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Parenting skills



PHOTO: STAR

I believe it may be a problem with both poor parenting and schooling. So many people, not everyone, but a lot seem to let their kids get away with anything they want to do, just so they can be friends and there is no respect in the household.

I see teachers who either let kids do anything they want or they don't know how to get kids' respect. I think there should be a psychology class required on "how to get respect of others" for anyone who is going to be a teacher.

Effective adult role models, especially two parents, help a youth learn social feelings of love,

compassion, and sympathy. The adverse consequences associated with poor parenting persist down the generations and are a problem for society as well as individuals. While on the subject of irresponsible parents, I find there is a steady decline in our culture and values. Good parenting is the need of the hour.

Much of our children's bad behaviour is due to irresponsible parenting. Parents take pride in their minor sons and daughters driving at high speeds. It is a major cause of serious road accidents that result in the death of pedestrians. Influential parents shield their children from the justice

system, which results in their becoming more irresponsible. It is, therefore, necessary to punish the parents who fail in their duty to mould better citizens of tomorrow.

Children do not need to be treated poorly. Punishment only teaches children what not to do, rather than teaching them what to do. While it's true that children trigger poor parenting behaviour, they can only bring out in us what is already there. This is our cue to stop the cycle of abuse and create change in our family by working on our parenting skills.

Gopal Sengupta
Canada

may be, and introduced for the first time the public exams for class five and eight. But now the unusual dropouts in the first ever JSC and JDC examinations speak volume of a major fault in the novel system.

Taking this year's JSC examination, my son told me about the sorry state in the examination halls. Invigilators vitiated the serene environment of the examination halls by correcting the scripts of the students they privately tutored. Worse still, the brighter students were made to help the weaker students with a view to raising the percentage of passing. A secret arrangement among the invigilators may have been behind all these anomalies. The result is sure to be disastrous, because this kind of unfair means is introducing a bad ethics to the delicate minds of the junior students.

However, what is happening beyond the examination halls is quite alarming. Thousands of examinees succumbed to the pressure incidental to the public exams, the fear of failure and the costly hazard of travelling to the examination centres as far away as 15 miles in some areas. Hence 1 lakh dropouts out of 1.5 million examinees!

I wonder what these novel examinations in the initial levels were for. Was it merely to stop the easy access to class five and class eight certificates? The nation wants a clarification from the education ministry.
Abdus Subhan
Lalpur, Natore

Medical tourism

Medical tourism or medical travel is a term primarily coined by travel agencies and the mass media to express the rapidly growing practice of travelling across international borders to obtain health care. Services naturally sought by travellers include elective procedures as well as intricate specialized surgeries, such as joint replacement (knee/hip), cardiac surgery, dental surgery, and cosmetic surgeries, etc.

The concept of medical tourism is not a new one. The first recorded instance of medical tourism dates back thousands of years to when Greek pilgrims travelled from all over the Mediterranean to the small territory in the Saronic Gulf called Epidauria. This territory was the refuge of the medicinal idol Asklepios. Epidauria became the original travel destination for medical tourists.

Our neighbouring country India's medical tourism sector is expected to experience an annual growth rate of 30%, making it a Rs. 9,500-crore industry by 2015. Estimates of the value of medical tourism in India will go as high as \$2 billion a year by 2012. Because they are providing advantages for medical tourists, which include reduced costs, availability of latest medical technologies, etc. The Indian government is taking steps to address infrastructure issues that hinder the country's growth in medical tourism. The most admired treatments sought in India by medical tourists are alternative medicine, bone-marrow transplant, cardiac bypass surgery, eye surgery and orthopaedic surgery.

