

# Can we make this world a better place?

By Saamiya Seraj



So many people have written about this topic; but I have seen that nobody really cares. Or else, don't you think, this world would have been a better place. Instead of getting better, this planet is heading toward extinction. I believe and hope that this is the worst and it'll get better. But no, that hope is like a bird of paradise in hell. It gets WORSE and WORSE everyday. Murder, suicide, pollution, drug addicts, etc. Actually I could go on forever. I wonder where all this will end.

Pollution, one of the biggest problems in this Earth. And instead of solving it, we just sit back like ducks polluting the environment more and more. Don't you think we should do something about it? Or shall we, as we are called "the hope of mankind" not play our role. Let's join our hands and at least try. It doesn't take much only the will, the effort and the obstinacy that I will succeed no matter what. There are simple ways in which we could lessen down pollution and make the world a cleaner, healthier place. I say we have no right to spoil our next generation's life with a dirty world. And then another problem arises. We the teens, have suddenly taken to the so-called "COOL WORLD". Drug

addicts, chained smokers is Super duper cool. Not studying is cool, failing is super cool, etc etc. These are the thoughts of a lot many teens. I say if these things are so cool, then dying for these causes, I guess, are also cool. Don't you guys understand that if you waste and spoil your life, it'll be not only to your disadvantage but to ours also. If you don't study how will you understand the problems the world is facing. How will you have the knowledge of how to lead a better life. If you die a chained smoker or a drug addict, who will save the world? Surely we are not so selfish and arrogant to destroy one of God's beautiful creations. May I ask, do you know how to build another earth where people could stay as you are destroying this one. Come on, guys. Life is meant to be lived. Don't you even want to try. Please, let's get together and make this world a better, healthier place. I don't know what effect this article will have on my readers. Some of them will think I'm an uncool person and all I wrote is rubbish. Still I have the spirit and will inside me and am giving it a try. If I and a lot of other people don't succeed, someone else will. But I am sure we will one day be victorious. One last advice: Smile more and remember the power is ours.

## THE NIGHT OF 25TH MARCH



By ASHFAQ RAHMAN ASIF

At the dead of night everyone was sleeping with the hope of seeing the morning and lead his or her daily life. Unfortunately, the hope turned out to be just the opposite. Some heartless, cruel people interrupted the night. Their sweet dreams were shattered into pieces by the noise of some cracking shots of the gun and of shells. The sky turned all red. It seemed as if some evil powers had taken control of the world. There was a chuckle in the sky, an evil one. Every one was surprised by the sudden happenings and no one could understand what was going on. The smoke was all-visible from the horizon. There were sudden flashes of fire along with cracking sounds in the sky. Everything seemed weird at that point. There was a fatal cry, scream of people while leaving their last shelter. Suddenly someone came running with horrifying news that the Pakistani soldiers had rushed on to the civilians in different parts of the country-creating massacre and they were heading towards the village.

The faces of the villagers turned pale and tensed, they were all confused of what to do. The first thing

that came into their mind was to run with their lives and belongings as far as their legs could carry them. The mother, children, father and other relatives with pale and confused face was having only one question in mind "Why against us?" "What did we do to them?"

All these things happened all of a sudden. There were no warnings of such a cruel act. It was the black night of 25th March in Bangladesh's history. After bearing the torture for 23 years when we decided to fight against the cruel Pakistani soldiers, they suddenly broke on us and started to kill the civilians and soon after this the war broke out.

But at that particular night no one was prepared. At that very moment everyone just knew one thing that they had to save themselves. The cruel Pakistani soldiers did not care for anyone. They just fired bullets and shells on the innocent people and did not care about whom it hit. They killed the pregnant mother as well as the adolescents. At that moment they just had one motive, and that was to kill.

It was all cruel, indeed. Young children who did not even see the world were also killed. Everyone ran through the narrow roads, through the fields, and even swimming just to save themselves from the hungry Pakistani soldiers. They were all running without even caring for each other. Many were separated, many were lost many were killed but no one noticed for each other. They just knew that they had to run till they could. They were all tired but still they ran. There were fatal meteors going above their heads. The houses were all on fire. People who failed to wake up from their deep sleep were dead in the burning house without even knowing that they were being brutally killed.

