

Decoding The Aspects of Print Media Journalism at *Daily Sun*

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Declaration

It is hereby declared that

1. The internship report submitted is my own original work while completing degree at Brac University.
2. The 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 report does not contain material which 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 simple things are also the most extraordinary things, and only the wise can see them”-

Paulo Coelho, The Alchemist

Life can be really unpredictable, especially at those times when we least expect it to be. So much so, that what we perceive or consider as normal or ordinary does not really come easy to us. This journey of mine has been both pleasure and pain but what it really taught me was that the most extraordinary thing in life is to be ordinary. I have come across many good and bad times, compatible and incompatible people, easy and harsh circumstances etc. All of these have had profound impact on me. I got stuck due to the pandemic, got almost affected by Covid in October 2020, got diagnosed with OCD etc to name a few. It made me realize that people do not struggle to become extraordinary rather they struggle to remain what they perceive as ordinary for them

Through this paper I would like to thank Almighty Allah for blessing me with good health and for giving me another chance to seek forgiveness for my mistakes and making my way ahead in life easy. I would like to show gratitude to my family, especially to my mother, my brother and my nephew, who have greatly supported me before, during and after my internship.

At the university, I would like to express special gratitude to Ms. Seema Nusrat Amin (Lecturer), whom I have been extremely fortunate to have as my Supervisor, who constantly supported me, guided me with right information, gave all the time and support that I needed and most importantly, had faith in me in times when I had lost faith in myself. I would also like to express gratitude to Ms. Roohi Huda (Senior Lecturer), who always went beyond her limitations and boundaries for us so that we can learn properly and do better. Moreover, I would also like to

thank my classmates and friends who have shown true companionship and emotional support in all times and have supported me in every step of the way.

Furthermore, I would like to sincerely thank my on-site supervisor Mr. Atiqul Kabir Tuhin and my co workers at *Daily Sun*. Also, I would like to show a special thanks to Mr SK Nazrul Islam who always enlightened me with the correct procedure of writing various articles and the style and structure of writing in *Daily Sun*. Most importantly, I am ever grateful to Mr. Enamul Hoque Choudhury, the Editor, for granting my internship at *Daily Sun*.

Sajid Ahsan Latif

Dedication

To my family and best friends who have always supported me with every way possible and to my nephew who has always been there to teach me to be a better person.

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1. Introduction

The process of collecting, verifying and sharing information has been an old trait of mankind from an ancient age. Now that we live in the modern age of 21st century, this process has been very much advanced. There are sources everywhere as there are retrievers, who constantly keep updating and adding new information to old information. This is the very aspect that allows news media to flourish and expand every day. The internet too has brought more speed to the process of collecting and sharing information. However, in this era of visual broadcast media and the internet, the importance and impact of print media cannot still be denied. Print media was, is and will probably remain the most widespread and popular news media. Even though the internet and visual broadcast media have revolutionized the news media, print media is still an important pillar of the broader aspect which is news media. It is because; print media emerged before the digital revolution of news media through broadcasting and the internet. Furthermore, print media is still prevalent in areas where even visual news media and internet have failed to reach. Print media is still preferred by many people because it has more details and more importantly, researched and finalized data, than any other news media.

The first time that I was exposed to newspapers, dates back to the late 90s and early 2000s. We used to live in Rajshahi and used to read *Prothom Alo*. Even outside Bangladesh, when we had to go to Maldives in late 2002 and live until mid 2004, we used to read *Prothom Alo* as it was available to us as my father was serving as Acting High Commissioner for the Govt. of Bangladesh back then. In later years *Prothom Alo* was the only news paper that we used to read. But I had an enhanced perspective upon newspapers when I was in class 4 and had to write an essay regarding newspapers. That triggered my interest to observe the newspaper of our house, whereas I only used to just “see” it. Although most of the sections of the newspaper did not

impress me much, I started enjoying entertainment and showbiz pages and science and technology pages in the newspaper. I also had the tendency to cut off news paper clips of interesting, unusual news and glue them to a special notebook.

In the early 2010s when we had more easy access to internet, my interest in news also changed its medium. Now instead of reading hard copies of news, I could read news online in various websites. I used to spend most of my time reading about news of upcoming movies. However, I used to read these news on websites and not on official websites of the newspapers themselves as I was more used to reading news on hard copy rather than soft copy. During all these times only news used to interest me but not the procedure of collecting news or even the lifestyles of the journalists.

