

**A Creative Journey and Internship at**  
*Daily Sun*

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Inspiring Excellence

BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

**A Creative Journey and Internship at**  
*Daily Sun*

A Report Submitted to  
The Department of English and Humanities  
Of  
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By  
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## **Acknowledgement**

“The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson, writer/philosopher.

Enrolling in BRAC University, as a student of English and Humanities Department was a dream come true incident for me and I am writing my internship report in purpose of attaining the bachelor degree in English. I decided to take this journey of my life in order to accomplish my bachelor degree. My father, Late S.M. Mueed was my greatest inspiration for choosing this subject to study in. He is the very first person whom I would like to convey my gratefulness. My father was always found of to communicate and to speak in English, he used to practice it at home even. And so, from the childhood, I started to reap the dream of my father and made the decision to be a part of English department at BRAC University. It was a 4 years' journey and it all happened because of the friendly environment of the University and ENH Department. The honorable scholarly faculties, classmates and facilities provided by the University made it all possible.

I am grateful to Allah SWT, who has given me the strength and ability to finish my undergrad from BRAC University and of course from Department of English and humanities and also for giving me enough capability to complete the report within the scheduled time.

I am tremendously indebted to my mother Sumaiya Akter who has always support worse and me in my good. Without her dedication and courage, I would not able to fulfil my dreams and studies even.

I express my foremost gratitude to my supervisor, Nawshaba Ahmed for showing patience, kindness and believing in me. It would have been impossible for me to complete my

internship and report smoothly without her help and support. I also want to show my gratefulness to my official supervisor and Magazine Coordinator of *Daily Sun* Md. Morshedul Alam Mohabbat. He also supervised and guided me very patiently at the *Daily Sun* office and helped me to complete my internship successfully.

While my Internship program I had the chance to enhance my working capability, will power, communication skills. I learned to maintain schedule, be more concentrated, responsible, organized and to be well behaved.

**-Tasmima Sabatina**

## Abstract

Internship is prerequisite for a partial completion of degree at English and Humanities Department of BRAC University. I have done my internship at *Daily Sun*, an English Newspaper as a feature writer. In this paper, I try to explain my three months experience in this newspaper and elaborate the academic knowledge through practical works.

In the starting chapter, I try to elaborate the objectives of an internship and give reasons of being a media student. Next, I try to pull out the background of the newspaper portal and introduce the history of the institution with its official address. I also talk about the mission and objective of the channel.

In the second chapter, I attempt to explain the endeavor of my internship at *Daily Sun* and the environment of working there as an intern. It also includes the magazine sector where I appointed as a feature writer.

The third chapter is the most significant from other chapters. It is about my overall internship experience and my related works that I assigned to do. It gives a highlight on my works how I have done the jobs and what struggles I have been faced while doing them. I try to explain all the things broadly, as this chapter is one of the cores of this paper.

After all these chapters, I go for the fourth chapter where I have described how the ENH courses have helped me in doing my assigned tasks. I aim to relate my media courses with the practical knowledge. . I have learnt different theories and courses of Media and it has helped me for applying those theories into practical sense.

At last, I conclude my paper with a conclusion. I sum up all my experiences and explain how this internship program has helped me to be a better writer in future.

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## Chapter One: Introduction

Newspaper itself refers to the content where a piece of paper contains news and information for its readers. In the modern world, the use of reading newspaper has become a vital aspect for our generation. In the twentieth first century people don't want to sit with a newspaper in hand rather they want to click on the links of the news websites in their smart phones and want to expand the horizon of their knowledge. More recently, a growing number of readers, viewers and listeners are going online for their news. Television, newspapers and radio are still here but there is a growing competition from interactive online media. Although the importance and usefulness of a local newspaper has not come in end as there are millions of readers from old as well as young generation who want to have a hard copy of the news. Newspaper cannot be defined by the second word-paper. They have got to be defined by the first word-news.

Traditionally a newspaper contains various types of news stories and events but nowadays newspapers are a filter for the tremendous volume of news available on-line now. For almost two decades, the web has changed the world and revolutionized how information is stored, published, searched and consumed. All this news is gathered by professional journalists and journalism is a part and parcel of the world of media. A journalist's first and foremost purpose is to let his/her reader to be informed about what is happening around the world and of course to bring the right and true stories to the readers. It is not only bound to have the news only but also searching, questioning and rectifying is needed to publish a full-proof news story. One should have a no persuadable attitude towards his/her work.

I have chosen Media and culture as my major focal subject under the Department of English and Humanities of BRAC University for the completion of my honors degree in English.

It gives me a different dimension to explore. In the addition I got an opportunity to work as an intern in a Daily Newspaper and it gave me an absolute gratification towards my studies that I was being studying for last 4 years.

### **1.1 Internship & Objective:**

Searching internship is a very crucial issue for students who must complete an internship as an obligation towards their graduation. It is the first step of a student to enter into professional sphere. Naturally students get worried and anxious whether any organization will take them or not! Like others, I was also so panicked and found the process burdensome that I could not even went to drop my resume. However, as the time passes I realized that the process is very simple only if I had any guideline.

In the aim of completing my graduation on Bachelor of Arts in English, Internship in media institutions are pre-requisite. I have to get admitted into any newspaper channel media sources for my internship. And so, I chose to get myself admitted into “*The Daily Sun*”. This is one of the renowned newspapers of Bangladesh. I have to do an internship program here for three months in order to have practical experience of my learning. In the classroom, we can only learn the theoretical skills and knowledge of particular subject but in internship we can get an opportunity to learn real life work skills and etiquette hands on at a real job. And through this process the company gets an opportunity to evaluate an intern, as well as the intern gets to evaluate the company to decide whether it is a place he/she would like to accept a full time position. I got myself enrolled in the magazine sector in “*The Daily Sun*”. I was appointed as an intern there and was directly supervised by the magazine coordinator. He was a humble and generous man indeed. I learnt a lot of things about writing and editing things there and from him as well. I was very interested and thrilled by reading fascinating stories and events from my



childhood. I was more indulged in reading magazines and story books instead of studying my academic books. I still have quench of knowing the unknown. Therefore, as a student of Media and Culture, I got a huge prospect to explore different genre of books and novels. To have a focus on Internship particularly, I got a chance to look into human psychology and taste and different topics to know and to write about. This internship program has made me skillful enough to write about divergent types of features and news stories. And also it helps me to become a creative feature writer.

## 1.2 Brief History of the Institution:



**Illustration 1: Company Logo**

The name of the institution where I chose to complete my internship for three months is a newly established newspaper channel, *The Daily Sun*. It is one of the recent established newspapers of Bangladesh. Interestingly, it has both English and Bangla published newspaper portals. It has found in 2010. *The Daily Sun* is owned by East West Media Group, a part of Bashundhara group, along with Bangladesh Pratidin, KalerKantho, and online news portal Banglanews24.com. This enterprise also owns two Bengali language dailies. The number of pages of the newspaper is twenty-eight which includes 4 pages on business and 8 pages on sports which is called "Winner". The fascinating slogan of this daily is, "Wake up with the true and impartial *Daily Sun*". Its slogan says enough about the newspaper channel. One of its objectives

is to deliver true and neutral news reports to the public and its readers. Though it is a concoction of other media and newspaper channels, it has grounded firmly itself in the field of media and communication. It is estimated that around thirty-four thousand people are regular readers of this bilingual news portal. The present editor of *Daily Sun* is Enamul Hoque Chowdhury and Md. Shiabur Rahman is the executive editor. The prominent historian and Commonwealth scholar, Professor Syed Anwar Hossain was the first editor of *Daily Sun*. The numbers of employees are remarkable despite of its being fresher in the field of dailies. Around eighty to eighty-five employees are persuading their particular career objectives. There are distinct sections to work for. For instance, there is a sports section, reporting section, front and back page editing section, metropolis section, marketing section, online version section, photos, magazine section, circulation section and others. The institution is established by one of the influencing industries but though, the channel tries to become neutral and uncompromising in terms of publishing any sort of news and stories. There is a scope of writing sovereignty but it must have to be unbiased and non-controversial. Working environment here is quite satisfactory and helpful. The main office is located at Plot no: 371/A, Block no:D, Basundhara R/A, Baridhara, Dhaka-1229. The print version of *Daily Sun* is also available in online- <http://www.daily.sun.com/>.

