

Make the Eid meaningful for the poor



PHOTO: STAR

Eid-ul-Azha, the second biggest religious festival of the Muslims, will be celebrated soon around the world. Many of us are busy making plans to celebrate the Eid in a befitting manner. On the other hand, poverty will deprive many people of the joy the Eid. The pleasure of Eid is not same for all. For the poor, the Eid day is like any other day of struggle to manage their daily meals. The affluent people among us should do something to make the poor people's Eid meaningful. If the well-off people from each locality come forward, we can at least ensure the poor people new clothes and a hearty meal on the Eid day. We may not change their life permanently. But this noble act may inspire us to do many more good things for society and country.

Jabunnaher
On e-mail

Inculcate new generation with Gandhi's ideal

Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy is more relevant in today's world than ever before. His philosophy of Ahimsa is exactly what we need today to eliminate conflict and promote worldwide peace and prosperity. The new generation considers Gandhi's philosophy and ideas totally irrelevant today. They think that Gandhi and his principles belong to a bygone era and are obsolete.

Ahimsa or non-violence means eradication of the desire to kill or harm others. Gandhi once said: "I would be guilty of violence if I helped someone in harming someone else or if I benefited from a harmful act."

If we do not want to get hurt, then we should not hurt others. If we want peace, we should let others to live in peace. The real battle worth fighting isn't with each other, but against common enemies such as poverty, exploitation, injustice and racism. Gandhi inspired the world with his faith in truth and justice for mankind. He was a great soul who loved even those who fought against his ideals, to bring about peace with non-violence.

Miton Kumar Gupto
Phulbari Technical & BM Institute
Phulbari
Dinajpur

Wisdom of blocking entire Youtube website

I don't see the logic behind blocking an entire website for some specific material. Youtube is used by millions around the world, not only for entertainment but also for educational, business and other important purposes. For example, my preparation for GMAT exam is very much based on free tutorial provided by Khan Academy and all its videos are on Youtube. But now I have no access to these videos.

My question to BTRC: How did you come up with a decision to block an entire website instead of blocking only the harmful material on it?

Abdullah Al Fahad
SME (Subject Matter Expert)/QC Analyst

Police should help, not harass people

Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) recently gave a statement about police corruption in Bangladesh. It said that people pay more money as bribe to the police than to their government. Extortion by police is a common phenomenon in Dhaka. Every day, Police take bribes from buses, trucks, pushcarts, rickshaws, hawkers and even from beggars. These kinds of corruption have been mentioned in the statement of AHRC. They have said that in lieu of giving service to the citizens, police are involved in corruption. AHRC has also said that there is not even a single place where police do not take bribe from.

We, the young generation hope that our government will take strong steps against police corruption. Police should be the real friends of people. Please use the police force to help people instead of using them for political purposes.

Zannatul Ferdous Usha
Student of class X
Taronj Pilot Girls' High School
Sherpur



PHOTO: AFP

Inoculate, not kill, dogs to prevent rabies

More than 55,000 people die of rabies every year globally. And 2,100 people die of Rabies in Bangladesh a year. So, people's concern over rabies results in brutal killing of about twenty million dogs every year worldwide. But it is proven that vaccinating dogs are more effective than killing them for eliminating rabies. Studies say that vaccinating 70 percent dogs of any area can eliminate rabies totally within a certain time. Vaccination programme is conducted by many organizations in association with Bangladesh government in different regions of Bangladesh.

We are happy to know from a recent report published in the "Star Health" page of this daily that the rabies patients have started getting the benefit of advanced medical treatment. And we are very glad to know that doctors are using these modern treatment facilities at National Rabies Protection Centre in Dhaka.

However, we urge the authorities concerned to continue the vaccination programme. The government should also appoint specialized doctors and trained staff at least at district level hospitals as well as equip the hospitals with all advanced facilities for rabies treatment.

Mobarak Ali
RK Mission Road
Gopibagh, Dhaka

Railwaygate scam exposes politicians

Much has been discussed about Mr. Suranjit Sengupta, money stashed in his APS's vehicle, its destination, statements of driver Azam Khan and the hunt for the black cat.

But I am impressed by Suranjit Sengupta's 'honest' remarks about politicians after the latest development in the railwaygate scam. He reportedly said, "It is the characteristic of politicians to marginalise someone. I am a victim of this"; and about driver Azam Khan, he commented, "After six months, the driver surfaced anew changing his voice. He is now talking like a politician."

Suranjit Sengupta, a veteran politician, portrayed a politician as someone who shows double standard, changes tone with changing time and is hell-bent on maligning others' reputation. The railwaygate scam at least revealed the true face of our politicians.

Repair, broaden old footbridges



PHOTO: STAR

The number of bridges in the capital is inadequate. Driven by constant influx of people, Dhaka's population has reached its limit. .

