letters

The Intellectual Blueprint of the Neo-Razakars

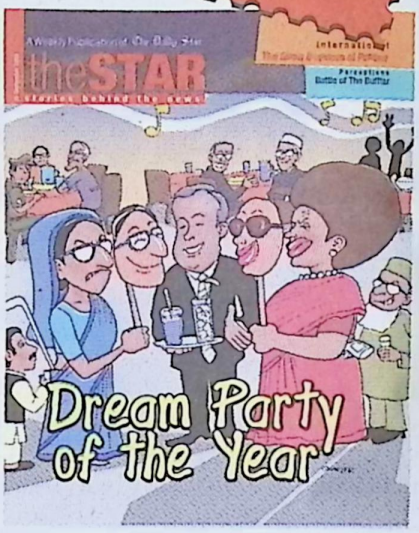
Over the last few months I have been observing the increasingly monotonous promotion of the book 'The India Doctrine' by Barrister MBI Munshi. The ideas and perspectives found in 'The India Doctrine' appear to be spreading.

For those who support the ideals of the Liberation War and the sacrifices made by the people of Bangladesh one can only be repulsed by its contents. The book does not even leave Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman untouched by its scurrilous and repulsive innuendoes and second rate theorising about a supposed and fantastic Akhand Bharat being allegedly pursued by Indian policy-makers since partition in 1947. What Barrister MBI Munshi does not discuss is the sacrifices that were made by India for the independence of Bangladesh. Barrister Munshi manages to disingenuously twist history to make India appear as the villain and not the murderous Pakistan army that raped and killed unarmed civilians in the erstwhile East Pakistan.

What is particularly aggravating is that none of the so-called defenders of our freedoms and secular ideals has come forward to contradict the objectives and ideas of the book. This is extremely dangerous as the anti-Indian tilt now appearing in Bangladesh could have very unfortunate consequences for the country. The secular intellectuals of Bangladesh must come forward and warn of the dangers of following the ideas contained in this book.

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Wrong Messages during Ramadan

Ramadan helps people develop self control, self assessment, and purification. We live in a Muslim country in which the majority of the people struggle against poverty. Our religion encourages brotherhood and the holy month of Ramadan encourages us to feel the hunger and misery of the poor and so during this month we should extend our helping hand towards them. But what I experienced daily through newspapers and from my surroundings is contrary to the teachings of Islam. Most of the Iftar parties held in the capital and the district level towns were for the elite and the poor were not allowed anywhere inside. These iftar parties were arranged for the interest of certain groups. I hardly saw any distribution of food among the needy.

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Netrakona

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Letters to the Editor, Star 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 The Star welcomes unsolicited articles and photographs, it cannot accept the responsibility of their loss or damage. The Star 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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