## Chapter Two: My Internship Experience at *Daily Sun*

### 2.1 Endeavour of my Internship:

My journey towards the internship in a newspaper channel got started on the eve of New Year. I started my internship with the beginning of 1st of January 2018. I had been appointed as an intern in the magazine desk. The process of my internship was I had to resume my CV and they would call me if I had been chosen. By the grace of Allah, I got selected and then I had to face an interview. I was nervous the minute before my interview. If I say I wasn't scared, that would be a lie. I was more nervous than scared actually though I have done many presentations and have overcome my fear and mistakes. As the interview was very different from presenting in classrooms in front of my classmates, I therefore, became nervous but again Almighty Allah saved me.

There was a magazine coordinator who used to control and instructs everyone about the topics to write about. The magazine coordinator, Md. Morshedul Alam Mohabbat was my supervisor. Internship is an academic edict which is assigned to every student of English and Humanities Department. I chose *Daily Sun* for my internship as a trainee writer in magazine sector. I was looking forward to learn new methods of writing and skills from my supervisor and others in the institution.

One of the entrancing parts is that *The Daily Sun* has an individual magazine sector and there are 9 members in it. There are sporting section, editing section, photography and graphic section. The magazine sector is divided into three sub-sectors. I found it really interesting that usually in a newspaper portal, there is only one magazine provided as a supplement but in *Daily*

*Sun* there is three different sub-sections added for the readers to know about different aspects apart from daily media news.

In the magazine sector of *Daily Sun*, there are three sections,

1. Morning Tea,
2. Hood and
3. Groove.

Morning Tea has two focuses, one to cover the ongoing events and the other one is the Bangladeshi youth. It talks about the young generation's thoughts and motivations, about their involvement with the recent technologies. For example, the blood donation campaign organized by the youth, ongoing events like exhibitions, concerts, and dance shows etc. Hood on the other hand is about the serious social and political discussions. For example, it talks about the social problems like rape victims, low gas supply in certain areas, election news etc. The society and its roots, its problems are introduced and analyzed in this section. Moreover, the Groove is about the latest fashion traits and new ideas regarding makeup, home décor, skin and hair care etc. For example, latest dress-up trends, hair color, food recipes etc.

## **2.2 Working ambience at the institution:**

My first day at *Daily Sun* was quite memorable. My supervisor and other colleagues welcomed me warmly. They advised and encouraged me for upcoming days. There were many other colleagues who were professionally employee here and older than me. All of them were quite friendly and supporting. My supervisor was a bit strict at first and I found his behavior rude but later on, I got to understand that he wanted me to fit into an office environment. He

asked me to read about recent news stories around the country and to improve my writing skills he told me to write about different topics. I was not appointed to any particular sub-section in the magazine for writing. Rather my supervisor had given me the chance to explore all the three sub-sections of Magazine. I was assigned to complete many sort of writings like event stories, edit news, translating stories, captioning photos etc. At the beginning of the month, I was in under pressure. Every day I had to present at office timely and had to finish writings within giving timeslots. My supervisor and other colleagues were quite friendly with me. One of my colleagues gave me a pdf of Mahatma Gandhi's auto-biography to read and asked me to go through the piece of writing. He also gave me interesting tips while reading it. He told me if I could read at least ten chapters out of 60 chapters, I could be able to write any sort of writing perfectly in future. I attempted to go through the whole chapters. This suggestion gave me great help while writing.

## Chapter three: Internship at *Daily Sun*

### 3.1 Tasks that I was assigned to:

#### a) Brainstorming to come up with new concepts to write about:

My internship program and the daily activity were not that monotonous as I had imagined of. Rather my supervisor had made it more engaging in terms of writing and learning. On the first day of my internship I was not asked to do anything rather I was told to think about writing any particular topic. I wrote a paper on Stereotyping and I found this idea to write about from my ENG490, Seminar course where we were taught about this concept. I wrote and I submitted to my supervisor. He checked and asked me to make the topic of the paper more precise. Hence I centralized my topic to only Occupational Stereotyping. After finishing writing my supervisor asked me to edit the paper and also to give it a title. Thus I named the article “Talking about the Occupational Stereotyping in Our society”. This paper was not published instantly as my supervisor told me that he wanted me to write about things that I would experience, that I would find myself. To improve my writing style and techniques, my supervisor advised me write more about different topics. Here is my published article-

# Occupational Stereotype: A Tool To Slacken Women's Growth

Tasmima Sabatina

When people make a judgment about anything based on a set of common and over-used statements or thoughts rather than analyzing the fact or observing the real situation, it is clear that they are actually depending on some stereotyped ideas. Stereotyping refers to the thoughts and beliefs which are obtained from assumption and founded on discriminatory attitudes rather than a practical assessment. Statements like 'women should not receive higher education and take part in the sports', or 'household chores are not men's job', or 'a girl cannot study science' etc. are the common examples of stereotyped ideas that exist in our society. When people dwell on such stereotyped, rigid and oversimplified concepts to come to a conclusion, it can rather mislead people and ultimately hinder the growth of our society.

While illustrating what a stereotyped idea actually is, we can focus on the matter that women in our society often have to face discrimination in the professional fields due to some occupational stereotypes. In our society, males are regarded as more skilled professionally than females. It is commonly thought that men are abler in physical activity and suitable for any kinds of outdoor activities and field jobs than women. On the other hand, women are often looked down upon as less suitable for heavily strenuous, technical and mechanical activities. Not only that, in our society, the professions like business, sales, media, politics etc. are thought to be appropriate only for the men's folk. Many people have a tendency to associate male figures with intellectual, scientific, analytical, conceptual, and mathematical activities while they commonly tend to think that females in general cannot be well-adept at scientific activities. The male figures are also preferred by the employers for performing works like money handling and clerical jobs whereas the females are considered as less appropriate for performing these kinds of jobs.

Well, this kind of prejudice based on gender can be more vividly explained with the idea of 'occupational sexism' that refers to any discriminatory practices, statements, actions, etc. based on a



person's sex that are prevalent in a place of employment. Such attitude, according to 'social role theory' (a dominant perspective in sociology and in social psychology), has developed owing to historical roles played by women from ages to ages. Historically women's place was in the home, while the males were supposed to be working outside. This kind of difference consequently helped in forming stereotyped expectation that women will be working within the four walls of the home, away from challenges of the real-world occupations. These, in turn, have given rise to gender stereotypes that play a role in the formation of occupational sexism.

