

Most-talked about Eid dramas with heartfelt stories



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This Eid-ul-Azha, we witnessed some unique dramas that made us smile, while others moved us to tears with their heartbreaking emotional stories. These dramas featured unconventional plots that captivated audiences, addressing important topics like depression and the sacrifices involved in giving up a beloved animal. As usual, popular actors like Tawfik Mahbub, Musfiq R Farhan, Keya

the market. From there onwards, complications arise as animosity between their families creates obstacles in their union.

Chander Haat premiered on the YouTube channel Cinemawala at 8:30pm on Eid-ul-Azha (June 17). The drama has gained seven million views so far. It is now trending at number two on YouTube.

Mastan Musfiq R Farhan moved us to tears this Eid with his emotional performance in **Mastan**. Directed by Rubel Ahsan, the drama tells the heartwarming story of a cattle owner who sacrifices his beloved cow for the sake of his livelihood. The tele-fiction centres around Mushfiq and his cherished cow, Mastan. Their story has captured the hearts of seven million viewers, profoundly moving them.

In addition to Mushfiq R Farhan, the cast includes Tania Brishty, Monira Mithu, and Somu Chowdhury, among others. **Mastan** was released on the CMV channel on June 15, and viewers have been commenting on how they cried during the last 10 minutes of the drama.

Tithidor After a long time, Mehazabien Chowdhury returned to television dramas with Vicky Zahed's **Tithidor**. The actress, who is famous for picking scripts with important messages, was hell-bent on portraying the character on the small screen as it echoed an important lesson for adults who suffer from depression.

Vicky Zahed, who is known for showcasing horror and psychological projects, crafted a story that addresses important issues that prey

on young adults. Written by Jahan Sultana, the production features Mehazabien in the role of Nishat, a girl grappling with suicidal thoughts. The actress previously stated that the telefilm's plot emphasises the effects of such struggles on society and families. The drama has sparked much discussion on social media, with Mehazabien's performance receiving widespread acclaim. She even shared a heartfelt post on Facebook, devoting the telefilm to all struggling women.

Tithidor premiered on Channel i on June 20 and is available for streaming on its YouTube channel. It is trending at number 18 on YouTube. Apart from Mehazabien, the drama features stars including Prantar Dastider, and Abul Hayat, among others.

Evabeo Fire Asha Jay Another story that deals with depression and suicide, **Evabeo Fire Asha Jay**, is being praised on social media for its impactful content. The drama highlights that suicide is not the only option and that we can overcome any situation as long as we believe in ourselves. The lives, struggles, and conflicts of a hopeless old man, a thief, and a prostitute are portrayed in the drama.

The project stars Tariq Anam Khan, Ziaul Hoque Polash, and Parsa Evana in lead roles. This slice of life drama beautifully depicts how each of us experiences different kinds of perils and how we perceive others' difficulties as seemingly insignificant compared to ours.

Evabeo Fire Asha Jay was released on the Club II Entertainment channel on June 21 and has already received over one million views on YouTube.



Sabrina Carpenter scores first Billboard Hot 100 No. 1



Sabrina Carpenter's latest summer hit song, **Please Please Please**, officially reaches the top spot on the Billboard Hot 100.

Last Monday, Billboard revealed the latest top 10 of the Hot 100, announcing that Sabrina Carpenter's recent hit single, **Please Please Please**, had claimed the top spot, surpassing Post Malone's **1 Had Some Help**.

Carpenter's viral sensation **Espresso**, which peaked at No. 3 on the chart, is still in the top 10, now occupying the fourth spot.

Maitreyi Ramakrishnan to Join 'Freaky Friday 2' with original leads



Whispers of a new Disney movie starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan, reprising their roles from the 2003 comedy **Freaky Friday**, have materialised. The OG duo was recently seen back on set as Disney unveiled the first sneak peek of **Freaky Friday 2**.

According to Variety, Lohan and Curtis, reprising their roles as Anna and Tess Coleman, aren't the only original cast members making a comeback in the official sequel.

The returning ensemble cast includes Mark Hammon, Chad Michael Murray, Haley Hudson, Christina Vidal Mitchell, and Lucille Soong among others.

Maitreyi Ramakrishnan, star of Netflix's **Never Have I Ever**, has newly joined the cast of the 2003 film which grossed USD 160 million worldwide.

Julia Butters, Manny Jacinto, and Sophia Hammons will also join the sequel.

