



Soul Speak

The 'Ekushey Boimela' always instigates positive emotions amongst us, as most would agree. Many of us remember going to the fair with our loved ones. Let's narrate a story of one Bengali boy, Abrar, who came to his first boi mela on his father's shoulders.

In 2017, he is now a part of the event itself, selling his own set of comic books. Every time on Ekushey he is reminded of his very first visit to the book reader's paradise - the Ekush Boi Mela.

Nothing much has changed, recalls Abrar. It is still warm, noisy and jam-packed with people who are immensely in love with the language. Wearing an orange fatua just like Himu, a character by Humayun Ahmed, every year he looks through the books by publishers at the fair.

The characters he grew up reading, come alive. The characters that he had idolised begin to breathe. There are few from the crowd who look at him with scrutiny, thinking he is an impersonator of Himu, but then they nod their heads in denial.

Himu wasn't that skinny! Breaking through the crowd, Abrar delivers few lines from his favourite book, mesmerising the audience....

You can continue the story as you please. We are sure most of our readers will be able to relate with this Bangla language enthusiast, the teenage avid reader, Abrar.

Paying tribute to Ekushey February in more ways than one, we have tried to include topics that would be beneficial to all our readers. Flip through the pages to see write-ups on Bengali riddles - an interesting wordplay that most of us have grown up doing; instilling values of 'Ekushey' into our children; must have books at your fingertips; and musings on the beautiful language that is Bangla.

– LS Desk

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