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DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

IMPRESS MEDIA UK



BUCKINGHAM PALACE


9th August, 2019.

Dear Mr Karim,

The Queen has asked me to thank you for your thoughtful letter of 13th June, sent on the occasion of the publication of the 2019 Edition of *British Bangladeshi Who's Who*.

Her Majesty was pleased to learn that the publication continues to highlight the work undertaken by British Bangladeshis in the local community and much appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing as you did.

In return, The Queen has asked me to convey her best wishes to all those featured and involved in producing this Twelfth Edition of *British Bangladeshi Who's Who*.

Yours sincerely,


Poppy Whitworth
Loyal Greetings Officer

Mr Abdul Karim.

MAYOR OF LONDON

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan said: “Bangladeshi Londoners have made an enormous contribution to the vibrancy and prosperity of our city for generations.

“The British Bangladeshi Who’s Who Awards offer an important opportunity to celebrate the achievements of Bangladeshi Britons leading and succeeding in every field -from business to medicine, media to sport.

“I’d like to congratulate all the winners and pay tribute to the nominees in every category. Your vision, resilience, passion and community spirit inspire us all.”





High Commissioner

The British-Bangladeshi Who's Who publication is a brilliant initiative to showcase the success stories and achievements of our very talented Bangladeshi-British Diaspora living in the United Kingdom. I am pleased to learn that its 2019 edition will be published shortly as I look forward to learning about the new generation of talented Bangladeshi-British personalities to be recognised this year.

The Government of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in its Vision 2021 has attached the highest priority towards the welfare and recognition of the contributions of the Bangladesh-British diaspora, who have relentlessly demonstrated their patriotism and love for Bangladesh, their ancestral home.

Their sacrifice and commitment in the mobilization of political support of the government and people of the United Kingdom during Bangladesh's glorious War of Liberation is deeply valued by the Government of Bangladesh. The Bangladesh-British community through their hard work dedication and remittances continue to play a significant role in building a progressive and secular image of Bangladesh in the United Kingdom and enhance political,

economic and people-to-people connectivity between the two nations. The expatriate Bangladeshis, specially their new generation is making their mark of excellence in every sphere of British society including in politics, business, art, culture, education and the services sector.

It is therefore, befitting that the Who's Who Publication would be celebrating the talents of our vibrant Bangladeshi-British diaspora, thus inspiring their successive generations to carry forward the pursuit of excellence.

I wish the organizers of this initiative and the Who's Who publication's all success.

Saida Muna Tasneem



Foreword from the Editor

We have reached our first milestone as we celebrate the 12th year of this publication and launch gala dinner.

From humble beginnings the publication has grown at an exponential rate and so has the launch gala dinner. We have unearthed some of the real gems of our community.

As it grows we also find the challenge of limiting the number of profiles to a sensible quantity because the reality is that there are just so many successful British Bangladeshis, all with their own unique stories.

However the publication features what we believe to be a good selection of individuals from various walks of life representing the wealth of success to be celebrated amongst this unique and wonderful community.

I hope you enjoy this edition and I hope this is the first of many milestones for this publication.

M Abdul Karim (Goni)
15TH October 2019



Foreword from the Executive Editor

This year I find myself filled with a sense of contentment as I write this knowing that the British Bangladeshi Who's Who has now made it to its twelfth year.

The Publication is all about celebrating the best of the British Bangladeshi community. The Publication is about you and your wonderful contribution to not only your community but also to Britain.

We must not forget the reasons behind this publication, and the rationale is two-fold: Firstly, I and all those involved with this publication sincerely hope that those who feature in this year's edition will be positive role models for the younger generation.

Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, at a time when various factions of the media and society are questioning the value of migration, this publication serves not only to dispel some of the myths about migrant communities but also highlights the positive socio-economic contribution made by the Bangladeshi community to Britain.

This year, like previous years, we will be awarding some meritorious individuals, who we believe have gone that extra mile. Amongst them, there are some household names and some rising stars.

I hope you enjoy the publication.

Suhana Anwar Ahmed
Executive Editor
15th October 2019

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2009

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

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2010

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

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2011

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

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2012

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

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2013

- Capt. Tasbirul Choudhury Ahmed
 - Khondker Aminul Haq
 - Sabirul Islam
 - Alhaj Mohammed Rais Miah
- Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Nasir)
 - Baroness Manzila Uddin

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2014

- Mesba Ahmed
- Shamim Choudhury
- Mamun Chowdhury
 - Nazinur Rahim
- Bajloor Rashid MBE
 - Anwar Uddin

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2015

- Kamru Ali
 - Munsur Ali
- Akhlaq Choudhury QC
- Mahmud Hasan MBE
 - Dr Rupa Huq MP
- Mahbub Murshed

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2016

- Cllr Parvez Ahmed
- Md Shahidul Alam (Ratan)
 - Ruqsana Begum
- Taj Brothers
- Atique Islam Choudhury

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2017

- Kazi Arif (MBA, DBA)
- Dr Sanawar Choudhury
 - Oli Khan FRSA
- Mahi Muqit PhD
- Syed Nahas Pasha
- Shahida Rahman (Shahidun)

WHO'S WHO AWARD WINNERS 2018

- Dr Zaki Rezwana Anwar
- Mohammad Habeebullah OBE JP
- Mohammed Siddiqueer Rahman
 - Nobab Uddin
- Mohammad Shab Uddin
- Mohammed Mustafa Kamal Yakub





Cllr Barrister Nazir Ahmed FRSA

Sector: Politics/ Law

Cllr Barrister Nazir Ahmed - a renowned lawyer, politician, writer and analyst - is one of the well known and well respected personalities in the UK's and Europe's Bangladeshi Diaspora community. He was born in the Village of: Bahara Dubag, Post Office and Union: Doulot Pur, Biswanath, Sylhet, Bangladesh.

Nazir obtained his LLB (Hons) degree from Queen Mary, University of London. Later on, he completed Master of Laws (LLM) from the same University. He was called to the Bar (Barrister-at-Law) by the Lincoln's Inn in 1999. He was also later admitted as a Solicitor in the Supreme Court of England and Wales and enrolled as an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. He is currently a Member of the Dhaka Bar and the Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association. Nazir has skills and experience in international arbitration. He is a Fellow (FCI Arb - the highest grade) of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb). He has advance management skills, qualification and experience. He was awarded Fellowship (FCMI - the higher grade) by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). Nazir also has expertise on environmental health and safety law. He achieved the highest grade (FRSPH) of the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH). Barrister Nazir Ahmed is currently the Principal/Head of his reputed legal practice named 'Lincoln's Chambers Solicitors.'

Nazir is active in British politics. He was the Branch Secretary and GC Delegate of the Labour Party for five years and the Vice Chair of a Constituency Labour Party (CLP) for three years. He was elected as a Councillor from Little Ilford Ward of Newham Council for the first time with one of the highest number of votes (he got one of the highest votes among all British-Bangladeshi Councillors elected in the UK last year). He was then elected twice for the two consecutive terms as the Deputy Chair (Deputy Speaker) of the Newham Council.

Alongside his studies, politics and professional responsibilities, Nazir has been involved with many local, national and international standard organizations. He has been working for the community for the last three decades. He was awarded the Nationwide's "Community Award for Voluntary Endeavour." Apart from this, he has acted in the past as an Election Commissioner/Chief Election Commissioner in elections of more than three dozen reputable community, voluntary and social organisations including British-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BBCCI) and British-Bangladeshi Caterers Association (BBCA).

Nazir often takes part in national and international seminars and symposiums. He has so far presented more than couple of dozen keynote papers in those seminars and symposiums at national and international levels on issues concerning national and international matters. He often wrote research based analytical articles on current, legal, social and constitutional issues in the Sub-Editorial Section of various national English dailies. He has already authored and published five books. For his creative activities and contribution, he was awarded Fellowship (FRSA) by the Royal Society of Arts (RSA). He is an Associate Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies (SALS), UK.

Nazir was an Independent Custody Visitor of London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Queen Mary University's Alumni Ambassador for Bangladesh.

Nazir has already visited around 50 countries of the world for various purposes. His utmost desire is to serve the community, local people and the country.

M Sayed Altab, the eldest son of Late Haji Md. Rajab Ali, born in Jalal Pur, Sunam Gonj, Bangladesh. Mr Altab came over to the UK in 1977 where he continued with his education. He completed a diploma in Business Studies, Altab established himself as a successful entrepreneur, taking on various ventures in the form of catering outlets and corner stores in North Wales.

Currently, Altab is primarily focusing on his holiday lettings and property development ventures in the UK and in Bangladesh to diversify his portfolio of investments. Over the years, Altab has contributed greatly towards charitable work and has been involved with numerous community organisations. Through his personal and business contacts, the Bangor based entrepreneur has helped generate large donations for victims of natural disasters and has contributed towards numerous community developments and educational projects in Bangladesh. He was one of the co founders of Bangor Bangladesh Welfare Association.

Altab is the Governor of Hireal School, Founder Member of Life Aid Trust and as well as being a Director of many businesses he also runs holiday homes in Anglesey and Snowdonia.

He is an active member of the Federation of Small business in addition to his long term membership with the Bangor Business forum. He is the ex chairman of Bangor Islamic Centre (BIC) and has invested an extensive amount of his time and efforts to the multicultural community of Bangor.

Altab is married with seven children . 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 him for a lifetime.



M Sayed Altab

Sector: Property and Community



Mahee Ferdhaus Jalil

Sector: Media/ Business

Nelson Mandela said: "there is no passion to be found in playing small - in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living." This ultimately sums up thriving personality Mahee Ferdhaus Jalil, who's played a huge pivotal role in the British Bangladeshi community for the last 15 years. His one of the biggest success to date is establishing Channel S - the first free-to-air British Bangladeshi satellite Television Channel.

Born in Moulvibazar, Bangladesh, Mahee came to the UK in 1988 as a teenager. Like many of our British Bangladeshi champions, his early days in Britain were endured by hard struggles. Mahee however embraced these challenges with utter determination and focus. He was known for 'dreaming big' and wanted to make his visions a reality.

In 1994, after obtaining training and experience, he set up one of the largest accident management companies in the UK called 'Prestige Auto Group'. The company saw steady growth and became a household name amongst British Asians.

Mahee's greatest success to date however was the establishment of Channel S. He started dreaming of a fully functional Television Channel in the UK in 2002. Mahee wanted a television channel which would engage communities directly, highlight issues which matter the most in the lives of British Bangladeshis, empower com-

munities with the power of information, and create awareness amongst the community about their rights, opportunities as well as responsibilities. Mahee went onto creating a professional, passionate and experienced team.

Finally on 16th December 2004, Channel S started its official broadcast. Mahee saw a dream which eventually became a platform for all British Bangladeshis, inspired a generation in achieving their goals, took our community back to their roots, and reminded our younger generation of their history and heritage.

Mahee's vision of launching the Channel was no more a community channel - it became international through a partnership with humanitarian organisation - through generous community donations. He believes we can't take money with us, so invests in the community and good causes.

A passionate entrepreneur, Mahee is also successfully running his various other business interests - from property development to Law and IT. He enjoys mentoring young business enthusiasts so that they are able to settle a life capable of living.

Born in Charar Paar Sylhet, to her parents late Minu Khan and late Shamsun Nessa Khanom. Shuva came to East London in 1974 with her husband Md Abdul Matin, originally from Chowki Dekhi, Sylhet.

Her first encounter with the community was at St Hilda's Community Centre in East London in 1975, where she took her son there for a check up and realised so many Bangladeshi's could not communicate in English properly. Shuva always had a passion to help people, She then started working voluntarily for the community as a translator.

As years went by Shuva realised her vision for life was to help the community and that is exactly what she did. She helped families struggling with housing, marriage problems and financial issues with her own money and used her home as a shelter regardless of their race or religion.

In 1996 Shuva started her own charity in Bangladesh called Shonali Shopno which she funds by holding dinner parties and supplying food to other organisations. She uses the money to provide sewing machines and rickshaws for families in Bangladesh who need a kick start in life. In 1999 her charity started paying for cataract operations in Bangladesh and has helped many people regain their sight.

In 2011 she registered her UK charity Golden Dreams and continued to use her cooking skills to raise funds to provide medical/maternity help in Bangladesh. She also pays for up to 200 circumcisions per year.

Shuva has won numerous awards in the UK and Bangladesh including the Hason Raja Shommanona and Gunijon Shommanona.

In her youth Shuva was an activist for the Awami League (mukti judha) helping freedom fighters during the liberation war. She was encouraged by her uncle's Fokrul Islam and Anwar Uddin Gama. Last year she was awarded a Leadership and Community award by SOAS. Shuva's hobbies are cooking, socialising and teaching others how to cook.

She has 4 Children all married. Eldest son Md Tanbir works as a Metropolitan Police officer, Sania is a business woman, Sadia is a IT systems developer and youngest daughter Radia is a college Enrolment Student Support Officer.



Kamrun Nessa Khanom
(Shuva Matin)

Sector: Community Work



M A Munim

Sector: Catering

Mohammad Abdul Munim was born in 1958 in Kulaura Upazila in the District of Moulvibazar, the son of Alhaj Abdul Bari, a renowned contractor and businessman.

During his college life he served twice as the President of Chatra League at Sylhet Government College (MC) and twice elected General Secretary of Bangladesh Chatra League Sylhet District Branch. During 1977-1981 he played a leading role in the establishment of the Sylhet Division and a University in Sylhet.

Early in 1982, Munim went to Saudi Arabia where he established successful businesses both in Jeddah and Makkah, before moving to England in 1989. In 1991 he started his own halal takeaway business called “Sonali Tandoori” in Grove Park, South-East London, and in 1995 launched a successful and extensive property business.

In 1999, Munim was elected as the President of Bangladesh Caterers Association’s South East Region. From 2004-2006 he served as Senior Vice-President of BCA central committee, and in 2007 held the role of Organising Secretary of BCA. He was also the convenor of the 2011 Annual Dinner and Awards ceremony, and from 2012-2017 served as the Secretary General of BCA. Currently, elected in 2019, he is the President of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK. He is also a Advisor of Bangladesh Centre and Senior Vice President of Jalalabad Association UK.

A keen servant to the needy, he and his family have sought to contribute towards the development of his homeland, helping to establish masjids, madrasas, schools and orphanages in Kulaura, and support social welfare institutions providing various forms of assistance to the poor and needy in the locality. Munim is a founder Trustee of Kulaura Yakub Tazul Woman’s College. Since its establishment, his younger brother Mr M A Rouf has been serving as the Principal of the college. To meet the immense demands, he and his brother founded and established a very successful and highly praised kindergarten school in Kulaura.

Munim is also socially very active in his local community, playing a leading role in establishing a masjid in Crayford, and is currently serving as Secretary of the North West Kent Muslim Association. He was also the founder chairman of the Bangla Supplementary School in Greenwich and the Greenwich Welfare Association. From 2000-2017 he acted as a Director of the Consortium of Bengali Associations (CBA). He is also the current Secretary of Sylhet Bivag Unnayan Parishad. Munim has been an active member of the Labour Party since 1995.



Sheikh Aliur Rahman

Sector: Business

Sheikh Aliur Rahman is the Chief Executive of London Tea Exchange, one of the leading luxury tea merchants in Europe. Prior to joining the London Tea Exchange he worked for a private investment company in the City of London where he worked as an investment analyst. Aliur continues to act as an advisor to a number of high profile clients on investments and special interest projects. Recent projects include delivering three of the tallest residential towers in Europe.

Aliur has been at the forefront of working with large investment projects and has worked extensively amongst the private and public sector. Aliur currently holds various advisory roles at a regional and national level and remains active in major investment programmes. He has been prominent in representing investment companies in many of the leading emerging countries and has been involved in major projects in Europe, Africa, Middle East and Asia.

Through his travels Aliur has developed a passion for tea. In 2003 Aliur focused his energy in taking over the London Tea Exchange and started the process of collecting rare and premium teas from around the world. Today, London Tea Exchange has one of the largest collections of rare and premium teas in the world and is renowned amongst tea connoisseurs and collectors from across the globe. Authentic to the core, yet loyal to a set of powerful values, the company has evolved and carved an enviable niche in the global luxury tea market and has aims to expand into twenty countries by 2021.

As news of the London Tea Exchange spreads Aliur has already been

recognized by a number of bodies. In 2016 UKBCCI awarded London Tea Exchange with the 'Best Product' category and in 2017 Aliur was awarded 'Entrepreneur of the Year'. The British Bangladeshi Business Awards also recognised Aliur's work and awarded him with the 'Award for Innovation' in the same year. In 2018 Aliur was awarded the Civic Award by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for his contribution to business and local community.

Aliur is well known for his philanthropic contributions and his investment legacy programmes which focus on leaving a lasting legacy after every major investment. Aliur continues to support a number of leading charities working with young people from deprived backgrounds and communities across the globe.



Muhibur Rahman Muhib MJF

Sector: Business and Community

Muhibur Rahman Muhib MJF, was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1959. Son of the late Mr. Aalhaj Arab Ali and Mrs. Hashira Begum, Muhib grew up in the village of Purushpal, Beani Bazar.

Muhib travelled to the UK in 1972 to start a new chapter in his life. Upon arrival, Muhib enrolled at Robert Montifiore Secondary School, where he furthered his secondary education. Whilst studying, Muhib worked two part time jobs at a local Indian restaurant and a garments factory.

Upon finishing secondary education, Muhib's zeal to become a successful business man was clear. He was determined to make a successful career and improve their family's living standards. This was at a time when many British Bangladeshis were heavily involved in the garments trade.

In 1979, Muhib continued that trend by establishing, with the help of a few business partners, his own garment factory, Modern Embroidery, in Tower Hamlets. The business rapidly became very successful. Following the success in the garments trade, he ventured into the catering business and in 1982 was a business partner of the Indian restaurant he worked in as a teenager, India Grill, in Tower Hamlets, London. To date, he has carried on his successful business empire and is the owner of a number of restaurants and multiple properties in and around London.

Outside of his business prowess, Muhib plays an important role in community development both in the UK and in his homeland of Bangladesh.

He is currently the President of Jalalabad Association UK and Senior Vice Chair of the Bangladesh Centre London. He was the President of Beani Bazar Welfare Trust and still serving as an Executive Committee member of the Bangladesh Caterers Association UK, a platform representing the Bangladeshi catering industry in UK. His wealth of experience and dedication to the community can also be evidenced through his past effective and executive role in Bangladesh Welfare Association and Beani Bazar Thana Jonokallyan Samity. His work with the community does not stop with being aligned with charitable organisations; Muhib has also spent much of his own fortune in supporting good causes. He has previously financed a Bengali Newspaper called Weekly Sylheter Dak where he was a Director and a member of the publishing board.

He is known to inspire education amongst generations of young people. He has spent over £30, 000 to build a library in Beani Bazar's Women's College, helping hundreds of women from poor families to have access to much needed books and resources. In memory of his late father, he financed the Madrassa Academy Bhavan in 1982. He is also a founder of Purushpal Hafizia Madrassa and a lifetime member of the managing committee for 12 secondary schools in Beani Bazar.

He is one of the founding members of the Beani Bazar Cancer Hospital Foundation, the first hospital of its kind in Sylhet division, Bangladesh. Having served as Vice President of this organisation, Muhib along with a number of Bangladeshis living in the UK, funded this noble project.

In 2005, he was involved in distributing computers in Beani Bazar in order to enhance the education of local children. More recently, he has taken the initiative to build homes for the freedom fighters of Beani Bazaar.

In 2007, The Lions Club International Foundation awarded Muhib, with its highest 'Melvin Jones Fellowship' MJF Award for his dedication and years of working with communities. He is now a member of the prestigious organisation.

Muhib currently lives with his family including seven children in South Woodford, London.

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Bashir Ahmed

Sector: **Business**

Bashir Ahmed, (B.Com) is a prominent figure within the Bangladeshi business diaspora in the UK and Europe. Has actively worked with the UK and Bangladesh Government and other private sectors financial organizations to assist the Bangladeshi business community. Ahmed was former Deputy-Director General, London regional president and the Current President of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry of United Kingdom (2019-2021) and is actively involved in trade and commerce related issues in Europe and Bangladesh. Mr Ahmed was founder Chairman & Managing Director of Kohinoor of India Holding Group in Netherlands since 1981 was owning the largest chain of Indian-Bangladeshi Restaurants and was owning the famous awards winning Indian restaurant the Kasturi restaurant and Catering at Aldgate, London since 2001. Mr. Ahmed has a hotel management back ground and wide range of investments in Europe, U.K. and in Bangladesh, including aviation, property, food processing and financial institution. He is the Founder Chairman of Rock Asset management Limited of Bangladesh and Current Chairman of Pan Europe Ventures Limited and Prospect gaze limited a successful consultancy and procurement company and

was franchise of multi- store ownership of famous multi-national brand of Quiznos sub in UK and has investment in many other institutions, properties and has eye for innovative ideas and breakthrough projects.



Jamal Ahmed

Sector:
Entrepreneur

Jamal Ahmed is a leading Privacy expert, entrepreneur and philanthropist. Jamal is a Certified Information Privacy Manager, Certified Information Privacy Professional, EU GDPR Practitioner, Master NLP Practitioner, PRINCE II Practitioner and a Bachelor of Arts in Business with Law.

Spotting a gap in the market at the lack of accessible, expert services in Data Protection and GDPR compliance, Jamal founded Kazient Privacy Experts to offer compliance solutions to medium and large businesses. Kazient has received positive media coverage across Europe where Jamal has been cited as an expert in news articles including by the BBC and Euronews. Jamal has established himself as a thought leader and is revered in the privacy industry. To date, he has provided Privacy and GDPR compliance solutions to organisations across 6 continents and in 13 jurisdictions, helping to safeguard the personal data of over 54 million data subjects worldwide.

Clients come to Jamal for his expertise, sincerity and integrity and he recently showed his principles are more important than profits by turning down a consultancy deal worth £30,000 with Nigel Farage's Brexit Party citing a humanitarian conflict of interest and values. Some of his blue-chip clients include Lloyds Banking Group, Qatar National Bank, Santander, Prudential and Verisure.

Jamal's desire to use his expertise to make an impact has seen him work with charities such as Rahma Mercy, One Nation and SKT welfare at favourable rates.

Jamal is a practising Muslim and attributes all his success to Allah. He has shown his patience and resolve by continuing to persevere through personal hardship in-

cluding the loss of his three children; Ayyub, and twins Noah and Isaac within the space of a year, Dec 2017 – Aug 2018.

As part of his commitment to giving back, Jamal has project managed, fundraised and delivered multiple charitable projects.

After taking food and toiletries to the "Jungle" in Calais in September 2015 and witnessing the terrible reality of the situation there, Jamal set up Enable 1000 which raised £15,000 to fund 100 communal kitchens (providing cooking stoves and cooking utensils) enabling 1000 refugees to eat a hot meal every day.

His WrapUp1000 campaign provided clothing for refugees crossing the sea to Greek Islands Lesbos and Chios with nothing but the clothing on their backs. He also raised over £100,000 to provide Iftar meals for displaced people in Syria (Iftar1000 campaign).

The RohingyaSOS project provided emergency supplies and shelter for the persecuted Rohingya communities fleeing Burma. The Rice4Life campaign raised £25,000 and provided rice to the flood victims in the Sunamganj district in Bangladesh.

His latest effort is The Nansana Project in Uganda, where Jamal and his wife Rahena are funding a mosque, water well and restrooms in memory of their children.

Md Gulam Robbani Ahmed, was born in 1967, in the village of Donpur, Sunamgonj District in Bangladesh. He completed his SSC at Aidad High School and followed this with HSC at Government College, Sylhet. Gulam migrated to London in 1986 and pursued the study of History and Politics.

Once his studies were completed Gulam joined his father in his business pursuits, their family businesses of two restaurants and two takeaways.

He has always been a keen advocate of Bangladeshi politics, since being a college student till this day. His fascination with Bangladesh's socioeconomic status has led him to develop a career in politics. He loves working in the catering industry and is the Senior Vice President of the Bangladeshi Caterer's Association.

He has remained active in charity organisations and stays involved with their events. Gulam's aim is to help the deprived people in Bangladesh and provide better opportunities for them. To him it is imperative that we all try to improve Bangladesh for our future generations to come.

Gulam is the eldest of three brothers and one sister. He now resides in Brighton with his mother, wife and two children.



Md Gulam Robbani Ahmed

Sector:
Catering

Sultan was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh but spent his childhood in the oasis city of Al-Ain, United Arab Emirates (UAE). His father was a Government appointed Imam in the UAE. He was privately educated in the UAE before moving to the UK in 1999 and graduating in BA (Hons) Operations Management a few years later. Sultan is an avid reciter of the Qur'an and has won numerous Quran recitation competitions in the UAE and the UK.

Sultan started his media career with Channel 5 in 2008 after graduating from London Metropolitan University. He has since worked for two of the most prominent international humanitarian organisations in the UK - Muslim Aid, and currently Islamic Relief. Between both charities Sultan has spent over 10 years in the aid sector having travelled to Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Ethiopia and Pakistan. In 2016 Sultan was invited by the former US Ambassador to the UK, Matthew Burzon to celebrate Eid with American and British dignitaries at the Ambassador's residence. Sultan has been actively involved in the community helping raise funds for charitable organisations and Mosques as well as responding to emergencies in the UK during Somerset floods of 2014 and the Grenfell fire in 2017.

He is currently serving as a Director of the UK Huf-fadh Association, aiming to inspire the next generation of leaders from the British Muslim community. In

2014 Sultan was recognised for his talents by being nominated as one of the '50 Brightest British Bangladeshis in 2014'.

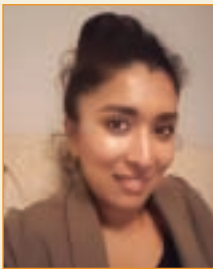
Sultan has regularly appeared on mainstream media outlets such as the BBC, CNN, CBC and other international news outlets as spokesperson for Islamic Relief and Muslim Aid. Recently Sultan made history by opening the first ever iftar at the House of Commons with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an in front of prominent politicians and ministers such as The Rt Hon John Bercow and Home Secretary, Sajid Javid.

Outside of his professional commitments, Sultan is an avid gardener and beekeeper. He was introduced to beekeeping by his wife, and has developed a passion for honey bees and actively practises beekeeping as a hobby.



Sultan Ahmed

Sector:
Charity / TV



Ruhena Akhtar

Sector:

*Community Activist/
Psychotherapeutic
Counsellor*

Ruhena was born in Bangladesh, raised in Hertfordshire, UK and educated in London & Hertfordshire. She is very much in touch with her own roots and has been able to balance both Eastern and Western cultures to make substantial impacts personally and professionally.

Over the course of two decades Ruhena has been a committed activist in eliminating domestic violence, gender abuse and harmful practices together with elderly abuse. Her work is quite prominent in the Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities and she has been an advocate of women and girls rights in Bangladeshi community

She is passionate in combating gender abuse and harmful practises for women and girls by educating and training in healthy relationships and lifestyle, understanding inter-generational cultures and inter-sectional diversity, raising awareness in mental health within diverse groups most specifically in Bangladeshi community.

Ruhena is one of the founding members of charity 'Mandeleo Services', established in 2003. Later, in 2015 she branched out into 'Mandeleo Services Property Management' which offers second stage refuge survivors of domestic abuse victims and provides settlement, gain independence as well as help rebuild life after fleeing domestic abuse in affordable housing. Her role has been imperative in the improvement of standards and equality in health and social care over the past 20 years.

After starting her career in Law and Human Resources, Ruhena became qualified British Association Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) registered and started practising psychotherapeutic counsellor. She now has her own successful private counselling prac-

tice "Purple Cloud Therapy" specialising in BAME communities to help break the barriers and stigma, support people struggling with mental health within the Asian and Bangladeshi Diasporas for over 7 years. Ruhena is currently an Occupational Health Counsellor for local Council, Counsellor, Mental Health and Domestic Abuse Trainer, Independent Domestic Abuse Advocate (IDVA), and Property Manager. She has played a prominent role in providing counselling therapy in hard to reach communities and marginalised Bangladeshi communities.

Ruhena has worked in a wide range of sectors such as Law, Human Resources, Social Care, Mental Health and Education giving her great insight to a range of opportunities for a positive impact within grass root communities.

Her inter-generational and inter-sectional work has been an important factor in making social changes as she recognises from her own background the impact it has on self development. Her work has been very inclusive as she has incorporated this within diverse groups such as African, Caribbean and European together with people from the Bangladeshi diasporas to make social changes and have positive influences. She has been a huge champion for eradicating gender violence by vocalising her stance and being a guest speaker in many BAME forums.

Ruhena recognises from her own experience of honour based violence, gender abuse and how these intercultural abuse and trauma affect ones well-being, therefore, embeds her work on prevention campaigns particularly with the younger generations as she has a strong belief of "prevention is better than cure", she continues to advocate social change, address these important issues earlier in schools and community centres.



Cllr Raushan Ara

Sector:

Politicis

Born in Singair Dakha, and moved to the United Kingdom with her family, in 1977. She attended New Parks Girls' School, and then Sixth-form college in Leicester.

After she left college and married her husband, Rezaur and moved to London and joined the Civil Service.

With her family she moved to Ramsgate in 1988 and they started their own business, in partnership with her father. The Ramsgate Tandoori has, in the last thirty years, become central to the local community, as a meeting place and community centre. So much more than just a restaurant!

Whilst running the business, she studied for a degree in business and law, obtaining a 2:1, at the University of Kent at Canterbury. She graduated from the Jo Cox leadership programme, in 2019.

She has been active in the community, fundraising for local, as well as international, charities, homelessness, environmental issues, local schools, mental health charities, Ramsgate sea cadets, litterpicking, and revitalising the Ramsgate town centre.

She started her own charity in 1998, called the Rams-Bangla Womens' Development Asociation, a micro-credit charity, registered in the UK, as well as in

Bangladesh, which financially empowers women, helping them to become independent, but also includes donating and distributing blankets and food, during the winter months, thus helping families in need. She has fund-raised for flood victims, the Rana garments factory disaster, the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, and the Nepalese earthquake victims.

She stood in the Town, District, County and National elections for the Labour party. Although was not elected to parliament, she raised the share of the Labour vote by over eight thousand.

Thanet District Council used to be a hotbed for UKIP support, with Nigel Farage standing for Parliament here twice. In the 2019 election, she won her District Council and Town Council seats with the highest percentage of votes and the biggest majority of any other candidate in the entire district. In addition to this she was also elected to be the first Bangladeshi Muslim Mayor of Ramsgate and the first Muslim Mayor in the whole of Kent.

In her spare time, she enjoys physical fitness, cooking, music, dancing, travelling and swimming.

With her husband she has two sons Raivi and Junayd,

Mohammed Abul Kalam Chowdhury is a renowned lawyer in the Bangladeshi community as well as a popular media personality in the contemporary period known for his distinctive legal advice and highly anticipated political talk shows on the Bengali TV Channels.

He is the principal Solicitor of KC Solicitors; a practice committed to providing outstanding, accessible and bespoke legal service for the community. Having the expertise on a wide range of legal disciplines including, Immigration and Human Rights, Civil Litigation, Family Litigation, Criminal Defence and welfare benefits he is dedicated to serve the community people in London and nationally. Prior to that, he worked as a principal advisor at UK Immigration Services.

Born in Sylhet to his father late Ayub Ali Chowdhury and mother Mrs Sufia Chowdhury, he is the fifth of eight children.

He completed his secondary and higher secondary education at Beanibazar, followed by a Bachelor Degree from MC College Sylhet. After migrating to the United Kingdom for higher education, he completed his LLB (Hon's) degree from Wolverhampton University in 2002 followed by the Bar Vocational Course in 2003 from University of Northumbria .

He was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 2003. During 2010 he also qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales.

From his student life in Bangladesh, Abul Kalam Chowdhury got involved with student politics and became a frontline activist who worked for the rights and justice

for the general student. Moreover, the leadership ability and keen advocacy has made Mr Chowdhury to get involved with several social and political activities in the UK which enables him to provide his support and assistance to the British-Bangladeshi citizens.

He was the first directly elected general secretary of the Society of British-Bangladeshi Solicitors and later became the Vice President at the Society of British Bangladeshi Solicitors. Besides that, he has used his various experiences to contribute to the British-Bangladeshi community as a Co-Ordinator of Centre for British Bangladeshi Policy Dialogue (CBPD). The organisation is tirelessly working to uphold the British-Bangladeshi Rights in Bangladesh as well as in the UK.

In addition, he holds the position of Information and Research Secretary of the UK Awami League which sees him liaise with the Bangladesh Government and the UK Bangladeshi community to ascertain and fulfil their demands and needs. At the same time he is a columnist and social media activist who make his best effort to raise the awareness of Bangladeshi people in standing up for their welfare and legal rights as well as fulfilling their duties as British citizens.

He is happily married to Salma Chowdhury and blessed with three children.



Abul kalam Chowdhury
Sector: *Legal*

Laboni Barua was blessed to be born in an environment where music was profoundly esteemed by her family. Her guru Shantimoy Chakrabarty was an added inspiration, and he taught her the basic grammar of music. The journey that she started from the exotic tourist-city Bandarban once exceeded its boundary. She then began growing up with the blessings of a number of music scholars incorporating 4 years course in the Bangladesh Shilpokola Academy; though, she had been undertaking classical music lessons from Ustad Surbondhu Ashok Chowdhury for 10 years until she flew to London in 2008.

During her time in Bangladesh, she was enlisted as an A-grade artist of Bangladesh Betar as well as a regular performer in Bangladesh Television (BTV).

In 2005, Laboni took part in the widely-acclaimed TV competition 'Tarokader Taroka' on ATN Bangla, Bangladesh and earned the 30th position as an young star.

Along with the vibrant music career, Ms Barua attained an Honours degree in Physics from Chittagong University, Bangladesh in 2008.

Soon after Laboni came into the UK, she won the 'Boishakhi Star Awards'. Then, in 2011, her debut album 'Meghla Chele' was released by Leser Vision, Dhaka, and it was widely applauded by her audi-

ence—she was tagged as the 'Versatile Singer' by the British Bangladeshi weekly newspaper 'Desh' and 'Surma'.

Nowadays, Laboni mostly sings modern and folk songs, though she has simultaneously expedient mastery in Nazrul's songs and semi-classics.

The preeminent British-Bangladeshi singer Laboni has been entertaining her Bangali and Hindi speaking audience with a dulcet tone in the prestigious British venues like Rich Mix, Harrow Arts Center, Nehru Center , Bharatiya Biddya Bhaban, Croydon Fairfield Hall, and so on. She also performs songs in front of large crowds that includes different festivals, some of which are—Boishakhi Mela (Festival), Southall Mela, Camden Boishakhi Mela, Luton Mela, and so forth.

She released her first album named Meghla Chele from Laser Vision a renowned label in Bangla Music industry .

One of the greatest achievements in her music career was to take part in the 'Hundred Years of Tagore Album' by the 'Nrityakala the Rhythm Dance Heritage' as the only Bangladeshi decent singer amongst the other two Indian and Pakistani singers, and it was launched in the House of Commons in 2014.



Laboni Barua
Sector: *Misic*



Muzahid Ali Choudhury

Sector:
Catering/ Philanthropist

Muzahid Ali Choudhury is a businessman in North London, a restaurateur of Dipali Restaurant, Director of Alpine Fresh Water System Ltd in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and a philanthropist. His ancestral home is in village Balia, Tilagone, Kulaura Upo-jela. He was raised in the village of Minarai, Pathan Usher and has permanent residence in Kulaura town. He studied at NC High School, MC College and MM College Sylhet. He is a son of late Mohammed Tajammul Ali Choudhury, Head of Kaukaphon Primary School, Hajipur Union, Kulaura.

In February 1997, a catastrophic accident occurred on the top floor of his restaurant which, unfortunately, led to the loss of his business partner and cousin, Shajahan Miah, and his family. The Dipali Multi Sport facility in Broomfield Park and Memorial Garden was built in memory of the family; a multi-sport ground which now facilitates thousands of people & visitors of the park. With continued support from Chief patron Mr Michael Portillo former Defence secretary, MP for Enfield Southgate, Chairman Mr Terence Neville JP, former Leader of the Council, former education Minister Mr Stephen Twigg and local MPs, Muzahid has frequently donated his restaurant without any charge for countless, successful fund-raising occasions.

He has raised thousands of pounds and personally donated funds to the Nightingale Hospice, Rotary International's Polio Plus Appeal, The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, Halliwick Centre, Chicken Shed Theatre, Enfield Good Samaritan Network, SFL MAD & MCEC the Muslim Community & Education Centre. In the immediate aftermath of the Tottenham riots he personally assisted in the clean-up operation and sup-

plied hundreds of cooked meals from his restaurant to fellow Rotary club volunteers without charge.

In 1998, he set-up the Dipali and Barnet Bulldogs Junior School Basketball Club, a pilot programme which provided free and heavily subsidised tuition to over 25,000 young people, across 70 Junior and primary schools and 25 secondary schools in the London Borough of Barnet. Within the Basketball Club, he helped several financially disadvantaged youths attend training camp in Oregon, USA. 45 of them were awarded scholarships to attend various high schools across America. He has since then further supported the London Borough of Barnet's Sports Development Unit.

As Senior Vice President of the Bangladesh Caterers Association UK, which represents 12,000 restaurants and offers voluntary assistance to 90,000 staff members, Muzahid is one of the donors of BCA House 403 building on Harrow Road. He has donated to the SHSC Maternity Hospital aid, in rural village of Moulvibazar, and the Just Help Eye Hospital and National Heart Foundation in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

He is a member of Edmonton Rotary Club, life member of London Bangla Press Club, life member of The Friends of Bangladesh UK, member of Bisho Shahity Kendro (BSK) UK, Vice President of Jalalabad Association UK.

In his spare time, Muzahid writes poetry. He published a poetry book "Khuji baluchore jhore jawa suna".

He is married to Saleha Choudhury they have been blessed with three daughters who have successful careers with the NHS, law and policy.



M Jinnat Ali Chowdhury

Sector:
Law

Chowdhury M Jinnat Ali is a practising solicitor in England and Wales and a practising advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh with over 20 years of comprehensive experience in the legal field. Over the years, Mr Ali has practised in a broad range of matters and has developed considerable experience in the legal field.

Mr Ali's expertise lies in property and real estate. He is renowned for his exceptional leadership qualities and experience in dealing with both commercial and residential conveyancing matters, as well as landlord and tenant disputes. He is well known for his exceptional client relationship and communication skills, and his clients always return to him for further services.

Mr Ali completed his LLB (Honours) and LLM at the University of Chittagong. He obtained a further LLB (Honours) from the University of London, in 2004 as well as LLM in International and Comparative Business Law from London Metropolitan University. He has also obtained LLM in International Business Law from the University of Gloucestershire in the year 2011.

In addition to being a Solicitor in England and Wales, Mr Ali is also an Advocate in the Judges Court in Bangladesh since 1998 and the Supreme Court of Bangladesh since 2001. Amongst many prominent cases and clients that he represented, he was also the Advocate for the third Respondent, Muktijoddha

Kalyan Trust, in the landmark Fifth Amendment Case. This case is known for voiding the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of Bangladesh. This has had a significant impact on the Bangladeshi Constitution and he is proud to say that he is a part of this.

He is involved with a few human rights organisations currently. He is the president of the International Human Rights Convention in London Chapter. He is also the Chief advisor of the Access to Human Rights International. Being a firm believer in Human Rights, he is eternally grateful to be part of this huge convention and he believes that he is making a change to society, promoting democracy and helping others in need of help.

Mr Ali enjoys spending time with his children, watching movies, reading novels and singing. He is an avid fan of cricket and enjoys photography as a hobby. He believes in living a life with morals and values appreciating the small and simple things life has to offer.

As an individual with all these diverse qualities, he has decided to set up his own solicitors firm called J Stifford Solicitors in 2013 in East London and also set up a branch of this firm in Manor Park, London.

Henna Chowdhury was born in Syhlet Bangladesh in 1975. She settled in Worthing, West Sussex at the age of 10 with her mother, younger sister and older brother. Henna attended the Girls High School in Worthing where she excelled and achieved excellent exam results despite only learning English on her arrival in Britain a few short years earlier.

Following her education Henna enjoyed a short but productive career in the Civil Service before marrying and devoting her time to raising a young and boisterous family.

Councillor Chowdhury has always had a keen interest in the community and is especially concerned with equality of opportunity and equal rights for all.

Whilst raising her family she was involved as an advocate for youth and child support and acted as a community interpreter for a number of organizations involved in domestic violence.

Mrs Chowdhury has worked for local charities supporting BME women in their struggle to overcome racial and intra-community prejudice, domestic violence and lack of educational provision. Henna has worked for charities and local businesses along the entire south coastal strip providing educational courses and training in health and hygiene, business funding as well as organizing community events and charity fundraising with a special emphasis on Womens Rights and Equality.

For a short 7 month period in 2010 Henna had a complete change of direction and was a presenter on Bangla TV where she hosted a music channel show broadcast to the UK and Europe.

With her keen sense of social justice and fairness for all Henna felt the need to do more, to lead the way for Ethnic, especially Bengali, women, showing them that they have a voice and an important part to play in a successful, modern British multicultural, multi-ethnic society and as such she joined the Labour Party in 2017 where she is currently BAME Officer.

In late 2018 Henna was adopted to fight the safe Conservative ward of Gaisford in the 2019 Worthing Borough Council Elections, a ward which had been in Conservative control for over 50 years. Despite the partys poor showing nationally Henna won the ward with a landslide victory, achieving a swing to Labour of 13%. This victory made Henna the first female Muslim councillor in the history not only of Worthing but of West Sussex and was reported worldwide, a fact she is immensely proud of as it is an encouragement for women with no background in politics or business to come forward, to make a difference and to have a voice.

Henna was elected onto both the licensing committee and the overview and scrutiny committees of Worthing Council following her election and has been a devoted advocate promoting both local businesses and the accountability of public servants ever since.

Henna married in 1995 and has three beautiful daughters, Fariha, Mariya and Tasnim. Fariha has just graduated from Queen Mary University London with a degree in Psychology. Mariya is in her 2nd year at college, whilst Tasnim is in her last year at the same Girls High School Henna attended. Henna's husband Milad is a well known and respected local businessman.



Cllr Henna Chowdhury

Sector:
Politics

Reshmin Chowdhury has over 18 years of experience as a multilingual journalist and sports broadcaster, interviewing some of the biggest names in world football.

A familiar figure with BBC Sport, BT Sport and Talksport, she works across the Premier League, UEFA Champions League, Europa League, FIFA World Cups, top flight women's football, FA Cups, Wimbledon, BDO Darts as well as the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Other credits include hosting the UEFA Champions League Draw three years in a row and The BEST FIFA Football Awards green carpet.

Reshmin spent two seasons at Real Madrid TV where she worked in English, Spanish and French, conducting the world exclusive interview with Cristiano Ronaldo.

Having begun her career at Reuters TV, she honed her skills as a producer at ITV, BBC News and Bloomberg TV. Previous work has taken her as far afield as Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

A mother-of-two, Reshmin is passionate about food and fitness, as well as the need for positive female

role models for young girls - and even more so, for her young boys!



Reshmin Chowdhury

Sector:
Media



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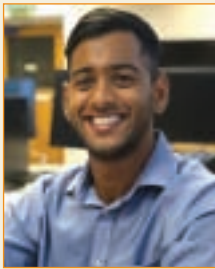
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Shaheenur Choudhury

Sector:
Engineer

Shaheenur Choudhury was born in 1993 in England to his parents Dr Sanawar and Mrs Nasima Choudhury.

Graduating with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Brunel University, Shaheenur has gone on to becoming a Chartered Engineer and gaining a Masters in Fluid Dynamics from Cranfield University. Working at Hayward Tyler Plc, he was recently headhunted by the civil service to transform UK energy policy and management over the next 10 years.

Shaheenur works closely with his siblings, elder sister Nazma and younger brothers Shajahan and Shafiul, to managing a number of multi-million-pound family businesses, located in the UK and Bangladesh.

Shaheenur enjoys sports, travelling and being actively involved in directing the family's charity - the Choudhury Foundation - helping educate future generations of impoverished children to support themselves in Sylhet and his parental birthplace, Khashila, Jagganathpur.



Haji Abdul Gaffar

Sector:
Catering

Haji Abdul Gaffar aka Lil Miah came to the UK in 1972 where his father and older brother were already settled and worked in the leather factory of East London. Lil Miah was told to study but didn't like it.

His first job was at Bombay Kitchen in Cambridge where he became a chef within one year and left to set up his own place New Delhi restaurant in Bridge, North Shropshire in 1973. He sold in this restaurant 1975 and moved to Lewisham in London where he partnered up with Sayed Abu Sufian and the Himalay brand was set up.

His success story continued, along with his 2 brothers they opened up 3 more branches of Himalaya in Whetstone in North London (1978), Leighton Buzzard (1982) and Wilmslow (1983).

The jewel in the crown for Lil was the opening of the Day of The Raj in Mill Hill in 1987 which at that time was one of the largest Indian restaurants in London.

It was a real trend setter and trail blazed the way for all future Indian restaurants, winning local and national awards by the handful every year. It was one of the most successful businesses in his empire and is still revered around the country and the brand is still going strong.

He has also owned and been partners with many other restaurants/take aways and other businesses both here and in Bangladesh.

Founding member of BCA and also the Bangladesh House in the City of London, Member of Barnet Bangladesh Association, advisor of many other associations and is always around for advice and moral support.

His business acumen and helping his fellow owners and staff has kept him in high esteem with everyone. He has been influential in many ways to the current restaurant owners and staff and he has always been selfless in his giving to others.

He has also been heavily involved in charity work both here in the UK and Bangladesh setting up his own charity Al Madina Welfare Trust in 2000 helping the poor and destitute in Bangladesh.

Md Rajib Hasan is a Software Engineer, Digital entrepreneur, Journalist, and Writer. He is currently holding the position of Senior Web Developer of Tech Loge. He has started his career as a software engineer from Bangladesh.

Rajib is a Managing director of British Bangladeshi Renowned Newspaper Weekly Bangla News in London and UKBDNEWS.com before he became Head of News of NTV Europe. He has been subsequently started his career as a journalist.

He studied Bsc in Computer Science and Engineering and Masters Degree on MBA from Cardiff Metropolitan University, with His strong media and tech background, he like to keep active advises Startups on Marketing and Digital communication strategies.

He has published the first Novel on 2016 Book Fair in Bangladesh. Titled "Otopor Robot ", it is based on Romance and Robotics development in the UK and his 2nd Novel Published on 2017. Titled "Otopor Mowmita ", it is based on Romance and USA Silicon valley tech lifestyle.

Rajib Hasan also working as an executive director of Meena Bazar to promote Community cohesion and

Create a pathway between local businesses and women to promote social enterprising and supporting women to become an entrepreneur.

He is working hard with the digital entrepreneur to teach how to generate income from home-based. Rajib has also now started helping online expertise people to receive accredited training and help them to find home-based income way. He is a founder member of UK Bangla Press Club.

Rajib Hasan was Born in Barura Upazila in Cumilla son of Jalil Ahmed and Rena Noor. He is married to Jan-natul Niyem Tamanna and is blessed with a beautiful Daughter Fatima Hasan Tahira .



Md Rajib Hasan

Sector:
Media

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

In 1997 Cllr Atiqul Hoque opened his first business at the tender age of 21, which was the chutneys Indian Takeaway in Salisbury, Wiltshire. However, from the opening of his first catering establishment, Cllr Hoque has gone from strength to strength and managed to open several more established eateries such as Chutney Restaurant in Shalisbury, Tandoori Nights in Amesbury and Hox Brasserie. Cllr Hoque has always had a passion for food and has recently opened a Thai restaurant in Salisbury. Cllr Hoque is also involved with a number of charitable organisations in Salisbury.

Since then he has tirelessly shown his determination and won the heart of his constituents and fellow colleagues which awarded him a very important role within the cabinet as Portfolio Holder for Art, Heritage and Tourism.

He is the Vice chairman of the south west Bangladeshi Caterers Association, joint cashier of the Muslim Association of Salisbury. Cllr Hoque became the first Conservative Bangladeshi Muslim elected in Salisbury council in Wiltshire. Cllr Hoque's long term plans are to set up a charity fund in his grand-parent's name. Furthermore, he seeks to build a

mosque and madrasa and settle near these institutes when he finally retires. Cllr Hoque is married with 5 children.



Cllr Atiqul Hoque

Sector:
Catering/Politics



Mohammed Jubair

Sector:

Media/ Journalist

Mohammed Jubair joined the leading British Bangladeshi TV station Channel S on 2006, and is currently the Chief Reporter at the station.

He is the co-producer of the CHS flagship live programme 'Reality With Mahee'.

Jubair was elected General Secretary of London Bangla Press Club in 2017 having worked in several voluntary roles over a 12 year period. Jubair was initially elected as Treasurer and Assistant Secretary twice and now General Secretary for a second term.

He was the one of the main drivers for establishing the club's own office as a Secretary in 2018.

He played an active role on all the major initiatives taken by the club including 170k fundraising.

Prior to coming to the UK, Jubair started as a journalist in Daily Jalalabad, Sylhet. He undertook his journalism training in 1996 at the Press Institute of Dhaka and started his Professional career thereafter. He participated on the training programme led by AFP and journalists from Reuters. Later trained with the BBC Academy and The Guardian Master Class in London. He also participated in various training led by Channel 4 and BBC.

Before joining Channel S he was the executive Editor for Weekly Euro Bangla. While in Bangladesh he was the staff Reporter in the most popular newspaper in Sylhet 'Daily Sylheter Dak', Executive Editor at Village Digest and Sylhet correspondent of Notun Din, UK. Also, he was feature writer/ Freelance Reporter on different periods for Daily Banglabazar Paper, Daily Prothom Alo, Manabzamin and Shoili.

Along with journalism, Jubair is the Director of a Media and PR company MediaDot Ltd. He also worked as the media advisor to the Tower Hamlets Executive Mayor. He wrote a popular book based on rural life and reality named 'Gau Gerame Ghure Ghure'. He is the editor and joint editor on several publications.

As a Reporter Mohammed Jubair exclusively covered Gordon Brown as Prime Minister. Covered events with Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron, Theresa May, Prince Charles and Camilla, and the Duchess of Cornwall.

Jubair has interviewed prominent people including the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, Boris Johnson as the Mayor of London, UK and many more.

He received an award from Canary Wharf Group Plc in recognition of his leadership of the Press Club and contribution to society. He also received Sunrise today Media Awards and Eastwood awards for 'Best TV news reporter category'.



Moinul Islam

Sector:

Literature/Community Relations

Moinul's commitment to working with the community hasn't stopped since, regardless of where he has lived whether it's working for the Citizens Advice Bureau or volunteering at local community organisations balancing his passion and full time employment extremely well.

In 2000, Moinul moved to Oldham during the time of the Oldham riots, he realised straight away that work needed to be done to build community cohesion and reduce the segregation. Working in secondary education, Moinul realised that there were very few opportunities for the local young people to pursue any hobbies or try any physical activities outside of the school curriculum. He went on to set up his first non organisation called Outta Skool with no funding just determination and drive to make it work.

The organisation now employs over 15 full time and part time staff delivering over 150 hours of organised activities every month. Within the organisation Moinul runs Football Club, Amatuer Boxing Club, Muay Thai Club, Taekwondo Club, Dance Club and Kabaddi Northwest Academy. Moinul is the first in the country to develop and deliver Kabaddi as part of GCSE PE syllabus. He has brought the Boishaki Mela to Oldham on a grand scale as well as the Nowka Bais Northwest. The aims of the organisation are to bring communities together, create opportunities and reduce barriers to participation. To date he has worked with over 8000 young people.

Moinul went on to develop a 12 week lifestyle changing programme called "Let's Get Active" for adults and children with long term illnesses such as Type 2 Diabetes, Obesity, Mental Health etc which has led Moinul to set up his second Social Enterprise "Let's Get Active Community CIC". The programme has made a difference to the lives of over 1200 people so far. Rigorous data collection and independent reports show huge social and clinical impact and potential to save the NHS millions. He is currently working with the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups to expand the services locally and nationally.

In 2010, Moinul pursued his dream to write a mainstream children's book and made it a reality after his first book in the series "Anisha's Adventures" was published and has had his second and third book published since. He is currently working on turning his book into a cartoon and is in talks with mainstream children's TV channels.

Highlighted awards to date: Channel S television Award, Pride in Oldham amongst several others.

Mr. Abu Sufian was born in Tootpara in the Khulna District of Bangladesh. He is the son of the late Alhaj Dr. Munsur Ahmed. He completed his Masters in Physics in 2001.

Sufian is currently running Property, Money Transfer, Travels & Cargo business. He is passionate about sports and established two clubs. Sufian is the Chairman of London Cricket League (LCL) and Founder President of Sundarban Foundation & Greater Khulna Association, UK. He makes time for charity work and sponsored numbers of charities both in the UK and overseas. He has various business interest within the UK & abroad and his engagements with local business & community leaders is noticeable.

Mr Sufian's real passion in life is Cricket. In Bangladesh Sufian played at the highest level of domestic cricket from 1992 until 2002. He has played at many levels, including semi-professional. He has pleasure helping others, he wanted to create opportunities for young people who lacked vision in life and needed guidance.

Abu has been with London Cricket League (LCL) from its inception as one of the co- founders in 2016. His dedication, contribution and on-going voluntary commitment to LCL and the managing committee has been above and beyond. He is the leading member who established LCL T20 Sunday League, UK-Bangla T10 Media Cup, UK Bangladeshi T10 Championship and popular com-

munity engaging Tape Ball tournament, Junior Cricket championship & Champion of Champion's T-10 Cricket tournament. London Cricket League is cricket partner with Sporting Foundation.

Abu played a vital role to establish LCL by organising different age group tournaments for both male and female players. He works selflessly dedicating his time and brings a wide range of skills and experience and continues to make an invaluable contribution to the local community.

Abu has also been involved in many social activities through Sundarban Foundation.

Over the past 4 years, he has built up and supported four clubs are Sundarban Sporting Club, Victoria park Cricket Club, Bow Tiger Cricket Club & Grassroots Sports Academy.

By engaging young people with sports and organising cricket tournaments Abu plays a vital role in steering our young generation away from anti-social behaviour and as such is Awarded of Canary Wharf Sports Voluntary Commitment Award 2019.

Sufian is married to Mrs Rafiqua Akhtar, and together they have two children Ardin Akhtar & Armin Akhtar.



Abu Sufian

Sector:
Business / Sports

Omar began his media career 13 years ago on TV and media in Bangladesh as a video editor for news ,current affairs and drama Serials for many tv channels. Omars media career has always been defined by his love for Bangladesh and passion for the Bangladeshi culture. Omar is well known in the Bangladeshi Community as a media person.

The fifth son of Mr. Nurul Islam, Omar took his Secondary and higher secondary education at Jhenaidah then was admitted in Dhaka College in Economics. He was the student of Economics but Culture and media was mixed in his blood. From the childhood he use to sing a song of Nashid, Modern and Desher songs.

In 2006, Diganta TV Opened and he Joined there as a Video Editor in Current affairs till 2008. After that he worked in many Media production Houses in Dhaka then came to the UK in 2010 to Study and joined Takbeer TV as a Graphics Designer and Video Editor, then joined NTV Europe in 2012 followed by ATN Bangla UK, Channel S TV, Bangla TV and IQRA TV Bangla as a Motion Graphics Designer and Video Editor. At the time of Iqra Bangla he discovered his inner talent as a Nashid Signer and TV presenter. He also worked as a Program Producer. In the meantime he learned many things about Media.

At the end of 2015 he left all TV Channels and Opened his own Online Channel named ASB Channel (Amar Shonar Bangl). With the online TV channel he tries to make different type of Programme for the community.

Faruk was also a Press club Member of London Bangla Press Club.

In 2017 he opened his new Company Named Blue Web UK which he has already designed more than 300 websites and customised software for different businesses. He now fully is involved in his IT Business. He opened his own office in Bangladesh and UK. More than 10 people working with Blue web. Blue web is now as a Domain and Hosting Provider company. People can buy any kinds of Domain from Blue web and this is the only Professional web service provider in the Bengali Community.



Omar Faruk

Sector:
Media



Cllr Humayun Kabir

Sector:
Politics

Mayor Humayun Kabir comes from Islam Pur, Jagannath Pur, Sunamganj but lived in Shapla Bagh in Sylhet and moved in UK after the independence of Bangladesh in 1972 with his parents former Headmaster Late Abdul Gafur BA-BT, and mother late Rukeya Begum Gafur.

He moved to Croydon and opened his first catering business in 1977. Now serving as Mayor of Croydon for 2019-20 he looks forward to working for the benefit of our wonderful community.

After studying his Bachelor of Education degree, he began a new career with Tower Hamlets Council - as a parent advocate & family support services manager. This incredibly fulfilling role has made supporting children with disabilities, and their families, a cause very close to his heart.

He has been actively involved in local politics for 17 years and served as a councillor since 2010 (representing Bensham Manor Ward). He previously served as a deputy cabinet member for economy & jobs, and for finance & treasury, plus he was vice chair of the planning committee for several years.

He first became involved in community work through what is now called the Croydon Bangladesh Welfare Association - which he was president for two terms. He was a founding member of the Asian Resource Centre and was part of the steering committee that helped to develop Shahjalal Mosque.

Whilst Mr Kabir was busy with his profession, community activities and family life in UK he maintained to strong link and relationship with Bangladesh. He was elected in 1994 as president of Sylhet Gonodabi Parishad UK which lobbied Bangladesh government with many issues that Probashi Bangladeshis were facing at that time. There were 3 different demands were prioritised to BD government and they were: to upgrade Sylhet airport to an international airport, to upgrade Sylhet district to a division, to have voting right of Bangladeshis as dual citizen. Mayor Kabir was a leading community leader to achieve these rights.

Furthermore, in order to raise social, economical and educational standard of Bangladeshis that he left behind mayor Kabir has taken up chairmanship of Aralia Bazar Education Trust, trusteeship in Jagannathpur British Bangla Education Trust UK (JBBET), Secretary ship of Patli Union Welfare Trust (PUWT), Donor Membership with Jagannathpur Unnoyon Shongstha UK (JUSS), and an honorary advisor to British Bangladeshi Society Croydon (BBSC). Mayor Kabir remained active in Bangladesh whilst serving his hometown the London Borough of Croydon.

Away from politics, he enjoys travelling and playing badminton.

He is married to Mayoress Rahena Chowdhury Kabir with three children, daughters Kuhinoor and Sumaiya, one son Mistaun and a daughter-in-law Mazedra.



Shams Uddin Khan

Sector:
Education

Mr Shams Uddin Khan is a renowned name in education consultancy both in the UK and Bangladesh. He is the founder director of Khan Associates which established in 2008. Although his business is closely tied with UK and Bangladesh, a good number of students from South East Asia, Middle East and Africa are familiar with his venture and relied on him for pursuing their higher education in the UK.

He achieved his MBA degree from the UK. He is a British Council certified agent who was awarded as the Highest Performing Agent in the most recent award ceremony of BPP University held in 2014. His firm was awarded for Highest Conversion Rate in the same event. He was the managing director of Smart-TEL UK.

Mr Khan promoted Bangladeshi heritage by welcoming thousands of Bangladeshi youngsters to the UK and contributed to the economy. He established a nexus between them and British education system with integrity and reassurance over the time. A significant number of students after completing the academic life secured their aspired career in own sectors. He has been featured in various community TV channels and newspapers with regards to his expertise.

Apart from his consultancy business, Mr Khan is devoted family person. He is particularly interested in travelling, sports and world politics.

Makdad Khan was born in 1982 in Sylhet , Bangladesh . He was educated at the renowned Sylhet Govt. Pilot High School and completed his BBA at the Madan Mohan University College .

The eldest of the four children of Mr Mahtab Khan, a successful businessman from Kalighat in Sylhet and Hena Begum both currently retired and residing in the city of New York, USA.

Mr Khan demonstrated the natural knack for business & trading from a very early stage of his life and assisted his father. He is an entrepreneur and a highly successful restaurateur in the South-East of United Kingdom.

During his University life his tenacious business aptitude became very apparent when he launched a visionary brand called the SkyTel Communications when internet and web activities' were very limited, and he took the height of his vision at a new level when it became the city's leading name for all web-activities, telecommunications and a hub for all out-sourcing work from abroad.

He also engaged himself in many social and charitable projects .He became the Organising Secretary of the "Prottoy Sports & Social Club"successfully launching a cricket career and regularly played for the then-popular 'White Mohammedan Sporting Club' a second division team in Bangladesh.

After arriving in the UK in 2003 for Higher Edu-

cation. With no support from his family Makdad started working at an Indian restaurant in Bromley. It did not take him too long to quickly realise that there is a huge potential in the curry industry which is being totally ignored and overlooked gradually by the next generation of the Curry Tycoons. So he started learning and developing his skills of being an all-rounder restaurateur with his heart and soul. he opened the 'Pink Garlic', his first own restaurant.

Mr Makdad Khan is a widely successful award winning restaurateur, but not limited to only restaurants as he has since invested and succeeded in real estate, auto industry and other sectors of catering & hospitality industry. He at present owns Agra in Beckenham , Indian Diner in West Wickham and Namaste in Swanley. He is also a NEC Member of Bangladesh Catering Association ,Joint Secretary of British Bangladesh Welfare Association Orpington and the Director of Regal Autos Ltd

Makdad is married to Waheeda he has a lovely daughter and two sons .Makdad loves to travel and whenever he finds a chance he is away with his family travelling through the Swiss Alps or in the old market of Istanbul or at the top of the Eiffel Tower



Makdad Khan

Sector:
Catering

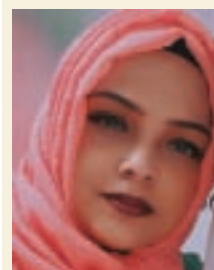
Monzo ara khaton (Moni) was born in Bangladesh. She has been completed her bachelor and masters of social science in government and politics from the Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology at Dhaka, Bangladesh. In 2011 She did her PGD in business management (level -7) London Churchill College. She did lots of training courses like fashion design, air hostage training, news presentation and radio announcement, PTTLS teacher's training course.(level-3)UK etc.

She was a director of Ideal Co-operative society and Grandmother Co-operative society of Bangladesh, and also worked as a teacher of mass child and adult education project. Long time she used to working with independent women's project UK and Bangladesh. She works as vice president of all European Bangladesh Association and president of east London Women's branch. In 2018 Monzo has been awarded for her involvement, performance and hard working in the community of London tiger poplar HARCA.

Her independent women's project donated lots of equipment for villagers and homeless poor people in Bangladesh however she is also a problem solver. She established herself as a famous fashion designer and entrepreneur. She own an exclusive fashion house in Bangladesh and a fashion design training center in UK. She teach a boutique, tailoring, sewing, cutting, alterations etc. For voluntary purpose she teaches

weekly for local peoples from her training center. She works as volunteer for switching event which involves recycling and exchange clothes for the local community for free and which takes place at Brownfield cabin in poplar E14.

She organize fashion show, cloth fashion fare , picnic , boat tour etc in every year from "Aberfeldy Big Local" She involve with Udichi Shilpi Gosthi in UK. She is a reliable, hardworking and trust worthy person. Monzo ara khaton (Moni) is married to Md Ashraful Islam and she blessed with two children boy and girl .Their name is Bishway Zishan and Maria Zaara.



Monzo ara khaton (Moni)

Sector:
Community relation and social work.



Barrister Monirul Islam (Monju)

Sector:
Law

Barrister Monirul Islam (Monju) was born in Charijania, Nangolkot, comilla, Bangladesh. He is the son of Mr Mobarak Ali and late Safia Begum. Though his full name is Md Monirul Islam, he is well known as Barrister Monju.

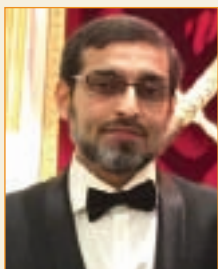
Barrister Islam started his school life at his village school and passed secondary from Luxmipudia High school, Nangolkot, comilla in 1992. He completed his higher Secondary (HSC) from Notre Dame College Dhaka in 1994. After successful completion of HSC he completed LLB (Hons) and LLM from the University of Chittagong, Bangladesh respectively in 1999 and 2001.

With view to becoming a Barrister he came to the United Kingdom in February 2003. He completed further LLB(Hons) from the University of London and Bar Vocational Course (BVC) from the university of the West of England, Bristol (UWE) respectively in 2009 and 2011. After completing BVC he had his call to the Bar and became a Barrister from the Honourable Society of Grays Inn in July 2011. Barrister Monirul Islam qualified as a Solicitor of supreme court of England and Wales in February 2014. Mr Islam also studied International Banking and Finance Law at University of West London and International business Law from the University of Gloucestershire.

Mr Islam is currently working as principal of Law Valley. As a solicitor he has been working for the community over the years and became part of many successful cases. Apart from his profession, he has been working for the community since long time. He is very much interested in politics since his boyhood. He was Organising secretary of Awami Ainjibi Porishad UK. Currently he is the chair of Labour Party Stepney Green ward and actively working for the local community.

Mr Islam is a very popular Television personality. He has been taking part in different TV live talk show specially based on contemporary politics and social issues since 2009. He has participated more than 400 TV show in the UK and in Bangladesh. He also runs a legal advising program on Iqra Bangla TV UK called 'Law & Order'. He is founding secretary of Comilla Association UK and he is the founder of Student Welfare Scholarship fund, Luxmipudia, Comilla. Moreover, Mr Islam is taking part in may other charitable, social and community activities.

He is married to Mrs Mymuna Akhter (Muna) who is a Sociology graduate and he is father of 3 children. He loves reading and travelling.



Jahir Miah MIOBEng(Hons)

Sector:
Finance

Jahir Miah is a UK-based Financial GURU, International Professional City Trader, Capital Market Researcher, Educator, Philanthropist who has over 23 years of experience in the financial industry spanning across whole over the World plus, a Research Scientists for EPSRC & some of the biggest Mining companies since 2000.

He is an expert in the area of patterns, price and time analysis as it applies to Capital Markets and an Advisor for several World's Biggest Financial Institutions and held NED positions in different multinational companies. He is founder of several companies across the World including few Multimillion Pound Financial Fund Management and advisory companies which are expanding across the World. Having managed regional teams across Europe, India and Bangladesh, focusing on analytics across both corporate and financial institutions, his experience includes building financial products/tools for investment banks, risk management and analytics, considering key risk drivers including Commodities, Equities, Forex, Hospitality industry, Property Management, Real Estate development etc.

He has written extensively for novice traders and his current focus is on developments relating to the financial markets including, but not limited to FX, Commodities, and Alternative Asset Classes and emerging Country's Equities. He provides on demand educational services for investors looking to improve their trading. His current work is in the Blockchain space as a consultant with Oxford University for a va-

riety of companies and Crypto Currencies.

Jahir has a proven track record of making 100% profits within a week and his maximum profit was more than 4600% within 4 days. He is renowned for his Equity and FX Trading around the World for many years.

Jahir is one of the 11 Engineers who holds the title EUROPEAN ENGINEER in the World and there won't be anymore. He has recommended improvements of different things with his Research for EPSRC including "Improvement of Bullet Proof Vest".

