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GOLFER'S LIFE

GOLF TIPS | EQUIPMENTS | FASHION | INSTRUCTION | 19TH HOLE | TOURISM



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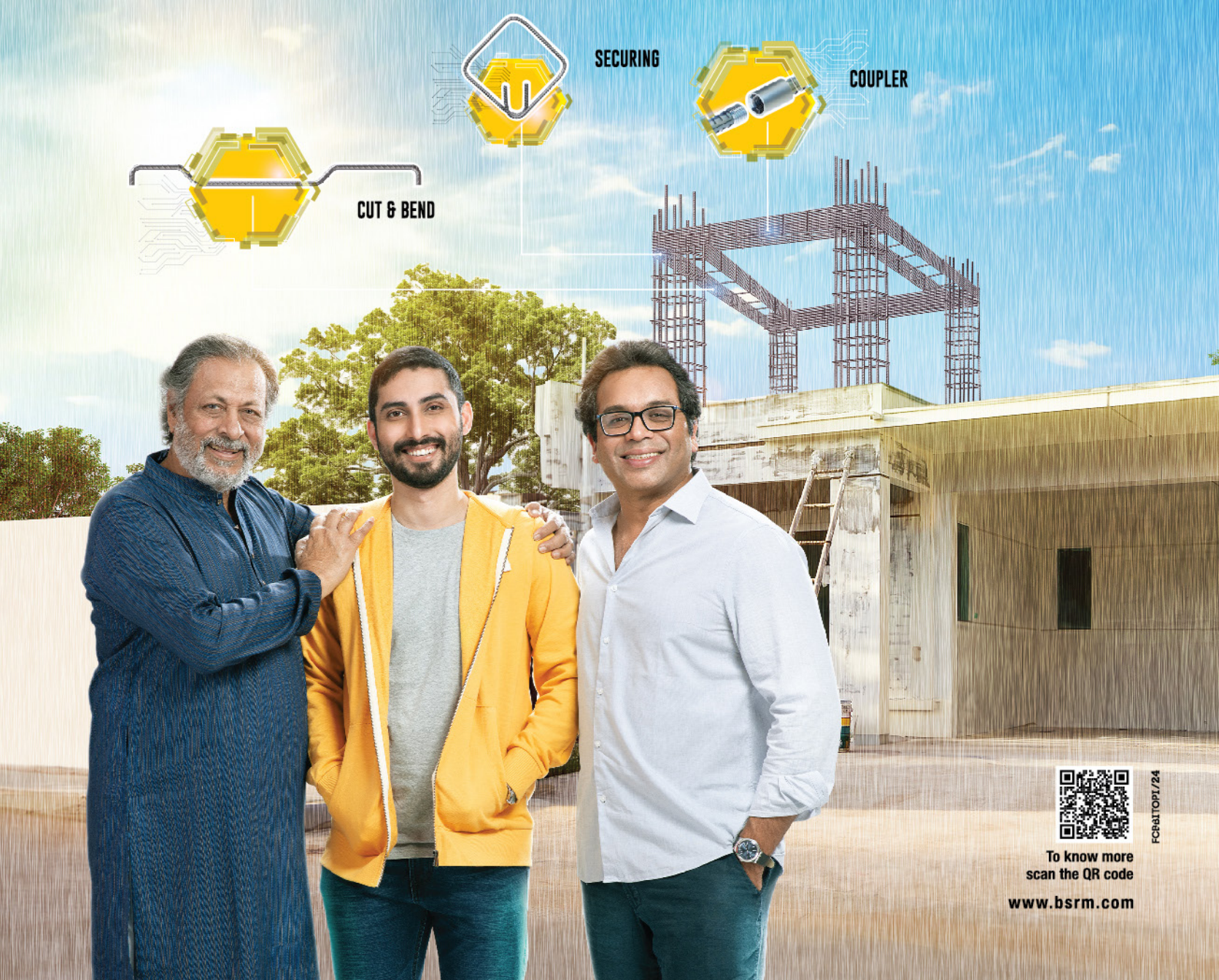

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"In the new Bangladesh, we hope golf will stand as a bridge between sports, business, and culture, offering endless opportunities for athletes to chart new paths and for the nation to shine on the global stage."



EDITOR'S CHOICE



Akbar Hossain, one of Bangladesh's rising stars in golf, stands tall alongside names like Siddikur Rahman and Jamal Mollah. Recently he win radiant open golf tournament 2024

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The GolfHouse
GOLFER'S LIFE

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Editor's Note

Dear readers,

As we move towards the new Bangladesh, this issue presents a captivating mix of interviews and stories that explore the fascinating connections between sports, business, and culture. Our spotlight is on a cricketer who has embraced golf, sharing his inspiring journey into this new passion. His transition from cricket to golf highlights the universal appeal of the sport and how athletes can discover new paths in their careers.

Additionally, we're excited to feature Akbar Hossain, one of Bangladesh's rising stars in golf. In this edition, he shares his journey from starting at Cumilla Golf Club in 2012 to becoming a professional golfer competing on the Indian Tour. His story is one of perseverance, talent, and ambition, standing tall alongside names like Siddikur Rahman and Jamal Mollah. Akbar's achievements reflect the promise of Bangladesh's golf scene on the international stage.

You'll also hear from a banker who skillfully balances the pressures of the corporate world with his love for golf, along with valuable insights from another professional golfer. A special interview with the Director General of BKSP offers a fresh perspective on golf's growth in Bangladesh, revealing his deep connection to the game.

Beyond the golf course, this issue invites you on a culinary adventure with exclusive recipes from a five-star hotel and irresistible food offers to delight our food-loving readers. You'll also gain insights from the Additional General Manager and Director of Operations of a leading hospitality business, as they share their views on the evolving industry landscape, particularly in the new Bangladesh.
As we look ahead with the new Bangladesh, it is with optimism that we see golf continuing to flourish, offering a platform for both amateurs and professionals to shine.

As a final treat, we explore the beauty of architectural heritage with a feature on one of the country's most stunning mosques. From sports to food, business to culture, this edition offers a rich collection of insights and inspiration. Let's tee off together.

Nazrul Hosen Ayon
Editor

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When it comes to golfing in Asia, few courses stand out like Marina Bay Golf Course in Singapore. Designed by the renowned South African architect Phil Jacobs, this 18-hole public course has been a beacon for golf enthusiasts since it opened in 2006. Its impeccable design and commitment to providing a world-class golfing experience have earned it a reputation as one of the best public golf courses in Asia.



AKBAR HOSSAIN FROM ASPIRING FOOTBALLER TO PRO GOLF

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I began my golfing career at Cumilla Golf Club in 2012. Two years later, I was selected for the national team, which brought me to Kurmitola Golf Club, where I've been ever since. I turned professional in 2019 and have been competing on the Indian Tour for the past three years.





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BKSP'S DIRECTOR ENVISIONS GOLF FUTURE SUCCESS

BKSP is the prime sports training institute in Bangladesh and is the only government institution that takes trainees to upgrade them for international competitions. Currently there are 21 disciplines and we train roughly around 1500 trainees a year. And we produce a lot of international stars.

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BANKING & BIRDIES MAHBUBUR RAHMAN EXCELS IN BOTH ARENAS

Md. Mahbubur Rahman, a seasoned banker and passionate golfer, has been with City bank PLC for over twelve years, currently serving as the additional managing director and CFO. Since 2006, he has been a member of Kurmitola Golf Club, balancing his demanding banking career with his love for golf.

A CRICKETER'S JOURNEY INTO GOLF

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Athar Ali Khan -- the voice of Bangladesh cricket. The former all-rounder of the national cricket team, who played many a memorable knocks for the country and bowled out many opposition batters, has made a smooth transition from his cricketing career to that of a cricket commentator.





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CRAFTING EXPERIENCES A LEADER'S JOURNEY IN HOSPITALITY

The early days at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre were filled with significant milestones that required meticulous planning and execution. The enthusiastic response from the local community and the positive feedback from our initial guests were incredibly rewarding.

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CHALLENGE YOURSELF AT MARINA BAY:

Where Golf Meets the Skyline

When it comes to golfing in Asia, few courses stand out like Marina Bay Golf Course in Singapore. Designed by the renowned South African architect Phil Jacobs, this 18-hole public course has been a beacon for golf enthusiasts since it opened in 2006. Its impeccable design and commitment to providing a world-class golfing experience have earned it a reputation as one of the best public golf courses in Asia.



