

Proudly we
Celebrate the
Victory Day

REAWAKEN
YOUR **SOUL**

Say **NO** to
Littering
Character
Platypus



Writings Wanted

Dear Readers,

This is the Editorial Board calling out to every creative mind out there. **Clarion Call** is a brand new magazine which dedicates its efforts to support the new and blooming writers and to be frank, want to be writers, from all over the country by publishing their pieces on a nation-wide platform. Our question to you: What do you think? Do you have a thought, you want to share with the world?

Then Clarion Call is your open canvas! We give the paint brush to your hand to color and grace this platform. So, confused as you may be, here is a small list of topics as guidelines for you:

01. Entertainment
 - A. Sports
 - B. Self-defense/Health
 - C. Fashion Trends
 - D. Art and Culture
02. At a Glance
 - A. Movie reviews
 - B. Book Reviews
 - C. Drawing
 - D. Domestic & International Affairs
 - E. Jokes & Anecdotes
03. Biography of personalities
04. Story, article and poem (Write about your favorite person's life)
05. National events/celebrations/occasions
06. Campus life (Your School's Event News, life at your school, or simply your school's profile)
07. Foreign education/Applying abroad (If you have any tips for your fellow students of how to apply)
08. Smart Study (Your ways of studying effectively)
09. Picture corner (Send in your landmark clicks!)
10. Readers views (Write your letters and views about the magazine to the Board of Editors and the reply will be published in the next issue)
11. Recent news (Any recent event around the world that interests you)
12. Beauty tips (Share your beauty secrets)
13. Cartoon comics (Draw and Submit, we will publish)
14. ICT (Write about any technology that may come in handy if you feel like it)
15. History (Any historical event you are interested in or you want to deliberate on)

There is no barrier to write outside these topics. The paper is your open canvas. Color it in your own way. Let your mind be free and Let your pen fly! Send us your writings, something good, do not hesitate. We are waiting to make it look good on paper!

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From the
Desk of
Editor

The 6th issue of the Clarion Call is out blended with the colour and spirit of the Victory Day 2018. We believe in the fact that, we must do justice towards this important national day of Bangladesh, 16th December- the Victory Day, because it reminds us of our history of struggle, sacrifice and victory at the end. There is a need for our elders to pass on the correct history, and the spirit thereof, to our younger generations. This is important for the sake of unity of the Nation, and also the country's development and prosperity.

Starting the journey in 1971, as a free and sovereign country, this 48th Victory Day reminds us of the fact that too many men and women, brave children of this soil, have given their lives, sacrificed their honour and shed blood with the dream of establishing a free society, where remaining far away from communal narrowness Human Rights and Justice would be established and people will live in a peaceful democratic society. We are indebted to sacrifice all our potentials to materialize those dreams in coming days because they, the martyrs have sacrificed their 'present' to ensure a glorious 'future' for us.

We want that the Youths of Bangladesh would be enlightened, prosperous and resourceful for the benefit of all humanity. Indeed they will carry forward the torch of peace all around the world, placing Bangladesh in a high and esteemed position on the planet.

In this issue we have accommodated contributions from USA, Canada, Malaysia and Turkey, aimed towards our Youths. I thank the writers sincerely for their cooperation and contribution. I appreciate the young contributors from within the country for their commitment and patience. We have tried to present different write-ups of diverse taste for the readers. I would request our readers to come forward with their constructive criticism, proposals and suggestions so that we can take Clarion Call towards our dream to adorn it with a global standard.

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Proudly we Celebrate the Victory Day

Colonel Z. R. M. Ashraf Uddin, psc, G (Retired)

Introduction

The Victory day (Bijôy Dibôs in Bangla), December 16, is one of the three National days in Bangladesh, the other two being, 'The Independence Day (26th March)' and 'The Language Movement Day (21st February)'. National Days are celebrated by the whole nation: the Government and the People, so is the Victory Day. To keep the nation free from daily works the day is declared as 'a closed holiday' for offices and institutions, so that the celebration can be done wholeheartedly and completely. Holidays on National Days are not meant to be spent as leisure or go for isolation. Every citizen has responsibilities towards these days: to refresh the memories of the history and pass on the spirit of the day to our future generations. That is the reason why The Victory Day celebration in Bangladesh is so important. It has a spirit to boost up our morale that will push us forward to develop as a united and proud nation.

Background History

In 1971 people of this part of the world, now called Bangladesh, fought the War of Liberation against Pakistan to become an Independent country, which resulted in the of the East wing of the country, formally known as, 'Islamic Republic of Pakistan' and established the sovereign nation called Bangladesh. Pakistan and India, two neighbouring countries, got independence from British colonial rule in August 1947, principally as Muslim Pakistan and Hindu India. Pakistan had two wings; East and West, located more than two thousand kilometers apart. Pakistan had total 5 (Five) provinces: East Pakistan was a province speaking Bangla language, and West Pakistan had four other provinces speaking four different languages: Punjabi (Panjab), Pashto (Frontier Province), Sindhi (Sindh), and Balochi (Balochistan). In addition to the differences of language, the East and the West had many other differences. Demanding justice against

Pakistan declared war against India on 3rd December 1971. On 6th December 1971, first Bhutan and the India recognized Bangladesh as an independent country. Receiving all out support from Bangladshi Freedom Fighters (FF), both civil and military, Indian Army Captured Dhaka on 16th December 1971.

disparity and establishment of democracy whole East Pakistan was violent and took to the streets, under the fierce leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. As the Pakistani army attacked unarmed Bengali police and civilians on the night of 25th March 1971, on 26th March independence of the country was declared and 'The War of Liberation' started. India, archrival of Pakistan since their birth in 1947, came forward to help Bangladesh with all out support. The war pitted East Pakistan and India against West Pakistan (now Pakistan), and lasted for a duration of nine months. This war witnessed large-scale atrocities, the exodus of millions of refugees and the killing of innumerable people.

India stood firmly in favour of Bangladesh in international diplomacy and took bold steps in the United Nations. Pakistan declared war against India on 3rd December 1971. On 6th December 1971, first Bhutan and the India recognized Bangladesh as an independent country. Receiving all out support from Bangladshi Freedom Fighters (FF), both civil and military, Indian Army Captured Dhaka on 16th December 1971. On the same day Pakistan Army surrendered. Lieutenant General A. A. K. Niazi, the commander of

Pakistan Eastern Command, signed the instrument of surrender in Dhaka at Ramna Race Course Maidan (later renamed as Sohrawardy Udhyan) in the afternoon of 16th Dec 1971, in the presence of Lieutenant General Jagjit Singh Aurora, Commander of the Allied Forces (called Mitra Bahini) that was comprised of the Indian forces and the Bangladesh Forces (that included Army, Navy & Air Force elements and thousands of Freedom Fighters). The Commander of Bangladesh Forces was Colonel (later General) Mohammad Ataul Gani Osmani. Unfortunately, in the surrender ceremony his presence was not ensured. The text of the Instrument of Surrender document started with the sentence: "The PAKISTAN Eastern Command agree to surrender all PAKISTAN Armed Forces in BANGLA DESH to Lieutenant-

General JAGJIT SINGH AURORA, General Officer Commanding in Chief of Indian and BANGLA DESH forces in the Eastern Theatre.-----", whereas no representative of "BANGLADESH forces" was present in the signing ceremony. In addition to Gen Aurora and Gen Niazi, other defence officers present were Indian Navy Vice Admiral Krishnan, Indian Air Force Air Marshal Dewan, Lt Gen Jagjit Singh and Major General JFR Jacob of Indian Army. A large Bangladeshi crowd present at the race course was very jubilant and shouted anti-Niazi and anti-Pakistan slogans

Celebration

In Bangladesh 16th December is celebrated as with due honour and respect. The celebration of Victory Day has been taking place since 1972. In 1996, the Bangladesh Bank issued a 10 Taka note with an overprint commemorating Victory Day's Silver Jubilee (the 25th anniversary).


