

Report on
Internship as Sub-editor at *Bdnews24.com*

By

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An internship report submitted to the Department of English and Humanities in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Bachelor of Arts in English

Department of English and Humanities

BRAC University
June 2025

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Declaration

It is hereby declared that

1. The internship report submitted is my/our 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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Letter of Transmittal

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June 17, 2025

Roohi Huda

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Kha-224 Merul Badda, Dhaka 1212

Subject: Submission of the internship report as a sub-editor at *bdnews24.com*.

Dear Madam,

This is my pleasure to display my entry level work as a sub-editor at *bdnews24.com* regarding the recruitment and selection procedure of *bdnews24.com*, which I was appointed by your direction.

I have attempted my best to finish the report with the essential data and recommended proposition in a significant, compact and comprehensive manner as possible.

I trust that the report will meet the desires.

Sincerely yours,

Zawadul Hasan Zidan

24103101

Non-Disclosure Agreement

This agreement is made and signed by the undersigned student, Zawadul Hasan Zidan, at BRAC University, and *bdnews24.com*. The purpose of this agreement is to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of the organisation's confidential data.

bdnews24.com

Zawadul Hasan Zidan

Acknowledgment

Where I stand today is only because of the people in my life who never stopped believing in me. Without thanking them all, this report would be incomplete.

I want to start by thanking my parents for their immense support. Without their constant support, unconditional love, and words of encouragement, I would never have been able to pursue my dreams. They have always believed in me regardless of my silent hardships.

Moreover, I want to thank my friends, for having their faith in me even when I failed to believe in myself.

I want to express my deepest thanks to Ms. Roohi Huda (Assistant Professor, Dept. of English and Humanities, BRAC University), as my internship supervisor. She helped me all the time when I needed it and provided me proper direction during this period. I want to offer her my heartfelt appreciation for being such a great source of inspiration and guidance. I would also like to express my gratitude to all my peers and faculty members such as Associate Professor Mr. Sayeed Noman, Tabassum Zaman, and others. Their continuous guidance has made my time at Brac University productive and enjoyable.

I would also like to thank the handful of good friends I have made during my time at this institution. Ishtiaque, Humayra, Ashiq, thank you for supporting me through thick and thin.

I am also grateful to Mr. Zahedul Kabir, as my organizational supervisor, who in spite of being extraordinarily busy with his duties, took time out to listen and guide me.

Lastly, I am also very grateful to the reporters of *bdnews24.com*. Things would have been different if they were not there for me when I felt clueless. A paper is not enough for me to

express the support and guidance I received from my colleagues of *Bdnews24* for almost all the work that I have performed there.

I dedicate this dissertation to my parents, every person who has supported me in life and the strangers who have been kind to me.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1	1
Introduction.....	1
1.1 What is Journalism.....	1
1.2 Newspapers in Bangladesh.....	1
Chapter 2	4
Historical Background: bdnews24.com.....	4
2.1 History:.....	4
2.2 Governing Body:.....	5
2.3 Working Hours:.....	6
2.4 Capabilities of Staff Members and the Agency:.....	7
2.5 Social and Economic Commitment:.....	7
Chapter 3	8
Work of A Sub-editor (Multimedia).....	8
3.1 Collecting News Stories.....	8
3.2 International News Sourcing.....	8
3.3 Writing Press Releases.....	9
3.4 The Inverted Pyramid Structure.....	9
Chapter 4	10
Editing Procedure.....	10
4.1 Copy Editing.....	10
4.2 Editing News Headline.....	12
4.3 Challenges of Editing News.....	13
Chapter 5	15
Translation.....	15
5.1 What Is Translation?.....	15
5.2 Types of Translation:.....	15
5.3 Translating news stories:.....	16
Chapter 6	17
Publishing Process (Panel):.....	17
Chapter 7	18

The Project of Making ‘Life & Style’ Magazine.....	18
7.1 Creating Drafts for the Magazine.....	18
7.2 Developing the First-ever Entertainment Magazine.....	19
Chapter 8	20
Training and Workshop.....	20
Chapter 9	21
Application of The Media Theories in My Internship.....	21
9.1 Panopticon and Gaze.....	22
9.2 The Theory of Cultural Imperialism:.....	23
Chapter 10	24
Work Experience at <i>Bdnews24.com</i> Multimedia Team.....	24
Chapter 11	25
Conclusion.....	25
Works Cited:	26
Appendix	27

Glossary

SEO: Search engine optimization (SEO) refers to the process of improving the quality and visibility of website traffic to a website or a web page from search engines.

