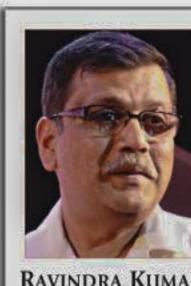
MEDIA

RATE

LETTER

We are inheritors of a glorious legacy and bound by the rigours of a demanding craft. We are not hoodlums who threaten to rape or maim those we don't like or shout out those we disagree with. The best of us err, sometimes grievously, but have learnt that making amends



RAVINDRA KUMAR

being considered a member of the media is growing. I am part of one medium the newspaper. My responsibilities, my role and my accountability are restricted to this medium. I

My revul sion to

will answer for my sins and foibles but not for those of others.

Fellow editors in India and Asia dear friends all - tell me of the inevitability of media convergence and chide me for being antediluvian.

They say the modern newsroom requires people skilled not just in factgathering and writing; headlining and editing, but also in podcasting, broadcasting, tweeting and heavens know what else. That to me sounds like Indian restaurants of yesteryears - they offered Chinese, Continental, Thai and Mughlai cuisines from a single wok and made a hash of them all.

I am entitled to my view but you can be uplifting. will ask why I am unburdening myself now. The reason is that something very sad happened a few days ago. This event, coming on the back of a string of others, forced me to organise my thoughts on why I

ought to remain a plain and simple journalist, and not allow membership of the much-hyped club called the media to be thrust upon me.

A 20-year-old girl, student of a prestigious college in Delhi and daughter of a man who lost his life in an India-Pakistan border conflict when she was two, said in a video posted on social media, "Pakistan did not kill my dad, war did." That is a profound thought, one that

every sensible person ought to reflect upon. It is a thought that deserves

introspection and informed articulation, especially in these ultra-nationalistic times. It should open minds, not close them further. It does not deserve derision or hate or the threat of violence. But that is what it got.

For her poignant appeal to good sense, Gurmehar Kaur was trolled, hounded, threatened with rape, labelled a Maoist and a separatist, and suffered the mortification of being told by a junior minister that her father's soul must be weeping "because she was being misguided by those who

celebrate on the bodies of martyrs."

Rattled by the rabidity of responses, Gurmehar withdrew from the public space in tears. A brave and spirited girl I would be proud to call my daughter



SELECTEDBREAKING Convergence would make me a part

of this horror.

Gurmehar Kaur's case was special but by no means unique from the perspective of labelling. A few days earlier, at a "media" conclave, I was questioned by members of the audience. They asked me why the media was so irresponsible; why it sensationalised events; why it found little or no space for the other side of

the story and why it conducted trials and played the role of judge, jury and executioner. I was shaken by the degree of antipathy. Partly to gain time and gather my thoughts, I asked my

interrogators to provide examples.

The examples came thick and fast. They supported each of the charges, sometimes conclusively. Culpa, maxima culpa! But it had nothing to do with me. Each charge was exemplified by an excess of a television anchor or a Twitter user, members of that grandly-titled media of which I was alleged to be a part. I pleaded not guilty and cited my watertight alibi. For my pains, one person accused me of chickening out on a technicality.

This is the reason the narrative must be rewritten and the lines redrawn so that members of the Press can extricate themselves from this oversized cloak called the media into which they are being squeezed.

We are inheritors of a glorious legacy and bound by the rigours of a demanding craft. We are not hoodlums who threaten to rape or maim those we don't like or shout out those we disagree with. The best of us err, sometimes grievously, but



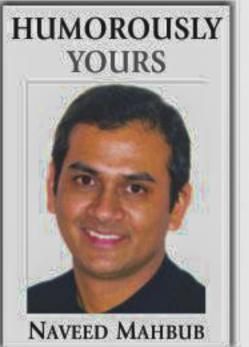
have learnt that making amends can be uplifting.

Those on social and other media be they presidents, prime ministers, ministers, television anchors or citizens of the world - who are prepared to subject themselves to the standards we aim for should join us. They too must strive for the truth, aim to keep the discourse even-tempered, find space for all sides of a story and have the ability to admit mistakes. But if they cannot do so, let them be members of the media and leave us journalists in peace, even if it is to be the peace of an ethereal grave that Twitter and Facebook dig for us.

The writer is Editor, The Statesman, India.

