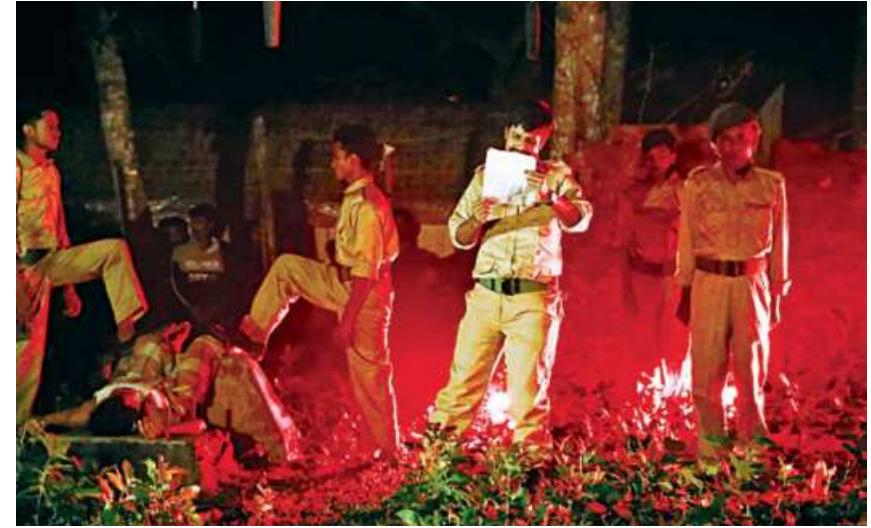




PHOTOS: COURTESY OF BSA

Portraying genocide across 64 districts



Commemorating the struggle of our Liberation war, Golden Jubilee of Bangladesh's independence and birth centenary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, noted cultural and theatre personality Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy (BSA), has conceptualised and organised 'Gonohotta Poribesh Theatre'. Based on the mass genocides in 1971, the plays are being staged in 64 districts across the country.

"Kamanna Tragedy", a play written by Prashanta Hawlader and directed by Tanvir Nahid Khan, was presented by Zila Shilpkala Academy Jhenaidah Repertory Natyadal, in Kamanna 27 Shahid Samadhi, Jhenaidah, recently.

The event began with a formal session where State Minister for Cultural Affairs KM Khalid was present virtually, alongside Liaquat Ali Lucky, Jhenaidah-1 Member of Parliament Abdul Hyee and Superintendent of Police, Muntasirul Islam. The production features performers from Jhenaidah and Shailkupur.

Goutam Koiri's new series 'Friendbook' airing on NTV

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After garnering appreciation for web film "Bagher Bachha", director Goutam Koiri's "Friendbook" has begun airing from yesterday (Tuesday) on NTV.

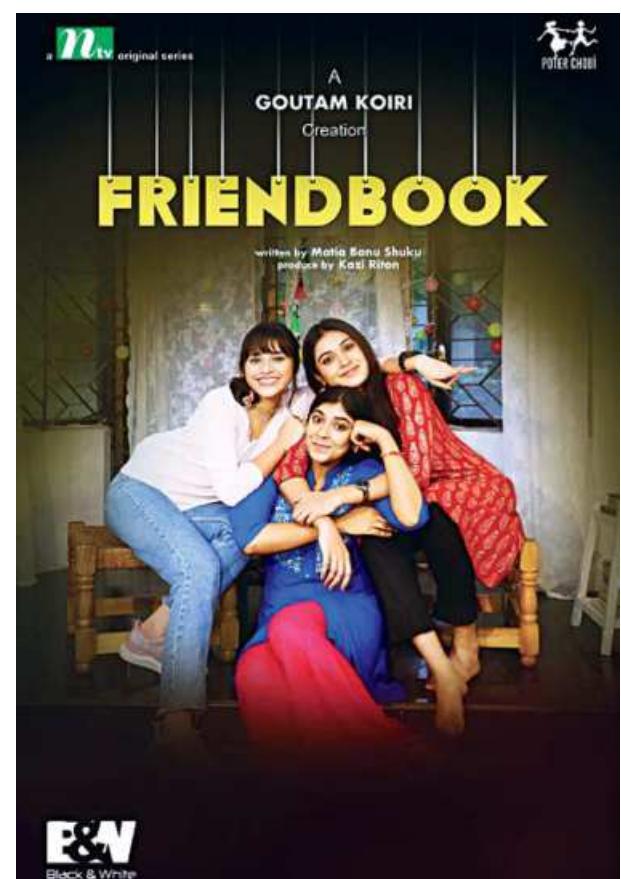
Written by Matia Banu Shuku and conceptualised by the director, the plot of the series revolves around three roommates, portrayed by Tasnuva Tisha, Rafah Nanjeba Torsa, and Mim Chowdhury.

