

THE GLOWING WICK

2020



Notre Dame English Club

আপনাদের আস্থায় বেড়ে উঠছি অবিরাম

ব্যবসায়িক স্বচ্ছতা, সুশাসন ও দক্ষতা নিশ্চিত করেছে আমাদের অব্যাহত সাফল্য
এবং আপনাদের আস্থা ও নির্ভরতা দিয়েছে আমাদের এগিয়ে যাবার অনুপ্রেরণা।

১৯৯৭ সাল থেকে আমরা অবিরাম বেড়ে উঠছি আপনাদের আস্থায়। বৃহৎ সহ ২৭টি শাখা এবং ১৮০০ এরও বেশি
দক্ষ জনবল নিয়ে আমরা আছি আপনাদের শ্রুতি দেশের অন্যতম বৃহৎ আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান হিসেবে। বাৎসরিক
দক্ষতা নিয়ে লক্ষাধিক সম্মানিত গ্রাহকের বিনিয়োগকৃত অর্থের স্বচ্ছ ও সঠিক ব্যবস্থাপনা এবং বিনিয়োগ সুনিশ্চিত
করছে অর্থের পূর্ণ নিরাপত্তা এবং আমরা অর্জন করেছি আপনাদের মূল্যবন আস্থা।

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আমাদের সম্মানিত সকল গ্রাহক, চাকরুখ্যায়ী, পৃষ্ঠপোষক এবং নিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থার সদস্যদের প্রতি।

আমাদের বিশ্বাস, অবিরাম অগ্রগতির ধারায় শ্রেষ্ঠত্ব প্রমাণের মাধ্যমে আমরা কমপক্ষে পৌঁছে যাবো উল্লেখ্যের শিখরে
এবং আরো সুদৃঢ় করবো আপনাদের আস্থাকে।

নিশ্চিত কৃত্যের জন্য যোগাযোগ করুন ১৬৩২৫ | আমাদের অনুসন্ধান করুন

DEDICATED TO



Motiur Rahman



Hamidur Rahman



Mohiuddin Jahangir



Munshi Abdur Rouf



Mohammad Mostofa Kamal



Nur Mohammad Sheikh



Ruhul Amin

and every freedom fighter who valiantly fought for the independence of our great nation. The Nation remains indebted to their departed souls for perpetuity.

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EDITORIAL

We feel privileged to be able to contribute to Notre Dame English Club which seems to grow exponentially every year. Our club is 15 years old now and it fills us with immense pride and joy as we reflect upon all the things we have achieved so far. "The Glowing Wick" portrays the continual rise of our club as we grow bigger and better. We are proud to present to you the 5th edition of "The Glowing Wick".

This publication provides a window to appreciate what Notre Dame English Club took part in the past and what they are up to now. We also believe it would allow the readers to foresee what we make sure of to have an exceptionally bright future for this club. This would not have been possible without the help of our club members and their relentless efforts. In this year's edition, we have featured some of the hidden gems of our society who have been contributing ceaselessly for the betterment of our lives and to uphold our country's honor in international platforms.

This souvenir gives an insight on the happenings of NDEC since its inception and it helps the young minds to pursue their latent talents. The people who have contributed to this magazine have given us encouragement which has provided us with the motivation to keep going even when we faced seemingly insurmountable impediments. We are elated to be the media through which such wholesome ideas are shared.

NDEC has set sail for a long cruise and we have a long way ahead. We hope that all our untiring effort that we have put into this publication would serve as a pleasant reading experience for you – Enjoy!

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MESSAGES



I am really amused to hear that Notre Dame English Club has published the magazine 'THE GLOWING WICK' for the 5th time. It is just my utmost pleasure to write for this exclusive magazine.

The importance of English is resonated by the motto of NDEC "Whole universe in one soul, learn English to reach the goal". Due to massive globalization, the world needs a common language and obviously that is 'English'. But the thing is, if we look through the current condition of learning English in Bangladesh, particularly in rural areas, the outcome is not satisfactory. Whatever it is, we are trying our level best to upgrade the situation by any means.

In this condition, I am really glad to know that Notre Dame English Club has been increasing awareness on the importance of English. Accordingly, I have come to know that the club has arranged regular workshops, seminars and grand national carnivals to enable students with the basics of English.

I believe the readers will enjoy the write-ups, photographs etc published in this magazine. The young minds whose writings have been published will definitely find great inspirations to succeed in life by being a worthy citizen of the soil.

I wish Notre Dame English Club all the best for its journey onwards. May this club continue its legacy through ceaseless endeavors in the future.

Asaduzzaman Khan, MP
Minister
Ministry of Home Affairs
The People's Republic of Bangladesh



The Principal

Dear students,

It is a matter of gratification for me to welcome you all in the yearly magazine of Notre Dame English Club, 'The Glowing Wick'. "The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled.", said Plutarch Vasudha and 'The Glowing Wick' kindles the imagination of our learners. It also proves that the club has an immense potential of sharpening students' communicative skill as a part of overall personal development. I appreciate every student who shared their latent writing talents in this magazine. And I would also like to thank the club moderator and co-moderator and the editorial board for gifting us such an exclusive magazine.

Dear students, in this era of cut throat competition, it is of paramount importance to be equipped with appropriate knowledge, habits, attitudes and values leading to holistic development. Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities organised by various clubs facilitate the process of creative and critical thinking. They not only inculcate social and moral values, compassion for nature, pride for our culture and tradition and awareness for one's rights and duties but also make students good human beings and confident leaders.

Notre Dame College has successfully assigned this task to its 23 clubs. Being a part of this family, Notre Dame English Club is also thriving in its 15th year of glory. Over the years the club was dedicated in recruiting such young talents by organising different workshops, seminars, competitions and the yearly national carnivals. Such contribution of the club earned our college much fame and honour. And being the Principal of this college, it is an honour for me as well. I pray that someday Notre Dame English Club will expand its activities to an international level. I also wish all the best to all the members of the club for achieving greater success and scaling new heights in the near future.

Dr. Fr. Hemanto Pius Rozario, CSC
Principal
Notre Dame College, Dhaka



The Moderator

An immense pleasure I have felt as a moderator knowing that NDEC is going to publish its yearly magazine, 'The Glowing Wick'. The magazine always tries to reflect our students' deep philosophical thoughts, their arguments on global issues, their concern as a citizen and their literary urges. All these are expressed in a medium of global language. Delightedly I see my students' participation, enthusiasm and their hard work pivoting this magazine. I think it is a small but very effective effort to co-relate our youngsters in the realm of literature and language in an agitated time. Good to feel that still a part of them nurturing literary vent and raising their voices through their writing.

Significantly the month February has an appeal of pride in our life. So dedicating the language martyrs, this publication will truly uphold the cultural affinity of NDEC.

I would like to render my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the publication team and all who were engaged to publish this issue. Wish you good luck!

Suranjita Barua

Suranjita Barua
Moderator
Notre Dame English Club



Co-Moderator

English can be depicted as one of the trump cards for getting success in the modern civilization and Notre Dame English Club has always encouraged not only learning but also exploring English since its inception. Consequently, the club has published its 5th edition of the magazine 'THE GLOWING WICK'. I congratulate all the members of the club for this marvelous publication. It would have been a herculean task without the dedication of the executive committee. With the publication of this magazine, the club has moved forward to a different level so that students can reach the excellence and get confidence in the language.

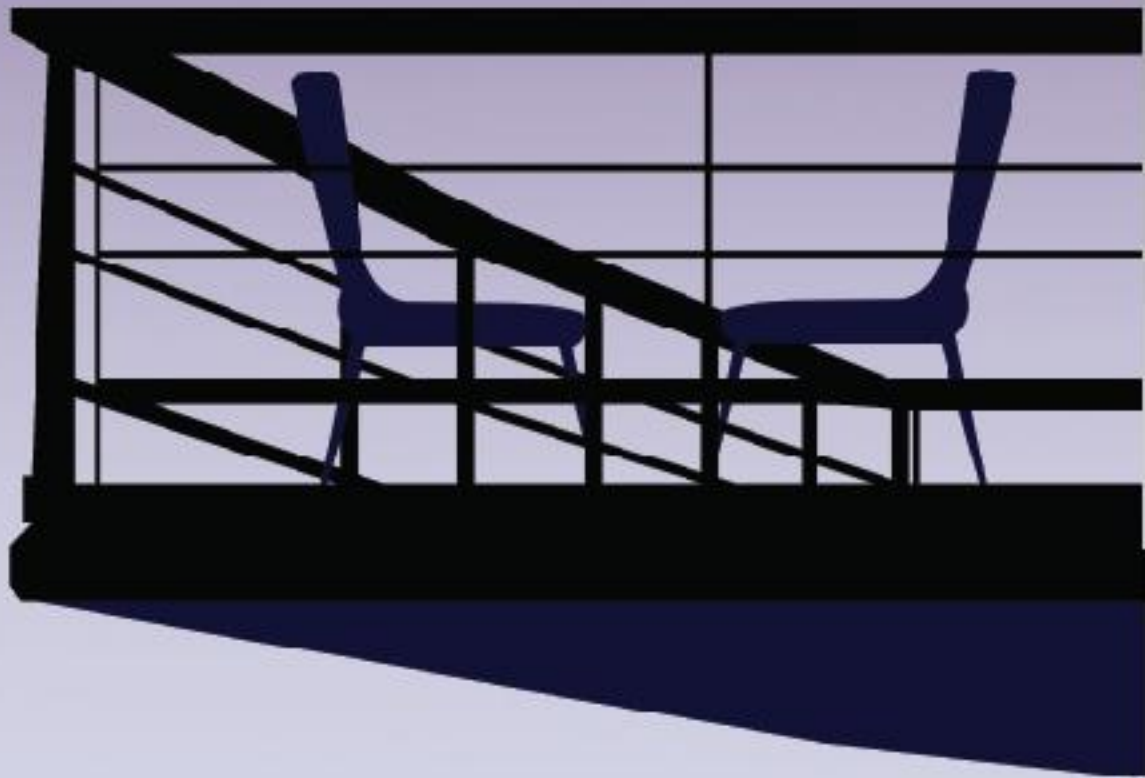
In this era of cut throat competition, it is of paramount importance to be equipped with appropriate knowledge, attitudes along with academic studies. NDEC help students learn English in a rather interactive way and remove any fear of learning it from their minds. This magazine adds a sail to it and unveils the literary genius of our students. So, this kind of magazine is sure to impart them a good space to bloom their creative mind and other dormant aptitudes.

I would like to thank each and everyone related to the publication. Such yearly issue will spread the enthusiasm of learning and practicing English among the learners of the country.

Md. Humayun Kabir
Co-Moderator
Notre Dame English Club



**WITH
ENLIGHTENED
FACES**



In Conversation With

Rafiq Azam, a leading and internationally acclaimed architect, has opened his mind through *The Glowing Wick*. Let's have a look at the story and future scheme of the draughtsman which he conferred with Notre Dame English Club team.



The Glowing Wick: Sir, you are one of the most prominent architects of our country. But what were the motivations that helped you to pursue this profession?

Rafiq Azam: I used to draw a lot of pictures during my childhood. After my HSC exam I was in a dilemma about pursuing drawing because my father would never permit me to get admitted into an Art College. I had an elder sister, Seema Apa, who informed me that there was a subject in the engineering universities like BUET called 'Architecture'. I thought to myself that my father would not bat an eyelid if I got into BUET and I would get to do my drawing. It was a win-win for me. I attended the admission exam and positioned third in the merit list. So I accidentally got into Architecture. That's why I always say I'm an architect by chance but a painter by conviction. This was the story of me pursuing architecture- deceiving my father so that I could paint.

TGW: Sir, in your inebriating story, we see you didn't mention being connected to any youth organizations. Did you skip the fact, or you never joined one?

Rafiq Azam: Oh, I was involved with a good number of them. Officially I used to do Leo Club. My friends and I used to do some social work. If there were programs outside Dhaka, we used to go there. But what really helped me is I got directly involved in so many places after my graduation which I think has a great influence on the work that I do now. For example, I attended classes for almost one year in Bishwa Sahitya Kendra on Rabindranath's literature. Then another one year on World Literature because without knowing world literature, I would have never understood humanity, different perspectives and how to critically analyze a particular thing. I also took a course on Film Making and productivity. I got to learn the history behind film making, video editing, videography etc. I even made a short film and presented it. I did courses on photography, how to talk to people, construction management, songs and many other which I can't remember at this point.

TGW: As the founder of Shatotto, would you like to disclose the reason behind its inception?

Rafiq Azam: There are, indeed, some interesting tales behind a lot of events of my life. I told you I always aspired to be an artist, not quite an architect. Like an artist, I want to reflect on our lives, our culture, our entities as well as the characters of our nation through the entirety of my work. Naming my organization Shatotto was a sheer reflection of my view about life and things around me. Long ago, one day I came across 'Satat He Nod Tumi Poro Mor Mone' which is a line from Michael Madhusudan Dutta's famous poem 'Bangabhumi'. The noun word form of Satat is Shatotto which means continuity. So here I found my perfect word. I picked this word because

everything we do in life, at least I do, is a continuous struggle to make something right for the people. I have been working tirelessly for people and the name Shatotto reflects on my view about life as well as my work and actions.

TGW: Why did you choose Green Living as your field of expertise in architecture particularly?

Rafiq Azam: The thing you know as green architecture now is nothing more than an utter business. The first step you see now in building a structure is clearing the greenery around the site, destroying the nature in the process. I really felt sick at this thought. Then I realized that all we are learning is 'architecture' when it should've been 'eco-friendly architecture'. Architecture is creating rooms in your life for your partners, so what will you do with all your rooms when your real-life partners, the 'Green', leave you? They deserve a room for being one of the best things of our life. That's where the 'Green Living' architecture came from. Why would I leave the AC on all the time, when I can have cold air coming from the Bay of Bengal from the South during Summer and heat from the sunlight coming from the North during Winter, just by building a South-facing home? Probably that's why the people in my village used to say, "দক্ষিণ দুয়ারি স্বর্গবাস, উত্তর দুয়ারি স্বর্গবাস, পূবে হাঁস, পশ্চিমে বাঁশ"

TGW: Sir, do you have any plans for the country and the future generation?

Rafiq Azam: If I were asked what I consider the most important part of the infrastructure of a perfect country, I'd say it was its ability to ensure our children's safety. When my child can simply walk to his/her school on his/her own without facing any danger, I'll consider my city safe. Because if a child can walk these streets safely, so can an elderly, a person in a wheelchair or any kind of person without having any fear.

Another thing I would like to implement to the theme of a perfect city is its ability to preach its true identity regardless of the time. This country of ours contains six wonderful seasons a year. So I can't just plant a random tree for decoration purposes and be done with it. I have to plan carefully that as the seasons pass, whether these trees will keep the area around it graceful or not. And these two things I dream of requires a lot of time and process. But if we don't dream and try to act on it, how else would we turn these into reality?

TGW: How did you manage to bring your English Skills in an International level?

Rafiq Azam: What I think is that the more people have control over languages, it'll work as an advantage for them. Other languages except our mother tongue such as Tamil, English, French, Spanish is also a valuable asset to us. Yes, many might not cherish or achieve the mastery of other languages but English is important mainly to communicate all over the world. What I think that the world of linguistics is totally different, a separate chapter from which you can discover a separate history. In 1998, I did an exhibition in New York and it seemed that people started liking my work and started to know my name sort of. But when inquired of anything, I couldn't digest what they were saying and even reply to those. That is the time I decided that I have to learn English with proper accent and through practice. To practice English right now for the young generation is very easy actually. If I tell you to name all the alphabets, are you sure you will be able to pronounce all of them correctly? Majority of us can't because of lack of proper accents. You better practice your accents first, the basics. Then you'll have smoother control and speak more fluently. Tasteless accents are always wrong and ruins your beautiful English. Expand your vocabulary and use them diversely and English won't be a big deal for you anymore.

TGW: Sir, if a student tells you that he/she wants to be an architect, what would your suggestions be?

Rafiq Azam: Firstly, I would tell him that he must be a good man. It was almost 6 years ago that I had to give a lecture in Australia. There, a famous and vastly prominent architect told me, "Rafiq! You are becoming a famous architect. Simultaneously I want you to become a famous human being." That's why, I will tell you to practice good habits and besides this, you must be a professional. Another thing to note, being a good person will render useless if you fail to update your skills. To put in a nutshell, you have to enlighten yourself by acquiring knowledge.

TGW: As an architect, how do you see the current developing stage of Bangladesh, especially the youth? Are you satisfied with them?

Rafiq Azam: You know, there is no such thing as satisfaction. You are always exploring and searching for better. I think you just have to be a little creative and open-minded. Make mistakes, so what? Mistakes are inevitable at your age. Unfortunately, young generations don't have enough platform to perform. We have created a society that'll go "No! No! No!" whenever you're up for something innovative. We MUST eradicate this bad practice. Rather say "Yes!" Go explore yourself, it's your time!

TGW: Sir, we know that in your current position, awards don't matter anymore. But what did you feel when you received any award at a young age?

Rafiq Azam: Oh! It mattered a lot back then. I was just overwhelmed about receiving any reward. Everyone has a dream that people will know them and appreciate their work. Back then, having an international award meant – WOW. You will also undergo the same situations. To mention, I have achieved a lot of awards including 'Leading European Architect Forum Award', 'Best Architect in Asia & Europe', Gold medals etc. As time passed on, I don't feel any urge to apply for awards now. But sometimes these awards seem helpful. Gives the common folks something to talk about, you know.

TGW: Would you please convey any message to NDEC?

Rafiq Azam: I just want to say that you people must become a good person. You must develop your skills for which club activities are a good way. Besides academic education, you have to know the outside world to be a worthy citizen of this soil.

Favourites:

Favorite Author: Franz Kafka, Samuel Beckett, Rabindranath Tagore

Favorite Book: Metamorphosis – Franz Kafka

Favorite Personality: Louis I Kahn, Jalaluddin Rumi, Rabindranath Tagore

Favorite Moment: The moment I am passing now

Interviewed by: Tahsin Araf, Rafeed Bhuiyan, Nafis Ahmed, Shuvo

Translated by: Abdur Al Wasi, Nafis Ahmed, Saiful Islam Tuhin, Irtiza Zaman

Bangladesh Underground Scene to Wacken Germany



TGW: As a musician, a metalhead and an audience what does music mean to you?

Trainwreck: Music is more of a lifestyle. When it comes to metal music, it has to be a lifestyle. It's like you cannot get up on stage and be a metal person and on the road you cannot just be an average guy wearing a shirt or you know, you cannot be that. It's a lifestyle. Let me give you an example, then, you might understand. In our country, there are so many metal bands, right? I'm pretty sure you have seen so many metal bands. How many band people you know? There is a thing like Rockstar. When it comes to Ayub Bacchu or James, they are like rockstars, but why? Because, off the stage they're also rockstars. And it goes with them. It's not like that they are doing these forcibly. It comes natural. It's not inherent. Those who actually can do this, they do it normally. If you want to do music by force, you cannot be a musician. If you are a painter or if you are a dancer if it doesn't come naturally... you're not a dancer. If you give me 10 million dollars right now, I won't be able to dance. I sing, my soul sings. That's it.

