

# HELLO DHAKA

## A new restaurant in town

Hello Dhaka is a journey of the senses, one that sets out from a serious indulgence to meet joyous high camp to bring to your plates the ultimate luxury of comfort food. Occupying a space that is big enough for a typical family-style restaurant in Dhaka, this diner is located in the midst of crowded inlets going into commercial spaces and convenience stores, a true hive of activity in the heart of Gulshan 1.

The location serves as the perfect metaphor: it is to let you know that the world outside may roar on and take you up in raging storms but here, at Hello Dhaka, a steaming thali and a cup of warm tea will always be there to tide you over.

Speaking of steaming thalis, of course we will walk you through it! Picture a set of smooth-steel bowls, every single one filled to the brim with South-Asian delicacies. Make a thrilling beginning with rootis, tearing it into bite-size pieces to pair with spicy chilli relishes, cooling raitas or sour pickles, whatever you are in the mood for. Help yourself by feeding the 'meatism' in you with pleasures of hariyali chicken kebabs, chicken tikkas grilled golden or stuffed with cheese—all at the end of a glorious stick. Say yes to more gluttony with dhal, tangy chutneys of tomatoes and creamy mashed potatoes and bid adieu to your morning worries with this perfect afternoon lunch only at Hello Dhaka.

This restaurant makes sure you do not underestimate the quality of fine seafood. Whether prepared *deshi*, Southeast Asian



or European, they are all treated with the same respect and the same recipe of spices guaranteeing a feast of epic proportions. If you are willing to try anything for that ideal, Instagrammable shot, order the jumbo-sized prawns at Hello Dhaka. Served mightily on a hot, black grill and fried to the sweet spot of crispy on the outside and juicy on the inside, these prawns come fresh off the docks every morning and impress every time.

For days you wish to satiate your patriotic love for everything Bangladeshi,

order their signature fish-head curry. Packed with bags of flavour, eggplants and okras, this bowl is *deshi* heaven on a plate. If swooping noodles is your guilty pleasure, go on and choose their crispy seafood noodles, al dente at every bite and a burst of flavour in every spoonful.

More Bengali food to choose from are curries of amaranth leaves and spinach, delightfully decorated atop betel leaves. An assortment of bhortas, a staple of Bangla food, the Chittagonian pride, mezbani beef, so tender it melts in your mouth, and polao so good it reminds you of home are just some from the array of Bengali, Malaysian, Singaporean and European foods to entice your palate here at Hello Dhaka.

No feast is complete without something sweet and this is where Hello Dhaka truly wins hearts and claims souls. For one, a mountain of ice-cream is sandwiched between two wafer-thin, crispy pieces of filo pastry, soaked in honey and enriched with pistachios, the baklava at Hello Dhaka is simply sublime. If you are a fan of this Greek classic, Hello Dhaka's interpretation of it is worth ignoring the calories for!

Another favourite is the tiramisu cake layered with cream cheese and dusted with pure coffee. Leave your taste buds dancing with this one as you gorge on every spoonful of decadent chocolate, sinning

blissfully and not caring even a bit about it! Quaff down

your blues with milk teas or coffee

or whatever soda's fizz the weather demands and your Pan Asian feast has been met with a bittersweet end.

Marketing the tagline of "simple yet gorgeous," owner Zubair Kabir encapsulates the ethos of his passion project best, "Hello Dhaka is all about plating simple, home-style food from the hills and rivers of Bengal or from your mothers' kitchens, for that matter, and giving it a certain pizzazz, that extra oomph in presentation to make eating Bengali food a gastronomical experience, one that affects all of the senses and not just your taste buds. Here, we serve you simple food with a unique take on panache."

And, so, for a simply gorgeous dine-out deserving of Michelin stars, drop by Hello Dhaka any day of the week; its doors are always open to take you in and make sure you are taken care of.

**By Ramisa Haque**

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For home delivery: 01922-211333

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## HOROSCOPE



**ARIES**  
(MAR. 21-APR. 20)

Pamper yourself this week. Don't lead anyone on for the wrong reasons. Look into real estate. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



**TAURUS**  
(APR. 21-MAY 21)

Get involved in physical activities. Don't let jealousy get to you. Cut loose. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



**GEMINI**  
(MAY 22-JUN. 21)

Put your trust in others. Problems with colleagues are likely. New romantic partners will arise through social circles. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



**CANCER**  
(JUN. 22-JUL. 22)

Do your chores at home. Get back to your old hobbies. Luck is on your side. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



**LEO**  
(JUL. 23-AUG. 22)

Try to be patient. Bad things will keep piling on this week. Your mood swings will result in loneliness. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



**VRIGO**  
(AUG. 23-SEP. 23)

Consider selling your creations. Emotional hurt has brought doubts in your mind. Refrain from overspending. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



**LIBRA**  
(SEP. 24-OCT. 23)

Take advantage of your attributes. Focus on your financial status. Avoid major delays. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.



**SCORPIO**  
(OCT. 24-NOV. 21)

Don't make any rash decisions. Exercise discipline when controlling bad habits. Try a day at the beach. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Don't second-guess yourself. Manage your money better. Your partner will be difficult this week. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



**CAPRICORN**  
(DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

Creative pursuits should payoff. Outcomes will be favourable. Channel your energy into household chores. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



**AQUARIUS**  
(JAN. 21-FEB. 19)

Too much talk will lead to hassles. Romantic encounters are likely. This is a great week for a trip. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



**PISCES**  
(FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

Convince others to follow suit. Don't make promises. Don't let your boss get the better of you. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.