Exploring Trends and Techniques of Writing

At Dhaka Tribune

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Rashna Munawar
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1. Introduction

The society we live in abides us with rules constructed amidst a mist of power relations. As part of the common gentry we seldom get a chance or even bother to take a look into the reasons behind following the socially constructed rules. Media plays an essential and, to an extent, a mandatory role in keeping one, even if least interested, updated with his/her surroundings and concerns. It has become a part of our daily lives in such a way that we, intentionally or unintentionally, rely upon the news that it provides us with. As a requirement to complete my Bachelor of Arts in English from the Department of English and Humanities of BRAC University, I chose Media and Cultural Studies as my concentration because it would provide me with a chance and route to trace to the roots of “news” that claims to feed our queries and curiosities. Mainstream media enjoys an advantage of appreciation based upon our dependency on it for updated news and information but, on the contrary, is also criticised for exploiting this advantage. My internship at *Dhaka Tribune* was also an opportunity for me to balance my curiosity and skepticism concerning the world of media by looking into the authenticity and fairness of the news that we are regularly being bombarded with.

I decided to intern at *Dhaka Tribune* because of its transparency in practice. The policy of *Dhaka Tribune* advocates zero tolerance for sexual or any other form of harassment by anyone at all levels. The employees share a healthy working environment where fruitful team work is conducted in a cooperative and respectful atmosphere. The editorial policy of *Dhaka Tribune* is characterized as a liberal one, and is implemented at the workplace with a positive outlook towards new and creative ideas.

I interned at the Showtime desk of *Dhaka Tribune*. The Showtime page was initially published as the Entertainment page before the newspaper changed its layout from broadsheet to
compact on 1st March 2015. The Showtime desk, a part of the Features Department, deals with news and reviews about events, world cinema, music, movies, theatres, radio, and lives and works of celebrities. I chose to intern at the Showtime desk because what the diverse elements of the page talk about suited my interest. These elements include movies, events, lifestyles and works of national and international celebrities, and a deeper look into where reality is blurred by media representation.
A brief history of *Dhaka Tribune*

*Dhaka Tribune* is a Bangladeshi English-language compact newspaper which was launched as a broadsheet on 19th April, 2013. K. Anis Ahmed is the publisher of the newspaper, while Zafar Sobhan serves as the editor. *Dhaka Tribune* practices fair and objective journalism under the motto “*The news you want. No more, no less.*” The newspaper represents the voice of the progressive population of Bangladesh, and pledges to its readers to seek the truth, deliver the facts and offer relevant context and analysis where it is appropriate. The organization strives to address the readers’ concerns with a non-judgemental and objective tone. It serves to the readers’ benefit of making educated choices by providing authentic news including all relevant opinions, and ensuring that no significant strand of thought is neglected. *Dhaka Tribune*’s current slogan is “*I am made in Bangladesh*” which was initially “*Glad to be a Bangladeshi.*”
3. **Interning at the Showtime desk of Dhaka Tribune**

My internship experience at the Showtime desk of *Dhaka Tribune* has been a beautiful journey of exploration and learning. It was a challenging task for me to maintain focus during the internship period, and simultaneously attain good grades in the two other courses that I had taken during the same semester. The thorough support and guidance from my supervisor Ms. Sabrina Fatma Ahmad (Editor of the Features department), and my immediate supervisor Mr. Hasan Mansur Chatak, at the Showtime desk kept me motivated through every hurdle and disappointment.

My internship experience at the Showtime desk not only propelled me to explore and utilize my highest potential, but it also required me to do a lot of research. In the three months allotted for my internship I also had to expand my knowledge that was not always enough to respond with urgency to the diverse elements that the Showtime page dealt with. This was also taken into account at the Showtime desk, and whenever crucial topics came up in which I did not have adequate knowledge, my entire team guided me towards where my potential could serve to the immediate benefit of the Showtime page.
4. News stories

Interning at the Showtime page initially seemed to be apt for my personal interest of exploring the various cultures and colours shown in media. I am also enthusiastic about writing poems in both English and Hindi languages. During my internship, I was required to write news stories that demanded stating rigid facts within a specific word allocation. It was challenging to write articles summarizing details to fit a rigid structure. My knack of creative writing and playing with words caused a hindrance in writing the lead paragraphs. The word-limit of these articles varied depending on the prominence of the topics and positioning of the articles compared to other articles on the same page that did not have equal amount of prominence and therefore space. The word-limits were similar to the ones that I was given in the Eng440: English for Print Media course at BRAC University. Within a range of words that varied mostly below 500 words, I was required to incorporate the necessary details while also maintaining consistency and flow of transition within and between paragraphs. This also required me to maintain precision with words and authenticity while stating hard facts. These are skills that I had learnt in the Eng404: Copywriting and Eng440: English for Print Media courses at BRAC University.
5. Translations