Reach: It is a media analytics metric used in social media that indicates the number of users who have come across particular content on social platforms such as Facebook, YouTube etc.

E-Paper: Web/digital edition of a newspaper that is usually published on a newspaper's website.

Digital security: Digital security, also known as information security, is the practice of protecting digital information from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction.

Panopticon: the panopticon is a design of institutional building with an inbuilt system of control, originated by the English philosopher and social theorist Jeremy Bentham.

User Traffic: It refers to the number of visitors to a website, and the pages they click on.

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 What is Journalism

"The duty of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable." – this quote is attributed to a well-known American satirist Finley Peter Dunne. The quote sheds light on the responsibilities a newspaper has to pursue, which is to support the most vulnerable yet critique the privileged people of the society.

Journalism refers to the complete process that begins at brainstorming, gathering and researching for news, followed by, writing, editing, and reporting that news which can be related to political or societal concerns, current events, and popular trends and is communicated to large audiences through print, broadcast, or online media. Therefore, journalism is a formidable tool that can reveal disparities and injustices that impact largely on people who may lack authoritarian or monetary privileges. People are interested to know thoroughly about the day-to-day or ongoing issues that affect them politically, socially, financially and in other ways. Therefore, the pursuit of journalism should ideally be to provide citizens with the information they must know to conclude their own lives, communities, society, and even Government. However, journalism has been diversified into various sectors. Mostly it is covered by a limited number of media platforms, which range from news channels, newspaper agencies, audio-visual platforms or even online news agencies that lack printing capabilities.

1.2 Newspapers in Bangladesh

Pursuing journalism in a developing country comes with additional duties. But it is thriving, with newspapers, television, and new media operations in both the private and public sectors. Hundreds of dailies are published throughout the country, but only a few of them are considered or followed as dependable news source. This suggests that newspapers continue to play an important role in Bangladeshi journalism. Online news portals are rapidly gaining popularity as news sources among the general public, particularly among the country's younger generations. Almost all print publications have online equivalents, and they have begun to function as full-fledged online news portals. People today rely on online news sites for rapid updates and information. Aside from online editions of daily newspapers and TV networks, there are thousands of online news portals around the country. There are three types of internet news portals available in our country. They are, sites affiliated with already established media organizations - *thedailystar.net*, *prothom-alo.com*, *dhakatribune.com* etc. There are websites linked to local radio and television stations, such as *radiotodaybd.fm*, *channelionline.com*, and *ntvbd.com*. However, websites that are exclusively accessible online are *bdnews24*, *banglanews24*, *BBC Bangla*, and so on. *Bdnews24* is the nation's first online newspaper without a companion print edition. Since its inauguration, it has ushered in a new dynamic for our nation's journalism sector. Consequently, hundreds of other online news websites have started using this identical pathway lately. Media can often work as the cornerstone of constructing social structure and social change, as well as the most powerful connector and accelerator of globalization worldwide. As a result, I have always been interested in advancing my knowledge about media studies or journalism. When I enrolled in the Department of English and Humanities at Brac University, I was interested in pursuing Media and Cultural Studies as an area of concentration solely as I was always

fascinated by how media functions in our nation or even globally. I got to see firsthand how the media outlets manage the flow of information continuously on a daily basis. During my ENG440: English for the Print Media course, I clearly recall a visit to a reputed English daily in Bangladesh, which is *The Daily Star*. Roohi Huda, our course instructor arranged a guided tour of the newsroom there just for us. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Humanities at Brac University. We were taken to the 6th and 7th floors of the office and got to see a glimpse of various sections, including news, features, and multimedia. The environment felt extremely friendly, where even under pressure, employees could enjoy themselves to the fullest. This felt quite unusual considering how modern workplaces work. However, ever since that visit to the news agency, my mind was always focused on developing journalistic senses. I wanted to pursue journalism that would impact society positively.

My journey at *bdnews24* was an amalgamation of learning the technicalities of journalism, developing a journalistic sense and working with well-experienced people with a diverse set of skills that are required to work in the field of journalism. *Bdnews24*'s focus on news stories both from national politics and local politics and its deep understanding of the mass people or the local context held immense value to me. I wholeheartedly sought to not just hone my journalistic skills but also acquire valuable insights into the issues that impact my community. The volume of coverage across different beats at *bdnews24*, ranges from politics, economics, and social issues to entertainment, lifestyle or even sports.