After all these, the Bangladeshi guerrillas fought against the Pakistani soldiers not just to bring the freedom but also to survive. After sacrificing many lives of the brave freedom fighters, the day came when Bangladesh was stated to be a free and an independent country.

Now, no one can ever believe how cruel one could be. It all seems to be a fairy tale, nowadays. But unfortunately it was not; it was all real and very real indeed.

## The Lifelong Learning Process

By Mehrose Hossain Dedicated to Tony & Armin Islam

I was walking home from school with my friend. She moved her hands dramatically in the air. A faint smile appeared on her face.

"So, how did chemistry test go?" she said.

"I'm sick of tests." I remarked with a groan. I wonder when we'll graduate.

"That's a long way to go. Dream on, Mehrose."

I reached home and dropped my backpack on the carpet. After a while my

Mother came home. She was looking very tired. She sank down onto a chair and told me that she'll have to study for an interview and she'll be very busy for the next couple of hours. After a few hours my father came home and told me he'll be engaged with the computer work and has to prepare something for his office. Everyone in my house was as busy as bees.

Whether we are at school or working for a company, we always have to study up to date. Readers I'm sure those of you go to school are sick of tests. Am I right? Everyday we have to follow our daily routine in school life. After we come back from school, we have to study again. The next day again school. This is life. But our parents' life is a bit different. They go to office, and come back. They don't do home tasks, but they do office work. But there is a similarity. That is, we all have to study. At all ages and terms we have to keep on studying to stay in the right track. When we are very small we wish to go to school. We have to prepare ourselves to set our foot in school. Our parent teaches us colors, and ABC. Then when we are in school e.g. sixth grade, we dream of graduating from there. But we have to study very seriously and hard from there to pass on our o'levels. After that step, we go to college. When we go to college, we have to study more seri-

ously for A'levels. We don't have any spare time. We may think that once we graduate or complete our masters, we are done studying. But that is a misconception. For example, after graduation if we are looking for a job, we will have to study to know the tricks of a job interview. That is a very important thing because part of our life depends on it. We have to get a good job to get going.

Later, when we'll start working, we'll come across problems and situations for which we will need to study more so that we can keep up with the competition.

Even a school's teacher has to do different training and workshops to keep up date with the studies of the modern world. If we think about a software programmer, maybe today he/she have the current knowledge about what the technology is, but if he/she does not update his knowledge by studying almost everyday about what is going on in the world of technology, he will be left behind. And today someone with a knowledge of something that is one year old is not compatible anymore. It simply won't be useful.

Readers, it really sounds like a disheartening fact right? But it is really a long process. People all over the world at all ages have to study to keep up with the world, what's going on in the world lately. We won't be using stones to make fire, animal skins to make clothes like early people used to. We can do it, but to keep going with the times, we have to be modern. Like that too, we all have to study up to date versions of whatever is going on in this world.

### Dengue-A disease (high fever)

Temperature-104 degrees to 105 degrees

Cause-Aedes Mosquito bites

Yes, that's what dengue fever is! High fever! And a mosquito called Aedes is spreading it all over Dhaka City! People are lying on hospital beds and groaning. Some are dying and the other suffering. Very few people are getting well and living like a healthy person. So be careful of Aedes mosquitoes!

People are trying to get rid of Aedes mosquito. They are using all the possible ways. But it is of no use! The number of victims are increasing instead of decreasing! However people are still trying to diminish the threat.

Generally people are using three ways to get rid of Aedes mosquitoes. These ways are common and easy. They are as follows:

- Mosquito curtains this is the easiest way to get rid of Aedes mosquito. It is EASY and COMMON!
- Aerosol or mosquito spray. quite common! People do have great trust in them.
- Mosquito netting all over the house- this is rare! It depends upon money. People who are wealthy are the only persons able to get this chance. It acts like mosquito curtain all over the house. It works well! These are the most common ways to get rid of Aedes mosquitoes. People use them and they give quite good work.

