MAILBOX

We, the people

The 1972 Constitution is indeed the soul of our nation. It was the reflection of people's struggle for freedom from terror and discrimination meted out to Bengalis by the Pakistan military regime. It was also a dream of what we were to become as a nation and society. It is unfortunate that Bangladesh has become a different country than what was envisioned by the founding fathers of this nation. Many blame the Constitution for this. They need to understand that it is not the Constitution but people who run institutions and enforce laws. Constitution has no power---people do. Our current Constitution is far away from the principles on which this country won independence. In order to move forward in peace and prosperity, all parties and stakeholders ought to sit down and reach a consensus on fundamental issues like what our national identity is and what kind of a country we want to live in.

Rifat Sattar
Mirpur, Dhaka

★★★

As a freedom fighter, I very much appreciated the cover story on the 1972 Constitution of Bangladesh. As the article points out, the ideals and principles that were the guiding light of the Constitution did not fall from the sky overnight. They emanated from the movements and value-based politics of the fifties and sixties that paved the way for the Liberation War. People wanted a free and democratic country. They wanted an end to the discrimination of man by man. When I look at my country today, I hardly recognise it. I find it strange that those who ideologically opposed the war benefitted from it the most. They are the ones who enjoy high positions in the society. I am not jealous of their wealth and power. I just wish they for once in their lifetime opened their heart and saw the truth. The creation of Bangladesh is Bangladesh's greatest achievement. Let us be united and build it together.

Idris Ali
Jessore





PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Our Cruel Birth

I would like to thank the writer for his piece on our victory day but unfortunately he missed some significant points. What happened to Zahir Raihan? Why was General Osmani absent in the surrender ceremony? It would be better if addressed these issues in his article. About Bangabandhu's regime the article highly criticized the role of Awamli League but forgot to mention the difficulties they were facing in a war torn country. I think the writer should have a better study on our history before writing on this kind of nationally significant issues.

Nusrat Jahan Shorna
Laxmipore, Dhaka

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINE:

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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