

Report On

Viewing different aspects of

Journalism at *Dhaka Tribune*

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An internship report submitted to the Department of English and Humanities in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the degree of
B.A. in English

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Declaration

It is hereby declared that

1. The internship report submitted is my original work while completing degree at BRAC University.
2. The internship report does not contain material previously published or written by a third party, except where this is appropriately cited through full and accurate referencing.
3. The internship report does not contain material that has been accepted, or submitted, for any other degree or diploma at a university or other institution.
4. I have acknowledged all main sources of help.

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Acknowledgement

“The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.”— Herbert Spencer

In the stony path of life we learn our lessons by experience. The experience we gain through our actions last in our memories and lead us towards our goals. I feel privileged to be a part of a system where students get the opportunity to explore their capability through actions. During the internship, I came across people who guided me towards my goal to learn something new and helped me recognize the area I needed to improve.

Before starting, I would love to show my utmost gratitude to almighty for helping through the journey of life. I am also grateful for the immense support of my family and friends who always stay by my side. In fact, they are the great source of my mental support when I go through academic pressures.

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Chapter 1.Introduction

In this modern era we are experiencing an information revolution where different news from all over the world reaches us within few seconds. Internet has made the information gathering process a lot easier than before. However, we cannot deny the importance of news agencies as they are the one who gather authentic news and present them like a package within the shortest period of time. As a result, the readers don't need to search individually for any news or more easily we can say that latest news is always ready for the people. Moreover, newspapers and online news platforms are playing a vital role in terms of presenting news in a proficient manner for many years. In fact, many readers still prefer hard copies of newspaper so that they can read the news in a flexible way. Many newspapers are fulfilling their demands and also providing the online news so that the readers can find the news from any parts of the world. At the same time, the e-papers are getting popularity among the young generations who are experiencing the booming screen culture.

All the facts that I mentioned above are related to journalism. Journalism aims to provide people with the information they need to help them stay updated. In fact, the activity of journalism has become an inseparable part of our life and we often do not consider the vital role it plays in every sphere of our life. The profession is considered interesting yet challenging as it possesses the immense power to influence or trigger the citizens. It can also expose the corruption of certain sectors and contribute to social welfare.

In their article, Schauseil, Zúñiga and Jackson (2013) said, "Independent journalists working in competitive and plural media markets have a strong incentive to uncover and expose stories of private and public sector corruption, which hinders the misuse of public resources because media

reports increase the probability of being caught and punished for corrupt behaviour. Thus, the media helps to keep the political system transparent and accountable.”

For me it has always been fascinating that newspapers provide the news including important details with relevant pictures. In fact, pictures have another level of value for me as they depict so much about the context through captions. As I worked, I would be overwhelmed thinking over the fact that a journalist often takes tremendous risk of his life to gather information. Moreover, I often became surprised thinking the fact that how fast any type of international news gets published in newspaper. I didn't know the fact that many private sector news agencies make agreements with other agencies in order to provide the latest news.

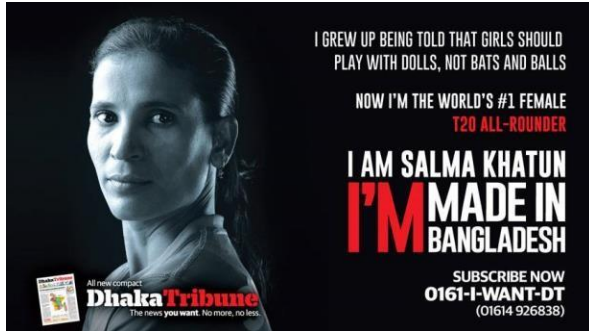
Fortunately, I found many courses in my department that covered several aspects of media and journalism. The courses I completed included editing and copywriting, cultural studies, globalization, translation studies and many other aspects of media studies. I got the answers of my queries through the courses that I completed in my undergraduate level. I also prepared a report about the ongoing book fair at Bangla Academy. There I took interviews of people and collected photographs of different book stalls. The people I talked with shared their experience and views as to “Ekushey Boi Mela”. They also reflected on the importance of book fair to preserve our culture. The experience I gathered by interviewing people helped me learn about different perceptions. I realized that practical overview is as important as the theoretical approach to understand concepts and my knowledge would be incomplete without experience. As a result, I looked forward to work with a news agency so that I can understand the environment of journalism sector.

I joined *Dhaka Tribune* as a Sub-Editor in the Central Desk department where I had to translate and edit copies. The copies that I worked with were either from news agencies or from local reporters. Sometimes I uploaded the news and did some additional works. The internship was done online and the difficulties that I faced along this way were addressed virtually. I am grateful that I have acquired some skills that I can use in my professional life. The learning process was enjoyable as the seniors cooperated to find a better outcome.

