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BUCKINGHAM PALACE

22nd May, 2009

Dear Mr. Karim,

The Queen has asked me to thank you for your letter of 24th March, and I must first of all apologise for the delay in replying. Due to the very high volume of mail received in recent weeks, it has not been possible to reply until now.

It was very kind of you to send Her Majesty a copy of the *Bangla Mirror* and the *British Bangladeshi Who's Who 2008*, which she found most interesting.

The Queen has taken careful note of your request for a message to be included in the 2009 edition of the publication. Whilst it would not be possible for Her Majesty to send a personal message, I have, nevertheless, been instructed to convey The Queen's warm good wishes to you and to all concerned with the publication, for a successful and memorable year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonia Bonici".

Mrs. Sonia Bonici  
Senior Correspondence Officer

Abdul Karim, Esq.



Rt Hon DAVID CAMERON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

August 2009

**British Bangladeshi Who's Who 2009**

I am delighted to welcome the second edition of this important publication.

It reflects the immense contribution which British Bangladeshi communities make to all aspects of our national life.

I am sure once again it will prove to be a valuable reference tool and guide for all communities in this country.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Cameron', written in a cursive style.

**David Cameron**



High Commissioner

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

Dated: 12 Aug 2009

Goodwill Message from High Commissioner

I am delighted to know that 'British Bangladeshi Who's who 2009' directory is going to be published soon for the second time. This publication will help to recognise the members of our community who have achieved highest success in their personal life as well as in social life. This will also provide an opportunity to the new generation of British-Bangladeshis to know more about the hardworking community members who have achieved success in the UK in the areas such as Art & Culture, Business, Education, Government Service, Journalism, Politics and Science and Technology.

People of Bangladesh have always been dignified, hardworking and peaceful. Our community have been working sincerely for personal attainments as well as for the development of the motherland. Bangladesh is proud of her expatriates living in the UK and recognises their contribution for their country of origin. British-Bangladeshi community is gradually merging with the mainstream British society & culture and playing a vital role in strengthening bilateral relations between Bangladesh and the UK.

I wish all success to the British Bangladeshi Community.

  
(Dr. M Sayeedur Rahman Khan)



## Editor in Chief's Foreword

Another year has gone, and after the relentless efforts of the British Bangladeshi Who's Who team we have finally compiled the 2009 edition of the publication. This years edition promises to be more exciting and a more enhanced depiction of the community's success and the achievements of individuals.

The publication highlights some achievers who have received no previous exposure to British Bangladeshis and I feel proud that through this medium, namely the publication, we are able to bring these people to the forefront of our community's attention as well as to the awareness of Britain.

The awards are designed to recognise the efforts of those who have gone that extra mile and have dedicated large segments of their life or career to become successful and contribute immensely to society.

I am under no illusion that this publication has reached perfection, however, with time and more effort I sincerely believe that we will continue to develop.

Mohammed Abdul Karim (Goni)  
Editor-in-Chief



## Editor's Foreword

After the launch of British Bangladeshi Who's Who last June, I was delighted that the community received the publication positively. However, as with any publication, refinements were necessary to ensure that it was as reflective of the community's achievements as possible and practicable.

This year we have unearthed more success stories and high flyers that have inevitably made the 2009 edition of this publication more complete than the previous edition and in my opinion a great read.

The idea is that the publication records accomplishments of individuals and showcases meritorious individuals to mainstream Britain. Moreover, it is the publication and the individual successes taken collectively that highlight the endeavours of the British Bangladeshi community as a whole.

With the introduction of the awards this year, I felt that the publication can develop further and the concept of British Bangladeshi Who's Who will be better presented. The awards are given to eminent individuals who we (the team) think deserve the recognition for the contribution they have made during the course of their careers, or those who are rising stars within the community.

I hope you enjoy this year's edition.

Shahadoth Karim LLB (Hons), Barrister  
Editor

BRITISH BANGLADESHI  
WHO'S  
WHO  
2009

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**HELAL UDDIN ABBAS**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Helal Uddin Abbas to the UK in 1972. He joined the Labour party in 1979 and since then has gone onto to serve in several positions including; ward secretary, chair of a secondary school governing body, councillor, vice chair of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Education Committee, and lead member for education. He has also served as the Leader of Tower Hamlets Council.

Helal Uddin Abbas was one of the founders of the first locally based anti-National Front organisations which were named the Anti Racist Committee of Asians in East London (ARC-AEL). Mr Abbas has worked previously as a youth and community worker in several London boroughs as well as the training programme director of Common Purpose, a national charity. He was the lead member for education in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and leader of the council for four years. As leader of the council he was responsible for improving the standard of education in the borough, ensuring housing issues were resolved as well as developing new houses and providing residents with access to employment and training.

During his time at the council he achieved a good rating under the government's comprehensive performance assessment initiative, which recognised Tower Hamlets had both a focused and astute political leadership as well as strong, clear management.

Under Cllr Abbas' leadership the Borough of Tower Hamlets has achieved many Beacon Awards in fields such as; community cohesion, race equality, getting closer to communities and support for social care workers as well as an LGC award for the best Social Services Management Team.

Helal Uddin Abbas is notably proud of his political achievements in regeneration, transport, housing and education. He is actively involved in campaigning for local residents and constantly stresses the importance of value, respect and inclusiveness. He was also involved with the Bengali Housing Action Group and was the secretary of the organisation.



**ABDUL AHAD**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr Abdul Ahad is a British Bangladeshi who has been working 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 Britian's Bangladeshi community and has supported the development of schools, mosques, madrassas and other charity projects in his parental village in Sylhet.



**HAFIZ MOULANA  
SYED NAEM  
AHMAD**

**SECTOR**  
Academia (Islamic)

Born in 1978 in the village of Syedpur in Jagannathpur Upazilla under Sunamgonj district, Moulana Syed Naem Ahmed started his education in the Syedpur Hafizia Husainiya Arabiya Darul Hadis Madrasha. He became Hafizul Quran in 1990, completed an Arabic language course from Yahya Uttara's Al Islami (Al Kuwait) Higher Institute for Islamic Studies in 2001 and in 2002 successfully passed the M.A. exams in Islamic Theology and went on to gain a scholarship.

In Bangladesh he had been a long serving member of a movement called Chatra Jamiat Bangladesh since its inception and has been involved in many different ways. Whilst in Dhaka in 2001 he became the training secretary of the Chhatra Jamiat Dhaka North and executive committee member of Dhaka City. He has also written various articles in Magazines and was closely associated with some of the well-known weekly newspapers in Bangladesh like the Muslim Jahan, The Tawhidi Porikroma and the Jamiat.

Since coming to the UK in 2001 has been very active in his community. He has been a teacher in the Shah Poran Masjid and Islamic centre in Hackney where he also served as a cleric (Imam) for the Masjid for a long period of time. Furthermore he was a teacher in the Imam Zakariya Academy (primary school) 2004-2006. He is currently teaching in Al-Falah Primary School Clapton and Al-Hidayah Academy in Barking.

In 2004 Hafiz Moulana Syed Naem Ahmed was the media secretary of Jamiat-e- Ulama Islam Europe, joint secretary of the Islamic Oikko Jut (IOJ) Europe and the organising secretary of the IOJ in the UK branch, he was also the organising secretary for Islamic Ain Bastobayan Committee UK, Chairman of The Monthly Al Faruque, Organising Secretary of Bow Community Association, and also the London Correspondent of The Monthly Tawhidi Parikrama and Weekly Dhaka Post.

In 2008 he was elected the Organising Secretary of Jam'iatul Ulama UK (British Council of Muslim Scholars), where he very actively helps in running conferences, seminars and many different community activities.



**ALI AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Business and  
Community  
Relations

Mr Ali Ahmed came to the UK in 1975 with his father Al-Hajj Alauddin Ahmed who hails from the village of Saheb Bari Chandai, dokkin Surma, Sylhet. In the UK Mr Ahmed started his first business in 1984. Currently his business interests vary from investment properties, frozen foods to catering.

Mr Ahmed is members of various organisations in UK, and has held various offices. He is one of the founding members and a trustee of the Bangladesh Centre Cardiff. He has been an executive member since 1985 and Treasurer since 1995. Furthermore, he is also Chairman Caddyn housing contact group, Board of director Taff housing Association, Executive member and financial supporter of Bangla School in Cardiff. Previously he was an Executive Member Shahjalal Mosque Cardiff from 1987 to 1998 and General Secretary Shahjalal Mosque Cardiff for two periods in 1999 and from 2000 to 2002. Ali Ahmed is also an Executive member of Race Equality First Cardiff and Treasurer Islamic Society Wales as well as being Vice Chairman Dokkin Surma Somaj Kollan Somitti

Ali Ahmed maintains a strong connection with politics. He is Executive Member of Cardiff County Labour Party in addition to being Ethnic Minority Officer Cardiff Central. He is Secretary of Cyncoed, Pentwyn, Llanydren Branch Labour Party ( and has been Since 2006) as well as holding the position of Executive Member - Cardiff & Vale Fabien society.

Ali has organised numerous fundraising and charitable events and has campaigned relentlessly for the Labour Party in his local community.

In 2006 Ali was a recipient of the Channel 5 Community Awards for his services and contributions to the community.

In July 2009 Ali Ahmed was invited to the Queens Garden party and earlier that year he was invited by the Prime Minister to a reception at 10 Downing Street.

**Mrs Ayesha Ahmed was born in Noyasarak Mankpir Road of Sylhet. She started her education at Kazitola Primary School, followed by Kishorimohon Girls High School and Sylhet Government Mohilla College.**

In 1965, she got married to the late Dr Bashir Ahmed. The following year, they moved to the UK. Ayesha Ahmed and her husband are blessed with four sons and one daughter.

Ayesha Ahmed has worked in the media sector for over twenty years. She was the first female British Bangladeshi journalist in the UK, and for this she is widely respected. She is currently the Honorary Editor of the weekly newspaper 'Surma', a publication that was started in 1977 by her late husband; this role entails assisting with the printing, publication and editing.



**AYESHA AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Media

In response to the outstanding contribution that Ayesha Ahmed has made to the media sector, the Sylhet Press Club has honoured her by providing life membership to their organisation.

In addition, Ayesha Ahmed has been an ambassador for the Bangladeshi people who live in Britain. She has been very supportive, and has been generous with her time in helping those members of the community who need it.

**BASHIR AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Catering



Bashir Ahmed was born in Bangladesh in 1953. He completed his education in Bangladesh and completed his SSC at Commilla Board in 1970. Mr Ahmed completed his HSC from Madan Mohan College in 1972, and he gained a BA (Hons) degree from the same college in 1974.

Mr Ahmed had in the recent past established Director of East Bank Travel, a company that trades under the name of Oxus Travel and Tours. Perhaps more famously, he is also the Chairman and Managing Director of Kohinoor of India Holding Ltd. This company owns and manages the largest chain of Indian restaurants in the Netherlands.

Mr Ahmed is the proprietor of Kasturi Restaurant situated in Aldgate. The catering establishment is well known for its quality food and service and has won a number of awards. It is recognized as one of the best in London.

Mr Ahmed's journey to his current prolific role began in 1974, when he started working in a restaurant. He quickly rose through the ranks, and in 1981 became the first Asian restaurant manager at the Hotel Ibis Amsterdam in Holland. It was also in 1981 that he opened the first branch of Kohinoor of India, and set up Kohinoor of India Holding Ltd.

In the years since, he has gradually built up his restaurant portfolio to become the successful man that he is today. His efforts have not gone unrecognised, and in 1988, he was named 'Man of the Year' for the small business association by the Chamber of Commerce for East Netherlands. He has also been named an 'Investor in People' for his role with the Kasturi Restaurant and Catering business he owns in the UK.

He has donated to many charitable institutions and causes both here in the UK as well as in Bangladesh, and continues to donate generously today. In his private life, Bashir Ahmed is a keen follower of sports. He plays both football and badminton, and was an Instrumental Guitar Artist on Radio Pakistan and Bangladesh between 1968 and 1974.



**CLLR A M OHID AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Councillor and Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. In addition Cllr Ahmed also embraces the Secretarial position within the Labour Friends of Bangladesh organisation.

Ohid is a part qualified Certified Chartered Accountant (ACCA) and between 2002 and 2005 he completed his MBA at the University of East London. 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.

Cllr Ohid Ahmed is very 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 implement measures, which will eradicate these barriers.

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 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 MEHFUZ AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Mehfuз Ahmed was born and brought up in City of Westminster. He attended local primary and secondary school in Westminster.

Mehfuз's Grandfather came to the UK in the 1950's and his father soon followed; both lived in the City of Westminster. They originate from village: Nidon Pur, Beani Bazaar, Sylhet District.

He is the son of Late Alhaj Hafiz Uddin, highly respected member of the community. His father was the Founding President of the West London Awami League, Former Chairman of Marylebone Bangladesh Society and a trustee of Beani Bazaar Welfare Trust UK. His father has also been on the board of many Westminster Networks and has received many awards from the Council and other organisations in recognition to his work in the City of Westminster.

Mehfuз currently works for a leading national Voluntary Organisation. Previously he has worked in the Banking field and has also been a civil servant. He has also worked for many Conservative Ministers and Secretary of States in his early career days.

In July 2008 Mehfuз made history with victory in National Politics in Westminster. He became the first ever Conservative Councillor in 108

years in the Church Street Ward By-Election in Westminster City Council. He is the first and only Bangladeshi Conservative Councillor in Westminster City Council. Within 10 months of becoming a councillor Mehfuз was promoted in May 2009 to Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

Mehfuз is also on the board of the Conservative Friends of Bangladesh (CFOB). He is an active member of CFOB since it was established. He has worked very closely with Chair of CFOB Anne Main MP and colleagues Dr Charles Tannock MEP (Conservative Foreign Spokesman in the European Parliament) and Dominic Grieve MP (Shadow Justice Secretary) to lobby the Caretaker Government and the British Government in 2008 for the release of former Prime Ministers of Bangladesh Begum Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina and for a free and fair election in Bangladesh.

Mehfuз is currently the General Secretary of Marylebone Bangladesh Society and a founding Trustee of London Tigers - a leading sports organisation in London.

Mehfuз is married to Ritha Ahmed who is a Company Director; together they have 2 children Majeed and Jannat.



**CLLR ROFIQUE  
UDDIN AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Born in Sylhet, Cllr Rofique was amongst three sons of Mr Haris Ali and Mrs K. Nessa. His older brother and family live in London; his youngest brother, Kutub Ahmed graduated from UCL and now works for a reputable Accountancy firm.

Alhaj Rofique Ahmed married Mrs Aysha Begum in 1983; they have been residing in Tower Hamlets since 1985. Their eldest daughter Aklima Begum, graduated from Westminster University with a First Class Honours Degree in Business Management. She works at Reuters, a worldwide Media/Financial Institute and married Nuruz Z. Ruhel in December 2008. Nelema Begum is studying Medicine at Kings College University. Their only son, Emad Ahmed is awaiting his A Level results from Leyton College. Nasima Begum currently studies at CFGS in Year 10 and youngest child Shamima Begum is in year 4 at BJPS.

Since elected as Councillor for Mile End and Globe Town LBTH in 2002, Cllr Ahmed has been re-elected in 2006 due to growing popularity and holds many important positions, playing a vital role in decision making in the following organisations: Cabinet Lead Member for Culture and Leisure for 2years running. Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) Planning Decisions Team. London 2012. Chair of Strategic Development and Development Committee for 3years. Chair of Olympic Development Committee for 2years. London Council's Culture, Tourism and 2012 forum. Chair of Licensing Committee, Chair of Standards Panel. Trustee of Ocean Regeneration trust. Lead Member of Asia Urbs - Sylhet Partnership. Director of Ocean New Deal for Communities. Lead Member of the Association of London Government (ALG) Grant Committee. Trustee of Stepney Relief in Needs Charity Board. Trustee of East London CAB. Trustees of Rich Mix Centre.

His contributions to the community includes: Chair of Ben Jonson School Governing Body, Senior Vice-Chair of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council East London, Tower Hamlets Governors Forum, Assistant Secretary - Ocean Tenants and Leaseholders Association.

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 for all. He wants to see children educated, motivated and determined to pursue successful careers.



**DOROS AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr Doros Ahmed is a successful restaurateur in the West Hampstead area of North West London. Mr Ahmed arrived in the UK in 1971 from Balagonj in Sylhet. Upon arrival Mr Ahmed completed his secondary education. He then proceeded into employment, which helped built his knowledge and experience substantially.

In the early part of the 1980's Mr Ahmed went into partnership with Enamul Hoque of the famous Lal Qila restaurant. This helped Mr Ahmed open his first ever restaurant called Eastern Brasserie in Holborn and this followed by another restaurant called Chowranginge 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 restaurant 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 Action group from its inauguration in 1976 the organisations is now known as the Bengali Workers Association (BWA). He has also served as the treasurer for this Association. He completed two terms helping the Bangladeshi community of Queens Park, totalling five years as the General Secretary of the Queens Park Bangladeshi Association. Adding to this Mr Ahmed is Senior Vice President of the Bangladesh Caterers Association UK. Mr Ahmed also plays an active role as a labour party member of North Kensington closely working with members of the Parliament Karen Buck. He is the Vice President of West London Awami League.

Mr Doros Ahmed is married to Samirun Nehar and they have five children, two sons and three daughters who are attending college and university.

He enjoys travelling and has visited many countries.

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 MORTUZA AHMED**

Barrister

**SECTOR**

Legal

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.

## 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 charities and 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 5 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.



**MOHAMMED SALEH  
AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Property and Finance

Mohammed Saleh Ahmed was born in Paschim Bhag, Lalabazer, Dokkin Surma in Sylhet. His father is Mr Mohammed Moklis Ali and his mother Mrs Rashabun Nessa. Mr Ahmed has five siblings, comprising of four brothers and one sister. One of his brothers is based in London, another one in Paris and the remaining two based in Bangladesh involved in various businesses.

Mohammed Saleh Ahmed came to the United Kingdom over fifteen years ago and initially entered the world of banking, working in HSBC Bank. However before coming to the United Kingdom Saleh Ahmed completed the Higher Secondary Education from Sylhet M C College and obtained a BSc honours degree from the University of Chittagong. Mr Ahmed is currently a Financial Consultant and property developer, successfully running a mortgage intermediary firm named 'Baselink Property and Finance limited', which is based in Bethnal Green, East London.

Mr Ahmed resides in Tower Hamlets and is married to Shefali Begum who is a house wife with four children; three sons and one daughter. Their children are Nadim and Nayeem who are both aged twelve, Galib who is four years old and Laaibah who is one.



**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 Jagannath 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, and he is also the treasurer of the newly elected Press Club Committee.

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

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





**SHAFI AHMED**  
MBBS FRCS(Ed),  
FRCS(Eng), FRCSI,  
FRCS(Gen.Surg)

**SECTOR**  
Medicine

Mr Shafi Ahmed is a Consultant Surgeon at Barts and The London NHS Trust and Honorary Senior Lecturer at Barts and the London Medical School, Queen Mary University of London.

He was born in Sylhet and arrived in the UK as a child and is one of three sons and daughter of the Late Alhaj Mimbor Ali. He qualified in medicine in 1993 from Kings College Hospital Medical School where he was elected president of the medical students union and obtained the Jelf Medal in 1991 for academic excellence. He underwent surgical training in London and obtained fellowships from three Royal Colleges of Surgeons and obtained his specialist registration in 2006. He spent three years performing research into the genetics of colorectal cancer and looked specifically at how this common disease affected the Bangladeshi community in Tower Hamlets. This remains the only paper of its kind in world literature. The paper is entitled "Microarray profiling of colorectal cancer in Bangladeshi patients" - Colorectal Dis. 2005 Nov; 7(6):571-5.

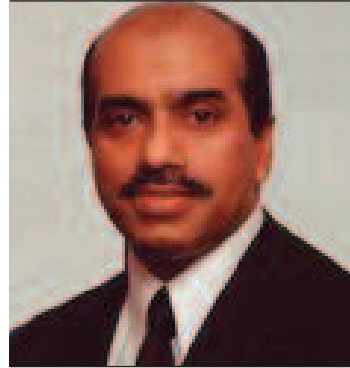
He was appointed as Consultant Surgeon in 2007 and specialises in general and colorectal surgery. His main expertise is in laparoscopic (keyhole surgery) and is the clinical lead for laparoscopic colorectal surgery at Barts and the London NHS trust. He has recently performed one of the country's first combined laparoscopic liver and colon resections. He works in the Centre for Academic Surgery which is one of the most prestigious surgical departments in the country with an international reputation for excellence in the treatment of colorectal disease.

He is a member of the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland, Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons and the European Association of Endoscopic Surgeons and has admitting rights at The Princess Grace Hospital, The London Independent Hospital and the Spire Roding Hospital.

He is also an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Barts and the London Medical School and is the surgical lead for education for undergraduates. He is an external examiner for the University of Oxford medical school. He is also actively involved in postgraduate surgical training and education. He is an Assigned Educational Supervisor for the Royal College of Surgeons of England and runs the training programme for surgical trainees at Barts and the London as well as being involved in the selection process of prospective medical students and surgical trainees.

One of his main interests is colorectal cancer and he launched, in the media bowel cancer screening for the Bangladeshi community in Tower Hamlets to encourage participation in this national screening programme.

He is married to Dr Farzana Hussain a GP principle in Newham and has two children Usmaan and Zarina.



**PARVEZ AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Business

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 last twenty years.

Mr Ahmed is also currently 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, participating in a number of committees as well as serving as the current chairman of the Dollis Hill Ward in Brent. Over the last twenty 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 Brent Minority and Ethnic Forum, Greater Sylhet Council UK, Kilburn Partnership, Single Regeneration Board, Friends of Bangladesh, West Hampstead Bengali Association, 403 Harrow Road Limited, Bangladesh Centre (Notting Hill), Brent Bengali Community Centre (Brent) 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 two years to London Borough of Brent Councillor Lena Ahmed, the couple have been blessed with two sons who are studying science and law at Universities respectively.



## 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 with being 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 the 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 compromises 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 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.

In 2009 he was given an honorary fellowship by Queen Mary, University of London.



Shofi Ahmed is a national award winning and one of the most talented writers to come out 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 freelancing 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 S in 2006.



**SHOFI AHMED**

**SECTOR**  
Media and  
Literature

The eldest of seven sibling's, 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 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.

Syed has also recently masterminded another venture, [www.getlaunched.co.uk](http://www.getlaunched.co.uk), which enables companies to develop websites that project their vision, values and personality via the medium of video.

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.



**ALI AKBAR JP**

**SECTOR**

Business and Community Relations

Ali Akbar came to the United Kingdom with his parents, Mr Al-Haj Alauddin Ahmed and Mrs Shafia Khanom, in 1975.

He completed both his GCSE education and further studies in Scunthorpe. The family then moved to Cardiff, where he began his first business with his family in the catering industry in the early 1980's, whilst also studying part time.

Currently Mr Akbar is involved in both the restaurant trade and also the property development business. He possesses an impressive portfolio of properties. He was one of the recipients of the Channel 5 Community Awards in 2009 Ali Akbar is Director and Executive Committee member of Dreamland Amusement Park in Sylhet and also Director of the Al Hamra Shopping City also situated in Sylhet.

Aside from his business involvement, Mr Akbar is very strongly concerned with community organisations and charity projects. He is a Magistrate and also the Managing Director of Alauddin Ahmed Primary School Scholarship in Sylhet. Furthermore, he is the Managing Director of PK Johir Uddin Ahmed Health Clinic in Sylhet.

In the UK, Mr Akbar is on the Executive Committee of Cardiff City Council Citizen Forum and also Vice President of Penylan Ward Cardiff Labour Party as well as being an Executive Committee member of Cardiff Labour Party. Additionally, he is an Executive Committee member of Cardiff and Vale Magistrate as well as being an EC Member of Cardiff Council Community Department and also the South Wales Race and Equality First committee.

Ali Akbar is an Adviser for the Immigration Advice Service (Cardiff Branch) and also Cardiff Police Community Group. He is the General Secretary of Shahjalal Mosque and Cultural Centre. He is also a Member of Bangladesh Association.

As a result of Mr Akbar's dedication to community activities and contribution to Cardiff he was awarded a certificate recognising his hard work, by Her Majesty the Queen in 1992.

Mr Ali Akbar is married to Johura Akbar with four children, namely Shahana, Henna, Javed and Redwanah.



**MEAH MONIRUL ALAM**

**SECTOR**

Business and 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 develop educational and religious institutions in Bangladesh.

Mr Alam is married to Rowshan Ara Alam and they are parents to two sons and two daughters who are all married. They have six grandchildren in total.

Mr Afzal Ali was born in Bangladesh in the village of Kamra Khai, Jagannathpur in 1979. he has 3 brothers.

Mr Ali came to the UK in 1979 with his family. Initially he lived in Mile End in London and finished secondary school and then moved to Belfast in 1999. In Belfast Afzal opened his first business called India Village.

After a few years Mr Ali moved to north Wales and joined Polash/Spice group of restaurants with his friend Abdul Jalil as a business partner. He then established fusion spice take away in August 2006, as well as Spice of Llanberis in 2007. They went onto establish passage to India as well as other Indian restaurants.

Afzal Ali is also very active within the Bangladeshi community and is a member of the Greater Sylhet Development Council (Chester north Wales). He is also very strongly involved with Bangor Bangladeshi welfare association as well as many activities, including fundraising for masjids and madrashas in the UK and abroad.



**AFZAL ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Business

**AJMAL ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Catering



Currently he is extensively involved in the catering industry as well as the real estate business.

Although Mr Ali is not directly involved in any socio – cultural organisations he always extends his help for any poor and disadvantage whenever needed.

He currently lives in East London with his wife Mohebun Nessa his two daughters Afsara Ali and Farhana Ali and his only son Mohammed Akmal Ali.

Mr Ajmal Ali was born in 1976 at Moinpur village of Chattak upozila in Sunamogonj district. Born to Alhaz Siddiqueque Ali and Hoor Bibi, Mr Ali has five siblings comprising of one brother and four sisters.

Mr Ali finished his primary education from his home village and came to London with his family in the 1990's. In the United Kingdom Mr Ali completed his GCSE's and A- levels.

Mr Ali created his name in Business. On arrival in the UK in the 1990's his dream was to become a millionaire. He established his business after the completion of his college education in 1994. Initially he set up a newsagent and subsequently a restaurant.



**ALHAZ SUKUR ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Alhaz Sukur Ali is the first elected president of Bangladesh Caterer and Community Welfare Association based in Carlisle.

Born in 1955 in Bishwanath, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Ali came to the UK in 1969. In 1973 Mr Ali opened his first restaurant in Manchester. By 1981, he opened the first Bangladeshi restaurant in Stanwix Bank Cumbria which was named Stanwix Tandoori.

The success of these two businesses allowed him to open a multitude of catering establishments in the area. One of his most successful restaurants is the Viceroy Restaurant in Carlisle established in 1991.

He experienced struggles including racist attacks on the Viceroy but this did not deter him.

Sukur Ali has organised a number of community events in Carlisle in collaboration with Bangladeshi community association to promote the Bengali culture and food.

He was the founder of the Bangladeshi Mosque in Carlisle.

His outstanding efforts have made an impact on ethnic harmony in the Cumbria region. He has done fund-raising for Carlisle air ambulance, Introducing Bangladeshi cuisine to local School children and Supporting elderly people in many ways such as providing free meals.

He is a patron for Carlisle United Football Club. He is also the founder of Jamia Islamia Atasan Mollapara Education project in the Balagonj where hundreds of poor children receive free residential education. BBCC member Mr Ali is a trustee of Doshgor Probashi education trust and Bishwanath education trust based in the UK.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the community he has been nominated for the prestigious channel 5 community award in 2008.

Married to Minara Begum, the couple have four sons who are all currently studying. Mr Sukur Ali believes through hard work and perseverance anything can be achieved and is a firm believer in giving back to the community.



**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.

He is married to Jobeda Choudhury and together they have four daughters who are going through University Education. Away from his businesses and family, Amin Ali is a keen traveller and enjoys playing and watching squash and football.



**AZAD ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Azad Ali moved to the UK in 1969, and studied at the London Hampstead College of Business Management. Mr Ali's first restaurant, called the Shapla Tandoori, was based in Canvey Island, Essex, and was soon to become the first of many restaurants that fell under the ownership of Azad Ali. The Milaad Tandoori in Hullbridge (Essex) as well as Deal Kent, and Snodland Kent, the Shalima Tandoori in West Drayton (Middlesex), and Bengal Diners Walmer and Paprika both in Dover (Kent) soon followed, and Mr Ali quickly gained a reputation as a successful restaurateur.

He is now the owner of three very successful restaurants: La Cantina in Orpington, and the Colyer Arms and Spice Garden, both of which are based in Southfleet.

He is also the proprietor of the Whitecliff group of companies and also Sami Grille and he is the Director of the British Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce. This latter position is something Mr Ali has gained experience for over an extended number of years.

In the past, he was the Director at Front Air Service Ltd, Homeland Life Insurance Company and also the Bondon Housing Development Company. In addition to this, he held the position of Secretary for Public Relations for the BCA for two terms and was also a board member for the Dover Chamber of Commerce and Industries. He was the founder and former treasurer of Jagannath Pur British – Bangla Education Trust and was also the founder and co-ordinator of Jagannath Pur Probashi Kollayan Trust UK. Furthermore, he is the Treasurer of the advisory committee in the UK for the National Heart Foundation Sylhet.

Mr Ali is married to Lilufa Begum Ali, and they have four children. Their eldest daughter – Shalimar Aktar Ali – graduated from the University of Westminster having completed a degree in Business, Accountancy and Information. Their next daughter – Shamima Aktar Ali – is a solicitor having completed her LPC. Their youngest daughter is still in education. Their son – Miladun Islam Ali – graduated from the London School of Economics.



**CLLR JUNAB ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Politics and  
Business

Cllr Junab Ali resides in Swindon Wiltshire. He completed his higher education from Swindon College and qualified as an electrician.

Cllr Ali joined the Labour party in 2005 and worked tirelessly for Labour's third time victory. He was not only the first British Bangladeshi councillor to be elected to Swindon Borough Council, but also the first Muslim councillor to achieve this feat.

Junab Ali describes himself as a devout politician with the utmost pedigree of determination to bring about positive change. He is an active member of the South Swindon Labour Party Executive and the party's chief whip for Swindon Council. Moreover, Cllr Ali is the Labour Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Devizes.

Cllr Junab Ali is passionate about community affairs and as a result he is extensively involved with numerous charitable organisations and initiatives. He has raised huge sums of money for various causes. Furthermore, he is a founder member of Bangladeshi Female Academy (BFA).

Aside from politics Cllr Ali is also the proprietor of various restaurants. His hobbies and interests include history and travelling.

Cllr Mohammed Shahid Ali was first elected as Councillor in May 2006 and subsequently served as Deputy Mayor in 2008. Born in 1956 in Chhattak, Sunamganj in Bangladesh, Cllr Ali was educated in Bangladesh before coming to the UK in 1991.

Cllr Shahid Ali studied at the Madan Mohan College in Sylhet before completing his Bachelor of Commerce degree between 1977 and 1979 at Chittagong University.

Once in the UK, Cllr Shahid obtained the City and Guilds Communications qualification from Tower Hamlets College in 1995. Whilst carrying out his education, Cllr Ali was also employed in various vocations. He has worked in numerous Restaurants here in the UK in different capacities often managing those around him.

Moreover he has acquired a vast experience of employment, having worked for Travel Agents, an Insurance company as well being a yellow taxi driver in the United States of America.

Cllr Shahid Ali is presently self-employed, in addition to being Councillor for Limehouse and Deputy Mayor, he is also committed to community work. Cllr Ali is the Chair of the Millennium Green Trust, as well as Community Trustee of the Isle of Dogs foundation. Likewise he is a parent governor at Woolmore Primary School and Stepney Green Maths & Computing College in East London.

In addition Cllr Ali has worked relentlessly within the Bangladeshi community here in the UK. He is a Member of the Collective



**CLLR MOHAMMED  
SHAHID ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Bangladeshi School Governors and Vice Chair of South Poplar and Limehouse Secure Housing Action Group.

