

# THE HAZARIKA'S OF MOTIJAN

## PART 3

Chapters 9 through 18

The other children of Tafazzul Hussain Hazarika, brothers and sisters of Sharif Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika, and their families.

DAISY SAHEBAN NISSA SHAMSUN BAHAR (AZIZ)

FAIZ MD SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA

ALI MD. SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA

SHARIF MOHAMMED SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA (Part 2)

SHIRAZY SHAMSUN ARA (GHAFFAR)

IMAM MD. SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA (GEORGE)

GEORGI SHAMSUN NISSA (HUSSAIN)

GEORGINA SHAMSUN JEHAN (DUTT)

HASSIN MD SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA

ZUM ZUM SHAMSUN NAHAR (ADIL)

BULU SHARITAN BAHAN (CHAPMAN)

|                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Daisy Saheban Nissa Shamsun Bahar | (January 28,1903 -1984) |
| Faiz Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika    | (1906 -1977)            |
| Ali Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika     | ( 1907-1965)            |
| Sharif Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika  | (1909-1972)             |
| Shirazy Shamsun Ara               | (1912-1964)             |
| Imam Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika    | (5-14-1912 to 2-2-1952) |
| Georgi Shamsun Nissa              | ( 1916-2002)            |
| Georgina Shamsun Jehan            | (1918-2000)             |
| Hassin Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika  | (7-21-1921 to 7-1-1957) |
| Zum Zum Shamsun Nahar             | (1922-1978)             |
| Bulu Sharifa Bahar                | (1924-                  |

## **DAISY SHARITAN NISSA SHAMAU BAHAR (AZIZ)**

Daisy Saheban Nissa Shamsun Bahar married Nawab Abdul Aziz son of Nawab Julkad Ali, B.Sc, Tea Planter, of Titabar

Children:

Nawabzadi Wasiqua (Usiqua) married Brigadier Ashiq Md. Quasuria of Dehra Ismail Khan, Pakistan  
Sahabzadi Tusika married Ibrahim Md. Ali Dost Md. Peer Mohammed (Ebu) of Karachi, son of Md. Ali Dost Md. Peer Mohammed, Bombay grandson of Dost Md. Peer Mohammed, Glass factory owner in Bombay and Calcutta, India.

Buni Nazma married Najibur Rahman who retired as Chief Engineer of Assam. Was the son of Fajizur Rahman, Proprietor of Gorajan tea estate in Borholla, Assam. Buni resides in Tezpur as of 2006.

Bubu Nasiba (1934-2001) married Syed Hassan Rashid Jafry son of Hasan Zahid Jafry and grandson of Syed Zaimul Abudin Jafry, Sub-Judge, Agra

Daisy Aziz was the eldest daughter and eldest child of Tafazzul Hazarika. She married Nawab Abdul Aziz of Titabar. During those days Abdul Aziz's family was not very well off monetarily but his family background was very good and the marriage was agreed to. He wanted to marry Daisy Hazarika and Tafazzul would only agree to the marriage if he left his position in Kabul and returned to Assam. Abdul Aziz did his BS in Agriculture, studied for the MSc degree in Physics at Calcutta but did not complete, went on to Afghanistan as a Persian to English interpreter in King Amanulla's court in Kabul. After Tess was born he went back to Kabul and became friendly with the King. He returned to Assam to bring his family to live in a house granted to him by King Amanulla. Tafazzul refused to let Daisy go to Afghanistan and instead had him start work at Noorbari tea estate as the Manager.



They ultimately moved to a place in Tezpur that came to be known as Rabarbari. It was a small estate with probably about 100 acres of land that had a few rubber trees and therefore the name Rabarbari (rubber garden). Abdul Aziz started a pineapple garden in Tezpur and over time his pineapples became very well known in Assam having won many awards. He planted leachy trees, beetle nut trees as well as had much paddy land that is still managed by his daughter Buni Rahman. He kept tigers as pets and was an avid shikari. He died early in life, on February 9, 1941 of a heart attack. Daisy was only 30 with four girls.

Her husband died at a young age and she became the principle bread winner for her family of four girls. She went through a very difficult time and for some reason the family was able to provided only limited help. She was generous to a point giving what ever little she had to others. Daisy was alone most of her life managing the affairs of Rabarbari with some help from the rest of the family. Rabarbari estate had a nice small house that was surrounded by leachy trees as one entered the estate, beetle nut trees at the other end, pineapple plants, paddy fields, ducks, cows, pigeons, a small pukhuri with fish and was about 5 miles from the family tea garden, Noorbari tea estate. She lived a simple life and did not get involved in family disputes. She was very kind, low key woman and dressed simply. Always dressed in a plain white sari and a little over weight. She would say her prayers five times a day and was very generous to the poor people who stopped by the house seeking alms. Her income was supplemented with Rupees 200 per month from the Noorbari tea estate family property in the early days.

She came through with flying colors and today her daughter and grandchildren live on the property and have made major improvements. She was very religious and became a Hajji sometime in the mid 1964. She went with her in laws from Jorhat and she never stopped talking about her Hajj experience. She sat at the back of her house on a small “pira” everyday at noon after her daily bath for lunch and had some rice with mustard oil and mashed potatoes. She would do it in a very neat fashion, roll the rice up into small balls and eat one at a time. In between, she would give her nephews and nieces visiting from school a ball or two. The ducks and chickens gathered below the verandah and they were always rewarded with some rice. She had long white hair that reached her waist. She left it open while having lunch and let the sun dry it, after which she would roll it into a bun. On many occasions during the month of Ramadan she would go to Motijan and stay with her brother Sharif Hazarika for a couple of months observing a full fast. It was always nice to see her at Motijan since everyone in and around town would come to see her and the evening meals during Ramadan were sumptuous and delicious. All the nephews and nieces loved to be feed by her. Daisy loved pan and her mouth was always red from eating it.

She was close to all her brothers and sisters and would love to stay in Motijan. Although she was soft spoken and did not argue she was a very sharp mature person that pretty much knew what was going on in the family. In 1962 during the Chinese invasion of India she fled her home with the Chinese approached a small Indian town called Bomdilla about 100 miles away. She ended up staying six months at Motijan before she returned home. When Noorbari was bought by Sharif Hazarika and his Partners her brother Ali Hazarika and his wife moved to Rabarbari permanently. It was at Rabarbari that Ali Hazarika passed away.

Daisy Aziz passed away at an old age, late 1984 at the age of 81. She wanted to be laid to rest at the Motijan kabastan next to her husband and parents and that is how it ended. A very kind and caring woman dearly loved by her children and the entire family.

L to R: Georgina Dutt, Ataur Rahman, Daisy Aziz (at rear are Dalima Rahman and Deepa Hazarika) in 1973 during a light moment:



Rabarbari house in Tezpur in 2005:



**Nawabzadi Wasiqua (Usiqua, Snoozie (19xx – 2004?))**

Affectionately named as Snoozie by her Uncle Imam Hazarika (George) as she sneezed often. Daisy's eldest daughter married Ashiq Md. Quasuria and moved to Pakistan

Mohammed Quasuria was friendly with Faiz Hazarika when they were both in Calcutta. He was a frequent visitor at the Ballygunge flat and knew the family. One day he asked Faiz Hazarika for permission to ask his family for one of his sisters hands in marriage. While his proposal was being discussed endlessly he ended up getting married to one of their nieces, Usiqua.

Usiqua attended Pine Mont School and passed the Junior Cambridge exams. She would be mostly staying with her grandmother Noorbahar Hazarika and always travel with her. She was the first grandchild. Later on she came to live at Tezpur and saw Ashiq and fell in love. He was a Veterinary Doctor at Rangapara, the army base near Tezpur.

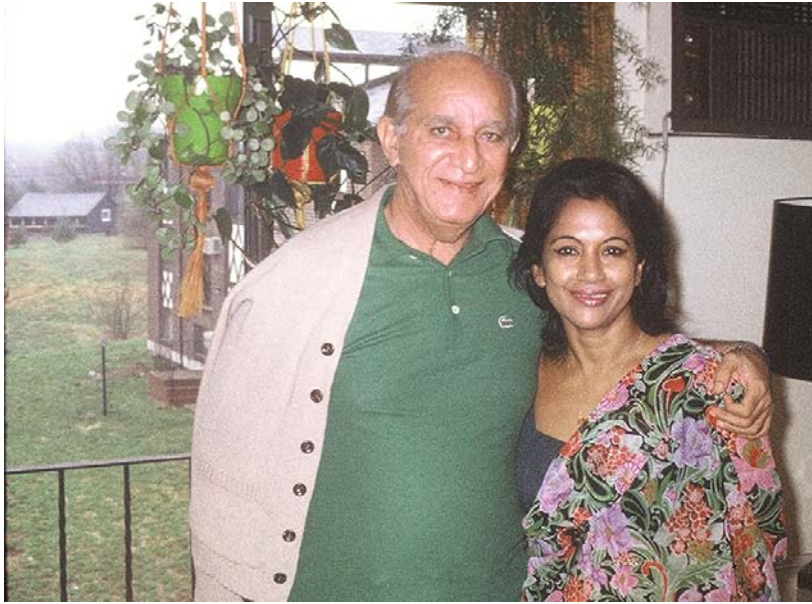
He also fell in love after proposing. He did find a lovely and pretty Hazarika bride. They were married at Tezpur, a very pretty bride that was featured as an Assamese bride in the National Geographic magazine. They were married on July 15, 1945. The entire family attended as it was a sanctioned marriage. Ashiq was from the North Western province that is in Pakistan today.

The newly wed couple went to Dera Ismail Khan in NW province a very dry region. On the day of her arrival at her husbands house it rained very heavily. The family welcomed her wholeheartedly as this being a very dry region this was a good omen. This was fortunate since Snooze was very pretty but dark skinned and going to live in a region that most people looked liked Westerners with fair skin complexion. The language spoken was Derwali and Pashtun and over time she learnt Derwali. This is a very remote region today of Western Pakistan that was under tribal law and under heavy purdah.

Snooze lived in the family farm, a very large house (multiple verandahs, one of which extended 50 feet long), with extended family living together surrounded by a great amount of family land and canals. Being an arid land they made a great deal of money selling water to farmers. Although Snooze did not wear the Purdah in the house she wore it outside as this was a very conservative society.

They moved to Karachi to their flat then to Lahore where they had a house. They retired in Lahore. She was a housewife that kept an immaculate house. She passed away around 2002 at Lahore.

Ashiq and Snoozie Quasuria in the 1970's at Portland, Maine.



### **Sahabzadi Tusika (Tess)**

Married Mohammed Peer (Ebu). Tess went to Pine Mont School in Shillong and then worked in Calcutta where she met Md. Peer. They married in 1954 in Calcutta, a love marriage. After their wedding they moved to Chittagong where he worked for Ispahani's, Amin Jute Mill. They then moved to Dacca. Ebu managed a factory producing bobbins and Tess ran a travel agency.

When Tess was in Calcutta in early 1950's working for Mahinder and Mahinder (Wiley's Jeep manufacturer) she became very friendly with all the high society folks in Calcutta e.g. the hotel kings, Bital Mallya's and the Oberoi's. She used that influence to help many family members. It was also a hard time financially for her Uncle Faiz Hazarika and she ended up helping to manage the household expenses. During that time she also helped her mother Daisy and two younger sisters by sending rupees 150 per month for

household expenses. When visiting Rabarbari she would always bring gifts and other house hold items for the family. Tess dressed simply and was a chain smoker. Loved to play cards. A big heart like her mother, Daisy.

During the independence war of Bangladesh in 1972 they moved on to Karachi. Tess opened a boutique in Karachi which became very popular with the foreign residents of Karachi. She then got involved as a Buyer for a textile manufacturer of towels. Finally in 1994 she left for Toronto to be with her daughter and two grand children. In 2004 mother and daughter were back in Pakistan. Tess was quite a socialite and new everyone at high places in Dacca, just like her days in Calcutta where she knew everyone. She got Hamid Chowdhury (Bibi Ghaffar's husband) a membership to the prestigious Dacca club. Although Hamid was a very wealthy businessman he was unable to get this membership till Tess used her influence.

Sahabzadi Tusika (Tess) and Zum Zum Hazarika posing as village girls playing Holi in Titabar:

Sahabzadi Tusika after marriage in Motijan or Dologaram tea estate near Cachar.





## **Buni Nazma:**

Buni Rahman attended school at Tezpur, then on to Lady Keane college at Shillong with sister Bubu. Both sisters went on to Shantinekatan near Calcutta, the Rabindra Nath Tagore School. Buni then went on to Dhubri in Assam to her Aunt Georgina Dutt's place to continue her studies. She transferred to St. Mary's, Shillong where she stayed with her aunt, Georgi Hussain. When Georgi moved from Shillong, Buni left St. Mary's college and her college education was put on hold. She moved to Motijan to stay with her grandmother. One day Abdul Ghaffar, Shirazys husband asked if Buni wanted to appear for the metrics. He bought her the books and she passed the exams, then joined Darrang college at Tezpur. Her grand mother, Noorbahar Hazarika was not well so she moved to Shillong to be with her and again joined St. Mary's in Shillong for the IA degree. Later she studied for a BA degree at Darrang College but it was cut short due to her marriage.

Buni Nazma married Najibur Rahman (Dhon) on January 21, 1955 at Tezpur. Both she and her husband fell in love at first sight when he visited Buni's father (his uncle) at Tezpur. Dhon was in service as an Engineer for the PWD. Buni's father and his mother were brother and sister making them first cousins. This was the first, first cousin marriage in the family. Buni met Dhon when he was visiting Rabarbari and he proposed after a few months. His family objected as they felt a Motijan girl may not know how to run a house as the family was very "western". Dhon's father finally gave permission six months prior to his death.

He was posted as Executive Engineer in Biswanath Char Ali about hour and half from Tezpur. He was involved in many social activities. He was the founder member of Biswanath College in 1960. A quiz competition is named in his honor at the college and the prize awarded is the Najibur Rahman Quiz competition trophy. He passed metrics from Jorhat, did his ISc degree from Dacca, BE (civil engineer) from Aligarh University. He excelled in football and toured the country with the team. He was 5ft 11 inches tall and although a sportsman in his young age, he had put on weight and walked very slowly due to his weight. The family loved to be with him as he was a great storyteller and loved to talk. He also loved to play rummy, hated to loose. Dhon died young of a hear attack at age 62 in August, 1983 at Tezpur and was taken to Borholla a town 12 miles from Titabar for burial. He ate the best, loved good food, his mouth was always red from eating pan and was over weight. He was very jovial, a big laugh and a very good friend to his children. The family loved to be with him. A very caring person.

In 2006 Buni Rahman still lives at Rabarbari with one of her sons (Naboo), his wife and their son, Zuben Rahman. She has expanded the main house to triple its original size and completely renovated the inside. Buni and her husband Dhon became very involved with Rabarbari when they started living there during the time of Daisy Aziz. They managed the household. They started a poultry business,



ran well for a few years and then declined. The large brick houses were converted to flats for rental. They had parties every night with lavish food. Guests were many and frequent, the house was always full and food was served 24 hours. Occasionally the chicken served at the table was a valuable egg laying hen when unannounced guests came. They played cards every night (rummy for low stakes). Georgina Dutt became a frequent visitor. Infact, Rabarbari rather than Motijan became the center for the family to gather. Najibur Rahman (Dhon) became the Additional Chief Engineer (Public Works Department –PWD) for Assam during the construction of the Brahamaputra Bridge at Tezpur. So the whole family was working on some PWD contract or another. Faiz Hazarika was there building a bridge in Mongoldoi, Dipak Dutt another bridge elsewhere, and, many other nephews par took in these activities. Unfortunately they all lost their money since they had no clue on how to build bridges. They visited the bridge sites for perhaps two hours a day, sometime after lunch then they were back at Rabarbari to enjoy the next night of parties. On one occasion Faiz, Toto and Dipak (Bhakto) felt that they needed to buy leather jackets due to the cold weather at Tezpur (approximately 70 F during the day) and also to do a better job of inspecting their bridges. So they flew to Calcutta to buy their new leather jackets.