In 2016 when I got admitted into BRAC University and joined department of English and Humanities, I chose media and cultural studies without actually knowing anything about it or even considering the outcome of majoring in media. However I can gladly say that by my third year, I was convinced that I had made the right decision by choosing to major in media. Because in my third year I had done the course ENG440: English for the Print Media under Miss Roohi Andaleeb Huda and it was a very delightful course for me. I had learnt the basics of newspapers and the different contents of newspapers such as editorials, opinion editorials (Op-Eds), event reports, feature, etc. and so on. I enjoyed this course very much because I realized that writing editorials, op-ed and feature was fruitful and enjoyable only if a particular field of interest was used to write these papers. I engaged my fields of interest with these papers and got fruitful result. I had an interest in robots, robotics and the future scope of robotics in Bangladesh, hence I wrote an Op-Ed on robotics and its scope in Bangladesh in the future and got very good marks. Coincidentally, I have an equally deep interest in and a considerable amount of knowledge on

bicycles. I also used to own a bicycle which was stolen in late 2017. When we were assigned to write and submit feature in class, I used all of my knowledge and all of my experience to write a feature on bicycles. Surprisingly, the feature covered more than the desired number of words and had got good marks. The fact that I could use my interests to favor my creativity amazed me. The second most important reason that made me glad to choose Media and journalism was my realization that fiction although exhilarating is still made up and mostly unrealistic, whereas media and journalism deals with reality on a regular basis.

I am grateful that I got the chance to learn and work in *Daily Sun* newspaper and improve my perception, skills, adaptability and most importantly, experience. My job was particularly in desk work and not field work as such I had the chance of a deeper look into the process of news collection, structuring and publishing. It made me not only realize the importance of print media but it also taught me the undeniable value of, the people who work tirelessly in print media sector, in our lives.

2. The History of *Daily Sun*



The Daily Sun is an English language daily newspaper in Bangladesh, established on and active since October 24, 2010. Its tagline is True and Impartial. It is owned by East West Media Group Limited (EWMGL), the largest media house of Bangladesh and a sister concern of Bashundhara Group. EWMGL is popular for its subsidiaries which are *Bangladesh Pratidin*, the largest circulated Bengali language newspaper in Bangladesh; *Kaler Kantho*, *Banglanews24.com*, *News24*, *T Sports* (sports broadcasting channel), *Radio Capital* etc.

Daily Sun has had its fair share of fame and criticism throughout the years. Although it started off good in 2010, it was sued in 2012 along with *Kaler Kantho* and *Bangladesh Pratidin*. *Daily Sun* had apparently criticized the Shipping Minister indicating his probable influence upon allowing both license and violation of traffic rules by drivers. This accusation and criticism led to looting of delivery automobile by transport workers and the subsequent sue of the paper.

The founding Editor of *Daily Sun* was Professor Syed Anwar Hossain. The current Editor of *Daily Sun* is Mr. Enamul Hoque Chowdhury.

Daily Sun operates in both online and hardcopy version. The online version appears in both English and Bengali languages. The hardcopy version of the paper is published in English language only. The hardcopy version consists of 16 pages:

1. **Front page:** Contains the lead news of the day along with both national and international and other subsequent important news. Beneath the title of the newspaper,

the volume number, issue number, place, day, dates in Arabic, Bengali and English, website address of the newspaper, e-mail address of the Editor, number of pages and the price are mentioned. Beneath it, upcoming important news titles on following pages are mentioned in a plug box. Majority of the news on the front page is covered by the Staff Correspondent and the main news of the front page is covered by the Special Correspondent. The front page also contains sponsored advertisements of products of the Bashundhara Group and other industries such as Walton.

2. **Metropolis:** This section covers the news of events and occurrences in city areas and is not only limited to Dhaka City but also includes news of events of other cities in Bangladesh.
3. **Metropolis:** This page is the continuation of page 2
4. **Asia:** It covers the events occurring in Asian countries. It includes all the major and minor publishable events happening in almost every major and minor Asian country. Moreover, this page has a “News Of The Day” section at the top right corner of the page, which highlights events revolving popular Asian people.
5. **World:** This page covers the news of events and phenomena happening around the world excluding Asian countries. It covers all kinds of news happening around the world from inaugurating of venues to even criminal activities like human trafficking of people. This page also has a “News Of The Day” section at the top right corner of the page, highlighting events revolving popular international public figures and personalities.
6. **Editorial:** The editorial page contains all the editorials from frequent writers of *Daily Sun* and also new writers who bring up various issues which particularly revolve around

the good and bad aspects and phenomena of the society and country. Writings of Writers, Columnists, Bankers and people of other occupations are included in this page. This page contains a “Quote Of The Day” at top centre of the page and publishes different old and new quotes of famous people every day. At the left side of this page, the top and the bottom areas are allotted to the Editorial Team of *Daily Sun* only, hence the editorials published at the top left and bottom left area contain no names of any writer. The right side of the page is allotted to frequent and new writers and hence at the bottom of the page, beneath the editorials of outsider writers and contributors, there is the following disclaimer in bold: **“The views expressed in these articles are that of the writers. All our contributors are requested to send articles to the following address: suneditorial@gmail.com”**