A Unique Links-Style Challenge

Marina Bay Golf Course offers a rare opportunity to play on a links-style course in Asia, making it a unique destination for both local and international golfers. The 6,493-meter, par 72 course is a masterpiece of design, featuring over 80 pot bunkers that vary in size and depth, adding a dramatic yet challenging element to every round. These treacherous bunkers, combined with the undulating fairways and a variety of hole lengths, make for an exhilarating golfing experience that tests players of all skill levels.

Night Golfing: A Unique Experience

For those who can't get enough of the game, Marina Bay Golf Course is one of the few courses in Singapore that offers night golfing. The floodlit course allows golfers to enjoy a round under the stars, adding a new dimension to the game.





Whether you're a working professional looking to unwind after a long day or a golf enthusiast seeking to beat the daytime heat, night golfing at Marina Bay provides the perfect solution.

State-of-the-Art Facilities

Beyond the course itself, Marina Bay Golf Course boasts a comprehensive range of facilities that cater to every golfer's needs. The 4-tier driving range, one of the largest in the region, offers 114 bays for practice, ensuring that golfers can hone their skills before hitting the course. Additionally, the course features a 6-hole putting course, practice greens, a pro shop and fitting center, and a golf



"Marina Bay Golf Course is more than just a round of golf—it's an experience that blends challenging play with stunning city-scape views."





"Whether you're a seasoned golfer or a newcomer to the sport, Marina Bay Golf Course offers a world-class experience that caters to every level of play."



academy for those looking to improve their game.

For those seeking relaxation after a round, the clubhouse provides a variety of amenities, including shower and locker facilities, a restaurant, a café, and even a car detailing workshop. Every detail has been considered to ensure that golfers have everything they need for a complete and enjoyable golfing experience.

Conveniently Located in the Heart of Singapore

Marina Bay Golf Course is conveniently located at 80 Rhu Cross #01-01, Singapore 437437, making it easily accessible from anywhere in the city. Whether you're a local resident or a visitor to Singapore, the course's central location ensures that you're never far from a world-class golfing experience.

Book Your Tee Time Today

With its outstanding course design, top-notch facilities, and unique night golfing experience, Marina Bay Golf Course is a must-visit destination for any golf enthusiast. To book your tee time or to learn more about the course and its offerings, visit their website at www.mbgc.com.sg or contact their guest relations team at +65 6345 7788.

Whether you're looking to challenge yourself on a world-class course or simply enjoy a leisurely round in a stunning setting, Marina Bay Golf Course has something for every golfer. Don't miss the chance to experience one of Asia's finest public golf courses.

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- **Night Golfing:** Available Tuesday to Friday.
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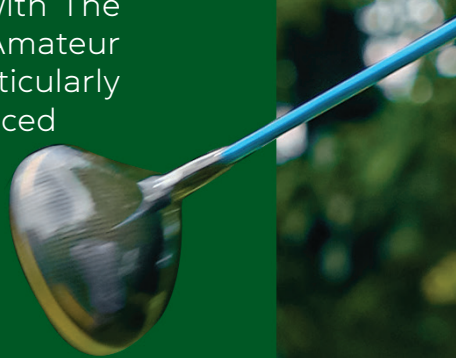
- **Target Greens:** 17 target greens with waste bunkers.
- **Facilities:** Golf Academy, Pro Shop, Car Detailing, Restaurants.
- **Tech Upgrade:** Foresight's system phased out by April 2022.
- **Operating Hours:** Guest Relations open until 10:00 pm on weekdays, 9:00 pm on weekends.
- **Pricing:** Charges exclude 10% service charge and GST.

AKBAR HOSSAIN

from aspiring FOOTBALLER TO PRO GOLF

Akbar Hossain, one of Bangladesh's rising stars in golf, stands tall alongside names like Siddikur Rahman and Jamal Mollah. In an exclusive interview with The GolfHouse, the three-time Bangladesh Amateur Championship winner opens up about a particularly painful moment in his career, the hurdles faced by golfers in the country, and his vision for the future of Bangladeshi golf. Here are the highlights of our conversation:



Could you share your professional journey and how you got started in golf?

I began my golfing career at Cumilla Golf Club in 2012. Two years later, I was selected for the national team, which brought me to Kurmitola Golf Club, where I've been ever since. I turned professional in 2019 and have been competing on the Indian Tour for the past three years.

How did you first get into golf, and who introduced you to the sport?

Sports have always been a big part of my life; I used to play football and other sports with my friends. My original dream was to become a footballer, but fate had other plans. In 2008, a cousin of mine took me to a golf club, and that was my first encounter with the sport. I had no idea about golf until then. I started working under the guidance of GOC Masud Razzak, and in 2011, I was chosen by coach Farid to be part of the national team selection. Out of five selected, three of us made it to the team. That was the beginning of my journey.

I spent five years as the top player on the national team. Eventually, Brigadier Kamrul encouraged me to turn professional, and in 2018, I did just that. My first professional tournament was a great success—I finished fourth with an 11-under score. That promising start really set the tone for my career.



Akbar Hossain
Professional Golfer





> *"Siddikur Bhai is the reason many of us dared to dream of becoming golfers. His success showed us what's possible."*

How has your handicap evolved since you began playing golf?
When I first started in 2008, my handicap was an eight, assigned by the Cumilla club. By the time I joined the national team, my handicap had dropped to zero, which helped me win the Bangladesh Amateur Championship three times. My handicap remains at zero today.

Could you walk us through your daily golfing routine?
My day starts early, around 5 AM. I begin with a 2-3 kilometer run, followed by some swimming. After that, I hit about 100-150 balls on the driving range before playing 18 holes. In the evening, I head to the gym. This routine has been key to maintaining my form and focus.

How did your last tournament go?
My most recent tournament was the Classic Open in Delhi, where I finished in the top five. What stood out for me was going bogey-free in the second and third rounds—a significant achievement in my career. I firmly believe that playing bogey-free and maintaining a fair-to-green strategy are crucial to doing well in tournaments.

How are you gearing up for the upcoming PGTI Tournament?
Unfortunately, we haven't had any tournaments in the past three months, so I've been focusing on refining my game, especially in areas where I struggled during the PGTI. I had three events scheduled at home this month, but they were canceled due to the situation in the country. With PGTI events lined up from September to December, I'm currently awaiting my Indian visa. We'll see how things unfold.

What are the main challenges that professional golfers in Bangladesh face?
The biggest challenge we face is obtaining foreign visas, largely because golf isn't a widely recognized sport in Bangladesh. This often causes us to miss out on international events. Another significant issue is the lack of sponsorship. I've been lucky to have Paragon as my sponsor for the past eight years, but many professional golfers aren't as fortunate.

If the top 10 golfers in the country were provided with sponsorships and didn't face visa issues, I believe we could significantly elevate the status of golf in Bangladesh.

What are your goals for the next few years?
In the near term, my focus is on continuing to play on the Indian circuit for the next two years, after which I hope to qualify for the Asian Tour. My ultimate dream is to compete in Europe and, one day, the US PGA Tour.

What has been the most memorable moment of your golfing career?
Winning the Bangladesh Amateur Championship in 2016 and 2017 were proud moments for me. After my second win, someone mentioned that if I could achieve a hattrick, I'd receive a gold trophy. This motivated me to delay turning professional just so I could

"If the top 10 golfers in Bangladesh had adequate sponsorships and no visa obstacles, we could elevate the country's golf to unprecedented levels."

compete for that third win.
On the final day, I was leading the tournament through 16 holes. But on the 17th, I made a mistake—my shot went into the water. I had to drop a shot and eventually finished second. After the tournament, I was so devastated that I went to the washroom and cried for half an hour. Even during the dinner event later, I couldn't shake off the disappointment. The pain of not winning that hattrick still lingers.

> *I'm inspired by tiger wood's aggressive and precise approach.*

How important is mental strength in golf, and how do you work on yours?
Mental strength is absolutely crucial in golf, perhaps more so than in any other sport. Unlike other sports, where you're constantly moving, golf requires you to stay focused for extended periods, sometimes over several hours. The ability to stay calm, make strategic decisions, and not let mistakes affect the rest of your game is essential. To build my mental strength, I practice mindfulness and meditation regularly. These practices help me stay centered and focused, especially during high-pressure situations in tournaments. Additionally, I try to keep a positive mindset, always focusing on the next shot rather than dwelling on past mistakes.