Every year many Bangladeshi medical tourists travel around India, Thailand,

Treatment of severe malaria

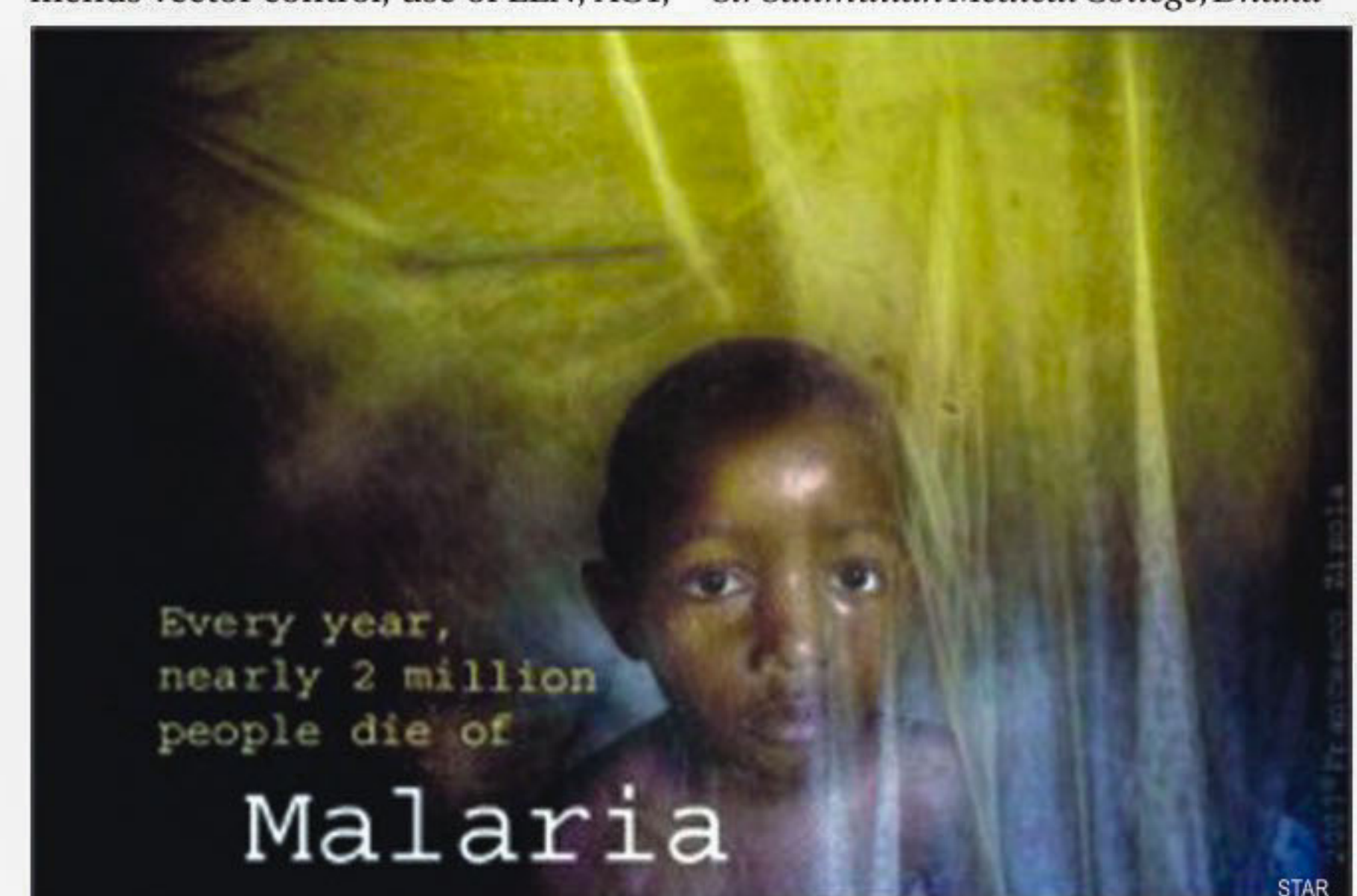
Control of malaria in recent years has got renewed momentum due to availability of effective interventions and increased financial support by Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Some malaria endemic countries are now considering even elimination of malaria. An expert group for guiding malaria elimination has been formed and their views are published in the Lancet in 6 November, 2010. Examples of such interventions are: vector control by effective insecticide, insecticide impregnated long lasting nets (LLN), rapid diagnostic tests (RDT), combination antimalarial treatments (ACT), pre referral treatment by rectal artesunate in the community and artesunate injection for the treatment of severe malaria.

In contemporary period the control and management of any illness has been advocated based on evidence. For malaria control and treatment the recent WHO Guidelines 2010 recommends vector control, use of LLN, ACT,

pre referral treatment of rectal artesunate and injection artesunate for severe malaria in adults. All these interventions have been found to reduce the malaria incidence and death with the expectation to achieve the malaria related millennium development goal (MDG) -- 50% reduction of malaria death by 2015. The pivotal trials were conducted in several countries in Asia and Africa, and Bangladesh is a proud participant of such evidence generation.

Most malaria deaths happen in children. The result of the biggest study in the treatment of severe malaria should be utilized, the sooner the better. Bangladesh has achieved significant progress in malaria control by using global fund through public-private partnership. Cases of death have reduced significantly.

Professor Md. Abul Faiz
Professor of Medicine (Post Retirement Leave)
Sir Salimullah Medical College, Dhaka



STAR

Dhaka University's bus

The other day, I was going through the Satmasjid road and suddenly a Dhaka University students' bus caught my attention. Dhaka University is the highest educational institution in Bangladesh. The main purpose of the university is to create new areas of knowledge and disseminate this knowledge to the society through its students. I'm proud to have studied here in the early 90s. Millions of students like me, who came from village, had their horizon widened, because of studying here, for sure.

