

# Happy 26th Birthday, The Daily Star!

Some of our esteemed columnists express their appreciation for The Daily Star on its 26th anniversary.

## A lifeline with the homeland

Congratulations to *The Daily Star* on its 26th birthday. Every year on this day, I rejoice, along with its readers and staff, at the accomplishments of this newspaper not only in the past year but also since its very first day, in 1991. The team that started this venture, and some of them are still here today, can be truly proud of what they have managed to get done, regardless of the political upheavals, vicissitudes of market forces in print media, and the technological changes that have affected this young entity as it was growing up. Since this is only the beginning of this long journey, I will not list all of the milestones from the last 26 years, but only ask you to keep up the good work and be "ambitious", since I am here to "praise *The Daily Star*, not to bury it", to paraphrase Shakespeare.

For many of us who spend most of our time away from our beloved land, this newspaper, both the hardcopy (e-paper) and the electronic version, has been a lifeline to the events, developments, and everyday news that affect our people. Every day at around lunch-time (1 pm in winter and 2 pm in summer), I visit [www.dailystar.net](http://www.dailystar.net) to get a glimpse of the headlines from the next day's newspaper. I am sure thousands of others do the same, and we all share the same condition: we want to know what the team at *The Daily Star* is thinking and what they are highlighting in the newspaper. I wouldn't say that we necessarily are in tune with everything we read in *The Daily Star*, but we are all looking at the same page even though we may not be "on the same page". As someone who is a 'blood relation' of this newspaper (SM Ali, the first editor was my mother's first cousin) and has flourished from its welcoming arms, I can only celebrate as this national treasure turns another page.

**Dr. Abdullah Shibli**  
Economist who has contributed to this newspaper since 2008 to the Opinion, Literature, and Book Review sections



in their opposite team are all wearing spiky boots. Thank goodness, only their shinbones and ribs are injured, but the skulls are still intact! Have a good game *The Daily Star*!

I remember some excerpts from Mahfuz Anam's first post-editorial titled "Dreams Reborn", that he wrote on January 1991: "The bottom line is that democracy is a total commitment. We either take it in its totality or we don't. It does not come in parts. . . What should have been our people's emancipation remained confined to political independence. . . Now that the opportunity is back, surely we can hope to work together for the re-emergence of those qualities of '71 - patriotism, sacrifice, commitment, hard work, and discipline - that gave birth to our country. The dreams that have been reborn require the rebirth of those spirits."

Congratulations, Mahfuz Anam for explaining what the real *chetona* of 1971 is.

**Taj Hashmi**  
Professor of Security Studies at Austin Peay State University

## A unique Bangladeshi institution

Congratulations to *The Daily Star* team! *The Daily Star* has become a unique Bangladeshi institution, increasingly admired around the world. We salute it for its contribution to journalism, but, more importantly, a culture of accountability in Bangladesh. I particularly appreciated its work in building environmental awareness and making urbanisation an issue of national priority.

Wish the newspaper continued success!

**Adnan Morshed**  
Architect, architectural historian and urbanist based in Washington, DC

## A voice of reason

It has been both a pleasure and a privilege for over thirteen years, writing for and being part of *The Daily Star*. Long may it continue to grow and be a voice of reason in a world where chaos appears to reign supreme! I wish *The Daily Star* all the very best.

**Nadia Kabir Barb**  
Freelance columnist based in the UK

## Serving readers for 26 years

I congratulate you all on the 26th anniversary of *The Daily Star*. I still remember the day it was launched. *The Daily Star* has indeed served its readers well and I am sure it shall continue to do so. I wish the members of the Administration Department and all others

involved with the paper a very good 2017.

**Professor Selina Mohsin**  
Former Ambassador

## Scoring impossible goals

I congratulate the bold and brave team called *The Daily Star*, which from time to time score

beautiful goals, which are very baffling, timely, and effective too. I know journalism is a very different ballgame from football, yet I congratulate this wonderful team for producing so many Peles to score so many unbelievable/impossible goals! I know the referees are not always fair, and there are extremely rowdy elements in the crowd! Yet, Mahfuz Anam and his brave players are still playing, although he and some other players in the team have to play barefoot while the players

## PROJECT SYNDICATE

# How to survive the Trump era

**BUSINESS & FINANCE**  
**JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ**

and government are struggling to respond appropriately and effectively.

