

IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

Showbiz stars interpret decades of love



Ferdousi Mazumder with Ramendu Majumdar

PHOTOS: STAR & COLLECTED



Shirin Hayat with Abul Hayat



Abida Sultana with Rafiqul Alam



Zeenat Hakim with Azizul Hakim

The world of the entertainment industry might witness a flurry of headlines about celebrity breakups, showcasing the public dissolution of once seemingly strong romances. However, amidst this turbulence, there remain preeminent examples of enduring relationships that withstand the test of time. Several showbiz couples have rather shared numerous years, while the standards of their unity have been highlighted for lasting commitment, as chronicled through their respective ideologies to The Daily Star.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Ramendu Majumdar-Ferdousi Mazumder

The actor, stage director, and producer in the theatre realm, Ramendu Majumder, emphasised the importance of mutual understanding in maintaining a long-lasting relationship. The significance of trust, respect, and maintaining faith in each other. Both partners should rely on each other and not attempt to dominate the relationship unilaterally. The key is to truly comprehend each other, which ultimately makes life easier and more beautiful.

"Love is essential for enduring relationships. Without love, it's challenging to sustain a journey together. Love holds immense power, making everything more beautiful," he explained.

"However, verbal expressions like 'I love you' aren't always necessary; actions speak louder than words. Love is evident through one's behaviour and actions, demonstrating its presence and strength in the relationship," said Ramendu Majumdar.

"Ferdousi and I have shared many years together; we are content, and have no regrets. We both find satisfaction in our respective lives and our family. Despite facing numerous challenges, we overcame those times with joy. Our love has endured through overcoming obstacles, and that's how we remain deeply in love."

Abul Hayat-Shirin Hayat

"In the sphere of 'family life', trust, respect,

love, and understanding are indispensable. The trust serves as the cornerstone, deepening the bond between individuals. Respect is essential; without it, harmony is unattainable. Mutual respect fosters greater happiness within the family. Therefore, nurturing of trust, respect, love, and understanding is crucial for a fulfilling family life," the veteran actor conveyed.

"Then enters love. Love is a fundamental component of enduring companionship. It serves as the catalyst for navigating life's journey together. In the wake of love comes understanding, as both partners must comprehend each other's perspectives."

"Over the years, we've adhered to these principles. Therefore, I reiterate that respect, trust, love, and understanding are indispensable for genuine relationships," shared Abul Hayat.

Rafiqul Alam-Abida Sultana

Famed musician Rafiqul Alam stated, "Love defies definition; it simply exists as itself. Billions of people navigate life's journey as partners to one another. Then again our presence in showbiz means that people are aware of us and follow our lives."

"In my perspective, family and love are distinct entities. While we exist in the world to fulfill its demands – forming a family stems from our desire to do so. Some relationships endure, while others falter. Family resembles a mother's love, which cannot be forced but

must be nurtured. Love involves both giving and receiving of it; love cannot exist solely from one direction," he added.

Azizul Hakim-Zeenat Hakim

"In my view, the greatest power in the world is love. Love holds unparalleled strength because it has the ability to conquer all obstacles. With love, anything becomes achievable. Personally, I cherish the love I have for my wife, children, and the people around me. Love is an essential element for a fulfilling life," said the versatile actor Azizul Hakim, who has been around the industry for decades.

"Love has been a significant foundation for me to begin my married life and that very same sentiment remains intact to this day. Alongside love, faith, and respect play essential roles in a family life. Trust, in particular, is crucial; many challenges can arise from its absence. Therefore, fostering trust is paramount for maintaining a harmonious family dynamic."

"When trust is strong, people can coexist under the same roof for a long time. Love naturally follows, reinforcing the bond. Mutual respect is also vital; it forms the foundation of our relationship. 'I believe in love, and I am committed to nurturing it if my partner and I are to journey together,'" he added.

"Love is beautiful in the same way that truth is. Love is more than sufficient to live a wholesome life as it enriches the journey of life. Sending love to all on this special day," the actor concluded.

NEWS

Bangladesh needs to handle the situation

FROM PAGE 12
Government and the Arakan Army as well," said Brig Gen (retd) Sakhawat Hussain, also senior fellow at the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance at North South University.

"We also should have the show of force as backup for diplomatic offensive," he said.

Bangladesh Enterprise Institute President M Humayun Kabir said the Myanmar crisis has created a more strategic problem than that of the Rohingya repatriation, and it is urgent to take effective measures to prevent it.

"There are risks of free movement to and from Myanmar. China can be involved in stabilising the conflicts in Rakhine. In that case, we can prevent further influx," said the former ambassador.

