



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

SEHRI TALES

Tapping into your creative self during Ramadan

SHABABA IQBAL

Long-time writer for the youth Sabrina Fatma Ahmad published her first book, *Sehri Tales*, in August 2018. The book is filled with poetry, haikus and prose written over a period of three years. Sabrina started the tales as a self-challenge during Ramadan in 2016, to try and get out of a writer's block. She wrote a few lines after having her sehri, the early morning meal before Fajr prayers, every year during the month of Ramadan. These lines were reflections of her own thoughts, fun poems on the food that she had cooked or just things that she experienced during the day. Discovering that the challenge did wonders for her writing and her mental health, Sabrina felt that it can help other people too. Last year during the month of Ramadan, she partnered up with Litmosphere, a prominent online book club, to open the challenge up to its members, providing them with interesting prompts daily. As of now, the challenge is open to the members of Litmosphere only, since it is easy to keep track of the entries that way. In a candid chat, Sabrina tells *The Daily Star* what her process of writing looks like, and more.

Tell us a little about your techniques and preferences for writing something. Whenever I have an idea, I write it down and then come back to it after a few weeks. If the idea still feels fresh, I try to flesh it out. Over the years, I have realised that

when it comes to writing, editing is key. Ideas that I initially thought of go through many changes by the end.

Are you planning to publish another book any time soon?

I think the publication of my first book was quite rushed, so I want to wait a while and take my time with writing a second one. **With Ramadan starting, you, along with Litmosphere, will be arranging the second round of the Sehri Tales challenge. How will it be different from last year?**

Last year, the Sehri Tales challenge received an overwhelmingly positive response from the members of Litmosphere. It was nice to see people getting inspired by each other's writing techniques. However, some people were submitting their tales quite late. So, this year, we will be stricter in terms of timing and we will also have a limit of 250 words on the entries. If someone is not into writing, they can submit artworks or doodles based on the prompts.

What do you want people to take away from the Sehri Tales challenge?

With the varied pleasures of social media today, a lot of people vent out their feelings and frustrations through long posts online. Although this practice is good in a way, it can also perpetuate negativity. I hope the Sehri Tales challenge allows people to take their unpleasant feelings and turn it into something artistic. I wish everyone a happy, hydrated and stress-free Ramadan!

Shilpakala Academy in Barishal honours fifteen artistes

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

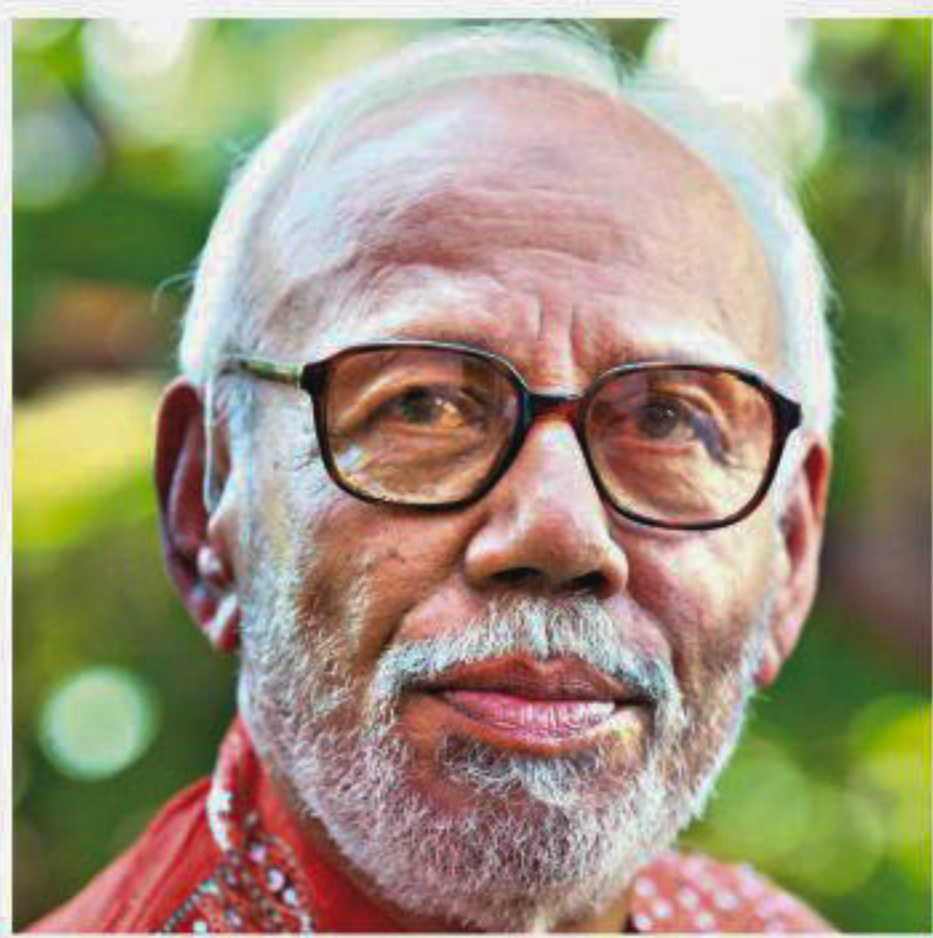
For many years, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) has been arranging an array of activities across the nation to promote and nurture the rich culture and heritage of the land. Since 2013, BSA has taken the initiative to honour five eminent artistes from every district annually, who are making a mark on society honing their respective crafts.

