

Exploring the World of Journalism

at

The Daily Star

Zaima Zahra

11103005

Department of English and Humanities

April 2016



Inspiring Excellence

BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Exploring the World of Journalism

At

The Daily Star

A Report Submitted to

The Department of English and Humanities

of

BRAC University

By

Zaima Zahra

11103005

ENH

In Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements

For the Degree of

Bachelor of Arts in English

April 2016

Acknowledgement

My internship at *The Daily Star* has truly been a memorable experience. This was the last step of my undergraduate studies as a student of the Department of English and Humanities at BRAC University. First of all, I would like to thank Almighty Allah for keeping me well and blessing me with the wisdom, knowledge and strength without which my internship would not have been possible.

I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to the chairperson Professor Dr. Firdous Azim for granting me the permission and providing me with all her support and encouraging speeches. It is my pleasure to thank my internship supervisor Ms. Roohi Huda, whose encouragement, guidance and support throughout my internship enabled me to develop an understanding and courage to do my best. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to my faculties whose support and guidance were invaluable especially in the initial stages of my studies at BRAC University.

I express my gratitude to Mr. Salehuddin Ahmed of *The Daily Star* for giving me the chance to do my internship and gain knowledge. I would like to thank my supervisor, Ms. Sadya Afrin Mollick, the editor of the “Arts and Entertainment” page of *The Daily Star* for guiding and introducing me to the world of journalism. I also would like to thank my senior colleagues Saurav dada, Fahmim bhaia, Darshan da, Zahangir bhaia, Shaju bhaia and Rupon bhaia for their help and support throughout my internship period.

Last but not the least; I would like to thank my family and friends. My eternal gratitude goes to my father Mr. Munir Ahmed, my mother Sadia Haque Chowdhury, my phupa Syed Ruhul Amin for always inspiring me. My gratitude also goes out to my best friend Nahin Taher, for the

support and inspiration she provided me with. The love, prayers and support of my mother and father have helped me finish my study well.

Zaima Zahra

Table of contents

Topics	Page no.
1. Introduction	1
2. A Brief History of <i>The Daily Star</i>	3
3. Working at <i>The Daily Star</i>	4
4. Interview	8
5. Press Releases	14
6. TV Caption	20
7. Personal Account	23
8. Conclusion	25
Work Cited	28

1. Introduction

Events that provide information are considered news. However, the extent of information that is delivered depends on the timeliness and the proximity of the reader, listeners and viewers. News is provided on a daily basis. It helps to enhance our knowledge about world events. In other words, news works as an eye opener that broadens our views as well as perceptions regarding various occurrences. In simple words, news is something that upholds information about the world we live in.

The importance of news was never same if we take a look at the past. It has changed because of the influence of globalisation. There is no denying that globalization has injected awareness among the general masses to know more about what is going on nationally as well as internationally. In such a situation, news or the media industry took a step forward so that this expectation of knowing more of general masses is fulfilled. Therefore the kind of journalism or reporting we now have is very different from the past. This is because journalists now need to know what are the events taking place nationally and internationally. Now the journalists are facing more pressure than ever before to report both national and international news almost fast as the internet. The progress of media industry is increasing as the motto behind journalism has changed, because now journalists are more concerned about how to deliver news by making it not only informative, but also visually appealing. This is because of the advent of color television and the internet within the last few decades.

I had a very simple vision for choosing “Media and Cultural Studies” as my concentration. I always wanted to become a writer. However, I wanted to be a writer who delivers rational information and insights about many issues. I wanted to do this, because for the betterment of an underdeveloped country like Bangladesh, we all need to know and explore various sectors to

broaden our vision. Such sectors can be culture, society, law and order etc. Therefore, in my view journalism is the best way to fulfil my wish, and interning at a newspaper office was the best way to do it. This is why I preferred to intern at a newspaper office. I gained valuable experience by the time I completed the internship.

As I have already mentioned my goal, it is obvious that in order to pursue it, my intention was to do an internship at a well-known newspaper. Therefore, *The Daily Star* was my first priority. It is not only ranked as one of the top newspapers in Bangladesh, but it is also popular worldwide. The newspaper is known for its neutral stand regarding all kinds of occurrences. *The Daily Star* works with solid information despite external influences, both political and financial.

2. A Brief History of *The Daily Star*

Founded by Syed Mohammad Ali on January 14, 1991- *The Daily Star* stated its journey as the first English-language newspaper in Bangladesh. The newspaper established credibility among the readers by promoting a neutral and broad vision as an independent newspaper. However, it is mandatory to mention that during the early nineties the newspaper saw Bangladesh going through a crisis; as the phase was the transitional period of restoring parliamentary democracy. Therefore, the newspaper had both the opportunity as well as the pressure to establish itself as a neutral entity.

As time has passed, *The Daily Star* became known as one of the leading English newspapers. It has taken a long term responsibility to show public opinions by strengthening them with facts and legitimate reasons. The newspaper holds the pride of promoting news as an independent entity. It has kept the slogan “People’s Right to Know” as their motto for the past 25 years.

