MAILBOX

thestarmagazine@gmail.com

2013: A Rollercoaster ride

As a regular reader of *the Star*, I very much appreciated the cover story published on December 27, 2013. I specially enjoyed the titles that were funny as well as thought provoking. However, I was a bit disappointed to see that relatives of top VVIPs who were in the news all year round did not make it to *Star's* list.

Konkona Haq
Gulshan, Dhaka

★★★

As a Bangladeshi, I felt proud to learn about the great achievements of Salman Khan and Dr Shuvo Roy. Salman Khan got the world's attention for his innovative teaching methods and Dr Shuvo's invention will save lives around the world for years to come. The media should do more to get these positive stories reach wider audiences many of whom do not know about these talented and young Bangladeshis who have brought glory to our nation.

Ashraful Islam
Dhanmondi

Do As I Say, Not As I Do

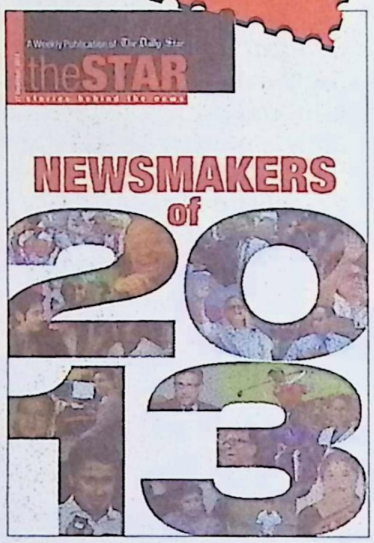
We, the people of Bangladesh, are tired of the hypocrisy of the western countries regarding the war crime trial in Bangladesh. Where was their moral compass when the Pakistan military along with their Bangladeshi collaborators were indiscriminately killing innocent people and raping and torturing women for wanting freedom? Where was their cry for upholding human rights when the Pakistan military was killing leading Bengali intellectuals for being free-thinkers? We have not forgotten that the United States almost sent the 7th fleet to assist the Pakistan regime in 1971. The war crime trial is an internal affair of Bangladesh and these countries would do well to respect the will of a sovereign people. I want to thank the writer for such a brave article.

Masud Haider
Magura

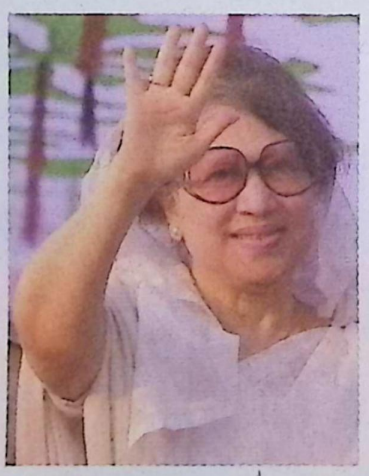
Diplomatic Gaffe

The recent treatment of an Indian diplomat by US authorities has once again shown Uncle Sam's arrogance in treating nationals of less powerful nations. While it is totally unacceptable that the diplomat allegedly paid her maid less than the minimum wage in the State of New York, the way law enforcement officials abused her is equally disturbing. The United States should think twice before lecturing other nations on human rights and related moral issues. It is the United States that has invaded Iraq based on fabricated evidence and caused the death of hundreds of thousands of civilians. The world expects better from the United States, the self-declared moral guardian of the free world.

Andre Schoffer
Sacramento, California
via email







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

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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