

Editing: My Internship Experience

at *The Financial Express*

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Inspiring Excellence

Editing: My Internship Experience

At

*The Financial Express*

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Of

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Submitted By

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## 1. Introduction

“The news isn't there to tell you what happened. It's there to tell you what it wants you to hear or what it thinks you want to hear.” — Joss Whedon

News is the store house of knowledge and information. News informs people about current events and issues. A newspaper gives us news of all that happens at home and abroad. It gives us news of day to day happenings in different parts of the world. It is one of the blessings of modern civilization. We cannot think of modern life without the newspaper. Man is curious by nature. He wants to know about various events of the world. The newspaper is one of the best mediums to satisfy this curiosity.

Students, lawyers, politicians, traders, and sportsman etc. are always in need of newspapers. They find in the newspaper some items of information that are very useful to them. It familiarizes the students with the world outside. Businessmen read the newspaper to know the condition of the market, lovers of sports go through them to get the sports news, and politicians come to know the political news of the world. The employment seekers get useful information in it. It is for all these reasons that newspapers are useful things for all. A newspaper is also one of the best mediums for advertisements. Businessmen bring their products and goods to the attention of a wide circle of people through newspapers. People also express their opinions in newspapers through op-eds and letter to the editor. It is the means of communications between the government and the people.

The reason I chose Media and Cultural Studies as my concentration is because media has become a huge part of the globalized world and I want to be a part of it. Media captures the whole world and presents it to us. News is always useful. It broadens our knowledge, understanding, outlook and increase curiosity also. It has the power to unite and to divide.

I chose *The Financial Express* for my internship because of its direct approach towards news and its ethical standards. It is one of the leading English newspapers in Bangladesh with probably the most fascinating and intense editor in Bangladesh's newspaper industry. It was my desire to intern of *The Financial Express* newspaper because my mother is an owner of a small transportation business, and I am curious about the finance sector. I am also very concerned about the stock market. *The Financial Express* has various sections like Economy, Finance, Editorial, Op-Ed, Stock, National, World, Trade and Market, Education, Health, Sports, Entertainment, Politics, Country, Technology, Science and Environment. It also has an online version.

I have interned at the Editorial department with five other sub-editors. I have learnt their way of writing. I have also learnt how an editorial section is put together, captioning, editing, how to write reports from press releases and other sources. The work environment was very friendly and the experience exceeded my expectations. This experience has taught me a lot and is a highlight of my life.

## 2. A Brief History of *The Financial Express*

*The Financial Express* newspaper in Bangladesh provides national and world news. It also provides news about sports, technology, travel, agriculture, showbiz and more. It is situated in Dhaka city and is run by a group of metropolitan journalists under the editorship of the newspaper. It is an English daily published in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It began its journey on November 10, 1993. *The Financial Express* as an annual award program with Standard Chartered Bank in Bangladesh on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 for their outstanding corporate social responsibility activities that created jobs, brought education to poor children and spread awareness on nature conservation.

A.H.M Moazzem Hossain is the present editor of the newspaper. *The Financial Express* newspaper is published by the editor for International Publications Limited located in Tropicana Tower (4th floor), 45 Topkhana Road, GPO Box : 2526 Dhaka- 1000 and he personally goes to the City Publishing House Ltd., 1 RK Mission Road, Dhaka-1000 to get the newspaper published.

The paper generates about 20 to 24 pages every day in 7days. It has various sections which are Economy, Finance, Editorial, Op-Ed, Stock, National, World, Trade and Market, Education, Health, Sports, Entertainment, Politics, Country, Technology, Science and Environment. It also has an online version.

The observance of the seventeenth founding anniversary of *The Financial Express* on 14 March, 2011 is testimony to the positive role the newspaper has played in Bangladesh's business journalism all these years. When it first hit the stands, it stood out not only for its look, which was at variance with the image presented by other newspapers, but also for the theme on which it meant to work.

Fundamentally, it was and remains a publication geared to a presentation of news and comments on business, particularly in the national arena. In the years since it was founded, *The Financial Express* has worked quietly, but passionately, and in so doing has carved a niche for itself among Bangladesh's newspaper-reading public.

