

A sublime restaurant Café Mango

A Monitor Report

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Dhaka : Years ago, architect Salahuddin Ahmed came back from the United States and longed for coffee but had no choice other than Pan Pacific Sonargaon. The situation forced him to develop a café at his home garage in Dhanmondi in early 2000.

This allowed coffee lovers to have a space to spend their time and, in the beginning, he was the only to provide the real taste of coffee outside the five-star hotels. Even the snacks he used to serve was brought in from international hotels. ❌

There is a saying, successful people do the same thing but differently. The same goes with Café Mango. When you arrive to Café Mango, you will see a tiny round signage in Black and White, quite high above, and the matte black door welcoming you.

Salahuddin has the passion for food. He also researched on dinning plate. The idea behind Café Mango was to create a space for mingling among people and managing relationship.

On entrance, there is no flashy light, glittering shiny walls rather, you might have a feeling that it is not well-designed or not so-welcoming. But a different feel hits you soon by natural touch, rustic and reuse of thrown away materials.

A duplex with wooden stairs will catch you eye while the lamp shades are covered with red and black clothes. Thrown away glass bottles all with money plants, a chess board table, used old windows to make partition in between the tables - create an

ambient unique for city-dwellers.

Light music is always on and slowly you will adopt to the environment and start to like the place. Even when the guests talk, since the place is tall in height, it does not seem very noisy. You can even sit, eat and work in this simple quaint place.

Smoking is not allowed in the restaurant but there is a separate space portioned with glass for the smokers.

The menu card says “think global, eat local”, which has a similarity with a bank's slogan. It not only gives you the menu, but also helps you with tips on "benefits of drinking coffee everyday", "reasons to drink tea everyday", "why breakfast should not be skipped".

The restaurant starts service from 10 am till 11 pm. The sitting capacity is for 80 persons, the cuisine is of different platter including soups like seafood, crème of wild mushroom and thai thick soup.

The names are also very catchy, like Chicken Pasta Alfredo, Prawn Garlic Pomodora, Love Medallion Steak, Jazz Chicken, Amazonia Fish Fillet and more to explore.

Cafê Mango is not only loved by coffee lovers. It has also spread its name globally. Lonely Planet once mentioned a few must-dos if one is in Dhaka: Visiting Ahsan Manzil, the National Parliament and enjoying a cup of coffee at Cafê Mango.