

Terror in Mumbai

The November 2008 highly coordinated 'Mumbai attacks' have been dubbed by the media as 'India's 9/11'. In August the Marriot hotel in Pakistan was attacked. It seems that terrorists are changing their style of attack. They are now carrying out killings on a large scale in commando style in public places like railway stations, hotels etc. Bangladesh is also under threat of terrorism. The big question is whether we are ready to protect ourselves from such large scale acts of terrorism.

Safal
IBAIS University
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Saluting the Freedom Fighters

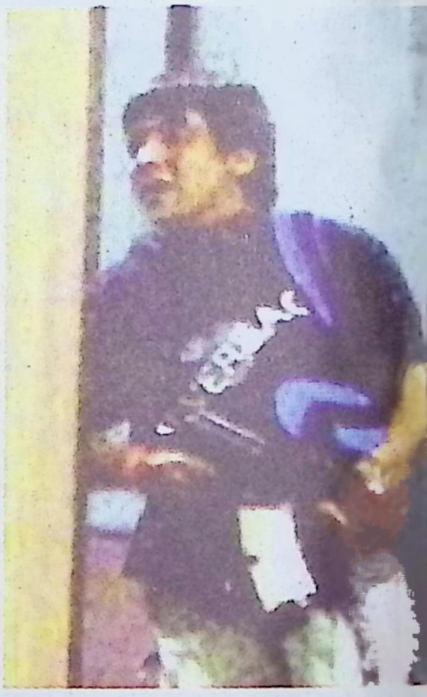
Some of my maternal uncles and cousins were freedom fighters. They directly took part in the liberation war against the Pakistani military in 1971. They fought and trained the new young fighters with the direct help of the then Indian Army in Darjeeling, West Bengal and I have been listening to their valiant stories since my early childhood. The great task our freedom fighters carried out throughout 1971 is really beyond any simple appreciation.

Unfortunately recently we have been doing much to humiliate and dishonour their memory. Some despicable things have been allowed to take place by the so-called religious political figures in the country. It is very frustrating that some young people have been engaging themselves with so-called religious political parties which have taken their stand against our liberation war many times.

The most surprising and shameful event in a nation's history is that many freedom fighters are begging from door to door while some religious people are arranging meetings and seminars, spending huge amount of money to get elected. These parties sometimes do not preach Islam as a peaceful religion but ask their followers to be aggressive instead.

The Awami League government introduced an allowance of Tk 300 per month for freedom fighters. The following government provided them with Tk 500 per month. Finally, this caretaker government increased the amount to Tk 900 per month. The government can and should offer more facilities for our freedom fighters. I am sure they the government have the capacity and capability to do so.

Md. Hasan Iqbal (Milan)
Keranipara, Rangpur



Educational Surroundings

Posters and other advertising in educational institutions, buildings, and walls make the surroundings very filthy. It is commonly seen that the walls of many educational institutions are covered with advertising of various centres, organisations and political leaflets. There is a lot of wall writing in public places. Even the entrance gates of some institutions are not spared. Such work of course violates the purity of our institution.

Teachers and students should pay attention to keep the campuses neat and clean and spared from unsolicited advertising. Besides, common people should raise their objections about desecrating our schools, colleges and universities.

Probir Chandra Das
Dept. of English
Govt. Titumir College, Dhaka