

# Bangladeshi brand of cricket and World Cup 2019

PLEASURE IS ALL MINE



SHAH HUSAIN IMAM

**T**HE noise and hype of the Nidahas Trophy tri-series have now settled into a civilised hum. And, it is as much about who won without a single loss in the series as it is about who emerged as the gainer on the whole.

The bottom line is, Bangladesh, as the Indian captain admitted, played "fearless cricket", coming out enriched in experience and as a fighting unit in T20 cricket. We are much less of a "surprise package" now—rather more predictable in a positive way with flashes of cricketing sense topping it up.

In the ICC rankings, Bangladesh is regarded as a competitive and improving side in ODIs and test matches, especially on home ground. But the Tigers' performance in the T20 format had been lacklustre to say the least. We must therefore strive to consolidate the gains we have made through the last series employing all the lessons learnt.

We should be planning to do this with an eye on the 2019 World Cup. Let's keep our antenna high to gauge what competitive cricketing nations have up their sleeves. An interesting report appeared in a newspaper prior to our semi-final encounter with Sri Lanka. This informed that the country's cricket board was using a new technology to analyse their opponents and their own cricketers—possibly drawn from the High Performance Heelys' Software market. Every cricketer will have an account with inputs on fitness, training needs, skills diets, etc. being grist to the mill.

Sri Lanka says it has opted for the latest technology aiming at the 2019 World Cup.



Bangladesh players perform the snake dance to celebrate their victory over Sri Lanka in the sixth T20I match of the tri-nation Nidahas Trophy at the R Premadasa stadium in Colombo.

PHOTO: AFP

With the home series defeats against Sri Lanka stalking the Tigers, the tag of a "non-favourite to win" hanging along their shoulders and statistics of head-to-head T20 defeats, they knew they had to deliver something special. And they did, first by winning the mind game within themselves by mustering the self-belief that they can win, and then by battling it out on the ground—successfully. They defeated Sri Lanka

convincingly twice, the last one moving them to the finals with India.

India lifted the trophy, let us remind ourselves, by a huge stroke of luck, fantastic brilliance of Dinesh Kartik's batting, some of Rubel's loose deliveries and Souma's failure to bowl the last ball as a Yorker. This was mentioned then and there by Sunil Gavaskar from the commentary box!

There was, however, no less a heartbreak

for Sri Lanka against Bangladesh coming on the celebratory occasion of the 70th year of Sri Lankan cricket. As if to mark the festivity, the organisers reserved the final spot by prematurely issuing tickets for an India-Sri Lanka final!

Nevertheless, Colombo can take pride in having organised the important tri-series that produced some excellent cricket pretty much like what cricket lovers are accustomed to

seeing among England, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand.

The exotic wild flower that the Tigers had been wafting its fragrance waiting to be nurtured to the fullness of its aroma and spell. Given the swarms of cricketers in the pipeline and reservoir of talent Bangladesh has, Kumar Sangakara, the great Sri Lankan cricketer, after the last BPL series observed that this country is a cricketing powerhouse in the making. I can see a vindication of his statement if we go all out to improve our cricket without compromising on professionalism.

Our shortcomings are pretty much identified and can be fleshed out to have self-contained units for ODIs, Tests and T20's. It is possible to have high performance second or even third string teams in a state of readiness. The senior players are our prized possessions but we will have to groom quality players and this can only be ensured by showing them through hard training and playing experiences. Critical dependence on one or two players can't be a sustainable option. It was a good omen that we crafted that massive win against Sri Lanka without Shakib. Let's cover for all contingencies.

The focal points of our grooming strategies will have to be on creating a band of pinch hitters, wicket-taking bowlers and batters able to form at least two partnerships in ODIs and T20's.

How better fielding could have won us some of the matches, including in the last tri-series, came to a glaring light when we failed to directly hit the stumps as the batters struggled to make it to the crease and missed a few stumping chances.

