

HTML Newspaper Recreation: Project Explanation

1. Code Structure Overview

The project is built as a single-file HTML5 document. To strictly adhere to the "no external CSS" constraint, all visual formatting—including layout, typography, and spacing—is applied using inline `style=""` attributes. The document follows a semantic hierarchy:

- **Root:** Standard `<!DOCTYPE html>` and `<html lang="en">`.
- **Body:** Sets the global "aged paper" background color (`#f4f1ea`) and Serif typography.
- **Main Container:** A `<main>` wrapper centered on the screen with a fixed maximum width (1000px) and a drop shadow to simulate the physical boundaries of a newspaper page.

2. Key Sections

- **The Masthead (`<header>`):** This section uses a float layout technique. The "Left Ear" (Volume/Price) floats left, the "Right Ear" (Weather) floats right, and the newspaper title (`<h1>`) sits inline-block in the center. A double-border style matches the aesthetic of the original *Daily Jang* layout.
- **The Lead Story (`<section>` & `<article>`):** The main headline uses high-contrast styling (white text on black background) to demand attention. The body text utilizes the CSS property `column-count: 2`, which automatically flows the text into two vertical columns, mimicking traditional print typesetting without complex grid systems.

- **The Media Grid (<table>):** The middle section, containing the "Nanha" photos and the "Nazli" sub-story, uses an HTML table. This ensures a rigid 3-column structure (Image – Text – Image) that maintains alignment regardless of screen width.
- **Footer (<footer>):** A semantic footer closes the document with publication details and copyright info, separated by a top border.

3. Design Decisions

- **Semantic Tags:** I utilized HTML5 semantic tags (<header>, <nav>, <article>, <figure>, <footer>) instead of generic <div> tags. This improves code readability and accessibility, defining the *purpose* of the content (e.g., using <figure> and <figcaption> for images and their captions).
- **Table vs. Divs:** While modern web design typically avoids tables for layout, I chose a <table> for the middle section. Since Flexbox and CSS Grid are best managed with external stylesheets/classes, a table provided the most robust way to align the three columns side-by-side vertically (vertical-align: top) using only inline styles.
- **Visual Authenticity:** I used Times New Roman to replicate the serif fonts used in pre-1990 typesetting. I also removed standard hyperlinks in the layout, as print newspapers do not have clickable links.

4. Challenges & Solutions

- **Challenge: Layout without External CSS.**
 - *Solution:* Managing layout solely with inline styles can be verbose and repetitive. I solved this by grouping related

elements (like the floating header panels) and applying consistent margins/padding directly to the parent containers to minimize code repetition on child elements.

- **Challenge: Text Wrapping & Columns.**

- *Solution:* Replicating the "newspaper flow" where text stops at an image or splits into columns is difficult in raw HTML. I utilized the column-count property for the main article to achieve the split-text look, and used a Table for the middle section to prevent the text from wrapping awkwardly around the images.

- **Challenge: Vertical Alignment.**

- *Solution:* Aligning the top of the images with the top of the text in the middle section was difficult using float. The table solution allowed me to use the valign="top" attribute (or style) to ensure a perfectly straight reading line across the page.