

Prof. Tofail Ahmed, Ph.D

Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 04 May 1955
- Place of Birth: Chattogram



Educational Qualifications:

- Passed SSC examination from Fatehabad High School, Chattogram
- Passed HSC examination from Chattogram College
- Obtained BA Honors and MA Degree in Politics and Administration from the University of Chittagong
- Obtained M.Sc (Econ) Social Sector Planning and Management, University of Wales (Centre for Development Studies), Swansea, UK
- Earned Ph.D in Development Studies, University of Wales, Swansea, UK

Professional Career:

His teaching career began in 1981 as a faculty member at BARD, Comilla, where he served as a trainer. Later, it expanded into various dimensions, including preaching and teaching development activists from both home and abroad, academic instruction in undergraduate and postgraduate classes, as well as supervision and guidance for M. Phil and Ph.D. research conducted by individuals from Bangladesh, India, and the UK.

As a consultant and activist, the majority of his contributions were made in the broader field of Local Government (Urban and Rural), the institutionalization of community participation, poverty alleviation, grassroots-level group organization, NGO activity coordination, and the capacity development of public sector agencies in designing and implementing community-level projects. Throughout his entire professional career, he collaborated with different prestigious national and international organizations. Notably, he served as a governance advisor at UNDP, held the position of Director-Governance at MJF, and worked as a consultant for ADB, World Bank, and UNICEF.

Special Achievements:

- Mercantile Bank Award (Education) – 2019
- Published a total of 28 books in Bangla and English language.

Personal Life:

In personal life, he is married, and he has a daughter.

Gawher Nayeem Wahra

Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 15 December 1955
- Place of Birth: Kushtia

Educational Qualification:

- MSS in Public Administration

Professional Career:

Gawher Nayeem Wahra assumed the role of Director for BRAC's Disaster Management and Climate Change program in July 2015. With over 28 years of extensive experience, he has successfully managed complex emergencies and natural disasters at local, regional, national, and international levels. In this capacity, he has held managerial positions responsible for developing community-focused humanitarian responses, fostering human resources for rights-based humanitarian actions, and monitoring and coordinating efforts across various development organizations.

Throughout his career, he has actively engaged in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation programs, with a particular emphasis on child protection in emergency situations. His valuable contributions spanned several humanitarian organizations, including Oxfam, CARE, ActionAid, Save the Children, PLAN, Swiss Development Cooperation, and UNICEF. His work has taken him to diverse regions, including Kurdistan (Northern Iraq), India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Somalia, where he undertook specific assignments related to Disaster Risk Reduction and humanitarian response.

Moreover, he served as an adjunct faculty member at the Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies at the University of Dhaka. His significant involvement included assisting in the development of undergraduate and postgraduate curricula for disaster management courses offered by public universities.

Notable Achievements:

- Founder convener and member secretary of the Foundation for Disaster Forum (DF) which is a national membership organization of 67 agencies and individuals working in the field of humanitarian response in Bangladesh.
- He is also the founder member of the South Asian Disaster Network "Duryog Nivaran".



Mostafa Kamal Ahmed FCA

Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 01 December 1975
- Place of Birth: Cumilla

Educational Qualifications:

- Passed SSC examination from Cumilla Zilla School
- Passed HSC examination from Cumilla Victoria Govt. College
- Completed his graduation and postgraduation from Dhaka City College and Jagannath University College (now Jagannath University).
- Fellow member and Chartered Accountant, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh



Professional Career:

Till now in his professional career, he has served a critical role in many prestigious organizations of Bangladesh. These are Apex, Grameenphone, Warid Telecom, Airtel, LG-Butterfly, Nagad, etc. At present, he is the CFO of Partex Star Group, Dhaka.

Special Achievements:

- Gold medalist of Warid Telecom for his excellent performance.
- Launching dynamic teams, recognition and innovation for different organizations.

Personal Life:

Her wife's name is Umme Haney Lotus. In their conjugal life, they have one daughter and one son.

Jacob Kumar Sarker

Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 09 December 1965
- Place of Birth: Mymensing

Educational Qualifications:

- MSS, Dhaka University



Professional Career:

He was the Country Representative of Tearfund Bangladesh. He served more than 7 years in the child protection sector at UNICEF and Plan International. Apart, he worked in different INGOs throughout his career. Right now, he is working as a Freelance Consultant.

