



Shahiduzzaman Selim



Afsana Mimi



Intekhab Dinar

'IF I WERE IN POWER'

Celebrities share their ideas for a better Bangladesh

SHARMIN JOYA

After five years, the 12th national election is taking place in Bangladesh today. The entire country is talking about the implications of this momentous event today. In films, televisions and web projects, we see political personalities portrayed by several artistes. We reached out to five celebrities who have donned such roles on-screen, and asked if they were genuine politicians, and what would be their foremost focus in implementing the changes.

'I would bank on my theatre experience for leadership': Tariq Anam Khan
[Tariq Anam Khan portrayed Hasan Haider, a cutthroat political figure in Saikat Nasir's 'Desha: The Leader']

I have donned the role of a politician many a-times, and this particular character is a negative one. Thus, that cannot be a real-life idol for anyone! However, if I were in the position of holding power, I would ensure



Tariq Anam Khan PHOTOS: COLLECTED

the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and he has always been a major influence in building up my thoughts as a leader.

I would try to control price hikes: Shahiduzzaman Selim
[Shahiduzzaman Selim last appeared as a political character in Topu Khan's 'Leader: Amie Bangladesh']

Most of the roles of leaders I have played on the screen are negative, who want to destroy the country, and are corrupted. These projects highlighted how they were finally defeated and the country has been saved by a saviour. However, in *Leader: Amie Bangladesh*, I play the role of a home minister, who is a positive leader. Moreover, these are fictitious characters. If I were a leader in reality, I would want to focus on the financial development of the country, which would control the unrestrained price hikes and ensure the rights of the citizens, in particular. As a representative of the people, I would try to bring discipline to people, which I believe is possible through social awareness.

I would educate people culturally: Afsana Mimi
[Afsana Mimi donned the role of a political leader in Ashfaque Nipun's web series 'Mohanagar 2']

When I was younger, I had a wish to become a political figure. However, that never happened, yet, if, at any point, I get the chance to become one, I would work for the people fearlessly. At the same time, I would do everything possible that is required for the state. I believe that to bring a change, we need pure intentions -- and that can be done by anybody, you, me, or anyone out there. Also, I would want to help people in becoming culturally educated, the lack of which is hurting us.

I would wage a war on addiction: Rosey Siddique

[Rosey Siddique portrayed a morally dubious political leader in Raihan Rafi's 'Poran']

"As an ordinary citizen, I see the crisis of the general people on a daily basis. This is painful. If I were in such a position where I could bring a change, I would focus mainly on two things. I would ensure that no one has access to illegal drugs, which is destructive for the upcoming generation. I think this is very easy to stop, because all of these come through illegal ways, and to control this, neither the government nor the police administration will need to provide extra effort, they just have to be honest about their work. It is an open secret that such drug addiction culture has also infected the showbiz industry as well.

I also want to help people reduce their addiction to mobile phones, which leads them to lose their concentration and resilience, and makes them restless as well. We rarely see this generation reading books; I find it very alarming. I would definitely look after the policies made by these phone and telecom companies that is harmful to the young generation.

I would secure the lives of ordinary citizens: Intekhab Dinar

[Intekhab Dinar played the character of a political leader in multiple projects in his career -- amongst them are Raihan Rafi's 'Khachar Bhitore Ochin Pakhi' and Syed Ahmed Shawkil's 'Taqdeer' where he plays Saymon Chairman]

I would want to ensure a peaceful sleep for each citizen-- be it connected with their life security, their right to speak or a simple smile that comes from not being financially pressured to cope with a certain 'standard' of livelihood.

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Rosey Siddique

the voting rights of people first-hand. Having said that, I can share my personal experience of having a leadership qualities as a theatre artiste. With that understanding, I can say that you can never bring a change single-handedly, it requires unity. Coming back to the political notion, I would always want to keep reminding myself that my decisions would not make everybody happy, yet, I have to think on a bigger canvas-- what is more important for the country's welfare. A real leader is always alone, and he must go on. When I was a student of 9th grade, since then I have been following

'Speed Racer' actor Christian Oliver and two daughters killed in plane crash

Christian Oliver, renowned for his notable performances in films such as *Speed Racer* and *Valkyrie*, tragically passed away on Thursday. The incident occurred when the small plane he was traveling in crashed into the waters off the coast of a Caribbean island, resulting in the loss of Oliver, aged 51, and his two young daughters. The plane's owner and pilot, Robert Sachs, also lost his life in the tragic crash, as reported by Deadline.



Authorities reported that the single-engine aircraft crashed on Thursday afternoon while en route to neighboring St Lucia. The tragic incident occurred after the plane took off from JF Mitchell Airport in Bequia, a small island in the Caribbean nation of St Vincent and the Grenadines. Amongst the deceased were Christian Oliver's daughters-- Madita, aged 12, and Annik, aged 10.

