

My father did not want me to be part of showbiz

YASH ROHAN



I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would be an actor. I thought I would be pursuing engineering, but later on, I became an actor.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Yash Rohan debuted into the world of silver screen with Gias Uddin Selim's "Swapnajaal", opposite Pori Moni. The "Networker Baire" actor currently awaits the release of his much-anticipated movies "Poran" and "Deshantor", which will release this year.

Recently, Yash has signed up for a web-film alongside Nusraat Faria in the web film titled "Pordar Arale".

In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, the popular actor opens up about his journey in the showbiz industry.

You debuted with Gias Uddin Selim's 'Swapnajaal'. How has been your acting journey so far?
I could not have asked for a more promising debut, as it had a wonderful script, and



I could act opposite the beautiful Pori Moni. The songs of the movie are exceptionally beautiful, and till date it remains close to my heart. Gias Uddin Selim, through his meticulous directing and guidelines, acted as my mentor throughout the film. I will forever be grateful to him for trusting me with this movie.

Both of your parents, Naresh Bhuiyan and Shilpi Sharkar Apu, are renowned in the world of showbiz. How much did they support you?

Initially, my father did not want me to act, while my mother pushed me to follow my dreams. Later on, "Swapnajaal", came into my life, and finally my father could finally understand my passion for acting. Now, my father loves my acting and no longer objects to it. Nowadays, he truly inspires me to take

on more projects, that will give me space as an actor.

Which medium do you prefer to see yourself in, as an actor from a new generation?

I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would be an actor. I thought I would be pursuing engineering, but later on, I became an actor. I really do not care what the medium is, as long as I get to work in good scripts. It could be anything television, OTT or movies -- as long as it's something that attracts me.

What do you think of OTT as a platform?

OTT platforms came as a blessing for our industry; the streaming platforms gave many directors, actors and technicians the opportunity to work in big budget projects.

I believe that it will only get better as time goes by.

Recently, I have worked in Zee 5's web series "Kuhulika", and Parvez Amin's web-film titled "Pordar Arale", opposite Nusraat Faria.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bongo is now streaming internationally recognised movies from the 20th Dhaka International Film Festival.

Upon subscription, anyone can watch the 16 movies being showcased in the prestigious festival, including the likes of "Botox", "Sin", "Last Call", "Kahani Aayee Hai" and "Sarita", among other movies.

The Festival, which started on January 15, will go on till January 23 in different venues in the city.



Kanye West claims he was prevented from entering Kim's house

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Rapper Kanye West claimed that Kim Kardashian's security team won't let him enter her house—even with his kids.

The rapper didn't mention Pete Davidson's name but addressed him as Kim's "new boyfriend," according to reports by Entertainment Weekly.

"My daughter wanted me to go inside. I was like,

I am the richest Black man and

North's father, right, and the security was able to stop me from going into the room with my daughter and that had not been defined," said Kanye.

On the other hand, Kim Kardashian told the media that she was deeply 'saddened' by Kanye's claims of being kept away from his children.



COUNTRYWIDE



Siddique Hossain at his plum orchard at Tikuria Chala village in Tangail's Sakhipur upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Siddique shines in sour plum

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Siddique Hossain's success did not come overnight. The young man from Tikuria Chala village in Sakhipur upazila has given his all-out effort to achieve it.

From a frustrated youth over a decade ago, now he owned six plum orchards on 27 acres of leased land.

Like many other unemployed youth, Siddique gave Tk 5 lakh to a manpower broker for an overseas job in South Africa. But the broker fled with the money, shattering all his dreams.

In the next six to seven years he had to struggle a lot to repay the loans he took from the local money lenders and he even had to sell his land.

In 2010, Siddique took a short training from the agriculture department and started his nursery business, taking a loan of Tk 50,000 from a local NGO. Two years later he planted some plum saplings on small scale on leased land.

Now he is cultivating plums on 27 acres land, taking lease from local farmers and expecting to sell the fruits for Tk 50 lakh this season.

A part from his village, Siddique has six more plum orchards in four other adjacent villages.

"At the beginning, I cultivated sweet plum, but then the price of the fruit was very low. Later, I decided to cultivate sour plum as it has a high demand and the price is also good," Siddique said.

Siddique said he planted 4,000 plum trees on 27 acres of leased land and raised a nursery of different fruits on another three acres.

Siddique said he is selling the fruit for Tk 160 per kilogram this season.

During a recent visit to Siddique's house, this correspondent saw about a dozen of workers, both male and female, were sorting plums and filling those in sacks for sending the fruits to different markets, including Karwan Bazar, Jatrabari and Shymbazar in Dhaka.

Sakhipur Upazila Agriculture Officer Niyanta Barman said seeing Siddique's success nearly 100 farmers are now cultivating sour plum.

Excavation at Khanjahan Ali's residence resumes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

The Department of Archeology has resumed excavating renowned Islamic preacher Khanjahan Ali's residence, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The excavation will delve deep into the layout of the land, architectural style and chronological order.

The relics unearthed by the excavation will be registered after examination and kept at different museums.

The results of this study will add to the archaeological significance of various establishments of the Khanjahan period, said Md Zayed, the custodian at the Department of Archeology in Bagerhat.

According to the Department of Archeology, UNESCO declared 17 sites, including the Shat Gambuj Mosque

as World Heritage Sites in 1985. The residence of Khanjahan Ali located in Sundarghona area of Bagerhat Sadar upazila is one of them. Khanjahan's homestead lied neglected for a long time.

The archaeological department has excavated the site several times to determine its archaeological significance since 2000. Following the earlier expeditions, the excavation work has resumed under the leadership of Afroza Khan Mita, regional director of Department of Archaeology in Khulna. Seven officers of different grades and 14 irregular workers have taken part in the excavation work and research.

Excavations, which began on December 31, have already uncovered brick walls, cement and sand floors,

earthenware used during the Sultanate period, earthen lids and other utensils. Every day students and visitors from different local schools and colleges come to see the relics.

Abu Bakar Siddique, vice principal of a senior madrasa, said it was nice to see the 600-year-old brick walls and earthenware. The remnants must be preserved at different museums and the history should be carried forward for posterity.

Mallika Das, student of Bagerhat Government PC College, said, "I have come here with my friends to see the excavation work. Those who are involved in the work tell us the history by showing us various artefacts. We are reliving the history."

Al Amin, a field officer of the

Department of Archeology in Khulna Regional Office, said 14 irregular workers along with the field officers have been working from 6:30am to 2:30pm.

"Our excavation work started in December 31 and will end in January 31. Our research on this settlement will continue even after this," he said.

Custodian of the Department of Archeology in Bagerhat Md Zayed said the main purpose of the excavation work is to find out the layers of the land, the architectural style and the chronological order.

"We will research various datas including installations, bricks and utensils found through the excavation. These artefacts will be preserved in the museums under the direction of the Department of Archeology," he added.

