



(1) Britt Lower beams after winning Lead Actress for 'Severance'. (2) Noah Wyle wins Lead Actor Emmy for 'The Pitt'. (3) Javier Bardem in a Palestinian keffiyeh at the Emmys. (4) Tramell Tillman makes history as the first Black man to win Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for 'Severance'.

PHOTO: REUTERS/AP

EMMYS 2025

A night of historic wins and bold political statements



(L) Outstanding Comedy Series winners 'The Studio' celebrate Emmy victory onstage. (R) 15-year-old Owen Cooper holds his Emmy after making history as the youngest Supporting Actor winner for 'Adolescence'.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The 77th Primetime Emmy Awards offered more than glitz and glamour. Marked by standing ovations, long awaited reunions, record-breaking triumphs, and impassioned calls for justice, this year's ceremony showed that television's biggest night can be as culturally resonant as it is entertaining.

Apple TV+'s *The Studio* cemented its place in Emmy history, collecting 13 trophies the most ever awarded to a comedy series in a single cycle. The record was previously held by FX's *The Bear*, which won 10 in 2023. With nine victories at last week's Creative Arts Emmys and four more on Monday, *The Studio* established itself as this year's undeniable comedy powerhouse.

In the limited series categories, *Adolescence* proved dominant with eight wins, including best limited series. The cast received widespread recognition, with Stephen Graham, Owen Cooper, and

Erin Doherty all earning acting honours, while Jack Thorne and Graham also won for best writing.

Freshman drama *The Pitt* triumphed in the fiercely contested best drama series race. Stars Noah Wyle and Katherine LaNasa added to the show's success with wins for best lead actor and best supporting actress in a drama, bringing its total to five awards.

The night was also marked by history-making achievements. Fifteen-year-old Owen Cooper stunned the audience by becoming the youngest male actor ever to win an Emmy, taking home best supporting actor in a limited/anthology series or TV movie. Breaking a record that had stood since 1973, Cooper reflected in his emotional speech: "Tonight proves that if you listen, focus, and step out of your comfort zone, you can achieve anything in life."

Severance star Tramell Tillman made history as well, becoming the first Black man to win best supporting actor in

a drama series. His debut nomination turned into a career-defining moment, greeted with a standing ovation.

For veteran actor Noah Wyle, recognition was long overdue. A five-time nominee in the supporting category during his *ER* years, he finally claimed Emmy gold as best actor in drama.

The evening wasn't only about new achievements. Nostalgia also took center stage, with reunions from *Gilmore Girls*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, and *Law & Order* reminding audiences of television's enduring legacy across generations.

Beyond the awards and reunions, the Emmys also became a platform for political courage. Several stars used the global stage to call for a ceasefire in Gaza and voice support for Palestine, reflecting a growing cultural boycott movement in Hollywood.

Academy Award winner Javier Bardem delivered one of the night's boldest statements, appearing with a kaffiyeh draped around his neck and declaring

"Free Palestine" on stage. Speaking to The Hollywood Reporter, Bardem reaffirmed his commitment to the Film Workers for Palestine movement, which calls for boycotts of institutions tied to Israeli state policies. "We are not targeting people by identity — we are targeting complicit institutions," he said.

Hacks star Hannah Einbinder, who won best actress in a comedy, echoed Bardem's sentiments backstage. "As a Jewish person, I feel obligated to distinguish between Judaism and the state of Israel," she said. "This boycott is about pressuring institutions complicit in the genocide — not individuals."

Others chose quieter but equally resonant acts of solidarity. Ruth Negga, Chris Perfetti, and Aimee Lou Wood wore red ceasefire pins, while Megan Stalter carried a black handbag emblazoned with "Cease Fire!" "What's the point of being at these big events if you're not going to use your privilege?" Stalter told Variety.

Vicky Zahed brings flash fiction 'Ondho Balok' to Chorki

Vicky Zahed's flash fiction *Ondho Balok* premieres on Chorki at 12:01am on September 18. Written by Nazim Ud Daula, the story mixes romance, fate, and doubt, breaking away from Vicky's usual suspense style. Tawsif Mahbub plays Orko opposite Sadia Ayman as Dina; two lovers whose relationship fractures after the arrival of a mysterious blind boy.

