UP CLOSE & PERSONAL
WITH
SHAHZEB KHANZADA
Our heartfelt thanks to those named, and to the many others not mentioned, who have felt over the years that stories at IoBM should be told and written, giving encouragement for works such as this.

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You’ve stuffed your suitcase to the brim, kissed family and friends goodbye, and boarded your flight to the exotic international abode that you’ll soon call home. But, one of the remarkable things that happens when you do something as big as live in another country is that you become a changed person - your perspective on life eventually changes.

Therefore, spending a semester abroad can be one of the most thrilling experiences of your college career, but it’s equally challenging to accustom and immerse yourself in a new culture, especially when you don’t speak the native language. We often grow up thinking that our way of doing things is the only way, or sometimes the best way. But studying abroad opens our minds to new cultures and helps us to see new ways of doing things.

But, due to financial and other unforeseen limitations, students in Pakistan are often forced to give up on their dreams of studying in a foreign university.

The biggest reason one should consider a study abroad program is the opportunity to see the world. The choice, however, has more to do with money than anything else.

While some students may be eligible candidates for international programs, not everyone is lucky enough to acquire that experience. Nonetheless, you can still study at an overseas institute in minimal expense. And the most promising path, to make your dream turn into a reality is easy to get here at IoBM.

From the far reaches of Asia to the edge of Europe, several IoBM students have had the opportunity of spending a semester at reputable foreign institutes.

IOBM takes care of all of the major expenses apart from travel, which makes their student life relaxed. It is, indeed, an enriching experience full of opportunities which allows them to interact with different people and explore cultures, norms, ideas and even enjoy different cuisines.

The exchange program usually has a lot of student applications, therefore, to make your dream come true is not the easiest of challenges. Firstly, you must hold a decent academic record in the Institute, which is a CGPA of 3.0 or above.

Since, many think that college can’t possibly get any better and there’s no point in leaving for an exchange semester so, IoBM makes sure that only the ones who put in extra effort get to go. The Institute further evaluates the personality of the shortlisted students to determine whether or not they’re capable of representing their country and the Institute abroad. Studying abroad can seem daunting, but it’s just like going to college for the first time — you’ll meet people and make friends.

As one student puts it, "Coming to Sabanci, as a freshman media student, I never thought that I would study abroad. However, after being exposed to the study abroad program and seeing how it could fit into my life, major, and pocketbook, I took the plunge and opted for a semester in Istanbul, Turkey. And let me tell you, the only thing I regret is the hesitation I had about signing up in the first place!”

Special thanks to Sir Khalid Amin for his in-depth information of the entire procedure.
Sports Day

The event took place on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of November, 2015 at IoBM. It started off with dodgeball and throw ball tournaments on the first day and was followed by futsal and cricket tournaments later on the second and third day. The event was a success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Behind the successful event was great effort. The team worked really hard to get all the sponsors and the setup. Every meeting was a new and even modified agenda. Each department worked efficiently. The whole family put as much as they could into making it successful. With a series of matches, the tournaments skimmed out the best teams. These teams were Vanquishers, SWAT and LPSS. The most intriguing match was the cricket match between Vanquishers and LPSS in the final. The match was won by Vanquishers with an excellent game from the opposing team. Most of the matches were won by Vanquishers. However, since Vanquishers hosted the event it was withdrawn from the position and the runner up got the trophy. The runner up was SWAT.

SWAT’s Winter Meat Drive 2015

Institute of Business Management’s Social Welfare and Trust Society (SWAT) conducted two of its annual projects in the year 2015. While the meat drive was held in September the winter drive was recently conducted in the mid of December. Through both these projects SWAT was able to provide for the underprivileged and make whatever little difference they could in their lives. SWAT conducted its annual meat distribution drive in the month of September during the three days of Eid ul Adha where the entire team spent all three days working just so you could provide for the needy and neglected. The meat drive is the biggest and also the most extensive project. The society had gathered as many as 150+ donors through word of mouth and a far reaching social media campaign. The first two days of Eid were allocated for the collection packaging and storage of meat while the third day was for distribution. Through this drive SWAT reached and served areas like Ibrahim Hyderi and Orangi Town where the meat packages were distributed to hundreds of people including a large number of women, children and elders.

EPS brings Privilege Cards

For 2015, EPS brought a little twist to its annual event. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of IoBM, EPS came up with the idea of Privilege Cards that offered students the opportunity to fine dine, shop and use other facilities at discounted prices. EPS worked day and night to get the approval of highly renowned brands and make the Privilege Card a worthy offering. The cards were not limited to students. The alumni could yield the same benefits that were provided to the student.

CBMDC ’15

The College of Business Management Debating Championship 2015 took place from October 31st to November 2nd 2015. Arranged by the Literary and Public Speaking Society (LPSS) at IoBM, 20 teams were shortlisted for the main event. Three rounds of the debating competition were held on the first day between NUST, FAST, IBA, SZABIST, PAF Chapter, St. Patricks, Whales College and Generations. It was on the second day that all the teams were newly formed all over again and eight teams were selected which battled against each other in a round of debate to make it to the semifinals. The four teams that qualified were SZABIST, St. Patricks, IBA and PAF Chapter. St. Patrick’s and SZABIST were the finalists. The final day started with speeches from the organizing committee. Both the teams put up an amazing show. The end decision was taken in favor of Team SZABIST.