7. **Your Opinion:** It contains Opinion Editorials or Op-Eds of people, who care to provide opinions on various societal, national and international affairs. For being publishable in the Opinion page there does exist a certain word limit and hence even if the editorials exceed the word limit, the editorials are edited to fit in the page. My area of task was at the editorial and opinion desk and I had completed writing seven Opinion Editorials. One of my opinion editorials titled “Reality of beauty culture” was published by *Daily Sun* on February 28, 2021 in both hard copy and online version of the daily newspaper.
8. **Winner:** This is the sports section page of the newspaper. It contains all the news of sports both national and international. Not only the major sports but also the minor sports news are covered in this page. News about sportsmen too is often published. There is also an untitled short news section at the top right side of the page. Moreover, sports programs and their due broadcast times on the channel T Sports are also

highlighted on this page. Moreover every news covered on this page is written by Sports Correspondent of *Daily Sun*.

9. **Culturtainment:** This is the showbiz page of the newspaper. News regarding the lives of celebrities, various events, upcoming films, dramas and plays etc are mentioned. Relevant pictures are also added. Moreover, television schedule for the channel News24 from 1 a.m. to 1 a.m. and radio guide for Radio Capital 94.8fm from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. are also published in this page. Broadcasting times of news on other channels are also mentioned on this page. Every news covered on this page is done by the Culture Desk of *Daily Sun*.
10. **My District:** this page of the newspaper covers the news of the districts in Bangladesh. The primary focus of this page is on the events happening in the rural areas of the districts. From the events of any minister attending a public gathering to the news of crime occurring or cultural flourishing, every news is covered. Moreover, at the top right corner, there is a section titled “Pic Of The Day” which showcases single picture of people or places depicting activity in a certain time. News of this page is covered by the own correspondent of *Daily Sun*.
11. **News link:** This page covers the remaining portion of major and minor news which is highlighted on page 1 i.e. the front page and page 12 i.e. the back page of the main newspaper, giving proper finishing to news for the readers.
12. **Back page:** the back page of the newspaper finishes off with both national and international news which are comparatively important. The top section of the page contains either historical or geographical or odd news which is later continued in page 11 i.e. News link. Majority of the news of this page is collected from external sources

and one or two news is covered by the Staff Correspondent. At the bottom left of the page, there is the “*daily sun* opinion poll” box which posts one question for the day and instructs to vote at daily-sun.com. The box also publishes poll results to the question published the day before. At the very bottom, sponsored advertisements of subsidiaries of the East West Media Group Limited such as *Kaler Kantho*, *News24*, *Radio Capital fm* etc and other subsidiaries are often published. Beneath the sponsored advertisements, name of the Editor, publisher, address of printing house, phone number, fax number, e-mail addresses are mentioned.

The other unattached segment is the *Daily Sun* business and economy which alone consists of 4 pages and contains news of business affairs, business ventures, investments, currency and commodity market, corporate corner, advertisements, oil and gold prices, exchange rates etc.

Previously, *Daily Sun* used to publish in 24 pages. However, due to the ongoing pandemic of Covid-19, the paper was shortened to 16 pages in total.

Daily Sun also has Weekly Supplements which are *Groove*, *The Hood* and *Morning Tea*.

3. Basic Terminologies Of Newspaper

Like every other field in the world, basic terminologies exist in the realm of print media and journalism as well. These terminologies are there for better communication and understanding of the structure of the news media and the content of those particular media. These terminologies are important to understand for anyone involved in the world of media and journalism if they are interested to learn about journalism and want to pursue a career in it. I have learned most of the terms while I was in classes. Subsequently I got to learn the same common terms again and some new terms in my internship at *Daily Sun* which helped me in communicating and understanding better.

Some of the terms that I came across are as follows:

- Editor: The Editor is the most important person in a newspaper firm. The Editor decides and edits which content would be included and which content will not be included in the final print of the newspaper.
- Opinion Editorial (Op-Ed): Opinion Editorials are articles ranging from 150 to 200 words. In these articles, writers research an ongoing issue, explain it explicitly and provide opinions at the end of the article. My first task provided by my Supervisor at *Daily Sun* was to write opinion editorials. I was instructed to write seven opinion editorials for the first seven days. I wrote altogether eight opinion editorials throughout my internship in *Daily Sun* but only one of my opinion editorials was selected to be published.
- Feature: Features are articles which are usually longer than opinion editorials and tend to be different than straight news. Features are usually written broadly to explain a

particular aspect of any situation. Features can cover people, places, days or even objects and explain them in a broad style, including and highlighting every relevant single detail possible. At my firm, I had proposed to provide my feature on bicycles which I had written back in ENG440: English For The Print Media. However I was discouraged to do so as the weekly supplements of *Daily Sun* had been cancelled for the ongoing pandemic. However I was instructed by my on-site Supervisor to write a feature on the students and the education system of Bangladesh.

