

Culture of Bangladesh_2

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CSE

DU

Bangladeshi Literature

Ancient Age

- The first works in Bengali, written in Old Bengali, appeared between 8th and 10th centuries C.E. The collection of these words is generally known as the *Charyapada*. There are as many as 50 to 51 songs. But we got only 46. These are mystic songs composed by various Buddhist poets.
- "*Sekh Subhadaya*" collection of poems on some Muslim Fakir's biography which was founded by Bangladesh. Probably those poems were written in the 12th century.

Bangladeshi Literature

Middle Age

Early Vaishnab Literature

Shrikrishna Kirtana (14th century)

Padavali of Vidyapati (1352–1448)

—written in an early Bengali dialect

Padavali of Chandidas (born 1408 CE)

There are a large number of Bengali padyas related to the love of Radha and Krishna

Early translations from Sanskrit

Sri Ram Panchali of Krittibas Ojha (1381–1461)

Sri Krishna Vijay of Maladhar Basu (15th century)

Bangladeshi Literature

Middle Age

- **Early Mangalkavyas** composed more or less between 13th Century and 18th Century, notably consisting of narratives of indigenous deities of rural Bengal in the social scenario of the Middle Ages
- Manasamangal kavya
- Chandimangal kavya
- **Hagiography of Sri Chaitanya**
- Chaitanya Bhagavat of Vrindavana Dasa (1507-1589 CE)
- Chaitanya Mangal of Jayananda
- Chaitanya Mangal of Lochan Dasa
- Chaitanya Charitamrita of Krishnadasa Kaviraja (1496-? CE)
- The book, a hybrid Bengali and Sanskrit biography, documents the life and precepts of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.

Bangladeshi Literature

Later Vaishnab literature

Padavali of Balaram Dasa

Padavali of Jnandasa

Padavali of Govinda Dasa Kabiraj (1535–1613)

Later Mangal Kavyas

Dharmamangal kavya (17th-18th century), Raimangalkavya

Translation of Mahabharata

Kabindra Parameswara, Srikar Nandi,

Kashiram Das (16th century)

Bangladeshi Literature

Muslim poets of the 17th century

Daulat Qazi, Alaol, Abdul Hakim, Quarashi Magun Thakur

Works of Raigunakar Bharat chandra

Annada Mangal (1752-53), Bidya Sundar

Shakta Padavali

Ramprasad Sen (1718 or c. 1723 – c. 1775)

Kamalakanta Bhattacharya (1769–1821)

Baul Songs

Shiraaz Shah

Lalon Fakir (1772 – 17 October 1890)

Gagan Harkara (1845 – 1910)

Early Modern Age

Bangladeshi Literature

Essay

Ram Mohun Roy (1772 – 1833)

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820 – 1891)

Rajnarayan Basu

Akshay Kumar Datta

Peary Chand Mitra

Kaliprasanna Singha

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

Rabindranath Tagore (1861 – 1941)

Poetry

Ishwar Chandra Gupta

Michael Madhusudan Dutt

Rabindranath Tagore

Kazi Nazrul Islam

Satyendranath Dutta

Mohitlal Majumdar

Jatindranath Sengupta

Bangladeshi Literature

Early Modern Age

Drama

Michael Madhusudan Dutt

Dinabandhu Mitra

Girish Chandra Ghosh

Rabindranath Tagore

Nurul Momen

Bijon Bhattacharya

Novel/short story

Peary Chand Mitra

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

Rabindranath Tagore

Saratchandra Chatterjee

Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay

Tarashankar Bandopadhyaya

Manik Bandopadhyay

Modern Bangladeshi Literature

Ahmed Sofa

Nurul Momen

Shawkat Osman

Abul Mansur Ahmed

Syed Waliullah

Hasnat Abdul Hye

Shamsur Rahman

Sufia Kamal

Hasan Azizul Huq

Akhtaruzzaman Ilias

Humayun Azad

Momtazuddin Ahmed (dramatist)

Abdur Rouf Choudhury

Humayun Ahmed

Imdadul Haque Milon

Mohammed Zafar Iqbal

Hasan Hafizur Rahman

Abu Zafar Obaidullah

Modern Bangladeshi Literature

Syed Shamsul Huq

Al Mahmud

Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal

Arunabh Sarkar

Shaheed Quaderi

Sikdar Aminul Haq

Abdul Mannan Syed

Rafiq Azad

Mohammad Rafiq

Nirmalendu Goon

Humayun Azad

Abul Hasan (1947-1975)

Moinul Ahsan Saber

Helal Hafiz

Abid Azad

Rudro Muhammad Shahidullah

Taslima Nasrin

Khondakar Ashraf Hossain

Rezauddin Stalin

Aminul Islam (poet)

Alfred Khokon

Bangladeshi Literature

[Rabindranath Tagore](#), poet, playwright, novelist, painter, essayist, musician, and social reformer, is the best known figure of Bengali literature to the world. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature (Geetanjali) in 1913.

- In modern Bangladesh, the most popular novelist is Humayun Ahmed
- Most popular science fiction writer is Md. Jafar Iqbal
- Most famous poet is Shamsur Rahman
- Most controversial writer is Taslima Nasrin
- Translation plays an important role in Bangladeshi literature.

Bangladeshi Art

- **Bangladeshi art** is a form of visual arts that has been practiced throughout Bangladesh.
- Bangladeshi art has a long history which originated more than two thousand years ago and is practiced even to this date.
- Among the various forms of Bangladeshi art, photography, architecture, sculpture and painting are the most notable.
- The artifacts in the archaeological site of [Wari-Bateshwar](#) indicates that the history of Bangladeshi art dates back to 450 BC.
- The most significant development of Bangladeshi art took place during the [Pala rule](#) (750–1174 CE).

