



ROCK N' RHYTHM 4 Mired in chaos, overcome with emotion

PHOTOS: SHAHBAZ NAHIAN, THABIT AL BASHAR, AND KHALAD BIN WALID

On a day when the rain gods smiled favourably upon the hopes of about 10 thousand people, barricades were broken, a stampede nearly ensued, and some logistical issues nearly ruined the experience for those holding general tickets at "Rock N' Rhythm 4.0" in the capital's International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB). However, for five men who have dedicated their entire lives to music, none of this could dampen the emotional reunion of Black's original lineup.

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Organised by Adventor Communications, this was a dream concert on paper for music lovers: Black's original lineup performing after two decades, the return of the prodigal Oni Hasan to Bangladesh after a long hiatus, Cryptic Fate's consistently impressive performance, Recall's return, Popeye and Farooque Bhai jamming with a local audience, and Old School enchanting everyone with their unique set.

As someone accustomed to media passes and backstage entry, it is easy to ignore the hassles faced by those with general passes. However, upon entering, it was immediately obvious that the audience with general passes got the short end of the stick. The protruding sound booth, smack dab in the middle of the Expo Zone, blocked the view for those standing in the middle of the field.

While I did not encounter any sound issues in the general section, the lack of a proper monitor meant that people not blessed with height, i.e., myself, would have a difficult time following the action from that far off. Later, during the concert, hooliganism ran rampant as many tackled the barricades to gain entry to the venue without tickets, and it is perhaps a matter of luck that no fatal incidents occurred during the entire show.

These issues are not specific, however, to Adventor Communications, as ICCB is infamous for being targeted by various hooligan groups during large concerts, and what can be larger than the reunion of Bangladesh's most renowned rock bands? Organisers need to be very careful when planning the reunion of a

fan-favourite act, since emotions are involved and some would resort to anything to catch a glimpse.

Oni Hasan set the stage for the headliners with his own amazing outing, featuring an all-star vocal crew of Jamshed Chowdhury and Mizan Rahman. Despite both vocalists being powerhouses in their own right, nobody could outshine Oni on this night. The former Vibe and Warfaze guitarist exuded pure joy as he played each note flawlessly, paying tribute to both his former bands. The

Tony, and the five members standing together at a major concert, a sight many thought would not be possible.

The concert comes 19 years after a fateful accident that took the life of their sound engineer Ahmed Chowdhury Mobin and crippled their morale. As a fan, I am admittedly ecstatic and slightly



highlight of his performance was Mizan and him giving a tribute to the late great Ayub Bachchu with a guitar chorus of *Shei Tumi*, seamlessly transitioning into Warfaze's epic *Purnota*.

Black sent their current lineup to open for the OG, and things went as expected. While the current lineup is insanely talented, this night was not for them, and the audience let it be known with a lukewarm reception. As soon as Tahsan Khan, Jon Kabir, Mahmudul Kabir Meraz, Khademul Jahan, and Mehmood Afridi Tony hit the stage, it was a different ball game.

The crowd devoured every single song they performed, including not only crowd favourites like *Aamra*, *Ekhono*, *Blues n' Roud*, *Obhiman*, and *Amar Prithibi*, but also underrated ones that are deeply personal to the members.

Iconic moments included Jon and Tahsan hugging in the middle of the stage, Jon approaching the drums to shake hands with

perhaps because of sheer nostalgia. However, the truth is, this amalgamation should have been a solo concert from the very start. The band is planning a full-scale solo concert with this lineup, and I would much rather have my first taste of original Black in that setting.

Should the organisers have taken more time to prepare for this concert with better logistics and security? Could they have done a better job with logistics? With Sun Silk being the main sponsor for the programme, it is safe to assume that funding could not have been an issue. As someone who has attended hundreds of concerts and organised some myself, I can say that regardless of the effort one puts in, on the day of the event itself, lots can go horribly wrong.

Unfortunately, in this case, it did, only to be saved by the fact that Bangladeshi rock royalty played their hearts out in arguably the performance of a lifetime.

The author is the Editor of Arts & Entertainment at The Daily Star.

'Moyurakkhi' confirms Eid release date with second poster



The second poster for director Rashid Polash's film *Moyurakkhi* has been released, featuring Sudip Biswas Deep, and Eamin Haque Bobby. With this poster, the makers have officially revealed their plan to release the movie this Eid-ul-Azha.