Personal Life:

In personal life, he is married, and he has two daughters.

Jasmeen Sultana Paru



Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 10 June 1951
- Place of Birth: Chottogram

Educational Qualifications:

- Completed her graduation from the University of Chittagong.

Professional Career:

With over 45 years of experience as a social activist, Ms. Sultana has collaborated with both national and international organizations, engaging in multifaceted subject matters and environmental issues. She is the founder of "Ensure Legal Support through Local Movement & Action – ELLMA" and has held the position of Chief Executive Director since 1996. Prior to this role, she served as a project coordinator for a family planning project funded by PSTC for two years. Additionally, Ms. Sultana worked at the Bangladesh Institute of Theater Arts (BITA), focusing on Women Empowerment, Linkage, and Network Activities.

Throughout her professional journey, she actively participated in and represented her organizations at more than 150 national and international platforms, including events in the USA, Canada, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Pakistan, and others.

Ms. Sultana is also the founder of Angkur Girls High School in Chattogram, Bangladesh Women Association (BWA) Kinder Garten in Chattogram, and holds the position of secretary at the BWA Orphanage center in the Chittagong district. She is deeply involved in Chittagong, with life membership in various organizations, boasting an impressive affiliation and honorary engagements with 42 different organizations dedicated to social rights and humanitarian causes.

Special Achievements:

She has received several awards for her significant contribution to social and women empowerment work. For instance, Begum Rokeya Padak, Matrivumi Padak, Best Women Social Activist, Special Honor on Social Service (International Women's Day) etc.

Anjulika Khisa

Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 24 January 1950
- Place of Birth: Rangamati

Educational Qualifications:

- M-Ed.

Professional Career:

- In her entire professional career, she served the Government of Bangladesh as “District Education Officer”. She was a member of the Chakma Circle Heritage Council. That Council was formed in 2010 for preservation of heritage of Chakma.

Special Achievements:

- Ananya Shirsha Dosh Award, 2007
- Gunijan Sammanna on Education by Kaler Kantho
- Merit Award for her outstanding contributions in women empowerment from Isabella Foundation on 26 February 2023



Rezaul Karim Chowdhury

Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 1st March 1956
- Place of Birth: Cox's Bazar

Educational Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Arts with Honors and Masters, Sociology, University of Chittagong
- Chancellor's Gold Medal 1976 (Awarded in February 1994).



Notable Achievements:

The University of London, World Literacy Conference – Philadelphia, World Bank – Washington, ActionAid – UK Office, BBC World - London, TV 2 France, SAARC People Conference – Nepal, Community Radio Conference by UNESCO- Sri Lanka, Conference on Micro Finance Policy and Governance – ESCAP, Bangkok.

Major Area of Experience:

He has thirty-five years of experience in Management Systems and Planning for Learning and Change, Human Resource Development, Sustainable Micro Finance Integrated into Income Capacity Building Especially in Outreach Coastal Islands, Policy Research and Influencing Changes in Policy and Practices, and Amateur Radio Operation.

Professional Career:

He is the Executive Director of COAST Foundation. Before that, he served in different crucial positions in different renowned organizations.

Personal Life:

In personal life, he has two sons and two daughters. They are successful in their own interest areas.

Dr. Manjur-Ul-Amin Chowdhury



Personal Information:

- Date of Birth: 29 August 1956
- Place of Birth: Chattogram

Educational Qualifications:

- Attended Noajishpur Primary High School
- Passed SSC examination from A.J.Y.M.S Multilateral Institute
- Passed HSC examination from Chattogram College
- Obtained BA Honors and MA Degree from Chittagong University
- Earned a Ph.D. degree from the Department of Sociology

Professional Career:

Worked as the faculty head at Chittagong Independent University (CIU) and Premium University (PUC) Interested in conducting research. Dr. Manjur-Ul-Amin Chowdhury has demonstrated a strong commitment to education, research, and academic leadership throughout his career. His involvement in various academic and administrative roles has contributed significantly to the institutions he has been associated with.