The majority of children in Bangladesh who belong from the lower middle-class families to those from a higher social class are more likely to be bilinguals. This can also be observed through the prevalence of code-switching which also suggests the decreasing necessity of translations in the bilingual Bangladesh. During my internship period at the Dhaka Tribune, a Bangladeshi English-language newspaper, I realized the significance of precise and meaningful translation, and of studies that revolve around it. Translation as a product in media has something more to it in most cases. Besides translating articles and press releases at the Showtime desk, I was also required to paraphrase articles and preserve the precise meanings of the source texts. Direct quotes had to be cautiously translated from Bengali sources to ensure equivalence of meaning while gathering information for news-stories written in English. While translating articles about advertisements, I also used transliterations since the names of the products had to be kept unchanged. For example, while translating a press release about the ad-shoot for ‘RFL Murgir Khancha’ from Bengali to English, I had to transliterate the name of the product. Since the original advertisement was produced for a Bengali target audience, I used the transliteration ‘RFL Murgir Khancha’ in the translated copy, instead of translating the product name to ‘RFL Hencoop.’ But, translation for other news-stories required only free translation. Free translation follows the sense-for sense strategy and aims at capturing the sense of the source text and conveying it into the target text. According to Hervey, Higgins and Haywood, in their book *Thinking Spanish Translation: A Course in Translation Method, Spanish to English*, in free translation, “there is only a global correspondence between the textual units of the ST and those of the TT” (12). This experience was different since the alterations in translating copies for advertisements depended on the intended target audience, and the language in which the original
advertisement was produced. I could relate this variation in translation, which was due to the focus on the original intended target audience of the advertisement, to the Eng404: Copywriting course that I took at BRAC University. Similar to the word-for-word translation that I had learnt in the Eng465: Translation Studies course, I used direct translation while translating the list of winners of the National Film Award 2014 from Bengali to English. Following is the source text and the translated list of winners which was published within the article titled ‘National Film Award 2014 announced.’
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নামানুসারে পরিচিতি নিবন্ধন

তাকদের প্রজনন সম্পর্ক ও প্রদত্ত বিষয়ক আচরণের উপর ভিত্তি করে যোগাযোগের উপর ভিত্তি করে নিউম্ফ চ্যান্স ও কল সুনিকে সাহায্য সম্পর্কে সুনিকের প্রয়োজন ২০২০ প্রয়োজনের সার্বিক সংরক্ষণ ২০২০।
National Film Award 2014: Full list of winners

- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Jointly Syed Hasan Imam and Rani Sarkar
- **Best Film:** Brihonnola, Director Murad Parvez
- **Best Short-film:** Gariwala, Director Ashraf Shishir
- **Best Director:** Zahidur Rahim Anjan, Meghmallar
- **Best Actor:** Ferdous Ahmed, *Ek cup cha*
- **Best Actress:** Jointly Moushumi (Tarkata) and Bidya Sinha Mim (Jonakir Alo)
- **Best Actor in a Supporting Role:** Ejazul Islam, *Tarkata*
- **Best Actress in a Supporting Role:** Chitrolekha Guho, *Ek attorer Ma Jononi*
- **Best Actor in a Negative Role (Villain):** Tariq Anam Khan, *Desha: The Leader*
- **Best Actor in a Comic Role:** Misha Sawdagar, *Olpo Olpo Premer Golpo*
- **Best Child Artist:** Abir Hossain Ankon, *Boishommo*
- **Special Award as Best Child Artist:** Marjan Hossain Zara, Meghmallar
- **Best Music Director:** Dr. Saim Rana, Nekabborer Mohaproyan
- **Best Male Playback Singer:** Mahfuz Anam James (Potakata Khamchate), *Desha: The Leader*
- **Best Female Playback Singer:** Jointly Runa Laila (Priya Tumi Shukhi Hou) and Momtaz (Nekabborer Mohaproyan)
- **Best Lyrics:** Masud Pothik, Nekabborer Mohaproyan
- **Best Music Composer:** Belal Khan, Nekabborer Mohaproyan
- **Best Story:** Murad Parvez, Brihonnola
- **Best Screenplay:** Saikat Nasir, *Desha: The Leader*
- **Best Dialogue:** Murad Parvez, Brihonnola
- **Best Editing:** Towhid Hossain Chowdhury, *Desha: The Leader*
- **Best Art Direction:** Maruf Samurai, *Tarkata*
- **Best Cinematography:** Mohammad Hossain Jemi, *Boishommo*
- **Best Sound Recording:** Ratan Paul, Meghmallar
- **Best Costume Design:** Kanak Chanpa Chakma, Jonakir Alo
- **Best Make-up:** Abdur Rahman, Nekabborer Mohaproyan
6. Press Releases

