

The articles, or "posts" (to use Internet parlance) published in this page come from the Bangladesh Internet news group called "soc.culture.bangladesh," or SCB. In this newsgroup, Internet users from around the world, mostly Bangalees, discuss issues relevant to Bangladesh. In "Live from the Internet" the Daily Star reprints these posts verbatim (complete with English language errors) — just as they would appear on your computer screen. They have only been edited for size and relevance to the subject matter.

## Election: Globe and Mail reports

Mozammel Khan  
khanm@atlas.sheridanc.on.ca  
Canada:  
John Stackhouse of The Globe and Mail, Canada's most respected newspaper, reports (from Dhaka) under the headline "Rulers of Bangladesh win hollow victory" with under headline "Unhappy workers at polling stations consider election outcome a humiliating embarrassment, victory by default". Extract of the reports: Bangladesh's ruling party headed for a massive parliamentary majority in an election boycotted by three major opposition parties, supported by a small fraction of regis-

tered voters and labelled variously a "tragedy", "humiliation" and "embarrassment" by disgruntled polling station workers in Dhaka.  
"Everyone, including the government, feels the election is meaningless," a Western envoy in Dhaka said. "It is a setback from what they had in 1991".  
In a dank, two-storey school in Ibrahimpur, a densely populated suburb of Dhaka, the presiding officer said his poll officials, all civil servants and teachers, were too intimidated to protest about questionable ballots, even though only a handful of the 1,612 voters

## Nirlejo Rajnitbid

**I don't think any party right now is capable of leading our country as there is NO leader!! I would have been really happy to provide a solution, but I have none. I am lost and frustrated**

— Shabbir Ahmed

Shabbir Ahmed  
sa6045@cub.uca.edu  
Arkansas, USA:

I have simply lost my mind watching with gruesome horror on what's going on Bangladesh right now. It's absolutely frustrating (for everyone who LOVES our country) to see this kind of things still going on, although we had 25 years of independence!

In those 25 years we could have made Bangladesh a great country with a lot of promises for the future. But what happened to all those dreams? I was born after the independence war so I don't know what the freedom fighters went through when they fought the hanadar Pakistanis...they had one dream...make Bangladesh known to everybody and also make this country a prosperous one, free from the hands of corrupt politicians and dictatorship!