Anyway, I was shocked to see the condition of the bus. There was no number plate on it. Instead there was a handwritten registration number. The whole body of the bus was rundown and the windowpanes were cracked.

I don't believe the university authorities don't have the fund to have the bus repainted. Wherever this bus goes, it carries the flag of Dhaka University. It simply

cannot be left in such a poor condition. Hope, DU authorities would look into the matter.

Khandaker Zia Hasan
Mohammadpur
Dhaka

Saving vultures

The vulture is a large bird of prey. Once upon a time, it was a well-known bird in our country. But nowadays, it is not visible usually, except for in our national zoo and some parts of the country. And people don't have any idea about this bird, especially about the benefits we get from it.

Vultures are vanishing from our country for many reasons. Some reasons are:

- Damaged living places
- Lack of foods
- Unsuitable atmosphere, etc.

There are five types of vultures. These are: Turkey vulture, Black vulture, King vulture, California condor and South American condor. All vultures feed on dead animals, which is why most people don't like them. They mainly eat eggs, sea birds and young

mammals. Vultures help us to keep our environment clean and save our crops.

The relevant authorities should make a plan for increasing their number. For they help to maintain our ecological balance.

Md. Yeasin Khan
One-mail

Complaints must be investigated

We believe, the government and the law enforcing agencies are aware of the various specific complaints, lodged by the individuals or organizations, which were published or reported in the print or electronic media. People have the right to know what action the govt. or the relevant agencies have taken on those particular issues. Otherwise, what's the use of publishing the complaints against various irregularities and corruption at different levels? Sometimes, specific complaints are published against different persons/organizations' irregularities and corruption, drawing the kind attention of the head of the government,

which should be investigated on priority basis by the law enforcing agencies, and the steps taken by the authorities should be made public.

The Right to Information Act has already been passed and people are now very hopeful. As a student of law, I firmly believe that if we can't be able to establish the rule of law, we will be lagging behind as a nation. And I request the govt. as well as the respective authorities to protect human rights at all levels.
Md Zahidul Islam (Milton)
LL.B Final Year
(English Medium)
Bangabandhu Law College
Dhaka

Education for all

Every child has a right to get proper education, yet most of the children do not have access to it in Bangladesh. The govt. and the NGOs are working in this sector. But we should also involve ourselves in these programmes. If each of us teaches one child at least, it won't take a long time to get an educated nation. It is one of the Millennium Development Goals, which needs to be accomplished.

So, let us unite and make the difference. If all of us do something, then it will surely make a big difference. And education is the key for eradicating poverty.

Hossain, Hasnat Shafat
The Aga Khan School
Dhaka

Unusual dropouts

Our country is lucky to have two consecutive pro-active education ministers: the first one eradicated copying in the examination in the SSC and HSC levels, the present one presented us an education policy, however disputed it

Footpath or death trap?



PHOTO: WRITER

Just opposite the Ramna Model Police Station, adjacent to the Ramna Shopping Complex, there is a death trap on the footpath. Half of the footpath was dug up in order to build one or two shops two months ago. A local said that a disagreement between DCC and Dhaka WASA caused this situation.

However, he added that the matter was solved and the construction works would begin soon.

Every day this half destroyed footpath causes immense sufferings to the pedestrians, many of whom are school going children, as

School & College. Walking on this footpath is extremely risky. To add insult to injury, this small puddle is used as a dumping ground by the nearby shops. The water accumulated here is as black as tar and acts as nothing but the breeding ground of mosquitoes and other insects.

I urge the authorities concerned to take immediate steps to clear up this water-puddle and rebuild the encroached portion of the footpath, thus relieve the nearby residents and pedestrians of this

inconvenience.
Shahriar Kabir
Eskaton
Dhaka

Lungs of our city

As a tree lover, I greatly appreciate your concern on the dying of trees in Dhaka (Nov. 12). While the experts and academia are welcome to find out the reasons, I would like to point out one aspect. In Gulshan area, pavements for pedestrians' use have been constructed of late. The trees that happened to be in the pavement area were literally killed.

In a western capital (Vienna), where I had the benefit of living for a long time, an area is left vacant around a tree (about four inches wide and covered with an iron grill) so as to allow further growth of the tree trunk, and more importantly, for rainwater to seep through to recharge the ground around the tree. Water is life.

Let us not deprive the lungs of our city from its nourishment. Hope that DCC will take remedial action.

Engr. ABM Nurul Islam
Gulshan-2, Dhaka



KAIZER / DRINK