Rotaract

Rotaract Club of IoBM was set up in July 2012 with the sole mission of “service above self”. Our prime focus is on community service, fellowship with Rotaractors from across the world and providing our members with an international experience. Rotaractors are given a platform to interact with people from different races and backgrounds, all of those which are under the umbrella of Rotaract and Rotary.
Letters to the Editor

Does education kill creativity?

By Saad Usmani

Who knew how such an insignificant random act in class would redefine the one true purpose of education, which in my humble opinion, should be the foremost one.

So what’s the point of me telling all this?

Well it’s pretty easy to think, speak and do what is required of you, what is expected of you. With that you will get by, no doubt. But to walk against the winds, head on; is what takes you an extra mile, helping to recognize yourself from within and to express something that no one else would ever risk to doing. This should be the purpose of putting a bag on your shoulder every morning.

PeopleSoft Strikes Again!

By Sabah Zaidi

For some students, the registration period is a tougher time than the examinations. It often results in a day full of dreading and crying. Just like any other student, I too write my schedule in advance, and once the registration begins, I am welcomed by an error in the system. The portal either crashes or the server goes off and all that we are advised is to keep calm and refresh our links multiple times.

In defense of the IoBM technical team, one of the major reasons for this is that many students use multiple sources to log in from. An e-mail is sent on an urgent basis with a failed attempt of calming down students by assuring them that the servers will be up soon.

Sooner or later, I register myself for courses, but not the ones I would be aiming for.

In all honesty, Peoplesoft IoBM has solved multiple issues and is more convenient than the dreadful Oracle portal. Here’s hoping that Peoplesoft IoBM reaches the stage of perfection by the time we have to register again.

How Dare You Qatar?

By Omer Iqbal

A common misconception around the world of football is the fact that Qatar heavily bribed authorities in order to gain rights to host the 2022 World Cup. Other factors, such as unfriendly working conditions, a Winter World Cup and hostility towards homosexuals have also been reasons why Qatar’s 2022 campaign has been in hot water.

The facts against Qatar rely on documentaries published by the BBC, and there is no concrete proof against the country over how it treats its employees. Michael Garcia’s report suggested that there was corruption during the bidding and went on to appeal against Hans-Joachim Eckert’s summary of his investigation, which confirmed that, Russia and Qatar as World Cup hosts, after finding breaches of the doubt. Football fans have no exception to the latent (and not so latent) racism that skews favor to white people/culture/languages/ institutions. Germany is the poster child for European excellence, and White excellence by extension. Of course they get the free pass. Qatar is just a desert with tents and Arabs who dare to be more as far as the world is concerned. The global uptick in Islamophobia adds to this attitude greatly. It’s just the way of the world. Qatar is far from the ‘good guys’ in this whole mess. But let’s not kid ourselves, bribery is bribery, corruption is corruption, and illegal is illegal. If we’re to sit here and make excuses for one party for bribing but condemn another for doing the same exact thing for the exact same reasons, then we all deserve to be taken advantage of.
Facing student life problems at IoBM? Our Aunt Chilli has the answers. Send your queries to studentmagazine@iobm.edu.pk. Chosen problems, along with the solutions, will appear on the column.

Dear Aunt Chilli,
Whenever I have fun, I end up hurting someone, am I cursed? What should I do? Should I stop having fun?
TK

Oh boy! Your aunt sympathises. Of course you should carry on having fun, but the type and sort of fun-filled activities you do need to be elaborated upon for me to give you better advice. Know that you can change your behavior at any time. You are in control of your mind and behavior!

Dear Aunt Chilli,
Please advise how I can feed my craving of pizza doughnut as there’s no more of it at La Fire and it is all I would eat all day, every day!

Aunty suggests that you try their malai boti or garlic mayo roll. That’s what we did too.

Dear Aunt Chilli,
The freshies are driving me nuts! They’re literally everywhere – in the café, in the basketball court, in the library, in the Tuc shop!! It’s just so suffocating, PLEASE HELP!!
Concerned Senior

Have a chocolate brownie from La Farine, with a steaming hot cup of chai. Then lie down with your head resting on your backpack and listen to some light, soothing music. I recommend Marconi Union, “Weightless” or Airstream, “Electra”. Basically what I’m saying is ignore and chill out.

Dear Chilli,
It’s me again. Did it hurt when you fell from heaven?
Funny Guy

Not as much as this conversation, son.

Dear Aunt Chilli,
A friend of mine loves adding me in useless WhatsApp groups even after I’ve told him politely a couple of times to stop. It’s super annoying and makes me very angry. How do I make him stop?
Usman

Dear Usman,
Tag him in useless videos on Facebook quite a few times every day, telling him, “This reminds me of you LOOOOOOL” or “You will love this LOOOOOL”. Make sure he will NOT love it. Every time you tag him in a stupid video, send him messages on those Whatsapp groups asking if he has seen the awesome videos you’ve tagged him in. Spam them with that shit.

Dear Aunt Chilli,
I think I like Qandeel... Baloch

Son,
Only God can help you.
People

Overheard in IoBM

Overheard at the main gate
Jahanzeb: Sara, konsi gaari hai tumhari?
Sara: Blue colour ki hai

****
Boy 1: You seriously don’t know who Abdul Qadeer Khan is?
Girl 1: No... Who is he?
Boy 1: Are you serious? Abdul Qadeer?
Girl 1: Ummm, is he the photocopier guy?
Boy 1: I can’t even.... (Gets up and leaves.)

