

Maheen Khan receives ATHENA Certificate of Excellence

ATHENA International, a globally recognised organisation based in the US, has honoured nearly 7,000 exemplary leaders since its inception in 1982 worldwide. In their latest list of recipients, Bangladesh's prominent designer, Maheen Khan, was honoured as a successful woman entrepreneur and actively assisting women in their attainment of professional excellence and leadership skills. She was nominated from Bangladesh as one of the recipients of the ATHENA Certificate of Excellence. The event was organised by South Asian Women Development Forum, in partnership with Athena International in Nepal on 13 September, 2019. Rt. Hon. Vice President of Federal Republic of Nepal was the Chief Guest here.

At the event, Maheen Khan's social work for empowerment of underprivileged women was displayed at the ATHENA Award Event through photographs. The Award highlighted her distinct work for landless women through various schemes which has supported around 3,000 women through her company.

Over the years, some of the recipients of the Award were global leaders, such as Condoleezza Rice, Former US Secretary of State, Her Excellency Dr Inonge Mbikusita-Lewanika, Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia to the US; Sally Armstrong, Human Rights Activist; Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Former Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs U.A.E., to name a few. The vision of ATHENA International is to develop, support and honour women leaders for creating a balance in leadership worldwide. It also offers programmes tailored for women business owners, young professional women, and outstanding organisations. This was the first time ATHENA Leadership Award event took place in Nepal as well as in the South Asia region.

Right Nau

After the huge success of Boma Burger, the owners, along with a few other friends, have launched Nau Bangladesh to bring the perfect snack to the Dhaka food scene. On 7 September, they organised a meet and greet with the press to talk about their vision and story behind Nau.

"We felt that Dhaka needed a place that offered quality snacks. More often than not, we find ourselves consuming entire meals in the name of a light evening snack. So, we wanted to introduce a genuine snack item," stated Daniel Rahman, one of the co-owners.

Nau has reconstructed Korean egg bread, a popular street food in Korea and other parts of Asia by adding a fun twist to it. As the name suggests, Korean egg bread is made with pancake dough filled with a whole egg, but Nau is playing with the possibilities of using different kinds of fillings to cater to different tastes.

"I wanted to make sure that kids would love to snack on this but also ensure that parents' wouldn't be able to resist either," said Rahman. When asked about the name, he added, "My friends and I have a fascination for Japanese art, so we chose the Japanese word for now. It is to signify food that you can just grab and go."

Even in a small space, the colours of the cartoon art on the walls help broaden the space, while making it seem homely. The décor is cute and aesthetic perfect for children to enjoy, and for photos as sunlight pours in through a big window.

They are currently serving three different flavours: two sweet flavours

that include 'Kreamcheese' and 'Number 10,' and a savoury flavour of quiche called 'Keesh.'

Kreamcheese has a perfect balance of sweetness and a hint of tanginess of the cream cheese filling, while Number 10 is a classic Nutella flavour for chocolate and hazelnut lovers. Keesh is filled with mushroom, cream, leek and beef, where all the flavours are balanced to ensure that neither the filling nor the bread is overwhelming. The bread is soft, fluffy and buttery, with a tad sweetness and



is flavourful on its own.

Nau is working on other flavours to cater to everyone's taste buds. "We are planning on bringing out a 'Shahi Tukra' flavour that we hope everyone will love," said Daniel Rahman. "The filling flavours are so customisable that the possibilities are endless," he further added.

Visit Nau today at house 63, road 15, block D, Banani, Dhaka.

By Tanzim Islam Silony
Photo courtesy: Nau Bangladesh

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