

Whenever there is a crisis, there is a challenge faced by the nation; the youth of Bangladesh have come forward. In this era, 44 years after our independence, the biggest challenge of our country is ensuring quality education to our young generation. It is such a huge challenge that our government cannot overcome it on its own. This is where our youth have again taken the lead. A nationwide movement called Teach For Bangladesh (TFB) by a group of brilliant, energetic and dedicated youth

TFB, with its highly efficient cohort of Fellows, have taken the initiative to reach out to these schools and provide quality education to the students of least privileged communities. Arnob K Saha, a Fellow of TFB says, "The task of a Fellow not only includes teaching the students in the classroom, but also giving them guidance to be confident and successful leaders in the future."
"So, we do more than traditional teachers do in the classroom and we have to go through extensive training so that we can ensure quality education in our

activities. However, TFB's selection process is quite rigorous. "Last year, only 21 candidates were selected to be recruited as fellows out of more than 500 applicants." However, this rigorous selection process is vital to maintain the quality of the teaching-learning process provided by TFB's manpower. After filling out an elaborate admission form, which is no less detailed than the admission form of an Ivy League University, a candidate has to wait for a telephone interview. The top 50 percent of

Fellowship you will have the opportunity to change real lives, and your own life will never be the same again!" she adds. In fact, by completing their term, the Fellows also receive a Post Graduate Diploma Certificate from BRAC University and if they complete a thesis based on their experience during the Fellowship they can obtain a Master's degree from the institution. However, the TFB is not just a programme to achieve certificates. It has a long term positive impact on our future generation.
Osman, another Fellow of TFB says,

ENDEAVOUR

MENTORING THE FUTURE LEADERS

MD SHAHNAWAZ KHAN CHANDAN



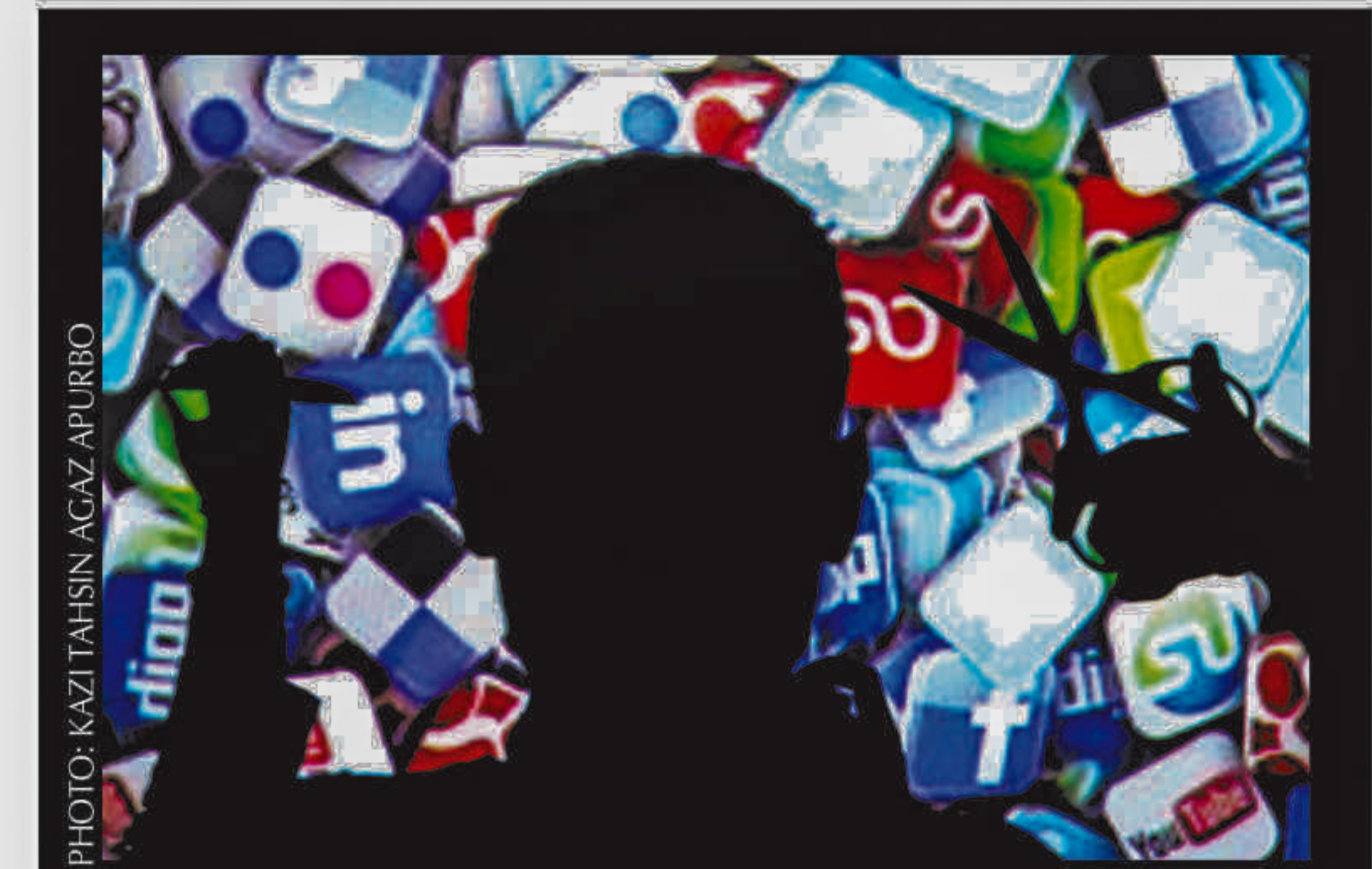
have been striving to ensure quality education in the least privileged communities. Their goal is to end education inequity in Bangladesh. According to the research by TFB it has been found that around 50 percent students who get admitted at class one drop out before completing class five, and only half of those who complete primary education can achieve the terminal competencies set by the national curriculum. In the poverty ridden communities of Bangladesh, the scenario is bleaker where infrastructural facility is scarce and educational resources or adequately trained teachers are lacking.