The Editor Mahfuz Anam is the head of the newspaper. He has the authority to affiliate himself with the policy making process. Moreover under his supremacy the newspaper leads news, reporting and editorial units. Also the newspaper has various sections such as News, Reporting, Sports, Business, Editorial, Metropolitan, National Page, Star Weekend Magazine, Law and Our Rights, Lifestyle, Culture, Online, Establishment, Circulation, Advertisement, Computer Operator and Reading Section. These sections are headed by Editors, and they are responsible for the news that is published in their respective sections.

3. Working at *The Daily Star*

Every experience has its own story, and mine is no different. My internship at *The Daily Star* has provided me many opportunities to learn new things. I was able to understand how different it is to intern at a newspaper office rather than just taking journalism classes. I was able to experience the process of publishing news, learn to do various kind of work as well as get introduced to new and interesting people. While I was taking media courses, my activities and tasks were just between me and my lecturer or professor. However, in a newspaper agency as a journalist one has to deal with the editors of his/her respective department, their opinions as well as the newspapers' protocols.

At *The Daily Star*, I was interning at the Arts and Entertainment department. The department is bestowed with the responsibility of publishing the news of Bangladeshi culture and heritage as well as international glamour and news. The department is not just about celebrities, it also provides news about every aspect of Bangladeshi culture and heritage, how various events and activities (Bengal Music fest and folk fest) are introduced by blending them with new and fresh ideas. To keep up with the globalised world with a degree of maturity, an entertainment journalist needs to be very keen and fast about how Bangladesh and the whole world is running towards success. Therefore, journalism in the entertainment sector is fun as well as tough for a journalist when it comes to providing news.

The Daily Star Arts and Entertainment department is run by seven members:

- i. The Arts and Entertainment Editor: this individual is the in charge of the department and all the news items that are published in the page, under her supremacy. She has the authority to

decide which news items will be published, as well as editing news and representing *the Daily Star's* Arts and Entertainment page.

- ii. Sub-Editor: has the responsibility of editing reports by the staff correspondents, news collected from the web or international newspapers and news portals. He also cross-checks translated press releases.
- iii. Three reporters: The responsibilities of the three reporters are different from each other as one of them prepares reports based on international affairs, one of them collects news about Bangladeshi celebrities and media news, and another one covers various entertainment based events that represent Bangladeshi culture and heritage.
- iv. Two photographers: both the photographers are versatile in terms of their activities as they do both; cover events as well as photo shoots of celebrities.
- v. Page designer: the task of the page designer is to design the page according to the editor's instructions. Later the page is checked by the Graphics Department.

In terms of the pattern of writing, *The Daily Star* does not strictly follow the British style of writing. For example, words like, “organize”, “advice”, “colour” are not always written following British spelling. They are liberal as long as the write-up delivers proper and important news. On the other hand, for academic papers we were asked to strictly follow British spelling. This made me realise that the pattern of writing for a newspaper is quite different from academic writing.

During my first two weeks, I was mostly assigned the task of translating press releases, a few interviews and obituaries. Most of the time my translated write ups were published as TV caption or Bytes; an interview and an obituary were also published. The interview was of singer Kalpana Anam and the obituary was published as a tribute to the noted writer Syed Mujtaba Ali.

The one-on-one interview was taken over the phone; on the other hand, the obituary was based on internet research with the motive of making the write up informative. During this process I was able to apply the knowledge that I have acquired from courses like English for the Print Media, Editing, Translation Studies and Cultural Studies. I became familiar with the two ways in which I can prepare an interview write-up (Question-Answer and Narrative style), because I learned it in the English for the Print Media course. The Translation Studies course helped me decide which press release needed a sense for sense translation and which press release needed a word for word translation. The Cultural Studies course helped me to understand how mass culture can turn into popular culture. Valentine's Day is an example of a mass culture turning into a popular culture.

While doing the translation, interviews and research I was introduced to the writing methods of *The Daily Star*. The writing style of every write up was different from each other. This gave me an idea of how various styles of writing differ from one another.

Moreover, keeping the word limit in mind, cross-checking, double checking, recording, writing and upholding an important statement or pointing out the key words in a news story, and ensuring the news is true are the important ingredients in terms of preparing a write up for *The Daily Star*, especially for the Arts and Entertainment section.

Word limit is a very crucial element for a report. Every word is important if it can provide news. This is why it should be kept in mind that not all the information that is gathered should be included in an article. An article has to be very precise and compact with only important information, or else excessive information will make the write up vague and pointless. Interview based write ups or obituaries mostly consist of 250-300 words, whereas TV captions and bytes consist of 50-100 words.

There are situations where the reporter needs to jewel up the speaker's point of view so that the intention of the speaker does not get misunderstood. This is why we were instructed to only write the truth without violating the speaker's intentions.

Press releases that are provided are mostly written in Bangla. Later they need to be translated into English within the given word limit. On the plus side, the interviewee mostly speaks in Bangla. This puts every reporter in a situation where he/she has to come up with proper word crafting for the write ups. In such situations I was able to use the knowledge that I acquired from the Editing course. Due to taking Editing course, I was able to omit the unwanted information and make a piece shorter and more precise, but at the same time turn it into an informative report. Although editing was difficult for me since I did not know what information to keep, and what to ignore, later the sub-editor pointed out a few tricks and tips, and these helped me edit my own write ups.