A press release is often underestimated merely as a tool of persuasion used by advertisers. According to Blake and Bly in their book *The Elements of Copywriting: The Essential Guide to Creating Copy that Gets the Results You Want*:

A press release is picked up by the media because it contains news of interest to a number of readers, viewers, or listeners - not because it is meant to persuade people to buy something […] Most people don’t realize that many news stories appearing in the media have been generated by press releases. Reporters and editors can’t possibly cover every story in person. They rely on press releases to generate ideas for articles (115).

The articles that I had written at the Showtime desk also consisted of information accumulated from press releases which were mostly about movies, songs and events. The problematic part in preparing articles from press releases is that it requires paraphrasing, and also demands a tone that is not too mundane. I wrote several articles in English which were borrowed from press releases in both English and Bengali languages. I was required to be careful in avoiding clichés from the original press releases, and I also had to avoid repetitions that would resonate similar articles in other newspapers. It was more difficult for me to write articles from press releases written in English since they required paraphrasing without translation. It was a challenge to reconstruct the sentences using synonyms and similar expressions. Below is a press
release in Bengali that I had translated, and it is followed by the article in English which was published in print.

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মালয়েশিয়ার ৪টি মাস্ত্রপ্রেক্ষা ‘সুতপার ঠিকানা’

এরা আর্তজাতিক বাজারে বাঙ্গালীভাষায় মুক্তি পেতে যাচ্ছে সরকারী অনুমোদন সহযোগী নির্মিত চলচ্চিত্র ‘সুতপার ঠিকানা’. যার ইংরেজী নাম- ‘হার ও আত্মস’ (Her Own Address). উপস্থিতিতের নারীজাতের ইহুকৃত্তি নিয়ে নির্মিত ‘সুতপার ঠিকানা’ নারী নিয়ন্ত্রক সামনে রেখেই পরিবেশে সাধারণ ৩ মিটি মুক্তি দেওয়া নিজস্ব নির্দেশিত।

এই আগে পরিবেশকরণ ও প্রাধান্যের সম্পর্কিত উদ্যোগে দুটি মার্কিটিং রিলিজ শুরু হয়েছে কুয়ালালাপ্পুরার হাসেলাল অবক্ষু গোদানের ক্রিয়াশীল একটি প্রক্ষুরের। সকলে ১০টায় গুরুত্ব সম্বলনকর্তাদের জন্য এবং সকল ৬টায় প্রাধান্য হবে মালয়েশিয়ার আর্দ্রতার সংগঠন আওরম নারীদের সংগঠন অ্যারোম উডফার মালয়েশিয়া।

গত মাসের ১৯ তারিখে নির্মাণের সাথে মালয়েশিয়ার পরিবেশকের সঙ্গে অনুষ্ঠানিক মুক্তি পাঠক হওয়া পর চলচ্চিত্রের জন্য যা দেওয়া হয়। হাসেলাল চলচ্চিত্র অবক্ষু থেকে খারিজ এলাকায় যাতায়াত এবং প্রচার পর দেওয়ার স্বাভাবিক প্রক্ষুর গোদানের ক্রিয়াশীল একটি মাস্ত্রপ্রেক্ষায়।

২০১৫ সালের মে মাসে ম্যানি (ম্যানি) বাজারে সুযুত্র রানীদের কর্মকান্ড প্রক্ষুরে চলচ্চিত্রের মুক্তি পায়। এরপর বিভিন্ন পর্যালোচনা প্রক্ষুরের ইনামে মুক্তি পায়। এরপর পরিবেশকরণের প্রাধান্য হয় ১২টি লেবাল এবং ৬টি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের উপর কার্যকারী একটি প্রক্ষুর আরোমের দৃষ্টিকোণে উদ্যোগের প্রযোজনা দুটি চলচ্চিত্রের সম্পর্কে নির্মাণ করেন।

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ক্লাসিক্যাল উপরে বালকদের শিক্ষাবিশেষ চলচ্চিত্রের প্রযোজনায় নির্মিত অপ্রয়োজন করে নির্মাণ করেন।

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের উপর কার্যকারী একটি প্রক্ষুর আরোমের দৃষ্টিকোনে উদ্যোগের প্রযোজনা দুটি চলচ্চিত্রের সম্পর্কে নির্মাণ করেন।

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*অ্যাপ্লিকেশনওয়েবসাইট: [www.imationcreator.com](http://www.imationcreator.com) [www.sutoparthikana.com](http://www.sutoparthikana.com) [www.dbhakatriology.com](http://www.dbhakatriology.com)
Sutopar Thikana to premiere in Malaysia

Showtime Desk

_Sutopar Thikana_ (Her Own Address) is all set to be released in multiple countries across the globe.

