The World of Print Media as observed from the Magazine Desk of *Daily Sun*

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The World of Print Media as observed from the
Magazine Desk of Daily Sun

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“Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies”

Shawsank Redemption

First of all I first I would like to express my gratitude to the Almighty Allah for everything.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

“The newspaper is a greater treasure to the people than uncounted millions of gold” (Beecher).

Human beings have this basic instinct of knowing more and more. To, know more there are several mediums but the most used and accepted Mediums are books and newspaper. In my second year of under-graduation when I had to choose my concentration area I chose media and globalization. It has always been my dream to work in the field of media. And it was like a dream come true for me when I got the opportunity to work at Daily Sun.

It really does not matter whether we agree of not, the phenomenon of Globalization is more real than ever. There is no denying to the rapid expansion of Globalization in twenty-first century. In so many ways newspaper is connected with Globalization. We are getting news of every phenomenon that is happening around the world. Nowadays hard copies of newspaper have may lost a bit of popularity like before because the digital versions of newspapers are getting popular day by day. This is also an effect of globalization. According to Shalmali Guttal, “the term globalization” is widely used to describe a variety of economic, cultural, social, and political changes that have shaped the world over the past 50-odd year”(523). Since we live in an era where every aspect of human life is dominated and hugely influenced by media, we cannot even imagine our lives without media these days. In short media is the most powerful tool in today’s world for every class of people. Many different and interesting areas are connected with
journalistic media, such as television and radio, film and video, social media, editing, writing and publishing etc. Newspaper is something that has been associated with people for centuries now. Nowadays despite the growing popularity of the digital platform, newspaper is something that people still need. There are online newspapers catering to this growing demand of a fast paced world in need of immediate access to latest information.

Arjun Appadurai, a contemporary social-cultural anthropologist recognized as a major theorist in globalization studies describes this as media escape. According to him, “media escapes refer both to the distribution of the electronic capabilities to produce and disseminate information (newspaper, magazine, television stations, film-production studios) which are now available to a growing number of private and public interests throughout the world and to the images of the world created by this media” (35) But one thing that has not changed much is the need, demand and market for hardcopies of newspapers. It seems as if as long as people have urge to know more, the need of newspapers will be there. Newspaper is a kind of media that helps people to stay updated on a day to day basis.

It is true that I worked at Daily Sun only for three months but, the amount of experience that I gained from there was amazing. It literally changed my way of thinking about journalism specially the print media. I realized that journalism has changed a lot from what I studied. Journalism has becoming more interactive day by day. Journalist these days seeks new ideas to make news’s more interesting and interactive. News has become are more appropriate and precise. Because, people are more busy these days they do not have the time to go through big news articles.
I am really grateful to *Daily Sun* because I have learned a lot during my three months of internship. I have improved my quality as a writer and professional as well. I learned how a newspaper works how creative writing works in a newspaper. I came to know how challenging it is for a journalist to work these days. And it gave me the thrill to pursue my career in this field.
According to their official website, the *Daily Sun* was founded in 2010 by The East-West Media Group. It is one of the daily English-language newspapers in Bangladesh. The East-West Media group Limited is the largest leading media house of Bangladesh. The enterprise owns two Bengali language dailies such as *Bangladesh Protidin* and *Kaler Kontho*, an English language daily which is *Daily Sun*, one of the most popular bi-lingual online portal Banglanews24.com and a radio channel Radio Capital fm. East-West Media Group is a part of Bashundhara Group.

*Daily Sun* consists of twenty-eight pages including four pages on business, and eight pages on sports called “Winner”. The newspaper has various sections such as Front Page, Back Page, Metropolis, Sun Extra, Editorial, Asia, World, Culture, entrainment and Post-logue. Daily Sun is circulated daily. Approximately it has thirty-four thousand readers in Dhaka city. Groove, Hood and Morning Tea are the paper’s weekly supplements that come out on Monday, Thursday and
Friday respectively. The readership of this newspaper is mainly for the people who know English. It has celebrated its 7 years on October 24th 2017.

The eminent historian, British Commonwealth scholar and a senior faculty of Dhaka University Professor Syed Anwar Hussain was made the first editor of the Daily Sun. Later, the freedom fighter Amir Hossain became the editor of Daily Sun. However, after the sudden death of Amir Hossain Md. Shiabur Rahman was the acting editor. Currently, the editor of Daily Sun is Enamul Hoque Chowdhury, and Md. Shiabur Rahman has become the executive editor. The authorities of the newspaper are bias free and try to keep themselves honest and rational. The working environment is very good, and the employees are very friendly and helpful to each other. The office is located at plot no: 371/A, block: D, Basundhara R/A, Baridhara, Dhaka- 1229.

The print version of Daily Sun is also available in online- http://www.daily-sun.com/ Therefore, people can also read Daily Sun in online anytime and anywhere. Along with it there is also ePaper of Daily Sun. This is also accessible online. The ePaper can give the feel of reading an actual newspaper virtually. Unlike the online newspaper, one can turn over the pages by clicking next to go to the next page, and back to go to the previous page.

The number of employees in Daily Sun is around eighty. These people work in different sections. For instance;

• Culture and entertainment- two people
• Sports- five people
• Reporting- sixteen people
• Front and back page editing- five people
• Metropolis- three people
• Districts- two people
• Marketing- thirteen people
• Online version- eight people
• Business- ten people
• Photos- three people
• Magazine- seven people
• Circulation- two people

There are also sub-editors, who edit all the write-ups of these people, and make sure that no vague news story has been published.
Chapter 3

My Internship Experience

Apart from an academic requirement to complete the graduation, an Internship gives student the experience of the practical world. Though I had some other offers from ad agencies but I chose Daily Sun, one of the rising English newspapers in Bangladesh to do my internship.

I worked at Daily Sun as an intern from 8th May till 8th August. I was assigned to the magazine section. In the magazine section there were about nine members along with the magazine coordinator. I was assigned to be under the supervision of the magazine coordinator. The Magazine coordinator was a very friendly and supportive person in the beginning but as time went by he started giving me a hard time. However, later I realized he was trying to make me a better working person. He always helped me to understand the office environment and how to cope with other colleagues and other work ethics.

