



## Mr Sheikh Shahjahan Ahmed Tarafdar

Place of Residence: **Somerset**

Sector: **Community Relations**

Sheikh Shahjahan Ahmed Tarafdar is a well known personality in the Bengali community, and his last name 'Tarafdar' is well recognised by others. He was born into an respectable family in 1962, in the village of Ekatuna, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh. His father late Alhaj Shafiqur Rahman Tarafdar was involved in the catering business and was a community activist. Mr Tarafdar is a descendant for the famous Ouliya (Vaishnava Saint) Hazrat Sheikh Asgor Shah (Rad:).

Mr Tarafdar started his education at his local village school. He then progressed onto Mouvibazar P.T.E School. He completed his SSC at the Mouvibazar Govt. High School in 1979, and then his HSC in Moulvibazar Govt. College. He went onto obtain a BA degree from Jagannath University College in Dhaka and thereafter moved to the UK in 1986.

Mr Tarafdar has always had an interest in politics and still does today. Due to his personal interest in politics he became the president of the Bangladesh student league of Mouvibazar Govt. College in 1984. After that he became president of the Bangladesh student league of Moulvibazar district committee and was a member of the Bangladesh student league central committee. During his time in this role, a lot of development work took place in the college auditorium and student hostels. Between 1983 and 1984 he was an active member of the editorial board of the college magazine 'Sandipan'.



He was also a member of the managing committee at Ekatuna Govt. Primary School; in addition he was the industrial and social secretary of Bangabir Osmani Sriti Parishad. When he went on to studying in Dhaka at the Jagannath University College, he became the vice president of Moulvibazar Shomithi in 1985.

After settling in the UK he was involved in various other social and cultural organizations and took on many different positions such as becoming a convenor for the Bangladesh Caterers Association, South West region, a joint convenor of Moulvibazar College student reunion and a joint secretary for the Bangladesh student league silver Jubilee reunion. He was twice the general secretary and chairperson of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council South West region. Whilst being a big part of these organizations, he decided to become a school parent governor of St John's Junior School in Highbridge, Somerset and remained in his position for a long

time. At present, Mr Tarafdar is the general secretary of Moulvibazar Welfare Council, a joint treasurer of the Greater Sylhet Development Welfare Council UK. He is an active member of the Labour party U.K.

He is a successful business man. He began his career by taking over his father's restaurant as well as opening another two established restaurant. Since his student life, he has been heavily involved with different social activities and also in establishing schools, Madrasa's and Mosques in Bangladesh and in the UK.

Mr Tarafdar married Syeda Akika Banu in 1990 from the village of Narapati, West Habili (Shaheb Bari) Habigonj. She is the daughter of late Syed Mohibul Hassan and granddaughter of the Zamidar (Landlord) late Syed Md Idris. They have four children called Sheikh Tasmia Jannat Tarafdar, Sheikh Ishmam Ahmed Tarafdar, Sheikh Ishraq Ahmed Trafdar and Sheikh Ra'eesah Jannat Tarafdar.