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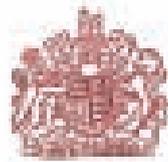
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BUCKINGHAM PALACE

4th September, 2013.

Dear Mr. Karim,

The Queen has asked me to thank you and the Editor of British Bangladeshi Who's Who for your kind letter regarding the 2013 edition.

Her Majesty appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing as you did and, in return, sends her warmest best wishes to all those who are featured in, and involved with, this year's publication.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher Sandamas".

Christopher Sandamas
The Chief Clerk to The Queen



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA
www.number10.gov.uk

I am delighted to support this year's edition of British Bangladeshi Who's Who, which showcases the brightest and best of Britain's vibrant Bangladeshi community.

Once again this publication highlights those who have excelled in business, entrepreneurship, public service, entertainment, politics, science, the arts, sport and literature. The list of extraordinary talent just goes on and on.

I'm sure the success stories within these pages will inspire the next generation of British Bangladeshis who will take this young and fast growing community from strength to strength.

As well as congratulating all those who appear in this year's list, I'd like to congratulate Britain's Bangladeshi community and say thank you for all you do for our country. This Government is on the side of hard-working families who want to get on in life and do the right thing. These are values that I know are shared by British Bangladeshis across the country.

It gives me tremendous pride to be Prime Minister of a country where people of any ethnicity or background can and do make a positive difference to society. And I think the British Bangladeshi Who's Who illustrates this over and over again.

David Cameron
Prime Minister



MAYOR OF LONDON

Abdul Karim
Editor in Chief
British Bangladeshi Who's Who 2013
Bangla Mirror
Unit 2, 60 Hanbury Street
London E1 5JL

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Date: 27 AUG 2013

Dear Mr Karim

Thank you for your letter of 28 June requesting a message for the British Bangladeshi Who's Who 2013, which I am pleased to provide as follows:

"It is a pleasure to provide a message of support for the British Bangladeshi Who's Who 2013. Since the launch of this excellent publication, Londoners, especially those of Bangladeshi heritage, have a resource which provides invaluable information about the Bangladeshi community in this country. There is little doubt that this publication underpins the significant contribution London's Bangladeshi community has made to the capital's economic, cultural and social affairs over many years.

I would also like to salute the efforts of all those who have worked tirelessly to compile this publication, and hope that it continues to educate, inform and inspire."

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Boris Johnson'.

Boris Johnson
Mayor of London



High Commission for the People's Republic of Bangladesh
London, United Kingdom



High Commissioner

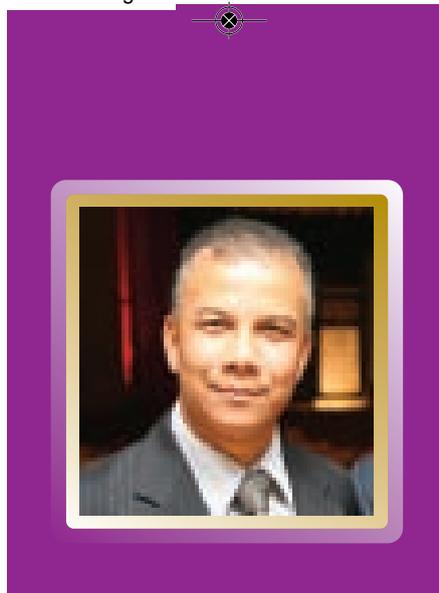
Message from the High Commissioner

I am pleased that the 2013 edition of the *British Bangladeshi Who's Who* is being launched soon. Credit goes to the dedicated team behind the publication that this essential directory has now become a regular publication of the British Bengali diaspora, recognising the most accomplished and enterprising within the community in the UK. This is a useful resource for particularly the new generation of British-Bangladeshis to assist in their establishing links and networks in a diversity of areas ranging from politics to business to tourism, public service, the arts, culture, science etc.

Bangladesh is proud of her expatriates living in the UK, and recognises their continued engagement in the economic and social realms of the mother country. It is heartening that the British-Bangladeshi community has come a long way in redefining its place and presence in the multicultural Britain of today. They contribute significantly to the British economy and have been a pivotal bridge between Bangladesh and the UK. They are central in the pursuit of our bilateral relations with the UK.

I am confident that, as we celebrate the accomplishments of the British Bangladesh community, we can rightly recognise the positive role that such seminal publications play in setting standards to measure up to, and inculcating confidence in the community about its capacity to excel.


(Mohamed Mijarul Quayes)



Foreword from the **Editor in Chief**

Each year the publication with the support of our wonderful community has improved. We have unearthed some real gems in this the 6th edition.

This years publication is even more exciting and refreshing and like the 2012 edition, we have three separate sections in the publication: awards winners, new profiles and existing profiles.

As the Editor in Chief it makes me extremely proud that our community continues to thrive and we are contributing in a valuable manner to the fabric of society.

I hope you enjoy reading the profiles of the best of the British Bangladeshi community.

Mohammed Abdul Karim (Goni)
7th October 2013



Foreword from the Editor

I have two passions in my professional life; the law and the British Bangladeshi Who's Who. Both are inspirational and both bring out the best in people in my humble view.

This is the 6th edition and dare I say the best edition to date.

The British Bangladeshi Who's Who is original and one of a kind. Others may come and go, but it is my belief that the original always has a special place.

The community has taken this publication as their own and indeed it is not a publication produced by one or two individuals or even a team, it is a publication produced, showcased and supported by the whole community and that makes it unique.

I must thank all those who have gone that extra length in terms of support, including the sponsors, who every year provide immeasurable assistance allowing this publication and the gala dinner that follows to be successful.

Enjoy the read, as I certainly have.

Shahadoth Karim
Barrister-at-Law
5.x.2013



WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2009

- Anwar Choudhury
- K.M. Abu Taher Choudhury
- Shelim Hussain MBE
- Mrs Shamim Azad
 - Enam Ali MBE
- Ahmed Us Samad Chowhury
- Dr. Hasanat M. Husain MBE
 - Muquim Ahmed
- Barrister Anis Rahman OBE JP
 - Dr Mahfuzur Rahman

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2010

- Abdul Gaffar Choudhury
- Miss Rushanara Ali MP
 - Sapnara Khatun
- Dr. Wali Tasar Uddin MBE JP DBA FRSA
 - Amin Ali
 - Sir Fazle Hasan Abed



WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2011

- Lutfur Rahman
- Dr. Nazia Khanum OBE
- Syed Samadul Haque
- Dr. Muhammad Abdul Bari MBE
 - Mr Naufal Zamir
 - Muhammed Siraj Ali
 - Monir Ahmed
 - Al-Haj M Noor Miah

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2012

- Iqbal Ahmed OBE
 - Ragib Ali
 - Lisa Aziz
- Amirul Choudhury
- Mr Nur-ur Rahman Khandaker Pasha
 - Zakir Khan
 - Sufi Miah



BRITISH BANGLADESHI
WHO'S
WHO
2013

Award Winners
2013



Capt. Tasbirul Ahmed Choudhury

Sector:
Aviation/Business

Capt. Tasbirul Ahmed Choudhury was born in much respected family of Chandborang, Choudhury Bari, in Biswanath Sylhet, his family is having background of over 700 years in the village of Chandborang.

Capt. Tasbirul Ahmed Choudhury is son of Late Kamar Uddin Ahmed Choudhury and Late Begum Jahanara Choudhury, He went to United Kingdom at the age of 11 with his parents, after completed o-levels from Fort Loton High School, Kent, UK and A-Levels from Hackney College, (Under London University) Uk. Capt. Choudhury decided to become professional Airline Pilot, in 1989-90 he obtained British PPL & went to USA Florida, for further study for Commercial Pilot License & Airline Transport Pilot License, he graduated the ATP (The highest License for Pilot's) in 1996. He obtained several prestigious flying licenses from various authorities around the world.

These include ATPL from Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, ATPL from FAA (USA), PPL, IMC from UK. He was also undertaken rigorous training and successfully completed Training as Captain including Airbus 310-300, MD-83, DASH-100/300 (as route training instructor & examiner as DCP-A). ATR- 42-320, as Captain, L-410-UVP-E-9 as Captain & Instructor, Y-12-11, PA-30-200, PA-31-325, PA-34, PA-28-200 & 181, C-172, C-152, PA-38. He has flown over 6500 hours as Pilot in Command. He was also able to acquire vast experience in the field of General Aviation flights and Airlines. He joined Southern Aero Club at Shoreham, Sussex, UK & USA in

1990 and flew with business flights throughout UK and Europe from 1990 to 1993. Later, he moved to the USA and joined Global Air Transport & Choice Aeronautical Academy, Orlando, Florida USA in December, 1993 and flew as Charter Pilot throughout Florida and Bahamas till February 1996. Then he decided to move back to homeland and joined as a Captain of Y-12-11 Aircraft at Aero Bengal Airlines Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 1996 (The first Private Airline of Bangladesh). Later he joined as Deputy Chief Pilot & Airline Training Pilot for L-410 aircraft at Air Parabat in Dhaka, Bangladesh. In September 2001, he joined GMG Airlines, Dhaka, Bangladesh as Chief of Flight Safety and Route Training Instructor for DASH 8 Aircraft, until start of his own venture, which is now the largest and most successful airline in the country-United Airways (BD) Ltd. United Airways started with only one 37 seater aircraft. In just six years of Operation & Under his very able leadership the airline is now having 11 (Eleven) Aircraft & operating in 8 (Eight) International routes & all the Domestic routes of Bangladesh. Today United Airway is the first & only Airline in the Capital Market of Bangladesh, and the largest company in the country in terms of number of share holders.

Since first flight of United on 10th July 2007, United Airways has achieved various prestigious awards, Development for Bangladesh Council at the House of Commons London for best Investment by the Bangladeshi British Expatriates-2010. United Airways also received "Deshar Kagoj Business Award-2007", "Begum Rokeya Shining Personality Award-2007", "Arthakantha Business Award-2008, 2011, 2012 and 2013" in Airline Sector, "Business Express Business Award-2009", EBL-Monitor Domestic Airline of the Year 2010", "NRB Investment of the Year 2012", "Business Asia Most Respected Company Award-2012, 2013" and "Sylhet Ratna Foundation Award 2013".

After successful completion of United Airways, he started new venture of Aviation Training Academy "TAC Aeronautical Academy". The academy will help the airline and the country to overcome the constant shortage of pilots, engineers, cabin crew and other professionals.

Mr Khondker Aminul Haq

Sector: Media (Journalism)

Khondker Aminul Haq, better known as Badsha is the Executive Member of Bangladesh Journalist Association as well as the Commonwealth Journalist Association UK. Born in Kushtia, Bangladesh. Badsha has come from a cultural and political family. His father was a lawyer and his elder brother was a journalist, actor and freedom fighter. His other brothers are professional. He completed his education in Bangladesh before he was forced to come to England after the assassination of Bangobhaundhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Mr Aminul Haq Badsha completed his MA in Sociology from Dhaka University and graduated from prison. He was arrested for his involvement in student politics. In England Mr Haq completed a Masters and diploma in social work. During his student life, Badsha was actively involved in student politics, and was against the Pakistani military regimes General Ayub Khan. Badsha spent time in various prisons due to his involvement in politics. After his release from Jessore Jail, Badsha took admission in Law and Sociology at Dhaka University in 1963. During his prison life Badsha came into contact with prominent and intellectual personalities. Aminul Haq Badsha believes in social justice. He was organising secretary of the then East Pakistan student League and General Secretary of Iqbal Hall of Dhaka University. He actively participated in the anti Ayub struggle. Furthermore, he was a freedom fighter in 1971.

Badsha was founder of Bangladesh Liberation Radio Shadin Bangladesh Beter Kendro in Mujib Nagar. He was also director of External Publicity Division of Bangladesh Mission, Mujib Nagar. He was appointed press secretary to the father of the nation in 1969 after he was released from Agartala Mamla.

After arriving in the UK, Badsha continued his involvement in journalism.

He is the correspondent of number national daily newspapers in India, Bangladesh and England, including ATN Bangla, which is an international TV channel.

Mr Haq is married with two children, a son and a daughter. He is committed to honest journalism and stands up for what he believes in. He will be remembered for his role in journalism and politics. He has suffered at the hands of the Pakistan military and was also tried absentia in October 1971 and given 14 years imprisonment. Badsha has worked for the British Civil Service, Asian unemployment project, and also as a social worker in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. He has written four books and has acted in several Bengali films. He has 5 books on the way to being published by Moula Brothers Publishers in Dhaka.





Sabirul Islam

Sector: Entrepreneur

Sabirul Islam, a young entrepreneur from the age of just 14, a global motivational speaker having spoken at over 778 events worldwide and author of the bestselling books *The World at Your Feet* and *Young Entrepreneur World*, with the latter having launched in February 2012.

With Sabirul becoming a junior trader at 16 and his inspiring books selling over 100,000+ copies to date, which have been published in multiple languages including Spanish & Bangla. Sabirul launched his Teen-Trepreneur board game at 18, to educate young people about business, which has sold to over 650 schools in the UK and in 14 countries worldwide, which is now used as a pivotal part of the business studies curriculum in those countries.

By 20, Sabirul set up Teen-Speakers; a speaker's bureau consisting of 39 of the world's most successful and influential young people, all under 25 striving to empower youth worldwide with a message that 'Generation Y' has what it takes to be successful. Which led to Sabirul's new book to be published in February 2012, titled 'Young

Entrepreneur World' interviewing 25 of the Teen-Speakers, sharing their ideas of 'what it takes to be successful' on a personal, business and political scale.

At 21, Sabirul's desire to leave behind a legacy inspired him to launch the 'Inspire1Million Campaign' with a vision to inspire, engage and transform the lives of million people to develop a positive mindset and approach in life, with a strong focus on enterprise and entrepreneurship. The Inspire1Million campaign has led Sabirul to deliver 777 events so far since May 2011 in 26 countries, with 63 international visits with attendance of 890,145 people worldwide so far.

The campaign has mostly been delivered in Africa, Asia & Latin America.

Sabirul's global presence has now landed him his own 13 week TV series in South Africa. A youth business TV show to encourage growth in entrepreneurship across Africa. Which will now be produced in Bangladesh.

Now having just turned 23, Sabirul is a regular columnist for the Prothom Alo 'Swapno Nie' article in Bangladesh.

Sabirul's passion is to inspire millions of people around the world, sharing the message that 'money isn't all too difficult to make in modern day society. The real challenge is to be able to make a difference.' Encouraging people to believe in living a life with purpose, meaning and valuing 'legacy.'

Mr Alhaj Mohammed Rais Miah is a successful businessman and Community worker and is the current Chairman of Masjid-E-Usman (RA) in Walsall, and also the Chairman of KGDS High School in Suratpur, Usmani Nogar, Bangladesh.

In 2008, Mr Miah was recognised for his involvement in Business and Community at the British Bangladeshi League awards ceremony.

Born in Bangladesh, Mr Miah arrived in the UK in 1969 aged fourteen.

Mr Miah completed his high School education in the UK and continued on to further education and gained a Diploma in Business and Accounting. Whilst completing his studies, Mr Miah worked part time as a waiter and gained valuable skills and knowledge of the industry.

This helped Mr Miah to open his first establishment in 1978 in Brierley Hill called the Rose of Bengal which was an instant success and consequently opened the Tandoori Mahal in Stafford. Mr Miah recognised the demand in the market for Indian Food at the time which later led to opening many more Restaurants in the UK.

During the eighties there was an influx of young unskilled Bangladeshis arriving in the UK who only had the option to work in a factory or a Restaurant. Mr Miah recognised their potential and had the privilege of training many of these young men, some later went on to become business partners or buyers. Mr Miah is still involved in the Restaurant industry; however, the property industry is also high on Mr Miah's agenda. Mr Miah has also been an active member of the Bangladeshi community in the midlands area for the last twenty years, helping with the Bangladesh Youth Organisation where he served as a secretary.

He is also Advisor for the Bangladeshi Progressive Society and Asst Secretary of Birmingham Press Club. In addition Mr Miah is currently serving as the Treasurer for the Staffordshire and Black Country Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs and Membership secretary for the British Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce, Midlands Region. Mr Miah is also serving as an advisor to Balagonj and Usmaninogor Gorib Kollan Trust and Bangla Kagoj Newspaper.

Through his successful Restaurant chain Mr Miah is regularly raising money for victims of natural disasters like the Pakistan Earthquake, Tsunami and the Bangladesh Cyclone. Mr Miah also raises money for other causes such as Chernobyl's Childrens, International Eye Saver and Children in Need.

Mr Miah also Sponsors local Sporting Clubs.

Mr Alhaj Mohammed Rais Miah is married and has been blessed with six sons and three daughters and five grandchildren.

Through his life, Mr Miah has demonstrated hard work and willingness to help others, which he thinks is a good recipe to success.



Mr Alhaj Mohammed Rais Miah

Sector:
Catering, Property and Community



Mr Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Nasir)

Sector:
International Entrepreneur

Mr. Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Nasir), the Chairman & Managing Director of Al Haramain Group of Companies, is a highly experienced, international businessman with diverse interests around the world in banking, healthcare, hospitality and aviation. As a social organiser and a community leader, Mr Rahman is also the founder president of the Bangladesh Business Council in Dubai.

From a very modest beginning, Mr. Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Nasir) has today emerged as one of the most successful international Bangladeshi entrepreneurs. Based in Dubai, his journey to success is a source of inspiration to many in the Bangladesh diaspora especially those engaged in business.

Nasir attributes his impressive and remarkable achievements to his vision, hard work, carefully planned strategy, realistic targets and proper management at every stage.

Born in Sylhet in 1958, he had his school education in Sylhet and graduated with an Arts degree. He then joined the family business in Saudi Arabia, Al Haramain Perfumes established in 1970. Mr Rahman mastered the trade very quickly and pursued a vision of expansion that saw the company grow exponentially, establishing state of the art factories and outlets across the Middle East.

Al Haramain has grown under his leadership and is spread all over Middle East and across the globe in countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Singapore, Malaysia, Bangladesh, UK & USA. Over the years, the company has produced a range of products and created outstanding blends to suit varying moods, needs, trends, occasions and personalities. He established many sister concerns, all under Al Haramain Group, such as Al Haramain Trading L.L.C in the Deira City Centre, Dubai; Oud Al Haramain in the Al Ghurair Centre, Dubai and a branch called Noor Al Haramain Trading L.L.C in Deira, Dubai. Mr Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Nasir) has also opened Al Halal Perfume Industry L.L.C and Al Halal Perfumes L.L.C in the U.A.E to cater to the fragrance needs of the mass market in the UAE and in the Middle East Countries.

To capture the European perfume markets, he has also founded another sister company, Rich & Ruitz, in Paris, France. He also opened branches in Malaysia and Singapore.

Mr Rahman's success in the highly competitive sector of perfume provided him with the skills needed to be a success in other industries. He diversified his business interest to include banking, healthcare, educational institutions, tea estates, and hospitality & aviation sectors.

Organisations that Mr Rahman is currently involved with in various senior roles include: founder director of NRB Bank Ltd; Ex-sponsor/Director of Al Arafah Islami Bank Ltd; Director of AIBL Capital Market Services; Director of the United Airways (BD) Ltd; Director & CEO of TAC Aviation Ltd; chairperson of Al Haramain Tea Co Ltd; founder president of Bangladesh Business Council (BBC) in Dubai; and trustee of the University of Asia Pacific.

Mr Rahman is also Chairman of a new hospital being constructed in Sylhet - Al Haramain Hospital Pvt Ltd to provide better health care services to those in need. He is a trustee of the Beani Bazar Cancer Hospital which provides better treatment and care facilities to cancer patients in Bangladesh. He is an important supporter of the Aviation industry in Bangladesh. Under TAC Aviation Ltd, he has set up a Flying Club in Sylhet to train pilots and crews and reverse the shortage of qualified staff in the aviation industry.

Baroness Manzila Uddin

Sector:
Politics



In 1988, Baroness Uddin became the first Bangladeshi woman councillor in UK, representing Shadwell Ward in Tower Hamlets. She is a pioneer, of women's work. She is an activist and campaigner for social justice, human rights with particular focus on empowerment of women. This led her to working in Local Government, subsequently becoming a councillor and elected as Deputy Leader of Tower Hamlets council in 1992.

In recognition for her contribution to the community and advancement of women's rights, Baroness Uddin was appointed by the Queen to become the first Bangladeshi and Muslim to enter the House of Lords in 1998.

Baroness Uddin began her activism inspired by the movement in late 70's against the fascist activities in Brick Lane. She became involved in Labour led community coalition countering racism. Consequently immersing in the anti racist movement of the 80's amongst a handful leading women, which eventually saw the transformation of the East End of London. She led alongside contemporaries, many campaigns which resulted in increase equity in the provision of healthcare, education and housing for residents of Tower Hamlets.

With her friends and colleagues she set up the Jagonari, the UK's first purpose built Asian women's education and training centre as well as contributing to the development of several community led NGOs many of which over the decades improved opportunities and access to services as well as jobs, particularly for women. During her term as deputy leader of Tower Hamlets Council, she led with her colleagues changes to the council's policies to 'reflect the community' within its workforce.

As a member of the House of Lords, Baroness Uddin has worked on the Select Committee on European Affairs and chaired several

government Task Forces, leading the work on domestic violence and forced marriage. She was also asked by then Prime Minister to chair the work with women on Community Cohesion and Preventing Extremism which enabled her to travel across many parts of UK as well as Middle East, Europe and USA.

As the chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Bangladesh, in 2004 and 2008 she assisted the Disaster Emergency Response Committee, launching in the Parliament, their fundraising campaign, inviting amongst others Christian Aid, Save the Children Fund, Oxfam, involving the leading Muslim Charities to respond to the disastrous flood and cyclone in Bangladesh.

In 2008 she was asked to Chair of the Black, Asian and minority Ethnic Women Councillors Taskforce, a cross party initiative set up by the Government. In her role as Chair, Baroness Uddin set out and successfully securing the commitment of the Prime Minister and the Opposition Leaders to change the face of political institutions and address the gross underrepresentation of minority women in public life with evident success.

Professionally, over a decade she worked in Newham Social Services. More recently with Addaction led the Zurich International funded, Breaking the Cycle Project which worked successfully across UK, with families affected by drugs and alcohol.

Baroness Uddin has served as a non executive director of Carton television, Board member of Autism Speak UK, Patron of Orbis International, Student Partnership Worldwide, London Black Women's Health Project, Institute of Speech and Language Therapy, Bethnal Green and Victoria Park Housing Association, Women's Housing Forum, Women's Aid, Brit-Bangla and The Dame Vera Lynn Trust. She is blessed with five children, three daughter in laws and three grand sons.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI
WHO'S
WHO
2013

NEW ENTRIES
2013



Emon Ahmed

Sector:
Legal

Emon is one of the youngest profile holders on the Bangladeshi Who's who portfolio but is by no means the least accomplished one.

Emon attended a very well established independent school and went on to obtain a BSc honours degree in Business and finance as well as an LLB in Law from Queen Mary University London.

Post Graduation Emon was head hunted to work in the City for a reputable Real Estate investment house where he gained recognition for his talent in the development sector and commercial structuring division. Emon has a wealth of knowledge from dealing with UK based blue chip firms and overseas investors alike. Since 2012 Emon has Joined Adams Solicitors a well established Law firm in which he practices in the Litigation department specialising in Commercial and property disputes. Clients would describe Emon as a "sharp, commercially minded advisor"

Emon has an extremely hands on approach to his own family businesses namely Tower Tandoori Restaurant which is part of the wider Tower Hospitality group which has been established since 1978. Emon and his brothers Suhel Ahmed and Rashel Ahmed also run a well established property company Tower Real Estate Ltd which has been growing for over 3 generations. Emon is most proud of his Grandfather Haji Israaf Ali who was one of the first Bengali Property Entrepreneurs in the UK he is ever grateful for the foundations he lay some 40 years ago.

Emons Father Haji Shab Uddin is a prominent member of the Bengali Community and is currently the CEO of The Beani Bazaar Cancer Hospital. Both Emon and the family wish to establish themselves further in the Business and property market in years to come.



Saif Ahmed

Sector:
Director, Simplecall Business

Graduated from Queen Mary University of London in 1997 in Civil Engineering and Business Management. Subsequently went on to study IT Networks and MBA.

Initially started career in Civil Engineering but then cross-trained into IT and Networking , working within various verticals such as Media, Transportaation, Banking and the Education Sector in senior management positions. By 2003 went on to create own company "London Systems", providing IT security, management and fingerprint technology solutions to the UK Education sector, which at the time was one of the first companies in the world to do so for the Education sector. London Systems was subsequently sold to a major Plc within the UK for faster growth. Saif also spent some time managing medium sized construction projects in the UK.

Since 2012, Saif has joined Zamir Telecom and is now one of the diectors overseeing the growth of the business arm within the UK B2B sector. The company's portfolio of products include IP telephony, broadband, wholesale mobile and call centre services to UK businesses.



Jamal Ahmed

Sector:
Education, Skills & Training

Jamal Ahmed was born in Moulvibazar, Bangladesh in 1974 and currently resides in London. He is the eldest son of Alhaj Kahlil Miah and Mrs Minara Begum.

Currently he is Managing director of Hamlets Training Centre .Obtaining a first class in MSc in Physics Jamal joined Bangladesh Civil Service and worked as a lecturer of Physics both in Sylhet MC College and Moulvibazar Govt College in Bangladesh.

Jamal came to the UK in 2004 under the Commonwealth Scholarship while he was a lecturer in MC College. He obtained his English Language Teaching Qualification CELTA from University of Cambridge and worked as an ESOL teacher in Greenwich Community College and London Guildhall College.

Jamal started his career as a customer service officer and worked at GMG and Emirates Airlines in Bangladesh. For his outstanding achievement Jamal was awarded best customer service officer of the year in 2001.

Prior to becoming a businessman, Jamal had been working as a senior officer in London Borough of Camden. Having worked in the UK and Bangladesh Jamal accumulated his skills and experience and set up Hamlets Training Centre in 2011. As a believer to turn challenges into opportunities Jamal first started his training centre with one laptop and a desk in a small office room in Hanbury Street in East London. Accredited by the British Accredited Council (BAC) Hamlets Training Centre is now approved by many British Awarding Bodies including EDI, EMD, Trinity College, City & Guilds and Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance to offer courses in Health & Safety, Food Safety in Catering, First Aid, Fire Safety, Personal Licence, Customer Service and English Language

Courses (ESOL). Hamlets Training Centre has been working as a strong partner to deliver training for the Barts and NHS, Ocean Somali Community, St. Hildas Community Trust, Deafroots and many other organisations.

Alongside his professional career Jamal has been serving as Trustee of 'BagBooks' and Barts and NHS London . He is also a resident director of EastEnd Homes in Tower Hamlets and a parent governor of Stepney Green Coat School in East London.

Jamal is married to Ayesha Choudhury who has graduated from Westminster University and is working for London Borough of Tower Hamlets. As a father of his son Azhar, aged 7 and daughter Zara, aged 2, Jamal is committed to work for the British Bangladeshi Community.



Mr Joynal Abedin

Sector:
Media

Mr Joynal Abedin was born in 1980 in Dular Bazaar, Chattak sun-smgonj ,Sylhet Bangladesh. He is the son of late Ayub Ali. He is married to Mrs farah abedin and have twins sons and one daughter. He currently resides in Birmingham.

Mr Abedin completed his primary higher education in Bangladesh in 2004, he then came to UK and joined first solution as a marketing manager. He has also worked for BBC, ITV, West Country channel and Bangla Mirror. In 2006-2007 he became the chairman of Banglalink Limited and Joytel international calling service.

Mr Abedin is also involved with a charity called- Greater Sylhet public claim association and founder of Udoyan, Somajkollan Songstha.

Anfor Ali**Sector:**
Hospitality

Ali anfor the eldest son of hajji Muhammad ali and shomtera khatun came to the UK in 1980 as a young boy along with his three younger brothers.

From a young age Ali had high ambitions a general thirst and desire to be involved in helping his local and wider community.

After completing a secondary education and a further year at Tower Hamlets college he started working in an Indian restaurant as a waiter. With his challenging mindset within 2 years of hard work and adherence he became the restaurant manager at the age of 19 and went on to open his very own restaurant by the age of 20! "The golden bengal".

Ali's diverse and reflective thinking lead him to a change of career after several years as a restaurateur and in 2000 he started working for stagecoach east London as a bus operator.

Ali's zealous character dedication and endless passion helped him to become the founder and secretary general of Hind Grove culture and community association and also the director of the most prestigious venue in Tower Hamlets the Regents Lake banqueting venue.

As well as holding this full time occupation Ali makes time to meet the needs of his wife three teenage daughters and two active sons along with his own hobbies playing badminton and football.

Ali's charitable work and warmth has lead him to be a well recognised member of the community.

Syed Mamun Ali**Sector:**
Catering

Syed Mamun Ali is a British Bangladeshi and is one of the most successful young and well established businessmen in Northampton. Mr Ali was born in 1975 in Moulovi Bazar Dharkhapon, son of Late Al Hajj Syed Abdul Wahid and Zubaida Begum Chowdhury. His father was a respected businessman in Moulovi Bazar. Mr Ali is amongst twelve children; the youngest of seven brothers and five sisters. He was brought up in a big family with traditional and business background. His entire brothers are well established businessman in Moulovi Bazar.

Mr Ali also a high profile and integral membership secretary of BCA East Midland Region, Advisory Member of Kettering Muslim Association, Member of Britain Bangladeshi Community, Member of BBBF and MDC. He has supported the development of Mosques, Madrassas and other charity projects in Northamptonshire and his parental village in Moulovi Bazar, Sylhet.

Mr Ali studied in Bangladesh, where he received his school, college and University qualifications, obtaining a MBA in Business Management. Throughout his academic life he was heavily involved in extra-curricular activities such as student politics, and establishing voluntary organisations.

When Mr Ali arrived to the UK, he pursued a career in the restaurant industry. He is the CEO of Kingsthorpe Spice, having established it in 2005. Due to his contribution, dedication and service, Kingsthorpe Spice has now become a renowned establishment in Northampton. In 2010, he founded Feast World Buffet restaurant in Kettering, Northamptonshire. Feast World Buffet was selected as the most loved business in Kettering by the local people in 2012. Mr Ali's has other businesses in Bangladesh, including Mamun brothers, Mamun Oil business, Grocery house, Mamun Private Hospitals; one of the top hospitals in Moulovi Bazar, Sylhet.

Throughout the year this hospital provides a free medical treatment and medicine to the poor people

In his personal life, Mr Ali prefers a simple living style. He is very polite in his dealings and is very keen in helping people. He has a wide range of interests, including reading, gardening and travelling. Mr Ali is married to Tamanna Akter and is blessed with a daughter, Alisha, and a son, Wasif. His family currently reside in Northampton.



Nadia Ali

Sector:
Media

Last year Nadia made a transition from live tv to live radio on the BBC Asian Network. Nadia's show is aired every Sunday evenings on the BBC Asian Network, connecting the community with events in the UK, inviting special guests & holding discussions. She also brings the latest news, entertainment & fresh beats of Bangladeshi music and culture!

Alongside Nadia's media career, she was employed as a Bank Manager in 2008 for one of the largest retail banks in the UK. Since then Nadia qualified as a Barrister in 2012 and is currently a member of Lincolns Inn.

Nadia Ali began her media career 8 years ago on a live Children's TV programme, which was beamed into 1000's of Asian households across UK & Europe. Nadia's media career has always been defined by her love for Bangladesh & passion for the Bangladeshi culture. Nadia has hosted many prestigious award ceremonies & talent shows across the UK on a number of Asian TV Channels, which include B4U, Channel S, ATN Bangla & NTV.

She also hosted on an international platform which was the first ever international reality show in Bangladesh in 2011, following the journey of 10 young adults from across the world in the search for their Forgotten roots.

Since then she has been involved in many community projects in the UK and Bangladesh and has recently been appointed as a Director for "British Bangladesh Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs". Nadia has been recognized and awarded by many organisations for her involvement in the community.



Akhlaq Choudhury

Sector:
IT

entrepreneurs on how to build a sustainable business and helping them setup new ventures. He also currently advising charities on fund raising activities. Amongst his peers, friends, relatives and local community he is well respected due to his kind nature in helping those in need. Akhlaq currently has investments in several small start-up organisations ranging from wedding dressing company 'yourcherishedmoments.co.uk' to a recipe shop.

Akhlaq was born in a small town in Lancashire then later moved to the Wirral with his family at the age of seven where the family operated the first Balti house in the northwest, both parents are from Syhlet and are now retired, his siblings are working in their respected fields.

Akhlaq Choudhury is Director of Design and Software Solutions which is now part of Navitec LTD, he specialises in process efficiency and solutions design for the public and private sector. Akhlaq graduated from Liverpool John Moores University with a BSc(Hons) in Computer Studies. He later went on to successfully complete a Master's degree in Internet Computing.

Akhlaq is a management professional with extensive experience in business process improvement, analysis and re-design, change management and business growth strategy in both domestic and international markets. Experienced within both private and public sector, he has worked for large scale organisations, helping turnover increase using IT and specific business values, Akhlaq is well known for his work with failing organisations looking to make cost savings without reducing head count. He is passionate about business and takes pride in all he does which has gained him an exceptional reputation in the IT sector and Public sector

Away from his successful career Akhlaq enjoys mentoring young



Javed Ansari**Sector:**
Telecommunication

Javed Ansari is a successful British-born Bangladeshi lawyer practicing law in the UK. He is currently the Head of Legal at Zamir Telecom Limited, a multi-million dollar international telecommunications company, where he specialises in telecoms law, general commercial litigation, employment, and company law. He recently qualified as an international commercial arbitrator and is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CiARB). He is also the Managing Director of his own niche law practice Meridian Solicitors, which he is due to launch in 2014.

In 2001 Mr. Ansari graduated in law with honours from Brunel in Uxbridge and studied for the Bar Vocational Course at the Inns of Court School of Law. He was called to the Bar as a barrister in October 2002 by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, shortly after which he started his career in public practice representing local authorities such as Lambeth where he served as Senior Lawyer for 5 years. In March 2007, Mr Ansari cross-qualified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court and was admitted on to the Roll of Solicitors. In 2012, he was awarded the Law Society's prestigious post graduate diploma in Local Government Law, consolidating his long standing experience in public law.

Mr Ansari's contributions to the community and to charity have been significant. He is the Founder and Principal Trustee of the Al-Ansari Foundation, which is an international UK charity based in Zanzibar, Africa. Since formally being registered by the Charities Commission in March 2012, the Foundation has completed two madrasahs and an orphan school in Bumbwini, several water wells, orphan home builds, food distribution campaigns, and is currently supporting scores of orphans under its orphan sponsorship programme.

Closer to home, Mr. Ansari sits as a co-opted Board Member of the Bangla Housing Association in Hackney, helping to promote community cohesion and empowering people to aspire to achieve a better standard of living. Mr Ansari is married with three daughters and lives in Lewisham, where he continues his services to the community by running a monthly pro bono legal advice clinic at his local Mosque to further his commitment to improve access to justice.

Abdul Aziz**Sector:**
*Entrepreneur &
Social Work Practitioner*

Abdul Aziz is the co-managing director of Regents Lake Banqueting Venue in Tower Hamlets. This is Aziz's first business venture and as the youngest of the directors he started the company without any prior experience of the wedding industry nor running a big business. His background is in law; he worked for a city law firm as well as Appeal Courts. He had great interest in reading law and at a point wanted to train as a lawyer but his main passion was in understanding and working with people. In particular, he wanted to explore and understand the human cognition; psychological processes; behavioural science and human development. He left his legal work and went to university, where in 2008 he completed his undergraduate honours degree in Psychology. His interest in business and becoming an entrepreneur was coincidental. This interest stemmed partly from his research and study of Business and Occupational Psychology, which uses psychological theories in examining consumer behaviour; psychology of marketing and understanding organization as systems.

Although business was becoming an area of increasing interest, Aziz also wished to pursue a professional career. Whilst setting up Regents Lake, Aziz undertook his professional qualification at the prestigious Tavistock NHS Clinic in Swiss Cottage London. After two years of study, in July 2013 he was awarded his Master of Arts in Social Work. For two years Aziz worked full time setting up and running Regents Lake and at the same time studying and training at the Tavistock. During his training he worked at St Hilda's East Community Centre in Shoreditch as well as for Barking & Dagenham Adult Social Services. As a qualified social worker Aziz wishes to pursue his career helping vulnerable adults and children in Tower Hamlets. He sees his career as a means to give back to the very community where he has lived most of his life. He hopes to start his professional career in the near future.

Since obtaining his Masters degree in July 2013 Aziz has been able to dedicate himself to the business as he wants to take Regents Lake to a new height, making it the gold standard in the wedding and venue industry. He now works full time and heads the marketing, finance, business strategy, procurement and has many other executive roles. One of Aziz's core aims for Regents Lake has always been to produce an experience for customers that cannot be found or matched in any other venue. In this respect he believes he has made a significant impact as many facilities and amenities are exclusive to Regents Lake and many of these have become its own Unique Selling Points.

Apart from running a venue Aziz is also the director of a new catering company which he and his partners hope to refresh, innovative and bring high quality product and services to the wedding industry. Aziz believes that for too long the wedding catering market has been stagnated with the same choices and its over-subscribed menus. He believes the time has come for a refreshing change and a new beginning for exclusive catering to take a foothold in the marketplace. The focus will be on exceeding towards excellence, quality, choice, service and innovation rather than mass selling low quality mediocre products and services that have saturated the market. Aziz and his partners are passionate about this new approach and are already seeing growth in the demand for premium catering services. The incremental shift towards quality over quantity has started and the hope is that the Bangladeshi consumer will continue in this trend.

Running both of these businesses take up a lot of time, however, Aziz firmly believes in a balanced lifestyle, which is extremely important for both physical and psychological well-being. Aziz spends most of his spare time with family. He lives with his parents, his wife and two children.

Monzur Raza Chowdhury

Sector:
*Education and
Community Relations*



Monzur's father, late Dewan Asadur Raza Chowdhury and mother late Mrs Rabia Chowdhury and his paternal grandfather late Dewan Ali Raza Chowdhury are of Protabgor State of Karimgonj, India.

After completing his diploma and degree from Dhaka, he served 14 years as a Civil Engineer under Bangladesh government. He worked as a Section Officer at the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Co-operation, Dhaka. His work involved development and supervision of Agricultural Engineering Projects across the country.

In 1988, he arrived in Britain to pursue further studies and to be united with his family. His wife Syeda Rowgi Chowdhury was awarded MBE (Member of British Empire) in 2009 at the Queen's Birthday Honors list for 'Services to Bangladeshi and Somali Communities'.

Chowdhury is a father of three daughters. His eldest daughter Janey is married and lives in Washington and is a consultant Life Coach. His second daughter Maleeha is a teacher and his youngest daughter Masheyat studying Engineering at University.

He completed his Maths degree from University of East London and

teacher training via teaching agencies in London. He is a well-respected teacher in the community and currently holds a position as a Welfare Advisor at William Davis School, Bethnal Green, London.

Chowdhury is one of the founders and Senior Vice President of Bangladeshi Teacher Association.. In addition, he is among key founders and the Education Secretary of GSC, UK National Executive Committee (NEC). Furthermore, he sits on a number of boards among others. These include Borlekha Welfare Association UK, Shahbazur Welfare Association UK and a lifetime member of Jalalabad Disabled Hospital in Sylhet, he is also involved with Mahfuz Children Hospital Borlekha Kataloti, Title Madrasa Sylhet and founder member of the Advisory Council. He is also a Trustee of Ar-Rashad Trust and Syed Abul Hassan Ali Nadwi International Educational Centre, Mirpur, Dhaka.

He is a founder and chairperson of an International Charity Protabor Health Education and Development Foundation with five branches in United States, India, Bangladesh and the UK.

He is running two welfare centers at Borlekha and Sylhet with educational and social improvements projects for poor people. Every year over three-thousand people are receiving benefits through these centers.

Protabor Foundation runs free health clinics and other development projects in Bangladesh and India to help orphans, street beggars and people in poverty whom cannot afford medical care. He is also running some educational and rehabilitation projects for the people in Dhaka, Sunamgonj, Moulvibazar and Sylhet districts in Bangladesh. He is also one of the founders and deputy-treasurer of Redbridge Islamic Centre (RIC) and is directly involved every-day running of the mosques.

In his leisure time he enjoys reading, travelling and gardening.

Faizur Rahman Choudhury MBE

Sector:
*Community Relations and
Business*



Faizur Rahman Choudhury MBE has been self employed since 1997 and having so many restaurants and businesses behind him has aided him in achieving what he has achieved through the years. Mr Choudhury is the President of the Bangladeshi Cultural Society, Midlands, and Chairman of the Bangladeshi Business Forum and Company Secretary and Director of the Bangladeshi Multi-purpose Centre. Mr Choudhury has given much to the community over the years and believes that we have to work together as a community and as a whole nation to create the ideal world.

Mr Choudhury was selected as the chairman of the steering committee and the project implementation committee. With the help of the community he initially raised £50,000. Collectively, Mr Choudhury has helped raise over a million pounds, supporting various organisations, including EDF; to set up Birmingham Multi-purpose Centre. In 2011, he and his fellow directors of the Bangladeshi

Multi-purpose Centre had also set up the free standing monument; Shahid Minar in Birmingham, a spectacular shrine to remember the martyrs of Bangladesh.

In 1999, Mr Choudhury was honoured with a MBE (Member of the British Empire) by Her Royal Highness the Queen, Elizabeth II.

Some of the charities Mr Choudhury has contributes towards include; Children in Need, ACORN Children Hospice, Sir Josiah Mason Trust, Home for Life, Cross Road, ICAN, Romanian Aid Appeal, King's Heath Boys School, Tsunami Appeal, St. Basils, Lions Children Hospital in Sylhet, Bangladesh, to which Mr Choudhury donated money for the 'Birmingham Ward' named after his hometown, and many more charities. A figure of over a million pounds has been raised for the above mentioned charities.

Mr Choudhury aims to keep giving back to the world as long as he can and feels lucky to be living in England where he is able to give back to the world.



Talyn Rahman Figueroa

Sector:
Politics

An innovative entrepreneur, Talyn Rahman-Figueroa established non-profit diplomatic consultancy Grassroot Diplomat in 2011. Grassroot Diplomat is the first diplomatic consultancy of its kind to bridge the gap between civil society and political leaders. As one of the youngest diplomatic consultants in the country, Talyn is not only a leader in foreign affairs, but is excelling in influencing the minds of top politicians and diplomats to better represent the people's interest. Talyn was recently recognised as an outstanding member of the British Bangladeshi community by winning the Channel S Award live on television. She is also on the board of several non-government organisations and is a super networker in the diplomatic and political sector.

Talyn has a knack for opening niche markets to the mainstream. In little less than a year, the young director was able to open up the secretive and highly elite world of diplomacy to ordinary citizens through clever tactics and marketing that appealed to a more general demographic. Her work is currently active in projects based in Sudan, Nigeria, the Pacific Islands, India and Canada, and is in the process of developing a large public conference on "Women's Role in Diplomacy Revisited" for International Women's Day 2015 with a celebrity keynote speaker and an all female high-level panellist of ambassadors and grassroots activists. Over the years, the Grassroot Diplomat director has networked with influential individuals including former UN Secretary-General Kofi Anan, Mayor of London Boris Johnson, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg and former US governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to advocate the necessity in closing the gap between governments and civil society. As an intermediary, Talyn has worked with Nobel Laureate Mohammed Yunus in clearing his name against the smear campaign led by the Bangladeshi government.

The 27-year old is not publicity-shy and is capable of attracting sizeable media coverage. Within the first year of starting her new business, Talyn managed to capture 50 national and 39 international news from 14 different countries - all within her own capacity. Her work and writing on the grassroots diplomacy concept has been covered by international media including Al-Jazeera, Sky TV, Huffington Post, the Guardian Newspaper, DIPLOMAT magazine, Diplomatic Courier, The Muslim Times, and Next Women Magazine



Councillor Atiqul Hoque

Sector:
Politics

Councillor Atiqul Hoque is the son of Lumranul Hoque. Born in Siramishi Jagannathpur, Cllr Hoque came to the UK in 1986 and attended Danford School and proceeded to Tower Hamlets College where he completed his education in business studies.

In 1997 Cllr Atiqul Hoque opened his first business at the tender age of 21, which was the chutneys Indian Takeaway in Salisbury, Wiltshire. However, from the opening of his first catering establishment, Cllr Hoque has gone from strength to strength and managed to open several more established eateries such as Chutney Restaurant in Shaftsbury, Tandoori Nights in Amesbury and Hox Brasserie.

Cllr Hoque has always had a passion for food and has recently opened a Thai restaurant in Salisbury. Cllr Hoque is also involved with a number of charitable organisations in Salisbury. He is the Vice chairman of the south west Bangladeshi Caterers Association, joint cashier of the Muslim Association of Salisbury.

Cllr Hoque became the first Conservative Bangladeshi Muslim elected in Salisbury council in Wiltshire on 2 May this year. Cllr Hoque's long term plans are to set up a charity fund in his grandparent's name. Furthermore, he seeks to build a mosque and madrasa and settle near these institutes when he finally retires.

Cllr Hoque is married with 5 children.

Mohammed Monwar Hossain
BARRISTER-AT-LAW,

Sector:
Legal



Mr M M Hossain qualified as Barrister of England and Wales. Having done the full Pupillage in England, he started practising as a Barrister in England and Wales. Qualified to exercise full rights of audience before all courts in England and Wales. Specialised in Civil, Human Rights, Administrative Law including Judicial Reviews and UK Immigration law. Accredited by the Bar Council of England and Wales as immigration lawyer in 2002. He has demonstrated extensive knowledge and expertise in the UK immigration law. Also registered with the Bar Council of England & Wales to provide legal services to clients as Public Access Barrister.

Mr Hossain is well known and respected in the immigrant community for his sincere, honest and devoted legal advice and services in the UK. He undertakes a lot of pro bono (charitable free service for those unable to pay) legal work in the community.

He is prominent in the Asian TV media in the UK and Europe. Regularly provides free legal advice on Bangla TV live shows on legal rights since 2001, particularly on immigration, nationality and asylum law related matters.

lum law related matters.

He is involved in human rights activities and acting as Secretary General of the UK based Human Rights International. He is involved with this since 1994. Prominent UK Human Rights leader and labour MP for 25 Years Rt Honorable Robbert Perry was the founder President of the organization. Mr Hossain attended the UN general assembly of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva and various meetings at the UN in New York.

He has keen interest in human rights legal development in the countries like Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. This is why he has participated in the popular Bangladeshi TV Talk Show "Triotio Matra" of the Channel i, "Hello Bangladesh" and "Anno Dristi" of the ATN Bangla and other talk shows in the UK bases Asian TV channels, for a number of times. His views for development of legal system, politics and human rights have been highly appreciated by the viewers.

He was prominent central student leader and played a vital role in the historical democratic movement in Bangladesh against the military regime until 1990. He was the General Secretary of the very popular all parties' organisation the Greater Chittagong Development Action Committee and made significant achievement for the commercial capital Chittagong.

Mr M M Hossain's sole practising chambers in based in East London known as Hossain Law Associates. He was also a member of 3 Fleet Street Chambers in London

Sheikh Mozammel Hossain

Sector:
Journalism



Sheikh Mozammel Hossain was born in February 1957 in the village of Mothurapur in the district of Khulna in Bangladesh. He is the son of the late SK. Mosaraf Hossain and the late Mst. Rafiqun Nessa. Mr Hossain's early education took place in Labsha Primary School Khulna. He then continued his education in Dhaka at the East Bengal Institute.

In 1971, he joined the fighting for the liberation of Bangladesh as a freedom fighter, after which he went on to continue his studies and completed his SCC in 1972, followed by his HSC in 1974. He completed a diploma in Graphic Arts in 1975 and received a BA from Dhaka City College in 1977.

In 1981, Mr Hossain moved to the UK and worked for a Bengali magazine called Weekly Deshbarta.

This move into the world of journalism would ultimately have a great impact on Mr Hossain, as in 1995, he set up and ran the first Daily Bengali newspaper, called Daily Deshbarta from East End of

London, but closed after being in business for 13 months.

Following the closure of Daily Deshabarta, Mr Hossain gained employment as an ECO at Tower Hamlets Council. In 2001, Mt Hossain left his job with the Tower Hamlets council and returned to the world of media by joining the daily Bangladeshi newspaper as managing editor. He has since been promoted and is now the editor for the Weekly Bangladesh.

Sheikh Mozammel Hossain got married in 1989 to Shamim Ara Hossain. Mrs Hossain is a teaching assistant at Christ Church Primary School in Brick Lane. They have one son, Sheikh Ridwan

Hossain who was born in March 1993. He is now studying at Queen Marry University.

Away from his business and family, Mr Hossain works hard for both community and social organisations in his positions as founder, organising secretary and also general secretary of Bangla Shahitto Porishod. He is one of founder EC Member of London Bangla Press Club.



Fahmina Shilpi Islam

Sector:
Legal

Miss Islam was born in the Sunamgonj district of Bangladesh where she spent 2 years of her life before moving to the United Kingdom. She was a high achiever at school, with outstanding academic results. She has at all times had a keen interest in the legal field and in particular Criminal Law.

Miss Islam graduated with an LLB Honours Law degree from Kingston University before commencing the Bar Vocational Course at The Inns of Court School of Law. She was then called to the Bar in 2005. She is a member of 'The Honorable Society of The Inner Temple'. She completed her pupillage at Bedford Row Chambers where she undertook Family, Civil and Criminal work. Only months after completing her pupillage, she was offered a job to become a Crown Prosecutor with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), a prestigious position that she aspired to from an early stage in her career. She worked as part of the Camden team, which covered some of the busiest courts in London. Having dealt with numerous serious and high profile cases, including celebrities, throughout the Crown Courts and Magistrates Court, she subsequently transferred to prosecute at the CPS offices in Surrey.

Miss Islam has now been employed at the Surrey office for 5 years where she attained the level of Senior Crown Prosecutor, dealing with complex, multi-handers cases both in the Crown and Magistrates Courts. She was also promoted to the position of becoming the Specialist Prosecutor for Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage cases. Therefore she is not only responsible for all of the cases which fall under this heading, but also for the training which is provided to all the lawyers at the Surrey office. As a result of this position she is required to report back regularly with updates to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

An objective for the Crown Prosecution Service is to conduct community engagement projects within Surrey. Miss Islam was appointed to engage with the local muslim community. The aim of this was to raise awareness of the CPS within the community. This was a task which had been attempted many times by her predecessors without success. She managed to approach the community and through continuous perseverance was successful in generating large scale interest. As a result Miss Islam arranged for Muslim girls within the community to attend the CPS offices and participate in a 3 day work placement. She arranged seminars, lectures, court visits, post-court discussions with the Crown Court Judges and also the chance to see how all the integral parts of the Criminal Justice System come together, in order to prosecute a case. She also maintained contact with the participants to provide guidance and support regarding their education and applications for training contracts and pupillage.

Miss Islam is the Daughter of Mr Mohammed Sirazul Islam, a successful businessman and Mrs Rajia Islam. She originates from a family of high achievers, which include her sister who is a Senior Crown Prosecutor and Hate Crime Specialist, based in the London Crown Court division of the CPS. Her brother is a specialty Doctor working in a Surrey Hospital.

Miss Islam has a keen interest in charity work, as inherited from her father who is very active in charity engagements within the community both in the UK and in Bangladesh. She is an intelligent, charismatic individual with high aspirations and a deep sense of patriotism.



Polly Islam

Sector:
Community Relations

Polly Islam is the founder of Zarah's, a retail store which specialises in modern Islamic wear, which has also has a growing platform for ecommerce. Aside from Zarah's, she also holds investments in a range of businesses based both, inside and outside of the UK, such as World Glazing. In addition to business dealings, Polly has experience in the legal field, having not only been a legal adviser,

but also the Practice Manager of a law firm. She has also been involved with the voluntary sector, playing the role of a trustee of London Tigers, Women4Women Project, Bangladesh Female Academy (founder member) and Central London Youth Development.



Tajul Islam

Sector:
Legal

Tajul Islam is a practising solicitor and a non-practising barrister. Tajul successfully completed the Bar Vocational Course in 2006 with the Inns of Court School of Law and was called to the English Bar with Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 2007. Tajul completed his LLB Honours degree from the University of Luton in 2005.

Prior coming to the UK, Tajul completed the Secondary School Certificate at the M.C Academy, one of the best schools in Bangladesh, achieving most marks, (a total of 853 out of 1000 with 10 A* in the SSC board exam). Tajul then completed his Higher Secondary Certificate, studying at most high ranking Notre Dame College in Dhaka. He won many awards in the past including Bangladesh National Scholarship, Notre Dame College Scholarship, M C Academy Scholarship and Shohid Suleman Memorial Award.

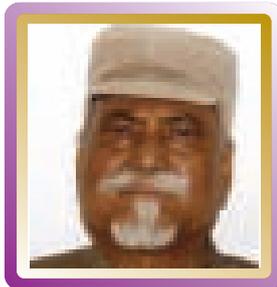
Tajul is currently employed as the Joint Head of Immigration Department at the prestigious solicitors firm, The First Law Partnership which is one of the largest criminal practices in the UK. He is

one of the very few specialists and distinguished Immigration lawyers in the UK specialising mainly in immigration detention, judicial review and complex appeal matters. Tajul has successfully dealt with many complex immigration and deportation cases involving serious criminal convictions. In addition to immigration law, Tajul has experience in family, criminal and civil litigation matters.

Tajul lives in Luton, being a well-connected and active member of the local community. He regularly appears on various legal shows on radio and TV channels. Locally, Tajul arranges free legal advice surgeries for the local community in conjunction with the Bangladeshi

High Commission once a month at the CYCD.

Tajul was born and brought up in Bangladesh. His local district is Sylhet, Thana Golapgonj and village Hajipur (Lamapara).



Alhaj Mohammed Ali Ismail

Sector:
Business and Community Relations

Alhaj Mohammed Ali Ismail is the Vice President of sector commanders Forum in the Sylhet Division, Bangladesh. He was also the Founder Chairman of Greater Sylhet Cultural, Social Association, Founder Vice Chairman of National Executive Committee (NEC) for Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council. Other posts Mr Ismail has previously held comprise of the Founder elected Chairman of the West Midland branch of the same council and the Convener of all party Shangram Parishad against the war criminal Gulam Azom. The most prestigious post held by Mr Ismail was the Chairman of Bangladesh Council.

Mr Ismail dedicated a lot of his time and effort towards establishing the Bangladesh Multi Purpose Centre. He was the Founder and first elected Chairman of the Director Board. Mr Ismail was the General Secretary of an advisory Board which was established by the Birmingham City Council named 'Standing Consultative Forum', the founder Chairman of 'Osmani Adarsha Shagshad', 'Bangobir Sporting Club', the Governor at Waverly Secondary School, Oldknor School and Matthew Bolton College. Mr Ismail was also the Secre-

tary General for two terms of an umbrella organisation which was established by the Birmingham City Council for the nine ethnic minority groups.

In Bangladesh, Mr Ismail is a life member of Bangladesh Female Academy, Muslim Shahitha Shanghad, Nozrul Academy and Probin Hithoishi Shango. Other posts held in Bangladesh include the Director of Mobile Patager and International Rotarian and Vice President of Sylhet Green Rotary Club. He is the Chairman of 'Greater Sylhet Gonodhavi Parishad' and of Bengali Writers Association and Social History Group, and the Bengali Cultural Research Centre. Mr Ismail is also the Chairman of Jathio Jonotha Party in Bangladesh.

As an active member of Bangladesh Action Committee 1971, Mr Ismail took part in every demonstration and meeting specially he led a delegation in front of World Bank in Paris, on the 21st June in 1971.

Mr Ismail's other achievements include an award from Voichi for Best Effort in 1971, being awarded Shadinotha Podhok in Manchester 1999 and an award from Channel S for Best Community work. Mr Ismail was an editor of Bengali newspaper 'Bidruhee Bangla' in 1971. He is also a keen writer and has published ten books.

Alhaj Mohammed Ali Ismail is married to Asma Begum. They have three sons; Ashfaque Shahria who is a business owner, Ishtefaque Dehaya, an officer at Natwest Bank and Itihad Jurriah (BA Honours). They also have three daughters; Rebekah Jekolin, Nahida Jenis, who is currently studying at University and Fahmina Ashreen (BA Honours).





Musabbir Karim (Sabbir)

Sector:
Catering

Musabbir Karim (Sabbir) is a chef patron, consultant, humanitarian, activist, working as a member of the British Airways' cabin crew (Purser) for almost two decades now, and a successful business man of two of the finest Indian Restaurants in London, Namaaste Kitchen and Salaam Namaste. His knowledge, work and contribution to the Indian culinary determine his vision to expand his healthy dining concept around the Globe. Sabbir's high flying job with BA has enabled him to visit some of the exotic destination around the Globe; this gave him a platform and utmost pleasure allowing him to obtain extensive research by visiting some of the exclusive multi cuisine restaurants at the each corner of the world.

Sabbir, being a passionate foodie & "a maestro in Modern Indian and Traditional Cooking" (The Guardian), has made friends with some of top chef in Mumbai, Delhi, Karachi, Dhaka, Mauritius to name a few! Through his journey he has handpicked some of the original recipes from these great Chefs to innovate new faith in Indian food.

Sabbir's Namaaste Kitchen was established in November 2010- with the success and confidence that he earned from his first restaurant Salaam Namaste, acknowledged as the "hidden gem" and the "Bloomsbury Favourite" since its opening in 2005 creating a New Sensation in Indian Dinning, receiving media exposure and recognition for the quality and service. Salaam Namaste was gaining success year after year, boosting his obsession to give life to the dream he always dreamt, a spectacular Modern Indian Grill Restaurant, thus to create an era of differing regional tastes from an astonishing varied subcontinent, all under one roof- the making of Namaaste Kitchen. His Namaaste Kitchen acknowledged as the 'Critics Favourite', 'newly & Critically Acclaimed'.

Sabbir has the love and support of his lovely wife, also member of British Airways cabin crew Worldwide, together combining the likes of their joint dream and with the blessings of their 3 children with the hard work, combined with the confidence of his team.

In 2012 Sabir introduced Regional Food Festival From Indian was a huge success and media took a great interest, with travelling each month to a different region from Hyderabad to Goa to Lucknow to Chennai.

Sabbir has done many interview & cooking presentation for National & International Radios & TV including BBC & continues to write recipes for mainstream medium. His Peshawari Lamb Chops Recipe was Published on the Sunday Telegraph alongside Prince Williams Wedding Menu- Exclusive Collectors Version.

Sabbir is very much involved with the Charity, with BA he was a UNICEF champion and worked with Sreepur Project in Dhaka, Action Against Hunger & His Salaam Namaaste & Namaaste Kitchen have side by side been involved with supporting Find your Feet (Curry for Change).

"2012 has been a year to remember, relish and Celebrate" said Sabbir

As his Namaaste Kitchen has won The Best Newcomer at The Asian Curry Awards, and Sabbir has Won The Best Asian & Oriental Chef Of The Year 2012, held at The Grosvenor House, London.

Sabbir continues to drive his passion to deliver surprises to his diners, while invites the young generation to the food industry especially the British Bangladeshi.

Sabbir born in Maulvi Bazar - Bangladesh, Son of Late Haji Mohammad Abdul Karim & Mrs Salimun Nessa Karim



Abul Kalam Khan

Sector:
Hospitality

Abul Kalam Khan is a young dynamic business entrepreneur in the event management industry. He has been successfully running Henna Events, a leading events and catering company based in East London. Amazingly Henna Events has successfully managed over 1,500 event functions since its inception in 1999.

Popularly known as 'Khan bhai', he has had a diverse career since completing his education from Tower Hamlets College. Khan's employment career started from humble beginnings by working at a McDonalds restaurant in Canary Wharf, becoming the Assistant Store Manager, and later moving to work for the insurance industry as Senior Insurance Consultant for Budgets, Trident, J&M and Century Insurance.