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# Corporal punishment ban and the aftermath

*Proper measures of ensuring discipline in educational institutions are needed for the ban to be effective*

ARJUMAND ARA

**O**N January 13, 2010 a ban was imposed on corporal punishment by the divisional bench declaring it as "cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment and a clear violation of a child's fundamental right to life, liberty and freedom." More than seven years have already passed but the issue has been brought to light time and again with news of school children being severely beaten by their teachers. The decision on this ban was no doubt received with praise from all corners of society but when we read news about teachers brutally beating students, it sheds doubt on the ban's effectiveness.

Disciplining a child, whether in homes or educational institutions, is felt as "necessary" and any concerned teacher or parent would not allow children to behave in a wayward manner. So the concern about disciplinary issues still remains among teachers as the implications of this law are far-reaching and will affect the new generation.

We, Bangladeshis, uphold our traditional values strongly and, unlike people of the western world, are less "horrified" by the idea of punishing a child corporally as long as it is for the betterment of the child and not meant to harm the child physically or mentally. Historically speaking, corporal punishment was administered in homes as well as in educational institutions as a means of disciplining children in many parts of the world. People of older generations, especially in the eastern part of the world, often regarded it

*While all of us agree that causing harm to a child is totally wrong, one also needs to understand the idea behind corporal punishment.*

as necessary to bring up a child in the proper way, and hence the proverb "Spare the rod and spoil the child."

In countries like ours where some people even today hold on to traditional values, we normally do not equate corporal punishment to "violence" or "assault." Neither do we, unlike the people of the western world, question the moral fibre of parents or their sense of decency when they adopt corporal punishment as a means of raising their children as disciplined human beings.

While all of us agree that causing harm to a child is totally wrong, one also needs to understand the idea behind corporal punishment. I remember reading an article where the writer made a clear distinction between "abuse" and "corporal punishment". Abuse is done in anger with the sole purpose of harming the child physically or mentally, particularly when a person in anger loses control over himself/herself and crosses the boundary. Corporal

punishment, on the other hand, is a means of punishment which parents of the bygone days and teachers used to "correct" a child's behaviour.

In certain institutions, it was measured and carried out in a predetermined manner without emotion. I myself was raised in a family where my parents and especially my mother often resorted to corporal punishment but they knew it well when my behaviour needed to be corrected. I've never experienced any kind of physical or mental abuse. Since the ban has been imposed, I've talked to a number of my students and most of them admitted that they were

punished corporally at homes and educational institutions.

However, none of them admitted that they bear any grudges against their parents or teachers and accept it as a way to ensure discipline. Many even said that they were told by their parents that "the parts of the body where they were beaten by the teacher would go to heaven first."

While I believe that parents and teachers used corporal punishment as a means to guide young children's behaviour, this is far from being a complete or valid method of ensuring discipline. There are many sincere teachers but there are also a few who are not tolerant enough

and might use corporal punishment as a form of abuse. We cannot help but be concerned when we read news like the one where a teacher's mindless beating broke a child's hand or caused severe injury—and of course there's the mental trauma. These instances are enough to call for not just a ban but also the proper implementation of the ban in educational institutions.

But "ban on corporal punishment" does not mean "ban on any punishment." A child should never be allowed to behave waywardly, be it within the family or educational institution. To raise them as ideal citizens, some sort of

disciplinary methods need to be adopted. The American system of demerits, detentions, expulsions and suspensions is quite effective.

In this respect, I can relate my experiences of being taught in a missionary school and college where the authority had a clearly defined and well-maintained system of rules. One of the main characteristics of the system was constant monitoring. The principal was always watchful and monitored all the classrooms regularly and strictly. I remember in college, we would often find the principal standing at the window monitoring our behaviour in the classroom and I have little doubt now that the monitoring included the teacher's behaviour as well. The fear of detention and, worse still, expulsion was so strong that we hardly dared to break any rule. The outcome of this emotionless, yet effective system was a beautiful environment where the teachers and students alike abided by the rules.

