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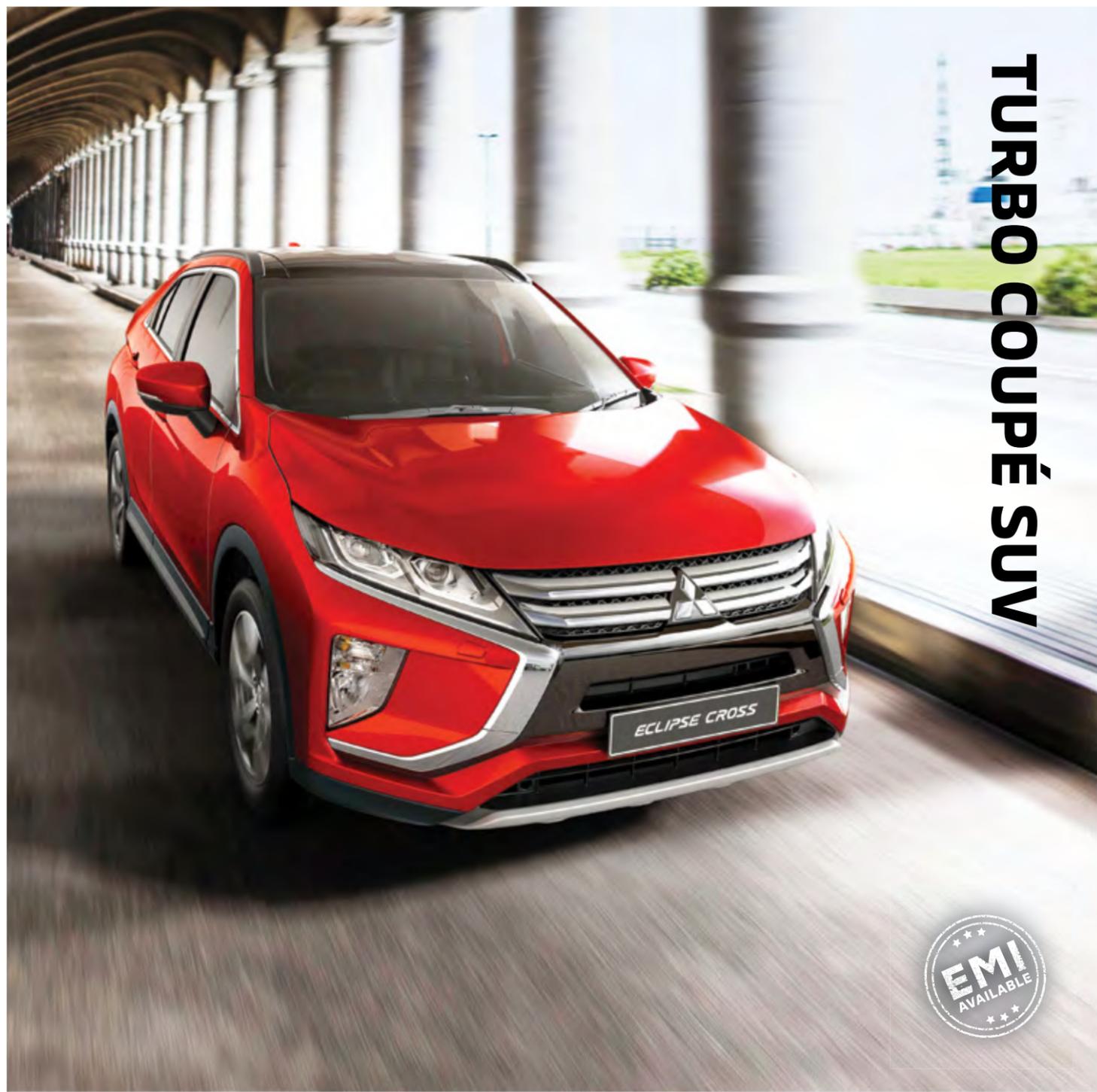
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INNOVATING A BEAUTIFUL PLANET



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# Inherently Bangali



wide collection of books. For our Shop Interior segment, we covered the Taaga Man flagship store in Dhanmondi, a store that encapsulates the ethnic roots of our country to fit the modern man of today. There and back segment talks about Sairu Hill Resort which is a piece of heaven with pure scenic bliss that one can never get enough of. All in all, this issue is vibrant and full of exciting things. Have a good read!

DATO' K.M. RIFATUZZAMAN  
EDITOR

Showcase Magazine has stepped into the 4th year and keeping that celebration in mind along with upcoming Bangla Noboborsho, we wanted to emphasize on the traditional side. Well, not just traditional of course, but traditional combined with contemporary. This issue is full of life and design as colourful as the cultural heritage of Bangladesh. For this issue, we had the privilege to work with the very talented Bipasha Hayat. She has been mesmerizing everyone with her phenomenal acting, writing and singing. But in this issue of Showcase Magazine, we can encounter glimpse at what is perhaps the lesser known side of her- the painter.

We tried incorporating the true essence of Noboborsho in the 37th Issue. Thus, we decided covering Tagore Terrace for Heaven on a Plate segment. It is insanely refreshing to see a wonderful rooftop café that is inherently Bangali. Tagore Terrace strums at your heartstrings with its beautiful view, surrounded by a

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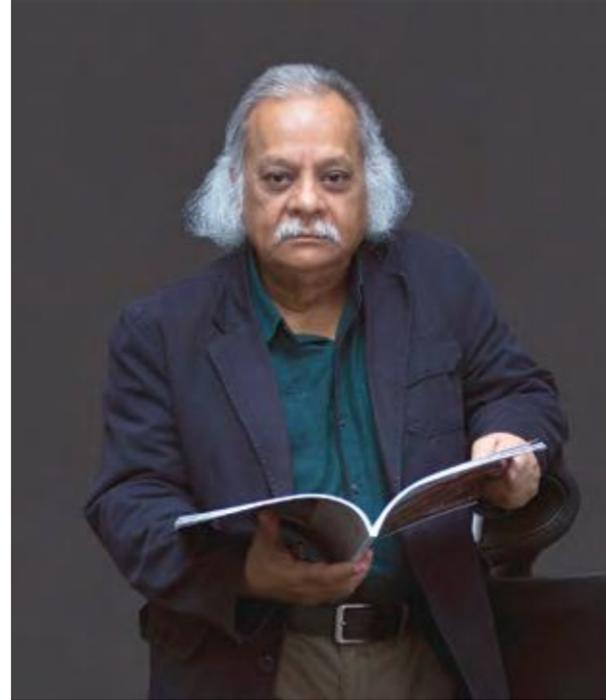
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# ADVISOR'S NOTE



A few years back when Showcase was just an idea, I never thought it would grow this big and create so much influence to the society of art and architecture. When my son started the journey, I believed in him and he believed in the team. I cannot but appreciate the extraordinary effort of the team in creating content that is so diverse in its nature. Karupannaya Factory by Bayezid Mahub Khondker is a segment that truly inspires the upcoming generation of architects who are looking for motivation. Other segments such as Tagore Terrace and Sairu Resort will entertain readers from all segments. I again congratulate the team on their tremendous landmark on the third year of Showcase Magazine. And I hope they will keep up the good work and move forwards only.

**K. M. Akhtaruzzaman**



Architect Bayejid Khondker is a keen eco-cultural articulator. His built forms blended with landscape architecture as visible and experienced in his projects particularly in Karupannaya Palli at Rangpur demand a serious consideration in order to realise how architecture should look like in our tropical and sub-tropical conditions.

Sairu Hill Resort located in the hilly range of Bandarban, juxtaposed with forest like trees, designed by architect Mustafa Ameen demonstrates how built forms can be developed organically in harmony with nature. The flexibility and the plurality of the architectural vocabulary of the resort have been able to evoke an informal atmosphere appropriate for the hilly site without sacrificing order.

The well known passion of architect Mustafa Khalid Palash for Rabindranath's poetry and music and for "everything Tagore" has ultimately found its embodied expression in the roof top café called Tagore Terrace in Banani. The Terrace with its architectural concrete and clear glass; spatial articulation and ample light; artifacts and visual ambience is a unique place for contemplation and bliss. The business sense of Palash gives his creative endeavours a sense of stability and lasting value.

Good wishes to all.

**Professor Shamsul Wares**

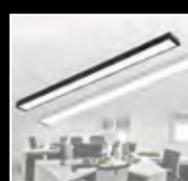


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# Recollecting memories

## through Art

Bipasha Hayat



Written By: Naila Binte Zakaria

For years, Bipasha Hayat has mesmerised her fans with her phenomenal acting, writing and singing. Today, we take a glimpse at what is perhaps the lesser known side of her- the painter Bipasha Hayat. Completing her MFA from the Institute of Fine Arts University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, she has been engaged in various forms of visual art and has received immense appreciation for her works. The multi-talented beauty opens up about her visual expressions through art and how her works have evolved over the years.

### Did your childhood have an impact on your life as an artist?

The memories of my childhood resonate with me and have created a huge impact on my life as an artist. I think at one point, most people start comprehending how important their childhood was to them. People who are engaged in cultural practices; be it art, literature, music etc, often reflect on their childhood through their artistic expressions. For instance, if you look at the artworks of Artist Marc Chagall, you'll observe connections between his art and his early life. Similarly, writer Maxim Gorky has reflected on his childhood in many of his novels. We only realize the significance of our childhood, when certain memories start haunting us and evoke nostalgia. I spent my childhood mostly in Libya. Many of my conceptual artworks are the evocation of the old memories from the days spent there. While growing up in Libya, I was introduced to the Roman civilization through the Roman ruins in different heritage sights and was highly drawn towards it. I would observe these ruins and it always made me curious about the stories behind each of them and the people who made them. Different ancient civilizations such as the Greek, Egyptian etc kept on intriguing me. It revealed my inquisitive mind, the result of which you will observe in my paintings now.



