

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Remembering Munin Borkotoki

After reading Meenaxi Bhattacharjee's two charming but evocative pieces (middles) in your daily on December 6 and December 13 on Munin Borkotoki, her distinguished father, I feel reminded, rather nostalgically, of one of my encounters with him when he was News Editor in AIR, Guwahati many years ago. I was working in AIR, New Delhi, and during one of my trips to Guwahati, I had the occasion to come to the AIR news room to see him one day. He was poring over a few news item lying on the desk. After initial exchange of pleasantries, Borkotoki Sir asked me, "Since you have showed up, please do me a favour. Please draft a story on 'Development and Social Peace' for the commentary programme." I was terribly scared to draft this, and tried to scamper away, but he assured me that I had to prepare just the draft, and he would finalize it. I tried my hand, and after almost an hour, I produced the draft story and went away for a quick breather. On my return, I found him doctoring the piece and finally he looked up and said, "Hazarika, there are no grammatical mistakes as such, but about style and content, well, I must

say it is inadequate. I have developed the story adding a few more ideas and facts." I retyped the revised script and to my great delight the whole story had assumed a new shape with scintillating words and richer ideas.

It is not that he only wrote immaculate English but his writings bear the stamp of an alert and versatile mind. Whatever he has written may be small in volume, but will have to be reckoned with in the literary and intellectual circles. He did not have any intellectual pretensions.

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### Retirement Age of GU Registrar

We appreciate the letter "Retirement Age of GU Registrar" by some GU teachers in your esteemed daily of December 17.

The main point in his representation was that he (the Registrar) should be allowed to enjoy the full five-year term till September 8, 1995 according to the relevant clause of the GU Act, despite the fact that the retirement age of all employees including the Registrar is 60 years. The present Registrar, who was the Deputy Registrar (Administration) for more than 10 years, is supposed to be well up in all provisions of the Act. May we ask him as to why he did not raise this particular point before joining this post if the decision on his appointment had really violated