I learned a lot of useful techniques during the twelve weeks of my internship. The first thing that I learned was that doing a 9-5 job is not an easy task. I also had to learn about the difference between writing an academic paper and writing for newspapers. Soon there came a time when my supervisor praised my work and asked me to do a cover for a magazine.

The magazine section covers different aspects of life and culture such as fashion, style, culture, entertainment, knowledge and current affairs. A good topic and a standard write up was the minimum requirement for a publication worthy piece. Daily Sun also has three weekly supplements- Groove, The Hood and the Morning Tea. Among them, Groove’s contents deal
with popular culture, fashion, style and entertainment. This magazine mainly contains information about hair and skin care, and the latest clothing trends. It also contains entertainment information regarding singers’ or actors’ interviews and their lifestyles. In addition, this supplement also covers different concerts by famous bands and singers. According to my magazine coordinator Mr. Morshedul Alam Mohabat, among these three supplements, Groove is most liked and preferred by readers on social media because they are very fond of popular culture. Its readers are always curious about the fashion genre as well as the glamour world. The Hood represent the youth of our country who can be an inspiration for others. This supplement has different sub-sections such as scribbles, blah, fun-fact, talkies and brings the noise. Each section contains different stories, for example, ongoing trends within the youth, or maybe a success story for the cover which may influence others to do something good for the society. In short, The Hood tries to connect with the youth as much as they can. It provides real life examples and tries to motivate the youth.

Another supplement that takes quite an effort to organize is Morning Tea. This supplement contains current affairs, social stigmas with possible solutions, and also promotes different art exhibitions. This supplement has sub-sections too, and these are special features, cover, and insight, around the city, feature and opinion.

During my internship I was assigned to write so many features and articles that I was confused at first but as time passed I found my grip. I researched about writing and most importantly I went through my books and they helped me a lot. And whenever I was given an assignment I always tried to give my best.
Chapter 4

Diversity of my Work

For a writer the importance of a healthy environ is foremost, because a calm, quiet and peaceful place to think enables one to be creative and produce a good writing. Daily Sun’s environment was good and workable. I wrote, edited and translated many features, articles and some stories in the magazine section.

During my internship I tried to apply each and everything that I have learned in my media courses. For instance, I have taken Eng 404 which is a course about editing and copy writing. This course gave us a brief idea about editing copies and copy writing. As media majors we also have the scope to work for Ad agencies as well. So, this course was a great help for every student. The most effective course for me was Eng 440, English for the Print Media where we learned about different writing styles for newspapers and how to apply them while working for a newspaper. Eng 465 Translation studies, this course has taught us about translation and rules and regulation of different kinds of translation for example word to translation which is actually translation by word to word, This kinds of translation only emphasis on meaning. and Eng 333 Globalization and the Media where we learned about Globalization and how it has taken over the modern world. We also came to know about different aspects of media and different Medias as well.

Features:
Features are very popular content of print media. Writing features are very different from writing story and writing a news article. According to my Eng 440 English for the Print Media course packet, feature stories are human-interest articles that focus on particular people, places and events. Feature has to be detailed and vivid so that the reader can imagine the content. Feature stories are journalistic, explored, engaging, intelligent and through expounding on unique thoughts. Moreover feature stories are covered more in depth than other news coverage, while writing a feature it is always important to find out the most interesting facts. On the other hand, the hard story follows the 5Ws(Who, What, When, Where, Why) and 1H (How) pyramid. Generally a feature is broader than any cover stories. I always tried to follow the rules while writing a feature so that my feature comes out better. I wrote seven Features during my internship at Daily sun. I have always tried to follow certain rules while writing a feature.

According to Eng440 English for the Print Media course packet the feature writers need to remember three things and these are-

• The writer’s opinions and attitudes are not important to the story.

• The writer keeps herself or himself out of the story

• Writing in the third person helps maintain the necessary distance.

The following are the different kinds of feature:

1. Human interest- These are the best known feature stories. Human interest stories discuss issues through the experiences of another. Example- #Me_Too Movement.
2. Profiles – This is a common type of feature. This type of feature presents an individual’s character and lifestyle. These features are mostly about celebrities or famous people. Example- The profile of Gandhi.

3. How-To- These features give information on how to do something. The writers learn about the topic through education, experience, research or interviews with experts. A feature can be written about how to cope with the cultural shock.

4. Historical features- these features celebrate important dates in history or turning points in our social, political and cultural development. They offer a useful juxtaposition of then and now. Historical features take the reader back to revisit an event and issues surrounding it. Example- A feature on Victory Day.

5. Seasonal themes- These features are stories about holidays and the change of the seasons. They cover life milestones, social, political and cultural cycles and business cycles as well. Example- A feature on Winter in Bangladesh.

6. Behind the scenes- These features offer the inside views of unusual occupations, issues, and events. Readers like feeling privy to unusual details and well kept secrets about Procedures or activities they might not ordinarily be exposed to or allowed to participate in. Example- a feature giving inside information about how a magician performs his/her tricks in front of the audience.

7. Product Feature- A product feature is a slice of business functionality that has a corresponding benefit or set of benefits for that products end user. In a product feature prices of similar products are also compared. For example: Best Perfumes for men.
I have written many features while working at *Daily Sun* as intern. Some of my works were published during my internship period and some were published after my internship. The published feature titles are, The Emergence of Stand-Up Comedy, Wedding Photography: An Up-To-The-Minute Craze, Addressing The Challenges of Climate Change, Turning A Passion Into A Profession, Looking Back At World Cup Anthem, Fabulous Finals. I have always tried to follow the exact word limit for features. According to my magazine supervisor Mr. Morshedul Alam Mohabat a magazine feature is usually between 500-5000 words. In “morning tea” the word limit for feature was 700-900 words. Generally, I used to write about 800 words.