Any view regarding the way forward is necessarily provisional, as Trump has not yet proposed detailed legislation, and Congress and the courts have not fully responded to his barrage of executive orders. But recognition of uncertainty is not a justification for denial.

On the contrary, it is now clear that what Trump says and tweets must be taken seriously. Following the election in November, there was near-universal hope that he would abandon the extremism that defined his campaign. Surely, it was thought, this master of unreality would adopt a different persona as he assumed the awesome responsibility of what is often called the most powerful position in the world.

Something similar happens with every new US president: regardless of whether we voted for the new incumbent, we project onto him our image of what we want him to be. But, while most elected officials welcome being all things to all people, Trump has left no room for doubt that he intends to do what he said: a ban on Muslim immigration, a wall on the border with Mexico, renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, repeal of the 2010 Dodd-Frank financial reforms, and much else that even his supporters dismissed.



*Trump sees the world in terms of a zero-sum game. In reality, globalisation, if well managed, is a positive-sum force: America gains if its friends and allies — whether Australia, the EU, or Mexico — are stronger. But Trump's approach threatens to turn it into a negative-sum game: America will lose, too.*

were concerned about Trump were afraid to raise their voices, lest they (and their companies' share price) be targeted by a tweet. Pervasive fear is a hallmark of authoritarian regimes, and we are now seeing it in the US for the first time in my adult life.

As a result, the importance of the rule of law, once an abstract concept to many Americans, has become concrete. Under the rule of law, if the government wants to prevent firms from outsourcing and off-shoring, it enacts legislation and adopts regulations to create the appropriate incentives and discourage undesirable behaviour. It does not bully or threaten particular firms or portray traumatised refugees as a security threat.

America's leading media, like *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*, have so far refused to normalise Trump's abnegation of American values. It is not normal for the US to have a president who rejects judicial independence; replaces the most senior military and intelligence officials at the core of national security policymaking with a far-right media zealot; and, in the face of North Korea's latest ballistic missile test, promotes his daughter's business ventures.

But when we are constantly barraged by events and decisions that are beyond the pale, it is easy to become numb and to begin looking past major abuses of power at the still-greater travesties to come. One of the main challenges in this new era will be to remain vigilant and, whenever and wherever necessary, to resist.

The writer is a Nobel laureate in economics, is University Professor at Columbia University and Chief Economist at the Roosevelt Institute. His most recent book is *The Euro: How a Common Currency Threatens the Future of Europe*. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2017. [www.project-syndicate.org](http://www.project-syndicate.org) (Exclusive to *The Daily Star*)

I have, at times, criticised particular aspects and policies of the economic and security order created in the aftermath of World War II, based on the United Nations, NATO, the European Union, and a web of other institutions and relationships. But there is a big difference between attempts to reform these institutions and relationships to enable them to serve the world better, and an agenda that seeks to destroy them outright.

Trump sees the world in terms of a zero-sum game. In reality, globalisation, if well managed, is a positive-sum force: America gains if its friends and allies — whether Australia, the EU, or Mexico — are stronger. But Trump's approach threatens to turn it into a negative-sum game: America will lose, too.

That approach was clear from his inaugural address, in which his repeated invocation of "America first," with its historical fascist

overtones, affirmed his commitment to his ugliest schemes. Previous administrations have always taken seriously their responsibility to advance US interests. But the policies they pursued usually were framed in terms of an enlightened understanding of national interest. Americans, they believed, benefit from a more prosperous global economy and a web of alliances among countries committed to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

If there is a silver lining in the Trump cloud, it is a new sense of solidarity over core values such as tolerance and equality, sustained by awareness of the bigotry and misogyny, whether hidden or open, that Trump and his team embody. And this solidarity has gone global, with Trump and his allies facing rejection and protests throughout the democratic world.