The Bangladesh War of Liberation became a topic of great importance in our literature, cinema, history lessons at school, the mass media, and the arts in Bangladesh. The government celebrates it through different functions, like: The ceremonial Gun Salute at day-break, Military Parade by Bangladesh Armed Forces at the National Parade Ground, ceremonial meetings, speeches, lectures, receptions and fireworks. Victory Day in Bangladesh is a joyous celebration in which popular culture plays a great role. TV and radio stations broadcast special programs and patriotic songs. The whole country is decorated with national flags. Different political parties and socioeconomic organizations undertake programs to mark the day in a befitting manner, including the paying of respects at Jatiyo Smriti Soudho, the national memorial at Savar in Dhaka District. Since this was one of the Indo-Pak wars, India also commemorates victory over Pakistan on the same day, i.e. 16th December, in 1971 as Vijay Dibas.

Conclusion

In 2018, the nation is going to celebrate the 47th Victory Day, marking Bangladesh's emergence as an independent country after a bloody nine-month war against the Pakistan occupation forces. Bangladeshis are marking the day with various programmes and paying respects to the millions of people who sacrificed their lives and honour for the cause of an independent country.

On this day we should refresh the memory of our long struggle, the supreme sacrifice of our FFs and pass them on to our future generations. We must respectfully remember the spirit of the War of Liberation: establishment of justice, the rule of law and democracy, in resonance of the spirit of Freedom and Liberty around the world. We must not allow 16th December becoming a day of lifeless rituals and display of political rivalry. It should be a day contributing towards our national unity and progress.

Colonel Z. R. M. Ashraf Uddin, psc, G (Retired)
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Good character is something that should not be just for show when you are in front of other people. In fact, one's true character manifests most especially when you are acting by yourself or when you think no one else is looking.

Character

Anis Uddaula

Character is an essential component of one's identity. A person that is considered to have good character exhibits attributes such as integrity, honesty, courage, loyalty, fortitude, and other important virtues that promote good behaviour and habits. Moreover, character marks who we are as a person, and it also highly influences the choices that we make in our lives.

Good character is something that should not be just for show when you are in front of other people. In fact, one's true character manifests most especially when you are acting by yourself or when you think no one else is looking.

Character is something that is intrinsically within a person and is above race, religion, age or gender, and even education and one's personality. Character traits will determine how a person responds or reacts when faced with a certain situation in life. For example, if someone has honesty as a character trait, he will always be truthful and say things that are true as opposed to a person who is not honest.

Many successful people are known to have strong and good character, and they consider this as their basic foundation. Many people can have riches and resources, but if one does not know what is good character and does not apply it in one's life, one will never know what it means to be truly successful and happy.

The Beloved Messenger of Allah, the Prophet Mohammadsallallaahu `alayhiwasallam, said: "The best amongst you are the ones best in character and manners." (Al-Bukhari)

However, it doesn't take much experience to discover how essential good character traits are when it comes to one's self-esteem, relationships, and satisfaction in life. Individual character is the linchpin for a healthy, functioning society. Although it may not be a popular pursuit, developing your character is one of the most satisfying, emotionally intelligent endeavours you'll ever undertake. Good character consists of defining your values and integrity based on time-tested principles and self-reflection and having the courage to live your life accordingly.

Character building must begin at childhood. Parents are the first teachers and guide to build character in their children. Failing to do so correctly may result in social disaster. A good example of this is the present picture of a considerable portion of the youth in our country. However, it is never too late to correct things in life. I shall list some of the character traits which can be helpful, to those seeking improvement in their character to be successful as a good human being and be happy in life. They are as follows:

- 1. Integrity:** Integrity is having strong moral principles and core values and then conducting your life with those as your guide.
- 2. Honesty:** Honesty is more than telling the truth. It's living the truth. It is being straightforward and trustworthy in all of your interactions, relationships, and thoughts. Being honest requires self-honesty and authenticity.
- 3. Loyalty:** Loyalty is faithfulness and devotion to your loved ones, your friends, and anyone with whom you have a trusted relationship. Loyalty can also extend to your employer, the organizations you belong to, your community, and your country.
- 4. Respectfulness:** You treat yourself and others with courtesy, kindness, deference, dignity, civility and respect.

5. **Responsibility:** You accept personal, relational, career, community, and societal obligations even when they are difficult or uncomfortable. You follow through on commitments and proactively create or accept accountability for your behaviour and choices.
6. **Compassion:** You feel deep sympathy and pity for the suffering and misfortune of others, and you have a desire to do something to alleviate their suffering.
7. **Forgiveness:** You make conscious, intentional decisions to let go of resentment and anger toward someone for an offense - whether or not forgiveness is sought by the offender. Forgiveness may or may not include pardoning, restoration, or reconciliation. It extends both to others and to one's self.
8. **Courageousness:** In spite of fear of danger, discomfort, or pain, you have the mental fortitude to carry on with a commitment, plan, or decision, knowing it is the right or best course of action.
9. **Generosity:** You are willing to offer your time, energy, efforts, emotions, words, or assets without the expectation of something in return.
10. **Politeness:** You are knowledgeable of basic good manners, common courtesies, etiquette, and are willing to apply those to all people you encounter.
11. **Kindness:** Kindness is an attitude of being considerate, helpful, and benevolent to others. It is motivated by a positive disposition and the desire for warm and pleasant interactions.
12. **Lovingness:** The ability to be loving toward those you love means showing them through your words, actions, and expressions how deeply you care about them. It includes the willingness to be open and vulnerable.
13. **Reliability:** You can be consistently depended upon to follow through on your commitments, actions, and decisions. You do what you say you will do.
14. **Conscientiousness:** You have the desire to do things well or to the best of your ability. You are thorough, careful, efficient, organized, and vigilant in your efforts, based on your own principles or sense of what is right.
15. **Self-discipline:** You are able, through good habits or willpower, to overcome your desires or feelings in order to follow the best course of action or to rise to your commitments or principles. You have a strong sense of self-control in order to reach a desired goal.

Anis Uddaula: A Bangladeshi, now living in Canada. Retired after perusing a long career as International Civil Servant at the United Nations.

Technology is everywhere today, in almost every part of our modern life. It affects how we think, work, and most importantly learn. There is a big bearing between learning and technology. Technology is used in the classroom at every step than ever before. Information technology (IT) helps the teachers provide better learning environment. It gives students the opportunity to promote the interaction with their classmates and instructors by encouraging collaboration.

Information technology, while a significant field of study in its own right, is having a key impact across all syllabi. Easy communication system takes speedy access to a vast classification of data, challenging assimilation and assessment skills. Rapid communication with increased access to IT, at home, at work, and in educational establishments, could mean that learning becomes a truly lifelong activity. The Internet gives students instant access to answers beyond what's in their textbooks.

In fact, today's kids are already familiar with Google search to find answers to questions. The gift of the internet to the classroom gives teachers the chance to give their students a universal view of any given subject while still giving students the advice to find the right sources. In the classroom internet research gives teachers the opportunity to teach their students how to assess the quality of the information they find online while removing the one-sided restrictions of a textbook process it.

Technology toys, like interactive whiteboards, tablets, learning apps and websites, are always fixing. Even the ways students access and collaborate with information is always improving. Developers are conscious of the benefits of technology in the classroom, and a lot of money is being spent on developing mobile apps and e-learning courses with proven results.

Unlike in the past when learning was limited to a real classroom, students and teachers could only access academic information while at school. Today, all that traditional system has changed and a student can access information at any given time of the day. It does not matter where they are or what is the time of the day. Information technology has facilitated online education. So you will find a student in Africa will study the same course as a student in USA or India.

Now IT has made it easier to study as well as teach in group studies. We can be unite together to do the desired task online. Efficient postal systems, the telephone (fixed and mobile), and various recording and playback systems based on computer technology all have a great role to play in educational system. The Internet and its Web sites are now intimate to many children in developed countries and among educational societies elsewhere. Of course, it remains to be of little significance to very many more, those lack the most basic means for subsistence.

Internets support thousands of different kinds of operational and experimental services one of which is online library. We can get plenty of data on this online library.

Youth Teaching-Learning: IT as a Tool

Md. Atiqur Rahman



As part of the IT curriculum, learners are encouraged to regard computers as tools to be used in all aspects of their studies. In particular, they need to make use of the new multimedia technologies to communicate ideas, describe projects, and order information in their work. This requires them to select the medium best suited to convey their message, to structure information in a hierarchical manner, and to link together information to produce a multidimensional document.