****
A random girl to boy: “Easy hojao tum sab, society hai sifr not a political party!”

****
Overheard in the parking area
Ali: No, I wasn’t, I don’t smoke!! He was just transferring the smoke to my mouth (pause) I don’t... smoke....... Never mind.

****
One burger girl to another: “And then I had to speak the WHOLE time in Urdu. Imagine!”

****
Hamza: “Khawateen ne...”
Annie: Khawateen, jaahil ki dokaan.

****
Beardless Boy 1 to Boy 2: “All you need in life is a good moustache.”

****
“Everyone knows that is the bathroom line, right, not the line to order?” - Overheard outside the girls washroom.

****
Boy 1 while presenting in International Relations class: “This is how realists view it and now optimists... inka SCENE yeh hai...”

****
At Eatables
Fawad: “Aj Ghafoor Bhai jannat mai jayengey”

******
Urdu teacher to class: App sub pehley alfaaz maaney (words meaning) karlo phir khush khati (fill in the blanks) karna
One smart boy after an hour: Miss, mainey alfaaz maaney pehle karliye ab khud khushi karloon?

****
Ahmed to Zahra: You know how some people have imaginary friends? I think you have imaginary enemies.

****
“I’m not really feeling learning.”
Overheard right in the middle of a lecture on Derivatives.

***
Shahzaib to Hassan: “I think one of us should go to class, so we at least know where we are”

****
Sana turning to a classmate in Finance: Do you know what the teacher’s talking about?
Emad: “I haven’t known what the teacher’s been talking about since October”

****
Overheard outside room 318, “The teacher actually got into saying something interesting and I thought, ‘Oh no, I should’ve been taking notes.”

****
While watching a big group of freshies entering the Student Activity Centre
Faraz: Aj kya yeh baaraat leker jaarahe hain?
If TV Shows Characters were People in IoBM

Characters in TV shows have different incentives, and function with different powers, setbacks, and weapons. There’s one crucial aim in almost all TV shows, though: Endurance.

Life at Institute of Business Management isn’t much different. Each student has his or her own set of talent and drive, and all of them are a bunch of confused pupils discovering their way through the chaos. Their objective is, however, survival, but in a different way: They just all want to stay alive through the semester without flunking out.

If TV shows characters transformed into the people at IoBM, there’s no uncertainty that who would be doing what here.

**Rustin Cohle, True Detective**

Famous among girls and criticised for his hair by math teachers, he isn’t big on talking except when you want him to shut up. He is not prone to material desires and believes that if a person stays decent merely in hope of divine reward then that person is nothing but a piece of rubbish.

**Max, Life is Strange**

She can rewind time, which is probably the reason why she always gives the right answers. There are rumours that she once burped in the examination hall, but later re-winded the accident so no one remembers.

**Robin, How I Met Your Mother**

She is an attractive, aspiring journalist who prioritises her career far above her personal life. She basically has never heard the word “no” from any guy ever. If there’s one person in your squad who doesn’t participate in shenanigans, it’s usually her.

**Tyrion Lannister, Game of Thrones**

He is an extremely intelligent guy who knows when to shut up and when to break into a lecture. Being a dwarf cannot be used against him since he plays the mind games better than anyone else amid society rivalries.

**Frank Underwood, House of Cards**

Despite his unorthodox leadership style, he is a gem in teachers eyes. With a style like no one else in the business, he has mastered the art of convincing people a little too well.

**Arya Stark, Game of Thrones**

Not sure if she is the smartest girl in the class but is definitely the most determined among the lot. She is courageous, daring and brave. Often bunks classes and was once suspended for an altercations with one of the guards.

**Annalise Keatling, How to Get Away With Murder**

One of the most sough-after teachers in the institute as her understanding of the subject is beyond the realms of the world. Her courses get registered in a matter of seconds and she is known to make her students work and kill for the grades.

**Khaleesi, Game of Thrones**

She’s threatening, she’s smart, and she knows how to get shit done. Her dressing is a big issue in the university as she has been stopped by the guards multiple times but ah well, she’s smart enough to avoid trouble.
Sheldon Cooper, Big Bang Theory

Mr. Cooper has been a victim to point area ragging multiple times during his early days in IoBM. However, after doing well in all of his class tests, he’s always seen with senior year girls that guys could only dream of talking to. Mr Cooper sits right in front of the teacher’s table and gets very annoyed if someone asks him to move.

Barney Stinson, How I Met Your Mother

That one dude every guy refers to as a creep because he’s always found sitting with a new girl in the cafeteria.

Oliver Queen, Arrow

Although a billionaire with dashing looks, he’s lazy, has flunked many courses and is often told that he has failed in life.

Margaery Tyrell, Game of Thrones

Coming from a rich family, education is the least of her problems in life right now. She can be witty when it comes to people, persuasive when it’s about teachers and cunning when she’s dragged into society politics. Her charm overshadows others around her.

Caitlyn Stark, Game of Thrones

One of the most beloved teachers in the institute, also sometimes referred to as the Mother Teresa of IoBM, is like a motherly figure to everyone. A bit old fashioned but teaches more about important life lessons than the course.