Jahir is an open minded person and like to share his success with everyone. The objective of his life is to help others especially needy people to maximise greater good of the humanity as much as possible with his humble efforts.

Jahir gained his education from Bangladesh Air Force Shaheen College, Bangladesh, Salford University, UMIST, University of Manchester and Oxford University.

Jahir holds positions as Chairman and CEO of JBBB Group, Executive Vice Chairman of Miah's Majestic Hotels & Resorts, Hotel Zakaria International, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Howard Johnson, Days Inn (WYNDHAM Hospitality Group) Dhaka, Bangladesh, Executive Vice Chairman Altaf Group, Brothers Brick Fields Limited, Brothers Real Estate Limited, Brothers Shopping Malls Limited, Koli Ceramic Industry Limited, EPSRC - Research Analysts & Advisor, AEA - Research Analysts and Independent Financial Advisor and Consultant.

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Motin Miah

Sector:
Entrepreneur

Motin is a bright, hardworking and a very ambitious individual who has gained experience in people and project management. Every decision, good or bad, has been a learning experience and has brought him to where he is today. He worked for many blue chip companies after graduation and then for the Ministry of Defence, predominantly on counter measure defence system, prior to becoming self-employed.

His first restaurant opened in 2003 and immediately was a success. He became one of the first generation of Bengali run professional Thai Restaurants and Bars, with an accumulation of 14 restaurants at its peak. The majority of these were later sold, to enable him to move into property development. Today he has a modest property portfolio in the UK and abroad.

Motin is also a Director at Windsor Hotel, a bespoke 5-star hotel in Sylhet, Bangladesh which has been under construction since November 2018 with opening expected in 2021. Other directorships include one of the biggest and long established double glazing company in Bangladesh.

His passion doesn't just focus on the business world but also the community, with a personal desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed with his time and generous donation of money to good causes. He is personally affiliated with several charities including C.A.P (Community Against Poverty – Ambassador), Amir Khan - Water AID, Macmillan, RFC (Ramadan Family Commitment – Ambassador) as well as other local charities.

His community projects include involvement in Asian films and Arts ventures. The latest being an executive producer: Forgotten Roots Season 2. This reality-based programme showcases everything that is to be a British Bangladeshi. He also helps local community in embassy matters at the local surgery.

Motin is also involved at senior management level with Bangladeshi Cricketer Supporters Association and British Bangladesh Caterers Association.



Aleha Muktedir

Sector:
Childcare

Aleha Muktedir is the first British Bangladeshi woman to open a nursery, named First Steps, in Luton, and is currently the Director Manager and Special Education Needs (SEN) Co-Ordinator.

With over 20 years of experience in changing lives of all ages, she has been recognised as a leading role model in the South Asian Community. Her accomplishments began with studying and working around family life after having 2 children. She then went onto achieving and Early Years BA HONs Degree and acquired an Early Years Professional Status with Anglian Ruskin University. She built experience working as a Family Worker, especially supporting the vulnerable Bengali speaking families who needed English Interpretation.

With the passion of giving back to the community, she supported women with ESOL classes, Literacy and IT classes, Special Educational Needs (SEN) support, Prenatal classes for expectant mothers and support in Domestic Abuse cases. In truly a heart-felt move, over 1,000 signatures from the families that Aleha had positively impacted was presented in petition to extend her contract when it came to an end.

Aleha's personal life has driven her to challenge the Bengali cultural taboo of women succeeding in the workplace and business field, without comprising her dedication to help her community thrive. Strengthening and educating struggling families has been the forefront of her motivation; leading to her providing specialised support for Bengali families with children who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. As a trained Portage Practitioner, whereby home visiting and close parent partnerships are carried out, for maximum holistic support of the child, not limited to just nursery hours. Furthermore, she annually organises summer camps for

children with behaviour challenges and organises community trips to various locations, such as Disneyland Paris to help encourage families (especially low-income households) to spend quality time with each other. She strongly believes in the importance of celebrating achievements and shows this through organising Graduations Ceremonies for children at her nursery. Aleha also volunteers in charity work, she is part of a charity organisation called 'Team Insannium', who aid the vulnerable in Bangladesh, especially the stateless Rohingya Muslim families.

As well as being fully qualified Safeguarding Officer, she prides herself on being up to date with policy and procedures such as First Aid and dealing with children and families and even working closely with professionals within Luton Borough Council.

Taken inspiration from the mother, her eldest daughter has a BSc HONs in Psychology, Counselling and Therapy and currently helps support Expat mothers in Dubai, United Emirates, through media and mummy events, whilst juggling married life with 2 toddler children. Her youngest daughter has a BA HONs in Education and Early Years, has accumulated extensive experience working with Young Adults and children with Special Needs with the reputed Autism Bedfordshire. She is currently working as a Special Needs Teacher at a Primary School. In her spare time, Aleha enjoys spending time with family; friends and her grandchildren in Dubai. She takes part in Women's only Kick Boxing classes. Her future goal is to open a sensory space for children with additional needs and provide quality parent support within the facility. Also, investigate setting up a facility in Bangladesh to help support and educate vulnerable children and their families.

Abdul Karim Nazim is a very successful businessman, property developer and community activist.

It all started in 1963, when Abdul Karim Nazim's father and uncle opened Maharani in Camden. At this point the Clapham branch was already opened but his father was not involved. His father was his role model as he was growing up so he wanted to get involved in the family business too. In 1984 Nazim joined the family business and has been involved ever since.

Since being involved in the business, there are a lot of things that motivate him but also make him smile. For example, being based on Camden High Street, he gets to meet new people from different background every day as Camden is a huge tourist attraction. Also being able to maintain a good relationship with his regular customers and local businesses is his favourite would be his favourite part in having a business. Furthermore, being one of the oldest restaurants in Camden, more and more people wish to come and visit them, making their loyalty to Camden High Street their unique selling point. As he has worked in Indian restaurants from a young age, he understood the industry a lot more and re-

alised that he would need to create some different flavours in order for him to stand out. As he is from Bangladeshi heritage, he knew about the ingredients used in an Indian restaurant which is why he was able to create his speciality dishes with ease. They cater for all palettes, whether you like your curry extremely mild or extremely hot with desi twist. Motivation plays a big role in any business, and it is up to the owner/manager to ensure that the staff is motivated. His head chef has been with him for over 20 years along with one of his waiters. Due to this loyalty, he makes sure they enjoy working at Maharani.

As this is the 21st century, it is crucial to be using and keeping up to date with modern technology. They started off with using the basic Just eat machines but as social media is a huge thing now, they are slowly getting onto social media platforms. They are already on Instagram.

It is not easy to run a to make it a successful business but the key ingredient to doing so is being patient and love what you are doing. If you don't love the industry you are in, you will not love your business enough to make it a success.



Abdul Karim Nazim

Sector:
Business

Nasir Jilani serves as a Firefighter and is attached to a fire station in South London.

Nasir was promoted to the rank of Crew Commander this year, this means he is an Officer In Charge or an Incident Commander at various types of operational emergency incidents and can be mobilised to any part of London at any time.

He joined the London Fire Brigade (LFB) in early January 2006 and is one of the first British Bangladeshi's to serve in the LFB.

Nasir was born in 1979 in the Sylhet division of Bangladesh.

His late father Janfor came to the UK in the 1950's as a young man in search for a better life, to work and to provide for his family.

Initially he settled in the Yorkshire region and worked in the local factories as a machine operator.

Nasir's father was a selfless man who always put other's first. Throughout the 1960's and 1970's he assisted numerous people, including his own extended family members and friends to settle in the UK and to this day those family members, friends, their children and grandchildren approach Nasir to acknowledge and appreciate that without Nasir's father's assistance they probably would not be where they are in life and that he was such a great man.

In the mid 1980's Nasir as a child, his mother and siblings emigrated to the United Kingdom. Nasir spent his early years in the Limehouse district of the East End of London before moving to Bethnal Green.

His home was above a fire station during his childhood

and was the source of his inspiration to become a Firefighter. After attending college, Nasir was thrilled to get through the Firefighter selection process in 2004/5.

For Nasir, it has always been about serving the community he grew up in, helping those that are less fortunate and assisting those that are vulnerable in the Bangladeshi community due to generational, language and cultural barriers. Nasir always reminds himself that it's important to remember one's roots and to give something positive back to those who look up to him as a role model.

At the request of the Muslim Council of Britain Nasir made a YouTube video for them in 2011, (Role Models- British Muslim Professionals Serving the Community), this was to highlight the excellent contributions made by British Muslims in the emergency services, particularly during times of heightened security alerts in the UK.

Nasir was twice voted as a finalist runner up in the Civil Servant and Muslim in the Community categories at the British Muslim Awards 2016 & 2019 as well as carrying out radio interviews for other organisations, his profile also appeared in the 2015 edition of BB Power & Inspiration in the Uniform Section and many other publications.

Nasir has been involved in a number of outreach initiatives over the years with the LFB including the Notting Hill Carnival and the Boishakhi Mela which are held annually. Nasir also, on a regular basis gets involved in charities and donations particularly with organisations in Bangladesh, the UK Firefighter's Charity and Balaganj Educational Trust to name a few.



Nasir Jilani

Sector:
FireFighter/Fire & Rescue Service



Ashiqur Rahman

Sector:
Tourism

A successful travel and tourism entrepreneur in the UK Ashiqur Rahman is the owner of Imran Travels which is situated in Whitechapel in East London. He came to London in 1996 from Dhakhkhin Surma in Sylhet. , he never thought he would be a businessman. Rather, he wanted to be a teacher.

He passed his HSC from well-established MC University College then completed his Masters degree in Chemistry from Chittagong University. He worked part-time as a professor in Modon mohon College and in Ambarkhana Government Girls College.

Any success in life requires honesty, hard work and determination. Ashiqur Rahman truly believes these in his heart. Imran Travels started its journey from Whitechapel in East London. Now it has spread all over the UK. There are agents of Imran Travels in almost every city in the United Kingdom.

Ashiqur rahman's Imran travels not only dealing with Biman Bangladesh Airlines, he is the main agent of Emirates, Qatar, Saudia, Royal Jordan, Kuwait, Turkish and many more airlines.

At one stage of his traveling business, he was selected as Certified Agent of Biman Bangladesh Airlines in 2011. He was successful there too. Within four years, in 2015, he became the best Sales Agent of Biman in the whole world.

Ashiqur Rahman has built himself simultaneously as a successful organizer as well as a successful businessman. He has been serving as the General Secretary of UKBATA for a long time. He is currently serving at the same position.

Ashiqur Rahman is keen to add more touches in his current success of business. He has planned to expand his business so that it can be integrated more with time and technology. He believes that human beings are not only to earn money, wealth or for themselves.

He has two children , his daughter is currently studying medicine in University of Buckingham and son is studying Economics in Leicester University.



Cllr Zenith Rahman

Sector:
Politics

Zenith Rahman is a renowned and respected social entrepreneur and community activist.

She has been passionately serving multi-cultural communities across the UK since the early 1980's, starting her career at the Montefiore Education Centre.

She gained immense popularity following the establishment of the Bromley-by-Bow Centre alongside Lord Andrew Mawson. The Centre focuses primarily on the development and enhancement of community health, education and business enterprise. The centre has many strategic partnerships with likes of St Paul's Way School, Guinness Trust and Poplar Harca. It's activities have been globally recognised and used as a benchmark for other social organisations and projects. Zenith is still actively involved with the Centre as the Vice President and has been honoured with the title of 'Mother of the Centre'.

She has also worked on various international social and health programmes with NGO's such as VARD and has successfully held knowledge sharing sessions with the worlds largest NGO BRAC on poverty social welfare.

Her work has received many acknowledgments and recognitions in her respected field, such as, the European Community Hero Award by the Bank of America.

She previously sat on the board for both Toy House Library and Kobi Nazrul Centre.

At present she is a elected Labour Councillor for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

G10



Lutfur Rahman

Sector:
Law

Barrister Luftur Rahman (FCILEx) is a prominent lawyer, businessman and community activist widely known in the diaspora Bangladeshi community in the UK.

Mr. Rahman was born in 1973 at Osmani Nagar, Bangladesh. He is the eldest son of renowned freedom fighter and social leader Late Hazi Rofiqur Rahman and Mrs Komorun Nessa. He, along with his siblings, spent his childhood at Akandia (Khadimpur). He completed his higher secondary education from MC College, Sylhet in 1991. As a student leader he played an active role in the anti-Ershad movement of 1990.

After completing his graduation Mr Rahman decided to study law to fulfil his dream and pursue a career in legal practice. Accordingly, he was enrolled at Bhuiyan Academy, Dhaka to study Bachelor of Laws as an external student of the University of London. He completed his first year of LLB course in Bangladesh and came to the UK as a student in 1996. He completed his Bachelor of Laws from the University of London in 1999 and was called to the bar at the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 2000. Mr Rahman endeavoured to materialise his career plan and started legal practice with a firm of solicitors in East London in 2002. Their firm Universal Legal centre was recognised with the best representative award from the Home Office for Sector Based Scheme (SBS) project introduced in 2003. Due to his enthusiasm, passion and sincerity Lutfur obtained name and fame among the

community, in particular Bangladeshi immigrants. He has been supported in this journey by his wife Barrister Nahid Sultana Parvin who was also called to the bar in 2000 and started her legal practice with him.

Mr. Rahman, a qualified Chartered Legal Executive Lawyer and Commissioner for Oaths, has been pursuing his legal practice in immigration, civil, family, housing and commercial disputes. He remained in his practice in East London and currently practices with Saint Martin Solicitors where he leads the immigration team.

He is also very keen about legal research on international and Bangladesh perspectives. He regularly attends live television programmes and provides with necessary advice and comments on immigration related matters. He is a regular guest on NTV's live show "Work Permit" telecasted on Sky 757.

Lutfur and Mrs Parvin are blessed parents of their son Danyaal who achieved outstanding grades in his GCSE this year and enrolled at Harris Westminster. Their daughters Lamees and Nuha go to a top-ranking London school.

His mother's motivation was really significant given the circumstances that his grandfather late Ustar Miah (also known as Moden Miah) migrated to the United States in 1947 following his time as a prisoner of WWII in Japan and later Mr Miah's four brothers migrated to the UK.

He enjoys travelling around the world with his family, meeting new people and learning their cultures.



Mizanur Rahman Mizan

Sector:
Philanthropist

Mizanur was Born in Sylhet Bangladesh. He moved to the UK in 1990 after finishing his degree under the Chittagong University.

Mizanur Rahman Mizan is a well known businessman, community activist and Journalist.

He started charity work since he was a high school student, by giving clothes, food and water to the extreme poor in Sylhet Bangladesh. He is a Former hockey player of the Bangladesh national team as well as he played for two top clubs in Bangladesh called, Dhaka Mohamadan and Dhaka Abahani and was the captain of Dhaka Abahani 1988. He also is a life time member Sylhet Red crescent. He started charity work and later on set up his own charity called Just Help Foundation which has been running since 2007.

The charity organisation has helped many people in Bangladesh and the organisation is helping with education, providing clean water, sanitation, rickshaw project and building houses for the poor.

The big example of work was the Shihab cancer Appeal who was 7 years old, Hafiz Iqbal heart surgery 21 years old, Azua Enam who had a hole in his heart and was 2 years old, Borsha who was 5 years old and had heart disease, the Burn victims, the poor families support such as help with the wedding of daughters of widows, Bangladesh Sidr Cyclone which hit the south coast of Bangladesh in 2007, Ag Para mosque, Jollarpar mosque, Burhan Uddin Madrasa.

In all of these projects Mizan managed to raise more than £150k, the biggest project being the Just Help Eye hospital, Gowainghat Sylhet. These include over 700 cataract operations and it is completely free of charge for the poor people.

Mizanur Rahman Mizan the founder and chairman of Just

Help foundation has been working as a journalist for the past 21 years, he also is involved with different organisations such as North England Bangladeshi TV Journalist association which he is the president of, chairman of labour friends of Bangladesh (Tameside & Greater Manchester) vice chairman of Hyde Jamia Mosque, Bureau Chief Manchester of Channel S, Founder member of Tameside rotary club, NHS trust, interfaith Organisation and also a member of The London Bangla press club as well other respectable organisations. He also played an active role in the community, as a community activist he achieved many recognition from different organisations and was awarded the best community activist award 2008 which was given channel S, Joy tell community award 2015, Burnley Jamia Mosque and Islamic centre lifetime community achievement 2016, Pride in Hyde 2017.

Desh Foundation UK awarded and Mizan the best charity organisation in the UK in 2017, Lifetime sports personality award given by Amana foundation 2016, Hyde Bangladesh welfare association was awarded the best community in 2016 also he has received many recognition from other organisations. Just help foundation has also been active in the UK and has helped with treatment, supporting schools and local clubs to keep young people busy with education and sports so they can have the best future possible.

Every year Mizan runs an A level and GCSE award praising the outstanding students of all culture and backgrounds, he has also set up a youth sports club which has been running successfully for 2 years and the main objective of this club is to keep the youth distracted from drugs and antisocial behaviour by playing sports activities, He also runs his own business called Mizan property Solutions as well as Adnans Restaurant Hyde, Manchester.

Mohammad Yousuf was born in 1947, in Sadar, Sylhet, in the year that Pakistan and India had just become independent from the British Empire. He completed his primary and secondary education in Sylhet, and graduated in 1968 from MC College, also obtaining an LLB from Chitagong University.

At the time of the liberation movement in 1971, Mohammad Yousuf took an active role, becoming a student activist and supporting the campaign for the independence of East Pakistan from West Pakistan under the leadership of Bangabandhu.

During the 9 months that it took to gain independence, he became heavily involved with this cause. In June 1972, he was admitted as a student of chartered accountancy in the England and Wales Institute of Chartered Accountants.

After completion of the first part of chartered accountancy, he got a small training course in the unemployment department of the Civil Service, where he worked until the year 2000. He was inspired by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (a great Nationalist Leader of undivided Bengal during the British occupational period), and he has immense re-

spect for the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He also started an Indian restaurant business in 1978 with the help of his family, at the same time as working as a Civil Servant.

Mohammad Yousuf has gotten into the property business here in the UK, where he and his associates build, buy, sell and rent properties. He is also a community activist, is very caring, and is a committed individual to the service of his fellow countrymen and the under-privileged. At present he is a senior vice-president of the Bangladesh Caterers Association.

Yousuf is married to Zaheda Yousuf. They have two daughters and three sons, and eight grandchildren.



Mohammad Yousuf Salim

Sector:
Catering/ Property

Shamsuddin came to England in 1958 and started to work in a restaurant in Blackpool owned by Malik Bakht, and soon became a managing partner in 1961. He was the youngest restaurant owner in the North West. He later opened another restaurant called Shalimar in Manchester.

Shamsuddin has been involved with the following groups as the Executive Committee Member of the Pakistan Society, Jomitul Muslim Mosque, Founder Member of the East Pakistan Catering Association, East Pakistan Community and Islamic Centre. Council Member of the National Federation of Pakistan Association UK, Member of the 1st co-ordinating forum prior to the liberation movement. During the liberation movement North West HQ was my restaurant at Shalimar.

Founding General Secretary, Bangladesh Society, Welfare and Community Service, Member of the Lions Club International, Committee Member of the Chester Chamber of Trade and the Nantwich Chamber of Trade. He is also the permanent Member of the Habiganj Society, Dhaka. He is also a life member of Jalabad Asso Dhaka, and life member of Bighab Unnion Shantha Dhaki.

He is presently involved with the following groups as the Founding Chair: Chester Bangladeshi and Asian Community Development Project, Vice-Chair of the Cheshire Racial Equality Council. Founding Trustee of Shah Jalal Mosque, Founding Member of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE). Management Committee Member, Chester Citizens Advice Bureau.

District Advisory Council, West Cheshire Social Services and West Cheshire County Council Anti Racist Forum.

He is more centred on his community work and makes time to raise funds for charity projects. He was very involved with the East Pakistan Relief Fund in 1970. The Manchester-based liberation movement action committee started in his restaurant.

He has for many years now worked hard for our young people and their activities, for helping our older community members to improve their English.

For the past 25 years, he has organised very popularly and appreciated Christmas lunches for pensioners, day trips etc and has received a Barclays Community Award as well as a Co Op Award. He also received other awards, the National Community Award from Potrika presented by Former Health Minister Frank Dobson and Former Bangladesh High Commissioner A H Mahmood, long-standing voluntary work, Star Citizen Award, city of Chester, and runner up for the Cheshire and North Wales Millennium Champions Community Awards and BBC Asia Awards.

He played an important part in a Northwest TV broadcast by Nigel Jay from the BBC Northwest, which was a program about local Bangladeshis in Chester.

Shamsuddin has been involved in fundraising for various charities such as local Hospices and Tsunami disasters around the world. Shamsuddin has assisted with many difficult immigration issues/ problems. Shamsuddin won the Muslim community award at the House of Lords presented by Lord Moisten Leader of the House Lord.

He is currently Honorary President of Cheshire West and Chester Bangladeshi Association.

He is married to Syeda Ayesha Siddika Ahmed with three sons.



Shamsuddin Ahmed MBE

Sector:
Community Activist



Councillor Shamsul Islam Shelim

*Sector:
Politics*

Shamsul Islam Shelim started his early education from his local village school known as Amkuna Primary School. His high school education started from Dhakadakshin High School. He then came to the UK with his parents in 1977 and continued his education at Robert Montefiore High School. From there he went on to study at East London College and, later, High Wycombe College.

Shamsul Islam Shelim is the elected Councillor for the Eton & Castle Ward of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead since 2015. He is also the President of British Bangladeshi Caterers Association (BBCA). He is a permanent member of Bangladesh Centre (Notting Hill Gate) and had held various posts in that organisation in the past. He is also the president of Windsor International Club.

Shamsul Islam Shelim is actively tackling Homelessness in his borough, while abroad he is the founder of Mother & Child Trust in Bangladesh, Trustee of Golapgonj Education Trust and is a Vice Chairman of Sylhet Heart Foundation UK Committee. In addition, Shelim is actively involved with the Conservative Friends of

Bangladesh focusing on educational and environmental projects.

His first business in the UK started with setting up Carterton Tandoori in 1985, followed by another business the same year called Viceroy of Windsor. In addition to these he has been involved with other businesses in Henley-on-Thames, Ascot and Slough.

Outside UK he has many financial interests in Bangladesh including Windsor Hotel & Resorts Limited, Monica Enterprise Limited, Aljalal Water, Double Glazing Limited.

Married to Salma Ferdose, Councillor Shelim has four children. The eldest works at Novacyt, after graduating from the University of Leicester and Queen Mary respectively. His second child is an aspiring Human Rights Barrister currently undergoing training at the Bar. His youngest son has just graduated Mathematical Engineering at Bristol, while his daughter is about to begin her GCSE's.



Tapan Saha

*Sector:
Accountant*

Tapan Saha, Chartered Certified Accountant is very well known in the community for his Tax expertise and also charitable activities. Tapan, son of Mr Satya Ranjan Saha came from Narayanganj. He is also associate member of Association of International Accountant.

Tapan finished his HSC from Notre Dame College, a best educational institute in Bangladesh. After completion his Honours and Masters in Accountancy from University of Dhaka, he joined in Uttara Bank for a short period. Then he moved to UK for studying ACCA in 2002. After qualifying ACCA in 2004, he joined in BSS Associates, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors for gaining practical knowledge and experience. He became practice manager there while he dealt with multi million pound worth of foreign and local clientele.

Tapan has set up his own Accountancy practice in 2015 with two offices Stratford and Wembley Park, London. He has successfully growing up his practice with expert 12 staff members, who has got sound knowledge on Direct and Indirect Taxation. Tapan has extensive knowledge on Real estate tax, Solicitors Accounts and Construction industry apart from General Accountancy and Tax.

Tapan speaks about current economics and tax affairs in television talk show here in UK.

Tapan, a meritorious student from school life, shown his leadership quality from childhood. He was 'Class Captain' until finish his school. Then he become elected 'Class Representative' in his Ac-

countancy department. He was also elected Transport Secretary of 'Ananda', a bus route of Dhaka University who resides in Narayanganj. Rotaract Tapan, joined in Rotary Movement in 1993 and awarded Best 'Club Editor' and 'Club Secretary' in the whole Rotary movement in Bangladesh. He became President of Rotaract Club of Narayanganj in 2000.

He has been involved many social organisations in the UK. He is the Joint Secretary of Dhaka University Alumni Association UK, Vice President of Jagannath Hall Alumni Association UK, Dhaka university and Treasurer of Sanaton Association. He was ex-secretary of JHAAUK, when successfully celebrated 10th anniversary of that organisation in 2016.

Tapan's wife Mrs Kalyani saha, daughter Tropa and Son Tapomoy loves music and actively involve with 'Suraloy' and 'Anandadhara Arts' where Tapan is a patron.

Ex-Notredamian Tapan Saha moved to Chelmsford where his daughter goes to Chelmsford Country High School, a renowned grammar school in the country.

Tapan loves travelling, music and charitable activities.



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Shahin Hassan

Sector:
*Engineer/
TV Personality*

Shahin Hassan is a Chartered Engineer based in Birmingham. He was a candidate on the BBC The Apprentice Series 15, competing for an investment of £250,000 to go into partnership with Lord Alan Sugar. Shahin competed amongst 80,000 applicants to secure his place as one of the successful candidates to appear on the show. His entrepreneurial ventures and ambitions were a key factor in the selection process which is gruelling and intense.

Shahin is passionate about Engineering and Technology and currently leads a large team developing software for luxury car manufacturer Jaguar Land Rover. He has lead the development and deployment of new vehicle data logging technology which has enabled Jaguar Land Rover to improve the quality of software for their customers. An article published on Jaguar Land Rover's media site highlights the impact of Shahin's work for the company;

'The project, which has the ability to save Jaguar Land Rover millions each year, was designed to test the integrity of its software over-the-air solution, before rolling it out to retailers...

Shahin said he was keen to lead this project because he was interested to see how it would work from a deployment and operation point of view. He

added:

'Although the SOTA mechanism had been developed, it was only in a lab environment and it needed to be tested on real vehicles before being deployed to retailers.'

Shahin was born in Shrewsbury and lived in Powys where his father Aklis Miah ran a restaurant for a number of years before settling in Birmingham in 1986. Shahin grew up in Birmingham in a vibrant and multicultural environment. He flourished in his education in a local state school and went on to achieve a Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic Engineering from King's College, London in 2005. Shahin is a member of the Institute of Engineering and Technology and became a Chartered Engineer in 2014. He regularly mentors graduate and engineers who are working towards their chartership every year.

Shahin's family home in Bangladesh is in Chok Bauahi in Biswanath thana (Sylhet district). He is a member of the Doshghar Union Progoti Union Trust (UK).

Shahin is involved in the family business; Diamond Linen Hire, a laundry and linen hire company and has played a key part in the growth and success of this and other ventures. He is also launching a new banqueting & conference centre in the heart of Birmingham City.



Shomsul Hussain

Sector:
Travel & Tourism

Shomsul Hussain is one of the first of a few pupil that went to Kingway Princeton College from Robert Montefiore Secondary School, in 1976).

Now a successful businessman being in the same travel trade for over 35 years. Managing Director of Bangladesh Biman Approved Travel Agent, one of the long established travel agent - Hussain Travel Ltd.

Founding Chairman of Bangladesh Peoples Association formed for the welfare of the people which ran mother tongue classes for children at weekends in the Harry Gosling School (1984-1985). Teaching voluntarily assisted by his wife and late Hazi Yousuf Ali.

Chairman of Berner Estate Tenants Association 1992-1993 raising overcrowding and other issues with the council and having an active role in stopping HARCA taking over the Berner Estate. Other activities included running a Berner Elderly Centre- a drop in centre for the elderly residents for advice and purpose of socialising and providing lunch. He also produced first Berner news leaflet for residents.

Former Chairperson of Montefiore House Community Education centre campaigned for the use of Montefiore house for Community Use. Voluntarily helped many people in interpreting, translating, immigration and welfare rights advice etc. He has been a school gov-

ernor of Harry Gosling School (1984-1985). He was also the school Governor of Bigland Green Primary School and Swanley Secondary School.

Actively involved with many Community Organisation working to make social and environmental improvements. He is the Chairman of Surmatown-Cannon Street Road Traders Association, Vice-chair of UK Biman Approved Travel Agents Association, Greater Sylhet Council South East Region and Sylhet Sadar Association. General Secretary of Islampur Welfare Association in UK and an advisor to the Daudpur Union Probashi Trust UK.

Chairperson of Whitechapel Ward Labour Party (2017-2018). A labour party active member for over 30 years involved in campaigning on local and national issues, influencing decision to bring back members selection and was councillor nomination candidate.

Son of Late Haji Israil Ali arrived from Sylhet Sadar and participated in mass demonstration in Trafalgar Square London for the liberation of Bangladesh. Married and has 3 children. All graduates the eldest daughter is a Solicitor, second daughter is a teacher and only son completed his LLB degree.

Mohammed Abdus Shahid was born in 1950 in Balagonj, Sylhet. He received his primary education from Balagonj D.N. High School with distinction in 1966 and B.A (Honours) in Economics from Sylhet M.C. College in 1968 and 1971 respectively. He also completed his Masters in Economics from Chittagong University in 1972.

Before he came in the United Kingdom in 1981 Mr. Shahid taught in Balagonj High School and Shahjalal Jamia Islamia, Mira Bazar, Sylhet. After he had settled down in the United Kingdom he achieved his Qualified Teacher Status equivalent to PGCE. He had successfully taught in Cobden Primary School and Rendell Primary School in Loughborough for 15 years before he took his retirement.

Alongside the challenging teaching job Mr. Shahid kept himself engaged in voluntary community activities. He actively helped raising funds for the local mosque and its development. Mr. Shahid has been the popularly elected Chairman and General Secretary of Bangladesh Social Association for 3-4 terms. He was successful in securing a long term funding from the Council for Bangladesh Social Association to implement its planned development work. As Chairman he successfully advocated and raised the needs of the local Bangladeshi Community in different forums. He set up a Weekend Bangla School in Loughborough for the Bangladeshi children to learn

Bangla, their own heritage culture and the history of the formation of Bangladesh.

Mr. Shahid actively contributed to the good community relations and to the establishment of racial equality among the local residents of Loughborough while he been a long serving member on the Board of trustees of the then Charnwood Racial Equality Council. He has been serving actively on the National Executive Council of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council in UK. He has successfully contributed his knowledge and experience to the implementation of GSC's agenda. Mr. Shahid has successfully organised few seminars on Education and Drugs Awareness issues among the Bangladeshi Community in different towns in the East Midlands. Mr. Shahid received a Channel 5 TV Award in 2006 for the recognition of his hard work to the community development of the British Bangladeshi community. His big achievement in the fields of education and community development is praiseworthy. He is still active in the fields of education and community development.

Mr. Shahid is married to Mrs. Shirin Shahid and is living with their four children. His eldest daughter is a Consultant in Ophthalmology and the second daughter completed her Masters in Human Rights. The son is doing well in his field of work in HR; and the youngest daughter is currently studying Criminology and Criminal Justice at De Montfort University.



Mohammed Abdus Shahid

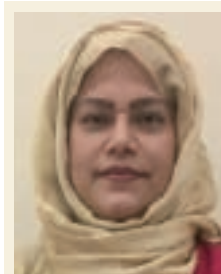
Sector:
Education

Leema Qureshi is a Labour Party politician and elected councillor in London Borough of Tower Hamlets. She is a prospective parliamentary candidate, seeking nomination in her home constituency - Poplar and Limehouse, works at the grassroots of the Party and inspires women into politics, entrepreneurship, education and community activity. Leema is an ardent believer of fairness, equality and social justice, which are overarching principles of the Labour Party and they reflect upon her vision for the borough. Leema has been a member of the Labour Party since 1989, she was the Weavers Brach Labour Party chairperson, worked diligently, won the heart and mind of the rank and file and draws support from a wide cross-section of the community. She is deeply rooted in the East End of London, where she grew up, attended school and lives with her family – husband and two children. In 2000, Leema Qureshi walked down the aisle with Khwaja Shamsheer Qureshi of Aurangabad, Patli, Sunamganaj and they have one son and one daughter, respectively Liyan and Liyana Qureshi.

In addition to politics, Leema is a property portfolio manager and previously she worked in the finance industry for over 12 years as a financial consultant. In the preceding years, she studied education and child psychology at Greenwich University and worked as a trainee teacher at local schools.

This was the time when she witnessed the level child poverty in the East End and this was the turning point in her career. She believes the state schools in inner cities with diverse demography need fine tuning in order to reach the standard of public schools. She believes the Right to Buy policy is a glimpse of hope for the hardworking tenants who are ready to take responsibility of owning homes and she is willing to convince her colleagues in the Labour Party to make Right to Buy easier for tenants on low income through introduction of 'Right to Mortgage'.

As a commitment to improving socioeconomic status of women, she had founded an organisation to provide training to women and assisted women getting into gainful employment, for which, in 2005, she was nominated Woman Entrepreneur of the year on International Women's Day. In 2018, she was elected as a councillor from Spitalfields and Banglatown Ward and she sits in a number of council committees and subcommittees including licensing and development. As a councillor, she is committed to promoting social cohesion, improving education in the borough and reducing crime.



Cllr Leema Qureshi

Sector:
Politics

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S WHO

2019

EXISTING ENTRIES

2019

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

His first restaurant was opened in Milton Keynes in 1980 and since then his catering empire has grown stronger and stronger. From the moment 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.

Jaipur came to an end in 2018 and Ahad received the Paul Harris Fellowship award of appreciation by Rotary International.

As the former owner of the famous Jaipur Restaurant in Milton Keynes, 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 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, he is equally as successful in other fields –one of which is fundraising for charities.

Two of 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. Ahad is a major supporter and contributor to the project during the last twelve years, raising over £30,000 through the Annual Charity Dinner.

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



Abdul Ahad

Sector:
Philanthropist

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

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

Cllr Ohid Ahmed is very strongly involved in the social and economic regeneration of East London. He has worked with many communities and voluntary organisations in East London and has helped them obtain grants. Another issue close to Ohid's heart is the removal of barriers in the labour market for those groups who are at a disadvantage in entering the labour market. He places particular emphasis on combating race, sex and disability discrimination, and he has helped implementing measures, which will eradicate these barriers. He was also Cabinet member of Regeneration, Localisation and Community Partnership from 2006 to 2009 and Education and youth Services for 2005. Councillor Ohid Ahmed was the Cabinet Member for resources and

performance in 2009 and was short listed for prestigious LGIU award for his outstanding contribution to financial performance in Tower Hamlets.

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

Cllr Ohid Ahmed's favourite pastimes include following national and international politics, cricket, chess, gardening as well as computing. He is a well-rounded Councillor striving for the success of East London and the people within.



A M Ohid Ahmed

Sector:
Politics



Faruque Ahmed

Sector:
Community Relations

Faruque Ahmed is a highly esteemed member of the Bangladeshi community, married with two children. He is a qualified and vastly experienced Bengali interpreter who undertakes work across a number of disciplines including, criminal law, human rights and civil matters.

Mr Ahmed arrived in the UK in 1959 to pursue further education. He was born in Kaliti-Tea State, Kulaura and is the eldest of four sons and two daughters. His father, Mulfath Uddin Ahmed was a successful manager of James Finlay Tea Garden Company. In 1952, Mr Ahmed's father bought a house in Chowhatta, Sylhet town with the intention of relocating to provide higher education for his children.

Mr Ahmed passed his Matriculation exam in Aided School, Sylhet before completing his Intermediate in Arts.

Upon arriving in the UK, Mr Ahmed joined The Regent Street Polytechnic College to study Tea Technology. Unfortunately, due to a sudden heart attack, his father passed away resulting in Mr Ahmed ceasing his studies to seek employment in order to provide for his brothers' education in Bangladesh.

Mr Ahmed is known for his active role during the campaign for the independence of Bangladesh and was involved in a number of select committees to help advance the cause.

Mr Ahmed entered the insurance industry and

began as an Associate for American Life Insurance Company (ALICO). In 1988, Mr Ahmed became the first Bengali branch manager in the UK and has achieved several awards for the success of his branch in Piccadilly Circus. Due to his elevation into management, he often represented ALICO at international conferences including – Brazil, Canada, Portugal and Spain.

Mr Ahmed chose to leave the company following a heart bypass operation and later began interpreting.

Over the years, Mr Ahmed has been recognised in the community for his ongoing efforts and commitment to help the impoverished in Bangladesh.

Mr Ahmed is currently an Advisor to the Aid Bangladesh Community Forum UK. He is also the UK President of Komolgonj Somitee and also Chief Advisor to Shamsul Haque Saleha Choudhury Red Crescent. Mr Ahmed started the Jobeda Khatun Foundation, named after his late mother as a gateway to improve the lives of his local community in Komolgonj. The foundation continues to provide funding for education, food and clothes all year round.



Emon Ahmed

Sector:
Legal

Emon Ahmed is an international corporate lawyer and Chief Executive Officer to the Stirling Ackroyd Legal Group. Having read Business and Banking at The Queen Mary University of London he later went on to complete his LLB from the University of Law London.

In his early years Emon was a senior director for Stirling Ackroyd Estates where he established himself within the Development and Investment Sector advising corporate clients for over ten years. He later took the position as managing director and developed the company's operations on an international scale.

Emon's family are very well established in both the hospitality and real estate sectors. In 1978 Emon's father Mr Shab Uddin established the famous Tower Tandoori Restaurant of Tower Bridge, which the family still proudly own and operate. In 1951 Emon's grandfather the late Mr Israaf Ali established his first Real Estate investment which still stands today as the backbone of the groups success.

In 2015 both Emon and his business partner the late Mr James Goff founded Stirling Ackroyd Legal, a city law firm which works within the full spectrum of property and real estate law. The group has a stellar

reputation both nationally and internationally priding itself to be at the forefront of property law. Stirling Ackroyd Legal currently has four offices in London Battersea, Aldgate, The City and London Bridge.

The international division of Stirling Ackroyd Legal has also gone from strength to strength with established desks specialising in Europe and the Middle East. The team are regularly retained to advise by both international banks and finance houses as they have a fantastic reputation within the international property investment market, working alongside the likes of Barclays International, Knight Frank Middle East and the Berkeley Group.

In recent years the company has acquired several large practices nationally including Royce Law LLP in Fulham, David Ebert LLP in Hampshire, ML Law in Southampton, Verbatim Property Lawyers in Essex and Adams Solicitors in Central London.

The group hopes to thrive in its ventures as it has done so for the last three generations and hopes the future holds great prosperity, God Willing.

Faysal Ahmed was born in London and grew up in the East End. After completing his BA Hons in Accountancy Faysal Ahmed went onto train as an Accountant with the London School of Economics and thereafter qualify as a Financial Adviser. Faysal has an extensive client base in East London where he was based for 15 years in Roman Road, Bethnal Green and now practises from his own Estate Agency in Woodford Green in Essex. Faysal specialises in Residential and Commercial lending and advises clients on building development projects that require complex finance solutions.

Faysal is a founder member of Woodford Muslim Cultural Centre and was instrumental in the planning process to approve the place of worship after a long appeal process with the planning inspectorate. The Centre now plays a pivotal role in the community where daily prayers are held.

Faysal is joint Secretary of the Bangladesh Centre in London and is the eldest son of Hafiz Mazir Uddin who is a key figure in the Bangladeshi Community and one of the founder members of the Bangladesh

Centre. Faysal is the eldest of 7 siblings who have diverged into IT, Journalism & Teaching. His youngest brother Imad Ahmed graduated from Oxford University with a BA Hons and an MPhil.



Faysal Ahmed

Sector:
Real Estate

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

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

Jamal came to the UK in 2004 under the Commonwealth Scholarship while he was a lecturer in MC College. He obtained his English Language Teaching Qualification CELTA from University of Cambridge and worked as an ESOL teacher in Greenwich Community College and London Guildhall College. Jamal started his career as a customer service officer and worked at GMG and Emirates Airlines in Bangladesh. For his outstanding achievement, Jamal was awarded best customer service officer of the year in 2001.

Prior to becoming a businessman, Jamal had been working as a senior officer in London Borough of Camden. Having worked in the UK and Bangladesh, Jamal accumulated his skills and experience and set up Hamlets Training Centre in 2011. As a believer to turn challenges into opportunities, Jamal first started his training centre with one laptop and a desk in a small office room in Hanbury Street in East

London. Accredited by the British Accredited Council (BAC) Hamlets Training Centre is now approved by many British awarding bodies including EDI, English Speaking Board, Trinity College London and Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance to offer courses in Health & Safety, Food Safety in Catering, First Aid, Fire Safety, Personal Licence, Customer Service and English Language Courses (ESOL). Hamlets Training Centre has been working as a strong partner to deliver training for the Barts and NHS, London Borough of Camden, Deafroots and many other organisations.

Alongside his professional career Jamal is a television personality and presents a very popular programme called Skills for Life on Channel 5 TV. He has been serving as Trustee of 'BagBooks' and Barts and NHS London. He is also a resident director of EastEnd Homes in Tower Hamlets and a parent governor of Stepney Green Coat School in East London. Jamal is married to Ayesha Choudhury who has graduated from Westminster University and is working for London Borough of Tower Hamlets. He is a father to Azhar, Zara and Jamal and is committed to work for the British Bangladeshi Community.



Jamal Ahmed

Sector:
Education, Skills & Training



Iqbal Ahmed OBE

Sector:

Business



Award Winner 2012

Iqbal Ahmed was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1956 and came to the UK in 1971. He completed his secondary education at the City College in Westminster, London and joined the family business in Oldham in 1976. Subsequently, his brothers, Kamal and Bilal joined him and the expansion of the business began.

Iqbal is married with three children, two of whom have left university to make their way in the world, one with Seamark, the other a doctor, and the third has begun her degree course at Manchester University.

He pioneered the import of frozen fish and seafood products in refrigerated containers and was the first to import the black tiger shrimp into the UK and EU. Iqbal Brothers & Company soon became the leading supplier of warm water frozen fish and shrimps in the EU with a national distribution network it retains to this day. Seamark plc followed in 1991, specializing in the processing and stocking of warm water shrimps, especially the black tiger and the fresh water king prawn. After processing and packing, these were exported to most countries in Europe, as a result of which, Seamark received the coveted Queen's Award for Export Achievement in 1998. This was followed in 1999, by the first prize in the prestigious Business in Europe Awards.

As a British investor in the third world, with the support and encouragement of DTI, a new, ultra modern factory, costing USD10 million, was constructed in Chittagong, Bangladesh. HRH The Princess Royal was invited to perform the official opening in November 2000, which she did in the presence of many distinguished guests. The Chittagong factory is operating at full capacity and has been expanded, within the existing site areas, producing value added and ready to eat products such as seafood and vegetable somosa's, paratha and vegetables. In addition, two further seafood processing companies have been taken over in Bangladesh and the group now boasts its own fleet of deep sea shrimp trawlers equipped with on board freezing facilities, as well as its own hatchery where high quality shrimp can be farmed for export to the world.

In 2001, he opened their USA sales office in New Jersey and have since acquired a warehouse and a cold store in Brooklyn,

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

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

He established and is the Chairman of the UKBCCI.

In November 2007, he was personally invited by George Osborn; Shadow Chancellor to join his newly formed New Enterprise Council.



Mansoor Ahmad

Sector:

Charity

Mansoor Ahmad is a qualified accountant currently serving as Manager, Accounts & Finance with Al Shirkatul Islamiyyah which is one of the largest Charities in UK.

Mansoor migrated from Bangladesh in 2007 under British Government's Highly Skilled Migration Program. He has voluntarily been involved with various primary schools, high schools and community works. Actively served as Parent Governor, Chairman, & Member of many Committees. He also served as a Co-opted Member for various Commissions under Merton Council. As an Accountant Mansoor provides the unpaid or voluntary services to the community members which include Preparation of Accounts, Submitting Returns, Signing Passport & Citizenship forms & Educational confirmation letters, VAT Returns, business consultancy services etc.

In January 2019 Mansoor has been recognised by the British Citizen Award for exceptional contribution to society and being an inspirational to other British Citizens. He also received House of Lords British Community Honours Award (BCHA) 2019 on 18th October, 2019 held in the UK Parliament for his outstanding contribution towards the British community.

Mansoor completed his B.Com (Hons) & Master's Degree in Accounting from University of Chittagong, Bangladesh. He is a Chartered Business Administrator and achieved Graduate Diploma in Professional Accounting from Canadian School of Finance & Management. Mansoor is ACCA (Pt. Qual) from Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, UK and Fellow Member of Chartered Institute of Internal

Auditors, Institute of Financial Accountants, UK, and Institute of Public Accountants (IPA) Australia. He is also a Chartered Financial Consultant from Institute of Financial Consultants, USA.

Mansoor served as Finance Manager with Chittagong Stock Exchange, Bangladesh for 12 years. He also served as a visiting lecturer with University of Science & Technology (USTC), Preston University, Premier University, Southern University, Edward University & University of Honolulu (Chittagong Campus, Bangladesh). He taught at BBA, MBA and ACCA levels and wrote Course Materials.

Mansoor authored numerous articles published in prestigious national, international journals, magazines and daily newspapers. He is a member of the Commonwealth Journalists Association (UK).

Mansoor attended a good number of Seminars, Workshops and Conferences where he spoke as presenter and key note speaker on various occasions.

Mansoor is a member of Transparency International Bangladesh since 1998. He is a member of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in UK. He has voluntarily been serving as Secretary of Bangla Department UK for over a decade and as an Editor of Bangla Bulletin, a quarterly publication of Bangla Department UK.

Mansoor voluntarily served as President and CEO of the Institute of Accounting Technicians of Bangladesh for Chittagong Chapter from March 2003 to January 2006 and for UK Chapter from March 2007 to July 2009. He was the founder President of Chittagong University Readers Association in 1986.



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Mesba Ahmed

Sector:

Sports/Community Relations



Award Winner 2014

Mr 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 who arrived in UK in the early 1960's, and was highly respected as an award winning member of his community in City of Westminster. The late Mr Uddin was the Former President of the West London Awami League, as well as the Former Chairman of Marylebone Bangladesh Society. Mr Ahmed's grandfather moved to the UK in the 1950's. Mr Mesba Ahmed followed both his grandfather's and father's footsteps by moving to the UK in 1972. He completed his education in England. Mesba then worked for Allied Dunbar as a Financial/Mortgage Consultant. Due to the recession in the early 1990's, he was forced to change his career. Mr Ahmed's real passion in life is football. He has played at many levels, including semi-professional. He has pleasure helping others, he wanted to create opportunities for young people who lacked vision in life and needed guidance. He set up the London Tigers in 1986 and it has grown immensely since its inception providing services to 3000 people from 60 Nationalities across the UK. London Tigers now boasts Semi pro Football Club playing in The world's famous FA Cup and he has had influential people supporting his work such as Honorary Patron of London Tigers former Mayor of London Boris Johnson, as well as former Prime Ministers Tony Blair and Gordon Brown.

Mesba has won numerous awards. In 2004 Westminster Leadership Award, 2005 GG2 Leadership

Award, 2007 Sony Asia TV Sports Awards, London Tigers won Best Community Organisation UK 2010 Channel S Awards. Best Asian Football Club UK 2012 by FA, Best Asian Cricket Club 2014 by ECB. In 2011, London Tigers were one of key partners with The Conservative Social Action Project in Bangladesh with Baroness Syeda Warsi, Ann Maine MP, Syed kamal MEP, Nicky Morgan MP, where they launched their international projects such Sylhet Football academy and Girls High School.

The highlighted achievements for Mesba during his journey of London Tigers is accomplishing his dream of acquiring a 25 year lease in 2014 on a 19 acres Park in Southall, which is now a £4m London Tigers Sports complex.

Mesba was recognised for his Londonwide philanthropist work as Founder of London Tigers by Editors of the London Evening Standard and selected him as the only Bangladeshi in UK in The Top 1000 Influential Londoner 2014 Book along with many other high profile individuals such as George Osborne, Boris Jonson, Prince Harry, Prime Minister David Cameron, David Beckham, Ed Miliband, George Clooney, Laxmi Mittal, Bill Gates and The Queen .

Mesba is married to Mrs Lubna Ahmed, and together they have four children Ridhwan, Zaynab, Maryam and Yasin.



Mohammed Belal Ahmed

Sector:

Media

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

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

Upon returning from exile, Mohammed Belal Ahmed completed his pre-university education at Sylhet and graduated from the University of Chittagong.

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

readership.

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

Mohammed Belal Ahmed and his wife Sadia Ahmed reside in Dartford, Kent, with their two sons Nafis and Sami.

Mehfuz Ahmed works as CEO for a Charitable Organisation. He takes a keen interest in Older Peoples issues particularly loneliness and isolation. He has launched a number of innovative projects to prevent loneliness and isolation. He is also a Director of a Consultancy firm.

Previously he has worked in the Banking and Finance Sector and in the Civil Service in Whitehall.

Mehfuz is the Chairman of Conservatives Friends of Bangladesh (an organisation set up in 2006 to promote the culture, successes and values of British Bangladeshis, and to build positive links between British Bangladeshis and the Conservative Party) and a long-standing member of the Conservative Party. In his capacity as Chairman, he advises Conservative Parliamentarians and HQ officials on issues related to the British Bangladeshi Community. He has held numerous positions in the Conservative Party both nationally and locally and is a passionate campaigner.

Mehfuz made political history by becoming the first ever British Bangladeshi Conservative Councillor in 108 years by winning an outstanding victory against the opposition in Westminster City Council in July 2008. In May 2009, Mehfuz was quickly promoted to Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Services.

Mehfuz successfully led Project Shapla since 2011. Project Shapla is an International Social Action Project of Conservative Friends of Bangladesh. Mehfuz has been leading a team of 30 delegates consisting of Conservative Party volunteers and Conservative MPs/MEPs to Bangladesh, where the project partnered

with local and international charities and worked in a range of areas including health, education, governance and sport in Sylhet and Dhaka.

The social action project in Bangladesh gave the delegates an opportunity to learn about international development, build a relationship and to leave a lasting legacy in Bangladesh. Through the work Project Shapla it has strengthened relationships further between the Conservative Party, British Bangladeshi Community and Bangladesh.

Last year, Mehfuz secured a visit of Conservative MPs and Conservative Party volunteers to the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazaar as part of their social action - Project Shapla. The Conservative MPs and delegates were the first to visit the refugees and accompanied by UNHCR and Bangladesh Government officials & MPs. The visit was the strongest piece of work that put the Conservative MPs in a position to call a debate in the House of Commons on the crisis and ensured the international aid and support to both charities on the ground and Bangladesh Government was increased. The MPs and delegates continue to raise this issue in Parliament and with the Government.

Outside the world of politics, Mehfuz's passion continues for the communities he serves. Mehfuz has been involved with voluntary and public sector for over 25 years as Trustee of Marylebone Bangladesh Society and London Tigers. He has served as a school & local authority governor for a number of primary, secondary and adult educational bodies and continues to take a keen interest in Education and International Development.



Mehfuz Ahmed

Sector:
Politics /Charity

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

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

Mr Monir Ahmed's pioneering business model emerged from an understanding that cargo services must remove the problem of inaccessibility to the consumers. Mr Ahmed introduced the air cargo business to the Bangladeshi community. He has not only made cargo services cheaper, but also quicker to consumers and achieved a major share in the market. As well as ensuring that he remained true to his values

about the community. This achievement made JMG a leading cargo business that runs worldwide, providing door to door services to EU member states as well as parts of Africa, Asia and Canada. He has now plans in place for cargo services to Bangladesh from both Italy and France.

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

Continuously participating in various social and cultural events he is well known for his donations and voluntary work. His organisation supported in carrying relief goods to Bangladesh during different natural calamities in Bangladesh. He is the trustee of Biswanath Education Trust, Chairman of Dar-Ul-Kuran Nazirbazar Charity Organization and Chairman of BBIF-86 in the UK. He is also the Finance Director of AL-Jamee Group of Investment UK.

Mr Ahmed is adamant to continue his community work and extend more support towards the community in the future, especially for the development of rural Bangladesh and the UK.



Monir Ahmed

Sector:
Business & community relations



Award Winner 2011



Muquim Ahmed

Sector:

Business and Politics



Award Winner 2009

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

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

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

In 1996 he opened Café Naz in Brick Lane- the flagship restaurant and is still the most high profile eatery in the area. As well as the famous Café Naz in Bricklane, he opened branches in Cambridge, Cardiff, Horsham, Chelmsford, London and another café style eatery in Brick Lane. Today amongst many other projects, his award winning Café Naz chain is going from strength to strength.

He also owns a distribution and marketing division called Asian Foods Ltd.

He featured in the Times article in 2006 'Focus Immigrant Britain' which was based on highly successful Brits of ethnic background.

He was the chairman of Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce for two consecutive terms. He is also a former President of the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce.

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

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



Nurun Ahmed

Sector:

Business & Community Relations

Nurun Ahmed, a candidate on BBC the Apprentice series 10, is an emerging businesswoman. Nurun competed amongst 70,000 thousand applicants to secure her place as one of the 20 candidates to appear on the 10th series. Her vivacious personality and entrepreneurial ability was spotted by BBC the Apprentice for setting up 3 small businesses within 18 months. Nurun is unprecedented in being the first Hijabi on the show.

Nurun, a marketing professional, fashion retailer, a mother of two and a carer for her father, has been motivating other Muslim women and a source of support for women wanting to achieve a work life balance. She is a regular guest speaker at events inspiring women and encouraging empowerment within Bangladeshi and Asian communities.

Nurun's academic and professional background is in marketing. Her marketing experience is extensive and diverse and by using community intelligence, she has helped to influence hard to reach communities through targeted campaigns. Nurun was recently head hunted by Murabbi Consulting, a leading faith-centric mentoring and Consultancy Company, as their Head of Business Development.

Nurun is currently focusing on two new online businesses, the Nurun Ahmed collection (clothes & accessories) and Xclusively Tumi, a partnership with

Nadia Ali (BBC Asian network radio) a matrimonial service for elite and professional Bangladeshis due to launch later this year.

Quotes from BBC the Apprentice;

Lord Sugar quoted "Nurun is a lovely girl and very enterprising, I admire her determination."

Jo Malone MBE quoted "I'd work with Nurun any day."

Mark Wright the Apprentice winner, (Lord Sugar's business partner) "Nurun is nature's gift."



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Cllr Parvez Ahmed

Sector:
Politics



Award Winner 2016

Cllr. Parvez Ahmed is a former Mayor of the London Borough of Brent. He was the first person of Bangladeshi origin to be elected as Mayor of Brent. He is also a Councillor in Dollis Hill in the London Borough of Brent, having been elected in 2014.

A successful Businessman and community activist, in 2016, Cllr Ahmed was recognised for his outstanding contribution to politics and the local community by being presented the British Bangladeshi Who's Who Outstanding Achievement award. In 2017, during his Mayoral year, the Canary Wharf Group PLC, commemorated Cllr Ahmed's excellent contribution to civic duties. Prior to this, in 2006, Cllr Ahmed received a community achievement award from Channel 5 in recognition for many years of hard work in the community. He completed his education in Bangladesh before moving to the UK.

Cllr Ahmed also received the award for Labour Councillor of the Year 2017 at the SME4 Labour awards in December 2017.

Since the age of twenty one, Cllr Ahmed established a number of businesses throughout Bangladesh, most notably having invested in the textiles and garment industry. He continued his focus in the textiles and garment industry after arriving in the UK where he also opened a restaurant. He has been closely involved with the Bangladesh Caterers Association where he has served as a Management Committee Member, Deputy Secretary General and Secretary General over the past thirty years. Cllr Ahmed is also the Chairman of New Generation 2000, and was formerly a Director at the North West London Chamber of Commerce. Cllr Ahmed also helped organise the inaugural education awards ceremony for the Bangladesh High Commission celebrating the achievement of young British Bangladeshis, which is now a celebrated annual event.

Cllr Ahmed is an active member of the Labour party. Over

a number of years, He has been involved with many local and national organisations holding a range of posts including Board Member, Management Committee Member, Trustee and Chairman. These groups include the Tricycle Theatre and Cinema, Brent Safer Neighbourhood Team, Brent Minority and Ethnic Forum, Greater Sylhet Council UK, North West London Muslim Forum, Kilburn Partnership, Single Regeneration Board, Friends of Bangladesh UK, West Hampstead Bengali Association, 403 Harrow Road Limited, Bangladesh Centre (Notting Hill, London), Brent Bengali Community Centre and the Sylhet Sador Education Trust. He is also a Life Member of the London Bangla Press Club.

Cllr Ahmed has supported numerous mainstream national charities through donations and regular fundraising. During his Mayoral year in 2016/17, his charity appeal was in aid of his chosen charities, Community Action on Dementia Brent, Brent Centre for Young People and Sufra North West London. He raised thousands of pounds and raised significant awareness for some very worthy causes. In Bangladesh, he has a charity named after himself (Parvez Ahmed Female Educational Trust) to encourage women to continue studying, in addition to supporting the APEX International and the Red Crescent project. Furthermore, he is a Life Member of National Heart Foundation Hospital (Sylhet), Beanibazar Cancer Hospital, Red Crescent Bangladesh, IQra Academy Sylhet, Jalalabad Disabled Rehabilitation Centre and Hospital and Balangonj College.

Married for 33 years to former London Borough of Brent Councillor Lena Ahmed, the couple have been blessed with two sons. His elder son, married with a daughter, has a Masters in Biomedical research and works in the Civil Service, whilst his younger son, also married, has a Law Degree, and works in Local Government.



Mosleh Uddin Ahmed

Sector:
Media

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. He was also treasurer of the London Bangla Press Club.

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.

Mr Shofi Ahmed is a national award winning writer, poet, journalist and lyricist. He is one of the most talented writers to come out of the British-Bangladeshi community. Mr Ahmed was the co-founder and editor of Bangla Mirror, the first weekly English newspaper for the British Bangladeshis. Currently he is freelancing with English news agencies. He is also a Adviser to Bangla Post newspaper and regularly writes for the paper.

Shofi Ahmed has pioneered bilingual journalism in the British Bangladeshi Community. He contributed in English sections of almost all the Bangla newspapers.

Notably he wrote an editorial in Bangla Mirror in 2002 then sent to all the High Commissioners and Ambassadors in London. To motivate them to celebrate the International Mother Language Day in their respective countries on 21 February every year, which was first announced by UNESCO on 17 November 1999.

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, the science wiz kid's work was getting acknowledgement from the mainstream press as he won the Daily Telegraph's National Young Science Writers Competition.

Mr 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.

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 was involved in a project enabling blind, deaf and disabled people in London how to use the Internet in their own homes at a cost they can afford in 2001. He worked with a range of professionals from different backgrounds who were all committed to open up the Internet for people with disabilities. U Can DO I.T scheme was major success and was even featured in Paddington People magazine. Mr Ahmed's efforts have been widely recognised by the community as he received an award from Channel S in 2006.

He has been awarded by Sylhet Muslim Sahitya Sangsad Kobitar Ashor Awards in Bangla.

He lives in North London Mr Ahmed is blessed with four children Zohura Ahmed, Ali Ahmed, Zubeda Ahmed and Zunairah Ahmed.



Shofi Ahmed

Sector:

Media and Literature

Rashed Ahmed was born in Mojumdari, Sylhet. He is the eldest son of his family and arrived in the UK on a student visa then completed his Accountancy and Finance degree.

He later started his own Accountancy firm in Whitechapel.

Rashed is the Managing Director at Citygate Accountants with his many years' experience working as an accountant in the industry and accountancy practice.

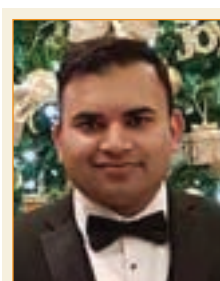
Rashed is a fully qualified ACPA-Certified Public Accountant, a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians-AAT and he is a qualified ATOL reporting accountant. He has all round expertise in Book keeping, Accounting, Payroll, Tax and all accounting practices.

He has amazing leadership skills to manage and motivate his team, hence driving the company forward. He ensures that services provided by his accountants' team are according to the UK GAAP and IFRS reporting standards.

Rashed used to be an elected parent governor at Ravenscroft Primary School in Canning Town and currently elected parent governor and Finance Com-

mittee Member at Winsor Primary School in Bepton . Rashed Ahmed is also the presenter of "Let's Talk With Accountants " accountancy and tax related radio programme on Betar Bangla.

Rashed Ahmed uses his expertise ,vast accountancy knowledge and leading his accountancy practice quite successfully. He enjoys the challenge of having clients in a wide range of industries. He also loves challenges of working with start-ups and boosts up their knowledge and motivation level through professional advice and practical help to get their accounting processes up and running. He is also proficient in information technology and effectively handles the diverse workforce and clients as well because of excellent interpersonal and communication skills.



Rashed Ahmed

Sector:

Finance



Thufayel Ahmed

Sector:

Entrepreneur.

Thufayel Ahmed is the eldest son of Late Dr Md Bashir Ahmed and Mrs Ayesha Ahmed. His parents founded the Surma Bengali Newsweekly in May 1978.

Thufayel has three younger brothers, Sarzamin Ahmed, Sarwar Ahmed and Tanvir Ahmed along with one sister Farhana Ahmed.

Born in West Yorkshire, Thufayel moved to London with the family and settled in East London, where he still resides.

Educated in local primary school Cyril Jackson in Limehouse and Langdon Park Secondary School in Poplar, both in London's E14 area.

After Thufayel's father passed away in 1985, he took over the running of Surma Newsweekly. In 1988, along with his brothers Sarzamin and Sarwar, started publishing Eastern Newspaper, an English language newsweekly. He was also Eastern Eye's columnist.

After the sale of Eastern Eye, in 1999, Thufayel and his brothers published Asian Bride Magazine and Asian Women Magazine, both very popular publications in the Asian market.

In 2003 they published Asiana and Asiana Wedding Magazine, which is one of Britain's highest selling publications and has become an international brand. In 2005, Asiana International was launched from their offices in New Delhi, India.

Thufayel and his brother stage wedding exhibitions in various venues across London and the Midlands. Indeed today the Asiana Bridal Shows are a firm date in the wedding industry's calendar.

In 2013, Thufayel opened Ariana Banqueting Hall in North London. In 2015, he opened his second venue, Ariana Gardens in Essex.

Despite all Thufayel's various business interests, he still maintains his true love is his family. Married since 1987, aged 19, he has one son and 3 daughters. Ariana is his youngest child.

His hobbies and interests are in sports, particular football, which he still plays aged 50. A life-long Liverpool FC fan, he follows the Premier League matches every week. His second sport is badminton, which he plays regularly and attributes his health and fitness to his badminton sessions.



Nazmin Akthar

Sector:

Legal

Nazmin graduated with a 2.1 in Law from Durham University in 2009 and was Called to the Bar in 2010 after completing the Bar Vocational Course at Northumbria University. She then completed her Masters in Advanced Legal Practice in 2011. After working in a number of roles in the areas of civil litigation, immigration/asylum and social housing, including acting as a County Court Advocate on the North Eastern Circuit, Nazmin qualified as a Chartered Legal Executive Lawyer in 2016 and now works in the real estate department of a leading Legal 500 firm in the South East. She specialises in residential development, planning and general infrastructure matters, including large scale site set ups involving a mixture of freehold and leasehold properties. Nazmin acts on behalf of a range of clients including housing associations and national developers.

Nazmin also acts as the Vice-Chair of Muslim Women's Network UK (MWNUK), the only national Muslim women's charity in the UK that works to promote equality and social justice for Muslim women and girls. As part of her work with MWNUK, she has provided written evidence to 18 governmental enquiries thus far, most recently to the House of Lords Select Committee on the issues of citizenship and civic engagement. She has also given both written and oral evidence to the Women &

Equalities Committees on the issues discrimination faced by Muslim women in the workplace, with the Committee taking the Evidence into account in its 2016 recommendations. She regularly provides pro-bono advice to the charity on governance matters, as well as in respect of cases dealt with by the charity's MWN Helpline. One such case led to a change in government policy; as a result of MWNUK's campaigning victims of forced marriage under the age of 18 are no longer expected to meet the costs of their repatriation. Nazmin has attended conferences in Turkey and Romania as part of her work with MWNUK and has also appeared on various media outlets including BBC London, BBC Asian Network, Channel 5, Islam Channel, Share Radio, Talk Radio and Voice of Russia.

Nazmin was Olympic Torchbearer in June 2012, selected due to all her voluntary work, and was also a part of the Coca Cola 2012 Olympics marketing campaign. She was Regional Winner of the VInspired National Awards 2013 for All Round Commitment to Volunteering, and was awarded the CILEx Pro Bono Award in October 2017.



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'I and the person who looks after
an orphan and provides for him,
will be in Paradise like this'
(putting his index and middle
fingers together). – Sahih al-Bukhari

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Meah Monirul Alam

Sector:

Business & Community Relations

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

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

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

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

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

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

Centre as well as General Secretary of South East Kent Welfare Association. He is also director of British Bangladesh Investment Company.

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

Moreover, he is a life member of Jalalabad Rotary Orthopaedics Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre. Mr Alam has contributed generously to charities and has helped to develop educational and religious institutions in Bangladesh.

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



Ahsan Akbar

Sector:

Literature

Ahsan Akbar is a poet and writer. Born in London, he subsequently grew up in Bangladesh, before moving back to the UK at 16 on his own. He studied Economics at Exeter University, worked as a vinyl record seller, bookseller, and as an equities trader in the City and Southeast Asia. His debut book, *The Devil's Thumbprint*, is a collection of poems which has received critical acclaim since its publication in 2013. The book is included in the English literature programme at SOAS, University of London.

Akbar is currently at work on a novel, and has written for *The Telegraph*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wasafiri*, *Dhaka Tribune* and other international publications. His poem "Tree Without Roots" was selected to represent Dhaka in "Capitals", a unique book of poems representing all the capitals of the world. The collection was published from Bloomsbury International. Akbar is co-founder of Zephyr:Media PR, a multi-platform PR and marketing boutique based in London with a global reach, with clients in fashion, food & beverage, hospitality and the arts industry.

In addition, Akbar is a Director of Dhaka Literary Festival, now in its seventh year, and previously known as Hay Festival Dhaka. Attracting over 250 speakers and performers, and approximately 25,000 visitors every year, it is one of the highlights of the

international literary calendar. He is a board member of *Bengal Lights*, Bangladesh's most prominent literary journal in English.

Akbar curated Bangladeshi writing, amongst other places, for *Granta* and *Wasafiri*. The latter is an example of an international literary journal dedicating an entire issue to Bangladesh for the first time.

Akbar has recently been selected as a Governor at one of the oldest Colleges in London – *The Working Men's College*, also known as *The Camden College*.

Dr Mohammed Nurul Alam is a qualified Accountant and Tax consultant in public practise with 36 years' experience, who is also founder of Alam and Company, an accounting firm providing a quality of accountancy services both on-site and off-site and business consultancies since 05/04/1981.

He was born in Habiganj district of greater Sylhet on 08th Feb 1948 and his father late Mohammed Abdullah M.A (Eng) LLB who was a politician and a practising lawyer in Supreme Court of Bangladesh & also was a member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) of undivided India & continued in politics until his death. His mother Syeda Siddiqua Khatoun was a primary school teacher.