Khan completed his secondary education at St Paul's Way, before moving to higher education to successfully complete his General Vocational Qualification at Tower Hamlets College. He later went to study at South Bank University.

A family man of 4 sons and a supporting wife, Sabrina Ali Khan, has been instrumental in the success of Khan's business and family life. Khan lives in a beautiful part of Essex and has a portfolio of properties.

Henna Events today is leading the way in innovative ethnic wedding events, creative culinary and outstanding event décor.

Khan was born in Shaharpara (Audoth Khan Bari), Sylhet and migrated to the UK at a very young age. He has two brothers and four sisters.

**M A MATIN**

Sector:
Media

Mr. M A Matin was born in the village Amnia of Golapganj Upazila under Sylhet district. His father Alhaj Ayub Ali was a businessman in Sreemangal which is now under Mulvibazar district of Sylhet Division. His father died at the age of 105 and mother died at 90 years of age.

Mr. Matin came to the UK in 1963 during the Earth while East Pakistan of present Bangladesh but always he had a strong feelings for his mother language. After his arrival he achieved few courses like Photography and Tea Trade from City of London College.

He had the intention from the beginning that he should have his own business and from that thinking & endeavor he started a supermarket as his first business at Enfield in the year 1968. After four years he also qualified as a Driving Instructor and in 1973 he started a Driving School. Again he started Rack Trade in Brick Lane along with Messers. Islam and Kasru Miah. In 1979 Mr. Matin went to Bangladesh in response to his mother's wishes to see her and he obeyed the desire of his mother by getting married to Suriya on 8th May 1980. Mrs. Suriya is very much fond of Tag ore's song and she herself loves to sing. It was a co-incident that their wedding date was the Birth Day of Rabindranath Tagore. After eight weeks he returned to the UK with his newly married wife. He was thinking to start a new business like Catering as he observed that Bangladeshi Restaurants were known as Indian Restaurant but his intention to involve with the restaurant business was to identify the Bangladeshi Catering Business as the 'Bangladeshi Cuisine'. In 1981 he started Restaurant Business named Lalbag Tandoori Restaurant at Bays water in Westbourne Grove. To promote the culture &

heritage of Bangladesh, the country who then achieved independence a decade before he mentioned his Restaurant as Bangladeshi Cuisine, hoisted flag of Bangladesh and the menu was prepared both in English & Bengali. Mr. Matin also founded other four restaurants in different places in London. The Restaurants were Sunderban Bangladeshi Cuisine, Sugandha Bangladeshi Cuisine, Sunflower Bangladeshi Cuisine & Saqhi Bangladeshi Cuisine.

Mr. Matin was actively involved with the Bangladesh Caterer's Association (BCA) and he became the Deputy Secretary General from 1986 to 1990. During his tenure he proposed to use a common logo of the BCA to all the Bangladeshi Restaurants & use the word as Bangladeshi Cuisine. So, the customer & the general people can easily understand about the Bangladeshi Restaurant & food. But it was very unfortunate that his proposal was not materialized yet. He also involved with different socio-cultural organization such as member of Lions Club of Kensington and Chelsea, Founder Director of Weekly Bengali Newspaper 'Notun Din', Founder Member & General Secretary of a reputed Charity organization named 'Friends of Bangladesh', one of the donors of the National Heart Foundation Sylhet also Vice-Chairman of the UK Committee and a life member of Bangladesh Centre London.

He has a great feeling to the poorer and a commitment to help the distressed people in Bangladesh. To full fill such commitment he is helping the poor people especially in his jurisdiction. Presently under his full support there are two boys & one girl are full time student. Among them, the girl Masuma is the daughter of a Rickshaw puller in Dhaka who got admitted in the Dhaka Medical College. She secured a place in the Intermediate Examination. One boy Md Pinak from his own village is now in the 3rd year in Sylhet Polytechnic and other one Shahed Ahmed is in the final year of Electrical Engineering in the Islami Bank Institute of Technology, Sylhet. His financial help started to all of them after passing their SSC Examination. He has an urge to all the members of the Community to come forward for such helping to the poor students, so that illiteracy in Bangladesh will be reduce in a large number within a short time.

Mr. Matin oftenly writes Column, Features and Travel Memories in the Bengali Newspapers. He also published his Autobiography in Bengali 'Dinguli Mor Sonar Kachai' which lunched in a colorful ceremony at Brady Arts Centre in London on June 2012. His every intention is how to develop the quality and the betterment of his Community.

**Dilara Khan**

Sector:
Media

Having been a student of communication Dilara believes that mass media is the key to improving lives and livelihoods. Dilara is currently working on developing international TV shows abroad. Dilara is also the creator of 'Forgotten roots' International Reality Show and 'Maa Amar Maa Awards'.

Dilara is also the founder President of the British Bangladesh Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs (BBCWE), recently launched at the House of Lords as well as the founder and Chairperson of the charity 'People Like Us' (PLU).

Dilara has a wealth of experience in charity, voluntary sector, education, local government and extensive experience and expertise in management. Her professional career spans 13 years in senior management in the National Health Service (NHS) managing several services, and ensuring service improvement and implementing changes to improve health outcomes for the people of Tower Hamlets, Inner Cities and Nationally.

Dilara first began her journey in Media and Journalism as a student at the prominent newspaper The Voice and BBC local Radio. From there continues her education into BSc Hons in Communication and Cultural Studies followed by MSc Management and Leadership Inter-professional Practices from the prestigious business faculty of the City University (University of London).



**Sheikh Mohammed
Abdul Mazid**

Sector:
Business

Born in London in 1985, Sheikh Mazid is the youngest son of Hazi and Sufia Jalil of Ranaping, Gulapgoni in Sylhet. Having started a family young, Sheikh has worked hard to provide for all their needs and is a rising star in the British Bangladesh business community.

He opened his first business – McGyvers - with his brother when he was 21 after gaining some experience working in the public and private sector. Together they established it as a successful company providing building contract services to local government and the commercial sector. Following this, Sheikh then pursued his passion for the car industry – firstly in vehicle hire and then in accident claims and recovery. His company – M1 Claims Management – has grown quickly to become one of the leading companies providing accident management and claims solutions in the UK. His team provides invaluable 24 hour support and assistance to the community..

Sheikh puts his success down to hard work, commitment and blessings. He has gained the trust, respect, and friendship of clients, business associates and the community and brought a start up business to the forefront of the highly competitive claims industry.

As a younger member of the community, Sheikh and his business colleagues are always keen to support and play their part in local community events, charities and sports. They have taken part in fund raising and have worked with non profit organisations to highlight to the younger generations, the importance of community work. M1 Claims Management has been the main sponsor on numerous occasions and also runs an apprenticeship scheme to train young people. Sheikh also gives generously to charitable projects – such as housing, education, medicine, and food aid - in his home village in Bangladesh and is greatly respected locally.

Sheikh's entrepreneurial flair leads him to have interests and shares in different ventures and his open minded approach has given him a successful start to his business career. At the age of 28, Sheikh is bridging the gap between the different generations of the British Bangladesh business community. He is committed towards creating a brighter future for the Bangladeshi community and future generations.



Mr Syed Jahangir (MINTU)

Sector:
Hospitality

Mr Syed Jahangir (MINTU) is one of the Directors at Regents Lake Banqueting. He was born in Bangladesh in 1970. His village is in Jahanpur, District: Feni. His late father Azizur Rahman Bhuiyan was a businessman. His mother is Alhajja Mrs Nur Nahar Begum. Mr Mintu obtained his Secondary School Certificate (SSC) at Feni Gov Pilot High School and Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) at Chittagong Mohsin Collage. He completed his studies at Chittagong University graduating with an Honours degree in Public Administration.

Mintu always had an interest in business and was involved setting up an Automobile Parts company in Bangladesh with close friends while he was in his early 20s. Thereafter, Mintu got involved in international import and export business in Russia and Ukraine setting up his Friend International Company which were very successful.

In July 1996 Mintu immigrated to the UK and after working for couple of years he launched his own business in the catering industry. The Village takeaway was opened in 1999 in Surrey and within two years one of the busiest takeaway in Surrey. In 2009 only a few doors away he opened his first Restaurant called the Spice Village on St Johns Road in Woking Surrey. Mintu worked tirelessly in making both of his business thrive and as the sole proprietor he now enjoys the fruits of his hard work.

His involvement with Regents Lake was coincidental, nevertheless, he was extremely excited in joining the project. Regents Lake was a new venture he was happy to join for many reasons. One of them was because it was situated in the heart of the Bangladeshi community in Tower Hamlets. He had always wanted to set up a company within the Bangladeshi community and Regents Lake was the ticket to his dream. Regents Lake also served another desire for Mintu which was to be involved in a prestigious business that would serve the Bangladeshi community. Within the first year Regents Lake has served tens of thousands of customers from the Bangladeshi community. Mintu considers himself very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be part of a business that serves an important role for the community, that is, facilitating the weddings of young couples. He hopes the company grows further and continues to serve the diverse population of the local community. One of the personal benefits Mintu has taken from his involvement of Regents Lake is the great friends he has made along the way, to him, good friendship is highly valued.

Mintu lives in Byfleet Surrey and is married with three children. Apart from running several successful Companies he enjoys spending time with his Family and socialising with friends.



Habib Mirza

Sector:
Education and Business

Habib Mirza was born to a British Steel Crane driver and house maker in the summer of 1974. He grew up on the notorious North Peckham Estate in South London for much of his childhood with two other brothers in a 3 bedroom flat. When the family grew and 3 sisters were added to the family, they moved to their now current location in Dulwich.

Habib Mirza obtained his GCSEs from Forest Hill Boys School, where his A levels were disastrous due to family commitments. He took a year out and went back into education only to drop out again. He entered Newham Community College to do a Foundation Course in Electronics and Electrical Engineering, and transferred to South Bank University to finish his degree in Computer and Software Engineering. Around this time he got married to his wife Fatima Mirza and started his first Computer Repair and Sales business from his moms attic.

The business enabled him to save money and purchase his first flat some years later. Habib then focused on his career having worked at Celador Productions' sister company which was part of Sony Entertainment, Savills Commercial, one of the largest Event Management companies in London and finally at the National Audit Officer where he was responsible for the migration of their IT systems,

managing a team of 24. Out of an employee base of 800+, Habib was one the most senior ethnic workers in his department. The untimely death of his father in early 2002 forced him to take time out to concentrate on his family.

In 2004 Habib along with two friends invested in Catering. Again using his marketing and flare was able to monopolise in that sector using some things which we now take for granted, open plan kitchen, vibrant colours and well trained staff. This enabled him to focus on his property portfolio which slowly took shape. In 2006 Habib helped his brother start BSGS College which is now renowned for some of the best English Courses in the Country. This was set up with the main focus of trying to help the local community integrate. Selling his catering business, Habib joined his brother in 2007 and expanded the business. BSGS College now has 21 sites operating in England and Scotland. The business is still family owned.

In 2011 Habib diversified into the executive chauffeuring and body guarding market with his new business partner Omar Iqbal. BSGS College also became an approved centre for providing qualified security and body guards, with monthly SIA courses taking place in BSGS College.

BSGS College is now well recognised not only within the Bangladeshi community, but also further afield. BSGS College are currently government funded for a number of courses and hope to expand on these to further help the Community. Both Habib Mirza and his brother are now qualified teachers and trainers. Habib has a PhD in Business principles in telecommunications, and his brother is currently undertaking a fellowship with Trinity College. Both their wives help run the business.



Anhar Meah

Sector:
Real Estate and Business

Born in Ludhorpur under Jaganathpur Thana, Sylhet, to parents Mr. Surath Meah and late Rizia Banu, Anhar Meah came to the UK in the mid seventies as an infant. He grew up in Poplar during his formative years. After finishing school, he went to Hammersmith & West London College.

In 1992, Mr. Meah joined the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), as a Junior Officer on the International Trade side. Little did he realise at that time, that he would be spending the next fourteen years working there on a wide variety of roles and responsibilities and progressing up the chain. He spent most of his career on Trade related issues which included providing policy advice and briefing to senior government officials and Ministers.

He represented the UK in various European and International institutions i.e. in European Commission, World Trade Organization, and Organization of Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) in Brussels, Paris and Geneva. As a break in his career on the trade side, he also spent a year on secondment at the Low Pay Commission, working on the National Minimum Wage.

Although, Mr. Meah enjoyed the work at DTI, in 2006 he decided to take up the generous offer of early severance, in order to start his own business. In 2007, he has set up an ICT company and a property firm in East London. Mr. Meah decided to concentrate more on the property sector and together with his business partner, Mr. Moklisur Rahman, in 2008, they acquired the Bethnal Green's oldest independent estate agent "Globe Estate" and transformed it to a very dynamic and profitable concern.

Although Mr. Meah has always been involved in various charitable causes, he has recently embarked in setting up a charitable foundation and working on to set up a 'mentoring' network for the younger generation.

Mr. Meah is married to Mrs. Shapna Begum and blessed with three children, Naym, Saihan and Amman.



Nazmul Islam Nuru

Sector:
Business

Nazmul Islam Nuru arrived to the UK in 1977 at the age of 17 and has established himself as a businessman since the 1980's in the UK as well as Bangladesh. He has connections in various businesses as well as being involved within the community in numerous charity organisations. This is demonstrated by his position as a director of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (BBCC) whereby he has many links in the UK and Bangladesh. Mr Nuru is involved in many business developments and activities. He holds the post of the independent Director of Shahjalal Islamic Bank BD, where he represents 75,000 shareholders. He is also the founder of the renown Kushiara Islamic Hospital, Asirgonj Golapgonj. His involvement in the property market includes Property Management of Windsor and Osmani Housing Prokolpo Airport Road Sylhet. His business activities also include Viceroy Group Restaurant UK and Grand Eating Ltd. Mr Nuru's business portfolio diversifies as he works with Fairview Enterprise Ltd in addition to Monica Enterprise BD.

Mr Nuru's contributions towards the community can not go unnoticed. He has held the post of the Vice President of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (BBCC) in which he is still involved in. He is very recognized within the Bangladeshi Community, having previously been a Trustee of Bangladesh Centre and a current member of Bangladesh catering Association. Mr Nuru is also a Founder Trustee of Mother & Child UK.

Some of his previous positions held have been the Chairman of Golapgonj Education Trust UK, Treasurer of Greater London Bangladesh Catering Association and Managing Director of Sylhet Dak Weekly UK. Mr Nuru was also a Member of Management Committee of Bangladesh Welfare Association and of Shoid Miner Altab Ali Park.

Nazmul Islam Nuru is from the Village of Amkuna in Bangladesh. His father is Haji Jamshed Ali and mother is Khaleida Khanum. In the UK, he resides in Windsor, Berkshire with his wife Farida Parvin Nuru. They have three daughters and one son. Their eldest daughter, 26, graduated from Manchester University. Their second daughter, 24, and youngest daughter, 22, are in her final year of studying Medicine at Kings College London and Liverpool University. Their only son will be going to University College of London to study Electronic Engineering.



Burhan Choudhury Rimon

Sector:
Real Estate

Mr Burhan Choudhury Rimon was born in Khadimpur Boro Bari, Balagonj, in Sylhet, Bangladesh, He is the only son of Md Ala Uddin Choudhury and Jomirun Choudhury and has 5 sisters.

Mr Choudhury first arrived in the UK in 1982 at the age of 7. He currently resides in Ilford with his wife Rufia and two daughters; Anisa, 13, and Fariha, 11 and his parents.

Mr Choudhury is the Managing director of 1st Capital Homes incorporating MBRC Investments Ltd established in 2001. His company is one of first British Bangladeshi suppliers of temporary accommodation to the local governments located in the heart of East London and also manages properties behalf of his handful of selected private clients where he gives his personal attention to them supported by his team. Mr Choudhury successfully built a reasonable real estate portfolio of properties in and around London in the span of last 10years. He has mixture of properties within his portfolio from residential properties to 5 star hotel apartments to commercial properties. He is one of the successful young British Bangladeshi entrepreneurs who were brought up in the most deprived part of East London in Shadwell. Mr Choudhury started his company from Mortgage brokerage where he was arranging mortgages for clients and advising his clients on property investments. Mr Choudhury is self trained and built his vast amount of knowledge on mortgages and property investments in the local area. He has been following the property market from the humble age of 19 years, even though he did not have any money but had a dream to build a portfolio. Mr Choudhury says it's not just the skills, education and capabilities that contribute to the success of a person in his/her respective area of interest. It's the honesty, dedication, determination and perseverance towards achieving the set goals that take the person to the place where he/she always desires to be. Mr Choudhury believed in him self and was determined to be successful no matter what the obstacle was with full support of his wife Rufia Choudhury.

Mr Choudhury has set up Burhan Choudhury Zakat foundation; he runs and personally finances the foundation with support of the local community leaders and volunteers. The foundation is based in Sylhet Bangladesh and was established in 2010. The foundations aims and objectives are to provide winter blankets and clothes to poor needy people in and around Mr Choudhury's village in Khadimpur and Sylhet in Bangladesh.

Mr Choudhury's hobbies is reading, exploring and learning new ideas, researching subjects that interests him, travelling abroad, shopping and swimming and cycling.



Biplab Poddar

Sector:
Legal



Mr Biplab Poddar was born on 12 July 1973 at Pirojpur, Bangladesh. He enjoyed his childhood in a village where he had chances of learning honesty, integrity and the local culture. He understood basic structure of communication and the greatness of people around him. Mr Poddar's education consists of an SCC and an HSC from Bangladesh. He then achieved a LLB (5 yr Hons) from the University of Calcutta in India and a LLB (Hons) from the University of Wolverhampton in the UK. Mr Poddar further achieved a PGD in International Trade from the University of Northumbria and in 2010 a LLM in International Law and World Economy from the University of East London, both in the UK.

In the year 2000, Mr Poddar became an advocate at the Bangladesh Bar Council in Bangladesh. In 2008 he became a case worker at Regents Law Solicitors here in the UK, before moving on to work as a solicitor at Kalam solicitors and in 2013 Mr Poddar became a partner at Hamlet Solicitors.

Mr Poddar's devotedness and interest in his profession has brought him a unique recognition within his professional community. He has had many reported cases, not to mention, being recognised as filing solicitor of Alam and Others v Secretary of State for Home Department [2013] to the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. The case itself provided a substantive amount of inspiration and attachment to his profession.

Many scholars believe that the case would bring justice and fairness to many immigrants as it has raised issues on Human Rights, discrimination, Conflict of Law by Parliament and Home Secretary's

failure of providing guidance. The case would be a huge breakthrough in immigration law. Mr Poddar has successfully won a few cases of Judicial Review, where many of them have been settled by Home Secretary before hearing.

Mr Poddar also wrote a book on The Effects of Sharing Water between Bangladesh and India. The book was published by LAMBERT Academic Publishing in 2010. The book discusses how the environment changing around the world and its effects on Bangladesh. The book also identified the core reasons of unequal water sharing and how such a problem can be solved.

Akik F Rahman

Sector:
Business



Akik F. Rahman came to England in 1973. Mr Rahman first began work during his studies and started his first business in 1977 in West Kensington, London. His next business was open in North London in 1985. Then, in 1986 he opened a restaurant in Cirencester. These were all followed by his next business in 1993 in Swindon another in 1995 in Cheltenham and 2006 in Marlborough.

Mr Rahman is also involved in investment properties, as well as being an Investor in many projects in Bangladesh; he is the Director of Dreamland amusement park in Sylhet, first amusement park in Bangladesh and the Director of Valley city resort in Sylhet.

Mr Rahman is a member of Cirencester chambers of commerce, member the British Bangladesh Chamber of commerce and the Vice Chairman of the Bangladesh caterer association south west region. He is also the Chairman of the Bangladesh Association Swindon and has been since 2002, the Chairman of Jagannathpur British Bangla Education Trust and Kadeem Swindon Central Mosque and

Islamic centre.

Mr Rahman is currently the Chairman of Nayabondor education welfare society UK (NEWS UK), meeting financial needs for Naya-bondor high school and college, among other schools madrasas, mosques and other welfare programmes in his area.

Mr Rahman is married with four sons, one daughter and one granddaughter.





Atikur Rahman

Sector:
Catering

Chef Atikur Rahman was born on August 1977, Bangladesh Moulvibazar, Chef Atik came to this country only at the age of 19 with his family and currently living in Chelsea with his wife Lina and his son Samuel.

Atik developed the passion for curry at the tender age of 12, where his very first curiosity with spices and ingredients journey had began when he saw his mums cooking. He would always give a hand in the kitchen and it was then he had a great passion and immense interest in all things to do with food and ingredients.

Celebrity chef Atik Rahman started off his culinary journey working at the famous blue bird restaurant located in Chelsea (the heart of London). Atik passed his NVQ level 3 (professional cookery) at the Hammersmith and West London College which he took his growing food passion also opened up his own personal catering tuition class offering determined individuals to learn the secrets of spices.

To compliment his skills and talent, he provides chef consultancy, training and other curricular activities to develop the craft of cooking. Chef Atik has been honoured to be a private chef of the great Sheikh Bin Zayed who is the king of Arab Emirates. His first major achievement was when he won the chef of the year 2007 award and in the following year he also won the British chef of the year.

Atik has now opened up his own show called Atik Recipe on Channel 9 every Sunday which is his main show alongside Atik's Kitchen on NTV and Roshoi Ghor on Bangla TV. All programmes allow his viewers to learn the craft of Atik's unique cooking.



Mina Sabera Rahman

Sector:
Politics and Community

Mina Sabera Rahman was born in a respectable Muslim family in Chhatak, Sunamganj, Sylhet. She is the eldest daughter among four sons of Alhaj Abdul Ghani and Rabiya Begum. She came to the UK with her parents as an infant of 21 days old and lived in Birmingham with her parents and brothers before moving to London in the 1970's.

Mina is married to renowned Bangladeshi politician and community worker Goyasur Rahman Goyas. Goyas previously worked for the NHS, various community organisations, owned businesses and currently is proprietor of a property management business. They have 4 children and have lived in Redbridge for the last 20 years.

On completion of her study, Mina started her career as one of the first outreach workers for Jagonari Centre in East London following its establishment in 1985. In 1986 Mina commenced working for the National Health Service based at the Royal London Hospital as a Health Worker. Having successfully worked in various departments of the NHS Mina decided to change her career.

Mina initiated her career in Housing in 1992 as a PATH trainee and achieved the Higher National Certificate in Housing. Subsequently, Mina secured a job with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets as a part-time estate officer. Due to studying and having a young family Mina worked part-time for a number of years until she joined Tower Hamlets Community Housing in March 2000. Mina commenced as a Housing Officer and was consecutively promoted to Senior Housing Officer followed by Housing Office Manager.

Despite having family commitments, established career, studying and voluntary duties Mina continued developing excellent leadership skills and is a very influential person. She attained accreditation in numerous fields including Prince 2 Project Management, Supervision in Neighbourhood Nuisance & Anti Social Behaviour, Employment Law, Institute of Leadership & Management.

Mina established London Bangla Women's Network in 2004 to help women suffering domestic violence and empower women. Mina remains Chairperson of this thriving organisation with accumulative members in Redbridge, Newham, Waltham Forest, Tower Hamlets and Barking & Havering.

Mina is politically very active and established Conservative Friends of Bangladesh, Redbridge Branch increasing membership in the Conservative Party. Mina holds various officer roles within the Conservative Party and currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Ilford South Conservative Association. Mina successfully passed the Parliamentary Assessment Board and is on the Full Approved List of candidates to stand for Parliament.

Mrs Shahidun Nessa Rahman

Sector:
Literature



Mrs Shahidun Nessa Rahman was born on 14th December 1971 in Cambridge, England. Mrs Rahman is the twin daughter of the late Mr Abdul Karim and Mrs Fultera Banoo Karim, both of Sylhet. Mrs Rahman is married with 3 sons, Ibrahim, 22, Imran, 16, Aniq, 13 and a daughter, Aminah, 10.

Mrs Rahman is currently a freelance writer and has been since 2003. In 2005 Mrs Rahman launched 'Perfect Publishers Ltd', a print-on-demand book publishing company providing a range of services for authors and other publishers.

Mrs Rahman was awarded a Channel 5 'Special Acknowledgment Award' in 2013 for her work drawing attention to the largely forgotten Bangladeshi cultural history and heritage. Mrs Rahman writes historical fiction, non-fiction and short stories including the following.

'Ibrahim-Where in the Spectrum Does he Belong?' (Perfect Publishers 2005) is a memoir about raising a son with a learning disorder. The book increases awareness of autism, particularly in the Bangladeshi society, where it was not widely recognised in the 1990's.

'Lascar' (Indigo Dreams Publishing 2012) is a work of historical fiction inspired by a paternal ancestor, a lascar (seaman). The novel revives the story of these unsung heroes and draws attention to their plight, educating people through the use of fictional characters. 'Lascar' was shortlisted for the Muslim Writers Awards, Unpublished Novel Awards (2008) and long listed for the Brit Writers Unpublished Novel Awards (2010).

In 2010 Mrs Rahman's short story was the inspiration behind the screenplay 'India Ink' which she co-wrote with US screenwriter, Halle Eavelyn. 'India Ink' was shortlisted for the Circalit First Draft Contest (2011) and a finalist of the WriteMovies International Writing contest (2011).

Other works of Mrs Rahman include: 'The Integration of the Hijab into Police Uniforms' (Monsoon Press, March 2009), 'The Lascar' (A radio play), and the following short stories and articles: 'Currying Favour', 'Backbone of the Fleet', 'The Life of Lascars Aboard Merchant Ships', Cambridge's first Gurdwara, 'Bangladeshis Trade Curry for College and Taxis', 'Baishaki Mela', 'Asian Women Suffragettes in the 1900's', 'Shongram-the Movie', 'Travel with Kids', 'The Middle Child Syndrome', Noor Inayat Khan, and many others.

Mrs Rahman is a contributor to the Best of British, The Great War and Sisters magazines, Asian World Newspaper and BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. She is currently working on a second historical novel and a series of children's books. . More information can be found at www.shahidarahman.co.uk

Mohammed Lutfur Rahman

Sector:
Businessman



Mohammed Lutfur Rahman is familiar both in the UK and in Bangladesh as a successful businessman and philanthropist. Mr Rahman was born in 1957 Tehgaria Village of the number 7 Syedpur-Sharpura Union of Jagannathpur, Sylhet. His father, Khalamdar Miah, was distinguished in the area for his role as an advisor and prominent member of the community.

Mr Rahman, migrated to the United Kingdom in 1975. Prior to his arrival, he had completed his education in Bangladesh. After working for some time in various institutes, he started his own business. He also began his work for the Bangladeshi community in the United Kingdom.

At present Mr Rahman has a variety of businesses in Cambridge, Kent and London. He is the owner of the 'Sonargaon' restaurant established in East London.

For an extensive period of time, Mohammed Lutfur Rahman was the Chairman of the Cammbridge Bangladeshi Welfare Association.

He is also one of the main organisers of the Cambridge Bangladeshi festival.

Mr Rahman established a secondary school in his village in Bangladesh. His other altruistic actions have included extending his hand of help to his country during times of disaster and has donated to the establishment of a High School in his local village. He married Juhra Chowdhury in 1982, and they have two sons (Ujjal and Uttam) and two daughters (Sumi and Rumi). His children attend educational institutes in the United Kingdom.

Mr Rahman lives in Cambridge with his family.



**Sheikh Mohammed
Mofizur Rahman**

Sector:
Local Government

Sheikh Mohammed Mofizur Rahman is a Senior Housing Manager in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The Local Government worker is also Chairman of the weekly Bangla Post newspaper. Born in Balagonj, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Rahman completed his primary education there before moving to the UK in 1972.

Having completed his primary education at his local village school in Bangladesh, Mr Rahman moved to the UK and attended the Robert Monefiore secondary school and progressed on to City and East London College where he completed his A- Levels. The former community development worker later graduated from the Hackney Technical College with a degree on Housing Law and Property Management.

Mr Rahman started his career working with the North London Community Task Force which later evolved into a job with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets working on the Housing department as a community worker. Through hard and a first-class work ethic, Mr Rahman soon became a Senior Housing Manager.

Whilst fulfilling a full time job, Mr Rahman is also involved in numerous community welfare projects both in the UK and Bangladesh. Currently, Mr Rahman is the Chairman and Editor in Chief of Weekly Bangla Post, he is also Chairing the UK branch of the Nirapod Sarak Chai project as well as being involved with the Anjuman-E- Talimul Quran programme. Mr Rahman is also currently a Patron to the Bisho Shahito Kendro project in addition to being trustee on both the Balagonj Education Trust and M.M Sheba Trust in Bangladesh. Mr Rahman throughout his life has always worked on education projects and currently been elected as Vice-Chairman for both Thomas Buxton school governing body and the Balagonj College Development Committee UK. The local government officer is also a board member on the Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council UK and the Balagonj-Osmani Nagar Upozila Shomithy.

Mr Rahman is the founder and Chairman of Sheikh Khalilur Rahman Hospital and Sheikh Abdul Aziz Plaza in Boal jur Bazar, Balagonj, Sylhet. Bangladesh. (established 28th October 2012.)

Essentially, Mr Rahman will always be remembered as the lead campaigner against the racist attack on Altab Ali in 1978. The local government officer is married to Shahara Begum and are blessed with four sons, Sheikh Khalilur Rahman, Sheikh Aminur Rahman, Sheikh Rashedur Rahman and Sheikh Waliur Rahman. .



Cllr Gulam Robbani

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Gulam Robbani is married with 4 children and has been living in Tower Hamlets sine 1978.

Attended the Aided High School in Sylhet and completed his secondary education in Daneford School in Bethnal Green, Tower Hamlets.

He attended Ruskin College in Oxford and completed Social Work qualification (CQSW) and graduated in Applied Social Studies in 1991.

Cllr Gulam Robbani joined Local Government Services in 1987 and gradually rose to senior management post. In 1994/95 he was the most senior social services manager from the Bangladeshi Community. He was the Head of Service Development for Ethnic Minorities. He has developed Dean Cross Day Centre (now known as Sonali Gardens) in 1995 for Bangladeshi Elders and Somali Day Centre. He developed a number of employment scheme and recruited a large number of social services staff and empowered local community. He worked with voluntary sector in capacity building and improved the service delivery for Bangladeshi and Somali people in Tower Hamlets.

He worked for a number of local authorise and health authorities as senior Social Service Manager including Tower Hamlets as the Head of Service Development, London Borough of Hillingdon as the Service Manager for Older People, London Borough of Enfield, North Middlesex Hospital as Hospital Service Manager, London Borough of Islington, Whittington Hospital and University College Hospital (UCL) as Service Manager for Adults and Older People and Head of Safeguarding Adults in London Borough of Hackney and Lead Manager for Safeguarding Adults in the City of Westminster.

Cllr Gulam Robbani was Chair of Labour Party in Spitalfields and Bangla Town ward in 1993/94 and Vice Chair of Bethnal Green & Stepney CLP and was the campaign co-ordinator for the 1994 election in Tower Hamlets and led the Labour Party to victory by defeated Liberal Focus Group in Tower Hamlets.

He supported Executive Mayor Lutfur Rahman during his selection process and later he became his election agent during the Mayoral election 2010.

Cllr Gulam Robbani is Mayor's Advisor on Health and Social Services and serving in Spitalfields and Bangla Town ward as elected member and sits on a number of committees such as Development Committee and also sits on as the Board Member in Tower Hamlets Homes Board, East End Homes and Tower Hamlets Community Housing Board.



**Sheikh Mohammad
Abdul Salik**

Sector:
Security and Charity



Sheikh Mohammad Abdul Salik was born in Naraphing, Golaph-gonj in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh. In 1981, Mr Salik arrived in the UK as a child with his parents – Sheikh Abdul Quaium and Hafsarun Bibi. He is the 5th child out of 9 children and grew up in Bromley by Bow, Tower Hamlets. He completed his secondary education followed by a variety of different job roles from sales and customer service to catering, without any satisfaction. Thereafter, Mr Salik entered the security industry having realised his strengths and aspirations. Mr Salik also studied Door Supervision, Close Protection and 'Project Griffin' which covered areas including counter terrorism, current threat, conflict management, bomb scene management, hostile reconnaissance and health and safety.

With years of knowledge and experience looking after VIP's and celebrities, including at the Baishaki Mela, Mr Salik currently works as a corporate security officer and runs his own business with his wife, called Public Protection Security Ltd. The company was formed in 2009 and is based in the heart of East London and pro-

vides a reliable and efficient security service. In 2011, 'Public Protection Security Ltd' covered an Awami League event attended by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh - Sheikh Hasina.

Mr Salik is also a qualified sports coach and has worked with young people in Tower Hamlets. He also runs his own charity and has made numerous donations including a water tank, uniform, sports equipment, books and financial assistance to the school in his home village of Naraphing in Bangladesh.

Mr Salik is married to Husheana Sheikh with two sons; Sultan and Imran, both in primary school.

Abdul Samad

Sector:
Real Estate



The estate agency industry as a whole hasn't achieved the greatest of reputations. However, in the twelve years that Abdul Samad has worked for the national corporate property company Spicerhaart, he has used his strong sense of family values and integrity to overturn this common perception of the industry both as a negotiator and now as a senior branch partner of the company's top office.

Abdul Samad, who is known amongst colleagues and friends as Sam, is the son of Haji Mohammed Abdul Shafik of Sreedhara, Beani Bazar and Bodrun Nessa Khanom who have 10 children. Married to Zahura with two daughters Inaaya and Liyana.

Arriving in the UK at the age of two went through to university. Sam started his career as a sales negotiator in the Clerkenwell office of Felicity J Lord, the London division of Spicerhaart in 2001. Before reaching the end of his 2nd year, due to his incredible performance in sales, Sam was promoted to branch manager of the Bow office and has gone from triumph to triumph. Being the eldest son instilled a natural sense of responsibility and leadership from an early age and these qualities Sam has demonstrated throughout his career.

Out of two hundred and ten offices, Sam has led Bow to the number one position six years in a row for the London region with profits reaching heights that most thought impossible. Sam's recruitment process is a vital part of his approach to business, with an insistence on hiring young graduates with no experience in sales. Investing time in people and watching them succeed is something that Sam takes great personal pride in.

East London as an area is a multi cultural one and his team mirrors this cultural diversity. Colleagues are considered as family and with this sense of familial respect the team are able to create a sense of fairness as well as competition. Sam creates and upholds a strong relationship with all he deals with. It is such relationships and skill that Sam uses outside of his office life as well. Whilst being a keen property developer with a large profile of properties, Sam is involved in a number of charities. The latest being the Beani Bazar Cancer Hospital where he is a trustee and also looking to head their corporate finance, working with large companies to invest in this noble cause.

Passion, determination and drive one could argue are the core qualities Sam possesses and instils in those around him. This self-made millionaire inspires those who work for him to be just as driven and achieve for themselves what he has done. This passion is evident in Bow and the results the office produces, and once again in 2013, records look likely to be broken...



Muhammad Subhan

Sector:
Journalist



Muhammad Subhan is a bright, talented and ambitious professional. He has a long and successful track record of managing and delivering projects in time and within the budget.

Presently, he is the Managing Editor of Muslim Weekly. Muslim Weekly was Britain's first national weekly newspaper solely dedicated for the Muslim community.

Muhammad has worked within the publishing sector since he left college. He has over 10 years of experience in publishing, and has acquired in-depth knowledge and understanding of the publishing sector including the development of content, editing, graphics design, printing and distribution.

Muhammad has also developed a broad range of skills. He is an accredited graphics designer and serves as an Assistant Editor with Weekly Bangladesh (another newspaper dedicated for the Bangladeshi community).

Muhammad is a member of the London Bangla Press club. He currently holds the Information and Research Secretary position and has done so since 2011. Previously, he held the position of Executive Member. He has been instrumental in the development of the branding and marketing of London Bangla Press Club.

In 2008, Muhammad established 'Biswanath Aid' a UK based charity to focus in the region of Biswanath, Sylhet.

Arif Sobhan

Sector:
Business



Arif Sobhan is well-known in the community for his excellent business acumen and vivid personality. Hailing from a respectable family, Arif is the eldest son of Mr. ZSM Bakhteyar, a prominent Civil Engineer and Past President of IEB, Chittagong and Mrs. Meherun. Arif migrated to the United Kingdom in the early twenties as one of the youngest Highly Skilled professional (under 28 age category).

Greatly inspired by his paternal uncle Mr. Taher Subhan, a distinguished industrialist and philanthropist in Bangladesh, Arif founded the Infra Solutions Group, which now involves in global trading, food manufacturing & packaging, property, renewable energy, media and consultancy services. He also holds director position in some reputed companies in home and abroad. Because of notable success in mainstream business, his name was published in BRITISH WHO'S WHO 2010 Publication as one of the Young Business Leaders in Britain.

Arif completed his graduation and done his MBA in Marketing. He is a certified marketing professional and a member of National Union of Journalists in UK. He also writes on current affairs and on business topics in digital media.

Prior to start his own ventures, Arif worked for several multinationals like World Bank, Grameen, Micro-Solar GmbH, HeidelbergCement, Oracle Global and Western Union etc. He is an active member of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (BBCC), a listed alumni member of University of Madras, a life member of American Alumni Association and a permanent member of Chittagong Club Ltd.

Arif is married to Mrs. Airin, also a business graduate and the daughter of a respected Civil Servant Mr. Jahangir Chowdury and Mrs. Rokeya. The couple are blessed with one son Master Ahnaf. Arif enjoys spending quality time with the family. He is a keen traveller having been to many parts of USA, Europe, Middle East and South Asia.

Although he has always been involved in various charitable causes, Arif has recently embarked in setting up an educational trust to support the poor and needy primary school students in Bangladesh, in memory of his late grandmother Mrs. Amatun Nabi, who was a Principal in a local primary school.

Arif is very much grateful to almighty Allah and indebted to his family members and well-wishers for all his achievements so far.

Sadeque Imam Shaikh

Sector:
IT Education and Research



Professor Mr Sadeque Imam Shaikh is now the Pioneer of British Bangladeshi Community in IT education and Research Industries of UK. He has 13 years of teaching experiences in Different Universities of Bangladesh and UK. At present he has been employed by Glyndwr University London as Senior Faculty member of computing to teach M.Sc and B.Sc Students and also employed by University of Derby to deliver Lectures of M.Sc and B.Sc students of IT around the Globe. During last seven years Mr Shaikh established about 8 IT departments in different higher education Institutes/Colleges of UK under Chartered Institute of IT,BCS where thousands of International students have successfully completed their studies. In Bangladesh Mr Shaikh was the Assistant Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Science Engineering and Technology of University of Science & Technology Chittagong. He was also the guest lecturer of Southern University Bangladesh.

He is the 1st Bangladeshi to receive "Graduate of the year Award-2011" (7500GBP) from University of Bedfordshire UK for his outstanding academic, technical and research skills.

He is also the First Bangladeshi to receive Finalist award of UK IT Industry Award-2012, "Individual Excellence Award" Organized by

Chartered Institute of IT for his outstanding contribution for IT education Industries of UK .This year again he has been selected as a Finalist for UK IT Industry Award-2013 Category" IT Consultant of The Year 2013" which will take place on November 2013.He also received ASDF "Best Computer Science Faculty Award-2012" organized by ASDF, India and "Best Teacher Award-2012" from different Colleges. He is also promoting IT education and research for Private Higher Education sector of UK .As a part of that he has formed International Association of ICT and Research UK a non profitable organization of UK and established International Journal of ICT and Research UK where he is the Chief editor, International Journal of Business Informatics(IJBI),UK official journal of London school of technology where he is the associate Editor and Journal of Portsmouth International College where he is the Chief Editor. He has also about 22 research papers which are published in different Journals and Conference Proceedings around the globe. He has been also selected one of top researchers of UK by Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE).

Mr Shaikh is also working for the British Community as an active member of different charities like of British Computer Society (BCS) ,Amnesty International UK, Green Peace UK, Save the Children UK and a UNICEF UK.

Mr Shaikh has completed his M.Sc in Computer Networking from University of Bedfordshire of United Kingdom during 2008.Before that He completed M.Sc in Computer Science and B.Sc in Computer Science from National University of Bangladesh. At present He has been selected for his Postgraduate study at University of Oxford. He is also certified by Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist(MCTS),Microsoft Certified System Administrator and CISCO cetified Network Associate(CCNA) .He is also member of BCS and IEEE .Mr Shaikh is son of Professor Shamsun Nahar and Professor Abdus Sobhan.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI WHO'S WHO 2013

Nashir Uddin**Sector:**
Legal

Nashir Uddin is a highly regarded and influential person within the Bangladeshi Legal Community having qualified as a solicitor in 1998. Through hard work and perseverance he has built up a unique knowledge of UK Immigration Law, especially those affecting ethnically diverse communities like in the UK. Having served on the Law Society Immigration Panel, Nashir continues to inspire a new generation of lawyers to enter this field of law and raise the bar even higher.

Nashir was one of the founding partners of Charles Simmons Immigration Solicitors, a well respected firm of solicitors based in Ilford, London. He is a strong advocate of good practice, honesty and sincerity to all, virtues which he proudly inherited from his parents. Nashir also undertakes extensive pro-bono work, especially for the most vulnerable in society to give them a voice as the stakes are often very high. Nashir is a leader in his field and set up the first UK based immigration consultancy firm in Sylhet in 2002, which no doubt made entry to the UK far more accessible to people from Bangladesh, challenging unlawful bias and discrimination.

Aside from the legal profession, Nashir has an extensive real estate portfolio both in the UK and Bangladesh.

Nashir is an active member of the Bangladeshi community, being involved in a number of Charities. Most notably he is a founding Trustee of the Beani Bazar Cancer Hospital, spearheading a unique project to build the first purpose built Cancer Hospital in the North East of Bangladesh. The construction of the hospital is well under way with Phase One, the Cancer Awareness and Detection Centre, nearing completion.

Nashir is the eldest of two sons of Mr Sharaf Uddin and Mrs Soydon Nessa, and was born in Mathiura, Beani Bazar, Sylhet.

Nashir is a firm believer in life experiences rather than a traditional reliance on academic qualifications and will continue to believe that every member of the community is capable of making a difference. He strongly urges all the people listed in this respected publication to participate and invigorate the youth as their valued contribution and generosity will determine the legacy left for future generations to come.

Nashir Uddin is deeply proud of his Bangladeshi identity and extremely fortunate to have strong family values entrenched by his parents. He believes in living a simple lifestyle and lives with his wife Momotaz, and their two children, Anisha and Rahim.

Helal Uddin;**Sector:**
Care/Business

When we look back on someone's life that is full of achievements and overcoming challenges, it will always be an inspiration to others. We can see that small decisions can lead to momentous change and shape our values in life and that a person can become a role model for a whole generation; an inspiration that everyone can relate to. Such is the life of Helal Uddin; known to his friends as 'H'.

The eldest son of Mr Rofique Uddin, Helal came to the UK with his family in 1980, living in Holloway and then moving to their first family home in Whitechapel. Helal enrolled at Sir John Cass Secondary school, not knowing a single word of English. From these beginnings he has risen to become one of the leading business entrepreneurs in the British Bangladesh community – a multi-lingual business man with a flair for communications.

He has a diverse range of successful businesses and an impressive portfolio of properties throughout the UK. With help and support from his parents, siblings, wife, and his two children, Helal has achieved a great deal in his life.

When he was 17, Helal wanted to contribute towards the family's upkeep and so started his first job, working for Mr Bob Stuart in his camera shop in Whitechapel. Little did he know at the time, but Bob Stuart would not just be his employer, but be a key mentor who would help shape him into the man he is today.

Helal's self-made empire started off as a small germ of an idea in the basement of Stuart Cameras. This is where all the thinking happened, his background checks were performed, all the brainstorming took place, and his meetings were held.

With his hard earned savings, Helal bought his first restaurant and property at the age just 21. He leased out his restaurant and hit the property market boom. Helal recalls; "We were buying a property on Friday and selling it for profit on Monday". By 2002, Helal's property portfolio won him a contract with Tower Hamlets Council and he started renting out his properties to them.

A business opportunist, Helal successfully ventured into the meat and poultry distribution business and was soon turning over a million pounds a year. He sold off his share to his partners and later went on to creating business opportunities with Bob Stuart in the UK & USA.

A man on a mission, he was determined to make a difference in every way possible. When the opportunity came to run his own TV channel, his drive, motivation, and tenacity made it possible to acquire NTV with a group of other directors. By using his experience in construction and photography, he played a major role in recreating the channel and establishing a state of the art studio in Bow. Through 20-hour work schedules and putting his family life on hold - he made NTV a household name – and reached new generations. With the support of his staff & the team, he was highest high standards; by experimenting and being creative, remaining persistent and meticulous, and making the impossible possible.

Helal now owns a Residential Care Home in Newham, a relatively new venture that is very successful. He is now looking to establish further Care Homes across London.

Helal is an active member of the community. He works very closely with charity organisations, mosques and individuals who wish to make a difference to the world. He goes out of his way for those he respects – no matter how young or old – and is an inspiration to us all.



Mr Giash Uddin

Sector:
Business and Catering

One of his more successful restaurants is situated in Portsmouth, known as the Rancho Steak House. This is an American style diner and serves a variety of foods. He believes more people should invest in American style restaurants as it adds something unique to the Bangladeshi Community.

Mr Uddin is a great lover of charity as he contributes towards Bangladesh's flood crisis' and general poverty. He has become a successful businessman and live in Portsmouth with his wife Fahminara Akhter and two children

Mr Giash Uddin is the grandson of Mr Mohamed Amroj Ali, the famous Awami League leader in Dakshin Surma. He was born in Mogla Bazar, Dakshin Surma, Sylhet, Bangladesh. He has completed his B.Sc (Hon) in Bangladesh and further studied in international Business Management, at Amsterdam School of Business.

After completing his studies, he set up his own business in Amsterdam. In 2005 he moved to the UK and set up a group of restaurants in Portsmouth and Southampton. He is also a member of the Caterers Association UK and is involved in local community activities. Mr Uddin's businesses have ever since been extremely successful. It can be said without a doubt that he has come far in life and done well due to his hard work enthusiasm and determination to thrive both as a businessman and an individual.

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Nijam Uddin

Sector:
Business

Nijam Uddin, was born in 1983 in the village of Hashampur, South Surma, Sylhet, Bangladesh. He came to the UK at the age of six and continued his education, gaining a number of GCSEs and doing business administration at college. He is one of seven siblings and being the eldest son, has been responsible for his family since his father passed away when Nijam was just 14.

Nijam is a young entrepreneur who says that his early teens was the defining period of his life. As a hard working, ambitious young man, he started employment with the National Health Service over a decade ago and still holds a position there in the health records department. He has also engaged with many community projects in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets where he grew up. Over the years, Nijam has always had several part time positions; using all his spare time to succeed in life.

He started his first business in the catering industry at just 21 and ran it as a successful business for three years. With this experience, he looked to apply his knowledge and skills to other investments and build up a property portfolio. His most recent venture is in the motor trade industry which includes the personal injury sector.

Nijam is now a director of one of the most leading accident management companies in the British Bangladesh community. M1 Claims Management Ltd has grown over the past three years into a successful business and is at the forefront of the claims industry. He is one of two partners who both believe that community interaction is the key to success. They have sponsored many events and donated funds to many charities.

Nijam is a young, determined, and self motivated business man. At the age of 29, he is a successful entrepreneur.



Mohammed Tamij Uddin

Sector:
Law & Community activities

Barrister Tamij Uddin is an OISC regulated Immigration Adviser. His main field of work is Immigration law, and his practice is largely related to the Immigration problems of the Bangladeshi expatriate community in the UK. Mr Uddin has been in the Immigration practice for the last six years, and has dealt with hundreds of immigration matters encompassing both applications to the UKBA and appeal matters to the Immigration & Asylum Chamber.

Mr Uddin hails from the Shivananda village, Dhobaura, Mymensingh, Bangladesh. He is son of late Mr Sofor Ali and late Mrs Tahmina Khatun and the youngest of three brothers and five sisters. Mr Uddin completed SSC in 1987 from Dhobaura Bohumukhi High School and HSC in 1990 from Dhaka City College. After that Mr Uddin completed Degree in 1996. He completed LLB (honours) from University of Wolverhampton (UK) in 2003 and BVC (Bar Vocational Course) from University of Northumbria at Newcastle (UK).

One of his landmark cases is a Tier 4 (General) Student Immigration appeal – of Abdullah Munawar – and one of the most remarkable stories depicting an incredible comeback in recent times in terms of Immigration appeals in Britain, a story that reminds us that there is hope for justice and fair trial in Britain for all – should they choose to pursue it – even amidst complete haplessness and oddity. The historic and unprecedented decision made by the Upper Tribunal of the UK Immigration & Asylum Chamber in this appeal has led to a row amongst Immigration experts and given way to a series of speculations and opinions from various concerned groups including ministers, politicians, lawyers and community leaders. Mr Uddin considers the decision ever more significant because it has been made in light of the right to respect of family and private life as preserved by the Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The case has been reported in both the UK and Bangladesh in print and electronic media including the Daily Telegraph and Channel 5. It was the lead news of Channel 5, channel 1 and a number of other newspapers TV Channels both in the UK and in Bangladesh.).

Mr Uddin was always keen on serving the people. He believes that such efforts should be initiated not individually and rather should be made at a collective platform. That is how he came in politics of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) which is the student front of BNP. Apart from that he also runs two organizations in his native area namely 'Dhobaura Development Forum' and 'TASCO Human Trust'.

Currently Mr Uddin is serving as the General Secretary of the Bangladesh Nationalist Lawyers' Forum UK, and is known as a promising and hardworking leader within the British Bangladeshi expatriate political arena. Mr Uddin had been a prospective candidate for nomination from BNP for General elections as MP in both 2001 and 2006 for the Dhobaura-Haluaghat (Mymensingh) constituency, and is a strong prospective candidate for nomination from BNP for the same constituency for the next general elections.

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EXISTING ENTRIES



Abdul Ahad

Sector:
Catering

Mr Abdul Ahad is a British Bangladeshi who has been involved in the catering industry for nearly thirty years, and it is fair to say that he has been more than a success.

His first restaurant was opened in Milton Keynes in 1980 and since then his catering empire has grown stronger and stronger. From the moment Mr Ahad entered the catering trade, he saw a vision to create an ultimate shrine to Indian food. In 1998, his plans began to take shape, and finally in early 2002, the dream became reality. As the owner of the famous Jaipur Restaurant in Milton Keynes, Mr Ahad is the man behind the largest purpose built Indian restaurant in Europe.

The Jaipur Restaurant itself is an architectural landmark building of great beauty, and one that Mr Ahad refers to as his own 'mini Taj Mahal'. The food and the service inside is equally impressive, having won practically every available award to Indian cuisine. Furthermore, although initially Jaipur was solely an Indian Restaurant, it now houses a Thai restaurant, the Orchid Lounge, on the first floor.

For all his success as a restaurateur, Mr Ahad is equally as successful in other fields –one of which is fundraising for charities. Two of Mr Ahad's favourite causes are 'the Jaipur Limb Project' of the Rotary International and Save the Children charity.

The 'Jaipur Limb Project' set up in Jaipur, India, is engaged in manufacturing prosthetic limbs for children and adults who have lost their limbs due to disease or accidents. The provision of a new limb gives them a life changing experience enabling them to a full life in many different ways. Mr Ahad is a major supporter and contributor to the project during the last twelve years, raising over £30,000 through the Annual Charity Dinner.

The Ousedale School branch of the Save the Children fund engages in a variety of fundraising activities. For last 19 years, the Annual Gala Dinner at the Jaipur is one of the highlights of the fundraising calendar and gives everyone a chance to participate either by donating for the raffle draw or by attending the dinner. As recognition of his services, Mr Ahad was made the Honorary President of the Ousedale School branch of the Charity.

Mr Ahad is also a high profile and integral member of Britain's Bangladeshi community and has supported the development of schools, mosques, madrassas and other charity projects in his parental village in Sylhet.



Bashir Ahmed

Sector:
Catering and business

Bashir Ahmed is a prominent figure within the Bangladeshi business community in the UK and Europe has actively worked with the UK Government and other private sectors financial organisations to assist the Bangladeshi business community. Mr Ahmed is a Director of British Bangladeshi Chamber of Commerce and is actively involved in trade and commerce related issues in Europe.

Mr Ahmed is the Chairman & Managing Director of Kohinoor of India Holdings, Chairman of Kasturi Catering & food processing. Mr Ahmed has wide range of investments in Europe and in Bangladesh, including aviation, property, food processing and franchise. He is the founder Director of Rock Asset management Limited of Bangladesh and has various investments in many other financial institutions and has eye for innovative ideas and breakthrough projects.



Cllr A M Ohid Ahmed

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Ohid Ahmed is the Executive Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Ohid is a part qualified Certified Chartered Accountant (ACCA). He has a Masters Degree in Accountancy and between 2002 and 2005 he completed his MBA from University of East London.

Cllr Ahmed was the founder and instrumental of setting up Labour Friends of Bangladesh (LFB) and chair until 2010. As Finance & Grants Coordinator for Lea side Regeneration he manages various projects involving employment and finance. He also provides advice and support to project managers in relation to financial management and administrative issues. Cllr Ahmed was the first Bangladeshi Muslim to sit on the London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (Ministerial appointment).

Cllr Ohid Ahmed is very strongly involved in the social and economic regeneration of East London. He has worked with many community and voluntary organisations in East London and has helped them obtain grants. Another issue close to Ohid's heart is

the removal of barriers in the labour market for those groups who are at a disadvantage in entering the labour market. He places particular emphasis on combating race, sex and disability discrimination, and he has helped implementing measures, which will eradicate these barriers.

I was also Cabinet member of Regeneration, Localisation and Community Partnership from 2006 to 2009 and Education and youth Services for 2005. Councillor Ohid Ahmed was Cabinet Member for resources and performance in 2009 and was short listed for prestigious LGIU award for his outstanding contribution to financial performance in Tower Hamlets.

Cllr Ohid Ahmed also serves in several community organisations. He is the Trustee of the Golapgonj Education Trust, as well as a Trustee for the Mahmud Hussain Education & Welfare Trust. He currently holds the position of Board Member at both the Limehouse Youth Club and the Poplar (Aberfeldy) Islamic Cultural Centre. He was formerly the Cabinet Member of Education and Youth Services for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, and the youth and cultural secretary at the Bangladesh Centre.

Other positions have included being a Trustee for Canary Wharf Further Education Trust, as well as a Director for Poplar Harca. Cllr Ohid Ahmed's favourite pastimes include following national and international Politics, cricket, Chess, gardening as well as computing. He is a well-rounded Councillor striving for the success of East London and the people within.



Cllr Rajib Ahmed

Sector:
Politics

"Speaker Councillor Rajib Ahmed has lived in Tower Hamlets (UK) for 33 years. He is a long standing community activist who started out fighting against racism for all sections of the community, and has since worked with a number of local organisations.

He has been serving as an elected Councillor for the last 14 Years. He got elected 4 times in a row. He has served as the Boroughs Deputy Mayor, Deputy Speaker, and also served on a number of important positions

Councillor Ahmed has many talents: he is a lyricist, composer and singer, and has recorded three music albums one of the albums music is composed by Asia's renowned music director Bappi Lahiri. His songs can be seen on you tube under 'bangla song by Rajib Ahmed'.

As well as Asia's renowned Ghozol King Mehdi Hassan he has performed on stage with many renowned artists, as well as performances on many radio and TV programmes.

Cllr Ahmed currently works as a Company Director.

Speaker of Council he is the 1st Citizen of the Borough, The Speaker represents the Queen as First Citizen of the Borough, hosting events and welcoming visitors such as other Royals and the captains of all ships visiting the local docks and as such Cllr Ahmed will promote Tower Hamlets during his Civic Year and raise funds for his chosen charities.

The former Civic Mayor of Tower Hamlets is now known as 'Speaker of Council' and the Speaker is responsible for the ceremonial duties of the council. A new Speaker is elected every year from among the serving councillors in the borough.

It is the Speaker's function to chair council meetings and promote and support the borough through a variety of civic engagements. As an ambassador for the borough, one of the Speaker's main duties is to raise the profile of the Council and to forge links with the private, public and voluntary sector.

The Speaker is committed to serving the people of Tower Hamlets with integrity, striving for prosperity for all.

Cllr Ahmed has made personal donations for number of good causes as well as fundraising, His passions are: helping the needy and vulnerable, singing, gardening, reading books, writing lyrics, Travelling and planting trees. Over the last few years he has planted over 3 thousand trees. His tree planting was shown on ATN Bangla TV which was viewed by Audiences in Bangladesh, America, Canada, Latin America and Europe."



Cllr Rofique Uddin Ahmed

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Rofique Ahmed has been a Councillor for Mile End and Globe Town London Borough of Tower Hamlets since 2002, (re-elected in 2006 and 2010 with growing popularity). For the past 3 years he has been serving as Cabinet Lead Member for Regeneration. Just before he served as Cabinet Lead Member for Culture and Leisure for 2 years, during which he successfully ran the Baishakhi Mela for two years, saved the Bancroft library and invested money to keep the history and archives open for residents. He introduced free swimming for Tower Hamlets residents and led to build the Minaret in Bricklane. He was one of the Board Member of Olympic Delivery Authority Planning Decisions Team for London 2012 Olympics. He was Chair of Strategic Development, Development Committee and Olympic Development Committee for 3 years. Chair of Licensing Committee, Chair of Standards Panel, Lead Member of Asia Urbs, Director of Ocean New Deal for Communities and Lead Member of the Association of London Government Grant Committee. Cllr Ahmed was trustee of Ocean Regeneration trust, Stepney Relief in Needs Charity Board and East London CAB and Rich Mix Centre. His contributions to the community include: Chair of Ben Jonson School Governing Body, Senior Vice-Chair of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council East London, Tower Hamlets Governors Forum and Ocean Tenants and Leaseholders Association.

His parents are deceased, his older brother lives with his family and his younger brother graduated from UCL and works in Finance. Alhaj Rofique and Mrs Aysha Begum have 5 children, Aklima graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in Business Management and married Ruhel in 2008. They have their first daughter Eliza. Nelema studies Medicine at Kings and completed her BSc with a First Class. She is in her fourth year in Medicine. Emad graduated with a First Class in Economics and works in the financial sector. Nasima is studying her A-Levels and Shamima is enrolled in a private boarding school.

Cllr Ahmed has a vision of an inclusive society where everyone enjoys opportunities regardless of their backgrounds. He is working to create a stronger local economic infrastructure to create better housing, environment and health. He wants to see children educated, motivated and pursuing successful careers.



Doros Ahmed

Sector:
Catering & community relations

Mr Doros Ahmed is a successful restaurateur in West Hampstead, North West London. Mr Ahmed arrived in the UK in 1971 from Balagonj in Sylhet. Upon arrival, Mr Ahmed completed his institutional education. He also took a management and marketing diploma course. He then proceeded into employment in West End hotels, which help build his knowledge and experience substantially. In the early 1980's Mr Ahmed went into partnership with the famous Lal Qila restaurant. Later, he opened his own restaurant called Eastern Basserie in Holborn and this followed by another restaurant called Chowrangee in Central London. Mr Ahmed moved to West Hampstead in the 1990's where he opened up Babour Empire and Ruchi restaurant. Mr Ahmed has been successfully running Ruchi with his eldest son Khaled Ahmed. Mr Ahmed has been a long serving member of the Bengali community. He was the founding member of the Bengali workers association group from its inauguration in 1976. The association is now known as the Bengali Workers Association (BWA). He has also served as the treasurer of this association.

He completed two terms helping the Bangladeshi community in Queens Park in Westminster, totalling 5 years as the General Secretary of the Queens Park Bangladeshi Association. Mr Ahmed is the permanent member of Bangladesh centre. Mr Ahmed is vice president of the Bangladesh Caterers Association UK and convenor of Bangladesh Caterers Association in the London region one.