The city needs sufficient number of footbridges and underpasses to ease the pedestrians' daily movement. The notorious peak hour rush of the capita is daily affair and the daily commuters are the worst sufferers. The suffering is more for who have cross the streets through the narrow foot-bridges and underpasses.

The bad condition of the footbridges discourages pedestrians to use them. So the pedestrians jaywalk flouting the traffic rules. Thus, more traffic congestions and fatal road accidents take place. .

Most of the age-old footbridges are in a very bad shape as their staircases have seriously eroded, potential source of hazard for their users any time.

It is high time the authorities concerned paid serious attention to the commuters' plight and undertook necessary initiatives to have the eroding staircases repaired and the passages of footbridges broadened. At the same time, a good number of footbridges should be built for easing commuters' movement within the city.

Hasnat
An Optometrist, Dhaka

Petrol from air!

Your last page report sourced from "Mail online" published on October 20th is possibly the greatest news of this century, heralding a unique technological break-through in the critical liquid fuel sector!

Going through the article, it seems that apart from the capital cost of the plant, the largest slice of operating cost will be for electric power!

This is required for the electrolysis of the alkaline air mixture for producing pure Carbon Dioxide and Hydrogen, by the electrolysis of water.

Pure Oxygen, a life saving gas, will be the useful by-product from water electrolysis. Finally, the two gases will be recombined to produce the required hydro-carbon liquid fuel which could be aviation fuel, gasoline or diesel as desired, through in process variables!

To reduce the cost of power, and be independent of any fuel to be consumed for power generation, alternative electrical power sources like sun, wind or even hydro-power can be the rational option for a traditional fuel free process!

I am sure that the commercial possibilities of this unique technical discovery will be rapidly taken up; and within the next five years we can have a plant producing automobile and other liquid fuels which will be a great and cheaper source for all types of fuel!

Engr. S.A. Mansoor, Dhaka

Living in luxury at the expense of others

Almost all American industries, even non-war industries, are making money at the expense of the poor of other nations of the world. In order to do so you have to rob them, in a sense, to have your plenty, not plenty, but more than enough, I mean far more than you ought to have, more than your share.

They call a commercial war, and it means in order to get my luxury. In other words, I am living in luxury at your expense. America has been living in luxury at the world's expense while other nations are starving. So America lives in luxury while they live in poverty and starvation. You think God's going to bless them? No!

For thy merchants were the great men of the Earth, and by thy sorceries (the deceitfulness of riches and the witchcraft of wealth!) were all nations deceived! (American affluence is the dream of every country the world over, and her luxuries, sins and violence, from her music to her crimes, are imitated by nations around the world!)

Ted Rudow III, MA
Encina Ave

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Tuesday's The Daily Star news report headlined "Ominous inaction"

Mong Pru

This is a serious crime and all involved must be tried for this. Without the ruling party's involvement it could not have been possible.

Mahboob Hossain

If the allegation against the police officers is correct, they should be sacked.

Naabaj

Punishment should be meted out to these culprits.

Sheikh Jahangir Alam

Why were law enforcement teams silent? It is still unclear to us.

Harun Rashid

It is a terrorist act supported by the local administration. The people in the administration and law enforcement agencies have been given constitutional duty to prevent any such incident.

But instead of taking action they acted like wooden dolls. They totally sabotaged government's secular stand and also core Islamic value of peace.

Shekhar Dev

The incident proved inefficiency and callousness of administration. They must act responsibly and neutrally when dealing with such incidents of violence. And culprits in the administration, if any, must be punished according to the law.

Sengupta, Canada

An independent High Court judge may be appointed to go through the whole scam and find out the officials responsible for the violence and bring responsible officials to justice as none is above law.

Suahmed

It is indeed strange how the government agencies including the ruling party high-ups remained silent. Without independent judicial investigation, we will not be able to know the fact.

Nazmul

The report shows that the law enforcing agencies are not in sync. Our request to the government is to create harmony among the law enforcing agencies. Otherwise, general people will have to pay the price in the near future. The officials who were neglectful of their duties during the mayhem should be punished.

Firko

People pay tax to maintain law-enforcement agencies. But they do not do their duty properly. On the contrary, we are witnessing that they are involved in various criminal activities.

Translucent

Administration cannot wash its hands off about the pre-planned violence against the Buddhist community. This should be investigated by a judicial commission so that justice can be served.

Md Musa

Their political backgrounds should be checked, especially what political connections they maintained during their student life. A lot of Jamaat-minded people are in the current administration. The way they have occupied all layers of Bangladesh administration, it is impossible to remove them in near future.

Ajit Barua, Tokyo

It is incredible how the whole intelligence branches remained silent during the destructive incident in Ramu. These branches of law-enforcement department are enough to let down the government and it is quite clear that they had information about the incident.

To prevent such mindless violence, the government should take stern action against those who failed to give security to