- Assignment: Assignment is the certain work given to the people of the news firm by the Editor mostly.
- Event Report: An event report is the report written about the ongoing activities in an event. In the course ENG440: English for the Print Media, we did have an assignment of attending an event and writing a report based on that event. We attended the Dhaka Art Summit (DAS), 2018. We observed the place, the event, the art, the people, the surroundings, the environment, the food and took account of every detail we could to include in our report. We also conducted interviews of other people attending the event, the artists themselves, the event managers and so on. We also took pictures and included them in our report. During my internship in *Daily Sun* too, I was fortunate enough to attend the event of Amar Ekushey Boimela 2021 and write a report applying all of my previous learning and basing on my observation of the event.
- News Agency: The news agency is the agency that sells news to the news firms.
- Masthead: This is the name of the newspaper
- Plug box: Plug box is the bar beneath the masthead. It contains major news item headlines that come in the following pages of the newspaper.

- Lead news: Lead news is the main news which the editor of newspaper puts at the very top and front. Every newspaper has lead news which is always situated at the top front in the front page.
- Subhead: This is the section with additional details in explanation of the lead news.
- Byline/Contributor/Correspondent: the designation of the person who has gathered the news and written sequentially.
- News Intro: This the opening sentence of the opening paragraph of the news article
- News body: The section of the news article where the body paragraphs are situated.
- Headline: This is the main title of the article.
- Advertisement: this section advertises certain products. The advertisements are often sponsored or paid for.
- Angle: Angle is the procedure of how to approach a news story and exactly where to focus on the story. During my task of writing my first feature, I was instructed by my on-site Supervisor to consider and determine my approach on the education system and setup the primary focus on the specific aspect of the education system.

4. Writing Experience in *Daily Sun*

My segment of work at the *Daily Sun* was primarily with the Editorial section and then with the Features and Event Reports Section.

Opinion Editorials

We live in an era where several occurrences at any given day are occurring simultaneously everywhere. Almost every second of every minute something is happening and is being reported. On one hand news is being reported and on the other hand opinions are being formulated and expressed by people. Formulating opinions on certain aspects and phenomena and expressing them has always been an age old habit of mankind. Now that we live in the modern era of communication, the practice of providing opinions has received various platforms so to speak and hence has increased in number. Although social media platforms are there for the people to express their opinions every second, print media is still the trusted platform for expressing opinions. Because everything that is published in newspapers is edited, justified and finalized. Moreover, opinions are important because opinions make way for the solutions to come for existing problems.

The members of the Editorial Section used to monitor the content and the length of the editorials to be published. Specifically, in the Editorial page of *Daily Sun* (page number 6), one to two editorial pieces would be of the personal writers of *Daily Sun*. The rest of the editorials were of the contributors and outside writers who write to *Daily Sun*. The own editorials of *Daily Sun* are usually shorter in size in comparison to the editorials of the contributors, who write editorials of comparatively more words.

Apart from this, the following page that is, the page “Your Opinion” on page number 7 is also monitored by the members of the Editorial Section of *Daily Sun*. The page Your Opinion contains opinion editorials from the general public and sometimes the contributors.

My first task at *Daily Sun* was to write opinion editorials. My on-site supervisor Mr. Atiqul Kabir Tuhin, had instructed to write my first opinion editorial in the form of an application sent to a renowned newspaper firm. My first opinion editorial was about the specific problems faced by the students in my education institution. I revised all that I had learnt in ENG440: English for the Print Media and wrote an opinion editorial. I chose to write on the problem of excessive food prices on the university campus canteen. However, the difference that I observed here was that I was bound strictly by word limitations. My first opinion editorial titled “Minimize Campus Food Prices” was of three hundred and thirty two words. I provided the real scenario of the campus canteen price problems and how majority of the students struggle with hunger and tend to eat unhygienic food outside the campus due to higher prices of food in the campus canteen. Afterwards I summarized the situation and tried to provide an opinion containing a reasonable solution to the problem. While I was writing the article I did face some problems. First of all I had to gather data separately as I myself was unaware of most of the campus problems. Secondly, I was struggling to fit all of my content in three hundred and fifty words. The opinion editorial seemed very much made up and imaginary to me. When I finished writing my article, my supervisor did not read it or provide comments. Instead he edited certain portions of the article such as font size, spelling errors etc and sent me to Assistant Editor Sarker Nazrul Islam sir with my opinion editorial. Nazrul sir read my article and pointed out some grammatical errors such as wrong use of words, trying to express the actual meaning of the content, keeping focus on the fact that people may not misinterpret the opinions provided in the article.

