

Long live SWM!

On the New Year 2005, I heartily applaud SWM for its outstanding contribution to the society in terms of continuously giving us relevant news about the outside world as well as our country. In this connection, I highly praise your efforts in trying to establish the truth and focusing on important issues. The SWM team deserves salutes from its readers for their inexhaustible effort in this regard. I wish you a A Happy Brand-New Year and strongly hope that the SWM team will continue its endeavour with even more vigour in the days to come in the year 2005.

Rafiqul Islam Rime
Agrabad, Chittagong

Best of 2004

I enjoy reading SWM very much. I did not miss a single issue of the magazine in 2004. As the year ends, I would like to remember the writings, which impressed me the most. Actually, there are many such write-ups but I will name those which are hard to forget.

Neeman Sobhan was fantastic throughout the year. But I think her best articles were "A New Day" (Jan. 2) and "A Gentle Animal" (May 28) issue. The first one rejuvenated the mind on new year's eve while the latter one was simply unforgettable. Then comes Nadia Kabir Barb's article titled "Lasting Impressions" (Jan. 16) which depicted the pains of a very young girl in a touching manner. Richa Jha is a writer who reveals the truth through her wit and humour. Among her articles, "In Love and Out of It" (Sept. 24) and "Vision-Revision" (Nov. 5) were highly enjoyable. As far as Chintito's writings are concerned, it is difficult to decide which one is better than the other. But the three best ones were "Change Thy Attitude" (Sept. 10), "Papa Don't Preach" (Dec. 3), and "Bangladeshi Idle" (Dec. 17). Again, "A Chant" written by my favourite writer, Iffat Nawaz in the June 4 issue was extremely touching. The fiction I liked the most was written by Tanvir Manzoor Hussain called "Everything" (March 12). Among foreign writers, Dr. Anabel Jensen's "The Princess with the Glass Heart" (Sept 3) was praiseworthy.

SWM was wonderful throughout the year 2004 and I hope it will continue in this way in 2005. I wish its writers and readers a happy and prosperous new year.

Wajahat Anwar
Mirpur-10, Dhaka

But I also believe it has some responsibilities toward its readers. "Dhaka Diary" is a colourful and attractive page with real life write-ups from readers and interesting anecdotes. Unfortunately, however, the page is Dhaka-based. What about other people around the country? We also want to tell our stories.

Why not "Desh Diary"?

When I was not a regular reader of SWM I thought of the magazine as a means to boost my English language skills. But since becoming a regular reader it has become an important part of my daily routine. SWM has excellent sections with everything I want to see. But I also believe it has some responsibilities toward its readers: "Dhaka Diary" is a colourful and attractive page with real life write-ups from readers and interesting anecdotes. Unfortunately, however, the page is Dhaka-based. What about other people around the country? We also want to tell our stories. My suggestion is to rename the page "Desh Diary". I hope the SWM authorities will take this proposal into consideration and will no longer deprive us.

Biddut Khoshnobish

Absolutely Stunning!

I congratulate and heartily thank SWM for bringing out a true picture of Bangladesh through the Photo Feature "Dying Durgapur" captured in still which made me nostalgic. I would like to give special thanks to Khaled Mahfuz Saeed for digging out the hidden treasure (i.e., natural beauty) of our apparently ruined country. This is because, I was really embarrassed when I saw photos of Bangladesh in foreign websites. In one of the photos--I saw many passengers were trying to get up in an over-crowded bus (rather than any scenic beauty of Bangladesh). This is not the only thing worth photographing. We all should come in front of the world and say that we have many other things to show, besides overpopulation.

Md. Shamiul Haque
Dept. of English, University of Dhaka

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