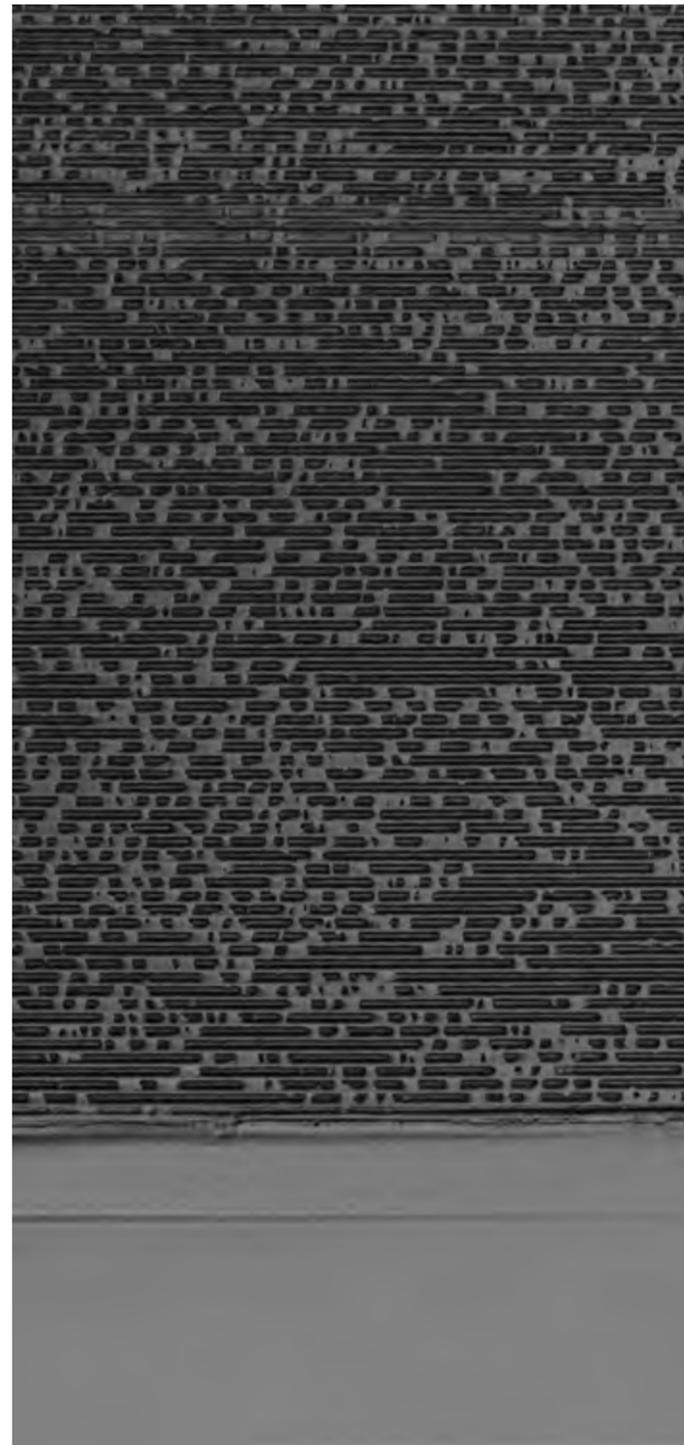
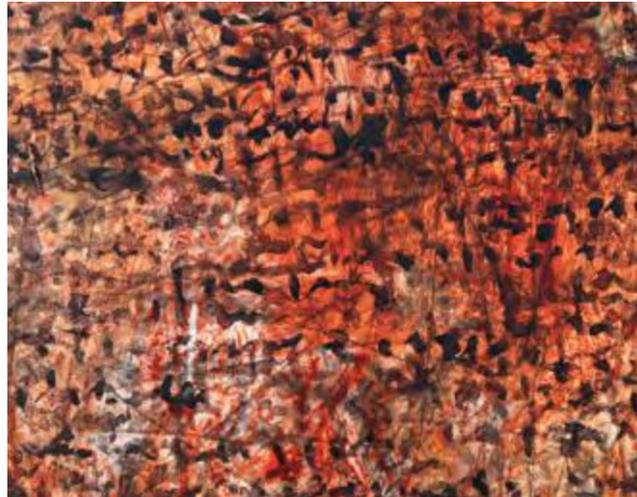
### Why did you decide to study in Fine Arts? Was it a childhood dream or did it just emerge one day?

My interest in art did not emerge overnight. Nature has always inspired me to pursue art. As a child, I used to be fascinated by different colours and shapes. The eye-catching colours of the watermelon, the streamlined shape of a fish or the exquisite patterns in the flower gardens- I would find art in all these mundane little things of life. I remember possessing a few Russian and Chinese books with vibrant illustrations done in watercolour. They would leave me mesmerized!

### What was it like studying in Charukola?

Absolutely eye-opening! When I used to study in Charukola, teachers were deemed as teachers, and students were deemed as students. Nowadays, you can't really tell which is which.

Instead of working on hyper-realism, I am more interested in capturing the unseen in my canvas. Hence, my artworks comprise of the sensory experiences, the subconscious mind and the memory.



**Who has motivated you the most to pursue your passion for art?**

My father. It was because of my father that I took admission in Charukola. My mother, in spite of being quite liberal, was a bit hesitant about me studying there. Hence, one day, I decided to take her on a visit to the Charukola campus. She was enthralled by the beautiful environment there, and finally got convinced to get me admitted. Interestingly enough, I stood first in the admission test of Charukola!



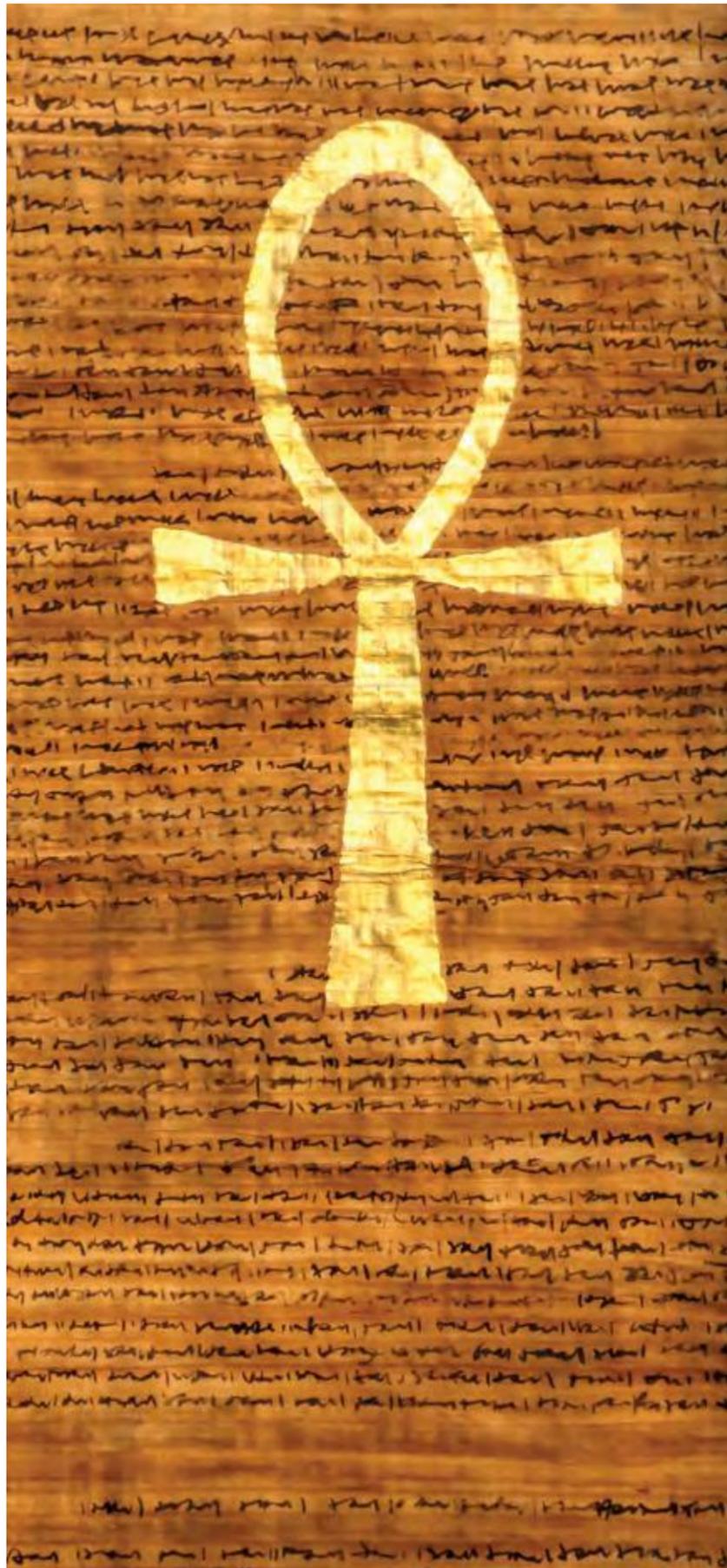
**In terms of painting, you work with multiple mediums including acrylic, watercolour, installation art etc. Which medium do you prefer the most?**

I think I prefer the medium my expression demands at the given time. In a drama, the form of presentation is determined by its subject. Sometimes there is a linear story and sometimes a non-linear story- it all depends on the subject matter. Similarly, in the case of art, I select mediums that depict my expressions better. The texture and effects I will get in charcoal will not be the same in watercolour. I let the subject decide the medium. I have been collecting small stones from different areas for almost seven years now. I know I will be using them for one of my installation art exhibitions, but I haven't been able to decide on the subject matter yet.



**You have worn many hats in your career and have succeeded in multiple domains. Which field gives you the most pleasure?**

This is an interesting question because as a student, I would often ask myself the same. I consider myself a pedestrian who attempted to set her foot in any field that sparked her interest. I have been acting from time to time, but I enjoy painting now more than ever. While acting and scriptwriting may often pose limitations in terms of expressing oneself, the world of art is infinite. When I cannot express myself through writing or acting, I do it with art. The subject matters of my writings and acting are often complex and heart-rending; however, my art always reflects on contentment and joy.



**What is your opinion about the current art scene in Bangladesh?**

Very poor. How many art galleries or art supply shops do you see in Bangladesh? You will find an abundance of clothing stores and luxury item stores, but not many stores cater to the artists. The galleries are closing down because there are no viewers or buyers available. The artists in Bangladesh don't get the recognition or patronization they require to flourish as professionals. Because of this, many young artistic souls are dying away every day. In a country where the artists are not even acknowledged well as professionals yet, how can you expect its art scene to be bright? We need to bridge the gap between our cultural practice and our cultural education and build the practice of viewing and appreciating art among people.

**Can you share with us the story behind some of your significant artworks?**

Instead of working on hyper-realism, I am more interested in capturing the unseen in my canvas. Hence, my artworks comprise of the sensory experiences, the subconscious mind and the memory. My solo exhibition titled "Realms of Memory" was a visualization of the memories that lingered in my mind. I attempted to visualize the colours that came to my mind while thinking of certain memories from my travels and childhood. Nowadays, I'm focusing more on subconscious texts that depict the state of my mind at different times. I visualize the texts written in my subconscious mind which has an infinite wall hidden in darkness; so they are all written in black.

**As an artist, do you ever go through an artist block? If so, how do you overcome it?**

I go through artist block sometimes! Even while writing, I often go through this. I think the key to overcome it is to keep on going. Even while writing, I often go through this. When I lack motivation, I start preparing canvases and mixing colours. Not only is it therapeutic, but it also helps me to get inspired to start over again.

