British Bangladeshi Power 100 can be summarised in just three words: Talent. Success. Inspiration.

We have been delighted by the success of the first publication which was unique in recognising the depth and breadth of British Bangladeshis. For 2013, we continue to pay tribute to those who are helping shape Britain for the better with their ideas, example, talent and success and have endeavoured to unearth some hidden jewels as well as celebrating the more well known personalities.

On the journey to finalising the list, we have come to appreciate the diversity, strengths and growing confidence of British Bangladeshis. We want the publication to be used as a resource and a focus of discussion. We hope that you will celebrate the amazing stories of the 100 but also take time to pause and reflect on how to inspire and support the next generation to achieve more.

2012, what an incredible year! We have memories to last a lifetime and are really proud to recognise the contribution of the British Bangladeshi community to the Olympic and Paralympic Games. From helping to win the bid to mesmerising the world at the opening ceremony (with the many Gamesmakers and torchbearers in between), this community has played an incredible role at the Games which is truly worthy of celebration.

Thank you to our expert judging panel and in particular to Iqbal Wahhab OBE and Syed Nahas Pasha for their esteemed advice and commitment to the project. Special thanks to Anne Main MP for hosting the launch event and thanks also to our broadcast and print media partners, sponsors and supporters.

Finally, congratulations to all members of the 2013 BBPower100. You are the role models for "Generation BB".

Abdal Ullah and Ayesha Qureshi MBE
Founders and Editor

www.bbpower100.com

Messages of Support

As Mayor, I am proud of the positive contribution all our communities make to the life of London, and in particular the work of the Bangladeshi community. Like many communities, the Bangladeshi community played a huge part in delivering the most successful Olympic and Paralympics Games ever.

The BBPower100 will undoubtedly profile and celebrate the community’s innumerable successes, as well as inspiring the next generation of Bangladeshi leaders to contribute even more to the economic, social and cultural life of this great city.

I would like to salute the efforts of Abdal Ullah and Ayesha Qureshi MBE for the creation and compilation of this important resource, and I wish you all the best with the launch of the publication.

Boris Johnson
Mayor of London

I’m delighted to have the opportunity to recognise the role of the British Bangladeshi community in the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

I said in my speech at the Opening Ceremony that “one day we will tell our children and our grandchildren that when our time came we did it right”. We did it right, so thank you for playing your part in helping us to win the Bid, supporting LOCOG in so many aspects of planning and staging the Games, coming to cheer on the athletes, volunteering and helping to make the world feel at home in the East End of London. We can all be proud of what we have achieved together. These Games brought out the best of us.

Our motto for the Games was “Inspire A Generation”, and I congratulate Ayesha and Abdal for using the BBPower100 and the role of the British Bangladeshi community in the Olympic and Paralympic Games to celebrate and inspire the future generations of British Bangladeshis to achieve their full potential.

Sebastian Coe CH, KBE
Chairman of the LOCOG
The BBPower100 is a celebration of leading British Bangladeshi figures who are helping shape Britain for the better with their ideas, example, talent and success.

Entrepreneur

Iqbal Ahmed OBE
Chairman and Chief Executive of the Seemar Group. An Ernst and Young International Entrepreneur of the Year global category winner, the Seemar Group has an annual turnover of £250m and employs 2,500 people across the globe, including 300 in its operations in east Manchester. Iqbal is the only British Bangladeshi on the Sunday Times Rich List and has been recognised with a Queen’s Award for Export Achievement.

Shehim Hussain MBE
Founder and Managing Director of Euro Foods Group. Shehim has an influential role in the NW London Bangladeshi business community. He has grown his company into the UK’s largest supplier to the Indian restaurant sector with a number of distribution centres, retail and cash and carry stores in the UK and factories in Bangladesh. He has recently acquired a London-based business for his business.

