

AGNI
Tel: 872379
882379
Fax: 871902

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Agni Systems Ltd
B7-8, Bashati Condominium
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Banani CA, Dhaka 1213

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The Daily Star 5

Bangladesh Our attitude concerning politics and economy

Gulam Jahangir
jahangir2971@vax2.wtnona.ms.us.edu
USA

We, the "expatriates" are some times in a position to view certain situations in a way that our fellow countrymen could not, or doubt. But this does not mean that we are much more rational than the ones that are residing at home. But we are very much rational about judging where the country is going. In terms of comparing the other nation's progress in economy and society. In other words, it is now evident that the present governments action is no less annoying than the previous ones. Some times it seems worse.

Every single day BCD or BCL are getting involved in clashes, every day the national news media is reporting bias news that even a "dumb" person can tell that those are all political propaganda's. It seems very amazing that all BNP leaders are now happened to be corrupted and all the rest of the political leaders including Ershad (who was literally thrown out from his chair is getting bails in every cases) is now saints. The BCD leaders are getting arrested whereas the BCL are not. Now, BCL has evicted all the activists of BCD from JU and now they have control over the campus.

Now all these statements may sound that the writer is biased or a supporter of that political party. But are those news not true? How long is the country to see all these actions that are going to create more chaotic situation? No doubt, cleansing process has to be taken and the writer thinks that it is going to take time. But the question remains when is this going to be over? The madam's children are studying abroad so they don't care whether or not the local's are going to ashtray or not. Because they don't have to. When all the nation's are looking for a better future and restructuring their political and economical structure, all our leaders are doing is to living in the past and holding the superstitious thoughts about society.

Be aware, if we do not change our attitude concerning politics and economy, we are to face certain consequences that will not only destroy the future but also the social structure, leading the country towards more violence, conflict and segregation.

The present government should realize that no matter how strong you think you are by capturing the 'halls', the final key is held by the general public, no the students and most of the time they remain silent and will act when they have to. Do not forget that they are very rude in deciding their mandate once you lost your faith (as you did in 1991, but regained by acting polite in 1996), it is very difficult to regain it.

Gas Export

R. H. Zaki
zak@att.ac.th
Thailand

We came to know that World Bank has suggested to export natural gas from BG. Well, it would be a good idea if we were self-sufficient in energy sector and in addition if we had excess of gas. But unfortunately we are not self-sufficient in energy nor do we have extra gas.

WB and other parastatals of gas export has been tried there is a great opposition to natural gas export from Bangladesh. A lot of all forms of commercial energy in BG including natural gas. It is evident from the fact that we have gas supply for only eastern part of our country, and less half a million household has got gas supply for cooking, and that only for selected cities and towns again of the eastern part of BG. Western part of Bangladesh and the rural area of eastern part has no supply for production or even for subsistence requirement.

Now-a-days, we here about lack of electricity in whole of Bangladesh, there is talk (and a-lot of controversy) regarding import of electricity from India. We need natural gas for long term power generation in our country which is vital for our cherished economic development.

Finally, just kindly ask Petro-Bangla how long our natural gas would last even if we fix the production at 10026.18 Ktoe level, for next 15 years it would be about 10026.18 Ktoe. But we need more natural gas. In this regard, some money but in long term will make our very survival difficult.

I would like to also request WB consultants to kindly compare Indonesia's reserve with ours, as they have pointed to Indonesia's example of gas export to strengthen their suggestion. Our reserve is quite small w.r.t. theirs.

So, we would be better off by supplying gas to all industries in eastern and western part of Bangladesh, and to as many households as possible to raise the living standard.

The Daily Star invites its readers to participate in the following Internet discussion groups by sending or faxing Internet posts to: **M. Shamimuzzaman, Page-in-Charge, "Live from the Internet", The Daily Star, House # 11, Road # 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. We will mail your letters to the Internet and responses will be published the following week. Letters should be titled and be no more than 100 words.**

Zaed Mohalemen
Zaed.Mohalemen@oberlin.edu
Cleveland, OHIO, U.S.A.

