



# 30 bands will play in unique pop-culture expo

## Dhaka Summer Con 2023 kicks off today

Organised by MediaQuest Bangladesh, the festival will consecutively run for three days from today (July 13) to July 15, at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB).

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

One of Bangladesh's biggest pop culture festivals, *Dhaka Summer Con 2023*, will start today in the capital.

Organised by MediaQuest Bangladesh, the festival will consecutively run for three days from today (July 13) to July 15, at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB).

Over the course of the three-day event, a total of 30 bands, will take center stage at Dhaka Summer Con 2023. The first day, July 13, will feature performances from eight exclusive bands, including Old Dhaka Diaries,



Firoze Jong, Indalo, Bangla Five, Level Five, Owned, Odd Signature, and Dads in the Park. The lineup also includes Hatirpool Sessions, Rayhan Islam Shuvro, amongst others.

On the second day (July 14), there will be captivating performances by Messianic Era,



Artcell

Naive, Encore, Subconscious, Aftermath, Shonar Bangla Circus, Ashes, Brahmaputra, Cryptic Fate, and Artcell. Additionally, a thrilling rap battle will ensue during the programme.

The final day of the festival, July 15, will showcase performances by AK Rahul, Apekhhik, Mechanix, Karnival, Black, Arbovirus, Avoid Rafa, and Warfaze. Attendees can also look forward to mind-blowing hip-hop performances by Black Zang and Shafayat.

The festival boasts an assortment of captivating events, such as the highly anticipated cosplay competition, engaging comic book exhibitions, immersive experience zones, dedicated kids' zones, exceptional performances from hip hop and K-pop artists, thrilling gaming activities, tantalizing food zones, and thought-provoking panel



Owned

discussions.

Tariqul Sumon, the initiator of Summer Con 2023 and co-founder of MediaQuest Bangladesh, told The Daily Star, "A lot of people have asked, why have such a huge-scale concert alongside a convention? First and foremost, we wanted Bangla music to have a platform, shared with the country's biggest Comicon. We wanted to adhere to international standards while organising such a huge festival."

The programme released its official theme song, titled *Escape*. Heavy metal band Mechanix collaborated with stars like Shishir Ahmed, Raef Al Hasan Rafa, and Black Zang to create the memorable pop culture anthem.

Tickets for the second and third day of the festival are available on the website of Get Set Rock.



## Salman Khan gives a shoutout to SRK's 'Jawan'

Salman Khan and Shah Rukh Khan have proven they are the best of friends. They broke box office records when Salman made a cameo appearance at SRK's spy thriller *Pathaan*, which became blockbuster worldwide.

While Salman didn't appear in Atlee's *Jawan*, he made sure to post a special shout-out to his dear buddy and longtime co-star SRK on his Facebook post.

"Absolutely loved *Jawan* prevue. Our *Pathaan* has become *Jawan*. Now this is the kind of a movie we should see in theatres only. I will for sure watch the first day screening of the movie. It was superb Shah Rukh Khan," read his post.

## Nuhash's 'Foreigners only' captures double at festival

Nuhash Humayun's post-colonial horror film, *Foreigners Only* has managed to captivate audiences of all ages since its release. Recently, the short film managed to capture two awards at the Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival. The first is the Audience Award for 'Best Short Film' and the second being the Youth Award for 'Best Short Film'.

Joyful at the achievement, Nuhash took to social media to share the news with his fans, writing, "Our post colonial horror film *Foreigners Only* just won Two awards at the same time! The Audience Award for Best Short Film and also The Youth Award for Best Short Film at the Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival. Thank you so much! *Foreigners Only* is historically the first Bangladeshi film commissioned by a US streaming platform."

# COUNTRYWIDE

## SHUVO SANDHYA BEACH

# 60,000 trees, 50 acres forestland disappeared in 5yrs

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

The Shuvo Sandhya Beach in Barguna's Taltali upazila has been facing serious erosion by the Bay for the last couple of years.

Due to continuous erosion by the Bay, nearly 50 acres of forestland close to the beach and about 60,000 trees have already been washed away in the last five year.

Meanwhile, due to destruction of the natural beauty of the beach, the number of tourists has decreased significantly in the recent years.

Mentionable, Shuvo Sandhya Beach was built on the shores of the Bay of Bengal in southwest of Taltali upazila headquarters in 2010.

Later, forest department planted over one lakh trees of different species, including Jhau, on 125 acres of land in an attempt to protect the nearly 6-kilometre-long beach from being washed away by the tidal

surges.

Within a short time, tourists from different parts of the country as well as adjacent areas started to come to the beach due to its attractive beauty.

But due to tidal surges caused by the rough waves of the sea, the beach area as well as vast forestland are gradually decreasing every year.

Since 2018, at least 60,000 trees on nearly 50 acres of forestland on the beach area have either been washed away or died due to continuous erosion by the Bay.

Moreover, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) built a brick road, which connects the beach, to facilitate tourists' movement, but a major portion of the road has already been lost to the sea.

During a recent visit to the beach area this correspondent saw hundreds of dead trees, uprooted by

the tidal surges, are lying scattered across the beach.

Abu Hena Mostafa, a student at Patuakhali Science and Technology University, said there were many types of trees, especially a beautiful Jhau garden, when he first came to the beach in 2015.

But, due to continuous erosion by the Bay the beach has lost its attraction now, he added.

Moniruzzaman, Range Officer at Taltali Forest Department, said afforestation was started by planting 12,000 Jhau trees in 2013-14 fiscal year.

Later, large gardens were developed by planting various mangrove species of trees along the beach in to prevent soil erosion.

But, the erosion has washed away at least 60,000 trees in the last five years.

He said they have a plan to plant 50,000 more trees on the beach.



Continuous erosion by the Bay has uprooted many trees at Shuvo Sandhya Beach in Barguna's Taltali upazila.

PHOTO: SOHRAB HOSSAIN