Naufal Zamin
Managing Director of Zainal Telecom Ltd. Owner of the "SimpleCall" brand. Naufal’s company is ranked for the third consecutive year on the Sunday Times Tech Track 100 list. With a turnover in the region of £22m, he is diversifying into green energy infrastructure projects in Africa and Asia and continues to grow in the UK.

Abdur Rouf JP
Chairman,Alamat Properties UK and Director of the Mutual Trust Bank Dhaka from its Horizon Oli Ste Restaurant in Dundee and Balaka restaurant in St Andrews. Abdur Rouf has diversified his business interests into property, hospitality sport, banking and shipping. He is the Honorary President of St Andrews University Cricket Club and the Scottish Regional President of British Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce.

Robique Hayder
Director of Bangla Tour and Bangladesh City Cash. Robique runs one of the largest Bangladesh grocers in the UK. Chair of the leading import & export association and a Director of the Bangladesh Business Association. He is, in addition to his business, pro-actively involved in the Bangla-speaking community.

Mockbul Ali OBE
Diplomat, British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO). A leading young diplomat serving in a key British embassy in the Middle East, Mockbul has been a policy advisor to three former Foreign Secretaries, and have played a major role in FCO outreach to Muslims worldwide. Previously listed amongst the 500 most influential Muslims globally he is currently involved in government responses to the Arab Spring

Anwar Choudhury
Diplomat, British Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Currently a Director in the FCO, Anwar served as the British High Commissioner for Bangladesh in 2004, and was the first BAME person to be appointed in a senior diplomatic post. He remains a popular personality in the British Bangladeshi community.

Asif Anwar Ahmad
Diplomat, British Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Asif was appointed as Her Majesty’s Ambassador to Thailand and Laos in 2011 and completed his tour in 2012. Originally a banker by training Asif is currently undergoing language training in London for his next diplomatic posting in August 2013.

Dr Halima Begum
Director Education, East Asia at the British Council. An experienced international development manager, Halima is responsible for shaping British Council strategies for education and business partnerships throughout East Asia. Until August 2012, she was first secretary for development at the British Council based in various offices in Asia.

Shazia Ullah
Transformation Programme Manager at LB of Southwark. Shazia has 20 years experience in delivering partnerships and regeneration programmes within local government. In her previous role as Assistant Chief Executive at Southwark, she oversaw the transformation of a multi-million pound organisation winning the accolade of LGC Council of the Year 2012, and has a similar modernisation role at Southwark.

Brand

Ruby & Millie
Ruby Hammer MBE, Make-Up Artist and Entrepreneur. Ruby has established a number of leading brands in the UK and her own name is associated with the Ruby & Millie and Scarlett & Crimson ranges, available in branches of Boots across the country. Ruby is also behind the Ruby Hammer recommendations make up range available exclusively at Debenhams.

Channel STV (Sky 814)
Maine’s recent hit, Harder. Having celebrated its 8th birthday, Channel STV has firmly established itself as the leading Bengali language broadcaster in the UK, with a large British Bangladeshi viewing audience. The station also provides vital support to community improvement campaigns and charity fundraising.

Awakening Worldwide
Stuart McHaffey and Nusrat Ara Komen MBE, CEO of a global Islamic media company including a publishing house, event management and record label. Awakening’s media plans is the world’s most popular Muslim personality on Facebook and the most watched on YouTube. Awakening are currently collaborating on a £1m project, producing a series of movies on the life of the Prophet Muhammad.

Blue Inc
Amit Khan, Director. Blue Inc is a leading menswear retailer, offering cutting edge fashion in over 200 stores in the UK. The company is to create 500 new jobs as it sets up its operations in the UK and overseas. The retailer is on track to grow underlying profits by 45% to £2.5 million this year.

Taj Stores
Abdul Quayyum, Abdul Haq and Abdul Mulqu Khaleque, Directors. The original Khaleque brothers established Taj Stores on Brick Lane, in 1956 making it the longest established British Bangladeshi business in London. Taj Stores is synonymous in the East End of London with the prices, goods and fresh produce of Bangladesh.

