

# There's no stopping SADIA AYMAN

“Being part of such a project with some of the greatest artistes of our time—especially those whose work has inspired me since childhood—still feels like a dream! My constant effort is to embody characters fully and present them to the audience in the most believable way possible.”

SHARMIN JOYA

“I am fortunate that in the initial years of my career, I got the opportunity to work with such great filmmakers,” recalls Sadia Ayman from one of her old interviews with The Daily Star. Her aim for the stars led her to a place where she is now making her mark in the glittering world of showbiz.

Both critically and publicly acclaimed projects have built a ladder

for her to climb higher since the early years of her career. What's the magic behind her success? Sadia spills the beans, alongside her plans for the future.

“It can be called magic,” she smiles, “but more than that, I believe it's my instincts that always guide me. For instance, I make sure to choose roles I feel confident about and that match my calibre—otherwise, I humbly decline them.”

She made her silver screen debut with Gias Uddin Selim's *Kajol Rekha*, which earned both national and international acclaim and was even included in the

curriculum for master's students in the Department of History at Dhaka University. “Would you not call it an achievement any artiste would dream of?” she exclaims.

She is undeniably remembered by the audience for her role in Shihab Shaheen's *Mayashalik*, Mizanur Rahman Aryan's *Full Hata Shirt*, and Amitabh Reza Chowdhury's *Bohemian Ghora*—among her other roles.

Her portrayal of young Jasmine, whose older version was portrayed by Afsana Mimi in Tanim Noor's *Utshob*—a film that became the biggest attraction during this Eid-ul-Azha, continued to run for a long time, and is now making waves overseas.

“The feeling is surreal. Being part of a project with some of the greatest artistes of our time—especially those whose work has inspired me since childhood—still feels like a dream! My constant effort is to embody my characters fully and present them to the audience in the most believable way possible. I was truly overwhelmed when my seniors, including the likes of Zahid Hasan, praised my work publicly. For that, I am deeply grateful.”

Reminiscing about the role of Jasmine, a much-loved character, Sadia shares how she prepared to portray someone from the 1990s. “I was born in the late 90s, so I can only remember my cousins from that era, and I tried to recall their personalities, the way they awed and inspired me. At the same time, I've often said that I like watching films and reading books to hone my acting skills. As an avid fan of the renowned writer and filmmaker Humayun Ahmed, his characters—both on the page and on screen—helped me shape the image of Jasmine.”

Sadia is grateful to the small screen audience, who have pampered her so much. “My appearances on the small screen earned me so much love that I don't know how to repay it! Even when I was away for a while, they eagerly awaited my return,” she expresses. “I promise to return soon with something truly special.”

On a lighter note, the actress speaks about her personal life. “Some fans often ask when I'll get married,”

Sadia admits. “Others tell me I'm too young and should focus on my career first, which I find sweet. I trust the Almighty's timing, but I hope to be settled by 30, with a family and a partner who supports me in my journey. Otherwise, life would get boring!”

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix  
Wednesday



HBO Max  
Task



Hulu  
Only Murders in the Building



Prime Video  
The Girlfriend



Apple TV+  
The Morning Show



## OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



16th International Inter-University  
Short Film Festival (IIUSFF)  
August 31-Sep 2 | 10am - 10pm  
TSC, University of Dhaka



Play: 'Dushashon'  
Sept 3 | 7pm onwards  
Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA



Play: 'Guardians of the Gods'  
Sept 6 | 7pm and 8:15pm  
Alliance Française de Dhaka,  
Dhanmondi

## TV TALKIES

‘SAARE JAHAN SE ACCHA’

# A riveting spy story that puts humanity first

Netflix's *Saare Jahan Se Accha* is a gripping espionage tale that stands apart from the usual fast-paced thrillers. Rooted in sharp research and layered writing, it balances intelligence with emotion, making the story itself the true hero.

Set in the tense 1970s, the series traces India's R&AW and Pakistan's ISI in a high-stakes clash over nuclear ambitions, while offering a humane lens where every operative—RAW or ISI—is shown as a patriot driven by duty.

The performances by Pratik Gandhi, Tillotama Shome, Anup Soni, Sunny



Hinduja, and Suhail Nayyar add depth and authenticity, ensuring no character feels secondary.

The show's strength lies in its complexity: multiple threads, moral dilemmas, and moments that stay with you—like the heartbreaking arc of Anup Soni's officer torn between duty and family.

Created by Gaurav Shukla and produced by Bombay Fables, the series is a tribute to unsung heroes who serve in silence and is one of Netflix's most compelling Indian originals.

## WHAT'S PLAYING

‘Anxiety’ by Doechii

*Anxiety* is where raw confession meets pop experimentation. What began as a lo-fi recording in Doechii's bedroom has evolved into one of 2025's most striking breakout singles.

Built on the bones of Gotye's *Somebody That I Used to Know* and reimagined with Doechii's mix of razor-sharp rap, the song feels both intimately personal and larger than life. Every verse pivot between panic and poise, a sonic embodiment of the tension its title suggests.

It drew viral traction on TikTok and climbed into the Billboard Hot 100's Top 10. Critics have praised its daring structure

“Anxiety Is Watching Me” lands as both a hook and a truth — proof that pop music can still carve out space for conversations we often sidestep.



## STYLE STATEMENT

Austin Butler

Headlining actor Austin Butler made a suave appearance during the premiere of his upcoming film *Caught Stealing*, directed by Darren Aronofsky. He paired a daring low-cut tank with low-waisted trousers exuding effortless sophistication in a monochrome ensemble. Adding structure to the look, Butler layered on a sharp double-breasted blazer, while Saint Laurent Oxfords provided the perfect finishing touch, reinforcing the timeless appeal of his red-carpet style.