

Editorial

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Challenges in Journalism

The advancement in information technology has made today's world a 'Global village' - the term first coined by Canadian-born author Marshall McLuhan. Man born at the extreme corner of Far East Asiatic countries knows, cry and pray for the kind of disasters that happen in Middle East countries or in Latin America. Installation of internet technologies to cell phones which every human being can afford makes the people of our Earth-whose circumference is estimated at about 40,075 Kilometer staying at a communicable distance. Now every human being equipped with cell phone can now talk or stay in touch with any of their friends or relatives staying thousand miles away. Point bringing here is about the changes in the theory of mass media in relevance to today's journalism. The very concept at which the older generation considered 'proximity' as a characteristic of news is somewhat losing its foot.

Professor M.L Stein, the then chairman of Department of Journalism, California State University, Long Beach, California in his book "Shaping the News" in 1974 wrote that people are more interested in what happens in their neighbours. The one time presumption that 'a dog fight on Main Street is of more interest to our readers than fifty thousand foreign troops killed in battle somewhere' seems to have no relevance in today's society. Readers are now interested about happenings at distance places if the subject matters is his or her interest.

However, another characteristic of news - 'Prominence' on the hand is becoming a matter of more interested subjects for almost all readers. People now want to know what had happen to their leaders, celebrity or the bureaucrats irrespective of where they stay or which country they reside. Every news readers are eager to know the story of successful personality.

Points bringing up here are not to lecture on what is news and what should be reported but this is an attempt to make some of our critic to understand on why the newspaper especially the kind of ours often published story about real heroes or events that happen far away from our state. Sometimes a mere insignificant event at which some people are of vested interested are often left of and the result is not always good for we in the media fraternity of Manipur state in particular. The other kind of pressure that the media persons sometimes remain helpless is their intentions to get publish their story.

Manipur or say Imphal is not a safe place for even VIPs who are escorted by security personnel days and night. It is an open secret that almost all the politicians including MLAs or Ministers or even the Chief Ministers have linked with the UGs, the only thing we don't have is the proof.

So, what would be the security of those working with the media if in case, some of the individuals or rebels force us to publish stories of their interest. Being taken up this profession, we always stand with our ethics and there is no question of compromising our ethics while publishing stories. But when the government said that this should not be published and this should be published then where is the freedom of speech provided under the constitution of our country. Government machineries can invite news editors and can discuss about the content on objectivity reason but should in no way dictate the media on what or what not to publish. Calls of bandh or blockade by any organisation are in some way an essential news items for media houses living in conflict zone - because it is for the safety and security of the common people that the government machineries cannot guarantee safety. We have PCI guidelines, local code of conduct and this should be respected.

Bottom line is that media should not be harassed at any cost for any reason because we chose this profession not merely to earn for living but with full intention to serve our nation.

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Nicotine Patch

By- Lamea Tanjin Tanha

7th April, 1921: Dhaka Bangladesh. It's 2:20 at mid night. Her favorite Tagore song is playing on the sound box:

"All my lamps of sorrows I offer and light as day ends, my worship of sorrows is yet to end".

She's dipping a size 12 Raphael Kolinsky series 8404 color brush into a pot full of black-but-still-not-black-rather-a-bit-red color. It's her 8th portrait with blood of her 8th victim.

She believes in "One man, one portrait" theory. And the process of her killing a person is quite clean. Firstly, she makes the victim senseless with Flothen. Then she takes a very big syringe, one of those that is used for cows and penetrates the needle exactly in the synovial node of the heart. That's how she drags the blood. Syringe by syringe, Corpuscle by corpuscle. After collecting 2/3 liter of blood, she takes a syringe full of Potassium-floro-oxide serum and pushes it into the same node. The serum helps to clot the blood of the cardiac veins within 2 minutes and the heart stops beating. Quite a creative way to murder and very easy for a medical student like her. The cops still couldn't find it out

and the dumb forensic declare it as a massive heart attack. **Vacuous people:**

Yes, she is a serial killer, except the fact that she denies the title. Rather she claims herself as an extraordinary-artist. Ancient people used to sacrifice lives for the sake of God's satisfaction. Now she's satisfying the thirst of white canvas, her type of God. What's wrong with that? She still remembers her first prey and the warmth of his blood, the scent of rawness. Everytime she puts a stroke on the canvas, it feels so soothing. It tranquilizes her mind and nourishes her mental stability. The color lures her so much; that discrete shade of red, the one that runs through your veins from the atrium to ventricle. It's an orgasmic feeling that none of her boyfriend could give. Oh, and she has killed most of them.

It's 3:04 at midnight and she got an urge to finish the painting. The exhibition is within 2 days. She has to spray Formaldehyde and put some perfume on the painting so that it won't emit any uncomfortable smell. The manager of Dhaka Gallery is much more excited than her. He was telling the

other day, 'trust me Sabrina, we are going to get more hits this time! Doing the whole artwork with just one color in such allured way - tell me, how do you do that?' 'By sacrificing', said Sabrina presenting him with a delicate smile.

It was her mother who taught her the perfect using of light and shadows on canvas. She was also an artist. She liked to work with bright colors unlike red-obsessed Sabrina. Sabrina used to finish the red from the color box so fast and the other colors remained untouched. She knew all the shades of red and each of them bore different meaning to her. She was so disgusted acknowledging her classmates' knowledge about color. "No, Ariba. You are not supposed to use the same color for the sun and the apple. Use Crimson, Tangerine, Apricot for the sun and Maroon, Scarlet, Garnet for the apple. And NO. All of them aren't 'just-red'".

