

A Report on the Internship

At

New Age

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Department of English and Humanities

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I n s p i r i n g E x c e l l e n c e

BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

A Report on the Internship

At

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By

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Acknowledgement

Life is not a bed of roses. It is full of challenges. During my internship, I had to deal with difficult situations. Balancing both my study at BRAC University and internship at *New Age* was challenging for me. However, with the blessing of Almighty Allah, everything eventually became easier.

At first I would like to express my cordial gratitude to the Almighty Allah for giving me the strength to come over the difficulties that I faced while writing this report.

I would like to thank my BRAC University supervisor Ms. Roohi Huda for her guidance and support during my internship. She helped me write this report whenever I needed her guidance.

I would also like to thank my *New Age* supervisor Mr. Abu Shyem Akhund, senior sub-editor, for his guidance and support throughout my internship. He made my internship period enjoyable and I learnt many new things from him. I would like to thank my colleagues for helping me during my internship as well.

I would also like to convey my gratitude towards the Deputy Editor of *New Age*, Mr. Farid Ahmed, who gave me the opportunity to do my internship at *New Age*.

Finally, I would like to thank my father Late Monjur Ahmed for his endless support and encouragement. I want to express my special gratitude to my mother and husband, without their sacrifice and love; I would never have been able to pursue my education.

Fahmida Ahmed Monika

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1. Introduction

The Newspaper is a distributor of the world's knowledge and an integral part of our everyday life. We cannot imagine our daily life without a piece of newspaper. According to the origin of newspaper was in China. China's *Peking News* existed from the 6th to the 14th century. The press is one of the most important media. The press as identified with newspapers wields immense power. It is so powerful that it has been called the "Fourth Estate" by Thomas Carlyle, a Scottish philosopher, satirical writer, essayist, translator, and teacher.

From the time I became a student of the English and Humanities Department, I wanted to pursue career in journalism. My father used to keep both Bangla and English newspaper in our house. As a child, I have spent most of my holidays reading newspapers and story books. From my childhood, I liked to read and write. I wrote some short stories and poem in Bangla. I always wondered how people can write for newspapers, what types of techniques they use and so on. I got my answers while taking media courses with my instructor Ms. Roohi Huda in BRAC University. She has wonderfully taught us how to write a news article, what are the different news value factors etc.

I pursued my internship at *New Age* as a part of my graduation requirement in BRAC University. I dropped my CV at *The Daily Star*, *New Age* and *Daily Sun*. I was called for interview and selected at all these organizations. However, I chose *New Age* to my internship because of the flexible working hours.

I started my internship at *New Age* from May 11, 2018 and continued till August 15, 2018. It was really an amazing journey. During this time I learned more about *New Age* and how

they wrote about various newsworthy incidents. I interned at the National Desk. Throughout my internship, my writing skill improved. I gained experience about the topics (features, op-eds, obituaries etc.) that I learned before in the text book. I was very professional and dedicated to my task. My supervisor and colleagues were very helpful and friendly. They corrected my mistakes and show me the right way.

2. A Brief History about *New Age*



Fig 1: *New Age*

Source: Google Images

New Age is one of the leading newspapers in Bangladesh. It started its journey on June 7 2003. A.Z.M Enayetullah Khan is the founder of the newspaper and the daily is published by the Chairman of the Editorial Board ASM Shahidullah Khan on behalf of Media New Age ltd.

The slogan of *New Age* is ‘the outspoken daily’. *New Age* always publishes authentic and neutral news. Nurul Kabir is the editor of the newspaper. He is a journalist, writer, columnist, editor and activist. He is famous for his upright journalism and bold political views. *New Age* is a 20 page daily which is prepared approximately by 200 journalists. The length of the newspaper can vary according to the amount of information. The news can also be read online in *New Age*’s website <https://www.newagebd.net/> published after 12:00 am and the readers can share their different opinions there.

New Age consists of various sections such as National, International, Sports, Editorial, Online, Reporting, and Business. Apart from these sections it has different weekly supplements

named *Trends* and *Youth*. *Trends* deals with fashion and brands. On the other hand, *Youth* focuses on the various aspects of young people. *New Age* has its own reporters and also it collects news from United News of Bangladesh (UNB) and Bangladesh Songbad Songstha (BSS). These are the top news agencies of Bangladesh. For their international news *New Age* subscribes to Reuters and Agence France Presse.

