

Nusraat Faria reunites with Jaaz Multimedia for 'Jinn 3'

Seven years after her last project with Jaaz Multimedia, Nusraat Faria is set to return to the renowned Bangladeshi production house for *Jinn 3*, the third installment in its popular supernatural franchise. Directed by Kamruzzaman Roman, the film is scheduled to start production in February, featuring captivating storyline and the debut of fresh new faces.

Faria, one of Bangladeshi cinema's most recognisable stars, made her debut with Jaaz in 2015's *Aashiqui: True Love*, a film that launched her to stardom. Her last collaboration with the production house was *Inspector Notty K* in 2018. Faria described her return as "coming home," expressing heartfelt gratitude to Abdul Aziz, Jaaz's head, for providing her with pivotal opportunities that shaped her career.

Jinn 3 follows the success of *Jinn* (2023) and *Mona: Jinn 2* (2024), both celebrated for their dark, eerie narratives. Alongside the movie, she is also set to release several music projects this year with Faud Almuqtadir and Muza.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF BANGLADESH TREE PROTECTION MOVEMENT

Artists and activists demand restoration of Panthakunja Park

The Bangladesh Tree Protection Movement (BTPM) yesterday launched a protest, demanding the restoration of Panthakunja Park, a 5.39-acre urban green space, and the adjacent Hatirjheel water-catchment area. They are both threatened by the construction of ramps for the Dhaka Elevated Expressway (DEE).

The citizen-led demonstration, which began at 10am at Panthakunja Park, spoke out against practices that isolate communities and harm local ecosystems, diverging from the principles of sustainable development goals (SDGs).

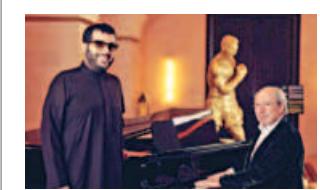
Several artists took part in the installation art segment, including Afansa Sharmin Jhumpa, Farah Naz Moon, Sumana Akter, Ritu Sattar, Walid Saddam Topu, Efaz Razowana Reya, Tahmina Hafiz Liza, Mehedi Masud, and Syed Muhammad Zakir.

The open-to-all demonstration underscored the growing demand for environmentally conscious urban planning.



PHOTO: THABIT AL BASHAR

Hans Zimmer contacted by Saudi government to 'rework' national anthem



Saudi Arabia has enlisted Oscar-winning composer Hans Zimmer to create a new arrangement of its national anthem.

Zimmer, known for composing scores for *The Lion King* (1994), *Dune*, and *The Dark Knight* trilogy, has agreed to the general framework of the project, stated Turki Alalshikh, chairman of the General Entertainment Authority.

"We discussed numerous future projects that I hope will come to life soon, including a rearrangement of the Saudi national anthem employing different instruments," Alalshikh shared on X (formerly Twitter).

Additionally, Zimmer explored plans for a Saudi-inspired musical titled *Arabia*, and the soundtrack for *The Battle of Yarmuk*, an upcoming film, Alalshikh concluded.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?

ART



Open Space Theatre presents *ART*, a critically acclaimed play written by Yasmine Reza, directed by M Arifur Rahman.

This Bengali adaptation explores the dynamics of friendship and the subjective nature of art, humorously delving into how personal tastes influence relationships and provoke self-reflection.

Centering on three friends and their conflict over an expensive white painting, the performance examines the fragility and strength of human connections.

DATE: SUNDAY | JANUARY 28
TIME: 4:30PM-6:00PM AND 7:00PM-8:30PM

VENUE: EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE HALL, BANGLADESH SHILPAKALA ACADEMY



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSED

COUNTRYWIDE

BORO SEEDLING CULTIVATION

Advanced tray method sees success

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

For the first time, a group of farmers in Palash upazila started using advanced tray method to grow hybrid Boro seedlings this season.

The group of 120 farmers of Noakanda village under Gazaria union, under the supervision of local agriculture department, have successfully grown Boro seedlings on 45 decimals of land using the advanced technic, which will be gradually transplanted on 150 bighas of land.

Agriculture officials said this unique method will not only reduce the production and labour costs, but ensure a better yield.

Moreover, alongside protecting the seedbeds from adverse weather, it will also encourage farmers to adopt modern machine-based farming practices.

This year, a total of 2,320 plastic trays are being used, with 10 kilogrammes of hybrid seeds sown in each tray, to grow Boro seedlings on 45 decimals of land.

The advanced method ensures nearly 100 percent germination, resulting in robust seedlings.

Farmers cover all the trays with plastic sheets at night in order to protect the



Farmers cultivated hybrid Boro seedlings on vast areas using advanced plastic tray method. The photo was taken from Noakanda village in Narsingdi's Palash upazila.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN Keys cuts Sabalenka's streak

AFP, Melbourne

Underdog Madison Keys upset Aryna Sabalenka 6-3, 2-6, 7-5 in the Australian Open final yesterday to win her first Grand Slam crown at the age of 29.

The American ended world number one Sabalenka's dream of becoming the first woman for 26 years to win a third successive Melbourne Park singles title.

