

TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A publication of *The Daily Star*



Wartime wheels, Pg 4

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Walton

Xiaomi Bangladesh unveils Redmi Note 10 Pro and Redmi Note 10

Xiaomi today announced the launch of the tenth generation of their Redmi Note series in Bangladesh. The brand introduced two smartphones under the series—Redmi Note 10 Pro and Redmi Note 10.

Redmi Note 10 Pro

Redmi Note 10 Pro comes with a 108MP primary camera, 8MP Ultrawide and a 5MP Super-Macro lens. The front camera is a 16MP in-display camera. The phone features a 5020mAh battery and comes with a 33W in-box fast charger.

Redmi Note 10

Redmi Note 10 comes with a 48MP primary camera with an 8MP ultra-wide-angle lens. On the front, there is a 13MP camera. The phone comes with a 5000mAh battery and 33W charger-in-box.

Availability and pricing

Redmi Note 10 Pro will be available in three colour variants for BDT 26,999 for the 6GB + 64GB variant, BDT 27,999 for the 6GB + 128GB variant and BDT 29,999 for the 8GB + 128GB variant.

Redmi Note 10 will be available in three colour variants for BDT 19,999 for the 4GB + 64GB variant, BDT 20,999 for the 4GB + 128GB variant and BDT 21,999 for the 6GB + 128GB variant.



Realme launches Narzo 30A

Realme has officially launched the Realme Narzo 30A through an online launching event held on Sunday, March 21, 2021. The price of this phone has been fixed at BDT 12,990.

The Narzo series is the gaming series of the brand.

This latest phone of the Narzo series, Narzo 30A, features octa-cores clocked at up to 2.0GHz, ARM Mali-G52 GPU and Helio G85 processor. The phone comes equipped with 6,000 mAh battery and 18-watt Type-C quick charger.

Along with the launch of realme narzo 30A, 'Narzo Gaming Championship: Season 1' is going on. In the first season, 72 squads have got the chance to fight in the field of Free Fire. The semi-finals will be held on March 23 and 24 at the end of the qualifiers. The mega-final will be held on March 25 at 7 pm. There is a prize pool of BDT 1 lakh in Season 1.



NEW CAR THIS WEEK

BMW joins the electrifying ranks - the all electric 2022 BMW i4

HASEEB CHOWDHURY

The new 4 Series looks like it's less BMW and more built for digging and building dams (read: beaver), as is translated into the newly unveiled i4 electric sedan. BMW's giant vertical grill design has been at the forefront of auto news, but the bigger elephant in the room is the fact that this car is now fully electric. BMW has not revealed much, but really put emphasis on the 300-mile range and close to 4 second 0-100km/h acceleration time.

The concept car revealed around a year ago had a much more appealing design language, bold shoulders and the incorporation of the kidney grill in that application actually did not make me hate it. The overall aesthetics of the car is underwhelming; we were

promised a sport sedan and its 3 series proportions but instead, we arrived and stopped at a 4 series gran coupe with electric bits stuck onto it.

Design aside, the car itself is promising. Electrification is clearly the future, and if there is one thing BMW knows how to make, it is how to make a car that drives as it should. The previous "i" monikers were underwhelming; the i3 was an alright city car and the i8 looked far better than it rode. This marks BMW's first step into the world of true electrification and we can't wait for what comes out of Munich as we go forward.

More details regarding the i4 will be revealed as weeks follow and the car is expected to go on sale later this year as a 2022 model year.



EDITOR'S NOTE

You don't turn 50 everyday

At Toggle, we often spend a good portion of our content planning times thinking about what special days align with our Fridays, so we can come up with a good looking themed issue.

As luck would have it, this Friday happens to be our 50th independence day. We tried not to miss out on this golden opportunity and poured our hearts out in bringing you contents related to our independence that we thought you'd find interesting and insightful.

From exploring the legacy of the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra to looking at wartime cars that stood the test of time, we hope you spend a good weekend and a holiday with Toggle's fresh independence day issue. Happy Independence Day!

Zarif Faiaz, Sub-editor

TOGGLE

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Walton launches large screen triple camera phone

Walton has launched its new smartphone 'Primo NF5', featuring a large screen with triple rear cameras.