*The Financial Express* has made it a point to remember that the appearance of a new newspaper and its smooth functioning are causes for happiness because of a couple of important reasons. The first is that it demonstrates the growing number of people inclined to reading newspapers, in this case English language newspapers, and by extension offers readers a new outlet for the dissemination of news and comments. The second is that it brings forth a new approach to the issues of the day, and in so doing injects a certain intellectual dimension into the on-going issues being discussed in the public domain. *The Financial Express* has been carrying out these responsibilities to the satisfaction of its readers and others across the country. Its core readership has been well-served by the substantive nature of the points of view it has always presented to them. In a socio-political climate where journalism, particularly where it concerns the publication and sales of newspapers, is a difficult proposition, *The Financial Express* has indeed done well for itself.

### 3. Working at *The Financial Express*

Interning at *The Financial Express* has been an immense learning experience. I saw how a newspaper office works, learnt to do certain types of work and met a lot of interesting people. One thing I realised was that taking media courses and interning in the same field are very different things. While studying, things were between me and my teacher or professor, but at office it's so much more than that. At the office one must deal with the editors and everyone in his/her section or department. One also has to understand their judgments about one's work.

I interned in the Editorial department. It doesn't matter if you are rich, poor, old, young, a man or a woman, if you are a sincere individual there must be importance about news in your life. With the rise of globalization news is not just news anymore; it's the source of information, entertainment, consciousness, fame and fortune. Editorial department of the newspapers has become one of its most important, popular and fundamental sectors.

*The Financial Express* Editorial department is governed by five members:

- Editor: in charge of the department, decides which news items will go on the editorial page, also edits news and represents *The Financial Express* in particular issues.
- One Sub-editor: edits reports written by the staff correspondents and sometimes the news collected from the web, produces reports from the previous issues and press releases (after translating them from Bangla to English).
- One Sub-editor + International news collector (web): mostly collects international news and photos from a few renowned websites.
- One reporter (staff correspondent): collects news directly from the events and individuals (officers, common people, owners, managers etc.), visits places where

newsworthy incidents have occurred in different countries including Bangladesh and translates press releases from Bangla to English.

- One Page maker / Designer: composes the editorial page using the Photoshop Design Software.

*The Financial Express* strictly follows the Cambria typeface which is different from the Times New Roman typeface that I used in my academic writing at BRAC University.

While interning at *The Financial Express*, I came to know that some news items of *The Financial Express* are considerably more in depth than the other English newspapers of Bangladesh. For instance, their business section is quite different because the news of stock market and economy is more detailed than *The Daily Star*, *New Age* etc. I also had to accustom myself to *The Financial Express*'s philosophy of news writing which is one has to have a clear understanding of what one is writing. One also has to be able to express oneself clearly.

At *The Financial Express* there is only one kind of information; that's based on truth, truth that's based on double checking, double checking that's based on cross-referencing, cross-referencing that's based on fact-finding, fact-finding that's based on self-perseverance. In fact this piece of writing is stamped on every cubicle at *The Financial Express* office.

#### 4. Some of my Published Work

During my internship at *The Financial Express*, my supervisor taught me some important things like avoiding wordiness, cutting long sentences into short sentences, choosing appropriate words and being specific. Those are the things I read when I took the „Copywriting“ and „Editing“ courses. I wrote a few articles on my own on some particular issues and edited some editorials and articles which were written by someone else. Some of my writings have been published. Those will be presented later in this report.

Among the articles that I wrote, two are given below. The articles of my newsletters were ‘**Solution to question paper leak**’ and ‘**Flower Business**’.

11 Feb, 2016

##### **Solution to question paper leak**

Lack of proper education is a burning issue in Bangladesh. I fully agree with an editorial, "Question paper leak again: Credibility of public exams in jeopardy". The issue of question paper leakage in JSC exam is really unfortunate for the students and their parents. If this state of affairs continues, there will be a big question mark regarding the results and achievement of the students involved. I have personally experienced striking similarity between the leaked question papers in different social networking websites and the question papers provided in the examination halls. I think that a system may be developed to avert this situation, whereby the education ministry shall provide all the examination centers with computers equipped with projectors. The number of examination halls may be reduced, if necessary. The questions will be sent from the Board office 15 to 20 minutes before the examination starts. The question papers will be shown to all the students in the exam halls by projector. If this

method is followed, no one will be able to see the questions before except the education minister and no one would be able to leak the same for money.

