



Mr. Ahmed Us Samad Chowdhury JP, FISMM, FCMI, FIH

Place of Residence: **Bath, South West**
Sector: **Media, Charity, Business**

One of Britain's most respected personalities of Bangladeshi origin is Ahmed Us Samad Chowdhury who came to Britain in 1972 to further his education. He was the first Asian Origin Student Union President in Bristol. In business, community development and media Mr Chowdhury has been a driving force for which he is much loved.

Mr Chowdhury is the Editor and Publisher of "Potrika", Britain's popular Bengali newspaper - published from London. Mr Chowdhury is also the Chairman of Channel S Television; a Bengali language broadcast media and one of the most watched ethnic channels in Europe.

A Fellow of the Institute of Sales Marketing Management, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management, and Fellow of the Institute of Hospitality Mr Chowdhury is the owner of the Award winning restaurant Rajpoot in Bath and a number of other restaurants in Bath and Bristol. Mr Chowdhury is also in the property business and trades as "London Property Partnership". In Bangladesh Mr Chowdhury is also a property developer (Paragon Property Ltd.) and currently

building 500 apartments for the ex-patriots in Sylhet. Also he is co owner of Kushiara Composite Knit Industries in Dhaka, Bangladesh. A 100% export orientated industry earning vital foreign currency for Bangladesh.

In 1988 as the Head of the Bangladesh Association (Bristol, Bath & West) and Community Integration in mind, Mr Chowdhury founded the Bangladesh Women's Group in Bristol and then in 1990 founded the Bangladesh House. This building is used as a drop in centre to get advice and information on housing, welfare etc. In 1993 he founded Bangladesh Centre in Bristol; this was aimed to cater for the needs of the Women's Group and Youth activities. In 1998 Mr Chowdhury started the project to establish South West's only purpose built mosque. Today Shahjalal Jame Mosque is complete, costing £1million. Mr Chowdhury serves as the Trustee of Bangladesh Association and Shahjalal Jame Mosque Trust.

Locally Mr Chowdhury raised funds for the Royal United Hospital and has helped numerous Charities. A Justice of Peace since 1991, he has served as a Governor at City of Bath College,

National Steering Committee Member for Hospitality Training Foundation to make NVQ/SVQ qualifications more accessible, National Advisor New Deal (Ethnic Minority Group). Mr Chowdhury is one of the Founders and Regional President of Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce; he played a vital part in establishing UK Bangladesh Education Trust, Founder Chairman of Britain-Bangladesh Friendship Society and is also involved with many national and International organizations, with a number of them he acts as an advisor. He is also a life member of The Commonwealth Judges and Magistrates Association.

In year 2000 Mr Chowdhury was the driving force in establishing the Immigration Advisory Service (IAS) office in Sylhet, Bangladesh (the only office outside Britain). Mr Chowdhury serves as the Chairman of the IAS - Sylhet Advisory Committee.

He helped found a Children's Hospital, Cyclone Shelter, Orphanage and a Hospital for the Disabled and Paralysed and many educational institutions in Bangladesh.