The new phone has a 1.8 GHz 12 nm Helio A20 quad-core processor. It has 32 GB storage to store the required files with 3 GB RAM. The memory of the device can be expanded up to 256 GB via micro SD card.

The back of the phone has an autofocus HD triple camera with PDAF technology enriched with F/2.0 aperture and LED flash. The 13 megapixel main camera with 5P lens has a 1/3.06-inch sensor. It has an 8 megapixel camera on the front. The smartphone runs on Android 10 operating system and has a 4000 mAh li-polymer battery.

The phone has four different

colours- Carbon Black, Earth Blue, Emerald Green and Pastel Purple, and is available at all Walton Plazas, and retail outlets in the country for BDT 9,699.

Customers are getting special replacement facilities on all Made in Bangladesh Walton smartphones. They will enjoy 30-day instant replacement for the phone along with 1-year regular warranty.



Understanding how and why British American Tobacco is the top employer in Bangladesh

Saad Jashim, Head of Human Resources at BAT Bangladesh speaks with The Daily Star on managing one of the biggest workforces in Bangladesh; how they are keeping things moving at a brisk pace and what is helping them in adapting to the 21st century HR tactics.

How did BAT Bangladesh evolve over the years to become the top employer and what has the company done to uphold this title? Becoming the top employer is not just about the certification. Organisations go through a process that looks at people practices based on pieces of evidence on 6 HR domains of competence focusing on aspects like strategies, the role of (executive) management, employee involvement, training, communication, measurement and the use of (HR) technology, which gets validated by an independent audit of the certification process. A great thing about Top Employer Institute is that it's not based on voting; it's based on very stringent criteria set by the Top Employer Institute with a common benchmark existing for the entire world. This is why we take so much pride in this award.

In practice, BAT Bangladesh has always been a top employer, setting the benchmark in terms of creating superior employee experiences. However, with time we had to evolve to beat our own bests and stay relevant. The achievement boils down to our people and our culture. We take in the best people in the organisation. We grow and develop them from day one by giving them massive responsibilities, accountabilities and empowerment. We nurture them in an environment where everybody respects each other, celebrates together, and bonds as a team. We have great pay policies in place to keep employees motivated. But even outside monetary factors, we recognise and reward our talents, we ensure their voices are heard and we set them up for success. Year on year, we ensure that this ecosystem evolves to best

cater to our employees, and that's what keeps us at the top.

What are the principles upon which employee experiences are created?

It starts with getting the best people. When hiring new people, our senior managers commit a lot of time to ensure that the quality of intake is top-notch. Once in, people get both the feeling of support and stretch. It's about creating a high-performance organisation. When you create a high-performance organisation, the inherent commitment is that an individual delivers high results, an individual gets high recognition and high career progression, all this while surrounded by other high performing

who are working in different countries around the world. To ensure that this is a continuous process of talent development, we make sure that the leadership teams consistently sit with their teams and provide constructive feedback on the what's as well as the how's of delivering results. All these refine employee experiences.

Where does this people aspect land when you're crafting the company's strategy? How is the strategy built around your employees?

First of all, our employees are not an afterthought in our strategy, they are the central and core figures of it. Maintaining the workplace culture is not just HR's or

going beyond just delivering results to delivering results in a way that's aligned with our strategy.

What policies does BATB have to ensure a diverse and inclusive work environment?

It's a great thing that diversity is something that's been talked about a lot in the current days around the world. For BAT Bangladesh, this journey started about 15 years ago. We were the first to bring the maternity policy that covers 6 months of maternity leave. We have improved this policy to cover 9 months in 2019, recognising the needs of the working mothers within our organisation. We make sure everyone has the same opportunity, treatment and growth. In the same year, we partnered with 6 other organisations to launch Inspirit to inspire leadership development and cross-industry mentoring. As the needs of women evolve, our D&I platforms evolve as well to stay relevant. Recently we've launched Supernova, a grooming platform for undergrad female students in STEM, where our managers mentor them to help ease their transition from campus to corporate.

Besides gender diversity, we also look at other matrices such as the educational background. One thing that we are very proud of is that even beyond our managers, our factory workforce is also getting the opportunity to travel around different countries in the world to conduct training for their employees.