Alex Vause, Orange is the new Black

She is wicked, calculating and street smart. She hesitates to reveal too much about herself and can often be seen with a book in hand as she loves reading books.

Walter White, Breaking Bad

Is believed to have an astonishing career in science but owing to financial issues he could not stay in med school for long and came to IoBM on scholarship. He was recently seen in a three piece suit for his Business & Professional Speech class.

Carrie Mathisen, Homeland

Carrie has been to Islamabad once; however, her idea of Islamabad is nowhere near to what we hear about the city. We have a strong feeling that Carrie may have a medical condition where she assumes untrue things to be real.

Raj, Big Bang Theory

Raj is an AIESEC exchange student from India who gets all the love. He has tons of selfies with girls because, apparently, it’s cool to be friends with people from countries across the globe. Well, Raj is a nice guy and deserves respect for gaining global experience.
Magazine Exclusive:
In conversation with Shahzeb Khanzada

By Asma Baig and Momina Khan

Shahzeb Khanzada, an IoBM graduate, who has won the Best Anchorperson Award for 2013, is also amongst the highest paid TV anchors in Pakistan currently.

In December 2014, he left the Express News and joined Geo TV to host his talk show “Aaj Shahzeb Khanzada Kay Sath” which was formerly hosted by Kamran Khan (Aaj Kamran Khan Kay Sath).

Despite his incredibly busy schedule, he agreed to sit down for a chat about his work, future plans and the state of contemporary journalism in Pakistan. The following are excerpts from the conversation.

Momina Khan: Let’s begin with what would probably be the first question our readers would be interested in knowing... What made Shahzeb Khanzada so successful?

Shahzeb Khanzada: (Laughs) Success is about so many things. I don’t know if I’m successful or not because there’s still a lot to do in life. But I’ve always remained focused because of which I’ve been successful at whatever I do. There’s a lot left to do in life. People say success has to do with one being intelligent but I think it’s to do with hard work. How much effort and time you put in something is what matters. So in my opinion, you don’t need to be intelligent to be at the top but you need to be determined and hard working.

MK: We have all experienced turning points in our lives. So what has been your turning point and how has it changed you?

SK: Good question! First turning point was jumping from a business program to a political program. That was back in Business Plus when I used to do business programs and I felt that maybe there’s no future in it so I started standby anchoring. I did not have my own permanent program. Yes I feared if I’ll be able to do it or not as it was a big risk but I did it anyway.

Then there was this one interview with Zulfiqar Mirza back in 2011. When Zulfiqar Mirza was at the peak of his career and was known for being tough. So it was a very hard-hitting interview that really changed things for me.

Another one of my major turning points was taking the decision of leaving Express News and joining Geo TV. It was a different format altogether. I used to do a talk show and here at Geo I host a news show, at a platform that was mercilessly under criticism at that time by PTI. Many assumed that the channel will not survive; the group will not survive so it was indeed a tough decision.

Geo surviving as a channel was a big question itself in everybody’s minds on top of which what I feared most was the fact if I will be able to host primetime news show on Geo, the biggest platform. These were my three turning points in life and they all proved right.

MK: Right, but what motivated you to leave Express News and join Geo TV?

SK: I worked at Express News for four years and this program which I’m doing right now is the dream of every anchor in the industry. But everyone assumed that this slot will never be empty because Kamran Khan was doing it at that time. Then he resigned and went to Bol. It was a very big opportunity for me.

I did not see any growth in it. Four years I worked on one to one interviews and after that these talk shows. So I asked myself when I had an offer from Geo will I be doing a different thing if I stay at Express after ten years? And the answer was no, it’ll be the same with zero self-growth. Maybe financially I’ll grow; more people may get to know me too, but no personal growth. Here the influence is huge and the impact is much more. This show is watched widely.

MK: All big anchors moved to Bol. Kamran Khan, one of the highest paid journalists, left Geo and joined Bol. Our readers would be interested in knowing why didn’t Shahzeb Khanzada join the Bol Network?

SK: Well, I had an amazing offer from BOL but see, if money becomes your goal early on in your career then your objectives get left behind. But if you have a vision and clear objectives in mind then money shouldn’t be your number one concern.
Five years ago, I didn’t even earn 10 per cent of what I make now. Secondly, I’ve met the owner of Bol a number of times and I was offered an amazing package. When I met senior anchors and journalists, they would ask me to accept the offer and join Bol, but I’d always ask them that the owner of Bol has every kind of money to offer but what we don’t know is where that money comes from. So I just believe one has to be very focused in life to get somewhere. And I felt Geo is a better platform for me as my objectives have always been that I have to work a lot and second is how much is the reach of my work, how big is the impact.

If I take a risk and do a story on terrorism, which is a deadly matter in Pakistan, then I want it to get through to more and more people. I want the reach to be massive in that case especially. If I do a story on corruption, as risky as it gets, I would want it to have a huge impact on people.

Thus, the advantage I have at Geo is that the reach of my work is huge along with the risks and impact involved. But since money is not my objective then the reward of getting my word through to many people, to the policy makers of our country in hopes of bringing a change is my ultimate goal.

When you take a risk in life then what are you going to do of the money as a reward? To me what’s rewarding is the massive impact of my work.

**MK: As a journalist, what is your business model? How do you research into stories and decide on what stories to pick?**

SK: It depends on the story. You just have to select one topic after you have like four, five or sometimes two topics available. Then you have to do your research and you just have to think what you want to ask PTI, PML(N), PPP or maybe on some other issue of three to four participants. But when it comes to this new show it’s very tricky.