Buni at Rabarbari, Tezpur in 2006:



Najibur Rahman (Dhon) at Rabarbari, Tezpur (rear: Kay Ghaffar, Sona Hazarika and Rukhsana Hazarika):



L to R: Tawheed Hazarika, Buni Rahman, Raisa Rahman, Ziaul Huq at Rabarbari, Tezpur, 2005:



**Bubu Nassima:** (December 12, 1934 – July 4, 2001)

Married Syed Hassan Rashid Jafry who was the Production Manager at Victory Jute Mill, Phartalli, Chittagong, East Pakistan (Bangladesh). He was the son of Hasan Zahid Jafry and grandson of Syed Zaimul Abudin Jafry, Sub-Judge of Agra. They were known as Siraji a honorable title given by the Shia community. They were also Syed's and originally from Agra. The wedding was held on March 7, 1957 at Tezpur on the day of Holi the festival of colors. Incidentally many people celebrated weddings in this State by spraying and rubbing each other with colors made from spices, a day prior to the wedding ceremony. Jafry decided to surprise Bubu and the family by coming early for the wedding. Perhaps, too much love. He left Chittagong to arrive at Guwahati but missed the ferry crossing to the North Bank and Tezpur. He hired a small boat and crossed the mighty Brahmaputra river safely and boarded a bus. It was on the day of Holi so the bus and all its passengers were plastered with water colors. Jafry was wearing a white shirt. Upon reaching Tezpur he boarded a cycle rickshaw taxi and headed for Rabarbari. He was spotted sitting on the rickshaw about half a mile away from the house by Binu and Junu Hazarika covered in many colors. He was escorted in the safety of their Jeep and on to Rabarbari.

Bubu was visiting her sister Tess in Chittagong when Jafry dropped by her place, saw Bubu, fell in love and they were married at Tezpur. It was a quite a love marriage that lasted all through their lives, with Rashid taking care of her when she became bed ridden. Although she did not complete her schooling she quickly picked up other languages while listening to others talk. She was a high society socialite in East Pakistan and became involved with her Shia community when she moved to Toronto. They fled Bangladesh with literally the clothes on their back during the independence war. After a brief stop in Karachi they were granted refugee status in Canada and moved in 1972 to Toronto. Fortunately Jafry had his two brothers and three sisters living in Toronto and they soon settled into good jobs quickly and rebuilt their lives successfully. Bubu worked for Ford Electronics. Everyone knew Bubu as she always bought in a sizable lunch of parathas and kebabs which she shared with her friends. Jafry was equally liked by everyone and worked for Kendall, Canada which changed hands four times till he retired in 1995.

Bubu had a very strong personality and a high achiever. A very honest straight talker like her mother Daisy. Bubu was a friendly person and kind to all her relatives. She had put on a fair amount of weight as eating was her passion. Her house was filled with food, just about every room had food. They initially bought a townhouse outside of Toronto (Don Mills) and then after many years a house near Markham. They needed the extra space since their son Tanoo and family lived with them. Bubu was married as a Sunni and based on her wishes her husband Jafry retained a Sunni Imam and buried her per the sunni custom in Toronto.

Jafry was born on February 25, 1932 in Bombay is 5' 11" tall and medium weight. Went to school in St Francis High School in Lucknow and the to St. Patrick's School in Karachi.

They have three boys: Tanoo born June 21, 1961, Golo born July 29, 1962 and Kamran August 28, 1963.

#### Daisy's grandchildren

Quimti Tasrim married Javeed, divorced  
 Ashiq Quasuria married Marjis, divorced and re-married her a few years later  
 Munawar married Azra, a lawyer, manages family estate  
 Sherin married Durrani  
 Aiyaz Peer Mohammed in the army - Brigadier  
 Munizeh Habib married Ali

#### Daisy's Great grand children

Fatama married Raza, divorced. Then married another Raza, Computer Engineer. Fatama has medical problems (MS)  
 One son, two daughters – Mohammed (Donnah), Pasmiah, Wasiqua Mariam  
 four daughters and one son. Sania, ?,?, Md Ali in high school in 2006.  
 three sons  
 two girls and one son. Mariam, Zahra, Ebrahim. Ebrahim married Rabia.  
 One girl and two boys- Alizeh Habib lives in Toronto, Imran

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Habib who works for the family business                | Habib studies in Providence, RI; Mikaeel Habib  |
| Aziz   | Died at a young age, 28 around 1992.  |
| Tajkur Rahman (Kuchi) married Kulkul Goswami of Tezpur | Ankur Rahman; Rodin Rahman  |
| Imtiaz Rahman (Naboo) married Raisa Hussain            | Zubeen Rahman   |
| Khubi Iftakhar Rahman (Munuki) married muni Ghaffar    | Xnea Rahman   |
| Dalima Rahman married Tanoo Jafry                      | Asad Jafry; Zafar Imam Jafry (stepson: Eric)  |
| Latifur Rahman (Singh) married Jinu                    | Jehshan Rahman; Zuber Rahman<br>see Dalima Rahman Hassan Eric Jafry, Asad Ali Jafry, Zafar Imam Jafry |
| Syed Hassan Shariyar (Tanoo)                           |   |
| Syed Hassan Firdous (Golo) married a Canadian girl     | Joshua Jafry, Samuel Jafry  |
| Syed Hassan Kamran married a Bosnian girl              | Toma Rashid Jafry, Stefan Jafry   |

Quimti Tasrim and Javeed Tasrim:



Latifur Rahman also known as Singh in front of the Motijan pukhuri. Singh was a colorful boy that the family enjoyed having around them, full of mischief and friendly with everyone in the family, old and young. He is Dhon and Buni Rahman's youngest child:







## Chapter 10

### **FAIZ MD SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA**

Faiz Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika

married Shirin Ispahani daughter of Mirza Mahmud Ispahani of Ispahani (now living in Chittagong, Bangladesh), Mirza Mahmud was the son of Mirza Hashim Ispahani of Shiraz, Iran

Children

Jabeen Hazarika (Mitni) married Roni Nath and then Sanjoy Talukdhar of Calcutta, son of P.N. Talukdhar. Jabeen in 2006 is fighting cancer.

Jamshed Hazarika (Babu) married a girl from Morocco and lives in Dubai. Works in the furniture industry. Shadabi Hazarika (Shahla) married Iftaker Hussain a policeman at BSF in Delhi, son of Tajmul Hussain from Lucknow. They moved to Canada then USA and he teaches science in Newark, New Jersey.

A very kind and generous man that is well liked by the family.

Sadri Hazarika (Bhagrana also Chotu) lives in Kolkutta at "43 Amir ali Avenue" is a successful currency broker.

He married Sanam Akhtar of Kolkutta daughter of Saba Ara, originally of Lucknow

Faiz Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika was known as Borsahib (big boss) to the family. He was generous to a fault and was always the center of conversations. The giant of the Hazarika family. Loved to play the card game rummy with the family. It was rumored that he was quite a poker player and may have lost a sizable fortune during his young age. He was always giving expensive presents to his family. After his return from England he set up residence at 45 Amir Ali Avenue, Kolkutta and amassed a sizable fortune as license holder for many commodities to the State of Assam. His political connections and family name resulted in these lucrative sole agent contracts to the state. His earnings and spending was legendary. He gave his sister Georgina a brand new Chrysler car in the 1950's. He himself went around Kolkutta in a lovely 1950's new convertible Buick which he finally one day presented to a friend. He went to Bombay frequently to party with the Bollywood crowd. Relatives, friends, friend of friends were constantly in and out his home, they were entertained extensively and many left with pots of cash as a parting gift. The Barua family – Knak Lal, Saylen and his brothers visited and stayed often; up coming Assamese singer Bhupen Hazarika frequented the house and sang his lovely songs and drank

plenty and then there were the movie stars. He spent lavishly on them: nice houses in Darjeeling and Bombay; plenty of jewelry for all. He lavished presents on all, especially his close friends. Must have given away at least ten new cars, and numerous jewelry sets.

Faiz married in Calcutta in 1953 at the age of 47. Every day was a party at his bachelor head quarters in Ballygunge, Calcutta (two connecting very large flats). People from Delhi, Lucknow, Bengal, Assam and everywhere else came – Ministers, Rajas, Nawab's and friends. House guests were numerous. He was a confirmed bachelor until he met Shirin Ispahani who lived with her sister and parents at 43 Amir Ali Avenue and very soon they were married. A good family friend called Queen was also a friend of Shirin Ispahani's family. Faiz initially liked older sister Praveen Ispahani (a practicing Physician in the U.K in 2006) till he saw Shirin. It was an exciting time for him and the family. Prior to his marriage to Shirin he courted her from the adjacent building (45) by a unique tweet whistle. She would suddenly appear on the inner balcony and they would chat and he often threw over gifts. One day his nieces Bibi Chowdhury and Binu Hazarika figured out what was happening. They tried the same whistle one day and sure enough Shirin appeared. There was no more whistle signals and the girls were severely reprimanded by their Uncle.

He had his first massive heart attack in 1947. Six more followed over a course of the next 50 years. He stopped drinking in 1947 at age 41 shortly after his wedding. His wife Shirin was very religious. Faiz was loved by all and was a father to all his nephews and nieces.

Faiz Hazarika wedding group picture:

L to R: sitting Faiz Hazarika, Nasreen Ispahani (brides sister), Shirin Hazarika

Standing: Bulu Hazarika, ?, Naseema Hazarika ( Ali Hazarika's wife), Georgina Dutt, Binu Hazarika, ?



### **Some short stories about Faiz Hazarika:**

#### **Lord Irwin, Viceroy of India and Faiz:**

In 1930's the Viceroy of India, Lord Irwin visited Assam and a lunch was hosted in his honor at the Jorhat Tea Planters club. However, there was a dilemma for the organizer's (Babuty a close relative of the Hazarika's and a government official for Jorhat was in charge of the arrangements with the central government authorities) as they did not have enough local Assamese guests that spoke English and knew the proper use of utensils at the table. Through Babuty they approached the family and it was decided that six family members would attend with Faiz sitting to the right of the Viceroy. The lunch was very successful and as was the custom after lunch the Viceroy turned to Faiz and asked him if there was anything he could do for him (it was understood that the person sitting to the right of the Viceroy in such functions could ask and be granted a favor). Faiz being rich at this point of his life responded "no". Faiz never heard the last of this episode from the family since he should have asked to be an ICS officer which the Viceroy would most likely have granted. Luck! All was not however lost as Lord Irwin talked briefly to Daisy after the lunch and awarded her as was the Viceroy's prerogative 50 bighas of prime land near the club. Unfortunately, her brother in law Danish handled the paper work and kept some of the land for himself as commission.

#### **Faiz Hazarika the young freedom fighter:**

While he was going to school Faiz became involved in the Indian freedom movement. Rapidly he joined the non cooperation freedom movement and was busy helping in the rallies as well as distributing pamphlets and recruiting people. One day in a rally at Jorhat he was spotted by one of his Uncles who promptly reported his activities to his father Tafazzul. At that time the Headmaster of the Jorhat School was Jehiruddin Ahmed a man to be reckoned with, a reputation across the state as a strict disciplinarian. Tafazzul had a chat with Jehiruddin Ahmed. Canning was very common in the schools at that time and he soon straightened out Faiz's political activity. Soon afterwards all the three eldest boys were shipped to the Doon school.

Faiz loved to dress well and smoke expensive cigars when he returned from England. He spent most of his time in Calcutta, Bombay and Shillong. However, he soon got re engaged in the freedom struggle and shed all his western clothes for Indian clothes. He loved to wear the "ashkan" (long Nehru jacket). His butler servant Ramprasad stole his suits and would love to wear them on special occasions.

**Faiz and the Fakir:**

Motijan was always a house that was visited by many Fakirs (holy men) who sometimes stayed for months at a time. The famous ones being “SaiBaba” and “Furkating Mulobi”. One late afternoon Faiz and another brother were sitting in the front verandah chatting when they saw this old man (fakir) with worn clothes open the front gate and walk towards the house. He took a seat on one of vacant chairs and ignored the two brothers who reciprocated. After about ten minutes he picked up his small wooden stick and hit Faiz twice (not very hard). By this time other family members were around the verandah and to their horror Faiz took the stick from the fakir and struck him back before the family could intervene. The fakir sat for another few minutes, had some tea and snacks then got up to leave even though he was asked to stay. As he got up to leave he turned to Faiz and said “ I gave you crores (millions)” but you gave it all back and more. During his lifetime Faiz uncle made cores of rupees yet at the end he had very little money.

(One particular fakir was a regular at Motijan. He would have an Indian currency coin in his hand and kept rubbing it till with his thumb till it almost disappeared. It was believed that if he gave this rubbed down coin to anyone that person would receive much wealth. Unfortunately, although he stayed at Motijan very often he did not give anyone living there one of his rubbed down coins.)

**Faiz and politics and business:**

Faiz relied on government contracts and exclusive rights licenses which he sold to others and he collected commissions and royalties. One day he had a disagreement with his good friend Bishnu Ram Medhi then Chief Minister of Assam and all his lucrative contracts were cancelled within the next few years. Too proud and did not want to ask his other political friends to intervene.

Even his good personal and family friend Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Finance Minister, Assam (latter became Central Minister, India and then President of India, 1970’s) could not provide him relief with the Chief Minister. Those were lean years for him and his family and he lost most of his fortune, moved into 43 Amir Ali Avenue but the entertainment continued, perhaps a little less lavish.

In late 1960’s another of his friends Bishwa Nath Sharma from Tezpur became Minister of Industries, Assam and he awarded Faiz the sole license to provide coal to Assam. Of course it was party time and Faiz again started spending lavishly, mostly on his relatives.

**Faiz the family man:**

He was a good family man for the whole Hazarika clan of Motijan. His daughter’s went to good schools in Kolkutta. His eldest son, went to St. Paul’s in Darjeeling and passed the High school Senior Cambridge examination at the top of his class. He was very proud of this excellence and always had praise for his son Jamshed. His youngest, Chotu, affectionately know as Bhakrana was a great joy to him. He took him everywhere in Kolkutta and gave him the best. Chotu would always sound the azan every evening at “43”. He now lives there with his wife, two daughters, mother and cousin. His generosity to his nephews and nieces were great, they were treated with much love as if they were his own children. I remember learning to drive a Wiley’s jeep when I was about 14. One day on a trip

with him from Titabar to Guwahati he asked me if I wanted to drive instead of the chauffer. I drove all the way up to the outskirts of Guwahati and became an experienced driver even though I did not have a driver's license.

Faiz Hazarika loved food, especially biriani and he had the best biriani cook (SahibAli) in town. I remember being taken to see "to Sir with Love" at the Minerva cinema on a visit during my school years. After the movie he picked up some famous "Nizam rolls", getting on a human pulled rickshaw, arriving at "43" some fifteen minutes later to another sumptuous kebab/biriani dinner with a house filled with relatives.

