

HTML Newspaper Recreation Code Structure Explanation

Daily Jang, Karachi First Edition, October 14, 1947 | Zainab Khalid | Roll No: 22P-9061 | CS-4070
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1. Code Structure Overview

The HTML file follows a clean top to bottom HTML5 document structure. The page is organised into five major semantic regions. A header contains the masthead including the newspaper name, date, edition details, and original scan image. A nav bar lists the newspaper sections. A main block contains the full front page content. A footer contains publication and subscription information. All styling is applied through inline style attributes only. No external CSS files or JavaScript are used in the project.

Simplified document tree:

DOCTYPE html then html then head containing meta and title. Body then page wrapper div. Inside body are header, nav, main, and footer.

2. Key Sections Explained

Header Masthead

The header contains a top information strip with volume number, date, and price arranged using an inline flexbox div. The original newspaper scan is displayed as a centred image with a descriptive alt attribute. The large JANG title appears in an h1 tag with letter spacing and double border rules to recreate the classic broadsheet masthead design. A dark sub banner below carries the publication tagline.

Nav Section Navigation Bar

A dark brown navigation strip lists editorial sections such as National, Kashmir, Refugees, India, International, and Editorial. The nav element is semantically correct because it marks a navigation landmark. Screen readers and search engines recognise it as primary navigation.

Main and Six Column Table Article Layout

The main content first shows a full width lead headline in a section element. It then uses an HTML table with six td columns with percentage widths to recreate the six column broadsheet grid. Each column contains one or more article elements. Column separators use border right styling on td elements. This matches the original 1947 Jang layout which used dense text columns separated by thin rules.

Footer Publication Details

The footer includes the publisher name Mir Khalil ur Rahman, press address, subscription rate, and copyright information. A dark brown background with cream text visually separates it from the article content above.

3. Design Decisions

Tables versus Divs

The assignment requires at least one table for column layout. Modern layouts normally use CSS Grid or Flexbox but external stylesheets are not allowed. An HTML table with percentage widths achieves the required visual structure. The Market Rates box also uses a nested table because commodity prices are tabular data and suitable for table representation.

Semantic Tags

Article wraps each individual news story. Section groups related items. Header, nav, main, and footer define page level structure. This improves accessibility and helps screen readers navigate by landmarks.

Heading Hierarchy

H1 represents the newspaper name. H2 represents the main front page headline. H3 labels individual articles. H4 marks brief sub items. This hierarchy follows HTML5 best practices and ensures a clear document outline.

Aged Newsprint Aesthetic

The colour scheme reflects the appearance of old printed newspapers. Background and dark brown accents recreate a historical newspaper feel while remaining within inline style constraints.

4. Challenges and Solutions

Six Column Layout Without CSS

The original newspaper used a six column broadsheet grid. Since CSS Grid was not allowed, a single HTML table with six td elements and percentage widths was used to recreate the layout visually.

Translating 1947 Content

The original Urdu headlines were translated and rewritten in English. Historical events of October 1947 such as political developments in Kashmir, refugee conditions in Karachi, and international recognition were researched to ensure historical accuracy.

Validation and Compliance

The HTML file was validated using the W3C Markup Validator. All images include alt attributes. All major sections include HTML comments. Only inline styles were used. No external CSS or JavaScript was included.