

A LIFE IN THE ARTS

The ever dedicated Dilara Zaman

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Ekushey Padak winning actress, Dilara Zaman has become a household name for her contributions to the acting industry. Despite her long years in the field, the veteran actress still continues to practice her craft, saying that acting is in her blood. She also added, "Even though I don't act as much anymore, I still try. Even when I'm at home, my heart is always at shooting, with everyone else."

Recently, the eminent actress took part in an hour-long drama made for the upcoming Independence Day. The drama has been directed by Arun Chowdhury, and also stars Abul Hayat.

Titled *Shesh Theke Shuru*,

Dilara Zaman informed us that the plot is a unique take on the Liberation War's history. In the drama, Abul Hayat and her play an elderly couple.

Speaking about her co-star, Dilara Zaman mentioned, "Abul Hayat is an amazing artiste, I have done many projects over my career with him. His devotion towards his craft is incomparable, not to mention the respect he has towards the art and his co-stars."

In response to the comparisons between her current work schedule and her schedules from when she was younger, the actress notes that she has no regrets, adding that she is satisfied with whatever she is currently doing.

Moreover, when asked about her feeling towards Liberation War movies, she said "Our Liberation War is a matter of pride, it is a story that always pulls on the audience's heartstrings. There's a different satisfaction in depicting stories from the Liberation War."

Besides the TV screen, Dilara Zaman has also been working in films. She had recently concluded shooting for the film, *Daymukti*. She also has another movie called *Shuborno Bhumi* in the pipeline, awaiting release.



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Oscar winner Michelle Yeoh wants to work with Aamir Khan, is a 'die-hard' fan

Oscar winning actress Michelle Yeoh made history when she became the first Asian actress to win the 'Best Actress' award at the Oscars for her outstanding performance in *Everything Everywhere All at Once*.

Recently, an old video resurfaced where the actress was seen showering heaps of praise on Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan. In the nine-year-old video, Yeoh stated that she is a huge fan of Aamir Khan and would love to work with him.

"Well, I am simply a huge fan of his work, and he is not only a fantastic actor, but also a humanitarian. And I hope to have the opportunity to work with him soon," added the actress.

Kartik Aaryan suffers serious injury during live performance

Kartik Aaryan was seriously injured during a live performance, and his leg was suspended in the air for about 30 minutes.

The *Shehzada* actor was performing his signature step from *Bhool Bhulaiya 2*, during an evening's closing act, when his ankle twisted and his leg froze in mid-air.

He twisted his ankle so badly that he couldn't return to the stage floor. Everyone thought Kartik was playing a joke on them. However, pretty soon people realised that he is indeed in serious pain.

Kartik was apparently frozen on stage for 20-30 minutes until medical help arrived. The medical team and physiotherapist examined his ankle and relieved his acute pain. He was then assisted in returning to the van.



NEWS

Hajj flights from May 21

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The ticket price has gone up this year, he added.

"Considering all these factors, it's not possible to reduce the hajj airfare."

The government has announced the most expensive hajj package in the history of Bangladesh this year. The package under the government or private hajj management is costing about Tk 7 lakh.

Leaders of Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh and Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh blame it on the unusual high airfare, saying the airline has increased the fare by 30 percent only to make extra profits.

Biman has fixed a record Tk 1.98 lakh airfare for the pilgrimage, an increase by around Tk 60,000 from last year.

Amid widespread criticism, the religious affairs ministry on Thursday asked Biman to reduce the fare at a "reasonable level" as it has received negative reactions from different quarters, including intended pilgrims and hajj agencies.

Criticising Biman for the high airfare, the parliamentary body on religious affairs ministry on Wednesday asked the national flag carrier to bring it down to Tk 1.50 lakh.