Which golfer do you admire the most, and what aspects of their game inspire you?
Tiger Woods is my favorite golfer. I'm inspired by his aggressive and precise approach, especially when he finds himself in difficult situations, like when his shot lands in the rough or in the bushes. Most players would opt for a safe shot in those scenarios, but not Tiger—he always plays with boldness. Before I head out to the course, I often watch videos of Tiger Woods for about 10 minutes to get in the right mindset.

Locally, I've always admired Siddikur Bhai. He's the reason many of us have dared to dream of becoming professional golfers, and it's because of him that we are where we are today.

Do you have any advice for those interested in taking up golf but don't know where to start?
There are over 20 golf clubs across Bangladesh, spread out in various regions. Some of these clubs offer memberships at relatively affordable rates. If you think golf is too expensive, reach out to these clubs—they're usually very supportive. But the first step is to decide that you truly want to pursue golf. Once you become a professional, you can even make a living from the sport. So, I'd encourage everyone to get involved, support the game, and help it grow.





My dream was to become a footballer, but fate had other plans. Golf chose me, and I've never looked back."


Scottie scheffler
Lydia ko

HOW SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER & LYDIA KO CEMENTED

Their Legacies at the 2024 Paris Olympic

Golf's return to the Olympics has been a journey of reintegration, and the 2024 Paris Games marked a significant milestone in that journey. For only the third time since its century-long absence, the sport was showcased on the global stage, but this time, it felt like golf truly belonged. Scottie Scheffler and Lydia Ko, both at the pinnacle of their careers, were poised to make history. Despite being separated by less than a year in age, their paths to this moment were remarkably different. Ko, at 27, had already been a dominant force on the LPGA Tour for years, collecting wins even before Scheffler started college. Scheffler, 28, had often been compared to Nelly Korda, another world No. 1, both dominating their respective tours and winning the year's first major. However, their triumphs at Le Golf National would stand as the ultimate testament to their stature in the sport.





Medallists Lydia Ko, Esther Henseleit and Lin Xiyu Janet pose on the women's golf podium at the Olympic Games Paris 2024 at Le Golf National on August 10, 2024.

The culmination of their Olympic journeys saw Scheffler and Ko rise to the occasion, their victories not only underscoring their skills but also their character. Both are known for their humility and kindness, qualities that were on full display as they represented the sport to the world. Their gold medals were more than just accolades; they were affirmations of their roles as ambassadors of golf, with Ko now solidifying her status as a current Hall of Famer.

The tournament itself was a stage for high drama. While Scheffler and Ko basked in their victories, others faced the harsh realities of competition. Tommy Fleetwood of Great Britain and Esther Henseleit of Germany secured silver, while Japan's Hideki Matsuyama and China's Xiyu Lin took bronze. Defending gold medalist Xander Schauffele, despite his strong resume as a two-time major winner in 2024, was notably absent from the podium, a surprise that left many wondering what went wrong.

Perhaps the most shocking turn of events was Jon Rahm's collapse. The Spaniard, who seemed destined for gold after a blistering run of six birdies in eight holes, faltered spectacularly, making four bogeys and a double bogey to finish tied for fifth with Rory McIlroy. The emotional aftermath was palpable, as Rahm struggled to process what had happened, while McIlroy, after a thrilling back-nine surge, also fell short of the podium.

Meanwhile, Victor Perez delivered a performance that captivated the home crowd. The Frenchman, at 31, shot a remarkable 63, nearly earning a medal. Although he fell just short, his effort was a testament to the unique pressure and exhilaration of competing on home soil, where the cheers of the crowd added an extra layer of motivation.

As for Scheffler, his final round was a masterclass in resilience and focus. Starting the day four shots behind the leader, he opened with three straight birdies, stalled briefly, then charged to the finish line with a back-nine 29, culminating in a 9-under 62 and a one-shot victory. Scheffler's understated goal

of simply enjoying the experience belied his desire to silence critics and secure his place as one of the sport's elite.

Lydia Ko's journey was equally compelling. With the potential to complete her Olympic medal set — having already won silver in Rio 2016 and bronze in Tokyo 2020 — and earn the final point needed for LPGA Hall of Fame inclusion, Ko entered the Paris Games with immense pressure. She even took the drastic step of removing social media from her phone to maintain her focus.

The women's competition was a rollercoaster, with Switzerland's Morgane Metraux, world No. 137, emerging as an unexpected co-leader after three rounds. Nelly Korda loomed as a potential challenger, but it was Ko who ultimately controlled her destiny.

Inspired by quotes from Simone Biles' documentary, particularly the notion of "writing her own ending," Ko steered her way through a nerve-wracking final round. Despite a dwindling lead that shrank to a single stroke, Ko managed to hold on and birdied the last hole, securing a two-shot victory.

In the end, there was no dramatic twist, no heartbreaking defeat — just the fulfillment of a storybook ending for Ko. She may have called it a "storytale," but in reality, it was a fairytale conclusion to a remarkable Olympic chapter for both her and Scheffler. Their triumphs in Paris not only added to their already impressive legacies but also elevated the status of golf in the Olympic pantheon, proving that the sport's true indoctrination into the Games had finally arrived.



Scottie Scheffler won gold in golf at the 2024 Olympics

Medallists Lydia Ko, Esther Henseleit and Lin Xiyu Janet pose on the women's golf podium at the Olympic Games Paris 2024 at Le Golf National on August 10, 2024.



SHOES



Fashion trainers have inspired the Duca del Cosma Davanti



Under Armour's Drive Pro is the spiked sibling of the Drive Pro SL

There was a time, not that long ago in the overall scheme of things, when the only golf shoe choice you had to make was whether to go for black or white. Now, there are loads of styles and colours demanding your attention.

To simplify what the current market looks like, there are three categories: spiked, spikeless and hybrid. Generally, spiked models offer the most stability, spikeless offerings are lightweight and boast greater versatility and the hybrid blends a bit of both.

There's then a wider choice to be made as a result of several new brands shaking things up in the golf shoe world. The old favourites are still there, but you can also now go for something with a bit more attitude. Here's a flavour of what's out there this year...

The FootJoy Quantum offers cloud-like levels of comfort



G/Fore's G/18 is its most distinctive shoe to date stylistically

"why not express yourself with your shoe purchase? i think it is the most enjoyable way to spend your money in golf"

•TOP BUYING TIPS

1. Buying both a spiked and a spikeless pair will allow you to rotate your shoes according to conditions, helping both to stay box-fresh for longer.

2. Sizing comes up slightly different across the main shoe brands. For example, we recommend that you size down in FootJoy and up in Adidas.

3. If you have a favourite trainer you wear off the course, it's likely to now have a golf shoe variant, offering you the ultimate in versatility.

BEST SPIKED



Adidas Tour360 24
Now in its 19th year, the latest edition of this all-rounder provides exceptional grip in all conditions, more support than its predecessor and a comfortable new heel.



Nike Air Zoom Infinity Tour Next%2 Brooks Koepka and several notable others favour this modern style of shoe. It offers supreme levels of comfort straight from the box.



Puma Phantomcat Nitro
This well-rounded model features a unique traction system that is both low-profile and lightweight, with nitrogen-infused foam in the heel for added comfort.

BEST SPIKELESS



Under Armour Drive Pro SL
Under Armour has managed to incorporate a lightweight, sturdy build into this performance shoe, one that also provides exemplary grip and supreme support



Payntr X 005 F
This sleek, modern shoe packs a pretty big punch in the spikeless category and, in terms of the basics, it ticks all the boxes from cushioned comfort to superb grip



G/Fore Gallivan2r
Aesthetically pleasing silhouettes showcase everything that is great about G/Fore, as evidenced by this classy and deceptively comfortable spikeless shoe.

BEST FOR COMFORT



Ecco LT1
Another classy golf shoe from Ecco, and one that offers the incredible levels of comfort and premium looks that the brand has now become well known for.



Skechers Go Golf Blade GF Slip-ins
Not the brand's best-looking shoe, but as far as arch support and heel cushioning are concerned, this practical model receives top marks.



