



## Friends, family, and feasts: STARS SHARE THEIR EID PLANS

*For celebrities who keep busy throughout the year, Eid is a chance to sit back and relax by offering prayers, visiting loved ones, and feasting. While some celebrate the special occasion at home with their families, others travel abroad. Many visit their hometowns, getting away from the hustle and bustle of city life. With Eid-UI-Fitr knocking at the door, The Daily Star caught up with prominent artistes to find out about their plans.*

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

### JAYA AHSAN

Eid is a day to cheer and to laugh with all your heart. I truly miss my childhood days of Eid; those times will never come back.

That being said, I will be celebrating the beautiful day with my mother this year. I am looking forward to her homecooked feast. She will be making all my favourite dishes.

I will also be looking out for the Eid specials on television this year. I have a rooftop garden, and I hope to get some gardening done during this holiday too.

### BIPASHA HAYAT

This Eid will be special for my whole family, as we will be in America. My parents are planning to join us.

It will be a different holiday for all of us, as we will be abroad together. I am looking forward to spending some quality time with my family, and making beautiful memories.

### SHAKIB KHAN

For the first time, I will be celebrating Eid in the USA, away from my homeland. I hope it will

be memorable for me.

However, my heart is in Bangladesh. I will miss my mom's cooking on Eid; I miss my family very much.

That being said, I want to enjoy the holiday to the fullest. I have many close friends here in America, who have invited me over to their houses for Eid. I also plan to explore the country a little more. I have films coming out in Bangladesh on Eid. I hope my fans go to the theatres to watch them.

**I miss my father very much on every Eid. I miss his love and his scolding. We used to go the mosque for Eid prayers, and watch Anandamela together, the same show that I am hosting.**

### FERDOUS

I will be hosting Anandamela on BTV Chattogram with my good friend Purnima this Eid. We have shot at various locations in Chattogram.

Eid is a time for happiness and celebration. During my childhood, I used to be the one getting *salaami*, now I am the one giving it!

Although I receive *salaami* from my mother and mother-in-law till date, I did not have as

many responsibilities when I was younger, as I do now. After the Chattogram shoot, I brought back Eid gifts for my family and friends. Time makes us responsible, I guess.

I miss my father very much on every Eid. I miss his love and his scolding. We used to go the mosque for Eid prayers, and watch Anandamela together, the same show that I am hosting. I will be celebrating Eid in Dhaka this year, with my family and close ones.

### PURNIMA

For the last two years, the pandemic took away all the colours of our celebrations. I am thankful to the Almighty that we can enjoy Eid to the fullest, like old times, this year.

I will spend my time in Dhaka with my family. During this vacation, roads will be traffic free, so I will go on long drives with my kid. I also plan to watch the Eid television productions. I will be hosting Anandamela on BTV Chattogram with Ferdous.

### BIDYA SINHA MIM

I will visit India for my mother's treatment. I will miss spending Eid in Bangladesh.

We will visit our favourite places in India. I wish everyone Eid Mubarak.

Those who will be travelling this Eid, I hope they have safe journeys and enjoy their vacation.



## Nrityanchal's 'Anonbo Dhara Bohiche Vubone' arriving this Eid

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Noted dancers and choreographers Shibli Mohammad and Shamim Ara Nipa with their dance troupe Nrityanchal are set to perform their dance recital, "Anondo Dhara Bohiche Vubone", this Eid-UI-Fitr.

Produced by Mahfuzur, the show will air on the second day of Eid at 1:30 pm on BTV and BTV World.

The production is directed by Shamim Ara Nipa and Shibli Mohammad, featuring over 50 dancers.

## Nisho's 'Prayashchitto' to stream on Bongo



After the success of the first season of Bongo BOB series, with excellent projects like "Laboni" and "Mister K", the streaming platform is back with season 2, targeting Eid-UI-Fitr, one of the biggest festivals of the country.

This season has

quite a good number of projects to look forward to, one of which is Vicky Zahed's "Prayashchitto", featuring Afran Nisho and Nishat Priom.

The thriller is a visual adaptation of Obayed Haque's short story of the same name.

The show is slated to stream from the second day of Eid.

## COUNTRYWIDE

### A prelude to extinction

Rampant killing of indigenous pangas fry wreaks havoc



Native pangas fry are being randomly sold in local markets. The photo was taken from the fish market in Patuakhali town.

PHOTO: STAR

#### SOHRAB HOSSAIN

Seven points in the junction of Tentulia, Agunmukha and Buragauranga estuaries in Patuakhali are one of the breeding grounds of the indigenous pangas fry in the country. The points have been declared as sanctuaries for breeding and migration of the indigenous species of pangas.

But the local unscrupulous fishermen are catching pangas fry flouting the restrictions of the sanctuary. Experts are ringing an alarm that if the killing spree continues, the indigenous breed of pangas will be extinct soon.

Researchers of Ecofish Bangladesh Project 2 of World Fish, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), have been working to protect indigenous pangas breed found in rivers since 2018.

In 2020, the organisation has identified the breeding grounds of pangas and similar fish at seven points in Char Kajal, Char Biswas and Banyatali of Galachipa upazila of Patuakhali region and Chalitabunia, Char Kasem, under Char and Sonar Char areas of Rangabali upazila.

Researchers say that pangas is

one of the fastest-growing catfish species. A pangas can weigh up to 60 kg. Catfish is the third-highest producing fish in the country after hilsa. According to the estimates for the fiscal year 2020-21, 11,000 tonnes of pangas came from rivers alone.

According to the Fisheries Act, fishing under 12 inches of pangas is prohibited but fishermen are not abiding by it.

Ecofish Bangladesh Project 2 officials said that in 2020, 6,825 maunds of pangas fry were caught in Patuakhali district and around 9,390 maunds in 2021. In the current season, from December to March, 11,340 maunds of pangas fry have been caught.

