

**A Fruitful Contact with the ‘Lifestyle’ and ‘Arts and Entertainment’ Pages
of**

THE DAILY STAR

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Department of English and Humanities

August 2015



Inspiring Excellence

BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

**A Fruitful Contact with the ‘Lifestyle’ and ‘Arts and Entertainment’ Pages
of**

THE DAILY STAR

A Report Submitted to
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Of
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By

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Shahi Sohana

1. INTRODUCTION

In order to complete my Bachelor of Arts degree from the English and Humanities Department of BRAC University with a concentration in Media and Cultural studies, I had to do an internship. I chose to do it with *The Daily Star* newspaper. First I work for *The Daily Star's* 'Arts and Entertainment' page, then with the supplement, the 'Lifestyle' magazine. I joined *The Daily Star* on 15th January, 2015 and interested for three months. The length of my internship was one semester. I gained practical job experiences related to my subject and the following semester, I had to write this report.

As my concentration is in Media and Cultural studies, I tried my best to do my internship at a reputed place of any media sector. Furthermore, BRAC University provides great opportunities for the media students so that they can take part in the professional world by doing internships at well known companies, organizations like, *The Daily Star*, *New Age* and many more. I always used to have an interest on how media works, how it manipulates the world and how it has become a powerful a medium now-a-days. Print media was the best option for me to explore my interest. After taking media related courses and attending a few media related workshops, I developed greater interest in this field. I was lucky enough to start my internship at the office of with the most popular English newspaper in Bangladesh, *The Daily Star*.

Interning at the *The Daily Star* was truly a great experience and a good opportunity for me. It was like a dream come true for me. Moreover, this internship gave me an opportunity to think more logically and wisely. It helped me increase my knowledge about the media world, and also helped me build more confidence. Print media and broadcast media are not very much different from each other, and these two mediums have a great impact on the general people.

This was always fascinating to me. *The Daily Star's* 'Lifestyle' and 'Arts and Entertainment' pages have encouraged me to know about the culture, social and political aspects of our country.

This report will basically describe the assignments I have done and things I learnt during my internship days. I had been assigned to intern under Rafath Binte Rashid, the editor of the supplement 'Lifestyle'. Under her guidance, direction and assistance, I have accomplished a lot of tasks including feature writing, interviewing, field reporting, translating and editing.

In fact, I got the chance to work with several professional journalists, and got to know many celebrities during my internship period. That was a wonderful experience for me. Besides this, as I have studied the process of news production in my courses like Eng 331 – Cultural studies, Eng 440- English for Print Media , Eng 333- Globalisation and the Media and Eng 465- Translation Studies intensively I could relate the knowledge I gained from my courses at *The Daily Star* while interning there.

2. THE HISTORY OF NEWSPAPER IN BANGLADESH

In this 21st century everything is based on communication. Modern societies and people are connected through newspapers television and internet now-a-days. In order to stay connected newspapers have become a part and parcel in our lives. It has become a necessity now-a-days. When we wake up in the morning, the first thing that comes into our minds is to know the world's news, and therefore we look for a newspaper.

Dainik Azadi was the first newspaper of Bangladesh after the liberation war in 1971. As we all know Bangladesh gained independence on 16th December and on 17th December 1971 a paper was published, and it was the Dainik Azadi or Daily Azadi. Al-haj Muhammed Abdul Khaleque who was an engineer, also known as 'Engineer Shahib' was the founder of this paper. It uncovered the eyes of the people of Bangladesh and they grasped the word 'Daily' from then onwards. It earned so much popularity at that time that about forty thousand copies were published on the first day, and all had been sold out.

THE BRIEF HISTORY OF *THE DAILY STAR* NEWSPAPER

'Journalism without fear or favor' this is the slogan with which one of most popular and best selling English newspapers of Bangladesh '*The Daily Star*' started its journey on 14th January, 1991. Syed Mohammed Ali was the founder of this largest circulating newspaper of the country, *The Daily Star*. At present, Mahfuz Anam is the editor of this newspaper present. He was a freedom fighter and later an United Nation official. According to Bangladesh's English newspaper record, *The Daily Star* is in the top most position, and it is known as the country's first English newspaper. It is also compared to foreign newspapers like *Times of India* for its quality. It is now popularly known for its graphic designs and fonts. They maintain their quality of writing.



During its journey from 1971 to 2015 this newspaper maintained its reputation strongly. We can hardly find any unethical issues about this newspaper. They maintain the meaning of their logo perfectly. They never provide any biased news to the people; I find that they always stand beside the truth, though they faced a lot of trouble for this. Moreover, it carries the responsibility to strengthen the public opinions, and still they are continuing their journey and have won millions of hearts for their honesty. The objective of *The Daily Star* is to hold its moral values and freedom of speech which makes it the kind of newspaper that is needed in a democratic country.

Being aware of daily issues they provide different sections of news and they are News, Opinion and Editorial, Star Business, Star Sports, Arts and Entertainment, National and Bytes. Their major supplements include The Star, Lifestyle, Star Literature, Shout, Showbiz and Star Campus. Besides these magazines, they also publish books. They also have a different other news items section where they provide other news like – Shift (which provide automobile updates), Law & our Rights and Science etc. Each of these sections has four or five employees who work with their editors. On the other hand, the online version of the newspaper is updated 24/7 with the latest breaking news about politics, business, media, technology, entertainment and other crime news.

The newspaper is run by a Board of Directors with six members. The head of the body is called a chairman and others are called directors. The Board of Directors job is only to deal with income and investment of the newspaper, and the policy making responsibilities for each supplement and different sections of the newspaper lie only on the editor of that particular supplement or section. Moreover the policy makers are only privileged to make any decision and these decisions are made by the editorial board, managing editor, news editors and chief editors. They play important roles in decision making.

