

#FOOD & RECIPES

Munchies — The first late-night delivery service in Dhaka!

With approximately 296 restaurants on board, Munchies is the first delivery service offering to serve all night long – from 8PM to 6AM! Not only does it deliver after hours, the options available at Munchies is not subject to any area-wise distance. No matter what part of the city you reside in, if you order you will be served.

Anit Kumar Das, Nafisa Anjum Apala and Tamim Mridha are well-recognised names in their own respective fields who came together to form Munchies. Their first delivery initiative was called 'Now' that worked to transport emergency items to people during the initial months of lockdown in 2020.

Within the next few months, they extended their services from essentials to food, and launched 'Munchies' in January 2021. A valid question here is, "Do we really need another food delivery service?" Apparently we do, and Munchies showed us why.

In our country, the concept of ordering food and groceries online was first introduced in 2013, and has almost completely changed our shopping experience. Following its success, many companies entered the market and it quickly became rather competitive.

However, these conventional delivery services do not operate during late hours



of the night, and well, our food cravings do not work by the clock. Munchies basically presents itself as the one-stop solution for all the night owls, sudden cravings, unexpected guests, or some urgent requirements.

Putting this unique idea into work could not have been easy. Luckily, we were able to hear a little about this journey from one of the three founders, Anit Kumar Das.

"Doubts were definitely there. With no previous data to rely on, we knew Munchies could be a hit or miss. But we eventually decided to go for it," said Das.

"There were quite a few challenges

in the beginning. First was the fact that mainstream restaurants do not operate at night. So it took a great deal of convincing to get them to agree. Also due to the ongoing pandemic, many restaurants were suffering from losses. Collaborating with us also worked in their favour." Since delivery services do not work at night, riders of Munchies also have to face several check posts around the city.

Munchies is probably one of the most user-friendly websites you can come across. In the restaurant section, you will find food categorised according to the cuisine and not just by name. This makes choosing and comparing a lot easier. The 'safety and hygiene' section stocks generous varieties of surgical masks, gloves, sanitisers and

several items of personal hygiene. The best part is you can order from more than one section at the same time. So, antacid can accompany your biriyani next time.

Other than this, you will also find snacks, beverages, ice cream, instant and frozen items, etc. Munchies helpline is highly responsive and has been able to help many of its customers in need.

Das recalled one such incident when talking to us.

"We got a call asking if we could deliver some prescribed medicine. The caller's mother had fallen ill but they were unable to access any pharmacy at the moment. We asked them to send the prescription to us or our rider and once they did, we got it from a shop nearby." Another time, they were able to deliver sanitary napkin to a girl in a similar situation. "It is times like these and the warm feedback of our customers that has allowed us to grow as much as we have within such a short period of time," he added.

By Nusrath Jahan

Photo: Munchies

Essentials

Website: <https://munchies.now.com.bd/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/getmunchies.now>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/852766868830845>



#FOOD & RECIPES

Amish — The best place for doner kebab in Dhaka

Rarely does anyone say no to kebabs. Whether it is the traditional version or the taste of a foreign cuisine, we all love the taste of spicy charred meat on pita bread every now and then. So, what makes Amish the answer to our kebab cravings? Glad you asked.

Amish is perfect for takeaways and/or gathering of a small group. Although we have accepted kebab shops to look a bit messy and greasy, Amish proves us wrong. With a polished look inside out, it wipes off any hygiene question you may have by offering a live kitchen experience. The kebab meat is carved off of a circulating heated cylinder and assembled right before your eyes.

Next notable fact is the menu itself. Again with a very refined look, Amish offers a limited number of options with only the best of their creation; quality over quantity.

Kebabs are available in both chicken and beef variants, and you may choose to have it as a wrap or between sub-breads. You can also choose to adjust the spice level. Chips and meat, on the other hand, is doner with a poutine twist to it. This dish is loaded with the meat of your choice along with fries and house-special sauce. Sounds like love in a box, doesn't it?

Last but not the least, Amish has probiotic yoghurt drinks as the perfect complement to your meal.

In conversation with one of the owners, Faisal Khan, we got to know the story behind



the beginning of Amish. It turns out that in 2020, this close-knit group of friends came up with an investment plan that would require their involvement and keep them together.

"We are all busy with our lives and with time, people are bound to grow apart. Amish came as an attempt to keep us all together," he said, and added, "I hope I don't scare you, but Amish is actually owned by 18 people."



The atmosphere around Amish seems to reflect the vibe it was created from. You can catch up with a friend, stop for a quick meal on the go, or just unwind by yourself at the end of the day. This is probably why despite being relatively new, it is growing in popularity rather fast.

With the winter approaching soon, make sure you don't miss out on the 'meatiest doner kebabs in town.'



Essentials —

Location: Shop No. #2 [Ground Floor] Army Market, ECB Chattar, Manikdi, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka-1206

Phone: 01321-159000

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/amishproteen>

By Nusrath Jahan

Photo: Amish