

VOICES ... Young People Speak Out

Poribohon, Poricholon and Bikiron

Tubaishi Rubab Matin explains how bypassing English may turn out to be bypassing advancement

OUR long dead ancestors were able to gift us with a past, with a history, with a culture which is glorious in so many ways...

There are some exceptions but exceptions are always so rare. Finally, ending up college life and entering into the university level is even more mas-

But the shahids dreamt about something greater, they longed for a country which would be free from any aggression, a nation brave and smart enough to spring up before the whole world, the peoples free in thoughts and language.

Today in our education system there are two clear different streams. One is the America-oriented English-speaking, English-talking, English-thinking group studying in different English medium schools...

There is a subject English — which is very poor and low in standard. As a result most of the students passing out from these institutions are not very confident about their English...

Though they have the capability of doing well they cannot do so for having difficulty with English. Because, they become so familiar with Bangla terms that they don't have the faintest idea about its correct English term.

This is the general condition for most of the students here. And those students going abroad for their education also face an embarrassing situation and find it very difficult to cope up with everything in English.

Another example is Wakefield, in the middle of England, which will itself be the cruceroads of three major motorways and the site for a huge rail freight terminal serving the Channel tunnel.

No longer cheap labour, Britain is no longer a cheap-labour country! Total labour costs in Britain have risen to around \$15 an hour, much the same as in America and Japan and far more than in South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

PERHAPS the most obvious sign is that the regions of the country towards London and the south-east are the most prosperous. The collapse of the bubble economy...

dated, the science subjects like physics, chemistry and biology must use all English terms. The world today is a world of communication. It is becoming smaller and smaller day by day.

...though the economy had slowed markedly, few Japanese firms had reduced their direct investment in Britain. Indeed, many were in the process of boosting their capital spending in their British facilities.

Japanese manufacturers that have built plants in Britain admit that the local competition is a shoofer. Factory for factory, they squeeze far more profit out of their British plants than local firms manage.

For Japanese manufacturers, with their well-capitalised plants, retained workers, lean production and a business-conscious management, doing business in Britain is almost too easy.

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Politics does not hinder our education as much as it is thought of and the relationship among the students and the teachers is quite amicable.

Would-be University's Unique Flaws

Shheguftha Hasan and Shafquat Rabee went to find out how effective is the education of Eden

EDEN College is one of the most distinguished educational institutions of our country. Established in 1948, the college still has the reputation of an ideal institute as it runs a sound educational ambience.

The number of students studying at Eden is more than 6,000 and the college may also become a Women's University in the true manner pretty soon.

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and examinations are regularly held. Students admit this very much but some of them complained that often they are forced to sit for examinations without having ample time to complete their courses, as the National University fixes the dates of examinations not considering whether their course is completed or not.

Students of this college are happy with the ability of their teachers. They are very friendly and efficient, said a student. But the students feel the acute shortage of teachers.

As a remedy to this situation, students need more teachers to be employed and they want the authority to withdraw HSC level from this college.

Eden College has the presence of some mainstream political parties like BNP, Awami League etc. Students informed that only during the election time the college atmosphere becomes little chaotic while it remains calm throughout the year.

In Eden College, students have only a few subjects at the Masters and Honours levels and they think it is quite inadequate. Since the college is looking forward to becoming a university, the augmentation of the number of subjects should get priority.

There are mainly three halls of residence on Eden College campus. But the number of seats in these hostels does not at all meet the demand. It was informed that the students of this college, specially those who come from other districts outside the capital, face severe problem to get seats. It often requires strong

lobbying to get seats in these halls. Students also alleged that sometimes they are harassed both officially and politically when they try to get seats.

Another student who didn't want her name to be mentioned informed that at times the political parties provide students with seats in the halls but in return they demand the direct involvement of the students in politics.