Chapter 2: A brief history of *Dhaka Tribune*

Dhaka Tribune

The *Dhaka Tribune* is a daily English newspaper that was first published in April 19, 2013 by Kazi Anis Ahmed. The newspaper covers different types of news including political events, business, lifestyle etc. Their motto is “The news you want. No more, no less” which indicates that the newspaper aims at providing the news without any delay or exaggeration. The newspaper started to get attention after their marketing campaigns *Glad to be a Bangladeshi* and *I am made in Bangladesh*.



They also claim to carefully handle controversial topics in order to maintain their non-judgmental manner. The newspaper also intends to accomplish their goal with the help of their expert editorial team who are devoted to deliver impartial news in time. Moreover, they invite the young people and new comers to join them so that they can use their creativity and contribute to achieve the vision.

The newspaper has always focused on readers' interest by bringing up concerning issues like abuse, Rohingya issues, political problems etc. They also got public attention by covering the news of Rana plaza disaster. They are also good at creating feature stories where the life struggles of general people get priority. They usually collect their news from many agencies like UNB, AFP, etc. Besides they have a set of skilled reporters who provide them with news from many districts. The local Bangla reports are usually submitted to tribune desk from where the editors translate them into English and upload the news on the official website. Their newspaper is divided into several sections which include lifestyle, food, sports, fashion and many other aspects of life.

Chapter 3: Terminologies of Newspaper

There are some basic terms in newspaper that the agencies follow to indicate certain aspects. I came across the following terms when I joined DT.

- **Headline:** The main title of the article
- **Byline:** A journalist's name at the start of a story.
- **Caption:** Text printed below a picture used to describe it.
- **Feature:** Features are slightly different from the news for its descriptive narratives. It usually focuses on human interests.
- **Hard news:** In contrast to features, hard news generally focuses on the recent events or local and international news.
- **Follow-up:** An update on a previous story.
- **Standfirst:** An introductory paragraph of an article that summarizes the article.
- **Subheads:** Separate sections within one long text.
- **Reporter:** Someone who writes and finds news stories.
- **Press Release:** A story was given to the news media for publication.
- **News Value:** It shows the length of the importance of a story.
- **Angle:** The focus of a story.
- **Assignment:** A job assigned to a journalist by an editor.
- **Cutline:** Any material under a picture that explains the picture.
- **Editor:** Someone who finalize material for print.
- **Lead:** First paragraph of a news story.
- **News Agency:** Company that sells stories to newspapers or magazines.
- **Flag:** The printed title of a newspaper on page one.

- Teaser: Catchy sentence that attracts the reader.
- Dateline: A line at the beginning of a story.

DT style guide

DT style guide is a series of instructions that provides the facts an editor should remember while editing. In fact, it includes almost every aspect of news editing in order to ensure a quality content. I am going to briefly discuss some of the facts that I found in the style guide.

The style guide instructs to create an attractive headline that will grab the reader's attention. The editor needs to remember few things such as limiting the headline into 70 characters, using action verbs, avoiding exaggeration etc. The length of the story should be limited to 600 characters and if the story exceeds the limit it should be divided into subsections to avoid confusion. The opening of the news should contain the most important information or the lead of the story.

After the headline there will be a standfirst aimed at providing news to the busy readers so that they can have a glance at the main issue before reading the actual news. The news should be written in active voice and the current issues should be addressed in present form. In terms of spellings and designations, DT follows British style of writing. The editor also needs to be careful about the grammar, punctuation and the name of the local areas. Contractions are not used in newspapers. The longer sentences should be broken by commas and In headlines, quotations should be single. Abbreviation of crore/million/billion should only be in headlines and never within the body of the text. For instance, Tk2cr or \$2mn or \$2bn.

The photos should be relevant and must come with a caption so that people can understand the context. The photos should be taken from authentic sources where the credit should be given to the specific person or agency. A well composed photo taken from an interesting angle is considered good enough for publish.