I started the internship by envisioning it as an opportunity to explore multiple areas of journalism. The purpose behind it was to discover my personal or specific interests within this broad field. *bdnews24*'s commitment to practicing ethical journalism, upholding the voice and values of democracy and most importantly, offering a chance to be heard to the voiceless resonated thoroughly with my ethics, morals or beliefs. I knew beforehand that this

internship would not only be about personal or professional growth, but also about making myself aligned in a work environment that has a set of standards to maintain strictly. I truly respect the values and ethics of *bdnews24* because it aspires to make news accessible to everyone in the country, not just to cater only to the higher class or middle-class people of society. I started my internship at the multimedia desk at *bdnews24* both as a correspondent and sub-editor. During my time at the internship, I learned to write and edit copies both at the same time. I had to edit copies to make sure that each of the copies had all the necessary elements required to make a story newsworthy.

Chapter 2

Historical Background: bdnews24.com



Figure 1: The Logo of Bdnews24.com

2.1 History:

Bdnews24 is the country's first online news agency and the first-ever bilingual news website. It is also the largest news published by reach which works on a 24x7 module. *Bdnews24* is well-reputed for its unbiased and impartial stance on all matters. In the year of 2005, the website started its journey with Ahmed Yasir Riad who worked as the chief editor of the news agency. The web-based news agency was established against the backdrop of the heated scenarios between the ruling party Bangladesh Nationalist Party and the Awami League. After displaying unsatisfactory events by the BNP's government during their ruling time, there were mass protests by the mass people throughout the country. While these ongoing tensions were rising, *bdnews24* started a first-of-its-kind venture to uphold ethical journalism which is critically acclaimed for its standards of professionalism and integrity as a news publisher. The news publisher working on a 24/7 module draws on resources of over five hundred journalists and photographers across Bangladesh and beyond. It brought purpose

to distribute accurate news and diverse insights for over 18 years to a wider range of audiences.

Bdnews24 had begun its journey primarily as a news agency with a handful of clients in the print and media industry. It sought massive outreach and popularity amongst local people and quickly grew into a well-acknowledged news agency around the country and abroad. With the website being visited by tens of millions of people who regularly turn to the site, the numbers kept on growing for the lookout for essential news, information, or analysis.

The back drop for the nation's first and foremost 'internet newspaper' dates back to 2006, when a friendly and formal takeover occurred. Bangladesh News 24 Hours Limited has continued the operation since then. The takeover led to boardroom changes at *bdnews24.com*. After the takeover, the news agency was rebranded as *bdnews24* which previously was BDNEWS. In June 2006, Toufique Imrose Khalidi who is a working journalist and a former BBC broadcaster took over the agency by handling the responsibilities of the Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief of the news agency. Since then, the online news outlet reemerged as *bdnews24.com* which effectively still is the first-ever web-based news publisher in the nation's history. After its rebranding, the contents of the online news agency were made free for the mass people, earning admiration from many for producing ethical journalistic news stories.

2.2 Governing Body:

Towfique Imrose Khalidi, a former BBC broadcaster and an active journalist is now the editor and publisher of *bdnews24*. Asif Mahmud acts as the Chairman of the news agency. The web-based news publisher is managed by a two-member Board of Directors. The head of the body has the responsibility of fulfilling the role of Chairman, while the other member is mostly known as Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief. Overseeing the income and

investments at *bdnews24.com* are the sole responsibilities of the Managing Director. They both practically have a heavy role in the policymaking at *bdnews24*. The Editor-in-Chief, who also serves as one of the Directors is primarily responsible for policymaking.



Figure 2: Celebration of the 18th anniversary of Bdnews24

2.3 Working Hours:

As an online newspaper, reporters and sub-editors must meet deadlines within a constrained time frame. Other employees work in different shifts depending on the nature of their job designation, while administration and financial workers work from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and they have two days off every week.

Other units such as reporting, news, editing, graphics, and production work in different shifts. This requires many employees to stay in the office until 2:00 am. Reporters do not have any fixed work schedule because they must be prepared to cover events around

the country at any moment. The reporters and news editors strictly maintain a 7-hour shift and usually have only one day off. Staff of these sections get their day off on different days of the week, considering the smooth flow of the news stories throughout the year. Except for reporting and editing, beats such as feature, editorial, graphics, and production have a fixed weekly holiday on Fridays.

2.4 Capabilities of Staff Members and the Agency:

Bdnews24 is divided into many sections: country, reporting, sports, business, editorial, national, world, lifestyle, glitz, tech, multimedia, circulation, advertisement, IT support, and reading section. These sectors now employ a total of close to 120 employees. Of these employees, many are female journalists and also regular employees. Some of the women are also involved in various policy-making roles within these divisions.



