

TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



The author's children, about 16 years ago.

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

Photographing Your Children

Children have been a favourite subject of photographers ever since the invention of photography. They make wonderful subjects because they pose in their natural state without becoming self-conscious of the camera and viewers respond well to them. Photographers all over the world take pictures of children: while on vacation, or journalism assignments, or just for fun.

However, what about your own children or grandchildren? While that child in an exotic foreign city is interchangeable with other ones and hence never seems to grow up, our own children grow very quickly. Their special moments – the first steps, the first birthday, or the time they tried to read a book upside down – float by in front of our eyes, never to return. If you want to save those precious childhood moments of your child or grandchild, the time to act is now.

When my children were growing up (before the days of digital photography) I photographed them profusely. Now I feel fortunate to have done so because those days will never return. Here are some tips for taking photos of children in your family based on my experience.

1. Carpe diem – seize the day! A childhood goes by quickly and each day that passes never returns. However, your family's children are easily accessible. Therefore, try to take some pictures of the child or children in your life every day. Until they reach teenage years, they will, in all likelihood, cooperate with you.

2. Vary the action. A child's daily activities have much variety. Yet most child photos show only a smiling face. How about other precious moments,

such as eating, bathing, walking or crawling, putting on clothes, brushing hair, playing with siblings or friends, and the first day at school?

3. Photograph all parts. For example, the child's feet and hands, their shoes and socks, toys, their clothes, books, hair after being brushed. All these contribute to a documentation of the childhood.

4. Get down to the child's level. When adults, standing up, photograph a child, the adult's viewpoint shows in the photograph and we find ourselves looking down at the child. A photograph taken from a child's level looks more natural and engaging.

5. Pay attention to the light. If you watch where the light falls, it will help you take a better photograph. For example, make sure that the face is well-lit. If there is a window, bring the child close to it, because window light is beautiful light. If you can capture light reflected in the eyes, it can be captivating. Or photograph in a balcony, roof or an outdoor setting (with appropriate precaution of course.) I never used flash, but use one if you must.

6. Clothing. Have the child wear the nicest clothes possible for best results. Occasionally, however, rumpled or informal clothes look fine and lend an air of authenticity to the photograph.

The point is that you have easy access to children in your family: your child, grandchild, or nephew/niece, younger sibling, etc. And their childhood is flying by quickly. Their photographs you take today will, one day, become treasured family heirlooms.

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

DAUGHTER-IN-LAW'S DEATH Ex-MP, wife flee home

Say police
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Awami League lawmaker Khan Tipu Sultan and his wife went into hiding soon after a murder case was filed against them in connection with the death of their daughter-in-law on Thursday night, said Dhanmondi police.

Shamarukh Mahjabin was found dead in her in-laws' house in Dhanmondi. According to her husband Humayun Sultan, Mahjabin committed suicide as they were facing

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Barisal duck farm abandoned for 5yrs

Th 40cr spent for its construction goes to waste

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

The structures, equipment, and land worth Tk 40 crore of the state-run duck breeding farm at Barisal city's Goriar Par has been abandoned for the last five years.

The premises of the Regional Duck Breeding Farm under the Department of Livestock Services has been reduced to a grazing field for cattle.

The farm was built in 2006 on four acres of land at the cost of Tk 40 crore under a three-year project titled "Establishment of regional duck breeding farm along with hatchery project." After the completion of the project in 2009, the government did not undertake any new project to keep the farm in

operation, eventually leading its abandonment, said Samaresh Biswas, animal production officer of Dairy and Cattle Development Farm at the district office, who is also the officer-in-charge of the duck farm.

It was fully equipped with modern amenities to breed an average of 24,000 ducks and rear the ducklings per month.

Visiting the spot, this correspondent found all three incubators and three hatcheries completely damaged. The two ponds inside the compound have become too polluted for use now.

The three-storey administrative building, which housed a training centre, a dormitory, and 10 brooding sheds remain useless.

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SARADHA CHIT FUND SCAM Trinamool leader attempts suicide in jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
New Delhi

Kunal Ghosh, suspended Trinamool Congress party member of parliament, jailed in the Saradha chit fund scam case, allegedly tried to commit suicide in prison on Thursday night, West Bengal police said yesterday.

Ghosh, a former journalist and once considered close to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, took 58 sleeping pills in his prison cell at the Presidency Correctional Home in Kolkata where he

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Former high commissioners who had served in Dhaka and New Delhi in the last four decades, at the first India-Bangladesh High Commissioners' Summit, organised by Dhaka University's international relations department and India-Bangladesh Foundation at the senate building on the campus yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

DEATH OF SAJAL KHALED Memorial built in Himalayas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mountaineers not only have built a positive image of the country but also are working as an inspiration for the younger generations to take positive challenges in their lives, speakers said at a programme on the recent expedition of a team to Mount Kyazo Ri in the Himalayas.

The climbers of Bangla Mountaineering and Trekking Club (BMTK) went on an expedition to Mount Kyazo Ri and returned after building a memorial of late mountaineer Sajal Khaled at Dughla pass in the Himalayas in Nepal.

The speakers said the country was proud of all the mountaineers who scaled Mount Everest and took the country's image to a new height.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, Coordinator of Nijera Kari Khushi Kabir, Marketing Manager of Square Toiletries Jesmin Zaman, and Managing Director of DataSoft Systems Bangladesh Ltd Mahboob Zaman attended the programme, at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Enam Ul Haque, expeditor to Antarctica and North Pole, moderated the programme.

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BAN ON RETAKING DU ADMISSION TEST Hunger strike continues

DU CORRESPONDENT

A total of 24 college graduates fell sick as they continued their fast unto death strike for the third day at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday demanding that the Dhaka University authorities withdraw the decision to discontinue the opportunity to take the admission test twice.

The demonstrators claimed that about 74 people have participated in the hunger strike, and over the three days 24 of them fell sick. They, however, after getting treated joined the protest.

Talking to The Daily Star, Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique said rendition of songs and playing music over loudspeakers by the protestors cause disturbance to people of the residential area.

He urged the protestors to leave the venue immediately, saying patients at Dhaka Medical College Hospital and students of nearby dormitories are facing problems due to the racket.

Meanwhile, Nagarik Chhatra Oikkyo, the student front of Nagarik Oikkyo, staged a rally to press home the same demand.

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A section of 31 foreign nationals, who were arrested by the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police in the capital yesterday on the charge of living in the country illegally. They were produced before the media at DB office. Such foreign nationals have been involved in different criminal activities, including killing and drug peddling, for a long time, a DMP press release said.

PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh envoy briefs US congressman

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh would be at the centre point to connect economic powers like China, India and Myanmar, Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Ziauddin said while briefing US Congressman Ed Whitfield in Washington DC yesterday.

Ziauddin briefed him on the current economic advancements in Bangladesh.

He also added that Bangladesh is self-sufficient in food and has made headway in sustainable production of rice in water logged and saline areas in the country.

Ambassador Ziauddin further briefed the

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