Mr Ahmed is also a Labour Party activist of North Kensington closely working with MP Karen Buck. He is also interested in Bangladesh politics; Bango Bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, being his idol. He is also the vice president of West London Awami League. Mr Ahmed is currently general secretary of Queens Park Bangladesh Association, Westminster.

Mr Ahmed is married and happily living with his family. He enjoys travelling and has visited many countries.



Gulam Mortuza Ahmed

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Gulam Mortuza Ahmed was born in the Biswanath region of Sylhet Bangladesh and came to the UK at an early age. He is one of four sons of Haji Shajidur Rahman.

Gulam achieved a Masters Degree in Commercial Law from the University of Birmingham and called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1997.

Gulam is a specialist criminal defence barrister practising from 1 Inner Temple Lane Chambers, Temple, London. Gulam undertook his pupillage training at 2 Paper Buildings, Temple, London. Over the last few years Gulam has successfully represented clients charged with fraud (including VAT fraud, Inland Revenue Fraud, Company Fraud, Banking fraud), money laundering, murder and terrorism. Gulam has been led in multi-handed cases and instructed as lead counsel in multi-handed cases. Furthermore, Gulam has also appeared before the GMC and the Coroners Court

Gulam is highly regarded as a very competent barrister in a field of law which lawyers of Bangladeshi origin have rarely excelled. Gulam

is a very promising Barrister who has appeared in many notable cases. His ability and achievements make him one to watch out for in the future.

Gulam is married with 3 children, 1 daughter and 2 sons. His hobbies are current affairs, sports and travelling.

Gulam is a member of the Criminal Bar Association. He lives in London and Birmingham.



Sheikh Faruque Ahmed

Sector:
Community relations

Philanthropist Sheikh was born in 1958 at (Moulvibari) Audath, Shaharpara, Jagannathpur. Father Late Alhaj Sheikh Abdur Rzaque, mother Alhaj Begum Lal Banu arrived in the UK in 1974. Sheikh lives in Essex with his wife Shaheda Chowdhury, sons Sheikh Jalal Bsc (PGCE), Sheikh Jahid BSc (first Bangladeshi professional cricketer in UK) Sports Manager, Sheikh Sayeid BA, Sheikh Fuad student. Daughters Shahina Amin, MA Shuma BSc, Nadia student. All his son's awarded by Channel S & Bangladesh High Commission UK.

He is the founder of Polash Sheba Trust, monthly Polash, quarterly Suniket & one of the founders; Jalalabad Disabled Rehabilitation Centre & Hospital, Osmani International Airport & Sylhet Education Board implementation committee, Sylhet Bibhag Gonodabi Porishad, Shaharpara Jubasangha, Housing Estate Somajkalyan Sangha, SZ Unnayan Sangastha, SAR Jame Mosque, JBB Education Trust, Maldon Jame Mosque, ABA gram development Sangastha,

Syed Pur Shaharpara union trust. Apart from being the founders he also served as (First & present) Chairperson, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Patron, Adviser, Life Member, Publisher, Member of many organisations respectfully, Such as Maldon District Islamic Cultural Association, Sylhet Hotel Owners Association, Abhishek Committee, Rotary Club of Jalabad, Inter City Conference Area3, World Tourism Day, Amberkhana Primary & Audath Budrail Atgar Primary School, Amberkhana Bazer Committee, Bangladesh Itihas Samity, Manabadhikar Sangstha, Probin Hitoshi sangha, Fair Election monitoring Alliance Bangladesh, Sylhet Press club, Bangla Academy, Red crescent society, Muslim shahitya sangsad, Mobile Library, Sylot Academy, Jaytio shikkha Kendra, Save the Environmental movement Bangladesh, Cancer Patient Poor Health fund, Rotary club, Syedpur Adorsha & Jagannathpur Degree college implementation committee, National Vaccination & National Youth Day, Moinuddin Adorsha Mohila College, Chamber of commerce, Sunamganj Samity, Kolom Sainik, IL Academy, Bangladesh Ex Cadet Association, Halima Sadia (RA) & BAA Madrasa, IAG, Tawhidi Parikrama, Gulister Golpo, Sylhet bibhag Bhoigolik Oythiasik Rufrekha, Polash, Sunikat, Fuljuri and many more.



Mesba Ahmed

Sector:
Community Relations

Mesba Ahmed was born in Nidon Pur, Beani Bazaar, in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

He is the son of the late Alhaj Hafiz Uddin.

Mesba followed both his grandfather's and father's footsteps by moving to the UK in 1972. He completed his education in England. He then worked for Allied Dunbar as a Financial Consultant.

Due to the recession in the early 1990's, he was forced to change his career, and consequently started working for the Marylebone Bangladesh Society and Age Concern Westminster.

He is currently The Chief Executive of London Tigers, Director of Prime Financial Services and a Partner of Atithi Restaurant.

Mesba established London Tigers in 1986 and it has grown immensely since its inception. The organisation has won numerous awards, and is widely recognised as a beacon of success by many local authorities, sports governing bodies and politicians. The Patron of London Tigers is Ken Livingstone, the former Mayor of London.

Mr Ahmed is involved with many charitable organisations.

He was the founder President of Nidon Pur Welfare Association and a Governor of the Ark Academy School to name but a few.

For his endeavors, Mr Ahmed has received a number of high profile awards. In 2004, he was the winner of the inaugural Westminster Local Leadership Award, and in 2005, he won the GG2 Leadership Diversity Award. He was nominated for an Outstanding Achievement Award at the Sony Asia Television Sports Personality Awards in 2007, and London Tigers were nominated for Best Community Organisation UK in the 2008 Channel S Awards.

Recently Mesba visited Bangladesh as part of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office programme called 'Projecting British Muslims,' which enables prominent British Muslims to visit countries to compare experiences and celebrate the successes of Britain's Muslim population. The delegates were also able to dispel misleading stereotypes and myths and give first-hand accounts of actual life as a Muslim in the UK.

Mr Mesba Ahmed is married to Mrs Lubna Ahmed, and together they have four children.



Mosleh Uddin Ahmed

Sector:
Media (Journalist)

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed was born in Golapgonj in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1970. He is the son of Mr Haji Ismail Ali and the late Mohiba Bibi.

Mr Ahmed moved to the UK after he had completed an MA at Jangannath College in Dhaka. While living in Bangladesh, Mr Ahmed became involved in the world of journalism. He completed his apprenticeship at Jugovary in Sylhet, before moving to Sylhet Sanglap and then the Daily Ajker Sylhet.

Upon his arrival in the UK, Mr Ahmed continued working as a journalist, and is now the news editor of the most renowned British Bangladeshi newspaper – Janamot. Mr Ahmed was the joint secretary of the Bangladesh Journalist Association, and was also the Literature Secretary of MC College Student Union in Sylhet.

At present, Mosleh Uddin Ahmed is an integral member of the London Bangla Press Club. He was also treasurer of the London Bangla Press Club.

Mr Mosleh Uddin Ahmed is a life member of Bonigram- Bhorgram High School.

Mr Ahmed is married to Hamida Begum, and they have two children Iffat Ahmed Mohathir Ahmed.



Iqbal Ahmed OBE

Sector:
Business

Iqbal Ahmed was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1956 and came to the UK in 1971. He completed his secondary education at the City College in Westminster, London and joined the family business in Oldham in 1976. Subsequently, his brothers, Kamal and Bilal joined him and the expansion of the business began. Iqbal is married with three children, two of whom have left university to make their way in the world, one with Seamark, the other a doctor, and the third has begun her degree course at Manchester University.

He pioneered the import of frozen fish and seafood products in refrigerated containers and was the first to import the black tiger shrimp into the UK and EU. Iqbal Brothers & Company soon became the leading supplier of warm water frozen fish and shrimps in the EU with a national distribution network it retains to this day.

Seamark plc followed in 1991, specializing in the processing and stocking of warm water shrimps, especially the black tiger and the fresh water king prawn. After processing and packing, these were exported to most countries in Europe, as a result of which, Seamark received the coveted Queen's Award for Export Achievement in 1998. This was followed in 1999, by the first prize in the prestigious Business in Europe Awards. In Bangladesh Seamark received a national award and gold medal for Bangladesh (didn't understand one word he wrote here) ... consecutive years 2001, 2002, 2003, the highest export of seafood.

As a British investor in the third world, with the support and encouragement of DTI, a new, ultra modern factory, costing USD10 million, was constructed in Chittagong, Bangladesh. HRH The Princess Royal was invited to perform the official opening in November 2000, which she did in the presence of many distinguished guests. The Chittagong factory is operating at full capacity and has been expanded, within the existing site areas, producing value added and ready to eat products such as seafood and vegetable somosas, paratha and vegetables. In addition, two further seafood processing companies have been taken over in

Bangladesh and the group now boasts its own fleet of deep sea shrimp trawlers equipped with on board freezing facilities, as well as its own hatchery where high quality shrimp can be farmed for export to the world.

In 2001, we opened our USA sales office in New Jersey and have since acquired a warehouse and a cold store in Brooklyn, New York to distribute our products in North America including Canada.

In 2005, Seamark constructed a factory in Manchester on a 6.25-acre on a nearby site in East Manchester. A further development to this site involves a large Thai restaurant called Vermilion, which opened in at the end of November 2007. Vermilion features an exceptional décor and the site includes a 200 cover restaurant on its first floor and a bar with a capacity of 300 and a large private function room for over 100 people on its second floor. All three units have bars and kitchens and are capable of handling large and small events, weddings, business conferences. This complex has provided a new and much larger suite of offices and a cold store (one of the biggest of its kind in Europe with a capacity to store 12,500 tonnes of frozen food) for Seamark's associated business Ibc Limited (formerly Iqbal Brothers) who, in addition to their well established frozen and ambient food trading has opened a new venture from this site, a wholesale cash & carry unit named Restaurant Wholesale, with the aim of providing everything the modern restaurant will require.

Over the years, Iqbal has been appointed to a number of Government committees and Advisory bodies, among which are the Southern Asia Advisory Group under DTI, the Competitiveness Council, BOND (the British Council) and the Manchester Forum. He is the Director of New East Manchester Limited, the partnership company between Manchester City Council, English Partnerships and North West Development Agency charged with the task of the regeneration East Manchester. In 2006 he was invited to become a member of the Ethical Trading Champions' Group, set up under the government's Food industry Sustainability Strategy (FISS). Iqbal represents the interests and concerns of the Frozen Food Manufacturers. The British Frozen Food Federation nominated him for the position on the Champions' Group and they submitted their report and recommendations to the government at the end of March 2007. He is also the Northwest Regional President of the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce. In November 2007, he was personally invited by George Osborn; Shadow Chancellor to join his newly formed New Enterprise Council.

He is also involved in many charities in the UK and in Bangladesh, including the development of a secondary school and college (Burunga Iqbal Ahmed High School and College) for 1,200 pupils in Sylhet in Northeast Bangladesh. He is Founder and Vice- Chairman of Masjid-ul-aqsa Islamic Centre.

Hobbies include traveling, watching documentary programmes, going to the cinema, playing golf, tennis and swimming.



Mohammed Belal Ahmed

Sector:
Media

Mohammed Belal Ahmed is the chief editor of the most circulated newspaper in the UK and Ex-President of the London Bangla Press Club, a prestigious role for a reputable organisation within the Bangla media journalists.

Mohammed Belal Ahmed is from Barlekha Moulvibazar, Bangladesh where he lived with his father Late Abul Khair Mustafa and mother Jahanara Khanam. During the liberation war for the independence of Bangladesh, at the age of 6, Mohammed Belal Ahmed was exiled, separated from his family for 10 months which to date he describes as was one of the toughest moments in his early life.

Upon returning from exile Mohammed Belal Ahmed completed

his pre-university education at Sylhet and graduated from the University of Chittagong.

In 1990, he moved to the United Kingdom and a year later 1991 entered Journalism joining Weekly Surma as a news-editor he has been involved with that newspaper for the last 20 years. In 1995, Mohammed Belal Ahmed became the Chief Editor of Weekly Surma and in early 2002 he was involved in publishing another newspaper Bangla Express, also serving as the Chief Editor which generated a good readership.

Mohammed Belal Ahmed has long been involved in various social, cultural, educational organisations in addition to being a member of professional bodies. Mohammed Belal Ahmed is an active member of the Anti-Tobacco Movement and is one of the steering group

members for the Bangladeshi Stop Tobacco Project in Tower Hamlets. Mohammed Belal Ahmed and his wife Sadia Ahmed reside in Dartford, Kent, with their two sons Nafis and Sami.



Muquim Ahmed

Sector:
Business and Politics

Muquim Ahmed came to England at the age of 19 to study Production Engineering. He started his business career from the age of 21 by helping his father to import goods from Britain to Holland to Bangladesh. He moved into Electrical Wholesaling as well as expanding his property portfolio and becoming the owner of Naz Cinema in Brick Lane and various properties in and around London.

At the age of 26 he became the first Bangladeshi millionaire; since then he has always been on the Asian rich list.

Muquim Ahmed, as acclaimed by Estate Gazette, (issue October 2005 and October 2007) 'King of Bricklane' and 'Curry King' by ELA (1st November 2007) diversified his interests and moved towards the catering industry.

In 1996 he opened Café Naz in Brick Lane- the flagship restaurant and is still the most high profile eatery in the area. As well as the famous Café Naz in Bricklane, he opened branches in Cambridge, Cardiff, Horsham, Chelmsford, London and another café style eatery in Brick Lane. Today among many other projects his award winning Café Naz chain is going from strength to strength. He also owns a distribution and marketing division called Asian Foods Ltd.

He featured in the Times article in 2006 'Focus Immigrant Britain' which was based on highly successful Brits of ethnic background. Recently he has successfully bought a century old manufacturing plant called Rayner's Bakery at 12 Deer Part Road, Merton SW19 3UQ. The Bakery comprises of 13000sq. ft. of usable space. The company has already set up and dedicated a floor for producing ready meals.

He was the chairman of Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce for two consecutive Terms and continues to remain involved closely with the Chamber. He is newly elected President of the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce.

He has enormous drive and is inspired to improve the quality of life for himself and for his fellow being.

He has also dedicated a substantial quantity of his time to the Conservative Party.



Parvez Ahmed

Sector:
Business & Community relations

Parvez Ahmed is an entrepreneur who is actively involved with the North West Chamber of Commerce in London. In 2006, Mr Ahmed received a community achievement award from Channel 5 in recognition for many years of hard work in the community. The businessman completed his education in Bangladesh before moving to the UK. However, since the age of twenty one, Mr Ahmed established a number of businesses throughout Bangladesh. Most notably, Mr Ahmed invested in the textiles and garment industry.

He continued his focus in the textiles and garment industry after arriving in the UK where he also opened a restaurant. He has been closely involved with the Bangladesh Caterers Association where he has served as a Management Committee Member, Deputy Secretary General and Secretary General over the past 24 years. Mr Ahmed is also the Managing Director of S.O.I Limited and Chairman of New Generation 2000.

Mr Ahmed also helped organise an education awards ceremony for the Bangladesh High Commission celebrating the achievement of young British Bangladeshi's.

Mr Ahmed is also a loyal member of the Labour party, being an active fundraiser, participating in a number of committees as well as serving as the current chairman of the Dollis Hill Branch in Brent Central.

Over the last twenty three years, Mr Ahmed has been involved with many local organisations holding a range of posts including board member, management committee member, Trustee and Chairman. These groups include the Tricycle Theatre and Cinema, Brent Safer

Neighbourhood Team, Brent Minority and Ethnic Forum, Greater Sylhet Council UK, North West London Muslim Forum, Kilburn

Partnership, Single Regeneration Board, Friends of Bangladesh UK, West Hampstead Bengali Association, 403 Harrow Road Limited, Bangladesh Centre (Notting Hill, London), Brent Bengali Community Centre and the Sylhet Sador Education Trust.

Through his businesses, Mr Ahmed has supported numerous mainstream national charities through donations and regular fundraising. In Bangladesh, the businessman named a charity after himself to encourage women to continue studying called the Parvez Ahmed Female Educational Trust in addition to supporting the APEX International and the Red Crescent project.

Married for twenty six years to former London Borough of Brent Councillor Lena Ahmed, the couple have been blessed with two sons. One of which has completed a research Masters in Biomedicine and the other has completed a Law Degree, with both currently working in Local Government.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S WHO

2013



Shofi Ahmed

Sector:
Media and Literature

Shofi Ahmed is a national award winning and one of the most talented writers of the Bangladeshi community here in the UK. Mr Ahmed was the founder editor of Bangla Mirror, the first weekly English newspaper for the British Bangladeshis. Currently he is free-lancing with English news agencies. While studying for a degree in I.T, Mr Ahmed won a bursary to study at Oxford University. The same year his first article on natural science also won him a national award. In 1995 he won the Daily Telegraph's National Young Science Writers Competition.

This award gave the writer an opportunity to meet the nation's leading science writers, journalists and personalities.

In 1995, Shofi Ahmed's profile rose after the release of his first poetry book, 'Reason and The Origin – the Relativity of Science and Poetry' which was published by New Millennium Publishers.

The book was praised by leading academics and scholars at a distinguished Daily Telegraph event. The Royal Society of Science's

SCAN magazine described the book in a review as "A collection of modern poetry combining the arts of literature with the discipline of science, poems compare themes such as the physics involved in the creation of the material world and thought processes".

Mr Ahmed's efforts have been widely recognised by the community as he received an award from Channel 5 in 2006. The eldest of seven siblings, he lives in North London and is married to Ayesha Ahmed. They have three children who are Zohura, Ali and Zubeda. Shofi Ahmed is soon to release another book focusing on his motherland called Sylhet: 'The Land of the Centre of the Earth'.

Syed Ahmed**Sector:**
Entrepreneur

Syed Ahmed hit the headlines by reaching the final five in Series two of BBC TV's 'The Apprentice' – earning himself a National Television Award nomination in the process. Syed has seven GCSE's and a BTEC National Diploma in Business & Finance. Prior to embarking on his successful corporate career, Syed was trained as a junior pilot in the Air Training Corps and also earned his Duke of Edinburgh Gold standard award.

A successful and dynamic entrepreneur with a background in IT recruitment, Syed started his first business venture in 2004, when he founded IT People Ltd.

He played a key role in bringing in the business of numerous big accounts, including world-famous corporations such as Morgan Stanley, Reuters and Centrica. This strong performance, coupled with Syed's careful positioning of the brand within the marketplace, enabled him to agree a deal with his business partner for his shares and leave to pursue his entrepreneurial instincts and set up a new venture in a growth market.

His energy was channeled into SAVortex Ltd, a UK company that has developed revolutionary air-spinning heating technology for hand-dryers. The product has been compared to the game-changing cyclone technology Dyson brought to the vacuum cleaner market. After securing international patents and developing two prototypes, Syed hand-picked a management team and board of directors to assist the international launch of SAVortex.

As a dedicated and energetic entrepreneur, with an infectious enthusiasm for business, Syed also found time to develop a sideline in keynote and motivational speaking – including appearing as a guest speaker at The Global Management Challenge competition and presenting awards at The National Final held at CIMA headquarters. Syed also rolled-out 'Pioneering Ambitions' – an initiative sponsored by Oxford University and hosted The Edge Competition final at London Stock Exchange, sponsored by AIGO & SEEDA.

Syed actively supports and sponsors several charities including CRP – Bangladesh, The Queen Mary University London, BFA, QMBC, Islamic Relief, Bangladeshi Female Academy, and The Anthony Nolan Trust.

Syed Ashfaque Ahmed**Sector:**
Education & community relations

Syed Ashfaque Ahmed born in Syedpur, Jagannathpur, Sunamgonj, Sylhet, Bangladesh. He is the son of Late Haji Syed Mohiuddinn Ahmed (Dr Kasha Miah) and Late Syeda Bodrun Nessa. He comes from a respectable, well educated and established family. His siblings are in various high level Positions in Bangladesh. He completed his M.A from Jagannath University College in Dhaka. After graduating he worked as a Lecturer at Syedpur Adorsho College. Whilst in Bangladesh he was the president of Shohid Dilder Siriti Patager and a Member of the Interact Club of Sylhet Surma.

After arriving in the UK he continued his passion for teaching and worked at various Primary Schools in London. He completed his NVQ level 2 in Children Care, learning and Development from Newham College and is presently working at Woodgrange Infant school as a Teaching Assistant.

He is also working for Chestnut After School Club as a Play Worker.

Syed Ahmed was the Educational Secretary for Syedpur Shamsia Shomity in the UK and Membership Secretary of Barkingside Islamic Cultural Centre & Mosque UK. He is also the Educational Secretary for Jagannathpur Upozillah Development Association. He is the Executive Member of the Sunamgonj Zila Shomiti in UK. Syed Ahmed is also the Chairman for Syed International School a leading English Medium Institute in Bangladesh.

Syed Ahmed married Shanaz Moushumi Syeda in 1999. She completed her BA Hons in Human Resources and is working as a HR Manager in London. They have two daughters and have a portfolio of properties in Greater London.



Monir Ahmed

Sector:

Business & community relations

Mr Monir Ahmed is a renowned young business entrepreneur and a community worker. Born in 1970 in Mohammadpur, Biswanath, Sylhet, He is the son of late Jomshed Ali and Mahmuda Khatun. He passed his SSC from Ramshundor High School Biswanath, HSC from Sylhet Govt College and BA from Modan Mohan College Sylhet. He holds a certificate in Export-Import System Processing and Cargo from British International Freight Association (BIFA).

Mr Ahmed has been associated in the cargo business for a long time. He started his business Cargo Management in 1987 and worked for sixteen years. Mr Ahmed came to Britain in 2000 and initiated a cargo business in the UK named JMG Air Cargo at 8 Fordham Street, London E1 1HS. This organization currently contributes the majority of Biman's cargo in Bangladesh. In the past few years, Biman has earned a huge amount of money from JMG and Govt of Bangladesh. With more than 60 agents all over the UK, the company gives top sales awards and training to the agents and employees every year.

Mr Monir Ahmed's pioneering business model emerged from an understanding that cargo services must remove the problem of in-

accessibility to the consumers. Mr Ahmed introduced the air cargo business to the Bangladeshi community. He has not only made cargo services cheaper, but also quicker to consumers and achieved a major share in the market. As well as ensuring that he remained true to his values about the community. This achievement made JMG a leading cargo business that runs worldwide, providing door to door services to EU member states as well as parts of Africa, Asia and Canada. He has now plans in place for cargo services to Bangladesh from both Italy and France.

Mr Ahmed is also known for his charitable work and hardworking nature. Being Treasurer of Sylhet CNF Agent Association for many years. He is also known for his role as a Business Executive Member of Bangladesh Overseas Centre and the Organizing Secretary of Biswanath Youth Association. He is also one of the Directors of the British Bangladeshi Chamber of Commers.

Continuously participating in various social and cultural events he is well known for his donations and voluntary work. His organisation supported in carrying relief goods to Bangladesh during different natural calamities in Bangladesh. He is the trustee of Biswanath Education Trust, Chairman of Dar-UI-Kuran Nazirbazar Charity Organization and Chairman of BBIF-86 in the UK. He is also the Finance Director of AL-Jamee Group of Investment UK. Mr Ahmed is adamant to continue his community work and extend more support towards the community in the future, especially for the development of rural Bangladesh and the UK.



Ahmed Ali

Sector:

Business

Mr Ahmed Ali was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh. He arrived in England in 1976. His father was a major Pakistan arm force Bengal regiment, who fought in Pakistan liberation war. Then he took part in the Bangladesh liberation in 1971. His two uncles were also in the army, and fought against the Pakistani army. One of his brother sacrificed his life in the liberation war in 1971.

Mr Ahmed Ali completed his primary education in Sylhet. He studied in Cumberland High School in East London. Then he began his business and management course. He worked as a restaurant manager in 1982. Afterwards he became an assistant manager Gurners restaurant in 1984 in London W1. At the same time, he was studying finance. He finished his course to become a financial consultant of the summit marketing company. Then after a few years, he went to open up his own restaurant, named Sheiks Indian restaurant in Broadway Worcestershire. He changed his restaurant name from

'Indian cuisine' to 'Bangladeshi cuisine'. He has also had restaurant in other places in England.

Mr Ahmed Ali is a marketing director of Excelsior Sylhet (5 star hotel). Mr Ahmed Ali is a proprietor of Select Autos. He is an executive director of West point school and college. In addition, he is also a marketing executive for Shomoy24.com online daily. Apart from his business career, he is also involved in various community Organisations, in the UK.

Mr Ahmed Ali is always helpful for the Community. He has been involved in many Community Activities. He was a co-coordinator for dine Bangladeshi campaign. He is a very well known person in UK

and Bangladesh. He is a chairman progressive community. He has been involved in many community activities and various charities. He has been helping many poor people in Bangladesh. Also he has been supported many poor knowledgeable students in Bangladesh and contributed to developing school, madrasha and mosques.

Mr Ahmed Ali is married to Shopna Begum. They have three daughters (Shanaz, Jamima and Depa Ali) and one son (Nahid Ali). Ahmed Ali enjoys traveling, dining out, politics, community work and sports. Mr Ahmed Ali is a very young and successful, British Bangladeshi.



Amin Ali

Sector:
Catering

Amin Ali is the founder of Red Fort. As a restaurant the Red Fort has always been a trailblazer and voted best restaurant in London. It has been winning rapturous praise for almost 25 years and many politicians and celebrities have crossed its threshold. Mr Amin Ali was born into a traditional Muslim family from Jalalpur - Nabigonj, which is a part of Habigonj District in Bangladesh. He first arrived to the UK for settlement in 1972. Since his arrival to the UK in 1972, he has been active in the community scene. After completing his studies he got involved with setting up community organisation such as Bengali Workers Action Group in Camden (London), which he was a founding General Secretary. He was also member of Camden's Community Relations Council (CRC).

In the 80's he was actively involved with the International Charity Organisation War on Want. He was the Vice - Chair for number of years, while Glenys Kinnock (now MEP) was the Chair of 'War on Want'. In the late 70's he founded a pioneering co-operative restaurant project 'The Last Days of the Raj'. Later he set up many successful restaurants such as Jamdani, Red Fort and Soho Spice. When The Red Fort opened 25 years ago on Dean Street in London's Soho, it was the first restaurant that contradicted the stereotypical view of Asian eateries. And it was the first to offer the real cooking of India. In 1985 BBC television made a special programme on Amin Ali for his achievements in the Indian restaurant business.

Throughout his life in the UK, Amin Ali has been in the forefront to promote Bengali foods and culture in Britain. In 1987, he organised first ever exhibition of Jamdani, the hand-woven rugs and textile designs at London's Whitechapel Art Gallery. He was also instrumental for organising the first 'London Festival of Bangladesh' in 1994. The Bangladesh Food Festival at the Red Fort was another successful event he was responsible for. Mr Ali is one of the most respected restaurateurs in Britain. He has taken the British curry business to new heights. Away from his businesses and family, Amin Ali is a keen traveller and enjoys playing and watching squash and football.



Cllr Nasim Ali OBE

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Nasim Ali OBE is an exceptional person who has had an outstanding career.

In May 2010 Councillor Nasim Ali was historically elected as the first Bangladeshi Leader of the London Borough of Camden. The London Borough of Camden is one of the leading councils in the country and it is a testament to his ability and talent that he has been elected for this high profile position.

Councillor Ali's achievement was recognised by the Queen with him being made an Officer of the British Empire and awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honour's list for 2011.

Councillor Ali's achievements were also recognised in Bangladesh where he had a reception with the Prime Minister and the President to celebrate his achievements.

Councillor Ali was born in Islam Pur, Sylhet, Bangladesh and came to the UK aged 7. He is married to Amanda Ali and has three boys, Rio, Zachariah and Noah.

His early initiatives included the Camden Monitoring Group (1989) to combat racial harassment and the Camden United Project (1994) to unite young people through their common interest in football diverting them away from racism, crime and conflict. Councillor Ali received one of the first Camden Good Citizen Awards.

He has been a ward councillor for the Regents Park ward since May 2002.

Councillor Ali was appointed Mayor of Camden at the age of 34 (2003/4) when he was the youngest Mayor in the country. Councillor Ali achieved a number of historic firsts in Camden: the youngest ever Mayor; the first Bangladeshi Mayor; the first Muslim Mayor; the first Bangladeshi Executive Member and the first Bangladeshi Leader of the Labour Group and the Council. Councillor Ali saw his role as reaching out to all sections of the community to ensure that the political process was understood by all and worked well for everyone.

During his Mayoral year Councillor Ali met the Queen and most members of the Royal family. His most memorable moment was meeting Nelson Mandela.

Councillor Ali was an advisor to the Metropolitan Police, Prince's Trust, King's Cross SRB Board and a Governor for Westminster Kingsway College. He was also the Chair of the Healthy Families Partnership at King's Cross, Board member of the West Euston Partnership, Chair of the WEP Planning Working Group and on the Executive Board of the Community Empowerment Network.

Councillor Ali chaired the Camden Bangladesh Mela Committee. In 2009, the Camden Bangladesh Mela was celebrated at both the renowned British Museum and in Regents Park. These were opportunities for all members of the community to value Bangladesh's rich heritage. In 2007, Councillor Ali helped to arrange a reception for Professor Yunus to celebrate his award of the Nobel Peace Prize.

He has a degree in Informal and Community Education from the University of Kent. Since 2001 he has been the Executive Director of the King's Cross Brunswick Neighbourhood Association.

Cllr Shahed Ali**Sector:***Politics, Arts & Promotion*

Cllr Shahed Ali was born in the east end of London in 1970. He went to Sir John Cass Foundation school in Stepney in the London borough of Tower Hamlets. After completing his schooling, Cllr Ali studied a BSc in Social Policy and Management at London Guildhall University.

He has one older brother and one younger sister. His father is Late Haji Wahab Ullah, and his mother is Somirtha Khanom. They originated from village: Barkat Pur, P.O: Gohor Pur, P.S: Balagonj, Dist: Sylhet, Bangladesh.

The area of Tower Hamlets is one that Cllr Ali has a great affinity for. He has been a member of Tower Hamlets council for the ward of Whitechapel since 2006.

Away from politics, Cllr Ali is well known throughout the Bangladeshi community for organising numerous cultural events.

His reputation for staging shows with amazing visual and aural effects, otherwise known as 'Ekti Shahed Ali Upohaar', have enabled him to hold unique events at prestigious venues such as the Lon-

don Arena, Wembley Arena and the Royal Festival Hall. He founded the annual Bangladesh International Media Awards (BIMA), an event to give recognition to the film, television and music industry, which is broadcast live around the world via several television networks.

He has also produced several Television Dramas and has become a household name and very much respected by all celebrity artists of Bangladesh.

Cllr Ali also holds the honour of being the first Asian person to organise an event at Historic Royal Palaces – The Tower of London.

That event, held in July 2007, proved to be extremely popular as Cllr Ali, ever the shrewd entrepreneur, brought over the 2006 finalists of NTV Close Up such as Salma, Nishita, Ronti and Muhin.

Previous to being a councillor, Shahed was a youth worker, an ethnic arts adviser and a social worker amongst other things. By having such a varied professional background, it is easy to see why he has been such a success in the field of local politics, although even this does not present the full picture, as he has been a strong vocal point on issues that affect the British Bangladeshi community. He believes he is not an opportunist or career politician, but a challenging voice.

Away from his life as a councillor and events organiser, Cllr Ali has a number of business interests including the popular Brick Lane music and book shop Sangeeta Ltd, a restaurant in Frinton-on-Sea and a property portfolio.

Dr Azmal Ali**Sector:***Medicine*

Dr Azmal Ali obtained his MBBS Degree from Dhaka University in 1965. He came to the UK with the then Pakistan Government Scholarship and went to Belfast in Northern Ireland for a Post Graduate Training in Anaesthesia in August 1970. He successfully completed his training under Professor Dundee and obtained his post graduation qualification from the Royal College of Surgeon, Dublin, Ireland and also from the Royal College of Anaesthetist, London, England.

After working in various hospitals in Northern Ireland, he moved to London and worked as a Senior Registrar at the Royal College of Surgeons under Professor Payne.

He was appointed Consultant Anaesthetist at the Central Middlesex Hospital, London in November 1977. His main interest is in critical care medicine and he is still working as a Consultant Intensivist.

He would have completed his 40th year in the UK on 19th of July 2010, in spite of his long stay in the UK, he never forgot his village

“Basail” in Vikrampur, where he received his primary school education.

During his working life in London, he regularly visited Bangladesh and worked selflessly for his village. He became the proud founder member of the Charity Organisation “The friends of Bangladesh” in 1982. He was involved in community work immediately after he became a doctor. he established a High School in 1966 in the village he grew up in.

The Government approved the school in 1969 and the school named as “Basial High School” is running very well with 500 students. With the help and co-operation of village people in Bangladesh, he established a graveyard in his village in 1988.

He also built a Vocational Training Centre with IT facilities in Bangladesh, with the helping hand of the UK Charity “Friends of Bangladesh”. The Vocational Training Centre also has many other facilities including a Medical Centre, Kindergarten School and a Sewing School. There are 300 students successfully studying at the school.

Dr Ali's last venture was a 50 bedded modern hospital built in Mirpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The hospital was opened by Mr Anwar Chowdhury, the then British High Commissioner in Bangladesh on the 14th of February 2006. The hospital is running extremely well.



Enam Ali MBE

Sector:
Catering

One of the most prominent Asian personalities in the United Kingdom known for his leadership and passionate concern for the interests of the hospitality industry, the recognition behind the revolutionary change in the curry industry goes to none other than Enam Ali MBE, FIH. Enam completed his degree in Hospitality and Management in 1978. In 1980 he also earned International fellowship from Institute of Hospitality and a fellowship of the Royal Society of Arts in 1990. Today he stands as one of the most influential men in the UK who are creating a difference and giving the British Asians something to be proud of. He is frequently to be seen and heard in the UK's print and TV media acting as a spokesman for his business sector and as an unofficial ambassador for the country of his birth, Bangladesh. He won best community leader awards from House of Lords. Enam, a British Bangladeshi who is a pioneer in the British curry industry. He is the founder of award winning restaurant 'Le Raj', the 'British Curry Awards' and 'Spice Business Magazine'. Enam frequently voices his opinions and support to the British curry industry in national and international media.

Enam opened his fine dining restaurant, Le Raj in 1989 at Epsom Downs. A first Michelin rated restaurant which has also won many national and international awards. Confrérie de la Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, an international gastronomic society founded in Paris in 1950, made Enam a fellow, the lone Asian restaurateur to have achieved the honour. The Guardian in its November 6, 2009 issue named Le Raj one of the ten best Indian restaurants in UK. Le Raj is the only restaurant in the UK that secured the contract to serve curry and halal food to the Games' VIPs, sponsors, guests, host of famous celebrities, politicians and dignitaries from around the globe.

In 1998 Enam launched Spice Business Magazine with breaking news and views about the restaurant industry. Today it boasts a readership of over 100,000 and is regarded as the Bible of the curry industry.

Enam founded the British Curry Awards in 2005 to reward the unsung heroes and elevate the curry industry to a higher level. The most recent awards

ceremony (2009) chief guest was the now Prime Minister Rt. Hon David Cameron. He said, "We have the finest curry restaurants, a record 40,000 nominations, the Oscars of the Spice industry, Enam Ali and all of you. You should be incredibly proud of what you have achieved".

Through his tireless work during the last thirty-one years, Enam has raised over £1 million for various charitable organisations. Enam is also Patron and Trustee in various charities in UK and Bangladesh. On the 1st January 2009 Enam's contribution to the hospitality industry was recognized when Her Majesty The Queen appointed him to a Member of the Order of the British Empire. In 2011 Enam has been granted Freedom of the City of London in recognition of his enormous contribution to this sector. He is the first Muslim and the first representative of the British curry industry to be granted the historic honour which dates back to 1237. He has also been honoured in his own local area after he was named Business Personality of the Year 2011 in recognition of the major contribution he has made to the local community hosting numerous charitable events over two decades. Despite the heavy demand on his time Enam manages to balance work, community and family life. He is married with two sons and a daughter.



Mazhar Ali

Sector:
Catering

Mazhar Ali is a popular name in the catering business in East London being a partner of the Eastern Pride. Catering has dominated his life ever since he moved to the United Kingdom, and his success continued. He was born in 1958 in Chatak, Bangladesh. Mr Ali is one of 6 brothers and sister in his family and from a young age, he wanted to make sure his family and neighbours are living well.

Ali came to the United Kingdom in 1980 and settled in Oldham and it did not take a long before he could become successful in business. With very little educational qualification, Ali went straight into a kitchen and worked his way up to become a chef to develop his culinary and management skills. From the experience gained in this job, Ali became a head chef and this was a sign for his future success.

His first business venture was a take away in Somerset named Indiana, opened in 1990. This venture took off successfully and became a stepping stone in his business life. Indiana influenced Ali's next venture - Al-Amin, Dorchester, which led to his next challenge. Ali then established a take away restaurant - The Raj - in Shoburyness. Ali had created a recipe for success and his businesses continued to thrive. The Raj had risen from the ashes and became popular in the locality and to this day it is still providing in the local people of Shoburyness with quality Bengali cuisine.

Following the success of The Raj, Ali chose to move closer to London. Ali's London based ventures included, The Spice Tandoori in Plaistow. He has also entered in to property business and acquired a few properties in and around London trading under Ali Raja Properties Limited.

Ali is engaged in many charitable works and help his community in many ways. In 1988, Ali helped fund the Jahidpur Madrasa and a whole new bazaar for this village. He is married to Husnara Begum, and they have four children. His eldest son, Farbez Uddin has recently graduated with a BSc degree in Business Economics, while his eldest daughter, Lothifa Aktar is still studying BA in International Relations. The two youngest children Foysal Uddin and Humaira Aktar are still in their early years of education, in whom Ali vested his high aspirations.



Kamru Ali

Sector:
Property and Finance

In recent years since the inception of Channel S, Kamru has appeared regularly on the television as a Property and finance expert for the channel.

Additionally Kamru organises and delivers property investment seminars, which has resulted in his clients and investors making substantial profits to date on their investment. Kamru has also featured in other mainstream Who's who publication, including being highlighted as Young Business Leader in the 'Who's Who of Britain's Business Elite'.

Kamru Ali is currently the Managing Director of the District One Estates Group which focuses on property investments. He is an Accountant by profession and after graduating from London University he initially trained in central London Audit Commission for some three years. Kamru knew from a young age that he wanted to run his own business and decided not pursue a career as an accountant and instead become an entrepreneur.

Kamru has amassed his wealth with property & Land business investments. Having a financial education background has enabled him to own and co-own a variety of businesses.

Kamru is a family orientated individual and is married with three children. He is occupied with community organisations and is a keen supporter of many charities. He set up developing village roots in 2005 predominantly to help underprivileged children get access to education in Bangladesh. He is presently the treasurer of the Newham Welfare Trust and Business Advisor of Newham Business Forum.



Md. Rahmat Ali

Sector:
Media

from London. At present he is the president of Bangladesh journalists association in the UK. He is the president of Bangladesh journalists (GSC) and worked as the London Correspondent of a Bangla weekly 'Potrika' published from New York and has worked as a presenter for Bangla TV on part time basis. Furthermore, he is also serving as a teacher in the Mother Tongue section of Tower Hamlets Council.

Rahmat Ali is married to Afia Khatun and they are the parents of 6 children.

Md Rahmat Ali, a resident of East London, is an outstanding journalist in the UK. He hails from the village of Naogaon in Dashghar union under Bishwanath Upazila and has grown up with love and care of his father late Cherag Ali and Aleckjan Bibi. Rahmat Ali passed the B.A exam in Bangladesh and then left for the UK in 1994.

Md. Rahmat Ali worked for some time as the Bishwanath correspondent of the weekly (presently daily) Jugavery. He was the founding president of Bishwanath press club and was the general secretary of Bangladesh Manabadhikar Bashtobayan Sangstha' Bishwanath branch. During this time he played an active role in the movement against the irregularities of land survey in Bishwanath and cooperated with the sufferers. In the early nineties the monthly "Bishwanath Dorpan" edited by himself was published. Subsequently, when he went to Britain and there he has been serving as the editor of the monthly.

Md. Rahmat Ali was the news editor of the weekly Surma published



**Mohammed Monchab
Ali JP**

Sector:
*Catering and
Community Relations*

Mohammed Monchab Ali is the former Chairman of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council in UK (GSC). In 2002, Mr Ali was appointed Justice of Peace (Honorary Magistrate) at the Chester & Ellesmere Port Bench. Born in 1953 in Shorisha Para, Chattak, Sunamganj in Bangladesh, Mr Ali was educated and employed in Bangladesh before coming to the UK in 1982.

Mr. Ali studied Commerce at Madan Mohan College before completing his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering from Sylhet Polytechnic Institute in 1980.

After completing his studies Mr Ali joined Karim Pipe Mills in Chittagong as an apprentice engineer in late 1980. During this time he was also associated with journalism in Bangladesh and served as a Sub Editor of the "Purbanchal", a Khulna based daily until 1982.

In the UK Monchab Ali established his own restaurant in 1985. He then opened another restaurant called the "Bengal Dynasty" in Llandudno, North Wales which proved to be very popular. In 1991 Mr. Ali opened another Bengal Dynasty in Deeside, North Wales. His restaurant was honoured as the "Best Indian Bangladeshi Restaurant" in the region of Wales by Patak Spices in 1993, and was named as the "Best Restaurant in Wales by Good Curry Guide 1995-97, 1998-1999 & 2000. The British Curry Awards named Bengal Dynasty Restaurant as one of the Top-30 Restaurant in UK and Top-10 Finalist for 2005 & 2006 and it won British Curry Awards for Best Restaurant in Wales 2007.

In addition to Mr Ali's business ventures he is also very active in numerous socio-cultural projects having set up the Alhaj Mazhar Ali Welfare Trust as well as chairing Chester & North Wales

Bangladeshi Youth Association.

He is also a member of Restaurant Association Great Britain, Federation of Small Business in UK and the Ellesmere Port & North Wales Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Ali was previously involved with Bangladesh Caterers Association as a Regional coordinator and Senior Vice President, he served as a General Secretary of Chester Bangladesh Welfare Association and the Chester Shahjalal Mosque committee.

Moreover, Mr Ali is also an Executive Member of both the North Wales Racial Equality and the Chester Asian Council. Mr Ali married Sophia Ali in 1982 and is blessed with five children and a granddaughter.



Mubarak Ali

Sector:
Business

Mr Mubarak Ali was born in Kadipur, Biswanath Sylhet. His father is late Alhaj Mohommed Somed Ali and mother is Rupeja Begum. He finished his studies in 1982 from Government M.C College in Sylhet. Mr Ali came to the UK with his family in 1985 and started to work specifically in the restaurant sector. Within two years he established his own business. His restaurant is now in Pinner, Middlesex and he also has residential properties at the Olympic Village in Stratford London.

Mr Mubarak Ali is also involved in Bangladeshi and British politics. He is the member of British Labour party and currently an active leader of Bangladesh Awami League. Mr Ali is now the vice president of U.K Bangobondu Parisod, Trustee of Biswanath Education Trust, Founder Member of Kaliigonj secondary school, Kadipur Jame Masjid and other organisations. He is always supporting the people who live under dreadful poverty in Bangladesh. Mr Ali married Mina Begum in 1983. Mr Ali has some real estate property business in Sylhet and Dhaka. Recently he is building an apartment in Dhaka, named after his wife called Mina Tower.



Ragib Ali

Sector:
Entrepreneur and Philanthropist

Ragib Ali is a leading industrialist, tea-planter, and is also associated with bank, Stock exchange, insurance companies, and many other business houses.

He has endlessly contributed to establish many schools, colleges, masjids, madrashas and medical colleges, and universities throughout the country. Born in 1938 in Bishawanath, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Ali was educated there before moving to the UK in 1956.

Mr Ali, through his hard work and perseverance transformed himself from an ordinary waiter to a leading entrepreneur in the UK. He built up a successful restaurant business, acquired a huge wealth through share market and real estate business.

Mr Ali's foresight, exceptional business acumen and strategic vision, honesty, talents and energy were the key factors for achievement of these wonderful feats. He soon returned to his native country with

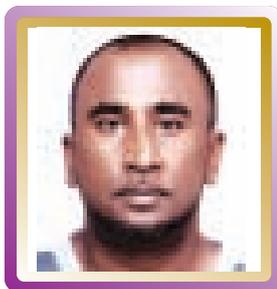
all his funds to contribute in national development.

Mr Ali is the current Chairman of Sylhet Tea Company Ltd and several other tea estates in Sylhet and Chittagong. He is also the Managing Director of Kohinoor Industries Ltd. and TLRA Holdings Ltd (owner of Kohinoor Detergent Factory) and has served as Chairman of South-East Bank Limited.

Mr Ragib Ali has an endless contribution in social development. His endeavour in this field is diverse in promoting education, healthcare, sports, culture, literary works, journalism and communication.

He has contributed towards the development of many schools, colleges, universities and madrashas. One of these is Jalalabad Ragib-Rabeya Medical College and Hospital, which has become an excellent centre for medical education and healthcare in the country. A great philanthropist and a definitive patron of the poor, throughout his life Mr Ali has devoted himself for their well being. His philanthropy extends to every aspect of their lives. He has made many roads, bridges and culverts. In his name there are more than 220 projects, which are directly changing lives of millions.

Mr Ali prefers a simple living and maintains absolute simplicity. He is very polite in his dealings and mixes freely with people of every walk of life. He is happily married to Begum Rebeya Khatun Chowdhury who has been an inspiring force for her husband and also inhibits a big philanthropic personality. The couple are blessed with a son and daughter.



Rakib Ali

Sector:
Business and Property

Rakib Ali is the proud founder and Deputy Managing Director of Excelsior five star hotel, which is completion being estimated to be at the end of 2016. Once completed he will be an icon and a beacon to the city of Sylhet. He is also into property investment/development in Bangladesh.

He was born in the district of Sunamgonj in Aktapara village Dargapasa Union, to father Late Md Abdur Rashid and mother Late Chomoktera Bibi, fourth sibling of three brothers and three sisters; he is the youngest of three brothers.

He moved to England in 1975 in the county of Bedfordshire and then in 1979 moved to London. His employment started in the catering industry and ended with General auto services as a senior claims consultant.

He has always been a likeable character of his community and was involved in various voluntary organisations. He had played a key

role being a member of the Burdette Estate Board from 2005 to 2009 run by Poplar Harca (Housing and Regeneration Community Association) which is a housing association and soon recognized as an influential individual and was selected to become a member of the Joint Estate Panel (JEP) which comprises of 27 Estates in the poplar area. The task included tackling regeneration, anti social behavior, Youth work/training and many other aspects. He is the founder Chairman of Rupali Youth Forum UK formed in 2007 a charity organisation and patron to many other leading organisations.

He was also the vice chairman of his local mosque namely Burdett Bangladesh Cultural Association (BBCA) and had been part of the

administration for over three years.

He is also the current President of Aktapara Islamia Alim Madrasa (college), which is a renowned institution in his village and has academically excelled beyond expectations this year. Thanks and praise to the handful of people of the village who initially had the vision and started this institute as a Makhtab and also with the tireless efforts of the present Principal Md Moynul Hoque who has been a part of the success of this institute for the past 17 years, which has given the village its due respect and prestige in the P.S. of Dakshin Sunamgonj.

Rakib is married to Shelpy and is a proud father to Nilima (daughter) currently doing her A levels, Mohima (daughter) in secondary education, Iftekhar (son) secondary education and Nadeemah (daughter) in primary education.



Rois Ali

Sector:
*Catering and Community
Relations*

Rois Ali won the Chef of the Year Competition in 1995/1996, a competition promoted by Environmental Health Departments from all over Great Britain. This was one of the first prestigious competitions held Nationally to find the very best curry Chef in Great Britain.

Rois was born in Bangladesh, but has lived in the UK since he came to Coventry with his family at the age of four. From a very early age Rois developed a keen interest in the catering industry, first preparing meals for his family, and then joining the family restaurant business at the tender age of fourteen. There he continued to develop his skills by introducing his own special blend of spices which he now modestly refers to as his "Home cooked Philosophy."

Having spent all of his working life in restaurants he opened his own restaurant the 'Rupali's in Coventry in 1991. His restaurants as well as himself have received many accolades including Patak's Restaurant of the year, Good Food Guide Award and Guild of Master Caterers to name but a few.

Since becoming the first ever "Hot Stuff Chef of the Year" Rois's talents have been in growing demand, with TV appearances on BBC Network East, Central Television and Local Radio. Articles in the Guardian, Financial Times, and other National Newspapers plus many features in the specialised Ethnic Media. He has also been recently involved with Bangla TV, Zee TV, and Channel East in Cook and Chat.

Rois is General Secretary of Shah Jalam Mosque, Coventry. Executive member of Muslim Resource Centre as well as Executive Member of Bangladesh Community Centre, both situated in Coventry.

He is also Chairman and founder of Bangladesh Catering Professional Association.

Previously Rois was School governor for Fredrick Bird School and Executive member for Racial equality. He also worked closely with the police as Executive Police Committee member.

Rois is also founder of the 'Master Chef Promotion', which promotes businesses and culinary skills in the British Catering industry.



Miss Rushanara Ali MP

Sector:
Politics

Rushanara Ali is the Labour Member of Parliament for Bethnal Green and Bow. She was elected in May 2010 with a majority of 11,574 having defeated George Galloway's Respect Party. In October 2010 Rushanara was appointed to the Labour front bench as Shadow Minister for International Development. As part of this role she is the Labour spokesperson on international development matters for Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, International Finance and Trade Wealth Creation and the Private Sector, Gender, Climate Change, Conflict and stabilisation, and the Middle East Peace Process.

Prior to her election in May 2010, she was Associate Director of the Young Foundation. She previously worked at the Communities Directorate of the Home Office, leading a work programme in response to the 2001 disturbances in the north of England (2002-2005).

She has also worked on human rights issues at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (2000-2001); as a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research (1999-2002) and as Parliamentary Assistant for Oona King, former MP for Bethnal Green & Bow (1997-1999).

Rushanara also worked for Michael Young (author of the 1945 Labour manifesto) on a project which paved the way for Tower Hamlets Summer University now called Futureversity, which helped cut youth crime in Tower Hamlets and which has been replicated around London.

She helped develop Language Line, a pioneering telephone interpreting company founded by Michael Young to ensure equal access to public services for people facing language difficulties. She is co-founder of the UpRising leadership project which works to develop community and public leadership skills of talented 19-25 year olds from diverse backgrounds to enter politics and public life.

She also founded the Fastlaners project which provides rapid and intensive training to support unemployed graduates in East London. She has previously served as a Commissioner for the London Child Poverty Commission, Chair of Trustees of Futureversity, a Board Member of Tower Hamlets College, a Trustee of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, and an advisor to the Spitalfields Festival.



Shukur Ali

Sector:
Catering

Entrepreneur and celebrity chef Shukur Ali is one of the leading Bangladeshi businessmen in the UK where he owns the award-winning Jaflong restaurant in Market Square of Bicester Town in Oxfordshire. He is an executive director of Western Tower and shopping complex and has other business interests in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

Mr Shukur Ali is a prominent and well respected member of the Bangladeshi community and serves on the management committee of various voluntary and not-for profit organisations including the Bicester and District Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh Caterers Association and Oxfordshire Bangladeshi Association. He is the founder member of the OBA and is very committed to promoting the rich cultural heritage of Bangladesh. Mr Shukur Ali is a founding chairman of Bicester Muslim society. Mr Shukur Ali is a vice

president of BCA and a member of Bangladesh-British Chamber of Commerce. He has full heartedly devoted himself for the service of BCA, BBCC and his local organisations. In the last few years, he has proactively participated in the trade delegation visits to Bangladesh and most recently he took part in a successful trade mission to Bangladesh with the senior members of BBCC. He also played a vital role in co-hosting a seminar in Oxford with the Oxfordshire Bangladeshi Association for the first Bangladesh ICT delegation in 2002. He and his local organisation fully supported the first ever trade exhibition. "Bangladesh Expo 2005" in London, which was organized by the BBCC. Mr Shukur Ali is the founder of Shukur Education Trust which provides financial support to improve education in the Dulabazar area where he grew up. He is regularly reported in the local press for his charity work, in Bangladesh and UK.

Mr Shukur Ali is extremely fortunate and grateful for the continuing support from his family. He is especially thankful to his wife—Rukeya Ali. They have three sons and two daughters. Their first, Dilwar Ali, graduated from the university of Cardiff. He is now involved with the family business. Their second son, Shahin Ali is an optician engineer and their third son is studying Performing Arts at college in Oxford.



Siraj Ali

Sector:
Catering

Mhammed Siraj Ali is a pioneering force behind the introduction of Indian Cuisine in the Essex region. Vice-Chairman of The Bangladeshi Catering Association (Essex region), Mr. Ali not only introduced the corporate social responsibility element to Indian restaurants in the county, he has also raised close to a million pounds, over more than a decade, for numerous charitable causes including the British Heart Foundation, NSPCC, Comic Relief and Cancer Research.

Siraj's first restaurant the New Curry Centre focused on authentic cuisine and a superior service, as a result, the restaurant quickly established itself as one of the counties most renowned restaurants, thanks to its charismatic and entrepreneurial owner.

Due to its success, Mr Ali opened four other Indian restaurants in the region before opening the multi-award winning Maharaja restaurant, which is his most renowned. Back in the mid 90s, Mr Ali took over and transformed the failing business into one of the most successful in the country. With innovative cuisine, a unique atmosphere and dynamic service at its heart, the restaurant quickly received recognition by Industry experts including Pat Chapman, Chair of the Curry Club and MPs, who voted it as one of the UK's top restaurants. The Maharaja was then chosen by MPs to cater for the launch of the first nationwide Bangladesh Festival of Food and Culture at the House of Commons in 2001. In 2008, the Maharaja was again nominated by MPs to represent the South East in the Tiffin Cup Curry Awards, winning second runner up position. In 2008 and 2009, the Maharaja was shortlisted as one of the finalists in the British Curry Awards for London and the South East.

An honoured friend of the University of Buckingham Bangladesh Scholarship, Siraj Ali was awarded the 'Crest for Service to the Community' by the Mayor of Tower Hamlets in 2007. Two years later, he won the Channel 5 Award 2009 for 'Contribution to the Community' London and South East.

In Bangladesh, Mr Ali is one of the Directors of the Metro Centre, a commercial and residential hotel complex comprising of an international standard hotel and restaurant. Siraj is also the Chairman and owner of Al Siraj Plaza, a twelve storey multipurpose building in Goalabazaar, Sylhet, which includes the 3000 square foot 'Siraj-Ul-Uloom,' for Quran & Hadith Research Centre and Library, the 3rd research centre of its kind, in Bangladesh.

Proprietor of the City School and College, Mairabazaar, Sylhet, Mr. Ali is also the Founder and Sponsor of the Hajji Soyed Ali Memorial Trust, which supports and provides grants to education establishments, as well as aid to under-privileged students.

An active philanthropist, Siraj Ali was the Chairman of the Interim Committee, Arbitrator and former Treasurer of The Balagonj Education Trust (1200 trustees), which aims to provide life skills and much needed education to the poorest regions of Bangladesh, and Senior Vice-Chairman of The Probashi Umor Pur Union Development and Welfare Trust.

Mr Ali is also very active within the Bangladeshi Community in the Essex region. Siraj is the Founder Chairman of both The Thurrock Bangladesh Welfare Association and The Thurrock Islamic Educational Cultural Centre. He has also been the General Secretary of the Essex Jammie Masjid in Southend-on-Sea for over four terms.

In Benfleet, Mr Ali is the Founder General Secretary of the Castlepoint Islamic Education and Cultural Centre, as well as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Essex Bangladesh Welfare Association.

Happily married, Siraj Ali has one son and three daughters. An inspiration to his children, his eldest three children have attended Europe's top 5 business schools as part of their university education. Siraj's son is the owner of an International investment and trading company.

His eldest daughter, a former investment banker, runs a successful company and is pursuing a second degree in medicine. Siraj's middle daughter has a doctorate in marketing and a successful marketing career in the city. His youngest daughter is still in education, pursuing a career in medicine.



Meah Monirul Alam

Sector:
Business & Community Relations

Meah Monirul Alam can be described as an individual who works tirelessly and continuously for the community, and much of his efforts are in the best interests of British Bangladeshis, which is the reason why many community members regard him as an outstanding Community leader.

Mr Alam was born in the village of Ekatuna, Moulvibazar and has been residing in the United Kingdom since 1960. Meah Monirul Alam's father is late Alhaj Abdul Qader and his mother late Rabeya Khatun.

Monirul Alam completed his intermediate education in Bangladesh after which he arrived here in the UK where he completed a course in Business catering management.

He established the first Indian restaurant in Southeast Kent. He currently owns the Kashmir Tandoori in Canterbury, Kent as well as the Chertion Balti Takeaway.

He is currently Chairman of North South Property Development Ltd UK.

Mr Alam is the former Chairman of Bangladesh Caterers Association. He is currently the Chairman of Euro Bangla Newsweekly based in London. He is also Senior Vice President of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party. Furthermore he is the Chairman of the British Bangladesh Business forum UK Ltd and President of the South East Kent Islamic Cultural Centre as well as General Secretary of South East Kent Welfare Association. He is also director of British Bangladesh Investment Company.

Mr Meah Monirul Alam is also involved with various charity initiatives. He is the Chairman of Hope for the Needy Foundation, and also a Member of the Bangladesh Flood Prevention International Committee UK.

Moreover, he is a life member of Jalalabad Rotary Orthopaedics Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre.

Mr Alam has contributed generously to charities and has helped to develop educational and religious institutions in Bangladesh.

Mr Alam is married to Rowshan Ara Alam and they are parents of two sons and two daughters who are all married.

They have six grandchildren in total.



Cllr Abdul Asad

Sector:
Politics

Councillor Asad has been an elected councillor for 22 consecutive years, which makes him the longest serving councillor of London Borough of Tower Hamlets. He was a European Parliamentary candidate of the Labour List in 2010 Euro election. A GLA Labour list candidate in the first London Mayoral election in 2001 and until 2011 he was on the Labour National Parliamentary Panel candidate since 1999.

Between 1976 and 2012 he held positions at Professional level including International Exchange Manager – Prospects Group UK. Emergency Co-ordinator - CAPA (domestic violence & police complaints). Ethnic Minority Research Co-ordinator NHS Community Alcohol Team. Team Leader of LBTH Wapping Neighbourhood Housing Action Team. Housing Investigating Officer, ex-GLC. Youth Worker of ILEA City and East London. As a Youth Worker I was one of the pioneers of bringing three Bangladeshi Racing Boats from Bangladesh in early 80's for the first time in East End of UK. At present he is working as a Database EYS Officer of Bishop Challener Secondary School.

Between 1990 and 2012 he also held several positions in Public Service including Cabinet Member LBTH Social Services & Health. Cabinet Member (thrice) - TH Education and Youth Services. Mayor of Tower Hamlets. Chair - LBTH Planning and Development Panel. Chair (twice) -LBTH Wapping neighbourhood Council and at the Trade Union plus charitable level: Member of GMB, Co-op Party and Fabian Society. Chair of TH Socialist Education Association. Director Canary Wharf Further Education Trust. Member of TH College Corporation Board & TH Primary Health Care Trust. Between 1976 and 2012 at the third sector level: Founder Chair of Bengalis Voice for London & Community Job Link East. Member of ex-LDDC Social Accord Board & Shadwell & St. Katharine's Trust, both were funding agencies. Since last three decades he have been an instrumental in developing projects in the field of regeneration, socio-cultural, Health and Education.

As a key member of the delegation of Bangladeshis in UK I formally presented evidence to House of Commons - Home Affairs Committee which led to the path breaking three volume document on "Bangladeshis in Britain" (1986).

