

PHOTOS: **COURTESY**

Goodbye, Bachelor Point!

Emotional cast reflects on decade-long journey

SHARMIN JOYA

"When I started ***Bachelor Point*** in 2017, I had no grand master plan—I simply needed to survive as a newly married director and cover my basic office rent," said Kajal Arefin Ome, director of what came to be Bangladesh's most popular series.

Following the announcement that the series would conclude with the final episode of its fifth season, the news came as a shock to audiences. The cast, whose characters had become household names, grew emotional after wrapping up their final shoot on November 9. The final episode of the fifth season will air on November 26.

Kabila (Ziaul Hoque Polash), Habu *bhai* (Chashi Alam), Pasha (Marzuk Russell), Nehal (Tawsif Mahbub) and Eva (Parsa Evana) reflected on their journeys with the series. Other memorable core characters include Shuvo (Mishu Sabbir), Arefin (Shamim Hasan Sarkar) and Shimul (Shimul Sharma), all of whom have countless memories associated with the much-loved series.

Ome, the captain of the ship, shared his emotional journey, adding that he now wants to focus on the silver screen and take some time to rest.

"From being just, a series to becoming one of the most important projects of my career, this production gave me a sense of fulfilment as a director, writer and, to some extent, producer as well," Ome shared.

"Operating on what was then Bangladesh's lowest budget for a drama series, we could not even afford a proper shooting house. To save costs under the relentless pressure of shooting two episodes daily, I cast my assistant Palash as Kabila and voiced the off-screen character Rokeya myself over the phone. When our initial producer ran out of funds, Season 1 abruptly came to a halt at episode 53."

Yet, viewers refused to let the show die. In 2018, university students took to the streets and even blocked television network offices, demanding its return. That unprecedented passion paved the way for the show's revival with Season 2, which gained enormous digital popularity during the Covid-19 lockdowns.

Ome also added, "By Season 5, I took full control as the sole producer, writer and director to eliminate creative compromises. We expanded our production scale, shooting across Nepal for the destination season."

Bachelor Point was never just a commercial project; for the entire team, it became an emotion and an identity.

For Palash, wrapping up Season 5 felt like the final day of school—the melancholy of knowing that one might never return to a beloved institution or hear the familiar chatter of its classrooms again. He described his journey as extraordinary.



Eva and Kabila

"Living as Kabila brought reactions from our audience that were beyond expectations. After Season 3 ended, people on the streets would literally bully and curse at me because of their intense emotional investment in the story. Following Season 4, overly passionate fans even vandalised my house. Yet, I accepted all of this positively, knowing it reflected how deeply our characters had penetrated their everyday lives. Recently, at immigration, the officer looked at my passport, saw Ziaul Haque Polash, and jokingly asked why Kabila wasn't written on it instead. People calling me by my character's name is the sweetest fruit of my labour, proving that Kabila has become an unforgettable identity."



Kajal Arefin Ome

Eva, played by Parsa Evana, is another character that audiences made their own.

"***Bachelor Point*** has changed my career in so many ways. It has shaped me not only as an artiste but also changed the way I think, observe and understand my craft."

Although she was not a part of the season, the audience wanted to see her there. In the past week, I've received more than 400 mentions on Instagram. Almost everyone said the same thing: that they expected to see me in the latest season and that Kabila is incomplete without my character. I may not have been part of this season, but I will always be grateful to have been part of this journey. And perhaps this ending isn't really an ending. I believe it's just a new beginning for everyone."

Tawsif Mahbub, who won the hearts of children in particular with his portrayal of Nehal, admitted that he had a meltdown after his final shot.

"Nothing could be nicer than this ending, as Nehal returned to make the audience emotional, and the season is ending on such a great note. Before delivering my very last close-up shot, I asked Ome *bhai* for his blessings, which left both of us teary-eyed and the set in complete silence. I struggled to remember my final dialogue with a heavy heart, but somehow, we finished the take," he recalled.

Ome *bhai* immediately walked over from behind the monitor to embrace him, as the entire crew shared an emotional farewell.

Tawsif also recalled heartwarming encounters with young fans during the filming of ***Bachelor Point***. "They were all between five and eight years old, excited to see Nehal. Most of them didn't even know my real name!" he said.