The film that depicts the dependency of a South Asian woman at various stages of life will be released in Malaysia on March 3 on the occasion of the International Women's Day to be observed on March 8.

Before the countrywide release, the movie will be screened twice on March 2 at a theatre in Golden Screen Cinemas located in Kuala Lumpur's Mid Valley.

_Sutopar Thikana_, the first feature film to have received government grant in Bangladesh, was submitted to the censor board after the producer and the Malaysian distributor officially signed the contract on February 19.

Upon receiving official censorship from the censor board of Malaysia, the feature film will be released in four multiplex halls of the famous Golden Screen Cinemas in Malaysia: the Mid Valley, Pavilion, 1 Utama in Petaling Jaya and Gurney Plaza in Penang.

After the commercial release, _Sutopar Thikana_ will be shown in two television channels of Malaysia and Brunei.

_Sutopar Thikana_, directed by independent film-maker Proshoon Rahman, who assisted late Tareque Masud on a few projects, is a screen adaptation of the book titled, _Ishhorer Ichhe Nei Boley_, written by the director himself.

The government-grant winning project was released in a few theatres in Dhaka on May 8, last year, on the occasion of Mother's Day.

After the premiere, the film was shown in 12 districts and seven universities.

_Sutopar Thikana_ was also screened simultaneously in 64 districts in the country during the Bangladesh Film Festival organised by Shilpakala Academy in December last year. ⊕
Event Reports

Event reporting was an opportunity and also a dare for me to transcend my comfort zone of interning at the Showtime desk. I wrote two reports on events, one of which I had visited for coverage from Dhaka Tribune. Similar to any formal event coverage, I was required to do research beforehand and take notes of all necessary details. I was spared the task of on-spot photography because the pictures for both the events were available for coverage. The experience was similar to my event reporting experience in the Eng440: English for Print Media course.

My first attempt at event reporting was moderately good. My entire team motivated me to do better and I was also given elaborate instructions about on-spot reporting by Ms. Promiti Prova Chowdhury, a journalist at the Showtime desk. She instructed me to give up all presumptions and expectations about the event before it began, and to keep all my senses open towards every detail including the ambience and audience. During my second event reporting experience, I followed these instructions thoroughly. It not only made my report much more efficient and lively, but also added a new, better and enjoyable dimension to my event reporting experience. While writing the report I realized that the instructions also gave me the liberty and hence courage to play with words as long as the facts remained unchanged. My event report had sufficient content and details and was better than the previous one. Since my team members at the Showtime desk insisted that I write a report on the event (Valentine’s Celebration with James...
that I attended with my personal expense, they supported me with guidelines, and the results also contributed positively to the unity of our team. Both criticism and appreciation were welcomed by the team as a whole. Here are my event reports with their links cited.

http://issuu.com/dhakatribune/docs/160110211350-130ac29ade84a0bb8eb571f57011313/31?e=0
James and Sanam rock Dhaka

The concert continued with a performance by the young and sensational band Sanam. The fabulous four, Sanam Puri, Samar Puri, Venky S and Keshav, performed a series of songs including Yeh raate yeh mausam, Teri deewani, Main tanu samjhawa ki, Lag ja gale, Mere mehboob qayamat hagi and Roop tera mastana. The audience sang along with Sanam in many other songs but were most audible during Jee le zara.

Surprisingly, Sanam also sang in Bangla for the audience of Dhaka. The excitement also heightened when Sanam Puri replied “I love you too” to the audience that mostly consisted of girls. Near the end of the concert, Dipita, a student of Advanced Levels, said that she came to see Sanam and expressed her heart’s content on attending the event.

Adding to the eventful night, band Sanam showed their new music video Pehla nasha, which was prepared to premiere on February 12. The concert concluded with Sanam’s performance of the song Pal pal dil ke paas.

The concert was organized by Entourage Entertainment in association with The Agency Solution as a charity event to raise funds for the IQRA School that educates children from Korail slum.

Rashna Munawar

The stage, set with red hearts in starlit background, looked perfect for Valentine’s Celebration with James and Sanam on February 11 at the Noboratri Hall of International Convention City, Bashundhara.

The musical event began at 8:15pm with a performance by children of the IQRA School rendering the national anthem and Tagore’s song Amra shobai raja.

