

NATO Intervention in Kosovo: Too Late, Too Little

Vow and Results

The Awami League Central Working Committee (ALCWC) has showed itself to be in touch with public feelings by voicing a serious collective concern over the rising trend of terrorism in the country.

Let's look back on how we have come to such a pass, why we stand today where we do in terms of the civic security situation which is now widely regarded as a litmus test for good governance?

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has never been fed of telling the nation that criminals have no party and that when caught they will not be spared on any partisan considerations.

Hospital Refuse

Public health is still in dire straits due to lack of clear guidelines for waste management both at the government hospitals and private clinics in the country.

Meanwhile at the official level, a lack of assessment in registering private clinics is conspicuously visible. In fact, if computed, "unregistered" private clinics would outnumber the "registered" ones.

As the clock ticks, it is taking more menacing turn, taking its toll on people's health. We regard 'registration' of all private clinics as the first vital step towards improvement of the situation.

More Water, Please

Drinking water crisis has been persisting in the city for quite some time now. A number of thickly populated areas are the hardest hit and residents of these places are sometimes forced to fetch water from faraway places.

Water shortage or scarcity is nothing new in the country during the dry season and in Dhaka city it takes a serious turn with supply falling far short of requirement.

Whoever is a Serb, and of Serbian seed And doesn't come to fight the battle of Kosovo Let him never father a child, neither male nor female.

(Inscription on the monument at the battle field of Kosovo)

SIX hundred years ago the Serbians' en masse capitulation to the advancing Ottoman forces and their medieval defeat at Kosovo have been queried the symbol of the nation's greatest pride.

Slobodan Milosevic, the sly dictator of a truncated Yugoslavia has thoroughly exploited this Serbian emotion and craftily manipulated the Serbian orthodox church to his advantage.

CRACKS in India's ruling coalition have begun to surface. A scheduled meeting on April 11 between AIADMK chief Jayaram Narayanan and President K. R. Narayanan has given rise to intense speculation.

The BJP and the AIADMK have certain sharp differences on a variety of issues. Sacking of naval chief Admiral Vishnu Bagwat is the foremost of them.

Commissioner. Protesting this, the opposition political parties resorted to hartals and the ruling party protesting hartals arranged anti-hartal activities which resulted in widespread violence and loss of valuable lives.

To the Editor...

Letters for publication in these columns should be addressed to the Editor and legibly written or typed with double space. For reasons of space, short letters are preferred, and all are subject to editing and cuts.

Save Muslims of Kosovo

Sir, The Muslims of Kosovo are passing their worst time at the present moment. The Serbian atrocities have gone to a sickening extent. The Serbs have shown a total disrespect to human rights.

Mahmud 266, Elephant Road, Dhaka-1205

'K' for Kosovo Sir, The big yellow 'K' which is being seen these days by millions of viewers while watching news about Kosovo on the BBC World Television, has a great resemblance to the logo of the Kodak, the US photography and graphic arts company.

Muhammad Abd al-Hameed GPO Box 109, Lahore, Pakistan 54000

Public urinals may go private Sir, To relieve the DCC of bladder-pressure, the public urinal sector (not public latrines, let us be magnanimous) may be opened to the private sector and the NGOs for setting up simple public urinals in thousands in all major cities to

We want peace Sir, With deep sorrow and utter desolation we are observing the present situation of our country, and our future seems bleak as nothing seems to go right.

The NATO bombing may be able to produce an agreement — of a sort — at gun point. But that will be little more than a patchwork for a deep seated crisis. The Balkans lie at the crossroads of history where the religions, cultures and kinships are in perpetual conflict.

viewed as unwanted squatters on territory that Belgrade wants to resettle with ethnic Serbs. Given this desperate situation the Kosovar Albanians have now become strident and even violent.

