

Bo Reimer sharing his thoughts while talking about the various aspects of collaborative media.

## People are now creating media: Bo Reimer

### SOURAV GHOSH

Bo Reimer, professor of media and communication Studies at Sweden's Malmö University, recently visited the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) to talk about collaborative media practices and the role of new media researcher.

The Media Studies and Journalism Department hosted the talk titled "Design, Production, Consumption, and Conceptualizing Collaborative Media Practices" on August 11.

Prof Reimer said he had been keeping a close watch on the ever-growing connection between production and consumption in today's media landscape. The media was no longer just a source of consuming knowledge, rather, as of now, people also create their

own source of knowledge by doing a variety of works.

He said: "People who previously only consumed media, today are increasingly producing media. They write blogs, take photos, edit films and make their work available on the internet. Moreover, their participation in creating a new phenomenon in the media sector is not limited to these activities. In the collaborative, often open-source, processes, together with professional designers and producers, people are also increasingly taking part in designing the media infrastructure and the hardware and software used for producing media."

He said: "The traditional role of a researcher is to analyse and observe from a distance. But that has changed. In today's world, if you want to be a

decent researcher then you have to be a collaborative, interventionist, public, agonistic, and accountable person. In the MEDEA Lab in Malmö, since 2010, media researchers have been working with interaction designers, artists and engineers, doing interventions in everyday life, starting processes that would not have happened otherwise." Prof Reimer also shared his experiences, focusing on the possibilities and problems of an interdisciplinary research approach that combined the social sciences and humanities traditions of analytical work with practice-based, design-oriented approaches. Dr. Jude William Genilo, head of ULAB's Media Studies and Journalism Department, faculty members, students and guests were present at the programme.



*Up Close with*  
Professor  
Muhammad  
Ibrahim

THE ULABIAN, PAGE 7



*In Search of*  
Taj Mahal

THE ULABIAN, PAGE 10



*Remembering*  
Salman  
Shah

THE ULABIAN, PAGE 8

## Prof Genilo gets the Education Leadership Award

For his outstanding contribution to the education sector and showing excellent leadership qualities, Prof Dr Jude William R Genilo, head of department of Media Studies and Journalism at ULAB, has been honoured with the Education Leadership Award in Singapore recently. CMO Asia (www.cmoasia.org), a Singapore-based organisation, dedicated to high-level knowledge exchange, gave

the honour to Prof Genilo at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Singapore on August 1, 2014. Dr RL Bhatia, founder of the World CSR Day, and Andrew Kelly, chairman of CMO Asia, presented the award to Prof Genilo at the program. The award is generally presented to individuals and institutions that have surpassed several levels of its excellence and set an example of being a role model and exemplary leadership. In addition, senior leaders and representatives of top educational institutions from different countries and HR heads of various organisations were present at the program.



Professor Dr. Jude William R. Genilo (In the Middle) receiving Education Leadership Award from Dr RL Bhatia (On the Left) and Andrew Kelly (On the Right)

EDITORIAL

THE TIME BOMB NAMED

GPA 5

SOURAV GHOSH

Do the public universities have limited seats or are there too many students who have gotten GPA 5 in the HSC examination this year? Well, the choice should be obvious.

This year, a staggering total of 70,000 students got GPA 5, better known as "A plus," in the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examination. This number is significantly higher than any of the previous years since the grading system was introduced for the pre-graduate public examinations 10 years ago.

An "A plus" is the best possible result that a student can do in the HSC examination.

If there were more than 39,380 seats in all the public universities and medical colleges in the country, nobody would have hesitated to say that this result reflected "the tremendous progress that the education sector has made" - at least that is what the government has been saying since the results were published.

Because the general perception is that the better students should get enrolled in the public universities and medical colleges, it is therefore expected that the students with the best results should get into the top public institutions.

But a titanic 30,000 gap between the number of "A plus" and the number of seats available in the public universities indicates what a time bomb the country is sitting on.

The private universities, some of which have been doing really well in the recent years, could have



Students who passed H.S.C exam securing GPA 5 are exhilarating after the result but don't know whether they will be able to study further according to their wish or not.

been an alternative. But, the high cost of education in the private universities means that the parents of most of these "A plus" students will not be able to bear the expenses. Therefore, there is no reason to think that the approximately 60,000 seats in the private universities would suffice for the remaining "A plus" students, let alone the 830,000 more students, who have passed the HSC examination with lesser grades.

Virtually every household now has a GPA 5. When the results were published, every household therefore had a reason to share sweets with people. At least half of those families still do not know what a bleak future is waiting ahead. The admission examinations at public universities started earlier this month and will continue for a few more. These families will get an idea of the vagueness of this "fantastic" result once the admission process ends and thousands of them find themselves in the middle of nowhere - with their wards failing to qualify for a public university not because he or she was not good enough but because there were not enough seats to accommodate them.

There is every chance that one of them was as good as Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal but missed out because he filled up just one of those fateful circles in the MCQ answer sheets wrong. If that happens, there is every reason to believe that instead of revolutionising science education in the country, that student will be peddling drugs,

mugging in the streets of Dhaka or be on the run as a most wanted criminal.

The developed countries have settled for one thing: "higher education is not for all." Their secondary and higher secondary education is much stronger than here and the workable education and training that they get at those levels, make them competent for entering the job market even if one decides to not pursue higher education. Then again, their economies offer job scopes even for high school graduates which our economy does not. In our job circulars, we look for people with post graduate degrees for doing something that even an eighth grader can carry out with relative ease.

Seventy thousand GPA 5 in the HSC examination sounds like an incredibly good popular phrase for a political government - at least that is what the government thinks. What the government does not realise is that in a matter of months that is after the admissions end, half of these students will find themselves stranded with a question that is difficult to answer - they have not gotten enrolled in a public university and their parents do not have the money to send them to private universities.

The government needs to be able to give a solution to them, otherwise their number will increase by tens of thousands every year and that will not be very pleasant in the long run.

TOWARDS A GREENER  
CAMPUS

SOURAV GHOSH

From the beginning of its journey, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has received accolades in all respect for its unique liberal arts based curriculum, research as well as for the different noteworthy initiatives. As a continuation of that, ULAB has added a new dimension by initiating the first ever comprehensive campus sustainability program in Bangladesh titled "Greening ULAB."

Greening ULAB was launched officially through a simple program on June 26, 2014. Vice-Chancellor Professor Imran Rahman, Ms Juditha Ohlmacher, advisor of Communications and Student Affairs, and Registrar Lt Col (ret) Md Foyzul Islam inaugurated the campaign. The day was marked

with the official launching of a paper recycling programme with the Bashundhara Paper Mill. The university handed over the first consignment of approximately two tonnes of papers and related materials to the mill for recycling.

Greening ULAB is a part of ULAB's commitment to promoting socio-environmental values among its students, administration, faculty members and to the broader community. The programme aims to make the operation of the university more sustainable and environment friendly.

The Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) of ULAB is working as the mentor of this program working with students, faculties and administration to implement the program successfully.