How do you, as an organisation, create a good culture and how do you evolve to stay relevant to the top talents of the nation?

You have to create an environment, where the people are looking at delivering the best that they can while enjoying what they're doing. This is where we have our five ethos – Bold, Fast, Empowered, Diverse and Responsible. With our guiding principles in place, our senior leaders' role model the components of Ethos and lead from the top to demonstrate to the organisation how to truly embody this Ethos and induct the same culture into the wider organisation. We create a conducive environment where we frequently reward our people for the good work they put in and celebrate each other's feats and achievements. Most importantly, we empower the younger generation and bring them into the conversation so that they get to give us the feedback that we need to stay relevant to the top talents of the nation.



individuals. At BAT Bangladesh, we grow our people, which leads to a vast majority of our senior leadership being homegrown within the organisation itself. If you look at the leading corporate houses in the country, each of them has BAT alumni in their senior leadership team. At any given point in time, we have around 50 people from Bangladesh

one specific person's responsibility, rather the onus lies on the entire organisation. When we formulate strategies, we involve people and we capture their ideas and thoughts from the bottom up. We invest a lot of time and effort to ensure that our people are aligned with and energized by the strategy. We recognize initiatives and actions taken by our people who are

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WHEELED RELICS OF THE LIBERATION WAR

Four wartime cars that stood the test of time

RAHBAR AL HAQ

1956 CHEVROLET 210 BEAUVILLE

CURRENT OWNER:
DURJOY RAHMAN

If the saying "The man, the myth, the legend" was applied to a car, that would be this one. This Chevrolet TRI 5 series with a Fisher body was originally acquired by the Forest Department and registered officially in early 1957, and that is pretty much the only on-paper information we have on it. As legends go however, it has quite a few. The car was still in government service when hostilities began and allegedly saw action during the Liberation War.



1967 VW Beetle.

PHOTO: SHADMAN AL SAMEE

Beetle to take his pregnant wife and two young daughters out of Dhaka city to safety. During their exodus, the car had to work around difficult terrain, Pakistani army check-posts, and Indian air-raids, a feat the car achieved with flying colours. After the war, the car remained with the family, with Dr. Islam refusing to sell it. Dr. Mafakhkharul Islam passed away in 2007, and the ownership of the bug was passed over to his son, Dr. Kamrul Islam. This Dr. Islam restored the Beetle to his formal glory and intended to pass it on to his own son, Mushfiqul Islam Fahim, as a family heirloom.

1968 MORRIS MINOR 1000

CURRENT OWNER:

LIBERATION WAR MUSEUM

Of all the cars on this list, the story of this Morris Minor is the most tragic. Once as ubiquitous as PremAllions in the streets of Dhaka, this particular 1000 belong to Dr. Fazle Rabbi, the then joint professor of Cardiology and Internal Medicine at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital. During the hostilities, the car did its job, ferrying the doctor around from patient to patient. However, on the night of 15th December 1971, Rabbi was taken away from his home by Pakistani and Rajakar forces. He was then martyred, with many other scholars as part of the infamous killing of Bengali intellectuals. His family later donated the car to the Liberation War Museum, where it remains preserved to this day.

named Durjoy Rahman then purchased the car from him, who restored it back to immaculate condition. Shift is currently working on a full feature on this vehicle, watch this space.

1953 OLDSMOBILE SUPER 88

CURRENT OWNER:

E.M. FARUK

Much like many other stories from the liberation war, the story of this Oldsmobile Super 88 is that of a victim. Originally brought to the country as a US embassy car, the car was later

purchased by a Hindu businessman in Faridpur for personal use. During the Liberation War, Pakistani forces came to his home to kill him, but found the house empty. Angered, the soldiers opened fire on the car and left. After the war, the vehicle was handed over to a scrapper at Dhaka, where it sat. When E.M. Faruk found the car, it was a time capsule, complete with bullet holes and its original East Pakistan number plate. The 88 is currently undergoing restoration, and might one day get the chance to cruise around on the roads of our liberated nation.