They also demand the improvement of hostel facilities. There is an amazing aspect that two of the halls have no names. They are known as the

Natun Hall (New Hall) and the Puratan Hall (Old Hall). Hostel-dwellers think these names are disgraceful and they want the college authority to take immediate steps to name these halls after the names of renowned persons as most of the educational institutes did.

Eden College has a number of students which is more than six thousand, yet it provides no transport facilities to its students. The only bus that the college has is not utilised to serve the students many of whom come from distant places.

Students of Eden College feel some other lackings which are yet to be fulfilled. They do not have any cultural club on the campus, and as a consequence of this, their cultural activity is impeded.

Although the College has experienced some ups and downs in the recent past, its academic result has been impressive enough throughout the years. Besides education, its students contributed in our cultural and political arena outstandingly.

If their sufferings are eradicated and if the government adopts effective and sincere measures to fulfil their demands, it is strongly believed that the students of this college will be able to keep its glowing reputation ever-illuminated.

Port of cities

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dated, the science subjects like physics, chemistry and biology must use all English terms. The world today is a world of communication. It is becoming smaller and smaller day by day.

Another ludicrous argument presented by a writer explaining how students become attracted to the opposite sex at such centres. But tell me, even if we do get attracted, doesn't such 'attractions' start initially at school where we first meet them?

In the end, my arguments are a pledge to all of you to not pass off private tuition as a base on society and a mean to undermine schools and colleges. On the contrary, let us view private tuition with a healthy attitude and put things to proper perspective.

Tutors for Hire...

And why not, writes Faruq Hasan, arguing in favour of private coaching

schools? The answer lies in our present attitude regarding schools. Most of us consider schools useful only because of the prestige attached to a school and nothing else.

But schools provide us more than that. Discipline, practice, conduct, regulation and orderliness are just some of the few things schools provide which private tutors fail to or are weak at providing.

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Please don't forget to mention the name (along with yours) of your college or institution and the class you're in. You're also encouraged to send news (don't be scared if it's a bad one — trust your VOICES editor) with photographs (if possible) of events that are taking place in your institution.