Earlier ULAB first presented its idea of making a green campus at the 1st Regional Conference on Campus Sustainability in Malaysia. It received international accolades there for the idea of going green and for its programs on energy conservation and waste recycling.

Greening ULAB aims to make the operation of the university more sustainable and environmental friendly. The framework is organised into four

The ULABian requests its readers to send views, comments and press releases via email to the following email address.

[ulabian@ulab.edu.bd](mailto:ulabian@ulab.edu.bd)

The campus paper greets photographs, features, and stories from the university students. Your best story will be printed after selection. So you, our interested candidates may be called to unite with the ULABian. Your submissions are subject to editing.



## ULAB LIBRARY

*An enormous treasure trove of knowledge*

NAZMUL HASAN

A library is a treasure trove of knowledge; it is a place where people can search for and extract useful knowledge from. It also functions by disseminating information about the country and the rest of the world to the public through relevant reading materials. It does not matter how small the library is, if it contains at least a couple of books then it is surely providing knowledge about a couple of things.

For spreading knowledge among the students, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has two decent libraries in its two campuses. Students, who are hungry for more knowledge, can come here regularly for appeasement. Since its establishment, the ULAB library has been providing constant service to the vibrant community of students and faculty members. The ULAB Library aims to foster dynamic and responsive service to all its members by projecting better professional practices and nurturing quality, creativity and effectiveness through its collection and services.

With its incredible periphery, both the libraries, especially the bigger one in Campus A, contain a massive collection of books on history, literature, physical sciences, philosophy, social sciences, and so on. Not only that, students can also borrow audiovisual materials and movies from the rich collection of public records, sound and video archives, electronic documents, and so on. Having a rich library is therefore a big positive for both the university and its students.

According to the ULAB Library's 24th stocktaking information, there are as many as 15,709 books, 852 printed journals, 478 e-journals, 1,786 reports, 19 printed magazines, two e-magazines, 1,777 audio visual materials, 125 maps and atlases and 19 newspapers.

Moreover, the United Nations Information Center (UNIC) in Dhaka has opened a UN Reference Corner at the ULAB library. The main objective of this is to facilitate access to UN publications to the library users. The publications include World Investment Report, The United Nations Today,



Students studying in the excellent environment ULAB library

World Food Program Annual Report, The Millennium Development Goals Report, The Core International Human Rights Treaties, People's United Nations, Climate Change Around the Globe, Teaching Human Rights, United Nations Peacekeeping, Basic Facts about the United Nations, and so on.

The lending procedure is automated with the barcode system. Circulation activities are operated by the library's own software. The lending procedure is also convenient for the faculty members and students. An undergraduate student may borrow two books at a time for a maximum of three days and one CD/DVD for one day. A graduate student may borrow two books at a time for a maximum of seven days and one CD/DVD for three days. A faculty member may borrow three books at a time for a maximum of 14 days and books marked "R" are issued for three days. CDs/DVDs may be borrowed for 14 days.

Apart from all these, the ULAB Library organises the day-long ULAB BOOK FAIR on January 1 every year on the occasion of the Christian New Year. Many publishers and organisations participate in the fair. The fairs are open for all and books are sold at 15%-35% discounts.

Another interesting thing about the ULAB Library is that it is members to four foreign institutions in

Bangladesh namely the American Centre, the British council, the Goethe Institute and the Alliance Francoise. So, ULAB Library can borrow resources from these organisations so that the ULAB faculty members and students can use them.

Senior Assistant Librarian Kamal Hossain told the ULABians: "We always try to ensure something new for the students and faculty members. Keeping their demands in mind, the library authorities collect national and international publications and the latest edition of magazines." The library always brings in the latest editions of six world famous international magazines namely The New Yorker, The Economist, The Times, Fortune, the Readers' Digest and the National Geographic Magazine.

The second library at campus B has a Seminar Library where students can use the resources within the premises. Different types of texts and reference books for the departments of Media Studies & Journalism (MSJ), Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) and Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering (ETE) are available in the Seminar Library. The libraries open at 8:30am on weekdays and stay open till 9:30pm.

## THE DEAN'S LIST SCHOLARSHIP Accolades add up to incentive for upbringing



Students (From left: Md. Nayeem, Tanjila Diba, Zannatul Qubra and Al Khalid) who received the Dean's Scholarship in spring 2014 semester

IMTIAZ SALIM

Good grades themselves are good enough reasons to fill one with happiness. A scholarship award to add to that is like the cherry on top.

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has announced the prestigious "Dean's List Scholarship" for the Spring 2014 semester. Generally, one student from each department gets the scholarship at the end of each term for obtaining the highest grades. They get 100% waiver on their tuition fees for the next term.

This time, Md. Nayeem from BBA, Abdullah Al Khalid from Media Studies and Journalism, Tanjila Diba from English and Humanities and Syeda Zannatul Qubra Shoshi from the Computer Science and Engineering department got the award.

Shoshi from the CSE department was unable to speak when she got the phone call which told her that she had got the scholarship.

"I feel really good. The fact that I have been able to make my parents feel proud makes the feeling even more awesome," Shoshi said.

## THE DEAN'S LIST

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"I attended all the classes, took note of the important points from the lectures and did my assignments with sincerity. Moreover, I did not miss any of the class tests. As it was my last semester, I showed my application development to my supervisor Dr. Sifat Momen every week who gave me valuable suggestions, instructions, constant encouragement, unique care as well as proper guidance in carrying out my research. I also took suggestions from our department head Dr. Sazzad Hossain, who has always inspired me and kept me on the toes by asking about the progress in my project work."

MSJ's Abdullah Al Khalid took just three semesters after joining ULAB to achieve the feat. He scored the highest grades in the MSJ department in the last semesters.

He said: "I have really tried hard to get something that can shape my future. Finally, I have got the award as a reward for my hard work. I have always put in utmost efforts to make the most knowledge out of every course. I attended as many classes as I could in all the courses. Those turned my exercise book into a good one. I am also really thankful to the mates whom I got to work with in groups. All of them were very cooperative and played a key role in my achievement."

Khalid also expressed his gratitude towards his course teachers who he believes were instrumental behind his success.

BBA's Nayeem thinks that getting a GPA 4 in a particular semester requires a little sharper focus on what one is being taught in the class. However, he deplores not gearing himself up for it everytime. Nayeem stated that a good CGPA is all about consistency. Nayeem's suggestions are: "Each of your academic accolades adds up to some kind of an incentive to your upbringing. I call it a gear, a motivational 'additive' that transforms mundane tasks of cramming lecture sheets into a forceful effort of making it interesting, sometimes in a manner of making it a necessity."

All the winners advised the other award aspirants to reschedule their study plans. They said there should always be a fine balance between studies and other works. Shoshi and Khalid have stressed on presentation. They said a good presentation should not be longer than 25 slides and in case it was, chances would always be high that they would not be able to finish it in stipulated time.

The Dean's List Scholarship provides 100% waiver on tuition fees for posterior semester. The university authorities also distribute certificates and crests among the awarded students.