The district Shilpakala Academy in Barishal recently held a ceremony to honour 15 artistes for the years 2016 – 2018. Divisional Commissioner of Barishal, Ram Chandra Das attended the occasion as the chief guest, while the District Administrator of Barishal, S M Wasiur Rahman presided over the event. The District Cultural Officer, Mohammad Hasanur Rashid addressed the audience with his welcome speech.

The categories selected for the awards included theatre, singing, instrument playing, dancing, jatra and folk culture.



Updates on ATM Shamsuzaman's health condition



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Ekushey Padak and five-time National Award winning actor ATM Shamsuzzaman was admitted to Dhaka's Asgar Ali Hospital for an urgent gall-bladder surgery. He was put on life support following the deterioration of his condition. After that, it improved marginally, and life support was removed. However, his brother, Saleh Zaman Salim told *The Daily Star* that his condition has gotten worse again, and he is back on life support. "I request everyone to pray for my brother's recovery, he is in critical condition," he said.



Renowned dancer and social activist Anisul Islam Hero received Kolkata's 'Prayas Award 2019' recently. The event, hosted under Kolkata's welfare organisation Prayas, rewarded Hero for his contribution as the director of Sristi Cultural Centre and the chairperson of Bondhu Social Welfare Society.

Bangladesh's 'Thirst' at 58th Venice Art Biennale

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bangladesh will have a pavilion at the 58th Venice Art Biennale, to be held in Venice, Italy, where Bangladeshi artistes will exhibit their works at the exhibition titled, *Thirst*. The Venice Art Biennale is considered as one of the most prominent and prestigious art events in the world.

Thirst is curated by Mokhesur Rahman and Viviana Vannucci. "The thirst for pure water amongst the people of Bangladesh is not only a physical requirement, but in this case, it becomes an expression or metaphor of a thirst for life or knowledge. With this project we would show that, despite adversity, in Bangladesh there is a new artistic tradition, strong and vital forms of art that celebrates life," explains Viviana Vannucci.

In the exhibition, the participating artistes will individually and collectively interpret the theme of 'Thirst' which goes beyond the merely physical to branch out into many territories, like intellectual, artistic and so on. For instance, Bangladeshi photographer Gazi Nafis Ahmed's *Inner Face* features a series of portraits of marginalised communities in Bangladesh. The award-winning artiste's work has been exhibited in Bangladesh, Spain, Netherlands, China, India and the United Kingdom.