He came into the United Kingdom on 19th September 1974 for higher education. After completing his Accountancy education and article ship in a very renowned Chartered Accountants firm in London. In 1981 he Commenced self-employment and practising as Alam & Co as a sole practitioner and started his own independent Public Practice from Manchester and then shifted to Lancashire and continued for 10 years then in December 1989 he shifted to Shepherd's Bush in London and still operating the practice successfully from this address.

He has degrees in B.A (Hons) Econ and M.A in Economics and later earned PhD in Accounting and Finance. Besides the academic qualifications he has added a lot of professional qualifications like, F.C.E.A, F.A.I.A, F.C.M.I, F.A.F.C, F.A.C.B (UK), C.M.A, A.I.C.P.A, C.P.F.A (USA), A.C.E.A (CANADA). He is a Member of the European Accounting Association (M.E.A.A) and also a qualified member of the Banking Institute and the Central Superior service of the then Pakistan.

He is serving as chairman of the Central Council of the Institute of Cost and Executive Accountants since 1995. Served as Chairman of the Disciplinary and Practicing Committee, served as Vice Chairman of the British Institute of Management (Now Chartered Management Institute), East Lancashire, served as the Honorary Treasurer of the ICEA for more than 5 years, se-

nior member of the planning committee, and examination committee for the ICEA prior to his present position.

His firm is comprised of highly talented, experienced and well-educated professionals which includes qualified ACCA, MBA, ICEA and qualified members from other professional accountancy bodies. Majority of the present staffs are serving for 10 /12 years. He is a mentor and an approved accredited employer of ACCA & AIA. His firm's main target market is Catering and Hospitality Industry but his firm also providing voluntary services to Charities (free of cost). Serving individual professional including Barristers, Solicitors, Doctors, IT consultants, builders and many more. He is also specialist in TAX and VAT investigation and Tribunal cases.

What sets his firm apart from other firms? The collective added value of his overall delivery of professional services and personal services.

In his leisure time, enjoys travelling throughout Europe, North and South America., North Africa, Middle East and Asia and he has built up his practice by his personal service and driving from door to door all over the United Kingdom with pleasure. While he doesn't strive to be the biggest Accountancy Practice, but he does strive to be the best. Being a music lover, he is associated with many Cultural and Social organisations home and abroad accordingly he formed for the first time in the United Kingdom Nazrul Parishad Ltd with the active cooperation of a prominent Bengali Singer Sadia Afroz Chowdhury who became an executive director of the organisation. The aim of this organisation is to promote our national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's creations such as poetry, music, writing as to continue research on it. Dr Alam became a sole director and the first chairman of this organisation.

Dr Alam has recently formed another organisation as a director and first chairman of Abdullah Siddiqua Memory Ltd with the intention to continue with his planned charity, donations and disaster related assistance for the needy people all over the world.



Dr Mohammed Nurul Alam

Sector:

Accountancy

Glasgow based Aladin Ali experienced the excitement and passion of business life as a child growing up within her entrepreneurial family. She is constantly developing successful ventures and still experiences the passion for ideas and implementation that she first experienced as a child while watching her father progress in various business initiatives.

Aladin's West End based business, The Healing Academy, has been operational for several years and is a far cry from Aladin's initial catering businesses. The Healing Academy has fast established a reputé for excellence and quality reflecting on Aladin's determination for perfection and insistence on putting her clients first. Aladin's clients include prominent personalities and blue chip companies in Scotland. Another business, Aladin the Collection, is a range of exceptional skin care products which have been internationally feted. These have been positively reviewed widely and demand has outstripped supply. Aladin the Collection has further innovative products in the pipeline undergoing intensive research and development.

Aladin's collection was very product centric but almost in polar opposite at The Healing Academy, Aladin is the brand. The story surrounding this inspirational example of entrepreneurial strength, is putting this business out there beyond Scotland.

Aladin puts her success down to a passion of overcoming obstacles, staying positive and self-belief. Aladin has a YouTube channel and she has established a good reputation for self help and motivational reference. Aladin regularly speaks at seminars and lectures internationally and is sought after as a motivational speaker.

In addition to international TV networks Aladin has been featured in national newspapers and magazines for her books which have been published such as the highly acclaimed Wind Beneath your Wings: Inspiration for Daily Life available in the mainstream including Amazon.



Aladin Ali

Sector:

Business



Amin Ali

Sector:
Catering



Award Winner 2010

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



Anwar Ali

Sector:
Business

Mr. Anwar Ali was born in 1967 and hails from Shamat, a small village in Joggannathpur. He arrived in the UK's East End in 1976 at the tender age of nine-years old and quickly adapted and thrived in his surroundings. After completing his primary education in Brick Lane's Christ Church Primary School, he went on to study in Robert Montifore Secondary School. At the age of sixteen, Mr. Ali brimming with ambitions and innovations started his own business in leather garment manufacturing in partnership with his older brother. Slowly but surely Anwar's business grew steadily and established itself far ahead of any of its competitors at the time.

Anwar married in 1990 and has six children with his wife Sitara Begum. With her loving support they have raised and educated all of their children both in intensive Islamic and Arabic studies and in national curriculum through the use of higher education. He also began his own property management services in 1995.

Anwar first performed his holy pilgrimage to Makkah in the year 2000, and again in 2003, displeased and bewildered by the poor services provided by many of the Hajj tour operators, he decided to leave his leather garments factory and to start up his own Hajj and Umrah travel service to amend the

appalling situation over there.

In 2003, he founded Al-Qibla Hajj and Umrah Travels and Tours with the help of his partner, friends and family. After many arduous years sustaining hardships and many tests of endurance, Al-Qibla has emerged as the leading travel agency for Hajj and Umrah services in the UK. He takes great pride in always providing the best possible service, engages personally with all of his clients and ensures they all have a safe and above all meaningful pilgrimage. As an established businessman, Anwar Ali has always upheld the deep value of appreciating his roots and regularly donates to the poor and misfortunate in Bangladesh. He also gives back to his UK community by involving himself to many charities and community organizations. He is the treasurer of (ABHA) Association of British Hajj and Umrah Agencies, a trustee of Patli Union Welfare Trust, and a trustee of (JBET) Joggannathpur British Bangla Education Trust.

Mr Ali is always focused on his goals, and with Allah at the forefront of this, he has accomplished many of his desires. He is a caring kinsmen who respects others and supports his community the best way we can.

Md Shahidul Alam arrived in the UK in 2008 and is now the Director of Cricket, Capital Kids Cricket, a cricket development organisation working across London.

A British Bangladeshi who has achieved one of the highest cricket coaching qualifications among all Bangladeshis. He qualified as level 3 coach from England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) in 2001 and became a Coach Education tutor from 2009 under the ECB.

In Bangladesh Md Alam played at the highest level of domestic cricket from 1985 until 2000 and represented Bangladesh in 1990. He acted as National Cricket Coach / Senior Coach of High Performance programme under Bangladesh Cricket Board from 2001 until November 2006. During that period he worked with the National team, Bangladesh A team, Under 19 & Under 17 and managed junior development programmes, coach education courses, developed talent scouts procedure etc.

He also joined the Malaysia Cricket Association as National Coach to take up a special project to run the high performance programme with Under 19 side for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2008.

He is an Asian qualified ECB Coach Education Tutor / assessor and initiated T20 Asia Blaze in 2015 where local communities / leagues came together to play under the country names India, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The ECB are now looking to take this competition nationally. Middlesex community cricket league is another successful league that was set up in Victoria Park which has seen many young adults get playing opportunities on a regular basis. He has managed some national programmes including Chance to Shine and Street Chance with huge success. Projects run by Md Alam have been

recognised nationally with his players, coaches and clubs receiving due credit. Also some projects featured in various media including Sky Sports and BBC. Md Alam has been shortlisted for and won many awards.

His great mentoring skills have enabled 40 coaches to gain the UKCC L1 qualification and over 25 coaches to gain the UKCC L2 qualification. Under his guidance, he has developed three coaches who are currently working full time for Middlesex, Essex & Surrey Cricket Boards and several others are working as sessional coaches across London.

Over the past 8 years, he has built up and supported four new clubs; London Tigers Southall CC, Tower Hamlets CC, West Ham Junior CC and Stratford CC. The first of the three clubs are now competing in structured leagues within the county cricket system. He is also involved with developing a junior cricket club in Waltham Forest.

He also received the National Award to Develop Grassroots Cricket in the Asian Cricket Awards 2016.

His efforts have not only been at grassroots level though, he has coached the East London Tigers team in the Lord's Taverners City Cup (formally Wisden City Cup) for the past 7 years. This team won the competition in 2009 & 2010, with Dipayan Paul (2011) & Zain Shahzad (2012) gaining professional contracts with the MCC Young Cricketers through the competition.

One of his greatest assets is using his contacts within the business industry to raise funds for community cricket in the UK and in Bangladesh. He was the inspiration behind the International London Sixes cricket competition that has raised over £30k for community cricket in East and West London in the past 6 years.



**Md Shahidul Alam
(Ratan)**

Sector:
Sports



Award Winner 2016

BRITISH BANGLADESHI WHO'S WHO 2019



Ansar Ali

Sector:
Business/ Charity

Ansar Ali entered the UK as a child with his family in the mid-1970's and resided in East London. After completing his high school education at the age of 16 he started running family businesses which involved Restaurants, Retail Clothes shop & Cash and Carry.

However, it didn't just end there, at the age of 21 he completed his Advanced Driver Training course and decided to become a Driving Instructor as there was a shortfall of Bengali Driving Instructors at the time and most people wanted to pass the Driving Test before the Theory Test got implemented, by completing the course at the age of 22, he became one of the youngest Driving Instructor in Britain.

After working with various Driving Schools, in 1999 he went solo to start of his own company which he named 'Professional Driving Tuition' it became one of the largest Driving school in the Borough at the time.

He soon took his passion in driving tuition to the next level by becoming a Driving Instructor Trainer to help others to become Driving Instructors and pursue a career in that sector.

After successfully venturing into different businesses while running his own Driving School, it came to a point where he decided to give something back to the local community here in the UK and to his motherland Bangladesh.

He started voluntarily working with various schools, charities and organisation in UK to help people amongst local community, helping organise funds for different projects as well as getting involved with activities and campaigns.

His passion to help others lead him to travel abroad with organisations risking lives to help refugees in remote and war zone areas reaching out for the most vulnerable and needy.

He contributed time and effort into helping many charity and humanitarian Organisations, which motivated and inspired him to start his own small family charity based in Bangladesh for the very needy of his village and surrounding areas.

Since the start of the charity which he has named 'Charity One Way' with a tagline- "Charity begins at home" till this day there has been no looking back and the charity with the help of his family members and close friends has helped him in many ways distributing Tube wells, Houses, Medication and Food package's during the month of Ramadan and at the times of severe floods.

Ansar is a family-oriented person happily married with 3 children, currently pursuing his career in the property sector after graduating with BA hons in Business & Law.



Ashid Ali

Sector:
Academic

Ashid Ali is the third son of Al-haj Aftab Ali. He was born in Ghulduba, Nobiganj and arrived to the UK in 1984. He went to school and college in Oldham and completed his first degree at the University of Huddersfield, PGCE in Manchester and Masters in Education at the University of East London. He has dedicated his career to education as well as being actively involved in community development work. He was the Chairman of Oldham Bangladeshi Youth Association and in 2001 was invited to debate at the Oxford Union as well as to speak at the UN conference on Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia in South Africa. He was the chair of Oldham Coalition Against Racism leading it's successful campaign to stop the BNP getting elected to the council in Oldham.

Ashid is a very active campaigner for equality and justice. He was an executive member on the National Assembly Against Racism campaigning for racial equality in the UK and a committee member for the Geographical Association UK's International Committee working for better geographical education.

Ashid loves sports and played badminton competitively for his university and local league. He was also involved in setting up and running a number of football teams which played in City of Manchester Sunday league and the under 16's team played in the Rochdale Youth league.

Ashid started his teaching career in Oldham in 1998 and in 2002 moved to East London to take up leadership roles. He has been a school leader for the past 14 years which included six years as an Assistant Headteacher in Newham where he completed the National Professional Qualification for Headteachers (NPQH). Whilst working in East London, Ashid has encouraged, trained and developed many young people to the teaching profession and school leadership.

Ashid is now the Founder and Principal of London Enterprise Academy which opened in 2014 and will cater for 600 students. He has a passion for education and wants to see every young person pursue their ambitions and dreams.

Ashid is a believer in the power of education being able to transform families and communities. He grew up in inner city Oldham where university education was for the few. Education transformed his family and his friends and he is a believer that this is the recipe for social mobility.

Ashid is married to Ajufa Ali who is a Chemistry teacher and they have two boys .

In his spare time, Ashid plays badminton and enjoys travelling and he has extensively travelled with his family around Europe, Africa and Asia.

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

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

politicians and dignitaries from around the globe. In 1998 Enam launched Spice Business Magazine with breaking news and views about the restaurant industry. Today it boasts a readership of over 100,000 and is regarded as the Bible of the curry industry. Enam founded the British Curry Awards in 2005 to reward the unsung heroes and elevate the curry industry to a higher level. In the 2009 ceremony, the chief guest was the former Prime Minister Rt. Hon David Cameron. He said, "We have the finest curry restaurants, a record 40,000 nominations, the Oscars of the Spice industry, Enam Ali and all of you. You should be incredibly proud of what you have achieved". He is currently the President of the BBCC.

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



Enam Ali MBE

Sector:

Catering / Hospitality



Award Winner 2009

Former Mayor, Councillor Junab Ali came to U.K in 1978. He started his first business when he was 18 years old while he was still studying for his 'A' levels. By the age of 21 he owned several restaurants.

He has been a Swindon Borough Councillor for over 10 years since May 2008 and now the First British Bangladeshi, first Asian and Muslim Mayor in Swindon and Wiltshire. Re-elected 2012, 2014 and 2018.

He is the Executive Committee Member of South Swindon CLP Since 2008. He was the Chief Whip of Labour Group (Swindon Borough Council) May 2009- May 2011, Parliamentary Candidate for Devizes CLP 2010, Member of Wiltshire Police Authority 2012, Shadow Cabinet member (Swindon Borough Council) May 2011-2014, European Parliamentary Candidate for South West England 2014.

He was also the only British Bangladeshi in the U.K, Deputy Leader Swindon Labour Group (Swindon Borough Council) June 2014- May 2017, Vice-Chair Police Crime Panel Swindon and Wiltshire since June

2016, Treasure South Swindon CPL since October 2016, Parish Councillor for newly created Parish of Central Swindon South since May 2017, Deputy Mayor May 2017.

Councillor Junab Ali is married with 3 children.



Cllr Junab Ali

Sector:

Business & Politics



Mohammed Mohed Ali
(Mithu)

Sector:
Business

Mr M Mohed Ali (Mithu) is from Kamar Gow ,Osmani Nogar Balagonj , Sylhet. Son of Late Mr Montaz Ali and Late Mrs Jarina Bibi .

Mr M Mohed Ali (Mithu) began getting involved in business in 1990 when he opened his first restaurant Saffron Indian Take Away. Since then he has invested in the catering industry, properties, cash and carry and hotels both here in the United Kingdom as well as abroad. He is a chef by profession and is one of the top 10 chefs in the UK.

A Director of Dhaka Regency Five Star Hotel & Resort, founder owner and chairman of British Bangladeshi Ahnam Asset Ltd. (BBAA Ltd) , Board of Director of Tetulia Tea Co ,Grand Sylhet Five Star ApartHotel & Resort, Executive Director of Aporupa Housing Development. Mr M Mohed Ali's father started partnership business in 1970, which is an International Metal Industry (IMI), based in Gutatikor Sylhet Company Showrooms no.5 Surma Market Sylhet now it is owned by Mr M Mohed Ali (Mithu). In addition Mr M Mohed Ali (Mithu) is Director of Eastern Foods Yorkshire Ltd. Cash and Carry in Sheffield .

President UK Awami League, Sheffield City Branch, Founder Of Sheffield City Awami League,Executive member of UK Awami League, Central Committee, Chairman for the Unity for Universe Human Rights of Bangladesh Foundation, UK and Vice Chairman of Bangladesh Central Committee .

His commitments to the community include his role as Vice Charmin Of Probashi Balagonj Osmani Nogar Adesha Upozilla Sommittee, Founder and Vice President of KUWAIT- Bangladesh Chamber Of Commerce & Industry, Member of Bangladesh Welfare Associa-

tion, Trustee of Probashi Balagonj Osmani Nogar Education Trust, member of Bangladesh-British Chamber Of Commerce, member of The Sylhet Chambers of Commerce & Industry.Convener for UK and joint convener for Bangladesh International Expatriates Welfare Society, Life Member of Goala Bazar Gono Patagor and also a life member of Goala Bazar High School, life member of Masjid Samaj and convener for United Kingdom and a joint convener in Bangladesh. VP of the central committee of British Development Council in UK, President of Development Council for Bangladeshis in UK, Sheffield City Branch 2010, Chairman of the advisory committee Probashi Burunga Union Development and Welfare Trust as well as the founder. ,Vice Chairman and trustee for the Baitul Mukarram Masjid .

A philanthropist who helped build Babbon & Goala Bazar High School, life member of Burunga Adesha High School, member of Goala Bazar Brahmon Gram Shahjoolal Shineer Madersa, helped in 2004Flood in Bangladesh he personally donated 15 Lacs Taka in his local Osmani Nogar Balagonj, Upozilla in Fourteen unions He is also a member of Bright Future Trust in UK.

Mr M Mohed Ali (Mithu) is very well known community relation, politics and businessman. Politics activist and community member in Sheffield City and London. Mr M Mohed Ali (Mithu) is married to Mrs Rabiya Begum. They have two sons and two daughters who are: Rushna Begum Ali who is a Law graduate, M Ibrahim Ali who studies Aerospace Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University, Fathima Begum studies Health and Human Sciences at the University of Sheffield and M Ahnam Ali.



Mazhar Ali

Sector:
Catering/Hospitality

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

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

His first business venture was a take away in Somerset named Indiana , opened in 1990. This venture took off successfully and became a stepping stone in his business life. Indiana influenced Ali's next venture - Al-Amin, Dorchester, which led to his next challenge. Ali then established a take away restaurant - The Raj - in Shoburyness. Ali had created a recipe for success and his businesses continued to

thrive.The Raj had risen from the ashes and became popular in the locality and to this day it is still providing in the local people of Shoburyness with quality Bengali cuisine.

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

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

Kamru is currently the Managing Director of the District One Estates Group, which focuses on property investments. He is an accountant by profession and after graduation from University of London with a BA (Hons) in Accountancy & Law, he initially trained as an auditor in the Central London Audit Commission for some three years. Kamru knew from a young age that he wanted to run his own business and decided not to pursue a career as an accountant and instead become an entrepreneur.

Kamru started investing in property in his early 20s. By the time he was 29, Kamru achieved his goal of becoming a self-made millionaire. Kamru is one of the most dynamic and well respected property entrepreneurs in the UK. As well as building his own £20 million property portfolio, he has helped over 5,000 fellow Bangladeshi people source and finance property deals through his property and finance companies.

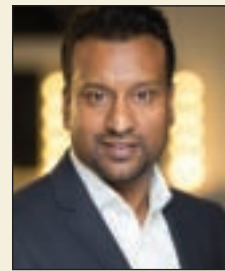
Additionally, Kamru organises and delivers property investment seminars, which has resulted in his clients and investors making substantial profits to date on their investment. All of Kamru's achievements came as the result of endless hard work and unwavering tenacity. Kamru is dedicated to showing others how they have the opportunity doing the same and is continually inspired by watching his clients, friends and family members achieve the kind of success they thought they could only dream of. Since the inception of Channel S, Kamru has appeared regularly on television as the property and finance expert for the channel.

Although Kamru has amassed his wealth with property and land business investments in the UK and

Bangladesh, having a financial and law education background has enabled him to own and co-own a variety of businesses. Premier Properties and Apex are well acknowledged brands within the British Bangladeshi households. He is also featured in the other mainstream 'Who's Who' publication, including being highlighted as Young Business Leader in the 'Who's Who of Britain's Business Elite'.

Kamru has been appointed as the director of the newly formed Tower Hamlets Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise (THCCE). He is an active member of the Conservative Party and a philanthropist. He has for many years sponsored a number of charities both in the UK and overseas. He is voluntarily involved in work with the youth, elderly, people experiencing poverty and homelessness. He has also worked as a volunteer at the Citizen Advice Centre.

He was the founder member of the Newham Youth link and his companies regularly sponsor football tournaments and local football teams. Kamru set up developing village roots in 2005, predominantly to help underprivileged children get access to education in Bangladesh. In 2014 jointly with his brother Askir, they have set up Hazi Johur Ali Trust, which donates to the vulnerable and needy in Bangladesh. Kamru works in a voluntary capacity to an enormous degree and has received numerous awards for his voluntary and charity work. Kamru is a family oriented individual and is married to Rina Begum. They are blessed with 4 children. They all attend some of the best private schools in England. His hobbies include travelling, socialising, football, swimming and reading.



Kamru Ali

Sector:

Property & Finance



Award Winner 2015

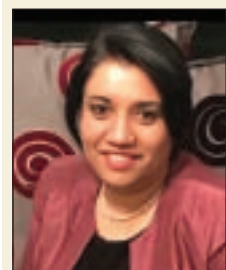
Maya Ali was married at the age of 16, mother of three children is now a qualified Solicitor and an established businesswoman who owns her own legal practice in Coventry named after her Maya & Co Solicitors.

Daughter of Aftab Ali and Monta Bibi, Maya emigrated to the 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 study Law LLB (Hons) at the renowned University Of Warwick.

To gain some Legal 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 manages her busy high street practice with her qualified daughter Syeda Reshmi Ali.

Maya continuously encourages and inspires women around her to follow their ambition. Maya is involved with various organisations as a trustee and a director level which help empower women to pursue their ambitions. She often finds herself lending hand with charities to raise funds for natural disasters around the world. She is also widely renowned in her community as being patriotic and her aspirations in respect of the Bangladeshi culture.

Maya has a keen interest in singing Bengali folk songs, reciting and creating her own poetry. Her interest in Bangladeshi politics has led to the appointment of becoming a Vice President of Coventry Awami League. Being active in the British Politics lead her to be elected as a local Councillor for Westwood Ward, Coventry in 2012, still active and hopeful to regain a Council seat. Has held post for a number of years such as a Treasurer for the Labour Coventry South Constituent CLP, Vice President of Coventry Labour BAME. Her views are that British Government and Politics today is a complex and fast-changing with mix of the traditional and forward thinking. She believes that the British Government requires more Asian Women representing its community in order for their voice to be acknowledged.



Maya Ali

Sector:

Law



Monir Ali

Sector:

Business

Mr Ali is a successful and leading business figure, born in the village of Dashghar, Bishwanath in Sylhet, Bangladesh. Son of Haji Moshud Ali who moved to the UK in the early 60's working in the steel industry, a contributor to the industrial revolution of Britain. His grandfather Mr Taher Ali came to the UK in the early 50's and was a navy man who travelled to Singapore, Australia and settled in South Shields, in the north of the UK, his grandfather was amongst the very first of the Sylheti community to arrive and settle in the UK.

Mr Ali came to the UK with his mother and siblings at a very young age to join his father in 1982.

He completed his schooling in Shoreditch and later went to college in Newham to study IT, at the same time he worked in the family run business in the clothing manufacturing industry.

On completion of college Mr Ali went onto the real estate business, buying and renting out properties in the East London area building up a large property portfolio. In 2003 Mr Ali became a stakeholder and managing director at General Auto Services, turning the company around making it into one of the largest and renowned Bangladeshi owned Claims management firms within the UK.

Mr Ali is a highly focused individual with comprehensive knowledge and understanding of corporate business setup, development, finances, marketing and budgeting and currently an advisor with the Ministry of justice, accredited by the Institute of the Motor Industry as a qualified engineer and Audatex a leading

platform for most major insurers in the UK.

In 2013 Mr Ali went onto invest and setup one of Bangladesh's first non resident banks, played a key role in understanding and implementing many new ideas and policies and onto becoming a sponsor, the bank has now become a beacon for Bangladesh's banking sector and is a leading brand.

Mr Ali is the current General Secretary of Dashghor Union Progoty Trust UK, is an active member of the executive committee of Bishwanath education trust, Dashghar probashi society and continues to work with various other organisations to promote the welfare of children in third world countries including Bangladesh, a firm believer that the foundation to bring people out of poverty is through education and investment in the future generations, has a very compassionate relationship with charities built on these beliefs and ethics. He is keen to find new ways of promoting health, education, and wellbeing in the motherland, Bangladesh and remains enthusiastic to hear from people with suggestions and ideas and remains open minded.

Mr Ali is a co-founder of an NGO based in Bishwanath, Sylhet called Shomota, and a member of the board of management for a number of years. Shomota focuses on funding small rural projects within Bishwanath for its residents, start-up businesses and currently a leading Non Government Organisation which has so far helped thousands of people.



Monojir Ali

Sector:

Business

Born in Beanibazar, Bangladesh in 1945, Monojir Ali is the youngest of three sons to Mossodra Ali Sarang and Mehrjan Bibi. The Sarang family are well known to the community for their charitable deeds by helping local villagers with jobs through the provision of donating schools, mosques and post office. Monojir followed his family's footsteps and later donated two halls for a local madrasa named after his late parents.

Shortly after completing his secondary school education, Monojir arrived in the heart of London in 1965 where he attended college and worked as a tailor. He later established a catering business that lasted for 20 years, whilst at the same time growing his property business in the UK and Bangladesh. Monojir finally found his calling and thrived in the property sector as a landlord, property developer, investor and a successful businessman. Since establishing a portfolio of over 40 properties in Central London, Monojir has been involved in a number of ventures in Bangladesh including recently developing and owning a 10-storey twin tower called Monojir Tower English Village in Shupatola Beanibazar, as well as a Director of Windsor Hotel & Resorts in Sylhet, amongst many others.

Despite running several prosperous businesses, Monojir continues to give back to the Bangladeshi community. Monojir is a Mukhti Jodda (Freedom

Fighter) and a Trustee of the Mukhti Jodda Kolyan Trust, Gold Member of the National Heart Foundation, Life Member of the Diabetes Hospital in Sylhet, Lifetime Member of Mullapur High School, Trustee of the Bangladesh Centre London, Founder Trustee of Beanibazar Education Trust, Chairman of Bangladesh's LDP in the UK, Chairman of Beanibazar Upozilla Jonokolyan Somitee in 2009 and 2010, Convener and Founder Chairman of Nidonpur Shupatola Girls High School and Convener of Beanibazar PHG High School Centenary Celebration 2017.

Among many of Monojir's achievements, he is a recipient of the Channel S Community Award in 2007, received a Public Guard of Honour Award by Beanibazar PHG High School and Winner of Lifetime Business Achievement Award by former UK Prime Minister David Cameron at the British Bangladeshi Business Awards in 2015.

Monojir is married with his only son who is a Civil Servant, and seven daughters with the eldest being Monojaha Polly Islam MBE and others who have gone to be a teacher and political science graduate.

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Munsur Ali

Sector:
Film



Award Winner 2015

Mr Ali is an international film Director, Producer and Writer from London, who graduated with a BA in Film and TV Production in 2004 where he set up his film production company.

He has worked with international stars including Anupam Kher, Asia Argento and recently with Bollywood superstar Karishma Kapoor. His other productions and promotions include working with global names such as Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Rani Mukherjee to 50 Cent and JAGGED Edge. He has also produced hard-hitting docu-films highlighting social issues.

Mr Ali is the Founder and CEO of the Limelight Film Awards, the largest independent short film awards in the UK which identifies emerging film talent. It is attended by over 500 film makers, media personalities and celebrities and is recognised by the International Film Fraternity.

In 2012, Mr Ali was invited to meet HRH Prince of Wales Prince Charles as a successful, local, social entrepreneur. In the same year Mr Ali was presented with a Civil Award in London for his Contribution to Arts.

In 2014, Mr Ali was honoured at the House of Parliament in London where he was listed on the British Bangladeshi Power and Inspiration 100 list.

He has now launched the London Bengali Film Festival (LBFF), which is an annual celebration of films from or about the Bengali Diaspora, aimed at the international audience.

Mr Ali recently completed his eye-opening debut

feature film 'Shongram', meaning a struggle. It is a romantic drama set during the 1971 Bangladeshi Liberation Struggle, starring Anupam Kher, a Bollywood star, and Asia Argento, a Hollywood star, with the acclaimed script editor Billy Mackinnon.

The movie had its world premiere during the London Indian Film Festival which was the first time a Bengali based film to be premiered in London's Leicester Square, followed Darpan Singapore Film Festival, Keswick Film Festival and other prestigious screenings.

Mr Ali has participated in various dialogues and been featured on TV, radio and press, including BBC World News, BBC London, London Live, East End Life, Wharf and many others both in the UK, India and Bangladesh.

Mr Ali is extremely busy and at the moment as he is releasing two new films. The first is called Cinema – Welcome to the world of ambition, love, loss and betrayal. A movie about a young actor (WHO) enters the world of cinema, as he quickly rises he also finds a whole new world of exploitation, corruption, drugs, thugs and betrayal which he never knew he was going to be a part of.

The second is THE FINAL MESSAGE, which is a supernatural horror based around the Hebrew scriptures, Christian scriptures and the Quran. An eye opening thought provoking and visual film that has been on Munsur's mind for a decade.

In 2014, he married Bengali supermodel and actress Dilruba Yasmeen Ruhee.



Nadia Ali

Sector:
Media

Nadia Ali began her media career 8 years ago on a live Children's TV programme, which was beamed into thousands of Asian households across UK & Europe. Nadia's media career has always been defined by her love for Bangladesh and passion for the Bangladeshi culture.

Nadia has hosted many prestigious award ceremonies & talent shows across the UK on a number of Asian TV Channels, which include B4U, Channel S, ATN Bangla and NTV.

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

Since then she has been involved in many community projects in the UK and Bangladesh and has recently been appointed as a Director for "British Bangladesh Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs". Nadia has been recognized and awarded by many organisations for her involvement in the community. Recently, Nadia made a transition from live tv to live radio on the BBC Asian Network. Nadia's show is aired every Sunday evenings on the BBC Asian Network, connecting the community with events in the

UK, inviting special guests & holding discussions. She also brings the latest news, entertainment & fresh beats of Bangladeshi music and culture.

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

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

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

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

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

Councillor Ali was born in Islam Pur, Sylhet, Bangladesh and came to the UK aged 7. He is married to Amanda Ali and has three boys, Rio, Zachariah and Noah. His early initiatives included the Camden Monitoring Group (1989) to combat racial harassment and the Camden United Project (1994) to unite young people through their common interest in football diverting them away from racism, crime and conflict. Councillor Ali received one of the first Camden Good Citizen Awards.

He has been a ward councillor for the Regents Park ward since May 2002. Councillor Ali was appointed Mayor of Camden at the age of 34 (2003/4) when he was the youngest Mayor in the country. Councillor Ali achieved a number of historic firsts in Camden: the youngest ever Mayor; the first Bangladeshi

Mayor; the first Muslim Mayor; the first Bangladeshi Executive Member and the first Bangladeshi Leader of the Labour Group and the Council. Councillor Ali saw his role as reaching out to all sections of the community to ensure that the political process was understood by all and worked well for everyone.

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

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

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

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



Cllr Nasim Ali OBE

Sector:
Politics

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

Mr. Ali studied Commerce at Madan Mohan College before completing his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering from Sylhet Polytechnic Institute in 1980. After completing his studies Mr Ali joined Karim Pipe Mills in Chittagong as an apprentice engineer in late 1980. During this time he was also associated with journalism in Bangladesh and served as a Sub Editor of the "Purbanchal", a Khulna based daily until 1982.

In the UK Monchab Ali established his own restaurant in 1985. He then opened another restaurant called the "Bengal Dynasty" in Llandudno, North Wales which proved to be very popular. In 1991 Mr. Ali opened another Bengal Dynasty in Deeside, North Wales.

His restaurant was honoured as the "Best Indian Bangladeshi Restaurant" in the region of Wales by Patak Spices in 1993, and was named as the "Best Restaurant in Wales by Good

Curry Guide 1995-97, 1998-1999 & 2000. The British Curry Awards named

Bengal Dynasty Restaurant as one of the Top-30 Restaurants in UK and Top-10 Finalist for 2005 & 2006 and it won British Curry Awards for Best Restaurant in Wales 2007.

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

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

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

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



Mohammed Monchab Ali JP

Sector:
Catering & Community Relations



Shakur Ali

Sector:

*Catering and
Community*

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

Mr Shakur Ali is a prominent and well respected member of the Bangladeshi community and serves on the management committee of various voluntary and not-for profit organisations including the Bicester and District Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh Caterers Association and Oxfordshire Bangladeshi Association. He is the founder member of the OBA and is very committed to promoting the rich cultural heritage of Bangladesh. Mr Shakur Ali is a founding chairman of Bicester Muslim society. Mr Shakur Ali is a vice president of BCA and a Director of Bangladesh-British Chamber of Commerce. He has full heartedly devoted himself for the service of BCA, BBCC and his local organisations. In the last few years, he has proactively participated in the trade delegation visits to Bangladesh and most recently he took part in a successful trade mission to Bangladesh with the senior members of BBCC. He also played a vital role in co-hosting a seminar in Oxford with the Oxford-

shire Bangladeshi Association for the first Bangladesh ICT delegation in 2002. He and his local organisation fully supported the first ever trade exhibition "Bangladesh Expo 2005" in London, which was organised by the BBCC. Mr Shakur Ali is the founder of Shakur Education Trust which provides financial support to improve education in the Dula-bazar area where he grew up. He is regularly reported in the local press for his charity work, in Bangladesh and UK.

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



Nazia Ali

Sector:

*Literature and
Publishing*

Published author Nazia Ali embraced her talent for writing from a young age. Her earliest accolade was the Young Author's Award in Bridgeport, CT. Followed by an original short story titled From Bangladesh to America--the piece was published in a local magazine. Since then, a dream had been born. Her vision is for her writing to be a practical tool for her readers to build a relationship with their creator. Ali's work explores dawah and community building.

As a Bangladeshi native, she was highly inspired by her parents--native author, Manoara Shanur and charity worker, Mohammed Choudhury. Kodomtoli, Sylhet was home to Ali in her earlier childhood. Growing up, Ali has spent a good part of her life in the U.S. where she has studied and spent her adolescence. Her family moved to the states in 1988. While living there, she was experimental with her writing and honed her talent. Ali later met the love of her life and moved to the U.K. where she settles today.

Debut book, Healthy and Halal Choice (2012) was Ali's introduction to healthy lifestyle choices and building a balanced life. The book invites different faiths and ethnic groups to try different recipes that promote a healthy lifestyle. Her debut was well received and made several world appearances including an international book fair in Frankfurt, Germany, book signings in the United States, United Arab Emirates, and Bangladesh. At the local level, Ali was recognized and awarded by Channel S for Healthy and Halal Choice.

After outstanding debut success, Ali released her second book, Into the Light from the Darkness--a fictional novel about a woman's journey towards Islam. When asked

about style and thematic expression, Ali chooses to cite the Quran and Sunnah in her writing. She chooses to preserve the authenticity and the message of her Creator and drive examples of the Prophet (PBUH) and his followers. In 2016, her show 'Healthy Iftar' debuted for TV One, helping people find the sweet spot where healthy and delicious meet. In the same year, Ali was invited to several local schools to teach parents how to give up the junk food culture and prepare healthy, cost efficient packed lunches that the kids enjoyed eating.

In 2017, Ali's new book 'From my kitchen, to yours' was published by AuthorHouse.

When Ali is not writing, she is committed to local services and non-profit work. Currently, she serves as the UK Chairperson for the MSB Foundation and the Muslim Baag Madrassa. She is heavily involved with the youth and hosts healthy cooking workshops where children explore the culinary arts; she has also introduced Halal food to several different local schools alongside being a judge at numerous cooking and bake-off competitions. Ali has also hosted several local healthy cooking demos--one in particular that was featured at a local food festival. Her commitment to her community has been recognized among several platforms both at the local and international level.

Ali is the face and chairperson of the NFA Foundation and among many of her accolades, her foundation drove her to be an honorary guest speaker for many different events in the USA, UK and Bangladesh. She is also an established property developer.

As of recent, Ali has focused her efforts on a new novel with a release date that is still to be determined.

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Rushanara Ali MP

Sector:

Politics



Award Winner 2010

Rushanara Ali is the Labour Member of Parliament for Bethnal Green and Bow. She was first elected in May 2010 with a majority of 11,574, having defeated George Galloway's Respect Party. Bethnal Green and Bow was one of four Labour gains in 2010. Rushanara was re-elected in 2015 doubling her majority to 24,317 and earning 61% of the share of the vote and again re-elected in 2017, increasing her majority again to 35,393.

Rushanara grew up in her constituency attending Mulberry school and Tower Hamlets College. She was the first in her family to go to University and studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford University. Until her resignation from Labour's front bench in September 2014 over her decision to abstain on the vote on airstrikes in Iraq, Rushanara served as Shadow Minister for Education and Young People, and between October 2010 and October 2013, as Shadow Minister for International Development. Rushanara has previously served as a member of the Treasury Select Committee and the Energy and Climate Change Select Committee and the Communities and Local Government Select Committee. Rushanara has recently been elected once again to the Treasury Committee. She was appointed the UK's Trade Envoy to Bangladesh in 2016.

Prior to her election in May 2010, she was Associate Director of the Young Foundation, where she co-founded UpRising, a national leadership development and employability charity which has helped thousands of young people develop their campaign-

ing and leadership skills. Rushanara has also recently created One Million Mentors, a national online platform to recruit, train and deploy mentors to organisations working with young people.

She also co-founded the Social Innovation Exchange which works to connect innovators and social entrepreneurs around the world to collaborate to tackle major social problems. Rushanara also worked at the Communities Directorate of the Home Office, leading a programme of work to support local areas following the 2001 riots in Bradford, Burnley and Oldham; at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office where she helped establish what became the Forced Marriage Unit; as a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research (1999-2002) working on anti-discrimination issues, and as Parliamentary Assistant for Oona King, former MP for Bethnal Green & Bow (1997-1999).

She has also worked as Research Assistant to Lord Young of Dartington (author of the 1945 Labour Party manifesto), helping him to set up Language Line, a national telephone interpreting company and Futureversity, a youth charity which has helped over a 100,000 young people - raising aspirations, cutting youth crime and getting them into work. She has previously served as a Commissioner on the London Child Poverty Commission; a board member of Tower Hamlets College; a Trustee of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation; a member of the Tate Britain Council and a member of the Home Office Working Group on Preventing Extremism established after the 7/7 London bombings.



Tariq Ali

Sector:

Civil Service & Entrepreneur

Tariq Ali is a successful civil servant & entrepreneur. Tariq began his career at the age of 18 as an Officer of the Court dealing with Civil Litigation cases. He was subsequently headhunted by the then Director-General of the Ministry of Justice, Sir Paul Jenkins QC and he was promoted to Headquarters in the Legal Advice and Litigation Division. There, he worked closely with Government Lawyers on numerous high profile cases as well as in work involving the development of the Data Protection Act and the Human Rights Act.

Tariq's work earned him recognition as a 'Young Achiever' by the Ministry and he was invited by Buckingham Palace to meet the Queen in recognition of his work. Tariq studied LLB Law part-time at the University of Westminster funded and supported by the Ministry and he was later appointed to join the Secretariat to the Criminal Procedure Rule Committee chaired by the Lord Chief Justice.

After serving over 10 years in Central Government, in 2012 Tariq set up a company in London's Harley Street providing Medico-Legal Reports prepared by Medical Experts to Law Firms for the use of Court Evidence. Concurrently, Tariq launched a further company in London's Kensington providing translation services to the Legal Profession primarily for

Court based work.

In 2013 Tariq went on to set up another company, Metropolitan Accident Management in London's Royal Docks where is currently the CEO. His company specialises in sophisticated cases and uses innovative techniques for evidence gathering for the court including the adoption of forensics to successfully prove cases against large insurance companies. Tariq bought his first investment property in London at the mere age of 19. He now has a healthy property development & investment portfolio across London which includes luxury high end apartments. Tariq is involved with various charities but primarily works with a charity set up by his father since 2000 that houses and educates over 350 orphan children in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

Having been to over 40 countries around the world, Tariq is not only a keen traveler, he is also a keen aviator having flown several light aircraft and is currently working towards obtaining his pilot's license.

Tariq has done some lifestyle modeling work for internationally renowned Photographer Richard Bryant whose clients include Armani, Bulgari and Gucci.

Dr. Muhammad Siraj Ali (Hon) is a pioneering force behind the introduction of Indian Cuisine in the Essex region. In his successful 47-year career, he introduced Indian food to Thurrock, and has used his success and experiences to broaden cultural understanding and raise millions of pounds for charities in Bangladesh and the UK.

His passion to build bridges between cultures and communities has seen him become an ambassador for multi-cultural integration and charity work.

Since 1995, Siraj has raised over £3 million for charity, with his charitable efforts having even seen his dishes flown to 150 UN troops in the Congo.

Dr Ali's successful restaurant was chosen by MPs to cater for the first ever Bangladesh Festival of Food and Culture at the House of Commons in 2001.

In 2008, Siraj Ali was named an honoured friend of the University of Buckingham Scholarship for advising Author David Urch on writing his international book, Crescent and the Delta: The Bangladesh Story.

In the same year, Dr Ali won the British Bangladeshi Who's Who 'Outstanding Contribution' Award.

In 2009, Siraj was winner of the Channel S Awards 2009 'Contribution to the Community Award for Greater London and the South East of England', for his long standing contribution to the British Bangladeshi Community.

In 2011, Siraj was winner of the British Bangladeshi Who's Who 'Outstanding Contribution' Award, receiving a crest from The Mayor of London Borough of Tower Hamlets for outstanding achievement in community work.

In 2015, Siraj was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by Currylife magazine for contribution to the catering and hospitality industry.

In 2016 he was given a UK Honorary Award for outstanding services and contributions from Umor Pur Union Welfare & Development Organisation awarded by the First

Secretary Mr Sayem Ahmed, Bangladesh High Commissioner in London.

In 2018, Siraj was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Essex for his distinguished career, joining Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of Jatyto Sangshad, (Bangladesh Parliament), former UK Prime Minister Harold Wilson and former President of Chile, Her Excellency Michelle Bachelet, whose achievements are recognised by academics.

In Bangladesh, Dr Ali is a Director of the Metro Hotel and Conference Centre, Founder and Proprietor of the Crescent Hospital, Mairabazaar, now City School, Chairman of the Interim period Mediator Committee and Treasurer of the Balagonj Education Trust -later a Trustee, Co-Founder and Sponsor of Balagonj Sixth Form College and the Osmani Nogar Girls College, Co-Founder, Trustee, Secretary, of the Haji Soyed Ali Memorial Trust, Co- Sponsor of the Haji Soyed Ali Memorial Trust Anwarul Uloom Jamia Academy and Haji Soyed Ali Primary School, and Co-Founder of the Haji Soyed Ali Memorial trust Anwarul Uloom Jamia Hostel for Orphans.

Siraj Ali is also the Owner and Chairman of the Al Siraj Plaza, a multipurpose building in Goalabazaar Sylhet which includes the 10000 sq foot 'Siraj - Ul -Uloom' for Quran and Hadith Research Centre and Library, the 3rd centre of its kind in Bangladesh.

In Essex, Siraj is the Founder Chairman of both the Thurrock Bangladesh Welfare Association and the Thurrock Islamic Educational Cultural Centre, Former General Secretary and founder member of the Essex Jamme Masjid in Southend on Sea, as well as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Essex Bangladesh Welfare Association (Essex) and former Vice Chairman of Bangladesh Catering Association Essex region.



Dr Siraj Ali

Sector:
Catering



Award Winner 2011

Shah Lalon Amin was born in South Shields, Tyne And Wear to parents Shah Ruhul Amin and Lutfunessa Choudhury of Nobigonj, Khonkari Para.

Studied in Sunderland University Shah Lalon Amin is an inspirational and works in refugee camps around the world. He set up United Aid Network and instigated more than 30 aid missions to the Turkey and Syrian border, Lebanon, Jordan, Greece, France as well as Bangladesh.

He has co founded a school in Bangladesh in a remote delta island, helping give free education to more than 50 children. He also helped launch a women's skills centre in a rural part of Bangladesh, which now supports women to become financially independent.

Lalon has worked tirelessly for Rohingya refugees and is also a Co Director of AMAL Foundation. He oversaw projects which built more than 15 deep water filter wells which gives clean water to thousands of people on a daily basis. He has also overseen AMAL Foundations shelter Project which built more than 300 shelters for 300 families.

Lalon is a tireless campaigner for refugees. His work has greatly helped Amal Foundation to reach new

heights. He is married to Helena Amin and has two children Sanjida Al Amin and Amelia Al Amin. Shah Lalon Amin loves travelling and experiencing new cultures. Going to refugee camps and supporting underprivileged communities and making a difference.



Shah Lalon Amin

Sector:
Charity



Cllr. Farida Anwar

Sector:
Politics

Cllr. Farida Anwar is an elected Councillor of Oxford City Council since May 2014. She is the first British Bangladeshi Councillor in the whole of Oxfordshire County.

Cllr. Farida started her career as a UK Civil Servant at the Department of Health and Social Security (now DWP) for 18 years. Then she was appointed as a Team Manager of Home Care Section at Social Service Department in London Borough of Camden in 1987. She was finally promoted to the position of Commissioner of Housing and Adult Care Department in 1991.

After working about 40 years in British Civil Service and local government, Cllr. Farida took early retirement in 2007 to join politics as member of the UK Labour Party.

Apart from civil service and political career, Cllr. Farida has always been a sincere and effective community activist. She has always been a strong voice for the promotion of Bangladeshi and Asian communities in Oxford and London. Her involvement with Oxfordshire Bangladeshi Association, Muslim and Christian Forum Oxford, 'MIND in Oxford' demonstrates her selfless efforts to forge bondage between the various social, ethnic and religious communities in Oxford and its surrounding areas. She is well known as one of the founders of Oxford Asian Cultural Centre which is regarded as the hub of inter-ethnic relationship in Oxford. Her activism also includes education

and health sectors. She is a governor of St. Michael CE Primary School in Oxford where she chaired Community and Preschool Committee. She is an elected member of London Moorfields Eye Hospital Patients' and Governing Body. As an elected committee member of UNISON (Camden branch), Thames Valley Police Consultative Committee and as a member of the Executive Committee of the former Oxfordshire Council for Community Relations, Cllr. Farida has been playing a key role in the preserving the interests of the ethnic minority groups in London and Oxfordshire.

Cllr. Farida was born in the Faridpur district in Bangladesh to her mother Late Salema Khatun and father Late Shah Mohammad Israil Huq retired as a Joint Secretary in Bangladesh Civil Service and is directly related to the family of the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. She is married to Mr Sayedul Haque. Her only Daughter Fahmida is an Oxford Graduate who works at the University of Oxford in the Postgraduate Research Centre. Cllr. Farida Anwar has three grandchildren.

Cllr. Farida has five brothers & one sister. the elder brother is the Vice Chancellor of Barisal University, another brother is a professor of New York City University, USA, rest three brothers are in Bangladesh Civil Services.



Dr Zaki Rezwana Anwar

Sector:
Medicine / Media

One of the most prominent and inspirational British Bangladeshi women, Dr Zaki Rezwana Anwar is a personality known for multi-faceted attributes such as medical and philanthropic contribution, coupled with her illustrious media career. Leading her team in National Debates on Bangladesh Television, she was crowned 'Best Orator' for five consecutive years. The youngest newsreader to pass multi-stage auditions, she completed the long course on newscasting at the National Institute of Mass Communications, making her the only British Bangladeshi with this level of training and expertise. Her journey began with Dhaka Radio; henceforth would emerge the epitome to watch on Bangladesh Television, BBC World Service, Bangla TV and Channel S. Internationally the longest serving female Bangladeshi newscaster, her unparalleled mark in the newscasting world was recognised with Eastwood Awards' title: 'Best Female Newscaster.' With classical vocal training from Ustad Akhtar Sadmani, she also won the 'Notun Kuri' national singing contest. Channels including All India Radio, Voice of America and BBC 2 interviewed her; she served as both judge and mentor on Catering Circle Show.

After her MBBS degree from Dhaka, her Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene was with British Council Scholarship. Following her Maternal and Child Health MSc at UCL with Danish Government Fellowship, she was a selected Commonwealth Scholar for her PhD. Dr Anwar's Tangail project with iodine deficient pregnant mothers and infants (funded by GlaxoSmithKline) inspired a documentary on BBC 2 in collaboration with ICH (UK) and ICD-DRB. Princess Margaret selected this among leading three medical research projects that year. Dr Anwar improved maternal mortality rates as founding member of 'Action for Safe Motherhood' working with the Brazilian Government, and campaigned against FGM with Gambian NGOs. She was invited Guest Speaker for international organisations including UNESCO, 3FE, WHO and Asian Nutrition Con-

gress. She presented with British Paediatric Association, at Centre for International Child Health and University of Warwick. Journals including British Medical Journal, Lancet, European Journal of Clinical Nutrition and Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene published her work.

Her enterprises however, stem further than medicine and media alone. As GSC's Women and Cultural Affairs Secretary she ventured far and wide, teaching hard-to-reach women first aid. With her 'Widow Project' initiative, 500 destitute widows saw avenues to financial independence. Dr Anwar raised funds for the flood-stricken, and at a school her mother founded, aided orphans with 'Zaki Rezwana Scholarship'. She established a Rotaract Club's Medicine Bank and as Shandhani's President, initiated blood and organ donation campaigns. She is in London Bangla Press Club; she supports Cancer Research UK, Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed; and anti-rape movements. iQra International recognised her work with disabled children.

From embryonic stages, she was the trailblazer for Dual Citizenship Act amendments, negotiating with the Law Minister to protect rights of British Bangladeshis. She was honoured with the Mayor's Civic Award for services to the British Bangladeshi community. Cultivating her unique blend of medical and international media expertise, Dr Anwar is CEO of a social enterprise named 'Keep Our Hearts Beating' (KOHB) which she co-founded with her daughter Propa. They are leading this new social medicine initiative in partnership with the NHS, addressing the organ shortage for UK treatment. Having donated all her organs herself she has inspired not only her son and daughter to do the same, but also many others of diverse backgrounds. 'No Brits will face morbidity and mortality for a lack of organ donors' – this is Dr Anwar's ultimate vision.



Award Winner 2018

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Kazi Arif (MBA, DBA)

Sector:
Property / Media



Award Winner 2017

Kazi Arif (MARLA, MNAEA) is the Managing Director & founder of the multi-award winning company Prime Estate Agents. He moved to the U.K in 1996 to continue with his studies; completing his DMS, MBA, DBA at university in the U.K. He has since gained many esteemed professional property qualifications.

Kazi is a successful entrepreneur and TV personality, in 2017 Kazi Arif was recognised for his outstanding contribution to media and the local community by being presented the British Bangladeshi, Who's Who outstanding achievement award.

Kazi is extremely grateful to the almighty Allah, and is in debt to his family members, clients and well wishers for all his achievements, and all that he is yet to achieve. Kazi and his wife have been blessed with two wonderful children; a son and a daughter.

With over 15 years experience in the property sector, in 2007, Kazi laid the groundwork that would see him become a successful entrepreneur by opening his own business; PRIME ESTATE AGENTS, in Whitechapel, E1.

Naturally, his business did not expand rapidly overnight, but Kazi never faltered from his belief that consistently delivering outstanding service would not go unnoticed. His hard work did pay off; so much so that Prime Estate Agents has grown significantly, and has had to relocate to a much larger office in Brick Lane (opposite Brick Lane mosque) London, E1. Prime Estate Agents are now a multi award winning agency, winning awards such as

Best Independent Estate Agent London, Real Estate Firm of the Year, Leading Real Estate Advisor of the Year, and shortlisted for The Negotiator Awards 2017, London Agency of the Year, and Property Wire Awards 'Best Letting Agents in London.'

Kazi began to support his local community by giving free property advice, and this became so popular within his community. Convinced by the success of this, Kazi began hosting his own TV show which is currently live on NTV

every Monday from 8pm to 9pm, The Property Show with Kazi Arif, which can also be found on Facebook or Youtube. During the show, Kazi gives free advice and up-to-date news to the public, as well as discussing any property related issues with them. Viewers can also call in to the show and ask Kazi questions. Kazi is now a pioneer in the property talk show industry within his own community. The show has been running for nearly 5 years, which is an incredible accomplishment in itself, yet Kazi still finds time to continue running his multi-award winning estate agency.

Celebrating their 11th anniversary this year, Prime Estate Agents (Member of ARLA, NAEA) are one of the most established independent estate agencies in London. The Property Show with Kazi Arif is also achieving unprecedented success. None of this could have been possible without Kazi Arif's unique vision and unwavering hard work throughout the process.



Lisa Aziz

Sector:
Media



Award Winner 2012

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

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

Lisa got her big break when headhunted to join tv-am as a senior reporter and was then made main newscaster shortly afterwards.

She went on to join Sky News where she was a main anchor for 13 years before being approached again by ITV news, to head up all news programming in the west country.

Throughout a trail-blazing 25 year career Lisa has also won numerous awards including a Tric and a RTS and worked for many other organisations including BBC World News, CNBC, Financial Times TV and Dubai TV. She has also run a successful career alongside as a worldwide business corporate host and as a charity campaigner.

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

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

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

Suhail Aziz is a British trained Bangladeshi with record of achievements in organisation, management, economics and community relations whose expertise has been gained in sophisticated multinationals: Unilever, Ford, Mars. He has valuable

senior-level experience of British government machinery; also experience of World Bank, DFID, ADB etc involved in the developing world. Mr Aziz is founder chairman and managing director of his company The Brettonwood Partnership Ltd, an international management consultancy firm working in developing countries.

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

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

Suhail gets mentions in “Who’s Who”; “Debrett’s”; and “Asian Who’s Who”;



Suhail Ibne Aziz

Sector:
Consultancy/ Public Service.

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

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

Azad has published 14 books including novels, collections of short stories, essays and poems in both English and Bangla and has been included in various anthologies including British South Asian Poetry, My Birth Was Not In Vain, Velocity, Emlit Project and Mother Tongues. She wrote two plays for Half Moon Theatre.

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

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



Shamim Azad

Sector:
Arts, Culture & Education



Award Winner 2009



Dr Muhammad Abdul Bari MBE

Sector:

Islamic Affairs and Community Relations



Award Winner 2011

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

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

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

In addition, Dr Bari is a patron of Anchor House, a
homeless charity in Newham, the National Youth
Agency and the Ramphal Centre. He is a board
member of the London Organising Committee of

the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games
(LOCOG), served on the Good Childhood Inquiry
Panel which was set up by the Children's Society in
2006, and is a trustee of Muslim Aid, a leading in-
ternational charity.

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



Shamimur Rahman Bashar

Sector:

Design, Build & Glazing

Shamimur was born in the United Kingdom in 1968
and was educated in Bangladesh at Shahjalal Jamia
Islamia School and later at university in the United
Kingdom. After his education in the late 80's he
worked for Toynbee Translation Project in Tower
Hamlets. While working he had also studied Insur-
ance law and was awarded by Lloyds of London for
his achievements.

He then purchased his own home and decided to
carry out some renovation work and replace the win-
dows and doors at the property. While these works
were ongoing he had an interest in the double glaz-
ing industry and had made communication with the
double glazing firm. He had a chance to acquire the
double glazing by the time the installations were
complete he had bought the company, at that time
he was one of the first Bangladeshi Managing Direc-
tor of a Double Glazing Company in the whole of the
UK. After taking over he expanded his knowledge in
manufacturing and marketing and utilised these
skills in moving forward and have invested in a be-
spoke showroom offering my services. Shamimurs
company is Iconic Glazing Limited. His services in-
clude designing and developing properties for
clients. Simultaneously he also started to invest in
properties.

Shamimur strongly believe in giving back to the

community. For many years he has been supporting
an orphanage called S.B Orphanage Trust in
Bangladesh. Shamimur is a corporate member of the
UKBCCL.

Shamimur enjoys travelling and had a chance to go
to Umrah and Hajj many times and recently has trav-
elled to Kenya and had a great Safari experience.

Shamimur is married with four children, 3 sons and
1 daughter. Elder sons are in full time employment,
1 is a civil engineer and the other is a computer soft-
ware engineer. His daughter is at university and the
younger son is at a secondary grammar school.



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Cllr Rita Begum

Sector:
Politics

Rita Begum was elected as a Councillor for Maida Vale ward Westminster City Council in May 2014, taking a Conservative seat which they held for 20 years and she was the only labour candidate who got elected. Serving as a shadow cabinet member for environment, Sports and Community from 2014 to present.

In May 2018 Rita made history by taking all three seats in her ward for doing tireless work. Her achievement locally included securing the 20mph speed limit pilot, gaining funding for a local cycle hire station and upgrading the toilets and baby changing facilities in Paddington Recreational ground. Cllr Rita is a local mum who has lived in Westminster for the whole of her adult life, having been a pupil at Wilberforce Primary school & St Augustine's Secondary school.

Cllr has worked in community engagement for 20 years at both the Stowe youth Club and the A2Dominion Housing Group. She has a special interest in child and youth development and, amongst her range of public duties, she is a member of the Council's Policy & Scrutiny Committee for Children & Sport. She is also a Board Director for the Paddington Youth Enterprises Ltd – a social enterprise company promoting employment & business enterprise opportunities for youth. Cllr has also helped set up Queens Park Football Academy established in 2016 which trains young children age 5 to 16 years old coming from disadvantage background free of charge football and other after school youth activities

and is also involved with Age UK Westminster (the older people charity) & Queens Park Bangladesh Association. Queens Park Community council first ever parish council in London established in 2014.

First time in Westminster City council celebrated 46th Independence Day of Bangladesh with his Excellence high commission of Bangladesh and many well-known community activist on April 2017 as a result of Cllr Begum taking initiative to organise this event. Also helps with promoting ward budget and setting up local events which people can participate in, healthy lifestyle, health & well-being workshop, mental health training and trip to country side.

Rita has an excellent reputation in fundraising, social organisation, charities and event organisation. August 2018 travelled to Bangladesh to help with Shahjalal Welfare trust with their Qurbani project and donated water well in a remote village of Singkapon in Moulvi Bazar.

Cllr Rita already works tirelessly for her Bangladeshi community as well as people coming from diverse background to advocate their voice where ever required.

Also serves in several community organisations. Cllrs favourite pastimes include following local and national politics, table tennis, gardening as well as eating out. Very passionate about national & international aid work. She is a well-rounded Councillor striving for the success of Westminster residents and the people within.



Ruqsana Begum

Sector:
Sports

Born and raised in East London, the second of five children, the young Muay-Thai kickboxer won her first World Title against Swedish champion Susanna Saljarvi and is the current World Kickboxing Association (WKA) 48kg champion, British Atomweight Champion, European Gold medallist and World bronze medallist.

Anyone who believes that women can't or shouldn't fight needs to meet Ruqsana Begum. Ruqsana has also won a number of British titles and European championship gold medals.

Ruqsana fights Muay Thai kickboxing, often referred to as the 'Art of Eight Limbs', the national sport of Thailand, where it is far more popular than football. Unlike regular boxing, competitors can use any combination of punches, kicks, knees and elbows to strike an opponent during a bout.

Ruqsana's sporting career is only scratching the surface. She is an inspirational figure way beyond her own community. She is a motivational speaker, teaches kickboxing classes for women, juggles numerous media commitments, and leads a busy family life with many

responsibilities as the eldest girl in a large family.

Ruqsana's road to glory in one of the hardest sports was not easy. Raised in a conservative Bengali Muslim environment, the thought that a young woman would choose to compete in the kickboxing ring would not sit well with some in her community.

But Ruqsana has fought hard to explode negative perceptions of women in sport, and indeed young British Muslims and remains a shining example to young British people.

An Olympic Torchbearer in 2012 in her home city, Ruqsana has been nominated for several awards for her outstanding contribution towards sport and the community, including working with the Dame Kelly Holmes Get on Track Programme; such as the Sky Sports Sportswoman of the Year, Muslim News Sportswoman of the Year and the UK Muslim Women's Sports person of the Year.

The architecture graduate has also launched a stunning range of sports hijabs; Sports Hijabs by Ruqsana Begum, specifically designed for young Muslim women who might feel too intimidated or ill-equipped to engage in sport.



Award Winner 2016

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

Junel, Jamal and Joynal all grew up in Brick Lane, East London and progressed their education to Milestone Preparatory Private School in Bond Street, West London.

Junel studied at Architectural College before joining the family business. His passion for architecture and design saw him design and build his dream home in Essex. Jamal on the other hand attended the private American International College where he completed a Diploma in business before himself joining the family business followed swiftly by the youngest sibling Joynal.

People who can, they achieve it by their quality, hard work, love and trust. Likewise, Taj Stores is the name of an inspiration to British Bangladeshis in the UK. Taj Stores started its journey in 1936, by their late uncle Abdul Jabbar who then passed the business to the late Alhaj Abdul Khaliq. Taj Stores is now on its way to celebrate the 80 years of its pride. Outside Bangladesh, if there is any business that has been operating with such goodwill and benevolence that is

the Taj Stores.

They are also Directors of Taj Properties Construction/Investment Ltd, NRB Bank Ltd and the UK-BCCI. Besides running 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 Dubai.

The brothers are donors to several charities 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.

They also established a charity organisation called J Brothers, whereby the project supports vulnerable and helpless families in Bangladesh by providing sheltered homes, installation of water pumps and donating land.

Jamal quotes "Charity should begin from home. We are inspired from the love and feeling that my father and uncle showed to the people of Bangladesh. So we do not go for formalities, rather, we have started our charity work from our own village."

Today Bangladeshis are on the way to portray themselves as a successful community in the UK and Taj Stores is one of those names of successes.

The brothers have their own hobbies such as travelling, jet skiing, photography and golf.



Taj Brothers

Sector:

Business and Property



Award Winner 2016

Saidur came to UK with his Family at the age of 19. As a student Saidur studied at Moulvibazar College and he also studied Business Management at Westminster College in UK.

Saidur is a highly successful entrepreneur and renowned businessman who is actively involved in the catering industry for over 25 years.

His ancestral home is in the village of Sabia (Hazi Bari) Moulvibazar, Bangladesh. His father Late Alhaj Mohammed Batir Miah was a successful business man. Saidur established his first business Great India in 1958 at Sloane Square, Chelsea, London. During that time there were very few restaurants owned by Bangladeshi; there were only a few places where new arrival Bangladeshi people used to get help and Great India was one of them.

He started work at his father's Restaurant Great India. Later he established several businesses by himself. Currently the chief treasurer of BCA.

A keen servant to the needy, Saidur and his family have sought to contribute towards the development of his homeland, helping to establish Masjids, Madrasas and schools in Moulvibazar, and support

social welfare institutions providing various forms of assistance to the poor and needy in Bangladesh.

Saidur is married to Bahar Y Rahman (Dipa) in 1995. Together they have 3 sons and 1 daughter.



Saidur Rahman Bipul

Sector:

Catering



Abdul Gaffar Choudhury

Sector:

Media, Arts & Literature



Award Winner 2010

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

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

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

Zohra Khatun was Gaffar Choudhury's mother. Before coming to this country, Gaffar Choudhury worked as a journalist in different national newspapers in Dhaka. During the 1971 War he was in Kolkata working for the Mujib Nagar government's mouthpiece Joy Bangla and for Kolkata dailies like

Jugantar and Anandabazar Patrika. He came to England for the treatment of his wife, and initially led a life of struggle. He could not return to Bangladesh for 22 years after the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

In the UK, he established the newspaper Natun Din during Ershads reign in Bangladesh, and was the founder editor. He has written thirty five books, including Shesh Rajanir Chand, Chandrodwiper Upakhyan etcetera. He has visited different countries such as Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Algeria. Abdul Gaffar Choudhury has been showered with numerous awards like Bangla Academy Award in 1967, Ekushey Padak, UNESCO literary Award, Bangabandhu Award, Sadhinota Padak in 2009. In the same year, the Daily Ittefaq honoured him with Manik Miah Padak. He is producing the film "The Poet of Politics (film)" on Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He already produced a film on the assassination of Mujibur Rahman called 'Polashi theke Dhanmondi'. He, at the present, is living with his wife Shelima Choudhury. He has a son, Anupam, working in Rueters, and four daughters Tanima, Chinmoyee, Binita and Indira. He currently lives in London from where he regularly writes columns in national Bangladeshi dailies, in Bengali newspapers of Bangladeshi community and in a daily paper in Kolkata.



The Hon Mr Justice Akhlaq Choudhury QC

Sector:

Legal (Barrister, Judge)



Award Winner 2015

Sir Akhlaq Choudhury, the first British Bangladeshi High Court Judge is only the second barrister of Bangladeshi heritage to achieve the rank of Queen's Counsel. Akhlaq graduated in Physics from 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 one of the premier chambers in the country being ranked as a leader in many fields including employment, public, information and procurement law. Past members of Chambers with whom Akhlaq has worked include the former Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg QC and Lord Justice Elias and Lord Justice Sales of the Court of Appeal. Akhlaq's practice developed rapidly and he is consistently ranked by his peers as a leader in his areas of expertise. He is listed in the Legal 500 (2015-2016) where he is said to be "Undoubtedly one of the best advocates at the Bar". Akhlaq was a long-standing member of the Attorney General's A-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 was retained as

counsel for the Information Commissioner and has appeared in many of the ground-breaking cases in the developing area of Freedom of Information and Data Protection law. In 2009, Akhlaq was appointed a Recorder and he sits as a part-time Judge of the Crown Court presiding over criminal cases. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2015 and made a High Court Judge in 2017.6y

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

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Anwar Choudhury

Sector:

*Civil Service /
Ambassador*



Award Winner 2009

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 Common-

wealth 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 became 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. He is currently the British Ambassador to Peru.

His hobbies include Cricket, Bridge, Bengali Folk music and an addiction for Bangladeshi cuisine.



Amirul Choudhury

Sector:

*Telecoms/Media/
Property*



Award Winner 2012

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

He is the Managing Director and a major shareholder of Janomot, the favourite weekly newspaper of the Bangladeshi community in the UK.

Mr Choudhury is also Managing Director of ChyTel, a wholesale distributor of mobile phone handsets based in Tower Hamlets, London.

Founding his telecommunications business in 1994 at the start of the second generation mobile phone revolution, which transformed mobile phones into multi-media devices, ChyTel has grown into a familiar brand among the Bangladeshi community.

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

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

ChyTel distributes mobile phones throughout UK from its head office in Tower Hamlets and it also offers a walk-in Nokia Care repair service and a retail shop at the premises. In 1997 Mr Choudhury became a major shareholder of Janomot, the first weekly Bengali newspaper in the UK, and has since made a major contribution to its growth and stability. It is a highly respected newspaper well known for its

editorials on social and community issues. It was Mr Choudhury's policy to use these editorials to bridge the gap between communities and help Bangladeshis integrate into the British way of life. Today Janomot has become the UK's largest circulation Bengali newspaper with a readership in excess of 40,000 a week.

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

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

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

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

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

Atique Islam Choudhury was born on 5 May 1963, the son of Dabirul Islam Choudhury and Khaleda Choudhury. He is an industrialist, property developer and social entrepreneur born in St. Albans, Hertfordshire.