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17 Feb, 2016

### **Flower business**

Flowers are considered the best gift for the specially loved ones during special days like Pahela Falgun and the Valentine Day. In terms of enhancing aesthetic beauty flowers have few parallels.

According to flower traders and agriculturists, flowers are being grown in about 19 districts, such as Jessore, Jhenidah, Chuadanga, Bogra, Rangpur, Dhaka, Manikganj, Narayanganj, Gazipur, Mymensingh, Chittagong and Sylhet. The bulk supplies of flowers find their way into the capital's Shahbagh market.

Reportedly, flowers valued at Tk 120 million were sold on the occasions of the Pahela Falgun and the Valentine Day. Flower traders made a hefty profit cashing in on the emotional craving of people, particularly the young generation. Farmers also expressed their satisfaction over higher production and prices of as also increased demand for flowers. The return on their produce was worth their labor.

The festive occasions also got a shot in the arm with the Ekushey Book Fair attracting many of the young men and women for a stroll. The celebration of the Pahela Falgun coincided with Saraswati Puja (worship of Goddess Saraswati) held in a spectacular manner at Jagannath Hall. Flowers have a special place in worship of any god or goddess. It is only natural that flowers were in high demand on that day. The next day was the Valentine Day and today's young people are confident enough to come out on to the street in droves with their partners. They are ready to spend some fortune on flowers in order to please their loved ones, too.

So, flower business was at its peak on the three occasions observed almost simultaneously.

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While writing the article, I focused on appropriate words, proper use of grammar, proper citation and punctuation. I used transitional words to maintain a flow in the article. I also stayed within the word limit (8-10) words or less when writing the headlines. I learnt 8-10 words or fewer words than that is ideal for headlines. I also maintained the word limit of an article which was about 300-350 words.

During my internship, I observed the activities of my supervisor. He gave me instructions about my work, he told me of some ways which I needed to follow while writing my articles. At first I wrote a draft which he checked and gave comments on. He pointed out where I needed to make changes regarding a few of the words I used, and the sentence

structure of some sentences. Hence, he had the characteristics of a good editor because he did not scold me after seeing mistakes in my articles. He gave me a proper guideline and inspiration. He praised me after he saw my edited article. He also gave me rewards, a chocolate and a pen. In the ENG401 editing course, I read that the editor should give good feedback, be patient and motivate his/her staff. I saw the editor of *The Financial Express* exhibiting the same qualities.

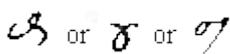
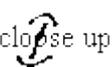
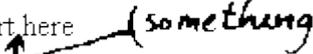
## 5. Editing

“Learn to enjoy this tidying process. I don't like to write; I like to have written. But I love to rewrite. I especially like to cut: to press the DELETE key and see an unnecessary word or phrase or sentence vanish into the electricity. I like to replace a humdrum word with one that has more precision or color. I like to strengthen the transition between one sentence and another. I like to rephrase a drab sentence to give it a more pleasing rhythm or a more graceful musical line. With every small refinement I feel that I'm coming nearer to where I would like to arrive, and when I finally get there I know it was the rewriting, not the writing, that won the game.” — William Zinsser

Editing for a newspaper is a thankless job. “Well edited” is the maximum praise that an editor rarely receives from a reader. Even after all the rewriting, restructuring, cross checking and spell checking, it is cruel to be the editor.

As a part of my concentration requirements I had to take an editing course, where I was taught to edit and proof read using various symbols.

