

#FASHION & BEAUTY

Why kaftans are a timeless essential in BANGLADESHI WARDROBES



The kaftan has mastered what most fashion silhouettes struggle to achieve — looking refined while feeling effortless. Flowing, forgiving and versatile, it has quietly become one of the most reliable pieces in a modern Bangladeshi wardrobe. From casual afternoons and office wear to festive evenings, the kaftan adapts with ease, proving that style does not have to be complicated to be impactful.

SILHOUETTE THAT WORKS

The enduring appeal of the kaftan lies in its lack of rigid structure. Designed to skim the body instead of hugging it, kaftans offer comfort without sacrificing presence. Wide sleeves, fluid cuts, and breathable fabrics make them flattering across body types and age groups, which explains their growing popularity beyond seasonal trends.

Long kaftans remain the classic choice, especially for evening wear or semi-formal occasions. Their length and flow create a sense of drama that feels elegant yet effortless. Short kaftans, on the other hand, are ideal for daytime dressing — easy to style, lightweight, and perfect for the typical Bangladesh climate.

In recent years, short kaftans have also evolved into co-ord styles. Paired with matching trousers or palazzos, these sets bring a contemporary edge to the silhouette. The result is a look that feels structured enough for outings and meetings, while still retaining the comfort kaftans are known for.

FOR CELEBRATION

What makes kaftans particularly relevant today is their ability to move effortlessly across occasions. Chiffon, georgette, silk, and muslin kaftans are increasingly being worn for semi-formal gatherings and weddings. Delicate embroidery, subtle beadwork, or carefully placed prints give them a festive edge without making them feel heavy.

For daytime wedding events, such as mehendi or sangeet functions, kaftans offer a comfortable yet polished alternative to traditional attire.

Belts, statement jewellery, and structured footwear can instantly elevate a kaftan look. A cinched waist adds definition, while bold earrings or cuffs bring in personality. It's this adaptability that allows kaftans to feel both relaxed and occasion-ready, depending on how they're styled.

ATTENTION TO DETAILS

Kaftans lend themselves beautifully to colour play. Soft pastels, earthy neutrals, and classic blacks remain wardrobe staples, but bolder shades — emerald green, deep red, royal blue — are equally popular for festive wear. Prints add character, but solid colours with light embroidery often feel more

refined and versatile.

Fabric choice plays a crucial role in defining the mood of a kaftan. Cotton kaftans are breathable and practical, making them ideal for daily wear. Chiffon and georgette bring softness and movement, while silk offers a richer, more formal finish. The key is balance — light embroidery and thoughtful detailing enhance the garment without overpowering its natural flow.

WHERE TO FIND THEM

One of the kaftan's biggest advantages is its accessibility. Simple cotton kaftans typically start from around Tk 1,500 and are widely available through various online pages and small boutiques. These are perfect for everyday wear and casual outings.

Kaftans made from chiffon, georgette, or silk can range from Tk 4,000 to Tk 5,000, depending on fabric quality, print, and embroidery. Branded options from names like Rose by Nizu, Klubhouse and Aarong offer curated designs with consistent quality and finishing.

For those who prefer a more personalised approach, local shopping hubs like Banani Supermarket, Priyangan and Eastern Mollika remain unmatched. The real advantage of these places lies in their vast fabric selection — allowing shoppers to choose materials, colours, and embellishments before getting kaftans tailored exactly to their preference.

The kaftan has always been about ease, confidence, and individuality. It allows women to dress on their own terms, without compromising on comfort or elegance. Whether styled minimally or dressed up for an occasion, the kaftan holds its place as a wardrobe essential that works quietly, consistently, and beautifully.

Because sometimes, the most stylish choices are also the simplest.

By Nusrath Jahan

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Wardrobe: Rose by Nizu

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Location: Sheraton Dhaka