First of all you have to wake up early. Second, you just can’t read two or three newspapers but all of them. English newspapers, Urdu newspapers, local, international as many as you can!

So for five hours daily you have to read yourself and come up with ten to twelve stories. You have to keep watching the TV; you have to keep calling the reporters at different stations where you think you can find some story.

All of us, including the senior producer and producer, send our proposals that consist of ten stories at least. Some stories require us to speak to the source directly while other stories may require you to rely on your reporter and whatever source he/she has.

You have to call and speak to at least 20 people. So at ten we go on air, till then we keep checking, dropping, taking up new stories as the show develops.

**MK: So what is that one thing you learnt in your student years that has helped you all your life?**

SK: I often discuss with my dad that I wasted four years of my life in engineering and two in MBA when I could’ve just done Journalism. But there is one thing that has been with me is that I would study a lot during my time as a student so now when I have to study for my shows I don’t have to push myself to read, work hard. I enjoy my work now.

**MK: What’s your message to the youth of our country defying corruption that has become an integral part of our society?**

SK: First step to fight corruption is by not being corrupt yourself. And the second step is, from a journalism point of view, you have to make sure you fight corruption as much as you can. When you are in this field, people will try their best to corrupt you because this is the biggest incentive that they can have, corrupting journalists so that they can do their corruption easily. Don’t get corrupt yourself.

**MK: Ethics or job, which will you pick? The job of a journalist is not to save lives but to report. What’s your take on this?**

SK: Ethics and job both go together. You can’t choose between them, so do your job ethically by dropping the aspects of your story that require you to compromise on your ethics.

**MK: You have achieved so much, is there a reason you stayed in Pakistan?**

I had this opportunity to go abroad when I started my career. I could go for masters and could settle there. My brother in law never came back to Pakistan. But I love Pakistan and I want to stay and work in Pakistan, always.
MK: At the moment, is there any topic closest to your heart that you would want to discuss?

SK: I have pretty much worked on every topic that comes to mind. But yes I think one thing that hurts us a lot is that people getting killed in Pakistan and not getting caught. Terrorism and target killing in Karachi are two topics that I will never stop discussing.

Rapid Fire:

Asma Baig: What are your plans of settling?
SK: I am pretty much settled (laughs). My mother is after me that I should get married and I will soon, hopefully in a year or two.

AB: If you were not a journalist, what would you be?
SK: Engineer.

AB: Favorite vacation spot?
SK: Budapest.

AB: Favorite pastime?
SK: I read books, watch TV. Other than that I don’t have many friends, I don’t socialise much but if I have some time left I'll spend it with my family. I’m very close to my younger sister and brother. And I love watching seasons.

AB: Your favorite shows? And what characters can you relate to?
SK: I love House of Cards, Game of Thrones, Breaking Bad. I love Underwood’s acting in House of Cards and Tyrion Lynnister’s in GOT, especially his dialogues! Cersei is also good but the dwarf is brilliant. Characters I can relate to other people but not to myself as no one’s as good (laughs). It’s not easy for me to relate to someone.

AB: Favorite TV channel (other than Geo)?
SK: CNN, BBC.

AB: Favorite journalist?
SK: Depends from show to show, I like many people. Like Fareeha Idrees, Kashif Abbasi, Talat Hussain they have all done great shows. But when it comes to having a favourite, I don’t have any.

AB: What are your views about:
Imran Khan
SK: Amazing cricketer and a struggling politician. I don’t think I agree with everything that Khan Saahib has done recently but still he’s an amazing social worker, activist, and philanthropist. He has many good things about him.

Altaf Hussain
A politician who could do better than what he’s doing.

Nawaz Sharif
A politician who can do better. For someone who has become the prime minister of Pakistan for the third time, he could do better. He is not doing really badly but he can show his experience of last two and a half years.

Raheel Shareef
A good soldier.

Women in journalism
I think many more girls and women should come in journalism. It’s always good to have women in journalism. We should encourage them. There are very good female journalists that I have worked with as anchors, reporters, producers. I will ask parents to encourage their daughters and brothers to encourage their sisters to pursue this career as it’s very rewarding.
Review

Begum Gul Bakaoli Rejects Noori: A Full Album Review

By Hyder Ali & Asjad Nadeem

A decade has passed ever since the release of Noori's last “Peeli Patti Aur Raja Jani Ki Gol Dunya” an album that captivated the hearts of an entire nation with its raw and energetic compositions.

For ten years, Noori’s fans across Pakistan and the world over had been anxiously waiting for the release of their third album, “Begum Gul Bakaoli Sarfarosh” but it seems as though, the wait was not worthwhile.

Upon hearing the album a couple of times, it just felt exhilarating to hear music by a Pakistani band again. The more we listened to it, the more it left us raving but not exactly in a good way.

Although the album is full of Noori’s trademark “Mazaa Aa Raha Hai!” moments and a surfeit of Yaara’s and Mahi’s, Raahi’s and Naahi’s. It is an album of nine songs and after a decade of silence, is this really something we should be pleased with? Let’s look at it this way, we have “1947”, “Kedaar” and “Mujhey Roko”, out of the nine songs, which we’ve heard before (some over a decade ago). So that leaves us with six songs. Then there’s “Saya-e-Khuda-e-Zuljalal”, which is, if anything, a glorified cover of the national anthem. I mean, we’ve never counted Salman Ahmad’s rendition of the National Anthem a Junoon song. So that leaves us with only five. An entire decade and only five songs wait, we’re confident that “Hey Ya” has been around as well. So that leaves us with four meager songs in ten years.