He had about seven heart attacks, the last one around late 1970's leaving him bedridden at his home. He passed away peacefully at Kolkutta and is buried near the big bus station near Sealdah in the same kabastan as his mother in law. He was indeed loved by all the family, never raised his voice in anger, could tell a good story, loved company, loved to play cards (rummy), generous to a fault and knew how to enjoy life.

His wife Shirin Hazarika's family was from Iran and are Shias. Shirin Hazarika was a very gracious host inundated with family visitors from Assam on a regular basis. They came on holidays, annual leave, wedding shopping or just to visit. Their flat was always filled with people and she made sure everyone had a good bed and good food. She was a good singer and very religious. She kept everyone in check especially the Hazarika clan. Her four children were very well behaved and said their prayers regularly.

Wedding Portrait: Faiz and Shirin



Faiz Hazarika sitting wearing his new Sherwani in 1973 (rear is a relative of the Rahmans (Noori))



Shirin Hazarika at 43 Amir Ali Avenue, Calcutta:



Shirin Hazarika in Kolkutta around 1967: Shirin Hazarika in Andover, Massachusetts:





## **JABEEN HAZARIKA**

Jabeen Hazarika (Mitni) moved to Dubai and in 2005 returned to Calcutta. She married Roni Nath and divorced. She then married Sanjoy Talukdhar of Calcutta, son of P.N. Talukdhar. In 2006 Jabeen was bravely fighting cancer at the age of 50. She passed away in 2007 at her residence in Middleton Row in Calcutta.

Jabeen went to school in Calcutta and loves to dress up in high fashion. She loves to party, is full of life and very much like her father. She loved to pretend to be an actress when she was growing up and could have become one had she chosen especially with her good looks from her father.

Jabeen Hazarika and first cousin Boo Hazarika in Guwahati, 1973:





Front L to R: friend, Sadri Hazarika  
Rear L to R: Shadabi Hazarika, JabeenHazarika  
**JAMSHED HAZARIKA**

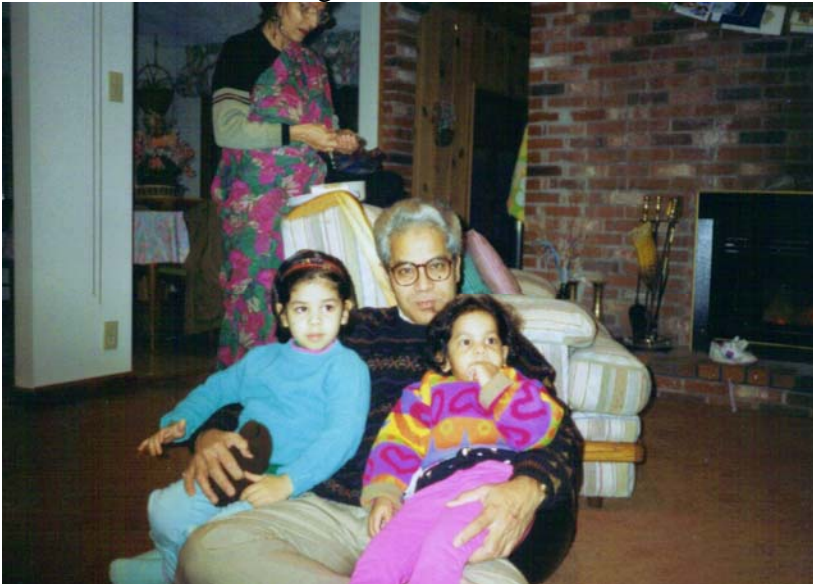
Jamshed Hazarika (Babu) married a girl from Morocco and lives in Dubai. He works in the furniture business. Is now divorced. Jamshed looks like his mother but is socially just like his father. He did very well in school. His parents sent him to the prestigious St. Paul's school at Darjeeling and he graduated from high school with the best score and rank. Jamshed went into the clothing business in Assam briefly. He made more friends than business deals. Everyone loved to be with Jamsheed. However, he went threw some very

difficult times. Went on to join a piping furniture business in Delhi with brother in laws Iftaker Hussain and Sanjoy Talukdar. Iftaker was the expert, Sanjoy was the Financier and Jamshed considered himself the boss. He spent most of his time making sure Iftaker and his sister Shadabi were working hard and to brief Sanjoy that his investment money was in his safe hands. Shortly afterwards the business declined and he moved on to Dubai. In 2008 Jamshed moved to Calcutta and lives with his brother at “43”

### **SHADABI HAZARIKA**

Shadabi Hazarika (Shahla) married Iftaker Hussain a policeman at BSF in Delhi. Son of Taimul Hussain of Lucknow. It was an arranged marriage, although Iftaker was much older than Shadabi . They initially lived in Delhi. Iftaker was in business manufacturing pipe furniture in partnership with his brother in laws Jamshed and Sanjoy. When the business declined he moved with the family to Toronto, Canada and after a few years moved to New Jersey. He is a Physics teacher with the public school system in Newark. Iftaker and Shadabi are happily married and very involved in their Shia community in New Jersey.

Iftaker Hussain with daughters in Andover:





## **SADRI HAZARIKA**

Sadri Hazarika (Bhakrana also called Chotu) married Sanam Akhtar of Calcutta, daughter of Saba Ara of Lucknow. Chotu was the favorite of his father. As a youngster he would love to loudly shout the azan standing on a chair in their living room. He briefly had a rooster as a pet that he trained to take the laces of his shoes. The rooster followed him all round the Calcutta flat and after awhile became a nuisance. One day he was sacrificed and served for dinner. Chotu did not eat that day. He went to school at Calcutta. Dabbled with the stock market for awhile and is now making a nice living as a currency broker. He has restored the house at 43 Amir Ali Avenue and lives with his family and mother Shirin Hazarika. The door plate on the front door still reads Faiz Hazarika.

Sadri Hazarika's children in 2005. Sehrish and Faiza Hazarika on Idd day at Calcutta:



Faiz Hazarika's grandchildren:

Zayed Talukdhar and lives in the USA.

Irum Hussain, married and lives in Baltimore

Nafisa Hussain married

Alisha Hussain married

Zehra Hussain

Sehrish Hazarika

Faiza Hazarika

## Chapter 11

### **ALI MD. SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA**

Ali Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika, Tea Planter  
married Nassima Sultana daughter of Khan Bahadur Kutubuddin  
Ahmed C.I.E of Nowgong

#### Children

Ali Naseem Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika ( -1990), Tea Planter married Zinat Akhtar Ahmed (Deepa) daughter of Altaf Ahmed IAS of Jorhat, of Gauhati. Was Deputy Commissioner of Guwahati in 1957. Same house as Kamrup DC in battle of Saraighat  
Binu Nilofer married Ziaul Huq, Tea Planter, at Williamson Magor, son of Zahriul Huq, D.C. of Guwahati  
Junu Nadra Noorbahar married Bupu Ahmed brother of Deepa. He was a tea planter at Gilander's and she now lives in her flat at Guwahati

Ali Hazarika was quite gregarious man and a great story teller. Very expressive. Lived a grand life at Noorbari tea estate and was the center of activities at the Tezpur club. He loved to go on “shikars” and was a favorite uncle. His nephews always visited him during their winter vacations. He gave them a wonderful time and rewarded their visit with “pocket money” that could cover a years worth of candy purchases at school.

Ali Hazarika married Nassima Begum who was the daughter of a Judge in Nowgong. The wedding was a grand affair with a special train going from Titabar to Nowgong to bring the groom's party to the wedding site in Nowgong. Ali was a handsome man that the girls loved and there were many marriage proposals from a number of families. Ali loved to play bridge in his early days. The English ladies loved to socialize with him at the Tezpur club. Finally one day his wife Nassima had enough and after a much heated shouting match with one of the English ladies settled it for good. The English ladies kept their distance from Ali.

Ali was married at Motijan, in 1930's and the groom's party went by special train to Nowgong. At 6ft 2in and handsome was sought by parents and their daughters as a desirable son in law/husband. Jabbar Sattar's father's sister formally proposed her daughter for Ali. Ali went to see one prospective mother in law and daughter when she was visiting Motijan. He met them in the front verandah and decided she was not for him but told them to wait to meet his brother. He went inside the house and sent his brother Sharif to meet them on the pretext they were just visitors. When Sharif Hazarika realized the purpose of the visit he left diplomatically and was furious with brother Ali. Sharif as a person was much shier and reserved and said very little to strangers. Faiz Hazarika was the most handsome of all the brothers but with all proposals he with confirm that he intended to remain a bachelor all his life. Although Ali managed the tea gardens Madori and Noorbari in the mid 1940's he spent most of his time in Shillong. Afternoons were to the horse races and evenings were spent gambling on cards – rummy was his favorite. Finally moved to Noorbari in 1950-51 and managed the property until 1961.

Noorbari was the other center of the Hazarika family activities and it was always full with guests and friends. He loved to play cards (blackjack) with his nephews and they invariable won money from him. His wife, affectionately know as "Maji" was the connoisseur of the family. She guarded her food recipes especially from her sister in laws. She had a very large vegetable garden at the back of the bungalow which she maintained meticulously with a few gardeners. She was famous for being drawn into (baited) verbal exchanges with her husband's sisters at any family gathering. She was very conservative and tried her best to keep husband Ali in check but to no avail. Ali Hazarika was not very happy being tied down as a married man as his real love was politics and was heard on many occasions to express his desire to leave everyone and go into politics which he loved. Probably more bluff than real. Also, his wife took good care of him.

Ali Hazarika was very protective of his family. When he heard about his to be brother in law Mike Chapman proposing to his sister Bulu Hazarika he became enraged and as the story goes picked up his shot gun, drove to the Tezpur club in search of Mike. As Mike and his friend Derrick Lee were high tailing it from the club back door he managed to get off two shots. While Mike escaped his friend was not as lucky and had to go the nearest physician to remove a few small buck shots from his buttocks. Over time things calmed down after the other brothers intervened. Mike soon became part of the family.

Ali Hazarika also know affectionately as "Abaji". He liked to drink a peg or two in the evenings and between that and the rich food he ate, he had a massive stroke in 1961-62 that left him mobile but slow and partially paralyzed on one arm. He spent his last few years at Rabarbari where he passed away around 1966. He is buried at the Tezpur kabarstan. A simple headstone at his grave reads Ali Hazarika, Motijan. A very lovable uncle that the family adored and loved to gather around in the evenings to hear his stories.



Ali Hazarika with wife Nassima around 1940:



Ali Hazarika and family at Noorbari tea estate:

Left to right: Binu Huq, Deepa Hazarika, Ali Hazarika, Taureet Hazarika (Reet, grandson),  
Nassima Hazarika, Nasim Hazarika & Jinu Ahmed



## **ALI NASIM HUSSAIN HAZARIKA**

Ali Nasim Hazarika  
married Zinat Akhtar Ahmed (Deepa) daughter of Altaf Ahmed IAS  
of Gauhati. Was Deputy Commissioner of Guwahati in 1957. His DC  
residence was the Fort in battle of Saraighat in 1671.

Children:

Taureet Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika (Reet) married Rashmi Dang (separated)

Gilman Md. Shah Hussain Hazarika (Loong) married Shanaz (Amini) Ghaffar  
grand daughter of Shirazy Ghaffar

Shabnum Hazarika married Sunil Valson of Kerala

Nasim Hazarika married Zinat Akhtar Ahmed (Deepa) whose father was the DC in Tezpur. Ali Hazarika his father arranged the marriage with the hope it would help his political career. Ali Hazarika saw Deepa for the first time at the Tezpur club and decided he wanted her to be his daughter in law. Nasim had some interest on a Nepalese woman from college days and went to see his Uncle Faiz Hazarika, fell to his knees and asked him to intervene with his father. Faiz Hazarika was too scared to intervene with his brother. Ali wanted to get his son Nasim and his two girls married, put his wife and concentrate on his new love, politics. Nasim tried to delay marrying and so he suggested Lulu Borkotoki daughter of Sayten Borkotoki a good friend of the family and a senior IAS officer in the government. Lulu and Nasim were friends but Ali Hazarika had made up his mind.

Nasim married Deepa Ahmed on March 10, 1955. Deepa Ahmed was very simple and very attractive. Their wedding was at Tezpur, Jorhat and Motijan. It was a wedding to remember with no expenses spared, 5,000 guests at three locations. Nasim became a tea planter working for Williamson Magor Ltd. in Rupajuli tea estate, Itakhooli tea estate, Pratabghar tea estate and others. He left tea around 1971 after a very successful career and moved to Guwahati starting a tea warehouse and ice cream franchise with the Kwality ice cream company. His two story tea bungalow type house near Dispur, Guwahati now became the center of family gatherings. Parties, good food, year long visitors were constant and they were gracious hosts.

Deepa Hazarika was born on January 17, 1938 and was seventeen when she got married. She saw Nasim for the first time at Noorbari tea estate. She had barely completed her first year of college at St. Mary's College at Shillong when the marriage was arranged. Deepa Hazarika over the years adjusted to as she would say "to the notorious Hazarika's of Motijan". She smoked, drank and was the life of the party. A dramatic change from the day of her wedding when she was shocked to hear and see the Hazarika crowd drink, smoke and use strong language at her wedding dinner. She was horrified on what she had got into but eventually got to know the family and their good heartedness and liked all of them. Her relationship with her mother in law and that side of the family was another matter. At one point Deepa had both her mother and Naseem's mother living with her and one can only imagine what she had to go through. She had fortunately become an expert

in these matters. Her mother was gentle and nice but her mother in law was a challenge. However, Nasim was now madly in love with her and they made an exceptional couple. Deepa opened her travel agency business with her eldest son Reet helping and were very successful in getting foreign tourists to visit Kaziranga National park.

Nasim became Chairman of the Assam Tea auction house a prestigious political appointment and there was much to enjoy with the family. Nasim was an avid “shikari” and was constantly out hunting for wild fowl, deer and everything else. Like his father and Uncles he loved good food and all three main meals were sumptuous, each dish loaded with fat and calories and he was the biggest eater. He died of a heart attack at 55 in Guwahati still insisting on a good meal during his last days at the hospital. He is buried at the Guwahati kabastan. He had picked up the mantle of the Hazarika family in India, always bringing everyone together to celebrate all occasions. In fact, the last big event in the Hazarika family history was my wedding which was staged from his house as the family arrived from Motijan. He was the last of the big hearted Hazarika’s of Motijan in India. He passed the mantle to all the Hazarika’s of Motijan in America and Delhi.

Nasim Hazarika and Deepa wedding portrait:



## **BINU NILOFER HUQ**

Binu was born on Nov 23, 1936 at her mothers house at Khan Bahadur Kutubbindin Road in Nowgong. Binu is tall at 5 ft 6 and medium built. She attended the Pine Mount School at Shillong.

Binu Nilofer married Ziaul Huq at Motijan in 1960. Binu Hazarika was fun loving, went to the club often and learnt to drive at an early age. She would drive her fathers Willy's jeep as a teenager. One day while driving in Tezpur town she ran over a pedestrian. Luckily the man survived and even more luckily her father knew the presiding Judge who threw out the case as the prosecutor and his client and family were making too much noise in his courtroom. Few women drove in India in the 50's. Her talent for baking cakes is exceptional. Binu continues to keep active with the family and her house at Panjabari, Guwahati. Like her mother she maintains a lovely house, vegetable garden and landscaped grounds with many varieties of flowering scrubs. Her sister Jinu Ahmed lives close by in her flat.

