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Steve Jobs leaves a legacy

Great human beings leave the world but they leave a legacy behind. Steve Jobs was one of the greatest innovators of all time. His philosophy, 'work today as if it is the last day of your life' has encouraged people around the world. Steve would always be remembered by us. May his soul rest in peace!

Steve Jobs was a visionary leader. Some had the pleasure to meet him and work with him, while others were inspired by his ideas. It is worth to hear the speech he delivered at Stanford University which is one of the best motivational speeches so far. The way Steve led his team from the front is quite extraordinary. He developed a new way of organisational leadership. Despite having numerous setbacks in life, he invented a number of essential things which made our day-to-day life easier.

Today, the entire world mourns loss of such a passionate professional. By studying his biography the young generation could get to know about a great corporate leader, who overcame all the obstacles of life and was always keen to serve the people. Adieu Steve! We will miss you!

Shohag Mostafij, Dhaka



PHOTO: AFP

Executing Bangladeshis in Saudi Arabia

It is with horror that we have watched the news of the beheadings of eight Bangladeshi migrant workers in Saudi Arabia. What explanation does the foreign ministry have for this horrific act perpetrated upon our citizens in a foreign land? How come the international human rights groups have not uttered a peep? Is it because a Bangladeshi life is less valuable than that of others? The men were not given a proper trial, we believe, and what defense was provided to them was reportedly in Arabic, a language not understood by the men being put to death. Is it not about time that the ministry of foreign affairs called in the Saudi ambassador and demanded an explanation? Or are we too afraid to do that? What are we afraid of, I would like to ask the minister of foreign affairs? If the Bangladeshis had committed a crime, couldn't they be deported? Working in Saudi Arabia does not mean giving up all rights to a basic dignity.

P. Cole
 D.O.H.S, Dhaka

Political situation

The present political situation in Bangladesh is not in a good state. Rivalry among the political groups is increasing day by day. This is not at all a good sign. It seems none of the political groups have learned their lessons after 1/11. Should the general citizens keep on suffering because of the activities of some politicians? Rather than thinking about the economic growth of the nation, these so-called political parties think and waste their time on stupid issues.

Minhaj Ahmed

Importance of extra curricular activities



PHOTO: STAR

Renowned teacher Mr. Kaykobad in an article published in a national daily put emphasis on extracurricular activities like math olympiad. As a debater (I had participated in World Universities Debating Championship) and a national champion in inter-college general knowledge championship, I agree with his points. It is the easiest and cost effective way to groom young generation by arranging knowledge fest, math Olympiad, chemistry Olympiad, debating championship, etc. It would discourage them to memorise their lessons and also improve their confidence level. Both the government and private sector need to come forward to arrange such programmes on a regular basis to help the young minds grow.

Mizanur Rahman
 Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka



PHOTO: AMIRUL RAJIV

Stranded at a bus stop

The other day, my brother and I were waiting for a bus at Farmgate.

We waited and waited, and it was getting dark but no vehicle was available. No bus was stopping to take any more passenger, as they were already packed with people. Two hours passed but we could not get any bus. Then I saw some buses carrying passengers on the roofs. As the buses stopped, people were trying to get inside those using the windows instead of the doors. Just imagine the scene, at least fifty people were running after a running bus. However, it was impossible for us to get into a bus. We stood at the bus stop dumb-founded.

Cantara Wali
 On e-mail

Please do something for the country

Some political leaders in our country, either in power or in opposition, cry for the well-being of the common people. Are they really crying for the people? Or they are just trying to protect their ill-gotten wealth? Some of the leaders are seen shouting in the meetings and processions ostensibly to protect the interest of the common people. Though we know them very well what they are really up to, we cannot say anything about this. In the daily newspapers, we read many reports on grabbing of the rivers and government khas land by the MPs and the influential political leaders of both the ruling and the opposition parties. But we do not see any action taken against them. Such a report was published in The Daily Star on 5th October 2011. It said that one Awami league lawmaker was filling khas land and a part of the Buriganga river for setting up a power plant and an amusement park.

So, I request our political leaders to do something good for the country. People will remember them even after their death if they do something good.

N. S. Chowdhury
 Dhaka

'Capable' police admin!

A back page photograph of the uselessly dangling traffic signal lights at Purana Paltan crossing published in a local daily on 2nd October was a slap on the face of the police department.

They are not at all bothered, even after seeing the newspaper photograph. They just couldn't care less! Are they waiting for the 'file' on the subject, which has still not started to move? By the time the police gets it, to read the realities, and after due deliberation and may be a meeting or two, scrawl across the valuable 'noting' in the file, the dangling light fixture may have gone missing! In that case, the old file has to be closed after due approval, and a new noting started!

This is the reality in the police department. The police are at the top in writing notes, remarks and comments in files, but totally useless in getting something physically done. One wonders if the armed police guns are in order. We may not be surprised if one day it may not fire when the trigger is pulled, though it could fire automatically on whims! That will be the day when some police might be awarded for the 'discovery of automated guns'!