The applause for the young performers was followed by another performance by the legendary singer, James of Nogor Baul. James performed a series of popular numbers including Kobita, Lace fita lace, Jhakanaka Jhakanaka and Chal chale apne ghar. Audiences in parts of the hall had their hands waving in sync with Tarae tarae rotiye debo. The enthusiastic audience sang the chorus for the song Pagla hawa, which concluded with a comment “Locpaat kore dile guru” from the audience.

Bheegi bheegi si hai, the last song of the night by James at the concert, concluded with a standing ovation from the audience.

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8. **Features**

The three months allotted for my internship had been full of explorations and experimentations. Through the process of trying out several things, it is only during the end of my internship period that I realized my potential in writing features. Writing a feature also required data gathered by researching. Due to limitation in time and with other urgent news-stories at hand, I only got a few chances to write features. While writing features, even though I had the liberty to use puns and a bit of sarcasm too, I also had to be careful not to go overboard. Ensuring meaningful content was necessary and I had to carefully avoid the use of flowery words just for the sake of writing or filling spaces. These precautions reminded me of what I learnt in the Eng440: English for Print Media and Eng404: Copywriting courses that I had taken. The word-limit of these features was less than what I was given in my undergraduate courses because of the limited space in print. I also had to keep track of the multiple sources while gathering data to ensure authenticity. It was also for cross-checking purposes. Here are two features which I had written along with the sources cited.
5 Bollywood feminist flicks

Showtime Desk

Gender bias and misogyny is rife everywhere. Challenging conventional ideas, Bollywood films have depicted women out of their traditional stereotypes, which eventually gathered appreciation for the actor. Female-centric films in Bollywood have gained some focus on certain characters as well, such as:

English Vinglish (2012)
Gauri Shinde's English Vinglish stars Bollywood icon Sridevi, who plays a housewife named Shashi Godbole. The film depicts her journey of self-discovery from a coy housewife to a confident speaker in English. She secretly takes language classes in New York City after being mocked for her inability to speak English.

Astitva (2000)
Written and directed by Mahesh Manjrekar, the film stars Tabu in a struggle for her identity as a woman. Feminist in its tone and tenor, the film argued that a woman is not just a dutiful wife and a dedicated mother. Her world should not be, and is not, centered around a man.

Fashion (2008)
In Fashion, Priyanka Chopra stars as Meghna Mathur, an ambitious model. She goes to Mumbai against her parents' consent to chase her dream. Struggling through several rejections, she finally catches her break after making some good friends and exhibiting confidence during a meeting with an executive at a major modeling agency. However, her health and relationships slowly begin to deteriorate after her involvement with drugs and alcohol. In order to get her career back on track, she has to overcome her addictions and phases of depression.

Queen (2014)
Queen stars Kangana Ranaut as a young woman named Rani. Her husband calls off their wedding in the film, complaining that Rani's conservatism is unattractive to him. The film depicts a simple coming-of-age story of a naïve and introvert girl. Heartbroken, but compelled to get over it, Rani goes on her solo journey to Paris and Amsterdam. Along the way, she meets many interesting people who teach her a lot about herself. When she returns to India, she brims in sincerity and self-love.

Kahaani (2012)
Kahaani depicts the Vidya Bagchi's (played by Vidya Balan) persistence to track down her missing husband. Even through in her final trimester of pregnancy, she travels to Kolkata with the determination to find her husband. Everyone she encounters tells her that her husband probably left her because he didn't want to raise the baby with her. She slowly figures out that her husband's death was part of a bigger incident involving the federal government and a rogue agent-turned-terrorist. Vidya continues to look for answers despite being threatened.

http://issuu.com/dhakatribune/docs/160307201019-79d532787ac94852b646f9ceb74b6ed5/29?e=0
Continuing the Bollywood legacy

Showtime Desk

Being born to a Bollywood star comes with a lot of privileges and also, expectations from fans and family. Some of these star-born children have followed the footsteps of their parents to the showbiz industry. With the support and encouragement of their superstar parents, the starlings are all set to hold onto their legacy in Bollywood. Five of our picks are:

Karan Deol

Sunny Deol’s son, Karan Deol (also Rocky), has assisted Sangdeep Sivan in directing Yuvana Fiyale Dweevaru 2. Besides his interest in football, the grandson of Dharmendra, has joined Rahul Roy’s acting school and is training to enter the silver screen soon. No official statement has been made about the news of Karan’s debut since it was delayed keeping the release of Ghayal Once Again in mind.

Harshvardhan Kapoor

Jackie Shroff’s son, Harshvardhan Kapoor, 18, has already been spotted by the media with his mother at various Bollywood events. While rumours of Harshvardhan making his debut in a film still await confirmation, the teen is currently taking acting training from The Lee Straberg Theatre and Film Institute in Los Angeles.