Have you ever seen any dengue-affected person? Do you know the symptoms of dengue? Do you what to do when you find the symptoms of dengue in a person? Well then here's all your answers. First of all, he/she will have 104 degree to 105 degrees fever. If the fever is not reduced by two or three days and you can see small bores appearing on the person's body, you should take the person to the hospital immediately. Do you know why? Because this is a symptom of dengue. In the hospital, he/she must have blood, urine and antibody test. If it is detected as a case of dengue, he/she should be admitted to the hospital for proper treatment. In the hospital, he/she will have bleeding. If he/she loses a lot of blood and becomes pale and weak, the doctor should arrange the platelet transfusion to the person until it comes within normal range. All this time, he/she should take a lot of rest, plenty of water and proper nutrition. The person

## DENGUE

By Sabhanaz Rashid Diya

should get well gradually with these treatments. I am sure about it!

Do you want to know some interesting things about Aedes mosquitoes and two other important mosquitoes? Then just read the following:

There are three important mosquitoes.

A) Anopheles, the only known carrier of malaria, also transmits filariasis and encephalitis. Anopheles mosquitoes are easily recognized in their resting position, in which the proboscis, head, and body are held on a straight line to each other but at an angle to the surface. The spotted colouring on the wings results from coloured scales. Breeding usually occurs in water containing heavy vegetation. The female deposits her eggs singly on the water surface. Anopheles larvae lie parallel to the water surface and breathe through posterior spiracular plates on the abdomen instead of through a tube, as do most other mosquito larvae. The life cycle is from 18 days to several weeks.

B) The genus Culex is a carrier of viral encephalitis and, in tropical and subtropical climates, of filariasis. It holds its body parallel to the resting surface and its proboscis is bent downward relative to the surface. The wings with scales on the veins and the margin, are uniform in colour. The tip of the female's abdomen is blunt and has retracted cerci (sensory appendages). Breeding may occur on almost any body of fresh water, including standing polluted water. The eggs, which float on the water, are joined in masses of about 100 or more. The long and slender Culex larvae have breathing tubes that contain hair tufts; they lie head downward at an angle of 45 degrees from the water surface. The life cycle, usually 10 to 14 days, may be longer in cold weather.

C) The genus Aedes carries yellow fever, dengue, and encephalitis. Like Culex it holds its body parallel to the surface with the proboscis bent down. The wings are uniformly coloured. Aedes may be distinguished from Culex by its silver thorax with

white markings and posterior spiracular bristles. The tip of the female's abdomen is pointed and has protruding cerci. Aedes usually breeds in floodwater, rain pools, or salt marshes, the eggs being capable of withstanding long periods of dryness. The short, stout larvae have a breathing tube containing a pair of tufts; the larvae hang head down at a 45-degree angle from the water surface. The life cycle may be as short as 10 days or, in cool weather, as long as several months. Aedes aegypti, the important carrier of yellow fever, has white bands on its legs and spots on its abdomen and thorax. This domestic species breeds in almost any kind of container, from flowerpots to discarded car-tire casings. Aedes sollicitans, Aedes taeniorhynchus, and Aedes dorsalis are important salt-marsh mosquitoes. They are prolific breeders, strong fliers, and irritants to animals, including humans.

Well, are you satisfied? If not, I'm sorry! I don't know anything more than this. This Aedes mosquito and dengue fever have put great fear inside the citizens of Dhaka. Not only Dhaka, but also they are spreading in other cities. People are becoming alarmed and frightened! Even my eight-year old brother is concerned about it!

Let me tell you about an incident about him (my eight-year old brother). A few days before, in the afternoon, my brother and I were having lunch. Suddenly I saw a little mosquito, flying. My brother sighted it too. He suddenly cried out, "Beware! It's dengue!" I had the queerest expression in my face.

"What did you say? Dengue?" I said.

"Well, that's a short name for dengue mosquito!" he said.

"You gave it a good name! I think the mosquitoes would like it!" I said to him, "Ha ha ha!"

Well, now you see how it is putting fear inside men. Everybody is becoming careful about it. But is the Government becoming concerned about it? I don't think so. If they were, they would have given order to spread more mosquito spray all over the city. They would have given orders to clean Dhaka City! But they didn't. Instead of this, they are talking about politics. This is too bad to be true. But that's the Truth!

I read in the newspaper that several people died in the hospital especially children. When I learned this, my heart filled with great sorrow. So as a child, I request the Government to spread mosquito spray all over Dhaka City. And I hope that the Government will take preventive steps very soon!