3. The Functioning Process of *New Age*

New Age runs its newsroom in a very organized way. A chief news editor runs the Central Desk/ National Desk of the *New Age*. There are eight sub-editors in the editorial section. First of all, the reporters submit the news to the Chief News Correspondent. The Chief News Correspondent selects the important news. Then the selected news is submitted to the news editors' desk where the joint news editors edit the news along with the sub-editors. News collected from various news agencies is directly sent to the news editor's desk. After editing, news moves to the deputy editor's desk for review. The Deputy Editor prioritizes the news according to the news value factors (Timeliness, Proximity, Prominence, Oddity, and Consequences) as space is very limited in newspapers. Later, it goes to the page design section and sent to the graphic designers' desks for the cartoons and pictures to be edited. Then the news goes to editor's desk for the final approval. Finally, the news is sent to the printing press for publication. These are the various types of tasks in a newspaper office. National affairs, political news of Bangladesh, crimes, obituary, weather updates, press release and national events are edited at the Central Desk/National Desk.

4. Interning at the National desk of *New Age*

I had to appear for an interview at *New Age* as a procedure of an internship appointment. The Deputy Editor, Farid Ahmed conducted my interview and confirmed my internship at *New Age*. When I started my internship, he designated Abu Shyem Akhund as my supervisor. He is the Senior Sub-editor at *New Age*. During my internship, I took three courses at BRAC University. I had to attend classes, submit assignments, sit for examinations, and also do my internship. So it was very difficult for me to balance both my studies and internship accordingly. This journey became easier because of the support of my family and supervisor.

The print media is one of the most important media. Television and radio and even electronic media cannot always cover news in as much details as the print media. Though we are heading towards a digital nation, many people cannot have the facilities of the modern world. There are many rural areas where people cannot get internet service. There are still many old people who are more comfortable with print media. Some may say working for newspapers might not be beneficial anymore. I completely disagree to this point. There are a lot of Bangla and English newspapers in Bangladesh. They recruit many people for different types of posts. Students can also work in newspapers according to their skills and experience.

The National desk of the *New Age* has a chief news editor and seven sub-editors. This section covers not only news of Dhaka city but it also covers news about different areas of Bangladesh. This department of the newspaper covers all types of national news such as crime news, features, political news, news about accidents, suicide, obituary, sports, business and entertainment etc.

5. News Reports

During my three month internship, I had to write articles mostly from press releases. Additionally I had to a lot of translation from Bangla to English as the reporters wrote their reports in Bangla. While writing a news report I kept in mind the six elements (who, what, when, where, why and how) that need to be included in the lead paragraph and added the less important and least important information following the lead paragraph. Sometimes the press releases were very lengthy, and I had to prepare a precise news article from it.

Before starting my internship, I completed my Eng401: Editing course with Ms. Roohi Huda at BRAC University. She familiarized us with the inverted pyramid format and how to use it for writing news. It helped me a lot throughout my internship. In the pyramid format the news report is written in a descending order of importance. Here the most important information is kept on top of the pyramid and the least important information is placed at the end. In the middle, there is lesser important information. The inverted pyramid format was absorbed into newswriting long ago, and exists today as the standard style of reporting news.