Hey Ya is unlike any of the songs in the album as the verses are brilliant but the chorus and the title of the song are of poor taste as compared to Noori’s classic flair. Ali Hamza is the lead vocalist in the song and has done a fair job.

“1947” is a great album opener and sets up the album concept pretty well; the tale of Begum Gul Bakaoli. “Hoshiyar” is by far our favorite track in the album; Ali Hamza’s vocals in this album are splendid.

“Pinjra”, is one of our favorites from the album. It is so upbeat that one can imagine Ali Noor surrendering to the chorus and forgetting to play his guitar live. The song’s groove is very likeable upheld by a blend of dholak with beats and drums.

“Kedaar’s” overpowering sitar unisons, and while some of us preferred the Coke Studio version, this is a good rework too as Kami Paul did a great job. This song seems to be there in the back of our heads since its debut in Coke Studio. The intricacies in the song make it a must for a Noori fan, although the over-dub on Ali Noor’s vocals in the last line of the song are painfully loud. Something you notice in the album is the conscious attempt to introduce some new form of instrumentals in most of the tracks. Kami Paul delivers an awesome performance in this album, especially, given the fact that he had big shoes to fill since the last two records featured Gummy as the drummer. This album takes a step back from what Noori did in their second album Peeli Patti Aur Raja Jaani Ki Gol Dunya music, composition and lyrics wise. The most creative aspect of the album is the title; hence, it does remind us of a younger Noori.

And who doesn’t remember the school and college days when Noori’s music would be the recoil of our highs and lows? Those flashes of memories come and go in snippets throughout the album and while, the long-standing Noori spirit seems to have faded, for now we’re all just glad they’re back.
Arts

Poet’s Corner

Man of God
By Shoaib Lalani

Many names He has,
Many sides He has shown,
We fight for our versions,
But they are all His own.
They say I am not very religious,
I’m not an angel nor righteous,
I don’t look for Him in mosques,
I don’t do my prayers,
In no church nor temple,
Or house of God anywhere.
I kneel before Him anywhere I like,
For He is closer to my heart, than any other sight.

They say I’m not a man of God,
That I don’t thank Him for what He has given,
And that my spirituality is just a fraud and need driven.
Right they are,
But a man of God I am.
He lives in my soul,
He exists in my heart,
If not for Him,
Man be apart.
So I don’t say my prayer,
Because He knows what I feel,
And I do converse with Him,
Angels have seen this realm
Never would I ever cry,
He gave me a lot,
Never have I wanted to pry,
He showed me a lot.

My friend my pride my companion my guide,
Never quits on me, forever by my side.

Black day
By Mustafa Kamal

Our children were like the petals of a flower torn from us
one at a time, as each bullet made way in them it also made
way in us.

But our resolve is nothing if not strong, our heart is nothing
if not inflamed with justice, my heart hearkens for the
martyrs- it’s not a crime to feel things you don’t want to
feel- and right now my lips thirst for vengeance.

They say in the final hours of our life- right when we are in
the eve of death and the edge of life- we stroll in the garden
of memories, and now I wonder what fruits those children
would have tasted to such a bitter end.

So I say to you not weep in sorrow but store these stirrings
in the dreams of tomorrow, where you and I may sleep.
Waiting silently in the shadows of tomorrow as the sun
shines bright on those departed

We only endure the pain in order to better understand
it- for what is pain if not clawing for attention. Only when
you drink from the river of silence shall you truly sing. And
when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly
dance.

So here take a flower from me to you. Though, it is broken
and covered with the vigils of yesterday. It will be whole
again. For who said broken flowers don’t bloom.

Contribution Guidelines:

We appreciate our contributors for sending in articles and other writings to us. The IoBM Student Magazine accepts
opinion articles, creative stories on any topic, poetry, photos and art submissions. Articles typically run from 200
to 400 words, but submissions of any length will be considered. All submissions must be original, and exclusive to
The IoBM Student Magazine. We will not consider articles that have already been published, in any form, in print or
online. However we cannot reply personally to unsuccessful pitches.

Want to be a part of The IoBM Student Magazine? We’re looking to recruit sharp, hardworking candidates with a
command of English language and a keen interest in writing for the position of Sub-Editor and Content Writer. We are
also looking to recruite a creative Graphic Designer to be a part of IoBM Student Magazine.

Send us your resume and contributions to
studentmagazine@iobm.edu.pk
Q & A:

By Younis Junejo

Irfan Junejo is an IoBM graduate, he is a fearless footballer and a successful Sports Entrepreneur. As a player, he represented teams like FC Rovers, Karachi Kickers, Sui gas and Pakistan U-18. He toured China with Pakistan Under-18 team as well. He was awarded ‘Most valuable player’ in AKU university championship 2009, Karachi United Ramadan Tournament 2009 and numerous other tournaments. Today, he runs two football academies in Malir Cantt Karachi where he grooms over 100 young players.

(1) In a country where everyone wants to become a cricketer, how were you attracted to football?