Police admirer
 Dhaka

Bengali in English medium schools

Although Bengali is taught as a subject in the English medium schools, I have enough reason to believe that the syllabus they offer for Bengali is not up to the mark. Perhaps less importance is given to the learning of Bangla and its literature. If my observation is correct, most students of the English medium schools are afraid of studying Bengali. And their proficiency in Bengali is not satisfactory. I have heard that some English medium students, who have passed A level and then graduated from private or foreign universities, are reluctant to sit in the BCS exams as they are not well conversant with the Bengali language.

With much regret I have also noticed that they have little idea about the government and the way it functions in Bangladesh. In some cases, they do not have any regard for government jobs.

My question is, aren't these schools in exchange of sky-high tuition and other fees contributing to the creation of an alien Bangalee social class?

Professor M Zahidul Haque
 Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University
 Dhaka

Withdraw ban on egg import

The price of eggs has again gone exorbitantly high. As a consequence, millions of consumers are suffering. We have been observing for a few months that the hatchery owners in connivance with poultry farms are charging Tk. 30 to 32 for a set of four eggs. If business ethics is followed, the price of one hali (a set of four) of eggs could not be more than Tk. 16. It has been observed in therecent past that when the government planned to go for open egg import on several occasions, the poultry and hatchery owners called press conferences and misled the public by saying that the Indian eggs would bring bird flu and destroy thousands of poultry farms in the country. In fact, this is an ugly business tactic used by them. They convinced the government decisionmakers of imposing the ban and other restrictions on import of eggs. The cause behind the decision



PHOTO: STAR

of the government of banning egg import is not understood by the people. A democratically elected government must not continue such ban resulting in price hike of eggs. The government should withdraw all sorts of restrictions on egg import - without further delay. This withdrawal of import restrictions will help lower the price of eggs. The poultry and hatchery owners should not be allowed to make extra profit at the cost of millions of consumers across the country.

Md. Ashraf Hosain
 Ramna, Dhaka

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Sunday's The Daily Star news report headlined "KSA executes 8 Bangladeshis"

Dr. Shaidul Kazi

The way the KSA has executed the 8 Bangladeshis is unacceptable.

Ali wazed

It is very sad news for Bangladeshi people. But we need to avoid any big crime like murder.

RCH

This is not Bangladesh that you can manage the police and judges! Law is harsh but it is the law and application is quite dreadful. Same as summary execution employed by BD government using Rab.

Gupta

Isn't this the place that America and Britain should be fighting to bring democracy instead we find these governments turning a blind eye to Saudi and enforcing it's dictatorship with every assistance and advice.

Freeman

The BNP and AL should now stop quarreling. If they love Bangladesh, they should now launch an international protest together against execution of Bangladeshi in such a manner in Saudi Arabia.

Nasarullah

It clearly reveals the failure of political diplomacy and weak-kneed response on the part of the government. Whatever attempts the government made so far were good but more avenues could be searched and explored to save these 8 people or to make life-term imprisonment rather than be beheaded.

Dr. Iftikhar-ul-Awwal

Human dignity, respect and sanctity have taken a big lash in Riyadh. We do not wish to know the proceedings of the case or whether the accused understood the gravity of the charges and the mode of their confession. It is clear that for one single life, the brutal killing of eight is a travesty of justice.

Jumana Sarwar

I have been living outside Bangladesh for a long time. Generally my feeling even though back in home country we are a bit of careless but in a foreign country we are very disciplined.

The beheaded persons if committed such crime must have been done it under extreme circumstances or desperation. Further what they could possibly gain stealing electrical cables? Where they would get the opportunity to sell those goods?

Tirtho Mahmud

A shameful display of cruelty not because they killed Bangladeshis, but they killed human beings in such a brutal manner, in the name of law.

Saudis have high-rise towers and expensive fashion boutiques; but deep down, their society is hardly up to modern standards. What kind of Islamic state is it anyway?

Anonymous

In 1996, Lucille McLaughlan and Deborah Perry, two British citizens, killed an Australian nurse Gilford in Saudi Arabia. The amount of blood money paid to the victims was 730,000 pounds.

British government had strong lobbying for their citizens. The murderers returned to the UK even without being lashed. So, for the downtrodden, life is in constant danger everywhere; they will not get paid, they will be underpaid and they will be beheaded!

Nafiza Nasarullah

I am profoundly shocked to see such act of cruelty in an open place. We respect the law of Saudi government but still we hope, if alternative way could be defined for punishing foreign nationals, who are working there for their national development, if they commit any crime.

The respective governments of foreign workers should give proper guidance and information about civil laws, rules to all those to go for work in other countries beforehand to avoid and face such cruelty.

S A Chowdhury

Sharia Law means abiding by the Holy Quran and not in parts as practiced in other Muslim states. The consequences of such crimes are within The Laws of Holy Book and those that think it's barbaric should think again.

I agree more could have been done but how many people in Bangladesh actually knew that these men were on death row? Where was the high level exposure of this case by the Embassy