Chapter 4: Writing Experience

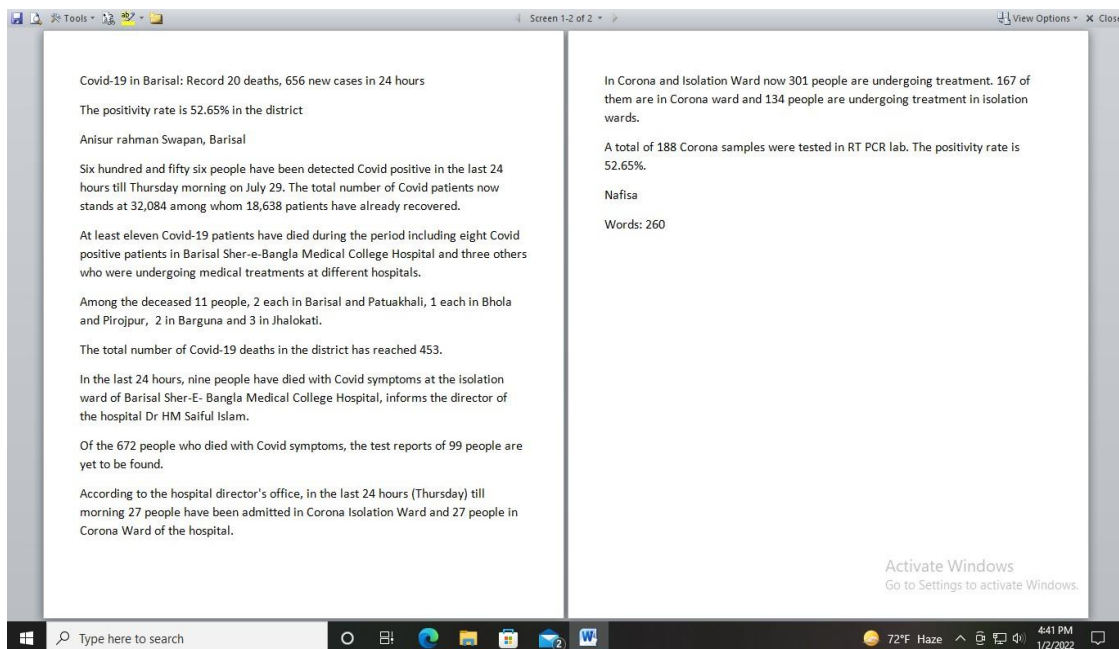
Working at DT has given me the opportunity to learn a set of news editing skill and understand the value of news. A sub editor needs to be careful regarding the neutral approach of a story. Most of the news that I edited was hard news that were about recent incidents or political and international activities. Sometimes I translated Bangla local news into English and edited the news following the DT style guide. Then I uploaded my revised copy on DT backend manager. So, my activities as a sub-editor was limited to the following areas-

- Editing news
- Translating local news
- Uploading on DT backend manager

In the next few sections I am going to explain how I completed my works in the mentioned areas.

Editing news:

At first I was introduced with a set of guidelines that DT follows in terms of editing news. I was advised to have a clear idea about the guidelines and my mentors helped me understand the rules. At first I was expected to edit the simple news that was short and easy to understand. All the works were given online due to the ongoing pandemic situation. The stories that I did at first were the same stories related to pandemic, which I updated. So, I had to do minor changes in data and format to create the new update. Below is the image of one of my first editing works for DT.



The *Dhaka Tribune* desk generally deals with the news of our country which includes politics, business, education etc. I worked there as a sub editor and I was assigned with the responsibility to reorganize a copy using the *Dhaka Tribune* writing style.

At first I edited twenty news articles following the guidelines that were given to me. It was pretty easy at the same time tricky enough because I had to stick to the rules that I was supposed to

follow. I had to be cautious about the spelling, creating sub heads, sourcing and few other things. I could relate many topics of the Print Media course with the writing style as I proceeded with my work. We were encouraged to practice writing a good headline which is an integral part of the news. Moreover, we were advised to deal carefully with sensitive issues to avoid conflict of interests. In addition, we were supposed to give a standfirst so that the busy reader can have a glance and understand the gist of the story.

I also edited news from international news sources such as *Agence FrancePresse (AFP)*, *Reuters*, *CNN* etc. These news agencies gather national and international news and distribute them to newspapers and broadcasters. All I had to do was to make some minor changes following the tribune style guide so that the news fulfills the standard. Only minor changes were needed as the news from international sources was already well developed. I had to put a stand first below the headline. I was also instructed to come up with better headlines. For any story we had to put two headlines. A shorter form of the original headline was produced for online version.

I edited many articles about the international news one of which was about the Taliban power surge in Afghanistan. Another one of the articles that I edited was about the Florida surfside building collapse where I had to make minor changes to keep it in accordance with the guidelines. I tried to keep the length of the story within 600 words and created shoulders and subheads to break up the monotony of block texts. I had to efficiently organize the content for each section when I created subheads. Moreover, I had to be careful about the transition of paragraphs to ensure a smooth read for the readers.

In addition, I edited the news of an Israeli company that tried to develop oral vaccine. I had to divide the news into two subsections as the length was more than the standard length. I followed

the guidelines that were given on the first day of my internship and had to be cautious about omitting the unnecessary part that might distract the reader. I tried to view the news from a reader's perspective after finishing the edit and that helped me to fulfill the readers' expectations. Moreover, I tried to give an easy headline so that the readers do not face any complexity in terms of understanding the content of the news.

