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Violence against women and worse consequences

PARVEZ BABUL

The time is hostile, mobility is fraught with dangers and difficulties, the lives are insecure and the total situation is in disfavour of most of the girls and women in Bangladesh and India...

end to these life-threatening problems of girls and women and the unacceptable consequences. The existing systems and loopholes in law are encouraging violence against women...

what I heard from Nasreen Huq, was unbelievable! That woman was a service-holder, from a well-off family, close friend of Nasreen Huq, resides at Dhanmondi, Dhaka...

Violence, Education, and War: Beyond the Mainstream Narrative

Violence, Education, and War: Beyond the Mainstream Narrative 2012, mentioned, 'Rape and other sexual violations in wartime continue to pose a grave threat to human security in today's wars...

that international human rights law prohibits the subordination of people on the basis of not only race, ethnicity, religion, and political views, but also gender. That is, it prohibits forcing women to assume a submissive, secondary status...

mental health consequences of intimate partner violence, including fear, anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. The report recommended that more research is needed to understand risk factors associated with violence against women...

Wholesome nationalistic fervor may come to the aid of our country and society at the present time

Wholesome nationalistic fervor may come to the aid of our country and society at the present time, when values are fast deteriorating; things are getting cheaply politicized; intolerance, militancy and fundamentalism are ruling the roost...

rulers who chanced upon the right to rule erstwhile East Pakistan following the division of India (1947). In the first instance, they tried to seize the right to our language by imposing another Urdu, which was not our mother tongue...

assume a phoenix resurrection after the August tragedy (1975), the most dastardly assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The enemies of Ekushey are the enemies of the Independence of Bangladesh...

The friends and enemies of Ekushey

Dr. Rashid Askari

The greatest historic occasion of the Bengali people is the Liberation War; the biggest achievement by them is the victory of December (1971); and the strongest cultural heritage they have is the Bengali nationalism. Million tears of blood, billions of drops, immeasurable sobs and sighs, grievous and grievances, boundless sorrows and sufferings...

the maiden attempt of a chain of movements for ultimate independence carried out by the Bengalis over a period of about two decades against the Pakistan neocolonial regime. A strong flow of resistance flamed up within the minds of the Bengali folks in question of the dignity of their mother tongue...

Ekushey is the mother of our independence, the lifeblood of Bengali nationalism, and the eternal source of inspiration for our nation in the face of overwhelming national odds. It is the spontaneous outburst of a powerful collective emotion, the quintessence of a patriotic people, the marrow of their cultural bones, and the guiding principle of national existence...

Bhutan King's visit to Bangladesh: Cementing Bilateral Partnership

Barrister Harun ur Rashid

Bhutan, a country of 700,000 people, lies to the north of Bangladesh and is separated by 30 km of India's territory. Bhutan was the first country to recognise Bangladesh on 7th December, 1971 after India's recognition on 6th December 1971.

Khesar Wangchuck and the Queen Jetsun Pema arrived in Bangladesh on 14th February for a five-day visit. The people of Bangladesh heartily welcome their visit. It is not the King's first visit to the country. The King recalled that he had visited Bangladesh only once as a young boy. The King visited the country from March 24 to 29th, 2011 and he was the Guest of Honour at the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of Bangladesh's Independence Day. His presence was a fitting tribute and recognition of the contribu-

tion of the Third King and people of Bhutan to the War of Liberation of Bangladesh in 1971. The young King began his reign overseeing the democratization of his country in March 2008, Bhutan became a constitutional monarchy and the King relinquished his absolute powers. The Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan was adopted on 18 July 2008, by the first elected parliament. He signed a new treaty of friendship with India in February 2007, replacing the treaty of 1949. As early as April 1972, both countries expressed desires to establish close relations. The first official commercial contact between Bhutan and Bangladesh began in late 70s and in 1978 Bangladesh trade delegation paid a visit to discuss the prospect of bilateral trade between the two countries (A Trade Agreement was concluded in September, 1980). In early 1973, formal diplomatic ties between Bangladesh and Bhutan were established. Bangladesh opened its diplomatic mission in January,



King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck with his queen Jetsun Pema.

Water under no bridge

Shayan S. Khan and A.K.M. Moinuddin

From its origins in the Western Himalayas, the mighty Ganges charts a complex, intricately-braided path eastwards, touching the lives of as many as 400 million people in two countries before it empties into the Bay of Bengal. Known as the Padma in Bangladesh, which it enters at Shibpur in Chapainawabganj with its flow significantly hindered since India's construction of the Farakka Barrage, it is a storied river in this part of the world, finding mention in the most ancient scripts of Hindu mythology. And now to all those stories of the Rigveda, as well as of the countless kingdoms and nations that have sprouted along its banks, the government of Bangladesh has somehow contrived to add a saga of its own - full of elaborate twists and turns, treachery, or the threat of it at least, and around every corner, and a grand conspiracy at the heart of it

all. There's a starring role for the World Bank, playing the antagonist. This week finally witnessed the closing act to this long, drawn-out tale, by the end of which not a few reputations had been dragged through the mud in pursuit of personal gain from the largest infrastructure project in the country's history. No-one will pretend this conclusion was ideal for any of the parties involved - be it the Sheikh Hasina administration, or the World Bank. To put it frankly, the entire episode had been a waste of time. "A sense of emptiness is prevailing over the Padma Bridge...the result is zero even after four years...the government embarrassed herself much," DrIftekharuzaman, executive director of the Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), said. He also said it will not be a wise decision to go for alternative so quickly on political

consideration instead of analysing its economic aspects and possible outcome of alternative funding. The Awami League-led Grand Coalition government has now entered the last year of its 5-year term. Having made this long and oft-dreamt of bridge the cornerstone of its election manifesto, it's hard to think of anything that could stand as a more potent symbol of success, or it's opposite, as the electorate weighs its options over the course of the coming twelve months. The political imperative of at least getting the construction underway is conceded by Finance Minister A.M.A. Muhiith in his letter to the President of the World Bank, officially withdrawing the request for funding from the government's end. The Washington-based lender released a statement the very next day that seemed to accept the withdrawal request, while hoping for a resolution to the criminal inquiry into corruption charges brought by it against government officials. The Muhiith letter also assures the World Bank of the continuation of the investigation by the Anti-Corruption Commission. Although it remains clear to everyone that Abul Hossain Chowdhury, the former Communications Minister, against whom the most serious charges were raised as part of a conspiracy of corruption.

Who is a human rights activist?

The person who earns an honest living and spends a part of her/his earning for the cause of suffering humanity at large, always stand firm beside a person in distress, respectful to the law of the land and speaks out fear of possible persecution is worthy of calling Human Rights Activist.

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