Binu Huq wedding picture.



Binu Huq with sister in law Deepa Hazarika in a tea estate near Tezpur:



Ziaul is the son of Zahriul Hug of Puronigodam near Nowgong. His mother, Hafiza Ali is also from Puronigodam. Zahriul Hug went on to become DC of Guwahati in 1947. Ziaul was born in December, 1932. Ziaul Huq went to school and college at St Edmunds in Shillong. He completed his BSc from Gauhati University then went to Presidency College in Calcutta for his MSc. On February, 1956 he joined tea in Assam. Ziaul served in Itakhooli tea, Romai tea, Rupajuli tea, Behali tea (got married here and his house at Magkhowa), Boro, Atareekhat, Paneery. He finally retired as Superintendent from Borengajuli tea after 36 years in service. Ziaul is close to all members of the Motijan family, although he likes to once in awhile say loudly “he had the misfortune of marrying a Motijan Hazarika girl, a family that likes to spend too much money”. Binu keeps him busy by spending as much as she can possibly get away with. They are a happy couple and Ziaul is the center of attraction at all family gatherings. Ziaul Huq was a very successful tea planter retiring as Superintendent, who loved to gamble at the races and lately in 2005 play the Indian stock market.

Ziaul and Binu Huq in retirement at their home in Panjabari, Guwahati, 2006:





Ziaul Huq at restored ancestral home in Puronigodam near Nowgong, 2006:



Ziaul Huq, Binu Huq, Rukhsana Hazarika, Saleha Rahman, Tawheed at Panjabari home:



### **JUNU NADRA NOORBAHAR AHMED**

Junu was born in Motijan on January 21, 1940. Married in Tezpur on January 6, 1964 to Salauddin Shakut Ahmed (Babu) son of Zeenat Afroza (descendent of Azizur Rahman) and Altaf Ahmed and brother of Zinat Akhtar Ahmed (Deepa).

Junu went to Pine Mount School in Shillong. Graduated from Darrang College with an ISC degree, then a BA from St. Joseph College in Darjeeling. She worked briefly in Kolkutta as an executive stenographer. She was a serious type person and very secretive. A very quite person compared to her sister Binu. She is now retired and lives in her own flat in Guwahati. Her husband Babu died fairly young of kidney failure in 2003 on their wedding anniversary. Babu loved to party and had a wide circle of friends.

Jinu Ahmed and Babu Ahmed:



Babu Ahmed as a young man prior to his marriage:



The Ahmed family:  
Sameera Ahmed (Kookie), Jinu Ahmed, Ben Ahmed, Babu Ahmed,  
Shabana Ahmed (Chota):

Wedding guests at Babu & Junu Ahmed's wedding at his house at Jorhat.  
L to R: Niaz Ahmed, Deepa Hazarika, Babu Ahmed, Nasreen (sitting)  
Standing: Yusuf Rahman, Pervez Mohammed





Standing L to R: Deepa Hazarika, Jinu Ahmed, Binu Huq  
Sitting: Nasim Hazarika, Bapu Ahmed, Ziaul Huq. Partially hidden at rear is Amanulla Ghaffar. Taken at Nasim Hazarika's Dispur, Guwahati house.



Ali Hazarika's grandchildren:

Taureet Hazarika  
Gilman Hazarika  
Shabnum Valson  
Shadia Ghaffar (Mini)  
Saira Sikand (Tatu)  
Mumtaz Huq (Tiny)  
Ben Ahmed  
Sameera Ahmed (Kookie)  
Shabana (Chota) Ahmed

**Taureet Hazarika (Reet)** was born on March 20, 1956 and married in 1984. Reet was a bright student and considered a book worm in his younger days. His children are Pia Hazarika born on January 6, 1988 and Tariq Ali Hazarika born on July 18, 1991. Reet is separated from his wife and lives in Delhi. Reets wife, Rashmi Hazarika is very close to the family and Deepa Hazarika spends a great amount of time with her. Reet works in the tourism industry and is an Executive Director at International Ventures Travel at Delhi. He has become an expert in his field of tourism in India.

Taureet Hazarika wedding picture:

L to R: Gilman (Loong) Hazarika, Shabnum Hazarika, Nasim Hazarika, Reet Hazarika, Rashmi Dang (the bride), Rashmi's sister, ?,?, Deepa Hazarika, Rashmi's father, ?



**Gilman (Loong) Hazarika** was born on March 31, 1958. He married his second cousin Shanaz Sayeeda (Amini) Ghaffar. Loongs father Nasim Hazarika and Amini's father Amanulla Ghaffar are first cousins. Loongs mother Deepa Hazarika and Amini's mother Dipi Ghaffar are also first cousins. A close family. They have two children Leilah Zeenat Hazarika born August 31, 1989 and Umme Mehr Hazarika born June 15, 1996. Loong started work in the tea gardens for Tata tea, went to Hindustan lever and has recently joined Punjab Agro ( Prince Charles foundation of Agro farming) at Chandigarh. In 2010 he is on his way to Malawi, Africa to manage a coffee plantation.

Loong and Reet Hazarika as youngsters:



Wedding picture of Shabnum and brother Loong Hazarika (a joint wedding).

L to R: Sunil, Nasim Hazarika, Shabnum Hazarika, Loong Hazarika, Deepa Hazarika (partially hidden), Amini (Ghaffar) Hazarika. A joint wedding/reception:





**Shabnum Hazarika** was born on July 3, 1961, is 5' 7" tall and married Sunil Valsan, born on October 2, 1958 and is from Tellicherry, Kerala. Shabnum went to school at Miranda House in Delhi and met Sunil through a common friend at Delhi. They were married at Guwahati on April 16, 1988. A registered wedding. Her father Nasim Hazarika was very sentimental at the reception ceremony and cried continuously over the prospect of his daughter leaving their house. He tried to convince his son in law Sunil to move in with them. Sunil is a cricketer and played as a lefty bowler in the 1983 Prudential World Cup in England. They have one son, Rahil Balson, born on June 12, 1990 and is attending the Welham Boys School at Dehra Dun. Shabnum continues to work for Kapil Dev, the retired Indian cricket captain.

Wedding picture Shabnum Hazarika.

L to R: Deepa Hazarika, Sunil, Shabnum, Naseem Hazarika:



**Ziaul and Binu Huq's children:**

**Shadia Huq (Mini) married Dipu Ghaffar and live in Washington, DC**

**Saira Sikand** married Rajeev Sikand of Delhi. They now live in Pune where he works in the automotive related industry. They have two children, Ananya Sikand a girl and Armaan Sikand a boy.

**Mumtaz Huq (Tiny)** lives in Delhi. She is an expert confectioner and is in the business.

Mumtaz Huq (Tiny) and KC Hazarika at Guwahati, 1983:



**Bapu and Junu's children:**

**Ben Ahmed** was born on October 30, 1964 and married Fareza Hussain at Guwahati. She is the daughter of Dr. Hussain and eye specialist practicing at Guwahati. Ben works for Eastern Tea Brokers at Guwahati.

**Sameera and Shabana Ahmed** live in Delhi and are single. Sameera started her career at the Taj hotels in customer service and has since moved on to other endeavors. Shabana is in the garment industry business and travels extensively.

## Chapter 12

### SHAMSUN ARA SHIRAZY

Shamsun Ara Shirazy

married Abdul Ghaffar B.E. son of Muhiuddin, of Bogdoimukh

Amanulla Ghaffar (1929-1993) Tea Planter, Duncan Brothers Co. married Maher Taj Afroza Ahmed (Dipi) daughter of Altaf Ahmed Add. D.C., Sibsagar

Ashadulla Ghaffar (Toto) (1931-2006), Tea Planter and Accountant married Feroza Akhtar Jorhat, daughter of Nawab Kasafetdaulla

Sahidulla Ghaffar (Buki), Tea Planter, McNeill & Berry Co. (1933-1992) married Laziza Ahmed daughter of Nikubut Zaman IAS

Bibi Pankaj Durresharan (1937- ) married Tajam mul (Tinku) Karim of Chittagong and sor Abdul Karim, Bangladesh then married Abdul Hamid Chowdhury of Dacca

Khurshid Ghaffar, Tea Planter, Shaw Wallace Co. (1940- 1997) married Zarifa Ahmed sisti Laziza Ahmed and wife of Buki

Stepsons: Abdul Jabbar  
see Bibi Pesl  
Abdul Sattar, (Hadu) Teacher, see Bibi Peshami

Shirazy Hazarika was a quite a dresser prior to and for a while after her marriage. She brought lovely brocades and satin from England and dressed accordingly. She even learnt to fly a helicopter. Married Sattar in 1928 and lived with husband at Motijan on the east side of the house. It was an arranged marriage. On the day of her wedding Tafazzul Hazarika received word that her to be husband had some health problems in the past. He had however given his word and the wedding went on. It turned out to be something very minor. After her marriage Sattar asked her why she needed to always dress as a “pokhila (butterfly)” especially since she only needed to be with him. Thereafter, she went the other way and her sari’s were not correctly put on and she stopped putting on make up or grooming her hair in fashion. They moved to Jorhat in 1947 and she died in the house in 1964 at the age of 52. Shirazy became a diabetic at 35.

Sattar was in the Assam Civil Service as an Executive Engineer and built seven bridges in Assam including a remarkable hanging bridge that is still used (in 2006) between the towns of Shillong and Dowki. He was a very smart person an eccentric and an engineering genius. On one field trip his car went over a bridge and he was seriously hurt and developed a slow paralysis of his right side. Became fairly sick and his third son Buki Ghaffar took care of him till he died in 1956. It was a difficult life for Shirazy Ghaffar.

Shirazy Hazarika was a controversial sister in the family. She seemed to have disputes with someone or the other in the family all the time. Apparently she kept a dairy of all

family members and their mis-deeds which she kept locked in a small briefcase kept under her bed at Motijan. One day things got out of hand and she threatened to declare this diary public at the local Titabar mosque. Petrified, sister Georgina went into her bedroom and took the briefcase. She and her sister Zum Zum broke the lock, examined the contents and found only newspaper clippings. The house had arisen early that morning to the sounds of a loud and hysterical Shirazy who had discovered the missing briefcase.

The two culprit sisters in panic went to the pukhuri, put some stones inside the suitcase and flung it in. Shirazy assembled the family and demanded the whereabouts of the briefcase. With no satisfactory outcome she decided to call the Imam from the mosque and have everyone in the house swear on the Koran that they were not involved in the disappearance of her briefcase. There was pandemonium in the house with much crying as no one wished to do the holy swearing in especially since two of them were guilty. Finally Sharif Hazarika stepped in and Shirazy decided to leave Motijan and join her husband at Jorhat and the family would pay for all expenses and a new house. A generous settlement was arranged for Shirazy including the property Sonajan tea estate.

Shirazy ran Motijan from 1947 to 1952 along with the rice mill. After the family quarrel she moved to her new Bhogdoimukh house, a beautiful house in Jorhat. She was finally very happy with her children and once again in good terms with all the family. It was a lovely house that everyone visited and had many lunches and dinners. Her three sons were married from this house. I lived with her for three months taking private tutoring in calculus during my summer vacation. I found her to be very kind and loving and indeed a great Aunt. The family probably just had nothing better to do so they picked on her. Shirazy passed away at her house in Jorhat in the mid 1960's. She was a diabetic and always had many health problems all her life.

## **ABDUL JABBAR**

Abdul Jabbar married Joshna Zinat Ara of Dibrugarh daughter of Faiznoor Ali and Aideo Sharifan Nissa (Shanoor Hazarika niece). Abdul Jabbar is also Shirazy Hazarika's stepson. Abdul was in the army and opted for Pakistan after the partition, although his father wanted him to return to India. He went to school at Cotton college in Guwahati and then on to Presidency college in Calcutta where he distinguished with the gold medal.

Jabbar retired in the 1970's as a Major General. He was Chairman of Bangladesh Red Cross then Chairman of South East Asia Red Cross. He became the Bangladesh ambassador to Turkey. He finally settled in Bangladesh his adopted home and lives in Dacca. He passed away in 2008.

His daughter Zanab married Ronnie and lives in London. She has two daughters.

His son Inamul Ghaffar works for a travel agency division of Duncan Brothers in Dacca.. Married twice and has two children from the second marriage.

Abdul Jabbar as a young officer around 1940's:



### **ABDUL SATTAR (HADU)**

Hadu did his metrics from Jorhat and went on to teach at Jorhat Technical school. He spent a number of years working for his uncle Sharif Hazarika as Manager of Degubber tea estate. He married Maijani daughter of Abdul Hamid of Mautgoan. Hadu had a very large family and a small salary. After leaving Motijan to live at Jorhat Hadu had a very hard time barely able to provide the daily food on the table. Buki and Amanulla Ghaffar his brothers helped in household expenses as well as other expenses for his children Rana, Pana, Jitu and Shamim. Although Hadu Ka had very little I would consider him to probably one of the most successful in the family. He was content, looked after his family and was probably the greatest Dad his children had. They all looked up to him.

Hadu was a very happy person and stellar character. Constantly mixing his own cigarettes and chain smoking. He had a broken down bike that he used to get to work. The children were always clothed well, ate well at his house or grandmother Shirazys house next door. He loved cricket and I can remember sitting hours at a time on his front porch talking with him while he rolled his cigarettes and puffed away. Truly a great cousin to have, always smiling, looked a little hungry most of the time but a great father to his kids. He



treated his wife Maijani with great kindness. Maijani was also a nice person but could hold her own, which she quite often did with other members of the family.

His children grew up with very little but ended up doing very well. His daughters Jitu married Saqi Ahmed's brothers daughter and Shamim married the brother. Saqi Ahmed's father, Nauser Dueta was Tafazzul Hazarika's cousin. He lived in Balibat, Jorhat close to the main street intersection at Balibat road. Saqi Ahmed was a CPA with his own accounting firm and married Aziza Zaman daughter of Rashidul Zaman descendent of Bagh Hazarika.

Abdul Sattar (Hadu) visiting Motijan (rear is a descendent of Minoor Hazarika):



### **AMANULLA GHAFFAR (1929-1993)**

Amanulla studied at Cotton College and after completing his BSc degree joined Duncan Brother's tea Company. He spent most of his career with them in the Doors, Bengal, Kerala and Assam. Being out of the state most of the time most of the family did not get to know him well unlike his other three brothers. He was considered to be an exceptional tea planter that brought much innovation to the tea gardens. He manufactured some of the best teas from Assam. Teas from his gardens were considered amongst the best of Assam Teas. A large man, over six feet in height and heavy set. Ate food indiscriminately no matter what the occasion, loved to eat the fat from meats. His other passion was driving on long trips. He made quite a few trips in the 1960's by car from Kerala to Assam on pot holed and unmapped roads with his family. These trips required stamina and courage in the 1960's. Accompanying him on these trips would be wife Dipi and their babies, Dipu and Amini and a servant rather than a driver since Amanulla preferred to drive. Often the servant was Ratan whose father was Muslai Mia. Amanulla was good hearted and loved to clown around. While he was posted at Kerala his mother Shirazy Ghaffar informed him that she was arranging his marriage with Dipi Ahmed a family from Jorhat. It was a known family to the Hazarika's since they were descendents of Azizur Rahman and the

families were already linked by other marriages. None of Shirazys children's including Amanulla had the inclination or courage to stand up to their mother, although in this case he was first petrified and then he liked her choice. Dipi's mother went into shock since she had heard of the Amanulla' father's health rumors. There was some balking on the side of the Dipi's family but they were resolved and the wedding took place at Jorhat. It was a big wedding with all family members attending and staying at Motijan. As usual Daisy led the festivities by arriving at Motijan two months early. This was perhaps one of the happiest moments in Shirazy Ghaffars life. A small women, fairly unwell most of the time, always serious but these few months she smiled everyday and was very kind to everyone including her brothers and sisters. Amanulla died on March 1, 1993 after his second heart attack.