Make sure to understand that teachers and students are the most significant part of any classroom. If given the choice between a great teacher and the world's most advanced education technology, I'd pick the teacher any day for my own children. It's a great pleasure that we don't have to choose between teachers and technology. Technology is best used when it allows teachers and students to create personalized, accessible, creative learning experiences. We just have to be careful to view it as a means to this end, rather than an end unto itself.

Md Atiqur Rahman: Lecturer, Dept. of CSE, Patuakhali Science and Technology University.

Words from Senior Citizens

If someone had said

AssalamuAlaikumWaRahmatulahiWaBarakatu. I am a revert from Jacksonville in the State of Florida, USA. I have been a Muslimah for last 4 years. I was Katherine Stephens, a born Christian, and now I am Katherine Noor Stephens. You can call me 'Sister Noor'. Since reverting to Islam I have had the opportunity to meet many Bangladeshis through the social media. Now I know that your country and your people are beautiful. I very sincerely hope to visit Bangladesh one day, In Shaa Allah.

I would like to tell you a bit about myself and my city. I am 56 years old, and I have a son and a daughter. Both are now married, Alhamdulillah. I have 6 grandchildren: 4 boys and 2 girls. I work as an Administrative Secretary at a medical clinic that treats drug addicts. Drug-addicts are the most rejected people in the society and all of them desperately need help. Taking this opportunity I try to show Allah's love and mercy to them, with enough sympathy and care.

Jacksonville, Florida has the 5th largest land mass in the world, with the size of 1,063 sq km. We are about one million in population here. Jacksonville is divided into two sections

by the St. Johns River. It is one of the three rivers in the United States that flows northwards. Jacksonville is at the northeast corner of Florida and the St. Johns River flows into the Atlantic Ocean. Once in a while we have sea creatures, like dolphins, swim down into the river.

We have an animal that lives in the river called 'Manatee', having a rounded tail flipper. Some people call it: 'SeaCow'. Once I got the opportunity to swim with a Sea Cow. With joy I kissed its nose and experienced that its breath was terrible! It was a special blessing from Allah to see this creature up close in its home.

You can't swim in the part of the river that runs through the city. The water is much polluted and has algae growth at places. The further south you go, you can fish and swim. We have a fish called 'Catfish' in the river. These fishes can grow large and are good to eat. There are Alligators in the river as big as 3.5 meters in length.

I have read about Bangladesh and learnt that you have many rivers too! So, I think the areas we live in must be quite similar.

I would like to share with you, the Youths of Bangladesh, things I wish someone had said to me at your age. Please accept what helps you, and forgive anything that might offend, for the sake of Allah.

Always put Allah first. He is our help and sustainer. Sometimes you might think, I am young and I can serve Allah when I am older or the things you see in the West look so fun that I can compromise my Deen, the morals of religion of Islam. Do not think like this, please! Society in the West can bring great unhappiness and discontent. Now you have heard this directly from someone who knows through the experiences of her life and finally found true life and peace with Allah in Islam. We are not guaranteed the next hour! So, serve Allah in each moment. You will never go wrong if you do and you will save yourself from many troubles.

Love your parents even if they have faults. You are a gift to them and they are also precious gifts for you. Your parents instruct you to do things because they love you and they know what Allah commands. Sometimes

they have experienced some negative events and they wish to save you from the same. Parents want your good, always. If your parents make a mistake, forgive them and bless them. Always remember Heaven is at the feet of your Mother. At my clinic most of the patients have lost their family and friends due to bad behavior as a result of addiction, except their mothers. Mothers never leave their children, so you too should never leave them.

My dear young brothers and sisters, please learn to be content and bloom where you are. Everyday on social media I receive requests from young people wanting my help to come to the USA. I always tell them that, you must strive to do your best in your own country. Allah has placed us where He wanted us to be. I have found what changes our lives is being at peace where you are! Find something you love to do and perfect it. When that happens it is as though Allah says, ok this lesson has been learned. Now it's time to move forward with the next. The grass is not always greener on the next farm. For example, country-life in Lakshmipur (of Bangladesh) may have problems but so does the life in Dhaka, the capital city. In this 'Dunya' we cannot escape daily problems. However, we have the best of planners in Allah to help us.

When you do your school work do not compete with the person by you. Compete with yourself. Not everyone is good at the same things. Always strive to be a little better than the day before. Try to do better on each test. Friendly competition can be fun, but be careful it can bring jealousy, insecurity and hurt feelings. Allah wants us to be the best person we can be with our knowledge and talents. You are the best you in the world, and no one else can be you. Allah always knows what is best. He says to us in the holy Quran: ".....perhaps you hate a thing and it is good for you; and perhaps you love a thing and it is bad for you. And Allah Knows when you know not."(2:216).Never has Allah left me with nothing. There are times He closed doors and I did not like it, but later I got to see it was the best thing that could happen. Many times I thanked Allah for saying 'No'. If you want something, make Dua, pray Istikhara and watch for Allah to answer. He always does.

When I reverted I lost my family and most friends. It happened due to ignorance and fear. They were not bad people but most people do not understand such decisions. Allah gave me a Muslim family through Brother Yusuf Ali and his lovely wife Jeni. They have a beautiful girl I see as my own niece. What I lost Allah replaced with something I never had:lots of brothers and sisters. Alhamdullilah, Subanallah, AllahuAkhbar.

Never lose hope. Hope is a big thing we have that makes us Muslims. Allah will never let us down. Be patient. Blessings do not always come immediately, sometimes our test is to see if we lose hope and forget Allah.

One thing I have observed is, all children are the same. It is their society that changes them and teaches them. There are narrations of Hadith on this matter. You can read them.Remember, Allah created us all. Always show kindness, compassion and forgiveness when you deal with others. You are the best ambassadors for Allah and Islam.

Thank you for reading my words to you. Please remember me in your Duas. I will make Dua for all, who read this. May Allah bless you with health, joy, success, and the best life this Dunya can give you. May He also give you strength, courage and patience In ShaaAllah.

Katherine Noor Stephens: *A revert to Islam and a local from Jacksonville, State of Florida, USA. She is 56, and works as an Administrative Secretary at a medical clinic for drug addicts.*

Reawaken Your Soul

Abida Mostofa Mehnaz



"Trust yourself enough to let go, shift and uproot. Give yourself permission to shed who you used to be. You are allowed to start over and find new ways to bloom into your best self" - Says Alex Elle, an author, wellness consultant, and creative freelancer living in the Washington, DC.

Are you serious about transformation? I am not talking about polishing yourself, improving yourself or making things a bit better than they were yesterday. Neither am I talking about a facelift, quick fixes here and there. I am talking about the reset button- an innovation that changes the game. It means an overhauling in what you believe and how you do things. Do you think you need that? Does your gut says that you need a change? If yes. Keep reading. This is a small guideline for you, to reinvent yourself.

Now, what is this reinvention? It means a change, starting everything from the scratch and building an entirely different future. Letting go of things that are currently holding you back. Letting go of habits, roles and responsibilities that are keeping you away from being your best self. It is redefining your life. It is something that affects your physical, emotional, professional and spiritual identity as well as your relationships. You have to dig deep and be very clear about what you want to happen and the steps you'll have to take to get there.

Here are few tips on how you can start reinventing yourself:

1. **Be authentic:** First and foremost always be yourself. You cannot grow if you are not true to yourself. Don't be afraid to be someone who doesn't fit in. Rather be proud for being different in a world where originality is in its way towards extinction and everyone tries to follow the same role model for everything.