FootJoy Pro/SLX Carbon
The latest addition to this iconic FJ franchise delivers excellent levels of comfort without sacrificing the key performance elements that every golfer requires.

BEST HYBRID



Adidas S2G SL
For the golfer who values style and comfort on and off the course, few shoes offer more versatility that the S2G SL. It also represents outstanding value for money.



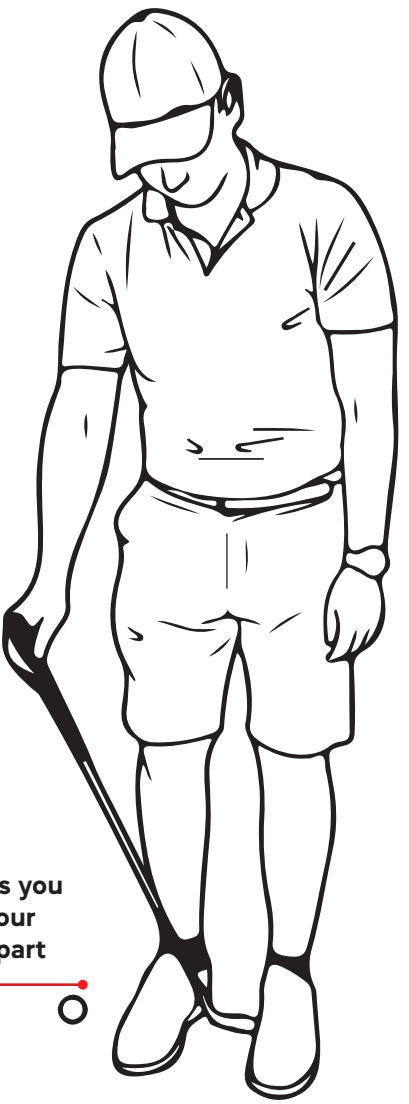
Nike Air Pegasus '89
Stunning looks and incredible versatility on and off the course are packaged up in a comfortable shoe that will appeal to both trainer enthusiasts and golfers.



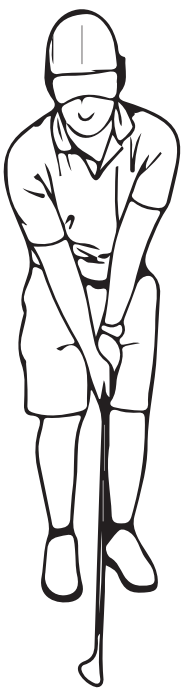
True Linkswear Lux Hybrid
This smart silhouette takes the brand's casual Lux Knit and elevates the aesthetic and practicality with a leather saddle and fully waterproof knit upper.

KNOW YOUR CHIPPING BASICS

For most golfers, chipping is one of the ways to lower your score and build your confidence. If your chip and short game improves, the chance to get your score lower is higher. Therefore, you need to master the basic chip shot.



F basic chip shot works in a short distance in the air and rolls to the pin with more control and consistency than a normal shot. So, to have a good chip, you need to have a good feeling of your arms and chest to get your distance control toward your target. To achieve your chipping, there are some basics that you need to follow:



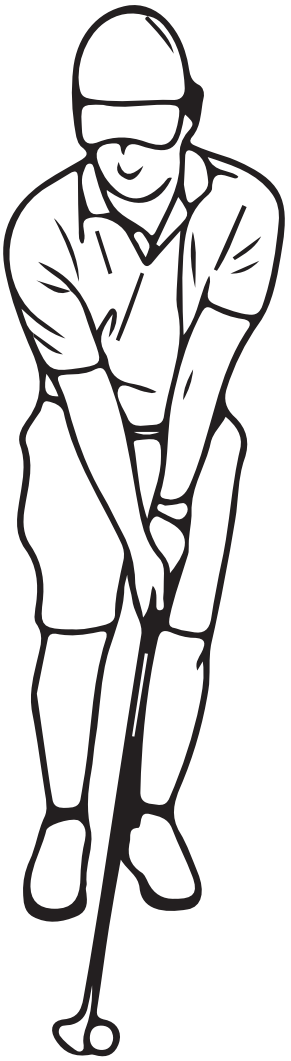
STEP 1

Lower your grip

STEP 2

By lowering the grip, it forces you to have a narrow stand, so your feet are about a club head apart





STEP 4

Move your body weight 60% left and 40% right as there will also be a little shaft lean to the left

STEP 3

Move your ball position in the middle of your stance

INCORRECT TIP

Dont put your body weight to the right as your striking point will be behind the golf ball.



BKSP'S DIRECTOR ENVISIONS

GOLF'S FUTURE SUCCESS

Brigadier General Syed Md Motahar Hossain, the esteemed Director General of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishtan (BKSP), the country's premier sports education institute, envisions a future where golf becomes a staple discipline with the right support from golfing authorities. Under his leadership, BKSP has flourished, nurturing around 1500 trainees annually across 21 disciplines and consistently producing international stars in sports such as cricket, football, and hockey. With a robust athlete development program and potential collaborations with golf clubs like Savar Golf Club, he is optimistic that integrating golf into BKSP's curriculum could yield a new generation of champions for Bangladesh

Tell us about BKSP and its current programs.

BKSP is the prime sports training institute in Bangladesh and is the only government institution that takes trainees to upgrade them for international competitions. Currently there are 21 disciplines and we train roughly around 1500 trainees a year. And we produce a lot of international stars.

BKSP started it's journey in 1986 and over the three decades or so, it has produced many international stars in cricket, football and hockey. BKSP also focuses on potential sports such as shooting and archery.
Currently we have a long athletes development program under which we take regular students. Generally the intake comes within Class 4-7 and they are trained up to Class 12. Besides this, we undertake some short duration training for the sports talents of the country.

Are you taking any initiative to introduce golf in your institute?

There is always a possibility. Owing to the rules of business, golf is an approved game in BKSP. However, due to many limitations, golf could not be started. But if Bangladesh Golf Federation collaborates with BKSP, it can be introduced in near future. You see there is no golf course in BKSP, so if golf needs to be started, we need to collaborate with another golf course. It could be Savar Golf Club or any other golf club near our training center.

How is the performance of BKSP athletes in different disciplines?

BKSP is doing a lot in cricket. We are consistently producing international cricketers like Shakib Al Hasan, Mushfiqur Rahim, Mahmudullah. Even recent sensations like Jaker Ali, Tanzim Sakib, Tanzid Tamim – all of them are coming from BKSP. You'll be happy to know that we are consistently supplying age-level players to the national team. There are good prospects among current students to become international cricketers in future.

What can be done to make golf a more professional sport and have more success in it?

There are certainly a lot of good potential golfers in Bangladesh. But



Brig Gen Syed Md Motahar Hossain

Director General Of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishtan (BKSP)



we need to get them integrated with a system so that they can play golf for a long time and earn laurels for the country.

I think there is a need for greater collaboration between golfers, Bangladesh Golf Federation and Golf Academy. And that can be assisted by BKSP. Like cricket, football and other sports, we train athletes for a long duration and that is bringing success. The same is the case for golfers. I think we need to pick young talents and train them for a long period to yield success.

> ***THERE IS ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY. OWING TO THE RULES OF BUSINESS, GOLF IS AN APPROVED GAME IN BKSP. HOWEVER, DUE TO MANY LIMITATIONS, GOLF COULD NOT BE STARTED.***

How did you get associated with golf?
It's a long story. I started my golfing journey in 2014 through the Rangpur Golf and Country Club. It's been 10 years now I've been playing golf and I have played in almost all the golf clubs in the country. I've been a keen golfer for a long time. Last year I probably played every day, early in the morning. But nowadays due to my busy schedule, I'm trying to play twice a week – on Fridays and Saturdays.

What was your inspiration behind coming to golf? Does anyone else in your family play golf as well?
I started playing golf through inspiration from my wife. Actually she started before me and pushed me to the golf course.We are a golfing family. My three daughters play good golf, and my wife probably won more trophies than me. In a tournament we both played, but it was my youngest daughter who won the trophy.



Who are your favourite golfers?
At home, I really like Akbar Hossain. I have played with him many times and I'm happy to see that he's doing well. If I talk about international stars, I would say Tiger Woods because he's been a champion for a long time and is still continuing.