Writing for the Arts and Entertainment page was very exciting. This provided me the opportunities I needed in order to explore our culture and entertainment sector to a great extent.

4. Interview

There are a few key points that are needed to be kept in our mind while taking an interview they are the following:

- I. The interviewer introducing him or herself at the beginning of the interview.
- II. Elaborate the purpose of the interview.
- III. Explain the interviewing method to the source if the source is unfamiliar with it. For example, if the interviewer wants to voice record the interview, he/she has to let the source know that, and take the source's permission before recording the interview.
- IV. Let the source know how much time the interview will take.
- V. Try to keep the interview as short as possible.
- VI. Ensure the questions asked to the source are competent to answer.
- VII. Give ample time to the source to reply.
- VIII. In case of complex or vague answers, ask the source to clarify.
- IX. Read the answers if requested or paraphrase complicated answers so that they become simpler.
- X. Give importance to the answers that would concern the readers, and try to get more information on those issues.

XI. Avoid lecturing, arguing or debating with the source.

XII. Abide by requests of the source; for no attribution, background only or off-the-record information.

At *The Daily Star* I was assigned to interview a lot of people. However, it was not always possible to do every assignment, because there were times when the interviewees were not available for the interview. They were either out of town or they were shooting a movie or a drama, or they were at a meeting. Most of the interviews were taken over the phone, and most of them were one on one interview.

After the interview, we had to ensure that we have the latest picture of the person, if not; the photo journalists would arrange a photo shoot for them. Pictures are important in the “Arts and Entertainment” section because there are lots of fans who want to see the most recent image of their favourite celebrity. Moreover, pictures are the way to introduce new faces who might turn out to be popular celebrities. This in a way is good for both the celebrities as well as the newspaper.

The “Arts and Entertainment” section is very important for most of the celebrities as they provide exposure to them. It is the glamour world we were dealing with. This is why we had to ensure that all our interviews were interesting, filled with the latest news of the celebrities and had colourful and vibrant pictures of their lives and experiences.

Interning at the “Arts and Entertainment” section has made me realise that we had to work ahead of time. There were various events going on, and to provide the news we had to interview a lot of artists (dancers) before the events took place. For example, I was assigned to take interviews of various artists during the 1st national Dance-Drama festival. Those interviews

were combined by the sub-editor, and later they were published as a single report, which was prepared by the sub-editor himself.

Upcoming special occasions were another reason why interviews were taken. We used to have meetings about the upcoming events, and based on those meetings we were assigned tasks. I was assigned to interview Tahsan and Mithila for Valentine's Day; I had to interview Shakila Zafar and Emdadul Hoque for the upcoming Pahela Baishakh. During this process we were asked to prepare our news items before the deadlines, so that there was enough time to review those news items and publish only the best among them.

Here are few of my interviews that were published in the newspaper.

A tale of two sisters

LAILA HASAN AND DAISY AHMED

A CORRESPONDENT

Star siblings Laila Hasan and Daisy Ahmed are an upbeat duo. Laila a well known dancer and actor, is married to veteran actor Hasan Imam, while Daisy Ahmed, wife of noted actor Bulbul Ahmed, is a singer and actress. Laila and Daisy shared little known tidbits about their great bonding:

Where did you spend your childhood?
Laila Hasan: We are seven siblings.

Though we grew up in Dhaka, we stayed in various places before we settled down here, because of our father's profession.

What is the relationship like between you two?

Daisy Ahmed: I am closer to her than my other brother and sisters, as we are immediate siblings. We used to do everything together, though we did have arguments every once in a while. Even today, we share the same taste in clothing and many other things.

Any childhood story you want to share?

Laila Hasan: My sister used to be skinny and I was the chubby one. While sitting in a rickshaw she always refused to keep me on her lap and vice versa. We still enjoy a good laugh when we recall those times.

Have either of you received a scolding on account of the other?

Laila Hasan: Since our childhood, she has



always been a good student. I was constantly scolded because of this.

Daisy Ahmed: My sister was known as the calm and quiet one. She always wanted to share my dresses, which I never liked. I used to get a thorough scolding from my mother



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

because of my furious reactions.

Why did one of you choose to be a singer and the other a dancer?

Daisy Ahmed: I chose singing over dancing because Laila is more energetic and enthusiastic. Plus singing takes less physical

effort.

What do you like most about your sister?

Laila Hasan: Her spirituality. Since our childhood, I have appreciated her spirituality and her caring temperament which bound all of us in a common thread.

Daisy Ahmed: Her down-to-earth behaviour amazes me. She is caring and loving even though she is very much an introvert.

What is your view regarding new generation dancers and are you still linked with dancing?

Laila: I hold a very positive view because the new generation is very advanced and keen to explore. Moreover, now I am advisor of Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Shangstha plus I maintain a dance troop that performs in various places.

How did you join acting? Are you still working?