The Daily Star carries a long term responsibility for the people by providing them with genuine news. They also maintain a good relationship with the general people with their news. They express opinions of the public in the public poll segment and this is how they influence people to be democratic.

3. INTERNING AT *THE DAILY STAR*

Working at the country's most leading newspaper *The Daily Star* as an intern was a great opportunity for me. After attending classes I had to go to the newspaper office and work for five to six hours daily. Whenever I entered the office I always felt good to work there because my colleagues were very helpful and cooperative. Unlike other desks, Star Lifestyle and Arts and Entertainment pages are always designed to appear to be in a very playful mood. *The Daily Star* has a very strong department of people who have great team work capabilities. The newspaper always tends to start their work from 12pm and finish by 6pm.

I was assigned to work with two supplements 1) Star Lifestyle, 2) Arts and Entertainment page. Both these pages taught me a lot and I learned many techniques as a result of working for these pages. They have six to eight members and different types of assignments are allocated for each member. One thing I realized was that newspaper writing was quite different from academic writing. Initially, while interning I faced a lot of difficulties.

Basically my work was reporting. I worked there as a reporter intern. The Arts and Entertainment page was daily basis newspaper and it published daily news. On the other hand Star Lifestyle was weekly is supplement which consists of 20 pages. I ended up doing my entire internship with *The Daily Star's*, Star Lifestyle supplement. While interning I gained a lot of experience and gradually learnt new things.

While working with the pages of *The Daily Star*, I learned how to relate knowledge I gained from my courses with the work. Arts and Entertainment page helped me relate the knowledge I gained from courses like, Translation studies, English for Print Media, and Star Lifestyle also did the same for me. Though my work was becoming challenging day by day, I

managed to overcome it. Working with so many eminent journalists at a time delighted me. Seeing them working hard inspired me to work much harder. As I had spent quality time with them, I have learnt a lot from them. I learnt how to interact with people professionally.

As the first week began at Arts & Entertainment page, I wrote six reports about celebrities and translated three texts. *The Daily Star* strictly follows a British system of writing, and it was quite difficult for me to adapt to that. I found that newspaper writing is immensely different from academic writing. Every news item I had to report on had to be written in a conversational style or in an interviewing format. Moreover I had to write my report in several paragraphs which contained 28 to 30 words. After finishing writing, I had to keep my assignments in a folder named Culture, from where the sub-editor collected my writing and edited it. Therefore I started to learn my work and continued with confidence.

4. WHAT IS JOURNALISM

Now-a-days journalism has become a media of mass education. Modern journalism has a few segments of mass communication: 1) Newspaper, 2) Radio, 3) Television and 4) Internet. These are the sources through which mass media communication is spread. Moreover there are three aspects of journalism which are practiced all over the world now-a-days. They are interviewing, reporting and editing. The activities which include interviewing, reporting, recording, and editing news fall under journalism. Whenever a journalist is assigned to work on a news story he/she needs to give his/her best effort to do that job properly. A journalist always stands for the truth. They need to be very concerned about the information they are collecting because it has to be genuine, and in order to collect genuine news they have to work very hard.

“A journalism unit serves three functions: promoting the vocation of journalism, promoting better reading and writing habits, and finally promoting a better understanding of the newspaper as a mass cultural force” (Rowland 345). This line depicts that journalism should be promoted and it is a profession where people can be better readers, writers and an analysers by working at a newspaper office. The duty of a journalist is to collect the information for the story and try to keep proof of it by keeping some pictures and adding questions because these make the news story more authentic. However, journalism is not an easy job; it requires a lot of courage and a wise mind to report a tough situation. After collecting the information it reaches the news desk, as it needs to be checked. News stories are sometimes checked twice or thrice. Before publishing the sub editor checks the story in terms of details and does some editing.

According to the inverted pyramid structure a news story always needs to have the ‘5Ws and 1H’ which means the **who** (the people or animals who are connected to the news story)

what (issues that the story highlights), **when** (date and time of the incident), **where** (the exact location of the incident), **why** (why the event was newsworthy) and lastly, **how** (how the issue was created or solved and how it raised a question). However, not all news stories always have 5Ws and 1H.

5. REALTIONSHIP BETWEEN PRINT MEDIA AND GLOBALISATION

In the age of information, newspaper is a very powerful tool. It has become an important part and parcel of the modern times. It enhances the knowledge of the readers about the world. We cannot overlook the importance of newspapers in the daily routine of our lives. In the early 17th century the newspaper was handwritten and it was published only for targeted aristocratic readers. As the world became more globalised, soon the newspaper was in the hands of ordinary people. News has a vast effect in the society. For the news story to be considered news worthy, it has to have one or more of the 5 news value factors1) **Timeliness** – reporting the news in time, 2) **Prominence** – News about prominent figure, 3) **Consequences** – Effects of the news story on an individual or society or some countries of the world as a whole.4) **Proximity**- the distance between the people and the location where the news is taking place. 5) **Oddity**- unusual news. These are the most important factors by which the importance of a news story is evaluated.

On the other hand, globalisation and print media are interrelated. Globalisation is a concept which is associated with modernity. Due to advancement of the technology there is a greater degree of globalization through which the news travels fast. The history of mankind proves that every human being wants to stay updated about current events where media plays a vital role. “Media refers to the most important means of mass communication such as newspapers, radio broadcast and television” (Ambirajan 2141). As we all know media is a part of globalisation, therefore it has a great impact on mass communication. Print media and globalisation help us to stay connected to the rest of the world easily. Print media has an impact on globalisation as well. “Globalisation defined in broad terms encompasses every aspect of human life” (Ambirajan 2142). This line depicts globalisation is making the world small.