Legal

Ajamul Hossain QC
Barrister. Ajamul is the first and only Queen’s Counsel in England and Wales for the Bangladeshi community.

Khatun Sapnara
Barrister/Recorder. Khatun is a family law barrister specialising in all aspects of the law relating to children. She is a part-time judge and has a special expertise in cases involving domestic violence and forced marriages. She chairs the Askins women’s refuge

Shah Qureshi
 Solicitor, Partner. Shah is a top ranked lawyer in Chambers UK 2013 and Head of Employment law at Bindmans LLP. His pioneering work led him to be listed in the Lawyer magazine’s Hot 100 as a leading figure in discrimination law. His expertise is in representing executives and professionals.

Akhlag Choudhury
Barrister/Recorder. Akhlag is consistently listed as a leading barrister in Chambers UK and the Legal 500. He has a wide ranging practice in employment, public and information law. He is based at 11KBW chambers and is a part time Recorder.

Charles Mannan
Barrister. Charles established Temple Court Chambers in 2005, with a focus on creating dynamic and forward thinking chambers with an international outlook. The Dhamo affair of Temple Court Chambers has since been listed in the Asia Pacific edition of the directory Legal 500. The practice has a broad spectrum of expertise.

Politics

Mayor Lutfur Rahman
Executive Mayor of LB of Tower Hamlets. The first British Bangladeshi Muslim directly elected Mayor. Lutfur ranks 68th in The Telegraph’s Top 100 most influential figures from the Left. A dominant figure in local politics, Lutfur commands a municipality budget in excess of £1bn.

Rushanara Ali MP
MP for Bethnal Green and Bow. Appointed shadow parliamentary under-secretary of state for international development in her first term. Rushanara is recognised as an influential development leader. She is the first elected member of parliament of British Bangladeshi heritage and one of the first female Muslim MPs.

Baroness Pola Uddin
Baroness of Bethnal Green
Life Peer, House of Lords. Baroness Uddin is the first British Bangladeshi woman to enter the House of Lords. She continues to champion a range of initiatives and organisations which promote women’s participation in civil society and human rights.

Murad Qureshi AM
Greater London Assembly Member. Recently elected to his third term as GLA member. Murad chairs the London Assembly Health and Environment Committee and the London Waterways Commission. He is a well known and respected figure across the capital for championing environmental and community issues.

Cllr Tulip Siddiq
Councillor, LB of Camden. Rising political star Tulip has been called an "emerging organisational creature" in the Labour party and has worked for Blair strategy, the late Philip Gould and Labour MP’s Harry Cohen and Tessa Jowell. Tulip also worked in the Ed Miliband leadership campaign team. She was elected to Camden council in May 2010 and is widely tipped for parliament in the near future.

Policy/Civil Service

Talent. Success. Inspiration.
Ed Hussain
Senior fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council for Foreign Relations (New York) Ed is a leading global expert on international affairs. He is contributing to the foreign policy debate in western governments face in the Middle East. A frequent commentator in the international media including Sky News, Fox, Al Jazeera and The New York Times. Ed’s also an acclaimed author.

Prof Ando Miah
Professor of Emerging Technologies at the University of the West of Scotland. Ando, who is internationally renowned in his field of human rights, social justice, and women’s issues. He has also worked for the UN’s High Commissioner for Refugees for over two decades.

Dilwar Hussain
Fellow, The Institute for Strategic Dialogue. Head of Policy Research at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Dilwar’s research interests are citizenship, Muslim communities in Europe and Britain and British Muslim identity. He has advised the private-sector government departments and the European Commission. He is Co-Chair of All-rght UK, a network which brings together British Jews and Muslims.

Tufyal Choudhury
Durham University
Tufyal teaches international human rights law at Durham Law School. He is a Research Associate at the University of Oxford Centre on Migration, Policy and Society, a senior fellow at the Centre for Advanced Study, University of Lund, and a Research Fellow at the University of Wurzburg. Tufyal is a member of the EU Network of Experts on Violent Radicisation.