Keep watch on

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The guardians have a crucial role to play in creating the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Abdul Hai Sarker, chairman of IUB Board of Trustees, Tanweer Hasan, vice-chancellor of IUB, Prof Niaz Ahmed Khan, pro-vice-chancellor, and Salma Karim, vice chairman of the Education Science Technology and Cultural Development Trust, also spoke at the programme.

Sociology graduate Andrianna Bashar was the Valedictorian. The university conferred degrees to 1,459 students from the ceremony held at their campus in Bashundhara residential area in the capital.

Pro-BNP lawyers demand

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He said JAOP leaders and former SCBA presidents Zainul Abedin and AJ Mohammad Ali and former secretaries Md Bodruddoza Badal conveyed all the incidents regarding the SCBA election to the chief justice and sought redress.

Even journalists also narrated the police torture on them before the chief justice in black and white and sought redress, he said.

"But an atmosphere for holding of a fair election could not be ensured...It is said that the Awami League had to make its candidates victorious in a bar association election using police. It's a matter of shame," Ruhul added.

Earlier in the day, the ruling AL-backed lawyers led by SCBA's newly elected President Md Momtaz Uddin Fakir and Secretary Md Abdun Nur Dulal said a beautiful election was held in the presence of a huge number of lawyers amid an adverse situation and the results were announced at 3:00am on March 17.

At a press conference in Shafiqur Rahman Auditorium of SCBA, they also alleged that pro-BNP lawyers panel candidates Mahub and Ruhul led the attack on lawyers and are responsible for the vandalism on

Bizarre sand dunes

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The southward slant of the dunes suggests the winds at the time on the Red Planet may have been blowing the sand in that direction, scientists said.

But they are unsure what may have caused the dunes to appear almost perfectly circular.

"Sand dunes of many shapes and sizes are common on Mars. In this example, the dunes are almost perfectly circular, which is unusual," said the statement from the University of Arizona.

The new images were captured by the High Resolution Imaging Science Experiment (HiRISE) camera system onboard the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) spacecraft orbiting Mars.

MRO was launched by Nasa in 2005 to study Mars with the main goal of understanding the geology, climate and search for signs of water and potentially habitable environments

March 15.

Dulal in a statement said the pro-BNP lawyers and the party supporters are spreading falsehood regarding the SCBA polls.

The SCBA president and secretary regretted the police attack on journalists.

Meanwhile, the JAOP candidates yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court challenging the legality of the police assault on lawyers and journalists and forcing them and other pro-BNP lawyers to leave the polling centre on March 15, first day of the SCBA election.

They sought the court's directive on the Supreme Court registrar general to conduct a probe into the police action.

In the petition, they also requested the HC to order the authorities concerned not to allow police to enter the SCBA premises without permission from the SC administration.

Citing the petition, Ruhul told The Daily Star that police deprived them of their fundamental rights to participate in the SCBA election by torturing them and forcing them to leave the polling centre.

He added that hearing of the petition may be held today.

Charges framed against Khaleda

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The judge also dismissed the petition submitted on behalf of former Dhaka Club president Selim Bhuiyan seeking time for his non-appearance, cancelled his bail and issued an arrest warrant against him.

The charges were framed against him in absentia.

The judge scheduled May 23 to begin the trial of the case.

During yesterday's hearing, the judge expressed dissatisfaction over Khaleda's lawyers' repeated petitions for adjournment.

Three others, including former principal secretary to the former prime minister Kamal Uddin Siddique, have been absconding. The court issued arrest warrants against them as well.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case on December 9, 2007, accusing Khaleda and several others of abusing power to award a gas exploration and extraction deal to Canadian company Niko when she was prime minister between 2001 and 2006.

After an investigation, the ACC pressed charges against Khaleda and 10 others on May 5, 2008. The charge sheet accused them of causing a loss of Tk 13,777 crore to the state exchequer through the deal.

Three of the accused in the case - including former state minister for energy and BNP leader AKM Mosharraf Hossain and former law minister Moudud Ahmed - passed away earlier. Their names were dropped from the charge sheet.