students and can guide them successfully", adds Arnob. TFB has been providing quality education in more than 50 schools all around Bangladesh with its dedicated Fellows and efficient teaching-learning techniques by creating an environment of joyful learning in the classrooms. Every year TFB welcomes fresh graduates from all the public and private universities to join as a Fellow through many of its campus based activities. Recently TFB launched a programme called (Re) Imagine at Jatra Biroti in Dhaka where its fellows, volunteers and aspirant candidates mingle to know more about its

the applicants are invited for the phone screening which assesses the candidate's communication skills, spontaneous wit and analytical capacities. In the third phase, the selected candidates are invited to a daylong assessment where they have to participate in group activities, presentations and finally a one to one interview. Maimuna N Ahmad, the CEO of TFB says, "I urge the young Bangladeshis to apply to the Teach For Bangladesh Fellowship and become a part of the change."
"The beauty of the Fellowship is that you get as much as you give. Through the

"Our Fellows are not only teachers but also the future leaders in the development community of Bangladesh. Through teaching and mentoring the least privileged students, we transmit the leadership skills from generation to generation." We hope that the youth of Bangladesh will come forward with positive initiatives to solve our problems following the footsteps of the dedicated youth of Teach for Bangladesh. The Government should support them and provide them with resources and facilities so that they can expand their activities throughout the country. ■

STARDIARY



ONLINE HARASSMENT

Last month my sister got married and we hired a group of professional photographers for the event. Days later, they uploaded an album of their wedding. While we were quite excited finding our pictures, my sister was not really happy. In the comment sections some people, both men and women, said such mean things that they would never say face to face. Some people commented on her skin colour saying how thick sheets of makeup and heavy lighting could not make her look fairer. Such comments made her depressed and brought an incredible amount of stress into her life. We have talked to the page about our concerns, what we need from them and how they can help. They blocked those abusers right away and put a post saying any person making abusive comments would be banned from the page. How long do we have to be the victim of online embarrassment? Why can't we address the attackers through the legal system?
Arifa Meeta
Khilgaon, Dhaka

DAVE GROHL
January 14, 1969

Dave Grohl is an American rock musician, multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and producer. He is best known as the former drummer for the grunge band Nirvana and the founder of the rock band Foo Fighters, of which he is the main songwriter, lead singer, and rhythm guitarist. He is also the drummer and co-founder of the rock supergroup Them Crooked Vultures.

MAD GENIUS

“GUILT IS CANCER. GUILT WILL CONFINE YOU, TORTURE YOU, DESTROY YOU AS AN ARTIST. IT'S A BLACK WALL. IT'S A THIEF.”

I TAUGHT MYSELF HOW TO PLAY THE GUITAR, I TAUGHT MYSELF HOW TO PLAY THE DRUMS, AND I KIND OF FAKE DOING BOTH OF THEM. BUT DRUMMING COMES MORE NATURAL TO ME, AND IT JUST FEELS BETTER.

MY SONGWRITING IS LIKE EXTENDING A HAND TO THE LISTENER.”

PHOTO: KAZI TAHISIN AGAZ APURBO
SKETCH: YARIZ SIDDIQUI

THE CRUELTY OF FATE

A few days ago while returning home from my class party, I was very happy remembering all the fun that we had that day. Somewhere around the Gulshan signal, a little boy of five or six caught my attention and made me very upset. He only had one leg, and was wearing the shabbiest clothes. This is a common scene in Dhaka; street children scrounging for a living everyday, even at festivals and special occasions. I was surprised to see the child was not living at the mercy of others; rather he was collecting scraps, such as bottles, used papers, and other wastes to earn his livelihood. Seeing him, I was thinking how different my childhood was from the one imposed on this young boy. I am fortunate enough to go to a good school and to be given every thing I ever need. I realised that at times I would get upset about such petty things while this child had to be satisfied and happy with little food in his stomach. I could feel tears well up in my eyes and while I understood how lucky I actually am.
Maliha Tasneem Khan
Sunbeams, Dhaka



HONESTY OF PURPOSE / GOOD GOVERNANCE ARE THE KEYS TO THE "SUCCESS"

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