Cllr Mohammed Shahid Ali is married to Fatema Nargis and they have three children; Shahriar, Abir and Ome. Shahriar attends the prestigious City of London Boys School where he received a scholarship to complete his A-Levels.

Cllr Ali's interest include reading, participating in sport including badminton and swimming as well as cooking. He is fluent in Bengali, Hindi, Urdu and Arabic. Cllr Mohammed Shahid Ali can be best described as an individual using politics to bring great change to the community and to improve the lives of the residents of Tower Hamlets.

## CLLR SHAHED ALI

### SECTOR

Politics, Arts and  
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 originate 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 'Ekta Shahed Ali Upohaar', have enabled him to hold unique events at prestigious venues such as the London 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 from the community, for the community.

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.





**MOHAMMED MONCHAB  
ALI JP**

**SECTOR**  
Catering and  
Community Relations

Mohammed Monchab Ali is the current 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 a one of the Top-30 Restaurant in UK and Top-10 Finalist for 2005 & 2006 and it won British Curry Awards 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.



**KAMRU ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Property and Finance

Kamru Ali is an accountant boasting a BA Honours degree in Accountancy & Law as well as the C.A.T and Certificate in Mortgage Advice and Practice (CeMAP) qualifications.

Kamru who resides in Wanstead, initially trained in Central London in one of the top 6 Accountancy Firms in the city Audit Commission where he was an Auditor for some three years. Having gained valuable experience Mr Ali then went onto set up his own accountancy service aptly named 'Kam Accountancy Services'. At the same time he also established numerous property investment companies.

Kamru Ali can be described as a full time property investor. His numerous property investment companies include; District One Estates Ltd, Black Seed Investments Ltd, Premier Properties (Stratford) Ltd. Other companies owned by Mr Ali comprise of K&K Developments, Arjee Bhajee Ltd, Apex Property Services (UK) Ltd.

Kamru is a family orientated individual and is married with three children. He is occupied with a profusion of charitable initiatives and community organisations. He is presently the Treasurer of the Newham Welfare Trust as well

as an active member of the Newham Youth Link.

Furthermore Kamru is the Business Advisor of Newham Business Forum.

In recent years since the inception of Channel S, Kamru has appeared regularly on the television as a Property 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 a Young Business Leader in the 'Who's Who of Britain's Business Elite'.

Kamru Ali is clearly a safe pair of hands when it comes to investing in property here in Britain. He is among a batch of young British Bangladeshis who have taken huge strides in the fields of property investment and finance.



**LUTFUR R. ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Local Government

With over 20 years of serving in senior positions in the voluntary, public and private sectors at local, regional, national and international levels. Often as an advisor focusing on business transformation, equalities, cohesion, regeneration and development. This includes local authorities, the Public Judicial Inquiry into the murder of Zahid Mubbarek; the National Police Training Authority; the Department of Health; Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Prisons and Probation Services Ombudsman.

Lutfur is currently Assistant Chief Executive of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets a high performing 4 star authority in a very diverse area of London. His responsibilities include Equalities and Scrutiny, Communications, Democratic Services, Strategy and Performance and Third Sector.

Prior to this he was a Director for the Tribal Group Plc, one the largest management consultancy and support services provider to the public sector in the UK.

He has successfully led service and business improvement for a range of organisations and has extensive experience of leading, equalities, human rights and cohesion work.



**MAYA ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Solicitor)

Maya Ali was married at the age of 16, mother of three children is now a qualified Solicitor and an established businesswoman who owns her own legal practice in Coventry named after her Maya & Co Solicitors.

Daughter of Aftab Ali and Monta Bibi, Bangladesh Residence: Kojakabad, Bishwanath Sylhet, Maya immigrated in UK at the age of 10 months with her mother to join her father.

Like any regular devoted housewife she was committed to her three children and her husband a catering business owner Mr Syed Akbar Ali. However at the age of 26 with the support of her husband Maya decided to study further, she embarked on an Access course at Tile Hill College, Coventry and then went on to read LLB (Hons) at the University Of Warwick.

To gain some training, Maya first started off by working in a law firm in London for four months, which meant being separated away from her family. Maya trained at J R Jones Solicitors, and qualified in 2005. She soon progressed herself as the head of conveyancing department.

In 2007 Maya opened a legal practice in partnership then parted the Partnership in March 2009 and challenged herself by setting up her own practice as a sole practitioner.

Maya continuously encourages women around her to inspire them to follow their ambition.

Maya Ali is a patriotic person she has shown interest in the Bangladesh politics she has been appointed as the legal Executive for the Coventry Awami League Committee. Her aim is to help strengthen the party which is currently in power. She is also part of the "made in Coventry" campaign for the Coventry City College in their aim to influence student to study and achieve their ambitions.

She is seriously considering engaging herself in British Politics. The British Government and Politics today is a complex and fast-changing mix of the traditional and the new. She believes that the British Government requires new faces, more Asian Women representing its community in order for their voice to be counted.



**ENAM ALI MBE**

FIH FRSA

**SECTOR**

Catering and Community Relations

Enam Ali is one of the prominent Bangladeshi personalities in the United Kingdom. Known for his leadership and passionate concern for the interests of the Hospitality industry. He is frequently to be seen and heard in the UK's print and TV media acting as a spokesman for Asian business sector and as an unofficial ambassador for the country of his birth.

He has been in the business of public relations and promoting the Spice industry for over twenty years.

He serves on the UK Home Office Hospitality advisory panel and he has been lobbying at the House of Lords to ensure fairness in the UK government's treatment of legitimate migrant workers. Corporate Member of the Portcullis Club also gives him social contact with many of the Members of Parliament who initiate and shape the laws of the land.

He is involved with property and restaurant business since 1979. He also owns a very famous and highly reputable restaurant, Le Raj, in Epsom Surrey, one of the finest restaurants in the country for sophisticated cuisine holding Michelin rated for last 19 years. His restaurant has been the winner for numerous awards and is the only Asian restaurant in the country to get award from La Confrérie de la Chaine des Rotisseurs (international gastronomic society dedicated to bringing together professional members from around the world who appreciate wine, cuisine and fine dining).

Taking a step further in this direction seemed logical to Enam and, in 1999 he launched 'Spice Business' magazine featuring articles in English, combining information on the restaurant sector and community news. Today it boasts readership of over 100,000 and, as Enam points out, "Spice Business magazine has succeeded in opening new channels of communication for the Asian community to give our needs the authority they deserve."

In 2005, his creative marketing ability was applied to the launch of the British Curry Awards with the intention of generating positive image for the UK south Asian restaurant throughout the world. Undisputedly the most spectacular Awards Ceremony on the British restaurant calendar And give the opportunity to networking with supplier distributor. Much hard work was finally rewarded at the world renown 'Great Room' Grosvenor House Hotel in Central London and the winners were announced Oscar style its gained so much publicity and the event helped raise the profile everyone of this sector on a national, and international.

Despite the heavy demands on his time, Enam manages to balance work, community and family life. He is married, with two sons and a daughter, and they are a constant source of support and pleasure. The many participants in the business he leads are also treated like family members, and this extended family appreciates and benefits from the leadership he gives them.

As an exemplary leader in his field, Enam Ali has been instrumental in giving British Bangladeshis a much stronger identity and far greater respect within the United Kingdom.

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, madrasahs 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, communication etc. He has contributed towards the development



**RAGIB ALI**

**SECTOR**

Entrepreneur and Philanthropist

of many schools, colleges, universities and madrasahs. 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, bridge and culverts. In his name there are more than 220 projects, which are directly changing life 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. Happily married to Begum Rebeya Khatun Chowdhury who has been an inspiring force for her husband also inhibits a big philanthropic personality. The couple are blessed with a son and daughter.

**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, and which 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 country 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, where 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. The fact that Rois has since opened up a number of other food chains, speaks highly of the quality cuisine. 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**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Rushanara Ali is the prospective parliamentary candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow. Born in Bangladesh, Ali came to the UK at the age of 7 with her family. She grew up in Tower Hamlets, studying locally at Mulberry School and Tower Hamlets College. She completed a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University. She lives and works in the East End of London.

Rushanara is Associate Director of the Young Foundation. Previously, she worked at the Communities Directorate of the Home Office, leading a work programme in response to the 2001 disturbances in the north of England. She has also worked on human rights issues at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, as a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research and as Parliamentary Assistant for former MP for Bethnal Green and Bow Oona King.

She helped to develop a telephone interpreting company called Language Line and helped set up Tower Hamlets Summer University, a pioneering model which has cut youth crime in the area and has been successfully replicated around London.

She is the Chair of Tower Hamlets Summer University and SummerUni London, a Trustee of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation and a member of the Tate Britain Council.

She was a Commissioner for the London Child Poverty Commission; a Board Member of Tower Hamlets College; a Trustee of the Environment Trust; and a member of the Home office Working Group on Preventing Extremism established after the 7/7 London bombings.

She was selected for the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Muslim Women's Power List 2009.



**SHUKUR ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Shukur Ali was born in village of Bargup in the Chatak, Sylhet region of Bangladesh.

He is the son of Mr Rashid Ali. Shukur Ali moved to London in 1970 and immediately found work in the Kings Cross area. Within five years of his arrival in London, Mr Ali opened a restaurant called Homeria.

In the mid-1980's, he moved out of London to Oxfordshire. There, Mr Ali opened another restaurant called Jaflong. This business is where Mr Ali works to this day. However, having established himself in the catering industry, the philanthropic Mr Ali decided to concentrate on helping his community, both in England and in his native Bangladesh.

He set up and is the chairman of an organisation called "Shukur Ali Education Trust", the aim of which is to help develop levels of education in the area of Dulabazar where he grew up.

Mr Shukur Ali also helped a Madrasa in Chatak called the Dulabazar Islamia Dhakil Madrasa.

In addition to this, he donates money to schools, colleges and other Madrasas in his hometown region in Bangladesh.

He has also donated clothing and swings to the students of a female Madrasa.

Future projects for Mr Ali include the building of a mosque and a maternity clinic, both of which are in great demand by the people of Dulabazar and Chatak.

Mr Ali is a man who appreciates the support that his family has given him. He is especially thankful to his wife – Rukeya Ali.

Together, Shukur and Rukeya Ali have three sons and two daughters. Their first, Dilwar Ali, completed a Business Studies degree at the University of Cardiff. He is now greatly involved in the family business. Their second son, Shahin Ali, is an Optician Engineer; and their third son is currently studying Performing Arts at college.



**SIRAJ ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Siraj Ali is a pioneering force behind the introduction of Indian Cuisine in the Essex region. He also introduced the corporate social responsibility element to Indian restaurants in the county, and as a result has raised close to a million pounds over more than a decade for numerous charitable causes including the British Heart Foundation, NSPCC and Cancer Research.

Siraj's first restaurant the New Curry Centre and focused on both authentic cuisine and a friendly service and slowly established itself as one of the counties most renowned restaurants. Concurrently, Mr Ali opened four other Indian restaurants in the region before opening the Maharaja Restaurant, which is perhaps his best. Mr Ali transformed the failing business into one of the most successful in the country with innovative cuisine, a unique atmosphere and dynamic service, receiving recognition by Industry experts including Pat Chapman, Chair of the Curry Club.

Siraj Ali's Maharaja was even chosen to cater for the launch of the first nationwide Bangladesh Festival of Food and Culture at the House of Commons. In 2007, the Maharaja was chosen by MPs to represent the South East in the Tiffin Cup Curry Awards, winning second runner up position.

In Bangladesh, Mr Ali is one of the Directors of the Metro Centre, a commercial and residential hotel complex comprising of 300 shop units, as well as the Chairman and owner of Al Siraj Plaza, a twelve storey multipurpose building in Goalabazaar, Sylhet, which provides a service to the needy who cannot afford medical aid.

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 Thurrock Islamic Educational Cultural Centre. He has also been the General Secretary of the Essex Jamme Masjid in Southendon- Sea for over four terms.

In Benfleet, Mr Ali is also the General Secretary of the Castlepoint Bangladeshi Education and Cultural Centre as well as Governor of the Haji Soyed Primary School.

Mr Ali is the Vice Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Essex Bangladesh Welfare Association.

Mr Muhammed Siraj Ali is married to Begum Momtaj Khanom and they have one son and three daughters, who are all very highly educated having attended university.



**SUNAHWAR ALI**

**SECTOR**  
Politics and  
Community  
Relations

Sunahwar Ali got actively involved in the anti-racist struggles of the 1970's. He was instrumental in setting up a number of youth organisations and initiatives in Tower Hamlets (London). He served on the management committee of a number of key bodies and initiatives such as General Secretary, Federation of Bangladeshi Youth Organisations (FBYO), Member of the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) Area Youth Committee under 21 member; Member of the Greater London Council (GLC) Asian Youth representative, Anti-Racist Programme Sub-Committee, Governor of the City and East London College & Hackney College, Governor of Adult Education Institute (AEL), & Governors of various schools. Sunahwar Ali also initiated and pioneered the Micro Credit Programme for women in Tower Hamlets (London). This was an innovative programme, as part of an anti-poverty strategy, for the socially excluded resident of London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

He was Sport Secretary of the Bangladesh Youth Front (BYF) in 1978, Chairman of Bangladesh Cyclone & Flood Disaster Committee between 1986-88, and has been involved with a host of other organisations.

He is an active member of the Labour Party in Tower Hamlets (London) since 1983 and a campaigner for local people on health, housing, education and community redevelopment (regeneration). During this time Sunahwar Ali has held a number of positions within the local party structure including Ward membership Secretary and Chairman, delegate to General Management Committee (Constituency party) and Local Government Committee (LGC) (Two Constituency party) & Assistant Secretary. Sunahwar Ali was elected as a Councillor from 1994 to 1998 from Weavers Ward.

Sunahwar Ali was one of the lead Councillors for LBTH (UK) naming and launching of Banglatown in East London and also involved in naming Osmani and Bhangobandu Schools, UK.

He was part of the Labour Group Executive Committee from 1994 to 96. He later became Chief Whip.

He is also member of the Editorial board of Bengali Informer, Bengali Info and Jubo Barta.

Mr Ali has made appearances on Channel 4 TV (Dispatches Programme) and also BBC 2 Newsnight as a guest.

Mr Ali has attended UN Human Rights Sub-Commission in 2003 and did submitted and addressed on human rights in Bangladesh.

Qari Muhammad Gias Uddin of Gulduba village, Habigonj District, was the father of Maulana Shah Muhammad Anas. Maulana Anas was born in Bangladesh in 1965.

Four years after his birth he came over to the UK where he lived in Earls Court, in London. From 1970, he attended and finished his early studies up to secondary school. Subsequently in 1986, Maulana Shah Muhammed Anas completed his Aalim course, M.A in Islamic Theology. He undertook this course and finished it in Europe's first ever-Islamic College and University, the Darul- Uloom in Bury Lancashire.

Straight after, Mr. Muhammad Anas started to work. In 1988 he was appointed the first Imam and Khateeb of International Khatme Nubuwwat Centre, which was located in Stockwell, London. Subsequently, for three years from 1990 to 1993, he had the role of being the Imam for Poplar Jame Masjid, also in London. From the year 2003 and to this day, Maulana Shah Muhammed Anas is the Principal Imam of an Islamic School/ College, which is called Zakariya Academy.

Besides the different roles he has had over past, he has always made time to get himself involved with various community organisations and made sure that he has had an impact on society and the community he lives in. He was one of the candidates to represent the area of



**MAULANA SHAH  
MUHAMMAD  
ANAS**

**SECTOR**

Islamic Affairs  
and Community  
Relations

Wapping, for the local Council Elections in 1990. In 1991, he took on the role of being a Trustee for Jamiah Islamiah in East Sussex, Kent. In addition to that, he was also the Chairman for Jamiatush Shabaab in 1995. At the moment, Maulana Shah Muhammad Anas is the Chairman for Jamiatul Ulama.

Maulana Shah Muhammad Anas Married and have five children, all of whom have supported him and still do.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S  
WHO  
2009



**COUNCILLOR CHAUDHURY  
MOHAMMED ANWAR MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Politics and  
Community Relations

Mr Anwar was born in April 1937. He has a long list of qualifications that he has obtained over the years. This includes an MA in Political Science from Dhaka University in 1959, and full membership of British Institute of Public Relations (MIPR) from the British Institute of Public Relations in 1977.

In previous times he has worked in many different places and served in many different roles. Mr Anwar served as a Social Welfare Officer in Bangladesh in the 1960's, Senior Political Assistant to the American Consulate General in 1964, lecturer in Area Studies in South East Asia and Language informant in the University of Minnesota in USA. In UK he worked as assistant Labour attache with the Pakistan High Commission and resigned from the post in 1971 to take up a job in Oxford as a senior community relations officer until 1980.

He continued as the Director of Race Relations in Croydon, Enfield and Waltham Forest stretching over the following twenty years before retiring. After taking early retirement he worked as Non Executive Director NHS Trust of North Middlesex Hospital between 1995 and 1998. Furthermore Mr Anwar has been the member and appraiser of 'Towards

Employability Partnership' in Waltham Forest and the project has had an allocation of £7.5 million under SRB between 1997 and 2002.

In relation to voluntary work Mr Anwar has held many responsible positions. These have included Chair of Complaints Review Panel of Social Services Department of the London Borough of Enfield, Chair of the Ethnic Community Services UK Ltd in Tower Hamlets, Chair of Enfield Bangladesh Welfare Association, Chair of Enfield Asian Carers Consortium, Director/Trustee of Enfield Voluntary Action, member of police and community consultative group in Enfield, and Director of Ponders End Development Trust.

Most noticeably Mr Anwar received an MBE in 2002 in Her Majesty the Queen's New Years Honours List for his outstanding contribution to community relations. Currently Mr Anwar is a Councillor for the London Borough of Enfield, Chief Executive for the Enfield Asian Carers Consortium and Chairman of Enfield Bangladesh Welfare Association, which he has held for the last sixteen years.



**ABUL KALAM AZAD**

**SECTOR**  
Information Technology

Abul Kalam Azad was born in 1963 at the village Sultanpur, Begumgonj, Noakhali. His father is Moulana Mujib Ullah and mother Ayesha Begum. He passed his SSC Examination in 1978 from Gopalpur High School, HSC and B.Com from Choumuhani College in 1980 and 1982 and M. Com from Dhaka University in 1986.

Mr Azad worked with United Traders Ltd in Dhaka from 1985 to 1989. In July 1989 he left for United Kingdom. Mr Azad started his professional life in the UK by joining the Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS).

In 1990 he joined Sonali Bank UK and worked in this Bank in different branches including Kings Cross, Bradford and Birmingham. He started his own restaurant business in 1998 in London. In 2001 he started another business in the field of IT named 'Inter Link' at Valance Road, Whitechapel, which still is running. He established a college named 'St. Peters College of London' in East London in 2005.

Mr Azad is actively involved in different socio cultural and political activities. In 1978 he established Sultanpur Samaj Kallyan Samity and he was the founder General Secretary of

this organisation in 1980. The organisation provides education and helps orphans.

He was also one of the founder members of the Sultanpur Hanif Bhuiyan High School in 1983 and he served there as a teacher for sometime. In 1984 he established the Dhaka based Beguingonj Upazilla Chhatra Kallyan Samity in cooperation with Advocate Azhar Ullah and others.

During his college life Mr Azad was the Joint Secretary of the Begumgonj Thana Chhatra League. He was one of the Founder Members of the Enfield Welfare Association UK and has served as Assistant Secretary. In Mr Azad helped form named 'Greater Noakhali Association'. He became one of the two Joint conveners of its first convening committee with Mr. Nurul Haque. In 1995 he became the Secretary General of this Association. He was re-elected in this position 2003 to 2005. He established Azad Foundation in 2006. Through this foundation he has been supporting disadvantaged and needy people.

He is married and has two sons.





## SHAMIM AZAD

### SECTOR

Arts, Culture & Education

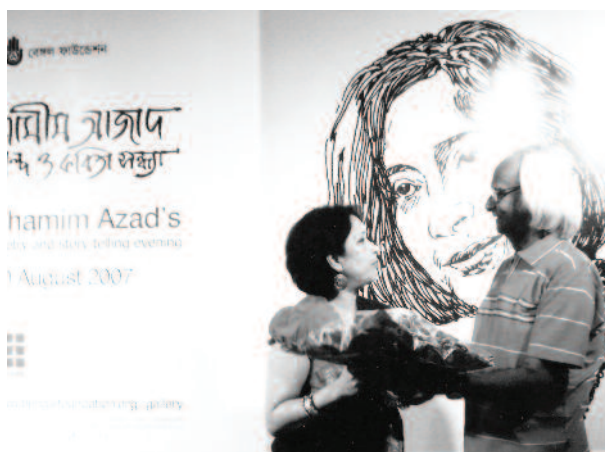
Shamim Azad is an active bilingual poet, storyteller and a writer. Her repertoire as a storyteller ranges from Bangladeshi to European folktales. Her performance fuses the lines between education and entertainment and her workshops are rooted in oral traditions and heritage.

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 Whitemore 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.





**ALI M AZHAR**

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Barrister)

Mr Azhar was born in Sirajganj, Bangladesh, and he completed his MA at Dhaka University in 1958. During his student life, Mr Azhar was deeply involved in student politics. He became the General Secretary of the entire East Pakistan students' League and suffered imprisonment on a number of occasions. He was called to the bar by the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn in 1962, and since then he has been a huge success within the field of law.

Currently, he is the Head of Chambers at 9 Kings Bench Walk in Temple, London. Mr Azhar began practising law alongside his brother, the late Ali M Abbas, in 1962. At the time, Asian barristers were few and far between, although the two brothers quickly imposed their expertise onto the legal sector. Both brothers conducted several cases either together or opposed to each other, which have set milestones in the British legal system and are reported in the English legal books and studied by all students of law. Many laws were passed by the British Parliament as a follow-up of the outcome of these cases.

In the years since, Mr Azhar has become a specialist in many of the various legal areas such as criminal law, family law, claims for damages and also human rights. Mr Azhar is a deeply religious man, and it is this which initially helped to lead him to his chosen profession.

Mr Azhar led the prosecution of the infamous writer Salman Rusdie. Mr Azhar took the case to the British High Court, then to the Court of Appeal and then to the highest Court of the land, the House of Lords.

Away from his work, Mr Azhar is a proud family man. He married Mrs Farhat Azhar in 1970, and they have two daughters – Shabeena Mahmuda and Rubeena Mahmuda. Both Shabeena and Rubeena are also barristers, are tenants of their father's chambers.

Mr Azhar can be seen as a pioneer in the legal arena for British Bangladeshis.



**SHAHIN BADAR**

**SECTOR**  
Arts and  
Entertainment

Shahin Badar is an Award winning and Dynamic leading British Asian Singer/Songwriter who is well known internationally through some of her breathtaking collaborations. A consummate professional, role model and inspiration to many young and mature people. She is certainly one of the UK based female South Asian front runners of innovative musical collaborations with her blend of powerful Arabic/Indian/Bengali vocal resonance in music in its various genres which blends nicely within the mainstream and Asian music fields.

Shahin scored chart success with the Prodigy's 'Smack My Bitch Up', which featured her unique spine tingling chant on their multi-selling 'Fat Of The Land' album giving them and Shahin Billboard and UK No. 1 chart positions and entry into the Guinness Book of Records as the fastest selling album at the time. For this she received a double platinum disc and a place in music history. Prodigy's 'Fat Of The Land' album also reached number 1 in over 23 countries. Shahin's collaboration with Tim Deluxe on the House Stomper 'Mundaya' was chosen as 'Essential tune of the week' by BBC Radio 1 DJ Pete Tong.

Her collaborations include the likes oscar winner AR Rahman (yuva), Indian Ropeman (66 meter's), Jah Wobble (Hayati), Tim Deluxe (Mundaya), Twista and Juliet Lewis (Get up Get Off). Her vocals have already featured in more than 30 Hollywood and Bollywood films including Academy, BAFTA and Golden Globe Award nominated Closer and Academy Award nominated Charlie's Angels; US sitcoms North Shore and Kevin Hill as well as Shyam Bengal's Zubeidaa.

shahin badar supported US rapper 50 Cent and worked with director Ang Lee on The Hulk (Eric Bana).

Shahin badar headlined many festivals , launched special events, endorsed charitable causes, was described by one mainstream magazine as " one of the most original artistes around".

She was nominated for the ukama awards for the best female alternative act this year.

Her fantastic Album -'LAILA' is out now in HMV/i-tunes

Khodker Aminul Haq, better known as Badsha is the Executive Member of Bangladesh Journalist Association as well as the Commonwealth Journalist Association UK. Born in the Kushtia, Bangladesh. He completed his education in Bangladesh before he was forced to come to England after the assassination of Bangobhaundhu.

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 a Diploma in Social Work. During his student life, Badsha was actively involved in student politics. Badsha spent time in various prisons. 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 political 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 Bangla Beter Kendro in Mujib Nagar. He was also director of External Publicity of Bangladesh Mission, Mujib Nagar. He was appointed as press secretary to the father of the nation in 1969 after he was released from Agartala Mamla.



**AMINUL HAQ  
BADSHA**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalism)

After arriving in the UK, Badsha continues his involvement in journalism. He is the correspondent of a number of 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.

**HAFIZ ALAM  
BAKSH**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Electronic)



Having had a thriving property and restaurant business, idea of business diversification propelled to make a timely move to bid for a better future investments, which was realized during the tenure of Head of Channel S Sales and Marketing Department in 2005.

An astute business venture opened an avenue for a new challenge: ATN Bangla UK. This was, of course, owing to previous entrepreneurial skills and the experience achieved during his Channel S days became very useful in establishing ATN Bangla UK as one of the most profitable and viewed satellite television throughout the UK and Europe within a very short span of time.

ATN Bangla UK is growing from strength to strength and this is attributed to diligence and determination of Hafiz Alam Bakhsh,

who has set an example of accomplishment for other Bangladeshi people both in the UK and elsewhere.

In spite of his busy schedule, he is a passionate producer and actor with vision and glamour; despite limitations, working without compromise on a professional front, earned reputation for persistence owing to relentless stage practice, improvisation and determination to promote Bangladeshi films globally and is now a chiseled actor as well as producer of distinct caliber.

He has firsthand experience of freelance filmmaking, producing and acting; produced for many televisions and private sector media companies, driven by intense enthusiasm and passion for creative work. Hafiz Alam Bakhsh is undoubtedly one of the youngest British- Bangladeshi entrepreneurs, who precipitated and maximised the Bangladeshi presence in the UK and European electronic media, particularly by promoting the Bangladeshi social, cultural and economic contributions through his satellite televisionchannel.



**DR MUHAMMAD  
ABDUL BARI**

MBE FRSA

**SECTOR**  
Islamic Affairs and  
Community Relations

Dr Muhammad Abdul Bari studied both a PhD and a PGCE teacher training course at Kings College, University of London. He also has a degree in Management from the Open University.

He was awarded his MBE in 2003 for neighbourhood renewal work. Dr Bari has been an officer in the Bangladesh Air Force, but trained in Royal Air Force College, a science teacher, a physics researcher and an SEN specialist in London. He is now the Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain, and has held the position since June 2006.

He is the former President of Islamic Forum Europe and is also the Chair of the East London Mosque Trust. He is a Trustee of Muslim Aid. He is also on the London Organising Committee for the 2012 Olympic Games as a non-Executive member.

Dr Bari is a man with a philanthropic nature. He is a patron of the National Youth Agency and the Ramphal Centre.

Mr Bari is politically non-partisan, but considered to be instrumental in encouraging people to be involved in political and social activities in the mainstream society. This might have indirectly helped RESPECT MP George Galloway secure his parliamentary seat for Bethnal Green and Bow during the last General Election. He did the same for the recent mayoral elections.

Dr Bari is also a keen behavioural specialist, and has written a number of books, as well as articles in newspapers, journals and community publications on the subject. His books tend to specialise on family and parenting, as well as issues of identity amongst youths. These books include the titles 'Building Muslim Families', 'A Guide to Parenting' and 'Race, Religion and Muslim Identity in Britain'.



**SHOFNA BEGUM**

**SECTOR**  
Legal

Shofna Begum was born in Mohammadpur, Sunamgonj, Bangladesh and came to England at an early age. She was raised in Lancashire. She is one of six children of the Late Alhaj Asoddar Ali.

Shofna is a partner with Punatar and Co Solicitors' and the managing partner of their East London office. She is a Criminal Duty Solicitor currently participating in Local London schemes, both for the police station and courts. Over the years Shofna has been instructed in a number of complex and serious cases. To name just one, she was the solicitor instructed in the Bengali honour killing case in Oxford in 2005.

Currently, She is involved in a number of high profile murder, rape and terrorism cases. Punatar and Co feature in the Legal 500 and Shofna's profile is published as a recommended practitioner in crime.

Prior to Shofna joining Punatar and Co Solicitors, she graduated with an LLB (Hons) from the University of Leeds and completed

her Legal Practice Course at the College of Law in York.

Shofna lives in London and undertakes work nationally also. She is actively sought through recommendation and referrals. She is a proficient Bengali speaker and has an excellent professional reputation within the Criminal Justice System and within her field.

Shofna plays netball on a weekly basis in the Commonwealth Netball UK (CNUK) league in a team with other legal professionals.



## **TAJ BROTHERS**

**SECTOR**  
Business

Mr Abdul Hai Khalique (Junel), Mr Abdul Quayum Khalique (Jamal) and Mr Abdul Muhith (Joynal) are the three brothers behind the internationally renowned grocers Taj Stores in Brick Lane. They took over the business from their late father Alhaj Abdul Khalique who came from Baur Bagh, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh. Abdul Hai, Abdul Quayum and Abdul Muhith all grew up in Brick Lane, East. Abdul Hai Khalique and Abdul Quayum Khalique 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.

Meanwhile Abdul Hai Khalique advanced to an Architectural college where he completed his first year before joining the family business. Abdul Quayum Khalique 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 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 Khalique having four children; one daughter and three sons. Whilst Abdul Quayum Khalique 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.



## **ABDUL MUKIT CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Abdul Mukit Choudhury BA (Hons), MA, Dhaka University is the owner and proprietor of the renowned Bengal Clipper and Bengal Trader in London.

Having arrived in the United Kingdom in 1988 with a Masters Degree in history and an intention to embark on a legal career he turned his attention to the catering profession and is now an established and successful restaurateur.

He opened his first restaurant Bengal Clipper in 1994 and Bengal Trader in 1998. Mr Choudhury is also very well connected with society.

He is hospitable, articulate and a whole hearted person. He has donated time and money towards good causes in the UK and Bangladesh.

Mr Choudhury enjoys writing articles in newspapers. He has also obtained several professional certificates from South Bank University and the London Tourist Board. In 1988 he completed BCS and honoured a post in the Public Service Commission.

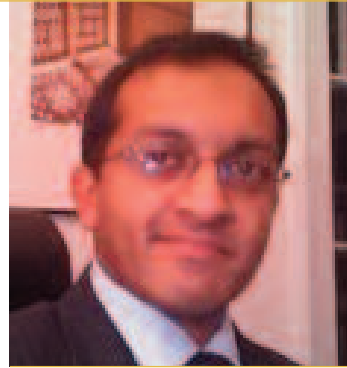
He is a member of BCI, BBCC, Habiganj Society and Treasurer of Dhaka University Ex Jalalabad Students Society.

Mukit Choudhury is married to Nasima Choudhury and they have two sons.

Akhlaq Choudhury is a barrister specialising in employment law and public law. Akhlaq graduated in physics at the 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 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  
CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Barrister)

Akhlaq now lives in London with his wife, Safina, and their three children.

**AKIL CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Business Management



Akil Choudhury was born in 1951 in the village of Kanishail, Gulapgonj, Sylhet in Bangladesh. He is the son of Mr Iqbal Choudhury and Mrs Momana Choudhury.

Mr Choudhury completed his education in Bangladesh, and moved to the UK in 1975. Soon after his arrival, he opened a restaurant called Akash Tandoori in Redditch in Warwickshire. This restaurant has now been successfully running for over 25 years, and has allowed Mr Choudhury to move into other areas of business.

He has a stake in a hotel in Uttara Dhaka called The Blue Bell, and he is also one of the Directors for United Airlines.

Away from his business interests, Akil Choudhury is well known for his commitment in helping his community, both in the Midlands and in Bangladesh. He has held numerous charity events at his restaurant, including many in support of cyclone victims in Bangladesh.

