

HUMAN RIGHTS

We can see deep economic contrast in the Bangladeshi society. A part of our people live in ultimate luxury, on the other hand, a large part have to leave their homeland to earn a living elsewhere. The recent incidents of human trafficking victims from Bangladesh have broken all the previous records of humanitarian disasters in this country.

Risking their lives, leaving all their property and families behind, these poor people have taken the deadly sea route to go to foreign lands like Malaysia and Thailand. Hopelessly stricken by poverty, joblessness and unemployment, they have become easy preys of highly organised human trafficking rackets active throughout the country. At first, they targeted their victims, counselled them for months, giving the false hope of better work and livelihood in foreign countries and thus, lured them to travel

# THE UNRESOLVED TRAGEDY

SALIM REZA

PHOTO: AFP



Men, Women and children are dying helplessly from drowning, hunger and exposure to different kinds of diseases.

However, many questions regarding this calculated brutality still remain unanswered. Seeing the organised activity of trafficking rackets anyone can realise that their heinous activities have been going on for several years. Then, why could the government administration and law enforcing agencies not detect these criminals before? The trafficked victims were transported to Malaysia mostly by small engine boats or slow wooden fishing trawlers. Why did our coast guards completely fail to capture any of these boats laden with illegal migrants? When many countries including the USA, Philippines and Gambia have come forward offering shelter to these helpless victims, why did our government not take any step to bring back its own people?

These are the issues that our government must explain besides taking immediate step to bring back our countrymen. How can we say that these human trafficking victims who wanted to give their families a better future by working in foreign countries have tainted our country's image when a large portion of our country's foreign currency reserve comes from remittance? The fact is that our silence and indifference regarding these victims of human trafficking have tainted our country's image globally.

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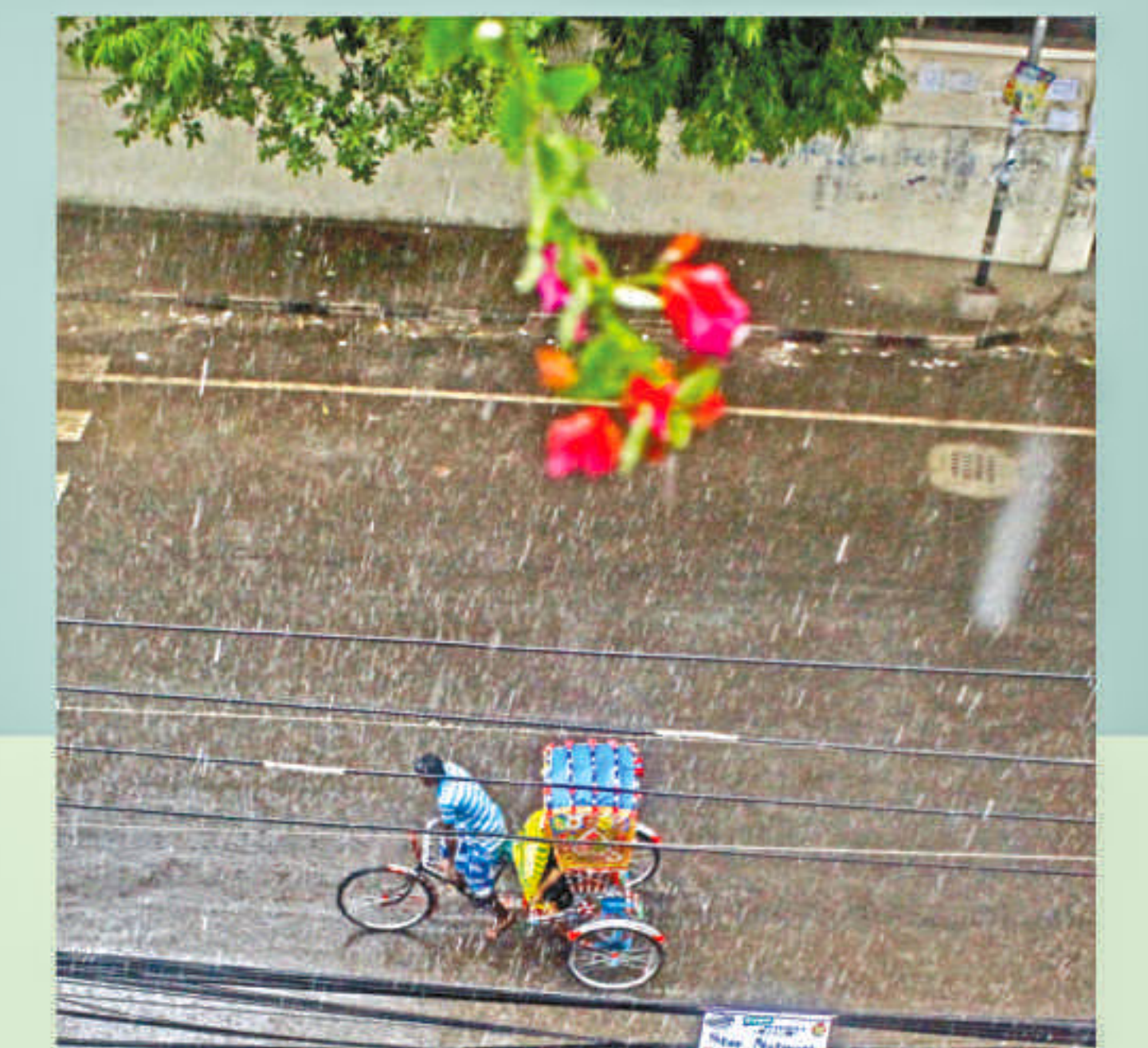
SHUTTERSTORIES



PHOTOS: MASHROOR NITOL

She arrives with a thunderous announcement, while we wait to be honoured by her presence. She can charm with her touch, her sounds and her fierceness, and she can hypnotise with her essence. She can be kind, calm and quiet, love you in abundance. She can be deadly, destructive and dangerous too, but all at once. At will, she can soothe you and rid you of your pain. Then she can destroy everything near and dear to you. In all her glory, Her name is rain.

– NAZIBA BASHER



## ABOUT TOWN



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION BY VOLUNTEER FOR BANGLADESH

June 5, 2015  
Manik Mia Avenue



GHASHPHORING CHOIR LIVE AT JATR BIROTI

June 5, 2015  
60 Kamal Atartuk avenue, Dhaka.



BELA OBELAR RANGRAGINI, SOLO PAINTING EXHIBITION OF TAHER KHANAM

June 5 to June 25  
Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts

by sea. After reaching there, all of them were detained in the jungle camps, told to pay high ransom to enter the promised land. If failed, they were killed instantly by the traffickers.

After the abolition of slavery in the late 18th century, we have not seen such brutality in the recent history. Reports of IOM (International Organisation for Migration) say that more than one thousand trafficking victims from Bangladesh have been rescued whereas many more are still drifting at sea. However, none of them have been rescued by the Bangladesh government.