TGW: What motivated you to continue in this Genre, groove metal?

Trainwreck: We never intentionally searched for groove metal. I'm pretty sure the type of music you guys listen to now is different from the types of music you used to listen to five years ago. You evolve, musically. When I started listening to music (I myself am a rapper, I like hip-hop) I mean those who know me know that I like hip-hop a lot. But as I grew older I discovered many bands such as Linkin Park, Limp Bizkits etc. Eventually I figured out the groove thrash metal music genre and I took a liking to it and I was also kind of good at it.

So I am like why not? Let's pursue this! At the same time I am blessed to have my band because it's really difficult to find people of this same mindset or mentality. For instance my bands guitarist, Rahul, is like a top to bottom born and brought up metal head, so I'm lucky that I got bandmates like him. My band mates played a big role in my persuasion of this genre. Suppose I want to do technical death metal but none of my band mates would like to do that. Then that would be forcing it on them to like the genre. Then when you'll listen to us play that you'll figure out that it's not being played right. To us, as a band, the groove thrash genre comes naturally. It wasn't fixed up that we would be doing this but we do this because it feels natural as we play it.

TGW: How do you feel when you guys are requested to cover "Lamb of God" songs?

Trainwreck: We never had an issue with it because we personally love Lamb of God. If there's one band in our genre that we worship that's "Lamb of God". We like playing their songs. Like we will be jamming tonight with our own song but we feel really good playing "Lamb of God". So when we're performing in front of our audience if they want "Lamb of God" we're never like "why not our songs?" it's never like that. We are entertainers; if they want to be entertained, we are there to entertain them, that's it.

TGW: What do you like the most about the ever-changing Bangladeshi Band Music Scene? And what would you like to change?

Trainwreck: The thing is, metal scenario is for people who are dedicated listeners to metal. Suppose, you can enter a random pop concert happening in your local field which cannot be done in case of metal. Metal concerts cost money for tickets, and you'll pay it because you like metal. You value metal, whatever the cost. Because it gives something to your soul, you find it appealing. And it's going to go up in flames once it becomes free. Take the huge free concerts taking place for example, any kind of people can enter these, music lover or not. They don't even understand the music or the words, they're just there to have a good time dancing and jumping around. But you can't do that in a metal concert. The music will sound chaotic and disturbing to your ears if you can't feel it. That's why, the music outside Bangladesh is different, because their metal community is so strong! The audience management is so smooth in foreign countries. Like, in Wacken, there's a road with almost 100 clubs along the path and every one of them is of different genres. People can choose the crowd they want to enjoy the music with. And even for people not caring about genres, they can just have good time listening to the music. But, they can maintain this mentality to enjoy because they have money in their pants. This is where all of it comes down, how much money you have to quench your thirst of music. Because in Bangladesh, you charge less for ticket and weird people will show up, charge more and people might just not show up at all! Music is interconnected with economy and changing one can have an impact on the other as well.

TGW: Like we used to buy music CDs or albums before, we don't tend to do that anymore. How are musicians going to get funded by their music if they don't buy it and only listen it for free on streaming services?

Trainwreck: Well, CDs are dead as dead can be. I, being a musician, don't have a CD-ROM in my pc. Foreign artists are surviving 20 years without CDs. So, here come the streaming services, like Youtube and Spotify, they provide you funding depending on your views and

hits. So, performing shows doesn't necessarily have to be the only way to earn money in this life. Do you know we are the first metal band to launch their T-shirts? Like the bands who came before us didn't have any headache about merchandise when you can secure a big amount of cash through these. Then, now that we've done it, 6 years down the road, look where heavy metal t-shirt is right now. About 10-15 bands followed our footsteps and now this merchandise partially supports the finance and career of all those bands. There's a lot of approaches like this, you just have to have the courage. Another example can be our 'crowd funding movement' in Germany, where we sold our t-shirts to the audience without any price cap, you can donate as much as you want to support our tours. And we sold a lot! Listen, being a metal band, you don't get options like luxury, even if you come from a millionaire family. I have to afford 5 members, manager, 2 photographers and 1 videographer; so I'm going to need all the funding I can get.

TGW: In Wacken Open Air Germany, how much appreciation did you receive as the first performing band from a small Asian country? Share the experience with us.

Trainwreck: Out of the world. I mean, we don't get that amount of appreciation even in Bangladesh. I'm not exaggerating this and I'm not holding something against my people either. I've been doing music for 10 years now and you might know we have this song called 909, just an example. I've been doing this song in Bangladesh for about 7 years now. In not a single show did the people here sing the lyrics with me. But in Kolkata, they sang the whole song with our performance. People here take things for granted and the people abroad don't. That's the difference. For the people in the countries we've toured, if you have what it takes to get their attention, if you can feed their souls with the kind of music they want, they will appreciate you and want to see you live. You don't see that here in Bangladesh.

TGW: In your opinion, how can Bangladeshi Rock/Metal music spread among international audience?

Trainwreck: You have to get out of the country first. When we, Trainwreck, first started creating music, we did it in English. Because our goal was to get these out of the country. Maybe Wacken was a big leap. But if it didn't work out, we had plans to go abroad, go international; and you can't go international if you're stuck in Bangla. Today, there's a lot of huge bands in Bangladesh yet they can't actually cross the border. Like, with Bangla, you can highest reach Kolkata, not even the whole India! This is only for language barrier. Use English and you can break through with that barrier at least. Nowadays, when people search for metal, Trainwreck comes first. Because we have gone there, we have performed abroad and people know about us from there. They saw us on Facebook, they saw us on Youtube, that's how they know about us. So you have to get out there, to let them know you exist! If you don't know in the first place, you wouldn't search up random musicians, would you?

TGW: What would you consider the ultimate success as a musician such as you?

Trainwreck: There's no specific success for a musician I think. But yeah, I have a personal opinion regarding this. I have always cherished to perform in Madison Square Garden. I just wanna do a solo show there and nothing more! If I can't even do that I would feel incomplete.

TGW: As Trainwreck has performed in such a great platform, Wacken, how can it affect or help our music scene in Bangladesh?

Trainwreck: It can help in a lot of ways because now it's open. Now you know the way. Last year there was this metal competition, Dhaka Metal Battle, which happened from Wacken in Bangladesh for the first time. We won and we went to Bangalore. This is gonna happen again and one band for sure will go to Bangalore. Going to the Bangalore open air is the big breakthrough. If you go to Bangalore open air you would understand the major differences. They organize such an amazing metal music festival, everyone buys tickets for 3000rs. Now more than ever it's possible, this year the band that will go to Bangalore I hope that band goes to Wacken as well but even if they don't, that experience itself is a lot to take in. After coming from there you would know what you have to do in Bangladesh and big things would happen for you.

TGW: Lastly, when will we have a full length album from Trainwreck?

Trainwreck: I can't give you the answer because I don't know really. But we are working on it. And a point to mention that we have no interest just to release 'Music Video'. That's the difference between other bands and us. We came here to do fun and we enjoy it. May be you will get a lot of Albums, but that's not our only target.

TGW: As you won in the Bangalore Open Air before, what made you exceptional than other bands?

Trainwreck: I asked the same question to the judges after winning because when we won people were crying, Rahul and Wasi they had lost it. So after the moment passed, photos were taken and all the other formalities were done. The last band of the show was "Suffocation" they're an American death metal band, after their performance the show had ended. So we went out for a walk and we saw one of our judges, he was the frontman of Kryptos, an Indian legendary band. So he came up to us and congratulated us and said you guys are going to Wacken, that's huge! This is just Bangalore open air, this isn't even 1% of Wacken. So we were asking him for some suggestions and stuff, he gave us some input on how to manage our trip and all. Then I asked him, 4 bands from 4 countries came to this competition what made us exceptional? He said you guys looked like you guys are enjoying yourselves on the stage and others looked like they were performing just for the crowd. Actually there were two reasons that made us exceptional he said, one was that we were enjoying our self and he could understand what we were saying because most of the time in growls you can't understand the lyrics but he could understand ours. We went to represent our country and it really was a great achievement for us.

Interviewed by: Mridul Roy Shuvo, Iqbal Rafid, Sparshopriyo Barshon Roy

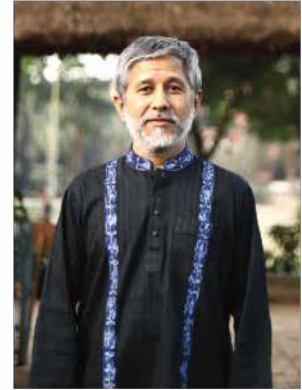
Translated by: Irtiza Zaman, Nafis Ahmed, Tahsin Araf



TORCH BEARERS



Attitude: Can make you or break you



Br. Leo Pereira, Ph. D.

Principal

Saint Joseph Higher Secondary School

What makes a person highly accomplished and successful in life?

As instance, a study by the Stanford Research Institute reveals that 12.5 percent knowledge and 87.5 percent attitude contribute to make a person highly accomplished and successful. To be more specific, the study indicates that the money a person or business makes in various ways are determined by above stated percentages, predominantly attitude. In making money, attitude means an ability to deal with people and relationships with other people and agencies or entities, how one gets along with people.

Another instance, a shoe company sends two salespersons to an island for selling shoes. The first salesperson reaching in the island was surprised seeing that no one wore shoes. All people were walking barefooted. Instantly he sent a message to his home office in Chicago telling that he would return home soon. No one wears shoes here. On the other hand, second salesperson was excited by the same realization. Immediately he sent message to the home office in Chicago asking them to send 10,000 shoes. Everyone here needs them.

It is important to note that how we interpret the situations and challenges in life – they could be opportunities in life as second salesperson perceived or obstacles as first salesperson understood. The interpretations emerges based on one attitudes, values, and beliefs that hold and embedded in.

Changes are constant in life in contemporary world. Amidst these changing realities and in spite of various adverse situations, life remains beautiful. Beautiful life is not like a digital app or gadget created by a computer programmer but the outcome of hardwork, perseverance, diligence and extra efforts of individual human programmer. In this complex and challenging world, a person has to plan and work hard to make a beautiful life. Beautiful life is not only in an aesthetic and abstract idea or perception but integrated experience of living a beautiful life. Our surroundings are combination of various problems, frustrations and hopeless situations, incidents and news as well as optimistic news, development, achievement and life-giving things happening around us. In real life, there is no such situation of entire positive experience of life but presence of negatives alongside. Beauty of life and to be happy depend on the attitude and perspectives of a person develops and possesses within towards life. Attitudes are also interconnected with personal values and beliefs that one holds in life. Then, what is attitude? According to John Maxwell (2016), attitude means an inner feeling articulated through behavior. Therefore, attitude can be seen without any word being uttered. Sometime, inner feeling can be concealed for a while but eventually it reveals itself anyway. Again, according to various online dictionaries, attitude means:

"... A settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior."

"... a feeling or opinion about something, especially when this shows in your behavior."

"... a complex mental state involving beliefs and feelings and values and dispositions to act in certain ways."

"An attitude is somewhere between a belief, a stance, a mood, and a pose. If you've got an attitude about something, it can be hard to change it because you think you're right."

Based these definitions, attitude is an embedded inner faculty of a person that performs a major role in one's life – what she or he thinks, does and becomes. Attitude influences and impacts a person's life, thoughts, works and also those who come across and work with. Hence, it is essential that we knowingly develop and cultivate positive and enlightened attitude within oneself as attitude is a principal force which will determine success or failure in life.

Attitude determines our approach to life: Our attitude decides what we expect from life. If we carry and cultivate negative attitude in us, whole world would seem negative to us. Attitude influences our lives and actions in life and decides what happens to us. Many mishaps occur in life because of poor attitude. Often time people wait for others or world to change without understanding that they are accountable and in charge for their own behavior. As M. K. Gandhi says: Be the change you want to see in the world.

Attitude determines our relationships with people: Relationships are very important in one's life. Interpersonal relationships and interdependence in everyday living are essential components in life. People need one another to live in this society. It is important to embrace an attitude to put others first and accept people as important, that will incorporate their viewpoints in our perspectives. People having good attitude rise in society and organization.

Attitude, often, is the only difference between success and failure: Usually people have natural abilities of doing something. It is important have intellectual capacity and nurture that. Overall, it is the attitude that make the difference in the outcomes of intelligence and aptitude. Positive attitude empowers to hold a spirit to see the success over failure, good over bad.

Attitude at the beginning of a task will affect its outcome more than anything else: Right attitude is important to live amidst all odds in this world. People always want right environment to begin and do things. A saying "All's well that ends well" is equally true as "All's well that begins well." However, it is important to see things positively and consider the challenge and difficulties as sunrise – opportunity, like, the second salesperson, excited by the same insight, "ordered for 10,000 shoes as everyone here needs them" as stated at the beginning.

Attitude can turn our problems into blessings: The difference between an obstacle and an opportunity is our attitude as stated that every opportunity has a difficulty and every difficulty has an opportunity. People learn well in difficult situations and great leader emerges when crises arise. We discover our inner power during the time of crises and challenges.

Attitude can give us an uncommonly positive perspective: Positive perspectives are able to guide to achieve goal. A Hebrew story regarding David and Goliath states that soldiers thought Goliath was so big that we can't kill him and David thought that he so big that I can't miss. People with positive attitude one sees bright and enjoyable future to reach goals and achieve. To endorse positive attitude, in the morning before going to work, drivers can think that they are going for a ride; students when studying for exams can think that they are reading for pleasure. This positive perspectives give energy for life and achieve goals.

Attitude is not automatically good because you are a virtuous person: As a human, seven deadly evils – pride, covetousness, lust, envy, anger, gluttony, and sloth – are crammed in every person and these are matters of attitude, inner spirit and motives. Some people are guilty of these evils materially and some in spirit. In life, a poor attitude would lead us in place we would not want to go and a good attitude could put us in a place of great potential. It is important to know what your attitude is and cultivate the positive attitude.

A language is used to communicate thoughts, feelings and opinions with others through skills of reading, writing and speaking. Could language be of other modes which could be nontraditional and nonconventional? We also communicate our attitudes and perspectives to others and influence and impact their thoughts and lives by being with other and through the way we live. Hence it is important to consider what we communicate and how and the words we choose to use. As we educate ourselves in institutions and in the school of life, it is necessary to educate us with positive attitude, cultivate positive perspectives and motivate us and others to change the world and make it a better place. Attitude is really about how a person is that overflows into how the person acts. So your attitude determines your actions and your actions reveal your attitude. It's all up to you what you want to do with your attitude. Therefore be a person of positive attitude and virtuous acts, be highly successful and accomplished person and cultivate positive attitude in life.

[Reference: Maxwell, J. C. (2016). Attitude: What every leader needs to know. Mumbai, India: Jaico Publishing House.]

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TRAFFIC OF TRUTH

'E' for education, 'M' for misery



Ahmed Tahsin Shams
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An age-old maxim is known to the most: "There is nothing more uncommon than common sense". And, the system which perfectly paves way for this 'uncommon' notion is Bangladeshi education system. Here, teachers and job recruiters often face the crisis and therefore scream, "Have you lost your common sense?"

Chronologically speaking, students in Bangladesh are not solely responsible for such crisis; rather firstly, parents, and secondly schooling could be placed on the dock of the court before blaming the students for being in poverty of 'common sense'.

Deconstructing the usable definition of the most common word: 'common sense', it can be said that the phrase means - having the ability to think, judge, decide, and act accordingly. Now, does it sound so common? Rather, the action of the word demands high intelligence to perform 'common sense'.

Parents frame a child's brain with full of paradoxes since their early ages. Whatever is taught to a kid hardly faces practical implication. For instance, everyone on earth is known to the less used advice : "Honesty is the best policy", because the yesterday's kid, today comes to know that they have flats and cars, more than one or two in the capital of Dhaka, and his or her father is a government jobholder! This is not the end. The same parents, for their sons and daughters, passionately wish to buy medical admission question papers. However, creative thinking, to think liberally, or such thinking, which can be executed, is rarely practised in Bangladeshi education system; whether at home, or at schools. Students study but they do not know why they are doing it. Let's do a hypothesis. Ask any kid, "Why do you go to school"? The majority might answer, "Because of my parents' wish..." or "Otherwise dad will scold me..." or "to play with my friends". Let's focus on the third point: 'play'.

Aristotle became nothing but a name in this context as his words, "Enlightenment through entertainment" is very less at use in Bangladeshi education system. Blame will not go to any particular person in authority or faculty, rather their thinking, which is also a product of the system, and this thinking can be coined as, without a hitch, 'imprisoned in age-old dogmas'.

To what extent today's are students given the liberty to exercise what they learnt in their practical lives? To what extent do teachers encourage students in their writing or speaking

classes to watch one of their favourite films and write on it, or mimic their favourite characters, which would develop their public speaking ability?

What do we mean when we actually utter innovative change in the teaching methodology? What could be our approach as guardians and teachers regarding educating the next generation? What steps have we actually taken so far to present education as entertainment? Yes, fumble more before answering these questions!

Let alone school-graduates, our university certificate grabbers (or buyers) certainly lack, to a great extent, what is expected from a graduate. For instance, hardly are students made acquainted with research works; whereas, students are judged on their research publications or proposals for higher degree scholarships in many developed countries.

There could be an 'economic' excuse behind this. Most students belong to the 'economic' struggling class and they just need a job just after graduation to support their family. Well, this is another paradox.

Suddenly, a graduate comes to know that he has to earn 'money', whereas, he was never taught what money is. He never got the subject 'money' as he was indulged into quantum physics or culture studies. All of a sudden, he becomes prey to the peer pressure, mostly done by family members. The same family who used to scold him during his teenage -- "Money is not for teens. Here is your tiffin"!

Let's make another hypothesis. Soon, the recent Rohingya issue will get space in textbooks, at least in graduation level for the courses like Bangladesh Studies, History, Sociology, or Political Science. But, the question is -- how many universities have attempted to take their students to the Rohingya camp for academic assignment purposes? This is what is known as 'practical learning'.

The age of memorizing information has gone to grave. Most of the urban students' pockets are weighty with 'smart' phones. The age to evolve as 'think-tanks' has been waving since years, yet unheard, unnoticed by our so-called education policy makers. There pops up another head, known as 'knowledge'. Using information to create a new concept is knowledge, rather vomiting others' views.

The penultimate hypothesis is, most schools in Bangladesh, if surveyed, would turn out as synonyms to 'haunted house' for kids. Let's not forget the reason of the teaching methodology of 'ABC', where "A for Apple", "B for Ball", and "C for Cat" -- designed in a way so that kids can easily remember as these notions are not unknown, rather most friendly to them; whereas in Bangladesh, to be specific in 'adorsholipi', Bangali kids learn: 'A' for 'Ajogar' (Python), 'I' for 'Idur' (Rat), and 'E' for 'Eagle'. Such frightening animal imageries for kids lead straight to the point mentioned earlier: school is synonymous to 'haunted house'!