Therefore globalisation and media helps people to stay connected in every sector of our life. In other words, print media is also helping the world to stay connected.

Moreover, with the rise of globalization the news industry is growing rapidly. Now-a-days people are more dependent on the media and news industry. In early times, when there was no television and only few newspapers people were not much dependent on media news, and now with the blessing of globalization we can easily know the news of other countries.

Globalization has become a symbol of modernity. As a result there is a strong relationship between globalization and print media.

6. INTRODUCING ‘STAR LIFESTYLE’ AND ‘A&E’ PAGE

As I have worked for both these pages, at first I want to describe how these pages are organized, designed and the way they publish their news. For the first two and a half weeks I worked for *The Daily Star*’s ‘A&E’ (Arts and Entertainment) page, and I have done many tasks for them. It is a regular page because it gets published as a part of daily newspaper. In *The Daily Star* newspaper, you can find the Arts and Entertainment page in the center of the newspaper with intensive festive colors of many event coverage and upcoming movies, articles as well as celebrity interviews and articles about different cultural programs.



Figure 1: Arts and Entertainment page

The Daily Star always gives the utmost priority to the readers; they always try their best to publish genuine news. Arts and Entertainment page is not much different from it. Apart from inside stories of Bangladeshi media, they also provide news about the international visual media industries such as Hollywood and Bollywood. The Arts and Entertainment page also portrays the culture of Bangladesh. If you look at the page’s segments, you can see they also

provide news about theatre, music and art. They have different sections in order to provide their news to the consumer. For example:

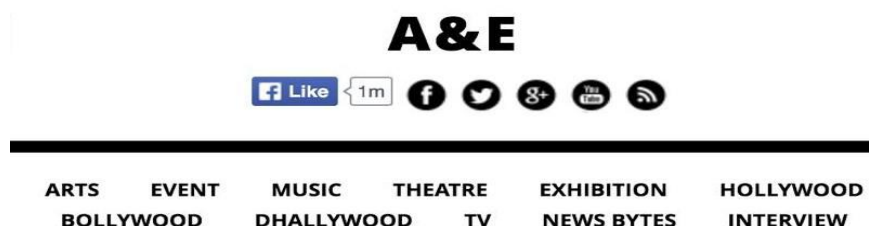


Figure 2: Distribution of A&E page 'The Daily Star'

this page has information about the traditional culture of our country. It talks about different traditions and art of our culture. Sometimes they also publish articles about the traditional culture of Bangladesh. It is the most colorful and entertaining page of *The Daily Star*.

I was excited after a few weeks of working for the 'Lifestyle' supplement of *The Daily Star* newspaper, because this page is a weekly magazine and it contains articles about the daily lifestyle articles which helps people in many ways. It started its journey in 2001 and it is known as one of Bangladesh's most premier fashion magazines. This is because it has become much more than an update on trends, as it has columns on health, cooking, fashion, beauty or health tips, gardening and travel related articles as well.



Figure 3: 'Lifestyle' magazine

Lifestyle is a great magazine for young readers because it provides a lot of trendy news about fashion, clothes, food and many other topics. It's the most attractive supplement which encourages many young readers to read it. I completed the greater part of my entire internship working for this supplement. It consists of twenty pages and it is published in two forms. The first half, which contains only the highlight, is published in the middle of the week and after that on every Monday they publish the entire supplement.



Figure 3: Distribution of 'Lifestyle' supplement

If you look at figure 4, you can see that the 'Lifestyle' supplement contains different of sections which fulfill the demand of different of readers. The special feature section deals with social issues of Bangladesh. Recipe section deals with the method of cooking different food items. The check it out section is about trendy clothes or it has information about fashion houses. Travelogue is about any kind of travel related feature. The event section covers the current events taking place in the town right now, for example, Rupchada super chef, which similar to the Master Chef show of Australia. Individual pages of this supplement have different news items. Both these pages provide authentic news because *The Daily Star* believes in maintaining transparency and accountability. Hence it works as a freedom of speech for the general people of our country, and this is needed to maintain democracy.

7. INTERVIEWING

After I started to intern at *The Daily Star* newspaper's Arts and Entertainment section they told me to take interviews of different types of media related people. My first interview was with the famous actress Afsana Mimi. Before talking to her I was also instructed on how I should talk to her and how to interview celebrities. However, as the time went on I was assigned more tasks. I wrote six reports on interviewing celebrities and they were the popular singer Shakila Zafar and Saiful jarnal (Band singer), dancer MunMun Ahmed, Shibli Mohammad and the model Mou. I could relate these reports to my Translation Studies course where I have gained knowledge about sense for sense translation because I had to translate their conversation using the sense for sense translation method after I took the interviews.

Talking to the celebrities was really not an easy task to accomplish though it was very exciting for me as a newcomer. *The Daily Star* provided me their phone numbers. Before interviewing them I always needed to prepare myself. I was used to come up with some questions in order to take a good interview. During the conversation I was always instructed to ask some questions about their recent work, personal queries like what they like and what they do not like etc. As we had to take interviews through phones, we were also instructed to record their conversation in order to keep proof. The recorded conversation also helped me to write the news stories, and from there I chose some information that formed the headline of my news story. A good headline is must for a news story because it grabs the attention of the readers and influences them to read the news. Moreover, we had to write our news reports in several paragraphs each of which contained 28 to 30 words. Then we had to limit the words of the interviews about 250 to 300 words. Afterwards all the news stories were sent for cross checking

to the sub-editor. At last the main editor checked if it was necessary, and then the news stories were ready to be published.