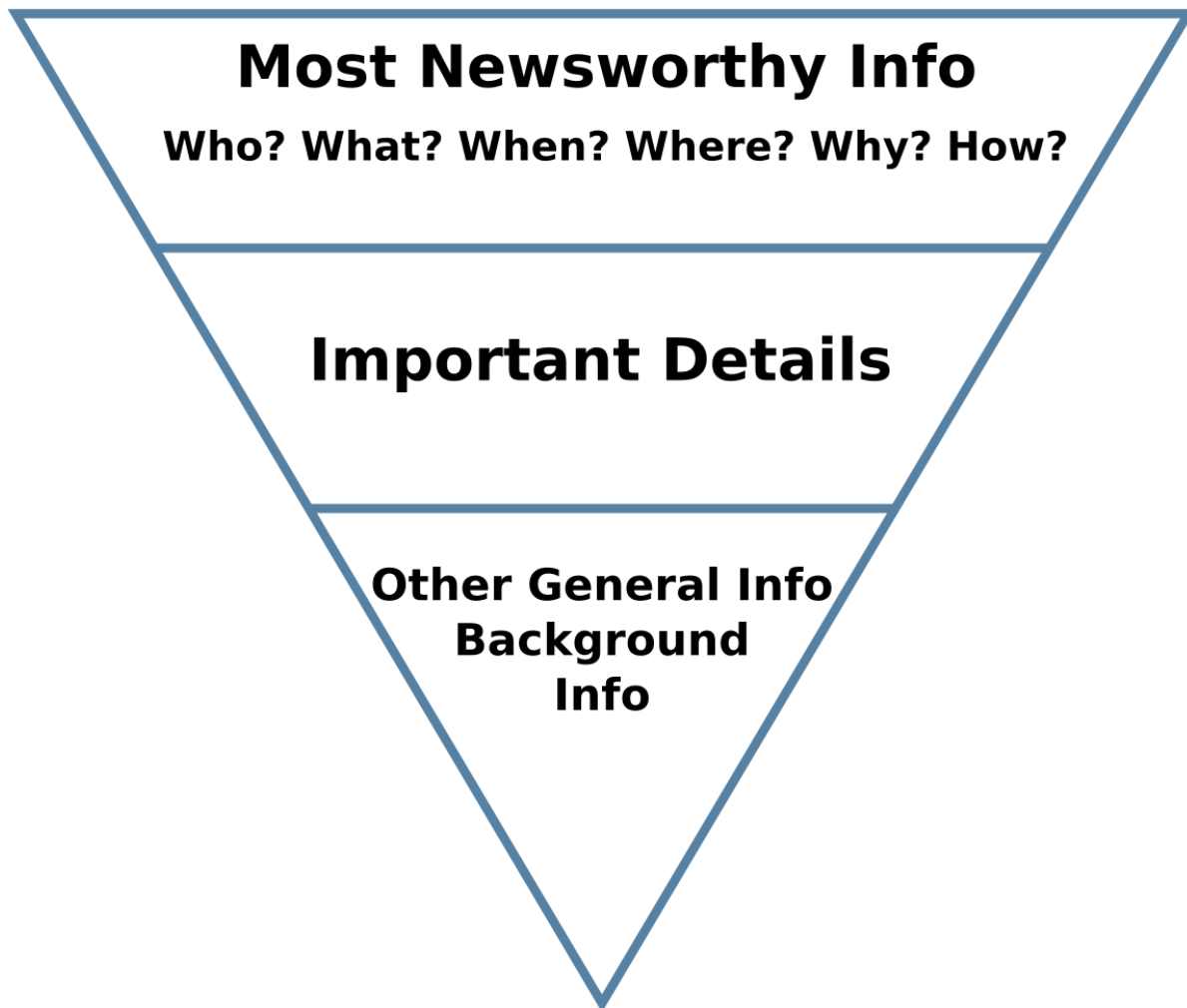


Fig 2: Inverted pyramid

Source: Google images

While writing a news article, I always placed the five W's and one H and followed the inverted pyramid style. Language is a very important element of a newspaper. As a student of the English and Humanities Department, I had to take some literature courses and ELT courses apart from the media courses. In literature courses, the instructors want a literary style of explanation when writing the assignments and answers in the exams. But in our ENG 401, ENG 404 and

ENG 440 courses the instructor always told us to use simple and precise language for writing news stories, op-eds, letter to the editor, features etc. My supervisor also told me to use simple English so that people can understand the news easily. He also advised me to keep the word limit within 150-250 words for news articles. So I had to identify the most important information and write the news article briefly.

Writing a perfect title is a very important task. It should not generally exceed 8-10 words. It can also be shorter than the 8-10 word limit. It should be to the point so that the readers can understand the gist of the news by looking over it. *New Age* follows some rules for writing the title of the news story. I was advised not to use articles in the title. They do not also use names of people unless he/she is a famous person. Shoulder is another important part of news which is used to shorten the title or to indicate a shortened follow-up of a previous news story. For example,

B'desh can reap benefits out of US-China trade war

DCCI seminar calls for preparations without delay

Staff Correspondent

EXPERTS and businesses on Saturday said that Bangladesh would be immensely benefited in the area of export, import and investment from the ongoing trade war between the US and China if the country (Bangladesh) could prepare itself without any delay to utilise the potential.

Due to the trade war, many buyers of readymade garments were turning back to Bangladesh from China and it also created a scope for relocation of factories from China to Bangladesh, they said.

They said this at a seminar on 'trade war and its implications for Bangladesh' jointly organised by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute at DCCI auditorium in the city.

The trade tension also shifted the export order of RMG more to Vietnam, Cambodia and even to Myanmar than to Bangladesh.

Moreover, depreciation of currencies of different countries including China against dollar would make Bangladeshi products less price competitive, BFTI chief executive officer Ali Ahmed said in his keynote presentation.

He also showed that due to the trade war prices of US cotton dropped by 10 per cent and Bangladesh could avail the advantage while at the same time depreciation of Chinese currency would make imports from China less costly.

Ali Ahmed, however, apprehended an import surge of cheap Chinese products.

The trade tension would create a positive impact on investment and many companies already started increasing their production capacity in Bangladesh, he noted.

Ali Ahmed identified had state of ease of doing business as the greatest problem for attracting foreign direct investment and suggested branding the investment opportunities in Bangladesh to materialise the potential benefits of trade war.

He also suggested increasing supply capacity to meet the higher demand from buyers.

Ali Ahmed stressed analysing the opportunities, enhancing capacity, attracting investments and policy level readiness.