Many would say, however, that maintaining this kind of disciplinary system seems like an unrealistic idea as in most rural schools we only have a few teachers who already have their hands full. Besides, a whole body of employees is needed to look into the disciplinary matters, which is simply unthinkable in our situation. But many good changes are coming in and we may start with schools and colleges where it is possible to implement such rules. Unless we come up with some proper measures of ensuring discipline in all the educational institutions, the effectiveness of this ban will remain doubtful.

Arjumand Ara is an assistant professor at the University of Asia Pacific.



## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY



March 23, 2001

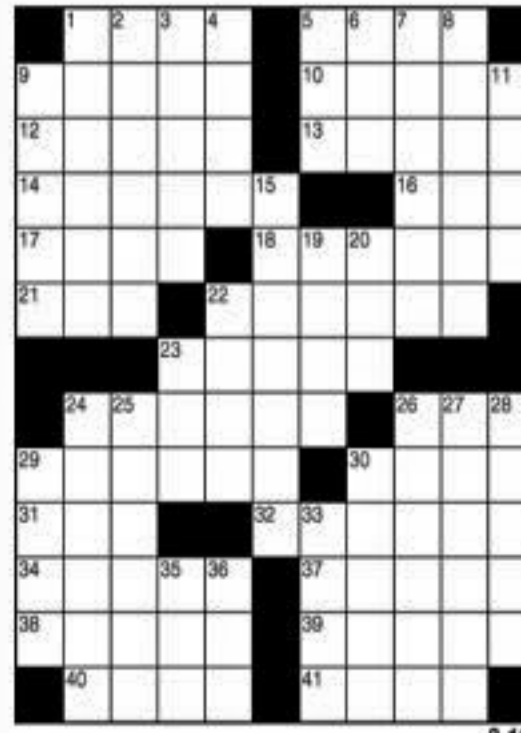
### SAFE SPLASHDOWN FOR MIR SPACE STATION

Russian space station Mir crashed into the southern Pacific ocean, ending its 15 years in orbit above the earth.

## CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

- |                           |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>             | 30 Wise one               | 9 Western resort lake     |
| 1 Scuff of the neck       | 31 That fellow's          | 11 Speedy                 |
| 5 Fire-cracker sound      | 32 Trick-taking card game | 15 Prepare the deck       |
| 9 Leg bone                | 34 That is: Latin         | 19 Foot or fathom         |
| 10 Coldly distant         | 37 Witch trial town       | 20 Collins ingredient     |
| 12 Field measures         | 38 Gawker                 | 22 Entreaty               |
| 13 Israeli port           | 39 Superior group         | 23 Before, to bards       |
| 14 Trick-taking card game | 40 Catch sight of         | 24 Trick-taking card game |
| 16 Bro's relative         | 41 Sailor's septet        | 25 Old autos              |
| 17 Early carmaker         |                           | 26 Showy flower           |
| 18 Most enormous          | <b>DOWN</b>               | 27 Wading birds           |
| 21 Retina setting         | 1 With grace              | 28 Note from the boss     |
| 22 Hit with a fine, say   | 2 Wear roughly            | 29 Canton's state         |
| 23 Mischievous            | 3 Docking direction       | 30 Weigh-in need          |
| 24 Suffering a loss       | 4 Scrooge cry             | 33 Avails oneself of      |
| 26 -- Moines              | 5 Pie -- mode             | 35 Fall mo.               |
| 29 Severe trial           | 7 Sounds                  | 36 Attempt                |
|                           | 8 Kids' card game         |                           |

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PLASMA PINK  
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RABIN  
SHAMROCKS  
STAY ATHENA  
MAN ONE TOT  
ANGEL RETRO  
SCALD SALEM  
HEROS REDS

## BEETLE BAILEY



## BY MORT WALKER



## BABY BLUES



## BY KIRKMAN & SCOTT