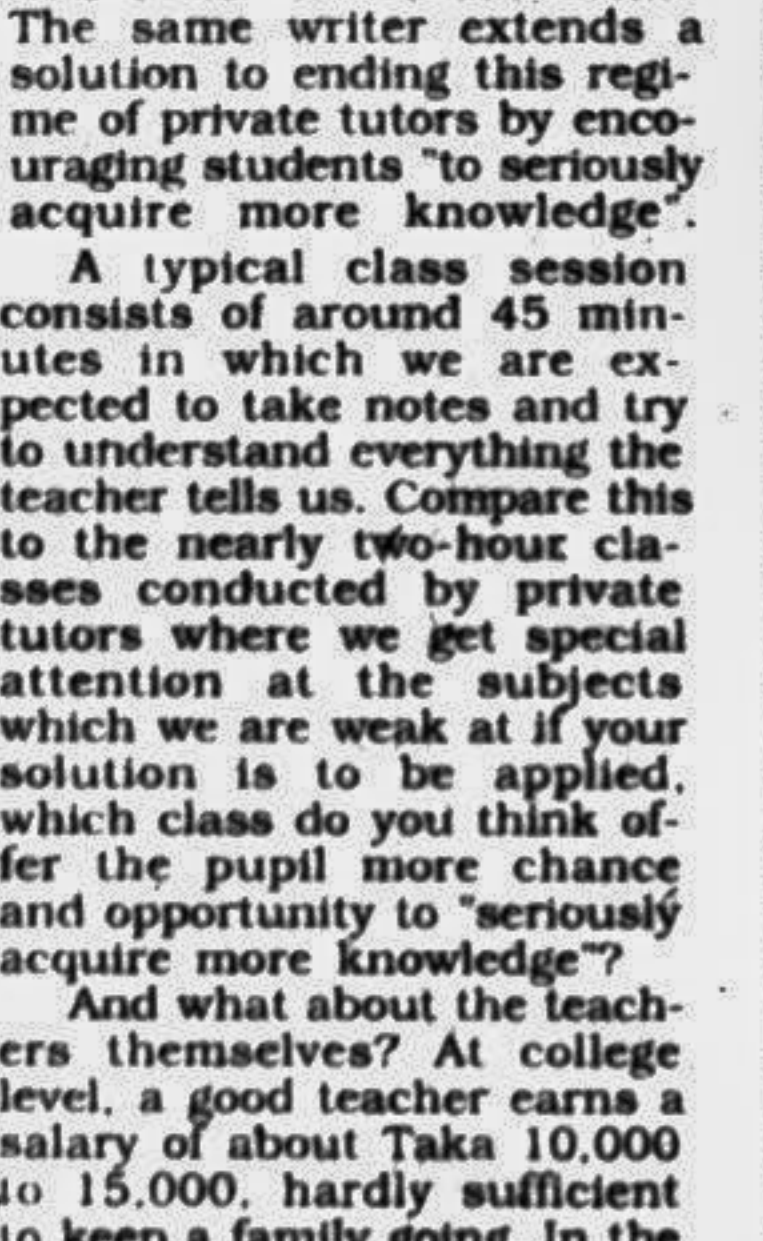
No Short-cut to Learning

Naser Kalam on the education system

As thousands of obstacles and restrictions and students have to have lessons through the private tutors and have to depend fully on others. Even so as to prepare lessons, an honours or a 'masters' class student also can't do and rush through the haphazard coaching centres.

