angry. After leaving that place, she posted a status on Facebook oh how she had friends who would completely forget her, immediately after seeing a pretty girl. I knew she wrote that about me, so I went to her house, and gave her a call.

Sabnam: When he called me, he asked me where I was, and I told him that I was home. He asked me to come down and said that he was taking me to a coffee shop in Khilgaon. That day, I realised that he was actually giving an effort. The way he proposed to me was quite unique as well. A strike was taking place, and since I needed to go to the salon, he told me that he would drop me off while going to his office. I asked him how he was going to take his car during the strike, and he told me that he

was going to drop me off with a CNG. When he came to pick me up, I saw that he had his iPad with him. It didn't strike me as anything out of the ordinary as he was going to his office, until he showed me a Powerpoint presentation about him and his qualifications, and the last slide in the presentation was asking if I would date him. I was bewildered, because I could never imagine anyone proposing in the back of a CNG.

Rafi: Opu and Sabnam, I really love how you both are being honest about everything. I think that many people are getting in and out of relationships a lot. What do you both think of that?

Opu: The thing is, during my mother's time, women had to make a lot of sacrifices. As many women were not properly educated, they had to rely on their husbands financially. The women had to stay at home and do all the household chores. Now, since the women are also financially supporting the family, it is normal for the husbands to help around the house. In our case, we have everything divided; she will do some chores around the house, and I will do others.

Sabnam: Since a woman is helping with the financial part, it is normal for the husband to help around the house. In the past, the women