However, such occupational stereotypes are, in fact, a threat to the career development of both men and women. And negative stereotyping unfortunately brings about a rather negative outcome in the society. It is also true that stereotyped ideas have long debarred women from gaining their economic independence and intellectual advancement. In short, it can be said that stereotyped ideas can often lead us to pick up a false assumption, pass a wrong judgment and make a rather wrong choice in our life. 🙄



For instance, I wrote on skin care, Inspirational motivation, and home décor. After completing any writing my supervisor gives me feedbacks regarding the writing, about the styles, the grammatical mistakes and tips on how to improve my writing. He never scolded me or yelled at me for my mistakes further he guided me with his best suggestions.

Exceptionally, the interns of newspaper channels are to cover the hard news stories and to report them accordingly but as I was appointed in the magazine sector, I had a full independency to write creative writings. My writings were about the youth problem, psychoanalytical analysis or even to make my daily tasks more compelling; my supervisor sometimes assigned me to write about latest fashion traits or about home apparatus or decor. For improving my writing techniques and methods, my supervisor suggested me to think deep through any idea rationally and to open up with creative thoughts. To analyze more, I searched for creative scheme and conceptualize psychologically about human brain and thoughts. I wrote my piece of writing named “Reinvent Yourself”. And it was the product of the brainstorming that I had while my supervisor had advised me to think another way. I was given a topic to write about for “the hood” section. Therefore, I started to think about more analytical topics that can go along with both the young people as well as the old peoples can relate to this. Therefore, I started to think about writing an article about reinventing individuals as at some point of our life, almost all of us have gone through the scenario of being depressed or distracted from the goals of our life. Therefore, I began to write about how an individual can get inspiration and reinvent one and can get confidence over his atmosphere. It was a piece of writing where I used my thoughts and explore human psychology to understand one’s situation frustration and depression. I explained the reasons and also gave probable techniques to get over the despondency. Moreover, I wrote suggestions to improve one mentally and to get reinvented by applying various methods.



Next I was assigned to do a bit more relaxing tasks like writing about skin care and home décor. At first I found it very easy and simple but then my supervisor taught me many useful tactics. As I was an internee of a newspaper in magazine sector, my supervisor told me to have a fluency in commercial writing. He explained me how to write a commercial article and gave useful instructions to make the article more vibrant and feisty. And so I used a strategy of writing things in a very friendly and conversable manner, as my supervisor gave me these tips. To grab the attention of the readers it is very important to have a conversational tone with the audience. Therefore, I wrote a catchy but simple piece of article about home décor ideas for decorating a bedroom. And my article was published in Groove sector, on 29th of January, 2018.

Around in the midst of my internship, while I was assigned to think about different types of writing, my supervisor asked me to write about any kind addiction and its remedies to overcome. As I was interested in experimental writing and wanted to review the psychology of human brain, I chose to write about Facebook addiction. It was my feature writing. My supervisor gave me this task spontaneously and so he made me understood that as an intern and magazine feature writer, one needs to be spontaneous and eager to take the challenge. And so, he set me to do this task for making me more voluntary towards this sector and to improve my writing skills. Therefore, I started writing about the problem of obsession over using of social media tool, Facebook. Firstly, I started with a story of a young kid who is addicted to Facebooking. Then in my article I talked about the psychological aspects of Facebook users, the advantages and disadvantages of this social media tool. Lastly I concluded my article through giving various ways and tips to reduce the addiction of Facebooking. I enjoyed this task as it was something that we all commonly could relate with our daily lives. It was one of my achievements that this feature writing was made as a cover story in hood.

As I was in the magazine department, I was not really bound to report news regularly rather I had to think and brainstorm more to come up with new ideas and topics to write about. As there were three sections in the magazine department therefore the writers and reporters had to come up with three different aspects to discuss and to publish. My internship was from the January to April and so there were many interesting concepts and topics to write about. There were many festivals and cultural functions to hold on. And so my supervisor asked me to write an article about culture and ideology. He had pointed out things that it should not be about Pohela Boishakh related. He explained that almost every newspaper portal would have published about Pohela boishakh and celebration but he pointed out the points that would make my writing more individual. I focused on the points and tips that he had given me. And I wrote the article that described the process of how we are accepting other culture but not ours. We are ignoring our own culture and ideology and are more focused in adopting western culture. I especially focused on the young youth of our country and their involvement in practicing these norms and cultures of different regions. For instance, I elaborated the fact that our youth are ready to celebrate the 'Halloween' the 'Valentine' which are from western culture. I discussed the issues of Pohela Boishakh and other festivals of our country. My writing was published in 'hood' section of *Daily Sun* magazine.

My next task was assigned by my supervisor that I had to write about any topic that made me interested to read. It was a brainstorming task for me because usually an intern is to give a task to accomplish but here, my supervisor gave me the chance to be creative in writing. After thinking a lot, I came up with horoscopes and zodiac signs. It was re-evaluating my own psychology and thinking process. At first I was disheartened to do the job but later on, I started to enjoy writing the article. I believed in the characteristics of each zodiac sign. After hearing my

beliefs and ideas regarding astrology, my supervisor told me to oppose my ideas and beliefs. And it was quite conflicting and contradictory to oppose my own beliefs. This was my task to make my beliefs a false illusion using data and information. I formulated my own theory and tried to oppose and refute my own theory. It was a challenging task for me but I took help from online sources and concreted an actual theory which was suitable for the article. My supervisor gave me instructions while writing the article that it should not hurt any religious values or sentiments. He told me to write according to that. By keeping that in mind, I finished writing the article. My article was well-praised by my supervisor and it was published in the ‘Morning tea’ sector of *Daily Sun* magazine sector.

At the end of my internship, the pressure of completing tasks gradually decreased. But as an internee, I was moderately enthusiastic to learn new things and to write about them. Therefore, my supervisor asked me to find out five creative ideas to write about for the ‘Groove’ section of magazine. It was not a pondering task as the writing in the “Groove” section is not thoroughly creative or thought-provoking. It dealt with the modern fashion trends and concepts. Hence I suggested many ideas like latest handbag collections, health tips for the newly pregnant mummies, summer accessories for children and women, famous picnic spots for summer etc. My supervisor asked me to write about any of the topic that I liked most. I chose to write about the health tips for newly pregnant mummies. I chose it because for me, it was one of the fresh topics for ‘Groove’. I had gone through the magazine sections regularly but I had not seen such a topic for several days. Therefore, I decided to write about the health tips for newly pregnant women. I explained the importance of being updated about the health of the baby and the mother individually. I elaborated in different sections about pregnancy in general and gave emphasize on the important issues that should be drawn into attention while checking up. I ended my internship

at the very beginning of April, this article was not published but my supervisor had gone through my article and praised me for such writing. He encouraged me to keep writing and also gave me feedbacks.

#### **b) Editing Articles:**

My supervisor also instructed me to do editing some articles which were written and reported by *Daily Sun* reporters. He gave me soft copy of the articles and asked me to go through them first. He also asked me to ask him questions if I face any difficulty or confusions while doing it. Within two weeks I had edited around four to five articles and some of them were event coverage. For instance, I had edited an event article which was about a drama show of Prachyanat School of Acting of Manoj Mitra's famous play "Noishobhoj". I had also edited another event article which was about the exhibition titled by "Solo Graphic Exhibition of most remarkable M.K.Hussain". After compiling my works my supervisor had given me feedbacks regarding the editing. He identified my mistakes and asked me to re-correct them. He explained me the idea of choosing the right words. And also indicated the grammatical mistakes which I had done while editing the copies. Next task that I was assigned to do regarding editing any article by my supervisor was to edit an article named "Gitanjali Dance festival". It was also an event show that was taken place in Uttara. I was also asked to edit one of the event articles named "Shanti" which was about a painting exhibition. This art exhibition was from Bangladeshi painter Shahabuddin Ahmed. My supervisor gave me the article to edit and there were a few grammatical mistakes that I had found. I was also asked to edit another article and it was about photography exhibition at Bangla Shilpokola Academy (BSA) named "Alo r Khela". I had edited articles titled as "Red Thread of Bangladesh", "Watercolour", "Nishimon bisharjon". While doing this I faced mostly the problems of tenses and some grammatical mistakes.