## GREENER CAMPUS

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broad categories that complement the existing operational and academic structure. They are efficient energy consumption, water management, waste minimisation and recycling, promoting sustainability in teaching and research.

By campus sustainability, ULAB refers to a consistent process which evaluates the environmental sustainability practices on a regular basis. The necessity of sustainable development has been recognised by a lot of universities around the world but unfortunately in Bangladesh, most of the universities are yet to recognise the concept. In this case, certainly ULAB deserves a big applause for the initiative.

## Boost your skills ENGLISH AND JOB SKILLS on the Internet

TASNIMA TAHER ANIKA

English has always been a major yardstick for skill development, especially in this part of the world. Fear of English grips many pupils since the day they get enrolled in schools here in Bangladesh. Unfortunately, many of them carry this fear forward into universities as well and end up in no-man's-land in their job lives.

Now a million dollar question is how to overcome this barrier?

Vocabulary is one of the first and most important things to focus on if someone wants to break free of the fear of a language. Once you develop a sound stock of words, you will be able to move on to the next level of English skills.

Among many others, there are two websites which can be of particular use to you if you want to improve your English, especially vocabulary, and you do not need a million dollars for this. Everything available in these websites is completely free of cost. No matter what you are looking for, you will find everything you need here. The only thing you need is internet access.

The website [www.vocabulary.com](http://www.vocabulary.com) is an intelligent and yet the most convenient way forward if you are looking to improve your vocabulary. It

combines an adaptive learning system with the world's fastest dictionary so that you can learn words more quickly and efficiently. It uses a proprietary technology that they call Adaptive Vocabulary Instruction or the AVI.

Unlike traditional learning systems, they do not rely on a series of time-consuming and boring assessments. Instead, everything you do on the site adds to their AVI model. It is like you have a personal trainer in the room, monitoring your work and suggesting new words and exercises to challenge you at your level.

Finally, they analyse your achievements, and reinforce your skills by reintroducing words at various times to make sure that you are retaining the words you originally learned. They use their own adaptive learning system to ensure that you get the right questions at the right time. They build a model of your vocabulary and abilities as you answer each question, and then serve you up with questions that are neither too hard and nor too easy. From the results, they determine what words to focus on in your personalised learning programme. The dictionary built in the

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Apart from providing quality education, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) also gives tuition fee waivers for the students. With a wide range of scholarship facilities, the university aims at encouraging its students to improve their academic performances. At the same time, it ensures that meritorious students, who are not financially solvent, could carry on with their studies without any hassle. Currently, the university is providing scholarships under the following categories:

**Named Scholarship:** The named scholarship is awarded to a student of outstanding merit in both academics and co-curricular areas. He or she must also be in good standing in every respect, and demonstrate lively school spirit, including community service. A CGPA of at least 3.8 is the minimum requirement for applying for this award. Students may apply only after completing one year of studies at the university. Each awardee will receive full waiver of tuition and registration fees, effective from the term of award till graduation. The scholarship also carries a stipend of Tk 2,000 during the first three months of a regular term, for a maximum of nine months in a calendar year. Students have to write an

application addressing to the pro vice-chancellor and clearly stating the reasons they believe they are eligible for the scholarship.

**Vice-Chancellor's Honour List Scholarship:** This award is automatically granted to only one student from each department at the end of each term for the upcoming term. This includes full waiver of fees for tuition, registration and examination. To earn this scholarship, students will have to secure straight as with term grade point average of 4.00 in a given term with a minimum load of four courses.

**Deans Honours List Scholarship:** This award is also automatically granted to only one student from each department at the end of each term for the upcoming term. The student will have to be the top term grade point average (TGPA) which can be less than 4.00. This scholarship will cover full tuition fee waiver only for the particular term but the student will have to pay other fees.

**Merit Scholarship:** The merit Scholarship is awarded at admission, based on average GPA of SSC and HSC. Students awarded a scholarship of 100% tuition fee waiver will need to maintain a CGPA of 3.8 or above to retain that award. In case of failing to retain the requisite CGPA, a student's award will be dropped by one slab.

**Other Scholarship facilities:**

**Children of Freedom Fighters Scholarship:** A student, who is a child of a freedom fighter, may benefit from full-free studentship throughout his undergraduate study period by showing original and valid documents issued by the respective ministry.

**Students from Remote Area Scholarship:** ULAB also provides scholarship to the students from the underdeveloped and remote parts of the country. The scholarship includes full tuition fee waiver for the students at the time of admission.

Apart from all these, ULAB offers scholarship facilities to sportspersons performing at national or competitive levels and painters, performers and musicians with proven abilities.





Speakers delivering their speech during the Public dialogue held at Shilpakala Academy. Sitting from the left (Matia Banu Shuku, Kakoli Prodhan, Dr. Sumon Rahman, Tushar Abdullah and Nurul Alam Atique).

## ‘Young people should choose friends carefully’

ULABIAN DESK

The Media Studies and Journalism (MSJ) Department of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized a public dialogue at the Shilpakala Academy on August 9, 2014 as part of its curriculum integration programme.

The theme was: “Transitions, Trajectories and Turning Points.” The theme highlights the life cycle perspective, which brings forward the sequencing of stages in an individual’s life, which moves along different pathways.

Playwright Nurul Alam Atique, director and scriptwriter Matia Banu Shuku, Head of News of Somoy Television Tushar Abdullah and noted photojournalist Kakoli Prodhan were the speakers in the session. MSJ faculty Dr Sumon Rahman chaired the session.

The speakers emphasised on the important role played by their friends and colleagues during transitional periods.

Kakoli Prodhan said: “During the early days in my career when I was undecided about whether to take up photo journalism as a profession, my friends helped me in taking the decision. A person goes through several transitional periods in

his/her life and a good friend or a colleague can change the course thereafter. If I did not take my friends’ opinions, then I would not have become a photojournalist. So, young people should be careful about choosing friends as it may play a huge role in the transitional periods,” she added.

Tushar Abdullah said: “I had a lot of interest in journalism when I used to work in the print media. But as soon as I joined an electronic media, I kind of lost my drive. That was a big transition period of my life. At that time, I could not concentrate on my work. But my mentors and co-workers helped me out. But that bonding is hardly visible among the journalists these days.”

According to the curriculum integration proposition, transitions are changes in roles and statuses experienced by an individual. Trajectories are long-term patterns of stability and change that involve multiple transitions in an individual’s life. Life events are significant occurrences involving relatively abrupt change that may produce serious long lasting events in an individual’s life. Lastly, turning points are a substantial change or discontinuity in direction that is not temporary, but lasting.



Mr. Urfi Ahmed CEO of Dipto TV Bangladesh along with MSJ Faculty members and students are inaugurating the first anniversary of ULAB TV by cutting the cake.

## ULAB Social Welfare Club’s CULTURAL CHARITY SHOW

ULABIAN DESK

The Social Welfare Club of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) arranged a “Cultural Charity Show” on June 24, 2014 at the university Auditorium with aim to ‘share Eid happiness with street children.’