**Published Features:** Please find attached in the appendix section

**Event Review**

During my internship at *Daily Sun* colleague and I were sent to Bashundhara International Convention Centre to write a review about a food festival which was taking place over there. We went there and interviewed the shop keepers as well as the customers. By this method of interviewing, we collected valuable information about the business policy of the sellers and also the demand of the customers as well. The popularity of the festival was evident by the fact that people from all over Dhaka had come to buy food from there. In the course Eng440: English for Print Media, I had learned how to write event reviews. Therefore, I knew what factors a reporter should keep in mind while writing a review. We were taught that:

- Start planning your report as soon as the event is announced.
- Take pictures of all the main parts of the day, for example if a band is playing, get some good close-ups of the speaker, the anchor and the crowd.
• Get reaction quotes from people in the crowd during and after the event and the best way to transfer impact is to get it directly from people who felt the impact personally.

• Before and after the event, talk to the people responsible for planning and speaking at the event. They have valuable things to contribute, since they see things from an angle which is different from the customers.

• Make notes of pertinent starts such as the number of people attending, the location, the time, the theme, as well as anything else that stands out or makes the event distinct.

• Get close up pictures of the crowd or people you take quotes from.

• Include the important statistics and sprinkle the page liberally with pictures of the event. Include 2-4 of the best quotes. If possible include the pictures of the person who said it

**Scribbles**

This is a different kind of writing. Unlike feature writing and personal essay, this contains more funny and light hearted content. These kinds of writings are basically related with humor. Humor is an integral part of our everyday life. One can express something or a certain subject in a humorous way. Even the serious subjects can be presented in a humorous way. During my internship, I had an opportunity to write something about the most popular and exciting phenomenon in our society these days which is “trolling”. In my writing I tried to talk about popularity of trolls and how it has now become an integral part of social media.

**Personal Essay**

Writing a personal essay is always interesting for me. Unlike feature writing in personal essay I can write about my own experiences and it also does not need that much of research. I can write according to my personal choice. As I learned the techniques of wring a personal essay in Eng
English for the Print Media course, I did not face much difficulty while writing personal essay. I learned from that course that a personal essay can be a belief, a desire or an unfulfilled aspiration of a writer. It is about the writer’s discovery about him/herself. According to freelance journalist Mridu Khullar, “Personal essays happen by accident, when in the process of setting out to find stories, we end up finding ourselves. Every frustration, adulation, inclination, anguish or misery then becomes fodder for the personal essayist’s pen” (58). I also learned that through a personal essay the writers build a relationship with their audience through words. The focus should be on the story, not the words which means the essay to be written in a way that helps the reader to connect with the writer. A writer needs to write a personal essay in such a way that the audiences can visualize the writer’s experience.

Since my childhood I have always wanted to be a cricketer but I never got the support from my family to chase my dream. There are thousands of people around us who cannot chase their dreams. Most of the people fail to turn their passion into their profession. So, when I was given the task to write a personal essay I knew what I wanted to write about. I wrote several personal essays during my internship but the personal essay titled “Turning a Passion into a Profession” was the one selected for publication.

**Restaurant Review:** During my internship when I was asked to go to restaurant and write a review about their interior and food, honestly I was in a bit of discomfort. I did not know how to write a review about food and the restaurant experience. But, I took the challenge and went to the restaurant on the assigned day. It was a very interesting experience for me. It was a Japanese restaurant which is situated in Gulshan. So, I went there, talked with the manager and tasted
many of their food items and of course they were provided free of cost. I enjoyed the experience of writing about it. The review got published the very next day.

**Editing**

Editing assignments were the most challenging for me during my internship. Editing is an area where you cannot write or add anything on your own; rather, you have to bring out the message of the reporter. While editing I had to check grammatical errors, errors in sentence structure, punctuation and attribution. I also had to give attractive headlines to these stories so that readers find these stories interesting and newsworthy. During editing I also had to crosscheck information written in by the reporters. Because, sometimes reporters make mistakes while giving information. For example once I was editing a copy about a robotic exhibition so, I had to search the internet and crosscheck the information given by the reporter. Sometimes if I could not find any information on internet, my supervisor would help me on those occasions.

Moreover, while editing I had to keep in mind that the tone of the writer has to be more conversational so that the readers can feel connected while reading the story.

While editing I learned about the techniques of hard news story headline and feature headline. Hard news is a term most often used by journalists and others who work in the media industry. Hard news is the kind of fast-paced news that usually appears on the front page of newspapers. Stories that fall under the umbrella of hard news often deal with topics like business, politics and international news. (Reference: https://www.thebalancecareers.com/hard-news-how-does-it-differ-from-other-types-2316022)

News headlines should be more informative and feature headlines need to be a little bit mysterious, colorful and dramatic. Here is an example for hard news headline “Cage Paintings to
be displayed at AFD” This headline gives us information. Here is an example of feature headline “Turning Passion into a Profession.” This headline gives mystery to a reader and grows his/her interest to read the story. While editing headlines, writers should remember the following rules:

- Writers should read and understand the story before writing the headline.
- Writers should write a rough headline, experimenting with word combinations that will form one or more lines of the headline.
- Writers should choose specific and precise words.
- He/she should make each word count.
- He/she should use action verbs and some creativity.
- He/she should stuck over if he/she were stuck. (Smith and O’Connell 139).

**Edited Articles:** Please find attached in the appendix section
Chapter 5

Integration of Theories with My Internship Assignments

All the media courses that I have completed during my academic years at BRAC University helped me to work in a more efficient manner at the Daily Sun. As a student of BRAC University (English and Humanities), I have done Editing (Eng-401), Copywriting (Eng-404), Print media (Eng-440), Translation Studies (Eng-465), Globalization and other courses. Among these the editing and copywriting courses were quite useful during my internship. In terms of editing headlines one should remember the following rules and regulations:

1. A writer should read and understand the story before writing the headline

2. A writer should write a rough headline, experimenting with word combinations that will form one more line of the headline

3. Writers should choose specific and precious words

4. He/she should make each word count

5. He/she should use action verbs and some creativity

6. He/she should be stuck over if he/she were stuck (Smith and O'Connell 139)

Every time when I wrote any feature, I tried to follow some rules which were taught in my class and that learning helped me a lot to forward in describing a story.
1. **Human Interest** - these are the best-known feature stories. Human interest stories discuss issues through the experiences of another. Example- domestic’s violence or sexual harassment against women.