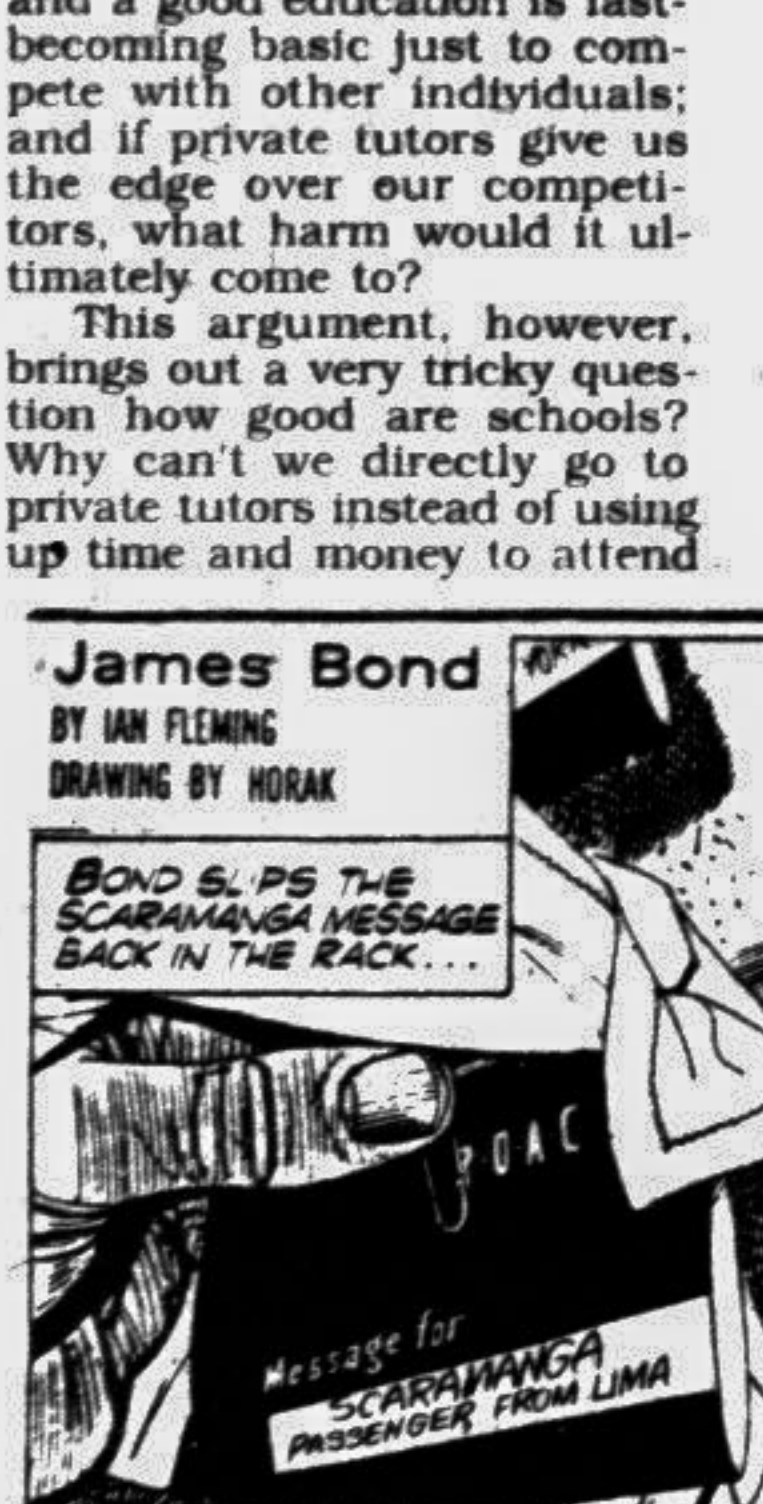
James Bond

by Ian Fleming, drawing by Horak



TOM and JERRY

WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE? I AM A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR!



College daze: Eden College needs an overall improvement.

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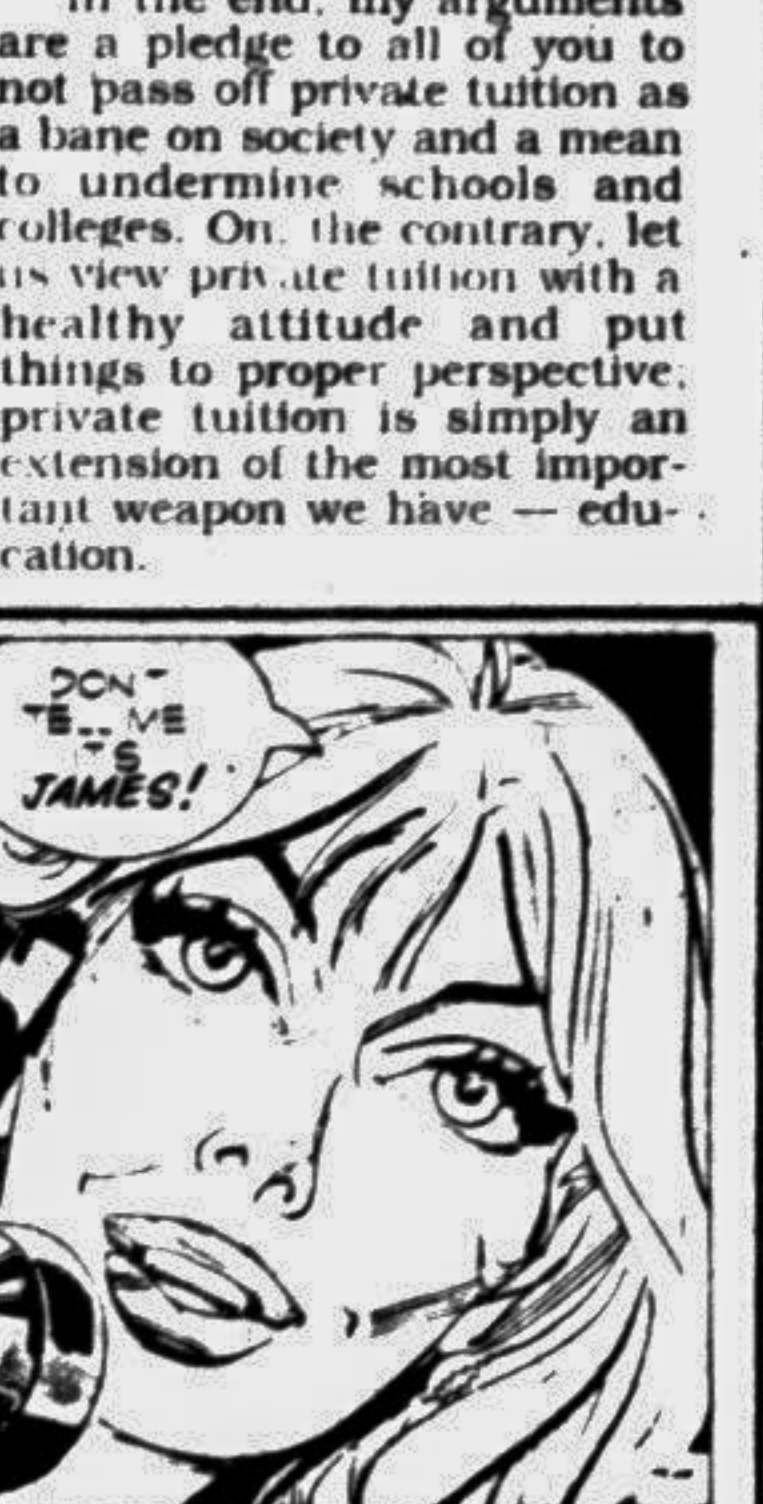
Hall coaching: These are not classrooms, I need classrooms