Khaleda Zia, who stands as accused in 33 other cases, was earlier convicted in two other cases, including the Zia Orphanage Trust Graft case, with different jail terms.

She has been receiving treatment at her Gulshan home since she had gotten out of jail, following an executive order from the government.

Rohingya youth

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OC Mohammad Ali also said Mahub was vocal against criminal activities in the Rohingya camp and used to help the local administration with information.

They showed no IDs

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show their ID cards and wear their agency's vest jackets.

The suspect for whom the raid conducted was a garment factory worker named Abdus Selim. He confessed to a court yesterday that he had killed a woman with whom he had a relationship.

Two of Selim's neighbours said they saw the men in T-shirts and trousers trying to break into Selim's house through the collapsible gate shortly before midnight. When some locals came out and asked them who they were, the men did not reply.

"The strangers were not showing their ID cards and they were not wearing Rab vests," said a woman named Taslima Akhter. At one stage, they broke the lock of the gate and knocked on the door. Selim's parents wanted to know who they were, but the Rab men still did not disclose their identity.

After half an hour of door-knocking and argument with the locals, they showed their ID cards and said they came to arrest an accused, Taslima added.

Echoing Taslima, another witness named Nazma Akhter said after breaking the lock, they revealed their identity.

Rab-11 Commanding Officer Lt Col Tanvir Mahmud Pasha termed the claims baseless and said Rab members wore their vests and showed their ID cards.

He claimed that in a bid to snatch the accused, a large number of people attacked Rab men with sharp weapons and beat up Rab members. They also tried to snatch the weapons from Rab members. "We had no alternative but to fire back. But we tried to fire shots in the air so that nobody got shot," the Rab CO told

Putin makes first trip

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steel works, the last holdout of Ukrainian forces in the strategic port city.

Mariupol was left devastated after Moscow relentlessly bombarded the city on the shores of the Sea of Azov and subjected it to a brutal siege.

"The criminal always returns to the crime scene... the murderer of thousands of Mariupol families came to admire the ruins of the city and (its) graves. Cynicism and lack of

The Daily Star.

Wishing anonymity, two former and current Rab officers said as per their operation procedure, when a team in plainclothes goes to arrest a suspect, the members will show their IDs and wear their vests just before making the arrest.

As criminals flee if they see Rab members, the officers raid in plainclothes. After they are convinced that the accused or the suspect will not be able to flee, they wear their vest and display their ID cards.

Meanwhile, Rab filed a case against 21 named, including Abdus Selim and 70 to 80 unnamed people, accusing them of attacking the Rab members and attempting to snatch a suspect from custody.

In the case filed with Sonargaon Police Station, Rab officer Nasir Uddin said when the Rab team was attacked by a gang with firearms and sharp weapons, the members used their firearms in self-defence.

Later, an elderly man was found dead and a 50-year-old was injured, reads the case statement.

Rab yesterday showed five family members of deceased Abul Kashem arrested. The arrestees are Kashem's son Nazrul Islam, 40, nephews Hazrat Ali, 36, Jahangir Hossain, 42, and Amanullah, 38, and grandson Rubel, 31.

Fifteen other villagers who were picked up by Rab on Saturday were released after 18 hours.

The male members of most of the houses in the village fled the area fearing arrests.

Amina, wife of Kashem's son Nazrul, said her father-in-law was killed, husband arrested and the other male members had left home.

"I do not know whether we will mourn or file a case," she said.

remorse," Ukrainian presidential aide Mykhaylo Podolyak said on Twitter.

Ukraine's defence ministry said on Twitter Putin visited the city at night "as befits a thief".

The visit comes ahead of a trip to Moscow this week by Chinese President Xi Jinping, widely seen as a diplomatic coup for Putin.

Beijing, a strategic ally of Moscow, has touted the trip as a "visit for peace" as it seeks to play mediator in the Ukraine conflict.