2. **Stop making excuses:** Most of the time our mind wants things to stay the same for life to be predictable and safe. Therefore, it always tries to find a reason why you cannot do something. Don't let those excuses hold you back from making great changes for a brighter future.
3. **Remove negative energies and emotions:** We've all heard the phrase, "misery loves company," right? And it's true. Have you ever noticed how when someone else starts complaining, you too want to complain right along with them? Or when someone starts talking negatively during a conversation how you both end up in a horrible mood after a while? When that happens, we're not creating space in our lives for good things to happen. So, don't waste time being angry or upset about your life as it is now. Accept that this is where you are and focus only on the positive changes ahead. Doing anything else dilutes your efforts.
4. **Do something that scares you:** You have to get out of your comfort zone to make changes. Do it scared. There is a saying: "how can a man be brave when he is scared?" Well, that is the only time a man can be brave. Overcome that fearful voice inside your head that tells you that you should keep your head down and not take any risk.
5. **Embrace a never give up attitude:** It is life. You definitely will have setbacks and failures, but don't stop. Make adjustments and try again. If you tried enough that your legs can't take it anymore then crawl if you have to, but do not stop. It is okay if you are going at a slower pace than others, but as long as you don't stop you will reach somewhere.
6. **Have a crystal clear vision:** When you dream about making big changes to your life, do you see the details? You need to have a clear vision of the process and the end result of your reinvention or else your dream will be derailed before you start.
7. **Believe in yourself:** stop listening to the doubters in your life. That includes that negative voice in your head too. I know it is hard sometimes but trust me you need to love yourself and be your best fan. You have to believe in your goal and more importantly your ability to reach it. Surround yourself with people that affirms you how awesome you are and supports you to achieve your dreams. However, at the end of the day if you don't believe in yourself, all these affirmations and support will go in vain.
8. **Learn:** And yes, here's the eighth pillar, the key to the other seven. Find ways to enhance your knowledge. There are so many resources available these days books, influencers on social media, webinars, workshops... learn as much as you can. Become a student of your own university. The more you learn the faster you will reach your goal.

Failures are inevitable but failures are also learning tools if you are honest with yourself. Own your failures because then you can own your successes. You only have one life but you can reinvent yourself as many times as you like. So don't just sit there, doubting yourself and afraid to upset the apple cart.

*Abida Mostofa Mehnaz :
Freshman, Bachelor Software engineering
University Putra, Malaysia.*

Great Lives

A Glimpse of Sir Isaac Newton

Rukaiya Binte Hasan



Sir Isaac Newton is recognized as one of the most influential scientists of all times. He is an English mathematician and a well-known physicist. He is honored as a key figure in the scientific revolution of the modern world. He has contributed in the fields of physics, mathematics, astronomy, theology, natural philosophy etc.

He was born on 4th January, 1643 at Lincolnshire, England. His father died three months before Newton was born. So his mother, Hannah Ayscough remarried Reverend Barnabas Smith when Isaac Newton was two years old. He was left at the care of his grandmother, Margery Ayscough. Basically treated as an orphan, he didn't have a happy childhood. There is no doubt that Isaac felt very bitter towards his mother and his step-father. This may have affected him for the rest of his life, and he was always known as an absent-minded professor.

Isaac Newton studied in the King's School at Grantham, which taught Latin and Greek and probably imparted a significant foundation of mathematics. People remember Newton most for the formulated version of the laws of motion. He also shows credit with Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz for developing the infinitesimal "Calculus". He built the first practical reflecting telescope and developed a sophisticated theory of color, based on the observation that prism separates white light into the colors of the visible spectrum. His work on light was collected in this highly influential book 'Optics' published in 1704. He also made the 1st theoretical calculation of speed of sound. In 1665, he discovered the generalized binomial theorem.

Beyond his work on the mathematical sciences, Newton dedicated much of his time to the study of Alchemy and Biblical chronology, but most of his work in those areas remained unpublished, until long after his death. He also used his mathematical description of gravity to prove Kepler's laws of planetary motion, account for the trajectories of comets and other eradicating doubt about the solar system.

Newton had obtained his BA degree in August 1665. At that time, the University of Cambridge temporarily closed as a precaution against the great plague. He was knighted by Queen Anne in 1705 and he spent the last 3 decades of his life in London, serving as a warden and the master of the royal mint, as well as president of royal society. He was also the 2nd Lucasian professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University.

There is a famous joke in his life which also led to the discovery of a very important field: gravity. At a warm autumn afternoon, Newton was sitting in his orchard. All of a sudden, an apple fell on his head. 'Ouch', said Isaac. But the blow set him thinking about gravity. Why did the apple fall? Why did it come downwards, not upwards? Newton reasoned that every object attracts every other object with the pull of gravity. The force is everywhere; gravity is everywhere. The earth's gravity extends out into the space. The sun's gravity keeps all the planets in their orbits or else they would fly off! This is said to be Newton's greatest discovery.

He never got married, probably because he didn't have time. He was the greatest physicist of that time. So, after he died in 1726, he was given a national funeral at Westminster Abbey. Though he was the student and teacher of Mathematics, he is still remembered for his influential and monumental works, as the greatest physicist of all times.

Rukaiya Binte Hasan: Class Ten, International Grammar School, Rangpur.

Human beings need to remember their own ontological structure to find a solution for the problems today's modern world faces; the clue to understanding the meaning of existence lies in ancient wisdom.

A reflection on our understanding of reality in the 21st century reveals a disturbing picture about our state of humanity. No longer bound by objective moral criteria and social norms, modern societies work in ways that undermine the meaning of human agency and destroy the natural world. As we further develop economically and expand our technological abilities, we lose our grip on the essential meaning of existence. In the words of Amin Maalouf, "we have embarked on this century without a compass."

This is a universal problem extending from advanced industrial societies in Europe and North America to the Muslim world, Africa and Asia. The subjectivist

and monopolizing mindset of modernity leaves nothing untouched. It penetrates everything from our homes and towns to education, trade, politics and culture. The weapons of mass destructions that can kill thousands in one instant, as the world watched in horror in Hiroshima and Nagasaki 70 years ago, join the manual beheadings of Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) terrorists in a spectacle of violence that recognizes no boundaries. Violence and barbarism takes on new dimensions with new technological capabilities. No religious doctrine or moral principle is able to stop this insanity.

The collapse of traditional morality has had a major impact on this outcome. Two important consequences have followed: the rise of modern subjectivism and the spread of relativism. The rise of modern relativism goes back to the demise of the Christian worldview and Europe's opening to new worlds. When European intellectuals came face to face with the reality of other religions, cultures and civilizations, they thought they had obtained an arsenal of arguments against the hegemony of scholastic doctrines. Rene Descartes's subject-centered certainty sought to secure a foundation for our knowledge of the world: the vacuum created by the demise of the medieval worldview had to be filled by another set of principles and ideas. But Descartes's attempt to find a secure ground ended up in an intractable solipsism. His famous dictum "cogito ergo sum" (I think therefore I am) was supposed to establish the objective existence of the outside world. Instead, it led to the experience of things in my mind.

Relativism Absolutism and Epistemic Humility

Dr. Ibrahim Kalin

Lest we think this is an abstract philosophical point, consider its huge consequences for the ways in which we think about the universe and ourselves in the modern world. It is my mind and nothing else that establishes the existence of the world. My mind or my ability to think becomes the basis of all certainty. By extension, this makes me, the knowing subject, the sole possessor of meaning, purpose and authority over the world. One more step and we start divinizing ourselves! Worse, we begin demonizing others through political subjugation, economic exploitation and cultural imperialism. In his "The Philosophical Discourse of Modernity," the German philosopher Jurgen Habermas summarizes this subjectivist component in modern thought with "the principle of subjectivity:" "In establishing the principle of subjectivity ... religious faith became reflective; the world of the divine was changed in the solitude of subjectivity into something posited by ourselves...in modernity, therefore, religious life, state and society, as well as science, morality and art are transformed into just so many embodiments of the principle of subjectivity."Martin Heidegger considers the rise of epistemology to the center of modern Western thought to be a victory of skepticism. It is the skeptic's questions about the reality of the external world that guides the conceptual agenda of modern epistemology. For Heidegger, this has had two grave consequences: the oblivion of the "question of Being" (Seinsfrage) and the rise of subjectivism.

With modern notions of knowledge, man is turned into a special subject that has power and priority over all things. The Enlightenment project that begun with the idea of rejecting theocentrism ended up with a radical version of anthropocentrism. In this new paradigm, the human subject is defined as a self-defining and autonomous being that sees itself above the world, the cosmos, history, time, society, tradition and ethics.