Bangladeshi Art

- The Palas created a distinctive form of [Buddhist art](#) in Bangladesh which even influenced the [Chinese](#), [Japanese](#), [eastern Asian](#) and [Tibetan art](#).
- This progress of Bangladeshi art continued to some extent during the [Sena rule](#) through the 11th and 12th centuries.
- Bangladeshi art witnessed the influence of [Islamic art](#) from the 11th century. Islamic art in Bangladesh mostly flourished during the [Mughal rule](#).
- A new wave of evolution was introduced in Bangladeshi art through the pervading of [British rule](#). The British left their impact in almost every field of visual arts in Bangladesh.
- Bangladeshi art was bolstered through introduction of [Modern art](#).

Photography

- Photography is the contemporary art form where Bangladesh has really made its mark.
- The early work was done by the pioneers like Golam Kasem, Manzoor Alam Beg, Nowazesh Ahmed, Sayeeda Khanom etc.
- Anwar Hossain brought about a shift through strong humanistic work in the late 1970s.
- Documentary photography practice was pioneered by Shahidul Alam, who set up the Drik Picture Library, Pathshala, the South Asian Media Institute; now considered one of the finest schools of photography in the world,
- **Chhobi Mela**, the highly regarded biannual festival of photography.
- However, while Bangladeshi photography is celebrated worldwide, within Bangladesh it has not been sufficiently recognized.

Bangladeshi architecture

- The **Pala Empire** was an early Indian empire of Bengali Buddhist dynasty ruling from Bengal from the 8th to the 12th centuries.
- The Palas created a distinctive form of Bengali architecture and art known as the "Pala School of Sculptural Art."
- The gigantic structures of Vikramashila Vihar, Odantpuri Vihar, and Jagaddal Vihar were masterpieces of the Palas.
- These mammoth structures were destroyed by the forces of the infamous **Bakhtiar Khilji**.
- The Pala architectural style was followed throughout south-eastern Asia and China, Japan, and **Tibet**

Somapura Mahavihara



- The Somapura Mahavihara (8th century), a creation of Dharmapala, at Paharpur, is the largest Buddhist Vihara in the Indian subcontinent.
- It has been described as a "**pleasure to the eyes of the world**".
- " UNESCO made it a World Heritage Site in 1985.

Islamic and Mughal architecture

- Central Asian origin Muslim Nawab dynasty that ruled independently of the Mughal Empire from 1342 to 1576.
- Most of the Muslim architecture of the period is found in Rajshahi division.
- The architecture of the period is noted for the development of a uniquely local style influenced by Bengali architectural traditions such as the [Shat Gombuj Masjid](#) "the most impressive Muslim monuments in the whole of the Indian subcontinent", the [Shona Masjid](#) and the [Kusumba Masjid](#).
- In 1576, Bengal came under the control of the Mughal Empire.

- Dhaka was proclaimed by Subahdar Islam Khan as capital of Bengal Subah in 1608, during this time many mosques and forts had been built.
- Bara Katra was built between 1644 and 1646 CE to be the official residence of Mughal prince Shah Shuja.
- Indian Mughal architecture in present-day Bangladesh reached its peak during the reign of Subedar Shaista Khan.

The Tughlaq styled [Sixty Dome Mosque](#) (15th century) is a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#), [Bagerhat](#). It has 81 domes.



- He was a patron of the arts and encouraged the construction of majestic monuments across the province, including mosques, mausoleums and palaces that represented the finest in Mughal architecture.
- Khan greatly expanded Lalbagh Fort, Chowk Bazaar Mosque, Saat Masjid and Choto Katra. He also supervised the construction of the mausoleum for his daughter Bibi Pari.



[Shona Masjid](#)

[Lalbagh Fort](#)

Temple architecture

Much of the terracotta temple architecture in Bangladesh dates to the late Islamic period and early British period during which wealthy Hindu zamindars commissioned these structures.

Temple architecture styles:

ek-bangla or Do-chala, Jor-bangla, ek-chala,, Char-chala, At-chala, Deul (Islamic influence) , Ek-ratna, Pancharatna, Navaratna.



[Do-chala](#)



[Deul](#)



- **Kantanagar Temple** (terracotta), commonly known as **Kantaji Temple** or **Kantajew Temple** (কান্তজীউ মন্দির) at Kantanagar, is a late-medieval Hindu temple in Dinajpur.
- The temple was built in a **navaratna** style before the destruction caused by the earthquake of 1897

Common Bungalow Style Architecture

The origin of the **bungalow** has its roots in the historical **Province of Bengal**.

The term *bangalo*, meaning **"Bengali"** and used for a "house in the **Bengal** style".

Such houses were traditionally small, only one storey and detached, and had a wide **veranda**



Indo-Saracenic Revival architecture

- In the British colonial age predominantly representative buildings of the Indo-European style developed, from a mixture of mainly Indian, European and Central Asian (Islamic) components.
- Amongst the more prominent works are [Ahsan](#) [Manzil](#) in Dhaka and [Tajhat Palace](#) in Rangpur City.



Modern Bangladeshi Architecture

- In modern context, Bangladeshi architecture has become more **diversified** comprising reflections of contemporary architectural attributes, aesthetic and technologically advanced aspects.
- Since the inception of Bangladesh, economical advancement has boosted the architecture from its traditional forms to contemporary context.
- With the growing urbanization and modernization, the architectural form is turning into modernity covering a wide range of its heritage and tradition.
- The architecture of Bangladesh can provide insight into the history and lives of the Bangladeshi people.

