

# Rags-to-riches actor to start making arthouse films to win over tri-state residents

**"If they want sophisticated cinema, they'll get it. I'll do away with saving the damsel in distress; get ready to see a deconstruction of why the damsel has chosen this path of distress due to the socioeconomic pressures in society."**

CLASSIST CORRESPONDENT

Gone are the days of sending five gangsters flying with one kick, said film actor Sayam Chowdhury, popular among the tasteless poor.

From now on, Sayam will only be making arthouse films, catering to the refined palate of Gulshan, Banani and Baridhara residents.

"If they want sophisticated cinema, they'll get it. I'll do away with saving the damsel in distress; get ready to see a deconstruction of why the damsel has chosen this path of distress due to the socioeconomic pressures in society," he said.

After making his film debut with Mar Chokka in 2017, Sayam witnessed overwhelming fame, thanks to people who can't afford to live in the tri-state.

According to surveys, these uncouth residents only want to see the hero beat up bad guys and get the girl, not some vague ending that forces viewers to gaslight themselves into thinking how thought-provoking it was and say "that's cinema".

Sayam has already contacted A24, the American company specialising in pretentious indie films. "I've proposed making an 'eat-the-rich' movie incorporating my journey of using my mountain of raunchy music videos to tackle Gulshan elites."

The company is yet to respond.

Asked why he took this decision, he said, "I now want to be part of the country's self-congratulatory inner circle of intellectuals and money-launderers. While my Korail slum supporters have my back, they're just pebbles in front of a rich kid speeding in Banani. So, I have abandoned them for what they are -- roadkill."

His movies will no longer hit theatres; they will only go to niche film festivals that give very specific awards, like "Best Cinematography in Baridhara", he added.

Meanwhile, tri-state residents denounced classism and celebrated the diversity of culture in Bangladesh, on record. They said they don't want Sayam to change for anyone, and that would be a true victory.

Off the record, they said, "Eww".



PHOTO: YANA HURSKA

This person is standing in front of a house, that has art displayed on it. Arthouse.

## Actor-politician Alan: Man of Courage, beaten for filming films

POLITICAL REPORTER NUT BOLTU

Politics is a difficult subject to master mostly because it is not offered as a Master's degree subject ... you know, the kind of real politics that end up with two ministers on a talk show slapping each other. Or members of parliament in office kick boxing each other. Or political aspirants fighting each other at voting centres.

Last week we saw actor turned politician Alan: Man of Courage visit a voting centre to support his constituency and kiss some bald babies' heads for good luck. It did not turn out very well mostly because babies often throw up. Alan: Man of Courage is known for his unorthodox publicity campaigns which include TikTok and filming films.

He was seen posing with many of his fans trying to promote his TikTok video about friendship. At one point some youth, mostly Generation Alpha (born after 2010), asked him to politely GTFO (our dictionary says it means Grow The Fruits Organically). They told him they do not want films in their voting centre.

"We don't like people filming around. He can go film himself," said an irate young junior associate enforcer of the party.

Some say the Gen Alpha people thought Alan: Man of Courage was a fake because what the heck are films? Gen Alpha were born too late to know the term "films". They assume it is another F word, which it frankly is. An altercation broke out. They beat the actor-politician severely, driving him out of the centre. It is unclear what the main issue was.

We contacted Alan: Man of Courage for a comment. When asked how he felt right now, he responded in a gruff tone, "I'm Batman."

When asked to clarify further, he told us he is vengeance. Is he no longer Man of Courage? Or is he Man of Concussion?

Some netizens took to the worldwide internet web services to voice their opinions from a safe distance.

"Why are we so worried about an actor?" stated new Threads user Sinseer Bayezid.

"They did good, mm'kay. Donald Trump, Arnold Be Back and Ronald Reagan were actors who became politicians. We don't want more. What if people like Alan: Man of Courage are given a chance? What if they do something with that chance? I'm not easy for that," stated a fearful Farhana Kairen.

It turns out no one is sure what they are doing and no one knows why we are afraid. But we must fight what we are afraid of, especially if what we fear is small and can be pummelled to submission.



Representational image of a feeling. PHOTO: HONG SHANGU

## Accusing Threads of copying Twitter, Elon Musk threatens to block thoroughfares



Elon Musk seen here watching the number of Threads users going up.