He suggested that ASEAN already has a five-point demand for Myanmar to transition into democracy, and Bangladesh can pursue for including the issue of Rohingya repatriation there.

Prof Tanzimuddin Khan of International Relations at Dhaka

University said several crises could be created by the Myanmar conflicts – there may be a fresh influx of Myanmar nationals, entry of the Myanmar's beleaguering forces, spread of arms and the insecurity of Bangladeshis along the border area.

He said the fact that the Arakan Army and other groups of Brotherhood Alliance are taking control of Rakhine and Chin states and they would require international recognition, Bangladesh should start "multi-layered diplomacy" by engaging various stakeholders in Myanmar.

Two major regional players will do everything to protect their national interests in Myanmar, and Bangladesh being the most affected country needs to smartly handle the situation, said Prof Tanzimuddin.

The government must keep in mind the national interest and strategic autonomy and smart handling of the Myanmar issue so that it is not in the trap of regional players, he said.

The foreign ministry should have an advisory group consisting of

foreign policy and security experts for consultation, Prof Tanzimuddin said.

Southeast Asian history researcher Altaf Parvez said Bangladesh's focus is Rakhine state, but Chin state is also very important for geopolitical reasons. The Chin state borders Bangladesh and there are commonalities between the Chin and some ethnic groups of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh needs to engage the Chin National Front (CNF), which has already formed its government and a constitution, as CNF is positive about Rohingya repatriation and their recognition, he said.

Altaf said Bangladesh may seek support of the CNF leaders for engaging the National Unity Government that is fighting the junta and committed to recognising and repatriating Rohingyas under federal democracy in Myanmar.

The Daily Star Deputy Editor Arun Devnath and Jamuna Television Special Correspondent Mahfuzur Rahman Mishu also spoke at the event moderated by Tanjim Ferdous, in-charge of NGOs and foreign missions of the newspaper.

Shakib 'opts out' of SL series

FROM PAGE 12
for Rangpur Riders against Khulna Tigers in a BPL match in Chattogram last night – in the process bringing up a 20-ball half-century, the fastest of the season.

Meanwhile, the selectors included in the T20 side experienced batter Mahmudullah Riyad, who had missed out on the ODI series against New Zealand due to a shoulder injury. The 38-year-old makes a comeback to the shortest format, having last featured in September 2022 against Sri Lanka.

Uncapped mystery spinner Aliss Al Islam got his maiden call-up to the T20I side after his promising

performance in the ongoing BPL. The 27-year-old spinner picked up eight wickets in six games at an economy rate of 6.68 with best figures of four for 17 for Comilla Victorians.

Openers Naim Sheikh and Anamul Haque Bijoy also made a comeback to the T20I side following prolific run of form in the ongoing BPL while left arm spinner Taijul Islam and pacer Taskin Ahmed, who missed out on the New series Zealand due to a shoulder injury, returned to both T20I and ODI squads.

A total of six changes were made in the T20I side, with Pacer Hasan Mahmud and all-rounder Afif Hossain dropped from both the T20I and ODI

teams. Rony Talukdar, Mehedi Hasan Miraz, Tanvir Islam and Shamim Hossain were also left out while left-arm spinner Rakibul Hasan missed out from the ODI squad.

The Sri Lanka series will begin with the T20Is, with the first two matches scheduled for March 4 and 6 in Sylhet. The last match will take place in Chattogram on March 9. The port city will host all three ODIs on March 13, 15, and 18.

The action will then return to Sylhet for the first Test, starting on March 22 before the teams travel back to Chattogram to cap off the tour with the second Test beginning on March 30.

JU failed to make campus women-friendly

FROM PAGE 12
Under the present circumstances, databases at dorms are being prepared.

It also suggests that the JU authorities must ensure that no one stays in the dorms after completing their studies. It also asked them to install CCTV cameras where such unwanted incidents happened.

In its observation, the committee said although there is a deadline

for students to return to the dorms, proctor/provost has failed to enforce it.

Besides, outsiders frequently enter JU, different organisations hold events late at nights. But the authorities failed to stop these activities.

The probe body also recommended closing three routes through which outsiders can enter the university and making arrangements for alternative ones.

Following the rape incident, the JU authorities also filed a complaint with Ashulia Police Station against seven people, including an outsider. They took action against six students.

Three members of the committee are Jaminur Rahman, director of the UGC's Public University Management Division, Deputy Director Mauli Azad, and Assistant Director Sezad Rifat Siam.

Ashfaqu, wife placed on 4-day remand

FROM PAGE 12
When the court asked Ashfaqu about the camera, he said there was no memory card inside it.