According to John Zarobell, former assistant curator at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and former associate curator



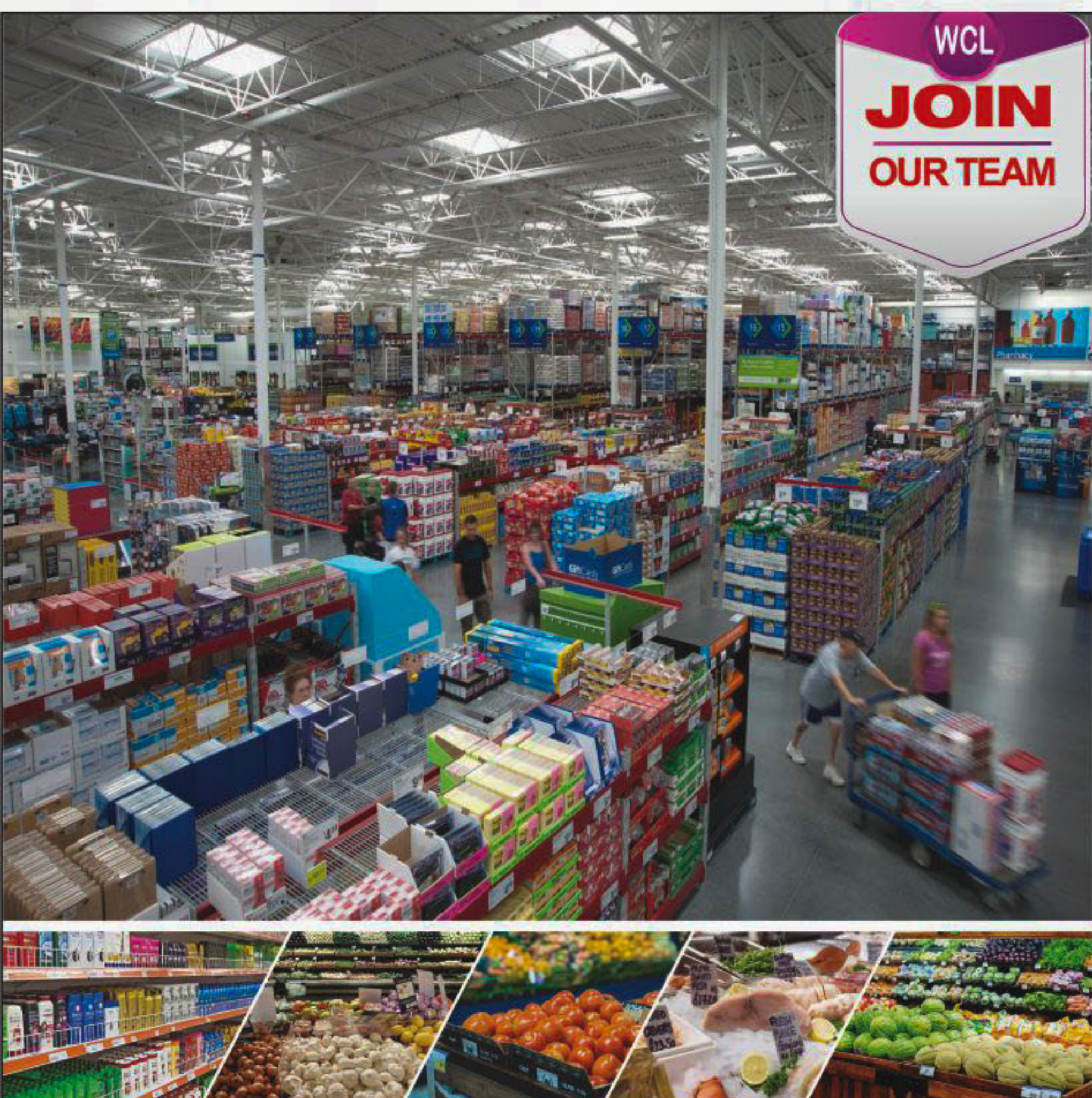
A photograph from 'Inner Face.'

PHOTO: COURTESY

at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Ahmed brings the complexities of the individuals to the forefront in this series. "I was delighted to encounter the rarely-seen intimacy and obvious delight that Ahmed shares with us. His work stands out with exuberance and gives the feeling that through his lens, we are participating in the lives that we would otherwise be denied of by distance, culture or just attitude. He compassionately captures the inner lives of the third gender community," he comments.