**c) Covering events:**

In the second week of my internship, my supervisor gave me and one of my colleagues a task to make news about DITF (Dhaka International Trade Fair 2018), and assigned me to cover the event of new technology Hatil's Virtual show which is all new in Bangladesh. So I and my colleague had gone to DITF this January and we made a story over it. And our story has been published in the Daily Sun at Morning Tea section. My joys knew no bounds to work outside as a journalist. It was a great experience of giving my identification as a journalist. Again the task which my supervisor had given me about covering the news of Hatil Virtual Show was published in *Daily Sun* at Groove. I had used the tips that my supervisor had given me to use a hook or grabber in writing in my Hatil's Virtual Show article. Before publishing my piece of work, my supervisor had made me corrected over my writing. He had letting me know about the writing sequence while making and covering a news. He also assisted me in emphasizing parts for instance, to give more emphasize on the Hatil itself as it is one of the most popular furniture brand of Bangladesh. He also told me to write in a freer hand and in a friendly manner so the audience will get interest in reading. Otherwise people may find it monotonous. Here is the news of this event-

MONDAY | 15 JANUARY 2018

FEATURE

# For A Virtual Shopping Experience

TASMIMA SABATINA



Not all journey ends to a destination. Individuals or organizations that are driven by an insatiable urge to creating something new are always on a quest that has no limit. This is exactly what happened to country's top-notch furniture brand HATIL. Since their inception, they were never afraid of toying with product designs, product showcasing, marketing and everything in between. As a part of that initiative this time HATIL has ventured into something that is going to be a landmark addition to our retail business dynamics. Just think - furniture is being sold from a showroom which actually has no furniture in it at all! Yes, we are talking about country's first-ever, full-fledged virtual furniture showroom 'HATIL V'. And the best thing is

that this showroom has already made its public appearance in this year's Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF).

Every day people are pouring in to experience something special in that showroom. Upon getting there, you will be taken into a specially designed, theater-like chamber. The giant screen there will create a feeling as if you were touring inside a never-ending showroom, where furniture products are placed in simulated room environments. And the feeling is something more than real!

But that doesn't end there. In this

virtual journey, customers can also change the wood and fabric color of the furniture as per their choice and compare them side by side. HATIL has given the visitors freedom in the true sense as they have a huge collection, from where customers can easily get their desired item. There is also arrangement for VR Gear and Augmented Reality to let you check every detail of your chosen furniture.

As technology has taken over our daily life, so HATIL has taken this fascinating step to make it more convenient



for the people to buy products. With that view in mind, HATIL has been working on it to make the invention more popular and widespread. They are also planning to set up new showrooms even outside Dhaka and have planned to launch an app so that people can buy things online through the virtual effect experience. HATIL will open more virtual showrooms across the country gradually. To do it more effectively, HATIL is collecting and taking the compliments and feedbacks of the audience regarding the show and compiling all of their ideas and opinions so that they can upgrade the virtual showroom.

Illustration 3: Hatil's Virtual Show Event covering at DITF Dhaka 2018

I got another chance to cover an event where I can explore and gain more experience which was Ekushe Boi mela. Again my supervisor gave me an opportunity to cover an outdoor task. As it was the month of February, my supervisor asked me to cover an ongoing event, Ekushe Boi Mela. Therefore, I and my fellow-mate went to cover the program in the middle of February month. There was my fellow colleague who was a professional photographer so he took all the photos. I interviewed the audiences and asked them questions regarding the book fair and about the language movement. I collected data and information of 2018's Boi Mela, the number of stalls and published books. I also asked the sellers what kind of response they are receiving from the crowd this year. They gave me quite information regarding their selling status.

**d) Captioning photographs:**

When it was almost two months of my internship, my supervisor gave me a task of captioning photographs and write paragraphs about them. There were pictures of three female children from Rohingya camp and noticeably they were wearing "thanaka", Myanmar traditional makeup ingredients. I looked at the pictures and thought that the pictures might convey the usefulness of "thanaka" but later on, one of my colleagues guided me through writing the feature and caption. He made me understand to look at the deeper meaning of the pictures not to focus only on the outer surface. He told me that I had guessed me right that thanaka is a traditional skin care ingredient but he recommended me to concentrate on what had folded inside it and the symbolic meaning of it. Therefore, I started to write about the power of makeup to symbolize one's tradition and beliefs. I also added that it is one of the weapon through which an ideology can be established or expressed. And expressed my thoughts what had come into my mind after seeing the pictures. I elaborated saying that in Rohingya camp, we could see the importance and

the practice of fashion as a tool of political power to be expressed although they are struggling for their existence. And so, the minuet thing like skin care traditional ingredient, they took it as their identity and existence of their struggles.

### **e) Translating stories:**

Very often I was assigned to translate a few event stories in Bangla to English. As there were two different sections of magazine at *Daily Sun* provided both the Bangla and English Newspapers. I had translated one of the articles named “A Club dedicated to Social Causes” While doing this translating, I applied my knowledge and teachings of ENG465 (Translation Studies). I had to keep in my mind that translation should not be done in word by word format. There are many ways to do a translation; however, the best way of doing a translation is ‘sense for sense translation. Therefore, I tried to make the translation more vibrant and real as the actual piece of writing was.

### **3.2 Challenges that I faced while working:**

Editing refers to the preparing a news report for publication. It is a process by which a report is scrutinized, re-read, corrected, modified while value-added, polished, improved and made better for publication. But it was quite different. Editing any news story is absolutely unlike from magazine event story editing. The challenging part while editing these articles I faced was to maintain the authenticity and the meaning of the whole concept. And sometimes I had confusion over the events about where and when the events had been conducted. Moreover, I faced difficulty in understanding the meaning and expressions of the article as the writer; the reporter was not there so I could be sure of it. As I had to edit the event named “Noishobhoj”, I had to find appropriate words to express the meaning of the content, for example, there was a



line, “The stage lighting and is designed by ABS Xem while Costume is designed by Chetona Rahman Vasha and music is designed by Polash Nath Lochon.” I had to change the word “designed” and had to put “composed”, as it would be “music is composed”, not “music is designed”.

Another article that I had to edit was titled “Solo Graphic Exhibition of most remarkable M.K.Hussain”. While doing the editing of this article I found difficulty in gathering all the information in just one line at the very beginning of the article. As it is very important to cover all the significant information within one line and it has to be within 25-27 words or less. I found myself struggling to collect all the data in one single line at the beginning.

## **Chapter four: Assimilation of ENH Courses and adapted techniques**

Academic courses are for knowledge to know about particular subject or area. Through internship, I got the latitude to use my theory knowledge into practical actions. The theories have provided us with knowledge to help us in analyze different actions in our surrounding. The ideas gathered from such theories helped us evolve and make newer theories which are also appropriate with the present. I have learnt different theories and courses of Media and it has helped me for applying those theories into practical sense. To accomplish the tasks at my internship, few literature courses and few linguistics courses helped me practically in my internship. Media courses like ENG401 (Editing), ENG404 (Copywriting), ENG440 (Print Media), ENG331 (Media and Culture) were the pioneer courses for fulfilling my internship with a flow. Theories of different philosophers and theorists have helped me in applying those theories in practical life. For instance, Foucault's theory has helped me to relate my internship experience with the theory.