Cllr Asad was a co-ordinator of Bangladesh Prime Minister Civic Reception which was held in York Hall in late 90's. In 1998 Cllr Asad coordinated a week long Stephen Lawrence Enquiry sessions in York Hall of Tower Hamlets in order to give evidences of Racism. Cllr Abdul Asad worked as part of a collective group of youths representing different geographical segments of Tower Hamlets. This then led to the development of a unified "race body" for Tower Hamlets TH Association for Racial Equality (THARE).

As a senior councillor and a ceremonial Mayor of LBTH he has often acted as an ambassador for the borough and made connections to promote policy for people. In 1996 he took a lead of Bilingual Teachers Recruitment and Retention and as a result a number of colleagues successfully taken up teaching profession in our schools.

He has also demonstrated a commitment to represent all the communities for greater social cohesion that make up the community of the East End of London today. Cllr Asad is currently working with the Bengali Elected Mayor Lutfur Rahman's cabinet.



Shamim Azad

Sector:

Arts, Culture & Education



Shamim Azad is an active bilingual poet, storyteller and a writer. Her repertoire as a storyteller ranges from Bangladeshi to European folktales. Her performance fuses the lines between education and entertainment and her workshops are rooted in oral traditions, and heritage.

Azad's residencies have included Tower Hamlets Summer University, Sunderland City Library & Arts Centre, East Side Arts, Poetry Society, Magic Me, Rich Mix, Kinetika, Bromley By Bow Centre, Half Moon Theatre and Apples & Snakes.

Azad has published 14 books including novels, collections of short stories, essays and poems in both English and Bangla and has been included in various anthologies including British South Asian Poetry, My Birth Was Not In Vain, Velocity, Emlit Project and Mother

Tongues. She wrote two plays for Half Moon Theatre.

She has performed at a wide variety of venues including the Museum of London, Cambridge Water Stone, Liberty Radio, Battersea Arts Centre, Lauderdale House, the Commonwealth Institute, British Library, British Council of Bangladesh, Takshila in Pakistan and New York. She has worked with well known composer Richard Blackford, Kerry Andrews, choreographer Rosemary Lee, visual artist Robin Whitmore and playwright Mary Cooper.

She is a trustee of well known charity One World Action, a school Governor and Chairperson of Bishwo Shahitto Kendro (World Literature Centre) London. Azad received the Bichitra Award in 1994 from Bangladesh, Year of the Artist 2000 Award from London Arts, Sonjojon- A Rouf Award 2004 & Civic Award in 2004 in UK.

Lisa Aziz

Sector:

Media



Lisa recently returned permanently to London, to work for BBC radio, lbc and classic fm, write for a major sunday newspaper and head up the fundraising department at a global media charity, tve/television for the environment.

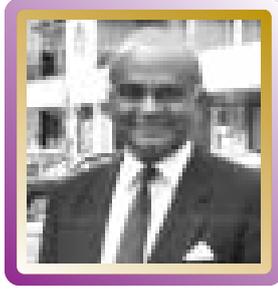
Lisa Aziz started her broadcasting career as a trainee radio news journalist and newsreader at radio city in liverpool in the early eighties.

From there she joined BBC regional TV in bristol as a journalist, reporter and presenter and was then approached by HTV, bristol to be a main reporter and deputy lead presenter.

Lisa got her big break when headhunted to join tv-am as a senior reporter and was then made main newscaster shortly afterwards. she went on to join sky news where she was a main anchor for 13 years...before being approached again by itv news, to head up all news programming in the west country.

Throughout a trail-blazing 25 year career lisa has also won numerous awards including a tric and a rts and worked for many other organisations including bbc world news, cnbc, financial times tv and dubai tv. she has also run a successful career alongside as a world-wide business corporate host and as a charity campaigner.





Suhail Ibne Aziz

Sector:
Consultancy/ Public Service.

Suhail Ibne Aziz was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh. His ancestral home is Thoigaon, Balagonj Thana. After passing matriculation and intermediate science examinations with distinction, he joined the Pakistan Navy in 1954. Following pre-cadet training in West Pakistan, he went for naval training at the world renowned Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, England, and ships of Dartmouth Training Squadron. He was Commissioned by the British Board of Admiralty in 1958. This was followed by service as Sub. Lieutenant and Lieutenant on Pakistan Navy ships - destroyer Khaibar and minesweeper Mubarak.

Since coming to England in 1966, Suhail obtained bachelors and masters degrees in economics of London University, and a diploma in management studies. His professional qualifications include: Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management (FCIM); Fellow of the Institute of Consultancy (FIC); Fellow Certified Management Consultant (FCMC). He is a committee member of the International Consulting Economists Association (ICEA).

Suhail Aziz is a British trained Bangladeshi with record of achievements in organisation, management, economics and community relations whose expertise has been gained in sophisticated multinationals: Unilever, Ford, Mars. He has valuable senior-level experience of British government machinery; also experience of World Bank, DFID, ADB etc involved in the developing world. Mr Aziz is founder chairman and managing director of his company The Brettonwood Partnership Ltd, an international management consultancy firm working in developing countries.

Suhail Aziz has held numerous high level public appointments, appointed by British Cabinet Ministers. He has been Chairman of the London Probation Board for the Home Office (2001-07); Chairman of two NHS Trusts in inner city London (1997-2000). He was a Trustee of the Community Development Foundation (1998-2008). Mr Aziz served as a Director at the Commission for Racial Equality and was a member of the Commission's top management team. Suhail has served on numerous ministerial advisory councils and community based organisations. He is a leading member of the Asian community in Britain. He is a Rotarian.

Suhail Aziz is married with two daughters – the elder Lisa Aziz, a TV personality; the younger Rebecca Aziz-Granberg, an EU and UK civil servant. They live in London.

Suhail gets mentions in “Who’s Who”; “Debrett’s”; “Asian Who’s Who”, and “British-Bangladeshi Who’s Who”.



**Dr Muhammad
Abdul Bari MBE**

Sector:
*Islamic Affairs and
Community Relations*

Dr Muhammad Abdul Bari MBE is an educationalist, community activist, author and parenting consultant in the British Muslim community.

He has served East London's diverse communities in various capacities for three decades. Since 2002, he has been the Chairman of the board of trustees at the East London Mosque (London's first mosque which now includes the impressive London Muslim Centre) leading the institution to win the national 'Super Model Mosque Competition' in 2009. He is also a founding member of The East London Communities Organisation (TELCO), a coalition of churches, mosques, and other civil society organisations working together to promote understanding and a safer, fairer and better governed city.

He was Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain from June 2006 until June 2010 having completed two terms. Prior to that, he served as the Council's Deputy-Secretary General for four years. As Secretary General, Dr Bari worked tirelessly to have more young people take part in the work of Britain's largest Muslim umbrella group.

In addition, Dr Bari is a patron of Anchor House, a homeless charity in Newham, the National Youth Agency and the Ramphal Centre. He is a board member of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), served on the Good Childhood Inquiry Panel which was set up by the Children's Society in 2006, and is a trustee of Muslim Aid, a leading international charity.

He is also an advisor to the Centre for Public Policy Seminars. Dr Bari has written for various newspapers, journals and community publications, and is the author of 'Marriage and Family Building in Islam, 'A Guide to Parenting', and 'Race, Religion and Muslim Identity in Britain'.



Cllr Lutfa Begum

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Begum alongside being a mother, wife, nurse and a Councillor has supported many vulnerable women and families. She has been a strong advocate of social cohesion and gains great pleasure in helping others.

Cllr Lutfa was elected as a Councillor for the Limehouse ward in 2006. She has been working as a nurse for the past 30 years and is currently a Practice nurse at Gill Street Health Centre. Lutfa has a BSc in Nursing and MA in Islamic Studies and Comparative religion. She is married and has two children; Rania Khan (Councillor and Science teacher) and Sonia Khan (studying BSc in Biomedicine).

Lutfa has been a staunch anti-war campaigner and is passionate for empowering women both here in UK and in Bangladesh. More recently she has been campaigning to defend the NHS from being privatised. She loves to travel, enjoys swimming at the Mile End Leisure Centre and socialising. Lutfa is currently undertaking Phd on 'Comparative study of teenage pregnancy in the East End and Bangladesh.'



Miah Brothers

Sector:
Automotive business

company edge in the industry.

Smartcarz deals with distribution of aftermarket OEM car parts and accessories which are generally supplied to some of the dealership franchise like Citroen city, Peugeot, Vauxhall, and kwik fit, AA, and local garages in east London & car part & accessories shop though out south east England. Having found success in their first venture, they have branched out to open Kaif Motors in 2007 with bother in-law Kobir uddin and SC lubricant recently, which sells own brand engine oil and similar products nation wide. The brothers have continued in their endeavors in this area of trade and success has been following them closely.

Tracing their roots back to Osmani Nogor, Sylhet, the brothers were born in Mile End London. They are two brothers and one sister.

It is always difficult to break away from the mould and start something new. The Bangladeshi community has historically been known for excelling in certain areas of business. However, now two brothers Harun Miah and Azad Miah have started making their name in the automotive parts industry. The Miah brothers are of the view that having a business related to car parts is breaking the stereotype from the ventures that most Bangladeshi's traditionally get involved in.

Harun Miah and Azad Miah, are the brains behind Smartcarz Europe LTD and co-owners. They initially took over the business in 2006 and have successfully helped the venture grown massively in the relatively short time they have been involved. Both are young and enthusiastic with good business heads which has been instrumental in the expansion of this business in what is a relatively niche area of business for British Bangladeshis.

Soon after taking over the company brothers made a deal with TMD Friction the world largest O.E. brake friction manufacturer, and followed with various other O.E. supplier and importing from Germany & Japan directly from the main source that gave there

The Miah brothers completed their GCSE from the local school, Stepney Green, East London and their A levels from Tower Hamlets College. Harun Miah, 34 is the secretary of Ocean business Association (OBA). He along with Azad, 30, have three other shops which are next to each other which they run together in stepney.

The Miah brothers are generally pressed for time with their various businesses and organisations they are involved with, however, when they get time, Harun loves to indulge in adventure & extreme sports like paragliding, bungee jumping & traveling. Azad is also has various pastimes which he indulges in during his spare time.





Taj Brothers

Sector:
Business and Property

Mr Abdul Hai Khaliq (Junel), Mr Abdul Quayum Khaliq (Jamal) and Mr Abdul Muhith (Joynal) are the three brothers behind the internationally renowned grocers Taj Stores at Brick Lane. They took over the business from their late father Alhaj Abdul Khaliq who came from Baur Bagh, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh. Abdul Hai, Abdul Quayum and Abdul Muhith all grew up in Brick Lane, East London. Abdul Hai Khaliq and Abdul Quayum Khaliq then progressed to Milestone Preparatory School which is a private school situated in Bond Street, West London. Meanwhile their youngest brother Abdul Muhith went to Daneford School near Bethnal Green.

Abdul Hai Khaliq advanced to an Architectural college where he completed his first year before joining the family business. Abdul Quayum Khaliq on the other hand attended the private American International College where he completed a Diploma in Business after which he too joined the business. Abdul Muhith also gradually joined the family business after completing his education.

Besides running the very successful and extremely well known Taj Stores, the brothers also have other business interests. The three 'Taj' brothers hold a very healthy portfolio of properties located across the capital as well as several properties abroad, including in Dubai. They are Directors of NRB Ltd also have a vast amount of land and properties in Bangladesh which their family have owned for generations. They also own a restaurant in Brick Lane called 'Le Taj'. The brothers remain closely associated with donating to charity and these include supporting a Cancer Research Charity in honour of their late mother, and also a Charity which specialise in treating problems and illnesses related to kidneys, in honour of their late father.

Additionally the brothers have also supported the victims of the Sidr Cyclone and have donated some 17 tube wells to 17 different villages in Moulvibazar.

Moreover, their charitable activities have consisted of funding the development and construction of many houses for the poor to reside in within the vicinity of their village, as well as financing and building a whole Mosque, and an Islamic School, where over 300 students are educated for free.

The Brothers also have a sister in this country called Rashida Rahman. They are all married with Abdul Hai Khaliq having four children; one daughter and three sons. Abdul Quayum Khaliq has two sons and Abdul Muhith having two daughters. All their children are in education. The Taj businesses are well acknowledged brands within British Bangladeshi households.



Akhlaq Choudhury

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Akhlaq Choudhury is a barrister specialising in employment law and public law. Akhlaq graduated in physics from University of Glasgow before deciding to study Law at the University of London where he obtained a first class honours degree. He was called to the Bar in 1992 and started practising at 11 King's Bench Walk Chambers (now known as "11 KBW"), which is the premier employment law chambers in the country.

Akhlaq's practice developed rapidly and he is consistently ranked by his peers as a leader in his areas of expertise making him the leading British Bangladeshi practitioner in employment law.

Akhlaq was a long-standing member of the Attorney General's panel of approved Counsel in which capacity he acted for and advised the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the MoD, HMRC and various other Government departments in relation to matters ranging from human rights and discrimination in the armed forces to the right to detain persons with mental incapacity. He is one of the standing counsel for the Information Commissioner and has recently appeared in many of the ground-breaking cases in the developing area of Freedom of Information and Data Protection law. Akhlaq also sits as a recorder.

Akhlaq was born in Hampshire but grew up in Glasgow where his father, the late Mr Azizur Rahman Choudhury, ran a successful restaurant business and was a leading member of the Bangladeshi community in Scotland. Akhlaq now lives in London with his wife, Safina, and their three children.



**Mamun Rashid
Chowdhury MBE**

Sector:
*Community Relations &
Voluntary*



At the age of 16 Mamun co. founded football team Beaumont Athletic FC. Mamun started his career with Beaumont as the secretary of the club, later he took on the manager's role and became one of the youngest Bangladeshi managers in Tower hamlets. He led the club to many successes as a manager, winning league titles, competitions and various cups, most notably the UK Bangladeshi championship in 2005. He still manages the 1st team and is one of the most experienced managers around in the borough. He has his coaching badge with the FA. Mamun also took on additional roles within the club to steer it towards more success, most notable ones in 2001 when he got the club intermediate status and in 2006 getting the charter standard mark and senior club status allowing the club to play at senior level football and the FA cup.

Mamun's remarkable work as a volunteer continues outside his club as he is the only individual to have carried out years of volunteer

services to all the managers to all major volunteer organization in the borough from 2001 to present.

Mamun still works with other organisations to organise events and also organises regular tours abroad for his club.

Mamun, in March 2009, was appointed manager of Kent senior league team Sporting Bengal the senior club in the borough. Mamun also managed his beloved club Beaumont FC in the tournaments and the summer league.

Mamun's work has not gone unnoticed as he has received many awards for his hard work. In 2001 he was awarded the Volunteer Award by Stepney Voice newspaper, in 2005 he won the Jack Petchey

Leaders Award, in 2006 he won the Canary Wharf volunteer award and in 2008 he was awarded the Tower Hamlets Civic Award and more recently a MBE.

**Cllr Mizanur Rahman
Chaudhury**

Sector:
Politics



Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury (Mizan) has been a resident of Tower Hamlets since 1978 and went to Canon Barnett Primary School and to Sir John Cass's Foundation School and Aberdeen Grammar School (Scotland) for his secondary education.

Mizan has been an active politician and community activist for over a decade and is well known amongst the political activists, young people and the community. He was a businessman and was studying fashion and design at the London College of Fashion before entering into politics. He made his mark in 2000 when he became one of the youngest active member of the Labour Party in Tower Hamlets and has served in various positions since – he was the Labour Party Secretary in Spitalfields and Banglatown Ward from 2001-2006, Assistant Secretary of the Local Government Committee from 2003-2004 and Youth Officer for Tower Hamlets General Committee 2001-2003. Mizan is known to be the youngest influential figure in Tower Hamlets and Labour Party politics – he has always played an imperative role in mediating and power brokerage and has helped many individuals to get to where they are today in the political arena.

Mizan got elected as a Councillor in Bethnal Green South Ward at the

2010 Local Election - he was elected with the highest votes and surprised everyone as he was not favourite to win - as he lives in the neighbouring ward, Spitalfields and Banglatown and was competing against local heavyweights in Bethnal Green South . His commitment and determination to win and being able to gain local peoples trust and confidence in him led him to his success – a fighter in his own right. By profession Mizan is a Civil Servant working in the Department for Education. Before his election to Council, he was a Ministerial Secretary under the Labour Government from 2003-2010 and during this

time he has worked with high ranking Government Ministers and Members of Parliament.

Prior to being elected as the Chair of Council (ex Civic Mayor), Mizan was Olympic Ambassador of Tower Hamlets, Member of the Council's Audit Committee, Appeals Committee, Human Resources Committee and the General Purpose Committee, which he is still a member of. The role of Chair of Council (Civic Mayor) is an important element of the council's governance structure. It is the highest office that residents, through their elected representatives, can grant a Member of the Council. Mizan was formally appointed to the Office at the first meeting of the Council in this Municipal Year - 18th May 2011.

Mizan is known in the community as a principled talented brave young man with conviction and love for his community – he wants to do the best for everyone and inspire young people to get active in politics and the community. He was the youngest Civic Mayor (Chair of Council) to be elected in Tower Hamlets to the Chain of Office – a rising star of the community.





Abdul Gaffar Choudhury

Sector:
Media, Arts and Literature

Abdul Gaffar Choudhury is a famous Bengali author and columnist. He is perhaps best known for his lyric Amar Bhaier Rokte Rangano ekushe February-- which has become the main song commemorating the Language Movement, the music having been composed by Shaheed Altaf Mahmud.

His lyric Amar Bhaier Rokte Rangano is recognised as the most influential song of the Language Movement. The song is sung every year in the probhat feri, the march in barefoot towards the Shaheed Minar to pay homage to the martyrs. It is regarded by the listeners of BBC Bengali Service as the third best song in Bengali.

He was born in 1934 in Barishal and came to England on October 5, 1974. He graduated from Dhaka University in 1959. His father Hazi Wahed Reza Choudhury was an influential land lord and freedom fighter of undivided India. He was the president of Barishal District Congress and a member of the All India Congress Working Committee. Mr Reza Choudhury was imprisoned in 1942 August Movement. He served as secretary of Motilal Neheru.

Zohra Khatun was Gaffar Choudhury's mother. Before coming to this country, Gaffar Choudhury worked as a journalist in different national newspapers in Dhaka. During the 1971 War he was in Kolkata working for the Mujib Nagar government's mouthpiece Joy Bangla and for Kolkata dailies like Jugantar and Anandabazar Patrika. He came to England for the treatment of his wife, and initially led a life of struggle. He could not return to Bangladesh for 22 years after the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

In the UK, he established the newspaper Natun Din during Ershads reign in Bangladesh, and was the founder editor. He has written thirty five books. including Shesh Rajanir Chand , Chandrodwiper

Upakhyan etcetera. He has visited different countries such as Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Algeria.

Abdul Gaffar Choudhury has been showered with numerous awards like Bangla Academy Award in 1967, Ekushey Padak, UNESCO literary Award, Bangabandhu Award, Sadhinota Padak in 2009. In the same year, the Daily Ittefaq honoured him with Manik Miah Padak. He is producing the film "The Poet of Politics (film)" on Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He already produced a film on the assassination of Mujibur Rahman called 'Polashi theke Dhanmondi'.

He, at the present, is living with his wife Shelima Choudhury. He has a son, Anupam, working in Rueters, and four daughters Tanima, Chinmoyee, Binita and Indira. He currently lives in London from where he regularly writes columns in national Bangladeshi dailies, in Bengali newspapers of Bangladeshi community and in a daily paper in Kolkata.



Mitu Chowdhury

Sector:
Catering

An avid cricket fan, Mitu Chowdhury was born on the 6th of October 1964 to mother Anwara Begum Chowdhury and Late father Azizur Rahman Chowdhury .

He originally hails from East subidbazar, Sylhet before coming to UK in the year 1986. He passed his intermediate in 1984 from MC college sylhet. After that he did his degree in Political Science, History and Sociology as subjects from University College Sylhet in 1986.

Thereafter, he came to UK. He graduated from the Canterbury Christ Church University with a degree in Politics. The latent entrepreneur in him surfaced in the year 1992 when he opened a restaurant called the Mughal Dynasty in Kent.

Running a successful business, Mitu Chowdhury is the Joint Chief Treasurer of the BCA and local conservative leader in Maidstone, Kent. Happily married to Shilpa Hussain, he is also the proud father of 2 daughters and a son called Rima, Rafa and Jamil. He is living in Maidstone, Kent with his family. In his leisure time, he enjoys playing any sports, especially cricket.



Anwar Choudhury

Sector:
Civil Service (Foreign Office)

Anwar Choudhury (BSc, MBA) was Her Majesty's High Commissioner to Bangladesh from 2004 to 2008.

Mr Choudhury has had a unique and distinguished career having served in British Industry, The Royal Air Force, The Ministry of Defence and The Cabinet Office. He is the first senior British Ambassador from a British Asian background and also one of the youngest to achieve this level of posting.

He started his career in Industry as a Design Engineer. This was followed by the Royal Air Force and the Ministry of Defence where he managed a large team of civilian scientists and senior military personnel. As Assistant Director, he was responsible for developing Ministry of Defence's strategies and policies aimed to bring about the integration of Defence systems within the MOD, NATO and Allies.

Mr Choudhury then moved from the MOD to the Cabinet Office where he was Director of Policy in the Office of the e-Envoy. He was responsible for leading the vision and policy for UK Government's ambition to become a leading knowledge economy and the best place for e-government. He left the Cabinet Office to join the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and initially worked on strategy and policy issues before taking up his posting as High Commissioner to Bangladesh in May 2004.

Mr Choudhury completed his assignment as High Commissioner to Bangladesh in May 2008 and has taken up his new role as Director of International Institutions, Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Mr Choudhury's main interests are in policy for radical change in government and the potential of the information revolution for the developing world economies. On a personal note, he is married with three children. His hobbies include Cricket, Bridge, Bengali Folk music and an addiction for Bangladeshi cuisine.



Amirul Choudhury

Sector:
Telecoms/Media/Property

Amirul Choudhury is a high-profile entrepreneur with businesses in the telecommunications, property and media sectors.

He is the Managing Director and a major shareholder of Janomot, the favourite weekly newspaper of the Bangladeshi community in the UK. Mr Choudhury is also Managing Director of ChyTel, a wholesale distributor of mobile phone handsets based in Tower Hamlets, London. Founding his telecommunications business in 1994 at the start of the second generation mobile phone revolution, which transformed mobile phones into multi-media devices, ChyTel has grown into a familiar brand among the Bangladeshi community.

Mr Choudhury was among the first generation of Asian businessman to have a mobile phone dealership in the market introducing T-Mobile (previously known as one2one) in the Asian market.

With many ethnic groups previously excluded from the mobile phone market because the large mobile phone companies marketed their goods in English only, Mr Choudhury negotiated deals bringing low cost and easy to understand tariffs and terms to ethnic communities in the UK. By translating the marketing material into a number of languages including Urdu, Hindi, Turkish and Polish, it can be claimed that he introduced mobile phone technology to the hundreds of thousands of people from ethnic minorities in the UK.

ChyTel distributes mobile phones throughout UK from its head office in Tower Hamlets and it also offers a walk-in Nokia Care repair service

and a retail shop at the premises.

In 1997 Mr Choudhury became a major shareholder of Janomot, the first weekly Bengali newspaper in the UK, and has since made a major contribution to its growth and stability. It is a highly respected newspaper well known for its editorials on social and community issues. It was Mr Choudhury's policy to use these editorials to bridge the gap between communities and help Bangladeshis integrate into the British way of life. Today Janomot has become the UK's largest circulation Bengali newspaper with a readership in excess of 40,000 a week.

Through his newspaper ownership, Amirul was elected Vice President of the London Bangla Press Club in 2008 and has retained this role ever since. The Club is the umbrella organisation for all Bangladeshi print and electronic media in the UK.

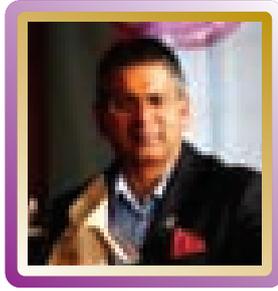
Mr Choudhury also has a portfolio of properties that includes both residential and commercial. In 2010, Mr Choudhury was appointed as a business adviser to the London 2012 Olympic Games by the executive Mayor of London Borough of Tower Hamlets. In this prestigious role, Mr Choudhury mentored small- and medium-sized businesses in East London helping to show them how they could benefit from the Olympic Games and build sustainable long-term businesses.

This role was extended past the Olympic Games and Mr Choudhury continues to provide advice and guidance to help local businesses grow and flourish.

As a great believer in corporate social responsibility, Mr Choudhury has been a sponsor and a benefactor of many social, cultural and sport activities across East London, particularly in the Borough of Tower Hamlets, during his business career over the past two decades. To give youngsters access to recreational activities and encouraging them to take up sport, he is a major sponsor of badminton and football clubs in Tower Hamlets.

He was educated at Holloway Secondary School, North London and at Hackney College where he gained a National Diploma in Business and Finance.





Atique Islam Choudhury

Sector:
Catering

Atique Islam Choudhury is the son of Dabirul Islam Choudhury and Khaleda Choudhury. He is property developer, industrialist and social entrepreneur. Born in St Albans Hertfordshire in 1963.

Owner and Managing Director of the award winning restaurant Yum Yum, Europe's largest Thai restaurant with seating for up to 500 and owner of Mercado Mexican Restaurant. In 2009 Atique's latest venture Oishiii Japanese Eatery, is a new revolution in Japanese dining. With over 26 years experience in the restaurant sector Atique has been at the fore front of innovative practice in the restaurant trade and provides a service second to none. He has won many accolades and awards, featured in the media throughout his career.

Atique is a very strong supporter of Youth Employment, to that end he created the Asian Oriental School of Catering which specialised in training and finding employment for young people and providing a high level quality chefs throughout London and the UK.

He is an avid supporter of local and national charities and supporting his Community through sponsorship and awards by creating opportunities for creative and talented people alike. An ex international badminton player also one his favourite pastimes is as an avid supporter of the Arsenal Football Club.

His many personal and business awards include; Caterer & Hotel-keeper Healthy Menu Award 1986, 1999, Winner of the Thai Food Festival, Egon Rhonay Oriental Chef of the Year 1999, Hackney Chamber of Commerce award for the best service in business 1999, Presented with the Thai Select Award for Thai Cuisine, UK Food

Service award winner 2000, received an Arts & Business award in 2001, Thai Trade & Commerce Award for 'Chef of the Year 2003, LBC 2003 Oriental Restaurant of The Year, Archant London Restaurant Award, Best Thai Restaurant 2007, Mayor of Hackney Business Awards, Best Business in Hackney 2009, 2006 presented by the Royal Thai Embassy and Buddhapadipa Temple an Honorary Certificate in recognition of his work for the Thai community in the UK. His restaurant was also Finalist Best Thai Restaurant in London (Carlton TV) in 1997.



Aziz Choudhury

Sector:
Community Relations

Aziz Choudhury is the Director of Montefiore Centre under which thirteen organisations are based providing training and other important services to the community. He has held this post since 2001.

Prior to his current position, Mr Choudhury was Managing Director of Otherwords Ltd, and from 1995 to 1999 he was Chief Executive of Bengali Workers Association. He was responsible for overseeing the running of several local projects in Camden, including the Surma community centre.

In the mid eighties, Aziz Choudhury was Finance Director for Spitalfields Housing Association, a position he maintained for a decade. In his early career he was an accountant and worked for various accredited accountancy firms.

Mr Choudhury has a host of qualifications. He obtained his BSc in Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics from Dhaka University in 1967. He Studied Accountancy at the London School of Accountancy between 1972—73. Moreover, he is an Associate member of Institute of Financial Accountants and has Fellow Membership of Institute of Financial Accountants as well as achieving Common Purpose Community Leadership Graduation in 1992. Mr Choudhury has been involved in several community and voluntary initiatives both in the United Kingdom and in Bangladesh. These include being involved with Spitalfields Small Business Association, East London Small Business Centre, East London Business Alliance and he has been a PMG member of the Tower Hamlets Partnership. Other involvement includes being actively engaged with Bangla Housing Association.

In Bangladesh Aziz Choudhury founded the Jalalpur College in Sylhet and he is a trustee and General Secretary of Rosae Trust, which raises funds to support a hospital in Dhaka.

Mr Aziz Choudhury is married to Heima Choudhury. They have two sons, the eldest son Ashike is a Doctor for the NHS and youngest son Siraj is a Solicitor in Local Government, with a Masters Degree in town planning.



Cllr Eyusuf Raja Chaudhury

Sector:
Politics



Cllr Eyusuf Raja Chaudhury is the first British born child of Late Hazi Kasa-ur-Raja Chaudhury who is a descendant of Shah Kalu Phir (360 Awliya).

Eyusuf's family arrived in UK during the 1960's from Chatak and he was born in King Hospital, London in 1971.

Eyusuf's family moved to Corby in 1973 as the first Bengali's to move there. He attended local schools and the local college and gained a good number of GCSE's and a Diploma in Business and Finance.

Cllr Chaudhury married Jumera Begum the youngest sister of the current and well respected Mayor of Sylhet City; Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran and blessed with 4 children.

Eyusuf comes from a politically orientated background and most of his family members are involved in mainstream politics and Eyusuf is no exception following in the same trend with great success.

Eyusuf also spent a long vacation living in Sylhet, Bagbhari & became involved in local community activities and politics. Eyusuf

was greatly inspired by Late Al-Haj Humaiyun Rashid Choudhury (The Honourable Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament) and the Sylhet City Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran. Their kind support has been of great inspiration.

Cllr Chaudhury has undertaken a considerable amount of work for the Bagbari Estate which included investment and development of local schools, road works, graveyard and other facilities to benefit the local Community and was able to draw on his western education and knowledge.

Cllr Chaudhury is strongly involved in various community and

charity work in the UK and abroad. Cllr Chaudhury enjoys charitable work and feels great satisfaction from assisting others and spends a lot of his spare time in worthy causes.

In 2011 Cllr Chaudhury was elected to the local government of Corby Borough Council as the first Labour Councillor winning the seat from the Conservatives and making history in the process (Great Oakley Ward) a predominantly White populated area and he is currently spearheading a multiple-million pounds project in establishing the first Masjid and Madrasa for the Corby Town and he is current Chairman of the Corby Muslim Association.

Cllr Chaudhury wishes to continue with his Political Career and fulfil his political ambitions whilst also working for the community and assisting worthy causes and undertaking charitable work and activities. Cllr Chaudhury is determined that the first Masjid in Corby will be fully up and running this year.

Foyso Hussain Choudhury

Sector:
Catering



Foyso Hussain Choudhury MBE from Badardi, Nabigonj, Habigonj Bangladesh. He is the oldest son of Late Al_Haj Gulam Rabbani Choudhury. He was studying at Edinburgh due to his father's illness he took over the family businesses.

Mr Choudhury is one of Edinburgh's youngest established Entrepreneurs. He is heavily involved in the field of race relations and voluntary work. He is always seeking for new goals.

Awarded MBE on New Years Honours list 2004 for services to Race Relations. He is one of the Founder Directors of Edinburgh Mela Ltd. Currently Vice Chair., Chairman of Edinburgh & Lothian Regional Equality Council, Chairman of Bangladesh Samity Edinburgh. President of The Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs in Scotland, Joint General Secretary of Zukt-Razy Nabigonj Education Trust UK, Life Member of Daimuddin Ethemkhana (Orphanage) & Hafizia Madrasa, General Secretary of the Bangladesh Welfare Council Scotland, Youth Secretary of the Commonwealth Society Edinburgh, Organising Secretary of Council of Bangladeshis in Scotland, Organising Secretary of Bangladesh Awami League Scotland.

In 1991 he was the Joint Co-ordinator of the Bangladesh Cyclone Appeal which raised £141,000 in Scotland. In addition he is responsible for fund raising to help local charity such as St Colombo's hospice, Leukaemia & Cancer appeal, Sick Kids appeal, Heart Foundation, Indian Earthquake Appeal, Tsunami Appeal and many others.

Outside his business and community life Mr Choudhury is a conscientious snooker and badminton player and has won many trophies, one of the greatest fans of Heart of Midlothian FC and Manchester United Football Club.





K M Abu Taher Choudhury

Sector:
Media and Community Relations

Kalam Mahmud Abu Taher Choudhury was born in a traditional Moulana family in Ita Sinkapon, Moulvibazar. He is the youngest son of Hafiz Moulana Abdul Qader Choudhury Sinkaponi (R), who was a renowned spiritual leader and Islamic scholar in Bangladesh.

As a promising student leader, he was the General Secretary of the Chattra League, Kashinat Alauddin High School branch, Moulvibazar, in 1969 and played an active role in the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

Professionally, Mr Chowdhury is an engineer, tutor and a very well-known journalist. He was a correspondent and staff reporter for the weekly Jugaberi and Deshbarta, two of the oldest newspapers published from Sylhet. Likewise, he worked with other newspapers and Sylhet radio for a lengthy period.

As an established journalist in the UK, Mr Choudhury was a Special Correspondent of the Weekly Jonomoth and Editor of the monthly Dawat. He was also the Founder Chief Editor and Chairman of the first-ever bilingual weekly newspaper, Euro Bangla. Currently, he is the Chief Editor of the weekly Bangla Post, Editor of the weekly London Bangla, Chairman of the weekly Bangla Mirror's Advisory Board and an Advisory Editor of the Dhaka Post. Additionally, he is the President of the Bangladesh Journalist Association UK. The 'community heartbeat', Mr Choudhury, was an elected ex-Chairperson and General Secretary of the Greater Sylhet Council in UK for two consecutive terms, and is currently a patron. He is the Secretary of Voice for Justice UK and holds presidential posts at Renaissance Sahitya Mojlish UK and New Hope Multi Cultural Trust. Mr Choudhury is also the Chairman of the Cancer Patients Poor Help Fund and Convenor of the Campaign for Press Freedom in Bangladesh. He is similarly serving as a Senior Vice Chairman for the Organisation for the Recognition of Bangla as an Official Language in the UN. Last but not means least, he is an Advisor and Trustee of the Goreeb & Eathem Trust fund

and Advisor of the Aid & Care Trust.

Mr Choudhury has been a Parent Governor for several years. He has been working as an employee of the Tower Hamlets Council for the past 26 years. In May 2003, he was awarded the Civic Award from the Tower Hamlets Council, the Channel 'S' Award, Community Leadership Award from the Black Ethnic Minority in UK, Best Leader Award from the United States of America, British-Bangladeshi Who's Who award, the WBA Award and the NWT Award for his invaluable contribution to the community. He was also awarded the Language Memorial Gold Award from Dhaka and the Dhaka Post Award. In July 1997, Prince Charles invited him to a reception at St James Palace. He has also been invited to the Queen's Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

Mr Choudhury is a tireless campaigner for noble causes of the community and against the injustice in today's society. He is also a loving father of 8 children.



Mohibuddin Choudhury

Sector:
Media

Mohibuddin Choudhury came to the United Kingdom with his parents at the age of fourteen in 1973.

Mr Mohibuddin Choudhury opened his first business in 1977, a restaurant named 'Akash' in Maida Vale, West London. He subsequently became involved with the media and is one of the Founding Directors of Notun Din. He is currently the Editor of the weekly Notun Din a Bengali language newspaper based in London.

Moreover, Mr Choudhury is the Founder President of the London Bangla Press Club, which was inaugurated in 1994. This organisation represents most of the Bangladeshi media in the United Kingdom. Mr Choudhury has also been recently elected as Director of Finance of the British Bangla Chamber of Commerce. He is also Director of Palm Tree Restaurant.

Mohibuddin Choudhury has been involved in several other community and charity organisations. He is one of the Founder Trustees & present chairman of British Bangla Jaggannathpur Education Trust based in the UK, which is one of the most successful organisations, that financially supports and encourages poor students in relation to advancing their education. Furthermore, he is one of the Founder Trustee of Kolkoli Shahjalal College, Syedpur College and Bibiana College in Bangladesh.

Mr Choudhury is a well-known and respected media personality and businessman and has supported many organisations working for the greater interest of the British Bangladeshi community. He is married with six children all of whom reside in the family home in Redbridge.

Dr Sanawar Choudhury

Sector:
*Finance and Community
Relations*



In 1975, at the age of 9, Sanawar, the first son of a headmaster, came to the UK under a settlement VISA to join his father (Late) Al-Hajj Mohammed Shafiqul Islam Choudhury, accompanied by his mother Shamsun Nehar and brother Soiful.

Since then Sanawar has earned an upper second BD (Hons) Degree in Accounting and Finance (1989), qualified as a Chartered Accountants with Price Waterhouse Coopers (1992) and has been awarded a PhD in Accounting from University (2005) – after submitting a doctoral thesis entitled ‘Cash Flow Reporting in the UK: Perceptions, Practices and Problems’, the culmination of six years research on the topic.

In 2001 Sanawar settled his young family in Dhaka and joined Bangladesh Bank as an International Consultant advising on corporate reporting, financial risk management and internal control. Sanawar worked with and for the Governor of Bangladesh Bank,

Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed and Dr Sallehuddin Ahmed until 2006 when he returned to the UK with his wife Nasima, daughter Nazma and sons Shaheenur, Shajahan and Shaful.

During his career Sanawar has undertaken consultancy assignments both in the UK, Europe and the Middle East, working mainly in financial risk management and corporate reporting.

Sanawar currently runs a number of successful businesses that extend from Professional Training to Property to the largest Chartered Accountancy firm of Bangladeshi origin in the UK, RCi Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors.

In 2008 Sanawar with other notable members of the NRB community in Europe launched the European Bangladesh Federation of Commerce and Industry (EBF) and became one of its seven founding executive directors. EBF is a multi-lateral trade federation established to promote and encourage trade, investment and business relations between Europe and Bangladesh and between NRB's within the European Union.

Prince Sadik Choudhury

Sector:
Politics/Community Relations



Mr Chaudhury was the only British Bangladeshi Councillor in Northamptonshire until the last election. While he was pursuing his Career to become a Barrister in the University of Northampton his interest in Politics prevailed.

Therefore Mr Chaudhury joined the Liberal Democrats and was successful in winning his seat in the Borough Council Election on 5th May 2007.

His family moved to Northamptonshire in the early 1970's and he himself has been a permanent resident of Northampton for over 20 years. He is a former Executive Committee Member of the (NBA) Northampton Bangladeshi Association and has been involved with the organisation for many years. He is currently undergoing training as a prospective Parliamentary Candidate and is actively involved in politics and has assisted many young British Bangladeshi in getting involved with mainstream politics.

He is a young, vibrant and dynamic Community Activist, who is the first point of contact for Bangladeshi people in Northampton. He is also known for his involvement in football and other sporting activ-

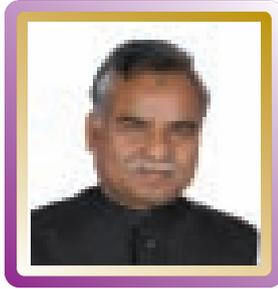
ities for the last 16 years.

He is the first ethnic minority person appointed by the Secretary of State for Planning as a Committee Member of WNDC (West Northamptonshire Development Corporation). He is involved in the major development and extension of the University of Northampton, Northampton College, Northampton Cricket Club and South Northamptonshire. He has received many prestigious local and national awards and recognition from various organisations for his relentless community and charity work. One of which was raising some £5,000 for Northampton General Hospital, which has resulted in him being highly recognised by the NHS for his work.

Mr Prince Sadik Chaudhury has also written several articles for the local Chronicle & Echo newspaper as well as the Northamptonshire BBC website, presenting his views and attitudes towards some very important issues. His articles for the Northamptonshire BBC still remain in existence on the website.

People in Northampton are very pleased to have a former Councillor in Northampton who is climbing the ladder of success in a very short span of time.

Mr Prince Sadik Chaudhury was honoured by The Her Majesty Queen for his prolong community work and he was first British-Bangladesh person from Northamptonshire was invited to Buckingham Palace. He is always demonstrated his commitment to the local community and has always been involved in various activities and frameworks to build racial and social harmony among the wider community. Surely he is a role model for the Asian community in Northampton.



Shafiqur Rahman Choudhury

Sector:
Politics

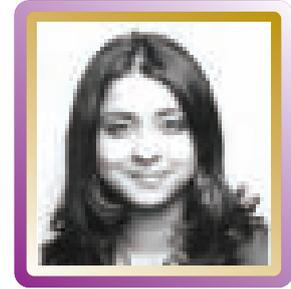
Shafiqur Rahman Choudhury is the MP of Biswanath-Balaganj-Osmaninogor elected in 2008. He is the President of Bangladesh Welfare Association in Britain, a prominent businessman and social worker. He is a member of parliamentary standing committee on Ministry of civil aviation & tourism, Privatization Commission & Syndicate member of Sylhet agriculture University.

Mr Choudhury was born in 1957 in Biswanath, Sylhet to the prominent community leader Al-Haj Abdul Matlib Choudhury and Lati-funnesa Choudhury. Shafiqur Rahman Choudhury gained his BA from Sylhet Government College. He got involved with student politics from school days, and was an active member of the Liberation War.

Mr Choudhury came to Britain in 1978 and got involved in the UK Awami League activities and played an important role in organising the workers all over the UK. He played pivotal roles in movements against autocracy and demanding the trial of war criminals. He also played an improvement with the Bangladeshi youth organisations in a common platform to form the UK Youth Federation. As a president of Bangladesh Welfare Association, he took effort to resolve the problems regarding the visa system of the Bangladeshis with British passport, travel tax, problems regarding Biman and Sonali Bank. He formed the Probashi Action Committee as a protest against the harassment of the non-residents in Bangladesh. The Committee arranged a protest in Hyde Park and in front of the Bangladesh Mission.

Mr Choudhury is a trustee of the Bangladesh Centre and a founder-convenor of the Martyrs' Day Observation Committee. This Committee has been observing the Martyrs' Day in different parts of London. Mr Choudhury also played important role in building the Language-Martyrs' Tomb in Altab Ali Park. He is also involved with Najrul Centre and Tower Hamlets Law Centre to name but a few.

Mr Choudhury got married in 1985 to Tahmina Akhtar Choudhury. They have three children.



Shamim Chowdhury

Sector:
media

Shamim is a highly experienced television and print journalist, currently working for the prestigious international broadcaster, Al Jazeera English. She performs a number of prominent roles, including news editor, reporter and producer. She has reported on a wide range of issues for the channel from the UK and Bangladesh, and is considered by the channel to be its Bangladesh expert.

Prior to Al Jazeera, Shamim worked for Sky News, the BBC and ITN.

She is also a print journalist and has written for a wide range of national newspapers including The Daily Express, The Daily Mail, The Daily Telegraph and The Independent, where she wrote comment and opinion pieces. She currently blogs regularly for The Huffington Post on a range of socio-political issues.

Shamim has taken part in current affairs and politics debates at The House of Lords and on numerous live television discussion programmes and has also been on the judging panel of media awards ceremonies.

She has a BSc from Queen Mary, University of London, an MSc from Birkbeck College and a post-graduate diploma in newspaper journalism from City University.

Aside from her work, she enjoys karate, cooking, literature and the arts. But her greatest passion is travelling, and she has visited almost 50 countries including parts of the Middle East, Africa and Asia. One one occasion she worked with a leading charity to help build a community centre in a remote part of Cambodia.

She is fiercely proud of her Bangladeshi, and especially her Sylheti, heritage and previously had her own column at the English-medium newspaper for the Bangladeshi community, The Bangla Mirror.

Ahmed Us Samad Chowdhury
JP

Sector:

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 President in Bristol. In business, community development and media Mr. Chowdhury has been a driving force for which he is much loved.

Founder of "Potrika" (Britain's popular Bengali newspaper) Mr Chowdhury is also the Chairman of the most watched Bengali channel in Europe, Channel S Television.

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 both in the UK and in Bangladesh. He is also the co- owner of Kushiara Composite Knit Industries- a 100% export orientated enterprise earning vital foreign currency for Bangladesh. He is the Director of Kushiara Power Company, a 170 MW Gas-based combined Cycle Plant and should be able to supply power to the National Grid in coming months.

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 aimed at women and youths he founded Bangladesh Centre in Bristol. In 1998 Mr. Chowdhury championed the project to establish South West's only purpose built mosque. Mr. Chowdhury serves as the Trustee of Bangladesh House, Bangladesh Centre 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 under the Ministry of Education, Advisor to New Deal (Ethnic Minority Group) during Tony Blair's government. 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, Senior Vice President, National Heart foundation, Sylhet, Chief Patron of The All European Bangladesh Association, Chief Advisor of Bangladesh Female Academy 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 (the only office outside Britain). He contributed to the foundation of many projects such as Children's Hospital, Cyclone Shelter, Orphanage and a Hospital for the Disabled and Paralysed and many educational institutions in Bangladesh.

In year 2013 The International Biographic Society published his Biography amongst selected people from around the Globe.

Cllr Ayesha Chowdhury

Sector:
Politics



Cllr Ayesha Chowdhury arrived in Britain with her parents at the age of 16. Besides learning English, she helped her father with his community work. In 1991 she found herself taking a course in Construction, at Newham Community College, she completed the Diploma in 1993.

She then enrolled at Goldsmiths College, University of London, to study Youth, Community and Social work, eventually obtaining a Masters Degree in Applied Anthropology, Youth & Community Work. Cllr Chowdhury began to recognise that whatever she did she was limited by the confines of policy. Therefore she felt that the decision-making process had to be influenced if real change was to be attempted. As a result of this she got involved with politics.

Outside her role as a councillor in Newham, Ayesha Chowdhury is

a successful businesswoman. She is a property developer and also Director of London Green Management Company Ltd. She has previously worked as a Centre Manager in Newham, a Social Worker for Tower Hamlets and has co-ordinated projects in different boroughs. Aside from politics and business, she is also committed to various local, national and transnational organisations. She has been heavily involved in fundraising activities in the UK to support various rural areas across the globe.

Her participation in community initiatives consist of being in the consultative committee of London City Airport. She retains membership in the Newham Community Police Forum and School Organisation committee.

Other past and present commitments include being a committee member of Beckton Community Forum, Building Schools for Future and Mayoral Advisor. Amongst her most prestigious voluntary association she is a committee member for two Scrutiny Commission for Community Cohesion and Child Poverty, two integral issues which society faces in the present climate. Her interests include Human Rights, politics as well as environmental and social issues. She is fluent in several languages including Bengali, English, Urdu, Hindi and is currently maintaining her interest in foreign languages by learning a European language.

She is a family woman, married with two children.

Cllr. Jilani Chowdhury**Sector:**
Politics

Jilani was born in Moulvibazar, Bangladesh and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts. As a student he was proactive in the student movement which was the main driver for political change, removal of the military dictatorship and restoring democracy in Bangladesh. As a Civil Servant in Bangladesh, he was concerned about social inequalities and is proud of his record in challenging the status quo, promoting democracy and free speech. It is this conviction that he brings to the role of Mayor of Islington where he is committed to supporting and promoting a cohesive and fairer Islington for all residents.

Jilani settled in Islington when he arrived in 1992 and quickly set up home. Jilani has always been ambitious for change took on the challenge of learning the language as well as undertaking his second degree, a BSC in Community Sector Management. This was very helpful in building his understanding of communities and led him to the role he now holds in Camden where he runs a well-respected service for older people with an emphasis on the importance of culturally appropriate services.

Jilani quickly became involved in local politics through supporting Jeremy Corbyn MP as a translator and then joined the Labour Party. He became increasingly concerned about the low levels of participation in local elections and with his passion for democracy and representation, he ran a successful campaign to encourage local people to vote and exercise their democratic rights. Jilani first became ward Councillor for Barnsbury in 2006, one of the most diverse wards in Islington and is committed to his constituents and to knowing, understanding and resolving issues.

Jilani took up the prestigious position of Mayor of Islington with great pride and feels very privileged to represent Islington whilst he was a Mayor of this welcoming and creative borough which has a proud tradition of acceptance and tolerance.

Mr Enam-Ul Haque Chowdhury**Sector:**
Catering

Mr Enam-Ul Haque Chowdhury was born and studied in Bangladesh before arriving to the UK in 1986 to study Business Management at Luton University. After completing his studies he moved to Swindon.

Realising his ambitions within the catering industry Mr Chowdhury opened his first restaurant in 1991 the Ganges Indian take-away which became an instant hit with the locals in the area. This gave him the inspiration and confidence to open his second business the Ganges Indian Restaurant in 1993. The business has won many awards and accolades.

Mr Chowdhury's varied business interest includes catering, Investment and property development in the United Kingdom and Bangladesh. He is the founder of MIJ group. He is the Chairman and CEO of Greentech Developers (UK) LTD which has been awarded by the ICT Ministry of Bangladesh To Develop Bangladesh's first Software Park at Janata Tower, Dhaka. He is one of the Directors of the five stars hotel Dhaka Regency located in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

He is the founder of Thahiria Mohila Academy (Titel) in Shahbagh, Zakigonj, Sylhet, Bangladesh. An Executive Director of UK-Bangladesh Business Council (UKBBC), recently he is elected as a Vice President of BCA. The life member of London Bangla Press Club, Deputy chairman of Royal wootton bassett & District Conservatives, Honorary Vice President of Conservative Friends of Bangladesh, He is a member and actively involved in the international rotary club, he has assisted in various charitable and philanthropy related project in U.K and Bangladesh.

He is a member of William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation millennium network. He is a civilian sponsor for International student of DEFENCE ACADEMY of The United Kingdom since 1999. A committee member of Queen's Diamond jubilee celebration 2012.

In 2009 ENAM CHOWDHURY with other high profile members of the Non Resident Bangladeshi (NRB) community from UK, EUROPE, CANADA, USA, AFRICA and MIDDLEEAST created the NRB WORLDWIDE FOUNDATION is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, by the development and promotion of the knowledge and skills as a common base for intellectual exchange to support the enrichment of Bangladesh.

Mr Chowdhury has been awarded the Special Citizen Privilege Category "A" (CIP) from the Government of Bangladesh.

He has attended many International seminar and Conference including One in October 2009 IDEAS and INNOVATION for the Development of Bangladesh: THE NEXT DECADE at HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Boston, USA.

He has met various head of states, leaders and academics including USA president Bill Clinton.

He is a member of the WILTSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

Mr Chowdhury is married for 23 years to JASMIN CHOWDHURY the couple have been blessed with three sons.



Matiur Rahman Chowdhury

Sector:
Media

Matiur Rahman Chowdhury is an Organising Secretary of the London Bangla Press Club. He has quickly established himself as a valuable member of the organisation since arriving from Bangladesh. Born in Kulaura, Moulvibazar district of Bangladesh, Mr Chowdhury completed his education in Bangladesh before moving to the UK.

He attended the local high school in Kulaura, Moulvibazar where he completed his S.S.C examinations and progressed on to Moulvibazar's Komolgonj Degree College to complete his H.S.C studies. He completed both his BSS(Honours) and MSS in Political Science from Jagonnath University.

Afer completing his masters, Mr Chowdhury joined BRAC's research & evaluation department and was based at the organisations head office in Mohakali- Dhaka. Later he was employed as a Regional Sales Manager for the Meghna Group and predominately based in Sylhet, Dhaka and Chittagong. Mr Chowdhury was a lecturer of Political Science at Moulvibazar's Bhatara College in Kulaura before moving to the UK.

Once in the UK, Mr Chowdhury worked in the marketing industry and was recruited by the Euro Bangla Newspaper to help improve their sales and soon worked his way up through consistently working hard and learning new skills to the position of News Editor. Presently, he is working in Weekly Potrika as a special contributor. In addition to his role in print media, he is a Director of a Private Ltd company. Mr Chowdhury is engaged in various non-profit social welfare organisations.

He was the founder Secretary of Udoyachol Jonokollan Songsta, Manu, Hajipur in Kulaura, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh, as well as a Joint Secretary of Kulaura Chatro Kollyan Songsta in Dhaka. Mr Chowdhury was also a member of Dhaka's Jalalabad Association. Mr Chowdhury has one brother and five sisters and is married with one son. For the foreseeable future, he wants to continue helping the poor as well as developing more educational projects in Bangladesh.



Md Imran K Chowdhury

Sector:
Legal (Solicitor)

Md Imran Kabir Chowdhury is the Principal Solicitor of "E1 Solicitors" a practise based in East London.

Mr Chowdhury has worked as civil litigator, Road Traffic Accident and Personal Injury Lawyer at ATM LAW Solicitors, Ilford before starting his own Law Firm.

Mr Chowdhury has obtained his LLB (Hons) & Post Graduation in Law from Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent, England. He also obtained a LLB (Hons) and LLM degree from Rajshahi University Bangladesh.

He has been working for the local community since 2005. From 2006 to 2010 worked in; Skills for life project with Stoke on Trent city Council, Life in the United Kingdom with Staffordshire County Council, Reduce unemployment project with Connexion Stoke. Staffordshire and Active lives project with North Staffordshire Primary Care Trust, Youth fitness project with Community Foundation and a 3 years Supplementary project with Comic Relief UK.

He was a lead member of Education in the Strategic Partnership Committee in The Stoke-On-Trent city Council. He was also an elected executive member of the BME (Black, Minority and Ethnic) forum in the Stoke-on-Trent city Council.

Director and Project Co-ordinator CSD LTD (A Charitable Organisation registered in England and Wales) Mr Chowdhury has supported the development of schools, mosques, madrassa's and other charity projects in his parental village in Nilphamari. He is an honourable member of the Solicitor Regulation Authority, England & Wales, UK, Member, Law Society, England & Wales, UK, Member,

The Honourable Society of Middle Temple, London, Member, Bar Council, Bangladesh and Member, District Bar Association. Nilphamari. Bangladesh.

Mr Chowdhury has also worked as a Police Officer for Bangladesh Police under the Ministry of Home Affairs and worked as a Secretary for the Bangladesh High Commission London under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh Government.



Sayed Chowdhury

Sector:
Media and Entrepreneur

Sayed Chowdhury is a renowned journalist, novelist and a successful entrepreneur. Mr Chowdhury is Press & Publicity Director of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (BBCC). He is Managing Director of Excelsior Sylhet five star hotel & resort. He is also Founder Director of United Airways, which is successfully operating flights to Jeddah, Dubai, Muscat, Katmandu, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Kolkata along with all domestic routes of Bangladesh.

Sayed Chowdhury is Managing Director of Media Mohol Ltd. He is Editor of Shomy24 and weekly EuroBangla. He is also Editor of UK Bangla Directory (Britain's first one-stop guide to Bangladeshi businesses, first published in 2003), UK Asian Restaurant Directory (Britain's first Asian restaurant directory, published in 2007), Muslim Index (The essential directory for the Muslim World, published in 2010). He edited several magazines such as Durbar, Sylhet Guide and Shuniket.

In 1990 Sayed Chowdhury was nominated as a member of the Executive Committee of Sylhet Press Club. He was elected twice in the Committee (1993-94, 1995-96). He has been nominated an Executive Member of London Bangla Press Club and Press Secretary of BJA

Sayed Chowdhury was Organising Secretary of Osmani International Airport Formation Movement. He was played the important networking role in the formation of Sylhet Division.

Sayed Chowdhury is the Founder Rector and Director of British Bangladesh International School (BBIS). He is Director of Westpoint School & College.

BBC television featured a special interview of Sayed Chowdhury (5 August 1998) by renowned journalist Francis Harrison regarding his dream and vision along with the prospect of English medium education in Sylhet. BBC radio also aired Sayed Chowdhury's interview on 28 November 1999 on the development of Sylhet. In 2004 BBC journalist visited Media Mohol and interviewed Sayed Chowdhury again for his publications. Mr Chowdhury has also presented and appeared on Bangla TV, Channel S, Atn, Ntv, Channel I, Channel 9, as well as MCR and Betar Bangla.

Sayed Chowdhury has received awards from different institutions, organizations and local authorities for his contribution to society and achievement in his career and life. His awards include Mayor Awards of Tower Hamlets Council of Great Britain and many more. He is among the few who have been included in the eight edition of the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership by the American Biographical Institute, Inc.

Sayed Chowdhury was born in Noagaon village of Hatkhola Union Parishad under Sylhet Sadar. His father Dr M M Serajul Islam Chowdhury was an eminent social and religious personality in Bangladesh and his mother Begum Kamrunnessa was a social worker. His wife Afia Chowdhury is an accountant. He is a proud father of two sons Imthiaz Chowdhury and Rayyan Chowdhury.



Shahagir Bakth Faruk
MSc.

Sector:
*Business and
Community Relations*

Shahagir Bakth Faruk was born in Sunamganj, Bangladesh. His late father Alhaj Shah Bakth, was a retired Bank Officer, his younger brother Humayun is a Brigadier General in the Bangladesh Army, and his eldest sister, Dr Saleha Khatun was the first women medical doctor in her home town of Sunamganj. Faruk was a lecturer of Physics in Sunamganj College before arriving in London in 1973. He established the Shahnan Employment & Training Bureau, which was the first Bangladeshi employment and training centre in the East End of London.

Faruk is also the first Bangladeshi trainer who provides food hygiene training, health and safety training and HACCP training for all sorts of food handlers in a diverse range of premises. He is also an accredited trainer of the internationally recognised Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH), Royal Society of Public Health (RSPH), Meat and Livestock Commission (MLC) and Welcome Host. He is an author of the book called "Food Hygiene". Apart from entrepreneurship, Faruk has made a considerable political contribution to the mainstream of British politics. He is involved with the Conservative party, having been the local Conservative Association Chairman for five consecutive years. During his leadership he arranged visits in his local constituency from many leading Conservative figures.

Faruk was the only Bangladeshi who was selected as an official Conservative Parliamentary Candidate in 2001 and achieved an excellent second place against Oona King. He was also a Conservative candidate for the same constituency and fought a hard campaign against Oona King and George Galloway in 2005. Faruk is the former President of the London region of Bangladesh-British Chamber of Commerce. He is the Deputy Chairman of "Conservative Friends of Bangladesh".

He is the founder member of the London Millennium Bridge Club and his name is engraved on this famous bridge, which was opened by Her Majesty the Queen. Faruk is also a trustee of Bangladesh Female Academy, founder of Sunamganj Association, "SUPROBASH" & a "Freeman of the City of London". He lives in east end of London with wife Sherina and four children Shahnan, Eva, Safwan and Zayn.



Tareq Chowdhury

Sector:
Legal and Media



Tareq Chowdhury is well known in the Bangladeshi Community as a Journalist. He is also an immigration expert and a Barrister. He is the editor of weekly Bangla Post, the first Bengali newspaper in the UK newsagent. He is also a Principal of Kingdom Solicitors.

Born in Sylhet and brought up in Habigonj. His ancestral home is in Zakiganj upozilla in Sylhet district. Fifth son of Mr. Muhamed Abdun Nur Chowdhury, the retired Head Master of Shaistaganj High School and former central president of Bangladesh Teachers association. His father was also head examiner of physics of Comilla Education Board for around 20 years.

Tareq Chowdhury took his Secondary and higher secondary education at Shaistaganj. He migrated to United Kingdom to study. He completed LLB honours at Wolverhampton University in 2002 followed by the Bar Vocational Course in 2003 from Northumbria University and was called to the Bar by the Honorable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

He has been involved with the media since 1991 with Dainik Janata and he worked with Daily Star as University correspondent and contributor. He was the senior reporter of recently defunct Daily Bangladesh in UK and also contributed in various weeklies in UK including Bangla Mirror. He contributed in almost all newspapers in Rajshahi in the 1990s and many dailies and weeklies in Dhaka. He was also a dedicated scout since he was at school and carried on after he went to university. He attended many scouts camps and Jamboree. In order to receive the president scout award, he took part in the 100 mile rambling from Rajshahi to Sirajgonj.

He has also earned reputation as a TV presenter with Local TV Channels on Legal and political programmes in London.

