

## Shuddho following his FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Roddur Shoishob Shuddho, the only son of noted actor Chanchal Chowdhury, will be featured in two upcoming projects this Eid-ul-Fitr: a television drama and a web-film. Making his acting debut two years ago through a television project, this seventh-grade student aspires to follow his father's footsteps and carve his own path in the acting realm.

In his inaugural interview with The Daily Star, Shuddho candidly discussed his on-screen collaboration with his father, his fervour for cultural pursuits, and various other aspects of his life.

**How was your experience working with Mostofa Sarwar Farooki in 'Last Defenders of Monogamy'?**

I was extremely nervous while giving my first shot in front of the camera. The night before the shooting took place, I couldn't sleep the entire night. Coincidentally, it was all good in one take! Farooki uncle played a great role in coping with my nervousness. He told me, 'Just speak like you do at home. Don't be afraid.' I followed his words, and everything seemed easier after that.

**Tell us about your role in the film. How did your father help you to portray the character on the screen?**

I take on the role of the son of *baba's* [Chanchal Chowdhury] character. *Baba* supported me the whole time – from script reading to delivering dialogue and even facing the camera. Sharing the screen with him was quite nerve-wracking for me, yet it was easy at the same time as he was very cooperative.

**Do you want to be an actor when you grow up?**

For as long as I can remember, my heart has been set on becoming an actor. My parents are fully aware of my passion, and I have their unwavering support. I want to become a great actor like my father. I dream of the day when



PHOTOS: COLLECTED

the audience will watch and appreciate my work as they do my father's. I try to watch all of my father's works, and we usually watch them together. However, I will eventually pursue acting, while being mindful not to compromise my education and academic performance.

**Do you find acting an easy job?**

Not at all. Previously, I used to think that acting was easy. However, when I faced the camera myself, I realised how wrong I was.

**Do you recall your first acting experience?**

It was a guest appearance for the tele-fiction *Shushil Family 2*, directed by Dipu Hazra. It happened all of a sudden – I went to visit the shooting spot and I was told to appear in front of the camera.

**Tell us more about the television project you will be featured in this Eid.**

The seven-episode project *Iti Tomari Ami* has been directed by Ejaz Munna and written by Brindaban Das. I have shared the screen with thespian Mamunur Rashid uncle, and my *baba* as well. The story is interesting and unique to what we usually see in contemporary times. I really enjoyed working on this project.

**Are you nervous about your upcoming projects?**

Certainly. At the same time, I am excited as well. I hope the audience will accept me as a newcomer.

**You're often seen singing with your father, what plans do you have with singing?**

I have got the initial lessons from *baba*. Whenever we get time, we try to practise together. I am also getting singing lessons from a music teacher, and I want to pursue music and acting side by side.

## 'Gen V' actor Chance Perdomo dies at 27



Rising actor Chance Perdomo, known for his charming portrayal of Andre Anderson, a beloved student at Godolkin University in the *Gen V* spinoff of *The Boys* series, tragically passed away following a motorcycle accident.

His representatives sent a statement to Hollywood Reporter, confirming the demise of the actor.

The British-American star was born in Los Angeles on October 19, 1996, and raised in Southampton. He received a Best Actor nomination at the 2019 Bafta TV Awards for BBC Three drama *Killed by My Debt*.

## Shakib Khan and Prince Mahmud come together for 'Borbaad'

Shakib Khan's upcoming film *Rajkumar*, helmed by director Himel Ashraf, will soon unveil its second track, titled *Borbaad*. Renowned music director Prince Mahmud has composed the song



and penned the lyrics, while newcomer Alif has voiced the romantic track.

Last year, Prince Mahmud composed the popular song *Eshwar* for Shakib Khan's film *Priyotoma*, which received much love from the audiences during Eid.

Prince Mahmud revealed to The Daily Star that *Borbaad* is a romantic song that will deeply touch the hearts of its audience.

He confidently expressed that the enchanting fusion of music and lyrics is bound to resonate with lovers, leaving a lasting impression and sweeping them away with its emotional depth.

## NEWS

### Internal feuds worry AL leaders of Ctg

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AL leaders of Lakshmipur asked for authority to select a single candidate for their upazilas.

However, the AL central leaders said the decision to keep upazila polls open for all was unlikely to be withdrawn.

