



## SENSE OF HONOUR

Last week while going to Shahjahanpur by rickshaw, I saw the rickshaw puller beaming with happiness. After a couple of minutes of chatter, I came to know that his son was currently studying at the Notre Dame College. "I am very proud of my son. He received golden GPA in both his JSC and SSC exams. He is also doing extremely well in his college exams as a student of science," Mizanur Rahman, the rickshaw puller, said with pride. I asked him whether any rich or influential person offered help to get his son enrolled to a good school or college. He replied in the positive and said that many of them even contacted him later on offering financial support and assistance. However, the poor rickshaw puller asked them to keep his family in their prayers and pray that the Almighty lets his son succeed on his own merit. He further added that if he need be, he would work all his life to support his son's education financially but would not seek the help of others. I was astounded by his sense of honour. Fathers like Mr Rahman are really worthy of praise. I wish him and his son all the very best. As the saying goes, "Wisdom is neither inheritance nor legacy."

Bipul K Debnath  
Dhaka College, Dhaka

## We Shall Overcome

Last week, after the end of another work day, I went to the Chittagong railway station to receive an uncle from there. I saw two young lads standing at the station, with two heavy travel bags on their shoulders, waiting for their train to appear. They started talking about a forthcoming bank recruitment test which would be held the next day. One of them seemed very frustrated about failing in several recruitment examinations. He was very annoyed with himself as he questioned his ability to get a job. I approached them and after the customary greetings, I asked them how many exams they had to take. I learnt that they were fresh graduates of a reputed university and had taken a few recruitment exams. I informed them of the number of exams I had to take and then told them of my current job and position at my workplace. My failure rate and the patience to yet keep trying for the ideal job shocked them. However, after listening to me, the gloomy expression on their face was replaced by an optimistic look. Frustration and pessimism won't achieve anything but will only down your spirits. If you seek to reach your destination, you need be patient and have a positive attitude.

M A Akad Masud  
United Commercial Bank  
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Write  
to Mita



SHAHEEN ANAM

will be able to overcome any situation in her life. Sometimes one has to take difficult decisions in order to resolve problems that will have future implications. On matters of relationships it is best to be frank, practical and forthright. Apparently, this person is not right for your sister, the sooner she faces this reality the better for everyone. Long term relationship requires a maturity that he does not seem to have. To be honest, she should break off with him and the sooner the better. He might be shattered now but will get over it eventually. Life is long and they are young, both of them will have other relationships before they finally settle down.

Dear Mita,  
I am worried about my sister who is 19 years old and is in a relationship with one of her friends. I feel that the boy is very immature and doesn't know how to handle a relationship. My sister is also worried that as we belong to completely different economic and social standing, our family would not accept their relationship. She has been trying to make him understand that he needs to stand on his feet if this relationship is to work. Despite her pleas, he hardly tries to do anything but he claims to be madly in love with her. Now she's unsure whether she should stay in this relationship or call this thing off. She's also worried that if she breaks up with him, he'd be shattered and this would make her feel guilty. As her brother, I feel her pain and would really like to offer a way out of this situation. Please help.

Concerned Brother  
Dear Concerned,  
It is heartening to see you so concerned about your sister. I am sure with a supportive brother like you she