Amin Ali
Red Fort
Founded by Amin in 1983, the Red Fort is a landmark in London’s Bangladesh and has hosted restaurants for its magical cuisine. Amin is the proprietor of two popular Islington eateries, Ottawa and Mercado. He is an active member of the North London community.

Atique Choudhury
Yum Yum
Yum Yum is one of the largest Thai restaurants in Europe and winner of The Asian Awards 2012. Best Thai Restaurant in London. Atique is also the proprietor of two popular Islington eateries, Ottawa and Mercado. He is an active member of the North London community.

Akbar Islam
Following on from his TV fame on Gordon Ramsay’s show, Akbar has carved out a reputation as one of the UK’s most exciting young chefs. L assimilates a weekly waiting list for a table. A founding member of the Professional of the Year and works as an ambassador for the city’s young business talent.

Ana Choudhury
House of Spice
Ana’s experience of the curry industry spans 40 years during which her House of Spice Group has extended to 23 restaurants across 7 counties in the UK. With endorsements from the likes of Raymond Blanc, Ana has played a pivotal role in making the curry industry what is today...
Community Activist

Dr Muhammad Abdul Bari MBE
Chairman of the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre. A leading educationalist, community activist, author and parenting consultant. He is a Board member of LCCOG and was the Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain. He is listed among the 500 most influential Muslims globally.

Ahmed us Samad Chowdhury JP
Chairman of Channel TV, businessman, and community activist. Ahmed is a Bengali language media mogul, community activist and philanthropist who has raised millions for charitable endeavours. He is known for his work in raising the profile of the British Bangladeshi community and is widely praised for his work across the UK, Europe and Bangladesh.

Barrister Atur Rahman
Chair of the Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council in the UK (GSC). Atur is a qualified Barrister and plays an important role championing the welfare of the community. He campaigns on a number of issues including the Stwa Tshaakmil Dam campaign, which is threatening severe environmental damage to the Sylhet region of Bangladesh.

KM Abu Taher Choudhury
Journalist. Abu Taher is the chief editor of the weekly Bangla Post newspaper and editor of the weekly London Bangla. He is President of The Bangladesh Journalist Association (UK) and secretary of the Values and Justice UK. He has led numerous community campaigns on human rights, community housing and environmental issues.

Shamim Azad
Editor and Columnist
Shamim is a storyteller and poet. His work uses aspects of the Asian folk and oral traditions. He composes and produces anthologies in Bengali and English and develops oral histories. He is an advocate and campaigner in support of the Bijoypur (the flower of victory) as a symbol in commemoration of the end of the Bangladesh Liberation war.

Community Personality

Bajloor Rashid MBE
Restaurateur and Entrepreneur. Bajloor was the President of the Bangladesh Caterers Association and under his inspirational leadership the organisation was transformed into one which plays a key role in promoting the curry industry. He continues to be a dominant figure in the industry and the community.

Pasha Khan's
Restaurant and President of the BCA. As the former Secretary General and current president of the Bangladesh Caterers Association (BCA) Pasha is a well-known champion of the curry industry in the UK. Under his leadership, the BCA continues to grow as a voice for the curry industry. Pasha owns a number of restaurants in the Kent and Sussex area.

Mohammad Nobab Uddin
President of London Bangla Press Club and Editor of Jazzanet. Nobab has many credentials: he is a journalist, playwright, a director and author to name a few. As editor of the Britain’s oldest Bengali weekly outside Bangladesh he is a highly respected and influential member of the community and is the current President of the London Bangla Press Club.

Mugli Uddin Ahmed
Restaurateur and Entrepreneur. Mugli is a highly regarded figure in the community. He is a successful businessman with assets in the region of £35 million and is famous for being the first British Bangladeshi millionaire. He is currently leading a campaign to get the government to create a ‘curry university’ to provide training for the unemployed.