1967 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE

CURRENT OWNER:

DR. KAMRUL ISLAM

While the Oldsmobile was a victim, the Islam family's Beetle can be best described as a guardian angel. When Dr. Mafakhkharul Islam bought the beetle in 1969 for a then steep price of TK 1,200, he had no idea the car will end up saving him and his family. When the war broke out in 1971 Dr. Islam used the



1953 Oldsmobile Super 88.

PHOTO: SHADMAN AL SAMEE



PHOTO: FAZLUS SALEHEEN

1968 Morris Minor 1000.

Indeed, when the car was rediscovered, there was a bullet-like hole in the passenger side bed window. After the war, the car reportedly became part of the presidential fleet, where it supposedly chauffeured around both Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Ziaur Rahman.

Decades later, the car was recovered by vintage car collector E.M. Faruk in decrepit condition, who put it back into running order. Another collector



1958 Chevrolet 210 Beauville.

PHOTO: SHADMAN AL SAMEE

Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra

the source of inspiration and bravado during the liberation war

JINAT JAHAN KHAN

The brutal armed operation carried out by the Pakistani army in Dhaka on 25 March 1971 had plunged the life of common people into complete darkness. People were confused and uninformed about the actual situation prevailing in the whole country. The interference of the Pakistani military forces in the communication media wasn't letting people home and abroad know about their barbarities and mercilessness.



ILLUSTRATION: ZARIF FAIAZ

CHARAMPATRA

Charampatra, a popular monologue rich in sarcasm and bravery was a wonderful programme composed and hosted by M. R. Akhtar Mukul. The ultimate target of this show was to represent the complex and critical political situation and military tactics in a simple and satirical tone. The best thing about his oratory was that general Bengalis can relate to this because of using the typical dialect of old Dhaka.

Charampatra portrayed a fearless Bengali youth who had no proper education but had the potential to fight against the enemies.

Every episode of Charampatra glorified the strength and bravery of our freedom fighters and mock the Pakistani army in a humorous approach to keeping the spirit of youths charged. The voice of Mukul became the source of entertainment as well as inspiration in the dark time of the liberation war.

Amidst this anarchy, an emergency and temporary radio station at Kalurghat called the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra (SBBK) declared the independence of Bangladesh to the world on 26 March 1971. Airing almost every day during the liberation war, the journey of this covert radio station came to an end on 16 December 1971 and was turned into Bangladesh Betar, as we know it now. From a temporary radio station to the main media source during the liberation war.

As the country was pushed into despair and hostilities, this radio station was set up in a two-storey building in Kalurghat, Chattoagram. It had no professional studio or proper instruments to record programmes. However, it continued to carry out the inspiring and uplifting programmes how much they could. It relayed the important messages of the government to the common people, gave updates of the battlefield and the war, and connected the whole nation with an unseen thread. Besides, lively patriotic songs, satirical programmes, and short plays kept the spirit of the nation high during the war days. It aided psychological warfare in 1971 and motivated people to keep on living and fight for freedom in the most devastating days of Bangladesh.

Many gifted and incredibly talented artists were involved with this radio station. However, 10 of them were with the SBBK from its beginning till the end. This covert radio station was discarded by the Pakistani force on March 30 because the programmes on it were continuously boosting the nationalistic spirit in people craving for an independent country and the daily news bulletin let people know about the progress of the war and brutalities of the Pakistani army.

JALLADER DARBAR

Another popular program of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra was Jallader Darbar. It was a series of satirical short stories written by Kallyan Mitra. The drama was intended to expose the cruel and barbarous side of General Yahya Khan.

On the other hand, the conversations between Yahya Khan and his wife or followers were caricatured making him look less dangerous to the Bengalis or freedom fighters. The eventual goal was to reduce the terror of General Yahya so that people didn't move backward from the fight against injustice and oppression. He was called 'Kella Fatey Khan' in it and the main role of this humorous serial was played by Raju Ahmed.

A popular assorted program of the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra was Agnishikha. It had a set of sub programmes such as Darpan, Oikatan, Kabikhantha, Ranaveri, Recitation etc.

Other popular programmes were- Bajrakantha, Pindir Prolap, Kathgorar Ashami, Pratinidhahi, etc. These became the source of inspiration and strength for the freedom fighters as well as for the mass people.