The idea that I must have full freedom and sovereignty without any responsibility penetrates most modern societies. Both the secular ideals of the Enlightenment and the religious ideas of the tradition are subjectivized and relativized in order to garner more power and dominance over the world. Paradoxically, modern relativism produces its anti-thesis: each relative perspective is presented as an absolute and imposed on others. The "economic hit men" of the modern world twist all rules to make more profit and present this as "rational behavior." The religious radicals of the Muslim, Christian, Jewish or Buddhist traditions distort religious texts to justify their violent actions and present this as devotion. Relativism and absolutism go hand in hand in our modern claims of knowledge. The first step to overcome this conceptual anomaly is to go back to the ancient wisdom that reality is larger than us. Reality is larger than our mental constructions of it. We human beings are part of a reality that is not only larger than us but also has its own meaning and significance. To fully understand this, we need knowledge, wisdom, prudence and patience. A proper understanding of reality entails the acknowledgment of what we might call epistemic humility. It suggests that no matter how competent we claim to be, we cannot encircle the great chain of being, just as we cannot step outside of it. Recognizing our place in it is more important than seeking to own it like a property.

This ancient wisdom also teaches us that we cannot treat the world of existence in any way we want without social and moral consequences. Freedom comes with responsibility, and this applies to our dealings with the natural environment as well as other human beings with whom we share the universe. Epistemic humility rather than hubris should guide our behavior toward the universe, ourselves and other fellow human beings.

Dr. Ibrahim Kalin: *Founding-director of the SETA Foundation for Political Economic and Social Research based in Ankara, Turkey and served as its director from 2005 to 2009.*

My Wonderful Roommate

Sheikh Safoana Jerin

I am a PhD student studying Public Administration in a very highly reputed university in Turkey. I got a very nice roommate this year. This story is about her. Her name is Zaynab and she is from Egypt. She is also doing her PhD in another reputed university of Turkey in the faculty of natural science.

I think her PhD subject is very tough one, because I generally find her working late in to the night. However, I saw her offering nafl (optional) Salat after every half an hour. I was amazed to see the beauty of her prayers, subhanAllah! It gives me great positive energy. I get a feeling that she is really talking with her Lord! This, I thought, is termed as 'the living prayer.' Apart from this, I found her to be very careful about the rights of other people. I feel myself lucky to have a roommate like her this year, since I have suffered a lot from a different roommate last year. Now-a-days, nobody disturbs during my sleep if it's not even the sleeping time. However, without fail Zaynab would wake me up when it is the time for prayer. She is very particular about the fard (compulsory) prayer, and always reminds me for it.

Zaynab is doing her research in Radiography, and she once mentioned that the topic is very difficult and the research work is very stressful too. However, whenever she feels stressed she opens the Holy Quran and gets a break through the recitation of few verses.

One day, we were going out for our weekly shopping to the local market. As we reached the gate of our dormitory suddenly she remembered that she was missing something! She told me to wait and ran to the room. As she returned I found that she was holding the handy copy the holy Quran. During shopping sometimes she was reading the Quran even in market. Zaynab loves eating chicken very much. However, she often buys readymade chicken, but never forgets to



divide it into two. She cares so much about her only roommate, me! In respect of garments and outfit, she is not only simple, rather more than simple! She maintains a specific dress for prayer, uses two/ three Abaya for going out and two/ three head covers to maintain Hijab. She doesn't do any style even with the head-covers. She simply tries to cover her head as well as the chest and the whole body.

Zaynab likes to eat sweet things. I never saw her being worried about her own figure, though she is physically very fit indeed. She even doesn't use any cosmetics to look more beautiful, like any other girl! About this matter she has a unique concept that: 'every woman is beautiful naturally. Cosmetics are the product of market-economy and indeed the propaganda of capitalism.' I have never met a true and devoted Muslim girl like Zaynab before and it's an unique opportunity to meet her in Turkey. She is the living example of a true and ideal Muslima, indeed. I sincerely pray to Allah SWT for her success and wellbeing. I think, pious and sincere Muslim women, like Zaynab, should come to the fields of higher study and research, for the benefit of the Ummah, nay the humanity.

Sheikh Safoana Jerin: She is one of the toppers from Dhaka University and now she is a PhD Researcher, Turkey.

A World Cup That Brings the World Together

Rasadur Rahman

It was the beginning of the Russian summer when FIFA World Cup started last June. But winter had the last blow of the Siberian wind. Someone informed me before going to Russia that the Russian summer was colder than the Bangladeshi winter. But for the football-fans Russia was the perfect place for celebrating World Football. Russian immigration officers were nice and naïve to welcome hundreds of thousands of people coming from all over the world. Volunteers were very much supporting in the host cities helping football-fans facing any problem. From every point of view FIFA World Cup in Russia was a great success.

What is FIFA World Cup? Is it just a football fight for a trophy? Or is it that only 32 teams participating there? No, it is not. World Cup is more than that. While walking in the Red Square, Moscow city center, and talking to multinational people I learned some other aspects of the World Cup. Every year different festivals are celebrated in the world, most of them being regional, religious and national. FIFA World Cup appears to be the only festival that people can enjoy and celebrate all over the world, irrespective of region and religion.

In Russia, there were FIFA fan fest centers in every host city. A splendid place for football-fans from all over the world that can portray their own culture without any hesitation. Perhaps it was the most controversial FIFA World Cup ever that made people to believe the venue could have changed to other part of the European continent but Russia had full support from FIFA to organize the greatest show on earth and they surprised the World by showing the greatness of the event.



"The World Cup brings together not just 11 soccer players from one nation as a team, not just a country in support of their side, not just 32 nations, not just hundreds of thousands of fans in stadiums across South Africa but it brings the world together."

Russian President Vladimir Putin was absolutely right when he asserted at the inauguration of Russia World Cup 2018 that the love for football can bring the world together, irrespective of peoples' ideological differences. There is certainly no other sporting event, including the Summer Olympics, which appeals to the masses around the world in the way the World Cup does.

Images from around the globe before the start of the World Cup were ample proof of the 'World Cup fever'. The pictures of a group of kids at a backstreet of Rio de Janeiro having a ball as huge murals of Neymar and Jesus loom over them, or the self-taught sculptor who carves out giant images of football stars on the beach in Puri in India, or weaving flag of World Cup playing nations on every rooftop of the Bangladesh! They all reflect the united colors of football.

To the legion of lovers of this beautiful game, one does not have to be from a participating nation to soak in the spirit of this carnival. Otherwise, how do you explain the madness of a city like Dhaka in Bangladesh where football fans stay divided into Brazil and Argentina camps for one month? The World Cup continues to bring together the best players from around the world. A global audience in the billions will tune into the games, testifying its tremendous popularity. The 64 games over 32 days, no doubt, produced some exciting contests that were shining the spotlight on a new generation of players while burnishing the reputation of some of the stars. With no clear favorites, this World Cup was perhaps the most open contest in recent times. Croatia and Belgium had the great energy to win the battle but finally French won the World Cup. Football is said to have the power to bring people together, regardless of their age, race, gender, culture, or nationality, and that is never truer than at World Cup. It is the most played and watched sport in the world, and because of that, the World Cup is one of the most anticipated sporting events, with only the Olympics rivaling it in terms of popularity. World Cup was shown in every single country on Earth, including Antarctica, and the competition reached over three billion people around the world. The final of the 2018 World Cup alone was watched by over a billion people.

During the World Cup, fans from the same country unite to support their team and their players, all banded under one flag. Even when their country is knocked out of the competition, many fans flock to support another nation they have ties to, or maybe a neighboring country that they would normally consider their rival. I was in Russia during the 2018 World Cup and I remember the incredible atmosphere and the "good vibes" across the host nation. Russia lost the quarter final against Croatia by a penalty shoot-out. They were really in a deep sorrow but they never stopped enjoying the world cup moment and supporting other nations. After Russia took exit from the World Cup, many Russians went on supporting Belgium for their beautiful game. When a big game was on, there were hundreds of people in the streets, and huge cheers whenever a goal went in. When Russia scored, the bar, pub or home where you were watching would go crazy and would turn to the closest person possible to celebrate with them with vodka. Everyone seemed to be having a good time and enjoying the competition and the company. In years to come, many Russians will reminisce about where they were when Yury Aleksandrovich Gazinsky scored Russia's first goal of the tournament, and then followed it up with, in my opinion, one of the greatest World Cup celebrations ever.