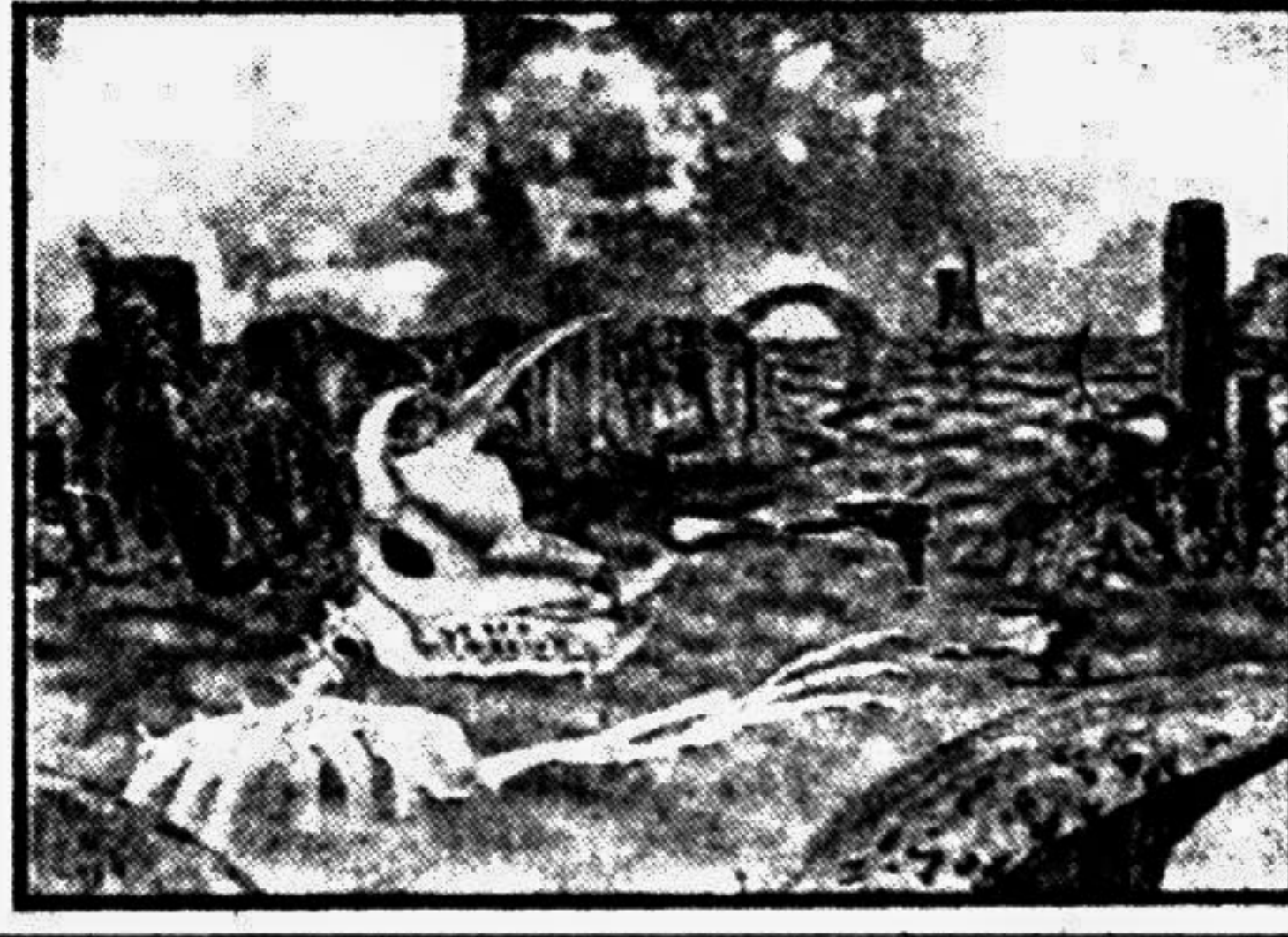
And what did our so called "respected" politicians did after the war? Sure, we were now free from the Pakistanis but we didn't get rid of corrupt politicians and people. As a result, right now, Bangladesh is not moving ahead, they are in reverse position. I don't support any parties since I think none of them are capable of leading our country to the promised land... there is no true leader...there was only one.

To improve economically, a country must need a stable, corruptionless government... otherwise the inevitable would occur! Crores and crores of money would be deposited in foreign places to secure their life after the end of their reign...

I don't think any party right now is capable of leading our country as there is NO leader!! I would have been really happy to provide a solution, but I have none. I am lost and frustrated as I don't know what should I do?? Any suggestions...fellow Bangladeshis like me?

"This will be the saddest day of my life", Mr. R... said. Bangladesh's election commission issued a letter recently telling civil servants, who ran most of the polling exercise, that they risked suspension if they reneged on their election-day duties. "We are all very afraid right now," said polling supervisor Ismail M. R. "We came here only to save our job".

two of whom came from the BNP. My conscience is bleeding said Mr. R... a senior officer in the environment department. "This is not democracy". The final results: 1,330 votes for the BNP candidate, 282 for the other 10. "This will be the saddest day of my life", Mr. R... said. Bangladesh's election commission issued a letter recently telling civil servants, who ran most of the polling exercise, that they risked suspension if they reneged on their election-day duties. "We are all very afraid right now," said polling supervisor Ismail M. R. "We came here only to save our job".



## EID Greetings

Daily Star  
dstar@dhaka.agn.com  
Dhaka, Bangladesh:  
To all SCB netters  
Eid Mubarak  
From the family of the Daily Star.  
Navid, GSS  
GSS@otvms.oi.umass.edu  
USA:  
Eid mubarak to you all, too.