In this particular situation, I found myself in a panopticon condition. Panopticon is a theory of Michel Foucault (A French philosopher, historian of ideas, social theorist and literary critic). I got to know about this theory in my ENG331 (Media and Culture) course. I was directly supervised and observed by the supervisor.

To go further, a panopticon is a machine for dissociating the see/being seen dyad, in the periphery ring; one is totally seen, without ever seeing, in the central tower, one sees everything without ever being seen. It is an important mechanism, for it atomizes and dis-individualizes power. Power has its principal not so much in a person as in a certain concerted distribution of

bodies, surfaces, lights, gazes, whose internal mechanisms produce the relation in which individuals are caught up (101-102).

My internship environment has given me an essence of this panopticon atmosphere as the only supreme power of gaze was beholden by my supervisor and I was assigned to complete certain tasks within certain amount of time.

Again now to focus on my work related field, I found the ENH media courses really useful to perform my daily tasks.

Writing any creative writing or a feature, I had to remember about certain things which I had learnt in my ENG440 (Print media) course. Therefore, every time I wrote a feature I tried to follow the instructions and rules and those helped me a lot to forward in telling the story.

There are different types of feature stories. Some of them are –

- Human interest- these are the best known feature stories. Human interest stories discuss issues through the experiences of another. Example- sexual harassment of women in the work place.
- Profiles – this is a common type of feature. This type of feature presents an individual's character and lifestyle. These features are mostly about celebrities or famous people. Example- the profile of Bangladeshi famous writer Humayun Ahmed.
- How-To- these features give information on how to do something. The writers learn about the topic through education, experience, research or interviews with experts. A feature can be written about how to do yoga.
- Historical features- these features celebrate important dates in history or turning points in our social, political and cultural development. They offer a useful juxtaposition of then

and now. Historical features take the reader back to revisit an event and issues surrounding it. Example- a feature on 21st February

- Seasonal themes- these features are stories about holidays and the change of the seasons. They cover life milestones, social, political and cultural cycles and business cycles as well. Example- a feature on summer in Maldives.
- Behind the scenes- these features offer the inside views of unusual occupations, issues, and events. Readers like feeling privy to unusual details and well kept secrets about procedures or activities they might not ordinarily be exposed to or allowed to participate in. Example- a feature giving inside information about how a magician performs his/her tricks in front of the audience.

A Feature writer needs to remember three things. That are-

- The writer's opinions and attitudes are not important to the story.
- The writer keeps herself or himself out of the story.
- Writing in the third person helps maintain the necessary distance (Curtis, Anthony, 2011).

ENG401 (Editing) course is very important to know the editing techniques. But I learnt through my internship that editing any news story is completely different from editing any magazine story. While editing headlines, writers should remember the following techniques-

- Writers should read and understand the story before writing the headline
- Writers should write a rough headline, experimenting with word combinations that will form one or more lines of the headline.
- Writers should choose specific and precise words

- He/she should make each word count
- He/she should use action verbs and some creativity
- He/she should have stuck over if he/she were stuck (Smith and O'Connell 139).

In my internship experience I didn't have to follow the exact format and orders rather I had used some of the important rules which had helped me a lot while editing any articles of magazine. Another important topic named Event review, has helped me immensely to cover several events during my internship. According to the ENG440 course packet:

- Start thinking on making your report happen as soon as the event is surely happening.
- Take pictures of all the main parts of the day for example if a band is playing, get some good close-ups. Get the speaker, get MC, and get the crowd.
- Get reaction quotes from people in the crowd during and after the event and the best way to transfer impact is to get it directly from people who felt the impact personally.
- Before and after the event, talk to the people responsible for planning and speaking at the event. They have valuable things to contribute since they see things from the different angle than the crowd.
- Make notes of pertinent stats such as the number of people attending, the location, the time, the theme, as well as anything else that stands out or makes the event distinct.
- Get close up pictures of the crowd or people you take quotes from.
- Include the important stats and sprinkle the page liberally with pictures of the event. Include 2-4 of the best quotes. If possible, include the pictures of the person who said it.

While I was doing my internship, there were other interns as well. I was assigned to do my event coverings with one of my fellow mate and friend, Fatema Afroz Subha. I and she had

covered the Dhaka International Trade Fair. Undoubtedly the rules mentioned above had helped immensely to write an event review. Later I wrote my reviews with the team of magazine sector. I appreciated their effort. To sum up, during my internship period, I had the chance to use my academic knowledge with practical learning.

While writing on the eve of Pohela Boishakh event, I wrote a feature titled “Cultural Intrusion and Our youth”. I had applied my knowledge about cultural identity and orientalism which I learnt from ENG218 (Colonialism) course. I connected the theory of orientalism and imperialism by Edward Said in my article. In Edward Said’s words,

“Identity is also forced upon individuals by a system of cultural indoctrination, when the ruling clique dictates on everybody the acceptance of the same language and laws. As a matter of fact, the national identity is essentially a manufactured identity, obtained by crushing local cultures, rather than a real common bond joining people living next to each other.”

I learnt more about culture and introduced about pop culture in ENG331 (Media & Culture) course. The theories related culture had helped me immensely in writing the feature.

Another media courses, named ENG465 (Translation & studies) had helped me while I was doing the translations. I was not referred to do many of the translations but whenever I was assigned to do, I had to keep the theories while doing it. The theory says, ‘Sense for sense’ translation means do not translate literary because if we do that then it would not make any sense to the readers and it also make the copy vague as well as the meaning of the story would be changed completely. The target language does not have the same words as the source language. These theories had helped me a lot for translating any piece of writing.

## Chapter five: Conclusion

Conclusion is not always the end rather it is the beginning. I got to do my internship at *Daily Sun*. My internship experience has amplified my career opportunity in the field of media and writing sector. There were several flaws in the beginning in writing, editing, translating but after having three months working experience at *Daily Sun* I had the chance to improve myself. Working at *Daily Sun* was one of my cherished moments that I have enjoyed. Moreover, the experience has also improved my creative writing as I wrote features and experimental writing. All my colleagues and my friends had given their constant support while I was in adverse pressure of studies. *Daily Sun* helped me in finding my true potential and made me to do hard work. *Daily Sun* is a rising English newspaper. People of this institution were friendly enough to work with. As the slogan says, “Impartial *Daily Sun*”, it is completely free from any partial issues. I had got the mental satisfaction while working here. The guidelines of my supervisor and other colleagues had helped me enough to improve my writing skills. I got a chance to explore the world of media and journalism with practical tasks and knowledge. I am honored to be a part of this institution where I had acquired such experience. Besides all these facts, it has been an amazing journey and experience working for this newspaper. I am privileged to be a part of it for this short span of time.

## Appendix:

feature

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# DITF: A Haven For The Shopaholics

Fatema Afroz Subha & Tasmima Sabatina



Photo: Kamrul Islam, BSM

**D**haka International Trade Fair (DITF) never fails to surprise people from all walks of life with its unique ideas regarding stalls and offers. This year is no exception as well. The ongoing trade fair is attracting large crowd everyday owing to the fact that this place is an absolute treat for the shopaholics.