Citing a study report, senior commerce secretary Shubhashish Bose said that one third of US companies in China were looking to switch their production out of China and move towards Southeast Asia where labour was cheaper.

"We have to set up some of the industrial zones as our capacity is not sufficient enough to attract all the sector of the global economy because we are actually used to labour intensive industry," he said.

He said, 'Industrial revolution is just ahead and we need to invest robotics and artificial intelligence. We need FDI in those areas.'

Shubhashish said that Bangladesh needed to be prepared with infrastructural facilities but it had to be done in a hurry.

'If we can get ourselves prepared within a short span of time, we will be able to get the benefits of trade war, otherwise we will lag behind,' the commerce secretary said.

Continued on B3 Col. 1



Shoulder is used in order to shorten the title of a news story

Fig 3: News Report

Source: *New Age*

Writing news stories was not a very easy job for me. I faced serious problems while translating the reports from Bangla to English. Some Bangla words were completely new to me. Sometimes I took help from my supervisor and others colleagues. *New Age* has its own writing style. It took time for me to absorb their British writing style. For example, my supervisor advised me to use British dictionary as I often used American words while writing news reports. From then I always used British vocabulary at *New Age*.

Obituary

Staff Correspondent... Fahmida Ahmed Monika (intern)

Haji Shomsher Ali, father of South Dhaka City Jubo League's Vice-president Anwar Iqbal Santu, died today at 8.30 am at BSMMU, said a press release. He was 82.

He left behind his three sons and four daughters and many well-wishers to mourn his death, said a press release.

Shomsher Ali's first namaz-e-janaza will be held at lalbagh fort jame masjid after asr prayer. He will be buried in Azimpur graveyard after namaz-e-janaza.

Source: *New Age*

6. Translation

According to Peter Newmark, a professor of translation, “There is no such thing as a perfect, ideal or correct translation. A translator is always trying to extend his knowledge and improve his means of expression; he is always pursuing facts and words.”(6)

During my internship at *New Age*, I had to translate mostly from Bangla to English. Every newspaper has its correspondents all over the country. *New Age* also has its regional correspondents all over the country. They send news reports on incidents happen in particular areas. The news reports are written in Bangla. The region-based correspondents are advised to write their reports in Bangla so that the editors can have the actual information without any mistakes as the regional correspondents are not very good at expressing themselves in English.

As I have mentioned earlier, I had to translate the regional reports and also the press releases on a daily basis at *New Age*. During the last one month of my internship, I had to translate all the news articles given to me from Bangla to English. Before interning at *New Age*, I never realized that translation is so important for writing news articles. I used both word for word and sense for sense translation techniques for translating articles. I learned these techniques from my Eng465: Translation Studies course in BRAC University.

Word for word technique is not applicable for all types of news stories. Similarly, the sense for sense technique is not suitable for all types of articles. Most of the time, I used both the techniques to write the news reports. For example, I could not change names like Karim Mia or Munshiganj etc. I used to use ‘metaphrase’ for these type of translation. ‘Metaphrase’ means

“word by word and line by line translation.” (Munday 25) Most of the reports contained a lot of quotations. Thus, I chose only the relevant quotations and translated the gist.

Apart from these, I also had to paraphrase reports and keep the meaning of the source texts the same.

I faced a lot of difficulties when I had to translate the report first and then edit it. As I have mentioned earlier, some Bangla words were completely new to me. I had to read a lot the reports or press releases sent by the regional correspondents, and then I looked for the exact English word in order to translate news articles. It was very difficult to find out the most appropriate English words in order to express the meaning of the Bangla words sometimes. My supervisor and colleagues helped me while I was translating news reports. For example, ‘নেপথ্যে’ was a completely new word for me. Also, we can easily translate the Bangla word ‘মৃতদেহ’ as ‘dead body’ in English. But *New Age* uses deceased instead of dead body. I had to keep that in mind while translating.

The theoretical knowledge I gained about translation from my Eng465: Translation Studies course at BRAC University, I practically applied them during my internship at *New Age*.