> *"GOLF TEACHES US TO PRACTICE REGULARLY, PLAN METICULOUSLY, ASSESS SITUATIONS ACCURATELY, AND EXECUTE EFFECTIVELY."*

What, according to you, is the most gratifying thing about golf?
The most gratifying thing about golf for me is that I have made a lot of friends on the golf courses. I love the association with other golfers, it makes me happy.



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A CRICKETER'S JOURNEY *into* GOLF

Athar Ali Khan -- the voice of Bangladesh cricket. The former all-rounder of the national cricket team, who played many a memorable knocks for the country and bowled out many opposition batters, has made a smooth transition from his cricketing career to that of a cricket commentator. Now that he is retired, Athar gets more time to try out his passion: golf. A stylish man through and through, Athar makes his style statement stand out like he used to do with his willow during his playing days. In this freewheeling interview, the cricketer-turned-commentator talks about his passion for golf and his fashion statement, apart from of course, his cricketing achievements.




Athar Ali Khan
Cricket Commentator & Former
Member of the Bangladesh Cricket Team
MIZUNO



It's a very natural progression from cricket to golf.

Everyone knows you for your cricketing accomplishments and also as a cricket commentator, but few know that you are a passionate golfer too. How did this passion for golf come about?
My brother, who lives in California, is an active golfer and he was the one who took me to the driving range in the late '90s. I still remember getting embarrassed since I missed the ball completely when I took my very first swing and that really challenged me to take up golf.

I started playing golf after my retirement from actively playing cricket. While on tours, it is good to go out there and play with my fellow commentators. I love the game but don't take it seriously.

A lot of cricketers play golf as a pastime, maybe more than any other sports.

Why does it happen, according to you?
It's a very natural progression from cricket to golf. It's a mental game just like cricket. Strategy, patience, attack, defence -- it's all there in both games.

Has your cricketing experience influenced your approach to golf?
Cricket is a team sport where you need to depend on the contribution of your teammates. In golf, you are on your own. There are times when one is competing against oneself. There are lots of learning from cricket I bring to the game of golf -- the biggest being how to be patient.



While I am playing it help me to shut out the daily noise around me

What is your golfing routine?
I am an avid but amateur golfer. I like to play more but work and travel commitments don't allow me to do so.

> ***GOLF IS A MENTAL GAME JUST LIKE CRICKET. STRATEGY, PATIENCE, ATTACK, DEFENSE, IT'S ALL THERE IN BOTH GAMES.***

As such I am not going to the range to practise. On game day I will hit a bucket or two at the range and spend time doing putting drills. That's about it.

What, according to you, is the most gratifying thing about golf?
Golf is meditation to me. It helps me relax, gather my thoughts and shut out the daily noise when I am playing. For that I am grateful to golf.

Who are your favourite golfers?
Siddikur Rahman. I look at him and I get inspired by his commitment and achievements against all odds. My all-time favourite is Tiger Woods and I also admire Sadiq Quddus.

When you go abroad for commentary purpose, do you make time to play a round of golf?
Not always. But yes, I try to sneak in a round or two.



Athar Ali Khan Wasim Akram, his brother Anwar & Waqar Younis at DHA Golf Club, Karachi



Any memorable experience playing golf with a cricketer or a cricket commentator?
I have had the pleasure of playing with Ian Bishop and Jeff Dujon at the Royal Saint Kitts Golf Club (Saint Kitts & Nevis), played with Wasim Akram and a few other fellow commentators.

Coming back to cricket, what is your most memorable performance?
82 against Pakistan (Asia Cup, Colombo, 1997)

Which achievement of Bangladesh team still gives you goosebumps?
1997 ICC Trophy win – which qualified Bangladesh to the World Cup and laid the foundation for our eventual Test membership.

Last but not the least, you are a style icon for many, not just in Bangladesh but also across the cricketing world. Your style sense is flamboyant and



with Ian Bishop at Royal St Kitts Golf Club 2014

GOLF IS MEDITATION TO ME. IT HELPS ME RELAX, GATHER MY THOUGHTS AND SHUT OUT THE DAILY NOISE WHEN I AM PLAYING

unique. Could you give us a lowdown about the brands or accessories you use on different occasions?
I am not brand conscious. Rather I focus on quality and comfort. I also like to go 'against' the norm of fashion. I started wearing bow ties at the time when bow ties were not in vogue.

Do you prefer any specific brands when dressing up for golf? What is your favourite golfing attire?
No, not really. I am looking to be comfortable in what I am wearing while I play.



Ravi Shastri and Athar at KGC, 2010

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TOP GOLF TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

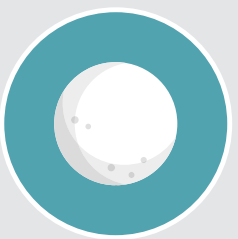
Beginning golf is discouraging, with the presence of more established players always lingering within the back of your mind. The following golf tips for beginners will help boost your confidence and taking part in style in no time. by Golfs Hub



Play the ball as it lies (until the rules allow you to do otherwise)



You can carry a maximum of 14 clubs



Finish a hole with the ball you started it with



Put an identification mark on your ball



Spend only 5 minutes searching for lost ball



Play the course by order of holes



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MONJURUL HOQUE

CHAIRMAN OF BARCODE GROUP

The eldest son of *Late MR. NURUL HOQUE.* *Owner of Chattogram's leading industrial group that bears his name, opened a coffee shop named BARCODE to distract himself from the trauma of his father's demise in 2012. Monjurul, born and raised in the UAE, studied Business Management at the Thames Business School in Singapore.*

*Once **BARCODE** gained popularity Hoque decided to launch another restaurant commercially in Chattogram's Muradpur, naming it **Barcode Seafood.** He has completed all the decorations at a cost of about Tk 1 crore. The inauguration of the restaurant was set to take place on 23 March in 2015, but it completely burnt to ashes in a fire on 22 March, the night before inauguration.*

However, that did not dampen his resolve. He launched the restaurant once again – this time he named it Barcode on Fire! Now he has 20 restaurants including 15 in Chattogram, five in Dhaka and one in the UAE, serving local and continental foods, employing over 400 people. Monjurul Hoque talks to us about his up and on his way to becoming an emerging food Mughal in Chattogram.

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BANKING & BIRDIES

Mahbubur rahman EXCELS IN BOTH ARENAS

Md. Mahbubur Rahman, a seasoned banker and passionate golfer, has been with City bank PLC for over twelve years, currently serving as the additional managing director and CFO. Since 2006, he has been a member of Kurmitola Golf Club, balancing his demanding banking career with his love for golf. Golf is not only his primary physical activity but also a source of stress relief, allowing him to maintain peak performance in his professional life. A proud father of three, with two children who also share his passion for golf, Rahman exemplifies the integration of personal passion with professional excellence. His youngest son, Arib, is an accomplished golfer with multiple trophies to his name. Rahman's dedication to both his career and his sport highlights the synergy between strategic planning in golf and decision-making in banking. Join us as we delve into his journey, insights, and the profound impact of golf on his life and career.





Md. Mahbubur Rahman
Additional Managing Director And CFO
City bank PLC



MAINTAINING PHYSICAL FITNESS IS CRUCIAL FOR A DEMANDING CAREER LIKE BANKING.

Could you tell us something about you and your banking journey?

This is Md. Mahbubur Rahman. I'm a member of Kurmitola Golf Club and have been playing golf since 2006. Golf is one of my passions. Besides golf, I'm a banker. Currently, I work for Citibank Limited as an additional managing director and CFO. I've been with Citibank for more than twelve years. Golf is part of my daily routine; I play early in the morning before heading to the office. It serves as my main physical activity and helps me relieve stress. In the banking industry, there's a lot of work pressure, and golf helps me manage that stress. I have a family with three kids and a wife. Two of my children also play golf, particularly my youngest son Arib, who has become an excellent golfer with a handicap lower than mine. He has won eight trophies, four of them last year. I'm immensely proud of him. My daughter is also a good athlete, excelling in basketball and golf. That's a brief introduction about me and my family."

When did you start golfing and who introduced you to the game?

I started golfing in 2006. One of my seniors, Tipu bhai, who is also a chartered accountant like me, introduced me to the game. He's now in Australia, continuing his passion for golf there."

Golf is often considered a game of strategy and precision. Can you discuss how these attributes translate to your role in banking, particularly in decision-making and risk management?

