copy the paper, colours and designs in order to cheat (*nokol*) people. In the Second World War, the Germans tried to destroy the economy of their enemies by flooding Europe with forged notes. It can be very dangerous to the economy.

An American called Billy Graham was one day on an aeroplane going somewhere and he got into conversation with the man beside him and he asked him what his work was – and the man said he worked for his bank to protect it against forged notes. Billy Graham said, 'You must have handled a lot of forged notes!" But the man said, "No, I handle a lot of real notes – so that when I feel a forged note, I know it."

Do you understand what he was saying? He always picked up and handled real notes, true notes – he got to know how they felt, how they looked, he held them up to the light and saw what they looked like then – he got very used to them. THEN, when he picked up a forged note, he knew immediately that there was something wrong with it.

It is very important for all of us, but especially young people, to get as much experience as possible of what is good, what is true, what is beautiful, what is honest, what is pure – to fill your life with these things. Then, when you meet people and things that are not good and true and beautiful and honest and pure, *you will know* that there is something wrong – that this is something you do not want – and you can make correct judgments.

There is a lot of rubbish around for young people. There are bad books and magazines, bad programmes on television and on the internet. There are things that are full of ugliness and horror and evil. Do not fill your mind with such things. Switch them off! Choose what is good and true and helpful.

One day, if not already, you may meet people who are like forged bank notes. They pretend to be good, and honest and skilled – and they are not. They pretend to like you when they just want to use you. They are not what they seem. At best, they are a nuisance and waste a lot of time. At worst, they can hurt you very much. Learn, while you are young, what real people and experiences are like. Develop a taste for them. Learn to be like that yourself. This will protect you, later, when you meet people who seem to be OK – but they are really like a forged note because, really, they are different - their lives are not honest. Focus on the truth and your eyes will learn to be able to see what is not true. You too can become like the specialist in forged notes! In this way, you are educating yourself for life. God bless you.

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HYPOCRITS!

Assembly 20th February 2003

We were all very sad, and some of you were surprised, when Mrs Tahera Hamid left us last Thursday. She has been a remarkable teacher and has done a lot for our school. The management of the school had known for some time that she wished to leave teaching and take another career but we did not know quite when this would happen. So we lined someone up to take her place who is now officially appointed. We welcome Mrs Naeema Quayes as the new Coordinator of the Junior School and wish her all the best in her new position……..

(Show the forged 500 taka note) Do you remember, yesterday, I showed you this? What is it? What is the best way of knowing whether a note is forged or not? (*Handling the real notes as much as possible and getting to know them so that you know immediately when a note is not real.)* I told you that life will bring you people and experiences, some of which are not what they seem on the outside so you have a life-skill to learn.

I want to talk about the same subject in a different way today. Do you know what a mask is? Maybe some of you have taken

part in plays or dressed up in a mask, to pretend that you are something else – spiderman or a lion or tiger – you have a mask. Maybe you can frighten people with your mask!

At the time of the Greek Empire, there were lots of theatres and lots of plays and actors often wore masks on stage, showing the character of the person they were playing. Everyone knew that the person behind the mask was the actor but, when they were watching the play, they knew the actor was playing the part of another person. The word they used for the actor was 'hypocritus" and from this, the English language got the word 'hypocrite'. *(Show the word written on a piece of paper.)* The word is not used for someone who literally wears a mask but someone who pretends to be different from what they really are. So this is not a nice word. If you are acting, you are pretending to be someone else but everyone knows you are acting. But it is very important NOT to act in real life. If you pretend to be different from what you are, then you are deceiving people and that is bad.

A hypocrite seems to be a nice and charming person but, in fact, behind the invisible mask, is a person who is quite different. Maybe a girl may seem to be very sweet and nice but you visit her home and the way she talks to her mother, or to her servant, is awful and you think to yourself. "She is a hypocrite. She looks a nice, sweet person but her tongue can say awful things."

Or a boy may seem to be really nice and very interested in you – but you find he only wants to get inside your house to steal something that he sees that you have. He is not what he seems.

In your culture, most parents play an important part in choosing a marriage partner for you. This should be a great help in finding out if there is anything to know about someone before you decide to marry them. Good parents are always afraid that their beloved son or daughter may be deceived into falling in love with a hypocrite and finding out, too late, that they have made a big mistake.

So please try to be the same on the outside as you are on the inside. The two should match.

God bless you.

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FORGERIES, FAKES – AND THE GENUINE!

Assembly 21 – February 4th 2003

Yesterday, I taught you a new word – do you remember what it was? HYPOCRITE. Meaning?..... I want to teach you another word today – the word GENUINE. This is the opposite of hypocritical. What is wrong with this 500 taka note? It is a forgery. It is not genuine. What is wrong with a hypocrite? He or she is not genuine. A genuine person is someone who is real, all the way through. Sometimes, I ask my friends for advice about a service I need – maybe I need a jeweler, or a dentist or a furniture maker. I may have met the person. They may have said all the right things. They may have made wonderful promises. They may seem to be going to work for a very correct price. But all I want to know is – can I trust them? Are they genuine? If you apply for a job in education, you will need to supply copies of the certificates of your degrees and courses but those who receive them need to check them to know they are genuine because some of these bits of paper can be bought and sold in the bazaar. They are not genuine.

I wonder how many of you have members of your family who are in the jewelry business? You will know how very clever some people are these days in making jewelry that is not genuine. It is fake - false! It seems to be a diamond – or another lovely jewel – but it isn't – and the unprofessional person can be deceived. This is why most gold and silver that you buy in some countries has tiny little marks on the back. You can hardly see these marks with