NEWS

Brazil

FROM PAGE 12

injury but was at the stadium as a fan, could not hide his dismay.

The broadcast showed his reaction in the stands when the stadium speaker announced the change, exclaiming "Vini?" repeatedly, with his arms open, looking at his friends in disbelief.

Vinicius arrived at the Copa America as a strong contender to win the Ballon d'Or after a hugely successful season with LaLiga winners Real Madrid.

The 23-year-old netted their second goal against Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League final as Real claimed a record-extending 15th European crown.

The jet-heeled forward torments defences and always seems to come to the fore when the pressure is at its highest, scoring 24 goals for his club last season.

He was rarely substituted by Real manager Carlo Ancelotti, who often said Vinicius was at his most dangerous late on in games and gave the forward the freedom to roam across the front line.

Things are different with Brazil.

Vinicius is deployed as more of an orthodox forward wide on the left and has scored only three goals in 31 games for Brazil.

Dorival's decision to take him off on Monday brought back memories of the 2022 World Cup quarter-finals, when then manager Tite also substituted Vinicius early in the second-half against Croatia, a game Brazil ended up losing on penalties.

On Monday, Vinicius struggled to make an impact from the left wing and exited the game without a shot on target.

Dorival said he tried moving Vinicius around before replacing him with 17-year-old forward Endrick.

"We tried with him on the wing and we didn't succeed. Then put him inside and we couldn't find a way through either ... he was very well marked," Dorival said.

"We had to find a solution, I was trying to make a change. We tried various alternatives, several situations were created, but in the end we were unsuccessful with our finishing."

The challenge for Dorival in Brazil's upcoming games will be finding a way to balance their attack without sacrificing his best player.

Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 12

runs, leaving the qualification hopes of the 2021 champions hanging by a thread, then the Bangladesh bowlers, who deserved all the credit for completely saving the team's blushes, combined to set the stage for a great climax by restricting Afghanistan to a modest total of 115-5.

What initially appeared as only a mathematical equation for the Tigers, the bowlers turned into a reality. But ultimately, Bangladesh's batting once again proved that they lacked the firepower and right mindset to overcome the challenge.

Achieving the target in 12.1 overs to secure the semifinal spot was tough but not impossible. However, it required some clarity in approach, which was missing in the Bangladesh batting unit or the team management throughout the tournament.

As a result, the Tigers had to finish the campaign with the consolation that they won three first-round matches and qualified for the Super 8s. Once the dust settles after a sordid campaign, the team management must realize the obvious: with an amateurish batting approach and mindset, a team cannot succeed in a tournament where the challenges and stakes are so high.

Back to the Saint Lucia classic, what did the Bangladesh team's think-tank want to achieve: a mere win or a place in the semifinals? If the batting order is scrutinized, for instance, where Shanto and Shakib Al Hasan were sent ahead of someone like Soumya Sarkar – an opener by trade and known for his exploits against the pacers in Powerplay – during a chase requiring over 10 runs per over, we can get a grasp of the negative mindset of the team management.

Another contentious decision

Banks, NBFIs asked

FROM PAGE 2

The ACC urged the BFIU and BSEC to freeze all financial transaction-related accounts of the family.

Over the last two days, the finance ministry removed Matur from the position of director of state-run Sonali Bank PLC.

It also transferred him to the Internal Resources Division from his position as president of the customs, excise, and VAT appellate tribunal at the National Board of Revenue.

was not promoting a power hitter in Rishad Hossain ahead of Mahmudullah Riyad, while the asking rate required for a semifinals berth begged for a few lusty blows in quick succession to peg back the Afghans.

It did not reflect well on the team when captain Shanto revealed that they gave up hope after losing three early wickets and focused on winning the match from then on – quite baffling that in a match of such magnitude, there should not have been any line of thinking other than what ensured a semifinals entry.

Then again, when head coach Chandika Hathurusingha marked his charges' Super 8s entrance as a "bonus" rather than a new challenge, one could not have expected more from this team than what transpired. At the end of the day, an increased number of wins may save someone's job, but it will not serve the purpose of the team. While Rashid's team, having stunned Australia in the Super 8s, made their people back home happy with "a big achievement," Shanto apologized for letting down their fans.

Unlike his coach and a more decorated senior teammate, the Bangladesh captain was honest enough to admit that as a team they have "disappointed" fans and, as a batting group, they weren't able to deliver, irrespective of the fact that this T20 World Cup churned out their best-ever results.