I have also played a lot of cricket but I started playing football during the 2002 FIFA World Cup. Football seemed like a lot of fun and unlike cricket, it didn’t require a lot of equipment or a ground for that matter.

(2) How did you manage your studies at IoBM along with daily football practices?

I never missed any classes no matter how boring they would be. I always took notes and I only studied during exams. Since I was weak in accounting, I used to review my notes every week for accounting courses only.

(3) How did the idea of opening a football academy occur to you?

A lot of kids used to come up to me and ask, where did I learn to play football and that they want to join Rovers. I opened up an academy to home the passion and talent in these kids just like many of the top European clubs do so that we, as a club, don’t have to sign any players from outside our club and the idea just took off from there.

(4) What are the current facilities at your academy?

Since we have zero support from the community we cannot do anything about the ground or the lights. Other than that we provide all the football equipment to the kids except the shoes. A player of the month is selected every month who gets a prize of PKR. 5000. We have 3 football grounds and a futsal court for around a 100 players currently in our academy.

(5) Strength and conditioning facilities are usually close to zero in Pakistan, how do you aim to counter that?

We aim to counter that by promoting a healthy lifestyle amongst those kids. They know football means a lot of running, and a lot of fitness drills. We never tell them it will be a lot of fun, at least not the ones in our senior academy. We tell them it is tough, most of the kids give up half way and only the most passionate ones survive. Other than this we tell them how to maintain a proper diet, keep their weight in check but our primary focus is on football. If a fat kid plays very good football and works very hard on the pitch, we are not bothered about the weight at all.

(6) Are there any footballing marvels within the academy?

The sheer amount of talent in our academy is just unbelievable for me at times. There are players like Jahan Khan, Hassam Afridi, Imran Shahid, Wahab Zaman and I can name many more who are arguably the best that I have seen in their age bracket in my life. Mind you, Jahan is only 10 years old.

(7) How did your studies help you in career as a player, a coach and a sports entrepreneur?

Only the course in entrepreneurship helped me in the sense that it motivated me to do it. Other than that I didn’t make any business plans, forecasting sheets, marketing plans or any formal evaluations but my studies did broaden my vision which enabled me to turn an idea into a community of football players.

(8) What are your future plans?

Within the academy, we want to improve the facilities at our home ground and open up a few more academies. My future plans revolve around hydroponics, finance, agriculture, iOS apps, and football of course.

(9) Do you think there is scope or opportunities for sports entrepreneurs in Pakistan now?

If scope is your concern you can never be successful at anything. You might be very good at it, you might even be successful at it, but you will never have fun nor will you ever be the best. Passion outweighs scope every time. If scope is still your primary concern then I can only tell you this is Pakistan. We are a developing country and there is scope for every kind of entrepreneur in every sector.
Forgotten glory days of Karachi’s National Stadium

By Omer Iqbal

For a sport enthusiast who has lived through the 90’s in Pakistan, there could not be better sports days.

From the first test match, way back in 1955 against India, to the memorable 313 run innings by Younus Khan, the National Stadium is nothing less than an iconic stadium of Karachi. The city lives and breathes cricket, and the lack of international cricket in Karachi’s iconic stadium is, well, a disappointment.

The quarter final match of the 1996-97 World Cup was also played on this ground. Not only that, the first ODI at the National Stadium was staged against West Indies on November 21, 1980, and it went down to the last ball as Gordon Greenidge drove Imran Khan imperiously to the cover boundary and won the game for the West Indies.

The National Stadium became Karachi’s fifth and Pakistan’s 11th first-class ground. Every time I pass Karachi’s National Stadium, it reminds me of all the great memories of the good old days. It’s a pity to observe it in its current situation. The NSK stairs, roof tops and even some of the enclosures are in depressing shape and despite frequent efforts to turn things around; the actions have proved ineffective to improve the conditions of the stadium. For a populated city like Karachi with a population of about 24 million people, the seating capacity in NSK is very limited of 34,228 seats. It is, though, the second largest cricket stadium in Pakistan after Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

National Stadium has been home to many legends of the cricketing world. From Fazal Mahmood’s master class to Shahid Afridi’s blistering knocks, National Stadium of Karachi has seen events that are absolutely unforgettable. While some may argue that the wickets of National Stadium are flat, there are a lot of statistical facts that point in the favour of the bowlers. Fast bowlers like Imran Khan, Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis have found tremendous success in National Stadium, despite Karachi’s dry weather conditions.

The Pakistani cricket team has a remarkable test record at the ground, having only lost two test matches; one against England in December 2000, and the other against South Africa in October 2007.

The great Sachin Tendulkar also played his first test match at the National Stadium. It was also here at NSK in March 2004 that Pakistan’s batswoman Kiran Baluch smashed a world record test score of 242 against the West Indies women’s cricket team in the one-off Test played by Pakistan women cricketers at the National Stadium, although the test ended in a draw.

The stadium was once a great showcase for the busy city of Karachi, one that never sleeps. It’s a sad fact that the viewership of live cricket is now a dream for many youngsters. It’s not like the stadium is lifeless, as it is still used for first class matches, where the youth of Pakistan aims to emerge above the ranks. However, the stadium hasn’t brought any commercial success for PCB ever since international cricket became the past in the country.