**On this occasion, let us rekindle our commitment to the cause of peace among all of the peoples of the earth. If we are dedicated in our belief and constant in our labor, we can build a better future -- one of cooperation, understanding and compassion -- for ourselves and for our children.**

—Bill Clinton, President, USA

ple from different nationality attended the prayer. The prayer had to be held twice to accommodate people who were stuck in the traffic jam. In addition to this Eid Jamat was held in other local area Masjids. Local Radio and TV Channels covered the events at prime hours. The Houston Chronicle had pictures of the events. An other positive element was Hakeem Olajuan - a beautiful ambassador of Islam, took pains to spread the true meaning of Islam, Ramadan and Eid. Many activities are planned for the weekend for all age groups.

**Eid and Ekushay February**  
Syed A. Yousuf  
pearjyan@aax2.winona.msus.edu  
USA:  
Let us not forget ekushay in Eid.

PSAHA  
psaha@strus.wright.edu  
USA:  
Eid Mubarak to all Bangladeshi Muslim Brothers and sisters here at USA and over there at Bangladesh. May God bless us all.

**Clinton's Eid Message**  
Here is Clinton's greetings to the Muslim community on the occasion of Eid-al-Fitr.  
Clinton: on behalf of all Americans, I want to extend my personal greetings to the entire muslim community, here in the United States and around the world, as it celebrates the id al-fitr.  
This week marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan. It is a time for rejoicing and celebration, but it is also a time for reflection and recommitment. On this occasion, let us rekindle our commitment to the cause of peace among all of the peoples of the earth. If we are dedicated in our belief and constant in our labor, we can build a better future -- one of cooperation, understanding and compassion -- for ourselves and for our children. Let us also remember the values of family and community as well as our responsibility for those who are less fortunate -- ideals that lie at the heart of Ramadan. These principles of personal commitment to faith and to society truly are universal values.



the dismal and destructive hartals.  
Out here in Houston, Texas Eid was Celebrated with a lot of pomp and gaity. A big Eid Jamat was held at the George Brown Convention Center in Downtown Houston. Despite being a week day, it is reported more than 10,000 people

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The Daily Star is not responsible for the opinions expressed in these columns. — Editor

**Lyrics - 'Amar Shonar Bangla' or the song itself**  
Minarul I. Delwar  
President, Bangladesh Student Association, Georgia Institute of Technology  
g15602c@prism.gatech.edu, USA:  
Dear Countrymen and Fellow Enthusiasts  
We are holding a seminar this Wednesday but have been unable to obtain a bengali typed version of the National Anthem for presentation to the American public. Please, if you have this we would like to ftp it from you. If you are willing to help us out please e-mail us at dsadmba@prism.gatech.edu. Please leave your name, e-mail address and phone number OR call us at either (404) 872-9414 or (404) 206-1839 (leave a message and we'll get back to you).

**Rajshahi University**  
D.W.Eaton  
<Unknown> (guest)  
USA:  
I am looking for a friend who lectures (used to lecture?) at the University of Rajshahi. He was in Mass' Communications. His name is Salim Reza Newton. If any knows his address and if he is still there please let me know. Also, is there email connection there?

**Survey on classification in libraries**  
Giles S Martin  
ulgsn@dewey.newcastle.edu.au  
University of Newcastle Libraries, Australia:  
Pardon me for cross-posting to so many newsgroups, but I need help from people in many different countries.  
I am trying to survey classification practice in libraries in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly use of the Dewey Decimal Classification, for a report that I am writing. (I am defining the Asia-Pacific region as the area South and East of China and Pakistan, including those countries, through to the island nations of the Pacific).  
For the survey I need contacts in as many libraries as possible. I would prefer e-mail contacts, but I will use ordinary mail if it is necessary.  
So, if you are a librarian, know the names and addresses of any librarians, I would appreciate it if you could send me the addresses of any libraries or librarians in the region, so that I can send a copy of my survey to them. I promise it will only be a short one, and will not take much time to reply to! It will be in English, as I do not read any Asian languages!  
When I have finished my report, I hope to deliver it to the IFLA Conference in Beijing next August. A who wishes a copy by e-mail will be welcome to it, if they request it, but I expect that it will be too long to post to this group.