Figure 3: Office environment at Bdnews24

2.5 Social and Economic Commitment:

Bdnews24 regularly hosts seminars, interviews, roundtable discussions and conversations on any ongoing issue or topic. It awards achievements in several sectors. For instance, it has an alternate platform to promote journalism in the country named 'Hello'. 'Hello' is primarily a brainchild of the Editor-in-Chief, Towfique Imrose Khalidi. It focuses on the development of child journalism. It is the sole platform that operates outside the regular policies and implications for any other sections. It also offers university students the opportunity to intern for a few months, with the option to become full-time staff members for those who worked as university correspondents afterward.

Chapter 3

Work of A Sub-editor (Multimedia)

3.1 Collecting News Stories

During my internship, I have seen my supervisor assign a variety of tasks to other sub-editors of the digital section. Collecting the news story from scratch is usually the fundamental step. News stories do not always come in the form of a brief of any incident. But rather news sometimes comes along with the footage. It is collected either by a phone call or through an email from the local correspondents working for *bdnews24*, which a desk reporter receives. He or she then progresses to check the story for details or authenticity and makes sure that it has all the necessary elements that make a story newsworthy.

Similar to other news outlets, *bdnews24* also aims to deconstruct the priority of news based on the five news value factors, which are:- Prominence (Significance of the news), Timeliness (How recent or relevant a story is), Consequence (Effect/ impact that create to the mind of the public after reading the news), Proximity (The valuation of a news which is dependent on the geographical distance of its reader) and Oddity (The gravity of uncommon news or the news with any event that happen once in a while).

3.2 International News Sourcing

The news agency is unable to send its reporters abroad to collect international news content. Therefore, they need to rely on foreign websites and international news agencies to report about anything happening abroad. As a result, *bdnews24* is subscribed to some reputed international news agencies such as *Reuters*, *AFP Relaxnews*, *Associated Press News (AP News)*, *AP Video*, *The Dawn*, and *Deutsche Welle*, among others. It also has an understanding with some local news websites, for example, *Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)*, *United News Bangladesh (UNB)*, etc. Subscribing or utilizing these news platforms from above mentioned national and international news agencies is always dependable. *Bdnews24.com* takes these news contents and publishes them while maintaining proper copyright law and promptly pays for the news story. Therefore, local readers can enjoy the taste of quality write-ups which maintains the international standard as well.

3.3 Writing Press Releases

While interning at *bdnews24*, I came across lots of press releases regularly. Most of the press releases came from a variety of government institutions or multinational companies for marketing or hiring purposes or even from the office of the CA (Chief Advisor). After receiving them, my first job was to inform my supervisor about them, and he would decide if

the press release was significant enough to be published or uploaded. Although some of them were not engaging, others were really good. It was very challenging to edit or translate the good ones because the editor needed to ensure the standards of *The Daily Star* before publishing a press release. Sometimes the newspaper publishes the press releases without any editing, and sometimes they need to be translated from Bangla to English. So that they make sense to the readers of this English daily.

3.4 The Inverted Pyramid Structure

The editor has the responsibility to break down the information and arrange it chronologically by following the inverted pyramid structure. It emphasizes on keeping the most important facts in the first paragraph, the following paragraphs tend to have the lesser or least important details.

Chapter 4

Editing Procedure

4.1 Copy Editing

After the reporter gathers all the necessary information and details regarding the news story, he or she submits it to the editor. The editor mainly reads them, checking for any errors in grammar, structure of the sentence, spelling, punctuation, the validity of the sources, and attributions. Afterwards, the editor, prepares it for publication. This is a crucial reason why revising news stories is an essential and tedious job. Yet a significant reason behind it is that the news story has the chance to go live or be on the internet and reach mass people, it is the job of an editor to revise everything before it gets uploaded or published. However, another purpose of editing is to cross-check and correct mistakes, if there is any obviously. But if the news story is well researched, documented and portrays what the news agency is aiming to

achieve, often the editor glances through the story just to provide effective gatekeeping at the desk.