Daisy: I started acting during my college days. Subsequently, the interest kept growing as I studied Bengali literature. After getting married, I got the opportunity to work for my husband's production house. Eventually I got associated with various projects produced by various organisers. Recently, I have worked in various series such as "Aw er golpo", "Pogga Paromita", "House Full", "Radio Chocolate" and others. Other than that I perform at Banoladeh Retar as well

Home » Arts & Entertainment » Interview

12:00 AM, February 14, 2015 / LAST MODIFIED: 08:56 AM, April 10, 2015

VALENTINE'S DAY

Musings with Tahsan-Mithila

A Correspondent



It was music that connected two souls in one string; they fell in love, got married and now have a beautiful baby together. The story of multifaceted artistes Tahsan and Mithila is no less than a modern day fairytale. The couple opened up about their life, on and beyond work, to The Daily Star – ahead of Valentine's Day.

How will you introduce each other to the world?

Tahsan: After knowing her for eleven years, I will introduce Mithila through the different shades of her persona. My love has changed as Mithila became my wife and changed again when she became the mother of my child. Every role carries a shade that is different from another, and my love grows stronger as that continues to evolve.

Mithila: Immersed deep in music, a simple and emotional human being. The best part is he is very calm and reserved person, who loves music and his parents.

What is the one thing about you two that most people don't know?

Tahsan: We mostly miss the opportunity to celebrate days like Valentine's Day just by the two of us. Therefore, we try to celebrate those days beforehand.

Mithila: He is a great partner in terms of mental support. However, I work a little faster than him (smiles) as he goes about his work in a calm, composed manner.



ADVERTISEMENT

What were the biggest ups and downs you've been through together in your relationship?

Tahsan: There are so many stories to share; maybe I would take time and share them on my autobiography!

Mithila: Mostly, the problems we have faced is because of me being an extrovert and him being an introvert – which kind of sums up both the root of our problems, and their solutions.

Is there any treat for your fans on the occasion of Valentine's Day?

Tahsan: Two songs of mine will be released on the occasion. One is "Eshona" and the other one is a title track of a serial named "Couple". Plus I have worked in one of a TV play themed "Kache Ashar Golpo", and will participate in three concerts on Valentine's Day.

Mithila: I was occupied with other professional commitments so this Valentine's Day there won't be anything from my side, but I do hope audiences will enjoy Tahsan's works.



MORE FROM INTERVIEW

I enjoy Pahela Baishakh more than other festivities...

Shakila Zafar

Shakila Zafar -- a name that has brightened the country's musical arena with her lovely voice. The diva has not just fascinated listeners through her magical singing, but also with her persona, beauty and style. Shakila Zafar shared her perspective and plans for the upcoming Pohela Baishakh with The Daily Star.

Zaima Zahra

119

Shares



What is your view of Pahela Baishakh?

Shakila: I love Pahela Baishakh, because I feel we do not get enough opportunity to celebrate our culture and in my view even if I don't celebrate Pahela Baishakh I enjoy seeing people having fun on this precious occasion. Such celebrations only show how we are growing stronger and more versatile culturally.

How do you celebrate Pahela Baishakh?

Shakila: I enjoy Pahela Baishakh more than all other celebrations. I try to follow the customs and traditions of Pahela Baishakh, such as sending dahi-chira (yogurt and flattened rice) with gifts to my neighbours and friends. Some of my neighbours send me Panta Ilish and many more delicacies. Throughout the day my neighbours and I organise breakfast, lunch and dinner; which makes our day special.

What is the special dish you are planning to cook for Pahela Baishakh?

Shakila: I will not lie but I cook well (laughs). People appreciate my cooking and I enjoy that a lot. So for Pahela Baishakh I am planning to cook khuchuri, hilsha fish and few more fish-based items.

What attire and accessories have you lined up for this occasion?

Shakila: For Pahela Baishakh I have decided to stick with the Bengali look. I love white-red Garaad Saris. So my plan is to wear something on those lines. Plus at home, I prefer not to wear make up; so just moisturiser, lipstick and kajol is good enough. However, if there is any party then I will definitely wear make up. As for my hair, a bun set off with a flower is the best option.



"Our channels cannot cater enough entertainment"... Shahidul Alam Sachchu

Zaima Zahra

20
Shares

Noted actor-director Shahidul Alam Sachchu has been a close observer of the country's theatre and media arena. He recently shared his insights into the electronic media with The Daily Star.

How do you view the new generation of drama series?

Sachchu: If I take into account concept, lighting, content and other technicalities, I would say there are a few extraordinarily talented newbies. However, that number does not match up to the large number of TV channels in the country. That is why we do not see quality work frequently. To be more precise, skilled personnel in the field are hard to come across.

What is your take on satellite TV channels in comparison with our local TV channels, in terms of our viewers' preference?

Sachchu: I will not call it a conflict, because I believe our viewers look for entertainment. However, the transmitted shows on our own channels are largely not entertainment-based. Therefore, viewers are given talk shows and discussions. Moreover, TV channels tend to telecast TVCs very often, so these things put viewers off local TV shows. The way our TV and film directors are trying to draw the attention of viewers is not proportional to the effort provided by the TV channels, which is very alarming.

Do you think the channels' policy on TVC is flawed?



ADVERTISEMENT

learning. Plus, one can join various crews that provide training for newcomers.

What are you working on currently?

Sachchu: I am working in a satirical talk show for BTV; a daily soap called "Joyita" and working for the sequel of the movie "Purno Dolgcho Prem Kahini".