Modern Bangladeshi Architecture



•
— *Bangabandhu Novo Theatre* (Planetarium)



Tallest building: City Centre Bangladesh at Matijheel has 37 floors with ten devoted to parking.

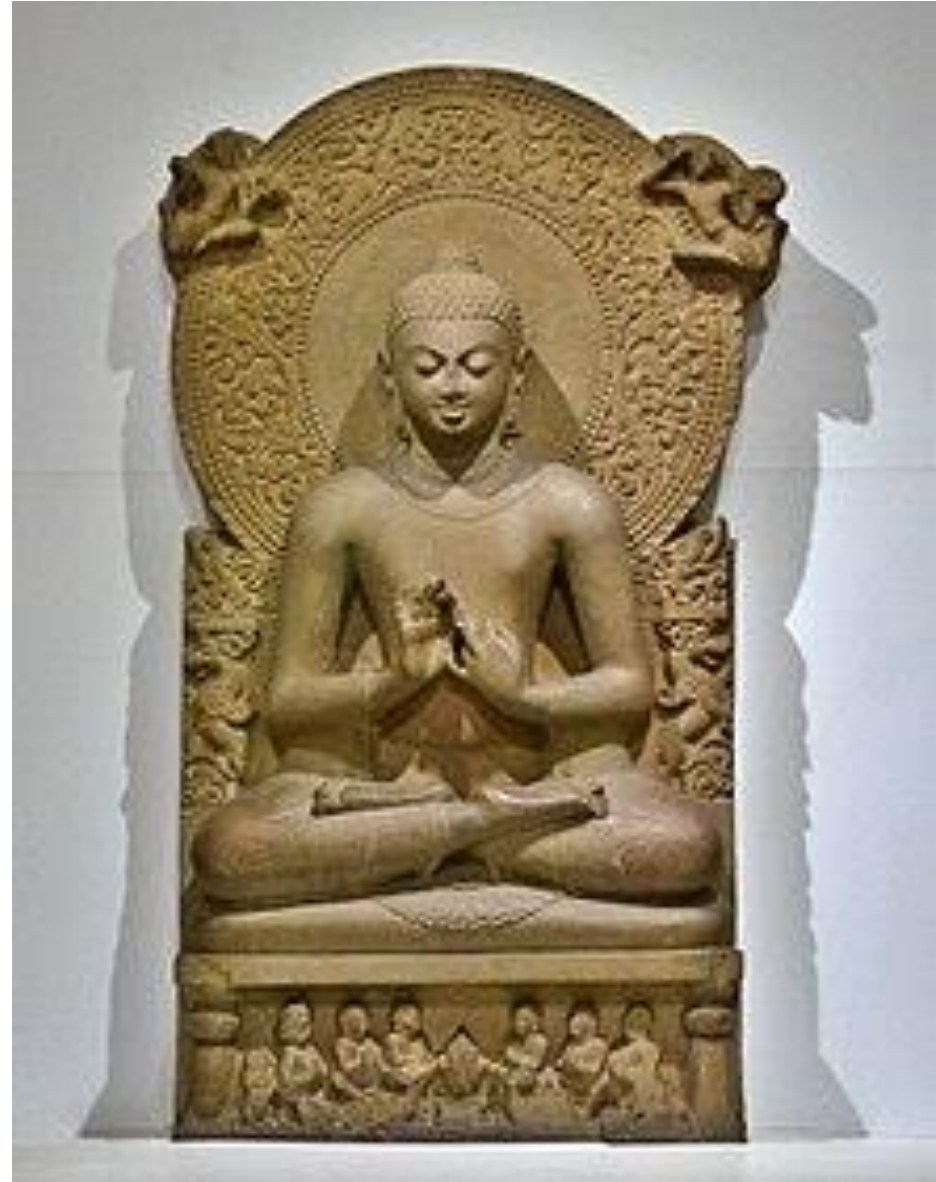
Modern Bangladeshi Architect

- [Fazlur Rahman Khan](#) was a structural engineer and architect, who initiated structural systems that are fundamental to tall building design today.
- Regarded as the "Einstein of structural engineering", his "[tubular designs](#)" for high rises revolutionized tall building design.
- Most buildings over 40-storeys constructed since the 1960s now use a tube design derived from Khan's structural engineering principles.
- He is the designer of Willis Tower – the second tallest building in the United States

Bangladeshi Sculpture

- Sculptures have been a key of source of rendering the historic identity of the ancient Bangladesh.
- Even though the art of sculptures in Bangladesh began almost 2500 years ago, it mostly flourished during the Gupta, Pala and Sena dynasty (1–1200 CE).
- Most of the ancient sculptures discovered in Bangladesh are made of terracotta, bronze, black stone etc.
- The earliest sculptures were made of terracotta dating back 3rd century BC. The trend of using bronze and black stone for sculptures started from the 7th century.
- The Bangladeshi sculptures, especially those belonging to the ancient and early Middle Ages mostly depict the Hindu deities and the deities worshiped by the Buddhists, especially Gautam Buddha.

Bangladeshi Sculpture



Modern Bangladeshi Sculpture

- Sculptures, created after the independence of Bangladesh can be referred as modern sculptures.
- Most of these sculptures depict the gallant struggle of Bangladeshis during the Bangladesh liberation war.
- Some notable sculptures depicting the liberation war are Aparajeyo Bangla, Shabash Bangladesh etc.
- Novera Ahmed, Nitun Kundu, Shyamal Choudhury, Mrinal Haque are some of the notable modern sculptors.



