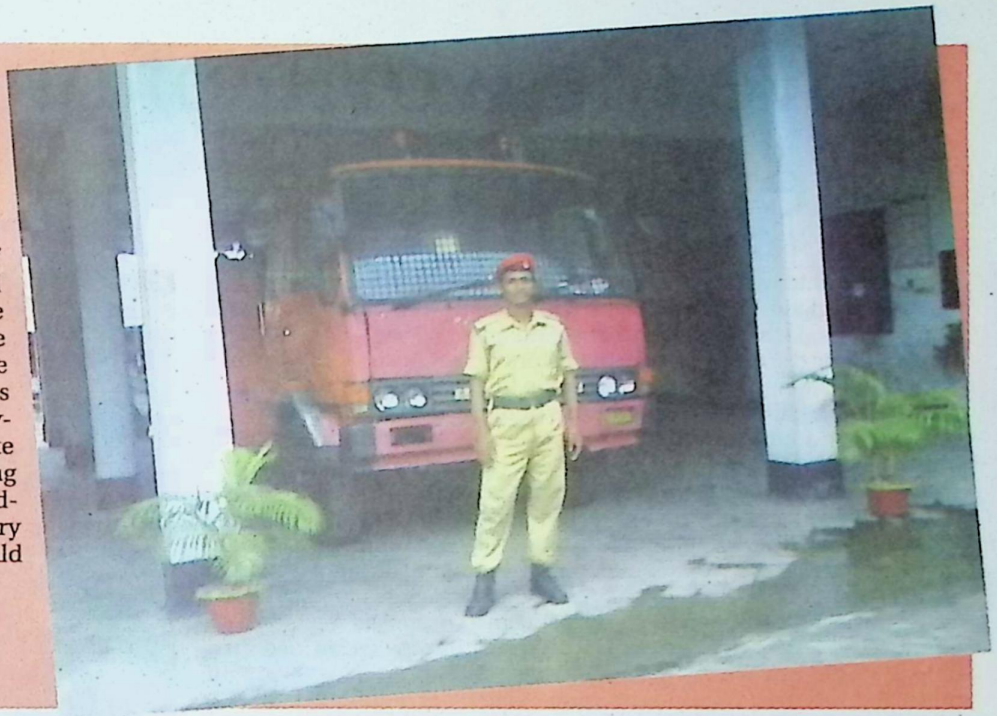


logistical support, they are serving us with the best of their ability. Thus, the Wind of Change that we hope to see is concerned with the revamping of our Fire Service And Civil Defense stations across the country. Our government needs to motivate our fire fighters by increasing their basic salary while providing them with the necessary equipment. Measures should be taken without further ado.

(Dept. of English, Stamford University, Dhaka.)

Changing mindset

Anika Bhuiyan

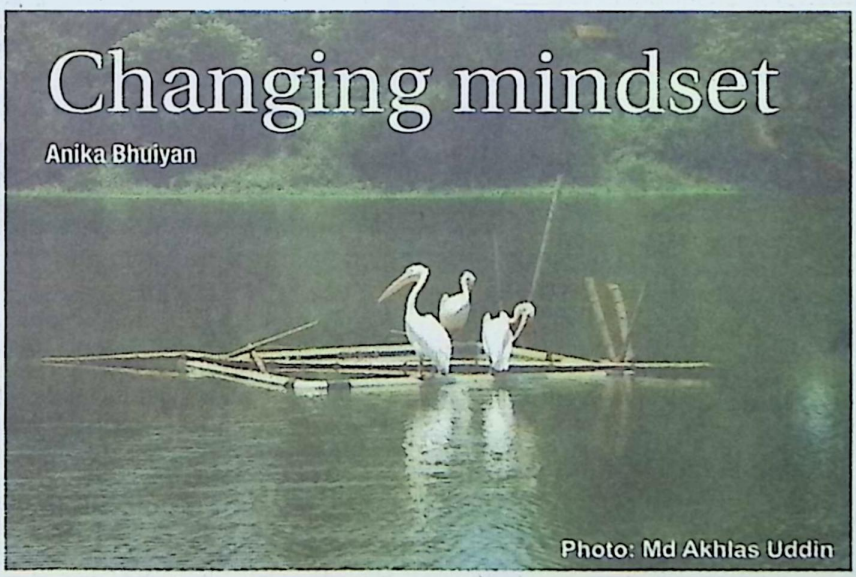


Photo: Md Akhlas Uddin

"MOM, I thought at least you would understand your daughter", I shouted back at my mother.

"I do, but don't you get it? This society does not. Our relatives will spread rumors about you if they see you with a male friend", explained my embarrassed mother.

I believe similar conversation has taken place between every mother and daughter in Bangladesh. And it is because the society we live in does not allow free mixing of a young man and a girl. Yet we shout slogans about promoting women rights to work alongside men. Does this not make our society slightly hypocritical?

When a student enters university life, it is only natural that they will mingle with the opposite gender. Be it in group studies or hangouts, people need to interact with the opposite gender to maintain a healthy social life. But somehow, our previous generation fails to understand that. To them, free mixing leads to illicit love affairs, premarital physical relationships and ruining family reputation. The preconceived notion of parents is that if their daughter is seen with a male friend, their relatives would assume that the guy is her boyfriend and because of this no one will send a marriage proposal for her.

The only change I expect from this society is a change in the attitude and mentality of our elders. Most youngsters are no longer naïve and they know their limits. I expect parents to understand their own children and give them enough freedom. And soon we shall live in a society of broad-minded people.

(North South University, 2nd semester)