Christian Oliver, a German-born actor, joined forces with Steven Soderbergh in *The Good German*, where he starred alongside Cate Blanchett and George Clooney. Additionally, he collaborated with Brian Singer and Tom Cruise on *Valkyrie* and with the Wachowskis on *Speed Racer* in 2008. Oliver's television credits include *Saved by the Bell: The New Class*. His most recent film contribution was in *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*.

Shabnur depicts multiple personas for 'Rongona's' first look

Celebrated actress Shabnur is finally making a comeback to the film industry. In her statement last week, she confirmed her role in the movie *Rongona*, marking her return to the screen. The first-look poster of the film has also been unveiled, revealing Shabnur's teary eyes through a gap in a mask covering her face.

The poster also features two additional looks of Shabnur. In one, she holds a pistol, and in the other, she is seen holding a small bouquet.

The former leading actress had been searching for the ideal screenplay which she found in *Rongona*. Having recently returned from Australia, she is set to star in this film, with Arafat Hossain as the director.

The film creators have stated that *Rongona* will narrate a tale of bloodshed related to the country and the emotions within your heart.



Shabnur has been involved with the movie for quite some time and is currently gearing up for the shooting phase. If all goes according to plan, production will commence by the end of February. The film is slated for release in theatres on one of the two Eid occasions.

Golden Globe Awards comeback with new faces and bold changes

The prestigious Golden Globe Awards return today with a star-studded lineup of presenters, a new broadcast home, and significant behind-the-scenes changes. The ceremony promises to kick off the awards season in style, providing a glimpse into the frontrunners for this year's top honours.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The Golden Globes have pulled out all the stops this year with an impressive list of presenters. Media mogul Oprah Winfrey, international sensation Dua Lipa, acclaimed actor Ben Affleck, and martial arts icon Michelle Yeoh are just a few of the luminaries who will grace the stage. Rounding out the stacked list of presenters for the ceremony also includes Jon Batiste, Jared Leto, and Andra Day.

Viewers in the United States can catch the live broadcast from the Beverly Hilton Hotel starting at 8:00pm Eastern Time (6:30am IST). For those on the West Coast, the show will air at 5:00pm. A notable lead-in is expected as CBS airs an NFL game just before the Golden Globes.

While CBS promises coverage on its app and Paramount, there's a catch -- only Paramount subscribers with the Showtime add-on will have access to the live broadcast. Others will need to wait until Monday to stream the event.

This year marks the first major broadcast of the awards season, now housed on CBS. However, the road to this point has been tumultuous. A Los Angeles Times report in 2021 revealed the lack of diversity within the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), the organisation responsible for the Golden Globes.



Golden Globe



Golden Globes host Jo Koy

The subsequent fallout led to boycotts, the refusal by NBC to air the 2022 ceremony, and a series of reforms within the HFPA. In a groundbreaking move, billionaire Todd Boehly took over and reinvented the Golden

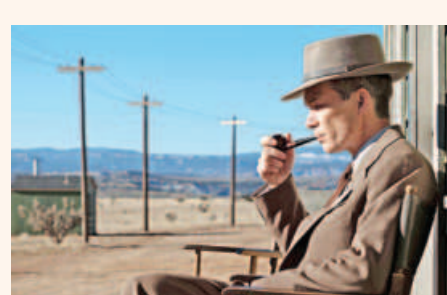


Succession



Barbie

Globes as a for-profit entity, acquiring the HFPA's assets. A new award for stand-up comedy has been introduced this year, with notable comedians Chris Rock, Amy Schumer, and



Oppenheimer

former Globes host Ricky Gervais among the nominees. Comedian Jo Koy, known for his infectious energy and relatable humour, will be at the helm as this year's host. In an

interview with The Associated Press, Koy expressed his commitment to bringing his unique style to the Globes, promising to make fun of himself and keep the audience entertained.

The Golden Globes maintain their tradition of splitting the top film categories, with Greta Gerwig's *Barbie* and Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer* creating a buzz.

Succession dominates the television category with nine nominations, followed by Hulu's *The Bear*. The awards now boast a more diverse group of over 300 voters from around the world.

Once a high-profile awards season broadcast, the Golden Globes faced a crisis in recent years following controversies surrounding its small, influential voting body and a lack of diversity. The show, renowned for its irreverent tone and star-studded attendance, has undergone significant changes in an effort to restore its reputation and relevance.

The Golden Globe Awards have historically been a crucial platform for Oscar hopefuls, celebrating achievements in both film and television. As the revamped ceremony unfolds on Sunday, the industry and viewers alike eagerly await the outcome of these transformations and the recognition of outstanding talent in the world of entertainment.