Prof Imran Rahman, ULAB vice-chancellor and a vocalist cum rhythm guitarist of popular melo-rock band Renaissance, inaugurated the programme with his songs.

Singing, dancing, recitation, magic and beat boxing were the main attractions of the programme. ULAB Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof HM Jahirul Haque, Advisor of Communications & Student Affairs Ms Juditha Ohlmacher, Registrar Lt Col (retd) Foyzul Islam, among others, attended the program.

Dr Pinki Shah, the key figure behind the initiative, and members of the Social Welfare Club collected money for buying new dresses for the street children.

## ULAB TV celebrates its FIRST ANNIVERSARY

NAJMUS SAKIB PROKRITY

ULAB TV, the first campus-based TV channel in Bangladesh, celebrated its first anniversary on June 26 through a formal programme, organised by its members. Urfi Ahmed, CEO of Dipto TV Bangladesh, inaugurated the ceremony with a welcome speech.

He said: “ULAB TV has added a new dimension to practical learning, especially for those who want to work in the television industry in future. The kind of practical knowledge students are getting from ULAB TV will definitely help them build successful careers in the industry. This is a big positive for a sector that is badly in need of skilled professionals.”

ULAB TV started its journey in June 2013 under the supervision of the department of Media Studies of Journalism. Students from various other departments also work in the station under an apprenticeship programme.

The unique initiative was meant to cater to the needs of an era of digital education where learning with practice is considered as a key to success. The station is committed to producing future professionals for the electronic media. Its programmes incorporate active and hands-on learning in order to provide real-world skills alongside traditional learning.

Head of Media Studies and Journalism department Prof Jude William Genilo, distinguished faculties of ULAB, and former and present members of ULAB TV were present in the ceremony.

[www.facebook.com/UlabTv](http://www.facebook.com/UlabTv)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2IrCn75SQlg1Jycj42tcw>





A Screenshot of ULAB's Facebook verified official page

## ULAB Facebook page verified

**NAJMUS SAKIB PROKRITY**

The official Facebook page of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has been verified recently by the authorities of the social media platform. The world's biggest social networking site Facebook inscribed a right mark with a blue circle on the ULAB page after verifying it. Generally, the verification ensures that the page

authentically belongs to the authority who claims the ownership of the page. If after the investigation Facebook finds it authentic then they put a tick mark on the page.

ULAB's Facebook page is one of the very few officially verified pages in the country. At present, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has more than 18,000 likes on the page. Facebook introduced the profile and page verification system in May last year. In terms of popularity and likes, pages or profiles are verified by the Facebook authorities, who do not require any request or application for this.



ULAB Cricket team members who participated in Red bull Campus cricket tournament

## ULAB represents Bangladesh in RED BULL CAMPUS CRICKET

**IMTIAZ SALIM**

From the beginning of its journey ULAB Cricket team has demonstrated great prosperity in several inter university cricket tournaments. In fact, it would not be an exaggeration to say ULAB Cricket team is one of the best among the cricket teams from other private universities. As a reward of their consistency ULAB was also invited to play an international inter-university tournament in Malaysia in 2012. ULAB team bagged the Second Runner-up position in that tournament. Now it's for the third time they went abroad to participate in an international cricket tournament. The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) represented Bangladesh in the Red Bull Campus Cricket World Finals in England this July. A total of eight universities from eight test playing nations took part in the tournament. They were

New South Wales of Australia, Leeds Bradford MCCU University of England, Mumbai Rizvi College of Engineering from India, University of Karachi from Pakistan, University of Pretoria TUKS from South Africa, International College of Business & Technology from South Africa, University of Jamaica from West Indies and University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB). In the tournament, ULAB beat West Indies and lost to South Africa and England. They were in Group B. South Africa went on to win the tournament. Earlier, ULAB clinched the title of the Fair Play Inter Private University T20 Cricket Tournament 2014. Thus the team qualified for the Red Bull Campus Cricket World Finals. The university sent a team of 15 members. ULAB also participated in the 2012 Red Bull Cricket Tournament in Sri Lanka.

## BOOST YOUR SKILLS

FROM PAGE 3

www.vocabulary.com is designed to be the fastest and the most useful English dictionary in the world. Unlike most online dictionaries, it finds word meanings fast for you and then get on to better things.

One of the best features of this website is that you can easily make and share vocabulary lists, create such a list without any hassle from assigned words, grab words from any text, or generate a list from the advanced search section. Then, you can add descriptions to words, name your list, make your list public and share it with your friends.

The other useful website is the alison.com. It is a three million-strong, global online learning community, filled with free and high-quality resources to help develop essential, certified workplace skills, anywhere, over the web. It was founded in 2007 by global leader and innovator Mike Feerick.

With 3 million learners in 200 countries; ALISON has a global reach reputation. Since 2007, some 350,000 people all over the world have graduated from their free certificate and diploma courses. The mission at ALISON is simple: to enable you, wherever you are in the world, to learn and get certified – at your own pace – using its free and interactive multimedia.

There are 600 courses free for you to choose from. ALISON is for anyone taking their first step into a new job and for everyone taking their next step to a better job. ALISON is as individual as you are. Their materials will help you to develop your creativity, confidence and competence for work, and to be as contented and productive as you can be in the world of work.

Every course is standards-based and certified. That means bragging rights with family and friends, an edge in your first job or new job, and inspiration to be all you can be. With ALISON, you can study whenever you want, wherever you want. There is no time limit for courses, so you can move at your own pace. ALISON opens up the world of knowledge offering new, flexible, and exciting ways to learn; ever-expanding learning opportunities are possible through the availability of hand-held devices, wide access to broadband and wireless connections, the growth in open source materials, and free interactive multimedia learning programmes such as ALISON.

Life could never be this easy for the students. All possible difficulties regarding vocabulary or job prospects can easily be eliminated in just a snap! It is just that easy! It is time to gear up and get going because nothing can stop you from having a bright future!