2. **Profiles** – this is a common type of feature. This type of feature presents an individual’s character and lifestyle. These features are mostly about celebrities or famous people.

3. **How To**- these features give information on how to do something. The writers learn about the topic through education, experience, research or interviews with experts. A feature can be written about how to take care of your skin.

4. **Historical Features**- these features celebrate important dates in history or turning points in our social, political and cultural development. They offer a useful juxtaposition of then and now.

5. **Seasonal Themes**- these features are stories about holidays and the change of the seasons. They cover life milestones, social, political and cultural cycles and business cycles as well. Example- a feature on winter in Bangladesh

6. **Behind the Scenes**- These features offer the inside views of unusual occupations, issues, and events give the readers a feeling of penetrating the inner circle or being a mouse in a corner. Readers like privy to unusual details and well-kept secrets about procedures or activities they might not ordinarily be exposed to or allowed to participate in. Example- a feature giving inside information about how a magician performs his/her tricks in front of the audience.

Feature stories are journalistic reports. They are not opinion essays or editorials. They should not be confused with creative writing or works of fiction. Feature writers need to remember three things. Those are:
• The writer’s opinions and attitudes are not important to the story.

• The writer keeps herself or himself out of the story.

• Writing in the third person helps maintain the necessary distance (Curtis, Anthony, 2011)

Panopticon and Gaze

The media can be looked at through the concept of ‘Panopticon and Gaze’ by Foucault. From the very beginning, the eye of power has been bestowed upon us in different ways. For example, we can consider religion to be a major Panopticon that interiorizes ‘God’s Gaze’ within subjects to control them. Similarly, in today’s world, the media can be considered as a tool of Panopticon, as we all know that we are being observed by someone. Similarly we are also aware of our actions. It is reinforced within the minds of the citizens that their crimes are being recorded by the media, and is being published for the masses to read and know. Social media is available for everyone anyone can make anything viral through this media. So, ‘fear of getting caught’ is instilled within people, i.e. It has also installed an idea among people that, they are being watched if they do anything illegal they will get caught. In short, the media is everywhere and the word privacy has been transferred into transparency.
Chapter 6

Conclusion

I have successfully used academic knowledge with practical experience to write my internship report. My internship report is on my experience of working at Daily Sun and assignments that I was given.

Newspaper is still the main medium for people to know about day to day news’s and stay updated with the world. Print Media is a major form in this field and getting to work in print media made me feel like a contributor to the globalized world. I had the chance to learn, to develop my skills, to gain professional experience. I was also being able to understand different aspects of journalism and writing for newspaper. I also got a very brief idea about 21st century journalism. I will always cherish this experience for the rest of my life.
Work Cited


Curtis, Anthony. “*How to Write a Feature Story*,” The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, 2011.
Appendix
The Emergence Of Stand-Up Comedy

Asif Mahbub

Stand-up comedy is a style of comedy where a comedian entertains an audience with witty jokes, one-liners, funny stories, and punchlines. Stand-up comedy is usually performed by a single comedian with a microphone. It is vastly popular in the west but these days the popularity of stand-up comedy is spreading throughout the world. Comedian is a very general term which includes TV actors, movie actors and all other kinds of comedians. But a stand-up comedian is one who performs on stage and most of the time alone with a microphone. These days this trend is gaining huge response from all corners of the world, consequently this sector is having a blues.

This particular kind of comedy was originat-ed in the USA. In late 19th century stand-up comedy became one of the most popular entertainments all over United States. People like Mark Twain wrote monologues which were very famous. It began to emerge as popular entertainment through vaudeville in the early decades of the 20th century. Bob Hope is the person who made stand-up comedy very popular at that time. He was a dancer and singer at vaudeville. Later on he came up with his own radio programme. To entertain the military at that time he used to travel a lot and for that he had to come up with new jokes all the time. That’s why Hope hired some writers who used to write jokes for him.

In 1950, a revolution came into the world of stand-up comedy. New comedians denied the old style to telling joke. Mort Sahl was the groundbreaker in this revolution. He sat on a stool and delivered his jokes for the audiences. But Sahl’s style was different from other stand-ups. He did not deliver gag lines only rather he used to criticize the society and politics through his jokes. He denied the robotic style of older comedians. This style of Mort Sahl inspired a new generation of comedians to join stand-up comedy because, they understood that stand-up can be smart and socially engaging. Afro-American comedians used stand-up comedy as a weapon during the period of civil right movement. The art of stand-up comedy also got developed in other ways.

In the period from 1940-1950 “The Texaco Star Theatre” with Milton Berle and “The Ed Sullivan Show” became very famous. The Ed Sullivan show revolutionized the idea of stand-up comedy. The show introduced new comedians to the millions of viewers for the very first time. It was the first indication that comedians could go and make a career on television. In 1960’s clubs meant for only comedy started booming. In 1972, the first comedy club “The Comedy Store” opened in LA. At the end of 19th century comedy clubs spread all over the USA and they became very popular among the masses.

In 1979, Richard Prior debuted the first ever stand-up movie “Richard Prior: Live in Concert”. After that the new generations of comedians like Robin Williams, Eddie Murphy, Kevin Hart, Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Todd Glass and Rob Ross emerged in the stand-up industry. At that time comedians were at their peak because of the popularity and the technological advancement. Nineties have produced so many great stand-up comedians in the United States. New and original comedians like Patton Oswalt, Maria Bamford, Todd Barry, Dave Chapelle, and Greg Giraldo emerged in the scene. In the meantime podcasting emerged in 2000 and became very famous among the comic lover audiences. Nowadays stand-up comedians have their own Youtube channels and they release their podcast and videos on Youtube.
In the United Kingdom stand-up comedy began through music hall in the 18th century. After the world wars the new comedians rise up to the occasion. Television played a great role. Music hall entertainment was almost dead as TV programmes took over that tradition. At that period comedy clubs appeared in the UK as well. They became really popular all over the United Kingdom. Working men's club produced many young and talented comedians like Bernard Menning, Bobby Thompson and Frank Carson. All of these great stand-up comedians appeared on TV.

and produced shows like “The Wheeltappers and Shunters Social Club”. Alternate comedy also began to evolve around that time. In 1980s UK had their first American style comedy club. Now comedy clubs in UK are very famous.

