



UNBOWED
The Daily Star
CELEBRATING
35
YEARS *of*
**JOURNALISM WITHOUT
FEAR OR FAVOUR**

DESIGNING LIFE, DEFINING PERSONAL FREEDOM

ANNIVERSARY
SUPPLEMENTS 2026
SEGMENT 2
DHAKA SUNDAY JANUARY 18, 2026,
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OUR INDOMITABLE SPIRIT

For obvious reasons, “rising from the ashes” is always considered a grand transformation, but in reality, it is rarely as dramatic. However, there is something incredible about it. Something quietly miraculous about the proverbial “morning after a storm”. For it is in ordinary, everyday moments that we are reminded how instinctively we start life over again.

Resilience is a way of life. It is seen in people who face the worst of situations but take on the solemn promise to rearrange their lives after sudden changes. We see it in small businesses, who jumpstarts with the belief that things will be good again. And we observe it in artists who continue to create despite all the uncertainties that befall in life.

It goes without saying that true renewal often begins with hope. And keeping up with that spirit of living, this segment of The Daily Star’s Anniversary Supplement 2026 shares stories of optimism. We explore Nakshi Kantha and Jamdani and how designers and entrepreneurs are reimagining two of Bangladesh’s most iconic textiles. We step into the business of shoemaking and examine how natural dyes are reshaping the way we design and produce.

Our focus then turns to food, honouring traditional cooking practices while also addressing what happens when nutrition goes wrong, and obesity becomes a growing concern. We share inspiring stories of women breaking barriers in banking, and take a closer look at the real estate sector.

As this is an election year, we give space to NRB voices on the changes they hope to see in Bangladesh. We also introduce our readers to emerging talents in unconventional sports and the promising world of student entrepreneurship.

We hope you like our selection of stories. In every aspect of life, from what we wear to what we consume and how we lead our lives, we are constantly reminded that ashes do not define us. It is what grows from them that does.

Mahfuz Anam,
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The Daily Star