## ULAB Radio Campbuzz goes online

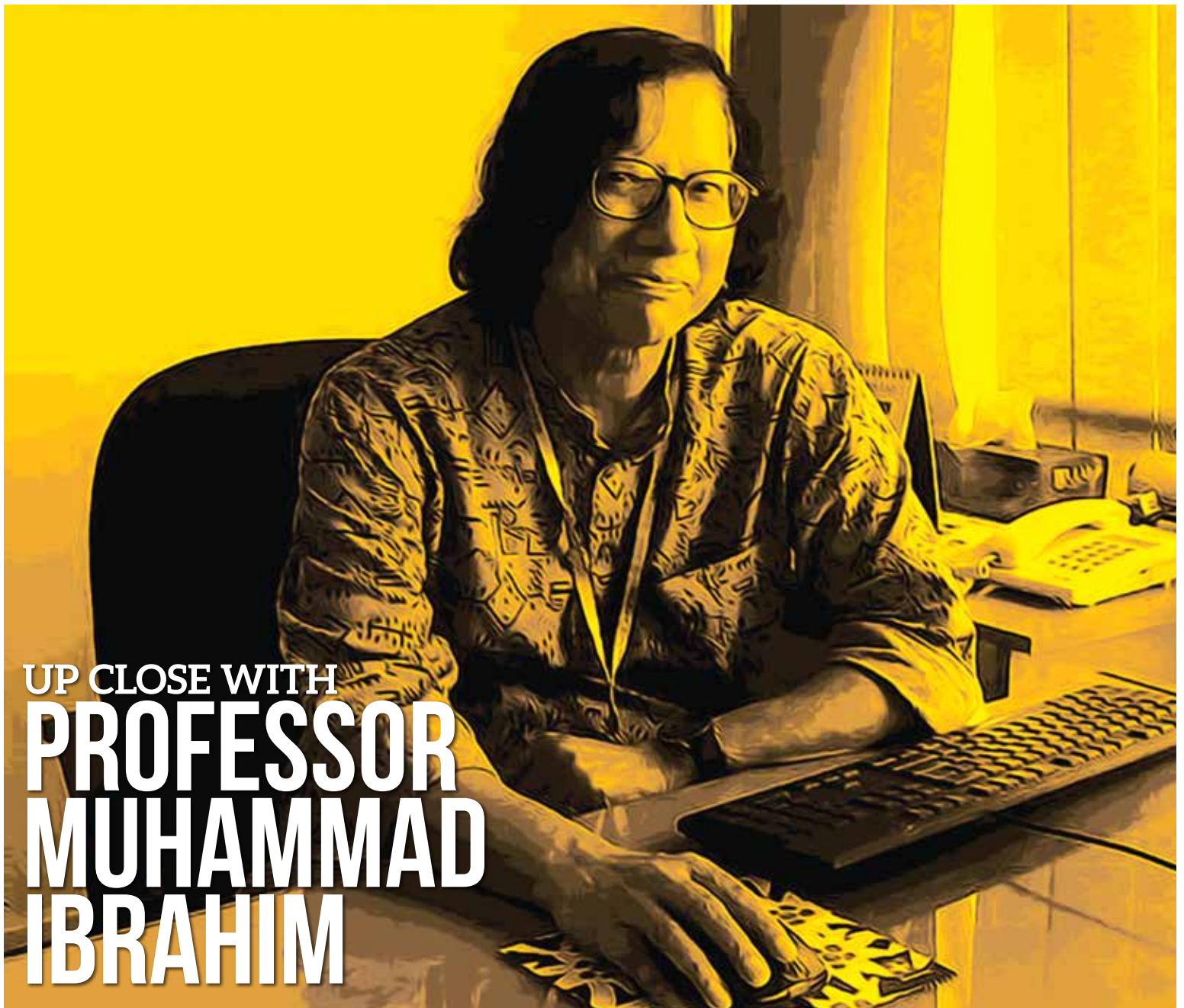
**ULABIAN DESK**

ULAB Radio Campbuzz, the first campus-based radio station in Bangladesh, has recently started their activities online. Anyone can now listen to the programmes of Campbuzz from anywhere via the World Wide Web. Until now, Radio Campbuzz could only be heard from the two campuses of ULAB.

For enjoying the programmes of Radio Campbuzz, all one needs to do is visit the ULAB website at [www.ulab.edu.bd](http://www.ulab.edu.bd) where there is a link. A single click on that will enable a listener to go directly into the air of Campbuzz.

Radio Campbuzz stays on air five days a week, starting from 11am to 2pm.





## UP CLOSE WITH PROFESSOR MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM

Prof Muhammad Ibrahim, a renowned intellectual of the country, has been teaching GED courses at ULAB. A writer, researcher, media personality and an occasional radio broadcaster, Prof Ibrahim spoke openly about his speculations and experiences at ULAB. **Abdullah Al Khalid** talked with this talent.

### What courses are you teaching in ULAB?

*Prof Ibrahim:* I am teaching three GED courses at the moment which are Evolutionary Theory and Human Behavior, Introduction to Science Studies and History, and Method of Science.

### What is your experience teaching at ULAB?

*Prof Ibrahim:* The beauty of ULAB is that it has a round education system. In the GED courses, different disciplines come together and the students, no matter what their concentrations are, can browse into various subjects and take whatever they want. The system ensures free and liberated education for all. The courses I teach at ULAB can give workable knowledge about science and its methods. It can help in the understanding and application of the methods of science in our lives.

### How do you evaluate ULAB's teaching policy?

*Prof Ibrahim:* As I mentioned before, the options that ULAB offers to its students for taking up various subjects, is very unique. ULAB encourages

students to look for themselves, explore the field of education and understand themselves in a proper way. ULAB opens a wide web for students to gather knowledge, ask questions and argue about things. It is very unique. ULAB is doing great in its schooling.

### What do you feel about the environment at ULAB?

*Prof Ibrahim:* The environment of education is not about how big your campus is, it is about how your campus is helping students in acquiring workable knowledge. ULAB has created a green environment for learning. There is green everywhere in ULAB. It helps students enjoy learning.

### What makes ULAB different from other universities?

*Prof Ibrahim:* Since my very first day at ULAB, I have attended a lot of seminars. This I will not find anywhere else. These seminars are so helpful because they accommodate quality speakers and allow the guests ample chances to ask questions. As I have mentioned before, the liberal arts system

of ULAB is very important. We always try to specialise in one aspect but this liberal arts system helps students search and gather from different spheres of education. ULAB's policy is not narrow; it is the widest in the country.

### How do you assess the students of ULAB?

*Prof Ibrahim:* I think the students of ULAB are open-minded. They enthusiastically take subjects from various disciplines and learn with their heart. No matter what their backgrounds might be, ULAB encourages them to browse and select their subjects on their own. ULAB itself has a lot of impact on them as they grow.

### Do you have any advice for the students?

*Prof Ibrahim:* Enjoy yourself. It is imperative that you enjoy yourself while learning. Student must enjoy every moment they learn. They must not think that they are like credit machines. Stop thinking to give all for getting higher grades. Think about acquiring the proper knowledge. If you can do that, success will come to you.



## Group Assignments ALL ALONG OR ALL ALONE

IMTIAZ SALIM

Here is an imaginary story:

Fardeen is in big trouble. A group work has to be done by the end of the semester. Fardeen got his best buddies with him in a group to get the assignment ready in a short time but his friends kept giving excuses for not doing their bit. At the eleventh hour, Fardeen had to scramble to get the assignment ready all by himself going through a lot of stress. His group mates were happy after getting marks without taking any trouble at all. But Fardeen could not be sure. He was tensed about whether his project paper was okay.

We see Fardeens everywhere when it comes down to group assignments or project works. When they form groups for assignment or project work; the first instinct is to pick the closest of friends. But soon students like Fardeen realise that his friends, whom he had picked for the group to make his life easy, are thinking the same thing. They also think that they will have to work less hard if they have the closest friends in the group. There will always be one member in a group who does not know how to say “no” to friends and everyone takes advantage of that.