However during the next 6 days, I had the freedom to choose topics on my own yet I had to discuss them beforehand with either my on-site supervisor Tuhin bhai or Nazrul sir for approval. I was always conscious of the fact that if I could write articles which involved aspects of my interest, I could do better at writing. Hence I chose to write my second opinion editorial on the privacy policy of Whatsapp which was a burning issue back in that time. I have always had interests and fascination in technological matters and inventions. I was aware of the matter of the privacy policy, the history of Whatsapp and the possible negative outcome that could come along if people agreed to the privacy policy and let Whatsapp dominate peoples' lives. I wrote the opinion editorial with full enthusiasm. I highlighted the news of Whatsapp, defined certain aspects of technology such as what end to end encryption actually means and how it is absolutely necessary for privacy, defined the nature of the problem, defined how Whatsapp is using peoples' data to practically spy on them. At the end, I provided my opinion of how unethical Whatsapp's actions had been and the probable solution to switch to more secure messengers like Signal and Telegram. I actually had expected that I would get appreciation for this article. However, to my surprise I was neither praised nor criticized. Nazrul sir took my article in the same normal fashion and pointed out sentence errors and grammatical errors.

For my third opinion editorial, I had chose to write and provide my opinions on the issue of our youth reading and watching stories and movies based on the characters of the Marvel and DC comics franchise. My opinion was that most of the characters and their background stories of the comics of Marvel and DC were more or less mythological. Characters like superman or thor were being portrayed as gods which was definitely against the Monotheistic belief of the Muslims that Allah is the only Creator. When I discussed it with my supervisor, he pointed out that the fact that people who work in the sector of media and journalism never actually target

peoples' religious beliefs nor comment at it except if any religious celebration or festival is due. However, my supervisor changed the course of the opinion and instructed to write on the impact of culture on the youth. I brought up various cultural practices and aspects that are prevalent in the modern world and how these affect the youth and shape their mentality and perception about life and circumstances. Aspects ranging from being unable to find a date for Valentine's day and ending up feeling sorry to the fact that how foreign media is teaching the youth lifestyle methods which they can not imply in their own socio-economic context were the focus point of the opinion editorial. However, I did not get remarks for this opinion editorial as Nazrul sir willingly postponed and instructed to come later.

For my fourth opinion editorial, I chose to write on the issue of fiction versus reality. I basically had this realization that fiction is all made up. The structure and subsequent events in a fictional piece take place because the writer of that fiction wishes to do so. Fiction does not have any relation with reality. Events of reality may inspire a fiction, but the outcome of those events depends on the ultimate wish of the writer. However I did make it clear that I was not against the practice of reading fiction. In my opinion it was necessary to read limited fiction so that one does not lose touch with reality and still have entertainment in small doses. Nazrul sir understood my point of view yet he still discouraged me to write so. He pointed out that especially in the month of February, which has a historical impact on our language and is the reason for the Boimela to be held every year, it would not be wise to write such an article because majority of the people may misinterpret the message of the article. I was initially discouraged but then I proposed to write opinion editorial on road accidents instead. I also could relate personally to the matter because of the fact that my own cousin sister (27) died in road accident in Spring 2019.

For my fifth opinion editorial I chose to write on robotics. I did not consult with either Nazrul sir or my on-site supervisor with the topic. I chose to write on this topic because robotics was also one of my fields of interest. My first opinion editorial in ENG440: English for the Print Media was on robotics because in that year (2018) robot waiters from HZX Technologies, China were brought and employed in the restaurant at second floor of Family World Shopping Complex. I did not use the same opinion editorial in *Daily Sun*. Keeping the approach to and focus on the subject matter of the opinion editorial similar, I made a few changes such as the current scenarios, scopes, updates etc.

When it came to my sixth opinion editorial, the trend of “Dark Yet Beautiful” was prevailing among various social media platforms, fashion magazines etc. My opinion editorial was however different from the conventional one. My primary focus was on the fact that skin color or height does not define a person’s success and that people should not blindly buy cosmetics or commodities which may bring a change in their appearance. My main message was that in our society people are often warned from childhood to not to roam around too much in sunlight lest they should get dark skin tone or they should ride bicycle to increase their height. As a result, the people who are born a little dark or short, often face criticism and also feel within themselves that they lack something, hence that criticism and mentality starts to affect the peoples’ confidence and performance as a whole. This opinion editorial of mine was again modified by Nazrul sir and he made the content of the opinion editorial totally women centric. After modification, the main message of the opinion editorial depicted how women are caged within four walls of kitchen by family and society and how being “artificially beautiful” by using cosmetics is a symbol of oppression. After I finished writing this opinion editorial, this article

gained approval and was finally published both in online and in hard copy on February 28th, 2021.