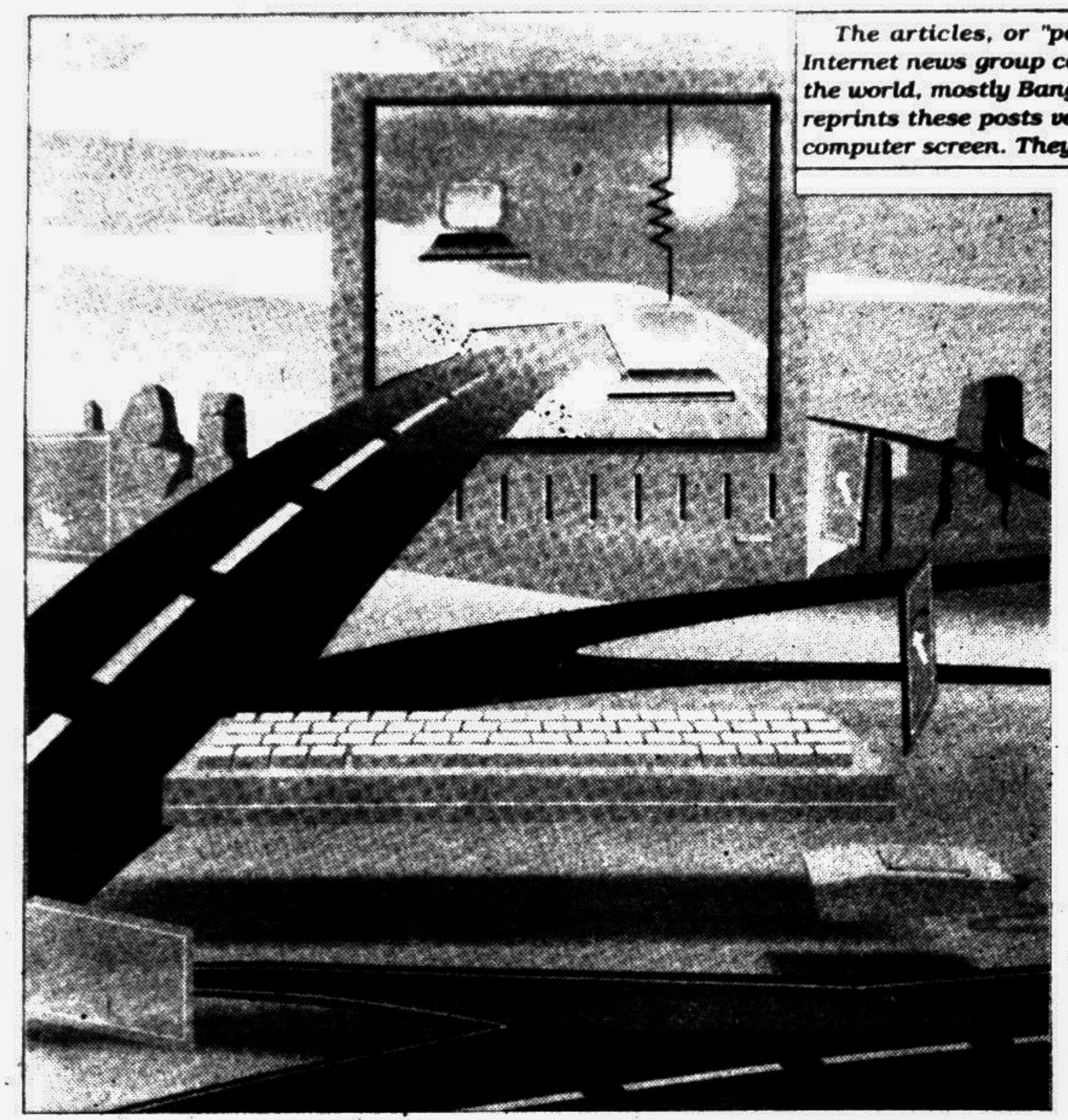
**An International Symposium**  
Kamal S. Quadri  
skq5386@ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu  
USA:  
MAKING DEVELOPMENT WORK WITHOUT FORGETTING THE POOR: RETHINKING OUR COMMON FUTURE. An International Symposium on Third World Development. Friday, March 15 - Sunday, March 17, 1996  
University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.  
For registration information, please send a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope to: Michigan Law & Development Society, P.O. Box 4375, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

**NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY**  
ZAEED  
szh2133@ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu  
Oberlin, Ohio, USA:  
I think that it hurts our senses to learn that after coming all the way to a foreign country, that one institution in Bangladesh is providing better education than many of the state colleges in this country. That is the truth wether we acknowledge it or not. Some people have pointed at the lack of departments and a lack of a science lab. But one problem is the answer to the other problem, the university is yet to open natural science courses. I know that NSU was not started just out of the altruistic cause of stopping brain drain from Bangladesh, but what ever the reason behind the advent of the university, it is giving a good solid education to those who are interested and willing to take it. I know that is expensive, and a good solid education should be expensive. I don't believe in the theory that everyone has to be a university graduate, whether they are meritorious or not. NSU is unfair in this respect that it might not give a chance to a meritorious student who is poor, but the culture of private universities in the near future may give some sort of financial aid to poor students after they become well established.  
My only point is this is a new venture, give a chance to fulfill some of the expectations that all of us have for a private universities. The best private universities in this country were set up more than 200 years ago, and NSU has only been existance for three years. I don't think that it has had enough time to show it's worthiness.

**WANTED**  
CAROL  
carol@cam.org  
USA:  
Do you have any unwanted stamps lying around your house that you don't need? I'm interested in Bangladesh stamps from the years 19xx - 1975. I've restarted collecting stamps again and I would like to give my collection to my daughters one day, hoping that they'll continue with it as a hobby.  
Is there anyone out there that can help me please, or spare me with your duplicates. Or perhaps you might know someone who doesn't want their stamps.  
I thank you in advance, send e-mail to: carol@cam.org

**REQUEST FOR INFO: REGARDING PROSHIKA/BRAC**  
Zunaid Kazir  
kazir@stimpj.eccis.udel.edu  
USA:  
Can anyone give me the address/phone/email (if available) for Proshika and BRAC?

The newsgroup, "soc.culture.bangladesh", has been provided courtesy of Agni Systems Limited.  
You can also take part in this page by sending us your views / questions / comments / inquiries (anything that you want). The Daily Star will then send your responses into the Internet newsgroup free of charge where they will be read and commented on by participants from around the world. Letters should be no more than 100 words in length and titled.  
Please send or fax your Internet posts to: M.Shamimuzzaman, Page incharge, "Live from the Internet", Daily Star, House 11, Road 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. (GPO Box no:3257) Fax: 863035.