However, the second phase of this legendary radio centre soon started at Bogafa, a Tripura state on April 3. And the third phase commenced in Ballygunge, Kolkata on the 25th of May.

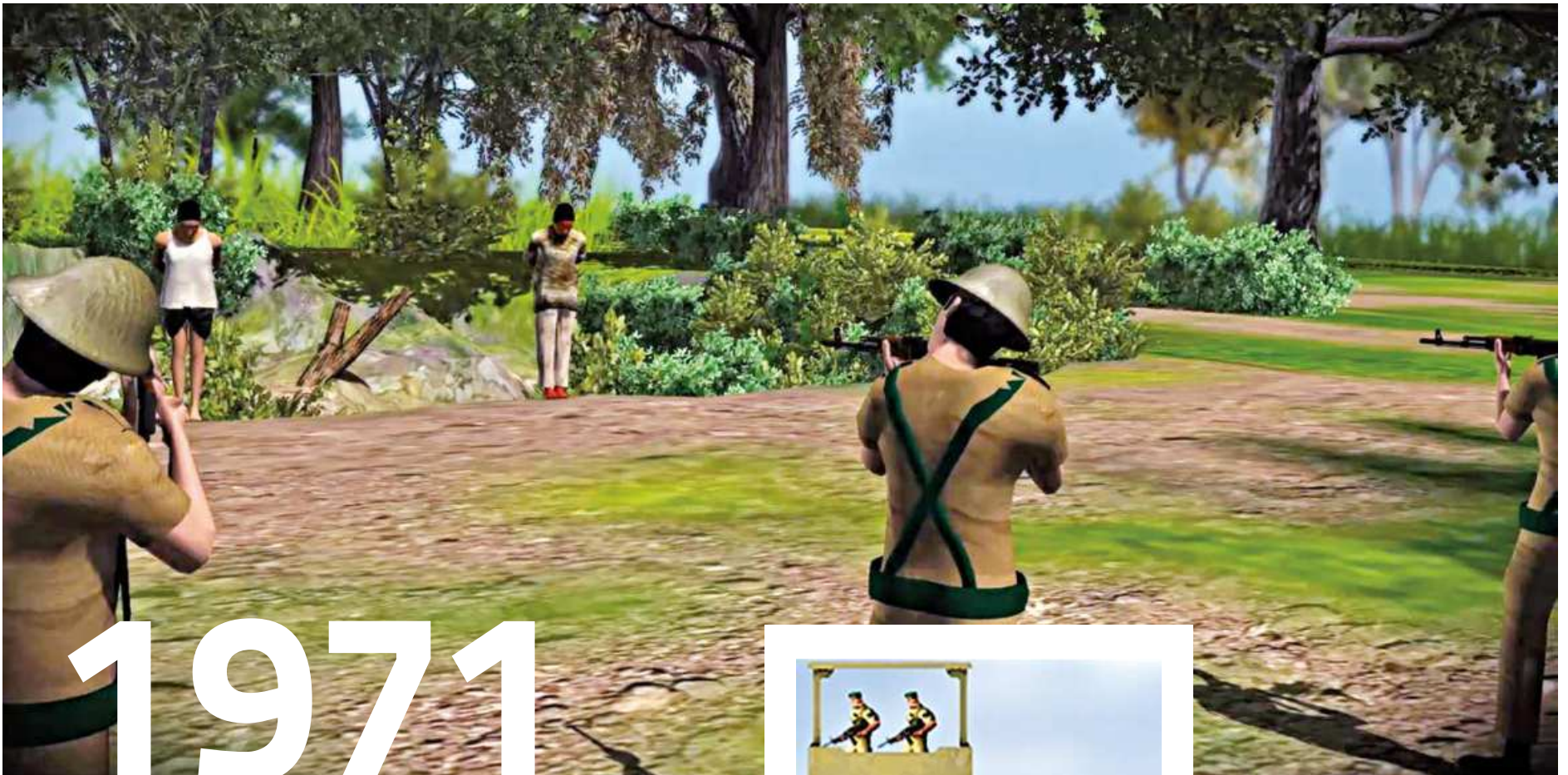
SONGS OF INSPIRATION AND FREEDOM

Music can elicit different kinds of emotions, even if the words fail to do so. In a devastating time when there is no source of media other than radio, the SBBK took the responsibility to empower and inspire the freedom fighters with some fiery, uplifting, and emotion-filled songs. A shiver still runs down our spine when we hear the songs of freedom of that time.