স্পীকারের সাথে ইউএনডিপি'র আবাসিক প্রতিনিধি'র সাক্ষাৎ

ঢাকা, ১১ জুলাই, ২০১৮ :

বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় সংসদের স্পীকার ড. শিরীন শারমিন চৌধুরী এমপি'র সাথে বাংলাদেশে নিযুক্ত ইউএনডিপি'র আবাসিক প্রতিনিধি সুদীপ্ত মুখার্জী (Sudipto Mukharjee) আজ তাঁর কার্যালয়ে সাক্ষাৎ করেন।

সাক্ষাৎকালে তাঁরা টেকসই উন্নয়ন (এসডিজি), এসডিজি বাস্তবায়নে কর্মশালা আয়োজন, ইউএনডিপি'র সাহায্যপূর্ণ চলমান প্রকল্প ইত্যাদি বিষয়ে আলোচনা করেন। স্পীকার এসময় বাংলাদেশের উন্নয়ন ও অগ্রগতিতে ইউএনডিপি'র সহযোগিতার কথা কৃতজ্ঞতার সাথে স্মরণ করেন।

স্পীকার বলেন, সামাজিক ও অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়ন সূচকে বাংলাদেশের যথেষ্ট অগ্রগতি হয়েছে। বাংলাদেশ ইতোমধ্যে এমডিজি'র লক্ষ্যমাত্রা অর্জন করেছে উল্লেখ করে তিনি বলেন, এরই ধারাবাহিকতায় বাংলাদেশ ২০৩০ সালের মধ্যে টেকসই উন্নয়ন লক্ষ্য পূরণেও সক্ষম হবে। এছাড়াও তিনি এসডিজি'র লক্ষ্য অর্জনে সংসদ সদস্যদের সম্পৃক্ত করার উপর গুরুত্বারোপ করেন।

ইউএনডিপি'র আবাসিক প্রতিনিধি বলেন, ইউএনডিপি সুদূর অতীত থেকে বাংলাদেশের উন্নয়ন সহযোগী। ভবিষ্যতেও ইউএনডিপি বাংলাদেশের উন্নয়নে সহযোগিতা প্রদান অব্যাহত রাখবে। এসময় তিনি এসডিজি'র লক্ষ্য পূরণে সংসদ সদস্যদের নিয়ে দিনব্যাপী অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময় ও অবহিতকরণ সভা করার আহ্বাহ প্রকাশ করেন।

Source: *New Age*

UNDP country director meets JS speaker

Staff Correspondent... Fahmida Ahmed Monika (intern)

The United Nations Development Programme country director Sudipto Mukharjee had a meeting with Jatiya Sangsad speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury at her office on Wednesday, said a press release.

They talked about Sustainable Development Goals, arranging workshop to implement SDGs, the progress of other projects under UNDP and so on.

The speaker gratefully recollected the help of UNDP in improvement and progress of Bangladesh, said the press release.

The speaker said that in social and economic development index Bangladesh had gained sufficient improvement.

She mentioned that Bangladesh already had achieved the MDGs and that success would lead Bangladesh to achieve Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

The country director said that UNDP always had helped Bangladesh and would continue doing it.

7. Press Release

Basically press release is an official statement that reports specific information about a particular matter. News media cannot access all sorts of news due to authorization issues. As a result, they are dependent on press releases in order to inform the public about the important news. Press release works as a medium of communication among the organizers of any event, concert etc. the newspaper offices and the public. It carries important notices that people need to know. Press releases are sent from different organizations like different institutions, the government, the non-government organizations, and religion based organizations. Some examples include BRAC University, IUB, BUP, BRAC NGO, Siddika Madrasa, Bangladesh Power Development Board, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), ICCB, Islamic Foundation Bangladesh etc.

At the beginning of my internship at *New Age*, I had to write press releases mostly. Press releases dealt with hard news and I used to follow the inverted pyramid format for writing a press release.

Like other news articles, title is very important for a press release. It was very difficult to sum up the whole story within 8-9 words. I also had to paraphrase it and organize the information accordingly. Press releases are very lengthy, and they contain many irrelevant information. I had to identify the most important information and organize the press releases. For example, from one of the press releases sent from IUB, I wrote about ‘the United Asian Debating Championship’ held at IUB. The press release was very lengthy. In order to write an article from it, I had to only mention the names of the guests, and also their designations including the organizations in which they worked correctly.

It was my job to include the most relevant quotations and write a news article including only those. I also shortened some quotations and kept only the most important part of the quotations intact in news articles.

Initially, I used to write the news reports in present tense. Sometimes I was confused about whether I should choose present or past tense. My Supervisor advised me to write the articles in past tense always, as the readers read the news reports after they have been published, which in other words is after they had taken place.

As I have mentioned earlier, *New Age* has its own writing style. For instance, they prefer small letter for 'prime minister'. Also, adding 'said a press release' is mandatory at the end of one or two sentences. For example, based on information from a press release I wrote a news report about a journalist being killed in Shariatpur. I wrote, "The Upazilla Nirbahi Officer of Shariatpur, Md. Ziaur Rahman has threatened to kill a local journalist of daily *Jai Jai Din*, said a press release."

Press releases are published under the Byline of Staff Correspondent. Byline is a line at the head of a newspaper carrying the writer's name. The news stories sent by the regional correspondents are published under the bylines of that area.