Aparajeyo Bangla, DU

Shabash Bangladesh, RU

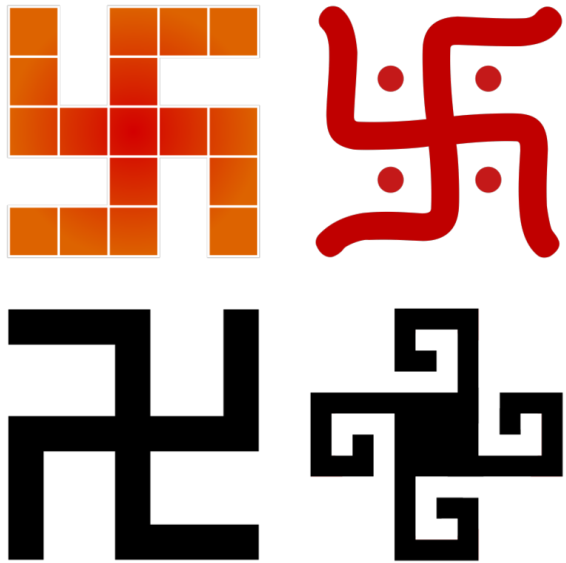


Folk art

- The people of rustic, and primitive ideas developed folk art in Bangladesh.
- The structure and growth of the folk-art are filled with pure and simple vigor and the symbolic representations of hope, aspiration and sense of beauty of the rural Bangladeshi folk.
- The environment and the agricultural activities greatly helped to enrich the traditional folk-art.
- It uses traditional motifs like lotus, sun, tree-of-life, flowery creepers etc. are seen in paintings, embroidery, weaving, carving and engraving. Other common motifs are fish, elephant, horse, peacock, swastika (good fortune), circle, waves, temple, mosque etc.
- Another important factor that has influenced the art and culture of this land is the six seasons.

Folk art

- The folk art of Bangladesh has been largely contributed by the rural women because of the aesthetic value as well as the quality of their work.
- Both **Alpana** and **Nakshi kantha** are some of the most attractive forms of Bangladeshi folk art.
- Pottery is also popular form of the art.



Modern Art

- The movement of modern art in Bangladesh has its roots in the early 20th century.
- In 19th century, the British started to establish art schools in Calcutta.
- The art lovers of East Bengal were also induced by this.
- This phenomenon gave birth to many preeminent figures of arts in Bangladesh whose fame not only spread through Bangladesh but also the whole world.
- Zainul Abedin was from this generation of artists.
- He is considered the pioneer of art movement in Bangladesh.
- In 1948, Zainul Abedin, along with other leading local artists like Quamrul Hassan, Qyyum Chowdhury, Safiuddin Ahmed, Anwarul Huq, Khawaja Shafique established the [Government Institute of Arts and Crafts](#) to evolve the art tradition in Bangladesh.



Zainul Abedin



Quamrul Hassan,

Qyyum Chowdhury,



Modern Art

- Since the establishment of the art institute, the artists in Bangladesh started to gain the much required professionalism and also started to attach commercial value to it.
- By the 1960s the artists started to link with the art traditions of other parts of the world which gained them a pretty clear understanding of contemporary art in those countries.
- Many artists went to Europe and Japan for training and came back with new ideas and latest techniques, but they were also steeped in the traditions of indigenous art forms.
- **Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy** was set up in 1974 which later started to organize regular art exhibitions and festivals involving both national and international artists.
- By this time, Bangladeshi art also began to get international recognitions and appreciations

Contemporary Art

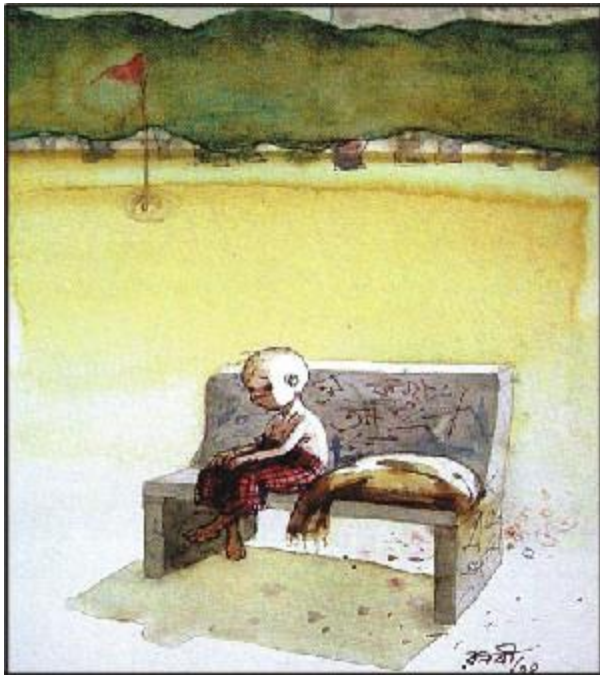
- Several art movements arose in Bangladesh as well, artists exhibited internationally and few groups of artists formed in the Bangladeshi contemporary art scene.
- Few institutions were established to be involved with contemporary creation.
- Several artists left the country and practiced on interdisciplinary media in Europe, America and Japan.
- Bangladeshi born Runa Islam, Hasan Elahi, Naeem Mohaiemen, Firoz Mahmud and Rana Begum practiced on various media
- Britto organised several art events on contemporary media.
- **Samdani Art Foundation** was established in early 2010s and massively changing the scenario of contemporary art and culture.