The story showcasing their personal and social struggles, since they come from different backgrounds. "One of these girls is a badminton player, who focuses on her dreams of playing internationally, and has to face hard times because of their parents' divorce," says the director. "Adding to it, her coach, played by Irfan Sajjad, also harasses her in many ways." Goutam informs that for the first time, Irfan Sajjad will be seen in a negative role.

The story progresses with the growing bond of these girls and unfolding their stories.

The series, consisting of 26 episodes, will be aired on NTV every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 9.30 pm simultaneously on the channel's online version. It will also be available on NTV's official YouTube channel.

Produced by Kazi Riton, the series also features Labonnoyo Chowdhury, Khairul Bashar, Imtiaz Barshon, Fakhrul Basher Masum, Shamima Naznin, Shilpi Sarkar Apu, and Hindol Roy.



The poster for 'Friendbook'.

Equal pay for women in showbiz becoming a reality: Raveena Tandon

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Noted Indian actress Raveena Tandon is currently busy with her debut web series "Aryank" and amidst it, she discussed the trend of women receiving equal pay in the industry and credited the OTT boom for being a driving force, as per reports.

"The industry has most definitely changed for the better. And it is what I completely work for and I do find the change now,"

which is happening. Women are getting almost, I am not saying we (women) have got there, but we are getting an equal pay scale kind of situation," shared the "Mohra" actress.

She further added, "It is because of the kind of roles that women are getting and the kind of cinema that is being made. Also, it is because the global audiences have opened up".



PHOTO: COLLECTED

From Bollywood to Dhallywood: Sadia Nabila

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN MISHA

From rom-com to action movies, Sadia Nabila is ready to showcase her tough avatar with the much-anticipated film, "Mission Extreme".

The young actress, who debuted in Bollywood with "Pareshaan Parinda", will now be seen as a cop, showcasing some daring stunts in the movie.

In a conversation with The Daily Star, Sadia opens up about her role in "Mission Extreme", her Bollywood venture, and many more.

Tell us about your role in "Mission Extreme".

I am playing a cop named 'Ira' in this movie. Arifin Shuvoo, Sumit and I are team members, who are on a mission to find militants who are trying to create havoc in the country.

How did you prepare for the role?

We had to attend an acting workshop conducted by eminent actor, Tariq Anam Khan. Prior to shooting, Sunny bhai (Sunny Sanwar), our director also gave me bunch of links for Netflix series, which would help me to grasp my character well.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Baba Nyza aims for a global audience

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Arneeb Mahbub, better known by his stage name Baba Nyza, is a promising Bangladeshi fusion artiste based in Los Angeles, California. His new single, "O Sonia", has generated over 1.5 million streams on Spotify, a huge milestone on a relatively more alien platform to Bangladeshi musicians.

The artiste is inspired by afro beat, dancehall, and reggaeton, and likes to infuse them in his bilingual music.

His songs, including the likes of "Miss Maverick", "Baare Baare", "The Act" and "Rack Like Spice", often feature in official Spotify playlists, and are quickly becoming cult hits among the younger audience.

Having worked with a diverse team of international musicians, Arneeb now looks to collaborate with more promising young talent in the Bangladeshi music industry. His next track, titled 'Baare Baare', is set to release soon.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF BABA NYZA

We also got a first-hand experience of what goes through the life of a cop, when we visited our real-life cop and director, Sunny bhai's office. He helped us analyse the situation from the eyes of a law enforcement officer. Several incidents from the movie have been taken from his life.

How is Arifin Shuvoo as a co-star?

Many people assume that Arifin Shuvoo is scary, but on the contrary he is really friendly and supportive. I have shot 90 percent of my scenes with him and at one point, my movement started to resemble a man's. Shuvoo bhai even teased me once that I have actually become a man (laughs).

How did you debut in Bollywood?

In 2017, I participated in a pageant "Miss India World Wide". I was the first Bangladeshi contestant there and I ended up becoming first-runner up. The director of the film has to know about me from there and I auditioned for the role.

Speaking in Hindi was tough but I had a person who would help me with the script. In this movie, I played a fashion designer in "Pareshaan Parinda" and the movie revolves around a triangle love story.

Bollywood or Dhallywood? Which industry would you like to work in?

"Mission Extreme" felt like my first film, as I go to speak in my own mother tongue and got to act with my own people. The whole experience felt so real. I have a got a lot of offers but due to travel restrictions in Australia, I could not say yes. If everything goes well, I will come to Bangladesh by 2022, as I want to work more in Bangladeshi movies.