Veteran actor Tariq Anam Khan and Shilpi Sarkar Apu appear in key roles. Vicky Zahed, whose career began with short films, said he remains drawn to Chorki's flash fiction format for its unique storytelling scope. The screenplay and dialogue were co-written by Zahed and Nazim Ud Daula, with cinematography by Bidrohi Dipon. Produced jointly by Chorki and Alpha-l, *Ondho Balok* is the platform's second flash fiction release.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?

'CHITRANGADA'

Acclaimed theatre troupe Swapnadal will stage Rabindranath Tagore's lyrical drama *Chitrangada*, directed by Zahid Repon, marking the production's 120th performance. Adapted from the *Mahabharata*, the play tells the story of Manipuri princess Chitrangada and her struggle between love, identity, and self-worth, offering a timeless reflection on human relationships.

Date: Thursday | September 18, 2025

Time: 7pm

Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy



NEWS

Two die

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Begum, 58, a homemaker from Anandi Dhaniram village -- both in Parl union.

Razzak reportedly slaughtered a sick cow on August 2 and developed fever and sores the next day. He died on August 9 after hospitalisation.

Komola Begum fell ill after handling and cooking meat from a sick cow and died on September 6.

Family members of both deceased said several relatives who came into contact with the meat have also been infected.

Razzak's son, Mizanur Rahman, said, "My father slaughtered the cow. I also handled the meat. Four members of my family including me were affected. My father's symptoms were the worst."

"First comes fever, then reddish boils that turn black," said Mizanur, who is undergoing treatment.

Dulal Mia, son of Komola Begum, said, "We did not know that touching or eating meat of a sick cow could cause such a disease. My mother contracted it while cleaning and cooking the meat, and she died. Two other family members and I have been infected. We have taken treatment."

Rangpur District Livestock Officer Abu Sayeed confirmed that meat samples tested positive for anthrax. "Infected cows were slaughtered and sold cheaply. Many preserved the meat in freezers, leading to widespread exposure," he said.

Over the past three months, more than 100 cows have died in Pirogacha, though not all were anthrax cases. Authorities have vaccinated 40,000 cattle and are distributing leaflets to raise awareness. Butchers have been warned against slaughtering sick animals.

Nazrul Islam, a farmer from Parl village, said two of his cows died and two others remain infected despite vaccination.

Rangpur Civil Surgeon Shahin Sultana said the situation remains under control. "Anthrax does not spread from human to human, but handling or consuming infected meat can cause transmission," she said.

Contacted, Prof Tahmina Shirin, director of IEDCR, said a team from IEDCR is still investigating the matter on the spot.

"I will be able to comment once I receive the report," she told this newspaper yesterday.

Arakan Army

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Showing the movement of Bangladeshi trawlers crossing into Myanmar waters under the cover of darkness. He said the BGB, navy, and coast guard are working in coordination to prevent drug smuggling.

Speaking on the issue of Bangladeshi fishermen frequently getting detained by Myanmar authorities, Mohiuddin said fishermen were detained only when they crossed into Myanmar waters.

Manik Mia was a grocery shop owner in Uttar Bakhranagar union, said Narsingdi Additional Superintendent of Police Sujan Chandra Sarker.

"The victim suffered sharp weapon injuries, especially to the neck. The motive behind the killing could not be known immediately. Legal procedures are underway," the ASP said yesterday.

Quoting locals, the police said Manik closed his shop at Uttar Bakhranagar Bazar around midnight and started for home. Miscreants stopped him near the bank of the Arial Kha river and attacked him with sharp weapons before fleeing the scene.

"We called him many times, but he did not answer. We found his body near the riverbank Monday morning," said his brother Suruj Mia, 50.

Meanwhile, also on Sunday night, a

finance secretary and a respected economist, was handed the key finance post, a challenging task to tackle the unemployment woes that drove the uprising.

Gurung and his supporters have called for the installation of an interim administration reflective of Nepal's Gen Z demographic.

While the ministerial appointments were made with the intention of bringing in capable technocrats, Gurung criticised the process. He and his supporters claim that political insiders have now hijacked the movement.

He warned, "If our demands are not met, this government will also be toppled."

Gurung and other players in the youth-led movement backed Karki

either mistakenly or intentionally.

"There has never been any incident of the Arakan Army entering Bangladesh to detain fishermen. We continuously warn our fishermen not to cross the maritime boundary," he said.

Since July 15, BGB has seized around 28 lakh yaba pills from border areas of Cox's Bazar and parts of Bandarban. During this period, 22 firearms, including sophisticated rifles, were also recovered.

