

Not a star, want to lead the world media: Nanziba Khan

► Saleem Samad



The girls from their childhood are marginalized in their home and society. When they pursue a professional career and then married life, they remain in the sideline, ignored in their workplace, family and society. When girls are arguing over their birthday clothes, Nanziba Khan is demanding equality of girls and women in society.

The versatile Nanziba, who just appeared in HSC exams, choose to be a child journalist, one of the few youngest filmmaker, Cadet Ambassador, a TV presenter, even an articulate debater. Recently she became an Ambassador for The British American Resource Center. It all began with a simple paintbrush. Before using a pencil, her mom inspired her to learn drawing and recitation at Kisholaoy Konchikanchar Mela. And she got entwined with the idea of participating in different competitions. In 2007, she earned her first award, participating in her first ever contest at Jainul-Quamrul International Children's Painting Competition. She won a lot more awards in different sectors including drawing and debating at national and international level.

Nanziba won the first prize from Bharateswari Homes for her extempore speech. She worked as the vice-president of Cambrian College Debating Society. There was a time for Nanziba, when in any event whether it's Pahela Boishakh, Eid, Puja or any cultural festival she was always there on the podium. But recently she is preparing herself for something new, something challenging. She was a student of class two when she first came in front of a camera. It was a program "Kagoj Kete Chobi Anki" on state-media Bangladesh Television (BTV). While she was studying in class eight, she learned about the circular of Child Journalism initiative by "BD news 24 dot com". Filed her application, out of curiosity to explore journalism among three thousand applicants. After a written test only 15 were selected. Only 5 among them were sent on an assignment at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel (now Intercontinental Hotel) and only one was selected to interview the world's best all-rounder cricketer Shakib Al Hasan. And it was none other than Nanziba Khan. Nanziba did not just stop here. She inter-

viewed Cabinet Ministers of Bangladesh including the State Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Finance Minister, ICT, Land, Information, Telecommunication, Health, Food, Cultural, Home Affairs, Education and many more. Not only political persons, she also interviewed prominent figures too, such as award winning writer Selina Hossain, Emdadul Huq Milon, Habibul Bashar, singer Abeda Sultana, Professor Sadeka Haleem, Nishat Majumdar, Faridur Reza Sagor, magician Jewel Aich, Mir Ahsan, Arifa Jaman Moushumi, Brig. Gen. S M Ferdous, the director of world debate society Alfred Sneider and the Defense Minister of India. She has on

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Participating in the Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) as a Cadet Sergeant, firing light weapons, taught how to work in a disciplined system. I've come first in consecutive three times at BNCC instant speech. I went to India on BNCC's event and earned my spot after three written and oral exam. There I had the opportunity to meet the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Pranab Mukherjee, and interview the Defense Minister. And had befriended cadets from 11 different countries including Russia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives. Nanziba told that all the inspiration come from her mother and younger brother. She expressed

that whenever she feels down and disbelieve herself, she thinks of her brother; and somehow it empowers her.

There was a moment when Nanziba dreamt to be a professional painter. But now she is wants to be an internationally recognized media person. She expressed that she just do not want to be a media personality, but she wants to lead the global media. Where she wants to showcase Bangladesh in front of the world and she is confident.

The writer is a senior journalist of The Asian Age

Aiming for the sky

MAISHA ISLAM MONAMEE

Nanziba Khan is a trainee pilot, journalist, television host, writer, debater and brand ambassador of The British American Resource Center, youth representative of Bangladesh. She also has a knack for modelling and filmmaking. Being the proud winner of UNICEF's Meena Media Award for her film *Shada-Kalo*, produced from her saved pocket money, Nanziba began her career as a filmmaker. By the age of 18, she directed seven short-films and documentaries. Currently, she is working on a film titled, *The Unwanted Twin*, a story based on two children without an identity, which aims to spread awareness about the challenging years of adolescence. The film is set to hit theatres on the forthcoming International Women's Day. It features prominent actors like Afsana Mimi, Dilara Zaman, Shirin Alom, Humayra Himu, Anny

Khan and Raju Alim among others. When she is not making films, Nanziba is busy hosting the show, *Kotha Barta*, on Channel i, and modelling for various photoshoots.