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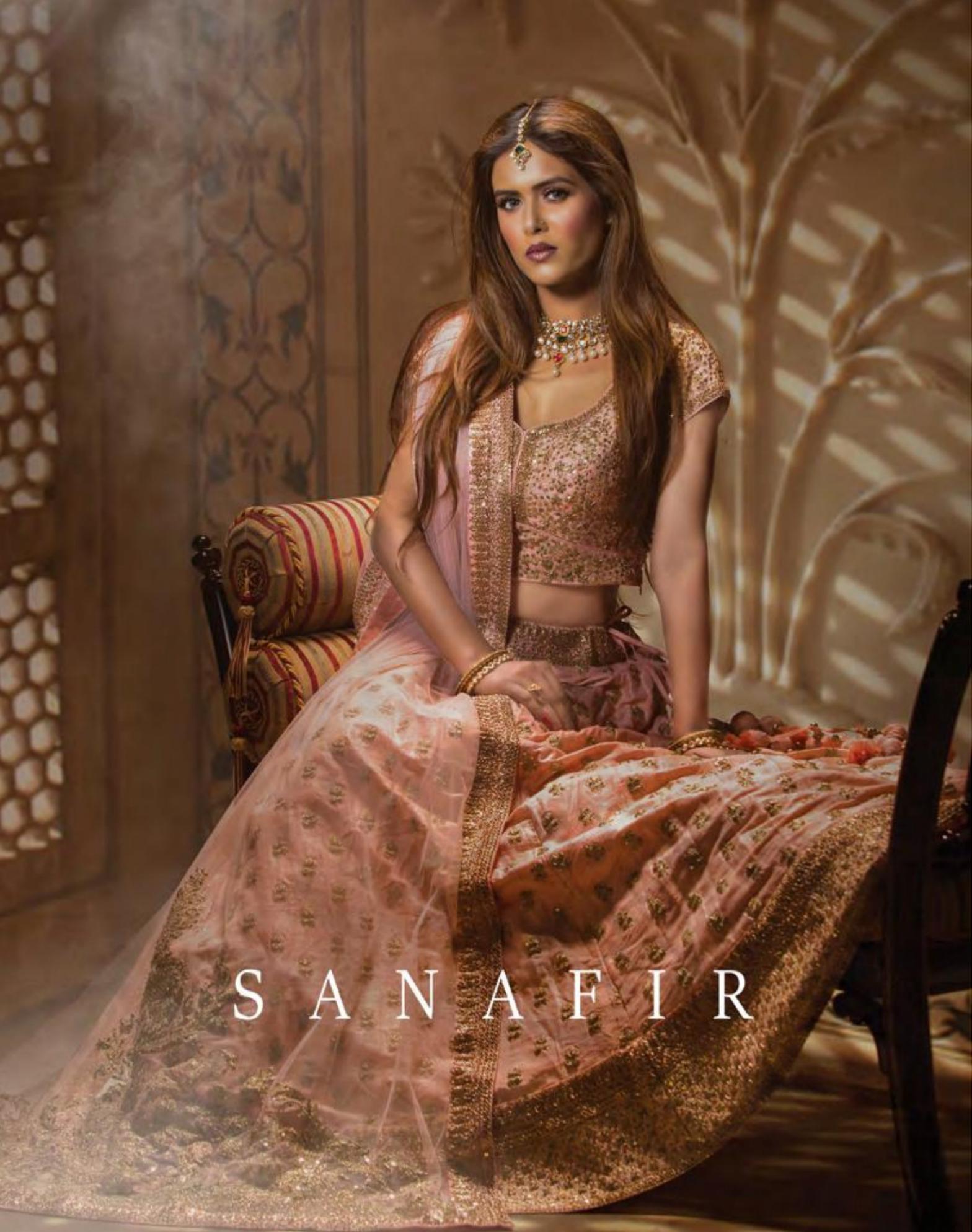
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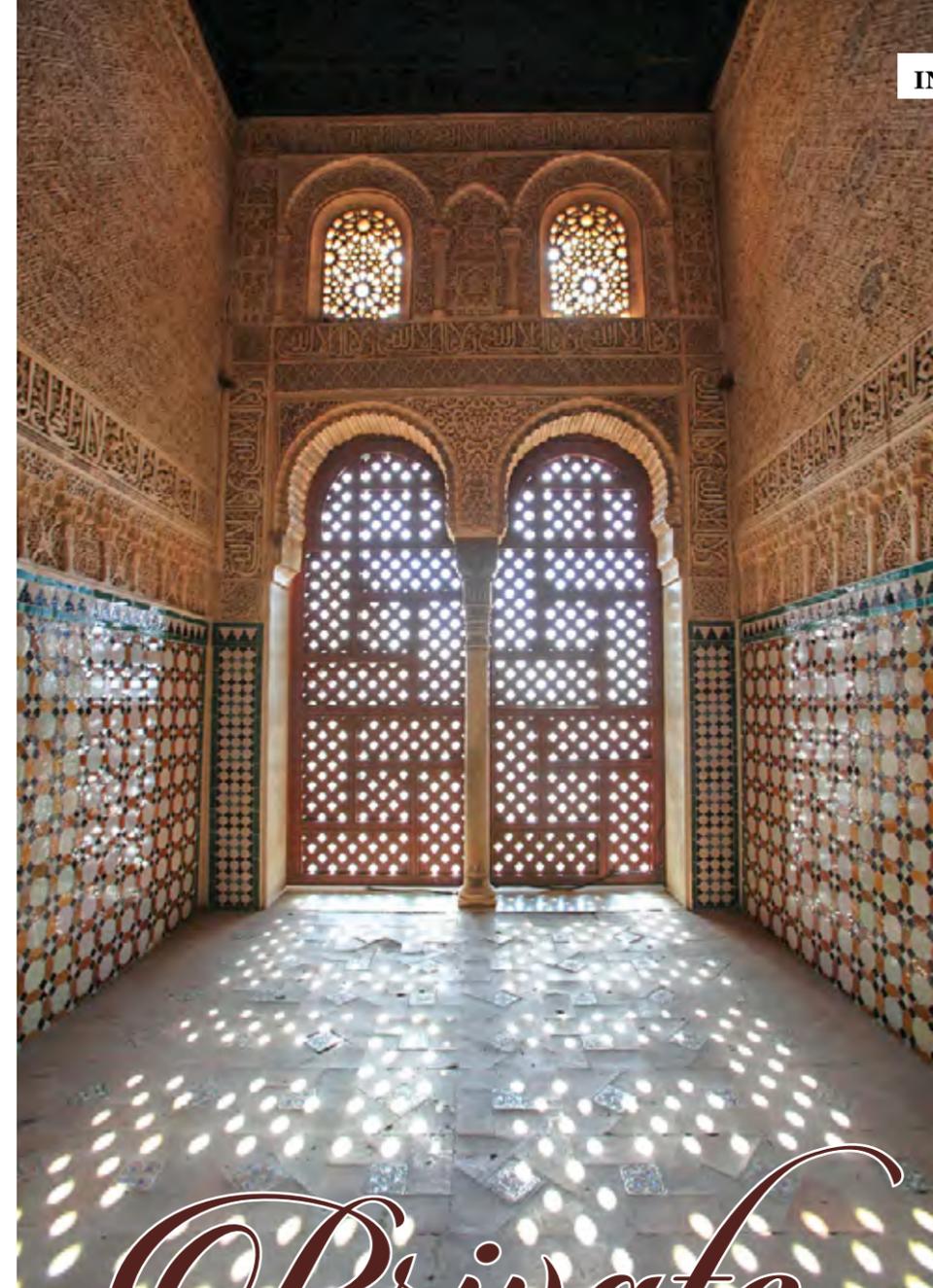
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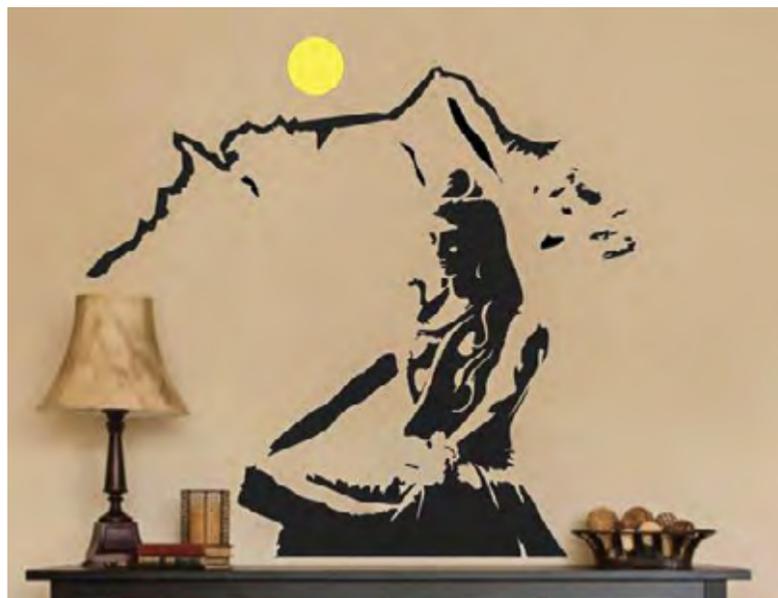
# Private

SANCTUARY

Written By: **Safeeyah Ayman**

Prayers need a calm atmosphere, devotion, concentration and privacy. Having a separate place in our households for such an activity allows us to pray with due consideration and devotion, devoid of distractions. Our homes can sometimes be very distracting with loud noises, other family members watching television, small children who constantly require your attention. A separate prayer room allows you to maintain the sanctity and peace and affords you the full privacy so that you can focus solely on your prayers.

A separate room will also mean that you can have religious gatherings in your home without disturbing the rest of the house. Regardless of what religion you may follow; Islam, Christianity, Hinduism or Buddhism, the design of your prayer room must be carefully constructed, keeping in mind the ease of cleanliness and maintenance. There are a few things that you might want to take into consideration while designing and decorating your prayer room.



“ Isolated from the rest of the house, the prayer room can become a sanctuary. ”

