

I consider myself very fortunate: Noble

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Adil Hossain Noble is one of the prominent faces in the television industry. Apart from modelling, he was a staple of many television dramas, and made his presence felt in the first package drama in Bangladesh.

The actor talked to The Daily Star about his career, future plans, and more.

You recently celebrated your birthday. How did you spend the day?

There was a surprise! My daughter is studying in Canada. She came to Bangladesh on my birthday to surprise me!

I did not inform anyone at home she was coming, and received her from the airport in the morning. After seeing her, her mother cried tears of joy. I can't express the amount of happiness everyone felt after seeing her yesterday.

Many of my colleagues came home at 12:01 AM with cakes and flowers. Their arrival made it feel like a wedding celebration. Funnily enough, the police came after seeing so many people in front of my house. After seeing me and knowing about the occasion, they wished me and took selfies. It was truly a celebration.

People still think of you as Bangladesh's top model. How do you see this?

I consider myself a very fortunate man to receive so much love and blessings from fans, and the Almighty. I always try to make my work better.

I did three commercials directed by Amitabh Raza a few days back, and the audience still loves my work a lot. After a long break from ads, this was a welcome comeback.

Despite being in high demand for television dramas, why is your presence still lacking here?

I think of myself as a model, not as an actor. It is true that I did work in some dramas, but I did so thinking about the directors and the audience. I still get offers constantly, but I politely say no to those projects. I will work on television if the script really impresses me, but they will be few and far between.

What is your biggest achievement, according to you?

Without a doubt, the love that I have received from people. Wherever I go, the amount of positivity that people have for me is simply amazing. I am grateful for it all.

Translated by Rafsana Amin



PHOTO: GOLAM SABBITR



FILM REVIEW

A formulaic yet heart-warming Christmas romantic comedy

A snippet from "A Castle for Christmas".

In Netflix's "A Castle for Christmas", Sophie Brown, a best-selling romantic novelist, travels to Scotland with the agenda of escaping a scandal. Eventually, she comes across a beautiful castle during her journey and wishes to buy it.

RAFSANA AMIN

Sadly, the castle owner, Duke Myles, feels reluctant to sell it to Sophie due to which their interaction starts off rocky. Yet, with the flow of time, they start feeling attracted to each other. Even though this romantic comedy, starring Brooke Shields and Cary Elwes, is predictable, it is an enjoyable watch.

I personally liked Brooke Shields in the movie as she played Sophie in a likable and relatable way. Sophie is a strong and smart woman, who does not believe in tolerating unnecessary idiocy. At the same time, she seems to be very vulnerable since we find her to be hopeless and uncertain of what she will

be doing in the next phase of her life.

What I found unique in this movie is that the growth of the relationship between the main characters takes place in a span of several months, rather than just a few days. The audience can see the development of their feelings and how they gradually get close to each other. I really enjoyed watching their mature romance. The chemistry between the main couple is charming. In addition, the movie, with the Scottish cast and locations, is shot beautifully.

If you have enjoyed films featuring European royalty like "A Christmas Prince", you will have a great time watching "A Castle for Christmas".

Television specials to enjoy ON CHRISTMAS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Christians all over the world will commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ today. To make Christmas more entertaining, The Daily Star has compiled a list of some of the best TV programmes, which will be aired around the country.

On the special occasion, Boishakhi TV has arranged a special show titled, "Shuvo Boro Din" which will be televised at 12:30 noon today. The show is produced by Nicholas Hira where the significance of the birth of Jesus Christ and Christmas will be highlighted. Bethel A G Care's team will be performing songs, while dance performances will be presented by artistes of Nrittangan Lalitkala Academy under the direction of John Tony Sarkar.

At 10 am, the Christmas special drama, "Shomikoron" will be aired. Directed by Rohan Ahmed Rubel and Hanif Khan, the drama will star Zahid Hasan, Nabila Islam, and others.

NTV will air the tele-fiction, "Anondodhoni" at 9:30pm, starring Irfan



Luis Luca and the Snow Machine

Sajjad, Tasnuva Tisha and many others. The show is written by Apel Mahmud and directed by Joynto Rozario. The story is focused on mental dilemmas that people face in their day to day lives.

Maaranga Television has organised a series of programmes to celebrate Christmas. The show, "Aaj Shubodin, Aaj Borodin" will air at 7:30 pm. The show will be hosted by Shushoma Sarkar. Priyanka Gope, Anima Mukti Gomez, and Kamaruzzaman Rabbi will be singing on the show. Besides, renowned dancer Warda Rihab and her team, along with other artistes, will be performing too.

A tele-fiction titled, "Ei Maya" will air at 8:30 pm. Written by Shahriar Nazim Joy and directed by Chayanika Chowdhury, the show will star Apurba, Tinni, and many others.

In the film, "Luis Luca and the Snow Machine", Flaklypa, a small town, experiences a shortage of snowfall. An inventor, Reodor Felgen, is asked to work on creating a snow machine but someone else steals the equipment for their own purposes. Dubbed in Bangla, this film will be aired on Duronto Television at 10 am.

On the occasion of Christmas, a one-hour tele-fiction titled, "Amader Shanta", will be televised on Ekushey Television at 10 pm. It is written by Nazmul Shakib and directed by Oshim Gomez.

The show will star Ahsan Habib Nasim and Monpura famed actress Farhana Mili.

The shooting of "Amader Shanta" was held in Uttara.

While talking to The Daily Star, actor Ahsan Habib Nasim said, "The plot is developed around the character of Shanta. It is indeed a beautiful Christmas drama which will fascinate the audience."



Amader Shanta



Ei Maya



Anondodhoni



COURTESY OF PADATIK NATYA SANGSAD

Syed Badruddin Hossain Theatre Festival concludes

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Theatre activist Syed Badruddin Hossain was one of the founding members of Padatik Natya Sangsad. A theatre festival and award ceremony, in remembrance of him, is held annually. This year, the event was organised at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) from December 23 to 25.

A number of plays, including "Tinkoni", "Ekta Loukik Othoba Aloukik Steamer" "Gunjan Bibir Pala", and "Draupadi Parampara" among others, were scheduled to be staged across BSA throughout the festival, which also featured cultural performances.



'My phones are usually dead'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Noted actress Emma Watson was only 10 years old when she landed her first job acting in the Harry Potter movies. She would go on to portray Hermione Granger for over a decade.

Once the franchise wrapped, she continued her acting career. However, she also embraced activism and modelling, making her schedule even busier. In fact, Emma Watson's schedule is so jam-packed that she actually has two phones. But she doesn't always keep them charged.

In an interview with *British Vogue*, Watson explained why she has two phones. "I have one, my work phone, and I have a personal phone," she said. But even though Watson has multiple ways to contact her, getting her to pick up the phone is no easy feat. In fact, she revealed that typically neither one of her phones has power.

According to "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" alum, not charging her phones helps her to combat stress.

"Both of them are usually dead," Watson said about her phones. "This is a strategy of mine. It's kind of how I deal with how stressful life can be. It does drive people around me a bit mad, but I do my best."

The Harry Potter reunion special, titled "Harry Potter 20th Anniversary: Return to Hogwarts", featuring Watson and other members of the cast and crew, will be released on HBO Max on January 1,

Emma Watson.

PHOTO: COLLECTED