THE DAILY NEWS

Saturday, January 18, 2025

SHAKIB AL HASAN:

A CRICKET LEGENG'S UNMATCHED LEGACY



Shakib Al Hasan celebrates after scoring a century against West Indies

Shakib Al Hasan: A Cricket Legend's Unmatched Legacy

Barishal, Bangladesh – Shakib Al Hasan, a name synonymous with Bangladeshi cricket, continues to dominate the international scene as one of the best all-rounders in the history of the sport. From his debut in 2006 to his current status as a key figure for the national team, Shakib's contributions to cricket have been nothing short of extraordinary.

Born in Magura, Bangladesh, Shakib made his mark early in his career, showcasing his batting and bowling prowess. His skill set, both with the bat and the ball, has made him a vital asset to Bangladesh cricket, earning him numerous accolades, including the ICC Player of the Year award.

A Star in Every Format

Shakib has excelled in all formats of the game, earning global recognition for his consistency and match-winning performances. Whether it's leading Bangladesh to victory in ICC tournaments or taking crucial wickets in Test matches, his all-around ability sets him apart.

Shakib's recent performances have continued to inspire the younger generation of cricketers. His remarkable ability to balance batting and bowling has earned him comparisons with some of the greatest all-rounders in the history of cricket, including Sir Garfield Sobers and Jacques Kallis.

"He's the backbone of our team," said Bangladesh captain, Mushfiqur Rahim, after another stellar performance in the recent ODI series against Sri Lanka. "Shakib's leadership and experience make him an invaluable asset. He has been crucial for our success on the international stage."

A Role Model for Aspiring Cricketers

Shakib Al Hasan's journey is not just about his cricketing skills, but also about his resilience and dedication. Overcoming injuries, controversies, and challenges, he remains a role model for aspiring cricketers both in Bangladesh and worldwide.

Shakib's Impact Beyond Cricket

Over the next few years, Shakib steadily grew into a match-winner for Bangladesh. He became the first player from Bangladesh to consistently perform across all formats, providing both wickets with his left-arm spin and crucial runs with the bat.

In 2009, Shakib achieved a significant milestone when he became the No. 1 all-rounder in the ICC ODI rankings, a position he held for several months. His remarkable consistency with both bat and ball in One-Day Internationals (ODIs) and Tests made him one of the leading all-rounders in world cricket.

Shakib's remarkable career has been filled with such achievements:

He became the first Bangladeshi cricketer to score 1,000 runs and take 50 wickets in both Test and ODI cricket.

He was a key figure in Bangladesh's historic win over West Indies in the 2009 ICC World Twenty20 tournament.

He has been a fixture in IPL (Indian Premier League) cricket, representing Kolkata Knight Riders, and has often been one of the team's standout performers.

Shakib Al Hasan has broken numerous records throughout his career. Some of the highlights include:

First Bangladeshi to Take 200 ODI Wickets: Shakib reached this milestone in 2018, solidifying his place among the great all-rounders in the game.

Fastest to 4,000 Runs and 200 Wickets in ODI Cricket: Shakib achieved this rare feat in 2019, joining an elite group of



Shakib Al Hasan delivers a crucial over in an international match

cricketers.

A Century and Five Wickets in a Match: He achieved this incredible double in 2017 against Zimbabwe, making him one of the few players in history to score a century and take five wickets in the same match in Test cricket

- ☐ First player to score 1,000 runs and take 50 wickets in both Test and ODI cricket.
- ☐ ICC Player of the Year 2009.
- ☐ First Bangladeshi to take 200 ODI wickets.
- ☐ Fastest player to reach 4,000 runs and 200 wickets in ODIs.
- ☐ 2019 ICC World Cup: Key performer in Bangladesh's strong run.

Leadership and Impact on Bangladesh Cricket

Apart from his individual brilliance, Shakib has been a vital leader for the Bangladesh national cricket team. He captained Bangladesh in multiple formats and played an instrumental role in helping the team reach new heights. Under his leadership, Bangladesh achieved major victories, including a historic series win over the West Indies and strong performances in global tournaments like the ICC World Cup and T20 World Cup.

Shakib's leadership style is often described as calm and composed, though he's also known for his fierce determination and passion on the field. His ability to lead by example and his cricketing IQ have been crucial for Bangladesh's rise as a competitive force in world cricket.

Off-Field Contributions and Personal Life

Shakib's impact isn't just limited to cricket. Off the field, he is known for his philanthropic efforts, especially in Bangladesh. He runs the *Shakib Al Hasan Foundation*, which aims to improve the lives of underprivileged children through educational and healthcare initiatives. His charity work has positively impacted the lives of many, particularly in rural parts of Bangladesh. Shakib is also a family man. He is married to Umme Ahmed Shishir, a businesswoman and former university classmate. They have a daughter together. Shakib's commitment to family and community has made him an admired figure both on and off the cricket field.

Challenges and Comebacks

Shakib Al Hasan's career hasn't been without its challenges. In 2019, he was handed a one-year ban by the International Cricket Council (ICC) for failing to report corrupt approaches. This period was tough for Shakib, but it also showed his resilience as he made a successful return to international cricket in 2020. His comeback was met with great enthusiasm from fans and cricket experts alike, as Shakib returned to his dominant form with a renewed focus on his cricketing career.



Shakib Al Hasan delivers a crucial over in an international match

Legacy and Future Outlook

As of now, Shakib Al Hasan remains an active member of the Bangladesh national team. His legacy is one of consistency, leadership, and unmatched all-rounder ability. He continues to inspire a new generation of cricketers in Bangladesh and beyond.

Shakib's contributions to the game go beyond numbers. He has elevated Bangladesh's stature in the cricketing world and made the country proud with his numerous achievements. His passion for the game, paired with his extraordinary talent, will forever be etched in the history of world cricket.