Jasmeen Kapoor

The 23-year-old was studying filmmaking and liberal arts in New York Film Academy (NYFA). Athiya Shetty, who is the brand ambassador of Maybelline, will take the Amazon India Fashion Week A-W’16 ramp for the Maybelline New York show.

Aashiq Khan

Jasmeen Khan is Aamir Khan’s eldest son with his first wife Reema Datta. Quite a perfectionist like his father, Jasmeen made his Bollywood debut as an assistant director in Rajkumar Hirani’s PK. Currently studying at the Los Angeles film school, Jasmeen takes keen interest in his work.

Athiya Shetty

Anil Kapoor’s youngest son, Athiya Shetty, made his Bollywood debut in acting in Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra’s film Mirzya. He has also worked as an assistant director in Anurag Kashyap’s Bombay Velvet. Following the footsteps of his father, Harshvardhan will play the lead role in the sequel of Mr. India, produced under the banner of his uncle Boney Kapoor.

Athiya Shetty, Sunil Shetty’s daughter, made her Bollywood debut through Sultans Ghall’s Hero. The 23-year-old was studying filmmaking and liberal arts in New York Film Academy (NYFA). Athiya Shetty, who is the brand ambassador of Maybelline.
9. **Miscellaneous Works**

One must overcome the fear of making mistakes in order to be a good learner. Interning at the Showtime desk allowed me the flexibility to try out various tasks, but also required more persistence at times of failure. Since three months were too less to afford moments of frustration, I took every task as part of my learning experience where mistakes were bound to happen. My positive outlook towards learning and the encouragement that I received from the members of the Showtime desk prevented me from giving in to failures.

9.1 **Obituary**

The works that I enjoyed or did out of interest led to better outcomes than the ones I did only with required sincerity. On one hand, excessive writing was restricted by space allocations and format of the Showtime page, on the other hand, the diverse elements that the page talked about allowed fluidity in writing styles. I had written an article about the late artist Khalid Mahmood Mithu which was published four days after his death. Similar to what I had learnt in the Eng440: English for Print Media course, the article consisted of most of the necessary details of a typical obituary, but its heavy aesthetic value made it seem more like a tribute. It was in fact a feature obituary. The content under the article titled ‘Khalid Mahmood Mithu: Life of an intuitive artist’ mainly focused on the achievements of the deceased as an artist and very less space was dedicated to information about the incident of his death. The lack of timeliness and lamenting tone of the article also suggested its worthiness as an aesthetic article rather than only an informative one. Below is the article with its link cited.
Khalid Mahmood Mithu: Life of an intuitive artist

Khalid the Best Director award at the Brasov International Film Festival (BRIFF).

Khalid achieved many recognitions and won 20 prestigious awards for his work in film directing, screenwriting, painting, photography, and cinematography. He won the Asia Film Awards in 2007 in the first National Art Exhibition, organized by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Khalid Mahmood Mithu is the founder chairman of Arjik Foundation.

Awards for Films
2010: Best Director for a Bangladeshi film in the National Film Award
2008: Best Screenplay of the Year Award, Federation of Asian Film Directors
2003: Best Director for a Bangladeshi film in the National Film Award
2001: Best Director at the Brasov International Film Festival
2000: Best Director Award at the Bangladesh Film Directors’ Association
2000: Best Director Award for the movie ‘Sathi’ at the Tehran Film Festival

Noted artist and national award-winning director Khalid Mahmood Mithu died in the evening of March 7 after a long illness. He was 72.

Did you know?

- Mithu is the winner of a number of prestigious awards for his work in film directing, screenwriting, painting, photography, and cinematography. He won the Asia Film Awards in 2007 in the first National Art Exhibition, organized by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

- In his childhood, Mithu grew up around his uncle where he started painting and was introduced to direct films. Amir Kha’s editing job was made possible with the help of his father, who worked as an editor.

- As his debut production, he directed Mithun’s ‘Hasya Banglay Jiban’ in 1991, which was a huge success in the Indian film market.

- As a child, he played the lead role in ‘Dhoom Arefin’ in 1991. He later worked on more than 10 films before shifting his attention to the big screen.

Mithu’s journey as a painter

A graduate of the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, Khalid Mahmood Mithu’s artistic career demonstrates a remarkable variety in expression and creative inspiration. As a pure abstract painter, Mithu’s works feature pure forms and compositions. His artworks are exhibited and are well received.