Atique has been a prolific property developer for over three decades, building a vast portfolio of trophy assets - this includes an array of residential properties, converting derelict banks, cinemas, silk mills and grade II listed buildings. Atique definitely has an eye for quality and detail as recognised by the International Property Awards, one of his developments was nominated recently for "the best designed apartment".

After 35 years in the restaurant industry and building a successful string of award winning restaurants, Atique has specialised in Thai, Japanese, Mexican and South Indian vegetarian cuisine. After owning and operating multiple cuisines, Atique retired from the restaurant industry in 2014.

Atique is now the managing director of Mystic Pharmaceuticals Bangladesh after the untimely passing of his late brother Sharif Islam Choudhury in 2015. Under his leadership, the business has streamlined and has taken a growth of 400% and is currently expanding internationally. He is also the chairman of Cultural Business Management in which they invest in renew-

able energy and the agricultural sector in Bangladesh.

Atique has an eventual vision for Bangladesh to become a double digit economy. He is currently an avid supporter of local, national and international charities through sponsorships and funding/creating employment for the educationally improving youth of Bangladesh. Atique has since set up an educational institution with accommodation for the homeless children of Ulambatu, Mongolia. Alongside this, Atique is a trustee of the Rural Development Foundation of Bangladesh - with an aim to improve women's maternity and healthcare for the underprivileged; and is an honorary chief executive of the Bangladesh Female Academy who provide accommodation, clothing, food and education for over 300 homeless girls in Deerai, Sylhet. These girls are aged from 4-18 and are from a range of different rural areas in Bangladesh. He is also the chairman of weekly Janomot

As a regular traveller to Bangladesh, he has found a balance between business, social responsibility and leisure. Aside from his professional career, Atique has indulged in the world of sport. Mr. Choudhury was the first British Bangladeshi to play in an international semi-pro badminton tournament. He is also a keen golfer and a proud supporter of Arsenal Football Club.



Atique Islam Choudhury

Sector:
Industrialist



Award Winner 2016

Aziz Choudhury is the Chairman of the Spitalfields Small Business Association (SSBA) which is a unique Community Business and social enterprise with over 30 years' experience of regeneration in the Spitalfields area of London. SSBA provides 80 tenant members with affordable workspace. It also develops training and enterprise programmes through the SSBA Community Trust.

Between 2001 and August 2016, Aziz Choudhury was the Director of Montefiore Centre, London which provided important services to the community with workspace and training for around twenty businesses, charities and community organisations.

From 1999-2001, Aziz Choudhury was Managing Director of Otherwords Ltd which ran the East End Enterprise business newspaper and the Spitalfields Business Club. He is well known for his time as Chief Executive of Bengali Workers Association between 1995 and 1999. At that time, he was responsible for running the Surma Community Centre in Camden and several local projects. In the mid-eighties, Aziz Choudhury was Finance Director for Spitalfields Housing Association, a position he maintained for a decade.

In his early career he was an accountant and worked for various Chartered Accountancy firms. He obtained his BSc in Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics from Dhaka University in 1967. He studied Accountancy at the London School of Accountancy between 1972-74. Moreover, he is an Associate

member of Institute of Financial Accountants and has Fellow Membership of Institute of Financial Accountants as well as achieving Common Purpose Community Leadership Graduation in 1992.

Aziz Choudhury has been involved in several community and voluntary initiatives both in the United Kingdom and in Bangladesh. These include being involved with East London Small Business Centre, East London Business Alliance, West Euston Partnership and he has been a PMG member of the Tower Hamlets Partnership. Most recently, he has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership (THE Partnership) and the Founder and current President of the Sylhet Sadar Association. In Bangladesh Aziz Choudhury founded the Jalalpur Degree College in Sylhet and he is a trustee and General Secretary of Rosae Trust, which raises funds to support a hospital in Dhaka.

Aziz Choudhury is married to Heima Choudhury. They have two sons, the elder son Ashike is a medical doctor (consultant) working for the NHS and the younger son Siraj is a solicitor working in senior management for local government.



Aziz Choudhury

Sector:
Community Relations



Foysol Hussain Choudhury

Sector:

Politics, Business & Community Relations

Foysol Hussain Choudhury MBE is from Badardi, Nabigonj, Habigonj, Bangladesh. He is the eldest son of Late Al-Haj Gulam Rabbani Choudhury and Rukeya Rabbani Choudhury. He is married to Tahmina (Moni) and has a son Ikram and a daughter Madiha. During his time at University he took responsibility for his ailing father's business. He quickly expanded the business and is now a successful entrepreneur with interests in catering, hospitality, finance and real estate across the United Kingdom and Bangladesh.

Foysol is a prominent community activist in the UK, he is known for his leadership and commitment to improving social justice. He has worked with the Scottish Government and various councils to improve community relations. He believes passionately in the Equality for all the citizens of Scotland and is an active member of civic society, playing a leading role in several charities. He has been involved with the Edinburgh and Lothian's Regional Equality Council (ELREC) since he was a teenager and has been an active campaigner for equality and good race and inter-faith relations in Scotland. He's served ELREC in different capacities, as a Trustee, Company Secretary, Vice-Chair and he currently holds the post of Chair. Foysol has led the organisation through its transition from the race equality council to a pan-equalities regional council that is truly representative of those from a wide range of legally protected characteristics.

Foysol is also one of the founder directors of Edinburgh Mela and is currently its Vice Chair. Since its formation in 1997, the Edinburgh Mela has grown to be one of the

biggest events in the Edinburgh Festivals Programme. The Edinburgh Mela seeks to embrace all diverse communities and cultures, providing a showcase for local and international artists. He is committed to furthering its aim to promoting understanding between people and advancing the cause of community coherence.

Foysol is an active member within the Bangladeshi diaspora in Scotland, he was elected as the Chairman of the Bangladesh Samity Edinburgh in 2010 and passionately promotes the interest of the Bangladeshi restaurants across Scotland. He has organised, annually, Bangladesh Independence Day Celebrations and other events to promote strong community relations. Foysol has campaigned for a permanent monument (Shaheed Minar) to be built in Edinburgh.

Foysol is passionate about Bangladeshi cuisine and has channelled his expertise in promoting the interest of the restaurant and catering trade as the Chairman of the Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs of Scotland and as one of the founding members of the very successful Dine Bangladeshi Campaign.

Foysol is heavily involved in fundraising campaigns, raising over a quarter of a million pounds for causes including Bangladesh Cyclone Appeal in Scotland, St Colombia's Hospice, Leukaemia & Cancer appeal, Sick Kids appeal, British Heart Foundation and many others. In addition to this he is also one of the organisers who built two shelter and 40 houses for the survivors of Cyclone SIDR Bangladesh in 2010.

In recognition of his services to the community, Foysol was proudly awarded an MBE in New Year's Honours list 2004.



Dr Ferdousi Choudhury

Sector:

Healthcare

Dr Ferdousi Choudhury is a Clinical Psychologist working in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service of the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, a specialist mental health Trust based in Camden, London. She graduated in Psychology from City University and gained her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from University College London. Ferdousi's doctoral thesis was on Screening for Postnatal Depression in Bengali mothers, which looked at the impact of contextual differences on postnatal women in Bangladesh and Camden. Her research has been published in the Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology.

Ferdousi has extensive experience of working with children and families from diverse backgrounds, with a significant proportion of clinical work being with children and families of Bangladeshi origin, and those of mixed origin. Within her role at the Tavistock, she has strived to make mainstream mental health services less stigmatised and more accessible to the Bangladeshi community. This has been achieved by providing community based interventions, delivering therapeutic sessions and psycho-educational workshops in Sylheti, in familiar community settings such as Hopscotch Asian Women's Centre, addressing issues such as mental health stigma, depression, stress and anxiety, family conflict and parenting challenges.

She has a special interest in cross cultural and bilin-

gual therapeutic work, and pursued an interest in developing and implementing culturally appropriate parenting programmes for Bangladeshi parents. Ferdousi also has extensive experience of working therapeutically with parents and families who are or have previously been in the social care system, working with issues such as domestic violence, emotional abuse and physical abuse.

In addition to her work in the NHS, Ferdousi is an Independent Clinical Psychologist, providing Expert Witness Court Reports of culturally appropriate psychological, psychometric and parenting assessments and interventions for families in Care proceedings. In addition to this, she also engages in private clinical work with children, adolescents, families, adults and couples, and provides private consultation and supervision for professionals. Her special interest is in aiming to provide culturally and spiritually appropriate therapeutic services for individuals and families.

Ferdousi was born in Bedfordshire and raised in Glasgow where she lived with her parents, Mrs Sultana Choudhury and the late Mr Azizur Rahman Choudhury, and her two brothers. Her father ran a successful restaurant business and both parents were leading members of the Bangladeshi community in Scotland. Ferdousi now lives in London with her husband, Kawsar, and their four children.

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K M Abu Taher Choudhury

Sector:
Media & Community Relations



Award Winner 2009

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

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

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

As an established journalist in the UK, Mr Choudhury was a Special Correspondent of the Weekly Jonomoth and Editor of the monthly Dawat. He was also the Founder Chief Editor and Chairman of the first-ever bilingual weekly newspaper, Euro Bangla. Currently, he is the Chief Editor of the weekly Bangla Post, Editor of the weekly London Bangla, Chairman of the weekly Bangla Mirror's Advisory Board and an Advisory Editor of the Dhaka Post. Additionally, he is the President of the Bangladesh Journalist Association UK. The 'community heartbeat', Mr Choudhury, was an elected ex-Chairperson and General Secretary of the Greater Sylhet Council in UK for two consecutive

terms, and is currently a patron. He is the Secretary of Voice for Justice UK and holds presidential posts at Renaissance Sahitya Mojlsh UK and New Hope Multi Cultural Trust. Mr Choudhury is also the Chairman of the Cancer Patients Poor Help Fund and Convenor of the Campaign for Press Freedom in Bangladesh. He is similarly serving as a Senior Vice Chairman for the Organisation for the Recognition of Bangla as an official language in the UN. Last but not means least, he is an Advisor and Trustee of the Goreeb & Eatheem Trust fund and Advisor of the Aid & Care Trust.

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

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



Mamun Chowdhury

Sector:
Manufacturing/ Fashion



Award Winner 2014

Mamun Chowdhury is a highly successful British businessman with over 25 years experience in the design and manufacturing of high-end outerwear. He is from Moynabad, Chunarughat, Habigonj.

Having completed his education in Bangladesh, after a short period in the Middle East, Mamun arrived in Britain in December 1991.

Hailing from Bangladesh, Chowdhury's father and grandfather were businessmen, and he was raised on a diet of deals and negotiations. But the 1971 Independence War destroyed the family businesses and the Chowdhurys lost everything and, in 1991, Mamun came to England hoping to build a business here.

Being innately an entrepreneur, he immediately started setting up his own business. In 1994 he established London Clothing Limited, importing garments from abroad and selling to clients in the UK and rest of Europe. This was supported by setting up his own factory to manufacture garments here in the UK.

An inspirational man, audaciously attempted at selling shirts from his suitcase to Marks & Spencer in 1992. But that experience cemented Chowdhury's determination to make it. He was inspired by the story of Michael Marks and Thomas Spencer.

Mamun Chowdhury saw an opportunity to manufacture outerwear, designed with a high level of customer

involvement, and selling wholesale to trade targeting the sub-couture market. Queen's Award winner London Tradition was born.

Quality and skilled craftsmanship rooted in London's heritage and culture are the label's defining features," says Mamun Chowdhury, citing state-of-the-art equipment and technology. "Our dedication to detail is relentless and unwavering." Multiple quality checks throughout the manufacturing process ensure consistency. The brand is also proud to offer a fair working environment for its employees.

Today, London Tradition is particularly popular in the Japanese market, and the brand has grown largely by word-of-mouth. Winning the Queen's Award made a significant difference bringing a huge amount of publicity and interest from new customers.

The company's future looks exciting, including a new high-end fashion label, Churchill of London, and an e-commerce website aimed at the retail market.

He has a clear strategy to grow organically in existing markets and enter into new ones." No suitcase required.

Mamun envisions his Company to be the leading luxury heritage outerwear brand in the world and very popular in the Japanese and European market including 17 other countries.

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

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

Mr Choudhury came to Britain in 1978 and got involved in the UK Awami League activities and played an important role in organising the workers all over the UK. He played pivotal role in movements against autocracy and demanding the trial of war criminals.

He also played a role with the Bangladeshi youth organisations in a common platform to form the

UK Youth Federation. As a president of Bangladesh Welfare Association, he took effort to resolve the problems regarding the visa system of the Bangladeshis with British passport, travel tax, problems regarding Biman and Sonali Bank. He formed the Probashi Action Committee as a protest against the harassment of the non-residents in Bangladesh. The Committee arranged a protest in Hyde Park and in front of the Bangladesh Mission.

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

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



Shafiqur Rahman Choudhury

Sector:
Politics

In a complex world where decisions often gets bogged down in layers of bureaucracy and good ideas often wither and die, Dr Sanawar Choudhury has always proven to be the exception to the rule. He makes things happen, infusing those around him with infectious energy and passion empowering colleagues to think big, innovate ideas and arrive at transformational solutions. Sanawar stretches goals with such intensity and focus that anything but success is unthinkable.

The Journey started in 1975, when at the age of 9, Sanawar, the first son of a headmaster, came to the UK to join his father (late) Al-Hajj Mohammed Shafiqul Islam Choudhury, accompanied by his mother (Late) Al-Hajj Shamsun Nehar and only sibling brother, Soiful.

Formal education was in the UK, earning a BA (Hons) Degree in Accounting and Finance in 1989, qualified as a Chartered Accountant with PriceWaterhouseCoopers (1992) and being awarded a PhD in Accounting from the University of Exeter (EXON, 2005) – amongst the many accolades he has received from both the profession and industry throughout his conspicuous career.

In 2001, Sanawar settled his young family in Dhaka and joined Bangladesh Bank as an World Bank Consultant advising on corporate reporting, foreign exchange management and internal control, working with the then Governors of Bangladesh Bank, Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed and Dr Sallehuddin Ahmed. In 2006 he returned to the UK with his wife Nasima,

daughter Nazma and sons Shaheenur, Shajahan and Shafiu.

During his extensive career Sanawar has undertaken strategic consultancy assignments both in the UK, Europe and the Middle East, working mainly in the Financial Markets and Corporate Reporting. Sanawar currently runs a number of successful businesses that extend from Professional Training to Warranty to Car Supermarket to Hospitals to Property. Professionally, he is senior partner of, probably, the largest Chartered Accountancy firm of Bangladeshi origin in the UK, RCi Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors.

As social activist and notable philanthropist, Sanawar has extensive social projects in both the UK and in Bangladesh, funded through his Choudhury Foundation. Current projects include educational establishments in Sylhet and his village home in Khashila, Jagannathpur.

His is a member of many British Bangladeshi organisation including as a Vice President of the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



Dr Sanawar Choudhury
*BA(Hons), FCA,
PhD (Exon)*

Sector:
*Finance and Community
Relations*



Award Winner 2017



Capt. Tasbirul Ahmed Choudhury

Sector:
Aviation/Business



Award Winner 2013

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

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

These include ATPL from Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, ATPL from FAA (USA), PPL, IMC from UK. He has also undertaken rigorous training and successfully completed Training as Captain including Airbus 310-300, MD-83, DASH-100/300 (as route training instructor & examiner as DCP-A). ATR- 42-320, as Captain, L-410-UVP-E-9 as Captain & Instructor, Y-12-11, PA-30-200, PA-31-325, PA-34, PA-28-200 & 181, C-172, C-152, PA-38. He has flown over 6500 hours as Pilot in Command. He was also able to acquire vast experience in the field of General Aviation flights and Airlines. He joined Southern Aero Club at Shoreham, Sussex, UK & USA in 1990 and flew with business flights throughout UK and Europe from 1990 to 1993. Later, he moved to the USA and joined Global Air Transport & Choice Aeronautical Academy, Orlando, Florida USA in December, 1993 and flew as Charter Pilot throughout Florida and Bahamas till February 1996. Then he decided to move back to homeland and joined as a Captain of Y-12-11 Aircraft at Aero Ben-

gal Airlines Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 1996 (The first Private Airline of Bangladesh). Later he joined as Deputy Chief Pilot & Airline Training Pilot for L-410 aircraft at Air Parabat in Dhaka, Bangladesh. In September 2001, he joined GMG Airlines, Dhaka, Bangladesh as Chief of Flight Safety and Route Training Instructor for DASH 8 Aircraft, until start of his own venture, which is now the largest and most successful airline in the country-United Airways (BD) Ltd. United Airways started with only one 37 setter aircraft. In just six years of Operation & under his very able leadership the airline is now having 11 (Eleven) Aircraft & operating in 8 (Eight) International routes & all the Domestic routes of Bangladesh. Today United Airway is the first & only Airline in the Capital Market of Bangladesh, and the largest company in the country in terms of number of share holders.

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

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



Syeda Choudhury

Sector:
Community Relation & Social Work

Syeda Choudhury has lived in Tower Hamlets since her childhood; she attended local schools, college and university. Syeda migrated to the UK with her family to join her father in 1981. Her family came from the village of Bakamura in the district of Moulvibazar.

At the age of fifteen Syeda started her community work alongside her studies with youth and community organisations. She was involved in youth exchange programmes, which required travelling to various countries, namely France, Germany, Holland and Denmark to learn and value other cultures.

Since coming to the UK, Syeda has been involved with various youth and cultural activities. She has performed Bengali cultural dances in numerous venues including the Royal Festival Hall, The Commonwealth Institute and at the launch of the Kabi Nazrul Centre in 1982. She was a member of cultural groups named Amra Kojhona, Jholock Shilpi Gushti, Shapla and Shejuti.

Syeda was an active member of Women Unite Against Racism during 1990s. She took up challenging work to combat racial issues during the time when Derek Beacon was elected as a councillor on Isle of Dogs. Syeda was in the management committee in Jagonari Resource Centre, Island Advice Centre, Culloden Bangladeshi Parents Association & Bow Bengali Forum and was a director of Boshaki Mela Trust in East London. She was a parent governor in two different schools in Tower Hamlets. Syeda has been involved in local politics in Tower Ham-

lets since 2005 and was an active campaigner for the "Yes for Mayor" referendum and two mayoral elections in Tower Hamlets. She was a councillor candidate in Tower Hamlets council election in 2014 but unfortunately she missed the seat by a few votes.

Syeda has been working extensively with women and youths for more than 20 years, to raise awareness about health issues, training and employment, women empowerment, drugs and alcohol. She worked as a community development officer, social investment officer and health advocate with public organisations and many housing associations.

Syeda runs her weekly Betar Bangla Radio programme "Open Talk" and also she hosts "Women's Voice" – a programme on Bangla TV, where she brings issues relating to British Bangladeshi community in the UK, especially issues that affect our women. Through Betar Bangla Radio she presented programmes on BBC Asian Network. She is the women secretary of Greater Sylhet Development Council in East London Region. She has launched her own fashion label SyedaC.

Syeda is married to Sirajul Choudhury, who is a teacher at a Tower Hamlets school. She is the mother of two children – her daughter is studying A-levels and her son is studying at University.

Syeda's hobbies & interests include singing, designing & making clothes, cooking, travelling and networking.



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**Ahmed Us Samad
Chowdhury JP,**

Sector:

*Sector: Media, Charity,
Business*



Award Winner 2009

One of Britain's most respected personalities of Bangladeshi origin is Ahmed Us Samad Chowdhury who came to Britain in 1972 to further his education. He was the first Asian origin student President in Bristol. In business, community development and media Mr. Chowdhury has been a driving force for which he is much loved. Founder of "Potrika" (Britain's popular Bengali newspaper) Mr Chowdhury is also the Chairman of the most watched Bengali channel in Europe, Channel S Television.

A Fellow of the Institute of Sales Marketing Management, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management, and Fellow of the Institute of Hospitality Mr Chowdhury is the owner of the Award winning restaurant Rajpoot in Bath and a number of other restaurants in Bath and Bristol. Mr. Chowdhury is also in the property business both in the UK and in Bangladesh. He is also the co- owner of Kushiara Compsite Knit Industries- a 100% export orientated enterprise earning vital foreign currency for Bangladesh. He is the Director of Kushiara Power Company, a 170 MW Gas-based combined Cycle Plant and should be able to supply power to the National Grid in coming months.

In 1988 as the Head of the Bangladesh Association (Bristol, Bath & West) and Community Integration in mind, Mr. Chowdhury founded the Bangladesh Women's Group in Bristol and then in 1990 founded the Bangladesh House. This building is used as a drop in centre to get advice and information on housing, welfare etc. In 1993 aimed at women and youths he founded Bangladesh Centre in Bristol. In 1998 Mr. Chowdhury championed the project to establish South West's only

purpose built mosque. Mr. Chowdhury serves as the Trustee of Bangladesh House, Bangladesh Centre and Shahjalal Jame Mosque Trust.

Locally Mr. Chowdhury raised funds for the Royal United Hospital and has helped numerous Charities. A Justice of Peace since 1991, he has served as a Governor at City of Bath College, National Steering Committee Member for Hospitality Training Foundation under the Ministry of Education, Advisor to New Deal (Ethnic Minority Group) during Tony Blair's government. Mr Chowdhury is one of the Founders and Regional President of Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce; he played a vital part in establishing UK Bangladesh Education Trust, Founder Chairman of Britain Bangladesh Friendship Society, Senior Vice President, National Heart foundation, Sylhet, Chief Patron of The All European Bangladesh Association, Chief Advisor of Bangladesh Female Academy and is also involved with many national and International organizations, with a number of them he acts as an advisor. He is also a life member of The Commonwealth Judges and Magistrates Association.

In year 2000 Mr Chowdhury was the driving force in establishing the Immigration Advisory Service (IAS) office in Sylhet (the only office outside Britain). He contributed to the foundation of many projects such as Children's Hospital, Cyclone Shelter, Orphanage and a Hospital for the Disabled and Paralysed and many educational institutions in Bangladesh.

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



**Cllr Ayesha
Chowdhury**

Sector:

Politics

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

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

Outside her role as a councillor in Newham, Ayesha Chowdhury is a successful businesswoman. She is a property developer and also Director of London Green Management Company Ltd. She has previously worked as a Centre Manager in Newham, a Social Worker for Tower Hamlets and has co-ordinated projects in different boroughs. Aside from politics

and business, she is also committed to various local, national and transnational organisations. She has been heavily involved in fundraising activities in the UK to support various rural areas across the globe. Her participation in community initiatives consist of being in the consultative committee of London City Airport. She retains membership in the Newham Community Police Forum and School Organisation committee.

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

She is a family woman, married with two children.

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

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

Mr Chowdhury's varied business interest includes catering, Investment and property development in the United Kingdom and Bangladesh. He is the founder of MIJ group. He is the Chairman and CEO of Greentech Developers (UK) LTD which has been awarded by the ICT Ministry of Bangladesh To Develop Bangladesh's first Software Park at Janata Tower, Dhaka. He is a non-executive Director of the five star hotel Dhaka Regency located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. In addition, he is also establishing a new luxurious hotel venture in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

He is the founder of Tahirria Mohila Academy in Shahbagh, Bangladesh, and the Chairman of the trustee board of Shahbagh Jamea MQU trust. Also, he is the founder of Guljarunesa and Jasmin medical centre in Shahbagh, Zokigonj. He is also the founder and CEO of the Best Children international charity which was founded in 2000 in the UK. He is the National Senior Vice President of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK. The founder life member of London Bangla Press Club. He started his political ambition back when he was in University as an active International student union member. He has been Deputy Chairman of Royal Wootton Bassett & District Conservatives for the last 8 years, Honorary Vice Presi-

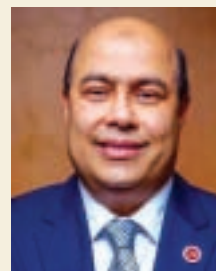
dent of Conservative Friends of Bangladesh, he was appointed as a TEAM-2015 Team Coordinator by Conservative Campaign Headquarters London, it was a very important voluntary position which helped win the 2015 general election. He is a member and actively involved in the international rotary club, he has assisted in various charitable and philanthropy related projects in the UK and Bangladesh. He has recently been appointed a member of the police independent advisory group (IAG).

He is a member of William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation millennium network. He is a civilian sponsor for International student of DEFENCE ACADEMY of The United Kingdom since 1999. A committee member of Queen's Diamond jubilee celebration 2012. Recently he has been appointed as a community governor at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, UK.

In 2009 Enam with other high profile members of the Non Resident Bangladeshi (NRB) community from UK, Europe, Canada, USA, Africa and the Middle East created the NRB Worldwide Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, by the development and promotion of the knowledge and skills as a common base for intellectual exchange to support the enrichment of Bangladesh. He is one of the founders of Jalalabad Association UK.

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

He has attended many International seminars and Conferences including one in October 2009 ideas and innovation for the Development of Bangladesh: THE NEXT DECADE at Harvard University, Boston, USA. Mr Chowdhury is married for 29 years to Jasmin Chowdhury the couple have been blessed with three sons.



Mr Enam-Ul Haque Chowdhury

Sector:
Business

Dr Ashike Choudhury, MBBS MRCS FRCEM DCH MSc, has been Clinical Lead of the Emergency Department at Medway Hospital, Kent since 2016. Care Quality Commission inspections have determined that Ashike's team has transformed the safety and quality of the Emergency Department, dramatically improving one of the worst in the UK.

Ashike's Emergency Department was awarded Third Place in the Inaugural Royal College of Emergency Medicine 'Best Clinical Team' category in 2017. There has also been recognition as 'highly commended' from the Health Service Journal (HSJ) Value Awards 2018 for work in recruitment and retention of staff and 'highly commended' for Emergency Team of the Year in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Awards in 2018. Ashike was also personally awarded two Clinical Excellence Award (CEA) points in 2017.

Between 1987 and 1994, Ashike attended Whitgift School in South Croydon before undertaking his undergraduate medical degree and training at St George's Hospital, University of London from 1994. He completed a sabbatical year as Student Union President in 1998.

After Basic Surgical Training at Broomfield Hospital Essex, Ashike chose to pursue a career in Emergency Medicine. His Specialist Registrar Training Number was in the London Deanery (2007-13) including Major Trauma management training at The Royal London Hospital. In addition he undertook further training in Paediatric Emergency Medicine including Great Ormond

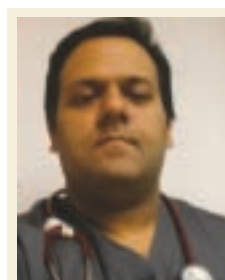
Street Hospital.

Ashike was delighted to be appointed to a consultant post in the busy Emergency Department at Medway in March 2013. He led the development of the Children's Emergency Department at Medway and was appointed as College Tutor in Emergency Medicine in 2014.

Ashike has an enthusiasm and passion for teaching and successfully completed his Masters degree in Medical Education at Cardiff University in January 2013. Training in the Emergency Department at Medway was rated amongst the best in the whole of Kent, Surrey and Sussex in 2018 in the General Medical Council trainee survey. This reflected a sustained commitment to training and support for trainee doctors and nurses over many years.

Ashike is part of the team developing and delivering a MSc in Simulation and Human Factors at Canterbury and Christchurch University. He is a Faculty Lead for a degree course in Emergency Nursing, accredited by Greenwich University. He also supervises Trainee Advanced Clinical Practitioners in conjunction with South Bank University. Ashike's latest projects involved diversification of the Emergency Department workforce with development of Physician Associates and improved pathways for patients. He is also working with local schools to improve access to medical careers for local school children.

Ashike is married and they have two children. He enjoys playing football as well the flute and piano. "Originating from Sylhet Sador, he is a proud British Bangladeshi who was born and brought up in London."



Dr Ashike Choudhury

Sector:
Medicine



Siraj Choudhury

Sector:
Legal

Siraj Choudhury is a solicitor and local government manager with private, public and voluntary sector experience. He works for Spelthorne Borough Council based in Surrey. In his role as Deputy Group Head, Commissioning + Transformation, he oversees operational teams such as human resources, committee services and information technology as well as corporate functions including project management, information governance, performance management, business transformation, procurement and contract management.

Siraj has been Chair of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) since January 2018. He was elected to this position by the board having already served three years as its appointed trustee with legal and governance expertise. The CIEH is the professional membership and awarding body for the environmental health sector. Its members work around the world, improving lives and demonstrating excellence across all areas of environmental health including food, public health, housing, environmental protection, and health and safety. Founded in 1883, the CIEH been instrumental in developing many of the environmental standards that have contributed to better public health and wellbeing globally. In its 135 year history, Siraj is the first chair not to be from the environmental health profession and its first from an ethnic minority background.

Siraj has also been Chair of Greenwich Housing Rights (GHR) since 2016 having served on the board since 2012. GHR was set up in 1983 and offers free, independent, specialist advice on all housing issues. Since 2017, Siraj has been an ambassador for the White Ribbon Campaign UK which is part of a global movement

to stop male violence against women and girls.

Between 1992 and 1999, Siraj attended Whitgift School in South Croydon. Alongside his studies, he played rugby throughout his school career and also served as the Drum Major (Warrant Officer 2nd Class) of the Whitgift School Corps of Drums, a military marching band. In 1999, he went on to study a law degree at Queen Mary, University of London before completing the legal practice course at College of Law (London) in 2004.

In 2004, Siraj began his legal career at Powell & Co Solicitors working on landlord & tenant litigation. He gained invaluable experience defending possession proceedings, bringing disrepair actions and pursuing homelessness cases. After qualifying as a solicitor in 2007, Siraj completed a Masters degree in Spatial Planning at the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London (UCL).

In 2008, Siraj took on the role of Planning & Litigation Solicitor at Spelthorne Borough Council. Here he progressed prosecution cases for a range of regulatory offences and specialised in planning, licensing, housing and environmental health law. He also stood as legal advisor to the Council's planning and licensing committees. In 2015, Siraj was promoted to Principal Solicitor before moving into his current local government management role in 2016.

Siraj is married to Neelum Choudhury, an Associate Director in Sustainability Consultancy at CBRE UK. They have one daughter, Miriam. "Originating from Sylhet Sador, he is a proud British Bangladeshi who was born and brought up in London."



Sadia Afroz Chowdhury

Sector:
Singer

Sadia Afroz Chowdhury is an accomplished and professional singer and Music teacher originally from Bangladesh. Having started her first music lesson from her mother Munawara Begum Sadia found herself deep-rooted relation with music over the years. Sadia is a trained classical singer who is grown up and progress her musical journey through different renowned mentors. Sadia is a very famous and well-known singer in the Asian community in the UK and Europe for her Versatile singing and Unique Melodious Voice.

Sadia started taking training Indian Classical Music at an early age while she was in Bangladesh gradually from USTAD SHUNIL DHOR, USTAD GOPAL DATTA, USTAD SANJIB DEY and currently taking Training from PANDIT CHIRANJIB CHAKRABORTY. She is a band member of South Indian Tamil Musical group RG Academy of Music & Orchestra where she is taking training of Carnatic music.

Sadia took part in many competitions in Bangladesh and awarded nationally for her Patriotic songs and Nazrul Shanggit. She is an enlisted A grade singer in Bangladesh Television and Betar. She has been performing since the age of ten and has performed in numerous theatres, auditoriums as well as many prestigious stages like Rich Mix, Harrow Arts center,

Nehru Centre (solo performance), Croydon Fair Field Hall (RG Academy Orchestra), Bangladesh High Commission, Red Bridge Town Hall (Int. Art Festival), South Hall Park (South hall Mela), Wavers' Field, Victoria Park (London Bangladeshi Boishakhi Mela), Cadogan Hall, The Broadway Theatre in Catford, Cardiff Millennium Theatre and many more.

She is also working as an executive director of NAZRUL PARISHAD and this Charity organization is working to introduce the creation of National poet of Bangladesh KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM among the next generation. Also, Sadia is working hard with the young generation to teach them music and introduce our own culture in British Bangladeshi Community.

Unlike Traditional Classical singers, Sadia believes to blend modern songs with Classical fusion. Her tonal quality, presentation, the ability of Pitch and together with her mesmerizing voice creates magic. Sadia has done a music video and recorded many songs for UK TV Channels.

Alongside Sadia's musical career she is a qualified professional accountant and worked as an external auditor.

Sadia an accomplished London based singer is delighted to hear the strong lines of her singing brought alive by a quality of songs.



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Golam M Chowdhury

Sector:

Media (Radio)

Mr Golam M Chowdhury known better to his friends and family as Najim was born in 1954 to his mother Zabera Khanam Chowdhury and Father Mahabubur Rahman Chowdhury in Golapgonj, Rankali, Sylhet, Bangladesh though now he resides in London, UK.

Mr Chowdhury is the Executive Director of Betar Bangla Ltd, A community Radio Station. He is also a proud freedom fighter of Bangladesh and was very active during the liberation period. Due to unavoidable circumstances he left Bangladesh in December 1977 for West Germany, where he met and married Marianne. They moved to the UK in 1983 and he set up his first business in Lewisham, London as a wine wholesaler.

During his time in this business he observed and contemplated the realities of living in a multi cultural community. He was surrounded by a variety of cultures and nationalities and developed a diverse and large circle of friends as he set roots in the UK.

By 1987 Mr Chowdhury had 3 children Ramona, Manuel and Melisa.

During 2002 his marriage to Marriane ended and he is now married to Shahina Hussain and have 4 children, (Ramona, Manuel and Melisa from first wife and Nehal from Shahina). In 1989 he considered

getting involved in community radio which led to an introduction to the "community" radio phenomenon. Sky Radio broadcasting in the South East area provided him with two hours of airtime exclusively targeted at the Bengali community, broadcasting in Bengali.

So as a result the UK's first Bengali community radio station was born it was called Betar Bangla and commenced operation from September 1989 in Lewisham and stopped broadcasting in November 1990.

In 2000, he was then introduced to Sayed Sharif Islam and with the assistance of his elder brother Abu Ahmed in June 2000 they rented a small room in Mile end and officially from 26th of July 2002 restarted Betar Bangla which is now a full 24 hours radio station. He was introduced to LOL Gellor in Sound radio who offered him a 3 hour programme on his radio as a pilot project.

They received 24 hours radio licence in 2010 from Ofcom.

During his spare time Mr Chowdhury enjoys Snooker, Swimming, Social outings and meeting friends.



Mitu Choudhury

Sector:

Catering

Born and brought up in Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1964. Mitu went to the local school and then studying science at the MC College and finally read politics, history and sociology at MC College, Sylhet. After graduating he left for England and settled in Maidstone, joining his brother.

He studied BTEC business and finance at Mid Kent college in Maidstone whilst at the same time having a part time job working at the restaurant so that he could learn the business.

After three years Mitu opened his first restaurant in Harrietsham and then in 1993 opened the Mughal Dynasty in Maidstone. A restaurant which is run very successfully to this day. At the same time that he was running the restaurant he also studied for an Honours degree in Politics at Christ Church University in Canterbury, Kent.

His intention in politics led him to join the Conservative party in Maidstone where he actively campaigned on behalf of their local MP Helen Grant. He has been a member of BCA since opening his first restaurant and is now proud to say that he is currently secretary general of BCA. He has joined the Rotary Club of Maidstone River Side where he hopes to spend more time helping those less fortunate than him. Mitu is married with three children living in

Maidstone and enjoys watching and playing Cricket in his spare time.

Zia Choudhury was born and raised in Glasgow, Scotland, where his father was a restaurateur. Soon after graduating from the Universities of London and Manchester, Zia spent almost 2 years working with an NGO in remote 'Char' Islands in Bhola District, Bangladesh. Based in village near Charfassion, with no running water or electricity, and 2 hours motorbike ride from the nearest telephone, this was a very grassroots and exciting start to his career.

Zia worked on disaster preparedness with local communities, and was directly caught up in two major cyclones. On one occasion, he spent the whole night attached by a length of rope to a concrete pillar, as flood waters rose, and cyclone passed directly above ripping up trees from his garden and the roof of his tin-shed home. Since then, Zia has continued working with disadvantaged communities around the world, specializing in coordination and management of humanitarian response in natural disasters and conflicts.

Zia has worked in some of the major crises zones of the past 2 decades, including Kosovo, Aceh, Afghanistan, Somalia and Sudan. Zia has primarily been the leader of large NGO response teams, as country and regional director, but has also worked

for two years as a policy development consultant for the United Nations in Rome, Geneva and New York. In August 2017, 20 years after he left Charfassion, he has returned to Bangladesh as Country Director for CARE Bangladesh, one of the country's leading international NGOs.

He currently leads a team of over 600 staff working to fight poverty and social injustice in diverse sectors, including agriculture, garments industry, health sector, private sector engagement, and women's economic empowerment. Most recently, Zia has been directly leading CARE's major response in Cox's Bazar, supporting newly arrived Refugees from Myanmar.



Zia Choudhury

Sector:
Charity

Sarah Ali Choudhury is an accomplished Award Winning chef and events caterer based in Bournemouth, Dorset. She recently appeared on a hit Channel 4 cookery show where she prepared meals for two-time Michelin Star awarded restaurateur Michael Caines MBE and one of Britain's most acclaimed chefs and food writer, Prue Leith CBE.

At the age of 20 Sarah was recognised as the youngest Asian female to manage an Indian restaurant. Following her successful career in hospitality, Sarah's passion for authentic food led her on a new venture and she started creating her own Asian inspired dishes.

Appearing at locations around the UK this summer, Sarah took the food festival scene by storm and has just recently launched her own event catering business at Sandpolo Championships in Sandbanks this summer.

Sarah's catering business serves authentic gourmet Indian cuisine for events and functions across the region. Earlier this year Sarah was awarded the title of New Kid on the Block at the Small Awards in London, and was also a finalist for The Rising Star Award at the Bournemouth Tourism Awards.

Her expertise and knowledge is highly sought after. Sarah has her own YouTube channel and regularly appears on That's Solent TV (Freeview Channel 7) and Channel S TV (Sky 814). She contributes to Asian World Media group, Daily Echo and Banglar Kanthar (Bangladeshi newspaper in Singapore and

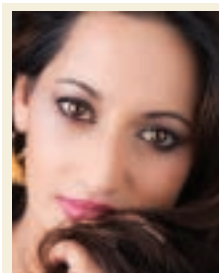
Malaysia) as a columnist. Sarah has worked with many parenting bloggers, spreading the word on how quick and easy preparing a curry can be for your family.

Sarah was recently shortlisted for two leading awards at this year's Venus Awards including Influential Woman of the Year Award sponsored by Mercedes-Benz and Inspirational Woman sponsored by Bournemouth University.

The Venus Awards celebrate and recognise local working women-in-business. Established in Dorset in 2009, the Venus Awards now operate in ten regions across the UK.

Sarah has reached the Finals with Tommy Miah's International Indian Chef of the Year Competition. She was one of eight selected finalists out of 8000 contestants.

As PR Ambassador for the UK Nepal Friendship Society and Child Nepal Sarah is assisting in helping people to overcome the Earthquake disaster and is a keen advocate of women's rights and the empowerment of women and supports Janaki Women's Awareness Society.



Sarah Ali Choudhury

Sector:
Catering



China Chowdhury

Sector:

Arts and Culture

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 with her dance expertise and has travelled across the world to many countries such as Japan, Italy, Sweden, Thailand, Egypt, Switzerland and Pakistan to name but a few. She gained her dance expertise in Bangladesh and was a government staff artist with the Bangladesh Shilpo Kala Academy.

China Chowdhury is the Founder and Director of 'Taal Torongo', an organisation whose members give widespread and varied performances all over the UK and Europe and have performed at the Boishakhi Mela for last decade. China has also worked in numerous London schools as a dance instructor and also a dance teacher in primary schools.

Since the formation of Boishakhi 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. Over the last 9 years she has been working with the Bangladesh High Commission in different ways. Adding to this she has been involved in Edinburgh Festival in Scotland and choreographer to the Bangladesh Movie 'Golapi Akhon Bilete'.

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

She has also worked with Bibi Russell, former International super model, back in 2014 and took part in London Bengali Wedding Fair 2017 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in London as the choreographer for the fashion shows being responsible for 30 models and 8 choreography themes.



Amin Babor Chowdhury

Sector:

*Media | Education
| Charity*

Since moving to the UK from Bangladesh in 2007 Amin Babor Chowdhury has become an established public figure renowned for his passion, dedication and work to develop and enhance community relations within the diverse cultural groups of Greater Manchester and more widely.

He has combined his roles within local journalism, education and charity to promote community cohesion and advance prospects for groups across a range of sectors.

In 2009 he helped to launch Probash Bangla, one of the country's few English-Bengali bilingual publications, which gives a voice to the UK Bangladeshi community and creates a platform to connect young and older generations.

Through sheer determination and an indefatigable and infectious optimism, Mr Chowdhury has created strong links with prominent figures in local and central government and with education and business leaders, engaging with them on important issues and gaining support for his projects.

Mr Chowdhury is married with two young children and lives in Oldham which, as a proud honorary 'Oldhamer', he seeks to advance, celebrate and promote wherever he can. He set up One Community UK (OCUK) in 2012, which is underpinned by charitable aims and through which he organises community events and was able to establish the Oldham Education Awards in 2012.

OEA unifies the whole town in celebration of the academic achievements of students in the borough. Around 250 young people have now received an OEA! As a result of this work, Mr Chowdhury was invited to become an Ambassador and Board member at Oldham Academy North.

Mr Chowdhury is keenly involved in fundraising and promotional activities for charities including Oldham based - and OEA charity partner - Dr Kershaw's Hospice. 1Care

charity, which works to improve health care and education in rural Bangladesh, is another cause close to his heart. He also supports charity partner of the British Education Awards The Princes Trust, to help fund the life-changing work The Trust does with vulnerable young people.

The drive to inspire people of all backgrounds, ages and abilities to aim high and succeed underpins Mr Chowdhury's vision, along with a fundamental belief that education can change peoples' lives regardless of their colour, religion or ethnicity.

In 2013 he determined to replicate OEA on a national platform, and endeavoured to unite people from all four countries of the United Kingdom in celebration of education, as 'one community'.

He achieved this vision in January 2017 when students and their families, education professionals and politicians travelled from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England to attend the country's inaugural British Education Awards in London. His aim now is to keep raising the profile of BEA and bring the event to every British nation, and continue to inspire people in the pursuit of education.

In 2018 he also invited to become a governor of Kingfisher school which is a Special School for pupils aged 2-19, meeting the needs of pupils with severe and complex physical and/or learning difficulties.

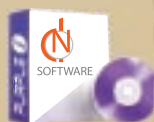
Besides Amin also passionate about Cricket. He created links and opportunities between community cricket clubs and mainstream organization such as Lancashire Cricket club/foundation also organise cricket tournament annually in purpose of bringing communities together. In 2019 Cricket world cup Amin volunteered to deliver the successful tournament which has been hosted by England & Wales after 20 years.



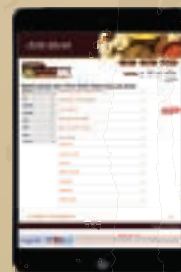
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Monsoor Chowdhury

Sector:

*Accountant/
Entrepreneur*

Monsoor is a qualified Accountant and business entrepreneur. Having successfully completed his training programme within a leading accountancy practice, he was quickly noticed for his outstanding talent and was rewarded with a partnership offer.

He decided to bypass this opportunity and instead take up a more ambitious, lucrative and challenging role, working and reporting directly to Lord Alan Sugar on his various commercial financial interests.

He quickly established himself within a cut-throat environment and very soon became one of Lord Sugar's senior financial representatives. His no nonsense style and approach were ideally suited for the demands of a high profile entrepreneur, working on the finances of a property portfolio in excess of 500m, aviation, media, publishing, electronics, foreign exchange trading and on various other commercial activities.

After eight successful years, Monsoor was head hunted by another high net worth entrepreneur to spearhead the finances of his worldwide real estate interests. After a brief stint, he decided it was the right time to venture into business himself.

He teamed up with his long-time colleague Kamru Ali and decided to take up a partnership position at Apex Accountancy, a small firm based in London. Under his guidance, Apex has fast developed into one of the most forward thinking and innovative small accountancy and taxation firms, providing a wide range of specialist services.

Monsoor also recognises the importance of practical training and uses Apex to serve as a training base for graduates and school leavers to develop their skills, aid-

ing them to seek employment. The majority of his trainees have gone on to secure employment within high profile organisations.

He has over the years and continues to provide consultancy services and sits on the board of a number of organisations, advising on finances within the industries of construction, energy, telecoms, property and healthcare. Monsoor is currently the CFO of ACAP Global, a start-up international company which has recently won the global rights to supply telecommunications traffic to a number of African based countries. In the process, the organisation has agreed to provide affordable housing solutions to the much needed region and Monsoor is spearheading this project.

Over the years, Monsoor has also invested wisely and built up a small property portfolio.

Having worked in the catering industry since the 90's which helped him fund his college and University education; he has kept his association with the industry and over the past 15 years, he has been involved with a number of successful restaurants and fast food ventures. Currently he overlooks the running of a successful restaurant, which has been awarded regional awards and is now aiming to achieve awards at national level.

During his leisure time, Monsoor participates in challenging charity events, this year he completed the London Marathon, in the process raising considerable funds for charity. On his bucket list of events to do is climbing to first base of Mount Everest and 100 mile walking trek on the Wall of China.



Kawsar Chowdhury

Sector:

Community and Politics

Kawsar was born in village Kachua, Zakiganj Upozila in Sylhet. His father, late Mr Mokoddus Ali Chowdhury, a businessman in Sylhet Town before the independence of Bangladesh, was a Greater Sylhet board member for Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind and his mother, late Mrs Majeeda Khanom Chowdhury, was a home maker, and closely supporting his father's business and political involvement. His maternal Grandfather Mr Sarwarul Islam Chowdhury was a Local Board Member in India, which is now known as Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) in Lok Sabha.

Kawsar came to the UK in 1994 after studying at the MC College, Sylhet. He became engaged with community and philanthropic work in London, and started his career as an Advocacy officer in 'age UK', pursuing his profession in the mainstream. Alongside this, he gained qualifications from various institutions including an MA from the University of Westminster, a Diploma in Management, a Diploma in Business and Finance, and studied Social Science at the Open University.

Currently, he is an Independent Consultant working on behalf of social services. Prior to this, for many years he worked in statutory and non-statutory Criminal Justice Systems. During his work in various professional roles, he pioneered and engaged with many project developmental initiatives, including Tower Hamlets Re-settlement and Reintegration Aftercare Services for ex-offenders in order to reduce re-of-

fending in the community; inter-generational work between Black Minority Ethnic (mainly Bangladeshi) Older Adults and the younger generation to promote independence for isolated vulnerable older people in Camden; Housing and Re-settlement Pathways Project in Haringey for young vulnerable people in need of accommodation after their recovery from offending behaviour and substance misuse and needing to reintegrate themselves in the community.

Whilst working full time in the UK, Kawsar has also occupied himself with community and voluntary work in London and back in Bangladesh. He was a member of the Governing Body in 2012 for 'Belmont School' in Harrow. Kawsar was founder of the 'Mukoddus-Majeeda Chowdhury Government Primary School' in Kachua, Zakiganj, Sylhet, founded in 2014. He was also one of the founders of the Zakiganj Welfare Association in the UK.

Kawsar was involved in the democratic movement in Bangladesh against the Martial Law Government in the 1990's, under the Chattro Sangram Parishad. After he arrived in the UK, he revived the Bangladesh Chattro League UK in the 90's and was the only Joint Convenor then Convenor of that organisation, ex-central committee member of Bangladesh Chattro league and European Union Co-ordinator. He is now International Affairs Secretary of UK Awami League. Kawsar is married to Dr Ferdousi Choudhury and blessed with four children.

Salim Chowdhury resides in Harrow. He is the eldest son of Abdul Motin Chowdhury & Hafsa Chowdhury. Salim Studied Management.

Salim is an Entrepreneur and has an illustrious record of business ownerships including a group of fine dining restaurants. He is a Sponser Shareholder of NRB Bank, Founder of General Auto Services & runs a successful Property business & has a portfolio.

Salim started his first partnership business at the age of seventeen. He also served as a police officer for the metropolitan police. He is a founder & executive member of Conservative friends of Bangladesh. as well as being a member the Conservative Muslim forum. He is well connected with the conservative party and various organisations affiliated to the party. Salim also served as a councillor for Harrow Council.

Aside from his association with politics. Salim remains closely connected with local and community based initiatives. Salim is also a former senior vice chair of probashi balagonj & Osmani nagar Education trust, Founder Secretary of Poshchim London Bangladesh welfare Association.

He is the founder Organising Secretary of British Bangladeshi Caterers Association (BBCA) Salim is

also the Joint Secretary of Shahjalal Islamic Centre & Life Member of London Bangla Press Club. Permanent member of The Bangladesh Centre, Member of UKBCCI.

Furthermore Salim is a former chairman of Harrow Traders Association & former President of Middlesex Awami Jubo League, Trustee of Harrow Bangladeshi Association and a former school governor.

Salim is also a Founder and Director of BDGL, a new premiere double glazing company in Bangladesh.

There are numerous other organisations which Salim takes an active role in. He also donates regularly to numerous charities and community based projects (in Bangladesh) he has funded a school hall and madrasa in his village & an orphanage. Salim is married to Jasmine (a teacher) & they are blessed with three children, Al-Imaan, Jaariyah & Sabriyah.



Salim Chowdhury

Sector:

Politics & Various Businesses

Md Shabul Chowdhury was born in Chitamonji village, Osmani Nogar Upazilla and is the son of Alhaj Makkodos Ali Chowdhury and late Saira Begum Chowdhury. He has two brothers (Abdul moyein Chowdhury and Abdul Muktedir Chowdhury) and two sisters (Lipy chowdhury and Nargis Chowdhury) who all reside in the UK. He has studied his BA at Sylhet MC College, M.A first part at Jogonnnath University Dhaka, as well as LLB Dhaka Law College In 1991. He migrated to Birmingham with his family and completed his studies at Birmingham City College.

Mr Chowdhury is currently working in social services under Birmingham City Council and holds the position of sub editor of the Bangla Kagoj. Whilst studying in Bangladesh Mr Chowdhury took an active role in student politics and held the position of joint secretary in the Sylhet district student league.

When he arrived in England, he worked in restaurants in addition to having several businesses. He became heavily involved in the media including working as the Channel S Midlands correspondent, the reporter for Daily Bangladesh and part of the editorial board for fortnightly Sironam. He was also editor of Birmingham Somachar. As a columnist his work has been published in various publications such as Surma, Jonomat, Potrika, Shamal Sylhet and currently has a weekly column in Bangla Kagoj and is a member of London Bangla press club.

In addition, Mr Chowdhury has vast experience in working with many social and political organisations, including acting as secretary of Birmingham Bangladesh welfare association as well as publicity secretary of Greater Sylhet Council. He was the education secretary of BESCO and the head teacher of a Supplementary Bangla and Homework Support School by BESCO.

Mr Chowdhury is heavily involved in Bangladeshi politics as part of organising secretary for Midlands Awami league. Previously being press secretary for UK Jubo league and president of Midlands Awami league. Also he was a general secretary all European bongo bondhu porishod in Birmingham.

Mr Chowdhury is married to Akhtarun Nessa (Gulshan) and has four children – 3 daughters and one son. His eldest daughter Farhana Chowdhury Easita is studying for her A-levels at King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar school. His son Samadul Chowdhury Tahaid is currently in year 10 at Handsworth Grammar. His two younger daughters Afsana Chowdhury and Sabrina Chowdhury are currently attending primary school.



Md Shabul Chowdhury

Sector:

Media



Tareq Chowdhury
Sector:
Legal and Media

Tareq Chowdhury is well known in the Bangladeshi Community as a Journalist. He is also an immigration expert and a Barrister. He is the editor of weekly Bangla Post, the first Bengali newspaper in the UK newsagent. He is also a Principal of Kingdom Solicitors.

Born in Sylhet and brought up in Habigonj. His ancestral home is in Zakiganj upozilla in Sylhet district. Fifth son of Mr. Muhamed Abdun Nur Chowdhury, the retired Head Master of Shaistaganj High School and former central president of Bangladesh Teachers association. His father was also head examiner of physics of Comilla Education Board for around 20 years.

Tareq Chowdhury took his Secondary and higher secondary education at Shaistaganj. He migrated to United Kingdom to study. He completed LLB honours at Wolverhampton University in 2002 followed by the Bar Vocational Course in 2003 from Northumbria University and was called to the Bar by the Honorable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

He has been involved with the media since 1991 with Dainik Janata and he worked with Daily Star as University correspondent and contributor. He was the senior reporter of recently defunct Daily Bangladesh in UK and also contributed in various

weeklies in UK including Bangla Mirror. He contributed in almost all newspapers in Rajshahi in the 1990s and many dailies and weeklies in Dhaka. He was also a dedicated scout since he was at school and carried on after he went to university. He attended many scouts camps and Jamboree. In order to receive the president scout award, he took part in the 100 mile rambling from Rajshahi to Sirajgonj.

He has also earned reputation as a TV presenter with Local TV Channels on Legal and political programmes in London.

He has leadership abilities as he was the president of Rajshahi University Press club. Secretary of University Rotaract club and he was the elected student representative to the honourable society of Lincoln's Inn from Northumbria University during his Bar Vocational Course.

He is married to Rezia Choudhury who is working as Intelligence Researcher for the British Transport Police in London.



Abdul Md Fakruzzaman
Sector:
Arts & Culture

Abdul Md Fakruzzaman was born in Sylhet, Bangladesh and studied in London Guildhall University in 1996-1999 and London Metropolitan University, Artists in Residence in 2006. He has many awards under his belt. These include the ABC Convention Award for Arts & Culture, New York in 2012, Sha Abdul Karim Award, Channel S in 2012, U.K National Award, The Winsor & Newton World Wide Millennium Paintings Competition in 2000 and Best Medium Award from Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1991.

Abdul having studied both in Bangladesh and UK, has had the unique experience of immersing himself in the fine art traditions of the 'East' and the 'West'. His academic career has landed him with awards in both Dhaka (Best Medium prize) and London. Within a very short time, in more ways than one, he has emerged as a true cosmopolitan.

His works are composition based on forms. He often uses flat forms that are given volume and dimension by texturing around them. He often uses the graffito technique, using nails and palette knives to scratch away at the surface. Gray and black are the most dominant colours in his work, according to Taker Hushin, daily Star, Bangladesh

He has also exhibited his work widely. A few of his solo exhibitions are: Solo Art Exhibition, Gallery

Chitrak, Dhanmondi, Dhaka Bangladesh in 2010, and 'A Kaleidoscopic Journey' painting and print exhibition, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2005. A Celebration An Exhibition of Painting & Prints, Mile End Park Gallery The Ecology Pavilion, London in 2002, Print Exhibition. ILRC London Guildhall University, London in 2000 and last but not least Solo Paintings Exhibition. Oxford House, London in 1995. Some of his group exhibitions have been Art Exhibition in ABC Convention, NY in 2012, 'Colour of Time' Contemporary Painting Exhibition, The World Habitat Centre in New Delhi, India in 2012, Contemporary Art Exhibition 'The Paper Mill Gallery, Toronto, Canada in 2011, 'Whole Festival' Tomkingson Park NY, 'Colour of Time' group paintings exhibition in Academy of Fine Arts, Kolkata, India in 2011 and the Anniversary exhibition 'Rooted Creativity 9' Bengal Gallery of Fine Art, Dhaka Bangladesh in 2011.

Some of his published works: 'A Kaleidoscopic Journey', published by the Bengal of Fine Arts, Dhaka, The Artist Handbook by Ray Smith, published by Dorling Kindersley, 'A Celebration An Exhibition of Paintings & Prints', 'Our World In The Year 2000', published by Sheeran Lock. If you want a visual treat, then head to his studio for an outstanding experience.

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Shahagir Bakth Faruk
MSc.

Sector:
*Business & Community
Relations*

Shahagir Bakth Faruk was born in Sunamganj, Bangladesh. His late father Alhaj Shah Bakth, was a retired Bank Officer, his younger brother Humayun is a Brigadier General in the Bangladesh Army, and his eldest sister, Dr Saleha Khatun was the first women medical doctor in her home town of Sunamganj. Faruk was a lecturer of Physics in Sunamganj College before arriving in London in 1973. He established the Shahnai Employment & Training Bureau, which was the first Bangladeshi employment and training centre in the East End of London.

Faruk is also the first Bangladeshi trainer who provides food hygiene training, health and safety training and HACCP training for all sorts of food handlers in a diverse range of premises. He is also an accredited trainer of the internationally recognised Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH), Royal Society of Public Health (RSPH), Meat and Livestock Commission (MLC) and Welcome Host. He is an author of the book called "Food Hygiene".

Apart from entrepreneurship, Faruk has made a considerable political contribution to the mainstream of British politics. He is involved with the Conservative party, having been the local Conservative Association Chairman for five consecutive years.

During his leadership he arranged visits in his local constituency from many leading Conservative figures.

Faruk was the only Bangladeshi who was selected as an official Conservative Parliamentary Candidate in 2001 and achieved an excellent second place against Oona King. He was also a Conservative candidate for the same constituency and fought a hard campaign against Oona King and George Galloway in 2005.

Faruk is the former President of the London region of Bangladesh-British Chamber of Commerce. He is the Deputy Chairman of "Conservative Friends of Bangladesh".

He is the founder member of the London Millennium Bridge Club and his name is engraved on this famous bridge, which was opened by Her Majesty the Queen. Faruk is also a trustee of Bangladesh Female Academy, founder of Sunamganj Association, "SUPROBASH" & a "Freeman of the City of London". He lives in east end of London with wife Sherina and four children Shahnai, Eva, Safwan and Zayn.



Shamim Choudhury
Sector:
Media

Shamim is a print and television journalist whose career has been varied and prolific. She has been working for Al Jazeera English since 2007, where she fulfils a number of roles including that of deputy news editor, news editor, reporter and field producer. She is based in the network's London offices, but has also worked in the main news centre in Doha, Qatar. In recent times Shamim travelled with a reporting team to Bangladesh on three occasions, including during the January 2014 elections, when she field-produced and reported on a range of subjects. She is considered by the channel to be its resident Bangladesh expert, has close personal contacts with many of the most influential people in Bangladesh and secured an interview with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for Al Jazeera in 2012.

Shamim has also been closely involved in Al Jazeera's coverage of the unrest in Ukraine – one of the biggest news stories to come out of Europe in the past few years. As well as travelling to Kiev twice at a time of heightened tensions major security concerns, she was in Crimea for three weeks in March 2014 when her team covered the referendum and witnessed the region fall into Russian control after being part of Ukraine for decades.

Prior to Al Jazeera, Shamim worked in various capacities for Sky News, the BBC and ITV news. She started her career in print journalism and has written news stories and features for The Daily Express, The Daily Mail, The Daily Telegraph and comment and opinion for The Independent. For a while she also had her own column in the Bangla Mirror.

In addition, Shamim has taken part in current affairs and politics debates at The House of Lords and on live television

discussion programmes.

Since October 2013 she has been on the panel of judges at the Asian Media Awards for the categories of Journalist Of The Year and Best Investigation.

Shamim was born in London and is of Sylheti heritage. The late general Muhammad Ataul Gani Osmani, the commander-in-chief of the East Pakistani liberation forces of 1971, is her great uncle and grew up in the same household as her paternal grandfather.

She received a BSc in chemistry from Queen Mary, University of London, an MSc in race and ethnic relations from Birkbeck College and a post-graduate diploma in newspaper journalism from City University, for which she won a prestigious bursary from the Wellcome Trust. After completing her Bachelors degree she spent six months living in New York City working as an intern for an NGO affiliated with the United Nations, during which time she contributed to a book which educated American school and college students about the workings of the United Nations.

Shamim has a passion for travel and has visited almost fifty countries including Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Cuba, China, India and parts of West Africa. Some years ago she worked with a leading charity to help build a community centre in a remote part of Cambodia.

She also enjoys sport and has a black belt in karate.

As well as her day job, Shamim occasionally blogs for the Huffington Post on a range of socio-political issues and is studying English Literature part-time at Oxford University. She can be followed in twitter on @shamimlondon



Award Winner 2014

Rupa Huq's parents came to the UK from the town of Pabna in pre-independence Bangladesh in the early 1960s. She was born in West London and educated at Cambridge, University of East London and Strasbourg University in France. Her main career has been as an academic: she taught at Kingston University and University of Manchester from 1998 onwards until she was elected Labour MP for Ealing Central and Acton in May 2015.

She is author of three books: (i) Making sense of suburbia through popular culture. (2013) Bloomsbury, (ii) On the edge: the contested cultures of suburbia. (2013) Lawrence & Wishart and (iii) Beyond sub-culture: pop, youth and identity in a postcolonial world. Academically her main interests have been the sociology of the suburbs and popular culture. In Parliament she is vice chair of the All Party Parliamentary Music Group and the APPG on Crossrail. She is also chairing an All Party Parliamentary Group on London, with specific reference to planning and the built environment.

Since being elected the main issues she has spoken on are affordable housing in the capital, transport

and the NHS. She served on a UK government Foreign and Commonwealth "Understanding Islam" delegation to Bangladesh in 2008.



Dr Rupa Huq MP

Sector:
Politics



Award Winner 2015

Born in 1975 in Dinapur , Nobigonj , Hobigonj , Sylhet . The 3rd Son of (Late) Dewan Ashraf Gazi and (Late) Chemon Choudhury. They moved to Bradford, UK in 1976.

Imrul studied Chemistry BSc (hons) at Sheffield Hallam Uni and joined the Pharmaceutical industry since 1999.

Imrul is currently working for Bristol-Myers Squibb and hosts a TV Show on Channel STV - On The Ball . Away from work, Imruls passion is in grassroots football and he does voluntary work in the East London area with the Bangladeshi Community.

Imrul was formally the Vice Chairman at Bangladesh Football Association and Chair of the Tower Hamlets Youth League.

Imrul is a FA Level 2 qualified coach and has worked very closely with teams in Tower Hamlets, coached at The Sporting Bengal Academy with Anwar Uddin since inception and still remains its most successful coach to date.

Imrul works with KICK IT OUT as the grassroots advisor for London and with The FA (Kevin Coleman) around support and advice with Inclusion at Grassroots level.

In 2016 he was named the Manager of Sporting Bengal UTD FC (Semi Pro Team) Based in Mile End. I succeeded Ex Pro Anwar Uddin.

Imrul is now the ONLY Bangladeshi to Manage at Step 5 of the National Pyramid and the Most Successful manager in the history of the club, having

guided the Club to the furthest they had ever been in my 1st season in the FA CUP. In 2017/18 season recording the highest ever Points tally of 50 points & highest league finish for the club in their Senior football history.

Imrul lives for football and loves the fact that I am able to make a difference to the lives of so many young players. As one of VERY few Asian Managers at this level – he sees it as my duty to do all i can to encourage our lads to strive and play to the highest level possible. The dream is to see more of our own Bangladeshi kids playing NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL & better still Professional.

Imrul is married to Sania Choudhury and have 3 children. 1 Boy & 2 Girls ,Raul - 16 ,Daneen 10 , Lu-jain 5.



Imrul Gazi

Sector:
Sports



Abdul Haque

Sector:

*Information Technology
& Media*

Abdul Haque was born in Moulvibazar, Bangladesh in 1976, and currently resides in Maida Vale, West London.

Mr Haque studied a BSc in Maths and Computing at Brunel University, and due to complete an MSc in Advance Software Engineering at the University of Westminster in 2009. As a civil servant, he used to work as a specialist software engineer on flight data processes for National Air Traffic Services [NATS].

However, he has now set up his own company and is the Founder & Managing Director of Purple I Technologies, which specializes in IT software and has played an integral part in promoting the EPOS system to the Bangladeshi/Indian Restaurant industry. He is also the Vice-Chairman of Channel S, the television station for Bangladeshis in Britain and Europe, which was founded by his brother Mahee Ferdhous Jalil - where his technological expertise means that he oversees the busy IT department there.

Away from his successful career, Mr Haque enjoys nothing more than travelling the globe. This seems only natural considering his previous career in aviation technology. He has been to many different

countries around the world, but feels that Malaysia is his favourite. He cites the friendly nature of the Malaysian people, the cuisine, the value and the fact that it is a strong Islamic nation as reasons why he finds it so favourable. However, he has also come away from places such as the Maldives and Canada with glowing reports.

Aside from travelling, Mr Haque indulges his hobbies of badminton, going to the gym and watching films, although with such a schedule it must be hard for him to fit these in. Mr Haque is married to Mary Rahman who runs her own successful London based PR company, which specialises in promoting clients hailing from the arts, theatre, film and fashion industries.



**Abdul Hoque Habib
BSc. (Hons) ACIEH**

Sector:

Business/Charity

Having successfully completed his intermediate level education in his beloved country of birth Bangladesh, Habib joined his parents in the UK in 1989. Habib immediately realised the world-class opportunities that this great country has to offer and embraced this land as his homeland. He began his educational journey from Tower Hamlets College in 1990 and completed his honours degree in Economics in 1997 from Queen Mary University of London. He worked as a Registrar of Deaths, Births and Marriages for Tower Hamlets council. Habib then joined Barclays Bank as a Graduate Management Trainee followed by a new career into the world of urban regeneration. His appointment at City-side Regeneration in 2000 was a catalyst in his career with regards to his personal contribution in economic development of the East End of London. His professional acumen, drive and energy in supporting local businesses has contributed towards the thriving business sector in Tower Hamlets.

As a Programme Manager at EMEP in 2001, he contributed in the advancement of education and training of Bangladeshi catering staff. Habib then joined Tower Hamlets Council as a Partnership Development Officer contributing in the strategic development of the local area with an aim to improve health, education, safety, and environmental issues for local residents. Habib was then appointed as a Neighbourhood Coordinator for London Borough of Barking & Dagenham. He then worked as a senior Programme Manager for Tower Hamlets council. A fiercely independent-minded person, Habib successfully co-founded SocietyLinks Tower Hamlets and served as a founding chairman for two

terms. Habib is currently a successful entrepreneur with a housing portfolio and ownership of London Training Centre Limited.

From a patriotic civil servant to a successful entrepreneur, Habib never forgot his root, his country of origin, Bangladesh. His strong belief is that the purpose of life is to serve God. And the only way to serve God is through serving His creation. Besides his busy professional and family life, Habib is also the chairman of iQra International charity. Under his leadership, the charity has built an undisputed reputation for its service to the needy people and seen as an exemplary charity helping and campaigning for disabled people. He also contributes in women education and empowerment through another charity called Shabbazpur Women Education Trust.

He is a trustee of Bishawnath Probashi Education Trust and Doshghor Union Probashi Trust. He was also a parent governor of a high achieving primary school in the UK and contributes in his own neighbourhood by being an active member of the Community Safer Neighbourhood panel. Habib is a professional member of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) and writes about food safety issues on magazines including BCA Award magazine, Catering Circle Award magazine, Euroasia Award magazine, ARTA Award magazine and various newspapers. Habib appears on many live television talk shows sharing his expert knowledge and experience on a number of different areas including charity, training, safety, social and political issues.



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Abdus Hamid

Sector:
*Technology/Business/
Politics*

London based Abdus Hamid started his career as an Accountant and subsequently moved into the field of Technology working for a large firm of Wealth Managers in the City Of London.