When one person does the work meant to be done by four or five working together in a group, quality has to be compromised with. The group works are meant for getting the students ready for future jobs where they will have to work in tough competitive conditions, meet tight deadlines and be able to handle peer pressure when working in a group. So, when students decide to leave it all up to one member of the group, they are hurting all their futures. They never realise that just a little bit of help can bring a world of change to the enthusiasm of the one person who always does the work in the group. Most teachers allow the students to form their own groups. However, it has been seen that those groups, whose members are picked randomly by the teacher, work better than the voluntary group of close friends. If one member does not know or rely on the other members of the group, he or she cannot leave to the other members. Unlike in groups of friends, where one knows and relies on friend who he thinks can pull it off with good grades.

## THE ONE

FROM PAGE 9

The paradoxical combination of vocalist Ratul’s screams and clean melodies are vastly interesting on their own. Add to that the slapping away on his bass guitar, makes him the busy bee of the lot. Samee’s drumming has made sure that there is not a dull moment when you listen to the Owned’s numbers. The tracks Lebash and Elect are different from the others because of the mojo that Samiul shows with the keyboard and the amazing guitar solos by Fasih and Pritom.

Pretty much all the lyrics deal with different human emotions. Since the Owned call themselves an experimental band, most of the tracks are progressive in nature.

Drummer Samee said: “We are overwhelmed with the response so far. It was absolutely amazing.”

Formed in 2007, the five singles that Owned has released so far contributed to creating a loyal following apart from their stage endeavours. Several unavoidable changes in the lineup have failed to have any noticeable impact on the sound that the band is known for creating. “One” was released on June 21 this year. The Owned have put up their songs up on the internet for their listeners to download for free and listen to. They will be available on the official website of the band [www.ownedtheband.com](http://www.ownedtheband.com).

## Remembering Salman Shah

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN

On September 6, 1996, the nation was shocked to hear that their favourite actor Salman Shah had died. The fans were devastated when they heard that he had committed suicide. The country lost a bright and promising superstar in the making who completely revolutionised modern Bangla cinema. At a time when most Bangla films were filled with vulgar and weak plots; Salman Shah initiated a new wave of movies for the enlightened middle class audience, bringing them back to the theatres again. He became the heart throb of the nation and a fashion icon for generations during the 1990s.

Salman Shah, whose real name was Shahriar Chowdhury Emon, was the first son of Kamaruddin Chowdhuri and Nila Chowdhury. After he finished his studies, Emon fell in head over heels love for the girl next door, Samira Haque. Although neither of their families approved their relationship, they got married in 1991. One day, filmmaker Shohanur Rahman Shohan saw Emon and got readily convinced that he was perfect for the lead male role of his upcoming project Qayamat Theke Qayamat, a remake of the Bollywood blockbuster Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak.

At first when Shohan approached Emon, he was hesitant. But he was eventually convinced by his mother who said he had a bright future in the silver screen. And the rest is history. Emon turned Salman Shah, became a household name in Bangladesh with his very first film Qayamat Theke Qayamat, which till date is one of the biggest blockbusters in the history of Dhaka film industry. Out of a total of 27 films that he had worked in, a staggering 18 were super hits. Some

of them are: Auntorey Auntorey, Bikkhobh, Denmohor, Bichar Hobe, Ei Ghor Ei Shongshar, Jibon Shongshar, Chaowa Theke Paowa, Anondo Osru, and so on. His on-screen chemistry with his first heroine Moushumi and later with Shabnur sizzled the silver screen.

It has been eighteen years since the country’s beloved actor died, but the mystery behind his death is still to be unearthed. Police said he had committed suicide but his fans could never believe that and as a result, a number of speculations and conspiracy theories have emerged over the years.

Some speculate that his rumoured affair with co-artist Shabnur created problems in his conjugal life. Some others say he had gotten into a tangle with the underworld godfathers, who killed him. Salman Shah could have been the role model for the future actors. In fact he inspired an entire generation of actors after him.

But, unfortunately, none of them came even close to the reputation, popularity and stature that Salman had in his days. His good looks alone could have gotten him the fame; but he was equally charismatic on screen. Be it romantic, emotional family situations or outrageous actions sequences – Salman was unparalleled.

Even today, when his fans remember him on his death anniversary, they repent less for the good works that Salman had done, and more for what he could have done had he lived in order to take Bangladeshi cinema to the world stage and standards.



Late Bangladeshi Film Star Salman Shah





## SAMEERA AFREEN

Director, Editor, Writer: *Luc Besson*  
Genre: *Science fiction/Action*

Cast:

*Scarlett Johansson*

*Morgan Freeman*

*Choi Min-sik*

*Amr Waked*

Running Time: *89 minutes*

Cinematography: *Thierry Arbogast*

### Synopsis

After having starred as the protagonist in last year's "Her" and "Under The Skin," this year Scarlett Johansson plays the title character of this action packed revenge thriller in a contemporary setting, written and directed by the maker of *La Femme Nikita*, *The Fifth Element*, *Angel A* and *The Messenger* and results in a spellbinding journey.

The film starts off with Lucy frequenting the local club scene, a dim American student in Taipei, caught-up in an argument with her Dutch boyfriend (Pilou Asbaek) about the delivery of a briefcase to Jang, his boss, a Korean mob and drug lord. After her boyfriend is murdered, she finds herself in the clutches of the head of the international drug cartel that forcibly takes four people as drug mules including her, surgically inputs the bagged drug into their intestines to transport to Europe for sale.

During her captivity and torture, the drug is spilled into her system, and as it reaches her bloodstream and starts taking effect, Lucy gradually starts to access her brain far beyond the conventionally established 10%. With increased access to the brain, she can translate various languages, write and speak them, and have gained the capacity to spontaneously shoot with an Ak-47 rifle with precision.

At higher access to the brain, she moves furniture with her mind, controls electromagnetic waves and gets immunity from pain, telepathy, telekinesis and mental time travel. The film enters a clichéd yet thrilling turn, as the wide-eyed Anglo bombshell kills her captors, and escapes to seek justice.

She travels to a hospital, and under duress makes the doctors remove the bag of drugs from her abdomen. She is also informed of the destructive side effect of the drug, and sensing her mutating

abilities, she returns to Jang's hotel, assaults him, kills the bodyguards and telepathically extracts the location of the three other mules from his brain. Cursed and blessed at the same time, she continues research on her condition at her apartment, and gets in touch with a scientist Prof Samuel Norman, played by Morgan Freeman, whose theoretical studies of the human brain's untapped potential make him a source of information and savior for Johansson.

She flies to Paris in search of the three other mules, and seeks assistance of a local police captain. During the journey, her condition deteriorates and only by consumption of the same drug, she would be able to prevent her total disintegration. Her superpowers continue taking visually exciting and dramatic turnouts as she incapacitates armed police and the drug gang with her weaponised mind, recovers the drug and returns to Professor Norman.

They make an agreement to share knowledge. In his lab, at her urging, she is injected with the contents from the other three bags. She undergoes an immense transformation as she metamorphoses into a mysteriously powerful substance that converts all the computers in the lab, into next generation super computers, to contain all of her enhanced knowledge of the universe. She embarks on a space-time journey and reaches the oldest discovered ancestor of mankind. As she reaches a 100% of her capacity, the audience is taken up by surprise, which better remain a mystery for all of those who are yet to watch this spellbinding and euphoric journey of a 21st century superwoman.