For one of the events, he was able to attract MP Jacqui Smith as a guest speaker. In addition to this, Mr Choudhury is widely respected for being a freedom fighter during the war to liberate Bangladesh in 1971.

Akil Choudhury is married to Mrs Sanara Choudhury, Mrs Choudhury works as a team manager for Worcestershire Social Services. Together, Mr and Mrs Choudhury have two children – one son and one daughter. Their son, Wasif Choudhury, has a BA from the Chartered Institute of Marketing, and their daughter, Rifat Choudhury, is currently in her second year of studying for a degree in Economics.



**AMIRUL CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**

Telecom/Media/Property

Amirul Choudhury was born in Khashila (Boro Bari) in Jagonnathpur. His father is Mr Abdul Gafur Choudhury. He came to the UK in 1977 with his parents.

He attended Ambler Primary and Holloway Secondary School in North London. He then went onto Hackney College from where he obtained a National Diploma in Business and Finance.

On leaving college, he joined Tower Hamlets youth service as a School Link Project Officer. He had been involved in youth work since school days. This position provided him the perfect opportunity to continue in this line of work providing guidance and support to the growing number of Bangladeshi youths in the area.

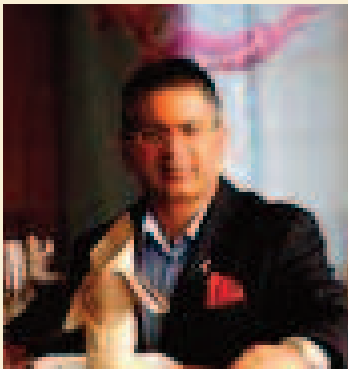
He is the owner and Managing Director of Chytel Communications, which is one of the top ten T-Mobile dealers in the country. He entered the telecom industry in 1994, when T-mobile (then known as One to One) introduced mobile phones to the mass market. Chytel became the first generation of traders given licence by T-mobile to trade directly with the general public.

Branches were opened throughout the UK. Mr Choudhury's unique sales and marketing skills help both Chytel and T-mobile maintain a strong retail and distribution presence in the consumer market, in particular the Asian community.

Today Chytel is a household name in the Bangladeshi community and with Mr Choudhury's long-term involvement in the Bangladeshi media, Chytel brand remains amongst the top of the Bangladeshi brands in Britain.

He is the Managing Director of Janomot Bengali Newsweekly (Britain's first Bengali newspaper) and a major shareholder. He is also the Vice President of the London Bangla Press Club, an organisation of British Bangladeshi journalists in Britain.

He has a portfolio of residential and commercial properties. Mr Choudhury has supported various small organisations that promoted arts and culture and has been a generous donor to all types of charitable organisations for decades, and has donated well in excess of 50k in the last 14 years.



**ATIQUE ISLAM  
CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**

Multi Cuisine Entrepreneur

Son of Dabirul Islam Choudhury and Khaleda Choudhury, 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 covers 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 and throughout his career.

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

Being 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 & Hotelkeeper 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, 1997 Finalist Best Thai Restaurant in London (Carlton TV)



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 (one son aged 14, and two daughters, one aged 5 and one aged 1). His hobbies include Cricket, Bridge, Bengali Folk music and an addiction for Bangladeshi cuisine.



**ANWAR CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**

Civil Service (Foreign Office)





**AZIZ CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**

Community Relations  
and Voluntary

Aziz Choudhury is well known and respected as a diplomatic and politically neutral community leader. Over the years he has worked for a wide range of organisations in London, forging key relationships and building bridges between communities. His approach epitomises the spirit of multiculturalism and cross-sector working.

He obtained a BSc in Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics from Dhaka University in 1967 and in 1972 he studied accountancy at the London School of Accountancy. He trained and worked with Chartered Accountant firms in London and later as an Accounts & Audit Senior for Percy H Walters & Co. He acquired membership as a Fellow of the Institute of Financial Accountants in 1990. He also achieved Common Purpose Community Leadership graduation in 1991.

He became involved with the Spitalfields Small Business Association (SSBA), initially as Treasurer and then as Chairman. He has helped to build the organisation over the last 25 years.

Between 1984 and 1995 he worked as Finance Director of Spitalfields Housing Association.

In his role as Chief Executive of the Bengali Workers Association between 1995 and 1999, he managed the Surma Community Centre in Central London and was responsible for overseeing the running of a number of local projects.

He was the first Asian Board Member of the East London Small Business Centre and has remained on the board for the last 18 years currently sitting on the Finance, Audit, Resource Committee and the Loan Fund and Venture Capital Fund Panels. He is also a member of the Tower Hamlets Forum of East London Business Alliance.

He has been a member of the Tower Hamlets Partnership, Management Group as a representative for small and medium business and was the Chairman of the Community Plan Action Group for Creating and Sharing Prosperity for 4 years. Aziz Choudhury represented the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council during the Queen's Jubilee visit to West Ham United Football Club and was introduced to Her Majesty the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales.

He was one of the Founder Board Members of the Bangla Housing Association in Hackney. He has been a Board Member and Treasurer of the Consortium of Bengali Associations for the last 6 years. He is also the Founder and current President of the Sylhet Sadar Association.

His voluntary work in Bangladesh includes the founding of Jalalpur College in Sylhet in 1994. He formed and served as Chairman of the Jalalpur College UK Committee. He is also a trustee and General Secretary of the Rosae Trust which raises funds to support free hospitals for poor people in Dhaka and Sylhet.

He has been managing the Montefiore Centre since 2001. There are currently 13 organisations operating within the Centre to provide services and training to the local community.

Aziz Choudhury is married to Heima Choudhury and their elder son, Dr. Ashike Choudhury, currently works as a Registrar for the NHS on a rotation towards becoming a Consultant. Their younger son, Siraj Choudhury currently works as a Solicitor for Local Government and also holds a Masters degree in Town and Country Planning.



**CLLR PRINCE SADIK  
CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**

Politics

Cllr Prince Sadik Choudhury is the first Liberal Democrat British Bangladeshi Councillor in the whole of Northamptonshire. He is currently completing a Law degree at the University of Northampton, and it was during his years of study that he first became interested in politics. He joined the Liberal Democrats and was successful in winning his seat in the Borough Council elections in May of 2007. He is presently the Councillor for the Thorplands Ward.

Cllr Sadik has had the benefit of a full Education here in England, having completed a HND in Business and Finance. Although his main forte remains to be politics, Cllr Choudhury is also involved with property management; a family run business comprising of buying, selling and letting property.

Prince Sadik Choudhury is also strongly occupied with numerous community activities and initiatives. Moreover he is a trustee of Northamptonshire Muslim Council. He is Executive member of Northampton Liberal Democrats Political Party and trustee of Corby Mosque.

He has made various contributions to his local community and is deeply associated with countless charity programmes. He has also raised money for the NHS.

Sadik's excellent work in politics and for the community has led him to work with numerous renowned individuals. Cllr Prince Sadik Choudhury 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.

Sadik has been described by his party as vibrant, energetic and hardworking. This is evident in his participation within the local community, as well as through his work as a Councillor. At the present time he is working for the Council in providing bespoke services for Muslim burials in Northamptonshire. He is also working on the future development of Northampton, which is scheduled to take place in 2012. Sadik's commitment to politics and enthusiasm has made him one of the recognised British Bangladeshi individuals in Northamptonshire.

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 the 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 Shafiul.

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.



**DR SANAWAR  
CHOUDHURY**  
BA (Hons), FCA,  
PhD (Exon)

**SECTOR**  
Finance and Com-  
munity Relations

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.

**GOURI CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Arts (Singer)



Gouri Choudhury was born in 1964. Since she was born, her great love and passion for music was obvious. She portrayed this enthusiasm at the age of six, when she started to learn about music. Since then, she has thrived in attracting many people from the Bangladeshi community, to her beautiful sung Bengali folk, classical and modern songs.

In 1984, she completed her SSC and then in 1985, she attended Sylhet Academy of Fine Arts and gained a diploma in Folk Songs. Sylhet Shilpakala Academy was where she studied next, and here she got a Diploma in Music as well as her Higher School Certificate. Mrs. Choudhury continued her education and went to Chittagong University in 1988, where she studied Bachelor of Arts. After finishing her education, Mrs. Gouri Choudhury came to the UK and started to work from 1989.

She was a part time Bengali Music Teacher at Toynbee Hall, for five years. During this time she also worked as a full time Bengali Music teacher for six years, which involved her organizing many performances at Bangladesh Centre in West London.

Then from 1995 to 1996 she worked as a part-time Bengali Music Teacher at Bromley- By-Bow Centre. Her career as a Bengali Music Teacher did not stop there as she had the same role in various other schools such as Asian Music Academy in West London, Hermitage Supplementary School in Newham, St Paul's Way Community School, Morpeth Secondary School, Sarah Bonnell Secondary School and Nazrul Centre.

Mrs. Choudhury has in the past volunteered as a Women's Development Officer for Bangladesh Welfare Association where she helped develop Asian women's skills and talents.

Gouri Choudhury has won many 'Best Singer' awards, from Bangla TV in 2004, BIMA 2004, ATN in 2005 and the community award for 'Best Singer' from Channel 5 in 2006. In 2002, she also won the 'Best Performance Award' after being asked by ZEE TV to perform on their well-known show Antaksari. She also appeared on Sa-Re-Ga-Ma a famous music show broadcasted on ZEE TV. Moreover, in 1998, she attended the Catholic Leuven University to perform especially for Professor Muhammed Yunus. In 1992, HMV released her first modern and Bengali Folk song cassette.



## **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 at Moulvibazar district in Greater Sylhet. He is the youngest son of Hafiz Moulana Abdul Kader Choudhury Sinkaponi who was the a Saint and Islamic Scholar in Bangladesh.

Mr Choudhury was an elected general secretary of Moulvibazar Kashinath Alauddin High School branch of Chattra League in 1969. As a young promising student leader he played an active role in the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

Whilst in Bangladesh Mr Choudhury held the position of General secretary of Bangladesh Karigari Chhatra Parishad for Sylhet. He was awarded a Diploma in engineering degree from Sylhet Polytechnic College.

Mr Choudhury is well known for his Journalism work. As a journalist Mr Choudhury was special correspondent and staff reporter respectively for the weekly Jugaberi and Deshbatra two of the oldest Newspapers published from Sylhet. He also worked for Weekly Amod and Weekly Fasal published from Comilla and Dhaka, furthermore he led the Amra Nobin Programme on Sylhet radio for a long period.

As an established journalist in the UK Mr Choudhury was the Chief Editor and Chairman of the first ever bilingual weekly newspaper, Euro-Bangla, and is currently a director. At this moment in time he is the Chief Editor of the weekly Bangla Post newspaper.

Amongst his achievements and success he has been a President of the Bangladesh Journalist Association UK additionally a member of National Union of Journalists in Britain and Vice President of British Bangladesh Press Club. He is also an ex-Chairperson & General Secretary of the Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council in UK.

He is a community Relations Director of the airline Air Sylhet. He is the Secretary of the Voice for Justice and President of the Renaissance Sahitya Mojlish UK. He is a Chairman of the Advisory board of the first English Newsweekly Bangla Mirror. He is also an Advisory Editor of the Dhaka Post which is published from Dhaka.

Mr Choudhury is the parent's governor for Stepney Green Maths and Computing College. He served as a General Secretary of the Tower Hamlets Bilingual Parents and Governors Centre.

In May 2003 he was awarded the Civic Award from Tower Hamlets council for his invaluable contribution towards the development of the community.

He was offered Columnist of the Year Award by Great Britain Journalist Association UK at the House of Lords and in July 1997 Prince Charles invited him to a reception at St James Palace. He has also been invited to the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.



**FAIZUR RAHMAN  
CHOUDHURY MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations

Mr Choudhury was born in the district of Habigonj in 1954. the only son of Mr Elasur Rahman Choudhury, who served as a non-commission officer in the British Army, and Mrs Faizun Nessa Choudhury, who was a primary school teacher. Mr Choudhury had his primary and secondary education in Bangladesh and came to the UK in 1970 when he was only 16 years of age. He then returned to Bangladesh where he completed his intermediate course at MM College. On successful completion of that course Faizur Rahman Choudhury journeyed back to the UK once more. Upon arrival he studied Business Studies at Brooklyn College Birmingham, and finally graduated with a degree in Business Studies.

Mr Choudhury has always been an active member of the community and. He helped set up the Bangladesh Multi- Purpose Centre, Bangladesh Council in Aston, in the interest of serving British Bangladeshis.

Since the birth of the Bangladesh Council, an umbrella organisation encompassing many other community projects and organisations in Birmingham, Mr Choudhury had served as secretary for twelve years. He was also the general Secretary of the Bangladesh Welfare Association, and Chair of the Bangladesh Cultural Society for three years.

In 1988 Mr Faizur Rahman Choudhury formed the Jatiyo Party in Birmingham, he was the Secretary General of the Jatiyo Party in the West Midlands. Other organisations that Mr Choudhury was involved with include, the Bangladesh Caterers Association, Bangladesh Business Forum and BBEC. He was also one of the founder members of the Coventry Road Jamia Masjid, and a trustee member of the management committee of one of the biggest mosques run by Bangladeshis in Birmingham at the time.

Faizur Rahman Choudhury is predominantly involved with the restaurant and catering industry in Birmingham.

Mr Choudhury is married to Rowson Choudhury. Their eldest daughter is a graduate in Health Studies and is working for the NHS. Their second daughter graduated in Mathematics from Manchester University has a Masters degree in International Banking. Their other four children are still in school, with two of them attending the prestigious King Edwards Camp Hill Grammar School and Swanhurst School.

In 1997 Faizur Choudhury was invited by Mother Theresa to visit Calcutta to discuss issues of global poverty. A year later, HRH The Queen conferred Mr Choudhury with Member of the British Empire (MBE) on her birthday.



**FOYSOL HUSSAIN  
CHOUDHURY MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Catering Community Activist

Foyso Hussain Choudhury MBE is from Badardi, Nabigonj, Habigonj Bangladesh and is the eldest son of Al-Haj Gulam Rabbani Choudhury. He attended Edinburgh University as a medical student but because of his father's illness discontinued his studies to manage the family businesses.

As a result of his dedication and hard work Mr Choudhury has become one of Edinburgh's leading Entrepreneurs. He is a respected restaurateur and is not only involved in property development and financial services he devotes a considerable amount of his time to community and charity work. He was awarded the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in 2004 for services to race relations.

Mr Choudhury is a long-standing member of Edinburgh and Lothian Race Equality Council and has held many Executive positions in that organisation. At present he is vice-Chair.

Foyso Choudhury was a founding member of Edinburgh Mela Ltd and remains an active member of the Board. He is also President of The Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs in Scotland, Chair of Greater Sylhet Development & Welfare Council Scotland, Joint General Secretary of Zukta-Razyia Nabigonj Education Trust UK, Life Member of Daimuddin Ethemkhana

(Orphanage) & Hafizia Madrasha, 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, one of the Founder Members of the Dine Bangladeshi Campaign.

Mr Choudhury was elected as a General Secretary of Bangladesh Samity Edinburgh (BSE) in 2008. BSE initiated Cyclone SIDR rehabilitation project. Also, for the first time in Scotland, BSE has celebrated international mother language day in collaboration with Scottish Government & Edinburgh city council and this has continued every year.

In 1991 he was the Joint Co-ordinator of the Bangladesh Cyclone Appeal which raised £141,000 in Scotland. In addition he is been 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.



**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 Presidents 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 President of the British Bangla Chamber of Commerce- London region. Mohibuddin Choudhury has been involved in several other community and charity organisations. He is one of the Founder Trustees of British Bangla Jaggannathpur Education Trust based in the UK, which is one of the most successful organisations, 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.



**SHETU  
CHOUDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Arts

Shetu Choudhury has been involved in performing arts for the greater part of his life. He has performed on a voluntary and professional level with the UK and has played a key role in performing and shaping live stage Bengali drama.

Shetu completed both his secondary and higher education in Bangladesh before completing a Diploma in English Language and IT here in the UK. He is currently the proprietor and director of Creation Media based in Green Street, London.

Shetu's repertoire of work includes being presenter of Betar Bangla Radio, in addition to being a presenter for Channel 5 and being a model. He has also played parts in numerous short films which have been shown on Channel 4, and has appeared in several Tele films for various Bengali Channels, as well as being a voice-over for the Heart Foundation, Childcare and more.

He remains directing stage plays. Besides he is also the cultural secretary for the Bangladesh Cricket Forum UK and the Chairman for Desh Theatre. He is also a freelance journalist. He was also a Parent Governor of John Scurr Primary School.

Shetu's notable achievements include the ATN Bangla Media Award for the best Bengali actor in the UK 2004 alongside the best TV advert personality award in the UK 2006.

Shetu represents the modern day British Bangla grassroots ambassador. His unique achievement is in his ability to combine his media work with a phenomenal contribution to Bengali cultural development in Tower Hamlets- where a large Bangladeshi population exist.

Mr Choudhury remains dedicated and committed to promoting multi-culturalism in the UK and on a personal level is an individual filled with integrity. He is a family man with children but still finds time to help those people who come to him for assistance in whatever way he can. He is a relentless community worker.

Shetu has made more than a valid contribution through his arts and community work, and is one of the shining beacons in the British Bangladeshi performing arts arena.

Taz Choudhury came to prominence during the 1990's when a group of talented British-Bengali young stars brought the Eastern Eye newspaper to distinction.

He is among the few who have made biggest impact on behalf of Asian publications locally and in the news trade. Mr Choudhury's involvement with Ethnic Media Group in 1992 helped this company to steadily grow over a number of years, and to include some successful titles such as New Nation, Asian Times, Caribbean Times and the very successful Richest Asian 200 publication to the portfolio.

In 1998, Mr Choudhury was headhunted by Zee TV as "Head of Corporate Communications". 2003 would prove to be a memorable year for Taz Choudhury as he created the first national newspaper, Bangla Post, to be distributed through newsagents for the Bangladeshi community in Britain. Bangla Post, has been a huge success and has set a precedent for similar publications to aspire to.

After spending almost three years at the helm of Bangla Post, Mr Choudhury then decided to move on to new projects.

Success and Taz go hand-in-hand in electronic media as well. He joined with his good friend Mahee Ferdhaus – founder of Channel S, as Commercial Director and now serving as CEO. As a diversified professional, Mr Choudhury also ventured into the frozen foods company Shahjalal Foods in March 2007. Although Shahjalal Foods had existed since 2006, it was struggling to be a success despite the high product quality. Mr Choudhury



## TAZ CHOUDHURY

**SECTOR**  
Media (Electronic)

devoted his time to turning the company's fortunes around.

Within 18 months, Shahjalal Foods established itself as one of the biggest Bangladeshi frozen food companies.

However, never being one to stay in one venture for a long time, Taz Choudhury is being involved with novel projects. That's why involvement with Channel I was an obvious for Taz Choudhury. As part of expansion of Channel S, the owner Mahee Ferdhaus invited him to become his business partner at Channel I to inject his expertise of excellence and to serve as Managing Director.

Mr Choudhury oversaw the UK and European launch of Channel I in September 2007. He continues to be involved with the media today.

## ABDUL KADIR CHOWDHURY

**SECTOR**  
Business



Abdul Kadir Choudhury is well known in the Bangladeshi community in the UK as a successful businessman, educationalist and industrialist. Mr Choudhury, eldest of three brothers and two sisters, was born at Dori Khunjonpur of Jaggannathpur upozila in greater Sylhet in 1926. His father was well known as businessman.

In 1953 Mr. Choudhury Came to London. He entered the catering industry in 1956 by establishing a restaurant named New Calcutta Restaurant. In 1969 he again started a restaurant, Himalaya Restaurant, in Coventry only to sell it later on, and then went back to Bangladesh to start his own business. After an unsuccessful attempt he returned to the UK in 1978.

He later established "Jhorna Tanduri Resturant" in Opington.

As his business was thriving he also opened "Rajdoot", "Mughal", and "Bengal Luncer", "Bombay Butler" in Chiselhurst, and "Bengal Clipper" near Tower Bridge.

From a very young age Mr Kadir is working towards the development of the community and the society; sometimes in an individual effort and sometimes with as a part of a collective. He is a Founding Trustee member of Jagannathpur British Bangla Education. He had also set up a school, Abdul Kadir - Meherun Nesa High School, to ensure that the local people have access to educational facilities, and has been bearing all the expenses of the school since then. He had also built a bridge in his father's name in Rasulpur - Kunchonpur road, and built a Building For Rasulpur Madrasa.

He built Al Hamra Shopping Complex with a view to encourage the Bangladeshi community in the UK to invest in Bangladesh, and is planning to expand his business into the cement industry. He is a part of The Jalalabad, a Sylheti newspaper, and is the director of both Sylhet Trade Centre, and Al Hamra Bangladesh Ltd.

Mr Choudhury got married to Meherun Nesa Choudhury. His two sons Sohail Kadir Choudhury and Pavel Kadir Choudhury are also established businessman in Britain.



## AHMED US SAMAD CHOWDHURY

JP, FISMM, FCMI, FIH

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

Mr Chowdhury was the Editor and Publisher of "Potrika", Britain's popular Bengali newspaper - published from London. Mr Chowdhury is also the Chairman of Channel 5 Television; a Bengali language broadcast media and one of the most watched ethnic channels in Europe.

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 and trades as "London Property Partnership". In Bangladesh Mr Chowdhury is also a property developer (Paragon Property Ltd.) and currently building 500 apartments for the ex-patriots in Sylhet. Also he is co owner of Kushiara Compsite Knit Industries in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

A 100% export orientated industry earning vital foreign currency for Bangladesh.

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 he founded Bangladesh Centre in Bristol; this was aimed to cater for the needs of the Women's Group and Youth activities. In 1998 Mr Chowdhury started the project to establish South West's only purpose built mosque. Today Shahjalal Jame Mosque is complete, costing £1 million. Mr Chowdhury serves as the Trustee of Bangladesh Association 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 to make NVQ/SVQ qualifications more accessible, National Advisor New Deal (Ethnic Minority Group). 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 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, Bangladesh (the only office outside Britain). Mr Chowdhury serves as the Chairman of the IAS – Sylhet Advisory Committee.

He helped found a Children's Hospital, Cyclone Shelter, Orphanage and a Hospital for the Disabled and Paralysed and many educational institutions in Bangladesh.



**AL-HAJ GOYASUR  
RAHMAN CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Charity

Al-Haj Goyasur Rahman Chowdhury came to the United Kingdom in 1962 before bringing his family over in 1973. The son of Late Hazi Abdul Monaf Chowdhury was born in Narikal Tola, Jaggannathpur, Sunamgonj.

Mr Chowdhury initially worked for London Transport, before retiring and embarking on other businesses. He is well known for altruistic actions and charity work. He has established and developed numerous roads, mosques, madrasas, schools and provided various other important facilities and amenities to the people in his village and sylhet in Bangladesh.

Al-Haj Goyasur Rahman Chowdhury is married to Rukia Khatum Chowdhury of Kubaj Pur, Jagannathpur. They are blessed with six children. Their eldest daughter Parbin has a PhD in Chemical Engineering from Imperial College, which she obtained in 1992. The second daughter Nazmin has an MSc in Microbiology and she works as a Micro Biologist. Their third child, Fahim is a General Practitioner who works at a practice in East London. He completed his MBBS, BSc (Hons) and MRCP from University College London in 1999. Sharmin who is their fourth child has an

MA in Human Resource Management and a BEng (Hons) in Manufacturing Systems Engineering and currently works as a HR professional. Their second youngest son, Farhad has a BSc (Hons) in Economics and Finance from University of Brunel, he works at the investment banking division of the Bank of Bangkok. Their youngest child Roushanara has a Diploma in Dental Hygiene & Therapy from Queen Mary University and is currently working as a Dental Hygiene Therapist.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S  
WHO  
2009





**CHINA  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Arts and  
Entertainment

China Chowdhury is an established dance artist and choreographer for more than 20 years. She has an extensive knowledge in Indian classical, modern and Bengali Folk dance. China has not only worked in Bangladesh but has worked in the UK and with her dance expertise has travelled across the world to many countries such as Japan, Italy, Sweden, Thailand, Egypt and Pakistan to name but a few. She gained her dance expertise in Bangladesh and was the government staff artist with the Bangladesh Shilpa Kala Academy.

China has worked in numerous London schools as a dance instructor and also as a dance teacher in primary schools such as Blue Gate Field Junior School, Thomas Buxton School and has worked as a part time dance instructor for the Asian Art Organisation in Newham and at the Indian Community Centre in London.

Since the formation of the Boishaki Mela Committee she has been involved with them and helped and supported the initiative. She continues to work with children of local communities all over the UK. She has been delivering training facilities on Choreography to the young people in Tower Hamlets. Over the last seven years she has been working with the Bangladeshi High Commission in different ways. Adding to this she has been involved in the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland and Choreographer to the Indian Movie 'Golapi Akhon Bilete'.

China Chowdhury is the founder and Managing director of 'Taal Torongo' an organisation whose members give widespread and varied performances all over the UK and Europe and have performed at the Boisaki Mela for the last decade.

She is a regular on the Bangladeshi TV channels and is now performing on the UK Bengali language Channels, and this has led her to take part in several prestigious international events showcasing her dance and performing talents.



**CLLR SALIM  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Politics and various  
businesses

Cllr Salim Chowdhury resides in Harrow, Middlesex. He hails from the village of Nogrikhapon, Goala Bazar, Sylhet. He is the son of Abdul Motin Chowdhury and Hafsa Chowdhury.

Cllr Salim completed his A-Levels in the United Kingdom before achieving a B.A degree in Hospitality and Management. He has an illustrious record of business ownership, which includes being the proprietor or various restaurants (three to be precise) and also being Director of General Auto Services.

Cllr Chowdhury also served as a Police Officer for the Metropolitan Police for a period of five years from 1995.

Cllr Chowdhury was elected as a Councillor for Harrow Council in 2006. he is the Founder Executive Member of Conservative Friends of Bangladesh as well as being a Member of both the Conservative Muslim Forum and British Asian Conservative link. He is well connected with the Conservative party and various organisations affiliated to the party.

Moreover, Salim Chowdhury served as Chief Whip of Harrow Council from 2006 to 2008 and was a deputy cabinet member from 2007 to 2009.

Aside from his association with politics, Cllr Chowdhury remains closely connected with local and community based initiatives. He was Elected Senior Vice Chair of Probashi Balagonj Education Trust until 2007. He is an Executive member of the Bangladesh Caterers Association (BCA) and Co-ordinator of Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs.

Furthermore, Cllr Chowdhury serves as President of Middlesex Jubo League and is a Trustee of Harrow Bangladeshi Association.

There are numerous other organisations with which Cllr Salim Chowdhury takes an active role in. he has also donated to several charities, which he continues to do so on a regular basis, and has funded a school hall in his village in Bangladesh.

Salim is married to Jasmine Chowdhury who has a BSc Honours degree. The couple have two children.

Cllr Sherwan Chowdhury moved to London at the end of 1976. He has been involved in many organisations that help to further it. His strong belief in the importance of education has seen many Bangladeshi youths listen to his advice and continue their studies into higher and further education.

Cllr Chowdhury has done an incredible amount of work for the Bangladeshi community. This can be seen in the number of various organisations and the dealings that he has with them. For example, Cllr Chowdhury is a trustee, founder and life member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association Croydon (BWAC). He has had involvements with BWAC since 1982, and been an integral part of how the organisation has developed, he was at one stage President of the organisation. Mr Chowdhury has been BWAC's General Secretary on a number of occasions.

Cllr Sherwan Chowdhury has held the roles of both Treasurer and Vice-Chair of the Progressive Youth Organisation in Tower Hamlets, and has been a Management Committee Member, Treasurer, Board Member and Secretary of the Croydon Race Equality Council. He was also a member of the Management Committee for the Croydon Citizen Advice Bureau and the General Secretary of the Shahjalal Mosque and Islmaic Centre for 2004 to 2005.

Mr Chowdhury has been involved with the Labour party since



**CLLR SHERWAN  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Housing and  
Politics

1992, and has also worked relentlessly to establish the rights of Ethnic Minority People within the party.

He has helped organisations that work in Bangladesh as well, and this can be seen in his dealings with the Zakijong Bangladesh Welfare Association and as a founder member of the AG Foundation UK.

Away from his charitable and business work, Mr Chowdhury was the Founder Chief Editor of Curry Life Magazine.

Cllr Sherwan Chowdhury is a married man, and his wife works for a local school as a teaching assistant. He has one daughter who is a pharmacist, and two sons. The eldest son is studying medicine at university, while the other is still at high school.

**GHULAM AHMED  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations



Ghulam Ahmed Chowdhury was born in the village of Rankle located in the district of Sylhet. He obtained his first degree in Business Studies from the University of Dhaka in 1963. He then arrived here in the United Kingdom in 1989, where he took a Diploma in Teaching Adults from the Royal Society of Arts, London. In addition he acquired various other teaching qualifications in Adult Education from the College of Further and Higher Education in Northampton. He is certified to Teach Adults and ESOL.

He worked for PIA before joining Biman Bangladesh Airlines where he served as Duty Officer at Heathrow airport until 1980. Between 1985 and 1986 Northampton Council employed him as a coordinator, he later became a Guidance Worker. He then became Community Liaison Officer for Northampton College. The college

subsequently made him a Business Development Officer. He took retirement in 2006.

He was a volunteer of the Al Jamatul Muslimeen of Bangladesh; he later became Chairman of the Education Sub committee. In 1987 he was elected as Chairman of the community and continued this service for some six years. Ghulam Ahmed was the first Asian Independent Member of the Northampton Police Authority and was later appointed as an Independent Advisor to the Independent Advisory Group.

He is married with three children. His eldest son Mizan is married and has a BSc Honours in Business and Engineering as well as a MSc in Computing. He currently works for Computer Science Corporation as a Business Architect Consultant on the NHS IT programme. Mr Chowdhury's eldest daughter is also married and has a BSc Honours and later completed her PGCE in teaching. She is currently the Deputy Head-teacher of a London Primary School. Mr and Mrs Chowdhury's youngest daughter is studying Law at the University of Northampton.



**MARUF AHMED  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Business and  
Community relations

Maruf Ahmed Chowdhury was born and educated in Bangladesh. He attended Government High School in Sylhet where he obtained a Secondary School Certificate, going on to M.C College where he gained his HSC. Mr. Chowdhury later went to Dhaka University achieving a Bachelor of Commerce with Honours from the years 1979 to 1982, a Master of Commerce the following year and a Bachelor of Law (LLB) in 1984.

On finishing his education he joined the family business 'M Ahmed Construction Ltd'. He also was a partner of E H Enterprise and a proprietor of an import/export firm called Maruf Enterprise. In 1987 he came to the UK, prior to which he resided in USA for a year.

In the UK he became a partner of Enfield Tandoori Restaurant. In 1990 Mr. Chowdhury obtained the necessary qualifications to become a Financial Consultant for American Life Insurance Company. A few years later he moved on to Laurentian Life Plc as a Senior Financial Consultant. Mr. Chowdhury currently holds the position of Senior Loans Counselor for the East London Small Business Centre, in East London; where he has special responsibilities for management of the Muslim

Loan Fund and acts as a specialist to the catering sector.

Besides his career Mr Chowdhury has been actively involved with voluntary work.

He is currently the Honorary Presidium Member of Beanibazar Welfare Trust, Beanibazar Jonokollan Somittee and Beanibazar Pouro Unnoyon Songstha in the UK.

Moreover, he is the organising secretary of UK Awami League, the General Secretary of Bangladesh Cricket Association in the UK. He is also the Vice President of Majlish Home Care Services, Vice Chair of Sir William Beveridge Foundation, Vice president of Dhaka University Jalalabad students union.

Mr. Chowdhury is married to Mrs. Samantha Chowdhury, who is a Senior Business Development Manager for NatWest Bank. (RBS Group); together they have 2 children; Nishat and Rafat who are students.



**MATIAR RAHMAN  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalist)

Matiar Rahman Chowdhury, a journalist and a researcher, was born in Sylhet. His permanent address is: Village- Noorgaon (Puradia) Upazila –Nabiganj, District- Hobiganj. He completed his primary education in the Maktab of his village. He studied MA in Islamic History at the University of Rajshahi following the completion of SSC and HSC from Sylhet Model High School and Modon Mohon College respectively.