The fair has been organised on 1.25 million square feet area. There are 64 premium pavilions, 28 foreign pavilions, 6 reserved pavilions, 17 general pavilions, 25 general mini pavilions, 8 foreign mini pavilions, 37 premier mini pavilions, 72 premier stalls, 13 foreign premier stalls, 253 general stalls, 7 reserve mini pavilions, 31 food stalls, 20 reserved stalls for female, 3 restaurants and 3 centers for mother and children servicing in the fair this year. Business people from over 21 countries, including India, Bhutan, Pakistan, China, the United States, the United Kingdom, Nepal, Japan, Australia, Germany, Hong Kong and Arab Emirates have participated in the fair.

Well, this fair is an occasion for the manufacturers and traders from both home and abroad to display their products and sell out those to the customers. It is mentionable that Dhaka International Trade Fair has been taking place in the capital since 1995 under the joint auspices of the Ministry of Commerce and the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB). There is no

denying the fact that DITF has opened up the door of opportunities for the traders to promote their products and make money by doing good business. Moreover, DITF is also an event where different products and views are exchanged between local and foreign traders. Consequently, our local businesses get the opportunity to go global.

The organizers have arranged the fair with a view to promoting the native brands and merging foreign brands. In addition to displaying products, the fair also plays an important role in building effective relations between domestic and foreign producers, buyer-seller, exporter-importer and investors. It will help the local sellers to have an idea over the foreign products, commodities and their styles, colors and the standard, choice and demands of foreign buyers.

Apart from the business stalls, amusement park for children, mother and child centre, separate booths and security service rooms for male and female, fire service station, blood donation centre, complaint centre of the consumer rights protection, power grid sub-station, generation station and space for car parking have been arranged inside the fair compound.

However it is mentionable that this year DITF has brought some changes in decorating the stalls. It seems really clear that the stall owners

have put some extra effort to grab their customer's attention towards their shop. For instance- the 'Frutika stall' resembles to a fruit basket and the 'Thailand stall' has presented their stalls in a lucrative gesture.

According to the foreign sellers, there have been some mixed expressions and opinions about the fair. "This year the fair has become so much exciting for us as people of Bangladesh are really fond of Kashmiri shawls and they specially seem to like the embroidery mostly. Although we came here for the first time, things are going pretty well in here and the hospitality is mentionable", said Mohammad Shafi, owner of A&A Exports of Kashmiri Shawls. Apart from the foreign sellers the local vendors are also making their products and discounts more attractive and eye-catching. Local electronic maker Walton is showcasing and selling more than 700 items of different sorts of products at the fair. Rawnaz Anam, a satisfied buyer of Walton, said, "I'm really impressed with the offers and discounts of Walton. I've already bought the discounted products and they are offering free home delivery facility." Jemima Shikdar, a fashion enthusiast and food blogger, shared, "Some shops are providing offers which attracted me a lot. Moreover food quality of the stalls here has improved a lot in comparison to the previous years."

In short, city dwellers tend to remain busy throughout the year and don't have much time for amusement. The trade fair gives them an opportunity to shop like there is no tomorrow. The shopaholics seem to find a new meaning to their lives. Selina Hossain, a visitor, said, "I remain busy as I'm a teacher and there is no time to go out for shopping. But this trade fair is a respite as I am sure to get whatever I want in a single place." So, it is evident from public reactions that just like all other occasions Dhaka International Trade Fair has also become a festival for cross-sections of people. 🌟



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morningtea

Illustration 4: DITF 2018 event covered by me and one of my friend Fatema Afroz Subha



# Give Your Bedroom A New Vibe

TASMIMA SABATINA

A new home is a blank canvas; you get the opportunity to transform each and every room into a personality-filled space that you'll adore. Whether you're tired of your old space or you're moving into a new one, decorating it is imperative to adding coziness and charm. Bedrooms are a place where someone feels cozy and refreshing where s/he can recharge themselves up. But as bedroom is one of the most private rooms at home, this is also a place where one can indulge one's individual tastes in order to create the perfect backdrop for all those nights of peaceful slumber and happy dreams.

To decorate a bedroom, it is important to invest some extra thought, care and planning while decorating it. While decorating a room, it is very important to focus on the size of the room, the furniture that will be arranged in the room and the function that is needed to be fulfilled in the room. Here are some other ideas:



## SIZE OF THE ROOM

It is very important to consider the room size and direction of the bedroom to apply any kind of designing ideas. There are certain things that need to be in table where thinking of decorating a bedroom. It is very important to think about how large or small the room is and according to that data or piece of information, other things should be applied. If it is small, then you have to remember that there should not be extra or many furniture as there should be enough space to move around. And also consider the direction of the room. If it is faced towards the south, it is then pretty much obvious to have the fresh air passing through the room; therefore, it will be a good idea to have more windows as possible.

## CHOOSING THE FURNITURE

Furniture is the main attraction of a bedroom and it also represents the taste of the people living in that room. It is very important to choose the furniture according to the necessity of that particular object. Unnecessary furniture will only spoil the beautification of the bedroom. So it is a good idea to keep the furniture simple and innovative but again eye-catching.

## ARRANGEMENTS OF LIGHT

Lighting is vital. Most preferable is to keep the lights of the bedroom natural but if there is not plenty of light-entering system, then it is good to add some creative ideas. Adding lamb shades for a comfy and calming situation is a must. Overhead lighting is the most popular but it should ideally have a dimmer function installed. Moreover a corner lamp is a great feature as it does not need to spotlight anything which can add a warm light especially if it is low-wattage, it will give a much gentler atmosphere.

## USE BRIGHT COLORS INSTEAD OF DARK

Bedroom should be a place to relax and unwind and it should never be an afterthought. However, it is common for people to over-clutter their bedrooms with items and strong colors that have less than a soothing effect on our minds even though it is important that we make our sleeping environment as comfortable as possible. Don't be fearful of brightness in the bedroom, they can look fantastic, but suggestion would be keeping strong hues to a feature wall behind the bed and choosing a softer, more calming color for the room.



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## Dealing With A Tough Boss

Tasmima Sabatina

Just think about a perfect picture - your dream job, your dream position and all your colleagues are very amiable. This picture-perfect ambience may get ruined if you have a tough and annoying boss in the office! Well, if you are unable to make a suitable relationship with your boss, at first it is mandatory to find out the reasons. Sometimes it is also

necessary to deal with this kind of persons in real and to do so here are some suggested ways to overcome the overwhelming effects of having a rough boss in your workplace:

### Assess the situation and identify

Firstly it is important to analyze the situation and identify your boss's nature. And according to that, measurable steps can be taken. Does your boss have a negative relationship with everyone at work or you are the only target? If it is the first case, then try to manage the situation. Because it



is not only you who is facing this situation, everyone else is also the victim. And if it is only you, then at first try to find out whether you have some problems and then improve the sectors where you need improvisation.

### Try to avoid his company except workplace

We all have life outside the office or workplace. And to deal with your boss, it will be beneficial for you to avoid his/her company outside the workplace as it is safe to not to give him/her any chance to insult you or make you feel bad in any ways.

### Maintain a relationship with his contacts

As s/he is your boss, so it will help you to be in his/her good list if you keep a contact with his/her favorite people. Those people may speak good words about you, which may eventually help create some good impressions about you.

### Practice empathy

Try to analyze his/her situations and circumstances. If you are comfortable doing so and the right opportunity arises, it might even help to ask your boss to open up about what they are going through in their life. Putting yourself in their shoes can help you understand their perspective and allow you to be more sympathetic to him/her.