Everyone is extremely frustrated with having only two choices in electing a President for the next four years. I guess you have to choose the better of the two evils. I mean the issue of Bill Clinton's honesty has encountered some serious questions after the Indonesian scandal. I don't think anyone in this country can truly believe that the President wasn't involved in this fiasco. Reminds me of the situation in Bangladesh. I guess everyone envisions America as the country of honesty and all that other hyped up ideals. I think politicians, doctors, lawyers, civil servants and specially the police are as corrupt as in Bangladesh; if not more. Police officers are known to take bribes in this country to forget a traffic violation.

The issue is just that most people are not as outright and honest about being dishonest in this country. In a way we are more honest, as we not hide the fact that everyone can be pushed to perform dishonest acts with an adequate bribe. I even learned that the Office Financial Aid can get money out of the air to help students in this college, even though they always appear to be stingy about Aid to students. I mean "Chachar jorey" is totally operative in this country, people just have no idea about it.

Asif M Syed
asied007@aol.com
New York, Country: USA

I'm a foreign student in Bangladesh. I observed the election process of this country. This is the one of the biggest and important elections of all the countries in the world. I found that this election was free and fair, and most of all there wasn't a single event of violent act any polling stations. Why can't Bangladesh's have a violence less election?

Abir Chowdhury
chowdhur2438@vax2.wtnona.ms.us.edu
Minneapolis, U.S.A.

I am riding with an american guy to go to my workplace. He's turned the radio on to listen his favorite talk show or something like that. At that time I've got to remember that today is the election day. In the morning, I went to school, met lot of people, spent time at cafeteria, but I didn't listen someone to talk about the election. I don't know what's going on in Bangladesh right now, but I'm pretty sure that all the newspapers increased their no. of subscribers.

US Elections US Presidential Election: A model to learn for Bangladesh's

scription for that day. Voting in election is a routine duty to them, but to us - it's something more than basic needs. In my opinion, these are the main differences between the election culture of U.S.A. and that of Bangladesh.

Lopa Ahmed
lopa@dlc.net
Kansas City, USA

Hello all my friends from Bangladesh. I want to tell you little bit about the presidential election here in America where I live. I live in a small city called Wichita, which is located in the state of Kansas. As you must already know that Mr. Bob Dole is originally from Kansas, that is why he got tremendous support from Kansas. Also here in Kansas people are more supportive of the Republicans, hence Bob Dole got more Electoral vote from Kansas.

As far as President Clinton, he is well liked by the Bangladeshi community in America. One of the reasons is that he is more lenient about the Immigration policies and Acts. He also seems to tackle the Iraqi problem more calmly and he is not so eager to start a war with Middle East any time soon.

As you should know that I am currently studying in Wichita State Univ. and married, so that doesn't give me much time for politics, but I do try to keep in touch with the world through the Internet.

Moin U. Salam, Ph.D
msalam@agen.fl.edu
Gainesville, Florida, USA

Politics is nasty, in many ways. Whether it is being practiced in Bangladesh or in the USA, this nasty game is unveiled during election campaigning time. The opponents try to attack each other in every aspect and in a most bitter way, even not hesitating personal lives and characters. This was true in the recent US election, and this was also true in the Bangladesh elections. This is nothing to worry, it is a part of politics. The politicians will try to attract the voters in favour of them, the whatever way they can. But we got to look at the end of this scenario, and that is the point I am trying to raise.

the two party, and they stand almost in two different pole with the issues, they still use the word 'common share'. The question is why can't we? The ruling AL government has foiled the glory of Nov7 and didn't take any programs to commemorate this day. Does this make them feel good? Are they taking chance of being in the chair and humiliating other peoples feelings? Well, for them I should say "He who hates gets hatred". They didn't have to do that. And when will other people learn to tolerate other peoples thoughts? During the reign of BNP we also experienced the total uncovrage of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. And now we are experiencing the same tone in opposite manner. With due respect to the leaders I'd like to say that it doesn't do any good disrespecting others. Different people will have different views and values but we have to respect other peoples beliefs. We have chosen you as our representatives not to create mess around the country but to fix it. You are the leaders of the common people. From a child to an old man of Bangladesh, everyone watches you. If you can't respect the past leaders, how could you expect from them to respect you in the future? And if you can't utter the word from your heart "We will work for the common share of Bangladesh", please leave your position to someone who can say that.

