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PHOTO: MOHAMMAD MONIRUZZAMAN

“Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing.” – Camille Pissarro

**SNAPSHOT**

**MAILBOX**

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PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

**“The Song of the Sea”**

Last week's spotlight was a pleasant read as it was full of information about one of our unsung heroes, Kamal Lohani. The article helped me a lot to know about Kamal Lohani who has dedicated his life to the prosperity of the country. His strong patriotism and selfless political activism are examples for our generation. This generation who has little relation to books and cultural activities of Bangladesh got an opportunity to learn about this hero through this spotlight. This is why I really appreciate the Star Weekend's effort as well as the writer for bringing Kamal Lohani to us with precise description of his personal life and his great political activism.  
Samiul Raijul  
School of Business  
North South University, Dhaka

**The Importance of Awareness**

I'm writing to you regarding a picture that you used for an article (Published on May 22, 2015) on sexual harassment and the importance of sex education. The picture is of a woman with long hair, who is entirely wrapped in a white cloth, smeared with red splotches/ prints of palms. We can't see her face. Images carry a lot of meaning, but I also feel it is important to be aware of how we construct images and what do we represent in them. In the context of gender violence, we often like to glorify the image of a victimised woman. In this particular image, we see that happening yet again, and what is worse is that there is also an implication that she doesn't have a voice/ face/identity. My question to you is why we should portray women in this manner, when your daily has written about resistance and courageous tales of women. This image has been re-used for other editorials too. Through this one-dimensional image, we can only think of a woman with no resistance or voice, when in reality, we know that is not true.

Saad Adnan Khan  
Researcher, Dhaka

**“Tortured, Killed and Abandoned”**

Recently, the brutal and inhuman practice of human trafficking shocked the world. This has been a matter of grave concern, both on national and international grounds. The poor fortune seekers have been subjected to indescribable torture and brutality by the greedy and heartless human traffickers. A number of traffickers have already been arrested. Beyond doubt, this is truly a laudable initiative by the law enforcement agencies but we need more stern actions to bring the traffickers and their patrons under trial and penalty so that no one in the future would dare to commit such a heinous crime.

Zia Uddin  
Department of International Relations, University of Chittagong  
Chittagong



PHOTO: AFP

The opinions expressed in these letters do not necessarily represent the views of the Star Weekend.

**RAMADAN DIARY |**



**THE RAMADAN NIGHT LIFE!**

APURBA JAHANGIR

PHOTOS: PRABIR DAS

One of the aspects of Dhaka life we complain about is that we, Dhakaites, have nothing to do in Dhaka! Ironically, there is so much to do in the month of Ramadan, especially when the city is scheduled to call it a day. As soon as Taraweeh prayers end late into the night, places like Nazira Bazar and Gulshan begin to fill up with people ready to eat more, mingle and maybe do a little bit of shopping. In fact, we at the Star Weekend are calling it the Ramadan Night Life, where sehri get together are organised!

What started off as a facebook check in from a few friends, became one of the biggest trends Dhaka people have followed. A couple of years ago the sehri trend started off at the famous Al Razzak restaurant. People from different parts of the city visit Nazira Bazar to dine with

friends and family. Al Razzak, and similar places around, are packed with foodies lining up outside. Places like Nazimuddin Road and Chak Bazar bring out their festive mood with Nanna Biryani, Mamun Biryani, Bismillah Kabab etc. “After 1 pm, you will see horrible traffic right where Nazimuddin Road begins,” says Gafarullah, manager of Nanna Biryani. “This happens because of the sehri rush. Ramadan is our busiest month and we even hire extra people to manage the extra work!”

Areas in newer part of the city, like Uttara, Gulshan, Banani, Dhanmondi



have caught up with the sehri hype as well. One restaurant that is brimming with people is Nandos. This Portuguese restaurant serves sehri in Gulshan, Banani and Dhanmondi. With their irresistible sehri offers, Nandos has introduced a new dimension to the sehri menu other than the regular Biryani or Tehari. “It's a lot less hassle than going to old Dhaka,” says

Sadaf, a regular at Nandos sehri customer. “You can sit here for quite a while which is fun when eating sehri with friends.” The whole sehri fiesta not only just serves as a place to eat, but it brings out the festivity of Ramadan. After sehri, people are seen hanging out in places such as Hatirjhil, Rabindra Sharabar or TSC, enjoying Dhaka at night. ■

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