It's not high time, we have already missed the train that travels towards knowledge. Miles to go before the next generation falls asleep. Yet, optimists believe, it is never too late.

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IGNITED MINDS



Facebook's dream of creating its own cryptocurrency



Izaz Ahmed Fuad

Have you ever thought why we use Facebook? Or, why is every single person around you on no other social network but Facebook? The answers will be many. Like- Facebook is easy to access, it's useful for finding jobs, Facebook provides us with latest news, blood donors are easily found on Facebook nowadays, any kind of survey is easier to run among people by the help of Facebook polls etc. etc. What if you could pay with Facebook? Sounds interesting?! Yeah, Facebook is planning to start its own cryptocurrency from 2020.

First of all, those who don't know what Cryptocurrency is, let me talk a bit about it. According to Wikipedia, "A cryptocurrency (or crypto currency) is a digital asset designed to work as a medium of exchange that uses strong cryptography to secure financial transactions, control the creation of additional units, and verify the transfer of assets." I know it seems more interesting to you now. So, let's talk about how it will work in case of Facebook.

The American social media company, Facebook proposed 'Libra' which is a permissioned block chain digital currency. Facebook is planning to launch a digital wallet (Calibra). It will be available both in Messenger & WhatsApp. Facebook wants to bring in a revolution. As any Facebook user will be able to use Libra, it will be easier to pay, withdraw money for the people who don't have any bank accounts. People will be able to withdraw the currency from their nearest grocery shops. Facebook says that it will cost almost zero to transfer money online. This indicates how easy it will be to do the transaction job.

Now what will happen if Libra starts working in Bangladesh? What will be the ultimate result? Will it bring a revolution? Bangladesh has many mobile banking companies like- Bkash, Mcash, SureCash and a lot of them. What will be the difference if Libra comes into Bangladesh? Facebook is saying that Libra will be an evolution to PayPal. So, it gives an indication that Libra is going to work internationally. As PayPal is not available in Bangladesh and none of the mobile banking companies in Bangladesh provide international payment facilities like- paying bills on Netflix, it's going to bring some changes and a competitor for Bkash (the largest mobile banking company in Bangladesh). If the transaction rate of Libra is lower than Bkash and if it is available in every shop around you like Bkash, what's the reason to use Bkash anymore? You won't use Bkash with extra charges and less facilities, right?

So, here another question arises. Will people use Bkash with more cost and less facilities only because Bkash is a Bangladeshi company? Or will they start using Libra as it provides tons of facilities and costs less? All of these are just fictions right now. Because Libra is not here yet, no official announcement of the launch is out there on the web. Everything is just a prediction. But Bkash will surely have a tough competition ahead if this fiction becomes a fact!

Catch-22?



Zubayer Wasit

What does your every day schedule resemble? Mine used to be awakening at 7AM, rest strolling to the shower, wildly getting dressed into socially worthy garments, presenting myself with a cup of caffeine, and strolling among automatons of zombies to a packed bus stop, arriving at office, doing the same work over and over, coming all the way back with weariness, perusing on the web, dozing and the other way around.



Of course, getting out of this hellish cycle is quite the “Catch-22.” The last thing you want to do after working eight-hours is to work on your startup. Yet, if you don’t spend time building your own business, you’ll be trapped in an endless loop of corporations. Racing to the office before 9AM. Managers breathing down your neck. An eternity of smiling at your coworker’s snide comments. Which is a horror movie in and of itself.

So I decided to do something unique. I decided to break the shackle. An idea helped me to get out of this hellish cycle. I joined a startup accelerator program. The bootcamp lasted for long four months.

1. Pick good cofounders
2. Launch fast
3. Let your idea evolve
4. Understand your users
5. Better to make a few users love you than a lot ambivalent
6. Offer surprisingly good customer service
7. Spend little
8. Avoid distractions
9. Don’t get demoralized
10. Don’t give up

The best way to come up with startup ideas is to ask yourself the question: What do you wish someone would make for you?

If you want to come up with organic startup ideas, I’d encourage you to focus more on the idea

part and less on the startup part. Just fix things that seem broken, regardless of whether it seems like the problem is important enough to build a company on. If you keep pursuing such threads it would be hard not to end up making something of value to a lot of people, and when you do, surprise, you've got a company.

The very best startup ideas tend to have three things in common: they're something the founders themselves want, that they themselves can build, and that few others realize are worth doing.

It sounds obvious to say you should only work on problems that exist. And yet by far the most common mistake startups make is to solve problems no one has.

You can either build something a large number of people want a small amount of, or something a small number of people want a large amount of. Choose the latter. If Mark Zuckerberg had built something that could only ever have appealed to Harvard students, it would not have been a good startup idea. Facebook was a good idea because it started with a small market there was a fast path out of. Colleges are similar enough that if you build a Facebook that works at Harvard, it will work at any college.

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Taufiqul Alam

"Excuse me", a childish voice caught my ears. I looked around for the source of the voice but found no one around. "Excuse me, what is this for?", the voice exclaimed. I looked down at the book I had in my hands. The voice came from a little ant, standing on its little legs on the page of the book I was reading and it was looking up quite curiously at me.

It raised its head and bowed its antennae quite respectfully, looked at me and said again, "Excuse me, what is this for?" "What is what for?", I asked. "This?", the ant exclaimed tapping his little black foot on the page on which it was standing, "What is this black and white expanse I am standing on?" "You wouldn't be able to understand it even if I told you," I said. "Please," the ant said, "Although I am very small, I am very curious. And, I don't want to turn to dust having known nothing at all. So, if you would please, what is this for?"

"Okay," I sighed. He stood up on his back legs eagerly awaiting my answer. I started, "What you're standing on is called a page. Pages are made from trees and we put lots of them together and call it a book." "What is a book for then?" he asked. "Well, they are for storing thoughts. So that we can transmit them to other people very far away." "How?", the ant said. "Now look, this isn't the time or place.", I said a little too firmly. The ant bowed his tiny head and his antennae wilted. I said softly, "Look, you see those little black squiggles; excuse me; to you, very big black squiggles on the page?" The ant nodded. "Those are words and numbers.", I said. "They don't look like words and numbers.", the ant said. "They represent them.", I said. "Humm", the ant said, and looked down at the page and thought about it for a while. "Do you understand?" I asked. "No, not really." the ant replied. "You were right. It's beyond me. But, though I'll never be as clever as you are, I'm at least a little more than I was a moment ago. So, thank you." "You're welcome.", I said. "Well, good luck on being a thing in the world." the ant said. "Good luck to you too," I said.

The little ant made off on his way and disappeared into the grass.

I read to the end of my page but could not forget the little ant. Eventually, I looked up from the book. To the trees, to the mountain, to the sky. The moon was high upon the sky, there were birds returning to their nests, it was the evening. The orange glow of the sun had just started fading. Suddenly, I called out, "Excuse me! What is this for?!"

"What?", came a booming voice from up above. "This great big blue sphere I'm on.", I patted the ground with my foot. "What is all this for?", I asked again. "Look," the voice said, "You wouldn't understand even if I explained it to you." "That might be so, but, although I am very small, I am also very curious. And, I don't want to turn to dust having known nothing at all. So, would you please, what is all this for?"

The voice sighed. "It's like this..."

The Cat isn't Real!



Mahmud Naeem

Is this the real life? Or is this just fantasy? Well, like 'Queen', our scientists are not so sure about this reality. You can't say that something is happening without observation. Correspondingly, reality is basically what we are observing. So, there can be so many probable futures and they all are in superposition similar to wave function though wave function can't be implied for such huge particles. I'm going to give you only some ideas about Schrödinger's cat paradox. Schrödinger, the noble prize-winning physicist proposed a paradox on the basis of his following hypothetical experiment.

He put a cat in a steel box along with a phial of poison, a Geiger counter and a radioactive substance and a hammer. If the radioactive substance decays, the Geiger counter will detect it and will trigger the hammer to release the poison. As a result, the cat will be dead within few minutes. But the amount of the radioactive substance is so minuscule that the decay becomes a random process and it has 50/50 chance of being detected by the counter. There is no way to presume when it will happen and predict the cat's outcome. According to physicists, atom exists in a state known as superposition. So, in superposition, the atom of the radioactive material is both decayed and not-decayed at the same time until it is observed. Schrödinger gave a hypothesis that before opening the box the cat also exists in a superposition where it is both alive and dead. In other words, depending on the radioactive decay there are two different realities in the future of the cat and they'll collapse into one after observation. As soon as the observer opens the box the superpositions of the cat being both alive and dead, will collapse into either the knowledge that "it's alive" or "it's dead". I'd like to suggest you two movies named 'Mr. Nobody' and "Coherence" on this concept.

Specifically, we don't see objects in a superposition of states at the macroscopic level. The thought experiment was to magnify a quantum operation, the indeterminacy of whether something small like an atom, decayed or not. "Schrödinger developed the paradox to illustrate a point in quantum mechanics about the nature of wave particles," says Eric Martell, associate professor of physics and astronomy at Millikin University. The idea of a wave function describes how subatomic particles behave and their all possible states with some other properties. Now you are starting to relate Heisenberg's uncertainty principle, right?

"In fact, the mere act of opening the box will determine the state of the cat, although in this case there were three determinate states the cat could be in: these being Alive, Dead, and Bloody Furious."

– Terry Pratchett, **Lords and Ladies**

Inferiority Complex



Monowar Anjum Ayon

Many people like me find it hard to interact with new people. When I started my university classes, the same thing happened. It was taking me so long to adapt to the new environment. I didn't talk with anyone unless it was something important. After a few days, the students of my department arranged a dinner party. I went to the dinner as well. The arrangement was quite huge as almost every student from our department took part in it. I could hardly enjoy myself among the new faces with whom I hadn't been quite acquainted with by then. I was sitting alone in a corner and watching others interacting effortlessly with one another and enjoying themselves. I began to think if I would go talk with someone or not. But I resisted myself. Who knew how they would react? The loneliness wasn't that bad. If anyone approached me first, I would get acquainted with him/her. That was the plan. Sadly nobody did so. I quietly finished my dinner and came back home. I went to my bed and started thinking that the goal of the dinner party was to get to know one another. How did I fare in that regard? How many classmates did I get to know? None. Then I began to regret why I didn't approach anyone. All the others were mingling with one another. I could have done the same. But why did I resist myself? What held me back?

The aforementioned problem that I faced is called inferiority complex. Many are accustomed to this, a great many suffer from this as well. Inferiority complex is a condition of the human mind that hinders a person from abiding by the social standards. This mindset makes a person keep him/herself in a shell, he/she can't socialize with others easily. A person having this condition hesitates to simply talk with anyone he/she doesn't know well. They think what people will think about what they say rather anxiously. As a result, they often avoid constructive criticism or ideas. Hence, the amount of their contribution become lesser day by day and they lag behind from others.

If a person fails to express him/herself in any particular matter or talk confidently, his/her value gets lesser in that regard. Those who suffer from inferiority complex don't necessarily lack creativity, ideas or opinions. The problem is that they can't or don't express themselves. That's why they lag behind.

Overthinking and lack of confidence make a person suffer from inferiority complex. This type of people don't often get the recognition they should deserve from the society. They think that those who are superior in the society will only be valued and recognized which is entirely a wrong notion. Those who can express themselves, can interact with others confidently often get the recognition. And those who hide themselves aren't appreciated by the society.

A Victorian English novelist Anthony Trollope said,

"Never think that you're not good enough.
People will take you very much at your own reckoning."

Inferiority complex is like a psychological mirage. The more you ignore it, the more it will grasp you. If you want to move ahead, you have to get rid of this illusion of inferiority complex. Just try once and see whether the society appreciates you or not. Then you will understand it was nothing but your delusion.

Bugs Bunny, Bojack & Beyond



Md. Rejwanul Islam

The sacred art of turning stories to life is one practiced and perfected since the dawn of humanity. Humans have depicted motion through creative uses of shadow and lanterns dating as far back as the paleolithic period. Paleolithic cave images also featured motion through superimposition such as multiple legs. Other attempts at animation include flipbooks, magic lanterns, thaumatrope, phénakistoscope etc.

Animation reached its apex as a storytelling medium with the advent of television. The high frame rate, clear display and use of colour allowed for our favourite prolific animated characters such as Bugs Bunny (Warner Bros. Cartoons), Mickey Mouse, Goofy (Walt Disney Productions), Tom, Jerry (MGM Cartoon Studios.)

But back then, cartoons were simply accepted as a salvo of flashy colors and lovable characters. The shows provided a family friendly laugh, created for the sole purpose of keeping kids occupied after school while their parents ran errands. But as a medium, animation was inherently capable of offering so much more. Uninhibited by limitations of real-world physics, laws of motion, biological boundaries and tangible connection to reality, animation became the empty canvas of the creative.

Looney Tunes often flirted with the idea of challenging real-world limitations with their overtones of adult humour & third-wall breaking, but “The Simpsons” is generally accepted as the flagship of referential adult humour. Featuring the dysfunctional Simpsons’ family, the series features a satirical depiction of working-class life. Matt Groening’s iconic animated series served as the torchbearer that paved the way for many more of its kind. South Park and Family Guy are shows that follow the same footsteps but are distinct in their own niches and subtlety of humour. Shows such as Adventure Time, BoJack Horseman, Rick and Morty fully use the diversity and resources animation has to offer, taking us on a short psychedelic and surreal trip every episode.

So, when our generation hears the word “cartoon” not only do we think of Shaun the Sheep’s (mis)adventures, Tom and Jerry’s battle of wits or Spongebob’s eccentricity; but we also think of Rick and Morty’s deviant humour or the surreal existential dread that comes bundled with BoJack Horseman. Animation is a boundless medium, and the plethora of phenomenal animated shows and their creators have paid their due homage to this art.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY



Akash Chandra Kar

The Oxford Dictionary announced 'Climate Emergency' as the Oxford word of the year 2019. Climate change is the phenomenon which has been talked about broadly in the last few decades. The Oxford Dictionary defined climate emergency as 'a situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it'.

The Amazon, world's largest tropical rainforest was burned at a rate not seen in almost a decade. Australia's deadly wildfires have just destroyed Australia's wildlife. Glaciers are melting, sea level is rising, cloud forests are dying. 2,980 square kilometers of forest was cleared in 2019. The world is getting warmer. And what is the result? The result is 'The earth is dying'.

All the natural hazards are interconnected. The causes of natural hazards can be classified into two categories, Natural causes & Man-made causes. We cannot control the natural causes but we have to control the man-made causes in order to live on the earth.

Greta Thunberg, a 17 year old Swedish girl, is spending her days demanding a world without the threats of climate change. In the United Nation's Climate Action Summit, she asked the world leaders "How dare you?" Following the lines she described how her childhood and life has been shattered for their empty words. She accused the world leaders for collapsing the entire ecosystem.

The world is becoming risky to live in. As climate change is now one of the biggest problems across the globe for its terrible impacts on human beings and the environment is very terrible and almost inhabitable, everyone should be very sincere on this issue and the authorities should be very much careful to take effective actions to combat this challenge according to this idea that human beings should be getting along with nature harmoniously.

Good Morning, My Monochromic World!



Topu Rayhan

When I wake up from bed, with the ability to hear as usual, open the serene colored window with the enchanting view of the morning sun and wonder how beautiful the yellow-crimson ray can be! Like the baby dark shadow, I can figure the crows almost, I guess, touching the horizon, crawling having their subjugation on it. Ah! Color of crows are the same as my eyes' views, black indeed, and no difference. Through this whole fiction of glamour, my everyday life is going one by the way.

When I was eight, I came to know that I have Achromatopsia or complete color blindness. I sighed that now I'll be able to see pictures of monochrome on a white canvas. I must say Human eyes have a mysterious way to behave. An average human, utterly unremarkable in every way, can perceive a million different colors. Vermilion, puce, cerulean, periwinkle, chartreuse—we have thousands of words for them, but mere language can never capture our extraordinary range of hues. Vision is complex, but the calculus of color is strangely simple: Each cone confers the ability to distinguish around a hundred shades, so the total number of combinations is at least 100^3 , or a million. But I'm one amongst the thirty thousand who can't feel the dulcet morning.

I was told that achromatopsia is a condition characterized by a partial or total absence of color vision. People with complete achromatopsia cannot perceive any colors; they see only black, white, and shades of gray. Incomplete achromatopsia is a milder form of the condition that allows some color discrimination. Photophobia, nystagmus, farsightedness, hyperopia, etc. hard words, don't know either, were captured by my brain with every utterance of my medico exactly. I was too childish but can't even know why those words had lodged in my brain. Maybe for God's taking of the colors from my eyes, maybe something divine. My opened windows of the persistence of 2 colors have built me a nation of love.

The mist of winter morning with the clumsy sun behind it seems too much shadowy and unpleasantly odd. I can't take it anyway. But I believe the beauty of monochrome hugged me so tight that I can't but love it. Like cold smoke in the silence of dark old trees. My mom often says, trees, greens are the representatives of freshness. But, to me, black shadows, which give chances to white lights of heaven come to me, is the delegate of bloom and transparency indeed.

"The eye should learn to listen before it looks"- I sometimes wonder with this line of Robert Frank, and meanwhile I drive myself into a black and white puzzle. But actually, it did the right thing that opens my soul eye with the captivating power of purity.

The night is my only true friend indeed because he has no color to fascinate with and I guess I touch the true beauty by my eyes. "The most colorful thing in the world is black and white, it contains all colors and at the same time excludes all"- all I love is Vikrmn's saying every time giving me the substantive ecstasy. I was found once to be lost on a dark night, but I made myself do so because of the true darkness the same as my eye color finding the most pleasant things in my life. In my whole tint less life, once a red-tinted thing appeared saying that can give my eye cones turbulence of colors and I might be able to feel the freshness of a million color. But I'm happy with my only two colored world where it's easy to differentiate the good from the bad indeed. The pleasurable flood of white lights from the very white sun is my morning friend and night that darkens all is my ally giving me the feel of true inspector of true color and I never felt unpleasant after the day I rejected those tint glasses. "The first draft is black and white. Editing gives the story color"-Emma Hill said so and ergo I believe in a draft of others' happy life.

SHOOTING STARS



A Brief Timeline of The Decade : 2010s

Abdullah Hel Bubun

#42001023

Was there a decade that moved faster than the 2010s? Was there a period of time that brought so much change, upheaval, heartache, and renewal of the spirit? Was there a decade so exhausting? Here, at the very end of it all, it hardly seems possible. Let's take a brief look at a decade which will be remembered for a long long time.

2010

On Jan. 12, 2010, a devastating earthquake struck near the capital of Haiti, Port-au-Prince, with a shocking magnitude of 7.0, killing thousands and leaving an already impoverished nation in shambles. US Combat operation in Iraq ended. Chilean miners miracle was also a top news. North Korea attacked a South Korean ship named Cheonan. Inception, Black Swan, King's Speech and many other good films hit the silver screen. Spain became champion in 2010 FIFA World Cup. First Generation iPad went on sale this year.

