

HTML Newspaper Recreation — Code Structure Explanation

Akhbar-e-Khawateen / Women's Weekly, Lahore 1974

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1. Code Structure Overview

The file **index.html** (793 lines) is an HTML5-only recreation. All styling uses inline **style** attributes — zero external .css files or JavaScript. Semantic tags structure the document; nested **<table>** elements replicate the multi-column newspaper grid.

| Element | Lines | Purpose |
|-----------------------|---------|---|
| <header> | 27–80 | Masthead: name, tagline, date/price row (nested table inside) |
| <nav> | 83–96 | Section labels bar — Home Education Health Film ... |
| <main> Top <table> | 111–549 | 3-column layout: Left 28% / Center 44% / Right 28% |
| <main> Bottom <table> | 559–745 | 2-column layout: Mosque article (48%) Health article (52%) |
| <footer> | 750–793 | Editor info, address, copyright — table for 3-cell layout |

2. Key Sections Explained

A. <header> — Masthead (Lines 27–80)

Three stacked border rules (**6px top/bottom + 1px inner**) mimic vintage newsprint. The newspaper name uses **font-size:60px; font-weight:900; letter-spacing:5px**. A nested **<table>** creates the Vol / Date / Price three-cell row.

```
<header style="border-top:6px solid #111; border-bottom:6px solid #111;">
```

B. 3-Column Table Layout — Center Column (Lines 217–328)

The center **<td>** (44%) contains the lead headline, singer portrait (**<figure>** + **<figcaption>**), the purple circle element, and body text. All cells use **vertical-align:top** so columns align from the top edge.

```
<td style="width:44%; vertical-align:top; padding:0 12px; border-right:1px solid #777;">
```

C. Purple Circle — 'Ay Nasar' Badge (Lines 281–298)

The original newspaper's purple printed circle is recreated as a **<div>** with **border-radius:50%**, **background-color:#3b1f5e**, and **width:64%**. No image is needed — pure HTML and inline style only.

```
<div style="background-color:#3b1f5e; color:#fff; border-radius:50%; width:64%; text-align:center; padding:14px 10px;">
```

D. Images (4 total, all .png)

All four images live in the **images/** folder and use descriptive **alt** attributes. **filter:grayscale(100%)** is applied inline to every photo for the authentic black-and-white newsprint look. No **** tag is missing an alt attribute.

```

```

3. Design Decisions

| Decision | Reason |
|------------------------------|---|
| Tables for layout | Assignment requires ≥ 1 table; also historically authentic for 1990s-era newspaper HTML |
| Semantic tags throughout | <article> , <section> , <figure> etc. give meaningful structure beyond visual <div> s |
| Inline styles only | Satisfies the HTML-only constraint — zero .css or .js files in repository |
| background-color: #ede0c0 | Sepia/cream colour recreates aged newsprint without any image or CSS file |
| font-family: Times New Roman | Matches the serif typography used in traditional Pakistani newspaper printing |

4. Challenges Faced

Multi-column balance without CSS: Achieving stable 3-column layout using only **<table>** required explicit percentage widths (28%/44%/28%) and **vertical-align:top** on every **<td>**. Without this, cells default to middle alignment and columns break visually. **Purple circle reproduction:** The original newspaper's round ink badge was recreated using **border-radius:50%** with a width percentage — no image needed, fully HTML-only.