Wedding picture of Amanulla Ghaffar at their Jorhat house:  
 (Ashadulla Ghaffar (Buki) behind his left shoulder)

Mahar Taj Afroza (Dipi) Ahmed as bride at Jorhat:



L to R: At Jorhat: Mahar Afroza (Aijan, Dipi's mother), Shirazy Ghaffar, Dipi Ghaffar, Deepa Hazarika (front), Naseema Hazarika, Zeenta Afroza (Haru Aideo, Deepa's mother)  
 Amanulla in the tea garden introducing new irrigation methods at Jiajuri T.E.:



Children:

Dipu Ghaffar and Mini Huq are second cousins. Mini's mother Binu Huq and Dipu's father Amanulla Ghaffar are first cousins. They were married on December 4, 2001. Dipu worked for BCCI in Hong Kong and is now at Bechtel, D.C. Mini is in the export import business and a successful business women.

Mini Huq and Dipu Ghaffar:



Amini Ghaffar as a bride (married Loong Hazarika her cousin):





**Ashadulla Ghaffar (Toto) (1931-2006):**

Toto Ghaffar was just as colorful as all his brothers. He went to Cotton College and then started a career in tea. It is not clear if Toto received the BA degree. Apparently, when the results were published in the newspaper it showed he passed with distinction. However, when he went to get his degree the University told him it was an error by the newspaper as he still had not completed a prerequisite in mathematics for the ISC degree. Toto threatened to sue the university and to date no one is clear as to the outcome of his BA degree. He was a CPA candidate five times and according to him failed by one mark each time. Toto Ghaffar was probably the closest to his mother Shirazy. He was also close to all his Uncles and Aunt's since he grew up at Motijan and at some point or another either did business with them or worked for them. He was the one that welcomed General Omar Bradley to Motijan. He was very hot headed and very excitable when it came to politics, which he loved to discuss. While clerking with Accounting firms in Calcutta and trying to pass the CPA exams he stayed at Berkmyer hostel close to Park street. He had a small one room apartment which he shared with his cousin Tawheed Hazarika for a year. Toto loved to play contract bridge and played it till the wee hours of the morning almost every night. Evenings were spent at Faiz Hazarika's place about two miles away playing rummy or poker, having dinner and taking a cab or tram ride back. Toto hated to loose. Unfortunately, when he was dealt a good hand he began to sweat and everyone always folded their card hands. He therefore seldom won much money. Toto had initially joined Buxa Doors Tea Company and after a dispute with the Manager of the tea estate quit. He went to other tea companies and finally started managing Noorbari tea estate the family property. In 1962, when the Chinese invaded India and Assam and were about 100 miles away from Noorbari, Toto panicked. He jumped into his car, dashed to his Aunt Daisy Aziz's place at Rabarbari and panicked them. Shortly Toto, Daisy, Ali Hazarika and the rest of the family with their servants headed off to catch the Steamer (Triple Decker steam boat that took passengers and cars from the North bank to the South bank of Assam) and arrived at Motijan. Toto Ghaffar and his assistant Mr. Mitra from Noorbari were safe but when they left they had abandoned the 600 labors at the plantation. That decision to flee brought Toto Ghaffars tea career to an end as when the Chinese stopped at Bomdilla and finally withdrew partially, the labors would not let Toto into the plantation. Toto's CPA journey then started in earnest.

Toto Ghaffar at Guwahati in 1973:



Toto Ghaffar with first cousin Tawheed Hazarika at his house in Jorhat, 2005:



During his bachelor days Toto had income from his on and off jobs, living with his uncles and a stipend from his inherited property Sonajan tea estate. He shared this property with his brother Khurshid Ghaffar and his share of the monthly income in the 1960' was rupees 500. Not a lot but enough to get by well. His expenses were low. He made his own cigarettes. He would visit his sister Bibi Chowdhury in Dacca once a year and would come back loaded with gifts, some of which he sold to his cousins at highly marked up prices. His passion was shoes. Every month he would have his part time butler at Berkmyer take all 25 of them out to the verandah and shine them. On one occasion while going by tram to Uncle Faiz Hazarika's place a fellow passenger stamped on it by mistake. Toto was furious and stamped the poor sandaled passenger back. Soon an argument erupted and a fist fight was about to develop when the tram reached our destination and we disembarked. Toto collected tea shirts, plenty of them from his trips to his sister's place in Dacca, he always sold at a very high profit to his cousins. It was thought that Toto would remain a bachelor. One day his cousin Buni Rahman, Daisy's daughter approached him about a girl named Sarah Dolla. She lived at Lechubari in Jorhat and was Buni's first cousin from her father's side. Toto had enough of Calcutta and going around the State with his uncle's was no longer desirable. He wanted to settle down. Toto and Sarah married at Jorhat.

A few years later, Toto's fortunes brightened. The Oil and Natural Gas Company (ONGC) company of Assam while prospecting in the foothills of Nagaland struck oil at Sonajan tea estate. Toto and Khurshid Ghaffar ended up sharing almost 100 lacks from the sale pre tax. They had become rich by Indian standards. Unfortunately, they also became greedy and left their sister Bibi a rightful legal owner out of the settlement and she was most unhappy about it even though she had enough wealth of her own. Toto became very sick over the last few years of his life. He was about 5 feet 6 inches tall and on the heavy side. At the end he was skin and bones and could barely walk. He had bought a new car with air conditioning but decided to remove the A/C since he felt that it might draw unwanted attention from the insurgents in the State demanding money from affluent people. He lived with his wife Sarah and daughter Benazir (Naina) Ghaffar who had recently (2005) passed her BA exams. He stayed home in the new house he built at Lechubari, a virtual prisoner and only went to regular prayers at the mosque next door. The spark had gone. He passed away in 2008 and is buried at Jorhat.

### **Sahidulla Ghaffar (Buki) (1933-1992)**

Buki Ghaffar was a unique individual. The most colorful of all the brothers. An outgoing person with a lovely personality and the family loved him. Full of pranks and always in trouble. Approximately 5' 8" tall and very heavy set. Buki ate food like his brothers Amanulla and Khurshid, as if every meal was their last meal. Buki was never a good student, just not interested in studies. He started at St. Edmunds school for awhile but went into the public school systems to complete his metrics after a few attempts. The same story on his attempts with the ISC college examinations. No one is sure if he succeeded. He could never settle down on his studies. One day when he was at St. Edmunds School he and his brother Toto managed to send a telegram home to Motijan to their mother Shirazy that they were critically sick and needed to be taken home. Mother Shirazy rushed to Shillong to find both boys having a good time in the school swimming

pool. She took them out of school for about for an hour to her sister's place, (Georgina Dutt) gave them a beating they never forgot and returned home to Motijan the same day. Shirazy was not one to be fooled with as all her boys realized at a very young age.

After the ISc examination Buki decided it was time to work. He visited his uncle Sharif Hazarika and talked him into financing his education in England learning tea equipment and machinery. Of course, he did the convincing by saying it was a loan. Upon his return to Calcutta he was able to get a number of job offers in tea. He joined the prestigious McNeill & Berry tea company and was posted in Assam. Buki Ghaffar was suited for tea. He partied and had a good time all through his career till his retirement from Greenwood tea estate near Dibrugarh. He loved beer and was a heavy smoker. He loved the club life. On one club occasion he had one two many beers with his friends and brother Khurshid at the Doom Dooma club near Dibrugarh. He decided he wanted to give a speech, got everyone one to quiten down, stood up on one of the tables and started by talking about his Superintendent boss and his lowly opinion of him. His wife and brother were frantically trying to stop him and get him back to the bar but he persisted. Unfortunately, his Superintendent was in the club visiting from England and Buki never made it from his position as Senior Manager to Superintendent. Infact, the Superintendent made his life miserable forcing him to take retirement. The Superintendent sent Rashid Dutt (Bhai) to audit Buki's Greenwood tea estate and Bhai was aghast at what his first cousin was up to. Of course, Bhai was a loyal first cousin.

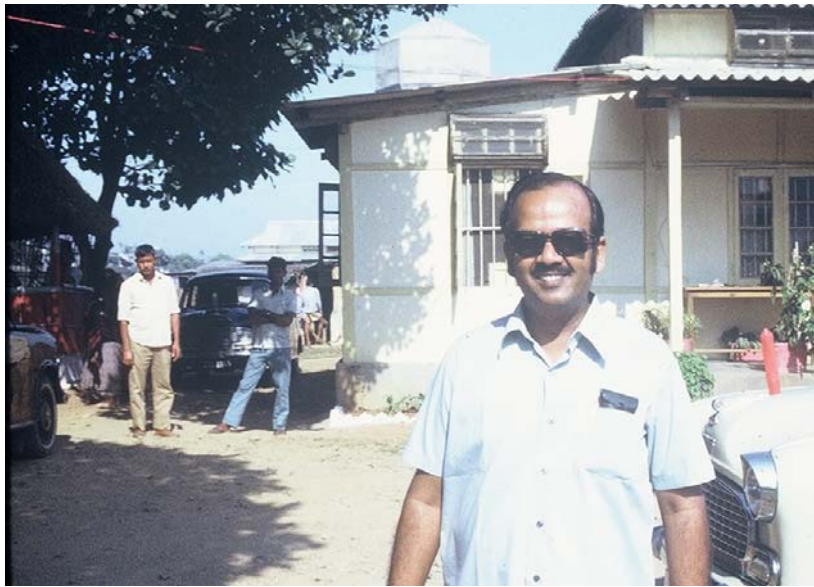
Buki loved a fight and was always seeking one with or without beer. He loved to use his families influence. On a trip from Motijan to Dibrugarh in his Ambassador car he was cut off by another ambassador car. Buki was traveling with his wife, his two kids, Tawheed Hazarika and a driver. Not to be out done he put up chase and got up to the offending driver about ten miles later in a town called Nazira. He cut him off and blocked the road. A crowd immediately developed. His wife Laziza sitting at the back was telling him to avoid any unpleasantness and keep going home. He would have none of it. He approached the driver and asked him for his license. After a few words the local constable walked over from the nearby police station. This emboldened Buki. He introduced himself to the constable as the nephew of Ataur Rahman, Additional Inspector General of Police and wanted the other driver arrested otherwise he would report him to his Uncle. The poor constable was regretting he showed up but agreed to put the other driver under arrest and investigate. Buki was happy and we drove off. I am sure the Constable took a few rupees from the other driver and let him go soon after.

Buki, like his brothers Amanulla and Khurshid loved cars. He would borrow his Aunty Georgina Dutt's Chrysler or an English tea planter friend's Jaguar (who left it under his care when he went on vacation to the UK) and head off to the nearest domestic airport. In those days the airports at Dibrugarh, Jorhat and Tezpur were not very busy and were controlled by the Indian Air Force. Many of the Commanding officers were friends of the family and Buki would spend hours running the car up and down the runway to see how fast he could go. His cousin Nasim Hazarika joined the festivities with his Fiat car.

Buki Ghaffar had an arranged marriage to Laziza Ahmed daughter of Rashidul Zaman of Jorhat a descendent of Bagh Hazarika. They were married the day after his brother Amanulla Ghaffar's married at Jorhat. His wife Laziza Ahmed came from a conservative family, a very nice person but she soon adapted to Buki. It was a good match as she was a good controlling influence. After retirement they moved to Guwahati and lived in a rented house while their house was being built. Buki tried a number of small business adventures with little success. Buki loved his entire extended family and they loved him.

Buki died March 9, 1992 of a heart attack. He is buried at the Guwahati kabastan near the Police headquarters. Buried next to him is his brothers Amanulla and Khurshid. His son Kay Ghaffar had a heart attack in 2006 at the age of 40 but survived.

Buki Ghaffar at Guwahati in 1973:



Laziza and Buki Ghaffar at wedding:



Laziza Ghaffar as bride:



**Bibi Pankaj Durresharan** (Oct7, 1937-  
(BIBI CHOWDHURY)

Bibi married Hamid a business man with Oil Tankers, jute businesses and two ocean going cargo ships. He had a high school education and became a very successful businessman. His mother was from Rongpur, Bangladesh and father was from Calcutta and worked as a Vet. He met Bibi through Tess who was in Chittagong. Tess, Bibi's first cousin knew about the difficulties Bibi was having with her first husband Tinko and his mother so she decided to try and help Bibi solve her unhappiness. Bibi went to Pine Mount School in Shillong, then Miranda House in Delhi. Again, while she was at college, Tess arranged her marriage to Tinko. Apparently Tinko and his mother came from Chittagong to Shillong to meet Bib's mother to ask for her hand. Tinko's mother held Shirazys hand, shed a few tears and begged and asked for her daughter. During the Bangladesh independence war Bibi moved to London with her children and lived there from 1973-78.

Bibi is a high flying socialite and loves to party. She was good friend's with the Oberoi's hotel owners and loved to party with them. Goodie Oberoi was her friend from Miranda House. I remember 1962, she arrived at Faiz Hazarika's flat at 8:00pm from Dacca on New Years eve. She spent half an hour on the phone as there was no one in the house but me since everyone had left for Junu Hazarika's wedding at Tezpur. I had just passed out of high school and was celebrating in Calcutta. She asked me to get ready to escort her to a party. At 11:45 pm she was finally ready, half an hour for a bath and two hours to dress and put on make up. We rushed down to the waiting Mercedes sent by the Oberoi's. We arrived at the Grand Hotel (an Oberoi hotel) and quickly went to be seated with about twenty people at the Sherazade restaurant in the hotel. It was midnight and the champagne was flowing and everyone including Bibi was on the dance floor having a great time. Around 2:00am we went up to the Oberoi's suite. A beautiful suite of rooms with a small dance floor, floor pond, library, etc and they danced away the rest of the night. I had drunk enough coke and when Goodie asked me at 6:00am if I wanted to have breakfast or go home I chose the latter. I finally saw Bibi two days later rushing into the house so she could catch the plane back to Dacca. Apparently, it was off to the horse races on New Year's day then continue the party into the evening as some of the Bollywood folks (I remember seeing Feroz Khan in a tight ill fitting suit) had decided to extend their stay. Bibi loved parties and still comes in from Dacca with all her friends to party for a week. Bibi has many children and now grand children. Most of them are in the USA and she spends her time between Dacca and the States. In her picture below she looks like a very young women around 50 even though she is 69. She still spends two hours getting herself prettied up everyday even though she may be staying inside the house. She loves to travel by Greyhound and avoids planes whenever possible. She hides all her jewelry, including her 10 carat diamond (see picture) when she travels by bus. Bibi like her brothers has had a rich life full of pleasant memories and above all knows how to enjoy herself just like all her Aunts and Uncles.



