

Story of the Bangla press

What a timely cover story just before the 21st February! While the rest of the world takes great care in preserving their history, we pay no attention our own. How can we let something like the press of Kargal Harinath rot in sheer neglect and lack of attention? It is nice to see *the Star* remembering the pioneers of Bangla newspapers who shaped the views and opinions of people so that they could stand up against tyranny and injustice. I am glad that Bangla newspapers like Prothom Alo and others are doing an excellent job of continuing that great legacy.

Mushfiqur Rahman Babu
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Egotism Everywhere

Egotism is one of the fundamental weaknesses of human character. This mental phenomenon is visible everywhere, clerk to secretary, primary to tertiary,

playground to battle field. But egotism of the politicians is taking the country to the verge of collapse. We, the people, are seeing it in its worst form in the political sphere. Once a great leader said, do not fear to negotiate and do not negotiate out of fear. So, the present Awami government should not be embarrassed to sit with the other parties to solve the problems. And the opposition party should also be responsible. The blame game- 'You are the burner'.....'No, you yourself do the job and blame us'..... This is nothing but stupid egotism spreading the flame of hatred and division across the land.

Tauhidul Islam
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Paving the way for future leadership

I always try to read every article especially the cover story published in *the Star* magazine. I

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find them very inspiring. The cover stories of *the Star* published on January 1 and February 13, 2015 are extremely well written and encouraging. I think these will enrich the youth's mind and enlighten their thought. There are many talented young men and women who want to do something for the development of the country. Such cover stories will encourage them to start to think and to do some noble acts without depending on others. Stories like these will make leaders who will take the country forward. I expect more articles like this from *the Star*.

Faijun Nahar Ema
University of Dhaka



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>

What's the way out?

None of the big political parties think about the people and the development of the country. They are just trying their best to retain and grab power. The Government announced that BNP is a terrorist party and started to oppress them by denying their basic human rights. That's injustice. On the other hand, BNP is continuing strikes and hartals by setting buses, trains and people on fire. That's inhuman. We urge both parties to please stop these destructive strategies. We cannot bear it any more.

MD Noman Hossan Khandoker
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A Special Mission

Disabled people are not a burden of the society. If trained and given an opportunity, they can be an asset. The entire built environment is unfriendly to them. People like Mizanur Rahman are working tirelessly to improve the conditions of people with disabilities. I hope more people will set up organizations like PDF to make a difference in their lives. Special thanks for the support of Jahangirnagar University, Valerie Ann Taylor and the volunteers who are helping implement Mizanur rahaman mission.

Rokun Uddin Mahamud
Via Email

★★★

People with different types of disabilities, as part of our society, have the right to survive with proper dignity and sufficiency amid their sorrowful existence in society. The impressive cover story "Challenging the stigma" is greatly a matter of inspiration for the physically-impaired people and for those who work for them with sheer responsibility and altruism.

As a founder of the great initiative PDF (Physically-challenged Development Foundation), Mizanur Rahman along with others help the disabled become productive members of



the society. The PDF has changed the perception of the people about the disabled and their dignified existence in society.

The initiatives the PDF has undertaken in enabling the disabled to keep pace with the able-bodied through ensuring their participation in different activities are making the society more inclusive and tolerant. The authorities concerned along with the government should come forward to support organizations like PDF to ensure the sound survival and expansion of the disabled people in our society. That's the way we can show

respect to humanity.
Sheikh Abdullah
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Attention Wanted

There are many publicity stunts and techniques which are actually used in various ways to get the attention of people. Sometimes controversies are created. Considering the political culture in our society the postscript was indeed very thought provoking and interesting.

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