An example of how football can unify is when the Ivory Coast qualified for 2006 World Cup in Germany, and helped to end the civil war that was raging in their country. The war started in 2002 between the Muslim north of the country and the Christian south. Moments after the Ivory Coast secured qualification, Didier Drogba, the star player of the team and a hugely popular figure in the country, begged both fighting parties to stop on national TV. The football team was made up of people from a mix of religions and ethnicities who wanted to use their success to help the country end its bloody conflict. Within a week the factions put down their arms and agreed to a ceasefire. The World Cup can and has proven to be a catalyst for change and it has the effect of bringing people from different cultures and nationalities together. As someone so eloquently put it before the World Cup 2018: "The World Cup brings together not just 11 soccer players from one nation as a team, not just a country in support of their side, not just 32 nations, not just hundreds of thousands of fans in stadiums across South Africa but it brings the world together."

Rasadur Rahman : Staff Reporter, The Daily Bangladesh Pratidin.

A large, overflowing trash can is the central focus of the illustration. The trash can is grey with a silver handle and is overflowing with a large pile of colorful, crumpled paper and other debris. The background shows a suburban neighborhood with houses, trees, and a blue sky with a few clouds. A small car is visible in the bottom left corner.

Say **NO** to Littering

Mohammad Zakaria

Ranju is only 13. It's a school-going age. Boys and girls of this age are supposed to go to school, but Ranju doesn't. At night he sleeps in a slum near Kamalapur Railway Station of Dhaka. During the day he walks through the streets, often barefooted. He puts on torn out and dirty clothes hanging a discolored large rag from his shoulder. Throughout the day he picks up plastic bottles and other solid wastes from the city bins, sells them in a recycle (vangari) shop and makes a humble earning, enough for him to not to go hungry. That is his livelihood. This is the life of a Tokai, the waste picker.

In the capital city, Ranju is not the only Tokai, underprivileged and devoid of happy childhood. World Bank informs us that there are 120 thousand Tokais, boys and girls, active in Dhaka.

We, the well-off citizens in this country, have a very bad habit of littering anywhere and everywhere! Statistics show that everyone of us throws 2Kgs of waste away, in or out of the bins, every week. Yes, the Tokais are there to pick them and clean up. The well-off and the educated use various daily commodities, as part of life-style, and then throwaway the residue the bottles, packets, covers etc. anywhere at will! They never think who will clean it up. Imagine! Had there been nobody like Ranju, who would have cleaned the city for us?

As the city-population grows the volume of waste too increases. Experts predict that in next 30 years, we will produce double wastages; but nobody knows who will clean! Alarming fact is the plastic waste. One study shows, 12 percent of our total wastages are plastics. We throw them on roads, in the lakes or everywhere! We litter the City indiscriminately! Our precious water bodies like Hatirjheel and Burigonga river are filled with these plastic wastes. Fortunate people like us, who go to school for education, learn more on life and environment, throw these wastes as litters! We never asked ourselves: why don't we keep the environment clean? You might know that the Government and many

other agencies do work on this matter. Let's do our part also. Let's start there cycling of the non-degradable wastes as much as possible. Let's reduce wasting our food and let's work to improve the livelihood of the waste pickers living around, love them, help and educate them, make their life easier and cleaner. Because, if leave our world unmanaged and full of waste, disgusting, how would we live there happily? We can't. For that purpose we can use two dustbins instead of one at our home, and in the schools too, as done in many other countries. Then put the solid, non-degradable wastes in one bin, what people can pick up and take for recycling, and keep the wet, degradable waste in the other bin that can get decomposed as fertilizer and can be managed easily.

Nowadays, there is a slogan echoed worldwide: 'leave no one behind'. It reminds us of our duty to work for the people like Ranju. Let's grow empathy to them. Let's think that I also could have born in the same situation what Ranju has. We are the fortunate few privileged enough, let's think create a good life for friends like Ranju. It's our role to change their misfortune into a fortune. Let's try to manage our waste ourselves. Let's not dump wastages everywhere and litter our surroundings. Let's say NO to our own habit!

Mohammad Zakaria: Staff Reporter, The Daily Sharebiz.



Skin Care

Priya Das (Shethi)

- Reapply your sunscreen every two/three hours.
- Don't smoke for the sake of your health.

02. Keep Skincare Simple:

Using a lot of different ingredients can be irritating and some ingredients cancel out other's benefits.

For example, the acid in salicylic or glycolic acid breaks down ingredients like retinol, hydroquinone or vitamin C. So, the products needed for beautiful skin are simple cleanses, sunscreen, moisturizer and a retinoid.

03. Give products time to work:

Changing your products every couple of weeks can also be counterproductive. Finish the entire tube of a skin care product before you decide how well it works.

04. A Balanced life leads to your best skin:

Especially I don't have any beauty secret. But I maintain some healthy daily habits:

- I start my day with a mango, apple, and some dry fruits any buys organic fruits or vegetable from my local fruit market.
- I also practice a vigorous form of exercise daily.
- I also get seven or more hours of sleep a night.
- And beside that drink lots of water. The key to gorgeous skin turns out to be a mix of science, common sense, overall good health habits and a simple stick-to-it skin care regimen.



Beauty is a characteristic of a Living being, an object, a person or a place that provides a perceptual experience of pleasure or satisfaction. Beauty is studied as part of aesthetics, culture, social psychology, philosophy and sociology. Here are few beauty tips which, once you have made them part of our life that can make you more glorious.

01. Smoking no, Sunscreen Yes:

Imagine two people starting out with the same exact DNA. One smoked and sunbathed, the other avoided both. Would that make a difference in the appearance of their skin?

I think it is yes, those who smoked and spent lots of time outdoor without wearing sunscreen look years older than the brothers or sisters who shunned cigarettes and tanning. They had more fine lines, deeps and more mottled. So he/she have to maintain some rules. Those are-

- Wear broad spectrum sunscreen that that protects against both UVA and UVB rays.



Platypus

Ihtisham Kabir

It was late afternoon when we reached the nature reserve in Yungaburra, a small Australian town in north Queensland. Walking about fifty feet from the car, we descended a flight of granite stairs to reach a path running along a fast-moving, turbid stream-much like our chharas- about ten feet across. Over our head, a bridge over the stream cast a deep shadow all around us.

Several other people also stood nearby pointing cameras into the dark water. As my eyes adjusted to the dim light I saw a dark blob, about the size of a large ruifish, swimming on the murky surface. Sensing the presence of people it dived and did not emerge.

I waited patiently and another large blob came along, swimming rapidly. It stopped at the edge of the bridge and rested, half-immersed in water. Scratching itself with its feet, it turned over a few times in the water, changed directions, and rapidly swam out of the area. Its body shone with water and its eyes sat like small beads on an oversized head from which protruded an oversized bill. That was it! I waited at other spots on the path and watched the water, but saw nothing more of interest.

The female platypus lays between one and three eggs. After they hatch, the mother nourishes the young with her milk. The female platypus does not have teats; rather it releases milk through pores on its skin. It gathers in grooves along the abdomen, from where the young platypus drinks it.

What I had seen was a platypus (the name rhymes with "juice".) This amphibian creature-found only in Australia-possesses several fascinating characteristics.

Its most interesting feature? It is a mammal that lays eggs.

With a large ducklike bill, webbed feet, and a body covered with hair like a rat or mole, the platypus looks like it belongs with the fantastic creatures that Sukumar Ray conjures in AbolTabol. In fact, the first scientists to examine a preserved body of the platypus thought it was a fake, sewn together from parts of different animals. But the platypus is very real, and it is one of only five known mammals-collectively known as monotremes-that lay eggs.