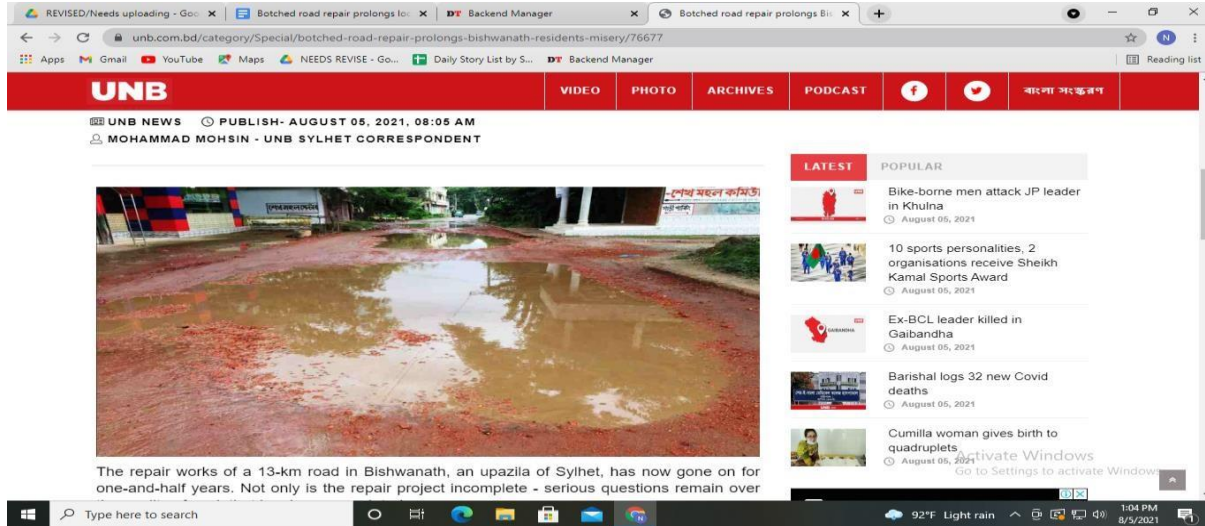
The first nine local articles that I edited were as to Covid-19 which included the death and recovery rates of people from different districts. I had to be careful with the numbers and the names of the institutions. One of the news articles was about the Delta variant and its impact among children. It also included the impact of the highly contagious variant in unvaccinated individuals.

Before editing any news, I read the news all the way through to understand what the news was all about. After that I was supposed to find the lead of the story which holds the most important information of the news. Finding the lead is considered to be one of the main parts editing as the readers become completely clueless without a clear lead. Moreover, an editor can rewrite few lines to deliver the story in a cohesive manner. I was instructed to be careful about the grammar and spelling mistakes too.

Another news article was about a local political leader who hoarded TCB goods that were allocated for the low income people. I had to be careful in terms of editing political news as usage of irrelevant words can change the meaning as well as perspectives.

I started learning adding captions to pictures after learning the basic editing skills. Sometimes I was asked to take pictures from the website of news agencies. Besides, I had to put my own caption to an image sent by the local reporters. Mentioning source was one of the main aspects of

adding a caption. In fact, a picture without the credit of the source is considered to be stolen one. Below is the image of a proper caption.



Translating local news:

I was given translation works after I developed the skills of editing. Most of the news I translated was local news which covered featured stories and local incidents. I was advised to omit the unnecessary parts and avoid word to word translation process. Rather my mentor told me to get the sense of the story and translate accordingly. In this process the only difficulty that I faced was to come up with relevant words. Choosing a perfect word that goes with the news seemed difficult at first. In fact, giving transcripts of the original work seemed pretty challenging.

During the second two weeks of my work at Tribune Desk, I translated many news articles. My supervisor helped me fixing problems and showed how to translate news from Bangla to English in an efficient manner because in news editing time is a valuable asset. Even important news can lose its worth if not delivered in proper time. So I started to translate copies considering the

given time frame and followed the techniques taught by my supervisor. Moreover, I tried to come up with a good headline and standfirst to make the news attractive to the readers.

Among the news articles that I translated, there was an article about a mentally disabled man who was chained for ten years and his family members were helpless. I was advised to turn the story into a feature story so that the part of the personal struggle of the man gets highlighted. Another one was about the misery of the students of a village where the whole area became inundated with flood water. I personally liked to cover these types of stories where life of the common people living far from the urban facilities gets attention and gives us a reason to broaden our perspectives.

I also translated the copies that gave a daily update of Covid-19. In fact, translating the news of Covid-19 was a daily activity that I did as the infection rate started to increase in many districts. To do that I had to be careful with the numbers and the names of the doctors and institutions so that no one gets wrong information. After completing every copy I was supposed to give it to my supervisor so that he can figure out the areas I needed to improve.