Table: PROOFREADERS' MARKS AND PROOFREADING SYMBOLS

Symbol	Definition	Sample
 or $\delta$ or $\sigma$	Delete	take <del>it</del> out
	close up	print as  ne word
	delete and close up	
$\wedge$ or $>$ or $\sphericalangle$	Caret	insert here 
$\#$	insert a space	put one  here
$eg\#$	space evenly	space evenly  where indicated

<i>stet</i>	let stand	let marked <del>text</del> stand as set
<i>tr</i>	Transpose	change <u>order</u> the
/	Separates proofreader marks. Is also used as a final stroke after and insertion	
[	move to the left	└ too far to the right
]	move to the right	too   far to the left
~	set as ligature (such as æ©)	encyclopædia
=	align horizontally	align <u>ment</u>
	align vertically	align with surrounding text
x	broken character	imperf <u>ct</u>
□	indent or insert em quad space	
¶	begin a new paragraph	
Ⓢ	spell out	set <u>5 lbs.</u> as five pounds
<i>cap</i>	set in CAPITALS	set <u>nato</u> as NATO
<i>sm cap</i> or <i>s.c.</i>	set in SMALL CAPITALS	set <u>signal</u> as SIGNAL
<i>lc</i>	set in lowercase	set <del>South</del> as south
<i>ital</i>	set in <i>italic</i>	set <u>oeuvre</u> as <i>oeuvre</i>
<i>rom</i>	set in roman	set <u>mensch</u> as mensch
<i>bf</i>	set in <b>boldface</b>	set <u>important</u> as <b>important</b>
= or -/ or ⚭ or /M/	Hyphen	multi-colored

$\frac{1}{N}$ or <u>en</u> or <u>/N/</u>	en dash	1965Ö·2
$\frac{1}{M}$ or <u>em</u> or <u>/M/</u>	em (or long) dash	NowØ;tlast!Ø·e know.
∨	superscript or superior	∨ <sub>2</sub> as in $\pi r^2$
∧	subscript or inferior	∧ <sub>2</sub> as in H <sub>2</sub> O
∧∨ or ∨∧	Centered	∧∨ for a centered dot in $p \cdot q$
↵	Comma	
↵	Apostrophe	
⊙	Period	
⋮ or ;/	Semicolon	
⋮ or ⋮	Colon	
«» or «»	quotation marks	
(/)	Parentheses	
[/]	Brackets	
OK/?	query to author: Is this as it is supposed to be?	
Ⓔ <sub>1</sub>	inverted letter	inve <sub>1</sub> ted
wf <sub>1</sub>	wrong font	wrong si <sub>1</sub> ze or styl <sub>1</sub> e

Proofreaders' marks or, as they are often called "proofreading symbols", are still used, but with much less frequency than in the past. The advent of the internet and word processing programs such as Microsoft Word and WordPerfect with their editing functions have made

these proofreaders' marks almost obsolete. However, for those who do not like on screen editing, and for those who must edit the hardcopy, these marks are still indispensable.

The proofreaders' symbols were used to edit copies before digitalisation of writing. This technique is still helpful and effective, as editing in computers sometimes becomes too frustrating. Changes in technology, meeting demands of deadlines, rush of news and printing have changed the pattern of work. However, in hard copies, a few proof readers' marks help to give feedback in academic writing.

Editing sometimes is an annoying job, especially when one is dealing with rural correspondents or ones who are not that well versed in the English language. Imagine the frustration when a sub-editor encounters a sentence such as "An extortionist was mass-washed." Here the reporter miss-translated the Bangla word "Gonodholai." Financial Express's Deputy Editor H.N. Harun came across this sentence.

*The Financial Express's* editorial department is governed by five members. There are two sub-editors, a reporter, a page maker and an editor, A.H.M Moazzem Hossain, the department head. The editor is the in charge of the department that decides which news stories will go on the editorial page. He/she also edits news and sometimes gives reporters the liberty to choose topics on which they want to write about. The sub-editor edits reports written by the staff correspondents; sometimes edits the news collected from the web, and prepares current reports taking some information from the previous issues. The sub-editor also translates press releases from Bangla to English and writes news stories based on the press release topics. The sub-editor and international news collector (web) mostly collects international news and photos from a few renowned websites AFP (Agence France-Presse), Reuters, AP (Associated press) etc. The reporter (staff correspondent) collects news directly from the events (sports, cultural events, press releases etc.) and individuals (officers, common

people, business owners, managers etc.), visits places where newsworthy events take place all around the nation and in nearby other countries. He/she translates press releases from Bangla to English and write reports based on it. The page maker / designer put together the editorial page using the Photoshop Design Software.

The complex and serious reports are prepared by the editor, A.H.M Moazzem Hossain. Moazzem Hossain is one of the sharpest and most knowledgeable men I have ever met. He is also a very fast and flawless editor. Some days, when there are too many reports to prepare and work that are still pending, Moazzem Hossain works calmly and at an incredible speed.