Special Achievements:

- Senate Member of Chittagong University
- Ex-member of Finance Committee, Chittagong University
- Vice-Chairman, Ghasphul (served three terms)
- Chairman, Ghasphul (serving from 1st July 2023 to 30 June 2026)

Personal Life:

Widower, his wife passed away on 19 April 2016. His daughter is named Dr. Sadia Saba Chowdhury and his son is named Panini Amin Chowdhury. Both his daughter and son are residing in America. His Father's name is Abdul Haque Chowdhury, who posthumously won the Ekushe Padak prize for research and his mother's name is Jubaida Banu Chowdhury.

Dr. Alauddin Majumdar

- Date of Birth: 1st June 1957
- Place of Birth: Feni

Early Career:

Dr. Majumdar started his career by serving in different healthcare positions. He held roles such as Thana Health Officer (THA), Medical Officer (MO), and Regional Medical Officer (RMO) at various Upazila Health Complexes. These roles provided him with valuable experience and a strong foundation in the field of healthcare management. Dr. Alauddin Majumdar's career trajectory reflects a commitment to public health and healthcare management. His roles and achievements underscore his contributions to the betterment of healthcare services in Bangladesh.



Hospital Superintendent: He served as the Superintendent of Feni 250-bed General Hospital from 2011 to 2012. This position involved administering the overall operations and management of the hospital and so on.

Deputy Director (DG Health), Mohakhali: He later assumed the role of Deputy Director at the Directorate General of Health Services (DG Health) located in Mohakhali, Dhaka, in 2012. This position likely involved working at a higher administrative level.

Director (Health), Chittagong Division: One of the significant milestones in his career was his appointment as the Director (Health) for the Chittagong Division from 2013 to 2017.

Special Achievements:

His contributions to various healthcare programs were recognized through awards. He received awards for his work in the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), Tuberculosis & Leprosy Control program, and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) program. These awards likely highlight his commitment to the healthcare response.

Personal Life:

Married. one Son and one daughter. Her wife and both of his children are also physicians.

Begum Shamsun Nahar

- Place of Birth: Noakhali

Educational Qualification:

Bachelor of Laws – LLB and LLM, Rajshahi University



Professional Career:

International Gender and Development Expert. She has more than 35 years of experience in policy analysis, project design, and implementation as well as Mid-Term Review and Evaluation of Projects/Programs/NGOs. She has expertise in policy making on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), Preparation of guidelines and Action Plans for Gender-based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation, Abuse & Harassment (SEAH); Ensuring gender mainstreaming, from design through to government approval, consulting with civil society and government officials.

Special Achievements:

She can work as a Women's Activist and has been leading a National Network of 550 women's organizations in Bangladesh. She used to write articles for various publications including national daily newspapers in the country and abroad.

Her notable achievements in the field of gender and development reflect her dedication and expertise in promoting gender equality, social inclusion, and combating gender-based violence.

Mobashwir Ullah Chowdhury

- Date of Birth: 1949
- Place of Birth: Bhola

Educational Qualification:

HSC

Professional Career:

From 1972-2004, he was a journalist for a popular Bangla newspaper named “Sangbad”. Now he is working as a human activist and social worker.

Special Achievements:

He was awarded “Mainul Hasan Smriti Padak” for his truly brave journalist activities at the Barishal division.

Personal Life:

Married. Have 3 children (2 daughters and one son). All of them are settled at their own respective arenas.



12. Nurul Alam Masud

- **Date of Birth and Place:** 1978
- **Date of Place:** Noakhali

Educational Qualification:

BA Honor in Social Science & MA in Political Science and Bachelor of Laws – LLB from National University



Professional Career:

Advocacy & Networking Officer, Mass Line Media Center (MMC) (2000-2004)

Chief Executive, Participatory Research and Action Network-PRAN (2004- Continuing)

National Secretary, Bangladesh Food Security Network- KHANI Bangladesh (2014- Continuing)

Overall, his career showcases his commitment to social issues, advocacy, and community-driven initiatives. His roles and achievements underscore his commitment to creating positive social change and addressing critical challenges such as food security and community development.

Special Achievements:

He was awarded “Proktojon” for journalism. And in 2003 he was awarded for grassroots journalism.

Personal Life:

Married. Have 2 children.

Ashoke Kumar Bose

- Date of Birth 6 May 1971
- Birth of Place: Faridpur

Educational Qualification:

Bachelor of Laws – LLB and LLM, Rajshahi University

Professional Career:

Advocate, Supreme Court, Bangladesh, (1997-Continuing)

Special Achievements:

Law Advisor at Sonali Bank Ltd.; Penal Lawyer at Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation, and Law Advisor at Yester Group Ltd.