Shahabuddin Ahmed



S.M. Sultan



Rafiqunnabi's "Tokai"

Rickshaw Art

- Dhaka is known as the "Rickshaw Capital of the World".
- The faces of movie stars began appearing as decorative motifs on shields at the back of the rickshaws along with a variety of floral paintings.
- Artwork of the rickshaws are done using very bold, bright and raw colours. The blaze of colours also help to make them long lasting.
- Social messages are also given.



Textile art

- The history of the **textile arts of Bangladesh** dates back to the 1st century AD. Bangladesh was once famous for its artistic textile production throughout the world.
- The fine, transparent [mulmul](#) known as [muslin](#) manufactured by the weavers of Bengal was established as a commercial product almost 2000 years ago.
- Gangetic muslin is referred to by Greek and Roman writers. It is known from their writing that it was the most favored among the luxury goods imported from India.
- These were known by beautiful poetic names in Rome such as – *nebula* which means mist, vapor or cloud, woven winds etc.
- The most important commodities were fine cotton and, later, silk.

Types of Textile

- **Tant**: From ancient times only persons from the Tanti caste worked on the loom.
- **Khadi**: also known as "khaddar" (from the 6th century).
- **Cotton**: cotton fabric of Bengal was manufactured in the regions of Bogra, Pabna, Dhaka, Faridpur, Chittagong, etc.
- **Rajshahi silk**: There are three kind of silk found in Bangladesh, these are tassar silk, muga silk and eri silk.
- **Mixed Fabrics**: mixed of cotton and silk (half silk).
- **Muslin**: It is mentioned in *Bharatbarsher Itihas* that in 1462 BC
- most mummies of Egypt were covered in muslins
- **Jamdani**: Diversely ornamented muslin is called *jamdani*.
- **Tangail**: Tangail was celebrated for its looms from ancient times. The weavers of Bajitpur would manufacture a variety of high quality embroidered *eri*. The Tangail *eri* became a legend.

Dresses in Bangladeshi culture

- Bangladeshi people have unique dress preferences. Bangladeshi men traditionally wear Panjabi on religious and cultural occasions.
- Bangladeshi men wear lungi as casual wear and shirt-pant or suits on formal occasions.
- Shari is the main and traditional dress of Bangladeshi women also wear salwar kameez. In urban areas, women can also be seen wearing western clothes.
- Bangladeshi fashion is influenced by Indian film stars.
- Many Boutique houses are established. They are trying to make popular local fashions.
- Many Muslim women are seen to wear Hijab and Borka.
- Married muslim women use nose-pin in rural area, Hindu women use shakha, pola and sindur.

History of Bangladeshi Cuisine

- Ancient Bengali diets included rice, fish, honey, dairy and vegetables.
- **Mughlai cuisine** developed in Bengal after the establishment of the province of Mughal Bengal in 1576. Dhaka played an important role in influencing Bengali food with Mughal elements.
- During British period (1757-1947) the Bengal Renaissance shaped the emergence of modern Bengali cuisine.
- **Arakan cuisine** from Burma influenced dishes in Chittagong, particularly dried fish.
- Bangladeshi cuisine incorporates a large number of cosmopolitan influences, a legacy of the region's historic trade links with Middle East, Portugal, UK, and Burma.
- The Portuguese in Dhaka developed cheese, British introduced tea.

Halal Food

- Islamic dietary laws are prevalent across Bangladesh.
- Halal foods are food items that Muslims are allowed to eat and drink under Islamic dietary guidelines.
- The criteria specifies both what foods are allowed, and how the food must be prepared.
- The foods addressed are mostly types of meat allowed in Islam.

Bangladeshi cuisine

In Bangladeshi cuisine, some foods are popular across the entire region, while others are specific to a particular area.

Southwestern region

- The western areas mainly include the Khulna, Satkhira and Jessore areas and is very close to the West Bengal of India.
- The cuisine of these areas are known as authentic Bengali recipes. Mug dal with fish head, dalna, chachchari, luchi-payesh, hilsha with mustard are very popular in this region like neighboring West Bengal.
- Coconut milk is very popular in this region.

Bangladeshi cuisine

Northeastern region

- The northern part of Bangladesh has strong influences from Northeast Indian states, such as Assam and Tripura.
- The main characteristic of this food is that it is mainly sweet and has a lot of uses of banana throats, raw papaya fruit, raw mango, lentils and grilled or smoked vegetables.

Bangladeshi cuisine

Central region

- Dhaka and its territory region make up the central region, where fresh water fish are more popular.
- Due to different ruling periods, the cuisine of this region is versatile.
- The Old Dhaka area is famous for the Nawabi cuisine. kababs, naans, bakarkhani, kachchi and pakki biriyani, haleem, mutton bhuni kichuri, Roust and speciality mutton tehari are examples of dishes that became popular in other parts of the country.

Bangladeshi cuisine

Eastern region

- The staples of Sylheti people are mainly rice and fish. Their choice and method of cooking is distinctly different to non-Sylhetis.
- Traditional foods include **sour dishes**, such as tenga (or tok) cooked with vegetables, including **amra, defal, olives, dewwaa, amshi, mango choti** , kul, shatkora, ada zamir , and any other sour lemon-like tasty vegetable.
- Also many types of meat dishes, including chicken preparations.