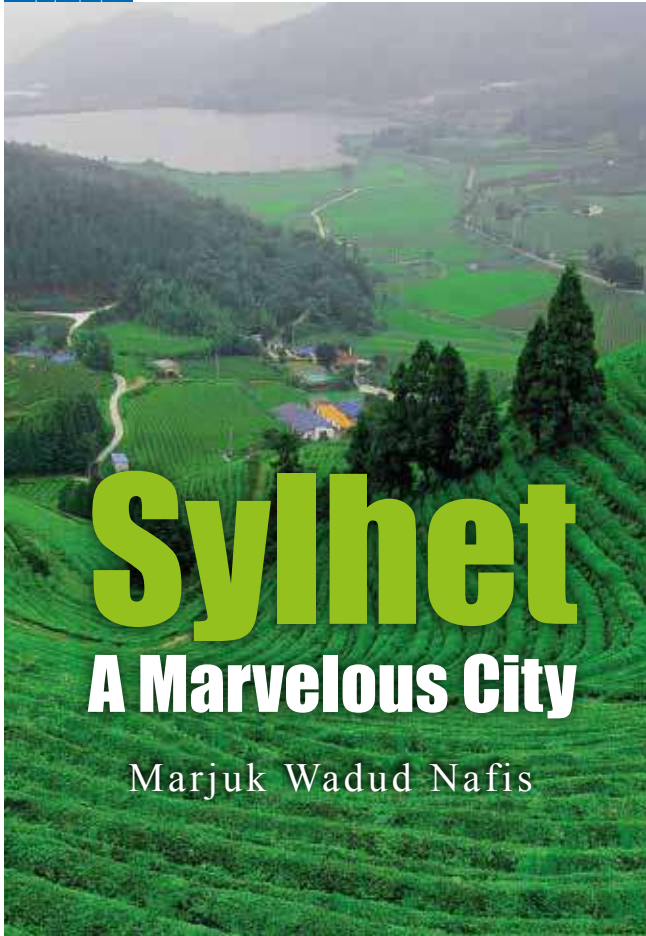
The female platypus lays between one and three eggs. After they hatch, the mother nourishes the young with her milk. The female platypus does not have teats; rather it releases milk through pores on its skin. It gathers in grooves along the abdomen, from where the young platypus drinks it.

Another curious feature of the platypus is that the hind feet have a "spur", like a sharp thorn, through which males can inject venom as a defense mechanism. It is thus the only known venomous mammal. The platypus has a fat tail it uses for storing fat. While its size can vary, males are larger and can reach twenty inches in length and weigh up to five pounds.

Yet another distinction of the platypus is its hunting technique. A carnivore, it uses neither sight, nor sound, nor smell to hunt. Instead, when it dives, it closes its eyes, ears and nose, and physically detects the tiny electrical pulses of the muscular motion of its prey, including small fish and shrimp, which it catches with its bill.

While the platypus is not particularly rare or threatened, it is difficult to see, not just because it is shy, but also because it is active in darkness or twilight. I felt lucky to have seen and photographed one in its natural habitat.

Ihtisham Kabir :



Sylhet is a magnificent and spectacular city. It is calm and quiet. It is one of the most remarkable cities of Bangladesh. Not much people lives in this city. But there is no religious discrimination. Though, in that city the percentage of Hindus is more comparing to other cities.

I, myself went to visit sylhet along with my family members. When I first went there to spend my vacation, it seemed amazing to me. I can't express this feeling in words. It was winter, the weather was outstanding. But it was also trembling cold. Our first plan was to go to a small river named 'LalaKhal'. It looked tremendous. The environment was wonderful! The water was clean, clear and blue. The rocks inside the water were beautiful. The environment was fully covered with fog. We travelled with boat through the river and saw different types of hills near the Indian border. This experience was superb. I never saw this type of crystal clear water and clean environment anywhere else in Bangladesh.

In sylhet, there are many graveyards of different Muslim saints who played a significant role to establish Islam in Bangladesh. The most remarkable one is of HazratShahjalal (RA) and there are many others. We visited the tombs of some of them. Sylhet is mainly a historical city that attracts the tourists. We visited the ancient mosques which were built many centuries before. We roamed around the city and went to picnic spots which were splendid for spending time.

Sylhet is well-known in Bangladesh mainly for its tea-gardens. We were amazed to see the tea-gardens over land and hilly areas, which stretched miles after miles. Tea production in Sylhet is the highest in Bangladesh, of which a lot is exported around the world, after fulfilling the total demand within the country. The tea from Sylhet is of very high quality. Thereafter, we went to a large forest named 'Lawachara' which is one of the most famous forests of Bangladesh. It was filled with beautiful trees of different species and monkeys were moving here and there all around the trees.

Sylhet is a city of random beauty. Its natural beauty immensely impresses the tourists from home and abroad. That's why every Bangladeshi has reasons to be proud of Sylhet.

Marjuk Wadud Nafis: Islamic International School, Dhaka.

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অভিভাবকদের জন্য যুট্টেডেট কাউন্সিলিং সেশন হয়

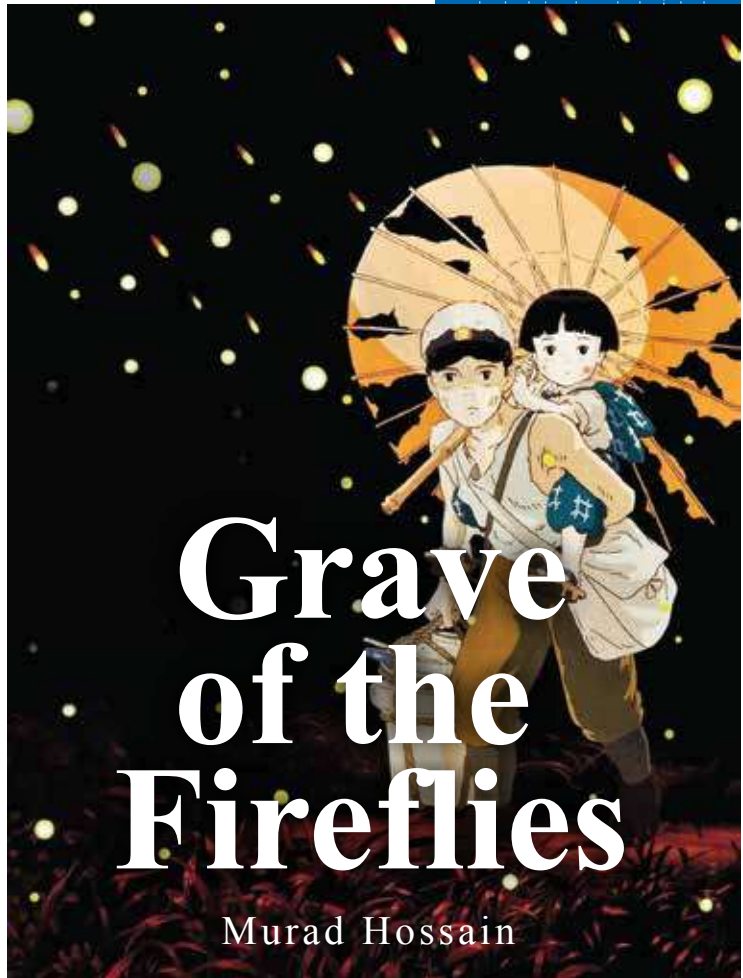
In the time of World War II, Japan was devastatingly bombed by the enemy. Enemy bombers dropped napalm canisters on Japanese cities, creating overwhelming fire storms with which complete cities after cities of Japan were wiping out. When the enemy hits, there is a moment of silence, and then they detonate, spraying flames of fire over their surroundings. With the residential homes of Japanese neighbourhood, made of flimsy wood and paper house, there was no way to fight the fires.

"Grave the fireflies" is an animated movie made in 1998, telling the story about two children who lost their mother in the hands of enemy bombers and the bombs made them homeless. Every moment in this movie surrounds us with much pathetic situations. Seita is a teenager, and his younger sister Setsuku is about 5. Their father was

serving in the Japanese navy and mother was a homemaker. When the bombs rained down and terrified people ran all over for a shelter, these two children also fled their residential house with their mother but eventually the mother died and left them alone. Their home, neighbours, school all are gone from life. For a while neighbourly Aunty takes them into her family, but no longer could they stay there. She was very cruel about the need to feed them and tells them to go to another neighbour who stays in Tokyo. Seita realises that it is time to leave. Eventually Seita finds a hillside cave where they can live though rain and storm. He had some money to buy food but soon they become empty handed. The hunger was with them for a long time. He does what he can, to find daily food for the two and to answer Setsuku's questions about their parents. Setsuku gets weaker in every single day and consequently she falls asleep forever.