Some press releases sent to *New Age* were in English but some were in Bangla. I faced more difficulties writing news reports from press releases written in Bangla than in English. It was difficult to find the exact same word in English that expressed the meaning of the Bangla word accurately.

June 4, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

IUB wins the United Asian Debating Championship 2018

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) wins the United Asian Debating Championship (UADC) 2018, the largest inter-varsity Parliamentary Debate Tournament in Asia that is also known as the Asian Cup of Debate with top universities participating from whole Asia. This championship has earned IUB the record of being the first ever team to reach and win the finals alongside making the first ever team to reach quarter and semifinals on its debut.

Zobayer Ahmed, the youngest member in the team of 3 has made his debut in the world of international tournaments with UADC 2018 and has left his mark sharing the championship with Aaqib Farhan Hossain and Nabil Hasan. The team comprised of the first ever Bangladeshi to hold two international championship titles, Aaqib Farhan Hossain who won the title of “best speaker” in his debut at UADC 2018 along with obtaining championship of the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) 2013 – the largest English debating competition in the world. All three members of IUB debating team are holding numerous national titles of debate competitions, and their win at UADC has earned Independent University, Bangladesh Debating Club the honor of being the best debate club in Asia that has won millions of hearts by hosting its flagship event “Ascension”, the biggest debate tournament in Asia at present.

With over 600 participants including teams from top universities of Asia, this remarkable win by Team IUB A at UADC 2018 is a moment of national pride. IBA DU 2 became the runner-up which made it an all Bangladeshi teams finale – another proud moment for the county. IBA DU 1 and NSU 1 broke in the semi-finals. Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) is delighted to share the championship trophy with the whole nation and proudly hoist the red-green flag of Bangladesh in international terrain.

Photo caption: IUB Team, the Champion of the United Asian Debating Championship (UADC) 2018, are seen along with the participants of the tournament.

Kh Aminul Haque
Director (Media & PR), IUB
Mobile: 01713 177 085

Source: *New Age*

IUB wins the United Asian Debating Championship 2018

Staff Correspondent... Fahmida Ahmed Monika (intern)

Independent University, Bangladesh wins the United Asian Debating Championship in 2018. This is the largest inter-varsity Parliament Debate Tournament in Asia.

Zobayer Ahmed along with his two team members Aaqib Farhan Hossain and Nabil Hasan has won this competition as well as World Universities Debating Championship of 2013. Aaqib Farhan Hossain, one of the team members, won the title of "best speaker" in his debut at UADC 2018.

These students have achieved numerous national titles of debate competitions.

With over 600 participants including teams from top universities of Asia, this remarkable win by Team IUB A at UADC 2018 is a moment of national pride. IBA DU 2 became the runner-up, IBA DU 1 and NSU 1 broke in the semi-finals.

By winning this championship, IUB becomes the first ever team to reach and win the finals.

Press Release

BUP Team Becomes Champion of a Global Competition

Team Shotej Tag from Bangladesh University of Professionals participated in a global business plan competition - Carbon Footprint Challenge on 25th and 26th of June 2018. The competition was jointly organized by Unitech and Buhler Group along with other European Companies and was held in Zurich, Switzerland. Out of 1714 registered teams across the globe only 6 teams had been selected as the finalists after two rounds of screening. The finalists came from Netherlands, India, China, Germany and South Korea.

The event consisted of a 16-hour workshop on the first day followed by presentation in the ETH University, Zurich (one of the top ranked universities in the world) on the next. The jury panel composed of renowned CEOs and top management members from different companies like Unitech, Covestro, Nosco and Buhler group.

This is a pride for Bangladesh and BUP that "Shotej Tag" has become the global champion in this competition and set a new height for the entire nation and BUP in a global platform like this. Team members were Saadman Faisal, Sharar Bin Rahman, Sk. Mohaimen Hossain and Mohammad Zubayer Hossain Khan - all from Department of Business Administration-General.

With this, BUP has won its the global championship and has written its name in the golden plate forever.

Source : *New Age*

BUP Team becomes Champion of a Global Competition

Staff Correspondent...Fahmida Ahmed Monika(intern)

Team shotej Tag from Bangladesh University of Professionals participated in a two day global business plan competition named Carbon Footprint Challenge from 25 June. It was held in Zurich, Switzerland.

BUP has won the championship of the competition. The team members were Saadman Faisal,Sharar Bin Rahman, Sk. Mohaimen Hossain and Mohammad Zubayer Hossain Khan.

Unitech and Buhler group along with other European Companies jointly organized the programme.

Only 6 teams out of 1714 had been selected as the finalists. The finalists came from Netherlands, India, China, Germany and South Korea.

The jury panel composed of CEO's and top management members from companies like Unitech, Convestro,Nosco and Buhler group.