Since I was an intern at *bdnews24*, I started my internship with editing tasks. I was asked to edit several news stories every day related to crime, accidents, and regional news. This is mostly termed as hard news. Next, there were some small press releases as well. Once the small press releases were edited, they were rechecked by my seniors and desk editor. While writing or editing any article, I always aimed to follow the rules of writing for the digital section. For instance, the introductory part needs to cover '5Ws and 1H' (who, what, when, where, why, how). Moreover, quotations have to be clear and accurate in depiction. The names of places also have to be on point. The reporter is required to be very cautious about the facts and figures and always double-check everything, especially the designation and spelling of the name of a person. I was told to add subheadings or bullet points if necessary and omit any kind of unnecessary and baseless information. As *bdnews24* writes in British English, therefore, using 's' instead of 'z' and

other words needed to be checked with full attention. I also did not write names of days; instead, I had to write 'today', 'this morning', 'yesterday', 'tomorrow'. Different news agencies tend to follow different rules and regulations, which needs to be followed accurately. For crime stories, the news addresses the dead person as 'deceased'. Also, abbreviations of words that need to be mentioned in full form, for example, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), officer-in-charge (OC), sub-inspector (SI), etc. Remove the dots '.' from words like 'USA' or 'UK'. So, it should be 'USA' not 'U.S.A.' or 'UK' not 'U.K'. I was chosen to write important contents in both small and large scale throughout my internship days. For any kind of update or change in the news story, I always had to contact the reporter and asked my editor to provide me proper directions. Additionally, I had to incorporate hyperlinks in my writing as much as possible so that the reader got to know more about the news while consuming less of their valuable time. Since the reader usually looks up the news as soon as it appears on the site, any type of sloppiness should be strictly avoided consciously.

The process for editing for the web is different from the printed version of a newspaper. People usually search for the most precise form of news, which in fact saves their time and keeps their attention on the news story. Therefore, the editor must be very conscious of the length of the news. It is quite challenging for an editor to edit an article based on the requirements of a newspaper.

4.2 Editing News Headline

The headline always generates the first impression of a news story. The headlines must be catchy and decisive in which readers can find self-interest. In my undergraduate studies, I learned to write headlines extensively in a course titled ENG404: Copywriting. During my initial days, the learnings from this course massively helped me as I had to showcase my creativity and journalistic sense in a digitally dense multimedia section. Then,

there should be a concise summary of the whole news story presented in as few words as possible. This is purposefully done to attract and satisfy even the readers who opt to only skim through the first few lines of each news story. Otherwise, the story will lose its appeal.

Hence, the headline needs to be a careful selection of

words by an editor even though I had to provide my own headlines or even thumbnails.

During my internship, my supervisor gave me some tips on how to write or edit a good news headline. They are mentioned below:

- Use familiar words and write concisely
- Remain faithful to the original story
- Write it in active voice
- Being creative but not vague
- Try to write it in a positive form, not negative
- Being factually correct is important rather than grammatically correct
- Keep it within eight words long and even fewer whenever possible
- Usually, headlines get edited after the news story is done.

4.3 Challenges of Editing News

At the initial stage of my internship, I thought editing would comprise making some minor changes in an article. However, as time went by, I realized how critical and challenging the task was. I did a lot of work to shape up and reorganize an article following the editing requirements of *bdnews24*.

Sometimes I faced difficulties while dealing with the rural correspondents, as they could not provide the necessary information that I specifically looked for. Most of them also cannot write well. Moreover, some local reporters sent news stories that had already been shortened and written by not abiding by the pyramid structure but were full of grammatical errors and also lacked proper sentence structure. Often, I faced trouble with news pieces written in Bangla

that were full of trivial and misleading information. These experiences made me realize how big and important an editor's responsibility is in the newsroom or at a desk.

In my understanding, editing takes lots of practice, knowledge of the mechanics and semiotics, and a problem-solving attitude. All in all, I found this whole experience to be very exciting and helpful in developing my editing skills.

Chapter 5

Translation

5.1 What Is Translation?

Translation refers to the process through which an original text or word (source language) is translated into another text or word in a different language (target language) while keeping the meaning intact in both languages. While translating, an editor needs to keep in mind the following aspects of the original text or source text.

- Text based- this includes texts, such as, poetry, prose, novel, short story etc.
- Content based- the main theme or subject matter of the text, which are, tragedy, comedy, romance etc.
- Context based- this includes the type of representation of culture or situations that the text is trying to imply, which essentially is considered as the context of a text.

5.2 Types of Translation:

During my undergraduate degree, I took the course titled ENG 465: Translation Studies at my University, where I learned about the two primary ways of translation methods.

The first one is called literal translation, where every word of the source language gets replaced by its closest form in the target language. It is why it is also known as ‘word-for-word translation’. The other is ‘exegetic translation’. It only aims to keep the detailed or deeper meaning intact while it simultaneously making necessary changes and rearranging the overall subject matter or idea of the source language in the target language. Thus, it is also known as ‘free translation’.

