



Khurshid Alam



Rafiqul Alam



Kumar Bishwajit



Shabnam

# 'He was an institution'

Eminent personalities remember Gazi Mazharul Anwar



**He was incomparable in the field of patriotic songs. Few people have been able to write them in such simple and beautiful way. He was so talented that he could literally write a song in five minutes. He is irreplaceable.**

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Extreme sorrow followed the passing of Gazi Mazharul Anwar yesterday, one of the greatest musicians in Bangladesh's history. Artistes and fans alike expressed their condolences on social media, paying tributes to the National Award and Ekushey Padak awardee.

The Daily Star talked to some of his closest colleagues in the entertainment industry.

**He is irreplaceable: Khurshid Alam**

We have known each other since 1970. That year, I voiced a song written by him for the film "Shadharon Mey". The ER Khan directorial

film featured Zafar Iqbal. Our collaboration "Chhobi Jeno Shudhu Chhobi Noy" was one of our most successful collaborations. It was for the film "Moner Manush". Later we had numerous collaborations, including "Dhire Dhire Ghora Chole", "Mago Ma Ogo Ma", which became iconic. Although it was from the film "Shomadhi", due to the popularity of the song, the producers started to call the film's name by the song's title.

Aside from film tracks, he was incomparable in the field of patriotic songs as well. Few people have been able to write them in such simple and beautiful way.



Gazi Mazharul Anwar

He was so talented that he could literally write a song in five minutes. He is irreplaceable. It is our pride that we had an artiste like him.

His father wanted him to be a doctor, but thankfully, he pursued his passion. Though this made his father upset, his talent was evident and it ultimately made him proud.

We met on August at Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy -- I could never imagine it was our last meet.

**He was my travel partner: Rafiqul Alam**

I have lost a friend with whom I could talk about art and culture. We had so many memories together. He was my travel partner. We travelled to Cox's Bazar, Chattogram, and even went for hunting. What breaks my heart is I cannot ever call 'Gazi Bhai' again. We shared a bond of 50 years, which death took away. His works will keep him alive.

I was amazed by his wit and humour, which he could successfully bring into his writings. From film to patriotic music, he was equally mastered in everything he did.

For the last six decades, there were few songwriters like him.

**He was a guardian to me: Kumar Bishwajit**

For the past one decade, many senior artistes have left us, who were our guardians. He was an institution. We have many songwriters in our time, but he was one of a kind. His works have enhanced the level of Bangladeshi music and played a great role for the prosperity of a generation who have listened to his songs. His works were extremely versatile, from love songs, to patriotic songs and tracks for films, he was dominant in every genre.

**He was one of the best people in my life: Shabnam**

I was lucky to be featured in two of his directorial films. One was "Shorto", and another "Shondhi".

He will remain one of the best people in my life. He was extremely hardworking and dedicated. I felt extremely honoured that he respected me a lot as an artiste. We resided nearby, and now that he is no more, the fact that we cannot visit him anymore will always break my heart.

## 'Kill Him': Ananta Jalil to take BDT 40 lakhs

Ananta Jalil unveiled the first look and teaser of his much-awaited film "Kill Him" at its muhurat ceremony at BFDC on Saturday.

During the muhurat, Ananta Jalil revealed that he will be receiving 40 lakhs, while his wife Barsha will receive 10 lakhs

as a remuneration fee.

The director handed over the advance cheque to the actors in the ceremony. Mohammad Iqbal claims that no other actor in the Bangladeshi film industry has received such a high fee as of yet.

## Amitabh Bachchan, Rashmika Mandanna's GOODBYE poster revealed

Amitabh Bachchan has unveiled the first look of his family drama "Goodbye", starring Rashmika Mandanna in lead role. The actor is seen sporting a white Kurti and pajama, paired with a blue winter jacket, flying a kite while Rashmika Mandanna holds the thread reel for him.

Directed by Vikas Bahl, the film also stars Neena Gupta, Pavail Gulati and Sunil Grover in pivotal roles. The film is slated to be released in theatres on October 7.