He has leadership abilities as he was the president of Rajshahi University Press club. Secretary of University Rotaract club and he was the elected student representative to the honourable society of Lincoln's Inn from Northumbria University during his Bar Vocational Course.

He is married to Rezia Choudhury who is working as Intelligence Researcher for the British Transport Police in London.

Abdul Md Fakruzzaman

Sector:
Arts & Culture



Abdul Md Fakruzzaman was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh and studied in London Guildhall University in 1996-1999 and London Metropolitan University, Artists in Residence in 2006. He has many awards under his belt. These include the ABC Convention Award for Arts & Culture, New York in 2012, Sha Abdul Karim Award, Channel S in 2012, U.K National Award, The Winsor & Newton World Wide Millennium Paintings Competition in 2000 and Best Medium Award from Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1991.

Abdul having studied both in Bangladesh and UK, has had the unique experience of immersing himself in the fine art traditions of the 'East' and the 'West'. His academic career has landed him with awards in both Dhaka (Best Medium prize) and London. Within a very short time, in more ways than one, he has emerged as a true cosmopolitan.

His works are composition based on forms. He often uses flat forms that are given volume and dimension by texturing around them. He

often uses the graffito technique, using nails and palette knives to scratch away at the surface. Gray and black are the most dominant colours in his work, according to Taker Hushin, daily Star, Bangladesh

He has also exhibited his work widely. A few of his solo exhibitions are: Solo Art Exhibition, Gallery Chitrak, Dhanmondi, Dhaka Bangladesh in 2010, and 'A Kaleidoscopic Journey' painting and print exhibition, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2005. A Celebration An Exhibition of Painting & Prints, Mile End Park Gallery The Ecology Pavilion, London in 2002, Print Exhibition. ILRC London Guildhall University, London in 2000 and last

but not least Solo Paintings Exhibition. Oxford House, London in 1995. Some of his group exhibitions have been Art Exhibition in ABC Convention, NY in 2012, 'Colour of Time' Contemporary Painting Exhibition, The World Habitat Centre in New Delhi, India in 2012, Contemporary Art Exhibition 'The Paper Mill Gallery, Toronto, Canada in 2011, 'Whole Festival' Tomkingson Park NY, 'Colour of Time' group paintings exhibition in Academy of Fine Arts, Kolkata, India in 2011 and the Anniversary exhibition 'Rooted Creativity 9' Bengal Gallery of Fine Art, Dhaka Bangladesh in 2011.

Some of his published works: 'A Kaleidoscopic Journey', published by the Bengal of Fine Arts, Dhaka, The Artist Handbook by Ray Smith, published by Dorling Kindersley, 'A Celebration An Exhibition of Paintings & Prints', 'Our World In The Year 2000', published by Sheeran Lock. If you want a visual treat, then head to his studio for an outstanding experience.



Gulam Mostafa Faruk**Sector:**
Media

Gulam Mostafa Faruk MA (MM) is Son of M Taru Boksh a retired police officer, village Pathan Para, Sylhet City Corporation He started his journalism career in 1987 while he was a student at MC College in Sylhet.

While in college he entered a government-arranged competition, which was the national week of teaching and became the first in the Sylhet region and gained a chance to be part of the Chittagong Division. Apart from studying he was also involved with charity work and work involving social economic development in Bangladesh.

He was also the Chair of the central body for one of Sylhet's well-known organisations 'Dhakin Surma Shomaj Kollan Shomity'. He was the editor of the magazine for the student union in his college and has edited ten different magazines for different organizations in the UK and in Bangladesh. Also was the Secretary General for Jalalabad Jubo Forum Sylhet Sodor and was the Press and Publicity Secretary for Sylhet Sodor Association UK. Has worked in several papers in Sylhet and Dhaka. Arrived in London in 1991. Also worked as senior staff reporter at Weekly Janamot for five years. Briefly worked for Weekly Surma newspaper prior to working for weekly Janamot.

He was the presenter for 'Shuprobat Britain' on Bangla TV London, which was a weekly

Bengali newspaper review programme for five years, and was involved with special occasional reporting from London for well known TV channels Ekushey TV, NTV and ATN Bangla in Bangladesh.

He is the London correspondent for the Daily Jugantor newspaper in Bangladesh since 2001, also is the London correspondent of the

Weekly Probashi newspaper of America and Austria's Euroshongbad. He has been the treasurer for Bangladesh Journalist Association UK and was also the Social Welfare and Entertainment Secretary for London Bangla Press Club for the first elected committee and received the majority votes amongst the competitors. He is also the Bengali section's editor of the well-known Spice Business magazine in the UK.

He currently teaching at Kingsford Community Secondary School & Language College in East London as a Bengali and Urdu teacher. He is married with two children.

Anwar Hussain**Sector:**
Education & Law

Anwar Hussain was born in 1967 in the Sunamgonj District. The current name of his Upazilla is South Sunamgonj (formerly known as Sunamgonj Sadar) He passed his S.S. C examination from Joykolosh Ujanigaon Rashidia High School and the H.S.C from Sylhet M.C. Intermediate College (currently known as Sylhet Government College). He then completed both his B.S.S (Hons) and M.S.S in International Relations at Dhaka University. Just after his completion of the M.S.S qualification he left Bangladesh to take up residence in London. He then completed his DHE in Law at Wolverhampton University and LL.B (Hons) at London Metropolitan University. On completion of the BVC from the City University (formerly ICSL) he was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and is now a Barrister-at-Law (Non-practising).

During his student life at the Dhaka University he was an active political student leader. He was the president of Dhaka University S.M. Hall branch of a student organisation during the 1990s, while there was a student movement against the then President Ershad. Subsequently, he became the Finance Affairs Secretary of the Central Committee of that student organisation. He was the founder member and leading organiser of the Convening Committee of the Sunamgonj Student Welfare Somitee in Dhaka.

On arrival in the UK, Mr Hussain did not abandon his career aspiration of politics and education. He joined the Liberal Democrats party and became the Vice-Chairperson of the London Borough of Newham. He also stood as the Mayoral candidate for the London Borough of Newham in 2006 as the Liberal Democrats' nominee. He was the founder president of both Bangladesh Nationalist Lawyers Forum, UK Branch and the Bangladesh Nationalist Legal Aid Committee, UK Branch.

He is the first person within the Bangladeshi community to have launched an Independent college of Further and Higher Education in the UK and he is now the Chief Executive of Whitechapel College. He is now a member of both the Green Peace and Amnesty International. He once was a Member on the Board of Trustees of the Citizens Advice Bureau of two London Borough Councils, Newham and Tower Hamlets.

Mr Hussain is married with four daughters and lives in Gants Hill, Essex (Greater London). His first daughter is reading for the LL.B (Hons) at Westminster University to qualify as a Barrister and the second daughter is a GCSE A level student who is training at a flying school to become the first and youngest Bangladeshi female pilot. The other daughters are secondary school students.

A.T.M.W. SAAD GHAZI**Sector:***Catering & Community Relations*

Born in 1944, Bangladesh, Mr Saad Ghazi moved to England (1962) where he entered the catering profession in Coventry through studying a Catering Higher Management Course at the Henley College of Further Education, Coventry, U.K. In 1985 he used this training by coordinating a pilot course in Indo Bangla Catering for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, which received national recognition and was copied throughout the country.

Specialising in Authentic Indian Cuisine, he opened his first restaurant 'Taj Mahal' back in 1965, in 1969 he opened his second restaurant 'Naz Curry Centre', Croydon, Surrey. In 1986 he opened his third restaurant 'Sunderban Tandoori' which was one of the largest restaurants in Surrey. Finally in 1989 he opened the Khyber Pass Tandoori Restaurant.

Married with three daughters, Mr Ghazi has always played a keen role in Bangladeshi Welfare and Catering. He has raised funds by hosting charity events as well as promoting Bangladeshi Cuisine to a National and International level. During his time as Secretary

General of Bangladesh Caterers Association, he worked to provide welfare & cultural activities to the local community.

As a director and ex Senior Vice Chairman of the BBCC he helps to provide investment trading, research and development between traders in Bangladesh & U.K. Mr Ghazi has been in this post since 2000 and has relentlessly attended all the trade delegations and is forever present during their International Seminars.

Mr Ghazi has provided a selfless service to his community for well over 35 years.

Abdul Haque**Sector:***Information Technology & Media*

Abdul Haque was born in Moulvibazar, Bangladesh in 1976, and currently resides in Maida Vale, West London.

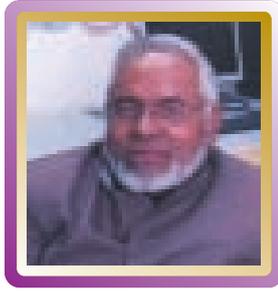
Mr Haque studied a BSc in Maths and Computing at Brunel University, and due to complete an MSc in Advance Software Engineering at the University of Westminster in 2009. As a civil servant, he used to work as a specialist software engineer on flight data processes for National Air Traffic Services [NATS].

However, he has now set up his own company and is the Founder & Managing Director of Purple I Technologies, which specializes in IT software and has played an integral part in promoting the EPOS system to the Bangladeshi/Indian Restaurant industry. He is also the Vice- Chairman of Channel S, the television station for Bangladeshis in Britain and Europe, which was founded by his brother Mahee Ferdhous Jalil - where his technological expertise means that he oversees the busy IT department there.

Away from his successful career, Mr Haque enjoys nothing more than travelling the globe. This seems only natural considering his previous career in aviation technology. He has been to many different countries around the world, but feels that Malaysia is his favourite. He cites the friendly nature of the Malaysian people, the cuisine, the value and the fact that it is a strong Islamic nation as reasons why he finds it so favourable. However, he has also come away from places such as the Maldives and Canada with glowing reports.

Aside from travelling, Mr Haque indulges his hobbies of badminton,

going to the gym and watching films, although with such a schedule it must be hard for him to fit these in. Mr Haque is married to Mary Rahman who runs her own successful London based PR company, which specialises in promoting clients hailing from the arts, theatre, film and fashion industries.

Cllr Ahmadul Haque**Sector:**
Politics

Ahmadul Haque served as Deputy Mayor of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. He was the first Bangladeshi Councillor elected in the Midland region in 1995 and has been reelected ever since. In 2006 Cllr Haque received an award from Channel 5 for his services to the community. Cllr Haque arrived in the UK in July 1963 and initially became a member of the Pakistan Welfare Association in Birmingham.

Whilst working in various different companies, Cllr Haque was always keen to get into politics and in 1965 became a member of the old Labour party. With friction simmering in East Pakistan and West Pakistan, Cllr Haque set up the first Bangladesh Action Committee outside of Birmingham in 1971. In the same year Cllr Haque helped raise close to £1500 from contributions made by the residents of North Birmingham for the Bangladesh Action Committee movement as well as setting Midlands Awami League.

Cllr Haque is a very active member of the Bangladeshi community always campaigned for equality and as a result in 1976 received an award from the Bangladeshi High Commission. Through effort and having to overcome numerous obstacles, Cllr Haque also helped set up the Tipton Muslim Trust Association which is now referred to as Al-Islah Trust and a community centre for local Muslims in Tipton.

Cllr Haque tries to serve all members of the community. In the mid eighties, Cllr Haque purchased a terraced house via the trust and later set up the Sandwell Confederation of Bangladeshi Muslim Organisation (SCOBMO).

Cllr Haque is also a founder member of the City Challenge Project as well as Bangladesh Youth Movement. Through over twenty years of persistence and hard work campaigning for level crossings in Tipton a 2.2 million pound project finally commenced last year. Cllr Haque also played a pivotal role during Ms Syeda Khatun's election campaign who later became the first Bangladeshi female councillor in the Midlands area in 1999.

Cllr Shafiqul Haque**Sector:**
Legal and Politics

Cllr Shafiqul Haque was born in 1960 in Bahubal. His education began at the Bahubal Upazilla Primary School before passing his SSC at Dinanath High School in 1976. When he left high school, he completed his HSC at the Sylhet Government College. This was followed by both a BA and an LLB to become a lawyer in the Habigonj Judge Court.

Cllr Haque moved to the UK in 1991, and quickly became involved in the catering industry. He owned a restaurant from 1991 to 2003. He also enrolled at Guildhall University to complete an LLB.

However, in 1992 Shafiqul Haque, as he was then known, joined the Labour party. This move would prove to have a great impact on his life only a decade later. This was also his first participation with politics in the UK.

In May 2002, Shafiqul Haque became Cllr Shafiqul Haque as he was elected the Councillor for the ward of St. Katharine's and Wapping in the London borough of Tower Hamlets. Since this initial election, Cllr Haque has proven to be an integral member of Tower Hamlet's Borough Council. He was chosen to be the Vice-Chairman for the Council's Development Panel and also the Vice-Chairman of the Excellence of Public Service Committee among other important positions.

However, it was in 2004 that Shafiqul Haque's prominence in Tower Hamlets' Council really came to the fore as he was chosen to be the Borough's Deputy Mayor. Only two years later, in June 2006, the man from Bahubal's ascension into politics would reach its highest point as he was elected the Mayor of Tower Hamlets.

Cllr Shafiqul Haque served as a successful Mayor whilst he held that position and represented the community very well. Currently Mr Haque is still a Labour party councillor for St. Katharine's and Wapping.

He qualified as solicitor in 2009 and is based at a firm in East London.

Additionally Cllr Haque is involved with various community initiatives.

Cllr Haque is married and has three children – two sons and a daughter.



Syed Samadul Haque

Sector:
Media



Any attempt to write history or present state of Bangla print or electronic media in the UK will not be complete without mentioning one name, Syed Samadul Haque. Born in Kishorehonj and brought up in the tea valley of Sylhet, Samadul Haque was educated in Dhanmondi Govt. Boys High School, Dhaka College and Dhaka University.

Adventure and carrying out new ideas is part of Samadul Haque's character. In 1973 while he was a Secretary of Dhaka College Student Union, traveled to India with a State Student delegation. After a brief break of study to attend Military Academy, Samadul Haque came back to Dhaka University to study Politics. While in the University he was also Director of a family business, Sputnik International Limited. From 1981 to 1983 he traveled to London several times on business. But journey to London in late 1983 was not a very pleasant one.

This time he came to London to sue a British Company, Wells Bridge Motors Limited of Cambridge for breach of Contract. This litigation in the High Court of London changed the destiny of Samadul Haque. He decided to live for some time in London and took up a career in media. Soon he was appointed as London Correspondent of Dainik Bangla, the then national newspaper of

Bangladesh and began writing for different newspapers in Dhaka & London. In 1984 Samadul Haque joined the Weekly Janomot of London. Soon became the News Editor and Executive Editor, and editor in 1989. In the year 1987 his story on personal life of the then President of Bangladesh H M Ershad was also picked up by Sunday Observer of London as lead story and in response the government of Bangladesh retaliated by banning 'Janomot' in Bangladesh. He spent good ten years of his youthful time to revitalize and give a

solid foundation for Janomot. In 1993-94 he served as part-time Media Consultant of Bethnal Green City Challenge, a project of the Department of Environment of British Government. In 1995 while he was editor of BNS, introduced International news agency service in Bangladesh in Bangla. He also represented CNN in Bangladesh from 1995 – 1998.

Samadul Haque is a pioneer of ethnic television broadcasting in the UK. In May 1998 he with two friends formed Bangla Television Limited and became Managing Director of the company. This Company launched first satellite Bangla TV Channel outside Indian sub-continent on 16 September 1999. During his long career in broadcasting industry he also served as Director of News of Reminiscent Television, Managing Director of Channel S Bangladesh and CEO of Takbeer TV in the UK.

His innovative contribution in British Bangla Media includes launching of 'Daily Janomot', first Bangla internet daily in 1995 and Bangla tele-news service in the UK in 1994. He is also a pioneer of Call Centre industry in Bangladesh. In the year 2009 he opened Orbit Communications Call Centre, first international Call Centre in Bangladesh.

Outside his professional world Samadul Haque is a Community activist. In 80's and 90's he was in the forefront of anti-racist and ethnic minority rights movement in the UK. He was a founder EC member of Tower Hamlets Law Centre, founder General Secretary of Bangla Shahitya Porishod in the UK and also one of the Founder of London Bangla Press Club.

Husain Shahida Hasanat

Sector:
Academia



Mrs. Shahida Hasanat Husain, Fellow of Royal Society of Arts; is an Academician, a Teacher, an Artist, and a Social worker. An MA from University of Dhaka in Social Welfare, Mrs. Husain was appointed as a Lecturer at the Commonwealth Institute of Lusaka in Zambia in 1981-83. She then accompanied her husband to the University of Sebha in the Sebha Province of Libya where she opened up Sebha's first International School and served it as its founder Principal from 1985 – 1989.

She returned to London to join Blue Gate Field Infants School as a Class teacher and a Humanities and RE Co-ordinator from 1990 till 2000. She was appointed as the Key Stage 1 leader and the Science Co-ordinator in Nightingale Primary School of London Borough of Redbridge in 2000 and is serving the school community since then. While at the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, she was also a teacher governor for long ten years and contributed nationally by taking part in the production of the DFES audio cassette on 'Improving School Attendance' and the booklet 'It's Good to be School Governor'.

Mrs. Husain was known for her dancing and singing aptitude from childhood and has performed in various state functions. An ace debater, she was the Cultural Secretary of Comilla Womens College before the start of the Liberation war of Bangladesh. She was a well known TV drama artist and a presenter in post independence Bangladesh Radio and TV.

In Zambia, she produced the Bangladesh Independence night which created front page headlines in Times of Zambia. In Libya, she organized International Cultural events for the Sebha International Congress. Back in London, she was the founder Cultural Secretary of the Greater Sylhet Council, UK and organized memorable cultural nights in Britannia and Hilton Hotels (London), in Empress Hotel (Isle of Mann) in Aston University (Birmingham), in Riverside (Cardiff) and in Edinburgh.

As a social worker she was associated with the Birdem Diabetes Hospital of Bangladesh and did projects with its founder late Dr. Ibrahim during 1977-81. In London, while working at the Borough of Tower Hamlets in the early years of the Nineties when there was little social service support available, Mrs. Husain provided the much needed one to one home support for many households in Shadwell area. When Blue Gate Field School was burnt down by racists Mrs. Husain as a teacher Governor of that school provided the much needed moral support for parents and children and helped the rebuilding of the school. Mrs. Shahida Hasanat Husain is known for her relentless social, educational and cultural work in raising achievement of British Bangladeshi women, men and children.

She is the Founder Secretary of Womens Affairs of the World Forum of Voice For Justice. She is well respected and revered as an icon for the British Asian women in the UK.





Rafique Hayder

Sector:
Business

Rafique Hayder is the Director of Bangla Town Cash and Carry and Bangla City located in Brick Lane, which are the Bangladeshi community's most popular businesses based in London. Bangla Town was established in 1994 along with other partners. He comes from the village Hayder Pur, Chattak, Sunamganj and comes from a prominent family; his father being Haji Altab Ali. Mr Rafique Hayder graduated in Bangladesh having completed his degree from MC College. His degree was in Social Welfare. He then arrived here in the United Kingdom where he initially entered into the family business 'Greenline'. He worked at Greenline for one year before embarking on his own business venture. Besides being a director of Bangla Town Cash and Carry, Mr Hayder also has numerous other investments and business interests. He is a Director of Bangla Town Housing, Bangla Property Limited, as well as a Director of another well known large cash and carry. He is also one of the Directors of the NRB Bank LTD. In addition, Mr Hayder has several properties to his name here in the UK as well as land in Bangladesh and is the Chairman of an export/import business based in the UK. He is closely connected to the Al-Madani girls' school, and is a well-wisher of the Ibrahim College near East London Mosque. Furthermore, he is also connected with various development activities in Tower Hamlets.

He has donated hugely to the victims and sufferers of the Sidr Cyclone. He has also donated in Sylhet and has helped establish Schools, colleges and Madrasas in Sylhet. Rafique Hayder is also Director of the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce. He is also a director of NRB Bank Ltd and a member of the Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council. He is a member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association as well as a former Secretary of the

Tower Hamlets Parent's Association. More importantly he is the Chairman of the Bangladeshi export/import organisation in the UK and also one of the eleven strong committee members for a taskforce for business set ups here in the UK by the Bangladeshi government.

Mr Hayder is married to Asma Hayder and they have three children, among them Adnan is eldest son studying in university. Other two children Abidah and Akifah are studying in school. His interests and pastimes include travelling, and he has been fortunate to travel a bit of the world. Mr Rafique Hayder is a distinguished businessman and philanthropist, who can be credited for some very successful businesses and a very strong and positive link with the community.



Ajmalul Hossain QC

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Ajmalul Hossain QC practices law since he was enrolled at the Bar of England and Wales back in 1978. He is the very first and only Queen's Counsel in England of Bangladeshi origin and a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. He regularly practices in both England and Bangladeshi jurisdiction.

Ajmalul specialises in trans-national banking, trading supply and financial contracts at Selborne Chambers in the UK. He is the senior partner of A Hossain & Associates, Law Offices, a leading commercial law firm of Bangladesh based in Dhaka. Ajmalul and A Hossain & Associates have also been registered with the Attorney-General's Chambers in Singapore as International Arbitration Practitioners. Ajmalul has acted for several hundred ex-employees of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in the multi-million pound liquidation of the bank in England, Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands, which has now been settled in their favour.

He has represented Bangladesh and several clients as Leading Counsel in several ICC, ICSID and ad-hoc arbitrations. He was the Chairman of Employment Tribunals, dealing with complex cases of sex, race and disability discrimination, unfair and wrongful dismissal. He also acts as an arbitrator in commercial matters and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators of England and regularly chairs arbitrations held under the auspices of ICC and other bodies. He is a Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies and a member of the Standards Panel of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Since January 2006, Ajmalul has been a member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris and a member of the International Cricket Council, Code of Conduct Commission.



Aliar Hossain

Sector:
Academia and business

Aliar Hossain was born in Bangladesh in Narayanganj, a district known as the Dandy of the East. He is the youngest son of the late Ali Hossain and comes from a family with a deep commitment to religion, politics and business. His two uncles were Members of Parliament in the 70's and 90's, and his grandfather, the late Al-Haj Muzaffar Ali, is still remembered for his community and religious contributions (i.e. local mosque, charitable dispensary and education institutions). Aliar came to the UK in 2003 and is strongly influenced by a commitment to continuing his family's traditions.

Aliar's mission is to raise public awareness for the importance of doing business ethically and the significance of Sustainable Development in the global village.

To achieve these goals, Aliar has maintained a commitment to furthering his education. With an MA in International Business Administration (Bournemouth University, UK), he has further obtained a Diploma in Sustainable Development (Karlstad University, Sweden), a Certificate in Leadership Development (Institute of

Leadership Management, UK) and certificates in PTTLS (University of Westminster, UK). He is currently undertaking PhD research in Sustainable Development Strategies for developing nations.

This research seeks to underpin professional analysis and authorship already undertaken, with the publications of *The Sustainable Development Handbook* (AuthorHouse, USA, 2011) and *Developing the Ministerial Mindset: A Global View* (forthcoming: January 2013). Published papers include *Changing Markets: The Future for Higher Education in a Globalised World* (LSBM, 2012), *Strategic and Pragmatic E-Business* (IGI Global, 2012), *Impact of Micro Finance* (Digibiz, 2009), *Information Security and Threats: E-Commerce Banking* (both International Conference on Security and Management, USA, 2009).

He is the founder and director of Regents Consulting Services Ltd, which works to enable corporate social responsibility and sustainable development through consultation and improved management strategies, involving corporate and executive training and visits to business schools in the UK and abroad. Aliar also holds the position of Partnership Lecturer at both the University of Newport and the London School of Business and Management, as well as Managing Partner at OPAL Institute of Dhaka. Aliar funds and manages Seed of Possibilities, a social and economic development not-for-profit organisation providing grants and consultation for poor people in Bangladesh, improving their living standards with sustainable business ideas, funding and long-term professional support.

Aliar is a member of the international think tank society Chatham House, the Institute of Business Consulting, the European Association for International Business and Regents Business Forum.



Mozammel Hossain

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Mozammel Hossain is a Criminal Barrister practicing from 187 Fleet Street. The Chambers are a leading specialist criminal set with a large number of Queen's Counsel and Judges.

Mr Hossain was described in one legal publication as 'a fearless and passionate court room advocate with magical charm'. He is the only non-British, Bangladeshi practicing in the UK.

Mr. Hossain was born in Bangladesh in the village of Mollarhowla in Barisal. He completed his school education at Motijheel Model High School in Dhaka, before embarking on Higher Secondary education at Dhaka College.

Mr. Hossain then began the LLB (Hons) course at the University of Dhaka, after one year of this degree he came to UK, where at the University of Liverpool he enrolled for the LLB (Hons). He then continued to pursue his legal career by obtaining the Bar Vocational Qualification from the Inns of Court School of Law.

He was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Inner Tem-

ple. Subsequently he obtained a pupillage with the chambers he is currently with, and went onto obtain his tenancy. He has been involved in numerous high profile cases.

Mr. Hossain has held a number of key positions whilst at the Inns of Court School of Law. He was a member of the Governing Body of the Inns of Court School of Law as well as President of the student's union, being the first ever student from abroad to hold these prestigious positions.

His father, Ali Akbar Howlader and his mother, Ayesha Howlader are farmers. They live in their village in Barisal.

Mr. Hossain's siblings like himself are all highly successful. His

brother Dr Mohammad Hossain Howlader is a surgeon in England and a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. His eldest brother Mokbul Hossain is also a graduate. A third brother, Mr Altaf Hossain Masud is a FCA Chartered Accountant in Bangladesh.

His only surviving sister, a university graduate, is married to an eye surgeon. Mr. Hossain has dedicated a lot of his time to charitable initiatives and community organisations. Mozammel Hossain is fond of poetry, Russian literature, theatre, rain and most of all Bengali food.

Dr Mozammel Huq**Sector:**
Academia

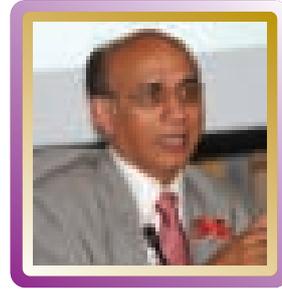
Dr Mozammel Huq is a development economist of international repute. He is a graduate of the University of Rajshahi (BA Hons and MA) and of the University of Glasgow (MLitt and PhD). His career includes extensive teaching and research on Third World development. Currently based at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, he has taught in a number of academic institutions in Bangladesh, the UK, Ghana and Nigeria. Currently, he is also a Visiting Professor at Uttar Bangla University College (Bangladesh National University). A major focus of his research work is on economic development and industrialisation, and his published works include *The Economy of Ghana* (Macmillan, 1989), *Strategies for Industrialisation: The Case of Bangladesh* (UPL, 2000) and *Development Economics* (Mc-Graw-Hill, 2009).

He has also contributed extensively to community development, having served as the President of Bangladesh Association, Scotland and Chairman of Scottish Asian Action Committee. He is also the founder of The Bangla Centre (Centre for Bengali Culture and Education) established in mid-1980s; and the Bengali Performing Arts (established in 1990), both based in Glasgow. In recent years, he has been heavily involved with charity work in Bangladesh.

He is currently the Chairman of Charity Education International (a registered charity based in Scotland) which has been actively promoting, among others, the educational development in a poverty-stricken locality of northern Bangladesh (at Kakina, Lalmonirhat). He is the founder of Uttar Bangla University College which is now teaching, among other courses, Honours in seven subjects; it has emerged as the best College in Lalmonirhat district.

He has also been closely associated with a number of other charity activities which have helped in the construction, for example, of two Cyclone Shelters-cum-High Schools in Maheshkhali Island (one at Maheshkhali and the other at Dhalghata) - both completed in the mid-1990s; and One Cyclone-shelter-cum-High School in Borguna district (Garjanbunia High School) - which is expected to be completed soon. For his various contributions, in 2010 he received the Channel-S Best British Bangladeshi Community in Scotland Award.

He also played an important role during the Liberation War of Bangladesh, helping to establish the Bangladesh Action Committee Scotland (formed on 27 March, 1971). He also helped to establish the Glasgow Bangladesh Students Union (established in early 1972) and served as its founder President.

Dr. Hasanat M. Husain MBE**Sector:**
Academia

Dr. Hasanat Husain was born in Sunumgonj, Sylhet in 1949; his father was a Veterinary Civil Surgeon in the Assam Civil Service of British India. Dr. Husain has a prolific academic background; he obtained a First Class Honours degree in Physics with Mathematics in 1969 as well as a First Class M.Sc. degree in 1970 from the prestigious University of Dhaka. Dr. Husain then went on to complete a Ph.D. from the University of Exeter and was appointed as a Royal Society Post Doctoral Fellow at the University of Sussex. He has further completed the PGCE at the University of Greenwich obtaining a Grade A.

Dr. Hasanat due to his elongated academic credentials and experience has held many esteemed positions at home and abroad. He was Associate Professor at the University of Dhaka, as well as at the University of Zambia and an Associate at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste, Italy. He was also the Head of Solar Energy at the University of Sebha in Libya.

Dr. Hasanat Husain then moved back to the UK, where during the early 1990s he was a lecturer at Tower Hamlets College for some five years. From 1995 to 2002 he was the Head of Bilingualism and Bilingual Support Services for the Tower Hamlets Local Education Authority. Currently Dr. Husain holds numerous coveted positions;

he is a Consultant to the DfES Standards Unit in the UK, as well as an Observer and Inspector for Colleges in the UK and an Associate Advisor to the Birmingham and Bradford LEAs. Dr. Husain's family has reflected the highly qualified and academic background of himself. His wife Mrs. Shahida Husain, a Fellow of Royal Society of Arts, has a BA in Economics and an MA in Social Welfare also from the University of Dhaka. She currently works as a Key Stage 1 Leader

and a Coordinator of Science at a Primary School in London. Dr. Hasanat's eldest daughter is a Dentist, whilst his son has graduated in Neuroscience from the University of Sussex and is presently completing a MD at the Medicine Faculty of Charles University in the Czech Republic.

His youngest daughter is also a student of Medicine at the University of Sussex.

Dr. Hasanat Husain has made a significant contribution to Ethnic Minority Education in Great Britain and as a recognition, was awarded Member of the Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty the Queen in 2003. He was also awarded an Asian Film Academy Award in 1995 for 'Community Services in the UK'.

His work outside of his vocation has included involvement with the 'Working Group: Inclusive Policy and Practices in the UK'.



Shelim Hussain MBE

Sector:
Entrepreneur

Shelim Hussain MBE was born in 1973. He is best described as an entrepreneur having started his first business in 1991 at the age of 18 while working part-time as a waiter and studying at college for his A Levels.

Mr Hussain saw an opportunity in the market for prawn supply and started off by selling a few boxes of frozen prawns with his friend, delivering them at night while continuing with his education during the day. His business had an initial capital of only £20. Currently, the annual turnover of his business is around £40 million.

He formed Eurofoods UK in 1993 and the company has grown rapidly since. He employs over 200 staff and has food processing units in Newport, South Wales and in Barking. He also has a new plant and four factories in Bangladesh, and has started a subsidiary in New York.

Aside from Eurofoods he has also invested in the property development business in Wales. He is founder, chairman and managing director of several well reputed companies, these include Euro

Foods (UK) Ltd, S & B Developments Ltd, SRS Poultry Ltd which commenced in 2003, Eurasia Food Processing (BD) Ltd situated in Bangladesh, Euro Linen Service (UK) Ltd, Horizon Seafood Ltd, Saidowla Enterprise and Euro Foods (BD) Ltd.

He has won the Eastern Eye Young Achiever Award that was presented by Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales, and was nominated for Young Achiever at the Asian Jewel Awards 2003.



Mahbub Hussain

Sector:
Media

Mahbub Hussain was born in a well respected family in the city of Sylhet, Bangladesh. In Sylhet, he studied at Sylhet Govt. Pilot High School and whilst studying there, he got involved with a radio station known as "Bangladesh Betar Sylhet". He became a regular host of the daily magazine programme "Daily Bichitra" and continued to work there and gain valuable experience until he came to Britain.

As well as this, he also had a passion for journalism and this led to having several of his cover story articles published in the most popular Bangladeshi magazine "Weekly Bichitra" and "weekly Robbar". From an early age, Mahbub had a passion for photography. He became one of the photographers for "The Daily Ittefaq". As well as this, he was one of the three founding members of the Sylhet Photography Society (SPS). He was also awarded for his photography skills in the Soviet Union International Photography Competition as well as in various other competitions within Bangladesh.

He became an active member of the Bangladeshi Photograph soci-

ety, based in Dhaka In January 1994. Mahbub came to England, Birmingham and went on to complete many job related courses, most of which were in the field of media. In 1995, he started as a broadcast assistant at BBC WM, where he became a newsreader as well as reporting various events and issues. He soon got promoted as a broadcast Journalist at BBC Asian Network for the Bengali shows. Mahbub has interviewed many inspirational and influential people such as the Bangladeshi Prime Minister and many Bangladeshi and Bollywood superstars as well as mainstream leading figures of Britain. Apart from this, he has done many international reports on topical issues including a live one from Bangladesh about the corporation elections.

The BBC Asian network gave him the opportunity to co-host the world's largest Bangladeshi festival outside Bangladesh, "Boishakhi Mela" in London which attracts over 120,000 people. In 2000, Mahbub launched a bilingual magazine titled "The Millennium". It has since become available worldwide and is the most popular magazine outside Bangladesh.

As well as working as a broadcast journalist, Mahbub also works for the Birmingham City Council Social Services.



MD. Moftil Hussain

Sector:
Catering

Md. Moftil Hussain is the owner of Mumtaz Mahal and Suhag Restaurant in Essex. Before coming to the United Kingdom in 1967, Mr. Hussain had completed his high school education in Kuskipur and upon arrival obtained a Diploma.

Born in 1956 in the Village of Sikondorpur Osmaninogor, Sylhet, Mr. Moftil Hussain is the son of late Abul Hussain.

Mr. Hussain has made his name in the restaurant business, having set up his first restaurant in 1970. However, these days he is occupied in the property market, having several properties to his name, as well as various other businesses.

Based in south Benfleet, Mr. Hussain's restaurant, the Mumtaz Mahal, is a well-established Tandoori restaurant which was first opened in 1977 making it the longest established Tandoori Restaurant in the Castle Point District.

Moftil Hussain is married to Sufia Begum they have two sons; Iqbal and Nazrul who have been educated to a high level in the UK and are leading successful careers.

Besides his business interests, he is involved in politics as well as various social activities. He is the Treasurer of the Bangladesh Caterers Association, Essex Branch, as well as being a member of the central committee. Additionally, he is also the Treasurer for the Great Sylhet Gonodabi Porishod and life member Sylhet Academy UK and Europe. He is also trustee of Balagonj Education Trust and the Balagonj Shomity. He is a founder trustee of Essex Mosque.

Md. Moftil Hussain was one of the organisers of the 1971 Liberation movement in the UK. He has also participated in other such social and community initiatives and is an altruistic individual having donated to mosques, schools and other organisations both here in the UK and in Bangladesh.

Mr. Moftil Hussain is a member of the conservative party, and believes that politics and community work can make a huge positive impact on society and therefore has dedicated an immense proportion of his time to these causes.



Muhammad Kamal Hussain

Sector:
Media

Mr. Kamal Hussain is an Event Coordinator for Film Asia, the prominent film making company based in East London. He competently coordinates any Event's that Film Asia is contracted for. Mr. Kamal Hussain, son of Mr. Idris Ali and Mrs Lali Begum, was born in the village of Amratoil, Jagonathpur Upazilla, (Sunamganj District) Bangladesh.

Mr. Kamal Hussain arrived in the United Kingdom in 1988 with his parents. He did his schooling from Stepney Green School in London. After finishing his education, he became involved in the catering industry, before joining Film Asia.

Film Asia excels in filmmaking, editing and camera operating. It is more than just a film company. They are a media production agency setting the standard of film making across the United Kingdom.

Film Asia mainly produces wedding films for Asian Brides and Grooms. They are also known for TV Commercials Music Video, Concerts, Tele-films and Full Event Management.

Film Asia produced a ghazal night with Alaur Rahman and the British Bangladeshi Who's who programme in 2009 and 2010.

With brilliant editors, graphic designers, cinematographers and event coordinators, the group has been a raving success in the film business of East London.

The motto of Film Asia is simple; it is all about perfection, innovation and imagination. Specialising in video production and photography, the artistic approach operated by Film Asia has met with critical acclaim from the professional world.

In Mr. Kamal Hussain's words, 'the overall message we wish to convey is simple, we are responsible for the smooth running of the Event both timely and resourcefully by leasing with the respected client and the venue manager.

He lives in Poplar, London with his family. His wife is Nazma Akter. They have two sons and one daughter. The names of the sons are Thufayel Ahmed and Alamin Ahmed. The daughter is Nadira Akter.

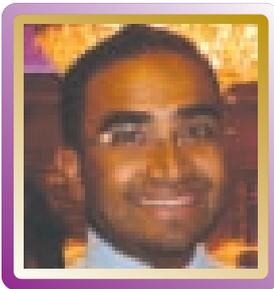
Ifty Islam**Sector:**
Finance

Ifty Islam is the founder and Managing Partner of AT Capital. The commitment to develop the Asian Tiger platform reflects his optimism on Bangladesh's potential as an investment destination having been a regular participant in capital markets events there for a number of years.

His objective is to leverage his long-term relationships with many of the world's largest investors developed over an 18 year Wall Street career to attract substantial overseas funds to the country.

Prior to moving to Dhaka, Ifty was a Managing Director at Citigroup, London from 2004-2007 where he was Head of Macro Strategy and Hedge Fund Research. From 1997-2004 Ifty spent 8 years at Deutsche Bank Securities in London and New York, latterly as Managing Director and Chief US Strategist. Ifty has also worked as a European Strategist at Merrill Lynch and began his career in 1989 in the corporate finance group at BZW Securities focusing on privatisations in Eastern Europe.

He graduated from the Queen's College, Oxford with a BA/MA (First Class) in Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

Dara Islam**Sector:**
Legal (Barrister)

Dara Islam is a Criminal Barrister practicing from 18 Red Lion Court, Chambers of Max Hill QC. He practices all areas of criminal law, with particular experience of dealing with violent, dishonest and serious drug offences; and regularly represents members of the Bangladeshi community. 18 Red Lion Court is one of the largest and most distinguished sets in the country, specialising in crime and regulatory law, representing both prosecution and defence. Chambers members include over 20 Queen's Counsel, Crown Court Recorders and Judges, Revenue and Customs Prosecution Office Standing Counsel, and Treasury Counsel. Dara Islam is a Grade 2 CPS Prosecuting Advocate; he was instructed by the Department of Health (MHRA) as a junior in Europe's largest counterfeit medicines conspiracy. He has completed a 12 month secondment to the UK Border Agency, Organised Crime Division, dealing with the importation of drugs and firearms through the British ports. He is fully trained and qualified to take instructions directly from members of the public under the Bar Council approved Public Access scheme, and accepts criminal and civil law cases.

Dara Islam was born in Bangladesh in village Kunagram, Beani Bazar, Sylhet. He grew up in Stepney Green in Tower Hamlets, completing his secondary education at Stepney Green School and higher education at Tower Hamlets College. He is a second generation British Bangladeshi and speaks fluent Sylheti. He went on to study Law (LL.B (Hons)) at London South Bank University and then a Masters (LL.M) at University College London in International Law. He completed the Bar Vocational Course at the Inns of Court School of Law. He was

called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple. Dara Islam joined Chambers following successful completion of 12 months' pupillage at 18 Red Lion Court and remains a tenant. He worked as a Consultant for the Justice component of the British Council Security Justice and Growth Programme in Nigeria. He created an online legal research and basic IT course, and during his two visits, trained 80 lecturers at the Nigerian Law School across its four campuses in Abuja, Kano, Enugu and Lagos. The project helped secure US\$500,000 for ongoing training from the World Bank. He spent two months in the Philippines on a capital punishment internship. Based at the Institute of Human Rights at the University of Philippines, he worked closely with local Attorneys and NGOs on appeals for prisoners on death row. He also worked on various research projects including a comparative study of ways to prove minority in capital cases. He has also previously attended advocacy training with the Jamaican Bar Association and Gray's Inn, in Kingston, Jamaica. He continues to work with the Bar Human Rights Committee for England and Wales.

Dara Islam's published work includes "The Education of a Pupil" in The Circuiteer magazine and "Causing Death by Dangerous Driving" in the Road Traffic Encyclopaedia Updater. Dara Islam has devoted a lot of his time to community based projects working with a socio-economically and ethnically diverse population. Dara Islam was the Regional Coordinator for the Citizenship Foundation Mock Trial Competition, and a volunteer with the Criminal Justice Board. He was a founding member of the School Link Project, and the Graduate's Forum. Dara Islam ran the Flora London Marathon and raised over £2,000 for Barnardos. He is currently a mentor with Shaati mentoring and works closely with the Osmani Trust. He holds a PADI Open Water license and is a keen diver. He also enjoys cooking and gardening and is a member of the Royal Horticultural Society.



Mr Mujibul Islam

Sector:
TV, media & advertising

Mujibul Islam is a talented and successful business and media entrepreneurs, whose main current activity is running one of the UK's leading ethnic media agencies, Medialink.

Mr Islam is the Managing Director of Medialink, a leading ethnic media and communication agency. His company's clients range from the BBC to Tilda as well as central government and local authorities. Working within the media industry for over 15 years, his last position was the editor of the Eastern Eye newspaper, UK's largest national Asian paper, owned by the Trinity Mirror Group. Mr. Islam is a BA Honours graduate who has won numerous prestigious awards in the field of design, media and communications.

Mr Islam is a Director of NTV Europe; NTV is the world's leading Bangla channel. He is keen to develop NTV Europe into a pioneering and leading satellite TV channel that provides high quality programming for the Bangladeshi community across the UK and Europe. In doing so, he wants to develop a strong brand identity which arises from its understanding of Bangladeshi culture and beliefs and its ability to analyse changes in trends and shifts of choice and opportunity that an ever changing viewership.

Mr Islam is currently finalising the development of a proposed 4-star boutique hotel in Canary Wharf which will be developed in a magnificent building in an ever expanding business district.

Mr Islam is involved in commercial and residential property development here in the UK and abroad. One of his projects include the development of a popular five star hotel in Bangladesh, 'Dhaka Regency', which was founded by Mr Islam and three other directors.

Mr. Islam is a high flying, multi-skilled British Bangladeshi and one of the few real experts in the field of ethnic media communication. His distinctive strength is his multimedia skills in innovative concept development and meeting specific marketing and promotional objectives in all media.

A generous patron to many good causes, Mr. Islam is a well-known and respected figure within the British Bangladeshi community. He is passionate about community prosperity; he has actively worked, trained and helped to develop the skill base of local young people in the field of design, web and TV production, on a voluntary basis. One of his ambitions is to create opportunities for innovative and creative projects that empower young people, supporting them at key transition points and during extracurricular periods of the year, through media related, arts education, training and personal development activities.



Naz Islam

Sector:
Catering

Naz Islam is a British Bangladeshi and one of Northampton's most successful young and established restaurateurs. Naz is a well respected businessman and an influential character within the local economy and community.

Hailing from the well respected Osmani Nagor area of Sylhet Bangladesh, Naz is the son of late Haji Aftab Ali and Koytun Bibi and is married to Halima Islam. They are blessed with two sons Mukit and Nahim Islam.

Naz studied Business Management and Politics at the renowned Northampton School for Boys where he gained invaluable knowledge and skills which have assisted his career thus far.

A natural businessman, Naz was keen to commence a career and gain transferable skills. He found his first job by making speculative telephone calls to companies listed in the Yellow Pages and soon found himself working weekends at a recruitment firm.

Naz found he had an inner passion, love and drive for good quality food and this led to him setting up his first catering business in 1997 at the very young age of 20.

Naz currently owns and operates a number of high profile, successful and award winning businesses. Over the years Naz has won many business and personal awards. He was awarded businessman of the year for the Midlands region in 2009 in recognition of his achievements and continued success.

Naz actively supports and sponsors several charities in the UK and abroad including providing financial and practical assistance to the running of Madinatul Ulum Islamia Madrasha in his home village in Bangladesh which he established in 2003, together with his brother. The Madrasha has more than 200 students and is continuing to grow.

He donates very generously to various charities including the new masjid in Corby, in honour of which he has been granted a life long membership and is also a key funder of the running of the Stimpson Avenue Masjid in Northampton.

Most recently Naz was involved with BRAC Vision Bangladesh to help eradicate cataracts blindness in Sylhet. He strongly believes it can be done if we all work together.

In 2013 Naz was awarded the Heart of the Community award by Northampton Borough Council in honour for his charity work and commitment to good causes.

He has also established an apprenticeship scheme to help local youngsters gain real experience of working in a restaurant and learn the art of creating authentic Bangladeshi cuisine.

Naz is a political activist and supports the Conservative party. He has stood in the previous local Borough election and gained invaluable experience and confidence and hopes to make further strides in politics. Naz's interest include travelling, reading, world media, motoring and playing and watching football. He is a life-long Manchester United fan and he regularly attends their matches both at home and away.

Naz does not know what the future holds, but he certainly does not have any plans to retire or to scale back. Naz is enjoying life and financial success and wishes to continue his charitable work and do his best to help others succeed and to be of assistance to others.

**Mohammed Abdul Munim
Jahedi**

Sector:
Media



Mohammad Abdul Munim Jahedi (Karol) was born in the village of Hilal Pur, in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh.

He is the son of the late Mr Moulana Abdur Rahim Jahedi, who moved to England in 1959. The late Mr Jahedi owned many businesses in England, and was an active member of Islamic organisations such as UK Islamic Mission, Dawatul Islam UK & Ireland and Islamic Forum Europe. Before he passed away, he was Chair of Stepney Green Boys School and chairman of the East London Mosque. Mohammed Abdul Munim Jahedi's mother is the late Mrs Razia Khanom.

Mr Jahedi is one of four children. His eldest sister is Rehana Begum, second sister is Ruhana Begum; Mr Jahedi's brother, Abdul Mukabbir Jahedi, is a Constable and a driving instructor.

Mr Jahedi completed his secondary school certificate in Athriya at Lateral High School in 1983. He moved to the UK with his family in 1984, and then studied a BTEC National Diploma in Business and Finance at Tower Hamlets College in East London. He also

completed at (HND) Higher National Diploma in Business and Finance.

He is the chairman of London Iqra Institute, Trustee of London Education Trust and a life member of Sylhet Muslim Sahitto Shongshod, Sylhet Mobile Patagar and Hillful Fujul Somaj Kallang Songsta. He is the chairman of Real Estate and Housing Group of Sylhet UK, as well as the chief editor of the Eurobangla newspaper and director of Daily Jalabad. He is the founder member of Songhoti Sahitto Porisohd and executive member of Bangla Sahitto Porisohd

and Renesha Sahitto Majlish. He was the president of the London branches of the Young Muslim Organisation and Islamic Forum Europe, and is currently a trustee of London Muslim Centre & East London Mosque and South Sylhet Development Project. He was the founder chairman of Gulapgonj Islamic Society. He is also the president of the Greater Sylhet Islamic Society.

Mr Jahedi has done a lot of work for charities in the UK and Bangladesh, and has established an Islamic school in his homeland for girls who cannot afford a basic education.

Mr Jahedi is married to Abeda Sultana Lucky, and they have three children – two daughters and a son. Their eldest child is Muneema Sultana Rafaa, and she is currently a student at Kingston University. His other daughter, who is the youngest, is called Maymunah Munim Riyah, and she is a pupil at Mulberry School for Girls in London's east end. Their son, M.A. Muhaimen Rafe is studying at London Sir John Cass' Sixth Form.

Rajonuddin Jalal

Sector:
*Politics & Community
Relations*



Rajonuddin Jalal is prominent in the Bangladeshi Community for his Community work. Mr Jalal has been a community development specialist in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for the past 30 years. He has opened up many pathways in the field of community relations, empowerment and neighbourhood renewal and has set up numerous large community and cultural centres and premises including; Berner Youth and Tenants Centre, Kobi Nazrul centre, the Bangladesh Centre in Notting Hill Gate and more recently the Whitechapel Centre. Mr Jalal has been a pioneering Youth and

Community leader and established many organisations to benefit multi-cultural communities the Bengali Community and to fulfil some needs and aspirations of the community. He is the founder of the Bangladeshi Youth Movement (BYM) and founder of the Federation of Bangladeshi Youth Organisation (FYBO).

His support and hard work for the community did not stop there, Mr Jalal was vital in helping to establish Ford Square Mosque, Shad-

well Mosque, Brick Lane Jamme Mosque which are all still operating successfully in East London.

In the public domain Rajonuddin Jalal was a member of the Board of the London Docklands Development Corporation and Councillor and deputy leader of Tower Hamlets Municipality as well as chairperson for the Regeneration Committee.

Jalal was a key youth leader in "the Battle for Brick Lane 1978", following the murder of Bengali garment worker Altab Ali.

He has been the driving force behind the establishment of Banglatown in Tower Hamlets, and also the Soheed Minar, and the structuring of the Social and Economic accord between Tower Hamlets and Sylhet.

Throughout his professional life Mr Jalal has served in many positions, in the past he has been a director in the Housing and Welfare Organisation which was part of St Mary's Welfare Project. Jalal used to be Employed as an Assistant Principal of Tower Hamlets College. He has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Politics, Sociology and Economics from London Guildhall University and a post graduate Diploma in Management Studies from the same institution.

Jalal is currently secretary of the Altab Ali Memorial Foundation In UK and CEO of the NRB Foundation in Bangladesh.

Mr Jalal is married with three children.



Misbahul Jamal

Sector:
Media and Arts

Misbahul Jamal was born in Subhanighat in Sylhet in 1962. He was born to Mr Nasir Uddin Ahmed and Mrs Husney Ara Begum.

His career began with him being a Drama Artist both on the stage and on radio. He then progressed onto becoming a programme announcer and conductor for Radio Bangladesh from 1980 until 1986, whilst completing a B.Com (Hons) in Management from the prestigious University of Dhaka in 1984.

At the present time Mr Jamal is a presenter and producer for the coveted Sunrise Radio as well as Kismat Radio Bangla.

Misbahul is the director of his own production companies called Misbah Jamal Productions and Misbah Nahida Productions, running Kismat Radio Bangla from the Sunrise Radio station in Southall, Middlessex.

Mr Misbah Jamal is married to Nahida Misbah and they have five daughters and a son. His daughters are Farhana, Rezwana, Nabihah, Shaeka and Labiba, and his son is Nahmad. Mr Jamal has contributed enormously to the British Bangladeshi community; he is involved with several community organisations working for the development and progression of community members. He is a Director of Weekly Notun Din, a Bengali newspaper. He also holds the position of Press and Publicity secretary for the London Bangla Press Club, and Cultural Secretary for the Bangladesh Centre in London.

Mr Misbah Jamal is also a journalist and freelance radio and television presenter. Moreover he is a Bengali cultural programme promoter, having organised many cultural programmes bringing over the best musicians and artists from Bangladesh.

He is closely connected with the Bangladeshi entertainment industry here in Britain, and as a result he is very a popular British Bangladeshi amongst radio listeners.



Muhammad Abul Kalam

Sector:
Law (Barrister & Solicitor)

Barrister Muhammad Abul Kalam was born in Bangladesh. His village is in Sadipur, Osmani Nagar Upazilla, District-Sylhet. His father was a businessman Alhaj Mr Mohammed Mokbul Hussain. His mother is Alhajja Mrs Syeda Khanom.

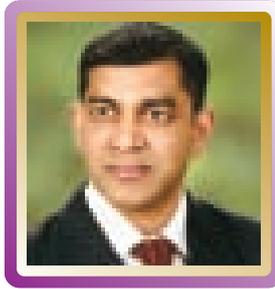
Mr Kalam started his education life in Azad Bakth High School in Moulvi Bazar, Bangladesh. He studied there for five years before receiving his Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) at Madan Mohan College in Sylhet, where he studied for two years. His first major accomplishment came in 1988 when he completed his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B. Hons) course at the University of Dhaka. This led to the completion of the Master of Laws (LL.M.) course the following year in 1989. He then continued to pursue his legal career by obtaining the Bar Vocational Qualification from the Bangladesh Bar Council. Having completed the academic and vocational stages of his training, in the year 2000, Mr Kalam was awarded with a certificate of eligibility to become a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales. He furthered his carrier and qualified as a Barrister and called to the Bar of England & Wales. He is member of the Honourable Society of Lincolns Inn.

Barrister Muhammad Abul Kalam is the Senior Partner of Kalam Solicitors at 128 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1JE. The largest law firm in the Bangladeshi Community. He qualified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court England and Wales in 2001 and since he has been practicing as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales. Mr Kalam has been part of the very successful solicitor. There he embraces many responsibilities and holds the position of Principal/Senior Partner.

Barrister Kalam is the President of the Society of Bangladeshi Solicitors in UK. He was the founder Secretary General of the Society of Bangladeshi Solicitors. He is the founder of the Liberty Law (British Bangladeshi Joint Venture Law Chambers in Bangladesh) in 2/3 Segun Bagicha, Dhaka, Bangladesh. He also involve with the ethnic solicitors such as Black Minority Ethnic Group an Ethnic Community group for all ethnic community lawyers with the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Law Society of England & Wales He is a leading Immigration Practitioner. He has been regularly appears community TV channels on all area of legal update issues such as Channel S, Channel I, Bangla TV. He also involve with various community and social organisation in UK and Bangladesh.

Having been in the Law industry for so long, Mr Kalam loves what he does, yet is involved in many other organisations. He is a member of the Bangladesh Law Association, Probashi Balagonj Education Trust in UK. He is also members of the Balagonj Samitte UK and Greater Sylhet Council in UK, where he plays an influential role.

Mr Kalam married with Mrs Shahanara who is a social worker. Mrs Kalam achieved BA (Hons) in Sociology, which she achieved at the University of East London. Mr Kalam lives in Redbridge, Ilford with his parents, wife Mrs Shahanara Kalam and three children; Sabiha, Yeasin and Tayyiba, who are students.



Nurul Karim

Sector:
Media/Community Relations

Nurul Karim was born in Company Gonj in Noakhali, Bangladesh. He is the son of Amin Ullah and Hazarah Khatun. He is married to Ummay Habiba Karim, she is a Regional Bank Manager. He came to England in 1990 for higher education. He passed his SSC examination in 1982 from Bashur Hat High School and HSC examination in 1984 from Feni Government College. He obtained the degree of Bachelor of Commerce with honours in Management from Dhaka University in 1987. He also obtained a Diploma in Journalism from Birmingham TEC in 1996 and completed his MBA in 2005 and DBA in 2006 from Rushmore University.

Alongside his study he also worked in a restaurant as a Manager. After completing his diploma in journalism, he joined a travel agency as a Sales Manager, he worked there for nearly 2 years and then he had an opportunity to work for Birmingham Cable Communications, Telewest and Virgin Media. During his 16 years service with those companies, he worked in various positions. He started as a Sales Advisor and was promoted to the position of Sales Executive, Senior Sales Executive and Sales Territory Management. Currently

he is working at Virgin Media as a Senior Consultant.

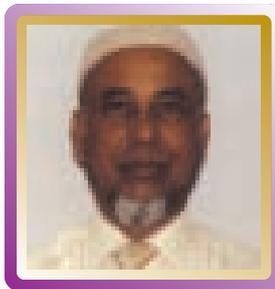
During his 16 years employment with those companies, he was rewarded many times. He has won Sales Advisor of the month award in the Birmingham Region over 50 times, Top Sales Executive of the Year Award in the UK, 10 times and Top Territory Management Award in the UK, 12 times.

Nurul Karim is a person who has devoted his entire life for mankind, he is the Founder President of Islam Karim Foundation. The primary objective of the Foundation is to enlighten the rural villagers of the importance of education and reduce poverty by giving financial support to poor and meritorious students for their higher education.

Every year 200 students receive a scholarship from the Foundation for studying in Bangladesh and 10 students receive a scholarship for studying abroad. Over 2000 students have completed their higher education from different universities in Bangladesh and all over the world including England, Canada, Malaysia, Singapore and the USA. All of the expenses for the Foundation are funded by Nurul Karim. He is also the founder of Ummay Habiba Library, Maulana Muzzafer School and Madrasa, Hazarah Khatun Orphanage, Islam Karim Sporting Club and Amin Ullah Computer Training Institute in Noakhali, Bangladesh.

Nurul Karim's vision and dream to reduce the poverty have become reality by providing shelter for the homeless and helping them to become self reliant, including giving financial assistance to those who wish to work abroad or start their own farming project. He is also the main donor to over 30 institutes in Bangladesh mainly in Greater Noakhali.

His last goals are to build a hospital and university in his birthplace in Company Gonj in Noakhali. He has already allocated some land for this project.



**Sheikh Mohammed
Abdul Khaliq**

Sector:
Catering

Sheikh Mohammed Abdul Khaliq was born in 1951 at Shahrpara Aoudat (MoulobiBari) into the Sheikh family who are highly respected and well known in Bangladesh.

Mr Khaliq is the eldest sibling amongst his 5 brothers and 2 sisters. His father; late Alhaj Sheikh Abdur Razzak and his mother, Alhaj Sheikh Lal Banu, raised their children in Jagannathpur, Sunamgonj.

Sheikh Abdul Khaliq studied at the village school; he was very clever and always aimed for top grades. His secondary education took place at; Mongal Chandee Nishikanta High School, Tajpur, Balagonj. He had aspirations that he wanted to achieve for his family and wanted to make life better for them.

He has worked extremely hard to turn his dreams in to reality, and with everyone's blessings he is, today content.

At the age of sixteen he came to the UK to join his father in 1967.

As mentioned previously sheikh khaliq wanted to make life easier for his family, therefore he started working from a very young age to help his father.

Mr Khaliq was fortunate to open his first business in 1979 in Shoeburyness, Essex "The Polash" restaurant, which proved to be a huge success, so therefore his family and he decided to open a second restaurant under the same name but in Burnham-On-Crouch and a hotel; "Hotel Polash" in Syhlet Bangladesh.

Mr Khaliq has strong beliefs in wanting to help the less fortunate; he understands that it is the duty of any human being, who is able to, give in charity as often as they can. He is part of many different charitable organisations as well as participating in various voluntary works.

To add to all his work, he has also helped to build; Masjids, Schools, Madrasha and supported the poor and elderly in Bangladesh as well as in the UK.

Mr Khaliq has; extremely strong family values, from a very young age he has always thought about his family, and fortunately his family have picked up on this very same value. His wife; Syeda Khaliq and he have raised their seven children to grow up and also believe, that they are, too capable of achieving all their dreams.



Ayub Khan

Sector:
Health & Social Care

Ayub Khan is the Managing Director of Careworld London Ltd as well as Careworld Community Hub. He acquired the Registered Manager Award in 2004 from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to confirm his professional fractioned status in the health and social care sector.

Careworld London is a domiciliary care agency that primarily works with disabled people of Bangladeshi / Asian origin. The agency provides a range of services and caters for all degrees of disability and difficulty, such as adults and children with learning disabilities and physical disabilities, as well as provides help to the elderly, visually impaired and other members of society who are facing difficulties. Careworld Community Hub is a BME / SME Day Opportunities Resource Centre providing high quality daytime opportunities for adults between 18 and 65 with learning and/or physical disability, which offers easy access to local services. The focus of the service is to support people to maximise their independence within the local community by using a person centred approach.

Mr Khan has a significant track record in the health and social care sector. He started work for Mooncare in 2004 as a Finance officer and eventually led the company as the Registered Manager. As well as being a member of the board of Trustee of Bangladeshi Parents and Carers Association (BPCA) between 2005 to 2009, he also worked as a volunteer for the organisation too.

He has a strong belief for empowering and supporting people on the margins of society. He says: "to empower the wider community, we need to first help those individuals that need support first. Therefore, we need to first, deal with marginalisation at an individual level so that we can address an individual's exclusion from meaningful participation in society. This is what the brand of Careworld is about. This is what I am about".

