

| CREATURES OF BANGLADESH |



FALSE TIGER MOTH

PHOTO: SCOTT TRACER/NATURESTILLS

It's easy to overlook the little guys in nature but many times, these little guys deserve just as much attention as their more charismatic brethren. This is the False Tiger Moth, and I'm sure I don't have to tell you that it's incredibly beautiful. Being brightly colored, exquisitely patterned, gentle, and graceful – it's one of the most beautiful living beings in our country yet many of you have never heard of it, fewer have ever seen one, and even fewer can appreciate it fully not knowing its life history.

Have you ever seen an inch-worm?

Little caterpillars that inch along your garden or local park, looking for their next herbaceous meal. Well some of these inch-worms, which are in the taxonomic family Geometridae, after spinning their protective cocoons, radically transform from being dull-colored and inconspicuous to these bright yellow majestic Moths. This process, as many of you know, is called metamorphosis and is one of nature's most magical feats. And if you haven't searched for caterpillar metamorphosis time-lapse on Youtube, I implore you to do so immediately. Better

yet, search for "caterpillar metamorphosis inside cocoon" and prepare to have your mind blown!

So when would you go out to try and see this marvelous creature? Well it's a moth so it must be out at night right? Not exactly. Some species of moth, like the False Tigers, are actually active all day long! Now wouldn't having bright colors during the day make these moths an easy target for a hungry bird? Maybe for young birds who haven't learnt any better, but veterans know that these bright colors are a warning sign, displaying boldly that any

would-be predator will regret swallowing this poisonous animal. Scientists call this aposematic coloration.

Next time you find yourself hiking the trails of one of Bangladesh's National Parks like Lawachara, take your time, don't rush, and look around. Keep an eye out for its graceful flutter. Watch as it skillfully pollinates flowers or as it attempts to seduce a mate. Let them be, let their forest home remain safe, and enjoy the magic of nature.

— Creative Conservation Alliance

| NUMBERS |

29

The number of fire fighting units who helped to bring the fire that broke out at Bashundhara City Shopping Complex in Dhaka's Panthapath area, under control after six hours of frantic efforts using cranes and sky lifts. This is the second fire incident at the market and the adjacent 20-storey building which is used as Bashundhara's office since 2009, according to shop owners and employees.

PHOTO: KAZI TAHSIN AGAZ APURBO

MAD
GENIUS

MICHAEL JOSEPH JACKSON

(August 29, 1958 – June 25, 2009)



SKETCH: YAFIZ SIDDIQUI

Born in Gary, Indiana to a large African-American working class family, Michael Jackson was a singer, songwriter, record producer, dancer and actor. He started his career as the lead singer of his family's popular Motown group, the Jackson 5 and went on to a successful solo career afterwards. Known as the King of Pop, he released the best-selling album in history, Thriller, in 1982 with estimated sales of 65 million copies worldwide. Jackson's other albums, including Off the Wall (1979), Bad (1987), Dangerous (1991), and HIStory (1995), also rank among the world's best-selling albums. He is recognised as the Most Successful Entertainer of All Time by Guinness World Records.

“you enter this world knowing you are loved and you leave this world knowing the same, then everything that happens in between can be dealt with.”

To give someone a piece of your heart, is worth more than all the wealth in the world.”

A star can never die. It just turns into a smile and melts back into the cosmic music, the dance of life.”

I'm just like anyone. I cut and I bleed and I embarrass easily.

The greatest education in the world is watching the masters at work.”

STARDIARY

thestarmagazine@gmail.com

I SURVIVED

I lost my job around four months back when the company I worked for was forced to shut down and am still waiting to be employed. I have applied to a number of jobs but to no avail. This sudden and drastic change in my life has shattered me and the thought of not being able to provide for my family is killing me. Suddenly I met one of my old friends and I discussed my problem with him. He boosted my confidence so much by shading light on all the things that I could do with my potential. After talking to him, I decided to start my own business. It is not something fancy and big, but I am glad that I can start something on my own. I have dealt with my depression and feel immensely proud of myself. Mahbubul Karim Dhanmondi, Dhaka

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

FRIGHTENED FOR MY FATHER

I am a sixteen year old student. My father, who is around 40 years, insists on riding his motorcycle without wearing a helmet. He says that the helmet is too inconvenient and he feels uncomfortable while wearing it. When I tried to explain to him why it's important for me, he told me not to worry and pragmatically explained to me that even if anything does happen to him, I would be well provided for. I want my dad to around for a long time and am at a loss to explain how important he is to me.

Nishat Anjum Uttara, Dhaka