He started his career in journalism as a correspondent of Jugoveri. Since then, he worked with various newspapers, magazines and periodicals both in Bangladesh and the UK. He is currently working as the UK correspondent of NNB, a news agency of Bangladesh.

Matiar Chowdhury regularly writes columns and articles for the newspapers of the UK, America, India and Bangladesh.

Matiar Chowdhury is the pioneer of developing the Sylheti language in the UK. He has a good contribution in inventing the Sylheti Nagri font for computer. He established Sylheti Research and Translation Centre in the UK. He presented his findings on Sylheti language in several seminars in Bangladesh, India, France, Germany, United States, Sweden, Switzerland and in the Middle East. He translated the scripts of films i.e. Jesus, Renson and Bedel from English to Sylheti Language.

A United States based Organisation 'Interact' awarded Mr. Matiar in 1997 for his outstanding contributions in translation.

Books he has published are Nabiganjer Itikatha (1985), Noupothe Nabik (1983), Kushiaraar Baake (1981), Sylhet Bichitra (1990), Sylhet Guide(1989), Sylhet O Sylheti Bhasha(1999), Sylheti Bhasha Shikshar Boi (1998-2000), Ten Sylheti Poem (1998-Translated), Yuktorajye Sylhetbashi (Yet to be published) References from the books of Matiar Chowdhury have been mentioned in more than fifty books of Bangla Academy, Islamic Foundation and other publishing companies.

Mr. Chowdhury is closely engaged with Social activities. He used to be the Publicity and Publication Secretary of Yuktorajya Gonodabi Parishad (1995-1997). He is engaged with Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council, Habiganj Association, founder chairman of Sylhet Academy UK and Europe, Founder Trustee and vice president of Nabiganj Education Trust, Joint Convenor of Inatganj Thana Bastabayan Committee and Sarba Europeo Bangabandhu Parishad. He is also a life member of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and Muslim Sahitya Sangsad, Sylhet.

He is married to Junia Begum with four sons.



**MATIUR RAHMAN  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalist)

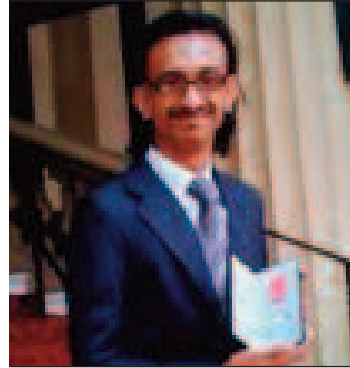
Matiur Rahman Chowdhury is an executive member of the London Bangla Press Club. The News Editor for Euro Bangla Newspaper has quickly established himself as a valuable member of the since arriving from Bangladesh. Born in Kulaura, Moulvibazar district of Bangladesh, Mr Chowdhury completed his education in Bangladesh before moving to the UK.

Mr Chowdhury attended the local high school in Kulaura, Moulvibazar where he completed his S.S.C examinations and progressed on to Moulvibazar's Komolgonj College to complete his H.S.C studies. The Euro Bangla News Editor completed both his BSS and MSS in Political Science from Jogonnath University.

After completing his masters, MrChowdhury 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 continued working 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. In addition to his full time role in print media, Mr Chowdhury is engaged in various non-profit social welfare organisations. He was the founder Secretary of Udoyachol Jonokollan Songsta project in Kulaura, Moulzibazar, 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 two brothers and five sisters and is married with one son. For the foreseeable future, the Euro Bangla News Editor wants to continue helping the poor as well as developing more educational projects in Bangladesh.



**MAMUN RASHID  
CHOWDHURY MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations  
and Voluntary

At the age of 16 Mamun co founded a 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 notable 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 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 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 does work with other organizations to organize events and also organizes 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 will also be managing his beloved club Beaumont FC in the tournaments and the summer league. This will undoubtedly be a very demanding task which Mamun has taken on. We wish him all the success.

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 now a MBE.

Mutahear Chowdhury was educated in Bangladesh, where he was born. In 1960, he finished his GCSE's in Nabigonj JK High School in Hobigonj, Sylhet. He then went onto complete his A Levels in Hobigonj Bindaban College in the year 1980.

From 1981 to 1986, he was the proprietor of Diana Hotel & Restaurant based in Nabigonj, in Bangladesh and since then he has owned many businesses throughout the years. He then moved to the UK where he became the Proprietor for Kirkby Tandoori in Nottinghamshire, for three years. A year later he was the owner of Euroasia Fish and Chips also located in Nottinghamshire, which he managed from 1994 to 1998.

Tara Indian Restaurant was the next restaurant he started to manage, which was also based in Nottinghamshire. Then in 2006, he became the proprietor for Chand Indian Cuisine, which is situated in Denia, in Spain. Another branch of Chand Indian Cuisine was opened in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, in the year 2003, which is Mr. Chowdhury's main business involvement today.

At present, Mr. Chowdhury is also the Chairman for Mansfield - Ashfield Bangladeshi Association (MABA), a charity based organization in Nottinghamshire. Here, he has dealt with many issues such as social problems, welfare rights, benefits and developing links between ethnic minority communities and agencies providing education and social events.



**MUTAHEAR  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

In the future, Mr. Mutahear Chowdhury desires to pursue a career in the Health and Catering Business along with the multicultural community services. He hopes to offer food of an exceptional quality and continue the high standard of health and safety.

In addition to that, he also wishes to supply training courses for schools and generally, in Indian Cuisine. On top of that he hopes to contribute towards bettering the communication and relations amongst the local communities.

He lives with his wife and two sons. He enjoys sport, reading autobiographical literature and gardening.

**NASIM AHMED  
CHOWDHURY**

**SECTOR**  
Business



Nasim Ahmed Chowdhury graduated from the National University of Bangladesh. Since graduating he has acquired vast experience and knowledge of the business world.

Before moving to the UK, Mr Chowdhury worked as a contractor for the Bangladesh Roads and Highways, the Bangladesh Water Development Board and Facilities Department.

In 1999, Mr Chowdhury left Bangladesh and moved to England. In his first few years in the country, he worked as a Horticultural Assistant for Birmingham City Council, a Sales Manager for the utilities company N.Power and as a Licensing Officer for BBC Television.

Mr Chowdhury then decided to go into business for himself. He

set up his own business in London called Apex Printing & Publishing Ltd.

This business was a great success and he was able to build up a strong customer base throughout the UK. In 2003, he opened a money transfer and travel company. Mr Chowdhury was one of the key people who first encouraged many of the NRB's to invest in Bangladesh. As a result, he runs a successful real estate company in Bangladesh called Royal City.

Currently, Mr Chowdhury is heavily involved in a scheme to build a major power plant in Bangladesh. Barakatullah Electro Dynamics Ltd (BEDL), the company that is running the project, is a joint venture between Bangladesh and Thailand, and is designed to help alleviate both the power shortage and the lack of employment opportunities that exists in Bangladesh.

As one of the founder of BEDL, it is Mr Chowdhury's responsibility to interest as many investors as possible in the UK.

Away from his business life, Mr Nasim Ahmed Chowdhury is involved in several community and social organisations. He is a lifetime member of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, and regularly makes appearances on live Television Debates across various television channels in London.

His aim for the future is to encourage further investment in Bangladesh in a bid to help the country's economy.



## SAYED CHOWDHURY

### SECTOR

Media and Publishing

Sayed Chowdhury is a renowned journalist and novelist, and a successful organizer. He was born in Noagaon village of Hatkhola Union Parishad under Sylhet Sadar Thana.

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 father of two sons. Sayed Chowdhury started Media Mohol, a media company and marketing solution provider in London in 2002.

He is editor of Bilingual monthly Shomoy. He is instrumental in publishing some time-demanding and unique directories in the UK, these include: UK Bangla Directory – a celebrated index and Britain's first one-stop annual guide to Bangladeshi businesses and educational, religious and social organisations in Britain.

As well as the UK Asian Restaurant Directory - Britain's first Asian restaurant directory that captures all the Asian cuisines based in the UK. He also publishes the Muslim Index.

Mr Chowdhury is the Founder-Director of United Airways. He is also one of the important members of the organizing committee for Expo Bangladesh 2005 in the UK.

He is a member-secretary of the civic reception committee for Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus, played the leading role in

organising this unique reception event in London in 2006.

Sayed Chowdhury is founder Director of Euro Bangla, the first bilingual (Bangla-English) newsweekly in the UK, a brainchild of Sayed Chowdhury. He was also the Managing Editor of this newspaper.

He has also presented and appeared on Radio Bangladesh, Betar Bangla, Muslim Community Radio as well as Bangla TV and Channel S. Furthermore; he has in the past been involved with numerous newspapers in Bangladesh, including the Daily Sangram, Inqilab, Jalalabad. He also edited several magazines such as Durbar, Sylhet Guide and Shuniket.

Sayed Chowdhury is the Founder Rector and Director of British Bangladesh International School (BBIS), which is one of the prominent English medium schools in Bangladesh. Sayed Chowdhury was a member of the Executive Committee of Sylhet Press Club. He was elected twice in the Committee (1993-94, 1995-96). He has been elected an Executive Member of London Bangla Press Club.

Sayed Chowdhury has received many awards which include Mayor Awards of Tower Hamlets Council of Great Britain. He is among the few who have been included in the eighth edition of the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership by the American Biographical Institute.



## SHAMIM CHOWDHURY

### SECTOR

Media

Shamim is a seasoned television and print journalist, currently working for the renowned international broadcaster, Al Jazeera English, where she performs a number of prominent roles, including news editing, producing and occasional reporting. Her previous television experience includes work at the BBC, ITN and Sky News.

She has also written for many of Britain's national newspapers, including The Daily Express, The Daily Mail, The Daily Telegraph and, most recently, comment and opinion for The Independent. The prestigious political journal, The New Statesman, has also recently expressed interest in her as a contributing writer.

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

Aside from her work, Shamim has a number of passions. She has been training in shotokan karate for a number of years and enjoys

cooking, literature and the arts. But her greatest passion is travelling and she has travelled to many parts of the world, including relatively unexplored parts Cambodia, Syria, the Middle East and Africa.

She has been involved in a number of leading charities, and on one occasion her fund-raising efforts resulted in her helping build a community centre for villagers in a remote part of Cambodia.

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



**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.

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 from 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 weekly 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 President, 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 in British Transport Police in London.



**GOLAM MOSTAFA  
FARUK**

**SECTOR**  
Media

Golam 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 wellknown organization '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 well-known 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.

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



**SHAHAGIR  
BAKTH FARUK**  
MSc. MRIPH

**SECTOR**  
Politics, Business  
and Community  
Relations

candidate for the same constituency and fought a hard campaign against Oona King and George Galloway in 2005.

Faruk is the 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.

**ABDUL HAQUE**

**SECTOR**  
Information  
Technology and  
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.

Abdul Haque is a man with many strings attached to his bow. 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 specializes in promoting clients hailing from the arts, theatre, film and fashion industries.





**CLLR AHMADUL HAQUE**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Ahmadul Haque served 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. Clearly evident from his involvement with the Bangladesh Women's Association and his executive position with the Tipton Action Group, 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 SHAFIQL 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.



**EHSAN HAQUE**

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Solicitor)

Ehsan Haque was born in Moulvibazar Bangladesh and was initially educated in Bangladesh. His father was a retired professor and his Grandfather was a renowned Criminal Advocate. Ehsan's mother was a housewife who still has an huge impact on him. He completed my LLB (Hons) and LLM from Dhaka University and then came to the UK for higher studies. He was called to the Bar in 2002 by Lincoln's Inn and worked as an in-house Barrister for a north London based solicitor's firm. He worked there until 2006 and opened up Haque and Hausmann in 2006. In 2005 He qualified as a Solicitor. He is now senior partner of this practice and working within the Bengali community. He specialises in Conveyancing, Immigration and civil disputes.

Ehsan's wife Amena Haque, is the other partner at Haque and Hausmann. She was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh and was educated there. Her father was a renowned businessman in Dhaka. Amena completed her LLB(Hons) from the Dhaka University and later moved to the UK for higher studies. She completed her LLB(Hons) in 2000 and completed the Bar Vocational Course in 2002, before being called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn. She worked as an in house Barrister with an East London solicitor's firm and later qualified as a solicitor in 2006. She joined Ehsan's practice as a partner in early 2007 and since then she has been working at that practice. She is specialised in Family Law and Immigration Law. Together they have two boys, Afnan and Aryann who are 5 and 2 years old respectively.



**CLLR M A HARID**

**SECTOR**  
Politics and Catering

Councillor M A Harid was born in Kamal Bazar Sylhet. Born to Late Alhaj Yakub Ali and Mrs Khyrun Nessa, Cllr Harid came to the UK in 1972. M A Harid resided in Oldham, where he attended the local Oldham College.

In 1993 Cllr Harid moved to Carlisle where he established his own business. He now has three restaurants in that area. Moreover, in 2000 he worked very closely with the City Council and arranged the first curry competition in Cumbria. Cllr Harid's restaurants have won numerous awards including the first Curry Chef of the year competition to be held. Furthermore, his restaurant has appeared in the Good Curry Guide.

After joining the Labour party, in 2003 Cllr Harid was nominated to stand in the City elections and he became the first Asian Council candidate to stand for election. In 2007 Cllr Harid was elected as a Councillor defeating a BNP candidate in the process and becoming Cumbria's first and only Asian Councillor.

In 2008 a thirty minute documentary was made by Border TV highlighting Cllr Harid's first year as Councillor.

Cllr Harid was nominated in 2009 for the Channel 5 Award. He has worked relentlessly with numerous community initiatives and charities. He helped build the first and only Mosque in Cumbria and serves on the management committee for the local Community centre and is also a Trustee.

As councillor M A Harid serves on the Development Control Committee and Community Overview Scrutiny Committee. He is also a governor of Bishop Harvey Goodwin School.

Cllr Harid is married to Nasima Akther who has a BA degree. The couple have three children.

Mr Tahirul Hasan (Juned) resides in Chipping Norton. He lives with his wife and his three children. In the past he had established the first Indian restaurant which is the Anarkali at West Street.

Mr Hasan established a well known local charity named "Anonddo International." He is the founder and Chairman.

Anonddo charity is locally developed and holds a strong network worldwide. A majority of the success relies on local generosity. Mr David Cameron has sponsored a student in Bangladesh, through Anonddo. The charity has had two of its curry nights in the town hall, which had taken place last year, and proved a great success.

Every year thousands of people, locally and internationally, are benefited from Anonddo. Through Mr Hasan's connections the charity has been highly helpful. He is also involved with "voice for justice" organisation of which he is an executive member. He is also the Oxfordshire convenor for this organisation.

Mr Hasan is also a freelance journalist and is a reporter for the Oxfordshire region for a leading British Bangladeshi TV channel and several Bengali newspapers.

He is a member of "The Thames Valley Police neighbourhood action group". He is also actively involved in ensuring that the town is kept clean.



## **TAHIRUL HASAN**

### **SECTOR**

Community Relations  
and Charity

Mr Hasan is executive committee member of Oxfordshire Bangladeshi association. He has also worked very hard to start up a Friday prayer for Muslim community in Chipping Norton Town hall.

In the past year Mr Hasan has stood as a Conservative councillor for his local ward.

## **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 of Hayder Pur, Chattak, Sunamganj and comes from a prominent family; his father is 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, London as well as a Director of another well known large cash and carry, namely

Bangla City, which too is situated in the heart of Brick Lane. 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 'Simply a Pound' charity, and is a well-wisher of the Ibrahim College near East London Mosque. Furthermore 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 London Regional Director of the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council. He is a member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association as well as being 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 up here in the UK by the Bangladeshi government.

Mr Hayder is married to Asma Hayder and they have three children who are Adnan, Abidah and Akifah, who are all studying at school. His interests and pastimes include travelling, and he has been fortunate in visiting many countries in Europe and Asia, including Thailand and Malaysian to name a few. He also enjoys helping others. Mr Rafique Hayder is a distinguished businessman and philanthropist, who boasts some very successful businesses and a very strong and positive link with the community.



**ATIQUUL HOQUE**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr Atiqul Hoque is the son of Lumranul Hoque. Born in Siramishi Jagannathpur, Mr 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 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, Mr 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.

Mr Hoque has always had a passion for food and has recently opened a Thai restaurant in Andover and an Italian Restaurant in Salisbury. Mr Hoque is also involved with a number of charitable organisations in Salisbury. He is the Vice chairman of the southwest Bangladesh Caterers Association, Joint cashier of the Muslim Association of Salisbury.

Mr Hoque's long term plans are to set up a charity fund under his grandparent's name. Furthermore, he seeks to build a mosque and

madrasha and settle near these institutes when he eventually retires.

Mr Hoque is married with three children: two sons and one daughter.



**MOZAMMEL HOSSAIN**

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Barrister)

Mozammel Hossain is a Criminal Barrister practicing from 187 Fleet Street, Chambers of Andrew Trollope QC. 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 Temple. 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 and is currently Chairman of the 'Aksha Food Industry Ltd'. A third brother, Mr Altaf Hossain Masud is a FCA Chartered Accountant in Bangladesh; he is also the Managing Director of the 'Aksha'.

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.



**AJMALUL  
HOSSAIN QC**

**SECTOR**  
Legal

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 of 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.



**SHEIKH  
MOZZAMMEL  
HOSSAIN**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalist)

Sheikh Mozzammel Hossain was born in 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 at Labsha Primary School. He then continued his studies in Dhaka at the East Bengal Institute.

In 1971, he joined fighting for the liberation of Bangladesh as a freedom fighter. Once the war for independence had finished, Mr Hossain continued his studies and completed his SSC 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 from an office on Brick Lane in east London. The newspaper, called Daily Deshbarta, had to close after being in business for thirteen months.

Following the closure of Daily Deshbarta, Mr Hossain gained employment as a ECO at Tower Hamlets Council. In 2001, Mr Hossain left his job with Tower Hamlets Councils and returned to the world of media by joining the Daily Bangladesh newspaper as Managing Editor. He has since been promoted and is now the editor for the newspaper.

Sheikh Mozzammel Hossain got married in 1989 to Shamim Ara Hossain. Mrs Hossain is a teaching assistant at Christ Church Primary School on Brick Lane.

They have one son – Sheikh Ridwan Hossain – who was born in March 1993. He is currently in year 10 of secondary school.

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.

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.



**DR. HASANAT M. HUSAIN MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Academia

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'.

Moreover he was also appointed as a Lay Adviser for the British Medical Association from 2004 to 2006. Additionally Dr. Husain coordinated the 'Head teachers Forum UK' in 1998 to prevent low entry A-level Modern Foreign Language in the UK from closure.

In 2007 and 2008 he organised Award Ceremonies for Outstanding Achievers which took place at the Kensington Town Hall to commend high achieving GCSE and A-level students which were attended by large number of MPs and other dignitaries. Dr. Hasanat Husain is the Convenor of the World Forum of Voice for Justice which was launched in 2006.

Dr. Hasanat Husain is a sincere and hard working individual, whose success has made him one of the figureheads for British Bangladeshis.



**CLLR AHMED HUSSAIN**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Cllr Ahmed Hussain has been a councillor since 2006 prior to that he was involved in various community projects and campaigns. He is a conservative Councillor for the Mile End east ward.

Cllr Hussain has resided in the United Kingdom since 1973, however took a ten year break during which he lived in Bangladesh.

Ahmed Hussain is a Business Graduate with further education in construction management, housing and politics from South Bank University

He is married with three children who reside in the family home in London. Cllr Hussain's father who was a banker also resides at the family home.

It is also worthy to note that Cllr Ahmed Hussain's grandfather was a doctor and Chairman of the Upizilla Parishad for 35 years from the time of Indian government entering into the independent Bangladesh.



**DIDHAR HUSSAIN**

**SECTOR**  
Hospitality

Mr. Didhar Hussain was born in 1975 in Bangladesh, Village Kalijuri, Gulapgonj, District Syhlet. He is the third son of Mr. Shomsul Islam (Kubad) and Mrs. Monwara begum.

Didhar Hussain came to UK in 1978 and grew up in east London in Tower Hamlets Borough; he studied at Stepney Green school and then started to work for a world's leading brand, McDonalds. His Talent and dedication was very quickly spotted by his hierarchy and was promoted to a store manager within 5 years of joining.

He has been a very successful business man within the main stream of his job title. Currently he is a Business Manager for McDonalds and is in-charge of running one of the flagship store and busiest in UK, in Oxford Street (West End).

In his time he has developed many people in the lead role of management and hospitality within the multi-cultural community, he is a lead ambassador for the brand image.

Mr. Didhar Hussain has won many awards in the last 10 years including the manager of the year; his store has been recognized nationally in achieving the best architecture designs and various other things, in terms of increasing sales, especially whilst the country is suffering from recession. His Marketing plan has not affected the business at all and still enjoying double digits increase on sales.

Didhar Hussain was also interviewed and recognized by Bangla TV & Curry Spice magazine In 2004, for being one the most successful business man on the main stream of the leading brand within our community for the younger generation.

Mr. Didhar Hussain is also an Executive Director of Grand Sylhet & Resorts.

Grand Sylhet is one the first 5 star Hotel & Resort in Sylhet and will provide more than 300 local jobs to our community.



**SHELM 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 tender 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 for 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. At present 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.





**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 also occupied in the property market, having several properties to his name, as well 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 Treasurer for the Greater 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.



**RIZWAN HUSSAIN**

**SECTOR**  
Media & Charity

Rizwan Hussain is a British barrister, television presenter, Lecturer of Laws and an international humanitarian/charity worker. He is mainly well known for being a television presenter on Islamic programs of the UK's first Muslim channel, Islam Channel and the Sylheti-Bengali channel, Channel S.

Rizwan was born in Habiganj, Sylhet in Bangladesh, and moved to the United Kingdom at a very young age with his parents. His parents settled in Loughborough in Leicestershire, his late father is a retired soldier of the British Army.

He has also previously worked as a Lecturer of Laws, Police Officer, Journalist, Actor and Singer. He is a popular television presenter, well known for presenting Islamic and charity shows. Rizwan studied at the University of Derby where he studied Law and then at the Inns of Court School of Law in London, he studied to become a Barrister and was called to the Bar at Lincolns Inn. Subsequently he went on to qualify as a lecturer at the Nottingham Trent University. Rizwan is currently undertaking a research LLM (Masters) on the subject of Anti-Terrorism legislation in the UK at the University of Huddersfield. Rizwan is also currently undertaking an Aalimiya Course at Ebrahim College.

In the late 1990s, he mainly became interested in music, and began performing under the band name "Sargam" and eventually became known as songwriter of popular albums, which includes B-Boy, featuring songs such as "Harr Pal Mujko" and "Jaan". He has appeared on the top Asian music shows on Vectone TV and ATN Global. During his music career, Rizwan had a hit single in the UK, which he was performing at various notable stadiums such as the Wembley Stadium in London, the White Pearl Stadium in Birmingham and also in Scotland at the Central Park Glasgow.

He later left his music career, after performing the Hajj in 2004, and decided to work with Islamic-oriented channels, and charity organisations such as Muslim Aid and Islamic Relief on presenting many charity events on Islam Channel and Channel S. At Islam Channel, he is a Presenter, Producer and Documentary director, and currently presents a show called, 'National Qir'at Competition - a children's program. On Channel S, he has presented Islam Essentials, which gives answers to people's questions regarding on Islam in English and Bengali. Rizwan travelled to Bangladesh, during the aftermath of Cyclone Sidr in 2008 which left millions homeless, with Muslim Aid to assist the team to deliver the water, food and clothing goods to the communities that have been greatly affected.

Cllr Sirajul Islam is a Labour Councillor representing Bethnal Green South Ward. He is also Deputy Leader of the council. His portfolio currently includes responsibility for Overview and scrutiny as well as being on the Audit panel.

He was born in 1967 in the greater Sylhet District in Bangladesh. Councillor Islam moved with his parents to the UK in 1972 and upon arrival attended primary and secondary school and completed his Post Graduate Certificate in Community Development from the University of Westminster in 1999.

Councillor Sirajul Islam has served as the Community Relations Coordinator for Barts and London NHS Trust from 1997. From 1990 to 1994 he worked as a Community Development Officer for Tower Hamlets Council as well as at Bethnal Green City Challenge from 1994 to 1995. Between 1995 and 1996 he moved into the area of housing where he became a Tenant Management Development Officer and then became a Community Consultation Officer for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

He joined the Labour party in 1996 and has been a Labour Councillor in Tower Hamlets since 2001. He was Leading Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health from 2002 to 2005 during which time the service achieved three star rating from the Commission for Social Care Inspections and was recognised as one of the best in the country.

He has also served as Labour Group Chief Whip from 2005 to 2006. He has been involved in many voluntary organisations, and



**CLLR SIRAJUL ISLAM**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

is now a Governor of John Scurr Primary School in East London. In addition he is the Treasurer of Bengali Educational Society, as well as Director of Tower Hamlets Community Housing.

Councillor Islam is also Trustee of Spitafields Market Community Trust. Previously he was Vice Chairman of Tower Hamlets Local Government Committee in 2000.

Cllr Sirajul has worked tirelessly to bring fundamental change to the Bangladeshi Community in Tower Hamlets and is one of the biggest voices in the Council today working hard to fight against crime, reduce poor housing and bring in regeneration to the Borough.

Mr Islam is married with four children.

## **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 over 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.



**M. NURUL ISLAM**

**SECTOR**  
Education and  
Community Relations

Nurul Islam was born in 1963 in the village Burhanpur under Nabigonj upazilla Habigonj district.

He studied in Dinarpur High School in Nabigonj under Habigonj district where he passed his SSC exam in 1979. He passed HSC exam from Brindaban College, Habigonj under the Comilla Board in 1982. He then went to achieve a B.Sc from Moulvibazar Government College in 1984 under the University of Chittagong, and completed his M.Sc in Zoology under Jagonnath College in 1985. In the same year he took admission in Dhaka Central Law College, Bijoy Nagar in Dhaka to study Law which he could not complete.

Mr Islam joined the Teaching profession in Gulduba M.C High School Nabigonj, and worked there for about two years. He then came to the UK in 1987 and joined Portsmouth Bengali School where he was the Head teacher and served there for four years. He later went on to join Portsmouth Priory Bangla School where he was working as a Head teacher from 2004.

Mr Islam also joined the position as the Bengali GCSE course teacher in Portsmouth College of Art, Design and further Education

from 1988 to 1990.

He was elected as joint secretary of the Bangladesh Welfare Association in Portsmouth and served there for five years. He was the general secretary of the Awami League in Portsmouth as well as Vice president. He was the Portsmouth Reporter of the weekly Surma and weekly Probash from 1995 to 1997.

M. Nurul Islam was the advisory council member of Portsmouth Jame Mosque and the secretary of Habigonj Zilla Association Portsmouth for the term of 2003 to 2004. Additionally he was the organising secretary of the Greater Sylhet Council (GSC) in Portsmouth. At present he is the Vice President of GSC Portsmouth.

Mr Islam has been the Portsmouth Correspondent of the weekly Bangla Mirror since 2006 and for Channel 5 TV.

He owns the Bengal Cottage a Bangladeshi Restaurant in Portsmouth.

He is married to Ranu Islam a community cohesion officer, and they have one daughter and four sons.



**MUJIB ISLAM**

**SECTOR**  
Media and Business

Mujib Islam is one UK's most talented and successful business and media entrepreneur, whose main current activity is running one of UK's leading ethnic media agencies, Medialink.

Also a director and trustee of two large asset based organizations, Mr. Islam plays a large part in their development.

Mr. Mujibul Islam is the Managing Director of Medialink, a leading ethnic media and communication agency. His company's clients range from Tilda to BBC to many local governments.

Working within the media industry for over 14 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 and media.

As chairman of Inventure Investment Ltd, Mr Islam and his team are 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, now running successfully. He is also a trustee for two substantial grade two listed buildings based in London.

Mr. Islam is a high flying, multi-skilled and hugely talented British Bangladeshi and one of the few real experts in the field of ethnic media communication. Mr Islam's 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. Mr Islam 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.



**CLLR ABDUL  
JABBAR**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Cllr Abdul Jabbar is the former Mayor of the Borough Council of Oldham Metropolitan in Greater Manchester.

The Labour Councillor was the youngest Mayor of Oldham Council in its thirty year history and was the first Bangladeshi Mayor in the North- West of England. Cllr Jabbar was first elected as Councillor in 1994 and is still representing Coldhurst to this day.

Cllr Jabbar completed his studies after arriving in the UK in 1973. He graduated with an M.Sc in Housing Management from the University of Salford which led to his first job working as a Housing Manager for a local organisation. Cllr Abdul Jabbar is also the Vice Chairman of the Labour Party in Oldham and Royton election area.

Whilst carrying out his duties as Councillor, Abdul Jabbar is also the Vice Chairman for both Oldham College Governing Body and Grange Secondary School. He is also a prominent member of the Council on Education and Efficiency Affairs in Greater Manchester and previously Cllr Jabbar served as Chairman of the committee on finance and resources affairs in Oldham Council.

The Labour Councillor is very active within the Bangladeshi Community in Oldham having played a key role in the development of Shaheed Minar which is a monument paying homage to Bengali students who laid down their lives in 1952 to establish Bengali as one of the state languages of Pakistan.

In 2000, Cllr Jabbar also worked extremely hard behind the creation of Shapla Circle (Chattar) in Oldham.

Cllr Abdul Jabbar is married to Imrana Begum and has been blessed with a son and daughter.



**MOHAMMED  
SHAH JAHAN**

**SECTOR**  
Businesses

Mr Mohammed Shah Jahan is behind one of the Bangladeshi communities biggest and most successful companies: Star Group. He was born in the village of Shaldiga in Jagannathpur. Mr Shah Jahan's father is Haji Md Afiz Ullah and his mother Mrs Maira Khatun.

Shah Jahan has been involved in the business arena for 15 years, having moved to the United Kingdom in 1982.

Mohammed Shah Jahan is the Chairman of Star Group, who have under their control Star Furnishing a leading supplier of domestic furniture. Moreover, the Star Group also own Star Catering Equipments who offer a commercial catering supply service nationally to the catering industry. The group also own Star Construction who design and build and also Carpet Bazaar which is a flooring specialist. Star Group is also occupied with the catering industry being the owners of Lime Restaurant in Docklands.

Star Group are based in London and have numerous showrooms and offices across the breadth of the capital. They have become a well recognised group of companies and their service is second to none. The success of Star Group has inevitably led to the success of Mohammed Shah Jahan.

Star Group continuously support numerous community initiatives and organisations and often sponsor different events.

Mohammed Shah Jahan has personally contributed to several charitable causes both in Bangladesh and here in this country. He has helped those who are poverty stricken, and also towards various institutions such as mosques, schools and other like establishments.

Mohammed Shah Jahan is married to Mrs Ayesha Jahan, and they have two sons and two daughters. Their sons are Mohammed Nasim Jahan and Mohammed Nazmul Jahan, whilst their daughters are Habiba Jahan and Nazifa Jahan. They are all in education and reside in the family home in Docklands, London.

Mohammed Abdul Munim Jahedi 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.

Mohammed Abdul Munim Jahedi's mother is the late Mrs Razia Khanom. Mr Jahedi is one of four children. 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 a Higher National Diploma in Business and Finance.

Currently, he is the chairman of a real estate business called Madina Apartment Ltd and also a fast food outlet called London Fried Chicken.

Mr Jahedi is also the director of Al-Hamra Int. Limited, Sylhet Women's Medical College & Hospital, Ibn Sina Hospital, Unipex Trade & Cooperation Ltd, Halal Taste & Hamadan Restaurant, Madina Tower, Barakah Housing Ltd and Bonolota Greeho Nirman Shomobay Shomittee.

He is a life member of Sylhet Muslim Sahitto Shongshod, Sylhet Mobile Patagar and Hillful Fujul Somaj Kallan Songsta. He is the chairman of Real Estate and Housing Group of Sylhet UK, as well as the editor and Managing Director of the Eurobangla newspaper.



**MOHAMMED  
ABDUL MUNIM  
JAHEDI**

**SECTOR**  
Media

He is an 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 is also the secretary 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 Rafea, their other daughter is called Maymunah Munim Riyah. Their Son is called M.A. Muhaimen Rafe.