5.3 Translating news stories:

Translating news stories is one of the most time-consuming tasks to do in the newsroom. During the 12-week internship period, I found it a very lethargic task to complete because it takes quite a lot of time to translate stories that will be published as a news story. Unlike other news stories, translations take a much larger portion of time. For the English website of *bdnews24.com*, the original story requires to be translated into English before it gets published. Additionally, most of the news stories are usually sent by local correspondents, who prefer to write and send news stories in Bangla. At times, I was assigned to translate press releases and reports which were sent through email. I primarily translated news stories on national political events and various significant international news stories. For the international news stories, I used references from many international news agencies and analyzed different perspectives on any important incident. Most of the time, my editor provided me with instructions about my translation works beforehand. Sometimes, he asked for literal translation focusing on the press releases from Chief Advisor’s office. But occasionally, he also asked for detailed or exegetic translatory process for the international news stories. For translations related works, my editor passed me some insights on how some wordings in a news needs to be set depending on the already established house rules. I mostly used dictionary to find out translations on some rare words. However, another trick to check

for wordings or spellings, is to look up the past or archived news stories on any site. This really put back a lot of clarity in my mind while I was completing these tasks. News stories that are translated with caution and care is just as significant as any other published news stories. It circulates definite information amongst people which is the key factor while publishing any news story.

Chapter 6

Publishing Process (Panel):

Bdnews24 publishes news stories only on its website and its YouTube channel. Being the country's first-ever web-based news agency, *bdnews24* focuses and relies heavily on digital media. Because of this reason, the news agency has put extra emphasis on developing the panel. At *bdnews24*, the panel usually refers to video editors, script writers, voice artists, and IT-related people who look after the publishing process of a news story. It is a relatively small bunch of people who keep track of every uploaded content on the website.

When a news story is gathered from the local correspondents, the next job is to furnish the story with a specific focus on adding necessary information and cutting out the unnecessary ones. This is where I did my part as an intern. I prepared many scripts or write-ups based on the stories I received. After finishing the write-up or news story, some of the news goes directly to the website. However, I also wrote scripts for their YouTube channel for which I had to take part in the production process. I got myself engaged in finding credible footage for any story that was published on YouTube. Moreover, I had to look after the production process by myself for stories that I wrote for the YouTube channel. Finally, with over 3 to 4 million regular traffic monthly on the website, it is a must to keep the website loaded with news stories that are credible, trustworthy and up-to-date on a regular basis throughout the day.

Chapter 7

The Project of Making ‘Life & Style’ Magazine

7.1 Creating Drafts for the Magazine

During my internship tenure, I was lucky enough to be a part of a project-based work. I was assigned one desk reporter and one cinematographer who guided my activity in the project. However, our primary job was to create narrative drafts for stories, choose pictures and look for interview translations that can be published in the magazine.

For this particular task, my assigned job was to create a shortlist of stories that would reflect a festive vibe for a broad range of audiences. Since the magazine focused on celebrational harmony in Bangladesh, my goal was to pick photos or stories that would highlight the festivals, food culture, and fashion trends from past and present and also pay tribute to the memories that people cherished over the years. The group where I was assigned specifically asked me to pick interview parts or stories from celebrities or just photos that would create a fusion of the past and present in Bangladesh’s cultural landscape. My fundamental goal was to be aligned with whatever command I received from my team and editor. So, my focus was locked in writing, producing or attaching stories which will offer a glimpse into the enriched culture and heritage of Dhaka’s 400-year-old tradition.



Figure 4: Image of the cover page of ‘Life & Style’

7.2 Developing the First-ever Entertainment Magazine

During my internship at *bdnews24*, I got the opportunity to contribute to the development of their entertainment magazine, which was published for the first time. As I wrote some scripts for the entertainment beat at *bdnews24*, my editor encouraged me tremendously to take part in the process of publishing the magazine. This invaluable experience offered unmatched insights into the whole dynamics of gathering relevant stories, taking photo shoots, or how an interview takes place in a studio setting.

As part of the magazine team, our fundamental focus was to provide the audience with relevant news stories from the world of entertainment. Also, the aim was to highlight the rich tradition of history and harmony of Dhaka. The magazine also had a variety of features such as fashion trends, interior decoration tips & tricks, food & entertainment guides along with the nostalgic reflection of the past.



Figure 5: Image of the Magazine content

Chapter 8

Training and Workshop

During my internship at *bdnews24*, I also received the opportunity to learn the process of debunking facts as a responsible media worker. As a multimedia intern, I also took part in some exciting workshops which were very new to me.