Painting has always been a natural extension of his soul, an important element contributing to his spirit. His paintings and mixed media demonstrate his deep relationship with art and his innumerable talent in finding the human condition behind the human condition.

Besides his solo painting, his paintings have been displayed in numerous exhibitions held in Bangladesh, USA, and Europe. Khalid had participated in more than a hundred group exhibitions around the world.

Major achievements that mark the journey of Khalid Mahmood Mithu include:

- 2017: Peo’s Gold Award, Beijing China
- 2008: Olympic Medal, Beijing Olympic Fine Arts, China
- 2006: National Award for Video Installations, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Khalid Mahmood Mithu passed away on March 7, 2022. He was 72.

http://issuu.com/dhakatribune/docs/16031020444-6bbe13e01d004e0e91d94a484d022084/31?e=0
9.2 What To Watch

During my internship period, I was not assigned only tasks which I could relate to the courses I took at BRAC University. A part of this learning experience also required me to get acquainted with and adapt to the existing trends of the Showtime page. One such trend of the Showtime page was a frequently published section titled, ‘What To Watch’ which I was taught to prepare. ‘What To Watch’ is a list which consists of the names of a few movies/shows expected to be aired on the day the newspaper comes out. The names of the movies/shows were listed along with some information which included general overviews and images of the movies/shows, the channel where they would be aired and the timing of their telecast. My team members at the Showtime desk taught me how to prepare the list by gathering information from particular sites. I also had to be careful while stating the timings collected from international sites since they had to be converted to Bangladeshi local time. The size and shape of the section ‘What To Watch’ was adjusted depending on the space allocations and placement of other articles on the Showtime page. The section served as a back-up to fill in space, and was dropped out at times whenever enough content was ready at hand. Attached is a sample of ‘What To Watch’ from the source:

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9.3

**Experimentation**

**Birthdays This Week**

The diverse contents that the Showtime page talks about created possibilities for experimentation. Besides utilizing my educational skill to accomplish necessary and recommended tasks, I could also utilize my personal interests in zodiac/star signs to create new trends for the Showtime page. My team members initially encouraged me to create a catalogue in which I had to enlist birthdays of television celebrities under three categories: Dhallywood, Hollywood and Bollywood. Besides developing the catalogue, I used the birthdays to create a section titled ‘Birthdays This Week.’ It was irregularly published on Sundays, and consisted of celebrity birthdays ranging to the date corresponding to the upcoming Saturday. For example, the section ‘Birthdays This Week’ published on 20th March, Sunday, lists birthdays from 20th March to 26th March, Saturday.

http://issuu.com/dhakatribune/docs/160319193935-81b17eb313eb43e39811eb5675ebdecc/31?e=0
**Starred Stars**

It was a time-consuming task to gather and sort out data for the celebrity birthdays catalogue. I had to cross-check the dates by matching them with data suggested by alternate sources, and I also had to save all the sources so that they can be proofread. The section ‘Birthdays This Week’ was not regularised since the accumulated data was insufficient to satisfy our intention of always including celebrities from every category: Dhallywood, Hollywood and Bollywood. While preparing the list of birthdays for the upcoming week, I noticed that birthdays in every category were not well-scattered, and hence it would not contribute to fill in for the corresponding range of dates for every week ahead. To compensate our previous plan of using birthdays from every category, my team members and I decided to talk more about the birthdays with other relevant contents. Here, my interest in zodiac/star signs served to increase the content and diversity of the Showtime page. I researched online in order to gather information about certain star signs, and also to enlist common personality traits of people who share the same star sign. The accumulated data consisted of the type of element for each star sign, namely, the water, air, fire and earth sign. It also included the common personality traits such as weaknesses and strengths of people under the star sign, and stated their common outlook toward career, money, friends and family. A basic significance of the star signs lies in the range of dates that they cover. The 12 star signs, each lasting for almost a month, cover a range of dates across every two consecutive months. The problem with inconsistent celebrity birthdays had been solved since birthdays ranging within 30 days could be chosen from every category to be used in support with a certain star sign. I selected a few prominent celebrity birthdays, from all three categories, which were comparatively more significant within the catalogue. I then compiled the selected celebrity birthdays with all the gathered data about the star sign and about the people who share
the star sign, to create the section ‘Starred Stars’ which was published on Sundays alternate to ‘Birthdays This Week.’ For example, the section ‘Starred Stars’, published on 13 March, 2016, includes basic information about the star sign Pisces that ranges from 19 February to 20 March. Besides mentioning the personality traits, weaknesses, strengths, and outlook toward career, money, friends and family, that is common for all Pisceans, the section also enlists the celebrity birthdays under the subtitle ‘Famous Pisceans.’