She tried to teach some of them. That's what made Sabrina's mother so disappointed thinking that her daughter can never be a good artist. Knowing all about just one color is not so righteous. But

Sabrina knew she's going to be a greater artist than her mother. Only she needed was the perfect shade of red. Searching for it was driving her crazy. She searched it in the sky of dawn and in the petals of spring roses which didn't work; until that day...

It was a winter afternoon and Sabrina and her parents were in a motel in Sylhet for their vacation. She was in her couch playing with her toys. Suddenly some people wearing some weird looking mask came and dragged the 9 years old Sabrina in the rooftop. She could see her parents all tied up there. Her mother was weeping and begging them, "Please not her. She's just a little girl. Please not my child. Please..." Maybe the tears of her mother could melt the heart of those armed people a bit. They didn't hurt Sabrina. They did worse. Sabrina can still see vividly the vapor coming from the tides of blood from the veins of her parent's throat. There was a small pool nearby and the dead bodies were thrown there. 12 liters of blood mixing with the pool water created quite a scene. And that's when Sabrina found out the thing, that her heart was searching for so long- the perfect shades of red...

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PollVault: Congress and BJP Both Show off on National Security

Courtesy The Wire
By : Anoo Bhuyan

New Delhi: Now that it is clear that the Bharatiya Janata Party is focusing all its campaigning on India's recent tensions with Pakistan, flouting the Election Commission's directions to cease from doing that, the Congress too has tried to cash in. On Sunday, the party revealed its 'national security plan'. But unlike the BJP, the Congress says it doesn't want its entire campaign focus to swivel around national security. "The number one issue remains unemployment. The number two issue is farm distress and the number three issue is security of various sections — women, Dalits, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, forest dwellers, journalists, academicians, NGOs," said Chidambaram at a press conference on Sunday. The security plan has five pillars, including to secure India's neighbourhood, assume India's "rightful" place in global affairs and peacefully resolve internal conflicts like in Jammu and Kashmir and in the Northeast.

The report was drafted by Lt Gen (retired) D.S. Hooda, who was the northern army commander in



Goyal. "We have tried to showcase how Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a zero-tolerance approach towards terrorism," said a BJP functionary to *Hindustan Times*. The same person also said that "the opposition remains a confused lot. It went as far as seeking proof of Balakot airstrike when even Pakistan acknowledged it." In the BJP's ads clips, one shows Modi hitting a six while playing cricket. It then shows opposition leaders questioning the umpire and asking for proof. At the Congress press conference on Sunday, Chidambaram responded to this jibe. He said that the Congress

Abhinandan Varthaman, then there would have been a 'gatal ki raat,' or a night of slaughter. "It does not matter whether I remain the PM or not. I have decided that terror will not be allowed until I am alive," he said. **Pragya Thakur continues to disappoint and distract** Terror-accused BJP candidate Pragya Singh Thakur continued to disappoint, when she said in a TV interview: "I climbed atop the structure to break it. I am tremendously proud that God gave me the opportunity and the strength to do it," referring to the Babri Masjid demolition in 1992. "We wiped off a blot on the country. Now we will build the Ram temple there," she said. The Election Commission was surprisingly quick to react and sent her a notice on a poll code violation. This was her second notice.

unit chief), Prithvi Raj (former director general of police in Himachal Pradesh) and Krishan Kumar Agarwal (lawyer). In Delhi, however, the Congress and AAP continue their stalemate. AAP leader Gopal Rai said on Sunday that the Congress's obstacles to an alliance would work in the BJP's interests: "Congress seems to be acting against the interests of the opposition and indirectly helping the BJP. We will expose the Congress and defeat the BJP in Delhi and Haryana." Delhi's deputy chief minister and senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia also ruled out an alliance with Congress in Haryana on Saturday. The last date for all candidates to file their nomination for Delhi is April 23. Delhi goes to the polls on May 12. In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, all of Delhi's seven seats were won by the BJP.

Last week, Thakur took credit for the death of police officer Hemant Karkare who died in action while fighting terrorists in the Mumbai terror attacks in 2008. Thakur said that he died because she "cursed" him.

Congress and AAP

The unending saga between Congress and AAP on seat sharing reached some closure on Sunday as AAP finally fielded their Haryana candidates. The AAP named three of their candidates on Sunday. Their alliance partner, the Jannayak Janata Party, will contest the other seven seats in the state.

In Haryana, the party has fielded Naveen Jaihind (husband of Delhi Commission for Women chief, Swati Maliwal and Haryana

Separatist leader Syed Ali Geelani, chairman of the Hurriyat Conference, called for a complete boycott of polls in the state on April 23. He said that participation would be a "betrayal of the sacred blood of martyrs".



2016 when Indian carried out its 'surgical strike' on Pakistan. Meanwhile, the BJP launched an ad campaign on Twitter, boasting of its 'achievements' in the area of national security, while also highlighting what they say is a lack of strategy by the opposition on the same. The clips were tweeted by the BJP account, and by Arun Jaitley and Piyush

had not questioned the Balakot airstrike, but the international press had questioned the number of casualties.

Modi on Wing Commander Abhinandan

Modi also addressed a rally in Patan, Gujarat on Sunday. He continued to beat the national security drum, saying that if Pakistan had not returned captured Indian air force pilot