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It was never built for the comfort and happiness of its citizens, but to astonish the world.

— Susan Ertz, *Anger in the Sky*

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How much longer before we learn from tragedy?

Such horrific tragic incidents take place in our country on a regular basis but the question is how much are we learning from such incidents? There was Nimtoli and now this. The home ministry assured us then that steps would be taken to remove flammable chemicals stored in residential areas but then Chawkbazar happened.

Due to such gross negligence by the authorities concerned, these incidents are bound to keep on occurring. Why did the authorities concerned not take steps immediately after a devastating tragedy like Nimtoli? They should also now thoroughly investigate and bring to justice those who were involved in unlicensed and illegal chemical warehouses in the Chawkbazar area.

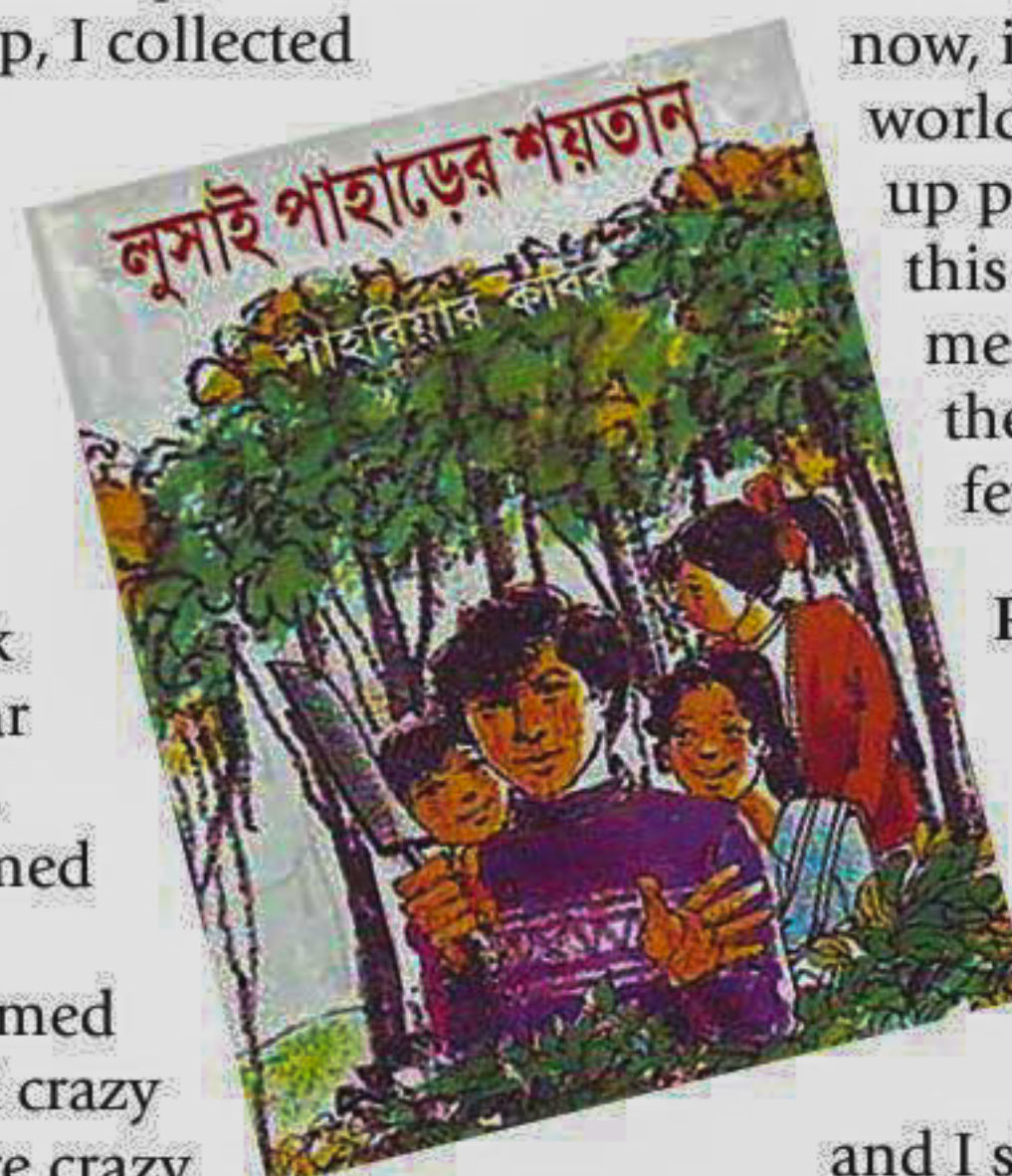
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From Patharia to Lusai

The article on the works of Shahriar Kabir was delightful. I myself got my first SK book as a birthday gift and read it repeatedly. The story set in a foreign land captivated me.

As I grew up, I collected more of his books. I, like you, also faced troubles finding anyone who wanted to talk about Shahriar Kabir's books. Everyone seemed to focus on Humayun Ahmed and those not crazy about HA were crazy



about Zafar Iqbal, so it was a lonely read. But I enjoyed these adventures nevertheless!

I've grown-up now, in a grown-up world with grown-up problems, but this article took me away from these for a few minutes.

Rajiv Mazumdar

I want to say thank you to the writer for writing about Kabir's books. I, too, loved reading his books in my childhood and I share the same feeling you



mentioned about gaining interest in travelling to Europe. My favourite book of Shahriar Kabir was *Hariye Jawar Thikana*, and made me want to travel to Sylhet in the winter. I find it sad that our peers don't know of his works and only read Zafar Iqbal books

(his books aren't even original). This article brought out so many rich memories of my childhood. If he wrote more books today, it would've been great.

Fatima Zohra

Ekushey Boi Mela young authors

Every year, young authors appear with new concepts inside colourful covers at the Ekushey Boi Mela. They use refreshing anecdotes, write about their immediate surroundings and share brutally honest personal experiences. But young authors and writers go through some crises while trying to get their books published. A young author with whom I am personally acquainted published a book at the fair and he was in dire need of a proofreader at the time. *Star Weekend's* feature on several popular young authors last week highlights these dilemmas and the challenges they face in getting published. Young authors require encouragement and their creativity and productivity should not be hampered by lack of support from the industry.

Joshinta Areng
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