### Try to switch your responsibility

If your boss is quite snobby, you should try to transfer yourself in other department. If you have other sizeable opportunities, then try to grab the opportunities. Look into whether there might be openings on a team that is not supervised by your current boss. There is another way out. You can talk to your HR (Human Resource) department about the problems you are facing.

### Try to tackle the situation technically

Excuse yourself politely when any confrontation becomes unbearable. If you are losing control during a confronting interaction or you experience difficulties explaining yourself and being understood, make an excuse, and walk away. Don't perceive yourself as a victim. Detach yourself emotionally from the annoying manager, and don't try to control what is out of your control. Focus instead on what you can control.

If you follow all these tips, you'll get to know how to handle the situations. Moreover you'll be ready to face the future difficulties. One thing which is mentionable here is that this work pressure and tension should not affect you mentally. If you think your job is more important, then have courage to face any kind of adverse situation.

**Illustration 6: Suggestions that helps an employee to carry out with a stout boss**



# The Panacea For Facebook Addiction

Tasmima Sabatina



**L**abiba, a 16-year-old girl, is a student of 9th standard but she also has a facebook account. There is nothing wrong about having an account on a social networking site but it should not affect you negatively. Labiba often fights with her mother regarding the use of facebook as she always remains glued to the screen. As an aftermath she is lacking some essential social skills. Whenever she goes outside her place, she keeps checking her facebook comments and photos instead of having conversation with people around her. In short she cannot think anything without facebook as it has become an addiction for her!

Every form of addiction is bad, no matter whether the narcotic be alcohol, morphine or idealism - C.C Junn, founder of analytical psychology. Very astutely points out that any kind of addiction is detrimental. People are addicted to many things; some are addicted to music while some are seriously addicted to social networking sites. Such addiction brings not only disastrous physical changes but also huge devastating psychological variations in

the addicts. If you've found that connecting, sharing, posting and learning via Facebook has taken over all avenues of communicating and

learning in your life, it's possible that you're suffering from Facebook addiction.

Well, I'm not against facebook.



You can easily get connected with people you haven't seen in years, share your worldly views, and effortlessly keep track of your friends' activities and birthdays. Where else can you get that opportunity? But using Facebook without boundaries can also become unhealthy and damaging. It kills not only time and attention, but also detracts from genuine human and social interaction. If you think your facebook addiction might be causing problems in your life, or you just want to cut back a bit so that you can focus your attention and energy on more important things, here's how you can start to take control:

### Recognize your problem

The first step is the realization of the fact that you are indeed addicted to facebook. Sometimes people find it hard to recognize the idea that they are squandering a lot of time on Facebook doing nothing at all. So, you will have to understand whether you are doing that or actually you are doing something significant on the social networking site.

### Spend less time in scrolling the newsfeed

Facebook newsfeed is one of the main attractions for the users to keep them logged in facebook. It gives and serves you the most interesting contents and shares things that viewers and



users would like. And therefore, you should stop scrolling and avoid the contents that will amuse you in any ways. By scrolling the newsfeed and checking them you kill quite extra time and energy that you can give to your family or friends in real.

### Avoid commenting on people's post

If you comment on people's post or photos, it will give you a chance to have loads of notifications and an urge to reply those comments. So it's better not to keep in contact with the comment sections of people's posts or photos. If you find yourself spending too much time online, then you need to stop doing it.

### Having a plan to do other things

If you find yourself thinking of facebook too often, then you should find something else to occupy your thoughts. Find other enjoyable things to do. Make extra time for family and friends and try to avoid all sorts of phone or electronic device usage while being with them. Pick any hobby or leisure time work that you can do in your free time, for instance, playing indoor, outdoor or online games, listening music, reading books, walking or visiting places. Through these other activities your mind can divorce into other activities and so you can get rid of the addiction of facebook.



### Allocating fixed amount of time for facebooking

It will not be easy to overcome the addiction of facebook but you need to be determined on your thoughts and decisions. And to do so, whenever you are to log on to facebook, make sure you know what you are going to do online and how much time you will be spending online. Limit your time and log on to facebook during certain set times only.

### have to deal with an urge to login anymore.

Before doing that you can save and collect your friends' contact information. Probably it can be said that facebook is a tool that just like any other should benefit us when we use it. If you feel like it's controlling your life a little more than it should, take steps to get it back to sanity. When used wisely, it's a valuable resource that allows you to connect in so many meaningful ways.

### Turn off all app notifications

Notifications about your facebook account may lure you to log on to facebook. So, it's better when you intentionally decide to check facebook, without hearing an alert that triggers your addiction. Reduce distractions and the urge to check and scroll by turning off all notifications in the app.

### Deactivate facebook account

Deactivate your account and nobody will be notified, and no one will be able to see your info anymore, even though it may take facebook up to 90 days to completely delete all your information. This is one of the ways that can help you to overcome the addiction. You can deactivate facebook, even only for a while to let your mind settle for some time, no more notifications will bother you and you won't

Illustration 7: Side-effects and advices to get over from addiction of social media



# Reinvent Yourself

Tasmima Sabatina

*You're never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream.*

--- C. S. Lewis

**W**e face so many new things every day. Sometimes we face those successfully while sometimes we fail to realize the situations properly. But if you want to achieve a definite goal, then it is necessary to accept the changes over time and work accordingly.

There will always be times in our lives when we might feel low and uneasy about things and we need to reinvent ourselves, to change ourselves and to rebuild ourselves. They could come when we experience big changes, such as leaving our jobs, moving on from relationships, transferring to a new home or losing a loved one. If you yourself are going through a major shift in your life, you may have to find new ways of thinking or doing things, or risk failing to reach your full potential. You can also achieve the same only if you take a leap of faith and make things happen for yourself.

## Identifying One's Current Position

Before you can reinvent yourself, you have to know who you currently are. People need to understand their strengths, weaknesses and passions. This is the prerequisite of having the evaluation of himself or herself. One needs to focus on one's position and needs to identify one's goal. To achieve that one needs to draw a bar line to examine himself in terms of his previous records.

## Be Focused And Determined

To make oneself self productive and to embark on a journey of reinvention, it is necessary to identify the things that are missing. This step provides valuable information on how you specifically deal with certain situations. If you have this information, you will be able to manage difficulties more efficiently. When something bad happens, you have three choices. You can let it define you, let it destroy you, or you can let it strengthen you. So whenever something wrong or bad thing happens, one should make that as his/her identification or else it should give the way to ruin or

destroy you or it is best to make it as one's strength.

## Look For Support

Humans are always in need of constant support and discussion. Although it is important that you learn to rely on yourself when facing any challenge, it is also important to have a support team that you can lean on to give you a boost when things get too tough and correct you when you're making mistakes.

## Accepting Changes

In order to build one's own image in front of him/her, it is compulsory to change one's own perception regarding them. It can be as difficult as kicking a vice, but a new self-image will always remind you of why you're trying to change. Breaking down the norms and rules are one of the prerequisites in re-

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shaping one's life. Sometimes we don't know if solutions actually work until we try them out. This is why it is important to experiment whenever possible, especially if you're dealing with a career change.

## Recognizing Own Talent

Many people of younger ages lose their self-confidence and interest because of the awareness of their own talents or skills. It is very important to know about your talent or skills in order to cope up with any situation. It will direct one's pathway to become self-reliant and self-sufficient. Moreover, by identifying one's talent or strength, one may face any problem more efficiently and confidently.

