Tribute to Professor Md. Abul Basher Mian: A Distinguished Statistician and the Founder Executive Editor of IJSS

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It is our great privilege to write this tribute for Md. Abul Basher Mian, Retired Professor of the Department of Statistics, University of Rajshahi and the founder Executive Editor of the International Journal of Statistical Sciences (IJSS). Professor Md. Abul Basher Mian is one of the outstanding Statisticians and educators of the subject of Statistics in Bangladesh. He always bears a positive and constructive thinking for the improvement of teaching and research in the area of Statistics. Both of us feel proud to be the direct students and colleagues of him at the University of Rajshahi. We certainly say that he is one of the most inspiring teachers not only in our life but also in many other students' lives.

Professor Mian was born on March 1, 1947 in an enlightened Muslim family of Chandpur, Cumilla, Bangladesh. He is the fourth of seven children born to Late Abdul Ghani Mian and Late Noor Banu Begum. He completed his Matriculation in 1962 from Ichhapura high school, Chandpur, Cumilla; H.S.C in 1964 from Nawab Faizunnesa college, Laksam, Cumilla; B.Sc. in 1967 from Cumilla Victoria college; M.Sc. in Statistics in 1972 from University of Rajshahi; and Ph.D. in 1990 on the topic "Life Testing Approach to Manpower and Related Models" from the University of Delhi, India. Prof. Mian is a veteran freedom fighter (Serial No. 3304, Bangladesh Gazette, under sector commander Khaled Mosharraf of Sector 2).

He started his career as an Assistant Teacher, Pomgaon High School, Laksam, Cumilla, in 1966. In 1968 he joined as a Sales Manager, Crescent Scientific Mart,

Dhaka. He then joined as a Lecturer in Statistics, University of Rajshahi in 1974. In the next year 1975 he moved to Jahangirnar University as a Lecturer in the Department of Statistics. He came back to the University of Rajshahi in 1978 and joined as an Assistant Professor of the Department of Statistics and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1990 and Professor in 1995. He also held the position of Professor at the Institute of Bangladesh Studies (IBS) of the University of Rajshahi from 2005 to 2006 and served as the Director of the IBS from 2006 to 2009. After his retirement as a Professor from the Department of Statistics, University of Rajshahi in 2015, he joined as the Director of the Global Public Health Research Foundation (GPHRF), Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2015 and still continuing there in the same position.

Professor Mian has organized six international seminars as Principal organizer at the Department of Statistics, University of Rajshahi. His organizational skill in holding international Seminars/Conferences has been amply rewarded by the participation of many well-known statisticians from different parts of the world, including world-famous organizations like the Indian Statistical Institute. He has published more than 25 papers in peer-reviewed international journals on broad areas of Statistics including Demography, Education system in Bangladesh, Generalized linear models, Lifetime data analysis, Public health, Steam and Leaf analysis, Stochastic models, and Time series analysis. He also published three monograph reports and one book entitled "Statistical Mathematics". He has supervised seven Ph.D. and seven M.Phil. fellows along with fifteen M.Sc. (Thesis) students.

He also served as a Senate Member of Khulna University, University of Rajshahi, and University of Chittagong; Member of the Board of Governors, IBS, RU; Member of the Board of Directors, Rural Development Academy, Bogura; Member of Academic Council of the University of Chittagong; Member of Advisory Council, Computer Center, RU; Member of Sports Sub-committee, RU; Convener, Inter Department and Inter Hall Sports Committee, RU; House Tutor & Provost (In-charge), Sher-e-Bangla Hall, RU; Executive Member, Treasurer, and Vice-President of the Rajshahi University Teacher's Association (RUTA). Professor Mian has been active in numerous professional associations and

societies. He is the founder Chairman of GPHRF, a life member of IJSS and Bangladesh Statistical Association (BSA).

We, at the Department of Statistics of the University of Rajshahi, are indeed proud to have such a teacher, researcher, and great person. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the University of Rajshahi, the Department of Statistics and the Editorial Board of IJSS have decided to publish a Felicitation Volume in honor of Professor Md. Abul Basher Mian. We feel extremely fortunate to greet him as our teacher and colleague and for having the opportunity to write a tribute to such an extremely unassuming pleasant personality. Finally, we wish him a long life full of gratitude, goodness, happiness and peace in the coming years and always.