President in his winning speech congratulated Bob Dole, his rival, for Dole brave gesture of campaigning and told he (Dole) is a nice man and America needs his service. And, this is the way American politicians practice politics. They involve in severe bitterness (far better than what does the Bangladeshi politicians), but turns it into sweetness when it is over. And, here is the difference between US and Bangladesh politicians, the latter never can turn a relationship into a friendly manner. Instead of wishing success, we the Bangladeshis say, we will not allow the government to go peacefully. Dear politicians, please try to learn and know civilized behavior. That will help you, your nation and democracy as a whole.

Habib Chaklader
CHAKHI@nich-academic.nich.edu
New Orleans, USA

Actually us citizens are not so concern about politics like us, but they are somehow responsible. As a student of an us university, I can say about the american students reaction and activities relating with this election. Most of the students here are usually very busy because of their job and other activities. But for this they arrange a party in the TV room for every one to come and enjoy the broadcast of election result. The room was full and everyone was supporting his own candidate. Some of them was shouting what they usually like to do. After getting the final result, some of them left the room, particularly those are defeated. But both of the groups appreciated Clinton's victory. And the next day they were just forgot about everything and started doing their own job without talking nothing about it in the workplace. This is the American way of celebrating their new government which is quite different from our way of celebration.

I was watching the speech of president Clinton after his landslide victory over Bob Dole yesterday. After a brief thanking speech he said "I'd like to thank Bob Dole for his contribution and his admirable tolerance that led us to this point of success". He also added "I hope we'll be able to work together with the republicans for the common share of America". The word 'common share' means a lot. Although there are many substantial differences between

Bangladesh Power import from India

Khondakar M. Mostafa
kmmst26+@pitt.edu
Pittsburgh, USA

I think that the current government's intention of purchasing bulk power from India would be detrimental to the nation's interest. The fact that we have shortfall in generation can not be denied. So looking into supplying this demand is natural but I think the present government is looking in the wrong place. India itself is chronically short of power. In this thread it is well known that India itself is begging western cos. to invest in the power sector. The example of Enron in Bombay is a testimony to that. So where is India going to get the power to sell to Bangladesh?

Here one might add that power generation and energy policy is a medium to long term process where the planning horizon is measured in years and not in months. Such short term 'fixes' as buying power from India at inflated prices is contrary to the national interest. Here also it can be mentioned that unreliable power is expensive power. India can turn off the power anytime citing any number of reasons, and of course Bangladesh and its people will be the loser.

Therefore I appeal to you to use your forum to further investigate this vital interest. I also wish to remind you that journalist have a responsibility to protect the nation's interest and see to that politician and vested interest do not sell the nation's interest.

Taufiqur R. Mollick (Badal)
mollick@mail.snet.net
West Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A.

I just read the news about ADB's proposal for regional cooperation which suggested importing power from India. Well I think this is another example of India's supremacy in South Asia. With due respect to ADB's intellectual ability, I would like to say that, as far as Bangladesh is concern, this operation will only be profitable for India. ADB should have recommended to encourage private investment in this sector. With private power plants, productions will be more efficient, cheaper, will

create thousands of new jobs, and will generate millions in internal revenue, rather than making India richer.

As a MBA (Finance) student, I understand that to create a favorable foreign investment climate, Bangladesh needs to privatize electricity and telecommunication as well as political stability. Most of the people I talk with here in U.S.A. do not even know where Bangladesh is, let alone investing. Those three are the most important factors for an investor to invest in a foreign country, along with transportation. Cheap labor is not the bottom line in foreign investment. If I were to invest in a foreign country, I would have the same concerns. Now, why do we need foreign investment? Get real, currently Bangladesh do not have the capital or resources to turn the country around which every body wishes to see.

About a week ago, I saw a three page advertisement about Bangladesh in the Wall Street Journal and I think that was great. We have to attract investors from all around the world by spreading positive news about our country not by showing poverty and starving people that some NGOs are doing. We have to set our priorities, do we want donations or means to financial freedom? If all the citizens of Bangladesh wants their country to be called "International basket case", I have nothing to say. Hey, it's democracy. But if people wants to stop ill treatments because of their Bangladeshi passport(!), then now is the time to fight back and show the world world, yes, we can.