Sometimes we subconsciously wrote Bangla in English which was not a proper way of translating a news article. We were supposed to get the meaning of the news and transform it into a copy that clearly goes with the Bangla article. We were encouraged not to unconsciously do word to word translation which distorts the meaning of the actual text. Moreover, we were advised to use the correct spellings of the names of the reporter and always mention the source. The mentors advised us to come up with a relevant headline after completing the translation of the body paragraph so that we can have an overall idea about the content. In addition, writing

headline at last is conducive for the editor so that he/she can understand the important part of the news and create a suitable headline.

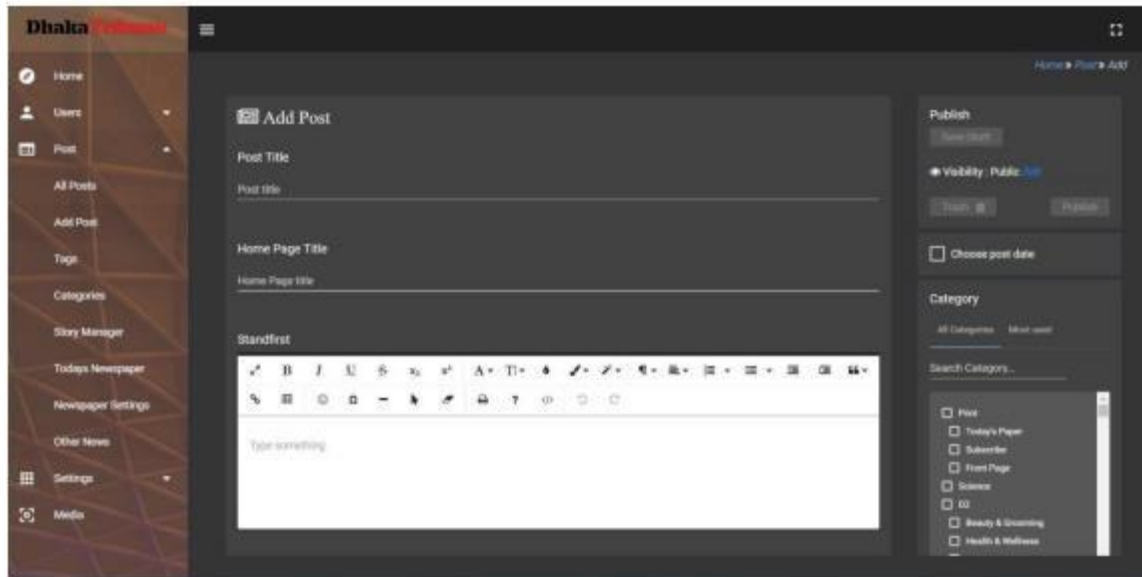
During the last two weeks of my internship I translated six news articles. This time I did not face any difficulty in terms of translating news or managing time. I had to keep myself updated with the current news and sometimes I had to update the daily Covid stories of many districts by changing the infection rates and other numerical values. I had to always mention the sources I was getting news from.

In this time I also translated news about ferry traffic under the Padma Bridge. Here, I had to look up for the few local area names as I was confused about the correct spellings. Another news article that I translated was about UN survey that indicates progress in streamlining trade amid Covid-19. I had to search online to gather information about the article because I did not have enough idea about trade. Information from internet helped me a lot during my internship as I was not well acquainted with many terms and names so I searched for them and came up with the correct information. We were warned not to add any information abruptly without crosschecking.

Uploading Process:

Uploading process on the DT backend manager was comparatively easy for me. I uploaded different sections of the revised copy in the specific areas of the backend manager. This process was simple because I had to only copy and paste the news into the boxes. Sometimes I put an external link of similar news on the body paragraph to provide the readers with more of their interests. I often had to crop the pictures that I added to the website. For the featured picture, the

size ratio was 1024 pixel width and 575 pixel height. If I failed to find any relevant pictures, I used generic pictures relevant to the news.



News editing and uploading within a given time seemed pretty time consuming at first. I improved my time management skills and tried to upload the articles on time. I also came up with ideas regarding how to search for the relevant pictures on the backend website. If the picture didn't fit into their format, I had to cut and edit it before uploading on the website as the website could not accept pictures without a certain size.

I uploaded the news that I edited on the website and collected pictures from news sources to add. Notably, we were only permitted to use stock images from BigStock since DT has purchased subscription to their database.

As an intern my job was editing, translating and uploading. The internship was completed online and I was not given several different tasks because some learning needs physical presence which

was completely impossible amid the Covid restrictions. However, I have gained experience and got the support from the mentors through social media.

Related theories to my work

In my undergraduate studies, I have come across several theories related to media and cultural studies. When I started working in DT, I could connect some of them with my work type.