Lisa Aziz
Broadcast Journalist. Lisa is a popular member of the community. She has presented for BBC World, hosted Financial Times Business Daily for NRK, and anchored Sky News at Ten. She also presented for the BBC before moving to ITV West. She is currently a news presenter for LBC 97.3.

Media

Nina Hossain
Newssayer, Journalist. Nina is the lead presenter of ITV’s London Tonight. She co-hosts ITV London bulletins, presenting the capital’s main stories of the day and conducts exclusive interviews with high-profile figures and celebrities. In addition, Nina also presents a national news bulletin for ITV News.

Konnie Huq
Presenter, Journalist. Konnie has made herself a household name from being the longest-serving female Blue Peter presenter and a former X Factor presenter. Konnie works in TV, radio and print journalism. She is a regular visitor to Bangladesh and supports a number of charities.

Tasmin Lucia-Khan
Newscaster, Journalist. Tasmin is a Prince’s Trust Ambassador Tech Entrepreneur and former BBC News & ITV Daybreak Presenter. She is the popular face for UK News and Entertainment, reporting for two of America’s largest TV Networks.

Ajamal Masroor
Imam, author and presenter. Ajmal is the go-to Muslim commentator in many of the mainstream media. He is an experienced commentator and contributor to various national radio and TV programmes and presents his own shows on the Islam Channel and Channel 5. He is Director of Communities in Action.

Murad Ahmed
Technology Correspondent, The Times. Murad is an up and coming journalist. He writes news and analysis about the net, social media, consumer technology and other issues in and around the technology industry.

Akrak Khan MBE
Choreographer/Dancer/Artistic director Akrak Khan Company. Critically acclaimed for the creation of a production called the London 2012 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony around the theme of mortality, Akrak has an exceptionally successful track record having won the Best Modern Choreography prize at the Critics Circle National Dance Awards for Vertical and a Laurence Olivier award for his piece Death.

Zoe Rahman
Jazz Musician. Zoe is one of the brightest stars on the contemporary jazz scene. A vibrant and highly individual performer, her style is deeply rooted in jazz yet it reflects her classical background. British Bangladeshi heritage and her broad musical taste and influence. She is winner of a MOBO Award for Best Jazz Act 2012.

Religious Figure

Maulana Abdur Rahman Madani
Imam of Doral Ummed. Maulana Madani presides the hugely popular weekly Islamic programme show “Islam Essentials” on Channel 5. He is also the Principal of Jamiatul Ummah secondary school and is a respected Islamic scholar.

Shaykh Abdul Qayyum
Chief Imam of East London Mosque. Shaykh Abdul Qayyum is a widely respected cleric. He is a former lecturer at the International Islamic University of Malaysia and has previously studied in Saudi Arabia. Currently studying for his PhD at SOAS, he is a patron of the Richard House children’s hospice and supports a number of charities.

Shaykh Mahmudul Hassan
Imam of Essex Mosque. Shaykh Mahmudul Hassan presents, Ibn Jiggasha, an Islamic QB & a show on NTV Sky 852. He holds various qualifications in Arabic and is currently studying for a PhD at the Institute of Education (University of London).

Imam Ahmad Faruq Siddiqi
Muslim chaplain at the Barts Health NHS Trust. Imam Ahmad Faruq is chaplain at one of the largest NHS trusts in the country and regularly contributes to community media on health issues. He contributes to various interfaith work and also acted as Muslim chaplain at the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Shaykh Shams
Ad-Duha Muhammad
President of the Bangladesh Olympic Association. Shaykh Shams is a leading young Islamic scholar, who is actively involved in developing innovative educational models for young British Muslims. He is a well-known speaker on a wide range of topics and makes regular TV appearances. He is a highly respected translator of classical Islamic texts and is also an author in his own right.

Talent. Success. Inspiration.
30 and under

PC Sakira Suzia ★ Police Constable The multi talented Sakira is a police officer in the Army and an accomplished marathon runner. She volunteers for a number of organisations and was chosen for the International Rescue Network’s UK Youth Security team. Sakira has been awarded the Metropolitan Police Commissioner’s Award, the highest award for bravery in the Met for her role during the 2011 London riots.