The movie was a success at the box office, grossing \$218 million with a budget of only \$40 million, taking the position for the third highest grossing opening for a female-driven action film, behind *Wanted* and *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*.

It received both positive and negative criticisms, especially for its mere resemblance in the concept to Bradley Cooper's *Limitless*.

Johansson's acting choices and the usual standard roles offered to her image of a pillow-lipped young hot shot has changed into a strong revenge seeking action diva, after her performance in the film. Its fast, playful, tightly-packed action sequences, futuristic visuals and enjoyable robotic and sometimes sadistic violence draw the audience deep into the surrealistic portrayal of the fiction itself.

## ALBUM REVIEW

# The Owned releases THE ONE

## IMTIAZ SALIM

This year, experimental rock band Owned has released their first full-blown solo album titled "One." With nine out-and-out progressive numbers, Owned is all set to rock the world of head-bangers.

Good sounds and mixing will cement a sound first impression in the minds of the listeners. Fasih and



■ The One - Album Cover

Pritom's guitar blend gives an additional dimension to the overall music experience of the Owned. They seem to have given their best to make each number a unique piece. Numbers like Bhabantor, Bishonno Prohor and Niruddisho have extensive six-string guitar works.



The journey begins in front of a massive sandstone archway, where you buy tickets from. The next steps are down a wide flagstone path, past a sandstone colonnade and through another tall gate of red stone. Then there are two back-to-back Mughal gates.



The heavenly bright sunshine actually felt 46 degree Celsius! This is nearly 10 degrees hotter than the hottest of summers in Dhaka!

## IN SEARCH OF Tajmahal

SOURAV GHOSH

Back in 1874, after visiting the Tajmahal, British tourist and plenipotentiary Edward Lear said: "From today, the world should be divided into two parts: those who have seen the Taj and those who have not." One can realise the exactness of this saying only if they ever visited this 17th century architectural masterpiece.

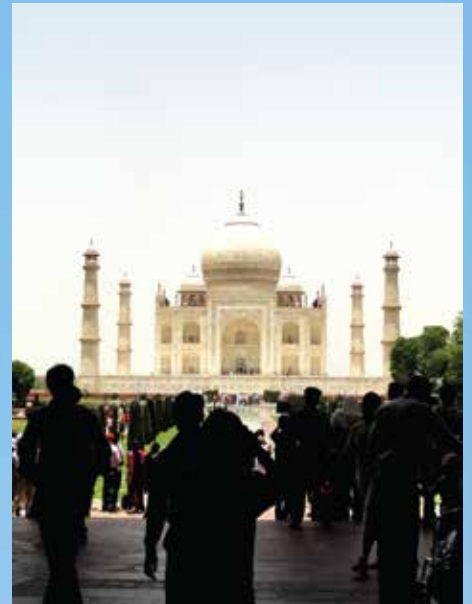
Last year, I paid a sudden unplanned visit to the Tajmahal. The journey to Agra in India, where the Taj is located, was a mixture of both good and bad experiences.

It was a typical hot summer day when I reached the Tajmahal. It took me four hours to reach Agra from the Indian capital New Delhi. All the excitement turned into disappointment as soon as I got down from the bus. The reason was obvious – it was the intensely hot weather. The dazzling sun was annihilating everything around the city. But I forgot everything worldly the moment I saw the Taj for the first time.

Writing about the Tajmahal's beauty will require me hundreds of pens, thousands of paper sheets and several years. Still, we will have to struggle to find words not because I do not have any but because so many different things have already been written about one of the wonders of the world. So, came the idea of still pictures because I have heard that a good "photograph can say a thousand words."

English poet Sir Edwin Arnold described Taj as: "Not a piece of architecture, as other buildings are, but a proud passion of an emperor's love wrought in living stone." Rabindranath Tagore called it "A teardrop on the cheek of time."

Taj in Hindi means a crown and truly so – the Tajmahal is the crown of the world without a shadow of a doubt.



The moment you are through, the only thing you can do is stand there and marvel at the sheer beauty of the mega structure before you. The hundreds of thousands of tourists around you vanish in a moment. You may have seen it on television and photographs, but nothing beats the experience of standing biologically in front of the Taj. Inside the mausoleum, steel railings block off the walls, the central tombs and everything else that could not withstand caressing by enthusiastic tourists who want to be able to say that they have touched the Taj.



The closer you move towards the Taj, the closer you will feel like getting.







The road that leads to the basement of the Tajmahal.

## Agra Fort

The Agra Fort is considered the second most attractive place to visit after Tajmahal. Near the gardens of the Tajmahal stands the important 16th-century Mughal monument known as the Red Fort of Agra. This powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses, within its 2.5km enclosure walls, the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. It comprises many fairy tale palaces, such as the Jahangir Palace and the Khas Mahal, built by Shahjahan; audience halls, such as the Diwan-i-Khas; and two very beautiful mosques.



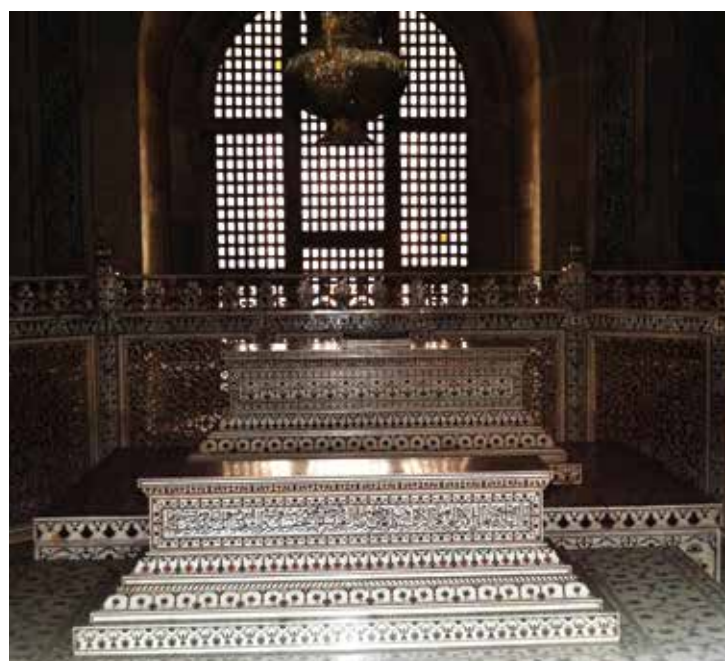
The Jahangir Palace is the first palace that one will notice after entering the Agra Fort. The guide told us that Emperor Jahangir lived in this place for a short while.