The trend is getting momentum in our continent as well. Comedy has always been one of the popular genres in Bollywood cinemas. In India stand-up comedy is not a new thing at all. But in the recent times it has created hype. In the last decade Indian channels made so many shows for stand-up comedy that it has reached every corner of the country. Comedy clubs began its journey in India in cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai where people follow pub-culture. Meanwhile internet has brought about revolutionary changes in Indian stand-up comedy scene. Comedians are now making their own videos and releasing those on Youtube and other social platforms. In the recent years comedians like Kapil Sharma, Zakir Hussain, Aditi Mittal, Tanmay Bhat, Arish Mattoo and Sunil Grover have been widely acclaimed for their entertaining performances. Over the years Pakistan has also produced many of the renowned stand-up artists like Ahmed Barochha, Saad Haroon and Shakil Ahmed.

Well, we are not also lagging too behind as Naveed Mahbub from Bangladesh has earned repute in this sector. The new generation seems to be very keen about stand-up comedy and they like it very much. Their growing interest clearly indicates to the fact that the future of stand-up comedy is very bright.
Looking Back At World Cup Anthem

Asif Mahbub

“When I get older, I will be stronger. They’ll call me freedom, just like a waving flag.”

These lines remind us of a song made for the football lovers. This song was written and sung by K’naan. But unfortunately this popular song for football was not selected as the official anthem of 2010 Fifa World Cup. Another football world cup will begin today. Everyone is feeling the heat of the greatest show on earth. During this time many other things create the buzz among people. Such a thing is the anthem selected for the world cup.

World cup anthems are now a part and parcel of the celebration. Nowadays without a world cup anthem the tournament seems to lose its spark. But the history of world cup anthem is very interesting. FIFA used official anthem for the first time in Chile World Cup 1962. Since then anthems have been an integral part of the world cup.

In 1963’s world cup the official song ‘El Rock del Mundial’ was sung by Los Ramblers. The song was written by Jorge Rojas Astorga. After four years the world cup was hosted by England in 1966. The anthem in that world cup ‘world cup willie’ was sung by Lonnie Donegan. In the world cup of 1970 (Mexico) the anthem was sung by Los Hermanos Zavala and the song was “Futbol Mexico 70”. “Futbol” was the official anthem of 1974 Germany World Cup and the anthem was sung by Marrya Rodewz. The song was composed in German, Spanish, English and Russian languages. The 1978 World Cup was arranged by Argentina and for that tournament the official song was “El Mundial” which was sung by Argentine band Buenos Aires Municipal. In 1982, Spain hosted the world cup and the name of the anthem of that world cup was “Mundial” which was a Spanish song.

Mexico hosted their second world cup in 1986. The anthem of that World Cup was “Hot Hot” while the song was sung by English band Arrow. The anthem of 1990 Italy World Cup was “To be number one”. In 1994, USA hosted the greatest show on earth for the first time. In that world cup the anthem was “Glory Land” which was sung by Daryl Hall and Sounds of Blackness. France hosted the 1998 World Cup. Famous singer Ricky Martin sang the anthem for that year which was “The Cup of Life”. This song became one of the most famous songs of that time. In 2002, Japan and South Korea jointly hosted ‘FIFA World Cup’. The name of that year’s anthem was “Vamos Mundial” and for the locals there was another song which was named “Let’s get together”. In 2006, Germany hosted the world cup. At that time so many singers came up with songs for the tournament but the official song of that world cup was “Celebrate the day” which was sung by Divo. However, in the opening ceremony of that world cup Shakira came up with “Hips Don’t Lie” which became a super hit song.

South Africa hosted the next ‘FIFA World Cup’ in 2010. Two of the very best songs about football were released for that tournament - one was “Waving Flag” while another one was “Waka Waka”. Both among these two “Waka Waka” went on to become the official anthem. Nevertheless “Waving Flag” got immense popularity among people and touched millions hearts.

In 2014, Brazil hosted the world cup and the song “We Are One”, sung by Pitbull, Jennifer Lopez and Claudia Leitte, became the official anthem. And this year Russia is hosting the world cup. FIFA has already released the song “Live It Up” as the official anthem. Nicky Jam, Will Smith and Era Istrefi have altogether sung the song. The music has been produced by famous Dj Diplo. So far football fans around the world is not grooving with it. One of the major reasons is that the song does not represent anything related to football. So, fans around the world have mixed opinion about the song.
Motorbikes: The Saviour In Dhaka City

Asif Mahbub

Traffic has always been an annoying part of Dhaka city. As a result commuting is a harrowing experience for the residents of Dhaka. Everyday hours are wasted on the roads owing to congestion. The immense traffic is costing us a lot of time and money. The situation has further been worsened by different projects taken by the government and carried out in an extremely unplanned way. When people are suffering immensely due to heavy traffic in Dhaka, bikers seem to be living a very easy life. There are many reasons behind the popularity of motorbikes.

Motorbikes have always been a part of this city because they are very efficient in every way. Highly a decade ago people used to buy motorbikes mostly out of passion. But these days most of the people buy motorbikes mostly out of necessity. One can always skip the unbearable traffic of this city with motorbikes. The biggest advantage of a motorbike is that it can get into small spaces to avoid the traffic. Moreover in Dhaka left side of the roads are always left by the car, bus, truck drivers for the motorbike riders. This makes the journey easier for a biker as they can beat the traffic easily. Motorbikes are faster and the fuel consumption is very affordable. That's why the young generation of Bangladesh is very much into motorbikes.

Motorbike companies also taking the advantage of this situation as they are decreasing the rate of the bikes on a rapid scale. Famous brands like Bajaj, Hero, and Yamaha are giving bikes in a very cheap rate. Some of these companies are even selling bikes on EMI. People of all ages are now even more attracted towards motorbikes than ever before. Not just men, even women in Dhaka are buying scooters these days to avoid traffic.

