

We have woken up in a different country

JONATHAN FREEDLAND

WE have woken up in a different country. The Britain that existed until 23 June 2016 will not exist any more.

For those who ran the leave campaign – and for the clear majority who voted to leave the European Union – that is a cause for celebration. This, they insist, will be remembered as our “independence day”. From now, they say, Britain will be a proud, self-governing nation unshackled by the edicts of Brussels.

But for the 48% who voted the other way, and for most of the watching world, Britain is changed in a way that makes the heart sink rather than soar.

For one thing, there is now a genuine question over the shape of this kingdom. Scotland (like London) voted to remain inside the European Union. Every one of its political parties (bar UKIP) urged a remain vote. Yet now Scotland is set to be dragged out of the EU, against its collective will.

The demand will be loud and instant for Scotland to assure its own destiny by breaking free of the UK. This is precisely the kind of “material change” that the Scottish National party always said would be enough to warrant a second referendum to follow the one held in 2014. And this time, surely, there will be a majority for independence. So a first legacy of 23 June could well be the imminent break-up of the UK.

The implications will be profound for Northern Ireland too. The return of a “hard border” between north and south imperils a peace that was hard-won and too often taken for granted. Note this morning’s warning from Sinn Féin that the British government has



England is exposed as a land divided: London, along with the cities of Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Bristol stood apart from the rest of England and Wales in wanting to stay in. PHOTO: ROB STOTHARD/PA

“forfeited any mandate to represent the economic and political interests of people in Northern Ireland”.

Of course, the divisions don’t end there. England is exposed as a land divided: London, along with the cities of Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Bristol stood apart from the rest of England and Wales in wanting to stay in. There is a yawning class divide, pitting city against town and, more profoundly, those who feel they have something to lose against those who feel they do not.

What determined the outcome as much as anything else was the fact that the latter group, many concentrated in what used to be called Labour heartlands, defied the party’s call and voted out. This is a deep rift that will haunt the politics of the coming era. Labour’s prospects will stand or fall on how they navigate it – and they are not the only ones.

The economy of this new, Brexiting land will be different too. The instant reaction of the markets and the plunging of the pound seemed to confirm

the predictions of those who were accused during the campaign of scaremongering. The talk is of an immediate battering. True, that talk comes from “experts” – that group who, like all those in authority, seem to have been rejected so emphatically by 52% of the electorate. But events may soon prove that the expert predictions of a lurch into recession were not exaggerated. Governments and markets around the world reacted to the leave vote with horror.

And this offers a warning of a deep

change for Britain, a shift in how we are seen by the rest of the world. For decades, we were regarded as a great place to invest in, to move to or just to visit because we were the English-speaking gateway to the 27 nations of the European Union. We had a kind of best-of-both-worlds status, close to the US, close to the European continent.

That physical geography has not changed, but the psychological geography has. Suddenly it will make much less sense to headquarter a big international firm in London, or for a Japanese car-maker to locate a factory – one that aims to sell into Europe – in the north-east of England. Why do it, if you could be in Germany instead? Why come to post-Brexit Britain, where there could soon be the hassle of visas and tariffs and all the rest? Why bother?

The risk is that Britain becomes a kind of offshore oddity, quirky but irrelevant – shut out of the action of its neighbouring continent. That shift will be felt first by the City of London: perhaps few will shed any tears for them, even if financial services are – or used to be – one of this country’s biggest employers. But eventually that new view of Britain could percolate through, affecting our creative industries, our tourism and eventually our place in the world.

All of this will take some time. Who knows, perhaps the worst effects can be avoided altogether. But we should not be under any illusions. This is not the country it was yesterday. That place has gone for ever.