This is a series of columns on global affairs written Network and published in newspapers across the

Handsome in Pink



Saturday. The wife is 400 miles away attending her MBA classes at University of California Berkeley. I am at the Torrey Pines Beach in San Diego, California. The two well shaped women in attire befitting the Californian Pacific Coast, walk past me, muttering under their breaths: "Sexy!" They allude not to me, let alone my bare chest, devoid of pectoids befitting the then Governor of

Schwarzenegger, but to the scene in front of them of this dishevelled brown guy with an eight month old daughter in a swim suit and strapped in a snugly while dangling from daddy's neck.

I feel sorry for the two women. They have been devoid of a far hotter scene of this very me getting out of my lipstick red Mitsubishi 3000 GT sports car, then struggling to unstrap the restless daughter out of the child seat, balancing myself into reversing out of the back seat area of the car (there

is barely a back seat) with my hands around the baby while the diaper bag falls off on to the dirty ground.

Fast forward to ast week in Dhaka. My car is stuck in traffic in an alley where I see a rickshaw-puller being approached by an out-of-shape young man with unkempt, oily hair, half his T-shirt sticking out of his jeans requiring a much deserved wash, a pink coloured Elsa

backpack hanging from his left shoulder as he holds a 4-year-old girl lovingly clinging on to him with her head peacefully resting on his shoulder from being tired after a long day in school.

Unbeknownst to a lot of us men, both these scenes from San Diego and Dhaka are major turnons to the female counterpart, relegating into insignificance the scene of a tuxedo clad, gelled up beef cake with a chiselled jaw line. Of course the San Diego and Dhaka guys would give an arm and a leg and their deshaped bodies for the latter. But believe it or not, many fitting the latter category of a hunk would give it all up for the former. Take it from a guy who not too long ago was a high flying, career building bachelor driving that same red Mitsubishi sports car as a babe magnet, which turned out to be nothing more than a cop magnet, raking in four speeding tickets over a span of just

seven months while bringing him this close to

being sentenced to community service for repeated

Let's face it, men want to be admired. Period. It's just that we are slowly getting to learn of other undiscovered (or should I say ignored) ways to be good looking, such as not pacing in front of the labour room but rather holding the wife as she screams in pain during delivery, getting into the kitchen, feeding the kids, putting them to bed, being called up by the mother-in-law to make sure that the kids eat the brownies that she had specially made for them, swallowing the complaints from the kids' teachers at parent-teacher meetings and plain having two screaming kids clinging on to his dishevelled self. These make us hot, these make us cool, these make us sexy and these make us foxy.

attractive in these ways, resulting in us to happily make

occupy — the corner office, the playing field, the flight deck, the gym, room...

woman can't do that a man can. In fact, there the woman can do that the man can't — the man can rear, but

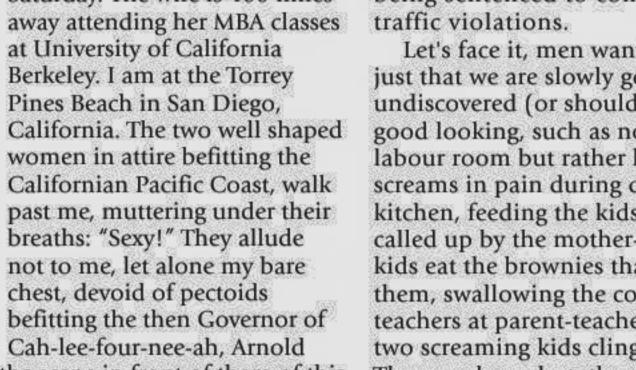
not bear a child not breast feed a the sexes, the female leads the male by 30-0. 'Be Bold for Change',

applies to men because women have already been bold but have

charity for those who don't need it. It is a thousand times braver, bolder, if not sexier, to voluntarily and happily make room amounting to 20 percent of the jobs or 30 from the contested 300 seats. And more men will, once they taste the blood of the seemingly mundane alternatives to their 'traditional roles' as being far sexier. For once, selfishness and ego can be

And when that happens, International Women's Day

The writer is an engineer at Ford & Qualcomm USA and CEO of IBM & Nokia Siemens Networks Bangladesh turned comedian (by choice), the host of ATN Bangla's The Naveed Mahbub Show and ABC Radio's Good Morning Bangladesh, the founder of Naveed's Comedy Club. E-mail: naveed@naveedmahbub.com