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Who do you share your horoscope with

The zodiac/star signs are the foundation bricks for astrological predictions which are commonly known as horoscopes. Building towards the diversity of the Showtime page, I and my team decided to publish the section ‘Who do you share your horoscope with.’ This section, published on Sundays alternate to ‘Birthdays This Week’ and ‘Starred Stars,’ consisted of a weekly horoscope for the certain star sign functioning for the week along with birthdays of celebrities who share the star sign and hence also the horoscope. Here is the section ‘Who do you share your horoscope with,’ published on 27 March, 2016.

[Image of Celebrities]

Famous Arians:
March 27: Renuka Shahane (Actress)
March 28: Shakib Khan (Actor)
March 28: Akshaye Khanna (Actor)
March 30: Celine Dion (Singer)
April 15: Raghu Ram and Rajiv Lakshman
April 16: Akon (Rapper)

http://issuu.com/dhakatribune/docs/160326222123-5779d4b7ef524902925cb15be2f532ca/30?e=0
10. **Special Achievements**

My internship experience at *Dhaka Tribune* was not only about exploring the world of media, but it also was a journey of self-exploration. I initially felt trapped due to the restrictions in writing styles that I had to follow at the Showtime desk. My efforts in utilising my poetic skill in news-stories and features by creating puns had all gone in vain. Yet ironically, I was given credit as a poetess for the first time in print media while interning at *Dhaka Tribune*. Transcending the horizon of the Showtime page, I had my poem ‘Dead rose’ published on 26 March, 2016 in the ‘Arts & Letters’ supplement of *Dhaka Tribune*. I express immense gratitude to my supervisor Ms. Sabrina Fatma Ahmad for encouraging me to submit my poetry, and to Mr. Rifat Munim - Editor of ‘Arts & Letters’ for approving and publishing my poem.

![Dead rose](http://issuu.com/dhakatribune/docs/160326114308-f56f641b506c4cc8b53b26aea0374ddd/3?e=0)

Besides being attributed for my poetic skill, I have also received a testimonial from *Dhaka Tribune* which has added meaning to, and signifies, my internship experience at both personal and educational levels. It best symbolizes what I have learnt and earned during the three-month internship period. Below is a copy of the original testimonial.

==Dead rose==

_Rashna Munawar_

A rose lay on my table: 
crinkled, dry and dead,
Hard to believe my eyes
Which had once seen it so red.

With petals wet in dewdrops,
It had enchanting charms,
And once saw you lay careless,
Spellbound in my arms.
At the blossom of love,
In blooming red it shone,
And fading towards the Fall,
Was lifeless like a stone.

A token of immortal despair
From the seed of red it grows,
Till love dies a brutal death
And leaves back a dead rose.
April 03, 2016

To whom it may concern,

This letter is intended to serve as my formal recommendation for Rashma Munawar, who completed a three-month internship, under my supervision, at the Features Section at Dhaka Tribune.

Dhaka Tribune is a Bangladeshi English daily newspaper, launched April 19, 2013, and described as the nation’s “fastest growing English daily”. Aimed at a dynamic and young audience, it currently enjoys a print circulation of about 10,000, and an online daily readership roughly five times that number.

At features, our interns are given a crash-course in journalism, and expected to cover events, report on ongoing issues, and write reviews and feature pieces. Those who demonstrate an aptitude for it are given additional sub-editing duties.

Rashma, who mostly worked for Showtime, our entertainment page, had a desk job that involved a lot of editing work and selecting and compiling a daily viewing list for our readers. She proved to be regular and diligent at her job. Punctual and regular, her work has been consistent and dependable. A quiet person, she gelled well with the team she was assigned to.

Despite her health concerns, I believe she has put in the best effort she was able to, and it is this work ethic that is to be commended. I wish her all the best in the future.

Sincerely,

Safina Fatma Ahmad
Features Editor
Dhaka Tribune
11. Conclusion

My internship experience at *Dhaka Tribune* was not only about exploring the world of media, but it was also a journey of self-exploration. It was not easy for me to maintain focus while interning along with two other courses that I had taken for the same semester. It would not have been possible without the support and encouragement that I have received both from my family and from other members at *Dhaka Tribune*.

During my internship period at the Showtime desk, I have learnt how cooperation and mutual respect ensures fruitful teamwork in a friendly atmosphere. Practicing its motto “*The news you want. No more, no less,*” *Dhaka Tribune* welcomes new perspectives, and represents the voice of the progressive population of Bangladesh. My internship experience at *Dhaka Tribune* has not only contributed to my interest towards the world of media, but it has also made me a more insightful person. It has been an honour to be a part of *Dhaka Tribune*. 
Works Cited