Bibi Chowdhury in 2006 at Andover, Massachusetts:



**KHURSHID GHAFAR (April 3, 1940 to 1997)**

As a 10 year old he would approach his father sitting in the front verandah in Motijan and ask for two cigarettes. His father would assume they were for one of his Uncles in the house and would give it to him. After the third such incident his father followed him inside the house and found him and his cousin Toufique (Lala) son of Georgi Hussain smoking the cigarettes outside the west side of the house under a leachy tree. The next time Khurshid came to ask for the two cigarettes his father confronted him and told him he would be punished. Khurshid was very cunning, he told his father perhaps if he gave him two more cigarettes, one more time he would never ask him or smoke any more cigarettes. His father obliged and Khurshid never went back. As a young man in college, Khurshid was a heavy smoker and he liked his beer. Khurshid was probably the smartest of all the brothers to the point of being cunning. He went to Cotton College for his BS degree then to Gauhati University for his MS degree in Geology. He joined the Shaw Wallace tea company and spent most of his career in tea near the Dibrugarh area of Assam. He was a good bicycle rider and finally when he bought his car loved to drive around aimlessly. He loved to drive. During his early days in Dibrugarh he was a frequent visitor to the Jalan Ahmed business family of Dibrugarh. They approached him with a proposal for one of the girls in the family. Khurshid decided to take the proposal through an intermediary to his mother at Jorhat. His mother Shirazy would have none of

it and was furious. When Khurshid arrived a month later to visit his mother she asked him to stand still in the living room while a servant fetched her a chair. She was frail and not in good health at that time, the servant helped her up, she told Khurshid to get closer to her and she slapped him a few times telling him not to move till she was done. Khurshid was about 5'11" and weighed about 275 pounds, his mother was probably under 100 lbs but he was petrified. He touched her feet in atonement and promised never to misbehave again. She calmed down and few years later arranged his marriage to Zarifa Ahmed sister of Laziza Ahmed his older brother Buki's wife. The marriage was held at Shillong from Georgina Dutt's house as the bride lived in Shillong. A big and lavish wedding since Zarifa's father was the Commissioner of Taxes for Assam.

Khurshid and Zarifa made quite the quenticental couple. They called each other "darling" in public contrary to normal local custom and always sat close together whispering to each other. On one such family occasion they were sitting together at Faiz Hazarika's house in Calcutta, whispering to each other while Khurshid looked straight ahead at his aunt Shirin Hazarika sitting opposite him and kept grinning. After a awhile Shirin got very angry thinking they were talking about her and let go with a few choice words on both nephew and niece. The tea industry started changing in the 1970's with the plantation laborers becoming much more powerful and life for the Managers became risky as well as unpleasant. Khurshid suffered such a episode when the labors surrounded him and marched him around the tea estate. He left tea and at the late age of close to 50 became a lawyer with an LLB degree. He tried to practice law but could not attract enough clients so he joined the Tea Board in Calcutta. Khurshid died in 1997 while in service at the Tea Board at Calcutta. He was bought back to Guwahati to be laid to rest near his two brothers.

Khurshid Ghaffar holding son Omar with wife Zarifa with daughter Anjum at Motijan, 1971:



Shirazy Ghaffar's grandchildren:

From stepsons:

Inamul Jabbar  
Yasmin Jabbar  
Saadullah A. Sattar (Rana)  
Salimulla A Sattar (Pana)  
Zinat Nasrin  
Jitoo A Sattar  
Edie Nasrin  
?  
?

From her children:

Shanaz Sayeeda (Amini) Ghaffar married Gilman (Loong) Hazarika  
Tehsin-ul (Dipu) Ghaffar married Mini Huq, daughter of Binu Huq in Washington D.C. Dipu joined BCC bank in Hong Kong then Bechtel as a Computer Hardware person. Mini is Running a successful textile business from home, export/import  
Zeenat Aman (Mumu) Ghaffar married a Goan and lives in Australia  
Benazir Shamsun Ara Ghaffar lives in Jorhat with her parents  
Kaiser (Kay) Ghaffar works in Sales in Agra.  
Muni Ghaffar married Khubi Iftakhar Rahman (Munuki) son of Buni Rahman. At Guwahati working in Accounting for the Network transportation company  
Tajik Md. Karim lives in Chittagong, Bangladesh (Teddy), Chemical Engineer works with his father  
Javeed Bin Karim (Joey), MBA runs his freight business in Dacca  
Ali Mahryar Karim, married Deisha daughter of Abdul Ali and lives in Virginia, works for U.S. government  
Ramiza Shirazi Hamid Chowdhury married an American and lives in Oklahoma. Is a CPA with Ernst & Young  
Omar Hamid Chowdhury, Chemical Engineer, lives in Dacca, runs knitted garment business  
Nahia Hamid Chowdhury, lives in Chicago. Beloit University, Magna cum laud. Married Russell Zunaid Hossain of Bangladesh  
.  
Akbar Hamid Chowdhury, Mechanical Engineer lives with wife in Rochester, NY. Wife Julie is a registered nurse.  
Omar Ghaffar works in the tea industry  
Anjum Momena (Koklie) Ghaffar

## Chapter 13

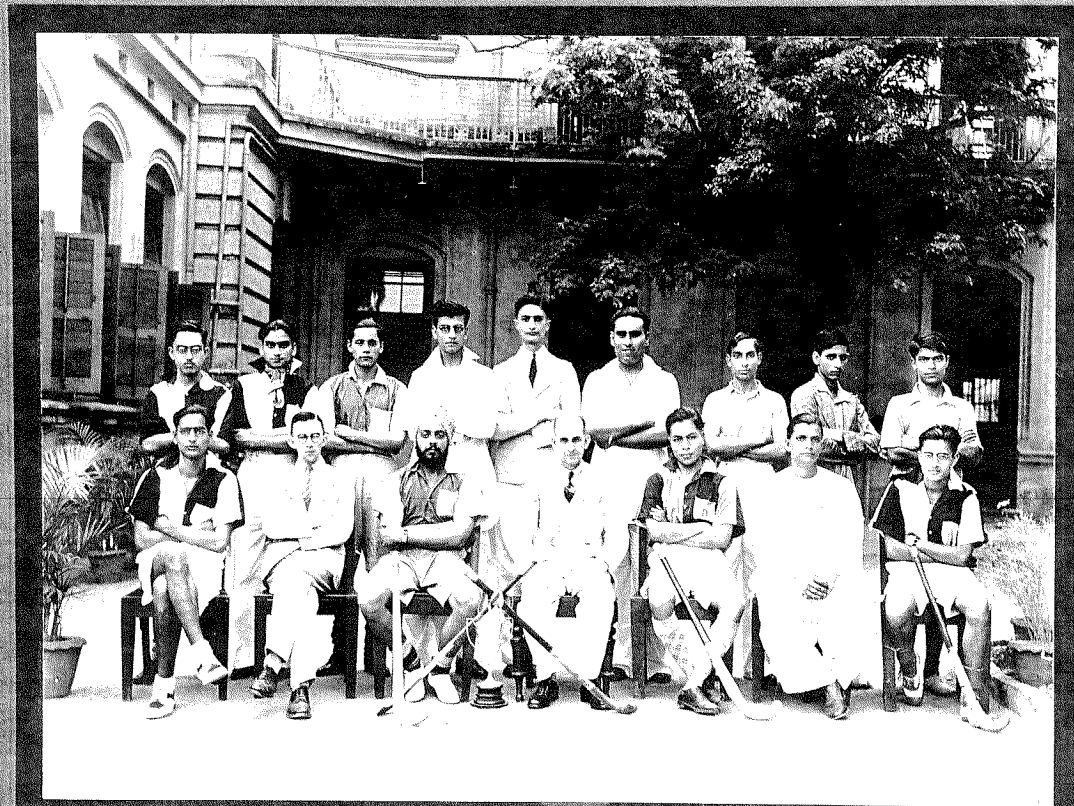
### **IMAM MD. SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA**

Known as George to the family, he was over six feet in height and also weighed in proportion. He was also known as fatty due to his size. His nieces and nephews loved him and visa versa. They would go to his room first thing at 8:00am surround his bed and sing Assamese songs to wake him. Every now and then they were emboldened to jump on his bed and empty a can of powder on his belly button. Fatty loved the attention. He went to school at St. Paul's in Darjeeling and then to Scottish Church College. It is not clear whether he completed his ISc or BSc degree. He was selected to join the army and was planning to go to the army mau training center but decided instead on business. He and his first cousin Wahid Hazarika were sent to manage the Noorbari tea estate. They both stayed there briefly before returning to Motijan. He was his mothers pet and his mother Noorbahar constantly worried about him. He opened a rice mill next to the Motijan house and did pretty well for himself. His claim to 15 minutes of fame was at the State championship boxing event being held in Guwahati, India. The reigning Assam champion a small fellow (about 5 feet), stepped in the ring and soon after was joined by his opponent a towering fellow at 5'7". He took one look at him and beat a hasty retreat from the ring. Assam's honor was at stake and sitting at ring side was George who was fairly well known as a student at Cotton College. The Assam coach immediately put a pair of gloves on him and pushed him into the ring. Although George was close to 6'3" he was a very gentle person and it was said scared to death at his predicament. Within seconds the situation was resolved when his opponent took flight out of the ring and the stadium and George was declared the victor.

George died of a heart attack when he was fairly young, February 1953 three months after his mother died. He was at the Welch Mission hospital, Jorhat undergoing a check up for chest pains when he had a massive hemorrhage of blood. His brothers Sharif and Faiz were at the bedside. His mother Noorbahar was worried about who would look after George once she passed away and instructed the family to make sure he was laid to rest next to her. George rests just behind his mother at the Motijan kabastan. His grave was beautifully restored in 2006.

Standing: George Hazarika, sixth from left:

**SCOTTISH CHURCH COLLEGE.**  
*INTER-CLASS HOCKEY CHAMPIONS.*  
THIRD YEAR ARTS, (1938-39.)



## Chapter 14

### GEORGI SHAMU NISSA

Georgi Shamsu Jehan married Md Hadi Hussain ICS  
son of T. Hussain of Lahore

#### Children:

Mazhar Kamal Hadi Hussain married Nazma of Karachi. Worked for Geskin Williams, Inc.

Lala Toufique Hadi Hussain married Farida Majeed then Rehana, lives in Karachi and works at PIA (airlines)

Mithu Sajjad Hadi Hussain married Usmani (Amna) daughter of Dr. I.H. Usmani of Karachi and was Commissioner of Agriculture.

Javeed Hadi Hussain (Joey) ( -1984) was in the army and married Sherry of Karachi. Sherry's father was an Admiral in the Navy.

Tabinda Hussain married Kamran Mirza of Karachi, remarried Syed Chinoy of Bombay.

Georgi married Hadi Hussain who was an Indian Civil Servant (ICS), a top administrative government position of the British Indian Empire that required one to be very smart or have family connections to get appointed. He was from the Punjab, posted at Shillong when he saw Georgi. He was smitten and asked her brother Sharif Hazarika to talk to her father on his behalf. It was a good match and Hadi learnt to read and write Assamese to seal the deal. However, a very difficult marriage earlier on, with many unpleasant episodes with her mother in law and brother in law regarding her jewelry and other matters. He moved to Pakistan after partition and became Ambassador to Thailand in the 1960's and wrote quite a few books in Urdu during his retirement.

Georgi was a person that needed to be heard and had a hearty laugh. Wore 6" high heels with her sari's and was the center of all arguments at family weddings. Everyone feared her wrath even though she was always smiling and laughing. She reconciled with her husband over the many years they were together but never quite forgave him for the early days of their marriage and unwanted interference from his mother and brother. She would often be heard calling him Darling.

She had a good life but probably a sad one towards the end. Her youngest son Joey was accidentally shot and killed at her house by her second son. Her third son Sajjad was a high ranking government employee in Pakistan (CSP), a Commissioner, who was assassinated brutally while driving back to his house from the club. She kept the family together in Karachi. Sundays was lunch for the whole extended family at her house. Although many of her grand children including grand nieces and nephews had never visited Assam they all heard the stories of Motijan from her and her two sisters Zum Zum Adil and Bulu Chapman. The many Assamese traditions were kept alive.

Georgi lived to an old age and passed away in the late 1990's.

Hadi and Georgi Hussain:



Hadi and Georgi Hussain with their four boys:  
Javeed, Sajjad, Toufique and Mazhar



Children:  
**Mazhar** is retired and lives in Karachi in 2006.

**Lala Hussain** has finally settled down in Pakistan. He worked for Pakistan International Airlines in London for a number of years. On one visit to the States in the 1970's he was detained by the Immigration authorities in Boston since he had consumed an excessive amount of liquor in the flight from London and created a fair amount of problems in the plane as well as on the ground in Boston. Traveling with him was his Afghan wife, Rehana and their infant baby. Finally after a couple of hours the authorities released him to his cousin and everyone happily drove off to Andover. Unfortunately, it snowed heavily for the next three days of their visit and although all the liquor in the house was hidden (based on instructions from Rehana) Lala turned out to be a good detective. He found and drank all the one gallon bottles in two days and then insisted on going to the club on his final day for more. His wife Rehana was very tolerant and an exceptionally nice person. A few years later Lala got into more trouble by accidentally fatally shooting his brother Javeed. He spent a number of years in prison, reading the Koran everyday and having a butler take care of his daily needs. He was finally released and went back to finish his career at Pakistan International Airlines in Karachi.

**Sajjad Hussain** was a career Civil Service of Pakistan officer (CSP) similar to his father Hadi Hussain who was an ICS officer in India. He had numerous positions in the Government, was the chief regulator of steel mills, Commissioner of Agriculture, etc. Over his many years of service he made many friends and some powerful enemies. One day while leaving the club to go home his car was surrounded by a number of vehicles blocking it. Gunmen jumped out and assassinated him. It was rumored to be a political assassination.

**Javeed Hussain** was a Major in the army and was tragically accidentally shot by brother Lala at a young age.

**Tabinda Hussain** married Kamran Mirza of Abbott Labs, Karachi. Built house on land given by her mother. After a number of years of marriage and the children were grown they divorced. Their son went to Tufts. He soon joined his first cousins Abbas Hussain and Lala Hussain's son who were at Wharton. All three managed to max out credit cards as well as spend more money than was sent to them. Both father's Lala and Kamran finally had enough and took them to the mosque in Karachi during their holiday visit to swear on the Koran they would mend their ways and get back to studying. Not much success. Not sure on the final outcome. Tabinda is married to Syed Chinoy of Bombay and a businessman at Hong Kong.

Grandchildren:

- Imran Hussain
- Fahad Hussain
- Samia Hussain
- Tamur Hussain
- Adnan Hussain
- Nadia Hussain
- Amrah Hussain
- Abbas Hussain
- Ali Javeed Hussain
- Vassay Mirza
- Kamilla Mirza
- Jehnaz Mirza



## Chapter 15

### GEORGINA SHAMAU JEHAN

Georgina Shamsun married Dinesh Chandra Dutt IP  
of Sylhet

Deepak Sharif Dutt (Bhakto) married Bharoti Barua of Sibsagar daughter of  
Saylen Barua, son of Sira Prasad Barua of Rajabari tea estate, Sibsagar.

Bhakto was in business, mostly tourism and lived in, Shillong, Simla and Dacca.  
Ashish Rashid Dutt (Bhai) remains a bachelor as of 2005, was a brilliant student and  
is a Certified Accountant in Kolkutta.