The IO also submitted that during separate interrogations in two jail gates, the accused gave some information that need to be verified through face-to-face interrogation.

Defence lawyers Ashraf Ul Alam and Chaitanya Chandra Halder argued against the remand petition, saying both accused have been interrogated separately and together during 36 hours in police custody after their detention immediately after incident.

Additionally, Ashfaqu and Tania were interrogated at the Keraniganj and Kashimpur jail gates as per the court directive, they argued.

The defence lawyers also said that the accused were arrested in a case filed under

bailable section. Citing a 2016 Supreme Court ruling, they submitted that in cases filed under bailable sections, the trial courts "shall grant the accused bail".

After hearing both sides, the court granted a four-day remand.

House help Preeti Urang, 15, from Moulvibazar, died after she fell through the opening of the windowpane on the eighth floor of the couple's flat around 8:00am on Tuesday.

Shortly after the incident, police took Ashfaqu and Tania into custody.

Police produced them before the court on Wednesday after the victim's family filed a case under section 304(a) of the penal code, which deals with death caused by negligence.

Meanwhile, Preeti's parents demanded justice from a protest programme held in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Separately, Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) and Manabdhikar Shongskriti Foundation (MSF) expressed deep concern over Preeti's death.

The MSF statement, signed by Sultana Kamal, said the inquest report mentions injury marks on her body, both new and old.

"This heart-rending and tragic incident has incited deep sadness and the utmost outrage among everyone," it said, demanding an independent investigation into the incident and holding those responsible accountable.

The ASK statement signed by its Executive Director Faruq Faisal also demanded a transparent investigation.

ASK also demanded that domestic work be enlisted as hazardous labour, and demanded that steps be taken to make sure that children are not employed as domestic workers.

Intruders storm Grameen Kalyan, Telecom

FROM PAGE 12
went past the security system at the lobby and entered the offices of Grameen Telecom and Grameen Kalyan using staircases, Chowdhury said.

"They did not show proper ID cards and forcibly entered the office. Later they started to check the ID cards of the officers and employees working in the building. This made many terrified."

Chowdhury said the people later had separate meetings with the managing directors of the two companies and informed them that the management

of Grameen Kalyan and Grameen Telecom had been changed and new chairmen and directors had been appointed.

They ended the meeting with Grameen Telecom at 7:15pm and locked the office of Grameen Telecom before leaving the Telecom building at 9:10pm, Chowdhury said.

Yesterday, some people identifying them as the officials of Grameen Bank entered the building again.

Chowdhury said the employees are in a state of panic and they tried to file a general diary with Shah Ali Police

Station. But the police did not accept.

Officer-in-Charge of the police station Moudut Howlader told The Daily Star that they have received a complaint and are investigating it.

Asked why the GD wasn't accepted, he said: "We are trying to find out the veracity of the complaint first."

He said he already visited the building and found people at the head office of Grameen Bank there.

Prof AKM Saiful Majid, chairman of Grameen Bank, could not be reached for comments despite repeated attempts.

Indian police trying to stop march

FROM PAGE 12
Committee (KMSC), told ANI news agency.

Hundreds of farmers and their supporters were seen mobilising on foot and in large convoys of tractors in many parts of the northern breadbasket states of Punjab and Haryana.

At midday (0630 GMT), police fired multiple tear gas rounds to disperse the marchers at Shambhu, a border crossing between Punjab and Haryana, about 230 km (143 miles) north of Delhi, where many had joined the march.

Footage showed protesters trying to break through the barricades by lifting away cement blocks placed there to halt the march, as police used drones to fire tear gas rounds into the crowd.

Some protesters were also detained.

The outskirts of Delhi were quiet with riot control teams standing guard behind barricades on main roads leading into the national capital, where police have prohibited large gatherings.

Farm unions are seeking guarantees, backed by law, for more state support or buying of crops at a minimum price. They also want the government to honour a promise to double their income.

Agriculture Minister Arjun Munda told reporters on Monday after talks with union leaders that some issues had been resolved but more discussions were needed. "We are hopeful that we will bring solutions," he said.

India's main opposition Congress party said the government had failed

the farmers. "As a result of inadequate market prices and simultaneous price increase of inputs, farmers are falling deeper into debt," Congress lawmaker Jaiaram Ramesh said in a social media post.

The government announces minimum prices for more than 20 crops each year, but state agencies buy only rice and wheat at these prices, which benefits only about 6 percent of farmers.

In 2021, when the year-long protest by farmers pushed Modi's administration to repeal some farm laws, designed to deregulate vast agricultural markets, the government said it would set up a panel to find ways to ensure support prices for all farm produce. Farmers accuse the government of going slow on that promise.