Fig: My opinion editorial, "Reality of beauty culture", published in the hardcopy version of *Daily Sun* on 28th February 2021.

When I wrote my final opinion editorial, I chose the topic of panopticon and how the principle of panopticism is prevalent in the modern technology in the world. I chose this topic because I had read about panopticon in 2019 in both ENG331: Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice and in ENG333: Globalization and the Media. I had provided a final paper on it in ENG331: Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice. Therefore, I was interested enough to write an opinion editorial on it. However, when I proposed to write on panopticon and panopticism, I had to explain to both my on-site supervisor and Nazrul sir about what panopticon was, who Samuel and Jeremy Bentham were and what exactly was the principle of panopticism and how they were still relevant in the modern world.

Features

Features are human interest articles that tend to be different from direct news. Features are articles that are written taking much time and data in hand to explain a certain aspect or situation more broadly and in depth. Features are particularly written because these articles not only enlighten people with knowledge but also help in finding potential readers of a newspaper.

After I was done with writing my opinion editorials, my on-site supervisor instructed me to write feature articles as I expressed my interest to write features. My first feature writing task was to write a feature on the education system. My on-site supervisor did not specify at first regarding what problem to focus on. However, afterwards I chose to write on the differences between English medium education system and Bengali medium education system. It was this time that my on-site supervisor taught me about angle. As mentioned earlier, angle is the procedure of how to approach a news story and exactly where to focus on the story. My on-site supervisor instructed me to determine the approach first and then highlight the focus. Therefore,

I set my approach to finding differences and set my primary focus on the pros and cons of each system. My on-site supervisor also reminded me to conduct interviews on students and gather data to write the feature. I prepared a set of questions and approached some of my friends who I knew were from both English and Bengali medium separately. I recorded the answers of my friends, included them in the feature, successfully highlighted my focus point and managed to keep the word length within two hundred and fifty words.

My first experience of writing feature was in the course ENG440: English for the Print Media. I had written a two thousand five hundred word feature on bicycles. As I had owned a bicycle from 2014 to 2017, I was much more enthusiastic and passionate about bicycles after my one got stolen in 2017. I had gathered much knowledge about bicycles since the theft. Therefore, I had enough knowledge to share through feature. My feature on bicycle was well received in class and I had got an A- in that paper. I had also proposed to my on-site supervisor about submitting my feature on bicycles. However, it was not possible as I was told that my feature was suitable for magazine and that magazines of *Daily Sun* were temporarily closed down due to the pandemic.

The feature that I wrote about the different education systems in *Daily Sun*, met with criticism. I was told that the feature lacked perspective and that I had to conduct interviews on a broader scale and then provide answers which were both highly common and different. Moreover the context of the feature was also being unclear.

Event Report

An event report is the report written about the ongoing activities in an event. Almost every day various events are held. Often time's events in our country are held in celebration of certain anniversaries. On other times events are held for inauguration in places, promotion of summits, trading of goods etc.

Event reports are often written for single day events and often written continuously depending on the duration of events for more than a single day. My first event report writing experience was in the year 2018 when I was studying in the course ENG440: English for the Print Media. During that time, the event of the Dhaka Art Summit (DAS) had been taking place hence I had gone there in group to observe the event. Then, we went to the place where Dhaka Art Summit was being held. Throughout our limited time, we observed everything from the security system at the entry gate to the final lunch time at the place. Then we observed the place, the unique building where the summit was being held. Being amazed, we also saw not only the paintings but also other forms of art work that were present there in the summit. Then we interviewed the event managers and tried to take as much data as possible. Furthermore we also interviewed visitors and also real artists whose art works were present at the summit. Throughout the event, we also took relevant pictures which we then included in our report.

During my time at *Daily Sun*, I was fortunate enough because it was the month of February and the Amar Ekushey Boimela had just started after much consideration in the pandemic. Therefore I discussed the matter with my on-site supervisor and received permission to go to the fair and cover an event report. However, this time, unlike the previous time where I was in group to go to the event, I was single to go on my own. Hence it was bit hectic to find

transport to the fair. Moreover I had actually reached the place much earlier than the starting time of the fair, hence I had to wait during the day time. However, this time I applied a trick to make my report writing easy. I used the recorder of my smartphone to voice record my observations. The voice recording and voice clips actually aided in writing the report, something which was missing during my first event report writing in 2018. I observed the event, the arrangements, the books, collected the necessary data. Moreover, I also interviewed a couple of stall owners and a couple of visitors. I took pictures of the event and my pictures included both normal and interesting pictures. As for example, the Amar Ekushey Boimela 2021 had a big, round cylindrical writing panel titled “Hey Shadhinota, Likhun Apnar Kotha”. It was a panel covered in white paper where people could write whatever they wanted, with or without revealing their own identities. It was basically being highlighted as a symbol of freedom of speech.