## Internet Off-line Gopher searches by email

Gopher, (the name, "gopher," that of a burrowing rodent in North America that digs tunnels from place to place) is an excellent tool for exploring the Internet and is the best way to find a resource if you know what you want, but not where to find it.  
A good way to start is to send an email to one of the following addresses:  
gophermail@calvin.edu  
gopher@earn.net  
gopher@dsr.usc.edu  
gopher@ccc.go.jp  
In the subject line, write: chico.rice.edu  
Chico.rice.edu represents the initial gopher site (each site looks like a menu of choices) you will be using. There are hundreds of these sites (menus), but I recommend this one because it will provide you with a list of Internet resources by subject. Leave the body of your message blank.  
You'll get a message back from the server that looks something like the text in the figure below (only the items list will include Internet resources by subject):  
Mail this file back to gopher with an X before the items you want.  
1. About USCgopher/  
2. How to Find Things on Gopher/  
3. University Information/  
4. Campus Life/  
5. Computing Information/  
6. Library and Research Information/  
7. Health Sciences/  
8. Research and Technology Centers/  
9. Other Gophers & Info Resources/  
You may edit the following numbers to set the maximum sizes after which GopherMail should send output as multiple email messages:  
Split=27K bytes/message<-For text, bin, HQX messages  
Menu=100 items/message <- For menus and query responses  
Name>About USCgopher  
Num=1  
Type=1  
Port=70  
Path=1/About USCgopher  
Host=cwis.usc.edu  
... (some lines deleted) ...  
Name=Other Gophers and Information Resources  
Num=9  
Type=1  
Port=70  
Path=1/Other\_Gophers\_and\_Information\_Resources  
Host=cwis.usc.edu  
To proceed to a selection on the returned menu just e-mail the whole text of the note (from the menu downwards) back to the gopher server, placing an "X" next to the item(s) you want to explore. You'll then receive the next level of the gopher menu by e-mail. Some menu choices lead to other menus, some lead to text files, and some lead to searches. In the example

## Ekushay February, Bangla Bhasha and Bangladesh WEB Page

I am glad to inform you that I introduced Bangla in the popular site of Dr. Mike Martin: "Travlang" along with other 25 languages from today with my tribute to the martyrs of the Language movement.  
Please open once:  
http://www.travlang.com/languages/  
We could hardly see any posting on 21st February this year. May be the election issue is the hot cake now. I put the pictures of the VASHA SHAHIDS in my page:  
http://kpcwww.ipc.kanazawa-u.ac.jp:8080/~med2/28/shahidnata.html  
And From this Ekushay One can have Bangla in an exciting cite:  
http://www.travlang.com/languages/  
Let us pray for the realization of the dreams of our martyrs as there is NO REASON to believe that we could materialize that yet.  
Soumitra Bose  
soumitra@ix.netcom.com  
USA:  
WE WEST-BENGALEES ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE IN THE NET THAT EKUSHAY FEBRUARY IS DECLARED IN WEST BENGAL AS A STATE HONORARY DAY AND THE BHASHA ANDOLON SHAHEEDS ARE DECLARED OUR SHAHEEDS TOO AND THE DAY IS DECLARED AS A BHASHA ANDOLON DAY. Thanks to Left Front for this. This part was inaugurated by Gazul Huq from 1994.  
Ishtiaque Ahmed  
ahmed@edison.isd.upmc.edu  
USA:  
My WWWPages on Bangladesh have moved again.  
"Old URL"  
http://pph10ap01.4wing.upmc.edu/ahmed/wb/bdpage.html  
"NEW URL"  
http://ahmed.4wing.upmc.edu/web/bdpage.html  
Please update your links to this site.

Reaz Hoque  
hoque@junco.juniata.edu  
USA:  
Check out music from Bangladesh at:  
http://www.juniata.edu/~rhoque  
http://coe1.eec.kcl.ac.uk/~usr/shabbir/shabbir.htm  
Mahmood Hassan  
hassan@kenroku.ipc.kanazawa-u.ac.jp  
Japan:  
We Have Recent Resentment from the Political turmoil in Bangladesh. However statistic figures shows something that we should take care of. We must save our country from the dark indication of another regime of Autocracy.  
Have a look in my humble effort:  
http://kpcwww.ipc.kanazawa-u.ac.jp:8080/~med2/28/bd\_vital.html  
You may enjoy the other sites as well:  
http://kpcwww.ipc.kanazawa-u.ac.jp:8080/~med2/28/hassan.html  
http://kpcwww.ipc.kanazawa-u.ac.jp:8080/~med2/28/pop.html  
http://kpcwww.ipc.kanazawa-u.ac.jp:8080/~med2/28/chalo.html