2011

It is probably fair to say that the top story has to be the Arab Spring which is probably the grandest event of the decade. Osama Bin Laden was killed in Abbottabad. Steve Jobs died. On March 11th, an underwater earthquake with a magnitude of 9.0 hits off the coast of Japan which triggered Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster. Prince William married Kate Middleton. Game Of Thrones made its debut on HBO this year.

2012

Barack Obama was re-elected as US president. London became the only city to host 3 Olympics. Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her diamond jubilee. The end of the Mayan calendar, or the end of the world as some believed, was observed with little to no consequence. Facebook went public. Avengers made its debut. Neil Armstrong died.

2013

A French laboratory stated that they had confirmed the use of Sarin gas attacks against citizens of Syria as part of the ongoing civil war in the country. Rana Plaza collapsed killing 1500 garments workers, which is considered the largest maritime disaster of our times. Two bombs were exploded at the Boston Marathon. Lance Armstrong admitted to doping in all of his Tour de France wins during his cycling career in an interview with Oprah Winfrey.

2014

Ebola Epidemic became a global health crisis. Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 (MH370), a scheduled international passenger flight operated by Malaysia Airlines, went missing. Crimean Crisis became a global issue; Russia annexed Crimea. The year 2014 saw the rise of a new brutal terrorist group ISIS. Robin Williams committed suicide. Germany became champion in 2014 Fifa World Cup. Malala Yousafzai became the youngest nobel laureate this year.

2015

Charlie Hebdo attack in Paris made headlines this year. European refugee crisis became a global issue. Paris again became a victim of a terrorist attack; A series of coordinated terror attacks struck fear through the heart of the French capital on Friday, Nov. 13. A combination of shooters and men wearing explosive vests targeted a football stadium, restaurants and a concert venue that evening, leaving 130 people dead. Paris Agreement was drafted this year. Star Wars returned to the silver screens; The Force Awakens became a commercial and critical success.

2016

Syrian Civil War reached its peak. In June, the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union in a move nicknamed "Brexit" which created a still continued crisis. Zika Outbreak made news this year. Donald Trump surprisingly emerged as the winner of the 2016 US Presidential Election. On the night of 1st July 2016, at 21:20 local time, five militants took hostages and opened fire on the Holey Artisan Bakery in Gulshan Thana which resulted in the deaths of 22 civilians. Bob Dylan, hailed as the Shakespeare of his generation, became the first musician to receive nobel prize in literature this year. The "explosive" Samsung Galaxy Note 7 hit the market. Star Wars fame Carrie Fisher died.

2017

American tensions with North Korea intensified rapidly since President Donald Trump was inaugurated in late January. Robert Mugabe was ousted from power. The Rohingya Crisis made headlines this year. Global growth accelerated after 5 years of recession. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman (MBS) started modernizing Saudi Arab. Portuguese politician and diplomat António Guterres becomes United Nations Secretary General, replacing South Korean Ban Ki-moon. Kazuo Ishiguro was awarded nobel prize in literature. Chuck Berry died. The globe continued to get warm.

2018

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed surprised the world by announcing he would accept a peace deal with Eritrea that had been gathering dust for eighteen years. Stephen Hawking died. Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. Trump triggered a trade war with China. Western domination in the world worsened rapidly. Nobel Prize in literature was cancelled for sexual assault scandal. France became champion in 2018 FIFA World Cup.

2019

US charged Huawei with fraud. Ethiopian Airlines plane crash killed 157. Terrorist attack killed 50 in New Zealand. First ever image of a black hole was unveiled. Julian Assange was arrested. Fire caused heavy damage to Notre Dame Cathedral. Taiwan became the first country in Asia to legalize same-sex marriage. Formula One racer Niki Lauda passed away. Protest against government in Venezuela, India, Hong Kong and Chilli made headlines this year.

Movie Review: The Martian (2015)

Sifat Rejoan

#12111061

Director : Ridley Scott
Genre : Sci-fi, Adventure, Drama
Starring : Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Sebastian Stan
Runtime : 144 minutes
IMDb rating : 8.2/10



As all the previous movies that I watched which were related to space were so iconic (like Gravity, Interstellar, 2001: A space odyssey, star wars etc), I already had high expectations before I started to watch (and again it was a film from Ridley Scott). The movie is about an astronaut named Mark who gets separated from other astronauts due to a fierce storm on the planet Mars. His fellow astronauts take him to be dead and leave the planet for the adverse conditions. But after the storm stops, Mark becomes conscious and rises up from the sand. Frustrated, he returns to the previously built base and starts to figure out a way to communicate with NASA. He even starts farming there for food supply which no one has ever done before. Eventually his activities are noticed from a satellite orbiting the Mars and scientists start to believe that Mark is alive. Then they figure out a way to communicate with him to tell that they are going to send a ship with supply loads so that he can survive till the next manned mission on Mars which would take place four years later. But things go wrong when the supply ship gets exploded after a few seconds of its launch and on the Mars, due to a leak inside the air lock system of the farming facility, it tears apart instantly leaving all the crops open to the atmosphere of the Mars; which freezes to death right away. Now with a limited food supply and an uncertain rescue mission, both the scientists of NASA and Mark must find a way out for his survival on a lone and uninhabitable planet. The usage of CGI in this film is phenomenal. Especially the final rescue scene that occurs in the outer space was breathtaking. Most of the soundtrack of the movie is comprised of 70s disco songs, which surprisingly fit in quite well. Matt Damon impersonated the character of Mark brilliantly. Though the movie has some flaws too. If you look at the plot, it was quite predictable from the very beginning; similar to a man vs nature plot which just happens to take place on a different planet. You knew from the beginning that he would surely be rescued after spending some hard times in the hostile conditions; so the question was 'How' they were going to show it. Besides, some of the characters lacked depth and seemed quite stereotypical. Again, some comedic scenes felt like they were exaggerated. But overall, it is a good movie and definitely worth a watch.

My Ratings: 08/10

The Hidden World-Exploring Cryptozoology

Oritra Deb

#12107049

Cryptozoology is the study of creatures (known as cryptids) those which are documented or suggested to have existence but still require scientific verification; relying heavily upon the circumstantial evidence in the form of legends or alleged sightings by indigenous people, explorers or tourists. Cryptids may range from extinct animals (such as the plesiosaur or thylacine) to many fantasy creatures from different folklores. Bernard Heuvelmans, a Belgian-French scientist, with his book "On The Track Of Unknown Animals" originated the study of mysterious creatures which is regarded as one of the most influential crypto zoological works. In his book, he credited an article of Ivan T. Sanderson where Sanderson discussed about the possibility of dinosaurs still surviving at the remotest corners of the earth who himself experienced the sighting of Mokelembembe, a Central African entity. As 10% of the earth are still awaiting human footsteps, many of these creatures have thus, kept on tempting the curiosity of humans for years. Some of the mostly recognized cryptids are-

The Loch Ness Monster- Locally known as Nessie, the Loch Ness monster, is known to be inheriting at Loch Ness, a large, deep, freshwater loch in the Scottish highlands. The legend of Nessie boosted its growth in 1933 when a couple experienced a sighting of an enormous beast, which disappeared after crossing their car's path. The sighting was then reported at a Scottish daily, where they described the creature being 4 feet high and 25 feet long with a hump. A week later, a motorcyclist made similar claims, describing a marine creature having four large fins and a long neck. Arthur Grant in 1934 claimed to have hit the creature, according to him, the creature had a long neck with a small head and a hump on its back. Since 1865 more than 150 sightings have been recorded, amongst which most of the descriptions seemed to have resembled the structure of the Plesiosaur. Amongst the photographs clicked of Nessie, the "Surgeon's Photograph" and George Edward's photograph (2011) gained much fame.

The Thylacine- the Thylacine (also known as the Tasmanian Tiger/Tasmanian Wolf) is the largest marsupial carnivore of recent times, presumed to have gone extinct after the last captive individual died in 1937 although hundreds of thylacine howls and sightings are still being reported in Tasmania and the Australian mainland since the late 1930s. The average length of a thylacine was around 100-140 cm including a 60-70 cm long tail. Between 1930-1980, 65 sightings were reported at Western Australia, around 250 sightings in Tasmania. The claims till now have gone over 3800 all over Australia but mostly at the Tasmanian Islands. There's been many search operations conducted for the animal, amongst which James Malley conducted the most intensive search ever carried out that resulted in finding samples of Thylacine footprints. A German tourist in 2005 claimed to have clicked some photographs of a thylacine, which were published a year afterwards, but the authenticity wasn't still established as the photos only showed the back. Despite all the sightings, a specimen is yet to be found alive as searches still go on.

The Mokelembembe- "I don't know what we saw, but the animal, the monster, burned itself into my retinas. It looked like something that ought to have been dead millions of years ago. As a scientist, I should have been happy, of course, but this encounter was so frightening, so nasty that I never want to see it again."- Ivan T. Sanderson (Book-More Things)

The name Mokelem-Bembe was given by native Central Africans meaning "One that stops the

flow of the river". Sightings of this so called modern day dinosaur, have been happening since the last 200 years. In 1776, some French missionaries reported seeing some huge footprints with claws beside the Congo River basin. This continued all the way to 1913 when a German explorer claimed to see a Sauropod. When famous zoologist Ivan T. Sanderson and his partner Gerald Russell experienced it in 1932 and when his article was published, the world became more fascinated about the creature which resulted in conducting more expeditions. A German engineer in 1980 had seen the 30-35 feet creature and tried to photograph it. According to the descriptions of the locals and the expeditors, the creature seems to resemble the Brontosaurus for its size and structure. As the geological environment of the comparatively warmer regions and moorlands of Central Africa still remain same as they were 65 million years ago, sightings of prehistoric creatures won't be something unimaginable if they survived.

10% of the earth still remains undiscovered; who knows what mystery still lies upon? Interestingly some animals those were previously assumed to have gone extinct hundreds or millions of years ago, have been rediscovered in the past 200 years. The giant Coelacanth was presumed to have gone extinct around 10 million years ago only before a specimen was caught in 1938, at the coastal belt of South Africa; later, another one was captured in 1952. Coelacanth is considered as the living delegates from the dinosaur period. Animals like the O Kapi wasn't discovered before the 1900s. This rare creature was found in 1901, in Central Africa. Who knows, maybe some prehistoric beasts, more gigantic, more vicious made their way into the modern human civilization just like the Coelacanth, living at the remotest corners or the deepest and densest parts of the oceans those are still undiscovered pointing that maybe all the sightings weren't just hoaxes at all?

Anime: Truly A Work Of Art
Ismail Mahmud Mugdho
#12111086

There's no need to describe what an "Anime" is. But still, if someone wants to know what "Anime" is, it's mainly Japanese animation series. But unlike normal English animation series or cartoons, anime is on a whole other level. We've also got past 'The Big Eye' fact. Still, I want to give my opinion about it & hope that everyone will feel the thrill & intensity like me. To me, Anime is beyond any fiction or story. Like, there's everything you want. Complex & mind-blowing storylines, intense action, overwhelming emotions, all are present. Sometimes, I feel like I'm the main character and the fate of the universe is dependent on me! You might think that it's too childish for a college student, well that's because you've never watched it. Let's begin, I guarantee that till the conclusive episode of the conclusive season you can't precisely guess the ending. With every scene, the story deepens. In some animes, you can't even say for sure who the good or the bad guy is. You can't also point out the leading character, no one is less important. You might think a character will be the strongest and will beat the bad guy. But in the end his best friend would awaken his sleeping power & thus become the savior. Though the sophistication, your eagerness won't go down one bit. You'll wait tirelessly for the next episode. Then comes the action. It's so amazing. Every part is more tense & breath-taking than the other. The graphics & high definition, sound is also a factor. A great chemistry works & makes the viewer relentless. The rage, the devastation, the energy, everything feels real.

Death Note, Tokyo Ghoul, Full Metal Alchemist Brotherhood, Spirited Away, Your name, In the Garden of Fireflies Light, Silent Voice, Overlord, Sword Art Online, The Girl Who Leapt Through Time etc are great animes you must watch. You will flow with them. They will make you forget about all that's happening around you. But if you haven't watched any anime yet, I will prescribe you to watch Pokemon, Beyblade, Digimon first. They'll help you understand what anime truly is. Anime is truly something that can't be described.

The Pillow Gets Heavier

Oikko Shams

#12014053

The pillow gets heavier
In monsoon nights
Damp , ice-white, tired clouds
Head to a new day
Like office workers half asleep in the bus
And stroll past the moon
And if there's wind
the tired clouds have to hurry
Which leaves the man bellow with an uncertain sky
In the land of uncertain feet.
The pillow gets heavier
With gentle sobs of busy nostrils
Making water roots
inside the cotton
While the monsoon nights in your eyes
Wet your cheeks
Like a glass kept all alone on the rooftop in a winter morning
The pillow gets heavier
And heavier
In solidarity with your tired head
Your boulder heavy head sinks in the water
left from yesterday
But the pillow sucks in your sleep
Leaving a breathless creature
With thoughts of uncertainty
And the clouds leaving the moon
And the lonely glass
And the sleepy office worker
And humming of a lost child
Who never found a way.
Believe me it gets easier
Is what
they say.

How Does Facebook Make Money?

Saadman Sakib Abeer

#12113090

Facebook is currently the world's sixth-largest company in terms of market value according to the Statista 2019 report; along with the technology giants like Apple and Microsoft on the list. It's a wonder how a website created by a meagre investment of 1000 dollars back in 2004 has reached the market value of 512 billion U.S. dollars in 2019 with over 2.2 billion users worldwide. And you've also probably seen the previous slogan of Facebook on the homepage reading- "It's free and always will be". Now we know that Facebook is free, and seemingly it doesn't even apply data charges on the free mode. Considerably, although we have to pay our network service providers, they don't give money to Facebook for us using it. Then how does Facebook earn all the money?

Yes, there're the ads

The main source of revenue for Facebook is the advertisements published on the platform. Every day millions of advertisements related to various events, professional support, monetary services, third-party applications, awareness programs and online shopping products are distributed to the users via Facebook. About 85% of the total revenue of Facebook is earned by advertising which is about \$54.4 billion in 2018. So why is advertising on Facebook so popular and effective? Obviously, there are a huge number of users which means a greater number of audience, but the answer also lies within the advertisement policy of Facebook.

Facebook offers a wide array of functions for the advertisers to set up planned advertisement campaigns and make them reach the right individuals and thus increase the sale. It targets each user with ads they are most likely to be interested in according to the personal information shared by them. Facebook monitors your age, gender, likes, hobbies, ethnicity or even the sports team you support to provide you with the most relevant ads. However, there are strict regulations about which of your personal data is permitted to be used by the algorithm to process the tendencies. Even Facebook does not have permission to use every bit of your personal data shared on the platform. Any kind of selling your personal data to a third-party organization is completely illegal as it has been accused in recent Cambridge Analytica scandal.

You might check out which data Facebook has collected about you by clicking- Settings > General > Download a copy of your personal data on Facebook.

Thus the companies are more interested to post their advertisements on Facebook than any other electronic or print media to engage and influence more customers. And thus, Facebook is earning a huge amount of money from the fees paid by them. For your every click on the side-bar ads (ads that appear on the right side of the menu) Facebook earns \$1-\$5, for the sponsored stories it's \$5 per click; and the advertisers have to pay \$5 for every 100 views on the promoted posts.

Other sources also contribute

The social platforms like Whatsapp and Instagram acquired by Facebook are the other two main sources of revenue for the company with yearly revenues of about 17 and 7 billion dollars respectively. Besides, Facebook credits, Facebook payment service and other acquired applications like Jibbigo and Onavo add a fair share to the amount. You might've also heard about the game Farmville which after being launched on Facebook in 2009 became the fastest

growing game in history at the time, which had alone contributed 19% of the total revenue during its hay day in 2011. Recently, Facebook has added a 'virtual gift shop' option which allows users to purchase and send virtual gifts through credit cards.

Now there's something you should consider

By analyzing the revenue earning method of Facebook, we can come to an analogy that although we are the 'users' of Facebook, we aren't actually the 'customers' of them. Their customers are the payers for the advertisements. So the primary goal of Facebook is to keep them contented, not us. And that depends on how much time we spend on this platform. So it's obvious that their marketing strategy will be to make us indulged in spending more time on Facebook than actually doing something beneficial for us. Now the decision is yours whether you would use this medium for your purposes or let it use you for its own.

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The Story Of A Warrior

Md. Masud Al Mahmud

#12116013

She is a warrior. She is a life saver. She is an inspiration. Yes, it's about our beloved mother. What hasn't she done for us? She puts her life at stake just to bring us into the world. She never stops caring for us right from the beginning to the end. She shares our pain. She wipes out tears from our eyes. She scolds us for our own good. She makes us happy with her sweet words when we're in depression. She never stops loving us. She keeps on going and going till the last breath of her life. But what the hell do we do? We don't listen to her sweet kind words. Still she never stops scolding. We keep our clothes scattered around here and there. She arranges those. We sometimes dishonor her directly or indirectly. She never shows her emotion. When we finish our student life, some go to foreign countries, some remain busy with their own families. But she never stops calling us. She takes care of us like she used to do in our childhood. But we never want to accompany her. I just don't know why we forget about her. We keep ourselves so busy that our mother needs to stay alone in a room thinking what we are doing. We forget about all those days mother waited for us to come home. We forget about those lunches and suppers with her. We forget about those days she stood by our side when nobody was there. And some day she leaves this world, still keeping her pain hidden. She leaves like a silent warrior. She can't even share her pain at that time. Later when we get to know about this, we realize that yes, my most beloved person is gone forever. We realize that we never stood beside her. But this realization won't change a damn thing. Because we realize this when it's all over. This realization must come earlier. Then we look at her couch and we feel her presence. This feeling must come earlier. We look at the kitchen and we feel her pain. This feeling of pain must come earlier. Our mother doesn't expect a lot of things from us. She just wants to be loved. And we are capable of doing that. Please don't isolate her at the last stage of her life. Keep her with you no matter what happens to this whole wide world. Just don't give a damn about it. Share her pain, cut jokes with her, cook her food just like she used to cook for you. If you do that, she'll leave this world in peace. In the afterlife, you'll also go to Heaven. You can stay with her forever. No one will stop you. She's a gift from your Lord. So, please don't hurt her. Pray for her so that she can live a longer life. And the most important thing of all everyone should do once in their lifetime is hugging their mother and saying, "I love you."

Hero
Arghya Dutta
#12103009

It was raining cats and dogs. The class was abandoned. Shubha, a student of class 7, left his reading table for the drawing room. His father was at home that day and was turning pages of some albums. Those albums were collections of photos captured by his father. His father is a renowned reporter. He has also won awards for his photos.

Shubha took one of the albums and started to turn the pages. It was always an extra-ordinary feeling for Shubha to see the photos captured by his father. Suddenly Shubha speaks out, "Father, you are really a hero."