These also make us selfish into wanting to look

some room for all that we the public office, the court There is no task that a are at least two tasks that

and can feed, but child. In the game of tennis between

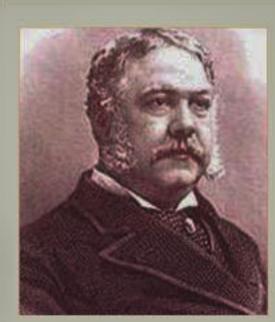
seen little change. It is great to have a 20 percent female quota in a certain profession or have 30 additional seats in the parliament. But that is still forced and enforced

the theme for International Women's Day 2017, really

put to good use.

will become as obscure as International Men's Day.

QUOTABLE Quote



ARTHUR WARD AMERICAN WRITER

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

WILLIAM

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.

DOWN

1 On the train

3 Gives off

6 Ruin

5 Major lang.

2 Buffalo NHL team

4 Canary's home

7 Cochise's people

8 Smart person

15 Western snake

19 Optimistic

22 Farm sight

9 Film prize

11 Asterisk

20 Attempt

23 Saloon

ACROSS 1 "Wait --!" 5 Online periodical, for short 9 44th president

10 Neck parts 12 Edna Ferber book 13 18th president

14 39th president 16 Spying org. 17 Greek god of war

18 21st president 21 Hwys. 22 Mall units 23 Teeny

24 In truth 26 Scouting org. 29 5th president 30 Idiosyncrasies

31 Corn serving 32 40th president 34 2nd president 37 Polygon corner

38 Striped cat 39 10th president

40 Snaky fish

41 Declares

24 Concert worker 25 Infuriate 26 Tittering

27 Justice symbol 28 Ed of "Up" 30 Singer Tucker 33 Has dinner

36 Last year's jrs.

29 Vegan's no-no 35 Director Brooks YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

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DECLASSIFIED CIA FILES, 1971

"The showdown cannot be put off much longer"

Today, The Daily Star publishes a recently declassified CIA document which reflects on the tumultuous situation following Bangabandhu's speech on March 7, 1971 and apprehends an imminent crackdown by Pakistani Military.

Central Intelligence Agency Directorate of Intelligence 8 MARCH, 1971 INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM PAKISTAN (Situation as of 1200 EST)

1. Further details of East Pakistani leader Mujibur Rahman's speech yesterday [7 March, 1971] indicate his tone was tougher than previously reported. Apparently the martial law authorities initially tried to prevent widespread public knowledge of parts of Mujib's speech, but later relented and permitted a recorded version to be broadcast. In addition to setting preconditions for East Pakistani attendance at the National Assembly and announcing a ten-point non-cooperation program, Mujib made scathing attacks on West Pakistanis, particularly the army and the "Punjabi ruling coterie." Punjabis are the largest group in West Pakistan and have been accused of exploiting not only the Bengalis of East Pakistan but non-Punjabi West Pakistanis. Mujib also criticized President Yahya Khan and Z.A.Bhutto, leader of West Pakistan's

largest party.

2. The US Embassy in Islamabad believes that events of the past weekend - Mujib's and Yahya's speeches-have averted an immediate showdown, but that the next few days will tell whether the military decides it has had enough-which could mean a crackdown and the arrest of Mujib and others-or whether it still believes there is a chance to negotiate.

3. The embassy feels that Mujib's goal - "emancipation" of East Pakistan-remains unchanged, but that Mujib may no longer believe this can be obtained through his program of provincial autonomy. He now might plan to achieve independence and try to take over power gradually to avoid a direct confrontation with the military.

4. The embassy concludes, " Events of March 6-7 have deferred a showdown, but have not altered the basic elements. Bengalis appear bent on a degree of autonomy which the Pakistani military (and probably Bhutto) are unable to swallow. The question now is whether Yahya or Mujib will blink first - or whether neither will blink. The showdown cannot be put off much longer."

Application Requirements

Four-year bachelor degree or equivalent

a scale of 4.00. Three-year bachelor

Students with inadequate coursework

Admission test is waived for candidates

Application Deadline

Admission Test

at NSU Campus

March 31, 2017

Friday 10:00 am

March 28, 2017, 11: 59 pm

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score in GMAT or GRE and TOEFL.

background may be advised to take

additional prerequisite courses.

degree with honors.

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- TESOL, Linguistics, Literature

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