MORE FROM INTERVIEW



A masterful visual storyteller



Bhuban Majhi has had a profound impact on me - Parambrata



"One can't take songwriting as profession in Bangladesh"



Youths buy books the most: Hasan Zayed

5. Press Releases

Coming across press releases every day is a very common phenomenon while interning at a newspaper office. In every news media press releases are the rations. It is impossible to think of a newspaper without press releases.

The birth of press releases states a story of a young man named Ivy Lee. His wrote a response to a train wreck on October 28th, 1906, in Atlantic City, N.J that caused deaths of more than 50 people. He convinced the railroad to issue a statement about what had transpired. Since then, he set in motion a practice for companies to address issues that are important to news agencies such as *The New York Times*, or, in that case the railroad, to offer an explanation about the occurrence. In this situation, *The New York Times* was said to be so awed by Lee's releases that the newspaper printed it exactly word for word. Some things are never old; so are press releases. Just like the ways of using technologies, the ways of gathering news have changed. Press releases are still sent by various organisations that are as helpful as Lee's time. Lee's idea of the press release was revolutionary. This is appreciated even today in the world of journalism.

In the Arts and Entertainment section of *The Daily Star*, most of the press releases were sent by various organisations to the media addressing ongoing as well as upcoming events, conferences, announcements etc. In the beginning of my internship days I was mostly assigned to translate press releases from either Bangla to English or English to Bangla.

Press releases were mostly written in Bangla. There were a few English press releases too.

Following are the press releases (original and modified versions) that were translated and condensed by me. These were published in *The Daily Star*.

PRESS RELEASE

"LIGHT, DARK, SPACE", a solo exhibition of paintings by Md TOKON

31 JANUARY to 21 FEBRUARY, 2015

Bengal Art Lounge is pleased to announce the inauguration of “Light, Dark, Space”, a solo exhibition of paintings by New York based artist Md TOKON, on **Saturday 31 January at 6pm**. Noted artist Mr. Monirul Islam, and Ms. Ann McConnell, Director, American Center, Embassy of the United States of America will jointly inaugurate the exhibition.

Md TOKON's paintings are pure abstractions, and his style makes great emphasis of color. The painter proceeds by layers: each new coat of color he adds to the canvas brings a new dimension to the overall result, rendering it more complex or, depending on the viewer's perspective, simpler. His work has been variously linked to great artistic currents of the past such as Romanticism, Impressionism or Abstract Expressionism.

Md TOKON's images cannot be grasped at a glance; they require an active engagement from the viewer. Consenting to that effort is a highly rewarding experience, for the painter aims at Beauty – which perhaps explains why critiques sometimes use the term “spiritual” to describe his work.

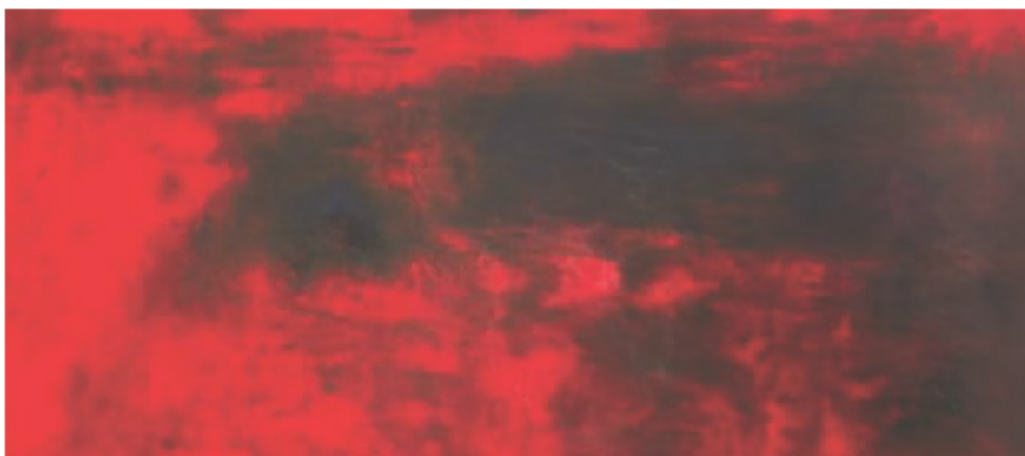
Md TOKON lives and works in the United States, where he has attended the prestigious Art Students League of New York – an institution which counts the likes of Mark Rothko and Cy Twombly in its alumni. His work also has deep roots in Bangladesh. To the artist's own admission, the palette he uses is often a tribute to the incredible tonalities of the motherland. The poesy of his compositions hints at the long tradition of abstract painting in the country and the work of the late Mohammad Kibria for example.

“Light, Dark, Space” offers a dialogue between East and West, between the Modern and the Contemporary. It is a pleasure for Bengal Art Lounge to propose this highly meaningful exhibition to the public. *To interview the artist, or to have a press tour of the exhibition please contact: art.lounge@bengalfoundation.org / 02-989.5135*

Md. Tokon's solo exhibit opens

 www.thedailystar.net/md-tokons-solo-exhibit-opens-62731

Staff Correspondent



“Light, Dark, Space”, a solo exhibition of paintings by New York-based artist Md Tokon, opened on January 31 at the Bengal Art Lounge. Md Tokon's paintings are pure abstractions, and his style makes great emphasis of color. The painter proceeds by layers: each new coat of color he adds to the canvas brings a new dimension to the overall result. His work has been variously linked to great artistic currents of the past such as Romanticism, Impressionism or Abstract Expressionism.