On the other hand, the editing tasks were fairly simple in terms of the punctuation changes we have to make. This is similar to what I have learnt in the Eng 401, Editing course. In order to write a news report I had to follow different styles of writing. But every section of *The Daily Star* maintains the same style of writing when it comes to writing interviews. Reports were in the question answer format and had quotes in it so that it made the interview more authentic and gave the reader a feel of having a lively one-on-one conversation with the celebrities.

It was a big challenge for all reporters to briefly write about a long conversation and keep all the important points in the news report. *The Daily Star's* Arts & Entertainment page aims to provide entertainment news to the readers, and it is represented in a bit of a dramatised form which gives excitement to the readers while they are reading the news stories. The Arts and entertainment section believes that readers must be entertained by reading the news stories.

Out of four interview news stories I have attached only two. Some works of my internship are attached below.

“Mega serials don't have to be boring”

...Afsana Mimi

A Correspondent



Photo: Star

Afsana Mimi, one of the top TV actresses of the nineties, has taken a stand behind the camera in recent years, making TV dramas and serials, and foraying into filmmaking as well. The Daily Star spoke to the director on various aspects of her work:

What are you working on right now?

Mimi: I have been working with a production house. The second season of “Doll's House”, now on air, can be seen every Saturday and Tuesday at 11pm on ATN Bangla. The serial is a vivid depiction of urban life, and not only portrays the hectic lifestyles of city dwellers, but also the colourful and interesting aspects of their lives.

Do you think mega serials go on for too long and consequently lose their appeal?

Mimi: If the plot, the cast and teamwork are good, then obviously mega series could carve a niche in this industry. My mega-serial “Bondhon” was very popular. Ultimately, the audience wants to watch a new daily soap to which they can relate. So mega-serials that go on for too long might be boring to some extent for TV advertisers and the channel, but to the audience it continues to have an appeal.

Do you want to make more mega serials in future?

Mimi: If I get a good audience response, then why not? That is why I made “Dolls House-2” as a sequel. I would love to make a sequel to “Offbeat”, with the same cast of Jon and Tahsan.

Why aren't you acting in dramas anymore?

Mimi: I am so occupied with directorial work that I don't get enough time to do any acting. Hence I have decided to focus just on direction and the production house.

Do you have any current involvement with theatre?

Mimi: Currently, I am not doing any theatre work because of my busy schedule. However, I am interested to step into theatre again, if I get a chance.

This is the first interview which was taken by me and it was published on January 18, 2015 at *The Daily Star*'s, 'Arts and Entertainment' page.

And another interview of mine was taken with the famous singer Shakila Zafar.

'I am not a typical astrology fan' ... Shakila Zafar

A correspondent



Beauteous diva Shakila Zafar launched headlong into her successful singing career in BTV programme “Jodi Kichu Mone Na Koren” with her first song “Tare bolbo amar moner kotha” in 1983. There she performed an astrology-based song “Tula Rashir Meye”, which fetched her instant fame.

The Daily Star spoke to Shakila about her career, and more.

Your first song was themed on astrology. Do you believe in it?

Shakila: I am not a typical astrology fan. Sometimes, when things go in line with an astrological prediction I believe in it, but not always.

What kind of work are you focusing on currently?

Shakila: I am very busy with my stage performances rather than recordings. Recently, I have done quite a few stage programmes abroad.

With your talent and glamour quotient, you could have chosen any other discipline in the media. Why only singing?

Shakila: I personally believe that everyone has innate abilities. I couldn't have been an actress, model or dancer; only a singer. Moreover, when I set out to learn music, I never thought I would in fact make a career of it. It was the encouragement and support of my husband and in-laws that brought me where I am today. And of course the Almighty's blessing.

What, in your opinion, is one important, but often-overlooked attribute?

Shakila: I think physical fitness is a must. This applies across the board, whether one is an actor, singer or anyone. We must stick to healthy food instead of gorging on unhealthy food.

What is the secret of your lively performances?

Shakila: I always try to feel the pulse of the audience, and sing what they want to listen to. I regard audiences as my guests; I warmly welcome and interact with them. I also explain the lyrics of my songs and take care to get their reactions.

Any memorable story you'd like to share with readers?

Shakila: I had gone out for dinner with my aunt, when I came across noted singer Ferdousi Rahman. As usual, I hugged her and warmly appreciated her sari. Next morning, I received the sari as a gift from her. It was a very emotional moment for me. The sari is not a mere gift; it is a treasure for me and I will cherish this memory all my life.

It was published at *The Daily Star* newspaper on February 07, 2015.

8. FEATURE WRITING

Feature stories are human-interest articles that focus on particular people, places and events. It covers topics in depth and it is not meant to report the latest breaking news, but rather taken an in depth look at a subject. Feature stories generally are longer and it is journalistic, researched, descriptive, colorful, thoughtful and reflective writing. Moreover there are different kinds of feature stories, they are: Human interest, Profiles, How-to, Historical features, Seasonal themes and Behind the Scenes features. While working with the supplement of *The Daily Star's* 'Lifestyle', I wrote four feature articles about 'Women's Day', the popular publication house 'Sheba Publication', about how to clean leather bags and how to clean your microwaves. The first two feature articles fall under the criteria of Human interest section and the last two falls under How-to section.

Feature stories are not opinion essays, the writer's opinions and attitudes are not important to the story. It is a kind of journalistic report. However, feature stories give readers information in a pleasing, entertainment format that highlights an issue by describing the people, places and events. To write a feature story a journalist need to follow some steps and these steps are the basic tools for feature writing, they are: Observation, interview and background research. While interning at 'Lifestyle' I also had to go through these processes while writing feature stories. When I was assigned a topic, at first I had to do some background research on it. Then I went to gather some information or take some interviews. Afterwards I analysed the news story and then sat to write it by giving it an attractive headline. For me writing feature stories was not an easy task because a feature story has to start with dramatic moment or it might start with a flash back in order to make readers curious. As I interned with a supplement, the length of my feature stories were between 500 to 800 words.

