

WINTER'S BEST-KEPT SECRET

Jackets with a festive flair



"Short and sweet," is perhaps the only phrase appropriate in describing winter in Bangladesh. After months of constant heat and humidity winter brings a delicate balance of crisp air and soft sunlight, just cold enough to warrant layering. And layering, dear fashion lovers, is where the magic happens.

With winter festivities in full swing, is it time to rethink our wardrobe? What do we sacrifice this time: warmth or style? Well, with the right set of choices, would say, neither!

Winter weddings, for instance, are a spectacle of grandeur, complete with shimmering sarees, lehengas, and traditional panjabi sets. But amid the

heavy silks and chiffrons, there is a need for something fresh and functional that neither makes you look like a wrapped bundle nor leaves you to shiver in the cold.

That is why the fashion world is giving your casual jackets a cultural makeover. Gone are the days when bundling up for

a winter wedding meant throwing on a mismatched shawl or a bulky sweater. After all, why brace for the cold when you can ace it in style?

The most recent buzz is the art of blending Western aesthetics with the rich heritage of Bangladeshi craftsmanship.

Leather jackets adorned with patchwork of Jamdani weaves, Benarasi patterns, and intricate motifs add a pleasant burst of colours to match the festive feel of upcoming weddings, barbeque parties and of course, the New Year's.

Designer Azim Uddula shares fondly about his journey, "There's always a certain sense of love and freedom that comes from working with local patterns, but Western wear doesn't really allow that. For me, it took a good amount of struggle to put this concept into motion, but the results were equally rewarding."

No outfit alone can complete your look, so you must accessorise. When it comes to accessories, do not be afraid to play.

