

PHOTO: ANDREW EAGLE

Acts of Terrorism

Why do they kill us, we never did anything to anyone published on December 13, 2013 in the *Star* stands out among all the articles I have read in the past one month concerning the recent violence that has plagued our country. The writer of this article has called the perpetrators of this violent crimes what they really are---terrorists. Setting a bus carrying women and children on fire *is* an act of terrorism. The government must catch these criminals and try them under laws against terrorism. Because, "...each photo of severely burnt victims of arson highlights the government's failure to provide security to its ordinary citizens." as written in the article *Bangladesh in Crisis* published in the *Star* on the same date. The government must do something—they have a responsibility to protect the citizens.

Srabonti Chowdhury
Wari, Dhaka

In the Brahmaputra's Realm

I want to congratulate the writer for capturing the beauty of the *kashphool* juxtaposed against the abject poverty they are surrounded by. But his article is even more than that. I have not read anything so beautifully written in a long time. Through his writing *kashphool* becomes the men and women who, "from the poverty of sand, just above the Brahmaputran waterline", rise against all odds. Andrew Eagle is the gifted writer who has crystallized into expressive and original language the eternal sentiments and yearnings of the people by the Bramaputra who are poor in money but rich in their hearts.

Sumaiya Parveen Shumi
Banani, Dhaka

The Flag of Rescue

The writer of this feature shows with examples of how successive governments have tried to use the military for their own political interests. The tendency to use our patriotic armed forces for political gains is very unfortunate. Bangladesh military has earned the world's respect by serving in UN missions with the highest professionalism in many troubled zones around the world. Our brave men and women in uniform have gone beyond their call of duty and helped their fellow citizens in times of disasters, both natural and man-made. Whenever something goes wrong, we look up to the army to solve the problem. There is a reason for that. They are the only institution in the country that is efficient, dynamic, professional and impartial. We believe they will continue to maintain that image.

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