**RAJONUDDIN  
JALAL**

**SECTOR**  
Politics



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 set up numerous large community cultural centres and premises including; Berner Youth and Tenants Centre, Kobi Nazrul centre, Tower Hamlets Association for Racial Equality and more recently the Whitechapel Centre.

Mr Jalal has been a pioneering Youth and Community leader and established many organisations to benefit 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, Shadwell Mosque, Brick Lane Jamma 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 Team.

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 as well as being involved with other organisations.

He hold 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.

At present Mr Rajonuddin Jalal is an External Funding Officer for the Regeneration and Strategy Team for the London Borough of Havering.

Mr Jalal is married with three children.



## ABDUL JALIL

**SECTOR**  
Catering and Property

Abdul Jalil is the son of the late Alhaj Yakub Ali. He has 3 brothers and 4 sisters. Jalil was born in 1973 in Oldham and married Rumana Akther in Bangladesh in 2001. The couple have two children daughter Madiyah and son Ijaz.

After finishing secondary school Jalil studied in Oldham college. After finishing his studies Jalil joined the family business with his elder brother, the city councillor of Carlisle, Mr Abdul Harid at Dhaka restaurant in Carlisle.

Abdul Jalil, for the past few years, has been fundraising for natural disasters such as appealing for cyclone Sidr, and the victims of the cyclone and also donated a large sum of money to UK mosques. He is also involved in other charity work.

Abdul Jalil's late father is the founder of Alhaj Ullah Hafizi Madrasha in Bangladesh. After his father passed away in 2008, Jalil took over the madrasha as chair person.

Jalil manages to run the charity from his UK businesses and property portfolio. He has further donated a private road for a village at west Talibpur Kamal bazaar in Sylhet.

In 1998 the successful businessman decided to move to north Wales and started his first sole venture and established Polash/Spice group of restaurants. He opened his first restaurant Polash in 1998, the spice of Llanberis in September 2005, the Spice Fusion in 2006, the Spice Merchant in July 2007 and then passage to India in November 2007. He recently opened another two Indian restaurants named Chilli Spice earlier this year in April and Spice Bank at the end of May 2009. The restaurants have won numerous awards including best restaurant in North Wales.

Abdul Jalil has been a key figure within the Bangladeshi community in Wales. He is organiser of Bangor Bangladeshi Association. He is also a member of Greater Sylhet Development (Chester north Wales).

Jalil's hobbies include travelling around the world, especially to the Middle East.



## MISBAHUL JAMAL

**SECTOR**  
Media and Arts

Misbahul Jamal was born in Golapganj 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 as well as one 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.



**SHEIKH NURUL  
ISLAM JEETU**

**SECTOR**  
Real estate

Sheikh Nurul Islam Jeetu Tarun is a real estate businessman. He was born in 1974 in a distinguished family of Boaljur Union in the Balaganj Thana of Sylhet. Sheikh Jeetu arrived in London in 1986. At first he got involved in the restaurant business, but then started his real estate industry. He has been serving as a founding director of his development company Royal City.

He established the SN Property in the late nineties which has been serving since then with repute and honour. In 2007 he started a business development organization Prabasi Palli. He is a chairman of the organization. Presently the organization is going on with three projects for the non residents Bangladeshis near Dhaka, the ownership Prabasi, Prabasi Palli and Purbachal Prabasi Palli. Also the Prabasi Palli owned hotel Black Rose and Hotel Fahim International set up in Sector 9 of Dhaka are going on with repute. Prabasi Palli has investment plan of around three billion rupees in different sectors of Bangladesh. It has also planned to establish a TV channel in Dhaka, mainly for the non residents.

Sheikh Jeetu has also been serving as the founding director of White Lilly Property and Shopping Mall in Mile End Road, East London.

Sheikh Jeetu got married in 2006 to Shah Rumana Islam, the sister of the Euro Food owner Selim Hossain MBE. He is the father of a girl, Sheikh Najifa Islam.

Apart from business, he also served as the Treasurer of Balaganj Education Trust. He is now the treasurer of Boaljur UP Development Trust. He is also the president of Sheikh Batir Miah Welfare Trust which has been providing monthly old age benefit to around two hundred persons in Sylhet.

Sheikh Jeetu has also planned to set up the Sheikh Nurul Islam Jeetu Model School in Banigram with thirty millions of rupees. The process of building this school has been complete.



**MAHMUDA  
KABIR**

**SECTOR**  
Sector: Community  
and Voluntary

Mrs Mahmuda Kabir is a retired Local Government Official. She holds a host of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. Mrs Kabir completed her BA and MA degrees from the University of Dhaka before completing Masters in Science from the University of Glasgow in 1971. She went on to obtain a PhD from Strathclyde University in 1971 and a CQSW qualification from the University of London three years later.

Mahmuda Kabir is married to Dr Humayun Kabir, and they have two sons Jahangir and Alamgir who are both doctors specialising in Cardiology.

Mahmuda Kabir was an elected member to ILEA Educational Consultative Committee and also founder of South East London Bangladeshi Women and Children in the UK, which was instigated for the benefit of Bangladeshi Women and Children in the UK, through this organisation various cultural initiatives were implemented. She also received an award as a longstanding school governor.

Mrs Kabir has been involved with a host of charitable and community organisations and was a Labour Party Councillor in Lewisham in 1990. She was involved with Race Relations, Anti Racism, Education and other sectors with a view to making a difference. She is a member of Community Police Executive Consultative and also Executive Committee Member of Stop and Search.

In recognition of her hard work, Mrs Kabir has won several awards including the "Code of Arms" from Lewisham Council as well as the Channel 5 Award.

Mrs Kabir's profile appears in Who's Who publication including Asian Who's Who and International Who's Who of Asian Achievers.

Mahmuda Kabir resides in London. Her interests include writing, listening to music, reciting poetry and taking part in debates.

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

Mr Kajal completed a degree in Commerce at Modonmohon College in Sylhet in 1969, and it was while he was studying for this that he first got a taste for journalism, while writing for the college magazine.

After participating in the Bangladesh war of liberation, Mr Kajal continued with his career as a journalist and writer. After writing a number of articles for a variety of magazines, he started to work for the Daily Sangbad, Weekly Jugoverly, Sylhet Samachar and the Weekly Khabar among others. In 1993, Mr Kajal was appointed as a special correspondent for Sylhet on behalf of the Daily Banglabazar Potrika. During his time in this role, he received a reward for Correspondent of the Year, and this helped to cement his name as a major journalist in Bangladesh. He then became Senior Staff Reporter for the weekly Janomot newspaper which is based in London. He continues in his role with the newspaper today.

He has also been an active member in a number of journalism based organizations. For example, he was an executive member of the Sylhet Press Club from 1985 to 1986 as well as President of the Kamalgonj Press Club.

Currently, he is an Information and Research Secretary of the London Bangla Press Club.



**ISHAQUE KAJAL**

**SECTOR**

Media (Journalist)

He was an active student politician and played a role in helping the labour movement in Bangladesh.

Currently, he is the general secretary of the Bangladesh Workers Party UK, a member of the Unit Convener Gas Oil & Bondor Rokkha Committee UK and Vice President of the Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee UK.

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

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

**MUHAMMAD  
ABUL KALAM**

**SECTOR**  
Legal



Muhammad Abul Kalam was born in Bangladesh in 1966. His village is in Sadipur, Osmani Nagar Upazilla, District-Sylhet. His father is businessman Alhaj Mr Mohammed Mokbul Hussain. His mother is Alhajja Mrs Syeda Khanom.

Mr Kalam obtained 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.

He then continued to pursue his legal career As an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh since November 1992 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 and Wales in September 2001.

Mr Kalam came to the UK as a student in 1995 to study Law at the University of London. He then gained experience as a clerk, adviser, consultant and assistant solicitor at Barrister' Common Law Chambers', Stratford Advice Arcade, J Coopers Solicitors and SJ Solicitors respectively. These were all situated in East London.

Ever Since November 2004, Mr Kalam has been part of the very successful solicitor's firm; AK Solicitors in East London. There he holds the position of Principal/Senior Partner.

He is the Secretary General of the Society of Bangladeshi Solicitors in UK, which is a practicing solicitors organisation in UK. He also the Secretary General of the Dhaka University Jalalabad Ex Student Society UK .He is a member of the Probashi Balagonj Education Trust in UK. He is also members of the Balagonj Samitte UK and Greater Sylhet Council in UK.

Mr Kalam lives in Redbridge, Ilford with his wife Mrs Shahanara Kalam and three children; Sabiha, Yeasin and Tayyibah two of them students. Mrs Kalam achieved BA (Hons) in Sociology, from the University of East London.





**SHEIKH MOHAMMED  
ABDUL KHALIQUE**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr Khaliq was born in 1951 at Shahrpara Aoudat (Moulobi Bari). His father, late Alhaj Abdur Razzak and his mother, Alhaj Sheikh Lal Banu raised six boys and two girls, in Jagannathpur, Sunamgonj.

Mr Khaliq is the eldest son of the Sheikh family. Before coming to the UK, Sheikh Abdul Khaliq had his primary studies at the village school and also his secondary education at Mongal Chandee Nishikanta High School, Tajpur, Balagonj.

At the age of sixteen he came to the UK to join his father in 1967. His first business establishment in 1979 was in Shoeburyness, Essex "The Polish" restaurant. The second business at Burnham-On-Couch Essex was "The Polish Restaurant" and also the "Hotel Polish" in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

In relation to his charitable and voluntary work, Sheikh Abdul Khaliq is actively involved with various social community organisations. At present he is the Chairman of: Essex Bangladesh Welfare Association, Sharpara Jubo Shongo and also RL Polish International Limited. In addition to this he is also Executive Director of Polish Seba Trust and Moulovi Suniket.

Mr Khaliq's involvement with community initiatives continue with him being a member of Shahkamal welfare trust and life member of Kenduo Muslim Sahitho Songsad Red Cross. He was also an active member of the Bangladesh Liberation movement in 1971 in the UK.

To add to all his work, he has also helped to build mosques, schools, Madrasha and supported the poor and elderly in Bangladesh as well as in the UK.

Mr Khaliq is a proud husband to Mrs Syeda Tahmina Sultana Khaliq and also of his children and their achievements. His eldest daughter Rukshana Akhter Rumi obtained an LLB (Hons) degree from the University of London in 2007. His second daughter Romena Akhter Ruhi has a degree in Business Management from the University of Westminster. His eldest son Md Abu Hasnath is a banker and fourth daughter Rehena Akhter Rubi is studying business at Westminster College.

His remaining children Rawshan Akhter Runi, Md Abu Raihan and Shahnaz Akhter Samiha are students.



**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 Jagannathpur, 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.



**DR SHAFI KHAN**

**SECTOR**

Academia and  
Politics

Dr Shafi Khan, a Croydon Councillor for 15 years was selected to stand for parliament at the next 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 35 thousand votes and became second, overtaking the Liberal Democrats.

Cllr 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.



**HELAL UDDIN KHAN**

**SECTOR**

Travel

Helal Uddin Khan came to The UK in 1986. In 1990 Mr. Khan started his first business along with a partner. He established 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 during 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. Hillside Travel is the only travel agent to have introduced a 24 hour customer service since May 2009.

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 in his two establishments.

Mr. Helal Uddin Khan is married. He has two daughters and two sons. His eldest daughter is now nineteen and reading law at Queen Mary University. His second daughter is studying in year nine, eldest son is in year five and the last child is in year two.

Mr. Khan 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 Fenchungong since 1993. He is the executive member of Fenchungong Shamite (oldest Association in UK) since 1986 and an executive member and former Treasurer/Joint Secretary of UK Travel Agents Association. He is also the general secretary of Fenchungong Kollan Shamite since 2008.

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.

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 proper job was when he bought and 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**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

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 Restauraners.

He resides with wife Salma Khan and two children; Zilhan and Subhan.

**JAHANGIR KHAN**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations



Jahangir Khan is very well known in the real estate and business sector. He owns a number of properties across the country and has a portfolio of business involvement. He resides in Forest Gate, London and has studied at Beanibazar College in Bangladesh and obtained a Diploma in Information Technology from the City of London College.

Born in 1966 in Beanibazar, Sylhet, to the late Nurul Islam Khan, Mr Jahangir Khan came to the UK in 1985 and is now married with three children, comprising of two daughters and a son who are all in education. His wife is a school teacher here in the UK.

Mr Khan's late father was involved in the 1971 Bangladesh independence movement in the UK and his late uncle Akadus Shirajul Islam was one of the organisers of the 1971

independence movement in Bangladesh and was also a famous writer who was actively involved in politics in Bangladesh.

Jahangir Khan retains that passion for arts: he loves to recite poetry, enjoys sports and traveling; he has visited several different countries across the globe with his family.

Jahangir Khan's charitable work also deserves mention. He is involved with charitable organisations and trusts including the Beanibazar Trust UK, and the Beanibazar Jono Kollan Shomitee, and the Petron Sylhet Academy UK and Europe, to name a handful.

He has also organised the fundraising of some 110 tube wells, which were donated to the poor in his home village of Beanibazar and a further significant number of tube wells were donated to Nobiganj in Bangladesh. Furthermore he has provided less fortunate village schools and colleges in Bangladesh with amenities.

Mr Jahangir Khan is a well rounded, successful businessman and philanthropist, whose generosity and kindness reflects his compassionate personality.



**M.A MANNAN KHAN**

**SECTOR**  
Education and  
Community Relations

MA 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 'Provatee 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 University 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 5 Community award in 2006.

Mr Khan is now the founder president of Surma Welfare Porishod UK, Vice Chairman of Globex, Senior Vice president of Leicester Awami League, Founder Chairman of Bangladesh Poor Fund, Foreign Advisor of Motijeel Theatre in Dhaka, Committee Member of the local Mosque Masjid-e-Bitul Mukarram Trust, and he is currently working for Channel 5 as there news reporter for Leicestershire.

In his spare time Mr Khan likes to write poems for Magazines and newspapers.



**MASHUK AHMED KHAN**

M.Phil., M.A., B.A.(Hons),  
PG Dip.(HRM),  
Ad. Dip. (Mgt.), MCIPD

**SECTOR**  
Academia

Mashuk Ahmed Khan 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, formerly of village Gangajal, Zakigonj, of district Sylhet.

Ahmed Khan is married to Shamim Ara Begum (Rose) - daughter of Mohammed Shafiqul Haque and Jahan Ara Chowdhury of Purush Pal, Beanibazar, Sylhet. Mr & Mrs Khan have three children; a son and two daughters, namely: Mustafa, Nabila, and Farzana. The son is in pursuit of legal profession. The older daughter has recently joined University - studying Accounting and Finance, and the younger one is in sixth form at UK's one of the best independent girls' school in Northamptonshire.

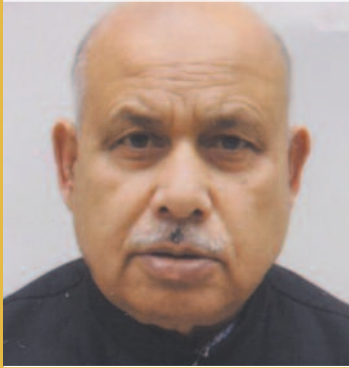
By profession Ahmed Khan is a Chartered Human Resource Consultant and a mainstream academic with membership of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), and The University of Oxford Philosophical Society. He is also a political critique, columnist, a Rotarian, and an author gifted with literary skills. 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 the Bangla Mirror Newsweekly, London - issues:237&316, and Sylhet Madan Mohan

University College Literary Council's publication "Katha Lata" - issues: 4&5, as well as in Sylhet Mobile Pataghar's narrative publication "Chayalap" - issues: 283&284 correspondingly.

Ahmed Khan - a humble, family-centric, spatio-temporally Spartan vivacious individual, avid to his continued self-development. Following successful completion of his MPhil research he has re-assigned his academic interest from HRM to Law and joined the LL.M programme at the University of London, Birkbeck College, with sustained enthusiasm to develop a comprehensive knowledge of the legal concepts.

He has five younger brothers. The immediate younger one went abroad before achieving higher education - albeit returned home later. The other four have achieved single and multiple Masters Degree in various disciplines, respectively, from reputable Universities at home (Dhaka & Chittagong) and overseas (UK & USA). They now reside in the UK and USA - occupied 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 factual movies, travelling, and listening Tagore Songs, Urdu Ghazals, Mozart and Pavarotti. He is beholden to Almighty Allah for his infinite blessings upon him.



**MD. SHAMSUDDIN  
KHAN**

**SECTOR**  
Business and  
Community  
Relations

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 organizations, 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, and now, he is the 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.



**SHAHID-ULLAH  
KHAN**

**SECTOR**  
Business and  
Community Relations

Mr Shahid-Ullah Khan was born in the small village of Noakhali in Bangladesh, an area he simply yet lovingly refers to as 'the land of rivers'. He moved to England in 1975 and since then has left an impressive mark on the British Bangladeshi community.

In 1982, he opened a restaurant in his new home Leicester. The restaurant, called Ashoka, has been such a success that it improves year on year, and is known as one of the best in the UK.

However, running a restaurant appears to be more of a side-project for Mr Khan. His real passion seems to revolve around the community.

Since 1978, he has been a member of the Labour party and in the past has helped to raise funds for the Lord Mayor Appeal in Leicester. These two interests only make up a small part of the significant role that Mr Khan plays for many organisations. He has also done work for Bangladesh Jubo Shongo, the Bangladesh Youth and Cultural Shomiti, the Greater Noakhali Association UK, the Durrus Salam Mosque and the East Midlands Bangladeshi Development Association to name but a few.

Another impressive aspect of Mr Khan's philanthropic nature is that, aside from helping his own community, he is also prepared to help those communities of which he does not belong. For example, in 2006, he held a number of charity meals in his restaurant to help support fundraising for victims of the tsunami in Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

However, it is also important to note Mr Khan's extensive work with the communities of Leicester. He claims that the strong community spirit in Leicester reminds him of life in Noakhali, and this is why he has such an affinity with his neighbourhood.

Aside from his work, Shahid-Ullah Khan is a proud family man. He is married and has three children – two daughters and a son.

According to Mr Khan, it is his family, and more specifically his wife, who has given him the inspiration to be the man that he is today.

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



**TASMIN LUCIA KHAN**

**SECTOR**  
Media

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 the UK when he was four years old. He then moved to Tower Hamlets at the age of 7. Mr Khan started off as a Youth Worker, he worked for some time with Southwark council before moving to Camden council.

His first full time employment came in the form of working for Tower Hamlets Victim support, a voluntary Organisation. He then began working for Tower Hamlets Council in the capacity of Team Leader for Tower Hamlets careers and guidance service before becoming centre coordinator for Kingsley Hall community centre based in Bow.

Zakir Khan finally moved to a new job as Community Affairs Manager for Canary Wharf Group, since the year 2000, and he has remained in this position. He has a Post Graduate Diploma in Careers Guidance.

As Community Affairs manager its Mr Khan's responsibility to ensure that Canary Wharf Group maintains a healthy relationship with the community, and to make the community aware of their activities and initiatives. Zakir Khan is currently the only Bangladeshi employee of Canary Wharf Group at management level.

He has organised numerous sporting events and projects on behalf of Canary Wharf Group, such as the Asians in football project, which promotes Bangladeshi footballers both from Tower Hamlets and also from Bangladesh.

Zakir's efforts in developing and implementing prosperity through sport in Bangladesh involved the establishment of a football development programme there in 2008. The purpose of the project is to seek talented young football players from Bangladesh and provide them with quality coaching, to nurture and guide them into playing professional football. The project was launched in 2006.

Zakir is also founder of the Bangladesh Football Association UK and in 1997 he started the league Bangla for local Bangladeshi teams. Moreover, in 1996 he founded Sporting Bengal Football Club and was team manager from 1996 to 1998, and to date he has been the most successful manager of the club. He helped the club obtain semi-professional status recognised by the Football Association. Zakir is also an honorary director of Beaumont Athletic Football Club.



**TARYN KHANUM**

**SECTOR**  
Civil Servant

Taryn Khanam is the director and co-founder of BritBangla, the prestigious social and professional networking organisation set up in 2003 specifically to bring to the world's attention the as-yet-unnoticed extraordinary achievements of persons of Bengali extraction living in Britain.

Her bold venture proved to be a phenomenal success, and today BritBangla boasts more than 1000 members from all sections of British life including business, media, teaching, finance and the public sector. It provides a platform for second and third generation Bengalis to voice their views and aspirations, and it also brings together like-minded people through social and charitable events.

Not surprisingly, some of the nation's most influential media organisations, including the BBC and Channel 4, have picked up on BritBangla's unique success, and have given it extensive air time.

As part of her role, Ms Khanam frequently organises social, educational and fund-raising events, as well as continuing to actively promote BritBangla by establishing links with

businesses, NGOs, government, education, arts and media.

In addition, she was recently invited by the US Embassy in London to participate in their International Visitors Leadership Programme aimed at fostering greater understanding between foreign nations and the people of the United States.

Ms Khanam, who has a Masters' degree in environmental science from Brunel University, is employed by the Department of Health as a policy advisor. She has played key roles in important ministerial briefings, including the aftermath of the 7/7 bombings and the Asian tsunami. In her spare time she enjoys travelling and the arts.



**CLLR SYEDA AMINA  
KHATUN MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Cllr Syeda Amina Khatun MBE is a Labour councillor in the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. She was the first Bangladeshi woman to be elected in the Midlands region in 1999 and was made a Member of the British Empire for her services to Community Development in 2004.

Born in Bangladesh, Cllr Khatun arrived in the UK in 1975. The Tipton Green representative started her first job as research/outreach worker for the Education Department in 1986 and later progressed on to becoming a Language Support Tutor. Whilst retaining many full time positions Cllr Khatun has always remained open to serving her community needs. Since the mid eighties, the Labour councillor has used her professional experience to manage various voluntary organisations.

She has particularly helped manage and start up women groups in the midlands area such as the Bangladeshi Women's Association and the Youth Group for Local Young Women as well as mother and toddler groups. She has also engaged in setting up numerous young peoples groups and even ones for the elderly too.

Cllr Khatun is also recognised as a campaigner for environmental improvements.

Since 1995, Cllr Khatun has been employed as a Youth Worker as well as project managing a local advocacy group called the Asha Project.

Cllr Khatun is also the Non Executive Director of Rowley Regis and Tipton Primary Care Trust. Within the Sandwell Metropolitan council, Cllr Khatun is a Cabinet advisor for education together with being the alternative member of committee for Europe.

She is also serving as Chairman for Tipton Town Committee. Earlier this year Cllr Syeda Amina Khatun was again recognised for her work in the Bangladeshi community at an awards event organised by the Birmingham Bangladeshi League BBL where she received an award.

Throughout her life the Tipton Green Labour councillor has shown devotion towards the betterment of the Bangladeshi people.

She is still an enthusiastic volunteer for many community groups in the West Midlands area and let's hope she continues her good work for many years to come.



**MOHAMMED  
GULAM KIBRIA**

**SECTOR**  
Construction

Mohammed Gulam Kibria was born in the village of Noorpur, Osmaninagor Sadipur, in Sylhet. During his time spent in Bangladesh, he studied in Pailgaow High School in Jagonathpur. His father Sikondor Ali, worked as a soldier for the British Army and was also one of the councilors for Osmaninogor Sadipur. Mr. Kibria comes from a large family which consists of four sisters. He is the only son and is the second eldest child in the family.

He started his own business in 1980, this was a flourishing perfume business in Kingdom of U A E. Before coming to the UK in 1985, he decided to travel around a little and so he visited Singapore and Malaysia.

In the year of 1986, Mr Mohammed Gulam Kibria set up his very own construction business situated in the UK, called Oriental Contracting Co. Ltd, of which he is the director and proprietor. Mr. Kibria's business has ever since been extremely successful. It can be said without a doubt that Mr. Kibria 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.

On top of running his own business, Mohammed Gulam Kibria is also involved with many community organizations, most of which are in Bangladesh. He is a life member of Pailgaow High School, the high school which he had previously attended, and is also a life member of probashi Balagonj Osmaninogor Education Trust. In addition to that, he took on the role of being Treasurer and General secretary the Trust and is now the President of it.

Mr. Kibria is founder and chairman of Taneem Hospital, a hospital which helped set up in his own village Bangladesh. Mohammed Gulam Kibria is forever giving to charity well, and has donated money towards many schools, colleges along with mosques, roads and bridges.

At the moment, Mohammed Gulam Kibria lives in East London with his wife Fazal Kibria. They have three children who are Zayed, Waleed and Fahad.



**MINHAJ  
KIBRIYAH**

**SECTOR**  
Media and Business

A talented and creative director of one of UK's leading ethnic media agency, Medialink, Minhaj Kibriyah is a multi-skilled Asian business entrepreneur.

Minhaj's media career began as a junior designer at the Daily Jung newspaper. He quickly excelled and joined Britain's largest ethnic media company, Ethnic Media Group, as a Senior Production Designer. After leaving Ethnic Media Group, Minhaj went into partnership with Mr Mujibul Islam to form Medialink in 1999. Since then Minhaj Kibriyah has been producing some of the most popular TV commercials that have been broadcasted on Europe's Asian satellite channels for which the company has won numerous awards for best TV commercial maker.

He also produced and directed the hugely successful tele-film 'Ononto Opekka', which was an international hit. The tele-film depicts a Bangladeshi visitor's arranged marriage to a British Bangladeshi girl. Soon afterwards he produced and starred in 'Shesh Hobena Kono Din', which was based on Bangladeshi politics in the UK. 'Shesh Hobena Kono Din' brought him best actor and best drama award.

Minhaj worked with the BBC to deliver a multi million pound super-hit tele-film 'England Expects' which addressed the issue of tackling racism. The film had major riots scene orchestrated by Minhaj, it featured 100s of Asians youths and the BNP fighting. The film starred actors Steven Mackintosh of 'Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels' fame, Keith Barron, Preeya Kalidas of 'Bombay Dreams' fame, Susan Vidler and Sadie Thompson and two actors which came through Medialink's training programme; Sadiqul Islam who played Rashel (main role) and Emran Hussain Ali who played Mohammed in the film.

Minhaj Kibriyah's creativity and dynamic vision has earned him a reputable position within the Asian Film and Media industry.

Minhaj's strengths lie in the fact that he has a grass roots understanding of the diverse issues that ethnic communities face. He is keen to engage and encourage ethnic communities to participate in creative media and has demonstrated a successful record to date in doing so with many of the hard to reach communities.



Enamul Haque Liton son of Babul Haque and Rabia Haque is the current Chairman of Globe Multimedia Limited. In 2007, he was awarded a "Promising young Businessman of the year" by Apex Club of Sylhet in addition to being the President of Tower Hamlets Cricket Club. Born in Sylhet, Bangladesh, Mr Liton studied in Bangladesh before coming over to the UK.

Mr Liton studied at the Shahjalal Jamia High School before gaining his higher secondary certificate at Sylhet's Madan Mohan University College. He then completed his degree at Victoria University College in Comilla and was in the middle of studying for his law degree at Sylhet's Law College before moving to London.

Once in London Mr Liton completed a Diploma in Management at Newham College. Whilst studying for his Diploma, Mr Liton was employed in a number of diverse industries such as retail, insurance and printing before launching with a team of directors a property development company called "Royal City". He also set up a Money Exchange Finance and Letting Company besides his multimedia company which is involved in music recording, publishing, and Instrument hiring. Mr Liton over the last decade has been involved in many socio-political and community welfare projects in both the UK and Bangladesh. In 2006, the talented businessman stood for election in the London Borough of Newham as a Councillor Candidate .

However, currently Mr Liton is the President of Bangladesh Jathiotabadi Jubodol (Youth Wing of Bangladesh Nationalist Party) as well as serving as assistant secretary for the Association for



## ENAMUL HAQUE LITON

**SECTOR**  
Real Estate and  
other Businesses

Social Health and Education in UK (HEADS) and foundation trust member of London BARTS and NHS. The London based businessman is also a member of the Fair Elections Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) in addition to his involvement with the worldwide movement Amnesty International, who campaigns for human rights.

Mr Liton is also making a documentary involving prominent politicians, businessmen and community workers of Bangladesh on top of his involvement with their national television channels. Married to Mrs Shelina Haque who is a Civil Servant in Financial Monitoring Managing, the couple are blessed with a son Nabhan Inayat Haque.

## ENAMUL MUNIM SHAMIM LUDHI

**SECTOR**  
Business



Born in 1967, into an respectable Muslim family, the eldest son of Abdul Munim Ludhi and Syeda Monowara Akhtar, in the village of Mathiura, Beanibazar in the district of Sylhet, Bangladesh. Enamul Mumin Ludhi studied at the Central Mathiura Government Primary School, Mathiura High School, the Aided High School and Murari Chad College (MC College) in Sylhet. In December 1985 he came to London and studied at Westminster College.

He later opened a number of restaurants and is now he a well established businessman who specialises in land and property development, buy-to-let investment in the UK and Bangladesh, and is also in the retail business. Outside business he has served as a joint secretary "Shahiedgha Probashi Sommittee" UK (1995-97). In addition, he was the joint secretary of Maithura College School Development Committee UK (1994). He then served as the membership secretary of "Beanibazar Welfare Trust" UK (2000-2003).

Then during 2004-2007 he was the Health and Welfare Secretary of "Beanibazar Welfare Trust" UK. Since 2005 he has been the treasurer of "Beanibazar Jonokollan Sommittee" UK.

He is also a valuable fundraiser and donator, raising money for numerous causes. In 2004 he served as the convener of "Beanibazar Welfare Trust", "Beanibazar Jonokollan Sommittee" and "Flood Relief Fund Committee".

In 2005 he was the convener of the "Tube Well Fund Raise Committee" which distributed 110 tube wells for the poor and the needy in Mathiura.

In 2006 he was the convener of the "Bus Donation Fundraise Committee" His roles have included being Founder & Chairman of the Farhana Memorial Trust as well as Patron of Europe and Muslim Shaito Shangshad Sylhet. Moreover he is the Founder Trustee of Beanibazar Welfare Trust UK in addition to being Corporate Member of Jalalabad Oando Kollan Sommittee, Sylhet Bangladesh. He is a life member of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (Sylhet Unit) and member of the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce.

He now lives in Southwest London in Oval, with wife Popi Aktar, and three children; Ashraf, Tahmid and Shakief.



**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 in 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.

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 two children, Jibreel Mahmud and Sarah Mahmud. The family resides in Bethnal Green.



**AHMED ABDUL MALIK**

**SECTOR**  
Legal

He came to the UK in 1981 with his parents. Originally from village Muftir Gaon, Biswanath, Sylhet. His father is Late Alhaj Aftab Ali.

He graduated in Law from Queen Mary University of London and did his Legal Practice Course at University of Westminster. He started working as a Legal Executive with a solicitors firm in Whitechapel, London in 1989 and set up his own firm - Malik & Co in 1998. He is one of the most popular lawyers from the Bangladeshi Community in the UK. He served thousands of people during the last 20 years of his legal practice.

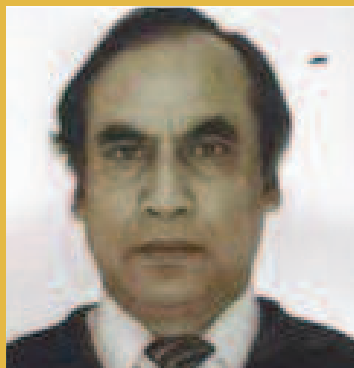
In 2008 he became a Barrister and is a member of Gray's Inn.

He is still practising as a Consultant Solicitor with Capital Solicitors LLP in London. He covers many areas of law including property, housing, immigration, human rights, family, criminal and civil litigation. His outstanding contribution to the community was to help create more than 40 lawyers during the past 20 years by offering them the

opportunity to gain legal training.

Mr. Malik is married with 3 daughters.

Apart from his legal work, he is actively involved with media. Mr. Malik is the owner and Chief Editor of 2 well-established newspapers - The Muslim Weekly and Weekly Bangladesh (since 2003). He was formerly the Editor of Daily Bangladesh and Weekly Euro Bangla. He is also actively involved with charity work and the chairman of Help the People Trust (UK registered charity).