Thanks to Govinda Halder for the songs with such powerful lyrics that boost up the strength and unite us to this date. Some of his worth-mentioning works during the war are- Ek Shagor Rokter Binimoye, Purbo Digonte Surjo Utheche, Mora Ekti Phul Ke Bachabo Bole Juddho Kori. Besides these, Apel Mahmud's 'Teer Hara Ei Dheuer Shagor', Kazi Nazrul Islam's 'Karar Oi Louho Kopat', Fazl-E-Khuda's 'Salam Salam Hazar Salam', Gazi Mazharul Anwar's 'Joy Bangla, Banglar joy' are some of the best songs played by the SBBK for Bengali people as their inspiration often sank low due to the situation. The SBBK singers were known as 'Voice Soldiers' because they turned their powerful songs into lethal weapons to fight against the enemies.

The Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra represents the importance of freedom in the communication media and how the right approach or use of this media can change a whole nation. And the satirical yet constructive shows convey the message that the agony or devastating state can be overcome in a humorous and fun way through creativities and diversities.

After independence, this legendary radio station started its journey as 'Bangladesh Betar' on the 22nd December of 1971.



1971 IN VIDEO GAMES

ABDUS SALAM SHAWN

There are several games available based on our Liberation War where you get to be a freedom fighter. These games will let you experience pieces of our bloody history while being a lot of fun. You will be shooting at enemies, liberating outposts, running around the open world, enjoying VR, and watching blissful graphics imitating our beautiful motherland that would surely cheer you up.



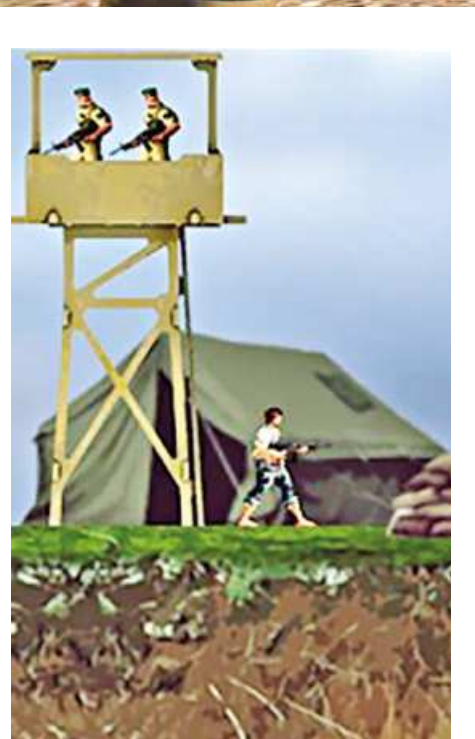
The most popular among these games is "Heroes of 71". Released in 2015, the game has been downloaded more than one million times and has an average rating of 4.4. This is the first significant game developed by Portbliss, a young Bangladeshi game development company. Unfortunately, there is no IOS version of the game.

This is a third-person shooting game where you are the main character. You will be placed in a fictional village in Borishal, defending an outpost previously occupied by Pakistani forces. You can switch between characters as you shoot at

waves of enemies, dropped off by lorries. It portrays the serene beauty of rural Bangladesh and offers great sound-work, and consequently, it has made quite a stir among the young gamers.

"Heroes of 71: Mukti camp" is a sequel to the original game and offers a revamped gameplay and graphics with modern day co-op play options available.

Going back to the beginning of our liberation war, "War 71: The First Defence" recreates the night of "Operation Searchlight", the first defence put up by the Bangladesh Police in Rajarbagh Police Lines, to be precise. Developed



by DigitalB Ltd., this is the first open-world game in Bangladesh and it also has a VR version called "VR War 71". The game consists of 16 levels. You can use handguns, machine guns, steal cars, tanks and use them to kill enemies, and roam the open-world of the game. Although there is not much to explore and do in the open-world environment of this game, it is fun sneaking up behind enemy troops, stealing their cars and running them over. The game has poor aiming and movement controls and lacks good graphics. However, it has been downloaded from the Google

Play Store more than 100,000 times, indicating, if paid more attention, it can be a great game.

