



Sharmili Ahmed



Azizur Rahman



Gazi Mazharul Islam



Alam Khan



Masum Aziz

STARS WE LOST IN 2022

We have lost many of our beloved celebrities over the past years, but this year has been especially tragic, given how many of our brightest stars we will miss. While their absence saddens us, their memories and contributions are vivid in our minds.

ZAHID AKBAR

As we approach the New Year, The Daily Star takes a moment to mourn the stars we lost in 2022.

Gazi Mazharul Anwar

Born in 1943 in Cumilla's Taleshwar village, Gazi Mazharul Anwar started writing for Radio Pakistan in 1964. For almost six decades, he penned, through his songs, stories of patriotism, war, love and sacrifice.

His work in Bangla cinema began with the film *Ayna O Oboshishito* by legendary director Subhash Dutta.

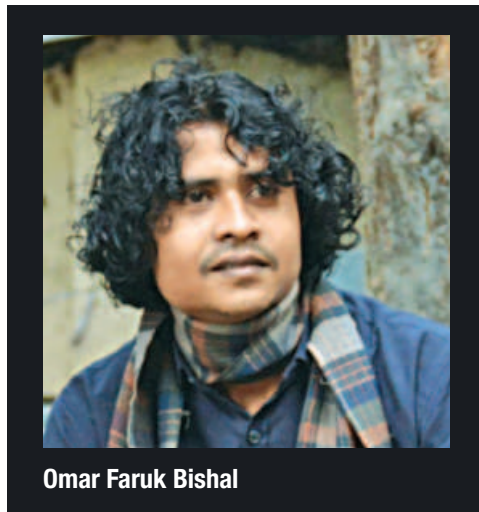
He passed away on September 4.

Alam Khan

Alam Khan's musical talents were apparent from an early age, when he created the music for *Nirbil Sondhaye Dekha Hole Dujonaye*, which was written by his friend Maksudur Rahman.

Khan began his career working with composers like Robin Ghosh, Altaf Mahmud, and Satya Shaha, and his first solo work was in the 1970 film *Kanch Kata Heere*. The song *O Re Neel Doriya* brought him to the spotlight, and he went on to win National Film Awards for his work in films.

He was also the man responsible for bringing talents like Ferdous Wahid, Andrew Kishore, and Sheikh Ishtiaq into the foray of



Omar Faruk Bishal

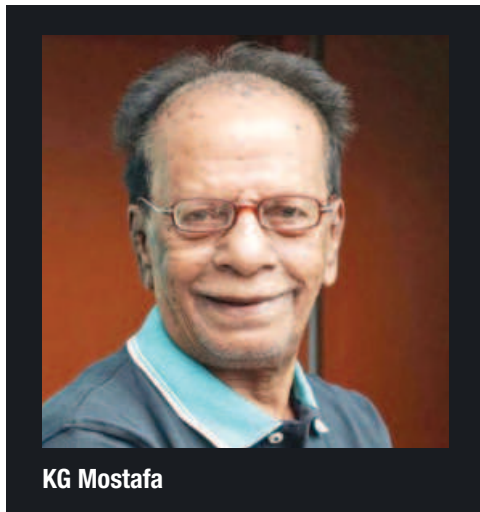
playback singing.

He breathed his last on July 8.

Sharmili Ahmed

Sharmili Ahmed is legend of Bangladeshi cinema, having worked in almost 400 films and 150 television projects.

At the age of four, Sharmili Ahmed started acting on stage. She started her career on radio in 1962, on film in 1964 and on television in 1968. She was a part of *Dompoti*, the first drama serial in the history of Bangladesh



KG Mostafa

television.

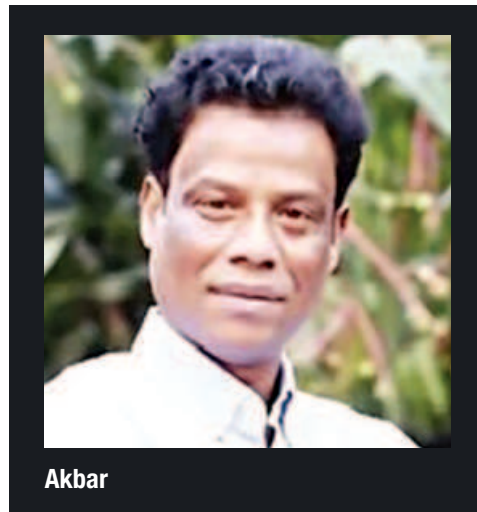
Sharmili Ahmed worked in over 400 films and 150 television projects.

She passed away on July 8.