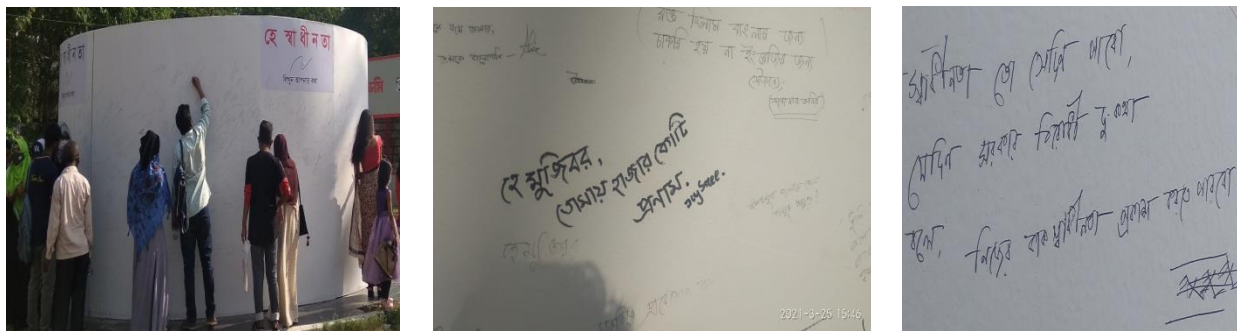


Fig: The *Hey Shadhinota Likhun Apnar Kotha* panel and the comments of people.

However, this time too I faced some difficulties along the way in writing the report. The first difficulty was in word limit. The word limit in my event report was less than five hundred. It really put me to struggle as I was having trouble accumulating all the data and not missing any important information. Moreover it was also challenging to determine which data or information could have been removed from the report. However, when I submitted my report to my on-site

supervisor, this time too my report met with criticism. I was told that my report lacked some details regarding more information about the total books in the fair on that day and the day before. My supervisor also pointed out about what information should take place at the beginning of the report and what information should be mentioned later on. I was instructed to visit the fair again make another attempt at writing the event report.

5. Theories Related to My Work

During my undergraduate years in Department of English and Humanities, BRAC University, I have come across many theories learnt in various courses. These theories have not only enlightened me with new knowledge, but also have clarified my existing flawed perceptions about certain aspects. Theories about panopticism, globalization, the media, society, culture, taught by our respected faculties have not only broadened my knowledge but also have changed the way of how I used to look at certain things, that is, my perspective. I have learnt from my faculties to not look at things at face value but rather in a deeper, analytical style to dig out the actual hidden meaning.

To be very honest, when my internship started, I could only think of the text book I had in the course ENG440: English for the Print Media. I thought only the theories and information that I had learned in that book would alone help me throughout my time at *Daily Sun*. I was foolishly wrong.

To begin with, I actually realized in short time that people in the journalism sector have very easy access to information and other things, something which the general public and most importantly, students do not. This reminded me of Michel Foucault's "The Eye Of Power" which I had learnt in ENG331: Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice. It was really delightful to see how advanced systems were available at desks to reach out to necessary information, something which the general public will have a hard time to retrieve to.

Moreover, when I wanted to write an opinion editorial to point out that the practice of reading comic books or watching superhero movies was against the belief of Muslims, I was discouraged and was suggested to completely change my topic and write differently. I initially

related this to Islamophobia out of misunderstanding. However, I was rectified by Seema Miss and researched on the matter. I realized media tends to handle religious issues with apathy because if focus is set even unintentionally on the negative role of religion, it causes unrest amongst a religiously sensitive public and that causes trouble for the government.

Lee Marsden and Heather Savigny in their book *Media, Religion and Conflict* states, **“Inevitably good news stories receive less media attention than bad news and there is an increased focus on the negative role of religion, or more specifically religious actors, in conflictual situations. Ken Booth sees the emergence of religious based identity politics as essentially problematic for governments faced with sensitive religious audiences.”** [pg. no. 10]

Therefore, it made me realize that, the more media can avoid religion and religious matters, the more it is better for their own good.

