

## Women on Wheel empowering women in Bangladesh's automotive scene

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The motivation to start this community of strong independent women drivers started off from a scenario that should be familiar with many women here. The need to feel safe on the road. Whether it's themselves driving or taking other forms of transport, women usually aren't as comfortable as you'd think! Every day is an uphill battle of sorts just to go from point A to B and it can take a toll on women.

Kazi Farhana, founder of WoW Bangladesh, recalled her time during COVID where she had to drive herself to her workplace as every mode of transport was unavailable at the time. "My fear of losing my job made me overcome my previous fear of driving," said Farhana. As she felt more confident driving regularly, the road ahead had many hurdles, such as a lack of technical expertise, social unacceptability, sledging

on the side of the road, and unwanted disapproval of bystanders.

"Transportation is a nightmare for women in our country, and public transportation is not always safe for them. For women who have the means, driving their own vehicle is a safe and reliable mode of transportation. Women on Wheel is a support system for female drivers or potential women drivers. The philosophy behind our group is that strong women lift and encourage strong women," expressed Farhana.

This is what inspired her to open a community as these are everyday situations a woman driver has to go through. She sought out other women online and

together with her friends, she founded WoW. The intention was to create an inclusive community of women who helped

each other regarding these issues and come to a solution. "The philosophy behind our group was that strong women lift and encourage strong women," stated Farhana.

Women on Wheel assists female drivers. Whether it be technical queries, suggestions for buying cars and insurances, emergency support for drivers and driver meetups to discuss more opportunities for these ladies to encapsulate on. They have a myriad of services offered to women including driving lessons, training women to be adept in mechanics, trainers, and service executives. They even provide



expert assistance for emergency support on the road via a helpline and have full-fledged workshops and garages led and staffed by women for the usual repair works.

Their goals for the future are ambitious to say the least, as they want to increase the awareness among society by taking affirmative action. They are progressing one step at a time and want to train women so that they can be hired in respectable positions such as in BRTA or where women could become drivers themselves or trainee officers too. Their long-term goal is to set up an institution where they can offer proper courses with proper degrees and diplomas to women seeking to enter the automotive field and to establish policies that benefit women in the automobile industry.

By Abdul Warith Khan.  
Photo: WoW Bangladesh

## HOROSCOPE



**ARIES**  
(MAR. 21-APR. 20)

Be discreet with your personal information. Reach out if you want help. Concentrate on moneymaking ventures. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



**TAURUS**  
(APR. 21-MAY 21)

Find ways to relieve tension. Take time to reflect on your position. Controlling your emotions will be difficult this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



**GEMINI**  
(MAY 22-JUN. 21)

You might not get things your way. Put effort into making valuable connections. Avoid spending more than you can afford. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



**CANCER**  
(JUN. 22-JUL. 22)

Problems in your relationship will cause minor ailments. Get involved in environmental issues. Get out and mingle. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



**LEO**  
(JUL. 23-AUG. 22)

Travel will be entertaining. Put in overtime if you have to. Try to be understanding. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



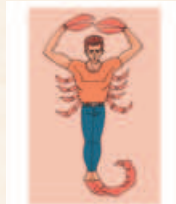
**VIRGO**  
(AUG. 23-SEP. 23)

Consider adding physical exercises to your schedule. Make your partner feel wanted. Investing in your residence will be a good move. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



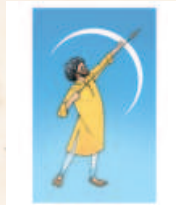
**LIBRA**  
(SEP. 24-OCT. 23)

Friends may not understand your situation. Dream a little this week. Reconsider your life goals. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.



**SCORPIO**  
(OCT. 24-NOV. 21)

Your high energy will let you to complete any difficult task. Don't press your luck with loved ones. Travel will be refreshing. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

You might be in low spirits. New job opportunities may present themselves. Be discreet about your personal life. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.



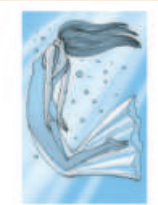
**CAPRICORN**  
(DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

Make any necessary changes this week. You can make money with some ingenuity. Don't be overly generous. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.



**AQUARIUS**  
(JAN. 21-FEB. 19)

Don't overspend on others. Be careful if a friend asks for advice. Take time to explain your intentions to loved ones. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.



**PISCES**  
(FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

Don't miss out on the big picture. Your actions at work will be appreciated. Your original ideas can make some extra money. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

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ঐতিহ্যের আর এক নাম আধুনিকতা  
ঠিক যেমন রূপচর্চায় আভিজাত্য ঘাটেই

**স্যান্ডালিনা**  
সোপ

রূপচর্চায় আভিজাত্য...

KOHINOOR CHEMICAL