Masum Aziz

Ekushey Padak-winning actor and screenplay writer Masum Aziz breathed his last on October 17.

The veteran actor was a renowned name on stage, on television, and in films. He was suffering from cancer, and cardiac issues for



Akbar

a long time.

Masum Aziz started his journey as an actor in 1972. Alongside commendable stage performances, he has been honoured with the National Film Award for his performance in *Ghani* in 2006.

KG Mostafa

KG Mostafa is known for his timeless songs including *Tomare Legeche Eto Je Bhalo* in the movie *Rajdhanir Booke* and *Ainate Oi Mukh Dekhbe Jokhon* in the film

Nacher Putul.

He was born on July 1, 1937, at Begumganj in Noakhali. He joined the Department of Films and Publications in 1976 and became senior editor before retiring in 1996.

Azizur Rahman

Legendary film director Azizur Rahman passed away on March 15 in Canada. He mostly known for his classic film, *Chhuti Ghonta*.

Azizur Rahman first worked as an assistant to director Ehtesham in 1958 for the film *Ye Desh Tomar Amar*. His first film *Sajful Mulok Badiuzzaman* was released in 1967.

Akbar

Singer Akbar Ali Gazi, known for his performance in the popular show *Ityadi*, breathed his last on November 13.

Akbar rose to fame with his song *Tomar Haat Pakhar Batashe* at the programme *Ityadi*, hosted by Hanif Sanket. He used to be a rickshaw puller in the town of Jashore before that.

Omar Faruk Bishal

Lyricist and journalist Omar Faruk Bishal was killed in a road accident on November 7. He penned songs titled, *Adha, Sholpo Kothar Golpo* and *Alo Nei Alo Te*. Apart from this, he also penned songs for Indian singers Anupam Roy and Srikanto Acharya.

NEWS

AL to keep its presence

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major locations from the morning. We will also hold two rallies tomorrow [today]."

The unit would hold the rallies at Jatrabari intersection and in front of AL party office on Bangabandhu Avenue after Juma prayers.

Leaders and activists of the AL unit and different associate bodies and pro-AL organisations would be on the streets of Gulistan, Shahbagh, Ramna, and Jatrabari, party insiders said.

Besides, leaders and activists of Dhaka city (north) unit would take position and hold brief rallies at Uttara, Shyamoli, Gabtoli, Mirpur-10, Farmgate, Mohakhali, and Badda-Rampura.

Senior AL leaders will address the rallies, said a leader of Dhaka north.

Meanwhile, AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader, also road transport and bridges minister, said, "The Awami League will keep a close eye

on the day of BNP's mass procession."

In reply to a query at his secretariat office yesterday, he said BNP men would resort to violence in the name of the procession.

Sheikh Bazlur Rahman, president of Dhaka city (north) unit AL, told The Daily Star, "We will monitor them and give them a fitting reply if they try to create any instability."

The party insiders said the AL leadership thinks that the BNP's strategy is to gather a large number of people in their next political programmes.

They also think the BNP could successfully hold their divisional rallies as the AL showed some flexibility. This helped boost the confidence of BNP men, they said.

Wishing anonymity, a senior AL leader told this newspaper that from now on, the ruling party would not give the BNP any scope to hold a programme by gathering a large number of people.

Commercial

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docking permission in Bangladesh, Shawkat said it was a matter of the foreign ministry.

"They will be able to address this issue better," he added.

Nasrul said, "The work on the transmission line was delayed due to Covid-19 and the Russia-Ukraine war."

"However, the construction of the transmission line to connect the power plant to the national grid is now going on with coordinated efforts," he added.

The Engineering Division of Russia's Rosatom State Corporation is implementing the Rooppur project as the general designer and contractor.

The project will host two nuclear power units, each with 1,200MW of capacity.

The latest generation 3+ Russian VVER 1200 reactor will be used for power generation, which complies with all international safety requirements.

the 20th century.

With his winning smile and an aw-shucks humility that charmed legions of fans, he was better known than many Hollywood stars, popes or presidents - many if not most of whom he met during a six-decade-long career as player and corporate pitchman.

He credited his one-of-a-kind mix of talent, creative genius and technical skill to a youth spent playing pick-up games in small-town Brazil, often using grapefruit or wadded-up rags because his family could not afford a real ball.

Pele was named "Athlete of the Century" by the International Olympic Committee, co-"Football Player of the Century" by world soccer body FIFA, and a "national treasure" by Brazil's government.

His celebrity was often overwhelming. Grown adults broke down crying in his presence with regularity. As a player, souvenir-seeking fans often rushed the field following games and tore off his shorts, socks and even underwear.