"WINNING THE PRESIDENT'S CUP AT KURMITOLA GOLF CLUB LAST YEAR WAS PARTICULARLY SPECIAL TO ME."

Golf requires precision, strategy, and planning, similar to our professional lives. Every day on the golf course presents a new situation, much like our professional environment. We constantly adjust our plans and strategies. In both golf and banking, it's crucial to think comprehensively, considering the surrounding factors, stakeholders, resources, and the impact of our actions. Golf teaches us to practice regularly, plan meticulously, assess situations accurately, and execute effectively. These lessons are directly applicable to decision-making and risk management in banking."

What is the best thing about golf?
The best thing about golf is the benefit it brings to the environment. Golf courses are beautiful, green spaces that provide a habitat for birds and wildlife, especially in urban areas like Dhaka where such spaces are rare. Golf is also a great exercise, contrary to the misconception that it isn't. It involves a lot of walking and movement, providing a full-body workout. Additionally, golf develops character through its emphasis on ethics and self-regulation. It's a holistic activity that benefits individuals and society."

What is your golfing routine?
I play golf three to four days a week. I'm fortunate to live near a golf course, allowing me to play frequently. On weekends, I usually play both days and sometimes go to the golf course two or three times. Despite work pressure, I make sure to play or practice at least three to four days a week."



helped you build relationships and further your career in banking?
Golf is excellent for networking. It brings together players, often successful professionals, fostering strong connections. On the golf course, I meet senior professionals with strong backgrounds, which is beneficial for my career in banking. Playing golf allows me to mix with quality people and discuss banking solutions in a relaxed setting.

> ***"TWO OF MY CHILDREN ALSO PLAY GOLF, PARTICULARLY MY YOUNGEST SON ARIB, WHO HAS BECOME AN EXCELLENT GOLFER."***

As a banker at Citibank, it also serves as a platform to act as a brand ambassador, furthering the bank's reputation within the golfing com

What is the best memory you have related to golf?
"One of my best memories is winning the President's Cup at Kurmitola Golf Club last year. It's considered the most prestigious golf tournament for amateurs, and after many years of playing and winning various trophies, this success was particularly special to me."

How do you handle competition in the banking industry, and what strategies do you employ to stay ahead in a competitive market?
"Our bank is a leader in the market, known for its innovative solutions. We excel in credit card retail banking, corporate banking, and SME sectors, offering services like women banking and Islamic banking. Our strategy focuses on continuous innovation and quality improvement. This approach ensures we maintain our leading position in the market."

Apart from you, is there anybody from your family who is interested in playing golf?
"Yes, my daughter and son play golf. My youngest son Arib is an excellent golfer with a lower handicap than mine. He has won eight trophies, four of them last year. It gives me immense pleasure to see him excel. I aim to play with them at least once a week, despite my busy schedule. It's wonderful to share this passion with them."

How will you influence others to play golf?
Whenever I have the opportunity, I promote golf, especially to young people. I discuss its benefits and encourage regular participation. I'm keen on developing the golfing culture in our country and support the Bangladesh Professional Golf Association and professional golfers in any way I can."

Lastly, can you share a specific experience or lesson from your golfing endeavors that you've applied to your banking career, and how it has contributed to your success?
Golf has provided many benefits, including maintaining physical fitness, which is crucial for a demanding career like banking. Golf has taught me the importance of continuous quality improvement, strategic planning, and execution. These lessons are directly applicable to my work. Moreover, golf has helped me build valuable relationships, meeting many of our bank's valued customers on the course. This helps maintain good communication and provides a unique way to address their banking needs."



Md. Mahbubur Rahman is with his daughter and son


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58 **ABSTRACT SEMIOTICS IN TRADITIONAL MOSQUE DESIGN**
In Islamic art and architecture, symbolism is often conveyed through geometric abstraction rather than literal representation.

76 **Chicken Piccata Recipe**
Make the sauce: In the same skillet, add chicken broth, lemon juice, lemon zest, and capers. Stir well, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the skillet. Let the sauce simmer for about 2-3 minutes.



Abstract Semiotics in

TRADITIONAL MOSQUE DESIGN

Nestled quietly on a rural site near the majestic Arial Kha River in Bangladesh, Bait-Ur-Raiyan stands as a testament to the profound interplay between symbolism and geometry in Islamic architecture. This small-scale mosque is an exploration of abstract interpretations of traditional Islamic architectural symbols, rendered through a human-centric approach that harmonizes spiritual space with community needs.

In Islamic art and architecture, symbolism is often conveyed through geometric abstraction rather than literal representation. This principle guided the design of Bait-Ur-Raiyan, where traditional elements like the dome, minarets, and arch have been reimagined through the lens of "Abstract Semiotics." The result is a structure that embodies the sacred while maintaining an intimate scale, deeply rooted in the philosophy and way of life that informs Islamic design.

The mosque's dome, a floating structure that invites daylight into the interior, offers worshippers a sense of the vastness of the sky, enhancing their spiritual experience. The minarets, rather than being conventional towers, are sculptural elements that ascend toward the heavens, symbolizing the aspiration of the human spirit. The entrance, transformed from a typical arch into a volumetric form, invites worshippers into a space of tranquility and reflection.

At the heart of the design is a simple rectangular volume, representing stability and creating a sacred yet intimate environment. This single-storey mosque, with its lofty height, offers an experience that transcends the physical, engaging worshippers through spatial quality, touch, and vision.

Timeless materials like red brick and stone, reminiscent of Bangladesh's mosque heritage, have been used to construct Bait-Ur-Raiyan. The deep red



> ***This single-storey mosque, with its lofty height, offers an experience that transcends the physical, engaging worshippers through spatial quality, touch, and vision.***


GAZI



Bait Ur Raiyan Mosque is formed from red bricks

brick contrasts with the lush greenery of the surroundings, while marble floors cool and porous provide comfort during the intense summer heat.

Light, an essential element of the design, is not merely an environmental consideration but a building element that enhances the spiritual ambiance. Daylight filters through apertures on the North and South sides, with additional indirect lighting washing over the walls and dome, elevating the mosque's spiritual presence.

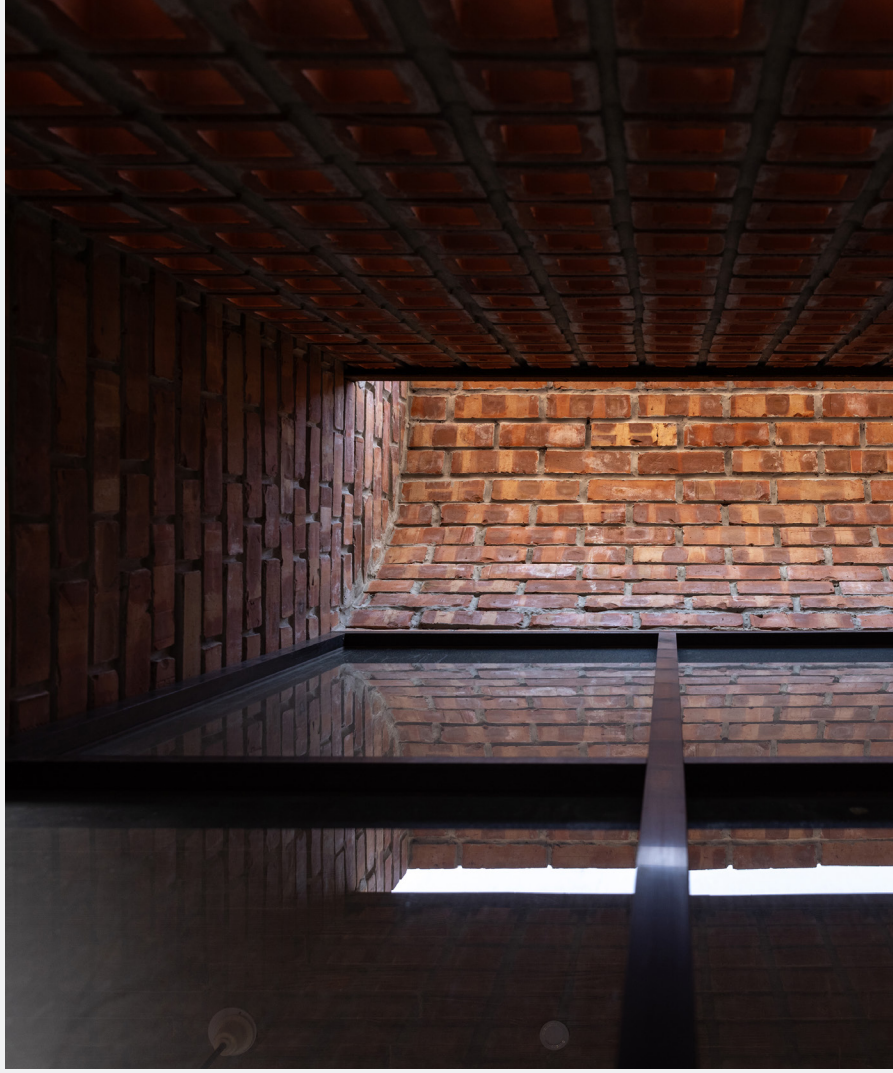
Bait-Ur-Raiyan, while designed for Friday congregational prayers, remains a serene space throughout the week. It relies primarily on natural ventilation and cooling, minimizing the need for mechanical systems and reducing operational costs. The abundance of natural light and air, enhanced by strategically placed skylights, ensures that the prayer hall remains well-lit and ventilated, fostering a contemplative atmosphere.