Sub-editors are a huge part of the news industry. They do the primary editing work before the editor of the department takes a look. To be a sub-editor and eventually an editor, one must have exceptional command over language, which most of the reporters are not very well at to be honest. Sub-editors are the curators of the wealth of words and news stories the reporters put together throughout the day.

## 6. On-line Sourcing

On-line sourcing is a huge thing in Bangladesh's news industry. Since most of the time our newspapers cannot afford to send reporters and photographers abroad and sometimes even outside Dhaka, they have become profoundly dependent on on-line sources.

The news reports collected from these sources are only edited if necessary. These are used for collecting international news.

*The Financial Express* is heavily dependent on these highly reliable and well credited on-line sources:

- ✓ AFP (Agence France-Presse).
- ✓ Reuters.
- ✓ AP-associated press.
- ✓ On-line Press releases.

Agence France-Presse (AFP) is a French news agency, the oldest one in the world, and one of the three largest along with Associated Press and Reuters. AFP is widely used in International news departments. AFP is mainly used for Economy and Stock market news and photos at *The Financial Express*,

Reuters is an international news agency headquartered in London, United Kingdom, and is a division of Thomson Reuters. Reuters employs several thousand journalists, sometimes at the cost of their lives.

The Associated Press is an American news agency. The AP is a cooperative owned by its contributing newspapers, radio and television in the United States. Many newspapers and broadcasters in the United States are AP subscribers, paying a fee to use AP material without being contributing members of the cooperative.

Press release (On-line & print) is news that is sent out or released by the company making the news. If it's an earnings press release, the release will discuss the company's financial results for the recently completed quarter and may provide comments from management. Press releases are written by the companies, not by a reporter, so they can be full of company bias. Often, as online news databases are researched, it may be difficult to distinguish between a press release and a news story written by a journalist. The best way to distinguish the two is by looking closely at the first couple words of the story, which is where the source of the story is usually identified. If the source is identified as "Business Wire" or "PR Newswire" then it is a press release issued by a company. If a name is written, then it is a news story written by a journalist.

## 7. TRANSLATION

Translation is always a challenge and I came across this challenge every day during my internship period. All the translations I did were from Bangla to English. Since I have been studying everything in English for the last four years, I found out that I have forgotten a lot of Bangla terms and meanings.

There are mainly two types of translation:

1. Word for word. (In word for word translation one needs to choose specific English word for one specific Bangla word. Exact words need to be directly translated.)
2. Sense for sense. (While translating Bangla to English one needs to focus on meaning/idea. One cannot change the meaning of any sentence. The idea of the author/writer needs to be same. In sense for sense translation the idea of the author/writer is projected, rather than the exact words.)

I have included two press releases and their translations. Translations are always written in the form of a report:

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড  
রাজস্ব ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা।  
www.nbr.gov.bd

তারিখঃ ১৫ আশ্বিন, ১৪২২ বঙ্গাব্দ  
৩০ সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০১৫ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

### প্রেস বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পবিত্র হজ্জ পালন ও ঈদ-উল-আযহা উদযাপনসহ বিবিধ কারণে বিভিন্ন অফিস/প্রতিষ্ঠান বন্ধ থাকায় এবং দূর্গাপূজা আসন্ন বিধায় রিটার্ন প্রস্তুতের প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র সংগ্রহে আরও সময় প্রয়োজন উল্লেখ করে দেশের শীর্ষস্থানীয় ব্যবসায়ী সংগঠন এফবিসিসিআই সহ বিভিন্ন পেশাজীবী ও বাণিজ্য সংগঠন আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিলের সময়সীমা বর্ধিতকরণের জন্য জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডকে অনুরোধ করেছে।

এমতাবস্থায়, সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের সুবিধার্থে ব্যক্তিগত করদাতাসহ অন্যান্য করদাতাগণের (কোম্পানী করদাতা ব্যতীত) আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিলের সময়সীমা আগামী ৩০ নভেম্বর, ২০১৫ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত বৃদ্ধি করা হলো।

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড, ঢাকা।

**Government of the People's Republic Bangladesh**

**National Board of Revenue**

**RajaswaBhaban, Segunbagica, Dhaka.**

[www.nbr.gov.bd](http://www.nbr.gov.bd)

**Date:** shwin 15, 1422 Bengali  
September 30, 2016 English

Because of different offices or institution being closed for sacred *Hajj & Eid al-Adha* and the *Durga Puja* being just the round corner, the leading Businessmen's association of the country FBCCI along with different corporate and business organisations have argued the need for more time to collect required papers and requested National Board of Revenue for extending the timeline of submitting income tax returns.