Moreover, when I wanted to write about fiction versus reality, again, I was discouraged and was suggested to write something new instead. These also reminded me of Hyperreality where Baudrillard expresses hyperreality as “A real without origin or reality”. Similar to Baudrillard’s definition, using Disney world as the medium of Simulation, fiction can also be called a medium of simulation because the events that take place in a fiction may seem real but are actually not and are rather made up by writers.

6. Personal Account

My whole journey of the internship, from the start to the end, did teach me a lot about everything. When times were difficult, and nothing was going according to plans, I realized that having momentary intelligence was always better than having plans. I was all set to do my internship in Spring 2020. But I could not do so, as I was unclear of the procedure of the formalities to be completed before the actual internship that is, creating curriculum vitae, forming an OCSAR account, registering for internship etc. which I have done after learning the hard way. Moreover I was also not mentally sound as I was going through the hard process of recovering from a rejection. Moreover the isolation in the indoor environment for a long time made me a bit claustrophobic and yet still worried to go out for fear of infection, even after being vaccinated. Things took a turn for the worse when I started watching some people of my department graduating early, which made me feel sad. However, I managed to keep momentary intelligence, overcome those obstacles and started my internship. However, the breaking yet inspiring point that I consider, came when I got diagnosed with OCD. My mother apparently observed that I used to get extremely irritated if I failed in any certain task, and then I would keep on doing the same task agitated. She also noticed the times I would constantly wash my hands, even my dinner plate and glass by myself and I would yell at people if they did not wear masks, or got too close or point fingers too close to me while talking. She decided to take me to a psychiatrist after she found out that I had become pretty much hopeless about the future. Then when she took me to the first psychiatrist, he asked some questions about my life and abilities and pointed out my reason of not to socialize with people was due to the fact that I was very, very weak in mathematics, and overall weak in academics, which added to my disability of not recognizing and differentiating between good and bad people and made it hard for me to

understand a lot of other things with clarity. Therefore, he pointed it out as my reason for being victim of bully and hence, either totally refusing to socialize and go out, or have very limited friends (three only) and as my reason to not have clarity and to fail to understand instructions. I could relate to this, because during the internship, I was supposed to submit reflection papers after every two weeks. Instead, I foolishly misunderstood instructions and had sent only the first reflection paper written after the first two weeks. The second psychiatrist, this time a senior and more experienced one, pointed out that I have the problem of obsession, that is, I tend to think the same things, good or bad, repeatedly and have the same thoughts of past and future more than often. By the mercy of Almighty Allah, I was finally able to overcome the problem after having sessions of psychological counseling with Dr. Amina Khatun at CRP, Mirpur. The counseling helped me a lot and my clarity and perspective upon aspects improved too. The problem of the OCD and subsequent counseling happened after my internship was over. Therefore, my disorder and problem of over thinking made it difficult during the times of writing this thesis.

Apart from the regular office work and content, I learnt how to behave in an office environment. I learnt how to meet with new people and maintain relations with them. I learnt the difference between theoretical work and actual work during the internship. I realized that no matter how much we prepare ourselves about certain aspects, things will always appear different and hence different approaches will have to be taken. This taught me to consider alternate possibilities of almost everything.

The phase of my internship did teach me that one has to always go beyond one's comfort levels if achieving goals is absolutely necessary. During my time at internship I did find myself in situations which were unfavorable as I have always been an introvert, stay-at-home individual

all my life. However my extreme need to finish the internship correctly was always the working force which fueled me to go beyond my doubts and obstacles.

Despite of my mistakes, my seniors at *Daily Sun* have always guided me with the right direction and have overlooked my shortcomings. Even when I got sick I did not ask for leave but my on-site Supervisor allowed me to take a leave and come back after I had recovered.

To conclude, the life lesson that I learnt during the entire phase of the internship, was that the most extraordinary thing in life is to be ordinary. People do not struggle so much to become extraordinary, rather they struggle to remain ordinary, because sometimes achieving even the ordinary can be difficult and may seem far out of reach, even for the extraordinary. The fact that the journey of the internship was so difficult, it made me appreciate all the ordinary things which made my life simple.

7. Conclusion

This report is the account of details of my internship at *Daily Sun*. It includes the details of all my work that I have done during my time in internship at *Daily Sun*. It includes accounts of all the works that I had been assigned to do, my approaches in doing those works, application of my learning upon those works and subsequent learning that I received at my firm.

The internship allowed me to have practical experiences and enabled me to see how the world outside home and campus works. It definitely developed my skills as a writer and allowed me to have a more clear perspective of aspects which were still different in my mind.

Lastly, I cannot thank enough the team of *Daily Sun* for allowing me to be a part of their journey and to learn from them. I will always remain grateful to them because they opened their doors to me when almost all the other doors were shut.

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