In Bait-Ur-Raiyan, traditional mosque elements are not merely retained but reinterpreted, creating a space that is both timeless and contemporary, sacred and community-focused.



A single prayer hall sits beneath the mosque's central dome



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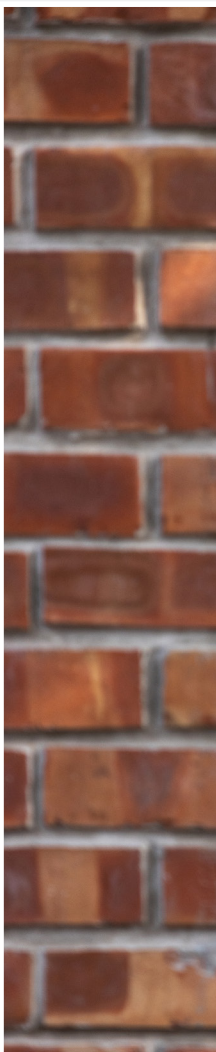



Lead Architects



Shakhawat Hossain Rocky



Khandaker Ashifuzzaman Rajon



Project Name:

Bait Ur Raiyan

Office Name:

Cubeinside Design Ltd.

Office Website:

www.cubeinsidebd.com

Social Media Accounts:

www.facebook.com/cubeinsidebd/

Contact email:

cubeinside@gmail.com

Firm Location:

Banani, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Completion Year:

2023

Gross Built Area

(m2/ ft2): 464 sqm

Project Location:

Kalkini, Khasher Haat, Madaripur, Bangladesh

Program / Use / Building Function:

Mosque

Lead Architects e-mail:

rajoncubeinside@gmail.com

Photographer

Photo Credits:

Asif Salman

Photographer's Website:

www.asifsalman.com

Photographer's e-mail:

salarchman@gmail.com

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Khandaker Ashifuzzaman Rajon (for image named BUR-4)

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A LEADER'S JOURNEY IN HOSPITALITY

Meet Shahidus Sadeque Talukder, the driving force behind the operations at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre. As the Additional General Manager and Director of Operations, Shahidus brings extensive knowledge and a deep passion for hospitality to his role. With years of experience across various properties, including expertise in pre-launching hotels, he has honed his skills in both strategic management and day-to-day operations. In this interview, Shahidus discusses his journey in the hospitality industry, the challenges and opportunities unique to the Bangladeshi market, and the innovative approaches that Holiday Inn is taking to stay ahead in a rapidly evolving industry.

Can you tell us about your role at Holiday Inn and your journey in the hospitality industry?

As the Additional General Manager and Director of Operations at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre, my role involves overseeing daily operations, ensuring top-notch guest satisfaction, and driving strategic initiatives to elevate our service offerings. My journey in the hospitality industry started many years ago, and I've held various positions across different properties, including roles with pre-launching responsibilities. This diverse experience has given me a comprehensive understanding of the industry, from front-line service to strategic management. I'm passionate about creating memorable experiences for our guests and leading a team committed to delivering exceptional service.

What are some of your most memorable experiences from the early days of Holiday Inn in Dhaka?

The early days at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre were filled with significant milestones that required meticulous planning and execution. The enthusiastic response from the local community and the positive feedback from our initial guests were incredibly rewarding. The camaraderie and dedication of our team during this period were truly inspiring, setting a solid foundation for our continued success.

What challenges have you faced in the Bangladeshi market, and what are your expectations from the government?

The Bangladeshi market presents unique challenges, such as fluctuating economic conditions and ongoing infrastructure development. However, these challenges also present opportunities for growth and innovation. We hope for continued government support in infrastructure improvements and the implementation of policies that promote tourism. Collaboration with local authorities and industry stakeholders is essential for overcoming these challenges and fostering a thriving hospitality sector.

What trends are shaping the hospitality industry in Bangladesh?

The hospitality industry in Bangladesh is being influenced by several key trends, including a growing emphasis on sustainability, increased digitalization, and a rising demand for personalized guest experiences. Additionally, there is a shift towards integrating wellness and health-focused amenities into hotel offerings. Adapting to these trends is crucial for staying competitive and meeting guest expectations.



Shahidus Sadeque Talukder
AGM and Director Operations, Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre



> ***"The Bangladeshi market presents unique challenges, but these challenges also open up opportunities for growth and innovation."***

How do you approach staff training and development to maintain high service standards?
Staff training and development are central to maintaining our high service standards. We invest in continuous training programs that focus on both technical and soft skills. Regular workshops, on-the-job training, and leadership development programs ensure that our team is well-equipped to deliver exceptional service. We also encourage feedback and provide opportunities for professional growth, which helps maintain high morale and engagement.

How do you see the future of hospitality, and how will you adapt to these changes?
The future of hospitality will likely be shaped by advances in technology, evolving guest expectations, and a growing focus on sustainability. We plan to adapt by embracing innovative technologies, such as AI and automation, to enhance guest experiences and streamline operations. Additionally, we will continue to prioritize sustainable practices and personalize our services to meet the changing needs of our guests.

What differentiates Holiday Inn from its competitors?
Holiday Inn stands out through a combination of consistent quality, a welcoming atmosphere, and a commitment to exceeding guest expectations. Our global brand recognition is reinforced by personalized service and local expertise. One special aspect of our organization is our dedication to creating a home-away-from-home experience, where guests feel comfortable and valued during their stay.

How has Holiday Inn integrated golf and corporate events into its offerings, and what impact has this had on your business?
We have successfully integrated golf and corporate events into our offerings

"We have successfully integrated golf and corporate events into our offerings, strengthening our reputation as a versatile venue for both leisure and business."



by providing tailored packages and facilities that cater to these needs. This integration has strengthened our reputation as a versatile venue for both leisure and corporate events, contributing positively to our business growth.

Can you share any sustainability initiatives that Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre is currently undertaking?
Sustainability is a core aspect of our operations at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre. We have implemented initiatives aimed at reducing our environmental footprint, including energy-efficient lighting, water-saving technologies, and waste reduction programs. We also prioritize sourcing locally produced and sustainable products for our restaurants, supporting local communities and reducing carbon emissions. Our commitment to sustainability resonates with the growing number of eco-conscious travelers.

Unveiling Indulgence

SATURDAY BRUNCH BLISS AT

Holiday inn Dhaka City centre

Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre is set to launch its highly anticipated "Brunch Bliss weekend. This weekend brunch experience promises a delightful fusion of breakfast and lunch, offering a wide array of savory and sweet dishes for guests to indulge in.





Launching an Attitude Restaurant at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre welcomes esteemed guests to indulge in an exceptional culinary journey, Brunch Bliss Saturday.

This luxurious experience blends the finest elements of breakfast and lunch, offering a tantalizing fusion of flavors to enhance the senses. Brunch, a cherished tradition enjoyed late in the morning or early afternoon, promises a leisurely feast that caters to cravings for both savory and sweet delights. culinary treasures await, from classic breakfast favorites like waffles and pancakes to exotic Pan-Asian





delights and continental specialties like eggs benedict to Mongolian beef, Mutton Adana Kebab, and a wide range of irresistible options.