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College daze: Eden College needs an overall improvement. — Star photo

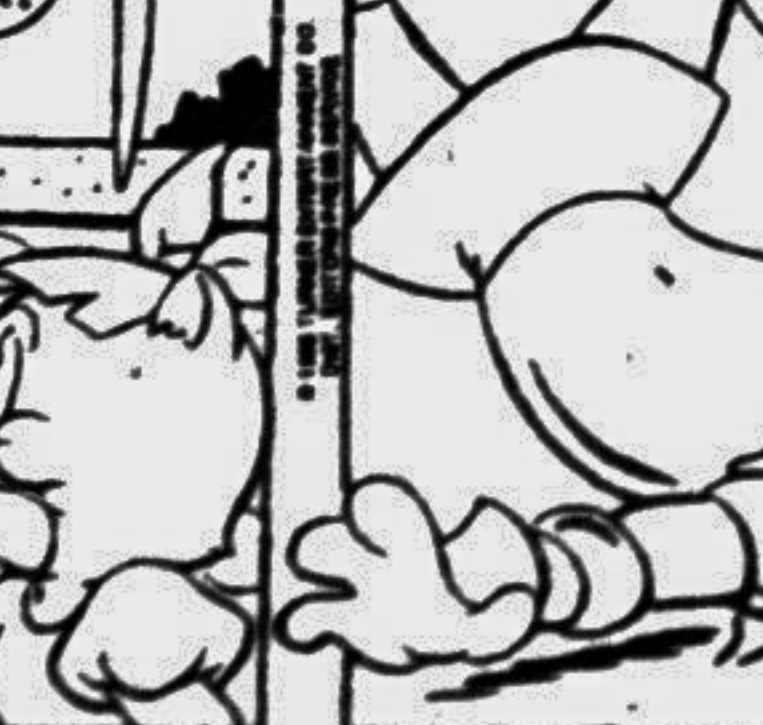
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Education here means plagiarism; nothing creativity stands. Coaching is something like gambling here, for our

haughty gambler teachers, it's the hot business to earn a lot. They don't think about the students but only about the way of their earning.

Even most of the secondary and higher-secondary teachers get annoyed with the students if they (students) don't come to their house. Teachers can get lessons easy to understand for the students in the classrooms, but they don't do that.

We all know that after food, cloth and shelter, education is the most essential basic need for all of us. Its value is invariable all the time. Let's take a look at the recent education systems in the backdrop of our homeland.

Anyhow how about the students who continue study and pass towards the end; what type of education they achieve and what is the system which

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