Sabinur Islam ★ Entrepreneur An award winning young entreprenuer, author and global motivational speaker Sabirul has spoken at over 450 events worldwide as part of his ‘Inspire Million’ campaign and authored two bestselling books. He’s been on a ‘Tour of Success’ and his book ‘7 Steps to Success’ has sold over 500,000 copies in the UK and in 14 countries worldwide.

Dr Naeem Ahmed ★ Clinical Fellow and Founder of Selfless Naeem has a key role in modernising the NHS as Clinical Fellow to the National Medical Director at the NHS Commissioning Board. He is also leading an editorial board of the journal Clinical Medicine. Naeem founded Selfless, an international development organisation led entirely by young people to empower communities in developing countries and provide healthcare.

Mumzy Stranger ★ Mop Top and BBC Radio Mumzy was the first British Bangladeshi artist to enter the mainstream music industry and signed to EMI in 2011, Winner of Best Urban Act at the UK Asian Music awards during 2012 he performed on an 11 Venue, 9 UK city tour.

Ruhana Ali ★ Community Organizer, London Citizens Ruhana works with over 500 organisations across London and teaches at Queen Mary, University of London. She coordinated an Iftar during the Olympics which received international media coverage. Ruhana plans to start a Liverpool Citizens Alliance to tackle the many challenges faced by Liverpool’s communities.

Community Organisation

Greater Sylhet Development and Welfare Council in the UK (GSC) A voluntary organisation established in 1993, with branches nationwide, working for the welfare of British Bangladeshi from Sylhet. The GSC has 13 regional committees and provides advice, information, counselling support, interpretation, translation and other services.

APASENTH ★ Specialist Care Organisation APASENTH has been successfully providing services to people with disabilities since 1981. It is one of the leading Bangladeshi organisations working with people with learning & multiple disabilities in East London and provides support to their carers.

Osmani Trust ★ Community & Youth Services Tower Hamlets Council has invested £441k million towards the development of the new Osmani Centre which houses numerous community services including mentoring, employability, education, as well as adult health and well-being. The Trust engages with over 40,000 people on an annual basis.

Newcastle Bangladeshi Organisation (NBA) The NBA has established itself as a leading community organisation in the North East under the leadership of Muhbub Miah who is a prominent and well established businessman in Newcastle. They are currently planning to build a multi-million pound centre to provide beacon facilities for the communities in Newcastle and the North East.

Mitaloe Youth Organisation (MYO) Mitaloe Youth Organisation is a volunteer based organisation tackling social exclusion through sports and does not shy away from addressing hard hitting issues facing the community it serves. Amongst its many successful projects, MYO has a summer school and a community radio station.

Emerging Influence

Rahima Begum ★ Restless Beings Rahima is the co-founder of Restless Beings, an international human rights organisation which aims to support marginalised communities that are deprived of media or public exposure. She has been at the forefront of the campaign to bring the atrocities committed against the Rohingyas of Burma to the attention of the international media and world opinion.

Mesba Ahmed ★ Founder and Chief Executive, London Tigers Under the leadership of Mesba London Tigers has celebrated its 25th anniversary and is an award winning sports and community organisation, reaching across London and beyond. Mesba works across the UK and has recently established a youth football academy in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

Dr Miratul Muqit ★ Welcome Trust Asian Scientist Miratul is a clinical neurologist carrying out groundbreaking research on Parkinson’s disease. His team have discovered a molecular ‘on-off’ switch for Parkinson’s that acts to protect the brain from developing the laker disease. His research is funded by leading foundations including Parkinson’s UK and the Michael J Fox Foundation.

Regina Sabur-Cross ★ Finals, Writer, Author A blogger at Gastrogeek and a freelance food writer Regina has the first of two books coming out in January 2013. She has written for various publications including The Guardian, BBC Good Food and Channel 4 Food. She has been featured in Red Magazine, the Evening Standard, The Independent, Olive Magazine, and Waitrose’s Kitchen Magazine.