## Follow Your Dream

This is very mandatory to have as much passion and determination as doing any sort of things in life. To achieve a certain amount of success at the very beginning of life, it is necessary to have plan and to have a passion and a dream side by side. Following the dreams and passion makes a person more focused and self-alienated. Too often, we give up just when we need to push harder, and persist when we actually should quit. Yet without a more clear-eyed assessment of our present and our future, and a more effective approach to setting, pursuing, and achieving goals, we can end up with an unfulfilled future.



**Illustration 8: Useful ways to reconstruct yourself for the betterment in future**



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# Cultural Intrusion And Our Youths

Tasmima Sabatina

*"Culture does not make people. People make culture."*

- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie



Culture itself is a vast component to explain. Culture is the characteristics of practicing knowledge, languages and different kinds of norms and customs of different group of people. Culture is what we perceive as our own identity and beliefs. Well, culture of a nation is something that reveals and upholds its identity to others. And people who thrive in this notion are comparatively developed. Only those cultures survive in this pacy world which show its true colors through thick and thin. Our culture has really reached that crucial situation when it's very urgent to spread out its hues in order to ensure its proper survival.

At the very outset, I must say

that we are exploiting our own culture. In the first place, none but we ourselves are responsible for putting our culture under the threat of extinction. We have already come far away from our traditions, values and beliefs. It clearly indicates that we don't even now believe in ourselves. If not so, then why are we pushing ourselves back from the room of our culture? We never recall our culture other than the festivals. We rejoice those days (like Pahela Baisakh, Borsā boron etc.) with the highest solemnity. But is culture for one day? If not, then why doesn't our culture get reflected through our face, attire, behavior, norms and etiquettes?

In the meantime, our citizens are now die-hard fans of sky culture (especially Indian

channels). Do we really acquire something positive and constructive from these so called entertaining channels? Please throw this question to your conscience. We squander hours and hours over the serials (especially women and girls) which are brain-storming. These serials leave a viewer perplexed. And as the women are the earnest fans of these weird programmes, the children (who stay mostly nearer to women) also receive those zigzag notions from them. And it's affecting our coming generation significantly. According to a survey conducted over three hundred university students, about 35 percent of the young students prefer speaking in Hindi and English to Bengali.

Moreover our native channels

are also contributing to a great extent in this perspective. They are letting themselves float in favour of the current named cultural intrusion. Some channels broadcast programmes containing events which are completely opposite to our culture. And this is harming our generation and culture like a tumour which carries out its function very slowly and silently but exposes like an explosion.

Meanwhile it is necessary to focus upon English medium schools which follow British curriculum. These schools are also a factor that is aggravating our culture's position. The students of these schools are on the verge of forgetting their own culture and installing western culture in their minds. They proudly declare (with some exceptions) that they are weak in Bengali and this subject seems tedious to them. They call their mothers mummy, mom, mama etc. in lieu of "Ma" but we know many gallant people sacrificed lives in 1952 for this language. Is it like that those valiant sacrifices are of no importance to us? I hope all of you can measure the depth of forthcoming consequences of such ominous situation.

Actually these are happening owing to globalization. Due to globalization, practice of western culture or say westernization is spreading out all over the world. Westernization has been placed in different countries because of globalization and needless to say, it has an impact on the Bangladeshi lifestyle as well. Our youths are the worst victims of this changing trend. They are blindly following everything related to Western beliefs and lifestyle. For example - ignoring our traditional kinds of songs they are more enthusiastic about Hindi or English songs. They even keep humming those songs all the time - no matter whether he/she is in the bathroom or in a public transport. Even the celebration of festival is greatly influenced by Western culture. Our youths know about Christmas Eve, Halloween etc. and they celebrate these amidst much fanfare but they are very reluctant to commemorate the significant days related to our history.

In a word, we are in a solemn crisis. We need to mirror over this problem instead of raising a storm over a cup of tea. Otherwise, this flood of culture intrusion will make all of us float towards uncertainty.

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**Illustration 9: A brief feature on Culture invasion and how our youth are being affected by this explosion**

# Horoscope: Real Or Wishful Thinking?

Tasmima Sabatina



It is a common habit of many curious newspaper readers, usually the younger ones, to sit in the morning with a newspaper in one hand and a cup of tea in another just to have a glimpse of the horoscope page where famous astrologers foretell the future of one's life, especially how the very day is going to be for him or her. It seems really interesting for many readers to know about such predictions regarding their work, love affairs, friends, family, success or failures and so on at the outset of the day based on one's date of birth or zodiac sign. However, have the question ever come to your mind whether such future telling published in the horoscope page really bears any fruit for the readers or they are just futile and illusive conjectures about the reality intended to deceive people every now and then.

Well, zodiac sign is principally related to astrology while astrology, in its broadest sense, is the search for the meaning of

human life in the sky. The idea behind astrology is that stars and planets have some influence over human affairs and terrestrial events. And this study seeks to understand general and specific human behavior by determining the movement of the planets in the sky. Then the horoscopes are an astrologer's foretelling of a person's life based on the relative positions of stars and planets. According to them, the movements of the planets control human life and fate in the same way as the movements of the moon control the tides of the oceans of the world. For them, Mars is the planet of passion while Jupiter is the lucky star and so on.

However, some people tend to think that zodiac signs and their influence are nothing but a myth and bear no relation to our daily life just as the reading of horoscopes in the newspaper serves us no purpose. If you read the same horoscope page for a year and compare them, you will find that it tells you almost the

same thing by turns and in some cases they have just copied and pasted a horoscope from a previous day's page. Every now and then people report that what they read in their horoscopes comes true, just too often to dismiss it later. Many people say that some common things are usually described in the horoscope page, which are actually applicable in case of most people in general. If the situation is so, then reader may easily come to the conclusion that such things are not worth counting on.

Meanwhile, there are some people who read horoscope page merely for having fun and rather than really believing in it, they just love to make a stirring conversation on it with their friends. The other kind of readers, however, believe in the predictions of the zodiac signs and horoscopes so seriously that after reading the horoscope page they often tend to meet their trouble halfway. They keep worrying over their upcoming events all the day

and even refrain from undertaking many actions on the very day out of the fear of a predicted misfortune.

It is mentionable that there is no strong ground of it that any palmist or human being can tell people's future or fortune by reading the astrological numbers or their palms. This is why the Holy Qur'an says, "Do not indulge in fortune telling". Not only that, many Islamic religious scholars also strongly dismiss such wrong notions retained by many ignorant people who believe in any such future-telling system based on horoscope or astrology. For instance, we can refer to Islamic scholar Sidi Faraz A. Khan, from Seekershub (Global Islamic seminary), who answered to the audience's questions in this regard. When asked if it is right to follow horoscope or believe in any explanation of our fate based on astrological analysis, he said, "Many rigorously-authenticated Hadiths are there in which the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) forbade it. This prohibition is general and without exception, and hence includes following horoscopes even if only to note compatibility of personality traits and the like."

On the other hand, the Hindu people still rely on the astrological knowledge for deciding on their prospective life partner or to select an appropriate day for holding a marriage ceremony with having a deep faith in its efficacy. They also have a custom of making a "Kundli" (a natal chart in Hindu astrology) according to their birth date and month. This is why, one may either believe in it or not, it is not so easy to dismiss the utility of these zodiac signs or wipe out the custom of relying on astrological knowledge completely from the society.

Moreover, we cannot claim that the science of astrology is baseless; rather it may be of great help as well. By virtue of studying the alignment of the planets, masters of astrology have managed to comprehend certain truths of the natural world. Yet, it will really be a lamentable thing if we count on this knowledge as step-by-step guide for how to approach our life and how to control our behavior according to that rather than using our human intelligence, acumen and common sense. #

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