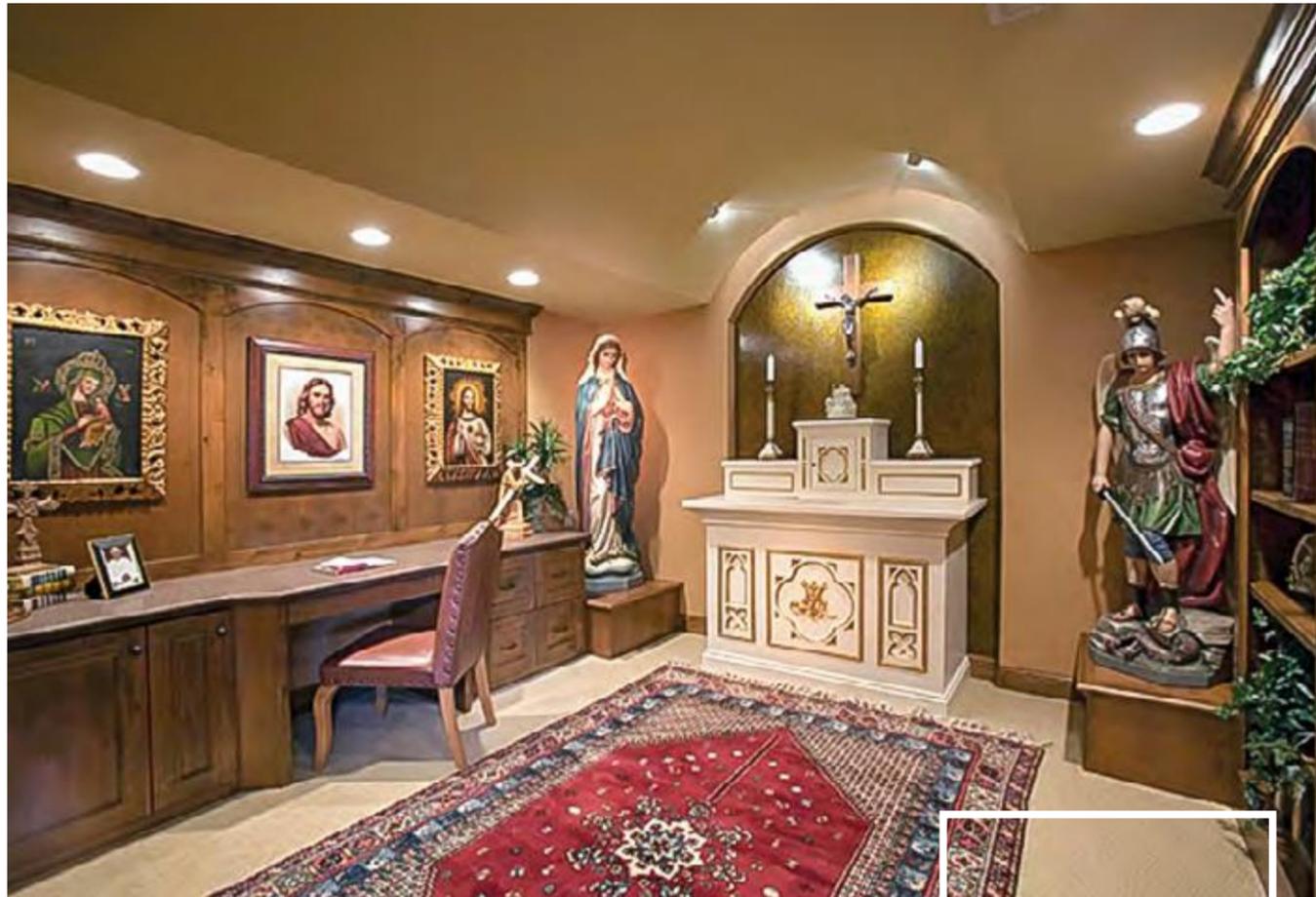
### PRAYER ROOM LOCATION

The location of your prayer room must be selected with careful consideration. The room must be a bit separated or isolated from the hustle and bustle, and the general noise of the house. The location is important because you do not want to be disturbed when you are praying. The room should be away from the TV lounge or family living room to afford you the privacy required for your full attention towards your prayers. The isolation from the rest of the house will help you to concentrate.

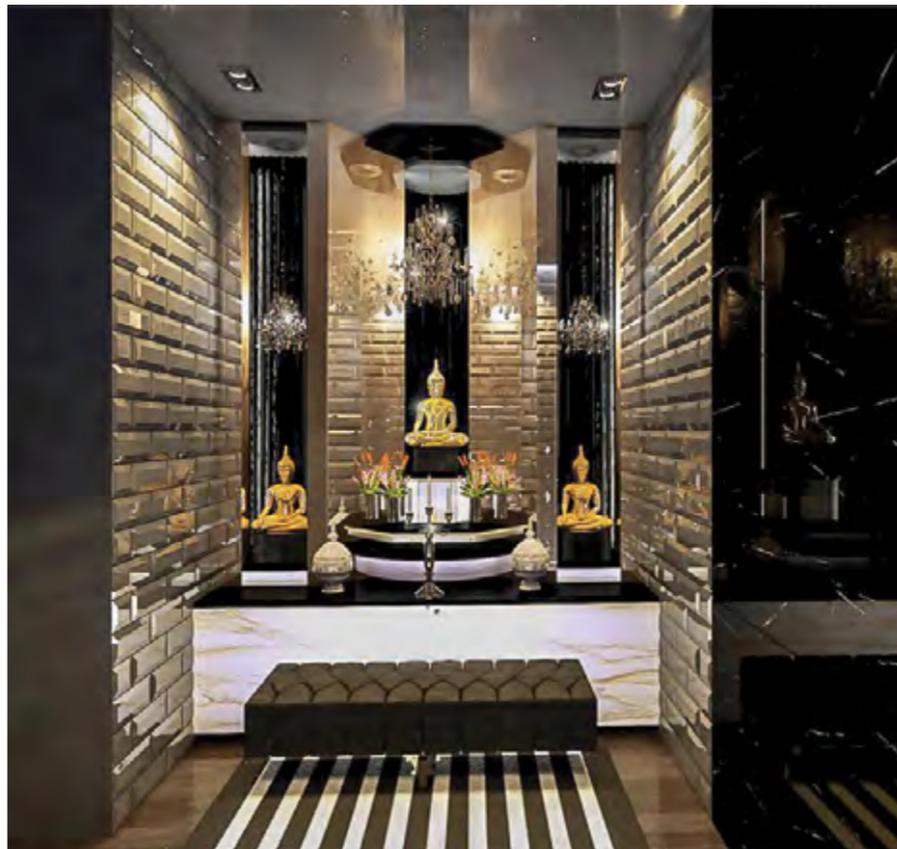


### PRAYER ROOM DÉCOR

The décor of your prayer room must be non-intrusive as to not interfere with your prayers. Neutral colours will help with concentration and create a sense of calmness. If colours are too bright then they might end up distracting you. For a Muslim prayer room, be sure not to put up any art work that may contain the depiction of the human form or animal form. For a Hindu prayer room, make sure to choose your idol's size in consideration of your room size. A bigger idol in a small form would be overpowering. The floor of the prayer room should be fully carpeted for comfort and convenience. The carpeted floor will make sitting on the floor easier and a bit more comfortable during the long prayers.



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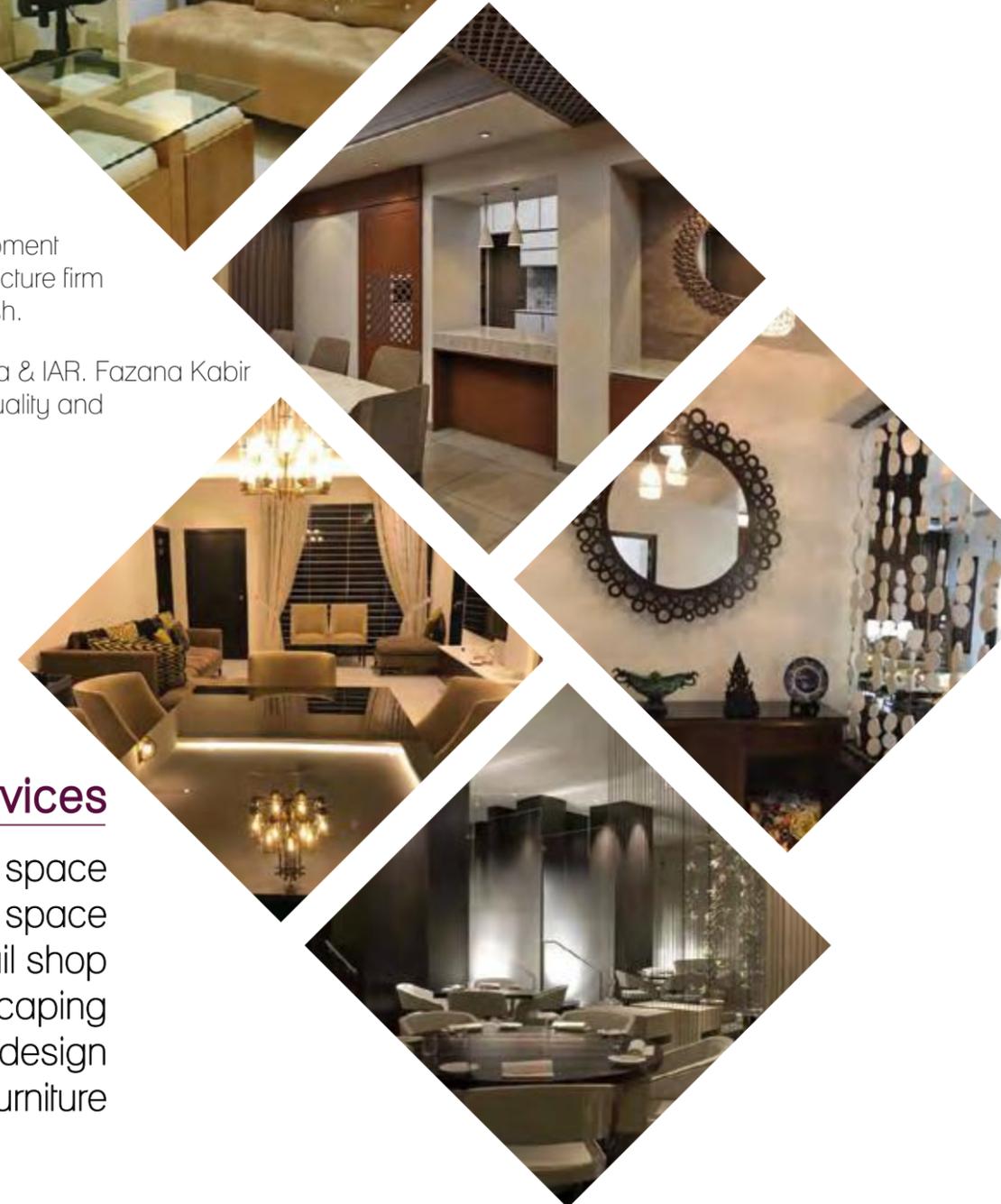
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# Traditionally BOLD

Written By: **Fatematuzzohra Suha**

Scorching sun and rain without notice tell you that Boishakh is right at the door and it's time to prepare for Bengali New Year "Noboborsho". Very different from western culture and true to the roots, people here at Bangladesh believe in celebrating the day to the fullest and as the most colourful festival of the year. Along with a new colourful clothes and delicious foods, your home deserves a treat too. Change a few things here and there to provide a renewed look with mostly the old stuff.



## Owl Shaped Pottery

Potteries are definitely great decoration pieces during the Noboborsho. But it doesn't only have to be pots and plates. You can get beautiful Noboborsho theme pottery decorations from **Home Pro**.



## Bengali Cushion Cover

In Bengali Noborsho, having some Bengali touch is inevitable. Simply get some cushion cover from **Home Junction** with Bangla written prints and you are good to go!

## Ceramic Pots

You can avail ceramic pots from **Aarong** and use them as a decoration piece or serve pickles and sweets on your dining table along with Panta-Ilish during Noboborsho.



## Wooden Mirror

Why have that boring geometric mirror on the wall when you can get some amazing unique design? These mirror decoration pieces are sure to create a statement in your home décor. Available at **Item Crafts**.



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**Gramophone**

Gramophone is definitely timeless. Whether you are a vintage lover or not, having a gramophone at home can take your home décor to an overwhelming level. You can have one of your own from **Bistar**.



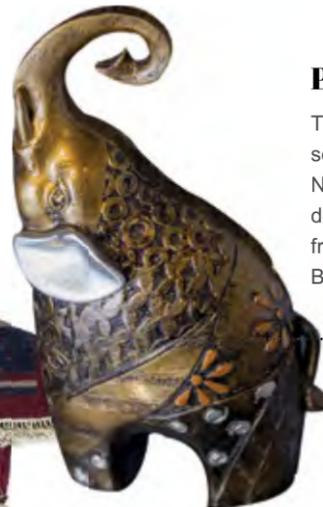
**Decorative Tabla**

If you are into music and melody, chances are you already have music instruments at home. Use them to enhance your Boishakh decorations. In case you want to purchase a decorative musical instrument, you can visit **Item Crafts**.