The exhibition remains open till February 21.

Copyright:

Any unauthorised use or reproduction of The Daily Star content for commercial purposes is strictly prohibited and constitutes copyright infringement liable to legal action.

There were lots of translations required for Bangla press releases. Most of the press releases were very detailed and lengthy. So it was a tricky job to turn a 300-350 word press release into a 50-100 word write-up. A few of the examples are given below-

আউটঅব দ্য ওয়ার্ল্ড

রিয়াজ ও সায়েম দুইবন্ধু। সায়েম একটু লাজুক এবং রিয়াজ চঞ্চল স্বভাবের। একদিন সায়েমের সাথে ফোনে পরিচয় হয় দিহান নামের একটি মেয়ের। সায়েম গুছিয়ে ঠিকমত কথা বলতে পারেনা বলে রিয়াজ তাকে সাহায্য করে। একদিন দিহান সায়েমের সাথে দেখা করতে চাইলে সে রিয়াজকে বলে সে দেখা করতে যেতে লজ্জা পাচ্ছে তাই রিয়াজ নিজেই সায়েম সেজে দিহানের সাথে দেখাকরে। সুন্দরী দিহানকে দেখে রিয়াজ নিজেই প্রেমে পড়ে যায়। এরপর থেকে রিয়াজ সায়েমের কাছে দিহান সম্পর্কে মিথ্যা কথা বলতে থাকে। দিহান দেখতে মোটেও সুন্দর না এবং বাজে মেয়ে বলে জানায় সে। রিয়াজ নিজের নাম্বারটা দিহানকে দিয়ে দেয় এবং সায়েম সেজেই দিহানের সাথে প্রেমের সম্পর্ক গড়ে- এমন গল্প নিয়ে এগিয়ে যায় টেলিফিল্ম ‘আউটঅব দ্য ওয়ার্ল্ড’। শিবলী নোমানের রচনায় এটি পরিচালনা করেছেন মিজানুর রহমান লাবু। কেন্দ্রীয় চরিত্রে অভিনয় করেছেন নিশো, উর্মিলা ও সাক্ষির। ৫ ফেব্রুয়ারি, বৃহস্পতিবার সন্ধ্যা ৭ টা ৫০ মিনিটে মাছরাঙা টেলিভিশনে প্রচারিত হবে এটি।

Out of the World on Maasranga

A Correspondent

Tele-film “Out of the World” will be telecast tonight at 7:50pm on Maasranga Television.

Written by Shibly Noman and directed by Mizanur Rahman Labu, the telefilm depicts the story of two friends – the introverted Sayem and extroverted Riaz. Sayem talks with a girl named Dihan with his friend Riaz’s help. Later, Riaz pretends to be Syem as he falls in love with Dihan when they meet.

Nisho, Urmila and Sabbir play the lead role in the tele-film.

আরিফিন শুভর বিয়ে....

ঢাকার সিনেমার জনপ্রিয় নায়ক আরিফিন শুভ বিয়ের পিঁড়িতে বসছেন সহসাই। কলকাতার মেয়ে

অর্পিতা সমাদ্দারের সাথে চলতি মাসের ১৬ তারিখে শুভর বিয়ের আনুষ্ঠানিকতা সম্পন্ন হবে

পারিবারিক ভাবে। বর্তমানে শুভ কলকাতায় অবস্থান করছেন। সেখানে অর্পিতা সমাদ্দারের পরিবার

একটি পারিবারিক অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করেছে। এদিকে আরিফিন শুভ কলকাতা যাবার আগে

জানান, অর্পিতা কলকাতার মেয়ে হলেও ঢাকায় একটি আন্তর্জাতিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকরি করেন। সে একজন

ফ্যাশন ডিজাইনার। এক বছর আগে তার সাথে পরিচয়। আমাদের দুই পরিবারের সম্মতিতেই বিয়েটা

হতে যাচ্ছে।

Dhallywood actor Arifin Shuvoo is going to tie the knot on this upcoming February 16th with

Arpita Samaddar. Fashion designer Arpita Samaddar is from Kolkata who works for a

multinational company in Dhaka. Shuvoo shares, they met a year ago and now they are getting

married with the blessings of their families. He is staying at Kolkata now as there will be a celebration with family members organized by Samaddar's family.

At *The Daily Star* I came across various press releases. Some were impressive and some dreadful. It was very tough for the sub-editors to edit the dreadful press releases. They had to work on those press releases to ensure the standards of *The Daily Star*. Translating those press releases was a big challenge.