- Why am I a hero, my son?

Shubha's eyes are now captivated by a photo. This is a photo of a procession; thousands of people are there. But a boy of 7-8 is in front of everyone. He is wearing only a half-pant. Probably, he is shouting out a slogan as his right hand is up above. Shubha shows it to his father and says, "Father, if you weren't a hero, then it would be impossible for you to capture a photo like this."

His father answered smilingly, "I achieved the Best Award for this photo the previous year."

- That's why I am saying that you are the hero.

His father shook his head side-by-side and said, "I am not the hero of this photo, it is someone else."

- Who is he?

- The boy in half-pant.

Shubha became amazed hearing his father's words. How can he be the hero? Is it only because he is shouting slogan? His father made him understand generously. He told Shubha, "Look, many people are here in this photo. But the centre of attraction here is this boy. Who else can be the hero?"

Obviously, Shubha didn't think about this like his father before. His father then started to bring out other pictures and said that all of his photos have a hero.

The eyes of Shubha then got captivated by another photo. The photo shows a boy who is holding a banana leaf over two boys wearing school-uniform. One of the mentioned boys is totally soaking wet. But he has little care about that. His father said, "Who else can be the hero of this photo but this boy?"

Another photo made Shubha laugh. It was a photo captured on the Pahela Baishakh. There, a young girl was holding a jug; almost eight-ten people were in a hurry to drink water from that. How can they be satisfied! Before his father could say something, Shubha spoke out, "I know who the hero is in this picture."

Shubha then asked his father if youth were the heroes of all his photos. Father replied in the

affirmative. Then Shubha asked why that was the case. His father said, "I love the youth and children, because they are the future leaders of our country."

Shubha was stunned for sometime as he was looking downwards through the window. There is a slum just before their apartment. There are too many huts which has become totally unstable for the rain. The people have no shelter.

Shubha came down hurriedly. He saw the guard had been sleeping keeping the collapsible gate locked. Shubha used all his might to open the collapsible gate. Suddenly, many people from that slum rushed into the apartment.

This made Shubha happy. At least, they have got a shelter! Abruptly, a camera- flash startled him. Shubha became amazed when he saw his father with a camera. A number of their neighbours were also there.

Shubha asked his father whether he had done anything wrong. His father kept his eyes on the camera-lens and replied in the negative. He said, "Now this photo has got its hero!"

The end

Cuban Revolution through Che Guevara

Farhan Abid Dip

#12105105

Che Guevara (Ernesto Guevara de la Serna) was a prominent communist figure in the Cuban Revolution (1956–59) who went on to become a guerrilla leader in South America. Guevara's image remains a prevalent icon of leftist radicalism and anti-imperialism. The revolutionary leader was born on 14th June, 1928, in Rosario, Argentina. After completing his medical studies at the University of Buenos Aires, Guevara became politically active first in his native Argentina and then in neighbouring Bolivia and Guatemala. In 1954, he met Cuban revolutionary Fidel Castro and his brother Raul while in Mexico

Cuba's Situation:

Cuba experienced a period of significant instability, enduring a number of revolts, coups and a period of U.S. military occupation. Fulgencio Batista, a former soldier who had served as the elected president of Cuba from 1940 to 1944, became President for the second time in 1952, after seizing power in a military coup and cancelling the 1952 elections. Although Batista had been relatively progressive during his first term, in the 1950s he proved far more dictatorial and indifferent to popular concerns. Batista continued his exploitation and his dictatorship towards the civil people of Cuba. Cuba remained plagued by high unemployment and limited water infrastructure, poverty crossed it's limit. Batista antagonized the population by forming lucrative links to organized crime and allowing American companies to dominate the Cuban economy, especially sugar-cane plantations and other local resources. Although the US armed and politically supported the Batista dictatorship, later US presidents recognized its corruption and the justifiability of removing it. Batista became a true anti-Communist and never wanted to face anyone who were against him.

Che Guevara and Cuba:

Guevara was a pro-biker and he loved travelling. As a young medical student, Guevara travelled throughout South America and was radicalized by the poverty, hunger, and disease he witnessed. The capitalist exploitation of Latin America by the United States prompted his involvement in Guatemala's social reforms. From Guatemala, he moved to Mexico. Later in Mexico City, Guevara met Raúl and Fidel Castro, joined their 26th of July Movement, and sailed to Cuba aboard the yacht Granma with the intention of overthrowing U.S. backed Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista.

Action of Guevara during Cuban Revolution:

Guevara soon rose to prominence among the insurgents, was promoted to second in command and played a pivotal role in the victorious two-year guerrilla campaign that deposed the Batista regime. The first step in Castro's revolutionary plan was an assault on Cuba from Mexico via the Granma, an old, leaky cabin yacht. They set out for Cuba on 25th November, 1956. There he attacked the Batistan army where more than 82 men were either killed in the attack or executed upon capture; only 22 found each other afterwards.

During the war, Guevara was living hidden among the poor subsistence farmers of the Sierra Maestra Mountains. He discovered that there were no schools, no electricity, minimal access to healthcare, and more than 40 percent of the adults were illiterate.

As the war continued, Guevara became an integral part of the rebel army and "convinced Castro with competence, diplomacy and patience". Guevara set up factories to make grenades, built ovens to bake bread, and organized schools to teach illiterate campesinos to read and write. Moreover, Guevara established health clinics, workshops to teach military tactics, and a newspaper to disseminate information.

To quell the rebellion, Cuban government troops began executing rebel prisoners on the spot, and regularly rounded up, tortured, and shot civilians as a tactic of intimidation.

Then in late July 1958, Guevara played a critical role in the Battle of Las Mercedes by using his column to halt a force of 1,500 men called up by Batista's General Cantillo in a plan to encircle and destroy Castro's forces. During this time, Guevara also became an "expert" at leading hit-and-run tactics against Batista's army, and then fading back into the countryside before the army could counter-attack.

In the closing days of December 1958, Guevara's task was to cut the island in half by taking Las Villas province. In a matter of days, he executed a series of "brilliant tactical victories" that gave him control of all but the province's capital city of Santa Clara. Guevara then directed his "suicide squad" in the attack on Santa Clara, which became the final decisive military victory of the revolution. In that attack Batista was finally brought down. Guevara entered Havana to take final control of the capital. Fidel Castro took six more days to arrive, as he stopped to rally support in several large cities on his way to rolling victoriously into Havana on 8th January, 1959. The final death toll from the two years of revolutionary fighting was 2,000 people. This huge revolution was actually impossible without Che Guevara.

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LET'S EXPAND OUR WORLD(S) !

Mrb Rafi
#12001007

Can you imagine a disciplined system of 160 million worlds located in a plain of only 50,000 square miles? No, I am not drunk and the worlds are not as small as marbles. Even they can be greater than the earth itself!

This apparently impossible idea simply describes the term - "Knowledge-based society". In modern world, industries or mines are not considered as wealth. The only thing which has real value is "Human being". But you can't buy or sell them or grow them in a farm. All you can do is to show them the path of light, teach them to find astonishment and curiosity among the creatures of the Almighty.

Once upon a time information and knowledge were thought to be the same. But time changes. Now just a chip as small as our nail can contain hundreds of gigabytes of information. Does that thing contain knowledge? We can't say that. Because knowledge can only be produced and preserved by a human being. In the modern world, knowledge is considered to be the most valuable asset. As humans are the only source of knowledge, population is the most valuable wealth of a country if it is enabled to produce and preserve knowledge. In the new and changed world, every individual human is important for mankind. Because no human has his/her substitute. They all have the right to live. Taking birth with human DNA is the ultimate criteria to decide whether he/ she has the right to be alive.

Knowledge isn't stationary. Whenever the human being is awake, knowledge itself tries to find a way to go ahead. Then, what's knowledge? It is really difficult to define. But using some parameters, we can trace the existence of knowledge. A human with knowledge can "feel" his/her surroundings; can always keep positive attitude and respect every person.

Developed countries understood this truth several years ago. Before that, they used to import "products". Now they import "scholars". Difference lies there. I think we all have had the experience of "devouring" 'brain-drain' paragraphs and vomiting them in the exam hall. But do we have a clear concept about it? The ones who tried to understand the facts, to be specific - the ones who tried to gain knowledge have already been imported by developed countries. Then what would we do with our "first class first's" and "BCS cadres"? We can build schools for children with bamboo instead of rod, take bribe (of course in sufficient doses) and build casinos!

Be optimistic! Change can start with you. The idea is every person has his/her own world in his/her 1370 gm brain. The person practicing more knowledge has bigger world than others. It is up to you. Whether you keep your world as small as a nutshell or make it greater than even the earth! One of my favorite persons Abdullah Abu Sayed says, "A man is as great as his dream." The Almighty has given you the freedom of dreaming. Dreaming small is a serious sin. Think big, dream big and read books as much as you can. If you start it with a little enthusiasm, it will become a great fun. It is a chain reaction. Your knowledge will develop itself. Your knowledge will show you the path. What to do now is to sow the seed.

By the way, let's discuss something different but just as important. Have you ever thought of a situation when a mother gives "Qurbani" of her son? Which thoughts compel a desperate air force officer to hijack a plane? Did Rumi leave the chance to study at Illinois Institute of Technology with the promise of a settled life and devote himself so that we can be drug-addicted in an independent environment? Did Birsreshtho Hamidur Rahman fight bare-handedly with armed enemies in a bunker so that we could take lessons to be a militant? Did Shahidullah Kaiser leave the world having left no sign behind so that we can tease girls in front of their colleges? You took birth here. You can't betray with your own identity.

This writing started with some words like "160 million worlds in 50,000 square miles". Have you got the significance? If each and every person of this land starts thinking and dreaming, a miracle will happen. Let's dream something big, spread positivity and keep our fingers crossed for a better future.

Henric Ibsen
Md. Akib Haider
#12104042

The greatest playwright who contributed much and made the most impact in theatre of Europe after Shakespeare. He was born on 20th March, 1828 in Skin Town in Norway. His childhood was cut short by poor economic condition of his family. So, in his childhood, he realized the dull reality of the society that inspired him in his later life. He couldn't even finish his primary education. At the age of sixteen, he left his homeland and moved to Denstop and started working in a drug factory which was very life-threatening for him at that time. While working there, he saw the real condition of the elite class of the society. This helped to upgrade his mentality and build his mindset. From this persecution of the poor people, he was left sad which erupted in his first poem. At age 22, he started composing his first play "Cataline" which was published later with the help of his friends. After some years, he wrote "The Vikings' Tomb". But they didn't last long. After some years in 1850, he failed at his university and totally concentrated on making plays. In 1851, a famous violinist named Ol-bull set up a stage and appointed him as a make-up artist and writer. Here, he found much experience and wrote many plays. During this period he created "Mid-Summer Eve", "Lovers Comedy" and the "Pretenders" which earned barely enough money to somehow last his life. After 5 years, he left the job for some reason and to improve himself, he travelled to Denmark, Germany and finally Rome. He believed that the Germans, the Danish and his native people were underestimating him. But, the cultural environment of Rome attracted him and thus inspired him to start his career again from the beginning. Then he wrote his first recognized tragedy "Brand" that bears the lack of values of the then social context of Norway. It earned huge publicity and gave him some economic relief. After the success of "Brand", he created one by one. Among all of them, "The League of Youth"(1869) and "The Pillar of Society"(1877) was exceptional. In 1879, he wrote epoch-making play "A Doll's House". The examples of womens' political and economic liberation and individualism that he showed in the play is unparalleled. The heroine character of the play 'Nora' became one of the most famous characters at that time all over the world. It is not just Ibsen's but one of the greatest plays in world literature. Similarly, he wrote "Ghosts" after it. A quote from the play "I somehow free myself" was spread. In 1882, he continued to write another masterpiece "An Enemy of the People" which showed the exploitation of the elite class on the poor. These three created huge opposition back then. But he never went astray of his path. Actually, some thought "An Enemy of the People" as his biography because in his early age he faced similar situation and strongly overcame them.

After that, he wrote "The Master Builder", "The Wild Duck", "The Lady from the Sea", "When We Dead Awaken" etc. but their speciality was that all of them were realistic, not romantic. Although, he excluded the culture of romantic writing and became the proponent of realism. In 1900, he could hardly move and in 1903 he fully lost his power of movement. In 1906, he left the earth. He is regarded as "The Father of Modern or Classical Drama".

I've Had Enough of These Games

Wasi Sporsho

#12102025

I'm tired of it, I've had enough of these games
Been chained up with a dream I never had
Sorry, I can no longer be that 'disciplined' lad
As, 'rebellion' was deeply rooted in my veins
Oh! I've had enough of these games.

Its time to break the systems I've been told
Time to break the chains, break the ways of old
Going to tear up the blanket that didn't let me see the world
Oh! I've so much to see, so much to unfold.

I didn't see too much, I've seen what needed to be seen
Seen these evil life-taking schemes
That you made
Saw dreams falling down in flames
Oh! I've had enough of these games.

Now I've got to make the change
Must make the path straight and plane
Time to change the rules, must change the game
I'm ready.

Now I'm going to fill every heart's thirst for dreams
Where they can choose them on their own
-A beautiful chainless scheme

Until then -
I'm going to stand up, cause -
I've had enough of these games.

Without You

Md. Asad Ullah Rasel

#12102047

Without you, I am a metaphor
That has no meaning
Without you, I am a horror film
That has no thrilling
Without you, I am a barren field
That seeks for rain
Without you, I am wounded
But can't feel any pain
Without you, I am a cloudy sky
That has no stars
Without you, I am too conscious
Afraid of my scars

PEACE AND HARMONY

Kh. Shafin Farhan

#12103030

Suppose you are on a rickshaw, stuck in traffic jam at the Mouchak intersection. Sun's out showing its mightiest of rays. Sweat dripping all over your body, glasses getting all foggy, you're most probably in the worst of moods.

In the meantime, you see a person approaching you. You clean up your glasses and find out that the person is none other than a Transgender. You tell your Rickshaw-puller to move the rickshaw to the next lane. But alas! There's no room left. The transgender comes, yells at you and then...

Your mother wakes you up, you get off of your bed and take a huge breath. "What a horrible dream! Hope God doesn't put me in such a situation in reality. Transgenders are such a curse!", you tell yourself.

What is the point of the story? What connection does it have with Peace and Harmony?

The scenario is a manifestation of the actual condition of Transgenders in our country. Although they are as humane as we are, no less, no more, we still underestimate them and even, to some extent, consider them as a threat to the society. As a result, they are deprived of many basic rights and don't get jobs which results in them being aggressive and depending on begging and other vulgar means.

The actual concept of Peace and Harmony lies in this problem. What does Peace and Harmony mean? Peace is a concept of societal friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. And Harmony? Harmony is the situation in which people live or work happily together without any big problems. Peace is the result of harmony and both are supplementary to each other. When there's harmony, there's no room for personal or racial conflicts, thus peace exists.

Consider Thailand as an example. They treat their transgenders the same way they treat others. Thai people are the most polite people and they know how to show people their due respect. Transgenders in Thailand serve the nation as Doctors, Engineers, Taxi Drivers, Law Enforcers and so on. They have active participation in every sector of the country. People there live in harmony despite racial, religious, gender differences. If you keep an eye on their national news, you will not find any news about any sort of conflicts. And that's why they admire their late King Bhumibol, who is said to be the pioneer in generalizing the involvement of Transgenders in every sector and raising awareness among the mass people. Under his wise leadership, people started to collaborate with Transgenders and thus Thailand is now a powerhouse and the world's most popular tourist destination.

On the other hand, Bangladesh is not a Transgender's paradise. Most Transgenders face discrimination from their families and society from the moment they are born to the moment they die. Most live in extreme poverty as they are excluded from cultural, religious, political and professional spheres. In consequence, they are forced to hamper the social harmony, removing peace out of the society. But the situation is changing. The government is now aware of the problem and has taken significant measures to sort out this rather sophisticated issue. Transgenders now have access to many social aspects like Voting, Education, Treatments, and Legal Aids etc.

Because of all of these, their situation is getting better gradually. They're doing conventional jobs and leading a normal life, which leads to social harmony and finally, peace.

In brief, though the Constitution of Bangladesh gives the right to equality to all its citizens to ensure complete harmony among them, there have been several instances wherein the peace

has been disrupted owing to different social, political and economic reasons. The government alone cannot be responsible for maintaining peace and harmony in the country. Each one of us should take it as our responsibility to nurture feelings of brotherhood with fellow citizens.

STAN LEE: THE LOVABLE GRANDPA
M.ABIDUR RAHMAN DHRUBO
#12109043

Every comic fan in the world has heard the name 'MARVEL'. This word carries another meaning for them. When you hear the word, instantly your heart jumps into a fictional world of superheroes like Spiderman, Iron man, Hulk,. Dr. Strange and so on. But behind these characters there is one man named Stan Lee.

So tell me, how much you know about him? Did you know that Stan Lee's full name is Stanley Martin Lieber? Most of you don't know why Hulk was green ... let's learn some interesting stuff about Stan Lee.

1. HIS BARBER WAS HIS WIFE.

As a bit of throwaway fact, Stan Lee revealed the secret of his slicked back mane on the second page of his memoir. "My whole adult life, I've never been to a barber," he wrote. "Joanie always cuts my hair."

2. YOUNG LEE WROTE OBITUARIES.

Before writing about the fantastic lives of fictional characters, Lee wrote ante-mortem obituaries for celebrities at an undisclosed news office in New York. He said that he eventually quit that job because it was too "depressing".

3. HIS FIRST BIG BREAK WAS CAPTAIN AMERICA.

A week into his job at Timely Comics, Lee got the opportunity to write a two-page Captain America comic. He wrote it under the pen name Stan Lee (which became his legal name) and titled it "Captain America Foils the Traitor's Revenge." His first full comic script would come in Captain America Issue 5, published on August 1, 1941.

4. WHY HULK WAS GREEN?

The character was supposed to be gray, but, according to Lee, the printer had a hard time keeping the color consistent. " So as of issue #2", Lee wrote," with no explanation, he turned green."

5. HIS WIFE DESTROYED HIS PRIZED TYPEWRITER.

According to Lee, during an argument, Joanie destroyed the typewriter he used to write the first issues for characters including Spider-Man and The Fantastic Four. "This happened before eBay", he wrote. "Too bad. I auctioned the parts and made a mint."

Stan Lee's life of 95 years contained many unforgettable memories. Hats off to this man for giving us entertainment by making his fictional world named 'AVENGERS.'

