

Call for Submissions

বর্গ: Letters & Lives | The Literary Journal of Varendra University

We are delighted to announce the inaugural issue of *বর্গ: Letters & Lives*, the official bilingual literary journal of Varendra University (VU), to be published in January 2026. Rooted in the belief that literature and the arts are expressions of memory, thought, imagination and collective life, *বর্গ* invites creative and critical work in both Bangla and English from students, alumni, faculty and staff of VU (others from outside VU can submit, but unsolicited works may get rejected if they are not of exceptional merit). The journal seeks to promote a vibrant culture of expression on campus while documenting the evolving intellectual and cultural life of our community.

We warmly invite you to submit your work for consideration in the following categories:

Acceptable Categories

1. Poetry

You can submit up to 3 poems; maximum page length: 3

2. Short Fiction

Word count: 1000–1500 words

For exceptional pieces, a maximum of 2000 words will be considered.

3. Flash Fiction

Maximum length: 1 page (single side)

4. Memoir / Personal Essay / Creative Nonfiction

Word count: up to 1000–1200 words

5. Social Satire

Word count: up to 700 words

6. Visual Art / Photography / Illustration

You can submit up to 3. Acceptable formats: high-quality .jpeg, .png, or .psd files

Specifications: a) Images without text: 300 dpi; b) Images with text: 400 dpi

7. Comic Strips / Graphic Novella

Acceptable formats: high-quality .jpeg, .png, or .psd files

Specifications: a) Images without text: 300 dpi; b) Images with text: 400 dpi; c) If sequential, please number the scenes in order. Should not cross 2 pages (both sides)

8. Book Reviews / Interviews

Word count: 700–1000 words

General Formatting Guidelines

1. Written submissions must be sent as **.doc (Word 97–2003 format)** files. Please avoid .docx if possible.
2. **Font size:** 12
 - a) For English: **Garamond**
 - b) For Bangla: any Unicode font
3. **Paragraph spacing:** Single
4. **Page numbers:** Required (use MS Word's automatic page number feature; do not insert manually)
5. **File name format:** *Category – Your Full Name – Submission Title* (example: Poetry – Kazi Nazrul Islam – Bidrohi)

Submission Instructions

1. **Submit your work as an email attachment to: bornovuv@gmail.com**
2. For Visual Art, Photography, Illustration, Comic Strips, Graphic Novellas, you should create a folder on Google Drive, upload the image(s) there and share the entire folder with বর্ন's email address with access as "Editor". The folder too should follow the "File name format".
3. Use the following subject line format: *Category – Your Full Name – Submission Title*
4. Each contributor may submit in maximum two (2) categories (in that case, 1 entry each category).
5. **Deadline: Submissions will be accepted from July 2 to August 31, 2025**

Important Notes

1. All submissions must be original, unpublished and free of plagiarism.
2. AI-generated content will not be considered.
3. Previously published works (in any format) will be disqualified.
4. Submissions that contain hate speech, personal attacks, defamatory content, political bias or any form of discrimination based on race, gender, religion, class or identity will be automatically rejected.
5. The editorial board reserves the right to decline any submission that violates these guidelines or compromises the values of respectful, responsible and thoughtful expression.
6. বর্ন acquires only the first serial publication rights of accepted work. Copyright is asserted on behalf of the author; all reprint rights (print or electronic) revert to the author upon publication, but we ask that you mention বর্ন: *Letters & Lives* as first publication appearance.

Hisham Mohammad Nazer

Editor-in-Chief

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