ANTI-DRUG DRIVE

Robbery case convict killed in 'gunfight'

Our Correspondent
Munshiganj

Byline

A ROBBERY case convict, arrested earlier, was killed in 'gunfight' during a 'police raid to recover drugs and illegal firearms' at Paschim Baroikhali, Srinagar, Munshiganj on early Saturday.

The latest casualty raised the death toll in the ongoing anti-drug drive to 275 since May 15.

Deceased Md Tajel, 36, was accompanying the police during the raid.

Son of Deen Islam of Rudrapara, Srinagar, Munshiganj Tajel was sentenced to seven-year term and became a fugitive and was re-arrested on Friday morning, police said.

Source: *New Age*

8. Relating Theories with Internship Experience

As my concentration was on Media and Cultural Studies, I came across different theories related to media and journalism in different courses. Eng331: Introduction to Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice course is one of the courses of the Media and Cultural Studies stream. The instructor, Professor Firdous Azim, has familiarized us with different theories in this course. At that time, the theories were completely new to me. Eventually, when I started my internship at *New Age*, I could relate some of the theories with my tasks.

Panopticon and Gaze:

In Michael Foucault's "Discipline and Punish", the late eighteenth century English philosopher Jeremy Bentham's model of panopticon was illustrated as a metaphor for the contemporary technologies of mass surveillance. He defines panopticon as a medium of power used in balancing the society and community which people are living in. "As Jeremy Bentham proposed in his Panopticon; or The Inspection House (1787), a model for efficient prison and neighborhood control would be the panopticon." The panopticon structure was designed to be an architectural algorithm for being used in prisons, schools, cities and factories in order to reinforce a system of social control.

Michael Foucault further discussed the concept in his essay, "The Eye of Power" through a conversation with Jean-Pierre and Michelle Perrot. He said, "A perimeter building in the form of a ring. At the center of this, a tower, pierced by large windows opening on to the inner face of the ring. The outer building is divided into cells each of which traverses the whole thickness of the building. These cells have two windows, one opening on to the inside, facing the windows of central tower, the other, outer one allowing daylight to pass through the whole cell. All that is

then needed is to put an observer in the tower and place in each of the cells a lunatic, a patient, a convict, a worker or a schoolboy. The back lighting enables one to pick out from the central tower the little captive silhouettes in the ring of cells. In short, the principle of the dungeon is reversed; daylight and the overseer's gaze capture the inmate more effectively than darkness, which afforded after all a sort of protection." (147)

Moreover, in the essay another term 'Gaze' is mentioned and described as "the techniques of power used within the Panopticon." (154) Gaze talks about the idea that every person is watched by the controllers. It also says that people tend to have a sense of control when they know about the surveillance. For example, when we go for shopping in a super market, we are being watched to make sure we do not steal anything from there.

I can relate this theory to my internship experience. The media works like a panopticon. People cannot hide their wrong deeds. Different news media work 24 hours to observe people and write news articles based on their activities. *New Age* has its correspondents all over the country. They regularly send reports on various incidents happening around them. The news articles carry the names of the people who commit crime and also the names of the people related to the incidents. As a consequence, general people also know that they are being observed. So they become more careful about their behavior when they are being observed.

Tourists and Vagabonds:

Another theory I can relate with my internship work experience is 'Tourists and Vagabonds' from the book *Globalization: The Human Consequences* by Zigmunt Bauman. The deployment of new technologies has brought a new dimension in communication all over the

whole world. Distance loses its meaning to them. Now people throughout the world are globally connected. “There are no ‘natural borders’ any more, neither are there obvious places to occupy.”(77) The use of technologies such as television, mobile, computer etc. has connected people from different corners of the world. Now a person can know what is happening in USA or Europe by sitting in the room and using the internet. “Nowadays we are all on the move.”(77) With this line Bauman explains that people do not stick to one particular thing for a long time. They always crave something new. For example, people constantly change channels while watching TV, jump from Facebook to YouTube in search of new information. Similarly, people always look for latest news in newspapers. *New Age* always provides unique and latest information in order to satisfy the readers.

In this essay, Bauman also talks about the constant needs of consumers in a consumer society. People are tired of old things. They always run after new things. There is no limit of their desire for something new.

Newspapers also deal with the constant need of breaking news to the readers. People always look for headlines or breaking news in both newspapers and the internet. They always look for latest news in the newspapers. As there are many newspapers and all the newspapers provide almost the same news stories. Providing unique information is very important in order to grab the attention of the readers.

While interning at *New Age*, I observed the urge of the editors to publish the same news in a different manner from the other newspapers as in unique headlines, word selection for the news story and sometimes also a different angle. People are attached to breaking news. For example, during the transport strike in October, people were desperately in need of latest news.