Nanziba started her journey as a writer with her book *Autistic Shishura Kemon Hoy* which is based on a diary she maintained for her younger brother over two years. She believes her brother to be an immense source of empowerment at times when she feels down. As UNICEF's Youth Ambassador from Bangladesh, she got the opportunity to represent South Asia at a global platform in Nepal this year. She is also BNCC's Cadet Ambassador and has been a representative of Bangladesh in front of 11 other countries. She also stepped into journalism, working for bdnews24.com and BTV in her early teens. Nanziba went on to take up aviation because she has always dreamt of learning to fly, and

wanted to do something that may seem challenging to others. Needless to say, with so many roles to take on, Nanziba is quite a busy person who has many feats under her belt. Yet, when one sits in a room with her, it is quite clear that she is humble and has her feet on the ground. "I feel uneasy when I have nothing to do, so I try to be busy at all times," smiles Nanziba. "I want to be an inspiration for girls not only in Bangladesh but all around the world." Nanziba believes in running her own race and never being dependent on anyone. For her, the biggest source of encouragement is her mother, without whose support she believes that she would not have achieved everything that she did. Nanziba is an inspiration for many, as her role in various forms of media sheds light on the importance of being an allrounder and the idea of survival of the fittest.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



SUN PHOTO

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor and Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu along with other guests hold the copies of a book titled 'Autistic Shishura Kemon Hoy' by Nanjiba Khan at its launching ceremony at the seminar room of Press Institute of Bangladesh in the city on Tuesday.



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If we help them break free of stereotypes, girls can change their societies for the better. "Whenever I try to do something new people say: Remember you are a girl," says Nanziba, a youth journalist and advocate from Bangladesh. "I think that is the worst sentence I have ever heard. It really hurts. Girls are becoming brave. They are expressing themselves. I believe in changing things, not in accepting social barriers and restrictions. They are man-made. Time has changed. We can still follow our culture but our living policies should change because time is moving forward." Do you know of any social barriers hindering girls in your community to reach their full potential? Tell us in the comments below.
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The Iconic Teen of Bangladesh
Nanziba Khan

A portrait of Nanziba Khan, a young woman with dark hair styled in an updo with loose curls. She is wearing a vibrant red long-sleeved dress with intricate gold embroidery on the bodice and sleeves. She has large gold tassel earrings, a gold watch on her left wrist, and several gold bangles on her right wrist. Her hands are clasped in front of her. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Yes, she is the one and only multi-talented 19 years old teenager Nanziba Khan, who is a Trainee Pilot, Journalist, Film Maker, Program Presenter, Entrepreneur, Writer, Debater, Model, Brand Ambassador of The British American Resource Center and Studynet Australia and youth representative of UNICEF Bangladesh.

The Iconic Teen of Bangladesh
Nanziba Khan

She was 13 when started her film making career. Directing film is another forte for Nanziba. She directed 'Careless'. She has won one of the most prestigious Meena Media Award which is presented by UNICEF for her first documentary "Shada-Kalo". She only used her tiffin money to make it. Then she created "Grow up", "The unstitch pain" and a few more documentary films. She was trained up in National Institute of Mass Communication for camera works. Now she is making full length Doufilm "The Unwanted Twin" where prominent actors like Afsana Mimi, Dilara Zaman, Shirin Alom, Humayra Himu, Anny Khan, Raju Alim and many more have acted in this film. The docufilm is based on the subject of "Identity less children & awareness in adolescent"

It was Class 9, she started anchoring. Anchored in "Amra rongin projapoti" and "amader kotha", "Anondo Vubon", "Shuvo Sokal" on aired on BTV, live Show "Kothabarta" on Channeli. She is also to be seen in various stage performances. Nanziba expressed, "Camera is a significant part of my life. I've worked as a presenter though I like to work behind a camera. Moreover, I love to debate and write stories".

When she was in college 1st year she was the "Vice President" of Cambrian Debating society". She has earned the title of "Best Speaker" in several national & international debate competition.

In 2017, she was in college 2nd year and became the Cadet Ambassador Of BNCC, by participating in the Bangladesh National Cadet Core as a cadet sergeant, firing guns, taught her how to work in a disciplined manner. She came first consecutively 3 times at BNCC instant speech. Last time she has defeated the Dhaka University. She has gone to India on BNCC's most expensive and longest event earning her spot after 3 stage written and oral exam. There she got the opportunity to meet the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Pranab Mukharji, and interview the Defence Minister. And she got to befriend cadets from 11 different countries including Russia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Vietnam, Singapore, Kazakhstan, Kirkistan, and the Maldives. She has represent Bangladesh through my presentation and dance.