**DR. KHALIFA  
MOHAMMAD  
ABDUL MALIK**  
PhD, CChem, MRSC

**SECTOR**  
Academia

Dr. Abdul Malik 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 from 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.



**ABDUL MALIQUE**  
CeMap

**SECTOR**  
Business  
Management

Abdul Malique came to the United Kingdom in 1980 when he joined his father Mr Muhammad Wahid Ali who was living in Ipswich. They come from the village of Mirza Shohid Pur, Balagonj, Sylhet. Mr Malique's father came to UK in 1965 and a year later bought his own home.

During that time he was working for a reputable company called 'Crane' who specialised in galvanised products and he was also involved in various businesses including property and money transfer.

In 1993 Abdul Malique left West Ham Community College with a BTec National Diploma in Business and Finance. After completing the National Diploma he was involved in number of office appointments which included working at 'New Scotland Yard'.

In 2002 Mr Malique decided to start his own Finance brokerage firm, and since its inception, the business has grown very rapidly and is very successful.

Currently his finance firm is in Burdett Road, London. The Firm is trading under Moneylink Finance. He is the senior mortgage consultant of the company and they are directly authorised by the Financial Services Authority.

The firm's clientele include investors, first time buyers and ethnic origin such as Middle Eastern, Eastern, European and Afro Caribbean. From their Mile End office they also have a property company attached, known as Bluestone Real Estates. This company covers areas such as Sales, Lettings, Management and Commercial Sales.

Mr Malique has also donated to several charities both here in the UK as well as in Bangladesh, and has helped the poor people of his home village.

Abdul Malique is a very active person constantly seeking for new challenges and business opportunities; he currently has a portfolio of investment properties both in UK and Europe such as in Bulgaria.

Mr Abdul Malique also participates in sporting activities such as badminton, swimming and fitness classes, which are his pastimes.

He is married with two children.

For the last thirty five years Mr M A Mannan has been managing his well established grocery store called Mannan Brothers in Oldham, Greater Manchester. Born in 1940 in Bishwanath, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Mannan studied at the local primary school and later at Lalabazar High school before coming to the UK.

Mr Mannan arrived in the UK in the early sixties and settled in Bradford. He began his employment career with Omri Road Brothers in Bickhouse, Yorkshire and worked there from 1961 to 1967.

Mr Mannan later joined the Hill Brothers Limited cotton factory in Bradford and worked there until 1969 before setting up his own grocery business (Bengal Food Stall) in Bradford.

Whilst running his own business in Bradford, Mr M A Mannan was a key member of the community as he fulfilled the role of Assistant Secretary of Bradford People's Association. During the liberation movement in Bangladesh, Mr Mannan was a prominent member of the Bradford Action Committee.

After the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent country, he was fortunate to be a passenger on the first charter flight in 1972.

Mr M A Mannan is married to Noor Jahan Begum. Since 1973.



**M A MANNAN**

**SECTOR**  
Community  
Relations

Throughout his lifetime he has shown a commitment to hard work as well as showing a keen interest in social work. Mr Mannan is very proud that Bangladesh gained its Independence.

**AJMAL MASROOR**

**SECTOR**  
Media & Politics



Ajmal Masroor is the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow constituency in London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

He is a broadcast journalist specialising on Islam and Muslim issues. He presents regular programmes on the Islam Channel and Channel 5. 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 lead 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.



## ALHAJ MANIK MEAH

**SECTOR**  
Business

Alhaj Manik Meah was born in 1942 in the village of Nalbohor, Tilpara, Beanibazar, Sylhet. He is the son of Late Arob Ali.

Alhaj Manik Meah first came to the United Kingdom in 1963 and it was in 1969 he opened his first restaurant.

Currently he has interests in the Catering industry and the property market here in England; moreover he also has investments in the Plastics Industry in Bangladesh.

Mr Meah was educated in his own village. He completed his Secondary School Education in Victoria High School, Bangladesh. He then went on to successfully complete his Higher Secondary Education from Sylhet MC College.

After arriving in the United Kingdom, Mr Manik Meah obtained a Diploma in English.

He is presently Acting-Chairman of the Weekly Notun Din, a Bengali language newspaper based in the UK. Mr Meah is also deeply engaged in community and social work. He organised the 1971 liberation movement in the UK and also raised funds for that war. He is the Senior Vice Chairman of the Bangladesh Cater-

ers Association, of which he is the present Chief Treasurer. Additionally Mr Manik Meah is the former President of the Beani Bazar Jonokollayon Shomity, as well as a trustee of the Beani Bazar Education Trust UK.

Besides his involvement in the above-mentioned organisations, Mr Meah is a Director of the Monthly Village Digest, Chairman of Probashi Nal Bohor Shomity. In relation to the charity work he has been occupied with, he has set up the Hafizia Madrasha in his own village as well as donating to Mosques, Madrasas, schools and colleges, as well as to the poor.

Mr Meah also visits the holy city of Mecca during the month of Ramadan every year, and this helps him enhance his faith.

Mr Alhaj Manik Meah is married to Salma Khanom from Golapganj. They have four children, two sons and two daughters.



## CLLR ABJOL MIAH

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Abjol Miah is a Councillor for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, he has been the leader of Respect Opposition Group since 2006 and currently sits on Tower Hamlets Overview Scrutiny Committee and made contribution on the Strategic Development and Development Committee.

Abjol Miah has been is a member of the Respect National Committee and is prospective MP candidate for Respect in Bethnal Green and Bow.

Councillor Miah read BA Social Anthropology and Sociology at Goldsmiths University of London. He has a wealth of experience in youth and community work. Councillor Miah has 15 years of Youth and Community work experience with Tower Hamlets Council, 5 years experience working with voluntary sector community organisations, 2 years as a drug prevention education officer for Healthy Schools and 3 years working at the Drug Action Team.

Councillor Miah was the founding chair of Tower Hamlets Muslim Advisory Group to the Metropolitan Police Borough Commander, as well as serving in other community organisations board.

In his limited spare time Councillor Miah is Involved in various voluntary organisation in the borough as well as being a presenter of the locally acclaimed radio show Easy Talk. His passion for charity work led him to drive from Brick Lane to Sylhet, Bangladesh in order to raise funds for cyclone victims and with Viva Palestine enter Gaza and give aid to its people.

Being a man with a sense of justice, equality and community, He has led on many campaigns including defending council housing and tackling over crowding, opposing drug dealing, poverty, justice for the people of Palestine, invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan, racism of all forms as well as many other issues.

A family man, he is happily married with 4 children (2 daughters and 2 sons) and enjoys fishing, cycling and sports.

Councillor Miah is a Martial art instructor, he is a Silver and bronze UK medallist in Stick Fighting, Represented Britain in 1994 World Stick Fighting Championship in the Philippines. He currently teaches Martial Art to children and young people.



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**AHFAZ MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Business

Ahfaz Miah is a director of the Ukay Group Limited. Having established in 1978, Ukay Ltd. Group have grown to be one of the most successful business groups within 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 in 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 garments industry.

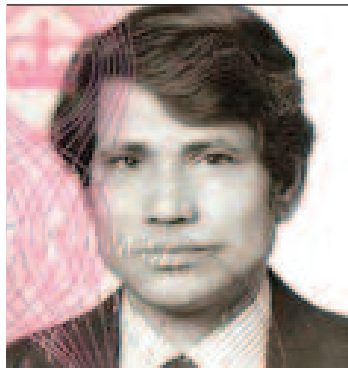
Subsequently, Mr Ahfaz Miah's partner and his family decided to expand and open East London's first Asian food supermarket to cater for the Asian community's needs. The Bangladeshi entrepreneur group then turned their attention to clothing industry, which led to the formation of the Ukay International Saree Centre. He has also set up an online retail business- [www.ukayshop.com](http://www.ukayshop.com). The pioneering Group later opened the first Bengali owned 22 carat gold jewellery shop called '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 in Whitechapel, Green Street and Poplar. He also has a very impressive property portfolio.

Mr Ahfaz Miah is also one of directors of United Airways a new airline set up in Bangladesh by members of the British Bangladeshi community.

He is currently President Finance UK. Mr Ahfaz Miah also contributed generously towards Islamic projects such as the Morkazul Ulum Madrasha in London. He is one of the Trustees of this madarasa. In addition to numerous others mosques in Bangladesh. Through his corporation, Mr Miah has donated enormous amounts of aid towards poor and disadvantaged people.

He is married with five children.



**AL-HAJ BARIK MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Business

Al-Haj Barik Miah came to the United Kingdom in his adolescence in 1957 and settled in Northamptonshire.

Barik Miah an urban proletariat-cum successful entrepreneur – despite enormous challenges managed to rise above the average threshold of individual success level. He is the Chairman of Barik Miah Investments, a holding company which operates a number of different enterprises in Offshore and Limited Company capacities. These include an extensive commercial property portfolio, an asset management company, an accountancy firm, a number of award winning restaurants (the flagships of which include the 220 seater Maha-Raj-A in Northampton established in 1976, the 140 seater Raj in Kettering Northamptonshire established in 1991 and what is regarded as Northampton's most upmarket venue 'Goya's Piano Lounge'), various web based companies and portals, a public relations company and a solicitors firm. He has five sons and six daughters; the eldest son being Goyas Miah who turned down an invitation to play professional football with Northampton Town Football Club in order to manage the family businesses. His second son is Barrister Anawar Babul Miah and his 3rd son Raza Miah heads the acquisitions and asset management operations. The 4th son is involved in the family businesses and the 5th son works for a major bank. Five of the six daughters are married with the 6th daughter also participating in the businesses. Al-Haj Barik Miah is the eldest of four children born in Holiarpara near Mirpur in Jagannathpur of district Sunamgonj. His father passed away when he was only seven years of age following a trip to Liverpool in the UK in 1937 - while serving in the Merchant navy.

Al-Haj Barik Miah and his wife are having a quiet life with most of their time allocated to their grandchildren.



Alhaj Mohammed Rais Miah is successful businessman and is the current Assistant Secretary of the Birmingham Press Club. In 2008, Mr Miah was recognised for his involvement in Business & 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 twenty two 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 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 his agenda. In recent years, Mr Miah has also been an active member of the Bangladeshi community in the midlands area helping with the Bangladesh youth organisation where he served as Secretary.



**ALHAJ  
MOHAMMED  
RAIS MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Catering and  
Property

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. He also raises money for other causes such as Chernobyl's Children, International Eye Saver and Children in Need.

Mr Miah is also an advisor for the Bangladeshi Progressive Society and is also serving as Treasurer for the Staffordshire and Black Country Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs. In addition, Mr Miah is also serving as the current Chairman of Masjid-E-Usman and in Bangladesh he is the Vice Chairman of KGDS High School in Balagonj, Sylhet.

Mr Alhaj Mohammed Rais Miah is married and has been blessed with six sons and three daughters who are all in employment or full time education.

**ANAWAR BABUL  
MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Barrister)



Mr Anwar 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.

Anwar 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.

Anwar also has a direct access licence from The General Council of the Bar through which he advises high net worth individuals and companies directly. Anwar has written numerous articles on law and current affairs which have been published. Aside from his life in law, Anwar is involved in his family business which owns and operates an extensive network of different companies.

Anwar 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. Anwar and Sony have two sons (Mikhaail and Daniyaal) and two daughters (Saarah and Saasha).

Anwar's pastimes include travelling, reading English literature and studying traditional English architecture. He divides his time between his homes in Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire and Dhaka.



**DR M G MOULA MIAH**  
DBA. MIH. FRSA

**SECTOR**  
Business Entrepreneur and  
Community Activist

Born in Rajnagar upazilla in Moulvibazar Bangladesh, Dr. Moula Miah came to the UK at the age of 16 after finishing his secondary school education. In the UK he achieved a national diploma in Business Studies. He then worked in their own business of manufacturing traditional clothing. Soon, he launched his first multi-award winning restaurant Rajnagar in 1987, followed by a successful Group of Restaurants, as well as residential hotels and land and property development business in the UK and abroad.

Since then, he has won and been recommended for many awards including the Centec Business Enterprise investor in people award, Michelin Guide Highly Recommended for the last 13 years. He has won the British Curry awards 2005 and 2006, SFH Award, BOBS 2008 Award and many more throughout the years. Alongside this, he obtained his doctorate in Business Management in 2005.

Dr. Moula has also helped many charities across the UK and Bangladesh. He has funded many institutions and infrastructures building on top of offering scholarships to talented students.

Dr Moula is also a director of Hotel White Pearl in Dhaka, the proprietor of the East West Trading Corporation and the proprietor of 'Jonoprotthasha', a weekly published newspaper in Moulvibazar. He has published a grammar book called "A Complete English Grammar".

Moreover, Dr. Moula is involved with the Bangladeshi community welfare. At the moment, he is the Chairman of Rajnagar International Group of Businesses and East West Trading Corporation UK and Bangladesh, Chairman of Dr Moula foundation, founder of Rajnagar degree college masjid; Bahadurganj Furkania masjid and madrasa complex, a Founder and President of the Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs, life member Moulvibazar and London Bangla Press Club and a Senior Vice-President of the Bangladesh Nationalists Party (West Midlands), to name a few.

Son of Alhaj Mohammed Mastafa and Moymona Khatun, Dr Moula is married to Farhana Begum Choudhury and is blessed with two daughters Saleha and Fabiha Sultana and two sons Md. Taushifur and Mustafizur Rahman, who are always very encouraging and supportive.



**JUSNA BEGUM MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Legal

Jusna Begum Miah is a barrister and practice manager at M R Solicitors in Gants Hill. 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 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. Whilst 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 5 and Bangla TV, including the talk shows and legal advice programmes. She has also received numerous accolades, including the Channel 5 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.



**ARJU MIAH MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Arju Miah was born in Bangladesh but decided to move to the UK where he started to work in the restaurant business.

He went into this with the intention to provide the finest for all his customers and to have the most outstanding restaurant. Such devotion and hard work to satisfy customers and achieve the best of his ability, has not gone unrecognized, as Mr. Arju Miah has received many awards throughout the years. A few to name are; the British Curry Award 2006 and 2007, Master Chef role of Honour 1999-2000, Silver Award from the Gourmet Wining and Dining Guide 1992 and the British Bangladesh Business Link Award 2007 for the Best 50 Restaurant within the UK.

Mr. Arju Miah further involves himself with many voluntary jobs; which had led him to receive the MBE from the Queen in 2003.

He was the first Asian President in 80 years for Chippenham and District Chambers of Commerce and Industry, vice president for 2 years and the treasurer for 8 years for the Bangladesh Association Swindon, he is also the Founder Trustee and treasurer of the Hazrat Shajal Mosque in Swindon, he is the Founder member and Vice Chairman of the Jagonnathpur British-Bangla Education Trust, and furthermore the Board of directors and former UK Chairman for the BFA, also member of the British Bangla Chamber of Commerce BBCC as well as Chairman of the greater Dawrai Community Association UK and so the list goes on. In addition to that he is the managing director of the Taj Mahal and the member of Federation of small business (FSB) in North Wiltshire since 1984. He is the founder member and the Board of directors and former Chairman for the BFA.

He has fundraised for Cancer Research for Wessex Children Hospice and many orphanages in Bangladesh. He was the Coordinator for the SIDR Cyclone Bangladesh Appeal and has recently been raising funds for the Bangladesh Female Academy; a free school for the girls from the underprivileged areas of Bangladesh, the academy was opened at 2006.

Mr. Arju Miah is married with five children, and due to their support he is in this position today.



**MD HARUN MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Business

Md Harun Miah comes from the village of Lamachandanpur under Budhbari Bazar Union in Golapgong 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 Golapgonj 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, Quality Sea Foods 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 Glolapgonj 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 1998.

He is Director of Shahjalal Islami Bank in Bangladesh, and has invested in Dhaka Stock Exchange. He is also a director of Pritom Hotel and Holiday Planet in Dhaka, Rupali Sea Foods LTD in Khulna in Bangladesh.

Mr Miah has been a long serving pillar of the community not only as a distinguished Social Worker but as a successful businessman setting up beneficial organisations in the UK and in Bangladesh and has been dividing his time between both countries.

Mohammed Sadiq Miah is Managing Director of an online marketing consultancy firm WSI. The second generation British Bangladeshi was born in 1982 and has progressed through the British education system developing a particular interest in the area of Information Technology. In June 2005, Mr Miah graduated with a BSc (Hons) Degree in Information and Management Systems from the famous University of Manchester.

He also has 9 GCSE's which he obtained from Wood Green High School College of Sport, as well as A Level's in Information Technology, Chemistry and Biology.

Throughout his life Mr Miah has always shown a commitment to charity being a valuable member to Walsall's of Bangladeshi Progressive society which help organise various events for the local community. Mr Miah is regularly helping to organise events to raise money for the people of Bangladesh, especially after the Cyclone which was published in the Daily Express and Star. Four times a year Mr Miah organises charity events to raise money for Chernobyl's Children.

After graduating in 2005, Mohammed Sadiq Miah embarked in a career in education and became an ICT teacher at the Oldbury College of Sport. Only after a year into his teaching career Mr Miah progressed into an assistant head of year position. Since 2007, Mr Miah has held the position of Managing Director



**MOHAMMED  
SADIQ MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Information  
Technology

for an online marketing consultant firm WSI and is looking to continue to build his knowledge and experience of Marketing. This is a company, which he has established himself, and showcases him as a young, up and coming British Bangladeshi entrepreneur.

Furthermore Sadiq Miah has two other ventures in the pipeline that are due to be launched very shortly.

Mr Miah has a keen interest in health and fitness as well as being a very talented footballer. He's a member of a prominent Sunday League team in the Walsall region He also has a keen interest in politics.

**MOHAMMED  
SHOFIQUE MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations



Born in 1954 of a local reputed family of Khojar Kholia in Sylhet City. His father is late Mohammed Soab Miah, grandfather opt reputed Khan Bahadur Mujammil Ali and mother Ms Nessa Begum. He has 5 brothers and 3 sisters.

Educated up to secondary level, Mr Miah migrated to England in 1977 to set up the family and to immerse in community politics and worked ceaselessly to promote social welfare, tackling homelessness, educational underachievement, racism and community cohesion. Among numerous initiatives, he played a special role in setting up local projects and had encouraged fellow Bangladeshis in community involvement.

Founder of Mitali Housing Co-operative in 1984, now a successful RSL, the Khelaghor Supplementary school and first ever community library, set up mother tongue Bengali language teaching projects in East London between 1982-1990, elected as the first Bangladeshi parent governor of Blue Gate Fields Infants and Primary School between 1982-2002 and a long standing parents and community

governor at Stepney Green Secondary School between 1994-2007.

Elected as the chair of Tower Hamlets Parents Association since 1987, Shofique Miah carried out a detailed study of the need for wider involvement of the parents to offset educational decline in the 80's. He played a vital role in the recruitment of school governors in Tower Hamlets, teachers in the community in the wake of teachers' exchange programme of Bluegate Fields and Sylhet Khasdhobir School and later set up an umbrella group, the collective of Bangladeshi School Governors in Tower Hamlets in 1987. In 1995, Shofique Miah mobilized the Bangladeshi community against the decision of the Northern Examination Board to reverse their decision to drop teaching of the Bengali Language and succeeded. The Brick Lane Trust under Shofique Miah's leadership carried out an ongoing campaign to set up the Shaheed Minar in honour of the Bengali language Myrthers of 1952 which culminated in the first ever language Myrthers statue at the Altab Ali park, 1998.

Shofique Miah played a crucial role to act as the treasurer and became Chair of the Educational Sub-Committee of Tower Hamlets Race Equality Council 1990-2004. Shofique Miah met with national dignitaries including Prime Minister Tony Blair who he met in 2004, received several media awards and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Civic Award, 2002.

Mr Miah is a freedom fighter during the year of Bangladesh Liberation in 1971 and organised partisans in the Meghalay and Zaf-long areas in India and Sylhet.

He married Mrs K. Hashim Choudhury in 1977 and has two sons and three daughters; son Azizul is a London metropolitan police officer and daughters Reksona graduated in Middlesex University and Afsana in the University of East London.



**NASIR MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Private Equity

One of the youngest successful entrepreneurs in the British Bangladeshi Community and at the age of just 27, Nasir Miah now owns and runs one of the most successful Private Equity Groups in the Bangladeshi Community. He is the co-founder of De Vere Private Equity Group Holdings which owns some of the most prominent & unique businesses, such as the likes of iTrade UK Ltd, De Vere Property Management, Property Sauce, iModel UK.

De Vere Property Management manages the company's portfolio of properties worth several million pounds as well as managing properties for investors all over London.

iModel UK is now a leading photography company, mainly working in the fashion, modelling and wedding industry. iModel UK is the pioneer of introducing the Portable Studio to weddings as a facility for guests along side the unrivalled Wedding Photography.

Property Sauce being a new venture for the group has been received well by the market, largely due to the group's renowned success and reputation. Property Sauce is a broker for BMV properties, connecting investors with distressed sellers.

With offices based in Bangladesh and UK, Nasir has around 60 employees in his organisation. Nasir, with his partner, has taken his Private Equity Group from a small back office operation to a multi-million pound international concern in just five years.

Brought up in East London, Nasir comes from a poor background having had little opportunities available to him. Today he recognises the value of creating opportunities for others. As a result, with his partner, Nasir has pioneered the G-Programme. An Internship programme for university students aimed at developing them for brighter futures, and successfully created numerous service sector jobs created in Bangladesh.

Nasir is also the co-founder and trustee for the iHope Charitable Trust - set up specifically to address the needs of unprivileged entrepreneurs in Bangladesh. iHope UK aims to deliver micro grants in third world countries encouraging people to develop a sustainable way of living through enterprise.



**NOONU MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Catering and  
Community Relations

Son of Late Abdul Wahid, Noonu Miah was born in Moulvibazar in 1963. There he completed his SSC in 1979 and then in 1981 his HSC and studied BA until he arrived in the UK in 1983.

In the UK he started his career as a Bengali teacher. As he had bigger dreams and ambitions he wanted to fulfil he moved on from teaching.

He married Rekha Begum in 1985.

Mr Miah's first business was Pataka Restaurant. This restaurant has been a great success and due to this Noonu Miah was able to establish other restaurants. He has also built up his own property business, Shanti Property Ltd with other family members.

Mr Miah donates much of his earnings to mosques and those less privileged. Furthermore, Mr Miah was elected as Chairman of Bangladesh Shamity Edinburgh.

He has also initiated the 'Bangla Fun Club' in his restaurant to promote the Bengali culture. There have also been many successful events held in Edinburgh by the Bangladesh Shamity since his appointment as Chairman.

Mr Miah lives with his wife and kids. He has four daughters and a son, all of whom like their father are hard working and have the drive to do well through education. His eldest daughter Dr Farzana Muhith MBCHM is working as a Doctor. Second daughter Farmin is studying Chemistry at the University of Edinburgh. Nazmi, Saima and Abed are the younger three who are all in school. They like their elder siblings intend to go into further education.



**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 King 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.

In the recent past she 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.



**SHANUR MIAH**

**SECTOR**  
Retail

Shanur Miah was born in February 1964, in the village of Araiha 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 Sylhet Cadet College, to gain admission there he had to complete class four and five in a year, 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 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 license 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.

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



## TOMMY MIAH

### SECTOR

Catering and  
Hospitality

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 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.

## YOUSUF MIAH

### SECTOR

Politics, Management  
and Community  
relations



Yousuf is a senior Management Consultant by profession.

Politics and progress in public life has dominated much of his focus in the past decade. He joined the Conservatives in 1998 and has held a number of high profile posts including contesting 2005 General Election. He served as Chairman of the Northampton Conservatives and was elected to Northampton Borough Council in 2003 where he served in the Cabinet until 2007. In 2006, he was recognised as one of the 'Top 20 Councillors' in the country.

Born in the village of Moyeen Pur, Chaatak Thana in 1976, Yousof is the eldest son and one of six children of the late Alhaj Sazzad Miah.

After graduating in Public Administration from Leicester, he joined Parliament as a researcher, and then worked in international corporate hospitality, community development and as a corporate fundraiser. He co-founded MiahMcMahon, a training and management consultancy in 2005. He is also the founder/Director of FinePublications GB. In 2005, he undertook a MBA in Marketing from Durham and studied leadership at Christ Church College Oxford University in 2006.

Yousuf's involvement in the community is exemplary. He served as a member of the Northamptonshire Police Authority for over 5 years. He held the governorship of two schools in addition to voluntary posts for MIND (mental health charity) and Diabetes UK.

He was one of the founding members of the Northamptonshire Faith Forum and Chairman of the Northamptonshire Muslim Council. His commitment to the Northampton's Bangladeshi community is unprecedented. He raised in excess of £1 million to build the Gateway Centre in 2004. He is currently the Chairman of the Northampton Bangladeshi Association

Yousuf is a keen sportsman and writer and has kept a diary since he became involved in politics in 1998. Yousof is a member of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs and an Executive Member of the Northamptonshire County Cricket Club.



**MOHAMMED MOHED  
ALI MITU**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations  
and Business

Mohammed Mohed Ali (Mitu) was born in Sheffield City South Yorkshire England. His father is Mr Mohammed Montaz Ali and mother is Mrs Jarina Bibi. The family's address in Bangladesh is Karmar Gow (Sharrong Bari) Post. Osmani Nogar, Balagonj Sylhet.

Mr Mohammed Mohed Ali has been an integral part of the Bangladeshi Community in the city of Sheffield.

Since 2004 he has been the President of the UK Awami League, Sheffield City Branch, and he was also a Founder of Sheffield Awami League. Moreover his commitment to the community include him being Vice Chairman Of Probashi Balagonj Osmani Nogar Adesha Upozila Sommittee. He is also Balagonj Osmani Nogar Upozilla Education Trust Trustee and Life Member of both Goala bazar Patagor and Golabazar High School.

He has also donated heavily to charity. He helped build an academic bobbon & Goala Bazar High School.

He is a life member of Burunga High School and he is a life member of Goala Bazar Shahjola Shineer Madersha, also he helped in the 2004 Big flood in Bangladesh he donated

Taka 15 Laks in his local Osmani Nogar Balagonj Upozila in fourteen unions from in his own found.

Mr Mohammed Mohed Ali began getting involved in business in 1990 when he opened his first restaurant.

Since then he has invested in the catering industry, numerous properties, as well as a cash and carry and hotels both here in the United Kingdom as well as abroad. He is also a director of the Aporupa Housing development, as well as Grand Sylhet Apart Hotel & Resort in Sylhet, Bangladesh. Moreover Mr Mohammed Mohed Ali is Director Of Dhaka Regency Five Star Hotel & Resort and on the Board Of Directors of Tetulia Tea Co. Limited, which is based in Banani Dhaka. In addition Mr Mohammed Mohed Ali Mitu is Director of Eastern Foods Cash and Carry in Sheffield and currently the owner of Saffron Indian Take Away.

Mr Mohammed Mohed Ali is married to Mrs Rabiya Begum. They have two sons and two daughters namely, Rushna, Ibrahim, Fathima and Ahnam. They are all in education and reside in the family home in Sheffield.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S  
WHO  
2009





**MONSUR AHMED  
MOKIS**

**SECTOR**  
Media and  
Community Relations

Monsur Ahmed Mokis was born in Moulvibazar, Bangladesh. He took admission in Moulvibazar Municipality Ideal High School where he attained his SSC qualifications. He passed the I.Com qualification in 1988 and the B.Com in 1990 from Moulvibazar Government College. He finally went on to complete his M.Com from Jagannath University in Dhaka.

In 1993 he made his way to the UK After sitting first year Law exams at Dhaka Law College. In the UK he worked during his first two years for an accountancy firm in Cardiff. He then became engaged in the catering industry setting up his own business. He currently owns a take-away restaurant called Bengal Chef in Cardiff.

Besides his involvement in the restaurant trade, Mr Mokis has also been strongly associated with politics, community work and journalism. He is involved with numerous publications, many of which he edits. He is Wales Correspondent for Bangla TV, Janomot and Khabar Group.

He has remained heavily occupied with community organisations. He is the Joint Secretary of Greater Sylhet Council UK as well as being the Chairperson of the Wales region of that committee. He is also the General Secretary of Cardiff Shahjalal Bangla School and Deputy Chief Co-ordinator of Nirjhar Moulvibazar UK. He is associated to an abundance of other community projects and committees.

In recognition of Mr Mokis's contribution to social work and community relations he was awarded the Distinguished Leadership Award by the American Biographical Institute (ABE). He received the Millennium Award in the year 2000 from the Asian Times which is published in London. Moreover in 2001 he was given the Outstanding Services to the Community Wales Award and the Millennium Award in Journalism from the London Academy. He has also had the privilege of being invited as a special guest to a red carpet reception hosted by the Mayor of Wales in connection with the historic visit of Her Majesty the Queen.

Monsur Ahmed Mokis married Khadija Khatun in 1992. He lives in Wales with his wife and two sons: Raqibuzzaman and Rafiquzzaman. His pastimes include reading, photography and social work.



**MR. JAMAL  
UDDIN  
MOKKODUS**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr. Jamal Uddin Mokkodus 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 an immense reputation.

Mr. Jamal Uddin has other businesses, too, like a property business and insurance 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 fathered three children, all of them holding university degrees.

At present Mr. Jamal Uddin lives with his family in Hounslow, Essex.



**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 Narikelkola 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.

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 Spitalfield 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.



**MOHAMMED ABDUL  
MUKIT MBE**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations

Mohammed Abdul Mukit MBE is among the first few Bangladeshi's in the East End to receive the Queens' Award for Youth and Community Development. His dedication and commitment to various causes include the Bengali community's fight for justice in the late 1960's, the Bangladeshi Liberation War in 1971, Anti-Racist struggle of the 1970's as well as setting up The Youth and Community's response for equal rights, housing, education, health and employment. Born in Habibpur (Dspbari), Jagannathpur, District Sunamgonj, Abdul Mukit currently lives in London with his wife Fathema Choudhury (a Teacher) and five children.

He arrived in the UK in 1967 and received both a secondary and higher education, graduating in Youth & Community studies from Greenwich University in 1988. Between 1983-2002, Abdul Mukit worked in the former ILEA and Tower Hamlets Education Department as Senior Youth & Community Development Officer.

Abdul Mukit's long standing achievements include setting up youth initiatives; the Sylhet Friends' Society (1969), Bangladesh Sports Association (1972), UWA (1973), Progressive Youth Organisation (1979), Spitalfields Housing Association and Spitalfields Small Business

Association (1979), FBYO, BWA, Boundary Community school (1982), Weavers Community Trust (1983) as well as a host of other parent and community fora. Abdul Mukit has held the Chair's post at Spitalfields Housing Association, Boundary Community School, Sports Network Council (SNC) and Vice Chair positions at the Tower Hamlets local area Partnership 1.

He is also a Parent Governor at St Matthias Primary School in Tower Hamlets. Abdul Mukit's other services to the community include founder and trustee of the Jagannathpur British-Bangla Education Trust, Jagannathpur Upozila Unnoyan Shangst (UK) Ltd, and other social enterprises.

Abdul Mukit is widely eulogised and has received civic receptions from Tower Hamlets Councillors and community groups (2000), the House of Lords' British Muslim Honorary Award (2001), Sylhet Investors Forum (2003), Bangladesh Overseas Centre (Sylhet) and Jagannathpur Pouroshova (2004). His mission is to link and promote the aspirations of UK Bangladeshi's with business and development in Bangladesh. He has strived to create educational and sport opportunities for disadvantaged members of the community.



**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 Digalbakh 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 his current chambers, 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 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.



**NUR-UR RAHMAN  
KHANDAKER  
PASHA**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr Nur-ur Rahman Khandaker Pasha, better known as Pasha Khandaker, is the current secretary general of the Bangladesh Caterers Association. Mr Pasha is the chairman of Reliance West Malling Limited and Principal partner of Ghandi Tandoori restaurant, in West Malling, 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.

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 the 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 his 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, travelling and updating himself with the latest world affairs.

Syed Nahas Pasha is one of the best known, most respected Bengali journalist in Britain. He is the Editor-in-Chief of Janomot and Curry Life Magazine. Syed Nahas Pasha was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1957. He was the second son of a family of three boys and a girl. One of his brothers Syed Jaglul Pasha is a high ranking civil servant in Bangladesh and another, brother Syed Belal Ahmed, is also a successful journalist and publisher.

