



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Nusraat Faria gets candid about her new films

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Popular actor, model and anchor Nusraat Faria has carved a space for herself in the film industry of not just Bangladesh, but also India. She is set to star in Birs Dasgupta's Kolkata-based film, *Bibaho Obhijaan*, as well as Shamim Ahmed Rony's *Shahenshah*, set in Bangladesh. In a candid conversation, the charismatic artiste talks about her expectations from the films and more.

What can you tell us about *Bibaho Obhijaan*?

We have finished filming most of the major sequences of *Bibaho Obhijaan*. I will be going to Kolkata on the 20th of this month to shoot parts from the final schedule. It has been an incredible experience so far and I am immensely confident about the film.

Shahenshah is your first film with Shakib Khan. How was it to have him as your co-star?

Shakib Khan is a brilliant actor and human being. He made me feel really comfortable on the sets, so much so that I did not feel like this was my first film with

him. He is a thorough professional who goes out of his way to help his colleagues.

In *Shahenshah*, you are playing a girl who comes from a rural background. Was it challenging to pull off a character like that?

I believe that I was able to get into the skin of the character quite naturally and easily, so it was not much of a challenge. It was a pleasant experience for me as an artiste.

Tell us a little about your other upcoming projects.

I have teamed up with director Dipankar Dipon for a film. I wanted to work with him ever since the release of *Dhaka Attack* and I have very high expectations from this project.

Where are you planning to spend Eid-Ul-Fitr this year?

After I wrap up *Bibaho Obhijaan* in Kolkata, I will be going to Bangkok to shoot a television commercial. I will be returning to Dhaka a couple days before Eid. I stay quite busy all year around due to my work and studies. So, I always look forward to some time off during Eid. I will celebrate the occasion with my family.

Khalid Hossain critically ill

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Ekushey Padak winner and one of the most prominent Nazrul exponents in the country, Khalid Hossain, is critically ill. He is currently admitted in the coronary care unit (CCU) at National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, along with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, granted monetary assistance to the singer for bearing his treatment expenses.

For many years now, he has been suffering from cardiac ailment, and recently fell victim to kidney and lung problems. All the combined medical issues along with his old age complications are making it difficult for the artiste to continue his wellbeing.

Khalid Hossain, president of Bangladesh Nazrul Sangeet Sangstha, has numerous students, fans and well-wishers both at home and abroad. Apart from receiving the Ekushey Padak in 2000, Khalid Hossain was honoured with multiple recognitions, including Nazrul Academy Award and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Award, among others.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Bappa Mazumder and Sona Mahapatra star in epic collaboration

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Bondhu Re, or *Saanwari* in Hindi, is a bilingual collaborative song voiced by two leading artistes of Bangladesh and India respectively – Bappa Mazumder and Sona Mahapatra. Even though the song was recorded two years ago, it could not be released due to some

complications. However, a 'Behind the scene' feature by Artistspread, the initiators of the collaboration was released recently, and the song is set to release within this week. "Even though it would have been nicer if *Bondhu Re* was released two years ago, I am still very happy about the project," says Bappa Mazumder. "I have to say that

Sona Mahapatra is a wonderful artiste and person, and very down to earth. It would be a pleasure to collaborate with her again." This is Bappa's time singing in Hindi, and also Sona Mahapatra's first time singing in Bangla. The lyrics have been penned by Nusrat Badr and Shahan Kabondho in Hindi and Bangla respectively.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Tanjina Karim Sharalipi records songs for three films



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

ART & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Promising singer Tanjina Karim Sharalipi has recently recorded four songs for three upcoming films. Written by Gazi Mazharul Anwar, she recorded a duet number *Ek Prithibir Itihas* with CloseUp1 singer Rashed and a solo track *Sagorer Buk-e Joto Jol* for a Zakir Hossain Raju film, *Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na*, starring Shakib Khan and Bubly. Shafiq Tuhin composed and directed the music for both the songs.

She also recorded a popular Radharaman Dutta song, *Bhromor Koiyo Giya* for the Mostafizur Rahman Manik directorial, *Ananda Osru*, under JK Majlish's music direction, and a duet song with Protik Hasan for Rakibul Alam Rakib's film, *Tui Amar Jaan* under Firoze Plabon's music direction.

