

Parsha wants to write her OWN DESTINY

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PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

DOWEL BISWAS

Parsha Mahjabeen Purnee has two very distinct identities amongst her audiences, one is more intriguing than the other-- she is a musician and now an actor with her (groundbreaking) debut in Jahid Preetom's *Ghum Por*. A third-year university student who inspired millions through her song, *Cholo Bhule Jai* during the July movement gets candid with The Daily Star about her journey, new-found fame and future aspirations.

Tell us the story behind 'Cholo Bhule Jai'.
The song actually mirrored my inner pain and frustration during that time. I was deeply affected by the oppression that we were experiencing, and as I couldn't personally join the movement, the song--which I wrote in only 10 minutes-- became my voice and offering towards the protesters. I only wanted to do my part for my country.

Pritom Hasan and you both have a well-grounded background in music. How was your experience of working with him?

It doesn't need saying that I am a great admirer of Pritom Hasan. Pritom bhai helped me rehearse as much as I needed to, and was very kind to me. I am grateful to the entire crew.

Only a few debutants get blessed with the fame and recognition you are getting.

I always keep my expectations low. So, the fame and recognition I

am experiencing now seems pretty fascinating. However, it also makes me grounded, it demands better work and I am all up for it.

To whom are you most thankful to, for your success?

Actually, I think my own contribution was more crucial behind my success in whatever I did, and I thank myself for pursuing what I believed in and most inclined to. My mother, who is a classical singer herself, did a lot for me and I am eternally grateful to her. However, the fact that I never compromised in pursuing my wishes and dreams makes me love and believe in myself more. I wanted to write my own destiny, and I consider myself brave.

How was your experience performing at the UNESCO headquarters?

I mostly sing to my YouTube audiences, and my first big concert was Darshan Rawal's, where I was the opening act alongside with two other singers. However, the experience at the UNESCO Headquarters was scintillating! Not only did I perform in front of an international audience, I represented my country and it made me feel proud to be Bangladeshi. I consider it to be the biggest achievement of my life.

What are your current projects?

A new original song of mine will be released this Eid. As a solo artiste, it is difficult for me to take on the task of releasing music by myself, I would love it if my seniors in the industry helped me in this regard.

Can we expect more songs like 'Cholo Bhule Jai' from you?

I think we became more divided in the current scenario of the country. When I wrote "Cholo Bhule Jai", we were united. So, I think I need time to understand the situation and my perspective regarding this. As soon as I can catch my thoughts on it, I will write a song and strike a chord with it.

How would you evaluate yourself as a person?

I think I am a very kind and empathetic person. I love animals. One thing I am sure of, I don't want to be someone who is proud. I always want to be well grounded as a human being.

TRENDY STREAMS

HBO Max
When No One Sees Us



Prime Video
The Wheel of Time



Disney+
Daredevil: Born Again



Hulu
Deli Boys



Chorki
Amalnama



STYLE STATEMENT

Timothée Chalamet

Timothée Chalamet, who bagged his second Oscar nomination this year for his mesmerising performance in *A Complete Unknown*, illuminated the red carpet at the 97th Academy Awards held in Los Angeles last Sunday (March 3).

Chalamet donned a bespoke outfit by Givenchy, featuring a vibrant yellow suit with tapered, slightly relaxed trousers. He paired the suit with a matching button-up shirt that had a crisp, sharp collar.

The actor completed his ensemble with a double-breasted, long-sleeve jacket and black loafers. His stylish look was put together by stylist Taylor McNeill, with whom Chalamet has worked closely throughout the awards season and the promotional tour for *A Complete Unknown*.

The actor truly made his most pronounced fashion statement at the 2025 Oscars, which is widely regarded as the official conclusion of the Hollywood Awards season.



TV TALKIES

'Running Point' heartily combines sports drama with family dynamics

In what can easily be reckoned as Netflix's answer to a blend of *Succession* and *Ted Lasso*, albeit far less cut-throat, *Running Point* is a delightful watch from the get-go.

The 10-episode show follows Isla Gordon, played by Kate Hudson, who unexpectedly becomes president of the LA Waves, a family-run basketball franchise. With her best friend, Ali (Brenda Strong), Isla navigates the male-dominated sports world, aiming to break the glass ceiling.

Like *Succession*, Isla is the only daughter among her father's children, but unlike that show, her brothers are stock characters: Ness (Scott MacArthur) is a sweet but dumb former player-turned-GM, Sandy (Drew Tarver) is the uptight CFO, and Cam (Justin Theroux) is the eldest with a secret drug addiction, which leads him to offer Isla the Waves presidency while he's in rehab.

Jackie (Fabrizio Guido), who later discovers



that he shares a father with the siblings, helps humanise the self-involved family.

Running Point heartily explores Isla's impact on the Waves, focusing on subplots like a player's addiction and a rookie's free throw struggles, among other struggles.

WHAT'S PLAYING

'Timeless' by The Weeknd (feat Playboi Carti)

The Weeknd and Playboi Carti joined forces on *Timeless*, a brooding yet elegant fusion of hip-hop and R&B. The song, part of The Weeknd's *Hurry Up Tomorrow* album, carries a melancholic yet intoxicating energy built on pulsating beats, airy synths, and deep basslines.

Lyrical, *Timeless* reflects on the highs and lows of success, love, and the constant battle between ambition and vulnerability. Carti's verses are bold and self-assured, delivering sharp lines about the cost of fame, while The Weeknd's signature falsetto brings a sense of longing and emotional weight.

The accompanying music video enhances the song's themes, featuring sleek, cinematic visuals--neon cityscapes, slow-motion rain, and reflective moments of solitude--capturing the feeling of chasing something that's both fleeting and eternal.



OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



Design and Typography by Sabyasachi Hazra
April 5 | 10am onwards
Alliance Française de Dhaka



Late Night Comedy Show
March 14 | 11:59pm-1pm
Naveed's Comedy Club,
Gulshan-2



'Cartoon o Meme-er Rajniti'
March 9 | 11am-3pm
Zahir Raihan Auditorium,
Jahangirnagar University