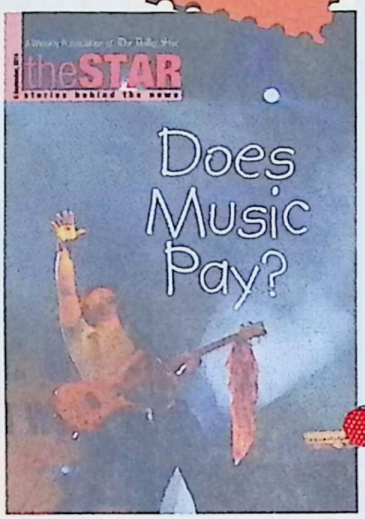
MAILBOX
thestarmagazine@gmail.com



Living in Music, Living on Music

I sincerely hope that the cover story will draw some much needed attention to the music scene of the country. The media has an important role to play to promote good music. Singers who appear on TV are not necessarily the best the country can offer. There are innumerable numbers of artistes in small towns and villages who have devoted their entire lives to music but have not received any recognition. At the government owned BTV the only criterion for selection seems to be loyalty to a particular political party. Quality is not the issue here. On the other hand, we, the audience too have a role to play in order to encourage musicians. Instead of buying pirated CDs, we should buy authentic ones so that the artistes can get their royalty.

Mohammad Asad
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

★★★

If we want to produce good quality, world class musicians, we should create opportunities at the root levels. Music should be made mandatory till class ten. Most schools have a music teacher but no one takes him or her seriously. When I was a student of class eight, our school had a music teacher who was very enthusiastic about her job. I remember my classmates laughing at her most of the time. In many villages, musical programmes at schools and colleges are discouraged. We must remember that a great musician cannot grow overnight. Great musicians need years and years of training and devotion. We must nurture artistes with potential from an early age.

Neelima Ibrahim
Uttara, Dhaka

Israel Cannot Win

The writer makes the convincing argument that there cannot be a military solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict. No matter how many innocent Palestinian lives Israel Defence Forces kill, the fact is Palestinian people have the right to an independent and sovereign state. On the other hand, violent attacks by Hamas on Israeli civilians will not help the Palestinian cause. Both sides should sit together and make concessions to continue to live side by side in peace and harmony. The United States, the lone superpower, must stop turning a blind eye to Israeli atrocities and use all its power—political, diplomatic and military—to bring the two sides to the negotiating table and reach a peaceful solution. The big powers must realise that unless there is peace in the Middle East, there cannot be peace in the rest of the world.

Mustafa Kamal
Shantinagar, Dhaka



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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.

All materials should be sent to: The Star magazine, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Fax: 880-2-8125155 or emailed to: <thestarmagazine@gmail.com>
It is recommended that those submitting work for the first time to The Star take a look at a sample copy beforehand. Our website is: http://www.thedailystar.net/magazine