I could the concept of media framing with the editing process. I had to go through the reports collected from the local reporters and ensure that there is no use of words that might trigger certain audience. Journalists are required to maintain objectivity and fairness so that the news remain devoid of any personal feelings or triggering words. Reporters are supposed to collect data from both sides of the argument so that audience do not feel any bias towards any groups. Moreover, a journalist needs to use the third person point of view and gender neutral phrases to ensure a quality content. In short, print media needs to avoid words that might provoke sexism, racism, extremism etc. to survive in the competitive world of diversity. These facts are considered as the basics of journalism as it influences people or shape their concept towards certain events.

“The framing and presentation of events and news in the mass media can thus systematically affect how recipients of the news come to understand these events,” according to Price, Tewksbury and, Powers. (1995, 4).

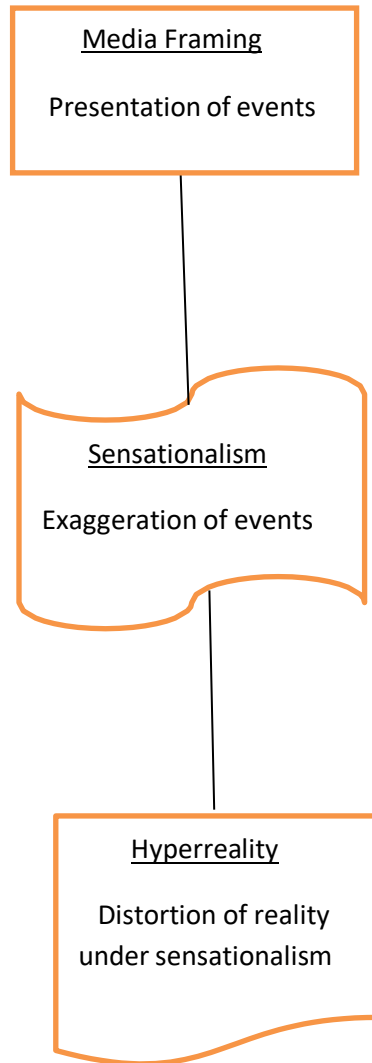
So, if a journalist deviates from his ethics, getting the attention of the audience can be his/her prime concern where the media frames events inaccurately with an aim to draw the public attention. Undoubtedly, drawing attention is a target of print media, however forging news to gain that attention is just the opposite of the media ethics. It can create conflict of interests and provoke sensationalism. Sensationalism is the editorial trick that distorts the real news in order to get the public attention.

This distortion of reality can ultimately create hyperreality where one fails to distinguish reality from the simulation of reality. The concept was first introduced by Baudrillard who defined it as a model of real without reality. For instance, sometimes the notion we perceive from the entertainment world where we tend to connect our emotions with the unreal values. Same goes for a fabricated news that not only gain attention but also shapes our concept. The point is why do we often fail to differentiate the reality from fabrications? That's because the exaggeration has mingled with our reality and we often fail to recognize the subtle way of distortion. As observed by Cherques:

“Baudrillard argued that the continuous expansion of the sign structure of domination demanded the establishment of information networks and a technological system which substantially changed contemporary rationality, thought and action. He attributed such change to media intoxication, which generated the loss of identity references, which were made servants of a technological feudalism which has no other purpose except its own self-perpetuation.” (Cherques, 2010).

All of the above-mentioned factors were carefully considered in DT to preserve their quality content. In fact, I think the whole exaggeration thing is more prominent in entertainment sector. However, I have noticed many news that is over-exaggerated to get the audience and they were easy to identify for me as a regular reader of newspaper. In fact, as a reader I would say that it is not really easy to completely fool the audience with fabrications as they possess a certain level of knowledge regarding the print media. In addition, they know that the easily accessible social platform has made the deception a lot easier. I was instructed to be aware of these things when I started working in DT as the image of a newspaper agency depends on that.

Before concluding this part, I would like to make a simple figure that shows interrelations between the theories that I mentioned.



Chapter 6: A personal account

The three months of learning experience in DT has taught me more than I expected. The opportunity has introduced me with the works of a journalist and made me work in a professional environment. The practical knowledge that I gained will help me to face further challenges in my professional life.

During the time period I faced a lot of challenges as previously I did not have much idea about the way print media works. I came to realize that there is a lot more to know besides the theoretical knowledge. Moreover, I became acquainted with the working process of media sector amid the shutdown for the pandemic. The passionate workers taught me punctuality and encouraged me to ask more questions as they believed learning phase should be full of curiosity. They were kind enough to identify the mistakes and at the same time encouraged me to get the best outcome. I believe a good learning environment can make a learning process a lot easier for the newcomers and convince them to work without any hesitation. However, the challenge that I faced after finishing the internship program was related to technical issues where the DT website was removed to develop a new one. We could not view the works that we completed on the website and the IT department of Dhaka Tribune failed to help us as they were busy with developing their new website. At last I had to work with the word files that were saved in my computer. Apart from the shortcomings, I can say the three months of internship ended well due to the support from the seniors and I am pleased to have the friendly people as my mentors.