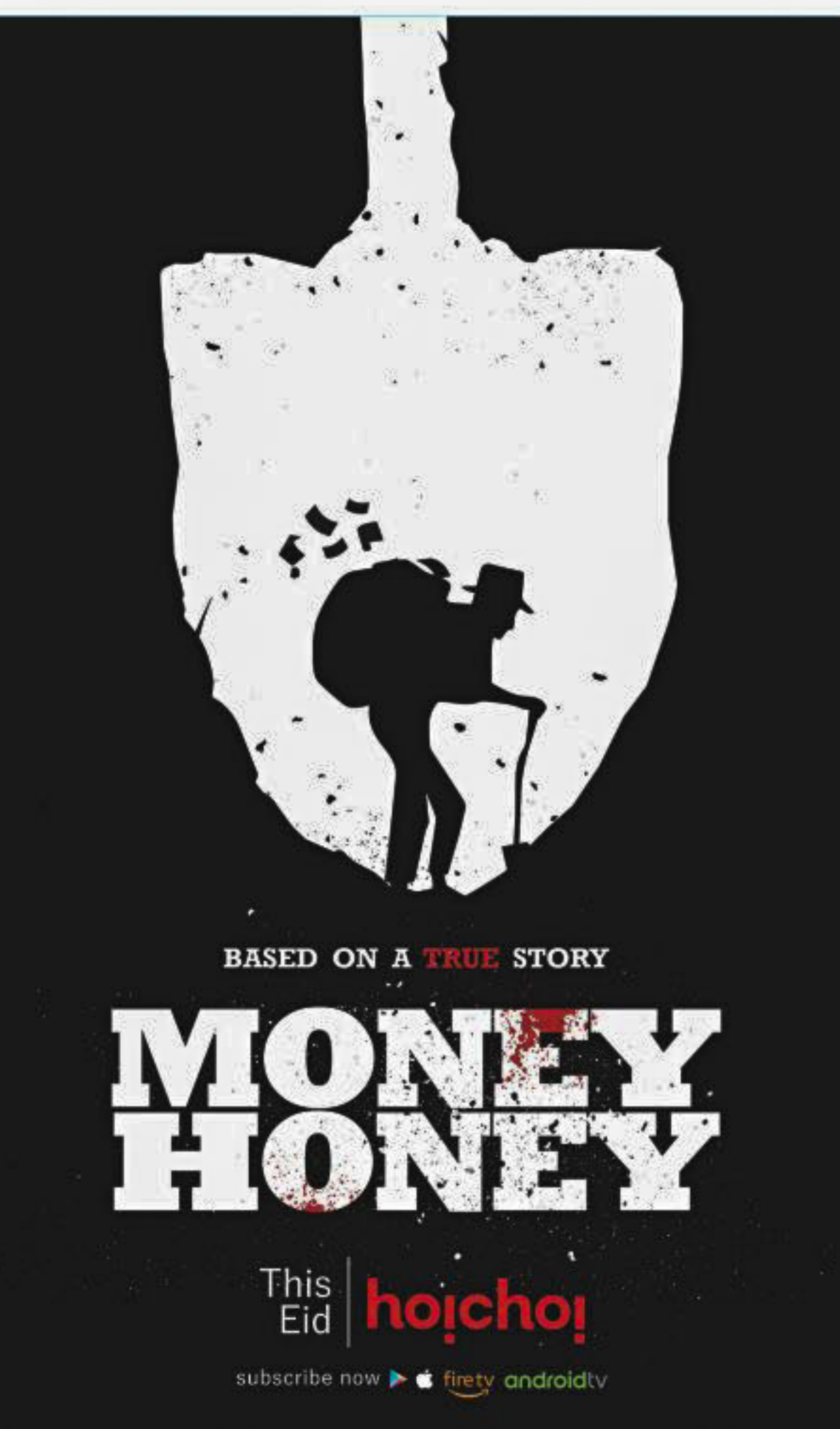
As the daughter of renowned singer Karim Shahabuddin, Sharalipi was born into a musical family and received training at an early age. However, her induction to music as a profession happened, when she was selected as one of the contestants for Zee Bangla's popular musical talent hunt show *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa*.

She came to the Bangladeshi music industry as a playback singer in 2013, recording a duet number *Chobish Ta Ghonta* with S.I. Tutul. Renowned lyricist Kabir Bakul penned the song for the film *Prem Prem Paglami*, directed by Shafi Uddin Shafi. She has so far recorded around 40 songs for many films.

She has two solo albums to her credit. Nazrul Academy brought her solo album *Ke Duronto Bajao*, featuring 12 Nazrul songs while CD Choice brought her album *Nimontron*, consisting of original songs. Under the label of G-Series, the singer's newest album, *Kanna Megher Phool* is in the offing.

Apart from singing, Sharalipi teaches music at Nazrul Academy, Mastermind School and Basabo Dhaka South City Corporation Music School.

Hoichoi announces new web series 'Money Honey'



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Hoichoi, a leading Bengali on-demand video streaming platform, announced its upcoming original web series, 'Money Honey', recently. Helmed by Tanim Noor and Krishnendu Chattopadhyay, 'Money Honey' is based on a true story. The makers have also unveiled the first official poster of the series.

The story of *Money Honey* revolves around a 32-year-old divorcee, Shahriar Kabir, who works at the Dhaka Stock Exchange. Shaymol Mawla, Mostafizur Noor Imran, Lutfar Rahman George, Sumon Anwar, Nishat Priyom, and Naziba Bashar are the key cast members of the series. *Money Honey* will be available on Hoichoi after Eid-Ul-Fitr.