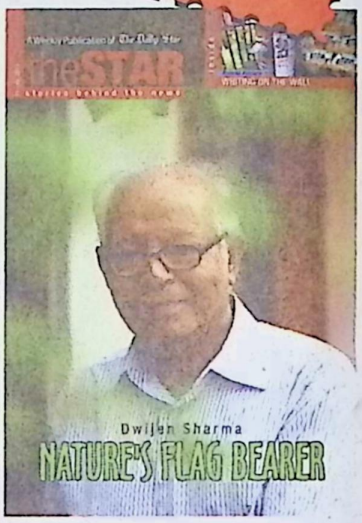
letters



Nature's Flag Bearer

It is a long, well researched and interesting article. Many of us lead a busy life and feel that we have to devote most of our energy to 'practical' things. However, articles like these help to remind us that idealism may also be very important in human life.

Robert Cowley
Adelaide, Australia

★★★

I want to thank the Star Magazine for publishing this story on this great naturalist of our country. I was deeply moved by the respect and love Dwijen Sharma shows to nature. We underestimate the importance of trees. We do not recognise that trees are not merely pleasant sources of shade and beauty but a major answer to some of our most pressing environmental problems. Through photosynthesis, for example, trees turn sunlight into food for insects, wildlife and people, and use it to create shade, beauty and wood for fuel, furniture and homes. Why we sometimes cut them unnecessarily is beyond me.

Our cities are becoming more and more unlivable every day. I believe stories like these will encourage us to be friendlier to nature.

Shaheen Jalil
Uttara, Dhaka

★★★

I enjoyed reading the piece. The Star Magazine did a great job doing a cover story on this great naturalist who has sacrificed his whole life for our country. It makes me sad that we have lost the reverence our forefathers had for nature. I remember my parents telling us not to pluck flowers or pick fruits at night because it is bad for trees. Let us teach our children to care for nature and make this world more liveable.

Tabassum Ferdausi Khan
Jordan Road, Barisal

Tamarind Dilemma

I would like to thank the writer for this well written piece. Although humorous at times, she addresses a serious issue that concerns us all. I have seen many men laugh about the tamarind theory'" of the Hefazat Chief. The women of Afghanistan who are beaten by the Taliban for going to school and work do not find it funny. I wonder if Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan who was shot in the head and neck by the Taliban but survived finds the Taliban funny. Recently, in the KP province of Pakistan, women have been banned from shopping alone without a male relative. Because "they spread vulgarity and spoil men's fasting in Ramadan," according to clerics. If his group's demands (read the thirteen point demand) are fulfilled, women in this country will meet the same fate as those in Afghanistan, many parts of Pakistan and some other countries.

Lalarukh Khan
Dubai, UAE



PHOTO COURTESY: DWIJEN SHARMA

The opinions expressed in these letters do not necessarily represent the views held by *the Star*.

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Letters to the Editor, Star Diary and Write to Mita, with the writer's name and address, should be within 200 words. All articles should be within 1,200 words. A cover letter is not necessary, but every write-up should include the writer's name, phone number and email address (if any). While The Star welcomes unsolicited articles and photographs, it cannot accept the responsibility of their loss or damage. The Star does not return unsolicited articles and photos. Response time for unsolicited write-ups ranges from three weeks to two months. All articles submitted are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity.

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