Conclusion

This report is focused on the work that I complete in *Dhaka Tribune* during my internship. It reflects on the working experience that I gained in the three months. I have learned to recognize my limitations and work on them to improve my skills. I have also understood the value of efforts and hard work that eventually lead people towards their goal.

The internship also made me an avid reader as journalists need to be updated with the ongoing situation. I have learned that skills in editing depend more on practice and one needs to be engaged with learning if he aspires to be a good editor.

Finally, I would like to conclude by saying that I highly appreciate the support that I got from my faculty members and the DT team and I would implement the leanings in future to expand my skills.

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Appendix

1.

Covid-19 in Chittagong: Infection rate 37.39%, 821 new cases

Covid-19 infection rate 37.39%, 821 more detected in Chittagong

The total number of coronavirus cases crossed the 65,889 mark

BSS

The infection rate of Covid-19 has reached 37.39% and 821 more people were reported Covid-19 positive in the district on Sunday.

This is the ever highest infection rate and also detection figure in the district after outbreak of coronavirus in the country.

Meanwhile, the number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases crossed the 65,889 mark here as the infection rate has been continuing rising for last few days.

Health officials said the number of Covid-19 cases speedily raised to 65, 889 as 821 more people were reported Covid-19 positive after testing 2174 samples in the district on Sunday.

"The infection rate is showing a quick enhancing trend again and recovery rate is also gradually reducing in the district in recent weeks," focal person of Covid-19 and civil surgeon of Chattogram Dr Sheikh Fazle Rabbi told BSS today.

Among the newly detected patients, 527 are from Chattogram city and 294 from different upazilas of the district, hospital sources said.

With the nine deaths on Sunday, the number of coronavirus fatalities reached 780, Dr Rabbi said.

Among the reported fatalities, 500 were the residents of the port city and the rest 280 were from different upazilas of the district, he said.

The civil surgeon told that among the total infected people, 50,621 are the residents of the port city and the rest 15,168 are from different upazilas.

“The infection rate is showing a quick enhancing trend again and recovery rate is also gradually reducing in the district in recent weeks,” focal person of Covid-19 and civil surgeon of Chattogram Dr Sheikh Fazle Rabbi told BSS today.

2.

Chained for 10 years, mentally disabled leads a miserable life

Rashedul Hasan Kajal

Shahin Fakir, a 26 year old mentally disabled man living his life in a tied up condition for the past 10years. He is the eldest of two sons and five daughters of Amin Fakir of Kalimajhi village in Rupapat union of Faridpur upazila.

He started studying in the Hafez department but could not finish the Qur'an due to his illness. Shahin became mentally unbalanced due to a head injury which compelled him to lead a miserable life. His physical condition is deteriorating day by day.

His family members have informed that Shahin hit his head in an accident by falling on the rail line in his childhood. Though he received treatment from a local hospital, his situation did not improve much. His family members sent him to a madrasa in Pabna to study Arabic but he could not continue as his condition started deteriorating with time.

I admitted my son to a madrasa with a high hope that he will be an Islamic scholar. But the hopes shattered at the irony of fate when my son lost his mental stability. We had to tie him up with a chain because he often hits us-said his mother with a sigh.

We spent a hefty sum of money for his treatment but his situation did not improve. Now we are destitute except for a small piece of land to stay. He has a disability allowance card that covers a little portion of his expenses. Now we are living in a financially strained condition – she adds.

Shahin's father Amin Fakir cannot work and he sold all of his lands to manage the treatment cost for his son. The financial burden has become so heavy for them that his mother Sajeda Begum has living on the verge of despair and wants God to take her son.

Local resident and social worker Syed Tareq said that Shahin is mentally imbalanced and his family is living in a saddening state. He urges the local administration and the rich to come forward to help the family.

3.

কক্সবাজারে বন্দুকযুদ্ধে রোহিঙ্গা ডাকাত নিহত

কক্সবাজার প্রতিনিধি-১৯ জুলাই:

কক্সবাজারের উখিয়া কুতুপালং রোহিঙ্গা ক্যাম্পে কলিমুল্লাহ ডাকাত দলের প্রধান করিম উল্লাহ (৩২) ও রফিক কলিমুল্লাহ ডাকাত ব্যাবের সাথে বন্দুকযুদ্ধে নিহত হয়েছে।

এসময় ঘটনাস্থল থেকে দুইটি অস্ত্র ও চার রাউন্ড গুলি উদ্ধার করা হয়।

নিহত রোহিঙ্গা ডাকাত করিম উল্লাহ লম্বাশিয়া ক্যাম্পের নির আহমেদের ছেলে বলে র্যাব জানায়।