He currently works as a Cyber Security Analyst helping to secure the companies network and has forged a successful career operating in the financial services industry over the last 20 years.

Being a passionate advocate of technology and having established himself as a highly skilled Analyst in the field of Cyber Security, he now advises small business and institutions on aspects of Cyber Security. He also runs a Network Solution Company offering consultancy to businesses and institutions across the UK.

Abdus is also the founder Deputy Chairman of Conservative Friends of Bangladesh (CFOB) having been involved in its inception since 2006. CFOB is a member-led organisation that upholds the values of the British Bangladeshi community and champions their similarities with the beliefs of the Conservative Party.

From its humble beginnings in 2006, CFOB now boasts members spanning from across the UK. The organisations was given permission by the Conservative Party to take a delegation of MP's and volun-

teers to Bangladesh in order to carry out social action work in for the first time in 2011.

Since then CFOB has visited Bangladesh countless times helping various charities. Our last visit in 2017 allowed us to take several MPs and volunteers into the camps of Cox Bazaar where Rohingya refugees are currently living in squalid conditions. Because of our direct intervention, UKAID has so far donated over £50 million to Bangladesh for the Rohingya refugees. CFOB continues to lobby the government in UK for the safe return of Rohingya refugees back to Myanmar. Abdus was also the first British Bangladeshi Chairman of a Conservative Association in the UK and served as the Chairman of Ilford South Conservative Association.

Outside of business and politics Abdus is also involved with various charities nationally and acts as trustees for various charities such as London Tigers to name a few.



Jehangir Haque

Sector:
Politics

Jehangir Haque was born in Bangladesh where his father had the almost unique achievement in the local area of obtaining a degree from what was then Calcutta University. As a consequence he worked his way to being Headmaster

Jehangir Haque continued his education at Brooklands Technical College Weybridge . He settled in Surrey in 1979, where he opened his first Bangladeshi restaurant in Great Bookham.

In 1983 he moved to Fetcham and opened his second restaurant, and subsequently several others openings took place in Surrey.

Jehangir Haques son now carries a great deal of responsibility in running the restaurant business but Jehangir Haque remains very heavily involved.

In 2010 Jehangir Haque moved from serving his customers, to serving the Fetcham community, when he was elected as a member of the Council. He is Mole Valley's first Asian & Muslim Chairman

In 2014 he was re-elected for a second term, now beginning his third term.

His years on Mole Valley Council have been exceptionally busy. He has served on Development Control Committee & on Scrutiny Committee. He has

worked as a member of the Local Committee and there consistently urged the County Council to improve its performance especially on roads and pavements in Fetcham. Locally he has worked with Fetcham United Charity.

Jehangir has been something of a pioneer in making progress for members of the Asian community in public life and his own progress has not been without challenges.

However his dedication and resolve has won him many friends and much admiration and he has often led the way for others to follow. Jehangir is without doubt an exemplary Councillor who commands great deal of respect in Council chamber and in the community as a whole.

Jehangir is married to Nasima and have two children

Ahmadul Haque served as Deputy Mayor of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. He was the first Bangladeshi Councillor elected in the Midland region in 1995 and has been reelected ever since. In 2006 Cllr Haque received an award from Channel 5 for his services to the community. Cllr Haque arrived in the UK in July 1963 and initially became a member of the Pakistan Welfare Association in Birmingham.

Whilst working in various different companies, Cllr Haque was always keen to get into politics and in 1965 became a member of the old Labour party. With friction simmering in East Pakistan and West Pakistan, Cllr Haque set up the first Bangladesh Action Committee outside of Birmingham in 1971. In the same year Cllr Haque helped raise close to £1500 from contributions made by the residents of North Birmingham for the Bangladesh Action Committee movement as well as setting Midlands Awami League.

Cllr Haque is a very active member of the Bangladeshi community always campaigned for equality and as a result in 1976 received an award from the Bangladeshi High Commission. Through

effort and having to overcome numerous obstacles, Cllr Haque also helped set up the Tipton Muslim Trust Association which is now referred to as Al-Islah Trust and a community centre for local Muslims in Tipton.

Cllr Haque tries to serve all members of the community.

In the mid eighties, Cllr Haque purchased a terraced house via the trust and later set up the Sandwell Confederation of Bangladeshi Muslim Organisation (SCOBMO).

Cllr Haque is also a founder member of the City Challenge Project as well as Bangladesh Youth Movement. Through over twenty years of persistence and hard work campaigning for level crossings in Tipton a 2.2 million pound project finally commenced last year. Cllr Haque also played a pivotal role during Ms Syeda Khatun's election campaign who later became the first Bangladeshi female councillor in the Midlands area in 1999.



Cllr Ahmadul Haque

Sector:
Politics

Firuzul Haque is born in 1964 in Boro Nogdipur, Derai, Sunamgonj. He passed his S.S.C from Rojogonj High School. After his successful completion of S.S.C he went on to study in Syhlet Modon Mohon College. He was a proud founder member of Bangladesh Jatiotabadi Chatra Dol, Sylhet Zilla. He was a supporter of our glorious Liberation war in 1971 as his elder brother (Rofiqul Haque) was a commander of freedom fighters in Derai Upozilla.

Firuzul and his other elder brothers used to supply food, water and other necessary things for the freedom fighters at that critical time for our nation and country. He came to the UK in 1992. He is very successful restaurateur, partner of two restaurants named Spice Rouge at Stevenage and Cafe Masala at Eaton Bray, Dunstable. Also he is the Director of Soft Investment Group UK. Mr Haque is actively involved in several community based activities in UK. He is a founder member of British Bangladeshi Business Forum and currently holding the position of organizing secretary of that Forum.

He is the assistant treasurer of British Bangladesh Helping Hand, a life member of Syhlet Heart Foundation, a trustee of Bangladesh Female Academy, Derai, Sunamgonj. He is the Vice President of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK (BCA). He is also former president of the Derai Thana Development Organisation UK and an active member of Labour party UK. He is vice president of the Sunamgonj Jella Welfare Association and advisor of friends

of Jogdol Union Trust. He is deeply passionate about his different charitable activities in the UK and Bangladesh. He runs a charity called Bari & Nessa Memorial Trust based in his own village. Mr Haque is extremely proud of his Bangladeshi root. He firmly believes that our hard-working nature will not only enable us to put the name of our motherland in a respectable position in world map but also will help us contribute to the British society positively and significantly.



Firuzul Haque

Sector:
Catering



Syed Samadul Haque
Sector:
Media



Award Winner 2015

Any attempt to write history or present state of Bangla print or electronic media in the UK will not be complete without mentioning one name, Syed Samadul Haque. Born in Kishorehonj and brought up in the tea valley of Sylhet, Samadul Haque was educated in Dhanmondi Govt. Boys High School, Dhaka College and Dhaka University.

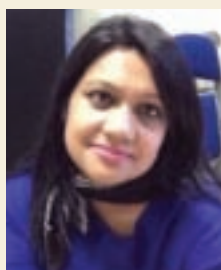
Adventure and carrying out new ideas is part of Samadul Haque's character. In 1973 while he was a Secretary of Dhaka College Student Union, traveled to India with a State Student delegation. After a brief break of study to attend Military Academy, Samadul Haque came back to Dhaka University to study Politics. While in the University he was also Director of a family business, Sputnik International Limited. From 1981 to 1983 he traveled to London several times on business. But journey to London in late 1983 was not a very pleasant one.

This time he came to London to sue a British Company, Wells Bridge Motors Limited of Cambridge for breach of Contract. This litigation in the High Court of London changed the destiny of Samadul Haque. He decided to live for some time in London and took up a career in media. Soon he was appointed as London Correspondent of Dainik Bangla, the then national newspaper of Bangladesh and began writing for different newspapers in Dhaka & London. In 1984 Samadul Haque joined the Weekly Janomot of London. Soon became the News Editor and Executive Editor, and editor in 1989. In the year 1987 his story on personal life of the then President of Bangladesh H M Ershad was also picked up by Sunday Observer of London as lead story and in response the government of Bangladesh retaliated by banning 'Janomot' in Bangladesh.

He spent good ten years of his youthful time to revitalize and give a solid foundation for Janomot. In 1993-94 he served as part-time Media Consultant of Bethnal Green City Challenge, a project of the Department of Environment of British Government. In 1995 while he was editor of BNS, introduced International news agency service in Bangladesh in Bangla. He also represented CNN in Bangladesh from 1995 – 1998. Samadul Haque is a pioneer of ethnic television broadcasting in the UK. In May 1998 he with two friends formed Bangla Television Limited and became Managing Director of the company. This Company launched first satellite Bangla TV Channel outside Indian sub-continent on 16 September 1999. During his long career in broadcasting industry he also served as Director of News of Reminiscent Television, Managing Director of Channel S Bangladesh and CEO of Takbeer TV in the UK.

His innovative contribution in British Bangla Media includes launching of 'Daily Janomot', first Bangla internet daily in 1995 and Bangla tele-news service in the UK in 1994. He is also a pioneer of Call Centre industry in Bangladesh. In the year 2009 he opened Orbit Communications Call Centre, first international Call Centre in Bangladesh.

Outside his professional world Samadul Haque is a Community activist. In 80's and 90's he was in the forefront of anti-racist and ethnic minority rights movement in the UK. He was a founder EC member of Tower Hamlets Law Centre, founder General Secretary of Bangla Shahitya Porishod in the UK and also one of the Founder of London Bangla Press Club.



Parveen Hassan
Sector:
Politics / Civil Service

Parveen Hassan is on the Conservative Parliamentary Approved Candidates list for 2022.

Parveen Hassan is the founder of Conservative Women's Hub, an online platform, dedicated to debate and engage Conservative women entering public life. Parveen Hassan is the West Midlands Conservative Women's Organisation (CWO) Deputy Chairman 2017-2020. She is the former Chairman of Birmingham Heartlands Conservative Women's Organisation 2011-2014. In 2016, Parveen was Head of Communications for the Conservative Friends of Bangladesh (CFOB) responsible for communications, marketing, engagement and media. Since 2017, Parveen is Vice Chairman of the Conservative Friends of Bangladesh. Recently visited Bangladesh to see first hand the Rohingya Refugee Crisis with parliamentarians as part of the delegation.

Parveen's experience in the world of politics covers political and leadership campaigning, a seasoned, grass roots campaigner within the Conservative Party, local and regional elections, the West Midlands NO2AV referendum, Team 2015, Conservative City Seats Initiative 2015 and extensively campaigned for the Mayoral campaign 2017. Parveen first came active in the world of politics, following the former Prime Minister, David Cameron's vision to attract diverse women from all backgrounds to enter the party and play a part for the country as public servants. She continues to support more women to enter the political sphere for the voluntary party.

Parveen Hassan's career outside the world of politics remains on delivering criminal justice. A dedicated civil servant for over 25 years with expertise in the legal sector, specialising in prosecution policies and inclusion within HMG. She has served on various charity boards as a trustee and di-

rector, supporting diverse communities addressing violence against women. Currently, she is board member for Tell Mama, West Midlands.

Recognised for her dedication to public service on equalities and women, Parveen Hassan won best female employee of the year at the British Asian Hafta Awards 2009; finalist of the AAA Gold Award for Women of the Year, Asian Achievers Awards 2009. She won the NBCPA Award and LCJB Award for community engagement, and public confidence. Parveen Hassan was selected on the BBC 100 Women List of aspiring global leaders in 2013 striving to make the world a better place for women with real life experiences.

Parveen Hassan appeared on BBC News channels on an international platform, debates through social media with unheard voices on women's achievements, barriers and development.

Following a series of interviews on Brit Asia TV on successful Asian women and for mainstream media on the role of Muslim women in the UK. She's been a contributor in the Bangladeshi press raising the profile of women in education, employment and political engagement, continuously campaigning to heighten awareness for the prominent role Bangladeshi women can play in society and their vital economic contributions. In 2018,

Parveen Hassan won the Women Economic Forum, Exceptional Women of Excellence Award for political empowerment for women engagement projects.

She is married to a Senior British Civil Servant with two children, and lives in the West Midlands.

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Mahmud Hasan MBE

Sector:

*Community Development
and Social Care*



Award Winner 2015

Mr. Mahmud Hasan was awarded an MBE at the birthday honours of HRH Queen Elizabeth II in 1999 for extensive community relations in the UK.

Mr. Hasan was born in a respectable Muslim family on 6th August in 1952 in the village of Boraikandi in Sylhet, Bangladesh. His father was Moin Uddin Ahmed, who was the commander in chief of Pakistan National Guard Regiment in 1947 and later joined the Pakistan Army as Lieutenant, who passed away in 1986.

Mr. Hasan has graduated from Bangladesh. In 1968, he became a member of the then Student League and played an active role during the mass upsurge against the then autocrat ruler of Pakistan in 1969.

He also participated in the war of liberation of Bangladesh in 1971. He was a member of Bangladesh Liberation Front (BLF).

Immediately after liberation he worked with International / Bangladesh Red Cross Society towards the rehabilitation programme in the war torn areas of the newly born country.

Mr. Hasan first came to the UK in 1979, and settled in the London Borough of Camden. Within the first two years of his settlement in the UK, he started working in the field of community development through Camden Committee for Community Relations (CCCR) and Bengali Workers Action Group (BWAG).

In 1984, he was appointed as part-time Community Development Worker to work with elderly people and homeless families in Camden. In the same year, he was elected as Ethnic Minority Representative to the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA). In 1987, he was appointed to a challenging position as a co-ordinator to redevelop the BWAG known as Surma Community Centre. He has since worked in different senior positions in both voluntary and local government.

He successfully led the completion of the construction work of the purpose-built Surma Community Centre in Camden in 1989. After completion of the Centre, he was strongly supported by the community to take the lead on further development and management of the Centre and was elected chair of BWAG in a voluntary capacity. In early 1990, he was appointed as Senior Community Development Officer of CHIC, a Charitable Organisation based in Westminster.

He has successfully completed graduation on Leadership and Networking from Common Purpose in 1991-1992.

Mr. Hasan has played a key role, along with others, to bring a positive change in Camden which had been experiencing lots of social deprivation and disadvantages. As one of the then young activists, he worked hard to change the destiny of the community: from desperation to dignity and achievement.

Mr. Mahmud Hasan has remarkable contribution to help and support the homeless people, develop health and education, intensify anti-racism campaigns, fight against discrimination and strengthen racial equality.

He has contributed significantly to combat racism, particularly in Central London and is always constructive to develop racial harmony within the multicultural society of Britain.

He was always engaged voluntarily to act on behalf of others in need and in defence of a moral cause, remembers one Camden resident. Mr. Hasan was elected as the first Bangladeshi chair of Camden Racial Equality Council (CREC) in 1993. A year later, Mr. Hasan was elected as the first Bangladeshi Councillor in the London Borough of Camden. Mr. Hasan has been involved in various Voluntary Sector Organisations including as the Director of Camden Community Law Centre, Voluntary Action Camden, Governor of St Michael School and Kingsway College Corporation, Member of Camden Police Consultative Committee, and Director of Paddington Church's Housing Association.

He is also the founder and current chairman of the Consortium of Bengali Associations (CBA). He was a Civic Ambassador to the London 2012 Olympic Games Forum. Mr. Hasan's profile has been recorded in the Asian "Who's Who" International and in many other publications. Mr. Hasan is currently employed as Chief Executive of APASENTH, a leading social care organisation in the UK working for the people with special needs for over last three decades and APASENTH International, a newly formed CIO. Mr. Hasan is currently leading a ground breaking project in Bangladesh with the aim to raise awareness and educate people with special needs on safe working and daily living practices through the provision of a range of support services.



Abdul Momin Hamid

Sector:

Law/Business

Abdul is a Senior Government Lawyer and successful social entrepreneur.

As a Lawyer, Abdul conducts litigation on behalf of the Ministry of Justice, (MoJ) and advises his clients on a wide range of employment and commercial law matters including: industrial action, discrimination law, TUPE and pension regulations. Abdul also advises the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on public procurement matters and is currently leading negotiations on a multi-million pound re-tender of a national contract involving a number of potential suppliers across the UK.

Aside from his aspiring legal career, Abdul is the Founder and Managing Director of the 'Study Buddies Group', a leading education provider and franchise with branches across East London. As a community-focused business, the Study Buddies Group offers a range of educational and mentoring services to students of all ages. Since 2013, the organisation has supported six mainstream secondary schools in London and has helped over 3,000 students achieve academic success. Study Buddies is looking to open a further two branches in 2019.

In addition, Abdul is the Founder of 'The Future Focus Network', a community social enterprise that provides employment and training services to young BAME people from under-represented communities. The Future Focus Network has partnered up with a number of leading companies to provide apprentice-

ships and training courses including: Barclays Bank PLC, Aracdia Group, Redbridge council and the Government Legal Service. In doing so, The Future Focus Network has helped many young people secure careers within the retail banking, IT, Legal and Education sector.

Abdul is married and has a young daughter. In his spare time Abdul enjoys swimming, playing football and is a keen cricketer. He is one of the founding members of Scintilla Cricket Club, (Champions of the Essex County League 2017) and a member of their Senior Management Board.

Abdul is the youngest son of late Al-Hajj Abdul Hamid, a prominent businessman and successful restaurateur, having owned a number of chain restaurants including the famous 'Kohinoor' and 'Islamabad' restaurants in London's West End.

Al-Hajj Abdul Hamid facilitated and sponsored the arrival of many Bangladeshis into the UK in the 1960s and 1970s and made significant contributions to the liberation of Bangladesh. He was the former Treasurer and Chief Financer of the UK Awami League Party, (circa 1967-1974) and sponsored a number of organisations including the Bangladesh Welfare Association, and The Soho Islamic Centre, (formerly Berwick Street Mosque).

Mr Aman Haider arrived in London in 1992 .He was born to Late Mr Ehtesham Rosool Haider and Mother Mrs Shahjadi Begum Haider and now resides between London and the Cantonment, Dhaka.

Mr Haider comes from the famous royal muslim Nawab family (Nawab Faizunnessa) in Bangladesh, which is historically known for many contributions in forms of educational faculty i.e. Schools/Colleges and Madrashes.

Nawab Faizunnessa concentrated on women's education and encouraged them by providing facilities for educational purposes, including medical facilities such as hospitals for the public of Bangladesh to use as well.

They say that true success is not in employment but in doing business. And yes, many entrepreneurs have proven that doing business is actually more profitable than getting employed into some company.

Mr Aman Haider is the Managing Director of Classic Shoes Ltd, Nida Ltd. & Franco Bellini, who is doing business in exclusive designer shoes, bags and similar leather products . He has proven him-

self to be a strong competitor in the fashion market within a very short span of time & has taken a special place in customers' minds in many countries, like the UK, Africa, USA, and Canada by establishing a reputation for quality & reliability.

Mr Aman Haider studied in Dhaka City College and has completed his BA in Jogonath University in Dhaka and is now regarded as one of the inspiring figures in the present business world.

He is married to Sofina Haider, which is a supportive wife. She also is a designer and company director. She designs the products sold in the showrooms in London. They have two sons, Awsaf Nibras Haider and Afwan Faraz Haider and one daughter Nida Midhat Haider.

Due to his business Mr Haider travels abroad a lot for his products. Mr Aman enjoys travelling, socialising, playing cricket, Golf and listening to music.



Aman Haider

Sector:
Business

Rafique Hayder is the Director of Bangla Town Cash and Carry in Brick Lane, which is the Bangladeshi community's most popular businesses based in London. Bangla Town was established in 1994 along with other partners. He comes from the village Hayder Pur, Chattak, Sunamganj and comes from a prominent family; his father being Haji Altab Ali. Mr Rafique Hayder graduated in Bangladesh having completed his degree from MC College. His degree was in Social Welfare. He then arrived here in the United Kingdom where he initially entered into the family business 'Greenline'. He worked at Greenline for one year before embarking on his own business venture. Besides being a director of Bangla Town Cash and Carry, Mr Hayder also has numerous other investments and business interests. He is a Director of Bangla Town Housing, Bangla Property Limited, as well as a Director of another well known large cash and carry. He is also one of the Directors of the NRB Bank LTD. In addition, Mr Hayder has several properties to his name here in the UK as well as land in Bangladesh and is the Chairman of an export/import business based in the UK.

He is closely connected to the Al-Madani girls' school, and is a well-wisher of the Ibrahim College near East London Mosque. Furthermore, he is also connected with various development activities in Tower Hamlets.

He has donated hugely to the victims and sufferers of the Sidr Cyclone. He has also donated in Sylhet and has helped establish Schools, colleges and Madrasas in Sylhet. Rafique Hayder is also Director

of the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce. He is also a director of NRB Bank Ltd and a member of the Greater Sylhet Welfare and Development Council. He is a member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association as well as a former Secretary of the Tower Hamlets Parent's Association. More importantly he is the Chairman of the Bangladeshi export/import organisation in the UK and also one of the eleven strong committee members for a taskforce for business set ups here in the UK by the Bangladeshi government.

Mr Hayder is married to Asma Hayder and they have three children, among them Adnan is eldest son studying in university. Other two children Abidah and Akifah are studying in school. His interests and pastimes include travelling, and he has been fortunate to travel a bit of the world. Mr Rafique Hayder is a distinguished businessman and philanthropist, who can be credited for some very successful businesses and a very strong and positive link with the community.



Rafique Hayder

Sector:
Business



Mohammad Habeebullah OBE JP

Sector:
Philanthropy



Award Winner 2018

Mohammad Habeebullah OBE JP born in Noakhali, Bangladesh is an educationalist, published author, social science researcher and philanthropist. His research work has attracted national recognition from Association of Metropolitan Authorities and Royal Institute of British Architects, and has been featured by the BBC and The Guardian. An alumnus of Manchester Metropolitan University, Mohammad has been appointed as its first Bangladeshi Governor. Manchester Metropolitan is one of the UK's largest universities with over 38,000 students.

Mohammad has dedicated his career to working in the public and NGO sectors as a Lead Practitioner and Consultant in Education, Housing, Community Planning and Urban Regeneration. He was awarded an OBE in 2012 by Her Majesty the Queen for his lifelong work and services to the community of Greater Manchester. Recently Mohammad was involved in setting up a faith based Primary and Secondary school in Manchester with £35m of DfE funding. Currently he is leading an initiative in Rochdale to set up a Faith based Secondary School from Central Government funding.

Mohammad has been a leading figure in the voluntary sector in the North West for over 30 years; setting up a number of accredited training, further education, social welfare, media training and employment creation projects. He is a founding member of Rochdale Bangladeshi Community Project and Kashmir Youth Training Project (KYP). KYP is an independent charity dedicated to the development and economic regeneration of Rochdale and North West area, and is one of the largest self-financed youth/adult training and employment creation projects in the UK.

Mohammad has considerable experience as Director and Trustee of a number of charities and social enterprise projects including Rochdale Citizen Advice Bureau and CDF North

West. Currently he is a Trustee, Chair and founding member of the Prestwich Muslim Welfare Trust in Bury and Al-Falah Social Welfare Trust in Manchester. Mohammad also serves as a Governor for Eden Boys and Girls Leadership Academy in Manchester. He also served as a Magistrate for the Rochdale and Bury bench for more than 20 years.

In 2000 Mohammad established Al Habeeb Foundation Bangladesh which provides (1) technology based education, training and employment creation through an IT training centre and Faith based co-education Secondary school and (2) provides primary healthcare and social services to rural communities through a health clinic.

In 2005 Al Habeeb Foundation UK was set up to encourage students from all backgrounds to enter Higher Education, Vocational & Non-Vocational Training, and to promote Equality, Diversity and Representation in the public and private sectors. Successful projects in this field include partnership projects with Rochdale Connexion Trust, British Muslim Heritage Centre and North West University Consortium Schools project for Young Journalist of the Year.

The two pioneering initiatives of Al Habeeb Foundation UK with Manchester Metropolitan University are: (1) Providing Scholarships for MA in Multi Media Journalism encouraging students to champion issues facing BAME communities in the UK. The Al-Habeeb Scholars have been very successful at securing employment with high profile media organisations including the BBC, BMTV and The Independent (2) First Generation Scheme, the first of its kind in the UK, supports students from all communities whose family have never attended university. The other two initiatives of the Foundation are (1) Technical Degree Award Scheme with Bolton University and (2) Degree Award Scheme with British Education Awards.



Emdadul Hoque (Tipu)

Sector:
IT Business

Tipu is the eldest son of Al Haj Md. Redwanul Hoque (deceased) and Mrs Rufia Begum from Sreeramshi Degir par, Dist.Sunamganj.

Tipu came to the UK in 1989 to join his father, a well-respected restaurateur, establishing the Sonar Bangla Restaurant in 1968 at 46 Hanbury Street, which was both a successful business and crucial forum drumming up support for the Bangladesh Independence Movement in 1971. His father was also an international political organiser for the Jatiya Janata Party.

After studying for a BA Education at MC College Sylhet, Tipu moved and continued his studies in London in English, Computing and MCSE (Microsoft Certified System Engineering).

After gaining invaluable restaurant experience for three years, Tipu ran his father's restaurant before owning and running his own restaurant in 1997.

In 1998, merging his IT knowledge and practical restaurant experience, Tipu and his nephew developed customised EPOS software for restaurant/ takeaway businesses. The software used in-house was developed and sold to restaurants/takeaways.

Tipu's initial aspiration to do something positive for the community politically was transformed into helping to change restaurant business culture introducing technology into restaurant businesses by removing the fear of change and technology and making the software user friendly. Despite early business resistance, Tipu foresaw EPOS as an essential business tool, however small the business, which it has become today.

After starting his software business in 1998, Tipu is now the director owner of Unisoft Solutions Limited. A thriving supplier of specialist catering software to more than 1,000

restaurant/takeaway businesses with a local, national and international customer base.

Despite early setbacks, Tipu's persistence and firm belief that running a successful business is more than material success but requiring integrity, professionalism, adaptability and openness to advice remains central. Unisoft's survival and advance are a testament to Tipu's self-belief, work ethic and strong religious faith contributing to success.

Tipu and Unisoft continue to adapt utilising the latest technology with some staff working remotely in Europe, North America and the Asia Pacific.

Tipu runs the business from part of a building originally home to the family restaurant business. Staying close to his roots keeps him well-grounded and appreciative of the support received over the years. He acknowledges the support of family, especially his father, and long-term friends and colleagues including Asfar, Nisar, Abu and Gary. Tipu also recognises the continued loyal customer support since 1998, without which he could not have survived and thrived. Commitment to putting customers first is reflected in 95% of business sales originating from customer recommendations.

Tipu's main focus in life apart from family and business is active support of community voluntary organisations in the UK and Bangladesh and enjoying martial arts.

Tipu has one younger brother Mohammed A.Hoque and two sisters Salma and Halima. He is a dedicated family man, married to Mrs Rumena Jamjam Chowdhury and has two children, a son E.Hoque Mahdi and daughter Mahira Asma Hoque. They live together with Tipu's mother in Hanbury Street, off Brick Lane.

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**Fokrul Hoque
(Misfah)**

Sector:
Fashion

Fokrul Hoque (Misfah) is the founder & CEO of the British Bangladesh Fashion Council (BBFC) as well as a senior manager in one of London's largest Housing organisations.

Born in the UK to Late Haji MD Tossobor Ali and Sirajun Nessa Khatun, from Nidon Pur, Beani Bazar, Sylhet, Bangladesh, Fokrul is second youngest of 7 siblings. After completing his education, Fokrul has spent the last 20 years working in Local Government and Housing Associations and over the years has held numerous senior positions, that has enabled him to support and empower the community in developing itself and advancing as individuals and as a community. He has managed numerous employment, youth, sports, advice and other social development projects, including helping to fund and set-up several now well established community organisations/centres, award winning projects as well as several mosques.

Fokrul's work in housing has led to his work receiving numerous national awards, including the Housing Corporations Gold Award, the prestigious UK Housing Awards, and awards from the national tenants organisation TPAS as well as many others.

In his pursuit to support and further develop the community, his latest endeavour has been to set-up the British Bangladesh Fashion Council (BBFC) in 2016 as a social enterprise. BBFC is a training and development organisation, with its primary objective to provide training and support for British Bangladeshis

to pursue a career in the mainstream British Fashion Industry. It also seeks to promote the highly creative and growing Bangladesh Fashion Industry in the UK, which is also home to the second largest garment manufacturing base in the world.

BBFC, under Fokrul's leadership has now organised and hosted 2 Bangladesh Fashion Week London shows at the prestigious East Wintergarden in Canary Wharf, with some of the leading designers from Bangladesh, UK and Dubai, including the world renowned fashion designer Bibi Russell as well as others such as Maheen Khan, Rina Latif and Zurheem. BBFC has also delivered a number of training programmes to aspiring fashion designers. As well as this it has been working to support British Bangladeshis access the mainstream Fashion Industry.

In the short span of time Fokrul's work with the British Bangladesh Fashion Council has received mainstream recognition and respect, notably from the world renowned London College of Fashion, the UK government's cultural agency the British Council and the British Fashion Council, which organises the London Fashion Week and is also the government's recognised trade body for the British Fashion Industry.

In 2017, Fokrul was named in the top 100 list of the prestigious British Bangladesh Power & Inspiration 100 (BBPI100) and also won the Best New Business at the UKBCCI Business & Entrepreneur Excellence Awards 2017 for BBFC.



Ajmalul Hossain QC

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)

Ajmalul Hossain QC practices law since he was enrolled at the Bar of England and Wales back in 1978. He is the very first and only Queen's Counsel in England of Bangladeshi origin and a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. He regularly practices in both England and Bangladeshi jurisdiction.

Ajmalul specialises in trans-national banking, trading supply and financial contracts at Selborne Chambers in the UK. He is the senior partner of A Hossain & Associates, Law Offices, a leading commercial law firm of Bangladesh based in Dhaka. Ajmalul and A Hossain & Associates have also been registered with the Attorney-General's Chambers in Singapore as International Arbitration Practitioners. Ajmalul has acted for several hundred ex-employees of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in the multi-million pound liquidation of the bank in England, Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands, which has now been settled in their favour.

He has represented Bangladesh and several clients as Leading Counsel in several ICC, ICSID and ad-hoc arbitrations. He was the Chairman of Employment Tribunals, dealing with complex cases of sex, race and disability discrimination, unfair and wrongful dismissal. He also acts as an arbitrator in commercial

matters and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators of England and regularly chairs arbitrations held under the auspices of ICC and other bodies.

He is a Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies and a member of the Standards Panel of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Since January 2006, Ajmalul has been a member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris and a member of the International Cricket Council, Code of Conduct Commission.

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 Consult-

ant to the DfES Standards Unit in the UK, as well as an Observer and Inspector for Colleges in the UK and an Associate Advisor to the Birmingham and Bradford LEAs. Dr. Husain's family has reflected the highly qualified and academic background of himself. His wife Mrs. Shahida Husain, a Fellow of Royal Society of Arts, has a BA in Economics and an MA in Social Welfare also from the University of Dhaka. She currently works as a Key Stage 1 Leader and a Coordinator of Science at a Primary School in London. Dr. Hasanat's eldest daughter is a Dentist, whilst his son has graduated in Neuroscience from the University of Sussex and is presently completing a MD at the Medicine Faculty of Charles University in the Czech Republic.

His youngest daughter is also a student of Medicine at the University of Sussex.

Dr. Hasanat Husain has made a significant contribution to Ethnic Minority Education in Great Britain and as a recognition, was awarded Member of the Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty the Queen in 2003. He was also awarded an Asian Film Academy Award in 1995 for 'Community Services in the UK'.

His work outside of his vocation has included involvement with the 'Working Group: Inclusive Policy and Practices in the UK'.



Dr. Hasanat M. Husain MBE

Sector:
Academia



Award Winner 2009

Subrina Hossain is a successful TV executive, a popular media personality and a dedicated business woman. She is the Chief Executive of NTV Europe and also overlooks the daily operations for many other businesses both at national and international level.

Her bold venture has proven a phenomenal success, making the NTV brand the leading Bangladeshi TV channel around the world.

A resilient adaptable and strong willed individual of Bangladeshi origin, she overcame cultural and religious barriers to reach her goals.

Her relentless efforts over the years have successfully resulted in raising the Bengali profile to the mainstream British society. She is regarded as a celebrity by the Asian media and business community.

Subrina graduated from the London Metropolitan University with a law degree. It was then, where her leadership attributes began to emerge, as she was elected the star of the law course representing student's needs, concerns and expectations to the university officials.

Aside from her full time profession, she is also known for her dedication for helping the community and an active fundraiser for a number of leading charities.

Recently she made history by becoming the first female to be elected on the board of Directors on the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce. She is also the Vice President for British Bangladeshi Chambers of Women Entrepreneurs an organization looking at profiling successful business women in British Society.

In response to the government's calls to businesses to create opportunities for local people into training and employment, Subrina has set up a social enterprise along with a community interest chest.

She is a qualified training provider and is delivering relevant training programs for local unemployed people, helping hundreds to improve their chances of securing apprenticeships, training and employment.

Subrina also has a keen interest in politics formally joining the Conservative Party in November 2008. She founded and chaired the London Metropolitan University Conservative Group, where she made over 100 members in a short space of time.

She was elected Executive Member for Poplar & Limehouse Conservative Association for the past three years and represents the Association at Party and regional conferences.

In May 2010, Subrina was the Conservative Council Candidate for the Bromley by Bow ward in Tower Hamlets; a Ward, which has historically been a very comfortable seat for the Labour Party.

The Conservative Party votes in this local ward have always been around 200-250. However, Subrina received over 1100 votes, a massive 6% swing.

Currently she holds the Chair position for Conservative Friends of Bangladesh Women Group. She aims to encourage more women from the Bangladeshi community to join the party. Recently she received freedom of London award.



Subrina Hossain

Sector:
Media



Dr Mozammel Huq

Sector:

Academia

Dr Mozammel Huq is a development economist of international repute. He is a graduate of the University of Rajshahi (BA Hons and MA) and of the University of Glasgow (MLitt and PhD). His career includes extensive teaching and research on Third World development. Currently based at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, he has taught in a number of academic institutions in Bangladesh, the UK, Ghana and Nigeria. Currently, he is also a Visiting Professor at Uttar Bangla University College (Bangladesh National University). A major focus of his research work is on economic development and industrialisation, and his published works include *The Economy of Ghana* (Macmillan, 1989), *Strategies for Industrialisation: The Case of Bangladesh* (UPL, 2000) and *Development Economics* (McGraw-Hill, 2009).

He has also contributed extensively to community development, having served as the President of Bangladesh Association, Scotland and Chairman of Scottish Asian Action Committee. He is also the founder of The Bangla Centre (Centre for Bengali Culture and Education) established in mid-1980s; and the Bengali Performing Arts (established in 1990), both based in Glasgow. In recent years, he has been heavily involved with charity work in Bangladesh.

He is currently the Chairman of Charity Education International (a registered charity based in Scotland) which has been actively promoting, among others, the educational development in a poverty-stricken locality of northern Bangladesh (at Kakina, Lalmonirhat). He is the founder of Uttar Bangla University College which is now teaching, among other courses, Honours in seven subjects; it has emerged as the best College in Lalmonirhat district.

He has also been closely associated with a number of other charity activities which have helped in the construction, for example, of two Cyclone Shelters-cum-High Schools in Maheshkhali Island (one at Maheshkhali and the other at Dhalghata) - both completed in the mid-1990s; and One Cyclone-shelter-cum-High School in Borguna district (Garjanbunia High School) - which is expected to be completed soon. For his various contributions, in 2010 he received the Channel-S Best British Bangladeshi Community in Scotland Award.

He also played an important role during the Liberation War of Bangladesh, helping to establish the Bangladesh Action Committee Scotland (formed on 27 March, 1971). He also helped to establish the Glasgow Bangladesh Students Union (established in early 1972) and served as its founder President.



Anwar Hussain

Sector:

Education

Anwar Hussain was born in 1967 in the Sunamgonj District. The current name of his Upazilla is South Sunamgonj (formerly known as Sunamgonj Sadar). He passed his S.S. C examination from Joykolosh Ujanigaon Rashidia High School and the H.S.C from Sylhet M.C. Intermediate College (currently known as Sylhet Government College). He then completed both his B.S.S (Hons) and M.S.S in International Relations at Dhaka University. Just after his completion of the M.S.S qualification he left Bangladesh to take up residence in London. He then completed his DHE in Law at Wolverhampton University and LL.B (Hons) at London Metropolitan University. On completion of the BVC from the City University (formerly ICSL) he was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and is now a Barrister-at-Law (Non-practising).

During his student life at the Dhaka University he was an active political student leader. He was the president of Dhaka University S.M. Hall branch of a student organisation during the 1990s, while there was a student movement against the then President Ershad. Subsequently, he became the Finance Affairs Secretary of the Central Committee of that student organisation. He was the founder member and leading organiser of the Convening Committee of the Sunamgonj Student Welfare Somitee in Dhaka.

On arrival in the UK, Mr Hussain did not abandon his career aspiration of politics and education. He joined the Liberal Democrats party and became the Vice-Chairperson of the London Borough of Newham. He also stood as the Mayoral candidate for the London Borough of Newham in 2006 as the Liberal Democrats' nominee. He was the founder president of both Bangladesh Nationalist Lawyers Forum, UK Branch and the Bangladesh Nationalist Legal Aid Committee, UK Branch.

He is the first person within the Bangladeshi community to have launched an Independent college of Further and Higher Education in the UK called Whitechapel College.

He is now a member of both the Green Peace and Amnesty International. He once was a Member on the Board of Trustees of the Citizens Advice Bureau of two London Borough Councils, Newham and Tower Hamlets.

Mr Hussain is married with four daughters and lives in Gants Hill, Essex (Greater London).

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Mahbub Hussain

Sector:
Media

Mahbub Hussain was born in a well respected family in the city of Sylhet, Bangladesh. In Sylhet, he studied at Sylhet Govt. Pilot High School and whilst studying there, he got involved with a radio station known as “Bangladesh Betar Sylhet”. He became a regular host of the daily magazine programme “Daily Bichitra” and continued to work there and gain valuable experience until he came to Britain.

As well as this, he also had a passion for journalism and this led to having several of his cover story articles published in the most popular Bangladeshi magazine “Weekly Bichitra” and “Weekly Robbar”. From an early age, Mahbub had a passion for photography. He became one of the photographers for “The Daily Ittefaq”. As well as this, he was one of the three founding members of the Sylhet Photography Society (SPS). He was also awarded for his photography skills in the Soviet Union International Photography Competition as well as in various other competitions within Bangladesh. He became an active member of the Bangladeshi Photograph society, based in Dhaka In January 1994. Mahbub came to England, Birmingham and went on to complete many job related courses, most of which were in the field of media. In 1995, he started as a broadcast assistant at BBC WM, where

he became a newsreader as well as reporting various events and issues. He soon got promoted as a broadcast Journalist at BBC Asian Network for the Bengali shows. Mahbub has interviewed many inspirational and influential people such as the Bangladeshi Prime Minister and many Bangladeshi and Bollywood superstars as well as mainstream leading figures of Britain. Apart from this, he has done many international reports on topical issues including a live one from Bangladesh about the corporation elections.

The BBC Asian network gave him the opportunity to co-host the world’s largest Bangladeshi festival outside Bangladesh, “Boishakhi Mela” in London which attracts over 120,000 people. In 2000, Mahbub launched a bilingual magazine titled “The Millennium”. It has since become available worldwide and is the most popular magazine outside Bangladesh.

As well as working as a broadcast journalist, Mahbub also works for the Birmingham City Council Social Services.



Mohammed Akbar Hussain

Sector:
*Medicine-
Neuro Surgeon*

Mohammed Akbar Hussain was Born in South Shields, Newcastle to parents Al-Haj Gulam Hussain (Anwar Miah Choudhury and Haji Amana Begum from Khalique Monzil, Nabigonj, Dist Habigonj).

He completed his BSc(hons) Neuroscience 2004 and continued to finish his MBBS 2007.

He then became an Associate of Imperial College London in 2007 and a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 2009.

Mohammed Akbar Hussain is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons (Neurosurgery) in 2016 and joined the Neurosurgical Specialist Register in 2017.

Mohammed Akbar Hussain continued to gain his Postgraduate Certificate in Advancing Human Factors in Healthcare in 2017 and is now a Consultant Neurosurgeon at the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle 2018.

He is married to Najibah Hussain.

Hobbies: Choy Lee Fut black belt, Wu Shu Kwan Black belt, Muay Thai, Golf, Running.

Shelim Hussain MBE was born in 1973. He is best described as an entrepreneur having started his first business in 1991 at the age of 18 while working part-time as a waiter and studying at college for his A Levels.

Mr Hussain saw an opportunity in the market for prawn supply and started off by selling a few boxes of frozen prawns with his friend, delivering them at night while continuing with his education during the day. His business had an initial capital of only £20. Currently, the annual turnover of his business is around £40 million.

He formed Eurofoods UK in 1993 and the company has grown rapidly since. He employs over 200 staff and has food processing units in Newport, South Wales and in Barking. He also has a new plant and four factories in Bangladesh, and has started a subsidiary in New York.

Aside from Eurofoods he has also invested in the property development business in Wales. He is founder, chairman and managing director of several well reputed companies, these include Euro Foods (UK) Ltd, S & B Developments Ltd, SRS Poultry Ltd which commenced in 2003, Eurasia Food Processing (BD) Ltd situated in Bangladesh,

Euro Linen Service (UK) Ltd, Horizon Seafood Ltd, Saidowla Enterprise and Euro Foods (BD) Ltd. He has won the Eastern Eye Young Achiever Award that was presented by Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales, and was nominated for Young Achiever at the Asian Jewel Awards 2003.



Shelim Hussain MBE

Sector:

Entrepreneur



Award Winner 2009

Ifty Islam is the founder and Managing Partner of AT Capital. The commitment to develop the Asian Tiger platform reflects his optimism on Bangladesh's potential as an investment destination having been a regular participant in capital markets events there for a number of years.

His objective is to leverage his long-term relationships with many of the world's largest investors developed over an 18 year Wall Street career to attract substantial overseas funds to the country.

Prior to moving to Dhaka, Ifty was a Managing Director at Citigroup, London from 2004-2007 where he was Head of Macro Strategy and Hedge Fund Research. From 1997-2004 Ifty spent 8 years at Deutsche Bank Securities in London and New York, latterly as Managing Director and Chief US Strategist. Ifty has also worked as a European Strategist at Merrill Lynch and began his career in 1989 in the corporate finance group at BZW Securities focusing on privatisations in Eastern Europe.

He graduated from the Queen's College, Oxford with a BA/MA (First Class) in Politics, Philosophy and Economics.



Ifty Islam

Sector:

Finance



Nazrul Islam

Sector:

Catering/Business

Mr Nazrul Islam was born in August 1961 in Hasan Fatema Pur; the upozilla of Jogonnath Pur, under the district of Shunam gonj. He is the first son of Late Mohammed Afruz Miah and Mother Late Mushuda Khatun. At present he resides in Redbridge, Essex in The UK.

He first arrived in London in 1986 and was extremely privileged then many, as his father was an established business man in the UK. Nazrul has started his own career through the following of his father's footsteps. Mr Islam's father also worked in the Restaurant industry between 1959-1982. Mr Nazrul was keen to join in the restaurant business and bought the Royal Tandoori (96 Mile End Road) in London.

For the next few years Mr Islam flew back and forth to Bangladesh to maintain his family businesses as in residential Hotel and travel agency called Al- Amin, a brick field and a housing prokolpo in Sylhet. The Al-Amin was once a very popular hotel in the late 70's.

In 1992 Mr Islam became the Managing Director of Al-Amin Travels, which is now one of the most well known Travel agencies in East London.

Mr Nazrul had a very active student life which began at The Aided high School in Sylhet, followed by completing his Intermediate in MC College Sylhet. This is where he was an Elected Vice President for the student Union between 1980 -1981.

Mr Islam had an interest in politics and stood as an independent parliamentary candidate for Shonam Gonj-3 in the Bangladesh by election in 2005, in which he received over 21000 votes. He may not have won but he realised how adored he was by the community and this is where his care grew for people. Next he became a Trustee of the Quantum Meditation Society London, Life member Kendrio Muslim Shahitto Shongshod Sylhet, Life member for the sylhet diabetics association and the Life Member of the Sylhet Rifle club in Sylhet Bangladesh.

Mr Islam is married to Jannath Rehana Chowdhury who is a Primary Teacher and they have been blessed with two talented sons. The eldest is Syedul Islam who graduated in Mechanical Engineering at Kingston, and completed his Masters at Brunel University in Aerospace Engineering. He is at present working for BAE Systems plc in Barrow. His youngest son Ashraf Islam has also completed his degree in Material Science and Engineering at Queen Mary University and has completed his PGSE in Secondary School Teaching in Mathematics at present from Gold Smith College.

Mr Islam's hobbies are reading, helping the community, meditation, travelling and having fun with friends and family.



Dr Momotaj Gafur Islam

Sector:

Healthcare (Psychology)

Dr Momotaj Gafur Islam is a Chartered Clinical Psychologist with a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, and other post-graduate qualifications in psychology. She is one of relatively few Bangladeshi Clinical Psychologists in the UK. She is an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society, and an accredited member of the British Association of Behavioural & Cognitive Psychotherapists.

Dr Islam has worked in the NHS since 1994 in community mental health teams within numerous psychiatric hospitals in London. Alongside this, she has been teaching and training post-graduate psychology students for many years, mainly at the University of Surrey. She currently runs a private practice in London, providing a range of psychological services including: assessment and therapy for individuals and couples, specialising in cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT); assessment and diagnosis for autism; supervision for trained psychologists; delivering seminars and careers talks; and expert witness work for legal proceedings.

With a personal and professional interest in developing the understanding of an Islamic perspective on psychology and psychotherapy, Dr Islam has done specialist courses in this field in Cambridge and continues to expand her knowledge and contribute to this field where possible. She keeps abreast of the issues that might impact the mental health of British Mus-

lims as she is increasingly working with clients from their cultural and faith-based perspectives, and using Islamically-informed approaches where relevant.

Dr Islam is a Trustee of Brent Wandsworth and Westminster Mind, currently developing a range of mental health services within these boroughs. She has been promoting mental health awareness, aimed at reducing the stigma of mental illness which exists in most communities but is perhaps more prevalent in the Bangladeshi community than some others. She has appeared on a number of TV and radio programmes, including a series of episodes of 'Women Today' on TV One. Dr Islam has given talks at conferences and developed programmes for Asian communities in London; she continues to be actively involved in a number of these projects. She is also committed to, and actively involved in, a number of charitable causes. For example: provided training and supervision of staff at a London foodbank; organising International Women's Day events for a number of years raising awareness and funds for women's causes and poverty relief in Bangladesh.

Her work was recognised by the Asian Women of Achievement Awards in 2017 when she was nominated and shortlisted in the Professionals category.

Dr Islam comes from a family of teachers in Sylhet. She grew up in London where she also completed all her post-graduate training and developed her career whilst married and raising a family.

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Fokrul Islam

Sector:
Sports

Mr Fokrul Islam was born in Nayagram, Beani-bazaar, in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh. He arrived in the UK in 1989 at a young age, before commencing his education at Stoke Newington Secondary School. He is the son of the late Al-Hajj Abdus Salaam, who emigrated to London in 1952, all the while managing his transportation business in Bangladesh.

After completing his education at Hackney College, Mr Islam opted to follow in his father's footsteps and set up a family business in catering. At the same time, he engaged in his passion for badminton, however, an on the court injury ended his dreams of a career in this field. The silver lining of this unfortunate incident, is that it paved the way for Mr Islam to become one of the most widely-recognised and respectable organisers and promoters of badminton tournaments in the UK and Bangladesh.

Mr Islam started his journey as a tournament organiser through introducing Fokrul Bhai's Badminton Tournament (FBBT). His success in this field expanded into organising broadcasted tournaments, including the Channel S - Sporium Badminton Tournament and Janomot Badminton Tournament.

In 2010, Mr Islam founded Bangladesh Badminton Federation UK (BBFUK), which has now become a

popular badminton foundation amongst the Bangladeshi community.

In 2016, in recognition and appreciation of his 10-year Voluntary Service to Sport, Mr Islam became the winner of the Bronze Volunteer Award, presented by the London Federation of Sports and Recreation. This was later followed by a Community Service award in 2017, presented by Brent Council.

Mr Islam didn't just stop there. He went on to establish the M A Salaam Trust, in loving memory of his father. Through this, he and his team of fundraisers raised money for various causes, including: water pump tube wells in Bangladesh, winter clothing for the less fortunate, Ramadan packages for the needy and funding education of poor children in rural villages. In addition to this, Mr Islam is heavily involved in a wide range of community activities, securing a permanent presence amongst the Bangladeshi community.

Mr Islam is married to Gane Begum and is the proud father of three children: Fatimatuz Johura, Amidul Islam and Halimatuz Sadia.



Mr Mujibul Islam

Sector:
TV, media & advertising

Mujibul Islam is a talented and successful business and media entrepreneurs, whose main current activity is running one of the UK's leading ethnic media agencies, Medialink.

Mr Islam is the Managing Director of Medialink, a leading ethnic media and communication agency. His company's clients range from the BBC to Tilda as well as central government and local authorities. Working within the media industry for over 15 years, his last position was the editor of the Eastern Eye newspaper, UK's largest national Asian paper, owned by the Trinity Mirror Group. Mr. Islam is a BA Honours graduate who has won numerous prestigious awards in the field of design, media and communications.

Mr Islam is currently finalising the development of a proposed 4-star boutique hotel in Canary Wharf which will be developed in a magnificent building in an ever expanding business district.

Mr Islam is involved in commercial and residential property development here in the UK and abroad. One of his projects include the development of a popular five star hotel in Bangladesh, 'Dhaka Regency', which was founded by Mr Islam and three other directors.

Mr. Islam is a high flying, multi-skilled British

Bangladeshi and one of the few real experts in the field of ethnic media communication. His distinctive strength is his multimedia skills in innovative concept development and meeting specific marketing and promotional objectives in all media.

A generous patron to many good causes, Mr. Islam is a well-known and respected figure within the British Bangladeshi community. He is passionate about community prosperity; he has actively worked, trained and helped to develop the skill base of local young people in the field of design, web and TV production, on a voluntary basis. One of his ambitions is to create opportunities for innovative and creative projects that empower young people, supporting them at key transition points and during extracurricular periods of the year, through media related, arts education, training and personal development activities.

He also owns a hotel in Poplar, London.

Nurul Islam is an experienced investment banker and currently Director and CEO of Fincorp Capital an emerging market fund manager and a Director of Praxis Capital a corporate finance company. Nurul is also a Director of Intrepid Capital based in Malta which is fully regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA) as an investment manager.

Previously Nurul was a Partner for the Global Financial Services Practice with a major international consultancy company based in London. Nurul has significant knowledge of senior management and advisory experience and leadership skills developed through managing and leading teams and projects in various international locations and in multi-cultural environments.

Nurul has been advisor to many of the FTSE 100 senior executives in multinational companies and governments and has in-depth capability in devising strategy, mergers & acquisitions, fund management and regulatory compliances, due diligence and business developments.

Nurul has a BA (Hons) in Business Administration from University of Westminster, MSc in Business Systems Analysis and Design from City University,

and an MBA from Imperial College Business School.

Nurul is a Freeman of the City of London and the Worshipful Company of International Bankers (WCIB). Nurul is an Approved Person with the Financial Conduct Authorities (FCA).



Nurul Islam BA (Hons), MSc, MBA
Sector:
Financial Investments

Monojaha Polly Islam is a founder Director and Secretary General of British Bangladesh Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs (BBCWE).

Polly is a role model and champion of female entrepreneurship in the British-Bangladeshi Community. Through her ability to engage with women, Polly has managed to empower many people both in the UK and Bangladesh.

Polly's professional career has included working as a Women's Development Officer for Marlybone Bangladesh Society serving Bangladeshi women in need of support with welfare benefits, housing, employment and training. For the past 10 years she has been an Immigration Adviser at Immigration Aid a law firm with offices in the UK and Bangladesh.

As a businesswoman and entrepreneur she saw a gap in the market for Islamic wear clothing for modern Muslim women and as a result founded Zarah's in 2011, an on-line and retail business based in Luton. Polly holds investments in a range of businesses based both in the UK and Bangladesh including World Glazing. World Glazing is the first UK based company to set up and introduce sound reducing and energy efficient uPVC and aluminium double glazed doors and windows in Bangladesh.

Away from her dedication to her business interests and family, Polly is a passionate advocate of giving something back to wider society. As a result, she dedicates a substantial amount of her time on vol-

unteering . Polly Islam is the Head of Women's Group and Mental Health Project, CAP Foundations a UK-based international relief and charity organisation, which aims to alleviate the suffering of the least fortunate within the Asia. As well as responding to emergencies, CAP Foundation promotes sustainable economic and social development by working with local communities from all background regardless of religion, race or gender. She is also the vice-chair of London Tigers, a UK registered charity which uses sports to engage with communities from disadvantaged background. London Tigers currently have projects across the UK and internationally in Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka, treasurer of Central London Youth Development, founding Trustee and current Chair of Bangladesh Female Academy.



Polly Islam
Sector:
Community Relations



Mohammed Abdul Munim Jahedi

Sector:
Media

Mohammad Abdul Munim Jahedi (Karol) was born in the village of Hilal Pur, in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh.

He is the son of the late Mr Moulana Abdur Rahim Jahedi, who moved to England in 1959. The late Mr Jahedi owned many businesses in England, and was an active member of Islamic organisations such as UK Islamic Mission, Dawatul Islam UK & Ireland and Islamic Forum Europe. Before he passed away, he was Chair of Stepney Green Boys School and chairman of the East London Mosque. Mohammed Abdul Munim Jahedi's mother is the late Mrs Razia Khanom.

Mr Jahedi is one of four children. His eldest sister is Rehana Begum, second sister is Ruhana Begum; Mr Jahedi's brother, Abdul Mukabbir Jahedi, is a Constable and a driving instructor.

Mr Jahedi completed his secondary school certificate in Athriya at Lateral High School in 1983. He moved to the UK with his family in 1984, and then studied a BTEC National Diploma in Business and Finance at Tower Hamlets College in East London. He also completed at (HND) Higher National Diploma in Business and Finance.

He is the chairman of London Iqra Institute, Trustee of London Education Trust and a life mem-

ber of Sylhet Muslim Sahitto Shongshod, Sylhet Mobile Patagar and Hillful Fujul Somaj Kallang Songsta. He is the chairman of Real Estate and Housing Group of Sylhet UK, as well as the chief editor of the Eurobangla newspaper and director of Daily Jalabad. He is the founder member of Songhoti Sahitto Porisohd and executive member of Bangla Sahitto Porisohd and Renesha Sahitto Majlish. He was the president of the London branches of the Young Muslim Organisation and Islamic Forum Europe, and is currently a trustee of London Muslim Centre & East London Mosque and South Sylhet Development Project. He was the founder chairman of Gulapgonj Islamic Society. He is also the president of the Greater Sylhet Islamic Society.

Mr Jahedi has done a lot of work for charities in the UK and Bangladesh, and has established an Islamic school in his homeland for girls who cannot afford a basic education.

Mr Jahedi is married to Abeda Sultana Lucky, and they have three children – two daughters and a son.



Sabirul Islam

Sector:
Entrepreneur

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

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

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

At 21, Sabirul's desire to leave behind a legacy inspired him to launch the 'Inspire1Million Campaign' with a vision to inspire, engage and transform the

lives of million people to develop a positive mindset and approach in life, with a strong focus on enterprise and entrepreneurship. The Inspire1Million campaign has led Sabirul to deliver 777 events so far since May 2011 in 26 countries, with 63 international visits with attendance of 890,145 people worldwide so far.

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

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

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



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Rajonuddin Jalal

Sector:

*Politics & Community
Relations*

Rajonuddin Jalal is prominent in the Bangladeshi community for his community work. Mr Jalal has been a community development specialist in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for the past 30 years. He has opened up many pathways in the field of community relations, empowerment and neighbourhood renewal and has set up numerous large community and cultural centres and premises including; Berner Youth and Tenants Centre, Kobi Nazrul centre, the Bangladesh Centre in Notting Hill Gate and more recently the Whitechapel Centre. Mr Jalal has been a pioneering Youth and Community leader and established many organisations to benefit multi-cultural communities the Bengali Community and to fulfil some needs and aspirations of the community. He is the founder of the Bangladeshi Youth Movement (BYM) and founder of the Federation of Bangladeshi Youth Organisation (FYBO).

His support and hard work for the community did not stop there, Mr Jalal was vital in helping to establish Ford Square Mosque, Shadwell Mosque, Brick Lane Jamme Mosque which are all still operating successfully in East London.

In the public domain Rajonuddin Jalal was a member of the Board of the London Docklands Development Corporation and Councillor and deputy

leader of Tower Hamlets Municipality as well as chairperson for the Regeneration Committee.

Jalal was a key youth leader in “the Battle for Brick Lane 1978”, following the murder of Bengali garment worker Altab Ali.

He has been the driving force behind the establishment of Banglatown in Tower Hamlets, and also the Soheed Minar, and the structuring of the Social and Economic accord between Tower Hamlets and Sylhet.

Throughout his professional life Mr Jalal has served in many positions, in the past he has been a director in the Housing and Welfare Organisation which was part of St Mary’s Welfare Project. Jalal used to be Employed as an Assistant Principal of Tower Hamlets College. He has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Politics, Sociology and Economics from London Guildhall University and a post graduate Diploma in Management Studies from the same institution.

Jalal is currently secretary of the Altab Ali Memorial Foundation In UK and CEO of the NRB Foundation in Bangladesh.

Mr Jalal is married with three children.



**Mohammad
Lavlu Kader**

Sector:

Community Activist

Mohammad Kader alias Lavlu Kader was born in the Upazila of Sandip, Chittagong on 1980.

He did his HSC from Govt. Mohsin college Chittagong Bangladesh and passed his LLB honours degree and LLM from the University of Chittagong, Bangladesh. He is a member of Chittagong university debating society. From the university times he was engaged himself with various human rights group such as Amnesty International, Odhikar etc. He was a Chittagong divisional coordinator for Odhikar nearly 6 years.

After passing his LLM he has joined as a lecturer of Law at the BGC Trust University, a private university at Chittagong, Bangladesh from early 2006 to end of 2007.

In 2007, under the first Judicial exam by the then caretaker government he was selected as an Assistant judge in the Court and first joining was at Moulavibazar, greater Sylhet.

He moved to the United Kingdom on April 2008 for family reason.

After that he is working as a Solicitor in the several prominent law firm in the greater Manchester. He is now Director of Hawkins Law limited a Solicitor regulated by Law Society.

His main area was family, personal injury and Immigration but now he is a fully committed to the personal injury matter at Hawkins Law Solicitors,

Manchester.

He is married and proud father of two gorgeous girls.

He is a local conservative leader and engaged with some local voluntary organisations.

Misbahul Jamal was born in Subhanighat in Sylhet in 1962. He was born to Mr Nasir Uddin Ahmed and Mrs Husney Ara Begum.

His career began with him being a Drama Artist both on the stage and on radio. He then progressed onto becoming a programme announcer and conductor for Radio Bangladesh from 1980 until 1986, whilst completing a B.Com (Hons) in Management from the prestigious University of Dhaka in 1984.

Misbahul is the director of his own production companies called Misbah Jamal Productions and Misbah Nahida Productions, running Kismat Radio Bangla from the Sunrise Radio station in Southall, Middlessex.

Mr Misbah Jamal is married to Nahida Misbah and they have five daughters and a son. His daughters are Farhana, Rezwana, Nabihah, Shaeka and Labiba, and his son is Nahmad. Mr Jamal has contributed enormously to the British Bangladeshi community; he is involved with several community organisations working for the development and progression of community members. He was 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.

As well as being an Executive Member of the National Heart Foundation Hospital he is now the UK Comitee Secretary .



Misbahul Jamal

Sector:

Media and Arts

Recognised as one of the youngest creative journalists, Shoeb Kabir is known for his extensive participation in all news media including print media (newspapers, newsmagazines), broadcast news (radio and television), and online newspapers.

Mr Kabir got himself involved with media while he was in Chittagong. Mr Kabir worked for the famous and old Newspaper 'Daily Azadi' with the feature team. Under his directorship, he also published the Monthly Ruposhi Chattagram. During this time, he also served as an Executive Editor of the Weekly Bandar Nagari and News Editor of the Weekly Chatgar Bani.

Mr Kabir began his career as a feature editor with one of Britain's oldest Bengali newspaper 'Notun Din'. Side by side, he founded Britain's first online 24-hour Bengali News portal "UKBDNEWS.COM". The news portal caused quite a stir at that time. It has been always the first news portal to publish community based news. Subsequently, a weekly Bengali newspaper 'Weekly Bangla News' was published focusing innovative efforts under the editorship and supervision of Mr Kabir.

He also served as the special reporter of 'Bangla TV', the first community based TV Channel in the UK. Later, he worked as the Community News Editor of 'Channel I Europe'. He is currently the London Correspondent of 'SOMOY Television'. Prior to this, he also worked for the popular radio 'Betar Bangla' in London.

He is training other young people on electronic and

print media. Through his never-dying spirit and determination, he has been contributing to the local media as a founder member of UK Bangla Press Club. He is also an active member of the mainstream journalists association 'National Journalist Union'.

Around the same time, Mr Kabir also wants to get involved himself with the Bangladeshi Media. Having this in mind, he published the first 24-hour online News Portal 'CTG News' in Chittagong. He has already initiated the process of publishing daily and weekly newspaper Simultaneously from Dhaka nationally. While working for media, he has also established IT organisation 'Creative Workshop' in Chittagong.

For his outstanding contribution as the youngest editor he was awarded 'the Civic Award' by the Tower Hamlets Council at the age of 25.

Born and raised in Chittagong, he completed his schooling in Chittagong. He is the second child of his parents. Mr Kabir moved to the UK at the age of 19. He studied Business Management in the UK and completed his Masters Degree from Cardiff Metropolitan University.



Shoeb Kabir

Sector:

Media



Thamina Kabir

Sector:
Legal

Thamina Kabir is the principal of Thamina Solicitors. She was born in Bangladesh in the village of Ichakhali in Mirasari, Chittagong in 1985 to her father Humayun Kabir Helaly and mother Nazma Kabir.

Ms Kabir was always a high achiever at school, with outstanding academic results. Ms Kabir completed her secondary school at Bangladesh Mohila Samity Girls' High School and then completed her Higher Secondary Certificate from Chittagong College. She stood 9th in the combined merit list in SSC and 6th in the combined merit list in HSC. Due to these outstanding academic achievements she was awarded the Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh award on both occasions. When interviewed after publication of her results by the BD journalists about her future plan, she expressed her desire to become a Barrister, which was also her childhood dream. With a view to studying law, Ms Kabir moved to the UK in 2003 at the age of 18. She graduated with a LLB (Hons) from University of Northumbria in 2008, followed by the Bar Vocational Course from the prestigious City University in 2009. Subsequently, she was called to the Bar in 2009. She is a member of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn. In 2011, she has become a Solicitor.

Ms Kabir has a post graduate diploma in International Commercial Arbitration from Queen Mary University, London. She is a member of both the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIARB) and Young International Arbitration Group -LCIA. She is the press secretary of the Society of British Bangladeshi Solicitors ("the SBBS"). She has also served the community as a co-opted governor of Barclay Primary School from 2013 to 2016. Ms Kabir was also the first Bangladeshi woman to participate in the international beauty contest "Mrs Universe" in 2013 and has won the friendship award. She is connected with British politics and an active member of Labour party. She is also a member of Associate of Women Solicitors and Junior Lawyers Division.

Currently, Ms Kabir is married to Md Ashraf Islam. She is a mother of three children. She has a keen interest in Charity and Sports. She is the founder member of Chakosha Foundation in Bangladesh. Her law firm is also the sponsor of Thamina Solicitors Cricket Club. Her hobbies are current affairs, travelling and networking.



Sabia Kamali

Sector:
Media

Sabia's media career started off, after graduating from Goldsmith University with a first, at an International NGO- Islamic Relief as Media Executive. She handled the busy press office during the tsunami and many more other disasters around the world. She arranged and chaired press conferences on an international level worked with journalist and producers from BBC, channel 4 and Sky. She was one of the first people to represent Islamic Relief at the DEC office. Sabia was awarded the best TV Presenter of the year by the Eastwood awards in 2018.

She is a well known journalist and a community activist who has a wealth of experience in charity and voluntary sector, has raised awareness and funds for many charities and successfully organised fashion shows, charity dinners, and fundraising events. Sabia has raised over £50,000 for Families Relief, she is currently presenting for Islam Channel on Living the Life, radio RJ for Betar Bangla and used to produce two shows on Iqra Bangla Genius lounge- highlighting contributions women make in society and also host a live Weekly Discussion on current affairs.

She has been a freelance journalist for Stratford Guardian, Newham Recorder and many other Bengali publications she was the first Bangladeshi female Editor for Muslim weekly.

She is one of the founder and CEO of Sisters Forum, with the organisation she has been involved with setting up many projects in the community to empower women and educate communities. Sabia has shared a platform with Dr Tariq Ramadan and has delivered many inspirational speeches on women's rights.

Other activities involves campaigning about human rights issues she has also been the vice chair for Respect party nationally and a local chair and moved onto many successful projects.

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**Musabbir Karim
(Sabbir)**

Sector:
Catering

Musabbir Karim, known as ‘Sabbir’ to the many folks who know him, is a man of many talents. Along with assuming the role of Chef Patron at a pair of esteemed Indian restaurants Salaam Namaste and Namaste Kitchen in London and playing Purser role for British Airways’ as “fly to serve” cabin crew for almost two decades, he is a consultant, humanitarian, and activist.

Sabbir’s highflying lifestyle and extensive travels ensuring he returns to the restaurants full of new culinary inspiration. The knowledge and skills he has built in the catering sector, meanwhile, inform and determine his ultimate vision: to expand his healthy dining concept around the globe. The Guardian described him as ‘a maestro in Modern Indian and traditional cooking’ rating 9/10.

Sabbir has constantly evolved his cooking, handpicking new and original recipes from well-regarded chefs and added his innovation to generate new faith in Indian Cooking. Legendary Fay Maschler from the Evening Standard– opining that she was more than happy to pick up a personal tab and acknowledged Sabbir’s Namaaste Kitchen as a ‘critics favourite’.

In 2012, Sabbir’s year long Regional Food Festival, focusing on a different area of India each month– providing yet another lure for the media and London’s gourmets.

Sabbir has won many awards & recognition, 2012 Sabbir won The ‘Best Asian & Oriental Chef of the Year’, and the following year Sabbir took the title of “Best Asian & Oriental Innovative Chef Of The Year 2013”, His restaurants have also won many accolades including Best Newcomer 2012. Sabbir is a confident and engaging spokesperson for entrepreneurship, and a convincing ambassador for the value of pursuing one’s dream. He has been interviewed multiple

times for various platforms including national and international radios and television channels including the BBC and British Airways’ magazine, ‘UptoSpeed’, and has staged cooking presentations.

