



## The other keeper feels ghosted like a middle child

### THE CLUELESSPONDENT

Following the head coach's decision to split the wicketkeeping duties for the ongoing unilaterally-confidence-booster five-match T20I against the team whose neighbour got thumped 4-1 of late, every Khalid, Nakib and Faisal in the host country has an opinion on this matter.

The whole nation cannot seem to stop buzzing on this issue since the day before the series began and had typically split up into two major camps in no time.

One camp, composed of old guards and conformists, is against this splitting business altogether. They deem it to be radically insulting for the Elder Keeper to share the prestigious keeping duties with the Young.

The other camp, the self-proclaimed so-called Keeper of the Faith, reckons the Young has more than earned it, which the first two games of the series so far cannot prove otherwise. In the next two matches the Elder is set to be the glove-bearer, as promised by the coach.

Now, who gets to keep for the fifth game will be decided by the coach after the fourth, which led to an overwhelming cloud of uncertainty that possessed the crickizens of United States of Merepoor to no end.

One local cricket fan witted or Witter, "I can't take it anymore! Elder or Young? Young or Elder? Who will keep for the fifth! The coach should totally declare it immediately to mentally ease us fans before

the all-important, must-win next match tomorrow! We all need this win, more than ever, to keep the momentum boosting out of proportions before the world cup! Come on, coach! You can do it! Reveal it ASAP #riseofthemomentum."

However, something strange happened recently -- the "Middle Child Support Group (MCSG)" and "Raise Middle Child Awareness (RMCA)" entered the mix of cricketing discussion. It all happened when the opener Lit AF, also the Middle Keeper of the team, when asked how he was feeling post-match yesterday, replied: "At least I could've been considered [for the fifth game] just out of formality's sake, just saying."

The interview then ended following a bit

of awkward silence.

Formed by mostly lone wolves and previously assumed to be in exile or deactivated, both RMCA and MCSG activists are attempting, and struggling, to make the footage viral ever since Lit AF's interview got aired. They have labelled this string of events as a sample of society's classic mistreatment of the middle child, which cannot remain normalised any longer.

"For years we the middle children have been ignored, treated like we were invisible at the dining table, in decision-making. Isolated, taken for granted, and forgotten. When will this culture of passive oppression stop? Not that we ever demanded any slice of the pie, all we want is acknowledgment of

our existence. Is it all too much to ask for! #MiddleChildIsReal #MiddleChildExists #ActNow."

It's been five hours at the time of writing this, and yet no leading news portals have covered this seemingly bizarre Middle Child outburst. One public figure, who is a journalist from a leading tabloid named Fast Photon, had joked about this and posted on Witter: "This Middle Class issue seems kinda cute and I'm slightly tempted to cover it if only I can come up with a clickbait headline."

Comments seemed to have flooded under the aforementioned tabloid journalist's post, mostly from RMCA activists where all of them have written the same thing: "It's Middle Child not Middle Class, damn it!"



## Dhoka police take up journalism

Launch news website to celebrate their achievements

### SERV E LANCE, CHAPASTHAN

Dhoka police yesterday launched a news website, exclusively to share news, updates, and their latest accomplishments with the people of the country.

The news portal named Dhoka News Portal (DNP) will be a bold new addition to the already growing organisation that also runs business enterprises and serves as an aide to the government in maintaining law and order, ensuring women are safe and stay at home at nights, making sure the youth do not do drugs and other important social activities.

The main patron of the news portal will be none other than the man who has already accomplished the task of leading the law enforcement agency, and the editor and publisher will be the agency's very own publicist, also a high-ranking police official.

"This is a big step for us. As you know, we are often maligned and misrepresented by regular media, which is a shame because all we are trying to do is save the

nation, one criminal at a time," said Zen Al Zir, the main patron of the news portal.

He also said, this would shelve the need to arrange regular press conferences, thus saving crores of taka and also allow their officers to try their hands in some much-needed creative pursuit.

Editor and Publisher and Publicist of the law enforcement agency Baamru Zaman said he looks forward to dipping his toe in this unexplored field and he feels confident to take up the challenge as one famous journalist, who now runs one of the leading English dailies in the country once told him people can become accidental journalists and all they needed was to find their passion and have a curious mind.

Needless to say, Dhoka police is all too curious about anything and everything that people do, write or say in private, said Baamru, boasting that his disciplined force is going to excel in investigative journalism.

## US Open places toilets on court after controversy over long bathroom breaks

### THE NUMBER 2 CORRESPONDENT

To stop complaints about long bathroom breaks taken by players during matches, the US Open authorities have placed porta potties on court.

British tennis player Andy Murray started the controversy after losing the first-round match to Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece, who spent a total of 15 minutes in the toilet during the near five-hour game (match).

Murray complained about it in the press conference for 10 minutes -- nearly as much time as Tsitsipas was in the toilet -- and now that he has free time after being knocked out in the first round, has spent every day tweeting about it.

While many thought it was a case of sour grapes from the Scottish athlete, the crowd booed Tsitsipas in his subsequent matches whenever he took a bathroom break, and he did take quite a few. Many other players joined in the criticism.

In a sport already highly prone to whining from its players at every injustice -- imagined or real -- the authorities had to act quickly.

"We cannot give these guys any excuse to complain and moan more than they already do," said an official

whose name this correspondent forgot to ask. "They have been complaining about line calls forever and so we have replaced linespersons with machines.

"Similarly, we decided to put two porta potties in each court -- one for each player -- so that they can get their opponents out of the toilet and not complain to the umpire about it. There will also be a timer on the

door, and when the time is up the door will open automatically."

This would also have the added benefit of speeding up proceedings.

If both players go to their respective toilets at the same time, the one to come out first will be awarded a point.

If both come out at the same time, the umpire will have to say "Deuce", regardless of what they did in there.



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