received a small token of appreciation for their singing.

The walk to Himchari seemed endless, but we were given a sign of hope when we saw a chain of hills. We were sure Himchari was nearby. It was only a kilometre away now. You don't know how happy I was when I saw the signboard. We saw towering hills of orange rocks standing vertically. We walked along the sides. The sight was spectacular with orange rocks on one side and the blue sea on the other. It was almost 3:30 pm when we reached Himchari and we were all famished and thirsty but the thrill of the adventure was still intact. We had crossed a distance of 10 km under the scorching sun, on the burning sand and with waves of cool blue water at our feet. It may seem pleasant to hear about the waves, but the sand was at times hot enough to peel off your skin. Nonetheless, we succeeded!

That night, Akib, Shoaib and Raquib went shopping for chicken and pomfret for a barbeque. Shoaib and Akib with the assistance of Humaira, Ashfaque, Maria, Ambreen and a few others prepared a wonderful dinner, one which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Day 3, and we woke up at around 6.00 am to take a very bumpy roller coaster bus ride to Teknaf to board the ship, Kutubdia, to Saint Martin's Island. For most of us, it was the first time we boarded a ship, but the experience was awesome. There were little children on board, bringing us coffee for every 20 Taka we gave them. The view was spectacular, with Myanmar on one side and Bangladesh on the other. When we got near the island, I remember seeing nothing on the horizon, nothing but blue water as far as my eyes could see. We had lunch in Saint Martin's Island and then walked on the beach. The swaying palms, white sand and sparkling clear water held us spellbound. The scenic beauty of the Saint Martin's Island was incomparable to any other island I have seen. I really wished we could have stayed there longer.

Coming back from the Island, we had dinner at the Angel Drop restaurant at Cox's Bazar. The cuisine we had was probably the best in the entire trip. For the first time, I tasted the jelly-like body of a well-cooked squid, and the hard shell of a crab with its inner soft meaty goodness. What a feeling it was having dinner right by the beach with the moon hovering over the eastern sky and the white waves coming in closer and closer. It was definitely the perfect end to a perfect adventurous trip!

Facebook Addiction Disorder (FAD) and the Student

Md. Anwarul Kabir

FEW years back, based on the stateless globalised technology Internet the biggest virtual social network Facebook has initiated. Due to this innovation the lifestyle of the people on the globe is gradually changing. In the western world, specifically where easy access to the Internet has been ensured, many people prefer to take part in virtual interaction rather than real world.

No doubt, apparently facebook has rendered us many positive aspects of social interaction, although virtually. It enables us to find friends, old or new one, schedule event, play events and send virtual gifts. It also provides us with an excellent way to keep close touch with friends, kith and kin for ever, irrespective of their geographical whereabouts. Yet, like other technology, facebook has got its adverse impact too. Recently the Daily star has published a news item based on an empirical survey in Melbourne. According to the survey, popular social networking websites such as Facebook are having a distracting effect on school children and their studies. The poll, headed by Oxygen Factory, discovered that nearly 80 per cent of students, aged 11 to 18 said social networking sites were a distraction from their studies. As many as 75 per cent said they went online to check their web profiles at least once a day, while more than half felt they spent too much time on the sites. This is not the scenario in Melbourne only, in fact in all developed countries students are often distracted from their studies due to facebook and similar types of social networking systems (e.g. myspace) over the Internet.

In the context of the averse impact of facebook, eminent social thinker Tom Hogkinson in an article in the Guardians lamented, " I despise Facebook. This enormously successful American business describes itself as "a social utility that connects you with the people around you". But hang on. Why on God's earth would I need a computer to connect with the people around me? Why should my relationships be mediated through the imagination of a bunch of supergeeks in California? What was wrong with the pub? And does Facebook really connect people? Doesn't it rather disconnect us, since instead of doing something enjoyable such as talking and eating and dancing and drinking with my friends, I am merely sending them little ungrammatical notes and amusing photos in cyberspace, while chained to my desk?

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