Another encounter left a lasting impression on Tawsif when a teenager told him that Nehal had inspired him to pursue higher education in Bangladesh rather than go abroad after his O-Levels.

"It made me realise that those who say there is nothing good in this series should look again. If you want to find something good, you can. I was happy that these children found positive messages and took good lessons from it," he said.

Among the cast, Marzuk Russell, who plays Pasha, was particularly emotional, surprising his fellow artistes, who said they had rarely seen him break down this way.

Reflecting on his journey with the series, he said, "I didn't take on any other project while working on this series, and it gave me immense experience. I am grateful to Ome for maintaining discipline and punctuality, teaching us acting techniques and creating a homely environment where we could be ourselves. We didn't simply work commercially and return home; we became one big family, and we will remain one. I don't consider this an ending, but a break. This series shall return."

TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix
Bass X Machina



Prime Video
The Rings of Power



Apple TV+
Nocturne



Hoichoi
Kauriburir Mandir



Chorki
Feu



OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA

'Flavourful Bangladesh'
November 11-20 | 6:00pm onwards
Cafe Social, InterContinental Dhaka

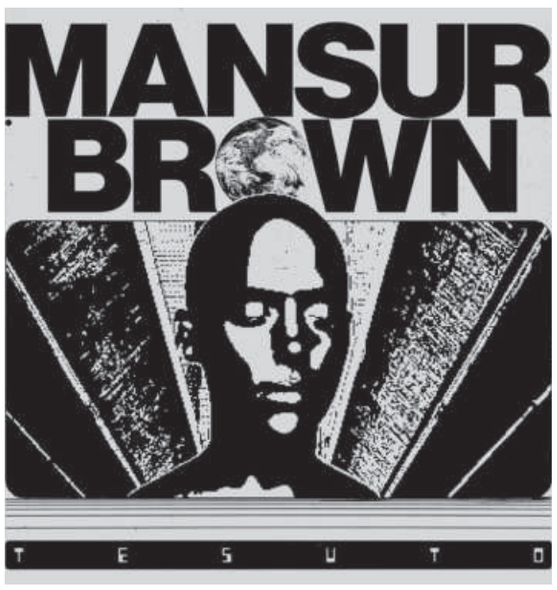


'Exposure'
November 13 – 15 | 3:30pm–8:00pm
Safiuddin Shilpalay, Dhanmondi



'Café de Volte'
November 20, 2026 | 6:00pm and 8:00-pm onwards Jatra Biroti, Banani





WHAT'S PLAYING

'It's My Time'

by Mansur Brown

Mansur Brown's instrumental track ***It's My Time*** turns struggle and perseverance into sound. Released in 2020 on his three-track ***Tesuto*** EP, the instrumental moves from restraint to release, turning a winding guitar line into a quiet declaration of steady resolve.

The track begins with space to breathe. Brown lets each phrase hang before drums and electronic textures gradually thicken the arrangement. By the time the guitar pushes forward, the music feels less like a performance than an internal struggle finally breaking into the open.

Brown has described the piece as a story of triumph, about processing pain before finding the strength to face it. That idea explains its renewed appeal on social media, where its patient build lends itself naturally to moments of transformation, confidence and unexpected arrival.

TV TALKIES

'Jailer 2'

Jailer 2 brings back retired jailer Tiger Muthuvel Pandian, played by Rajinikanth, as he finds himself caught up in another dangerous mission. Having left his days as a jailer behind, Tiger is once again drawn into a world of crime, violence and powerful enemies. As the stakes rise, he must rely on his experience and familiar allies to take on those standing in his way. Directed by Nelson Dilipkumar, the action thriller also stars Ramya Krishnan, Yogi Babu, S J Suryah, Vidya Balan and Mithun Chakraborty, with special appearances by Mohanlal, Jackie Shroff and Shiva Rajkumar. The film is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video.



STYLE STATEMENT

Kiara Advani

Bollywood actress Kiara Advani exuded elegance and sophistication in a pristine white ensemble. The corset-inspired silhouette, effortless styling and softly cascading waves came together to create a look that was both timeless and contemporary.

Balancing minimalism with understated glamour, the ensemble beautifully complemented her natural charm, making it a fashion moment that was hard to miss.