A great addition to this list is "Adommo Ekattor", a 2D shooter game with beautiful graphics. The game has two modes; campaign and survival. In the campaign mode, you are to shoot down enemies until you liberate your country and in the survival mode, you will try to stay alive for as long as you can while gunning down enemy forces coming at you from both directions. The game has more than 50,000 downloads and a good 4.5 average rating. There are 6 levels available in the campaign mode now, and many more are already in development.

For PC gamers, there are a few games available on CD at affordable prices. "Massive Juddho 71" developed by Massive Star Studio was made with a plan to narrate the entire story of our liberation war in separate episodes.

The first PC game on the liberation war, however, is "Battle of 71" released in 2016. It has a 3D model of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The websites for these games are unavailable but you might be able to get a hold of a CD for BDT 150-200

Bangladesh is new to the gaming scene, but it is off to a promising start. Our passionate young developers have already proved their abilities with minimum resources. With proper funding and attention, our gaming industry can join the big names in no time.



Familial home turned into an archive: the story of the North Bengal Museum

NAHALY NAFISA KHAN

Right at the heart of the small district of Kurigram stands a familial home. Except that it's not just a home, it's a home turned into a museum that displays rare local artefacts and documents from the time of the war of liberation. S.M. Abraham Lincoln, a law practitioner in the district of Kurigram, has collected these artefacts and documents for almost 20 years, founded the North Bengal Museum in his own familial home, and opened it for the masses in 2012.

Abraham Lincoln, the founder and the current Chairman of the trustee board of the North Bengal Museum, shares how he was motivated to set up the museum. From a very young age, he was keen on preserving the history of the liberation war, due to his own lived experiences of the war.

"Our family was targeted because my brother and my father were frontline freedom fighters. Everywhere we took shelter, the military invaded and burned the place," he shares. "Pakistan Military invaded Kurigram for the first time on April 7, 1971, and attacked the local police station. By the time they ceased fire, almost all the officers in the police station were killed. The bodies were recovered by my father and my elder brother. The families of the martyrs took shelter with us. Their tears are still fresh in my memory. That ambush at the police station was the first time the war directly touched me and the rest of my family."

More than 10 years ago, Lincoln worked as a Research Coordinator for the North Bengal region on 'The Liberation War



PHOTOS: JOSHITA SHARLIN KHAN



Encyclopedia' project taken up by the Asiatic Society and simultaneously worked on a district-wise documentation project taken by Bangla Academy. In the 10 years of field-work for these two projects, he got his hands on many rare documents from the time of the liberation war. "It was truly unbelievable," he says. "I was able to retrieve many documents on time that testify against some of the most vicious war criminals of the region."

Later on, many of these documents were used by the International Crimes Tribunal (Bangladesh) in the prosecution against crimes against humanity in 1971. The judges and prosecutors of the tribunal paid multiple visits to his place to work on these documents. "That's when the idea of setting up a museum inside my home struck me. I felt the necessity to preserve the regional history of the liberation war, and got to work on it right away after

consulting my family," he shares.

The museum contains many rare wartime relics and photographs from the frontline, torture cells, and documentation of the regional martyred freedom fighters and genocide. The displayed documents also include recruitment letters and applications submitted to the Rajakar Forces, applications asking for permissions from the Pakistan Military to loot and take over the properties of the religious minorities, and asking for compensation due to the losses that the members of the Rajakar Forces had to incur due to their participation in the regional massacres and case charge sheets against the members of the Rajakar Forces. These are the documents that were used as key evidence against the local war criminals by the International Crimes Tribunal.

There are other documents on the display that show the presence of a local civil administration and judiciary of the newly-formed Government of Bangladesh during the war of liberation. Documents on internal fundraiser activities during the war are also on display. These documents also confirm other political and cultural activism besides the frontline war that were happening during the war. For example, some documents and articles confirm the appointment of various bodies to politically motivate frontline freedom fighters. Many of these

appointed individuals belonged to the left-wing political spectrum and remained unnoticed in the mainstream retelling of history.

