

VOICES ... Young People Speak Out

Tangled in a Web of Differences

But time has come, says Adnan R Amin, for the politicians to eradicate their perpetual struggle for power which has already been proven hollow to the people

NOW that the much-awaited parliamentary elections are over rather peacefully...

The election has been a very difficult test for all the political parties, and all the candidates.

The people at large of the country often have their dreams, hopes and aspirations and expectations killed up upon the government.

Environment for academic activities is the foremost thing in our priority list.

The term 'positive environment' does not, in my view, only mean a violence-free campus...

But it is an effort to remind us all that our education system and institutions still remain tangled in a web of difficulties...

It is known to all that every hall of residence at the Dhaka University is dominated by one party or the other.

subsequent bright futures, this is one little sacrifice that all political parties have to make.

Amongst all the other things I would hope for, from the government is a guarantee to undisturbed scope for the students to attend their classes.

During the past few years, the education system of the country, has been tossed and turned over, quite a few times...

system was totally preposterous and fatuous and went a long way to demonstrate the inherent caprice that lingered on with the system all along from its inception.

Then all on a sudden, agricultural science was included in our curriculum as the eleventh subject. The system of college admission test was made rule and void and selection on the basis of marks was introduced.

All the other discrepancies and failures can be condoned by the people, but when the politicians let a vital process like education be hampered, it is one aspect we cannot possibly overlook.

The writer has appeared in SSC exams this year

Not Alive, Not Kicking

Md Rasheduzzaman looks at how mass migration has become a political as well as an economic problem all over the world

THE enormous changes brought about by the end of the Cold War are triggering new mass movements of people across the globe.

The television images of people fleeing persecution, massacres and killings or simply unbearable living conditions both economic and social in the Horn of Africa, Liberia, Rwanda and in other parts of the world have hunted us in the comfort of our living rooms.

Refugee movements can both create or exacerbate conflict between states and influence their relations in many other ways as well.

The recent shooting down of two cessna aircraft of exiled Jose Basulto 'Brothers to the Rescue' group by Cuban air force and retaliatory action by USA including the passing of Helms-Burton bill which seeks to tighten trade sanctions against Cuba all helped in raising the temperature on both sides and destroying the calm other relationship was witnessing in the last few months.

Unwanted migration can frequently threaten intra-communal harmony and undermine major social values by altering the ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic compositions of the host populations.

Claiming that refugee camps were sheltering guerrillas, the Guatemalan army crossed the border into Mexico in hot pursuit in the early 1980s and ruthlessly attacked refugee settlements in Chiapas.

quently been bombed by troops of Myanmar. On several occasions in recent years the Honduran army entered camps for Salvadorians within its own territory and killed or injured refugees.

Most governments also fear that refugee communities will turn against them if they were unwilling to assist in their opposition to the government of their country of origin.

For the past five centuries it has been mostly migratory Europeans that have posed threats to other peoples. But today incentives are rising for more permanent mass migration movement in the other direction from South to North.

Immigration policies, therefore, can have unavoidable impact on interstate relations. For example, when a xenophobic US Congress banned all immigration of Japanese in 1924, this slight to Japanese honour had an enormously damaging impact in Japan and contributed to significant deterioration in relations between Washington and Tokyo during the interwar period.

produce itself in the old way which can easily create a political constituent for immigration control. Uncontrolled immigration eventually swamps the existing culture. This is one way of looking at the European migrations from the 16th century onwards in North and South America, Australia and New Zealand.

An acute migration problem between societies can hardly avoid raising barriers and tensions between them. In defending itself against unwanted human influx, a country has not only to construct legal and physical barriers to entry, but also to emphasise its differentiation from the society whose members it seeks to exclude.

Questions of status and race are impossible to avoid. The treatment of migrants as a kind of criminal class creates easy ground for antagonism between the countries of both sides.

For example, when a xenophobic US Congress banned all immigration of Japanese in 1924, this slight to Japanese honour had an enormously damaging impact in Japan and contributed to significant deterioration in relations between Washington and Tokyo during the interwar period.

tions without taking into account foreign policy factors and the political and cultural sensitivities of their governments.