She has started her modelling career as the model of prominent brands like "Rang Bangladesh", 'Senora'. She is also enjoying doing photo shoots. Nanziba told that all the inspirations come from her mother and younger brother. She expressed that whenever she feels down and disbelieve herself, she thinks of her brother; and somehow it empowers her.

There was a moment when Nanziba dreamt to be a professional painter. But now she wants to be an



internationally recognised Media Personal. She expressed her wish that she just doesn't want to be a media personality, but she wants to rule the world media. She wants to showcase Bangladesh in front of the world and she is quite keen about it.

She said, "I want that the world will know Bangladesh through my works. I never think that I've to become famous or just a star because becoming a leading key person is more important than those temporary tittles. I'm always ready to struggle and definitely serious about learning. I think our media sector still isn't the platform to accept it as a perfect profession. We need more development and we are the young generation who can make this platform perfect and suitable for our next generation. But I think academic background is also a big factor. So we should learn more and have to express more in right way. I want to become "An International Icon". If nobody is giving you any chance so that you can proof yourself then establish yourself as a Brand'. After that they won't just call you, they will run after you".



When other girls are maybe arguing over their birthday dresses this versatile young lady blooming like a flower, spellbinding people with her multi-dimensional works. She achieved several national and international awards including Unicef Meena Media Award, Youth Achievement Award, Bharateswari Homes Best Speaker, Alokito Nari Somanona, Genius Award and many more.

Not once but several times she has represented Bangladesh in front of foreign countries like USA, Canada, Russia, India, Srilanka, Bhutan, Nepal and many more. As the only Youth Ambassador of Bangladesh from UNICEF she had been to Nepal and also given a presentation on behalf of all the countries of South Asia and in 2017 as the cadet ambassador of BNCC successfully represented before 11 countries.

Recently she has founded JiMz Collection, Bangladesh's first online shop which is created and operated by Children with Autism. She has scripted

and directed a Television Commercial of an Australian Education and Migration Agency Studynet. She also acted as the model of the TVC.

Currently she is successfully having the taste of touching the sky as the Trainee Pilot of Arirang Flying School of Youngone Aviation Limited. She is doing her training in Cessna -152.

In 2018, after completing 2 years of research her 1st book named "Autistic Sisura Kemon Hoy" was published by Annesha Prokason and launched through the Minister Of Information, Minister Of Culture, DG of Press Institute Of Bd and many other prominent figures of our country.

It all started with a simple paintbrush. Before even using a pen, her mom inspired her to learn drawing and recitation at Kisholaoy Konchikanchar Mela. And she got entwined with the idea of participating in different competitions.

At the age of 5, she started her media career through the program named "Kagoj Kete Sobi Aki" on Bangladesh Television.

In 2007, she earned her first award participating in her first ever contest at Joynul Quamrul International Children's painting competition.

In class 8, she has started her Journalism Career. She has learned about the circular of youth journalism initiative by "BD News 24 dot com". She filled the form just out of curiosity. Over 3 thousand participants applied and after a written test only 15 were selected. Only 5 among them were sent on an assignment at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel and only one was selected to interview the world's best all-rounder cricketer Shakib Al Hasan and it was none other than Nanziba Khan.

Nanziba didn't just stop there. She then interviewed honourable ministers of Bangladesh including the minister of foreign affairs, Home Affairs, Education, Culture, Food, Information, Land, Telecommunication, ICT, Health, finance minister Civil Aviation and Tourism, Chief Whip, Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, Mayor Sayed Khokon and many more. Not only political personalities but she has interviewed some prominent figures too, such as Sayma Wazed Putul, Selina Hossain, Emdadul Huq Milon, Habibul bashar, DG of RAB, Sadaka Haleem, Nishat Majumdar, Faridur Reja Sagor, Juyel Aich, Mir Ahsan, Arifa Jaman Moushumi, Brig. Gen. S M Fedous, the director of world debate society Alfred Snider and the defence minister of India. She has conducted 80 interviews till this date.