Gone are the days when the likes of Steve Waugh or Lance Klusner would freely play in the busy streets of Karachi, however, with the improving situation of PCB, we can only stay hopeful that the return of those days is possible.
فواد حسن

ایک تیری دید چوئن گی مگھسے
ورنی دنیا میں کیا نیں باقی

اکٹیس پر بیت گنے بھ سے ایک مصلح انسان اور انسانیت بچھ گیا یہ مقام کس قدر افسوسناک ہے کہ
معاذرے کی خاص کر نوجوانوں کی ایک کثیر تعداد تقسیم پسند شاعر جناب فیض احمد شاعر کے انقلابی
و رومانوی خیالات و اسلوب سے بیچا ہے۔

راجم السطور کو ائتم اوقات تو نہیں کہ فیض احمیر فیض کی شاعری کے راز بہان افشار کرے لیکن قارنین
کو شاعر کے منفرد انداد بیان کے حوالے سے متعارف کرائے کی یہ پیش نہیں ہے یہ کی جا سکتی ہے۔

ایک بزہ شاعر کی نشانی شاہد یہ پو کہ اب ایک جوان کی بھی عوام کے بغیر میں مقبول بود اس
سے بھی بزہ کر اس کی شاعری اور اس کا کلام پری ہے اور کہ لوگ اسے سمجھ سکیں۔

اس نشانی کو اگر ملحوظ خاطر رکھ جانے تو فیض پیش ادا یہ بیدبل ہے کہ بیان ایک یہ پی ہے

جی نے داخل شاعری کیا وہ آج ہو کم کس مشرق کی پسماندہ عوام کو راہ نجات دکھائی ہوئی ہے
ریت کے کسی پر بج جوابات دنیا اور اضطراب سے تنگ اکر کو دنیا سے فرار بھونے کی خواشت لاحق
جانے تو ایک بار فیض کے نسخ کو اتھائے کے مثی فرمانیہ۔

ایک جانب فیض عشق کا سمندر مین غرق نظر ایہ بیا تو دوسری جانب معاشرے مین موجود نانصافی،

یہ کمال اب کو ترقب پسندی کی فکر نے ہو بخشانی کہا کہ جب مہم میں کسی بھی شاعر سے انقلابی کی لائے
جانے ہا اب پرپھا والے کو موجودہ ظالم نظام کے خلاف اوز حلق بلند کرنے کی لیے آمادہ کیا ہے۔

ابنے ایسے بیا ایک کلام مخصوص سخن، مین فیض محبوب بر لکھتے نے خیالۂ زمانہ کی درک ناک سچائے سے

بیدھ اتھائے کی جما رت کرتے بین

اج آج سرخ و سیب صدیوں کے سانے تے

آدم و حوا کی اولاد پہ کیا گزر رہی بے؟

موت اور زیستی کے روزانہ صف آرائی مین,

بم پہ کیا گزرے گی، ایجاد پہ کیا گزری بے؟

ان دمکتے بونے شہروں کی فرواں مخلوق,

کیونہ فقط مرنا کی حسرت مین جیا کرتنی بے؟

یہ حسین کہیتیا ،پہئے پرے بے ہو بن جن کا

کس لئے ان مین فقط بهوک آگا کرتنی بے
اپنے سوال وہی شخص انٹیا سکتا ہے جس نے اپنے زندگی ایک انسانی نظام کھڑا کرنا میں گزاری بو. فیض
کا کلام اس وقت تک موزون رہے گا اور تاب تک قارئین کو فیض بخش رہے گا جب تک مہبت بقیہ ہے اور
استحصال، ظلم و زیادتی کے خلاف جنگ جاری ہے۔
چند بی لمحون میں ماوسی کی وادیوں کی تلخ حقیقت سے آپوں سیر کرنا ہوئے ہوئے ہوئے فیض کب اطمیں کے
خاموش سندر میں لا کھڑا ہے گا یہ اندازہ کرنا ہی آپ کو راحت بخشے گا۔
غریبوں، مسکینوں، مزدوروں اور محبت کرنے والوں کے اس شاعر نے زندگی کی کچھ امپی ترجمانی کی
ہے کبھی ہے بیٹھے مشکل، بیٹھے سب سے ابتہل آسان دکھاتی ہے اس کو سمجنے کے لئے آپ کی ایک
مشیبور گزل کا مطلعہ کرنا ناگزیر ہے۔
جو لوغ بہت خوش قسمت تھے
جو عشق کو کام سمجھتے تھے
یا کام سے عاشقی کرتے تھے
بھی جبہے جی مصرف رہے
کچھ عشق کی کچھ کام کیا
کام عشق کے آزما ربا
اور عشق سے کام الجیتنا ربا
پہر آخر تنگ اک نے
دونوں کو اہمہر جھورہ دیا
زندگی کی ایک تلخ حقیقت یہ بھی ہے کب تلخ حقیقت جبہے والوں کو یہ نہیں معلوم کہ اس کا مقصد حیات کیا
ہے۔ اس کو اپنے کلامی کا موضوع البث کامیاب اور زبان پال نے بھی نہیں بتایا۔ فیض نے نبیت بھی آسان
الفاظ میں گو یہ اپنے جبہے کی انسانوں کی زندگی کی ترجمانی فرمائی ہے۔
کیا زندگی کی معنی فقط عشق کا مقصد سمجنے کے علاوہ ہوئی؟ کچھ بھی نہ؟ شاید نہیں.