The writer is a weekly columnist and writer for the Guardian. He is also a regular contributor to the New York Review of Books and presents BBC Radio 4’s contemporary history series, The Long View. © The Guardian

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IN MEMORIAM

M. Mosharraf Hossain – the HR Guru

DR. SYED NAQUIB MUSLIM

DURING the initial years of a newly emerged independent nation, Bangladesh badly needed a pool of professionally trained and qualified managerial workforce to run the new government and the private sector entities. It was almost impossible for the war-ravaged economy to afford the stupendous task of training executives to run their offices. It was Dr. M Mosharraf Hossain who took up the responsibility of training professionals concurrently with the efforts of the government. Through his organisation, the Chairman and Managing Director of Rapport Bangladesh Limited shouldered the onerous task of training public and private sector executives or managers. The pioneer who established the groundwork of human resources in the country passed away in the morning of the first day of Ramadan, due to old age complications. He was 71.

Apart from being a trainer on management, Mosharraf Hossain was a social activist, consultant and a prolific writer on management-related subjects. He had declared that the institutional mission of Rapport Bangladesh Limited was “management is our business.” Mosharraf had always been in search of quality management and professionalism in every sector. In every event that he organised, he displayed the true meaning of management. The core areas of his training activities were public speaking and communication, team building and leadership, financial management, report writing, training of trainers (ToT), supervisory skills, training methodology and corporate social responsibility.

Experts at home and abroad called him the “Harbinger of Management Development in Bangladesh.” About 800,000 trainees and admirers affectionately termed him the HR Guru of Bangladesh. Until his departure from this mundane world, he had the credit of delivering as many as 7000 lectures on diverse



M. Mosharraf Hossain

topics of management that were heard by eminent managers, businesspersons, and entrepreneurs.

His book, Corporate Management, emerged as a classic document that still guides managers on how to prevent mismanagement in a corporate body. Mosharraf used to believe that the principal causes of mismanagement were the traditional ‘thumb rule management’ of the first generation entrepreneurs; apathy of the private sector industrialists to training; corrupt practices; and faulty planning that affect the socio-economic discipline. As a publisher-editor, he used to bring out a monthly magazine Management that turned to be a source of guidance for executives in the country. He made substantive contribution to the formulation of the Public Administration Policy of the government in 2001.

Mosharraf embodied the qualities of head and heart. As a Rotarian, he made significant contributions to the HRD of the country. For his devotion and commitment to social services, he was made the District Governor (1994 - 1995), District Trainer (2002 - 2003) and District Coordinator

(2013 - 14). In recognition of his brilliant social services, he was also declared the Best Rotarian of the Year 2005. A permanent member of Dhaka Club and Dhanmondi Club, Mosharraf was also a life member of the DU Alumni Association, the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh and the Bangladesh Society for Training and Development.

He used to display a strong sense of self-confidence and self-appraisal, and would cheekily call himself ‘success reincarnate.’ He proved what Rapport actually meant, as at his initiative and invitation, Nobel Laureate Mother Teresa paid a visit to Bangladesh. Mosharraf used to render consultancy services to global agencies like The World Bank, UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, UNESCO and IFC. With a pacifist outlook, he used his organisation as a platform to bring into unity a host of Pakistani

and Indian management experts to share ideas and experiences. With his magnetic personality, he successfully attracted the attention of a host of scholars like Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, Dr. Sa-adat Husain, Sharu S Rangnekar and Prof Khwaza Amjad Sayeed.

It was his forte to give ceremonial recognition to the deserving personalities of the country for their contribution to human resources development and management was his forte, as he would organise annual HRD Award giving ceremonies. The prominent awardees of RAPPORT include SM Shaiful Azam, A M M Muhiith, Dr. Shaikh Maqsood Ali, Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, Dr. A Majeed Khan, Dr. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, Muhammad Khalid Shams, Dr. Sadat Hussain, Ilias Kanchan, Sharu S Rangnekar (India), Ferdousi Rahman, Mahub Jamil, Dr. Salehuddin

Ahmed, Geteera Safiya Choudhury, Dr. M. Enamul Huq, et al.

Born in 1945, Mosharraf remained a devoted life partner to Momtaj Hossain, who had been extremely supportive and a source of encouragement to him. Father of two children -son Tareq and daughter Anita - he used to draw inspiration from them as well.

