

IN THE SHIPYARDS OF DHAKA

Josef Bürgi

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SHIPBUILDING IN BANGLADESH HAS BECOME AN ESSENTIAL INDUSTRY IN RECENT YEARS. THERE ARE WELL OVER 100 SHIPBUILDING COMPANIES IN BANGLADESH, LOCATED MAINLY IN DHAKA, CHITTAGONG, BARISAL, AND KHULNA. BANGLADESH'S MOST SIGNIFICANT AND BEST-KNOWN SHIPYARD IS THE CHITTAGONG SHIP BREAKING YARD IN THE SOUTH OF THE COUNTRY, WITH 170 MILLION INHABITANTS.



A very large shipyard in Dhaka is located on the Buriganga River's banks, directly across Dhaka's old city. The best way to reach the shipyard is to cross the Buriganga River at Sadarghat and use one of the many small wooden boats for only a few takas. The shipyard is accessible only with the necessary contacts. It is very easy to look around and take photos here and there. The shipyard provides docks and equipment mainly for the repair and maintenance of large ships. However, workers in the shipyard also dismantle old ships and build new ships from scratch. The work is very strenuous and is done under minimal safety precautions. Many professionals are working on construction sites.

The pictures in the reportage show mainly painters painting the ships.

The workers are very friendly and courteous. They always have a smile for the visitors around, and sometimes the ship owners or shipyard managers greet the visitors with a handshake. A walk through the shipyard is always accompanied by monotonous and incessant hammering. Countless workers with hammers remove rust and old paint from the ship hulls. The constant hustle and bustle of the shipyard include metal cutting, welding, and painting. But there are other facilities as well, such as foundries for the ship's propellers and workstations for servicing the ship's engines. And, of course, there are the huge winches used to pull the big ships out of the Buriganga River and into the docks.

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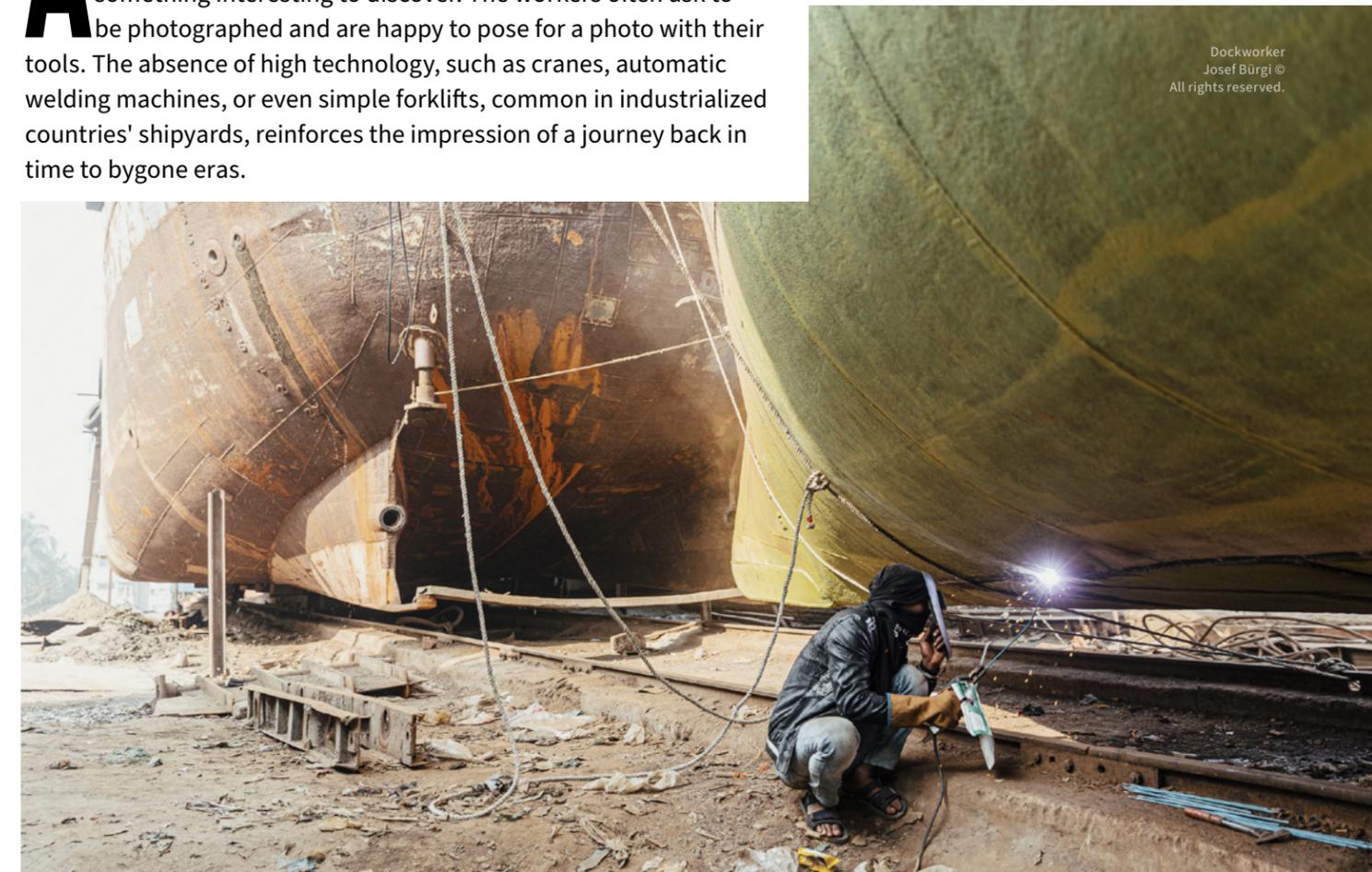
All in all, it is a pleasant experience to stroll through the shipyard and watch the many people at work, and there is always something interesting to discover. The workers often ask to be photographed and are happy to pose for a photo with their tools. The absence of high technology, such as cranes, automatic welding machines, or even simple forklifts, common in industrialized countries' shipyards, reinforces the impression of a journey back in time to bygone eras.



