

CENTRE STAGE

IRFAN SAJJAD

Irfan Sajjad has made his name in the entertainment industry, both as an actor and a model. He has been a part of many television programmes and films, and has been greatly appreciated by the audience for his work in the film, 'Bhalobasha Emoni Hoy'. In a recent interview with Star Showbiz, Irfan opens up about his acting career.

*Tell us something about yourself.*

I'm a very simple person. I don't wish to live a life of luxury. I believe that living a simple life helps me meet new people and understand them better. I love socialising and talking to different people, and living such a life helps me.

When did you start acting and what was your debut project?

My acting career began in 2013, when I secured the first position in Channel i's reality show, *Emami Fair & Handsome Channel i Handsome The Ultimate Man*. I stepped into the entertainment industry with my debut project, *Bhalobashar Golper Sheshangsho*. It was directed by Mabrur Rashid Bannah, with Nusrat Imrose Tisha as my co-actor.

Who inspired you to pursue this career?

I have always wanted to pursue a career in acting, and was eagerly waiting for an opportunity. Throughout my journey, my family has been my biggest inspiration, especially my wife. They supported and encouraged me tremendously. Without their help, I would not be where I am today.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

I actually haven't thought that far ahead. Acting will always be my passion. I strive to excel at what I do, and I put in a lot of effort every day to better myself. However, I would love to act in good films and be part of projects that have a sound storyline, be it within the Bangladeshi film industry, or on international platforms. But most importantly, I would like to become a successful actor.

What are the struggles that you had to face in your profession?

Everyone has to encounter certain difficulties in the beginning of their career. I also had to overcome many struggles, especially before I began my career in acting. However, I have worked hard for the past five years to improve the quality of my work and become a better actor, and thereby, build an image in this industry. But, I will say that I have been very lucky, as many directors had faith in me and my acting, and so, I could be a part of many good projects. However, the struggles I faced were not impossible to overcome, and I am grateful for all of it as they have helped me succeed.

Do you have any dreams that you wish to fulfill?

I wish to be a part of international films, be it in Bollywood or in Hollywood. I believe that when it comes to acting, the sky is the limit. I would love to represent my country abroad by acting in international films. I am working to get to such a position, and hopefully, I will be able to fulfill my dream one day.

Who is your favourite actor?

I do not have any particular favourites when it comes to actors. However, I do admire the work of many Bangladeshi and international celebrities. I follow the work of different actors to understand what makes them stand out, and try to learn from them as well.

Any upcoming projects the readers should look forward to?

Yes. I have recently starred in a web series named, *Eternal Gift*, under the banner of *Bioscope Productions*, with Tisha starring alongside me. I will be portraying the character of the lead vocalist of a band. My younger brother, Shafayat Nahin has also acted in the series. The interesting thing is that the series features a song written by me, and composed and sung by Shafayat. I like to make music, and this is the first time where my brother and I will be part of a project, both as musicians and actors. I hope the audience will enjoy it. Other than that, there are some upcoming projects that will be released during *Pohela Boishakh*, and some during *Eid*.

Do you have any special message for the readers?

I would want the readers to keep me in their prayers, so that I can keep making good films. I would also like to request everyone to work for our country, in any way they can.