The museum also displays copies of "Agrodot", a hand-written newspaper published with news from the frontline war zones and circulated all around the region. This newspaper didn't only cover regional news, but also national and international ones. This was an initiative led and carried out by mostly left-wing activists and is an exemplary document of fierce and brave journalism, without a functional and operating press, carried out solely by the dedication and conviction of the journalists involved.

There are practically no fixed hours of visiting the museum, says Abraham Lincoln. "People come to visit from far away places, so we have to cater to the visitors even in very odd times. That poses an obstacle to our family life, but at this point, we have learned to live with it," he shares.

The museum also contains other historical relics from the pre-colonial era. A new establishment for the museum has been planned to be constructed at the adjacent plot, the foundation and construction of which is being funded by the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, while the maintenance is being sourced by crowdfunding.

Must-watch movies for a fresh perspective on the liberation war

OROBİ BAKHTIAR

As the country comes together to commemorate Bangladesh's 50th anniversary of independence, here is a list of five liberation war films that deviate from the done-to-the-death narrative of frontline war and offers us a fresh perspective of the era.



CHILDREN OF WAR (2014)

Children of War tells the story of a journalist (Indraneil Sengupta) who is separated from his wife (Raima Sen), a young brother and sister who are the only residents of a village, and an old man (Victor Banerjee) who is leading his people to safety during the turbulent period.

Shots that are mildly unsettling with an undercurrent of violence may put you on edge, but Mritunjay Devvrat's debut film Children of War moves at such a fluid pace that the film will not let you down, even with all the extremes.



MUKTIAR GAAN (1995)

One of the finest documentaries about the war, Muktiar Gaan is the account of a trip by a Bangladeshi cultural troupe to inspire Bangladeshi refugees and freedom fighters.

The film focuses on a group of musicians who travel through refugee camps and war zones and tells the story of the birth of a country and the ideals of secularism and tolerance by combining documentary and fictional genres in a musical structure.

Tareque and Catherine Masud, the filmmakers, have combined footage shot by American filmmaker Lear Levin in 1971 with historic footage gathered from archives around the world.



MEGHMALLAR (2015)

Meghmallar tells the story of a family during the war when the Pakistani Army and the then administration tried all they could to control and monitor schools, people of all kinds, and intellectuals through civil servants and local collaborators.

Based on the story "Raincoat" by Akhteruzzaman Ilias, the film uses a cinematic approach to represent the struggle of ordinary people during the 1971 Liberation War.

MEHERJAAN (2011)

Meherjaan tells the story of Meher, a Bengali woman (Shayna Amin/Jaya Bacchan) who falls in love with a Pakistani soldier (Omar Rahim) during the war.

The fate of the young Meher is written by the machinations of the times, and the lovers are powerless to keep their love alive. Parallel to her story is that of her cousin Neela (Reetu Abdus Sattar)--a broken woman, bitter and disturbed after being raped by Pakistani soldiers--who arrives in the village to live with their maternal grandfather.

The film's cinematography, dialogue, and characterisation represent the story of two lovers, one Pakistani and the other Bengali, is woven around the theme of 'love thy enemy.'

The film was subjected to controversy after its release due its portrayal of an affair between a Bengali woman and a Pakistani soldier.



NOROSHUNDOR (2009)

In 1971, the Pakistan Army raids on the residence of a local rebel in search of freedom fighters. The young man they are looking for flees through Old Dhaka's narrow alleyways and comes across a barbershop. To disguise himself, he quickly decides to shave.

The young man quickly realises that he has put himself in even more danger at the barbershop, where all of the barbers are Urdu-speaking Biharis--most of whom were collaborators with the Pakistani army during the war. What does fate have in store for the young man?

The tense and gripping short film by Tareque Masud is a unique account of the wartime era and is available on YouTube to watch for free.



us on f /Sandalina

ঐতিহ্যের আর এক নাম আধুনিকতা
ঠিক যেমন রূপচর্চায় আভিজাত্য মানেই

স্যান্ডালিনা
সোপ

রূপচর্চায় আভিজাত্য...

KOHINOOR CHEMICAL