**Petal Elephants**

These elephant show pieces somehow connect the dots with Noboborsho. You can get a decoration piece similar to this from **Home Pro** and relive the Boishakhi memories.



**Jute Rugs**

Jute rugs add the perfect Bohemian touch at your home that you need during "Noboborsho". They are handmade from fibres, add colour and remind you of the festive season coming up this Boishakh. Find these and many more at **Karupannya**.

**Miniature Baby Taxi**

At **Item Crafts**, you'll find many decoration pieces that you can add to your collection. Bright, colourful, miniature three wheelers and rickshaws are amazing cute decorations that will add that Bangali feels. You can also give them away as a Noboborsho present.



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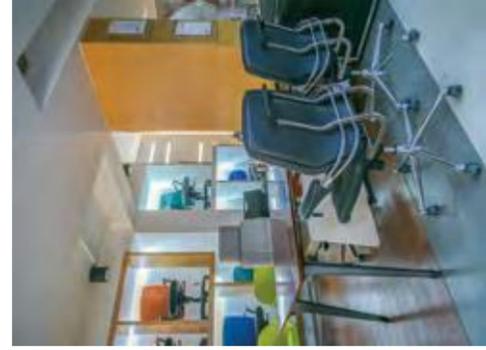
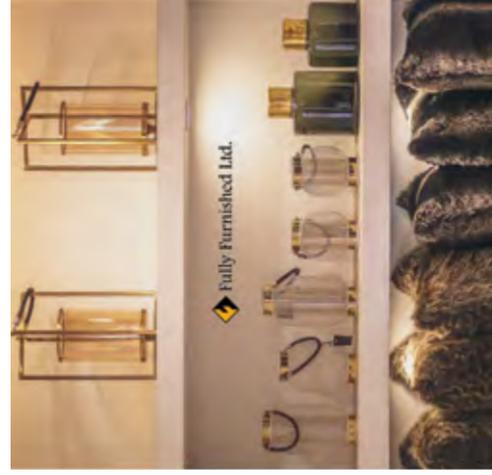
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# Scenic Bliss

Sairu Hill Resort

Written By: **Naila Binte Zakaria**

Away from the cacophony of the bustling city life, Sairu Hill Resort is a piece of heaven with pure scenic bliss that one can never get enough of. Set against the spectacular greenery covered hill range of Bandarban in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the place has quickly won hearts for its natural beauty, evoking mystic moods. No matter what season, Sairu leaves abundance of beauty and charm for the eyes to settle upon.

**T**he beautiful land of Sairu Hill Resort is owned by Mr. Ranglai Mro, a Headman from the Mro Tribe. He had approached certain individuals with the idea of utilizing the land for a viable project without disturbing the environment. These individuals took interest in exploring the potential and possibilities of the site and hence, the idea of Sairu Resort was conceived. One of the partners of Sairu is Architect Mustafa Ameen, who is also the architect of the exquisite resort. The owners envisioned a project that would promote tourism and the culture and crafts of the local people in Bandarban, thus contributing to the economic emancipation of the community.

The resort draws its name from the mythical love story of Sairu, a beautiful young Mro maiden. The trees that grew entwined on the hills at the crown on a spot along the top of the resort site is said to symbolize the love of Sairu. The spot is now known as the Sairu Point.

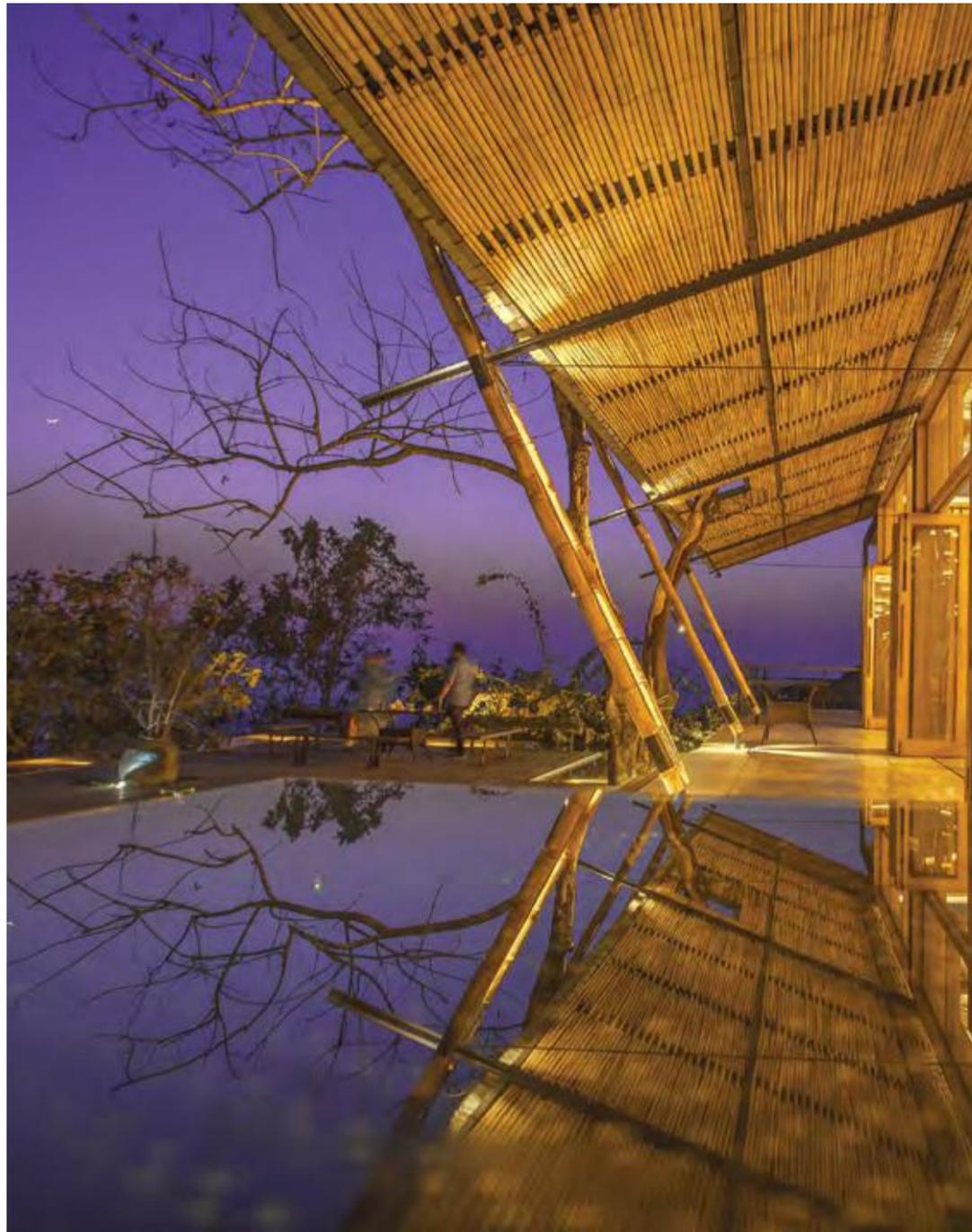
Reaching the resort takes about an hour's uphill drive over the terrain from the city of Bandarban. Upon entering the premise, you will feel like you've been transported to a secluded paradise upon the hills. The open reception area has a welcoming view with easy chairs for one to relax. You may also lounge under the willow trees with a steaming cup of coffee at the great hall of Sairu.



Upon entering the premise, you will feel like you've been transported to a secluded paradise upon the hills.

**The spaces were designed to obtain maximum panoramic views, taking full advantage of the topography while including the luxuries of a modern-day-resort.**





The design and execution of the resort was carried out by DOMUS, a renowned Architectural Consultancy firm of Bangladesh. The Principal Architect Mustafa Ameen had the concept of designing a contemporary resort following the 'less is more' principle. The master plan was conceived by being sensitive towards the site and surroundings. Most of the structures have been built on steel stilts to minimize any change in the natural contours. The existing trees were left untouched and more plants were added while shaping the landscape of the resort. The spaces were designed to obtain maximum panoramic views, taking full advantage of the topography while including the luxuries of a modern-day-resort. Local materials such as stones and bamboos were used to achieve the rustic outlook which seamlessly blend with nature.

"Since the location of the resort was on a hilly area with no chunk of plane land, the planning and designing of Sairu was quite a challenging task", says Ar. Mustafa Ameen. It was kept into consideration that the pristine beauty of nature could not be damaged unless it blended with the topography, keeping the contours intact. The construction of Sairu is a sensitive response to nature with only exception being the driveway which had been scrapped and curved out of the hill. Water had to be sourced from a spring almost 1200 feet below the Resort Site which proved to be a colossal task.

**“ LOCAL MATERIALS SUCH AS STONES AND BAMBOOS WERE USED TO ACHIEVE THE RUSTIC OUTLOOK WHICH SEAMLESSLY BLEND WITH NATURE. ”**



You can discover your serenity in between the fantastic nature. The rooms have an attached bath, a private balcony, a green terrace having the river and hill view, furnished with all modern amenities.



Once you are inside Sairu, you will not feel the need to go elsewhere, as the tasteful set up with modern amenities will keep you amazed. The cottages are competitively priced and you can choose your room according to your desired view. As the resort offers a panoramic sight of the tall hills and the Shanghu River, every view is a treat to the eyes. You may sit on the terrace and enjoy the scenic beauty of the cotton clouds floating in the sky.

While most resorts attempt to cater more to the luxury aspect, Sairu Hill Resort goes all out to bring one close to the nature by paying attention to the view it offers. While the morning is refreshing with gentle breeze blowing through the trees, the atmosphere of the nighttime is mystic, as the star studded sky leaves one mesmerized. The experience of Sairu Hill Resort cannot be expressed in words, it needs to be experienced.