This movie is telling about all the things with emotional expression. It's telling a story of the survival in a difficult situation, to find a way for the provision of food and necessary rest. Death of the mother and sister gives an emotional and gloomy picture. One will enjoy the movie no doubt.

Murad Hossain: MA, Department of Arabic, University of Dhaka.



Grave of the Fireflies

Murad Hossain

My Childhood Memories

Mayesha Fayruz Rahman Alfie

How would be that to go to the past
 In the time where my childhood last.
 My childhood memories were full of pleasure
 Which are more valuable than any king's treasure
 Childhood is the sweetest period of life
 Where, many remarkable memories lie.
 How happy I was in my childhood days!
 It was just like morning sun rays.
 Everyone bears some aim, they want to gain;
 I have a dream, I wish I could be a child again!

*Mayesha Fayruz Rahman Alfie: Standard Nine
 International Grammar School, Rangpur.*



Association

Md. Imdadul Haque

Hypocritical associations
 Can never produce real unity,
 Genuine associations
 Can ever produce real integrity,
 Dry associations can't
 Become a basis for sympathy.
 Humble associations can
 Become foundation for empathy.
 A real associate
 Always shows the right way,
 And always keeps you in his pray.
 When you feel dismay,
 He would brush your woes away.
 When no one else will care,
 Your genuine friend will come near.
 He loves you with emotion,
 And he never will lead you towards demotion.

*Md. Imdadul Haque: MA, Dept. of Islami History
 and Culture, Jagannath University, Dhaka*

My School

Safwana Rahman

It's always a struggle to get out of bed
 As I cry out, "Mum!"
 "Please let me rest my head"
 As she yells back, "what a sloth you have become!"

Pencils, glue, paper and books
 My bag is filled to the top;
 I grab my lunch and my shoes
 And head to the bus-stop.

I zeal to do my best
 Not any less,
 I've got a math's' test
 And I know I won't make a mess.

My school is an educational swimming pool,
 From where my teachers gather each bucket of love;
 With which they alter every fool
 As we return home, with studies our minds evolve.

*Safwana Rahman: Standard Three
 Golgatha English Medium School, Dhaka.*

Student Checker

Muqaddim pre

: Our friend has been killed by a reckless bus so we are looking after road vehicle! Quickly show me your driving licence.
: Sorry my dear, I have no licence.

: Why you are going up without showing your driving licence?
: Please be tranquil baby! I will take my licence very soon.



: show me fitness certificate of the bus.
: Which portion is unfit? Doesn't matter! Colour, brush and hammer with me, I will make it new within a minute.

: You were asking others for a licence, but where is your driving licence?
: Sir I am a student aged below eighteen-unqualified to have a driving licence yet and no law is applicable for us.

Muqaddim pre : Cartoonist

Jokes



(1)

Physics Teacher: "Isaac Newton was sitting under a tree when an apple fell on his head and he discovered gravity. Isn't that wonderful?"
Student: "Yes sir, if he had been sitting in class looking at books like us, he wouldn't have discovered anything."

(2)

Sam: dear sir, I want to ask you something.
Teacher: Yes Sam, ask me, what do you want?
Sam: sir, do you punish anyone for something they didn't do?
Teacher: No Sam, Why should I?
Sam: Thank you sir, that's a relief. I haven't done the home work!!

(3)

A man asks a farmer near a field, "Sorry sir, would you mind if I crossed your field instead of going around it? You see, I have to catch the 4:20 train."
The farmer says, "Sure, go right ahead. And if my bull sees you, you'll even catch the 4:10 one."

(4)

Customer called the Tech Support: "my computer is not connecting to Internet"
Tech support: "Ok, which operating system are you using?"
Customer: "Internet explorer!"
Tech support: "No, you just right click on "my computer" and click on the properties menu"
Customer: "What? This is not your computer! It is my computer."
Son: No!

(5)

"Isn't the principal a Dummy?" - said a boy to a girl.
"Well, do you know who I am?" - asked the girl.
"No." - replied the boy.
"I'm the principal's daughter." - said the girl.
"And do you know who I am?" - asked the boy.
"No." - she replied.
"Thank goodness!" - said the boy with a sign of relief.

(6) Tom: "Jerry, you talk a lot!"

Jerry: "It's a family tradition".

Tom: "What do you mean?"

Jerry: "My grandpa was a street hawker, my father is a teacher".

Tom: "What about your mother?"

Jerry: "She's a woman".

(7)

The teacher of the earth science class was lecturing on map reading.
After explaining about latitude, longitude, degrees and minutes the teacher asked,
"Suppose I asked you to meet me for lunch at 23 degrees, 4 minutes north latitude and 45 degrees, 15 minutes east longitude...?"
After a confused silence, a voice volunteered, "I guess you'd be eating alone."

(8)

Son: Dad what is an idiot?

Dad: An idiot is a person who tries to explain his ideas in such a strange and long way that another person who is listening to him cannot understand him.

Do you understand me?

Son: No!

(9)

Teacher: Shamu, go to the map and find North America.

Shamu: Here it is!

Teacher: Correct. Now, Ramu, who discovered America?

Ramu: Shamu!

**Collected*



Readers' Views



"Clarion Call" being a magazine by the youth and for the youth, is a great platform for sharing knowledge. It is amazing how young students write about diverse topics in every issue and provide both information and fun bound within a single package. The magazine's attention to include moral writings along with topics that are useful in practical life is also praiseworthy. I hope and pray for Clarion Call's greater success in the future.

Atiya Tafannum

3rd year
Department of English
Dhaka University

"CLARION CALL" is a magazine of our desire. This magazine is about the contemporary issues and contains entertainment, feelings and emotions in it. Its diverse topics let us know different information about the world. The topics are carefully oriented and engaging. The arranged idea makes the magazine more persuasive. The language of this magazine is plain and simple with minute factual style of writing which made the magazine frank, interesting and friendly. I wish the next issue will be published soon and wish for 'clarion call' to spread all over the world.

Talha Zubaer

A level
Islami Bank Int'l school and college

The magazine 'CLARION CALL' is a wonderful source for students to gain knowledge about the world and its wonders. It displays some interesting stories that students don't get to read in academic books. I have read all the previous volumes and I was amazed every single time. In 5th issue the article 'Is a Mobile Phone Boon or Bane' exposes some of the important advantages and disadvantages about smart phones these days. The magazine has nice articles, stories and social discussions that help a student grow and advanced in life consisting motivational and inspiring stories. This magazine is one of the best English magazines in market today.

Mahmudul Hasan Rafid

Level 8
Green scholars int'l school and college

I'm a regular reader of the "Clarion Call" magazine. I specifically like the sports section and the articles written by Bazlul Karim Sir in every issue. I enjoy the writings of this magazine, so I also encourage my friends to read it. I hope Allah will help the magazine to improve in all ways.

Taneem Alam

Class 6
Ideal Int'l School

Art



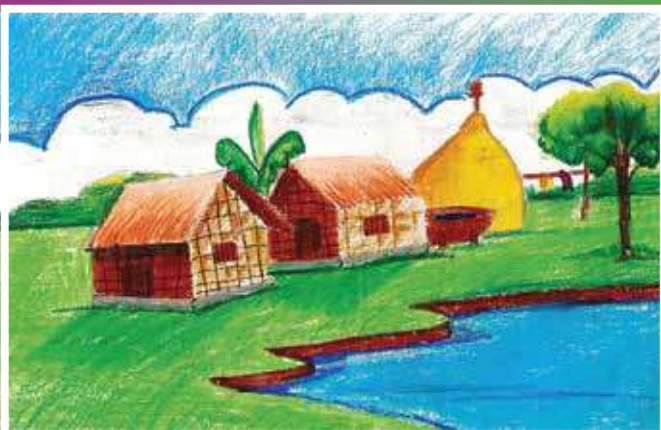
Tahira Afifa

Grade- 5
Adventist International
Mission School, Barishal



Saad Amin

Std.-5
Manarat Dhaka International
School And College



Muhtasim Ahnaf Uzzal

Std.-4
International Grammar
School, Rangpur



FIND YOUR DREAM HOME

A Perfect Place to
Find your Home

AT
SAVAR
DOHS

GET IT NOW

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