I will finish my MBA in next December, and after that, I am going back to my country. I know my contribution will be very little, but I feel obligated to my country, my family, and my friends. I wish Bangladeshi students who were fortunate enough to get a western education and saw what developed countries have done are doing, will go back to our "Shonar Bangla" and help to make it the true jewel of the world. Not only us, this should be the only mission of every Bangladeshi citizen.

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

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Thursday 14th November
(All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programmes)

BTV

3:00 Opening announcement
3:10 News in Bangla 3:15 Patriotic song
3:20 Recitation from the Geeta selected programme
3:25 From TV archive
4:20 Sports programme
4:50 Sorgoal
5:00 News in Bangla
5:25 TV debate 6:30 Religion and life
6:50 Magazine programme
7:00 The News
7:25 A special programme on world Diabetes Day
8:00 News in Bangla
8:25 Glimpses from JS
9:00 Abahaman Bangla
10:00 The News
10:30 Glimpses from JS
11:00 Film Shows
The Switch
11:30 News in Bangla
11:35 Friday's programme summary
11:40 Close down

BBC

6:00am BBC World News 6:10 Newsnight 7:00 BBC Newsroom inc World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours
10:00 BBC World Headlines 10:05 World Focus
11:00 BBC Newsday 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus
Wheeler On America 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out
The Travel Show 4:00 BBC Newsdesk 5:00pm BBC World Headlines 6:05 World Focus
Horizon 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC Newshour Asia and Pacific 8:30 Time Out
Top Gear 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 World Focus
Around the World in 80 Days 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out
Film 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 Time Out
The Clothes Show 12:00 The World Today 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus
Assignment 2:50 Earth Report 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out
Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC World Report inc. World Business Report inc. World Business Report 4:00

CHANNEL V

6:00am Frame by Frame 7:00 Rewind VJ Sophia 8:00 Frame

by Frame 9:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 10:30 Frame by Frame 11:30 The Vibe VJ Luke 12:00 Rewind VJ Sophia 1:00 By Demand VJ Trey 2:00 Frame by Frame 2:30 First Day First Show 3:00 BPL Oye 4:00 Planet Ruby 4:30 By Demand VJ Trey 5:30 Music Update Tokyo 6:00pm Rewind VJ Sophia 7:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 8:00 Planet Ruby 8:30 The Vibe 9:00 Videocon Flashback 9:30 Top of the Pops 10:00 First Day First Show 10:30 Soul Curry 11:00 Classic Rock 12:00am Jump Start VJ Trey 1:00 Haysan 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 4:30 BPL Oye

STAR PLUS

6:00am Home and Away 6:30 The Sullivans 7:00 Aerobics Oz Style 7:30 Star News 8:00 Sky News 8:30 Star News 9:00 Sky News 9:30 Aerobics Oz Style 10:00 Today's Gourmet 10:30 Behind The Scenes Last Man Standing 11:00 Kate & Allie 11:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:30 21 Jump Street 1:30 Santa Barbara 2:00 The Bold & The Beautiful 3:00 Khandaan 3:30 Tahkiyat: 4:00 Home and Away 4:30 Lost in Space 5:30 Adventures Of Black Stallion 6:00pm Kate & Allie 6:30 Today's Gourmet 7:00 Destinations "Hong Kong" 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Small Wonder 8:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 9:00 Ghanar 9:30 Star News 10:00 Fawty Towers 10:30 The X Files 11:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 12:00 Santa Barbara 1:00 Baywatch Nights 2:00 21 Jump Street 3:00 Quincy 4:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 5:00 Barraby Jones

STAR SPORTS

6:00am Live Master Card Grand Slam of Golf Final Day From Hawaii USA 10:00 Spanish Fball League HL 10:30 International Motorsports News 11:30 Asia Road Racing Champs Philippines 12:00 Watersports World-8 2:30 Gulf Cup Match 4: UAE vs Saudi Arabia 4:00 Mumm 36-Wld Champs 4:30 Trans World Sport 5:30 International Motorsports News 4:00 Prime Boxing 5:30 Futbol Mundial