সোমবার (১৯ জুলাই) ভোররাতে কুতুপালংয়ের লম্বাশিয়া ক্যাম্পে বন্দুকযুদ্ধের ঘটনা ঘটে বলে নিশ্চিত করেছেন র্যাব-১৫ এর উপ-অধিনায়ক স্কোয়াড্রন লিডার তানভীর হাসান।

তানভীর হাসান জানান, 'কুতুপালং ক্যাম্প এলাকায় একটি রোহিঙ্গা ডাকাত দল অবস্থান করছে এমন খবরে অভিযানে যায় র্যাব-১৫।

এসময় র্যাবের অবস্থান টের পেয়ে ডাকাত দল গুলিবর্ষণ করলে আত্মরক্ষার্থে আমাদের সদস্যরাও গুলি চালায়। পরে ওই স্থানে তল্লাশি করে দুইটি অস্ত্র-চার রাউন্ড গুলি ও ডাকাত সর্দার করিম উল্লাহর মরদেহ উদ্ধার করা এব্যাপারে সংশ্লিষ্ট আইনে উখিয়া থানায় হয়। নিহতে মৃতদেহ ময়নাতদন্তের জন্য মর্গে প্রেরণ কক্সবাজার সদর হাসপাতাল করা হয়েছে। মামলা হয়েছে।

Rohingya robber killed in Cox's Bazar 'gunfight'

Firearms recovered from the spot of the incident

Abdul Aziz, Cox's Bazar

An alleged drug dealer has been killed in a reported gunfight with the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) in Cox's Bazar.

The deceased was identified as Karim, 32, the leader of Kalimullah group who was a resident of Lambashia camp - said RAB officials.

Members of the elite police unit recovered firearms and bullets from the spot.

Squadron Leader Tanvir Hasan, deputy commander of RAB-15 has confirmed that a gunfight took place at Lambashia camp in Kutupalong on Monday (July 19) morning. RAB went on an operation after finding that a group of Rohingya robbers was preparing for a robbery in Kutupalong camp.

Sensing the presence of the law enforcers, the robbers opened fire at the RAB patrol team. After the retaliation, RAB recovered two weapons, four rounds of ammunition and the body of the robber Sardar Karim Ullah.

The body of the deceased has been sent to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital morgue for further investigation. A case has been filed.

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4.

School reopening: Students row boats to school in Tangail

The students and teachers had to come to school by boat due to flood water

Enayet Karim Bijay, Tangail

Habiba Akhter, a class-5 student of Saidampur Primary School in Tangail could not hold her excitement of getting back into the classroom after spending 18 months at home.

"I was tired being at home and waiting for the reopening of the school. The day has finally come but the submerged roads in the flood have disrupted our usual movements. Still we decided not to miss the first day and rowed a boat to the school taking risks" - said Habiba.

Children like her have expressed immense pleasure upon receiving the news of reopening of educational institutions from September 12. The institutions which were closed from March 16 last year reopened after a prolonged period.

The teachers of the school were also delighted to have the students back. Moreover, they were concerned about maintaining the health safety protocols to contain the spread of Covid-19 among the children.

"The school has reopened after a long period. The students attended the classes with great interest. We discussed regarding the importance of maintaining social distance with the students so that they can safely continue their classes" - said Parvin Sultana, principal of Saidampur Primary School.

"On the first day we took the classes of class-5 and class-3 students. 28 out of 41 students in class-5 were present" - she added.

The President of the school's managing committee Abul Kalam Azad said, "We took preparations in advance to reopen the school. The safety measures to prevent coronavirus have been already taken. The students and teachers had to come to the school by boat due to the waterlogged condition of the area."

The Upazila Primary Education Officer Sadananda Pal said, "Classes have started in 69 government primary schools in Tangail upazila."

One of the schools could not continue classes due to water congestion; the classes have been taken in another building." – He added.

5.

17 more die of Covid at Kushtia General Hospital

Everyday new patients are rising the death toll

UNB

Kushtia General Hospital on Thursday morning reported 17 more Covid-related deaths in 24 hours amid an alarming surge in the number of new infections in the district.

Of the deceased, 10 were confirmed Covid patients while the remaining seven showed symptoms of the virus, said Dr. MA Momen, administrator of Kushtia General Hospital.

Besides, 232 people have tested positive for corona in the district in the past 24 hours. "A total of 743 samples were tested during the period," he said.

The positivity rate currently stands at 31.22%, which was 29.21% a day before.

Moreover, a total of 289 patients are currently undergoing treatment at the hospital with Covid symptoms.

Dr. Tapas Kumar Sarkar, the resident medical officer of the hospital, said patients had to be treated on the floor and in the corridor as there were no beds. "Every day, the number of patients coming to the hospital with corona and symptoms is increasing in the district."

So far, 9,664 people have been infected with the virus in the district, while the death toll from Covid topped 286. On the other hand, a total of 6,030 people have recovered from Covid.

Nafisa

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