Mr Khan completed his MA in Business Management from Dhaka University before he first arrived in the UK in 1992 for higher studies. In the field of accountancy, he is AAT qualified as well being ACCA part qualified. He has also completed Post Graduation in Purchasing and Logistics from (then) University of North London and is also an MBA major in Management from Metropolitan University, London.

Mr Khan is extremely cordial and amiable; supporting those in need. He has a wide range of interests including sports, gardening, traveling, and updating him self with the latest news on world affairs.

Mr Khan is married and blessed with two children Ahnaf Akif-E-Raonaq and Zareen Nawar and lives with his family in Gants hill, Redbridge, Essex.



Azom Khan

Sector:
Catering

Azom Khan is an internationally recognised chef who has devoted much of his life to help develop the Bangladeshi Curry Industry to what it is today. Born in 1962 in Jaganathpur, Sunamgonj in Bangladesh, Mr Khan arrived in the UK in 1980.

The East London based chef is looked upon as a pioneer in the Bangladeshi culinary industry and throughout his life Mr Khan's work has been widely appreciated by several food critics. Over the last twenty years Mr Khan has been awarded with major honours in the Industry such as the International Curry Chef of the Year, National Curry Chef of the Year, Tesco Spinach Master Chef, Southwark Curry Chef of the Year as well as the Tower Hamlets Curry Chef of the Year in 1999.

At present, Mr Azom Khan is Director of two of London's most famous restaurants called the Bengal Clippers and Bengal Traders whose reputation has enhanced dramatically over the last decade for their combination of style and modernity.

In addition to his work, Mr Khan is very closely associated with charities and organisations in Bangladesh having helped set up the British Bangla Education Trust where he is currently serving as Vice Chairman as well as a member of the Sylhet Academy. Mr Khan has also set up his own Educational Trust fund, known as "Azom Khan Education Trust" and is also a member of the Shahjalal College Institute.

One of six siblings, Mr Khan is married to Sultana Aktar Chowdhury and has been blessed with one son and two daughters whom are studying in schools and university.



Cllr Rania Khan

Sector:
Politics

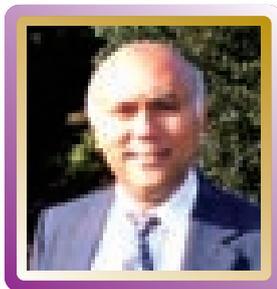
Cllr Rania Khan was first elected as a Councillor in 2006 for the Bromley-by-Bow area at the age of 23 years, making her one of the youngest female councillors in the country. She is currently a Cabinet Member for Culture and a secondary school Science teacher. Rania is known for her passion for social justice and equality. She has campaigned and spoken on various platforms, locally, nationally and internationally. At one occasion she addressed 60,000 people at the climate change conference. Rania regularly challenges misconceptions in the media; her most famous debate was live on Radio 4 with Nick Griffin.

She was born in Libya and came to the UK as a child where she completed her BSc and PGCE in Biology and secondary school science. She hopes to continue her further education especially in the areas of science and philosophy. Rania is married, has one sibling and loves spending time with 'dadu' (grandmother).

Rania is a treasurer for Kingsley Hall, a community centre where Ghandi stayed and is a board member for various statutory and

non-statutory bodies. Rania has also held Cabinet positions for Re-generation & Partnership and Employment & Skills. She is a member of NUT, CAPE (Campaign Against People's Exploitation), Liberty and NOS (National Osteoporosis Society).

Rania Khan enjoys travelling and has a profound love for wildlife both flora and fauna. In particular she has a passion for saving extinct animals such as the Royal Bengal Tiger (because she loves tigers), orchids (loves the way they tricks bees into cross pollinating) and bees (for obvious reasons that, without honey bees the human race will die within four years). Rania also enjoys reading, socialising and debating however, on most occasions she finds herself reading cabinet and council papers.



Dr Shafi Khan

Sector:
Academia and Politics

Dr Shafi Khan, a Croydon Councillor for 15 years was selected to stand for parliament at the General Election by the Carshalton and Wallington Constituency Labour Party at its Annual General Meeting on 26th February 2008. The meeting included delegates from all wards in the constituency who voted unanimously for Dr Khan. Dr Khan was the GLA candidate (London Assembly election - 1st of May 2008) for the seat of Croydon and Sutton constituency, got about 35thousand votes and became second, overtaking the Liberal Democrats.

Dr Shafi Khan has lived in Croydon since 1989. He was elected to Croydon Council by Norbury ward in 1994, where he has been influential in education and community relations. He has been lead member on Education, Shadow Cabinet member for Community Cohesion. He became the first Asian Mayor of Croydon in 1999-2000. During his Mayoral year he carried out more than 1000 public engagements including the ceremonial opening of Tram Link,

leading the borough to the New Millennium and visiting various business, faith, voluntary and community groups in Croydon.

He used his Mayoral year to strengthen community spirit, to reach out to all communities and to bring faiths, cultures and business together with a common purpose to empower people. In 1998, he started the "Norbury Mela" in Norbury Park, which because of its success later moved to Lloyds Park and evolved as "Croydon Mela", which is an envy of South London. He has also secured "Muslim Burial Ground" in Green Lawn Memorial Park for Croydon's Muslim residents.

He is actively involved in Croydon's wider community life, well known and respected. For his support and contribution to the business community, he was elected Hon. Vice President of the Croydon Chamber of Commerce in 2001 and was also awarded the "World Peace Ambassador" by the faith community.

Shafi was born in Comilla, passed his SSC from Comilla Zila School and HSC from Comilla Victoria College both with some distinctions. He studied economics at Dhaka University. In 1969 he got involved in students politics and was involved in the freedom movement of Bangladesh as a student leader.

He acquired a Masters degree and a PhD in mathematical physics at Moscow Civil Engineering University. He gained a teaching certificate at the Institute of Education, University of London and now works as a mathematics lecturer at Tower Hamlets College in East London. He lives in Norbury with his wife Irina and their daughter Masha.



Hussain Ahmed Khan

Sector:
Catering

Hussain Ahmed Khan was born in 1956 in Daripaton Upozilla, Golapgonj, in Sylhet, where he lived throughout his childhood years. He is the third child of late Mr Noor Uddin Ahmed Khan and Mrs Nurun Nessa Khanom. By 1976 Mr. Khan successfully obtained his degree in Sylhet. Soon after this achievement, he left his homeland to move to the Middle East, where Mr. Hussain Ahmed Khan was employed by different companies.

Mr. Hussain Ahmed Khan left the Middle East for the UK in the year 1986. He spent the first few years, educating himself on the skill and techniques needed in order to survive in the tough Indian Restaurant business. Little did he know that these new skills that he had been taught, combined with his entrepreneurial expertise, he was going to have a great visible impact on the Indian Restaurant industry.

Mr Hussain Ahmed Khan's first success was when he took over the Indian restaurant Festival Balti, which was located in the heart of Birmingham. He and his partner had a great impact on the change of business of this restaurant. They had turned the restaurant over from a regular restaurant, to an extremely popular place to dine in, with a newly prepared menu admired by all. He then moved on to opening his second South Indian Restaurant in Walsall, West midlands. Passage to India was the third restaurant Mr. Khan opened which was also situated in the heart of Birmingham. Hussain Ahmed Khan has played a constant and active role in charity events not only in the UK but also in Bangladesh.

Today, Mr. Ahmed Khan is an admired businessman and looked up to by many others due to his hard work and determination to succeed in life. His outstanding achievements have resulted in him receiving the prestigious BBL award for best continuous successful restaurant 2008, earlier this year. Currently he is playing an important role as a Secretary of the Guild of Bangladeshi Restauranters. He resides with wife Salma Khan and two children; Zilhan and Subhan.



Islam Khan

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Mr Islam Uddin Khan comes from the renowned At-ghar village of Jagganathpur District, Sylhet. He is the only son of Md. Alhaj Asab Uddin Khan and they come from the Sheikh Kiyam branch direct descendants of Alhaj Syed Sheikh Shams Uddin, one of the saints linked with Shahjalal.

He has a keen interest in Public Law and Criminal Defence. Islam was called to the Bar in 2008 by the Honorable Society of Inner Temple and completed his LL.B (Hons) as a mature student subsequently specialising in an LL.M in Public Law and Human Rights at Kings College, University of London. He was the last batch at the Inns Of Court School of Law Bar Vocational Course in 2007. He deferred his Ph.d in Islamic Law at SOAS, during completing his pupillage with Marion Smullen, at chambers of Marion Smullen and Kerim Fuad Q.C. specialising in criminal defence and public law and has been actively involved in the Bibi case, challenging the UK's immigration age bar to overseas marriages.

Prior to a career at the Bar, Islam was a junior civil servant in various departments at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. This included the Human Rights Policy Department, the Foreign Office branch of UK-visas (now substantially UKBA), Consular and headed the Benefits, pay and policy section of HR. He also served overseas as a diplomatic officer.

He sits on a number of panels in Tower Hamlets and advises many charitable organisations across the country. Notably, he was involved in engaging various stakeholders to diffuse the Shajalal mosque fiasco to ensure that public money was kept safe and avoid a dangerous precedent being set. Most recently he has been engaged in drafting grounds in challenging the policy on "maintenance undertakings". There has been significant interest in the case from leading organisations in Tower Hamlets and the BBC. His published articles to date are: 1. International Law and The legality of the Flotilla raid by Israel; 2. Indirect discrimination by raising the marriage age rule to 21; 3. Religious implications for Hindu pyres in the UK (Ghai and Others); 4. FGM: "an Islamic practice or modern fashion; and 5. Mediation in practice. He has submitted a plan to publish a legal dictionary for the lay person in crime and hopes this will materialise shortly.

He is the proud father of Sadia, Yusuf and his lovely twins: Aaliyah and Amirah. In his past times he enjoys reading, sea fishing and travelling.



M.A Mannan Khan

Sector:
*Education and Community
Relations*



M A Mannan Khan was born in 1953 in Khan Bari, Kismoth Maizbhag in Golapginj, Sylhet. Whilst being a student at Modhon Mohan College in Sylhet Mr Khan became a freedom fighter, and also a cabinet member of the Chatroleague in Bangladesh.

At Jogonnath College under University of Dhaka in 1977 Mannan Khan completed his BA degree. After graduating he worked as an assistant teacher and later went on to complete his B Ed teacher-training course in 1978. Mr Khan became the chairman of 'Provattee Shahitto Porishod', commanding officer of 'Shurjo Shena Shishu Shongo' and later a journalist for 'Sylhet Shomachar' a local newspaper in Sylhet.

In 1982 Mr Khan moved to UAE where he set up a business. He then migrated to England in 1986 where he worked at Burleigh College in Loughborough as a modern languages teacher. Mr Khan also was appointed as a modern languages teacher in Moat College in Leicester. Subsequently he was a GCSE Bengali language teacher at Bengali Community Education and an examiner under the Uni-

versity of London (EdExcel).

Mr Khan has been working for the community since 1986, and was the committee member of the Bengali Community Education Project and secretary of language Teacher Association in Leicester. For three years Mr Khan was a radio presenter for Sunrise Radio.

Mr Khan has established the Awami League in Leicester and served as the founder Secretary. Mr Khan has received an invitation to HRM Queens Garden Party for achieving the title of one of the high achieving modern languages teacher in the City of Leicester which

was recognised by the University of London in 2000. Mr Khan received a Channel S Community award in 2006.

Mr Khan is the founder president of Surma Welfare Porishod UK, Vice Chairman of First Solution Money Transfer Ltd (UK), Senior Vice president of Leicester Awami League, Founder Chairman of Bangladesh Poor Fund, Foreign Advisor of Motijee Theatre in Dhaka, Committee Member of the local Mosque Masjid-e-Butul Mukarram Trust, and he is currently working for Channel S as there news reporter for Leicestershire.

In his spare time Mr Khan likes to write poems for magazines and newspapers.

Helal Uddin Khan

Sector:
Travel



Helal Uddin Khan came to The UK in 1986. In 1990 Mr. Khan started his first business an Estate Agency business named 'Class Property Services' in Katherine Road, London.

Just after two years he developed a very good relationship and reputation among the Bangladeshi community. He started his Travel Agency business in the same location in 1992. Due to his sincerity, honesty, intelligence, strong determination and dedication he became a very good Travel agency businessman within the shortest possible time. Now he is maintaining two independent established offices, one is in Green Street and another in Whitechapel. Mr. Helal Khan is a very popular person among the Asian community due to his amiable personality.

Mr. Khan did his H.S.C in Bangladesh in 1985. He also participates in different training (Reservation and Ticketing) courses in connection with the Travel Agency business. He also visited many

countries around the world under the education tour programme sponsored by different Airlines.

Presently twelve skilled and unskilled employees are working at his two establishments.

Mr. Helal Uddin Khan is married. He has two daughters and two sons. His eldest daughter is reading law at Queen Mary University. His second daughter is also studying, eldest son is at school as well and the youngest child.

Mr. Kahn is an associate member of Greater Sylhet Association since 1995 as well as an active member of Bangladesh Welfare Association since 1990. He has been an executive member of Nurul Haq Education Trust Fenchugong since 1993. He is the executive member of Fenchugong Shamite (oldest Association in UK) since 1986 and an executive member and former Treasurer/Joint Secretary of UK Travel Agents Association. Mr. Helal Uddin Khan is very much interested about Bangladeshi Culture. He has participated in and sponsored various different Bangladeshi cultural activities.

He is very sympathetic to the poor Bangladeshi people. He always extends his hands to support them. He has continued being involved with fund raising initiatives.





Mashuk Ahmed Khan

Sector:
Academia

Mashuk Ahmed Khan L.L.M (Birkbeck), M.Phil.,M.A.,B.A.(Hons),PG Dip. (HRM),Ad Dip.(MGT),MCIPD is the eldest son of Mohammed Matiur Rahman Khan and Begum Jamila Khan of an academically enriched respectable Muslim family of landed gentry and successful entrepreneurship, of village Gangajal, Zakigonj, of district Sylhet.

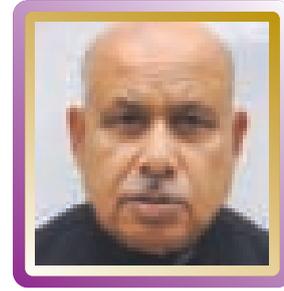
Ahmed Khan is married to Shamim Ara Begum (Rose). Mr & Mrs Khan have three children; a son and two daughters namely: Mustafa, Nabila and Farzana. From the day one of their schooling lives, all three children had the privilege of going to independent schools up to the sixth forms. The son is a Litigation Executive for the NHS (West Midland Region).The eldest daughter has recently graduated in Accounting and Finance, and the youngest one is in final year of her degree programme in the same discipline.

By profession Ahmed Khan is a Chartered Human Resource Consultant and an academician with membership of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), and The University of Oxford Philosophical Society. He is a keen reader on Marx, Rousseau, Bentham, Mills, Hobbes and Locke. He is also a political critique, columnist, a Rotarian, and an author gifted with literary skills. He has written numerous articles on political affairs and governance of his native Bangladesh. His recent article "Our Independence Hitherto Confined in Political Wilderness" (BanglaMirror, 11/01/2013), depicts a momentous account of Bangladesh's morbid political antecedents and the fetid stench of her overall political environment. His debut publication of the poetry book "A Phantom of Romance" comprised of poems of love and passion. His patriotic poems "In the love of my nation" and "My heart cries for the fallen" composed in retrospect to Bangladesh liberation war and its post independence political crises were published in Bangla Mirror, London (237 & 316), Sylhet Madan Mohan University College Literary Council's publication "Katha Lata" (4&5) and in Sylhet Mobile Pataghar's narrative publication "Chayalap" (283 & 284) correspondingly.

Ahmed Khan - an unassuming, family-centric, spatio-temporally Spartan vivacious individual, avid to his continued self development. Following successful completion of his M.Phil research in HRM: "Export Orientated Industrialisation and the Exploitation of Labour in the Developing Economies", he had re-assigned his academic interest into Law with sustained enthusiasm and achieved a Master of Laws degree (L.L.M) with merit from the World-class Birkbeck College of the University of London. He is now in the midst of undertaking further legal research in the development of International Human Rights with particular focus on the "virtues, protections and myths" - surrounding the process.

He has five younger brothers. The immediate younger one had his further education from Sylhet Polytechnic College. Each of the other four brothers has multiple Masters Degrees in various disciplines from reputable Universities at home (Dhaka & Chittagong) and abroad (Sydney, London & Cornell (NY)). They now reside in the UK and USA - engaged in different professions.

Ahmed Khan asserts himself a devout "British Muslim" - proudly upholding his religious values and traditions - while profoundly deferential to synonymous interests of all other social groups in British society. His pastimes are: reading books, watching documentaries, travelling, listening Tagore Songs, Urdu Ghazals, Mozart, and Pavarotti.



Md. Shamsuddin Khan

Sector:
Catering and Politics

Md. Shamsuddin Khan was born in 1935 in Matiura, under the Bianibazaar Upazilla in Sylhet. He is the second son of late Haji Taj Khan and Tayamunnessa Khanom. Mr. Khan primarily worked at an English restaurant when he arrived in the UK in 1955, aged 20. It was in 1958 when he started his first business when he opened a restaurant, which he called Moharani. This restaurant is situated in Clapham Common, is one of the most famous and old restaurants in the UK. Two other branches of the Moharani restaurant have been opened ever since, one located in Clapham North and one in Camden Town. Mr. Khan is one of the owners of a large grocery store named Kushiara Cash and Carry in the East End of London.

On top of that, he has an enormous investment in the tea estates in Sylhet and also owns several houses in London.

Founding member of the Bianibazaar Janakallyan Samity UK, of which he is now the advisor, and also a trustee of the Historic Bangladesh Centre in London, Mr. Khan is involved in various political and socio-cultural organisations, both in Bangladesh and the UK. In addition he has played a key role in the establishment of Bianibazaar College, by donating money towards it. Mathiura High School and Mathiura Girls' High School are two of many educational institutions of which Md. Shamsuddin Khan is a patron. Furthermore, he was the chairman of the College Development Committee for a long period of time.

Before all this, Mr. Khan's political career began with Pakistan Welfare Association which later become Bangladesh Welfare Association. Inspired by Sheikh Mujib, he also decided to join the Awami League once it had been set up in the UK. Throughout his role in the Awami league changed from the treasurer, to the vice president. He played a significant role throughout the Liberation War in 1971 by fundraising. During the 1970 elections, he was the Awami League candidate in the Bianibazaar-Golapgonj constituency.

Here, in the UK, Shamsuddin Khan is a member of the Labour party. At present, Md. Shamsuddin Khan Resides with his wife Mrs. Safarun Nesa Khanom and their three children.

Oli Khan

Sector:
Business, community relations & philanthropists



Oli Khan, Internationally recognised award winning celebrity chef and successful entrepreneur. Oli Khan has bagged many high honors and will doubtless bag many more for his adventurous, exciting and ingenious approach. Oli won the National Curry Chef of the year for 2002/03 CIEH and FSA. The British Bangladeshi & India Fusion Food Festival for 2005-06. Oli also captured BFFF2008 and served the president of Bangladesh. He was Crowned Curry Chef of the year twice in Stevenage, where he runs the Surma Takeaway and Spice Rouge. The local newspapers described Oli as the 'Curry King of Hertfordshire'. Scores on the Doors Surma in Luton & Stevenage achieve five Stars in 2007/08 which was first Indian Takeaway in UK to get five stars in food hygiene & still holding.

Oli started his first business in 1989 at the age of 17 in Hatfield Road, St Albans called Tandoori Knight at the same time he studies in business management at Barnfield College in Luton. In 1996 Oli completed a computer literacy course, following which he obtained Diploma in IT (Information Technology). In 2002 he got an advanced certificate in Food Hygiene and other advance catering re-

lated certificates. In 2008 he got passed the diploma in multi-skilled food processing, cooking, management and first aid. In 2011 he completed Conflict Management and PL; Oli has been editor for some of the famous magazine and one of them is for BCA called "Bangladesh Cuisine" in 2011.

Oli's all achievement gained him 'Best Caterer of the Year 2010' at the golden jubilee celebration of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK. Some of his popular recipes are regularly published by Cury Life, Spice Times, Channel S magazine and other Asian magazine and Website across the Country. Oli also featured in TV show like ITV, BBC Look East, Channel S, Bangla TV, NTV, Channel I, ATN, Zee Café, Sony TV and BTV in Bangladesh.

He is always been very devoted and committed to charitable works and helped Many philanthropic work around the world. He is founder chairman of Oli's Foundation est in 2002, General Secretary of the Moulvibazar District Council UK, Senior Vice President of BCA-UK, President of BCA east of England region1, founder & chairman of Soft Investment LTD, founder and Secretary of the British Bangladeshi Business Forum, MD of Oli's Properties, foundation member of L & D NHS Hospital Trust, member of the British Legion Club and Community Governors Woolenwick School in Stevenage.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S WHO 2013



Tasmin Lucia Khan

Sector:
Media

Tasmin Lucia Khan is a BBC News Presenter and Journalist with over 8 years of on-screen experience. She is currently the face of BBC Three News bulletins and presents 'E24' on the rolling BBC News Channel, formerly known as BBC News 24

Tasmin graduated from Oxford University with an Honours degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. It was then Tasmin became a keen debater, nurtured her passion for current affairs, and specialised in International Relations.

Tasmin joined the BBC News team in London after three years at Channel Five, producing and presenting Sports programmes. She was also the London News Correspondent for PTV News, covering the UK's biggest news stories to a worldwide Asian audience.

Tasmin's presenting career began in 2000 at the Zee TV Network. She fronted and produced a variety of entertainment shows. Later she hosted her own talk show interviewing film and music celebrities, politicians, businessmen and sports personalities.

Away from the camera, Tasmin is actively involved in charities that are close to her heart. She has worked in educational projects which help children in developing countries to better their lives.

Tasmin really enjoys delivering the nightly 'World News' bulletins on BBC Three in 60 Seconds. She says "It's an instant hit of information updating you with what's happening around the world. You

get to see global events, seen through the eyes of news stations around the world including CNN, Fox News, Al Jazeera, China's CCTV, and Al Arabiya."

On the BBC News Channel, she particularly likes the interviews, where she gets to grill her guests in the studio.



Zakir Khan

Sector:
Community Relations

Zakir Khan was born in Bangladesh and came to England aged 5 with his parents. He grew up in Tower Hamlets, east London, where he became a youth worker and community representative. Since 2000 he has worked for Canary Wharf Group, first as Sports and Community officer and now as Head of Public Affairs. He is also Director & Head of Public Affairs a prestigious TV channel NTV UK, Europe.

In 2010 Zakir was the Conservative PPC for Bethnal Green and Bow, securing an increase in the Conservative vote in this highly marginal and politically charged seat. Zakir has a deep and wide understanding of Bangladesh, and in particular has experience of helping set up new charitable initiatives on the ground. He has a good relationship with all the political parties in Bangladesh and good links in such fields as sport, media, business, education, manufacturing, and universities.

In the UK Zakir has worked for the public, private and voluntary sectors, and has built up a positive programme of bringing these different sectors together to deliver projects. Zakir has been involved in community work since he was a teenager. In 1990, aged 19, he was the co-founder and Chair of Community Action Group, a campaign group for local young people to help represent their interests to statutory and police authorities and to help reduce tension between communities.

He was also elected Vice Chair for Youth Connections another youth campaign group that was collectively formed by all major youth groups in Tower Hamlets.

Zakir was elected by the community to represent them as a Board Member of the Connecting Communities SRB 5, and Cityside Regeneration in Spitalfields, He is the current Vice Chair of the Osmani Centre User's Forum,

He was a Director of The Adab Trust. This is a new initiative established to increase employment prospects for inner city young black and minority ethnic people and specifically those from Asian and Muslim backgrounds. He was also an ambassador for Touch The Game project. This is a unique project that collects unused sports equipment from residents in the UK and delivers them to the most deprived countries in the world such as Africa and the Indian sub continent.

In the 2010 General Election he was selected as Conservative Party Parliamentary Candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow in Tower Hamlets, securing a 2% increase in the Conservative vote despite only being selected in late March 2010.

Since formally joining the Party in 2006, Zakir has been actively working to promote the Conservative party within the Bangladeshi UK community. In Jan 2010 he organised a delegation to Bangladesh led by Mark Field MP.

Zakir was successful in arranging meetings for the delegates with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, Ex Prime Minister now Opposition Leader Begum Zia, The British High Commissioner and many other Members of The Bangladeshi Parliament. He is the current Chairman, Conservative Friends of Bangladesh (CFOB) London Region. In 1996 he co-founded Sporting Bengal Football Team and was the manager of the team for four years in his spare time.

In 1997 Zakir spear headed the formation of The Bangladesh Football Association UK As the Chair of the organisation he established a summer football league with just eight teams which now has 46 teams. Asian Football League Manager of the Year 1996, 1997, 1998.

He has received a Tower Hamlets Sports Council Certificate for outstanding achievements in Sports in 1997. He received a Community Achievement Award from the Mayor of Tower Hamlets in 2004.

He has been awarded a Voluntary Achievement Award from the Bangladesh Football Association UK in 2008.

In year 2000, 2001 and 2002 Zakir invited football teams from Bangladesh to visit London. He organised games with West Ham and Chelsea. Mohamadan Sporting Club, Abahani Football Club and Chittagong have benefited from these visits.





Dr Nazia Khanum, OBE

Sector:
Research & Academia

Dr Nazia Khanum has a BA (Hons) and MA in Political Science from Dhaka University and a PhD in History from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. She runs Equality in Diversity, an international management and research consultancy. Her jobs include: lecturer at University of Dhaka; Commonwealth Speaker and Teaching Fellow at Commonwealth Institute, London; Education Officer at Luton Community Relations Council; Head of Equalities in Greater London Council (Housing), Tower Hamlets Borough Council (Housing), Inner London Education Authority (Employment), Ealing Borough Council (Education) and Bedfordshire County Council (Education, Resources, Research and Community Development); Senior Health Promotion Officer in Bedfordshire Health Promotion Agency.

Working closely with national and local government and community groups, she has given evidence to Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiries into Bangladeshi community's needs, Terrorism/Violent Extremism and Domestic Violence, Forced Marriage & Honour-based Violence. Her publications include poems, short stories, articles, research papers and good practice guides on: equality in employment, bullying and harassment, forced marriage, discrimination on grounds of race, gender, disability, faith, class etc, engagement with black and minority ethnic communities, needs and aspirations of Bangladeshi young women, smoking, fostering, climate change and so on. She has spoken extensively on wide-ranging socio-economic issues at national and international conferences, seminars and workshops and participated on TV and radio

programmes. Her passion and achievements in promoting peace, equality, justice and human rights, especially for traditionally disadvantaged groups like ethnic minorities and women, have been recognised by numerous awards including: OBE from the Queen, honorary PhD from the University of Bedfordshire, Kabi Mozammel Haque Foundation, Rotary Club - Dhaka West, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, the Mayor of Luton, Luton Committee for Racial Harmony (predominantly African Caribbean), Luton Forum (Local Strategic Partnership), Pakistan Kashmir Youth Forum, House of Lords Honours Dinner, Gujarati Mitra Mandal, Bangladesh Youth League, Purbachal – the eastern sky, Luton Bangladeshi Community, Grassroots (Christian), Luton Council of Faiths, Community Development Foundation, Luton in Harmony, Luton Training and Mentoring (Indian-led).

Her activities include: Government Equalities Office's National Ambassador for Equality and Diversity in Public Appointments; Governor, Luton Sixth Form College; Non-Executive Director, Luton Primary Care Trust; Trustee, Luton All Women's Centre; Equalities Adviser to Bedfordshire Probation Service; Member of National Muslim Women's Network UK; founder Chair of United Nations Association – Luton, Luton Bangladesh Helping Hand (LBHH), Luton Multicultural Women's Coalition, Purbachal – the eastern sky and Luton Multiagency Steering Group on Forced Marriage & Violence Against Women; Member of Luton Equality, Inclusion and Cohesion Group (until 2011), Preventing Violent Extremism Community Reference Group, Luton (until 2010), Luton Commission on Community Cohesion (2010-2011), the government's National Muslim Women's Advisory Group (until 2010). Thinking Partner of the Department of Health's national programme – Race for Health (until 2007), board member of Bedfordshire Learning & Skills Council (until 2007), governor of two schools (until 2003).

As founder chair, she is an integral part of LBHH's charitable work for the victims of natural disasters across the world including Bangladesh (10 educational and health projects in Sylhet and rebuilding of 115 houses and a high school/cyclone shelter in Sri Ghat, Bagerhat), Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Haiti & Sudan. She is married to Dr David Cheesman (PhD in History from SOAS). Their son -Tareen has an M Sc in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science - LSE, University of London. Dr Khanum is proud to have a family which is not only fully supportive of her work but also shares the same ideals of democratic and humanitarian principles.



Cllr Shiria Khatun

Sector:
Politics

Shiria Khatun, was one of the short listed mayoral candidate of Labour in Tower Hamlets, is an interesting example of the empowerment of Bangladeshi women in UK. As a working mother of four children attending local state schools she is utterly rooted in the UK-Bangladeshi community.

Shiria was born in Birmingham raised and educated in Tower Hamlets. Her parents, Late Haji Mohammed Mokis and Late Joytera Khatun came to UK in late 50's. Both her father and mother passed away when she was just a teenager. She is married with a young family her 9 year old son is a School Councillor, her husband Mr Lutfur rahman is an Outreach Worker in Poplar.

She started her community service when she was just 11 years old by writing official letters for neighbours who needed help in writing English letters. Eventually, she deeply involved in politics by protesting against racism and inequality.

She was elected as a Councillor for East India & Lansbury ward in May 2006. Soon after getting elected, Shiria was appointed by the former Mayor

of London Ken Livingstone as his Adviser for Transport for London.

She is a member of Regional Party selection panel for LG Candidates (Ealing, Newham, Haringey), Shiria constantly works to increase the engagement and participation of women and all Tower Hamlets' many BME communities in the Labour Party. She is a highly regarded IDEA Peer Mentor and has presented workshops to large audiences at Warwick University's Leadership Centre.

She has been a Board Member of London Pension Fund Authority which has given her extensive financial oversight experience.

Shiria qualified as a Peer Assessor from the Leadership Centre last year and has facilitated sessions as a Lecturer at Warwick University on empowering women in to public roles. Shiria represents the council on many committees as well as external boards she is also the Media & Communication's Officer for Tower Hamlets Labour Group.

She has extensive experiences outside of politics in the public, private and voluntary sectors. She is a Youth Employment Specialist for The Working Well Trust, a Work Placement Scheme Coordinator in St. Hilda's East Community Centre, has been a TV Presenter/Researcher/Script Writer, Bangla TV in 2005, a Youth Enterprise Coordinator in Leaside Regeneration Ltd, a Lansbury Estate Board member from 2003, a Project Manager in The Children's Society (Children's Voice project), a Centre Coordinator in Peabody Trust – The Sundial Centre and a Senior Mental Health Care Assistant in St Clements Hospital.

Shiria is an experienced public speaker. She successfully engages audience right across the community – but she also has the clout necessary to get results locally and nationally as a Lead Member.

As a presenter for weekly television programme she invited young people and Labour politicians for in depth interviews which helped to promote the party in the Bengali community both locally and nationally.



Sapnara Khatun

Sector:
Legal (Barrister and Judge)

Khatun Sapnara is a barrister and part time Judge. In 1988 she graduated with an LL.B (Hons) from the prestigious London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London) and was called to the Bar in 1990.

She practises from Coram Barristers Chambers in London and specialises in family law. In 2006 she was appointed as a Recorder of the Crown which makes her the only Bangladeshi in a senior judicial position.

In 2004 Khatun Sapnara was appointed by the Lord Chancellor to the Family Justice Council which is a body of experts to advise Government on all aspects of the family justice system and assisted in formulating and drafting the Forced Marriage Act 2007. She was also the first ethnic person to be elected to the Family Law Bar Association Committee in 2003.

Khatun Sapnara was born in Sylhet and came to the UK as a child. She is the daughter of late Mimbor Ali, a highly respected member of the Bangladeshi community, honoured by the Bangladeshi Government for his significant contribution to the liberation of Bangladesh.

Khatun Sapnara has served as Director /Chair of a number of charities and voluntary sector organisations and lectures widely on issues relating to family law. She is married with two children.



S.H Khurshed

Sector:
Media and Entertainment

Mr. S.H. Khurshed is the chief editor of Film Asia, the film making company based in East London. He was born in Kamalganj, Moulvi Bazar of Bangladesh and completed his B.A. from Moulvi Bazar Degree College. His Father is Al haj Md. Ishaq Miah and mother is Johura Khatun.

Mr. Khurshed came to the UK in 1998. He excelled as the editor of Film Asia which thrives to be one of the most prominent film making company of Asian weddings and other events. The company does not use the term 'Bespoke cinematography' lightly. They create something to cherish, a project that is unique to any client.

In Mr. Khurshed's words, 'at Film Asia , we recognise the importance of our creations for each client, we recognise the individual requirements for each client differs from others, and in turn we recognize that the approach undertaken in our editing can only stand out from anything else available. The Film Asia perfection process is no gimmick; the unique concepts crated by our experts are only possible through a desire to deliver to you...perfection'. Film Asia mainly produces wedding videos for Asian grooms and brides. They also produced a ghazal night with Alaur Rahman and the British Bangladeshi Who's Who programme in 2009 and 2010. With brilliant editors, graphic designers, cinematographers and event coordinators, the group has been a raving success in the film business of East London.

Mr. Khurshed lives with his family in Fallowfield, London. His wife's name is Jubeda Khatun Haque. They have three sons, Jala Haquel, Jahan Haque and Jahia Haque, and two daughters, Jynat Haque and Jannat Haque.

Mohammad Abul Lais

Sector:
Catering



Mohammed Abul Lais is a successful businessman, outstanding community organiser and well-known philanthropist in Berkshire. He left for the UK when he was only 16 and entered professional life. Alongside working he continued to study. For his sincere and hard labour on the one hand he attained success in his business and on the other being the elder son of the family he educated all his younger brothers and sisters and thus he set an example to be followed by others.

Born on February 23rd 1960 Mohammed Abul Lais hails from the village Amria of Durgapasha Union of Sadar Thana under Sunamganj district. His father late Alhaj Abul Bashor Md. Mashuk Miah was a restaurant trader in the UK. He was a philanthropist who came over to the UK in 1963. He was killed in a tragic road accident in the UK in 1994. His mother is Mrs Badrunnesa. The family consist of three brothers and four sisters and he is the eldest.

After appearing at the SSC Exam in 1975 in this School he left for the UK along with other family members. On arrival in the UK he started serving in restaurants and at the same time continued his studies. And in this way he did O' Level and A' level in Accountancy and also completed B-tech national diploma.

Mohammed Abul Lais began his first business in 1978 in Newbury, Berkshire. This restaurant named Curry Garden and run on partnership still remains operative. He established this Curry Garden at Tadely in Hampshire in 1982 on partnership basis and again in 1985 he established 'Rajdoot Restaurant' in

Cirencester Town in Gloucestershire on partnership. In 1991 he established a company named Eurasia Frozen Product. He established a first Thai and Bangladeshi restaurant named 'Café Blue Cobra' in the small town Theale in greater Reading area in 1996.

Mohammed Abul Lais is also a philanthropist. He is one of the founders of Basingstoke Islamic Society. Initially he was the founding secretary of this organization and later on he served as president for 3 years. He is also the founding member of Redding Central Jame Masjid established and run by the Bangladeshis. Besides, he is the member of Basingstoke Chambers & Commerce, Thames valley Chambers of Commerce, Bangladesh British Chambers of Commerce and the Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs in UK.

He has made special contributions towards the establishment and development of Amria Madrassa based in his own village. During the devastating flood in 1988 and in 1991 he raised funds 1400 pound and 11 thousand pound respectively and sent it to Bangladesh through British Red Cross Society for the flood affected people. Mohammed Abul Lais and his brother Absar Md. Waess have established a family trust after their father's name. From this trust named "Alhaj AB Masuk Miah Foundation" quarterly education stipend is regularly being provided to the poor and meritorious students of the Amria Madrassa since 1994. Primary scholarship has been introduced under the auspices of this Foundation in 1998. Mohammad Abul Lais is the trustee of this Foundation while his all brothers and sisters are the members.

Mohammad Abul Lais got married in 1984 with Nazma Khatun Qureshi, and they are blessed with two daughters and one son. First daughter Shumana Lais obtained Honours degree in investment Banking and finance, from Reading University, currently working for KPMG as an auditor and also studying ACA, 2nd daughter Saera Lais is in secondary school. Son Shumel Lais, is studying Business and marketing in Bournemouth University.

Taysir Mahmud

Sector:
Media



Taysir Mahmud is very well known in the Britain Bangladeshi community as a committed professional journalist. He is serving as the Executive Editor of the 21 year old Bengali Newspaper, weekly Notun Din.

Mr. Mahmud was born in 1974 at Vobani Pur village of the Moulvi Bazar district, Barlekha Upozella, under Shahbaz Pur Union. His father Alhaz Muhammad Abdul Motlib is a respected person in the area. Mr. Mahmud passed SSC in 1993 and HSC in 1995 both in first divisions. He passed the Kamil (The highest degree of Madrasha education) in 1999. At the same time he took a BA degree from the Sylhet MC University College.

As a student he became involved in journalistic activities as a staff reporter on the Daily Sylhet Bani newspaper at Sylhet, He went on to become the sub-editor for the newspaper. He later established a

powerful news agency in Sylhet named Media line. At one stage Mr. Taysir was at daily Jalalabad newspaper as Senior staff reporter. At the same time he worked as a Programme Compiler in the Radio Bangladesh, Sylhet Centre. He was a permanent member of the Sylhet Press Club.

In the past, Mr. Mahmud had also set up a company called Al Saiyyan Private Limited with thirty directors. He was chair of the company. he is also directors of notun din & ex press publicity of london bangla press club.

Mr. Mahmud arrived in UK in 2003. He started his career as a News Editor in Notun Din. In 2007 he was appointed as the Executive Editor of the paper.

Mr. Mahmud got married in 2006 to Farhana Mahmud, the daughter of the respected community leader Atik Miah of Hazipur Golapgonj, Farhana Mahmud is a Science teacher at a secondary school in East London. They are the parent of three children, Jibreel Mahmud, Sarah Mahmud & Mikaeel Mahmud. The family resides in Bethnal Green.



Mahbub Murshed

Sector:
Accounting

Mahbub Murshed, a Certified Practising Accountant, was born in 1962 in Tangail, Bangladesh. Having acquired a government scholarship from Bangladesh in 1982, he went to Bulgaria to study Computer Engineering at Technical University of Varna.

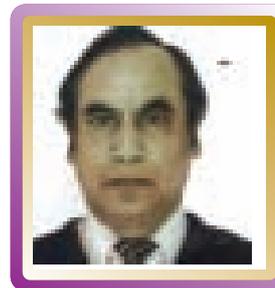
It was from here that he would graft his way to create one of the largest accountancy firms in East London. Upon arrival in Britain in 1987 it became evident that a qualification from a former communist country was not going to be easy for him to acquire a job in his field. With this in mind he made the brave decision of starting from the scratch and changing his career path to accountancy. It was late Mr Mir Shamsuz Zoha, a prominent Bengali accountant of East London, who inspired Mr Mahbub to follow his footsteps. Mr Mahbub used to work for one of Mr Zoha's client and the turning point of his life was when he went to Mr Zoha's office to collect his P45 (A Job Leaving Certificate). With the help of this accountant, he alongside his studies first started to work for Ali Brothers of Fashion Street and later on joined M S Zoha & Co as an Accountant. Instead of using conventional method of manual book keeping and accounting, he became the pioneer among British Bangladeshis by using his computer programming skill to write his own accounting software. A lot of accountancy firms, especially in East London are still using his programs.

After being in the shadow of Mr Zoha for nearly 10 years and gaining the invaluable work experience and academic qualification he needed, finally Mr Mahbub decided to set up his own accountancy firm, Mahbub & Co in 2001 in Brady Street, London E1 with his younger brother, Shah Arif. As a newly erected business, the stakes were high. Starting off with just one employee and a handful of small clients, it was a huge risk for anyone to start with such a fragile business in a competitive market. But through hard work, dedication, multi-lingual skills and sincerity, Mr Mahbub was able to expand his business and now his office has been relocated to 112-116 Whitechapel Road since 2006 with a team of 12 competent members. His client base now consists of both local businesses such as Rahim Brothers, AB Bank UK, Unicorn Group, Food Supplies and so on, as well as nationally and internationally based businesses. His honest, professional and friendly approach towards his clients has given him a name, "The Accountant with a smile".

As well as growing his business Mr Mahbub has supported many of the youths with work experience and career development. Currently Mahbub & Co is holding the ACCA gold status as an employer, awarded only to the firms which provide high-quality work experience in accountancy.

After serving the community for more than a decade, Mr Mahbub Murshed launched his new and unique initiative to fulfil community's needs for Business, Accountancy and Tax related issues. He as a key person, together with NTV Europe started producing the programme ACCOUNTANCY WITH MAHBUB MURSHED. The programme is being broadcasted live in every month. This is the first of its kind to broadcast a live programme on any terrestrial or community Television. He believes in empowering people and the community. So rather bringing the people to accountant's office, he went live on TV to answer the questions in his own capacity and helping people to be aware of Accountancy and Tax issues.

He is married to Nilufa Murshed, daughter of a well known Sylheti businessman of 1960s, Mr. Mosahid Ali. Their son, Nayeem, is currently pursuing his graduation in Biochemistry at Imperial College of London and daughter, Nimah, is an A level student. Gardening, travelling and photography are included in Mr Mahbub's hobbies, while he always spares some time for charity works.



**Dr. Khalifa Mohammad
Abdul Malik**

Sector:
Academia

Dr. Abdul Malik PhD.CChem ,MRSC has achieved many qualifications throughout the years, all of which have been well earned and very deserving. He studied in the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh where he gained a BSc. Honours in Chemistry in 1967, and then a MSc. in the same subject a year later. He then arrived in the UK where he continued studying, in a University in London. Here, he also got a PhD and an MSc.

He was an Associate Professor and a Professor of Chemistry in the University of Dhaka for 13 years from 1980 to 1993. Earlier, in 1975, he was a lecturer in Science for Hackney Technical College and then in 1975-1980, he became the Research Associate in Queen Mary College. Afterwards, Dr. Malik was a Lecturer in Chemistry and Service Manager of National Crystallography Research Centre, in University of Wales Cardiff from 1991-2003.

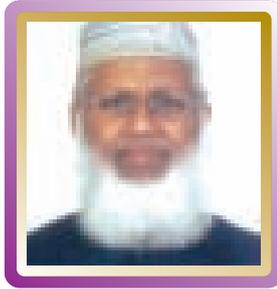
Dr. Abdul Malik has also been writing for various Bangla and English newspapers published in both England and in Bangladesh. He has written 380 research papers on the subject of Chemistry as well as published 3 books on contemporary political and social issues.

He is Founder and Management Committee Chair of Sahera-Nasir Vocational, Technical and Agricultural College, Chair of Bangladesh Educational and Cultural Society in Cardiff, the Adviser of International Expatriates Welfare Society, Trustee of Dr. Tayeab Hossain Foundation, and Joint Convenor of 'Save the Bangladesh Rivers' campaign based in the UK. He was the General Secretary of Bangladesh Chemical Society and a campaigner for the Bangladesh Liberation Struggle.

Moreover, Dr. Malik is a professional Member of Royal Society of Chemistry and Chartered Chemist, a life member of Bangladesh Chemical Society and Bangladesh Association for the Advancement of Science.

The award for Bangladesh Academy of Sciences Gold Medal was given to him in 1988. He won the Third World Academy of Science prize, the Justice Ibrahim memorial Gold Medal, Hari Prasanna Roy Gold Medal and the Mithapur High School Gold Medal to name a few.

At present, he lives with his wife and three daughters and is the Chair of Bangladesh Swadhinata Gobeshana Kendro and Bangladesh Educational and Cultural Society.



Md Abdul Malik (Parvez)

Sector:
Business & community relations

Md. Abdul Malik (Parvez) was born in Sylhet town. The eldest son of Alhaj Dr Abdul Motin and Mrs Afrujun Nessa Khatun. Paternal roots from village of Monirgathi, P.O Kurma, Chattok, however permanently residing in Shibgonj Sylhet since 1975.

Md Abdul Malik was educated at MC College Sylhet, Sylhet Polytechnic College and T.T.T.C. Dhaka. Started his career as a Sub-Assist Engineer at Telephone and Telegraph (T&T) Department, Sylhet. Alongside this he completed the obligatory pharmacist training from Sylhet Medical College and looked after Mitali pharmacy established by his father in Shibgonj Bazaar.

Arrived in the UK in 1985, briefly settling in Lichfield, Staffordshire and later moving to Northampton. Between late 1985 and 1997, he was actively involved with the Northampton Bangladeshi Community working part-time in the capacity of Bangladeshi Community Development Officer and as a teacher and organiser/examiner for Bangla Language, with full responsibility for GCSE and A-Level courses and examinations. For a period he served as the Secretary of local Bangladeshi Masjid in St Georges Street, and Chairman of the Sports Sub-committee and assistant secretary of main commit-

tee of Al-Jamat Ul Muslimin (the main organisation representing the Bangladeshi community in Northampton at that time).

Seeking a route away from becoming involved in the licensed restaurant trade (prevailing at the time), he completed HND Engineering at Nene College, Northampton. Shortly afterwards in partnership with extended family purchased an ongoing printing company. Crystal Print Services was established in 1994 and became the first Bangladeshi owned printing business in the Midlands. Through involvement with the local masjid and networking through business links, once again he continues to be an active member of the community. Currently he is one of the founder/trustee of Al-Ameen foundation which has operated an Islamic primary school in Birmingham for the last ten years. Other community involvement, includes one of the founder/trustee of Mukti Jadda Welfare Trust UK, Chairman of Birmingham Bangladeshi Business Association and Furqan Cultural Society. One of the directors of Daily Sylhet Shonglap newspaper, published in Sylhet. His other interests are writing articles of topical interests for Bengali newspapers.

Md Abdul Malik is married to Shefa Malik who has worked for various local authority run initiatives as Project Manager for Bangladeshi women primary health and social care projects. Her last position being school head of Al-Ameen Nursery & Primary School from opening in September 2004 to 2009 and currently working as a Nursery Manager. They have two sons and one daughter. Eldest son Dr. Abul Hasan Abdullah is a dentist working at Manchester Hospital, daughter Fateha Yasmin is a pharmacist and youngest son Abul Husain Abdullah is in year 8 at Handsworth Grammar School.



Charles Madani Fuad Mannan

Sector:
Law/Politics

Charles was born in London and brought up in Libya. He obtained a scholarship to Dulwich College and then went on to do an economics and international law degree at the London School of Economics.

Back in Bangladesh, Charles' father, a mathematics and physics lecturer comes from Commilla and his mother, a notable poet, comes from Pabna. Both his parents came to London in 1966.

Charles qualified at the Bar in 1993, being the first in his family to become a Barrister. He is now the Head of Chambers at Temple Court Chambers - a young set he set up in order to promote women and young members of the Bar.

Charles specialises in Employment, Immigration and Commercial law. His aim has been throughout however, not to forge a career at the Bar, but to create a dynamic barristers chambers. After only 7 years, Charles can boast having the only barristers chambers in England and Wales with the largest number of international annexes.

His aim - to create the largest international barristers chambers in the world.

Aside from the law Charles' main interest is in politics. In 1995 he became the youngest British Bangladeshi Labour Party Parliamentary candidate, with no history in politics (not even as a Councillor) at the age of 27. He stood in the seat of Christchurch in 1997, tasked with saving the party its deposit, which he managed successfully.

In 1997 he was part of only a handful of ethnic minority candidates standing at the parliamentary elections. In 2005, Charles stood again as a Parliamentary Candidate for the Labour Party, this time in

Tewkesbury. Currently Charles is looking to get himself selected in a safe Labour seat for the next General Election in 2015. He continues to work and strive hard to fulfil a lifelong ambition and remains confident that next time he will achieve his goal.



Mohammad Maruf

Sector:
Media

A prominent media person in the UK, Mohammad Maruf is the editor of the Bangla Voice. Born in May 1971, Mohammad Maruf is the first son of the late Shayekh Moulana Fazlur Rahman and Syeda Meherun Nesa. He hails from Nobiganj from the district of Hobigonj, Bangladesh and settled in Sylhet.

After studying at the Dargah Madrasah, Sylhet, Bangladesh, he started his own printing business and was the editor of a literature magazine. He was also author of 'Shamrajobader Bissayon abong Ummah Chetona' (Ummah consciousness and globalization of imperialism) which is a collection of essays, joint poetry books 'Chuye dile Bodle Jabo' and 'Diganto Aj Bristi Bora'. Along with these, he was also involved with literature activities in Sylhet.

After a successful career as a journalist and author in Bangladesh, he came to the UK in December 2004 and continued working in the printing industry.

In 2009 he became the joint publisher and editor of Bangla Voice, the largest circulated Bengali newspaper in Midlands. This proved to be his greatest success, and has been running well for 4 years. The newspaper is reputed for its truthful, dedicated and honest unbiased news, and has gained a huge popularity among the British Bangladeshis of Midlands. He continues to work hard not only to carry his own success, but also to do some good for the betterment of the community. He elected President of Bangla Press Club, Birmingham, Midlands.

Mohammad Maruf is married and has a daughter. The family live in Birmingham. Mr Maruf is very well known and respected in the Bangladeshi community in the Midlands.



Ajmal Masroor

Sector:
Politics and Media

Ajmal Masroor was the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow constituency in London Borough of Tower Hamlets, during the last general election.

He is a broadcast journalist specialising on Islam and Muslim issues. He presents regular programmes on the Islam Channel and Channel S. He has been a production consultant TV programmes such as Shari'ah TV, Make Me a Muslim and the Quran for Channel 4 and Celebrity Lives Shariah style for the BBC. He has written for the Guardian's comment is free and BBC websites, the New Statesman and the Evening Standard and has regular page in the EMEL magazine. He is regularly invited to contribute and comment on news stories by BBC, CNN and other mainstream media.

He is a trainer providing training on peace and reconciliation, citizenship, governance, democracy and contextualised Islam to young people across Europe and has taken part in peace building initiatives in various countries including Lebanon and Jordan. He is regularly invited to speak on issues on integration, Islam in the modern world, Muslim community, and topics that relate to social and political changes within various communities. He is currently the director of Communities in Action Enterprises that provides advice and support to statutory and non-governmental organisations including the British Council, Department of Health, NHS, Police and local authorities. He has published a number of guides including "Ramadan Health Guide", "Mark of Faith" and "Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism training manual" and "Organisational Capacity building handbook".

He has worked in the voluntary and statutory sector for over twenty years in various positions and capacities such as a youth worker, community organiser, community development advisor and cultural relations consultant. He was the vice-chair for the London Civic Forum and he led the campaign "standing together against intolerance" post the 9/11 attacks in the USA.

He has studied Politics, Arabic language, counselling and completed an MA in Islamic Studies. He leads Friday prayers in several Mosques across London.



Mr Saad Meah

Sector:
Legal-(Judiciary)

Alhaj Kazi Saad Meah was born at the Bethnal Green Hospital, London, and raised also in Bethnal Green by parents Abeda Khatun and the late Kazi Shahnoor Meah. He is one of six siblings and is father to daughters' Maisha and Shahirah Jahan, aged 17 and 15 years respectively. He attended a local comprehensive and left school at age 15 years with a string of CSE's and GSCE's. He gained a wealth of life experience between the ages of 15 and 19 years, whilst working in both the private and public sector in various roles before commencing his legal career and extensive involvement in the field of human rights.

He started his legal career at the Immigration Advisory Service's (IAS) predecessor organisation UKIAS in February 1991, which led to part-time law studies at London Southbank University and subsequently a Masters in Law, with distinction, from the University of East London specialising in International Human Rights Law. He has also successfully completed numerous qualifications in Senior, Strategic and Charity management and has also lectured undergraduates at university and trained, mentored and line managed many young lawyers in immigration, nationality, asylum and human rights law, many of whom have themselves gone on to establish distinguished careers in the field of immigration and human rights. He also served successfully as an Independent Custody Visitor for the London Borough of Newham between 1996 and 2002, representing the interests of detainees held in police custody under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act.

He was at the IAS' Central London Office until 2000, successfully fulfilling

roles as Counsellor, Team Leader, Supervisor and Senior Manager, during a period which he represented clients at the Immigration & Asylum Tribunal at Thanet House and latterly at the now Immigration & Asylum Chamber (IAC) at Taylor House. He has also represented many detainees at Immigration Detention Centres at Campsfield House, Tinsley House and HMP Haslar, as well as running legal surgeries at HMP Rochester, during his years at the IAS. He was also overall responsible for setting up the IAS' Sylhet Offices in Bangladesh involving extensive liaison and partnership working with the British High Commission in Dhaka in 2000.

Saad Meah became part of the IAS' Senior Management Executive Team in 2001 when he moved to IAS' major operations based at the Oakington Detention Centre. Here he took up post as the permanent Area Manager with responsibility for over 100 staff members. He gained universal respect for his knowledge and mastery of a number of complicated strategic pilots introduced by the government, as well as an in depth understanding of the 'Fast-Track' processes operating through

out the government's detention estate. He was comprehensively involved in influencing and shaping government policy on immigration detention, legal practice and policy as a senior stakeholder representing the interests of vulnerable detainees being processed through the government's 'One Stop' and 'Fast-Track' policies whilst held in immigration detention.

He ran IAS' operations at Oakington until 2008 when he took voluntary redundancy to focus on his career as a Judge at the former Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (AIT). He was appointed as an Immigration Judge in 2006, and sat regularly at the AIT in Sheldon and Walsall, Birmingham, whilst continuing to head up operations at Oakington. He moved to the IAC at Taylor House in September 2010, where he currently continues to sit as a Judge deciding appeals from those subject to immigration control.

Saad Meah is an avid supporter and an advocate of the state/comprehensive schooling system as well as an active promoter and believer in work related apprenticeships and life experience based vocations over entrenched reliance on academic qualifications. He is a firm believer in supporting community based initiatives and resources. He also actively supports a variety of charities including Islamic Relief, The Terrence Higgins Trust, Shelter, OXFAM, NSPCC and UNICEF.



Faruk Miah MBE

Sector:
Education

Faruk Miah MBE was born in Jagonnathpur, Sunamgonj. He is the eldest child of late Hazi Abdul Wahid.

Faruk is currently the Head of Programmes for Business, ICT, Languages, Health & Fitness curriculum for Idea Store Learning the Adult & Community Education service of Tower Hamlets Council. He is passionate about teaching & learning and the opportunity to make a positive difference to people's lives.

Prior to joining Tower Hamlets Council in June 2010, Faruk worked in the Further Education sector in Leeds, West Yorkshire for nearly 20 years primarily at Park Lane College (now Leeds City College) firstly as an ICT lecturer before spending nearly 10 years as a Manager. Working closely with the British Council and UKTI he also played a key role in the development of the College's International

Strategy in South Asia and Middle East to promote the College and recruit international students for LCC.

Faruk gained his Certificate in Education from the University of Leeds whilst studying for his B.A. (Hons) in Management at Leeds Met.

Over the years Faruk has made significant contribution on the Boards of various business, community, faith and cultural organisations. He is currently a Governor at Caterham High School in Redbridge and Chair of Education on the CMF Executive Board. He is also the presenter of "Community Matters" a current affairs TV programme on NTV Europe.

Faruk is a keen traveller having been to many parts of Europe, Middle East, South Asia, Far East, Africa and USA. Australasia and South America are next on his wish list.

In recent years Faruk has received a number of national and international awards in recognition of his contribution to the Further Education sector including the 2006 Channel S Community Award for Outstanding Contribution to the British-Bangladeshi Community, the 2009 Star Award (finalist) for Teaching & Learning. In January 2010 he received an MBE from the Queen for services to Further Education and the Community in Leeds. In July 2010 he received an Outstanding Contribution award at the British Community Honours Awards held at the House of Lords.



Al-Haj M. Noor Miah

Sector:
*Catering and Community
Relations*

Alhaj Md, Noor Miah, son of Alhaj Shahid Ullah and Aftera Bibi, was born on October 7th 1953 at the village Suratpur under Usmaninagar Upazilla in Sylhet. He arrived in the UK in may 1969.

He studied in the local pathshala during his stay in Bangladesh. His father came to the UK in 1957. He is one four brothers and two sisters. He came to Walsall and has been living in the same area since his arrival in this country along with his mother and other two brothers.

After coming here he took an english language course in Walsall and Birmingham. At first he started to work with 'Royal Bengal restaurant' in Walsall where he worked from late 1969 to late 1970. Then he started his own business by opening a restaurant 'Golden Curry House' at Sparkbrook, Birmingham which he ran from mid 1971 to mid 1974. He subsequently started 'Surma Tandoori Restaurant' in Walsall with two partners early 1975. He opened another business 'Rose of India Restaurant' in Stourbridge, west midlands from early 1978-1982. In the mean time his family and himself ran as many as fifteen restaurants in different areas such as 'Tandoori Mohol Restaurant' in Stafford and others in Aldridge. At present he runs 'Dilshad Restaurant' at Oldswinford in Stourbridge since (Est 1982) and 'Balti Bazaar Restaurant' in Lye Stourbridge opened 1996, also 'Stone cross Balti' in West Bromwich since 2002 and 'Mirchi Restaurant' at Quarry Bank since 2001. He also owns 'H&J Sarees' at Walsall since 1993 till now. He opened a new business enterprise name 'Alpha Drive Merry Hill Ltd' in May 2008 in Stourbridge.

He is the Chairman of Walsall Bangadeshi Progressive Society and has been since 1989.

He is married to Monwara Khanom on January 1, 1978 and they are blessed with three daughters and two sons. They are Hajera khanom, graduated from Wolverhampton University, Johura Khanom graduated from Walsall college, Fatima Khanom complete Alevel, Md, Malik Miah graduated from Derby University and Md Ruman Miah studying hifz at Kidderminster Madrassa.

He was the chairman of Bangladesh Youth League in 1983-84 and vice chairman of Bangladesh Islamic Association and mosques for two years. He was awarded BBL Award in 2008 as a businessman.



Anawar Babul Miah

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Mr Anawar Babul Miah was born in 1972 and hails from Holiarpara, Jagganathpur Thana in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh. He is the son of Alhaj Barik Miah, the Chairman of Barik Miah Investments UK.

Anawar was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1998, and has since established a reputation both in Britain and Bangladesh as one of the top practising Barristers of Bangladeshi heritage in the United Kingdom. He practices law from Great James Street Chambers in London, listed in the Legal 500 directory of 'Who's Who in the Law', and this has surely come about because of his involvement in many high profile legal cases. His chambers have been involved in notable cases including acting in cases associated with the September 11th attacks in New York and cases involving the Enron Corporation of America scandal. His chambers have also been involved in publications such as the leading authority on Extradition and Mutual Assistance published by Sweet and Maxwell and 'Blackstone's Guide to the Terrorism Act 2006' published by Oxford University Press.

Anawar also has a direct access licence from The General Council of the Bar through which he advises high net worth individuals and companies directly. Anawar has written numerous articles on law and current affairs which have been published. Aside from his life in law, Anawar is involved in his family business which owns and operates an extensive network of different companies.

Anawar is married to Sony Sadaf Haroon, who is also a Barrister of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, and the daughter of Haroon Rashid, the Chairman of Haroon Group in Dhaka. Anawar and Sony have two sons (Mikhaail and Daniyaal) and two daughters (Saarah and Saasha). Anwar's wife recently set up her own firm.

Anawar's pastimes include travelling, reading English literature and studying traditional English architecture. He divides his time between his homes in Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire and Dhaka.