In this circumstance, considering the convenience of the dignified taxpayers the timeline of submitting income tax return has been prolonged to 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015 for individual assessee along with other taxpayers (excluding company taxpayers).

National Board of Revenue, Dhaka.

## ঢাকা স্টক এক্সচেঞ্জ লিঃ

তারিখ : ২২ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৬

### প্রেস বিজ্ঞপ্তি

#### ঢাকা স্টক এক্সচেঞ্জের নিজস্ব বুক বিল্ডিং সিস্টেম সফটওয়্যার চালু

ডিএসই'র আইসিটি বিভাগের এমআইএস ডিপার্টমেন্টের উদ্যোগে নিজস্ব ইঞ্জিনিয়ারদের দ্বারা তৈরী করা নতুন বুক বিল্ডিং সিস্টেমের সফল ভাবে চালু হয়েছে। ইতিমধ্যে নতুন এই সফটওয়্যারের মধ্যমে ১ ফেব্রুয়ারী থেকে ৩ ফেব্রুয়ারী ২০১৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত সাম্প্রতিক আসা একটি কোম্পানির প্রথম বিডিং কার্যক্রম সফল ভাবে সম্পন্ন হয়। এটি তৈরী করতে প্রায় ছয় মাস সময় লেগেছে। Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Issue) Rules, 2015 নতুন আইন অনুযায়ী সিস্টেমটির পুনর্নির্মানের কাজ চলছে যা আগামী দুই মাসের মধ্যে চালু করা সম্ভব হবে বলে আশা করা যাচ্ছে। পুনর্নির্মানকৃত সিস্টেমটি আগের সিস্টেমের চেয়ে আরো বেশী অত্যাধুনিক প্রযুক্তি নির্ভর এবং অনেক বেশী ইউজার ফ্রেন্ডলী। ভবিষ্যতে সিস্টেমটির সাথে আইপিও ম্যানেজমেন্ট সিস্টেমও ইন্টিগ্রেট করা হবে যা আইপিও ম্যানেজমেন্টকে আরো সহজতর করবে। এর আগে ২০০৯ সালে ইনফোটেক মিডলইস্ট কোম্পানীর কাছ থেকে বুক বিল্ডিং সিস্টেম কেনা হয়। সিস্টেমটিতে ছোটখাট পরিবর্তন পরিবর্ধন করতেও ইনফোটেকের প্রায় ছয়মাস সময় লেগে যেতো যা রেগুলেটরী কমপ্লায়েন্স সমস্যা দেখা দিত। এছাড়াও অ্যানুয়াল মেইন্টেনেন্স আর চেঞ্জ ম্যানেজমেন্টের জন্যে ইনফোটেককে বাৎসরিক একটি নির্দিষ্ট হারে ফি প্রদান করতে হতো। নতুন এই বুক বিল্ডিং সিস্টেম সফটওয়্যার চালু হওয়ায় বুক বিল্ডিং সিস্টেমে আসা কোম্পানিগুলোর জন্য ডিএসই'র খরচ অনেকাংশে হ্রাস পাবে। উল্লেখ্য যে, আইসিটি বিভাগের উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক জনাব মোঃ ইমাম হোসেনের নেতৃত্বে এই সিস্টেমটি ডেভলাপ করা হয়।