Writing about Women's Day was a really good experience and I was instructed to talk to young people of the country, and find out what they think about the International Women's Day. While working on this assignment I interviewed my university friends both female and male. I asked what they feel about Women's Day, to what extent they think it is worthy of being celebrated and what do males think about Women's Day. Their reaction or any kind of experience was needed for my assignment. I even talked with some feminist as well.

Furthermore while doing the assignment on 'Sheba Publication' house, which was known as one of the bestselling book publication houses once upon a time their books by Masud Rana and his adventure series. For this assignment I had to go Shegun Bagicha, where the main office of that publication house is located in order to collect some information and to take their interviews. I also had to talk to some people who used to read those books, I wrote down their experiences and took some photos in order to write my report.

As feature stories are more like nonfiction short stories, I had to write it in a very dramatic way. Moreover while writing the How-to feature stories on cleaning leather bags and cleaning the microwaves, I had to see videos of some experts on you-tube cleaning leather bags and microwaves. Then I had to experience it myself and afterwards I wrote the process step by step. While working on my assignments I realised I have the space to develop the theme of my report because the whole story does not have to be encapsulated in the lead, so I followed it while I wrote my feature story assignments for *The Daily Star* newspaper's supplement, 'Lifestyle'.

9. FIELD REPORTING

Reporting is not an easy task to do as a new comer. It needs a lot of courage to complete each reporting task. It also helped me to gather more knowledge about my assigned topic. In the article titled, “A Comparative Study of Male and Female Newspaper Reporters” stated that, “the reporter is the heartbeat of the press and without him/her the fourth estate would be a dead entity” (Singh and Dhillon 13). The stated line depicts the importance of the reporter. While working with the ‘Lifestyle’ supplement I had to do three field reporting assignments as an intern reporter. My four assigned topics were ‘Amar Ekushey Boi Mela 2015’, ‘Be a lifesaver: donate blood’, ‘Dance courses in Dhaka’ and ‘Sheba Publication house’. For reporting purposes I had to travel to several places around Dhaka to collect information, it was really a tough job for me, but at the same time it was also enjoyable.

During the nonstop blockade the work of my assignments was going on and somehow I manage to complete my work properly. The title of my news story was ‘The book craze starts’. For reporting purposes I had to visit the Boi mela (Book Fair) at the Bangla Academy and there I found that nearly half of the stalls were set and others were yet to be completed. There were 11 pavilions for 11 publication houses, and the premise of this year’s Boi Mela (Book fair) was an extended one. Both the Academic and Shuhrawardy Uddayan were decorated in a very artistic manner, and there I had to interview some general people to know their reaction about this year’s book fair. I recorded their conversation for my report.

I went to the information desk of the book fair and asked some questions to the fair’s authority. Before that I organized my questions in a way that curious readers would like to know

all the information related to this year's Boi Mela. Some photos of the book fair were taken and I had to visit their office to collect more detailed news.

I had to work very hard while working on my second and the third assignments titled, 'Blood donation' and 'Dance courses in Dhaka'. Moreover, my editor asked me to go there and collect some information by talking to people. For the 'Dance courses in Dhaka' news story I had to go to many Dance institutes. I had to talk to the school administrators. I went to the Havana school of Latin dance, Allinca Francaise de Dhaka, Chhayanaut, Indira Ghandi Cultural Centre, Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts and Bangladesh Shishu Academy. After going there, I talked to them and brought their email addresses, contact numbers and information about dance courses. For example: cost, age limit, schedule, suitable courses and much more. This report was for dance lovers, who were seeking to enroll in good dance courses in Dhaka. After collecting this information I wrote a news story on it which included pictures and essential information.

Then I was given my last two assignments on Blood donation and Sheba Publication house. For the, 'Blood Donation' assignment I had to go many blood donation centers, such as Badhon, Quantum Blood Donation, Shandhani and Bangladesh Red Crescent. This news story was just to let people know about blood donation centers in Dhaka. In my news story I provided addresses and contact numbers of blood donation centers. I believe this kind of report would save many lives and people will be able to collect blood easily in case of emergency.

Moreover, for this news story I had to talk to one or two blood donors and other blood collectors in order to influence people to donate blood. I also interviewed some general people regarding this news story who could help people in their bad times, so I worked really hard for this. In fact I provided information about which blood bank which blood bank you can

easily contact to get blood and also how you can save your own blood. Detailed information was provided in my news story. As *The Daily Star* is very concerned about the authenticity of their news, I had to collect valid information for my news story and then it was checked and published.

My last field reporting assignment was on the Sheba Publication house and it was titled as 'Flashback of the Sheba Publication House'. It was one of the country's most popular publication houses during the 80's and 90's, Qazi Anwar hossain was the founder of this publication house. Moreover, people enjoyed Sheba Publication books in the late 80's and 90's, and it is particularly noticeable for its translated western literary classics. This news story was written to bring back the memories for the readers who used to read these books. It was meant to be a public reaction news story and for this report I had to talk to many people who were the fans of Sheba Publication books.

I had to collect information from the interviewees regarding how they felt while reading Sheba Publication books such as, Masud Rana series, Tin Goyenda and many more. Next comes the writing part .After collecting information, I wrote a rough draft and submitted it. Writing a news story was not an easy task, as to an certain extend I had to include my opinion and analysis. In some places I had to translate the conversation between myself and my interviewees. Then I had to edit some parts because my news story had to be precise. While the sub editors were proof reading the news story some changes were made and then these news stories were ready to be published.