Bangladesh wins Best Diplomat Award through Nanziba

Business Desk

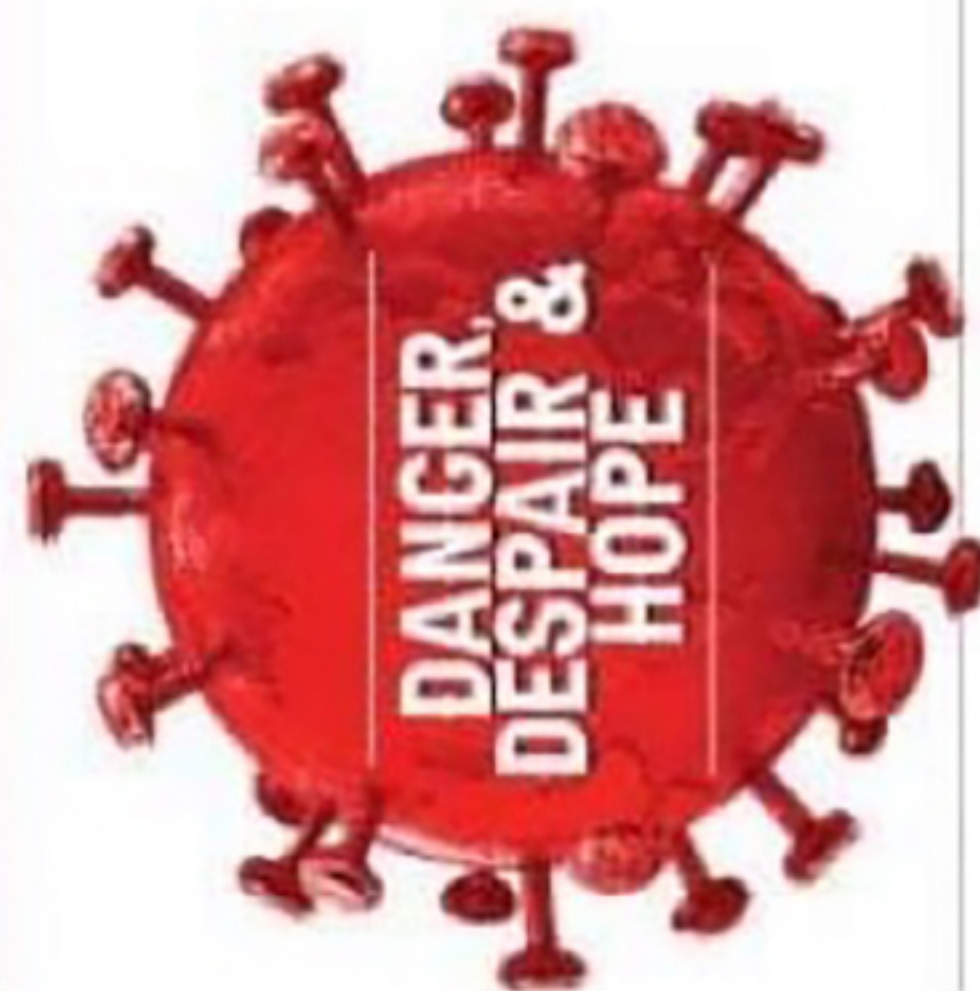
Nanziba Khan, is the Youngest BFDC enlisted Film Director of Bangladesh. Recently she achieved a milestone in UN Conference held at Thailand.

Through her for the first time Bangladesh won the United Nations Simulation Best Diplomat Award by defeating 200 youth leaders from more than 125 countries around the world.

Last September she also won the Outstanding Diplomat Award 2022 for Bangladesh in UN Dubai Conference

which was also the first award for the country. UN Simulation Best Diplomat also assigned her as their official ambassador for Bangladesh.

She is the Founder of JIMZ Creation which is a media consultancy firm and also the project director of 'Project Youth Friendly Bangladesh- CSR SDG for Youth' which is affiliated with Ministry of Planning, Information and Youth & Sports where more than 41 renowned corporate companies collaborated and 200 prominent figures of Bangladesh participated.



Three-day festival of women directors' films begins

FILM FESTIVAL

UNB

A three-day film festival – featuring six movies made by women film directors – started on Saturday in Dhaka ahead of International Womens' Day.

Kohinoor Akhter Suchanda's "Hazar Bochhor Dhore," Nargis Akhter's "Meghla Akash," Samia Zaman's "Rani Kuthir Baki Iti hash," Moushumi's "Kokhono Megh Kokhono Brishti," Shah-

newaz Kakoli's "Uttorer Shur" and Nan-ziba Khan's "The Wanted Twin" will be screened at the festival.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Fazilatunnesa Indira inaugurated the festival at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Bangladesh International Film Movement has organised the festival.

While inaugurating the festival, Indira called on the entrepreneurs to step forward along with the government to encourage more women in making films.



NANZIBA KHAN wins
BEST DIPLOMAT AWARD
at THE UNITED NATIONS
SIMULATION CONFERENCE