Bangladeshi cuisine

Southeastern region

- The Southern region of Bangladesh includes the tribal areas that have their own style of cooking methods and ideas.
- The most southern part of this region is mainly influenced by the Arakan cuisine.
- Shutki, bamboo shoots, sea fish, and many more are the specialties.
- They use lots of spicy flavours and coconuts in their food

Main ingredients

- The staples of Bangladeshi cuisine include rice, which is a common component of most everyday meals and, to a lesser extent, "ruti".
- "Atta" is used for making *Luchi*, *Porota*, *Pitha*, etc.
- Bengal's main staple food of sweet water fish comes from rivers.
- The rivers of Bangladesh are filled with thousands of types of fish. Ilish, Rui, Katol, Koi, Papda, Boal, Citol, Magur, Sing, Mola, Dhlea, etc.
- Bangladesh's "Paddar Ilish" is famous all over the world.
- Lentils/Pulses includes at least five dozen varieties. Pulses are used almost exclusively in the form of 'dal'.
- A wide variety of green vegetables and fruits are available in Bangladesh.

Main ingredients

- Mustard oil and vegetable oil are the primary cooking mediums in Bangladeshi cuisine, *ghee* is often used for its aromatic flavor.
- Bangladeshi food varies between very sweet and mild to extremely spicy.
- The most common condiments, herbs and spices in Bangladeshi cuisine are garlic, onion, ginger, turmeric, ghee, coriander, cumin, dry bay leaves, chili pepper, and chili powder.
- The *pāch phoron* is a general purpose spice mixture composed of fenugreek seeds, nigella seeds, cumin seeds, and black mustard seeds.

Bangladeshi recipe style

- The following is a list of characteristic Bangladeshi recipe styles. Each entry is a class of recipes, producing different dishes depending on the choice of ingredients. These include:
- Achar, Bawra (বড়া), Bhaja (ভাজা), Bhapa (ভাপা), Bhorta (ভরতা).
- Chap (চপ), Chutney, preserved mango sheets, called amshotto.
- Ghonto (ঘন্ট), Kalia (কালিয়া), Kofta, Kabab, Dom (দম), Korma, Paturi, Shak (শাক), Torkari etc.

Bangladeshi Dessert

- [Rasgulla](#) – It is one of the most widely consumed sweets.
- [Chhana](#) is curd cheese made from water cow milk.
- [Channer Shondesh](#) is a dessert created with milk and sugar.
- Chhanar Mishti – various types are available.
- [Mishti Doi](#) – Sweetened homemade creamy yogurt;
- Naru – It is usually home-made and used as offerings in Hindu rituals of praying to their deities.
- [Rosh-malai](#) – Small rashgollas in a sweetened milk base.
- [Khaja](#) – Deep fried sweets made from wheat flour and ghee, with sugar and sesame seeds as the coating.
- Mua – Cooked with rice flakes and jaggery.
- [Hawai'i Mishti](#) – Made with sugar and given various forms.
- [Jilapi](#), [Chômchôm](#), [Balushahi](#) – very popular
- [Khir /Phirni/Payesh](#) and Zarda are common sweet dish.
- Shemai – It is made with vermicelli prepared with ghee or oil.
- Icecream

Few traditions

- Piṭha – In Bangladesh, the tradition of making different kinds of pan-fried, steamed or boiled sweets, lovingly known as "pitha",.
- The most common forms of these cakes include bhapa piṭha (steamed), pakaṇ piṭha (fried) and puli piṭha (dumplings), among others.
- The other common pithas are chondropuli, gokul, pati shapta, chitai piṭha, aski pitha, mugher puli and dudh puli.
- Generally, rice, flour, molasses, sugar, coconut, milk, oil etc are used to make pithas.

Few traditions

- **Paan** (from Sanskrit *parṇa* meaning "leaf") is a preparation combining betel leaf with areca nut, Slaked lime (chunnam) paste and sometimes also with tobacco.
- It is chewed for its stimulant and psychoactive effects.
- After chewing it is either spat out or swallowed.
- Paan has many variations.

Beverages

- Akher gur Shorbot – sugarcane juice with jaggery
- Akher Rosh – sugarcane juice
- Borhani – a spicy drink usually served in gatherings, banquets and weddings. It aids digestion.
- Ghol – whisked salted milk
- Jeera pani – a drink boasting fresh, lively flavors and generally served as an appetizer or welcome drink.
- Khejur Rosh – date palm juice
- Tea/coffee
- Malai
- Faluda
- Lebur shorbot
- Fruit juice



Famous foods

Bograr Doi, Comillar Ras malai, Chowk Bazaar Iftar, Chui Jhal Mangsho, Dhakai Bakarkhani, Haji Biriyaani, Kala Bhuna, Mejbani Mangsho, Muktagachar mona, Natorer Kachagolla, Porabarrir/ Tangail Chomchom, Seven Color Tea (Sreemongol), Shatkora beef (Sylhet)



Bangladeshi Iftar

In Bangladesh, a wide variety of food items is prepared to take during Iftar. Some of the common iftar items include Shorbot (Lemonade, Milk Shake, Juice, Lachhi, Piyajoo, Beguni, Jilapi, Bundia, Pakora, Egg chops, Potato Chop, Chicken roll, Chicken Nugget, Chicken wings, Chicken Fry, French Toast, Spring roll, Ghugni, Meat Kababs, Muri, Halim, dates, samosas, Dal Puri, Chhola, fish kabab, mughlai paratha, pitha, Doi Bora, Doi chira, Tok Doi, Misty Doi, Patishapta pitha, Falooda, traditional Bengali sweets and different types of fruits and Fruit Juices such as watermelon, papaya, mango, pineapple. Chawkbazar and Baily Rd. Iftar market are famous.