Jusna Begum Miah

Sector:
Legal

Jusna Begum Miah is a barrister and practice manager at M R Solicitors. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1998.

Jusna comes from the village of Patkura, Mondoli Bhug, Jagannathpur. Her father is Mr Anis Rahman and her mother Mrs Fulesa Khatun.

Mrs Miah completed her primary education in Bangladesh, before coming to the UK where she obtained seven GCSE's and also three A Levels. She then read law at the University of Westminster, and after completing her LLB (Hons) she embarked on the Bar Vocation Course at BPP Law School. After being called she has worked as a barrister from M R Solicitors.

Prior to her legal career, Jusna Begum Miah was a bilingual health care assistant at the Royal London Hospital for some eight years from 1990.

She was then elected as a Councillor in May 1998, for St Peters Ward, Bethnal Green. This made her the first elected Sylheti female

Councillor in Tower Hamlets.

Whist a Councillor Jusna served on numerous panels, including the education and housing scrutiny panels. She was also a member of the board of directors for Spitalfields community Trust and a member of Toynbee housing, to name a few. Mrs Miah is also a patron for Tower Hamlets Parent Centre.

Jusna is also deeply connected with both British as well as Bangladeshi Politics.

Here she is a member of the Labour Party, and has been a delegate on EC, GMC and LGC and also a student and Youth officer for the Bethnal Green and Bow Constituency, she was also chair of the Whitechapel ward from 2002 to 2004. In relation to Bangladeshi politics, Jusna is President of the UK BNP Mohila Dal and has represented them in the Houses of Parliament.

Furthermore, she is the Chairperson for Bangladesh Female Academy UK Committee, a post she has held since April 2007.

Jusna Begum Miah makes regular appearances on the various British Bangladeshi television channels such as Channel S and Bangla TV, including the talk shows and legal advice programmes. She has also received numerous accolades, including the Channel S award in 2006 and the Lekkhok Somithy UK award in 2002.

Jusna Begum Miah is married to Mohammed Farid Uddin and they reside in London.



Rohema Miah

Sector:
Civil Service

Rohema Miah is an experienced political advisor having worked over the past ten years with a number of senior politicians.

She has served as a political assistant to Ms Oona and the Rt. Hon. Harriet Harman QC. MP as well as other recognised politicians.

Throughout her career, Ms. Miah has campaigned for the need for equal opportunities and better community relations and continues in her role as BAME Advisor. She has demonstrated a commitment to end social exclusion and child poverty in addition to her campaign for sustainable development. She has visited Bangladesh on numerous occasions with senior politicians and celebrities and has campaigned strongly on the issue of global warming.

Among many of her achievements, Ms. Miah has helped launch the English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) Consultation for DUIS Minister John Denham MP as well as delivering numerous Executive Public Affairs roles for high profile government initiatives.

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Earlier this year Ms Miah organised and co-ordinated the Ethnic Catering Alliance Rally held in Trafalgar Square She is also an advisor to various Asian and non-Asian organisations including the International Commission of Peace (ICOP) and the Muslim Women's Network; part of an initiative set up by the former Minister for Trade and Investment, the Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP.

She was a Director for the Commission on British Muslims and Islamophobia and Jermaine Jackson's NGO, Earthcare International as well as serving as the Policy and Development Officer for the Centre of Muslim Affairs (2006-2007).

Within the last few years, she has also coordinated interfaith projects to create a better understanding such as Alif Aleph, an organisation promoting dialogue between Muslims and Jews. As an Ambassador for peace for a UN affiliated organisation Ms Miah visited Palestine and the Gaza and has lobbied continuously on the plight of the Palestinians and for the removal of the Apartheid Wall Ms Miah was an Executive Founding member and Press Officer for the Muslims for Labour Group (2003-2005) as well as a Political Consultant Advisor for the launching of the of UMCOR/Muslim Aid Partnership in Parliament.

Her present activities include being a Trustee at the Henna Foundation and a Political Affairs Advisor for MUSIAD UK.



Sajjad Miah

Sector:
Community relations

Sajjad Miah was born in Rasulpur, Jagannathpur Upzila. His father was late Haji Estak Ullah. Sajjad Miah came to the UK with his father in 1967. He completed his secondary education in Birmingham and then moved to Surrey in 1970 to work as a waiter.

During the struggle of independence of Bangladesh, Sajjad Miah participated in almost all public meetings and demonstrations, and played active role as a youth activist. In 1974, he moved to Brick Lane, where racist attacks were a regular occurrence that time. To fight against this discrimination, Mr. Miah, with the help of the then general secretary of the Bangladesh Welfare Association Ataur Rahman Choudhury, formed a youth group called Bangladesh Youth Association in 1976. He was the founder and treasurer of the organization, and later served as the general secretary.

In 1980, Sajjad Miah became a member of London Jamme Masjid Trust which is now known as Brick Lane Jamme Masjid Trust. Later in that year, he was elected senior joint secretary of Bangladesh Welfare Association. He was also elected parent governor at Thomas Buxton Infant and Junior School. He later became the chair of Tower Hamlets Law Centre.

Mr. Sajjad Miah was elected as councilor for Weaver's Ward in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in 1990. In 1992, he became the chair of the Bethnal Green Neighborhood. He was also a director of the Bethnal Green City Challenge, and was one of the founders of Tower Hamlets Parents Centre along with Gulam Mor-tuza.

Mr. Sajjad Miah is currently serving as the vice-president of Brick Lane Jamme Masjid Trust (London) Ltd, chairperson of Collective of Bangladeshi School Governors, treasurer of Tower Hamlets Parents Centre, EC member of Jagannathpur British Bangla Education Trust, and organizing secretary of the UK Awami League.



Shanur Miah

Sector:
Retail

Shanur Miah was born on the in February 1964, in the village of Araihaal in Moulavibazar Sador. His father is Haji Md Askir Miah (Akhonji) and mother Faizun Nessa.

He started his primary education in Monurmukh Govt Primary School in Moulavibazar, he passed his SSC examination in 1984 from Monurmukh High School. Also as part of his early student life he attended in Sylhet Cadet College, to gain admission there he had to complete class four and five in a year, he did not study there for long, he studied there for one and a half years and then returned back to Monurmukh High School and finished his high school education there. After high school study, he was admitted to Habibullah Bahar College in Dhaka in 1984, he could not finish his studies there because his father had been living in the UK since the second world war till now and wanted him and the rest of his family to join him.

He then came to the UK in 1988, he took a two year course in BTEC Electronics in Brixton College in London. Later on he started work in an off licence shop and worked there for two years. He did not feel happy working there, he felt as though he wanted to do something more with his life. So one day he came to Brick Lane to visit a friend's shop, which was Sangeeta Music shop, he liked everything about the shop because it provided books, magazines, newspapers and music from Bangladesh. After visiting the shop he felt that this was his future to provide for the Bangladeshi Community in the UK.

He dedicated himself in Sangeeta for seven years from 1991 to 1998, the owner invited him to be a partner of Sangeeta which he happily accepted.

Now Shanur Miah is a successful and proud owner of Sangeeta. He resides with his wife Shahanara Akther and three children.



Sheikh Sujat Miah

Sector:
Politics



Sheikh Sujat Miah is internationally renowned for his politics, social service and hard work to alleviate poverty. He is the elected MP in the last election held in 2011 in Hobigunj.

Mr. Miah was born in 1957 in Hobigunj to the veteran social worker Al-Haj Abdul Jabbar and Sheikh Amina Bibi Choudhury. He came to the UK in 1969 and passed his BSc from Loughborough College, England. He also underwent a training of hotel and catering management, and health and security matters.

At present Mr. Miah has a business in the UK worth £2.5 millions. He owns the renowned restaurant 'Mughal-E-Ajam' which is the winner of many awards for excellent service. The other businesses are Himalayas Tandoori Restaurant, Kohinoor Tandoori, Star of India, export-import organisation Sheikh Enterprise and property business Rothvale Properties Limited. He has different businesses

in Nobigunj, including Sharif Timber Merchant, Ashab Medical Stores Golden Plaza Shopping Centre.

Mr Miah is also known for his charitable activities in Bangladesh. He contributed to the building of Chargaon Primary School, Balla-Dhaipur Kalasha Academy, mosque in the Mirpur Girls High School, Narpur Madrasah. He was the convenor of Nottingham Youth Cultural Society of Bangladesh and member of the executive committee of Nottingham Islamic Centre. He is also the chairman of Nottinghamshire Bangladesh Cultural and Welfare Society, chair of the East Midland region of Bangladesh Caterers Association, chair of the East Midland region of Greater Sylhet Council and executive member of the Dine Bangladeshi Campaign in UK.

Mr. Miah has been active in politics for a long time. He has been

serving as the BNP East Midland President since 1981. He was elected as the MP from Nobigunj-Bahubol constituency in 1996. He was reelected in 2011. During his last tenure while the Khaleda Zia government was ruling the country, he was instrumental in managing two ambulances in the Nobigunj-Bahubol Health Complex. Mr Miah is married to Abeda Sultana. They have three daughters and two sons.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S WHO 2013





Tommy Miah

Sector:
Catering/Hospitality

Celebrity Chef Tommy Miah is one of the leading Bangladeshi businessmen in the United Kingdom where he owns the award-winning Raj Restaurant in Edinburgh, and has substantial property interests.

Edinburgh is also the home of his uniquely inspired Original Raj Hotel Group of individually styled Indian-themed boutique hotels. Without any formal training, qualifications, or background knowledge Tommy was attracted to catering trade in the UK. When he was 17 he had started his own small takeaway.

He then moved to Edinburgh where after being involved with a couple of well-regarded restaurants, he raised enough cash to buy a near derelict cinema, which was transformed to the Raj Restaurant. It attracts a discerning clientele --writers, businessmen, sportsmen, politicians and public servants --and provided a firm foundation for business development.

Tommy is the founder and promoter of the International Indian Chef of the Year Competition: the most prestigious event in the Indian culinary calendar.

He has diverse business interests in Bangladesh and commitments including his signature restaurant The Heritage. He has regular cookery programmes on Bangladeshi TV and an increasing interest in projects, ranging from clothing and textiles to food manufacturing.

His reputation as a media celebrity and TV chef, coupled with wide experience of international dining and catering, led to the foundation of the City & Guilds approved Tommy Miah Institute of Hospitality Management in Dhaka to train young Bangladeshis and equip them to succeed in the international hospitality industry.

Zee TV screened a full-length documentary on Tommy's career, which was also featured by BBC2's Working Lunch business programme in the UK. Tommy made it to the Guinness Book of Record by cooking, single-handed, the world's largest curry -- which was then sold portion by portion to visitors at a large exhibition.

He is now working to expand his Original Raj Hotel Group chain of boutique hotels and launched a London hotel in 2009.

His work for charities, both in Bangladesh and the UK, includes Cancer Research UK, Shishu Polli (Sreepur Village), Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), and ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital. He has also been auctioned for several thousand pounds at a time at big Charity Balls, with an offer to cook for up to 100 diners anywhere in the world. He has written five recipe books for UK charities.



Sufi Miah

Sector:
Media/Real Estate

Sufi Miah is the Managing Director of ATN Bangla UK and an experienced property developer with a portfolio of properties across England. Within a space of 10 years, Sufi moved his home from a deprived part of Camden to a luxury villa with a swimming pool in one of UK's most expensive areas of Cuffley, Hertfordshire. He now owns a choice of luxury vehicles ranging from Aston Martin to Range Rover but Sufi still remembers his humble days when he did not have enough money for a bus fare.

Sufi Miah and his family came to the UK in the early 1980's, he is the third son of Haji Abdur Rahman, and was born in Chandshir Kapon village of Bishwanath in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh.

His early childhood life started from a deprived inner city London borough of Camden, living in a small over-crowded flat in a council block, his parents worked hard to support the family. Sufi attended Sir William Collins School but after seeing his parents struggle to support the family he took on the challenge to improve their situation and to give them a better quality of life.

He would get up very early before school started, so that he could go out and distribute local newspapers. After school he worked at a local confectionary shop until late in the evening. During the weekends he used to work outside in the cold on a market stall in Camden Market, where he would start work at the crack of dawn and finished his shift the evening. The money that he made he gave it towards his parent's kitty so they do not have to work so hard. Sufi's determination came from his father, a hardworking man who gave up everything for his children and always taught them to strive to become better people.

Sufi described those early teenage years of his life as the defining moment of his life. He says with passion: "I was someone that took challenges in life in my stride. I worked hard, knowing that I had to take responsibility, helping my father to support my family. In those years I learnt the values of hard work, family commitment and dedication that has made me the person I am today".

After finishing school and also gaining experience in various jobs, Sufi realised that to progress he needed mainstream retail experience and understand its operational activities. He took on a job as a Sales Assistant at Clarks. His ability to engage with customers and bubbly nature was very quickly spotted by the management, which helped in elevating him quickly to become the Branch Manager at the company's flagship store in Oxford Street.

It was clear that at a young age Sufi had an entrepreneurial spirit and with his early days of working on the market stalls gave him the street-smart edge that enabled him to spot a deal. Sufi's first business venture was in buying and selling cars, he did that on the side of his full-time job at Clarks. The car sales was making him profit but not enough to make a real difference, as someone for whom Sir Richard Branson was the ultimate role model, that was never going to be enough.

He decided to research and explore the opportunities in the property market. With his father's advice and guidance he embarked on the property ladder and made his first house purchase at the tender age of just 20 years old. That was the catalyst for a successful property portfolio that he has grown from the mid 1990's and that is still growing today.

Aside from property development Sufi is also known in the Bangladeshi community for producing, financing and organizing high profile events. He was one of the pioneers in the Bangladeshi community for organising live international mega star studied shows. This was working in partnership to deliver the 'Ekta Shahed Ali Upohaar' cultural show as well as the BIMA (Bangladesh International Media Awards), the first ever live telecast show held in London. This enabled him to hold unique events in prestigious locations such as the London and Wembley Arenas, Royal Festival Hall, and most notably, the iconic Tower of London. Sufi is also active in various charities, the most prominent one is in a poor village in Bangladesh, Zakigonj where he solely funds the running of a Madrasha. In the near future he intends to develop this Madrasha to help students who wish to complete a Hafiz course.

Currently Sufi is in the process of expanding his business and has a number of employees managing his portfolio. Sufi is married to Mrs Shumi Islam, who is also his business partner, and they are blessed with 3 children, Sahil, Isha and Niyaz.

Sufi and his son Sahil are passionate supporters of Arsenal football club and they are both season ticket holders. Sahil is a talented footballer and is currently being professionally coached regularly, he is keen to play professional football. However if he has any of his fathers' dedication, skill and commitment, he already possesses the strong foundations to make this a reality.



Md Harun Miah

Sector:
Business

Md Harun Miah comes from the village of Lamachandanpur under Budhbari Bazar Union in Golapong Upazilla of the Sylhet District. His father is Alhaj Moboshir Ali and his mother Surojan Bibi. Mr Miah came to the UK in 1972 where he completed his O'Levels. Md. Harun Miah is married to Minara Begum and they have four children, two sons and two daughters. An eminent business personality and established Social Worker, Harun Miah has played a vital role in the field of Social Services. He is associated closely with many Socio – Cultural and Social Welfare Organisations both inside and outside of the country. Harun Miah is one of the Trustees of the London Based Bangladesh Centre, a Member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association UK, Trustee of the Golapong Education Trust and a member of the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (BBCC).

He was also the treasurer of the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee, as well as being a member of the British Cheque Cashers Association and UKMTA and is also Chairman of Al-Emdad School and College. Mr Miah owns a number of business under the

Kushiara name which include 'Kushiara Cash & Carry', Kushiara Financial Services worldwide money transfer and bureau de change and Kushiara Travels Ltd in Commercial Road East London. In addition he is also the owner of Bangla Frozen Food Ltd and a newsagent situated in Burslem Street, London.

Md Harun Miah has not only worked hard in the UK to distinguish himself but also has worked relentlessly in his Home country of Bangladesh where he was one of the individuals who helped establish and build Glolapongj Lamachandanpur Jame Masjid and he made a valuable contribution towards the construction of a village

road in Chandanpur and a bridge in Kotlipara – Bashantapur Road in 1984. He is Director of Shahjalal Islami Bank in Bangladesh and has been appointed as Vice Chairman of the bank from 2010 to 2013, and has invested in Dhaka Stock Exchange. He is also a director of Pritom Hotel and Holiday Planet in Dhaka. Mr Miah has been a long serving pillar of the community not only as a distinguished Social

Worker but as a successful Business Man setting up beneficial organisations in the UK and in Bangladesh and has been dividing his time between both countries



Ahfaz Miah

Sector:
Business

Ahfaz Miah is the managing director of the UKAY Group limited. Having been established in 1978, UKAY Group has grown to be one of the most successful business groups within the Asian community. Son of Late Mr Alhaj Abul Motin, born in the village of Doli Para (Shek Para), Amtoli Bazar Biswanath, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Ahfaz Miah came to the UK in 1970 where he was educated.

Mr Miah qualified as a professional motor mechanic and was employed at a garage whilst finishing off his education. However, in 1978, Mr Miah decided to open a leather garment manufacturing factory, which immediately received a great response from the British motorcycle industry.

Subsequently, Mr Ahfaz Miah's partner and family decided to expand and open East London's first Asian food supermarket to cater for the Asian communities needs. The Bangladeshi entrepreneur group then turned their attention to the clothing industry, which led to the formation of the UKAY International Saree centre. He has

also set up an online retail business: www.ukayshop.com. The pioneering group later opened the first Bengali owned 22 carat gold jewellery shop 'UKAY International Jewellery.

This was the first in the UK as well as Europe and America. The jewellery shop caters for all types of Indian designs as well as diamond and wedding sets. The group have three branches of the jewellery store: Whitechapel, Green Street and Poplar. He also has a very impressive property portfolio.

Mr Ahfaz Miah is also one of the directors of United Airways Airline set up Bangladesh by the British Bangladeshi community.

He is also trustees of Islamic projects such as the Morkazul Ulum Madrasah in Dalston, London.



Mohammed Mohed Ali (Mitu)

Sector:
Business and community relations

Currently one of the top ten chefs in the UK, Mr. Mohammed Mohed Ali (Mitu) has also been the founder president of UK Awami League Sheffield City Branch since 2004. From January 29, 2011, he has become the National Executive Member of the UK Awami League. A prominent restaurateur, he is also the vice chairman of Probashi Balagonj Osmani Nogar Adesha Upozilla Sommittee and the president of Kuwait-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Mr. Mohammed Mohed Ali (Mitu) was born in Sheffield to Mr. Montaz Ali and Mrs Jarina Bibi, but his family originally hails from Osmani Nogar, Sylhet. He opened his first restaurant in 1990. Since then he has invested in catering industry, properties and cash and carry hotels both in the UK and abroad.

He is the owner of British Bangladeshi Ahnam Asset Ltd. and a director of Dhaka Regency Five Star Hotel and Resort.

A member of the British Bangladeshi Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Ali is the president of Development Council for Bangladesh in UK, Sheffield City Branch and joint convenor of Probashi Kallyan Bank Ltd.

He has also donated heavily to charity, and helped build an Academic Babbon and Goala Bazar High School. He donated 15 lacs Taka in his local Osmani Nogar Balagonj Upozilla to help the victims of the 2004 Bangladesh flood.

Mr. Ali has also contributed to build a gate for the No.1 Lamakazi Union Office in Biswanath Upozilla.

Mr. Ali is presently the executive director of Aporupa Housing Development and a shareholder of International Metal Industry (IMI), which was originally founded by his father. He is the director of Eastern Foods Yorkshire Ltd. Cash and Carry in Sheffield and currently the owner of Saffron Indian Take Away.

Mr. Mohammed Mohed Ali (Mitu) is married to Mrs Rabiya Begum. They have two sons and two daughters who are Rushna Begum Ali, Mohammed Ibrahim Ali, Fathima Begum Ali and Mohammed Ahnam Ali. The family reside in Sheffield.



Dr. Mohammed Salam
JP

Sector:
Local Government and Community Relations

Dr. Mohammed Salam was born in Dhaka and is married with three children. Dr. Salam graduated from Dhaka University and obtained his Master Degree from the University of Rajshahi. He studied at the University of Bradford and was conferred with a Doctorate Degree. He also gained Membership of British Institute of Management in UK. and Associate Membership of Institute of Training & Development in UK. Dr. Salam has had a distinguished career having served in British Local Government for 28 years. He was the first Bangladeshi appointed as a Principal Race Relations Adviser in UK.

During the 1971 Liberation Movement of Bangladesh, Dr. Salam led the movement of Bangladeshi Students within the universities in UK. Dr. Salam has worked closely with Late Justice Abu Syed Chowdhury (ambassador-in-exile for Bangladesh and latter first President of independent Bangladesh). Dr. Salam produced & published a weekly Mukthi Joddhu newspaper called "Proloy" to propagate the cause of Bangladesh Liberation Movement in UK & Europe. Dr. Salam established Bangladesh Mission in Bradford. Following the independence of Bangladesh, Dr. Salam formed a national organisation for the Bangladeshi Community called "Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in United Kingdom and Europe" in 1972 (FOBA). He remained as Secretary General of the Federation for about 12 years.

Dr. Salam was the Vice-chair of United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service (UKIAS) 1975 to 1988. He helped to set up UKIAS offices in Sylhet. Dr. Salam was the lead mediator to resolve the conflict of British Government & the Bangladesh Government at the time of the introduction of DNA testing for entry clearance for dependents.

Dr. Salam formed a charitable trust to help and support the Sidr cyclone victims of Bangladesh. He is a Trustee & Director of many institutions at a local, national and international level. Moreover, he is a Justice of the Peace for Bradford Bench and Chair of the Adult Court has been performing civic duties on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen for the last 19 years.



Hasina Momtaz

Sector:
Communications/media

Hasina Momtaz is a communications, media relations and stakeholder engagement expert with over a decade of experience in this field. She advised at the heart of London government for almost nine years, providing strategic and operational media relations counsel to the previous Mayoral incumbent, Ken Livingstone for five years, until the 2008 London Mayoral elections saw Boris Johnson take over the helm in London. During her time at City Hall, Hasina advised on some of the biggest breaking news stories such as the London bombings.

In 2011, Hasina left the Mayor's Press Office to take on a new challenge as Deputy Head of News and Media Relations for the Local Government Association (LGA), a high profile membership body for over 400 local authorities across England and Wales. In this senior management position, Hasina helped lead a team of communications professionals as well as providing strategic media relations advice to the Chair, Chief Executive and Board members.

In her current role as Stakeholder Communications Manager for Transport for London, Hasina is responsible for looking after TfL's external stakeholder engagement strategy with high profile stakeholders such as MPs, the London Assembly and the Mayor's Office as well as advising on

media relations and internal employee engagement strategies.

She is also a freelance media consultant and has advised organisations such as community groups, voluntary organisations and membership bodies on media relations and stakeholder engagement.

She anchors a weekly English news programme called Weekly News Highlights on leading Bangladeshi TV station, NTV Europe, bringing the top breaking news stories from Bangladesh, the UK and Europe to a diverse audience in the UK and throughout Europe. She is also in demand as a presenter and host for many community and media events.

In 2009, Hasina was shortlisted for the 'Media Professional of the Year' award in the prestigious Asian Women of Achievement Awards.

Hasina is a Board Director and Director of Media for the British Bangladesh Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs (BBCWE), a dynamic organisation which aims to support businesses of all sizes run by women as well as create and nurture the female business leaders of the future.

She is included in the "British-Bangladeshi Who's Who" which is an annual publication highlighting the most successful and influential members of the British-Bangladeshi community.



Jamal Uddin Mokkaodus

Sector:
Catering

Mr. Jamal Uddin Mokkaodus is well known in the Britain Bangladeshi community for his business reputation and social service. Born in Mondolpur village of greater Sylhet, Mr. Jamal Uddin came to UK in 1973 after completing his school. He started his career in the catering industry, and after some days began his own restaurant business.

He started a number of restaurants. His reputation spread all over Britain. Significant among his restaurants are Bilas Tanduri, Palash, Titas Raj, Garden of India, Bhojon Restaurant. The Bhojon restaurant achieved a very good reputation.

Mr. Jamal Uddin has other businesses, too, including like property business. He is a director of the Homeland Insurance Company, a chief insurance sector of Bangladesh. He is also the UK based finance director of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce, the director

of the Garden of India (Harlow), senior patron of Raj (Epping), the chairman of the Essex Bangladeshi Caterers Association, and the founder of Executive Bhojon and the Jamal Uddin High School.

Mr. Jamal Uddin has been tirelessly serving for the development of his community. As a member of the Conservative Party, he has close ties with Bangladeshi politics. Zia ur Rahman being his idol, he is also a member of the UK branch of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Mr. Jamal Uddin has immense contribution in establishing the non resident Bangladeshi cell in Sylhet. In 1979 he married Rokeya Uddin, the daughter of the celebrated peer Tahir Ali of Hazari gaon. He has three children, all of them holding University degrees. At present Mr. Jamal Uddin lives with his family in Hounslow.





Rowshanara Moni

Sector:
Arts

Rowshanara Moni was born in the Moulvibazar district town in Bangladesh. She is the sixth child of Late Mohammed Samroo who was a very well known business man in the UK, and Syeda Sufia Kanum, her mother who was actively involved in politics in Bangladesh.

Rowshanara Moni has completed her primary education in Bangladesh and came to the UK in 1984 when she was only 10 years old. She completed her education in the UK. She has been singing since the age of six. Music is her passion and she can live for it. After coming to UK she joined Dishari Shilpi Gushti and performed in many stage programmes. When she was only 11 she performed in the Royal Albert Hall for the "Save the Children Foundation" and she was singing in front of the honourable guest Princess Anne.

In 1985 she took part in the Bengali Song Contest which was organised by Tower Hamlets Borough, and won 1st prize in Folk song. In 1986 she won 2nd prize in folk song and modern song and 1987 and 1988 she won 2nd prize in modern song and folk song. She has received many other awards and certificates from different organisations. Apart from singing she took great interest in acting. The first stage drama she took part in is "Khotto Bikkhoto" in Camden and she also took part in many other stage dramas. She acted in the first Bangla TV (UK) drama, which was called "Laal Golap" written by Abdul Gaffer Chowdhury. Rowshanara Moni regularly took part in radio dramas in the "Sunrise Radio" Bengali department with Azizul Hakim. She became well known to the Bangladeshi community as a result. She was a presenter for "Sunrise Radio" in the Bengali department.

At the age of 18 she got married in Bangladesh to Mr Mohammed Iqbal who was a Civil Engineer at the Water Development Board in Bangladesh. She has one child who is called Aynan Shabab Iqbal. Rowshanara Moni sang in all leading channels in the UK and from time to time she goes to Europe to perform.

In July 2009 she organised a fund raising event for the late baul shamraat Shah Abdul Karim and raised £10000 for his rehabilitation. In 2010 she has again organised a thanks giving award to those who helped raise £10000 for baul shamraat Shah Abdul Karim in 2009.

She is involved in charity work too. In addition, she has great interest in politics both in the UK and Bangladesh. She is the current Women Affairs Secretary for the Bangladesh Nationalist Party in UK. At present she is working full time in NHS as a medical administrator.



Ghulam Mortuza

Sector:
Politics

Former Councillor and former Mayor Ghulam Mortuza is more commonly known for being the first Bangladeshi Mayor of Tower Hamlets. He was born in the village of Narikeltola of Jaggannathpur Thana under Sunamgonj district and attended the 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. He initially completed an English language course; and 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 named AM Fashion in East London. He later helped establish East Community School and got himself involved in actively promoting education to the Bangladeshi community. Mr Mortuza formed the Parents-Teachers Association at Canon Burnet which consisted of parents and teachers.

He supported the establishment of Jalabad Bangladeshi Parents Association in Tower Hamlets of which he became the founding secretary.

Actively involved in addressing housing issues he established Tenant Association in the area of Spitalfields 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 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 Spitalfields ward, he was also chairman of the Labour party in the Spitalfields ward.

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 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 Spitalfields 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 is married to Aleya Mortuza and they are blessed with five daughters and one son.



M A Munim

Sector:
Catering and community relations

Mohammed Abdul Munim was born in 1958 in Kulaura Upozila in the District of Moulvibazar, the son of Alhaj Abdul Bari, a renowned contractor and businessman.

During his college life he served twice as a President of Chatra League in Sylhet Government College(MC) and twice elected general secretary of Bangladesh Chatra League Sylhet District Branch. In 1977-1981 he played a leading role in the establishment of the Sylhet Division and a university in Sylhet.

Early in 1982, Abdul Munim went to Saudi Arabia where he established successful businesses both in Jeddah and Makkah, before moving to England in 1989. In 1991 he started his own halal take-away business called "Sonali Tandoori" in Grove Park, South-East London, and in 1995 launched a successful and extensive property business.

In 1999, Mr Munim was elected as President of the Bangladesh Caterers Association's South East Region. From 2004-2006 he

served as Senior Vice-President of the BCA central committee, and since 2007 has held the role of Organising Secretary of the BCA. Mr Munim also has the responsibility as convenor of the Awards Committee and was the convenor of the 2011 Annual Dinner and Awards ceremony. He has been recently elected Secretary General of BCA.

A keen servant to the needy, Mr Munim and his family have sought to contribute towards the development of his homeland, helping to establish Masjids, Madrasas, schools and orphanages in Kulaura, and support social welfare institutions providing various forms of assistance to the poor and needy in the locality.

Mr. Munim is a trustee founder of Kulaura Yakub Tazul Womans College. Since its establishment, his younger brother Mr. M A Rouf has been serving as a principal of the college. To meet the immense demands, Mr Munim and his brother found and established a very successful and highly praised kindergarten school in Kulaura.

Mr Munim is socially active in his local community, playing a leading role in establishing a Masjid in Crayford, and is currently serving as Secretary of the North West Kent Muslim Association. He is also the founder chairman of Bangla Supplementary School in Greenwich and the Greenwich Welfare Association. Since 2000 he has been acting as a Director of the Consortium of Bengali Associations (CBA). He is also the current secretary of Sylhet Bivag Unnayan Parishad. Mr Munim has been an active member of the Labour Party since 1995.

Amongst his friends and colleagues, he is regarded to possess a softly spoken, mild-natured and honourable strong-willed personality with enviable organising capacity.



Shuyeb Muquit

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Shuyeb Muquit is the son of the late Mohammed Abdul Muquit, who's family originate from the Sunamgonj District of Bangladesh. Shuyeb's father was headmaster of the Digalbach High School prior to arriving in the UK in the mid Sixties, where he qualified as an accountant, working initially for Habib Bank and then the Inland Revenue before embarking upon private practice in Birmingham, where Shuyeb was born and raised. Shuyeb's mother, Ayesha Muquit, originates from Kulaora, and is the sister of Badrul Alam, the former General Manager of Biman Airlines.

Shuyeb completed his secondary education at King Edward Grammar School before moving to London as an undergraduate of the London School of Economics, where he studied social and economic history (and where he was President of the Bengali Society). He then completed his Diploma in Law at the University of Birmingham, returning to London to complete his Bar Vocational Course, after which he was called to the Bar of England and Wales

in 1998. Shuyeb completed his pupillage under the guidance of James Gillespie [lately known as the co-author of the Immigration Law Handbook] before joining 12 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, as a Tenant in 2000.

Shuyeb is now a barrister specialising in Public and Administrative Law and has over twenty reported cases to his credit in this field, representing clients up to the Court of Appeal. Asked to comment upon Shuyeb's proposed entry in this year's Who's Who, Manjit Gill QC wrote: 'I found Shuyeb to be a brave, imaginative and intelligent advocate whose extreme enthusiasm for the law is matched by his unrelenting concern for the interests of his client. Certainly a practitioner to watch out for...'. To the same enquiry Ian Macdonald QC wrote "I have recently led Shuyeb in a test case immigration appeal. I was impressed by his knowledge of immigration law and by his industry and hard work. I have no doubt he will go far". Shuyeb recently moved to 1 Mile Court Building, The Chambers of Lord Gifford, QC.

Shuyeb is married to Pahmida who is a pharmacist by profession; and daughter of Abu Bashir, a leading social campaigner and commentator and former head of policy at Bradford Council.

Outside his professional practice, Shuyeb is involved in various charitable ventures, not least those concerned with protecting the rights of vulnerable individuals and groups.

**Mr Nur-ur Rahman
Khandaker Pasha**

Sector:
Catering



Better known as Pasha Khandaker, is the current President of the Bangladesh Caterers Association. He is the chairman of Reliance West Mallig Limited and Principal partner of Ghandi Tandoori restaurant, in West Mallig, Kent and Gandhi Tandoori at Rye in East Sussex. Both of them have been established businesses for the last 25 years. His third venture in the restaurant sector is Curry Lounge at Romney, Kent, and is being regarded as one of the best Indian restaurants in Kent.

Pasha Khandaker was born in Sylhet in 1958. He received his school, college and University education in Bangladesh and obtained a diploma in leadership management in the UK after which he pursues a career in the restaurant business. Throughout his academic life he was heavily involved in various extra curricular activities such as student politics, setting voluntary organizations.

Mr Khandaker served continuously on the previous national executive committees of BCA and became the Senior Vice President in 2003. Then he was Secretary General up to June 2012. Mr Pasha has been a featured participant in various industry forums. He has served on a number of non-profit organizations, including the Kent police as a social trainer and was active as Senior Executive of Kent Muslim forum. He also worked as a coordinator for South East Human Rights. He is a labour party activist and worked as the CLP secretary of his party.

Throughout his career in the curry industry, he has continually established connections with many high profile policy makers through his participation in the Chamber of Commerce, local council and police and several informal business groups. Currently he is working relentlessly to raise the standard of curry industry as well as those who are related with this creative industry.

Mr Pasha is married to Mrs Dipika Pasha and the couple are blessed with two children, a boy and a girl. They reside in Kent and are actively engaged in the various social welfare activities in their neighbourhood.

In personal life Mr Pasha is very cordial and amiable, He is always engaged to serve the distressed people. He has a wide range of interests including reading, gardening, traveling and updating himself with the latest world affairs.

Syed Nahas Pasha

Sector:
Media



Syed Nahas Pasha is one of the most respected senior British-Bangladeshi journalists in the UK and the editor in chief of the Weekly Janomot, a Bangla newspaper established in 1969. Syed is also editor in chief of restaurant magazine Curry Life and UK bureau chief of the largest Bangladeshi online news agency, bdnews24.com. He is one of the founding members and former general secretary of the London Bangla Press Club, which acts as a voice for British Bangladeshi journalists. Syed also sits in the executive committee of Commonwealth Journalists Association.

Syed Nahas Pasha was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1957. He was the second son of a family of three boys and a girl. He came to Britain in 1976. He joined the famous Sonali Bank, the only one to cater specifically for the needs of Britain's expanding Bangladeshi community. After several years in the Bank, he moved to start his own catering business. From a very early age Pasha, a born idealist, was attracted to journalism.

At school he was one of the top performers in the Bengali language and literature. His longstanding love affair with the profession of journalism began at school. He edited school magazines and during the eighties he edited a literary magazine 'EESHAN'.

In the 1970s there were hardly any Bangladeshi foreign correspondents in London, especially with the journalistic skills of Pasha. To this day he remains a regular contributor to some prominent Bangladeshi daily Newspapers. He was involved in full time employment with the newspaper Notun Din for about 10 years and also assisted in the establishment of Asian Post, an English Language newspaper. He later joined Potrika. After improving the status of this newspaper his friends at Janomot, Nobab Uddin and Amirul Choudhury invited him to join them as partner and Editor in Chief.

In 2003 Mr Pasha and his brother Syed Belal Ahmed published the first edition of Curry Life Magazine, a very popular magazine representing the 10,000 Bangladeshi and Indian restaurants in Britain. Mr Pasha respected for his intimate knowledge of Indian cuisine and the social and economic conditions of the industry and is frequently invited by the TV, radio and press media to comment on the latest developments.

Syed Pasha is a member of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ). In 2012, he was elected as EC member for the Commonwealth Journalists Association at their conference in Malta. Syed Pasha has attended conferences of this body in Asia and the Caribbean.

He has worked closely with the Home Office and the Foreign Office, an influential voice at seminars and conferences organised by the two government departments. He has also travelled with Government ministers and officials to France, Germany and Bangladesh.

Journalist Syed Pasha is a keen traveler and visited many countries, attended many conferences and met some of the famous world politicians. Among those are Nelson Mandela, Tony Blair and Mahathir Mohamed. Syed Nahas Pasha has two daughters and a son despite his demanding and overcrowded schedule always finds time to spend with the family.



Robin Paul

Sector:
Business

Mr. Robin Paul is a well established and respected figure in the Bengali community. Robin is a man of honesty, self belief, integrity and a man of great vision. Robin hails from Tajpur of Sylhet. His father the late Ranadhir Paul was the reputed headmaster of Sharpur Azad Bokht High School. His mother Shikha Rani Paul was a teacher by profession.

Robin came to London in 1994 while he was studying B.Sc at the Sylhet MC College. He got involved in business in 2002 and since then has enjoyed continuous success as the owner of General Auto, one the most successful and recognised accident management companies in the community. He is also one of the Directors of NRB Bank Ltd.

Robin was a footballer and a member of the Tajpur Taj Club and Balagonj Abahani Football Club. He is also member of the Balagonj Saimati and trustee he is also a secretary of Balagonj Education Trust uk. Robin is at present the vice chairman of the Bangladesh Hindu

Association, General Secretary of Sanatan Association and a member of the advisory committee of the organization Amra Tajpur Bashie.

He is a donor member of the Kashipara Shiva Temple, Biswanath Seva Ashram, Luknath Temple, Shrimongol, Kadipur Shiv Bari (Khullara) amongst others. He is also a donor member of Mangalchandi Nishikanta High School, founder member of Balagonj College and life member of Goulabazar Public Library. He is also a life member of Balagonj Press Club. A secular man, Robin is also one of the donor members of Mogbelpur Osmania Madrasah, Mulpara Dakhil Madrasah and other Islamic learning institutions.

Robin was the General Secretary of the election commission of the Balagonj Usmani Nagar Education Trust.

Robin is married to Shilpi and they are blessed with three children.



Cllr Abdul Quadir

Sector:
Politics

Abdul Quadir, an accountant by profession, was born in Bangladesh, the youngest of 6 children. His father was a school teacher. After graduating from Dhaka University he taught in a secondary school in Bangladesh. In 1971 while studying for his Accountancy qualification in the UK, he was heavily involved in the liberation movement of Bangladesh.

He has lived in Camden since 1966. His first residence was in Bloomsbury. He now lives in Primrose Hill.

Abdul is married with three children and they all went to local state schools and graduated from renowned Universities. His wife Sophie is a lecturer at a local college.

Abdul worked for a number of accountancy firms in London including Camden. Alongside his professional career Abdul has been actively involved in the challenging areas of education and community affairs. He was instrumental in setting up numerous na-

tional and local voluntary organisations and served as chairs and management committee members on many of them. He has extensive experience of being involved in various forums raising achievement of Bangladeshi children and young people and was founder Chair of The Bengali Education Centre, established in 1985

Abdul first served as a Camden Councillor from 2002-2006 when he served for two years as a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and was Deputy Mayor in 2005/6. He also served on many Scrutiny Panels. Abdul was Vice-Chair of Pension Sub-Committee, Vice-Chair Licensing Committee and a member of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

He was re-elected to Bloomsbury Ward in the 2010 local elections. During the last year he served on the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and the Audit and Corporate Governance Performance Review and Staff Appeals Sub Committees; CSF Scrutiny Committee, Holborn District Management Committee, and was Vice-Chair of Licensing Committee. He is a Director/Trustee of the Working Men's College, Director of Castlehaven Community Association, Director of Camden Central Mosque and Community Centre (CCMCC) and Vice Chair of SACRE. He was Mayor of Camden from 2011-2012.

He is a Member of the Halal Food Group and has been working for years introducing Halal food in Camden schools and formalised this position with the Council in 2006.

Dilruba Qureshi

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)



Miss Qureshi, known as Ruby, originates from Sunamganj district in Bangladesh. Her late father, Advocate Shah Abdul Malik Qureshi was a renowned lawyer, politician and a freedom fighter in Bangladesh with a successful career span of 30 years until his sudden death in year 2000. Her father played a key role in her decision to pursue a career at the Bar. She completed her primary education in Bangladesh and arrived in the UK at the age of 12. She continued with her further studies in UK and currently holds LLB (Hons) and LLM in Criminal Litigation, Sentencing and Human Rights. She embarked upon on a life at the bar to fulfil her late father's dream.

Dilruba was called to the bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 2002. She started her pupillage with Mitre Court Chambers which specialised in Landlord and tenant and bankruptcy matters. Thereafter commenced tenancy with Mitre Court Chambers dealing with Criminal defence, Immigration and civil litigation.

She joined Temple Court Chambers in 2008 December and continued to practice in the field of Immigration, Employment, Family law and Civil litigation. At present she is the deputy head of Temple Court chambers and also chair of the management committee. She is further responsible for managing and establishing international annexes for Temple Court Chambers.

Miss Qureshi stems from a family of high achievers. Her eldest sister, Israth Qureshi is a clinical scientist and at present resides in Aberdeen with her husband and two children. Two of her siblings have also followed her father's footsteps and at present practising as a qualified solicitor and in-house legal complaints officer and others are successfully engaged in different sectors. Miss Qureshi along with her family members are deeply proud of their Bangladeshi identity and being able to make a contribution to the society and their community through their services.

Murad Qureshi

Sector:
Politics



Murad Qureshi is a member of the London Assembly for the Labour Party, as an Assembly Member (AM) representing the whole of London. He was first elected in 2004, and then re-elected in both 2008 & 2012. He is currently the chair of both the Health & Environment Committee and London Waterways Commission. He is also a member of the Transport, Audit Panel Standards and Police & Crime Committee.

Murad is the eldest son of the late Cllr Mushtaq Qureshi and Khalida Qureshi. Murad's family originally hail from Shiekhpara, Sylhet Town though he grew up in West Central London where he attended his local comprehensive school Quintin Kynaston before receiving a BA (Hons) degree from the University of East Anglia (UEA) and a MSc in Environmental & Resource Economics from University College London (UCL).

Murad worked in Housing and regeneration for 15 years establishing Housing Associations & Co-ops in response to the chronic housing needs of the East End. He ended his housing career in the sector at the Housing Corporation, covering a whole spectrum of positions.

He was also an Executive Committee member of SERA (1994-2000) campaigning on green issues within the labour movement and BRAC (UK) between (2007-2012) an international NGO seeking to alleviate poverty and empower the poor in the UK and abroad.

He was also a former Councillor in the City of Westminster Council (1998-2006) for Church Street Ward thus representing neighbourhoods in Paddington & Marylebone where he grew up in and now lives in.

As a member of the Assembly, Murad's key issues and concerns feature health and environmental concerns like improvements in Londoners quality of life; improving the health of Londoners with particular emphasis on preventive measures; reviving London's rivers and canals; giving Londoners a variety of affordable travel options which incorporates sustainability and value for money; giving all Londoners a decent standard of residential accommodation and maximising the contributions of sports to the culture and civic life of London. As an avid sportsman, Murad enjoys playing cricket and football and continues to play for local teams in his neighbourhood. He has campaigned for more open playing spaces and playing fields in London and heralds the success of London 2012 Olympics to make sure its sporting legacy promotes playing fields and sporting facilities in London.



A. N. M. Serajur Rahman

Sector:
Media

Born in Noakhali, Bangladesh, in 1934. Serajur Rahman had his schooling in Calcutta, matriculating with distinction in 1947 from Mitra Institution. He was actively involved in the Mukuler Mahfil juvenile organisation and published articles and short stories in the juvenile sections of the Daily Azad, Daily Nabajug and weekly Millat of Calcutta. His initiation in broadcasting was also in Calcutta where he regularly participated in school broadcast programmes of All India Radio.

After the partition of India in 1947 he moved to Dhaka, East Pakistan, and got admitted in the Dhaka College. When the Language Movement started in 1948 Serajur Rahman joined it whole-heartedly and was elected by his college to liaise with the Dhaka University Students' Action Committee.

Serajur Rahman joined journalism in parallel with his education. After serving in the news departments of the Bi-weekly Pakistan, Daily Zindegi, Daily Insaf and the Daily Millat, he was appointed

editor of the British Information Service in Dhaka in January 1953. Under his leadership the press section was expanded eventually to 12 journalists. With their help Serajur Rahman edited a daily bilingual news bulletin, the fortnightly British Darpan (mirror) and the magazine Ajker Commonwealth.

In addition to the BIS job Serajur Rahman was also a part time leader writer (Assistant Editor) in the Daily Ittefaq from 1954 to end of 1959.

In January 1960 he joined the then East Pakistan section of the BBC World Service. By the time of his retirement in February 1994 he rose from Programme Asstt. to Producer, Senior Producer, Asstt.

Programme Organiser and Deputy Head of the much enlarged Bengali Service of the BBC.

The BBC's Bengali broadcasts under Serajur Rahman's leadership during the liberation war of Bangladesh brought hope to the people of the then East Pakistan who almost universally thronged to the BBC Bengali Service for true news of what was happening in their neighbourhoods. Though somewhat clandestinely, he also coordinated the movement's international publicity. Through years of contact he became close to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, leader of Bangladesh's independence. He also personally knew most of the top leaders of the country.



Alaur Rahman

Sector:
Arts (Singer)

Alaur Rahman came to the UK from Bangladesh in 1977 with his parents at the age of fourteen.

When arriving in the UK Mr Rahman entered into the music industry as he was already a keen musician in his native country of Bangladesh he followed what he was most passionate about in Britain. His musical inspiration is Mr Nurul Ghani, who has guided him to where he is today.

In Bangladesh Mr Alaur Rahman attended Madrasa and primary school and he used to sing music and songs there. In 1985 in Britain Mr Rahman appeared on BBC television singing folk songs. Already in a music group Mr Rahman and his group recorded their first cassette in 1985 and carried on recording on to CD. Mr Rahman was a student at Pandit Horidas Ganguly School where he was taught music by Golam Ali another great singer and musician. In 1985 Mr

Rahman got asked by numerous people to appear on BBC1 to sing music live.

He has performed on Bangladesh TV (BTV) and has won numerous awards globally. These have included awards from Z TV, Channel I, ATN, Bangla TV and Channel S where he has won awards for being the best singer.

Mr Rahman became one of the leading singers in Britain's Bengali community and in the 1990's went on to sell numerous songs and travel around the world to promote his music. Mr Rahman has been selected by Ekushe TV to be the voice of the Azan (Call to prayer). Mr Rahman moved onto making music, which was of a spiritual

and religious nature. Currently Alaur Rahman is one of the most talented music directors and performers of British Bangladeshi origin. He has released thirty six albums which included recording Hindi and Bangla songs and at present he has four albums in the pipeline awaiting release.

Mr Alaur Rahman married Mrs Rozi Rahman in 1986. They have two sons and a daughter, who are: Aniq, Rabi and Raid.





Anis Rahman OBE JP

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Anis Rahman is a practising barrister and a magistrate who was a Whitehall Civil Servant for twenty years. Mr Rahman has a double Masters degree in International history and politics and government from the University of London as well as a Law degree from the University of Westminster. Moreover, he has a postgraduate qualification in shipping law and international trade from the City University. Anis Rahman was called to the English Bar from the Honourable Society of Inner Temple and is now an accredited Pupil Master. He is a member of 12 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn.

Mr Rahman has a civil litigation background and specialises in Aviation, Employment, Housing, Family, Landlord and Tenant, Defamation, Immigration and Asylum, International Law as well as Human Rights and Judicial Review. He has been given the direct public access status by the Bar Council, which means that the public can go to him directly for advice and representation.

Outside of his profession, Mr Rahman has devoted much of his adult life in improving the quality of life of other people both here in the UK and also overseas. His achievements include the creation of United Nations Student Society combined Universities in London in 1969 as well as assisting disadvantaged British Bangladeshis. He was also the President of the United Nations Society at International Students House, London. Anis Rahman is a trustee of Toynbee Hall in East London, where he was one of the pioneers who established the free legal advice clinic. He is also a trustee of the Council of Anti-Slavery International. Additionally, he was a trustee and Advisor of the World Peace Forum, which is a charity that promotes world peace and is run under the Nelson Mandela Children's fund.

Mr Rahman also played an important role during the liberation movement, when he joined the Bangladesh Liberation movement in the UK and became a founder member of the famous Bangladeshi Student's Action Committee. Anis Rahman has served as a Justice of the Peace since 1990. Furthermore, he has been serving as an honorary legal advisor to the Muslim Council of Britain, Toynbee Hall, The Muslim News, British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh Caterers Association, Bangladesh Centre, Bangla TV and the Euro Bangla.

Mr Anis Rahman is a private and family man, he is married to Nadia Rahman, a French national. His wife has a French degree, as well as a BA (Hons) degree in Business Administration and an MBA with Distinction from the University of London.

Anis Rahman has worked relentlessly as a barrister which has led to much of his success, and in addition has provided the British Bangladeshi community with an extensive amount of support and assistance, making him one of the recognisable personalities in the legal arena. In recognition of his endeavors, Mr Rahman was awarded an OBE by Her Majesty the Queen for his services to Bangladeshis and the legal arena in 2009.



Ataur Rahman

Sector:
Legal/Community Relations

Mr Ataur Rahman has been Managing Director of Jalalabad Law Associates since 2001, dealing with legal protection of Immigration and Asylum seekers, Human Rights Cases and Family Unity cases and has been appearing before the Asylum & Immigration Tribunal regularly since 2000. Prior to this he was an employed Barrister at Mathews Solicitors, Elephant & Castle.

Mr Rahman achieved his LLB (Hons) Degree in 1998 from London Guildhall University. He has been a member of The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn since 1998 and was called to the Bar in 2000. He obtained his BSS (Hons) MSS in Political Science under the Dhaka University (Jagannath College). Moreover, he studied law at Dhaka Law College (LLB) and before coming to the UK in 1990, he was a practising lawyer at the Dhaka Bar since Oct 1987 and has been enrolled with the Bangladesh Supreme Court since 1991.

Ataur Rahman makes regular media appearances on Community Channels such as Bangla TV, Channel S and previously on Vectone Bangla. He has also been a member of the Greater Sylhet Welfare & Development Council in the UK for 15 years and was the General Secretary from 2002 to 2008. He was also a Founding Assistant General Secretary to the Nottinghamshire Bangladesh Cultural & Welfare Society between 1991 and 1996 and Project Co-ordinator of Jalalabad Skills Audit for Bangladeshi Community funded by Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham Task Force.

Ataur Rahman is an experienced campaigner, taking local issues, which have broader relevance on to the national stage. He has ef

fectively campaigned on managed migration, education, housing and racism. As a lawyer and community activist, he is a key member of the Bangladeshi and Muslim Community and has had extensive experience representing individual cases and group issues. Mr Rahman resides with his family in Redbridge, Essex.

Aziz-ur Rahman**Sector:**
Catering

Born in Mirpur, Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1958, Aziz-ur Rahman moved with parents to Oxford in 1969. Since 1978 he has opened several restaurants and take-away establishments in Oxfordshire. He opened his first restaurant at the age of twenty, called the 'Star of Asia' and this venture was an instant success. He has gained a reputation for excellence in all his restaurants. The Aziz restaurants have gained national and international recognition as one of the best in the country and have won awards, on a regular basis, for excellence over the years.

His portfolio of restaurants past and present include the 'Bilash Restaurant' opened in 1984 in Botley, Oxford, as well as the 'Polash' opened in 1988. He then opened the 'Aziz' Restaurant in 1990 and Aziz Burford as well as the Aziz waterside then 'Aziz Witney', 'Aziz Pandesia' followed in quick succession in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2006 respectively. In 1997 he established the 'Khajana'. Mr Rahman is the Director of Oxfordshire Business Enterprise, Founder Trustee of the Jagannath Pur Education Trust, Member of the Jagannath Pur Probashi (UK) Kollayan Trust; Trustee of Learn Foun-

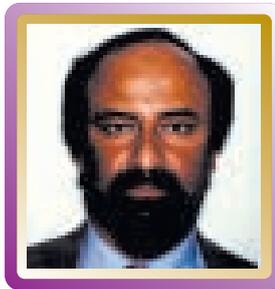
ation, and a Trustee of the Bangladesh Female Academy (UK), a Trustee and Chairman of the management committee Iqra School, Oxford. He is also Member and advisor to the Oxfordshire Bangladeshi Association, Executive Member of the Bangladeshi Mosque and Education Centre, Cowley, Oxford, as well as Director of the English Language Learning Institute (ELLI), Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Mr Aziz-ur Rahman is a founding member of European Bangladesh Federation.

He was the first Chairman of the Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs. He was the Chairman of Greater Sylhet Association UK for South East region.

Furthermore Mr Rahman remains involved in charitable causes and is associated with Oxfam over seventeen years and is particularly interested in relief projects to Bangladesh.

Mr Rahman's interests include, traveling, sports, especially football and cricket. He is a family man, married with four sons, one daughter and a grandson. He was recently awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Oxford Brookes University.

Cllr Md Mohibur Rahman**Sector:**
Politics

Md Mohibur Rahman is a highly successful entrepreneur and active member of the Labour Party in the UK. His ancestral home is in the village of Baushi, Sylhet, Bangladesh. His father, Late Habibur Rahman served in the Pakistan Army before immigrating to the U.K. During the liberation war of Bangladesh, he played an instrumental role in forming the action committee in Birmingham, that worked for the cause Bangladesh's independence. Md Mohibur Rahman came to the UK in 1970 with his Mother (Late) Korpura Khatun to join his Father.

As a student in the UK, Mr Rahman studied Accounting and Government & Politics. He owns hotels and restaurants both in the UK and abroad. He is the Managing Director of Oasis Ltd, Ahar Ltd and Modumita Ltd.

Apart from being in business, he excelled in politics as well. Mr Rahman is the ex-Chairman of the Nailsworth Labour Party. In 2000, he

was elected as the first Bangladeshi Councillor in Gloucestershire and was re-elected in 2011.

He is also known for his charitable work. Mr Rahman is the Chairman of Habibur Rahman Charitable Trust which builds homes for the needy people in Bangladesh. He is also the founder chair and trustee of the Gloucestershire Bangladeshi Association, and ex-supervisor of Stroud Credit Union.

Mr Rahman's favourite pastime is writing and reading poems. He produced a cassette containing Bengali and English verses and Mustofa Kamal of Radio Bangladesh recited them. Many of his English poems were published in the Gloucestershire Citizen.

Mr Rahman married in 1983 to Syeda Luhfun Nessa Khatun. Together they have four sons Shahedur, Sadequr, Saifur and Mustafijur. Shahedur Rohman (LLB) is a Legal Advisor for the RAC, second son Sadequr Rohman (B.A.Hons) working in Lloyds TSB, third son Saifur Rohman is studying BSc Computer Science at King's College London, and the youngest Mustafijur Rohman is studying A Levels at Cirencester College.



Habib Rahman

Sector:
Legal/NGO

Habib Rahman is the Chief Executive of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI), a high profile national independent organisation, which exists to campaign for justice in immigration, nationality, asylum and human rights law and policy. JCWI was established in 1967 and Habib has held his position since 1999.

Before joining JCWI, Habib Rahman worked for over 15 years as a Senior Caseworker with management and campaigning responsibilities at Tower Hamlets Law Centre. He embraced this opportunity to serve the deserving people of Tower Hamlets and got actively involved in many influential community organisations including Tower Hamlets Association for Racial Justice (THARJ) for which he was a founding member and acting Chairman. For a period Habib Rahman also served as a member of the Human Rights committee of the Labour Party's National Executive.

Before commencing on his professional career in the community sector Habib Rahman completed his studies at Dhaka University in Bangladesh as well as University College London.

After completion of his education, Mr Rahman joined the private sector as a manager. Whilst working in the private sector, he became aware of the poor working conditions of migrant workers in the catering industry in the United Kingdom and actively organised them to join a trade union, which led to a high profile campaign at the time.

Habib Rahman is a dedicated human rights activist and he considers himself as fortunate in the he has been able to pursue this calling in his professional life.



Mahbub Rahman

Sector:
Media

Mahbub Rahman was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1968. His father is the late Mohammed Fazlur Rahman. Mr Rahman's early education was in Dhaka, and subsequently he completed his secondary and higher secondary education in Sylhet before obtaining his degree.

Mahbub Rahman took his first step into the world of journalism by writing articles for various national publications whilst at college in 1986. He became a staff reporter for the daily Sylheteer Dak in 1987.

Mr Rahman continued to work for a number of publications as well as a television station until 2006. Between 1997 and 2000 he worked as the UK correspondent for one of the daily newspapers in Bangladesh called Daily Sangbad. He was also the news editor for the weekly Notun Din during this time. Mr Rahman settled with his family in the UK in 1997. In 1999 Mr Rahman moved into television and started working for Bangla TV as the Programme Planner and Programme Manager. He became the Head of News for the station after three years. He held this role for one year before leaving to join Curry Life magazine, where he was the Executive Editor for the bi-monthly magazine that is aimed at the curry industry. He left this role in 2006 and has since been employed as a Communication Officer for Tower Hamlets Council in London's east end.

Mr Rahman has represented, and is a member of, many organisations that exist within the trade such as the National Union of Journalists and the Commonwealth Journalist Association. He is an ex Assistant General Secretary of the London Bangla Press Club and is a permanent member of the Sylhet Press Club. He was the Organising Secretary of the Sylhet Union of Journalists and is the ex President of the Sylhet Photographic Society.

Mahbub Rahman is married to Hasna Rahman who is a senior officer for the Department of Constitutional Affairs. They have two daughters called Mehjaben Rahman and Atiya Rahman.



Mayor Lutfur Rahman

Sector:
Politics and Legal

Lutfur Rahman is the first Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets, directly elected to represent the London Borough Council in October 2010. Having previously been a solicitor and partner in a leading London Law firm, Lutfur used his experience in both law and politics in pursuit of a passion for social justice and the betterment of people's lives. His deep knowledge and understanding of the East End of London has been developed over many years in close contact with people from all walks of life.

Lutfur has worked relentlessly with residents of the borough and has implemented very successful and highly popular initiatives, culminating in 2 successful terms as Leader of the Council in 2008 and 2009 before becoming directly elected Mayor in 2010.

Deeply committed to the values and aims of the Labour Party, he has been an activist for many years, including campaigning for and participating in the GMC and LGC. He was the ward secretary, Spitalfields and Bangla Town from 2006 to February 2007, elected three

times as councillor for Spitafields and Bangla Town in May 2002, 2006 and 2010, appointed as Chair of Development Panel, May 2002 and was the Lead Member for Education and Youth Services, 2003-2005. He has also been the Lead Member for Culture.

He was a member and general secretary (1987- 89) of the Progressive Youth Organisation, founding member and first treasurer (1990) of Keen Students School (KSS) and trustee of Tower Hamlets and Canary Wharf Education Trust (2003-05). He was a member and General Secretary of Community Alliance for Police Accountability (CAPA) in 1988, member and Chairman of Tower Hamlets

Law Centre from 1996 - 2001. Lutfur Rahman was the board member of the Poplar and Leaside Regeneration Project (SRB6) (2001-2002) and from 2001 to 2008 was the Non - Executive Director for the Board of Barts & The Royal London NHS Trust. He was also a member of the Law Society and Law Society Advanced Children Law Panel.

At the Muslim Council of Britain's Legal Affairs Committee he has provided expert policy advice and proposals while at the Tower Hamlets Law Centre he harnessed the collective expertise of fellow lawyers to help make the Law Centre a dynamic professional body, which attracts good lawyers ready to undertake pro bono work. He is married with one son and one daughter.