Apart from these, it is also true that riding a motorcycle makes you cool. Generally, we like to hide this fact. But, in many ways, there is no denying that young people like this vehicle just because they get some kind of zeal when they ride it. In particular, if you are a university student, you are sure to play double tricks with a motorcycle in your possession - first, you can skin the long tailbacks of vehicles on the roads and secondly, who knows someone may get impressed as well.

It is almost sure that the infamous Dhaka traffic will increase day by day. There is no permanent solution to this problem. But for the time being motorbikes can be a good option.
Wedding Photography: An Up-To-The-Minute Craze

Asif Mahbub

Well, let’s admit it even a decade ago photography was just a hobby and very few had cameras in their possession at that time. However, the trend has changed drastically. Nowadays photography is not only an art but also a profession for many. And when it comes to wedding photography, it has reached a new height in our country.

If you are a Bangladeshi, then wedding photography is a very familiar concept to you. But it’s not like that wedding photography is only popular in Bangladesh. People like to capture moments especially when it’s a wedding. Couples can relive the memories of their best days through the photographs of their wedding. It’s pretty common practice all over the world. But in Bangladesh this trend has picked up its gear. Even a few years back people used to make videos mainly for their wedding. Photographs were not that much appealing. And back then only professional studios used to do those wedding shoots. But things have changed these days. This growing trend has opened new opportunities for young and amateur photographers as wedding photography is a great way of earning money.

This business does not need a huge amount of investment. 2-3 DSLR cameras, lenses, tripods, flash lights and some tiny equipments are enough for wedding photography. Lots of young photographers are trying their hand in wedding photography these days.

In recent times so many successful wedding photography groups have become really successful. They are earning a lot of money as well. Wedding photography groups such as Wedding Diary, Checkmate, Bridal Moment, Chiro Golpo etc. charge a very hefty amount of money for covering an event. Afas Adar Ahmed, a senior photographer of “Chiro Golpo”, said in this regard, “We have different packages for the wedding ceremony. Our fee depends on how many events we will have to cover and how many photographers the client needs for the event.” He also added that their lowest package starts at Tk. 20000. In this package they will capture photos for only five hours and a senior photographer and an assistant photographer will cover the event. This means a couple needs to pay at least Tk. 50000 to get their whole wedding covered. This indicates to the booming situation of this business. But these are very renowned and famous wedding photography groups and they have been in the business for years. Now let’s talk about new photographers, who are trying to make a name for them in wedding photography. Nistar Ahmed who is a student for Irani University works for a wedding photography group. Their package starts at Tk. 15000 and he earns nearly 10-15 thousand taka per month by covering only 3-4 marriage ceremonies. This is a very good amount of money for a new photographer.

Well, there is no denying the fact that wedding photography is thriving in Bangladesh day by day and young people are getting more involved in it. One of the key reasons behind the popularity of wedding photography is that you can make a blend of your passion and profession through this trend.
Fabulous Finals

Asif Mahbub

The greatest show on earth - this single phrase is enough to describe why the FIFA World Cup is the world's most widely viewed sporting event. It's not only about the game but the thrill of 90 minutes that keeps the world spellbound. One month of breathtaking action keeps the spectators on edge of their seats in every match. It does not matter which team you support but you feel an urge to watch each and every match. The competition has been played every four years since the inaugural tournament in 1930, except in 1942 and 1946 when it was not held because of the Second World War. The 21st edition of the FIFA World Cup is taking place in Russia. Through the opening match between Russia and Saudi Arabia on June 14 at the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow the tournament began its journey and it will end on July 15 in the same venue. Ahead of the World Cup final football fans are busy in making predictions. The final of a World Cup is a very important match as performance of this match decides which team will achieve the ultimate glory and a place in the history. Earlier, the spectators witnessed 30 world cup finals. Many of these finals were one-sided and colourless but some finals were truly nail-biting and full of thrills. Before another FIFA World Cup final “the hood” recalls the memories of the most fabulous World Cup finals.

1934 World Cup Final in Italy

When football was excluded from the Olympic Games, the then FIFA president Jules Rimet decided to arrange a global football tournament. The first World Cup, which was named as Jules Rimet Trophy taking the name of the FIFA president, took place in Uruguay in 1930. Back then there was no final match. Top two teams of league met each other in a deciding match. 1934 World Cup’s deciding match was one sided as the host nation Uruguay easily clinched victory over Argentina with a score line of 4-2. But the deciding match of 1934 World Cup at the now-closed Stadio Nazionale PNF in Rome was one of the most competitive ones where the host Italy beat Czechoslovakia by 2-1. The score line doesn’t say anything about the drama that the final had. Czechoslovakia took the lead on 71st minute and Italy leveled right after 10 minutes. Then the game went to extra time. Italy’s Angelo Schiavio shocked Czechoslovakian on the 9th minute of extra time and led Italy to lift their first World Cup trophy.

1950 World Cup Final In Brazil

Brazil is the most successful team of the World Cup history so far. They have triumphed five World Cup trophies though they were in finals for seven times. Among all the World Cup finals where Brazil took part the most famous one was in 1950. They were the host of that World Cup and as a football crazy nation all the people of Brazil were expecting Brazil to win the trophy. But that World Cup final at the Estádio do Maracanã in the then-Brazilian capital of Rio de Janeiro was a terrible one for the Brazilians which they still cannot forget. Brazil started the game as favorites and took the lead at the 8th minute as Pelé hit the Uruguayan net for them. But it all changed in the later part of the second half when Uruguay scored twice and secured their second World Cup title. Juan Schiaffino broke the deadlock on 66th minute and Álvaro Ghitga scored the winning goal on 70th minute for the La Celeste.