[Information source : www.mentalfloss.com]

The Butterfly Effect

Abrar Fahyaz

#12115023

About 5 or so decades ago, a scientific paper was published by an American meteorologist exploring the idea of whether the flap of a butterfly's wings could trigger a tornado, in a far way location, in a few weeks time. This might sound like some weird joke but it is an actual theory; it's a part of Chaos theory which states that even the slightest change in the initial conditions may, in the end, send ripple effects through the fabric of reality. Let me give you a brief, historical account of this idea. It all started in France. You see, the French people had had enough of the ruthless exploitation of the ruling class. So, they decided that enough was enough, they would no longer stand for this. They would no longer break their backs, working in the fields while the aristocracy arranged luxurious parties for fun. So they revolted. However, I must say, their method of going about this revolution was questionable. I say this because, firstly, they revolted by capturing as many aristocrats as they could and separating their French heads from their respective French bodies. Secondly, the chaos which ensued was not really a hit with their neighbours. Almost immediately after the revolution had begun, everybody declared war. To sum up, France was in peril, its administrative infrastructure was non-existent and they're at war with everyone. At this time, a young artillery officer entered the stage. This man was an absolute genius. He was, in fact, so smart that when the war began, he won virtually every single battle he fought in. By the age of 24, he had already achieved the rank of Brigadier General. He outsmarted the entire blockade against France, almost singlehandedly, and not only did he manage to repel the invading party, but he actually pushed their armies back, capturing enemy cities as he began a 'counter invasion'. He kept on winning battle after battle. In fact, his antics were so great, he inspired a series of wars which were named after him. This man, as you may have guessed by now, was Napoleon Bonaparte. I am not going to go into the details of the Napoleonic wars, I'm just going to summarise what happened in an oversimplified manner. Basically, what happened was; Napoleon conquered all of Europe, going as far east as Moscow, alongside a brief but effective skirmish in Egypt. So, in order to defeat him, everybody else formed an alliance against him and replied back to him with something along the lines of-"We'll tear your bones apart, Bonaparte!" and after a long struggle, that's exactly what they ended up doing, figuratively. Even after Napoleon was ousted from the arena, his influence lingered on. The European powers were afraid of another such series of wars taking place again, (But I must say that fate was not so merciful with them), so they decided to team up before hand. You see, they were worried; Napoleon had managed to raise the largest standing army in Europe since the reign of Suleiman, The Magnificent, without any of them being able to do anything about it. Therefore, they thought, if they were allied with others, then perhaps stopping such a catastrophe from happening again would be possible. Thus began an unprecedented rise of international foreign relations which lead to the implementation of a complex alliance system. It is to be remembered that this was all due to the actions of one man, Napoleon. Well, the following century saw no major wars in the European mainland, which in itself was an astonishing achievement, and this brief period of peace was all a result of the aforementioned alliance system. However, this long peace resulted in the build up of tension among the nations and this was causing unrest. Then one fateful day, the silence broke. One single shot from a young Serbian's gun, triggered the spark for World War One. Austria was, justifiably, enraged with the events which occurred in Serbia and declared war. This pulled the Russians into the conflict, who in turn pulled in their ally France, both supporting the Serbians. Austria pulled in Germany, who then decided to invade

France via Belgium but Belgium had allies, namely Great Britain. And as if that wasn't enough, Russia already had certain enemies and thus the Ottoman Empire entered the war on the side of the Germans and Austrians. All of this unfolded in less than a month, all thanks to an alliance system which was put into effect to prevent war. Oh, the irony! The resulting war was the most devastating conflict in human history... up to that point. Another interesting event which happened during this time was the sending of a certain revolutionary, by the name of Lenin, to Moscow which ignited the Bolshevik revolution creating the Soviet Union. Lenin was sent to Russia with the help of the Germans, who thought it would be enough to kick the Russians out of the war, and they were right. The formation of the USSR was simply a by-product of the German war strategy because they never thought Lenin would be this successful. That is to say, the rise of one of the most powerful nations in history happened by accident. With the end of the First World War, Germany was blamed for basically everything at the Treaty of Versailles. The terms agreed at the treaty crippled Germany to its very core. This made the German people very angry and vengeful (I mean, who can blame them? If I had to pay 2 trillion dollars for a loaf of bread, I'd be enraged too). They wanted to fix it but the puppet government, then in power of the country, was not so good at doing that. At this point, a weird moustached man seized his moment. He addressed all the nation's problems, put forward plans to fix them, identified the nation's enemies and so on and so forth. He acted as the mouthpiece of the collective unconsciousness of the people, speaking out exactly what the people wanted to hear, but he had some questionable plans which he wanted to execute to achieve them. And before anyone knew it, it was already World War 2; the sequel nobody asked for. Everybody knows about World War 2. It was the most destructive period in recorded history. However, it was also the singular most influential event in recorded history. It set the path for all subsequent events from then till now. The fall of imperialism, the collapse of the British and French Empires, the Cold war, the space race, the rise of capitalism, the fall of the Soviets and the fall of socialism, the rise of globalism, the UN, NATO, the Warsaw Pact, you name it- all a direct product of the Second World War. All of this started because of one man. If he had done things even slightly differently, the world would have looked completely unrecognisable. Now let this sink in, originally, Napoleon wanted to be a writer but due to family problems, he decided on a more stable career (While we are on this topic, here is another fun fact, Hitler, the moustached man from before, wanted to become an artist). So (this is a gross oversimplification), had Napoleon become a writer, the events of the past two centuries would never have occurred, at least not in the way it had happened in our timeline. What may have seemed trivial or insignificant then, had ended up shaping up the entire world. One can even trace it back further. What had caused the poor situation in France (the situation which ultimately led to rise of Napoleon) was due to some bad strategic decisions by the French King in the 7- years-war (the prequel to World Wars). If he had not done so, then none of this would have happened! Or, let's say his parents decided they didn't want a child or that they wanted to have him later on- in that case, the possibility that this child would've been same as him are so low that it can be considered 0 for all practical purposes. In fact, we can go on like this forever and with each preceding generation, the change becomes more minuscule but the affect it has on the world becomes ever more significant. My point is, no matter how mundane or trivial act might seem now, there is no way of knowing whether it actually is as fruitless as we may think it is. It might be just another random thing, however, it might also be the most important thing anyone ever did...

The Good Doggo
Saiful Islam Tuhin
#12012017

Damn it! I almost caught up with that moose today. Kids these days, so careful! They should've seen their dumb gramps.

How many years has it been? A thousand? Two? Million? Who knows? Like hell I was going to count every day! Then again, I can just look at the stars and tell what year it is. But not feeling like it, reminds me too much of home.

I've been stuck in this forest since Ninurta decided they had no use for me anymore and banished me. I was a killing machine, slayer of Gods! I was KAK.SI.DI, I had the brightest star in the galaxy made for me. Do you know how hard it is to get a star made in your name? Look at me now, chasing after tiny deer and rabbits. Pathetic! Just the name Sirius could end wars, and now...

Yes, I am the Sirius, the Great Grey wolf. Not the one from Harry Potter. Humans turning into dogs, what kind of sickening mockery is this? I'd love to get my paws in front of that kid Rowling someday. You want to know about me, just google 'Canis Major'.

Okay, how do I know about Google? Although most of my powers were taken after being banished, I still have one or two things left like 'Astral Vision'. I can look through the eyes of every canine out there: dogs, wolves, foxes. And boy, how low have they gotten! Befriending humans, acting as their pets, waiting for them to come home from work all day, wagging their tails at the very sight of them, going on walks with them, calling them 'owners' and claiming them as 'my hooman'. Shame! I should just take over the world after getting out of here. Curse you, Ninurta!

I'm getting a weird scent. Someone is here. It's a human child. Is she lost? She should be around 8. In a sense, that was the time I landed my 100th kill, still, I'm obviously not anywhere near the comparison scale. What is that idiot doing, running around the forest alone! She could get killed at any moment. Pfft, not that I care.

Oh, she fell down. Oh, she is trying to get up again. OMGosh, she's cute!

No no no, I decided I wouldn't help another living soul in my lifetime. Couldn't care less about some utterly cute human kid trying to kill itself. But, where would these tiny beings go without my guidance. Hmph! Guess I can't help it; I'll just make an exception today. Hey you, small shiny wings, come here. Yes, I'm talking to you, weird bird. Well, there's no other bird around here, is there now? Listen up, make this kid chase you to the village nearby, understood? Or, there wouldn't be anyone for the eggs to call 'momma' when they hatch tomorrow. Ah! I think she saw me, I better stay away.

What's all that ruckus? Those humans have some funny machines outside the forest. Said they were going to clear the trees out. That was true? I thought it was going to be just another hangout like area 51 raid. Well, they won't be doing this when they're dead. Come at me, grrrh!

Wait, a familiar scent. Hey, it's that girl I so generously saved a while ago. Look at her, all grown up. What is she doing with that board? Oh, it seems she's protesting against cutting the trees. Attagirl! Wait, why am I getting excited? What could she do alone? These guys would just...

Wait, I smell more. Two, three, ten, almost a hundred. They all want me to stay! Guess all humans are not bad after all.

The forest had been quiet for some years until today. I'm getting that familiar smell again. She's here. And look at that, kid's got her own kid now. And there you go, he's exactly as

his mom, wandering away while she's looking for him. Guess it's generosity time again. Now, where's a weird little birdie when you need it?

What's that smell? Something burning. Not good. It's a wildfire and it's spreading fast. The girl and her companion sense it too. But they don't see their kid yet. He's at your east, idiots! At this rate, the fire will catch up to them. They already see the fire encircling them. The male is dragging the girl away. But what about the kid? Ugh, I should do something, but I'm not supposed to be seen before the apocalypse!

Damn it! The fire caught up with me. I could easily outrun that, why did I decide to carry this dumb kid again? This is the fire of lady Amazon; it won't go down that easily. I can feel my fur burning. It hurts! How long has it been since I felt pain? The volcanic waters of Lady Tiamat were far hotter. I guess this is what growing old does to you. First I got to take care of this kid. I can smell those two, outside the forest. Just. A. Bit. Further.

I see the girl. She comes running and hugs her kid. Yeah, nice job taking care of your kid! I can smell my burnt organs. Damn it reminds me of barbeque. Great, now I'm dying and hungry both. Could I have gotten that barbeque, if I was born in this time, like a normal dog, with a normal family?

What is she doing? Thanking me? Wipe those tears from your face, kid. You should've known by now: nobody messes with my hooman.

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR PARENTS

Tahsin Al Araf
#12015029

Maybe I'm too young to write such a letter, but I think I should come up with a writing on behalf of my friends and brothers which I guess will focus on the expectations we have from our parents.

Why do you often avoid the bright side of us? Why do you consider that someone is always better than me?

Why can't you just ask me what's the best for me? Why can't you believe that one day I'm going to shine? You have taught me all your values since the day I came to this world. So if you believe in your instincts, then why can you not rely on me? As a matter of fact, I'm really an inexperienced lad if I consider what you've seen in real world but can't you just trust my instincts? Can you just listen what I want to express before posing your opinion? I have had many experiences where parents were guilty for not letting their children do whatever they wanted to do. So taking a decision against one's will, will it bring any good result? Definitely not.

At the end, I just request every parent to just trust our issue. One always wants to feel that his father or mother trusts him and relies on him. Please let him share his opinions. Rules are rules, but when it comes to decision making, please let him have his say.

Unavailing Request

Khandakar Siam Masud
#12115049

Rahman entered his room. It was raining outside. He sat on his chair and took the pen which was gifted to him many years back. Rahman's mind was full of sorrow for a certain reason. He started to write a letter with his beautiful handwriting. Even the letters may be proud of and happy for him for his handwriting. He is writing the letter with utmost pain and sorrow in his mind. His eyes were full of tears, but he was still writing the letter, because he had to. It was very important. It was important not to him but to the world. It was important to save humanity, to save the human race from jumping into the sea of war and destruction and ultimately bringing the end of human race. He was writing the letter with utmost care and attention. Rahman was writing the letter to God. It was 28 years back when Rahman was born in a small city in the country named Bangladesh. He was very cute as a child. He grew up as a good looking and attractive boy. His full name was Rahmat Shah and his surname was Rahman. His parents gave the name 'Rahmat' because they had a belief that their child was sent to the earth as a blessing. And this blessing would again turn the world into a peaceful place. The time in which Rahman was born, the world wasn't a peaceful place. It was turned into a place of war and bloodshed. As Rahman grew up, he noticed various kinds of injustice surrounding him. He couldn't tolerate this. Rahman was a brilliant student. His teachers were surprised by the intellectual ability of Rahman. He was excellent in mathematics. He had a very good friend named Tanisha. She was his neighbor. Rahman actually liked her a lot and Tanisha was a very beautiful girl. She had lustrous eyes and a beautiful smile. Tanisha also had no reason to dislike Rahman. Rahman and Tanisha's friendship turned into a bond. But it couldn't turn into a relationship. Because Tanisha's whole family had to shift to Dubai because of her father's business. Before going to Dubai, Tanisha gifted Rahman a very beautiful pen as a mark of their friendship. Rahman was almost in tears and bade Tanisha goodbye with a hug. Rahman had Tanisha's number when she was in Bangladesh. But she changed her number after shifting to Dubai and he forgot to take her number. On the other hand, Tanisha had no Facebook or social network account. So, Rahman couldn't communicate with her. Every night Rahman used to check whether she has created a Facebook account or not. Rahman completed his college life and got admission into university. He had an ambition of becoming an Engineer from his childhood. So, he got himself admitted into an Engineering University. He made a lot of friends there, but he still missed Tanisha a lot. He had given up all possibilities of meeting her again. But destiny had other plans for them.

One day when Rahman was coming back from university, an unexpected incident occurred. When he came near the airport bus stand, Rahman looked outside from the bus and saw Tanisha. He couldn't believe his eyes. He thought that maybe he was dreaming. But he became sure when he heard her voice. The sweet voice which he could never ever forget. Rahman jumped out of his seat and got down from the bus. When Tanisha saw Rahman, she became very much happy and tears of joy rolled from her eyes. Rahman asked her what she was doing alone at the airport and when she came to Bangladesh. Tanisha told that she has now become a doctor of Red Crescent and had come to Bangladesh for a project. Rahman became very happy to know that Tanisha had become a doctor. Tanisha has now become more beautiful than before. There was no doubt that Rahman and Tanisha loved each other and both of them knew it. They decided to tell their families about the relationship. Both the families agreed to their relationship. Tanisha and Rahman got married.

Rahman's life was going well till then. But destiny is fixed for everyone and no one can change it. After six months of marital life, Tanisha had to go to middle-east for a vaccine related project. Unrest was prevailing in the country for various political reasons. But Tanisha had to take the risk as a lot of children of that country were dying due to lack of treatment. Rahman said to Tanisha many times that it may be unsafe for her to go there. But Tanisha said that Humanity always comes first and that she could even lay her life for saving humanity. Rahman couldn't stop her from going there. Rahman bade Tanisha goodbye at the airport. But he didn't know that he was seeing the love of his life for the very last time.

After one week, Rahman was watching television and a breaking news came that a series of suicidal bomb attacks had killed more than 150 persons in a hospital including 5 members of the Red Crescent organization. When he saw Tanisha's name on the television including her photo, he was shaken. He burst out into tears. The most pathetic thing is that they couldn't even find Tanisha's body. He became shattered and broken from inside. Rahman's parents tried to control and console him as much as they could.

Sometimes life is too cruel. After 1 month of this incident, Rahman's parents were killed in a terrorist attack. Rahman cried like a little baby in front of the dead bodies of his parents. Rahman's mind was becoming unstable as he was unable to bear this shock. He started drinking which he very much hated. Life now seemed a burden for him. But he was not among the cowards who would give up on life. He cannot run away from his problems. He is among those who solve the problems. And now there was only one solution for the problem. The problem was the dying of humanity which had to be solved at any cost. So he decided to write a letter to the creator, God, for a solution of this problem. A half madman started writing a letter to his creator.

Rahman completed the letter. In the letter it was written,
Dear God,

Humans are the best creation of yours. We are the best creatures on earth. We were supposed to make earth more beautiful and a peaceful place. We all are fellow brothers as you have created us equally. But today, I have to say with a broken and hurting mind that we, humans, are destroying the earth that you created. We are ruining and misusing the bounties and resources that you gave to us. We are killing ourselves. Wars and bloodshed have spread all over the world like a virus. And it can be cured only by you. If this disease is not cured in time, then the human race will get extinct. The humans will gradually kill themselves. You are our God and superior to us. And surely you have some plans. But the present condition of the earth is horrible. Your intellect has no limits but my intellect is telling me that if humanity is not restored now, it will get lost forever. So, it is my humble request that you save mankind from extinction by spreading humanity and make the world a better place again. I hope that you will accept the request of your creation. Please give me a clue whether you will accept my request or not.

Will you accept it? Yes No

Rahman then wondered how he would send the letter to God. He went to a lot of post office but all thought that he has become mad. He roamed here and there to find a medium to send the letter to God but failed. On the other hand, war is still going on among various countries and everyday hundreds and thousands of people are dying. Rahman has to find a way fast otherwise it will be too late. He started thinking how he could send his letter to God. He must give this letter to God. He has to save humanity. He then remembered Tanisha's words, "I will rather lay down my life to save humanity." Yes, it's the only way. If a man dies, then he goes to God. Rahman decided that, to save humanity, he has to commit suicide and that he will do it. Rahman made a short video of his story and suffering and his reason of suicide and uploaded

it on Youtube. Then, on a beautiful morning, holding the letter in his right hand, thinking of Tanisha's face, he jumped from a 20 storied building. Later on, Rahman's video got viral on the internet and was breaking news on the news channels. People started questioning how down and low have humans reached that a man has to commit suicide to save the humanity. It became the headline on the international news channels. People from all over the world started protesting to regain peace throughout the world. These protests turned into a world wide thing. The world leaders had to sit on meetings and discussions and gradually humanity was starting to be regained and war and bloodshed was decreasing.

Rahman was buried near his house and his letter was attached to his grave by glass. People from far places came to see this great person's grave. A leaf dropped from a tree and it fell slowly on the Yes part of the letter which meant that the request might not have been unavailing but rather was accepted by God.

American Sniper Md. Masud Al Mahmud #12116013

Review:

So the movie's about an American sniper, Chris Kyle. Based on an autobiography, it's a Warner Bros. Pictures production written by Jason Hall and directed by Clint Eastwood. Firstly, what I like about the shooting is that it is very realistic. Though the story is not the same as the autobiography but I still like the way it is directed. I watched a lot of autobiographies before but this one truly expressed who Kyle was. From this movie, people can find the true lifestyle of a soldier through the character of Kyle. I never expected the movie would be like this. I thought that it would be about a sniper who would kill for money but instead it was totally a different prospect. Basically the movie is about the four Iraqi tours of his career. Actually he was a cowboy who then entered the military. Soon other soldiers gave him the title of "The Legend" for his lethal sniping abilities. Those snipings in the movie are very thrilling to watch. I remember one scene of the movie. Kyle was hesitating to take a long shot of 2100 yards but finally he took the shot saying, "Aim small, miss small." Later that shot killed the enemy sniper. This was the best part to me. These killings used to give him mental pain after the war which is known as PTSD (Post-traumatic Stress Disorder). Later Kyle was killed by a veteran he was trying to help.

