



Asian Select (NETPAC)

Country : Bangladesh

## Nona Pani

Barren Waters

2022 / Colour / 125 minutes / Bengali



**Director :** Nehal Quaraisy

**Producer :** Luva Nahid Chowdhury

**Cinematographer :** Nehal Quaraisy

**Editor :** Iqbal Kabir Jewel

**Music :** Syed Shabab Ali Arzoo

**Cast :** Bilkis Banu Jaba, Md. Hridoy, Rubol Lodi, Jayanta Chattopadhyay

**Synopsis :** 'Nona Pani' (Barren Waters) is a story of people who do not have a tale worth telling-- at least by themselves. Affected by the impact of climate change such as Cyclone Aila, the trauma of internal migration and dislocation, change of profession and silent cries for self-identity, the film tells the story of some rural but universal characters, who have a life to live but no command of their own destiny. The narrative is non-linear in structure. The film tries to collect the inner and external split of the personality of the protagonists without drawing any conclusion. The performance of Jatra in the film gives the film a 'film within a film' characteristic.



**Director's Biography :** Syeda Neegar Banu is a female filmmaker and an independent consultant in the field of film-making including fiction, experimental and documentary, concept development, production, script writing, camera, editing and direction, for 17 years. She has an MA in Video Production and Film Studies from the University of West London, UK. Since 2014, I am working as the Director of Parallel Cine Movement (PCM), Khulna, which is the leading organization in the initiative to foster a Gono Cinema film institute in Bangladesh. The film *Nona Pani (Barren Waters)* was her feature debut in 2013. She made more than 20 films as the director and scriptwriter. One of her co-directed films titled *The Trap* won the Singer Best Independent Shorts Award.