

Bubly joins Eid lineup with film 'Sardar Barir Khela'

Shobnom Bubly is set to join this Eid-ul-Azha's cinematic lineup with *Sardar Barir Khela*, adding to the growing list of releases alongside *Taandob*, *Neelchokro*, *Insaaf*, *Esha Murder*, *Tagar*, *Utshob*, *Nadan*, and *Gowar*.

Bubly announced the film through a Facebook post, unveiling its poster and confirming her return to the big screen. Directed by Rakhal Sabuj and written by Onon Zaman, the film features Bubly opposite Ziaul Roshan.

The poster reveals Bubly in a gritty, unpolished look—portraying a weary, intense character far removed from her usual screen persona. The transformation has drawn praise from fans.

This marks her follow-up to *Jongli*, which received critical acclaim during Eid-ul-Fitr and performed well at the box office alongside titles like *Daagi* and *Borbaad*.



HBO's 'Harry Potter' series finds its golden trio

HBO and Warner Bros have unveiled the leads for their upcoming *Harry Potter* series: Dominic McLaughlin as Harry Potter, Arabella Stanton as Hermoine Granger, and Alastair Stout as Ron Weasley.

The announcement follows an extensive casting process involving thousands of young hopefuls. Executive producers Francesca Gardiner and Mark Mylod praised the trio's fresh talent and chemistry.

The series, announced in April 2023, will be a faithful adaptation of JK Rowling's seven books, each season covering one title. Notable cast members include John Lithgow as Dumbledore, Janet McTeer as McGonagall, and Paapa Essiedu as Snape.

Gardiner and Mylod, known for *Succession*, will lead the project, with Rowling serving as a producer alongside key names from the original film series.



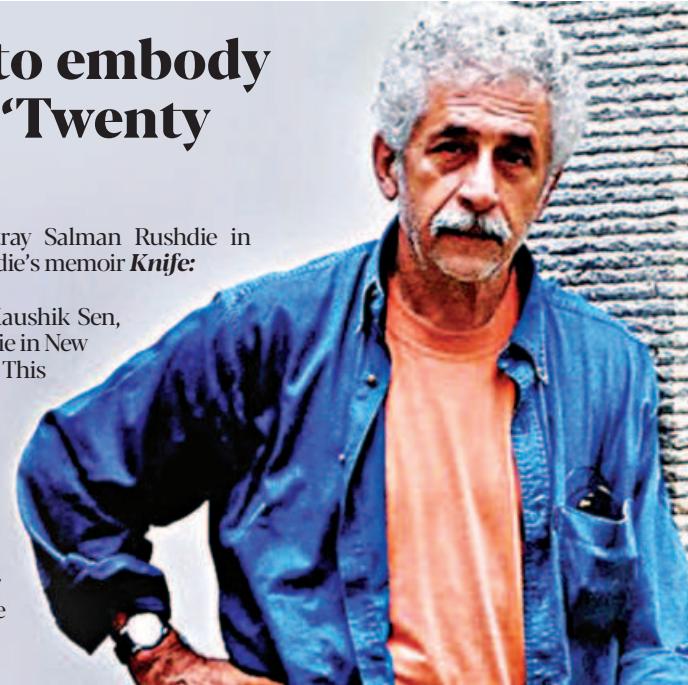
Naseeruddin Shah to embody Salman Rushdie in 'Twenty Nine Seconds'

Veteran actor Naseeruddin Shah is set to portray Salman Rushdie in *Twenty Nine Seconds*, a stage adaptation of Rushdie's memoir *Knife: Meditations After an Attempted Murder*.

Directed by renowned Bengali theatre maker Kaushik Sen, the play explores the 2022 onstage attack on Rushdie in New York and its aftermath—both personal and political. This marks Shah and Sen's first theatrical collaboration.

The cast also includes Hiba Shah, Riddhi Sen, Reshma Sen, and Surangana Bandyopadhyay, with Riddhi playing Rushdie's assailant. Produced by KCC Productions and Swapnasandhani, the play is set to debut in Kolkata and Mumbai this November.

With music by Probhuddha Banerjee, *Twenty Nine Seconds* reflects on violence, survival, and the power—and peril—of storytelling.



Jaya Ahsan and Churni Ganguly pair up for 'Ardhangini' sequel



Director Kaushik Ganguly has announced *Ajo Ardhangini*, the sequel to his acclaimed film *Ardhangini*. Starring Churni Ganguly, Jaya Ahsan, Kaushik Sen, and newcomer Indrashish Roy, the shoot is set to begin mid-June.

Jaya Ahsan confirmed the news via social media and recently visited Kolkata for a look test. Moreover, Anandabazar has already revealed her new look for this upcoming flick.

Speaking to Indian media, Jaya shared, "*Ardhangini* had a very mature storyline. It's truly a joy to be part of its sequel. The audience embraced the previous film wholeheartedly. Now, our challenge is to give back something that exceeds their expectations."

Jaya is currently promoting her Eid-ul-Azha releases *Taandob* and *Utshob*. She recently dubbed for *Taandob* in Kolkata, while post-production continues on another upcoming film, *Dear Maa*.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?

