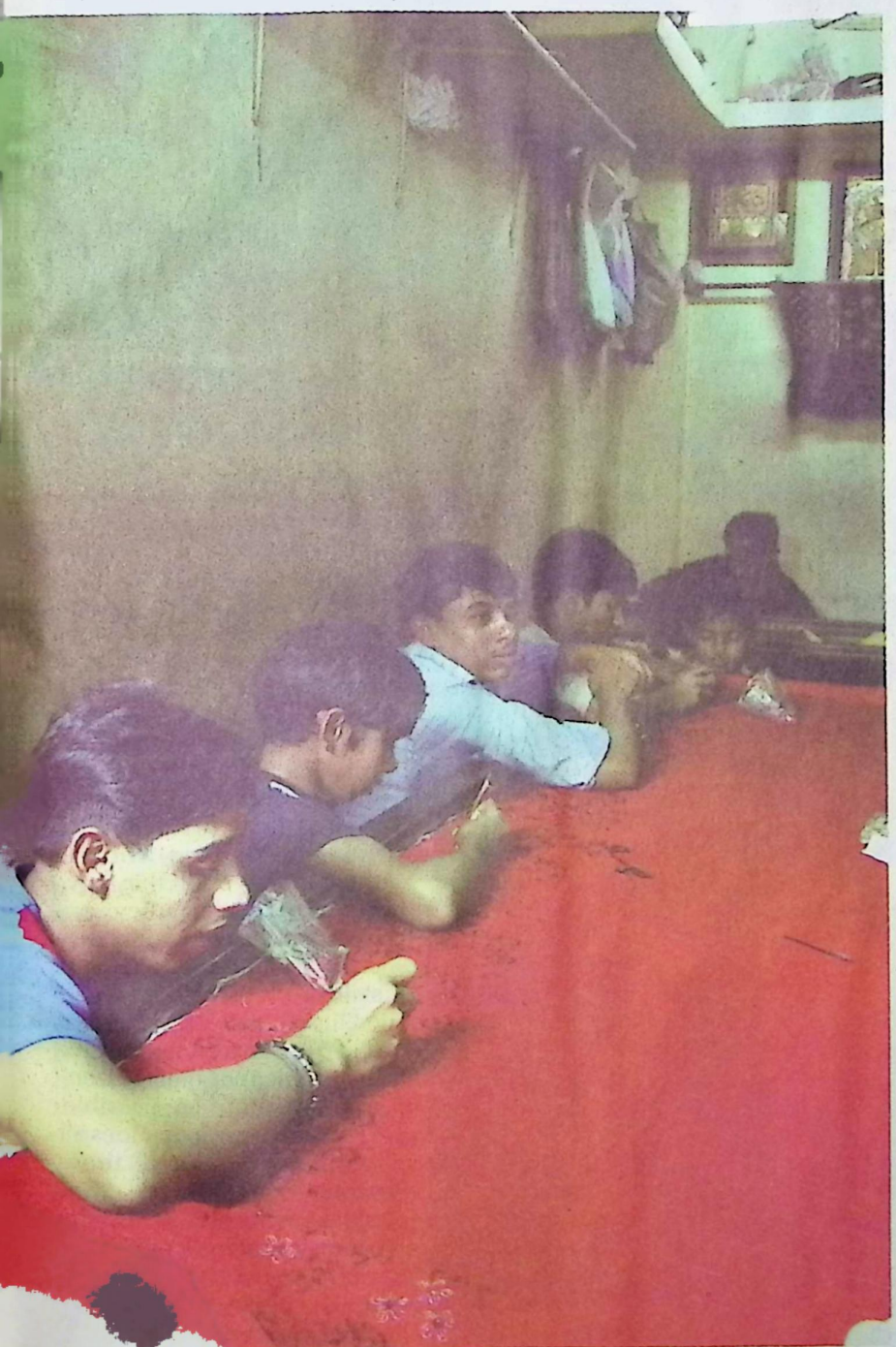
and they will be deprived of all 19 facilities that come along with it. "Our livelihoods will be at stake."

Abdul Jabbar Khan, President of SPGRC (Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee), or better known to be the camp office, openly admits to supporting the cause of the Pakistan Army but says, "You call us Razakars, but how many of us have actually physically taken part in the process. We supported Pakistan with our mouth only, but what about [Motiur Rahman] Nizami and Abdur Rahman Biswas who were even bigger collaborators than me. Why did this discrimination take place in my case? They were made ministers and given a big house and big car by the state but, my citizenship was taken away from me and I became a refugee and was locked away into this camp."



Born after the war, these young people identify themselves as Bangladeshis and do not want to go to Pakistan.

Jabbar is not completely reassured by the voting rights and the ID Card solution proposed by young people like Khalid. "Some in the camp are asking us to become voters but the government that is now in power is not the elected government," says Jabbar, "what if the new government comes and says they don't agree to all this, then where will we go?"

Jabbar like many from the pre-71 generation think they would be safer in Pakistan because of their involvement (physical or otherwise) with the Pakistan Army against the Bangladeshis. "Nawaz Sharif assured us that 3000 families would be sent to Pakistan in the first phase of repatriation but so far only 318 people have been taken to Pakistan ever since then. We are hoping that the new government of Pakistan under Nawaz Sharif's leadership might change our situation."

Writer and Executive Director of Al Falah Bangladesh points out that the Bangladesh government has divided the Urdu-speaking community into two parts -- those who live inside the camps and those who live outside the camps.

"The main problem is with those who are living inside the camps, the government is not doing anything to rehabilitate them." He points out that those who live outside the camps enjoy all the facilities of a Bangladeshi citizen. "I live outside the camp, I am a voter, I have an ID card, a Bangladeshi passport and a bank account and I can go abroad," says Ilias, "there is no discrimination for us. We are as equal as all other Bangladeshis."