Media of Bangladesh

- The **media of Bangladesh** refers to the print, broadcast and online mass media available in Bangladesh.
- The media in Bangladesh is a mix of government-owned and private.
- The Constitution guarantees press freedom and freedom of expression within "reasonable restriction", though some media outlets have been harassed.
- The Bangladeshi media is ranked 146 out of 180 countries on the **Reporters Without Borders Press Freedom Index for 2015**, with 1st being most free.
- Media restrictions have usually increased during periods of political turmoil.
- Reporters have accused the law enforcing agencies of targeting journalists and enforcing censorship.

Bangladeshi Newspaper

- Newspapers published in Bangladesh are written in Bengali or English.
- Most Bangladeshi daily newspapers are usually printed in broadsheets; few daily tabloids exist.
- Daily newspapers in Bangladesh are published in Dhaka, as well as in major regional cities such as Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Barisal.
- All daily newspapers are morning editions; there are no evening editions in Bangladesh.
- Some newspapers offer online versions.

News agencies

- News agencies were present in Bangladesh prior to 1971.
- The state-owned Associated Press of Pakistan (AAP) had branches in Dhaka and Chittagong from 1949.
- After independence, the AAP was replaced by the Bangladesh state-owned agency **Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha**.
- The second news agency to be established, and the first to be privately owned was **Eastern News Agency (ENA)** in 1972.
- **United News of Bangladesh**, founded in 1988 was the country's first fully computerised privately owned agency.
- Other private news agencies include **News Network of Bangladesh** (NNB) and **BD News 24** which also launched the country's first photo agency, **Focus Bangla**.

Television channels of Bangladesh

- Around 45 television channels were permitted by the Government of Bangladesh as of 2019, of which thirty six are currently on air.
- Five television channels, namely CSB News, Channel 1, Diganta Television, Islamic TV, and Channel 16, have been taken off air.
- Bangladesh has four state-owned television stations and others are all privately owned television channels.
- State-owned television channels are BTV Dhaka, BTV world, Sangsad TV and BTV Chittagong.

Television channels of Bangladesh

- **Bangladesh Television:** is the 1st TV government channel established in 1964.
- **ATN Bangla:** a Bengali-language digital cable television channel that transmits from its studio in Dhaka, as well as throughout South Asia, Middle-East, Europe, and North America.
- **Channel i:** the first digital channel in Bangladesh.
- **Ekushey Television :** the first private terrestrial channel in Bangladesh but now it is not terrestrial. Official transmission began on 14 April 2000.

State-owned radio stations

Bangladesh Betar (বাংলাদেশ বেতার)

- Only state-owned radio broadcasting station of Bangladesh.
- Its headquarters are in Agargaon Sher e Bangla Nagar, Dhaka,
- Bangladesh Betar established during the War of Liberation in 1971. Then it was known as Shwadin Bangla Betar Kendra, after the independence of Bangladesh it was named as Bangladesh Betar.
- But in 1975 after the coup d'état the rebels renamed it as **Radio Bangladesh** and so it continued up to 1996.
- Bangladesh Awami League came into power in 1996. They returned it to its original name **Bangladesh Betar**.

Privately owned radio stations

- As of 2015, the Ministry of Information had licensed 28 private organizations for FM broadcasting, and the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission had assigned FM broadcasting spectrum to 25 of them.
- Radio Today and DhakaFM broadcast nationwide.
- ABC Radio Dhaka, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar
- Others cover only Dhaka.

Community radio in Bangladesh

- Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC), in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, considers community radio a special area for intervention.
- BNNRC has been promoting advocacy to the government in relation to community radio with other organizations since its emergence in 2000.
- As a result, the Ministry of Information announced Community Radio Installation, Broadcast and Operation Policy 2008.
- Under this policy, 16 community radio stations were approved for the first time in Bangladeshi history.
- Community radio stations is strong step in empowering rural people.

Sports in Bangladesh

- **Sport in Bangladesh** is a popular form of entertainment as well as an essential part of Bangladeshi culture.
- Kabaddi is the national sport of Bangladesh.
- Cricket and football are considered as the most popular sports
- The popularity of cricket began to rise significantly when the national team went on to win the ICC Trophy in 1997 and for the first time qualified for the Cricket World Cup in 1999.
- In 2000, Bangladesh became a full member of International Cricket Council which allowed it to play Test cricket.
- Bangladesh achieved arguably their greatest heights in ODI cricket when they defeated three of the top-rated teams in 2015, Pakistan, India and South Africa.

Sports in Bangladesh

- Bangladesh regularly hosts many international One Day matches, Test matches and Twenty20 Internationals.
- In 2011, Bangladesh hosted the 2011 Cricket World Cup along with India and Sri Lanka.
- Bangladesh was also elected to host the 2014 ICC World Twenty20.
- Bangladesh Cricket Board is the premier governing body to manage the development of the sport in the country.
- In 2015 world cup, Bangladesh beat England incredibly and reached the quarter final for second time in the history.

Sports in Bangladesh

- Traditional sports like Athletics, Swimming, Kabaddi, Boli Khela, Lathi Khela are mostly played in the rural areas while foreign sports like cricket, football, hockey, volleyball, handball, golf, badminton etc. are more popular among the urban people.
- The National Sports Council (NSC) is the governing body to control all the sports federations and councils in the country and is responsible to the ministry of youth and sports.
- There are a total of 42 different sports federations affiliated with the NSC.
- Bangladesh Games is the largest domestic multi-sport tournament in the country where athletes and sports teams from all the districts participate.