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# ETHNIC MUSINGS

TAAGA FLAGSHIP STORE

*Cubeinside Design Ltd- an expert design company, Aarong and Taaga have teamed up together to bring to the people of Bangladesh the Taaga Man flagship store in Dhanmondi, a store that encapsulates the ethnic roots of our country to fit the modern man of today.*



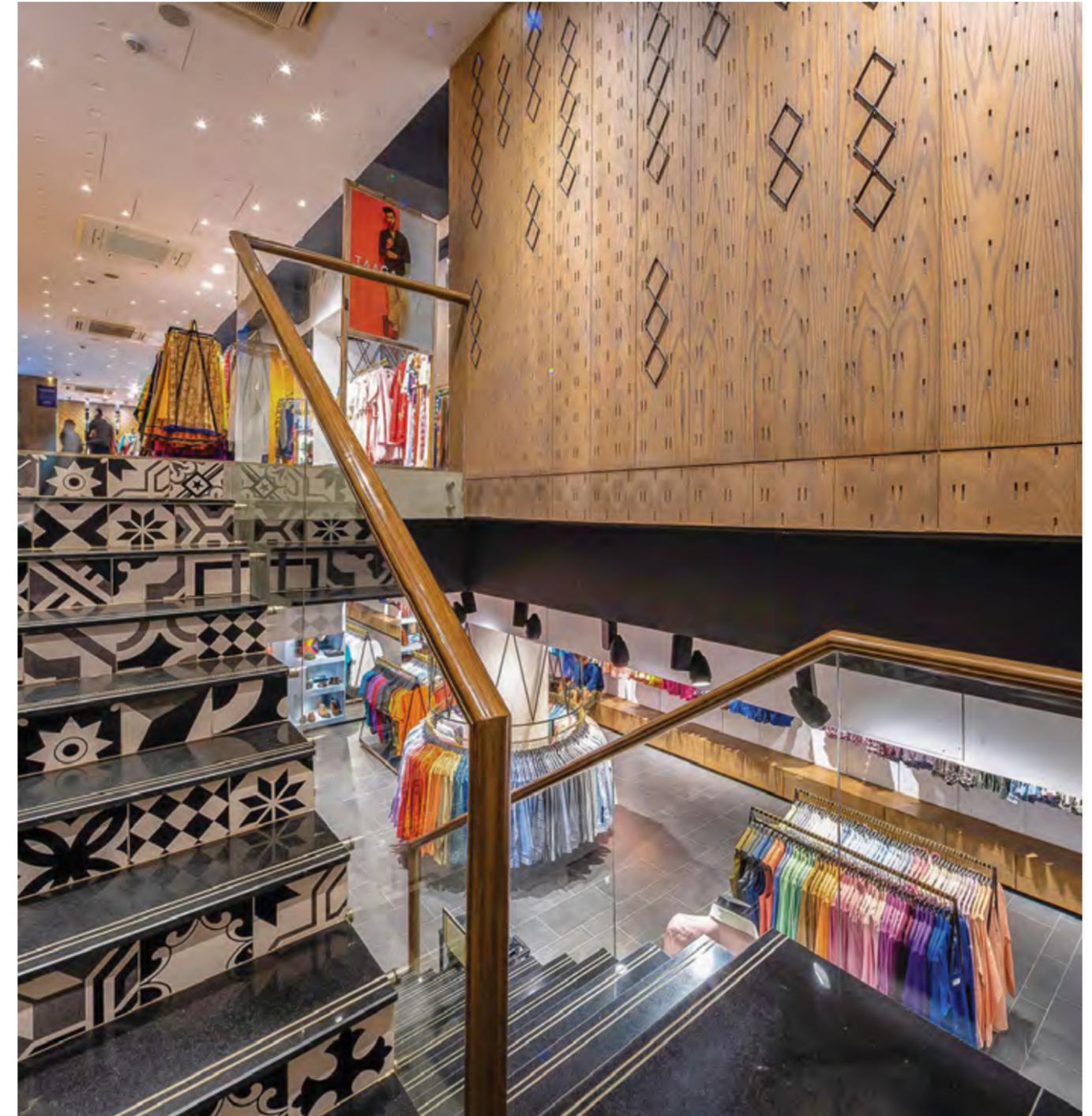
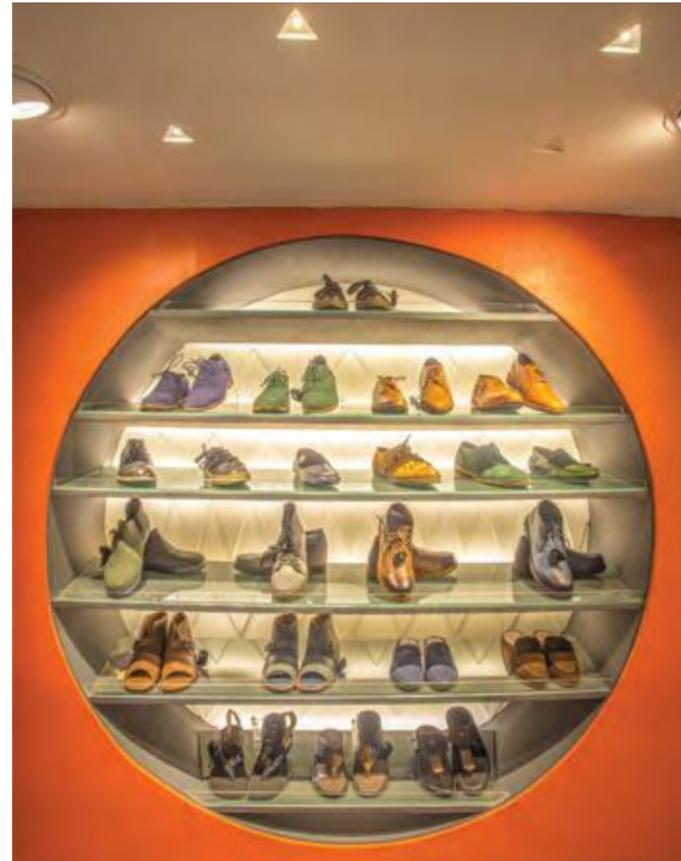
"An approach to develop a concept that exercises the fusing between the deep rooted ethnicity and contemporary needs which can be expressed in the interior design in both material and non-material way. And triangular matrix that was evolved from the Taaga stitches, acts as a primary influence on designing the interior elements."

The principal architect of this project, Md. Shakhawat Hossain Rocky, one of the partners of Cubeinside Design Ltd, describes the total project concept and theme as that have been evolved from the true meaning of "Taaga" and its spatial requirements. "Taaga" is an almost lost ethnic Bengali word which means the special stitch that is used to bind the edges of NakshiKantha. In a word, Taaga is a special kind of stitch. The interesting fact that emerged while digging deeper into the patterns of Taaga stitch is that all of these stitches are simple geometric patterns – predominantly with trapezoid or triangular matrix. When analyzing the Aarong's interpretation of Taaga, it is perceived that Taaga offers a fusion of modern cuts, incorporating Aarong's ethnic essence through its designs and crafted value additions.

Therefore, blending these values, the core concept of the project stands out like this "An approach to develop a concept that exercises the fusing between the deep rooted ethnicity and contemporary needs which can be expressed in the interior design in both material and non-material way. And triangular matrix that was evolved from the Taaga stitches, acts as a primary influence on designing the interior elements."



Upon discussion, the team decided to design an open showroom, where customers could walk in and have a view of the whole store at a glance from the entry point.”



Exercising the geometric patterns of triangular matrix, the core display fixtures have been designed. As the material for the display fixtures, slick solid metal section has been used to provide a more minimal yet stylish look. Floors and main ceiling have been perceived as a darker backdrop, so that the product displays will be more focused. A slim ceiling with vibrant enlighten triangular matrix has been designed to create a more unique ambiance. As a contrasting colour, yellow has been introduced in the area where denim products are displayed, in an intention to create a mark on the visitor's memory. A robust grey

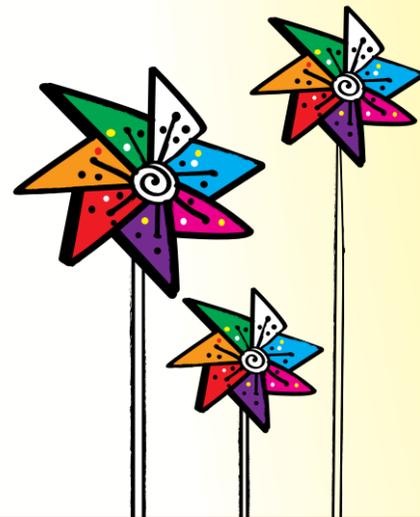
coloured counter has been placed in such a way that it functions most efficiently, yet creating a sharp angle and contrast on the yellow surface. Various patterns have been used as the backdrop cladding, all of which have been evolved from the core geometric patterns of Taaga stitch, which not only gives a good texture but also stimulates the experience of the customers in visual-tactile way. Different approaches have been taken for the displays of shoes to create a hierarchy in the shopping experience. The central staircase has been designed as a robust mass with contrasting patterns, creating a visual harmony to people.



“The total process of designing and execution was a very exciting ride, where the client Aarong and Taaga played a very enthusiastic role with our ideas and concepts.”

-Architect Khandaker Ashifuzzaman Rajon

Talking about the whole design process, Architect Khandaker Ashifuzzaman Rajon said, “The total process of designing and execution was a very exciting ride, where the client Aarong and Taaga played a very enthusiastic role with our ideas and concepts. And at the end of the day, to make it more functional and efficient, the certain standards have been maintained strictly, yet in a way that it upholds the aesthetic quality as well.” Taaga Man flagship store at Dhanmondi, the brainchild of the architects symbolizes the uniqueness with its colour, form, geometry and finishes.





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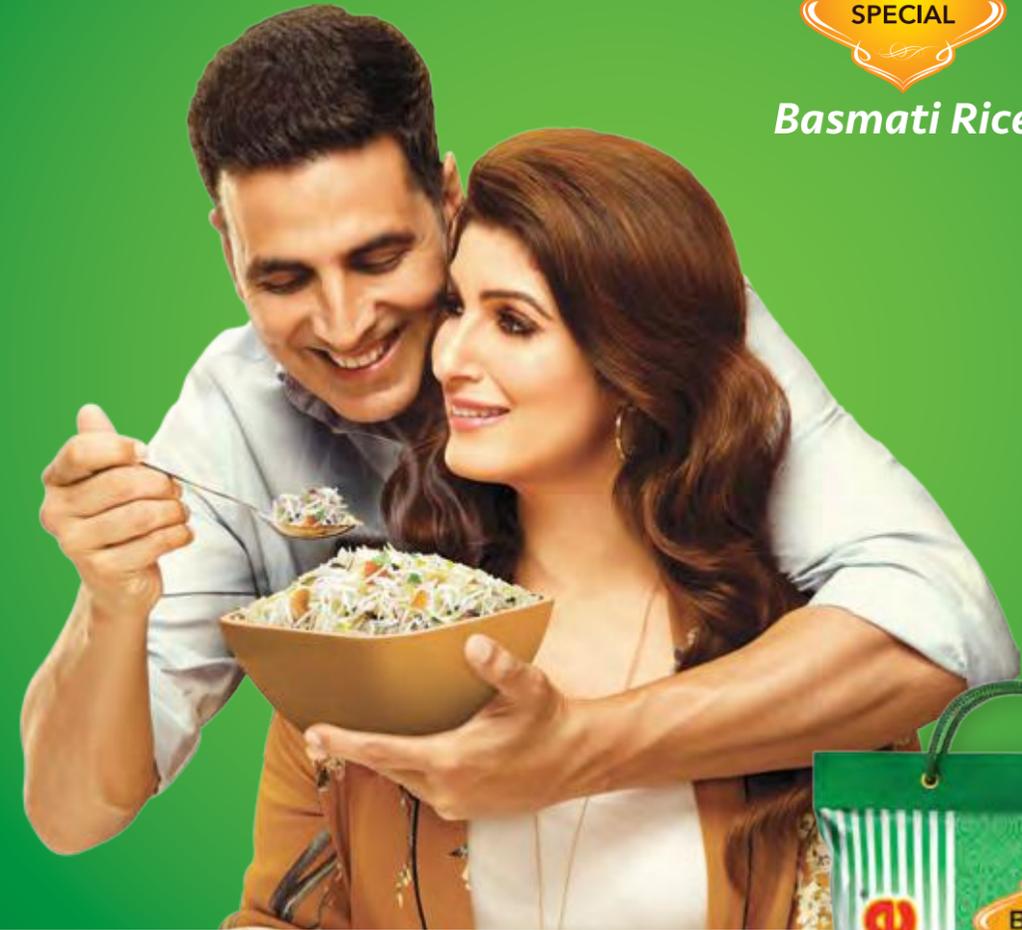
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# A BREATH OF *Freshness*

Tagore Terrace



Written By: Safeeyah Ayman

*It is incredibly refreshing to see a wonderful rooftop café that is inherently Bangali. Tagore Terrace strums at your heartstrings with its beautiful views atop the eleventh floor, surrounded by a wide collection of books written by the world renowned author, while you sip a delicious cup of coffee, chit chatting with your friends.*

“Tagore Terrace serves as a refuge from the ongoing aggression of the western culture overshadowing over ours. There is no one better than Rabindranath Tagore to lead the path of revival.”