Recently, Sabbir was invited to Zee TV’s Zee Companion show as a special guest spokesperson to discuss the ‘Healthy Meal Plan’. The chef continues to write recipes for mainstream media; and his Peshawari lamb chops recipe was published the Sunday Telegraph alongside ‘Prince William’s Wedding Menu - Exclusive Collectors’ Version’.

Sabbir is also highly motivated where philanthropy is concerned; involved with a multitude of charities on an ongoing basis. With BA, he was a UNICEF champion and worked with the Sreepur Project in Dhaka and Action Against Hunger. Both Salaam Namaaste and Namaaste Kitchen support Find Your Feet’s annual ‘Curry For Change’ campaign.

In 2014, Sabbir raised £4,500 by hosting a charity dinner at his restaurant to celebrate the 25th anniversary of SreepurVillage Charity; a UK organisation to aid destitute women and children in Bangladesh. Noted guests at the event included the Bangladesh High Commissioner, His Excellency Mohamed Mijarul Quayes; Rt. Hon. Frank Dobson MP.

Sabbir has an unfaltering commitment to the cause of both engineering and delivering creative cuisine; and retains his passion to surprise & delight diners on each and every occasion. This ethos spills over into his career in the field of aviation, and the chef is endlessly enthused and inspired by the idea of improving airline food with British Airways and other carriers.



Syed Arif Hussain-Kazi

Sector:
Accountancy

Syed Arif Hussain Kazi is the founder of “Syed Arif & Co” an independent and established accountancy practice that has been serving a broad range of personal, business and corporate clients in Ilford, Greater London and the South East of England.

He formed the company after, many years of working as an accountant in a prestigious Chartered Accountants firm in Kent, being qualified and obtained his license to engage in the public practice, in 2002. For more than a decade “Syed Arif & Co” has been providing friendly, proactive and quality professional services – everything from basic bookkeeping, PAYE, and VAT and self-assessment returns, to helping clients through the trauma of an HM Revenue & Customs investigation.

The Firm has a varied client base: doctors, civil engineers, IT professionals, food manufacturers, retail stores, cash and carry, estate agents, building contractors and property investors, restaurants, and takeaways Etc.

Besides his busy profession as an accountant, Syed has a good deal of passion for charitable work and serving the humanity. For the last ten years, he has been supporting and working with “The Friends of Bangladesh,” a charity organization established by

the British Bangladeshi Professionals in 1982. Currently, Syed is serving as the General Secretary of the Organisation. Through this platform, Syed has set up many humanitarian projects in Bangladesh like free medical service, medicine distribution and helping the people living with breast cancer, in collaboration with Bangladesh Cancer Society Hospital in Mirpur Dhaka.

Syed was the founder Chair of “Newbery Park Mosque” also helped many mosques and other charities with their registration process and starts-up with the Charity Commission.

Mr. Hussain Kazi has a wide range of interest in Financial & Economic World. Sports, Traveling, and gardening.

Mr. Syed is married and blessed with three children, Alvi, Abed and Alisha and live with his family in Gants Hill, Redbridge, Essex.

A British born Muslim of Sylheti heritage, Dr Karim is an internationally recognised academic having made a significant contribution to his academic field through publications, patents and conferences. He is a Fellow of Higher Education Academy (HEA) and has a PhD in Organic Chemistry. He has a passion for teaching and committed to exemplary pastoral support of students and promoting the interests of students and to provide the highest quality learning experience in higher education. Dr Karim have worked with industry, academia and numerous stakeholders building partnerships and mutually beneficial collaborations supporting high quality multidisciplinary research and research-led teaching. For nearly 20 years Dr Karim has provided students support that has inspired their learning with an education that embeds transferrable skills and prepares them for progression to fulfilling careers.

Dr Karim leads research activity in the computational design of smart polymers based on a technique called Molecular Imprinting. He has over 50+ publications and patents in high ranking journals, over 30+ conference proceedings, plenary/invited speaker on numerous international conferences and managed projects. His current innovative work at Leicester Biotechnology Group involves the use of nanoparticles and polymers in drug discovery, food security, environment and in clinical applications. His teaching has been formally recognised by The HEA in recognition of his research-led teaching and learning support of students in higher education. He teaches both at undergraduate and postgraduate level and project supervises BSc, MChem and PhD students with projects that reflect and enhance career prospects in relevant employment.

Dr Karim is responsible for implementation of employabil-

ity across the entire chemistry programme ensuring skills and career planning are embedded within the curriculum so that his students are the stand out choice for employers. As Plagiarism and Ethics officer, he ensure students comply with university senate regulations on academic integrity and responsible for reviewing and giving guidance on the student application process for ethical approval.

With academic colleagues several of his patents have recently been exploited to form a spin-out company MIP Diagnostics (2015) where he is one of the founder members focussing on nanoparticles for diagnostics and therapeutic applications. At Cranfield University (1998- 2013) he was a Business Fellow foster relationships with industry acting as a key contact for industrialists keen to work with Cranfield Health. He was responsible for international collaborations with India and China specifically for student recruitment and research collaboration. He is a Director of Perfect Publishers Ltd (since 2005).

Awards/Nominations/Other roles include: Winner of Services to Science & Engineering at the British Muslim Awards (2017), shortlisted for Science and Engineering, for the Fazlur Rahman Khan Award For Excellence in Engineering, Science or Technology, The Muslim News (2018), University of Leicester: Students Union Superstar Awards (2017-18), Nominated for the Discovering Excellence President's Award (2018), Visiting Professor, Hengyang Normal and Jiangsu University, China. Independent Member, Ethics Standards Committee, Cambridgeshire Police Authority (2007), Winner of Business-University Collaboration Awards for the East of England (2005). Dr Karim has appeared on Channel 5 and IQRA Bangla TV discussing education.



Dr Kal Karim

Sector:

Academia

Mr Khalil is a young Professional Journalist and Senior Reporter of the Most powerful and number one British Bangladeshi Television, Channel 5.

Mr. Khalil has shed so much positive light on British Bangladeshi community through the excellent services that he has undertaken. Mr Khalil has been a writer for 16 years and his reports and features have consistently highlighted the positives of the Bangladeshi community, be it through reports on issues or interviews with residents, sports people and Politicians.

After serving with the Sylheta Dak in Bangladesh Ibrahim came to the UK and has carried out vital reporting positions with British Bangladeshi based satellite TV stations. At Channel 5 Mr Khalil worked himself up to the position of news editor and then the chief reporter at Bangla TV. His focus is British Bangladeshis and he highlights issues which affect the everyday lives of residents. Mr Khalil's reports are also vital in getting across messages and announcements to the parts of the community who are hard to reach. Mr Khalil was born in 1986 at Boro Hazi Pur village of the Sylhet district, Osmani Nagar Upozella, under west Pailon pur Union. Mr Khalil's Father Alhaz Abdus Shahid is a respected person in the area. As a student Mr Khalil became involved in journalistic activities in Sylhet named Sylhet Express. Mr Khalil

went on to become a staff reporter on the most read Bangla Newspaper, Daily Sylhet Dak at Sylhet, in the mean time Mr Khalil came to London for Higher studies and started to work with Daily BritBangla Newspaper as a staff reporter in 2010. In 2011 Mr Khalil moved to another weekly newspaper London-bangla then in 2012 Mr Khalil was appointed as the News Editor of the paper. Now he is working as a news editor of weekly Bangla post.

Mr Khalil is married to Ruksana Khanum and is very active in social work with vast experience within community, volunteers and sports. Mr Khalil was the first youngest National Executive Committee (NEC) Member of Balagonj-Osmani Nagar Adarsha Upojela shomity. Mr Khalil was a first division cricket team player of Sylhet, Founder Secretary of 'Pangery Welfare Foundation' through the organisation Mr Khalil has helped hundreds of needy children, a trustee of 'Balagong-Osmani nagor Education trust'. He is a media ambassador of renowned charity origination "Cap foundation".

Now Mr Khalil works with community liaison officer of London Tigers, volunteers with mental health department in London borough of Camden area and language teacher of secondary school London Enterprise Academy.



Ibrahim Khalil

Sector:

Media



Ayub Khan

Sector:

Health & Social Care

Ayub Khan is the Managing Director of Careworld London Ltd as well as Careworld Community Hub. He acquired the Registered Manager Award in 2004 from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to confirm his professional fractioned status in the health and social care sector.

Careworld London is a domiciliary care agency that primarily works with disabled people of Bangladeshi / Asian origin. The agency provides a range of services and caters for all degrees of disability and difficulty, such as adults and children with learning disabilities and physical disabilities, as well as provides help to the elderly, visually impaired and other members of society who are facing difficulties.

Careworld Community Hub is a BME / SME Day Opportunities Resource Centre providing high quality daytime opportunities for adults between 18 and 65 with learning and/or physical disability, which offers easy access to local services. The focus of the service is to support people to maximise their independence within the local community by using a person centred approach.

Mr Khan has a significant track record in the health and social care sector. He started work for Mooncare in 2004 as a Finance officer and eventually led the company as the Registered Manager. As well as being a member of the board of Trustee of Bangladeshi Parents and Carers Association

(BPCA) between 2005 to 2009, he also worked as a volunteer for the organisation too.

He has a strong belief for empowering and supporting people on the margins of society. He says: "to empower the wider community, we need to first help those individuals that need support first. Therefore, we need to first, deal with marginalisation at an individual level so that we can address an individual's exclusion from meaningful participation in society. This is what the brand of Careworld is about. This is what I am about".

Mr Khan completed his MA in Business Management from Dhaka University before he first arrived in the UK in 1992 for higher studies. In the field of accountancy, he is AAT qualified as well being ACCA part qualified. He has also completed Post Graduation in Purchasing and Logistics from (then) University of North London and is also an MBA major in Management from Metropolitan University, London.

Mr Khan is extremely cordial and amiable; supporting those in need. He has a wide range of interests including sports, gardening, travelling, and updating himself with the latest news on world affairs.

Mr Khan is married and blessed with two children Ahnaf Akif-E-Raonaq and Zareen Nawar and lives with his family in Gants hill, Redbridge, Essex.



Akram Khan

Sector:

*Artistic Director/
Choreographer/Dancer*

Akram Khan is one of the most celebrated and respected dance artists today. In just over 16 years he has created a body of work that has contributed significantly to the arts in the UK and abroad. His reputation has been built on the success of imaginative, highly accessible and relevant productions such as Until the Lions, Kaash, iTMOi (in the mind of igror), DESH, Vertical Road, Gnosis and zero degrees.

An instinctive and natural collaborator, Khan has been a magnet to world-class artists from other cultures and disciplines. His previous collaborators include the National Ballet of China, actress Juliette Binoche, ballerina Sylvie Guillem, choreographers/dancers Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Israel Galván, singer Kylie Minogue, visual artists Anish Kapoor, Antony Gormley and Tim Yip, writer Hanif Kureishi and composers Steve Reich, Nitin Sawhney, Jocelyn Pook and Ben Frost.

Khan's work is recognised as being profoundly moving, in which his intelligently crafted storytelling is effortlessly intimate and epic. Described by the Financial Times as an artist "who speaks tremendously of tremendous things", a recent highlight of his career was the creation of a section of the London 2012 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony that was re-

ceived with unanimous acclaim.

Khan has been the recipient of numerous awards throughout his career including the Laurence Olivier Award, the Bessie Award (New York Dance and Performance Award), the prestigious ISPA (International Society for the Performing Arts) Distinguished Artist Award, the Fred and Adele Astaire Award, the Herald Archangel Award at the Edinburgh International Festival, the South Bank Sky Arts Award and six Critics' Circle National Dance Awards. Khan was awarded an MBE for services to dance in 2005. He is also an Honorary Graduate of University of London as well as Roehampton and De Montfort Universities, and an Honorary Fellow of Trinity Laban.

Khan is an Associate Artist of Sadler's Wells, London and Curve, Leicester.



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Head of Practice/Principal

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Oli Khan FRSA

Sector:
Catering



Award Winner 2017

Award Winning Chef, King of British Curry, Curry King Oli Khan FRSA is the Secretary General of BCA Internationally recognised award winning celebrity chef, entrepreneur Oli Khan has been cooking up a storm in the UK over the last few decades, Oli's versatility is legendary has won countless awards for his cooking and community relationship, his highly creative recipes and for his impeccable hygiene standards for which he has also won many major awards. Despite his enormous commercial success, he cares deeply about what he calls his social obligations to the underprivileged in Bangladesh and the United Kingdom. He has always been very devoted and committed to charitable works and has assisted with many philanthropic works around the world, and for that he has been recognized by some mayor's awards recent years, he is one of the leading personalities of the Asian community.

Having honed his skills through a business management, a diploma in information technology and various cookery courses, being the Keynote speaker at the takeaway and restaurant expo and many collages and ambassador for the Agroeuro food for super pollo & King Chicken. the magic of Oli's cooking lies in spicing things up in distinct and ingenious ways:

"I love to cook 'fusion food'. "I am passionate about cooking British curry and love giving any food a fusion twist."

Oli captured many awards and accolades from various kinds of activities in his life. His contribution to the British curry industry and community activities was recognised by the Fellows of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA).

Oli has expressed his concern about the British curry industry staff shortage and the reduction in Non-EU migration can have implications upon the lack of skilled chefs available in the British curry industry. On this note, his work and achievements have appeared in mainstream print and electronic media worldwide such as BBC, SKY, ITV, CBC, TRT World, Canadian TV, CTV News, CNN, TV Tokyo, LBC Radio, Radio five live, The Financial Time, The Guardian, Daily Mail, Evening Standard, Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Washington Post, The Independent, The Telegraph, The Sun, The Global Post, USA Today, EL-Pais, and many more.

Oli expresses an admirable devotion to his community and fellow professionals, adding that his achievements would not have been possible without the influence of his parents and wife.



Mahbub Izdani Khan

Sector:
Community

Mahbub Izdani Khan resides in Chadwell Heath, Essex. He is the eldest son of Late Ali Mehdi Khan and Late Rabya Begum Chowdhury.

His father was the Deputy Director General of National Security Intelligence & Chief security officer to the Prime Minister Bongho Bhondur Sk. Mujibur Rahman.

He came to the UK in the year 1972 for further study and joined South Bank University as a full time student and graduate and post graduate from the same university in Management.

In 1980 Mahbub went to Saudi Arabia and worked as a Marketing Manager for the Detroit based General Motors until 1990.

After returning to the UK he worked as an Welfare development office in the London Borough of Newham.

From 1999 to 2002 he worked in Forest Health Care NHS Trust and also South West London St. Georges Mental health NHS Trust as a head of the families support Team. During this time he received best employer of the year award.

In the year 2003 he joined as a Head of Carers & families support team in West London Mental Health NHS Trust for 14 years organising events like conferences, Seminars, where high profile individuals, Govt. Ministers (Dept. of health) spoke on the subjects that are important for patients and carers. One

of his successful events took place in June 2008 where he invited HRH Princess Royal to attend John Conolly wing and meet the patients and carers.

Mahbub is married to Nurul Jannat Khan who works for the London Borough of Redbridge and have two children, one son and a daughter.

He is also a Board Member of International Congress, Royal College of Psychiatrists, Member Carers advisory board, Royal College of GP, Involvement representative of North East London Foundation NHS Trust, President, The Friends of Bangladesh and UK, a charity organisation run by British/Bangladeshi Professionals.

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

Barrister Kalam started his education life in Azad Bakht High School in Moulvi Bazar, Bangladesh. He studied there for five years before receiving his Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) at Madan Mohan College in Sylhet, where he studied for two years. His first major accomplishment came in 1988 when he completed his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B. Hons) course at the University of Dhaka. This led to the completion of the Master of Laws (LL.M.) course the following year in 1989.

He then continued to pursue his legal career by obtaining the Bar Vocational Qualification from the Bangladesh Bar Council. Having completed the academic and vocational stages of his training, in the year 2000, Mr Kalam was awarded with a certificate of eligibility to become a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales. He furthered his carrier and qualified as a Barrister and called to the Bar of England & Wales. He is member of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

Barrister Kalam is the Senior Partner of Kalam Solicitors at 128 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1JE. The largest law firm in the Bangladeshi Community. He qualified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court England and Wales in 2001 and since he has been practicing as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales. Mr

Kalam has been part of the very successful solicitor. There he embraces many responsibilities and holds the position of Principal/Senior Partner.

He was the founder Secretary General of the Society of Bangladeshi Solicitors. He is the founder of the Liberty Law (British Bangladeshi Joint Venture Law Chambers in Bangladesh) in 2/3 Segun Bagicha, Dhaka, Bangladesh. He also involve with the ethnic solicitors such as Black Minority Ethnic Group an Ethnic Community group for all ethnic community lawyers with the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Law Society of England & Wales He is a leading Immigration Practitioner. He has regularly appeared on many community TV channels on all area of legal update issues such as Channel S, Channel I, Bangla TV. He also involve with various community and social organisation in UK and Bangladesh.

Having been in the Law industry for so long, Mr Kalam loves what he does, yet is involved in many other organisations. He is a member of the Bangladesh Law Association, Probashi Balagonj Education Trust in UK. He is also members of the Balagonj Samitte UK and Greater Sylhet Council in UK, where he plays an influential role.

Barrister Kalam married with Mrs Shahanara who is a social worker. Mrs Kalam achieved BA (Hons) in Sociology, which she achieved at the University of East London. Mr Kalam lives in Redbridge, Ilford with his parents, wife Mrs Shahanara Kalam and three children; Sabiha, Yeasin and Tayyiba, who are students.



**Muhammad
Abul Kalam**

Sector:
Law

Azom Khan is an internationally recognised chef who has devoted much of his life to help develop the Bangladeshi Curry Industry to what it is today. Born in 1962 in Jaganathpur, Sunamgonj in Bangladesh, Mr Khan arrived in the UK in 1980.

The East London based chef is looked upon as a pioneer in the Bangladeshi culinary industry and throughout his life Mr Khan's work has been widely appreciated by several food critics. Over the last twenty years Mr Khan has been awarded with major honours in the Industry such as the International Curry Chef of the Year, National Curry Chef of the Year, Tesco Spinach Master Chef, Southwark Curry Chef of the Year as well as the Tower Hamlets Curry Chef of the Year in 1999.

At present, Mr Azom Khan is Director of two of London's most famous restaurants called the Bengal Clippers and Bengal Traders whose reputation has enhanced dramatically over the last decade for their combination of style and modernity.

In addition to his work, Mr Khan is very closely associated with charities and organisations in Bangladesh having helped set up the British Bangla Education Trust where he is currently serving as Vice Chairman as well as a member of the Sylhet Acad-

emy. 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.



Azom Khan

Sector:
Catering



Mashuk Ahmed Khan

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, of village Gangajal, Zakigonj, of district Sylhet.

Ahmed Khan is married to Shamim Ara Begum (Rose) and blessed with three children; a son and two daughters namely: Mustafa, Nabila and Farzana. All three children had the privilege of going to independent schools from day one of their schooling lives, unto the sixth forms. The son is a Litigation Executive for the NHS (W Midland region). The eldest daughter is a graduate in Accounting and Finance, and pursuing a further diploma in Banking with the Chartered Institute of Bankers. The youngest daughter has achieved a degree in Accounting and Finance with a first class honours, and progressed to ACCA programme in pursuit of qualifying as a Chartered Accountant.

By profession Ahmed Khan is a Chartered Human Resource Consultant and an academician with membership of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), and The University of Oxford Philosophical Society. He is a keen reader on Marx, Rousseau, Bentham, Mills, Hobbes and Locke. He is also a political critique, columnist, a Rotarian, and an author gifted with literary skills. He has written numerous articles on political affairs and governance of his native Bangladesh. His most recent article "Our Independence Hitherto Confined in Political Wilderness" (BanglaMirror, 11/01/2013), depicts a momentous account of Bangladesh's morbid political antecedents and the fetid stench of her overall political environment. His debut publication of the poetry book "A Phantom of Romance" comprised of poems of love and passion. His patriotic poems "In the love of my nation" and "My heart cries for the fallen" composed in retrospect to Bangladesh liberation

war and its post independence political crises were published in Bangla Mirror, London (237 & 316), Sylhet Madan Mohan University College Literary Council's publication "Katha Lata" (4&5) and in Sylhet Mobile Pataghar's narrative publication "Chayalap" (283 & 284) correspondingly.

Ahmed Khan – an unassuming, family-centric, spatio-temporally Spartan vivacious individual, avid to his continued self development. Following successful completion of his M.Phil research in HRM: "Export Orientated Industrialisation and the Exploitation of Labour in the Developing Economies", he had re-assigned his academic interest into Law with sustained enthusiasm and achieved a Master of Laws degree (LL.M) with merit from the World-class Birkbeck College of the University of London. He is engaged in further legal research in the development of International Human Rights with particular focus on the "virtues, protections and myths" – surrounding the process. He is currently investigating the extent to which US government policies on Incarceration, Capital Punishment and the death-row phenomenon clash with the European Convention on Human Rights in light of the decision in Soering v United Kingdom [1989] ECHR.

He has five younger brothers. The immediate younger one had his further education from Sylhet Polytechnic College. Each of the other four brothers has multiple Masters Degrees in various disciplines from reputable Universities at home (Dhaka & Chittagong) and abroad (Sydney, London & Cornell (NY)). They now reside in the UK and USA - engaged in different professions.

Ahmed Khan asserts himself a devout "British Muslim" – proudly upholding his religious values and traditions – while profoundly deferential to synonymous interests of all other social groups in British society. His pastimes are: reading books, watching documentaries, travelling, listening Tagore Songs, Urdu Ghazals, Mozart, and Pavarotti.



Dilara Khan

Sector:

Media

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

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

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

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

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Helal Uddin Khan

Sector:

Travel & Hospitality

Mr Helal Uddin Khan came to the UK in 1986 after completing his H.S.C in Bangladesh. In 1990 Mr Khan started his first business which was an Estate Agency called 'Class Property Services' in Katherine Road, London. Just after two years he developed a very good relationship and reputation among the Bangladeshi community.

He started his Travel Agency business in the same location in 1992. Due to his sincerity, honesty, intelligence, strong determination and dedication he is now one of the most established and recognised business men in the travel industry in the UK and Bangladesh.

Now Mr Khans office is in Green Street, London and at present he employs twelve employees. To help the local community he has opened a call centre in Sylhet with 15 staff, which he hopes to expand to offer further employment.

Mr Khan is always up to date with latest information in the Travel Industry as he participates in different training (Reservation and Ticketing) and courses. He has also visited many countries around the world under the education tour programme sponsored by different Airlines.

Mr Khan is an associate member of Greater Sylhet Association since 1995 as well as an active mem-

ber of Bangladesh Welfare Association since 1990. He has been an Executive Member of Nurul Haq Education Trust Fenchugong since 1993, the Ex General Secretary Fenchugong Kollan Shamite (oldest Association in UK) since 1986, Deputy Director General of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry I and Chairman of United Kingdom Biman

Approved Travel Agent Association.

Mr Khan is married with two daughters and two sons.

He is a very popular person among the Asian community due to his amiable personality and support he gives to hundreds of organisations and events every year. Mr. Helal Uddin Khan is very much interested about Bangladeshi Culture and in his spare time likes to sing and go to concerts. He has continued being involved with various fundraising initiatives in the UK and abroad.



M.A Mannan Khan

Sector:

Education and Community Relations

M A Mannan Khan was born in 1953 in Khan Bari, Kismoth Maizbhag in Golapgonj, 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 S Community award in 2006.

Mr Khan is the founder president of Surma Welfare Porishod UK, Vice Chairman of First Solution Money Transfer Ltd (UK), Senior Vice president of Leicester Awami League, Founder Chairman of Bangladesh Poor Fund, Foreign Advisor of Motijeel Theatre in Dhaka, Committee Member of the local Mosque Masjid-e-Bitul Mukarram Trust, and he is currently working for Channel S as their news reporter for Leicestershire.

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

Dr Shafi Khan, a Croydon Councillor for 15 years was selected to stand for parliament at the General Election by the Carshalton and Wallington Constituency Labour Party at its Annual General Meeting on 26th February 2008. The meeting included delegates from all wards in the constituency who voted unanimously for Dr Khan. Dr Khan was the GLA candidate (London Assembly election - 1st of May 2008) for the seat of Croydon and Sutton constituency, got about 35,000 votes and became second, overtaking the Liberal Democrats.

Dr Shafi Khan has lived in Croydon since 1989. He was elected to Croydon Council by Norbury ward in 1994, where he has been influential in education and community relations. He has been lead member on Education, Shadow Cabinet member for Community Cohesion. He became the first Asian Mayor of Croydon in 1999-2000. During his Mayoral year he carried out more than 1000 public engagements including the ceremonial opening of Tram Link, leading the borough to the New Millennium and visiting various business, faith, voluntary and community groups in Croydon. He used his Mayoral year to strengthen community spirit, to reach out to all communities and to bring faiths, cultures and business together with a common purpose to empower people. In 1998, he

started the "Norbury Mela" in Norbury Park, which because of its success later moved to Lloyds Park and evolved as "Croydon Mela", which is an envy of South London. He has also secured "Muslim Burial Ground" in Green Lawn Memorial Park for Croydon's Muslim residents.

He is actively involved in Croydon's wider community life, well known and respected. For his support and contribution to the business community, he was elected Hon. Vice President of the Croydon Chamber of Commerce in 2001 and was also awarded the "World Peace Ambassador" by the faith community.

Shafi was born in Comilla, passed his SSC from Comilla Zila School and HSC from Comilla Victoria College both with some distinctions. He studied economics at Dhaka University. In 1969 he got involved in students politics and was involved in the freedom movement of Bangladesh as a student leader.

He acquired a Masters degree and a PhD in mathematical physics at Moscow Civil Engineering University. He gained a teaching certificate at the Institute of Education, University of London and now works as a mathematics lecturer at Tower Hamlets College in East London. He lives in Norbury with his wife Irina and their daughter Masha.



Dr Shafi Khan

Sector:

Academia and Politics

Mr Islam Uddin Khan comes from the renowned Atghar village of Jagganathpur District, Sylhet. He is the only son of Md. Alhaj Asab Uddin Khan and they come from the Sheikh Kiyam branch direct descendants of Alhaj Syed Sheikh Shams Uddin, one of the saints linked with Shahjalal.

He has a keen interest in Public Law and Criminal Defence. Islam was called to the Bar in 2008 by the Honorable Society of Inner Temple and completed his LL.B (Hons) as a mature student subsequently specialising in an LL.M in Public Law and Human Rights at Kings College, University of London. He was the last batch at the Inns Of Court School of Law Bar Vocational Course in 2007. He deferred his Ph.d in Islamic Law at SOAS, during completing his pupillage with Marion Smullen, at chambers of Marion Smullen and Kerim Fuad Q.C. specialising in criminal defence and public law and has been actively involved in the Bibi case, challenging the UK's immigration age bar to overseas marriages.

Prior to a career at the Bar, Islam was a junior civil servant in various departments at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. This included the Human Rights Policy Department, the Foreign Office branch of UK-visas (now substantially UKBA), Consular and headed the Benefits, pay and policy section of HR. He also served overseas as a diplomatic officer. He sits on a number of panels in Tower Hamlets and advises many charitable organisations across the

country. Notably, he was involved in engaging various stakeholders to diffuse the Shajalal mosque fiasco to ensure that public money was kept safe and avoid a dangerous precedent being set. Most recently he has been engaged in drafting grounds in challenging the policy on "maintenance undertakings". There has been significant interest in the case from leading organisations in Tower Hamlets and the BBC.

His published articles to date are: 1. International Law and The legality of the Flotilla raid by Israel; 2. Indirect discrimination by raising the marriage age rule to 21; 3. Religious implications for Hindu pyres in the UK (Ghai and Others); 4. FGM: "an Islamic practice or modern fashion; and 5. Mediation in practice. He has submitted a plan to publish a legal dictionary for the lay person in crime and hopes this will materialise shortly.

He is the proud father of Sadia, Yusuf and his lovely twins: Aaliyah and Amirah. In his past times he enjoys reading, sea fishing and travelling.



Islam Khan

Sector:

Legal (Barrister)



Md. Shamsuddin Khan
Sector:
Catering and Politics

Md. Shamsuddin Khan was born in 1935 in Matiura, under the Bianibazaar Upazilla in Sylhet. He is the second son of late Haji Taj Khan and Tayamunnessa Khanom. Mr Khan primarily worked at an English restaurant when he arrived in the UK in 1955, aged 20. It was in 1958 when he started his first business when he opened a restaurant, which he called Moharani. This restaurant is situated in Clapham Common, is one of the most famous and old restaurants in the UK. Two other branches of the Moharani restaurant have been opened ever since, one located in Clapham North and one in Camden Town. Mr. Khan is one of the owners of a large grocery store named Kushiara Cash and Carry in the East End of London.

On top of that, he has an enormous investment in the tea estates in Sylhet and also owns several houses in London.

Founding member of the Bianibazaar Janakallyan Samity UK, of which he is now the advisor, and also a trustee of the Historic Bangladesh Centre in London, Mr. Khan is involved in various political and socio-cultural organisations, both in Bangladesh and the UK. In addition he has played a key role in

the establishment of Bianibazaar College, by donating money towards it. Mathiura High School and Mathiura Girls' High School are two of many educational institutions of which Md. Shamsuddin Khan is a patron. Furthermore, he was the chairman of the College Development Committee for a long period of time.

Before all this, Mr. Khan's political career began with Pakistan Welfare Association which later become Bangladesh Welfare Association. Inspired by Sheikh Mujib, he also decided to join the Awami League once it had been set up in the UK. Throughout his role in the Awami league changed from the treasurer, to the vice president. He played a significant role throughout the Liberation War in 1971 by fundraising. During the 1970 elections, he was the Awami League candidate in the Bianibazaar-Golapgonj constituency.

Here, in the UK, Shamsuddin Khan is a member of the Labour party. At present, Md. Shamsuddin Khan resides with his wife Mrs. Safarun Nesa Khanom and their three children.



Cllr Tahir Khan
Sector:
Politics

Former Mayor Tahir Khan of Luton was born in 1967 in Bangladesh and came to live in the UK in 1982. The rise of racial tensions and arrival of young new migrant community from South Asia particularly from Bangladesh proved to be a challenging dilemma for the authorities to cope. The experience of new migrant young people in the eighties led to abandoning his ambition to study medicine but inspired him to get involved in youth and community work to support young people in improving their life chances. He studied DipHE in Youth and Community Development at the De Montfort University and a management degree at the University of Bedfordshire.

Tahir joined Bangladesh Welfare Association in 1986 as a Community Worker to pursue his mission of supporting the local community with their challenges. In 1988 he joined Bangladesh Youth League (Luton) (BYL) and was elected as President. His passion to develop community leaderships led to developing a governance system within BYL that ensured youth involvement and participation at all level within the organisation, providing platform for young people to develop and nurture key skills of leadership.

Tahir played an instrumental lead role in progressing the business of the BYL developing innovative projects that responded to ever changing needs of young people in the most deprived parts of Luton and won a number of high profile awards. The most significant project achievement has been founding of the Centre for Youth and Community Development (CYCD) in 1995.

Tahir served as the founding Chairman for CYCD and he is also a successful entrepreneur, volunteered as community activist served as Treasurer for the Bedfordshire Youth Association a regional umbrella organisation, was Board

Member of Princes Trust Bedfordshire Committee for 10 years, served as a Director to Luton and Dunstable Partnership Board and led on international development projects on behalf of a charity including establishing a school cum cyclone shelter in SIDR effected area of Bangladesh. Tahir currently serves on the board of a number of charities.

Using BYL as a platform he engaged at national level with Home Office's Special Support Unit and Equalities Associates in delivering a specialist training program to Senior Police Officers and Judges across the nation. Challenging the institutional racism that infested the police force and judicial system led to influencing much of the changes that we see today.

Tahir has been working for Local Government for over 26 years in various capacities including at senior management level. He worked for Bedfordshire County Council, Luton Borough Council and some of the London boroughs. In his work life he has always been championing the young people's issues and developing opportunities for young people to participate in positive activities and his work gaining national and local awards.

He was elected as Councillor in 2007 and served in a number of committees. Following the local election he was subsequently elected to the Council's Executive. He successfully served as Lead Cabinet Member for Children Services for 5 years. Amongst the many projects some of the highlights of his cabinet role has been BSF programme, achievement of 5 star Children Services by Ofsted, convincing the Council to allocate Bath Road site for a new primary school, development of Children Centres. He is also a Director at London Luton Airport Board.



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Zakir Khan

Sector:

*Community Relations
& Corporate*



Award Winner 2012

Zakir Khan was born in Bangladesh and came to England aged 5 with his parents. He grew up in Tower Hamlets, East London, where he became a youth worker and community representative. Since 2000 he has worked for Canary Wharf Group, first as Sports and Community officer and now as Head of Public Affairs. He is also Director & Head of Public Affairs a prestigious TV channel NTV UK, Europe.

In 2010 Zakir was the Conservative PPC for Bethnal Green and Bow, securing an increase in the Conservative vote in this highly marginal and politically charged seat. Zakir has a deep and wide understanding of Bangladesh, and in particular has experience of helping set up new charitable initiatives on the ground. He has a good relationship with all the political parties in Bangladesh and good links in such fields as sport, media, business, education, manufacturing, and universities.

In the UK Zakir has worked for the public, private and voluntary sectors, and has built up a positive programme of bringing these different sectors together to deliver projects. Zakir has been involved in community work since he was a teenager. In 1990, aged 19, he was the co-founder and Chair of Community Action Group, a campaign group for local young people to help represent their interests to statutory and police authorities and to help reduce tension between communities.

He was also elected Vice Chair for Youth Connections another youth campaign group that was collectively formed by all major youth groups in Tower Hamlets. Zakir was elected by the community to represent them as a Board Member of the Connecting Communities SRB 5, and Cityside Regeneration in Spitalfields. He is the current Vice Chair of the Osmani Centre User's Forum. He was a Director of The Adab Trust. This is a new initiative established to increase employment prospects for inner city young black and minority ethnic people and specifically those from Asian and Muslim backgrounds. He was also an ambassador for Touch

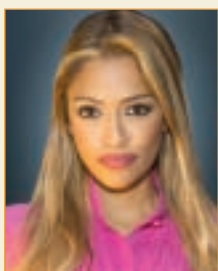
The Game project. This is a unique project that collects unused sports equipment from residents in the UK and delivers them to the most deprived countries in the world such as Africa and the Indian sub continent.

In the 2010 General Election he was selected as Conservative Party Parliamentary Candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow in Tower Hamlets, securing a 2% increase in the Conservative vote despite only being selected in late March 2010. Since formally joining the Party in 2006, Zakir has been actively working to promote the Conservative party within the Bangladeshi UK community. In Jan 2010 he organised a delegation to Bangladesh led by Mark Field MP.

Zakir was successful in arranging meetings for the delegates with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, Ex Prime Minister now Opposition Leader Begum Zia, The British High Commissioner and many other Members of The Bangladeshi Parliament. He is the current Chairman, Conservative Friends of Bangladesh (CFOB) London Region. In 1996 he co-founded Sporting Bengal Football Team and was the manager of the team for four years in his spare time.

In 1997 Zakir spear headed the formation of The Bangladesh Football Association UK as the Chair of the organisation he established a summer football league with just eight teams which now has 46 teams. Asian Football League Manager of the Year 1996, 1997, 1998. He has received a Tower Hamlets Sports Council Certificate for outstanding achievements in Sports in 1997. He received a Community Achievement Award from the Mayor of Tower Hamlets in 2004.

He has been awarded a Voluntary Achievement Award from the Bangladesh Football Association UK in 2008. In year 2000, 2001 and 2002 Zakir invited football teams from Bangladesh to visit London. He organised games with West Ham and Chelsea. Mohamadan Sporting Club, Abahani Football Club and Chittagong have benefited from these visits.



Tasmin Lucia-Khan

Sector:

Media

Tasmin Lucia-Khan is an Entrepreneur, TV Personality and Film Producer with over 16 years of on-air experience. She has presented and produced over 5,000 programs for the BBC, ITV and NBC, broadcasting to global audiences of millions.

Her current role is CEO of the publicly traded Hollywood film company WR Entertainment (widerelease.com), a global entertainment business focused on Book-to-Film crossover with head-quarters in Los Angeles. She took the company public in January 2016, listing it on the Oslo Stock Exchange Merkur Market. She is also a producer on the first action adventure film, alongside Mark Huffam, producer for Ridley Scott's Oscar nominated 'The Martian' and 'Alien: Covenant'.

Tasmin has reported on some of the biggest news stories in the world including the South East Asian Boxing Day Tsunami, the death of Michael Jackson, Barack Obama's inauguration and the capture of Osama Bin Laden. She has interviewed global figures such as Bill Clinton, Angelina Jolie, Shah Rukh Khan and hosted the Commonwealth Games Baton Relay at Buckingham Palace with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in attendance.

An entrepreneur from an early age, Tasmin has grown several successful tech start-up businesses in the Silicon Valley and London. In 2007, Tasmin was a founding team member and Vice President of Ad-Maxim Inc, one of Europe's leading mobile advertising agencies based in San Francisco and London. For this work she was awarded Entrepreneur of the Year 2014/2015 by the Lloyds Banking Group in the UK for her leadership. Another company co-founded by Tasmin is app development and creative agency Sivvr, which was named a Top Digital Influencer at the United Nations 70th Anniversary ceremony in San Francisco two years ago.

Tasmin has an Oxford University degree and Masters in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and is married to cardiologist Dr Junaid Zaman. She is passionate about giving back and is involved in children's charities in Bangladesh. She is also proud to be an Ambassador for Prince Charles' British Asian Trust.

Dr Nazia Khanum has a BA (Hons) and MA in Political Science from Dhaka University and a PhD in History from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. She runs Equality in Diversity, an international management and research consultancy. Her jobs include: lecturer at University of Dhaka; Commonwealth Speaker and Teaching Fellow at Commonwealth Institute, London; Education Officer at Luton Community Relations Council; Head of Equalities in Greater London Council (Housing), Tower Hamlets Borough Council (Housing), Inner London Education Authority (Employment), Ealing Borough Council (Education) and Bedfordshire County Council (Education, Resources, Research and Community Development); Senior Health Promotion Officer in Bedfordshire Health Promotion Agency.

Working closely with national and local government and community groups, she has given evidence to Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiries into Bangladeshi community's needs, Terrorism/Violent Extremism and Domestic Violence, Forced Marriage & Honour-based Violence. Her publications include poems, short stories, articles, research papers and good practice guides on: equality in employment, bullying and harassment, forced marriage, discrimination on grounds of race, gender, disability, faith, class etc, engagement with black and minority ethnic communities, needs and aspirations of Bangladeshi young women, smoking, fostering, climate change and so on. She has spoken extensively on wide-ranging socio-economic issues at national and international conferences, seminars and workshops and participated on TV and radio programmes. Her passion and achievements in promoting peace, equality, justice and human rights, especially for traditionally disadvantaged groups like ethnic minorities and women, have been recognised by numerous awards including: OBE from the Queen, honorary PhD from the University of Bedfordshire, Kabi Mozammel Haque Foundation, Rotary Club - Dhaka West, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, the Mayor of Luton, Luton Committee for Racial Harmony (predominantly African Caribbean), Luton Forum

(Local Strategic Partnership), Pakistan Kashmir Youth Forum, House of Lords Honours Dinner, Gujarati Mitra Mandal, Bangladesh Youth League, Purbachal – the eastern sky, Luton Bangladeshi Community, Grassroots (Christian), Luton Council of Faiths, Community Development Foundation, Luton in Harmony, Luton Training and Mentoring (Indian-led).

Her activities include: Government Equalities Office's National Ambassador for Equality and Diversity in Public Appointments; Governor, Luton Sixth Form College; Non-Executive Director, Luton Primary Care Trust; Trustee, Luton All Women's Centre; Equalities Adviser to Bedfordshire Probation Service; Member of National Muslim Women's Network UK; founder Chair of United Nations Association – Luton, Luton Bangladesh Helping Hand (LBHH), Luton Multicultural Women's Coalition, Purbachal – the eastern sky and Luton Multiagency Steering Group on Forced Marriage & Violence Against Women; Member of Luton Equality, Inclusion and Cohesion Group (until 2011), Preventing Violent Extremism Community Reference Group, Luton (until 2010), Luton Commission on Community Cohesion (2010-2011), the government's National Muslim Women's Advisory Group (until 2010), Thinking Partner of the Department of Health's national programme – Race for Health (until 2007), board member of Bedfordshire Learning & Skills Council (until 2007), governor of two schools (until 2003).

As founder chair, she is an integral part of LBHH's charitable work for the victims of natural disasters across the world including Bangladesh (10 educational and health projects in Sylhet and rebuilding of 115 houses and a high school/cyclone shelter in Sri Ghat, Bagerhat), Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Haiti & Sudan. She is married to Dr David Cheesman (PhD in History from SOAS). Their son -Tareen has an M Sc in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science - LSE, University of London. Dr Khanum is proud to have a family which is not only fully supportive of her work but also shares the same ideals of democratic and humanitarian principles.



**Dr Nazia Khanum,
OBE**

Sector:

Research & Academia



Award Winner 2011

Khatun Sapnara is a Circuit 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 used to practice 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 2014 she was made a full time Circuit judge.

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.

In 2018 she was awarded the degree of doctor of laws, Honoris causa, by Royal Holloway (University of London). She was appointed by the lord chief justice as a Diversity community Relations Judge and a judicial Role Model.

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.



Sapnara Khatun

Sector:

Legal (Judge)



Award Winner 2010



Md Gulam Kibria

Sector:

Construction

Mohammed Gulam Kibria was born in the village of Noorpur, Osmaninagor UP Sadipur, in Sylhet. During his time spent in Bangladesh, he studied in Pailgaow High School in Jagonathpur. His father Late Sikondor Ali, worked as a soldier for the British Army and was also one of the councilors for Osmaninagor UP 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.

Mr Gulam Kibria first started his own business in the year 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 the later, Malaysia.

In the year of 1986, Mr Md Gulam Kibria set up his very own construction business situated in the UK, called Oriental Contracting Co. Ltd, of which he is still 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, Md Gulam Kibria is also involved with many community organizations, most of which are in Bangladesh. He is a life member of Pailgaow B N High School, which he had previously attended himself and is also a life member

of the Probashi Balagonj Osmani Nagor Education Trust since 1992. In addition to that, he took on the role of being the Treasurer between 2000-2002 and General Secretary between 2002-2005 of the Trust then elected as the Chair Person and President between 2009-2011. Mr Kibria was also the President of the Probashi Balagonj- Osmani Nagar Adarsha Upozilla Shamity and the Balagonj Education Trust between 2006-2008 and the founder and chairman of Taneem Hospital from 2004, a hospital which he helped set up in his own village in Bangladesh. Md Gulam Kibria is forever giving to charity as well, and has donated money towards many schools, colleges along with mosques, roads and bridges.

During the Caretaker term, Mr Kibria visited the Head of State Mr Faqur Uddin and was a major donor towards the ILR Sid Disaster fund. Mr Kibria received the Tower Hamlets Civic Award in 2014. He is also a life member of the London Bangla Press Club, EC member London Mahanagor Awami League and the Treasurer of the Sylhet Divisional Welfare Council UK.

At this moment in time, Md Gulam Kibria lives contentedly in the East London with his wife Mrs Fazal Kibria. They have both been blessed with three wonderful and much adored sons, Zayed Kibria, Waleed Kibria and Fahad Kibria and two daughters Taneem Kibria and Sumaiyah Kibria.



Minhaj Kibriyah

Sector:

Media

In the world of British-Bangladeshi media industry, Minhaj Kibriyah has proven to be a genius in the world of advertising, sometimes even single-handedly pushing businesses to the next level of prosperity.

Minhaj Kibriyah is adamant that whilst he has worked his way up relentlessly from directing TV Commercials through his own company AdWorks, to directing stunning music videos, to directing two Bengali movies in Bangladesh But his pioneering work in the advertisement industry for nearly past two decades is what shaped the business community. Kefayeth Khan, an actor who has collaborated with Kibriyah on numerous adverts, calls Kibriyah a 'master': "The man knows his stuff. He is a master at everything and an advertising genius. When it comes to the art of concept Ads, there is no equal."

Raja Kaasheff the world famous United Kingdom-based Music Composer and Singer, who has collaborated with Adnan Sami and produced Bollywood songs calls him a 'star-maker': "I have worked with many directors and stars but Minhaj Kibriyah stands out against them all because he is a trend-setter".

Minhaj Kibriyah is now the Creative Director of

Channel S, the UK's number one channel for a Bangladeshi audience.

Taz Coudhury, the TV network's CEO, explains "Kibriyah was hired as Creative Director precisely because of his creativity. His record in the advertising and music industry speaks for itself and we wanted that creative spark here. The channel is reaching out from the first generation of Bangladeshis to the second and the third and Kibriyah is talented and imaginative enough to attract that audience."

And it is clear that Kibriyah's attitude had filtered throughout the network as colleagues at Channel S, can only speak highly of him: "He's a can do man, he never says no to any task facing him. He always tries to do everything differently but creatively. He's a man that brings every skill you could ask for to the table and more."

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- ⊗ Event Catalogue
- ⊗ Event day launch

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- ⊗ Spotlights
- ⊗ 1 Table
- ⊗ 2 Chairs
- ⊗ 2 Garment Rails
- ⊗ 50 Hangers
- ⊗ 1 Power Plug
- ⊗ Event Catalogue
- ⊗ Event day launch

Executive Package

Shell Scheme Stand 2M X 2M

£1500

- ⊗ 1 Table
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- ⊗ Event day launch

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**Cllr Syeda Amina
Khatun MBE**

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Syeda Amina Khatun MBE is currently the Deputy Leader of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Chief Executive Officer of Bangladeshi Women's Association Limited and the Chairperson of Bangladeshi Regeneration Council in England & Wales.

Councillor Khatun was the first Bangladeshi woman to be elected Councillor in the Midlands region in 1999 and was made a Member of the British Empire for her services to Community Development in 2004. Whilst retaining many political and professional portfolios, Councillor Khatun has always been a strong community champion and remained open to serving the entirety of the community as well as showing tremendous devotion towards the betterment of the Bangladeshi people. Over the past thirty years of her career in the community sector, Cllr Khatun has successfully planned and managed hundreds of community development projects that has improved lives of thousands of disadvantaged people and communities. Councillor Khatun has also committed her-

self to 'empowering communities together' by sharing of services and opportunities across all boundaries and culture.



**Muhammed Abdul
Kuduse**

Sector:
Telecommunications

Mr Kuduse is Successful entrepreneur and businessman from Dokinshurma, Alam Pur, Bangladesh. Born to his father Abdus Shohid (Khola Miah) and mother Hawarun Nessa.

He arrived from Bangladesh with his family and with just a few GCSEs and is now the Director and Owner of Go Phone Ltd one of the fastest growing mobile phone chains in southwest of England.

Mr Kuduse completed his GNVQ Business at Bristol College and his English at Bhasvic College, Brighton. Moving to Bristol in 2003 Mr Kuduse started working part time at JD Sports and the Thali Express.

In 2004 Mr Kuduse started working as a sales person at Phones4U where he gained the skills to implement new sales techniques, strategic planning and leadership, negotiation and growth attainment.

With his passion and drive Mr Kuduse was promoted to Manager in Two years after which he left and joined JAG communication in 2007.

Mr Kuduse by now had mastered the key elements of the mobile communications industry and in 2009 decided to leave JAG Communications to start his own venture, Mad Mobiles in June 2009 with three employees and achieved turnover of £400,000 in his first year.

With success Mr Kuduse opened another 14 stores in the span of 6 years, in 2015 the company turnover was £3.5 Million and by then Mr Kuduse has also owned few commercial properties.

Later in 2015 Mr Kuduse sold his shares and started another own venture Go Phone Ltd, which is already

exceeding key operational performance targets and his principle for success as said by Mr Kuduse "Service after sales is the key point for my business to be successful".

In May 2016 Mr Kuduse has established another firm Dreamspas Limited, and opened first massive showroom in Brislington retail park, Bristol. In March 2019 he has now expanded this business to another showroom in the capital of Wales Cardiff with a 5000 plus square foot showroom which is the biggest hot tub showroom in the whole South West of the United Kingdom.

In 2018 Mr Kuduse established another company Luxury Kitchen and Bath Ltd which is now his 4th business venture.

Mr Kuduse moving into 2019 has now established a further two businesses Style Shoes Limited a fully independent shoe company and Gems Design & Repair Ltd a well established Jewellery shop in Thornbury Bristol which had been trading in Thornbury for the past 27 years.

Mr Kuduse also has a property portfolio with investment mainly in Bristol. Mr Kuduse is married to Minni Ahmed Choudhury. He is also budding philanthropist who openly enjoys fundraising for his self-run charity, Hazi Abdus Shohid Foundation in Bangladesh.

Mohammed Abul Lais is a successful businessman, outstanding community organiser and well-known philanthropist in Berkshire. He left for the UK when he was only 16 and entered professional life. Alongside working he continued to study. For his sincere and hard labour on the one hand he attained success in his business and on the other being the elder son of the family he educated all his younger brothers and sisters and thus he set an example to be followed by others.

Born in 1960 Mohammed Abul Lais hails from the village Amria of Durgapasha Union of Sadar Tana under Sunamgonj district. His father late Alhaj Abul Bashor Md. Mashuk Miah was a restaurant trader in the UK. He was a philanthropist who came over to the UK in 1963. He was killed in a tragic road accident in the UK in 1994. His mother is Mrs Badrun Nessa was school teacher. The family consist of three brothers and four sisters and he is the eldest.

On arrival in the UK he started serving in restaurants and at the same time continued his studies. And in this way, he did O' Level and A' level in Accountancy and also completed B-tech national diploma. Mohammed Abul Lais began his first business in 1978 in Newbury, Berkshire. This restaurant named Curry Garden. He established Curry Garden at Tadely in Hampshire in 1982, on partnership basis and again in 1991 opened Curry Garden in Reading.

In 1985 he established 'Rajdoot Restaurant' in Cirencester Town in Gloucestershire on partnership. In 1991 he established a company named Eurasia Food Service. He established a first Tai and Bangladeshi restaurant named 'Café Blue Cobra' in the small-town Teale in greater Reading area in 1996. Mohammed Abul Lais is also a philanthropist. He is one of the founders of Basingstoke Islamic Society. Initially he was the founding secretary of this organization and later on he served as president for 3 years. He is also the founding member of Reading Central Jame Masjid established and run by the Bangladeshis. Besides he is the member of Basingstoke Chambers & Commerce, Tames valley

Chambers of Commerce, Founder of British Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce UK. He has made special contributions towards the establishment and development of Amria Mosque and Amria Madrassa based in his own village, in 2016 Mohammed Lais built an academy bhobon in Amria Madrasa Building is named of his Father and his Mother, which was opened by M A Mannan MP, the deputy finance minister of Bangladesh. During the devastating flood in 1988 and in 1991 he raised funds £1400 and £11 000 respectively and sent it to Bangladesh through British Red Cross Society for the flood affected people.

Mohammed Abul Lais and his brother Absar Md. Waess have established a family trust after their father's name. From this trust named "Alhaj AB Mashuk Miah Foundation" quarterly education stipend is regularly being provided to the poor and meritorious students of the Amria Madrassa since 1994. Primary scholarship has been introduced under the auspices of this Foundation in 1998. Mohammad Abul Lais is the trustee of this Foundation while his all brothers and sisters are the members. Mohammed Lais is a founder trustee of Bangladesh female academy in Derai, Mohammed Abul Lais was president of Dakshin Sunamgonj Upozela Association UK.

Mohammad is married to Nazma Khatun Qureshi, with two daughters and one son. First daughter Shumana Lais obtained Honours degree in investment Banking and Finance, from Reading University, she is married to Dr Omar Siddique and blessed with one grandson and worked for KPMG as an auditor and also completed ACA, 2nd daughter Sameera Lais is studying in Aston University. Son Shumel has graduated in Business and marketing in Bournemouth University then worked for Sachi and Sachi and is currently running his own business in Marketing.



Mohammad Abul Lais

Sector:
Business

Taysir Mahmud is very well known in the British Bangladeshi community as a committed professional journalist. He is currently the Editor of Weekly Desh, Britain's first Nationwide free Bengali newspaper.

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 Sylhet MC University College.

As a student he became involved in journalistic activities and worked as a staff reporter on the Daily Sylhet Bani newspaper. He went onto become the sub-editor for the newspaper. He later established Media Line, a powerful news agency in Sylhet. At one stage Mr. Mahmud was senior staff reporter at daily Jalalabad newspaper and at the same time was programme compiler in Radio Bangladesh, Sylhet Centre. He was also a permanent member of the Sylhet Press Club.

Mr. Mahmud arrived in UK in 2003. He started his career as News Editor at Notun Din. In 2007 he was appointed as the Executive Editor of the paper and served in this position until he joined Weekly Desh, as an Editor. He still remains an honorary director of Weekly Notun Din.

Mr. Mahmud married Farhana Mahmud in 2006, the daughter of respected community leader Al-Hajj Atik Miah of Hazipur, Golapgonj.

Farhana Mahmud is a secondary Science teacher. They are the parents of three children, Jibreel, Sarah & Mikael Mahmud. The family resides in East London.



Taysir Mahmud

Sector:
Media



Ajmal Masroor

Sector:

Politics and Religion

Ajmal Masroor was the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow constituency in London Borough of Tower Hamlets, during the last general election.

He is a broadcast journalist specialising on Islam and Muslim issues. He presents regular programmes on the Islam Channel and Channel S. He has been a production consultant TV programmes such as Shari'ah TV, Make Me a Muslim and the Quran for Channel 4 and Celebrity Lives Shariah style for the BBC. He has written for the Guardian's comment is free and BBC websites, the New Statesman and the Evening Standard and has regular page in the EMEL magazine. He is regularly invited to contribute and comment on news stories by BBC, CNN and other mainstream media.

He is a trainer providing training on peace and reconciliation, citizenship, governance, democracy and contextualised Islam to young people across Europe and has taken part in peace building initiatives in various countries including Lebanon and Jordan. He is regularly invited to speak on issues on integration, Islam in the modern world, Muslim community, and topics that relate to social and political changes within various communities. He is currently the director of Communities in Ac-

tion 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.



Piara Mayenin (Piya)

Sector:

Law/Community

Piara Mayenin, aka Piya Mayenin is a Bangladeshi lawyer with a feminist edge, who practices law, specialising in Immigration; Human Rights, Wills and Probate, Family and Employment Law; discrimination. Her dedication and commitment to the community precipitated her to become a Radio and TV presenter; she hosts and produces legal programs on Bengali speaking television and radio since 2010. She appears as guest on popular TV shows to discuss and confer opinion on issues affecting the community.

Piya Mayenin was born to Mohammed Abdul Noor and Champa Noor in Ziapur, which is a village in Chhatak upozilla in the district Sunamganj. She is sixth of seven siblings. On entering the UK with her parents at tender age of three months her entire upbringing has been in the UK. She attended Harry Gosling Primary School in Tower Hamlets followed by Mulberry School and North Westminster Community School in Westminster. Having graduated with BA Honours in Economics from The University of Greenwich, she then attained Postgraduate Diploma in Law followed by LPC from The University of Law formerly known as The College of Law. In 1996 she married Munayem Mayenin, a writer and poet and they have a son, Ohie and two daughters, Saahia and Raaneem.

Piya Mayenin is an active human rights campaigner,

whose work includes generating awareness amongst the community and challenging discrimination, bigotry and hypocrisy that affects the community at large, creating barriers and causing alienation and segregation. Community empowerment has been her lifelong commitment. She promotes equality and awareness by participating in various activist and cultural organisations, in addition to organising cultural events, seminars and writing blogs and articles.

In addition to Piya Mayenin's legal profession, she is an amateur singer who received classical vocal and harmonium training from Pundit Haridas Ganguly, Ustaad Fida Hussain Khan and Mahmudur Rahman Benu. As a hobby she performs occasionally and believes in upholding culture and heritage, spreading happiness for everyone through these performances.



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Haji Matin

Sector:

*Civil / Structural
Engineering*

Chartered Engineer Haji Matin C.Eng FISTructE (UK) FIE(B) was born in 1942 in the village Bagula, Upozilla Chunarughat in the district of Habigonj. He attended the Habigonj Government High School then completed a course in Civil Engineering in the Dhaka Polytechnic and worked for a few years there.

He came to the UK in 1963 after arriving in the UK he enrolled in the University of Aston in Birmingham in the Evening/Day release course of Civil Engineering and worked full time in a Engineering Consultancy. He's qualified as Chartered Structural Engineer (UK) in 1973 as well as gained the fellowship of the Institute of Engineers in Bangladesh.

Mr Matin worked in UK for Civil and Structural Engineering for 49 years. His career included 20 years at Thames Water. He met the Queen with other colleagues. This project earned him the fellowship of the Institution of Structural Engineers in 1993.

His career also included 20 years with Transport for London where he spearheaded a number of Bridge and Tunnel construction projects for the capital. From 1978 to 1980, he was seconded as field Consultant Engineer to the Government of Ghana.

In 2013 Mr Matin received a certificate to commemorate 40 years of Chartered Membership of the Institution of Structural Engineer London as one of only 364 members who achieved this milestone.

Mr Matin has founded five education and welfare trusts in his local Upozilla Chunarughat from 1977 to 2000. The trusts award yearly scholarships to 12 students in every school from the income of the funds.

Mr Matin donated a portion of his land for the establishment of two villages; Atikpur in his father's name and Matin Nagar in his name in Chunarughat Upozilla. He established Haji Abdul Matin Primary School in Atikpur. This is now a government School. He built Mosques and tube wells for every few houses with Solar power facility in both villages.

Mr Matin is a donor to the Habigonj Diabetic Hospital Ashulia Cancer Hospital and the National Protibondi Foundation in Dhaka.

Mr Matin was awarded Community Award by Channel 5 in London in 2013 and honoured at the Queen's garden Party in recognition of his charitable work for the community.

Mr Matin is married to Latifun (Tulu) Hussain with two daughters. Dr Nashaba Matin BSc, MSc MBBS FRCP and Samantha Matin BSc MSc MBA.

Mr Matin and Mrs Matin are both retired and are active in local labour party Politics and are constituency Labour Party (CLP) members in the Tottenham Constituency in North London.

He recently published his memoirs "Sreethe Theke Kichu Khota"

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

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

He had the intention from the beginning that he should have his own business and from that thinking & endeavor he started a supermarket as his first business at Enfield in the year 1968. After four years he also qualified as a Driving Instructor and in 1973 he started a Driving School. Again he started Rack Trade in Brick Lane along with Messers. Islam and Kasru Miah. In 1979 Mr. Matin went to Bangladesh in response to his mother's wishes to see her and he obeyed the desire of his mother by getting married to Suriya on 8th May 1980. Mrs. Suriya is very much fond of Tagore's song and she herself loves to sing. It was a co-incident that their wedding date was the Birth Day of Rabindranath Tagore.

After eight weeks he returned to the UK with his newly married wife. He was thinking to start a new business like Catering as he observed that Bangladeshi Restaurants were known as Indian Restaurant but his intention to involve with the restaurant business was to identify the Bangladeshi Catering Business as the 'Bangladeshi Cuisine'. In 1981 he started Restaurant Business named Lalbag Tandoori Restaurant at Bays water in Westbourne Grove. To promote the culture & heritage of Bangladesh, the country who then achieved independence a decade before he mentioned his Restaurant as Bangladeshi Cuisine, hoisted flag of Bangladesh and the menu was prepared both in English & Bengali. Mr. Matin also founded other four restaurants in different places in London. The Restaurants were Sunderban Bangladeshi Cuisine, Sugandha Bangladeshi Cuisine, Sunflower Bangladeshi Cuisine & Sqahi Bangladeshi Cuisine.

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

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

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



M A MATIN

Sector:

Media

Alhaj Kazi Saad Meah was born at the Bethnal Green Hospital, London, and raised also in Bethnal Green by parents Abeda Khatun and the late Kazi Shahnoor Meah. He is one of six siblings and is father to daughters' Maisha and Shahirah Jahan, aged 17 and 15 years respectively. He attended a local comprehensive and left school at age 15 years with a string of CSE's and GCSE's. He gained a wealth of life experience between the ages of 15 and 19 years, whilst working in both the private and public sector in various roles before commencing his legal career and extensive involvement in the field of human rights. He started his legal career at the Immigration Advisory Service's (IAS) predecessor organisation UKIAS in February 1991, which led to part-time law studies at London Southbank University and subsequently a Masters in Law, with distinction, from the University of East London specialising in International Human Rights Law. He has also successfully completed numerous qualifications in Senior, Strategic and Charity management and has also lectured undergraduates at university and trained, mentored and line managed many young lawyers in immigration, nationality, asylum and human rights law, many of whom have themselves gone on to establish distinguished careers in the field of immigration and human rights. He also served successfully as an Independent Custody Visitor for the London Borough of Newham between 1996 and 2002, representing the interests of detainees held in police custody under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act.

He was at the IAS' Central London Office until 2000, successfully fulfilling roles as Counsellor, Team Leader, Supervisor and Senior Manager, during a period which he represented clients at the Immigration & Asylum Tribunal at Thanet House and latterly at the now Immigration & Asylum Chamber (IAC) at Taylor House. He has also represented many detainees at Immigration Detention Centres at Campsfield House, Tinsley House and HMP Haslar, as well as running legal surgeries at HMP Rochester, during his years at the IAS. He was also over-

all responsible for setting up the IAS' Sylhet Offices in Bangladesh involving extensive liaison and partnership working with the British High Commission in Dhaka in 2000. Saad Meah became part of the IAS' Senior Management Executive Team in 2001 when he moved to IAS' major operations based at the Oakington Detention Centre. Here he took up post as the permanent Area Manager with responsibility for over 100 staff members. He gained universal respect for his knowledge and mastery of a number of complicated strategic pilots introduced by the government, as well as an in depth understanding of the 'Fast-Track' processes operating throughout the government's detention estate. He was comprehensively involved in influencing and shaping government policy on immigration detention, legal practice and policy as a senior stakeholder representing the interests of vulnerable detainees being processed through the government's 'One Stop' and 'Fast-Track' policies whilst held in immigration detention.

He ran IAS' operations at Oakington until 2008 when he took voluntary redundancy to focus on his career as a Judge at the former Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (AIT). He was appointed as an Immigration Judge in 2006, and sat regularly at the AIT in Sheldon and Walsall, Birmingham, whilst continuing to head up operations at Oakington. He moved to the IAC at Taylor House in September 2010, where he currently continues to sit as a Judge deciding appeals from those subject to immigration control.

Saad Meah is an avid supporter and an advocate of the state/comprehensive schooling system as well as an active promoter and believer in work related apprenticeships and life experience based vocations over entrenched reliance on academic qualifications. He is a firm believer in supporting community based initiatives and resources. He also actively supports a variety of charities including Islamic Relief, The Terrence Higgins Trust, Shelter, OXFAM, NSPCC and UNICEF.



Mr Saad Meah
Sector:
Legal-(Judiciary)

Sanam Mia embarked in his business career at the age of 19 in 1989 in the catering industry. Subsequently his business portfolio expanded into the family real estate, cash and carry business (both retail and wholesale) known as SHA Cash & Carry, remittance industry and many more. However, Sanam's main passion and interest was and remains the global remittance industry. He is the Founder and CEO of Worldwide West 2 East Services Ltd t/a SHA global. He has played a key role within the U.K in developing and growing the outflow of remittance by British Bangladeshi ex-pats living and working in the U.K to Bangladesh within the guidelines of the U.K Governments financial and regulatory bodies. In more recent years he has started to expand his operations into Europe, namely Portugal, Spain and Italy. Remittance is a vital source of income for the families, friends and charity organisations not only in Bangladesh but in all third world countries globally. Some argue that the remittance industry has done more in alleviating poverty in Bangladesh and other third world countries than global aid given by wealthy nations has achieved. Sanam is a very proud and successful player in this industry on behalf of the Bangladeshi community.

His entrepreneurial streak has naturally led him to become involved in many other business enterprises; however never forgetting his roots and in line with Bangladeshi family tradition, he has also engaged in many social & welfare organisations. Sanam's main activities in the UK are ,SHA Global - Money Transfer Operator (U.K. And Europe) working closely with and in partnership with some of the largest money remittance companies in the world such as SmallWorld LCC and Xpress Money, Trustee and Public Relations Officer of Greenwich Islamic Centre (one of the largest and most Islamic multi-diverse centres in the whole of U.K) and he is a Director of Edwards Estates Agent.

In Bangladesh his company is an Exclusive distributor of Well Foods Bakery, Sweets & Confectionary for Sylhet Division. He is also the Proprietor of Sylhet's only operational 'Call Centre' in Sylhet Bangladesh, Founding Director of 'Legacy City' real estate development, Member of SHA Charity Foundation in Bangladesh and Co-founder of H.A.R.T education trust.

Sanam resides with his wife and children .



Sanam Mia
Sector:
Business



**Cllr Mohammed
Ayas Miah**

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Miah is an elected Councillor and the former Speaker of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for the civic year 2018-19.

The Speaker is the name of the role that was formerly the Civic Mayor, in Tower Hamlets. As the Speaker Cllr Miah is responsible for the ceremonial duties of the Council and it is the Speaker's function to chair council meetings and to act as an ambassador for the borough, raising the profile of the Council and forging links with the private, public and voluntary sector.

Cllr Miah was elected for the first time in 2014 to St. Dunstan's Ward and then re-elected in 2018. He was the Deputy Speaker last year and before that served as the Cabinet Member for Environment, with responsibility for a portfolio that included (amongst other things) transport, highways, trading standards, parking, licencing, street cleaning and recycling. During his time as a councillor, Cllr Miah has also been a member of various committees, such as Audit, Pensions, General Purposes, Development, Grant Scrutiny, Overview and Scrutiny, Standards Advisory, Human Resources. Cllr Miah currently sits on the Licensing Committee in addition to carrying out his Speaker duties.

By profession Cllr Miah is a Chartered Certified Accountant, with offices in Tower Hamlets where he provides assistance to members of the community

on a variety of issues.

Cllr Miah has been actively involved in the Bangladeshi community for over 15 years, participating in the work and projects of a wide range of organisations; including community organisations, charities and business groups.

The work of the community organisations and charities has included language classes, advice services, education and employment support, and campaigning on issues such as the closing of the local fire station.

Working with small businesses in the community as the chairperson of the Ocean Business Association, Cllr Miah campaigned for compensation and a right to return with reduced rent for those local businesses that lost revenue whilst the area was undergoing regeneration.

Cllr Miah has received various awards for his community work including one from Channel 5 and the Community Leadership Foundation.



Karim Miah (Shamim)

Sector:
Business

Karim Miah was born in London and his parents are from Rajnagar, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh and is the 5th child of seven siblings.

Mr Miah is a successful entrepreneur with a fleet of restaurants and fast food takeaways under his management in the South West. He has won numerous awards for his restaurants. He is also a keen property developer and has a property portfolio in the UK. He has a keen eye on developing flats that need attention and modernising to a high standard for his clients either to rent or to purchase. He is also the director of S & M property.

In his younger days Mr Miah attended South Camden Community School then continued his studies at Hammersmith and the West London College before moving to the South West to work in the Indian catering industry.

Mr Miah has always been a hard working and passionate man. He used his savings to eventually open his own take away after several years of planning. Now he enjoys looking after the chain of Restaurants and fast food takeaways in the South West.