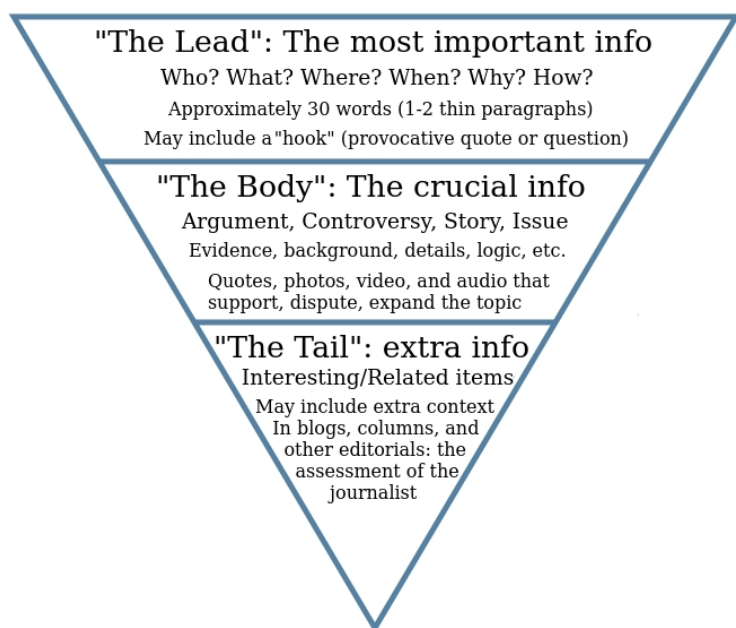


Fig 1. The Inverted Pyramid.

Keeping the important points and omitting the less important information based on the inverted pyramid structure were the main factors that I kept in mind while editing the press releases.

6. TV Caption

Writing TV captions was the most common task I was assigned to do while interning at *The Daily Star*. TV captions are basically a brief description of television programs (such as: Tele-films, drama serials etc.) for the next day or any upcoming day. TV captions are prepared on the basis of emails, press releases or other supplements such as invitation cards provided by the television channels. Therefore the task of writing TV captions was either translation based (I had to translate from Bangla to English) or summarize a large write up sent by the TV channels.

Basically, the TV captions deliver what the show is about and information about the producer, director and the actors. A TV caption is about a TV show contains the date and time of the show will be aired, the gist of the show and the name of the TV channel that will broadcast the show.

Here are some of the TV captions given below:

Mehghey Dhaka Shohor

Dolly Johur, Parveen Sultana Diti, Azmeri Haque Badhon and Urmila Srabonti Kar will share television screen for the first time in a drama serial named Meghey Dhaka Shohor, written by Rudra Mahfuz with the directorial lead of new comer Sakhwat Manik the shooting of this drama serial has started recently at Uttara which will be broadcast by a private television channel.

Out of the World on Maasranga

 www.thedailystar.net/out-of-the-world-on-maasranga-63241

A Correspondent



Telefilm “Out of the World” will be telecast tonight at 7:50pm on Maasranga Television. Written by Shibly Noman and directed by Mizanur Rahman Labu, the telefilm depicts the story of two friend introvert Sayem and extrovert Riaz, where Sayem talks with a girl named Dihan with his friend Riaz’s help. Later Riaz pretends to be Syem as he falls in love with Dihan when they meet.

Based on this story line Nisho, Urmila and Sabbir will play the lead role.

Copyright:

Any unauthorised use or reproduction of The Daily Star content for commercial purposes is strictly prohibited and constitutes copyright infringement liable to legal action.

Out of the World on Maasranga

A Correspondent

Tele-film “Out of the World” will be telecast tonight at 7:50pm on Maasranga Television.

Written by Shibly Noman and directed by Mizanur Rahman Labu, the telefilm depicts the story of two friends – the introverted Sayem and extroverted Riaz. Sayem talks with a girl named

Dihan with his friend Riaz's help. Later, Riaz pretends to be Syem as he falls in love with Dihan when they meet.

Nisho, Urmila and Sabbir plays the lead role in the tele-film.

Ek Din ChhutiHobey on NTV

A Correspondent

Drama-serial "Ek Din Chhuti Hobey" will air tonight at 9:45pm on ntv. Written by Faruq Hossain and directed by Himel Ashraf, the story encircles some individuals who want to break free the monotony of their everyday lives and seek emancipation from mental slavery.

Syed Hasan Imam, Chanchal Chowdhury, Tania Ahmed, Pran Roy, Shahiduzzaman Selim and others are in the cast.

7. Personal Account

Knowledge has no boundaries. Knowledge can be gained from anywhere and everywhere. Every path we choose to walk on provides us immense opportunities to learn new things and experience new adventures. For me, it is mandatory to apply the knowledge in every aspect of life, so that I can live it to the fullest. Throughout our lives, from the primary to the tertiary level of education to adulthood, we learn something either academically or through experience. Any practical knowledge gained from the pragmatic world definitely increases the mental strength of a person, this in turn inspires the individual to pursue his/her career.

Knowledge that is gained in educational institution is expected to have a proper implication in life. This is how the purpose behind learning and gaining knowledge can be served. In my view knowledge gained from books is not enough until and unless we start applying it. This particular view of mine got a concrete form during my journey of the twelve week internship at *The Daily Star*. It was fascinating from my end as I was able to learn new things, modify and enhance my previous knowledge about journalistic writing.

As long as we do not start working, we will not be able to realize how different the world of journalism is from the books. The practical implications of the knowledge gained from the books are a lot different in real life than in theory. As I learnt how to prepare news items, I eventually also learnt the vast difference between books and real life. I must say it is easy to memorise anything in a book by heart, but it is hard to learn from a book. It was very amazing for me to explore the world of journalism as the process of learning new things every day kept me busy. I did not work at the central desk. For me that particular sector requires a lot of hard

work as the work done by the people working at the Central Desk is considered hard core journalism.