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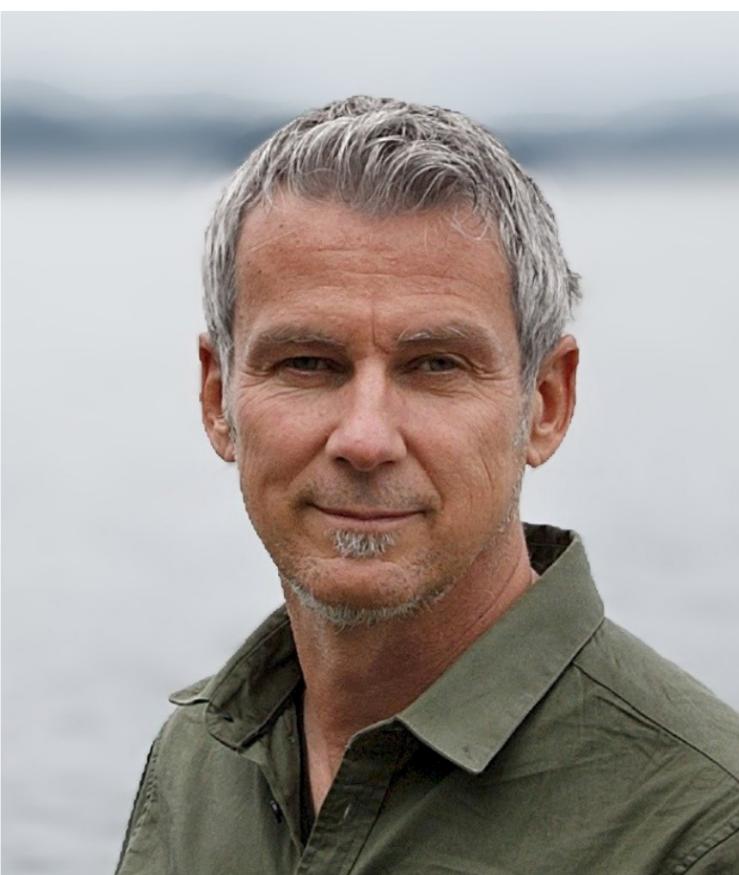
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Josef Bürgi

Born in 1965 in Stans, Switzerland, Joe Bürgi started around 2000 with photography. He studied engineering at the Bale Institute of Technology and now works full-time as a project and team leader for the local government. As a pure autodidact, he developed the knowledge by himself but also by studying the masters. His music photography, together with travel, have become two of his life's passions. His photography focuses on music, culture, landscapes, and wildlife, images that reflect a spatial and temporal journey through life. He seeks the quiet moments and the light in whatever context he finds himself. He is an eclectic photographer who enjoys diversity in his imagery. Hence his images range from travel to landscapes and portraits. He believes that photography can capture those inimitable moments and empower us to make a positive change in our world. Through his travels, he has developed his own photographic style.



COLORFUL PORTRAITS FROM PESHAWAR

Josef Bürgi

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Pakistan is one of the most beautiful, friendly, and welcoming countries in the world. It is a country with a rich cultural heritage and a vast range of tourist attractions to offer visitors. From the stunning mountain scenery to the ancient historical sites, there is something for everyone in Pakistan.

The British Backpacker Society has ranked Pakistan as the world's best destination for adventure travel, so if you're looking for an exciting and adventurous holiday, Pakistan is the perfect place to visit.

Portrait from Peshawar
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Pakistan is a land of adventure and nature, from the mighty foothills of the Karakoram in the north to the vast alluvial delta of the Indus River in the south. Trekking, mountaineering, white water rafting, jeep safaris in the mountains and desert, camel and yak safaris, trout fishing, and bird watching are just some of the activities that attract adventure and nature lovers to Pakistan.

Pakistan is endowed with rich and diverse flora and fauna. The high mountains of the Himalayas, Kara-Koram, and Hindu Kush with their alpine meadows and permanent snowline, the coniferous forests in the lower mountainous regions, the vast Indus plains merging into the great desert, the

coast and wetlands provide a vibrant diversity of vegetation and associated birdlife, both endemic and migratory.

Pakistan has rich and varied wildlife, which includes some of the world's rarest animals. The country is home to several large mammals, including the Asiatic lion, Bengal tiger, leopard, bear, rhinoceros, and elephant. There are also a wide variety of smaller animals, such as the mongoose, fox, jackal, weasel, otter, gazelle, and antelope.

Pakistanis are very friendly and humble people. They often like to have their picture taken and love to pose for a photo with friends. Always smiling!!!



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