He is a generous contributor to many charities starting locally in the UK to being a trustee of the Beani Bazar Cancer Hospital, Bangladesh and also actively participates in various charitable projects in Bangladesh. He is also trustee of al Itihaad madrasah in Bangladesh.

Mr Miah's most recent project is dealing with autism, where he is the chairman of the Autistic foundation. In Bangladesh he is currently establishing an autistic daycare centre for young and vulnerable children.

He is an assistant membership secretary of the Rajnagar Welfare Society UK, Secretary of European Probashi Bangladesh Association U.K., Vice President of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council in U.K. South West region, Co Founder and President of British Bangladesh Association South West, Co Founder and Chairman of Labour friends of Bangladesh South West Permanent member of Bangladesh Centre London, Life member of London Bangla Press Club

Mr Miah is active in his local community, playing a leading role in establishing the Islamic and Cultural Centre where he is currently serving as secretary.

Mr Miah likes spending time with his family and generally relaxing in his free time. He aspires to travel to as many places around the world to learn about the country and culture, travelling to different places is something he likes to do. Mr Miah also enjoys swimming with his sons and is a thrill seeker as he likes visiting many theme parks.

Mr Miah is married to Hasina Begum and they live in the South West with their three children, Ema, Ejaz and Ifraz.



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Anawar Babul Miah

Sector:

Legal / Politics

Mr Anawar Miah was born in Holiarpara, Jagganathpur Thana in the Sunamgonj region of Bangladesh. He is the son of Late Alhaj Barik Miah who settled in the United Kingdom in 1957 and is the Founding Chairman of a major British investment company.

Anawar was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1998. Anawar is the President of the British Bangladeshi Practising Barristers Association. Anawar is an expert on complex financial arrangements and international public law and he practices law from Great James Street Chambers near Chancery Lane in Central London. 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.

Aside from legal issues Anawar has written numerous articles on current affairs which have been published.

Anawar was also the Labour Party Parliamentary

Candidate for the General Elections in 2015 for his home constituency of Welwyn Hatfield in Hertfordshire where he achieved one of the biggest swings for Labour that year.

Anawar is married to Sony Sadaf Haroon, who is also a Barrister of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and she runs her own law firm in St Albans Hertfordshire United Kingdom. They have 4 children together.

Anawar's pastimes include travelling, reading English literature and studying traditional English architecture.



Faruk Miah MBE

Sector:

Education

Faruk Miah MBE is an award winning educator and preeminent thought leader on the Bangladeshi diaspora in the UK. A qualified ICT lecturer, Faruk has over 25 years of experience & expertise in Further Education and Community Learning sectors.

Faruk is currently a senior manager at the Adult & Community Learning section of London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council responsible for over 10,000 learners and 1,000+ part-time courses. He has played a key role in the improvement of standards, quality and results over the past 7 years.

Prior to his move to London, Faruk had a very successful career at Leeds City College, one of the largest further education institutions in the UK. Along with managing various different campuses across the city, he played an instrumental role in the development of the college's International Strategy. Working closely with the British Council, he was a frequent visitor to South Asia & Middle East to promote the College and recruit new students.

Faruk has received numerous national and international awards in recognition of his contribution to the Further Education sector. His proudest moment came in 2010 when he was awarded an MBE by Her Majesty the Queen for services to Further Education and the Community in Leeds.

Inspired by Common Purpose and supported by the British Council, Faruk is developing the Bangladeshi Diaspora Knowledge Network (BDKN), a forum to connect the Bangladeshi diaspora around the world. He is also currently working on a number of diaspora leadership development and recognition programmes.

Faruk is the secretary of Conservative Muslim Forum. The role has allowed him to engage with ordinary people who are interested in developing their knowledge & understanding of the political system in the UK. He has organised a number of very successful events in the Houses of Parliament as well as taking groups to the European Parliament in Brussels.

Faruk is the former host of the popular current affairs TV programme Community Matters which was aired on NTV (sky channel 838) until work commitments meant he had to give up the role. He is still a regular guest on various current affairs programmes on TV.

In recent years Faruk has devoted a substantial amount of his time on charitable causes. He is the founder of "JustSmiles" whose key aim is to make a small difference to the lives of the most vulnerable and needy in society both in UK and overseas.

Rohema Miah has worked in the parliamentary sphere for over 20 years. Her experience spans working for MPs, Ministers and Lords. Notably, she has worked for the Rt. Hon. Harriet Harman MP and Baroness Oona King of Bow, currently YouTube's Global Head of Diversity. She is currently the Political Advisor to Lord Robin Eames OM. Rohema continues to champion issues relating to social mobility, discrimination, inclusion and equality and holds a number of positions in the charity and voluntary sector.

Rohema was elected as the first female to the UK Bangladesh Catalysts of Commerce and Industry (UKBCCI) in February 2014 as a non-Executive board Member. This organisation exists to promote business between the UK and Bangladesh.

Having worked as a Consultant to local, national and international organisations and departments, Rohema has a record of establishing, strengthening and developing both new and existing relationships.

Her experience working with grassroots community organisations, along with various media, faith and disability groups, corporate, local and international NGOs gives her a great insight to the range of opportunities for positive impact. Rohema has demonstrated a commitment to end social exclusion and child poverty in addition to her campaign for sus-

tainable development. She has visited Bangladesh on numerous occasions with senior politicians and celebrities.

Ms Rohema Miah 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 co-ordinated 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 organization, 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.

As part of the Women's National Commission she was one of the core advisors for the Commission's 'She who Disputes' nationwide consultation that helped raise the issues around Muslim women in the UK and public policy. Rohema also works as a Trustee for the Henna Foundation UK – a charity committed to strengthening Muslim families in the UK.

Having successfully organized the Bangladesh e-Commerce fair in London in 2015, she has taken on further projects to promote and strengthen the role of women in ICT and is currently organizing global conferences in women inclusion in ICT.



Rohema Miah

Sector:
Civil Service

Jusna comes from Village Patkura, Mondoli Bhug, Jagannathpur. Daughter of Late Mr Anis Miah and Mrs Fulsea Khatun.

Jusna Begum Miah is a barrister and Partner at M R Solicitors LLP. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in November 1998.

Ms Miah completed her primary education in Bangladesh, before coming to the UK. She attended Mulberry School for Girls where she obtained seven GCSE's. She attended Tower Hamlets College to do her A' Levels and obtained three A Levels. She then read law at the University of Westminster.

After completing her LLB (Hons) she embarked on the Bar Finals at BPP Law School. After being called she has worked been providing legal services as a Barrister. She successfully opened up her own Practice in August 1998 called Mian Law Associates and later joined M R Solicitors LLP.

Prior to her legal career, Jusna Begum Miah worked for the NHS as 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 Association, to name a few. Ms Miah has been the 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 so since 1990. served as a delegate on EC, GMC and LGC and also a student and Youth officer for the Bethnal Green and Bow Constituency. She was also the Chiari for Whitechapel Ward from 2002 to 2004. In relation to Bangladeshi politics, Jusna held the position of the President of the UK BNP Mohila Dal and has represented the BNP at different platforms.

Jusna is a founding trustee for Bangladesh Female Academy UK and has been the Chair for two consecutive years a post she held from April 2007 – 2009. Jusna is a Trustee for the Brihottor Sylhet Education Trust and the Vice Chair of the Trust. She is also a Member of the International Bar Association.

Jusna Begum Miah makes regular appearances on the various British Bangladeshi television channels such as Channel S and ATN Banglad, including the talk shows and legal advice programmes.

She has also received numerous accolades, including the Channel S award in 2006. Furthermore, Jusna feels very passionate about women empowerment and has worked for charitable organisation.



Jusna Begum Miah

Sector:
Legal



Sheikh Sujat Miah

Sector:

Politics & Community relations

Sheikh Sujat Miah is internationally renowned for his politics, social service and hard work to alleviate poverty. He is the elected MP in the last election held in 2011 in Hobigunj.

Mr. Miah was born in 1957 in Hobigunj to the veteran social worker Al-Haj Abdul Jabbar and Sheikh Amina Bibi Choudhury. He came to the UK in 1969 and passed his BSc from Loughborough College, England. He also underwent a training of hotel and catering management, and health and security matters.

At present Mr. Miah has a business in the UK worth £2.5 millions. He owns the renowned restaurant 'Mughal-E-Ajam' which is the winner of many awards for excellent service. The other businesses are Himalayas Tandoori Restaurant, Kohinoor Tandoori, Star of India, export-import organisation Sheikh Enterprise and property business Rothvale Properties Limited. He has different businesses in Nobigunj, including Sharif Timber Merchant, Ashab Medical Stores Golden Plaza Shopping Centre.

Mr Miah is also known for his charitable activities in Bangladesh. He contributed to the building of

Chargaon Primary School, Balla-Dhaipur Kalasha Academy, mosque in the Mirpur Girls High School, Narpur Madrasah. He was the convenor of Nottingham Youth Cultural Society of Bangladesh and member of the executive committee of Nottingham Islamic Centre. He is also the chairman of Nottinghamshire Bangladesh Cultural and Welfare Society, chair of the East Midland region of Bangladesh Caterers Association, chair of the East Midland region of Greater Sylhet Council and executive member of the Dine Bangladeshi Campaign in UK.

Mr. Miah has been active in politics for a long time. He has been serving as the BNP East Midland President since 1981. He was elected as the MP from Nobigunj-Bahubol constituency in 1996. He was re-elected in 2011. During his last tenure while the Khaleda Zia government was ruling the country, he was instrumental in managing two ambulances in the Nobigunj-Bahubol Health Complex.

Mr Miah is married to Abeda Sultana. They have three daughters and two sons.



Sufi Miah

Sector:

Media/Real Estate

Sufi Miah is the Managing Director of ATN Bangla UK, a director of the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and a successful property developer with a portfolio of properties in the UK and abroad.

Sufi moved his home in 2004 from a deprived part of West London to a luxury villa in one of UK's most expensive areas of Cuffley, Hertfordshire. He owns a fleet of luxury vehicles ranging from Aston Martin to Range Rover but Sufi still remembers his humble days when he did not have enough money for a bus fare.

Sufi Miah and his family came to the UK in the early 1980's, he is the third son of Haji Abdur Rahman, and was born in Chandshir Kapon village of Bishwanath in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh.

His early childhood life started from a deprived inner city London borough, living in a small over-crowded flat in a council block, his parents worked hard to support the family. Sufi attended Sir William Collins School but seeing his parents struggle to support the family he took on the challenge to improve their situation and to give them a better quality of life.

He would get up very early before school started, so that he could go out and distribute local newspapers. After school he worked at a local confectionary shop until late in the evening. And during the weekends he worked outside in the cold on a market stall in Camden Market, where he would start work at the crack of dawn and finished his shift in the evening. The money that he made he gave it to his parent so they don't have to work so hard. Sufi's determination came from his father, a hardworking man who gave up everything for his children and always taught them to strive to become better people.

Sufi described those early teenage years of his life as the defining moment of his life. He says with a passion: "I was someone that took challenges in life in my stride. I worked hard, knowing that I had to take responsibility, helping my father to support my family. In those years I learnt the values of hard work, family commitment and dedication that has made me

the person I am today".

It was clear that at a young age Sufi had an entrepreneurial spirit and with his early days of working on the market stalls gave him the street-smart edge that enabled him to spot a deal. Sufi's first business venture was in buying and selling cars, he did that on the side of his full-time job at Clarks. The car sales was making him profit but not enough to make a real difference, as someone for whom Sir Richard Branson was the ultimate role model, that was never going to be enough.

He decided to research and explore the opportunities in the property investment market. And with his father's advice and guidance he embarked on the property ladder and made his first house purchase at the tender age of just 20 years old. That was the catalyst for a successful property portfolio that he has grown from the mid 1990's and that is still growing today. Sufi is currently developing high-end luxury villas across Greater London.

Sufi is actively involved in various charitable programmes and is currently supporting poor people in a village in Zakigonj, Bangladesh, where he solely funds the running of a Madrasha. In the near future he intends to develop this Madrasha to help students who wish to complete a Hafiz course.

Sufi is married to Mrs Shumi Islam, who is also his business partner and they are blessed with 4 children, Sahil, Isha, Niyaz and Eva.

Sufi and his son Sahil are passionate supporters of Arsenal football club and they are both season ticket holders. Sahil is a talented footballer and is currently being professionally coached and is keen to play professional football. However if he has any of his fathers' dedication, skill and commitment, he already possesses the strong foundations to make this a reality.



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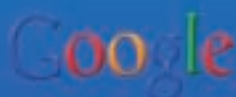
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Mr Mohammed Zilu Miah

Sector:
Business

Mr Mohammed Zilu Miah was born in Bangladesh in the village of Gumgumiah, Nobigonj in Hobigonj to his father Haji Alkas Miah and his mother Haji Rupban Begum. He arrived in the UK in 1988 at the age of 14 and currently lives in Birmingham with his wife Mrs Shopna Begum and their four children, Shaniz, Shazad, Samiul and Riyana.

This year Mr Miah became the Chairman of the famous London Tigers semi professional Football Club as well as the Director of the Al Falah Investments Ltd.

Mr Miah being a very ambitious determined and an enthusiastic individual started work at A One engineering firm at the age of 16. He then became the owner and bought the same engineering firm at the age of 18 years old. Mr Miah also owned a supermarket called Wattville Super Market Ltd at the age of 19 years old he run both company until he started to grow his property portfolio, Since then Mr Miah is involved and has become director of the following companies: M S A Investment Ltd in 2005, Liberty Estate Agents Ltd in 2007, Bombay Palace Ltd in 2008, Red Peppers Ltd in 2009, Excelsior Sylhet Hotel and Resort in 2011 and A TO Z Distributions Ltd in 2014. Mr Miah is looking forward to opening few more companies in near future. Mr Miah bought his first property at the age of 19 years old and now has multi millions pounds property portfolio and has vast experience in development and management of land and properties in UK,

Bangladesh and in Dubai.

As an expatriate philanthropist he frequently visits his motherland Bangladesh and donates generously to many charities and organisations this year Mr Miah arranged the supply of electricity in three villages Gumgumia, Halimpur and Korgaon of Nabiganj under Habiganj district in Bangladesh. It benefited 475 families of these villages who long-awaited connection of electricity supply line. He also installed internet in his village which meant Local schools, madrasahs and colleges have entered into a new era of advancement due to his contribution.

Being a friendly, humble and easy going person Mr Miah has made his biggest contribution to his village by solely funding and building a beautiful mosque on three acres of land which could cater for over 700 people to pray at the same time, which is highly appreciated by his village. Mr Miah has also built a Bangladeshi independent monument a shohid minor in memory of the martyrs of Bangladesh in his village. It doesn't stop there, due to lack of skilled teachers he himself pays for two extra teachers to teach and pays for students to study in his village school Mr Miah also contribute toward the cost for the medication to the hospital in his village for the people of his village and other near villages. Mr Miah's hobbies include playing football, swimming and playing snooker.



Rowshanara Moni

Sector:
Arts

Rowshanara Moni was born in the Moulvibazar district town in Bangladesh. She is the sixth child of Late Mohammed Samroo who was a very well known business man in the UK, and Syeda Sofia Kanum, her mother who was actively involved in politics in Bangladesh.

Rowshanara Moni has completed her primary education in Bangladesh and came to the UK in 1984 when she was only 10 years old. She completed her education in the UK.

She has been singing since the age of six. Music is her passion and she can live for it. After coming to UK she joined Dishari Shilpi Gushti and performed in many stage programmes. When she was only 11 she performed in the Royal Albert Hall for the "Save the Children Foundation" and she was singing in front of the honourable guest Princess Anne.

In 1985 she took part in the Bengali Song Contest which was organised by Tower Hamlets Borough, and won 1st prize in Folk song. In 1986 she won 2nd prize in folk song and modern song and 1987 and 1988 she won 2nd prize in modern song and folk song. She has received many other awards and certificates from different organisations. Apart from singing she took great interest in acting. The first stage drama she took part in is "Khotto Bikkhoto" in Camden and she also took part in many other stage dramas. She acted in the first Bangla TV (UK)

drama, which was called "Laal Golap" written by Abdul Gaffer Chowdhury. Rowshanara Moni regularly took part in radio dramas in the "Sunrise Radio" Bengali department with Azizul Hakim. She became well known to the Bangladeshi community as a result. She was a presenter for "Sunrise Radio" in the Bengali department.

At the age of 18 she got married in Bangladesh to Mr Mohammed Iqbal who was a Civil Engineer at the Water Development Board in Bangladesh. She has one child who is called Aynan Shabab Iqbal.

Rowshanara Moni sang in all leading channels in the UK and from time to time she goes to Europe to perform.

In July 2009 she organised a fund raising event for the late baul shamraat Shah Abdul Karim and raised £10000 for his rehabilitation. In 2010 she has again organised a thanks giving award to those who helped raise £10000 for baul shamraat Shah Abdul Karim in 2009.

She is involved in charity work too. In addition, she has great interest in politics both in the UK and Bangladesh. She is the current Women Affairs Secretary for the Bangladesh Nationalist Party in UK. At present she is working full time in NHS as a medical administrator.

Cllr Mukit MBE has lived and worked in Tower Hamlets for 43 years and was amongst the first few Bangladeshis in the East End to receive the Queen's Award in the Millennium Year, for youth and community development. He has a passion for politics and advancing community interests.

Cllr Mukit MBE has established a continuous record of working for the community. His achievements include setting up numerous youth initiatives; the Sylhet Friends Society, Bangladesh Sports Association, UWA, Progressive Youth Organisation, Boundary Community School, Weavers Community Trust and a host of other parent and community forums.

In addition Cllr Mukit MBE also received the House of Lords British Muslim Honorary Award in 2001. His dedication and commitment has extended to a variety of causes including combatting racism and building positive race relations in the 1970's and 1980's, as well involvement in setting up projects in the East End in more recent years in support of youth and community development, housing, educational achievement, health and employment.

As Chair of the Human Resources Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee for Tower Hamlets

Council he played a crucial role in promoting good governance. He is the trustee for Spitalfields Market Trust and for many years chaired the Spitalfields Housing Association, and he continues to play a leading role in its development. He was responsible for setting up the first community regeneration project, the Spitalfields Small Business Association. At present he is a school governor at St Matthias Primary School.

Cllr Mukit MBE has a long association with local residents and community groups, he believes in sustained community development and the promotion of racial harmony and justice. Tower Hamlets represents a rich culture and diverse community and Cllr Mukit MBE is committed to working with everyone.



Cllr M.A Mukit MBE

Sector:
Politics

Mr Mahi Muqit PhD FRCOphth is a Consultant Vitreo-retinal Surgeon at Moorfields Eye Hospital, and an Honorary Clinical Lecturer at the Institute of Ophthalmology at UCL, London. The Moorfields practices are based in central London and South London plus emergency services across London and the surrounding areas. He has subspecialist expertise in Vitreoretinal Surgery, Cataract Surgery, Diabetes, Medical Retina, and Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) screening/treatments in premature babies. His PhD research pioneered new laser treatments for diabetic patients. He is a co-author of the UK "Diabetic Retinopathy Guidelines" for the Royal College of Ophthalmologists, and the international "ICO Guidelines for Diabetic Eye Care" with the International Council of Ophthalmology.

He is the UK Chief Investigator for a clinical trial at Moorfields Eye Hospital that is investigating the use of a new electronic retinal implant "bionic eye" system for blind patients. He was the first UK surgeon to implant the device in 2016.

In the last 3 years, he has developed a renowned and highly successful independent private practice at Moorfields Private and Harley Street. This private enterprise provides high quality eye care and eye surgery for UK and London patients, overseas Bangladeshi and international patients (www.retinasurgeon.uk.com).

He has worked for over 7 years in the international voluntary sector, focused on training and setting up screen-

ing programmes in the area of diabetic eye disease. He works as a voluntary consultant for Helen Keller International (HKI), and is currently involved with several innovative diabetic retinopathy screening projects based in Bangladesh (Dhaka, Chittagong) and Indonesia. He is part of a research team that have been awarded the prestigious "Innovation Grant" from Seeing Is Believing charity and Standard Chartered Bank, and they have been successful on three occasions (2013-2016) for international charitable projects aimed at programmes to reduce the burden of global blindness. He regularly visits Bangladesh to conduct training workshops for local doctors, nurses and health community workers.

As recognition for his international and UK reputation in the sector of retinal surgery, diabetes, and international work, he was invited to be an advisor to the World Health Organisation (WHO) for the Global Diabetic Retinopathy Consultation in 2016.

He is a member of Diabetic Retinopathy Working Group (DRWG) International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB); a member of the Diabetic Eye Care Committee for the ICO; and, Specialist Adviser to the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for the Interventional Procedures Programme in the UK.



Mahi Muqit PhD

Sector:
Medicine



Award Winner 2017



Md Harun Miah

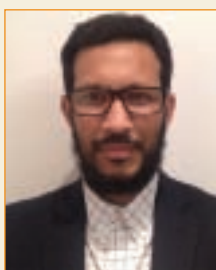
Sector:
Finance

Harun Miah comes from the village of Lamachandarpur, Post office Chandarpur Bazar in Golapgonj Upazilla of the Sylhet District. His father is Alhaj Moboshir Ali and his mother is Surojan Bibi. He is the eldest among three siblings. Mr Miah came to UK in 1972 where he completed his O'Level. He lived in the Tower Hamlets Borough since 1972 and established his residence and business empire in E1 area. Md Harun Miah is married to Minara Begum and they have four children, two sons and two daughters. Both daughters and one son is now married. Other son is pursuing his education. Mr Miah is an eminent business personality and established social worker. Harun Miah plays 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 the country. Harun Miah is one of the Trustees of London based Bangladesh Centre, member of the Bangladesh Welfare Association UK, Member of the Golapgonj Education Trust, Founder member of Al Emdad High School and College. Chairman of Al-Emdad Degree College Trust UK. Director of UK Bangladesh Catalysts of Commerce & Industry(UKBCCI). He is also a Permanent Member of Sylhet Club Limited.

He was also the treasurer of the Golden Jubilee Cel-

ebration Committee of Al Emdad High School and College. He personally contributed and help raise over £100000 and continuing to raise till now for Al-Emdad, as well as being a member of the British Cheque Cashers Association and UKMTA . Mr Miah owns a number of business under the Kushiara name which includes 'Kushiara Cash and Carry', Kushiara Financial Services Limited 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 . 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.

He is a Director of Shahjalala Islami Bank in Bangladesh and has been appointed as Vice Chairman of the bank from 2010 to 2013 and 2016 to 2017 respectively. He is also a director of Shahjalal Islami Bank Security Limited. He holds directorship in Pritom Hotel Dhaka and current Chair of the organisation. Mr Miah has been a long serving pillar of the community not only as a distinguished social worker but as a successful business man setting up beneficial organisations in the UK and in Bangladesh and has been dividing his time between both countries effectively.



Molik Dobir Miah

Sector:
Catering

Molik Dobir is a successful businessman and a community activist based in Leeds, West Yorkshire.

He is the managing director of the very successful Bengal Brasserie chain of restaurants. He started off with the first branch in York back in 1995. His latest venture is the flagship restaurant next to Leeds Arena with a capacity of 120 diners offering the very best in modern India cuisine. With 7 different branches in York, Leeds, Wetherby and Market Weighton, Bengal Brasserie is one of the most successful British-Bangladeshi restaurant chains in the United Kingdom.

Over the years Bengal Brasserie branches have won numerous local and national accolades including; CIEH National curry chef 2002 regional winner, shortlisted among the top six Indian restaurant in the North of England and the top 30 in the country by British Curry Awards in 2005, Bengal Brasserie chain scooped a top award at the British fusion food festival in Dhaka Bangladesh in 2007 organised by Curry Life magazine and winner of Curry Life chef of the year 2012/13.

Molik Dobir is a caring and compassionate man. An outstanding citizen and well respected amongst his peers. He has devoted most of his adult life serving

the local community in Leeds. He has served as a Director of Leeds Bangladeshi Community Centre since 1994 including a period as the Secretary. As a devout Muslim, he has been a long-time supporter and Management Committee Member of Shahjalal Jamia Masjid Leeds. He had the privilege to serve as Chairman in 2013/14.

Molik Dobir's generosity has not just been restricted to the Bangladeshi community in Leeds alone. In fact, his donations and support of Save the Children opened up the door to him meeting HRH Princess Anne on two separate occasions in 1997 and 2008. He has also been a generous donor to St Leonard's Hospice, Age Concern, British Heart Foundation, St Gemma's Hospital to name just a few charities.

On the International front, Molik Dobir is the current Chairman of the Trustee Board of Jamia Darul Quaran Sylhet, Bangladesh as well as a regular donor to various other charities in Bangladesh.

In 2007 Molik Dobir was featured in a book titled "Enlightened Bangladeshis in Britain" published by AFM Sayeed in Bangladesh. In 2016 Molik Dobir received a NTV Recognition Award for his contribution as a Business Friend of NTV.



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Abul Monsur

Sector:
Catering

Abul Monsur is an award-winning curry chef who has been a leading figure in the development of British curry cuisine during the past 30 years.

His restaurant group, the Taj Cuisine is based in Medway, Kent, priding itself for being the most popular eateries specialising in food from the Indian subcontinent.

Abdul Monsur runs two popular award-winning restaurants in Chatham's Walderslade and a take-away in Lower Stoke, Kent.

The Kent's hardest working restaurateur and chef manage a team of 20 and still personally prepare all his businesses' sauces and marinades as part of his hands-on approach.

Chef Abul Monsur is committed to pushing the boundaries and continues to evolve our trademark to give people a unique dining experience in the Kent region. His passion for cooking came from his mother and he began his apprenticeship as a teenager working in a succession of restaurants. His first full-time position as a chef came courtesy of his father who was opening a takeaway business.

His 'job interview' was cooking a meal for his father who proceeded to eat it without comment before disappearing upstairs to talk with his wife.

The general consensus was 'the boy can cook.' Abul is one of an elite group of 'best of British' chefs

who participated in the Taste of Britain Curry Festival which tours the world promoting the unique style of British Indian fusion cooking that has developed in the UK.

During the Curry Life's Taste of Britain festival, Abul had the opportunity to work alongside highly acclaimed Michelin starred chefs like, Dominic Chapman, Mark Poynton and Rupert Rowley. Purpose of this globe trotting food festival is to showcase the best of British cuisine, including British curry. Abul has been actively part of this Great British food promotion for almost a decade.

His awards include Curry Chef of the Year from his local council. Despite achieving high in his profession, he remains an approachable and affable mentor keen to pass on his skills and techniques onto a new generation of emerging chefs.

His restaurant group, the Taj Cuisine is also well known for its generosity for organising annual fund raising event at the restaurants for raising money for local needy charities.

Abul Monsur is married to Fahmida Chowdury. They have 6 daughters and 4 sons. Abul Monsur was born in Bon Gaon village of Jagannath Pur, Sylhet Bangladesh. He came to the UK with his parents at the age of 8 in 1973.



Mahbub Murshed

Sector:
Accountancy & Media

Mahbub Murshed is a name for his role in making accountancy an art, bringing accountancy into the drawing room and creating a new dimension to his profession. His success story is now a sensation in the British Bangladeshi community and media. His live TV programme, "Accountancy with Mahbub Murshed" is probably the first ever and the longest running accounting and tax advisory programme in the known world. This only happened because of his vision, hard work, dedication and passion.

Mahbub Murshed, a Certified Practising Accountant, was born in 1962 in Tangail, Bangladesh. Having acquired a government scholarship from Bangladesh in 1982, he went to Bulgaria to study Computer Engineering at Technical University of Varna.

It was from here that he would graft his way to create one of the largest accountancy firms in East London. Upon arrival in Britain in 1987, it became evident that a qualification from a former communist country was not going to be easy for him to acquire a job in his field. With this in mind, he made the brave decision of starting from scratch and changing his path to accountancy. It was late Mr MS Zoha, a prominent Bengali accountant, who inspired Mr Mahbub. Mr Mahbub used to work for one of Mr Zoha's clients and the turning point of his life was when he went to Mr Zoha's office to collect his P45 and being offered a job in his office in 1991. Instead of using the conventional method of manual book keeping and accounting, Mr Mahbub became the pioneer among British Bangladeshis by using his computer programming skills to write his own software.

After being in the shadow of Mr Zoha for nearly 10 years and gaining invaluable work experience and academic qualifications, Mr Mahbub decided to set up his own accountancy firm, Mahbub and Co, in 2001 with his younger brother Shah Arif. Starting off with just one employee and a handful of small clients, it was a huge risk for anyone to start with a fragile business in a competitive market. But through dedication, multi-

lingual skills and sincerity, Mr Mahbub was able to expand his business from strength to strength. His friendly professional approach towards his clients has given him a name, "The Accountant with a Smile".

Additionally Mr Mahbub has supported many of the youth with work experience and career development. Currently Mahbub and Co is holding the ACCA Gold status as an employer, awarded only to the firms which provide high quality work experience in accountancy. After serving the community for more than a decade, Mr Mahbub launched his new and unique initiative to fulfil the community's need for accountancy related issues. He is the key person together with NTV Europe to start producing the programme "Accountancy with Mahbub Murshed". He believes in empowering the community. So, rather than bringing the people to the accountant's office he went live on TV to answer the questions in his own capacity.

Being inspired by the success of this TV programme, he decided to set up a training institute in conjunction with his firm where school leavers, accounting students, newly qualified accountants and unemployed people could gain hands-on training and practical knowledge. The initial purpose of this training programme was to break the vicious circle of "not getting a job without experience and no experience could be gained without a job". Mr Mahbub devotes time from his relentless schedule to teach the students.

He also sponsors charities, sports, cultural and community activities.

Mr Mahbub is passionate about photography and gardening. His amateur, yet artistic photography is loved by the wider audiences in social media. He plays badminton, listens to music and watches cricket.

Mr Mahbub is married to Nilufa Murshed, daughter of a well known Sylheti businessman of the 1960s – Mr Mosahid Ali. Their son, Nayeem Murshed, has graduated in Biochemistry from Imperial College London, and daughter, Nimah Murshed, is an A Level student.



Award Winner 2015

Better known as Pasha Khandaker, he is the former President of the Bangladesh Caterers Association. He is the chairman of Reliance West Mallings Limited and Principal partner of Ghandi Tandoori restaurant, in West Mallings, Kent and Gandhi Tandoori at Rye in East Sussex. Both of these have been established businesses for the last 25 years. His third venture in the restaurant sector is Curry Lounge in 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 pursued a career in the restaurant business. Throughout his academic life he was heavily involved in various extra curricular activities such as student politics, setting up voluntary organizations.

Mr Khandaker served continuously on the previous national executive committees of BCA and became the Senior Vice President in 2003. Then he was Secretary General up to June 2012. Mr Pasha has been a featured participant in various industry forums. He has served on a number of non-profit organizations, including the Kent police as a social

trainer and was active as Senior Executive of Kent Muslim forum. He also worked as a coordinator for South East Human Rights. He is a Labour party activist and worked as the CLP secretary of his party. Throughout his career in the curry industry, he has continually established connections with many high profile policy makers through his participation in the Chamber of Commerce, local council and police and several informal business groups. Currently he is working relentlessly to raise the standard of curry industry as well as those who are related with this creative industry.

Mr Pasha is married to Mrs Dipika Pasha and the couple are blessed with two children, a boy and a girl. They reside in Kent and are actively engaged in the various social welfare activities in their neighbourhood.

In personal life Mr Pasha is very cordial and amiable, He is always engaged to serve the distressed people. He has a wide range of interests including reading, gardening, traveling and updating himself with the latest world affairs.



Mr Nur-ur Rahman Khandaker Pasha MBE
Sector:
Catering



Award Winner 2012

Nazmul Islam Nuru arrived to the UK in 1977 at the age of 17 and has established himself as a businessman since the 1980s in the UK as well as Bangladesh. He has connections in various businesses as well as being involved within the community in numerous charity organisations.

Mr Nuru is involved in many business developments and activities. He holds the post of the Director of Finance for Shahjalal Islamic Bank BD, where he represents 75,000 shareholders. He is also the founder of the renowned Kushiara Islamic Hospital, Asirgonj Golapgonj. His involvement in the property market includes Property Management of Windsor and Osmani Housing Prokolpo Airport Road Sylhet. His business activities also include Viceroy Group Restaurant UK and Grand Eating Ltd. Mr Nuru's business portfolio diversifies as he works with Fairview Enterprise Ltd in addition to Monica Enterprise BD.

Mr Nuru's contributions towards the community cannot go unnoticed. He is the Director of Finance for the UK BCCI, he had held the post of the Vice President of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (BBCC). He is very recognized within the Bangladeshi Community, having previously been a Trustee of Bangladesh Centre and a current member of Bangladesh catering Association. Mr Nuru is also a Founder Trustee of Mother & Child UK.

Some of his previous positions held have been the Chairman of Golapgonj Education Trust UK, Treas-

urer of Greater London Bangladesh Catering Association and Managing Director of Sylhet Dak Weekly UK. Mr Nuru was also a Member of Management Committee of Bangladesh Welfare Association and of Shoid Miner Altab Ali Park.

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



Nazmul Islam Nuru
Sector:
Business



Syed Nahas Pasha

Sector:
Media



Award Winner 2017

Syed Nahas Pasha is one of the most respected and senior British-Bangladeshi journalists working in the UK. His fledgling career began writing for school magazines and then writing for various literary titles. He edited the literary magazine in Bangladesh called Eeshan. Nahas moved to the UK in mid-1970s when he was in his late teens.

He has spent nearly three decades in the industry and held the editorship of several of the country's leading Bengali newspapers including his current role with Janomot, as editor in chief.

His passion for writing and leadership contributed to a rise in both the quality of journalism and readership of the titles as well as guiding them into the digital age.

Nahas is also an overseas correspondent for a national newspaper in Bangladesh, a bureau chief with bd-news24.com, and regularly appears on TV and radio talking about issues affecting the Asian community at home and abroad.

He is elected Vice President of the Commonwealth Journalists Association, an international organisation which has branches across the commonwealth. Syed Nahas Pasha is a founding member of the London Bangla Press Club and in January 2017 was elected as President of the club, a powerful organisation of British Bangladeshi journalists in the UK. He is also advisor to the BB Power & Inspiration100 List which celebrates the achievements of the British-Bangladeshi community.

Syed Nahas Pasha has successfully campaigned on many major issues including the British Bengali representation in the UK Parliament. He has met many world politicians and dignitaries including Her Majesty the Queen and Nelson Mandela.

His expertise on social and economic affairs at home and abroad has seen him advise the Home Office and Foreign

and Commonwealth Office on various issues including radicalisation, forced marriages, immigration and overseas work permits.

This includes accompanying ministerial visits to the EU and acting in an advisory role for visiting dignitaries to the Indian subcontinent. With an insatiable passion for travel, Nahas has journeyed to many countries to cover international conferences.

His love of writing and food reflect two passions of Bengali culture and, along with his brother, he has championed the UK's multi-billion-pound curry industry for more than a decade.

This includes an international food festival, the Taste of Britain Food Festival, which showcases the talents of British curry chefs, and promotes British food throughout the Indian subcontinent, Europe and the Middle East.

Nahas is also founder and editor-in-chief of Curry Life Magazine since 2003, a bi-monthly publication distributed free throughout the UK, which offers a lively mix of industry news, reviews and features. As the only independent magazine in the field, the publication has been described as the "voice of the curry industry." One of Nahas' Pasha's key aims is to connect with restaurateurs and chefs at the grass roots of the curry industry through the magazine, and he works tirelessly to foster and promote their businesses at a national and international level.

His unique insight of the trade comes from having owned a restaurant himself during the 1980s and he is focused on helping and promoting the industry through many events, such as Curry Life Awards, Business Awards and Curry Life Culinary Workshop.

Syed Nahas Pasha was born in 1957, in Sylhet, Bangladesh. He is married to Syeda Murshida Pasha and has two daughters and one son.



Biplab Poddar

Sector:
Law

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

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

Mr Poddar's devotedness and interest in his profession has brought him a unique recognition within his professional community. He has had many reported cases, not to mention, being recognised as a filing solicitor of Alam and Others v Secretary of

State for Home Department [2013] to the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. The case itself provided a substantive amount of inspiration and attachment to his profession.

Many scholars believe that the case would bring justice and fairness to many immigrants as it has raised issues on Human Rights, discrimination, Conflict of Law by Parliament and Home Secretary's failure of providing guidance. The case would be a huge breakthrough in immigration law. Mr Poddar has successfully won a few cases of Judicial Review, where many of them have been settled by Home Secretary before hearing.

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

Rabin Paul is a well-established and respected individual who has made significant contributions in the Bangladeshi community. Originally from Tajpur, Sylhet, he is a man of honesty, self-belief, integrity and has a great vision. His father, the late Ranadhir Paul, was the Assistant Headteacher at Sharpur Azad Bokht High School and later became the reputed

Headteacher of Goulabazar High School. His mother, Shikha Rani Paul, was a teacher at Tajpur Primary School.

In 1994, Rabin came to London midway through studying for his BSc at the Sylhet MC College.

Despite this, his ambitious nature led him to become involved in business in 2002 and he has since enjoyed continuous success as the Managing Director of General Auto Services – one of the most successful and recognised claims-management companies in the community.

Also, in 2011, Rabin became the Public Relations Secretary of the Bangladesh Awami League UK.

Furthermore, in 2013, Rabin became one of the Founder Directors of NRB Bank Ltd – one of Bangladesh's first non-resident banks – and has contributed immensely to its success by suggesting and enforcing a range of innovative ideas. This has en-

abled the bank to provide nonresident Bangladeshis with a stable platform through which they can invest in Bangladesh in a safer and smarter way.

Having a deep understanding of the importance of education, Rabin was the General Secretary and is presently the Chairman of the Balagonj Osmani Nagar Education Trust UK. In addition, he was the General Secretary of the election commission of this organisation. He has donated generously to and is a life member of the Mangalchandi Nishikanta High School, is a founding member of the Balagonj College, and is also a life member of both the Goulabazar Public Library and Balagonj Press Club.

Rabin is the Vice Chairman of the Bangladesh Hindu Association and the General Secretary of the London region. He is also the General Secretary of Sanaton Association. Furthermore, he is a donor member of the Kashipara Shiva Temple, Biswanath Seva Ashram, Luknath Temple, Shrimongol and Kadipur Shiv Bari (Kulaura) as well as other religious establishments. He is also one of the donor members of Mogbelpur Osmania Madrasah, Mullapara Dakhil Madrasah and other Islamic learning institutions.

Rabin is married to Shilpi and they are blessed with three children.



Robin Paul

Sector:
Business

Miss Qureshi, known as Ruby, originates from Sunamganj district in Bangladesh. Her late father, Advocate Shah Abdul Malik Qureshi was a renowned lawyer, politician and a freedom fighter in Bangladesh with a successful career span of 30 years until his sudden death in year 2000. Her father played a key role in her decision to pursue a career at the Bar. She completed her primary education in Bangladesh and arrived in the UK at the age of 12. She continued with her further studies in UK and currently holds LLB (Hons) and LLM in Criminal Litigation, Sentencing and Human Rights. She embarked upon on a life at the bar to fulfil her late father's dream.

Dilruba was called to the bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 2002. She started her pupillage with Mitre Court Chambers which specialised in Landlord and tenant and bankruptcy matters. Thereafter commenced tenancy with Mitre Court Chambers dealing with Criminal defence, Immigration and civil litigation.

She joined Temple Court Chambers in 2008 December and continued to practice in the field of Immigration, Employment, Family law and Civil litigation. At present she is the deputy head of Temple Court chambers and also chair of the management committee. She is further responsible for managing and establishing international annexes for Temple Court Chambers.

Miss Qureshi stems from a family of high achievers. Her eldest sister, Israth Qureshi is a clinical scientist and at present resides in Aberdeen with her husband and two children. Two of her siblings have also followed her father's footsteps and at present practising as a qualified solicitor and in-house legal complaints officer and others are successfully engaged in different sectors. Miss Qureshi along with her family members are deeply proud of their Bangladeshi identity and being able to make a contribution to the society and their community through their services.



Dilruba Qureshi

Sector:
Legal (Barrister)



Anis Rahman OBE JP
Sector:
Legal (Barrister)



Award Winner 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 City University.

Anis Rahman was called to the English Bar from the Honourable Society of Inner Temple and is now an accredited Pupil Master. He is a member of 12 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn.

Mr Rahman has a civil litigation background and specialises in Aviation, Employment, Housing, Family, Landlord and Tenant, Defamation, Immigration and Asylum, International Law as well as Human Rights and Judicial Review. He has been given the direct public access status by the Bar Council, which means that the public can go to him directly for advice and representation.

Outside of his profession, Mr Rahman has devoted much of his adult life in improving the quality of life of other people both here in the UK and also overseas. His achievements include the creation of United Nations Student Society combined Universities in London in 1969 as well as assisting disadvantaged British Bangladeshis. He was also the President of the United Nations Society at International Students House, London. Anis Rahman is a trustee of Toynbee Hall in East London, where he was one of the pioneers

who established the free legal advice clinic. He is also a trustee of the Council of Anti-Slavery International. Additionally, he was a trustee and Advisor of the World Peace Forum, which is a charity that promotes world peace and is run under the Nelson Mandela Children's fund.

Mr Rahman also played an important role during the liberation movement, when he joined the Bangladesh Liberation movement in the UK and became a founder member of the famous Bangladeshi Student's Action Committee. Anis Rahman has served as a Justice of the Peace since 1990. Furthermore, he has been serving as an honorary legal advisor to the Muslim Council of Britain, Toynbee Hall, The Muslim News, British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh Caterers Association, Bangladesh Centre, Bangla TV and the Euro Bangla.

Mr Anis Rahman is a private and family man, he is married to Nadia Rahman, a French national. His wife has a French degree, as well as a BA (Hons) degree in Business Administration and an MBA with Distinction from the University of London.

Anis Rahman has worked relentlessly as a barrister which has led to much of his success, and in addition has provided the British Bangladeshi community with an extensive amount of support and assistance, making him one of the recognisable personalities in the legal arena. In recognition of his endeavors, Mr Rahman was awarded an OBE by Her Majesty the Queen for his services to Bangladeshis and the legal arena in 2009.



Ataur Rahman
Sector:
Legal/Community Relations

Mr Ataur Rahman has been Managing Director of Jalalabad Law Associates since 2001, dealing with legal protection of Immigration and Asylum seekers, Human Rights Cases, Family Unity cases and has been appearing before the Asylum & Immigration Tribunal regularly since 2000. Prior to this he was an employed Barrister at Mathews Solicitors, Elephant & Castle.

Mr Rahman achieved his LLB (Hons) Degree in 1998 from London Guildhall University. He has been a member of The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn since 1998 and was called to the Bar in 2000. He obtained his BSS (Hons) MSS in Political Science under the Dhaka University (Jagannath College). Moreover, he studied law at Dhaka Law College (LLB) and before coming to the UK in 1990, he was a practising lawyer at the Dhaka Bar since Oct 1987 and has been enrolled with the Bangladesh Supreme Court since 1991.

Ataur Rahman makes regular media appearances on community channels such as Bangla TV, Channel S and previously on Vectone Bangla. He has also been a member of the Greater Sylhet Welfare & Development Council in the UK for 15 years and was the General Secretary from 2002 to 2008. He was also a

Founding Assistant General Secretary to the Nottinghamshire Bangladesh Cultural & Welfare Society between 1991 and 1996 and Project Co-ordinator of Jalalabad Skills Audit for Bangladeshi Community funded by Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham Task Force.

Ataur Rahman is an experienced campaigner, taking local issues, which have broader relevance on to the national stage. He has 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.

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

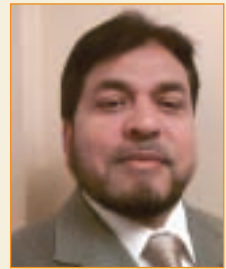
Mr Rahman is also involved in investment properties, as well as being an investor in many projects in Bangladesh; he is the Director of Dreamland amusement park in Sylhet, first amusement park in Bangladesh and the Director of Valley city resort in Sylhet.

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

Mr Rahman is currently the Chairman of Nayabondor education welfare society UK (NEWS UK), meeting financial needs for Nayabondor High School and College, among other schools

madrasas, mosques and other welfare programmes in his area.

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



Akik F Rahman

Sector:

Business

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

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

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

To compliment his skills and talent, he provides chef consultancy, training and other curricular activities to develop the craft of cooking. Chef Atik has been honoured to be a private chef of the great Sheikh Bin Zayed who is the king of Arab Emirates. His first

Major achievement was when he won the chef of the year 2007 award and in the following year he also won the British chef of the year.

Atik has now opened up his own show called Atik recipe on channel 9 every Sunday which is his main show alongside Atik's kitchen on NTV and Roshogor on Bangla TV. All programmes allow his viewers to learn the craft of Atik's unique cooking.



Atikur Rahman

Sector:

Catering/ Media



Habib Rahman

Sector:

Legal/NGO

Habib Rahman is the Chief Executive of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI), a high profile national independent organisation, which exists to campaign for justice in immigration, nationality, asylum and human rights law and policy. JCWI was established in 1967 and Habib has held his position since 1999.

Before joining JCWI, Habib Rahman worked for over 15 years as a Senior Caseworker with management and campaigning responsibilities at Tower Hamlets Law Centre. He embraced this opportunity to serve the deserving people of Tower Hamlets and got actively involved in many influential community organisations including Tower Hamlets Association for Racial Justice (THARJ) for which he was a founding member and acting Chairman. For a period Habib Rahman also served as a member of the Human Rights committee of the Labour Party's National Executive.

Before commencing on his professional career in the community sector Habib Rahman completed his studies at Dhaka University in Bangladesh as

well as University College London.

After completion of his education, Mr Rahman joined the private sector as a manager. Whilst working in the private sector, he became aware of the poor working conditions of migrant workers in the catering industry in the United Kingdom and actively organised them to join a trade union, which led to a high profile campaign at the time.

Habib Rahman is a dedicated human rights activist and he considers himself as fortunate in that he has been able to pursue this in his professional life.



Aziz-ur Rahman

Sector:

Catering

Born in Mirpur, Sylhet, Bangladesh in 1958, Aziz-ur Rahman moved with his 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.

Mohammed Siddiquer Rahman was born in 1971 in Luton, Bedfordshire. He completed his GCSEs in Denbigh High School in 1987.

At the age of 16, Siddiquer started working part time at an Indian restaurant which initiated his interest in the restaurant trade.

At the age of 19 he opened his first thriving business, an Indian takeaway which he later converted to a restaurant in Oxhey, Hertfordshire called Curry Cottage. After the success of Curry Cottage, in 1997 he went on to open another Indian restaurant, Raj Garden in Bushey, which became his most successful venture, receiving many awards for their service and support of the community. Since then, he has opened several other restaurants around the country but in 2002, he decided to diversify and invest in another industry.

In 2002, he began his career as a property investor buying houses to re-develop them and put them on the rental market. This has enabled him to develop his property portfolio and diversify within the property industry. He is the director of Luton Property Management Ltd and the senior negotiator for Simply Move, overseeing the management of properties. This business is fast becoming one of the busiest property management companies in its area. He is also the owner of M.S Rahman Properties

(Real Estate) and S&Z a property development company.

In addition, he is a member of several business associations such as one of the Directors of the UK-BCCCI and an EC member of BCA. He is also a member of the National Landlord Association and a member of the ARLA which is an association for residential lettings.

He believes giving back to society is a vital part of life. Therefore, he is the secretary of Jalal Pur Welfare Association which gives unprivileged children in Bangladesh a chance to transform their lives. He is also a part of the advisory board at Dhokin Surma Committee, a role passed on from his father. This is a charity in Bangladesh for the betterment of society.

In the UK, he is a dedicated member of charities such as the Peace Hospice and local charities especially in the Watford area, for which he has gained certificates and awards from local MPs and Mayors.

Siddiquer Rahman enjoys travelling around the world and meeting new people and learning about new cultures. Siddiquer Rahman is married with 4 children.



Mohammed Siddiquer Rahman

Sector:
Business



Award Winner 2018

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 Sylheter 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 Meh-jaben Rahman and Atiya Rahman.



Mahbub Rahman

Sector:
Media



Mahidur Rahman
Sector:
Community Relations

Mr. Mahidur Rahman came to the UK in 1975 and completed his studies and also within a few years he emerged as a successful businessman, politician and volunteer of social service. He is at present the president of Asian Council for Human Rights UK, Kent Branch (BCA) and Ashford Muslim Association. He is also the Vice-President of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK and founding treasurer of Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council UK. He is the Founding Coordinator of its south-east region. Mr. Rahman is at present the treasurer and general secretary, London Boroughs of Bangladeshi Association, UK and joint secretary of Moulvi Bazar Jonosheba Somity. He is also the International Affairs Secretary of the Central Committee for the BNP.

At present, Mr. Rahman is actively involved in many distinguished organisations. He is a life member of the Moulvi Bazar Zela Red Crescent Society and Jalalabad Hospital for Disabled and Rehabilitation Centre Sylhet and is also a member of the support group UK. He has delivered his service to the community as a member of the Home Secretary's Standing Advisory Council on Race Relation for two years. At present, Mr. Rahman is the president

of UK-Association for Human Rights (UK-AHR), Euro-Bangladesh Business Consortium, Bangladesh Centre for Social development UK and British Bangladeshi Business Club.

In addition, Mr. Rahman has played important role in establishing and fundraising for many Mosques and Madrasahs, support running schools for the destitute children in Bangladesh, Free Friday Clinics, and personally continuing to help build houses for the needy, medical treatment, etc.

Mr. Mahidur Rahman has made his name as a prominent politician of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). He played an important role in shaping its establishment in the UK and another European Country. In 1992 he was made a co-convenor of the UK-BNP and in 1994, the president. Through his tireless work he formed 12 BNP branches throughout the UK. Currently he is the international affairs secretary of BNP central committee and is looking after the political aspect of European BNP as co-coordinator.

Mr. Rahman is married and has two children. His son graduated in Business Management and is currently a banker and his daughter is a University student.



Shahida Rahman
(Shahidun)

Sector:
Literature/ Community Relations

Shahida Rahman was born and raised in Cambridge. Her late father, Abdul Karim moved to Cambridge from Fenchugonj, East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) in 1957 and her mother, Fultera Banoo Karim, arrived in 1964. Her father was a successful restaurateur. She is an author, publisher, freelance writer, public speaker and local campaigner.

Shahida writes historical fiction, non-fiction, short stories and factual articles. She is the Director and Co-founder of Perfect Publishers Ltd, launched in 2005 which is a print-on-demand book publishing company providing a range of services for authors and other publishers: www.perfectpublishers.co.uk

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

Shahida wrote The Integration of the Hijab into Police Uniforms, a contribution to the Behind the Hijab anthology, which was published by Monsoon Press in March 2009. In the same year, she was commissioned to write a radio play, The Lascar, for Silsila Production's Lascar Heritage Project.

Her first novel, Lascar (Indigo Dreams Publishing 2012), is a work of historical fiction inspired by a paternal ancestor; a lascar (seaman). The highly acclaimed novel revives the story of these unsung heroes and draws attention to their plight, educating people through the use of fictional characters. Lascar was shortlisted for the Muslim Writers Awards, Unpublished Novel Awards (2008). She has completed her second historical novel.

She is also developing an audio play 'India Ink' about an Indian Ayah in Edwardian England, which will be published later this year. She is working on her second novel.

Shahida published the children's books 'Rani Goes to the Mela' and 'Rani and the Wedding Shoes' aimed at 3-5 year olds featuring

an Asian girl as the lead character. The 3rd book in the Rani series will be published in early 2020.

Shahida was awarded a Channel S 'Special Acknowledgment Award' in 2013 for her work. She also won the Arts and Cultural Awareness at the British Muslim Awards 2015. Since 2014, she has been on the judging panel of the Young Muslim Writers Awards.

Shahida has contributed to many publications, including: Best of British, The Great War, Children of the New Earth, Sisters (the UK's first magazine for Muslim women), Asian World newspaper, Weekly Desh (Bengali Newspaper), Cambridge News. She contributed to the 'Huffington Post'. Her works include: Racism Reform: Recognise, Respect and Remember, Ongoing Workplace Discrimination of Highly Educated British-Bangladeshi Women, Asian Suffragettes: Women Who Positively Impacted Society, Currying Favour, Backbone of the Fleet; the Life of Lascars Aboard Merchant Ships and others.

Shahida is also a regular contributor to BBC local radio programmes. Recently, she contributed to BBC Radio 3's 'Free Thinking Programme' called 'New Research into the UK Women's Suffrage Movement' with Helen Pankhurst (great granddaughter of suffragette Emeline Pankhurst) and other historians.

She is a trustee to the Cambridge Central Mosque; the first purpose-built mosque in Cambridge and Europe's first eco-mosque, which opened in April 2019. She regularly gives guided tours of the mosque.

She is a community governor at her children's secondary school. She has is involved in a number of community projects.

Shahida is married with four children; Ibrahim, Imran, Aniq and Aminah. Her daughter Aminah (16) is an award winning published poet.

More details about her work can be found on her website: www.shahidarahman.co.uk



Award Winner 2017

Emdad is a born and bred Londoner, a celebrated writer who focuses mainly on unique community activism and positive stories featuring amongst other things homelessness, sports, the arts and human inspiration. Emdad teaches creative writing and has published over 500 football poems. He is the only published Bangladeshi football poet in the world.

Emdad is also an under 12 head football coach for Stepney Football Club and a referee. He is chairman of Essex based Scintilla Cricket Club - a grassroots outfit run by volunteers which over the course of ten years has enjoyed a meteoric rise to the top, namely achieving several promotions before being crowned Essex County Cricket League Premier Division Champions in 2014.

In terms of recognition Emdad has received Civic Awards and a Volunteer of the Year Award from Alderman David Brewer - the Mayor of the City of London at the time. He was named Londoner of the day in 2011 and through City Hall he featured in a London billboard poster campaign which highlighted volunteering in the city.

Emdad was a London Ambassador and also carried the Paralympic Torch at the London Olympics of 2012. He was made an MBE in Her Majesty the Queens New Years Honours List. The Canary Wharf Group recognised his achievements with a sporting personality award.

In 2014 Emdad was chosen to carry Her Majesty the

Queen's Baton for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. This was an outstanding gesture from the games organisers and recognised the value attributed to Emdad's services to the community.

Emdad is an active writer and philanthropist. He is voluntarily involved in work with the youth, elderly, women, people experiencing poverty, those experiencing disabilities and homelessness. He is a Dementia Friends Champion and volunteers time to raise awareness through the delivery of interactive information sessions. Emdad is credited with recruiting the Battle of Cable Street veteran - The 100 year old Max Levitas is currently the world's oldest Dementia Friend.

Emdad's activities are voluntary and this year in his honour he was made a Freeman of the City of London for the diverse work that he does.

Emdad has used the skills he has gained over the years to achieve unique and great change which has benefited the communities he works with to an enormous degree.

On a charitable level Emdad has, amongst hundreds of activities, run three London marathons, completed climbing the three UK peaks, ran numerous 10k's, and 3 marathon night walks for Cancer.



Emdad Rahman MBE

Sector:

*Journalism and
Community relations*

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S WHO 2019



Bobby Rahman

Sector:

Business

Bobby Rahman graduated in 2003 with an Honours Degree in Computer Science with Business Management BSc from King's College, London and he has been working steadily as a successful front office equities product manager with over 14 years of knowledge and experience within the financial services industry. His main talents lie in developing products with a client focus and delivering high profile projects within rapid paced environments

Fresh out of University, Bobby began his career at Merrill Lynch in 2003 specialising in electronic trading, quickly developing a passion for building complex technology solutions for the biggest and most complex and demanding clients.

Five years later he joined hedge fund Citadel Securities to establish the client facing business in EMEA – performing a hybrid role of building systems from the ground up, new business development and trading. Following this, he was hired by Liquidnet initially as an Algorithmic Product Manager to develop the next generation algo suite for equities, rapidly rising to be Head of Product EMEA, focused on driving the firm's innovation strategy. One of his greatest achievements was launching 'Targeted Invitations' a product created to unlock latent block liquidity for the Buy Side community and being nominated for most innova-

tive product by Financial News.

In 2017, Bobby joined Electronic Trading Product development team at Bloomberg Tradebook Europe, focusing on developing the liquidity strategy across the full electronic trading product suite. With the seismic regulation impact of MiFID II taking place in 2018 Bobby believes the opportunities for the original fintech company are infinite, and he plans to harness the opportunities of MiFID II to drive Bloomberg to new heights of success.

With a huge passion for fundraising and charitable causes he became a founding member of the South Asian Professional Merrill Lynch network, organising cultural and charity events for the bank. A keen sportsman he also completed the London Marathon in 2006 and climbed Mount Everest Base Camp in 2008. His voluntary aid work and interest in humanitarian causes has taken him to third world countries such as Haiti and Africa. In his spare time Bobby enjoys spending time with family, watching films, dining out and travelling. He recently spent two months travelling through South-East Asia with his wife and two young children.



Syed Mohibur Rahman

Sector:

Politics

Syed Mohibur Rahman is the former Mayor of the Leighton Linslade town council of Bedfordshire. He is the first person of Bangladeshi origin who has been elected as Mayor of Leighton Linslade council. He is a conservative Councillor for Grovebury Ward in the Leighton Buzzard Borough of Bedfordshire, having been elected since 2011.

A successful Businessman and community activist, he has become the president of Luton north Rotary club in 2017. Councillor Rahman contributed a lot of work for community. He completed his graduation in Bangladesh before moving to the Germany. At the age of twenty-seven, Councillor Rahman established many businesses throughout in UK and Bangladesh, most notably having invested in the restaurant and garment industry. Before coming to UK, he stayed Germany for seven years where he developed franchise business. Then he continued his focus on the restaurant sectors after arriving in the UK where he also opened a restaurant at Leighton Buzzard.

He has been closely involved with the Brihattor Sylhet Education Trust where he has served as a chair person. Cllr Rahman also helped to organise the various program for the Luton north rotary club to raise fund for the destitute children for the world. He served as a governor for Barnfield college from 2004

to 2012. Over the last thirty-three years, he has been involved with many local and national organisations holding a range of posts where he contributed significantly for the community.

Councillor Rahman has supported numerous mainstream national charities through donations and regular fundraising, and is currently fundraising for the Mayor of Leighton Buzzard Charity Appeal 2017-2018 in aid of his chosen charities, KEECH HOSPICES, AUTISOM, HOMELESS, AQUIREIES, ST James Hospices In the UK.

Cllr Rahman is married to Lebu Rahman and has two sons and one daughter.

Syedur Rahman Ranu JP was born in the village of Taharlamu, Rajnagar in Moulvibazar. His father is Al Haj Habibur Rahman. Mr Rahman completed his high school education in Rajnagar Portious High School in Rajnagar and obtained his degree from Moulvibazar Govt. College. Arriving in the UK in 1977 with his parents. He enrolled in a Business and Management course and began his successful career in 1985. He now owns a chain of restaurants 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. Apart from his business activities he is also involved in various community organizations in the British Bangladeshi Community in the UK. Mr S R Ranu joined as a Director in British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry in 1998 since then he was elected as a Deputy Director General, Finance Director, Vice President and currently serving as Director General.

He is the founder President of Rajnagar Welfare society in uk, he is also the Vice Chairman of Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateur in the UK. Mr. Rahman's other passions is to be involved in various

charities. He has helped many from his homeland, especially poor but intelligent students who were unable to fund their education. He has also helped develop schools, colleges and mosques and continues to donate very generously to various charities. Syedur Rahman Ranu is married to Rahela Rahman and they have three sons and one daughter residing in royal ascot in Berkshire. Mr Rahman's interests and hobbies include travelling and politics.



**Syedur Rahman
Ranu JP**
Sector:
Catering

Mohidur Rahman is a highly esteemed member of the Bangladeshi community, a successful serial entrepreneur within the British Bangladeshi Diaspora in the United Kingdom. Mohidur has established his footprint across diversified business industries from chain of real estate companies to various trading companies both in Bangladesh and the United Kingdom.

Mohidur is currently the Chairman of Probashi Palli Group which is an NRB (non-resident Bangladeshis) funded initiative founded in 2007, to cater the needs for real estate products to the non resident Bangladeshis. Under the direction of Mr. Mohidur Rahman Probashi Palli Group has established itself as one of the leading real estate industries in Bangladesh and has diversified its business by investing and acquiring different businesses. Notable investments are the "Daily Ajker Patrika", a 5-star hotel and resort project in Cox's Bazar "Probashi Palli Inani Resort", and "NRB Power Limited" an independent power project located in the outskirts of south Dhaka.

The development of foreign direct investment (FDI) and promotion of local investment in Bangladesh is one of the areas Mr. Mohidur Rahman has keen interest on. At times he opens discussion with honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for the investment welfare of the country. He believes in the growth of country's GDP by increasing FDI and local investment, thus creating work opportunities for millions of well-educated capable youth of Bangladesh.

Mohidur has an ultimate vision for Bangladesh to become a double digit economy. He is currently an avid supporter of local, national and international charities through sponsorships and funding/creating employment for the educationally improving youth, also a successful attributer in the educational sector of Bangladesh. He is one of the founders and the Vice Chairman of MAGMET Education Trust. An academic initiative in Sylhet, provided scholarships and financial support for over 100's students every year. Aside from his association with business he remains closely connected with local and community based initiatives.

As a regular traveler to Bangladesh, he has found a balance between business, social responsibility and leisure. Aside from his professional career, Mohidur has a keen interest in sport. He is the founder of "Mohidur Rahman Gold Cup", which is a privately arranged football tournament in Sylhet, held every year.



Mohidur Rahman
Sector:
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 in the Housing department as a community worker. Through hard and a first-class work ethic, Mr Rahman soon became a Senior Housing Manager.

Whilst fulfilling a full time job, Mr Rahman is also involved in numerous community welfare projects both in the UK and Bangladesh. Currently, Mr Rahman

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

Mr Rahman is the founder and Chairman of Sheikh Khalilur Rahman Hospital and Sheikh Abdul Aziz Plaza in Boaljur Bazar, Balagonj, Sylhet, Bangladesh which was established in October 2012.

Essentially, Mr Rahman will always be remembered as the lead campaigner against the racist attack on Altam 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.



Mohammad Hafizur Rahman

Sector:

Catering and Media

Mohammad Hafizur Rahman was born in 1958, in Katia, Jagannatpur, Sylhet. He was educated in Katia Madresha and completed his primary education from Purbo Katia Primary School. His secondary education commenced at Khadimpur High School, where he successfully completed SSC. Mr Rahman's education was completed at Sylhet Varsity College.

After his education, Mr Rahman arrived to the UK in 1983, where he was employed by his brother at his business. Mr Rahman gained much valuable experience whilst working at his brother's restaurant which allowed him to open his own business, in partnership.

The business prospered and after some time, he started another venture, in partnership with late Nurul Islam Hussain, a well known figure in the community.

During this time, Mr Rahman was involved in various other businesses, at present he is a managing director of Hafiz group of restaurants.

He is the publisher and chairman of Editorial Board of Abhimot monthly magazine. He is involved with many cultural organisations, here in the UK and abroad.

Mr Rahman is a founding trustee and general secretary of Cheltenham Al Madina Mosque and Chel-

tenham Bangladeshi Association; he is also a chairman of Cheltenham Ethnic Minority Forum and Greater Katia Welfare Trust. Mr Rahman is very passionate about his country and his people. He is active in many projects, helping the less fortunate students of Bangladesh, prosper and build better lives for themselves.

He is the founder trustee of Jagannathpur British Bangla Education Trust. Recently he has been made an advisor of Sylhet Academy, of UK and Europe sections.

Mr Rahman lives with his wife and four children in Cheltenham (heart of the Cotswold) Gloucestershire.

Md Mohibur Rahman is a highly successful entrepreneur and active member of the Labour Party in the UK. His ancestral home is in the village of Baushi, Sylhet, Bangladesh. His father Late Habibur Rahman served in the Pakistan Army before immigrating to the UK. During the liberation war of Bangladesh, he played an instrumental role in forming the action committee in Birmingham, that worked for the cause Bangladesh's independence. Md Mohibur Rahman came to the UK in 1970 with his Mother (Late) Korpura Khatun to join his Father. As a student in the UK, Mr Rahman studied Accounting and Government & Politics. He owns hotels and restaurants both in the UK and abroad.

He is the Managing Director of Oasis Ltd, Ahar Ltd and Modumita Ltd. Apart from being in business, he excelled in politics as well. Mr Rahman is the ex-Chairman of the Nailsworth Labour Party. In 2000, he was elected as the first Bangladeshi Councillor in Gloucestershire and was re-elected in 2011. He is also known for his charitable work. Mr Rahman is the Chairman of Habibur Rahman Charitable Trust which builds homes for the needy people in Bangladesh. He is also the founder chair and trustee of the Gloucestershire Bangladeshi Association, and

ex-supervisor of Stroud Credit Union. Mr Rahman's favourite pastime is writing and reading poems. He produced a cassette containing Bengali and English verses and Mustofa Kamal of Radio Bangladesh recited them. Many of his English poems were published in the Gloucestershire Citizen.

In 2015 Mr Rahman was awarded the Town Shield by the Mayor of Nailsworth Miles Robinson in a ceremony attended by many dignitaries including an MP. The award was given for his contribution to nailsworth as councillor and entrepreneur.

Mr Rahman married in 1983 to Syeda Luhfun Nessa Khatun. Together they have four sons the eldest Shahedur, who is working at Harrison Clarke Rickerby Solicitors, Second son Sadequr Rohman (B.A.Hons) working in Lloyds TSB, third son Saifur Rohman is studying BSc Computer Science at King's College and the youngest Mustafijur Rohman is studying Computer Science at the Kings College.



Cllr Md Mohibur Rahman

Sector:
Politics

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

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

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

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

cer and was consecutively promoted to Senior Housing Officer followed by Housing Office Manager.

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

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

Mina is politically very active and established Conservative Friends of Bangladesh, Redbridge Branch increasing membership in the Conservative Party. Mina holds various officer roles within the Conservative Party and currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Ilford South Conservative Association. Mina successfully passed the Parliamentary Assessment Board and is a Conservative Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Barking.



Mina Sabera Rahman

Sector:
Politics & Community Relations



Mohammed Abdur Rashid

Sector:
Community Relations

Mohammed Abdur Rashid has been working for over 35 years with various communities and holds various positions in many organisations. He holds a diploma in Textiles Technology from a technical school in Sylhet, Bangladesh. Rashid also has three children, two daughters and one son, who have all graduated with university degrees.

In the 1970s, he set up the Bangladesh Women's Association to campaign for support and liberate Bangladesh. Rashid and his wife joined the Bangladesh Liberation Front in 1971, carrying out a leafleting campaign and other activities to support Bangladesh's appeal for independence. He was also the President of the Bangladesh Residents' Welfare Association. A decade later, Rashid became the Trustee and General Secretary of the Bangladesh Centre, where he helped to offer advice on immigration, housing, welfare rights, council tax and other issues. During the 1980s, he was also the General Secretary for the Bangladesh Workers' Association, a member of the Bangladesh Council, the Treasurer and President of the Bangladesh Cultural Society and a Governor of Adderley Primary School, Birmingham.

