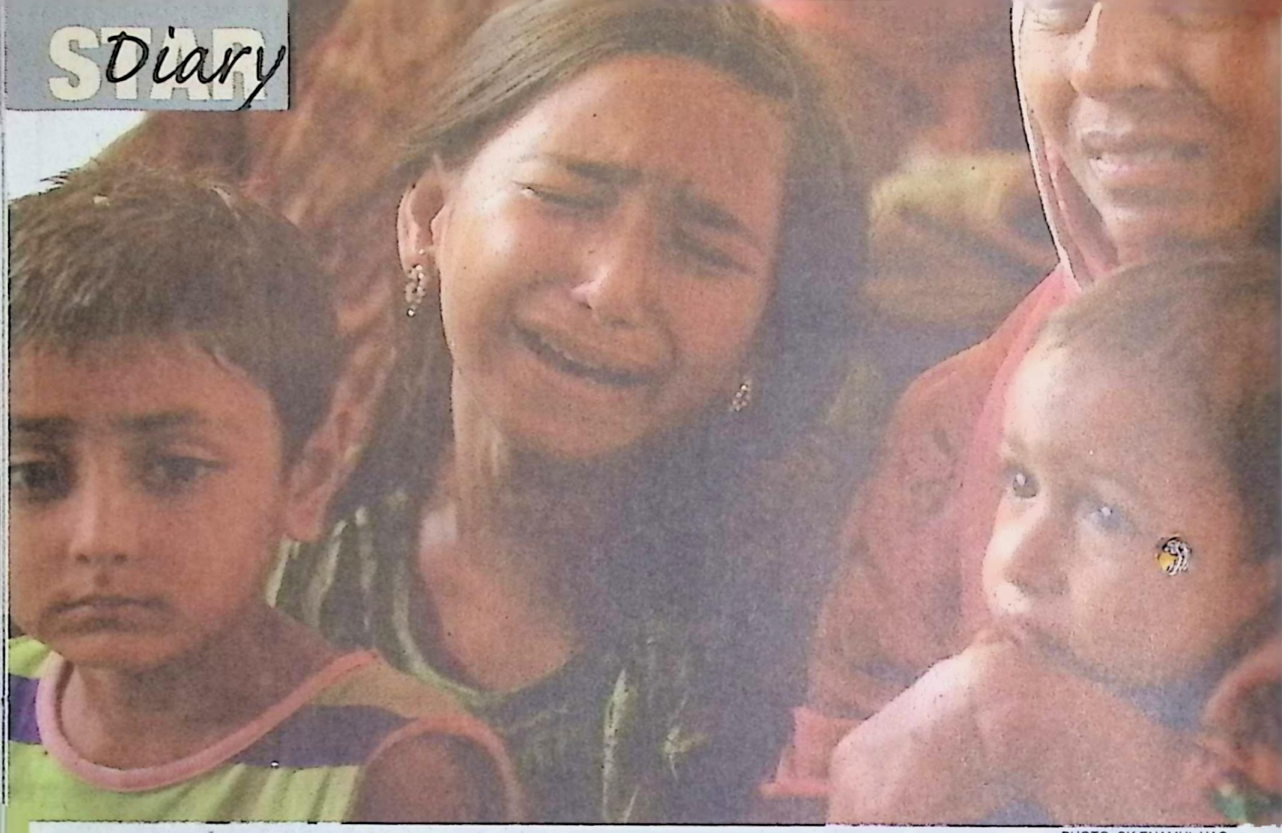


PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Helping the Motherless Children

The other day I was watching a special programme aired on a private TV channel on the occasion of Mother's Day. The programme focused on the present state of those children who lost their mothers in the Savar tragedy. For many of them, their mothers were the sole breadwinners of the family. All the children seemed uncertain about their future as they couldn't understand how their lives would go on without their mother. Many of them couldn't believe that their mother was gone forever, they still waited patiently for her to return. I think these children should be helped by the government and benefactors alike. The government could take long term measures to help them so that these children can grow up with a more secure future without having to scrounge for a living. A board of trustees could be assigned by the government to ensure that a portion of the donations received for the families of the Savar victims is reserved for the welfare of these motherless children. Hopefully, the departed souls will get peace knowing that their children are not left on their own but are being taken care of by the state and its people.

Shimul Kumar
Via E-mail

They Deserve a Chance

Some days ago, after my school ended, my friends and I were gossiping among ourselves outside our school. Suddenly something caught our eyes. We saw a hermaphrodite(hijra) asking for money from a boy. The boy was unable to run away since the hermaphrodite gripped the hands of the boy tightly. He had to empty his wallet to get released from the hermaphrodite's grip. I felt bad for the boy. If hermaphrodites are accepted into the society and given a chance to earn their living, they won't be forced to bother people for money. They have the ability to earn their living but are not allowed to do so because the society views them in a negative light. They should definitely be given a chance to rehabilitate themselves so that they can live a good life with respect.

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