1966 World Cup Final In England

Although they played the game first but they were catastrophically struggling to touch the World Cup glory. In 1966, English were
the host and finally they won the title at home. But the final match at the Wembley Stadium in London against West Germany was not easy for them. It was a nail-biting finish by the English side. West Germany's Helmut Haller scored the first goal of the match on 13th minute. But it did not take England much time to get back as Geoff Hurst scored the equalizer for them. Till 70th minute the score was leveled but on 77th minute Martin Peters scored for the Three Lions to give them a lead. Everyone thought that was the end of the match. But West Germany bounced back at the 86th minute when Wolfgang Weber hit the target. The final match went to extra time and on the 11th minute of the extra time Geoff Hurst scored his second goal of the match. Desperate Germans tried to get back in the match but they conceded again on the last minute as Geoff Hurst scored his hat-trick.

1990 World Cup Final In Italy

After 1986's magical success of Argentina they reached the final of World Cup four years later again. Their superstar Diego Maradona led the team from the front. But the whole world was shocked witnessing an ugly final at the Stadio Olímpico in Rome. The match was full of rough tackles and lots of cards. Referee sent two Argentine players off the field by showing red card. Nine-men Argentine team was trying to take the game to penalties but their fate ran out at the last moment when Argentine defender Roberto Sensini tackled German forward Rudi Voller on the 86th minute. Mexican referee Edgardo Closs gave it a penalty which was one of the most contentious decisions of the World Cup final. Andres Berezina did no mistake to find the net. With that penalty Germany won their third World Cup trophy. Still the final of 1990 World Cup is considered as one of most controversial World Cup finals of all time.

USA hosted the World Cup for the first time in 1994. Brazil and Italy were the two teams to reach the final of that World Cup. The final took place in Rose Bowl Stadium in California. Albott spectators expected to see goal fest as both the finalists were having some of the greatest attackers of that time. The defenders of the two title contenders were so tight that no side could find the net though Brazil and Italy put their best effort in 120 minutes to score a goal. Thus the football fans watched the first World Cup final where championship was settled by tiebreaker or penalty shootouts. And Brazil won the title for the fourth time by beating Italy 3-2 in penalties. Italian captain Baresi, Massaro, and the Silver Ball winner of the tournament Robert Baggio missed the penalty shots.

2006 World Cup Final In Germany

Germany hosted the World Cup for the second time in 2006. Before going to the final France were the clear favorites to win the title with their best player Zinedine Zidane in top form. France went ahead when Zidane scored from a penalty in the 7th minute of the game. But they could not hold on to the lead for a long time as they conceded in the 19th minute. Neither side could score during the regular time, so the game went into the extra time. On 110th minute an incident happened for which no one was ready. Zidane and Materazzi exchanged some hot words between them and suddenly Zidane lost his temper and head butted Materazzi to the ground. After discussing with the assistant the referee showed red card to Zidane. The game went to penalty shootouts where Italy defeated France by a 5-3 margin. It was one of the most thrilling finals of all time where both the teams took many shots on goal and played well but it was Italy who lifted the trophy at the Olympiastadion in Berlin.

Besides these World Cup finals the football fans have also watched some other exhilarating finals like 1990's World Cup final between Argentina and West Germany, 2010's final between Spain and Netherlands and 2014's final between Argentina and Germany. Well, World Cup finals have always been the centre of attraction for the football lovers. Consistent teams who play the best football throughout the tournament and can control their nerve reach the ultimate stage to triumph the glory. Sometimes the whole team performs while sometimes individuals spark. What will happen this time? 2018 World Cup already has produced so many surprises that spectators can definitely expect some drama in the final as well. Which team is going to be the world champions for the next four years? To know the answer you have to hold on to your breath and keep your eyes on the ball at the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow on July 15 when two best teams of 21st edition of the World Cup will fight for the ultimate glory of football.
Sita’s Story Narrated From A Woman’s Perspective

‘Sitaayar’ tells the story of a woman who is called Sita. Sita has several nicknames. She is also called Janaki. Sita is the central female character and one of the central figures in the ancient Indian epic the Ramayana. Sita is known for her dedication, self-sacrifice, courage and purity. In her youth, she is married to Lord Rama, the prince of Ayodhya. After the marriage, she goes to exile with her husband and brother-in-law Lakshmana. While in exile, they settle in the Dandaka forest from where she is abducted by Ravana, the Rakshasa king of Lanka. She is imprisoned in Ashoka Vadika in Lanka until she is rescued by Rama. An epic war takes place between Lanka and Ayodhya, in which the former wins.

After the war, Laxmania asks Sita to undergo a trial by fire (agni pariksha) by which she is expected to prove her purity before Laxmania accepts her. But some people of Ayodhya do not want to accept Sita because of her long captivity under Ravana. So Rama cannot accept her and rather sends Sita away. Thus Sita is exiled for the second time. Sita, who becomes pregnant, finds refuge in the hermitage of Valmiki, where she gives birth to twin sons named Rishabha and Lava. She brings up her sons alone, but Rama takes them away and Sita feels that the world is unjust. Once Rama accepts his children, and Sita seeks her final refuge in the lap of her mother Bhoomi. Hearing her plea for release from an unjust world and from a life that has seldom been happy, the earth dramatically splits open and takes Sita away.

The play narrates the life of Sita from a woman’s perspective. The play was performed by the second year students of the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University.

Theatrical Ventures Of Ritwik Ghatak Come Alive On Stage

Prominent theatre troupe Theatre 52 premiered its play titled ‘Ritwik’ at Dr. Nilima Ibrahim Auditorium of Bangladesh Mahila Samiti on July 21, 2018. The play was written and directed by Mizanur Rahman.

The play ‘Ritwik’ is a biography based play that nicely depicts playwright-turned-filmmaker Ritwik Ghatak’s theatrical ventures and activities in the 1940s and 1950s. In the opening scene of the play, the hero Ritwik Ghatak is seen directing a play and having a conversation with some actors. He shares with them his thoughts about theatre, society, politics and other issues. He is seen as an active member of Indian People’s Theatre Association (IPTA).

Ritwik Ghatak was born in Dhaka. Afterwards, he and his family moved to Berhampore of Murshidabad and then went to Kolkata before partition of India. He was part of a generation that witnessed devastating partitions of India. He saw the partition of India in 1947 and the independence of Bangladesh in 1971. In his short lifespan of only fifty years, he worked as a filmmaker, author, playwright and actor, trying to express his deep feelings about these traumatic periods, which would absorb him both intellectually and emotionally.

