



ILLUSTRATION: NOOR US SAFA ANIK

## Dhaka streets devoid of women following decision to only venture out at night

### STAR NIGHT QUEEN CORRESPONDENT

The city's streets, its offices, homes, schools and colleges have witnessed a curious absence over the last few weeks. Ever since the comment by a senior official calling popular film actress Mona Fairy, Raat er Rani (Queen of the Night), it seems women have decided to band together.

A press conference was arranged a week back at 2:30am and was attended by scores of women from all walks of life.

"We have decided to start our day

only after nightfall. The ones who are early birds can and will start the day around 7-8pm and the others will join as the night progresses," said one of the women leading the press conference.

This correspondent, also a woman, attended the press briefing and decided to do a weeklong follow-up of the pledge to only work at night as a show of solidarity to Mona Fairy by women of the nation.

This mandate included everyone, from homemakers, office going women, RMG workers, to household help and schoolchildren and teachers.

I visited various spots throughout the

course of the week and recorded scenes of chaos as the first week of the "Raat er Rani" campaign unfolded. This paper also received hundreds of email, all from men sharing their plight at this sudden decision by women.

"My wife refuses to wake up in the morning. That is when I have to go to work. I have no idea where most of my clothes are or my matching tie is. And what about breakfast? I have had to leave the house without breakfast for the past three days. I return home and find my wife is just waking up to tackle the day," said the senior law enforcer who had come up with the term Raat er Rani.

Meanwhile for boys who live in messes, this new decision by women to only work at night means their mess continues to get messier.

"Our bua has not shown up for the last few days. I mean, she comes at the oddest of hours. Like the other day, she came at 3:30am but our night guard was sleeping and didn't let her in. Our house hasn't been cleaned in days and we have been living on store-bought meals for the last few days," said Iman, an engineering student who lives with his classmates in a mess.

Men have been complaining non-stop since this decision came into effect.

"We are left confused and worried and don't know how to go about our days. Regular office requires us to go to work during the day but to interact with the women in our lives we have to stay up late. My wife has even been doing all her gardening at night. My friend's wife apparently catches up on all her shows and cooking in the dead of night. She even hosted her friends for a dawat after midnight. Which also means the house is constantly noisy and us men who have to work during the day can barely get any sleep," said another disgruntled husband.

### ADVERSARIAL

## You think you woke me?

### SLEEPLESS WHEREVER YOU'RE NOT

Woke Folk has opened its doors to the public, and offers solutions to anyone who wants to appear more woke than the person they are arguing with, especially on online platforms.

"We have long been noticing that everyone, and I mean everyone, has been jumping on the social cause bandwagon of the day," said Amijaga Tuina, CEO of Woke Folk. "They do this to appear woke and come across as caring deeply about injustices of the day."

But the tragedy, Tuina said, was that people at Woke Folk actually cared, and for others to steal the limelight from the pain Woke Folk felt for those who were actually suffering was the real injustice.

"You see, the time has come to separate those who are actually woke and those who are just jumping on bandwagons. I have been woke for so long that I don't know what year it is - can they say that?"

Tuina outlined the services they will offer to their members.

"First, you become a member by submitting a vial of crocodile tears. Then, whenever someone on your feed is making too much of a noise about a social justice issue, you contact us and then choose from a number of solutions.

"There are currently three services we offer," he said.

They are:

#### DEFLECTION

Suppose someone is wringing their virtual hands about, say, Australia's draconian measures against animals to curb the spread of Covid-19, you can shut that dose of self-righteousness right up with: "Hah! Nice to see so much concern about animals when people are falling off planes in Afghanistan."

Afghanistan is just the example of the day. So, let's say someone is crying about Afghanistan, then you can say: "Typical. People are dying from Covid-19 in our own country and not able to eat during lockdown,



but our armchair warriors are heartbroken about reports they see on CNN, BBC and Al Jazeera."

#### TURN THE TABLES

On the positive side of things, some can start feeling very good about themselves by pointing out the racial and gender diversity in the cast of a western show. Contact us then, and we will help you tell them how mistaken they are. The show is basically propaganda about how great the west is, when it actually sucks. On the flip side, if someone praises a classic show which featured very little diversity, criticise that and insist that the watching public are naïve enough to believe everything they see on a sitcom.

Bottom line: nothing anyone does is right or woke - that is the credo of the true Woke Folk.

#### BORE THEM INTO SUBMISSION

In the rare case that someone actually makes a good, nuanced point about an issue, and you feel like you cannot help but agree - that is when our services are most valuable. Do not try to respond yourself, contact us and we will write 2200-word responses with a guarantee that no one will read that far or follow the twists of logic.

These are just three initial strategies of Woke Folk.

"It will forever be evolving as circumstances change," said Amijaga. "To avail our solutions, please mail us at [uthinkuwoke@gmail.com](mailto:uthinkuwoke@gmail.com)."

Star Satireday can confirm that this is a real email address and as Woke Folk's media partner, we will be printing their woke solutions if and when you face problems during debates and contact them at this address.

## We swear on our wives and daughters that we will be less misogynistic: Reformed misogynists

### WHATEVER CORRESPONDENT

*A Very Religious Organisation in the newly unliberated country of Ivegoneinsane has garnered international acclaim after they said they will be less misogynistic than they were 20 years ago.*

In a press conference, the leader of the Very Religious Organisation said now, after the supreme world power have finished unliberating the country, they will ensure that women along with other lesser beings will have rights.

These rights, the leader said, will be determined by the Very Religious Organisation.

Some of these rights include allowing women to breathe the open air, but only up to 20 feet away from their dwellings.

Women, he said, can also study from textbooks written by the organisation to broaden their horizons. This is a rare opportunity from them to glimpse into the superior minds of the men.

They can also work, but only from home. The work is limited to creating face coverings.

The international community has welcomed the initiative, despite protests



in Ivegoneinsane. World leaders said they would support whichever regime the people of the country support, but the leader of the Very Religious Organisation also said there would be no elections.