Visiting various fish markets in Patuakhali town, it was found that pangas fry were being sold in different markets in Galachipa and Rangabali openly. A recent visit to the New Market fish market in Patuakhali town revealed that some retailers were openly selling pangas fry at Tk 230 to Tk 250 per kg.

Monir Hossain, a fishmonger in New Market, said there is a lot of pangas fry in the market. If the amount of pangas fry caught illegally in this area could be

protected, then this area could be turned into a mine for pangas along with hilsa.

Sagarika Smriti, an associate researcher of Ecofish 2 project, said that they have been working as partners in technical and research initiatives of the government since 2015 to stop catching of pangas fry, increase breeding and protection. As a result, other fish have also increased in the rivers due to the impact of hilsa protection programme for several years.

Sagarika said that just as the government has taken various initiatives to protect hilsa, including declaring sanctuaries and stopping fishing during the breeding season, similar sanctuaries should be set up to protect native species of fish.

District Fisheries Officer Mollah Emdadullah said that from November to July, it has been prohibited to possess, carry, transport and sell small size pangas of 30 cm or 12 inches for 9 months. However, some unscrupulous fishermen are catching the fry of pangas from rivers in different ways.

"We have started a campaign to seize illegal nets. Our campaign to protect pangas will continue," he added.

### Fishermen

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fish in the river right now. Besides, if I go fishing this week if I want to spend Eid with my family."

About the stimulus package given to fishermen during the ban, Nuruddin, another fisherman, said, "We received rice as aid near the end of the ban. We would like for it to be given at the beginning instead."

According to the Divisional Fisheries Office, there are 3,57,720 registered hilsa fishermen in the division, and about 80 percent of them have received the rice.

Anisur Rahman Talukder, deputy director of the office, said 80kg of rice had been been given. Besides 10,000 fishermen were given nets and 500 were given cows from the Hilsa Resource Development Project.

### Brazil town

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Rio's Art Deco statue was built with reinforced concrete and soapstone and took nine years to complete in 1931, becoming an icon of Rio de Janeiro and one of the wonders of the world.

### Production

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soon and it is arduous and risky work.

"We need many skilled workers," he said, adding the local miners are skilled. BCMCL Managing Director Mohammad Kamruzzaman said the protest was hampering coal production.

"All the miners would have been employed in phases if the production resumed in full swing."

BCMCL Miners and Workers Union President Rabiul Islam said, "We will celebrate this Eid on the streets with our family members if our demands are not fulfilled."

### Laid-off workers still not paid

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from Tk 600,000 to Tk 5,000,000 depending on their employment status and service duration.

Humayun Kabir, a temporary worker of Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills Limited, said they have not celebrated Eid since 2020.

"The BJMC has taken away all our hopes and joy. We have lost our jobs, we have been evicted from our home (BJMC's labour quarters in Khalishpur, Khulna) where we lived for at least two generations. We have now become homeless, unemployed and destitute."

"If I could get the arrears of around Tk 600,000-700,000 at least before Eid, I could have at least given some good food and clothing to my family

members. For two years, I cannot not buy meat and fish for my family members as I earn only about Tk 2,500 a month by carrying luggage at the railway station," lamented Humayun.

Ruhul Amin, another worker leader, demanded smooth and speedy disbursement of the arrears and benefits and reopening of the jute mills under state ownership.

Contacted, Md Sajjad Hossain, coordinator of BJMC's Khulna region, said they would need at least five working days to get the funds through Bangladesh Bank. "Then we shall start disbursing the funds to the workers."

Asked when the remaining workers will get their due wages, jute

and textiles ministry spokesperson Saikat Chandra Halder said in a written statement, "All the permanent workers have already received their outstanding wages and Tk 3,563 crore has been disbursed in the process. Once the identities of the temporary workers and those who worked on no-work-no-pay basis are verified, their due wages will also be cleared."

BJMC Chairman Md Salehuddin, currently in Saudi Arabia for performing Umrah, told this correspondent on April 13, "We cannot confirm when we shall be able to pay all of them their due wages as we have to rely on the funds released by the finance ministry."

### 'Shown arrested'

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there are 14 cases against Mohasin on different charges.

Bandar Police Station Sub-inspector Rojina called Mohasin's family to let them know that he is in police custody.

"He was brought in by Rab in the afternoon. We do not know anything about him except that he has several cases against him," she said.

Mohasin's wife Farida Yasmin Nejhum had organised a press conference on Friday and stated that he was picked up by law enforcers from their Shewrapara home on April 19.

"It was around 2:45am. A group of around seven men, all in civil clothes, came in three HiAce minibuses and banged on the main gate. When the landlord opened the

gate, he was told there is an arrest warrant against my husband in Bhola."

She had pleaded for him to be returned or at least to have him shown arrested.

The family also claimed they had heard from trusted sources that he was with Rab.

"I am relieved to know that my husband is back, even though he is going to go to jail," said Nejhum.

## Germany takes Italy to court over Nazi compensation claims

AFP, The Hague

Germany on Friday brought a case against Italy before the International Court of Justice on the grounds that Rome is continuing to claim World War II compensation, thereby "failing to respect its jurisdictional immunity", the court said.

The UN's highest court

ruled in 2012 that Italy had failed to fulfil its obligations by allowing victims of Nazi crimes between 1943 and 1945 to make compensation claims against Germany.

However, despite the ruling, Italian courts have "since 2012, have entertained a significant number of new claims...

in violation of Germany's sovereign immunity," Berlin's application said.

Germany in particular referred to a 2014 judgement of the Italian Constitutional Court that permitted "individual claims by victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity to be brought against sovereign states".