At the meeting, Noakhali district AL president and Subarnachar upazila chairman Khairul Anam Chowdhury Salim said he never aspired to be an MP and is satisfied being the upazila chairman. He

said he wants to run again but local Noakhali-4 MP Ekramul Karim Chowdhury is trying to make his son a candidate, said meeting insiders.

Chandpur district AL leaders accused local Jubo League leaders of padlocking the district AL office and blamed a central leader for patronising them, said sources.

Chattogram AL south district president Abdus Salam told the meeting that everyone would eventually interfere in the upazila elections even though it was being

said that MPs, ministers and AL leaders would not meddle.

He said if several AL leaders run for the post of upazila chairman, the local MP would support one, district AL leaders would support another and this would further damage the party.

Confirming some leaders' demand for a single AL candidate in every upazila, AL Organising Secretary Abu Saeed Al Mahmud Swapan told The Daily Star that no decision has been made in this regard.

### Khaleda Zia under close observation

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iftar mahfil organised by the Ziaur Rahman Foundation (ZRF) at the Ladies Club in the capital yesterday.

The 78-year-old former prime minister has long been suffering from various ailments, including liver cirrhosis, arthritis, diabetes, and issues related to the kidney, lung, heart, and eye.

On January 11, the BNP chief returned home from Evercare Hospital after receiving treatment for various health complications for over five months.

Since then, she has been receiving treatment at her Gulshan residence under the medical board that was

formed earlier at the Evercare Hospital.

On August 9 last year, she was admitted to the hospital as she fell sick.

On October 26, three US specialist doctors completed the hepatic procedure known as transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS procedure) to stop water accretion in Khaleda Zia's stomach and chest, and bleeding in her liver.

Khaleda's doctors have been recommending sending her abroad since she was diagnosed with liver cirrhosis in November 2021.

Since her conditional release from jail in 2020, the BNP chief has been

receiving treatment at the hospital under a medical board.

Khaleda was sent to the Old Dhaka Jail after a lower court sentenced her to five years imprisonment in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case on February 8, 2018. Later, she was found guilty in another corruption case the same year.

Amid the coronavirus outbreak, the government temporarily freed Khaleda Zia from jail through an executive order suspending her sentence on March 25, 2020, with the condition that she stay in her Gulshan house and not leave the country.

That has since been extended multiple times to keep her out of jail.

### Gaza truce talks

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killed nine people in Bani Suhaila near Khan Younis, while another air strike killed four people in Al-Maghazi camp in the central Gaza Strip.

In Gaza City, Israeli forces continued to operate inside Al Shifa Hospital, the territory's biggest health facility, the health ministry said. Residents living nearby said residential districts had been destroyed by Israeli forces near Al Shifa.

"I went out looking to buy some medicine from a pharmacy and what I saw was heart-breaking. Complete streets with buildings that used to stand there had been destroyed," said Abu Mustafa, 49.

Like the rest of the 2.3 million

population of Gaza, Abu Mustafa, a father of six, is struggling to provide his family with food in the north of the enclave, where the United Nations warned famine was imminent.

"We've had enough, we sleep and wake up dreaming of a ceasefire that will end the war and preserve the lives of whoever remains in Gaza," he said.

Meanwhile, Pope Francis urged the world to resist "the logic of weapons" in his Easter message at the Vatican yesterday, easing growing health fears as he greeted thousands of Catholics.

In his traditional speech broadcasted worldwide, Francis condemned war as "always an absurdity and a defeat", raising conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar and beyond.

### Bid to stop soil

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his life to protect the forest. We have lost an efficient and hardworking forest officer."

Meanwhile, a group of civil society members, in a joint statement, demanded exemplary punishment of the perpetrators involved in the killing of the forest officer and destroying the forest.

The signatories to the statement include eminent rights activists Sultana Kamal, Nijera Kori Coordinator Khushi Kabir, Transparency International Bangladesh Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman, Association for Land Reform and Development Executive Director Shamsul Huda, and Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association Chief Executive Syeda Rizwana Hasan.

### Let 3 Transcom officials come home

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brother Arshad Waliur Rahman, who died nine months ago, was killed.

On February 22, Shahzreh filed three separate cases with Gulshan Police Station, accusing eight Transcom Group officials, including the chairman and CEO.

According to lawyers, Shahnaz, Simeen, and Zaraif had been out of the country before the case was filed.