French moralist writer Jean de Bruyere has said: “There are only three great events for a person: To be born, to live and to die.” Mosharraf has completed all the events. He has now passed to the Great Beyond and now belongs to our memory; a memory that acts as a source of perennial inspiration for those who will remain in the quest of an over-arching management value: efficiency.

The writer is a former secretary to the Government of Bangladesh and one of the Rapport awardees for HRD.

Mosharraf had always been in search of quality management and professionalism in every sector. In every event that he organised, he displayed the true meaning of management.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Center of Excellence in Higher Education

North South University (NSU), the first private university in Bangladesh, seeks applications for the following positions:

Lab Officer: 06 positions, Dept. of ECE
(EEE/EET 04 positions and CSE 02 positions)

Academic Qualifications: Minimum B.Sc in CSE/EEE/EET from any reputed university with good academic background and English communication skill. Applicants with experience in related field will be given preference.

Job Experiences: The EEE candidate requires one year of experience in teaching (a) Electrical Machines, (b) Power Electronics and (c) Control and Communications Engineering Laboratory. Preference will be given to candidates having knowledge in experiments in the field of renewable energy.

The ETE candidate requires one year experience in teaching Electronics and Communication Laboratory. Preference will be given to candidates having experience in Fiber Optic Communication Laboratory.

The CSE candidate requires having a strong background in C/C++/Java with strong theoretical and practical knowledge in Data Structure and Algorithm and preferably one year of experience in teaching related laboratory classes. Preference will be given to the candidates skilled in dynamic web development/ programming using open source software.

In all the above cases, additional research with publications and teaching experience, in English medium, in the relevant subject will be considered as a plus point.

Age limit: Not exceeding 35 years

GIS Analyst: 01 position (Dept. of ESM)

Qualifications & Experiences: Masters in Environmental Science/Engineering or Geography or URP. Should have training on Arc GIS, GIS related Database Management and Web Design. At least 5 years of experience on GIS and RS related works with development sector. Should have at least one completed thesis in environment related topics using GIS.

Job Description: Assist faculty members in conducting lab classes and relevant research activities.

Age limit: Not exceeding 30 years

Monthly Salary (for all positions): An attractive salary packages & benefits will be offered to the deserving candidates.

Other Benefits (for all positions): Provident Fund, Gratuity, Festival Bonuses, Group Insurance, in-house free Medical Consultation etc.

Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview

Candidates may apply with a complete CV, two photographs, experience certificates, copies of transcripts by **12 July, 2016** through e-mail:

The Director (Administration)
NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Bashundhara, Dhaka – 1229
E-mail: nsuhr@northsouth.edu

www.northsouth.edu

QUOTABLE Quote

ANDREI TARKOVSKY

I have always liked people who can't adapt themselves to life pragmatically.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Sci-fi award
5 Commotions
9 "Stop being a wimp!"
10 Calendar page
12 "That would be great!"
13 End-of-
14 June honorees
16 Sunrise to sunset
17 "For shame!"
18 Layered dish
20 Finch family bird
22 Ohio team
23 Conference site of 1945
25 MP's quarry
28 Cunning
32 Cardinal topper
34 Binary digit
35 TV's Curry
36 Make good as new
38 Wise teacher
40 Bill of "Train-wreck"
41 Approach for a loan
42 Inventor Howe

43 Beatty and Buntline
44 Canary snack

DOWN

1 Michener book
2 Joins forces
3 Be effusive
4 She loved Hamlet
5 Accumulate
6 Oxford VIP
7 Anxious
8 Maroon
9 Ticks off
11 Grant's successor
15 Was behind schedule
19 "I smell!"
21 "South Park" boy
24 Bad-mouths
25 Make ashamed
26 Mutually profitable
27 Fancy
29 Restaurant fan
30 Lacking knowledge
31 Lusty looks
33 Stumbles
37 Yarn
39 Coffee, slangily

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

BAJA ARMS
ADAPT HAILS
SUCRE EMCLES
ELK ABASHED
STIRRED EVA
SEOUL GLEN
KOP GEL
TEEM DUNES
URN PISTOLS
NONCOMS BIT
IDEAL EVADE
SEDGE TIMER
DYES EARN