MAILBOX

Why Study Liberal Arts

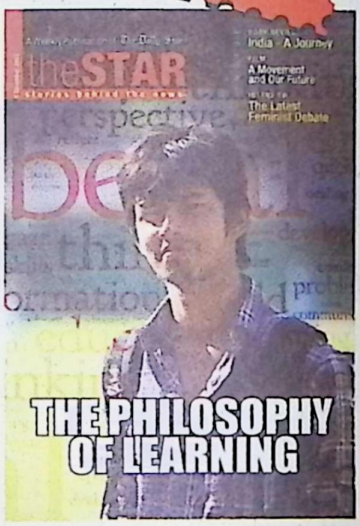
The *Star* deserves credit for this cover story that busts many myths about liberal arts education. Education, be it in science, agriculture or arts, cannot be considered complete unless the student develops knowledge about basic concepts of science, mathematics, economics, philosophy, music, natural sciences, social science, political science, religious studies and so on. A mathematics graduate without any understanding of the society and its economy or a literature student ignorant of fundamental scientific concepts and principles cannot realise his or her true potential as a citizen. More colleges and universities should embrace the idea of liberal arts education in Bangladesh.

Mokhlesur Rahman
Shyamoli, Dhaka

★★★

The article 'Why Study Liberal Arts' was very informative. Education, in my opinion, should always be such that it teaches "to live, not only to earn a living." I am glad that we can get such an education in Bangladesh. I'd like to thank the writer for presenting the issue in an interesting manner.

Rabed Ahmad
Shaheb Bajar, Rajshahi



Where have all those good days gone?

In Chintito I have found a rare voice that tells us to be better than we are. I am seventy eight years old. I have seen things that I want to forget about. In 1971 I saw a young man lying lifeless on a street—his mother wailing and running in fear. What I see now beats what I have seen before. It seems to me that we have lost the sense of basic human decency and control. We have become a nation where anything is possible. The very institutions that are supposed to protect us now rob us. The very people who we look up to for guidance betray and disappoint us with their greed and dishonesty. Chintito reminds us that we as a people were much more honest, compassionate, and hardworking than we are now. That gives me hope. We can be who we used to be.

Rashed Ali
Dhanmondi, Dhaka



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