



STAR WEEKEND MAGAZINE

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What Foreigners Think of Us

Tawhidur Rahman, you did a good job (Dhaka Diary, published on July 9th, 2004) by helping a foreigner. In many Western societies people expect to get paid for most services. That is why the lady offered you money in that sense, not because you are a Bangladeshi. But at the end, when you denied the money, I think she got the message. Just carry on your good gestures instead of looking the other way next time you encounter a foreigner.

Jahan

The general people welcome and will support BDB not as an alternative party but in hope of seeing a better Bangladesh.

What's the Difference?

We've seen how the BNP and AL governments work. They are different in name but not in their actions. We want a change now and BDB (Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh) may be the new way. General people have stopped believing in AL and BNP-type politics. The recent by-election (Dhaka-10) was not fair. The real election, which will be neutral, is coming. So BDB has nothing to worry about. The general people welcome and will support you not for being an alternative party but in hope of seeing a better Bangladesh.

Rahad Abir
Dhaka University

How Can We be Proud?

Bangladesh has become a country of complete chaos. The political situation is a mess, the education administration is a failure, the population growth is unstoppable and employment has become extremely competitive. We all wonder what the benefit of democracy is and what our country's democracy did for us. Did it ensure for us a terrorism-free environment? Has it prevented our respected ministers from making wrong decisions or built a prosperous future for us to look forward to? No, and neither has it given us the liberty to speak freely. It has made us worse than we are. If privatisation is an essential factor in terms of proper education, transportation and industrialisation, why do we need to elect a government when we can take the law and order into our own hands and decide everything ourselves? In spite of huge donations from developed countries our country still needs funds for development. I wonder what the government makes use of such donations. Despite the unrelenting protests against hartals, our political parties continue to play the hartal competition unbeatably. It is indeed shameful for us to claim to be proud citizens of such a country where we can't even decide which party to elect.

Naome Syed,
Mohammadpur

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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.