

#CHECK IT OUT

Let's start Durga Puja celebrations early!

One of the biggest festivals in Bengal is knocking on the door. We are just a few days away from Durga Puja! It is almost that time of the year again when Maa Durga visits us — the days when large and beautiful mandaps call for celebrations, a time when the whole country is wrapped in excitement and merrymaking.

Some would busy themselves with the many rituals, some would eagerly munch on a variety of snacks and dishes, whilst others would go on a shopping spree to look their best at the many events scheduled. There are so many activities to partake in and enjoy!

Although monsoon seems to be a bit adamant in departing, and the signature clear blue skies and fluffy white clouds of autumn are yet to fully set in, the calendar, nevertheless, is striding forward to the Durga Puja dates. But the breathtakingly beautiful "kaash phool" has already started to adorn our country!

Hence, to kickstart your preparations and set the mood for the upcoming fiestas, this week's Star Lifestyle presents you with a Durga Puja-centric volume.

Flip through the pages to check out our special photoshoot, which will give you inspiration and ideas for planning your fashion ensemble for the programmes of the festivities. The graceful attires amidst the lotus background are sure to transport you to a different world whilst we wax lyrical about them.

On the other hand, we also invite you to take a deep dive into Old Dhaka's Shankhari Bazaar, the age-old street that not only celebrates the Puja in full gusto, but is also a major hub for traditional jewellery and crafts shopping. Get to know about the community behind the trade and design of conch shell bangles and other such products!

Durga Puja encompasses a wide and diverse range of amazing and fascinating aspects and activities. It is not just about fashion, shopping, and crafts — it is also



about the delicious food, the beating of the drums, the vivid sights and the ambience at the mandaps. We hope to present some of that in our next edition and our online platforms as well. So, stay tuned!

For now, we hope that this week's Star Lifestyle will stir up the momentum with which Durga Puja will be celebrated. Here's to a happy Durga Puja ahead!

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