Georgina was full of life and probably the best looking (with Zum) of all her sisters. She like her brother Faiz was overly generous. She could recite from Rabindra Nath Tagore, Shakespeare, Omar Khyam and the Assamese poet Jotinath Duhrah. She wrote articles for the Assamese weekly magazine called “Abohan” as well as for some English weekly’s. She went briefly to Aligarh and was supposedly elected to student Vice President according to her. It is quite possible she was just visiting the University since she did not graduate from Aligarh. She had a vibrant personality and was generous to a fault. Georgina and her sister Zum Zum were the only sisters that always gave all their nephews and nieces lovely presents all the time.

Georgina Hazarika attended Pine Mount School then Lady Keane College in Shillong, Assam. She was reluctant to leave home to go to school so one day her older sister Daisy’s husband, Abdul Aziz gave a good spanking and she was happy to go to Pine Mount school. She did not graduate. A very smart and attractive girl that was courted by many of the Nawab’s and Rajas of India. She was also very cunning as a child. As a youngster she never learnt the use of utensils, so very conveniently she would pretend to be asleep when guests were visiting and utensils were being used. She finally learnt to use them when she turned fourteen. She was briefly the Secretary to the Muslim League of India at Calcutta.

Dinesh Dutt, then Superintendent of Police at Jorhat and an Indian Police Service (IPS) officer saw her at a party and was smitten. She met him at a party at the DC residence at Jorhat where Shanker Maita was the DC and a good friend of the family. However, being a Hindu was a problem. He talked with his friend Sharif and asked him for her hand. This became a problem as Hindu-Muslim marriages in Assam at this level of society were taboo. Dinesh was a very powerful man in the State and the first Indian officer in the State under the British Raj. After much family objection and Dinesh wanting to shoot himself in the front lawn of Motijan and Georgina with her theoretics for high drama jumping into the “pukhuri (small pond)” behind the Motijan house ( knowing fully that she would be saved and hoping her mother and family would bend to her will) she quietly and secretly married Dinesh in 1942.

The family was then briefed (although they had some inkling through the grapevine) and they informally consented. Georgina's brother George Hazarika was furious about the proposal and planned a trip to Jorhat with his shot gun to take care of Dinesh. Georgina and Dinesh were married in a quite ceremony at Domohani where Sharif Hazarika was posted as Superintendent in the railways. In attendance was Faiz Hazarika only. The Chief Minister of Assam Sir Syed Saadullah who was a great friend of the family and a fellow poker player of Georgina's performed the "Nikah" (wedding vows). As news leaked out people were horrified. Today, these alliances are more common. Luckily Dinesh was transferred from Jorhat to Dubri as SP and a place sufficiently far away from Motijan. Their son Bhakto was born in 1943 and eight months later he was sent to Motijan to visit his grandmother at Motijan. Soon afterwards Dinesh and Georgina visited Motijan and life went back to normal for the family.

Georgina Hazarika after her wedding:



Dinesh Dutt was from Sylhet (now Bangladesh), over 6 feet in height and an imposing figure especially when in uniform. He became the first Indian Inspector General of Police of Assam in the 1950's after the last British IGP retired. He was a chain smoker and enjoyed a drink. He was an intimidating person but very kind with a loud laugh. The only

person he seemed to be afraid was Georgina. She loved to drive through all the red lights in Calcutta in the late 1950's. The citizens of Dibrugarh were shocked to see her driving in town on a regular basis. India with sixteen states had an equivalent number of Inspector General of Police, so she never worried about the rules.

Dinesh Dutt died in 1959 from complications of lung cancer at the Shillong Robert Mission Hospital. He was cremated in Shillong and a holiday was declared in the State of Assam.

Georgina Dutt life was filled with society activity and revolved around events at the Shillong club. They built a beautiful house and named it "Dymiew". She was passionate about contract bridge and "rummy" and probably spent most of her life around these events with her good friends Beatrice Kidwai and the Sehgal's. She was always dressed immaculately in expensive sari's and jewelry, carried a "pan dan", often making a pan with much "zardar" for herself and friends and following her was her Pekinese dog. She threw a lot of parties at her house and the food was always very good, and if someone complimented her on any fine jewelry she might be wearing, she on many occasions presented them to the person. During the months of December to March, Shillong became very cold and the family along with Bhakto, Bhai and Biki (the kids) moved to Motijan, Tezpur and Silchar. Georgina had plenty of money and jewelry from her family inheritance so they lived well. She was in her own way very simple and could mix with any level of society. Loved to eat, could eat a whole "kothal" (jackfruit) by herself. In 1960 a year after her husband passed away she decided to go to the States on vacation. She had a wonderful time traveling to Vegas, Arizona, East and West coast. She liked the free spirit of the Americans. She even had the opportunity to meet presidential candidate Richard Nixon. She came back a changed person that loved to party even more and have plenty of friends. Everyone was scandalized as widows were expected to dress in white and stay home but they all still loved Georgina and came to her parties.

Georgina lived a healthy life, full of friends, parties and passed away at Shillong in 2000. She was attending her nephew Ben Ahmed's wedding at Guwahati when she felt unwell. Next day she went to Shillong and at the Welch Mission hospital died of a heart attack. The Chief Minister of Meghalaya who was renting a part of her house in Shillong as well as many of the Meghalaya Police department quickly made all the arrangements to have her transported to Tezpur where she wished to be buried. This was a complicated affair since it required permits and ambulances were not permitted to carry deceased people. Her son Rashid Dutt and nephew Ziaul Huq accompanied her in a separate car to the Assam border at Jorabat. They were met there by her nephews Deji Hazarika and Kuchi Rahman. She was transferred from the ambulance and made her final journey to Tezpur, reaching at 5:00am. She was buried in Tezpur close to her brother Ali Hazarika in the kabastan in Tezpur town opposite the bazaar. Later around 2003 her eldest son Dipak Dutt (Bhakto) who died of lung cancer (a chain smoker) was buried close to her.

Dinesh and Georgina Dutt with their eldest child Dipak Rashid Dutt (Bhakto) at the Jorhat SP bungalow around 1947.



Georgina Dutt, Sona Noorbahar Hazarika and Portia (Tafazzul Hazarika sisters daughter) in front of Motijan:

Georgina Dutt in 1973 (rear is Mohammed Tanweer):



Tawheed Hazarika and first cousins Dipak (Bhakto) Dutt; Rashid (Bhai) Dutt at Motijan.



Dymiew, Shillong residence of Dinesh & Georgina Dutt:





Children:

**Dipak Sharif Dutt: (1943- 2002?)**

He was known as Bhakto to everyone in the family. Short tempered and a renegade but very kind. Bhakto went to St. Edmund's School in Shillong where his father was posted in the police. They first lived in the Police bungalow below Loreto Convent and then moved to their house, Dymiew, near the Assam Governor's residence. Although Bhakto was a day student at St. Edmunds he was constantly fighting with someone or another. He graduated from school one year after his father died. This probably was unfortunate since Dinesh Dutt his father was the only one that he listened to. Bhakto started drifting after his father passed away. Although an exceptionally smart student he barely attended classes at St Edmunds or later at St. Paul's in Darjeeling. He was always at the Shillong club playing billiards and soon he became the best player there, perhaps in the State. He dropped out of college and got married to Bharoti Barua, S.P. Barua's daughter at a young age. She was the niece of Hamen Barua one of the richest people in Assam owning many tea estates. Bharoti is very short, pleasant and a chain smoker. They made an excellent couple. Bhakto tried just about everything. An interview for a job in tea was arranged at Calcutta but the Managing Director was a little late for the interview so Bhakto left. Bridge building with government contracts awarded by Dhon Buni Rahman's husband. Dhon who was the Additional Chief Engineer. He finally settled down for awhile helping his wife and sister in law with her school in Simla. He then moved on to join his brother in law Latifur Rahman in Dacca helping him with his business.

Like his father Bhakto was straight forward and of impeccable character. He was not afraid to work but just did not seem to find a profession that could hold his interest for enough time. Bhakto was a chain smoker. He developed lung cancer and the last few years of his life was very painful. His wife Bharoti took care of him and accompanied him for all his treatments at the Tata Hospital in Mumbai. He and wife Bharoti bought a flat in Guwahati but he never got a chance to live there. He died at Tezpur and is buried close to his mother at the Tezpur kabastan.

Bharoti Dutt:





Bhakto Dutt, Jinu Hazarika and Bharoti Dutt at Motijan:



### **Ashish Rashid Dutt**

He was known as Bhai to everyone in the family. Bhai lived under the shadow of Bhakto as he was the quite one. Bhai went to St. Edmunds School then to St. Xavier's College in Calcutta. After getting his BCom degree he went on to get a MCom degree from Gauhati University in 1969. He passed his CPA exam on the first try and joined McNeill & Berry in their tea accounting division. He went on to become their Chief Accountant. Bhai had an excellent career and was very smart academically. When Faiz Hazarika passed away he moved to his house and helped the family. He continued to have a close relationship with Faiz and Shirin Hazarika's second daughter Shadabi and her husband Iftaker Hussain. When they moved to Delhi, Bhai was there to help out during difficult times. He was very attached to their children and treated them as his own. When Shadabi & Iftaker moved to the States, Bhai made many trips to be with them and was considering moving to the States permanently. He bought the children their first computer and gave them lessons.

He returned to Calcutta and is now very involved looking after his Aunt Shirin Hazarika who is in failing health and Sadri and Sanam Hazarika's two girls. It is amazing to see how much he cares for Sadri's two little girls, always protecting them and making sure they are eating proper food. Indeed, Bhai is a happy man and has found his family and they are very lucky to have him.

Bhai currently still lives in Calcutta at Faiz Hazarika residence and runs a successful accounting consultancy business.

Ashish Rashid Dutt at Motijan:



### Grandchildren

Dinesh Sharif Dutt (Dino) is in the travel business and looks exactly like his father Bhakto Dutt. A chain smoker. Lives in Guwahati and Calcutta.

Dino Dutt as a youngster:



## Chapter 16

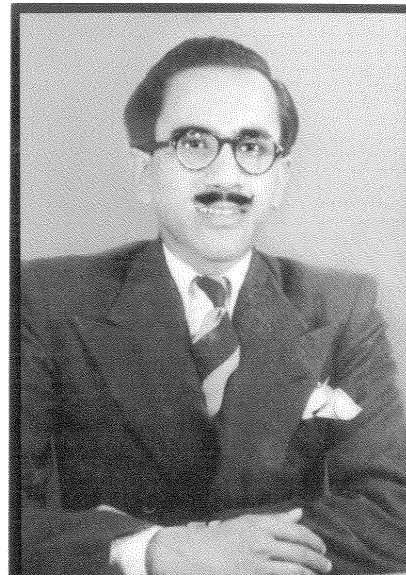
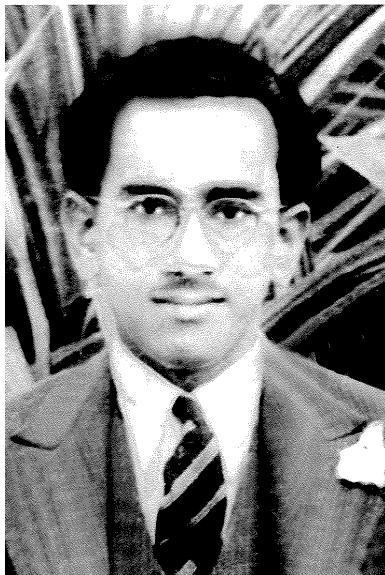
### **HASSIN MD SHAH HUSSAIN HAZARIKA**

Hassin Hazarika was a bachelor and probably the brightest of all the eleven children of Tafazzul Hazarika. He was a good student and a good singer. A very serious person but used a fair amount of curse language as a youngster. One day his older sister Daisy Aziz took him aside and beat the daylights out of him and the cursing stopped. He became a gentleman. Passed his metrics from Jorhat and went on to the famous Presidency College in Kolkutta. Upon graduation he joined the Imperial Bank of India (later over the years became the State Bank of India) as their Branch Manager of Dacca. He briefly had some health issues at that time that was liver related and needed a walking stick but soon recovered.

Hassin Hazarika was an eligible bachelor and his sisters were busy trying to arrange his marriage. His sister initial thought Deepa Ahmed and her cousin Depali (descendents of Azizur Rahman family) might make good potential brides and discussion were well under way with their families.

Hassin at that time was visiting relatives in Chittagong when he received a telegram from the head office to proceed immediately to Calcutta and assume responsibility for the operation. He was scheduled to take the train the next day but decided to try and fly out the same day. There were no tickets available. He was about to return but met his cousin Shamsul Hazarika (descendent of Minoor Hazarika) at the airport. Shamsul was taking the flight he wanted a ticket on. Shamsul was not in a hurry so he suggested Hassin travel on his ticket and he would go another day. He was killed that day when the plane crashed going from Chittagong to Dacca and his remains never recovered. It was 1956 and he was only 36. The family was devastated.

Hassin Hazarika as a young man:      Hassin Hazarika the Banker:



No children.

## Chapter 17

### **ZUM ZUM SHAMAU NAHAR**

Zum Zum Shamsun Nahar married Ashraf Adil son of Khan Bahadur Akhtar Adil EAC of Bulandshahar, UP, India and now of Karachi

Momina Adil (Mona) married Salik Chundigar of Karachi. Divorced. remarried, Divorced again

Bhina Sultana Adil married Aftab Khalafzal of Dereismail Khan, Karachi. Divorced

Saleem Adil married Michiko Chapman daughter of Bulu Chapman

Zum Zum Hazarika was the prettiest of all the girls in the family (along with Georgina) and married Ashraf Adil and moved to Pakistan. Zum Zum went to Pine Mount School in Shillong and passed her Metrics high school exams. She was the kindest person in the family and never quarreled on any matter with anyone. Everyone loved Zum. Zum. She and her sister Georgina always bought presents for everyone in the family unlike their other sisters. She married into an affluent business family and they became even richer after her marriage.

She was diagnosed with heart problems and was scheduled to go to Texas for the operation. Unfortunately she kept delaying the operation and died of a heart attack. She was working in her office and having a cup of tea when she died of a massive heart attack in August 1977 at the age of 56.

Zum Zum married November 1956 in Karachi. She was visiting sister Georgi Hussain in Karachi. Frequent visitors to their house were the Adil family. Ashraf and Zum fell in love at first sight and Georgi arranged the marriage. Ashraf was in the Foker friendship aircraft business, a distributor and parts supplier. Also had a burlap string manufacturing factory that son Saleem Adil still manages. He had large real estate holdings in Karachi. They had a lovely house in PEACHS that his son Saleem recently sold and bought a new place at the Defense Colony, Karachi. Saleem's wife sister Ayesha Dumani lives near by in same complex.

After Ashraf died brother Akbar was keen to get married to Zum. Zum was not, so he worked the children and they convinced her to marry him. He inherited her sizable fortune and bought a beautiful house for his older sister in Karachi. Fortunately Zum was a sharp business person and held a good portion of her wealth for her three children.