The Adventure of Black Stallion on Star Plus. Today at 5:30 pm



Critters III on Star Movies. Tonight at 1:30

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Documentary James Dean The First American Teenager 18 (Hindi Subtitles) 9:30 Western The Legend Of The Lone Ranger 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Film Club A Boy And his Dog 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Comedy Dream Date 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30

Action Vigilante Cop 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Classic We Dive at Dawn 12 (Arabic Subtitles) 7:30 Adventure March or Die 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 9:00 US Top Ten 9:30 Romance Changes PG (Hindi Subtitles) 11:30 Music Moves The Decline of Western Civilization II The Metal Years 11:30 Horror Critics 11 18? (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Romance Lonely Knights 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 World Cinema My Life is Hell 18 (English Subtitles)

ZEE TV

6:00 News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 A to Z of Computer 8:30 All Out 9:00 Ghumta Aana 9:30 HFF 12:00 17 Shirley Road 12:30 Ek Minute 1:00 A to Z of Computer 1:30 Asian Sky Shop 2:30 Tara 3:00 Kurushehra 3:30 Shahi Dawat 4:00 Heliport 4:30 Mere Ghar Aun Heliport 5:00 A to Z of Computer 5:30 Teer Kaman 6:00 Hum Honge Kamyab 6:30 Ad Mad Show 7:00 Manasi 7:30 Gaane Anjaam 8:00 Tumhare Lya 8:30 Yeaddol-Ae-Oo 9:00 Gopaljee 9:30 Dastan 10:00 Umeed Ep-19 10:35 News 11:00 Mano Ya Na Mano 11:30 Hum Paanch 12:00 Tara 12:30 Parampara 1:00 No Problem 1:30 Beej Ke PG 2:00 Zee Arabic 2:30 Zee Arabic Entertainment TMM

