



STAR WEEKEND MAGAZINE

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Letter from an SWM Lover

SWM is one of my best friends. I eagerly wait for it every week. A few days back I was reading the issue of 'Finding Aougn'. As a whole the edition was a good read. But a letter in this made me very unhappy. The letter consisted of a meaningless challenge. However, the writer of this letter has been reading SWM for the last two years. In fact, according to his own testimony, he read about 96 copies of SWM. However, he claimed that all the jokes and cartoons are not funny. This certainly is strange. He also added that the staff writers of the magazine are not efficient at all. Now, my question is that, why read SWM for two long years if most of the articles are not enjoyable and the jokes are not funny? I think SWM should avoid publishing such bad letters in future.

Faria Nodi
Dhaka

The Bangla *Bhai* Controversy

The name Bangla *bhai* has become the most common name in our news-

Though the short story contest was good, I don't understand why the one that won first prize actually won. I don't think it's a short story at all but a stream of consciousness.

papers these last few weeks. He has secured the status of a ruler of sorts in North Bengal. People call him the 'private ruler' of the country. Who has given him this right to rule? What is the government doing? Is it really true that our country is full of fundamentalists? I don't want to believe it. The government should take quick action against Bangla *bhai* and his supporters or else the country will sink into turmoil. Those who are supporting Bangla *bhai* are doing away with all our hopes and achievements of 1971.

Shankha Dasgupta

On the 8th Anniversary of SWM

I am an admirer of SWM and want to congratulate its team on their 8th anniversary. But I have a few problems with the anniversary issue. First of all, a lot of abbreviations like Bac, DS and NYU were used and, though abbreviations save time and space, people might not understand them all and so their use should be limited. Secondly, though the short story contest was good, I don't understand why the one that won first prize actually won. I don't think it's a short story at all but a stream of consciousness. I really enjoyed reading Zafar Sobhan's "Ami Shopno Dekhbo Boley" which made a good point and I want to thank the writer for his consciousness of the matter. But "Nothing if not serious" was not good enough for Shawkat Hussain's starving readers like myself who have read better writings by him. Overall, though, despite some typos, it was a good issue and a must-read.

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On transliteration

The discussion on the rules of English transliteration by Zafar Sobhan (June 25) and Neeman Sobhan (July 2) is interesting. The writers are very right to say that it is our language and we are the ones who should make the rules for a better understanding of the language. It creates a lot of problems for

Letters to the Editor, Dhaka Diary & Write to Mita with the writer's name and address, should be within 200 words. Articles should be within 1,200 words. Articles and photos submitted will not be returned. Plagiarised articles will not be accepted. All materials should be sent to: Star Weekend Magazine, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Fax: 8125155, or e-mailed to <dsmagazn@gononet.com> Articles may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.