The poster depicts the figure of two protagonists, Deep and Bobby, shrouded in lush greenery, with a plane in the background. At the end of the poster, the detailed title *Moyurakkhi: The Story of a Deceitful Bird* is curiously printed.

Rashid Polash expressed confidence to The Daily Star stating that amidst the flurry of Eid releases, audiences will still choose to watch his film. "I am not daunted by the fierce competition this Eid," he added.

"Each poster for my directed movies symbolises a theme. Inspired by true events, my upcoming film delves into the complexities of relationships in showbiz, promising audiences a distinctive cinematic journey," shared the director.

Written by Golam Rabbani, the film also features Sadia Mahi, Sumit Sengupta, Farzana Chobi, and others.

Shakib Khan and Mimi Chakraborty sizzle in official 'Toofan' poster

Last week, Raihan Rafi stirred up a storm on social media with the release of the first teaser for the Shakib Khan starrer *Toofan*. Shakib's intense portrayal as a gangster and his powerful dialogue delivery captured the attention of netizens.

On Saturday (May 11), the director unveiled an official poster of *Toofan*, showcasing Shakib Khan and Mimi Chakraborty in a sizzlingly captivating look.

On the poster, Shakib Khan maintains a nonchalant expression, clad in a stylish grey suit paired with a white shirt. Meanwhile, Mimi Chakraborty exudes glamour in a deep purple sequined dress, emanating a scintillating presence. Their first look together hints that audiences will admire the chemistry of this new on-screen pair.

This Raihan Rafi directorial film is set to release on Eid-ul-Azha. It features Masooma Nabila, Misha Swadagar, Jisshu Sengupta, and more.



'What my mother means to me'



PHOTOS: COLLECTED
Ferdous with his mother (L) and his mother-in-law (R).



Bidya Sinha Mim and her mother



Azmeri Haque Badhan and her mother



Hridi Huq and her mother Lucky Enam.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU
Celebrities who have reached the pinnacle of success often credit their mothers for their care, love, and sacrifice. The unwavering support and encouragement from their mothers motivated them to pursue their dreams in showbiz, ultimately enamouring audiences' hearts with their heartfelt performances.

I have two mothers: Ferdous
Renowned actor and Member of Parliament (MP) Ferdous Ahmed shares a profound bond with his mother, whom he holds in high regard.

"I am fortunate to experience my mother's love every moment. Her prayers and unwavering care have been pivotal in my

life. The love and affection of a mother are invaluable—it's the greatest treasure in life," remarked the actor.

For Ferdous, both his mother and mother-in-law have played pivotal roles in his life.

"I am truly fortunate to have two mothers in my life—one who gave birth to me and another who has helped me grow as an individual after my marriage. Words fall short when I try to express their contributions to my life."

She means everything to me: Bidya Sinha Mim

Bidya Sinha Mim's close bond with her mother is evident through their sweet and strong connection. She has consistently highlighted her mother's significant role in her showbiz career, and how she was her

biggest supporter.

As she spoke about her mother she had to mention that her mother played a huge role in her career. "Even though my father supported me, *maa* played a major role in building up my career alongside making me who I am today. My mother is everything to me."

The actress shared that whenever she had shoots, she was accompanied by her mother and that she still takes care of everything that Mim would need. "She taught me to remain positive and make my dream come true. She inspired me a lot during the entire journey," the actress added.

My mother gave me everything: Azmeri Haque Badhan

Azmeri Haque Badhan, who herself fought a brave battle to win full guardianship of her

daughter, spoke highly of her mother who inspired her to dream big.

"Like all mothers out there, my mom also raised me with love and support. I have received everything I could want from my mother. I feel truly blessed to have been brought up with love and respect by my parents," said the actress.

Badhan feels that her mother now plays an even bigger role in her life as she takes care of her child.

"If it weren't for my mother's support, I wouldn't have been able to pursue my career. My mother has done a tremendous amount for me. Now, she is doing everything she can for my daughter. No child can fully articulate the contributions of their mother in words,"

said Badhan.

I strive to be like her: Hridi Huq

Hridi Huq's mother is Lucky Enam, an Ekushey Padak-winning actress, who, along with her father Enamul Haque, played a significant role in her pursuit of acting.

"Let me just say, my mother is a remarkable person—a talented artiste and an exceptional mother. She possesses numerous qualities that I admire greatly. I can never match up to her."

"My mother balances her time between family and work commitments. She excels in both roles, which is why I believe she's the best mother and incomparable to anyone else. I strive to emulate her in every way. It's truly heartwarming to witness the love and respect people have for my mother," added the actress.