Rashid joined the European Migrants' Union Forum as a delegate in 1993-94 and visited Belgium

and Luxembourg to support migrants during this period.

Rashid continued with his community work, becoming the Religious Secretary of the Bangladesh Celebration Committee in 2000. He stood as a Labour candidate in the local council elections for the Castle Bromwich ward, and later went on to become the Vice Chair of the party for Smith's Wood and Castle Bromwich. Also became chairman of Smith's Wood parish council 2013-2015 and has continued for another term 2016.

Rashid's work for the community earned him a number of accolades in 2014. He won an award that recognised his heroic contributions in 1971 and for his community service over the years. Rashid was also presented with a Community Service award from Joytel International. The Valerie Taylor Trust awarded him with a certificate for his charity work.



Tipu Rahman

Sector:
Catering

Tipu Rahman made his journey from Bangladesh to the UK some 20 years ago originally to further his education. Like most students Mr Rahman took a part time job to bolster his finances. Working at his brother's Indian restaurant in Leicester, it was here that Mr Rahman found a new passion which was to mould his future in cooking and creating South Asian food.

From his brother's restaurant Mr Rahman went it alone and worked as a chef in Northampton and with his creations being much renowned it gave him the courage to enter a partnership and open "Tamarind" a Bangladeshi and Nepalese restaurant. Tamarind is one of the most successful restaurants in the Town, his menu and presentation is envied around Northamptonshire and is the benchmark of which other restaurants aspire within the county.

Mr Rahman and the Tamarind have won many awards from various institutions but the much coveted awards given to Mr Rahman is the "International Chef of the Year 2009 – 2010" and at the same time taking the prize awarded by Lady Frazer for "Best Vegetarian Dish". Mr Rahman has also received the Spice Times award for "Best in East Midlands" and also "National Chef of the Year 2011 – 2012" the ultimate accolade presented by the Bangladesh Catering Association which is the asso-

ciation representing in excess of 12,000 Bangladeshi caterers since 1960.

Following and during these awards Mr Rahman has been featured in many National newspapers, magazines and also National television which have given him celebrity status within the UK. In addition to this Mr Rahman is the World record holder for the largest Poppadom Tower reaching a height of five foot eight inches which was achieved under strict observation.

Highest esteem has been given to Mr Rahman from Bangladesh where he officially cooked his prized dishes for Scout Jamboree which included scouts from 38 different countries. Mr Rahman's recognition as an international Chef showcasing the food of Bangladesh led to the ultimate accolade of being requested to cook for the Honourable Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina who recognises him as the culinary ambassador for the country.

Mr Rahman has a pride and passion for creating gastronomic dishes and presenting them in style, the Bangladeshi province of Sylhet is known as the province the Curry built, well Mr Rahman is destined to add many more bricks to its walls.

Bajloor Rashid MBE is a renowned British Bangladeshi businessman and philanthropist.

Currently, he is the founding president and co-founder of the UK Bangladesh Catalysts of Commerce and Industry (UKBCCI). This influential business organisation helps promote trade between Bangladesh and the UK. Recently he led a trade delegation to Bangladesh which proved to be very successful and mutually beneficial to both nations. Born in Moulvi Bazaar in Bangladesh, he came to the UK in 1978. He gained a reputation in the eighties for his entrepreneurial skill in setting up a number of restaurants with his brother.

This dynamism led to him becoming one of the most prominent figures in the history of the Bangladesh Caterers Association (BCA), with him being their president from 2006 to 2012.

Whilst he was the BCA president, he was the driving force behind many memorable events to raise awareness of the issues effecting the curry industry, most memorably a mass demonstration in Trafalgar Square London over immigration rules. This in turn led to a debate in the House of Commons just days later.

To further cement the UKBCCI's role in business today and its desire to inspire and recognise the deep well of talent that exists, Mr Rashid founded and set up the UK-BCCI Business & Entrepreneur Excellence Awards in 2016.

In his long and successful business career, Mr Rashid has been either a Director or Chairman of 20 different suc-

cessful companies. His business portfolio also includes the wholesale business of rice and spice and his real estate company, Atlantic Properties.

His passionate work ethic has led to him receiving a number of awards over the years.

In 2012, the BB (British Bangladeshi) Power 100 List ranked him as one of the most influential BB individuals in the UK. The following year he was awarded first place in the Community Personality category by the same organisation. He has also been recognised in the BB Power 100 in 2016 and 2017 in the Networks and Association category. Mr Rashid has also received many awards in recognition of his work, including the BCA Honour Award and the Channel S Business Personality Award. Bajloor Rashid became a Member of the Order of the British Empire in 2012. This was the first time a BCA president had been recognised with an MBE in the New Year's Honours.

As a result of helping communities in the UK and Bangladesh, he was duly recognised by being listed in the Muslim Power 100 in 2018. With a deep concern about environmental issues, Mr Rashid has been at the forefront of many community projects including assisting the plight of communities affected by catastrophic world disasters such as Cyclone Sidr.

Mr Rashid is married and has four grown up children, who are all now in professional careers.



Bajloor Rashid MBE

Sector:
*Business and
Community*



Award Winner 2014

Cllr Habib Rahman was born in Usmani Nogar, Bangladesh to Late Mr Azizur Rahman (Monu Miah Darzi) and Mrs Ashrafia Khanom and arrived to Newcastle upon Tyne in November 1985. His father was brutally stabbed to death working at a Restaurant in Wallsend Tyne and Wear on the 19th May 1977 which was the first racially motivated murder of an Asian in the North of England.

Having arrived in the UK with no English, studied GCSE and with a Diploma in Business & Finance in 2001 established what was the only Bangladeshi Grocery Store in Newcastle upon Tyne called Habib Food Store.

Cllr Habib Rahman constantly challenged Racial abuse and Racism back in the late 80's and early 90's and was appointed as a Youth Liaison Officer for the Newcastle Bangladeshi Association in 1991.

At the age of 16 he became a volunteer in 1989 for the United Black Youth Association (UBYA).

Cllr Habib Rahman led what was the first Asian led demonstration seeking justice for the brutal and racial murder of the late Khuaz Miah who was an elderly Bangladeshi man jumped on by a group of white Youths who beat him dead on his way to the local Mosque back in the summer of 1992. This was a huge demonstration which attracted people or all walks of life and as a result of which 7 white male were subsequently caught and charged for the murder.

In the late 1990's Cllr Habib Rahman was a management committee member helping to shape up what is now the globally known anti racist campaign the 'Show Racism the Red Card'.

Cllr Habib Rahman was appointed the senior officer for the Racial Harassment Project (RHP) back in 1998 until April 2002. In May 2002 Cllr Habib Rahman was appointed the

Senior Youth Worker for the North Tyneside Council until April 2005. In March 2012 Cllr Habib Rahman joined the South Tyneside Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) where he worked as a Welfare Advisor until 2015.

He has been a lifelong campaigner for racial equality, inspired people of his generation and the younger generations of people and in 2010 contested his first election representing the Labour party and was successfully and overwhelmingly elected in to officer as a Councillor for Newcastle City Council representing the Elswick Ward. Then in May 2018 was appointed as a Cabinet Member for Communities and became the first BAME Cabinet Member in the North East.

In 1998 he established what was the first BAME and only amateur football team called the 'Newcastle Tigers Football Club'.

In February 2016 Cllr Habib Rahman took a group of white Newcastle City Council Councillors on a study visit to Bangladesh, they visited the Rohingya refugee camp, met with Bangladeshi members of parliament as well as visiting various projects in Sylhet. Organised a mass demonstration in Newcastle on the Rohingya crisis. Visited the Rohingya Refugee camp in March 2018 with aide and supported establishing a Maternity Clinic.

Cllr Habib Rahman attempts to raise funds to support Rohingya young children's to study by doing the Lungi Challenge! He travel back to the UK wearing his Lungi. From Sylhet Airport, fly to Dhaka, to Dubai and Newcastle upon Tyne.

Married Mrs Rubi Sultan. Has 3 boys Muhammad Hamza Rahin 15 Tamim Muhammad Sultan 13 and Ridwan Muhammad Amin 3. Hobbies: Enjoys football and Snooker and spending time with his family.



Cllr Habib Rahman

Sector:
Politics



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.



Shermeena Rabbi

Sector:

Healthcare

Shermeena is a Consultant Speech and Language therapist who has been working for fifteen years. Prior to starting her own practice, she worked for over ten years as a Speech and Language therapist in both the NHS and private sectors building an expertise in communication disorders (speech, language, communication and swallowing deficits). She has worked at some of the most prestigious institutions such as the Royal Marsden and the Wellington Hospital. She was selected to work with royalty and diplomats both in the UK and internationally who have communication difficulties. Her independent practice, Unlocking Language, currently employs twenty-five speech and language therapists. Since its inception in 2013, the practice has grown into one of the largest and successful practices in the UK, with the head office and clinic in Canary Wharf and Harley Street. Her company provides services into schools, rehabilitation units, hospitals, courts and prisons. Shermeena was the first British Bangladeshi to graduate in Speech and Language therapy in the UK. She champions the rights of people who cannot communicate enabling them to have a voice and has played a fundamental role in raising awareness of special educational needs and reducing the stigma of the disability in the Tower Hamlets community. She has set up partnerships with local charities in Tower Hamlets. Her innovative approach to therapy and

her entrepreneurial flair has seen her team utilise bespoke and effective models of therapy, technology, and developing products to enhance the client outcomes. She has also developed a multidisciplinary fast track Paediatric Assessment Service. Her practice is now commissioned by local authorities and the NHS to implement her therapy methods, a unique development in the healthcare setting. Shermeena is a member of various business clubs.

These efforts and rise to the top of her profession have seen her collect numerous awards, including at the British Bangladeshi Business Awards in 2015 for Woman of the Future Entrepreneur, and 2017 for Best Entrepreneur of the Year Female. She has recently also collected two awards at the Federation of Small Businesses London Awards 2017, for Female Business Owner of the year and Healthcare Business of the Year. She was also recently shortlisted for the prestigious Asian Women of Achievement Awards. One of her passions is to advocate the entrepreneurial spirit of the female British Muslim community. A group that has not received the recognition for its innovation and success historically.

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 1980s.

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 Dart-

ford, 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 Bijan Kumar Saha
Sector:
Medicine

Mr Rouf was born in 1948 and as a Textile Engineer arrived from Bangladesh to Scotland in 1971 for higher education and studied in Dundee college of Technology "Jute Technology".

Mr Rouf is now a very successful businessman including Director of a Property Development Company which received the "Civic Trust Award" for the best architectural designed building in the heart of the city Dundee.

Mr Rouf is the owner of two very successful restaurants, one called "Balaka" in St Andrews which was voted best in United Kingdom in 2001 and another restaurant "Dil Se" was voted best in Scotland in 2003.

Mr Rouf is the Chairman of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd and its three subsidiary Companies- MTB Capital Ltd. MTB Securities Ltd., and MTB Exchange UK Ltd.

Mr Rouf is also the Chairman of Britannia Holding & Management Group, a British-Bangla Joint Venture Real Estate Company and a Director of Tiger Tours BD Ltd.

Mr Rouf is serving as the elected Regional President for the British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce in the UK for Scotland for the last 16 years. He was also appointed as a delegate for the Department of British Trade Mission of Bangladesh. Mr Rouf is a senior vice president of UK Bangladesh Catalysts of Commerce & Industry (UK-BCCI).

Mr Rouf is a lifetime member of the University of St. Andrews. Mr Rouf is also a member of St. Andrews Golf club, which is the 2nd oldest golf club in the world and also a member of Army Golf Club Dhaka. He holds the post of Honorary Vice Chairman of St. Andrews University

Union Debating Society for the last 17 years which is the oldest debating society in the world. Mr Rouf is the President of St. Andrews University Cricket Club. Mr Rouf had established a school named "Amirjan High School & College" in Dumni, Khilkhet, Dhaka which was named after his mother. Currently the school and college has 2300 students and 106 teachers.

Presently Mr Rouf's dream project is The Scottish Village, a multimillion dollar project in Dhaka which is just 2.5 km from The Baridhara Diplomatic Zone, adjacent to Bashundhara N block. A gated community in Dhaka City is approved by DAP (detailed area plan, Dhaka), the land is 15 acres where residential and commercial accommodation will be built. The project is permitted to build up to 25 stories and a 10 story, exclusively designed apartment block with modern facilities, is currently under construction.

Mr Rouf raised funds of substantial amount for the Scottish Cancer Research with the help of S.C.R.



Mohammed Abdur Rouf
Sector:
Business



Dr. Mohammed Salam JP

Sector:

Local Government and Community Relations

Dr. Mohammed Salam was born in Dhaka and is married with three children. Dr. Salam graduated from Dhaka University and obtained his Master Degree from the University of Rajshahi. He studied at the University of Bradford and was conferred with a Doctorate Degree. He also gained Membership of British Institute of Management in UK and Associate Membership of Institute of Training & Development in the UK. Dr. Salam has had a distinguished career having served in the British Local Government for 28 years. He was the first Bangladeshi appointed as a Principal Race Relations Adviser in the UK.

During the 1971 Liberation Movement of Bangladesh, Dr. Salam led the movement of Bangladeshi students within the universities in the 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 the UK and Europe. Dr. Salam established Bangladesh Mission in Bradford.

Following the independence of Bangladesh, Dr. Salam formed a national organisation for the Bangladeshi Community called "Federation of

Bangladeshi Associations in United Kingdom and Europe" in 1972 (FOBA). He remained as Secretary General of the Federation for about 12 years.

Dr. Salam was the Vice-chair of United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service (UKIAS) 1975 to 1988. He helped to set up UKIAS offices in Sylhet. Dr. Salam was the lead mediator to resolve the conflict of British Government & the Bangladesh Government at the time of the introduction of DNA testing for entry clearance for dependents.

Dr. Salam formed a charitable trust to help and support the Sidr cyclone victims of Bangladesh. He is a Trustee & Director of many institutions at a local, national and international level. Moreover, he is a Justice of the Peace for Bradford Bench and Chair of the Adult Court. He has been performing civic duties on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen for over twenty years.



Cllr. Nadia Shah

Sector:

Politics

Cllr Nadia Shah was elected in 2014 as a councillor for Regents Park Ward in the London Borough of Camden. She was elected by members and served on the executive committee of the council 2014/15, elected deputy mayor 2015/16, and the first female British Bangladeshi muslim Mayor in 2016/17.

Nadia was born and bred in Camden and reside there with her family.

Started career in banking but also worked for the Black and Minority Ethnic community, particularly for the betterment of the Bangladeshi Community, have been contributing to the community and working in management, in community settings and safeguarding, as well as peer education with young people, in the private statutory and voluntary sector for the last 20 years.

Went on to work on many community projects, predominantly working with woman, children and young people, breaking down barriers, lobbying and advocating for employability, education, training, health, social issues as well as devising intergenerational and culturally appropriate parenting programmes to strengthen families, many of which have been recognised and are now mainstream services.

Became a co-opted trustee for the Surma centre (the largest organisation working for the Bangladeshi

community) and then went on to become an elected director.

Received the Camden Community Award in 2014 in recognition for the work and dedication for the work done with the community thus far.

At present working in the family business and also self-employed.

This year's focus for the Mayoral year is child poverty and the mental implications and raising awareness of and supporting mental health in young people and children, due to the rise of this issue and the lack of recognition from the community and government and how this impacts on children and families both now and in later life.

Nasir Ali Shah is a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and has been practising as an accountant in UK for over 25 years. He is the senior partner of Mohammad Shah & Co. LLP a reputed Chartered accountancy firm in UK.

He was born in Dewpasha and raised in Moulvi Bazaar Town, studying at the Government School. He completed his Bcom from Dhaka. In 1966 he emigrated to the UK to pursue his accountancy qualification. Upon qualifying as Chartered Management Accountant (CIMA), he worked for 12 years in a FTSE 100 company. However, he always had the ambition to start his own firm and pursue private practice, which he started in 1987, primarily serving the Bangladeshi business community. Mohammad, Shah & Co. went on to become one of the largest accountancy firm with 2 offices operating in the community.

Mr Shah is also the Founder Chairman of Progressive Life Insurance company Limited, one of the leading life insurance companies in Bangladesh and Director of International Medicare Limited (medical and graduate nursing college) in

Bangladesh. Through these endeavours he has helped create employment for tens of thousands of people in the country.

Recently he was awarded by the Dosh Foundation UK for long-standing professional services in the community.

He is a successful entrepreneur, well known social worker, life member of Bangladesh centre, London Bangla Press Club, Bangladesh Welfare Association of Croydon in UK, Jalalabad Association, Moulvibazar Association in Dhaka and Chairman of Darul Amaan Masjid Management committee in UK.

Mr Shah is married with two children. His son Nohshad Shah is a British Investment Banker who works for Goldman Sachs and daughter Nadia Shah also working in an American Real Estate Management company.



Nasir Ali Shah B

Sector:
Finance

Shapla Salique is a British Bangladeshi singer-songwriter and musician. She has been captivating audiences with her talent since early childhood.

At just 8 years of age Shapla became the lead singer in the first UK Bangladeshi musical group, Dishari Shilpi Ghosthi, a group originally founded by her father, Abdus Salique. Fronted by Shapla, Dishari Shilpi Ghosthi went on to perform at events across UK and Europe, and was frequently on national television throughout the eighties and nineties.

Shapla's first mainstream solo Bengali song 'Ziola' was released in the UK in 1996, under the music label 'Journeys by DJ'. 'Ziola' was remixed by the globally well-known DJ Judge Jules for his album 'Dance Wars'. 'Ziola' was followed by two diverse but equally well received solo albums; 'Siyono na Siyona' in 1997, a traditional folk oriented Bengali album, and in 2002, the Hindi pop album 'Lai Lai', produced and composed by Bappi Lahiri.

Shapla has performed at many prestigious venues including, The Royal Albert Hall, Hammersmith Apollo, Royal Ascot, the Barbican, and most recently at BBC Radio London, Houses of Parliament, Hackney Empire and at London's South Bank. She also held her recent solo concert at the prestigious world famous, Wilton's Music Hall, which was a huge success.

In 2014 Shapla was invited to speak and perform at a TEDx event – in front of a celebrity filled audience

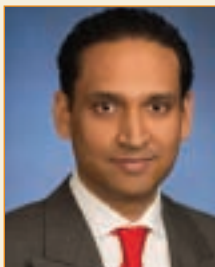
at the prestigious Queen Elizabeth Hall in Westminster. This was also streamed globally and watched by over a billion people.

Shapla's 3rd album is due to be released in autumn 2015. Shapla is reaching out to new audiences, opening her music to contemporary interpretations, with a combination of Jazz and Funk, for a younger generation, while maintaining her core of loyal traditionalists. Shapla has also arranged, composed and produced this new album herself. Shapla has created a sound which is a perfect blend of East and West.



Shapla Salique

Sector:
Music and Arts



Nohshad Shah

Sector:
Finance

Nohshad Shah is a British Investment Banker who works for Goldman Sachs as Managing Director in the Securities Division. He has been in the financial services industry since 2001 and started off as a trader with Bear Stearns & Co. He was then a Portfolio Manager with Endeavour Capital, a \$4bn hedge fund, taking advantage of arbitrage opportunities in global rates and foreign exchange markets. Prior to assuming his role at Goldman Sachs, Shah worked at Deutsche Bank as Managing Director responsible for hedge fund clients in Europe.

Shah graduated with a Masters in Finance and Accounting from The London School of Economics (LSE).

He has been recognised by British Bangladeshi Power & Inspiration (BBPI) as one of the 100 leading British Bangladeshis.



Alpana Shaikh

Sector:
Law

Alpana Shaikh was born in the village of Fakirhat, Bagherhat, Bangladesh. Her father, Sheikh Abdus Salam is an engineer and mother, Meleva Begum is a member of the local government. Due to her father's employment with the Power Development Board Alpana travelled to different parts in Bangladesh with her family. As she was moving with her family to different places, she studied her primary school in Khulna, Secondary school in Coxes Bazar and College in Chittagong.

Alpana then joined Bhuiyan Academy, Dhaka, as an external student of the University of London in her pursuit to be a lawyer. While she was studying Law at Bhuiyan academy, she was also working as an apprentice at Dr Kamal Hossain and associates, a renowned law firm in Bangladesh. At the same time, she was also undertaking a certificate course on drama at Theatre School, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Alpana moved to London in 2002 to complete her legal study and pursue a legal career. She worked at Beter Bangla as newscaster and programme presenter at Ekushe TV as newscaster. She also worked at Channel S as an anchor in a popular celebrity talk show 'Chenamukh'.

Alpana is currently working as a consultant at Littlestone Cowan Solicitors. Her main area of practice is Commercial and Residential Conveyancing, Land-

lord and Tenant, Wills and Probate and Family Law. She serves a wide range of clients from different backgrounds and is well connected. Alpana is at the forefront of any changes in the law and aims to find practical and innovative solutions to meet all her clients' objectives.

Alpana lives in Chigwell with her husband Mohammed Masud Karim and their only child Zaydan Abrar Karim.

Alpana's hobbies include singing, theatre and swimming.

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 also the current president of the Awami League UK.

He is a founder and permanent member of the Bangladesh centre, established in the early 80's. As recognition of his pivotal role in the freedom struggle, the Bangladesh Government awarded him with the freedom fighters medal. The Russell Smriti Parisad presented him with a gold award for his contribution to the ongoing movement for democracy in the 70's, 80's, 90's and 2000's. Channel S honoured him for his services to the community. He lives with his wife, Nora Shariff, in London.



Sultan Mahmud Shariff

Sector:

Community Relations

Amjad Suleman is the youngest son of Abul Bashor Ansari (a notable Bengali language poet, politician and philanthropist). He is the younger brother of Councilor Zenith Rahman, founding member and Vice President of Bromley by Bow charitable organisation.

Mr Suleman is the Managing Partner at Red.Dot Capital and Investments, Hong Kong / Germany and Asia Financial Consultancy, Singapore.

Together with his partners, Amjad Suleman currently manages a lead portfolio of more than \$200m for Asian and European clients. Mr Suleman has garnered a tremendous degree of trust and integrity in the business community he serves both in the UK and abroad. The key to his spectacular success in this endeavour has been due to three things, his extensive global network of high-net individuals, excellent personal contacts with high ranking government officials and the desire to work hard to achieve set goals. His personal mantra to doing business is simple. "Ensure you earn your clients trust and confidence every time!"

Mr Suleman is also a Founding Partner at Oishob, an online corporate marketplace focused on trading and commodity exchange. As a member of the advisory team for finance and corporate business strategy he has been instrumental in ensuring the successful launch of this innovative trading product.

Mr Suleman is a Former Senior Member of staff at: Citigroup Investment Bank, Wachovia Bank, Firstdata Merchant Banking Services, SchlumbergerSema and Atos Origin.

Mr Suleman is an advisor and business associate of a number of international corporations, consulting them on finance and business strategy: ADP (UAE) - Energy and Social Eco projects, AMSIA Green Automobile (China/Brazil), xGemina (Asia) - Merchant Banking Services, Soft Bank (Europe) - Financial Technology, Rally of Kings (UK)

- Social & Sports Entertainment, Capital Markets UK Fair (UK), Banglatv UK - Media, Wentworth Lawyers (UK) - Islamic Finance, Hossain Jomuna Group (Bangladesh), BRIC PLUS Magazine (UK) where Mr Suleman regularly contributes articles on banking finance and investments for this prestigious magazine, with a primary focus on Asia and BRIC nations.

Mr Suleman is also - Regular contributor of Currylife Magazine, writing features around investments and opportunities within the curry industry.

Mr Suleman honed his entrepreneurial skills after obtaining his professional qualifications from the Investment Banking Institute of New York. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from a prestigious UK university and is a proud graduate of the Cisco Academy, where he passed out with distinction. He continues to develop his academic and professional skill sets and he has been awarded a scholarship and is currently in the process of completing a MBA programme in Chartered Banking Finance.

Mr Suleman dedicates a lot of his time and efforts in global charitable project work, in developing deprived and needy people. He has successfully started an elementary school for orphan children and a housing project, in building houses and facilitating fresh water for really poor family in isolated villages who cannot afford to build their own houses.



Amjad Suleman

Sector:

Financial Investments and Equity



Taj Shah

Sector:
Law

He founded the offices of Taj Solicitors in the year 2002 working from home when he was working at Clinton Davies as a Criminal Defence Solicitor and also on Duty Solicitors panel cover North London area. On full time basis he commenced his practice from June 2003 at 229 East Indian Dock Road, Docklands on the same road 243-247 the Head Office is now based. Taj Shah specialises in all aspects of Immigration & Asylum Law, Human Rights, Criminal defence, all aspects of Residential & Commercial property work.

He is the only son in his family. His father's name is Mr Abdus Salam. He originates from Village-Dhara Bohor, Gulapgonj, Sylhet. In the year 1991 he came to the UK with his mother and sisters for settlement.

He graduated with LL.B (Hons) degree and completed Legal Practice Course (formerly known as Solicitors Final) in 1998. He was called as a Barrister-at-Law at Middle Temple in July 1999. Since 1996 alongside with his studies he had been working in legal fields.

He acted for a number of well known personalities and organisations.

His remarkable achievements includes advocating in the case of AA & Others (intention to return) [2006] which is used by Immigration Law Practitioners as authority from Higher Courts as guideline case in relation to intention to return. After his success in this case all Sector Based Work Permit holders were able to come to the UK through direct entry clearance and/or appeal process. A further landmark guideline case was Ahmed (Proof of Benefits) [2013]. This settled one of the most complex areas of Immigration Law as commented in many legal journals and the law established that settled spouse/ children/ relatives claiming

benefits on their own right should not affect sponsorship undertaking and cannot be treated as having recourse to public funds. Further in the same case the Home Office was directed to change certain sections of their certain entry clearance applications as it was not consistent with the Immigration Rules and some declared policies.

He dealt with an assignment of lease matter where Dockland Light Railway is the landlord and he was defending one of the leaseholders where there was an absolute restriction on transfer of lease and the case was settled out of Court. He is proud to represent a significant number of Indian restaurant owners (over 400 listed regular clients) all over the UK through recommendations of each other.

More recently he picked up certain mistakes in Home Office application forms and wrote to the Home Secretary & Immigration Minister of their department's negligence. The mistake was admitted and immediately the forms were changed. He is currently working on the most high profile case of his career and came through recommendation of his Middle East based clients. He is acting for the ex-wife and her son of billionaire UAE prince, Al Maktoum, the son of former ruler of Dubai. Al-Maktoum is the current Chairman of Emirate Airlines. This involves their immigration status in the UK and child custody.

He is the principal contributor of Law With N Rahman (Sky Channel 814, Saturday 12:30pm- 02:00pm) for the last 5 years which is the most popular interactive legal programme.

Apart from the Head Office in London he runs two branch offices in Cardiff and Coventry serving the Asian communities. Today Taj Solicitors is a household name in the UK and Europe.



Sadeque Imam Shaikh

Sector:
IT Education and Research

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

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

He is also the first Bangladeshi to receive the Finalist award of UK IT Industry Award-2012, "Individual Excellence Award" Organized by Chartered Institute of IT for his outstanding contribution for IT education Industries of UK. This year again he has been selected as a Finalist for UK IT Industry Award-2013 Category "IT Consultant of The Year 2013" which will take place on November 2013. He also received ASDF "Best Computer

Science Faculty Award-2012" organized by ASDF, India and "Best Teacher Award-2012" from different colleges. He is also promoting IT education and research for Private Higher Education sector of UK. As a part of that he has formed International Association of ICT and Research UK a non profitable organization of UK and established International Journal of ICT and Research UK where he is the Chief editor, International Journal of Business Informatics(IJBI),UK official journal of London school of technology where he is the associate Editor and Journal of Portsmouth International College where he is the Chief Editor. He has also about 22 research papers which are published in different Journals and Conference Proceedings around the globe. He has been also selected one of top researchers of UK by Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE).

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

Mr Shaikh has completed his M.Sc in Computer Networking from University of Bedfordshire of United Kingdom during 2008. Before that, he completed an MSc in Computer Science and BSc in Computer Science from National University of Bangladesh. At present He has been selected for his Postgraduate study at University of Oxford. He is also certified by Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist(MCTS), Microsoft Certified System Administrator and CISCO certified Network Associ-

Shadia Syed was born, brought up and educated in London. She studied at the renowned public school James Allen's Girls' School in Dulwich, from where she went to Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, and graduated with a BSc (Hons) degree in Mathematics. Subsequently she became a student member of the Institute of Actuaries in Oxford, and is pursuing her professional studies. Shadia is an Associate of the Royal College of Science.

Shadia has been in the media world since she was a child, having sung solo songs on an LP when she was seven years old, performed in front of HM Queen Elizabeth II, sung at the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall and various other esteemed venues. She was the first musical act to sing at the European Parliament and has performed alongside numerous musical legends. Shadia can sing in five languages, has been featured in many newspapers, and was named "Shirley Temple of Asia" by Capital Radio. She won a gold medal for her excellence in Speech and Drama.

As a broadcast journalist, Shadia has worked on major television channels in the UK and in Bangladesh, both on and off camera. She is well known as a senior English-language news anchor for ATN Bangla, as well as a programme presenter and producer. She was Editor of Dia ASIANA, Bangladesh's franchise of UK's ASIANA magazine.

Shadia is a guest Radio Jockey for Colours FM 101.6 in Bangladesh. She has interviewed some of the biggest names in show business and politics for television, radio and the magazine, both in the UK and in Bangladesh. She is at home in front of a microphone or camera, and is known for speaking eloquently and precisely.

Shadia regularly hosts and presents some of the biggest events in the UK, Bangladesh and Europe. She has taken part in over twenty quiz shows on television in the UK, and works as a quiz show deviator and consultant.

Shadia is also a media and communications consultant and a political analyst. In Bangladesh she worked for the National Democratic Institute (NDI), where she was responsible for the organisation's high-profile projects and seminars focusing on democracy. She continues this work as a political consultant. Shadia has worked as a Consular Warden at the British High Commission in Dhaka. In her spare time, Shadia enjoys music, travelling and photography. Her background in mathematics enables her to handle all aspects of her life in a clear, calm and logical manner.

Shadia's ancestral roots are Sreefalty Zamindar House, Kaliakoir, Gazipur and Shibganj Zamindar House, Mohasthan, Bogra. She is the only child of Dr and Mrs Alo Chowdhury and lives in Dulwich, London.



Shadia Syed

Sector:
Media

Shaheen Mohammed Al Mamun Taluqdar is a Co-Founder, Head of Financial Administration and Award-Winning Solicitor at Black Antelope Law who specialises in Civil, Commercial and Public Law Litigation and Disputes.

Shaheen has a growing reputation in the legal profession and remains very active in holding Public Bodies to account in their decision making where particularly there has been a breach of policy, legitimate expectation and proportionality. He also advises various Entrepreneurs through all the legal aspects of managing their Businesses in the UK and recognises a proficient demand for high quality and sophisticated representation.

Shaheen has already received significant recognition for his work by being awarded the 'One to Watch' at the British Muslim Awards 2018, the 'Malcolm X Young Person's Award for Excellence' by the Muslim News Award 2017 and was also Highly Commended for the 'BSN Rising Star' at the UK Legal Diversity Awards 2016. He was also shortlisted as finalist for 'Rising Star of the Year' by the Modern Law Awards 2017 and 'Junior Lawyer of the Year' by the Law Society Excellence Award 2016.

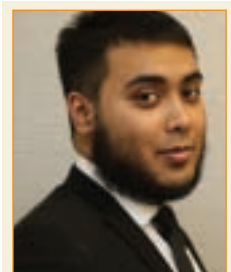
Shaheen has also made a substantial contribution to the Charity Sector where he recently served as a Trustee of the Habeas Corpus Project, who provided pro-bono legal representation in challenging unlaw-

ful detention of migrants in the UK. He is currently serving as a Legal Officer at the Maternal Aid Association, a grassroots student led charity striving to improve situations in resource-poor settings such as Bangladesh, to bring about safe, effective, high quality maternal healthcare.

Shaheen was elected as the BME Officer for the London Green Party in 2016 and served as a Committee Member for the Society of Green Party Lawyers. He was invited to speak as a Guest Panellist alongside The Rt Hon. the Lord Boateng at The Law Society's Black History Month Inspiration Evening 2017.

Shaheen was also invited to participate in the prestigious 'Young Muslim Leadership Programme' at the University of Oxford in 2018. He graduated with the LLB Solicitors Exempting Degree from the University of Westminster in 2014. During this time as a Law Student, he would be recognised with a Student Achievement Award in 2013 for academic excellence and progression among his cohorts in Law.

Shaheen is proud of his British Bengali heritage and regularly contributes to the modern development of his Father's place of birth in Chahara Nogdipur, Derai Thana in the Sunamgonj region of Bangladesh.



Shaheen Mohammed Al Mamun Taluqdar

Sector:
Solicitor/Law



MP Tulip Siddiq

Sector:
Politics

Tulip Siddiq is the MP for Hampstead and Kilburn and the state minister for culture, media and sports for the shadow cabinet. She spent her childhood in Bangladesh, Brunei, India, Singapore and Spain. She moved to North London ten years ago and completed her undergraduate and Master's degree in the U.K. She recently became the Councillor from Camden Council. She is doing a second Master's in Politics, Policy and Government.

Tulip has her own blog where she writes about both British and Bengali politics.

Tulip was the 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 (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).



Sheik Tuahid

Sector:
Media

Sheik Tuahid was the first son of Sheik Abdul Bari and Sheik Amina Khatun. He hails from the village of Bausi, PO Doshgar, Bishawnath Village in the district of Sylhet. He first came to the UK in 1985.

His enthusiasm for education was obvious, as he decided to attend the Mathew Bolton College. There he studied electronic engineering for a year. His positive and encouraging approach towards the Bangladeshi community was without a doubt noticeable and consequently it resulted in him becoming the General Secretary of Bangladeshi Society in Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire from 1987-1990. In 1995, Mr Tuahid was given the role of vice chairman and later, the role of General Secretary of "Onuprash" Jatio Kobi 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.

At this moment in time, he is the managing editor of the weekly Bangla Voice, the only Bengali newspa-

per published in the Midlands. Also, he is a representative of the weekly Potrika and the weekly Bangla Mirror, two newspapers involved with the British Bangladeshi community.

Married to Lilma Choudhury, he and his wife have three children named Sheik Hussain, Sheik Salman and Sheik Ferdus. Mr Tuahid lives with his wife and children in Solihull in the West Midlands.



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Baroness Manzila Uddin

Sector:
Politics



Award Winner 2013

In 1988, Baroness Uddin became the first Bangladeshi woman councillor in UK, representing Shadwell Ward in Tower Hamlets. She is a pioneer of women's work. She is an activist and campaigner for social justice, human rights with particular focus on empowerment of women. This led her to working in Local Government, subsequently becoming a councillor and elected as Deputy Leader of Tower Hamlets council in 1992. In recognition for her contribution to the community and advancement of women's rights, Baroness Uddin was appointed by the Queen to become the first Bangladeshi and Muslim to enter the House of Lords in 1998.

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

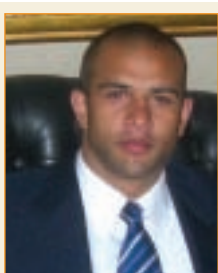
With her friends and colleagues she set up the Jagonari, the UK's first purpose built Asian women's education and training centre, as well as contributing to the development of several community led NGOs, many of which over the decades improved opportunities and access to services as well as jobs, particularly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

within its workforce.

As a member of the House of Lords, Baroness Uddin has worked on the Select Committee on European Affairs and chaired several government Task Forces, leading the work on domestic violence and forced marriage. She was also asked by then Prime Minister to chair the work with women on Community Cohesion and Preventing Extremism, which enabled her to travel across many parts of UK as well as Middle East, Europe and USA.

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

In 2008 she was asked to Chair of the Black, Asian and minority Ethnic Women Councillors Taskforce, a cross party initiative set up by the Government. In her role as Chair, Baroness Uddin set out and successfully securing the commitment of the Prime Minister and the Opposition Leaders to change the face of political institutions and address the gross underrepresentation of minority women in public life with evident success. Professionally, over a decade she worked in Newham Social Services. More recently with Addaction led the Zurich International funded, Breaking the Cycle Project which worked successfully across UK, with families affected by drugs and alcohol.



Anwar Uddin

Sector:
Sports



Award Winner 2014

Anwar Uddin has been involved in top level football for over 15 years. He begun his career at premier league club West Ham United where he grew up with world class players including Rio Ferdinand, Frank Lampard and Jermaine Defoe, to name a few. A successful education winning the FA youth cup and being among the first team squad paved the way for a long career playing in all 4 divisions in English Football. Anwar went on to represent Sheffield Wednesday, Bristol Rovers, Dagenham & Redbridge, Barnet and Eastbourne Borough. Anwar was the first British Asian to be appointed as an Assistant Manager (Barnet 2011) and captain of a football league club (Dagenham 2006). He has also clocked up hundreds of first team appearances winning championships and accomplishing a boyhood dream of lifting a trophy at the new Wembley Stadium in Dagenham's triumphant play off win.

Anwar has been extremely productive with his time away from his playing duties and is now a fully qualified coach working towards his A- Licence which is among the highest qualifications in football Coaching. Anwar spent last season working with the West Ham United Academy as a coach and has been recently appointed as Assistant Manager to non league side Maldon & Tipree.

Having now retired as a player Anwar's full time role is the with the Football Supporters' Federation as Diversity and Campaigns Manager in partnership with Kick It Out. Anwar's role is to work with the millions of Football fans in making football as inclusive and accessible for all. The role includes travelling around the world with football fans Internationally and domestically, challenging the number of issues supporters may face following football.

This is something that Anwar is now synonymous with having spent 2 and a half years delivering anti discrimination education to footballers of all levels and students all over the country. Anwar undertook this work for the Professional Footballers Association and Show Racism the red card who have also inducted Anwar into the show Racism the Red Card hall of fame, for his contribution to all their anti racism work in education and Football.

Anwar was born and raised in the heart of East London and went to School at Raines Foundation in Bethnal Green. He is part of a big family consisting of 3 sisters and 2 brothers and now lives in Kent with his wife and two boys Kai and Jayden.

Dr Ruab Uddin, is a modest educationalist and community activist. He is the eldest son of Mr Afiz Ali and Mrs. Joymal Khatun of Mamod pur (Jandor tupi, Pagla Bazar), Sunamganj, Bangladesh. After completing his secondary education at Sunamganj Government Jubilee High School in 1980 and Higher Secondary education at the prestigious Sylhet MC College, he arrived in England in 1982, graduated from University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology (UMIST) and pursued the post graduate degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Composite & High Performance Polymer Chemistry at Manchester University in 1992. Following on his success in the PhD project originally funded by Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI), he was appointed as a research associate at ICI at Wilton Centre, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

He has a number of publications in science journals. Ruab visited many European states & capital cities to attend science seminars and symposiums to represent his research team. His passion and strong desire to work with the Bangladeshi community had made him change his career from science research into the field of education. Later he joined Tower Hamlets College as a lecturer and then completed his PGCE at Huddersfield University. At present Dr Ruab is teaching science with the responsibility as the Key Stage 3 Science Co-ordinator.

During his college & university years he developed many community organisations projects through LEA & Urban grants to assist the Bangladeshi community. Ruab was one of the founders of Mossley (Manchester) Bangladesh Wel-

fare Centre which promoted the linguistic and socio-cultural activities in 1980s and early 90s. His long commitments and affiliated work involves with many organisations such as: Greater Sylhet Development & Welfare Council in UK (GSC); Bangladeshi Teachers Association (BTA); Greater Sunamganj Welfare Association; Dokshin Sunamganj Upozilla Association; Friends of Purbo Pagla High School in UK; Dagenham Bangladesh Cultural Association to name but a few.

Dr Ruab also works as a capacity building consultant where he facilitates seminars and training sessions in education, youth & social issues, community development and other related topics. He is a school governor of a primary school and a tertiary college in Dagenham. He is an irregular writer of Bangladeshi news papers and a guest of talk shows of Bengali TV channels. He is a silent supporter of Bongobondhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman & his political philosophy. He was the general secretary of Bangladesh Chatro League MC College Hostel branch; the founder general secretary of Greater Manchester Jubo League and currently the joint secretary of All European Bongobondhu Porishod.

Dr Ruab is the eldest of four siblings (second brother Mohim Uddin, a caterer; third brother Sharif Uddin, a medical doctor and the youngest brother Thaher Uddin, an accountant) who is married to Sofina Uddin and has two sons, Masum and Nasim and a daughter Shabnom. He with his family resides in Becontree in the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.



Dr Ruab Uddin

Sector:

*Education and
Community Relations*

Syed Monsur Uddin is a journalist and columnist. Uddin began his career when he was a student at Dhaka College back in 1989. In his school days, he developed an interest in journalism as one of his uncles was a journalist himself.

Having finished his studies at college, Uddin joined the Department of Political Science at the University of Dhaka, and started contributing to the Weekly Ekota and Daily Bangla Bazar. He was the university reporter for both newspapers and was elected as an executive member of the Journalists' Association.

During this period, he regularly contributed to other national dailies on issues related to politics, education and culture. For a considerable period of time, he was attached to the first phone-in programme on BTV – Ovimot. The show was anchored by Md. Jahangir. The programme gave Uddin greater exposure to the social and natural realities of Bangladesh. After his Honours and Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Dhaka, he joined Bangla Bazar and became their senior reporter in 1996.

Uddin came to England in 1997 and joined Bangla TV in 1999. He was with the newsroom of Bangla TV and contributed greatly to its growth and development. After a year with Bangla TV, he accepted the News Editor role at Weekly Surma in 2000, also serving as an Editor since 2006 to August 2013. For a

brief period, he was the founding News Editor of Bangla Express – a short-lived weekly publication of Surma News Group.

In 2013, Uddin worked for the Tower Hamlets Labour Party as a Media Adviser and for British Bangladeshi MP Rushanara Ali's campaign team. He is currently working as a Political Adviser for John Biggs – the Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets.

Uddin is an executive committee member of the London Press Club, and was part of the executive committee of Bishwo Shahitto Kendro in London. He was also a founding member of the institution.

Appreciated as 'funny and lovely' by his son Sadaf, Uddin is from the village of Charabhanga in the Madhabpur Upazilla, Hobigonj. His father is Syed Muhammed Idris and his mother is Rafia Khatun Chowdhury. Uddin currently lives in Chigwell, Essex, with his wife, Hadi Jannah, and daughter, Shompreeti. His hobbies include reading, gardening, travelling and cooking.



Syed Monsur Uddin

Sector:

Media



Dr. Wali Uddin
MBE JP

Sector:

*Catering and
Community relations*



Award Winner 2010

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 Debretts' 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.



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 Gangana-

gar. 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.

Mohammed Shab Uddin is the CEO and Managing Director of the 'Beani Bazar Cancer and General Hospital' and one of its Founding Trustees. BBCGH is notably known as one of the first 'Cancer' focussed charitable projects in the Bangladeshi community. Since 2009, Mr Uddin has dedicated the majority of his time spearheading this Charity from a green field site to a multi story, fully operational general hospital with a dedicated cancer clinic that is open 24 hours a day to the public. The Charity has been able to successfully raise substantial funds with the help of the community and is continuously expanding its services and fulfilling its objectives.

Prior to Mr Uddin's involvement with BBCGH, he has been actively involved with a number of socio-cultural and charitable organisations of Beani Bazar both in the UK and in Bangladesh since a young age. Mr Uddin's UK life began in the early seventies after joining his father who had been here since 1942. Mr Uddin and his father were involved in various retail businesses before establishing the Tower Tandoori Restaurant in the Tower Bridge area. The family were able to successfully establish a mini chain of Indian Restaurants in the late 80s.

Today, the Tower Tandoori is known as one of London's oldest Tandoori restaurants and celebrates its 40th Anniversary in 2018. The Farncombe Tandoori in Surrey, another restaurant opened by Mr Uddin and his father celebrates its 35th Year in business in 2018.

Mr Uddin's father was one of the first Bangladeshi landlords in the East End; he has also helped Mr Uddin invest in the Property Market in the UK and Bangladesh. Mr Uddin has since been able to expand his property business globally. Mohammed Shab Uddin married Nilufa Begum in 1985 and they are blessed with three sons and one daughter. Their sons have all completed higher education and are involved in the family property business and catering businesses. Tower Tandoori is well known for being run by the 3rd generation of the family, eldest son Suhel Ahmed. Third son, Russel Ahmed also plays an important role in helping run the family businesses. Stirling Ackroyd Legal; an international property law firm is headed by second son Emon Ahmed, who is also a Corporate Lawyer. Mr Uddin's daughter is currently studying at UCL. All their children are involved in charitable activities and community projects.



Mohammad Shab Uddin

Sector:
Catering / Charity

Nazim Uddin (FCCA, FHEA, MBA, BSc, BBM) is a fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and Higher Education Academy (HEA). He has spent many years working at various UK universities and professional bodies as a lecturer, external examiner and assessor. This includes just over five years work as a lecturer at the University of East London, three years' experience as a marker for the ACCA and he is currently an external examiner for the Newcastle University. He has significant shares in several private limited companies in the UK, which employ around 115 staff in the UK. In addition to his distinguished academic and entrepreneurial background, he has voluntarily worked with many charitable organisations including acting as the treasurer and a trustee of the East London Citizens Advice Bureau.

Nazim Uddin was born in Chittagong, Bangladesh on 28 October 1975. He is the youngest of three children to Mr. Kabir Ahmed and Mrs. Shamsun Nahar. Nazim studied at one of the poorest schools in his early life but secured first division for his secondary school certificate and higher secondary certificate. He gained a first class degree in business management from the University of Mysore in India and was the first Bangladeshi student to secure a first class degree from the University of Mysore. Nazim Uddin

completed his MBA in Bangladesh and secured top-grade in the history of his University. Nazim Uddin has played an integral role within the British Bangladeshi. Among these ventures are NCL Tours, Nelson College London and London Churchill College along with shares in various public limited companies. The private companies he co-owns has an annual eight-figures turnover, with an annual net profit in seven figures, employing more than 115 staff and has a collective net asset of just over ten million. Additionally, he and his extended family have multiple investment in Asia and Europe.

In recognition of Nazim's academic achievement in his MBA programme in Bangladesh, he received a gold medal which was presented to him by the president of Bangladesh. He was awarded "Entrepreneur of the Year" by the UK Bangladesh Catalysts of Commerce and Industry" (UKBCCI) in their inaugural Business & Entrepreneur Excellence Awards 2016 in the presence of over 800 guests, made up of dignitaries, Lords, Ministers, MPs and prominent members of the business community. Mr. Uddin is also involved in many charitable causes.



Nazim Uddin

Sector:
Finance



Nobab Uddin

Sector:
Media



Award Winner 2018

Nobab joined Janomot in 1990 and became its Editor in 1997, a position he still holds. Janomot, the oldest ethnic Bengali newsweekly in Britain, was established on 21 February 1969 and has, with Nobab's diligence and dedication, become the leading popular newspaper within the Bangladeshi community in UK and Europe. His commitment to the journalistic integrity has ensured that Janomot continues to earn unparalleled respect across different members of the community.

Having studied for his Bachelor of Science in Quantity Surveying Building & Construction, he continued his studies and obtained a Diploma in Construction Management. He started his career working within the construction industry, and continued his career progression in local government working for different local authorities and housing associations. He is currently working for a leading housing association in London at senior management level and is a member of several professional bodies.

Nobab is one of the founder members of the London Bangla Press Club. Established in 1991, it is an important association for Bangladeshi journalists in Britain. In addition to carrying out his role first as Treasurer of the Club, he was President from 2014-16.

Nobab is respected for his voluntary work across various community and charity organisations in London. From 1990 to 1994, he was the General Secretary of the largest Bengali organisation BWAG (Surma Centre) in Camden, North London. Indeed, his role as General Secretary was during a seminal time as the local British Bangladeshi community developed in London and he was instrumental in working with Camden Council to deliver a dedicated building for the Surma Centre.

Nobab is the Chief Adviser of the historic Bangladesh Centre in Notting Hill, an active associate of London Borough Tower Hamlets 'Boishaki Mela Engagement Group' and is

also an Adviser of the 'British Bangladeshi Power & Inspiration 100'.

He has loved sport from an early age, representing his school and district at national level in both badminton and athletics in Bangladesh. This keen interest in sports led to him forming the Bengali Sports Council in UK 1988, in support of National Sports Council. He was founder Secretary of this organisation, encouraging and motivating youths to take an active part in sports. The engagement between community and youth centres was instrumental in helping British Bangladeshis integrate into both the wider community during the turbulent 80s in London as well as mainstream British sports culture. He helped create and foster a family atmosphere in this organization, which crucially continues to serve as a social networking space for other British Asian groups as well.

During the early eighties he formed Link Promotions, a cultural and promotional organisation, which has been performing plays and cultural shows in the UK. Since 1982, Nobab has written and successfully staged several plays across the country to critical acclaim. His status as playwright and director has had, perhaps, the most tangible impact within the British Bangladeshi community. His productions appeal directly to Bangladeshis and Nobab is unflinching in reflecting profound social dilemmas and tackling taboo subjects, such as forced marriages and drug use in the British Bangladeshi community.

He has published five books, and edited three, including *The Racist Murder of Altab Ali*, which was important in highlighting the senseless murder of a Bengali East End, garment worker in 1978.

Nobab Uddin is married with two children.



**Cllr Mohammed
Zulhash Uddin**

Sector:
Politics

Cllr Uddin was born in Mohammedpur, Osmaninagar, Sylhet, Bangladsh. After completing his primary education he arrived with his parents in the UK at the tender age of 11 years old and started schooling at Hyde High School. He completed A-levels from Clarendon college and Biomedical Sciences Honours degree from Manchester metropolitan university in 2001.

He joined one of the top global pharmaceutical companies in the UK and started his working career. He always had close working with the Bangladeshi community in Hyde and in Royal Tunbridge Wells. He contributed to the local Bangladeshi, Muslim community by setting up Tunbridge Wells Bangladeshi Trust. He was one of the co-founder delivering much needed services for the local community.

He is elected member of the Tunbridge wells mosque since 2010, serving as general secretary. He was the catalyst for setting up the Tunbridge Wells Mela in 2005- a multicultural event that attracts 5000+ people annually celebrating cultural diversity in Tunbridge Wells.

He started his political career with the conservative party back in 2010, working closely with The Rt. Hon Greg Clark MP for campaign at the general election.

In 2015 Cllr Uddin was elected as Borough councillor for Tunbridge Wells representing Southborough and High Brooms ward and Town councillor for Southborough. He is serving in two committees : finance and governance advisory board and Member of scrutiny and overview. In 2017 he was elected as deputy Mayor and May 2018 was elected as Mayor and Chairman from Southborough Town Council, Kent. The key focus for the town is to deliver the community HUB, bringing Theatre, library, medical centres and the football pavilion and retail units.

Mr. Kamal Yakub as he is commonly known hails from Sylhet and lives in Surrey. He came to the UK as a full time student in 1972 soon after independence of Bangladesh. He passed 'A' Levels in Pure Maths, Applied Maths and Physics from Paddington Technical College London. Later, Mr. Yakub completed a full time 3 year Degree Course at University College London (UCL) and successfully obtained a degree in Engineering in 1977. Worked for some time in Burma Oil Company's Research Centre in Bracknell. In 1980 he started his own restaurant business in Worcester Park, Surrey and has since been in the catering trade till to date with different outlets. Mr. Yakub is the current National President of Bangladesh Caterers Association UK Ltd, popularly known as BCA. This organisation has been running for 58 years since inception and is the oldest and largest of its kind.

Mr Yakub first joined BCA in 1986 and has always remained with BCA as an active member both regionally and nationally. He served as Secretary of 'BCA Surrey Region' and then during the last term Mr. Yakub was the President of BCA Surrey Region. Prior to being elected as the 'National President' of BCA in May 2017 (for a term of 2 years) he had been a Senior Vice President continuously for a few terms in a row. Mr. Yakub held the responsibility as the Convener of BCA's Annual Award & Dinner Committee over the last few years (upto Nov 2016) requiring a substantial amount of activities and experience. During the Presidency of

Mr. Mahmadar Rashid, Mr Yakub headed a team to represent BCA to Sheffield Home Office officials where a round table talk was held regarding 'Sector Based Scheme'. BCA was consulted as stakeholders by the Home Office since the beginning of introducing this pilot scheme. Unfortunately and unfairly the scheme did not continue for countries outside the European Union. BCA is still lobbying for its reintroduction.

During the Presidency of Mr. Bajloor Rashid MBE he was Head of the Action Committee for the historic 'static demonstration' held at Trafalgar Square in 2008. He later with a few senior BCA Members represented BCA with Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) in the Home Office which successfully brought about the inclusion of Bangladeshi skilled Chefs and Managers in the 'Shortage Occupation List', SOL of the Points Based System. Outside BCA, Mr. Yakub has been a Trustee and Secretary of Surrey Muslim Centre in Adlestone, Surrey since 2006. He is also involved in other community related voluntary works. He is a senior adviser for 'Surrey Muslim Funeral Services' which is a voluntary organisation. As a person, he is a man of principle and a thorough gentleman and is liked by both the younger and the older generations.

Mr. Yakub is married with 2 sons and a daughter. The eldest son is a civil Engineer who currently works in Saudia Arabia, the daughter is a school teacher and the youngest son is an IT consultant.



**Mohammed
Mustafa Kamal Yakub**

Sector:
Catering



Award Winner 2018

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' 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.



Ms Rekha Waheed

Sector:
Arts



M Naufal Zamir

Sector:

Telecommunications



Award Winner 2011

Naufal Zamir is a successful entrepreneur, a dedicated businessman and a committed leader. He arrived in the UK in 1999, equipped with a degree in law from Dhaka University, and started down the same path as his legally-adept family. His father, brother and sister are all legal professionals, and by 2003, Mr Zamir had completed his LLB at London University, qualified as a Barrister-at-Law and was called to the bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

Armed with only a laptop and a fax machine, Mr Zamir set off on a mission to create a business that would challenge him, test him and push him to grow as a person, a businessman and a leader. It was from those humble beginnings in 2004 that he founded Zamir Telecom.

In the company's short history, it has achieved phenomenal growth in all three of its serving sectors and has established itself as a trusted name in the international wholesale market, a well-recognised brand in the retail market and a respected service in the corporate sector. Recently, Zamir Telecom has soared to new heights, being named amongst the fastest-growing UK tech companies in the Sunday Times' Tech Track 100 in 2011 and 2012. It has expanded its operations in Middle East, South Asia, South-East Asia, Africa and North America

and notably, the company has expanded exponentially, year after year, in spite of rough economic trends globally.

One of Mr Zamir's forte is public speaking and he has addressed audiences in award ceremonies, events and congregations of industry peers at the highest level. But even with all his success, Mr Zamir continues to dedicate himself to furthering his education and development as businessman. He has attended the LSE Summer Courses in Leadership and Entrepreneurship and regularly attends seminars and events relevant to successful personalities. He has worked alongside a broad range of consultants - whose areas of expertise range from finance and management to technology and regulatory - and is an active member of the entrepreneur community around the world.

BRITISH BANGLADESHI WHO'S WHO 2019

BRITISH BANGLADESHI

WHO'S WHO

2019

NAMES ARE LISTED IN
ALPHABETICAL ORDER
BY SURNAME

Names are listed in alphabetical order by surname

Award Winners 2019

1.	Ahmed Cllr Barrister Nazir FRSA	.08
2.	Altab Syed M	.09
3.	Ferdhaus Mahee (Jalil)	.10
4.	Khanom Kamrun N (Shuva Matin)	.11
5.	Munim M A	.12
6.	Rahman Aliur Sheikh	.13
7.	Rahman Muhibur (Muhib)	.14

New Entries 2019

8	Ahmed Bashir	.18
8a.	Ahmed Jamal	.18
9.	Ahmed Md Gulam Robbani	.19
10.	Ahmed Sultan	.19
11.	Akhtar Ruhena	.20
12.	Ara Cllr Raushan	.20
13.	Barua Laboni	.21
13a.	Chowdhury Abul kalam	.21
14.	Choudhury Muzahid Ali	.22
15.	Chowdhury Mohammed Jinnat Ali	.22
16	.Chowdhury Cllr Ferdousi Hena	.23
17.	Chowdhury Reshmin	.23
18.	Chowdhury Shaheenur	.26
19.	Gaffar Haji Abdul	.26
20.	Hoque Cllr Atiqul	.27
20a	.Hasan Md Rajib	.27
21.	Islam Moinul	.28
22.	Jubair Mohammed	.28
22a.	Sufian Abu	.29
22b.	Faruk Omar	.29
23.	Kabir Cllr Humayun	.30
24.	Khan Shams Uddin	.30
25.	Khan Makdad	.31
26.	Khaton Monzo Ara	.31
27.	Islam Barrister Monirul (Monju)	.32
27a.	Miah Jahir, MIOd	.32
28.	Miah Motin	.34
29.	Muktadir Aleha	.34
30.	Nazim Abdul Karim	.35
31.	Nasir Jilani	.35
32.	Rahman Ashiqur	.36
33.	Rahman Cllr Zenith	.36
34.	Rahman Lutfur FCILEx	.38
35.	Rahman Mizanur Mizan	.38
36.	Salim Mohammad Yousuf	.39
37.	Shamsuddin Ahmed MBE	.39
38.	Saha Tapan	.40
39.	Shelim Councillor Shamsul Islam	.40
39.	Hussain Shomsul	.42
40.	Hassan Shahin	.42
41.	Shahid Mohammed Abdus	.43
42.	Qureshi Cllr Leema	.43

Existing Entries

43.	Ahad Abdul	.45
44.	Ahmed A M Ohid	.45
45.	Ahmed Emon	.46
46.	Ahmed Faruque	.46
47.	Ahmed Faysal	.47
48.	Ahmed Jamal	.47
49.	Ahmed Iqbal OBE	.48
50.	Ahmad Mansoor	.48
51.	Ahmed Mesba	.50
52.	Ahmed Mohammed Belal	.50
53.	Ahmed Mehruz	.51
54.	Ahmed Monir	.51
55.	Ahmed Nurun	.52
56.	Ahmed Muquim	.52
57.	Ahmed Mosleh Uddin	.54
58.	Ahmed Parvez Cllr	.54
59.	Ahmed Rashed	.55
60.	Ahmed Shofi	.55
61.	Ahmed Thufayel	.56
62.	Akthar Nazmin	.56
63.	Akbar Ahsan	.58
64.	Alam Meah Monirul	.58
65.	Alam Dr Mohammed Nurul	.59
66.	Ali Aladin	.59

67.	Ali Amin	.60
68.	Ali Anwar	.60
69.	Alam Md Shahaidul Alam (Ratan)	.61
70.	Ali Ansar	.62
71.	Ali Ashid	.62
72.	Ali Enam MBE	.63
73.	Ali Cllr Junab	.63
74.	Ali Mohammed Mohed (Mitu)	.64
75.	Ali Mazhar	.64
76.	Ali Maya	.65
77.	Ali Kamru	.65
78.	Ali Monir	.66
79.	Ali Monojir	.66
80.	Ali Munsur	.68
81.	Ali Nadia	.68
82.	Ali Cllr Nasim OBE	.69
83.	Ali Mohammed Monchub JP	.69
84.	Ali Nazia	.70
85.	Ali Shakur	.70
86.	Ali Rushanara MP	.72
87.	Ali Tariq	.72
88.	Ali Dr. Siraj	.73
89.	Amin Shah Lalon	.73
90.	Anwar Cllr Farida	.74
91.	Anwar Dr Zaki Rezwana	.74
92.	Arif Kazi	.76
93.	Aziz Liza	.76
94.	Azad Shamim	.77
95.	Aziz Suhail Ibne	.77
96.	Bari Dr Muhammad Abdul MBE	.78
97.	Bashar Shamimur Rahman	.78
98.	Begum Cllr Rita	.80
99.	Begum Ruqsana	.80
100.	Bipul Saidur Rahman	.81
101.	Brothers Taj	.81
102.	Choudhury Abdul Gaffar	.82
103.	Choudhury Akhlaq QC	.82
104.	Choudhury Amirul	.84
105.	Choudhury Anwar	.84
106.	Choudhury Atique Islam	.85
107.	Choudhury Aziz	.85
108.	Choudhury Dr Ferdousi	.86
109.	Choudhury Foysol Hussain	.86
110.	Choudhury K M Abu Taher	.88
111.	Choudhury Mamun	.88
112.	Choudhury Dr Sanawar	.89
113.	Choudhury Shafiqur Rahman	.89
114.	Choudhury Syeda	.90
115.	Choudhury Capt. Tasbirul Ahmed	.90
116.	Chowdhury Cllr Ayesha	.92
117.	Chowdhury Ahmed Us Samad JP	.92
118.	Chowdhury Enam –Ul Haque	.93
119.	Chowdhury Ashike Dr	.93
120.	Chowdhury Sadia Afroz	.94
121.	Choudhury Aziz Siraj	.94
122.	Chowdhury Golam M	.96
123.	Choudhury Mitu	.96
124.	Chowdhury Sarah Ali	.97
125.	Chowdhury Zia	.97
126.	Chowdhury Amin Babor	.98
127.	Chowdhury Chaina	.98
128.	Chowdhury Monsoor	.100
129.	Chowdhury Kawsar	.100
130.	Chowdhury Salim	.101
131.	Chowdhury Md Shabul	.101
132.	Fakruzzaman Abdul Md	.102
133.	Chowdhury Tareq	.102
134.	Choudhury Shamim	.104
135.	Faruk Shahagir Bakth	.104
136.	Gazi Imrul	.105
137.	Huq Dr Rupa MP	.105
138.	Haque Abdul	.106
139.	Habib Haque Abdul	.106
140.	Hamid Abdus	.108
141.	Haque Jehangir	.108

142. Haque firuzul	109
143. Haque Cllr Ahmadul	109
144. Haque Syed Samadul	110
145. Hasan Parvin	110
146. Hasan Mahmud MBE	112
147. Hamid Abdul Momin	112
148. Haider Aman	113
149. Hayder Rafique	113
150. Habeebullah Mohammad OBE JP	114
151. Hoque Emdadul (Tipu)	114
152. Hoque Fokrul (Misfah)	116
153. Hossain Ajmalul QC	116
154. Hossain Subrina	117
155. Hussain Dr Hasanat M. MBE	117
156. Huq Dr Mozammel	118
157. Hussain Anwar	118
158. Hussain Mahbub	120
159. Hussain Mohammed Akbar	120
160. Hussain Shelim MBE	121
161. Islam Ifty	121
162. Islam Dr Momotaj Gafur	122
163. Islam Nazrul	122
164. Islam Mujibul	124
165. Islam Fokrul	124
167. Islam Nurul BA (Hons). MSc , MBA	125
168. Islam Polly	125
169. Islam Sabirul	126
170. Jahedi Mohammed Abdul Munim	126
171. Jalal Rajonuddin	128
172. Kader Mohammad Lavlu	128
173. Jamal Misbahul	129
174. Kabir Shoeb	129
175. Kamali Sabina	130
176. Kabir Thamina	130
177. Karim Musabbir (Sabbir)	132
178. Kazi Syed Aif Hussain	132
179. Kal Karim Dr	133
180. Khalil Ibrahim	133
181. Khan Akram	134
182. Khan Ayub	134
183. Khan Oil FRSA	136
184. Khan Iزدani Khan	136
185. Kalam Muhammad Abul	137
186. Khan Azom	137
187. Khan Mashuk Ahmed	138
188. Khan Dilara	138
189. Khan Helal Uddin	140
190. Khan M.A Mannan	140
191. Khan Islam	141
192. Khan Dr Shafi	141
193. Khan Md Shamsuddin	142
194. Khan Tahir Cllr	142
195. Khan Tasmin Lucia	144
196. Khan Zakir	144
197. Khanum Dr Nazia OBE	145
198. Khatun Sapnara	145
199. Kibria Md Gulam	146
200. Kibriyah Minhaj	146
201. Khatun Syeda Amina Cllr MBE	148
202. Kuduse Muhammed Abdul	148
203. Lais Mohammad Abul	149
204. Mahmud Taysir	149
205. Masroor Ajmal	150
206. Mayenin Piara (Piya)	150
207. Matin M A	152
208. Matin Haji	152
209. Meah Saad	153
210. Mia Sanam	153
211. Miah Karim	154
212. Miah Cllr Mohammed Ayas	154
213. Miah Anawar Babul	156
214. Miah Faruk MBE	156
215. Miah Jusna Begum	157
216. Miah Rohema	157
217. Miah Sufi	158
218. Miah Sheikh Sujat	158
219. Miah Mohammed Zilu	160
220. Moni Rowshanara	160
221. Mukit Cllr M.A MBE	161
222. Mukit Mahi PhD	161
223. Miah Molik Dobir	162
224. Miah Mohammad Harun	162
225. Monsur Abdul	164
226. Murshed Mahbub	164
227. Nuru Nazmul Islam	165
228. Pasha Nur –Ur Rahman Khandaker	165
229. Pasha Sayed Nasha	166
230. Poddar Biplab	166
231. Paul Robin	167
232. Qureshi Dilrubba	167
233. Rahman Ataur	168
234. Rahman Anis OBE JP	168
235. Rahman Akik F	169
236. Rahman Atikur	169
237. Rahman Aziz-ur	170
238. Rahman Habib	170
239. Rahman Mahbub	171
240. Rahman Mohammed Siddiquer	171
241. Rahman Shahida	172
242. Rahman Mahidur	172
243. Rahman Emdad MBE	173
244. Rahman Bobby	174
245. Rahman Mahidur	174
246. Rahman Syed Mohibur	175
247. Rahman Syedur Ranu JP	175
248. Rahman Mohammad Hafizur	176
249. Rahman Sheikh Mohammed Mofizur	176
250. Rahman Cllr Md Mohibur	177
251. Rahman Mina Sabera	177
252. Rahman Tipu	178
253. Rashid Mohammed Abdur	178
254. Rashid Bajloor MBE	179
255. Rahman Cllr Habib	179
256. Rabbi Shermeena	180
257. Ray Mukul Chandra	180
258. Rouf Mohammed Abdur	181
259. Saha Dr Bijan Kumar	181
260. Salam Dr Mohammed JP	182
261. Shah Nadia Cllr	182
262. Salique Shapla	183
263. Shah Nasir Ali	183
264. Shah Nohshad	184
265. Shaikh Alpona	184
266. Suleman Amjad	185
267. Shariff Sultan Mahmud	185
268. Shah Taj	186
269. Sadeque Imam Shaikh	186
270. Syed Shadia	187
271. Taluqdar Shaheen Mohammed Al Mamun	187
272. Siddiq Tulip MP	188
273. Tuahid Sheikh	188
274. Uddin Baroness Manzilla	190
275. Uddin Anwar	190
276. Uddin Dr Ruab	191
277. Uddin Syed Monsur	191
278. Uddin Moin	192
279. Uddin Dr Wali Tasar MBE JP	192
280. Uddin Mohammad Shab	193
281. Uddin Nazim	193
282. Uddin Nobab	194
283. Uddin Cllr Mohammed Zulhash	194
284. Waheed Rekha	195
285. Yakub Mohammed Mustafa Kamal	195
286. Zamir M Naufal	196

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