During my 3-month internship period, I attended two workshops based on photography & editing and voice training. The lead photo journalist at *bdnews24.com* chaired the workshop for the photography workshop. Additionally, some experienced editors who also took turns educating us about the rules and details of editing for a news agency. I got to learn about the different news patterns that each media house specifically set for itself. I also

got some teaching on operating ‘photoshop’ and ‘after effects’ which are heavily used for the production of multimedia content daily.

The other workshop that I attended also felt extremely rewarding to me which was about how to train your voice. As a multimedia correspondent, it is absolutely a must have skill. A soothing voice along with effective pitch is often admired in any news agency as most of the news agency nowadays focus on producing multimedia contents. During the workshop, I got the chance to learn some effective breathing exercise, facial exercise and most importantly I learned how a news story should be read for a voice over of a script. I also learned some posture technique which helps while doing any voice over.

Chapter 9

Application of The Media Theories in My Internship

Ever since the Industrial Revolution took place, almost every country across the world had to adjust or make alterations in their labor structures. For the citizens of Bangladesh, it also has been the same case. Bangladeshi people need to abide by the established ethics, morals and traditions of their nation. Countless workers across numerous national businesses oblige or adhere to and modify some of the methods that contemporary companies follow such as variable hourly and overtime compensation, payroll policy, or even time management systems. Everyone mostly engages themselves well in this sort of environment to keep an organization on the right track cohesively and harmoniously. Michel Foucault in his book *Discipline and Punish* talks about the underlying structure of any society that affects both itself and its members. This implies that each person in a society has a responsibility to fulfill based on their societal position. Similarly, the journalists, editors, photographers, or overall

staff members at *bdnews24* use these regulations and systems to execute their particular jobs separately. The usual time for checking in and out of the office is 8 hours. However, any time spent for work beyond the period of 8 hours is considered overtime work. Employees of *bdnews24* receive their additional payment based on the overtime work and maintain corporate ethics properly and formally.

9.1 Panopticon and Gaze

Jeremy Bentham, a well-known English philosopher and social theorist, devised the term “panopticon” architectural patterns of buildings that are constructed with the mechanism of control over the individuals residing. He published this particular work in the late 18th century. Michel Foucault, a French historian, theorist, philosopher and critic, examined Bentham's Panopticon in his article ‘The Eye of Power’. Here, ‘Pan’ refers to everything, while ‘Opticon’ indicates to observe. Bentham constructed the building in such a way that even a mere single watchman could view literally every aspect of an institution by just being in his position. According to Foucault, 'gaze' is a form of surveillance. During my 12-week internship, I was likewise subjected and introduced to this system of surveillance, since my supervisor examined my work. Furthermore, not only was my work observed, but so was my coworkers' and senior editors' work. This constant monitoring made me more active and motivated to work to my full potential during my working hours. While interning at *bdnews24.com*, I saw CCTV cameras in most corners of the office. Seeing the cameras reminded me to focus on my job and avoid spending leisure time in my work hours or just scrolling in my phone. Everything was recorded, from my arrival at work to my performance and behavior.

However, for a period of time that I spent in the office. I did not know if the CCTV cameras were functioning or if anyone was monitoring the live footage. According to Foucault, surveillance systems aim to eradicate the necessity for physical violence and material limits. A single stare might cause individuals to internalize and become their own overseers. The presence of an overseer is not necessary for the gaze to function. Similarly, I did not need to know if the CCTV footage was being monitored to feel accountable and serious. I was able to connect this situation to what Foucault dubbed as the 'internalization of the gaze'. This refers to how a person who is conscious of being watched will discipline themselves internally to conform to the rules or norms.

9.2 The Theory of Cultural Imperialism:

As an intern at *bdnews24*, my work experience aligned perfectly with aspects of the Cultural Imperialism Theory, particularly in the context of media production and consumption. *Bdnews24*, as a prominent media outlet in Bangladesh, holds significant influence over the dissemination of information and the shaping of public opinion within its cultural sphere. In this internship, I have observed how Western media values and narratives often permeate the content produced and distributed by *bdnews24*. While striving to provide comprehensive coverage, there is a noticeable inclination towards adopting Western perspectives, standards, and topics of interest. This inclination can reflect the broader influence of Western media hegemony, where dominant cultural narratives, often originating from Western countries, tend to overshadow or marginalize local voices and perspectives. For example, one can think of the mainstream Western media's coverage of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Publishing unsubstantiated claims, telling only one side of the story, and portraying the ordinary Palestinians as terrorists whereas it is the Hamas who attacked Israel are

examples of biased reporting by the Western media. According to a report by *Al Jazeera*, “Western correspondents have gone to Israel where they reported extensively on the grief of Israeli families, but Israel has not allowed foreign journalists to enter Gaza, which means they’re missing a vital aspect of the story.”