Mahidur Rahman

Sector:
Community Relations

Mr. Mahidur Rahman came to the UK in 1975 and completed his studies and also within a few years he emerged as a successful businessman, politician and volunteer of social service. He is at present the president of Asian Council for Human Rights UK, Kent Branch (BCA) and Ashford Muslim Association. He is also the vice-president of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK and founding treasurer of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council UK. He is the Founding Coordinator of its south-east region. Mr. Rahman is at present the treasurer and general secretary, London Boroughs of Bangladeshi Association, UK and joint secretary of Moulvi Bazar Jonosheba Somity. He is also the International Affairs Secretary of the Central Committee for the BNP.

At present, Mr. Rahman is actively involved in many distinguished organisations. He is a life member of the Moulvi Bazar Zela Red Crescent Society and Jalalabad Hospital for Disable and Rehabilitation Centre Sylhet and also a member of the support group UK. He

has delivered his service to the community as a member of the Home Secretary's Standing Advisory Council on Race Relation for two years. At present, Mr. Rahman is the president of UK-Association for Human Rights (UK-AHR), Euro-Bangladesh Business Consortium, Bangladesh Centre for Social development UK and British Bangladeshi Business Club.

In addition, Mr. Rahman has played important role in establishing and fundraising for many Mosques and Madrasahs, support running schools for the destitute children in Bangladesh, Free Friday Clinics, and personally continuing to help build houses for the needy, medical treatment, etc.

Mr. Mahidur Rahman has made his name as a prominent politician of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). He played an important role in shaping its establishment in the UK and another European Country. In 1992 he was made a co-convenor of the UK-BNP and in 1994, the president. Through his tireless work he formed 12 BNP branches throughout the UK. Currently he is the international affairs secretary of BNP central committee and is looking after the political aspect of European BNP as co-coordinator.

Mr. Rahman is married and has two children. His son graduated in Business Management and is currently a banker and his daughter is a University, student.



Mizanur Rahman

Sector:
*Media /Community
Relations*

Mizanur Rahman is a media activist and community worker, based in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Mizanur Rahman was born & grew up in the village of Tikria, Srimongal, Moulvibazar. He is oldest son of Md Faizur Rahman, Retd. Health Inspector and mother Mrs Monwara Begum. He has completed secondary education from BTRI High School and Higher Secondary from Sreemongal Govt College.

Mr Rahman has a double Masters degree in Zoology from MC College Sylhet under National University of Bangladesh with distinction as well as MSC in Sustainable Development from the University of Stirling, Scotland in 2006.

He began his career as a lecturer of Zoology in Modonmohon University College, Sylhet. Later in 2000, nature lover Mizanur Rahman joined the Dhaka based environmental research organisation CNRS (Centre for Natural Research Studies) as a Biologist in UNDP funded Natural Resource Management and Conservation program across the wetland area of Bangladesh.

On completion of his study Mizanur began to live and work in Edinburgh. He has been working for Edinburgh & Lothians Racial Equality Council as a Community Development Officer. The position provided him opportunity to serve the community. He provides freelance consultancy service in ethnic media and third sector.

He also decided to do some community work in his spare time. It wasn't always his plan to become a journalist but always keen to tell a good story, as he began his journalistic career as a sideline at local weekly in the early 1990s. He contributed many articles and features in the Bengali newspapers.

Being a dynamic and talented person Mr Rahman started journalism as a Scotland Correspondent for Channel S Television in 2006.

For his outstanding professional excellence in reporting to promote Bangladeshi Community in Scotland he won the "Channel S Chairman Award" in 2008.

He is a member of London Bangla Press Club and National Union of Journalists (NUJ). Mr Rahman was at British Red Cross first-aid volunteer in Scotland from the Bangladeshi background.

Key to his success is his commitment to working for the community. He is planning to work towards the development of TV journalism with those involved in covering news of Bangladeshi community in the UK and abroad.



Mohammad Hafizur Rahman

Sector:
Catering and Media

Mohammad Hafizur Rahman was born in 1958, in Katia, Jagannatpur, Sylhet. He was educated in Katia Madresha and completed his primary education from Purbo Katia Primary School. His secondary education commenced at Khadimpur High School, where he successfully completed SSC. Mr Rahman's education was completed at Sylhet Varsity College.

After his education, Mr Rahman arrived to the UK in 1983, where he was employed by his brother at his business. Mr Rahman gained much valuable experience whilst working at his brother's restaurant which allowed him to open his own business, in partnership.

The business prospered and after some time, he started another venture, in partnership with late Nurul Islam Hussain, a well known figure in the community.

During this time, Mr Rahman was involved in various other businesses, at present he is a managing director of Hafiz group of restaurants.

He is the publisher and chairman of Editorial Board of Abhimot monthly magazine. He is involved with many cultural organisations, here in the UK and abroad.

Mr Rahman is a founding trustee and general secretary of Cheltenham Al Madina Mosque and Cheltenham Bangladeshi Association; he is also a chairman of Cheltenham Ethnic Minority Forum and Greater Katia Welfare Trust. Mr Rahman is very passionate about his country and his people. He is active in many projects, helping the less fortunate students of Bangladesh, prosper and build better lives for themselves.

He is the founder trustee of Jagannathpur British Bangla Education Trust. Recently he has been made an advisor of Sylhet Academy, of UK and Europe sections.

Mr Rahman lives with his wife and four children in Cheltenham (heart of the Cotswold) Gloucestershire.

Mohammed Mujibur Rahman

Sector:
*Community Relations
and Academia*



Mohammed Mujibur Rahman is the current General Secretary of Bangladesh Centre, London, and the joint Secretary of voice for Justice UK.

He was born in village Kalijuri, Golapgonj, Sylhet in Bangladesh. Mr Rahman studied at the Madan Mohon College in Sylhet where he achieved his first degree in 1979 and later in 1983 he completed his LLB (Hons) from Dhaka Law College. Mr Rahman continued his studies in Bangladesh as he completed the Master of commerce degree in 1984 at the Jagonnath University College in Dhaka. Once in the UK, Mr Rahman completed his Post Graduation Certificate in Education in 1993 from East London University.

He was the General Secretary of the Student council at Al Emdad High School and during his time at the Madan Mohon College, Mr Rahman was elected magazine secretary of the student council. Mr Rahman was also the joint founding convenor of the Jalalabad Chhatra Kallyan Samity based in Jogonnath University College Dhaka from 1980 to 1981. He was as elected President of the student organisation from 1981 to 1983.

In addition to Mr Mohammed Mujibur Rahman's full time role as a primary school teacher in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, he is also a very active member of the community. Since April 2005, Mr Rahman has been the General Secretary of Jatiya party as well as the Vice chairman of the Central Shaheed Minar Committee UK. Likewise he is also an Executive Committee Member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association. He is also the President of Budhbari Bazar Welfare Association UK.

Moreover, he is founding trustee of Gulapgonj Welfare Association and Education Trust, Mother & Child Trust and currently a senior joint Secretary of Gulapgonj-beani Bazar Oikya Sangstha. He was Treasurer of Tower Hamlet Law Centre. Mujibur Rahman is married to Helen Begum Rahman. They have one son and four daughters who are all students. In 2005, the family won Bangla TV's Best Family Award.

Mr Rahman's interest includes reading books, community welfare and travelling.

Dr. Moijur A. Rahman
*BSc(Hons), MB, ChB,
MRCP, ASiT, PhD.*

Sector:
Medicine and Education



Dr Moijur A. Rahman was born in Abdullapur, Beanibazar, Sylhet and arrived in the UK at the age of 8. He is the eldest son of Late Alhaj Malik Uddin who was a teacher in his village.

Dr Rahman obtained his Medical Degree from University of Birmingham, and his PhD from Birmingham and Oxford universities in Clinical Immunology. He currently holds the post of Consultant of Diabetes and Endocrinology at a top UK teaching hospital. Notably, Dr Rahman is the first Bangladeshi Doctor to specialise in pancreas transplantation.

Dr Rahman is the Founder Chairman of two UK based private charities started in 2000. Firstly an educational charity, The Malikuddin Foundation that awards scholarships to some of the brightest and talented students who attend Comprehensive and Grammar Schools of Walsall. Many of whom have gone to study Medicine, Law, PPE

and other disciplines at Oxford, Cambridge and other top UK universities. The programme is now widely recognised by local education authority, the schools and leading UK universities. The charity's ambition is now being extended to greater Sylhet and Dhaka.

The second charity set up by Dr Rahman is The Village Doctor International working with Medecins Sans Frontieres. His charity provides free medical services to some of the poorest regions of Bangladesh. The service is provided by a team of UK doctors including himself and includes setting up a field hospital where the team diagnose, treat and provide care of the people.

Dr Moijur Rahman has three siblings, his two younger brothers

Atabur and Abadur, both are in the medical profession and his sister Kulsuma is a teacher. He is married to Raheena (a GP) the eldest daughter of Alhaj Abdur Rahman of Manchester.

Dr Rahman is a Member of Royal College of Physicians, Member of Association of Surgeons in Training (Royal College of Surgeons London) and Fellow of Royal Society of Medicine. He was awarded a prize by Channel 5 for his relentless contribution to the community.



Mr Mothiur Rahman

Sector:
Community relations

Mr Mothiur Rahman is a pro active member of his community. Child of father Abdur Shohid and mother Mohibun Nessa, 41-years-old Rahman has always been fascinated by football. Originally hailing from Chandpur Balaganj, Sylhet, he is now settled here. During his early teenage years he was a member of the local football team Sheffield Bangladeshi Football Club. He was responsible for arranging matches in different towns. It was his duty to arrange players for different games, raise donation and to organise transport during trips to other towns.

He has been involved in the management of local Elahi Mosque & Cultural Centre since 2001. As an executive management committee member, it is his duty to advise the Chairman and Secretary about the various aspects of running of the mosque, and at times informing ordinary members of the Mosque about any important matter both orally and by issuing note.

He has also been member of Staniforth Neighbourhood Centre since 2003. During 2007, a massive cyclone hit Bangladesh. He took a lead in organising charity events to raise money for the victims of the cyclone. They raised £25,000.00 and a team of four went to Bangladesh to distribute the money to various projects which were in place to help the victims in many ways. During 2010-2011 he has also taken a lead role in negotiating and securing the lease from Sheffield City Council for the property in which The Staniforth Neighbourhood Centre is situated and funding for the improvement of the premise. During 2009 there was racial trouble at the Waltheof (now called Park Academy) secondary school. As member of the SNC, he was given responsibility on behalf of the British Bangladeshi community to liaise with the police and school to calm the situation and to prevent any violence by any member of the British Bangladeshi community. Also in

2011, there was a sexual allegation against a teacher at the Greenland Primary school. As a parent governor and member of the SNC, he pro actively led the members of the British Bangladeshi community in organising protest against the inactivity of the head teacher and forcing Sheffield City Council to suspend and subsequently sack the head teacher as well as taking legal action against the teacher against whom the allegation was made by a child.

Since 2007, every year he has been organising as well as managing The Sheffield Baishaki Mela which is a celebration of the Bengali New Year. This year The Mela took place on 24th June. Ever since its inception, the Mela has become one of the biggest gatherings of the British Bangladeshi community in the north of UK.

He is a parent governor of the Greenland Junior & Primary School, as well as a member of the Darnall & Attercliffe ward of the Labour party.



Muhibur Rahman

Sector:
Business and Community affairs

Community leader Muhibur Rehman Muhib was born in 1969 in Beani Bazar Upzilla, Mathiura Union, Purushpal village. His father is late Aalhaj Arab Ali and mother late Hashira Begum.

After clearing his Standard 10 in Bangladesh, he came to Britain in the 1972. After coming to this country Mr Rahman enrolled in one of the secondary schools in Tower Hamlets where he furthered his secondary education. After completing his GCSE's, he entered the world of business. At that time many British Bangladeshis were heavily involved in the garments trade.

Mr Rahman continued that trend by establishing his own garment factory. His business very rapidly become successfully owing to his dedication and the quality of the produce of his factory.

Following Muhibur Rahman's success in the garments trade, he ventured into the catering business. He now has many restaurants and take aways which are all highly successful and well known for their quality of service and food.

Outside of business Muhibur Rahman plays an important role in community activities. He is the president of Beani Bazar Welfare trust. He has always been involved in a lot of community work.

Muhibur Rahman's involvement with community initiatives expands further, he is the Vice President of the Bangladesh Centre. He has also served as the Joint treasurer of Bangladesh Association. Apart from this, he is the Vice Chairman of Bangladesh Business Council and also a key member of Bangladesh Caterers Association.

He was previously the Vice President of Beani Bazar Thana Welfare Association and more recently he is one of the founders of the Beani Bazar Cancer hospital Foundation and has served as the Vice President of that organisation in the past.

In respect of other aspects of his humanitarian work he is associated with Lions Club. He was associated with a newspaper called Sylheter Dak, where he was a member of the publishing board. For many years, he has looked after the paper as a director and financier.

Mr Rahman is known to inspire education. He has spent 25 Lakh taka to build a library in Beani Bazar Women's College. In memory of his late father, he constructed a Madrassa Academy Bhavan in the year 1982. He is also a founder of Purushpal Hafizia Madrassa and a lifetime member of the managing committee for 12 secondary schools in Beani Bazar. In the year 2005, Mr Rahman was involve in distributing computers in Beani Bazar in order to enhance the education of locals.

More recently, he has taken the initiative to build houses for the freedom fighters of Beani Bazaar.

Muhibur Rahman lives with his family in South Woodford in London.



Nijam M Rahman

Sector:
Business



Nijam M Rahman is a renowned Bangladeshi born Businessman and Community Leader. He is the Chief Executive and founder of Neer Telecom, the only telephone and internet service provider in the UK owned by a Bangladeshi.

Mr Rahman was born on September 14, 1974 in Bahar Mordan, Moulvi Bazar, Bangladesh. His father is Late Atikur Rahman (Aka Miah) and mother is Rahimun Nessa Begum. He did his HND in engineering.

Mr Rahman holds many important positions as a dignitary. He is the president and founder of Bangladesh Overseas Social Society (BOSS) and Executive committee member of Hounslow Chamber of Commerce. He is also the Vice-President of Jatiyabadi Sanskritik Sanghstha (JASAS) [A National Cultural Organization in Bangladesh], UK Central Chapter, and President of JASAS in the Middlesex region. He is the founding member of Queens Park Bangladesh Association, UK and producer of Spice of Life, Venus

TV, SKY 805. Mr Rahman is also a former school governor. Mr Rahman once owned the reputed Heathrow Tandoori Restaurant.

Mr Rahman recently visited Bangladesh with Rt. Jim Fitzpatrick, MP and former minister for food and farming, England, with celebrity chef Mr. Tommy Miah, and met the Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Ex-Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in December 2009.

He joined the 60th anniversary of NHS, UK with Prince Charles at West Minster Abbey, invited by Rt. Allen Johnson, MP and former secretary of state for health, UK.

Mr Rahman is married to Mrs. Fahmin Choudhury. They are blessed with three daughters, Najyah Rahman Isha, Mahdiah Rahman Rida and Amatul Rahman Amilah. The family lives in Hounslow, Middlesex.

Raju Rahman

Sector:
Medicine



A second generation British Bangladeshi who was born in the UK at a time when most were migrating to the UK. He hails from Akakhazna Beanibazaar in Sylhet and lives and works in Enfield; Raju developed a keen sense of working for the community at a young age and is invited as mediator for local and Diaspora intra-community conflict.

He currently works in a number of community think tanks along with his professional commitments to Podiatry of which he is one of the first Bangladeshi practitioners to be state registered. Raju Rahman has his own clinic and also works for the NHS.





Bajloor Rashid MBE

Sector:
*Catering and Community
Relations*

Bajloor Rashid MBE is a renowned business man amongst the Bangladeshi community living in the UK. He was born in the village of Balikandi in Moulvi Bazaar, Bangladesh. He married in 1988 and has four children, two sons and two daughters.

His business life began the same year he came to the UK in 1978, partnering his brother in a restaurant in Dover. The success of this venture spawned the opening of restaurants around London and the South East. These included three restaurants in Kent, Shapla Tandoori, Whitstable, a partnership with Curry Villa, Wingham, as well as Zarin formerly known as Curry Garden, Ashford.

In 1993 his business portfolio was extended to include the wholesale business of rice and spice whilst simultaneously buying commercial properties forming his property company, Atlantic Properties.

In 1997 he started additional work with fellow Bangladeshis on different projects in areas such as travel. His involvement in joint business ventures since then has brought about his positions as Chairman of Sarina CNG Ltd, Bangladesh; a previous Chairman of Sylhet Parjatan Motel; Director (and former Vice Chairman) of Progressive Life Insurance Co Ltd, Bangladesh and also involvements with Sylhet Shishu Park, International Medicare Ltd and Director of Tiger Tours Ltd in Bangladesh.

Mr Rashid is a director in the BBCC (British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce), having previously held the position of Finance Director, helping improve the trade links between the UK and Bangladesh which has culminated in many awareness events in

cluding the Bangladesh Expo 2005.

His work in the BCA (Bangladesh Caterers Association) stands out as the most noticeable in his list of achievements, having held positions of Chief Treasurer and Assistant Secretary General in previous committees, Mr Rashid was then elected President of the BCA in 2006. As President, Mr Rashid held a number of memorable events to raise awareness of the issues, including 5 annual BCA Awards functions and most memorably a mass demonstration in Trafalgar Square in London, which was attended by tens of thousands of people. This sparked a debate in the House of Commons just days later, about the current set of immigration rules. His inspirational leadership transformed the organisation.

At the end of June 2012 he stepped down from the Presidency of the Bangladesh Caterers Association, after serving two terms. Mr Rashid was awarded an MBE in the 2012 New Years Honours, the first ever recognition for a BCA President.



Mukul Chandra Ray

Sector:
Academia

Mukul Chandra Ray resides in East London and is a Teacher and EMA coordinator for Halley Primary School in Tower Hamlets. Mr Ray is also an ex- Lecturer at the Sylhet Government Women's College in Bangladesh.

He completed his primary education in Harogram, Sylhet and then went onto finish his secondary education from BN High School.

He did his Higher Secondary education at Sunamganj College in Sunamganj.

Having concluded his secondary education, Mr Ray progressed to Victoria Government College in Comilla where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. Mukul Chandra Ray then obtained a Masters of Science postgraduate degree in Pure Mathematics from the world-renowned Dhaka University.

Once in England Mr Ray followed suit and also attained a Masters Degree from the University of London in Pure Mathematics.

Finally successfully completing the PGCE from Goldsmiths College, University of London, giving him the qualification that allows him to teach.

Mr Ray is married with a son and a daughter who have advanced in their father's footsteps in completing higher education, obtaining degrees and working as professionals. In addition Mukul Chandra Ray has retained membership of many community and social initiatives.

He is the teacher governor at Halley Primary School; he is a former executive committee member of the Bangladesh Teachers Association UK, and also a past member of the executive committee of the Collective of Bangladeshi School governors.

Furthermore he is the joint secretary of the Hindu Progoti Sangha, UK.

Mr Mukul Chandra Ray is a well educated and extremely respected member of the British Bangladeshi Community, and his achievements in education and now as a Teacher has made him a recognised individual within the academic sphere.

Syedur Rahman Ranu JP

Sector:
Catering



Syedur Rahman Ranu JP was born in the village of Taharlamu, Rajnagar in Moulvibazar. His father is Al Haj Habibur Rahman. Mr Rahman completed his high school education in Rajnagar Portious High School in Rajnagar and obtained his degree from Moulvibazar Govt. College.

Mr. Rahman arrived in this country in 1978 with his parents. He also enrolled in a Business and Management course in England. He then began his successful career in 1985. He now owns a chain of restaurant businesses and numerous properties in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Rahman's business interests do not end there, as he is also a Managing Director of MRK Developments Ltd, which is the company behind his assets in the property market in Bangladesh. He also is the Managing Director of a hotel business called 'Hotel White Pearl' in Gulshan, Dhaka.

Apart from his business activities he is also involved in various community organizations in the UK; he is a very well known person in the British Bangladeshi Community in the UK. He is holding the prestigious position of Vice Chairman for the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce. He is Vice Chairman of weekly Notun Din, a well received Bengali newsweekly based in London and General Secretary of Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council South East region in UK and he is also the Vice Chairman of Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateur in the UK.

Mr. Rahman's other passions is to be involved in various charities. He has helped many from his homeland, especially poor but intelligent students who were unable to fund their education. He has also helped develop schools, colleges and mosques and continues to donate very generously to various charities.

Syedur Rahman Ranu is married to Rahela Rahman and they have two sons and one daughter. They reside in Winkfield, Berkshire. Mr. Rahman's interests and hobbies include traveling as a result of which he has been fortunate in visiting several different countries. He also enjoys politics.

Nazinur Rahim

Sector:
*Community Development,
Business*



A young entrepreneur having a Masters in Marketing is the founder and trustee of Painted Children which is an internationally recognized Community Development Organisation which was established in 2005. Originally it aided street and slum children, woman and those with disabilities with health care issues. Also he is the Managing Director of Fakhruddin Global Limited which is offering one of the most delicious and legendary dishes from Bangladesh in London which is also known as Food of the Nawabs.

Nazinur is currently developing a training center to help NEETs and Long Term Unemployed back into employment in the UK, The aim for the long term unemployed is to again help them develop their skills to allow them back into the work force.

Nazinur Rahim has vast experience in working with a number of Corporate organizations and with UNICEF . Nazinur Rahim was born in the early Seventies and hails from

Bangladesh. He is the elder son of Late Zoadur Rahim who was a very renowned business person in South East Asia. Nazinur came to the UK in 2005 after completing his corporate career overseas. Nazinur played a vital role by giving his effort in Aaila and Sidor (one of the worst affected areas of climate change in South East Asia) affected area, to help their population to overcome the problems caused by cyclones. He also played a vital role in flood and other divested crisis in Bangladesh. For his innovative contributions in various sectors he was given the DCFB award in the House of Commons from Development Council for Bangladesh's in the UK in 2011 Nazinur was also awarded the FOBC Special Award in 2010 in London.

Nazinur Rahim has been a talented cricketer in his youth; he is also involved in various communities like regular Blood Donation and Yoga Foundation. In college he was involved with the Student Union as General Secretary.

Currently he is presenting one talk show in Bater Bangla. He is also involved in a 24 hour online newspaper (Newsbdonline.com). In his spare time Nazinur also enjoys reading and socializing.

Nazinur Rahim enjoys travelling and has a profound love for sustainable development. He is very sympathetic to the people of devastated areas in South Asia and always extends his hands to support them even personally. He has continued being involved with communication and social activities mainly for South East Asia woman and children and also in the UK communities.



Muhammed A. Sattar

Sector:
Media (Journalist)

Muhammed A. Sattar gained a degree with honours from University of Chittagong in Bengali language and literature.

Mr Sattar has worked within the field of journalism for over 23 years. He began his career as a staff reporter for a local daily newspaper in Sylhet, Bangladesh. Through hard work and determination, he eventually became the executive editor of this newspaper. From 1995 to 2000, Mr Sattar was the BBC's Bengali radio service reporter (stringer) in Sylhet and also worked as the Sylhet correspondent for the news agency Reuters. In 1996, Mr Sattar took part in a regional training programme in Kolkata, India that was run by the BBC.

In recognition of his journalistic skills and experience, Mr Sattar was elected vice-president and general secretary of the Sylhet Press Club.

In 2000, Mr Sattar moved to the UK, and started to work for Bangla TV in London as the station's news editor. He stayed in this role until 2003, and then moved to the Vectone Bangla Television channel where he was again the station's news editor.

Currently, Mr Sattar works as a special correspondent for the Janomot Bengali newsweekly, the oldest Bengali newspaper in the UK. He also works part-time for the

Consortium of Bengali Associations, a voluntary based service in Camden, North London. He is ex-general secretary of the London Bangla Press Club.

Away from his professional life, Mr Sattar enjoys travelling, and has visited countries such as India, Pakistan, Turkey, Thailand, Japan, France and Germany. He also has a keen interest in community affairs, and enjoys assisting people in any way he can.



H M Shahajahan

Sector:
Media

Mr. H. M. Shahjahan is an entrepreneur and director of Film Asia, the prominent film making company based in East London. He rose to prominence at a relatively young age of 39, and is a leading face of Bangladeshi businessmen based in the UK.

Mr. Shahjahan, son of Late Alhaj Sazzad Ali and Mrs Rasheda Khanom, was born in the village of Mohammadpur Shera, Jagannathpur Upazilla, (Sunamganj District) Bangladesh. He is the eldest child of six children.

Mr Shahjahan arrived in the United Kingdom in 1984 with his parents. He did his schooling from Mohammadpur Shera Primary School, Mirpur public high School in Bangladesh and GCSE from Holloway School in London. After finishing his education, first he was involved in the catering business. But he was passionate about filmmaking. His hobby was making home videos. From his school age he was very good at arts.

Because of his dream and desire, he began a new career from home as a Videographer, then he built a team to form Film Asia.

Film Asia excels in film making, editing and camera operating. It is more than just a film company. They are a media production agency setting the standard of film making across the United Kingdom.

Film Asia mainly produces wedding films for Asian Brides and Grooms. They are known for TV Commercials, Music Videos, Concerts, and Tele-film. Films Asia produced a ghazal night with Alaur Rahman and the British Bangladeshi Who's who programme in 2009 & 2010.

With brilliant editors, graphic designers, cinematographers and event coordinators, the group has been a raving success in the film business of East London.

The motto of Film Asia is simple; it is all about perfection, innovation and imagination. Specialising in video production and photography, the artistic approach operated by Film Asia has met with critical acclaim from the professional world.

In Mr. Shahjahan's words, 'the overall message we wish to convey is simple, we are working for you, with our expert skill and ability, our creation will cater to whatever you desire, and we will deliver'.

Apart from his business, Mr. Shahjahan also gives a significant time in charity work. He is the Treasurer of Probashi Gram Bangla Unnayan Shongstha, a community organisation.

He lives in London Docklands with his family. His wife is Ruhena Begum. They have two sons and two daughters. The names of the daughters are Mariyum Hussain and Nazia Hussain. The sons are Farhath Hussain and Raahath Hussain.

Mr. Shahjahan's Creativity and dynamic vision has earned him a respected position within the media industry.



Sultan Mahmud Shariff

Sector:
Community Relations



He was an active member of the Awami League Advisory Committee in London. He is also the current president of the Awami League UK. He is a founder and permanent member of the Bangladesh centre, established in the early 80's.

As recognition of his pivotal role in the freedom struggle, the Bangladesh Government awarded him with the freedom fighters medal. The Russell Smriti Parisad presented him with a gold award for his contribution to the ongoing movement for democracy in the 70's, 80's, 90's and 2000's. Channel S honoured him for his services to the community.

He lives with his wife, Nora Shariff, in London.

Sultan Shari is well known in the British Bangladeshi community as an important contributor in the Liberation War of Bangladesh. He was born in village; Sharukali, Police Station; Katwali, in Barisal. He completed his ISC examination from BM College and BSc from Khulna, Daulatpur College. He studied Law in Dhaka University, but immigrated to the UK in 1963, before the final examination.

He participated in the student movement in the 1960's. After coming to the UK, he was closely involved in the movement for the realisation of the rights of the people of East Pakistan in United Pakistan. He was active in the warfields during the 9 months of fighting in Bangladesh.

Mr Shariff was president of the Pakistan Student Federation. He was a founder member of the Awami League in the UK and held the position of the first General Secretary of the London branch.

He was a founder member of the Bangladesh Awami Jubo League and a member of its first presidium.

Abdul Shahid

Sector:
Accounting



A proud father of four daughters Shahnaz, Khaleda, Fareedah and Yasmin, Abdul Shahid picked up his MBA degree in 2007. He shares most of his spare time with the family-going out together, reading, watching television (in particular, current and business affairs). Living in East London for Shahid when all is well done and comes the time to give credit, as it is said there is a woman behind every successful man. And in Shahid's case too is his beloved and devoted wife Raihana.

Abdul Shahid is an accountant by profession, practicing in his own firm M M S Associates.

He started as a Practice Manager in an Accountant & Auditors firm in East London, his responsibilities involved running the office, supervising staff members, dealing and maintaining overall client's concerns. Shahid stands out in his field as a strict and honest professional.

His creative intake of Bangladeshi food has led him to open Gram Bangla which is now a household name in the Bangladeshi community. There are very few caterers like Abdul Shahid whose food in fact conjures up appetite for the flavour of our own mouth-watering dishes within the community. In this sense he is a pioneering restaurateur nourishing pure Bangladeshi taste.

Shahid is a well-healed person who always endeavours for the positive perspective in life.





Dr Bijan Kumar Saha

Sector:
Medicine

Dr Bijan Kumar Saha completed his MBBS at the University of Dhaka in 1968 before coming to the UK where in 1974 he obtained his Diploma in Medical Radiotherapy after which he was in clinical practice in a hospital. Dr Saha subsequently achieved the LMSSA from the Conjoint Board in London in 1981 before changing career and becoming a GP in the late 1980's.

Dr Saha hails from the village of Utholi in Manikgonj and currently resides in Kent. He has established his own medical practice at the Lakeside Medical Centre, situated in Sittingbourne Kent. The practice was set up in 1990.

Dr Bijan Saha is married to Dr Chhaya Rani Saha who too is a General Practitioner based at their surgery in Kent. The couple have two sons, who both read medicine in the United Kingdom and are working as specialist registrars in Rheumatology and Nephrology at the Kings College Hospital in London.

Aside from his medical practice, Dr Saha engages in voluntary initiatives and other business ventures. He was until very recently the Chairman of Dartford, Gravesend and Medway division of the British Medical Association. Moreover, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, Member of the Royal College of Radiologist. Dr Saha is a Director of United Airways PVE, Bangladesh.

On the altruistic front, Dr Saha runs a free health promotion clinic once a week. The clinic focuses on hypertension and diabetes and is specifically catered for the Bangladeshi community in London, particularly those who suffer from an inability to communicate in English.

Dr Saha is a very well respected doctor within the British Bangladeshi community.



Wazid Hasan Shelim

Sector:
Catering

Born in the village of Kadi Pur, South Surma in Sylhet, Wazid Hasan Shelim is one of seven children. The son of Abdur Rahman and Shomsun Nessa, he was brought up in a well known and highly respected family.

Shelim arrived in the United Kingdom in 1986 and started his further education where he successfully obtained a diploma in Business Studies. After finishing his education, he began working at the family restaurant. It was later in 1991 when he established his first business, 'Apex Curry'.

Four years later he established his second and most successful business, to date. 'Pride of Asia', began life as a restaurant and quickly grew to specialise in catering for large events and ceremonies, including weddings, corporate events and parties.

The uniqueness of Pride of Asia, which sets it apart from competitors is the mastery of seasoning and the ability to extract different flavours from the extensive amount of seasoning and spices they use.

Customers have always provided good feedback after using the services of Pride of Asia. Pride of Asia's has catered for many large organisations including services to the House of Commons, Tower Hamlets Council and BBCC, to name a few. Aside from his dedication to his business, Shelim is a passionate philanthropist and has always donated to schools, madrasas and health clinics both in Bangladesh as well as here in the UK. He also continues to help the poor and victims of disasters.

Furthermore, Shelim is involved with numerous community organisations. He is the Secretary of Jalal Pur Welfare Association and a life member of London Bangla Press Club. Additionally, he is Corporate Member of BBCC.

Shelim married in 1996 to Hamida Shepin. They have four children; one daughter and three sons. His children are Shahida Akter, Rafe Ahmed, Shafi Ahmed and Yamin Ahmed.

Wazid Hasan Shelim is a well-established and familiar businessperson and member of the British Bangladeshi community, who already boasts an extremely successful career in the catering industry.

**Reza Ahmed Faisal
Choudhury Shoaib**

Sector:
Media



Reza Ahmed Faisal Choudhury Shoaib is the son of late Alhaj Ek-limur Reza Chowdhury and Mrs. Ambia Begum Choudhury was born in Patli village, Jagonathpur Upazilla (Sunamgonj District), he came to the UK in 1990 along with his parents and siblings. He is the 2nd eldest child of five children.

Faisal's brothers and sister Reza Ahmed Kobir Choudhury, Reza Ahmed Shafi Choudhury, Reza Ahmed Bakor Choudhury, Rezia Choudhury Nazmin also reside in the UK.

Mr. Faisal Choudhury graduated with a B.A. honors from Bangladesh and completed his postgraduate studies in the UK.

As a free thinking, ambitious young man with a passion for progressive journalism he realized his dreams by producing his own weekly Newspaper 'Sylhet Katha' at the tender age of 22. Mr Faisal Choudhury has been a columnist for a number of different newspapers including Surma, Jonomot, Notun Din (published from London, UK) and national daily Amader Shomoy (published from Dhaka, Bangladesh). He continues to write for Notun Din and

Amader Shomoy.

Mr.Faisal Choudhury was the Founder Secretary of Desh Bikash in 1991, a voluntary cultural organization, which allowed young children from the London borough of Tower Hamlets to become involved in various cultural activities. He dedicates his time voluntarily to assisting those in need of help and, supports the British Bangladeshi youth today in various ways.

Mr. Choudhury has had several occupations throughout the years. He was the Director of Media and Communication for the most

popular TV channel, Channel S in 2007 (established and broadcast from UK).

He is currently Managing Director of Channel I Europe. He is Convener of UK Banagla Press Club. In 2000 he married Dr Anwara Ali and they live with their only son Obaid Reza Jaami Al- Choudhury.

Tulip Siddiq

Sector:
Politics



King and Sadiq Khan. She has also worked for Philip Gould Associates, Amnesty International and Save the Children in the past.

She has campaigned for political parties internationally and in 2008, she campaigned for Barack Obama in the United States.

Tulip writes for her local newspaper – the Ham and High- and is also a member of the Commonwealth Journalists Association (UK).

Tulip has her own blog where she writes about both British and Bengali politics.

Cllr Tulip Siddiq spent her childhood in Bangladesh, Brunei, India, Singapore and Spain. She moved to North London ten years ago and completed her undergraduate and Master's degree in the U.K. She recently became the Councillor from Camden Council. She is doing a second Master's in Politics, Policy and Government.

Tulip is the Labour Party council candidate in Regent's Park ward. If she is elected, she will be the first Bengali woman in Camden council.

Tulip is BAME (Black Asian Minority Ethnic) Officer for Young Labour and Women's Officer for London Young Labour. She is on the executive board of her union (T&G: Unite) and a school governor at Beckford Primary School.

She has worked for a variety of Labour politicians including Oona



M Altab Syed

Sector:
Business

M Altab (Syed), The eldest son of Late Haji Md. Rajab Ali, born in Jalal Pur, Sunam Gonj, Bangladesh. Mr Altab came over to the UK in 1977 where he continued with his education.

After completing a Diploma in Business studies, Mr Altab quickly established himself as a successful entrepreneur, taking on various ventures in the form of catering outlets and corner stores in North Wales. Currently, Mr. Altab is primarily focusing on his property development venture to diversify his portfolio of investments.

Over the years, Mr Altab has contributed greatly towards charitable work and has been involved with numerous community organisations. He is one of the co founders and Vice Chairman of Bangor Bangladesh Welfare Associations.

Through his personal and business contacts, the Bangor based businessman has helped generate large donations for victims of natural disasters and has contributed towards numerous developments and educational projects in Bangladesh. He is an active member of the Federation of Small Businesses in addition to his long term membership with the Bangor Business forum. He was also elected as a Trustee for Bangor Islamic Centre. Mr M Altab (Syed) is one of the successful and recognised members of the British Bangladeshi community in Wales, he has invested an extensive amount of his time and efforts to the Bangladeshi community here in the UK, especially in the area he resides.

Mr Altab is married with six children who are in full time education. His ambitions in life to help others help themselves, as he firmly believes that if you give a man a fish you feed him for a day and if you teach a man to fish you feed him for a lifetime.



Mohammed Abu Taher MBE

Sector:
Community Relations

Abu Taher MBE, son of Late Md Jamshed Miah, settled in Birmingham in 1978. Md Abu Taher MBE left Birmingham in 1993. His vision was to introduce 'Balti' to the people of Leicester. He wanted to provide good quality food in pleasant surroundings at a reasonable price.

Ever since his childhood, Mr Taher had deep empathy for the people around him, his parents always encouraged and inspired him to do charitable work and to help others.

As a testament to his upbringing, he has been involved with many voluntary organisations. His motivation has always been around improving the quality of life for people in his community and helping those who are less fortunate.

In 1993, with the combination of a successful first year of trading and a commitment to help others, Taher held his first charity dinner in aid of the Lord Mayor's Appeal. It was such a success that charity meals have happened at his T & K Balti House every year since.

There have been fifteen charity dinners in aid of the Lord Mayor's appeal. But that's not all, Mr Taher has also held many other charity dinners to raise funds for Bangladesh Orphans, Bangladesh flood Appeal, the Tsunami for south Asia and other emergencies and natural disasters abroad.

His active participation in the British politics has built a strong bridge between the Bangladeshi community and the Conservative Party in Leicester. He has dedicated time to serve the community including assisting the less able with Benefits and Immigration issues. He is still instrumental in establishing a number of Bangladeshi organisations in the UK and abroad. His commitments to the community both geographically and ethnically are without question.

In recognition of the services and contribution he made towards the local community, he was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in 2003.

He is currently serving as the president of the Bangladesh Development Trust UK, president G L R Traders association, as well as serving concurrently with other positions of responsibility in other organisations.



Sheik Tuahid

Sector:
Media

Sheik Tuahid was the first son of Sheik Abdul Bari and Sheik Amina Khatun. He hails from the village of Baushi, PO Doshgar, Bishawnath Village in the district of Sylhet. He first came to the UK in 1985.

His enthusiasm for education was obvious, as he decided to attend the Mathew Bolton College. There he studied electronic engineering for a year. His positive and encouraging approach towards the Bangladeshi community was without a doubt noticeable and consequently it resulted in him becoming the General Secretary of Bangladeshi Society in Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire from 1987-1990. In 1995, Mr Tuahid was given the role of vice chairman and later, the role of General Secretary of "Onuprash" Jatio Kobi Shanganon, an organization created with the aim to help the Bangladeshi community.

Mr Tuahid founded and became the Chairman of the Midland Press Club in 2005. He decided to take up the role of Editor of Bazaar Voice as he had a good background in journalism. In addition, he

was the editor of a Bengali magazine aimed at young Bangladeshis, named Paira. 'Jodi Pere Ashe Kobu', a poetry book written by Mr Tuahid, was published in Bangladesh in 2006 and proved to thrive greatly.

At this moment in time, he is the managing editor of the weekly Bangla Voice, the only Bengali newspaper published in the Midlands. Also, he is a representative of the weekly Potrika and the weekly Bangla Mirror, two newspapers involved with the British Bangladeshi community.

Married to Lilma Choudhury, he and his wife have three children named Sheik Hussain, Sheik Salman and Sheik Ferdus. Mr Tuahid lives with his wife and children in Solihull in the West Midlands.



Dr Ruab Uddin

Sector:
Education and Community Relations

Dr Ruab Uddin, is a modest educationalist and community activist. He is the eldest son of Mr Afiz Ali and Mrs. Joymal Khatun of Mamodpur (Jandor tupi, Pagla Bazar), Sunamganj, Bangladesh. After completing his secondary education at Sunamganj Government Jubilee High School in 1980 and Higher Secondary education at the prestigious Sylhet MC College, he arrived in England in 1982, graduated from University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology (UMIST) and pursued the post graduate degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Composite & High Performance Polymer Chemistry at Manchester University in 1992. Following on his success in the PhD project originally funded by Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI), he was appointed as a research associate at ICI at Wilton Centre, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

He has a number of publications in science journals. Ruab visited many European states & capital cities to attend science seminars and symposiums to represent his research team. His passion and strong desire to work with the Bangladeshi community had made him change his career from science research into the field of education. Later he joined Tower Hamlets College as a lecturer and then completed his PGCE at

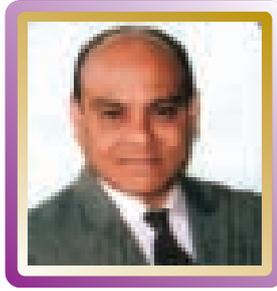
Huddersfield University. At present Dr Ruab is teaching science with the responsibility as the Key Stage 3 Science Co-ordinator.

During his college & university years he developed many community organisations projects through LEA & Urban grants to assist the Bangladeshi community. Ruab was one of the founders of Mossley (Manchester) Bangladesh Welfare Centre which promoted the linguistic and socio-cultural activities in 1980s and early 90s. His long commitments and affiliated work involves with many organisations such as: Greater Sylhet Development & Welfare Council in UK (GSC); Bangladeshi Teachers Association (BTA); Greater Sunamganj Welfare Association; Dokshin Sunamganj Upozilla Association; Friends of Purbo Pagla High School in UK; Dagenham Bangladesh Cultural Association to name but a few.

Dr Ruab also works as a capacity building consultant where he facilitates seminars and training sessions in education, youth & social issues, community development and other related topics. He is a school governor of a primary school and a tertiary college in Dagenham. He is an irregular writer of Bangladeshi news papers and a guest of talk shows of Bengali TV channels. He is a silent supporter of Bongobondhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman & his political philosophy. He was the general secretary of Bangladesh Chatro League MC College Hostel branch; the founder general secretary of Greater Manchester Jubo League and currently the joint secretary of All European Bongobondhu Parishod.

Dr Ruab is the eldest of four siblings (second brother Mohim Uddin, a caterer; third brother Sharif Uddin, a medical doctor and the youngest brother Thaher Uddin, an accountant) who is married to Sofina Uddin and has two sons, Masum & Nasim and a daughter Shabnom. He with his family resides in Becontree in the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.





Haji Mohammad Shab Uddin

Sector:
Catering

Mohammed Shab Uddin is one of the most successful businessmen and philanthropists in London's Bangladeshi community. In 1977, the entrepreneur helped set up one of the most established and pioneering Indian restaurants in London and over the years has broadened and excelled in other distinct industries, including retail and product manufacturing. Born in 1961 in Beanibazar, Sylhet, Bangladesh, Mr Uddin was educated there before moving to the UK in 1974.

Mr Uddin completed his primary and high school education in Bangladesh before joining his father in the UK who had been there since 1942. Mr Uddin began his employment career working in his father's sari enterprise which spread across East London in the late seventies. Mr Uddin and his father soon moved into the catering industry in 1977, opening 'Dreamland' restaurant in the Tower Bridge area which was later renamed 'Tower Tandoori'. The family soon developed a chain of successful Indian restaurants after opening the 'Farncombe Tandoori', 'Bismillah Tandoori', 'Grange Tandoori', 'Bermondsey Brasserie' and many more.

Whilst focusing on thrusting the family catering business, Mr Uddin has also successfully invested in the property market. In Bangladesh, Mr Uddin has also acquired real estate in the Sylhet and Dhak regions. Mr Uddin is also involved with many socio-cultural and charitable organisations. Previously he served as the treasurer of the Beanibazar Welfare Trust and as President of the Beanibazar Jonokolyan Samithy UK (2010-2012). Mr Uddin currently serves as the Managing Director of the Beanibazar Cancer Hospital; the first specialist cancer hospital in Bangladesh.

Throughout the last three decades, Mr Uddin has generously donated towards many worthy projects such as the charity foundation named after his late parents, which provides scholarships for talented students on top of building tube wells and sanitary latrines for the needy. Mr Uddin has also assisted in financing the construction of many roads in his locality as well as building a boundary wall and front gate for a local school and mosque respectively.

Mr Alhaj Mohammed Shab Uddin was married to Nilufa Begum in 1985 and they are blessed with three sons and one daughter. The eldest son Suhel Ahmed has completed his Masters and manages the family businesses, his second son Rubel Ahmed is a Solicitor and works for a reputable firm in London. His other son and daughter are still in education.

Mr Uddin's children are all involved in charitable activities and community projects.



Moin Uddin

Sector:
Hospitality and Catering

Moin Uddin is a renowned businessman and a loving and caring family man. Son of Alhaj Ahad Uddin, Mr Uddin was born in 1966 in the village of Mathurapur of the number 4 Dhigalbak Union of Nabiganj, a sub district of Greater Sylhet. Though he is originally from Nabiganj, he resides permanently in Sadipur, Sylhet with his family.

Moin Uddin started his education in Dhigalbak Government Primary School. He went on to further his education in Dhigalbak High School, however, came to the UK with his family before completing his due. On arriving in the UK, he joined Leeds Roundly High School from where he obtained his GCSE's (then known as GCE O-Levels). Mr Uddin then joined Kingston College to study A-levels, from where he went on to run his own business.

At present he has several businesses predominantly in the Surrey area. He is also the founder and owner of the Rose View Hotel. Rose View is the first five star rated hotel in Sylhet and also has the accolade of being the first five star rated hotel outside of the capital Dhaka.

Mr Uddin married Salema Uddin in 1988. Mrs Uddin is the daughter of Mokadas Ali of Ganganagar. The couple live in Surrey and are blessed with four children; two sons (Nasir and Naveed) and two daughters (Nasreen and Nafeesa). All of his children are currently in education.

Moin Uddin is also a dedicated community worker. He is the trustee of Surrey Muslim Centre and is also involved with the Bangladesh Caterers' Association and Nabiganj Education Trust among other associations.



Syed Monsur Uddin

Sector:
Media

Syed Monsur Uddin, renowned journalist, columnist. He started his career when he was a student at Dhaka College back in 1989. In his school days, he had flairs towards journalism as one of his uncles was a journalist who inspired him a lot.

Having finished college studies, he enrolled at the department of political science, University of Dhaka and started contributing to weekly Ekota and Daily Bangla Bazar. He was the university reporter to both the newspapers and was elected as an executive member of the Journalists Association of the university. During this period, he regularly contributed to other national dailies on issues related to politics, education and culture. For a considerable period of time, he was attached with the first phone-in programme of BTV-‘Ovimot’- anchored by Md. Jahangir. The programme gave Monsur greater exposure to social and natural realities of Bangladesh.

After his Honours and Masters degree in political Science from the University of Dhaka – he joined Bangla Bazar as senior reporter in 1996. His readers thoroughly enjoyed his infamous pieces while his critics were always apprehensive.

Syed Monsur came to England in 1997 and joined Bangla TV in 1999, he was with the news room of Bangla TV and contributed greatly to its growth and development. After a year with Bangla TV he joined weekly Surma in 2000 as News Editor where he has been serving as an editor since 2006 to August 2013. He contributes greatly to the newer look of Surma that is widely recognised by his readers and colleagues. For a brief period, he was the founder News Editor of ‘Bangla Express’ – a short-lived weekly publication of Surma News Group.

He is an Executive Committee Member of London Press Club, was in the Executive Committee of the club and founder member of Bishwa Shahitto Kendro-London. He is currently working as a Media Advisor for the Tower Hamlets Labour Party.

Throughout his academic life he was also involved in progressive student politics.

Appreciated as ‘funny and lovely’ by his son Sadaf, Syed Monsur is from Charabhangra Village of Madhabpur Upazilla, Hobigonj. His father is Syed Muhammed Idris and mother is Rafia Khatun Chowdhury. Along with his wife Hadi Jannah and daughter Shompritee, they live in Chigwell, Essex. His hobbies include reading, gardening, travelling and cooking.



Dr. Wali Tasar Uddin
MBE JP

Sector:
Catering and Community relations

One of the most successful Bangladeshi businessmen living in Scotland, Edinburgh-based entrepreneur, Dr Wali Uddin MBE, was born in Moulvibazar in 1952. Having moved to Edinburgh in 1975, Dr Uddin opened such award-winning restaurants as Britannia Spice, Verandah and Lancers. Britannia Spice won Les Routiers Best Newcomer in 2001 and was recognised as the best curry restaurant in Scotland by both BIBA and the Scottish Curry Awards (which it won for three consecutive years). It is currently the Irn Bru Restaurant of the Year.

A respected philanthropist who has raised over half a million pounds for charities in Bangladesh and Britain, Dr Uddin was appointed JP in 1984 and Young Scot of the Year in 1992. In 1993 Wali was appointed the first Honorary Consul-General of Bangladesh in Scotland and, in 1995, a Member of the British Empire for his services to race relations.

Dr Uddin was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Lloyds TSB Asian Jewel Awards. Founding Director of the acclaimed Edinburgh Mela, Dr Uddin is Joint President of the EBF, Chairman of the Council of Bangladeshis in Scotland, a Director of the Edinburgh and Leith Chambers of Commerce and a key player in establishing the BanglaScot Foundation. He is the former Chairman and Director General of the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce and has been awarded three honorary degrees from Heriot-Watt, Queen Margaret and Napier Universities. Dr Uddin is a Director of the Council of the Foreign Chambers of Commerce in the UK and a founder member and Director of Britain in Europe. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and was included in De brets’ People of Today and the Asian Power 100.

Wali Uddin is married to Syeda Akther and has been blessed with five children. He believes in determination, dedication, honesty and integrity.



Zafar Uddin-JP

Sector:
*Community Relations &
Social Care*

Zafar was born in 1956 in Mirsarai, Chittagong, his father late Al-hajj Nurul Ahmed Chowdhury and Mother late Samona Afroz Begum. Zafar comes from a high respectable family he was a freedom fighter in 1971 Liberation Movement, his father was Chairman of East Pakistan Welfare Association and became President of Bangladesh Action Committee in Teesside during 1971 Liberation Movement and worked tirelessly along with the then President Abu Sayeed Chowdhury.

Zafar has two brothers Iqbal and Ashraf and a sister Zesmin. Zafar is married to Polly who is a Nursery Nurse, they have two children, Sheully graduated in Permacology and Raihan completed Masters in Human Resources.

Zafar graduated with BA (Hons) along with Diploma in Higher Education in Social Work at the University of Sunderland. He also has Post Qualification, Diploma in Practice Teaching, Diploma of Forensic Joint Investigation in Child Protection at the University of Teesside and has a Diploma of Acting in Drama and Film Technique.

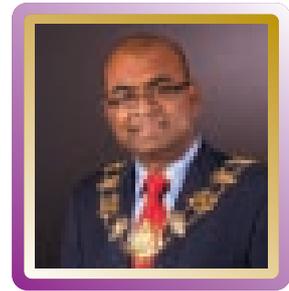
Zafar has made significant contributions in Society and held a number of important positions, including being a Chair of Bangladesh Welfare Association, Vice-Chair of Islamic Association, Chair of Multi-Cultural Association, Vice-Chair of Racial Equality Council and Law Society, Chair of Mela Association, Director of Community Venture, Chair of Park Community Council, School Governor, Member of Radio Cleveland Advisory Council and many more.

Currently, Zafar is serving as Justice of the Peace (JP), Chair of Park Labour Party, Ethnic Minority Officer of Constituency Labour

Party, Vice-Chair of Partnership Forum Cluster Group, Director of Middlesbrough CAB and General Secretary of Tees Valley Bangladeshi Association. Zafar is employed as Senior Practitioner within the Children's Services, for 20 years.

In recognition of Zafar's outstanding Contribution in Society he was invited to a Reception held by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at St James's Place in June 1997 to mark the 50th anniversary of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Zafar was also invited along with wife Polly to a Reception held by The Lord Chancellor and the Speaker in the House of Lords in 1997.

Zafar was a finalist in the category of the Community Champion Award in Teesside 2006. Zafar is considerate, honest, determined to help, besides his full time employment, he works tirelessly in voluntary sectors for the benefit of the community and general welfare of the people.



Cllr Motin-Uz-zaman

Sector:
Politics

Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman, was the Mayor of Tower Hamlets in 2010 and he has been an elected Labour Party Councillor since 1998. Motin Uz- Zaman was elected as a Councillor in Tower Hamlets for St. Mary's Ward in 1998 and then subsequently has been an elected Councillor in Mile End East Ward since 2002. He is a well-known Councillor and a veteran politician in Tower Hamlets Council, London.

He has served as a Cabinet Member overseeing many portfolios, which includes leading on Adult Health and Wellbeing, Environment and Crime Reduction, Equalities and Social Inclusion. He has been involved in improving and instigating some of the housing regeneration currently taking place in the Borough. He has served as a Board Director on East End Homes, Poplar HARCA, Tower Hamlets Community Housing, Cityside Regeneration and Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust. His dedication, hard work and zeal has made him a very prominent politician in Tower Hamlets. He was born in 1969 in Amria (Barobari) of Sunamgonj, and came to the UK with his late father, Md. Isaq Chowdhury, and late mother, Sundor Bibi, in 1973.

Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman got involved in politics very young in his pre-university days. He was the President of the Bangla Society at Queen Mary College, London University. Later, whilst doing post graduation in St. Hugh's College, Oxford University, he became the General Secretary of the Graduate Society (MCR). Councillor Uz-Zaman became a member of the Labour Party in 1987. His primary attention has always been to improve the quality of life for people living and working in Tower Hamlets. Prior to becoming an elected member he has been instrumental in developing the study support programme in the borough and campaigned to ensure the borough had appropriate representation on school governing bodies, reflecting the school population. He began working for school developments, and became the local governor of Stepney Green School in 1990.

He currently works for Barts and the London NHS Trust as Head of Patient and Public Engagement. As a dynamic leader, he is very proud to have represented the people of Tower Hamlets and is indebted to them for this opportunity. He knows that there are many challenges ahead and we need to pull together to overcome these challenges.

Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman is married to Nargis Bahar and father of a daughter (Proma) and three sons (Faiyaz, Abiyaz and Rayyan).

Abssar Mohammed Waess

Sector:
Catering



Abssar Mohammed Waess was born in Boro-bari, Amria, Sunamgonj, Bangladesh in 1967.

His father is late Alhaj Abdul Boshor Mashuk Miah, and his mother is Mrs Badrun Nessa.

Mr Waess moved to the UK with his family in 1975. He completed his education in Berkshire, before completing a HND in Aerospace Engineering at North East Wales Institute of Technology. He obtained a degree in Aeromechanical Engineering from City University, London in 1991.

Mr Waess' career began when he joined his family's restaurant business in 1991. He quickly made progress, and started his own wholesale frozen food company – Eurasia Foods – while studying for his degree. He also set up a catering supplies company called Lais Brothers Ltd.

In 1996, he opened The Blue Cobra restaurant in Reading. Eleven years later, Mr Waess took another pioneering step and opened Xen, also in Reading. Currently, Mr. Waess is investing and develop-

ing an industrial scale, aqua culture project, known as 'Hail Hawor Project', in Mowlovi Bazar, Bangladesh, with the view to cultivate fish, pack, and export to the overseas market. He was one of the original founders of the Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs.

At present, Mr Waess is the Secretary of that organisation and also the President of the Thames Valley Region branch.

Recently, he helped to form the Ethnic Catering Alliance, an organisation that links restaurateurs who offer Asian cuisine.

Mr Waess was a founder director of the Bangladesh British Chamber

of Commerce, and currently holds the position of Deputy Director General. This organisation has helped to promote strong business links between Bangladesh and EU countries.

He also helped to form the Bangladesh Association Greater Reading (BAGR) in 1993 of which he is the Vice President. This organisation helped to raise funds to convert a church into a mosque and community centre.

Having shown to be dedicated to helping his community, Mr Waess was appointed as the first ethnic trustee to the Berkshire Community Foundation.

Mr Waess is married to Jafrin Khan Waess, and is a father to four children; Imran, Samian, Labiba and Safwan.

Ms Rekha Waheed

Sector:
Arts



Ms Rekha Waheed is currently one of the most talented British Asian writers. Born in West London, Ms Waheed became an instant success after releasing her debut novel, 'The A-Z Guide to Arranged Marriage'. Her distinct style has been described as bridging the gap between old world traditions with new world savvy. Ms Rekha Waheed secured a two book publishing deal with Headline Publishing Group.

Her second novel 'Deshi Girl' is set to hit British bookshelves in the autumn 2009.

The publisher has also secured the sequel to Ms Waheed's debut novel 'The A-Z Guide to Arranged Marriage', which is scheduled to be launched in the spring of 2010. Rekha Waheed is currently represented by MBA Literary Agency. Ms Waheed completed her MSc in Economic Development at SOAS, University of London and during her time there held the position of treasurer of the Islamic Society. Whilst pursuing her passion for writing Ms Waheed travelled the

world as a Corporate Consultant. However, she soon caught the attention of a literary agent delivering public readings at the Harrow Writers club. She has since released her debut novel and co-founded Monsoon Press Publisher. Through Monsoon Press, she is also working with the Arts Council and Penguin to raise the profile of British Ethnic and Muslim literature. Ms Rekha Waheed has previously sat on the board of Women in Publishing and is an active promoter of improved literacy programs in the British Bengali Community. In addition, Ms Waheed has worked voluntarily as a treasurer for a Bengali community organisation.

Ms Rekha Waheed is continuously generating interest after reading at the London 2006 and Spitalfield's 2007 Literacy Event. Her unveiling of the intricacies of Brit-Asian experiences for the mainstream in an adept manner has resulted in her being cited as one of Asian's Faces to Watch in 2006. A regular guest for the BBC Asian network, Ms Waheed consistently stresses the need for literature that caters for diverse urban ethnic communities that exposes the challenges of British-Asian culture. Ms Rekha Waheed is set to become a familiar face

M K Zaman (Jewel)**Sector:**
Business

M K Zaman (Jewel) was born in 1970 in Srimongol, Bangladesh. His father was late Jalal Uddin Ahmed and mother was Momtaj Jalal who is famous writer in Bangladesh. Mr. Zaman graduated from Sylhet M C College and Mechanical Engineering from Sylhet Polytechnic Institute. He came to UK in May 1991.

His first job was the post of sales executive for R B Promotion Ltd, owned by Mrs Romola Bachan. He spent eleven successful years with Shaw Wallace, Cobra Beer Ltd and Desh Wholesale Ltd delivering major marketing assignments in the UK and Europe. Through this years he gained vast knowledge of developing innovations and international marketing communication plans. He has been the architect behind developing products and strategy departments in the marketing division.

Mr. Zaman joined Waterlily Property Ltd as a director in May 2009. He is also the founder of Bangladesh catering Expo UK on which he is working for an exhibition in 2011, and a director of Raj Pavilion Ltd.

Mr. Zaman is happily married to Mrs Sujla Zaman. They have five children, Miss Nabilla Zaman, Miss Anika Zaman, Mr Akif Zaman, Miss Nayla Zaman and Master Zidane Zaman. The family live in Orpington, Kent. A versatile character with a broad region of interests, Mr. Zaman loves to listen to Tagore's songs in his pastime. He also likes badminton and swimming.

M Naufal Zamir**Sector:**
Telecommunications

Naufal Zamir is a successful entrepreneur, a dedicated businessman and a committed leader. He arrived in the UK in 1999, equipped with a graduate of law from Dhaka University, and started down the same path as his legally-adept family. His father, brother and sister are all legal professionals, and by 2003, Mr Zamir had completed his LLB at London University, qualified as a Barrister-at-Law and was called to the bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

Armed with only a laptop and a fax machine, Mr Zamir set off on a mission to create a business that would challenge him, test him and push him to grow as a person, a businessman and a leader. It was from those humble beginnings in 2004 that he founded Zamir Telecom.

In the company's short history, it has achieved phenomenal growth in all three of its serving sectors and has established itself as a trusted name in the international wholesale market, a well-recognised brand in the retail market and a respected service in the corporate sector. Recently, Zamir Telecom has soared to new heights, being named amongst the fastest-growing UK tech companies in the Sunday Times' Tech Track 100 in 2011 and 2012. It has expanded its operations in Middle East, South Asia, South-East Asia, Africa and North America and notably, the company has expanded exponentially, year after year, in spite of rough economic trends globally.

One of Mr Zamir's fortes is public speaking, and he has addressed audiences in award ceremonies, events and congregations of industry peers at the highest level. But even with all his success, Mr Zamir continues to dedicate himself to furthering his education and development as businessman. He has attended the LSE Summer Courses in Leadership and Entrepreneurship and regularly attends seminars and events relevant to successful personalities. He has worked alongside a broad range of consultants - whose areas of expertise range from finance and management to technology and regulatory - and is an active member of the entrepreneur community around the world.