Keys yelled in delight and wiped away tears on securing the title after withstanding a fierce fightback from the Belarusian two-time defending champion, who buried her head in a towel after her 20-match win streak at Melbourne Park was ended.

12 robbers

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gang comprising 15 people reached the building around 10:00pm in two microbuses. They tied up and blindfolded three security guards, confiscated their mobile phones, and removed the CCTV hard drives. They also disconnected the building's intercom service.

The robbers then broke into Giash Uddin's flat and attempted to loot valuables. While trying to break a vault, neighbours alerted police by calling the emergency hotline, 999, the OC added.

A team from Khulshi police surrounded the building and arrested 12 suspects during the raid.

However, three members of the gang managed to flee.

During primary interrogation, it was revealed that the gang members were engaged in various professions. We are questioning them further to identify and apprehend their accomplices," the OC said.

Arrest warrant issued

FROM PAGE 12

According to the investigation, on July 1, ACC Assistant Director Riaz Uddin submitted a report to the Senior Special Judge Court, seeking arrest, search, and seizure warrants against the accused.

Court records reveal that on November 19, 2014, Kaisarul Islam Chowdhury, a resident of Matarbari, filed a case against Ruhul Amin and 27 others,

accusing them of embezzling Tk 20 crore allocated for land acquisition for the Matarbari power plant. The court had ordered an ACC investigation into the matter.

Shortly after, Sadikul, the then district and sessions judge, allegedly dropped Ruhul Amin's name from the case documents and forwarded them to the ACC headquarters. Upon discovering the forgery, Ruhul Amin and 27 others,

layers to Hasina's 'highway robbery' story. The Western press now knows the kind of plunder and looting that took place during the Sheikh Hasina dictatorship," he said.

Prof Yunus also spoke about the data manipulation, blaming the world for being blind during the "dictatorship".

Prof Yunus, who reached Davos on January 21, had four meetings with heads of government and its reform agenda to restore democracy, Shahidul said.

Top journalists from some of the world's best news outlets have queued to take Prof Yunus' interviews.

"Nobody seems to be bothered by the propaganda campaign by the Indian outlets. They are very much aware of the dirty jobs that Indian media does for their political masters," said the press secretary.

Prof Yunus held 47 meetings with heads of states, CEOs, and dignitaries.

Top European leaders are firmly backing the interim government and its reform agenda to restore democracy, Shahidul said.

Yunus had 10 meetings with CEOs/high-level business persons, attended nine WEF hosted programmes and four formal dinner and lunch events.

Yunus also had eight media engagements on the

Tarique warns students against using state support

FROM PAGE 1

certainly welcomes the initiative. But if anyone seeks help from the state and administrative support to form a political party, it will disappoint the people," the BNP leader said.

He also said that if the behaviour, comments, or statements of those intending to form a new party are antagonistic and vindictive towards other political parties, that would also be undesirable to the people.

"Of course, today's youth are the future of Bangladesh. The youth will create a new path by coming out of the past, but not in a questionable way."

He also considered unnecessary arguments between the interim government and the pro-democracy forces of Bangladesh as a waste of time.

"But at the same time, I want to draw the attention of the government and say that if the people can patiently accept its failures in various areas, it is important for those in the government to have much more patience and tolerance."

As BNP pursues politics for the welfare of the people, he said their party aims to ensure the people's political and economic power.

"Election is one of the main effective tools to ensure the political power of the people. Creating controversy over the election arrangement means unwittingly strengthening the position of fugitive and defeated fascist forces," Tarique warned.

Yunus returns from Davos

FROM PAGE 12

Bangladesh's Davos mission concluded on a high note, said the press secretary, adding that the chief adviser and his small Davos team is back home "with their heads held high".

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sidelines of the WEF annual meeting in addition to joining two other events.

The World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual meeting in Davos brought together world leaders to address key global and regional challenges.

These included responding to geopolitical shocks, stimulating growth to improve living standards, and stewarding just and inclusive energy transition.

This year's meeting convened under the theme 'Collaboration for the Intelligent Age' and the programme will be oriented around five distinct but highly interconnected thematic priorities:

Some 3,000 leaders from over 130 countries, and 350 governmental leaders, including 60 heads of states and governments, from all key regions attended the event.

The incident has also deeply affected Arnob's younger brother, Anik Sarker, who was supposed to sit for the Dhaka University admission test at Khulna University yesterday.

His father, Nitish Kumar, who struggled to give his son a bright future, broke down in tears, saying, "I raised him with so much struggle. Why has God punished me like this? How will I return home without Arnob? What will I tell his mother?"

The incident has also

in tears.

Sk Moniruzzaman

Mithue, deputy commissioner (South)

of Khulna Metropolitan Police said that while the

motive remains unclear,

three individuals have been

detained for questioning.

"They shot him multiple

times. He had no enemies, no

disputes, no bad company.

"Why would anyone kill him?" Arnob's uncle, Tushar

Kumar said, breaking down

at the time of filing this report at 4:00pm yesterday.

"We are interrogating several individuals but have

no concrete leads yet."

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