

# The manifold directions in IMRAN’S JOURNEY

This actor has consistently showcased his remarkable talent on OTT platforms, with performances in roles such as Moloy in ‘Mohanagar’ and Amlan in ‘Kaiser’. Through these and other memorable characters, Mostafizur Noor Imran has proven his versatility and skill, solidifying his reputation as a standout actor in the industry.

SHARMIN JOYA

His upcoming web series *Rongila Kitab*, directed by Anam Biswas, will premiere on Hoichoi on November 8. Imran stars as the lead, sharing the screen with Pori Moni. The Daily Star caught up with the actor to talk about his experience working on the project, his upcoming works and his thoughts on recent reforms in the industry, particularly the change in Actors Equity Bangladesh.

Actors Equity Bangladesh, the professional organisation for television actors, has recently come under scrutiny, with several artistes calling for significant reforms. In response, an interim reform committee was established on September 19 to limit the current leadership's decision-making powers. Led by renowned actor Tariq Anam Khan, this committee will serve for four months.

“Our industry has several organisations for actors, which is frankly unnecessary,” he remarked. “We need one unified body representing all actors across theatre, OTT, television, and film. Only by coming together can we drive meaningful change on a larger scale and work collaboratively to achieve global success—not just as a support network, but as a unified industry.”

He then highlighted that acting as a profession is still not widely accepted, which according to him, should be a primary focus of reform. “Due to personal interests and the surrounding politics, we continue to fall short of our goals. At the same time, we remain far from understanding what true reform could bring to the industry.”

However, he remains hopeful, mostly because the interim committee is being led by the eminent actor Tariq Anam Khan. “He is a respected figure in the industry, and we look up to him. I have full faith that he will do his best.”

The actor reminisced about the start of his journey in the industry, which began with the reality show *Super Hero Super Heroine* in 2009, where he was named the third runner-up.

Speaking about *Rongila Kitab*, Imran shared some interesting insights. “Our director included a lot of action scenes for me, which I personally enjoy. Interestingly, I also did some action during my reality show days. It was fun working with our action trainer, Shagor, who also performed in the show. He definitely deserves a lot of credit, because without him, the action scenes

would not have looked as good.”

Mostafizur Noor Imran also added that those who have read Kingkor Ahsan’s *Rongila Kitab* know just how intriguing the plot is. “I’ll be seen as Prodip, a politician who decides to leave his business in politics; however, it’s a never-ending cycle that keeps haunting him. Since it’s a love story—‘a story of love dyed in blood’—it follows Prodip and Shupti through many adventures that the audience will experience along the way.”

He described the project’s location as particularly wonderful, featuring the scenic beauty of the hills. “Apart from that, it was my first collaboration with Anam Biswas and Pori Moni. The director is incredibly calm and a true gentleman—I really appreciate his work. At the same time, as an actor who relies on the reactions of his co-actors, working with Pori was a great experience for me,” shared Imran, who is also the founder of Theater Repertory, Bagerhat.

The actor is reportedly working on Mejbaur Rahman Sumon’s upcoming film *Roid*, sharing the screen with Nazifa Tushi. Although he remained tight-lipped about details, reports indicate that the film, currently being shot outside Dhaka, recently received recognition. Organised by India’s National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), Film Bazaar awards cash prizes of US \$20,000—approximately Tk 25 lakh—to its top three projects. Among them are two Bangladeshi films, *Roid* and *Divine Chords*.

Imran is also the owner and founder of the production house Methodica, which has produced films like *Shahosh* and *Jahan*.

At the end of our conversation, the actor-turned-producer shared his current aspirations for the industry, “Following the July movement, the entire nation is in a state of upheaval, and our industry is no exception. I encourage our community to prepare and mobilise unitedly, just like other sectors are doing.”



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



Dhaka Vibes

November 8 | 2pm

Bangladesh Shishu Academy



Dhaka Retro

November 15 | 3pm

Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Centre



Cultural Fest 2.0

November 15 | 10am-11pm

Aloki, Tejgaon Link Road

## TV TALKIES

### ‘The Sympathiser’ explores duality, unveils themes of friendship and conflict

One of the more intriguing shows of the year, *The Sympathiser*, directed by Park Chan-wook, famed for *Oldboy*, *The Handmaiden*, *Decision to Leave*, and others, is a rather complex exploration of identity and imperialism. The series has been adapted from Viet Thanh Nguyen’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of the same name.

Set in the immediate aftermath of the Vietnam War, referred to as the American War in Vietnam, the story depicts a fractured society and a conflicted individual.

The protagonist, known only as the Captain (Hoa Xuande), embodies a “sympathiser” in both the American

sense of being a “communist sympathiser” and as someone capable of understanding multiple perspectives.

The Captain becomes a North Vietnamese mole infiltrating South Vietnam’s secret police under General Toan Le. Reluctantly, he is assigned to travel to America to monitor the general and support his emerging plans, while the war continues for him.

Despite the circumstances, he bonds tightly with two childhood friends. Ultimately, their relationships drive the series forward, creating a profoundly moving story about friendship amidst various themes, making it a must-watch.



## WHAT’S PLAYING

### BLOOM

The Paper Kites’ *Bloom* is a delicate indie-folk track that feels like a gentle breeze across a late autumn landscape, capturing themes of longing and nostalgia. The song’s soft guitar strums and warm melodies evoke a cozy simplicity, while the vocal harmonies carry a bittersweet tenderness.

Despite its lyrical simplicity, *Bloom* resonates deeply, creating an atmosphere where emotions flow freely, like sunlight filtering through trees. Its soft rock undertone, coupled with hints of country influence, gives it an airy, effortless charm.

As the last track of *The Woodland EP*, *Bloom* will wrap you in a dreamy, contemplative spell, leaving you with a feeling of gentle awakening and peace.



## TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix  
Don’t move



Chorki  
Adhunik Bangla Hotel



Deepto Play  
Bibhabori



Amazon Prime  
Citadel Diana



Hulu  
Interior Chinatown



## STYLE STATEMENT

### DIMPLE KAPADIA

Dimple Kapadia’s recently published stunning photoshoot for Vogue has taken the internet by storm, igniting waves of admiration from fans and fellow celebrities alike. This much-anticipated cover, her first with Vogue, has left fans thrilled, many exclaiming, “Finally!” as they celebrate this iconic moment.

Draped in elegance and exuding timeless charm, the veteran actress’ look has added a fresh chapter to her legacy and become an instant classic in the world of fashion.

The 67-year-old star graced the frame in a chic black turtleneck top paired with an asymmetric wrap skirt, layered sleekly under a lush emerald-green overlay.

She adorned this exquisite ensemble with a statement aquamarine slab necklace that gleamed like crystal waters, paired perfectly with ethereal emerald wing-shaped earrings, and classic black stilettos.

Her coiffed updo added an elegant finishing touch, crowning the look with timeless sophistication.