Furthermore, *bdnews24*'s reliance on Western sources for news and information such as *AFP*, and *Reuters* contributes to the perpetuation of cultural imperialism. Moreover, the structure and format of *bdnews24*'s content often mirror Western media conventions, reflecting a broader trend of cultural homogenization driven by globalization. From news presentation to editorial standards, there is a discernible alignment with Western media norms, which can inadvertently marginalize or exorcise non-Western cultures and experiences. As an intern, I have grappled with these dynamics, recognizing the complex interconnectedness between media production, cultural influence, and power dynamics.

Chapter 10

Work Experience at *Bdnews24.com* Multimedia Team

My time as a sub-editor at *bdnews24.com* was a very rewarding experience that I will always remember with immense love and gratification. My supervisors and colleagues have been really supportive throughout my tenure as an intern. Many of the senior journalists or sub-editors or even my editor painstakingly helped me through the editing process, identifying mistakes and inconsistencies that I overlooked being a beginner in this field. They did not just point out my flaws; they explained the reasons behind any adjustments they made, teaching me the delicate intricacies of language, style, and clarity. This hands-on approach not only improved my editing abilities, but also developed in me a great

appreciation for the clarity and impact of language. My supervisor and editor never stopped encouraging and believing in me.

Moreover, the sub-editing team had great camaraderie between them. We would frequently huddle over difficult pieces, pondering the best way to express something or debating the nuances of a specific news item. The mood was collaborative, with everyone eager to help and learn from one another. There were moments when deadlines and pressure were high. Even so, some of my coworkers also supported me in my learning phase. They volunteered to take on some of my work, share their editing shortcuts, or just crack a joke to lighten the mood. This supportive environment not only reduced working stress, but also promoted a true sense of teamwork and belonging.

Chapter 11

Conclusion

During my time at *bdnews24.com*, I learned that life is an adventure, and it is okay to step outside of one's comfort zone to discover new interests. It also taught me to be confident and straightforward in terms of sharing or generating ideas and opinions. It consistently encouraged me to think outside of the box and have a strong desire to make myself distinguished from others. During my internship, I realized the significance of working with a supportive and cheerful team. Positivity not only enhances an individual's growth, but also motivates a team to perform better under duress.

Bdnews24's motto reflects its commitment to providing honest and ethical journalism to the people on a 24/7 module. The media outlet values its readers immensely and strives to meet their expectations regularly. My three-month-long internship at *bdnews24.com* allowed me to apply my writing skills and acquire valuable journalism experience. This journey allowed me to use my knowledge to improve and become a professional and responsible individual. Practical experience in the field of journalism is critically significant in order to master the art of ethical journalism. I enjoyed my time while interning at *bdnews24.com* and I hope to apply the gathered skills and knowledge in my own career in an effective way.

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Appendix



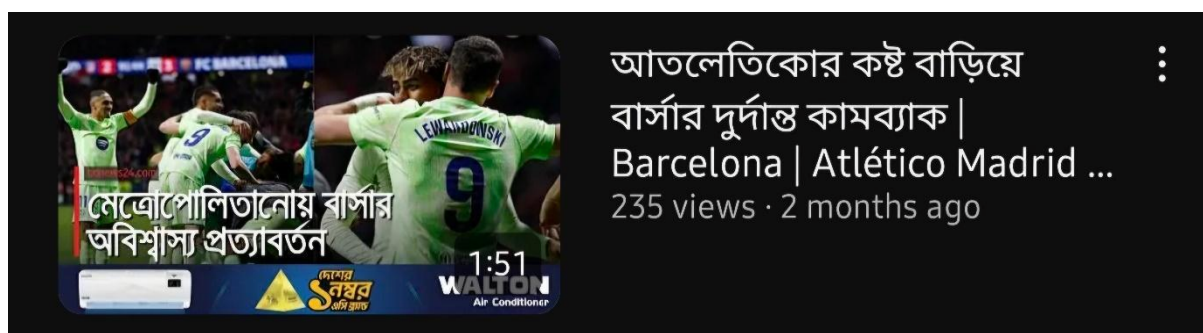
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