Savor our carefully crafted cheese platter, croissants, donuts, and assorted French pastries—a culinary journey that transcends excellence, making every bite blissful. Every guest who will avail this brunch will get the golden opportunity to win a return air ticket Dhaka-C bazar-Dhaka from NOVOAIR. Treat yourself to a world of delights at Brunch Bliss Saturday, hosted at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre. Experience ultimate relaxation by soothing yourself with steam and sauna facilities, while the little ones have a blast in their dedicated kids' play zone. With added attractions like slide, rocking horse, and painting zone, children will have endless fun while you pamper yourself with some well-deserved relaxation. Later, continue the experience with captivating movie screenings for the whole family to enjoy. As you unwind, get yourself two complimentary handcrafted mocktails expertly made by our internationally trained mixologists.
Savor the refreshing flavors as you relax at the poolside mocktail corner, soaking in the serene ambiance. Dive into a day of fun-filled aquatic adventures at our swimming pool, where you can enjoy thrilling water gun battles, float leisurely on water tubes and exciting water-based games. Enhance your experience with











live music by the poolside, creating unforgettable memories amidst the shimmering waters and vibrant atmosphere.

Come and enjoy with your family at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre at every Saturday from noon till 4 pm for an amazing brunch experience priced at just BDT 5000 net per person, offering exceptional value for all. Families, rejoice, as children under 12 dine for free, ensuring a delightful outing for everyone. Additionally, our customers can take advantage of a "Buy One Get One" offer with select bank cards. Join at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre this weekend to make a splash at Brunch Bliss Saturday, a lavish affair that transcends gastronomic excellence to become a cherished tradition at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre.

Treat yourself to a world of delights at Brunch BlissSaturday, hosted at Holiday Inn Dhaka City Centre







CUMILLA

Cumilla, a thriving city in southeastern Bangladesh, balances its rich historical heritage with modern growth, serving as a hub for trade, education, and cultural preservation.



FACT

Cumilla is an ancient city in Bangladesh, known for archaeological sites and the Mainamati ruins.

Best time to visit

Cumilla is from November to February, during the dry winter months.

Currency

Bangladeshi Taka

Check List

MUST VISIT



A traveler to Cumilla can explore the ancient Mainamati-Lalmai archaeological site, featuring Buddhist ruins and stupas The Cumilla War Cemetery honors WWII soldiers, offering a peaceful, reflective visit. Additionally, the scenic Dharmasagar Pond is perfect for a relaxing stroll.

MUST TRY



One of the best foods in Cumilla is "Rasmalai," a popular sweet treat made from soft, spongy cottage cheese balls soaked in thick, creamy, sweetened milk. Known for its delicate flavor and melt-in-the-mouth texture, Cumilla's Rasmalai is a must-try for visitors,

NEAREST GOLF COURSE



The Mainamati Golf and Country Club (MGCC), situated in the picturesque Comilla Cantonment area, boasts a beautifully maintained golf course that provides an ideal setting for golf enthusiasts. With its scenic views and excellent facilities, MGCC offers a perfect blend of relaxation and sport for visitors to the region.



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> **“Dieting is never easy when you know you can have as much croissant as you want.”**

Chicken Piccata Recipe

INGREDIENTS

- 2 large chicken breasts
- Salt & pepper, to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- Flour (for dredging)
- 4 tablespoons butter (divided)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 cup chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice + zest of 1
- lemon
- 1 tablespoon brined capers, drained
- 1/2 cup heavy/whipping cream

Garnish (optional): chopped parsley and/or freshly grated Parmesan cheese

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 01

Season the chicken: Sprinkle salt, pepper, and garlic powder on both sides of the chicken breasts.

STEP 02

Dredge the chicken: Coat the seasoned chicken breasts with flour, shaking off any excess.

STEP 03

Cook the chicken: In a large skillet, melt 2 tablespoons of butter and the olive oil over medium heat. Add the chicken breasts and cook for about 5-6 minutes on each side until golden brown and cooked through. Remove the chicken from the skillet and set aside.



STEP 04

Make the sauce: In the same skillet, add chicken broth, lemon juice, lemon zest, and capers. Stir well, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the skillet. Let the sauce simmer for about 2-3 minutes.

STEP 05

Add the cream: Reduce the heat to low and stir in the heavy cream and remaining 2 tablespoons of butter. Cook for an additional 2-3 minutes until the sauce thickens slightly.

STEP 06

Serve and garnish: Place the cooked chicken breasts on a serving platter and pour the sauce over them. Optionally, garnish with chopped parsley and freshly grated Parmesan cheese.



Nicholas Rozario
Chef, InterContinental Dhaka.

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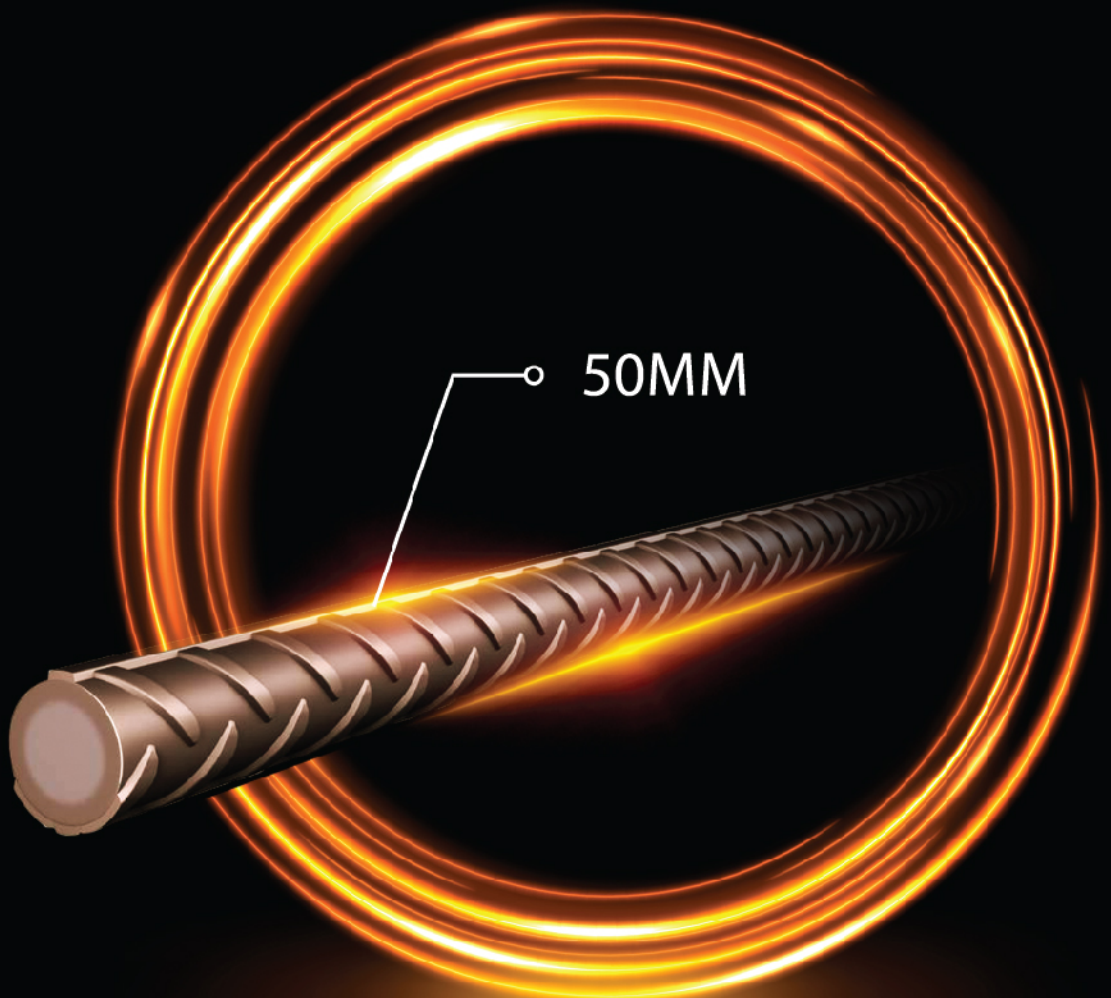

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