Out of four field reporting news stories I have attached only two of my news stories in the below. My first reporting was on Blood donation and it was published on March 31, 2015.

Be a lifesaver: Donate blood

Shahi Sohana

Accidents never come with a warning. It can happen at any place, any time with anyone. And not just accidents - emergency situations when you might badly need a bag of blood for your near and dear ones are aplenty.

Many people think that donating blood can be harmful for them and they have certain reservations about blood donation. The fear and discomfort has a lot to do with a lack of knowledge. But donating blood is a very safe and simple procedure and it takes only 10-15 minutes to complete the process. Any healthy adult aged between 18- 60 and weighing at least 50 kg is eligible to donate blood.

In conversation with active blood donor Faisal, who is a university student, he says, “Donating blood can give you the fulfillment of knowing that you have helped to save someone's life. I have been a regular blood donor from the age of 20 and I continue to do so today. I have seen how desperate and distressed people can get when trying to manage blood for their near and dear ones and that inspires me to be a voluntary blood donor”.

For emergency situations you definitely need to know the locations of blood banks or get connected to active donors.

Quantam Blood Bank: It is one of the most well known blood banks in town and they can be contacted at any time. Whether you want to donate blood regularly, or are in need of a bag, Quantum is the place to check first. To contact, call: 9351969, 01714010869 or email: info@quantummethod.org.bd . Their address is 1/1 Pioneer Road (Ground Floor), Segunbagicha, Kakrail, Dhaka.

Shandhani (BMC): Shandhani has units in different areas and divisions of Bangladesh. In Dhaka they are located at BMC Unit, House 34, Road 14/A (New) Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1209. Their phone number is 9124619 (BMCH), 01716858723.

Bangladesh Red Crescent Blood Bank: Bangladesh Red Crescent blood bank has been doing donation drives for decades. Their office is located at 7/5 Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh. They can also be contacted at 9116563, 8121497.

Bandhan: Bandhan is a voluntary blood donation organisation based in TSC, Dhaka University that provides blood in emergency situations with the help of their network of students. Their head office is located on the ground floor of TSC and they can be emailed at central@bandhan.org.

They can also be reached at 8629042, 01711025876, 01720080012, 01917264615, 01912082919 (BUET), 01712180246 (Jahangirnagar University).

Motivational campaigns and donation drives take place in many universities to encourage young people to donate blood. Those interested in donating can contact blood_donor@emedicalpoint.com or register as a blood donor on the website www.rokto.com.

World Blood Donor Day (WBDD), observed annually on June 14th, takes the opportunity to promote the culture of donating blood. The joy of saving a human life is such a wonderful feeling. Come forward to save lives and be a voluntary blood donor.

My second field reporting was on Dance courses in Dhaka and it was published on March 24, 2015.

Dance courses in Dhaka

Creativity needs nurturing. Taking dance or music lessons from a very early age helps build a foundation of your creative self. Among all these mediums of expression, dancing stands out as a form that refreshes the mind, body and soul.



Shahi Sohana

Traditionally, we are keen on indigenous forms like Manipuri, Kathak and Odissi, but these days people want to experience the cultural diversity and are also keen on taking up western, Latin, etc. dance forms.

Parents are often confused as to making the right choice when admitting their child in a dance school. Although it is possible, and sometimes necessary, to take private lessons, there is also a growing demand for academic certification. Although there are various institutions, some are suitable only for children, while others are designed for more mature learners.

Havana school of Latin dance

Salsa is the one of the most popular dance forms, with influences from Latin America. The Havana school of Latin Dance is offering short and long courses for salsa. Besides salsa, they also offer Cha-cha-cha, Tango, swing and more. The admission fee is a mere Tk.10500 for three short courses (duration 1 week) and Tk.10000 for the long course (Tk.2000 per month). The school is located in Banani, House 106 (Clara), Road 11, Block-C. For more details contact: 01819 502 079, 01726 195 492 or email them at iaindance_2009@yahoo.com

Alliance Française de Dhaka

Alliance Française has always been a good place to learn and partake in dance and music. Khandaker Md Mahmud Hassan, the Programme Officer there, informs us that three courses are being offered this year. They are Salsa, Tango and Rumba. The courses fee is Tk.10500. AFD tends to teach 3 stages of students - Intensive Adults and Extensive Adults (age 16+); Teenagers (aged 13-15) and Children (age 6- 12). For more details call: 01678 086 442. They have branches in Dhamondi, Gulshan and Uttara.

Chhayanaut

Chhayanaut, since its establishment in 1961, has been one of the most prominent organisations in Dhaka to uphold and promote Bengali culture. With around 4000 students it is undoubtedly one of the largest cultural institutes in the subcontinent. They maintain different sections like - Nalonda Vidyalaya, Shikor, Shangit Vidyatan for various types of students. Besides music, they also have professionals teaching classical dance (Manipuri and Bharatanatyam). They will start taking new students from April.

For more details call: 913 3716. Location: House 32, Road 15/A. Dhanmondi Dhaka.

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre

The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre offers two dance courses by professionals - Warda Rihab (Manipuri), Shankhari Mridha (Bharatanatyam). Registration forms are available at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre in Gulshan during working hours.

Location: House 25, Road 96, Gulshan 2. For more information, call 885 0141.

Bangladesh Academy of fine arts (BAFA)

Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts also known as BAFA is an institution of cultural activities established in Dhaka in 1955 in the memory of the late dance artist Bulbul Chowdhury. They offer modern dance courses for people of all ages. Admission fee is Tk.1000 and a monthly fee of Tk.400. They offer six month basic courses or a one year certificate course.

For more details you can go to their website: www.bafabdonline.com Contact them at bafa_bachchu@yahoo.com or +8802- 57391838.