Since the 1980s, the issue of illegal Mexican immigration has figured prominently in every summit-meeting between US and Mexican presidents. The recent legislation passed by California whereby some basic rights were to be withdrawn from illegal immigrants, the brutal beatings of illegal Mexican immigrants by California State Police have all contrived to deteriorate relation between the two countries.

What is very clear is that it is no longer sufficient to discuss within a narrow national context or as strictly humanitarian solutions. Too often refugees are perceived as a matter for international charity organizations and not as a political and security problem.

The end of Cold War has given rise to a new issue - ethnic conflicts. The demise of Soviet Communism has put the concept of state, rigid territorial boundaries and national sovereignty under enormous strain.

The economic disparity which is widening rapidly throughout the world is causing people to leave their homes and seek a better future in other countries.

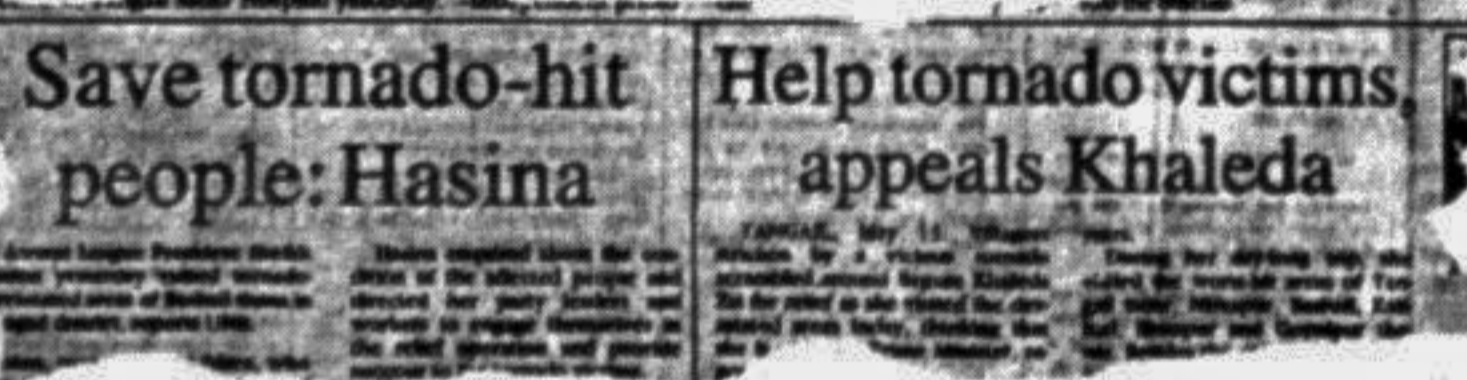
The writer is an MSS Final Year student of International Relations Department, Dhaka University.

WITH the elections over, and rather peacefully, the nation now looks to the future with 'great expectations'.

Greater Expectations

The election has been fair. Now, please start working together, writes Towheed Feroze

The fact that the BNP lost the election after being in power for five years indicates that the former government did not restore to any unfair means to win the elections.



Save tornado-hit people: Hasina. Help tornado victims: Khaleda. The election has been fair. Now, please start working together, writes Towheed Feroze

gether to give a permanent form to our infant democracy. After years of tireless efforts and insurmountable odds, we have finally found democracy.

As I have stated earlier our democracy is still in its infancy and it is the sacred duty of our leaders (BNP and AL alike) to see to it that it matures properly and in the right process.

Let us sincerely hope that the BNP and Awami League leaders will bury their petty differences and engage in forming an ideal nation worth simulating.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Entertainment guide listing TV channels (BTV, CHANNEL V, STAR PLUS, STAR Sports, BBC, ZEE TV, SONY ET, DD7, EL TV, PTV, STAR MOVIES) and their respective programs for Tuesday 2nd July. Includes a Garfield comic strip by Jim Davis.