His house in Brazil was less than a mile from a beach, but he didn't go there for some two decades because of fear of crowds.

BNP embarks on simultaneous movement

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office yesterday, BNP Vice-Chairman Prof AZM Zahid Hossain said their mass procession would be held peacefully.

"Our party leaders and activists will gather in front of the Nayapaltan office and bring out the procession at 2:00pm," he said.

Zahid said their procession will end at Nayapaltan after parading different roads through Bijoyagar, Kakrail, Shantinagar,

Malibagh and Moghbazar intersections.

In separate releases, Ganatantra Mancha said they would start the procession from the Jatiya Press Club at 11:00am, the 12 party alliance from Fakirapool Water Tank area at 2:30pm, Jatiyatabadi Samamona Jote from Purana Paltan intersection at 2:30pm, LDP from FDC intersection from 2:30pm and Jamaat from Baitul Mukarram Mosque's North Gate.

Jamaat said a delegation of the party went to Dhaka Metropolitan Police seeking permission for the procession.

The BNP was supposed to hold a mass procession programme in all divisional cities and district towns on December 24.

However, due to the national council of the ruling Awami League on the same day, the BNP rescheduled the programme for December 30.

AL ends it on a high note

FROM PAGE 1

rally attended by a few lakh people. This was a morale boost for partymen who had to witness huge rallies of the BNP.

The AL is going to end the year on a high after completing its 22nd triennial conference on December 24 that elected Hasina party president for the 10th consecutive time, and the grand openings of Padma Bridge and metro rail which the AL promised to the nation.

PROBLEMS IT FACED

The Awami League started 2022 badly.

It suffered blow after blow for failing to manage party rebels in union parishad polls, which the BNP and other major political parties boycotted.

The Cumilla City Corporation election, held in June, brought some relief with an AL-backed mayor candidate winning for the first time there.

However, at the Rangpur city polls this week, AL's mayor candidate suffered a humiliating defeat, which cost her her security deposit.

Throughout the year, as AL stepped on the gas on organisational activities, ugly infighting came to the fore with deadly clashes especially ahead of local government polls.

At least 100 incidents of infighting were recorded between January and November that claimed the lives of 12 people and left 1,340 people injured, according to Ain o Salish Kendra.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

According to party insiders, the AL next year will focus on countering the opposition's anti-government agitations, holding campaign rallies, and organisational activities ahead of

the national polls.

The AL formed the 14-party alliance in 2005 and won the national election in 2008, 2014, and 2018 but relations with its partners suffered as the allies were given hardly any space in the government and were largely ignored.

Next year, the AL will hold talks with like-minded leftist and some moderate Islamist parties as it plans to expand its electoral alliance and narrow the gap between its partners in the 14-party alliance.

The new central committee of AL, formed on December 24, will formally start its organisational activities on January 4 by placing floral wreaths at the tomb of the Father of the Nation at Tungipara.

Talking to The Daily Star, AL Joint General Secretary Bahauddin Nasim said their main aim for next year is to make the party stronger to face the national polls.

He also said AL activists across the country will make door-to-door visits and highlight the government's achievements, like successes in dealing with the pandemic and openings of the Padma Bridge and Metro rail.

The ruling party will start its activities and electioneering for the beginning of the new year, sources said.

Next year, AL supremo Hasina will continue to participate in election rallies. She is scheduled to join a rally in Rajshahi on February 4.

Hasina started her campaign rallies in Jessore on November 25. She joined a rally in Chattogram on December 4 and another one in Cox's Bazar on December 7. In every rally, she urged people to vote for "Boat".

Licence renewal

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number of CSOs in the country.

The study found that there are more than 58,000 organisations registered under the Department of Social Services, more than 15,000 under the Department of Women Affairs, 9,000 trade unions, and 2,261 Bangladeshi entities under the NGO Affairs Bureau.

1 killed as train hits

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member committee to investigate the accident, he added.

Meanwhile, traffic movement on Bangabandhu bridge was halted for hours due to dense fog between Wednesday night and yesterday morning.

Three vehicles collided on the bridge in poor visibility.

However, none was hurt.

Hearing aids

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those who are at the greatest risk and providing early interventions.

In the new research review, published recently in the journal *JAMA Neurology*, scientists analysed eight long-term studies of hard-of-hearing adults, that had over 126,000 participants, to find the long-term association between hearing aid use and cognitive decline.

Researchers like NUS's Brian Sheng Yep Yeo found the use of these implants by the participants was linked to a nearly 20 per cent reduction in the risk of dementia and cognitive decline over a duration of 2-25 years.