- Mustapha Khalid Palash

Tagore terrace is a located in Banani 12, the same building that houses Dhaka Gallery. Its location makes it a perfect place to wind down at the end of a busy work day, or to spend a few hours hanging out and gossiping with your friends, or a cozy spot for a date. The very first thing that you see when you step off of the elevator is a beautiful statue of the head of Tagore, standing in the middle of the terrace, being one with the people who visit the café, courtesy of the floor-to-ceiling glass window. The floor-to-ceiling glass windows run along two sides which allow the maximum amount of natural light to enter the café. The heavy wood door opens you to the cozy café. The other side of the door has a decal of Tagore along with some of his writings.



The café has some beautiful art pieces, carefully positioned all over, such as a carved musical instrument, or the sitar at one corner, with some renditions of Tagore's face on the walls. They add to the feel of the room, giving off an artistic vibe.



At one corner is a bookshelf that holds many of the writings by Tagore. You can sit in one of the quaint, clever seating arrangement, which makes use of the wall, decorated by renditions of Tagore and faux wood- louver windows; and read on of the many books available for the patrons or enjoy one of the many documentaries on Tagore that play on loop in the café. The whole idea of the café was to offer the patrons a space where they can spend a few hours alone or with their loved ones, indulging themselves a chance to revisit the eternal philosophy of the late poet and hopefully engage in a dialogue on how to reconstruct the dying values of Bangali nationalism.



The interior of the café is done in some lovely wood paneling that add warmth to the whole atmosphere. The 2000 sq feet rooftop has been divided into two parts, an indoor seating arrangement and an outdoor seating arrangement. Cozy, comfortable seating arrangement, with plush armchair-styled seats and low tables allow you to sit comfortably while you enjoy your foods and beverages. The outdoor area is perfect to sit and enjoy a cup of coffee or any of their other delicious foods. The view from the rooftop is a sight to see. The edges of the rooftop walls are secured by concrete planters, which act as both a security measure and adds greenery to the café. Sitting there, watching the sun set against the silhouette of the concrete jungle after a long day, while a soft breeze stirs the leaves is certainly very peaceful. The most interesting thing about the interior is the ceiling lighting installation that has been made to mimic a starry night sky. The ceiling installation can be enjoyed at its fullest at night, when the café's low and ambient lightings make fake stars shine.





Mustafa Khalid Palash, the renowned architect and founder of Tagore Terrace designed the terrace and the gallery downstairs with the intention to re-enlighten the values of Bangali nationalism. "Bangali values have been suppressed by the western influences continuously. We are trying to regenerate the dying values by initiating the literary philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore, and also engage the audience in various art forms of the culture," he said.

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# A GREEN WORKSPACE

KARUPANNYA FACTORY

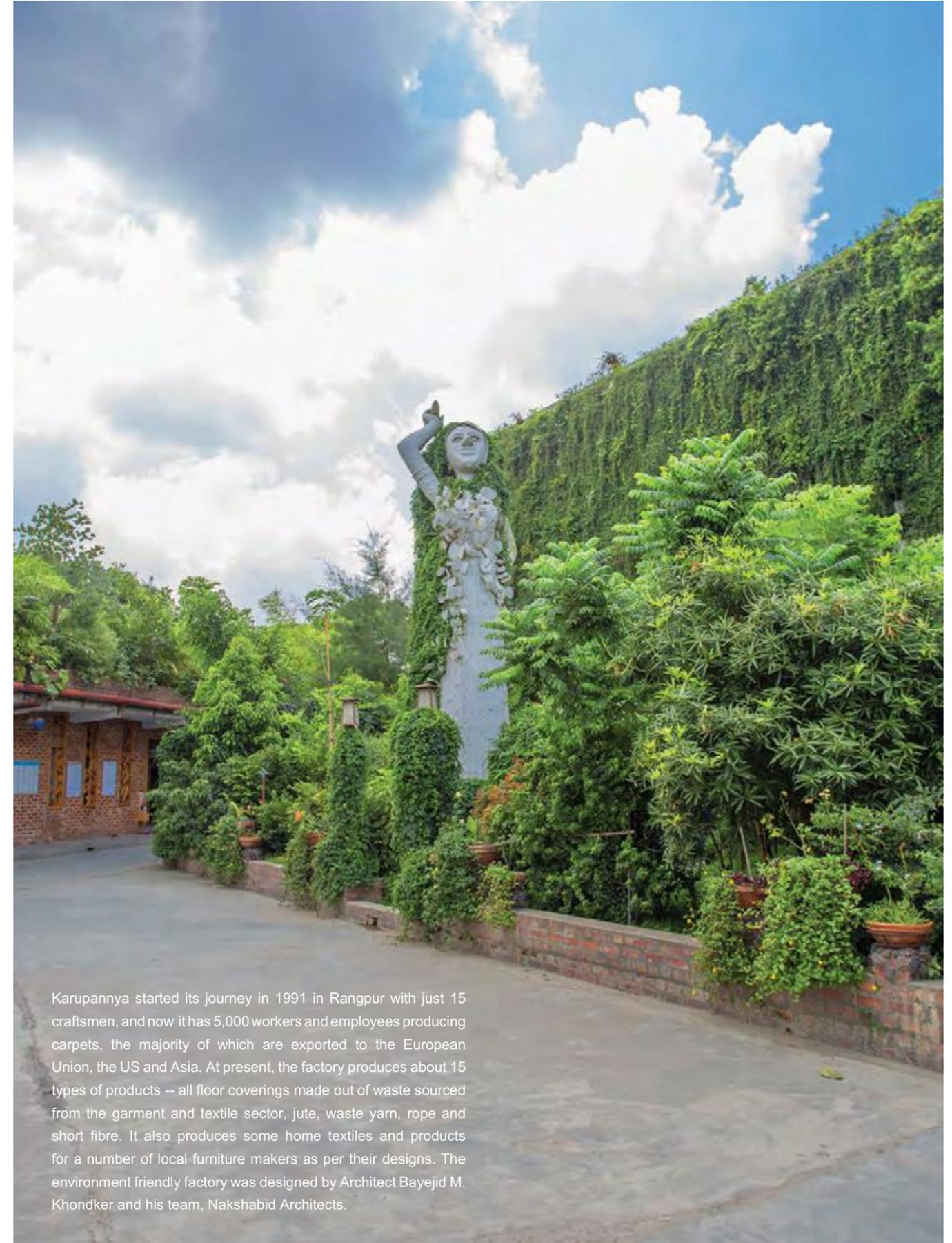
Written By:  
Naila Binte Zakaria

*Bangladesh never saw a flourishing rugs business in foreign markets until Karupannya set its foot in Europe to make a story of success. Under the brand name Satranji, Karupannya has set a benchmark in the export industries, creating employment opportunities for women living in the underprivileged areas. Its factory in Rangpur is designed in a soul pleasing working environment, encapsulated by nature and greenery.*



*Architect Profile:*

Ar. Bayejid M. Khondker creates places and spaces that engage in a dialog with the history, beliefs and needs of a particular place and time. As a profound architect of Bangladesh, he works on many scales, thoughtfully designing public places and spaces, to build on the unique local character and the best qualities of the forms inherent in that geographic region. At present, he is the Principal Architect of his firm, Nakshabid. Some of his notable projects include Dargahtala Jame Masjid, Bijoy Rakeen City, Military Museum, ABC Heritage in Uttara, S.M Tower in Uttara, Kamal Residence in Baridhara, Panthaneer in Dhanmondi etc.

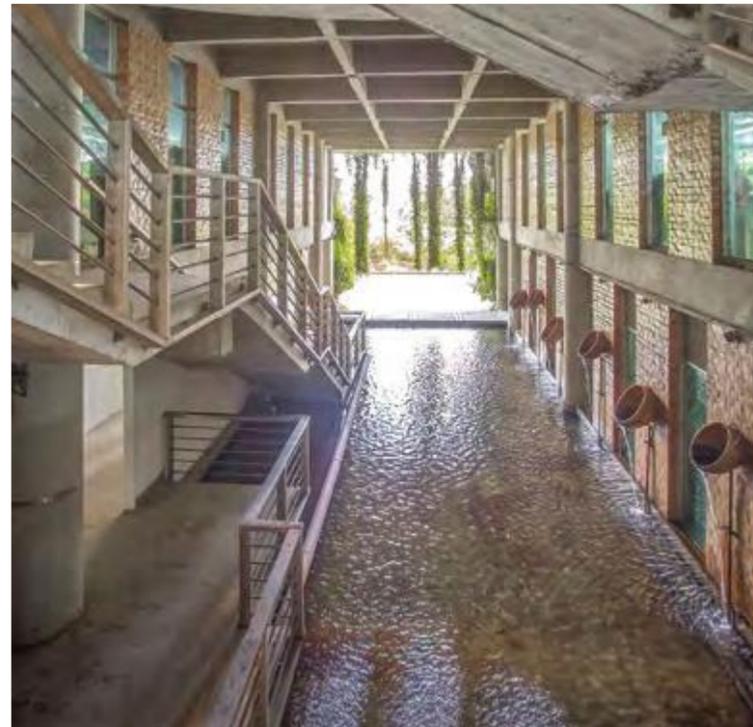


Karupannya started its journey in 1991 in Rangpur with just 15 craftsmen, and now it has 5,000 workers and employees producing carpets, the majority of which are exported to the European Union, the US and Asia. At present, the factory produces about 15 types of products -- all floor coverings made out of waste sourced from the garment and textile sector, jute, waste yarn, rope and short fibre. It also produces some home textiles and products for a number of local furniture makers as per their designs. The environment friendly factory was designed by Architect Bayejid M. Khondker and his team, Nakshabid Architects.