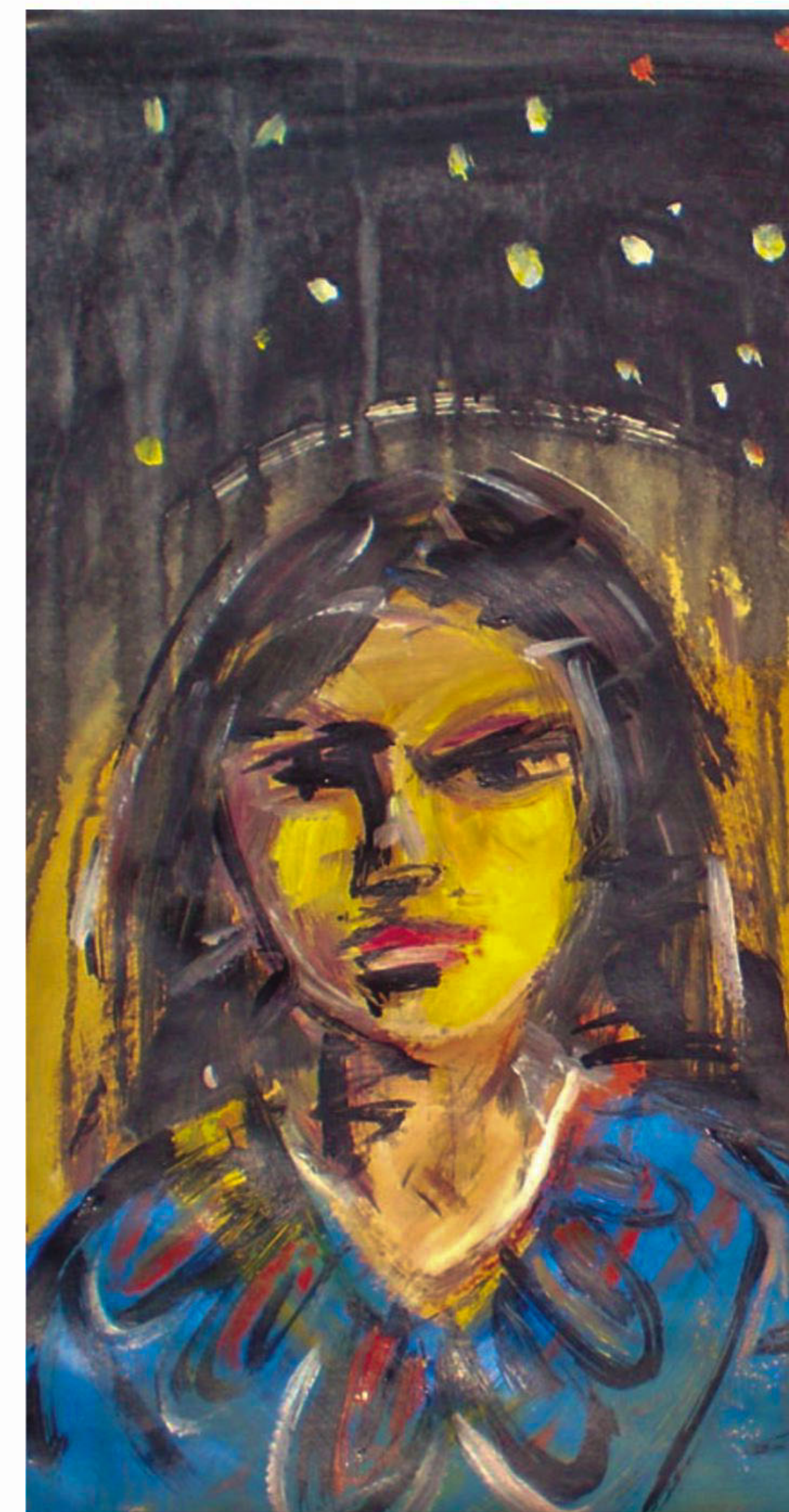


ILLUSTRATION: MANAN MORSHED

Dear Mita,  
I am an 18-year-old girl and the only daughter of my parents. I belong to a somewhat conservative family. I'm in love with a guy who studies with me and we are both quite serious about our relationship. The problem is that his grades are not up to the mark and he probably won't be able to enroll in a good public university of the country. He is aware of this too and is quite worried about that. I want to support him in everything but am afraid that if he cannot manage a good education or job, my parents will not accept our relationship. I am quite upset about this. Please help me.

Anxious  
Dear Anxious,  
You are only 18 and have a long way to go both in your personal and professional life before you settle down. Please do concentrate on your studies and ask him

to do the same. If he loves you so much then he needs to make more of an effort to deserve you. Remember, there is nothing one cannot do with hard work and determination. So please encourage him to do something that you will be proud of then your family will surely accept him.