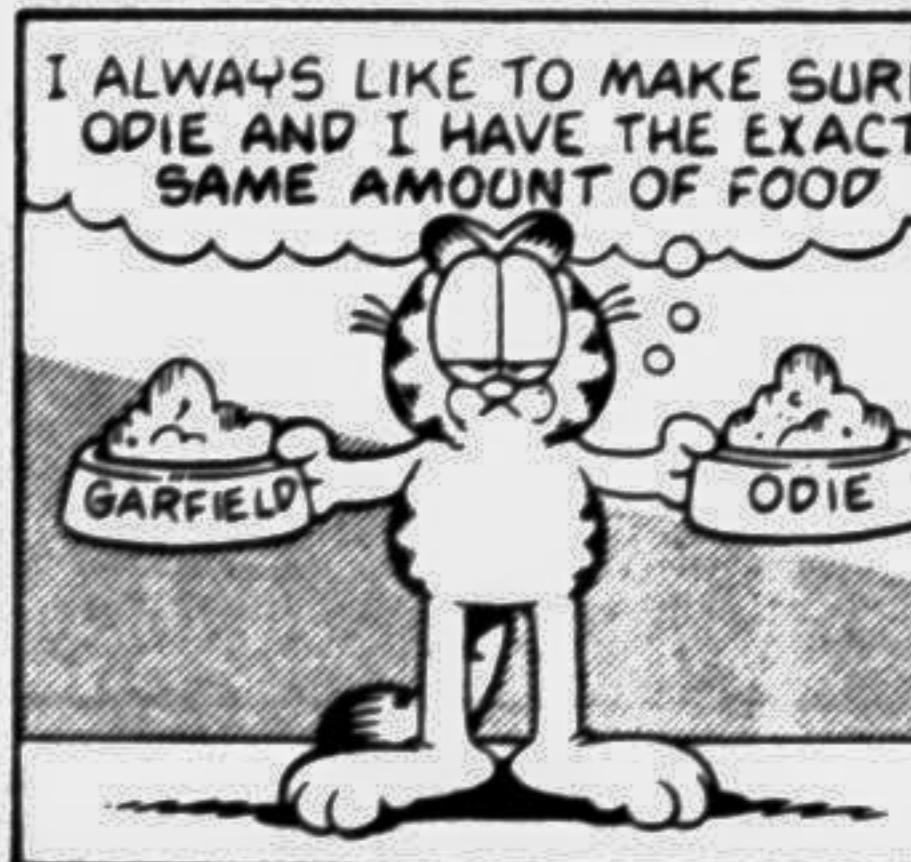
EL TV

07:30 Pyar Hi Pyar 08:30 Jeevan Ke Rang 09:30 Dance Dance 10:30 The Music Show Real Countdown 11:00 Nukkad 11:30 Shatray 12:00 Top of the Tops 12:30 Brigadier Balwant 1:00 Suhana Safar 1:30 Nazrana 2:00 Special 3:00 Amar Prem 3:30 Chehre 4:00 Akanksha 4:30 Song Yatra 5:00 Dear EL 05:30 Special 6:30 Sorry Men Lorry 7:00 Hit Hi Hi Hi 7:30 Haake Shaike 8:30 FAUJI 8:30 Public Demand 9:30 Gambler 10:00 Peoples Club 10:30 Humrah 11:00 Casper Number One 11:30 Film Chast 12:00 Newsline 12:30 Special 1:30 Tarane Aur Faisle 2:30 Party Time

PTV

8:00am Titawat Aur Tarjuma Ham/Nast 8:20 Cartoon 8:30

Garfield®



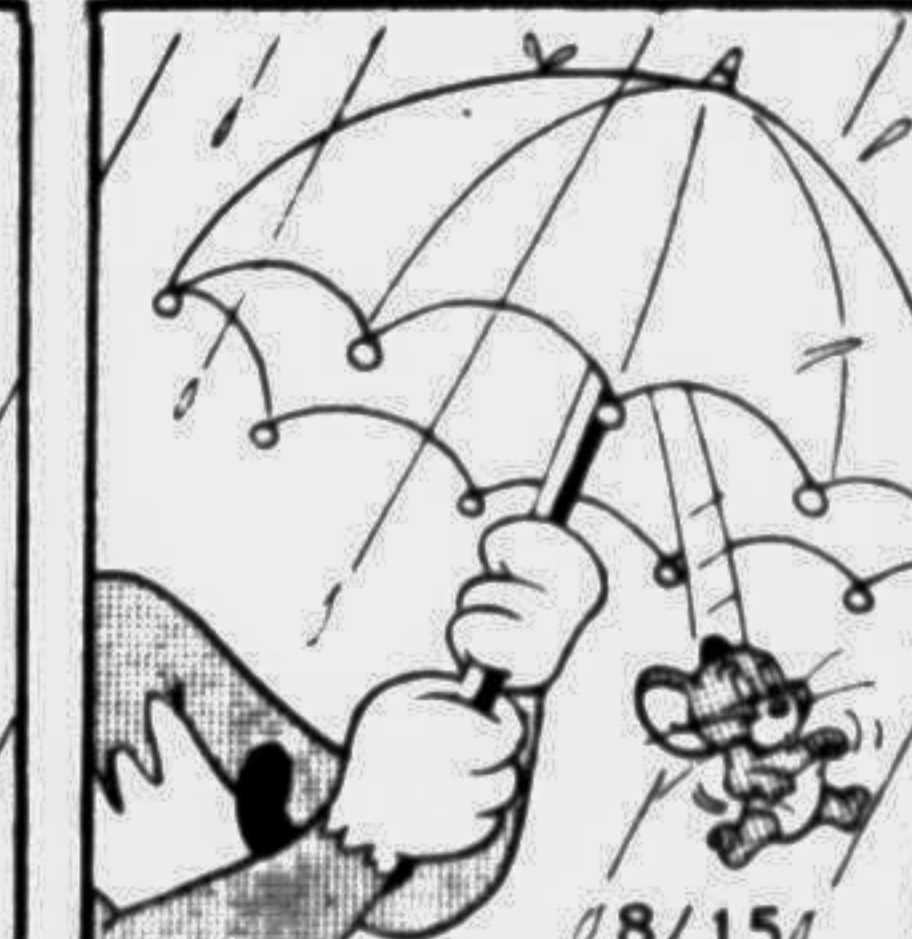
Tom and Jerry



by Jim Davis



Tom and Jerry



Tom and Jerry