He came to Britain in 1976 to join his father. He joined the famous Sonali Bank. 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'.

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 ten years and 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, a position he holds to this day.

In 2003 Mr Pasha and his brother Syed Belal Ahmed published the first edition of Curry Life Magazine. Syed Pasha has been frequently invited by TV, radio and press media to comment on the latest developments.

In 1993 Syed Pasha along with his journalist friends realising that



**SYED NAHAS  
PASHA**

**SECTOR**  
Media

Bangladeshi journalists and publishers in Britain were without a platform helped to fund the London Bangla Press Club to advance their interests. Pasha is a member of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ). He is also a member of the Commonwealth Journalists Association (CJA).

He has worked closely with the Home Office and the Foreign Office, And has traveled with Government ministers and officials to France, Germany and Bangladesh. In 2007 he was the only journalist invited from the ethnic media to accompany the Home Office and Foreign Office Ministers on a trip to France for discussions between Britain and France on cooperation on immigration.

Respected journalist Syed Pasha has travelled to many countries, attended many conferences and met individuals such as 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.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S  
WHO  
2009



**KHWAJA SHAMSHEER  
QURESHI**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Electronic)

Khwaja Shamsheer Qureshi has campaigned for social justice, awareness and equality; he has worked for community and voluntary sector organisations, including working in the Community and Legal Services Department of Haringey Council.

Employment with the Local Authority provided him with the opportunity to serve the community and to gain extensive skills and experience in service delivery, public relations, project initiation and management, policy formulation and strategic execution of policies.

The wealth of experience gained in the public sector allowed him to make a career change and he moved to the private sector, in particular the broadcasting industry, where he became a Business Development Manager. At present, he is ATN Bangla's head of UK operations.

Shamsheer Qureshi grew up in Lancashire and studied at Haslingden High School and, on migration to London, he pursued further and higher education at City and Islington College and London Guildhall University respectively.

He completed his post graduate education from North London University and Birbeck College (University of London). Core subjects at graduate level were sociology, economics, politics and government and, at postgraduate level, he studied HRM and HRD.

Shamsheer Qureshi was born in the village of Aurangabad (Patli Qureshibari) in the District of Sunamganj, Bangladesh. He now lives in London with his wife: Leema Omar Qureshi, who is a manager of a finance company.

His hobbies include writing songs, poems and articles on varied issues and producing records and telefilms. He enjoys reading, listening to music, writing and assisting his community by mentoring people and engaging in a variety of activities and organisations. He enthusiastically studies local and ethnic history. He is fluent in several languages.



**MD ABU NASIR RAHMAN**  
BA (Hons), MSc, MBA,  
MinstLM, PgPM, MCMI

**SECTOR**  
Government, Sports  
& Business

Abu Nasir, age 34 is viewed by most as one of the rising stars in the public sector with influence, credibility and integrity at the highest level. He is a graduate and studied Public Policy & Management, Political Science, MBA and possesses professional accreditations in Leadership & Management, Project Management Institute and Chartered Management Institute.

He is the son of Alhaj Md Sajjadur Rahman (politician, community leader and Awami League President) and Mrs Sadeha Rahman.

He has been successful in his career in the public and private sectors in the areas of Regeneration, Finance, Project Management, Public Policy, Neighbourhood Renewal and Community Development and has managed substantial private and public sector budgets.

He is currently employed in a management capacity in Local Government with Luton Borough Council which boasts a £4billion regeneration programme and is the most senior officer from a Bangladeshi background.

He is involved in and represents a number of Boards and Committees including Chairman of Governors at a Luton School, Director of

Diverse Cities and Treasurer of Urban Forum. He has served as Chairman and Board Member for a number of organisations in the private, public and third sectors including Chairman of Luton Sporting Club, BME Football Forum and involved with Share Liverpool FC.

Nasir has worked as an advisor to the British and Bangladeshi Governments at ministerial level, the European Union and also the Football Association and UEFA. He has helped with policy development and election manifestos for the Labour Party in the past. He is part of the Government's Improvement & Development Agency BME Leadership Development programme which aims to bring through the future leaders from BME background in the UK.

His business interests include a property portfolio, management consultancy, finance & investment, catering, clothing & textiles, football academy & sports management agency and property development schemes in the UK and Bangladesh.

A talented footballer in his youth, Abu Nasir represented Luton Town at schoolboy and County level, Liverpool FC and played semi professionally.



**AKIK FOZLUR  
RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Catering and  
Property

Akik Fozlur Rahman was born in 1965, in Tajpur, Jagonathpur, Sunamgonj. He is the son of Mr. Alhaj Aftab Miah and has a family of eight siblings, six of which are brothers and two sisters. He is currently living in the UK with his wife Mazeda Rahman. They have four sons and a daughter. Mr. Fozlur Rahman attended Khadimpur Noshib Ullah High School in Bangladesh. There he was able to gain the Secondary School Certificate. He subsequently migrated to the UK in 1973 with the whole of his family. In the UK Mr Rahman decided to study Business Management and studied at the Chartered Institute of Marketing. 1979 was the year when Mr. Rahman opened up his first business.

Since then he has flourished extremely and has done very well for himself, as he is now the owner of a number of restaurants. Not only does he own restaurants but he is also the Director of a property development business in Bangladesh called Sylhet Valley City Resort and is also the Director of the famous Dreamland Amusement park located in Sylhet. Mr. Rahman is the Chief Editor of Abimot a monthly magazine published in London and Sylhet.

He is the President of Bangladesh Association Swindon and he is also the Chair for Swindon Caterers Association. He was the General Secretary for Jagonathpur British Bangla Education Trust of which he is a Founder Trustee and serving as Vice- Chairman. In addition to that, he is also Regional Director for BBCC.

Due to diverse types of businesses he owns, Mr. Fozlur Rahman has a broad understanding of what factors are needed to make any business successful. His devotion and enthusiasm towards work has



**ALAUH 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 use 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 there first cassette in 1985 and carried on recording on to CD. Mr Rahman was a student at Pandit Horidas Ganguly School were 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.

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 bi-lingual 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 writer (Assistant Editor) in the Daily Ittefaq from 1954 to end of 1959.



**A. N. M. SERAJUR  
RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalist  
and Broadcaster)

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 and succour 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.

**ATAUR RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Legal



Mr Ataur Rahman 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 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 5 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 effectively 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 Foundation, 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 LUTFUR RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Politics and Legal

Lutfur Rahman is the Leader of Tower Hamlets Council and a partner in leading London law firm. He uses both these roles 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 and very closely with residents of the borough and has implemented very successful and highly popular initiatives, which led to him being elected for a further term as Leader of the Council in 2009.

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 twice as councilor for Spitalfields and Bangla Town in May 2002 and May 2006, 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

Organization, 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 the 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 since 2001 has been the Non-Executive Director for the Board of Barts & The Royal London NHS Trust. He is also a member of the Law Society and Law Society Advanced Children Law Panel.. Additionally, he is a Non-Executive Director on the Bart's & The Royal London NHS Trust.

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 Centre a dynamic professional body, which attracts good lawyers ready to undertake pro bono work. He is married with one son and one Daughter.





**DR. MOIJUR A. RAHMAN**  
BSc(Hons), MB, ChB,  
MRCP, ASiT, PhD.

**SECTOR**  
Medicine, Surgery  
and Education

Dr Moijur A. Rahman was born in village 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 ambit 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.



**HABIB RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Community (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 he 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.

Lucy Rahman was born into a family of famous musicians, artists and poets. From a very young age Lucy was trained in Indian Classical and semi classical music from her renowned father, Sheik Lutfor Rahman. Mr Rahman contributions led to him being awarded the highest national accolade from the Bangladesh Government. He also received awards from India and Russia.

Lucy is an international vocalist. She is a British singer of Bangladeshi origin and was previously awarded 'Sursaki' from her Music college as the most promising vocalist of her generation. She is now residing in the UK and works on various music projects. To add to her list of talents, Lucy is one of the lead singers of the Grand Union Orchestra, which is a very well established jazz music group in Britain.

Lucy has performed on numerous stage, television and radio shows both in Bangladesh and the UK. She has toured with the Grand Union Orchestra which has meant she has visited many places across the United Kingdom including Saddlers Wells Theatre, Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Barbican Centre.



## LUCY RAHMAN

**SECTOR**  
Arts

She has also performed by herself on stage in the UK and various international venues, notably New York, Berlin, Brussels and Paris.

She is one of the renowned musical talents in the British Bangladeshi community.

## 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.



**MAHIDUR RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations

Mahidur Rahman came to UK in 1975, while studying and working he completed an MBA in marketing from University of North America. He has been associated primarily with his work for the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). He started his political career as an executive member of BNP London Branch and in 1992 he was made a Co-Convener of UK-BNP.

After his tireless work he formed 12 branches throughout UK and in 1994 he was elected as the president of BNP UK Branch. During his presidency, Mr. Rahman formed many branches all over UK and also some part of Europe. Currently he is holding the position of International Affairs Secretary of BNP Central Committee and looking after the political aspect of European BNP as Co-ordinator.

He is also the president of Euro Bangladesh business consortium Ltd. Mr. Rahman was also the founder Chief treasurer of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council UK (GSC) and Chairman of Southeast Region, (GSC), Vice President Bangladesh Caterers Association UK (BCA) and President BCA- Kent Region. He is also the founder trustee of the Tayab-Tahirunnessa Welfare Trust (TTWT).

He was also a member of the Home Secretary's Standing Advisory Council on Race Relation for two years. Mr. Rahman was involved and formed many other community welfare organisations such as, Lewisham and Kent Bengali association, Lewisham and Kent Muslim Association, Ashford Muslim Association. He is Parent governor of Tower School in Kent, Grameen Jonakollan Somity (UK Chapter), Dhaka Ahsania Mission (UK Chapter), Moulvi Bazar Jonosheba Somithi (UK), Moulvi Bazar District Youth Organisation UK, Shefa free Friday clinic (Moulvi Bazar) Bangladesh.

He is a life member of Moulvi Bazar Red Crescent Society. He is also the Chief Advisor of Bangladesh Development and Charity Foundation UK. Managing Director of Janoprothasha a weekly Bengali Newspaper in Moulvi Bazar. He is married and has two children. His son graduated in Business Management and is currently a Banker and his daughter is a student.



**MISBAUR RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations  
and Media

Misbaur Rahman was born in 1969 in Jamal Pur, Dewan Bazaar Union, Balagong in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh. He is the son of Mr Iliasur Rahman and Mrs Azizun Nessa Khanam. He moved to the UK in 1986. In 1991, he became a research and outreach worker for the Department of Education. In 1993, his job changed to being Community Outreach Worker before turning to the catering industry in 1996 as the manager of a restaurant.

Presently he is Project officer for fundraising consortium. Mr Rahman divides his time between the various organisations that he is affiliated with which include being the Chairman of the Birmingham Bangladesh League BBL, the secretary of the Midlands Bangla Press Club, Chairman of the BBL Business and Community Award.

He is Vice-Chairman of the Bangladesh Awami Jubo League UK and a freelance journalist. Mr Rahman is also a member of many noteworthy organisations such as the London Bangla Press Club as well being a member of UNESCO.

He is also convener of Baishakhi Mela Trust Birmingham. He has helped establish the Learning and Advice Centre in Handsworth.

Misbaur was one of the organizers of the first Bangla Mela in Birmingham, as well as helping to construct the first ever temporary Shohid Minar at the Bangladesh Multipurpose Centre.

Mr Rahman is also familiar to many people from his time spent working for both Channel 5 and Bangla TV. Between 1996 and 2006, Mr Rahman was the Birmingham correspondent for Bangla TV, and he also presented a number of programmes on the station.

In 2006, he became the Birmingham correspondent for Channel 5 television. In addition to this, Mr Rahman has helped people in his native Bangladesh. He helped to raise funds for victims of Cyclone Sidr, and led a delegation that visited some of the worst hit regions in Shoronkola Bagerhat and the Borguna district. Due to his excellent work to help the people of Bangladesh, Mr Rahman received an award from the Shadinota Foundation in 2005. Misbaur Rahman is married to Syeda Rukshana Nipa who is a social worker. Together they have two sons – Rafsan and Faizaan.



**MIZANUR  
RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Media

Mizanur Rahman is a prominent media activist, based in Scotland, engaged with Bengali press and media in the UK. He is the Scotland reporter for Channel 5, and for his outstanding professional excellence in reporting he won the "Channel 5 chairman award" in 2008. Mizanur Rahman, who lives in Edinburgh, was born and brought up in Tikria, Srimongal, Moulvibazar. He is older son of Md Faizur Rahman, Retd. Health Inspector and mother Mrs Monwara Begum.

He completed secondary education from BTRI high school Srimongal and was awarded an MSC in Zoology from MC College, National university of Bangladesh with distinction. 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.

He came to the UK for higher education, and was awarded MSC in Sustainable Development from Stirling University, Scotland in 2006. On completion of his study Mizaur began to live and work in Edinburgh. 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 the Srimongol-based local weekly Srimongoler Chiti in the early 1990s. He contributed many articles and features in the UK based Bengali newspapers. Race equality activist Mizaur Rahman is a member of the London Bangla Press Club and a first British Red cross first-aid volunteer in Scotland from 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 sometime, 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 4 children in Cheltenham (heart of the Cotswold) Gloucestershire.

Mohammad Lutfur Rahman is familiar both in the UK and in Bangladesh as a successful businessman and philanthropist. Mr. Rahman was born in 1957 Tegharia village of the number 7 Syedpur-Sharpura Union of Jagannathpur, Sylhet. His father, Kalamdar 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 he 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 Cambridge Bangladeshi Welfare Association. He is also one of the main organisers of the Cambridge Bangladeshi festival.



**MOHAMMAD  
LUTFUR RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Businessman

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.

**MOHAMMED  
MOHIDUR  
RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Real Estate



Mohammed Mohidur Rahman was born in the village of Dhorogaw in Sylhet to Late Al-haj Abdul Goni who was a retired member of Bangladesh Army and Mrs. Monowara Khanom. Mr Rahman completed his HSC from Modon Mohan College in Sylhet before arriving in the United Kingdom.

Although Mr Rahman was involved in various businesses in London, he was not content and was craving for offering himself to the Real estate sector in Bangladesh –a result of which is Probashi Palli, a large Housing Project based in Dhaka. Being innovative in his plans and honest in his intention to contribute single-handedly to the benefit of NRB's living all over the world, Mr Mohidur Rahman stepped forward to realise his dream Project called "Probashi Palli" in Bangladesh which specialises in offering plots, flats and investments at comparatively affordable prices.

At present he is the Managing Director of Inspired Development Ltd. Who are the developers of Probashi Palli. After receiving a positive response for Probashi Palli, Mr Mohidur Rahman has launched his latest venture "Purbachal Probashi Palli" which is situated in Dhaka.

Along side real estate he is also the Managing Director of Hotel Black Rose International. Mr Rahman is involved with other housing and hospitality businesses. He is the Project Director of Purbachal Shah Paran City in Sylhet as well as Proprietor of Hotel Fahim International and a Project Director of the proposed five star hotel Six Seasons.

Mohammed Mohidur Rahman resides with his wife Rasheda Begum and three other children in their family home in Ilford, Essex.



**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 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.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S  
WHO  
2009

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.



**ANIS RAHMAN**  
OBE JP

**SECTOR**  
Legal (Barrister)

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.



**SAYDIKUR RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Hospitality and Catering

An entrepreneur whose potential has been recognised by ongoing promotion and career development within the food industry.

Started his carrier life working for Mcdonalds Restaurant, as a team member in 1997, where he has seen the potential in the food industry, opened his first business in 2001, which has been very successful and has lead him into other projects.

The Chairman & CEO of eight Ltd companies: Saydikur Ltd, Sadik Limited, SSFR Limited, SASM Limited, Muskaan Indian Cuisine Ltd, Perfect Fried Chicken (UK) Ltd, Real Spice Ltd Muskaan Restaurant (UK) Limited,

He has immense experience as prospective employer and after the establishment of his company he has set his interest into the property market and he has managed to be in possession of various properties around the United Kingdom,

Also has always had interest in expanding in the global market, and was given an opportunity with Dhaka Regency hotel and resort in Bangladesh, he has become a Senior Director of Dhaka Regency and British Bangladesh Investors' Group (BBIG),

Finally he is the Vice Chairman of Global Assets Ltd, a documented name designed for stimulating hospitality management services, having well-established dimensions onto Hospitality, Construction & Development, Financial and Renovation Services. He started his own project in Bangladesh called Grand Sylhet, Grand Sylhet has been created as a real estate development, which is an inspiration for many and a key strengthener in his line of business.



**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 Chairing the UK branch of the Nirapod Sarak Chai project as well as being involved with the Anjuman-ETalimul 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 worker is also a board member on the Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council UK and the Balagonj-Osmani Nagar Upozila Shomithy.

Essentially, Mr Rahman will always be remembered as the leading 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.





**SHOFIQ-UR  
RAHMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Property and  
Finance

Shofiq-ur Rahman, son of Mr. Golam Mostafa and Mrs. Rahatun Nessa, was born in 1958 in the village of Khadempur under Balagonj (Usmaninagar) Upazilla of Sylhet District..

He passed the SSC examination from Nasib Ullah High School at Khadempur. He passed the HSC examination in 1973. Thereafter, he took admission in Sylhet Medical College for higher education however he had to leave for the UK in 1976.

In the UK he joined the catering industry where he served for nearly one year. He then started his own catering business in 1978. His restaurant named 'Mizan Indian Restaurant' in Plaistow. He opened restaurants under the same name in Chigwell, Rayle, Hockley and Essex. He ran all his restaurant businesses until 1988. He also started a catering instruments supply business named 'Mizan Catering Supply Ltd' at Plaistow and ran it from 1983 to 1988. There was a recession and the UK was also badly affected and this had a negative effect on Mr Rahman's businesses.

In 1990, he again started a Fast Food Catering Industries named 'Curry Link'. In the meantime, he also opened two other fast food business in Raleigh. In 1992, he established another restaurant named 'The Ruby Murry' in Walthamstow. In 1999, left the catering industry and set up 'Sterling Management Financial Services' in London. In 2001, he also started another business in the name of 'ABC Property and Management Ltd' which continues to exist today. He has provided financial support to many Bangladeshi expatriates living in the UK.

Mr. Shofiq-ur Rahman has played an outstanding role in the field of social work too. He always helps the poor and meritorious poor students to continue their studies. He has set up a large orphanage in his village in Bangladesh. The orphanage accommodates 300 children and provides them with free medicine and education up to GCSE Level.

Mr. Shofiq-ur Rahman and Mrs. Wahida Rahman Ruby are the parents of one daughter and two sons. Their daughter Marjana Rahman and son Bilal Rahman are college students. Their son Jamel Rahman is also a student.



**CLLR AYESHA  
CHOWDHURY  
RAKI**

**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.

Syedur Rahman Ranu 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.



**SYEDUR  
RAHMAN  
RANU**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Mr. Rahman's other passion 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.

**AMINUR RASHID**

B.Sc (Eng), C.Eng,  
M.I.C.E, M.I.H.T,  
A.M.E.

**SECTOR**  
Engineering



Mr Aminur Rashid is the current General Secretary of the Welsh Asian Council. A Chartered Engineer by profession, Mr Rashid has been one of the most active members of the Bangladeshi Community in South Wales. Born in Manikganj, Dhaka in Bangladesh, Mr Rashid came to the UK in 1965 to study Civil Engineering on completion of Intermediate Science Examination (I.Sc) from Dhaka Government College.

After gaining B.Sc (Eng) degree in Civil Engineering from Cardiff University, Mr Rashid obtained further professional qualifications as the M.I.C.E (Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers), the M.I.H.T (Member of the institution of Highways and Transportation), and the A.M.E (Member, Association of Municipal Engineers).

Mr Rashid was employed by Newport City Council where he was eventually promoted to the post of Highways Network Manager

and carried on at this post for approximately 23 years after which he took early retirement. Mr Rashid has been a prominent member of the Bangladeshi Community in South Wales; He played a commendable role during the liberation movement of Bangladesh where Mr Rashid was elected as the General Secretary of Bangladesh Action Committee, South Wales.

In 1971, together with the Bangladeshi community, Mr Rashid formed "Bangladesh Association Cardiff" where he was General Secretary for many years. Currently he is the Vice-Chairman of the organisation. He has also been the recipient of the Channel "S" Community award 2008.

Mr Rashid is currently the Chairman of "Cardiff and Vale Race Equality Council". He has also been elected a Board Member of the "Communities First Local Partnership Group" supported by Welsh Assembly Government and Cardiff City Council. The Engineer has been a Governor of a Cardiff High School and a Primary school for nearly 21 years. He is also a board member of "South Wales Intercultural Community Arts", "Cardiff and District Multicultural Arts Development", and also "Black Voluntary Sector Network Wales", for many years.

Mr Rashid is also a board member for many other community relation initiatives. He is involved with various mosques in Cardiff. He is married Shirin Rashid and they are blessed with three children. Mr Rashid is a huge cricket fan and follows football, golf, rugby and snooker amongst other sports. His other hobbies include walking, reading and listening to music.



## BAJLOOR RASHID

### SECTOR

Catering and Community  
Relations

Bajloor Rashid is a renowned business man amongst the Bangladeshi community living in the UK. He was born in the village of Balikandi in Moulvi Bazaar. He first came to the UK in 1978 and has been involved in a number of different business ventures. He married in 1988 and has four children, two sons and two daughters.

His business life began in 1978 when he got involved with the curry industry with his brother in a restaurant in Dover, the success of which, spawned the opening of a number of different restaurants around Kent and London area. These Shapla Tandoori in Whitstable, Kent, a partnership with Wingham Tandoori, in Kent as well as Zarin, formerly known as Curry Garden in Ashford, Kent. In 1993 he tapped into the wholesale business of rice and spice whilst simultaneously buying commercial properties forming his property company, Atlantic Properties Ltd.

In 1997 he started more work with fellow Bangladeshis on different projects in areas such as travel which expanded his ever growing business portfolio.

His involvement in joint business ventures since then has bought about his positions as

Chairman of Sarina CNG Ltd, Bangladesh; Chairman of Sylhet Parjatan Motel; Director (and former vice chairman) of Progressive Life Insurance co Ltd, Bangladesh and also, involvements with Syhlet Shishu Park, International Medicare Ltd in Bangladesh.

Mr Rashid is director in the BBCC having previously held the position of finance director and is involved in work helping improve the trade links between the UK and Bangladesh which has culminated in many awareness events including the Bangladesh Expo 2005, held in the Barbican centre in London.

His work in the BCA, stands out the most in his list of achievements; having held positions of Chief Treasurer and Assistant Secretary General in previous committees, Mr Rashid was elected President of the BCA. As president, Mr Rashid held a number of memorable events to raise awareness of the issue including the annual dinner in Park Lane in December 2007 and 2008 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.



## MAMUNUR RASHID

### SECTOR

Cultural Activities and  
Media (Electronic)

Mamunur Rashid was born in Moulvi Bazar, Bangladesh. He completed SSC from Moulvi Bazar Govt High School in 1991. He then went to Moulvi Bazar Govt College and graduated in 1996. During his student life he was involved with the Bangladesh National Cadet Core (BNCC) where he rose to the rank of sergeant.

In 1998 he came to the UK, As an educated member of the community he was involved in teaching mother tongue language to young children voluntarily for over two years.

Mamunur Rashid is a hard working community cultural activist. He has and is working hard to promote Bangladeshi cultural activities among the Bangladeshi community and the wider communities.

His portfolio goes back over ten years. Over the last ten years he has been a leading member and participant of many cultural and social programmes in Cambridge.

He specialises in stage performances and actively participates and encourages others to do the same.

As an executive member of the Bongo Poribar Association, he actively worked to manage and

perform all programmes organised by the association.

More recently he organised and set up the Boishakhi Cultural Association in Cambridge and is the general secretary of the organisation. Its primary objective is to involve the young generation of Bangladeshis to promote the culture of Bangladesh through music and arts.

In recent years he helped to raise funds for the victims of the Sidr disaster. As well as this he was instrumental in organising and raising funds for the newly built Omar faruque Mosque and cultural centre in Cambridge.

He is a widely respected and active member of the community who continues to devote much of his time and energy to the wellbeing of the community and its rich culture. On top all this he manages to devote time to the bangle media in particular acting on commercials and being the official reporter for channel s news for Cambridge.



**MAHMOUD A  
RAUF**

**SECTOR**  
Accounting

Mahmoud A Rauf is a qualified accountant. Born in 1946 in Nabiganj, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Rauf was educated in Bangladesh before coming to the UK in 1968. He studied at the Madan Mohan College completing his B.Com in 1966 and in 1968 left for UK to further his education in accountancy. As a student, Mr Rauf took part in the political events such as the anti-Ayub Movement and when the Liberation War began in 1971 Mr Rauf was an executive member of the Bangladesh Student Action Committee in the UK.

Before his arrival to the UK, Mr Rauf was the Acting President of East Pakistan Chhatra Union in Sylhet as well as volunteering at an eye camp organized by Jalalabad Blind Welfare Association. In addition to being an accountant. He is an executive member of the Asian Drama Group. Mr Rauf is also serving as the Chairman of a group called Bengali National Cultural Society UK.

One of the pioneers behind East London's Boishakhi Mela, Mr Rauf was also behind the construction of the Shaheed Minar monument in Whitechapel's Altab Ali Park. Throughout the last twenty years Mr Rauf has also been voluntarily involved with East London based organisations such as the Tower Hamlets Community Empowerment Network, Brick Lane Business Association, Tower Hamlets Training/Business forum, Community Organisation Forum, City-side Regeneration Ltd and the Banglatown Consultative Forum.

Currently in Bangladesh Mr Rauf is a life member of Mukitijuddha Smriti Trust as well as the chairman of the board of directors of the Bangla language newspaper 'Notun Desh'. On the media front Mr Rauf was a director of the weekly publication 'Sylheter Dak' as well as being a founding member of Bangladeshi Journalists Association UK.

He is married to Ju-E-Shams and they have a daughter and a son. Their daughter Sohani completed her degree in Psychology and is a post graduate in Education (PGCE) from the University of London and their son Raziq completed his Honours and Masters in Geography on Space Management from the University of Manchester. Raziq is a qualified journalist currently working with Virgin Radio.



**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.

Born in Sylhet in 1976, a Master's graduate from a prestigious university in Bangladesh, Fokor Uddin Razi arrived in the UK in late 1990's. While he was in Bangladesh he has developed a strong sense of business awareness. His first project was opening a chain of retail outlets in Sylhet called Tiamo offering the latest western fashion garments to youngsters throughout Bangladesh.

This success progressed on to him being briefly involved in wholesale activity mainly shipping goods from India and the south coast of Bangladesh to major retailers in all the cities in Bangladesh. Recently he has moved on to property development and is a Director of a successful project called Sylnest.

In the UK he is a chairman and CEO of a large and well known retail outlet, he owns numerous properties in London and is keen to move on to property development by acquiring a portfolio of properties. His current role is Managing Director of Grand Sylhet ApartHotel & Resort, overseeing all foreign activities.



**FOKOR UDDIN  
RAZI**

**SECTOR**  
Hospitality and  
Real Estate

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S  
WHO  
2009



**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.



**DR. MOHAMMED SALAM**

JP, M.Sc, MBIM, AMITD

**SECTOR**  
Local Government and  
Community Relations

Dr. Mohammed Salam, born in Dhaka 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 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 local, national and international level. Moreover, he is a Justice of the Peace for Bradford Bench and Chair of the Adult Court and has been performing civic duties on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen for the last 19 years.



**MUHAMMAD  
ABDULLAH  
SALIQUE**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

Muhammad Abdullah Salique was the Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for the 2008/09 municipal year. He has been a member of the Labour Party for many years and has been councillor for the Bethnal Green North ward since 2006 in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Prior to representing the residents of Bethnal Green North, Mohammed Abdullah Salique was elected ward councillor for Mile End East in 2002.

Muhammad Abdullah Salique has held a number of important posts including Chair of the Development Committee, Chair of the Olympic Development Committee and for the last year Scrutiny Lead for Health and Excellent Public Services.

He currently is on the Appeals, Audit and Overview committees to name but a few. Muhammad Abdullah Salique is a qualified youth and community worker and social worker, and he also has a degree in law.

He has worked extensively as a youth and community and social worker and as a lecturer at Tower Hamlets College.

Muhammad Abdullah Salique came to Tower Hamlets from Sylhet as a child. He grew up in Tower Hamlets and attended school in Spitalfields. He is married with five children.



**KHATUN  
SAPNARA**

**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.

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.



**MUHAMMED  
A. SATTAR**

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalist)

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.

In 2008, he was elected as the 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.

**ABDUL SHAHID**

**SECTOR**  
Catering



Abdul Shahid was born in 1959 in the village of Poschimbagh, Kuchai in Sylhet, Bangladesh. His father is Al Hajj Abdul Matin and his mother Azizunnessa Khanum, He has three siblings.

Abdul Shahid attended Kuchai Israb Ali High School where he gained a S.S.C. then in 1978, he achieved a H.S.C in Modon Muhon College in Sylhet. Mr. Shahid then came to the UK with his mother to further his education, however, instead, he ended up working in a restaurant. About a year and a half later in 1980, he opened his first ever takeaway in a place named Eccles.

Mr. Abdul Shahid, in 1983, married Sultana Chowdhury, with whom he now has three children, two daughters and one son, who are all currently in full time education. His eldest daughter, Sharmin has qualified as a Doctor.

Son Rasel is at present studying Advertising Design and Technology in Salford University and youngest child, Shahida attends School.

After opening his takeaway, Mr. Shahid did not stop there. In 1986 he then started a restaurant business along with his brother. They named this restaurant Sharmin Palace, after his eldest daughter. Later in 1996, his second restaurant was opened, called Sahib in LYMM Warrington. The Bayleaf was Mr. Shahid's third restaurant, which started up in December 2007.

Whilst busy with running his businesses, Mr. Abdul Shahid still made the time and effort to participate with the community. He was the Organising Secretary of Salford Bangladesh Association in 1986. In 1996 he was given the role of Treasurer for Greater Manchester Bangladesh Association. Furthermore, Mr. Shahid was the Vice President and Trustee of Salford Eccles Islamic Society, as well as part of the Salford Council Community Committee. He is also the Vice President of Greater Sylhet Council- North West Region and Chairman of Salford Link Project.

Mr Shahid has worked with elderly community leaders such as late Mr MM Bakth, Late Mortuza Chowdhury, Mr Kabir Ahmed JP, and Mr Mr Hasan Chowdhury as well as many others.





**ABDUL SHAHID**

**SECTOR**

Accounting

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, he 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.

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) tuning to music are a common routine.

Shahid lives in London and is married to Raihana.



**MD. ABDUL SHAHID**

**SECTOR**

Community Relations

Abdul Shahid passed his SSC examinations in 1983 from Mirpur Public High School. After completing his studies he moved to the UK in 1985 where he came to live in Brick Lane, East London with his parents. Initially he worked in an Indian Restaurant named Rose Tandoori in Kent for a couple of weeks.

He then went on to work for Standard India Restaurant in Wood Green, London. Mr Abdul Shahid moved to Slough, Berkshire and joined another restaurant named Indian Palace.

After working for a number of restaurants Md. Abdul Shahid turned his ideas and thoughts into creating and setting up his own business. In 1989 he opened up his own Indian restaurant named Indian place in the Middlessex area with support and help of his three partners. Abdul Shahid did not stop there with the other business running successfully he then opened up another restaurant named Shahida's Indian Take Away in Berkshire.

Md. Abdul Shahid then started running another Take Away Spice Hut Take Away in Richmond, London with another business associate. He has been operating a brick field at Hasan

Fatemapur area in Jagganathpur Bangladesh since 2003.

Among his many business ventures he has been involved and participated in many organisations where he has been the; cultural secretary of the Greater Sylhet Council UK Southeast region, and is the publicity secretary of the Bangladesh Welfare Association in Hounslow Middlessex, he is also the chairman of the Sonar Bangla promotion and finally he is the president of the Greater Sylhet Council in the Middlessex branch.

Md. Abdul Shahid has always played a vital role in community work in both Bangladesh and in the UK; he has been generously helping the people affected by the floods in Bangladesh.