Safa Kabir during her red carpet entrance.

## A night to remember

**Blender's Choice – The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards was a remarkable success, crowning the best in a platform that has grown rapidly within a short amount of time. The event, which took place at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) on Saturday, combined the best of celebrities and influencers to become one of the most star-studded gatherings in recent history. Here are some moments for you to savour.**



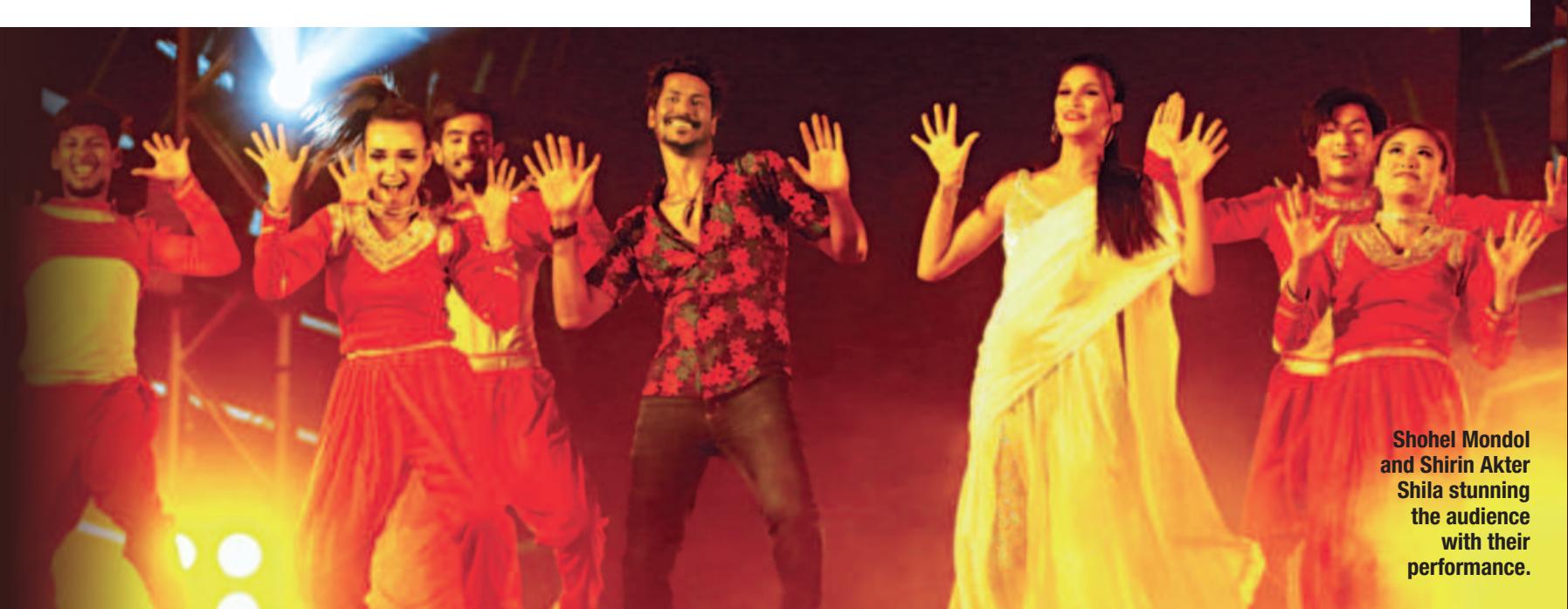
(L) Alifia Dance Company with the energetic opening act. (R) Naziba Basher, Yash Rohan, Sunerah Binte Kamal and Rafsan Sabab – the hosts for the event.



(L) The team of Coke Studio Bangla graced the event. (R) Arifin Shuvoo taking a video, after being intrigued by a set.



Chanchal Chowdhury showing off his Best Actor award.



Shohel Mondol and Shirin Akter Shila stunning the audience with their performance.