



Mr Ghulam Mortuza

Place of Residence: **London**

Sector: **Politics**

Former Councillor and former Mayor Ghulam Mortuza is more commonly known for being the first Bangladeshi Mayor for Tower Hamlets. He always been involved in and worked for the welfare of the community and politics.

Mr Mortuza completed his primary education in his home country of Bangladesh. He was born in the village of Narikeltola of Jaggannathpur Thana under Sunamgonj district. Ghulam Mortuza attended Mangalchandi Nishikanta High School and then went to Jaggannathpur High School. Mr Mortuza passed his SSC exams and came over to the UK in 1965 to join his late father at the age of sixteen. First Mr Mortuza completed an English language course; he then studied for B.Ed at Averyhill College and also obtained an MA in Politics and Government studies from Guildhall University.

In 1975 he started up his own business organisation named AM Fashion in East London. Later Ghulam Mortuza helped establish East Community School and got himself involved in actively promoting education to the Bangladeshi community. To bring about more

positive change to the Bangladeshi community Mr Mortuza formed the Parents-Teachers Association at Canon Burnet which consisted of parents and teachers. Subsequently he was then elected as parent governor for Canon Burnet Primary School. Again he supported the opening of another organisation named Jalabad Bangladeshi Parents Association in Tower Hamlets which he then became the founding secretary of.

Actively involved in addressing housing issues he established Tenant Association in the area of Spitafield in East London; furthermore he played a vital role in the anti-racism movement through Tower Hamlets Law Centre and Tower Hamlets Association for Racial Equality. Moreover Ghulam Mortuza launched a movement demanding the recruitment of Bilingual Teachers in Tower Hamlets schools and colleges, and as a result more and more bilingual teachers are being recruited into the teaching workforces. He also became the chairman of another organisation he floated named Bangladeshi Education and Career Services (BECS).

He has been involved in mainstream politics for a very long time, and first started off being a member of the Labour party in the Spitafield ward, he was also vice chairman of the Labour party in the Spitafield ward and chairman as well.

Ghulam Mortuza has been involved in many socio-welfare activities. In Bangladesh he founded the Gulbahar Girls School in his own area and named it after his mother. He visited Bangladesh when elected as the first Bangladeshi Mayor and assisted in the completion and development of roads including Jaggannathpur College road and Jagannathpur –Shibgonj-Fechirbazar road.

In 1996 he founded Tower Hamlets Parents Centre. In the following year he was nominated director and trustee of Spitafield Market Trust. He was an executive member of Tower Hamlets Law Centre, member of St Hilda's Community Centre and Oxford House, Kobi Nazrul School and Bangladesh Welfare Association.

Ghulam Mortuza married Aleya Mortuza and they are blessed with five daughters and one son.