'Ontorongo Joler Gaan'

Joler Gaan returns with *Ontorongo Joler Gaan*, an intimate solo performance following a brief hiatus. Organised by NOOR's EVENT and Jatra Biroti, the evening promises a heartfelt musical journey featuring fan-favourite tracks like *Emon Jodi Hoto*, *Patar Gaan*, and *Dana Vanga Pakhi'r Gaan*. With each song carrying emotion and memory, the event aims to reconnect the band with their audience in a soulful setting.

Date: Thursday | May 30

Time: 6:30-9pm

Venue: Jatra Biroti Restaurant



Netflix secures Richard Linklater's Cannes hit 'Nouvelle Vague'



Netflix has acquired the global rights to Richard Linklater's Cannes sensation *Nouvelle Vague*, outbidding competitors, confirmed Variety. The film, a tribute to Jean-Luc Godard's *Breathless*, received a six-and-a-half minute standing ovation at the Cannes Film Festival, with Quentin Tarantino among its admirers.

Nouvelle Vague reimagines the birth of the French New Wave, with Guillaume Marbeck portraying Godard alongside Zoey Deutch, Adrien Rouyard, and Aubry Dullin.

This marks Linklater's first feature shot entirely in French. While Netflix's acquisition secures the film's streaming future, a broader theatrical release remains uncertain.

NEWS

There'll be no compromise

FROM PAGE 16

Bangladesh Army—were commissioned after three years of rigorous military training. Four Palestinian cadets were also among the graduates, who will serve in their national forces.

Air Chief Hasan took the salute as the chief guest, distributed awards among top-performing cadets, reads the statement.

Battalion Senior Under Officer Samrat Zabir received the prestigious "Sword of Honour" as the best all-round cadet, while Company Senior Under Officer Abdul Wadud Masum was awarded the "Army Chief's Gold Medal" for excellence in military subjects.

Among the foreign cadets, Palestinian Officer Cadet Sgt Md Mohammad Isbar received the "BMA Trophy of Excellence".

In his speech, Air Chief Hasan reminded the newly commissioned officers that with their oath they had taken on the sacred responsibility of defending the country's independence and sovereignty.

He emphasised that the Bangladesh

HC clears Tarique, Zubaida

FROM PAGE 16

The bench said that non-appellant Tarique would also get the benefit of the judgment as the charges brought in the case were not proved beyond reasonable doubt.

Following yesterday's judgment, Tarique was cleared in all the cases in which he had been convicted by lower courts, Md Zakir Hossain Bhuiyan, a lawyer for Tarique and Zubaida, told The Daily Star.

He, however, could not say in how many cases Tarique was convicted or accused.

Replying to a question, Zakir said there is no legal bar on Tarique to contest elections now.

Zubaida's principal counsel SM Shahjahan told The Daily Star that the High Court accepted the argument that the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) had not issued any notice to Zubaida to submit her wealth statement, although it is mandatory under section 26(l) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004.

Besides, Tarique's wealth statement was cited in the charges, but it was not mentioned that the wealth was allegedly earned through corruption or beyond known sources, Shahjahan added.

Contacted, ACC lawyer Md Ashif Hassan told this newspaper that he

Bangladesh youth

FROM PAGE 16

Armed Forces must always be prepared to counter both traditional and non-traditional threats, adapting to rapidly evolving technologies and global challenges.

"To stay relevant in modern warfare, you must be intellectually sound, mentally resilient, physically fit, and of strong character. Only then can you develop the initiative and creativity needed in the field."

Hasan Mahmood noted that future battlefields will be dynamic, where success will depend not on individual efforts but on joint training, inter-force cooperation, and optimal use of resources.

"Jointness among the three services is not just a strategy—it is a necessity. I firmly believe your courageous and committed journey will help uphold the development of the armed forces and the nation," he said.

He called upon the cadets to remain honest, focused, and committed to their responsibilities as future defenders of the nation.

Earlier on May 13, the HC bench condoned a 587-day delay by Zubaida in filing the appeal against the trial court verdict. A day later, the bench granted her bail after accepting her appeal for hearing. It also stayed the fines imposed by the lower court on her and called for records from the lower court.

According to the law, an appeal must be filed with the HC within 60 days after the trial court delivers judgment in such a case, lawyer Shahjahan said.

He also said the government, on October 2 last year, suspended Zubaida's jail term in the case for one year, on the condition that she would file an appeal upon surrendering to the court.

The ACC filed the case with Kafrul Police Station against the couple and Zubaida's mother Syeda Iqbal Mand Banu on September 26, 2007, on charges of amassing assets worth Tk 4.82 crore through "illegal" means and concealing the information of Tk 2.16 crore in their wealth statements.

A Dhaka court sentenced Tarique to nine years and Zubaida to three years on August 2, 2023.

However, Md Shahjahan Miah

opposed an office order due to his alleged involvement in the fraud.

"An investigation is currently underway against Md Shahjahan Miah. If found guilty, legal action will be taken against him," Khan said.

Fake Ansary served at Bangladesh Bank until May 27, when he was fired.

The Daily Star tried to reach him for comments, but found his mobile phone switched off.

However, Md Shahjahan Miah

answered a phone call and said before hanging up: "I didn't go to the office today. I don't know anything about the suspension."

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