Sports in Bangladesh

1. Popular sports

- 1.1 Kabaddi
- 1.2 Cricket
- 1.3 Football
- 1.4 Hockey
- 1.5 Chess

2. Other ball sports

- 2.1 Golf
- 2.2 Handball
- 2.3 Volleyball
- 2.4 Basketball

3. Racquet sport

- 3.1 Squash
- 3.2 Tennis
- 3.3 Table Tennis

4. Individual sports

- 4.1 Cycling
- 4.2 Swimming
- 4.3 Athletics
- 4.4 Shooting
- 4.5 Archery

5. Combat sports

- 5.1 Boxing
- 5.2 Judo
- 5.3 Karate
- 5.4 Taekwondo

6. Indoor games

- 6.1 Ludo
- 6.2 Karam
- 6.3 Bagadul
- 6.4 Monopoly
- 6.5 Dart
- 6.6 Card

Childhood games

- Marble, kanamachhi, bou-chi, dariabandha, lukochuri, ekka-dokka, rumal chor, kumir-danga, dang-guli, golla-chhut, openti-baiscope, lattu, Satchara, putul khela, ranna-bati, bagh-bandi, sholo-guti, different kind of runs etc.
- But now, specially urban children spend their time with computer due to lack of play ground.



Commonly believed superstitions of Bangladesh

- Don't eat an egg before appearing for an examination.
- The first customer of your shop in the morning should not be returned without selling him/her anything.
- You should not cut your nail, hair at night. It brings bad luck.
- If a plate falls from hand accidentally, guest is coming to house.
- If you sell something in credit to your first customer in the morning, you will have to sell in credit the rest of the time of that day.
- If you eat ants, you will learn swimming quickly.
- Pregnant women should not cut any fish or meat.
- If a pregnant woman eats a twin fruits, she will have twin babies.
- No Hair cutting on Tuesday.

Commonly believed superstitions of Bangladesh

- The smoke of burnt dried chili can keep away from devil or bad souls.
- A children under 12 of age should not eat tamarind. It can liquefy his/her brain and make him/her dull.
- Having first look at a cat in the morning brings ill luck.
- Repeatedly having hiccup means someone is remembering you.
- Twitching right eye will bring good luck and vise versa.
- Itching in right hand palm will bring some money. Itching left hand palm means you will lose some money.
- If a butterfly sits on someone's body, s/he will be getting married soon.
- If a dog starts wailing at night, something bad will happen.

Commonly believed superstitions of Bangladesh

- Seeing an elephant on travel brings good luck.
- Bury children's 1st milk teeth in a rat's cave. It is expected that the rats will take the milk teeth and in return they will give their sharp teeth which will eventually grow strong teeth in children.
- If a framed picture falls off hand on the ground, the person in the picture will face death soon.
- Girl should not be outside at evening with her hairs untied and uncovered. She can be captured and turned to mad by the bad souls.
- While making statement, if a lizard sound, the statement is believed to be true.

Commonly believed superstitions of Bangladesh

- Looking at your mother face will bring good luck for the day.
- Spilling oil from on floor is sign of bad luck.
- One should not eat protein food while suffering from Chicken pox.
- If you see a cat giving birth, it brings good luck.
- If a spider climbs your body, you are believed to get a new dress.
- Itch in your right foot and you're travelling long distance somewhere.
- Don't leave the house if you break something or stumble just as you are about to go out.
- If you see a broom before leaving the house, you will have a bad journey

Ghosts in Bangladeshi culture

- Ghosts are an important part of the folklore, and form an integral part of the socio-cultural beliefs of the people living in Bangladesh.
- Fairy tales, both old and new, often use the concept of ghosts.
- In modern-day Bengali literature, cinema, radio & television media, the references to ghosts are often found.
- It is believed that the spirits of those who cannot find peace in the afterlife or die unnatural deaths remain on Earth.
- The common word for ghosts in Bengali is ভূত. This word has an alternative meaning: 'past'.
- Also, the word **Pret** is used in Bengali to mean ghost.
- Even it is believed that other animals and creatures can also be turned into ghost after their death.

Ghosts in Bangladeshi culture

- The Bengali Hindu community celebrates ***Bhoot Chaturdashi***, which normally occurs on the 14th day of ***Krishna Paksha*** at the night before *Kali Puja / Dipaboli* festival.
- On this night, Bengalis light 14 earthen-lamps at their homes to appease the spirits of their past 14 generations of ancestors.
- It is believed that in the night before Kali Puja, the spirits of these ancestors descend upon earth, and these lamps help them find their loving homes.
- Also, it is customary to consume a dish of 14 types of leafy vegetable (*choddo shaak*) during *Bhoot Chaturdashi*, so that evil spirits cannot possess the body.

Ghosts in Bangladeshi culture

Types of Bengali ghosts:

Petni / Shakchunni, Mechho Bhoot, Mamdo Bhoot, Gechho Bhoot, Aleya / Atoshi Bhoot, Skondhokata / Kondhokata, Kanabhulo, Dainee, Brahmodaityo, Boba, Sheekol Buri / Jol-Pishach, Nishi, Pishach, Jokkho/Jokk, Jinn etc.

Few haunted places

Lalbagh Fort, Golf Heights Banani, Airport Road, Uttara Sector-3,

Shahidullah hall pond DU (dear students, be careful), Chalan

Beel in Sirajganj, Foy's Lake, Pakri Beach, Mirsarai Highway Crossing in Chittagong and many other places in Bangladesh is claimed to be haunted