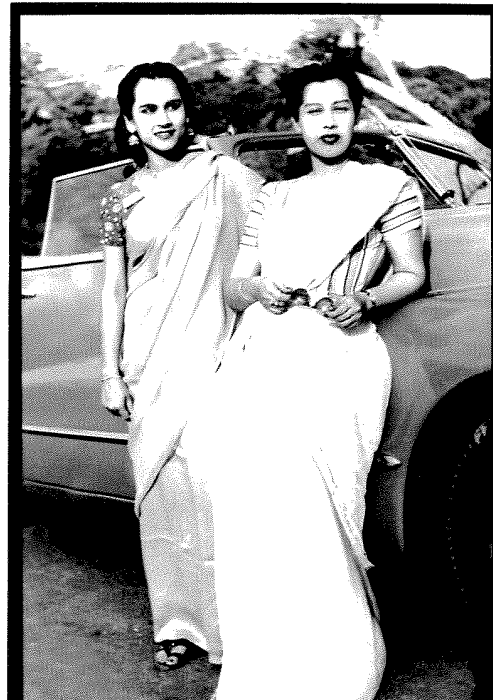
Zum Zum on the day of her wedding:



The groom Ashraf Adil (Balae) being escorted by family members at the wedding.  
L to R: Georgina Dutt, Georgi Hussain, Ashraf Adil and Hassin Hazarika:



Ashraf with son Saleem and Zum on his left. L to R are their two girls Mona and Bhina:  
Zum Zum with good family friend Kuku Barua in Kolkutta standing by Faiz Hazarika's new  
Buick convertible – 1950's. Kuku Barua married Brig Barua son of Rai Bahadur Knak Lal Barua  
CIE





Ashraf Adil was an avid hunter. With a large leopard:



Children:

**Momina (Mona) Chundigar** is very much like the Hazarika clan although she was brought up in Karachi. Fun loving and outgoing and loves to party. She lost her father and mother at an early age and did a very good job in making sure her brother Saleem Adil received the best education. She is a lovely person that can get along with everyone just like her mother Zum Zum. Although fairly prosperous she is simple and like her mother can do with little and has no regrets. Her mother Zum did an excellent job.

**Bhina Khalafzal** is quieter of the two sisters. Mona likes to boss her around. Bhina is also very much like her mother personality wise. While Mona seems to be more Assamese, Bhina is more from her father's side – Punjabi influence. Bhina developed polio at an early age and has a slight limp. I remember as a young boy when the news about her polio reached Motijan. Sharif Hazarika was devastated as he was very close to Zum and offered special prayers and had a large “milad Sharif” (group prayers after which needy people are feed). The children of Motijan were all vaccinated for polio. Bhina seems to be fine and our parents made it sound worse than it really is. On a visit to Andover and a very busy sightseeing walking day, Bhina was relaxing on a couch and Sona Hazarika was giving her a good long foot massage. Looked to me like she was taking full advantage of her Aunt.

Mona Chundigar, Bashir Hazarika, KC Hazarika and Bhina Khalafzal at Andover:

Mona Chundigar (one year old) with Georgina Dutt at Motijan. At rear is Boo Hazarika and the driver is at the middle.



**Saleem Adil** is a typical Motijan man. Just like all his Uncles but with a key difference. Like them he did not study but he did complete his BA degree from Brown University, Magna Cum Lade. He can spend plenty of money like his Uncles and he loves Shikars. Saleem is a straight shooter and has developed into a fine young man. He should be thankful to both his sister's, especially Mona who made sure he received the best education money could buy. Saleem can party, days at a time. On the day of his graduation attended by his sisters Mona and Bhina and his first cousin Tawheed Hazarika and wife Rukhsana Hazarika; there was no Saleem sighting and the ceremony had started. Fortunately as his name was announced he showed up and ran up the stage to accept his degree. We were all very proud of Saleem passing out Magna Cum Lade from Brown.

Saleem probably always had a crush for Michiko his first cousin but kept it to himself. On reflection he always talked about her in a protective way. They are happily married:

Saleem Adil with Michiko Adil on wedding day:

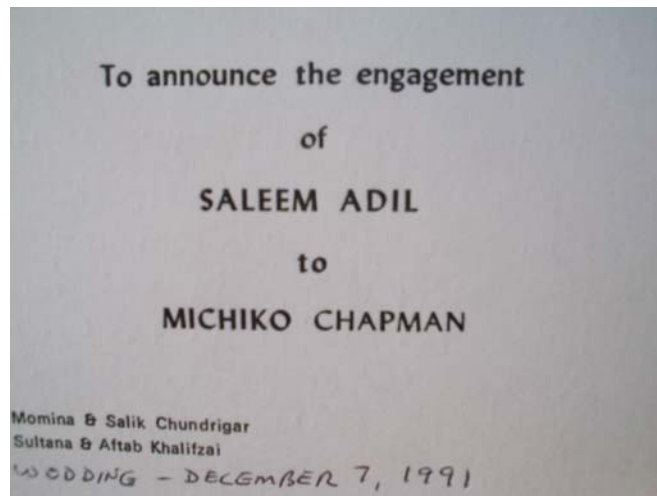


Saleem Adil wedding picture.

L to R: Salik Chundigar, his son, Mona Chundigar, Saleem, Michiko, Bhina Khalafzal (daughter on lap), Aftab Khalafzal. Children at rear are probably children of Mona and Bhina.



An invitation from Saleem and Michiko with a nice hand written letter behind the card to all family members:



Grandchildren:  
Tania Chundigar  
Mustafa Chundigar  
Nada Khalafzal  
Sehr Khalafzal  
Abbas Khalafzal  
Sana Khalafzal  
Mustafa Adil  
Ashraf Adil

## Chapter 18

### **BULU SHARITAN BAHAN**

Bulu Sharifa Bahar married Michael William Chapman, Tea Planter of Bognor Regis, U.K.

Yasmin Chapman married Anwar Kamal, Islamabad, Pakistan foreign service in Canada, Egypt and China.

Michiko Chapman married Saleem Adil son of Zum Zum Adil

Ayesha Chapman married Tarik Durrani of Karachi

Bulu Hazarika went to Pine Mount School in Shillong. Bulu Sharifa Bahar was the youngest of the clan. She was strong willed and although somewhat kind had a quick temper. Over the years many brothers and sisters as well as nephews and nieces experienced her wrath. She was very neat and loved to teach table manners to the family. There was never a question of leaving the table before everyone finished their meal. Her knitting of sweaters and shawls was legendary and very artistic. She gifted many of these to her nephews and nieces, her one soft spot that was appreciated by all. Bulu was initially engaged to Jabbar Sattar. However, family broke the engagement. Jabbar suspect the hidden hand of his stepmother Shirazy Ghaffar (Bulu's sister) in this break up and wrote her a long and colorful letter. In the end stepmother and son made up. Bulu being the youngest was pampered by her mother and usually got her way. She was finicky at an early age. After a bath she would make sure she was wiped dry by the maid and often reprimanded her maid for missing a small wet spot between her feet. As she grew up she was extra clean and wanted everything at its proper place. The Motijan servants were petrified of her and she very hard on them. On one occasion she was slapping maid Hamida (who later in life married the Degubber tea estate manager) when her husband Muslai Mia intervened and asked her to stop. She took that as an insult, a servant would dare address her directly and both Muslai and Hamida had to be shipped off to work at Noorbari tea estate.

Bulu Hazarika married Mike Chapman of England in March, 1956 at 43 Amir Ali Avenue, Calcutta (Faiz Hazarika's home). A love at first sight marriage. Mike worked for the Steamer company and traveled the Brahmaputra river from Kolkutta to Upper Assam. He saw her at the Tezpur club. After they wed he joined tea and was posted across Assam in many tea estates such as Hatikhuli in Cachar then near Digboi. He resigned from tea in the 1960's and went into business with his wife's inheritance. The only person she seemed to let get away with things was her husband Mike. It was evident she loved him unconditionally. Everything was for Mike including the choicest dishes of meat or vegetables presented at meals. This was a little embarrassing to the family since by traditional the elders and children were first served then the rest of the adults helped themselves.



Mike just helped himself to everything, many times, was overweight. The family watched and tolerated him at meal time. This was unfortunate as when he blew up her money and they ran into hard times, he continued to eat and spend lavishly when Bulu and the children did not have enough. Fortunately her sister Georgina Dutt lived on the other side of the house so they were taken care of.

Mike took advantage of her dedication and spent her inheritance money on business deals that were absurd. Mike received a lucrative Oil and Natural Gas transportation contract (ONGC), bought 15 new Ford trucks with his wife's inheritance. He did a partnership deal with Arun Chowdhury of Calcutta. Arun invested no money but ran the business. Neither Mike or Arun had any skills to run a business. They were busy making trips to Calcutta and Shillong and attending the best night clubs till all of Bulu's property were sold and the business came to a stop. Bulu was left penniless. Fortunately she hid her sizable jewelry collection with brother Sharif Hazarika. They had moved to Shillong and were renting half of Georgina Dutt's house but Mike never paid the agreed to rent. Things had gone very wrong. She made ends meet with help from her brothers and sisters and selling some jewelry. Mike had no worries, he was busy parting with the locals in Shillong and drinking the local brew. He had become a nuisance and was causing great embarrassment to the family. Through the help of the Chief Secretary of Assam, Mr. Kidwai and some people in the Police force they were able to get him out of Assam. With no other connections in India he soon returned to England. Quite a nightmare for Bulu but she never complained or ever said anything derogatory about Mike. He was still number one in her books.

Bulu treated her three children very kindly but she was firm. Always well dressed and well behaved as Bulu would have it no other way. They were the bright side of her life. Lovely kids. Yasmin was the oldest and was always sick. The Shillong weather did not suit her, she also took the brunt of her mothers frustrations. But she always had a smile and loved to be with the family. Michiko was the prettiest and very quite. Said very little but observed everything. The family loved Michiko and everyone wanted to carry her around as a baby. Ayesha was the bubbly one, a chubby baby, always up to mischief and always being punished by Mom.

However things were difficult and Bulu was not an easy person that family members could ask to come and live with them. She moved to East Pakistan to live with niece Bibi Chowdhury, and was probably a difficult guest. With the Bangladesh independence war she moved to Pakistan to live with sister Zum Adil. Later on moved to an apartment not far from Zum. Both sisters Zum and Georgi tried to get her remarried but she stayed faithful to Mike. Mike on the other hand had re-married twice. His daughters contacted him a few times but he has no interest in maintaining a relationship. By coincidence, Bibi Chowdhury met Derrek Lee when she was staying in London. He was Mike's friend that received the buck shot wound from Ali Hazarika when Mike asked for Bulu's hand. He was shocked to learn of what Mike had done to Bulu and offered to retain an attorney to at least get him to pay child support for the three girls. He tracked down Mike through his attorneys and filed a case against him on behalf of Bulu. He won judgment and for awhile Mike was sending \$800 per month for child support. The payments were never regular and Bulu never wanted to enforce the Judge's decision.

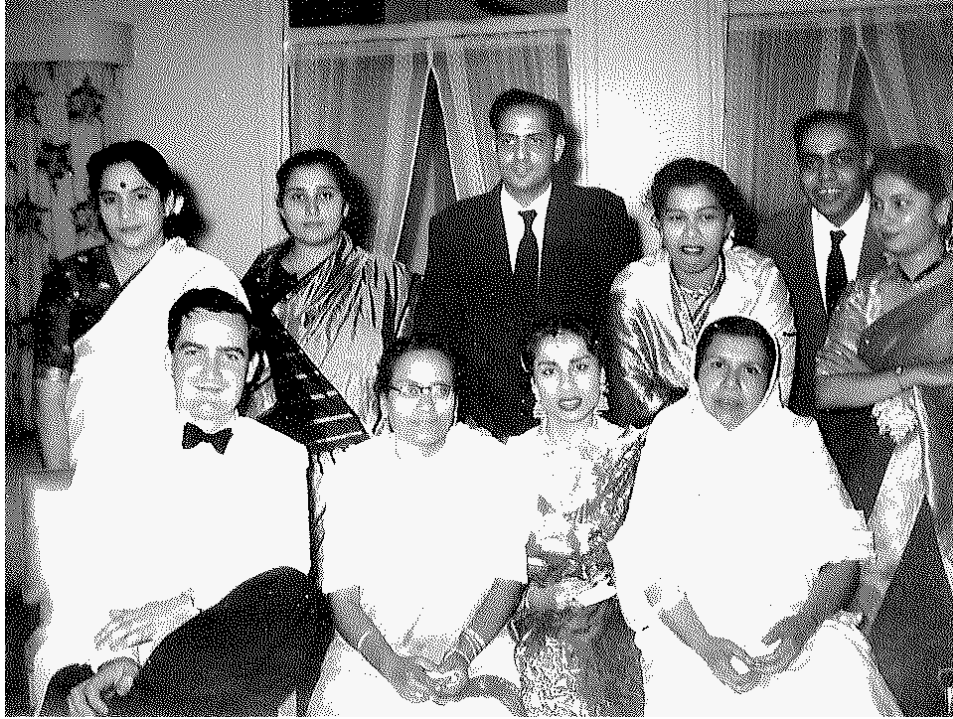


Bulu now lives between daughters Ayesha and Michiko in Karachi. She has had tremendous pleasure in seeing her three daughters well settled and plenty of grand kids. Yasmin and Ayesha's marriages were arranged but they knew the boys through the family. Bulu was lucky after all, she has a lovely family that takes care of her.

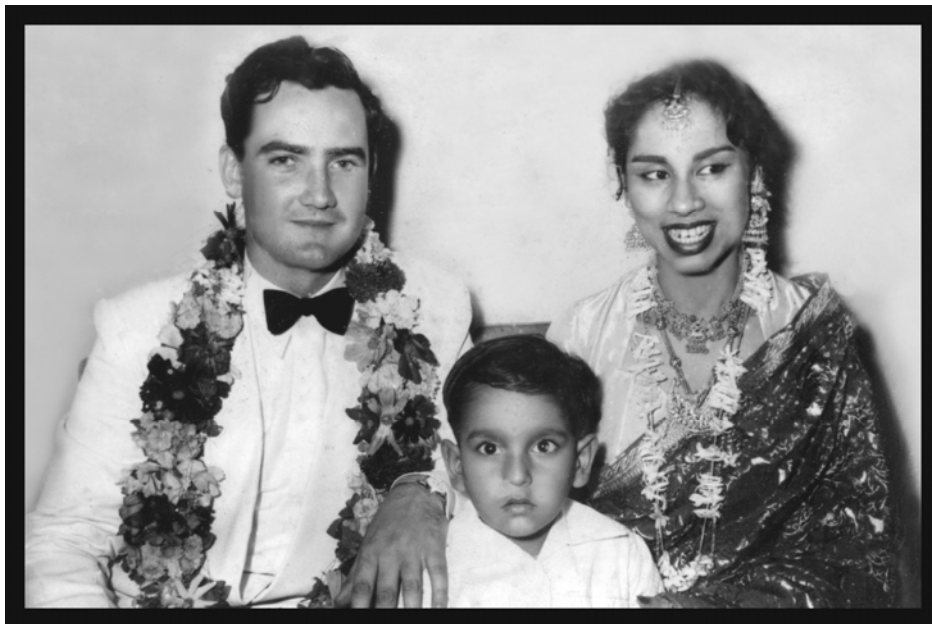
Wedding picture:

Sitting L to R: Mike Chapman, Shirazy, Bulu, an Aunt

Standing L to R: Second from left Sona Hazarika, the rest are friends.



Mike and Bulu Chapman at wedding with Dej Dada Hazarika (Boo).



Picture of Bulu in Karachi with eldest daughter Yasmin around late 1970's:  
Yasmin Kamal



Bulu Chapman at Guwahati house of Naseem and Deepa Hazarika:



Michiko Adil: see Saleem Adil

Ayesha Durrani:

Grandchildren

Shaharnaz

Kamal

Baber Kamal

Zainab Kamal

Mustafa Adil

Ashraf Adil

Muradan Durrani

Bashara Durrani

Saeeda Durrani

Omar Durrani