

ColoursFM 101.6 celebrates first anniversary

On January 10, 2014, Tune Bangladesh Limited launched its radio station, ColoursFM 101.6. It has been a wonderful year since the station went on-air and has been the constant talk of the town for quite a while. ColoursFM 101.6 offers a wide spectrum of shows catering to varieties of listeners and with some of the best music available. Geeteara Safiya Choudhury, advisors to ColoursFM, and distinguished guests were present to celebrate the occasion. Listeners, participants of different shows, guests, hosts, performers, musicians, well-wishers and the entire ColoursFM family were also present to celebrate the anniversary at the station.



Seabratee Mukta Scout Group Cycle Hike

The Seabratee Mukta Scout Group, one of the oldest and most prominent open scout groups of the country, arranged an "Adventurous Cycle Hike" in celebration of its 40th anniversary on January 9, 2015. The aim of this event was to promote bicycles in Bangladesh as an environment-friendly, affordable vehicle.

The cyclists started their journey from the premises of Mohammadpur Government High School and gathered at the Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University. They cycled around different areas of Dhaka – namely Rayerbazar, Bosila and Keraniganj. The event was followed by a certificate awarding ceremony.

Professor Dr. Mohammad SI Mullick, Chairman of the Organising Committee and Head of the Department of Psychiatry at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, formally opened the event. Vice Chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Professor Sahadat Ullah, Ph.D, handed the certificates to the participants as chief guest. Dr. AKM Ruhul Amin attended the ceremony as special guest.

Tauhidul Islam, National Commissioner, Bangladesh Scouts; Ferdaus Ahmed and Amimul Ehsan Khan, Deputy National Commissioners of Bangladesh Scouts, along with many others were present at the inauguration of the event.



Adam Smith: A Game of I and I

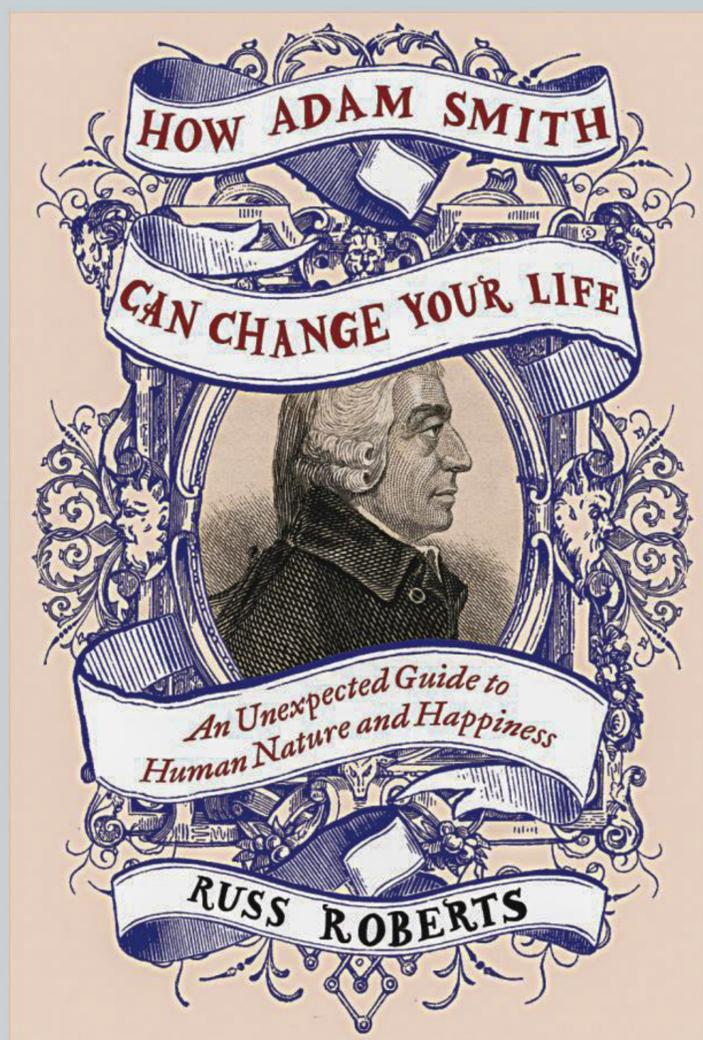
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Adam Smith (1723-1790) evokes two visions. The first is his magnum opus *The Wealth of Nations* that laid the foundation of economics. It came out in 1776, the same year the US freed itself from British colonisation. The second image is the "invisible hand" and "self-interested behaviour". These two created such confusion that the 19th century satirist Thomas Carlyle christened economics as the "dismal science". Before *The Wealth of Nations*, Smith wrote another great book that went unnoticed in economics: *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*. It was first published in 1759 and revised before Smith died in 1790. Here, Smith teaches us not as a political economist, but as a moral philosopher on how to be loved and how to feel lovely.

Let's play a game called "I and I". All day today and all day tomorrow, on a piece of paper, you write down everything you do. You look through your own eyes at others and through the eyes of others at yourself. You write a dual diary. As the "First I", you go through life writing the diary like almost everybody else. You see the world through your own eyes. You also write side notes. As the "Second I", you observe yourself through the eyes of others. Russ Roberts re-interprets this Second I as the "impartial spectator" (the moral sentiment). As individuals, we seldom see through the Second I or we don't know it exists. It's when we look at ourselves through the eyes of others, we can properly assess ourselves and find meaning on how to, as Roberts says, "love life and feel lovely about life."

When we are genuinely loved, respected and appreciated, we feel lovely. Smith, however, was aware that many of us don't observe the Second I. Thus we fail to separate true praise from flattery. Remember Hans Anderson's Emperor? The person who was obsessed with fine clothes? He was so obsessed that the tailors wove him a cloth so fine that it was invisible. Only the true eye can see through it, they said. All the subjects



of the Emperor praised his new clothes. There was one boy in the crowd who had true eyes. That boy was the Second I. Alas! The Emperor didn't know the Second I existed. The inevitable happened.

What else can this Second I teach us? Let's consider gadgets. Your current phone is probably enough for all the tasks you need to do. It's also in good working condition. The phone company comes up with an improvement. The RAM is better. There's more storage. The processor is the latest state of the art over other competitors. The design beats anything you ever saw. In 1759, Adam Smith asked the same question our Second I would ask us in 2015. Do we really 'need' that extra bit? The stress is on 'need'. Of course our wants are unlimited as economics teaches us from day one. The First I tells us: of course we want the whole universe in our pocket. The Second I asks us: do we really 'need' that extra bit? Isn't demand a function of our 'need' and not something else? This is Smith's misunderstood "invisible hand" that made self-interest appear as selfishness without the Second I.

Play the game of I and I the way Adam Smith did in *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* in 1759 and in 1790. When you do something you shouldn't have, you'll know. You'll try not to repeat the mistake next time. When you do something in the eyes of others that make them happy, you'll also feel happy. If you see yourself through the First and the Second I at the same time, self-interest will make you appreciate life. You will probably be loved by others for what you are and also for what you're not. You'll probably feel lovely too to yourself.

Source: *How Adam Smith Can Change Your Life: An Unexpected Guide to Human Nature and Happiness*. By Russ Roberts. Penguin October 2014.

Asrar Chowdhury teaches economic theory and game theory in the classroom. Outside he listens to music and BBC Radio; follows Test Cricket; and plays the flute. He can be reached at: asrar.chowdhury@facebook.com