Bangladesh Shishu Academy

This institute of cultural activities entirely focuses on children aged between 6 and 13. Besides dancing, they also focus on other cultural areas like music, guitar, tabla and many more. The cultural training admission programme starts from June-July. Two classes per week are held and they take 300 students per year. For more details you can contact the Program Officer,

Bangladesh Shishu Academy at 955 7356, 716 8631.

Location: Shishu Academy, Doyel Chattar, Shahbagh or email them at

info@shishuacademy.gov.bd

10. EDITING

In the end, what makes a book valuable is not the paper it's printed on, but the thousands of hours of work by dozens of people who are dedicated to creating the best possible reading experience for you."

— John Green.

John green is the famous author of the book named 'The Fault in Our Stars'. In his quoted line he mentioned the ultimate beauty of a book comes out when it gets the touch of an editor. All credit goes to the editor whose enormous dedication towards work makes the book more valuable and gives readers the best possible reading material.

Editing is basically preparing a written material by revising, correcting or including something. "[E]ditors as coaches [...] help to guide reporters as they gather the news as wordsmiths who improve the writing of stories" (Smith and O'Connell 165). This line depicts editors as a coach to reporters in order to guide them. Most editors say that it is cruel to edit someone's writing which includes their emotions sometimes. However the basic purpose of editing is to correct their (writers) mistakes. After all restructuring, cross checking, proof reading and spelling checking, a piece of writing is ready to be published.

I must say the 'Lifestyle' and 'Arts and Entertainment' pages of *The Daily Star* have skilled editors. I have seen at *The Daily Star* newspaper that each editor has more than one sub-editor. An editor has all the right to fire his/her sub-editors for any kind of major mistakes. In 'Lifestyle' supplement, there are two subeditors, whereas there is only one subeditor for A&E page. The number of editors depends on the amount of work a page needs to do. From the reporter's desk, a report directly goes to the sub-editor's desk for additional filtering, and therefore it is nearly impossible for it to have errors.

As *The Daily Star* follows British English therefore the clash between British English and American English is very common. For example- writing ‘z’ instead of ‘s’ is one of them. There are many other examples as well. Usually editors hardly ever find mistakes from the senior reporters, but in case of junior reporters they are very careful. The editor has to work hard in case of maintaining a certain length of writing. They always try to limit the words. While writing any report I always try to follow and maintain their rules of writing.

In journalism, editing is known as an extremely challenging task to do. An editor has to read a lot of articles, news stories and journals. He/she has to be very efficient in terms of grammar, spellings and sentence forming. During my internship my first report needed to be edited a lot but as the time went on I started to get the hang of *The Daily Star*’s writing style. Therefore at last I successfully wrote a few reports quite appropriately.

Practical knowledge differs from theoretical knowledge; in every step of journalism you will always learn something new. In the 21st century, editing is easier due to availability of technology, but during earlier times, it was one of the most difficult tasks to do for the editors. At that time it was really hard for the editors to recheck everything manually. In-fact it was a matter of more than a few hours, but now it could be done within an hour by using computer and other advanced technologies.

As part of my concentration courses, I took the Eng-401 course which is known as editing course and there I was taught how to edit using various symbols. The chart is given for the proof reader’s to mark any mistakes.

EDITING SYMBOLS

Symbol	Problem	Symbol	Problem
<i>ab</i>	improper abbreviation	<i>nsu</i>	nonstandard usage
<i>agr pa</i> <i>PAA</i>	faulty agreement of pronoun and antecedent	$\P$	new paragraph needed
<i>agr sv</i> <i>SVA</i>	faulty agreement of subject and verb	<i>no</i> $\P$	new paragraph not needed
$\vee$ or <i>apos</i>	missing or misused apostrophe	$\odot$	period needed
<i>awk</i>	awkward phrasing	$\parallel$ or <i>para</i>	nonparallelism
<i>bb</i>	faulty bibliographic form	<i>? or ques</i>	missing or misused question mark
<i>cap</i>	capital letter needed	<i>"/" or quot</i>	missing or misused quotation marks
<i>case</i>	wrong case	<i>ref</i>	unclear reference of pronoun to antecedent
<i>cl</i>	cliché	<i>no</i>	run-on sentence
Δ or <i>com</i>	missing or misused comma	<i>:</i> or <i>sem</i>	missing or misused semicolon
<i>cs</i>	comma splice	<i>sp</i>	spelling error
<i>comp</i>	faulty comparison	<i>shift p</i>	shift in person
<i>dm</i>	dangling modifier	<i>shift t</i>	shift in tense
$\odot$ or <i>ellip</i>	missing or misused ellipsis	<i>sq</i>	squinting modifier
<i>frag</i>	sentence fragment	<i>t or tense</i>	wrong tense
<i>ital</i>	missing or misused italics	<i>trans</i>	poor transition
<i>lc</i>	lowercase (small) letter needed	<i>vb</i>	wrong verb form
<i>ll or lev</i>	wrong level of usage	<i>wdy</i>	wordiness
<i>log</i>	faulty logic	<i>ww</i>	wrong word
<i>mm</i>	misplaced modifier	$\hookleftarrow$	delete (omit)
<i>num</i>	use numerals	$\wedge$	material omitted
		$\odot$	meaning unclear or word illegible

Image: Editing Symbol

Moreover, proof reading is a part of editing. During early times every newspaper required a proof reader but now it has become an old fashion. However, the 'Lifestyle' supplement of *The Daily Star* they still maintains this process of editing. Their sub editors work as proof readers. A proof reader always has to read an article from the beginning to the last. He/she should possess a lot of patience to read the whole article or feature story. They need to be very efficient in this field because their main job is to find out the errors and list them down. Sometimes it becomes a very boring kind of job, but then they take a short break and start again.