**Dhaka Stock Exchange ltd**

Date: 22th February, 2016 English

**Press Release****Dhaka Stock Exchange's own Book building system software in effect**

The New Book Building System has successfully been in effect which is ventured by MIS department of DSE's ICT division and made by the engineers of its own. By this time, the first bidding of a company has been effectively completed dated from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016. It required six months to accomplish the software. The system is being reassembled according to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Issue) Rules, 2016 which is expected to be in vogue within next two months. The reassembled system is more technology based and user friendly than that of the previous system. In future, IPO management system will also be integrated with the system which will ease IPO management. Prior to that, the Book Building Software was purchased from InfoTech Middle East Company in 2009. InfoTech usually took six months for any minor improvement of the system which emerged regulatory compliance problem. Farther, annual fees were paid to InfoTech in a certain rate for annual maintenance and change management. The Book Building Software being in effect, the expenditure of DSE will decrease for the companies encompassed by the Book Building Software. Notably, this system has been developed with the guidance of deputy General Manager of ICT division Mr. MD. Imam Hossain.

Elements of a good press release are the heading, sub-heading, opening paragraph, middle paragraph (/s), conclusion and boilerplate.

Heading: this needs to be strong. People are interested in how a business expands, who it sells to, and how much money it takes. Craft your headline with a strong title that grabs readers' attention right away.

Sub-heading: a single sentence summarizes the entire content of the press release. It can be just as important as the headline because it gives readers a taste of the content to follow.

Opening paragraph: it has to be strong and include pertinent information, namely what the press release is about, who it affects and why they should read or act upon it.

Middle paragraph (/s): these add weight to the article and can include testimonials, statistics, research details and case study excerpts.

Conclusion: this is a summary of the article and must include either a call to action or details of where more information on the subject matter could be found.

Boilerplate: include a brief company profile and contact information.

## 8. A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Though my internship at *The Financial Express* newspaper was very fruitful, there are some things that caught my attention which I just cannot ignore.

I observed my supervisor's attention while editing any report. It is really a very challenging task in newspaper. The main aim is to edit reports or articles to give readers a clear understanding about the issue. At the same time, the reader's time should not be wasted. The editor sometimes faces threatening situations if his newspaper publishes as in any depth issue like the true face of politics or a crucial issue which can make people aware about their rights, and can be an alarming issue which may go against the government.

After learning about the "Propaganda Model" in the ENG333: Globalization and the Media course, I could clearly see its elements in the media world through my experiences at *The Financial Express*.

According to an online article, "Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media" published in 1988 by Edward S. Herman and Noam Chomsky, "propaganda model focuses on this inequality of wealth, a power and its multilevel effects on mass-media interests and choices. It traces the routes by which money and power are able to filter out the news fit to print, marginalise dissent, and allow the government and dominant private interests to get their messages across to the public." (Third world traveler)

The propaganda model has 5 filters, which now-a-days are dominant in every aspect of the media. These filters are:

1. OWNERSHIP and PROFIT ORIENTATION
2. FUNDING and ADVERTISING
3. SOURCE

#### 4. FLAK

#### 5. ANTICOMMUNISM

Except the 5<sup>th</sup> filter, all the others are dominant in the Bangladesh media scene. Bangladeshi journalists face a lot of flak. Journalists are constantly being threatened, pulled off stories and killed. Most newspaper companies in Bangladesh are owned by rich and influential people, large corporations and political parties. These people always have their own interests in mind and they project their ideologies, beliefs and biased point of views.

Media organisations, especially newspapers rely 100% on the advertising for their finance and funding. As a result the advertisers and the advertising departments get first priority. They get the first take on every page, and the news is published after they are done placing their ads. If the ads are big and take up a large number of columns, then the news items are cut down to meet their needs. As a result articles and reports lose details and the news becomes less informative and somewhat biased.

A huge trend in the Bangladesh media scene is the handing out of gifts (Cell phones, Lamps and various electronics) to the reporters after a press conference. This trend is seen mostly in sports press conferences, but not in the political ones. In the political Journalism scene, the gifts are more tempting; the most desired being, “foreign trip” where reporters are taken abroad with political members to cover certain events, free of all costs. This so called “gift” has a price tag, and it’s an obvious biasness/prejudice that the reporters are expected to show, even they are not told directly to them it. Though very tempting, journalists can say “no” to it, but they rarely do. nd denying has its negative consequences.

