

## 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 Bhumii* 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 from him, he said.

"But an atmosphere of holding of a fair election could not be ensured. No visible redress of the police action took place. It is our sorrow that the Awami League had to declare its candidates' victory even in a bar association election by 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 and the polls results were announced at 3:00am on March 17.

At a press conference in Shafiur 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 during the polls on March 15.

Dulal placed a written statement saying that the pro-BNP lawyers and the party supporters are spreading falsehood regarding the SCBA polls across the country and even the party

secretary general is spreading untrue and confusing information.

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.

The police entered the SCBA premises without taking permission from the SC administration, he said.

Ruhul, also a former SCBA secretary, said they applied to the HC to issue a rule asking the authorities concerned and the SC to explain why the police action on the SCBA premises on March 15 should not be declared illegal.

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

## One man wounded in 'shooting incident' in West Bank flashpoint

REUTERS, Jerusalem

Israel's ambulance service said one man had been seriously wounded when his vehicle came under fire in a flashpoint town in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday, without giving details on the identities of those involved.

The Israeli military said it received a report of a "shooting incident" in Huwara, a town that has been a focus of Israeli-Palestinian violence in recent weeks, without giving further details.

Israel's Magen David Adom ambulance service said it was treating one man who had been shot in the

upper part of his body.

The incident occurred as Israeli and Palestinian officials met in Egypt for talks aimed at calming a surge in violence.

Last month a Palestinian gunman killed two Israelis driving through Huwara, an attack that triggered a rampage by Jewish settlers who killed a Palestinian man and torched dozens of houses and cars.

The Israeli-occupied West Bank has seen a surge of confrontations in recent months, with near-daily military raids and escalating settler violence amid a spate of attacks by Palestinians.

## 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.

## 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 on the planet.

The spacecraft orbiting Mars is equipped with a range of scientific instruments, including the HiRISE camera as well as radar, spectrometers and other sensors.

The HiRISE is the largest and most powerful camera ever sent to another planet and is designed to capture incredibly detailed images of the Martian surface.

Using the high resolution camera, scientists continue to study the Red Planet's geology, mineralogy and topography in much greater detail.

The orbiter also continues to act as a communications bridge for other Mars missions to Earth.

It also recently discovered a strange geological structure on Mars resembling a bear's face.

Its camera spotted two craters that appear to make up the eyes of the "bear" and a V-shaped collapsed hill for its snout.

"This feature looks a bit like a bear's face," the University of Arizona noted in a statement.

## They showed no IDs

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T-shirts and trousers trying to break open the collapsible gate of Selim's house shortly before midnight. When some residents of the area came out of their homes and asked the men who they were, the men didn't reply.

"The strangers were not showing their ID card 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 residents, they showed their ID cards and said they came to arrest an accused, Taslima added. After that, no one stopped the Rab men and they left with Selim.

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

Rab II Commanding Officer Lt Col Tanvir Mahmud Pasha termed the claims baseless and said Rab members wore Rab jackets 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 weapons from Rab members. "We had no alternative but to fire back. But we tried to fire blanks so that nobody got shot," the Rab CO told 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 anyone, the members will show their

ID cards and wear their vests just before the arrest.

As criminals flee if they see Rab members, the officers go in plainclothes. After they are convinced that the accused or criminal will not be able to flee, they wear their jacket and display their ID cards. At the same time, their back up team in uniform who are kept at a certain distance rush to the scene with official vehicles.

Meanwhile, Rab filed a case against 21 named including Abdus Selim and 70 to 80 other unknown persons, accusing them of attempting to snatch an accused and attacking the Rab members.

In the case filed with Sonargaon Police Station, Rab II warrant officer Nasir Uddin said they came under attack while trying to arrest a murder accused.

Rab fired in self-defence when a gang attacked them with firearms and sharp weapons. Later, an elderly man was found shot to death and a 50-year-old injured, who was undergoing treatment at a hospital, reads the case statement.

The Rab yesterday also showed five family members of Abul Kashem arrested in the case.

Kashem's five arrested family members are his eldest son Nazrul Islam, 40, the deceased's three nephews - Hazrat Ali, 36, Jahangir Hossain, 42, and Amanullah, 38, and Md. Rubel, 31, son of a Kashem's nephew.

The five are among 20 villagers who were picked up by Rab members on Saturday. Of them 15 were released from Rab custody after 18 hours, leaving their family members to pass time in anxiety.

## 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

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.