



Mr Abul Kalam Azad Suton

Place of Residence: **West Sussex**
Sector: **Catering**

Born to Al Hajj Mohammed Badsha Miah and late Morthuza Khanam, Mr Abul Kalam Azad Suton was born in 1959 in Dighal Bak, Nabigonj Bangladesh. It was there where Mr Azad completed his primary education. He then completed his higher secondary education from Modhon Mohan College in Sylhet after which he graduated with a Degree from Sylhet Government Degree College. Mr Abul Kalam Azad then moved to the UK in 1983.

After his arrival here in the UK Mr Azad started by writing in different Bangladeshi newspapers, such as Janomot, Surma and Notun Din. Successively he started to bring out his own newspaper in co-operation with some of his Bangladeshi peers, this newspaper was named 'Sylheter Dak', of which he was the founder and editor. He then resigned from his position at the newspaper and set up a news agency in the UK, called the British Bangladesh News Agency and served as the Chairman of this organisation.

In 1984 within a year of his move to the UK, Abul Kalam Azad Suton established his own business, a restaurant named Shapla Tandoori. On 1986 he also opened the Badsha Indian Cuisine in Kent. In 1995 his restaurant empire grew further when he inaugurated Azad Bangladesh Cuisine in East Grinstead. Moreover in 1999 he established the now renowned Britannia Spice on a partnership



basis in Edinburgh. In the year 2007 Velvety Ginger was established by him in Crawley.

Mr Azad's other business interests include being a Director of Dreamland Amusement Park in Sylhet, he is also a Director of Valley City in Sylhet, as well as ABC Land and also Abashon Shopping complex, both located in Sylhet.

Mr AK Azad Suton is regularly occupied with community work. He is the founder and chairman of the Badsha Miah Education Kalayan Trust, a trust in place at Dighal Bak High School after his fathers name. He also funded the building of the Chandpur Alia Madrasa in Habiganj after his mothers name in 1999. In addition he is the founder and General Secretary of the UK Nabigonj Development Association in 1988. Furthermore he is the Press and Publication Secretary of Bangladesh Caterers Association and President of the

Kent region. He has remained vocal about subjects and issues concerning the interest of Bangladesh and British Bangladeshis.

Mr Azad is married to Zaheda Akter (Lipi) in 1988 and they have two daughters and one son; Fouzia Azad, Faizah Azad and Abul Esfar Azad, they are studying in different schools in Britain.

Abul Kalam Azad Suton has also managed to write a number of books in his spare time. His most recent publication, launched in 2006 was titled "Ekjon Kibria". He has also helped fund raise on several occasions for charity. These have included raising £7,000 in 2004 for those affected by the floods in Bangladesh. As well as raising some £8,000 in 2007 for victims of the Sidr Cyclone in Bangladesh. He has also been involved in many more charity initiatives of this nature.