Ahmed's *Inner Face* had a solo exhibition at Bengal Art Gallery and was also a part of the Dhaka Art Summit in 2016.

Apart from Ahmed, the other artists who will be exhibiting their works at Bangladesh's pavilion include: Ra Kajol, Bishawajit Goswami, Nazia Andaleeb Preema, Uttam Kumar Karmaker, Heidi Fosli, Franco Marocco, Domenico Pellegrino and Sandro Varagnolo. *Thirst* will be inaugurated on May 10 and the biennale will be open to all from May 11 to November 24.



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হোলসেল ক্লাব যমুনা গ্রুপের একটি অনন্যসাধারণ অঙ্গ-প্রতিষ্ঠান। WALMART, COSTCO ও SAM'S CLUB এর আদলে গড়া দক্ষিণ এশিয়ার সর্ববৃহৎ হোলসেল সুপারশপে প্রকৃত আমদানীকারক, উৎপাদনকারী ও ট্রেডারগণকে সাদর আমন্ত্রণ জানানো হচ্ছে।

জরুরী নিয়োগ

- ম্যানেজার - একাউন্টস ও অডিট
- সহকারী ম্যানেজার - একাউন্টস ও অডিট
- ম্যানেজার - সেলস এন্ড মার্কেটিং
- সহকারী ম্যানেজার - সেলস এন্ড মার্কেটিং
- ম্যানেজার - পারচেজ (এফএমসিজি/ফ্রেশ আইটেম)
- ম্যানেজার - বেকারি ও রেস্টুরেন্ট
- শেফ - বেকারি ও রেস্টুরেন্ট
- ম্যানেজার - ওয়্যারহাউজ

- সহকারী ম্যানেজার - ওয়্যারহাউজ
- ম্যানেজার - ফ্লোর অপারেশন
- এক্সিকিউটিভ :
- মানবসম্পদ ও প্রশাসন
- একাউন্টস ও অডিট
- সেলস এন্ড মার্কেটিং
- পারচেজ (এফএমসিজি/ফ্রেশ আইটেম)
- কাস্টমার কেয়ার (মহিলা)
- কল সেন্টার (মহিলা)

- অপারেশন ইনচার্জ - কফি শপ
- সুপারভাইজার - ফ্লোর
- প্রোডাক্ট হেভেলার - ওয়্যারহাউজ
- বিক্রয়কর্মী - মহিলা/পুরুষ
- পজ এসোসিয়েট/ক্যাশিয়ার - মহিলা/পুরুষ
- পজ সাপোর্ট কর্মী - মহিলা/পুরুষ
- শ্রমিক (লোডার/আনলোডার)

চাকরির শর্তাবলী

- সকল চাকুরী প্রার্থীগণকে সংশ্লিষ্ট পেশা ও ট্রেডে অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন হওয়া বাঞ্ছনীয়।
- ব্যবস্থাপনা কর্মী পদে আবেদনকারীর সংশ্লিষ্ট পদ ও ট্রেডে কমপক্ষে ০৭ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা এবং এমবিএ / মাস্টার্স ডিগ্রি থাকা বাঞ্ছনীয়।
- এক্সিকিউটিভ, সুপারভাইজার ও ইনচার্জ পদ সমূহের ক্ষেত্রে ন্যূনতম ০৫ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা এবং ব্যাচেলরস/মাস্টার্স ডিগ্রি থাকা বাঞ্ছনীয়।
- বিক্রয়কর্মী (মহিলা/পুরুষ), পজ অপারেটর (ক্যাশিয়ার), পজ সাপোর্ট সার্ভিস, পণ্য প্রদর্শন/সজ্জাকর্মী ও শ্রমিক পদে ফ্রেসারদের আবেদনের জন্য উৎসাহিত করা হল।

আবেদন প্রক্রিয়া

- চাকুরী প্রার্থীদের সাম্প্রতিক তোলা ছবি সংযুক্ত সিডি উল্লেখিত ইমেইল অথবা প্রদত্ত ঠিকানায় সরাসরি জমাদানের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল।
- ইমেইলের সাবজেক্ট লাইনে/ খামের উপর প্রার্থিত পদ ও বিভাগের নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

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