

STAR WEEKEND MAGAZINE
A Weekly Publication of
The Daily Star
Volume 12 Issue 584
May 09

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Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000.

The Truth about GMG

This is regarding the article 'Style over Substance' (April 4, 2008) and the response by GMG Airlines in their 'Rejoinder' (April 18, 2008).

Having lived in India, I am accustomed to the shunning of accountability and inability to accept fault that is prevalent in this culture. GMG has committed the most shameful act of this yet, by spewing lies during the incident, and concealing their retreat with more lies to protect their stated claims of being "responsible".

I had 20 students on that flight and what GMG is saying is completely false. We were caught in the air for 40 minutes with people throwing up and nearly passing out, because it felt like we were on a runaway rollercoaster. We watched lightning out the window, held hands and prayed. The cabin and flight crew were not seen or heard during any of this. Back in Kolkata, the manager was nowhere to be found and we had to demand to approach him. He ran and hid after holding form by not apologising, accepting any blame, or solving the problem before him. He never showed any concern about the passengers, many of whom were very young, away from their parents, in a foreign country -- and crying.

GMG may continue flying, but they should stop lying.

Keri McLeod
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It's Time for Twenty20!

Twenty20, the latest version of cricket was innovated a few years ago when cricket was deeply troubled by accusations of match fixing and also criticised as a game for idle men. But I think nowadays cricket has got its dignity back and could be considered as the most popular game in the world only by the blessing of its Twenty20 version.

Some veteran cricketers like Imran Khan, Wasim Akram, and Ranatunga have spoken out against Twenty20.They say that this reform may destroy the purity of traditional cricket. But I don't know which type of cricket they claim to be pure since it has been undergoing many reforms over the passage of time.

From unlimited days test cricket to 5-day test cricket, innovation of limited over cricket, colour uniforms, the white ball, day-night match -- all of them are reforms and Twenty20 is the latest edition. So if they had no objections about the previous reforms why this form?

Twenty20 world cup and recently inaugurated IPL have proved that it is more popular to the cricket fans all over the world. I think it is a good thing for cricket. Moreover in this form of cricket the players are getting a chance to earn more money.

So good luck Twenty20 -- the game for the new generation!

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Letters to the Editor, Dhaka Diary and Write to Mita, with the writer's name and address, should be within 200 words. All articles should be within 1,200 words. A cover letter is not necessary, but every write-up should include the writer's name, phone number and email address (if any). While SWM welcomes unsolicited articles and photographs, it cannot accept the responsibility of their loss or damage. SWM does not return unsolicited articles and photos. Response time for unsolicited write-ups ranges from three weeks to two months. All articles submitted are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity.

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