Bangladesh won three first-round matches, despite firing without the batting cylinder, but their overall performance was nowhere near to showing any improvement as a team.

As the Tigers sign off from another global event, leaving many questions unanswered, will anybody be held accountable? If the past trends are anything to go by, there may not even be a sliver of hope.

Rights activists

FROM PAGE 12

dire situation, and no remediation at all of its victims," he added.

Malaysia's systemic inability to meaningfully combat labour trafficking, ensure remediation of victims and accountability of perpetrators indeed warranted its immediate downgrade today to Tier 3 in the 2024 TIP Report, he said.

"Today's upgrade is therefore disappointing and raises for me genuine concern about the legitimacy and accuracy of the US government's country-based human trafficking assessments."

In April, independent experts said the conditions of Bangladeshi migrants were "unsustainable and undignified" warning that "certain high-level officials" in both Malaysia and Bangladesh "are involved in this business or condoning it".

At the end of May, thousands of migrant workers from Bangladesh rushed to Malaysia to beat a hard deadline of May 31 for them to enter there.

Despite the TIP upgrade, the Malaysian government still has to sort out other "blunders" in how it handles migration, Adrian Pereira of the North-South Initiative in Kuala Lumpur told Channel News Asia.

Successful Malaysian administrations have refused to adopt proposals made by the Independent Committee on the Management of Foreign Workers that was filed by a committee of former judges, lawyers and other experts as early as 2019.

"They refused to adopt the recommendations, meaning either the politicians or the civil servants were conniving to ensure the status quo. [Anwar Ibrahim's administration] has to take it seriously, they can't think that they can do business as usual," Pereira said.

US objects

FROM PAGE 12

In the letters, sent on Friday, the BPSA urged journalists to be more cautious and follow the principles of journalism properly while publishing any report about the police force in the future.

The association described the recent media reports, mainly on graft allegations against some former and current officials, as a "smear campaign" by the media. It claimed the reports being run by print, electronic, and social media outlets are "partial, motivated, exaggerated, and misleading".

Graft taking shine off

FROM PAGE 1

who have illegal incomes can afford to do this."

"A goat was bought for Tk 15 lakh. Who can do it?"

Hanif said salaries of government employees have been hiked on different occasions. Their benefits have been enhanced. "Why do they still indulge in corruption?"

"They [corrupt government officials] are being allowed to keep their jobs paying nominal fines," he said.

He said there are thousands of Maturis, a former NBR official who is making headlines for alleged corruption.

Hanif said if there is a criminal case against a politician, there is no need to take permission to arrest them. But

in similar cases against government officials, permission of higher officials is required.

He said the Government Service Act-2018 is encouraging officials to indulge in corruption. They will not be fired if they are punished for less than a year, which is not conducive for good governance.

Hanif asked for amending the law. Opposing the proposal to allow legalising black money, Hanif said it was illogical that people pay 30 percent tax on legal earnings while people who make money illegally pay 15 percent.

ALawmaker Motahar Hossain said bureaucrats say that all politicians are corrupt and do nothing. They only build houses at home and abroad and deposit money with Swiss banks.

Hasina's China visit

FROM PAGE 2

partnership and friendship as both countries are developing fast and both governments are committed to delivering for the people and to the modernisation drive.

"Strong friendship and trust have been developed between the two peoples during their fight for national liberation and independence. The seed of this friendship was planted by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman."

The Chinese Embassy in Dhaka hosted the dialogue titled "Looking Towards the Future of China-Bangladesh Relations: A Conversation with the CPC Delegation" at the Renaissance Hotel.

In his opening remarks, Jianchao expressed his enthusiasm about the visit to Bangladesh, saying, "I was really excited about this trip even before I came. Not only because I've never been to Bangladesh, but also because in recent years, I've been hearing about the economic miracle of this great country. In the last two-three days, I've been moving around, meeting local people, visiting projects contracted or supported by

'Sharifa's Tale'

FROM PAGE 12

similarities and differences".

This chapter was designed under the new curriculum to raise public awareness about transgender people.

The story drew significant attention after an adjunct faculty member of BRAC University tore out

the pages containing it during an event. A video of this incident went viral on social media.

On January 24, the education ministry formed a five-member committee to review "Sharifa's Tale". The committee recommended dropping the story in May.