A writ petition was filed with the High Court seeking protection for the accused to return to the country and participate in the legal process. On March 20, the HC passed the order along with the rule.

Shahzreh appealed against this order before the Chamber Judge's Court of the Appellate Division. The chamber judge's court passed an order after hearing the appeal on March 21.

According to this order, the three top officials of Transcom Group cannot be prevented from returning to Bangladesh. The writ petitioners (the three officials) were directed to surrender before the court concerned within 72 hours of their return to the country.

After that, Shahzreh filed the case on March 22, accusing the Transcom

CEO and 10 others.

The writ petition was filed on March 28 on their behalf, seeking directives so that the top three executives including the Transcom CEO can return to the country without facing any kind of hindrance, harassment, arrest, and can surrender before the court in connection with this case.

Senior lawyers Nurul Islam Sujon, Mahbub Ali, Shah Monjurul Hoque, and lawyers Munshi Moniruzzaman and Mohammad Siddique Ullah Miah appeared for the writ petitioners while senior lawyer Mustafizur Rahman Khan represented Shahzreh.

Deputy Attorney General Samarendra Nath Biswas represented the state.

Lawyer Munshi Moniruzzaman said the Supreme Court chamber judge ordered on March 21 that the top three executives of Transcom could return to the country and surrender smoothly in three cases.

Soon after this, another case was filed on March 22. In this case, the HC directed the authorities concerned to ensure that the three top officials can surrender to the court within 72 hours of their return to the country.

ANTICIPATORY BAIL FOR SEVEN

Yesterday, seven officials and employees including Dr Murad, manager (Medical Affairs) of SKF Pharmaceuticals Limited, got six weeks' anticipatory bail in the same case.

The HC bench of Justice Md Iqbal Kabir and Justice Md Akhtaruzzaman granted the bail after hearing a petition filed by them.

The other six are the Executive Director (Marketing and Sales) of SKF Pharmaceuticals Limited Md Mujahidul Islam, Zahid Hossain, Transcom Limited Corporate Affairs Manager Selina Sultana, and KH Md Shahadat Hossain, Rafiqul Mia and Khan Mirazul Islam.

Senior lawyers Mohammad Sayed Ahmed Raza and Shah Monjurul Hoque and lawyer Munshi Moniruzzaman argued for the accused petitioners, while Deputy Attorney General Monirul Islam represented the state.

Later, Munshi Moniruzzaman said the HC granted a six-week anticipatory bail to seven officials and employees of Transcom Group including two doctors in the case filed with Gulshan Police Station on March 22 and they have been asked to surrender to the Sessions Court of Dhaka.

### Woman gang-raped for 25 days

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around 2:30pm.

The victim said after her roommate left to buy food "Saan asked me to close my eyes, saying he has a surprise for me. I did so, and they tied my hands, feet, taped my mouth and blindfolded me".

Saan and Rocky then left, leaving Himel to guard her. Himel then raped her, the victim said in the FIR.

Saan and Rocky returned with chains. During her captivity, the group would show her pornography and force her to act those while they took footage, said the victim in her FIR.

"On March 30, I realised that they had left me alone in the house at night. I took the chance to scream for help and people passing by heard my cries and called 999," she said.

The OC said that they are trying to identify the accused and conducting drives to arrest them.

### Baltimore bridge being cut up after ship collision

AFP, Baltimore

The crumpled Baltimore bridge was being cut up in preparation for its removal, Maryland's governor said yesterday, promising "progress" was being made after it was destroyed by an out-of-control ship.

Demolition crews using blow torches sliced through the top part of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, which collapsed when the Dali cargo vessel lost power and struck it on Tuesday,

killing six people.

"Progress is beginning to happen despite the fact that it's an incredibly complicated situation," said Maryland Governor Wes Moore, adding that weather conditions and debris in the water meant divers were unable to assist with the recovery operation.

"We now do have cranes, the Chesapeake 1,000, which has a capacity of lifting a thousand pounds," Moore told CNN yesterday. "Workers have begun to cut up

the remnants of the bridge that we can then prepare for removal."

Video footage shared Saturday by the Unified Command – the overall response team that includes the US Coast Guard – showed sparks flying as crews suspended in cages cut through an upper section of the steel structure.

The Unified Command said the wreckage will be lifted away and processed at a Baltimore shipping site before being taken to a disposal site.