Still I was motivated and excited. It was not easy for me to prepare a news story that fulfils *The Daily Star*'s required standard. It was tough in the sense that the structure, the word limit, and the format were very diverse for every news story, and the most crucial part was coping with the environment. Therefore, for me it was the job of a multi-tasker, and I initially thought I will not be able to do it. However my senior colleagues were very helpful as they kept providing me sample write-ups for every news item, so that I could learn easily. Not just that, my supervisor asked me to go through dictionaries so that my news stories were rich in terms of vocabulary.

The entertainment page is all about glamour and celebrities, It was hard for me to reach out to the celebrities in the first place. The most important part was to be accepted and appreciated by both my colleagues and the celebrities as a new bee. I wanted to get rid of my fear and started to work on both my communication and writing skills. As I started to learn the question pattern, draft plans etc, I started to seek help from my superiors. This in a way helped me to establish a good relationship with them, and also taught me how to represent myself in front the celebrities as my superiors gave me tips and ideas. Such ideas helped me to become more confident about my assignments and it put me on the right path.

8. Conclusion

The world of writing or being a part of a newspaper agency is indeed not easy. Being a bridge between the glamour world and writing about them, people associated to this field have to face different kinds of challenges every day. There are struggles that many people face when entering the world of journalism. The twelve week internship experience was definitely not enough to know about all these difficulties, but it surely gave me a certain guideline to follow in order to overcome the obstacles that are faced. As a media student, it helped to know exactly what I can expect when going into this field, and how I can overcome the common problems, both professional and personal.

What I have learnt so far is that you need to maintain a perfect lesion with the celebrities. You need to assure them and make them comfortable enough to communicate with you, so that they can share their thoughts, and information about their lifestyle with you. While interning at *The Daily Star* I gained experience about maintaining a lesion with the celebrities, making them comfortable enough to communicate with me and keep maintaining a friendly contact with them. When I worked on heading and caption writing, I came to know how a simple sentence or a phrase can deliver anticipation, and that it can convince a person or even a group that I am telling the story of their everyday lives as they read what is written.

Apart from the assignments, there were also different kinds of interviews, and terms which I came across while doing my internship at *The Daily Star*. I was familiar with most of those terms (mug shots, pull-quotes and etc) beforehand because of the Editing course I took. But during my internship I saw the practical use of those terms. This is where working on academic projects and professional tasks is different from each other. While doing my course assignments all I thought of was being creative and abiding by the rules mentioned in the text.

However, when I was working on assignments such as writing TV captions, interviewing, editing and translating press releases, I had to come up with relevant statements that will not cause any controversy and also will serve the motive of delivering news. For example, in an interview where I asked actor, producer and director Shahidul Islam Sachchu how do the television channels cater TV shows now a days, he replied by saying that he thinks the TV channels have too many TVCs that irritate the viewers. He mentioned the name of various telecom companies whose TVCs were shown frequently and expressed his anger against them. Later I had to modify and omit a few of his stated words to make the statement less controversial. This is because a lot of *The Daily Star*'s revenue comes from these telecom companies who place their advertisements in *The Daily Star*. That is why if the name of those telecom companies is mentioned in *The Daily Star* in a negative manner then the newspaper will lose its revenue providers. Moreover there were a lot of times I had to write captions about images that would explain/ describe the image. The description of the TV images had to be vivid enough to captivate the readers.

There is a famous saying by Pablo Picasso, "Learn the rules like a pro so you can break them like an artist." The world of newspaper agencies does not always go according to the rule book, but it was also essential to know the rules to understand their proper application in my work. During my three month internship period, I had experienced both to an extent and not fully, while using my media background knowledge.

Sadya Afreen Mollick, my internship supervisor, helped me to gain knowledge from her. She has been in the Arts and Entertainment section for 12 long years. My fellow intern and I tried to learn as much as possible in that little amount of time. I believe this three month learning experience will be beneficial for me in the long run as it will help me to pursue a career in the

media world. It will at the same time develop my analytical skills which will help me in the long run.

Work Cited

1. "ABOUT US." *The Daily Star*. The Daily Star. Web. <<http://www.thedailystar.net/about-us>>.
2. Blake, Gary and W. Bly, Robert. *The Elements of Copywriting*. New York, Macmillan, USA. 1997. Print.
3. Fuller, Jack, and Gwen Lister. "Journalism's First Obligation Is To Tell the Truth." *The Elements of Journalism* 55.2(2001): 9-11. Print.
4. Kennedy, Mickie. "The History of the Press Release". Erelease. 29 March 2010. Web. 24 June 2015. <<http://www.erelease.com/prfuel/history-of-the-press-release>>
5. Malek, Wahid. "First Newspaper of Bangladesh." All Media Link. n.d. Web. 28 May 2015.
6. Mashiur, Z. (2015). Write Generously. *STORYTELLING ADVICE*. Retrieved July 27, 2015, <<http://www.thedailystar.net/shout/storytelling-advice-81883>>
7. "The Daily Star (Bangladesh)." Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. From Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. Web. <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Daily_Star_\(Bangladesh\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Daily_Star_(Bangladesh))>.