Nadia Ali ★ BBC Network Asia Nadia is a regular presenter on Channel 5. She recently co-presented the first British Bangladeshi reality TV show ‘Forgotten Roots’. She is also the new host of a Bengali music, entertainment and news show on the revamped BBC Network Asia Radio every Sunday.

Team BBPower100

Abdul Ullah ★ Founder Abdul has extensive experience of working with London’s strategic bodies and communities. He was the first British Bangladeshi to serve on the Metropolitan Police Authority, the council of Queen Mary, University of London and was also a Non-Exec Director at the Arts and London NHS Trust the largest Hospital Trust in the UK. He is the co-founder and chair of the Labour Faith Network and a Trustee of the Thames Water Trust. Abdul hosts a weekly talk show on Better Bangla the first ever 24 hour Bangla radio station in the country and presents a business talk show on Channel 9 Sky 834. He is an elected councillor in Tower Hamlets.

Iqbal Wahhab OBE ★ Chair of Judging Panel Iqbal is a journalist, serial entrepreneur, philanthropist and restaurateur. He opened the highly successful British restaurant and bar Roast, in Borough Market in 2005 having previously owned the multi award winning Cinnamon Club. He has recently acquired the Indian street food brand Mobs and now plans to roll it out across London. Iqbal spends a large amount of his time supporting social and food initiatives, he is Chair of Kitchenette and The Asian Restaurants Skills Board, a visiting Professor at London Metropolitan University Business School, Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts and board member of the Mayor’s Fund for London. His many accolades include being a “National Treasurer” by The Times and being voted one of the Top 10 Restaurateurs in Britain in an Independent on Sunday survey. Iqbal received an OBE in the 2010 New Year’s Honours list for public service and services to the hospitality industry.

Ayesha Qureshi MBE ★ Editor Ayesha is a managing associate in the banking group at leading international law firm, Simmons & Simmons LLP where her client focus is financial institutions. She has a background in media and community relations. Ayesha worked on the winning bid to host the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London and advised LOCOG as a member of its Diversity Board. She was awarded an MBE in the 2006 New Year’s Honours list and was the only British Bangladeshi to present at a medal ceremony at the London 2012 Games.

Syed Nahas Pasha ★ Judging Panel One of the most respected British Bangladeshi journalists in the UK and the editor in chief of the Weedy Janomot, a Bangla newspaper established in 1969. Syed is also editor in chief of restaurant magazine Curry Life and UK bureau chief of the largest Bangladeshi online news agency bdnews24.com. He is one of the founding members and former general secretary of the London Bangla Press Club which acts as a voice for Bangladeshi journalists and has worked with government bodies including the Home Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Nahas is also an executive committee member of the Commonwealth Journalists Association.

Research Assistants:
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London 2012. Made in Britain.

Bulbul Hussain - ParalympicsGB, Wheelchair Rugby
Ayasha Qureshi MBE - Community Relations Manager London 2012, LOCOG Diversity Board Member and presenter at Paralympic Victory Ceremony
Dr Abdul Bari - Board member, LOCOG
Akram Khan - choreographer/performer Olympic Games opening ceremony
Imam Ahmad Faruq Siddiqi - Muslim Chaplain to the Games
Salman Miah - Designer of the London 2012 £5 coin
Sawar Zaman - volunteer
Amran Hussain - awarded accolade of "Super Volunteer"
Zakia Qureshi - volunteer
Enam Ali - Hospitality caterer, Olympic park
Emdad Rahman MBE - Blogger and community worker
Nahimul Islam - Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets
Tahmina Begum - First qualified Bangladeshi female football referee
Abul Kassam - first recipient of the Olympic torch in London
Ruqana Begum - British Kickboxing Champion
PC Sakira Suzia - Olympic Torch Security Escort Team

We played our part.
This is a small selection of the contribution made by British Bangladeshis to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.