"We'll be investigating the matter internally, following protocol," the Commanding Officer added.

Moniruzzaman Molla, officer in-charge of Golapganj Police Station, said, "The deceased's sister filed an unnatural death case. Preliminary evidence suggests suicide. We'll submit a full report to the court after receiving the autopsy findings."

The body was handed over to the family yesterday after the autopsy, he added.

US vows unwavering

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He had also said Trump wanted the Gaza war to be "finished with" -- which would mean the release of hostages and ensuring Hamas is "no longer a threat".

But talks were made more difficult last week when the Trump administration was caught off guard by an Israeli attack in Qatar against Hamas leaders.

"We sent a message to terrorists: you can run but you cannot hide," Netanyahu said.

The "raid didn't fail."

Rubio said Washington would continue to tell Qatar to continue its "constructive role" as an intermediary in the Gaza war.

A US official later said Rubio will travel to Qatar today, where Arab and Muslim leaders gathered yesterday to put pressure on Israel after the attack.

Qatar's emir said at the summit that Israel had sought to derail truce talks, which Doha along with Egypt and the United States have sought to broker between Israel and Hamas.

"Whoever works diligently and systematically to assassinate the party with whom he is negotiating, intends to thwart the negotiations... Negotiations, for them, are merely part of the war," Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani said.

In Gaza, Israeli strikes killed another 25 people yesterday, all but one in Gaza City, Gaza civil defence agency reported.

A decision was also made to continue providing free medical treatment for the injured.

Murder suspect

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proceedings in the morning," he added.

Following the death, Rab contacted Tanvir's family, local council representatives, police, and a doctor. In their presence, the hanged body was taken down and sent for autopsy at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, the officer said.

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Foreign power backed

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The tribunal has so far heard 46 witnesses.

During lunch break, Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam said Nahid Islam, a key leader of the July uprising, will testify today. Mahmudur said Hasina's first move was to weaken the army. "Two months into her tenure, the BDR massacre was orchestrated with Sheikh family members -- particularly former MP Sheikh Taposh -- involved. Fifty-seven army officers were murdered and their families tortured, yet Taposh was never tried."

He alleged that "10 months before the December 2008 election, the results were predetermined in Delhi" and accused a top army official and a DFOI officer of engineering the Awami League's landslide.

Hasina and her ministers failed to protect officers and allowed the Pilkhana massacre to continue, he said, adding that the hostility stemmed from "Hasina's father's reliance on the Rakhi Bahini over the army".

Hasina then turned to judiciary, Mahmudur claimed, citing Khaleda Zia's eviction from cantonment house -- which Hasina later admitted was a political decision -- and the abolition of the caretaker government system.

Although most amici curiae (neutral experts invited to advise the court) and several Appellate Division judges supported retaining the caretaker system, four justices ruled otherwise and were later rewarded as chief justices, he alleged.

He said the 2013 Shahbagh protests were staged to create a "public enemy concept" targeting Islamic parties, comparing the strategy to Hitler's demonisation of communists and Jews. "The Ganajagan Mancha functioned as the second parliament," he said, alleging civil servants were pressured to endorse executions while Hasina declared she was "always at Shahbagh in spirit".

"This paved the way for retrospective legal changes that turned Abdul

Mahmudur named six former chief justices, three appellate judges, 10 lawyers including two ex-law ministers, 12 senior police officials including five former IGP, three election commissions (except Mahmudur Talukdar's), 16 political leaders and 13 senior army and DFOI officials, including four former army chiefs, as aiding Hasina's consolidation of power.

He alleged that India played a decisive role in Hasina's rise, citing New Delhi's pressure before the 2014 polls, when a top diplomat pushed the Jatiya Party to contest. Even after the "fake elections" of 2018 and 2024, India allegedly lobbied in Washington and Europe to support Hasina.

Mahmudur's testimony will be cross examined by the state appointed defense counsel today.

Admin reshuffle

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been arrested in two cases over the attack -- one filed over the killing of a follower of Nurul in clashes, and the other over attacking police, according to Sharif. "No one is being detained without verification. Therefore, there is no reason for those not involved to be worried," he said.

connection with the darbar sharif attack. He faces charges of arson, grievous injury, looting, murder, and exhumation and burning of corpses, said Sharif Al Rajib, additional SP of Rajbari.

So far, a total of 24 people have