“Booster-ism” has become a big issue in Sports Journalism. To be a sports journalist one must be well accustomed to various sports and most of the time this habituation leads to biasness, dedication towards specific teams and players, all of which are against sports

journalists' ethical code. For example, a football match between Abahani and Mohammedan most of the time brings the issue of fandom, hero worship and boosterism. In case of a Cricket match between India and Pakistan, things are even more extreme.

For a country suffering from awfully unstable economy moonlight (in addition to one's regular payment) is very common for Bangladesh journalists. Reporters in general have long working hours and get very little payment; so some often occupy themselves with more than one organisation. A sport journalist maybe works as a political journalist for another newspaper or website.

In third world countries investigative journalism is the most lethal (dangerous) of them, at least when it involves politicians and business tycoons. The most important rule of investigative reporting is that it must have an outcome. In Bangladesh the outcome mostly ends up being the reporter's ruin. On February 11, 2012, journalists Sagar Sarwar (News Editor) and his wife Mehrun Runi (Senior Reporter) were killed in their own apartment. Then reason for their murder is still unknown, as the killers roam free.

It is mentioned in an online article in the *The Human Rights Today* website, "Two journalists were killed, 46 injured, 11 assaulted, 13 attacked , one abducted , 43 threatened and three sued in past eight months till ugust .... total of 28 journalists and writers were killed in last 16 years in the country." ( kash) This paints a little picture of what I meant by the outcome mostly ends up being the reporter's ruin.

Enterprise's reporting is the most problematic for reporters as they require a lot of investigation, and sports reporters are not known for their investigative and risk taking capabilities. Sports reporters are knowledgeable, skillful and amusing writers at best. Enterprise reporting means reporting outside the realm of sporting events such as sports federations' administrative issues (politics, budget, corruption), players' problems (payment,

health, corruption). These reports contain little or no investigation, as most of the time reporters end up arguing with sports officials in case of critical issues.

An investigation requires a lot of time and resources, which journalists and media companies of Bangladesh do not have. There is also the uncertainty about gaining people's sympathy and reaction. Our journalist can easily follow an ethical code of conduct, but in a country flooded with corruption, politics, crime and little or no democracy, ethics, morals and principles become useless and dangerous. Maintaining ethics in media is essential, but circumstances can make us overlook some of them, and there is not much to do about it.

Journalism requires a vast knowledge base, personal sacrifice and dedication towards the world of news. Sports journalism is believed to be glamorous, fun and exciting, and I believe it is for the journalists who represent the big organisations such as *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *New York Times* etc. But for developing countries like Bangladesh, Sports Journalism is very different. To be brief, reporters run around from one federation/stadium/board to other in our country's immense heat, humidity, and traffic; while the editors and sub-editors collect foreign news form on-line sources.

After politics, sports in the most widely read news items in Bangladesh. Mostly dominated by cricket, the sports pages generate big money for the news industry. With globalization we are able to access advanced technologies, utilities, opportunities and sources, while the sports journalism platform is getting wider day-by-day, but at the cost of quality, originality and integrity.

But I believe reporters are very capable of investigating issues. "News is ideological precisely because it constitutes a discourse that serves the promotional interests of the major-league sports industry's primary stakeholders [...] This means that there is little room for news that doesn't promote the industry." (Mason)

## 9. CONCLUSION

Despite the fact that I was doing three other 300 and 400 level courses along with my internship, I have enjoyed every aspect of internship. My 12 weeks at *The Financial Express* may not have just taught me every aspect of editing, but it has broadened my understanding of it. I have met a lot of interesting people and made a lot of new friends, I have experienced how a group of people with similar interest work in a friendly and respectful environment with efficiency and supreme effectiveness. And I am honoured to have been a part of them.

Good and solid news reporting is very hard to come by now-a-days, but *The Financial Express* tries its best to find the silver lining, and provide newsworthy and accurate stories to the readers.

With the rise of globalization, the news industry has grown immeasurably. Newspapers and news reporting are not the same as it was in our fathers' and grandfathers' time. Sizes, shapes and colours in the newspaper, as well as categories of newspaper have been modified. New concepts like health, environment and news about political corruption are included. In other words, print media has gone through heavy renovations over the past decade.

Accurate and prominent news is very important for both the newspaper and the readers. It increases the integrity of the newspaper. It also enhances the readers' reliability on the newspaper when it comes to getting prominent information timely.

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