Verdict:

Though it is very hard to show a person's autobiography through a movie, the director did a pretty good job. The sound effects were amazing. What I think should have been showed more in the movie was the co-operation of Kyle in the battlefield. Again some of the incidents don't match with the real life of Kyle. He killed a small boy in the movie but in reality he never killed him. Also the death of Kyle wasn't clear. So if you ask me personally I'll rate this movie 8.2 out of 10.

Faith
Mehtajur Rahman
#12116133

Faith is a very common term that we come across time and again on an almost daily basis. Etymologically, strong belief in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual conviction rather than proof is termed as faith. The words "faith" and "belief" are similar words. Nelson's Bible Dictionary defines faith as a belief in or confident attitude toward God, involving commitment to his will for one's life. Nelson also says belief is to place one's trust in God's truth.

Psychologically speaking, Faith is important for the mental well-being of a person as it might help the person to look within himself for guidelines in moments of dilemma. Especially now more than ever, as we are seeing a concerning spike in mental distress in people resulting in self harm, and in many a cases, even suicide. And no, these are not random unrelated incidents. If we look closely, we can see a pattern here. These people, specifically the youth, can't seem to find a meaning of their own existence. They suffer from acute mental anxiety resulting from various fields of life. Not being able to truly open up to someone, they suffer in silence. Faith, under such circumstances, can be crucial to seek inner peace within oneself. "Studies show that if religiosity is experienced as a source of hope and confidence, it reduces the risk of depression in times of mounting stress, facilitates recovery and diminishes the risk of committing suicide. However, Religiosity experienced as a source of guilt and fear probably has the opposite effects. Social bonding and confidence in God are a modus operandi."- Oxford Textbook of Suicidology and Suicide Prevention

Now, let's talk a little about what I think to be the problem with Faith in our culture. From a very young age, people around us try to shove their faith down our throats so deep that at that point, social convention dictates that we pledge our allegiance to their particular faith. But, what I opine from the very little knowledge I possess is that it shouldn't be the case. Out of all the traits that are hereditary, faith is not one. What happens in many a cases of such imposition of faith is that the imposed largely stays in dark, devoid of true faith, feeling empty inside. Many a times, this lack of knowledge of his own faith might also lead to crooked people filling their minds with evil thoughts and adulterating their minds. As the proverb goes, "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

To be honest, Faith is a complicated matter. It blends into our social and personal life in a very intimate manner. And we should all have the right to decide something so close to our hearts ourselves no matter what social convention dictates us to do. Only then can we attain true emancipation of our hearts. To conclude, all I would like to say is that, you be the seeker of your own truth. And may the truth liberate you.

Time Travel
Wahed Bin Mahbub
#12110005

Adraz and his younger sister are sitting on a wooden bench in the Ramna Park. Saying that they are sitting would be wrong, he is actually sitting quietly and his younger sister is playing. He has come here on this early morning only to reconcile his sister's indulgence. His face is saying that he is feeling sleepy. Actually, last night he could not sleep properly. The weather is also quite froggy today. He is feeling cold. At that time, his little sister Arsha entrusted her red muffler up to him. After a while, suddenly everything in front of his eyes started to disappear. It didn't last long. He discovered himself inside his home. But the surprising thing is that he

is playing quietly at the age of 8 in front of him. He found out from the calendar that it is December 25, 2009. After a while, he finds out that his mother is feeding breakfast to his 8 years old limb. He calls his mother but it seems that she is not listening. He realizes that his body is also invisible. Now he is getting slightly terrified. He wanted to go to another room but couldn't, wanted to move himself but couldn't. His body is now out of his control.

It is 9.00 pm. He is now sitting on a couch. He can see the running vehicles through the window. This is the living room where he spent most of his childhood. He does not know what will happen next. It is very uncomfortable to be invisible. He has seen his father but does not think that his father has seen him. Their dinner is over. After an hour, the lights of his house are turned off. His parents and the limb of his 8 years old self are probably asleep. As the night is getting deeper, the surroundings are getting more deserted. It is 3 o'clock in the night. But he is not sleeping. He cannot understand whether he will be able to sleep or is he now living in a sleepless world. Though he didn't eat anything for a longtime, he is not feeling hungry. May be he has lost his hunger as he is invisible.

Once again, everything in front of him started to disappear suddenly. He could feel his surroundings being changed again. He saw that his body came back and the red muffler disappeared from his hand.

Opening his eyes, he sees that he is now in Ramna Park and his little sister is asking him to return her muffler. But he has already found out that the muffler in his hand was not there. So did he really go back to his past? But how is that possible? Where did the muffler go? He forms an explanation that he has not seen anything in the past that he did not know. He saw a normal day's activities which in his conscious or subconscious mind, was stored in his memory. Now this event can be considered as a dream. But the muffler? Maybe someone took the muffler from his hand while he was sleeping. Actually, the whole thing is a hypothesis. Which may or may not be true, but the truth of the whole event depends on a muffler. But nature does not want that. The only question repeating over and over again in his mind is that; Is time travel really true? Nature is very mysterious. But nature does not want mystery. But why the nature is so mysterious in her own case??

In Memoria

Meghdipa Rahman Khan

Willes Little Flower School and College

"Loss" was a foreign concept to me. The suddenness and helplessness that is felt in the face of absolute loss was unknown to me. Death, the ultimate ending, was something that I could not quite comprehend, and thus, I seldom thought about it and chose to keep it at the back of my consciousness, as an accepted and dismal truth.

Well, that is, until everything collapsed.

Then, all my imaginations, thoughts and expectations from life and family came to a terrifying standstill. After all, you never expect your 25-years-old, positive, brimming-with-life brother to just be gone. To just die, as abruptly as the summer breeze is hard to believe. My brother was such a beautifully complex and diverse person, that I don't know where to start in order to describe him. A brilliant human being? A three time Champion of the National Math Olympiad? A representative of Bangladesh at 52nd Int'l Math Olympiad who got an honorary mention? A great son? Valedictorian?

No, these are just bits and pieces of who he was. None of these words can ever do justice to him and his larger-than-life personality. In fact, to even try to describe him by the mundane limits of written language seems to me an insult to his memory.

The only thing I can say is that he was my brother. And no words can suffice, in a million millenniums, to shed light on him and how much he meant to me. How much he meant to all of us.

I guess, in my limited experience, I have observed that memorabilia serves a good purpose to keep a person's spirit alive. So, here I go...

But here again, what can I say?

The Ironic thing is that I don't remember any particularly eventful happenings in mine and Bhaia's cut-short relationship.

As my uncle said, one of the saddest things about untimely deaths is that due to the shock, we often forget the most important moments, moments that were re-tell-able, moments that were important to touch the hearts of the future generation and thus, keep the dead person's legacy alive. We just remember the little details that become the most precious to us and we feel like we could die a thousand times over just to relive those moments.

In mine and Bhaia's case, I remember our chats.

I remember the time he took me and our elder sister to the book fair and we ate 'Kodbel bhorta'. The way he and our elder sister, Apu, used to call me 'Bandor' and I hated it. How both of us hated jackfruit with a vengeance and couldn't stand the smell of jackfruit coming from Apu's mouth after she ate that foul fruit. I remember the books he suggested me and the magical way he described the stories and why he liked them. I remember playing with some of the local kittens with him. He was an avid cat-lover. I remember that, despite being 12 years older than me, he never made me feel small or unimportant. I used to pester him a lot to make him tell me the online ID under which he wrote book fan fictions. He used to smile embarrassedly and tell me "Fall in love, and then I'll know that you're ready to read the fanfics"

I guess I'll never know that fan fiction ID, will I, Bhaia?

God, I hate writing this in the past tense. I hate the notion of him dying. I can't imagine what he felt in his last moments, seeing all his hoped-for serendipities shatter into pieces like his body, as his soul was yanked out of him. I hate the fact that I'll never see him again in this world. I hate the thought of him lying in a cold, dark, musty, enclosed prison of earth, six feet under the ground where he could have breathed. He could have smiled. He could have lived. I hate the thought of bugs in the soil. He hated bugs, you see? I wish I could help. No doubt he's shouting at me from under the grave to get the damn exterminator. I saw a dream about him not long ago. In the dream, I saw that I was at a family gathering and everyone had forgotten him except me. I kept looking for him among the throngs of relatives but couldn't find him. At last, I found him behind everyone else, out of sight, pale and translucent like those ghosts in the movies and looking at me with this heart-breaking, aghast, lonely expression. He looked so lost. Is that what he's feeling right now? I can only think.

I regret the lost opportunities in which I could've spent more time with him. Keeping these questions swirling in my thoughts, the person who could answer them, is gone. And there's no way I can bring him back. It's the most mind-numbing, heart-crushing, horrifying feeling I have ever felt. Worse thing is, none of us could say goodbye. He didn't even have the chance to say goodbye to his own life, his own dreams. Well, I guess there's nothing more to say. The thing that gives me the most strength is the thought that I can still help him from here. It is by praying for him, remembering him, making others remember my tall, awkward, thoughtful,

sweet Bhaia by remembering his huge heart and the perfectly imperfect, him. Then again, I don't think only remembering who he was can truly help him. Around me, I see my family members grieving, crying, clutching onto everything that reminds them of him. For some time, I joined them in their sorrow, choosing the easy way to deal with this. Then I realized, that's not what he would've wanted. He wouldn't have wanted us to stop living, to stop smiling, to stop dreaming. And with this thought, I decide to choose the hard way to deal with his loss and the very best way to keep him alive. I decide to choose the hard way by fulfilling his dreams alongside mine of seeing a better world, by instilling his positivity inside me, being creative. By truly living and helping others truly live, as was his motto. It's hard to truly live after such a hole has been created in your heart. It's hard to live after seeing your beautiful family crumble to bits as easily as dried leaves in a matter of days. But I'll do this for you, Bhaia. I'll try to make you proud. Even if I can't, I'll keep trying. That's a promise. A promise I didn't make when you were here, but I'm making now. I hope that in some way or another, you can hear me. And I hope that it'll give you a little peace. I hope you know that I will always love you, with all your faults and imperfections, because they are what made you, YOU.

In loving memory of Pranon. R. Khan.



In Loving Memory of Sayham Ahmed

Sayham Ahmed, a kid I met when I was 5. We were going to the same kindergarten. Little did I know that the shy kid would become my bestfriend.

From our first cricket match to our last tour, we were always together. Preschool to school, then to college, we were inseparable. Somehow, maybe by act of God, we were in Group-11 together. There is not a single memory that I can recall without Sayham in it, which just shows how strong our bond was.

Like a lot of things we did together, one was joining NDEC. From the beginning, it was apparent what an amazing worker he was. He knew the club, he foresaw it, but most importantly, he kept the people together.

After getting into universities, things changed, naturally. Life happened. All the tight schedules, but we still managed to spend Friday afternoons together. Now who's going to offer me a controller to play FIFA? Who will I play FIFA with?

All I can word is that the most generous and decent boy I have ever met has gone out of my life."

-Nazmul Islam Ananto

The premature demise of our very own Sayham Ahmed, Secretary of 12th Executive Committee's Writing and Publication Department has left the NDEC family devastated. He fell victim to a vicious road accident when a pick-up truck hit him while he was going to his University. Being hospitalized immediately, there he was diagnosed with brain haemorrhage and fought with death for 6 days, eventually leaving us all on 26th February. He left the pain, but he also left us all and we will never be the same again. Now he is no longer in pain, yet we will continue to hurt.

Sayham was born on 13th September, 1999. He passed his SSC from Ideal School and College and HSC from Notre Dame College, then he started studying at North South University. Sayham was a passionate member of NDEC and worked relentlessly for the club, which helped NDEC to flourish to the stage it is now at. He loved so many, and was loved by so many more. He had such a charismatic energy that with even just one encounter with him, you would remember him for life. He loved being around family and friends, especially his club mates, which was lucid clear after his friends started paying their tributes through Social Media posts.

We, the NDEC Family, mourn from the deepest of our hearts and remain forever indebted to Sayham, honoring his contribution and achievements throughout his time with us.

Sayham will truly be missed. Sayham Forever!

We Mourn

SAYHAM AHMED

(1999-2020)

SECRETARY

WRITING AND PUBLICATION

12TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ACHIEVEMENTS

RLC presents 5th DRMC Petromax LPG National Language Festival 2019

Spelling Bee: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
English Olympiad: 2nd Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)

"JLRC 16th language festival 2019"

Lingua Euphoria: Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Reasat Zaman (12016124)
Spelling: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Runner-up:
Reasat Zaman (12016124)
Tetrathlon: Champion
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Book Based Quiz: Champion
Abdullah Hel Bubun (42001023)
Irtiza Zaman (62004116)
Lit Quiz: Champion
Abdullah Hel Bubun (42001023)
Irtiza Zaman (62004116)
Asif Iqbal Rafid (12009009)
Bhasharotno: 2nd Runner-up
Abullah Hel Bubun (42001023)
Asif Iqbal Rafid (12009009)
Pop Culture Quiz: Champion:
Asif Iqbal Rafid (12009009)
2nd Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Reasat Zaman (12016124)

DCELC presents 1st National English Language Festival 2018

College Quiz: Champion:
NDC Indigo
Motasim Bhuiyan(12001110)
Asif Iqbal Rafid(12009009)
Md. Zim-Mim Siddique(12002048)

Pop Culture quiz: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
1st Runner-up:
Asif Iqbal Rafid (12009009)
Spelling: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Anagram: 2nd Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Plus-Minus: 2nd Runner-up
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)

Hatil VELC 3rd National Language Fiesta 2019

Spelling Bee: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
English Olympiad: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Intensive Reading: Runner-up
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Multimedia Presentation: Runner-up
Raad Wrik Hassan (12015066)
Script Writing: Runner-up:
Saiful Islam Tuhin (12012017)
Clash of Quizzers: Champions:
NDC Indigo
Asif Iqbal Rafid(12009009)
Md Zim Meem Siddique(12002048)
Motasim Bhuiyan(12001110)

BBS Cables Presents SGHSC 2nd National English Carnival- 2019

Spelling Bee: Champion
Isn't Hossain Rijon (12004089)
English Olympiad: Champion
Isn't Hossain Rijon (12004089)
Wall Magazine: 1st Runner-up
Isn't Hossain Rijon (12004089)
Mridul Roy Shuvo (12014099)
Team Based Quiz: Champion
Abdullah Hel Bubun (42001023)
Irtiza Zaman (62004116)
Runner-up
Motasim Bhuiyan Rafeed (12001110)

**Bashundhara 3rd Laboratorians'
National English Carnival '19**

Master Speller: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Runner-up
Reasat Zaman (12016124)
Effective Criticism: 2nd Runner-up:
Reasat Zaman (12016124)
Mega Quiz: Champion:
Asif Iqbal Rafid (12009009)
2nd Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Reasat Zaman (12016124)
Abdullah Hel Bubun (42001023)
Irtiza Zaman (62004116)

IELC 3rd National English carnival 2019

Spelling Bee: Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Flick Through: Runner-up
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Extempore Speech: Runner-up
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
TurnCoat: Champion
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
English Olympiad: Champion
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Runner-up:
Faiaz Riasat (12015034)
Word Game: Champion:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Literature Quiz:
Runner-up:
Raiyan Ibne Hossain (12015143)
Abdullah Hel Bubun (42001023)
Irtiza Zaman (62004116)
Binge Trivia (F.R.I.E.N.D.S):
Runner-up:
Abdullah Hel Bubun (4201023)
Irtiza Zaman (62004116)

2nd BUP National Quiz Festival

Team Based Quiz: Champions:
NDC CrimsonL
Asif Iqbal Rafid(12009009)
Md Zim Meem Siddique(12002048)
Abdullah Hel Bubun(4201023)

Business Fest Bangladesh'19

Business Problem Solution:
Champions:
Faiaz Riasat Saad(12015034)
Raad Wrik Hasan(12015066)
Adib Sadman Al-Haque(12015144)

Eastern Business Challenge 2019

2nd Runners-up:
Irtiza Zaman(62004116)
Abdullah Hel Bubun(42001023)

Mecceleration 2019

Team Quiz:
Runners-up:
Abdullah Hel Bubun
Irtiza Zaman

Esonance 2019

Quiz:
Champion:
Rafeed M. Bhuiyan(12001110)

**DCELC presents 2nd National
English Language Festival 2019**

Literature Quiz(College):
Champion:
NDC Crimson:
Abdullah Hel Bubun(42001023)
Asif Iqbal Rafid(12009009)
Zim Mim Siddique Sowdha(12002048)

Club Evaluation

5th National English Carnival 2019:

The premier and flagship event of Notre Dame English Club of the year 'IFIC Bank Presents 5th National English Carnival 2019 powered by The Daily Star' was held from February 7 to February 9, 2019. The tagline of this event was #LiveTheLegacy. Like the previous ones, this session of National English Carnival gained huge response from all over the country as more than 4000 students from over 50 institutions participated in it. We were honored to have the presence of some distinguished personalities like Fr. Patrick D. Gaffney, Vice Chancellor, NDUB who was the chief guest of the opening ceremony. The chief guest of the closing ceremony was Tahmina Ahmed, Dept. of English, University of Dhaka. Along with her, the Principal of Notre Dame College Dr. Father Hemanto Pius Rozario, CSC and some special guests handed over the prizes to the winners of 5th National English Carnival.

Wall Magazines of NDEC:

INSIGHT: 'INSIGHT', NDEC's wall magazine was introduced after the admission of batch 2021. 'INSIGHT' represents the prolific journey of the club leading to the '5th National English Carnival'. The amazing and unforgettable experiences of NDEC were expressed through it.

Reminiscence: The 'Reminiscence' was made on the occasion of 21st February of Notre Dame College to commemorate the 'International Mother Language Day'. NDEC paid homage to the language martyrs through this creative ingenuity.

Publications:

ODYSSEY: The 5th edition of our magazine 'ODYSSEY' was published after the '5th National Carnival 2019'. It showcased the successful implementation of the grand fiesta.

The GLOWING WICK: The club published the 5th edition of its yearly magazine 'The GLOWING WICK'. This magazine featured not only the innate beauty of the young minds of our college but also the illustrious thoughts of the acclaimed personalities of the time.

Orientation:

This year more than 700 members joined NDEC. This huge number sealed NDEC's place as one of the largest clubs of Notre Dame College. After the completion of registration, the club orientation was held on July 10, 2019. This orientation program welcomed the newbies into our club. The Principal and Club Coordinator, Vice Principal, Moderator, Co-moderator delivered inspiring speeches to the newbies. The members of NDEC arranged a cultural program. The club awarded 'Lifetime Membership', 'Design Maestro', 'Club Leon' and 'Youth Leadership' awards to the respected seniors of the club.

Litbuzz Season 3.0:

“Litbuzz Season 3.0” was held on the August 31, 2019, which was a quiz competition on literature. In the third season of Litbuzz, we had a total of 837 participants. Amongst them, 50 were selected for the quarter finals and from these 50, we got 12 semi-finalists. Ultimately we got our 6 finalists who battled it out in the final for the crown. It was one of the biggest intra-college event in the history of Notre Dame College.