Before starting his film-making, Ghatak, however, was involved with Indian People’s Theatre Association (IPTA), the cultural wing of the communist party of India. This theatre association actually functioned as a platform for exercising politically influenced art and literature since 1943, which attracted the leading artists of its time such as Prithviraj Kapoor, Balraj Sahni, Utpal Dutt, and Satish Chowdhury. IPTA deeply influenced Ghatak’s creative outlook. He believed that an artist’s role is to bring about changes in the society. He considered cinema as a form of protest, through which one could ventilate the anger and anguish of the victimized refugees as well as one’s own attitude towards their sufferings.

Well, Golam Shohatir Shikto played the character of Ritwik Ghatak and Jayita Mahalanobish played the character of Ghatak’s wife Suwarna Devi. Nazrul Islam Shohag designed the stage while the lighting was arranged by Aslam Arounothu. The music was composed by Mizanur Rahman.
Addressing The Challenges Of Climate Change

Asif Mahbub

“Something there is that doesn’t love a wall
That sends the frozen ground well under it.”

These are the beginning two lines of the poem “Mending Walls” by Robert Frost. Robert Frost is a renowned American romantic poet with a difference from other romantic poets. He depicts nature as stunning and splendid part of the world but at the same time, unlike others, he considers nature as harsh and cruel. In the poem “Mending Walls”, nature does not want the wall built in between the fields and so, she time and again ruins that wall to ground. Robert Frost is absolutely right as nature is not always pacifying rather it could often be very devastating too.

Today, new and newer scientific discoveries and development works are taking place, bringing positive changes in the world and taking our civilization towards the pinnacle of success. However, many of these works are not consistent with nature and rather impacting nature adversely, as if an artificial wall is being built.

That’s why, in the last few years the world has witnessed many disasters such as terrible earthquakes, cyclones etc. which carried huge destruction and left nothing but debris of houses and other things and, of course, hands of corpses. The world is frequently experiencing such powerful catastrophes since the climatic condition, in general, is deteriorating day by day. And none but the humans can be held responsible for this perilous change in our environment which is no longer sustainable.

Extreme weather events, called weather hazards in plain words, affect life negatively like heat wave, cold wave, drought, and flood and as a broader consequence typhoons, cyclones, earthquakes etc. These hazards are the long term consequence of depending on human environment exclusively. People now-a-days are responding to human environment ignoring physical environment and sometimes even destroying physical environment through deforestation and industrialization. The industrial dependency of the developed countries is causing great damages to physical environment (nature in a broader sense) and as a result, the developing countries are suffering catastrophically owing to different disasters resulted from the imbalance caused in the nature. This situation should concern the common people because, whereas the negative impacts of global warming may affect and endanger our lives, our awareness and collective effort can function to tackle it in time.

Well, global warming means the rise of
natural temperature of the earth due to the release of excessive amount of carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas in the atmosphere. Human activities like burning fuel in motors, mills and factories, cutting down trees, burning bricks etc. are mainly responsible for the production of this man-made gas, which is overwhelming our atmosphere every day. Scientists predict that the temperature of the earth will increase from 1.1 to 6.4 degree Celsius by the end of the 21st century, if the trend continues. And as an outcome of global warming, have you not already started feeling the extra heat during the summer in the recent years? Perhaps you will agree because the temperature of the earth is increasing day by day, affecting the overall ecological balance.

It is to explain here that earth's atmosphere is like a green house (a glass building in which plants that need hot weather are grown). Ordinary green houses warm the air inside it. And when it's about the earth, the atmospheric wall functions like the glasses of such a building that does not let the heat escape from the earth. When mills, factories, vehicles etc. produce and release extra amount of carbon dioxide gas in the air, naturally the temperature increases and affects the humans. It is a matter of great worry that as the population of this world is increasing rapidly, they are cutting down trees and building houses, mills and factories for their livelihoods. They are using more and more motor vehicles that burn fuels. And, thus the human activities that are responsible for emitting greenhouse gas are increasing profusely.

According to some scientific calculations, the CO2 level in the air will increase due to constant burning of fuel and fossils. Since 1979, land temperatures have increased about twice as fast as ocean temperatures (0.25 °C per decade against 0.13 °C per decade). It is noticeable here that climate is actually the weather of a place of last 30-40 years. It does not change overnight, rather it changes very slowly. But even a little bit change in the climate can bring huge disasters. Most alarming, Bangladesh sits at the head of the Bay of Bengal, inside the largest river delta on Earth, formed by the junction of the Brahmaputra, Ganges, and Meghna rivers. Whereas nearly one quarter of Bangladesh is seven feet above the sea level, two third of the country is less than fifteen feet above the sea level. The scientist suggests that within 50-60 years the sea level will rise at a massive level in Bangladesh, whereby most people of this country will be affected.

It is observed that this phenomenon will be caused by the increasing temperature of sea surface and the glaciers that are melting in the Himalayas. These Himalayan glaciers are the third largest snow-body on the earth. These melting glaciers will affect Bangladesh a lot because the most of the rivers are connected with this country.

Usually, India derives a large amount of water from these rivers during irrigation time and during monsoon they divert the flow of water to Bangladesh to release it. As this huge amount of water enters into Bangladesh, every year the lower parts of this country get flooded. In recent years floods have been a very worrying issue for Bangladesh as its farmers are losing a huge amount of crops every year due to floods. However, scientists suggest that there are still more in store for us. Due to this rapid climate change, the country may face more cyclones and earthquakes in the near future. If that happens, then not only humans but the animals and the entire environment of the country will be affected. For instance, Sundarban’s of Bangladesh is the largest mangrove forest in the world that accommodates a huge number of rare species of animals and plants. It also saves the coastal area of the country from great storms and cyclones. But unfortunately, climate change is also having many adverse impacts on the echo system of this forest.

Finally, it can be said that every country should come forward and extend a hand to tackle this problem that threatens our existence on the earth. Most of the greenhouse gas is produced by the rich countries. So, these big countries should shoulder the major responsibility for dealing with the threat of global warming.