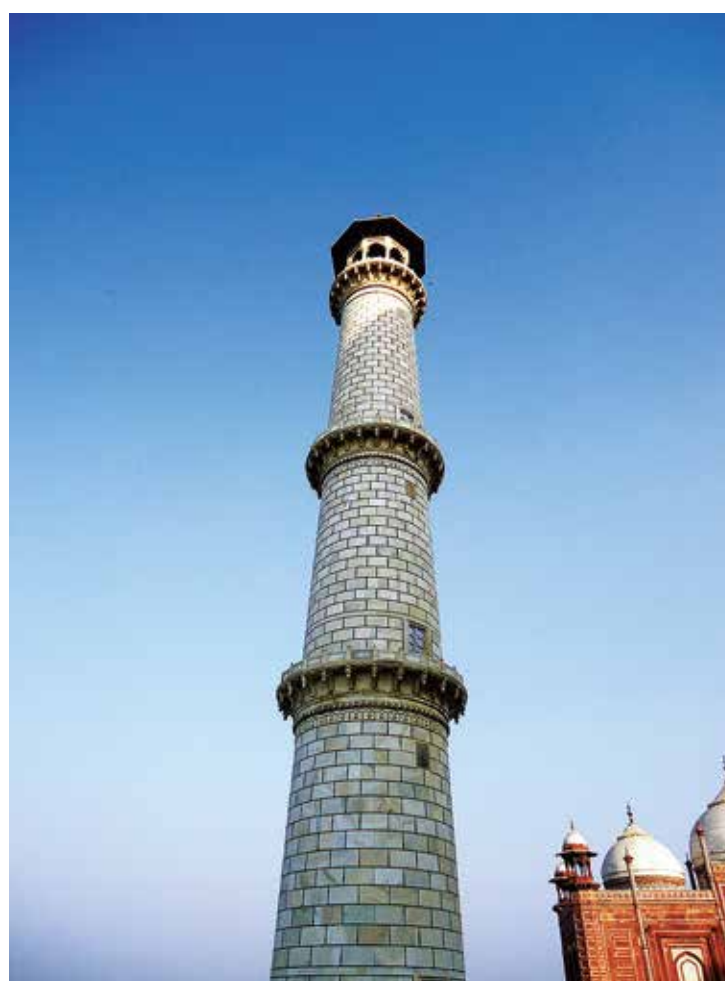
From the balcony of Dewan-i-khash, another palace located inside the fort.



The external view of the main mausoleum. Our destination in minutes away.



Here you go! The famous immortal tomb of Emperor Sahjahan and his beloved wife Mumtaj Begum. Even the death could not set them apart.



One of the four pillars that maintain the balance of the tomb.



# Literature & Beyond

HOSNEARA YESMIN

Literature is all about life—life is reflected in literature. There is not a single thing in life on earth that literature overlooks. In fact, different aspects of life help literature to remain life like for thousands of years. In the same way, literature being the mirror of life, helps us to see the real beauty of life. The connection between life and literature and the vastness of their connection cannot be explained easily.



In the last semester, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) of ULAB organised a series of seminars styled "Literature and Beyond." The idea was to remind people of the importance of literature in human lives.

The series was divided into four parts, each highlighting one of the vital binaries of literature: Literature and Freedom, Literature and Gender, Literature and Landscape and Literature and Drugs. The seminar was inaugurated by Alexander A Nikolaev, the Russian ambassador in Bangladesh.

"Literature and Freedom," held on June 8, 2014, celebrated Alexander S Pushkin's 215th Birth Anniversary as well as the Russian Language Day.

The series was divided into four parts, each highlighting one of the vital binaries of literature:  
Literature and Freedom,  
Literature and Gender, Literature and Landscape and Literature and Drugs.

Host DEH put up an exhibition of illustrations, imprints and manuscripts on Pushkin's life and works in cooperation with the Russian Cultural Centre. Prof Kaiser Haq, Head of DEH, Alexander Demin, representative of the Russian Cultural Centre in Dhaka, Prof Imran Rahman, Vice Chancellor of ULAB, Dr Jahirul Haque, Pro-VC of ULAB, Alexander A Nikolaev addressed the ceremony. This part of the seminar comprised a panel discussion moderated by Dr Shamsad Mortuza, academic advisor of DEH. The panellists were Prof Hayat Mamud, Syed Abul Maksud, Zahid Reza Noor and Sumona Manzur. They emphasised on various aspects of Pushkin's literary career and achievements. They also discussed other major figures from the golden age of Russian literature and their massive influence over the Bangalee authors.

"Literature and Gender," held on June 12, was steered by Dr Jana Fedtke, assistant professor of Asian Studies and Literature at the Asian University for Women in Chittagong. She is a

Russian author of the Romantic era Alexander Sergeyevich Pushkin

German intellectual and currently working on a book that explores representations of asexuality in literature, film, and new media. She spoke on the representations of gender in different literatures and her findings while working on the book.

"Literature and Landscape," held on June 19, was conducted by famous architect Rafiq Azam. He showed how intimately literature and landscape were interconnected. He said literature had inspired him to craft a new phase in the world of architecture. The landscapes in Bangladesh have always intrigued him. The creations of Robindranath Tagore, Jibananda Das and Lalou have always inspired his designs.

Bob Dylan's famous song "everybody must get stoned" kicked off "Literature and Drugs" on June 26, also Unesco's Anti-Drug Day. Head of DEH Prof Kaiser Haq talked about many exciting approaches to drugs in literature, starting from the ancient period until the very contemporary ones. He quoted some relevant lines from the Wrig Veda, Odyssey, Artificial Paradises and many other works of literature. Prof Haq pointed out how drugs such as opium, hashish and marijuana have affected the minds and creativity of many well-known authors including Tennyson, Coleridge, Steve Smith, Thomas de Quincey, Baudelaire, Sajid Omar and many others. However, after a witty question-answer session, the seminar ended with a collective chanting of the slogan: "Say NO to drugs."

## Programme Schedule

ULABT ✓

### November 18, 2014 (Tuesday)

2:00 pm Transmission Starts  
2:05 pm ULAB News  
2:15 pm Music Runner  
2:25 pm Roop Sagor  
2:35 pm The Bounded Life  
2:40 pm Road Show  
2:50 pm Rongmistri

### November 25, 2014 (Tuesday)

2:00 pm Transmission Starts  
2:05 pm ULAB News  
2:15 pm Your Wish Our Ignorance  
2:25 pm Depth  
2:30 pm Hartal  
2:40 pm The Tin Spectacles  
2:50 pm Faculty Profile  
2:55 pm 18 Hours in 180 Seconds

### December 2, 2014 (Tuesday)

2:00 pm Transmission Starts  
2:05 pm ULAB News  
2:15 pm Rongmistri  
2:25 pm Short Film: Dingi  
2:30 pm Life Circle  
2:40 pm Reflection  
2:45 pm Tamarind Theory

### December 9, 2014 (Tuesday)

2:00 pm Transmission Starts  
2:05 pm ULAB News  
2:15 pm Rongmistri  
2:25 pm Roop Sagor  
2:35 pm The Tin Spectacles  
2:45 pm Tamarind Theory

NB. The episodes of Tuesday will be repeated on Wednesday, Sunday and Monday