The winners of “Litbuzz Season 3.0” are:

Champion- Tasnim Kabir Sadik

1st Runner up- Abir Hassan Tamim

2nd Runner up- Abdullah Ibne Nour

Intra College Workshop on “Multimedia Presentation”:

Intra college workshop on “Presentation” was held on June 21, 2019 of Notre Dame College. It was conducted by Sohan Haidear, Founder and CEO at “Smartifier Academy”. The event saw the presence of around 110 interested learners who wanted to know the secret to ultimate success with the use of proper presentation.

Formation of Quiz teams:

The quiz team of NDEC was formed based on the result of “Litbuzz Season 3.0”. The teams are as follows:

Team NDC Crimson

1. Zim Mim Siddique
2. Asif Iqbal Rafid
3. Abdullah Hel Bubun
4. Motasim Bhuiyan Rafeed

Team NDC Indigo:

1. Abdullah Ibne Nour
2. Raiyan Rahman Praggo
3. Sudipto Dip

Team NDC Magneta:

1. Sadaaf Sharrar Aurtho
2. Ismail Mahmood Mugdho
3. Nafis Saadiq

Reported By
Waseque Arafat

Our Online Activities



1) Quadrathlon 1.0: On the 23rd & 24th of April, 2020, Notre Dame English Club hosted its first online event. It was an intra-college event exclusively for the students of Notre Dame College and featured the 4 following events: **Wordplay, Spell Master, Solo Quiz & Article Submission**. The results were published on April 26, having 3 winners in every contest. The event garnered massive acclaim from the participants for its unique nature and skillful management.

2) Outside The Classroom: The COVID-19 outbreak had restricted everyone's stimulatory environments to their homes. That's why, Notre Dame English Club had come up with a remarkable live session "OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM" that had played the role of a covexit, especially, for the students of Notre Dame College.

NDEC has hosted eight entrancing episodes of candid conversation featuring our honourable Principal, alumnus and more than twenty preceptors of our college. Through these enthralling live sessions, the students of our college got an exclusive opportunity to know more about the guests and their experiences along with asking them the innumerable questions that they always had in their minds.

3) Notre Dame Workshop and Edit-a-thon: On 12th November, 2020, in partnership with Wikimedia Bangladesh, NDEC hosted an online workshop to excite the students of Notre Dame College about the prospect of becoming a Wikipedia contributor and helping spread knowledge around the world. The participants learnt about the basic protocols of editing Wikipedia articles. And afterwards, over the course of the next week, they engaged in an Edit-a-thon to put their newly learnt skills to the test.



15 years of glory for Notre Dame English Club

On the 19th of November, 2020, Notre Dame English Club completed 15 years on its journey towards linguistic excellence. To celebrate the monumental landmark, the current club members along with the club moderator, Suranjita Barua attended a small get-together. It was a jubilant occasion that revitalized everyone present. Long live NDEC!

TIMELINE

2005

- Formation of NDEC
- Logo Contest
- Participation in 'International English Language Fiesta' at City Montessori, India
- Workshop on Pronunciation

2007

- The Spell Master Contest (Pioneer club to organize this event in college level)
- Establishment of NDEC library
- Outreaching program
- Collaboration with Joha Ericson from Bryant University, United Kingdom

2009

- Participation in Notre Dame College Club day
- Participation in the 'Education and Cultural Relations'

2011

- Workshop on News Presentation
- Special session on building leadership
- Extempore Speech Competition
- Speaking Contest

2013

- Workshop by Shawn Russel
- HAM (Half-a-minute) competition
- Eastern Bank Limited presents '1st National English Carnival 2013'

2015

- Mercantile Bank presents 'Intra College English Language Fiesta'
- Multiple workshops on Public Speaking, Vocabulary, Pronunciation and common mistakes in English

2017

- Bank Asia presents '3rd National English Carnival 2017' powered by The Daily Star
- Intra college workshop on 'Phonetics'
- Intra College Wall Magazine Fiesta 2017
- Litbuzz Season 10
- Word Mania Vol 1.0

2019

- IFIC Bank Presents '5th National English Carnival 2019' powered by The Daily Star
- Publication of wall magazine 'Reminiscence' on the occasion of 21st February
- Intra College Workshop on Presentation
- Litbuzz Season 3.0
- Club tour of NDEC batch 19-20

2006

- Workshop (Grammar, Production and Academic writing)
- Publication of Insight
- HAM (Half-a-minute) Competition

2008

- Multiple workshops on different topics
- 1st NDEC Extempore Speech Competition
- 2nd Spell Master Contest
- Creative writing competition

2010

- Workshop on Verb, Literature and Creative writing, Pronunciation
- Crossword contest
- Active role in 'Shikhar Manojanoye Shommito Prochasta'

2012

- Workshop on pronunciation by Todd McKa* from Utah University, USA
- Crossword Contest
- 3rd Spell Master Contest
- Intra College Word Finder Competition
- Analogy Contest

2014

- Participation in Notre Dame College Club day
- Speaking contest in collaboration with AJUB
- Book Reading Program with British Council
- Publication of the wall magazine 'Glorious 21' on the occasion of International Mother Language Day
- Inter College Workshop on News Presentation & Creative Writing

2016

- Bank Asia presents '2nd National English Carnival' powered by The Daily Star
- Celebration of 10 years of NDEC

2018

- Bank Asia presents '4th National English Carnival 2018' powered by The Daily Star
- Litbuzz Season 2.0
- Intra College Wall Magazine Fiesta 2018
- Intra College Workshop on 'Communication Skills'

2020

- Bank Asia Presents '5th National English Carnival 2020' powered by The Daily Star
- Publication of the wall magazine 'Aaamenessis' on the occasion of 21st February
- Quadathlon 1.0
- Outside the Classroom
- Notre Dame Workshop and Edit-a-thon

Ek Takay Ahar - One Taka Meal

Today, we will learn the story of an organization called, Ek Takay Ahar (One Taka Meal), a food program organized by Bidyanondo Foundation (Learn For Fun), an educational voluntary organization whose mission is to foster philanthropy, domestically and internationally by designing innovative programs that engage students & professionals with disadvantaged or less fortunate communities in Bangladesh and work together to educate, empower and uplift orphaned and vulnerable section of the society.



This organization has done wonders for the underprivileged and helped them dream of a better and a beautiful life.

The food program “Ek Takay Ahar” was founded in 2016 with a mission to “Divert the kids from street to school by providing secured food at lowest price.” As Bangladeshis, we often offer charity through food during various religious and cultural events. Usually when we, Bangladeshis, distribute food among the underprivileged, we make them stand in a line and make them wait for hours, some of them get food while some of them don't, they have to fight for the food which is rather insulting and demeaning to them. So that is when the founders of this food program thought of a plan by which they would not be treated as beggars rather they would be treated respectfully. That is when the idea of selling the food to the underprivileged people instead of donating it to them came to them. In this process, “Ek Takay Ahar” plays the role of a vendor and they buy the food from them in exchange of money. But why “Ek Takay Ahar”, right? A meal is served for just one buck. Surprised? Have we gone back to the days of when a horse used to cost as much as a piece of bread does today? No, we're still talking about the present.

Well that is because 1 taka is the least valued coin in perspective of Bangladeshi currency and it is easily attainable by everyone. Sometimes they take food without the money and promise to give the money back by the next day. An incident happened once in Chattogram, “Ek Takay Ahar” was selling food there and a kid came up to a volunteer and gave him 23 taka. The volunteer said, “The food is for 1 taka, why are you giving me 23 taka?” He replied that he had been taking food for the last 22 days but he couldn't give any money. As he has got the money today, he is paying back his debts. This shows his truthfulness and his commitment to his words.

The food program currently runs in Dhaka, Chattogram, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Narayanganj. They provide food regularly in these places. Other than this, they also provide food to their orphanages. They have started another project called “School Tiffin Project” which was initiated for the schools where kids from slum areas go to. As they have started providing food in those places it is seen that the attendance of students have started improving. In this project they bring a mobile canteen to the schools from where the students purchase food for 1 taka and they get a box full of noodles, khichuri and other healthy meals. This wonderful organization and its volunteers work relentlessly every day for a better society, for a better future for everyone where everyone is treated equally and lives in harmony.



“We don't want this initiative to appear as charity or pity. There was a lot of ridicule about this at first, but the children have a certain degree of pride now. Even if some of them can't pay for the food right away, they'll give us the money the next day. We wanted to eliminate the word 'alms' from the children's dictionary, and the word 'donation' from the givers'.”
- “Ek Takay Ahar”

Irtiza Zaman

এক্সপ্রেস ইন্স্যুরেন্স লিমিটেড এর রেটিং - 'এ+' অর্জন

এক্সপ্রেস ইন্স্যুরেন্স লিমিটেড ফুজির প্রকল্পের দ্রুত বিকাশমান নন-লাইফ বীমা কোম্পানী। ৩০/০৯/২০১৮ তারিখে সমাপ্ত ঐতিহাসিক পর্বত সময়ের তথ্য উপাত্তের ভিত্তিতে 'আলফা ক্রেডিট রেটিং লিমিটেড' কোম্পানীকে লং টার্ম রেটিং 'এ+' এবং শর্ট টার্ম রেটিং ST-2 প্রদান করেছে।

ক্রেডিট রেটিং 'এ+' স্ট্রং লিকুইডিটি পজিশন, শুড সলভেন্সি রেশিও, স্মার্ট ইনভেস্টমেন্ট পোর্টফোলিও এবং ST-2 স্বল্পতম সময়ে দাবী পরিশোধে কোম্পানীর উচ্চ সক্ষমতা নির্দেশ করে।

কোম্পানীর আর্থিক ও টেকনিক্যাল কার্যক্ষমতা, আর্থিক ভারত্ব, বহুমুখী বিনিয়োগ, শেয়ার বাজারে প্রবেশের প্রচেষ্টা, স্থায়ী আয়নতের পরিমাণ উল্লেখযোগ্য বৃদ্ধি এবং অভিজ্ঞ ব্যবস্থাপনা ইত্যাদি বিষয় বিশ্লেষণ ও বিবেচনা করে কোম্পানীকে আলোচ্য- 'এ+' রেটিং প্রদান করা হয়েছে।

৩১/১২/২০১৮ তারিখে সমাপ্ত বছরে কোম্পানী ৪০৮.৮৯ মিলিয়ন টাকা মোট প্রিমিয়াম ও ৭৬.৮১ মিলিয়ন টাকা করপূর্ব মুনাফা অর্জন করেছে। একই সময়ে কোম্পানীর পরিশোধীত মূলধনের পরিমাণ ৩৯১.১৮ মিলিয়ন টাকা, বিনিয়োগ ৫৯৬.৭৯ মিলিয়ন টাকা এবং মোট সম্পদের পরিমাণ ১১০৭.৮৮ মিলিয়ন টাকা।



এক্সপ্রেস ইন্স্যুরেন্স লিমিটেড
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YELLOW

yellowclothing.net

TIME WARPS



5th National English Carnival 2019



Volunteers on the roll



Grandeur of the carnival



Beginning of something great



Attentive ambiance of the hall



Happy Volunteers = Happy Carnival



It's judgement time!

Beautiful smiles from wonderful people



Adjudicators with the moderator



Conversation between the Chief Guest and the Moderator





13th Executive Committee Declaration



Exam hall of plenty



The quizzers about to strike



Girls' Power 101



Teachers' enthusiasm



Moderator's lovely family

Freshers' Reception 2019



Illuminated with new faces



Auditorium filled with new members



A family reunion



A jubilant family



Our honorable faculties



Our key personnel



The moderator sharing her valuable thoughts



Patron sharing his valuable thoughts



A glimpse of our cultural event



Vice principal sharing his thoughts

Club seniors receiving their token of gratitude



Litbuzz Season 3.0



Quizzers on cloud nine



Vigilance is the key

Quizmasters receiving their token of gratitude



End of a successful event

Peregrination



Smells like teen spirit



A wholesome moment



A place where love never ends



Everyone sings while the guitar weeps



The evergreen moderator



If the walls could tell you a story!



Refreshing end to a refreshing tour

Masterclass on Presentation

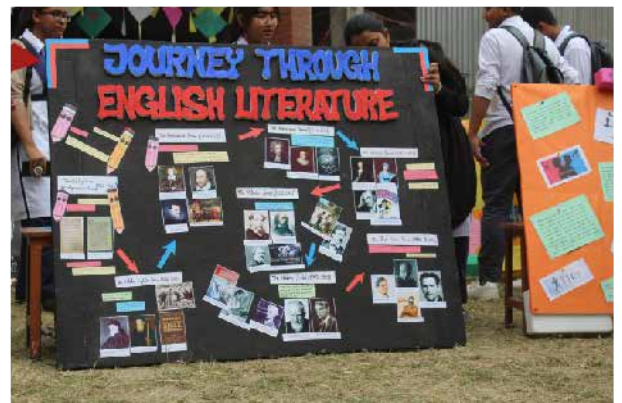
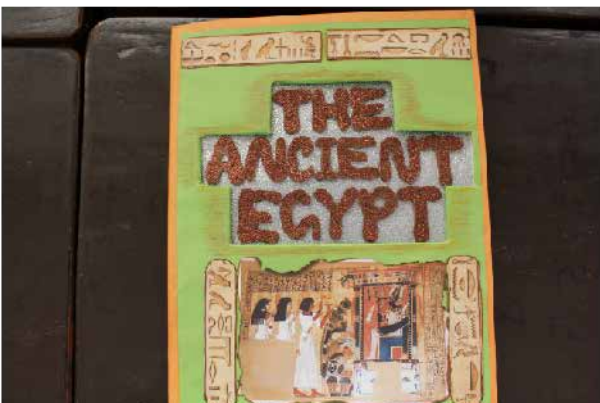




Club Classes



Glimpse Of Creative Art



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Mahmud Naeem

Quizzing & Contest



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14th Executive Committee

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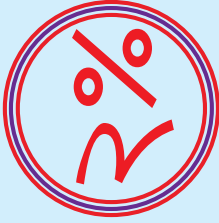


Md. Towhidul Islam
Asst. General Secretary

যতবেশি রেমিট্যান্স, ততবেশি ক্যাশ!!

বেশি বেশি টাকা পাঠান
সাথে সাথে গ্রহণ করুন
২% নগদ টাকা

বেশি রেন্ট, তাৎক্ষণিক জমা



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টাকা পাঠান

ফরেন রেমিট্যান্স ডিপার্টমেন্ট



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মাত্র ৭% হারে গৃহ ঋণ !

স্বপ্ন পূরণে আমরা আছি আপনার পাশে ...



পেরিআরবান, উপজেলা সদর এবং গ্রোথ সেন্টার এলাকায় কৃষক আবাসন ঋণের সুদের হার ৭%।

ঢাকা ও চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকা ব্যতীত দেশের অন্যান্য এলাকার বিএইচবিএফসির ঋণের সুদের হার ৮%।

ঢাকা ও চট্টগ্রাম মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকায় সকল ঋণের সুদের হার ৯%।

সারাদেশে ফ্ল্যাট ঋণের সুদের হার ৯%।

- বিএইচবিএফসি সরল সুদে ঋণ প্রদান করে থাকে, কখনই সুদের উপর সুদ আরোপ করে না।
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- Early Settlement এর ক্ষেত্রে কোন চার্জ প্রযোজ্য নয়।
- কিস্তির অতিরিক্ত জমাকৃত টাকা আসলে সমাধা করা হয়।
- ব্যাংকে না যেয়ে অনলাইনে ঋণের কিস্তি পরিশোধের সুবিধা।

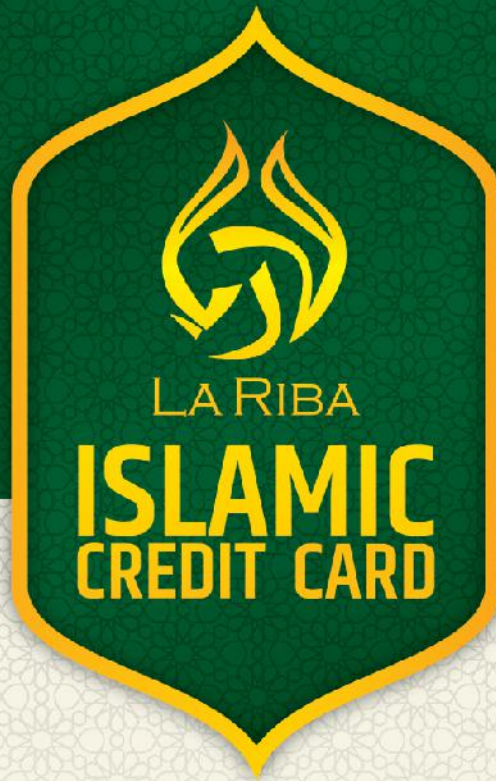


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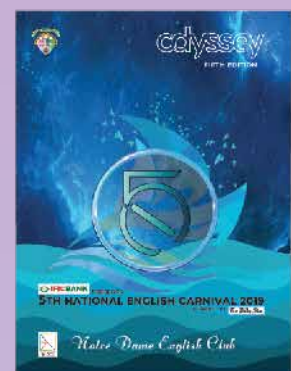
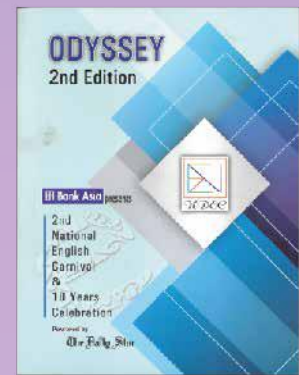
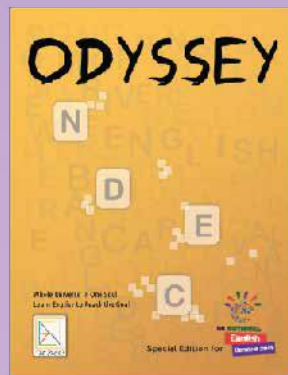
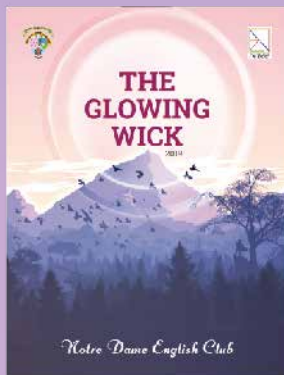
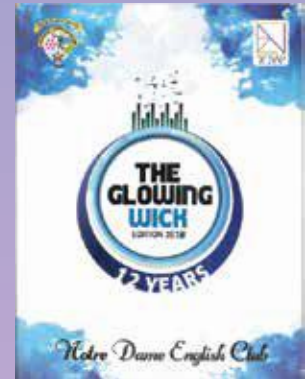
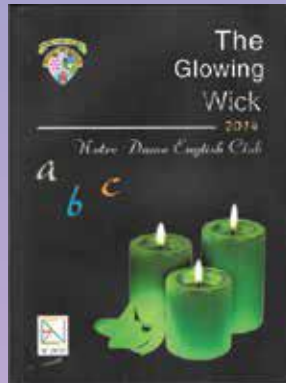
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