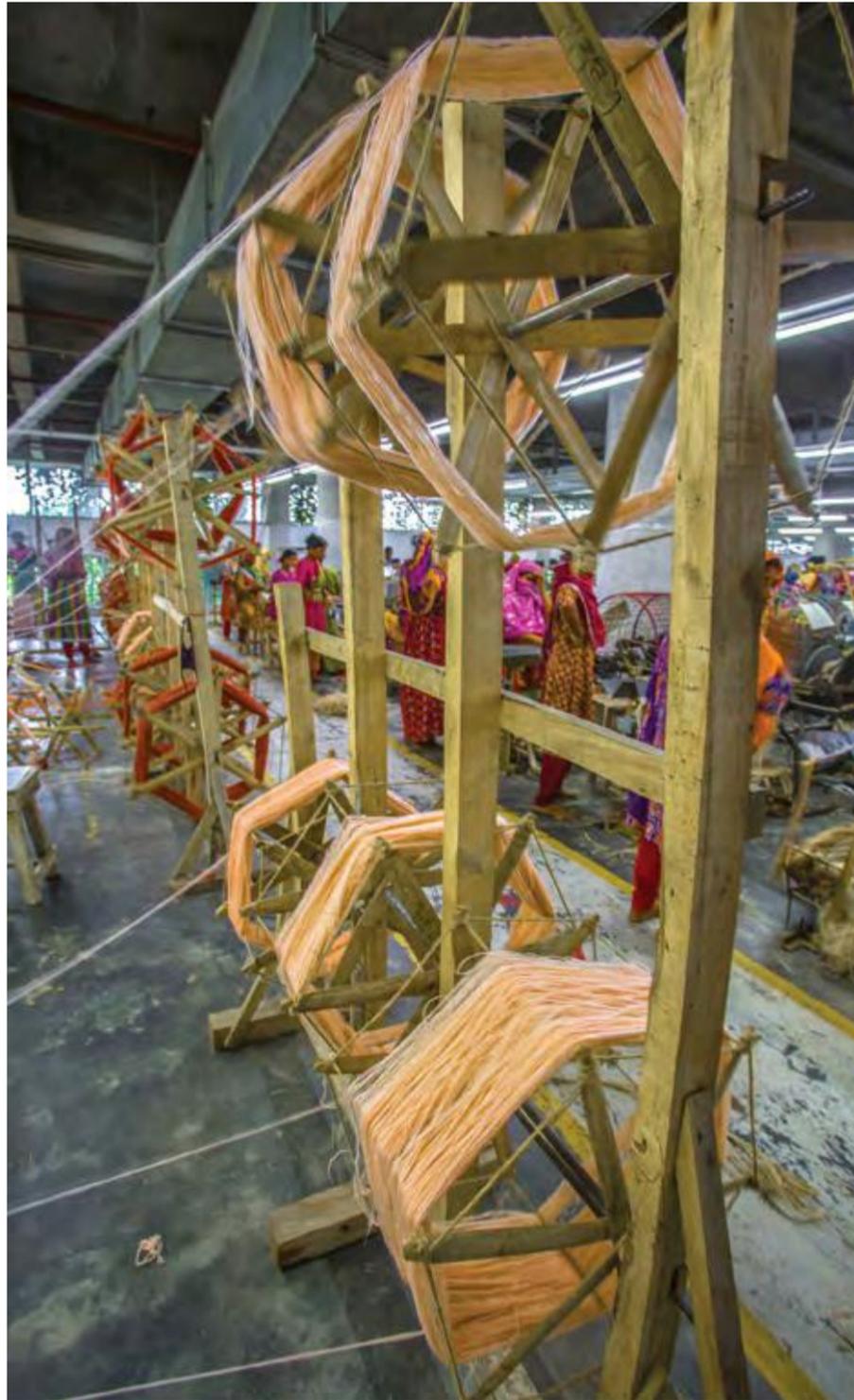


The factory is a green approach to architecture, where Ar. Bayejid aimed to build an environmentally and structurally safe factory that ensures the foreign buyers like IKEA that Bangladesh industry is committed to addressing environmental concerns. Besides the working area, the factory comprises of medical center, grocery shop for employees, food canteen, prayer room, ATM Booth etc.

Since one of the important concerns of the brand was about environmental and social development, the factory was bound to be made with ultimate efficiency in terms of the use of electricity and fuel. To keep the climate of the lovely working force naturally favourable, the idea of Bengali village homes is implemented in the architecture of the factory. Four huge water reservoirs are made in front of the factory. These water reservoirs can contain huge amount of water which can be used for fire security and at the same time help the northward wind fly through the green plants and finally enter into the building, creating a cool atmosphere inside even without air conditioner. On the other hand, water from the reservoir is used for dying process through oxidization. Moreover, the reservoir is used for rainwater harvesting. Many exit paths are made so that during any fire or accident, thousands of workers can exit together.



To keep the climate of the lovely working force naturally favourable, the idea of Bengali village homes is implemented in the architecture of the factory.



The design ensures a beautiful and humanistic work environment. In the rooftop of the factory, there is the Nandini Park, designed artistically for the workers to sit and have their lunch. Nandini Park is surrounded with flower plants and greenery, exuding a peaceful aura. Workers can also gossip and spend time in the garden, the lily pond and the podium in front of the factory. Being the symbol of women in Satranji Craft, a



large sculpture named Bonolota stands in pride in front of the factory. Entertainment programs are arranged for the worker's recreation on the stage named Rokeya Mancha behind Bonolota. In special occasions, the wide stairs in front side of the factory are used as audience gallery during the programs. The working area is kept spacious with enough scope for air and sunlight to enter.

“ THE DESIGN ENSURES A BEAUTIFUL AND HUMANISTIC WORK ENVIRONMENT. ”





The sculptures in Karupannya not only add aesthetic beauty, but also carry the symbol of women's wonderful works.

There are about thousands of small and big sculptures in the whole factory. Little women sculptures in shape of small clay dolls can be seen passing through the huge stairs and walls. These not only add aesthetic beauty, but also carries the symbol of the women's wonderful works. Satranji is the ancient heritage of Rangpur, and Karupannya factory succeeds to uphold its legacy, carrying a powerful message.



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# Bengal Hub

## Contemporary Art

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This journey began since the first scratch on the soft soil by the ancient artists of this fertile land. By using their fingers and nature as an inspiration, they transformed the mud into marvelous pieces. Thus, began the convoy of this artistic journey with nature. This thesis project was done by Muhammad Shafayet Hossain from Department of Architecture, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology. The Supervisor for the thesis was Ar. Kawshik Saha and the studio masters were Ar. K. Taufiq Elahi, Ar. Shamsul Arefin, Ar. Rezwana Sobhan

The most ancient evidence of Bengal art was a piece of porcelain, found in 'PandurajarDibi' during 300 BC. However, this journey began days before the Aryan period. The patronization of Maurya empires, integrating skill of Sunga dynasty to Pala's, influence of Persian art through Sultanate period and the essence of Hinduism gave a shape which had gained a style during Murshidabad period. The dominating character of colonial style boosted the artists to show their very own style.

Nature always purifies the sense and influences the tune of artworks. Influences from nature not only shape all forms of art but also give a unique lifestyle of this land. Celebration of nature, lifestyle of people and the mesmerizing stories became the inspiration for the artists here.

### Description of journey:

When a person observes an artwork, there are some stages towards understanding the essence of it. Firstly, we isolate our mind from other things which is expressed in the entrance of the site by a curved wall. Then a guided way through trees creates a buffer from chaos to tranquility. We engage in the depth of artworks via stairway through the first exhibition gallery below. The multipurpose hall represents the thinking process and the visual and other galleries become the representation of the mesmerizing memories of that artwork.



Muhammad Shafayet Hossain



From the exhibition area a straight ramp guides towards the central gathering space. Another circular ramp, started from the ground towards an enclosed space, reminds the visitor about the significance of upholding our own art. The space beneath this ramp will guide the visitor to interact with nature. Inside the central space, there is another circular ramp that starts at the previous circular ramp which is inspired from the dancing posture of twisting circles representing the current time, and the inner space is an expression of primitive essence with natural light inside. Light beaming through small holes of the wall will remind the visitor the joy of celebrating natural light.

*A shaded studio for artists will help them to enjoy the natural view of the site and residential buildings for artists will give them a tranquil space to practice art, facilitated by a library, meeting terrace and lobby spaces.*



Most of the design approach of this project is to keep architecture humble and merged with the context to get the essence of Bengal art through spaces by using rational materials and construction to make a hub for the upcoming generation.

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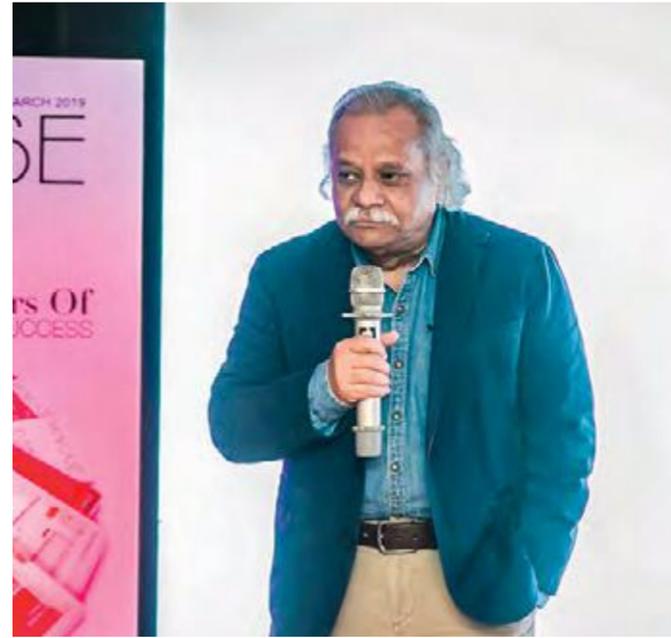
Back pain can affect people of any age, it is significantly more common among adults aged between 35 to 55 years. Back pain is associated with the way our bones, muscles and ligaments in our backs work together. To avoid the back pain we design our mattress in such a way as the body weight can be distributed properly during the sleep and the backbone can get proper support. As a result you may have a comfortable long night sleep without any disturbance and eliminate the chance of having back pain



# Celebrating 3 years of Success



Showcase Magazine celebrated its 3 years Anniversary and launched its new website ([www.showcase.com.bd](http://www.showcase.com.bd)) on Saturday, 16 March, 2019. The event took place at Dhaka's Four Points by Sheraton Hotel. The Managing Director of Akhtar Group and the Editor of Showcase Magazine launched the new website of Showcase Magazine. "Showcase Magazine has established itself as the first ever monthly architecture, interior design and art magazine in Bangladesh. The magazine features original contents related to these sectors, representing the current design and art scene in the country." he says. He also adds, "At present, Showcase Magazine is gaining more subscribers rapidly in both digital and print version with a lot of appreciation."



“I cannot but appreciate the extraordinary effort of the team in creating content that is so diverse in its nature.”

- K. M. Akhtaruzzaman



“At present, Showcase Magazine is gaining more subscribers rapidly in both digital and print version with a lot of appreciation.”

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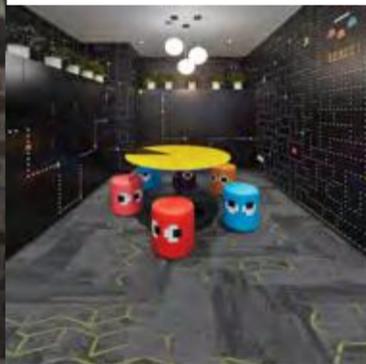


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