



Mr Ishaque Kajal

Place of Residence: **London**

Sector: **Media (Journalist)**

Ishaque Kajal was born in February 1948 in Brahmanusher, Kamalgonj, MaulviBazar in Bangladesh. His father is the late Mohammed Amjad Ullah and his mother is Saira Begum.

Mr Kajal completed a degree in Commerce at Modonmohon College in Sylhet in 1969, and it was while he was studying for this that he first got a taste for journalism. While writing for the college magazine, Mr Kajal was influenced and encouraged by the poet Delwar, Shamsul Karim Koyas and the late Mahmud Haque.

After participating in the Bangladesh war of liberation, Mr Kajal continued with his career as a journalist and writer. After writing a number of articles for a variety of magazines, he started to work for the Daily Sangbad, Weekly Jugoverly, Sylhet Samachar and the Weekly Khabar among others.

In 1993, Mr Kajal was appointed as a special correspondent for Sylhet on behalf of the Daily Banglabazar Potrika. During his time in this role, he received a reward for Correspondent of the Year, and this helped to cement his name as a major journalist in Bangladesh. This recognition enabled him to become more confident in his abilities, and consequently he was able to write articles exposing corruption in politics and on the plight of workers in the tea industry.

As a result of his fine work, Mr Kajal was able to get the job of Senior Staff Reporter for the weekly Janomot newspaper which is based in London. He still holds this role to this day.

He has also been an active member in a number of journalism based organizations. For example, he was an executive member of the Sylhet Press Club from 1985 to

1986 as well as President of the Kamalgonj Press Club. Currently, he is an Information and Research Secretary of the London Bangla Press Club.

Ishaque Kajal also has a keen interest in politics, and this too was kindled during his time at college. He was an active student politician and played a role in helping the labour movement in Bangladesh. Currently, he is the general secretary of the Bangladesh Workers Party UK, a member of the Unit Convener Gas Oil & Bondor Rokkha Committee UK and Vice President of the Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee UK.

Mr Kajal has had one research book published, in 2006, and another three are currently awaiting publication.

Ishaque Kajal got married in 1970 to Fatema Begum Rani, and they have three daughters and one son.