Personal Life:

Married. Her wife, Dipa Biswas is also an Advocate Supreme Court, Bangladesh. They have only one daughter.



Taslima Miji

- Place of Birth:

Educational Qualification:

- Obtained Bachelor of Arts with Honors and Masters, Sociology, Dhaka University
- Completed a postgraduation in Media Studies at the Asian College of Journalism in Chennai.



Professional Career:

She is one of the famous leather bag manufacturers and exporters in Bangladesh right now. Her signature brand “Gootipa” is now famous for its customized leather products, both in Bangladesh and international markets like Canada, Germany, Netherlands, and USA. Before that, she started her professional career as a journalist.

Special Achievements:

Currently, 50 workers are working in her factory. Among them 60% are women.

Personal Life:

She is a single mother. She has a son. Her husband died of COVID-19

Beauty Akter

- Place of Birth: Jhalokathi

Educational Qualification:

She attended Paota High School in the Jhalokathi district.

Professional Career:

In her professional life, she is working as a union member. She is also a member of the Human Rights group at their district level. She is the SMC member of her Phuljathi union.

Special Achievements:

Received different trainings from COAST on several contemporary issues. These help me a lot to walk in my life and to guide others to stay on the right track.

Personal Life:

She has in total 8 members in her family. Among them, one of her daughters recently obtained a BA degree. She has 2 boys, and they are studying in different classes.



Mahmuda Khatun (Shahin)

- Place of Birth: Lakshmipur

Educational Qualification:

She attended West Lakshmipur Daroga Bari Primary High School. She obtained her BA Degree from Lakshmipur Government Women Degree College.



Professional Career:

She started her professional life in the Cadit Program, Desh Unnayan Songostha (an NGO) before the completion of her SSC examination. Later in 1996, I started to teach elderly people. Then in 2002 after passing the HSC examination, I started working as a PS in the BRAC, ADP program. In this job, my responsibility was to look at over 30 libraries. I was the pioneering one in my village who was doing her job by riding a bicycle. Then in 2009, I joined Popular Life Insurance Company. In 2015 I was involved with the Human Rights Commission as a Female Secretary and also working as Joint Secretary of Poddokoli in my union.

Special Achievements:

Received different trainings from COAST on several contemporary issues. These help me a lot in making decisions both at my family and society level.

Personal Life:

She has in total 6 members (3 sons and 1 daughter) in her family. All of them are studying in different classes in different educational institutions.

Halima Begum

Place of Birth: Char Madraz, Charfashion, Bhola

Educational Qualification:

She attended Kemaratgonj High School.

Professional Career:

She is a housewife. Apart, she is engaged with various social works and awareness-based campaigns at her community level.

Special Achievements:

Received different development trainings from COAST on several contemporary issues. These help me a lot in different walks of my life and guide others to stay affirmed in any critical situation.

Personal Life:

She has in total 5 members (2 daughters and 1 son) in her family. All of them are studying in different classes in different educational institutions.



Ruma Aktar

- Place of Birth: Ramu, Cox's Bazar

Educational Qualification:

She attended Ramu Girls High School.

Professional Career:

She is a reserved union member in her Union Parishad. She is the president microfinance group of Jagorori Chakro Foundation in her union. And also working as a member of the Oporajita Foundation.

Special Achievements:

Received different development trainings and participated in different meetings/dialogues/education-based sessions from COAST and other places. These help me a lot in making decisions at any crucial time.

Personal Life:

She has in total 6 members (3 daughters and 2 sons) in her family. All of them are studying in different classes in different educational institutions.



Farjana Begum

Place of Birth: Chattogram

Educational Qualification:

She attended Alkoron Sultan Ahmed City Corporation Girls High School.

**Professional Career:**

In her professional life, she is working as a Social Worker. She is engaged with different non-profit organizations in her community areas. She is also a member of the Human Rights group.

Special Achievements:

Participated in different trainings from COAST on several contemporary issues. These help me a lot to walk in my life and to guide others to stay on the right track.

Personal Life:

She has in total 4 members in her family. Her daughter's name is Fouzia Aktar Eva and her son's name is Ehsan Alam (Honti). Both are studying in different classes.