PHOTO: REUTERS

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

"If he cannot make something original, why doesn't he just leave this country and go to China?" Elon Musk said in acute rage while alleging that Mark Zuckerberg copied his Twitter to make Threads.

Threads has been threatening Elon Musk since it was launched by Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of Meta, the organisation that over the years has eased online relationships and given birth to numerous social media influencers.

Unfortunately for Musk, neither his accusation nor his tears could thwart Threads' growth at an unprecedented rate, believed to have crossed 100 million users within a week.

With so many things going around in Elon Musk's mind, he finally launched a direct threat to the nation just like Kim Jong Un does to the USA. "If he doesn't stop, I will bring my people [Twitter users] by bus, truck, jeep from different corners of the world and block the roads to bring justice."

Such an idea did not come to Musk abruptly; rather, brother, it was well planned and thought out. Musk is a good observer who has surely been observing circumstances, mostly the rallies that block public roads unjustly to ensure proper justice.

**Unfortunately for Musk, neither his accusation nor his tears could thwart Threads' growth at an unprecedented rate, believed to have crossed 100 million users within a week.**

"To bring justice, you need public attention and no one will bother to give their precious attention to your demand unless you block their vehicles and make them victims of the very popular yet unbearable traffic jam."

Confronting Elon Musk, our Satireday correspondent asked him why he chose Chapasthan despite being a US citizen, he said, "Well, as I said earlier, the roads of New York or Washington DC will bring you money, but the roads of Chapasthan will bring you justice."

Despite all the controversies and war of words, Chapasthan Threads users seemed unbothered and even uninterested about what was going on. Just after signing up in Threads, some started to sell sarees, some shared their broken stories that were shared on Facebook 100 times previously and some were claiming to have been facing problems as they were desperately seeking ways to send messages to unknown girls.

However, our correspondent did not forget to take the opinion of Mark Zuckerberg, an alleged alien operated by some unknown AI models. When asked what he thought about Elon Musk's move, he said, "Let him block the road. My people [Facebook & Instagram users] are ready to entertain them with bamboo in hands and helmets on heads."

Poor man tries to pull himself up by his bootstraps, boots fall apart

JEAN PAUL SATIRE

Intriguing events unravelled last Tuesday, as Azib o-Garib, Minister for Poverty, visited a slum in the capital's Dogargaon area.

While speaking to an elderly destitute man about his sufferings, the minister suggested the man pull himself up by his bootstraps, as the society and government can only do so much to protect poor people from starvation.

But as the poor old man, who said his name was Badshah Miya, bent down and tried to pull on the straps of the ancient looking pair of boots he was wearing, the boots disintegrated in his hands.

The seams fell apart and the brittle old leather cracked. In fact, the old man's foot seemed to go through the boots as the sole collapsed under his dirty feet and the rest of the boots came away with his hands.

A roll of laughter spread throughout the throng of press and bystanders present at the scene, as the minister tried to hide his embarrassment.

Badshah Miya, however, was left seething.

"I have had this pair of boots since 1978. In fact, this is my only pair of footwear. I would never have pulled on my bootstraps unless the minister told me to, but now I have no shoes. The minister said he'll pay for a new pair of shoes for me, but what about the emotional price of losing an old pair of boots?" he said.

The minister blamed the opposition for delivering low quality boots to poor people.

**The seams fell apart and the brittle old leather cracked. In fact, the old man's foot seemed to go through the boots as the sole collapsed under his dirty feet and the rest of the boots came away with his hands.**

"This was a concerted effort by the opposition to embarrass the current government. I have spoken to Badshah Miya and he has told me this boot was given to him by opposition activists," the minister said. However, Badshah Miya denies this.

The minister then shared a plan to mitigate this situation.

"I'm personally used to wearing Dr. Martens or Timberlands at the very least, so I didn't expect poor people's boots to be so weak in structure. This only goes to show how much we still have to do to elevate the unfortunate in our society. We have planned to purchase a million pairs of boots from Doc Martens and distribute them among the poor. A team of 98 observers from the ministry and my family will travel to England to visit Dr. Martens factories and to make sure the boots are up to the mark in terms of quality," he informed the press.

It is expected that a budget that could build at least 139 primary schools will be allocated at the cabinet meeting next week to fast-track this project.



PHOTO: OZIEL GOMEZ

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