Lastly I found that *The Daily Star* has very efficient editors and sub-editors, and they have huge dedication for their work. Sub-editors are a big part of the news industry. They work as filtrations for the news industry and remove dirt.

11. TRANSLATION

While interning at *The Daily Star*, translation was the most common task which I have done a lot of times. Translating is a phenomenon that has huge effect on daily newspapers. I had to translate a lot of scripts, press releases and reports. Translation Studies course proved to be really useful while translating any text from Bangla to English. As we know translation can be of two categories and these were word for word and sense for sense. Author of the book, Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies: theories and application* states that, “The term translation itself has several meanings: translation as a process and translation as a product” (3). This line depicts that the term translation encompasses very distinct perspectives. Translation as a process refers to the translator’s role in taking the original or source text (ST) and turning it into another language known as product or target text (TT). The basic idea of translating my assignments was to deliver the news in a very artistic manner, while also including some entertainment for the readers.

While working with the A&E page and Lifestyle supplement, I had to translate mainly what the celebrities who were interviewed said. A translator always has to keep in mind that the target group might not be skilled or educated, and in that case the word selection had to be straightforward and specific. So, I always had to follow the simple strategy of using easy words.

Ethical issues are also very important to keep in mind. For example: When I was translating the conversation of my interviews, I could easily change which my interviewee wanted to say but I did not do that because a reporter should not do any unethical activity. Changing the translation of any interview for the sake of publicity is not ethical at all. My editor

always asked me to keep all the records of my assignments in case of any interviewee (in my case celebrities) called *The Daily Star* office and claimed that he/she say a specific thing during interview.

However, translating was sometimes a bit tough for me because I had to turn on my recorder, listen to it, translate it into English and then write it. Sometimes I struggled to find the right words to express the sense of my report, because we cannot translate each and every word in correct form from Bangla to English.

I was given many tasks which were related to translation and before handing over the tasks the editor made it clear to me that translation should be sense for sense. After translating I felt that I had successfully illustrated the actual emotions which provoked the readers to continue reading the news story.

12. PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Twelve weeks of my internship at *The Daily Star* was an unforgettable experience and it provided me the access to places where I would never have been able to have access. I got the chance to work with many intellectuals people and meet many celebrities. I also had the chance to attend *The Daily Star*'s many other cultural programs. Every week they organized different cultural programs, seminars and many press conferences. They used to give a lot of gifts to all the journalists. As a new comer in the reporting field, getting these chances to attend these programs was like a dream comes true for me.

We know journalism requires a lot of courage and a vast knowledge about different fields. Moreover journalism is a very challenging and exciting job, if you really love your job. As I have worked in the glamorous field of entertainment and daily lifestyle, I come across many other efficient journalists as well. They have helped me in many ways. Even when I did something wrong with my assignments, they used to guide me properly.

While interning at 'Lifestyle', the best part was whenever the supplement published a new supplement, our whole desk was in a very joyful mood. Everyone was happy because the editor used to compliment the person who deserved it. All the people of 'Lifestyle' and 'Arts and Entertainment' were very liberal and friendly. The work environment with my colleagues was a very good one. Sometimes our editor used to treat us for our good performance. This little treat used to make our day and it inspired us to work harder. Everyday we used to have lunch together and sometimes we had supper together. At that time we used to have a little chit chat with every employee in the office.

Apart from this exciting job, I had to maintain some ethical issues like I was always instructed to keep proof like- recording, pictures etc of my work, just in case. While interviewing I had to maintain these rules. *The Daily Star* maintains a strict ethical code of conduct. A journalist should always stand beside the truth. I learnt that this is the main objective of this profession. I have tried my level best to abide by that objective. Moreover, while interning I have never seen any political biasness or any kind of political pressure in our department. Therefore, we could utilize our freedom of speech, in order to publish news. On the other hand, as it is not a generously paid job, reporters often get involved in other jobs. They used to give time to other organization like ad agencies and personal businesses to earn more money, but they were never biased about publishing news due to political force.

I still believe that if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short-term weapon – Tom Stoppard. In this quotation it is said that journalism is the ultimate weapon to change the world, even though in our country journalists are threatened and often forced to hide news stories. Sometimes they are also killed brutally, but still it the sacred profession to change the world. Journalists are the first people who step ahead to bring changes and as a result they are the people who take risks as well.

However while working I found all print media organizations depends 100% on advertising. Advertisement agencies and advertising departments are the main sources of revenue for *The Daily Star*. After placing the ads on the page, they start working with the outline of the page. As a result of these ads, most of the time the reports and articles lose the places needed for more details to be included. This is how the newspaper works.

13. CONCLUSION

Along with taking two other courses, I have done my internship which was quite a great experience for me. Though my 12 week internship was not enough to teach me every aspect of journalism, it has given me a lot of confidence to work with different people. I have made a lot of new friends who helped me in every step of my *The Daily Star* internship experience. And I feel blessed to have been a part of this newspaper.

I cannot deny the fact that *The Daily Star* always maintains its quality. From the font size to graphics, this newspaper maintains international quality which makes reading this newspaper a pleasure. *The Daily Star* always tries to provide the most updated and genuine news to the readers. For me it was like a roller coaster journey. From the first to the last day, I realized that I have gained a lot of knowledge which would help me in my future.

The Daily Star as a professional newspaper and they not only performs the office task, they also deal with different social issues consistently. I, as a part of *The Daily Star* intern reporter took part in many conferences and seminars which were only organized by *The Daily Star* for some social causes like, rights of street children, women empowerment etc.

I am honored that I got the golden opportunity to participate in the diverse work of *The Daily Star*. I also got the perfect work environment that an intern needs. I miss my *The Daily Star* days.

Work Citation

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