In the US, the American Civil Liberties

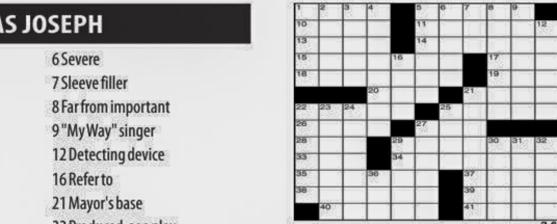
Union, having anticipated that Trump would quickly trample on individual rights, has shown that it is as prepared as ever to defend key constitutional principles such as due process, equal protection, and official neutrality with respect to religion. And, in the past month, Americans have supported the ACLU with millions of dollars in donations.

Similarly, across the country, companies' employees and customers have expressed their concern over CEOs and board members who support Trump. Indeed, as a group, US corporate leaders and investors have become Trump's enablers. At this year's World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, many salivated over his promises of tax cuts and deregulation, while eagerly ignoring his bigotry — not mentioning it in a single meeting that I attended — and protectionism.

Even more worrying was the lack of courage: it was clear that many of those who

## CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Puzzle diagram
  - 5 Casual talks
  - 10 Make over
  - 11 Singer Emmylou
  - 13 Over again
  - 14 Royal fur
  - 15 Mediums' meetings
  - 17 Mover's truck
  - 18 Out for number one
  - 19 "— a Small World"
  - 20 Had a meal
  - 21 Poi source
  - 22 Weigh-in need
  - 25 From the Arctic
  - 26 Turnpike cost
  - 27 Lawn coating
- DOWN**
- 1 Lawn growth
  - 2 "Walk Away—"
  - 3 Perfect
  - 4 Ruin
  - 5 Camembert or Brie
  - 6 Severe
  - 7 Sleeve filler
  - 8 Far from important
  - 9 "My Way" singer
  - 12 Detecting device
  - 16 Refer to
  - 21 Mayor's base
  - 22 Produced, as a play
  - 23 Salon worker
  - 24 Pennsylvania city
  - 25 Casserole bits
  - 27 Dolts
  - 29 Racket
  - 30 Winter quaff
  - 31 Put up
  - 32 Office fixtures
  - 36 Peculiarity



**YESTERDAY'S ANSWER**

S A M O S A C H E R  
I R O N I C L O C O  
R O T A T E A R O W  
E M I T S T R A C E  
S A F E G R A T I N  
J E R S E Y J O E  
W A X E A S E  
I M P A R T Z I N G  
N A I L S G E N O A  
W I R E D E B A R K  
I C E R O R E L S E  
N A S T W E L L E S



Katalyst facilitated a lasting change in the lives of over 4.69 million low-income people living in rural Bangladesh. In an effort to promote inclusive growth in Bangladesh, Agri-business for Trade Competitiveness Project, branded as Katalyst, under the umbrella of Ministry of Commerce had organised an experience sharing event on 16 February 2017. The event highlighted how Katalyst facilitated a lasting change in the lives of over 4.69 million low-income people living in rural Bangladesh.

Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, was the Chief Guest in the event.

The event had organised two panel discussions on topics 'Inclusive Business: Sustainable Model for Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh' and 'Food processing in Bangladesh: Opportunities and Prospects for Growth'. The discussions were centered around what the private companies believed have gained from engaging with 'inclusive business' models; what other stakeholders (donors and government) believed to be the 'business case' in promoting such approaches; and finally what support structures were required to be in place to design and manage more such initiatives.

In the event, Katalyst also showcased its experiences through a Market Place exhibition highlighting some of its work over the past decade in areas of Farmed Fish, Vegetable, Maize, Women's Economic Empowerment, Local Agribusiness Networks, Information Channels and Capitalisation initiatives.

The workshop was attended by representatives from various donors, government, leading private sector companies, academic institutions, and media. The representatives shared their experiences of working with Katalyst and highlighted examples of numerous innovative and successful initiatives.