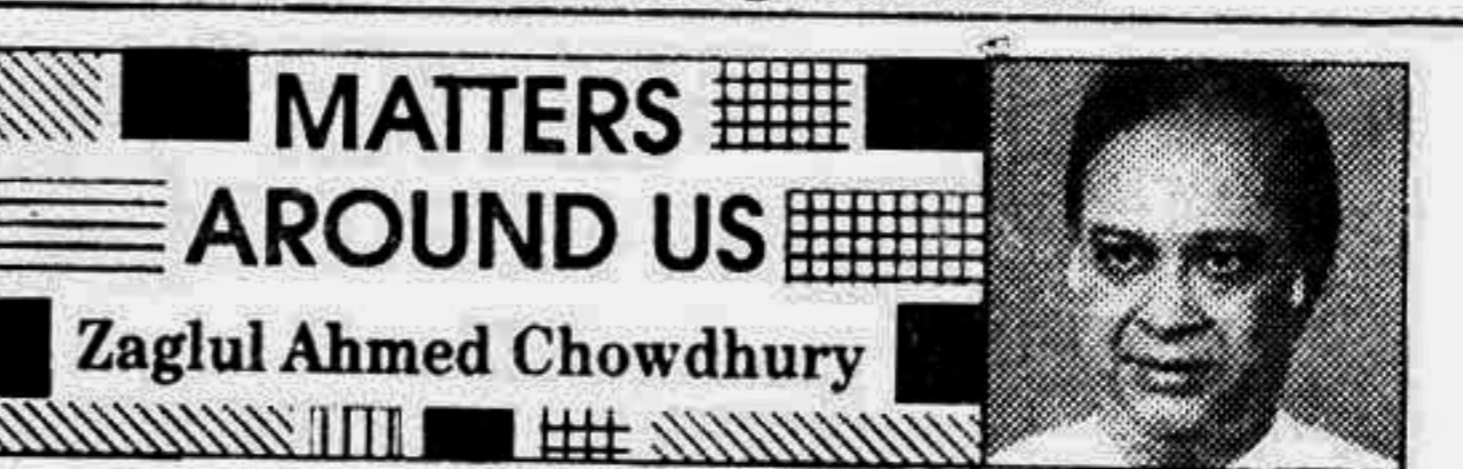
PERSPECTIVES by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul Hafiz

the Kosovar Albanians now wanted to resist the Serb persecution which however remained passive till 1996. That year the elusive, seemingly well-organised and probably small Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) appeared and began killing Serbians, largely the members of the Serb constabulary.

strongly inclined to a pan-Albanian idea. In the circumstances even if the NATO is able to make the agreement, will that work? Perhaps, only a huge NATO presence will make it work as the Dayton's effectiveness is contingent upon its presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

BJP Govt: Cracks in Coalition

The government will be in a precarious position if the AIADMK calls off its support. The meeting between Sonia Gandhi and Jayalalitha, two powerful women in Indian politics, is undoubtedly causing worry in the ruling circles but it remains to be seen whether the AIADMK finally snaps the ties with the government.



Jagrul Ahmed Chowdhury

Defence Minister George Fernandes raised by the sacked naval chief. The government, refusing to entertain the demands of the dismissed Bagwat to accept a government choice for the second highest post in the Navy.

Commissioner. Protesting this, the opposition political parties resorted to hartals and the ruling party protesting hartals arranged anti-hartal activities which resulted in widespread violence and loss of valuable lives.

MATTERS AROUND US

Conclusion: The leaders of the society won't bother to respond to the reactions in the YEP page. Now what we do do next to set the ball rolling?

How to tackle these young minds who will run the country in the near future? The politicians have to take notice, before the next avalanche.

All of a sudden electricity goes off and the suffering of the residents especially the school and college going students knows no bound.

We therefore urge the authority concerned to take immediate steps and save us from this miserable state.

Mahmududdin Chowdhury Unesco Club 17, Hari Charan Roy Road Faridabad, Dhaka-1204

Nannu — the scapegoat Sir, Bangladesh Cricket Board has declared the national cricket team for the upcoming World Cup. We are surprised to know that one of the most experienced, popular and competent cricketer of Bangladesh, Minhajul Abedin Nannu is not included in the team.

Syed Ali Akber Ana Heim, California

The Congress which seeks every opportunity to pin down the government may not encourage the AIADMK or any other ally of the government to pull the rug from below the carpet unless it pays dividends to it. Fortunately for the government, no other ally at the moment threatening to disrupt ties like Jayalalitha's party. If any decision by the allies or any ally causes the fall of the government with no prospect of an alternate government in sight, the country will obviously move towards a midterm election which most people do not want to see occur so early.

OPINION

Do the President and the Prime Minister Believe in Fact?

Abdul Quader

As in the past the President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina sent messages to the nation on the occasion of the Independence and National Day on 26 March, expressing good wishes and felicitations. I have come across their messages this year. The President in his message greeted the 'countrymen' and the 'Bangalee living abroad'.

Unfortunately neither the President nor the Prime Minister did specify the kind of 'Bangalee' and 'Bangalee nation' addressed in their messages. Who did they mean by these 'Bangalee'? Are they Bangladeshis, Indian Bangladeshis, Myanmar Bangladeshis or Pakistani Bangladeshis?

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har) is known as Indian, not as Bangalee. So if the citizens of Bangladesh living overseas are called Bangladeshis, they will be instantly identified as the people coming from a particular country of origin.

What's the harm in allowing a profit of 10 per cent for providing such essential service? The capital investment would be recovered in no time (running water must be there all the time). It is better than nothing.