He is seeking to bring out a newspaper named Sylhet Times with others from Sylhet. He is the founder trustee of Jagganathpur British Bangla Education Trust. Abdul Shahid married Sultana Begum in 1990 and they have six daughters and two sons.



**SULTAN  
MAHMUD  
SHARIFF**

**SECTOR**  
Community  
Relations

Sultan Shariff 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.

He was an active member of the Awami League Advisory Committee in London.

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 5 honoured him for his services to the community.

He lives with his wife, Nora Shariff, in London



**BAHARUL ALAM  
SHAYEB**

**SECTOR**  
Private Equity

Mr Shayeb is one of the youngest entrepreneurs in the British Bangladeshi Community and at the age of just 26 now owns and runs one of the most successful Private Equity Groups in the community. He is the co-founder and Chairman of De Vere Private Equity Group Holdings which owns some of the most prominent and unique business concerns, namely iTrade UK Ltd – the only Stock Market Training Company in the Community. iTrade UK Ltd is now the leader in it's sector and has recently been given an endorsement by a multi-millionaire Dragon's Den Investor.

Mr Shayeb and his current sixty strong team of employees working all over the world have rapidly acquired a huge portfolio of diverse properties including penthouses in the Mediterranean. Mr Shayeb has taken his Private Equity Group from a small back office operation to a multi-million pound international concern in just five years.

Mr Shayeb and his co-founder pioneered the way forward for British Bangladeshi business's to start off shoring their operations into Bangladesh, and as a result recently won the 'Investor of the Year in Bangladesh Award 2009' – awarded by Channel 5 Television.

Born in East London, Mr Shayeb has always been a great supporter of the local community. Mr Shayeb's G Programme Internship is well regarded as the best internship programmes available for graduates to help propel themselves in their chosen careers. Mr Shayeb is also the co-founder and trustee for the iHope Charitable Trust – set up specifically to address the needs of unprivileged entrepreneurs in Bangladesh.

As a result of Mr Shayeb's generosity to the community and by achieving unrivalled success at a young age, Mr Shayeb has been regularly featured on both local and national media including BBC1. Mr Shayeb's mission in life is to inspire, empower and instill the belief into young people the fact that age, race or gender is not an obstacle to achieving great heights in life.

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



**WAZID HASAN  
SHELIM**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

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 got 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. At the age of 35 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 (Journalist)



Faisal Choudhury, son of late Alhaj Eklimur 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 5 in 2007 (established and broadcast from UK). He was the Chief Executive for Channel I, UK and Europe (established and broadcast from Bangladesh). In 2000 he married Dr Anwara Ali and they live with their only son Obaid Reza Jaami Al-Choudhury.



**TULIP SIDDIQ**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

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 is currently working for Harry Cohen MP and 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 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



**ABUL KALAM AZAD  
SUTON**

**SECTOR**  
Catering and Community  
Relations

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

After his arrival here in the UK Mr Azad started by writing in different Bangladeshi newspapers, such as Janomot, Surma and Notun Din. He then became founder editor of 'Sylheter Dak', later resigning and setting up a news agency in the UK, called the British Bangladesh News Agency and served as the Chairman of this organisation.

In 1984 he established his own business, a restaurant named Shapla Tandoori and later opened the Badsha Indian Cuisine in Kent. His restaurant empire grew rapidly and he opened Azad Bangladesh Cuisine in East Grinstead. Moreover in 1999 he established the now renowned Britannia Spice in Edinburgh.

In the year 2007 Velvety Ginger was established by him in Crawley. Mr Azad's other business interests include being a Director of Dreamland Amusement Park in Sylhet, he is also a Director of Valley City in Sylhet, as well as ABC Land and also Abashon Shopping complex, both located in Sylhet.

He is the founder and chairman of the Badsha Miah Education Kalayan Trust, a trust in place at Dighal Bak High School after his fathers name. He also funded the building of the Chandpur Alia Madrasa in Habiganj after his mothers name in 1999. In addition he is the founder and General Secretary of the UK Nabigonj Development Association in 1988.

Furthermore he is the Press and Publication Secretary of Bangladesh Caterers Association and President of the Kent region.

Mr Azad is married to Zaheda Akter (Lipi) and two daughters and one son; Fouzia, Faizah and Abul Esfar. Abul Kalam Azad Suton has also managed to write a number of books in his spare time. His most recent publication, launched in 2006 was titled "Ekjon Kibria".



**M ALTAB SYED**

**SECTOR**  
Business

M Altab (Syed), The Eldest son of Late Haji Md. Rajab Ali, was 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 corners 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.

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 member 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 in.

Mr Altab is married with six children who are in full time education. His ambition in life is 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 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 fund 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.

Junyied Ahmed Talukdar was born in 1953 in Kubazpur, Jagonnathpur, Sunamgonj. He is the son of Alhaz Rois Miah. He first arrived in the UK in 1967 at the age of 14.

After arriving in the UK he attended City and East London College, where he attained a diploma in construction. He also completed a mediation course in 2001.

He had a great interest in construction work and obtained city & Guilds Certificate and NVQ Level 2 in Building and Construction. He was determined to continue in this line of work. Hence, he decided to create his own construction company, which he named 'City side building Construction', which was the first ever construction company to be owned and managed by a British Bangladeshi.

Since, his business has been a major success and continues to be so. During the Liberation Movement in the UK in 1971, Mr. Talukdar played a positive and active role.

He also protested against the National Front, and has played various other roles in many more organizations. He was the founder of Shapla youth force and founder member of Jagonnathpur Unnayan Shongsta UK. He also was involved with other organizations.



## JUNYIED AHMED TALUKDHAR

**SECTOR**  
Community  
Relations

Since coming to the UK, Mr. Talukdar has had an impact on the Bangladeshi community. He has succeeded in fulfilling his dream of opening construction business. Not only this but he has played a key role in making sure that he gives his all to help, and have an impact on the community.

Mr Talukdar continues to donate very generously to several charitable causes both here in the United Kingdom and also in Bangladesh. He is the current Chairman of Tarling Estate Tenants and Residents Association, under which a number of programmes are run including computer training courses and summer projects to name a few.

## SHEIKH SHAHJAHAN AHMED TARAFDAR

**SECTOR**  
Catering and Charity



Sheikh Shahjahan Ahmed Tarafdar was born into an respectable family in 1962, in the village of Ekatuna, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh. His father late Alhaj Sheikh Shafiqur Rahman Tarafdar was involved in the catering business and was a community activist.

Mr Tarafdar started his education at his local village school. He then progressed onto Mouvibazar P.T.E School. He completed his SSC at the Mouvibazar Govt. High School in 1979, and then his HSC in Moulvibazar Govt. College. He went onto obtain a BA degree from Jagannath University College in Dhaka and thereafter moved to the UK in 1986. Mr Tarafdar became the president of the Bangladesh student league of Mouvibazar Government College in 1984.

He later became president of the Bangladesh student league of Moulvibazar district committee and was a member of the Bangladesh student league central committee.

Between 1983 and 1984 he was an active member of the editorial board of the college magazine 'Sandipan'. He was also a member of the managing committee at Ekatuna Govt. Primary School and became the vice president of Moulvibazar Shomithi in 1985.

After settling in the UK he became a convenor for the Bangladesh Caterers Association, South West region, a joint convenor of Moulvibazar College student reunion and a joint secretary for the Bangladesh student league silver Jubilee reunion.

He was twice the general secretary and chairperson of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council South West region. At present, Mr Tarafdar is the general secretary of Moulvibazar Welfare Council, a joint treasurer of the Greater Sylhet Development Welfare Council UK. He is an active member of the Labour party.

He began his catering career by taking over his father's restaurant as well as opening another two established restaurant. He has established schools, Madrasa's and Mosques in Bangladesh and in the UK.

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



**DR. WALI TASAR UDDIN**  
MBE JP DBA FRSA

**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 Debetts' 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. See [www.drwaliuddin.co.uk](http://www.drwaliuddin.co.uk)



**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, Bishawnath Village in the district of Sylhet. He completed his degree from M.M College in Sylhet.

He first came to the UK in 1985. His enthusiasm for education was obvious as he decided to further his learning by attending 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 Shangaton, 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.

He continues to work hard not only to carry on his own success, but also to bring about good for the community.

At this moment in time, Mr. Tuahid is a representative of the Weekly Potrika and the weekly Bangla Mirror, two newspapers involved with the British Bangladeshi community.

He is also the managing editor of Bangla Khobor published in the Midlands. 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 Midlands.



**ALHAJ  
MOHAMMED  
OHID UDDIN**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Alhaj Mohammed Ohid Uddin was born in 1965 in Deulgram, Beani Bazar, Sylhet. His father was Master Md Formuz Ali who established a Post Office in their home village and was a Post Master for the post office for some time, and founder School Master of Deulgram High School.

His mother, Taslima Khatun worked for a period of time as a school teacher in Bangladesh and Britain. Mr Uddin came to the UK in 1977. He initially settled in Birmingham and Liverpool before coming to London in 1985.

Mr Uddin was initially involved with the Marylebone Bangladesh Society and became the General Secretary of that organisation. Mr Uddin has a Diploma in Information Technology and Business studies from Warwick College. He is now doing research in the field of political science for Bangladesh.

Mr Uddin started his first business in 1990 called Spicy World Balti House, one of the best-known Indian restaurants in Central London. He possesses over 25 years of business experience. He is also the Convenor and vice president for Bikolpodhara Bangladesh, a political organisation in the United Kingdom and is a Trustee of the Beani Bazar Welfare Trust. Other such voluntary and community organisations that he is concerned with include, the Asian Youth Organisation, Beani Bazar Jonokallyon Somittee. He is also a Trustee of the Bangladesh Centre, member of London Bangla Press Club and Princess Diana Centre, as well as present Secretary General of Deulgram Development Society.

Mr Uddin has funded the construction of roads, mosques, madarasa's, and schools. His party's commitment is to protect the interests of expatriates. Aside from his restaurant business, and other social activities, Mr Uddin is also a writer, and his work has received acclamation both here in the United Kingdom and also in Bangladesh.

Ohid Uddin is married to Sufia Khanom Uddin, who has a Diploma from the UK. They have four children, two daughters and two sons.



**ASHRAF UDDIN**

**SECTOR**  
Community  
Relations

Born in 1942 in the village Bhujbal of Rajnagar Upazilla under Moulvibazar district, Ashraf Uddin possesses a number of qualities. His father Moulvi Niamat Ullah was the Headmaster of Prithimpasha M.E. School and an eminent philanthropist.

Mother Saira Bibi was a housewife. Ashraf Uddin was the youngest son out of his five brothers and two sisters. Ashraf Uddin completed his primary education at Nandiura Primary School.

After completing his degree (B.Com) he joined Rajnagar Portes High School as a Headmaster. During the Liberation War he left for UK.

In UK he began his career as an Accountant in Shah & Co. Chartered Accounting Company. After a while he established "Ashraf & Co. Accounting" after his name in order to establish himself.

After running this company for few years he joined 'Tower Hamlet Training Forum' with the inspiration of his friend Ajoy Singh. He worked sincerely there for sometime.

Subsequently he established 'Modhuban Restaurant' near the Bangladesh Centre. During his stay in the country he was closely associated with student politics. He actively participated in the anti-Ayub Movement. During that time he worked with the well-known freedom fighters and the student leaders like ASM Abdur Rab, Md. Hanif, Shahjahan Siraj and Tofael Ahmed and came to contact with the then leaders like Sirajul Alam Khan, Dr. Kamal Hossain, late Abdul Malek Ukil, late Abdus Samad Azad and Dewan Farid Gazi. During the War of Liberation he worked in favour of the country. In UK he worked as the Joint Secretary of Awami League.

He has served as the Organising Secretary of Bangladesh Caterers' Association in UK. He is a permanent member of Bangladesh Centre in UK and he was the General Treasurer of South East region of the GSC. Moreover, Mr Uddin is one of the conveners of the Expatriate Franchise Movement Committee.

When Rajnagar Samity was formed for the development of his home region, he was unanimously elected as the Vice President of that organisation. He made commendable contributions towards the development of education and health care in his village.



Baroness Uddin was born in Bangladesh and brought up in England. She is well recognised as an advocate for social reform and equal rights.

A formidable champion for women, Baroness Uddin was invited to the House of Lords in 1998, for her contribution to the advancement of women and disability rights, bestowing the title of the Rt. Hon. Baroness Uddin of Bethnal Green.

She began her professional and political career in the 70's, in the East End, developing a number of leading edge and well regarded services and organisations, many of which have come to be accepted as benchmark for sustainable development and community engagement.

Baroness Uddin serves on the Select Committee on European Affairs and have chaired a number of Government Task Forces, under the auspices of the Prime Minister's office, Home Office and the FCO.



**BARONESS POLA  
MANZILA UDDIN**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

She continues to work with a number of international charitable and educational causes, and currently leading the national pilot Breaking the Cycle Project which works with families affected by substance misuse.

She is a board member of Autism Speak UK, Honorary member of the Board of Channel 5 Television and is a patron of Orbis International, Student Partnership Worldwide, Bethnal Green and Victoria Park Housing Association, Women's Housing Forum, Women's Aid, Brit-Bangla and The Dame Vera Lynn Trust. Baroness Uddin has an honorary doctorate from Exeter University.

**MR GIASH UDDIN**

**SECTOR**  
Catering



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 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 the member of the caterer association UK and is involved in local community activities in South Sea.

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.

One of his more successful restaurants is situated in Portsmouth, known as the Rancho Steak House. This is an American style diner established for nearly two years and serves a variety of foods. He believes more people should invest into 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 lives in Portsmouth with his wife Fahminara Akhter, and two children.



**KHONDAKER FORID  
UDDIN**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations

Khondaker Forid Uddin is the current Chairman of United Traders Limited. Born in 1941 in Golapgonj, Sylhet in Bangladesh and completed his primary education at the local school before coming to the UK in 1963.

Mr Uddin is a very successful businessman establishing a glass factory and a hotel in Bangladesh as well as playing a key role in the liberation movement. Mr Uddin carried out numerous activities in Britain as well as the Europe in support of the struggle for independence and to this day still aids freedom fighters in the Golapgonj region.

The work of charity is a fundamental element of Mr Uddin's character. He annually donates thousands of pounds to educational institutes in Bangladesh in addition to helping the poor and homeless in his area by constructing 50 houses with corrugated iron sheet every year.

Mr Uddin has also financially supported the construction of Noor Masjid & Madrasha named after his late father Khondaker Abdul Noor and is also a joint convenor of Bangladesh Flood Prevention International Committee UK.

Besides Mr Uddin's interest in the philanthropy department, he is actively involved in many sociocultural and welfare organisations. Currently he is the chief treasurer of Bangladesh Central London as well as the President of the Golapgonj Upazilla welfare association UK. Mr Uddin is also a committee member of both the London and Manor Park Jame Masjid and the Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council UK.

Furthermore, Mr Uddin is the Chairman of the Greater London Caterer's Association as well as serving as the Senior Vice Chairman of Jatiya Party UK.

Mr Khondaker Forid Uddin is married to Khondaker Sufiya Khanam and have been blessed with three sons, Khondaker Mohi Uddin, Khandaker Thaj Uddin and Zamal Uddin. Investing in the Industrial sector in Bangladesh is currently high on Mr Uddin's agenda as well as providing access to educational facilities for the disadvantaged



**MD ALIM UDDIN**  
D(Hom) MED MHMA

**SECTOR**  
Medicine

Md Alim Uddin is a pioneer in Homeopathy and Alternative Medicine among the different communities in UK, especially the Bangladeshi Community. The Homeopathy practitioner is well known to Bangladeshi communities across Europe. Md. Alim Uddin is a philanthropist and comes from a respected Muslim family of village Ghungadia (Maligram) Post Beanibazar, District Sylhet, Bangladesh.

His Father is Late Haji Abdur Roshid was a reputed community worker. Alim Uddin came to UK in 1969. His ambition was to get a higher degree in Homeopathy and Alternative Medicine. He began his professional education from Bangladesh and has enhanced it in UK.

Among them are: D(Hom)MED from Jalalabad Homeo College, Sylhet, Bangladesh 1992, Member UK Homeopathy Medical Association in 1996, Fellow British Institute of Homeopathy in 2001 and Fellow Registration Consul of Homeopathy, UK in 2007. (This award was given at the 3rd International Conference of RCH held at Dubai, UAE by the Chief Patron of the Conference Lord Aaron Kenneth Ward Atherton of Whitley and Hurcott in Worcestershire where dignitaries such as

Charles Hahnemann grandson of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann the founder of Homeopathy was present.)

He founded the Forest Gate Homeopathy Centre in London where he is still practicing and serving the community. He provides a free counseling service to the community in London Newham Borough. He has written several articles on alternative medicine and has received recognition in respect of this. He was awarded Channel-S Community Award 2006.

Md. Alim Uddin is married to Roshna Begum and blessed with three sons and one daughter. His eldest son Shamsul Hoque is an Electronic Engineer, second son Anamul Haque is an Architect. His only daughter Farzana Begum Lubna is a student and so is his youngest son Kamrul Haque.



**MOHAMMED  
KAMAR UDDIN**

**SECTOR**  
Business and  
Community  
Relations

Mohammed Kamar Uddin was born in the village of Abdullah Pur, Beanibazar in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh. His father is the late Haji Rois Ali and his mother is the late Mrs Mokisun Nessa. He migrated to the UK in 1964, and was one of the first Bangladeshi's to start a large-scale business venture; his first business – Romna Trimmings Embroidery – in 1974 was one of the largest Bangladeshi businesses during that era.

A family man and a well respected community figure, Mr Uddin then moved into the money transfer market, where he was one of the first to pioneer the unique service of sending and receiving money from Europe to the hard to reach parts of the sub-continent. Mr Uddin's long established money transfer business known as KS Enterprise LTD is still one of the market leading ethnic agencies for sending foreign remittances, especially to rural parts of Bangladesh.

In 1984, Mr Uddin's passion for high quality Asian cuisine led him to open the Ramna Gate Restaurant in Southgate. His other successful businesses include Rahman Travels and a portfolio of properties in the UK and abroad. Away from business life, Mr Uddin is known in the UK's Bangladeshi community as the President of the UK Bangladesh National Party.

In 2007 he was short-listed to stand as the MP for Beanibazar and Gulapgonj by the Bangladesh National Party (BNP). Mr Uddin is highly regarded in the BNP and is responsible for the close links the party has with the UK. As a long-standing community campaigner Mr Uddin has made numerous charitable contributions to many mosques and educational institutions in Bangladesh most notably in Beanibazar and Golapganj. He has made many contributions towards schooling support for deprived children and has tried to reduce poverty.

In 1992, the then Prime Minister Khaleda Zia was returning to Bangladesh from Harare, and stopped over at London Hilton. During a brief meeting with her at the time, Mr Uddin was able to convince Khaleda Zia the importance of a bridge over Kushiara river in shaola was crucial to facilitate communication for the local people. Following this he was able to raise with other community members Taka 25 lakh for Khaleda Zia's flood victims fund. In his personal life, Mr Uddin is a dedicated family. His two youngest children are high achievers attending some of England's oldest and best institutions. He is also a grandfather.



**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 Roundhy 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.

Mostafa Saleh Uddin (Liton) was born in Begumganj thana in Noakhali district. His father is late Md Aftab uddin who was a police officer.

Mostafa completed his SSC from Noakhali government Zilla School in 1983 and his HSC in 1995 from govt S.A. College in Noakhali. He later obtained a BA degree from Chittagong University in 1989. Mostafa came to the UK in 1995 and embarked on a computing course. In 1996 he began working at an accounting firm in south Wimbledon, as an assistant accountant. In 1997 he started working as a Bengali teacher at Sir John Cass & Red Coat Secondary School situated in London.

After which he became involved in the catering trade. He is Secretary of Bangladesh Association Cardiff. He is also the founder of Club Shatabdi (Bangladeshi youth cultural organisation) and he was involved in organising the Bangladesh Mela. He is also founder acting coordinator of Cardiff North Gabalfa Bangla School. He is a member of NHS reference group and a member of Race Equality First (REF). Mostafa Uddin is the Secretary of BNP south Wales branch.

Furthermore, he was also actively involved in different socio-political organisations in Bangladesh. He was district secretary of Jatiyatabadi chhatra dal in 1989 and founder convener of Jatiyatabadi samajik sanskritik Sangstha (Jasas) Moulvibazar dist branch. He was the Joint secretary of Bangladesh Shilpokala Academy (Bangladesh Art Council) Moulvibazar District Branch, EC Member Bangladesh Shisu Academy Moulvibazar



## MOSTAFA SALEH UDDIN

**SECTOR**  
Media and  
Community  
Relations

Branch. He was the member of the EC committee of Moulvibazar district press club.

District Correspondent of the Dainik Dinkal (National Daily). He was founder secretary of Bangladesh National Association of Journalists Moulvibazar dist branch, Founder Secretary of Bangladesh Human Rights organisation Moulvibazar, Founder secretary of Moulvibazar district photographic society, founder Chief secretary of Bangladesh young tourist club.

Mr Mostafa Saleh also introduced TV reporting from outside the country as soon as Bangla TV had been established. At present he is the representative of channel 5 Television in Cardiff. He received Lord Mayor's Community Award in 2001 for his contribution to the community.

## NOBAB UDDIN

**SECTOR**  
Media (Journalist)



Nobab Uddin wears many hats. He is the editor of Janomot, Britain's oldest Bengali newsweekly, and also a Quantity Surveyor by profession. He was born in Shahbandar (Fatehpur) Munshibari village in Moulavibazar district in Sylhet division of Bangladesh.

He came to United Kingdom in July 1978. Having completed his Building and Construction studies in Vauxhall College in London, he later obtained a BSc (Hons) degree in Quantity Surveying from South Bank University, also obtaining a Diploma in Leadership and Management. Initially a Quantity Surveyor with Walter Jenkins Construction, he subsequently worked for London Borough of Enfield; he later joined City of Westminster as its Technical Manager. In 1996 he moved to RSL with Toynbee Housing as Technical Services Manager.

In October 2007 he took over as Stock Investment Manager of

One Housing Group, London. He is a member of Chartered Institute of Housing, The Guild of Builders and Contractors, The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, The Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM), Society of Surveyors and National Union of Journalist.

He is one of the founder members of the London Bangla Press Club and was the first Treasurer of the club, which was formed in 1993. During the late 90's as management of Janomot changed, Nobab Uddin took over the responsibility of the Chief Executive of the journal.

When the then editor of Janomot relinquished his position in 1997, Nobab Uddin took over as editor, a position he still holds. From 1990 to 1994 he was the General Secretary of BWAG in Camden, London. He was involved in sports from an early age, where he represented his school and district at national level in both badminton and athletics.

Because of his keen interest in during the early eighties he decided to form a cultural and promotional organisation called, Link Promotions, which has been staging plays and cultural shows since then in UK. Besides his journalistic activities, since 1982 Nobab Uddin has written and successfully staged several stage plays throughout the UK.

Nobab Uddin is the author of many plays, three books, and two more which are in the process of being published. He is married with two children.



**ANSAR AHMED ULLAH**

**SECTOR**  
Community Relations

Ansar Ahmed Ullah is a community activist who has lived and worked in the UK since the late 1970s. He has worked as a youth, social and community worker and has been an active anti-racist campaigner.

Ansar Ahmed Ullah became involved in community activism in 1979 by being one of the members who founded Bangladesh Youth League in Luton against the backdrop of mobilising young people to challenge racial violence's of the late seventies and the early eighties. In 1980 upon arrival in the East End of London, Ansar Ahmed Ullah got involved with the Federation of Bangladeshi Youth Organisations (FBYO), a national umbrella organisation, representing youth groups from across the country.

As a cultural activist Ansar Ahmed Ullah has been involved with various cultural activities from publications to events that included poetry, drama and film making. He has film making experience, with Channel 4 'People to People' (1983-84) series, as researcher and has worked with famous film director Ruhul Amin as a Assistant Director, on 'Moviewallah', 'A Kind of English' which were broadcast on Channel 4.

He was instrumental in founding Joi Bangla Sounds, Joi Bangla Band and was associated with individuals of some of the greatest Asian artists Britain has seen including Asian Dub Foundation. Since 1992, he has been involved with the UK branch of 'International Forum for Secular Bangladesh' known in Bengali as the 'Nirmul Committee', to combat the rise of extremism and to seek justice for the victims of Bangladesh War of 1971.

In 1997 Tower Hamlets Council formally branded the area around Brick Lane as Banglatown (& electoral ward in 2001). He was one of the founding members of the committee that erected the central Shahid Minar in Altab Ali Park in 1999. Ansar Ahmed Ullah is also a founder member of the 'Baishakhi Mela' and was involved in setting up a group called the 'Swadhinata Trust'.

Ansar Ahmed Ullah is currently involved with the International Bangladesh Foundation (IBF) chaired by Lord Avebury of All Party Parliamentary Human Rights Group. He has campaigned and worked for the welfare of the entire community throughout his career.



**CLLR. ABDAL ULLAH**

**SECTOR**  
Politics

In July 2009 Abdal was appointed as a Non Executive Director of the Bart's and The London NHS Trust Board. Abdal is the first British Bangladeshi Muslim to join the Council of Queen Mary University of London a former member of the Education Commission of London Government.

Political from an early age, graduated with a degree in Politics, chaired the Youth Parliament, London assembly candidate in 2004, elected as councillor in 2006, short listed in Wimbledon as a prospective parliamentary candidate in 2007, all this at only 31.

Abdal has extensive experience with a number of London's strategic bodies. He was a member of the Police Authority (MPA) for six years, he also chaired the City of London Police Committee. He is currently a Trustee of Thames Water Trust and the Centre of the Cell Ltd. Abdal was chosen by the Home Secretary to be the convener of the Muslim youth task group aftermath of 7/7 London Bombing. Abdal has represented the UK on many international delegations sponsored by the Home Office and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Abdal was instrumental in securing the permission from the Mayor of London to stage the first ever Eid celebration in Trafalgar

Square in 2006, also currently planning for the Eid in the Park open air prayers event in Tower Hamlets A councillor in Tower Hamlets since 2006, serving as a cabinet member in his role as lead member for Cleaner Safer Greener, His vision and enthusiasm has attracted extensive media coverage. Abdal's wife Ayesha Qureshi who worked for London 2012 was awarded the MBE in 2005 for her service to London Olympic bid, she's an award winning international lawyer working out of Dubai and London offices.

Abdal Ullah's, own professional career experience ranges from working for one of the UK's top consulting firm, His other past experience has been working in the health, education and community development sectors.

Outside of work and politics, Abdal Ullah, recently became a father to a bay boy Adil, has founded the annual Safer Neighborhood Tournament Cup with cash prizes and the appearance of the FA cup, FA Charity Shield the Barclays Premier League trophy, he also presents an annual TV show live on Channel 5. He is the president of Stepney FC, the team is sponsored by TATA a multi national Indian company.



**MOHAMMED  
AHAD ULLAH**

**SECTOR**  
Business

Mohammed Ahad Ullah is the current President for the British Bangladesh Business Link (Scotland Region). Over the last thirty years, Mr Ullah has been one of the most successful British Bangladeshis in Scotland, establishing a chain of fine restaurants and building a healthy portfolio of properties both in Britain and overseas.

Born in 1957 in Biswanath, Sylhet in Bangladesh, Mr Ullah began his education there before moving to the United Kingdom at a very young age. In the UK Mr Ullah focused in developing his family food store in Fallowfield, He then opened his first restaurant, Himalaya in 1976. For the next thirty years, Mr Ullah has opened at least three restaurants and three take-a-ways in both Manchester and Aberdeen.

Further to his involvement in the catering industry, Mr Mohammed Ahad Ullah has also set up a leading property housing establishment in north of Scotland called GPRS property. Mr Ullah is an active member of the Bangladeshi community, having served as Vice President and currently fulfilling the role of Treasurer for the North East Scotland Bangladesh Association.

In 1983, the entrepreneur played a prominent role behind the creation of a graveyard for the Bangladeshi Community in Aberdeen. In the mid nineties, Mr Ullah also helped set up the first Bangla Saturday school in Aberdeen.

He has donated to various mosques and madrasahs throughout Bangladesh. Mr Ullah regularly supports disabled children and elderly people especially fund raising for the local charity Archway and in 2008 he was short listed for the Channel 5 community awards for his contribution.

Mr Mohammed Ahad Ullah married Sultana Ullah in 1983 and one daughter and three sons. His daughter, Nazma is currently studying for her Nursing Diploma at Aberdeen University, while his sons Rasel, Rumel and Ruhel are in education.



**ABSSAR  
MOHAMMED  
WAESS**

**SECTOR**  
Catering

Absar 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 developing 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 President of South of England region. 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 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 of four children; Imran, Samian, Labiba and Safwan.

Reba Waheed has established a long standing career in community development. With a firm belief in the strength of education and the importance of investing back into the community, Ms Reba Waheed has helped to transform conditions within the Bengali community, the White City Somali Association and the homeless communities.

Ms Waheed has always promoted the importance of education and its necessity to breaking through poverty. Whilst a student, Ms Reba Waheed worked voluntarily for two years as teacher for HBA (Hammersmith Bengali Association) as well as the Bangladesh Centre. Indeed, Ms Waheed was one of the key individuals who restarted a community organisation for Bengali people living in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

By focusing the Association's resources on education, Ms Reba Waheed enabled the association to now boast a supplementary school with an excellent success rate that has encouraged the majority of its pupil to go into higher or further education.

Furthermore, through her work, Ms Waheed has assisted many women to enter education and pursue degrees or vocational courses. So far, she has helped women become nurses, interpreters, police, as well as committee members of the organisation she works for.



**REBA WAHEED**

**SECTOR**  
Social (Community Development)

For over twelve years Reba has been involved for the local Bengali community. She gives her time freely to the Association, making sure it is sustainable and that children are reaching their potential. Ms Reba Waheed has been the only Bengali female to hold the position of General Secretary in HBA and her success lies in the fact that she has always been appointed to the position no matter which team came on board.

Ms Waheed is a strong role model to her Bengali students as many of her ex-students have returned to the Association to either sit on the management committee or work as an employee to re-invest back into the opportunities for the next generation of Bengali students. This is in Ms Waheed's word, one of her proudest achievements.

**REKHA WAHEED**

**SECTOR**  
Arts (Novelist)



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 Asiana'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 in the publishing industry.



**MOHAMMED KHASRUZ  
ZAMAN**

**SECTOR**  
Communications

Mohammed Khasruz Zaman was born in Birdal, Kanaighat in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh. His father is Alhaj Mulana Fazle Haque and his mother is Mrs Sofiqha Haque. Before Mr Zaman moved to the UK in 1988, he studied a Philosophy degree at the MC University College affiliated with Chittagong University.

Since he moved to the UK, Mr Zaman has also completed many professional courses including a recent Post Graduate course in Advance Leadership at the East London University as well as undergoing a Team Leadership course with the Chartered Institute of Management.

Upon his arrival in the UK, Mr Zaman started working in the weekly Jagoron. He has been a mental health support worker, a health advocate for the NHS, and also set up the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (also known as PALS) for the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust (THPCT).

This service was set up in 2001, and Mr Zaman worked as a PALS Officer and Manager for the THPCT until early 2008. He is now a Community Communications Manager for THPCT. This is a unique position created

by the NHS first in Tower Hamlets in order to respond to the local needs.

Mr Zaman was the elected VP of MC university college student union. He was also one of the convenors of Sylhet Chatro Sangram Parishad in 1996-98 who led the movement against the than military government.

Mr Zaman was the president of Jionthia Kendrio Chatro Parishad for 4 years when he led to establish Jionthia College in Jionthapur in 1997. He also established Sangkalpa Shahotto Gustee and published and edited a literature magazine namely Sangkalpa.

Mr Zaman is also a founding member of Birdal Bohumukhi Samabai Samithi. Mr Zaman was the founding general secretary of the Greenwich Bangladesh Welfare Association and was also the general secretary of the Bangladesh Chatra League (UK) from 1992 to 2000. He is the founding organisational secretary of Deshbikash who first introduced Bangladesh Mela in UK. Recently he has been elected as the Chair of BME workforce network THRIVE in the THPCT. Mr Zaman is married to Mrs Rabea Zaman Jusna, and they have four children – Shandhi, Sneho, Sahabi and Shahi.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

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