As there was no public transport on the roads, people needed to know the updated news on an urgent basis. During the transport strike, general people were completely dependent on newspapers and TV channels to know the current news. The transport strike was the headline in every newspaper and all the newspapers were trying to provide unique information to differentiate themselves. All the newspapers were constantly publishing latest news in order to satisfy the readers. For example, *New Age* also published news on the transport strike and the headlines were, “Striking Transport workers assault journalists, drivers at Jatrabari,” “Infant dies as transport workers block ambulance” etc. *New Age* always tries to satisfy its readers by publishing authentic news stories. They do not publish news reports on the same topics for too long. *New Age* also prioritizes its readers and publishes news with unique information to satisfy their need.

Infant dies as transport workers block ambulance

Staff Correspondent · Sylhet

A SEVEN-DAY girl died on her way to Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital from Moulvibazar as transport workers reportedly stopped an ambulance carrying her Sunday afternoon as they enforced a 48-hour transport strike.

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Ambulance held for hrs, infant dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Moulvibazar

A seven-day-old baby died in an ambulance at Chandgram of Moulvibazar after transport workers during their strike yesterday held the vehicle for around an hour and a half.

The girl's father Kuton Mia, of Ajmir in Baralekha upazila, first took the sick child to Baralekha Upazila Health Complex, but doctors there referred her to

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Link-<http://epaper.thedailystar.net/index.php?opt=view&page=1&date=2018-10-29>

These are the two headlines from two different newspapers on the same topic. The first news story was published in *New Age* and the second news was published in *The Daily Star*

during transport strike. Both of the newspapers published news on the same topic, but the headlines and word selection are different.

Mediascapes:

In the essay “Modernity at Large,” Arjun Appadurai introduces us with five scapes of globalization. According to Appadurai there is a new spread of culture, information, etc. due to globalization. He has mentioned five dimensions of global cultural flow and they are ethnoscapas, mediascapes, technoscapes, financescape, and ideoscapes. I would relate mediascapes with my intership experience. Mediascapes is the movement of media around the world and how it allows distant cultures to view each other. “ Mediascapes refer both to the distribution of the electronic capabilities to produce and disseminate information (newspaper, magazines, television stations, and film production studios), which are now available to a growing number of private and public interests throughout the world, and to the images of the world created by these media.”(35) Appadurai says media creates an imaginary world and through this imaginary world people get connected with other cultures. Through media people can know what is happening around the world. We are seeing the world through the eye of media and believing them.

Newspaper is also a media through which we get know what is happening around us. Journalism is not an easy task. It is the journalists’ duty to reveal the authentic information so that general people can rely on them fully.

9. Internet and Journalism

Nowadays the availability of internet has increased and it is a lot easier for general people to use it. The advancement of technologies has changed the traditional idea of news. Newspapers have their pages on Facebook, Twitter etc. People are constantly using social media and getting their desired news. Almost every newspaper has its online version. Previously people were solely depended on daily newspapers. Only these dailies had all the latest news stories. But now we can get news by only using Facebook or Google any time. Moreover, the e-paper has a section named archive from where we can find any published news of any date.

In present times, everyone is posting photos and videos in social media platforms. For example, people post photos or videos on eve teasing, accidents, harassment and so on. Earlier the newspaper authorities only had to focus on the hardcopy of the newspapers. But now they are equally active in publishing the news online. They face more pressure than before as general people get the actual news through the internet.

10. Conclusion

Interning at *New Age* was completely a new experience for me. During this time, I could use my theoretical knowledge with internship experience. This report focuses on the history of *New Age*, news stories, translations, press releases. Additionally, it shows how I could relate some theories that I learnt from my university courses with the internship experience.

At present, media is one of the most powerful tools in the world and journalists play vital role in spreading the exact incident happening all over the world through this tool. The different newspapers should always provide the authentic news stories and never mislead general people by providing fake information. During my internship at *New Age*, I observed that the editors verify each and every information and then edit it. They are always conscious about publishing correct information in news reports and they work really hard to satisfy their readers.

It was hard for me to balance my internship at *New Age* and classes at BRAC University during the month of holy Ramadan. But I could manage both because of the support of my Supervisor and colleagues. Initially, I made many mistakes while writing and editing reports, but gradually I learnt the techniques. I got the opportunity to know how *New Age* functions by interning there. It helped me to be professional and cooperative. Writing about new incidents was very exciting for me. This internship has increased my interest towards working for newspapers in the future. It encouraged me to be honest, responsible, and hardworking and disciplined in professional life. I have learnt to work under pressure and handle tough situations. It has been a great honour to be a part of *New Age*. Hopefully, this journey will help me in my professional life in future.

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